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INDIAN AMERICAN HARINI LOGAN IS SPELLING BEE CHAMP



Harini Logan, a 14-year-old Indian American eighth-grader from Texas, is the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee winner

HOUSTON (TIP): Harini Logan, a 14-year-old Indian American eighth-grader from Texas, barely took a breath as she correctly spelled 22 words during a marathon, first-of-its-kind 90-second spell-off to win the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee, beating Vikram Raju in the prestigious contest where children of Indian origin have ruled the roost.

Logan, who took home the USD 50,000 cash prize and Scripps Cup trophy on top of awards from Merriam-Webster and Encyclopedia Britannica, was declared champion on Thursday night after she was reinstated by the judges in the final round.

She spelled 22 out of 26 words correctly, while Raju, a 12-year-old boy from Denver, got 15 out of 19 words right during the first-of-its-kind spell-off, a format that tested the contestants on how many words they could correctly spell within 90 seconds. Vihaan Sibal, a 13-year-old from Texas, finished third, while Saharsh Vuppala, a 13-year-old eighth grader from Washington, was fourth.

Post Buffalo, Uvalde shootings, US House passes gun control Bill

THE LEGISLATION PASSED BY A MOSTLY PARTY-LINE VOTE OF 223-204.



WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): The US House passed a wide-ranging gun control Bill on Wednesday, June 8, in response to recent mass shootings in Buffalo, New York, and Uvalde, Texas, that would raise the age limit for purchasing a semi-automatic rifle and prohibit the sale of ammunition magazines with a capacity of more than 15 rounds.

The legislation passed by a mostly party-line vote of 223-204. It has almost no chance of becoming law as the Senate pursues negotiations focused on improving mental health programs, bolstering school security and enhancing background checks.

But the House Bill does allow Democratic lawmakers a chance to

frame for voters in November where they stand on policies that polls show are widely supported.

"We can't save every life, but my God, shouldn't we try? America, we hear you and today in the House we are taking the action you are demanding," said Rep. Veronica Escobar, D-Texas. "Take note of who is with you and who is not."

The push comes after a House committee heard wrenching testimony from recent shooting victims and family members, including from 11-year-old girl Miah Cerrillo, who covered herself with a dead classmate's blood to avoid being shot at the Uvalde elementary school.

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The US House passed a wide-ranging gun control Bill on Wednesday, June 8, in response to recent mass shootings in Buffalo, New York, and Uvalde, Texas

TRUMP AND HIS TWO ADULT CHILDREN SET TO BE QUESTIONED UNDER OATH BY NEW YORK A.G., STARTING JULY 15

THE QUESTIONING OF MR. TRUMP AND TWO OF HIS ADULT CHILDREN IS PART OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CIVIL INVESTIGATION



Donald Trump and Letitia James
File photo

NEW YORK (TIP): Donald J. Trump and two of his adult children have agreed to be questioned under oath in mid-July by lawyers from the New York State attorney general's office, unless the state's highest court intervenes.

The agreement, filed Wednesday, June 8 in New York State Supreme Court, says that Mr. Trump, Donald Trump Jr. and Ivanka Trump have agreed to appear for testimony that will begin on Friday, July 15, and end the following week.

The questioning will come as the state attorney general, Letitia James, concludes the final phase of her investigation into Mr. Trump and the business practices of his company, The Trump Organization.

CONTD ON PAGE 36

INDIA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2022: VOTING ON JULY 18, RESULTS ON JULY 21

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Election Commission of India on June 9, 2022, announced that voting for electing India's next President will take place on July 18, 2022. Counting of votes will be held on July 21.

Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha will be the Returning Officer, said Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said.

The nomination papers will have to be delivered in Election Commission office, in New Delhi, and would need at least 50 members of electoral college as proposers and another 50 as seconders.

A list of electoral college will be uploaded on election commission's website. The list will be updated as there are Rajya Sabha elections before Presidential election.

The notification for the election will be issued on June 15, while the last date for nominations is June 29. The applications will be scrutinized on July 2.

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Chief Election Commissioner of India Rajiv Kumar addressing a news conference to announce the presidential election at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on June 9, 2022.

Photo Credit/ Shiv Kumar Pushpakar

Canada super visa changes to benefit Indians the most; parents and grandparents can now stay longer



Canada super visa changes will kick in from July 4

OTTAWA (TIP): Indians will benefit the most from changes introduced by Canada to its super visa program for parents and grandparents.

Under the changes announced by Immigration Minister Sean Fraser on Tuesday, June 7, parents and grandparents coming to Canada can now stay here for up to five years per entry.

The changes will kick in from July 4.

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Andy Singh

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GUEST COMMENTS

National embarrassment: Arab outrage wake-up call to atone for extremism, hatred

About 10 days ago, PM Narendra Modi had described his government's eight years in power as a tenure that did not allow Indians to hang their heads in shame. All right-thinking Indians - whether they live in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries or back home - have been forced to hang their heads in shame and offer a public apology on behalf of the just-suspended BJP national spokesperson, Nupur Sharma, and now-expelled Delhi media cell head Naveen Jindal. Both are accused of denigrating Islam and its prophet. This is an important moment in the BJP's journey, when it has to stop and wonder what it has become; for, the Grand Mufti of Oman has termed it the 'ruling extremist party in

India'. Qatar's Deputy Emir abruptly cancelled the official lunch for visiting Indian Vice President Venkaiah Naidu and summoned the Indian envoy, seeking a public apology; and so did Kuwait and Iran, while the entire Arab world erupted in religious indignation.

The GCC countries are important not just for the trade worth \$87 billion that they offer or the opportunities they give to Indian expats, but also for the political legitimacy that they lend India with their steadfast friendship and goodwill. All that has been jeopardized and the nation embarrassed while our Vice President was visiting West Asia. The grave wound that the BJP leaders have inflicted on the West Asian psyche and thereby to the Indian

cause will take a long time to heal. A call for boycott of Indian goods is a sign of extreme displeasure in the Arab society where people do not talk out of turn or irresponsibly. Now, they are pointing at the growing extremism and hatred in India.

This national humiliation was waiting to happen because the BJP had turned hatred against Muslims into a prime-time pastime. From a political mobilization ploy or a vote-catching trick, hate speech had got mainstreamed and normalized by BJP's spokespersons and TV anchors alike, who harangue viewers into stupefaction. The Arab outrage is a wake-up call for our society to atone for the hatred that has seeped into our midst.

(Tribune, India)

Delayed response: On govt.'s stern action against hate speech

THE GOVERNMENT COULD HAVE AVOIDED THE HATE SPEECH ISSUE IF THE BJP HAD ACTED EARLY

The Government's decision to take a stern view of hate speech targeting religious beliefs, to distance itself from comments made by two spokespersons of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and to assert India's traditional values of tolerance and respect for all religions is both welcome and reassuring for those within the country increasingly concerned about the increase in such speech. The ruling BJP's move to suspend the spokespersons for comments made on a television channel and Twitter, respectively, is also a significant departure from the past, and would represent an inflection point in the debate over growing communalization, if it were not for two factors. The first, that the Government chose to react to the hate speech, targeting Islam and the Prophet Muhammed, more than a week after these were first broadcast. The second, that its reactions, and the BJP's action appeared to follow statements made by foreign governments, beginning with Qatar, and then Kuwait, Iran, Pakistan, Bahrain, the United Arab

Emirates, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Jordan, the Maldives as well as by the 57-member Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and the powerful six-member Gulf Cooperation Council. However, the Government continues to ignore Indian organizations and groups that have expressed concerns about the statements made. It is possible that the Government chose to respond to Qatar with more alacrity as the Vice-President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu, was beginning a three-day visit to the country. It is also significant that the Government was moved to act with sensitivity in this case, unlike its reaction just a week ago to the United States government's release of a report on religious freedom in India, where it slammed the U.S. for playing "vote bank politics". Some concern about a possible "street reaction" across West Asia, where more than eight million Indians live and work, may have also prompted the reaction, particularly after social media users shared the offending comments widely across the region.

Regardless of the reasoning, the statement issued by the Embassies in Doha and Kuwait, which said that the Government accords the highest respect to all religions "in line with our civilizational heritage and strong cultural traditions of unity in diversity" reflects some introspection within the establishment and the ruling party, and the line that has been drawn must be adhered to across society. There is also a case for similar introspection to be made within the media, particularly news television channels that appear to have turned prime time viewing into a prize-fight, encouraging the most radical voices to spar verbally every evening and engage in blatantly extremist hate speech. While the right to free speech must be upheld, and nobody should be allowed to threaten violence, the Government would have avoided the entire controversy if it had acted according to the law, and immediately engaged with the issue before it snowballed into an international incident.

(The Hindu)

RSS chief's conciliatory note The Parivar has to overcome distrust to engage with Muslims

The RSS chief has struck a conciliatory note by questioning the need to 'look for a Shivling in every mosque', that would hopefully defuse the tension sparked by the polarizing claims and counterclaims which is showing signs of turning into street mobilization, in a distressing re-run of the Babri Masjid episode. Mohan Bhagwat's call for an amicable settlement between Hindus and Muslims on the Gyanvapi dispute, or acceptance of the court verdict, came with an assurance that the RSS was not in favor of launching any other movement on such

issues, Ayodhya having been an exception. Taking that as the final word or a marker for an end to any temple reclamation in future would be difficult, seeing the momentum generated by the right-wing groups and the pattern being followed.

Cynicism and distrust would accompany even the most unlikely scenario of all Sangh Parivar constituents resolving to not dig into the fractured and complex layers of history anymore. That said, Bhagwat has infused a whiff of calmness and pragmatism in the surcharged atmosphere with his message that it made no sense to escalate fights centered on incidents linked to the history of a place of worship, and start a dispute every day. 'There is history which

we cannot change. We didn't write that history, neither the Hindus nor the Muslims of the present. It happened in the past' - though coming quite late in the day, the words do lend sanity to the noisy debate that threatens to escalate into a communal frenzy.

The obsession with the project to reverse historical 'wrongs' is an endless pursuit that only leads to committing new ones. The speech needs to be viewed as a direct appeal to tone down the rhetoric. If the RSS belief system holds any meaning for the BJP, it should take the lead and ask its rank and file to step back. Disputes related to matters of faith will keep emerging, but it takes a dominant force to fan the fire or snuff it out.

(Tribune, India)

Indian American Forum Organizes Indian American Night of Entertainment

LONG ISLAND, NY (TIP): Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman's Office with Indian American Forum Founding Member Dr. Bobby K. Kalotee and Chairwoman Indu Jaiswal, on June 5, brought the community together to celebrate "Indian American Night - Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" at the Eisenhower Park, in the presence of Several Nassau County Officials - Legislator Steven D Rhoads, Nassau County Comptroller Elaine Phillips, Nassau County Parks Commissioner Darcy Maccarone Belyea and Cindy Gillen, Events coordinator Nassau County Parks. The event was Emceed by Flora Parekh with Jyoti Gupta and Indu Gajwani as program coordinators Over 100 fascinating dancers, melodious singers and Bollywood performers rocked the event.

Several distinguished community leaders, students and achievers were honored by Special Citations. They included:

- o **Dr. Harshad Bhatt** - Orthopedic Surgeon & Chief of Arthroscopic Surgery at Boulevard Surgical Center
- o **Neetu Chabra** - Entrepreneur and leading Retailer in Mobile Phone Business & Champion Folk Dancer
- o **Rachna Shahadpuri** - President of



Honorees with organizers and dignitaries. L to R: Dr. Bobby K. Kalotee, Indu Jaiswal, Vimal Goyal, Bina Sabapathy, Commissioner Darcy Maccarone Belyea, Nassau County Comptroller Elaine Phillips, Phanibhushan Tadepalli, Dr. Harshad Bhatt, Manjari Bhatt, Alpesh Patel, Jaymin Shah, Dr. Raman Mitra, Rachna Shahadpuri, Taranbir Kaur, Neetu Chabra, Krishnasri Gandham, Legislator Steven D Rhoads, Flora Parekh, Indu Gajwani and Jyoti Gupta.



A group of performers

- Rotary Club of Jericho & Past President of Overseas Sindhu Sabha
- o **Phanibhushan Tadepalli**, M. Sc. - Sr. Nuclear Medicine Technologist at Lennox Hill Radiology
- o **Taranbir Kaur** - Vice President, Citibank, Vice President, Citibank, IVF-Kiran Bedi Organization in USA
- o **Dr. Raman Mitra** - CEO Piezocap, Inc. & Assistant Professor of Department

of Cardiology

- o **Jashir Bawa** - Community Activist & Educational Assistant at elementary school with bilingual special Ed kids
- o **Krishnasri Gandham** - Board of Director for NYTTA (New York Telangana Telugu Association) and President for Telangana chapter for IOC (Indian Overseas Congress)
- o **Jaymin Shah** - President of VTNY - Vaishnav Temple of New York
- o **Alpesh Patel** - Sr. Vice President, Global Regulatory Affairs and Head of Strategic International Expansion at Amneal Pharmaceuticals LLC.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Dr. Jagdish K. Gupta, President of Medical Society of County of Kings, NY Leads Year-Long Bicentennial Celebrations



Dr. Jagdish Gupta welcoming guests to 201st Bicentennial Stated Meeting by the Medical Society of The County of Kings and the Academy of Medicine of Brooklyn



Gavel Transfer to Dr. Jagdish Gupta incoming President by Dr Lawrence Melniker, outgoing President on the right and Dr. Madhu Gudavalli, President-Elect on the left



Receiving Proclamation from Council Woman Mercedes Narcisse. From left to right, Dr. Lisa Eng (Chairperson of BOT) Dr. Parag Mehta (President of MSSNY), Councilwoman, 46th District in Brooklyn, Mrs Mercedes Narcisse, Dr. Jagdish Gupta (Incoming President) Dr. Lawrence Melniker (Outgoing President & Dr. Niraj Acharya (Treasurer-MSCK)



Brooklyn DA, Mr. Eric Gonzalez in the center, Dr. Gupta incoming President on the right of DA and Dr. Eng Chair BOT on the left of DA and all other Board of Trustees of Medical Society of County of Kings with the Executive Committee Members.

NEW YORK (TIP): "I am very humbled, truly privileged, and extremely honored to welcome you all to our 201st Bicentennial Stated Meeting by the Medical Society of The County of Kings and the Academy of Medicine of Brooklyn," said Dr. Jagdish K. Gupta, a committed and highly regarded physician with a history of professional achievement and humanitarian philanthropy,

who was inducted as the 174th President of the Medical Society of County of Kings (MSCK) on May 25th, 2022. Dr. Gupta was addressing the delegates at the 201st Annual Stated Meeting of MSCK as a Bicentennial Event in person, after two years hiatus due to COVID Pandemic at El Caribe Country Club in Brooklyn, NY with full regalia.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

EMMY-NOMINATED FILMMAKER TIRLOK MALIK MAKES HAPPY LIFE YOGA PRESENTATION TO OVER 200 CEOs AT ASIA SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): Tirlok Malik, Emmy-nominated filmmaker and Happy life Yoga speaker, was a guest speaker at the event finale for 'New Majority 2022: The Opportunity for Building Allyship' organized by the Asian American Business Development Center, Inc., at the Asia Society and Museum.



Tirlok Malik (left) with Founder of AABDC John Wang at the event

The event featured guest speakers from various fields such as civil rights, business, community, and nonprofit leaders to gather, speak, learn from and brainstorm with each other. The event unpinned the all-important thought that when we engage in difficult conversations about unlearning prejudice acquired in our respective communities, when we work together and support each other, and when we speak with one voice, it is incredibly powerful.

It was a very informative and constructive summit discussing the opportunity for Building Allyship in Asian and American communities. The event had opening keynote remarks by Ramon Laguarts (Chairman and CEO, Pepsico). Some of the other speakers at the event included Dr. Randal Pinkett (CEO, BCT Partners), Anne Chow (CEO, AT&T), S.David Wu (Ph.D) (President, Baruch College, The City University of New York), Michael Garner (Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer, MTA), Frankie Miranda (CEO, Hispanic Federation).

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian-origin Booker Prize winning novelist Salman Rushdie leads over 40 British Indians in Queen's Jubilee Honors list

LONDON (TIP): Salman Rushdie, the Mumbai-born author of the Booker Prize-winning novel 'Midnight's Children', leads a list of over 40 professionals and community champions of Indian-origin to be honored in the Queen's Birthday Honors list.

Rushdie is named a Companion of Honor, an exclusive club with membership limited to just 65 people at any given time, for services to literature in a list released on Wednesday night as the Jubilee Honors to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II's 70 years of service to the UK.

"It's a privilege to be included in such illustrious company, both past and present," said the 74-year-old author, who was the subject of a fatwa by Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini for his controversial novel 'The Satanic Verses' over 30 years ago.

The Companion of Honor is a special award granted to those who have made a major contribution to the arts, science, medicine, or government lasting over a long period of time.

Very few receive this high honor, which has been conferred on the likes of former British Prime Ministers Winston Churchill and John Major and renowned physicist Stephen Hawking in the past.

"Born in Bombay, he later attended Rugby School and King's College, Cambridge, where he read history," reads the citation for Rushdie, author of 14 novels.

"Midnight's Children' was twice (1993 and 2008) voted Best of the Bookers by the public. He was knighted for services to literature in 2007. He is also an author of non-fiction, an essayist, co-editor and a noted humanist," it notes.

Others honored with some of the higher royal awards coinciding with celebrations of the 96-year-old monarch's 70-year reign, include a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for Avnish Mitter Goyal, Chair of Care England, for services to social care and philanthropy.

Officers of the Order of the British Empire (OBEs)



Salman Rushdie led a list of over 40 professionals and community champions of Indian-origin to be honored in the Queen's Birthday Honors list.

include hotelier Kishorkant (Vinu) Bhattessa for charitable and voluntary services, particularly during covid-19, and Liverpool head teacher Rohit Naik for services to education.

Members of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) recognize a large number of British Indians who have contributed to their local community, including councilors Pranav Bhanot and Ameet Jogia.

In the health-care sector, Professor Indranil Chakravorty of the British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (BAPIO) and orthopedic surgeon Prof Srimathi Rajagopalan Murali are among those to be conferred with an MBE.

Dr Chila Kumari Singh Burman, Sandeep Mahal, Professor Daljit Nagra and Dr Chithra Ramakrishnan are among those honored with MBEs in the field of arts, culture and literature.

"I'm thrilled and humbled to receive this significant recognition for my academic and voluntary work," said Dr Nikita Ved, Research Fellow and Lecturer in Medicine at the University of Oxford and co-founder of the 1928 Institute dedicated to British Indian research,

who received an MBE for services to covid-19 Response.

"Although myself and others have reservations on the phrase 'Member of the British Empire', I am accepting this award in the spirit of being acknowledged, particularly at my age as I feel many young people are overlooked for their hard work," said the 32-year-old academic.

Further down the list, Varsha Kumari Mistry - a Forensic Practitioner at Scotland Yard - has been conferred a Medalist of the Order of the British Empire (OBEM) for services to diversity and inclusion in policing and to the Hindu community.

In tribute to Queen Elizabeth II, recipients have been awarded for their outstanding contributions across all sectors, but in particular for sustained public service, the environment and sustainability, and youth engagement.

"This historic Platinum Jubilee is not only a celebration of the monarch but of the qualities she possesses," said British Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

"The honors she confers this week reflect many of those qualities that have been invaluable from all different walks of life and to communities across the UK. I pay tribute to all of this year's winners. Their stories of courage and compassion are an inspiration to us all," he said.

A total of 1,134 candidates have been named for honors across different fields by the UK Cabinet Office - which compiles the list, with 13.3 per cent of the successful candidates from an ethnic minority background.

Others to receive high honors include a knighthood for crime writer Ian Rankin and CBEs for actor Damian Lewis and fashion designer Stella McCartney.

The honors list is annually published to coincide with the Queen's official birthday celebrations in early June. This year is being marked with added pomp and ceremony as the Platinum Jubilee of the longest-serving British monarch.

INDIAN-ORIGIN GUPTA BROTHERS WANTED IN SOUTH AFRICA OVER ZUMA-ERA CORRUPTION; OF THE THREE, TWO ARE ARRESTED IN UAE



Dubai Police say Rajesh and Atul have been arrested in connection with money laundering and criminal charges in South Africa

DUBAI (TIP): Indian-origin fugitive businessmen Rajesh and Atul Gupta, who were among South Africa's most wanted suspects in a corruption case that led to the removal of president Jacob Zuma from office, have been arrested by the Dubai Police, according to an official statement on Tuesday, June 7. *(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)*

Indian-origin UK based engineer and team creates e-skin that can feel 'pain'

LONDON (TIP): A team of researchers led by an Indian-origin engineer in the UK has created an electronic skin capable of feeling "pain" and according to them it could help create a new generation of smart robots with human-like sensitivity.

Professor Ravinder Dahiya, from the University of Glasgow's James Watt School of Engineering, said the discovery marks a real step forward in work towards creating large-scale neuromorphic printed e-skin capable of responding appropriately to stimuli.

His team at the university developed the artificial skin with a new type of processing system based on synaptic transistors, which mimics the brain's neural pathways in order to learn. A robot hand which uses the smart skin is said to show a remarkable ability to learn to react to external stimuli.

"We all learn early on in our lives to



A team of researchers led by Professor Ravinder Dahiya has created an electronic skin capable of feeling "pain" and according to them it could help create a new generation of smart robots with human-like sensitivity.

respond appropriately to unexpected stimuli like pain in order to prevent us from hurting ourselves again.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

INDIAN-ORIGIN SOUTH AFRICAN GAMBLER LOSES COURT BID TO GET BACK MILLIONS HE LOST AT A CASINO



Essack claimed the casino had a statutory duty not to allow him to gamble there.

for representation only / iStock

JOHANNESBURG (TIP): A South African Indian-origin gambling addict has lost a court bid to force world-renowned casino venue Sun City to repay over five million rands that he lost while gambling there.

In the unusual case lodged at the South Gauteng High Court here, local businessman Suhail Essack, a Gauteng businessman, claimed that Sun City had erred by allowing him back to the gaming tables when he had been placed on their banned list in terms of legislation related to compulsive gambling.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Six Indo-Canadian Punjabis win Ontario polls



Six Punjabis who won are: Hardeep Grewal from Brampton East, Prabmeet Sarkaria from Brampton South, Amarjot Sandhu from Brampton West, Nina Tangri from Mississauga Streetville, Deepak Anand from Mississauga Malton and Parm Gill from Milton.

BRAMPTON (TIP): Six Indo-Canadian Punjabis have been elected to the provincial legislature of Ontario in elections held on Thursday, June 2. The Progressive Conservative Party (PC) has again got mandate from the people. As

many as 20 Punjabis had contested the poll in the Brampton and Mississauga areas in Ontario.

Six Punjabis who won are: Hardeep Grewal from Brampton East, Prabmeet Sarkaria from Brampton South,

Amarjot Sandhu from Brampton West, Nina Tangri from Mississauga Streetville, Deepak Anand from Mississauga Malton and Parm Gill from Milton.

In 2018, seven Punjabis had won in the provincial polls in Ontario. This time a major upset was witnessed with NDP president Jagmeet Singh's brother Gurrattan Singh losing to Hardeep Grewal in Brampton East Riding. Gurrattan was defeated at the seat considered Jagmeet family's political base in the Greater Toronto area.

Two sitting MLAs Sara Singh and Harinder Malhi lost from Brampton Central and Brampton North, respectively. Malhi was the lawmaker behind the 1984 genocide motion in the Ontario provincial parliament in 2016.

Expectedly, the PC headed by Doug Ford fared well, winning 83 of the 124 seats. The NDP headed by Jagmeet Singh bagged the second spot with 31 seats followed by Liberal Party which won eight seats, while Greens and Independents won one seat each.

After the win, Parm Gill tweeted, "Thank You Milton! Let's continue to build on the success we've made over the last four years."

INDIAN AMERICAN DR GAGAN PAWAR BECOMES CEO OF US HEALTHCARE AGENCY



Indian American Dr Gagan Pawar becomes CEO of US healthcare agency Clinicas del Camino Real Inc.

SACRAMENTO /

JALANDHAR (TIP): Coming as a proud moment for Jalandhar, a 41-year-old medico Dr Gagan Pawar has become the Chief Executive Officer of a US-based healthcare agency.

Her father Major-Gen Sarabjit Singh Pawar (retd), who hails from Mithapur village here, shared the information with Jalandhar Tribune. A renowned ex-serviceman, he said it was celebration time in the family as his daughter would now be heading Clinicas del Camino Real Inc., a company of 900 employees, including 70 doctors of all specialties, running 16 clinics in Southern California.

Dr Gagan Pawar had done MBBS from Government Medical College in Amritsar after which she did MD from the University of Pennsylvania. She joined the company as a physician in 2011, became the Chief Medical Officer in 2014 and is now the CEO with the same company. During the course of her job, she even did MBA-Physician. She has been a member of the Ventura County Medical Association and her work during Covid times has been much appreciated.

"Besides working for her company, my daughter has been rendering her services for the community in general ever since the pandemic started. Before leaving for work, she has been doing radio talks. She does these talks even till today sharing the latest statistics, medical evidences and changes in action plan", said the proud father.

Dr Pawar, who is settled in the US with her husband and two sons, credits her family for the support that they offered. "I have always enjoyed being a physician and I still practice, even though it is now just 10% of my work," she said.

(Source: TNS)

INDIAN-ORIGIN CHARU SOOD IS DEPUTY MAYOR IN UK



Indian-origin Charu Sood has been elected Deputy Mayor of Elmbridge (UK).

ELMBRIDGE, UK (TIP): Indian-origin, Chandigarh-born Charu Sood has been elected Deputy Mayor of Elmbridge (UK). She retained her councilor's seat for the second consecutive term in the Elmbridge Borough Council in the recent elections.

She was first elected from the same seat in 2018 and made a name for herself. The win was even special as Charu was one of the star candidates for the Conservatives in Elmbridge and one of the few who managed to retain their seats.

"She won with a clear majority despite Conservatives' downfall in the elections. She is perhaps the only one from the city to be elected as the Deputy Mayor of Elmbridge," said Shashi Bhushan Sood, Charu's father, who lives in Chandigarh.

He said, "She is also among the youngest to be elected for the second consecutive term. She did her schooling from Chandigarh before moving to Barcelona and later to the UK."

Indian American Sopen B. Shah nominated by Biden as US attorney in Madison

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): President Joe Biden has nominated Indian American advocate Sopen B. Shah as US attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, which includes Madison.

Shah's nomination was sent to the Senate for confirmation Monday, June 6, along with four attorneys across the country, as well as two new nominees to serve as US marshals.

"These are officials who will be indispensable to upholding the rule of law as top federal law enforcement officials," the White House said in a statement.

"These individuals were chosen for their devotion to enforcing the law, their professionalism, their experience and credentials, their dedication to pursuing equal justice for all, and their commitment to the independence of the Department of Justice," it said.

Shah is a 2015 graduate of Yale Law School and an associate attorney in the Madison office of the law firm of Perkins Coie since 2019. She specializes in business litigation and in appeals, issues and strategy, according to the firm's website.

Shah was previously a Deputy Solicitor General of Wisconsin from 2017 to 2019. She served as a law clerk for Judge Debra Ann Livingston on the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 2016 to 2017 and Judge Amul R. Thapar on the US District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky from 2015 to 2016. Shah received her JD from Yale Law School in 2015 and AB, magna cum laude, from Harvard College in 2008.

Last year, she represented the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic Party of Wisconsin in a voting case which, in a span of three weeks, went from US District Court in Madison to the US Supreme Court.



President Joe Biden has nominated Indian American advocate Sopen B. Shah as US attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, which includes Madison.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Xavier University School of Medicine Celebrates 2022 Commencement Ceremony



The Xavier University School of Medicine Class of 2022 with administration and faculty



L to R: Trustee Dr. Ravindran Kota, Trustee P.K. Prahalad, President Mr. Ravi Bhoopapur, Chairman Mr. Edwin Casey, His Excellency Minister Endy J.H. Croes, Chancellor Dr. J.G. Bhat, Trustee Mr. Frank Croes

ARUBA (TIP): Xavier University School of Medicine Aruba celebrated their 2022 commencement ceremony on June 4, 2022 at Xavier's brand-new residential campus. There were a total of 52 graduates in the class, with more than half of them joining the ceremony in-person in Aruba.

The ceremony was started by the emcee, Chief Academic Officer Dr. Arun

Dubey. Dr. Dubey first welcomed the graduates, families, and friends. In his speech, he told all in attendance that "It takes a lot of people to turn the mission at Xavier into a reality, and we are so lucky to have such great faculty and staff. I know they have found it a privilege to be part of your experience."

contd on page 38

GOPIO-CT PARTICIPATES IN THE HOPE IN MOTION FUNDRAISER TO HELP CANCER PATIENTS



GOPIO-CT participants at the fundraiser. From L. to R.: Ambrish Mathur, Dr. Thomas Abraham, Alka Banerjee, Anita Mathur, Sangeeta Ahuja and Paul Ahuja

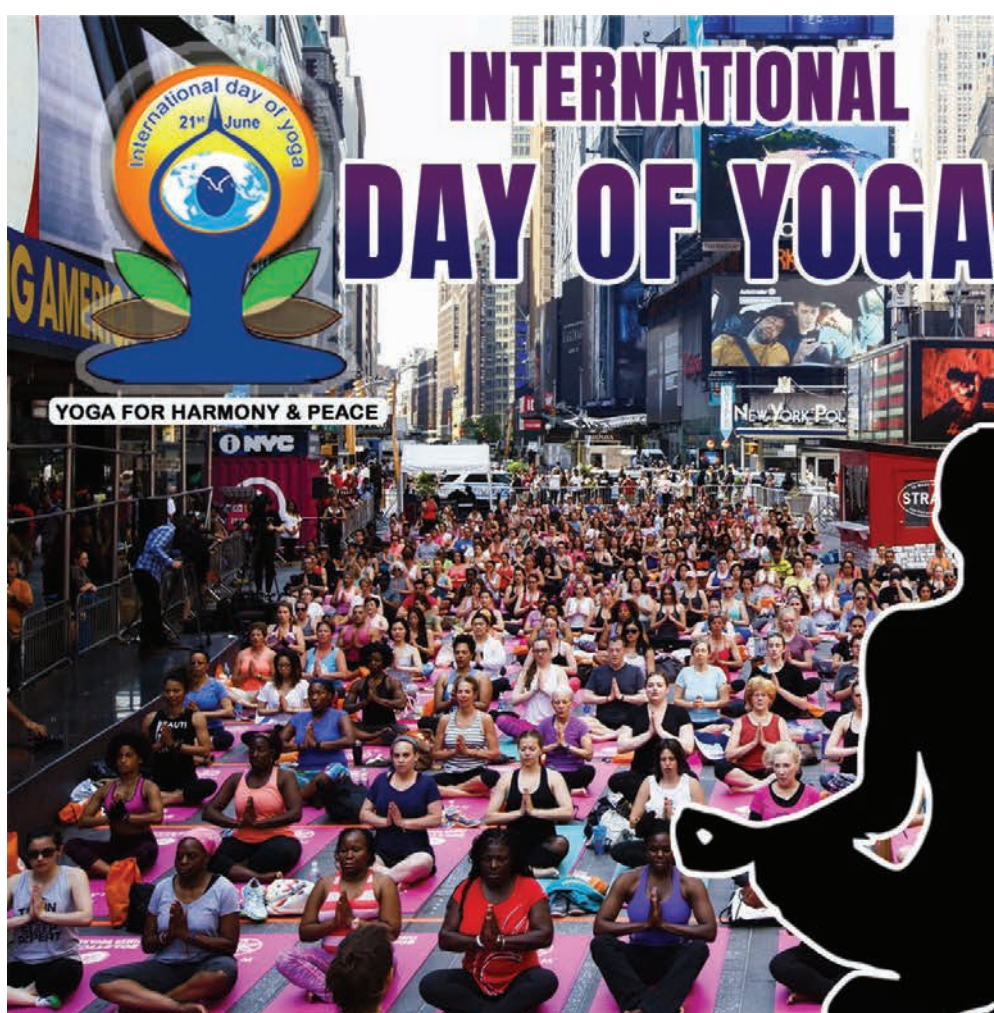


Cancer survivors who attended the event.

STAMFORD, CT (TIP): Global Organization of People of Indian Origin - Connecticut Chapter (GOPIO-CT) has been participating in the Annual Hope in Motion Walk and Run Fundraiser to help cancer patients at the Stamford Hospital for the last 12 years. Now in its 27th year, the Hope in Motion Walk event continues to raise the funds necessary to provide a broad range of supportive services at no charge to those cancer patients in need.

This year's program on Sunday June 5th was held as a hybrid with limited physical presence. Over 500 people gathered at the Stamford Museum and Nature Center to raise funds for cancer patients who rely on Stamford Health's important services. The proceeds from the event were donated to the Bennett Cancer Center at Stamford Health.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news



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Hindi Media Achievers Award for New York based Ashok Vyas



Prem Bhardwaj 'Gyan Bhikshu', Indrajeet Sharma, Sunil Jogi, Ashok Vyas, Ranbir Singh and Prof Satya Trivedi

NEW YORK (TIP): Vishwa Hindi Prachar Samiti, New Delhi organized a literary event at Arya Samaj, Queens.

President of the Samiti, Indrajeet Sharma welcomed poet and media personality of New York Ashok Vyas, Padma Shri awarded versatile poet Sunil Jogi, Lyricist Prof Satya Trivedi and Poet Prem Bhardwaj 'Gyan Bhikshu' with president of Arya Samaj, Ranbir Singh. In his opening remarks, Ashok Vyas talked about the art of listening, significance of words for material as well as spiritual growth. Prem Bhardwaj 'Gyan Bhikshu' shared his inspiring poems, Sunil Jogi recited a few humorous poems as well as a song dedicated to Vedic culture. Prof Satya Trivedi also presented a melodious inspiring song with a message to embrace life with enthusiasm. Poet Bindu Agarwal also shared her humorous poem depicting the aspirations of immigrants in this land of opportunity. Vishwa Hindi Prachar Samiti conferred awards with traditional glory; poets were offered 'traditional Indian turban' and 'shawl' with mementos.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Nassau Legislator Mulé Distributes COVID-19 Tests in Freeport, Baldwin



Nassau County Legislator Debra Mulé (D - Freeport) recently visited Freeport's Gala Foods supermarket and Baldwin's GalaFresh Farms supermarket to distribute COVID-19 home testing kits

Photo / Office of Legislator Debra Mulé

FREEPORT / BALDWIN, NY (TIP): Nassau County Legislator Debra Mulé (D - Freeport) recently visited Freeport's Gala Foods supermarket and Baldwin's GalaFresh Farms supermarket to distribute COVID-19 home testing kits. "There's no better way to get the pulse of the community than speaking directly to our constituents," Legislator Mulé said. "I am thankful to Franky and Jenny Jorge and their entire team for giving us this opportunity to deliver important resources directly to our residents."

To request additional COVID-19 testing kits, contact Legislator Mule's office at 516-571-6205 or dmule@nassaucountyny.gov.

Become a New York City Sanitation Worker For your Community, For Your Family, For You

SANITATION WORKER EXAM FILING PERIOD OPENS JUNE 8

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): On June 7, Mayor Eric Adams, the New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY), and the NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) announced that the filing period for the next Sanitation Worker exam will run from June 8 to June 28 and encouraged all interested in the opportunity to register.

To read the Notice of Examination for Sanitation Worker (Exam 2060), go to nyc.gov/examsforjobs

"The lifetime of service to our City that has taken me to where I am today began when I took a civil service exam. It was one of the best decisions I ever made - it changed my life forever, and in these difficult times, it can do the same for so many of the women and men of our neighborhoods. Show your strength by stepping up to be one of New York's Strongest," said Mayor Eric Adams.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news



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THE WORLD'S LARGEST DEMOCRACY OFTEN SEES THINGS VERY DIFFERENTLY THAN AMERICA

BY WALTER
RUSSELL MEAD



"AMERICANS AND INDIANS OFTEN SEE THE SAME PROBLEM IN VERY DIFFERENT WAYS. INDIA, FOR EXAMPLE, DOES NOT SEE RUSSIA'S ATTACK ON UKRAINE AS A THREAT TO WORLD ORDER. WHILE AMERICANS HAVE BEEN DISTURBED BY INDIA'S CONTINUED WILLINGNESS TO BUY OIL FROM RUSSIA, INDIANS RESENT THE WEST'S ATTEMPT TO RALLY GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR WHAT MANY HERE SEE AS A LARGELY WESTERN PROBLEM IN UKRAINE. POINTING OUT THAT EUROPEANS SCARCELY NOTICED CHINA'S ATTACKS ON INDIAN FRONTIER POSTS IN 2020, FOREIGN MINISTER SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR TOLD A CONFERENCE IN BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA, LAST WEEK THAT "EUROPE HAS TO GROW OUT OF THE MINDSET THAT EUROPE'S PROBLEMS ARE THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS."

Superficially, the U.S.-India relationship looks like a success. With both countries focused on China, business ties steadily deepening, and U.S.-Pakistan relations in a deep freeze, many of the old obstacles to the relationship have disappeared.

But an intense week of meetings in Bangalore and Delhi with politicians, think tankers, religious leaders and journalists made clear that while Americans and Indians share strategic and economic interests, and we both value democracy, we remain divided by important differences in values and perceptions. Unless managed carefully, these differences could derail U.S.-India cooperation at a critical time.

Americans and Indians often see the same problem in very different ways. India, for example, does not see Russia's



US President Joe Biden meets with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the Oval Office of the White House, Friday, September 24, 2021. File photo

attack on Ukraine as a threat to world order. While Americans have been disturbed by India's continued willingness to buy oil from Russia, Indians resent the West's attempt to rally global support for what many here see as a largely Western problem in Ukraine. Pointing out that Europeans scarcely noticed China's attacks on Indian frontier posts in 2020, Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar told a conference in Bratislava, Slovakia, last week that "Europe has to grow out of the mindset that Europe's problems are the world's problems."

More generally, Indians bristle when they sense Americans and Europeans getting together to write global rules. The more that American Wilsonians talk about a values-based international order, the more that Indians worry about Western arrogance. Many Indians want a strong Russia and, within limits, a strong China precisely to help guard against the kind of world order President Biden and many of his advisers want to build.

This is more than the postcolonial suspicion of Western intentions that India has long shared with many other non-Western countries. The Hindu nationalist movement that has replaced the long-ruling Congress Party with a new political system built around the Bharatiya Janata Party and its charismatic leader, Narendra Modi, has brought a new dynamism to Indian foreign policy. This new nationalist India wants to increase and develop Indian power, not submerge Indian sovereignty in Western-designed international institutions.

The domestic agenda of the Hindu nationalist movement can also cause problems for the U.S.-India relationship. For Hindu nationalists, the rule of the Muslim Mughal emperors, some of whom destroyed ancient Hindu temples and built mosques on their ruins, was as much a disaster as British colonialism for Indian civilization. It is not enough to

send the British packing; the liberation of India means placing Hindu civilization back at the center of Indian cultural and political life. Many BJP supporters want the Indian government to defend India's Hindu civilization and culture from Islam, Christianity and Western secular liberalism.

This form of Hindu nationalism leads to controversial policy initiatives. Tough restrictions on the ability of foreign organizations to fund civil-society groups in India threaten to disrupt the activities of American charities ranging from the Ford Foundation to the Catholic Church. Anti-conversion laws put obstacles in the path of both Christian and Muslim missionary efforts, and Hindu women wishing to marry out of the faith sometimes face severe social and governmental pressures. Communal violence, a problem in India since the days of the British raj, has risen in recent years. Indian Muslims often express fears for their personal security.

American human-rights groups have responded to these developments with increasing concern, and last week Secretary of State Antony Blinken named India as a country "where religious freedom and the rights of religious minorities are under threat." Such statements do more to trigger anticolonial and anti-Western sentiments than to relieve minority communities. Hindu nationalism is, among other things, a demand that Indian civilization be accepted as the moral and spiritual equal of the West. America has its racial problems and mass shootings, Indians say. What gives Americans the right to tell India how to live?

These conflicts aren't going away and will likely get worse over time. Hindu nationalism is here to stay. So are India's communal tensions, and so too for that matter is the belief of many Americans that they have a solemn duty to tell people in other countries and cultures how to live-and to impose sanctions on

those unhappy occasions when they fail to take our advice. If bilateral relations are to prosper, Indians and Americans need to find better ways to manage these chronic issues.

India and the U.S. are raucously democratic societies, and their foreign policies cannot ignore public opinion. Managing this critical relationship is never going to be easy. Building deeper ties between the two societies will help; so too will quiet, low-key conversations aimed at preventing blowups before they occur. Both sides need this relationship; we both need to focus on making it work.

(Source: Wall Street Journal)

A former Indian diplomat Venkatachalam Parameswaran who has spent decades working with senior Indian political leaders like Krishna Menon, and at the United Nations, commented on Mead's article. His comments are worth considering.

"As an Indian American, I have been here for 68 years. I have been a serious student of international relations. Mead's column on India has given us the opportunity to reevaluate US-India relations. If we know how to build mutual trust, we will be on the road to success. America has refused to take India into confidence and vice versa. India is right to point out America's blunders in Asia and South Asia. Asians should not have allowed the US to wage war against Vietnam for ten years. Secretary of Defense McNamara confessed ten years after the war. The second Iraq war to change regime was another multitrillion dollar disaster. The US has no locus standi to pontificate on what is "world order" and it has been responsible for the mess it has created. Arrogance of power will not be accepted and cannot win.

"The US and India can build mutual trust provided the US is ready and willing to embrace democracy. The US, UK, France, and Russia must admit India as a permanent member of the UN Security Council. It can be done if these really want this to happen.

India needs level playing field for international migration. India is a major investor in the USA but has been stifled by visa policies that prevent Indians to hire Indians from India.

India's import of oil from Russia is a small fraction of what Europe imports even today.

The US must stop pontificating on so called "human rights" before cleaning up the USA.

India does not want a strong China -- I disagree."



Venkatachalam
Parameswaran

Tour of Duty plan loaded against the soldier

By Lt Gen Harwant Singh (Retd)



"IT IS ONLY AFTER ENORMOUS SACRIFICES AND HARDSHIPS THAT TRADITIONS ARE BUILT AND CAMARADERIE COMES ABOUT, WHICH EVENTUALLY PLAYS ON THE PSYCHE OF THE TROOPS AS THEY FACE EXTREME DANGER. THE INDIAN MILITARY'S CLASS UNITS HAVE REACHED THEIR PRESENT STANDARDS AFTER NEARLY TWO CENTURIES OF TOIL AND SACRIFICES. THEY HAVE LIVED BY THEIR CALLING, CENTERED ON NAAM, NAMAK AND NISHAN AND THE UNIT'S BATTLE CRY."

"WITH THIS 'TOUR OF DUTY', WE ARE OUT TO DESTROY A WELL-ESTABLISHED SYSTEM AND PATTERN OF INDIAN MILITARY, WHICH IS OTHERWISE ACKNOWLEDGED AS ONE AMONGST THE BEST IN THE WORLD. WE ARE DOING ALL THIS WHEN THE DRAGON IS ALREADY AT OUR DOOR."

The pension bill of the defense services has been an issue of much concern to the Government of India. Gen Bipin Rawat, as the Chief of Defense Staff, too seemed worried about it. The defense services' strength is about 1.5 million, while that of civilians in the Ministry of Defense is 3.75 lakh. However, their pension in proportionate terms is far more than that of the military personnel. The pension bill of state police and Central Police



Unjust: Under ToD, soldiers will serve for four years and then be demobilized.

Photo / PTI

Organizations too is many times more than that of the soldiers.

Those in CPOs retire at the age of 58 years and draw much higher pension than those in the military, who retire at 35-37 years. The latter do not get half of their pay as pension because they do not serve for the minimum of 20 years. Consequently, when the soldier and policeman reach 60 years, the latter would have drawn approximately Rs 57 lakh more than the soldier. A soldier's life ends at 61-62 years while a policeman's average age is 70-71 years and the Railways employee's is 73 years.

The soldiers' lifespan is shorter due to early retirement, lesser pension and increasing financial worries.

To further disadvantage the soldier, the government plans to bring in Tour of Duty (ToD). Under this scheme, soldiers will serve for four years and then be demobilized. Out of these demobilized soldiers, some percentage (30-50%) would be re-enrolled for another 15 years. The earlier service of four years will not be counted towards pay and subsequent pension. Discrimination and injustice in this is too obvious to be missed. Those who are left out after four years of duty period will be trained in various technical skills. Some may be given an opportunity to work for a diploma or degree in engineering etc. Given the state of unemployment in the country, they will more likely remain jobless. Thousands of these unemployed ones, well trained in use of weapons, could create an altogether different internal security situation. How come this grand proposal of Tour of Duty is not being applied to the civil services, police and CPOs?

With the ever-increasing induction of high technologies into weapons and equipment of defense forces, how much operating skills would these inductees acquire during these four years and then deliver? As also, every four years, new

batches would be trained in these high-tech weapons and equipment. This will have its own fallout on finances.

The other part of this plan for the defense service (which relates more to the military) is that the regimental system, where fighting arms units are based on a class basis (entire unit or companies/squadrons/ batteries within the units), will be done away with. In future, they will draw troops from all communities and religions all over India. In other words, the Indian Army would do away with single-class units and two- to three-class sub-units.

So far, the Army units have put up unparalleled performance in various wars, motivated by regimental traditions and religion-based battle cries. It is only after enormous sacrifices and hardships that traditions are built and camaraderie comes about, which eventually plays on the psyche of the troops as they face extreme danger. The Indian military's class units have reached their present standards after nearly two centuries of toil and sacrifices. They have lived by their calling, centered on Naam, Namak and Nishan and the unit's battle cry.

At present, the defense budget is approximately 1.5 per cent of the GDP, which is being rather low. Of this, the percentage required for revenue is quite high, leaving less money for capital expenditure (modernization etc). If the allocation is raised to 3 per cent of GDP, as recommended by various parliamentary committees, the revenue expenditure would drop to approximately 40 per cent of the defense budget.

A higher allocation for defense is not likely because of our politicians' warped view of national security. Speaking in Parliament, one finance minister had observed, "Good defense is more than finance, a good defense is sound foreign policy, a good unneighborly policy." Thus, financial allocations for defense, at low

UNFORTUNATELY, THOSE WORKING ON THESE UNCALLED-FOR SCHEMES HAVE LITTLE IDEA OF THE MILITARY'S CALLING. NONE OF THEM OR THEIR CHILDREN EVER SERVED IN THE MILITARY. AS AGAINST THIS, A GOOD NUMBER OF US PRESIDENTS HAD SERVED IN THE NATION'S ARMED FORCES.

priority, and relations with neighbors remain indifferent.

China's defense budget is five times that of India. India spends a greater percentage of the GDP on internal security plus VIP security than on revenue expenditure in the defense budget. The financial angle apart, the larger issue is the impact this new policy of recruitment will have on the overall performance of the military and in particular that of the Army.

Military is one component of the government that has always delivered, notwithstanding all of its drawbacks in weapons and equipment, unfair deals by successive pay commissions etc. Yet, this is the very element that we seemed determined to downgrade or perhaps destroy. Will these four-year tenure types have the essential motivation and willingness to lay down their lives when the call is made, while being aware that they are there for just four years? Will they imbibe that regimental spirit and unit's battle cry which makes them carry on through a hail of bullets and exploding shells, with comrades falling left and right and moving up those impossible slopes to drive cold steel into the enemy?

Unfortunately, those working on these uncalled for schemes have little idea of the military's calling. None of them or their children ever served in the military. As against this, a good number of US presidents had served in the nation's armed forces.

Philip Mason, an ICS officer, in his book A Matter of Honor (1974), dilating on the long history of defeats of India's armies, records, "No one gave thought to the best means of providing an army that would protect the state. Where did the disadvantage lie! I believe it lay in ideas about war, in the nature of organizations of armies and in the end in politics and the kind of governments that had grown up in India." How different we are today!

With this 'Tour of Duty', we are out to destroy a well-established system and pattern of Indian military, which is otherwise acknowledged as one amongst the best in the world. We are doing all this when the Dragon is already at our door.

(The author is a retired Lt. General of Indian Army)

Punjab Politics: Litmus Test for AAP in Sangrur Lok Sabha Bye-Election

BY PRABHJOT SINGH



Sangrur Lok Sabha seat has been represented in the recent past by political heavyweights like Surjit Singh Barnala, Simranjit Singh Mann, Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, and the present chief minister of Punjab Bhagwant Mann

Rocked by the gruesome assassination of folk singer-turned politician Sidhu Moose Wala on May 29, the ruling Aam Aadmi faces a litmus test in the Sangrur Lok Sabha seat bye-election scheduled for June 23.

The seat had fallen vacant after the incumbent Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann quit his Lok Sabha seat on his election to Punjab Vidhan Sabha from Dhuri. In the last two elections - in 2014 and 2019 - Bhagwant Mann had successfully contested from this seat.

Of the five contestants in the fray this time include Simranjit Singh Mann, President of Shiromani Akali Dal (Mann), who represented Sangrur in Lok Sabha from 1999 to 2004.

There were speculations that all Sikh organizations and political parties would put up a joint Panthic candidate in their endeavor to get early release of Sikh prisoners languishing in various jails of the country.

The proposal was first taken at a meeting of the Panthic organizations. It was followed by a visit of Shiromani Akali Dal chief Sukhbir Singh Badal to the residence of Simranjit Singh Mann, President of Shiromani Akali Dal (Mann).

At the closed door meeting the two leaders and other senior leaders reportedly failed to reach unanimity.

While Simranjit Singh Mann went ahead to file his nomination papers day after the meeting, Shiromani Akali Dal chief Sukhbir Singh Badal announced the candidature of Kamaldeep Kaur Rajoana, sister of jailed Balwant Singh

Rajoana. Various Panthic organizations have been making concerted efforts to seek release of Balwant Singh Rajoana undergoing life imprisonment in the Beant Singh assassination case.

Other candidates in the fray include Gurmail Singh of ruling Aam Aadmi Party. An environmentalist, Gurmail Singh has been active in AAP politics as a youth leader and heads the Sangrur unit of the party.

Other than Simranjit Singh Mann, who contested the last Lok Sabha election from this seat unsuccessfully, Kewal Singh Dhillon is also in the running this time. Though last time, he was a Congress candidate, now he is representing Bharatiya Janata Party. Interestingly, Kewal Dhillon, who twice represented Barnala in Punjab Vidhan Sabha as a Congressman, joined BJP only a day before his nomination as the party candidate for the ensuing bye-election.

Though the BJP contested the State assembly elections in February in alliance with Punjab Lok Congress, a new outfit floated by former Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh after leaving Congress, and Sanyukat Shiromani Akali Dal led by former MP Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, announcement of Kewal Dhillon's candidature, indicates that the alliance is no more in existence.

At one stage, the Sanyukat Shiromani Akali Dal had raised objections on the way the BJP was going alone on both scouting for the candidate and contesting the election on its own.

In the 2019 elections, Parminder Singh Dhindsa, who unsuccessfully contested from Dirba in the last Assembly elections, was the Shiromani Akali Dal candidate. He finished third behind Bhagwant Singh Mann and Kewal Singh Dhillon by polling 2,63,498 votes.

Parminder Dhindsa had represented Dirba in Punjab Vidhan Sabha for the 2017-2022 term.

Congress has named former Dhuri MLA, Dalvir Singh Goldy, as its candidate.

In the Punjab Assembly elections held early this year, all nine assembly segments - Lehra, Dirba, Sunam, Bhadaur, Barnala, Mehal Kalan, Malerkotla, Dhuri and Sangrur - that constitute this Lok Sabha, AAP candidates made a clean sweep.

Sangrur has a unique record as it has been sending representatives of different political parties, including Communists, Congress, and various factions of Shiromani Akali Dal, to Lok Sabha.

Ranjit Singh was the first Lok Sabha winner from Sangrur. He won in the 1952 elections as a representative of Congress.

Nirlep Kaur, owing allegiance to the then Shiromani Akali Dal (Sant Fateh Singh), won from Sangrur in 1967, the first general election after the reorganization of Punjab. Subsequently, Teja Singh Swatantar, wrested back the seat for Communist Party of India. In 1962, Ranjit Singh was the first CPI nominee to win from Sangrur.

Two of SAD MPs from Sangrur -

Surjit Singh Barnala and Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa - remained part of the Union Cabinet in the NDA governments of their time.

SAD (Mann) was successful twice in representing this constituency in Lok Sabha. In 1989, Rajdev Singh was elected from here and 10 years later, the SAD(Mann) chief, Simranjit Singh Mann, won from Sangrur.

Before Bhagwant Mann was elected for the first time in 2014, the seat was held by Vijay Inder Singla for a term - 2009-2014.

Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa succeeded Simranjit Singh in 2004.

For Congress, Gurcharan Singh Nihalsinghwal (1980) and Gurcharan Singh Dadhahoor (1991) represented Sangrur in Lok Sabha.

Political analysts hold that things have changed significantly primarily because of the assassination of Sidhu Moose Wala. Days before his killing, he had reportedly held a meeting with Simranjit Singh Mann pledging support to him in the Lok Sabha bye-election.

(Prabhjot Singh is a veteran journalist with over three decades of experience covering a wide spectrum of subjects and stories. He has covered Punjab and Sikh affairs for more than three decades besides covering seven Olympics and several major sporting events, including eight World Cups in Hockey. He has been hosting TV shows. For more in-depth analysis and stories by him please visit probingeye.com or follow him on Twitter.com/probingeye and on Facebook @PrabhjotSingh.Journalist. He can be reached at prabhjot416@gmail.com)

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NEWS FROM IRS

Dirty Dozen: IRS urges anyone having trouble paying their taxes to avoid anyone claiming they can settle tax debt for pennies on the dollar, known as OIC mills



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): As the 6th item on the 2022 "Dirty Dozen" scams warning list, the Internal Revenue Service, on June 7, cautioned taxpayers with pending tax bills to contact the IRS directly and not go to unscrupulous tax companies that use local advertising and falsely claiming they can resolve unpaid taxes for pennies on the dollar.

"No one can get a better deal for taxpayers, than they can usually get for themselves by working directly with the IRS to resolve their tax issues," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "Taxpayers can check online for their best deal, as well as calling a specialized collection line where they can get fast service by using voice and chat bots or opting to speak with a live phone assistant."

Offer in Compromise (OIC) "mills" make outlandish claims usually in local advertising regarding how they can settle a person's tax debt for pennies on the dollar. The reality usually is that taxpayers pay the OIC mill a fee to get the same deal they could have gotten on their

own by working directly with the IRS.

The IRS has compiled the annual Dirty Dozen list for more than 20 years as a way of alerting taxpayers and the tax professional community about scams and schemes. The list is not a legal document or a literal listing of agency enforcement priorities. It is designed to raise awareness among a variety of audiences that may not always be aware of developments involving tax administration.

OIC mills are a problem all year long but tend to be more visible right after the filing season is over and taxpayers are trying to resolve their tax issues perhaps after receiving a balance due notice in the mail.

For those who feel they need help, there are many reputable tax professionals available, and there are important tools that can help people find the right practitioner for their needs. IRS.gov is a good place to start scoping out what to do.

These "mills" contort the IRS program into something it's not - misleading people with no chance of meeting the requirements while charging excessive fees, often thousands of dollars.

An "offer," or OIC, is an agreement between a taxpayer and the IRS that resolves the taxpayer's tax debt. The IRS has the authority to settle, or "compromise," federal tax liabilities by accepting less than full payment under certain circumstances. However, some promoters are inappropriately advising

indebted taxpayers to file an OIC application with the IRS, even though the promoters know the person won't qualify. This costs honest taxpayers money and time.

Before taxpayers start investing time to do the paperwork necessary to submit an offer, they'll want to check out the IRS's Offer in Compromise Pre-Qualifier Tool to make sure they're eligible to file one. (Note: even though individuals and businesses can submit an offer, the tool is currently only available to individuals.)

The IRS also created an OIC video playlist that leads taxpayers through a series of steps and forms to help them calculate an appropriate offer based on their assets, income, expenses and future earning potential. Find these helpful, easy to navigate videos at irsvideos.gov/oic.

The IRS reminds taxpayers that under the First Time Penalty Abatement policy, taxpayers can go directly to the IRS for administrative relief from a penalty that would otherwise be added to their tax debt.

OIC mills are one example of unscrupulous tax preparers. Taxpayers should be wary of unscrupulous "ghost" preparers and aggressive promises of manufacturing a bigger refund.

Ghost preparers: Although most tax preparers are ethical and trustworthy, taxpayers should be wary of preparers who won't sign the tax returns they prepare, often referred to as ghost

preparers. For e-filed returns, the "ghost" will prepare the return, but refuse to digitally sign as the paid preparer.

By law, anyone who is paid to prepare, or assists in preparing federal tax returns, must have a valid Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN). Paid preparers must sign and include their PTIN on the return.

Inflated refunds: Not signing a return is a red flag that the paid preparer may be looking to make a quick profit by promising a big refund or charging fees based on the size of the refund.

Unscrupulous tax return preparers may also:

Require payment in cash only and will not provide a receipt.

Invent income to qualify their clients for tax credits.

Claim fake deductions to boost the size of the refund.

Direct refunds into their bank account, not the taxpayer's account.

Choose wisely. The Choosing a Tax Professional page on IRS.gov has information about tax preparer credentials and qualifications. The IRS Directory of Federal Tax Return Preparers with Credentials and Select Qualifications can help identify many preparers by type of credential or qualification.

Taxpayers are legally responsible for what's on their tax return even if it is prepared by someone else.

For those who pay estimated taxes, second quarter June 15 deadline approaches

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): The Internal Revenue Service reminds taxpayers who pay estimated taxes that the deadline to pay their second quarter tax liability is June 15.

Taxes are pay-as-you-go

This means taxpayers need to pay most of the tax they expect to owe during the year, as income is received. There are two ways to do that:

Withholding from pay, pension or certain government payments such, as Social Security.

Making quarterly estimated tax payments during the year.

Estimated tax is the method used to pay tax on income that isn't subject to withholding. This includes income from self-employment, interest, dividends, rent, gains from the sale of assets, prizes and awards.

Taxpayers may also have to pay estimated tax if the amount of income tax being withheld from their salary, pension or other income isn't enough. If necessary, those who receive a salary or wages can avoid having to pay estimated

taxes by asking their employer to withhold more tax from their earnings. To do this, taxpayers should submit a new Form W-4 to their employer. There is a special line on Form W-4 for them to enter the additional amount they want their employer to withhold.

Who must pay estimated tax?

Individuals, including sole proprietors, partners and S corporation shareholders, generally have to make estimated tax payments if they expect to have a tax liability of \$1,000 or more when they file their return.

Individual taxpayers can use the IRS Interactive Tax Assistant online to see if they are required to pay estimated taxes. They can also see the worksheet in Form 1040-ES, Estimated Tax for Individuals, for more details on who must pay estimated tax.

Corporations generally have to make estimated tax payments if they expect to owe tax of \$500 or more when they file their return. Corporations can see Form 1120-W, Estimated Tax for Corporations, for more information.

Publication 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax, has additional details, including worksheets and examples, that can be especially helpful to those who have dividend or capital gain income, owe alternative minimum tax or self-employment tax, or have other special situations.

How to avoid an underpayment penalty

Taxpayers can avoid an underpayment penalty by owing less than \$1,000 at tax time or by paying most of their taxes during the year. Generally, for 2022 that means making payments of at least 90% of the tax expected on their 2022 return, or taxpayers who pay at least 100 percent of the tax shown on their return for tax year 2021.

Special rules apply to some groups of taxpayers, such as farmers, fishers, certain higher income taxpayers, casualty and disaster victims, those who recently became disabled, recent retirees and those who receive income unevenly during the year. For more information, refer to Form 1040-ES.

Generally, taxpayers should make estimated tax payments in four equal amounts to avoid a penalty. However, if they receive income unevenly during the year, they may be able to vary the amounts of the payments to avoid or lower the penalty by using the annualized installment method. Taxpayers can use Form 2210, Underpayment of Estimated Tax by Individuals, Estates, and Trusts, to see if they owe a penalty for underpaying their estimated tax.

Third quarter payments are due September 15 and the final estimated tax payment for tax year 2022 is due on Jan. 17, 2023.

Tax Withholding Estimator

The Tax Withholding Estimator offers a step-by-step method for effectively ensuring taxpayers have the right amount of tax withheld from their paychecks or other income that is subject to withholding.

Using the Tax Withholding Estimator can help taxpayers prevent having too little tax withheld and facing an unexpected tax bill or penalty at tax time next year.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Religious freedom in India under threat, says US Secretary of State Antony Blinken



'Minorities under threat due to rising attacks on places of worship': Blinken

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): In a rare occurrence, United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Thursday, June 2, called out India for rising instances of attacks on religious freedom.

Minorities in India, said Blinken, were "under threat due to rising attacks on places of worship" while delivering remarks on the 2021 Report on International Religious Freedom in Washington.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said minorities in India were under threat due to rising attacks on places of worship.

He was delivering remarks on the 2021 Report on International Religious Freedom in Washington.

Blinken began by naming a clutch of countries - Morocco, Taiwan, Iraq and Timor Leste - that have made improvements in allowing religious freedom. Besides India, he said religious freedom was under stress in Vietnam and Nigeria also.

After Blinken's remarks, US Ambassador for State International Religious Freedom Rashad Hussein also named India. He said in India, some officials were ignoring or supporting threats to religious freedom. Hussein had earned the ire of the Ministry of External Affairs in February when he had tweeted on the hijab controversy in Karnataka by stating that hijab ban in schools violated religious freedom and stigmatize and marginalized women.

Stating the Biden administration had done the right thing by naming India, Advocacy Director of Indian American Muslim Congress Ajit Sahi said, "We applaud Blinken for naming India, as violations there have gone beyond what is acceptable. We hope more and more members of US Congress and officials of US Government will speak up and call out escalating religious persecution of Muslims and Christians in India."

(Source: TNS)

'Vote politics': MEA slams US report on religious freedom in India

NEW DELHI / NEW YORK (TIP): India has strongly pushed back at criticism from the West that it is not doing enough to promote religious freedom and for failing to condemn the Russian aggression in Ukraine.

The Ministry of External Affairs, on June 3, accused Washington of playing "vote bank politics" after US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said, "in India we've seen rising attacks on people and places of worship". The "vote bank politics" phrase was used in December last year by 22 retired Indian diplomats when they attacked Canadian PM Justine Trudeau for backing the farmers' stir.

"We would urge that assessments based on motivated inputs and biased views be avoided," said MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi on the annual US report on international religious freedom released by Blinken. Trying to turn the tables on the US, he said: "In our discussions with the US, we have regularly highlighted issues of concern there, including racially and ethnically motivated attacks, hate crimes and gun violence."

Meanwhile, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar exhorted Europe to grow out of the mindset that its problems alone are the world's problems and countered criticism on India buying Russian oil and banning wheat exports. Accused at the Bratislava Forum in Slovakia for funding the war by buying Russian oil, Jaishankar countered by asking, "Is it only Indian money that funds and not gas coming to Europe?" He pointed out that the West had squeezed alternative sources of oil from Iran and Venezuela, leaving



India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar

countries with no option but to hunt for the best available deal in the market. The sixth round of western sanctions against Russia, he noted, had timelines and carve-outs in order not to unduly inconvenience its people. "If you are considerate to yourself, surely you can be considerate to other people," he observed. He also said India did not need help in countering Chinese aggression.

On banning wheat exports, Jaishankar said the government discovered the grain was being cornered by deep-pocket traders from Singapore and Dubai. "Our goodwill was used for speculation and we had to do something. What we saw happen with vaccines, we don't want to see happen with wheat. The rich were vaccinated and the poor were left to God," he said.

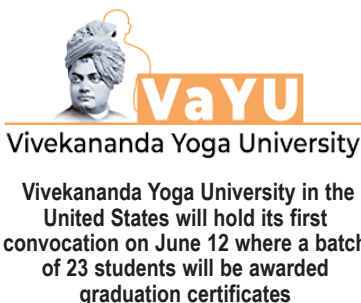
VIVEKANANDA YOGA UNIVERSITY TO HOLD ITS FIRST CONVOCATION ON JUNE 12

LOS ANGELES (TIP): Vivekananda Yoga University in the United States will hold its first convocation on June 12 where a batch of 23 students will be awarded graduation certificates.

The maiden convocation of the university is likely to be attended by a host of eminent Yoga practitioners, academicians and leaders from the field. The event will be held in Los Angeles, where the varsity's campus is presently located.

"We are proud to announce that in the path laid out by Swami Vivekananda who brought Yoga to the west in 1893, we have brought a vision of holistic approach to Yoga with its applications supported by modern scientific research. It is best of the east meets with best of the West," said Dr H R Nagendra, chairman of Vivekananda Yoga University's board of trustees.

The top Yoga guru is also the chancellor of SVYASA University, the world's first Yoga university in Bengaluru, which he



Vivekananda Yoga University in the United States will hold its first convocation on June 12 where a batch of 23 students will be awarded graduation certificates

founded in 2002.

"It is a matter of great pride that the Vivekananda University is hosting its first convocation. All the credit goes to Dr Nagendra for establishing this university in the United States, which will go a

long way in creating an army of trained yoga practitioners and researchers in the west," said Prem Bhandari, founding director of Vivekananda Yoga University (VaYU).

The Vivekananda Yoga University, which was jointly launched by Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan and Chairperson of the Standing Committee on External Affairs P P Chaudhary during a virtual event held at the Consulate General of India in New York in June 2022, is provisionally approved and licensed by the California Bureau of Private & Postsecondary Education (BPPE). (Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

IMF MD NAMES KRISHNA SRINIVASAN TO HEAD ASIA-PACIFIC DEPT

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva Wednesday, June 8, announced the appointment of Indian national Krishna Srinivasan as Director of the Asia and Pacific Department (APD) from June 22.



Indian economist Krishna Srinivasan has been appointed as the Director of the Asia and Pacific Department (APD) by International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva. Photo / Flickr-IMF

According to an IMF announcement, Srinivasan will succeed Changyong Rhee whose retirement from the Fund was announced on March 23.

"Krishna is a highly regarded member of our Fund family and has made many important and innovative contributions to our mission throughout his career at the Fund," Georgieva said.

Srinivasan, an Indian national, has more than 27 years of Fund experience, starting in 1994 in the Economist Program. He is currently a Deputy Director in APD where he oversees the department's surveillance work on a

number of large and systemically important countries such as China and Korea, and smaller states in the Pacific such as Fiji and Vanuatu.

Georgieva said Srinivasan's appointment is a culmination of his superior record of leadership across a

wide range of departments, including African Department (AFR), European Department (EUR), Monetary and Capital Market Department (MCM), RES, Strategy, Policy and Review Department (SPR), and West Hemisphere Department (WHD).

"This range of work and experiences is reflective of his career during which he has worked on the full spectrum of the Fund's membership from low-income countries, to emerging markets, and advanced economies," she said.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

AAPI Convention Teaser Offers Glimpses of 40th Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX

FOCUS ON "HEAL THE HEALERS: REJUVENATE AND REKINDLE YOUR MIND AND YOUR SPIRITS"

SAN ANTONIO, TX (TIP): "It is with great pleasure that we want to welcome you to the 40th Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions of American Association of Physicians of Indian origin (AAPI), which will be held from June 23-26, 2022 in the historic city of San Antonio, Texas," Dr. Anupama Gotimukula, President of AAPI said during the much anticipated Convention Teaser organized virtually on Sunday, May 15th. "We are planning a historic convention in San Antonio to celebrate 40 years of AAPI that coincides with 75 years of India's Independence, with excellent educational sessions and other programs."

Dr. Gotimukula, the 4th woman President in the history of AAPI, who has been leading AAPI to newer heights with her dynamic leadership, while thanking the Organizing Committee led by Dr. Jayesh Shah, praised the dedication and generosity of each member for giving their best, to make this Convention truly a memorable one for every participant.

"Bienvenidos a San Antonio, Tejas!" Dr. Jayesh Shah, Convention Chair and past President of AAPI said in Texan style. "It is with great pleasure that I, along with the San Antonio -2022 Convention Team, welcome you to the 40th AAPI Annual Convention in San Antonio, the 8th largest city in the US. I still have vivid memories of inviting you to San Antonio in 2014. This is going to be the 4th convention in Texas."

The Convention Teaser provided a glimpse of the 40th annual Convention with its theme, "Heal the Healers - Rejuvenate And Rekindle Your Mind And Your Spirits." "Our physician members have worked very hard during the Covid 19 pandemic as the 2022 convention is a perfect time to heal the healers with a special focus on wellness," said Dr. Jayesh Shah.

Put together by a highly talented and dedicated Team of Convention Committee members, the 4 days long event will be filled with programs and activities that cater to the body, mind and soul. The Convention is going to be a unique experience for everyone, he added.

Dr. Jayesh Shah introduced the strong and dedicated team of Convention Committee members, including Mr. Venky Adivi, Chief Executive Officer of the Convention; Dr. Aruna Venkatesh, Convention Treasurer; Dr. Vijay Koli, Past President of AAPI & Convention Advisor; Dr. Rajam Ramamurthy, Convention Advisor; Chief Operating Officers, R. Reddy Yeluru and Ram Joolukuntla; Dr. Rajeev Suri, President of TIPSSW & Co-Chair of the Convention, and the other Co-Chairs of the Convention, including Dr. Shankar Sanka, Dr. Hetal Nayak, and Dr. Kiran Cheruku.

Honoring India, as she celebrates 75 years of India's Independence is part of the convention, being co-sponsored by the Embassy of India & the Consulate General of India (CGI) - Houston.

Each day of the convention will have a specific theme. On Thursday, the theme chosen is "Unity in Diversity" and the delegates will showcase one's own state dress code. Heritage India is the theme for Friday honoring and celebrating India's rich culture and diversity. On Saturday, the focus is on the much-loved Bollywood with a special performance by popular Bollywood singer Shaan, followed



Dr. Anupama Gotimukula, President of AAPI said: "We are planning a historic convention in San Antonio to celebrate 40 years of AAPI that coincides with 75 years of India's Independence, with excellent educational sessions and other programs."

by Mehfil. The food served each will match the theme chosen for each day, he added.

Some of the major events at the convention include: Workshops and hands-on sessions on well-being, 10-12 hours of CMEs, Women's Forum, CEOs Forum, "AAPI Got Talent", Mehfil, Bollywood Nite, Fashion Show, Medical Jeopardy, Abstract Posters/Research Contest, Alumni and Young Physicians events and Exhibition and Sale of Jewelry, Clothing, Medical Equipment, Pharma, Finance and many more.

The convention will be held at the newly renovated Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center in San Antonio, TX located on the colorful and vibrant River Walk. This world-class facility will afford an intimate setting that will facilitate one's ability to convey cutting-edge research and CME, promote business relationships, and display ethnic items. Vendor satisfaction and comfort are our top priorities.

Giving an overview of the programs for each day, Venky Adivi said, "It takes a whole village to put together a fabulous convention, I am grateful to committee members, Chairs and Advisors. Special thanks to Ms. Vijaya Kodali for her expertise and skills."

According to Dr. Rajeev Suri, President, TIPS SW, and Convention Co-Chair, please get your Sombrero (Mexican Hat) ready for a special evening organized by Texas Indo-American Physician Society (SW Chapter) and culminate with Bollywood Dandiya Night,

Saturday Evening will begin with the Presidential Banquet, which will be followed by a live show by Bollywood's one of the best "Shaan" Night. Sunday, we bid you "Hasta la Vista" with a closing ceremony," said Dr. Vijay Koli, Advisor to the Convention.

Dr. Kiran Cheraku, Co-Chair of the Convention said, "On Friday, a popular Fashion Show, Abby V show and colorful Rajasthani dance is awaiting you." "On Saturday with the Celebration of International Day of Yoga on Riverwalk, imagine 100's of people doing Yoga all around

the Riverwalk," pointed out Dr. Rajam Ramamurthy, Advisor for the Convention.

AAPI delegates will have a multidisciplinary CME conference that allows specialists and primary care physicians to interact in an academic forum. World-renowned speakers will discuss gaps between current and best practice of wide-ranging topics at the CME sessions.

Dr. Shankar Sanka, Co-Chair stated: "The 2022 exhibit hall is the vibrant nerve center of the convention. The unique layout offers maximum exposure to the pharmaceutical and commercial booth."

Dr. Aruna Venkatesh, Treasurer of the Convention added: "The exhibition stage will have the performance to keep our audience in the exhibit hall to keep our booth supporters happy. The research pavilion will enable you to view the outstanding works of our students, residents, and fellows."

Dr. Hetal Nayak stated, "the most unique part of the convention is our Yoga-based Wellness Package which is thoughtfully created with world-renowned speakers. The experience can transform and inspire you." In addition to colorful entertainment, exquisite authentic Indian cuisine, esteemed yoga gurus and experts, who will share their wisdom and lead the Wellness Sessions include: Paramguru Sharatha Jois, Sadhvi Bhagawati, Saraswati Eddie Stern, Dr. Sat Bir Khalsa, Dr. Dilip Sarkar, Dr. Pankaj Vij, and Dr. Param Dedhia.

"Our speakers are some of the best names in Wellness and Yoga- Dr. Akil Taher, Eddie Stern, Dr. Kaushik Reddy, Dr. Ajeya Joshi, Yog Guru Sharath Jois, Drs. P Vij & P. Dedhia, Sadhvi Saraswati, Dr. Smita Mehta, Dr. Sat Bir Khalsa. And do not miss the world-famous yoga workshop by Yog Guru Sharath Jois," said Dr. Kiran Cheruku, Convention Co-Chair.

The confirmed Plenary Speakers are Dr. Jack Reseneck, AMA President, and Dr. Peter Hotez, Nobel Prize Nominee. Other confirmed guests are legendary Sunil Gavaskar and Dr. Rahul Gupta, Director, National Drug Control Policy, World-renowned spiritual leader Sadhvi Saraswati and Dr. Prem Reddy, CEO of Prime Health Services.

For the first time ever, AAPI is planning to organize an In-Person Plenary Session on India-USA Healthcare Partnership with the Health Minister of India, Mansukh Mandaviya (invited but awaiting confirmation from his office) during the Convention on Saturday, June 25th.

"Little Master" Sunil Gavaskar praised AAPI members for being part of the "greatest profession in the world." He said, "It's a unique honor to be part of the important AAPI convention in Texas. I am looking forward to meeting you all in Texas." Mr. Gavaskar referred to his association with the "Heart to Heart Foundation" and how the Foundation is touching many hearts around the world.

"Physicians and healthcare professionals from across the country and from around the world will convene and participate in the scholarly exchange of medical advances, to develop health policy agendas, and encourage legislative priorities in the coming year. We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!" said Dr. Gotimukula. For more details, and sponsorship opportunities, please visit: www.aapiconvention.org and www.aapiusa.org

(Based on a press release issued by Ajay Ghosh)

INDIAN-AMERICAN NAMED DEMOCRATIC PARTY DEPUTY NATIONAL FINANCE CHAIR

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): Eminent Indian-American and major fund raiser Ajay Jain Bhutoria has been named as



Ajay Jain Bhutoria has been named as Deputy National Finance Chair of the ruling Democratic party.

Deputy National Finance Chair of the ruling Democratic party.

Silicon Valley-based Bhutoria is a successful entrepreneur and is considered to be one of the major fund raisers for the Democratic Party and US President Joe Biden.

With a proven track record and decades of combined experience raising the resources to elect Democrats up and

down the ballot, Bhutoria is the only Asian-American to hold this role this year, a media release said.

Bhutoria also serves on the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (US HHS).

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Bangladesh battles to douse blaze at container depot that killed 41

DHAKA (TIP): Firefighters in Bangladesh battled for a third day on June 7 to stamp out a massive fire that killed 41 people at a container depot in an incident that spotlights the South Asian nation's poor safety record.

Drone footage showed thick columns of smoke and rows of burnt-out containers as Saturday's fire persisted after a huge blast and shipping container explosions at Sitakunda, 40 km (25 miles) from the southeastern port city of Chittagong.

The fire has been largely reined in but not entirely extinguished, as containers nearby loaded with chemicals pose a risk of life-threatening explosions, fire officials said.

"Our firefighters are working hard, but due to the presence of chemicals it's too risky to work close by," said Anisur Rahman, fire service chief of the port city.

Similar explosions, some of which shattered the windows of buildings in the neighbourhood, have already complicated the firefighters' task.

Troops have also joined the effort to prevent the spread of chemicals in nearby canals and along the Bay of Bengal coastline, officials said.

Officials revised the death toll down to 41 from 49, with more than 200 injured. The tally included at least nine dead firefighters, while 10 policemen were among the 50 rescue officials injured, said city police official Alauddin Talukder.

More deaths are feared, however, as some of the injured are in critical



condition, said Chittagong doctor Mohammed Elias Hossain.

The cause of the blaze was not immediately clear. But fire officials suspect it could have originated in a container of hydrogen peroxide before spreading quickly.

"Almost all the containers with exportable and imported goods were burned," said Ruhul Amin Sikder, secretary of industry body the Bangladesh Inland Container Depots Association (BICDA).

At the depot were about 800 containers filled with exportable items, about 500 with imported items and about 3,000 that were empty, Sikder added, quoting officials of the shipping facility, BM Container Depot.

"Some 85% of the total exportable goods were readymade garment," he said.

The privately-owned shipping facility

has promised compensation of 1 million taka (\$11,000) to the family of each worker killed in the fire.

Bangladesh has become the world's second-biggest exporter of garments in recent decades, but its infrastructure for, and focus on, industrial safety are still nascent, the International Labour Organization said this year.

Lax regulations and poor enforcement have been blamed for conflagrations in recent years that led to hundreds of deaths.

In 2020, three people were killed after an oil tank exploded at a container depot in Chittagong's Patenga area, while 54 died last July in an inferno in a food processing factory outside the capital, Dhaka.

In 2019, 70 were killed in a fire that engulfed several buildings in a centuries-old neighbourhood of the capital. (Reuters)

LANKA PM: ONLY INDIA GIVING MONEY FOR FUEL

COLOMBO (TIP): Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe said on June 8 that he has urged IMF chief Kristalina Georgieva to "expedite" its assistance programme to Sri Lanka and underlined that no country except India was providing money to the crisis-hit island nation for fuel.

The conversation between Wickremesinghe, who is also the Finance Minister, and the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund comes as Sri Lanka has decided to seek the assistance of the Washington-based global lender to combat the worst economic crisis since its independence from Britain in 1948. The talks between Sri Lanka and the IMF commenced on April 18.

Sri Lanka has already initiated measures to restructure its foreign debts -- a prerequisite for an IMF programme -- after the government suspended all the external debt repayments on April 12. In his address to Parliament, Wickremesinghe said he had a telephonic conversation with Georgieva on Tuesday during which she was informed of Sri Lanka's need for bridging finance.

"I am doing my best to push forward this and get finance latest by September," Wickremesinghe added. (PTI)

18 KILLED AS PASSENGER VAN FALLS INTO RAVINE IN PAKISTAN'S BALOCHISTAN



KARACHI (TIP): At least 18 people were killed on June 8 as a passenger van they were travelling in fell hundreds of feet into a ravine in Pakistan's mountainous Balochistan province, an official said.

The van, travelling on the Zhob national highway, plunged into the ravine near Killa Saifullah area, the Dawn newspaper reported.

The vehicle fell from a hilltop near Akhtarzai and all 18 travellers aboard were reportedly killed in the accident, deputy commissioner Hafiz Muhammad Qasim was quoted as saying.

Akhtarzai is a tribal area located at an elevation of 1,572 metres in Zhob. (PTI)

INDIA DELIVERS MEDICAL, RELIEF MATERIAL TO SRI LANKA



COLOMBO (TIP): India on June 7 delivered life-saving drugs, medical equipment and relief material to hospitals and people across Sri Lanka as part of its growing assistance to help the debt-ridden country tide over its

worst economic crisis.

A crippling shortage of foreign reserves has led to long queues for fuel, cooking gas, and other essentials while power cuts and soaring food prices have heaped misery on the people.

On Monday, the new consignments were supplied to Hambantota General Hospital, Jaffna Teaching Hospital and to the people in Kilinochchi and Vavuniya districts of Northern Province.

"Consul General @dipinprIFS handed over 6.4 tonnes of drugs and essential medical supplies to Hambantota General Hospital today," the Consulate General of India in Hambantota tweeted.

Dr Suranga Ubeysekara, the Director of Hambantota General Hospital, thanked India for this vital support. India had earlier supplied diesel to the Jaffna fishermen to facilitate their livelihood activity. The Indian Government has also coordinated humanitarian assistance of food relief from the government of Tamil Nadu. (PTI)



Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande with General Charles A Flynn, Commanding General, United States Army Pacific during a meeting in New Delhi. PTI

CHINA INFRA BUILD-UP NEAR LAC ALARMING, SAYS US COMMANDER

A senior US military commander on June 8 said some of the defence infrastructure that is being set up by China near its border with India is alarming and the corrosive behaviour of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in the Indo-Pacific region is simply not helpful.

General Charles A Flynn, Commanding General, United States Army Pacific, while talking to reporters here, said: "The (Chinese) activity level is eye-opening. Some of the infrastructure that is being created in the western theatre command is alarming." The western theatre command of the Chinese army borders India, facing Ladakh. India and China have been locked in a standoff along the LAC since May 5, 2020, when there was a violent clash between the two sides in the Pangong lake area.

The US General, who is on a four-day visit to India, met Army Chief General Manoj Pande on Tuesday and discussed issues related to defence cooperation.

Flynn said when one sees China's military arsenal in all domains, one must ask the question why is it needed.

"I do not have a crystal ball to tell you how it (India-China border standoff) is going to end.... I will express to you that it is worthy of asking this question and try to get their response as to what are their intentions" he noted.

FLYERS REFUSING TO WEAR MASKS TO BE TREATED AS 'UNRULY'

Passengers who do not wear their masks can be off-loaded or even declared "unruly" under a 2017 rule that empowers airlines to place flyers classified as unruly on a no-fly list, the directorate general of civil aviation (DGCA) said on Wednesday, June 8.

The DGCA order comes after a two-judge bench of the Delhi high court on Friday ordered strict action, including de-boarding of passengers violating Covid-19 norms such as the mandatory wearing of masks and maintaining hygiene at airports and on aircraft.

Lawrence Bishnoi mastermind behind Sidhu Moosewala's killing: Delhi Police

PUNE/MUMBAI/NEW DELHI/BATHINDA (TIP)

Gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, in the custody of the Delhi Police, is the mastermind in the Moosewala murder case, Special Commissioner of Police HS Dhaliwal said on Wednesday. The Maharashtra police have, meanwhile, arrested Siddhesh Hiran Kamble, alias Mahakal, in connection with the killing while his aide Santosh Jadhav, also from Pune, has been identified as one of the shooters.

Mahakal, against whom MCOCA was invoked, was wanted by the Pune (Rural) police for allegedly sheltering Jadhav, against whom a murder case was filed in Pune district in 2021. Maharashtra ADG (Law & Order) KK Sarangal said Mahakal was part of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. "Mahakal and Jadhav were aware of the Sidhu Moosewala murder conspiracy," he said.

The police were verifying whether the accused had been in jail with Bishnoi in any old case and whether the letter threatening writer Salim Khan and his son Salman Khan was kept on a bench at Mumbai's Bandra Bandstand by members of the (Bishnoi) gang.

Meanwhile, Crime Branch unit of Mumbai Police arrived in Delhi to question Bishnoi in connection with the threat letter to screenplay writer Salim Khan and his actor son Salman Khan.

It's time to free Punjab of gangs of criminals: Slain singer's father

Eleven days after Sidhu Moose Wala, was brutally shot dead by gangsters at Jawaharke village in Mansa district, his father Balkaur Singh called for freeing Punjab from the clutches of organised gangs of criminals.

Addressing the bhog (prayer) ceremony of his son at the packed New Grain Market in Mansa on Wednesday, June 8, "It's time to free Punjab from the clutches of organised gangs of criminals. I will not rest until I get justice for my son. But we will first give the Punjab government time to complete investigation. If things are not found going in the right direction, I will release a video for the next action plan for justice for Shubhdeep. We want to know the motive behind it (ruthless killing)."

Moose Wala suffered 19 bullet wounds and died within 15 minutes of being shot on May 29 evening, according to the post-mortem report, which also stated that the cause of his death was haemorrhage shock due to antemortem firearm injuries. The incident took place a day after his security was withdrawn by the Punjab Police among 424 others. Last week, Punjab Police reconstituted a special investigation team (SIT) to expedite the investigation into the murder. Eight people have been arrested in the case so far.

The aggrieved father, an ex-serviceman who is now working as a driver with the fire brigade in his home district of Mansa, urged social media users to desist from maligning the image of the slain artist. "Shubhdeep never indulged in any wrong activities. We are still unaware why our son was killed. He could have hired private security had he been involved in any wrongful action. He worked hard for what he achieved," Balkaur Singh said.

Punjab Police sought red corner notice against Goldy Brar 10 days before Moose Wala murder

Punjab Police on Wednesday, June 8, claimed that it had sought a red corner notice against Canada-based gangster Satinder Singh alias Goldy Brar, ten days before singer Sidhu Moose Wala was gunned down in Mansa on May 29. Brar had claimed responsibility, on behalf of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang, for the killing hours after the incident.

According to the official spokesperson, the proposal for the red corner notice was sent to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on May 19.

The Punjab Police also claimed that it is leaving no



Parents of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moose Wala during his 'antim ardas' and 'bhog' ceremony.



stone unturned to extradite Brar, a native of Muktsar who had gone to Canada on student visa in 2017 and is an active member of the Bishnoi gang.

The spokesperson further said that the proposal for the red corner notice was sent on the basis of two cases. The first relates to the killing of Faridkot Youth Congress chief Gurlal Pehalwan and has been registered under Sections 307 (attempt to murder), 148 (rioting), 149 (unlawful assembly), 120-B (criminal conspiracy) and Sections of the Arms Act in FIR number 409, dated November 11, 2020.

The second case is connected to an attack on an aide of Pehalwan, in which Brar has been charged for murder, criminal conspiracy and possession of illegal arms in FIR number 44, registered on February 18, 2021 in Faridkot city police station.

Red corner notice also sought against Rinda

The spokesperson claimed that Punjab Police has also sought red corner notice against gangster-turned-terrorist Harwinder Singh Sandhu alias Rinda of Rattoke village, Tarn Taran. The proposal was sent to the CBI on May 5, 2022, the spokesperson added. Rinda, who is responsible for inducting and operationalising many terrorist modules in Punjab in the recent past, is now based in Pakistan. Backed by Pak ISI, he has also been responsible for smuggling arms and ammunition to India.

Source: Agencies and HT



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with Vietnamese counterpart General Phan Van Giang in Hanoi on June 8. PTI

INDIA, VIETNAM SIGN MILITARY LOGISTICS SUPPORT AGREEMENT

In an important development related to the "Act East Policy", India and Vietnam on Wednesday inked the "Joint Vision Statement on India-Vietnam Defence Partnership towards 2030" to further broad-base the "scope and scale" of defence ties and sealed a logistics support pact to allow militaries of the two sides to use each other's bases for repair and replenishment of supplies.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh signed the joint vision statement after bilateral talks with his counterpart General Phan Van Giang in Hanoi.

The two sides renewed interactions on expanding bilateral cooperation. "Our close defence and security cooperation is an important factor of stability in the Indo-Pacific region," Rajnath tweeted.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on mutual logistics support is the first such major agreement that Vietnam has signed with any country.

This is significant as it allows Indian warships and military planes to re-fuel and seek supplies at the Vietnamese bases.

Vietnam is one of the six countries locked in a dispute with China over territorial demarcation of the South China Sea.

India and Vietnam had wide-ranging discussions on effective and practical initiatives to further expand bilateral defence engagements, and engage in regional and global issues. *Source: TNS*

Prophet row: Nupur Sharma, Naveen Jindal and Saba Naqvi named in FIRs

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Stating that their social media posts could lead to differences between two communities and hurt religious sentiments, the Delhi Police Special Cell Wednesday, June 8, registered an FIR against eight persons, including Naveen Kumar Jindal, the expelled head of Delhi BJP's media unit, journalist Saba Naqvi, Hindu Mahasabha office bearer Pooja Shakun Pandey, Maulana Mufti Nadeem from Rajasthan and Peace Party chief spokesperson Shadab Chauhan. A second FIR was registered under similar sections against suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma and other social media users, police said.

A senior police officer said their Intelligence Fusion & Strategic Operations (IFSO) unit had been monitoring their posts, and found alleged objectionable remarks related to religion. "We have lodged an FIR under several IPC sections against those who were spreading messages of hate, inciting various groups and creating situations which are detrimental to the maintenance of public tranquility," said DCP (IFSO) KPS Malhotra. "This FIR against multiple individuals cut across religions and will investigate the roles of various social media entities in promoting false and wrong information with an intention to create unrest on the cyber space and have ramifications on the physical space, thereby compromising with the social fabric of the country," said Malhotra.

Others named in the FIR are Abdur Rehman, Gulzar Ansari and Anil Kumar Meena.



Nupur Sharma (Left), Naveen Jindal and Saba Naqvi.

Police said Maulana Mufti Nadeem is from Rajasthan's Bundi and featured in a viral video where he can purportedly be heard threatening violence against those who will speak against the Prophet.

Recently, the Aligarh police too had lodged an FIR against Hindu Mahasabha office bearer Pooja Shakun Pandey for allegedly making objectionable remarks against Friday namaz on social media. The 41-year-old national secretary of Hindu Mahasabha was also arrested in 2019 along with her husband and national spokesperson of Hindu Mahasabha, Ashok Pandey, for allegedly recreating the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi on his death anniversary.

Source: The Indian Express

Man dies, 18 injured in Mumbai building collapse

MUMBAI (TIP)

A 55-year-old man was killed and 18 other people were injured after a three-storey residential building collapsed in suburban Bandra on Thursday, June 9, a civic official said, adding that two of the injured were rescued from the rubble.

The ground-plus-two storey structure in Maharashtra Nagar locality near the Western Express Highway collapsed at around 12.30am, the official said.

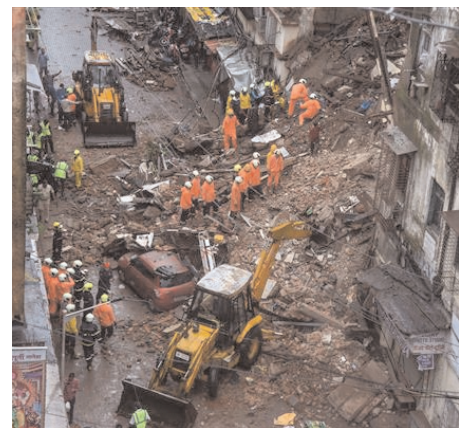
Personnel of the fire brigade, police and ward staff of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation rushed to the spot

after learning about the incident.

Two persons were pulled out of the debris of the collapsed structure and the search and rescue operation was later called off, the official said.

A total of 19 people injured in the incident were rushed to the nearby civic-run Bhabha hospital where doctors declared one of them dead, another official said. The deceased was identified as Shah Nawaz Alam, he said.

The official said that at present, only one person is undergoing treatment at the Bhabha hospital, while the 17 other injured people were discharged after treatment.



Bihar couple begs entire day to collect Rs 50,000 to be paid as bribe to get son's body released from govt mortuary

PATNA (TIP)

In a shocking incident, a poor couple in Bihar's Samastipur was forced to beg to collect Rs 50,000 as bribe for the mortuary staff of a government hospital to get the body of their son.

Mahesh Thakur and wife begged for an entire day in the localities of Samastipur on Wednesday, June 8. An official of the post-mortem house had demanded Rs 50,000 from them to release the body.

Samastipur Civil Surgeon Dr SK Chaudhary confirmed the incident.

"We have learnt from the media about

the demand of Rs 50,000 from a parent to release the body. Such an act is against humanity. We have initiated action against the employee," Chaudhary said.

Mahesh Thakur is a native of Kasbe Ahar village under Tajpur police station. His mentally unstable son had gone missing on May 25.

On June 7, a body was recovered from an area under the Musrigharari police station. The police sent the unidentified body for post-mortem.

As the missing complaint was registered in the Tajpur police station, local police contacted Mahesh Thakur to identify the body. When he reached the



post-mortem house, the employees initially refused to show him the body.

When they repeatedly requested the employees, they allowed them to identify the body in the mortuary.

When Mahesh identified the body as that of his son, the employees present at the mortuary demanded Rs 50,000 to release it. When Mahesh's pleadings did not move their hearts, he and his wife went to the nearby localities and begged for money. They were seen knocking on the doors to collect money. A video in this regard went viral on social media.

After the viral video was reported to Chaudhary, he intervened and handed over the body to the hapless parents.

Source: IANS

India in history this Week

JUNE 10, 2022, TO JUNE 16, 2022

10 JUNE

1986 India won the Test match at Lord's for the first time by defeating England by 5 wickets.
1888 The famous agitator Balraj Bhalla was born.
1900 General Jayantinath Chaudhary of the Indian Army was born.
1946 Gandhiji refused to be excited for his victory. This is because it was not a triumph of truth over liars.



1955 Internationally renowned badminton player Prakash Padukone was born.
1987 Famous Hindi film actor Jeevan passed away.
2008 The 54th National Film Awards were announced, 'Lage Raho Munnabhai' being voted the best popular film.
1958 Litterateur and public servant Anup Sethi was born on 10 June 1958

11 JUNE

1897 Ramprasad Bismil, the freedom fighter of India, was born.



1866 Allahabad High Court was established. It was earlier known as Agra High Court.
1964 Ashes of Jawaharlal Nehru, the ashes of his ashes were scattered all over the country.
1930 A cyclonic storm blew a train off the railway near Himtnagar, Gujarat, in which one person was killed and many more were injured.
1932 Renowned businessman Meenu Modi was born.

12 JUNE

1932 It is the birthday of India's famous Bharata Natyam dancer and actress Padmini.
1975 The Allahabad High Court found the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi guilty of corruption.
1972 D.G., who wrote an eight-volume treatise on the life of Mahatma Gandhi. Tendulkar died
1998 Decision not to give loans to India and Pakistan by G8 countries due to nuclear tests.
2001 India-Bangladesh talks on border issue begin.
2002 Beginning of child labor prohibition day. The purpose of this day was to spread awareness among the people about child labor.
2007 Sikh students in schools in Australia were allowed to carry the religious symbol Saber.
1752 Chanda Sahib surrendered in 1752 in Karnataka.



2016 Saina Nehwal won the Australian Open title for the second time in 2016.
2008 Renowned film director Mrinal Sen was awarded at the 10th Osiana Cinefan Film Festival in 2008.
1935 Shyama was born one of the famous actresses of Indian cinema.
1972 The author of the biography of Mahatma Gandhi, Mr. DG Tendulkar, passed away.
1976 Sanskrit scholar and great philosopher Gopinath Kaviraj died.

13 JUNE

1757 Robert Clive of East India Company traveled to Murshidabad to battle Siraj-ud-Daula.
1997 As many as 59 people who had come to see the film had lost their lives due to the fire in Delhi's Pratima Cinemas.



1943 Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose reached Tokyo from Germany.
1997 59 people died in a fire during a show at the gifted cinema in the capital Delhi.
1909 Birth of EMS Namboodiripad in Palaghat, Kerala.
1879 Revolutionary Ganesh Damodar Savarkar was born.
1923 Famous lyricist Prem Dhawan of Hindi cinema Jagat was born.
2016 India's famous writer, novelist, playwright, critic and satirist Mudrarakshasa died.

14 JUNE

1922 India's famous filmmaker and director K.K. It is Asif's birthday.
1928 The revolutionary Che Guevara was born. He played a pivotal role in the liberation of Cuba.
1905 Birth of famous music practitioner Hirabai Barodkar.
1922 Birth of director Asif of Mughal-e-Azam.
1958 Dr. C.V. Raman was awarded the Lenin Peace Prize in the Kremlin.
2012 The explosion at the Indian steel plant in Visakhapatnam on 2012 killed 11 people and injured 16.

1595 Guru Hargobind Singh, the sixth Guru of the Sikhs was born.
1880 Scientist Satish Chandra Dasgupta was born.



1920 Indian actor Bharat Bhushan was born
1967 Kumar Mangalam Birla, an Indian industrialist and president of the Aditya Birla Group, was born.

15 JUNE

1937 Social worker Anna Hazare was born today.
1950 Lakshmi Mittal, known as the Steel King, was born on this day.
1908 Start of Calcutta Stock Market.
1947 The All India Congress accepted the British plan for the partition of India in New Delhi.
2006 India and China decided to open the old Silk Route.
1981 The Supreme Court rules that in 1981, all children are entitled to public education, regardless of civic education
1991 In 1991, Congress won the tenth Lok Sabha election.
1899 Renowned painter and sculptor Devi Prasad Rai Chaudhary, born with Padma Bhushan, was born.
1878 Shiva Dayal Sahab, the founder of the Dixit Hindu sect Radha Swami Satsang, died.

16 JUNE



1950 Mithun Da, who was called the disco dancer of Bollywood, was born.
1925 Nationalist leader Chittaranjan Das dies
1606 The fifth Sikh Guru Arjun Dev passed away.
1858 The battle of Morar was fought during the First Indian War of Independence.
2007 Sunita Williams became the longest-lived woman in space.
1983 Guru Ghasidas University of Chhattisgarh was established in 1983.
2008 A panel of Uttar Pradesh state finance ministries agreed in 2008 on the reduction in sales tax on petroleum fuels.
2008 In 2008, ArcelorMittal, the world's largest steel making company, acquired American company Bambhu Steel.
1928 The great freedom fighter Chittaranjan Das died.

YOGA ASANAS CHART



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ASANAS

1. Before practising asanas, do Vyapak Shaoca (half bath).
2. Do not practice asanas in an open place.
3. No smoke should be allowed to enter the room.
4. Practise Asanas on a blanket or mat.

8. After practising Asanas, you should massage your arms, legs and entire body, especially your joints.
9. After the massage is finished, remain in shavasana (corpse posture) for three minutes.

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"If Hindus don't maintain Hinduism, who shall save it?"

"If India's own children don't cling to their faith, who shall guard it?"

"Indians alone can save India, and India and Hinduism are one."

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATIONS ACKNOWLEDGE THE LONG ROAD STILL AHEAD

BY MABEL PAIS

NJPAC'S STAND IN SOLIDARITY FOR JUNETEENTH: OVERCOMING ECONOMIC RACISM

The racial wealth gap in our country is staggering, with typical white families holding ten times the net wealth of typical Black families. How do we overcome the legacy of economic racism that began with slavery and continues to this day?

In honor of Juneteenth-the holiday that celebrates the emancipation of those enslaved in the United States-

NJPAC invites the audience to the next True Diversity Film Series panel. The discussion will focus on ways to enhance the economic vitality of Black communities on multiple fronts, including job creation, financial literacy, wealth building, financial inclusion and economic integration.

PARTICIPATION : Register at njpac.org/event/pseg-true-diversity-series-presents-juneteenth-developing-black-wealth

Look out for an email containing a film link to watch on your own time.

Join NJPAC for a virtual panel discussion at 7PM on Monday, June 13, 2022.

PANELISTS : DR. LAURA SULLIVAN, Director of Economic Justice at the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice.

SABRINA LAMB, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the WorldofMoney.org, dedicated to youth financial education.

MONICA SOYEMI, an alumni and ambassador of the World of Money program.

MODERATOR : WILLIAM S. PARRISH JR., President and CEO of NobleStrategy and adjunct professor at NYU's Schack Institute of Real Estate and Baruch College's Zicklin School of Business.

NJPAC : To learn more about NJPAC, visit NJPAC.org

NJYS JOINS CARNEGIE HALL IN JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

BY MABEL PAIS

Juneteenth commemorates our nation's true independence-the day when all members of the newly reunited nation were finally declared free after the American Civil War. Join NJYS for this live celebration celebrating Black culture.

Members of the NJYS Youth Symphony participate in the Juneteenth Celebration Concert at Carnegie Hall (57th Street and 7th Avenue, Manhattan, NY) on Sunday, June 19 at 7:00 p.m. This event is Free to the public but tickets must be reserved.

NJYS

To learn more about NJYS, visit whartonarts.org/njys

CARNEGIE HALL

To learn more about Carnegie Hall, visit carnegiehall.org

(Mabel Pais writes on Social Issues, The Arts and Entertainment, Cuisine, Health & Wellness and Spirituality)

CARNEGIE HALL: ALL AMERICAN FREEDOM DAY REIMAGING TOGETHERNESS

BY MABEL PAIS

On Sunday, June 19, at 7:00 p.m The Healing of the Nations//Samuel Dewitt Proctor Conference in association with CARNEGIE HALL (CarnegieHall.Org) will present a Juneteenth Celebration event in Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage, 154 West 57th Street (at 7th Avenue, Manhattan, New York),

Juneteenth is a holiday that commemorates our nation's true independence - the day when all members of the newly reunited nation were finally declared free after the American Civil War.

Through performances and commentary, the Juneteenth Celebration recognizes this important day, while acknowledging the long road still ahead. Hosted by Reverend Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr., Senior Minister Emeritus, Riverside Church & President and Founder, Healing of the Nations Foundation, this celebratory event will feature special guest artists including pianist Joseph Joubert, gospel singer Hezekiah Walker and the Love Fellowship Crusade Choir; spoken word artist Naima Penniman, Forces of Nature Dance Theatre, Ebony Ecumenical Ensemble, and New Jersey Youth Symphony, with conductor Helen Cha-Pyo. Spirit Alive Award Honorees will include award-winning poet Sonia Sanchez, civil rights activist Opal Lee, and more.

"How Blessed we are as a nation to have a national holiday to remind us that only as people united in freedom and justice will we be able to realize the American dream. While we continue to wrestle with partisan division and ethnic conflict, the great Spirit calls us to be the "Beloved Community" the Creator had in mind from the first days of human existence. Juneteenth in its truth of the worst days of our history and the highest aspirations of our democratic ideals, will serve as the perpetual summons to the best of which we are capable. As nations around the world cry out for liberty from tyranny and war, Juneteenth tells us that no matter how dark the night, or how bleak the

circumstances, people of hope will always be prophets of possibility. Each year when the story is told on Juneteenth, may we find fresh inspiration for brighter days ahead," says Reverend Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr.

"We are honored to be collaborating with Reverend Forbes and the Healing of the Nations Foundation for a fourth consecutive year to create this special event commemorating Juneteenth," said CLIVE GILLINSON, Carnegie Hall's Executive and Artistic Director. "Through music and the spoken word, we are looking forward to celebrating this important holiday with audiences, strengthening our sense of community and inspiring one another as our country continues to seek to address its challenges ahead."

PROGRAM

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage
Sunday, June 19, 2022 at 7:00 PM
Dr. James A Forbes Jr., Host
David Allen Grier, Master of Ceremonies

Joseph Joubert, Piano

Naima Penniman, Spoken Word Artist
Hezekiah Walker

The Love Fellowship Crusade Choir

Forces of Nature Dance Theatre

Ebony Ecumenical Ensemble

New Jersey Youth Symphony (Helen Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor)

With

Sonia Sanchez, Honoree

Opal Lee, Honoree

SONIA SANCHEZ

To learn more, visit soniasanchez.net and juneteenthus.info/?page_id=4624



Opal Lee

Photo / juneteenthus.info

OPAL LEE

To learn more, visit opalswalk2dc.com and juneteenthus.info/?page_id=4618

THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS FOUNDATION

To learn more, visit facebook.com/The-Healing-of-the-Nations-Foundation-129875294076

TICKETS

Tickets for this year's celebration are free and are available at the Carnegie Hall Box Office, 154 West 57th Street (at 7th Avenue) beginning on Friday, June 10 at 11:00 a.m. There is a maximum of 4 tickets per person permitted at pickup. Inquiries about ticket availability can also be directed to CarnegieCharge at 212-247-7800. For Group Tickets, email richard.wicg@gmail.com. For more information, visit juneteenthus.info

SAFETY PROTOCOLS

To support a safe reopening for in-person events and in accordance with the advice of medical and public health experts, everyone entering Carnegie Hall should show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 with a vaccine approved by the World Health Organization (WHO). In addition, everyone on Carnegie Hall's premises is required to wear a properly fitting mask over the nose and mouth except when eating or drinking in designated areas.



Sonia Sanchez

Photo / juneteenthus.info



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MAUSIQUI: THE STORY OF MUSIC

BY MABEL PAIS

Mausiqui (an Urdu language word for Music) is the expression to explore sound and the origin of Vedic chants. Five leading musicians: Hidayat Khan, Ehren Hanson, Camilla Celin, Joshua Geisler and Abhik Mukherjee, each with their unique instrumental talent, explore music and the origin of the Vedic chants with narration and poems by Sunayana Kachroo Bhide. The event will take place at Merkin Hall at the Kaufman Music Center, 129 West 67th Street, New York, NY 10023 on Saturday, June 11, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. ET.

"Indian musical tradition is deeply rooted into the fabric of the world and has inspired artists from saxophonist John Coltrane to the iconic Beatles to rap artist and mogul Jay-Z," said Dr. Nirmal K. Mattoo, Chairman, IAAC. "Vedic chanting connects the performer and the listener to the movement of the Earth. These performers are truly masters of their craft and their works evoke a powerful message of peace and unity."

This first-of-its-kind event features Indian classical music with touches of Sufi (or Sufism, also known as Tasawwuf, a mystic body of religious practice within Islam characterized by a focus on spirituality, ritualism, asceticism and esotericism), jazz, semi-classical and world music with narration and poetic renditions by Sunayana Kachroo Bhide.

This unique journey to explore the sound and the origination of the Vedic chants in tune with the vibration of the Earth will highlight deep-rooted music and traditions of India through beautiful words, stories and instruments. The program for the performance is as follows:

Track 1: Vedic Chants (expressed in the same notes for thousands of years)

Track 2: Ahir Bhairav (a traditional Indian classical composition)

Track 3: Chaitya (folk music from the roots of India)

Track 4: Spiritual Love (a composition by Hazrat Amir Khusro that blurs the lines between romance and spirituality)

Track 5: Confluence (inspired by Latin music)

Track 6: Shades of Blues (meeting of western and Indian music)

Track 7: Phadi (a deep-rooted tradition of Indian folk)

Track 8: Surrender (a sufi comp by Hazrat Amir Khusro about love and surrender)

TICKETS

Tickets are available at kaufmanmusiccenter.org/mch/event/mausiqui.

Prices differ for preferred seating, students and seniors. Student and senior tickets can be purchased at the Kaufman Music Center box office or by calling 212 501 3330. Premium tickets are available at eventbrite.com/e/mausiqui-tickets-342567216767.

FEATURED ARTISTS HIDAYAT HUSAIN KHAN

A direct descendant and proponent of one of the most treasured lineages of



Music Ensemble

Photo / KaufmanMusicCenter.org

eastern classical music, sitarist Hidayat Husain Khan is the youngest son of the legendary sitarist, Ustad Vilayat Khan. He harbors a rare, creative brilliance that effortlessly takes him across all genres and nuances of music. A charming transition from the very classical to the very colloquial, from playing the intricate Etawa Gharana to performing with the Rolling Stones.

Khan carries the torch of a coveted lineage spanning seven generations of outstanding vocal and instrumental court musicians. Khan has performed across the globe at such prestigious venues as Royal Albert Hall in London, Kennedy Center in Washington D.C, Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall in New York. Having lent his versatility in several film score compositions, he has collaborated with such illustrious musical names as: Ndugu Chanler, Ronnie Woods, Alicia Keys, Usher, Zakir Hussain, Pete Townshend, Will.I.Am, Jay Z and Darryl Jones.

CAMILA CELIN, Guitar

Camila Celin is a musician, composer and Grammy award-nominee from Colombia. She began playing the guitar at age nine and has been studying the Indian Sarod for over a decade in Kolkata with Tejendra Majumdar and in the USA with Alam Khan. Her former gurus include maestro Krishna Bhatt and Sougata Roy Chowdhury. In 2009, she was nominated for a Grammy for best world music album in collaboration with the Hindustani slide guitar maestro Debashish Bhattacharya. Camila performs around the world and has composed music for film, theater and commercials. She lives between New York and Kolkata, India.

EHREN HANSON, Tabla & Hand

Percussions

Ehren Hanson is a professional New York-based tabla player. He began learning tabla at age 15 under Misha Masud and he became a disciple of legendary tabla maestro Pandit Anindo Chatterjee, with whom he has been a dedicated disciple ever since.

Ehren performs classical Indian music as a soloist and accompanist in NY and around the world, accompanying maestros including the late Pandit Ramesh Mishra, late Pandit Subrata Ryan Chowdhury, Steve Gorn and more. He has also collaborated on experimental and creative projects with West African star Noura Mint Seymali, Cuban legend Bobby Carcasess, Roman Diaz and the American Symphony Orchestra.

He is the co-host of the Brooklyn Court - a music series featuring touring and local artists in an intimate setting, reminiscent of the royal courts of Indian history. Ehren is also the founder of Viewcy.com, an amateur chef and a polyglot.

JOSHUA GEISLER, Bansuri & Bass Guitar

Joshua Geisler is a musician, flute maker and author, who specializes in the Bansuri, the North Indian Bamboo Flute, and is known for his flowing, highly ornamented style that effortlessly weaves together Indian Classical Music and Jazz.

Geisler studied guitar at Berklee College of Music, where he developed an interest in the music of other cultures along with meditation and spirituality. To incorporate these interests, he began learning the bansuri. After graduating, he studied North Indian Classical music with bansuri master Steve Gorn and flutist Pandit Raghunath Seth. He has also studied with

Varanasi-based Sarod maestro Pandit Vikash Maharaj, a 14th-generation master musician.

Besides being an award-winning artist, he has written the book, The Chromatic Bansuri, that details a unique fingering system of his own creation that enables the bansuri to play virtually any style of music.

Geisler composed and performed the soundtrack for the award-winning documentary My Life in China directed by Kenneth Eng. He recently returned home after touring for nine years with Cirque du Soleil's "TOTEM" with whom he performed 2,650 shows around the world.

ABHIK MUKHERJEE, Sitar

Abhik Mukherjee is a Kolkata-born sitar player of the Etawah-Imdadkhani gharana (a lineage of music style). He was initiated to the sitar at the age of six by his father, Sri Tarit Mukherjee, and Sri Bimal Chatterjee, while simultaneously receiving vocal instruction from Sri Kaylan Bose. He has since taken talim from Pandit Arvind Parikh and Pandit Kashinath Mukherjee, themselves disciples of the legendary Ustad Vilayat Khan. He is a gold medalist in musicology from Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, and has received a scholarship from the Ministry of Culture, India.

Abhik's first public performance was at the age of nine at the Governor's House, Kolkata. He has since performed in ten countries on four continents. Some memorable concerts include performances for the inauguration of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in Washington D.C. and more.

Abhik currently lives in New York and is a founding member of Brooklyn Raga Massive, an Indian classical music artists' collective. He is the director of academic affairs at Chhandayan School of Music in New York City.

SUNAYANA KACHROO BHIDE, Narration

Sunayana Kachroo is an award-winning poet, film writer, producer, lyricist and a columnist. Her oeuvre has been vast and impressive, encompassing Poetry, Films, collaboration with other artists including musicians, dancers and poets. She has written for various award-winning movies, which have been screened at many prestigious film festivals like Cannes, MAMI and Austin Film Festival.

Sunayana expresses herself through diverse styles of writing in English, Hindi and Kashmiri language. She continues to explore various themes ranging from love, home, loss, nature, mythology, healing, women's empowerment, prejudices and much more. Sunayana has performed across the world through poetry shows and recitations. She engages the audience with her unique style of expressing poems as compelling visual images, laced with observations and anecdotes.

The Indo-American Arts Council
To learn more, visit iaac.us

(Mabel Pais writes on The Arts and Entertainment, Social Issues, Cuisine, Health & Wellness and Spirituality)



Huma Qureshi wraps up Tarla Dalal biopic

Huma Qureshi, who will soon be seen playing the role of India's first-ever home chef, Tarla Dalal, has wrapped up the biopic's shooting.

The actor shot for the film for 37 days at a stretch in Mumbai. One of the last things to be shot was Tarla's wedding sequence. According to sources, Huma Qureshi has left no stone unturned to effectively capture the spirit of home chef Tarla Dalal. The actor apparently wore dentures for hours on end, so that she would get more comfortable in uttering dialogues whilst wearing them. Huma also studied multiple footage of Dalal to get her mannerisms and pitch just right.

Kartik Aaryan gives a perfect response to wedding speculation: Eligible se 'taken' toh karao

Being a celebrity is not a cakewalk. After all, it isn't easy to be under constant media scrutiny at all times. The celebs tend to make the headlines not just for their professional but also for their personal life. Fans are always curious to know about their favourite celebrity's love life. And this is exactly what happened with Kartik Aaryan who is one of the most eligible bachelors in Bollywood. The actor was recently quizzed about his wedding plans and his witty response is grabbing all the attention.

This happened during Kartik's recent interactive session on the micro-blogging site Twitter. During the Q/A session, the Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweeti actor was called 'Mr. Most Eligible Bachelor' and was asked if he is planning to tie the knot anytime soon. To this, Kartik, who is known for his quirky responses replied that he needs to be 'taken' (be in a relationship) before tying a knot. He wrote, "Eligible se taken toh karao phir marriage ki baat karenge. Eligible eligible mein single hi reh jaoonga."

Meanwhile, talking about the work front, Kartik is currently basking in the success of his last release Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2 with Kiara Advani and Tabu. The movie was the second installment of Akshay Kumar's 2007 release Bhool Bhulaiyaa and has opened to a decent response. As of now, Kartik has an interesting lineup of films which includes Shehzada, which is said to be the remake of Allu Arjun's hit movie Ala Vaikuntapurramuloo. Besides, he will also be seen in Freddy, Hansal Mehta's Captain India and Sameer Vidwans' yet to be titled love saga.



Shilpa Shetty gifts herself a plush vanity van on birthday

Bollywood actor Shilpa Shetty is celebrating her 47th birthday today. On the big occasion, she has gifted herself a brand new vanity van. The black luxurious looking van also sports her initials 'SSK' on the front. Designed for her taste, the vanity also has a yoga deck apart from other amenities.

Shilpa Shetty's team informed that the actor gifted herself a brand new vanity van with 'a kitchenette, hair wash station, and most importantly, a yoga deck'. "Fitness is very important to her and she wants to ensure that even when she is on the move, she can practice yoga within the comforts of her own vanity van," they said.

The birthday girl is awaiting the release of Nikamma, that's set to release on June 17. The comedy will also star Abhimanyu Dassani and Shirley Sethia. Apart from the film, Shilpa Shetty is also looking forward to making her OTT debut with Rohit Shetty's Indian Police Force. Directed and produced by Rohit Shetty, the action series has been set up at streaming service Prime Video and is headlined by Shershaah star Sidharth Malhotra, who will play a Delhi Police officer.

Announcing the project, the actor had posted on Instagram, "Ready to set the OTT platform on fire for the first time. Superrrr Thrilled to join The Action King Rohit Shetty in his Cop Universe! #IndianPoliceForceOnPrime, now filming! @itsrohitshetty @sidmalhotra @primevideoin @rohitshettypicturez."

Interestingly Shilpa is the first female cop in Shetty's cop universe that also includes Ajay Devgn (Singham), Ranveer Singh (Simmba) and Akshay Kumar (Sooryavanshi).



Priyanka Chopra's black-and-white gown creates drama at Paris event

Actor Priyanka Chopra is an absolute stunner, and her photos from the latest event of Bvlgari are proof. The actor, who is one of the brand ambassador of the high-end brand, is currently in Paris. On Tuesday, she attended a jewellery show where she made a stunning appearance in a contrast gown. She paired her outfit with the brand's statement neckpiece. Some of the photos from the event have gone viral, and Priyanka fans are loving the actor's avatar. "She is looking very beautiful and gorgeous," a comment read, another fan titled Priyanka as "Queen" and many of her followers tagged her as a "Goddess."

Priyanka's new look has come a day after she dropped a perfect selfie with BlackPink's Lisa and Hollywood actor Anne Hathaway. "And then there was us.. girls just wanna have fun," she captioned the photo. As soon as she posted the selfie, fans were excited to see three global icons sharing the screen space. Nick Jonas too reacted to the post with love-struck emojis.





BTS' J-Hope joins as Lollapalooza headliner

K-pop superband BTS' member J-Hope has been added as a headliner for this year's Lollapalooza Festival, taking place in Chicago's Grant Park from July 28-31.

J-Hope will close out the festival on Sunday, July 31, making history as the first South Korean artist to headline the main stage at a major US music festival, reports 'Variety'.

Lollapalooza also announced that K-pop group Tomorrow x Together has been added to the lineup on Saturday, July 30, marking their US festival debut.

"I'm happy to welcome J-Hope and Tomorrow x Together into the Lollapalooza family," said Lollapalooza founder, Perry Farrell, in a statement.

"These artists have been given great gifts in communication. Their global audience speak different languages but possess an intense passion for their music. Lolla is the place where all music genres live in harmony. These are the superstars of the global phenomenon of K-Pop, and we are so excited to have them at this year's festival."

Julia Garner is top contender to essay Madonna in upcoming biopic

Ozark star Julia Garner is currently the frontrunner for the role of 'Take a Bow' hitmaker Madonna in an upcoming biopic at Universal Pictures, reports 'Deadline'.

The Emmy-winner has been the top contender for the role since the start of the year but insiders add the reason an offer hasn't gone out yet is there are still several things in play which include the budget as well as some creative factors which include how long the film is.

'Deadline' further states that Madonna is directing the film based on a script by Diablo Cody and has been meticulous in the casting process putting talent through a boot camp that included testing on dancing and singing.

The studio has made it clear it needed at the very least a name audiences recognise and Garner has been that person for some time given her leading lady status following star making roles in Ozark and most recently Inventing Anna.

The film is set up at Universal Pictures, and will follow the early days of the oft-controversial artist and queen of perpetual reinvention. Universal Filmed Entertainment Group chairman Donna Langley won the script in a multi-studio bidding war, and Amy Pascal is attached as a producer.

A production timeline and other principal cast is still unknown. Actors in contention for the role include the previously reported Florence Pugh, "Euphoria" star Alexa Demie, and Odessa Young. Singers including Bebe Rexha and Sky Ferreira have also been floated. The audition process was reportedly grueling, as the music-heavy production requires a skilled singer and dancer.

She is currently filming the Paramount thriller 'Apartment 7A'.



Brad Pitt's Formula One Racing Movie Lands at Apple

Apple Original Films has emerged as the highest bidder for Brad Pitt's upcoming movie about Formula One racing.

Joseph Kosinski, who just steered "Top Gun: Maverick" to blockbuster success, is directing the yet-to-be-titled film, which will be produced by Jerry Bruckheimer, Pitt's Plan B Entertainment and seven-time Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton.

Brad Pitt is playing a driver who comes out of retirement to compete alongside a rookie driver and the titans of the sport. Ehren Kruger, one of the three screenwriters on "Top Gun: Maverick," is responsible for penning the screenplay.

Additional producers are Kosinski and Chad Oman of Jerry Bruckheimer Films. Copper CEO Penni Thow serves as executive producer.

This marks Apple Studios' second collaboration with Pitt and Plan B Entertainment. They are also working on an untitled film in which Jon Watts ("Spider-Man: No

Way Home") is directing and Pitt and George Clooney are starring as two lone-wolf fixers assigned to the same job.

Apple Original Films, which became the first streaming service to win the Oscar for best picture for "CODA," has been making moves (and dropping serious amounts of cash) to ramp up its movie library. There are two high-profile projects from Martin Scorsese on the company's slate, including his upcoming Western crime drama "Killers of the Flower Moon," starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert De Niro and Jesse Plemons, as well as his musical biopic about the Grateful Dead, with Jonah Hill set to star as the iconic rock band's frontman Jerry Garcia.

Apple recently acquired "12 Years a Slave" filmmaker Steve McQueen's World War II film "Blitz." Up next, the streamer is debuting "Cha Cha Real Smooth," a feel-good comedic drama about a bar mitzvah DJ who strikes up a friendship with an older woman, on June 17.

Source: VARIETY



IRAN TURNS OFF 2 CAMERAS OF UN NUCLEAR WATCHDOG

TEHRAN (TIP) : Iran turned off two surveillance cameras of the United Nations' nuclear watchdog that monitored one of its atomic sites, the state television reported on June 8.

The report did not identify the site, but it appeared to be a new pressure technique by Tehran as Western nations seek to censure Iran at a meeting this week of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The Iranian state television report described the two cameras as monitoring "OLEM enrichment levels and flowmeters". That appeared to refer to the IAEA's Online Enrichment Monitors, which watch the enrichment of uranium gas through piping at enrichment facilities.

Iran currently is enriching at both its Fordo and Natanz underground nuclear sites.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has so far had extensive cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency," state TV said in its report. "Unfortunately, the agency, without considering this cooperation...not only did not appreciate this cooperation, but also considered it a duty of Iran." Tehran said its civilian nuclear arm, the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran, monitored the shutdown of the cameras. It said 80 per cent of the existing cameras are IAEA "safeguard" cameras and they will continue to operate as before.

The Vienna-based IAEA declined to immediately comment. Iran already has been holding footage from IAEA surveillance cameras since February 2021 as a pressure tactic to restore the atomic accord. In 2018, then President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew America from the accord, raising tensions across the wider Middle East and sparking a series of attacks and incidents. — AP

AUSTRALIA COURT CURTAILS GOVT'S POWERS ON CITIZENSHIP

CANBERRA (TIP): Australia's highest court on June 8 found a Cabinet minister illegally cancelled a suspected Islamic State group fighter's citizenship in a landmark ruling that curtails how governments can deal with extremists. The High Court, in a 6-to-1 judgment, restored Delil Alexander's Australian citizenship that was removed in July last year by the then-Home Affairs Minister Karen Andrews. Alexander (35), who was born in Australia and has Turkish citizenship by descent, is in a Syrian prison on terrorism convictions. He left Australia for Turkey in 2013 and crossed the Syrian border before he was arrested by a Kurdish militia in 2017. Andrews cancelled his citizenship based on an Australian intelligence report that he had joined Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and had likely engaged in fighting and recruiting. (AP)

Hollywood ex-producer Harvey Weinstein charged with indecent assault in UK

LONDON (TIP): Hollywood ex-producer Harvey Weinstein has been charged with two counts of indecent assault against a woman in London dating back over 25 years, the UK's Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) said on June 8.

Weinstein, 70, was charged by Scotland Yard after a review of evidence gathered by the force in its investigation into the alleged offences which are said to have taken place between July and August in 1996. The complainant is now aged in her 50s and the charges have been made contrary to Section 14(1) of the UK's Sexual Offences Act 1956.

"The CPS has authorised the Metropolitan Police to charge Harvey Weinstein with two counts of indecent assault against a woman in August 1996," said Rosemary Ainslie, Head of the CPS Special Crime Division.

"Charges have been authorised against Harvey Weinstein, 70, following a review of the evidence gathered by the Metropolitan Police in its investigation. The Crown Prosecution Service reminds all concerned that criminal proceedings against the defendant are active and that he has the right to a fair



trial," she said.

The CPS highlighted that it is "extremely important" there should be no reporting, commentary or sharing of information online which could in any way prejudice the proceedings in the ensuing court case. It also highlighted that its assessment of any case is not in

any sense a finding of, or implication of, any guilt or criminal conduct.

It is not a finding of fact, which can only be made by a court, but rather an assessment of what it might be possible to prove to a court, in accordance with the Code for Crown Prosecutors, the CPS said. (PTI)

Russian proxies plan vote in Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia region on joining Russia

LONDON (TIP): The Russian-installed administration in the occupied part of Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia region plans to stage a referendum later this year on joining Russia, Russian news agencies quoted one of its members as saying.

"The people will determine the future of the Zaporizhzhia region. The referendum is scheduled for this year," the official, Vladimir Rogov, was quoted by TASS as saying, giving no further details about the timing.

A Ukrainian official dismissed the plan, saying local residents would never vote to join Russia.

Around two-thirds of the region is under Russian control, part of a swathe of southern Ukraine that Moscow seized early in the war, including most of neighbouring Kherson province where Russian-installed officials have also discussed plans for a referendum.

Rogov said the administration would draw up plans for how to proceed with a referendum even if Russia could not gain control over the entire region. Zaporizhzhia city, the main urban centre, is still held by Ukraine.

The region was home to around 1.6



million people before Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24.

Bids to incorporate Kherson or Zaporizhzhia into Russia would contradict President Vladimir Putin's assertion at the start of the invasion that Moscow had no plan to occupy Ukrainian territory.

The Kremlin has said it is for people living in the regions to decide their future.

Ukraine says any referendums held under Russian occupation would be illegal and their results fraudulent. Moscow and its proxies carried out referendums in 2014 in Crimea, which Russia seized and annexed, and parts of

two eastern provinces which declared independence.

The mayor of Melitopol, a city in the Zaporozhzhia region, poured scorn on the latest referendum plan.

"They started by openly saying they were preparing to stage a referendum in our city and the occupied territory of the Zaporizhzhia region. But today they clearly understand that even at gunpoint they will not be able to gather people to vote," said the mayor, Ivan Fedorov.

"Now they are starting a propaganda war, understanding that they don't have the support, and that it is unclear when it will appear. In my opinion, it never will," Fedorov, who was abducted by Russian forces in the first days of the war, said on Ukrainian TV.

Rogov, the Russian-installed official, also said the first shipments of grain would depart from the Berdyansk port on the Sea of Azov later this week, TASS reported.

Ukraine says any such shipments from occupied ports would amount to illegal looting. A blockade of exports from Ukraine - one of the world's largest grain exporters - has driven up global prices and triggered fears of a worldwide food crisis.

The Kremlin blames Kyiv and Western sanctions for the situation. Reuters

FIRE CAUSED BY SUSPECTED ARSON IN SOUTH KOREA KILLS AT LEAST 7

SEOUL (TIP): A fire caused by suspected arson spread through an office building Thursday in South Korea's Daegu city, killing at least seven people and injuring dozens of others, local fire and police officials said.

Dozens of firefighters and vehicles were deployed and quickly put out the blaze, which began around 10:55 a.m. on the second floor of a seven-floor office building near the city's district court.

Seven people were confirmed as dead, including an unidentified man who police suspect set the fire in a lawyer's office. At least 41 people were hurt, mostly from smoke inhalation, and 26 of them were being treated at nearby hospitals, said Park Seok-jin, chief of Daegu's Suseong district fire department.

No other people were trapped in the building, Park said.

Jeong Hyeon-wook, an official from Daegu Metropolitan Police, said security camera footage shows the suspect leaving his home holding an apparent container with both hands that may have been used to set the blaze. Jeong said all of the dead victims were found in the same room and that police were investigating possible motives.

South Korean media published photos they said were received from witnesses that show smoke emerging from the building in Beomeo-dong, an affluent business district in Daegu, which is South Korea's fourth-largest city and home to more than 2.6 million people. (PTI)

As many as 35 children die in Ethiopia's afar amid drought, conflict



NAIROBI (KENYA) (TIP) : At least 35 children have died in recent weeks due to drought and conflict in Ethiopia's north-eastern afar region, according to a local hospital and the medical charity Doctors Without Borders.

The announcement on Thursday came days after a government minister denied that people have died due to food shortages.

"Thirty-five children have died in the last eight weeks alone and more than two-thirds of those patients died within 48 hours of admission," Doctors Without Borders said in a statement noting an escalating crisis in the mostly arid region.

"What scares us most at this point is that we are only beginning to see the very tip of the iceberg, and already it is overwhelming," said Raphael Veicht, the group's emergency coordinator in

Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa.

Ethiopia is facing one of the worst droughts in the past 40 years following consecutive failed rains in the Horn of Africa. The Afar region also saw some of the fiercest fighting in the war that erupted in Ethiopia's neighbouring Tigray region in November 2020.

Hussein Adem, director of Dubti Hospital in Afar, the largest in the region and serving more than one million people, confirmed the children's deaths to The Associated Press and said that people flooding into the hospital are coming from conflict areas bordering Tigray.

"The number of malnourished and sick children arriving at our hospital is rising steadily. Hence, the mortality rate among children is also rising," he said, adding his team is trying to send some to other healthcare centres. (AP)

1 DEAD, 9 HURT AS CAR PLOUGHS INTO CROWD IN BERLIN

BERLIN (TIP): A man drove a car into a school group standing in a popular Berlin shopping district on June 8, killing a teacher and seriously injuring nine persons, authorities said.

The man drove into people on a street corner around 10.30 am before getting the car back on the road and then crashing into a shop window around a block further on. The woman killed was a teacher on a school trip with students from the central German state of Hesse. — AP

CHINA RELEASES 'MOST DETAILED' MAP OF MOON

BEIJING (TIP): China has released a new comprehensive geologic map of the Moon, the "most detailed" to date, which is expected to make a vital contribution to scientific research, exploration and landing site selection on the Earth's only natural satellite. Chinese scientists from multiple research institutes and universities have created the high resolution topographic map based on data from China's lunar exploration Chang'e project. PTI

NASA TO LAUNCH 3 ROCKETS FROM PVT OZ SPACE PORT

SYDNEY (TIP): US space agency NASA is set to launch three rockets into space from a private space port in Australia for scientific research. The rockets will be launched between June 26 and July 12 from the Arnhem Space Centre, which is owned and run by Equatorial Launch Australia. This is going to be the first time that NASA is launching rockets from a commercial facility outside the US, and the first NASA rockets launched from Australia since 1995. IANS

EU AGREES ON COMMON MOBILE CHARGER BY 2024

BRUSSELS (TIP): Chargers will be harmonised for small and medium-sized portable electronic devices by 2024 in the European Union (EU), negotiators of the European Parliament and the Council have agreed. "By autumn 2024, USB Type-C will become the common charging port for all mobile phones, tablets and cameras in the EU," a press release from the Parliament said. IANS

Train derailment in east Iran kills at least 21, injures 47

TEHRAN (TIP): A passenger train traveling through eastern Iran struck an excavator and derailed nearly half its cars before dawn June 8, killing at least 21 people and injuring another 47, officials said.

The train derailment near the desert city of Tabas was the latest disaster to strike the Islamic Republic in recent weeks as Tehran struggles under US sanctions and any return to its nuclear deal with world powers remains in doubt.

The train operated by the state-run Islamic Republic Railway carried some 350 people as it traveled from Tabas, some 550 kilometers (340 miles) southeast of Tehran, to the city of Yazd. It struck the excavator as the train traveled over a railroad underpass in the rural scrubland, sending cars and its passengers flying.

"Passengers were bouncing in the car like balls in the air," one unnamed injured passenger told Iranian state television.

The state-run IRNA news agency gave the casualty figures, citing emergency officials.

Rescue teams with ambulances and helicopters arrived in the remote area where communication is poor. Over a dozen people suffered critical injuries, with some transferred to local hospitals, officials said.

Aerial footage of the desert site of the disaster showed train cars on their side, with some rescuers running at the scene as they tried to care for those injured.

State TV later aired images from a hospital where the injured received treatment. One of those injured told the broadcaster they felt the train suddenly brake and then slow before the derailment.

The derailment happened some 50 kilometers (30 miles) outside of Tabas.

The report said the crash is under investigation. Initial reports suggested the train collided with an excavator near the track, though it wasn't immediately clear why an excavator would have been close to the train track at night. One official suggest it could have been part of a repair project.

Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi offered condolences over the crash and

announced an investigation would be undertaken into its causes.

Iran's worst train disaster came in 2004, when a runaway train loaded with gasoline, fertilizer, sulfur and cotton crashed near the historic city of Neyshabur, killing some 320 people, injuring 460 others and damaging five villages.

In 2016, a train collision in northern Iran killed at least 43 people and injured about 100.

Iran has some 14,000 kilometers (8,700 miles) of railway lines throughout a country about two and a half times the size of Texas. Its rail system sends both people and goods across the country, particularly in rural areas.

Iran also has some 17,000 annual deaths on its highways, one of the world's worst traffic safety records. The high toll is blamed on wide disregard for traffic laws, unsafe vehicles and inadequate emergency services.

Iran, already straining under US sanctions over its collapsed nuclear deal, has been mourning the deaths of at least 41 people killed in a building collapse in the country's southwest. AP

Homemade shampoos for healthy hair

We are at a stage in life where almost all of us are struggling with frizzy and lifeless hair. Despite following a proper hair care routine, we fail to achieve healthy hair, especially in summers. The moisture of the scalp is often reduced due to heat, dust, and sweat. This not only leads to dryness but also tangles your hair. In such cases, home remedies always work the best. You can use a homemade shampoo to bring your hair back to life and make them shiny and soft again.

Shampoo with coconut milk

To make a natural shampoo from coconut milk. Mix half a teaspoon of vitamin E oil and half a cup of liquid soap in 1 cup of coconut milk and fill it in the vial. Now wash your hair regularly with this shampoo. The coconut oil is present in it, nourishes the hair, and makes it soft. At the same time, vitamin E makes hair shiny.

Apply jojoba oil shampoo

To make tangled and frizzy hair silky, using jojoba oil shampoo is a better option. For this, start by mixing 1 teaspoon glycerin, half



teaspoon jojoba oil, half teaspoon coconut oil, and 1 teaspoon distilled water in 1 teaspoon mild shampoo. Now apply it while washing your hair.

Try honey shampoo

You can also use honey

shampoo to keep your hair and scalp moisturised. To make this, mix 1 teaspoon of organic honey with 1 cup of liquid soap and a few drops of essential oil. Now, fill it in a jar and use this shampoo for hair wash. This will keep your hair soft, shiny, and healthy.

FOOD

Mango Custard

Ingredients

Ripe Mangoes - 3 to 4 (approximately 200 gms)
Vanilla Flavoured Custard Powder - 1 tblsp
Milk - 500 ml
Fresh Cream - 500 ml
Sugar - 1/4 cup (adjust as per taste)

Method

1. Peel and finely chop the mangoes into small pieces.
2. Reserve a few pieces for garnishing and grind the remaining to a thick pulp.
3. No need to add water.
4. Mix the custard powder with 100 ml (1/2 cup) of milk and stir until fully mixed without any lumps.
5. Boil the remaining milk over medium flame.
6. Add the custard mixture and stir gently.
7. Ensure no lumps form and keep stirring constantly.
8. Add sugar and switch off the flame.
9. Add the mango puree, cream and mix well.
10. Stir gently for a minute and keep it in the fridge for 4 to 6 hours.
11. Garnish with the reserved mangoes and serve chilled.



Decor tips for creating a positive energy at home

In a home care setting, learning to bring positive energy into the home is incredibly significant. Positive energy can help us feel better and dispel negative thoughts. It makes you glow with health. Having to make a room feel much happier, brighter, and more expressive can have a significant impact on our happiness and wellbeing. An organised space leads to a more organised mind, which makes everything much clearer. A few minor changes to your apartment can make a big difference.

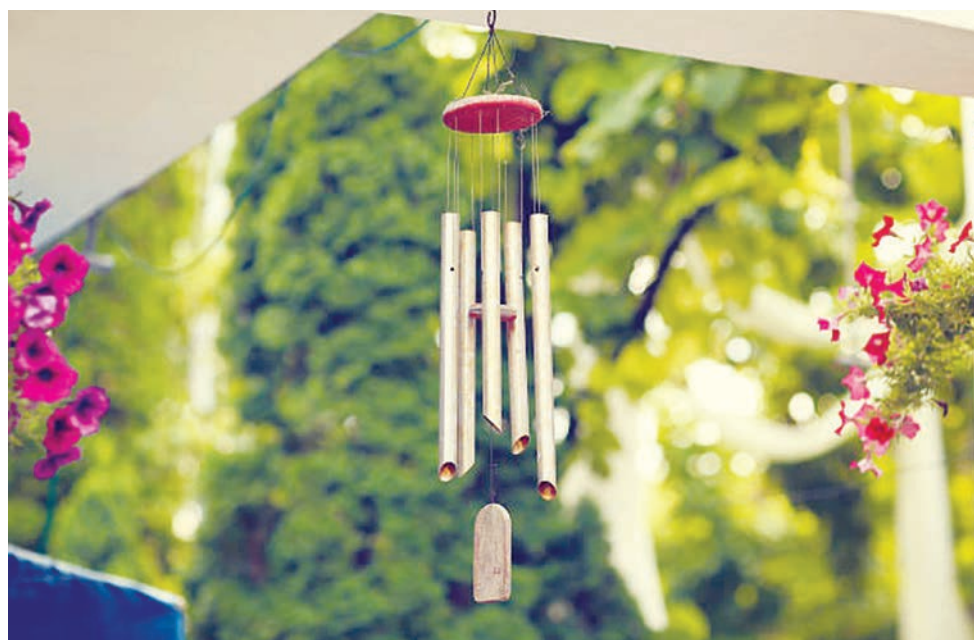
Here are four decorating ideas to help you create a positive energy environment at home.

Enchanting wind chimes

Wind chimes are useful for attracting positive energy and warding off bad luck. The delicate tinkling sound it emits encourages this energy to sit and take a stroll through your space, attracting prosperity. Both Feng Shui and Vastu Shastra consider the pleasant sounds of wind chimes to be significant.

Peacock feathers

It's excellent and auspicious to decorate your home with peacock feathers. They clear negative energy from your home, bring you good luck and fortune, and help you overcome financial difficulties. To welcome guests to the ornate, place them in your living room. Place them around your home as a



reminder that being bold isn't always a bad thing.

Dream catchers

The meaning and tradition of the dream catcher are shrouded in mystery. The most common interpretation of the dream catcher is that it protects you from evil and negativity by filtering out bad dreams. The best place to hang a dream catcher is directly above your bed, which is where you sleep. It can also be hung from the entry points of doors and

windows.

Healing crystals

Crystal Healing rituals are quickly becoming a buzzword, and this sacred ancient science and technique, which has been around for millions of years, is regaining popularity. They have the ability to connect us to the planet's grounding and healing energy. Even if the negative energy and thoughts originate in your own mind and soul, crystals can assist you in removing those



crippling ailments.

You can also keep fresh flowers in vases, indoor plants, fish in bowls or aquariums, elephant ornaments or paintings, and special souvenirs from places you've visited to bring the good luck, happiness and positivity at home.

Source: Pinkvilla

Type-2 diabetes heritable in 3-Indian Endogamous Ethnic Groups : Indo-US research

Dr Yash Goyal

JAIPUR (TIP)

There is always a big question, is diabetes genetically inherited from one generation to another? Grandparents to parents and parents to their offsprings?

Now this belief is no more a mystery or confusion at any stage in human's medical history and care ! As Indian and US endocrinologists made a breakthrough on this very hereditary disease.

A joint exploratory research by Indo-US endocrinologists worked on Type-2 Diabetes (T2D) heritable in 3-Indian Endogamous Ethnic Groups (EEGs) representing Northern Rajasthan on an Agarwals, and Southern families of Chettiars in Tamil Nadu, and Reddys of Andhra Pradesh. The joint research conducted on 1547 respondents in the country by 18 experts (including 5 diabeticians of Rajasthan) showed that these 3-communities are prone to heritable Type 2 diabetes.

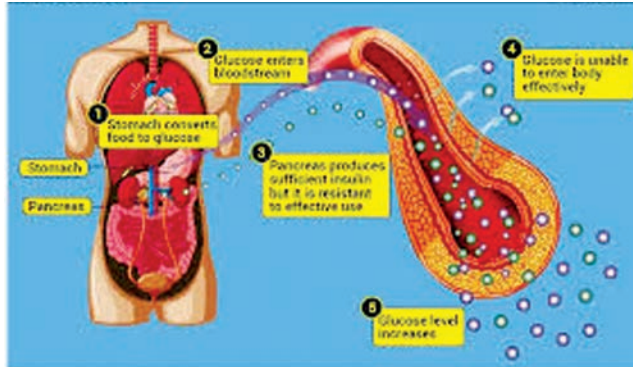
A new Indo-US bilateral Collaborative Research Partnership (CRP) was developed on genetics of diabetes research. This included Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), National Institute of Health (NIH), and US' University of Texas, and University of Oklahoma. The research activities of this study were initiated after obtaining the project-specific Institutional Review Board (IRB) approvals in accordance with both the GOI and the US Regulations for protection of human subjects. It was granted and funded by National Institute of Health in USA.

The research paper titled 'Burden of Type 2 Diabetes and Associated Cardiometabolic Traits and Their Heritability Estimates in Endogamous Ethnic Groups of India: Findings from the INDIGENIUS Consortium' has appeared in the international journal of "Frontiers in Endocrinology".

Quoting a joint research paper, Jaipur's renowned endocrinologists Dr Rajiv Gupta and Dr Sailesh Lodha said Indeed, Asia including the Indian sub-continent has become the epicentre of the escalating diabetes epidemic. Currently, India has the second highest number of people affected with diabetes worldwide next to China.

Quoting International Diabetes Federation (IDF), the duo experts said, "An estimated 77 million people (20-79 years) had diabetes in India in 2019, which is projected to be 101 million people in 2030 and 134 million people by 2045 year. Given its unique population genetic background and cultural history, the contemporary Indian population is composed of numerous sub-populations (tribal vs caste) with remarkable cultural, linguistic, regional and genetic diversity".

In a survey of 11 cities including Jaipur, the target of Agarwal population, the prevalence of T2D was found to be 15.7 percent (67) in middle class participants, which is comparable to other prevalence rates reported in the urban areas of Tamil Nadu at 15.5 percent and Andhra Pradesh at 15.1 percent states with Chettiars



and Reddy families respectively.

The research study reveals that in Agarwals' joint families (with 530 respondents in 25 families) the lower age group people have 37 % diabetes and 65 % are pre-diabetic. And there is a possibility that diabetes would be heritable in 82 percent Agarwals in the next generation. Whereas in Andhra Pradesh's Reddy families (with 500 respondents and 22 families) the possibility of diabetes in the next generation is 46 percent, and in Chettiars (with 517 respondents in 21 families) the next generation would be around 30 percent. Thus T2 Diabetes heritable cases are more prone in Agarwals in Northern India, than in Southern states' Reddys and Chettiars.

Dr Lodha told TIP that though Agarwals who were studied in Jaipur were very less addicted to liquor and smoking as compared to Andhra Pradesh's Reddys and Tamil Nadu's Chettiars, Agarwals have 37 percent diabetes, and of which 67 percent have obesity. Based on the facts, it is a warning for other Agarwals that if anyone in the family has even pre-diabetes symptoms, they should be more cautious on their health, lifestyle and food diets, Dr Lodha said.

The study recommended that the individuals/families from the EEGs who participated in the study should be advised to start diabetes prevention measures early in life, either in adolescence or early youth, with greater focus on healthy diet, physical activity, and weight maintenance. There are numerous EEGs in India and similar studies could identify more EEGs where earlier intervention may be highly warranted.



Decoded: Why not all obese patients develop diabetes

Obesity, often a result of eating too much fat and sugar in combination with low physical activity, is known as a key factor for developing Type 2 diabetes. However, some obese people do not develop the disease that affect millions globally. Turns out their gut bacteria have a role to play.

Andrey Morgun and Natalia Shulzhenko of Oregon State University and Giorgio Trinchieri of the National Cancer Institute developed a novel analytical technique, multi-organ network analysis, to explore the mechanisms behind early-stage systemic insulin resistance.

The findings, published in the Journal of Experimental Medicine, showed that a particular type of gut microbe leads to white adipose tissue containing macrophage cells, large cells that are part of the immune system, associated with insulin resistance.

In the human body, white adipose tissue is the main type of fat. "Our experiments and analysis predict that a high-fat/high-sugar diet primarily acts in white adipose tissue by driving microbiota-related damage to the energy synthesis process, leading to systemic insulin resistance," said Morgun, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences in the OSU College of Pharmacy.

"Treatments that modify a patient's microbiota in ways that target insulin resistance in adipose tissue macrophage cells could be a new therapeutic strategy for Type 2 diabetes," he added.

The human gut microbiome features more than 10 trillion microbial cells from about 1,000 different bacterial species. "The so-called 'western diet', high in saturated fats and refined sugars, is one of the primary factors. But gut bacteria have an important role to play in mediating the effects of diet," Shulzhenko said.

Experiments in mice, looking at the intestine, liver, muscle and white adipose tissue, the team found "adipose tissue has a predominant role in systemic insulin resistance".

Further they "discovered that the Oscillibacter microbe, enriched by a western diet, causes an increase of the insulin-resistant adipose tissue macrophage".

The researchers add, however, that Oscillibacter is likely not the only microbial regulator for expression of the key gene they identified, Mmp12, and that the Mmp12 pathway, while clearly instrumental, is probably not the only important pathway, depending on which gut microbes are present. Source: IANS

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COVID: US experts recommend Novavax vaccine

Advisers to the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have overwhelmingly backed the authorization of Novavax Inc's COVID-19 vaccine for adults. A panel of outside vaccine experts on Tuesday voted 21-0 with one abstention, recommending the use of the jab for people aged 18 and above. The FDA will now

decide whether to greenlight Novavax as the fourth coronavirus vaccine for adults in the US. A decision is not expected immediately.

Novavax Chief Commercial Officer John Trizzino said the documents with details on the shot's manufacturing process were submitted to the agency last week and that they were

still being reviewed. "We hopefully expect to have product in the US in our warehouse by the end of June," he said in an interview.

Trizzino said that the Maryland-based company has plans to ship millions of doses made by its partner, the Serum Institute of India, as soon as the FDA gives an approval.



China releases world's 'most detailed' map of Moon

China has released a new comprehensive geologic map of the moon, the "most detailed" to date, which is expected to make a vital contribution to scientific research, exploration and landing site selection on the Earth's only natural satellite.

Chinese scientists from multiple research institutes and universities have created the high resolution topographic map based on data from China's lunar exploration Chang'e project and other data and research findings from international organisations, the state-run China Global Television Network (CGTN) reported on Wednesday.

The new comprehensive geologic map of the moon is to a scale of 1:2,500,000, the "most detailed to date", the report said.

The map includes 12,341 impact craters, 81 impact basins, 17 rock types and 14 types of structures, providing abundant information about geology of the moon and its evolution. It is expected to make a great contribution to scientific research, exploration and landing site selection on the moon.

The Institute of Geochemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences has led the project, along with other organisations such as Chinese Academy of Geological Science, China University of Geosciences and Shandong University.

Source: PTI

Google announces new features for Meet, Chromebooks to empower students

With an aim to empower teachers and students, tech giant Google on Wednesday announced that it is sharing new updates to Chromebooks, Google Classroom and Google Meet.

For those using the Google Workspace for Education Plus or Teaching and Learning Upgrade, Google said it is adding features focused on increasing interconnectivity, control and efficiency in the classroom to Google Meet.

"Now, Meet calls can be auto-transcribed directly into a Google Doc for easy lesson reviews and the ability to search for keywords and concepts," Shantanu Sinha, Director, Google for Education, said in a blogpost.

Google said that now users can, with Picture in Picture in Meet, where they can navigate other tabs in Chrome while viewing 4 tiles of students in a Meet call.

And to keep the class engaged and regularly check for understanding, teachers can now add polls and Q&A to Live-streams, and live-stream directly to YouTube.

The company is also adding new features like the Screencast app, built into Chrome OS in M103, where users can record, trim, share and view transcribed screencasts -- and create a custom library of



videos automatically saved in Google Drive.

"From sharing devices to 1:1, to teachers using Chromebooks alongside students, we're constantly evolving our features to meet the needs of the classroom," Sinha said.

Cast moderator is a new mode coming to select devices with Google TV that enables both educators and students to wirelessly share their Chromebook screen to a class display using an access code so that only folks in the same classroom as the display can cast.

Google is also rolling out new

integrations and tools to improve teachers' day-to-day tasks and help students grow their skills.

"Practice sets lean into adaptive learning by giving students instant feedback on their answers and real-time support if they get stuck -- providing automated insights for teachers to identify potential gaps in students' understanding," Sinha mentioned.

Practice sets are now globally available in beta, and in English only, for Google Workspace for Education customers with Education Plus or Teaching and Learning Upgrade.

Source: IANS

'First time in history': Cancer vanishes for every patient in drug trial; Indian-origin patient among those healed

An Indian-origin patient was among those who had a "miracle" cure using a cancer medication that is being tried out by a research centre here, achieving an unprecedented healing rate when all 14 patients in the trial had their cancers disappear.

"It's a miracle", Nisha Varughese said about the immunotherapy drug's efficacy in curing her.

In the trial at the Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) Cancer Centre in New York using dostarlimab, "the rectal cancer disappeared after immunotherapy -- without the need for the standard treatments of radiation, surgery, or chemotherapy -- and the cancer has not returned in any of the patients, who have been cancer-free for up to two years," the MSK said.

According to researchers, this was the first time that all the patients in a cancer trial were completely healed with a medication and they did not have serious side-effects.

The results of the trial were disclosed over the weekend in the New England Journal of Medicine and at a meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

An editorial in the Journal called it "an



early glimpse of a revolutionary treatment shift".

MSK explained that "immunotherapy harnesses the body's own immune system as an ally against cancer".

It said, "The Immune cells contain a safeguard called a checkpoint, to prevent them from attacking normal cells. Cancer cells can trip this safeguard and shut down immune cells, allowing a tumour to hide and grow."

Immunotherapy uses what is called a

"checkpoint inhibitor" that frees immune cells to recognise and attack cancer cells, she added.

Varughese recalled discovering that she was completely cancer-free: "That day I didn't see the tumour. So, I was thinking, where is the tumour? Then, I thought maybe it's hiding somewhere inside. Doctor told me there is no more tumour. It's a miracle."

Andrea Cercek, a cancer specialist who ran the trial, said, "The immunotherapy

shrank the tumours much faster than I expected."

Luis Diaz, who was the other researcher running the trial and is a member of the White House National Cancer Advisory Board, said, "It's really exciting. I think this is a great step forward for patients."

Usually, rectal cancer is treated with chemotherapy, radiation and surgery. But Cercek said, "The most exciting part of this is that every single one of our patients has only needed immunotherapy. We haven't radiated anybody, and we haven't put anybody through surgery."

In the Journal editorial, a cancer expert, Hanna K Sanoff from the University of North Carolina, cautioned, "Whether the results of this small study conducted at the MSK Cancer Centre will be generalisable to a broader population of patients with rectal cancer is not known yet." "Despite these uncertainties," she added, "Cercek and colleagues and their patients who agreed to forgo the standard treatment for a promising but unknown future with immunotherapy have provided what may be an early glimpse of a revolutionary treatment shift."

Source: IANS

WORLD BANK CUTS INDIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH FORECAST TO 7.5 PC

The World Bank, on Tuesday, June 7, cut India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal to 7.5 per cent as rising inflation, supply chain disruptions and geopolitical tensions taper recovery.

This is the second time that the World Bank has revised its GDP growth forecast for India in the current fiscal 2022-23 (April 2022 to March 2023). In April, it had trimmed the forecast from 8.7 per cent to 8 per cent and now it is projected at 7.5 per cent. The GDP growth compares to an 8.7 per cent expansion in the previous 2021-22 fiscal. "In India, growth is forecast to edge down to 7.5 per cent in the fiscal year 2022/23, with headwinds from rising inflation, supply chain disruptions, and geopolitical tensions offsetting buoyancy in the recovery of services consumption from the pandemic," the World Bank said in its latest issue of the 'Global Economic Prospects'.

Growth, it said, will also be supported by fixed investment undertaken by the private sector and by the government, which has introduced incentives and reforms to improve the business climate.

CANADA BANS EXPORT OF SUPPORT SERVICES FOR RUSSIAN OIL, GAS, CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

Canada said on Tuesday it was imposing new sanctions on Russia, banning export of 28 services, such as accounting and advertising, that are needed for the operation of Russian oil, gas and chemical industries.

Canada's new measures target an industry that accounts for about 50% of Russia's federal budget revenues, according to a statement from Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, Canada has imposed sanctions on more than 1,070 individuals and entities and Joly said Ottawa would "continue to relentlessly pursue accountability for Vladimir Putin's senseless war."

MERCEDES TO RECALL 1 MILLION OLDER CARS ON FEAR OF FAULTY BRAKES

German carmaker Mercedes-Benz is recalling nearly one million older vehicles worldwide due to a potential problem with the braking system, the federal transport authority (KBA) said. The KBA said in a statement dated June 1 and reported late Saturday in German media that the recall affected cars built between 2004 and 2015, of the SUV series ML and GL and the R-Class luxury minivan. "Corrosion on the brake booster can in the worst case lead to the connection between the brake pedal and the braking system being interrupted," the KBA said.

RBI hikes policy repo rate by 50 bps, raises inflation forecast to 6.7 percent

MUMBAI (TIP)

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday, June 8, hiked the policy repo rate by 50 basis points to 4.9 per cent and raised the inflation projection for the current financial year to 6.7 per cent.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced that the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has "voted unanimously to increase the policy repo rate by 50 basis points to 4.90 per cent, with immediate effect".

Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate stands adjusted to 4.65 per cent and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 5.15 per cent.

The MPC also decided unanimously to remain focused on the withdrawal of accommodation to ensure that inflation remains within the target going forward while supporting growth.

This is the second hike in the policy repo rate since the being of the current financial year.

Last month, in its off-cycle monetary policy review the central bank hiked policy repo rate by 40 basis points or 0.40 per cent to 4.4 per cent. This was the first increase in policy repo rate in nearly two years. The repo rate is the interest rate at which the RBI lends short-term funds to banks.

RBI Governor said the upside risk to inflation persists and the recent spike in tomato prices would fuel food inflation. Also, high global crude oil prices would add to the upside pressure on inflation.

The upward revision in inflation projection comes as domestic retail inflation has remained above RBI's comfort level of 6 per cent for four months in a row, mainly due to the Russia-Ukraine war which has impacted the prices of commodities across the globe.

In the bi-monthly monetary policy, Das upped the inflation projection for the ongoing fiscal to 6.7 per cent.

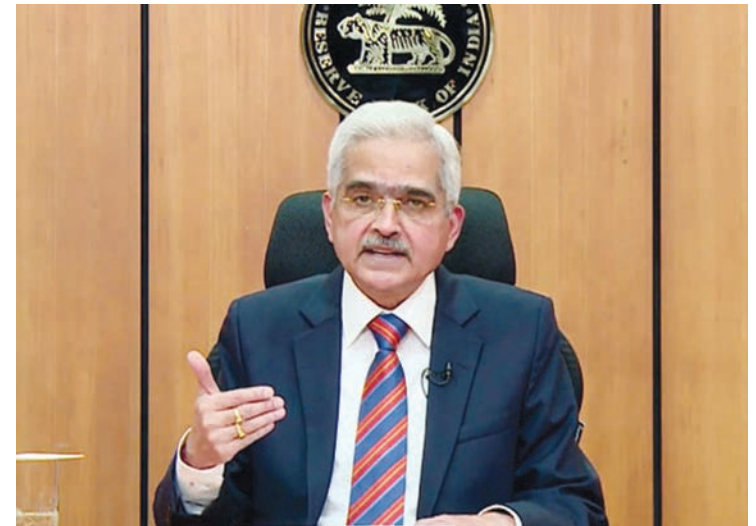
A rise in price across all items from fuel to vegetables and cooking oil pushed WPI or Wholesale Price Inflation to a record high of 15.08 per cent in April and retail inflation to a near eight-year high of 7.79 per cent.

RBI has the mandate to keep inflation at 4 per cent with a bias of 2 per cent on either side.

RBI retains growth projection at 7.2 pc for FY23

The Reserve Bank of India retained its growth projection at 7.2 per cent for the current fiscal on the back of improvement in urban demand and gradual recovery in rural India.

It projected inflation to be 7.5 in June quarter (Q1) and 7.4 per



RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das | PTI

cent in September quarter (Q2).

Inflation is expected to come down to 6.2 per cent in December quarter (Q3) and further reduce to 5.8 per cent in March quarter (Q4) of this fiscal.

Das said normal south-west monsoon would boost kharif sowing and agri output. However, global geo-political situation remains fluid and commodity market remains on the edge.

RBI, in its monetary policy in April, had projected inflation to be 5.7 per cent in the current fiscal, with 6.3 per cent in Q1; 5.8 per cent in Q2; 5.4 per cent in Q3 and 5.1 per cent in Q4.

RBI Governor said the Indian economy remained resilient, and the central bank will continue to support growth.

The RBI expects growth in the first quarter of the current fiscal at 16.2 per cent, which will taper to 4 per cent by the fourth quarter.

He, however, cautioned that there are risks from the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

The central bank earlier in April slashed the GDP growth projection for 2022-23 to 7.2 per cent from its earlier forecast of 7.8 per cent.

On Tuesday, the World Bank cut India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal to 7.5 per cent as rising inflation, supply chain disruptions, and geopolitical tensions taper recovery.

Source: Agencies

Tesla's job cut may save up to \$1 billion yearly operational costs: Report

SAN FRANCISCO (TIP)

While tech billionaire Elon Musk recently said that Tesla would be reducing its salaried headcount by 10 per cent, a Goldman Sachs analyst says it can provide the company up to \$1 billion in annual operating expenses (OPEX) savings -- the company's day-to-day expenses.

Recently, Musk had noted that his electric vehicle company would be reducing its salaried headcount by 10 per cent as the company has become overstaffed in some areas.

This initiative, at least according to Goldman Sachs analyst Mark Delaney, could translate into \$0.225-\$1 billion in annual OPEX savings, reports Teslarati.

In a message to Tesla employees, Musk

noted that while the company is reducing its headcount by about 10 per cent, staff working on key projects such as vehicle and battery production, as well as solar installations, would be unaffected by the layoffs. Hourly headcount will also be increasing.

"Tesla will be reducing salaried headcount by 10 per cent, as we have become overstaffed in many areas. Note, this does not apply to anyone actually building cars, battery packs, or installing solar. Hourly headcount will increase," Musk wrote in his email.

In later comments, Musk further clarified that Tesla plans to increase its total headcount over the next 12 months, though the number of paid employees won't likely change much.

"Total headcount will increase, but

salaried should be fairly flat," Musk wrote.

Delaney weighed in on Musk's statements. According to the analyst, Musk's comments suggest that Tesla plans to limit cost growth and not reduce its OPEX at all. This, in turn, should result in some savings for the electric vehicle maker. "Musk's comments on Twitter of salaried headcount being fairly flat suggest the company's plan is to limit cost growth and not reduce OPEX overall," Delaney said.

"Our base case assumption is for OPEX, including SBC to rise by an average of about \$255 million per quarter from 2Q22 through 4Q22, by \$1.9 bn in 2022 YoY, and by \$2.6 billion in 2023 YoY. Each \$100 million of OPEX is about \$0.06-\$0.08 of EPS," Delaney added.

Source: IANS

Shree Ganeshaya Namah



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The Indian Panorama brings you Weekly and Birthday Horoscope by Nastur Bejan Daruwalla

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - JUNE 13 TO JUNE 19, 2022



Aries

Dear Aries, your interaction and imaginative skills will wow a few key people, and your bosses will consider you a breakout outstanding performer. This is not the time to become involved in your colleagues' private relationships. Entrepreneurs will travel a lot for business this week, and this journey will result in pleasant and successful deals. This week, children interested in foreign academics will find their route; don't be influenced by other perspectives; concentrate on the path you choose this week. Your love life will not suffer from any issues this week. Even your health will be better this week hence, you do not need to worry.



Taurus

You will be able to strengthen and brighten yourself this week Dear Taurus. Individuals who have jobs will have a productive week. Business executives will be swamped with chances this week. Don't sell or purchase any securities this week and try to refund any money you've loaned. On a personal level, if you become trapped somewhere, your parents come to your help, and you will spend much more time with them this week than normal. Your relationship fronts look very strong this week as your partner will help you become emotionally strong. In the latter half of the week your health is likely to get affected due to negative effect of moon. Take good care of yourself this week.



Gemini

This is going to be a stressful week for you. You'll make several snap selections that you'll come to regret later, so keep your calm and make wise choices. You'll have a disagreement with one of your employees, and as a result, you'll create a couple adversaries. Resist using stern words to avoid ramifications; leave the rest to God; this week will be brighter. In the first half of the week, you are more likely to meet a person whom you will respect and who will be able to understand your point of views without any pressure. Married people we'll have to deal with each other very calmly. Your health will be alright throughout the week hence you do not need to worry.



Cancer

Your creative sense will bloom this week, offering you some exciting changes. Workers in the medical and clothing industries may experience unforeseen layoffs. You can refer to someone as a longtime friend, and your connection may steadily deteriorate. If your children are suppressing their

feelings out of fear that you won't comprehend them, this week is an excellent time to strengthen your bonds with them. Your relationship will be alright this week as your partner will boost your confidence and will push you towards your professional goals. If you are married, it is really a good week to affirm your commitment with your spouse. This week, you might have to face periodic back pain and hence you must stay away from heavy workout.



Leo

It will be a smooth and enjoyable week for you. You'll have a wonderful time with your parents and pals this week. Someone who has left you feeling stuck in your profession is likely to return this week with better possibilities. Preserve your calm at the household, because your superiority complex will damage one of your close relatives. You'll be encircled by miserable people this week, so don't reveal too much about your private affairs in front of all. This week, you will be able to make some good changes in your love life with the help of your better half. Singles who are trying to find someone compatible will find contentment in a good old friend. This week, your health will be alright, and you do not need to worry.



Virgo

You're likely to get praised at employment for your effort and tenacity. You'll have a good week altogether. You will have difficulties acquiring new things this week because Venus is not to your advantage. This week, on the other hand, you will be able to enrich your life for the greater good. This week, people must purchase investments in automobile businesses. As far as your love life is concerned, this is going to be an amazing week indeed. Aries and Aquarius will turn out to be the most suitable Zodiac signs for you. Married people will be busy fulfilling their obligations to their families. This week, the ailment issue which has been bothering you for a long will be resolved.



Libra

Dear Libra, you'll be likely to devote a lot of time to your friends this week. Your child's outstanding academic achievements will astound you. Your employment will make you feel a little nervous, but you'll be able to keep matters under control. This week, the credit you applied for will be approved. While rediscovering old experiences, you will have a wonderful time. This week your partner will help you plan your finances in a way that you will be able to make secure plans for yourself and your family. People who have recently came into relationship will start noticing negative things



Scorpio

This week, your determination will be strengthened. You will set high standards at employment. This week, your tasks and finances will not align well. This week, you will be unable to fulfill crucial domestic responsibilities. This week, your mental foresight will preserve lives. Employees at your office will put more pressure on you to improve your performance but by the end of the week, you will come out stronger. This week, your relationship fronts will be in a good shape as some old problems between your partner and you will be resolved just by counseling. In the first half of the week, health of your children will need minor attention as they are more likely to fall sick.



Sagittarius

This week, you will conquer your personal constraints, Dear Sagittarius. You'll be in the mindset to come up with creative answers to any problem. To get away from the bitter people, you'll disassemble your ideas, which will be a good start for your mental wellness. Your commercial career will be busy during the week, but you will meet some interesting office colleagues. The latter half of the week will bring you good news on your relationship fronts. The person you have been trying to ask out since long will give you a positive answer. As Venus will transit in a favorable position in the last three days of the week, that would be the best duration to make decisions regarding marriage. It's indeed going to be a very good week as far as your health is concerned.



Capricorn

You'll have a boatload of vitality this week Dear Capricorn. You'll be endowed with a tremendous lot of bravery and serenity. You may expect money to come in from places other than your organization. This week is a good time to discuss a protracted investment model with your partnership. Your tense disposition will be calmed throughout the first half of the week. Avoid getting involved in pointless debates this week. On a personal level, you may find it tough to cope with your children's problems. Engage in an open and empathetic

CONTD ON PAGE 31

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : JUNE 13 TO JUNE 19, 2022 BY ASTRO FRIEND CHIRAG - SON OF ASTROLOGER BEJAN DARUWALLA

June 13

You are so lucky today, as you may solve your boss' problem in a second which may impress them. You may soon get a promotion related to that. You may enjoy your day today. You may go to some social visits as it may help you grow the trust between each other in the community. You may soon plan to buy a property through your friend's recommendation, and you may get it at a good price. Your health will be in great condition, you may enjoy your day in good health. You may soon plan to join a gym for more fitness.

June 14

You may soon get to hear some good news related to the results of your project. You may get some good approaches from the big companies which may make you so happy. Try to be so sincere and continue doing your work the way you used to do and do everything with lots of passion. If you are a student, you may plan to go abroad for further studies and to make your future bright. Today try to have good communication with your parents and have a good talk about life as it may make them involved in something.

June 15

Your day will start on a great note. You may enjoy your day with your family after so long, which may make you

so happy. You may get a promotion soon and you may be chosen as the head of the office. You will get much more responsibility but you may handle it well. Your volcano may thank you with a great surprise party on this day. You may soon plan to join yoga and meditation classes to keep your mind and health good. You may face some health conditions soon or try to keep a check on them.

June 16

You may enjoy your day today. Luck will be in your favor today. You may plan to join your friends for the group trip to the trekking place. You are resolute by nature which may clarify all your problems and the projects assigned to you. Your way of helping everyone and talking with such loving gestures may make them feel so good about you. You may soon plan to grow your business by taking a forward step. Try to take care of your health as you may get some heart-related issues soon, which may affect your work.

June 17

Ganesha says you will have a lot of confidence today that'll guide you towards the stepping-stones of success and appreciation from your colleagues. Although this approach won't be appreciated by your partner until the end of the day your behavior might change into being boastful, which will be annoying. Your love life will be somewhat rocky today due to your behavior. The fights

and rifts today can be avoided if you take time and reflect on your behavior today. Today will be a significant day for your partner to decide how well you can handle success.

June 18

Ganesha says you will have a simple yet good day today. Even though there won't be anything significantly positive that'll happen today you will spend the day relaxing and having fun. Solitary bliss and knowing that you're financially stable will keep you happy and satisfied throughout the day. Your health is on its way to improving as well today. You'll want to make beautiful memories with your partner. Make sure that you plan ahead and take them with you wherever you go so that you can look back on your shared experiences with fondness.

June 19

Ganesha says Luck is on your side if you follow your intuitions today. Your business will require you to keep working continuously throughout today. Hence you need to have courage, be bold and have control over your work schedule & celebrate at the end of the day today. You will have a good day today if you behave your best today. You might need to make sure that you're not hurting anyone's feelings when you speak your mind today.

CONTD FROM PAGE 30

conversation with them. This week, couples who are married will find it hard to understand the vital role they play in each other's lives and this will create compatibility issues between them but, things will be fine before the beginning of the next week. This week, your fitness front will stay in very good shape.



Aquarius

This week will be packed with lessons that you will learn the hard way. People who are involved in business will have a good week. You may have some tension between your professional and personal life, but don't fret; this insecurity won't stay long. The transactions you thought were a waste of money will pay off richly this week. It's possible that you'll need to heed the advice of your colleagues; doing so will enhance the chances later for you. This week, your relationship will be a very good shape. Your partner and you both will make progress as you both will feel contented and cared for by each other. People who are single might find someone suitable in the latter half of the week. Your health will need some attention this week dear Aries as you will face issues related to back pain.



Pisces

Your folks will support you in undertaking life-altering judgments this week Dear Pisces. This week is a good time to tender your notice period if you're seeking a career switch. People who have recently switched occupations or vocations and lament

their selection may find it difficult to adapt initially, but everything will quickly return to normal; you made the right choice. Perhaps now is a great time to participate in collective

securities since they will repay off spectacularly. This week is not very suitable to start any new relationships. You need to focus on self-growth first this week. If you are married, issues

with your spouse are likely as you will not be able to address their issues well due to weaker Venus in your seventh house. Your health will be totally fine this week.

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMAH ||



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Ekadashi fasting holds an important place in Hindu religion. Ekadashi of Shukla Paksha of Jyeshtha month is called Nirjala Ekadashi. Drinking water is prohibited during the fast of Nirjala Ekadashi, meaning that not a single drop of water is consumed in the whole fast. Therefore it is called Ekadashi Ho Nirjala Ekadashi. This Ekadashi is also called Bhimsen Ekadashi whose story is told in this article.

Jyeshtha Shukla Ekadashi is considered to be the best among the twenty four Ekadashis of the year. By observing this fast, all the Ekadashi fasts are reaped.

Legend

Nirjala Ekadashi is also known as Pandava Bhima Ekadashi, or Pandava Nirjala Ekadashi. This name is derived from Bhima, the second and strongest of the five Pandava brothers, heroes of the Hindu epic Mahabharata. The Brahma Vaivarta Purana narrates the story behind the Nirjala Ekadashi vrata vow. Bhima, a lover of food, wanted to observe all ekadashi fasts, but could not control his hunger. He approached the sage Vyasa, author of the Mahabharata and grandfather of the Pandavas for a solution. The sage advised him to observe Nirjala Ekadashi, when for one day in the year, he should observe an absolute fast. Bhima attained the virtue of all 24 ekadashis, by observing Nirjala Ekadashi.

Practices

While on other ekadashis abstinence of food is observed, on Nirjala Ekadashi, an absolute fast is observed, without partaking even water. The water-less fast is considered extremely difficult to follow as the day falls in the hot Indian summer and thus, it is deemed as very pious austerity. The fast is observed 24 hours from sunrise on Nirjala Ekadashi to sunrise the next day. Some observe it from sunrise to sunset. On the day before Nirjala Ekadashi, the devotee performs the evening prayer (Sandhyavandanam) and takes only one meal, without rice - as rice eating is prohibited. The devotee is however permitted to have a single tiny drop of water as part of the Achamana purification ritual. Water more than that equals breaking the vow.

Like other ekadashis, puja is offered to the god Vishnu, for whom ekadashis are sacred, to seek his grace. An image of Vishnu or a Saligrama stone (an iconic fossil stone in the form of Vishnu) is bathed (abhisheka) with Panchamrita, a mixture of five foods: milk, curd, ghee (clarified butter), honey and sugar. It is then washed with water and then dressed in royal finery. A hand-fan is also offered. Flowers, incense, water and arati (lamps) are also offered. Devotees meditate on the image of the god. In the evening, they worship Vishnu with durva grass in their hands. Devotees remain awake the whole night and sing praises of Vishnu or meditate on his image.

Another characteristic of ekadashis is charity to Brahmins (the priest class). Clothes, food grains, umbrellas, hand-fans, pitchers filled with water, gold etc. are prescribed to be donated on Nirjala Ekadashi.

Merits

According to the Markandeya Purana and the Vishnu Purana, the day of Ekadashi is itself a form of Vishnu. The vrata observed on this day is said to wash away all sin.[5] One who completes the vrata of Nirjala Ekadashi is mentioned to gain the favour of Vishnu, who grants him happiness, prosperity and forgiveness for sins.[1] The devotee is described to receive the merit gained by the observance of all 24 ekadashis in the year. It is most popular and strictly observed by the Vaishnavas, in particular

The observer gains longevity and moksha (salvation).[4] Usually, the messengers of the god of death Yama are described to fetch the person's soul after death. Yama then judges the person's deeds and sends him to Svarga (heaven) or Naraka (Hell). However, one who observes the Nirjala Ekadashi rituals is believed to be excused Yama's judgement and taken by messengers of Vishnu to Vaikuntha, the abode of Vishnu, after death.

Importance of Nirjala Ekadashi

- It is equal to going on pilgrimage.
- It provides virtue of all 24 Ekadashi.
- It washes away all sin.

Nirjala Ekadashi



Important information

Nirjala Ekadashi

Monday, 10th June 2022

Ekadashi Tithi starts : June 10, 2022 at 07:25 AM

Ekadashi date ends : June 11, 2022 at 05:45 AM

- Grants happiness, prosperity, longevity and moksha (salvation).
- This Ekadashi happens before monsoon season and therefore it also helps in cleansing the body.

How to Observe Nirjala Ekadashi Vrat

Nirjala means without water. Hence, fast is observed without water and food. It is considered as the most strict and hence, most sacred of all Ekadashis. This fast is extremely difficult to follow as it falls in the hot Indian summer. The 24 hours long fast begins from sunrise on Nirjala Ekadashi to sunrise the next day. People fast and offer puja to Lord Vishnu on this day.

The fast begins with Sandhyavandanam – a prayer. This prayer is performed in the evening before Nirjala Ekadashi, i.e. on 10th lunar day. After prayer devotee takes only one meal, without rice (as rice eating is prohibited). The strict fast continues throughout Ekadashi. It gets over on next morning. Devotees offer prayer, tulsi, fruits, and sweets to Lord Vishnu and then finish their fast.

Rituals and celebrations of Nirjala Ekadashi

- Offer Puja to Lord Vishnu and seek his grace.
- Bath the idol of Lord Vishnu with Panchamrit.
- Wash with clean water and then dressed in new clothes.
- Offer flowers, incense, water, lamps and a hand fan.
- In evening, worship Vishnu with Durva grass.
- Visit nearby Vishnu temple and observe Jagran at night.
- Chant bhajans, Vishnu Sahasranama and other slokas dedicated to Lord Vishnu
- Donate clothes, food grains, umbrellas, hand-

fans, pitchers filled with water, gold etc.

Story of Nirjala Ekadashi Vrat

Bhimsen – the second Pandava brother and big eater wanted to keep Ekadashi Vrat. All his brothers, wife Draupadi and mother Kunti observed Vrat on 24 Ekadashis throughout the year and request him to do the same. But he was unable to perform the ritual due to unbearable hunger pangs. Bhima, was upset due to his weak determination. He was also sacred of dishonouring to Lord Vishnu. So, when Maharishi Vyasa visited them Bhima asked him to find a solution. Sage Vyasa advised him to observe single Nirjala Ekadashi fasting. This fast would compensate for not observing all Ekadashi fasting in a year. Bhima performed the fast with an ease but on the morning of very next day he became unconscious. Then he offered Ganga water with Tulsi to end up his day fast. Due to this legend Nirjala Ekadashi is also known as Bhimseni Ekadashi, Bhima Ekadashi or Pandava Ekadashi.

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History This Week June 10 to June 16

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June 10

June 10, 1652 - In Massachusetts, silversmith John Hull opened the first mint in America, in defiance of English colonial law. The first coin issued was the Pine Tree Shilling, designed by Hull.

June 10, 1942 - In one of the most infamous single acts of World War II in Europe, all 172 men and boys over age 16 in the Czech village of Lidice were shot by Nazis in reprisal for the assassination of SS leader Reinhard Heydrich. The women were deported to Ravensbrück concentration camp where most died. Ninety young children were sent to the concentration camp at Gneisenau, with some later taken to Nazi orphanages if they were German looking. The village was then completely leveled until not a trace remained.



Hattie McDaniel

Birthday - African American actress Hattie McDaniel (1889-1952) was born in Wichita, Kansas. She won an Academy Award in 1940 for her role as 'Mammy' in *Gone with the Wind*.



Judy Garland

Birthday - Judy Garland (1922-1969) was born in Grand Rapids, Minnesota (as Frances Gumm). She is best remembered for her portrayal of Dorothy Gale in *The Wizard of Oz* (1939) and other films including *Meet Me in St. Louis* (1944) and *Easter Parade* (1948). She became one of the most popular concert performers of the 1950s and '60s and broke box-

office records in New York City and London. She was found dead of an overdose of sleeping pills in London on June 22, 1969.

June 11

June 11, 1991 - Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines erupted, spewing ash into the air, visible over 60 miles. The surrounding areas were covered with ash and mud created by rainstorms. Nearby U.S. military bases were also damaged.

June 11, 1994 - After 49 years, the Soviet military occupation of East Germany ended. At one time there had been 337,800 Soviet troops stationed in Germany. Over 300,000 Russians died during World War II in the Battle for Berlin.



Georg Richard Strauss

Birthday - German composer Georg Richard Strauss (1864-1949) was born in Munich. His best known works include; *Till Eulenspiegel* (1895), *Also Sprach Zarathustra* (1896) and *Don Quixote* (1898).



Jeannette Rankin

Birthday - American feminist and politician Jeannette Rankin (1880-1973) was born in Missoula, Montana. She was the first woman elected to the U.S. Congress. She was a reformer and a pacifist and was the only member of Congress to vote against a declaration of war against Japan following the attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941.

Birthday - Undersea explorer Jacques Cousteau (1910-1997) was born in Ste-Andre-de-Cubzac, France. In 1943, he helped invent the first underwater breathing apparatus, called the Aqualung.



Jacques Cousteau

He is best known for his Emmy Award winning television series, *The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau*, which premiered in the U.S. in 1968.



Vince Lombardi

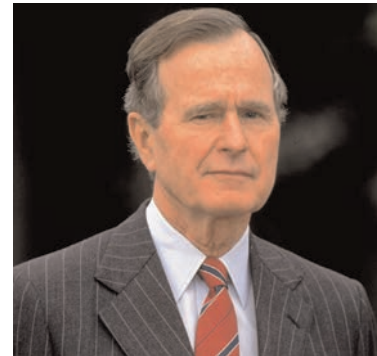
Birthday - American football coach Vince Lombardi (1913-1970) was born in Brooklyn, New York. In 1959, he became head coach of the Green Bay Packers, winning five NFL titles and two Super Bowls in nine seasons. He is generally regarded as the greatest coach and the finest motivator in football history. He retired in 1968 but was lured back to coach the Washington Redskins. He contracted cancer after coaching the Redskins for just one season and died September 3, 1970, in Washington, D.C.

June 12

June 12, 1898 - The Philippines declared their independence from Spain. The islands were named after King Philip II. Once freed from Spain, the islands were then invaded and occupied by U.S. forces. They became an American colony and remained so until after World War II.

June 12, 1963 - Civil rights leader Medgar Evers was assassinated in Jackson, Mississippi, by a rifle bullet from an ambush. He had been active in seeking integration of schools and voter registration for African Americans in the South. Widespread public outrage following his death led

President John F. Kennedy to propose a comprehensive Civil Rights law. Evers was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.



George Bush

Birthday - George Bush, the 41st U.S. President, was born in Milton, Massachusetts, June 12, 1924. During World War II, he became the youngest pilot in the U.S. Navy. Following the war, he co-founded a Texas oil equipment manufacturing company. He then entered politics, serving in a variety of roles including in the U.S. Congress, the United Nations, as U.S. liaison to China, C.I.A. director, and two terms as vice-president under Ronald Reagan. Elected to the presidency in 1988, President Bush is best remembered for forging a successful multinational military alliance following the invasion of Kuwait on August 2, 1990, by Saddam Hussein's Iraqi army. However, following the defeat of Iraq, Bush was beset by domestic problems in the U.S. which resulted in a significant drop in popularity and his loss in the 1992 election to Bill Clinton.



Anne Frank

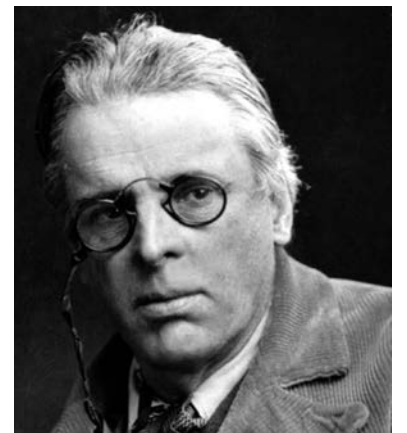
Birthday - Anne Frank (1929-1945) was born in Frankfurt, Germany. She is perhaps the best known victim of the Nazi Holocaust. Anne and her family moved from Germany to Amsterdam to flee Nazi persecution, then went

into hiding in a small attic after Holland was invaded by Nazis. Anne, a girl on the verge of womanhood, was unable to go outside for any reason. In 1942, she began a diary to cope with the boredom, fear, annoyances, and loneliness of captivity. Her family's hiding place was eventually discovered and Anne and her family were deported to Nazi concentration camps. She contracted typhus and died at Bergen-Belsen in 1945. After the war, her father published her diary, which inspired the world, revealing a young woman who had managed to remain hopeful, despite it all.

June 13

June 13, 1971 - The New York Times began publishing the Pentagon Papers, a collection of top secret documents exposing U.S. strategy in the Vietnam War.

June 13, 1966 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled (5-4) in the case of *Miranda v. Arizona* that an accused person must be apprised of certain rights before police questioning including the right to remain silent, the right to know that anything said can be used against the individual in court, and the right to have a defense attorney present during interrogation. American police officers now routinely read prisoners their 'Miranda' (constitutional) rights before questioning.



William Butler Yeats

Birthday - Nobel Prize-winning Irish poet and dramatist William Butler Yeats (1865-1939) was born in Dublin, Ireland. Among his plays; *The Countess Cathleen* (1892) and *Cathleen ni Houlihan* (1902).

(Read more on www.theindianpanorama.news)

contd from page 1

Post Buffalo, Uvalde shootings, US House passes gun control Bill

The seemingly never-ending cycle of mass shootings in the United States has rarely stirred Congress to act. But the shooting of 19 children and two teachers in Uvalde has revived efforts in a way that has lawmakers from both parties talking about the need to respond.

"It's sickening, it's sickening that our children are forced to live in this constant fear," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

Pelosi said the House vote would "make history by making progress." But it's unclear where the House measure will go after Wednesday's vote, given that Republicans were adamant in their opposition.

"The answer is not to destroy the Second Amendment, but that is exactly where the Democrats want to go," said Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio.

The work to find common ground is mostly taking place in the Senate, where support from 10 Republicans will be needed to get a bill signed into law. Nearly a dozen Democratic and Republican senators met privately for an hour Wednesday in hopes of reaching a framework for compromise legislation by week's end. Participants said more conversations were needed about a plan that is expected to propose modest steps.

In a measure of the political peril that efforts to curb guns pose for Republicans, five of the six lead Senate GOP negotiators do not face reelection until 2026. They are Sens. Bill Cassidy of Louisiana, Susan Collins of Maine, John Cornyn of Texas, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina and Thom Tillis of North Carolina. The sixth, Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania, is retiring in January. It's also notable that none of the six is seeking the Republican presidential nomination.

While Cornyn has said the talks are serious, he has not joined the chorus of Democrats saying the outlines of a deal could be reached by the end of this week. He told reporters Wednesday that he considers having an agreement before Congress begins a recess in late June to be "an aspirational goal."

The House bill stitches together a variety of proposals Democrats had introduced before the recent shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde.

The suspects in the shootings at the Uvalde, elementary school and Buffalo supermarket were both just 18, authorities say, when they bought the semi-automatic weapons used in the attacks. The bill would increase the minimum age to buy such weapons to 21.

"A person under 21 cannot buy a Budweiser. We should not let a person under 21 buy an AR-15 weapon of war," said Rep. Ted Lieu, D-Calif.

Republicans have noted that a US appeals court ruling last month found California's ban on the sale of semiautomatic weapons to adults under 21 was unconstitutional.

"This is unconstitutional and it's immoral. Why is it immoral? Because we're telling 18, 19 and 20-year-olds to register for the draft. You can go die for your country. We expect you to defend us, but we're not going to give you the tools to defend yourself and your family," said Rep. Thomas Massie, R-Ky.

The House bill also includes incentives designed to increase the use of safe gun storage devices and creates penalties for violating safe storage requirements, providing for a fine and imprisonment of up to five years if a gun is not properly stored and is subsequently used by a minor to injure or kill themselves or another individual.

It also builds on executive actions banning fast-action "bump stock" devices and "ghost guns" that are assembled without serial numbers.

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre hailed the House bill, tweeting, "We continue to work hard with both parties to save lives and stand up for

families."

Five Republicans voted for the bill: Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania, Anthony Gonzalez of Ohio, Chris Jacobs of New York, Adam Kinzinger of Illinois and Fred Upton of Michigan. Only Fitzpatrick is seeking reelection.

On the Democratic side, Reps. Jared Golden of Maine and Kurt Schrader of Oregon were the only no votes. Schrader lost his reelection bid in the Democratic primary. Golden faces a competitive election in November.

The House is also expected to approve a bill Thursday that would allow families, police and others to ask federal courts to order the removal of firearms from people who are believed to be at extreme risk of harming themselves or others.

Nineteen states and the District of Columbia currently have such "red flag laws." Under the House bill, a judge could issue an order to temporarily remove and store the firearms until a hearing can be held no longer than two weeks later to determine whether the firearms should be returned or kept for a specific period. (Source: Washington Post)

Trump and his two adult children set to be Questioned Under Oath by New York A.G., starting July 15

The agreement follows a number of legal setbacks for the former president, whose lawyers had fought the attorney general for months, hoping to avoid questioning.

Wednesday's agreement was filed two weeks after a state appeals court ruled to allow the questioning. The court rejected arguments from Mr. Trump's lawyers that Ms. James's civil investigation was politically motivated, and that she should be barred from questioning Mr. Trump under oath while he was also under criminal investigation for some of the same business practices.

Alina Habba, a lawyer for Mr. Trump, said soon after that ruling that she would appeal the matter to the Court of Appeals. It is unclear whether the Court will agree to hear the case, but if it does, the three Trump family members may still have a hope of avoiding the interviews.

Another of Mr. Trump's adult children, Eric Trump, was questioned under oath in October 2020, and invoked his right against self-incrimination in response to more than 500 questions. While Mr. Trump and the two children could decline to answer questions for the same reason, doing so could harm them in Ms. James's inquiry. In a criminal case, jurors cannot infer anything from a defendant's refusal to testify, but that does not hold true for civil cases.

Ms. James's investigation began in March 2019 and has focused on whether Mr. Trump systematically misstated the value of his assets to gain financial advantage with lenders and tax authorities. Because the inquiry is civil, Ms. James cannot file criminal charges, but can file a lawsuit. A lawyer from her office signaled in April such a filing could occur in the near future.

Lawyers from Ms. James's office are also involved in a criminal investigation being led by the Manhattan district attorney, Alvin L. Bragg. That inquiry had been heading toward an indictment before Mr. Bragg and some of his top aides developed concerns about the strength of the case.

In the civil investigation Mr. Trump was held in contempt of court in April by a state court judge, Arthur F. Engoron, and ordered to pay \$10,000 a day until his lawyers filed a number of documents that were sought by the attorney general. The following month, Justice Engoron lifted the contempt fine, but set conditions and said he would reinstate that penalty if Mr. Trump did not comply.

After a hearing involving lawyers for Mr. Trump and Ms. James on Wednesday, the judge said that he



would leave the order in place - with no fine attached - and gave Mr. Trump's lawyers a deadline of next Friday to file information about the Trump Organization's document retention policies.

In a recent live appearance on the podcast "Pod Save America," Ms. James said that Mr. Trump "got caught" using "funny numbers in his financial documents." She also said that she would "allow him to exhaust his appeal."

Mr. Trump has repeatedly denied wrongdoing and referred to Ms. James's investigation as a witch hunt and to the attorney general as a radical left "racist." (Source: New York Times)

Canada super visa changes to benefit Indians the most; parents and grandparents can now stay longer

Canada will also allow international medical insurance companies to provide coverage to super visa applicants.

Currently, only Canadian insurance providers can provide medical coverage to super visa holders.

The super visa program, started in 2011, allows Canadian citizens and permanent residents to sponsor their parents and grandparents to come and live with them in Canada for extended periods of time.

Until now, this multiple-entry visa, which is valid for up to 10 years, has allowed parents and grandparents to remain in Canada for only two years at a time. (Source: IANS)

The temples of Angkor Wat

Murli Menon

I started my journey from Ahmedabad and I flew to Bangkok via New Delhi and Bangkok to Phnom Penh. From Phnom Penh airport, I took a taxi to Phnom Penh Bus Station and boarded the bus to Battambang. From Battambang, I took the bus to Seam Reap. After a three-hour bus ride through the lush green Cambodian countryside dotted with palm-fringed rice fields, the bus stopped at Ramdulatea village for lunch. As soon as we get down from the bus, hawkers selling everything from roasted peanuts to souvenirs descend on us in hordes. I bought steamed sweet vegan coconut rice pancakes and wrote my travel blog with my laptop while waiting for my fellow passengers to finish their three-course lunch.

Along the way, we passed The Tonle Sap Lake near Angkor Wat, which is a sanctuary for innumerable large water birds. They migrate from northern China in the months of December and January. Many of these birds can be seen perched on the treetops that surround the temples. A few can be seen flying above the Siem Reap river, which snakes its way through the forests that surround Angkor. So, there is a possibility of sighting several threatened and endangered species of large water-birds throughout your trip from Battambang to Angkor Wat.

As I explored the temple complex at Bayon, I was perplexed by the mysterious smile on the face of Vishnu (God in Hinduism). The answers to the riddle of the construction of Angkor Wat has left scientists searching for answers. Scientists are dumbstruck on the technology used by the kings of Angkor to haul thousands of stones weighing hundreds of tons and transport them over hundreds of kilometres across several cities stretching from Thailand to Vietnam. How were these stones sculpted to depict scenes from the Mahabharata (the longest and oldest epic poem), Ramayana (epic poem written in Sanskrit) and thousands of birds, plants, animals, deities (gods and goddesses), devatas and aparas (supernatural women in mythology)? How have these ancient monuments survived to this day with minor damage, though these monuments were left to the elements for a thousand years? The silent faces of Bayon mock the achievements of modern science. There is no better proof of the power of ancient wisdom than a visit to the hundred temple complexes strewn across Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

I reached Siem Reap and a motorbike taxi took me from the bus station to a family run guest house named Lay Lay guest house located 6 km away from Angkor. I went to bed early to prepare for the early morning two-hour trek to Angkor to see the sunrise at 6:00 a.m. Motor taxi fares are negotiable and my bargaining skills stood me in good stead with these hard-core bargainers. Locals are quoted fares in Riels whereas foreigners are quoted in multiples of U. S. dollars (as there are no cents or riel coins in Cambodia).

Also, the fare quoted is for the return journey with a considerable amount of waiting time at the temples. Also, I got more time to explore the sculptures and



architecture inside the temple complexes. The downside is that one has to walk the first kilometre to get the cheapest price. However, one also can get free rides to Seam Reap from the locals who do not seem to mind giving a short lift to foreigners on their two-wheelers! I woke up in the wee hours of the morning to find the streets full of life. A procession of tourists was on the way to see the sandstone replica of "Mount Meru" bathed in molten gold. I got on the moped of a local villager, going to sell wooden carvings to the early birds, to reach Angkor.

Bayon is just one of the 60 temples that exist in the 50 km. radius around Seam Reap town. Some temples are located 50 km. away from Siem Reap. There are 50 more such treasure troves to discover during my fifteen-day stay at Seam Reap. The most exciting part of going to Angkor Wat is to experience the architectural beauty of the temples combined with the beauty of nature. Several temples are viewed best before sunrise or sunset. This gives you an opportunity to enjoy the changing phases of the sun and also study the changing colours of the temples under various shades of light.

Some temples of Angkor have been purposely left exactly as the explorers found them. This is a good thing, as you can see the giant silver cotton trees growing throughout the temple and giving it a wild look. This also ensures you have to trek on foot through thick forests to enjoy the beauty of these

temples, which were abandoned to the elements. Even a cursory visit to all the major temple complexes of Angkor could take you almost three to four days. You can spend a considerable amount of time at the major temples if you stay at Angkor for at least seven days.

The more you spend time at Bayon, the more you wish to stay on because you would not only like to photograph each one of these enigmatic faces but would also like to catch it in different moods during the three twilights of the day. The most spectacular views are at mid-day and dusk.

It is a pleasure to watch the crimson rays of the sun reflected by the black stones as the sun sets. The other important feature of Bayon is that it is in the middle of thick forests and the sounds of the crickets reverberate throughout the day as the crickets get fooled by the semi-darkness that envelops these forests. In many places, the sun's rays cannot penetrate the forest floor because of the thick forest cover! After a tough day exploring the temples on foot, it is soothing to laze on the hammocks between the trunk of two gigantic trees, while listening to the shrill cries of the crickets. I closed my eyes and meditated on the binaural beats of the crickets under the giant trees which surround these giant temples.

Walking around these giant sculptures almost instils a sense of timelessness, since I could easily have been a villager of the 10th century or a French explorer of

the 15th century who accidentally stumbled into these pristine remnants of an ancient civilization. Dumbfounded, astounded, stupefied and awestruck, I stopped around these blocks of these stone assembled painstakingly as a tribute to the elements. The most amazing fact about Angkor is that these temples have not only survived the ravages of time, fire, water, earth, plunderers, international smugglers, idle thieves and civil war but continue to exist as it did when it was built! This itself is proof of divine intervention!

More than the artistic beauty of the sculptures and the wilderness around the temples, Angkor is a miracle in stone. As you climb the steep step pyramids to get a bird's-eye view of the dense forests or when you watch the sunset after climbing to the Banta Samrey temple on top of the hill, you get a feeling that these temples were constructed so that every visitor could experience the sights and sounds of nature. The energy aura of Bayon is incredibly powerful. As you enter the tiny caves bathed by the setting sun, inside the evergreen forests, a cool breeze blows across one's face and immediately puts one at ease. The sounds of the evergreen forest and the peaceful environs of Bayon make it an ideal place for meditation. Meditating at Bayon before sunrise is a powerful experience. You can feel one's body, mind and soul being recharged with fresh energy! Every cell of one's body vibrates with a primordial power, which pervades this ancient site.

Every step inside the ancient complex of Bayon is not short of a miraculous experience. The sound of the rainforest pervades the temple. The chirping of birds and shrill cries of macaques rent the air and in the centre of the wilderness, stands a black pagoda (cult place) with giant sculpted faces! However, the effect of the first morning light on Bayon is an incredibly touching moment. The most unbelievable part of the visit to Bayon is that the faces look different at different times of the day. Each face is worth a million pictures, and each picture speaks more than a million words. The language of stone defeats the language of man!

But despite the effect of the elements over a thousand years, only a few cracks show through some faces. A majority of the faces stand together as if assembled the previous day! The sandstone, dolomite and rock needed for the construction of these temples were quarried 30 km away on the banks of the Seam Reap River and transported to Bayon, sculpted and assembled there. However, the immensity of this enormous accomplishment became apparent to me, as I tired of walking through the labyrinth of towers, each adorned with four identical faces. The emotions on the faces are clearly visible. While the face of Shiva (his third eye is clearly seen) is grim, Vishnu is seen smiling, whereas the two faces of Brahma are neutral. The emotions on the faces symbolise creation, maintenance and destruction!

After watching the sunrise over Angkor Wat, it is time to move on to the giant faces of Bayon, which were abandoned centuries ago after the Siamese sacked Angkor.

contd from page 1

India Presidential election 2022: Voting on July 18, results on July 21

This time, a total of 4,809 lawmakers, including 776 parliamentarians and 4,033 legislators will cast their votes.

Political parties cannot issue any whip to their members, Mr. Kumar said.

The term of President Ram Nath Kovind ends on July 24.

President of India is elected indirectly, with parliamentarians and legislators voting. The value of the vote of each legislator varies based on the population of the State they belong to. The voting takes place by means of secret ballot through single transferable vote.

How is the President elected?

The Indian President is elected through an electoral college system, wherein the votes are cast by national and State-level lawmakers. The elections are conducted and overseen by the Election Commission (EC) of India.

The electoral college is made up of all the elected members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament (Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha MPs), and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of States and Union Territories (MLAs). This means, in the upcoming polls, the number of electors will be 4,896 - 543 Lok Sabha MPs, 233 MPs of the Rajya Sabha, and 4,120 MLAs of all States, including the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi and Union Territory of Puducherry.

Before the voting, comes the nomination stage, where the candidate intending to stand in the election, files the nomination along with a signed list of 50 proposers and 50 seconders. These proposers and seconders can be anyone from the total of 4,896 members of the electoral college from the State and national level. The rule for securing 50 proposers and seconders was implemented when the EC noticed, in 1974, that several candidates, many without even a bleak chance of winning, would file their nominations to contest the polls. An elector cannot propose or second the nomination of more than

one candidate.

What is the value of each vote and how is it calculated?

A vote cast by each MP or MLA is not calculated as one vote. There is a larger vote value attached to it.

The fixed value of each vote by an MP of the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha is 708. Meanwhile, the vote value of each MLA differs from State to State based on a calculation that factors in its population vis-a-vis the number of members in its legislative Assembly. As per the Constitution (Eighty-fourth Amendment) Act 2001, currently, the population of States is taken from the figures of the 1971 Census. This will change when the figures of the Census taken after the year 2026 are published.

The value of each MLA's vote is determined by dividing the population of the State by the number of MLAs in its legislative Assembly, and the quotient achieved is further divided by 1000. Uttar Pradesh for instance, has the highest vote value for each of its MLAs, at 208. The value of one MLA's vote in Maharashtra is 175, while that in Arunachal Pradesh is just 8. The total votes of each Legislative Assembly are calculated by multiplying the vote value of each MLA by the number of MLAs.

Finally, based on these values, the total number of votes of all Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha MPs would be 5,59,408 (776 MPs X 708), and the total votes of all MLAs from State Legislative Assemblies would come up to 5,49,495. Thus, the grand total vote value of the whole electoral college comes up to 10,98,903.

What is required to secure a victory?

A nominated candidate does not secure victory based on a simple majority but through a system of bagging a specific quota of votes. While counting, the EC totals up all the valid votes cast by the electoral college through paper ballots and to win, the candidate must secure 50% of the total votes cast + 1.

Unlike general elections, where electors vote for a single party's candidate, the voters of the electoral college write the names of candidates on the ballot paper in the order of preference.

What can be expected in the upcoming presidential polls?

Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu is reportedly the frontrunner for the presidential race nominated by the ruling NDA unless a second term ticket is given to Mr. Kovind. Meanwhile, Opposition parties are contemplating jointly putting up a candidate for the race. As per data after the Assembly elections held in five states -U.P., Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur, and Goa, the BJP-led NDA alliance can secure a total vote value of 5,39,827 if all its MPs and MLAs cast their vote.

This is still around 9,625 votes short of the halfway mark. It is important to note, however, that victory will be calculated based on those who actually cast their votes this time; their vote value will then be divided by 50, with the number one being added to the figure. In the Upper and Lower houses of Parliament, if all NDA MPs cast their vote in favor of its nominated candidate, it can secure a vote value of 3,23,556, and this number in the case of all NDA MLAs voting is 2,16,271.

Things have changed for the NDA from the 2017 Presidential polls.

In Maharashtra, which has a high total vote value of 50,400; the BJP is no longer allied with the Shiv Sena, which supported the NDA candidate in 2017. The NDA now has a vote value of 19,775 from Maharashtra's total. In Punjab, the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) broke away from the BJP-led alliance over the farmers' agitation issue. Punjab has a total vote value of 13,572, of which the NDA's vote value comes up only to 464. In this year's Assembly polls in Punjab, the BJP did not win any more than the two seats it already had.

After the recent U.P. Assembly election, the NDA's tally of MLAs in the State Legislative Assembly went up to 273, which if multiplied by the value of each member's vote (208), comes up to 56,684, which is more than half the total value of all U.P. MLAs.

J&K Assembly is not eligible to vote and only Delhi and Puducherry UTs can (as of now) vote in the presidential elections

Meanwhile, despite winning in Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur, the tally of seats won by the BJP came down in all three States compared to the previous presidential election. (Source: The Hindu)

contd from page 6

Xavier University School of Medicine Celebrates 2022 Commencement Ceremony

Chairman Mr. Edwin Casey next addressed the crowd. He explained that it was not just graduates' hard work that had led them to this point, but also the support of the people around them, including family and friends as well as Xavier faculty and staff. Mr. Casey added "Graduation is the beginning, not the end. Few great journeys are completed alone. Those that stand with us make us stronger and make them stronger."

Mr. Casey then introduced Dr. Ismail Mourad, the Salutatorian from the Class of 2022. Ismail explained to the graduates that this was not just the end of one journey, but the beginning of the rest of their lives, noting to his fellow graduates that "we become M. Ds, but more important than the title is the responsibility of being a guardian of your community's trust and care, and providing them with the utmost respect and compassion for the rest of your career."

Board of Trustee member Dr. P.K. Prahalad followed, giving a speech entitled The Biggest Challenges for the Twenty-First Century and How Little We

Know About It. Dr. Prahalad explained that "only by understanding the causes and consequences of the tidal wave of multimorbidity that confronts us will we be able to respond effectively and transition to more patient-centered health systems characterized by high-value, integrated primary care." He explained that this aligns with the mission and vision of Xavier University School of Medicine, noting to the graduates that this has been our mission at Xavier, and that "we have laid our foundation, now go rise and grow beyond."

Next up was Chancellor Dr. J.G. Bhat, who explained to the graduates that doctors need to provide care to patients above and beyond their technical knowledge. Dr. Bhat exclaimed that "Sick people need something more than a doctor. You must also be a healer, an advisor, and often a cheerleader for their cause."

Dr. Bhat then introduced the Valedictorian from the Class of 2022, Dr. Nikhale Malik. Nikhale underscored the need for the graduates to practice medicine with empathy. He remarked that "In medical school we have studied countless pathologies, examinations, medications, side effects, bacteria, the list goes on. Despite this, it is important that we remain cognizant of the patient

experience so that we can empathize with them and enhance the quality of care we can provide."

President Mr. Ravi Bhooplapur also spoke to the graduates about keeping the passion and drive as they embark on their careers in the medical field. He added that "You have made your mark on our institution and leave Xavier better than when you arrived. Remember you will always have a home with Xavier University School of Medicine." He concluded his speech reminding the students to stay in touch with their classmates, faculty, and staff.

His Excellency Endy Croes, Minister for Education and Sport of Aruba, was the keynote speaker and addressed the graduates on perseverance and overcoming challenges in their lives. Minister Croes beamed with pride that Aruba has played a role in developing 52 new doctors for the global healthcare system. He also urged the graduates to remember their time in Aruba fondly, adding "You may all not have been born in Aruba, but I am sure that wherever you go, you will remember us and will keep the nation of Aruba in your hearts." Minister Croes was then presented with an award by President Bhooplapur in recognition of his extraordinary commitment to the people of Aruba and his support of advanced medical

education through collaboration,

After the absentee graduates were recognized, all of the graduates in attendance received their diplomas and were given their Medical Doctor hoods.

The ceremony concluded with Dr. Richard Pestell, Vice President for Academic Affairs, leading the graduates in the Hippocratic Oath and President Bhooplapur officially conferring the degrees.

A party was thrown for all of the graduates, families, friends, and dignitaries after the ceremony, including a live band, carnival dancers and drumline, and catered food and drinks.

The Xavier University School of Medicine Class of 2022 included:

1. Mary Abdelmalak
2. Noor Abdulla
3. Mohammed Anwer
4. Aaron Armorer
5. Swathi Arunachalam
6. Rana Atamna
7. Navtej Athwal
8. Adeyemi Ayandeji
9. Dupinderjit Bhargal
10. Nimish Biswal
11. Alice Bukrinsky
12. Riyadh Chowdhury
13. Gina Cicero
14. Sanchez Colo

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

HERO FIH HOCKEY5s LAUSANNE 2022

India takes men's title and Uruguay is women's champion



DOYEN OF WOMEN'S CRICKET, MITHALI RAJ RETIRES FROM INTERNATIONAL CRICKET

Mithali Raj, one of the greatest female cricketers to have played the game, on Wednesday announced retirement from all forms of international cricket, having made a significant contribution in popularising the women's game during a storied 23-year-long career. The trailblazer ended her glorious career with a record 7805 runs from 232 ODIs, the most in the format. With an overall tally of 10868 runs, she is also the leading-run getter in women's cricket across formats.

The 39-year-old featured in 89 T20 Internationals and even though she got to play only 12 Tests in her long career, she managed to score a double hundred and remains the only woman cricketer from India to do so in the longer format.

She had retired from the T20 format in 2019 and her decision to stop playing all formats was expected after India's underwhelming ODI World Cup campaign in March. She was the captain of the team in the ICC mega event.

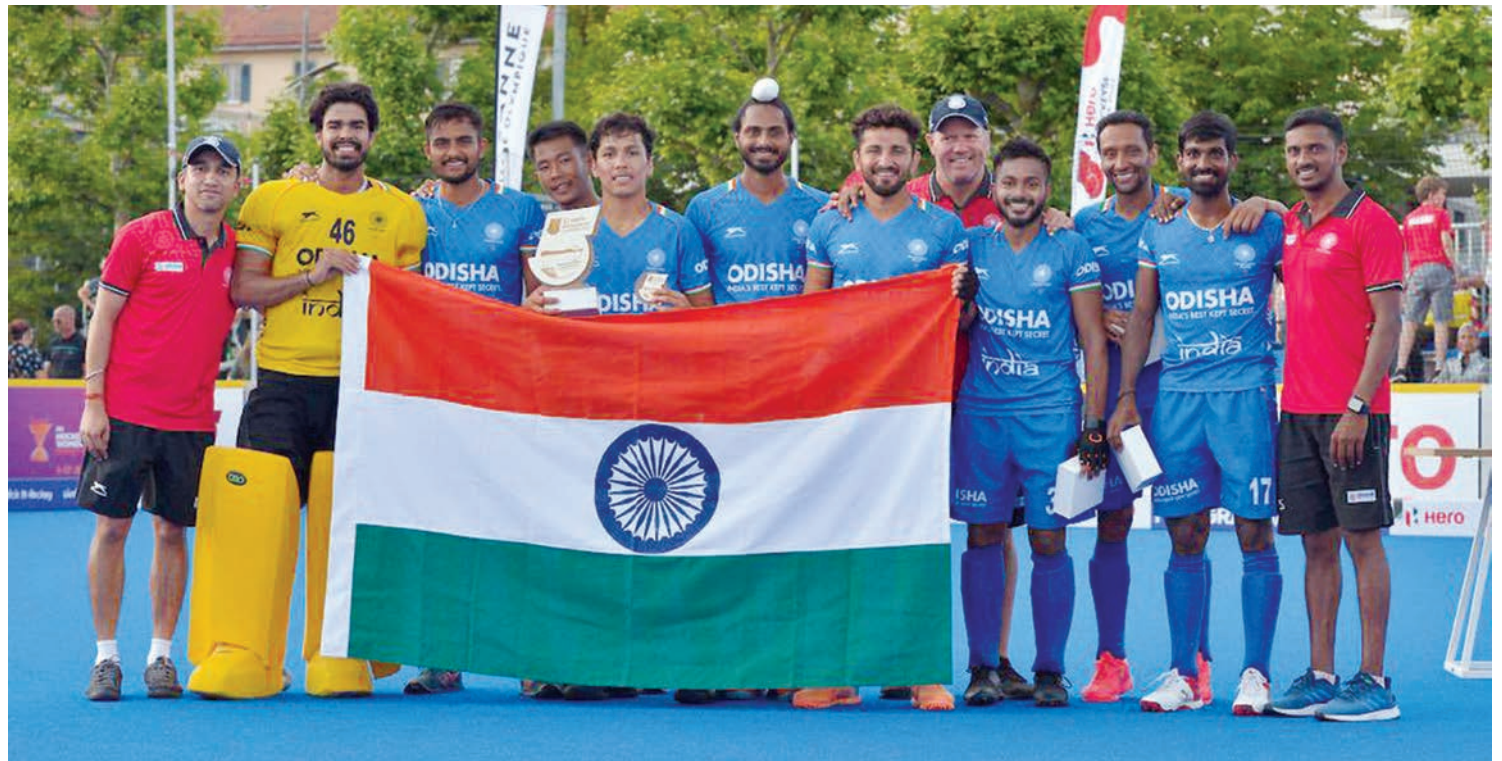
"I set out as a little girl on the journey to wear the India blues as representing your country is the highest honour. The journey was full of highs and some lows," Mithali wrote in a statement posted on twitter. "Each event taught me something unique and the last 23 years have been the most fulfilling, challenging & enjoyable years of my life. Like all journeys, this one too must come to an end. Today is the day I retire from all forms of International Cricket." The cricketer from Rajasthan attained the legendary status with her exploits with the bat for over two decades.

Source: PTI

SAI FIRES CYCLING COACH ACCUSED OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has terminated the contract of the cycling coach who was accused of sexual harassment by a female rider.

The rider had made a complaint against the coach during the foreign exposure trip in Slovenia. "The Sports Authority of India had constituted an enquiry committee to hear the case of a National level cyclist's complaint against a coach of inappropriate behaviour during a foreign exposure trip in Slovenia which was organised by the Cycling Federation of India," SAI said in a statement. "The committee has submitted its preliminary report today and Prima facie the case is established and the allegations of the athlete are found to be true," it added.



Prabhjot Singh

India added yet another feather to its cap by winning the inaugural Hero FIH Hockey5s title in men's section on Sunday, June 5.

The South American representative in this showcase event, Uruguay, surprised everyone to lift the women's title in the five-nation competition in which the pre-tournament favourites, India, just failed to make the gold medal round.

Needing a win in its last game against South Africa, India had to content itself with a draw. Earlier in the day Indian women surprised the hosts Switzerland in their last round robin league match.

After 2 days of swashbuckling Hockey5s action through 22 total games, a new order in a shorter version of hockey has been set in motion. Though it was a showcase event organised by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) at Lausanne, the Olympic title, the real test for teams will come when the inaugural Hockey5s World Cup is held next year.

The inaugural Hero FIH Hockey5s champions Uruguay, who won every match they played at the event, were the surprise pick of the tournament. Besides the team title, Uruguay also bagged the women's top scorer and best player awards. Incidentally, both these awards went to its skipper Terea Vana.

Uruguay overcame hosts Switzerland in the women's final while India, who started the event as favourites in the men's event, lived up to the billing prevailing over Poland to become the inaugural Champions in the men's event!

Overcast conditions in Lausanne proved to be a foreshadowing of the day to come as it rained goals throughout the day with teams getting more familiar with the format of the game and the tactics best suited to prevail in it.

India, the eventual champions set the tone for the day with an offensive masterclass in a 7-3 win over Malaysia and from there the barrage of goals never

ceased with a total of 78 goals scored in the 10 games!

Switzerland men caused the biggest upset of the day with a 7-5 win over Pakistan in a game that it trailed for most parts but kept finding ways to come back! India defeated Poland with another clinical attacking performance in the group stage match which left Pakistan to win its final match against Malaysia to secure its place in the finals.

Malaysia, who had just 1 point from its first 3 games, brought its A-game into its last match and played out a thrilling 5-5 draw against Pakistan in a game where the lead swung from every couple of minutes!

The draw for Pakistan meant Poland finished in the 2nd position with 2 wins and 2 losses, and moved to the finals against India who ended the group stage with 3 wins and a draw.

On the women's side, Uruguay won its 3rd and 4th match of the pool stage against South Africa and Poland to go 4 for 4 and finish top of the table with comfortable ease. The 2nd final's spot was up for grabs for all the other 4 teams however. Hosts Switzerland, who started the day in 2nd place, lost their opening encounter to India and had to rely on other results to make it to the finals. India and South Africa played the final pool stage game and after a thrilling 4-4 draw, it was the Swiss fairy-tale that continued to the final.

The women's final started off with an early goal from the home team on the back of a booming crowd that certainly believed in its team. But Uruguay showed no nerves and went about its business in the calmest of manners and within 5 minutes of going behind it had not only restored parity, but also found a second and third goal to take a comfortable 2 goal lead into the half time. Skipper Manuela Vilar found the goal twice and Teresa Viana, who finished as the top goal scorer and best player overall, found the third.

The second of the game was a clinic in game management from Uruguay as it bossed possession and killed off any hopes of a Swiss comeback to win the finals by a 3-1 margin, becoming the inaugural champions of the Hero FIH Hockey5s Lausanne 2022!

If there were any doubts about the ability of the Hockey5 format to upset the pecking order, it was erased within 4 minutes of the men's finals, as Poland, who were the distinct underdogs, shocked India with 3 goals before India could find its feet in the game! But with 16 minutes left, Indian nerves were settled by a thumping goal by Sanjay that got them going. Captain Gurinder got a second goal before the half time that allowed India to trail by just 1 goal going into the half, and the game was anyone's to win!

India had all the momentum going into the half and it started the second half in a similar vein. Bobby Singh Dhami got India the leveller in the 1st minute and that was followed by some genius from the player of the Tournament and top goal scorer Raheel Mohammed scoring 2 goals to give India a 2-goal lead. Poland got a 4th goal that could have got them a way back into the game, but once again it was Raheel Mohammed who brilliantly set up another goal for Bobby Singh Dhami that effectively ended the game with just 1 minute left.

Awards

Best Goalkeeper (Women): Ursina Fazis (Switzerland)

Best Player (Women): Teresa Viana (Uruguay)

Top Scorer (Women): Teresa Viana (Uruguay)

Best Goalkeeper (Men): Lars Kleikemper (Switzerland)

Best Player (Men): Mohammed Raheel (India)

Top Scorer (Men): Mohammed Raheel (India)

BAPS Charities in The Joy of Others: Walk | Run

SUPPORTING SUSAN G. KOMEN

- Over 1100 Participants Joined
- Over 100 Guest, Dignitaries, and local Business leaders from across the DFW Metroplex
- Members of Susan G. Komen Foundation present to receive the ceremonial check for \$75,000

DALLAS (TIP): On June 4, 2022, BAPS Charities in Dallas, TX, held In the Joy of Others: Walk | Run. The event was organized to support Susan G. Komen. Households and people of all ages took part, from 7-year-old first-time walkers to senior citizens, with over 1100 members of the community participating in total.

"Supporting Susan G Komen is important as the funds support finding a cure for cancer, which currently impacts one out of eight women in their lifetime. My motivation to support this event is for my spiritual growth by helping others through the mission of In the Joy of Others and supporting Susan G Komen's cause", said Rakhee Patel of Southlake, a volunteer and cancer survivor, participated in the event along with her family.

"We are so proud of our partnership with BAPS [Charities] and as [they] are truly a servant-minded organization and [they] demonstrate that generosity every day," said Paula Schneider, President and CEO of Susan G. Komen."

Creating awareness by having Susan G Komen as a beneficiary is great as it impacts all communities. BAPS Charities has the best volunteer team, and may their spirit of service always soar to higher levels as the younger generation gets involved," said Shabnamji from Radio Caravan

Hemal Patel, the event lead, shared that the volunteers have worked nonstop to ensure that the walk day was a success, and that the beneficiary received our best efforts in raising funds. "Seeing everything come together harmoniously is a true testament to the commitment of the volunteers, along with the partnership of the sponsors and walkers."

Congressman Marc Veasey stated "The best thing I saw today was people coming together. BAPS Charities touches so many different communities and Susan G Komen funds and helps everyone regardless of where they live, race, religion, or income. There's such a



strong sense of togetherness which is so important right now. I'm always happy to support BAPS Charities because it's such an awesome organization."

In addition to the annual walk | run, BAPS Charities actively supports health and well-being efforts throughout the year through Health Fairs, Health Awareness Lectures, and Children's Health and Safety Day. BAPS Charities also organizes other socially responsible & humanitarian events throughout the year like Blood Donation Drives, Food Drives, and Earth Day. The activities of BAPS Charities are centered on improving the quality of lives of individuals and their families. For additional information on BAPS Charities and its philanthropic activities, please visit www.bapscharities.org

About BAPS Charities:

BAPS Charities is a 501(c)(3) registered nonprofit

international charity organization committed to sincerely serving the world by caring for individuals, families, and communities. It is affiliated with BAPS as an independent charity and social services arm. The 55,000 BAPS volunteers networked in over 3,300 centers around the world provide over 12 million volunteer hours of service annually.

Among social service charities, BAPS Charities is a well-respected and trusted name. It has amassed over 50 years of firsthand experience in initiating, managing, and sustaining 160 humanitarian operations throughout the world in such diverse fields as: medical services, environmental services, community services, tribal services, and disaster relief services.

For additional information on BAPS Charities and its international and local philanthropic activities, please visit www.bapscharities.org

Indian man indicted for immigration documents fraud, aggravated identity theft

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): Rohit Kumar, 30, hailing from West Bengal, is charged with six counts of submitting false and fraudulent immigration documents and six counts of committing aggravated identity theft, United States Attorney Philip Sellinger announced on Thursday, June 2.

Each count of immigration documents fraud is punishable by a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, as well as a maximum fine of USD 250,000. Each count of aggravated identity theft is punishable by a sentence of two years in prison, which must be served consecutively to any other term imposed,

as well as a maximum fine of USD 250,000.

According to documents filed in this case and statements made in court, Kumar worked for several years in India for one of the largest information technology companies in the world.

This IT company contracted with an electric utility company that was based in New Jersey and owned and operated nuclear power facilities at multiple locations, including in southern New Jersey. Under the contract, the IT company supplied services to the New Jersey company, including through the use of foreign national workers from

India who worked in specialized occupations, the documents stated.

Kumar helped to arrange for Indian national workers to enter the United States under the H-1B visa program and then work at the New Jersey company. Some of these Indian national workers were stationed at a nuclear power plant in southern New Jersey, while other foreign workers were stationed at the company's other locations in and around New Jersey, it added.

On several occasions in 2017 and 2018, Kumar created and presented false and fraudulent documents to the United States Citizenship and Immigration



Photo for representation only

Service in support of the H-1B visa applications of the Indian national workers. The documents purported to contain the authorized signature of a contracting manager at the New Jersey electric utility company, but the contracting manager never signed or authorized a signature on these documents, the attorney said.



Annual AAPI CONVENTION & SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF INDIAN ORIGIN

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- **WELLNESS TALKS:** Sadhavi Saraswati ji; Dr. Sat Bir; Sharath Jois; Eddie Stern
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- * 3.5 million + served
- * 350 thousand + surgeries
- * 30 thousand + on children



Message from Peter J. McDonnell, M.D. Director Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University, USA on the occasion of laying the foundation stone on December 10, 2020



"On behalf of all my colleagues of the Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore, MO, I send my best wishes and congratulations to our friends in Goutami on this extremely important occasion. This beautiful facility will match the wonderful world class work of your doctors, nurses and staff in preserving and restoring the vision of so many patients. We in the United States are inspired by your dedication and admire your tireless efforts to serve so many who need your skills and compassion. Best wishes, Peter"

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children". - Nelson Mandela



POST SURGERY



PRE SURGERY

Triplets Prasanth, Susanth and Nisanth, who were treated by Goutami Eye Institute three years ago and gifted vision for life, as ROP babies under GEMROP (Goutami Eye tele Medicine Retinopathy Of Prematurity).

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The work by the Eye Foundation of America team started in 1977 and has spread from India to 21 different countries. Additionally, EFA focuses on teaching and training of health professionals who receive the Foundation's support at every level.
<https://youtube/B23VvUaloN4> <https://youtube/KiCzqLQe2VE>

To know more about the work of Eye Foundation of America or to donate, visit www.eyefoundationofamerica.org

ॐ सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah,
सर्वे सन्तु नरिमयाः । Sarve Santu Niramayah
May all be prosperous and happy!
May all be healthy!

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