

We Wish Readers A Happy Raksha Bandhan

**INDEPENDENCE DAY OF INDIA (August 15) Special Edition**

The INDIAN PANORAMA

Will bring out a profusely illustrated special edition to mark the 75th Year of Independence Day of India, being celebrated by government of India as "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav".



Articles and advertisements are invited for the historic occasion. All material-whether articles or advertisements- may please be mailed to salujindra@gmail.com by August 10, 2022.

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL 646-247-9458.

## Remembering the deadly Oak Creek Sikh Temple shooting 10 years later

**THE INDIAN PANORAMA ANNOUNCES INSTITUTION OF LIEUTENANT BRIAN MURPHY MEDAL OF HONOR TO BE AWARDED ANNUALLY**

BY PRABHJOT SINGH



AUGUST 5, 2022

**OAK CREEK, WI (TIP):** The Sikh Community of Wisconsin and worldwide is remembering on August 5 not only those who laid down their lives in an armed attack on Oak Creek Gurdwara but also a rare act of valor and dedication to duty by Lieutenant Brian Murphy.

Lieutenant Brian Murphy who while rescuing the injured also prevented any further loss of human life was seriously injured in the fire by the attacker. He was shot 15 times but survived.

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Then Vice President Joe Biden awards the Medal of Valor to Lt. Brian Murphy, from the Oak Creek, Wis., Police Dept., Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2015, during a ceremony in the Old Executive Office Building on the White House Complex in Washington. Medals were awarded to public safety officers who have exhibited exceptional courage, regardless of personal safety, in the attempt to save or protect others from harm. -White House file photo



Jagdeep Dhankhar elected India's next Vice President  
File photo / PTI

## Jagdeep Dhankhar elected India's next Vice President

**55 MPS DID NOT VOTE IN THE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**

AUGUST 6, 2022

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** NDA candidate Jagdeep Dhankhar on Saturday, August 6, won the Vice-Presidential election by bagging more than 500 votes, while opposition candidate Margaret Alva polled less than 200 votes, sources said.

After counting of 725 votes that were polled,

as many as 15 were found to be invalid.

As many as 55 MPs did not vote in the vice-presidential election held from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday.

The Trinamool Congress, which has a total of 36 MPs, including 23 in Lok Sabha, had abstained from the election. However, two of its MPs had cast their ballots.



Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj has taken over as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. She succeeds Ambassador T.S. Tirumurti

## Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj takes over as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations

August 5, 2022

**NEW YORK (TIP):** Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj is not new to the Permanent Mission of India here. In fact, it is a kind of a return of the native for her. She was posted as Counsellor at the Permanent Mission here from 2002-2005, where she dealt with a wide range of political issues, including UN Peacekeeping, UN Security Council Reform, the Middle East crisis etc. Upon release of Secretary

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## Prominent Rajasthani community leader Prem Bhandari congratulates Jagdeep Dhankhar on his election as Vice President of India

August 6, 2022

**NEW YORK (TIP):** Mr. Prem Bhandari, International coordinator of Akhil Bharatiya Rajasthani Bhasha Manyata Sangharsh Samiti, and Media Chairman of Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA) has welcomed the

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Mr. Prem Bhandari (second from right) had led a delegation of Akhil Bharatiya Rajasthani Bhasha Manyata Sangharsh Samiti to President Pratibha Patil to demand inclusion of the Rajasthani language in the Eighth Schedule - File photo

## Congress MPs stage protest against price rise; Rahul, Priyanka among several leaders detained



Congress leaders protest against price rise and unemployment at Vijay Chowk in New Delhi on August 5, 2022.

Photo / courtesy hiv Kumar Pushpakar

READ STORY ON PAGE 14



Andy Singh

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# Where's Nassau's Plan for Opioid Settlement Funds?

BY DELIA  
DERIGGI-WHITTON



**N**assau County's ongoing mission to address the opioid addiction crisis is one of the most important and most heart-wrenching issues I contend with as a mother and the ranking member of the Nassau County Legislature's Health & Social Services committee. It is a merciless and unforgiving scourge has touched nearly all our lives.

As Nassau sits on tens of millions of settlement dollars from the nation's largest opioid drug manufacturers and distributors, Suffolk has already announced plans for their share - a blueprint that was devised through the work of a transparent, bipartisan, and collaborative advisory panel. To date, Nassau County has offered little more than conceptual plans for using our share.

It is time to follow Suffolk County's lead so that these funds can get into the hands of agencies and entities on the front lines of our response to the addiction crisis.

On July 26, Suffolk County announced that it would dedicate settlement funds received from opioid distributors AmerisourceBergen Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., and McKesson

Corporation to finance grants for drug treatment providers, community groups and County agencies for programs. These actions were based upon guidance from the Suffolk County Addiction Prevention and Support Advisory Panel, a body consisting of legislators, public health experts, recovery advocates and community leaders that was convened by Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone. The advisory panel also published a report describing how future funds would be spent.

Meanwhile, in Nassau, we still lack a clear vision from County Executive Bruce Blakeman. According to annual reports from the Nassau County Comptroller's office and the independent Office of Legislative Budget Review, the County has received \$55.9 million, of which \$15 million is restricted for use toward recovery, prevention, and education resources. None of these funds have been spent as of July 2022.

Since telling Newsday on April 19 that he would "meet with Barry Wilansky, his new director of substance abuse policy who has more than 30 years of experience in rehabilitation services, to identify the best way to spend the money," County Executive Blakeman's administration has not articulated a clearly defined strategy. To my knowledge, the administration has not engaged legislators or community stakeholders on best uses for these funds, either.

That is especially unfortunate when you consider how those resources could amplify the benefits of successful programs that are already running and those that could come soon. Nassau's highly successful Operation: Natalie - which floods opioid "hot spots" in the County with enforcement, education, community outreach and treatment resources - is back up and running at full force after the pandemic. Legislation to provide Narcan to nightlife establishments statewide is on the Governor's desk. In Nassau, my Minority Caucus colleagues and I are pushing for fentanyl testing strips to be added to the Narcan kits Nassau distributed as part of efforts to reduce the number of overdose deaths caused by fentanyl-laced drugs.

A collaborative and community-powered strategic plan for the use of Nassau County's settlement funds would be another giant step forward in our mission to amplify and deliver the treatment, education and prevention services that will save lives and help residents free themselves from the grips of addiction. For the sake of all the people that we have lost and the families that continue to grapple with the horrors of this disease, we must not miss this opportunity.

*(Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, of Glen Cove, was first elected to the Nassau County Legislature in 2011. She represents the 11th District in the Nassau County Legislature).*

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## GUEST COMMENT

### Sop or welfare debate: On freebies

#### STEPS TO LIMIT FREEBIES OR TO DISCOURAGE POPULISM SHOULD COME THROUGH PARLIAMENT

**A** general concern over 'freebies' pushing the economy to ruin or unviable pre-election promises adversely affecting informed decision-making by voters seems reasonable. However, few will disagree that what constitutes 'freebies' and what are legitimate welfare measures to protect the vulnerable sections are essentially political questions for which a court of law may have no answer. In this backdrop, the Supreme Court's decision to form a body of stakeholders to examine the issue raises the question whether the legislature can be bypassed on such a far-reaching exercise. The Chief Justice of India, N.V. Ramana, heading a Bench hearing a petition filed in public interest against the distribution or promise of 'freebies' ahead of elections, has made it clear that the Court is not going to issue guidelines, but only ensure that suggestions are taken from stakeholders such as the NITI Aayog, Finance

Commission, Law Commission, RBI and political parties. All these institutions, he has said, can submit a report to the Election Commission of India (ECI) and Government. A suggestion that Parliament could discuss this issue was met with skepticism by the Bench, which felt that no party would want a debate on this, as all of them support such sops. The Bench also disfavoured the ECI preparing a 'model manifesto' as it would be an empty formality. The Court's concern over populist measures seems to resonate with the Government too, as the Solicitor-General submitted that these distorted the voter's informed decision-making; and that unregulated populism may lead to an economic disaster.

The Supreme Court, in S. Subramaniam Balaji vs Government of Tamil Nadu (2013) addressed these questions and took the position that these concerned law and policy. Further, it upheld the distribution of television sets or consumer goods on

the ground that schemes targeted at women, farmers and the poorer sections were in furtherance of Directive Principles; and as long as public funds were spent based on appropriations cleared by the legislature, they could neither be declared illegal, nor the promise of such items be termed a 'corrupt practice'. It had, however, directed the ECI to frame guidelines to regulate the content of manifestos. The ECI subsequently included in its Model Code of Conduct a stipulation that parties should avoid promises "that vitiate the purity of the election process or exert undue influence on the voters". It added that only promises which were possible to be fulfilled should be made and that manifestos should contain the rationale for a promised welfare measure and indicate the means of funding it. Any further step, such as distinguishing welfare measures from populist sops and pre-election inducements, or adding to the obligations of fiscal responsibility and fiscal prudence ought to come from the legislature. That politicians invariably back 'freebies' should be no reason to bypass Parliament.

(The Hindu)

# Long Island Indo American Lions Club holds first meeting under the new President Dr. Sunil Mehra

**JULY 26, 2022**

**JERICHO, NY (TIP):** Long Island Indo American Lions Club held its 1st Monthly Meeting for the Fiscal Year 2022-23, at the Cotillion Restaurant, in Jericho, NY, July 25 evening, under the leadership of the President, Dr. Sunil Mehra, with over 40 members in attendance. Members made commitments to serve the community under the various projects throughout the year.

Dr. Sunil Mehra, President of Long Island Indo American Lions Club addressing members



Outgoing President Indu Gajwani (4th from left) with the current President Dr. Sunil Mehra (4th from right), Kanak Golia (second from right), Gobind Bathija (extreme right), and others

## MAYOR ADAMS ANNOUNCES EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT DECLARATION TO RAPIDLY PROCURE SHELTER, SERVICES FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

- **Emergency Procurement Declaration will allow City to rapidly Contract with Shelter and Service Providers**
- **City in discussions with Federal Government to seek reimbursements for emergency costs**



Mayor Eric Adams announced, August 1, an emergency procurement declaration to rapidly procure shelter and other services for people seeking asylum in New York City.

**AUGUST 1, 2022**

**NEW YORK (TIP):** New York City Mayor Eric Adams announced, August 1, an emergency procurement declaration to rapidly procure shelter and other services for people seeking asylum in New York City.

"New York is a city of immigrants, and we will always welcome newcomers with open arms. Over the past two months, we have seen a significant increase in the number of asylum seekers arriving in our city's shelter system," said Mayor Adams.

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## BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT ANTONIO REYNOSO ALLOCATES \$15.6M TO NYC HEALTH + HOSPITALS/KINGS COUNTY TO RENOVATE NICU AND MOTHER-BABY UNITS

**Enhancements will help reduce racial disparities in obstetrics care and help improve health outcomes among pregnant people of color**



Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso displays the check for the allocated amount

**July 28, 2022**

**BROOKLYN, NY (TIP):** Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso announced, July 28, that his administration has allocated \$15.625 million to NYC Health + Hospitals/Kings County to help renovate the facility's newborn intensive care unit (NICU) and Mother-Baby units. The upgrades will convert both units into family-friendly spaces, providing comfort and privacy for parents and newborns, and help to close disparities of maternal mortality rates found among people of color compared to their white counterparts.

NYC Health + Hospitals/Kings County is the third hospital to receive funding through the Borough President's FY23 capital budget, with the entire \$45M budget being allotted across the three public hospitals in Brooklyn to help improve maternal health care services that will in turn reduce maternal mortality rates of Black pregnant people. Mr. Reynoso is the first Borough President to allocate an entire fiscal year's capital funding to one cause, and within one city organization.

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

## JLF USA Returns with Live In-Person Events September 9th-18th, 2022 with JLF Houston, JLF New York and JLF Colorado

**August 3, 2022**

**NEW YORK CITY (TIP):** Teamwork Arts, producer of the annual Jaipur Literature Festival and the international extensions of JLF, returns to the USA with live in-person programs, offering prominent speakers, authors and writers with the aim of embracing literature, arts and culture. Scheduled to take place from September 9th-18th, the three festivals are: JLF Houston on September 9th & 10th at the Asia Society Texas Center; JLF New York on September 13th & 14th at the Asia Society New York and JLF Colorado on September 17th & 18th at the Boulder Public Library. This year Teamwork Arts has partnered with Asia Society Texas Center and Inprint for its 5th edition of JLF Houston; Boulder Public Library for its 8th edition of JLF Colorado and Asia Society, New York for its 6th edition of JLF New York.



**CONTD ON PAGE 6**

## SEC PRAISES WHISTLEBLOWERS AFTER \$1.3 BILLION AWARDED IN 10 YEARS



SEC's Gurbir S. Grewal recognizes that blowing the whistle may not come without costs, both personal and professional.

As the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission celebrated the National Whistleblower Day, Director of Enforcement Gurbir S. Grewal gave a speech praising the program and the people that come forward and are awarded for their tips and evidence.

The SEC has awarded more than \$1.3 billion to 278 individuals ever since its first award in 2012. The program is 10 years-old and has arguably played a critical role in the Division of Enforcement's ability to effectively detect wrongdoing, protect investors and the marketplace, and bring violators to justice, he said.

"With the help of these whistleblowers, the SEC brought enforcement actions ordering monetary sanctions of approximately \$5 billion. Fiscal year 2021, in particular, was a record-breaking year, with the SEC awarding a total of \$564 million to 108 whistleblowers.

SEC's Gurbir S. Grewal recognizes that blowing the whistle may not come without costs, both personal and professional.

"The SEC's whistleblower rules prohibit any person from taking an action to impede another from contacting the SEC to report a possible securities law violation.

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

**INDIAN AMERICAN  
YASHASVI JHANGIANI TO  
BE RECOGNIZED**



Yashasvi Jhangiani will be recognized with Independence Day Freedom Award 2022

AUGUST 5, 2022

**STAMFORD, CT (TIP):** Thomas Abraham, GOPIO chair announcing the award said that Yashasvi Mahesh Jhangiani has been a familiar face in the community in Connecticut for 20 plus years volunteering her time wherever there is a need. A Homeopath by profession, she is also a volunteer EMT with Westport EMS since 2003, on faculty for their American heart association CPR AED-First aid program and a member of the Norwalk Emergency response team.

Besides helping at GOPIO, she gives her time and actively raises funds for organizations like the Open doors shelter, Ekal Vidyalaya,

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

**20-year-old British Sikh wanting to avenge  
Jallianwala Bagh massacre by 'assassinating  
monarch' charged with treason**

AUGUST 2, 2022

**LONDON (TIP):** A 20-year-old British Sikh man found in the grounds of Queen Elizabeth II's Windsor Castle on Christmas Day last year has been charged with treason offences on Tuesday, August 2, the Metropolitan Police said.

Jaswant Singh Chail, from Southampton who had identified himself as "Indian Sikh" who wanted to "assassinate" the monarch in revenge for the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre at the time, has also been charged with threats to kill and possession of an offensive weapon. He is in police custody and will appear at Westminster Magistrates' Court in London on August 17.

The charges were brought after an investigation by the Metropolitan Police's Counter Terrorism Command, the police force said. Chail has been charged with offences under Section 2 of the 1842 Treason Act, namely "discharging or aiming firearms, or throwing or using any offensive matter or weapon, with intent to injure or alarm her Majesty".

"Following an investigation by the Met Police Counter Terrorism Command, a man has been charged with offences in relation to an incident within the grounds of Windsor Castle on Christmas



Jaswant Singh Chail, from Southampton wanted to "assassinate" the monarch in revenge for the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre. He has also been charged with threats to kill and possession of an offensive weapon.



Day last year," the Met Police said.

Chail, initially held under the Mental Health Act, was arrested in the grounds with a crossbow. His father, Jasbir Chail, 58, said days later in December last year that his son Jaswant needed help after he scaled the walls of the castle in Berkshire, south-east England, on Christmas Day while the 96-year-old monarch was in residence.

A social media video, which was to be reviewed by Scotland Yard, later emerged in which a masked man

identifying himself as Indian Sikh Jaswant Singh Chail says he wanted to "assassinate" the Queen as revenge for the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in Amritsar in 1919.

In the video clip posted on 'The Sun' website, the 'Star Wars' film-like masked figure holds a shiny black weapon and speaks in a distorted voice. It was reportedly sent to followers of the man's Snapchat account 24 minutes before armed security officers arrested him near the Queen's private apartments.

**50 Sikhs' religious headgear  
confiscated along Mexican border**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP):** US authorities are investigating claims of human rights activists that turbans of nearly 50 Sikh asylum seekers were confiscated after they were detained along the Mexican border, according to media reports.

According to human rights activists, nearly 50 Sikh migrants have had their religious headgear taken away by Border Patrol agents recently.

"We take allegations of this nature very seriously," Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Commissioner Chris Magnus was quoted as saying in a statement to media on Wednesday, August 3

Magnus said the agency immediately began taking steps to address the allegations after they were raised in June.

"Our expectation is that CBP employees treat all migrants we encounter with respect. An internal investigation has been opened to address this matter," he said.

Earlier this week, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) wrote to the CBP



According to human rights activists, nearly 50 Sikh migrants have had their religious headgear taken away by Border Patrol agents recently.  
Photo for representation only

Commissioner, urging officials to stop confiscating the turbans of Sikh asylum-seekers.

"We write to inform you of ongoing, serious religious-freedom violations in the Yuma Border Patrol Sector, where your agents are confiscating turbans from Sikh individuals during asylum-processing," the ACLU wrote to CBP Commissioner Magnus on Monday, August 1, media reported.

"In the last two months alone, our organizational partners in Arizona have documented nearly 50 cases of asylees arriving from Yuma who reported that their religious headwear had been taken by US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and never returned or replaced," the letter added. However, the letter did not mention the nationalities of the Sikh migrants.

Lawyer Vanessa Pineda, of the ACLU of Arizona, told the BBC that no proper explanation had been given about what - if any - security concerns a turban could raise.

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

**Most violent gangsters' list of Canada  
Police has 9 out of 11 Punjab origin men**

AUGUST 5, 2022

**VANCOUVER (TIP):** Canadian police have issued a rare warning about 11 men linked to extreme levels of gang violence. The police have warned the public to avoid being near them.

Out of the 11 men, nine are of Punjab origin.

The British Columbia police said that they were linked to a slew of killings and shootings in the province. It asked the public to avoid being near them. "It is highly likely a rival gangster will target them with violence," said CFSEU Asst. Cmdr. Manny Mann, saying the men listed are a risk to their friends and family

The ones listed are Shakiel Basra, 28; Amarpreet Samra, 28; Jagdeep Cheema, 30; Ravnder Sarma, 35; Barinder Dhaliwal, 39; Andy St. Pierre, 40; Gurpreet Dhaliwal, 35; Richard Joseph Whitlock, 40; Samroop Gill, 29; Sumdish Gill, 28; Sukhdeep Pansal.

It added: "Warnings to stay away from specific alleged criminals were once almost unheard-of, but they have been slowly increasing in recent years. This is the second one from the CFSEU in a little more than a year; the last one was prescient." Meninder Dhaliwal, who was on last year's 11-man list, was gunned down in Whistler late last month in a shooting that had tourists and visitors screaming and running from the violence. Police said his brother, Harpreet, was the man shot dead in Vancouver's Coal Harbour neighborhood last year. Another brother, 35-year-old Gurpreet Dhaliwal, is on this year's list.



Out of the 11 gangsters, nine are of Punjab origin

## Indian American Dimple Ajmera re-elected Charlotte City Councilor at-large

AUGUST 1, 2022

**CHARLOTTE (TIP)** : Indian American Dimple Ajmera who became the first Asian-American and youngest woman to be elected to Charlotte, North Carolina City Council in 2017, has been re-elected.

In the at-large race on July 27, Dimple Ajmera edged out fellow Democrat Braxton Winston to finish first. Ajmera received 16.55 % of the votes to Winston's 16.3%, according to local media reports.

"I'm deeply grateful and humbled to have overwhelming support throughout the city for this historic victory," Ajmera tweeted. "I commit to delivering on the promises I made to address displacement, congestion and crime in our city. I will collaborate with my colleagues to deliver on these promises."

In a follow-up post, she urged everyone to set their differences aside and "work together for the benefit of all Charlotteans."

Ajmera immigrated to the United States from Gujarat, India with her family at 16 when she was in high school, knowing little English. She graduated from the University of Southern California and worked as a CPA in Los Angeles before moving to Charlotte eight years ago to take a financial services job.

"As someone who once struggled to speak English, and for someone who is an immigrant, I'm just so grateful for all of the opportunities that have been given to me,"



Dimple Ajmera who became the first Asian-American and youngest woman to be elected to Charlotte, North Carolina City Council in 2017, has been re-elected.

Ajmera said. "I never thought in my wildest dreams that I would even serve in a public office."

This election was supposed to be held last November. But because of delays in getting population data from the US Census, Charlotte postponed the election until 2022.

In the November 2019 election, nearly 124,000 people voted, or 17% of registered voters. That election also included countywide races.

On Tuesday, less than 73,000 people voted, or 12% of eligible voters.

Ajmera was appointed to the City Council to fill a vacant east Charlotte seat in 2017. She then won citywide seats when she ran later in 2017 and again in 2019. In 2020, she ran for the post of North Carolina

treasurer but lost to Indian American Aaron 'Ronnie' Chatterji in the Democratic primaries.

Ajmera received the 2018 Global Service Award by Rotary International, the 2019 Blue Sky Award for Public Policy Work by Clean Air Carolina, the Community Advocate Award by Café Mocha Radio, and one of Longleaf Politics' 54 Top Young Political Stars in North Carolina.

She has been recognized as one of the 50 Most Influential Women in Mecklenburg County by The Mecklenburg Times and named Charlotte Business Journal's 40 Under 40. Most recently she received the NAACP Excellence in Leadership Award.

## Indian American Professor Dr. Ponisseril Somasundaran elected chair of Hoover Board of Award

AUGUST 3, 2022

**NEW YORK (TIP)**: Dr. Ponisseril Somasundaran, an Indian American professor of engineering at Columbia University, has been elected Chair of the Hoover Board of Award commemorating the civic and humanitarian achievements of engineers.

Named in honor of Herbert Hoover, who led the effort to feed millions of Belgian and French refugees during World War I, the award recognizes great, unselfish, non-technical services by engineers to humanity.

Past recipients have included former Indian president A P J Abdul Kalam, Infosys founder NR Narayana Murthy, former US presidents Jimmy Carter and Dwight Eisenhower, Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak and Lillian Gilbreth, considered to be the first industrial/organizational psychologist, according to a press release.

The board consists of representatives from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers; American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers; American Society of Civil Engineers; American Society of Mechanical Engineers; and Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

Somasundaran is the La von Duddleson Krumb Professor of Mineral Engineering and Director of the Langmuir Center for Colloids and Interfaces at Columbia



Dr. Ponisseril Somasundaran, a professor of engineering at Columbia University, has been elected Chair of the Hoover Board of Award commemorating the civic and humanitarian achievements of engineers

University.

His research has been concerned with a wide spectrum of environmental problems including Greener Chemistry, pollution control and remediation, controlled release in personal care, sludge treatment, wastewater treatment, and nanotoxicity and decontamination of viruses to control Coronavirus.

Somasundaran received his MS and PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. After five years with the International Minerals and Chemical Corporation and Reynolds Industries, he joined the Columbia University faculty.

He was inducted in 1985 into the National Academy of Engineering, among the highest professional

distinctions that can be conferred to an engineer and later to the National Academy of Inventors, Chinese National Academy of Engineering, the Indian National Academy of Engineering, the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences and the Balkan Academy of Mineral Technology Sciences.

More recently he was the sole foreign fellow elected to the Royal Society of Canada. He was awarded the "Ellis Island Medal of Honor" in 1990. In March 2010, he was awarded the Padma Shri, one of India's top civilian honors.

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

## INDIAN AMERICAN GOWRI NATARAJAN SHARMA ELECTED PRESIDENT OF DALLAS ARTS MUSEUM

AUGUST 2, 2022

**DALLAS (TIP)**:

Gowri Natarajan Sharma, has become the first person of color and the first Indian American to be elected president of the board of trustees of Dallas Museum of Art (DMA), among the 10 largest art museums in America.

Sharma, former vice president, was unanimously elected president of the board of trustees with 12 elected trustees representing diverse backgrounds, international leadership expertise and distinction in business, technology, building design and creative industries.

Established in 1903, the DMA's global collection encompasses 25,000 works and spans 5,000 years of history, representing a full range of world cultures.

Another Indian American, Dr. Venugopal Menon was elected secretary among the most diverse elected officers in the Museum's history, according to a July 26 press release.

Sharma succeeds Catherine Marcus Rose in her role as president of the Board of Trustees.

"At its heart, the DMA is a collage of different cultures, ideas and perspectives," said Sharma after her election. "The board of trustees recognizes their critical role in the stewardship and leadership of the museum and is committed to working with and amplifying community voices to connect with the diverse area the museum serves."

"We are proud to have a board that reflects the values of our region and look forward to welcoming visitors to discover their own inspiration within the walls of the DMA," she said.

Sharma joined the DMA Board of Trustees in 2017 and previously served on the executive committee as vice president. Sharma was co-chair of the strategic planning committee with Tom Lentz and chaired the learning & engagement committee.

She currently serves on the building & grounds committee and is a member of the DMA's acquisition fund created by the Dallas Art Fair.

Sharma was a founding board member of UNICEF North Texas and Central Plains Region. She has been an executive member of the Orchid Giving Circle at Texas Women's Foundation (TXWF) and will be on the executive board and programs committee chair at TXWF in the coming year.

Sharma is chair of the construction committee and an executive committee member at The Lamplighter School. She currently sits on the advisory board of talkStem.

Sharma holds a Master's in Architecture and serves as an architectural advisor for her family's business interests.

Menon retired from Texas Instruments in 2019 after a 24-year career as vice president of technology. Menon has served in a wide variety of roles on the board of trustees since 2009, including as a member of the budget & finance committee and as treasurer from 2014 to 2015.

He currently serves on the executive and investment committees and is chair of the marketing committee. Menon is a member of the executive board of the Lyle School of Engineering at SMU. Menon succeeds Peggy Sewell in the role of secretary.



Gowri Natarajan Sharma, has become the first person of color and the first Indian American to be elected president of the board of trustees of Dallas Museum of Art (DMA), among the 10 largest art museums in America.

# Stamford City joins hands with GOPIO-CT to celebrate India's 75th Anniversary with Flag Hoisting and India Festival in Stamford on Sunday Aug. 7th

August 3, 2022

**STAMFORD, CT (TIP):** India got its independence from the British in 1947. To mark the 75th Anniversary of India's independence, the Connecticut chapter of the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO-CT) has joined hands with Stamford City and Mill River Collaborative to host India Festival in Stamford to commemorate Indian Independence, when the then Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru raised the Indian flag at the Red Fort in New Delhi on August 15, 1947.

The Indian Diaspora in Connecticut is a growing community consisting generally IT and management professionals, healthcare workers and a large number of entrepreneurs in hospitality and small businesses. They will join for a celebration organized by the GOPIO-CT by hoisting American, Indian and Connecticut flags at the Government Center in Stamford on Sunday, August 7th at 11.30 a.m.



Honored guests and elected officials at the celebration - Indian Consul A.K. Vijaykrishnan, Stamford Mayor Caroline Simmons representing, CT State Senator Patricia Billie Miller representing Senate District 27, CT Rep. Harry Arora representing 151st District and Matt Blumenthal representing 147th District

Following the flag hoisting, at 12.00 Noon, there is an official ceremony to celebrate Indian Independence Day at the adjacent Mill River Park (corner Broad St. and Mill River St., Stamford). Honored guests are Indian Consul A.K. Vijaykrishnan, Stamford Mayor Caroline

Simmons, CT State Senator Patricia Billie Miller and CT State Representatives Harry Arora representing CT 151st district and Matt Blumenthal representing 147th district.

Honored guests and elected officials at the celebration - Indian Consul A.K. Vijaykrishnan, Stamford Mayor Caroline Simmons representing, CT State Senator Patricia Billie Miller representing Senate District 27, CT Rep. Harry Arora representing 151st District and Matt Blumenthal representing 147th District

After the ceremony, the Mill River will witness Kite flying and an India Festival with colorful Folk and Classical Dances of India, Music, Magic Show and Bollywood Dances. There will be vendors for Indian food, Indian arts and crafts, Indian clothing and other items. Admission is FREE for both events. Free limited Carousel rides will be provided for small children.

Norwalk resident Mrs. Yashasvi Mahesh Jhangiani will be bestowed with Indian Independence Liberty Award for service to GOPIO-CT and for community service. Yashasvi has been familiar face in the community in Connecticut for 20 plus years volunteering her time wherever there is a need. A

Homeopath by profession, she is also a volunteer EMT with Westport EMS since 2003, on faculty for their American heart association CPR AED-First aid program and a member of the Norwalk Emergency response team. Besides helping at GOPIO, she gives her time and actively raises funds for several other community-based service organizations. Yashasvi can be the driving force and energy behind any event that has a good cause as a motive, and she loves to spread joy through dance!



Yashasvi Jhangiani, Recipient of GOPIO-CT's Liberty Award 2022

The celebration is hosted by Mill River Park Collaborative and the sponsors are investment firm 3Lines and the community organization IM of the Saree.

## About GOPIO-CT

Over the last 16 years, GOPIO-CT, a chapter of GOPIO International has become an active and dynamic organization hosting interactive sessions with policy makers and academicians, community events, youth mentoring and networking workshops, and working with other area organizations to help create a better future. GOPIO-CT - Global Organization of People of Indian Origin - serves as a non-partisan, secular, civic and community service organization - promoting awareness of Indian culture, customs and contributions of people of Indian origin through community programs, forums, events and youth activities. It seeks to strengthen partnerships and create an ongoing dialogue with local communities.



Dancers who would perform at the India Festival

## The Hindu Temple of North America to celebrate Sri Ganesha Chaturthi Festival / Maha Kumbhabhishekam



**August 3, 2022 FLUSHING, NY (TIP):** The Hindu Temple Society of North America will be celebrating its 5th Re-consecration (Kumbhabhishekam) of all the Devas enshrined in the Temple, including the Gopuras, from August 31st thru September 7th, 2022.

In addition, our annual festival for Sri Ganesha Chaturthi

celebrations will begin on August 29th and conclude on September 11th with the Grand Ratha Yatra, starting in front of the Temple at 12:30 PM. This is the conclusion part of the biggest festival of our Temple. Thousands of joyful devotees accompany the procession and exhibit their exuberance by singing, chanting and dancing to the tunes of drums and shehnai.

Come in large numbers and enjoy the bliss and joy of the festival.

## Richmond Hill, Ozone Park (Little Guyana, India and Bangladesh), celebrate historic election of Albert Baldeo as District Leader in Queens

### Comeback hailed as triumph of good over evil

**RICHMOND HILL, NY (TIP):** Albert Baldeo brought triumph, inspiration and pride to the large South Asian and Indo-Caribbean population in Queens at the last elections. Baldeo, who came the closest to winning a State Senate seat when he was declared the new Senator, but which decision was later reversed to "narrow defeat by 500 votes," overnight, in 2006, proved that he is still the leading voice and power broker from that community that was built by the blood, sweat and tears of immigrants that share a common heritage.

Mr. Baldeo is well-known for his efforts to return and preserve democracy in Guyana recently, and successfully appealed to then US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, about the hijack of democracy and the need to restore democracy and law and order in Guyana, his native country. "We will continue to monitor democracy, peace and public safety in India, Bangladesh, Trinidad and Guyana also, foster more cooperation between the Indian subcontinent, the Caribbean and the Diaspora, while uplifting the lives of everyone living in the US," Baldeo said.

Baldeo also created history by becoming the first person ever elected District Leader twice, in two different Assembly Districts, AD 38 (2008), and AD 24 (2022). A passionate, respected and accomplished advocate and civil rights leader, and prominent, retired attorney, his triumph has been welcomed



Baldeo created history by becoming the first person ever elected District Leader twice,

across the district as a fighter, champion and hero. His success was attained without any institutional help from the status quo.

His success is even more impressive when one considers that his community was gerrymandered into 4 different Assembly Districts, which dilutes their votes and their voices. Baldeo proved that voters are fed up with politics as usual, and want genuine grassroots representatives, like him, to represent them, to further their interests, and speed up the recovery process.

His rise inspires others who have been unfairly victimized, suppressed and discriminated by an imperfect judicial system, and marginalized from the mainstream of American politics, dreams and life. "Albert Baldeo's history is about rising up back from injustice and discrimination, a legacy that will motivate others who have been targeted by an imperfect American system. From being the youngest Magistrate and Senior State Counsel ever in the Commonwealth, to twice elected District Leader, he is a beacon of encouragement to others."

Clearly inspired that Baldeo has returned at the helm, they said, "We know Albert Baldeo will be a strong, courageous voice for our communities as he retakes his seat in the table of government, the Queens County Democratic Organization, and in the corridors of power. Our communities will definitely be represented at all levels of power and leadership. This is also a reminder that good will always triumph over evil, and that you can't keep good people down."

## Rotary club of Plainsboro, North & South Brunswick celebrates Installation of officers for the Rotary Year 2022-2023



Rotary Club of Plainsboro, North and South Brunswick being sworn in

July 27, 2022

**NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ (TIP):** Rotary Club of Plainsboro, North & South Brunswick, held its Annual Changing of the Guard ceremony and inducted new office bearers for the rotary year 2022-2023.

Outgoing President of the club Blisse Vakkalagadda presented various projects that the club completed during her presidency. Blisse along with Sudharani Kankanala, had also played a pivotal role as mentors of the Interact club of North Brunswick and helped organize various meaningful service projects. During Blisse's presidency, club also did some impactful international service projects.

District Governor John Shockley, Past

DG Dr. Tulsi Maharjan and Kalpana Patel, President, Rotary Club of Robbinsville-Hamilton, NJ, were in attendance for the changing of the guard ceremony.

DG John Shockley conducted the oath ceremony for the incoming President Vijay Garg and his team for the year 2022-2023. During his acceptance remarks, Vijay Garg said that he is looking forward in working with the team and continue doing various community projects aligned with the Rotary International causes. "I am excited and honored to accept the role," said Vijay.

Vijay is a successful Entrepreneur, Past North-East President of IT Serve, Board Member of TiE, GOPIO and other social organizations. Vijay with his

community reach and leadership skills will help the club in taking up bigger projects and extending its reach.

Team 2022-23 consists of Sanjeev Dixit as Secretary, Sanjay Pagidimarri as Treasurer, Venkat Jagarlamudi as President-Elect, Ganesh Madda as the Foundation Chair, Jaydip Sen as PR Chair, Suresh Pannala as Membership Chair, Sudharani Kankanala as Service Project Chair, Srinivas Gattu as Fundraising Chair and Sunil Nambiar as International Projects Chair.

The changing of the guard ceremony was well attended by the Rotary Club

members, Rotary Interact Club members, families, and prospective members. Representatives from organizations like ITServe, IBA, SMEC joined and discussed collaboration on future Community Service Projects.

The club which is also celebrating its 20th charter Anniversary this year, recognized six senior members, Suresh Pannala, Sunil Nambiar, Rajeev Mehta, Nishit Mehta, Mahalingam Narayan and Darshan Doshi, who completed over twelve years of service as dedicated and passionate Rotarians.

### About Rotary Club of Plainsboro, North & South Brunswick, NJ

In 2002 a few prominent people from the Community, living in Plainsboro, South Brunswick, North Brunswick, and surrounding areas decided to charter a new Rotary Club in Central New Jersey with the intention of serving the local and international community. The club started out with three active members and rapidly grew to about more than 25 members living in various parts of the state. Although the club is open to people of all races, color, and religion, most of the current members are people of Indian Origin.

Since its inception, the Rotary Club of Plainsboro, North & South Brunswick has proudly sponsored a number of local and international charitable projects. For more information, visit [www.PlainsboroRotary.org](http://www.PlainsboroRotary.org)

## Battery Dance presents the 41st Annual Battery Dance Festival



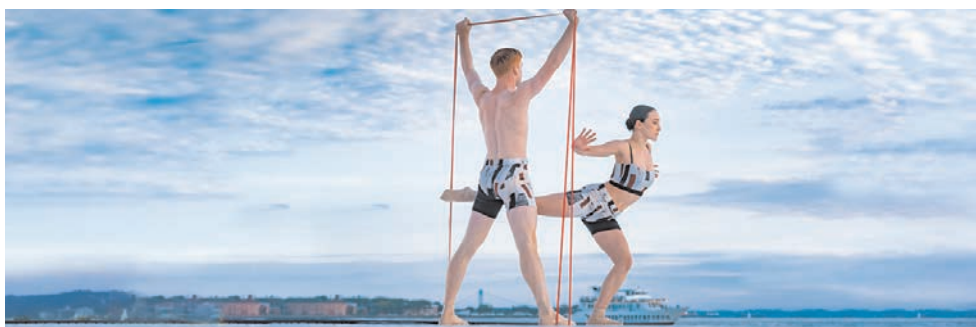
**NEW YORK CITY (TIP):** The Battery Dance Festival is New York City's longest-running free public dance festival. Each year, the Festival draws a combined audience of over 12,000 in-person and over 35,000 virtual viewers.

### Free Outdoor Performances

August 13-19, 2022  
7:00 - 9:00pm  
Robert F. Wagner Jr. Park - Battery Park City

### Indoor Closing Event + VIP Reception

August 20, 2022  
6:00 - 8:00pm  
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# DEMOCRACY AND HINDUTVA

**INDIA NEEDS GRASSROOTS, REPRESENTATIVE POLITICS, NOT IDENTITY POLITICS**

**"EVEN WHEN POLITICAL HINDUISM IS PITTED AGAINST POLITICAL ISLAM - AS IN CERTAIN CONSTITUENCIES OF TELANGANA OR KERALA - OR WHERE ANOTHER RELIGIOUS IDEOLOGY IS AT PLAY, AS DURING PUNJAB'S LATEST BY POLL (WON BY A RELIGIOUS SECESSIONIST), HINDUTVA IS OFTEN NOT EVEN A FACTOR. OUR POLITICAL PUNDITS HAVE BEEN MORE CYNICAL THAN OUR ELECTORATE, WHICH WANTS CHANGE AND IS CHASING THE MIRAGE OF POLITICAL IDEALISM. AND THAT IS THE ONLY REASON THE BJP IS NOT EVEN IN THE RECKONING IN THE STATES WHERE IT CANNOT OFFER CHANGE OR A CREDIBLE ALTERNATIVE. ITS HINDUTVA CANNOT COMPETE WITH A VIBRANT RIVAL. THAT IS THE ONLY REASON IT BECOMES A MARGINAL PLAYER IN MOST SOUTHERN STATES. EVEN WHERE IT HAS GOBBLED UP THE OPPOSITION SPACE FROM THE CONGRESS, LIKE IN ODISHA, THE BJP HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO SHAKE THE PEOPLE'S FAITH IN A PERFORMING CM."**



Looking for options: Our political pundits have been more cynical than our electorate, which wants change, and is chasing the mirage of political idealism. - Photo / PTI

The foremost question in the minds of political observers on the 75th anniversary of India's Independence is about the future of its democracy. Is India on a perilous path of majoritarian rule? Is political Hinduism or Hindutva going to be the tool of authoritarianism in the days to come? Many political scientists have written off Indian democracy as some sort of an oxymoron and are busy coining terms like undeclared emergency, ethnic authoritarianism, electoral dictatorship or even outright fascist one-party rule. But a closer analysis of the Indian situation would belie such intellectual acrobatics of the ousted elite of a failed establishment.

Even the Hindi heartland would dump Hindutva if a credible alternative offers hope and change.

In the North, J&K cannot be ruled by Hindutva simply because of the lack of a Hindu majority. In Punjab, despite over 40 per cent Hindu population, the BJP won just two seats out of 117 and a measly 6.6 per cent votes. The AAP's dazzling foray into Punjab was backed by its delivery, packaged in the Tricolor, in Delhi, where BJP's Hindutva had failed again. 'From Kashmir to Kanyakumari' is how generalizations are dished out for everything, from pickles to politics. Interestingly, the BJP's situation in Tamil Nadu is worse than it is in J&K: In 2021, it won just four seats despite partnering with the ruling party. Many in the AIADMK believe that their party was reduced to 66 seats only because of the BJP. Many in North India do not realize that Tamil Nadu is the repository of ancient Hindu temples and practices - so, staunch believers with religious markings on their forehead have voted in the DMK.

But for Karnataka, there is not a single BJP government in South India. It drew a blank in the 2021 Kerala Assembly poll; the Vijayan government is surviving

primarily because of the reasonable attitude of the Enforcement Directorate, which refuses to question the CM or his family in the gold smuggling case. The saffron party could not win a seat in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly election in 2019 and won just one in the Telangana Assembly poll in 2018, when Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen, the party of political Islam, won seven seats.

In the West, the ugly saga of a mandate first being stolen from the single largest party and then stolen right back by the single largest party with a new Maratha satrap riding the Trojan horse has only proven that Indian democracy is alive and frolicking in all its filthy love for the lucre. In the East, Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress won 213 seats out of 292 last year, making mincemeat of the BJP's Didi-o-Didi campaign.

Even when political Hinduism is pitted against political Islam - as in certain constituencies of Telangana or Kerala - or where another religious ideology is at play, as during Punjab's latest by poll (won by a religious secessionist), Hindutva is often not even a factor. Our political pundits have been more cynical than our electorate, which wants change and is chasing the mirage of political idealism. And that is the only reason the BJP is not even in the reckoning in the states where it cannot offer change or a credible alternative. Its Hindutva cannot compete with a vibrant rival. That is the only reason it becomes a marginal player in most southern states. Even where it has gobbled up the Opposition space from the Congress, like in Odisha, the BJP has not been able to shake the people's faith in a performing CM.

Even the much-derided dynastic politics is not a deterrent, as is proven in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh or even Odisha, where Naveen Patnaik's astute administrative mechanism is wrapped around his father Biju Patnaik's legacy. Hindutva works only where the opponents are weak, self-serving and

BY RAJESH  
RAMACHANDRAN



**EVEN THE HINDI HEARTLAND WOULD DUMP HINDUTVA IF A CREDIBLE ALTERNATIVE OFFERS HOPE AND CHANGE.**

greedy beyond political goals. And, it works against the Congress as it is drifting in search of an identity. It is politically fashionable to hail Rahul Gandhi as the only Opposition leader who has taken on the RSS and Hindutva. But has he? He had to abandon his family's pocket borough and its electoral legacy to seek refuge in a hilly constituency dominated by Muslim and Christian voters. So, if he is identifying himself with Muslim and Christian voters and representing them in Parliament, how is he taking on an organization that represents Hindus? Identity politics cuts both ways and is proving to be more helpful to larger communal identities than smaller groups. Rahul is only politically and ideologically legitimizing religious identity politics and thereby validating the RSS, the most successful practitioner of this brand of politics, by banking on Muslim and Christian voters of Wayanad.

The elitism and condescension of the Congress leadership, coupled with its one-trick poll pony - identity politics - were rejected in Punjab, with even Dalit voters voting out a Dalit CM. The Congress leadership still has no answer for the envy and aspiration of the middle and working-class voters, who find only elite opportunism in the politics of upper-class liberals, including that of Rahul. The problem with the present-day Congress leadership is not even the first family remaining out of touch with the party's leaders and cadre - the problem is lack of representation of the masses.

The Gandhis still have not answered the question of representation. Who do they represent in terms of the identity politics they always practice? The minorities? The Muslims and the Christians have their own parties and do not need the Gandhis. Rahul needs Muslim League and Kerala Congress (a Christian party not to be confused with INC) voters more than the latter needing his endorsement. The Congress ought to be representing larger groups and hence should have a peasant caste or an OBC president - an Ashok Gehlot or a Bhupinder Hooda, someone who is a fulltime politician. Indian democracy badly needs a strong dose of grassroots, representative politics, as against identity politics. Even the Hindi heartland would dump Hindutva if a credible alternative offers hope and change.



# ASSAULT ON MEDIA CONTINUES ACROSS THE GLOBE

By Ajay Ghosh



Finally, it is also an important right in a free society to be freely allowed to contribute to society's well-being. However, if that is to occur, it must be possible for society's state of affairs to become known to everyone, and it must be possible for everyone to speak his mind freely about it. Where this is lacking, liberty is not worth its name," Peter Forsskål, a philosopher, theologian, botanist and orientalist wrote in his pamphlet, *Thoughts on Civil Liberty*, published in Stockholm in 1759.

And, it's noteworthy that The World Press Freedom Day in Helsinki in 2016 adopted the Access to Information and Fundamental Freedoms, which is the right of every human being around the world, and its three perspectives: freedom of information as a fundamental freedom and a human right; protecting press freedom from censorship and surveillance overreach; and ensuring safety for journalism online and offline.

Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right, and a prerequisite for several other democratic rights. It is a right, but it implies responsibility and respect for the rights of others. The role of media has been changing rapidly, especially in recent times, with the advent of social media platforms where not only the news and views of the trained and well-established journalists are published, but anyone has the right reports, post a comment and be appreciative or critical of people, programs and policies for their worth.

The media is expected to be the "watchdog" of the other three branches of the government. Promoting the safety of journalists and combatting impunity for those who attack them are central elements within UNESCO's support for press freedom on all media platforms. Media is described as the Fourth Estate after the executive, legislature, and judiciary.

However, media has been constantly criticized, intimidated and their rights taken away for being the "watchdog." There are many forces assaulting journalism around the world: misinformation, intimidation, pressures on revenue models, and a growing trend of autocrats attacking press freedoms. Journalists are attacked, and imprisoned and their rights to disseminate news and views taken away in numerous countries across the globe.

According to UNESCO, on average, every five days a journalist is killed for bringing information to the public. Attacks on media professionals are often perpetrated in non-conflict situations organized crime groups, militia, security personnel, and even local police, making local journalists among the most vulnerable. These attacks include murder, abductions, harassment, intimidation, illegal arrest, and arbitrary detention."

The 2020 UNESCO Director-General's

**INDIA'S RECORD ON VIOLATIONS AGAINST JOURNALISTS HAS BEEN AMONG THE WORST IN RECENT TIMES. A NATION, SAID TO BE THE "BEACON OF HOPE" AND THE "LARGEST DEMOCRACY" IN THE WORLD DROPPED EIGHT LACES TO 150 - OUT OF 180 COUNTRIES - ON THE WORLD PRESS FREEDOM INDEX COMPILED BY THE PARIS-BASED REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (RSF) FOR 2022. THE INDEX'S REPORT NOTES THAT "WITH AN AVERAGE OF THREE OR FOUR JOURNALISTS KILLED IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR WORK EVERY YEAR, INDIA IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST DANGEROUS COUNTRIES FOR THE MEDIA." IN THE CURRENT YEAR ALONE, IT STATES, WHILE ONE JOURNALIST HAS BEEN KILLED, ANOTHER 13 ARE BEHIND BARS.**



Report on the Safety of Journalists and the Danger Impunity stated that with 22 killings each, Latin America and the Caribbean, together with Asia and the Pacific, registered the highest number of fatalities among journalists.

These organized crimes and strategies to prevent journalists, media and media platforms are not unique to the Third World or autocratic/tyrant rule d states alone. They are occurring on a daily basis in well-established democracies, using so called "democratic laws" as well as in those nations and their rulers who have no regard for freedom of speech and do not tolerate dissent or criticism.

It's noteworthy, after four years of contestant attacks on the media by his predecessor, President Jose Biden of the United States has kept the media at arm's length while being decidedly less combative than his predecessor with reporters, an approach that was on display when he attended the White House Correspondents' Association dinner this year. It's an approach that administration officials say is deliberate, and that Democrats say is part of Biden's effort to return the White House to a more normal rapport with the media.

Meanwhile, the US Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) under the Trump and Biden administrations are now going after tech giants in antitrust lawsuits, based on deals that were solidified under Obama's watch. The FTC's case against Facebook seeks to undo the company's acquisitions of WhatsApp and Instagram that were approved under the former president.

Filipino American media executive and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Maria Ressa, founder of the digital media outlet Rappler in the Philippines in 2012, has become the target of a series of attacks. Ressa has been arrested several times. This month, with the new

administration of Bongbong Marcos in place, Rappler was ordered to shut down, for being the voice of the people.

Rana Ayyub, a senior journalist summarized the state of today's journalistic fraternity: "The burden of bearing witness and speaking truth to power comes at great personal risk for journalists in many countries around the world. They live a relentless struggle, slapped with lawsuits and criminal cases for sedition, defamation, tax evasion and more. Their lives, and too often the lives of their families, are made miserable."

Ayyub points to the heinous crimes inflicted on "Gauri Lankesh, Daphne Caruana Galizia and Jamal Khashoggi-all journalists with a profile, all brazenly killed in broad daylight. Their murders dominated the front pages of international publications. But their killers, men in power, remain unquestioned not just by the authorities but often by publishers and editors who develop a comfortable amnesia when meeting those in power. They do not want to lose access to them."

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) Termed the recent murders of British journalist Dom Phillips and Indigenous issues expert Bruno Pereira, whom police suspect were killed by people with ties to illegal fishing in the Amazon, amounted to a "nightmare" come true. "Central African Republic authorities should investigate the threats made against journalist Erick Ngaba and ensure his safety," said Angela Quintal, CPJ's Africa program coordinator, in Durban, South Africa. "The security situation in the Central African Republic is worrisome enough for media professionals without additional online harassment."

India's record on violations against Journalists has been among the worst in recent times. A nation, said to be the "beacon of hope" and the "largest democracy" in the world dropped eight laces to 150 - out of 180 countries - on the World Press Freedom Index compiled by the Paris-based Reporters Without Borders (RSF) for 2022. The index's report notes that "with an average of three or four journalists killed in connection with their work every year, India is one of the world's most dangerous countries for the media." In the current year alone, it states, while

one journalist has been killed, another 13 are behind bars.

In fact, in the last 20 years, India, which was ranked 80th on the index in 2002, has seen its press freedom ranking progressively plummet. The country profile by RSF on India also says that "the Indian press used to be seen as fairly progressive but things changed radically in the mid-2010s, when Narendra Modi became prime minister and engineered a spectacular rapprochement between his party, the BJP, and the big families dominating the media."

Twitter's latest transparency report, for July-December 2021 says that the country made the highest number of legal demands to remove content posted by verified journalists and news outlets on Twitter. Of the total 326 legal demands Twitter received globally, against 349 accounts of verified journalists, India sent in 114 legal demands. India in fact also raised the second highest number of information requests, after the US, accounting for 19% of global information requests and 27% of the global accounts specified. Information requests seek details about an account and are issued by law enforcement or government agencies.

Terming the Indian press as "a colossus with feet of clay", RSF adds that Indian "journalists are exposed to all kinds of physical violence including police violence, ambushes by political activists, and deadly reprisals by criminal groups or corrupt local officials" by "supporters of Hindutva" with the situation "very worrisome in Kashmir where reporters are often harassed by police and paramilitaries."

If the powerful rulers of the countries use their power to intimidate the media world, the public are not immune to such ill thought out and narrow views. For some it's their ideology that motivates them, for others it's the belief in their "leader" who spreads lies and the flock follow them blindly, and for some who are so called well educated and well informed, it's their goals to attain power, position and prestige in the society.

Recently, I came across on a WhatsApp media posting, where a picture of half a dozen veterans, well respected and award-winning journalists meeting with a Justice of the Supreme Court of India were called as "traitors of India" because they criticize and point to the ruling party for its policies that do not benefit the people of India, but the members of the ruling regime.

Speaking at a Stanford University event, former US President Barack Obama called the present as "another tumultuous, dangerous moment in history," where social media platforms are well-designed to destroy democracies. "Disinformation is a threat to our democracy, and will continue to be unless we work together to address it," he said.

CONTD ON PAGE 11

# Remembering the deadly Oak Creek Sikh Temple shooting 10 years later



Satwant Singh Kaleka



Paramjit Kaur



Prakash Singh



Ranjit Singh



Sita Singh



Suveg Singh Khattrra

They fell to the bullets of the neo-Nazi Wade Michael Page - File photo

contd from page 1

The Sikh community felicitated Lieutenant Murphy besides thanking him and the police department profusely for minimizing the loss of human life in the attack.

The attack that sent shock waves everywhere left six devout dead and three others injured.

Many believed it was an attack on religious freedom for all. Some others felt it had been a mistaken perception of taking Sikhs for Muslims.

According to the Sikh Coalition, there are more than half a million Sikhs in the United States. The Justice Department, which before the Oak Creek shooting, had been through the FBI, tracking crimes committed against Jews, Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, atheists, as well as those with "other religion" or "multiple religions," but did not track crimes against the Sikhs. Now the crimes against the Sikhs are tracked.

"Whatever be the reasons or provocations behind the Oak Creek assault on the Sikh sangat, the gallant role of Lieutenant Brian Murphy will always be remembered," says Professor Indrajit Saluja, a NY-based writer, author, journalist, and publisher-editor of one of the leading weekly newspapers, The Indian Panorama .

"We want to eulogize his role by instituting a medal in bravery for religious freedom," adds Professor Saluja, holding that those who lost their lives in defending the honor of the gurdwara are "martyrs" of the community.

On the fateful Sunday, August 5, 2012, members of the Sikh community, had as usual, gathered at their local gurdwara for regular Sunday services. As they got busy with their prayers and other activities, including preparation of "langar", an intruder, who was later identified as a white supremacist, arrived and opened fire on unsuspecting worshippers, leaving Paramjit Kaur, Suveg Singh Khattrra, Satwant Singh Kaleka, Prakash Singh, Ranjit Singh, and Sita Singh dead. Besides, three

others were seriously injured.

The worshippers felt terrorized as they ran for shelter. Lieutenant Brian Murphy, who was the first to respond to the distress call from the Gurdwara, tried to rescue the injured worshippers as the attacker continued to fire. Brian took a couple of shots on his body as the assailant got turned on him thus making other horror-stricken worshippers safe.

Brian Murphy succeeded in his act though he himself landed in hospital with grievous injuries.

The horror of the shooting not only shook Sikh communities around the globe but also other faith-based communities and advocacy organizations.

As August 5 marks the 10th anniversary of the Oak Creek tragedy, global Sikh communities and allies are getting together in remembering the victims. Since then, a lot has happened. Though attacks on Sikhs, both as acts of terror and cases of mistaken identity, have been continuing unabated, following a bipartisan resolution passed by the Senate, Sikh community, like all other faith communities, now enjoys full

religious liberty, free from fear of violence and harm. The Department of Justice has since then started tracking crimes against Sikh community.

President Joe Biden in his statement on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Oak Creek shooting in a statement mourned the death of the six Sikhs. "The gunman murdered six people and wounded four that day, as well as another victim who survived his wounds only to succumb to them years later. Jill and I know that days like today bring back the pain like it happened yesterday, and we mourn with the victims' families, the survivors, and the community devastated by this heinous act."

**Here is the full statement of President Biden.**

"When generations of Sikh-Americans in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, constructed their own place of worship after years of renting local halls, it was a sacred place of their own and a connection shared with the broader community. That sense of peace and belonging was shattered on the morning of August 5, 2012, when a white supremacist wielding a semiautomatic handgun arrived at the

Gurdwara and began shooting.

"The gunman murdered six people and wounded four that day, as well as another victim who survived his wounds only to succumb to them years later. Jill and I know that days like today bring back the pain like it happened yesterday, and we mourn with the victims' families, the survivors, and the community devastated by this heinous act.

"The Oak Creek shooting was the deadliest attack on Sikh Americans in our nation's history. Tragically, attacks on our nation's houses of worship have only become more common over the past decade. It is up to all of us to deny this hate safe harbor. No one should fear for their life when they bow their head in prayer or go about their lives in America.

"Oak Creek has shown us the way. After the attack, the Sikh community returned to their Gurdwara and insisted on cleaning it themselves. The son of one of the victims became the first Sikh in American history to testify before Congress, successfully calling for the federal government to track hate crimes against Sikhs and other minority groups. Every year, the congregation now hosts an annual memorial run to honor the victims. The event bears the words Charhdi Kala, meaning "eternal optimism."

"Fueled by that spirit of eternal optimism, we must continue to take steps now to reduce gun violence and keep our fellow Americans safe. We must do more to protect places of worship and defeat domestic terrorism and hate in all its forms, including the poison of white supremacy. We must ban assault weapons-used in many mass shootings at houses of worship and other sites across the country-as well as high-capacity magazines. Last week, the House of Representatives passed a bill to do just that. As a matter of conscience and common sense, the Senate must act as well. To stand in defense of religious freedom, we must all stand together to ban the weapons that terrorize congregations around our country."



Family members of those killed at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin attend a vigil in 2013 to mark the first anniversary of the mass shooting - File photo

# Vajpayee's BJP Vs Modi's BJP

BY KALEEM  
KAWAJA



If we look at what BJP was under the long leadership of Atal Behari Vajpayee who was India's Prime Minister three times and we look at what BJP has become under the leadership of Narendra Modi who is in his second term as Prime Minister, we find a huge contrast.

Vajpayee was a life-long, humble Hindu nationalist, a learned Hindi poet and a political leader. He first became PM after the May 1996 election for a period of 13 days, but not being able to muster majority in parliament he chose to resign rather than use horse-trading to reach that goal. Then after the May 1998 election he became PM of a

coalition headed by BJP for a period of 13 months. In early 1999 the coalition lost its majority due to the defection of a constituent. Again, instead of horse-trading to retain majority, Vajpayee resigned. Another election was called and Vajpayee's BJP coalition returned with a stable majority that lasted a full term of five years.

PM Vajpayee governed India and made chief ministers in states where BJP was in power, govern in a principled manner, what he called Raj Dharma - the governing philosophy from ancient days when Hindu kings ruled in India. For his cabinet of the central government Vajpayee choose

capable people of integrity e.g., Murli Manohar Joshi, Jaswant Singh, Yashwant Sinha, Arun Shori et al.

When in 2002 large scale killings of Muslims occurred in Gujarat, then ruled by Chief Minister Narendra Modi, Vajpayee publicly admonished Mr Modi and asked him to follow Raj Dharma. Vajpayee also wanted to remove Modi as CM but the BJP high command did not agree.

In contrast PM Modi has little use for principled politics and does not hesitate from horse-trading to govern. His machinations to form BJP governments in states in recent years where BJP did not get majority in

election speak for themselves. Also, Mr Modi has little use for humility and asks for adulation from others. Mr Modi is a spell binding orator who has changed the color of Hindu nationalism and BJP from humility to aggressiveness.

Both in Gujarat as CM and at the Center as PM, Mr Modi has often made grandiose promises of good times (acche din) without putting a system in place or putting competent leaders in place to implement those promises. Unlike Vajpayee's competent ministers very few of Modi's ministers are in that category and then he micro-manages them like a know-all. After five years very few of his promises to the people have been implemented.

However, to cover his tracks he has blindfolded the media, especially TV media to such an extent that major national problems like the extreme grief of starving farmers, huge unemployment of the youth and rampant corruption are routinely described by the media as conspiracies of the opposition in collusion with India's enemies.

Vajpayee proudly glorified Hinduism and Hindu culture but did not allow BJP activists to make the religious minorities feel like they were second class citizens. Mr Modi has made hardly any real effort to control the militant folks from BJP and its allied groups from brutalizing the minorities or has asked chief ministers of BJP ruled states to use law & order forces to control violence against minorities.

(The author is a social activist)

contd from page 9

## Assault on Media Continues across the Globe

According to analysts, while free speech is protected by both the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights, these legal instruments offer governments much greater leeway than the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution when it comes to defining categories, such as hate speech, that can be regulated.

Reports state, the European Union is in the midst of finalizing the Digital Services Act (DSA), an ambitious legislative attempt to create a "global gold standard" on platform regulation. After five trilogues, on April 23, the European Parliament and European Council reached a provisional political agreement on the DSA. As such, the DSA is likely to affect the practical exercise of free speech on social media platforms, whether located in Silicon Valley or owned by American tech billionaires.

Freedom of expression is a vital part of democracy, considering it does not cross the "Lakshman Rekha" of public order and morality, said former Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi.

Gogoi, while expressing his views on action against individuals over social media posts, said, "Now on social media - is a critical part of healthy democracy, so long as it does not cross the Lakshman Rekha of public order and morality, be it against an individual or an

institution. If the opinion is within the line (of public order), it should not be restrained..." said Gogoi.

Adding that such an opinion should be based on facts and bonafide information, the former CJI said, "If it is an opinion not based on facts and disturbs public order and transgresses morality or creates distrust among the public for the institution, posing a threat to national interest, action needs to be taken. Nothing can be bigger than national interest."

Gogoi also said that the present generation youth in the country are fortunate to have the power of social media. "It is a powerful tool, but it can be misused, which is unfortunate... Youth today, who wish to enter public life or politics must be aware that they cannot be successful unless they work hard and base their journey on facts. This is because it is very easy for misinformation to be spread..."

Media reports pointed out that in the first quarter of 2018, Facebook removed 2.5 million pieces of content for the transgression of community standards on hate speech. By the third quarter of 2021, the number had increased almost tenfold to 22.3 million. This was mainly the result of increased reliance on AI-based content-filtering algorithms. In 2018, AI caught 4 out of 10 transgressions before any user complaint, but in the third quarter of 2021, this rose to 96.5 percent.

"We've come a long way towards realizing freedom of expression, and other fundamental freedoms. The right to access to information is entrenched in law in over a hundred countries," said Secretary-General Guterres of

the United Nations during the 70th anniversary of the Geneva Association of UN Correspondents (ACANU). "But despite these advances, in recent years, civic space has been shrinking worldwide at an alarming rate."

In the midst of all these, some recommend a model that would "encourage the implementation of human-rights standards as a framework of first reference in the moderation practices of large social media platforms. This would result in a social media environment that would be both more transparent and protective of users' free speech on categories such as hate speech and disinformation. Using human rights law as the standard of content moderation would also provide platforms with norms and legitimacy to resist demands to censor dissent made by authoritarian states keen to exploit the well-intentioned but misguided attempts by democracies to rein in harmful online speech."

Stating that Journalism and the media are "essential to peace, justice, sustainable development and human rights for all - and to the work of the United Nations," Guterres noted, paying tribute to reporters who "go to the most dangerous places on earth, to bring us important information, to give a voice to people who are being ignored and abused, and to hold the powerful to account. Your work reminds us that truth never dies, and that our attachment to the fundamental right that is freedom of expressions must also never die... Informing is not a crime."

(The author is Chief Editor of Universal News Network)

# China sanctions Pelosi, cancels key U.S. dialogues over Taiwan row

August 5, 2022

**BEIJING / WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP):** China on Friday, August 5, said it would sanction United States House Speaker Nancy Pelosi for her visit to Taiwan this week, as well as cancel or suspend eight key dialogue mechanisms with the U.S.

The measures came as the Chinese military continued for a second day its live-fire drills in six regions surrounding Taiwan. The military exercises, that have effectively blockaded the waters and airspace in the six regions and resulted in major disruptions to shipping and flights to Taiwan, will continue until Sunday.

China's Foreign Ministry on Friday said Ms. Pelosi had "insisted on visiting China's Taiwan region" in "disregard of China's grave concerns and firm opposition". "In response to Pelosi's egregious provocation," a statement said, "China decides to adopt sanctions on Pelosi and her immediate family members in accordance with relevant laws of the People's Republic of China." The statement did not specify what exactly the sanctions would entail.

The visit has also brought wider ramifications for China-U.S. relations. Washington on Friday said it had summoned the Chinese envoy, Qin Gang, and issued a demarche over China's military exercises, which have for the first time seen the Chinese military fire missiles



US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi - File photo

over Taiwan as well as conduct some drills within 12 nautical miles of the coast.

Beijing said it would cancel three key bilateral military dialogue mechanisms and suspend five others. The three cancelled dialogues - a Theatre Commanders meet, Defense Policy Coordination Talks, and talks under the Military Maritime Consultative Agreement (MMCA) - underlined further eroding trust between the two militaries and the closure of channels that were designed to increase communication.

Beijing said it would also suspend bilateral talks on climate change, as well as put on hold cooperation on

the repatriation of illegal immigrants, legal assistance in criminal matters, transnational crimes, and counternarcotics.

China's State media on Friday continued to highlight the military's exercises, and reported that the PLA had sent an aircraft carrier group featuring at least one nuclear-powered submarine to the drills.

Taiwan's Military of National Defense said it had tracked 13 Chinese naval vessels and 68 PLA aircraft crossing the median line, calling it "highly provocative". In a televised address, President Tsai Ing-wen described the firing of missiles into "some of the busiest transportation corridors in the world" as "dangerous" and "irresponsible".

China has defended the exercises as a countermeasure to Ms. Pelosi's visit, the most high-level from the U.S. to Taiwan in 25 years, and Chinese analysts have said the exercises were aimed at sending a message to both Taiwan and the U.S. by bringing in a new normal in increased military activity around Taiwan. The drills marked the first firing of conventional missiles over Taiwan as well as aircraft and warships crossing the median line in the Taiwan Strait. The exercises, analysts said, had laid the groundwork for future blockades and area denial for foreign warships that might intervene in a future conflict. (Agencies)

## US CONDEMNS CHINA'S PROVOCATIVE MILITARY ACTION IN TAIWAN STRAIT



John Kirby, National Security Council Coordinator for Strategic Communications said: "We condemn these actions, which are irresponsible and at odds with our longstanding goal of maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and in the region,"

Kirby, National Security Council Communications told reporters.

"We condemn these actions, which are irresponsible and at odds with our longstanding goal of maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and in the region," Kirby said.

China has chosen to overreact and use the visit of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi as a pretext to increase provocative military activity in and around the Taiwan Strait, he said.

The United States, he noted, had anticipated that China might take steps like these.

"We also expect that these actions will continue and that the Chinese will continue to react in coming days. The United States is prepared for what Beijing chooses to do. We will not seek, nor do we want, a crisis," he said.

At the same time, the United States, he said, will not be deterred from operating in the seas and the skies of the Western Pacific, consistent with international law, as the US has been supporting Taiwan and defending a free and open Indo-Pacific for decades.

To that end, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on Thursday directed that the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan and the ships in her strike group will remain on station in the general area to monitor the situation, Kirby said.

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

## US Senate confirms Indian American litigator Roopali H Desai to a top court

August 6, 2022

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP)** The US Senate has confirmed Indian American litigator Roopali H Desai to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, making her the first South Asian judge to serve on this powerful court.

Desai was confirmed by the Senate by a bipartisan vote of 67-29 on Thursday, August 4.

Headquartered in San Francisco, California, the Ninth Circuit is by far the largest of the thirteen courts of appeals, covering a total of 9 states and 2 territories and with 29 active judgeships.

"It comes as no surprise that Ms Desai's nomination has received

high praise across the political and ideological spectrum, as well as from state judges, law enforcement officials, and three different fire fighters' organizations. With 16 years of experience as a litigator, she is an outstanding addition to the Ninth Circuit," said Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Ahead of the Senate vote, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said Desai's resume leaves no doubt she merits confirmation: a graduate of Arizona School of Law, a clerk for Judge Mary Schroeder, the first woman to ever serve as a Ninth Circuit Chief Judge, she has excelled at every step of her legal career.

"She is one of Arizona's top election lawyers, having played a crucial role in protecting her state's elections in 2020, and has fought for everyone from children in foster care to children in public schools during the pandemic," he said.



Roopali H Desai has been confirmed by the Senate to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, making her the first South Asian judge to serve on this powerful court.

Desai is a partner at Coppersmith Brockelman where she has practiced since 2007. From 2006 to 2007, Desai was an associate at Lewis & Roca. She served as a law clerk for Chief Judge Mary Schroeder on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from 2005 to 2006. Desai received her Juris Doctor degree in 2005 from the University of Arizona.

"Arizona is proud of Roopali Desai's confirmation to be a US Judge for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Desai is known and respected for her integrity, fairness, and wealth of legal knowledge, and I'm delighted to secure the broad bipartisan votes

for her confirmation. As a judge, Ms Desai will make Arizona and America proud," said Arizona senior Senator Kyrsten Sinema.

Neil Makhija, Indian American Impact executive director, said Desai's bold and inspired work as an attorney in Arizona earned her a reputation and career of which she should be immensely proud.

"A fierce defender of democracy, she valiantly represented the Arizona state secretary of state, Katie Hobbs, against a lawsuit by President Donald Trump's campaign that sought to overturn Biden's victory in Arizona," he said.

"As the first South Asian confirmed to the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals, her historic victory is a win for all of us. We at Impact extend a sincere and warm congratulations to Roopali for not only majorly advancing her illustrious career, but also our entire community," Makhija said. (Source: TIP)

# Grand celebration of Guru Purnima Mahotsav by Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Institute 'YDS Chicago' associated with 'Haridham' Sokhada



Shri Anandwaroop Swami, Shri Gungrahak Swami, Shri Dinkarbhai, Dr. C M Patel, Shri Kantibhai N Patel and Congressman Mr. Raja Krishnamurthy



Shri Mafatbhai Patel - Founder of Patel Brothers, Shri Motibhai Agarwal - CEO Motibhai Agarwal, Shri Jesal Patel - Mayor of Lincolnwood and Shri Kantibhai



Devotees

August 5, 2022

**CHICAGO, IL (TIP):** Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan organization associated with "Haridham" Sokhda "YDS Chicago" at Bartlett Jain Mandir on July 23rd, Haridham-Sokhda Past President P.P. Hariprasadaswami has Appointed his spiritual heir, as P.P. Premaswarup Swami's Guru Purnima celebrations were celebrated in a grand manner in the presence of devotees and heads of social and religious organizations from various states of America and Chicago. Which includes 16 Religious institutions, 15 local Organizations, 07 News Media publishers and editors and 09 Chief guests including businessmen and dignitaries.

Although the time of the program was kept half past five, as the invited guests and devotees arrived early, the program started from five o'clock and in sight, the hall of Jain Mandir was filled with more than 900 guests and devotees. From five o'clock the listeners were immersed in the Bhajan-kirtans. After that the secretary of YDS Chicago Shri. Chirantan Nanavati started the program welcoming by the saints from "Haridham" Sokhda. Anandwarup Swami and P. Gunagarakaswami and P. Dinkar Uncle. He gave an occasional address to P.P. Hariprasadaswami described how he created this society from scratch with love and warmth.

Then Bhavbhutibhai, a young man from New Jersey, explained the glory of Guru in life. Hariprasad Swami spoke about the order given to him to hold the hand of His Holiness Premaswami. After that P. A video

presentation showing the life of Hariprasad Swami was shown. In which Aksharniwasi P. P.O. Hariprasadswami showed the qualities of Premaswami and when he (Hariprasadswami) will not be on this earth, then he will hand over this organization to Premaswami and Tyagavallabhsami also showed that video.

After the presentation, Hon. Jayeshbhai introduced the guest dignitaries present followed by P.P. Hariprasadswami and P.P. Premaswami's idol was honored with flower garlands and bunches of flowers by the invited dignitaries, the guests included Congressman Mr. Raja Krishna Murthy - representing the 8th District of Illinois since 2017, Deputy Consulate General Officer Mr. Vinod Gautam, Vice Consulate General Officer Mr. Bhutia, Entrepreneur Mr. Mafatbhai Patel of Patel Brothers, Mayor of Lincolnwood Mr. Jasal Patel, CEO of Millennium Bank Mr. Moti Aggarwal, VHPA President - Harendra Mangrola, Regional Director of Vishwa Umiya Foundation and President of Umiya Mataji Mandir West Chicago Mr. J.P. Patel, Chairman of Sri Jalaram Temple Mr. Chirayu Parikh, Chairman of Trustees of Jain Metropolitan Society Mr. Chicago Mr. Tejash Shah, President of Jain Metropolitan Society of Chicago Mr. Piyush Gandhi, Representative of Sri Swaminarayan Mandir Wheeling - Vadtal Dham Mr. Kirit Patel, Mr. Hemant Bhrambhat, Publisher of Hi-India, Mr. Jatinder Bedi, Founder and Publisher of Hello-NRI, and Mr. Suresh Bodiwala, Publisher of Asian Media USA, Mr. Babubhai Patel, President of NFIA, Mr. Suryakant Patel

- Gujarat Samaj, Founder and Ex-President of AASARP, Mr. Pradeep Shukla, Secretary of Overseas Friends of BJP Mr. Amar Upadhyay, President FIA Chicago Mr. Rakesh Malhotra, Former President FIA Chicago Mr. Rajesh Patel, Acting President Mr. Hemant Patel, President of 42 Village Patidar Samaj Mr. Dashrath Patel, United Senior Family President Mr. Rameshbhai Patel, Chicago Hindu Mahotsav Group President Mr. Shailesh Rajput.

On this auspicious occasion, all invited guests and Congressman Shri Raja Krishnamurthy were welcomed by our Institute President Dr. C. M. Patel and PRO Shri Kantibhai N Patel.

Flowers were offered to P.P. Hariprasadaswami and P.P. Premaswami by Congressman Shri. Raja Krishnamurthy. In his exhortation, Shri Raja addressed his reminiscence with P.P. Hariprasadaswami and P.P. Premaswarupswami and expressed his wish that the temple under construction at Schaumburg will be completed and opened for devotees.

Then arrived from India Haridham. Anandwaroop Swami and P. Gunagarakaswami. These two saints P.P. Hariprasadswami did not leave the earth but P.P. Narrating the events of the devotees' experiences manifested in Premaswarup Swami, he requested them to have faith and trust that now P.P. Hariprasadswami is working among us in P.P. Premaswarupswami. At the end, all the guests took advantage of the Guru Pujan and felt blessed by taking Prasad.

(Photographs / Asian Media USA; Press release / Staff writer)

## Support New India organizes a Consular camp with cooperation from Indian Embassy & Consulate General of India in Washington D.C. along with Vadtal Dham Swaminarayan Temple and local organizations in South and North Carolina



From left to right: Row 1 - Jitender Kumar-Consulate Staff, Hon. Rajiv Ahuja-Consular, Gautam Patel-Chairman, Support New India, Pankaj Kumar-Consular Staff and Nimish Bhatt-Board of Director-North Carolina Chapter of Support New India-Back row: VFS officials and staff



Consular staff helping out visitors

August 6, 2022

**EDISON, NJ (TIP):** More than 250 people benefitted Consular Service Camp organized by Support New India, a non-profit organization; Indian Embassy & Consulate General of India in Washington D.C. along with Vadtal Dham Swaminarayan Temple and local organizations in South and North Carolina organized a successful camp for OCI, visa, passport renewals and many other consular services on site on July 30, 2022:

A visionary public servant, community activist and selfless leader from North Carolina USA, organized a consular service camp on Saturday, July 30, 2022, at Vadtal Dham Swaminarayan Temple in Mathews, North Carolina.

The consular service camp in collaboration with Indian Embassy and Consulate General of India in Washington D.C. along with the help of local organizations in South and North Carolina was attended by more than 250 pre-registered individuals. After few years of delay in service due to pandemic, this was a wonderful attempt and efforts by Support New India to benefit Indian diaspora who are increasing in size and diversity in Carolinas.

Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news)



## US SINGER MARY MILLBEN TO ATTEND INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS IN INDIA

African-American singer Mary Millben, who is known for her moving rendition of 'Om jai jagadish hare' and 'Jana gana mana', is travelling to India to attend the celebrations related to the country's 75th anniversary of Independence.

"Following in the footsteps of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. and his pilgrimage to India in 1959, I am honoured to represent the United States as a cultural ambassador for the 75th Anniversary celebration of India's Independence," Millben said in a statement ahead of her trip at the invitation of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

Millben is the first American artiste to be invited to India by the ICCR for the Independence Day celebrations. She will be an official guest representing the US, the statement said. "I am thrilled to finally experience this treasured motherland, celebrate my meaningful relationship with India and Indian communities across the world, and highlight the important democratic alliance between the United States and India during this important observance of India's Independence," said Millben.

## GOOGLE'S 'INDIA KI UDAAN' TO SHOW INDIA'S MILESTONES ON 75 YRS OF INDEPENDENCE

As India marks its 75 years of independence, search giant Google has found its way to narrate the story of India's achievements online. Google, on Friday, launched an online project, 'India ki Udaan' that will take the netizens to the rich culture and heritage of India through its rich archives and featuring artistic illustrations. The project was officially launched at an event that was organized under the aegis of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' at the Sunder Nursery in the presence of Union Culture and Tourism Minister G Kishan Reddy and other senior officials of the Ministry. Executed by Google Arts and Culture, the project has been based on the theme 'Unwavering and undying spirit of India over these past 75 years. As the whole nation celebrates the 75th year of Independence under 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', Google is also planning to partner with the Ministry of Culture to create informative online content that will showcase the contribution of Indians in transforming the nation after and before independence.

# Congress holds 'black protest' against price rise, BJP says it's for Ram Mandir

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Dressed in all black, Congress leaders took to streets on Friday as they held a nationwide protest against price rise, unemployment, and the Goods and Services Tax (GST) hike on essential items. However, the Congress's plan to 'gherao' Prime Minister Narendra Modi's residence was foiled by the Delhi Police as officials initiated a crackdown on protesters.

Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party raised questions over why the Congress chose August 5 to hold the protest. The BJP leaders also slammed the Congress leaders' choosing to protest in black clothes, alleging that it was to convey opposition to Ram temple in Ayodhya.

From Delhi to Assam to Madhya Pradesh and Telangana, the Congress workers hit the streets across the nation as they heeded the top leadership's call for mass protest against price rise and unemployment.

In Delhi, several Congress MPs including former party president Rahul Gandhi staged a protest in the Parliament House complex and took out a march towards the Rashtrapati Bhawan as part of their nationwide stir.

The protesting MPs raised slogans against the government demanding that the GST hike on essential items be withdrawn, with party chief Sonia Gandhi standing with the women MPs of the party holding a banner outside Parliament gate.

In Assam, the Congress attempted to gherao the Raj Bhavan at Guwahati as they held demonstration on Friday. In Madhya Pradesh, the protesters tried to march to the Raj Bhawan to hand over a memorandum of demands to the Governor, but were stopped by the police.

The Punjab unit staged a protest under the leadership of state Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring and Leader of Opposition Partap Singh Bajwa, while in Haryana, the protest was led by former chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda and state Congress president Udai Bhan.

## CONGRESS LEADERS DETAINED

Hundreds of Congress workers were detained across the country as they organised protest against the government on Friday. The Delhi Police detained more than 200 Congress protesters, including 50 Members of Parliament, from



Congress activist during nationwide protest over price rise, unemployment and GST hike on essential items in New Delhi. (PTI Photo)

Lutyens' Delhi. Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Deepender S Hooda, and Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury were among those detained by the police in Delhi.

In Bihar, more than a hundred Congress workers, besides some senior leaders, were rounded up by the police on Friday.

Police had put up barricades on the routes leading to the Raj Bhawan, the official residence of the governor, from the Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee (UPCC) headquarters in UP.

## INDIA WITNESSING DEATH OF DEMOCRACY: RAHUL GANDHI

Ahead of the Congress's nationwide protest, Rahul Gandhi addressed a press conference at party headquarters in Delhi. Rahul Gandhi alleged that India is witnessing the "death of democracy" and anybody who raises people's issues and stands against the onset of dictatorship is "viciously attacked" and put in jail.

"What we are witnessing is the death of democracy. That is what India is witnessing. What India has built brick by brick, starting almost a century ago, is basically being destroyed in front of your eyes," Rahul Gandhi said. *Source: India Today*

# MPs don't have immunity from arrest during Parl session: M Venkaiah Naidu

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu on Friday, August 5, said that members of Parliament cannot be exempted from being arrested in criminal cases when a session of the House is underway, PTI reported.

It is a wrong notion that MPs can avoid summons issued by law enforcement agencies, Naidu added.

His statement came a day after Congress MP and Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge had on Thursday objected to being summoned by the Enforcement Directorate for questioning in a money laundering case related to the National Herald newspaper.

"I want to follow the law," Kharge had told the members of the Upper House on Thursday. "But is it appropriate to summon me at this time, in the middle of the Parliament session?"

As the Rajya Sabha proceedings started on Friday morning, Congress



**The Rajya Sabha chairman made the comment a day after Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge objected to being summoned by the ED while he was in the House.**

MPs held protests in the House against alleged misuse of investigating agencies by the central government. The session had to be adjourned after around 10 Congress members reached the Well of the House. They said that Kharge had been insulted by being summoned during the session.

As the Upper House proceedings resumed after the adjournment, Naidu said that members of the Parliament enjoy certain privileges so that they can perform their duties without any hindrances under Article 105 of the Constitution, PTI reported.

"One of the privileges is that a member of Parliament cannot be

arrested in a civil case 40 days before the commencement of the session or committee meeting and 40 days thereafter," he added. This privilege, he said, is already incorporated under Section 135A of the Civil Procedure Court. But Naidu noted that the rules are different for MPs accused in criminal cases.

"However in criminal matters, members of Parliament are not on a different footing than a common citizen," the Rajya Sabha chairman said. "That means members of Parliament do not enjoy any immunity from being arrested in a criminal case during the session or otherwise."

## JUSTICE UU LALIT'S NAME RECOMMENDED FOR NEXT CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

Chief Justice of India NV Ramana on Thursday, August 4, recommended the name of Justice UU Lalit, the senior-most Supreme Court judge, to be appointed the next Chief Justice of India. Justice Lalit has been part of several landmark judgments, including the one which held the practice of divorce through instant 'triple talaq' among Muslims illegal and unconstitutional. If appointed, Justice Lalit will become the second CJI who was directly elevated to the apex court Bench from the Bar.

Justice SM Sikri, who became the 13th CJI in January 1971, was the first lawyer to be elevated directly to the top court bench in March 1964. Justice Lalit is in line to become the 49th CJI of India on August 27, a day after incumbent Justice NV Ramana demits the office. Justice Lalit, who was a renowned senior advocate, was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court on August 13, 2014. He has since been involved in delivery of several landmark judgments of the apex court. One of the path-breaking verdicts was the August 2017 judgment by a five-judge constitution bench which by a 3-2 majority ruled the practice of divorce through instant 'triple talaq' as "void", "illegal" and "unconstitutional".

In another important judgment, a bench headed by Justice Lalit had ruled that the erstwhile royal family of Travancore has the management right over the historic Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple in Kerala, one of the richest shrines, holding that the rule of "heritability must get attached to a right of Shebait" (servitor) of the temple.

## INDIA, CHINA DISCUSS AIRSPACE INTRUSIONS

India and China held a special round of military talks on Tuesday to discuss the growing threat of airspace violations along the LAC and the need to check it as per the agreement laid down in 1996.

The talks were held after the IAF flagged violations in breach of the 1996 agreement, which lays down how close to the LAC a plane or a helicopter can fly. In the past two months, there has been increased flying activity close to the LAC by China. With the high speed of modern planes and air defence missiles, the chance of an error also increases.

At the meeting which took place at the Chushul-Moldo border point in eastern Ladakh, India strongly objected to China "continuously flying" near the LAC.

In response to China's provocation, the IAF in the past few weeks scrambled its jets - MiG 29 and Mirage 2000 - a few times. A Major General-rank officer of the Leh-based 14 Corps and Air Commodore-rank officer from the Operations branch led the talks. Officers of equivalent rank from the Chinese side were present. *Source: TNS*



# Distribution of freebies inevitably leads to economic disaster: Centre to SC

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Distribution of freebies inevitably leads to "future economic disaster", the Centre told the Supreme Court on Wednesday, August 3, where it came out in full support of a PIL against the practice of political parties promising handouts during elections.

The fresh stand of the central government before a bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana assumes significance as earlier it had said the issue of freebies needed to be dealt with by the Election Commission. The poll panel, however, had put the onus on the government during the July 26 hearing.

The bench on Wednesday asked all stakeholders, including the Centre, Niti Aayog, Finance Commission and the RBI to brainstorm the issue of freebies promised during elections and come out with "constructive suggestions" to deal with it.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said the



government supported the PIL.

"Such populist promises have a severe adverse impact on the voters. Not only such freebies distribution inevitably leads to future economic disaster, the voters also cannot exercise their right to choose as an informed, wise decision," the government's law officer said.

Mehta said a common man will never realise while accepting such freebies that "his right pocket is receiving something

which is going to be taken away from his left pocket later".

He said the poll panel must prevent the freebie culture not only to protect democracy but also to safeguard the economic sustenance of the country.

The counsel for the poll panel, however, said the apex court judgements bind it and hence it cannot act on the issue of freebies.

The solicitor general opposed the suggestion by senior advocate Kapil Sibal, who has been asked by the bench to assist it during the hearing, that the poll panel be kept out of this exercise.

The law officer said he would not like to undermine the sanctity of the Election Commission as a constitutional body.

The top court, while listing the PIL of lawyer Ashwini Updhyay for further hearing on Thursday, said all stakeholders should think on the issue and give suggestions so it could set up a body to deal with the "serious" matter.

*Source: PTI*

## India's updated climate pledge to Paris Agreement gets Union Cabinet nod

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday, August 3, approved India's updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) incorporating Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Panchamrit' strategy announced at the Glasgow conference aiming to strengthen global efforts to tackle climate change.

India aims to reduce emissions intensity of its GDP by 45 per cent by 2030, from 2005 level, and achieve about 50 per cent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030. India also aims to reduce total projected carbon emissions by 1 billion tonnes and carbon intensity of the economy to less than 45% by 2030. Further, under the commitment India aims to achieve net zero carbon emission by 2070.

The updated NDC will be communicated to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It seeks to enhance India's contributions towards achievement of the strengthening of global response to the threat of climate change, as agreed under the Paris Agreement, said a statement from the Union Environment Ministry.

"Such action will also help India usher in low emissions growth pathways. It would protect the interests of the country and safeguard its future development needs based on the principles and provisions of the UNFCCC," it said.

At the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), held in Glasgow last November, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced intensifying India's climate action through five targets termed as "Panchamrit".

The update to India's existing NDC translates the "Panchamrit" announced at COP26 into enhanced climate targets.

The Prime Minister had announced that these five steps or the targets will be India's contribution towards climate action.

*Source: The Pioneer*



## Loan EMIs to go up after RBI hikes rates by 50 basis points to 5.4%

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The Reserve Bank of India hiked its key lending rate by 50 basis points to pre-pandemic levels of 5.40 per cent on Friday, a third increase in a row to tame surging inflation which has remained above the upper end of the central bank's target this year.

With June retail inflation at 7 percent, well above the RBI's 2-6 per cent medium-term target, the monetary policy committee (MPC) raised the key lending rate or the repo rate by 50 basis points (bps) to 5.40 per cent, the highest since 2019.

With the latest hike, the repo rate or the short term lending rate at which banks borrow crossed the pre-pandemic level of 5.15 per cent.

"The RBI continued to 'front-load' its rate hikes in line with our expectations. The central bank highlighted that while inflation might moderate in the coming months, uncertainty around these pressures continues to remain high, necessitating the need for a 50-bp rate hike. Expect the RBI to take the repo rate to 5.75 per cent in this cycle," said Sakshi Gupta, Principal Economist at HDFC Bank.

All the six members of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, unanimously voted for the rate hike.

The RBI had caught markets off guard with a 40 bps hike at an unscheduled meeting in May, followed by a 50 bps increase in June, but prices have shown little signs of cooling so far.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das weighed in on the dilemma the central bank faces, with pressing economic concerns to be addressed.

Retail inflation, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which RBI factors in while fixing its benchmark rate, stood at 7.01 per cent in June. Inflation has been ruling above the RBI's comfort level of 6 per cent since January this year and the Governor expects that trend to continue.

Inflation based on the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) remained in double-digit for 15 months in a row. The WPI reading was at 15.18 per cent in June.



# India in history this Week

AUGUST 5, 2022, TO AUGUST 11, 2022

## 05 AUGUST

1991 Justice Leela Seth became the first Indian woman to become the Chief Justice of the High Court.



1775 Nandakumar, an officer of the Bengal Nawab, was hanged in Calcutta (now Kolkata).

2008 A tremor of 5.5 magnitude earthquake was felt in the Indian Ocean 176 miles northeast of 2008 from Andaman and Nicobar island of India.

2010 A cloudburst occurred in Leh in Kashmir (India) in 2010 and 115 people died in the flood that followed.

2013 India's junior women's hockey team won the bronze by defeating England 3-2 (1-1) in the 2013 World Cup held in Germany.

2000 India's great and famous cricketer Lala Amarnath died in 2000

2020 The foundation stone of the Ayodhya Ram temple was laid by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Das Modi on 05 November 2020.

## 06 AUGUST

1862 Madras High Court was established.



1906 Prominent freedom fighter Chittaranjan Das and other Congress leaders jointly started publication of 'Vande Mataram' newspaper.

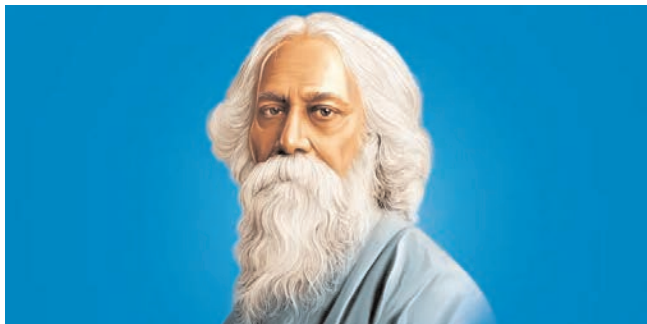
1986 Birth of India's first test tube baby.

2007 An old Hindu temple in central Trinidad was damaged.

## 07 AUGUST

1905 The Indian National Congress boycotted British goods.

1941 Nobel laureate Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore died.



1947 Electricity and transport system were formally transferred to Mumbai Municipal Corporation.

1985 Geet Sethi won the World Amateur Billiards Championship. He became the third Indian to achieve this feat.

## 08 AUGUST

1509 The coronation of Maharaj Krishnadeva Raya as Emperor of the Vijay Nagar Empire.

1942 Mahatma Gandhi started the Quit India Movement.



1967 For the first time since independence, the central government faced defeat in the Lok Sabha elections.

1921 Indian medical scientist Vulimiri Ramalingaswamy was born in 1921.

## 09 AUGUST

1942 Indian government Mahatma Gandhi was arrested by the British government.

1683 The British monarchy, through an order, gave the East India Company the right to declare war or peace in Asia.

1971 Signing of the Indo-Russian Friendship Treaty.

1942 Freedom fighter Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose established the Indian National Army in Malaya (now Malaysia) with the help of Japan.

1909 Kannada chief litterateur Vinayaka Krishna Gokak, who got the 'Jnanpith Award', was born on 9 August 1909.



1996 Master blaster Sachin Tendulkar was elected the captain of the Indian cricket team in 1996.

2012 In 2012, the Indian Army successfully tested the Agni-2 ballistic missile capable of carrying out nuclear strikes.

## 10 AUGUST

2012 In 2012, the Indian Army successfully tested the Agni-2 ballistic missile capable of carrying out nuclear

strikes.

1860 Pandit Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande, a scholar of classical music, was born.

1983 Phoolan Devi was born to reach the political corridors from the ravines of Chambal.

2010 India successfully tested Gagan, a satellite operating system based aircraft operation system.

2008 Anti-AIDS vaccine was successfully tested in a lab in Chennai.



1980 India's first female musician Saraswati Devi died.

1977 Shyamlal Gupta, the author of the flag song 'Vijay Vishwa Tiranga Pyara', passed away.

2008 It was agreed to implement the 2005 order in an all-party delegation meeting to settle the Amarnath land.



1979 The satellite SLV-3 was launched in 1979.

1894 The fourth President of the country, VV Giri, was born on 1894.

## 11 AUGUST

1908 The revolutionary Khudiram Bose was hanged.



1961 Dadar Nagar Haveli was merged with India and made it a Union Territory. Like Goa, this area was also in the Portuguese colony for many years.

2004 India and Pakistan exchanged lists of wanted criminals.

2007 Mohammad Hamid Ansari became the 13th Vice President of India in 2007.

2008 Integrated Steel Manufacturers Godavari Power and Ispat signed a MoU of Rs 1570 crore with the Government of Chhattisgarh in 2008.



LAURA CURRAN  
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE



FARRAH MOZAWALLA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF ASIAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS

and the Office of Asian Affairs cordially invites you to celebrate

# India's Independence Day



## CELEBRATION

The event will be held via Zoom

Please email [AsianAffairs@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:AsianAffairs@nassaucountyny.gov) to RSVP for the invite link.

### Wednesday August 12<sup>th</sup> • 6:30pm

Please email [AsianAffairs@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:AsianAffairs@nassaucountyny.gov)  
or call Priyansh Raval at (516) 560-3250

HOST COMMITTEE:

Indu Jaiswal • Mohinder Singh • Dr. Bobby Kumar  
Shashi Malik • Mukesh Modi • Jyoti Bhatia Gupta • Pinky Jaggi

Sponsoring Organizations



## 8 KILLED, 18 INJURED IN BLAST IN AFGHANISTAN'S KABUL; ISLAMIC STATE CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY

AUGUST 5

**KABUL (TIP)** : The Islamic State (IS) militant group on August 5 claimed responsibility for a deadly blast in a Shi'ite residential area in Afghanistan's capital Kabul, the group said.

The Afghan police said at least eight people were killed and 18 wounded in the blast. The militant group said in a statement that 20 people were killed and injured in an attack launched in western Kabul.

"The explosion happened in a crowded place," said Khalid Zadran, the city's police spokesman.

Video shared on social media purportedly of the blast site showed men rushing to help the injured after the incident.

The hardline militant group has claimed recent attacks, mainly on the minority Shi'ite community.

The IS affiliate operating in Afghanistan since 2014 is seen as the country's most serious security challenge since the Taliban took control of the country in August last year. (Reuters)

## SRI LANKAN POLICE GIVE ULTIMATUM TO PROTESTORS TO VACATE MAIN PROTEST SITE AND ADJACENT AREAS

AUGUST 3

**COLOMBO (TIP)**: The Sri Lankan police on August 4 set an August 5 deadline for the protesters to remove all illegal tents and camps at Galle Face, the epicentre of protests here against the previous Rajapaksa regime, or face legal action.

All those who are illegally occupying Galle Face near the presidential office and adjacent areas must vacate before 5 PM on Friday, August 5, said the statement from Sri Lanka Police.

The statement said the site belongs to the Urban Development Authority and those who do not comply with the instructions will be dealt with as per the law.

The protesters have been occupying the area, including the gate of the presidential secretariat, since April 9, forcing former Gotabaya Rajapaksa to resign as the president.

After the resignation of Rajapaksa on July 14 and the appointment of his successor Ranil Wickremesinghe, the protesters were forcibly evicted from the presidential secretariat and the gate on Jul 22, drawing widespread international condemnation.

Making his policy speech at the ceremonial sitting in Parliament on Wednesday, Wickremesinghe requested the peaceful protesters to refrain from remaining at unauthorised sites to protest. (PTI)

# Flash floods kill 550 in Pakistan in heaviest rains in decades

AUGUST 5

**ISLAMABAD (TIP)**: Flash floods caused by abnormally heavy monsoon rains killed at least 549 people in Pakistan over the past month, with remote communities in the impoverished southwestern province of Balochistan among the hardest hit, a government agency said.

Government agencies and the army have set up aid and relief camps in flood-hit regions and were working to help relocate families and provide food and medicine.

Aside from the fatalities, the flooding had damaged more than 46,200 houses, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) said on August 5.

"We're doing our best to provide for extensive relief and rehabilitation of flood victims," Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said during visit to stricken areas.

But the Balochistan provincial government said it needed more funds and appealed to international organizations for assistance.

"Our losses are massive," the province's Chief Minister Abdul Qudoos Bezenjo said. There were food



shortages in every district hit by the flooding, with some also disconnected from the rest of the province due to more than 700 kilometres of roads being washed away.

Bezenjo said his province needed "huge assistance" from the government and from international aid agencies.

The past month was the wettest in three decades, with 133% more rain than the average for the past 30 years, the NDMA said.

Balochistan, which borders Iran and Afghanistan, received 305% more rain than the annual average, the disaster agency said. (TNS)

## 1,200-year-old Hindu temple in Pakistan opened to public after being reclaimed from illegal occupants

AUGUST 4

**LAHORE (TIP)** : A 1,200-year-old Hindu temple here in the capital of Pakistan's Punjab province has been formally opened to the public after it was reclaimed from a Christian family following a lengthy court battle, according to a federal body.

The Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB), the federal body overseeing minority worship places in Pakistan, last month reclaimed possession of the Valmiki temple situated near Anarkali Bazaar in Lahore from a Christian family, which had grabbed the place of worship more than two decades ago.

Besides the Krishna temple, the Valmiki temple is the only functional Hindu temple in Lahore.

The Christian family, which claims to have converted to Hinduism, had been facilitating only the Valmiki caste Hindus for worship at the temple for the last two decades.

ETPB spokesperson Amir Hashmi said the Valmiki temple was formally inaugurated on Wednesday with over 100 Hindus, some Sikh, Christian and Muslim leaders gathered there to celebrate the occasion.

Talking to PTI on Thursday, Hashmi said the Hindu devotees performed their religious rituals and had langar for the first time it was retrieved from the



grabbers.

"Valmiki temple will be fully restored in accordance with a master plan in the coming days," the spokesperson said.

The ETPB said the temple's land was transferred to it in the revenue record, but the family in 2010-2011, claiming to be the owner of the property, filed a case in a civil court.

Besides going into litigation, the family also made the temple only for the Valmiki Hindus, it said.

This left the ETPB with no option but to fight the case in court.

"This time, the court also reprimanded the petitioner for false claims," the ETPB added.

Pakistan Hindu Mandir Management Committee (PHMMC) President Krishan Sharma said the ETPB'S move was a goodwill gesture and also a step towards mainstreaming the community and should be applauded, the Dawn newspaper reported.

"The role of Valmikis is very significant in Hindu mythology; had they not written the Ramayan, no one would know Ram. Earlier, this temple was not being used for worship, those possessing it didn't allow anyone to enter. But now, every Hindu can come in and pray," he added.

"We're making efforts to promote religious tourism and rehabilitate many



FEDERATION OF INDIAN ASSOCIATIONS  
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**FLAG HOISTING  
@TIMES SQUARE, NYC**



Guest of Honor  
**SHANKAR  
MAHADEVAN**  
Singer, composer

**MONDAY, AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2022 | 10:15 AM EST**

**KHADI NATIONAL FLAG HOISTING  
@TIMES SQUARE, NYC**

**220' KHADI TRICOLOR  
OVER THE HUDSON RIVER**

**EMPIRE STATE BUILDING  
INDIAN TRI-COLOR LIGHTING**

**BILL BOARD AT TIMES SQUARE**

**FREE  
EVENT**

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## Dia Mirza mourns the demise of her niece

Dia Mirza took to social media and shared the heartbreaking news of her niece, Tanya Kakde's demise. A few hours back, Dia took to Instagram and posted a picture of her niece. She also penned an emotional note with the photo, remembering her. The note read, "My niece. My child. My jaan. Gone into the light. May you find peace and love wherever you are my darling... you always brought a smile to our hearts and the higher realms will be filled with more light with you dancing, smiling and singing. Om Shanti (yellow heart emoji) (tiger emoji) (folded hands emoji)."

As soon as Dia shared the tragic news, fans, followers, and friends shared their heartfelt condolences in the comments section. Boman Irani wrote, "I have to words to comfort you Dia. This is heartbreaking. Your words mean much. Hope they can heal. I pray. (folded hands emoji)." Arjun Rampal's also left his condolences as he wrote, "So sorry to hear this Dia. Prayers for all of you her family and her soul. Om Shanti (folded hands emoji)". Suniel Shetty, Gaurav Kapur, Esha Gupta, Siddhant Chaturvedi, Riddhima Kapoor Sahni, and others left comments on Dia's post as well.

# 'Jai Bhim', 'Gangubai' top noms at Melbourne film fest

**A**lia Bhatt-starrer 'Gangubai Kathiawadi' has dominated the nominations for the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM) Awards 2022.

Sanjay Leela Bhansali's directorial is nominated in three categories, including Best Film, Best Actress and Best Director. Ranveer Singh's sports drama '83' and Suriya's 'Jai Bhim' will also compete with 'Gangubai' for the Best Film award.

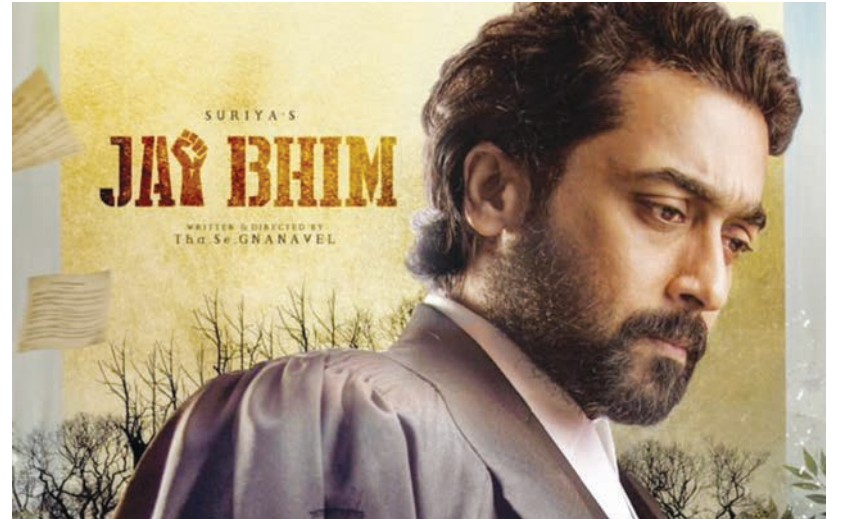
Apart from Bhatt, Deepika Padukone and Vidya Balan will also be vying for the award of Best Actress for their respective films 'Gehraiyaan' and 'Jalsa'.

For the Best Actor category, Ranveer Singh ('83'), Abhishek Bachchan ('Dasvi') and Vicky Kaushal ('Sardar Udham') among others are nominated.

In its 13th edition to be held this month, the IFFM 2022 is making its comeback for its physical version of the festival, after the festival having been solely virtual for the last two years. This year the festival starts 12-20 August and will also have a specially virtual programming between 13-30 August for Australian audiences. This year there are over 100 films across 23 languages being screened at the festival.

The Awards night is all set to take place on the 14th of August in Melbourne. The awards will recognise the best in cinematic talent from across the Indian subcontinent across the formats of feature films and will also honour the acclaimed OTT series. This year's nominations will see films and content which were released between August 2021 to April 2022.

Speaking about the jury, it comprises global award-winning film editor Jill Bilcock, one of Australia's renowned actors Vince Colosimo, multi-award-winning director Geoffrey Wright and multi-award-winning filmmaker Nadia Tass.



## Huma Qureshi makes fierce return in 'Maharani' trailer

**M**akers of the upcoming season two of political drama series 'Maharani' have finally unveiled their official trailer.

Taking to Instagram, actress Huma Qureshi dropped the trailer, which she captioned, "Her every move will matter. #MaharaniS2, streaming on 25th Aug only on #SonyLIV #MaharaniOnSonyLIV."

In the trailer, Qureshi could be seen portraying the role of a women chief minister of the state of Bihar, Rani Bharti. As violence increases in the state, she vows to tackle goons.

The 'Badlapur' actress gathered positive feedback from netizens for the first season of the series.

Along with Qureshi, the series also stars Sohumi Shah, Amit Sial, Vineet Kumar, Inaamulhaq, Kani Kasturi, Anuja Sathe, Pramod Pathak and Neha Chouhan in the lead roles.

Helmed by Ravindra Gautam, the series is all set to stream on Sony Liv from August 25, 2022.

Soon after Qureshi shared the trailer on her social media, fans flooded the comment section.

"Maharani Is Back And How Intense, Powerful And Stronger. This Is Gonna Be A Must Watch After Successful Season 1 . #MaharaniS2" a fan commented.

Apart from 'Maharani', Qureshi will be also seen in 'Double XL' alongside Sonakshi Sinha; 'Tarla', which is a biopic on the life of famous chef Tarla Dalal; and a thriller film 'Pooja Meri Jaan' alongside Mrunal Thakur.



## Anushka Sharma to undergo cricket training in England

**F**or her next film, titled Chakda Xpress, Anushka Sharma is going to train in Leeds, UK, to prepare for her role. A source close to the actress says, "Anushka is leaving no stone unturned to become Jhulan on screen. She will prepare her body. She will perfect her cricket skills in Leeds from mid-August before she starts shooting the cricket portions of the film."

The source adds, "She has always been a deeply committed artiste and she wants to do justice to the role. She will prep thoroughly and put herself through rigorous training exercises before she shoots the key scenes August end to September."

Anushka returns to the movies after three years to headline Chakda Express. The hugely-mounted Netflix Film, which is tracing the glorious journey of one of the fastest female pacers in the history of world cricket, Jhulan, will showcase how the pacer moves up the ladder despite countless hindrances to fulfil her only dream—to play cricket.





**Shakira faces an 8-yr prison term for alleged tax evasion**

Spanish prosecutors said Friday they would seek a prison sentence of more than eight years against global music superstar Shakira, after she rejected a plea deal on accusations of tax evasion.

Prosecutors in Barcelona will also demand a fine of nearly 24 million euros (\$24.5 million) from the 45-year-old "Hips don't Lie" songstress, whom they accuse of defrauding the Spanish tax office out of 14.5 million euros on income earned between 2012 and 2014.

Shakira, who has sold over 60 million albums, rejected a plea deal on Wednesday, saying in a statement through her lawyers that she was "absolutely certain of her innocence" and had decided to let the case go to court, "confident" that her innocence would be proven.

A formal referral to court has not yet been announced, neither has a trial date been set.

Lawyers for Shakira, one of the biggest names in the global music industry, say an agreement remains possible until the start of any trial. *Source: AFP*

**Taylor Swift hits back at being blamed for carbon emissions**

American singer and songwriter Taylor Swift's team has responded after a new study showed the singer topping a list of celebrities whose private jets have produced the highest amount of carbon dioxide so far in 2022.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, on Friday, UK-based sustainability marketing firm Yard shared a report revealing that the pop superstar's jet flew 170 times between January 1 and July 19, totalling almost 16 days in the air.

The aircraft's total flight emissions were 8,293.54 tonnes of carbon, which is 1,184.8 times more than the average person's total annual emissions, the study stated.

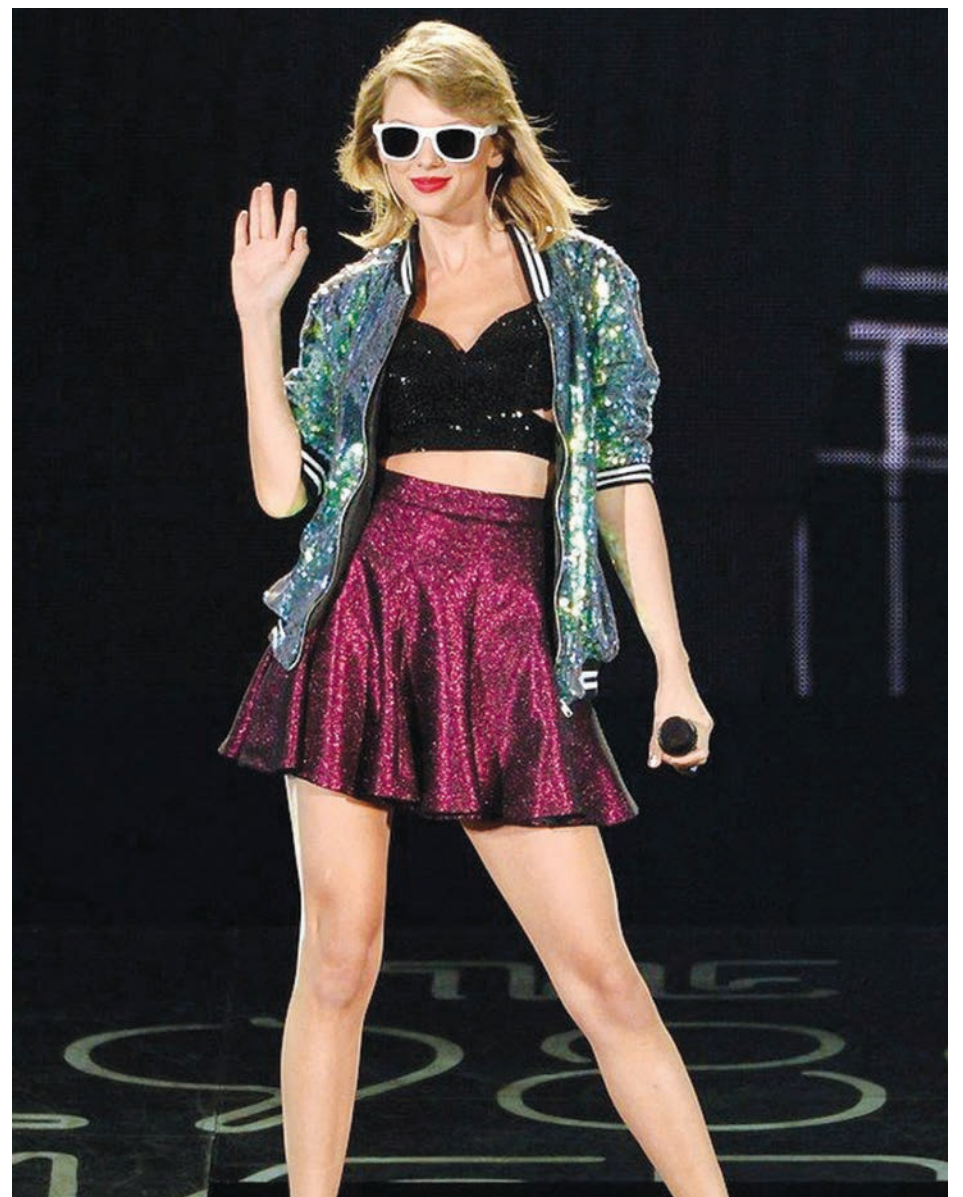
"Taylor's jet is loaned out regularly to other individuals. To attribute most or all of these trips to her is blatantly incorrect," a spokesperson for Swift told The Hollywood Reporter.

Other musicians on the top 10 list included Jay-Z, Blake Shelton and Travis Scott, among others.

Earlier this month, Drake took some heat after @CelebJets reported that he flew on a private jet for only 14 minutes from Hamilton, Ontario, to Toronto. The rapper cleared up the controversy by commenting on the Instagram page of @RealTorontoNewz, which picked up the story.

"This is just them moving planes to whatever airport they are being stored at for anyone who was interested in the logistics," Drake wrote in the comments section, adding, "Nobody takes that flight."

As per The Hollywood Reporter, recently, Kylie Jenner was also criticised on social media for her own private flight from Camarillo, California, to Van Nuys in California.



**Amber Heard secretly sells home for big profit after defamation trial loss**

Actress Amber Heard has secretly sold her home in Southern California for a big profit after the defamation trial loss. TMZ has reported that the 36-year-old actress has begun raising some of that cash by selling her Yucca Valley home in the California desert for \$1.05 million, a profit of about \$500,000 for her, with a July 18 closing date. She reportedly bought the property back in 2019 through an anonymous trust tied to her, reports aceshowbiz.com.

There's speculation about Heard's ability to immediately cover the damages, which includes \$10 million in compensatory damages and \$350,000 in punitive damages. She will also receive \$2 million from Depp in a counter-lawsuit, leaving her with just over \$8 million to pay. The reports of Heard's selling her house came just days after she filed notice to appeal against Depp in the defamation case. The appeal filing came despite Heard being denied her request for a new trial.

Depp's representatives repeated their confidence the payout decision would not be reversed.

On July 21 in the wake of Heard's appeal application, a spokesman for Depp told Daily Mail: "The jury listened to the extensive evidence presented during the six-week trial and came to a clear and unanimous verdict that the defendant herself defamed Mr Depp, in multiple instances. We remain confident in our case



and that this verdict will stand." In early July, Heard's attorneys asked the judge to declare a mistrial. They argued one of the jurors on the case should not have been eligible to sit as his summons was intended for his father, who had the same name and address. *Source: IANS*

**Angelina Jolie shakes a leg at daughter college send-off party**

In a video shared by Morehouse College, Angelina Jolie is seen dancing at her daughter Zahara Jolie-Pitt's college send-off event. After trying to do a few dance steps with the alumni, Angelina leaves the dance floor and goes towards Zahara for a hug.



The video is captioned, "We Love To See It. Angelina Jolie and Daughter Zahara Jolie-Pitt, Incoming Spelmanite freshman, dance with Morehouse and Spelman Alumni at the Los Angeles Send Off for Incoming Freshman Students. SpelHouse SendOff is the opportunity to show our incoming students a glimpse of the family they are joining."

The video comes a few hours after Angelina shared on her Instagram handle that Zahara has been accepted into the prestigious Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. Angelina uploaded a cheerful picture of Zahara and her new batchmates and captioned it, "Zahara with her Spelman sisters! Congratulations to all new students starting this year."

# CELEBRATE INDIA @75 AT FESTIVAL OF INDIAN MUSIC

BY MABEL PAIS

## Kaushiki Chakraborty's SAKHI in Concert

August 13, 7PM

Carnegie Hall

881 7th Ave, New York, NY 10019

Sangeet Natak Academy Awardee KAUSHIKI CHAKRABORTY with her all-female group SAKHI



SAKHI performers

Photo iaac.us

## Thought Process

Coming from the country that's called BHARAT MAA (India) following the spiritual path of GANGA MAA (river Ganges).

Inspired by the numerous Devis of the religious scriptures of Power (Durga) Knowledge (Saraswati) Wealth (Laxmi) motivated by the Luminaries of the last few centuries like Meera, Kamali and the proud courtesans and also by the girl next door. SAKHI promises to translate the various Avatars and aspects of India womanhood into the great Indian musical forms through voice, percussion, instruments and Dance. 'Celebrating womanhood'

## SAKHI

Sakhi consists of all the elements of a musical performance, i.e., voice, instrumental music from North and South Indian musical tradition and dance.

In respect to musical genres, we are looking at Khayal bandish (lyrics from female perspective) Hindustani and Karnatic, Thumri, Dadra, Chaiti, Hori, Kajri, Tarana-Thillana

Some instrumental presentation where we can use sargams and no lyrics

Bhajan (both devotional surrender and strong tandav or Kaali vandana which is strong in nature)

## Folk

A unique composition that portrays women is the signature tune of Sakhi.

## SAKHI - HER RESONANCE

Sakhi is an initiative to bring together the creative energies of contemporary India's best talent from all streams of art.

Whose language of storytelling is music and the story they tell is of the relevance and perspective of the Indian girl, that has been experienced for centuries now, but never really told musically.

## KAUSHIKI CHAKRABORTY

Starting her career under the guardianship of her mother & father led to her first major concert at 16. Her understanding of femininity is a balance between lilt and power. She is a phenomenon in Hindustani music being the inheritor and torchbearer of the Patiala tradition having performed at several music festivals and foreign tours. You can listen to Kaushiki's playlist at [youtube.com/channel/UCz-4jY2esipWem6ayBb6zoQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCz-4jY2esipWem6ayBb6zoQ)

Chakraborty is joined by her illustrious performers-

**NANDINI SHANKAR**, is the exceedingly talented award-winning violinist. To learn more, visit [nandinishankar.com](https://www.nandinishankar.com)

**DEBBOPRIYA CHATTERJEE**, one of the only performing award-winning flautist performers in

Hindustani Classical Music. To learn more, visit [facebook.com/flutesisters](https://www.facebook.com/flutesisters)

**SAVANI TALWALKAR**, talented in a sharp sense of Rhythm Cycles of the Tabla. To learn more, visit [facebook.com/SavaniTalwalkar29](https://www.facebook.com/SavaniTalwalkar29)

**MAHIMA UPADHYAY**, award-winning Pakhawaj player; is the 1st female Pakhawaj player in her own traditional family and the state of Bihar. To learn more, visit [facebook.com/Mahima-Upadhyay-394616250693504](https://www.facebook.com/Mahima-Upadhyay-394616250693504)

## SAATH

Purbayan Chatterjee & Rakesh Chaurasia featuring Taufiq Qureshi & Ojas Adhiya

August 14, 7PM

Carnegie Hall

881 7th Ave, New York, NY 10019



SAATH performers

Photo iaac.us

Any form of improvisational music is made in the moment & teamwork is at the core of a great musical experience. 'SAATH' is an example of years of on-stage chemistry between Purbayan Chatterjee & Rakesh Chaurasia. The Indian Classical Jugalbandi which has Ojas Adhiya on tabla (also their on-stage partner for many years) features a twist in the form of Taufiq Qureshi who adds a global perspective to the music. He uses the African Djembe and even his breath to accentuate Indian rhythms. Overall, this performance is a breathtaking display of spontaneity and creativity within the parameters of an ancient tradition.

**PURBAYAN CHATTERJEE** is one of the topmost sitar maestros of the world belonging to the Senia Maihar Gharana founded by Baba Allaiddin Khan. His gurus (mentors) are his father Pt. Parthapratin Chatterjee, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, vocal training from Pt. Ajay Chakraborty and training in tabla from Pt. Anindo Chatterjee.

He has conceptualized the ground-breaking project Shastriya Syndicate - the first Indian Classical Band - Indian Classical band with a contemporary touch, which has performed the world over.

During the Pandemic, Purbayan with Darshan Doshi, Aditya Srinivasan and Mahesh Raghvan had found "THE FIRST EVER VIRTUAL LIVE CONCERT WITHOUT LATENCY (all musicians are in sync)." They figured out how to play Virtually Live and In Sync without Latency on the iPad. To learn more, visit [purbayan.com](https://www.purbayan.com)

**RAKESH CHAURASIA**, the nephew and child prodigy of flute maestro Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia incorporates the tradition of his renowned uncle with his own personal style, thus carrying the Chaurasia legacy to

new heights. To learn more, visit [rakeshchaurasia.com](https://www.rakeshchaurasia.com)

**TAUFIQ QURESHI**, the son of legendary tabla maestro Ustad Allarakha and brother of maestro Ustad Zakir Hussain, is a top percussionist of India who is recognized for his path-breaking and trend-setting work, as a performing artiste and as composer/arranger in the field of world music. Taufiq has been ably successful at taking the nuances of traditional rhythms of India to an alternate form of World Music and offering it to a larger audience, comprising all age groups and from different parts of the world. To learn more, visit [taufiqqureshi.com](https://www.taufiqqureshi.com)

**OJAS ADHIYA**, as a 2-year-old child prodigy in music percussion was spotted by his father Dr. Yogesh Adhiya. He was placed under the tutelage of Shri Kalyanji-Anandji Music maestros. Ojas at the age of 5, was mentored by a close family friend Shri Mridangrajji to learn traditional niceties of table playing including accompaniments. Thereby, Ojas became the Gandaa Bandh Shaagird-Disciple of Shri Mridangraj ji at the age of 5. To learn more, visit [ojasadhiya.in](https://www.ojasadhiya.in)

**Amjad Ali Khan, Amaan Ali Bangash & Ayaan Ali Bangash /**

Refugee Orchestra Project - Lidiya Yankovskaya, Conductor.

August 15, 7PM

Carnegie Hall

881 7th Ave, New York, NY 10019



Amjad Ali Khan (center) with sons (left) Amaan & (right) Ayaan  
Photo iaac.us

On the momentous occasion of India's 75th year of Independence, this concert celebrates the wonderful mystery of Indian classical music and a synthesis of musical traditions motivated by Mahatma Gandhi's message of truth, love, non-violence and peace.

The concert will feature Sarod Grand Master Amjad Ali Khan presenting a traditional Raga of Indian Classical Music, featuring Sarod virtuosos Amaan Ali Bangash and Ayaan Ali Bangash, and Tabla players Amit Kavthekar and Ojas Adhiya.

The second half will include the Samaagam-Concerto for 3 Sarods with the Refugee Orchestra project conducted by Lidiya Yankovskaya. Samaagam, meaning confluence or flowing together, preserves the essence of both Indian and Western traditions so that they can flow into each other without artistic compromise. In Samaagam 12 different ragas are presented. Some will make only a fleeting appearance; others will be explored for longer. Don't miss this unique opportunity to experience joyous music making and shared traditions in honor of India's Independence Day.

**AMJAD ALI KHAN** is one of the undisputed sarod masters of the music world. Born to sarod maestro Haafiz Ali Khan, he gave his first performance at the age of six, and is credited with reinventing the technique of playing the sarod.

Over the course of a distinguished career spanning more than six decades. Amjad Ali Khan has won numerous national and international accolades including a Grammy nomination, the Crystal Award by the World Economic Forum, Unicef's National Ambassadorship and the Fukuoka Cultural grand prize.

He has performed at national and international venues including Carnegie Hall, the Royal Albert Hall and at the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize Concert in 2014 in Oslo, Norway.

He has been a visiting professor at Stanford University, University of New Mexico and Jacob's School of Music.

CONTD ON PAGE 23

# INDIA'S GENIUS MUSIC-COMPOSER PERFORMS LIVE IN NJ

BY MABEL PAIS



North American Tour 2022 Poster  
Photo / arrahman.com

AR Rahman, India's musical genius, premier composer, singer-songwriter, music producer, musician, multi-instrumentalist and philanthropist performs live in Newark, New Jersey at the Prudential Center on Friday, August 12, 2022 at 8:00 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Described as the "world's most prominent and prolific film composer" by Time magazine, his works are notable for integrating Eastern classical music with electronic music sounds, world music genres and traditional orchestral arrangements.

**Director Baz Luhrmann notes:**

"I had come to the music of A. R. Rahman through the emotional and haunting score of 'Bombay' and the wit and celebration of 'Lagaan.' But the more of AR's music I encountered the more I was to be amazed at the sheer diversity of styles: from swinging brass bands to triumphant anthems; from joyous pop to West-End musicals. Whatever the style, A. R. Rahman's music always possesses a profound sense of humanity and spirit, qualities that inspire me the most."

He has won two Academy Awards, two Grammy Awards, a BAFTA Award, a Golden Globe, four National Film Awards, fifteen Filmfare Awards and thirteen Filmfare Awards South in addition to numerous other awards and nominations.

His extensive body of work for film and the stage earned him the nickname "the Mozart of Madras" and several Tamil commentators and fans have coined the nickname "Isai Puyal" (English: Music

Storm). In 2009, Time placed Rahman in its list of the World's Most Influential People.

**TICKETS :** Tickets can be reserved at Ticketmaster.com. Tickets can also be purchased in person by visiting the Prudential Center Box Office located at 25 Lafayette Street in Newark, N.J.



A.R. Rahman in performance.  
Photo / arrahman.com

**AR RAHMAN :** AR Rahman has won two Academy Awards, two Grammy Awards, a BAFTA Award, a Golden Globe, four National Film Awards, fifteen Filmfare Awards (the Indian equivalent of the Oscars) three MTV awards, four IIFA awards, six Tamil Nadu State awards, six Zee awards, four Screen awards, in addition to numerous other awards and nominations. He has also been given the prestigious Padma Shri (one of the highest civilian honors in India) award by the Government of India in the year 2000 for outstanding contribution to the Indian film industry.

Rahman is widely considered the man who single-handedly revived public interest towards Indian film music. In 1991, noted filmmaker Mani Ratnam offered Rahman create the score for the movie 'Roja' which was a run-away success and brought nationwide fame and acclaim to the composer.

Rahman followed up 'Roja' with 'Gentleman,' 'Thiruda Thiruda,' 'Kadhalan,' 'Bombay' and 'Minssara Kannavu' all of which were huge chartbusters and were dubbed in Hindi as well. Other hits in Tamil include 'Alaipayuthey,' 'Kandukondein,' 'Jeans,' 'Mudalvan,' 'Kannathil Muthamittal,' 'Boys,' etc.

His foray into Hindi movies started off with a big bang in the superhit 'Rangeela'

followed by 'Dil Se,' 'Taal,' '1947/Earth,' 'Pukar,' 'Lagaan,' 'Zubeida,' 'Meenaxi,' 'The Legend of Bhagat Singh,' 'Yuva,' 'Tehzeeb' amongst others all of which had huge album sales. His more recent releases include, 'Swadesh,' 'Ah-Aah,' 'Bose: The forgotten hero,' 'The Rising,' 'Water' and 'Rang De Basanti' all of which have been critically acclaimed and well received.

In 2001, Andrew Lloyd Webber, the well-known composer of musicals like 'Phantom of the Opera,' 'Cats,' 'Jesus Christ Superstar,' etc. invited Rahman to compose for the musical, 'Bombay Dreams,' which opened to packed houses at London's West end. The show had an unprecedented run for 2 years and later premiered at New York's Broadway.

Rahman is also involved in other charitable causes. In 2004, he was appointed as the Global Ambassador of the Stop T B Partnership, a project by the World Health Organization (WHO). He also supports charities like Save the Children India and as a producer on the single 'We can make it better' by Don Asian alongside Mukhtar Sahota. A.R. Rahman showed his charitable side again with all proceeds going to the Tsunami victims, as did his 2004 Tsunami relief concert in India.



A.R. Rahman in performance  
Photo / pranamarketing.com

**A L B U M : INFINITE LOVE**

On 20 December 2012, Rahman released the single 'Infinite Love' in both English and Hindi commemorating the last day of the Mayan calendar to spread hope, peace and love.

He wrote: "Why is this album being released in 2012?"

There have been wrong predictions that the world will come to an end on



A.R. Rahman in performance.  
Photo / arrahman.com

21/12/2012. The aura of an apocalypse looms over our heads weathering our spirits. But why should we wait for a disaster to unite us? I look around me and I see scope for love, joy and most importantly hope. The thought of mortality teaches me humility. It eases the decisions I make every day. So, this isn't an end-of-the-world song, but a song of hope!"

**"What is the idea behind the video?"**

The music video conveys a metaphorical parallel. Everyone smiles at a toddler... of any race or creed. Most of us want to play with them, given a chance. If we adapt a childlike mind, keeping aside our skepticism, we could deal with things more lightly and bring joy to one and all."

**"Why is there an Indian flag in the video?"**

My first aim is to get Indians to aspire toward excellence on a global platform. The idea of the video is to begin with borders and lose them in the end."

**"Why make a solo music album now?"**

"I have wanted to do something like this for ages. The idea for this album came to me two years ago. They say the music industry is finished due to piracy. This is true in one sense. But I have faith in the power of music. Art is like water. It takes the shape of the container. So here I am. Soaking in all that is around me, giving the world my contribution. Sony Music magnanimously agreed to distribute this project. But for me, this is a shot in the dark. A personal compilation of my ideas and philosophies....so if you like this, I am humbled. Thank you for your support."- A.R. Rahman

**PRUDENTIAL CENTER :** Prudential Center is the world-class sports and entertainment venue located in downtown Newark, New Jersey. Opened in October 2007, the state-of-the-art arena is the home of the National Hockey League's (NHL) three-time Stanley Cup Champion New Jersey Devils, Seton Hall University's NCAA Division I Men's Basketball program, and more than 175 concerts, family shows and special events each year.

The arena is also home to the GRAMMY Museum Experience Prudential Center, which opened its doors to the public in October 2017. To learn more, visit PruCenter.com and Follow the arena on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @PruCenter:

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

contd from page 22

## CELEBRATE INDIA@75 AT FESTIVAL OF INDIAN MUSIC

Amjad Ali Khan, accompanied by his sons Amaan Ali Bangash and Ayaan Ali Bangash, and the Refugee Orchestra Project. The concert dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi was themed on "Traditions of Peace and Non-violence" in the presence of António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations.

**AMAAN ALI BANGASH** is the eldest son and disciple of the Sarod Maestro Amjad Ali Khan and grandson of Haafiz Ali Khan. He belongs to the seventh generation in an unbroken chain of the Senia Bangash School.

Amaan's musical style is marked by its precision in tunefulness, bold and resonant strokes, along with tradition and continuity of Indian Classical Music. Amaan's performances have evoked creditable applause.

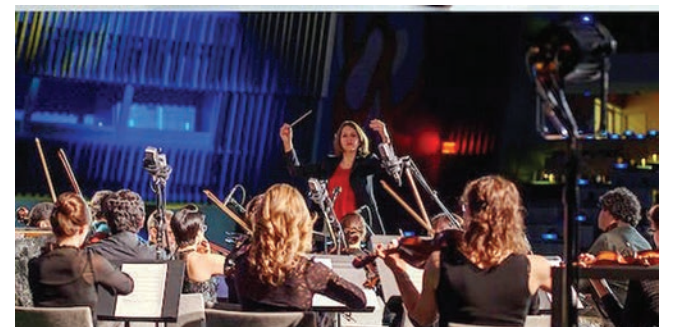
He is an inspiration for the younger generation of musicians. He continues to enchant audiences with his virtuosity, sheer brilliance and charismatic stage presence.

**AYAAN ALI BANGASH**, the younger son of Amjad Ali Khan stepped into the world of music and the Sarod, at a very early age, with confidence, clarity, consistency and technical mastery all of which he learnt at his father's knees. Ayaan gave his solo debut when he was eight years old and has been performing concerts in India and abroad, alone and with his father and brother since then.

His approach, vision and versatility make him an icon for the youth in the music industry. His contribution in making the Sarod a cross-over instrument in a variety of genres has projected him as an artist of high repute.

To learn more about Amjad Ali Khan and his sons, Amaan & Ayaan, visit sarod.com

**LIDIYA YANKOVSKAYA**, Russian-American conductor, is a fiercely committed advocate for Slavic masterpieces, operatic rarities, and contemporary works

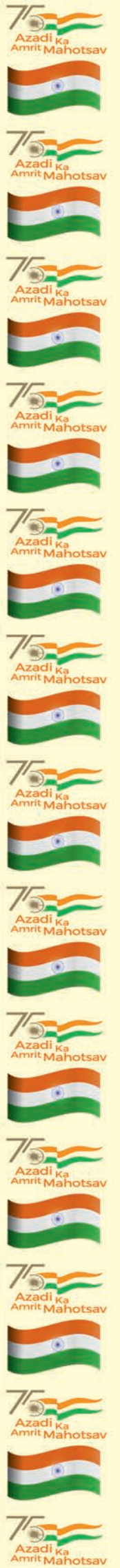


LIDIYA YANKOVSKAYA conducts orchestra Photo iaac.us

on the leading edge of classical music.

Her daring performances before and amid the pandemic earned recognition from the Chicago Tribune, which praised her as "the very model of how to survive adversity, and also how to thrive in it," while naming her 2020 Chicagoan of the Year.

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





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## PARENTS OF BOY ON LIFE-SUPPORT GO TO EUROPEAN COURT IN A BID TO STOP HOSPITAL ENDING HIS TREATMENT

AUGUST 3

**LONDON (TIP):** The family of a comatose British boy at the centre of a life-support battle said on August 3 that it has appealed to the European Court of Human Rights in a last-ditch bid to stop a hospital ending his treatment.

Archie Battersbee, 12, was found unconscious at home with a ligature over his head on April 7. His parents believe he may have been taking part in an online challenge that went wrong.

Doctors believe Archie is brain-stem dead and say continued life-support treatment is not in his best interests.

His parents have fought unsuccessfully to get British courts to block the Royal London Hospital turning off the boy's ventilator and stopping other interventions that are keeping him alive.

Archie's mother, Hollie Dance, said the family's lawyers submitted an application to the European human rights court hours before the hospital planned to begin withdrawing Archie's life support on Wednesday morning.

"We now hope and pray that the ECHR will look favourably on the application," she said. "We will not give up on Archie until the end." She also said the family was considering offers from other countries to treat Archie.

The case is the latest in the UK that has pitted the judgment of doctors against the wishes of families. In several cases, including this one, the families have been backed by a religious pressure group, Christian Concern. Under British law, it is common for courts to intervene when parents and doctors disagree on the treatment of a child. (AP)

# 7 adults, 3 kids dead in Pennsylvania house fire; criminal probe under way

AUGUST 6

**NESCOPECK (PENNSYLVANIA) (TIP):** Fire tore quickly through a house in Pennsylvania, killing seven adults and three children and horrifying a volunteer firefighter who arrived to battle the blaze only to discover the victims were his own family, authorities said.

The three children who died were ages 5, 6 and 7, Pennsylvania State Police said in a news release, while the seven adults ranged from the late teens to a 79-year-old man.

Nescopeck Volunteer Fire Company firefighter Harold Baker said by phone that the 10 victims included his son, daughter, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, three grandchildren and two other relatives.

He said that 13 dogs were also in the two-story home but did not say if he knew whether any survived.

The fire in Nescopeck was reported shortly after 2:30 am on Friday. One victim was found dead inside the single-family home shortly after emergency responders arrived.

Two other victims were discovered later in the morning. State police said criminal investigators were looking into the fire.

Some people were able to safely flee the burning home, authorities said.

Baker said that the address initially given for the call was a neighboring home, but that he realised it was his family members' residence as the fire truck approached.

"When we turned the corner up here on Dewey (Street) I knew right away what house it was just by looking down the street," Baker told the Citizens' Voice newspaper of Wilkes-Barre.

"I was on the first engine, and when we pulled up, the whole place was fully involved. We tried to get in to them."

One of the victims, 19-year-old Dale Baker, was a firefighter who joined the



company when he was 16, said Heidi Knorr, the secretary of the fire company.

"He was such a fun-loving soul," she said in a phone interview. "He just loved life."

Both of Dale Baker's parents are members of the fire service, and the family was "always willing to help lend a hand to anyone in need," Knorr said. His mother was not among the dead listed by Harold Baker.

Nescopeck is a small town on the Susquehanna River, about 20 miles southwest of Wilkes-Barre. The house was in a residential street of largely owner-occupied, single family homes.

Mike Swank, who lives two doors away across the street, said he happened to be awake at that hour and looked outside after hearing a sharp explosion. He saw the porch "was really going" and went outside, using another neighbour's hose to keep the blaze from spreading to a garage. "I seen two guys outside and they were in various states of hysteria," Swank said in a phone interview.

One of them was on a cellphone, "and I'm trying to ask him if everybody's out," he said. "The other guy was out in the street and he was just running around in circles."

Swank said he wasn't able to get

information from them. A fence prevented him from getting to the back of the property.

"It was so quick and so much smoke, you just knew nobody was going to make it out," Swank said. He saw cadaver dogs being used to search the scene until the bodies were located.

He said the family moved in a few months ago under what he understood to be a rent-to-own agreement.

He had not gotten to know them but noticed they spent a lot of time on the cluttered front porch, where he believes the fire may have begun.

Baker, who was relieved of his firefighting duties because of his relationship to the victims, said 14 people were living in the home. One of them was out delivering newspapers, and three others escaped, he said.

"The kids that were there and my two kids were just visiting their aunt and uncle," Baker told WNEP. "Those were the ones who own the house. They were there visiting and going into the pool and all that."

Pennsylvania State Police Lt. Derek Felsman said a "complex criminal investigation" was underway. Troopers were interviewing survivors, he said. (AP)

## 80 men arrested for gangraping 8 models shooting a music video in South Africa

AUGUST 3

**JOHANNESBURG (TIP):** More than 80 men suspected of the gangrapes of eight women and the armed robbery of a video production crew in the South African town of Krugersdorp, west of Johannesburg, appeared in court on.

The men were arrested at an abandoned mining site following the rapes and robbery near the disused mine.

The suspects are allegedly illegal miners known as zama-zamas who dig for gold in the Johannesburg area's many closed mine shafts.

Many of the illegal miners are foreigners, according to local reports. The zama-zama gangs of illegal miners

are also blamed for widespread crime in the area, according to local residents.

The gang rapes occurred when a crew filming a music video at one of the abandoned mines was attacked by armed men on Thursday last week, according to police.

"The crew of 22 people — 12 women and 10 men — were busy filming a music video when they were allegedly attacked by a group of armed men clad in blankets," Police Commissioner for Gauteng province Lt. Gen. Elias Mawela in a statement.

"The suspects ordered everyone to lay down and proceeded to rape eight of the women and robbed everyone of their belongings before fleeing the scene," he

said. The crew was robbed of all their video equipment. Police are investigating 32 counts of rape, he said.

Laboratory studies of DNA samples from the raped women will be used to identify perpetrators of the rapes, National Minister of Police Bheki Cele said on Monday.

Others arrested are expected to face additional charges of illegal immigration and illegal mining.

More than 300 people demonstrated outside the Krugersdorp Magistrates Court on Monday to express the community's fury over the rapes.

News of the gangrapes and robbery has angered community and women's organisations in the area, who have

complained that such incidents are rife around Krugersdorp.

"We are going to demand that the police station should be placed under administration because the community has reported many crimes committed by the zama-zamas but nothing has been done," said Zandile Dabula, secretary-general of Operation Dudula, an organisation that protests against illegal immigrants in South Africa.

The organisation was part of the Monday protest outside the Krugersdorp courthouse.

"It is clear that they are failing to deal with crime in this area so they should be placed under administration," said Dabula. AP

# Canada to ban handgun import until gun control law is cleared

AUGUST 6

**OTTAWA (TIP):** Canada said on August 5 it would temporarily ban the import of restricted handguns from August 19 in a move designed to indirectly achieve goals of a gun control legislation proposed in May.

The import ban would stay in place until a national freeze on handguns comes into force, the Canadian government said in a statement.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's ruling Liberal government introduced bill C-21 in May to fight gun violence.

The gun control package, which includes a national freeze on the sale and purchase of handguns among other measures, is yet to be implemented. The Canadian parliament is currently on summer break until September.

Canadians rushed to buy guns after the freeze was announced and the government now wants to prevent gun sellers from restocking their inventory with this import ban, Foreign Minister Melanie Joly told reporters at a briefing. The foreign ministry has the authority to deny trade permits.

"The import ban announced today will help to keep guns stay off our streets as we work towards implementing Bill C-21, reducing gun violence in the immediate term," Joly said.



Canada has much stricter gun laws than the United States, but Canadians are allowed to own firearms providing they have a license. Restricted or prohibited firearms, like handguns, must also be registered.

"Given that nearly all our handguns are imported, this means that we're bringing our national handgun freeze into effect even sooner," said Canadian Public Safety Minister Marco

Mendicino, speaking alongside Joly.

While Canada's gun homicide rate was a fraction of the rate in the United States in 2020, it is still higher than the rates of many other rich countries and has been rising, according to data from Statistics Canada.

Official data show that handguns were the main weapon used in the majority of firearm-related violent crimes between 2009 and 2020. Reuters

## ISRAELI STRIKES KILL 9 IN GAZA; PALESTINIAN ISLAMIC JIHAD VOWS RESPONSE, SAYS WILL HIT TEL AVIV, OTHER CITIES

AUGUST 5

**GAZA (TIP):** Israeli airstrikes hit targets across Gaza on August 5, killing a senior commander of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad movement and prompting vows of retaliation from the militant group, which said it could hit Tel Aviv in response.

Local health officials said at least nine people, including a five-year old child, had been killed and 44 wounded in the strikes, which came after days of escalating tensions following the arrest of a Palestinian militant leader during the week.

An Israeli spokesperson said the military estimated it had killed around 15 "terrorists" but said it did not have a final casualty total.

"The IDF (Israel Defense Forces) is currently striking in the Gaza Strip. A special situation has been declared on the Israeli home front," the military said in a statement.

Israel's Army Radio reported that Israel was calling up military reservists for the region near Gaza, which has been ruled by the militant Hamas movement since 2007.

An Islamic Jihad official confirmed that Tayseer al-Jaabari, whom the Israeli military described as the main coordinator between Islamic Jihad and Hamas, had been killed in the strikes, which hit several targets around the densely populated strip.

Smoke rose from a building where al-Jaabari was apparently killed and glass and rubble were strewn across the street amid the sound of ambulances racing to other sites.

As mourners prepared to hold funerals for those killed in the attacks, hundreds of people, some holding Palestinian flags, marched through the streets of Gaza.

The strikes came after Israel arrested Bassam al-Saadi, a senior leader of the Islamic Jihad group, during a raid in the occupied West Bank city of Jenin earlier this week.

It subsequently closed off all Gaza crossings and some nearby roads over fears of retaliatory attacks from the group, which has a stronghold in Gaza, further restricting Palestinian movement.

"The goal of this operation is the elimination of a concrete threat against the citizens of Israel and the civilians living adjacent to the Gaza Strip," Prime Minister Yair Lapid said in a statement.

In an interview on Al Mayadeen television, a pro-Iranian Lebanese channel, Islamic Jihad leader Ziad al-Nakhala vowed retaliation for the strikes. "There are no red lines in this battle and Tel Aviv will fall under the rockets of resistance, as well as all Israeli cities," he said. (Reuters)

## Ukraine buries agricultural 'titan' killed in missile strike

AUGUST 5

**KYIV (TIP):** Orthodox chants of mourning resounded in a packed central Kyiv cathedral on August 5 as Ukraine buried an agricultural tycoon with his wife after they were killed in a missile strike that hit his home last weekend.

Oleksiy Vadaturskyi, co-founder and director of one of Ukraine's largest agricultural holdings, was killed with his wife in his southern hometown of Mykolaiv by what Kyiv says was an S-300 missile fired by Russia.

The sudden death of the 74-year-old, described as a "titan of Ukraine's agricultural sector" by one national farmers association, sent shockwaves through a domestic grain industry that has been devastated by Russia's Feb. 24 invasion.

His export-focused firm Nibulon is a household name in Ukraine, where exports have been crippled by a wartime port blockade that is easing slightly under a grain deal.

The tycoon was well-known in Ukraine for driving a revival of cargo transportation on rivers, including the vast Dnieper that carves south from northernmost Ukraine to the Black Sea.

"It's hard to accept this news when you work with someone for 12 years,

see them almost every day, and then one morning you understand they're gone, and what's more, so cruelly," said Dmytro Forda, a longtime Nibulon employee, at the funeral.

Several hundred people came to pay their respects. Old women in headscarves rubbed shoulders with forlorn-looking executives in suits and men in military uniforms.

His son, Andriy Vadaturskyi, an ex-lawmaker and chairman of Nibulon's supervisory board, said he believed his father had been killed deliberately. Russia denies targeting civilians.

"I have every suspicion that this was not an accident ... I don't want to discuss details yet, but I simply do not believe it was a coincidence," he told reporters.

### 'HERO OF UKRAINE'

Pictures of Vadaturskiy and his wife lined the entrance to the cathedral. In several of the photos, he was wearing a Hero of Ukraine medal, which he was awarded in 2007.

Mykolaiv Mayor Oleksandr Senkevych praised Vadaturskyi for staying to help the city as Russian troops approached at the start of their Feb. 24 invasion, although he did not elaborate.

Two-thirds of Vadaturskyi's assets

are now on Russian-held territory, he said.

Traders told Reuters his death was unlikely to have a major impact on the day-to-day business of Ukraine's grain industry.

Vadaturskyi was ranked Ukraine's 24th richest man by Forbes in 2021 with an estimated fortune of \$430 million.

His son said he would work with the Nibulon team to keep the company running.

"Today the main task is to preserve the company. Further on, we will look at investment projects, because the company today is ready for investment projects," he said after the funeral.

The company, which exported more than 4.5 million tonnes of agricultural commodities in the 2020/21 season, emerged from the turbulent 1990s after the Soviet breakup as a key Ukrainian market player.

Nibulon says it has transported 24 million tonnes of cargo by river since its existence, which it says is equivalent to taking one million trucks off the road.

The most famous of these voyages was the revival of a Soviet-era tradition of yearly barges running watermelons from Ukraine's south to Kyiv, an event that always got publicity in Ukraine. Reuters

# Ways to wake up looking gorgeous

Sick of venturing downstairs every morning with your pyjamas in a tangle, dark under-eye circles and messy hair? Here are simple ways to wake up looking gorgeous.

## Don't Sleep On Your Stomach

If you're fond of sleeping on your front, the first step to looking beautiful in the AM is to find a new preferred pose for the PM. Sleep lines are caused by sleeping positions that squash your face on one side. Did you know that the average head weighs around eight pounds? Imagine all of that weight on your face – a recipe for crinkled up morning skin.

## Satin Or Silk Pillows

If you really can't sleep in any other position than on your tummy, invest in some satin or silk pillow covers. Not only does this mean that you wake up feeling like a princess every morning, but these super soft materials help your skin and hair to glide along them when you move around in your sleep. Less friction and creases means less frizzy hair and skin crinkles.

## Pile Up The Pillows

If you lie flat during your slumber, fluids can pool around your eyes and make them appear puffy in the morning. By keeping your head elevated during the night, the fluids don't have chance to gather and you wake up looking bright eyed and beautiful.

## Get Your Glow On

Say goodbye to the pasty morning face and hello to sun-kissed skin. Before your bedtime routine, exfoliate your skin, moisturise, apply some false tan and then wait a few hours. Right before bed, wash it off and go to bed fresh as a daisy. You'll wake up with a sun-kissed glow.



## Wear Your Hair In A Bun

We love voluminous hair in the morning, but that doesn't mean we love it to look like we've been dragged through a hedge backwards. The controlled voluminous look is where it's at! Pile your hair in a high bun on top of your head to add some controlled volume. This way, your hair won't get in the way while you're in the land of nod and when you wake up it looks big and sexy. Va-va-voom!

## Mineral Powders

We don't recommend wearing makeup to bed, but there are some natural mineral powders out there that can cover up imperfections without clogging your pores. Make sure you get a natural mineral makeup and apply with a clean brush before you go to bed.

## Moisturise Before Bed

Who wants to wake up with dry flaky skin? Not us! Apply a nourishing moisturiser on your face and neck before bed to wake up with plump, revitalised skin. You can apply a moisturiser to your feet

too and you'll feel even more beautiful in your waking hours.

## Go To Bed At A Decent Time

The phrase "beauty sleep" is actually grounded in truth. Indeed, those who get their recommended eight hours of sleep per night have smoother, clearer skin. If you are sleep deprived, there's a good chance you'll look pale, worn-out, and have bags under your eyes. Go to bed at a decent time so you can fill the recommended quota of eight hours per night.

## Wash Your Face

Sorry girls, panda eyes aren't the key to waking up looking gorgeous. Don't make the mistake of thinking that sleeping in your makeup means that you'll look gorgeous when you wake up. The chances are, no matter how smudge-proof, waterproof or long-lasting that mascara is, it will be a mess by the time you've tossed and turned in it all night. Cleanse away any dirt and oils that are sitting on top of your skin before bed and you'll wake up feeling clean and beautiful. *Source: Realbuzz.com*

## FOOD

### Chole Palak

Chole Palak is a scrumptious North Indian recipe which will be a treat to your taste buds. This dish is a perfect one pot recipe that is popular among all age groups. Make this easy-to-make recipe with simple ingredients that are easily

#### INGREDIENTS

1 teaspoon garam masala powder, 1 teaspoon red chilli powder, 2 tablespoon coriander powder, 1/2 teaspoon, asafoetida, 2 green chilli, 4 medium tomato, 400 gm chickpeas, salt as required, 1 teaspoon turmeric, 2 teaspoon cumin seeds, 6 tablespoon refined oil, 1 piece ginger, 6 cup spinach

#### Method

- To prepare this recipe, chop tomatoes and spinach. Keep them aside for further use. Wash the chickpeas under running water. Put them in a pressure cooker on medium flame and fill adequate water in it. Boil them for 10-15 minutes or until soft.
- Blend tomato, ginger and green chili to make a puree. Next, heat oil in a saucepan on medium flame and add cumin and asafoetida in it. Once the cumin seeds crackle, add the prepared tomato puree, turmeric, coriander powder and red chili in the mixture. Cook for 4 minutes until the tomato puree reduces to half its size and separates from the oil.
- Add some chopped spinach, salt and water to the mixture and cover the pan. Cook this for at least 5 minutes.
- Finally, add chickpeas to the to the gravy and mash them with a spatula. Feel free to add some more water to get a desired consistency of the gravy. Once done, add garam masala powder and serve.

This Palak Chole tastes great with almost all the Indian Bread such as Phulka, Tawa Paratha, Laccha Paratha, Punjabi Missi Roti, Naan, or any other bread that you prefer to make for your everyday meals.

It also tastes great with Steamed Rice, Jeera Rice, Matar Pulao, Bagara Rice, or any other lightly spiced Pulao.



## Signs your relationship is being mistreated

### They attempt to cancel plans with family

Every time you are eager to go out and enjoy yourself with your partner, ask them to bring their friends or family along since, after all, the more people there are, the more fun it is, right? You converse with people, learn new tales, and of course, develop a close relationship with their loved ones. However, if they try to avoid including their friends or family in any of these activities, it may be a clue that you are the target of a scam.

### You always meet in a desolate location

For things to stay interesting and enjoyable, going out to exciting locations is essential. However, if your spouse

insists on meeting and hanging out in remote or unfamiliar locations and tries to avoid gatherings where there are others who could know you or your partner, it's a hint that they are avoiding interacting with you in public.

### They never discuss their friends, relatives

Talking with your friends about your family or simply sharing memories is something that is just so common. Going down memory lane and wanting your spouse to know who you were and what you did before you two started dating might help to deepen your relationship. However, if your partner consistently avoids topics involving their friends or relatives and withholds information

about their background, it is obvious that you are being taken advantage of.

### You don't use any of their social media

Taking photos together comes naturally, and you know it's for memories, right? And if you are confident in your relationship, there is nothing wrong with sharing those lovely photos on social media. If your partner doesn't update you or post anything on their social network, it is strange and potentially suspicious that they are pocketing. You should talk to your spouse if you see a trend even if there may be a lot of logical explanations for pocketing, which can be quite puzzling.

*Source: News 18*

# Acupuncture can help ward off diabetes: Study

A new study from Edith Cowan University has found acupuncture therapy may be a useful tool in avoiding type 2 diabetes. The research team investigated dozens of studies covering the effects of acupuncture on more than 3600 people with prediabetes, a condition which sees higher-than-normal blood glucose levels without being high enough to be diagnosed as diabetes.

The findings showed acupuncture therapy significantly improved key markers, such as fasting plasma glucose, two-hour plasma glucose, and glycated haemoglobin, plus a greater decline in the incidence of prediabetes.

There were also no reports of adverse reactions among patients.

PhD candidate and lead researcher Min Zhang said this showed great promise for acupuncture therapy as an additional option to ward off diabetes, which is estimated to affect 11 per cent of the world's adult population.

The International Diabetes Federation estimates nearly 1.3 billion people will have either diabetes or prediabetes by 2045.

"Without intervention, 93 per cent of people with prediabetes will develop type 2 diabetes within 20 years," Ms Zhang said.

"But unlike diabetes, prediabetes is reversible with lifestyle interventions such as improved diet and increase in exercise".



"But many people struggle to adhere to lifestyle changes long-term, so non-pharmacological treatments such as acupuncture could prove valuable."

### A holistic approach

Though diabetes is often associated with lifestyle factors, other aspects of life may also have an impact -- which is where acupuncture comes in.

"It's not only about blood sugar levels," Ms Zhang said.

"If you experience sleep problems, high blood pressure, a lot of stress, these can contribute too."

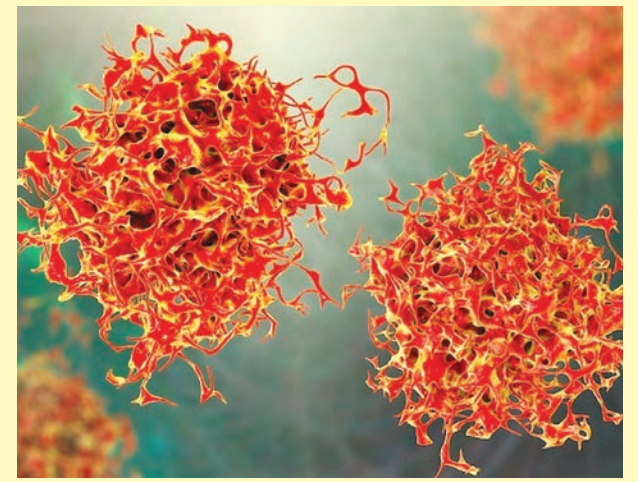
"So, acupuncture can help with these factors and work holistically

to help people balance their life."

Ms Zhang said it's important to note acupuncture therapy is more than just using needles -- it refers to a big family of acupoint stimulation techniques, such as light and electric pulses, and includes other traditional Chinese medicine therapies such as moxibustion.

"This is important because diabetic people can have issues with their skin, so perhaps it may not always be ideal to be using needles. We need to do more research into acupuncture and diabetes because we need to find more ways to prevent prediabetes from developing into type 2 diabetes," she said.

Source: ANI



## Oldest HIV patient cured of AIDS, blood cancer after successful stem cell transplant

A 66-year-old man was cured of Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and blood cancer after he went through a stem cell transplant and has been in remission for 18 months after stopping antiretroviral therapy (ART) for the disease. Diagnosed with HIV in 1988, he had been on antiretroviral therapy (ART) to control his condition for more than 30 years.

The stem cell transplant was conducted from a donor who was naturally resistant to the virus that causes AIDS, a mechanism that first worked to cure the "Berlin patient", Timothy Ray Brown, in 2007. The man lived with HIV for over 31 years, the longest of any of the three previous patients with HIV who have gone into remission after receiving a stem cell transplant for blood cancer and HIV.

When the transplant happened, he was 63 years old and was the oldest patient with HIV and blood cancer to undergo a transplant and achieve remission from both conditions. The information was presented at the head of the International AIDS Society's (IAS) 2022 meeting, which highlights that the case opens up the potential for older patients with HIV and blood cancer to access treatment. Sharon Lewin, the president-elect of the IAS, declaring it a "holy grail" said the case provided "continued hope ... and inspiration" for people with HIV and the wider scientific community, although it was unlikely to be an option for most people with HIV due to the risks of the procedure. "This patient had a high risk for relapsing from AML [acute myeloid leukemia], making his remission even more remarkable and highlighting how the City of Hope provides excellent care treating complicated cases of AML and other blood cancers," City of Hope hematologist Ahmed Aribi, an assistant professor in the Division of Leukemia said in a statement. Scientists think the process works because the donor individual's stem cells have a specific, rare genetic mutation which means they lack the receptors used by HIV to infect cells.

Source: India Today

## Diets high in ultraprocessed foods may increase the risk for dementia: Study

People who eat high amounts of ultra-processed foods, such as soft drinks, chips, and cookies, may have a higher risk of developing dementia than people who eat low amounts, according to a study recently published in Neurology.

Replacing ultra-processed foods in a person's diet with unprocessed or minimally processed foods was found to be associated with a lower risk.

"Ultra-processed foods are meant to be convenient and tasty, but they diminish the quality of a person's diet," said Huiping Li, PhD, of Tianjin Medical University in China in a statement. "These foods may also contain food additives or molecules from packaging or produced during heating, all of which have been shown in other studies to have negative effects on thinking and memory skills. Our research not only found that ultra-processed foods are associated with an increased risk of dementia, it found replacing them with healthy options may decrease dementia risk."

Researchers identified 72,083 people from the UK Biobank, a large database containing the health information of half a million people living in the United Kingdom, to be participants in the study. Participants were 55 years of age and older and did not have dementia at the start of the study. Researchers followed the patients for an average of 10 years.

Participants filled out at least 2 questionnaires about what they ate and drank the previous day during the study. Researchers measured the amount of ultra-

processed food participants ate by calculating the grams per day and comparing it to the grams per day of other foods to determine a percentage of their daily diet.

Participants were then divided into 4 equal groups from lowest to highest percentage consumption of ultra-processed foods. Ultra-processed foods were defined as those high in added sugar, fat, and salt, and low in protein and fiber. Such foods include soft drinks, salty and sugary snacks, ice cream, sausage, deep-fried chicken, yogurt, canned baked beans and tomatoes, ketchup, mayonnaise, packaged guacamole, packaged hummus, packaged breads, and flavored cereals.

The study found that eating high amounts of these ultra-processed foods was associated with a higher risk of developing dementia; however, the authors emphasize that this study shows an association, not a causal relationship.

Ultra-processed foods made up 9% of the daily diet of people in the lowest group, an average of 225 grams per day. For people in the highest group, ultra-processed foods made up 28% of their daily diet, an average of 814 grams per day. Beverages were the main food group contributing to high ultra-processed food intake, followed by sugary products and ultra-processed dairy.

A total of 518 participants were diagnosed with dementia by the end of the study. Researchers found that in the lowest group, 105 of the 18,021 people developed dementia. For the highest group, 150 of 18,021 people developed dementia.

Source: IANS

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### Two black holes merged despite being born far apart in space

Signals buried deep in data from gravitational wave observatories imply a collision of two black holes that were clearly born in different places.

Almost all the spacetime ripples that experiments like the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory, or LIGO, see come from collisions among black holes and neutron stars that are probably close family members (SN: 1/21/21). They were once pairs of stars born at the same time and in the same place, eventually collapsing to form orbiting black holes or neutron stars in old age.

Now, a newly noted marriage of black holes, found in existing data from U.S.-based LIGO and its sister observatory Virgo in Italy, seems to be of an unrelated pair. Evidence for this stems from how they were spinning as they merged into one, researchers report in a paper in press at Physical Review D. Black holes that are born in the same place tend to have their spins aligned, like a pair of toy tops spinning on a table, as they orbit each other. But the pair in this case have no correlation between their respective spins and orbits, implying that they were born in different places.

"This is telling us we've finally found a pair of black holes that must come from the non-grow-old-and-die-together channel," says Seth Olsen, a physicist at Princeton University.

## iPhone 14 models to feature different grades of OLED panels

Tech giant Apple is planning to use different OLED panel grades for the upcoming iPhone 14 and iPhone 14 Pro, media report says.

According to TheElec, Samsung Display will be applying different grades of materials on the OLED panels it will manufacture for the upcoming iPhone 14 series depending on the model tiers.

It will use its latest and most advanced material set for the higher tier iPhone 14 models, while it will use its prior generation set for the lower tier ones. The move is being made to save costs.

Samsung Display will be supplying OLED panels for all four models of the iPhone 14 series; rival LG Display will be supplying for two models, citing sources, the report said.

An OLED material set comprises dopant, host, prime and others used to form the red, green and blue pixels.

Samsung Display calls its material sets used on Samsung's Galaxy and Apple's iPhones the M series.

The South Korean display maker used its LT sets in 2017 for Apple's first OLED iPhone, the iPhone X and in 2018 iPhone XS. But starting in 2019 it began using its M series for panels supplied for Galaxy smartphones and iPhones.

Samsung Display will use its M11 material set for the standard 6.1-inch and 6.7-inch models in the iPhone 14 series.

These phones will have low-temperature polycrystalline silicon (LTPS) thin-film transistor (TFT) OLED panels, which are less advanced than the low-temperature polycrystalline oxide (LTPO) TFT OLED panels used in the higher-tier models.

The two higher-tier models in the iPhone 14 series will use Samsung Display's M12 material set.

This same OLED material set is being used for the OLED panels on Samsung's upcoming foldable phones Galaxy Z Fold 4 and Galaxy Z Flip 4.

Source: IANS



An OLED material set comprises dopant, host, prime and others used to form the red, green and blue pixels.

## Cloud giants can't keep making rain

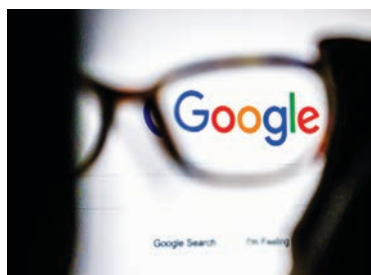
Last week's deluge of major tech earnings made clear that demand for cloud services remains strong. But it also made clear that the tech giants behind those services are watching expenditures closely in the current economic climate. Amazon, Microsoft and Google parent Alphabet which operate the three largest public cloud services, all reported solid, double-digit growth in revenue from their cloud segments for the June quarter on a year-over-year basis. That, along with other areas of strength in their respective businesses, was good enough to give all three stocks a decent post-earnings bounce.

Amazon, Microsoft and Alphabet shares averaged a gain of more than 8% the day after their results were announced. But growth rates for all three cloud segments also decelerated from the March quarter, and narrowly missed Wall Street's targets in the case of Microsoft and Google. All three companies are also taking concerted actions to moderate their spending, with plans to slow hiring and even make some targeted job cuts. As such, the enormous capital expenditures that go in part toward building data-center networks for cloud services should hardly be considered sacrosanct.

An early sign of that was already apparent in last week's reports. Combined capital expenditures by Amazon, Microsoft and Google rose only 12% year over year in the June quarter compared with a 30% rise in the March quarter and a 49% jump in last year's June period. Of course, quarterly capital expenditures by the three have historically been lumpy as the building and equipping of data centers doesn't follow a straight line. But on a trailing 12-month basis, combined capital expenditures by the three also showed the same trend, rising 25% for the 12-month period ended in June compared with a 52% surge in the same period the year prior.

All three also sounded a relatively cautious tone on spending plans for the periods ahead. Amazon Chief Financial Officer Brian Olsavsky said on the company's earnings call that Amazon expects to spend "slightly more" on capital investments this year, this following a 32% jump in capital expenditures and equipment acquired under capital leases in 2021. Microsoft CFO Amy Hood projected a sequential decrease in capex during the September quarter and added, "We do feel that we've gotten in a good place on capacity on a global basis" to handle the usage customers need in Microsoft's data centers.

Source: WSJ



## James Webb Space Telescope likely spots first supernova

The powerful next-generation James Webb Space Telescope may have likely spotted its first supernova, according to astronomers.

According to Mike Engesser of the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI), the object is extremely bright compared to the rest of the galaxy.

And Webb observed the galaxy, called SDSS.J141930.11+5251593, twice, five days apart; the object dimmed, just slightly, over those five days -- classic supernova behaviour, Inverse reported. "We suspect it's a supernova," Engesser was quoted as saying. "We would need more time series data to make a determination, but the data we do have does match that of a supernova, so it's a very good candidate," he added.

The \$10 billion Webb telescope, is an international programme led by NASA, the European Space Agency and the Canadian Space Agency.

The telescope's actual aim is to solve mysteries in our solar system, look beyond distant worlds around other stars, and probe the mysterious structures and origins of our universe and our place in it. "Primarily, it's exciting because we have shown that we're able to find and detect new transients with Webb, which was something that JWST is not designed to do. But it's one of the things we're showing we're able to do in sort of an ad hoc way," he noted. Webb is designed to look much, much deeper into smaller patches of sky. The telescope's first deep-field image, released on July 12, covers an area of sky that one could cover with a grain of sand held at arm's length.

"So the actual likelihood that you'll find a transient in the field you're looking at is fairly small -- or at least we thought it would be small," Engesser said. "But as you've probably heard, every JWST field is a deep field at this point, so there's galaxies everywhere, and now we're thinking, oh, we might have a really good chance of detecting supernovae all the time."

Source: IANS





## LIC BECOMES TOP-RANKED INDIAN FIRM ON FORTUNE GLOBAL 500 LIST

Recently-listed Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has broken into the latest Fortune Global 500 list, while Reliance Industries has jumped 51 places.

The nation's biggest life insurer with revenue of USD 97.26 billion and a profit of USD 553.8 million, was ranked 98th on the just released Fortune 500 list. Reliance Industries jumped 51 places to 104 on the 2022 list.

This is the first outing of LIC on the list, which ranks listed companies by sales. Reliance, with revenue of USD 93.98 billion and a net profit of USD 8.15 billion in the latest year, has been on the list for 19 years.

The list, topped by US retailer Walmart, has nine Indian companies - five of them state-owned, and four from the private sector.

Only the debutant LIC, which came out with its IPO last fiscal, was ranked higher than Reliance among the Indian corporates.

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) rose 28 places to 142nd rank while Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) climbed 16 places to 190.

The list had two Tata group firms - Tata Motors at 370 and Tata Steel at 435th spot. Rajesh Exports at 437th rank was the other private Indian company on the list.

State Bank of India (SBI) climbed 17 places to rank 236th and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd 19 places to 295. Fortune Global 500 list ranks companies by total revenues for their respective fiscal years ended on or before March 31, 2022.

"The rebound from COVID-19 created a huge tailwind for the world's largest companies by revenue," Fortune said.

Aggregate sales for the Fortune Global 500 hit USD 37.8 trillion, an increase of 19 per cent - the highest annual growth rate in the list's history.

## UBER LIKELY TO SELL 7.8% STAKE IN ZOMATO: REPORT

Uber Technologies is likely to sell a 7.8% stake in Indian food delivery firm Zomato through a \$373 million block deal on Wednesday, according to a source familiar with the matter and a document seen by Reuters.

The offer size of \$373 million was based on the lower end of a 48-54 rupee price range set for the block deal, the document showed.

BofA Securities is the sole bookrunner for the deal.

# Twitter disobeyed orders of Indian govt, put third-largest market at risk: Elon Musk

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Elon Musk, in his confidentially filed countersuit in Delaware court, relied on Twitter's litigation in India to counter the social media giant's claim of breach of their merger agreement by Musk.

Musk has claimed that Twitter failed to disclose its litigation with and the investigation by the Indian government. According to Musk, Twitter initiated risky litigation against the Indian government—thereby placing Twitter's third largest market at risk.

Musk has claimed that Twitter's decision to challenge the Indian government's decisions is a departure from the ordinary course as it has in the past followed obligations imposed by governments, including going as far as blocking pro-Ukrainian accounts for the Russian government.

Referring to India's IT Rules, Musk has argued that India's information technology ministry imposed certain rules in 2021 allowing the government to probe social media posts, demand identifying information, and prosecute companies that refused to comply.

Musk has said that while he is a proponent of free speech, he believes that moderation on Twitter should "hew close to the laws of countries in which Twitter operates."

It has been claimed by Musk that as a result of India's new rules, Twitter faced various investigations by the Indian government, requests to moderate content, and requests to block certain accounts. India is Twitter's third largest market, and thus any investigation into Twitter that could lead to suspensions or interruptions of service in that market may constitute an MAE, which is a material adverse event.

Around July 6, 2022, Twitter launched a legal challenge against India's government in court, challenging certain demands made by the government—suggesting that Twitter was under investigation between the signing of the Merger Agreement and the filing of its legal challenge.

It has been stated, Twitter determined to challenge the Indian government in a lawsuit rather than follow its instructions pursuant to 2021 Information Technology rules. Musk and buyers were not given notice of Twitter's decision to litigate against the Indian government and were not asked to provide consent.

According to Musk, there's been a breach of the agreement by Twitter as Musk and other buyers were not given notice of



Twitter's decision to litigate with India.

### Twitter's response

Twitter admitted that it did not contact Musk regarding its interactions with the Indian government. Twitter has averred that its publicly reported dispute over blocking orders issued by the Indian government was not cited a purported basis for termination by Musk parties until filing of the Counterclaims.

Twitter has denied Musk's allegations that the investigations had to be disclosed to Musk parties under Section 4.11 of the merger agreement. It has said that the section does not require the disclosure of the company's interactions with the Indian government.

Twitter has denied that India is its third-largest market. It has also denied the allegations any investigation into Twitter that could lead to suspensions or interruptions of service in that market may constitute an MAE. According to Twitter, these are hypothetical statements or legal conclusions to which no response is required.

Twitter has further responded that media outlets and Twitter's own transparency disclosures have heavily documented the company's interactions with Indian regulators since the Indian government announced restrictive regulations in February 2021, including requests by the Indian government that Twitter block certain accounts or otherwise moderate content. *Source: India Today*

## China hits Taiwan with fresh trade curbs amid Nancy Pelosi's visit

China halted some trade with Taiwan in retaliation to the high-profile visit of US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to the island.

China's General Administration of Customs said in a statement Wednesday that some fish and fruit imports were suspended due to excessive pesticide residue detected "multiple times" on products since last year, as well as some frozen fish packages that tested positive for coronavirus in June.

The Ministry of Commerce said in a separate statement it banned natural sand exports based on provisions of related law, but gave no further details.

Beijing has often targeted Taiwan's agricultural industry for punishment over political issues. Many of southern Taiwan's fruit-producing regions are typically bastions of political support for



President Tsai Ing-wen's Democratic Progressive Party, which advocates for Taiwan's formal independence.

China caught Taiwan off guard last year when it suddenly blocked pineapple imports from there. Beijing later halted

imports of wax and sugar apples last September. While most fruit produced in Taiwan is consumed domestically, the vast majority of exports go to China.

The trade actions followed a Taiwanese media report that China on Monday banned food imports from more than 100 of the island's suppliers.

China is Taiwan's largest trading partner, with bilateral trade rising 26% on year to \$328.3 billion last year. Taiwan held a sizable surplus against China, with exports from the island exceeding imports by \$172 billion, according to Chinese customs data. While Beijing could leverage that advantage by sanctioning exporters, China also relies on Taiwan for semiconductor supplies.

Two-way trade totaled \$165 billion in the first half of this year, with Taiwan's surplus with China at \$79.8 billion.



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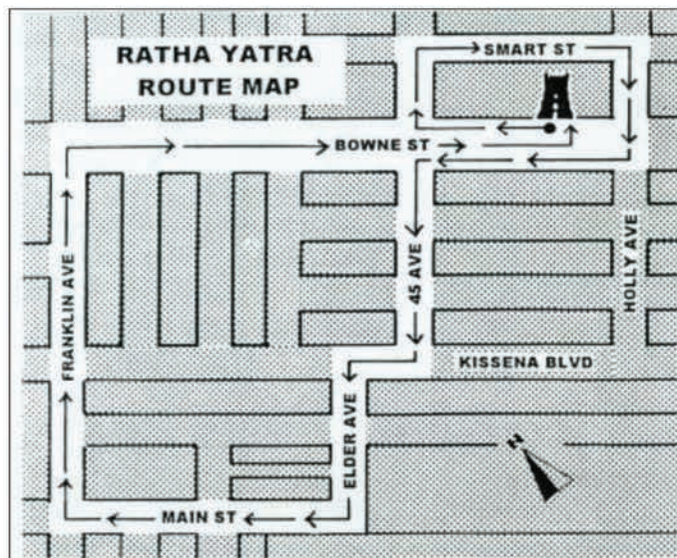
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# GRAND RATHA YATRA

**Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**YATRA ROUTE MAP**



The Ratha will start from the Temple at 12:30 PM after the pooja in the Temple, make a full Pradakshina around the temple block (covering 45<sup>th</sup> Ave, Smart St. and Holly Ave.) and will reach Main Street approximately at 1:45 PM - 2:00 PM. The Ratha will return to the Temple by approximately 2:30 PM.



**- Don't Miss This Grand Event! -**

**For Further Information Please Call the Temple at (718) 460-8484 ext. 112**





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**August 15, 7:00 PM**

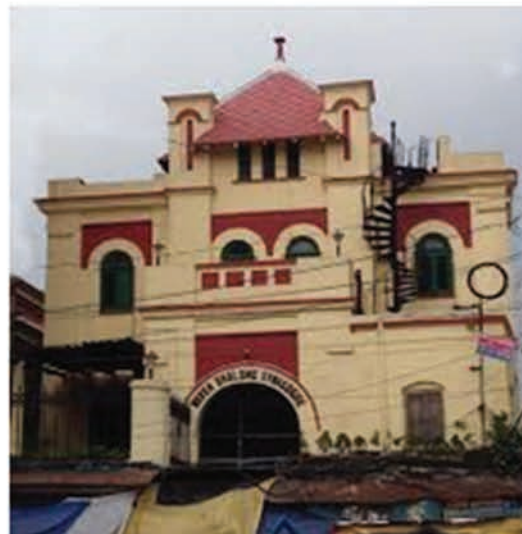
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## Shree Ganeshaya Namah



## Monthly Horoscope - August 2022

By Chirag Daruwalla - Son of Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla



**ARIES** : Ganesha says keep your focus towards what you can create and stop worrying about the things you cannot change. You'll have a consistent flow of income this month, which may be kind to you. Avoiding conflict and working together with your partner are the only ways to have a successful relationship. There may be many chances for you to spend quality time with your spouse, which could aid in your efforts to restart your romantic relationship. The responsiveness of your work-life seems to be at an all-time high. For students looking to improve their grades, there can be a lovely stage where your peers can support them. Maintaining stable and good health is possible this month.



**TAURUS** : Ganesha says love yourself, accept yourself, and keep going. You must let go of your burdens if you want to fly. Over time, you'll discover how to make small financial sacrifices. This month could be an excellent one for saving with smart planning. Even if the marriage is successful, ego problems may still exist and need to be resolved. A tense relationship may result from aggressive communication with the in-laws. Your efforts might lead to a big financial benefit. A fresh investment could be made in a commercial project. Students can achieve success. In this month, some new talent might show up. Positivity can improve your performance. Things may go better if you've been experiencing health issues, but you should continue eating the way you have been and take the safety precautions that have been advised to you.



**GEMINI** : Ganesha says your abilities will be valued, and you'll be positively charged on the inside. You might want to resolve any legal or tax-related issues this month. Make no rash financial judgments, please. You're probably going to schedule a relaxing time outside. Sharing some amusing moments will be simple for you. A great journey will be ensured by quality time spent with one another. Your business partner may bring you the success and solid backing you need. Independent contractors can have a successful but hectic month. Are you a nerd for technology and science? You might be able to put your knowledge to use this month and get an edge on everyone. Even students will achieve academic success. It's a good month to start doing yoga or the gym. In a nutshell, you'll enjoy a happy, healthy, and amusing month.



**CANCER** : Refrain from allowing your fears to control you. Follow the desires of your heart. There will probably be many opportunities to make extra money, especially for those who work for themselves, enabling you to obtain the recognition and accolades that you want. Don't give up; your sincere attempts to win someone over should be enough to impress them. Businessmen frequently have disagreements with

their workers and employees, which can be detrimental to their operations. Stress over having to succeed may be felt by learners. Due to your workload and exam stress, you might be feeling a lot of pressure. You might just be persuaded that your way of living and food is bad for your health, in which case you'll be more motivated to make changes.



**LEO** : Ganesha says be the cause of a grin. Be the cause of someone's reassurance in humanity and sense of value. You might be tempted to divulge your income to make money. Maintaining some degree of secrecy is essential. Your relationship can now progress to a stage of mutual understanding at this very moment. This can support the growth of a strong bond between you and your companion. Your coworkers and supervisors may provide you with their full support. In addition to overcoming all of life's obstacles, you can also have a big competitive advantage over others. Even with distractions, you might be able to maintain your focus on your research. You can set aside time this month to improve your physical and mental fitness back to where it was.



**VIRGO** : Ganesha says you might experience all of life's pleasures and comforts during this month. With recently made investments in the company, you can see good financial advantages. To strengthen the personal link in a long-distance relationship, partners are encouraged to keep up regular communication via SMS or phone conversations. You are encouraged not to change the business strategy at this time because it may be difficult for international or import/export enterprises. You can gain clarity and make an informed decision by meditating and discussing your experiences with your parents. This month, you need to exercise caution in terms of your health. The stars indicate that you might be depressed and that unanticipated health issues might develop.



**LIBRA** : Ganesha says whatever task you undertake; you will give it you everything. On the other hand, natives may need to be very careful this month when it comes to both their investments and their spending. Those who have been through this phase before will gain from this one considering marriage. It could be challenging to keep up a positive relationship with your business partner. Don't blindly trust someone since there's a chance you can be let down. Students might become aware of their great academic performance, and it might honor them for their successes in the classroom. You should try to think positively. Instead of focusing on the negative aspects of things, it is advised that you stay upbeat and happy about everything.



**SCORPIO** : Ganesha says make the best decisions you can without rushing through such crucial

selections. Instead, move forward slowly. The beginning of the month signifies a trying time at work when you need to keep your composure. Your efforts to strengthen your financial situation may finally succeed this month. singles may meet someone special this month and possibly falls in love. This is the month when love and marriage are likely to materialize for individuals who have been dating for a while. Native entrepreneurs may face many obstacles in their new business. Your lack of interest in studying could cause us to lose valuable knowledge in the future. You'll be emotionally weak but your health will be good. So, continue to have faith in yourself as you always have.



Sagittarius

**SAGITTARIUS** : Ganesha says most likely, this will be a lucky month for you, with all of your wishes coming true. Because there's a chance it could mess up your finances or your judgment could be off, you need to be on your guard. Your feelings and emotions for each other can be rekindled by a romantic encounter. Pay close attention to your current clients if you own a business because their assistance is essential in conquering challenges. You enjoy competition and work best in situations where you must actively participate and exhibit a sense of urgency to be taken seriously. Changes in the seasons could cause health issues at the start of this month. You may continue to be physically well, except for minor indispositions.



Aquarius

**AQUARIUS** : Ganesha says be careful. Thank you. Be upbeat. Be honest. Be considerate. Your bosses have been following your professional growth for some time, and this promotion is well overdue. There could be a month of conflict between you and your lover as a result of your melancholy demeanor and outward display. In exchange for your tireless efforts at work, you might, at last, receive some long-overdue recognition. Your enthusiasm for reading as a learning tool may be appreciated by your teachers. You can maximize your gains at this point in the month. Also, gradually stop any diets that could make you put on weight, as this may not be a fun time for you this month.



Pisces

**PISCES** : Ganesha says instead of wasting your good fortune on frivolous activities, it is wiser for you to use it to improve your position. Anything you manage to do now might result in a reasonable amount of success financially. You might attempt to control your partner if you're discussing something important. Increasing their customer base may be a possibility for business owners. The career graph may gain momentum. You should be able to locate a suitable learning interest this month if you are taking any competitive tests. Your physical and mental endurance is probably both exceptional, and you have great stamina. You might be more productive and be able to put in longer hours at work.

Shree Ganeshaya Namah



VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA

**Nastur Bejan Daruwalla is available for astrological consultations. He can be reached at [info@bejandaruwalla.com](mailto:info@bejandaruwalla.com) and on phone +91-9638770377 [www.bejandaruwalla.com](http://www.bejandaruwalla.com)**

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

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - AUGUST 1 TO AUGUST 7, 2022



**Aries**

You are going to really have a good week of festivities. Your efforts will all be successful. Individuals in the scientific and technical professions will see their initials on the advancement wall on a competent level. This week, you'll be itching to get outside and keep fit. Don't make any credit-card purchases this week. This week, you need to be careful with your money since profligate spending can ruin your strategy. Your relationship will make you really pleased this week. This week, you'll face extremely difficult competitors, so you'll need to prove yourself. This week, you may keep in shape by engaging in any of your favorite sporting activities.



**Taurus**

Dear Taurus, maintain your work from behind the curtains rather than showing your claws this week and temporarily postpone your investment goals. Obtaining competent investment assistance can help you manage your money better. Do anything fun this week with your companion. You might not get to spend this week with a close buddy. You won't be let down by the excellent comments you'll receive this week. You will gain from starting a new partnership at work on the commercial side. You must verify every piece of information this week before putting your faith in anyone. Your lazier squad will win this week. Make a new exercise plan and follow it.



**Gemini**

You won't be able to do much this week because of your mentality and sentiments. It's best if you don't accomplish much this week since you'll be exhausted. Your relatives could seek your advice this week. This week, socializing individually will be advantageous. Do not overburden oneself with responsibility. Even though it is difficult, you must talk about communal boundaries. Responsibilities at employment might increase. Now is the time to priorities your relationships. Be chattier and more expressive. Owners of their own enterprises should steer clear of major deals this week and concentrate on smaller expenditure. You will be in a new scenario if you have a normal job.



**Cancer**

You will be capable to significantly improve things, which will give you a feeling of accomplishment that is priceless. You may be sure that God will reward you for your charitable works. This week, if you lose your composure, you could pass on some

significant opportunities. It is not a good idea to encounter your partner's family or engage in a long-term bond this week. Wait for the ideal opportunity since Venus will soon offer you luck. Your account will be refunded for any outstanding debts. A great moment to invest in agribusiness and the culinary industry is this week. Always consult a specialist before making a choice. You could have a little anxiety and nausea this week. Try your best not to this week.



**Leo**

Your week will be filled with happiness, enthusiasm, and confidence. You'll be able to look on the good side of circumstances and experience an influx of uplifting vitality. This week, you're going to create anything amazing. Individuals who are envious of your success will try to bring you off the, but you won't be affected by this because of your optimistic outlook, which prevents you from being devoured by everything. You may want to think about putting a rope this week. Jupiter is in your advantage, so you and your companion will generally have the identical viewpoints. In your location of work, you'll be capable to draw forth the greatest in other people. Your rapport with your team members will astonish your superiors. You'll run into somebody who will inspire you.



**Virgo**

Starting off with the warning first, Perspectives from the Aries zodiac sign should be shunned because such things will mislead you astray. It could impede your progress if certain influential people find it challenging to comprehend your viewpoint. During the week, you'll be more efficient and positive. Your business will embrace novel approaches and put novel ideas into practice, which will be favorably accepted by all personnel. You're more likely to engage in a contentious argument with a pal this week. Hanging out with your companion will help you comprehend them deeper in a variety of situations. Contemplate employing home treatments this week rather than treating your illness with homoeopathic medicine.



**Libra**

You'll enjoy this week without any uncertainty as vibe of Shravan month will bring you happiness. This week, you'll have numerous new employment opportunities presented to you. It will help you advance your career and facilitate unexpected advantages for you. Additionally, this should give you a variety of chances in terms of your monetary and personal life. This week, you need to be careful regarding your economic situation and, most

importantly, avoid giving out money. The best time to invest is not this week. This week, you won't have any illnesses to deal with. You could be able to preserve your health by engaging in some relaxation and light exercise.



**Scorpio**

Dear Scorpio, as far as this week is concerned, now is the time to pay attention to your family members and provide support for them. Keep a watchful check on the health of the individual you respect this week. People will understand they can depend on you amid a disaster. Your familial relationships are now in good shape, and this week you will feel secure because of them. You must be prepared to see things relating to your job this week. This week, you're most likely traveling for business, and it will virtually surely be worthwhile. This week, try to communicate with your partner and smiled a little bit to feel refreshed. Make use of the opportunity you have right now to make tough choices. At the conclusion of the week, give yourself permission to relax.



**Sagittarius**

Your attractiveness will tempt you to give importance to you this week. Your enthusiasm opens up new avenues for you. This week, those without jobs will find their meaning via creating. You must put up a lot of work if you want to achieve your goals. Don't overlook the crucial details this week. Your positive outlook will enable you to finish difficult business tasks this week. You may earn profits this week by buying bonds and diamonds. You may preserve a good psychological condition by engaging in activity and eating a well-nutritional food. This week, you'll also be attracted emotionally.



**Capricorn**

This week will be a good one for you dear Capricornians since a lot of unfinished projects will be finished. The workload will be consistent this week, but you must be certain of your goals. Once it concerns to handling issues between your brothers and sisters at home, you're susceptible to failing. You'll withdraw informally to enjoy quality time alone. The deadline for reimbursements is this week, however there could be a postponement. It will be a simple and enjoyable family welfare. The afternoon will be spent talking and getting up with your relatives. Take in a lot of water. Take measures this week as your wellbeing is at risk.

**BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : AUGUST 8 TO AUGUST 14, 2022  
BY ASTRO FRIEND CHIRAG - SON OF ASTROLOGER BEJAN DARUWALLA**

**August 8**

Ganesha says your partner will be a great help to you and a big part of why you survive today. Even if you'll be too busy working today to adore and appreciate your sweetheart, make sure to let them know how you feel whenever you have the chance. Such good acts should not go unnoticed. In general, your health is going excellent. As the day goes on, you could start to feel more exhausted, but this is only temporary and shouldn't cause you any concern. Avoid drinking anything with caffeine and simply hydrate with coconut or plain water.

**August 9**

Ganesha says you'll need to concentrate on being productive today. You have a propensity to lose yourself in trying to impress everyone. You should change your motivation for striving so hard for popularity and recognition now; this insight will benefit you. You'll have a happy and thankful day overall. Where you were previously stuck, things will start to unexpectedly clear up. You're in good mental health, and you'll have a positive attitude all day.

**August 10**

Ganesha says to increase your fruit and vegetable intake along with your dancing and physical activity, water consumption, and water intake. Walk a great distance and work out as well. The loveliest aspect of your day today will be your love life. There will be many pleasant surprises, so be prepared. You are very close to meeting the person who will be your staunchest ally. Be receptive to the love being expressed to you. Your relationship has a strong chance of blossoming into the next big thing today.

**August 11**

Ganesha says in your business today, you might have a lot of work and important decisions to make. After carefully considering your options, you will quickly complete any tasks that come your way today. Your sign for today, which is your survival toolkit for the day, bestows upon you a remarkable capacity for the organization as well as good tolerance, patience, and steadiness.

**August 12**

Ganesha says you will show your project to your clients in such spectacular ways that everyone who sees it will be enamored with the way you display both yourself and your job. You will generate a lot of

business opportunities and money today. Today will be one of your most enjoyable days ever. You will see exponential progress today since you have been working hard over the previous few days.

**August 13**

Ganesha says for you, today is a day of love and tranquility. There are many people today whose company you will genuinely like. For you today, social engagement is everything. Today, your lover will show you a lot of love, support, and understanding. You will thoroughly enjoy the pampering you receive today, but you must return the favor immediately.

**August 14**

Ganesha says today you'll make some new buddies. Your social life will change for the better today, which will keep you energized all day. You're living a wonderful life right now. Consider that today is a lucky day for you. The future holds great things for you. You'll be urged to make your plans and set your goals for today by yourself. Your leadership abilities will make it easy for you to get beyond any obstacles. Your partner and your employees will leave all the labor and obligations to you, which will make you feel as though you are being tested for strength, character, and patience.

CONTD FROM PAGE 37



**Aquarius**

This week, there will be a lot on your mind. You will have wrought this week because of your busy plans.

In the first half of the week, designers and developers will have to cope with this, but gratification will follow. Try to

put yourself in other people's shoes when addressing their fears. This weekend, be more mindful. People looking for new employment will have better vision. You might even come upon a long-lost friend. Professional paperwork that has been stalled for a while may finally move forward, which might make your week better. Because of minor healthcare issues, you might want to take this week off and

spend it solitary.



**Pisces**

Work diligently this week-session as usual. Over time, perseverance will pay dividends. Dear Pisces. Spend time with somebody who doesn't attempt to change things and appreciates you for who you are. Avoid

getting a fever or catching cold this week. This week will show signs of progress for the company you operate for, which will make you happy to be there. There are whispers that you will receive a promotion. This week, there is a good possibility that your proposal will be approved. Husbands and wives will sense a change in their relationship this week. You'll have to confront your fears this week.

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMA ||



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# Raksha Bandhan: The bond of security

Raksha bandhan is the main festival of Hindus which is celebrated on the full moon day of Shrawan and every year the festival comes in August. This festival is celebrated throughout India and Nepal. Raksha bandhan means 'bondage of security' and 'Raksha Bandhan' in Sanskrit literally means "the knot of security". Rakhi can be made from cotton such as kalva, silk thread, and gold or silver item. The festival of Raksha Bandhan is the festival of brother and sister. This festival symbolizes the love of brother Sister.

On the Raksha bandan, sister prays for her brother's long life with her prosperity and happiness and binds Rakhi on her brother's wrist. The brother gives the gift to his sister and promises to protect his sister and take care of him in all circumstances. This festival is celebrated by the Hindu communities including Jain and Sikh religion and other parts of the world. Raksha bandhan has also been an important tradition in the history of Sikhism, which is sometimes called Rakhdi or Rakhri.

## The Significance

Raksha Bandhan is now considered as a day to celebrate the sacred relation of a brother and a sister. Yet there have been examples in history where in rakhi has just been a raksha or protection. It could be tied by wife, a daughter or mother. The Rishis tied rakhi to the people who came seeking their blessings. The sages tied the sacred thread to themselves to safe guard them from the evil. It is by all means the 'Papa Todak, Punya Pradayak Parva' or the day that bestows boons and end all sins as it is mentioned in the scriptures.

Previously, Rakhi festival encompasses the warmth shared between the siblings but now it goes way beyond it. Some people tie Rakhi to neighbours and close friends signifying a peaceful co-existence of every individual. Rakhi Utsav was first popularized by Rabindranath Tagore to promote the feeling of unity and a commitment to all members of society to protect each other and encourage a harmonious Social life.

In today's scenario, the day has a different perspective. The occasion involves a pledge of life-time practice of moral, cultural and spiritual values. The values and the sentiments attached to the rituals of this festival are worth inculcating by the whole human race, the sentiments of harmony and peaceful coexistence. The festival of Raksha Bandhan assumes all forms of Raksha or protection, of righteousness and destroyer of all sin. The ritual of Rakhi tying has become so important that come what may, brothers and sisters try to visit each other place on this particular day in order to bring back the oneness of the family, binding the family together in an emotional bond of love.

Around mid-August, Hindus all over the world celebrate Raksha bandhan. "Raksha" means protection, and "bandhan" means bound or binding.

In North India, the occasion is popularly called Rakhi, Raksha Bandhan or Rakshaa Bandhan- the tying of an amulet.

In ancient times a woman tied a 'rakshaa' on her husband's wrist to protect him from evil. Gradually this changed; she tied a 'rakshaa' on her brother's right wrist, to protect him from evil influence and those factors which may taint his character, and to strengthen the bond of sibling love between them. On the occasion of Rakshaa Bandhan she visits her brother's home and performs his 'pujan' by applying kumkum and rice grains on his forehead. In return the brother gives her a gift and vows to protect her too. The 'rakhadi' for rakshaa bandhan itself ranges from a coloured cotton string to exquisitely decorated balls of various sizes and materials such as fluffy cotton, 'zari' paper, tinsel, beads and so on.

On Rakshaa Bandhan a second importance relates to 'Baleva' and our devotion to the Lord. Just as Bali Raja offered devotion to Lord Narayan by sacrificing his kingdom and himself, devotees should endeavor to



## Important information

### Raksha Bandhan

Thursday, 11 August 2022

Full Moon Date Start - 11 August 2022 at 10:38 AM

Full Moon Date Ends - 12 August 2022 at 07:05 PM

Observances: Celebration of any brother-sister like relationship

Day : Purnima (full moon) of Shrawan

emulate him. That is the true spirit of Baleva.

Rakshaa bandhan day is important for the priests too, as they tie rakhis on their patrons wrist and in return receive offerings from them. In some parts of the country it is customary to draw figures on the walls of their home and worship them with offerings of vermilion and kheer. The imprints of palms are also put on either side of the entrance and rakhis are stuck on them as part of rakshaa bandhan rituals. Some parts of India also reserve Rakshaa Bandhan day importance for the sacred thread changing ceremony when the young brahmin boys discard the old one and don a new one ritualistically. However, on rakshaa bandhan it is the emotions which are important. The rakshaa bandhan ceremony performed is the symbolic everlasting bond between brothers and sisters that reinforces ties between them even across continents, and it is the one which has the most importance on this auspicious day.

## Stories behind the festival

- The origin of Raksha Bandhan comes from the ancient times when Indrani tied a thread given to her by Lord Vishnu around her husband Lord Indra's wrist to protect him from demons during the war between the Gods and demons.
- Another story believes that demons won the war and captured heaven. Lord Indra, who was unhappy about this, complained to Brihaspati (guru of the gods), who then prepared a raksha sutra and told him to wear it for protection.
- The promise of protection was seen in the Mahabharat too. It is believed that once Lord

Krishna cut his finger and was bleeding profusely. Seeing this, Draupadi tore a part of her sari and tied it around his finger. This is believed to be the reason why he saved her during her cheerharan by Kaurava.

- Rakhi saved Alexander The Great's life. When he had invaded India, his wife Roxana had sent a rakhi to the Katoch King Porus and he had vowed to protect her and her husband. So, on the battlefield when he was about to kill Alexander he saw the rakhi and refrained from killing him.
- The most significant story of the dedication of a brother's promise if that of Emperor Humayun who went with his troops to Mewar when Rani Karnavati who ruled the region then asked for his help. Mewar had been attacked twice by Bahadur Shah and as a ray of hope she sent a letter to Humayun with a rakhi asking for his help. The emperor who was between a military campaign then left everything to go and protect her.

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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."





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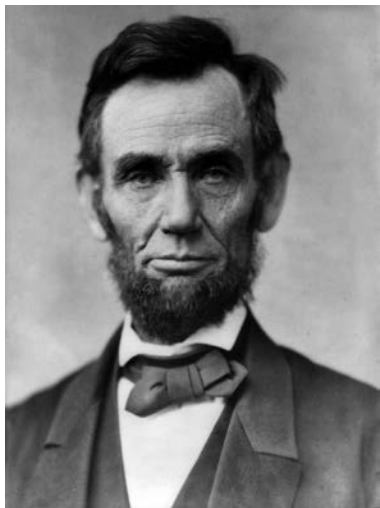
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# This Week in History August 5 to August 11

**"HISTORY, DESPITE ITS WRENCHING PAIN, CANNOT BE UNLIVED, BUT IF FACED WITH COURAGE, NEED NOT BE LIVED AGAIN." -- MAYA ANGELOU**

## August 5

August 5, 1583 - The first British colony in North America was founded by Sir Humphrey Gilbert, a British navigator and explorer. He sighted the Newfoundland coast and took possession of the area around St. John's harbor in the name of the Queen. He was later lost at sea in a storm off the Azores on his return trip to England.



President Abraham Lincoln

August 5, 1861 - President Abraham Lincoln signed into law the first Federal income tax, a 3 percent tax on incomes over \$800, as an emergency wartime measure during the Civil War. However, the tax was never actually put into effect.



Marilyn Monroe

August 5, 1962 - Film star Marilyn Monroe died at age 36 from an overdose of sleeping pills. She made 29 films during her career and came to symbolize Hollywood glamour.

August 5, 2011 - Standard & Poor's credit rating agency downgraded the United States debt from its highest rating of AAA to a lesser AA+ rating, marking the first-ever decline of credit worthiness for the U.S. The agency cited America's \$14 trillion in outstanding debt and ineffective political leadership regarding debt reduction.

Birthdays - John Eliot (1604-1690) was born in Hertfordshire, England. Known as the "Apostle to the Indians," his translation of the Bible into an Indian



John Eliot

tongue was the first Bible to be printed in America.

## August 6

August 6-10, 1787 - The Great Debate occurred during the Constitutional Convention. Outcomes included the establishment of a four-year term of office for the President, granting Congress the right to regulate foreign trade and interstate commerce, and the appointment of a committee to prepare a final draft of the Constitution.



Hiroshima Bombing

August 6, 1945 - The first Atomic Bomb was dropped over the center of Hiroshima at 8:15 a.m., by the American B-29 bomber Enola Gay. The bomb detonated about 1,800 ft. above ground, killing over 105,000 persons and destroying the city. Another estimated 100,000 persons later died as a result of radiation effects.

August 6, 1962 - Jamaica achieved independence after centuries of British and Spanish rule. During 150 years of Spanish rule, African slaves were first brought to the island. The British invaded in 1655 and the slave trade greatly expanded during the 1700s. Following the abolition of slavery in the 1830s, Jamaica remained a British colony.

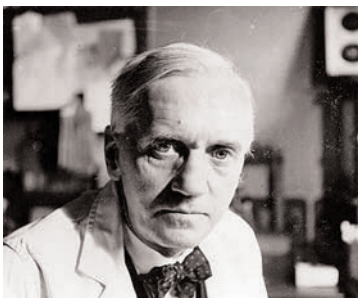
August 6, 1965 - The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. The Act suspended literacy, knowledge and character tests designed to keep African Americans from voting in the South. It also authorized

the appointment of Federal voting examiners and barred discriminatory poll taxes. The Act was renewed by Congress in 1975, 1984 and 1991.



Alfred Lord Tennyson

Birthdays - British poet Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-1892) was born in Somersby, Lincolnshire, England. He was appointed Poet Laureate in succession to William Wordsworth. Memorable poems by Tennyson include Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington and The Charge of the Light Brigade.



Alexander Fleming

Birthdays - Penicillin discoverer Alexander Fleming (1881-1955) was born in Lochfield, Scotland. By accident, he found that mold from soil killed deadly bacteria without injuring human tissue. He received the Nobel Prize in 1945.

## August 7

August 7, 1964 - Following an attack on two U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin off North Vietnam, the U.S. Congress approved the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, granting President Lyndon B. Johnson authority "to take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression."

August 7, 1990 - Just five days after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, President George Bush ordered Desert Shield, a massive military buildup to prevent further Iraqi advances.

Birthdays - International spy Mata Hari (1876-1917) was born



Mata Hari

(as Margaret Gertrude Zelle) in Leewarden, Netherlands. Arrested by the French in 1917 as a German spy, she was tried, convicted and sentenced to death. At her execution, she refused a blindfold and instead threw a kiss to the French firing squad.



Ralph J. Bunche

Birthdays - African American statesman and Nobel Prize recipient Ralph J. Bunche (1904-1971) was born in Detroit, Michigan. In 1949, as a mediator for the United Nations, he helped bring an end to hostilities in the war between Israel and the Arab League.

## August 8

August 8, 1945 - Soviet Russia declared war on Japan and sent troops into Japanese-held Manchuria.



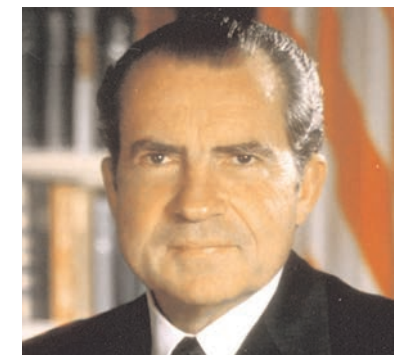
Matthew Henson

Birthdays - African American explorer Matthew Henson (1866-1955) was born in Charles County, Maryland. He accompanied Robert E. Peary on several Arctic expeditions and reached the North Pole on April 6, 1909.

## August 9

August 9, 1945 - The second

Atomic bombing of Japan occurred as an American B-29 bomber headed for the city of Kokura, but because of poor visibility then chose a secondary target, Nagasaki. About noon, the bomb detonated killing an estimated 70,000 persons and destroying about half the city.



Richard M. Nixon

August 9, 1974 - Effective at noon, Richard M. Nixon resigned the presidency as a result of the Watergate scandal. Nixon had appeared on television the night before and announced his decision to the American people. Facing possible impeachment by Congress, he became the only U.S. President ever to resign.

## August 10



Herbert Hoover

Birthdays - Herbert Hoover (1874-1964) the 31st U.S. President was born in West Branch, Iowa. He was the first President born west of the Mississippi.

## August 11

August 11, 1841 - Frederick Douglass, an escaped slave, spoke before an audience in the North for the first time. During an anti-slavery convention on Nantucket Island, he gave a powerful, emotional account of his life as a slave. He was immediately asked to become a full-time lecturer for the Massachusetts Antislavery Society. August 11-16, 1965 - Six days of riots began in the Watts area of Los Angeles, triggered by an incident between a white member of the California Highway Patrol and an African American motorist.

(Read more on [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

Split by a pair of lakes, the city of Bhopal, also popularly referred to as the 'City of Lakes', is a true paradise for history buffs and art patrons. One of the greenest cities in India, Bhopal was founded by Raja Bhoj and features a number of natural and artificial lakes. The city of Bhopal has a very rich cultural heritage represented by numerous historical monuments, religious places as well as museums.

The city can be divided into two parts, the old city towards the north comprising of mosques, bazaars and old havelis and the modern city towards the south. The two major lakes of the city are 'Bhojtal' and 'Chhota Talab', also called Upper Lake and the Lower Lake respectively. Apart from tourism, the lakes are also a vital source of water for the residents of the city. Mosques like Taj-Ul-Masjid, built by Shah Jahan Begum is one of the largest in India, showcasing the rich heritage of the city and the classic Mughal architecture.

For the history buffs, Birla Mahal is a place where you can witness a number of prehistoric artifacts and stone sculptures that date back to the Paleolithic and Neolithic age. There is also Archaeological Museum where you can learn more about the vibrant history of the state and appreciate myriad statues of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva.

The land popularly referred to as 'City of Lakes' is also considered the 'Greenest city in India'. Here are the leading tourist destinations in Bhopal.

### Upper Lake

One of the most famous places in Bhopal, the Upper Lake, locally referred to as 'Bhojtaal' or 'Bada Talab', is the oldest man-made lake in India. Dating back to the 11th century, the lake is believed to have been built by Raja Bhoj.

The lake is overlooked by a grand royal garden called Kamla Park, which is another tourist magnet, tempting tourists into its serene folds every year. The ambience and setting of the two places are too remarkable to be ignored, and warrants a top spot in your Bhopal tour itinerary, without any doubt.

### Moti Masjid

One of the most interesting mosques in the country, Moti Masjid was built in 1862 by the most progressive and free-thinking woman of her time, Sikander Jahan Begum. Crafted with beautiful, pure white marble, the architecture of the mosque holds a striking resemblance to the historic Jama Masjid in Delhi. The dazzling white facade of the monument has earned it the name 'Pearl Mosque', which has a grand courtyard that opens a window to some of the most amazing views of the city. A perfect retreat for history lovers, as well as the curious, Moti Masjid, is indispensable on your Bhopal tour.

### Udayagiri Caves

A magnificent set of twenty sculpted caves that date back to the early 5th century CE, the Udayagiri Caves hold within their walls some of the most ancient icon drawings and carvings. The inscriptions inside the caves associate their relation with the reign of the Gupta monarchy.

A significant historic monument, the caves are managed under the observation of the Archaeological Survey of India. The drawings carved

# Bhopal – The City Of Lakes



depict stories of Vishnu, Lakshmi, Shiva, and Parvati.

### Sanchi Stupa

One of the most unbeatable places to visit in Bhopal, and possibly in entire India, the magnificence of the Sanchi Stupa remains unmatched till date. Believed to have originated in the 3rd century BCE, the building was built in the reign of the great emperor Ashoka of the Maurya Dynasty and is one of the most remarkable Buddhist monuments in the country.

The Mauryan king undertook the task of redistributing the mortal remains of Lord Buddha all across the face of the country in order to spread the reach of Buddhism. The gigantic dome of the Stupa contains a central vault where the relics of Lord Buddha have been placed.

### Shaukat Mahal

A beautiful anomaly of the Asian and Western architectural art amidst the predominance of Islamic architecture in Bhopal, Shaukat Mahal is one of the most frequented tourist places in Bhopal.

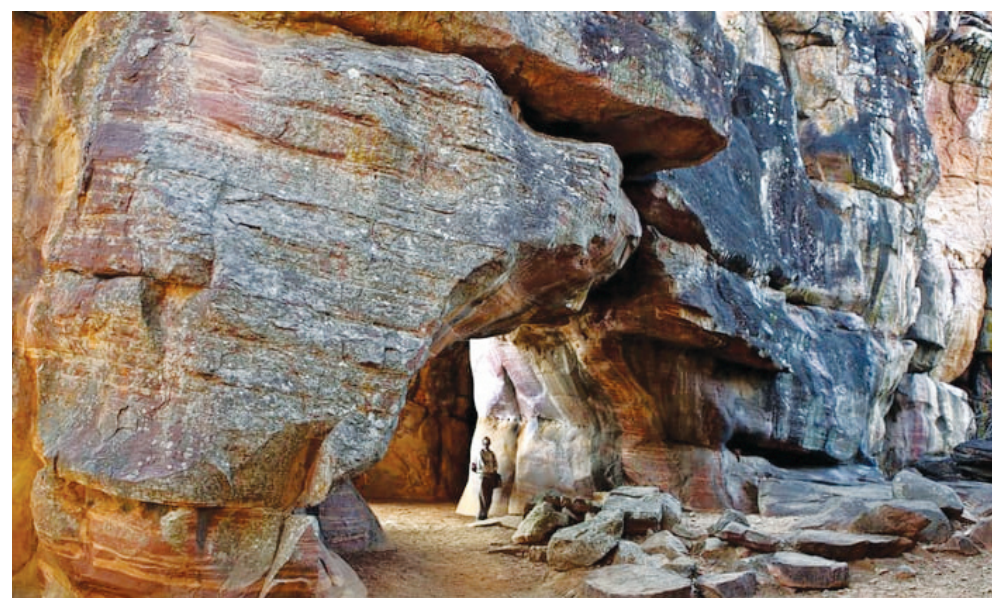
Gracing the entrance of the famous Chowk area, the building, erected in Sikander Begum's reign, also exhibits a unique blend of Post Renaissance and Gothic styles, along with intricate carvings which adorn its glorious face.

Shaukat Mahal is towered by the grand Sadar Manzil, which is believed to have served as the hall of public audience, back in the era of kings.

### Van Vihar National Park

Sitting in close proximity to Upper Lake, the Van Vihar National Park is one of the unmissable tourist places in Bhopal. Serving as the lungs of the city, the park is under strict observation and protection. It is also home to a wide array of wildlife like Blackbuck, Cheetal, Sambar, Blue Bull, Porcupine, Wild Boar, and Hyena, besides exotic floral species.

Also ideal for short day treks, the place is apt for adventurers and nature lovers alike. Vast expanses of dense greenery and the quiet beauty of the place render it mandatory for tourists to



visit it.

### Bhimbetka Caves

Situated at around 45 km south of Bhopal, the monumental Bhimbetka Caves have been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is believed that the caves date as back as over 30,000 years! They are home to magnificent rock shelters, along with some of the

most exquisite prehistoric cave paintings in Asia. The place exudes strong aesthetic vibes, owing to the beautifully sculpted rock formations within the caves, which are fenced by dense, verdant vegetation and woods. One of the most exotic places to visit in Bhopal, the Bhimbetka Caves are truly one of their kinds, which by themselves constitute a timeless piece of art.

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## SREESHANKAR WINS SILVER IN LONG JUMP

Murali Sreeshankar clinched a silver in the men's long jump event to give India a second medal in athletics at the Commonwealth Games here on August 5.

The 23-year-old national record holder soared to 8.08 m in his fifth attempt to finish second behind Laquan Nairn of the Bahamas in a nerve-wracking men's long jump final.

Nairn also had a best jump of 8.08 m but his second best of 7.98 m was better than 7.84 m of Sreeshankar.

Under rules, if two jumpers are tied on same distance, the one who has a better second best effort will be ranked ahead.

Jovan van Vuuren (8.06m) of South Africa took the bronze.

The other Indian in the fray, Muhammed Anees Yahiya, ended at fifth with a best jump of 7.97 m.

Sreeshankar's became the first Indian male long jumper to win a silver at the CWG. Suresh Babu had won a bronze in the 1978 edition.

Among women, Prajusha Maliakkal won a silver in the 2010 edition in Delhi, while legendary Anju Bobby George bagged a bronze in 2002.

Sreeshankar had gone into the CWG as the gold medal favourite on the basis of his season's and personal best of 8.36m, which had put him in joint second ranking in the world this season.

But he struggled in his first four jumps regarding his landing on the foot board. He began with a 7.64m before jumping identical 7.84m in his second and third attempts. His fourth jump was a foul.

He was outside the medal contention at the end of the fourth round as he was at sixth place at that stage but his fifth attempt of 8.08m took him to the second place.



## BIRMINGHAM (TIP)

Bajrang Punia was a class apart while defending his title before Sakshi Malik produced a sensational gold medal winning effort as India's wrestlers grabbed six medals, including three

# CWG 2022: India end weightlifting campaign with 10 medals

## BIRMINGHAM (TIP)

India ended its campaign in the weightlifting competitions in the 2022 Commonwealth Games with super heavyweight lifter Gurdeep Singh bagging a bronze medal in Men's 109+ kg final.

Gurdeep's medal took India's total medal count from weightlifting to 10 -- three gold, three silver and four bronze -- marginally better than that at Gold Coast in 2018 when India had won only nine medals. Though India won an extra medal at Birmingham, what would rankle the Indian Weightlifting officials and supporters is that India could win only three goal medals from Birmingham as compared to five at Gold Coast.

With shooting out of the equation as it was not included in the programme, India had lost a major source of medals in Birmingham and weightlifting was among the sports expected to fill the gap with a good haul.

In the end, it was an up and down performance. Top stars Mirabai Chanu, Jeremy Lalrinnunga and Achinta Sheuli won the three gold medals for India, while Sanket Mahadev Sargar, Bindyarani Devi Sorokhaibam and Vikas Thakur got the silver medals and Lovepreet Singh, Gururaja, Harjinder Kaur and Gurdeep Singh won the bronze medal for India.

On Wednesday, Gurdeep won bronze in the Men's 109+ kg but his performance was not assured. He had only one legal lift in snatch on which he lifted 167kg. In clean and jerk, he started with 207kg, missed on 215 but then raised to 223 and lifted it, thus finishing with 390 kg. Pakistan's Muhammad Nooh Dastgir Butt won the gold medal with a total lift of 405 kg -- 173 in snatch while 232kg in clean and jerk.

On paper, it may look like a good performance as India won more medals than 20018, is disappointing in terms of



Gurdeep Singh and (right) Nitu Ghanghas.

total gold count. Though Mirabai and Jeremy looked as assured as ever in winning the gold medal performance, Achinta Sheuli too was a bit wobbly while winning.

"The weightlifters' performance at Birmingham proves that they still have a bit to do before the tougher events like the Asian Games, World Championships and the Paris Olympics in 2022," she said.

## Triple treat for boxers

Nitu Ghanghas showed her ferocity to demolish Northern Ireland's Nicole Clyde in the women's 48kg category and assure India its first boxing medal at the Commonwealth Games.

Soon after that, Mohammad Hussamuddin defeated Tryagain Morning Ndevelo of Namibia with a 4-1 split verdict to advance to the semifinals of the men's 57kg category. With this win, he assured himself of a second consecutive CWG medal.

The 28-year-old Hussamuddin had won



bronze in Gold Coast four years ago. Hussamuddin had to work hard for the win as it was a fiercely contested bout and could have gone either way.

Nitu, who hails from Dhanana district in Bhiwani, dominated the first two rounds against Clyde before the bout was abandoned.

Nikhat Zareen, the reigning world champion, produced a dominating 5-0 win over Helen Jones of Wales in the 50kg category to enter the semifinals.

Source: Agencies

# Bajrang, Deepak, Sakshi win gold in wrestling

gold, at the Commonwealth Games on August 5. India moved to fifth position in the medal tally ahead of Scotland.

Deepak Punia (86kg) also contributed in swelling India's medal tally by winning the men's freestyle gold but birthday girl Anshu Malik (57kg) had to be content with a silver medal in her maiden CWG appearance.

Divya Kakran clinched a bronze in 68kg, winning the medal playoff in just 26 seconds against Tonga's Tiger Lily. Mohit Grewal won bronze in the men's 125kg category after beating Jamaica's Aaron Johnson by fall.

Such was Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Bajrang's dominance in the 65kg competition that he won three of his four bouts inside first rounds.

The 28-year-old defending champion beat Naurau's Lowe Bingham and Mauritius' Jean Guyliane Joris Bandou by fall before winning by technical superiority against England's Gero

Ramm.

Canada's Lachlan Maurice McNeil fought well against Bajrang but the Indian was far superior in technique and stamina as he won the bout 9-2.

Sakshi beat Ana Paula Godinez Gonzalez in the 62kg final by fall. Trailing 0-4, Sakshi initiated a right leg attack to throw the Canadian on the mat. From there she used her power to pin Gonzalez.

Deepak was calculative in his bouts. The wrestler began with a technical superiority win over Matthew Clay Oxenham from New Zealand and beat Canada's Alexander Moore 3-1, setting up the gold medal bout against Pakistan's Muhammad Inam. The 23-year-old Indian had better stamina and outlasted Inam 3-0.

Anshu, who has taken rapid strides in her career, had reached final with similar dominance. The 20-year-old won by technical superiority against

Australia's Irene Symeonidis and Sri Lanka's Nethmi Ahinsa Fernando Poruthotage.

It did not take Anshu much time to measure her opponents. Her trademark aggression was too hot to handle for her rivals. However, the World Championship silver medallist came up short against the experienced Odunayo Folasade Adekuoroye in the final, losing 3-7.

The Nigerian, a three-time medallist at the World Championships, won her third consecutive gold medal at the Games.

Divya had got a tough 68kg draw as she found Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Blessing Oborududu from Nigeria in her opener. Divya was outplayed by the formidable Nigerian. However, the Asian Games bronze medallist won her repechage round against Blandine Nyeh Ngiri by fall.

Source: PTI

# Dwayne J Bravo inaugurates 'Champion Way' to Paramveers Cricket Complex



A floral welcome to legendary West Indian all-rounder Dwayne J. Bravo, popularly known as Champion,



Dwayne J. Bravo ready to inaugurate 'Champion Way'

**CARTERSVILLE, GA:** Legendary West Indian all-rounder Dwayne J. Bravo, popularly known as Champion, inaugurated 'Champion Way' - the road leading to the Paramveers Cricket Complex in Cartersville - Rydal (North of Atlanta, GA) recently. Owners of the Paramveers Cricket Complex, Jayesh Patel and Sima Patel along with the Paramveers Management were present during the inaugural ceremony which was anchored by USA Cricket Hall of Famer Jatin Patel.

Speaking during the inauguration, the Champion said: "I am so happy to be part of this project that I want to thank Mr Patel for inviting me here this afternoon. We cricketers sometimes discuss among ourselves the possibility of the game growing in the US, which is the largest sports market in the world, and what kind of impact it will have on the game and the players. And seeing Mr Patel's dream and vision, I can very well say that cricket in the US is on the growth path, and I think this is the right step. My

fellow teammates, the likes of Chris Gayle, Kieron Pollard, Andre Russell all of us are very committed to see cricket develop in the US and I think what Mr Patel is doing is a great step towards that.

"I know there's a lot of work to be done but in life once you have a vision and you have a dream, anything is possible and that's the most important thing. Mr Patel, I firmly believe that you're on the right track and I feel privileged and honored to be one of very few cricketers that you choose to invite here this afternoon," added Bravo.

Mr Patel has a vision to make this facility the most popular and unique cricket complex in the world. Patel also wants this facility to be known worldwide as the first family-owned unique sports complex in the USA which can benefit cricket and many other sports for generations to come. It's like a dream come true for the Patel's as they have managed to put together a highly professional and resolute team with extensive expertise and experience

working on this project to accomplish quality outcomes.

The advisory panel of Paramveers Cricket Complex includes Dhiraj Prasanna, former BCCI curator with three decades of experience; Jatin Patel, multi-sports coach who is working as a consultant and advisor; Fort Lauderdale, Florida-based Melton Taylor and renowned Samuel Plummer who oversees the project and leads the facility development including turf pitches and grounds. The panel also includes Dr. Jagmohan Viroja, & dependable administrators Suren Gandavaram and Pramod Pawar who looks after day-to-day operations of this project.

The Paramveers Cricket Complex is now close to 60 acres with the recent expansion added to the original 40 plus acres facility during 2021. Privately owned by Jayesh, Sima and Param Patel, this complex has been a dedicated home of Paramveers Cricket Club since 2014. The facility also houses the youth academy established primarily for the

development of the game among the younger generation in the region. The facility, which consists of six full size cricket grounds (80 yards boundary), is being developed with the aim to make it one of the major cricket facilities in the South-eastern part of the United States.

Plans are underway to build an international standard facility with a pavilion, club house equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. The Paramveers Cricket Complex can very well be one of the best modern technology equipped cricket facilities in North America. The management is also looking to finish five turf pitches this summer with the ambition to make it one of the few international cricket venues in the US capable of hosting national or international cricket events. The Paramveers family, which has been involved in the hospitality business for thirty plus years, also owns a large cricket facility in South Gujarat, India.

(Photos / Anukul Creations Photography and media release from the Atlanta Param Veers)

contd from page 1

## Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj takes over as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations

General Kofi Anan's Blue Ribbon Panel Report in December 2014, she was part of the G-4 team that worked on the reform and expansion of the United Nations Security Council, which is yet a work in progress.

In this period, she also doubled as the Mission's Head of Chancery and dealt successfully with four Prime Ministerial visits coinciding with the opening of the annual session of the United Nations General Assembly in September every year.

An experienced and widely traveled diplomat, she has had postings in France, Mauritius, South Africa, and Bhutan where she was India's ambassador.

She joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1987. She was the All-India women's topper of the 1987 Civil Services batch and the topper of the 1987 Foreign Service batch.

Ambassador Kamboj is married to businessman Diwakar Kamboj and has one daughter.

Her late father was an Officer in the Indian Army, and her mother is a writer-professor (Retd.) of Sanskrit from the University of Delhi. She speaks three languages- Hindi, English and French.

Welcome to New York, Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj.

## Prominent Rajasthani community leader Prem Bhandari congratulates Jagdeep Dhankhar on his election as Vice President of India

Election of Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar as the Vice President of India. He said in a statement to The Indian Panorama that it is a matter of pride and joy for all Rajasthanis the world over that the two top legislative bodies- the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha- are now presided over by Rajasthanis. While Shri Om Birla is the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar will be the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. As a result, the

Rajasthani community which has been waging a struggle for the last many years to have the Rajasthani language included in the Eighth Schedule, feels assured that the two leaders at the top would put their weight to ensure that the Rajasthani language gets its due place and recognition.

Mr. Bhandari recalled a meeting with Shri Dhankhar back in 2011 when Shri Dhankhar had extended his wholehearted support for the inclusion of the Rajasthani language in the Eighth Schedule.

Mr. Bhandari said that he would soon be taking a delegation to Shri Dhankhar to personally congratulate him on his election and to request him to initiate the process of recognition of the Rajasthani language, and its ultimate inclusion in the Eighth Schedule.

# As Heat Continues Into Next Week, Nyc Emergency Management And The Department Of Health And Mental Hygiene Urge New Yorkers To Take Precautions

**COOLING CENTERS WILL REMAIN OPEN THROUGH TUESDAY. TO FIND THE NEAREST LOCATION, INCLUDING HOURS OF OPERATION, CALL 311 OR VISIT THE CITY'S COOLING CENTER FINDER**

August 5, 2022

**NEW YORK CITY (TIP):** As high heat and humidity are expected to affect New York City through Tuesday, New York City Emergency Management and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene are urging New Yorkers to continue to take steps to beat the heat. The National Weather Service issued a Heat Advisory for New York City in effect through Friday, August 5 at 8 p.m. According to the latest National Weather Service forecast, temperatures Friday are in the low 90s, with a heat index value in the mid to upper 90s. Temperatures are forecast in the upper 80s to upper 90s through Tuesday, with heat index values in the mid 90s to low 100s. Cooling centers will remain open through Tuesday, August 9.

"We have experienced some extreme heat in New York City over the past couple of days, it is important that New Yorkers understand the potential dangers of extreme heat," said New York City Emergency Management Commissioner Zach Iscol. "Please take precautions to avoid exposure to the extreme conditions. Remember to stay hydrated and if you are venturing outdoors, avoid strenuous activity and wear lightweight clothing."

New York City opens cooling centers when the heat



index is forecast to be 95 degrees or above for two or more consecutive days, or if the heat index is forecast to be 100 degrees or above for any amount of time. The City conducts continuous analysis with our cooling center partners to seek improvements to the system, and remains dedicated to providing cool spaces for all New Yorkers during periods of extreme heat. Cooling centers located at older adult center sites will be reserved for older New Yorkers, ages 60 and older. To prevent the spread of COVID-19, individuals are reminded to stay at home if they are feeling sick or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. To find a cooling center, including accessible facilities closest to you, call 311 (212-639-9675 for Video

Relay Service, or TTY: 212-504-4115) or visit the NYC Cooling Center Finder at NYC.gov/beattheheat.

New Yorkers can now also find cooling centers that welcome pets throughout the five boroughs. The City has also partnered with Petco to offer New Yorkers and their pets additional spaces to seek relief from the heat. All locations can be found on the City's Cooling Center Finder. As a reminder, service animals are always allowed at cooling centers.

New York City's outdoor pools are open for the summer. Standard pool protocols apply-bring a bathing suit, towel, and lock to secure belongings. Pool hours have been extended for Sunday, August 7, and Monday, August 8 at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Normal pool hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week. More information can be found at NYC.gov/parks/pools.

New Yorkers can access a range of outdoor cooling options, including spray showers, drinking fountains, and more. These resources can be found online at Cool It! NYC. Many of these resources are located in neighborhoods across New York City. New Yorkers can also visit any cool space to seek relief from the heat like a library, movie theater, shopping mall, etc.

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

contd from page 3

## Mayor Adams announces...

"To fulfill our city's legal and moral mandate to provide quality shelter to anyone experiencing homelessness, and to ensure we are providing appropriate services to asylum seekers, we are immediately issuing an emergency procurement declaration to rapidly procure additional shelter and services to serve these individuals and families. We are working across city agencies and with not-for-profit partners to ensure these individuals have access to a range of services, including legal support, health care, and education. We can no longer wait - and this declaration will allow the city to procure sorely needed additional resources as quickly as possible. We are deeply committed to providing shelter and support to everyone who needs it, and we cannot do this work alone. We will continue to work with federal and state partners to procure additional financial resources immediately."

"New York's commitment to providing shelter is an essential part of what makes our city a welcoming safe haven," said New York City Comptroller Brad Lander. "We will work closely with the administration to appropriately expedite contracts and ensure New York City can deliver the shelter and services that families seeking asylum here urgently need."

Approximately 4,000 asylum seekers have entered the New York City shelter system since late May - the primary driver of the approximately 10 percent increase in the New York City Department of Homeless Services' census. Additionally, on average, the city's shelter system is currently receiving over 100 additional asylum seekers looking for some form of housing per day. To protect individuals from federal detainment or deportation, and because the city provides shelter to all who need it - regardless of immigration status - the city does not track individuals' immigration status on intake forms. Accordingly, this is a conservative estimate based on comprehensive interviews of people entering the city shelter system. An influx of approximately 4,000 individuals requires a

significant number of new shelter sites to ensure appropriate capacity.

## JLF USA Returns with Live...

JLF Colorado will celebrate the beauty of the Rockies and the Prairies and the unique vitality of Boulder; JLF Houston will highlight the distinctive culture of the Bayou City, and JLF New York will express the cosmopolitan energy and dynamism of New York City. The festivals will also celebrate the heady freedom of the virtual world with a community of more than 22 million people across the world. Maintaining the diversity of the specially curated program the festivals will offer topics such as Politics and Current Affairs, Poetry, Fiction, The Urgency of Borrowed Time (Climate Change), Latinx Poetry, Bollywood, Identity, Diaspora Writing, Medicine and Technology, African American Voices, Latinx American Voices, Indigenous Voices, Migration and Identity, Gun Laws, LGBTQ, among others.

Sahitya Akademi award-winning author and Festival Co-Director, Namita Gokhale, said, "Our JLF USA 2022 editions in Houston, New York and Boulder, Colorado return with the vibrant energy and excitement of live events. The character and literary landscape of each of these in-person festivals reflects both the local and the global. We look forward to books, ideas and dialogue as the 'living library' that is the Jaipur Literature Festival visits America again."

Managing Director, Teamwork Arts, and Festival Producer, Sanjoy K. Roy, said, "This year we bring to you some of the most thought-provoking sessions which explore a vast range of themes and a stellar lineup of speakers. The diversity among the speakers will present an array of conversations highlighting some of the most important topics in the contemporary world"

In the years 2020 and 2021, Teamwork Arts harnessed the power of the digital space and organized international editions of JLF online. These international editions fused the multilingual literary heritage of South Asia with the distinct flavor of the host regions. With the aim of celebrating dialogue and

the free flow of ideas, the virtual avatar of JLF kept the creative spirit of conversations alive with a distinguished set of writers, thinkers, poets, artists, and filmmakers engaging in gripping discussions. This year, JLF is all set to be back on-ground, in-person, to celebrate the written word and spread the power of world literature.

For more information on this year's programs, visit:

JLF Houston <https://jflitfest.org/houston>

JLF New York <https://jflitfest.org/new-york>

JLF Colorado <https://jflitfest.org/colorado>

## About Teamwork Arts:

Teamwork Arts is a highly versatile production company with roots in the performing arts, social action and the corporate world. For over 30 years, Teamwork Arts has taken India to the world and brought the world to India, presenting the finest of Indian performers, writers, change-makers and visual artistes in the knowledge and arts space in India and abroad.

Every year, we produce over 33 festivals in 42 cities and 17 countries in the fields of performing & visual arts and literature; our venues include Australia, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, the UK and USA as well as many eclectic festivals across India. We produce the world's largest literary gathering: the annual Jaipur Literature Festival; JLF international now travels to the US, UK, Canada, Australia, Qatar and the Maldives and soon in Europe.

Even amidst the upheaval and unsettling times of 2020, Teamwork Arts successfully launched the digital series, JLF Brave New World and WORDS ARE BRIDGES, which were viewed by over 4.8 million people in their first season. Through its digital avatar, the Jaipur Literature Festival reached over 19 million viewers in January 2021 and brought together the world's leading commentators and writers. The digital series Be Inspired was launched in 2021 - a series that crystal gazes into the future with conversations on science, technology, innovation, environment and more.

More information at: [www.teamworkarts.com](http://www.teamworkarts.com)



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# Suvidha International organized a Run for Water event at Quarry Lakes Regional Recreational Area, Fremont



**FREMONT, CA (TIP):** Suvidha International Foundation, a California registered Non-Profit, successfully organized a Run for Water event with 5K and 10K walk/run on Saturday, July 16th, 2022 in Fremont, California State to promote River Rejuvenation water projects in India. Suvidha International Foundation partnered with Art of Living Foundation (AOLF), Overseas Volunteers for a Better India (OVBI) and Silicon Valley Global Impact Rotary Club for organizing this event. Over 200 participants with different ethnicities from the Silicon Valley have participated in the event and had great fun walking or running 5K and 10K.

Suvidha's representative, Bhaskar Vempati started the run at 7:30 AM with over 200 participants. Mr. Vempati spoke at the Run for Water event proceeds benefit River Rejuvenation Water Projects in India. Mr. Vempati said Suvidha International has been working with AOLF, and OVBI in driving the River Rejuvenation Water Projects in Andhra Pradesh. AOLF and OVBI have been working on water projects since 2013.

**The details of AOLF and OVBI's river rejuvenation water projects are available at <https://www.artofliving.org/in-en/projects/river-rejuvenation> and <https://eliminatingwaterpoverty.org/>**

The Silicon Valley Global Impact Rotary Club President, Mrs. Dolly Parikh said that both the world and India are facing the worst water crisis for four decades and 54% of the Indian sub-continent has turned into a water-stressed dust bowl with many rivers rapidly drying up. According to the experts, India will be facing an acute water crisis by 2025 if no preventive measures are taken today. To mitigate the water crisis, Gurudev Sri Ravi Shankar has inspired the Art of Living community to revive lost rivers in various parts of India and other water bodies such as ponds, wells, canals and temple tanks. The River Rejuvenation Project, which started in 2013 with the aim to provide a long-term and lasting solution, has revived 33 dying rivers in four states (Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala), benefitting over 3,000 villages to date.

Mr. Vempati said that Suvidha International, OVBI and

AOLF plan to raise a cumulative million dollars (~ 3% of project funds) over a three-year period: 2022-2025 to help five million farmer families with comprehensive river rejuvenation water, organic farming and tree plantation projects in the six districts of the Andhra Pradesh including Anantapur, Kadapa, Chittooru, Kurnool, Prakasam and Srikakulam. These districts have 500 plus villages. Any individual and group of volunteers can adopt a village for \$2,500 to implement a water project. Suvidha International welcomes all to contribute to a water project by visiting their site: <http://tiny.cc/suvidha-water>

The proposed River Rejuvenation water projects in Andhra Pradesh utilize a comprehensive and scientific watershed management approach to implement managed aquifer recharge in order to improve groundwater levels and rejuvenate the rain-fed rivers that will bring back the glory of the riverine ecosystem. The project also involves eco-restoration, which includes educating farmers, tree plantation on the riverbanks, greening the hillocks, and involving the communities to understand the importance of preserving, conserving, and keeping the water free of chemical dumps. The project engages and involves the communities in six districts through trained youth and women volunteer leaders throughout the three-year project duration. The project is going to build 33,000 plus microstructures over four years including boulder checks, recharge wells, recharge borewells, water pools and subsurface dykes.

Many participants and supporters of the 5K Walk and 10K Run appreciated the event and requested Suvidha International to organize several similar events in the Silicon Valley in the future to support the cause. The event organizers including Chetty Garuda, Uday Jarajapu, Dolly Parikh, Bhakta Balla and other distinguished guests have presented trophies to the winners of the run/walk.

Mr. Uday Jarajapu, from the event organizing committee, adopted a village to support the cause. Mr. Jarajapu thanked the event sponsors, Shankar Pathi - Realtor & Loan Office and TechNet - an IT Consultancy Company and Mr. Bhakta Balla. Mr. Jarajapu also

thanked the participants and all the volunteers, who helped in organizing the event successfully. Mr. Jarajapu especially thanked the local scout masters, Sreevathsa and Archana Japajapu and their scout team, BSA Troop 110 including Sunil Nair, Ranjana B, Archana B, Marissa S, Danita T, Sujata R for their volunteering efforts to support the event and the young scout team that helped the event with participant registrations, distribution of t-shirts and bibs, distribution of water and snacks at aid stations.

Mr. Vempati thanked Karthik Raja and Gregory J Brown for capturing the event pictures. The event organization and volunteering team includes Ramakrishna Talluri, Mini Damodaran, Karthik Raja, Poornima Jarajapu, Pallavi Pershey, Bharani Kuchibotla, Ashok Bolepally, Prudhvi Medapati, Ramya Ramani, Deepak Gowda, Shreya Salagare, Mounika Mudhiredy, Swetha Kusumba, Ram Paleti, Manasa Valipa, Harishitha Ramani, Praveena Ajita Tambe, Shruti Bangad, Supriya Shankar, Sid Roy, and Romesh Trivedi, Neelam Goel, Praveena Talluri, Sriikiran Tadikonda, Sunita Dash, Dipak Sridhar, Vish Yelgankar, Srinvas Anumula, Pooja Gupta, Satej Chaudhary, Pravir, and Hari Tirumanadha.

Suvidha International empowers the villages in both the Telugu States by educating children, providing leadership and vocational training for youth and women, instilling holistic health through yoga, meditation, and other healthy practices, creating awareness on health and hygiene, providing organic farming training to farmers, and implementing water conservation projects. Suvidha coordinates with local government officers and elected leaders, and volunteer organizations in implementing the above-mentioned developmental activities. With the help of state and central governments in India, Suvidha also takes up their village developmental initiatives and executes them. A list of works that have already been completed by Suvidha and other works that are in progress can be looked at <http://suvidhainternational.org/progress>. Several pictures of completed beneficiaries and service projects are included in the above weblink.



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To know more about the work of Eye Foundation of America or to donate, visit [www.eyefoundationofamerica.org](http://www.eyefoundationofamerica.org)

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