



BIDEN WARNS TRUMPISM IS A THREAT TO DEMOCRACY



U.S. President Joe Biden launched a scathing attack on Trumpism and MAGA, September 1. "MAGA forces are determined to take this country backwards to an America where there is no right to choose, no right to privacy, no right to contraception, no right to marry who you love." - File photo

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP):

President Joe Biden sounded an alarm about what he views as extremist threats to the nation's democracy from the restive forces of Trumpism

President Joe Biden sounded an alarm on Thursday, September 1 night about what he views as extremist threats to American democracy from the restive forces of Trumpism. He's aiming to reframe the November elections as part of an unceasing battle for the "soul of the nation."

Nearly two years after he defeated Donald Trump, it's a reprise of Biden's 2020 campaign theme, casting the midterm election stakes in as dire terms as those that sent him to the Oval Office. His prime-time speech at Independence Hall in Philadelphia is laying out what he sees as the risks from those he has dubbed "ultra-MAGA Republicans" to the nation's system of government, its standing abroad and its citizens' way of life.

The explicit effort by Biden to marginalize Trump and his "Make America Great Again" adherents mark a sharp turn for the president, who preached his desire to bring about national unity in his Inaugural address. White House officials said it reflects his mounting concern about Trump allies' ideological proposals and relentless denial of the nation's 2020 election results.

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FIA India Day Parade generates huge enthusiasm for celebrating 75th anniversary of India's Independence

FIA ENTERS GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS

NEW YORK (TIP): FIA India Day Parade, held after a gap of two years, generated huge enthusiasm among the Indian American community. Thousands converged to take part in the Parade. With pan India Superstar Allu Arjun at the helm as the Grand Marshall, the Parade celebrated the diverse culture and heritage of India. As part of the initiative by FIA to celebrate 75 years of India's Independence the parade was a culmination of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav - more than a yearlong festivities earmarked to celebrate the historic occasion.



New York City Mayor Eric Adams leads the Parade. Seen, among others, are FIA Chairman Ankur Vaidya, former President Srujal Parikh and Dilip Chauhan, New York City Deputy Commissioner - International Affairs. Photo / Jay Mandal-on assignment

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Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj launches Kiran Bedi's book 'Fearless Governance' in New York



Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj launches "Fearless Governance", a book by Kiran Bedi (left) in Garden City, NY on September 1. Photo / Jay Mandal-on assignment

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

GARDEN CITY, NY (TIP):

Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, launched "Fearless Governance," a book authored by Kiran Bedi, a former governor of Puducherry, at a select gathering here on September 1, 2022.

"Fearless Governance" describes Bedi's experiences and experiments with governance during her 5 years as governor of Puducherry.

Chief guest, Ambassador Kamboj in her speech mentioned how she became an admirer of Bedi at a very young age when she was in school. She said that her writer mother first mentioned to her about India's first woman IPS Officer, Kiran Bedi.

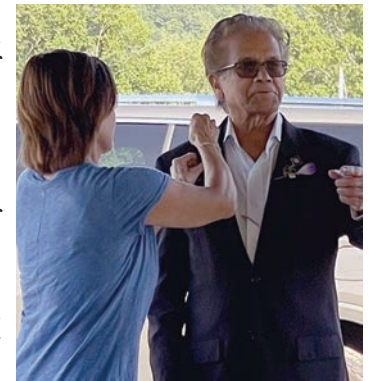
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Dr V K Raju inducted as Morgantown Rotary Club President

MORGANTOWN, WV (TIP): Eminent ophthalmologist and President of Eye Foundation of America Dr V K Raju was recently inducted as 22-23 president of Morgantown Rotary Club.

Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends and problem solvers. Rotarians see a world where people united and take action to create lasting change across the global, in communities and above all in themselves.

Rotary was started in 1905 by a lawyer named Paul Harris and three friends. Meeting in a small office in downtown Chicago, they named their new club Rotary to describe the practice of meeting in rotation at the members various places of business. Together, with every humanitarian project they worked to change the world for the better.



Former Morgantown Rotary President Sarah Woodrum inducted Dr V K Raju as the current president at Mason-Dixon Park.

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Social activist Teesta Setalvad File photo / PTI

Supreme Court questions Gujarat government on Teesta Setalvad custody

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

NEW DELHI (TIP): Social activist Teesta Setalvad has been in custody for over two months and, as a woman, is entitled to "favorable treatment" under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), the Supreme Court prima facie told Gujarat on Thursday, September 1.

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Congress conundrum: On announcement of poll schedule

The organizational polls must stir its workers to life if the party is to survive

Amid turmoil and uncertainty, the Congress has announced the schedule for the election of a new president. Senior leaders are revolting, the party's incumbent president Sonia Gandhi is battling ill health, and her son Rahul Gandhi is unwilling to take on the mantle. The party will be electing a president on October 17, as per the schedule endorsed by the Congress Working Committee. The Congress is also planning a march - nearly 3,500 kilometers across 12 States and two Union Territories over 150 days, billed as the Bharat Jodo Yatra, or Unite India march - to be led by Mr. Gandhi whose future role in the party remains vague. The party has also called a rally in Delhi on September 4 against price rise. To be fair, the Gandhi family finds itself in a spot - it will be ridiculed if one of them ends up as president, and if none of them is at the helm, new dynamics with unpredictable consequences could be triggered in the party. If the Gandhis are seen as backing a particular horse in the

race, that will cast a shadow over the entire election process. All told, the best course for the party and the family is to facilitate an election process that is as fair as possible and use it as an opportunity to open an honest conversation on revamping the party. The party is in decline, and the old strategy of waiting out the periods out of power will not work this time. It is at a crossroads or a dead end, depending on what the Congress decides to do now.

Some pointers to what ails the Congress can be found in the resignation letter written by Ghulam Nabi Azad, who was a key figure in the party for decades. The lack of grace and gratitude stands out in the letter, but Mr. Azad's career itself is proof of the validity of the charges that he makes against the party. With little popularity and no accountability, he remained a key decision maker in the party, became Union Minister for several terms, the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir once, and a member of Rajya

Sabha for five terms, totaling 30 years. Only 11 people have had such a long innings in the Rajya Sabha. When he says that the party is being run by a coterie, he surely knows what he is talking about. In fact, rootless managers who masqueraded as leaders ensured that mass leaders were humiliated and driven out of the party. The list of such people who could not remain in the Congress is long - from Mamata Banerjee to Sharad Pawar to Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. The capture of the Congress party by a self-serving cabal had begun long before Mr. Gandhi came on the scene. No other party allows people who are incapable of mobilizing the masses and winning elections to flourish like the Congress does. The organizational election must stir ordinary party workers and grassroots leaders to claim the party for themselves and show power brokers their place.

(The Hindu)

China in the dock: UN report establishes crimes against Uyghurs

The long-awaited United Nations report that accuses Beijing of serious human rights violations in its mass detention of Uyghurs and other predominantly Muslim groups in the far-western region of Xinjiang is a powerful indictment of the suppression of ethnic minorities. While it chips away at China's insistence of being a responsible member on the world stage, the embarrassment caused by the damning findings may not lead to any alteration of policy. China has already upped the ante by calling itself a victim of a smear campaign led by the West, and the likelihood of any concrete change would depend on the appetite of the global community to seek accountability. Given

the indifferent response and curious silence over the years of even Muslim nations, including Pakistan, on the targeting of Uyghurs, any credible action on that front, too, looks remote.

The significance of the report - published after repeated delays attributed to China's pushback tactics and denial of any ground access - lies in the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights officially recognizing that horrific crimes are occurring. The recommendation of releasing individuals who have been arbitrarily deprived of their liberty on the pretext of containing terrorism and radicalism would, in all probability, go unheeded. However, the rights groups see the report

as a wake-up call for international action. China has summarily dismissed the findings but can no longer deny the existence of extrajudicial camps.

Any move toward further investigation, as called for in the report, would need approval from UN member states in a body where China holds considerable sway. Throughout the past four years, there has been a deadlock on agreeing to any formal call for a more detailed investigation into the crimes against humanity. This has heightened the importance of the report, the release of which presents a challenge to Beijing. The whole truth may not be out, but the lies have been thoroughly exposed.

(Tribune, India)

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FIA India Day Parade generates huge enthusiasm for celebrating 75th anniversary of India's Independence

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Consul General of India Randhir Jaiswal, singer Kailash Kher and Grand Marshall Allu Arjun, among others on a float



Grand Marshall Allu Arjun and Chief Guest Hon. Prime Minister Mr. Gaston Browne of Antigua and Barbuda. Also seen is Dilip Chauhan (extreme right)

The Chief Guest Hon. Prime Minister Mr. Gaston Browne of Antigua and Barbuda accompanied by Honorable Consul General of India Mr. Randhir Jaiswal, Hon. Mayor of New York City Mr. Eric Adams, Deputy Commissioner - International Affairs New York City Mr. Dilip Chauhan, Miss Universe Harnaaz Sandhu, Congressman Raj Mukherji and Formula 3 Driver Atharva Desai heralded the parade that followed as they walked down the Madison Square in New York City with thousands of people on each side of the street carrying the Indian National flags, many having the Tricolor painted on their cheeks, cheering and shouting patriotic slogans.



The Consulate General of India float. Consul General Randhir Jaiswal, Deputy Consul General Varun Jeph, Consul, Community Affairs Vijaykrishnan and the consulate staff

About 50 floats and marching groups beautifully showcased the diverse communities and traditions of India in the largest India Day parade outside India. The Consulate General of India had a float in the 40 year old parade for the first time.

The Grand Marshall Allu Arjun with a reference to a superhit dialogue from the blockbuster movie Pushpa, holding the Indian National flag said 'Yeh Bharat ka

Jhanda hai, kabhi Jhukega Nahi.

Both, Prime Minister Gaston Browne and Mayor Mr Eric Adams, mimicked his signature gesture from the movie much to the delight of the huge gathering.



A bevy of beauties- all beauty princesses and beauty queens



A dance performance by girls



A Bollywood dance



The enthusiastic crowds in the parade

FIA creates History ; Enters Guinness Book of World Records

Earlier in the day, FIA created history by entering 2 Guinness World Records for the number of different flags flown simultaneously and the largest ensemble of

Damru (ancient musical instrument associated with Hinduism and Buddhism).

The FIA had attempted the records to commemorate the completion of 75 years of Indian Independence, which was earmarked as Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav-the celebration of eternal freedom-by Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

FIA President Kenny Desai said that he salutes Prime Minister Shri Modi's vision and efforts, and that the FIA, in its own way, tried to do its bit by attempting the records and making our motherland shine in our homeland. 'FIA has made India proud, and this achievement is a tribute to the unknown and unsung heroes of the freedom struggle,' he further added.

FIA Chairman Mr. Ankur Vaidya said that these records are dedicated to the global community and thanked the community for their support, without which the feat would not have been possible. 'FIA team gave blood, sweat, and tears to the humongous task for over a year,' he added.

He said that this couldn't have been achieved without the help and unconditional support of BAPS Swaminarayan Temple organization and their volunteers who participated wholeheartedly. He also thanked the member organizations for their support and participation.

FIA Secretary and Event Chair for the attempts Mr. Parvin Bansal said that the endeavor required massive efforts and the whole team of FIA volunteers have been



Kailash Kher strikes a Rudra pose with Lord Shiva's Damru
Photos / Jay Mandal- on assignment

working day and night for the past few months especially since the logistics were a big challenge in itself. However, the fact that we did it makes us forget about all the trials and tribulations.

More than 1500 volunteers who registered for the Record on FIA website turned up early morning, and the prevalent atmosphere was of patriotic fervor as the lead conductor Kailash Kher sang 'Hindustan Meri Jaan tu...' and the whole gathering of thousands joined him.

As soon as the judges from the Guinness Book team declared the results, there was a thundering applause and emotions could be seen running high as people hugged and shook hands to congratulate each other on the shared success

Indian American Maryland University professor built 'surveillance machine' for Chinese big tech

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): An Indian American professor at University of Maryland (UMD) allegedly built a machine-learning software "useful for surveillance" as part of a six-figure research grant from Chinese tech giant Alibaba, according to a media report.

Alibaba provided \$125,000 in funding to a research team led by Dinesh Manocha, a professor of computer science at UMD College Park, to develop an urban surveillance software.

The software can "classify the personality of each pedestrian and identify other biometric features," the news site said citing research grant documents obtained by it via public records request. "These capabilities will be used to predict the behavior of each pedestrian and are useful for surveillance," the document read.

Manocha is a decorated scholar in the AI and robotics field who has earned awards and accolades from Google, IBM, and many others the report noted.

He was paid \$355,000 in salaries in 2021, it said citing government watchdog Open the Books. The US military also signed a \$68 million agreement with Manocha's lab to research military applications of AI technologies.

In January 2018, the University of Maryland and Alibaba signed an 18-month research contract funding Manocha's research team.

In the grant document obtained by The Daily Beast, Manocha's team pledged to "work closely with Alibaba researchers" to develop an urban surveillance software that can identify pedestrians based on their unique gait signatures.

The algorithm would then use the gait signatures to



Alibaba provided \$125,000 in funding to a research team led by Dinesh Manocha, a professor of computer science at UMD College Park, to develop an urban surveillance software.

classify pedestrians as "aggressive," "shy," "impulsive," and other personalities. The grant required UMD researchers to test the algorithm on videos provided by Alibaba and present their findings in person at Alibaba labs in China.

The scholars also had to provide the C++ codebase for the software and the raw dataset as deliverables to Alibaba.

The software's "clear implication is to proactively predict demonstrations and protests so that they might be quelled," Ryan Fedasiuk, an associate fellow at the Center for New American Security, said in a correspondence to media.

"The bottom line is that Alibaba financed US academic research that was tailor-made for China's surveillance state," he was quoted as saying.

UMD declined to comment on The Daily Beast story. Manocha also did not reply to multiple requests for

comments, it said.

In January 2019-back when the Alibaba grant was still active-Manocha secured a \$321,000 Defense Department grant for his research team, according to the report.

The two grants funded very similar research projects. The Alibaba award was titled "large-scale behavioral learning for dense crowds," it said. Meanwhile, the DoD grant funded research into "efficient computational models for simulating large-scale heterogeneous crowds."

Unsurprisingly, the research outputs produced by the two grants had significant overlap. Between 2019 and 2021, Manocha published multiple articles in the AI and machine-learning field that cited both the Alibaba and DoD grant.

There is no evidence that Manocha broke the law by double-dipping from US and Chinese funding sources to fund similar research projects, the report acknowledged.

Nevertheless, the case still raises "serious questions about ethics in machine learning research," Fedasiuk said. Manocha's ties to China extend beyond his work with Alibaba. Between 2014 and 2016, the professor worked as a Thousand Talents Scholar, a Chinese program considered a national security threat by the US government. In 2018, Baidu, another Chinese tech giant, brought on Manocha as a senior consultant for its research arm.

The professor has continued to work with Chinese counterparts even after the Alibaba grant expired in June 2019, co-writing a paper with Chinese academics affiliated with the Chinese military-industrial complex in 2020, according to the report.

Indian American Wayfair CEO Niraj Shah lays off 870 people



Wayfair CEO Niraj Shah has fired 870 people, or 5 per cent of the company's global workforce

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

NEW YORK (TIP): E-commerce company Wayfair CEO Niraj Shah has fired 870 people, or 5 per cent of the company's global workforce, as the growth he anticipated has not materialized this year. In a memo, Shah said that the US-based company was "seeing the tailwinds of the pandemic accelerate the adoption of ecommerce shopping, and I personally pushed hard to hire a strong team to support that growth."

"This year, that growth has not materialized as we had anticipated. Our team is too large for the environment we are now in, and unfortunately, we need to adjust," he wrote.

In a filing with the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) late on Friday, the online furniture provider said that on August 19, 2022, "Wayfair announced a workforce reduction involving approximately 870 employees in connection with its previously announced plans to manage operating expenses and realign investment priorities".

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Leading Indian American neurosurgeon returns after 'ghost surgery' charges



Dr. Anil Nanda has returned to Rutgers University after an investigation by an outside law firm found insufficient evidence to prove allegations of 'ghost surgeries.'

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

NEW YORK (TIP): A leading Indian American neurosurgeon Dr. Anil Nanda has returned to Rutgers University after an investigation by an outside law firm found insufficient evidence to prove allegations of 'ghost surgeries.'

He was placed on paid administrative leave last November in the wake of so-called "ghost surgery" allegations that he was not present during critical portions of two medical procedures he had scheduled, a newspaper reported.

At the same time, though, that investigation raised questions about the length of time that Nanda had actually been in the operating room, and whether his actions made it appear that "he was not prioritizing his patients."

The investigative report commissioned by Rutgers was released by the university on Aug 16. But it declined comment beyond a statement citing a threatened lawsuit, the newspaper said.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian-origin 16-year-old Japjobind Singh is solo pilot in Canada



Jalandhar, Punjab born Japjobind Singh has got the solo pilot's license at the age of 16.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

VANCOUVER, BC (TIP): Japjobind Singh, whose family hails from Jalandhar, has been making waves in Canada as he has got the solo pilot's license at the age of

16.

Hailing from Buttaran village near Bhogpur here, he has created a history abroad as in Canada, no one can even get a driving license at this age. The report has brought excitement across the entire Punjabi diaspora there.

Japjobind Singh reportedly started his pilot training in British Columbia and after training in Alberta and Ontario, his final training was completed in Quebec.

His father Gurlal Singh is the former general secretary of the Punjabi Press Club of BC and is now a resident of Ottawa. He had moved to Canada about 20 years ago. Gurlal's younger brother Hardial Singh Buttar is a farm activist here.

Japjobind's paternal aunt Charanjit Kaur Buttar said that Japjobind had been an all-rounder since childhood. "He has been doing good in academics and competing in science and mathematics competitions. He did his graduation from St. Michael's High School. He also had an offer of scholarship in Aero Space Engineering by the University of Ottawa."

She said, "Japjobind's mother Rajinder Kaur ensured that her son remained attached with Punjabi culture and Sikh traditions. So, he learnt gatka, kirtan and tabla. Besides, he was in the school soccer team." But now with his new achievement, the teenager has made everyone in Canada and back home proud of him.

Indian Americans in key positions in Biden administration number over 130

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): US President Joe Biden has appointed more than 130 Indian Americans to key positions in his administration so far, the best representation from the community that makes up around one per cent of the American population.

In doing so he has not only fulfilled his promise to the community that he had made as a presidential candidate in 2020, but also shattered the record of his predecessor Donald Trump who had appointed more than 80 Indian-Americans and his previous boss Barack Obama, who had appointed over 60 Indian-Americans to key positions during his eight years of presidency.

More than 40 Indian-Americans have been elected at various state and federal levels including four in the US House of Representatives. Not to miss the more than 20 Indian-Americans leading top US companies.

While the first-ever presidential appointment was done during the time of Ronald Reagan, this time Biden has appointed Indian-Americans to almost all departments and agencies of his administration.

"Indian-Americans have been imbued with the sense of seva (service) and this is reflected in their enthusiasm to pursue positions in public service instead of the private sector," Silicon Valley-based entrepreneur, philanthropist and venture capitalist MR Rangaswami told the media.

"The Biden administration has now



President Joe Biden has appointed more than 130 Indian Americans to key positions in his administration

appointed or nominated the largest group to date and needless to say we are proud of our people and their accomplishments for the United States," Rangaswami said.

Rangaswami is founder and head of Indiaspora, a US-based global organization for Indian-origin leaders. Indiaspora keeps a track of Indian-origin leaders.

Biden, who has maintained a close relationship with the community since his Senator days, often jokes around about his Indian relationship. He made history in 2020 by selecting Indian-origin Kamala Harris as his running mate.

The list of Indian-Americans in the White House as compiled by Indiaspora reflects that there would be only a few meetings inside the White House or in Biden's Oval Office that would not have an Indian-American presence.

His speech writer is Vinay Reddy,

while his main advisor on covid-19 is Dr Ashish Jha, his advisor on climate policy is Sonia Aggarwal, special assistant on criminal justice is Chiraag Bains, Kiran Ahuja heads the Office of Personnel Management, Neera Tanden is his senior advisor, and Rahul Gupta is his drug czar.

Two weeks ago, when India's Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu, hosted a reception at India House on the occasion of Independence Day, Indian-Americans from his administration were representing almost all major branches of the US government.

Young Vedant Patel is now the Deputy Spokesperson at the Department of State, while Garima Verma is the Digital Director in the Office of the First Lady. Biden has also nominated several Indian-Americans to key ambassadorial positions.

According to the list prepared by Indiaspora, more than 40 Indian-Americans have been elected to various offices across the country. Four are in the House of Representatives -- Dr Ami Bera, Ro Khanna, Raja Krishnamoorthi and Pramila Jayapal. This includes four mayors.

Led by Indian-Americans Sunder Pichai of Google and Satya Nadella of Microsoft, there are over two dozen Indian-Americans heading US companies. These include Shantanu Narayen of Adobe, Vivek Lall of General Atomics, Punit Renjen of Deloitte and Raj Subramaniam of FedEx.

2 INDIAN AMERICANS APPOINTED BY BIDEN TO HIS NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COUNCIL



President Joe Biden has announced his intent to appoint Indian-Americans Manu Asthana and Madhu Beriwal to his National Infrastructure Advisory Council.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): US President Joe Biden has announced his intent to appoint Indian-Americans Manu Asthana and Madhu Beriwal to his National Infrastructure Advisory Council.

The President's National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC) advises the White House on how to reduce physical and cyber risks and improve security and resilience of the nation's critical infrastructure sectors.

The 26 individuals announced Wednesday to the NIAC are leading senior executives with deep experience across a broad range of sectors, including banking and finance, transportation, energy, water, dams, defense, communications, information technology, healthcare services, food and agriculture, government facilities, emergency services, and higher education.

Asthana oversees the largest power grid in North America and one of the largest electricity markets in the world as the CEO and president of PJM.

"Under his leadership, PJM has established a clear path for defining the grid operator's role in the transition to a cleaner, more efficient grid while maintaining reliable electric service," the White House said.

Asthana has extensive leadership experience in the energy industry in the areas of power generation operations, optimization and dispatch, competitive retail electricity, electricity and natural gas trading, and risk management. He is a member of the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council and serves on the Board of Trustees of Texas Children's Hospital, the White House added.

"He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia. Asthana earned a Bachelor of Science in economics from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a Benjamin Franklin Scholar and a Joseph Wharton Scholar," it said.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American teenager invents software tool to spot elephant poachers

AUGUST 30, 2022

NEW YORK (TIP): An Indian American teenager has invented a low-cost tool to spot elephant poachers with machine-learning-driven software that analyzes movement patterns in thermal infrared videos of humans and elephants.

Anika Puri, the 17-year-old wildlife lover, from Chappaqua, New York, thought of doing something when during a visit to India with her family four years ago, she came across a market in Mumbai filled with rows of ivory jewelry and statues.

Globally, ivory trade has been illegal for more than 30 years, and elephant hunting has been prohibited in India since the 1970s.

"I was quite taken aback," Puri told media. "Because I always thought, 'well, poaching is illegal, how come it really is still such a big issue?'"

Curious, Puri did some research and discovered a shocking statistic: Africa's Forest elephant population had declined by about 62 percent between 2002 and



Anika Puri, the 17-year-old wildlife lover, from Chappaqua, New York, has invented a low-cost tool to spot elephant poachers with machine-learning-driven software

2011. Years later, the numbers continue to drop.

Drones are currently used to detect and capture images of poachers, and they aren't that accurate, Puri explains.

But after watching videos of elephants and humans, she saw how the two differed vastly in the way they move—their speed, their turning patterns and other motions, the report wrote.

"I realized that we could use this disparity between these two movement patterns in order to actually increase the detection accuracy of potential

poachers," she was quoted as saying.

Over the course of two years, Puri created ELSa (short for elephant savior), a low-cost prototype of a machine-learning-driven software that analyzes movement patterns in thermal infrared videos of humans and elephants.

Puri told the Smithsonian the software is four times more accurate than existing state-of-the-art detection methods. It also eliminates the need for expensive high-resolution thermal cameras, which can cost in the thousands, she says.

ELSa uses a \$250 FLIR ONE Pro thermal camera with 206x156 pixel resolution that plugs into an off-the-shelf iPhone 6. The camera and iPhone are then attached to a drone, and the system produces real-time inferences as it flies over parks as to whether objects below are human or elephant.

Puri submitted her project to this year's Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair, the world's largest international pre-college STEM competition.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

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Date : 08/30/2022

Dear Mayors Joshi and McCormac,

We are writing to offer our sincere apologies for certain aspects of our 2022 Indian Independence Day parade that reflected poorly on our organization and offended the Indian American minority groups, especially Muslims, from the local area and across the State and Country.

The parade should be and has always been about a celebration of our Indian heritage and inclusion and diversity among our many different cultures and religions.

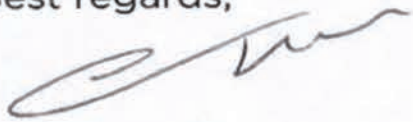
Unfortunately there was a bulldozer among the floats in the parade which is a divisive image that did not reflect our mission. It was seen quite negatively by many who are deeply impacted and insulted by certain activities that have been happening in India. Many who participated in or watched the parade or heard about the activities from social media accounts were offended by this symbol and by comments made by our guest speakers and that was not our intention.

Our parade should never be about politics and should never include these blatant divisive symbols. Our parade should recognize us as South Asians living in two of the best towns in the country.

We hereby make the commitment that we will not allow these symbols in the future and that we will work with all different groups of South Asian heritage to make sure that our parade remains the best in the State of New Jersey.

We have enjoyed a long relationships with the elected officials of the Township of Edison where our parade begins and the Township of Woodbridge where our parade ends. We hope to continue these lasting and valuable relationships in the future.

Best regards,



Chandrakant Patel, President



Governor Hochul announces \$6.5 million to support Insurance innovation for climate technology solutions

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

NEW YORK (TIP): Governor Kathy Hochul, on September 1, announced \$6.5 million to support Insurance Innovation for Climate-Technology Solutions, a new program focused on the research and development of new insurance policies and products that will promote the adoption of clean technologies across New York State. The program will provide funding for products that manage the financial risk associated with climate change, supporting the State's nation-leading Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act goal of reducing carbon emissions 85 percent by 2050.



Governor Kathy Hochul announced on September 1, a new program focused on the research and development of new insurance policies and products that will promote the adoption of clean technologies across New York State -File photo

"New York State is leaving no stone unturned in our fight against climate change, and that includes investing in industries that will develop and advance clean, green technologies," Governor Hochul said. "By promoting innovative policies that will create more sustainable climate technology, we are taking bold action to meet the challenges of climate change. My administration remains laser focused on supporting key initiatives that will benefit both businesses and consumers while contributing to our State's nation-leading climate efforts."

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) will select a program administrator to develop this new initiative, manage operations, leverage industry expertise, and boost research and development to establish new risk models. The program administrator will also select innovative insurance ideas, products, and services, such as insurance for residential and commercial renewable energy projects, that will develop new business models to enable future climate technology

solutions. The program administrator will be awarded up to \$1.5 million to work with Managing General Underwriters (MGUs) and Managing General Agents (MGAs) that can research, develop, and test new insurance products, and it will award up to \$5 million in competitive grants which are anticipated to be announced in 2023.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority President and CEO Doreen M. Harris said, "Addressing the financial risks from climate change through the research, development and advancement of insurance innovation for clean, efficient technologies is a win-win for New York businesses and consumers alike. The availability of this important R&D funding will ultimately support new business models that seek to overcome barriers for bringing new products to

market and build on Governor Hochul's all-encompassing approach to achieving a carbon-neutral economy by mid-century."

NYSERDA will accept applications from qualified organizations through October 12, 2022 and competitively select a program administrator. Applicants should demonstrate economic benefits and implementation in the State of New York. A scoring committee will evaluate all proposals based on the published criteria. Each applicant must show how they can promote the research and development needed to bring new insurance products and services to market to meet the State's climate and clean energy goals. This includes soliciting new insurance ideas, managing the development and growth of the program, and reducing risk for climate technology solutions and services.

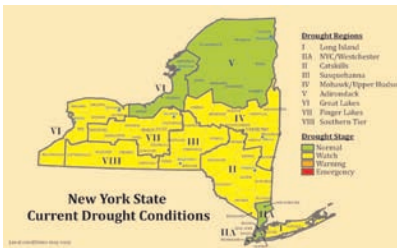
State Senator Kevin Parker said, "Though many may fail to realize the price tag on climate change, the occurrence of floods, droughts, wildfires and hurricanes, which are amplified because of it, cost our country trillions of dollars. When Hurricane Sandy slammed New York, roughly 8 billion dollars of damage resulted due to human-caused sea level rise. The cost of climate change is further exacerbated by the lack of adequate preparedness for extreme weather patterns which have now become more common than rare. Investments such as this- NYSERDA's \$6.5 Million into the management of financial risks associated with Climate-are necessities. I commend NYSERDA for taking action and helping develop insurance policies AND the technology to insure against climate change risk."

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Long Island faces severe drought

Dry summer has made drought conditions worse across the Island

LONG ISLAND, NY (TIP): Drought conditions in New York keep getting worse, and now all of Long Island has been classified as being in a severe drought, according to new data released Thursday, September 1.



Last week, the entire South Shore was classified as being in a severe drought.

But the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which tracks drought conditions across the country, has upgraded the entire Island to severe drought status. Over the past month, data from the NOAA shows that New York has gone from 47.5 percent of the state being abnormally dry to 76.1 percent. More than 6 percent of the state is now in a severe drought - Long Island, New York City and parts of the Hudson Valley. The NOAA says that 14.5 million people in the state are now affected by drought conditions.

According to the NOAA, July 2022 was the 16th driest July on record for Nassau County, and the 6th driest for Suffolk. The records go back 128 years.

Below-average rainfall has led to less groundwater available. Groundwater levels have been declining for the past few months, and the shortage of rain means they are not likely to improve in the immediate future.

Find out what's happening in Plainview with free, real-time updates from Patch.

salujaindra@gmail.com

Let's go!

The National Weather Service outlook for the remainder of the summer predicts above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation. The NOAA predicts that drought conditions may worsen for Long Island in the next month.

Droughts can cause many different problems for the area. Drier ground means that wildfires can be more likely and can spread more easily. It can also affect the crops of farmers in Suffolk County, and can negatively impact air quality.

The Suffolk County Water Authority has been pleading with residents on the East End to use less water. On Aug. 1, the water authority declared a Stage 1 water emergency alert due to the prolonged hot and dry weather in the towns of Southampton, Southold, East Hampton, and Shelter Island.

During the water emergency, residents there must restrict their water usage. That includes reducing shower times and when lawns are watered, and stopping non-essential water usage. But residents on the East End of the Island have largely ignored the restrictions.

Ignoring water restrictions could lead to emergencies, like firefighters not having enough water to battle a blaze. And with drier conditions, fires are more likely.

THE STATE IS ENCOURAGING HOMEOWNERS TO TAKE SOME STEPS TO HELP CONSERVE WATER:

- Water lawns only when necessary, choose watering methods that avoid waste, and water in the early morning to reduce evaporation and maximize soil hydration
- Reuse water collected in rain barrels, dehumidifiers or air conditioners to water plants
- Raise lawn mower cutting heights. Longer grass is healthier with stronger roots and needs less water
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks
- Fix leaking pipes, hoses, and faucets

INDIAN AMERICAN FAMILY INSTALLS AMITABH BACHCHAN'S STATUE OUTSIDE THEIR HOME



Community leader Albert Jasani unveiled the statue of Amitabh Bachchan at the house of Rinku and Gopi Seth in Edison.

AUGUST 31, 2022

EDISON, NJ (TIP): To express their love and admiration for Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan, an Indian American family has come up with an out-of-the-box idea and installed a life-size statue of their "God" outside their home in the Edison City of New Jersey.

Some 600 people gathered outside the house of Rinku and Gopi Seth in Edison, often called 'Little India' for being home to a significantly large Indian-American population, when the statue was formally unveiled by eminent community leader Albert Jasani. The statue is placed inside a large glass box. The ceremony was accompanied by the bursting of fire-crackers and an impromptu dance by a fan club of the 79-year-old Indian superstar.

"He is nothing less than a God to me and my wife," Gopi Seth said. "The biggest thing that inspires me about him is not only his reel life, but also the real-life ... how he manages himself in public, how he conveys and communicates ..."

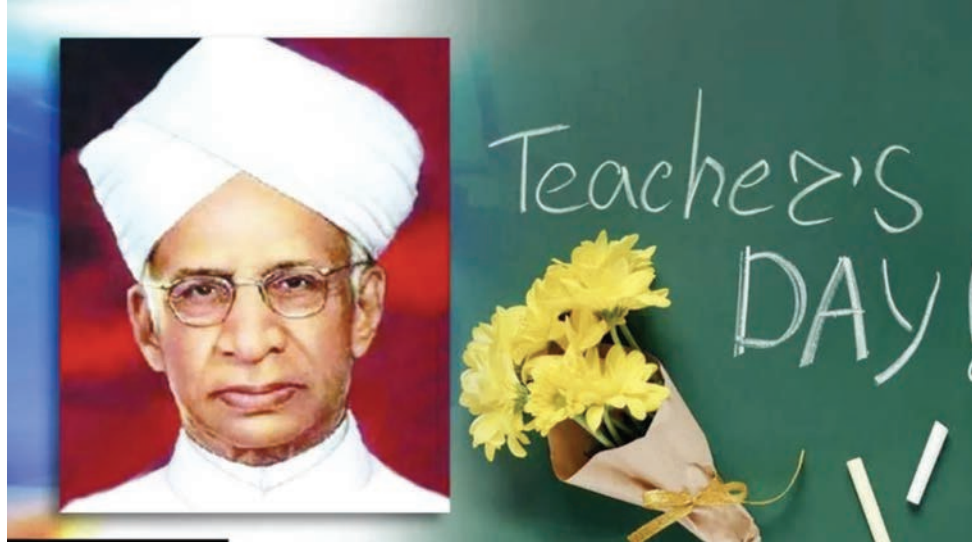
TEACHERS SHOULD BE THE BEST MINDS IN THE COUNTRY

BY
DR. V.K. RAJU



For Dr. Radhakrishnan everything: psychology, epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, education, politics, economics, science, and religion converges and culminates in spirit. He was a philosopher by temperament, teacher by vocation, a statesman by choice, an administrator by discipline and he had demonstrated that versatile potentiality of the human mind suffused with the spirit of service."

In Dr. Radhakrishnan's life there is a message of fulfillment. His journey from a village was neither easy nor fast but it was accomplished by sheer ability and faith. There is an extraordinary reassuring message of self-confidence and determination. He said "all that we have to do is to develop the solidarity about country. That is very essential." An act of one man to inspire that spirit of oneness to belong to one country, one culture, one tradition. That is very essential. This was his message to youth of the country."



The birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the first vice president of India who was also a teacher and philosopher, is celebrated as Teachers' Day in India.

5th September is celebrated as Teachers' Day in India, meant to celebrate the bond shared by the students and the teachers or mentors. It is celebrated every year on fifth September. On this day students express their gratitude towards the teachers for fruitful learning and make them feel very special. It marks the birth anniversary of Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the first vice president of India who was also a teacher and philosopher. Not many know why we celebrate Teachers' Day.

When Dr. Radhakrishnan was appointed as the second president of India in 1962, the students wanted to celebrate his birthday as a special day and asked for his permission. However, he stated that the day should be celebrated as a teacher's day honoring their contribution towards educating the society. Since then, 5th September has been celebrated as teachers' day all across the country.

The first vice president of India, Bharat Ratna recipient, and highly respected teacher-philosopher, Dr. Radhakrishnan was born on September 5, 1888. He also went on to become the second president of India. Talking about his early life, Radhakrishnan was an incredible student and became teacher extraordinaire. He dedicated his life to educating children. He had his own unique way of teaching and was a favorite among students during his teaching career. He was Vice Chancellor of Andhra University and Benares Hindu University where he preached his beliefs about education. He also inspired numerous students as well as teachers with his beliefs. One of the greatest sayings of Radhakrishnan is "true teachers are those who help us think for ourselves".

My mentor, Dr. Rollin Arthur Burn, a famous ophthalmologist in London used to say "there are three solutions for every problem. First is education; second is education and third is

education."

How is teachers' day celebrated today? Teachers' day is celebrated widely in schools, colleges, and universities where students put up programs for the teachers to pay respect to them. The programs include dance, singing, dramas, and recitation to name a few. To make the day more special students also give gifts to the teachers.

For Dr. Radhakrishnan everything: psychology, epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, education, politics, economics, science, and religion converges and culminates in spirit. He was a philosopher by temperament, teacher by vocation, a statesman by choice, an administrator by discipline and he had demonstrated that versatile potentiality of the human mind suffused with the spirit of service.

Among the many outstanding books written by Dr. Radhakrishnan, the book titled, "Eastern Religions and Western Thought" stands out. He devoted a chapter in this book, called the meeting of the religions. He says that different religions have come together.

And if they are not to continue in a state of conflict or competition, they must develop a spirit of comprehension which will break down prejudice and misunderstanding and bind them together as varied expressions of a single truth such a spirit characterizes the development of Hinduism which has not been interrupted for nearly 50 centuries or more.

It is truly significant that he had been able to offer masterly interpretation of the philosophy of Tagore and the ideology of Mahatma Gandhi, even as he had given a lucid exposition of gospel of action enshrined in the Bhagavat Gita, and the doctrine of nonviolence preached by Gautama Buddha.

There was a time when Indian

philosophy and literature were looked down upon by the West. McCauley, an English historian had this to say in his minute on Indian education. "It is, I believe no exaggeration to say that all the historical information which has been collected from all the books written in Sanskrit language is less valuable than what may be found in the most paltry abridgement used at preparatory schools in England." But Dr. Radhakrishnan successfully demolished the profound ignorance of the West. He said "there are narrow minded people all over the world who think that their religion is the greatest and other people should accept. That has not been the tradition of this country. Our culture has spread in different directions in the east and west." After Swami Vivekananda, his concern was to present to the West the richness of the eastern thought. It is not an uncommon saying that Indian philosophy begins where western philosophy ends. It is true from his works that East is East, and West is West; but it cannot be denied that East plus West is the best.

Plato's concept of "philosophy king" and the Indian idea of "Rajarishi" have a striking similarity. This idea was realized in Marcus Aurelius, Janaka, Ashoka and Akbar. In modern times, Dr Radhakrishnan exemplified this concept when he was elected President of India in 1962. In 1964 the Pope conferred with Dr. Radhakrishnan in Mumbai the decoration of one of the chiefs of golden army of angels. He passed away in 1975. Dr. Radhakrishnan started as a teacher and spent almost all of his life as a teacher.

In Dr. Radhakrishnan's life there is a message of fulfillment. His journey from a village was neither easy nor fast but it was accomplished by sheer ability and faith. There is an extraordinary reassuring message of self-confidence and determination. He said "all that we have to do is to develop the solidarity about country. That is very essential." An act of one man to inspire that spirit of oneness to belong to one country, one culture, one tradition. That is very essential. This was his message to youth of the country.

To celebrate the 5th of September of 2022, Goutami Eye institute/ Eye Foundation of America is screening teachers for eye problems in the vicinity of the Goutami eye institute.

HAPPY TEACHERS DAY!

(The author, an eminent ophthalmologist, is Adjunct Professor, Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University, and President of Eye Foundation of America. He can be reached at Vkraju@comcast.net)

How 'being in news' is an advantage to Trump

By Vappala
Balachandran



"THESE DEVELOPMENTS HAVE COME AS AN UNEXPECTED BONANZA, ALLOWING TRUMP TO DOMINATE THE 'SCREEN NEAR YOU.' IF TRUMP IS INDICTED, THE CONGRESSIONAL 'REFERRAL' TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WOULD ALLOW HIM TO LINGER ON THE 'SCREEN', MAKING THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S POSITION UNCOMFORTABLE AS HE IS EXPECTED TO BE NON-PARTISAN. ALSO, THE LONG PROCESS, INCLUDING 'ARRAIGNMENT, PLEADING, PRETRIAL MOTIONS AND TRIAL', COULD BE AS 'BIG A NEWS STORY AS A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION' AND MIGHT DRAG ON."

As the November 2022 mid-term elections are approaching, there is a growing fear in America that the FBI's search of 'Mar-a-Lago' ('sea to lake', in Spanish), former President Donald Trump's residence, on August 8 might be to the Republican Party's political advantage. The US National Public Radio (NPR) has said that it would result in Trump looming all over the USA like "Thanksgiving's pumpkins."

This, together with the US House Select Committee's public hearings to investigate into the violent attack on the Capitol on January 6, 2021, might help Trump keep the "pot boiling." Along with the New York probe into his tax statements, these developments might "define the ambience" during the November elections when 435 seats in the House and 35 seats in the Senate will go for polling.

Currently, the Democrats have only a narrow majority - 220-211 - even in the House of Representatives. In the Senate, it is 50-50. Democrats have only 48, supported by two independents against 50 of the Republicans. This wafer-thin majority is with the help of Democrat Chairman Vice-President Kamala Harris.

Admittedly, Trump was legally culpable in carting away to his Florida home 'Mar-a-Lago' many confidential documents, including those related to some of the most secret intelligence operations.

However, Trump was an unconventional President. He did not feel the need to follow any settled constitutional procedures or conventions.

In a 2018 Twitter post, he had reportedly claimed that he had the right to pardon himself under Article II of the US Constitution. He had seriously thought of issuing pardon to himself and his family after the Capitol Hill riots on January 6, 2021. After the National Archives found that the papers were confidential, his lawyers said that as President, he had the "privilege" to keep such papers.

Certain other factors have helped Trump to claim "victimhood" and cry "political vendetta." The August 8 FBI "search" was unprecedented in US history. This was the first time a former US President's residence was searched. It was also the first time that the US Justice Department (DOJ), which supervises the FBI, was undertaking such a search in its 152-year history. That



Trump's sprawling home, 'Mar-a-Lago', that was raided by the FBI. (Inset- Donald Trump)

helped Trump to say that it was an "assault" which "could only take place in broken Third World countries."

Soon after the "raid", Republican Party leaders alleged political witch-hunt. They said that the DOJ was being "weaponized" to prevent Trump from running for President in 2024. They warned Biden appointee Attorney-General Merrick B Garland of "payback" if they gained majority in the Congress in the November 2022 elections. "Attorney-General Garland, preserve your documents and clear your calendar," they said.

Resembling our Opposition-ruled states' derecognition of the CBI's investigation in their states, a Florida State Republican legislator, Anthony Sabatini, urged his State Assembly to call an emergency session to legally derecognize the jurisdiction of the DOJ and arrest the FBI agents who were operating in their state.

These incidents have emboldened Trump supporters to wrest leadership of the Republican Party from dissidents and turn him into an election mascot. In February, the Republican National Convention (RNC) had overwhelmingly censured Representatives Liz Cheney of Wyoming and Adam Kinzinger of Illinois for "crossing the line" by joining the US House Select Committee which is conducting public hearings on the January 6 incidents.

On August 16, Liz Cheney was defeated in her Wyoming Republican primary. Trump gleefully said that it was a "wonderful result for America, and a complete rebuke of the Unselect Committee of political Hacks and Thugs." The NPR said that more than 120 Republicans, who had supported Trump's statement that he was "cheated" during the 2020 Presidential elections, had won the Republican primaries for different offices and would be contesting for different positions.

These developments have come as an unexpected bonanza, allowing Trump to dominate the "screen near you." If Trump is indicted, the Congressional "referral" to the Justice Department would allow him to linger on the "screen", making the position of Attorney-General Merrick B Garland uncomfortable as he is expected to be non-partisan under the 1789 Judiciary Act.

Also, the long process, including "arraignment,

pleading, pretrial motions and trial", could be as "big a news story as a presidential election" and might drag on like the different stages of the next presidential election. Such publicity might get more sympathy for Republican Party.

Even after all these efforts, there is no guarantee that the DOJ would finally go for Trump's prosecution. This feeling is based on the fate of former FBI Director Robert Mueller's enquiry between 2017 and 2019 on the alleged Russian interference in the 2016 presidential elections and why he stopped short of recommending Trump's prosecution. Mueller had told the House Judiciary Committee on July 24, 2019, that he refrained from indicting President Donald Trump on account of the longstanding Justice Department policy of abiding by the opinion of the agency's Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) that a sitting President cannot be charged with a federal crime.

Mueller also told the committee that he had found "multiple acts by the President that were capable of exerting undue influence over law enforcement investigations, including the Russian interference and obstruction investigations." He added that he had indicted 34 individuals and three Russian businesses on charges ranging from computer hacking to conspiracy and financial crimes. These indictments had resulted in five sentences to prison and seven guilty pleas.

Why did the Justice Department Counsel say so? The OLC is reported to have said that "the indictment or criminal prosecution of a sitting President would unconstitutionally undermine the capacity of the executive branch to perform its constitutionally assigned functions." Media reports in 2019 had also added that there were no Supreme Court rulings on this issue. Finally, Mueller had left it to the Congress to take a decision as Trump was in office.

Will the Biden administration's Office of Legal Counsel in the Department of Justice also maintain the same stand since Trump was in office till January 20, 2021? If so, that will be Trump's final political victory and it might set the stage for the 2024 elections.

(The author is a Former Special Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, government of India)

An Open Letter to Sonia Gandhi

BY GEORGE
ABRAHAM



Hon. Sonia Ji,

It is with sadness that I write this letter as we watch several stalwarts who labored for the Congress party over the years say goodbye. The 2024 national elections are fast approaching. The Congress party has a monumental task ahead if we are to stand any chance against the Modi juggernaut.

Since Mr. Rahul Gandhi has resolved not to run for any party post, I make the following case below. Without casting blame against anyone for the current fiasco, let me state that INC can redeem itself in the nation's eye while giving a fresh start if we select/elect someone of a great stature who can make an immediate impact. That person is none other than Dr. Shashi Tharoor. Anyone chosen else from the inner circle will have minimum impact and will be perceived only as an underling of the current system of governance. The Congress party can ill-afford to keep losing the perception battle.

Why should Shashi Tharoor be a candidate for the president of the AICC



Sonia Gandhi and Shashi Tharoor discuss a weighty issue

First and foremost, the road to Delhi for the next non-BJP Government runs through South India. The Hindi belt is irretrievably lost for now and will take decades of work to rebuild. Therefore, selecting a leader like Mr. Shashi Tharoor from the South will only be advantageous in coalescing other reluctant leaders of the regional parties in the South and the East to join the fray.

Mr. Shashi Tharoor is considered by many to be a dynamic leader with scholarship, charisma, a pan-Indian appeal, and the wisdom to lead the party from the current doldrums. Shashi is a true admirer of Jawaharlal Nehru and a great proponent of the Nehruvian vision for India. He is a great advocate of secularism and argues strongly for a pluralistic India as a foundational philosophy for the society-at-large. He is known as a thinker in the Nehruvian mode and has authored several books and written extensively through articles and columns in several countries.



Shashi Tharoor's speech at Oxford stands out as a masterpiece

He is a master communicator who speaks several languages, including Hindi and Bengali, other than his native tongue Malayalam. His linguistic skillset in English is quite

unrivaled. He is known to speak French as well. His oratorical skills are unmatched by very few, even in the international arena; his speech at Oxford stands out as a masterpiece. His debating skills and way with words are pretty evident across the visual and social media worldwide and will give any opponent a run for the money.

He has proved himself a great parliamentarian willing to do the research necessary to debunk many of the Government's assertions. His learning skills are spectacular, and his speeches at the Lok Sabha reflect how well he analyzes data and disseminates the information for easy consumption by the public. No wonder he has won three times from a parliament seat in Kerala that the CPM could have easily captured.

We all know that he is someone who has run for the office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has a wealth of knowledge and experience in world affairs with friendship with several world leaders who are his peers. He possesses strong leadership skills as he has administered the international peacekeeping operation under Secretary-General Kofi Annan and was the head of the Department of Public Information for the United Nations before leaving the U.N.

He is considered a mass leader who would attract a crowd anywhere he appears. The great demand for his participation during campaigns across India clearly indicates his mass appeal. His possible appointment will motivate millions of young people to take a fresh look at the Congress party and may sway others who were estranged during the last decade.

He is a 24x7 workaholic with the willpower to outwork any opponent or adversary toward achieving goals. He appears to be willing to delegate and is not at all defensive about issues as regard public policies. He relates well to people with diverse backgrounds in society and is empathetic to the plight of the poor and disadvantaged.

He maintains excellent relationships with all religious groups and heads of religious organizations and firmly believes that a secular India is not hostile to any religion. Although religion is no bar to holding the title, he considers himself a proud Hindu while rejecting the exclusive Hindutva philosophy promoted by ultra-nationalists and Hindu fundamentalists.

Finally, he is considered a man of integrity and honor who has served his constituency with ultimate dedication with a proven track record of an impressive body of work with a long-lasting impact on the lives of ordinary citizens. He has the maturity, knowledge, and skillset to lead the Congress party to a new horizon. It will also forever put to rest the dynasty and nepotism issue BJP is counting on exploiting to garner votes.

Yours and Rahul Ji's support is crucial in this regard, and Mr. Tharoor can never shadow your position and influence in the party, but rather it would be complimentary. Mr. Tharoor, by nature, is a trust-worthy individual who has spoken of the deep respect he has for you, has defended Mr. Gandhi on several occasions, and believes in the dream of your husband, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, and his dream of "an India, strong, self-reliant and in the front ranks of the nations of the world."

This dream is systematically being demolished by those in the sitting Government with a reckless disregard for the sacrifices of not just our founding fathers but also Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was one of the last of the foundation layers of modern India.

After speaking with many people both in India and abroad and gathering their personal views, I am writing to share a nation's hopes, aspirations, and pulse at a precipice. Congress must lead the way forward out of the deep abyss the country is sliding into by near destruction of our most cherished democratic principles.

I personally beseech you, on behalf of a nation under siege, to consider Mr. Shashi Tharoor as a candidate for the position of the Presidency of the AICC and urge, guide, and lead the Congress party to support Mr. Tharoor. Time is of the most critical essence. The Congress party must be audible and visible in the nation's mind for all the right reasons. The news media are now abuzz with what they describe as a "dysfunctional" party that learns no lessons. Mr. Tharoor becoming President of AICC will start to turn the tide of perception in favor of the Congress party.

Mr. Tharoor is Gandhian in principle, Nehruvian in vision, Patel-esque in will. All these traits will endear him to the masses, the daughters of India, the young, the aspiring, the creative, the captains of industry, and the reasonable thinkers who are aghast at the demolition of our hard-fought democratic, secular republic.

We must do all we can to strengthen the Congress party so that it presents a formidable alternative before the 2024 elections. Congress will not survive another loss. And India will change its face as we know it. Congress must lead the way. Mr. Tharoor's Presidency of the AICC will be a step in that direction.

India is pining. India is waiting.

If not now, then when? If not Congress, then who?

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

George Abraham, Vice-Chair- Indian Overseas Congress, USA
New York, August 26, 2022

Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan: A portrait of a teacher par excellence

Teachers' Day in India is celebrated on September 5 on the birth anniversary of former President Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan

Teachers' Day in India is celebrated on 5th September to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. He was a renowned scholar, recipient of Bharat Ratna, first Vice-President, and second President of independent India. He was born on 5 September, 1888. As an educationist, he was an advocate of edification and was a distinguished envoy, academician, and above all a great teacher.

A great philosopher and a statesman, Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan played a vital role in enhancing India's educational system.

Born in 1882, in a town called Tirutani in Andhra Pradesh, his father wanted him to take on the role of a priest. But his talents brought him to join schools in Tirupati and Vellore and he eventually joined prestigious Christian College, Madras, in order to study philosophy. He believed that the study of Indian philosophy and its interpretation in western terms would cast off imperial inferiority complex and give countrymen a new sense of esteem. His popularity among students was at the peak at the Presidency College in Madras and the University of Calcutta, where he served as a professor.

He later served as the Vice Chancellor of both Andhra University and Banaras Hindu University and was recognised by Oxford University when he was called to fill the Chair of Spalding Professor of Eastern Religions. In 1939, he was elected Fellow of the British Academy. Dr Radhakrishnan was ambassador to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) from 1949 to 1952 and became Vice President of India from 1952 and in 1962, he chosen as the second President of India. Also, in order to celebrate his esteemed position, his students suggested that his birthday to be celebrated as 'Radhakrishnan Day'. However, he declined this move and suggested that "Instead of celebrating my birthday, it would be my proud privilege if September 5 is observed as Teachers' Day." "He has served his country in many capacities. But above all, he is a great teacher from whom all of us have learnt much and will continue to learn. It is India's peculiar privilege to have a great philosopher, a great educationist and a great humanist as her President," Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru once said on Radhakrishnan.

Professional Life

In 1918, Doctor Radhakrishnan was appointed as the Professor of Philosophy, in the University of Mysore. Three years later, he was appointed as a Professor to King George V Chair of Mental and Moral Science in the University of Calcutta. Dr. Radhakrishnan even represented the University of Calcutta at the Congress of the Universities of the British Empire in June 1926 and the International Congress of Philosophy at the Harvard University in September 1926. In 1929, Dr. Radhakrishnan was invited to take the post vacated by Principal J. Estlin Carpenter, in Manchester College, Oxford. In Oxford, Dr. Radhakrishnan lectured the students on Comparative Religion. From 1936-39, he served as the Spalding Professor of Eastern Religions and Ethics at Oxford University. In 1939, he was elected Fellow of the British Academy. From 1939-48, he was the Vice-Chancellor of the Banaras Hindu University. He later held offices that dealt with India's national and international affairs. He was the leader of the Indian delegation to UNESCO during 1946-52. Dr. Radhakrishnan served as the Ambassador of India to U.S.S.R. during 1949-52. He was also a member of the Constituent Assembly of India.

His Works

Dr. Radhakrishnan penned down a number of books



The teachings and philosophies of Radhakrishnan remain relevant even to this day. (Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons)

during his lifetime, some of which are like The Hindu View of Life, The Idealist View of Life, Religion and Society, Eastern Religions and Western Thought and A Source Book in Indian Philosophy. He had also written for some of the most reputed international journals.

Presidency of India

Dr. Radhakrishnan was the Vice-President of India from 1952 to 1962 and the President, General Conference of UNESCO, from 1952 to 1954. He held the office of the Chancellor, University of Delhi, from 1953-62. In May 1962, Dr. Radhakrishnan became the President of India, a post he served till May 1967. He was honored with Bharat Ratna in 1954. He was also knighted by the British government in the year 1931, but, he used only his academic title 'Doctor' throughout his life.

Contribution towards Indian Education: Just after Independence Dr. Radhakrishnan Chaired the University Education Commission in 1948-49. As Erich Fromm told "Education makes machines which act like men and produces men who act like machines," he realized that our Education system does not appear to fulfill the true aim of education. He said, "The three things- vital dynamism, intellectual efficiency and spiritual direction together constitute the proper aim of education. Moral and spiritual training is an essential part of education.

Enfranchisement of the mind, freedom from prejudice and fanaticism, and courage are essential. What we need today is the education of the whole man-physical, vital, mental, intellectual and spiritual. If education is to help us to meet the moral challenge of the age and play its part in the life of the community, it should be liberating and life giving. It must give a basic meaning to personality and existence and equip us with the power to overcome spiritual inertia and foster spiritual sensitivity. Seat of learning should produce men and women who will move together to develop common ideals and purposes, love each other and co-exist to create a co-operative common wealth."

Radhakrishnan had also strongly recommended the

teaching of spiritual and ethical aspects of the religions as it is evident in the report of the University education commission of which he was the Chairman. The report maintained that: "Unless morality is taken in a larger sense it is not enough. If we exclude the spiritual training in our institutions, we would have to be untrue to our whole historical development. To be secular is not to be religiously illiterate. It is to be deeply spiritual and not narrowly religious." To enable students to become enlightened civilized citizen, he used to lay stress on the need of ethical teaching while addressing them.

Significance of celebrating Teachers' Day

The Radhakrishnan Commission's suggestions helped mould the education system for India's needs. Dr Radhakrishnan believed that "teachers should be the best minds in the country". Teachers Day is the only occasion when we remember the time spent with our teacher, what they taught and what we are today. Teacher guides us towards the success in every aspect of life. Teachers are the prime movers who commit their whole life to the welfare of the youth; hence they are the greatest builders of a society or a nation. If we are proud of our country, our progress, our wealth and power, then we should be proud of our teachers.

When Dr APJ Abdul Kalam became President of India, he located his centenarian class VIII science teacher Siva Subramania Iyer (who had changed his life with a lesson on how birds fly) in Tamil Nadu and put him on stage with him to share his honour. Dr Kalam said, "The launch of the rocket is most crucial. If it is given the right take-off, it can reach the moon. The teacher is the launching pad of every great person who reaches for the sky." Dr. Manmohan Singh said, "Through teachers, flow the values and culture of a nation and its people,"

On this day, we gratefully remember the great educationist, apart from honoring all the teachers that have made our life much more knowledgeable and fulfilled, as serving as our beacons of light.

29-Year-old Indian American woman hiker swept away by flash flood in Utah found dead

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

SACRAMENTO (TIP): A 29-year-old Indian-American woman hiker, who got swept away in a flash flood last week at the Zion National Park in the US state of Utah, has been found dead, according to a senior official from the park.

Jetal Agnihotri of Tucson, Arizona, went missing on August 19 when flash floods swept multiple hikers off their feet, forcing park rangers and officials to launch rescue operations, the media reported on Tuesday, August 23.

Agnihotri's body was found on Tuesday, August 23 in the Zion national park's Virgin River after a thorough rescue operation by the rangers, park superintendent Jeff Bradybaugh said in a statement.



Jetal Agnihotri's body was found on Tuesday, August 23 in the Zion National Park's Virgin River

"Our deepest sympathy goes out to the friends and family of Jetal Agnihotri," the statement said.

Zion National Park is among the United States' most visited recreation areas even though it frequently becomes hazardous and is put under flood warnings by the National Weather Service, the report said.

Floods can create danger for experienced hikers and climbers as well as the many novices who have flocked to the park since the pandemic bolstered an outdoor recreation boom.

Despite warnings, flash flooding routinely traps people in the park's slot canyons, which are as narrow as windows in some spots and hundreds of feet deep, the report said.

NIAASC HOLDS ITS 33RD CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO ON MENTAL, PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH



Audience



Inaugural candle lighting. From L to R : Harish Doshi, Madhura Sane, Gopi Nair, Santosh Kumar, Rajeshwar Prasad, Gunjan Rastogi, Vasundhara Kalasapudi, Shree Guruswamy, Roshita Pandey



Presenting Certificate to Santosh Kumar. From L to R: Dipti Shah, Rajeshwar Prasad, Santosh Kumar, Gunjan Rastogi, Vasundhara Kalasapudi, Roshita Pandey

CHICAGO (TIP): National Indo-American Association for Senior Citizens (NIAASC) held its 33rd Conference on 26th Aug 2022 in Naperville, Chicago in collaboration with Metropolitan Asian Family Services (MAFS) on Mental, Physical and Spiritual Health.

The conference started by lighting the auspicious lamp by all the dignitaries followed by the beautiful Ganesh Vandana kathak performance by the graceful Madhura Sane. All esteemed guests and panel of speakers Ms. Gunjan Rastogi; Mr. Rajeshwar Prasad; Dr. Vasundhara Kalasapudi; State Rep Janet Yang Rohr; Ms. Sadia Covert, DuPage County Board member; Dr. Radhika L. Chimata; Dr. Santosh Kumar; Mr. Harish Doshi, MD International University of Vedic Wellness; Shree Guruswamy, case worker and social activist and Mr. Gopi Nair, the renowned motivational speaker addressed a very important issue that not just the senior community but all of us as a society are facing - the issue of Mental or behavioral health in the conference.

Ms. Gunjan Rastogi, apprised us that NIAASC works with Indo-American organizations in providing technical and logistic support in organizing activities for seniors. When it comes to mental health, she believes depression is something that can occur to anyone irrespective of age, gender, and status. Mr. Rajeshwar Prasad stated that NIAASC is not just a theory; it's a practice. He also mentioned that NIAASC has nine different language-speaking people to serve the community. Mr. Rajeshwar Prasad honored Dr. Santosh

Kumar by giving her a certificate of appreciation. Vasundhara Kalasapudi, M.D. geriatric psychiatrist shared their journey of serving seniors in the New York area. India Home is a non-profit organization dedicated to addressing the needs of and empowering the South Asian and Indo-Caribbean senior immigrant community in New York City through culturally competent services. Anybody can join the India Home even if the senior is on a tourist visa and enjoy their services.

Dr. Radhika L. Chimata, Psychiatrist & Neurologist gave a deep knowledge of the Importance of Mental Health. In her speech, she stated Mental health is a state of mind. When you're mentally healthy, your feelings, actions, and relationships are in a good place. You're able to live, learn, work, and enjoy your life. She shares her personal experience as a Psychiatrist & Neurologist which was related to the South Asian community.

Mr. Harish Doshi gave a presentation on Ayurveda & Mind-Body Connection. He highlighted the PPD (Psycho Physiological Disorders) or Psychosomatic Disorders & Its management with Ayurveda. The conference ended with a positive approach given by Mr. Gopi Nair in his speech on the Importance of Gratitude. 'Gratitude is the only attitude a person should have; this is the mantra he gave to all of us to lead a happy life. Such a positive vibe he created at the end of the conference.

All speakers handled the questionnaire patiently. As they were speaking in Hindi the seniors felt more comfortable asking questions. All the speakers were

honored by giving them a shawl and the book 'India Calling 2022' by Dr. Santosh Kumar. Ms. Radhika Subramanian, Public Benefits Coordinator sums up the conference and gave a vote of thanks to all speakers, guests, and attendees.

The conference was very ably emceed by Ms. Roshita Pandey, MAFS Grant Manager. She introduced and thanked NIAASC President Ms. Gunjan Rastogi; Founder Chairman NIAASC Mr. Rajeshwar Prasad; Geriatric Psychiatrist, Founder and Executive Director of India Home and NIAASC Board member Dr. Vasundhara Kalasapudi for collaborating with MAFS. Dr. Santosh Kumar, Founder, and Executive Director of MAFS and a NIAASC Board member, welcomed all for coming to attend a very timely conference on mental health. Dr. Santosh Kumar stated that mental health is a subject that is hidden under the sheet. Even though the pandemic has made mental health worse, it helped us to bring this topic to discuss at this conference and we have very specialized speakers on mental health. She also believed that mental health is not taboo, but it is a sensitive topic.

NIAASC is a non-profit 501c3 organization. It is the leading national information, referral, and advocacy organization committed to the well-being and quality of life of Indo-Americans in their senior years. NIAASC will be holding its Annual Meeting in New York on Dec 6th for information or membership queries, kindly email NIAASC@aol.com.

IAS India 76th Independence Day Celebrations - Parade at California State Capitol & Celebrations

SACRAMENTO (TIP): About three thousand people from the Greater Sacramento area and further away in the California-USA, attended to witness the Indian Independence Day celebrations organized by the Indian Association of Sacramento (IAS). After 2 years of virtual celebrations due to the COVID-19 pandemic, IAS resumed in-person India Day Celebrations this August. On Aug 20th, 2022 at 10 AM, IAS unfurled the Indian tricolor flag in the lawn area in front of the California State Capitol. On the same day at 9 AM, IAS conducted a car parade at the State Capitol, Sacramento with over 40 decorated cars to celebrate Azadi Ki Amrut Mahotsav & mark the 76th year of Indian Independence

Paresh Sinha, the Parade Lead and Vandna Sharma the IAS President led the car parade in front of over 40 cars that were decorated with Indian and US flags, Indian regional leaders & distinguished personnel, monuments, and cultural representative symbols. Mr. Ajit Natu - IAS Board of Trustees Chairman, Dr. Bhavin Parikh, and IAS Executive Committee Members: Mrs. Ranju Verma, Mr. Amitab Shaikh, Mr. Gobi Ramaswamy, Mr. Shekhar Tiwari, and several IAS committee members have helped with the car parade event coordination. The IAS supporting organization's members and several community members have joined the car parade.

The parade participants decorated their cars with colorful Indian flags and led the car parade. The entire group of 40 cars drove through downtown and at the end, the group rallied around the State Capitol. At the Capitol Building Lawn gathering, IAS President Vandna Sharma said, "It was the largest ever in region history that IAS organized this car parade at the iconic CA State



Capital venue in all its glory. On this very special day when our mother country is celebrating her 76th birthday, I wish everyone a very happy Indian Independence Day".

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

AAPI TO HAVE A SPECIAL CELEBRATION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE ON CAPITOL HILL

August 30, 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI), the largest ethnic medical organization in the United States, plans to honor India with a special celebration of the 75th anniversary of India's Independence on Capitol Hill.

With Indian Americans doctors playing important roles in shaping healthcare policies and programs at the federal and state level, AAPI celebrations in honor of their motherland will be held at the US Senate Hart Building, Room # 902 in Washington, DC on Sep 21 at 2 pm, according to an AAPI release.

"India @ 75! It's a milestone with mixed feelings, one with a sense of pride and joy for all the accomplishments and progress we have made, while preserving our integrity, unity, core values of freedom, democracy and respect for different cultures and the groups that live and thrive in our beloved motherland," said Dr. Ravi Kolli, president of AAPI.

"We are proud to be part of this historic celebration of India on Capitol Hill, where we will have an opportunity to exchange views and express our concerns with dozens of US lawmakers, who will come to be part of the celebrations."

"Indian American physicians have made vital contributions to the health care field," said Dr. Sampat Shivangi, chair of AAPI's legislative committee. "As physicians, we provide critical care to patients from rural and urban communities across the Country. Indian American doctors are playing a critical role in filling the nationwide physician shortage."

"The India Day on Capitol Hill will be a unique opportunity for AAPI members to be part of the decision-making process on matters related to healthcare and advocate for stronger and closer ties between India and the United States, the two largest democracies of the world," he said. "We expect to have the participation from dozens of key congressmen and senators."

India day Celebrations on the Hill will include interactive sessions with the US lawmakers, according to Dr. V. Ranga, chair of AAPI Board of Trustees. Indian ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu, will host a reception and dinner that evening.

"AAPI has been serving India and contributing to the effective healthcare delivery in the US and in India," Dr. Anjana Samadder, president-elect of AAPI said.

"In keeping with the mission AAPI, the celebrations on the Hill will provide us with a forum to facilitate and enable Indian American physicians share our concerns with the lawmakers in pursuit of our aspirations in matters relating to professional and community affairs," she said.

"AAPI has been seeking to collectively shape the best health care for everyone in the US, with the physicians at the helm, caring for the medically underserved as we have done for several decades when physicians of Indian origin came to the US in larger numbers," Kolli said.

"AAPI is once again in the forefront in bringing many burning health care issues facing the community at large and bringing this to the Capitol and to the US Congress," he said.

Kolli urged all AAPI colleagues and everyone interested in or connected with providing health care to attend this event to ensure that their concerns are heard by the lawmakers and they act on them.

Indian American racially abused by compatriot in California

AUGUST 31, 2022

SACRAMENTO (TIP): An Indian American man has been racially abused by a compatriot in the US state of California who hurled racist slurs that he is a "dirty Hindu" and a "disgusting dog," days after another hate crime was reported against four women from the community in Texas.

Krishnan Jayaraman was verbally attacked by Tejinder Singh (37) in the Taco Bell at Grimmer Boulevard in Fremont, California, on August 21, media reported on Wednesday, August 31.

Tejinder of Union City was charged with a hate crime in

violation of civil rights, assault and disturbing the peace by offensive language, the Fremont Police Department said. Jayaraman recorded the tirade, which lasted over eight minutes, on his phone. Tejinder appeared to spit at Jayaraman twice in the video.

The Fremont police are still investigating. Police chief Sean Washington addressed the community on social media. He wrote: "We take hate incidents and hate crimes seriously and understand the significant impact they have. These incidents are despicable. We are here to protect all community members, regardless of their gender, race, nationality, religion, and other differences."



CENTRE APPROVES TEJAS MARK-2 COMBAT AIRCRAFT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has approved the development of Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mark 2 fighter aircraft. It would be a replacement for the Mirage 2000, Jaguar and MiG-29 combat aircraft in the Indian Air Force.

"LCA Mark 2 fighter aircraft development project has been cleared by the government. This would pave the way for designers to develop an advanced 17.5-tonne single-engine aircraft," said Aeronautical Development Agency chief Girish Deodhare.

Speaking about the project, Girish Deodhare said that the development of the new aircraft is scheduled to be completed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) by 2027.

He further said that the aircraft would be the advanced replacement for the MiG-29, Mirage 2000 and Jaguar fighter jets.

"This decision will give a tremendous boost to the indigenous design and development of our next-generation fighter aircraft. It'll further 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative in the domain of aircraft manufacturing," IAF chief Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari told ANI on the LCA Mark 2 fighter aircraft development project.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) currently operates one squadron of the 16 'Mark 1' baseline Tejas variants at its airbase in Suler, Coimbatore.

AAP WINS TRUST VOTE IN DELHI ASSEMBLY AS BJP MLAS WALK OUT

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), led by Arvind Kejriwal, on Thursday won a motion of trust that was tabled in the Delhi Assembly. Kejriwal had announced the trust vote on August 29 to prove that the BJP's 'Operation Lotus' targeting AAP MLAs had failed.

AAP, which has 62 of the 70 assembly seats in Delhi, won the election with 58 votes in its favour.

Three BJP MLAs -- Vijender Gupta, Abhay Verma and Mohan Singh Bisht -- were marshalled out as they "argued" with deputy speaker Rakhi Birla, while the remaining saffron camp legislators walked out in protest soon after. Kejriwal has alleged the BJP tried to buy his party's MLAs but none of them accepted the offer.

In the Assembly, Kejriwal said in the upcoming Gujarat Assembly elections his party's vote share in that state has increased by four per cent after the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) raids against his deputy Manish Sisodia in the excise policy case.

JHARKHAND POLITICAL CRISIS

'How is selective info leaked to media?' MLAs ask governor

RANCHI (TIP)

MLAs of Jharkhand's ruling United Progressive Alliance on Thursday, September 1, asked Governor Ramesh Bais how selective information was being leaked to the media, ANI reported.

The legislators met Bais amid uncertainty about Chief Minister Hemant Soren continuing in his post and alleged attempts of the Bharatiya Janata Party to destabilise the Jharkhand government.

Bandhu Tirkey, working president of the Congress' Jharkhand unit, on Thursday said Soren will not resign. He also said that the governor has assured them that information is not being leaked from his office. "The governor is seeking legal opinion and has assured the situation will be made clear within two days," Tirkey added.

A political crisis has been looming over Jharkhand since last week after reports on



Hemant Soren

August 25 said that the Election Commission has sought Soren's disqualification as an MLA.

The chief minister is facing allegations against him in an office-of-profit case. The case is based on a complaint filed by the Bharatiya Janata Party alleging that Soren allotted a mining lease in his own name. Soren also holds the mining portfolio in

Jharkhand. The Election Commission had informed the governor about its decision in a sealed cover, the reports said last week. However, Soren maintained that he did not receive any communication either from the Election Commission or the governor.

On August 27, the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha and its allies began moving its legislators out of Ranchi amid fears of poaching. In the 81-member Jharkhand Assembly, the Soren-led Jharkhand Mukti Morcha is the largest party with 30 MLAs. The Congress has 18 legislators, while the Rashtriya Janata Dal has one. The main opposition BJP has 26 MLAs in the House.

If the governor announces Soren's disqualification, then he will have to resign as an MLA. Soren, however, can get re-elected within six months. He can also continue to remain the chief minister if legislators of the ruling United Progressive Alliance name him as the leader of the coalition.

Whoever becomes Cong chief will have to be Rahul Gandhi's slave: Azad

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Ghulam Nabi Azad's explosion, on a day when it finalized the schedule for the party's presidential polls, has rattled the Congress. After much delay, the polls will now be held on October 17.

The Congress hit back at the veteran leader, saying he revolted only because he wanted a Rajya Sabha seat and wanted to retain the bungalow in South Avenue, in the heart of the national capital.

Azad, who is now working on his tell-all autobiography, told News18.com: "Around 90% of the Congress is not Congressi. Some are picked up from colleges, some clerks of the CM have been given positions. I can't argue with people who have no idea of their own history. I wrote a letter as the Leader of Opposition to Mrs Gandhi even before the G-23. What did they do? They told me to coordinate with KC Venugopal. I told them he was in school when I was the general secretary. Then someone from the family said then speak to Randeep Surjewala. I told them, by the way, when I was the general secretary, Randeep's father was part of the PCC. He worked under me. How can I discuss the party with his son? What are you saying, Rahul Gandhiji?"

Azad's anger and bitterness is directed more at Rahul Gandhi. As to whether Rahul Gandhi should be the party president? "If he does not, whoever becomes the party president will have to be his slave and carry his files. Ask them how much time they give to the party? They don't have time for the party and question my timing? We used to give over 20 hours even when we were his age."

He burst out when he was reminded that when Rahul Gandhi resigned as the president, he had accused the seniors of not supporting him. "What cooperation? Over what? He said why didn't you say 'chowkidar chor hai'? I told him this may be your language, not mine. Even Indira Gandhi never told us to say this to Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Rajiv Gandhi told us to go to homes of Opposition leaders. We can't talk like this. We are not brought up like this."

Source: News 18



Church vandalised in Punjab, pastor's car set afire; probe on

TARN TARAN (TIP)

Four unidentified men allegedly broke into a church and desecrated statues of Jesus Christ and Mary in Punjab's Tarn Taran district, police said on Wednesday, August 31, adding that chief minister Bhagwant Mann has ordered a probe into the "highly condemnable" incident.

The incident comes two days after a group of nihangs and their supporters disrupted an event organised by Christian missionaries at Daduana village in the border district of Amritsar.

According to the Tarn Taran police, four armed men barged into the Catholic Church at Thakkarpura village near Patti town late on Tuesday night. The intruders pointed a pistol at the security guard's head and tied his hands in the incident that took place around 12.30 am and was caught on CCTV cameras installed at the church. They desecrated the statues of Jesus Christ and Mary, located at the front side of the church, with an axe and escaped with the heads, according to a senior police officer from Sadar police station, Patti, where a case has been registered based on the complaint from the church authority.

"The CCTV footage showed two of the masked men vandalising the idols," the officer said, requesting anonymity. "They also set ablaze a car parked on the church premises while fleeing."

Father Thomas P, the priest of the church, told the police that the vandalisers remained inside the church campus for around 25 minutes. Soon after the incident, a police team led by Tarn Taran's senior superintendent of police (SSP) Ranjit Singh Dhillon reached the spot. A large number of police personnel were deployed in the area.

"It is a conspiracy by some mischievous elements who wanted to disturb the peace in the state," the SSP told reporters. "We have taken stock of the situation and are investigating the matter. We will soon catch those behind this incident." A case has been registered under sections 295A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings), 452 (house trespass), 427 (mischief causing damage) and 34 (Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Source: HT

NATIONAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY ANNOUNCES RS 25 LAKH REWARD ON DAWOOD IBRAHIM

The National Investigation Agency has announced a cash reward of Rs 25 lakh for any information leading to the arrest of fugitive underworld don Dawood Ibrahim, a key accused in the 1993 Mumbai serial blasts, an official said on Thursday, September 1

The probe agency has also announced a cash reward of Rs 20 lakh on Ibrahim's close aide Shakeel Shaikh alias Chhota Shakeel, and Rs 15 lakh each on associates Haji Anees alias Anees Ibrahim Shaikh, Javed Patel alias Javed Chikna and Ibrahim Mushtaq Abdul Razzak Memon alias Tiger Memon, he said.

All of them are wanted accused in the case of 1993 Mumbai serial bomb blasts. The official said the NIA had sought information about them which could lead to their arrest.

The agency had in February registered a case against the 'D company'.

Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar, designated a global terrorist by the United Nations, runs an international terrorist network, namely D-Company, with his close associates like Anees Ibrahim Shaikh, Chhota Shakeel, Javed Chikna and Tiger Memon, among others, the NIA said in a statement.

They are involved in various terrorism-criminal activities such as arms smuggling, narco-terrorism, underworld criminal syndicate, money-laundering, circulation of FICN, unauthorised possession/acquisition of key assets for raising terror funds and working in active collaboration with international terrorist organisations, including Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad and Al Qaeda, the statement said.

1st indigenous cervical cancer shot unveiled; experts call for administering it to boys too

NEW DELHI (TIP)

India on Thursday, September 1, unveiled the first indigenous quadrivalent human papillomavirus vaccine (qHPV) as a primary prevention tool for cervical cancer, the second most common cancer affecting young women, after cancers of the breast.

Cancer of the cervix is the second leading cancer among women aged 15 to 44 after breast cancers with 90 per cent mortality due to this cancer reported in low- and middle-income countries.

A third major example of public-private partnership in vaccine development -- after the development of rota virus and covid vaccines -- the qHPV shot has been developed in collaboration between the Department of Biotechnology under the government and the Serum Institute of India, Pune.

With market authorisation granted by the Drug Controller General of India in July this year, the shot will be launched into the national programme in a few months, MoS Science and Technology Jitendra Singh said, adding that today's announcement of the vaccine was meant as a celebration of the scientific effort that went into developing the shot.

"We are here to celebrate the script writers of this wonderful story of scientific discovery and self-reliant India. Once the vaccine hits the markets for use, manufacturers will get all the credit and rightly so. By then it will be too late to recall the script writers," Singh said praising DBT secretary Rajesh Gokhale and his team for the work.

Speaking about the vaccine, AIIMS



Union Minister of State Science & Technology Dr Jitendra Singh announces India's first indigenously developed vaccine, "CERVAVAC" for the prevention of cervical cancer.

obstetrics and gynaecology professor Neerja Bhatla said the vaccine is safe and effective although one would have to wait longer for around a decade to see if it reduces cancer.

"Evidence from the UK and Nordic countries has shown fast reductions in cancers with vaccines even though these are slowly reducing cancers. The shot is reliable, safe, affordable and the good thing is we now have a solution for a very deadly disease," Bhatla said, calling for the shot to be administered to young boys also to prevent other cancers caused by HPV and also to address the problem of genital warts and raise herd immunity.

Speaking on the occasion, Adar Poonawalla, CEO, SII, termed the achievement remarkable.

"This is a testament of what we can achieve together. Hope we can work

together to develop more vaccines and drugs. This is not a launch. We will launch in a few months. This is to celebrate science and a momentous milestone," Adar said. The minister for his part said the government was working in mission mode on cancer prevention. "This is the first indigenous vaccine for HPV. It is affordable and adds to the esteem of common Indians. We are already working on preventive health-care in the cancer sector. We have of late started a process of opening cancer sub centres. Five years ago, we began one in Guwahati which is now running a DM on oncology medicine course and an MCH in oncology surgery. Tata memorial cancer hospitals have been set up in Bihar, Uttarakhand, Varanasi and recently in Mohali," Singh said.

Source: TNS

Sidhu Moosewala murder accused Sachin Thapan Bishnoi and Anmol Bishnoi detained in Azerbaijan and Kenya: MEA

NEW DELHI (TIP)

MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi while answering question related to extradition of Sidhu Moosewala killing accused— Sachin Thapan Bishnoi and Anmol Bishnoi— said both the persons have been detained in Azerbaijan and Kenya and MEA is in contact with the authorities concerned to mull over further legal course that could be adopted.

Both the accused had fled India on fake passports before the crime was committed on May 29.

Bagchi was addressing Weekly Media Briefing of MEA.

Moosewala was shot dead in Punjab's Mansa district on May 29.

Delhi Police invoke UAPA against gangsters, including Moosewala murder accused Lawrence Bishnoi and Goldy Brar

The Delhi Police have invoked stringent anti-terror provision of the law--Unlawful Activities (Prevention)



Act (UAPA)--against several of gangsters, including those allegedly involved in the killing of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala, sources said.

The move came after a direction was given by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to take strict action against the gangsters, who were in touch with several proscribe terror

organisations and possibility of them executing targeted killings in the country, said the sources, adding that the Delhi Police officials were in touch with their counterparts in the NIA and co-ordinating with them in such cases.

It was learnt that the Delhi Police have invoked the UAPA against Moosewala murder case accused Lawrence Bishnoi, Goldy Brar and Vikram Brar, and also members of their rival gangs -- Davinder Bambiha, Kaushal Chaudhary, Neeraj Bawana, Sunil alias Tillu Tajpuriya, Dilpreet and Sukhpreet alias Budha.

The list also included absconding terrorist Harvinder Rinda.

Earlier, the Delhi Police's Special Cell had received inputs that members of both gangs were procuring illegal weapons from outside the country to execute targeted killings in Delhi and other parts of the country.

The sources said that the police have registered two FIRs under various Sections of the UAPA and the IPC. Two ACP-rank officers are the investigation

officers in the cases.

The first FIR was registered on the basis of inputs received by the Special Cell from sources, informing them about Bishnoi and his associates -- Goldy Brar, Vikram Brar, Kala Jathedi, Jasdeep Singh alias Jaggu Bhagwanpuria, Sachin Thapan, Anmol Bishnoi and Lakhbir Singh Landa -- running their operations from different jails in India as well as from Canada, Dubai and Pakistan.

The other FIR was registered against Bishnoi's rival gang and mentions Armenia-based gangster Gaurav Padial alias Lucky Padial, who led the Davinder Bambiha gang since latter's death in a police encounter in 2016.

It also names Amit Dagar and Kaushal Chaudhary, the alleged conspirators behind the murder of Youth Akali Dal leader Vikramjit Singh Middukhera in Mohali on August 7, 2021.

Others named in the FIR include Baba Dhala alias Gurvinder, Bhupi Rana, Neeraj Bawana and Sunil alias Tillu Tajpuriya, the sources said.

India in history this Week

SEPTEMBER 2, 2022, TO SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

02 SEPTEMBER

1969 The ATM machine came in the banking world for the first time today.

1573 Akbar, the third ruler of the Mughal dynasty, won the decisive battle near Ahmedabad and captured Gujarat.

1946 Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India, was sworn in as Prime Minister of the Interim Government of undivided India.

2009 Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and National Congress Party leader Dr. Yeduguri Suspicious Rajasekhara Reddy died in an air crash.

1956 125 people died after a bridge collapsed between Jadcherala and Mehboob Nagar, 100 km from Hyderabad.

1970 Vivekananda memorial was inaugurated at Kanyakumari in 1970.

1999 Indian swimmer Bula Chaudhary became the first Asian woman to cross the English Channel twice.

2008 In 2008, the former vice chancellor of Kanpur University, Prof. B.N.Asthana was announced by the Uttar Pradesh Higher Education Department for the Saraswati Samman.



1941 Famous Indian actress Sadhana was born.

03 SEPTEMBER

1923 Country's tabla player Pandit Kishan Maharaj was born.

1906 India's famous film actor Prithviraj Kapoor was born in Peshawar (now Pakistan).

1940 Famous composer of Hindi cinema Pyarelal was born.

2014 More than 200 people died due to floods in India and neighboring Pakistan.

2008 In 2008, Rajendra Kumar Pachauri was re-elected head of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a United Nations organization.

04 SEPTEMBER

1825 India's great freedom fighter Dada Bhai Naoroji was born in Mumbai. He is also called the "Grandfather of Indian Politics".



1952 India's famous actor Rishi Kapoor was born.

1665 Purandar was signed between the Maratha ruler Shivaji and the Mughals.

1927 The riots in Nagpur killed 22 people and

injured over 100.

1946 In Bombay, street violence erupted between Muslims and Hindus.

1967 More than 200 people died as the 6.5-magnitude earthquake hit the Kayna Dam in Maharashtra.

2009 Gujarat High Court lifts ban on Aswant Singh's book written on Muhammad Ali Jinnah in Gujarat.

1888 Mahatma Gandhi embarked on a voyage to England.

2008 The Mayawati government decided to withdraw the Uttar Pradesh Organized Crime Act (UPCOCA) Bill-2007 with immediate effect.

2009 Coal Company SCCL was awarded the Autonomy of Mini Ratna Company.

2012 Girish Hosangara Nagaraje Gowda gave India the first medal at the Paralympic Games.

05 SEPTEMBER



1888 Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was born.

1997 Founder of Missionary of Charity and Nobel Prize winner Mother Teresa died in Kolkata.

2009 The National Stock Exchange banned ten companies from trading in the stock market.

2011 The technical system of clearing checks through ATMs prepared by the Indian Banks' Association and the National Payments Corporation of India was finalized.

1872 Chidambaram Pillai, a Tamil-language scholar and noted social reformer, was born.

1905 The famous novelist Vachaspati Pathak was born.

2008 A delegation of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) led by Ratan Tata called on Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

06 SEPTEMBER

1929 Birth of filmmaker Yash Johar.

1965 The Indian Army crossed the border from three places and attacked West Pakistan.



1972 Ustad Alauddin Khan, a veteran of Hindustani classical music, was born.

2018 The Supreme Court declared that homosexuality is no longer a crime.

2008 D. Subbarao took over as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

1838 Dalip Singh, the youngest son of Maharaj Ranjit Singh of Punjab, was born.

1889 Freedom fighter Sharat Chandra Bose was born.

07 SEPTEMBER

1882 Bankim Chandra Chatterjee composed the national anthem "Vande Mataram" in Kantal Pada village in Bengal. Vande Mataram became the national slogan in the Bang Bhang movement.

1963 Ashok Chakra winner Indian Airhostess (Air Hostess) Neerja Bhanot was born.

1906 Bank of India was established.

1965 China announced that it would strengthen its troops stationed on the Indian border.

2008 NSG under Indo-US nuclear agreement 45 members of the India gave exemption from the international fraternity to nuclear trade.

2009 Pankaj Advani of India won the World Professional Billiards Championship.

2011 A 4.2 magnitude earthquake lasting 6.2 seconds on the Richter scale occurred at 11:24 pm in Delhi, whose center was located in Sonapat, Haryana.

2011 11 people were killed and 74 were injured when a bomb exploded in a suitcase near Gate No-5 of Delhi High Court premises.

1887 Sanskrit scholar and great philosopher Gopinath Kaviraj was born on 7 September

1917 Indian medical scientist and family planning specialist Bano Jahangir Koyaji was born on 7 September.

2055 An investigation report of the Oil-for-Food Program was presented.

2008 Astronomers were able to see clearly inside the giant blackhole in the middle of our sky Ganges.

08 SEPTEMBER

1926 Bhupendra Hazarika was born.



1933 Asha Bhosle, who has sung more than 12 thousand songs in 20 languages, was born today.

1320 Ghazi Malik (Gaiasudin Tughlaq) became the Sultan of Delhi.

1962 China infiltrated India's eastern border.

1965 India opened 2 additional fronts against Pakistan.

1966 UNESCO celebrated World Literacy Day for the first time by the United Nations Department of Education and Cultural.

2006 Serial blasts took place in Malegaon, Maharashtra, in which around 37 people were killed and more than 100 people were injured.

1966 To make people aware of education, UNESCO started celebrating "Literacy Day".

1967 For the first time since independence, the party which was running the government at the Center faced defeat in the Lok Sabha elections.

2000 Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee slammed Pakistan during a speech in Hindi during the United Nations Peace Summit.

2008 The Supreme Court granted bail to the main accused and share broker Ketan Parikh and other accused in the Canfina Mutual Fund scam case.

Death toll from Pakistan floods reaches 1,186

SEPTEMBER 1

ISLAMABAD (TIP): The death toll from flash floods triggered by record monsoon rains across much of Pakistan reached 1,186 on September 1, as authorities scrambled to provide relief materials to tens of thousands of affected people.

Record monsoon rains in the last three decades triggered floods which inundated one third of the country, including most of Balochistan and Sindh provinces.

“So far 1,186 people have died and 4,896 injured while 5,063 kms of roads damaged, 1,172,549 houses partially or completely destroyed and 733,488 livestock killed,” said the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the main body dealing with calamities.

On Thursday, the army said that some 50,000 people have been evacuated since rescue efforts began.

Foreign Office spokesperson Asim Iftikhar Ahmed said that more than 33 million people have been affected due to “colossal scale of devastation”.

During a media briefing here, he said Pakistan mounted coordinated rescue and relief operations mobilising all possible resources but the sheer scale of the calamity “stretched our resources and capacities to the limit, thus necessitating support from the international community”.

The cash-strapped Pakistan government on Tuesday teamed up with the United Nations to issue a flash appeal for USD 160 million to deal with the disaster in the country that has become the “ground zero” of global warming.

“The Flash Appeal launch was well attended by Member States both in Islamabad and Geneva, Heads of UN agencies in Pakistan, representatives of international organizations, among



others. Participants offered condolences and expressions of solidarity, and assured continued support for Pakistan,” the spokesman said.

He also said that Pakistan faced a “climate-induced calamity” because the monsoons were not ordinary, “as the UNSG termed them ‘monsoons on steroid’.” UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres will be visiting Pakistan on September 9-10 on an important visit to “express solidarity and international community’s support for Pakistan at this difficult time,” he said.

Talking about the outpouring of relief supplies, he said till last night, Pakistan received flood relief goods through 21 flights notably from Turkey, UAE and China.

He said a large number of countries and international organisations pledged to support and are extending cash or in-kind assistance including Australia, Azerbaijan, Canada, China, EU, France, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, New

Zealand, Norway, Palestine, Qatar, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Turkiye, the UAE, United Kingdom, the United States, Uzbekistan, along with various international organisations including World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other UN Agencies.

He said Pakistan on Wednesday signed the Green Framework Engagement Agreement with Denmark in Copenhagen, which marks the first step in creating stronger collaboration in areas such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, and a just and sustainable green transition.

Separately, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif while addressing lawmakers of his Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz asked them to visit the flood victims with relief goods.

The prime minister said that he had never seen such a calamity before. “Water has wreaked havoc everywhere,” he said.

He also asked Finance Minister Miftah

Ismail to devise a plan to give relief to the flood-affected people with electricity bills.

Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa visited the Rohjan area of Punjab and met flood victims whom he assured that the Pakistan Army will help them to overcome their problems in these difficult times, the army said.

He also directed ground troops to “take this responsibility as a noble cause and spare no effort to lessen the burden of flood-affected brothers and sisters”.

Advisor to the Prime Minister on Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan Affairs Qamar Zaman Kaira said that Prime Minister Sharif would visit Gilgit-Baltistan on Friday and announce a relief package for the flood victims.

Separately, the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (Unicef) said in a statement that more than three million children were in need of humanitarian assistance in Pakistan and at increased risk of waterborne diseases, drowning and malnutrition due to flooding.

“These floods have already taken a devastating toll on children and families, and the situation could become even worse,” the statement quoted Unicef representative in Pakistan Abdullah Fadi as saying.

To add to worries, the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has forecast more rain in September, saying that La Nina conditions — responsible for recent spells of flood-triggering deluge in the country — would persist in September but become less intense.

“Tendency for normal to above normal precipitation is likely over the country during September,” the Met Office said, predicting above-normal rainfall in northeastern Punjab and Sindh. (PTI)

Ex-Sri Lankan president Gotabaya Rajapaksa likely to return on September 3: Reports

SEPTEMBER 1

COLOMBO (TIP): Former Sri Lankan president Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who fled the country following an uprising against his government over the island-nation’s worst-ever economic crisis, may return to the country from Thailand on September 3, according to media reports on September 1.

Rajapaksa, 73, fled the country on July 13 after months-long mass public demonstrations demanding his immediate resignation on July 9 gained momentum after protesters stormed the President’s House in Colombo and several other state buildings in the capital.

Rajapaksa will return back to the country on Saturday, a source close to him was quoted as saying by the Daily Mirror news portal.

Having gone to the Maldives on a Sri Lanka Airforce plane, the former

president proceeded to Singapore from where he sent in his resignation on July 13.

Later, he flew to Thailand, seeking temporary shelter. Thailand’s foreign minister Don Pramudwinai has said that Rajapaksa can stay in the country for 90 days because he is still a diplomatic passport holder.

However, Rajapaksa will not be allowed to engage in political activities in Thailand. He is also reportedly confined to a hotel and surrounded by security personnel.

After Rajapaksa was ousted, Sri Lanka’s parliament elected then-Acting President and six-time former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe as the new Head of State. He had the backing of Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), the largest bloc in the 225-member parliament.

Media reports say President Wickremesinghe has made

arrangements for his return after the SLPP led by the Rajapaksas made a request to him.

On August 19, the SLPP General Secretary Sagara Kariyawasam said that the request was made at a meeting held with President Wickremesinghe.

Kariyawasam had said that they asked the president to facilitate his (Rajapaksa’s) return and ensure security and necessary facilities.

Sri Lanka is going through its worst economic crisis since its independence in 1948 which was triggered by a severe paucity of foreign exchange reserves.

The IMF on Thursday announced that it will provide Sri Lanka with a loan of about USD 2.9 billion over four years under a preliminary agreement to help the bankrupt island nation tide over its worst economic crisis and protect the livelihoods of the people. (PTI)

MALAYSIA'S FORMER FIRST LADY ROSMAH SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS IN JAIL FOR GRAFT

SEPTEMBER 1

KUALA LUMPUR (TIP): A Malaysian court on September 1 sentenced Rosmah Mansor, the wife of former Prime Minister Najib Razak, to a decade in prison for seeking and receiving bribes in exchange for government contracts, just days after her husband was jailed for corruption.

Rosmah will also have to pay a fine of 970 million ringgit (\$216.45 million) over three bribery charges, Kuala Lumpur High Court Judge Mohamed Zaini Mazlan said, adding that the prosecution proved their case beyond a reasonable doubt.

The judge granted her a stay of sentence, so Rosmah will not go to the jail on Thursday. She can appeal the decision in two higher courts.

(Reuters)

IAAC-CGI CELEBRATE INDIA@75

BY MABEL PAIS

On the 75th anniversary of India's independence from colonial rule, the Indo-American Arts Council (IAAC), a premier cultural organization of the U.S.A. and the Consulate General of India in New York (CGI-NY), had organized a series of programs showcasing India's cultural diversity, antiquity, and contemporary relevance.

The 10-day specially curated events at some of the iconic cultural venues in New York city began on August 5 with a photo exhibition by celebrated photographer Steve McCurry. This was followed by Dance programs at the Alvin Ailey studios on August 6, 7 & 8, Music programs on Aug 11 & 12 at Jazz at Lincoln Center, and varied Musical performances at Carnegie Hall Aug 13-15 in the run up to celebrating 75 years of India's independence on August 15 this year.

Participants in New York or online (for some events), were able to enjoy the events as part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav ('Festival of Freedom'). To learn more, visit iaac.us.

Seventy-five years ago, when India became an independent country after centuries of colonial rule, all eyes were on India because of the Gandhian message of Ahimsa, freedom through non-violence, and its ancient message of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, treasuring the whole world as one family. Today, in our world of polarization, increasing tribalism, conflict and environmental degradation, the ancient Indian values of respect for diversity, peaceful coexistence, and respect for Nature are needed more urgently than ever.

In the U.S.A., many leaders, from John Adams, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Thoreau, Walt Whitman to Martin Luther King Jr. and Steve Jobs to name a few, have been attracted to Indian ideals and culture. The festival aimed to bring the Indo-American bond closer, with cultural exchanges.

In a video address to members of the Indian-American diaspora at a concert headlined by Sarod maestro Amjad Ali Khan at Carnegie Hall, New York on Monday, August 15, Union Minister of State for External Affairs & Parliamentary Affairs of India, V. Muraleedharan, said India walked hand in hand with the global community in this journey, contributing to international peace and well-being.

"When we got freedom, there was tears and joy, but there was also a realization about an immense responsibility lying ahead. We settled down to build our democracy and preserve our unity," he said. "To many outside, this appeared an insurmountable task, but with dedication and determination, purpose and perseverance, our people nurtured and illuminated our democratic polity," Muraleedharan said. He said this developed deep roots in India's social fabric, embracing its diversity, pluralism, and age-old ethos. "Indeed, India's success has made the world a better place for all freedom-loving people. And for that reason, we are joined by millions across the world to share our joy today," he said.

He underlined that on the path shown by Mahatma Gandhi, and ever inspired by the motto of 'Satyameva Jayate' (truth alone triumphs), "we have built a modern nation - one that prides in its ancient moorings even as it marches on the knowledge and digital pathways of the 21st century." On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of India's independence, the Consulate General of India in New York along with the Indo-American Arts Council (IAAC) organized the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav - Festival of Freedom'.

Muraleedharan said the occasion of the anniversary of India's independence is a "sacred day" to pay tribute to the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi and salute the freedom fighters. He added that as India's founding fathers soiled and struggled, many nations came forward in support of India's cause and he expressed gratitude to India's international partners who joined hands with the country. "Our freedom movement had a special resonance in the United States. We remain grateful to all the women and men of America who stood with us, and these bonds have endured. Our shared democratic fabric continues to bind us together in a warm embrace," Muraleedharan said.

Consul General Randhir Jaiswal, in his remarks, said that India's journey of the last 75 years has been "one of pride, fulfillment, honor and unity." "We have deepened democracy, nurtured inclusive growth and celebrated our diversity and cultural ethos," he said. He said at the core of India's freedom is "our people." "They have shaped our imagination, our democracy and our civilization. And so, we are here to celebrate their resolve, their determination, their courage and their resilience. From scratch, they built a nation of billion dreams and billion achievements," he said.

"We also owe our success to international partners and supporters. And in this rubric, India-US special ties and friendship have left an indelible mark - from ideas and thought, to institutions and partnerships; from Mahatma Gandhi to Martin Luther King, from Tom Paine to Swami Vivekanand; and from Artificial Intelligence to IIT Kanpur," he said. He said on the path of unity and togetherness, India has lived freedom and practiced democracy. "That is our message to ourselves and to the world - as we look into the future," he said.

IAAC Chairman Dr. Nirmal Mattoo said the organization is proud and honored to mark the occasion of 75 years of Indian Independence with the remarkable series of events celebrating Indian art and culture. "Curated with care, this line-up boosts an ambitious goal: to truly immerse audiences into a vibrant and diverse culture with limitless potential to inspire all citizens of the world," he said in a statement issued by the IAAC.

FESTIVAL OF INDIAN MUSIC CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF INDIAN INDEPENDENCE AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV

PROGRAM

THE MUSIC FESTIVAL WAS CELEBRATED AUGUST 13-15, 2022

"As we use flowers in worship, welcoming, honoring, departure, and celebration no matter what our race, origin, religion or language, we similarly arrange musical notes into 'bouquets' or compositions that display all our human feelings and emotions," said the legendary Maestro Amjad Ali Khan.

CARNEGIE HALL, AUGUST 13, 2022



SAKHI

Photo / IAAC.US

KAUSHIKI CHAKRABORTY'S SAKHI (ALL FEMALE ENSEMBLE)

KAUSHIKI CHAKRABORTY, VOCALS
 NANDINI SHANKAR, VIOLIN
 DEBOPRIYA CHATTERJEE RAMDIVE, BANSURI (FLUTE)
 BHAKTI DESHPANDE, KATHAK
 SAVANI TALWALKAR, TABLA
 MAHIMA UPADHYAY, PAKHAWAJ

Sakhi consists of all the elements of a musical performance, i.e., vocal, instrumental music from North India (Hindustani) and South India (Carnatic) and dance.

THE DAY'S PERFORMANCE INCLUDED:

KHAYAL BANDISH (LYRICS FROM A FEMALE PERSPECTIVE)

THUMRI, DADRA, CHAITA, HORI, KAJRI

TARANA THILLANA

SOME INSTRUMENTAL PRESENTATION WHERE WE CAN USE SARGAMS AND NO LYRICS

BHAJAN AND FOLK

NAMAN - SARASWATI

TARANA - THE DANCE OF RHYTHM AND MELODY

ANANDINI - MOTHER GODDESS

BAGEESHWARI - THE DEVI OF KNOWLEDGE

SAMANJASYA - BALANCE

KANJARI - THE DIVAS OF THE YESTERYEARS

CHATURANG - MANY SHADES OF BEAUTY

LOKRANJINI - THE SOIL, THE MOTHER

RUHRANI - THE FURY OF THE GODDESS

TO LEARN ABOUT EACH ARTIST, VISIT IAAC.US

IAAC-CGI CELEBRATE INDIA@75

CARNEGIE HALL, AUGUST 14, 2022



SAATH SAATH Photo / IAAC.US

SAATH SAATH

RAKESH CHAURASIA, FLUTE

PURBAYAN CHATTERJEE, SITAR

TAUFIQ QURESHI, DJEMBE

OJAS ADHIYA, TABLA

RAKESH CHAURASIA - ALAAP

TAUFIQ QURESHI - BREATHE PERCUSSION

PURBAYAN CHATTERJEE - JOD

ALL TOGETHER - SAATH SAATH

COMPOSITION WITH ALL FOUR ARTISTS

PERCUSSION DUET

FOLK TUNE & SEMI CLASSICAL PIECE

TO LEARN ABOUT EACH ARTIST, VISIT IAAC.US

CONCERT FOR INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE

CARNEGIE HALL, AUGUST 15, 2022

AMJAD ALI KHAN, SAROD
AMAAN ALI BANGASH, SAROD
AYAAN ALI BANGASH, SAROD
LIDIYA YANKOVSKAYA, CONDUCTOR
REFUGEE ORCHESTRA PROJECT

The grand finale of the 'Festival of India@75' on August 15 featured the Sarod Grand Master and Sarod virtuosos Amaan Ali Bangash, Ayaan Ali Bangash and Tabla players Amit Kavthekar and Ojas Adhiya for 'Samaagam', an ensemble that presented the essence of both Indian and Western traditions seamlessly flowing into each other without artistic compromise.

"Since my childhood, I always wanted my instrument, the sarod, to be able to express the entire range of human emotions...to Sing, Shout, Whisper and cry. All the emotions! It has been a long journey so far and by the benevolence of the heavens, the sarod has become far more expressive than before," said maestro Amjad Ali Khan.

In Samaagam, 12 different ragas were presented, creating a unique opportunity to experience joyous music and shared traditions.

The spectacular concert, featuring renowned Conductor Lidiya Yankovskaya and the Refugee Orchestra, was held at the Carnegie Hall and presented "a synthesis of

musical traditions motivated by Mahatma Gandhi's principles of truth, non-violence and peace." Sarod maestro Khan said it was indeed a "great honor" to perform for India's 75th Year of Independence at Carnegie Hall and congratulated Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "celebrating our historic Independence Day celebration as Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav." "Musicians and listeners of music have been communicating with each other across all barriers through the language of musical notes from time immemorial. As we use flowers in worship, welcoming, honouring, departure, and celebration no matter what our race, origin, religion or language, we similarly arrange musical notes into 'bouquets' or compositions that display all our human feelings and emotions," the legendary artist said.

SAROD TRIO PROGRAM

Segment 1

AMAAN ALI BANGASH, Sarod

AYAAN ALI BANGASH, Sarod

Segment 2

AMJAD ALI KHAN, Sarod

Samaagam - Concerto for 3 Sarods



SAMAAGAM

Photo /Alex Lyon

AMJAD ALI KHAN, AMAAN ALI BANGASH, and
AYAAN ALI BANGASH, Sarod

REFUGEE ORCHESTRA PROJECT

LIDIYA YANKOVSKAYA, Conductor

On the momentous occasion of India's 75th year of Independence, the night's concert was a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi and to his message of non-violence. Gandhi insisted that "Each of us must be the change we wish to see in this world." Resonating with that ethos, the artists tonight musically seek to convey that we should all work together to recreate and be soulfully motivated by his enthralling symphony of Truth, Love, Non-Violence, and Peace.

A wonderful and strange mystery of Indian classical music is the fact that one can spend a lifetime trying to obtain knowledge and perfection and still feel that one has only touched a mere drop of an ocean. The learning never stops along the Journey of searching and discovering.

Indian Classical music has indeed had a very spiritual and scientific development and growth. This was a phenomenon that existed from Vedic times. The tradition of classical music dates back to the Sam Veda period. The earliest version of classical music was the Vedic chants. Interestingly, the effect of all the twelve notes on our body, mind and soul are very scientific. Various permutations and combinations give the scales a shape of a raga. However, a raga is much more and beyond. It's not just a mere scale. A raga has to be invoked, understood, and cared for like a living entity.

The first half of the night's concert was divided in two segments, The concert started with a duet by Amaan Ali Bangash and Ayaan Ali Bangash (older-younger sons of Amjad Ali Khan), both well-known sarod virtuosos. They presented a traditional raga of Indian Classical music set to various rhythmic time cycles. This was followed by a solo solo by Sarod Grand Master Amjad Ali Khan. Amit Kavthekar and Ojas Adhiya, two brilliant tabla (Indian two-piece drums) players, provided accompaniment for this segment.

An interesting aspect of Indian Classical music is that here you have five people on stage who don't know what the other is going to do, and yet have to perform like a rehearsed orchestra! Therefore, the role as performers is really that of three people, i.e., the performer, the composer and the conductor. Three in one! Along with the Sarods and the Tablas, there was a drone box tuned to the true tonic.

After intermission, Samaagam - Concerto for 3 Sarods, conducted by Lidiya Yankovskaya, was played by the Refugee Orchestra Project. Samaagam comes from a Sanskrit word meaning 'confluence or flowing together.' Amjad Ali Khan aimed to preserve the essence of both Indian and Western traditions so that they can flow into each other without artistic compromise. He uses the orchestration of Indian ensemble music in the pre-Bollywood era as inspiration and has also looked back to the ancient (i.e., pre-equal-temperament) Western tradition incorporating elements which, because of their antiquity, do not violate the rules of Indian music. The aim is through this process to joyfully explore the common musical "DNA" of both traditions. In Samaagam, twelve different ragas were presented. Some will make only a fleeting appearance; others will be explored for longer. To learn about each artist, visit iaac.us

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



Shershaah bags Filmfare Award for Best music album

Bollywood singer B Praak received the Best Playback Singer- Male award for the song 'Mann Bharrya' from 'Shershaah' at the 67th Filmfare awards.

Composed and sung by B Praak, the song was a recreated version of a hit song for Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani's starrer biopic drama film 'Shershaah'.

The emotional track played during the funeral scene of Sidharth's character in the film and received a lot of appreciation from the audience.

Penned by Jaani, the song has over 200 million views on YouTube.

'Shershaah' bagged the highest number of Nominations at the 67th Filmfare awards.

The film also received Best Playback Singer- Female, Best Action, and the Best Editing Awards.

Produced by Karan Johar, the film starred Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani in the lead roles was premiered exclusively on Amazon Prime Video.

Th Directed by Vishnuvardhan, 'Shershaah' is based on the life of Param Vir Chakra awardee Vikram Batra, who laid down his life in the service of the nation while recapturing Indian territories from Pakistani intruders during the Kargil War in 1999.

Emergency: Kangana Ranaut presents Milind Soman as Sam Manekshaw

Actor Kangana Ranaut has revealed that actor Milind Soman will essay the role of Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw in her upcoming directorial *Emergency*. Taking to Instagram, Kangana also unveiled Milind's first look from the film. In the picture, Milind sported Sam Manekshaw's iconic moustache and was seen in a uniform.

Sharing the post, Kangana captioned it, "Presenting the dynamic @milindrunning as #SamManekshaw, the man instrumental for saving India's frontiers during the Indo-Pak war and whose service was as distinguished as his honesty; a charmer, a war hero and a visionary leader in #Emergency." Reacting to the post, actor Anupam Kher commented, "Brilliant." Milind also posted the photo on Instagram and wrote, "Honoured to be a part of @kanganaranaut's directorial #Emergency and play the role of Sam Manekshaw, the man who, with his wit and gallantry, led India to victory in the 1971 Indo-Pak war!"

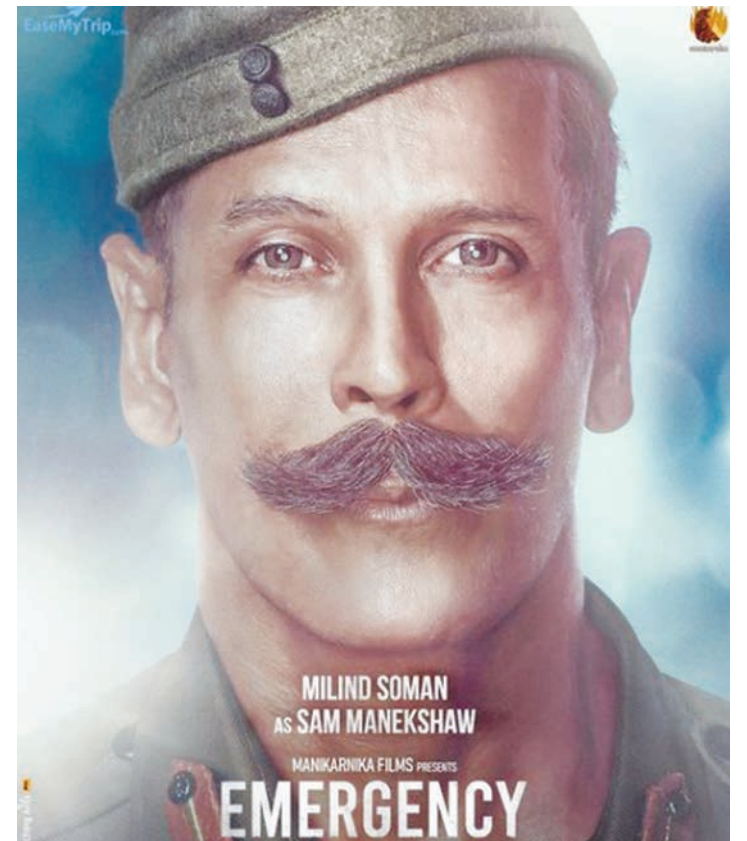
So far, Kangana has revealed the first looks of several characters in *Emergency*. In the film, Kangana will play the role of late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, while Shreyas Talpade will essay the role of late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Anupam will play revolutionary leader J P Narayan and Mahima Chaudhry will be seen as cultural activist and Indira Gandhi's confidante Pupu Jayakar.

Billed as the story of a watershed moment in the political history of India, the movie is written and directed by Kangana. Ritesh Shah has penned the screenplay and dialogues of the film.

A Manikarnika Films presentation, *Emergency* is produced by Renu Pitti and Kangana.

The team has commenced the filming of the project. This marks Kangana's first solo directorial.

Kangana was last seen in *Dhaakad*, which failed to impress at the box office. She will be seen in *Tejas*, in which



she will be portraying the role of an Indian Air Force pilot. Directed by Sarvesh Mewara, the official release date of the film is still awaited.
Source: HT

Filmfare Awards: Ranveer, Kriti Sanon win best actor, actress

Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh won the Best Actor in a Lead Role (Male) award for his cricket drama '83' at the 67th Filmfare Awards in Mumbai, while Kriti Sanon bagged the Best Actor in a Lead Role (female) award for 'Mimi'.

Ranveer Singh shared the stage with his wife Deepika Padukone while accepting the "black lady".

Prior to Filmfare, Ranveer Singh was given the Best Actor award for his performance in '83' at The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM) 2022.

Helmed by Kabir Khan, '83' revolves around India's historical 1983 Cricket World Cup win. The movie features Ranveer as Kapil Dev, captain of the World Cup-winning team.

Speaking of Kriti Sanon, she was honoured for her performance in 'Mimi', which was released in 2021.

Earlier in May 2022, Kriti won her career's first best actress award, and that too at the 22nd International Indian Film Academy Awards in Abu Dhabi.

Celebrities like Vicky Kaushal, Asees Kaur, B Praak, Vidya Balan, Vishnuvardhan, and Pankaj Tripathi have also bagged trophies at the 67th Filmfare Awards in different categories.

Source: ANI



It's Akshay vs Arshad Warsi in Jolly LLB 3

Ever since the release of *Jolly LLB 2*, there has been a conversation and fan theories around the possibility of Akshay Kumar vs Arshad Warsi i.e. *Jolly v/s Jolly* in *Jolly LLB 3*. While back in the day, they remained mere conjecture, the fan theories have now indeed come true. According to our sources, Akshay Kumar and Arshad Warsi are uniting on *Jolly LLB 3* with Subhash Kapoor as the director. The film will be produced by Star Studios and go on floors next year. "Subhash Kapoor, Akshay Kumar and Arshad Warsi have been toying with the idea of *Jolly LLB 3* for a while now and the things have fallen in place. Subhash has cracked a subject that warrants a face off between the two *Jolly*'s. It's hilarious with a very relevant topic for debate in the court of law," revealed a source close to the development. We hear that *Jolly LLB 3* is bigger and better than the first two parts put together. Saurabh Shukla, who played a judge in *Jolly LLB 2* and *Jolly LLB 2*, will return to the third part as well.

"The idea is to create the ambience of a big screen courtroom drama and hence, efforts have been taken to make it a multi-genre film, with the right blend of humour with drama and thrill. Finishing touches are being given to the script at the moment and the team will then move on to the pre-production stage. The idea is to take the film on floors in the first half of 2023," the source further added. Akshay and Arshad were last seen together in *Bachchan Paandey*, however, this time around, it's more of a parallel lead for the duo.

Jolly LLB 3 aside, Akshay Kumar will be shooting for films like *Capsule Gill*, *Bade Miyan Chote Miyan*, *Mudassar Aziz's* upcoming comedy and a couple of films with Dharma Productions.
Source: Pinkvilla



Ewan McGregor almost rejected 'Star Wars' role

Actor Ewan McGregor thought he was too "urban grunge" to star in 'Star Wars'.

Playing Obi-Wan Kenobi in the prequel trilogy of the sci-fi franchise, the 51-year-old star revealed that he nearly turned down the part as he wanted more indie roles following his success in 'Trainspotting', reports.

"I was like, 'I am Danny Boyle's actor'," the actor quipped. "I am f***** urban grunge. I am the Oasis of the British movie industry, and then when 'Star Wars' came around, I felt, 'I don't know if I want to do this. This isn't me!'"

"I was so into being this sort of antihero. I felt like an indie British actor. I felt like that defined me."

McGregor said that it was a childhood love of the franchise that ultimately persuaded him to take the part.

The 'Moulin Rouge' star recalled: "In the end, it just got closer and closer. By that time, I was just so attached to the idea of it from where I was a kid. To get a chance to be that character and play the younger Alec Guinness was pretty awesome. Source: IANS

Jennifer Lopez wore 3 wedding dresses for nuptials with Ben Affleck

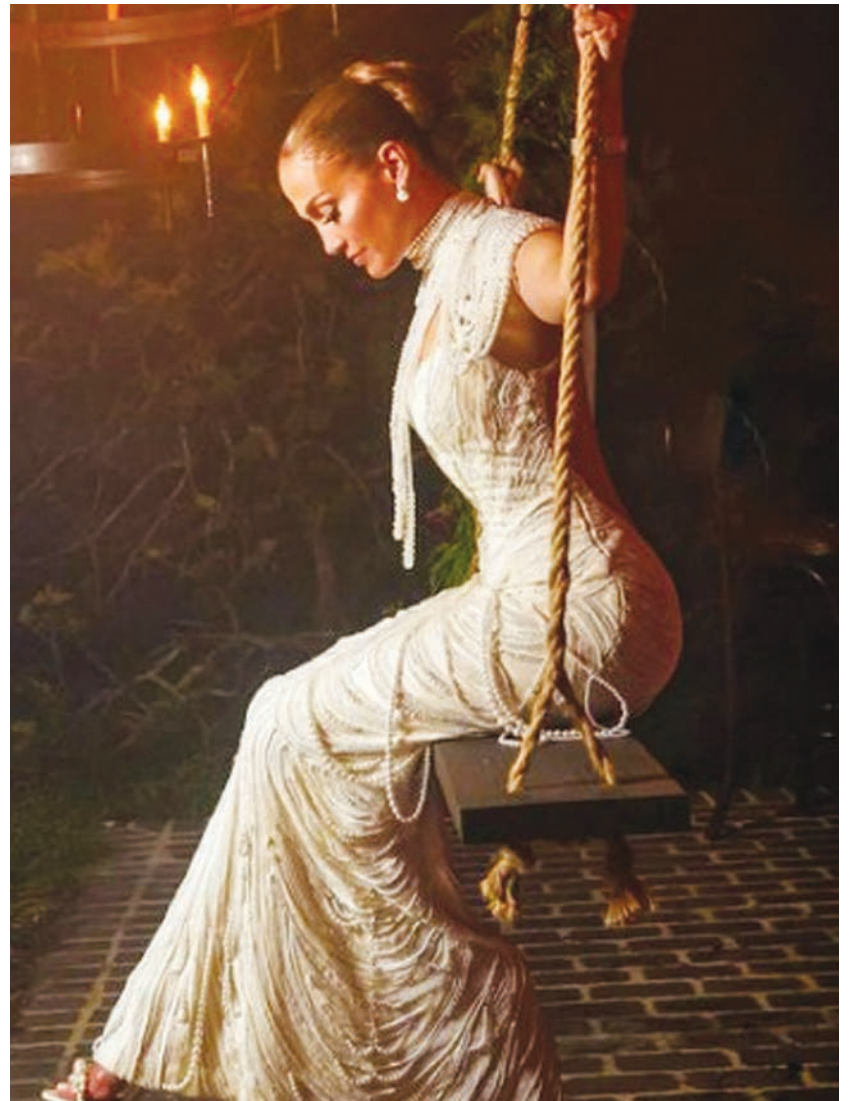
Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck had their second wedding on August 20. The couple married at Ben's home in Georgia in the US after marrying in an intimate ceremony in Las Vegas last month. Jennifer and Ben were joined by their friends and family for the lavish wedding that had an all-white colour palette, as per a news report. The wedding was attended by actor Matt Damon and wife Luciana Barroso, among other celebs.

Jennifer Lopez shared a glimpse of her wedding dresses on Instagram. She captioned it, "First peek at my wedding looks." Many fans praised the singer-actor and called her bridal look 'perfection'. One comment read, "The most perfect bride on the most perfect day." A fan commented, "So gorgeous." Jennifer's wedding looks were revealed on her On the JLo newsletter, and her fans as well as her team took to social media to share pictures of the bride.

As per a report by People, Jennifer tapped Ralph Lauren for her three stunning wedding gowns, which all took an incredible amount of time and effort to create. She wore a ruffled dress down the aisle, which was attached with 1,000 handkerchiefs. She later switched into a second gown that was completed by 30 artisans across 700 hours and saw her dripping in pearls and crystals. Her final final Ralph Lauren look was equally glamorous. "The dresses were dreamy... thank you Ralph Lauren," Jennifer shared in her On the JLo newsletter. She added: "I will be sharing a few more pics and delicious details on our big day."

Ben wore a classic tuxedo from Ralph Lauren. The rest of the wedding party included Jennifer's 14-year-old twins, Max and Emme, and Ben's kids Violet, 16, Seraphina, 13, and Samuel, 10. They were all dressed in white.

Source: HT



Andrew Garfield reveals he went 'celibate for six months' to play a priest in 'Silence'

Andrew Garfield is opening up about his preparation for the 2016 film "Silence," revealing he fasted from food and sex for six months.

During his appearance on the "WTF with Marc Maron" podcast, the "Under the Banner of Heaven" star, 39, spoke about his acting process, including the lengths he went to in order to get into character as a 17th-century Jesuit priest for "Silence."

Garfield said his preparation for this role included undergoing the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises — a series of prayers and meditations developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola — as well as limiting his consumption of food and sex.

"I did a bunch of spiritual practices every day, and I created new rituals for myself," he said. "I was celibate for six months and fasting a lot, because me and (co-star) Adam (Driver) had to lose a lot of weight anyways."

He added: "There were all these spiritual practices that we got to do while we were praying, meditating and having all the intentions that we had as those characters."

According to Garfield, fasting provided unique insight.

"It was very cool, man. I had some pretty wild, trippy experiences from starving myself of sex and food for that period of time," he said. "It gives you some gifts for



sure." Garfield also said he spent a year studying Catholicism with Fr. James Martin, a prominent Jesuit priest, in New York.

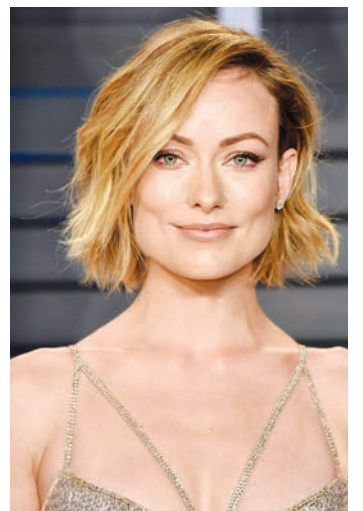
"He became my friend and spiritual director for a year," Garfield said.

Source: USA TODAY

Harry Styles and I share 'deep love': Olivia Wilde

Olivia Wilde and Harry Styles have been extremely private about their romance and recently, the actress-director made a rare comment about why the duo prefer to keep their relationship out of the public eye. Wilde who also directed Styles in her upcoming movie, Don't Worry Darling, spoke about the pressures that come with a public relationship.

While Olivia and Harry never publicly admitted their relationship, it was the paparazzi photos of the duo that confirmed their romance. Addressing the same, Wilde in her recent interview with Variety, made a rare comment and said, "I'm not going to say anything about it because I've never seen a relationship benefit from being dragged into the public arena." Adding on about why the duo want to maintain their privacy, she said, "We both go out of our way to protect our relationship; I think it's out of experience, but also just out of deep love", via Variety.



INDIA'S STAR COMEDIAN COMES TO NJ

BY MABEL PAIS

"The biggest stand-up comedy act in India. Period".- Tanmay Bhat, AiB co-founder.



Zakir Khan Photo / Courtesy NJPAC

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) welcomes comedian Zakir Khan's brand-new stand-up comedy national tour: Live In US, on Saturday, September 3, 2022, at 7 pm. This show will be performed in Hindi.

After two-hour length standup massively successful

specials, Haq Se Single (2017) and Kaksha Gyarvi (2021) on Amazon Prime Video; and after selling out 100,000+ tickets across the globe, Zakir Khan is on the road once again with his latest stand up show. Khan has the ability to highlight comic elements in everyday life and is known for his "uniquely Indian" style of comedy, which involves him impeccably catching on to the emotions that are common to every Indian household.

Zakir Khan is one of the brightest Indian comedians and actors in India. In 2012, he rose to popularity by winning Comedy Central's India's Best Stand Up Comedian competition. He has also been a part of a news comedy show, 'On Air with AiB' (All India Bakchod) - a parody of 'All India Radio.'

A writer by profession, he has been described by AIB's co-founder, Tanmay Bhat, as "The biggest stand-up comedy act in India. Period." This 'Confused Desi' serves his take on modern India, with a hard-to-resist style of humor that'll have you nodding your heads and clapping as you relate to everything he says. His work includes comedy specials like Kaksha Gyarvi; an acclaimed Amazon Prime series, Chacha Vidhayak Hai Hamare and a podcast, 'Umeed.' Zakir is indeed a unique act, and it's easy to see why.

Zakir Khan has a diploma in Sitar. He has stated that had he not been a standup comedian, he would instead

be working as a music teacher. He became a known face in India's stand-up comedy circuit in 2012 when he won the title of 'India's Best Stand Up', a comedy competition organized by Comedy Central. Besides performing at many stand-up comedy shows, he has also ghostwritten and produced radio shows. His comedy style was applauded in NDTV (New Delhi Television Limited) Prime's 'The Rising Stars of Comedy' television show.

He is an emerging Urdu Poet and comes from a family of artists. He has presented his poetry in events like 'Rekhta.' On his train journey to Delhi, he wrote his first poem, "Mai Soonya Pe Sawar Hoon". He also wrote "Apne Aap Ke Bhi Piche Khara Hoon Main", "Bus Ka Intezar Karte Huye".

Apart from comedy, Zakir has also generated podcast series Ummeed on Gaana, where he shares the inspiration he got from incidents in his life, along with his other comedian friends.

Catch the 'sakh launda' (one who doesn't easily fall for girls) himself,

Zakir Khan Live!

TICKETS

For Tickets, visit NJPAC.org or the Box Office or call 888.GO.NJPAC (888.466.5722).

THE PIANO GUYS

BY MABEL PAIS

THE PIANO GUYS' take their show to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), on Wednesday, September 14th at 7:30 p.m.

From YouTube stardom to the top of the Billboard charts, The Piano Guys have taken the world by storm with classical mash-ups of your favorite rock and pop songs. Their Oscar-worthy music videos bring piano and cello out of the concert hall and into the most unexpected places: on a speeding train, a cliff's edge, a beach, or in front of the Seven Wonders of the World. (It's no "wonder" their gorgeous videos are streamed over 3 million times every day.)

The Piano Guys are Jon Schmidt (pianist, songwriter), Steven Sharp Nelson (cellist, songwriter), Paul Anderson (producer, videographer) and Al van der Beek (music producer, songwriter). Their mission is to uplift and inspire each and every listener.

HOW DID THEY START THE PIANO GUYS

What do you get when you mix up a marketing genius that does video, a studio engineer that writes music, a pianist that had a successful solo career, and a cellist that does pretty much everything? The Piano Guys: a miraculous meeting of "guys" with the same intrinsic purpose - to make a positive impact in the lives of people all over the world through music videos.

It all started in a piano store in a little Southern Utah town called Saint George. Paul Anderson, the store's owner, was looking for a new, unconventional way to market pianos. The name of the piano store? The Piano Guys.

Paul embarked on a self-guided study of social marketing and started a



The Piano Guys

Photo / Courtesy NJPAC

YouTube channel and a Facebook page. He was an ambitious, talented risk taker and felt inspired that if he could find the right people to work with he could create the number one music video channel in the world.

In walked Jon Schmidt to the store. Jon requested Paul if he could let him practice on one of the store's piano for his upcoming gig. Paul explained his idea to Jon and asked if he would be

willing to be in a video promoting both the store and Jon's music. It was a win-win. Jon had a gift for combining multiple genres of music in such an entertaining way that he had captivated and captured a broad, substantial fan base.

Enter Steven Sharp Nelson. When Steve was 15 years old, he met Jon when they had shared the stage at a concert in which they were both performing. Steve,

a multi-instrumentalist, joined Jon at more and more of his concerts and their stage chemistry had audiences in stitches and in tears in two songs or less.

Then came Al van der Beek. After moving close to Steve's home, Al invited his new neighbor Steve to his home with a decked-out studio. They began writing tunes together and discovered a supernatural songwriting partnership. Al's studio and his engineering skills were to become the most important music-writing tool for 'The Piano Guys.'

The Piano Guys say, "our mission will always be to produce music videos that inspire, uplift, and make the world a better place. If we can make a positive impact in even one person's life it has all been worth it to us."

TICKETS

Tickets for 'The Piano Guys' are available at njpac.org/event/the-piano-guys or at the NJPAC Box Office or by calling 888.GO.NJPAC (888.466.5722).

THE NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (NJPAC)

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



Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan and The Consulate General of India, New York Presents:

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Padma Vibhushan Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt:
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Accompanied by Tabla Maestro
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Hunter College

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MIKHAIL GORBACHEV: CHAMPION OF 'GLASNOST', 'PERESTROIKA' DIES AT 91

RUSSIA (TIP): Mikhail Gorbachev, the man whose attempt at reforming the Soviet system spun out of control with tragic consequences for the communism-socialism movements all over the world, died in Moscow after a long illness. He was 91.

In six tumultuous years in power as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Gorbachev presided over landmark events, from the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan, the fall of the Berlin Wall, a coup attempt and finally the chaotic disintegration of the Soviet Union into 15 independent states whose reverberations we feel today in the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Perestroika (restructuring) and glasnost (openness) were the catch words for the Communists the world over. As Cuban leader Fidel Castro was to warn in early 1988, neither concept ended well for them.

Born in a peasant family as most Soviet politicians, he initially drove combine harvesters for a living. We will never get to know the qualities that made him a member of the Politburo at 48 though he is credited with overseeing a major irrigation project as a regional party boss. Opportunism may have been one of them in the unremitting struggle for power in the corridors of the Kremlin.

Gorbachev saw an opportunity of a lifetime when Konstantin Chernenko died. He moved quickly to convene a Politburo meeting while two supporters of his opponent were not in Moscow. When a tie emerged among the available members, Gorbachev voted in his favour as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party. Journalist Vladimir Pozner in his account of the unravelling of the Soviet Union writes: "American conservatives love to take credit. What a self-indulging understanding of history. One vote, one single change, would have changed the world. There would have been no Gorbachev as head of USSR!"

But Gorbachev did become the top leader of the Soviet Union when Soviet-US ties were at their nadir. It is reckoned that the Chernobyl disaster in 1986 was when he was convinced that things had to change in the Soviet Union. Contrary to popular impression, he did make one last effort to pull back matters from the brink. (TNS)

Argentine Vice President Cristina Fernández has a narrow escape as man tries to assassinate her

SEPTEMBER 2

BUENOS AIRES (TIP): A man has been detained after he aimed a handgun at point-blank range at Argentina's politically powerful Vice President Cristina Fernández.

President Alberto Fernández said the assassination attempt failed because the gun did not fire.

"A man (on September 1 night) pointed a firearm at her head and pulled the trigger," the president said in a national broadcast.

He called it "the most serious incident since we recovered democracy" in 1983 and urged political leaders, and society at large, to repudiate the incident.

Supporters of the vice president have been gathering in the streets surrounding her home since last week, when a prosecutor called for a 12-year sentence for Fernández as well as a life-long prohibition in holding public office as part of a case involving alleged corruption in public works during her 2007-2015 presidency.

Fernández, who is not related to the current president, has denied all charges.

The president spoke shortly after video from the scene broadcast on local television channels showed Fernández exiting her vehicle surrounded by supporters outside her home when a man could be seen extending his hand with what looked like a pistol.



The vice president ducked as supporters surrounding the person appeared shocked at what was happening amid the commotion in the Recoleta neighbourhood of Argentina's capital.

The man, whose identity was not released by authorities, was detained seconds into the incident.

The president said the firearm had five bullets "and didn't fire even though the trigger was pulled".

There was no indication that the vice president suffered any harm. Her whereabouts were unknown.

"A person who was identified by those who were close to him who had a gun was detained by (the vice president's) security personnel," Security Minister Aníbal Fernández told local cable news

channel C5N.

The minister said he wanted to be careful in providing details until the investigation learned more.

Unverified video posted on social media shows the pistol almost touched Fernández's face.

State-run news agency Télam identified the alleged gunman as Fernando Andrés Zabak, a Brazilian citizen. Officials had not confirmed the information.

Government officials were quick to describe the incident as an assassination attempt.

"When hate and violence are imposed over the debate of ideas, societies are destroyed and generate situations like the one seen today: an assassination attempt," Economy Minister Sergio Massa said.

Ministers in President Alberto Fernández's government issued a news release saying they "energetically condemn the attempted homicide" of the vice president.

"What happened tonight is of extreme gravity and threatens democracy, institutions and the rule of law," reads the release.

Former President Mauricio Macri also repudiated the attack. "This very serious event demands an immediate and profound clarification by the judiciary and security forces," Macri wrote on Twitter. (AP)

Marriages in China decline to lowest numbers since 1986

SEPTEMBER 1

BEIJING (TIP): The number of marriages in China has hit a 36-year low with registrations of married couples dropped below eight million in 2021, the lowest since 1986, the latest official data revealed, adding to the concerns of the dwindling low birth rates and declining population which may touch negative growth by 2025.

Only 7.64 million couples registered to get married across China, the world's most populous nation, in 2021, the lowest since 1986, according to the latest Statistical Bulletin on the Development of Civil Affairs in 2021.

Compared to 2020, the number of couples who got married in 2021 dropped by 6.1 per cent. The data showed that the number of marriages fell for the eighth consecutive year.

Among the married population last year, people aged between 25 and 29 accounted for 35.3 per cent, up 0.4 percentage points from 2020, making it the group with the highest proportion among all age groups to get married for the ninth year in a row.

Late marriages which have become a trend in China would affect the policy to permit three children which further poses a challenge to the population problem, state-run Global Times quoted Chinese experts as saying.

China permitted all couples to have two children in 2016, scrapping the draconian decades-old one-child policy which policymakers blame for the current demographic crisis.

Last year China passed a revised Population and Family Planning Law allowing Chinese couples to have three children in an apparent attempt to address the reluctance of couples to have more kids due to mounting costs.

The decision to permit the third child came after the once-in-a-decade census in 2020 showed that China's population grew at its slowest pace to 1.412 billion.

Experts have attributed the phenomena of fewer marriages and late marriages to the prolonged schooling years, the increasing pressure of life and work, and young people's changing concepts and attitudes toward marriage.

Yang Jinrui, a senior official at the National Health Commission, said earlier that the post-90s and later generations, who are the main groups at prime marriage age and childbearing age, mostly grew up and worked in cities and towns, and they have more years of education and face greater employment pressure.

In the past decade, marriage, in general, has been delayed for several years, which means more and more people who are marriageable pushed back their marriages, said Zhai Zhenwu, chairman of the standing council of the China Population Association.

Zhai warned that late marriage would lead to fewer births, thus affecting the third-child policy.

In June this year a senior health official warned that China's dwindling population will touch negative growth by 2025 and may continue to shrink for more than a century.

The growth rate of China's total population has slowed significantly and is expected to enter a negative growth during the current 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-25), Yang Wenzhuang, head of population and family affairs at the National Health Commission, told the Annual Conference of China Population Association held in June. (PTI)

Russia launches war games with China amid tensions with US

SEPTEMBER 1

MOSCOW (TIP): Russia on September 1 launched weeklong war games involving forces from China and other nations in a show of growing defence cooperation between Moscow and Beijing, as they both face tensions with the United States.

The maneuvers are also intended to demonstrate that Moscow has sufficient military might for massive drills even as its troops are engaged in military action in Ukraine. The Russian Defence Ministry said that the Vostok 2022 (East 2022) exercise will be held until September 7 at seven firing ranges in Russia's Far East and the Sea of Japan and involve more than 50,000 troops and over 5,000 weapons units, including 140 aircraft and 60 warships. Russian General Staff chief, Gen. Valery Gerasimov, will personally oversee the drills involving troops from several ex-Soviet nations, China, India, Laos, Mongolia, Nicaragua and Syria.

The Defence Ministry noted that as part of the maneuvers, the Russian and Chinese navies in the Sea of Japan will "practice joint action to protect sea communications, areas of marine economic activity and support for ground troops in littoral areas." Beijing sent more than 2,000 troops along with more than 300 military vehicles, 21 combat aircraft and three warships to take part in the drills, Chinese news reports said.

China's Global Times newspaper noted that the maneuvers marked the first time that China has sent forces from three branches of its military to take part in a single Russian drill, in what it described as a show of the breadth and depth of China-Russia military cooperation and mutual trust. The drills showcase increasing defense ties between Moscow and Beijing, which have grown stronger



since Russian President Vladimir Putin sent his troops into Ukraine on February 24.

China has pointedly refused to criticize Russia's actions, blaming the US and NATO for provoking Moscow, and has blasted the punishing sanctions imposed on Moscow. Russia, in turn, has strongly backed China amid the tensions with the US that followed a recent visit to Taiwan by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Alexander Gabuyev, a political analyst who closely follows Russia-China ties, noted that "it's very important for Beijing to show to the US that it has levers to pressure America and its global interests." "The joint maneuvers with Moscow, including the naval drills, are intended to signal that if the pressure on Beijing continues it will have no other choice but to strengthen the military partnership with Russia," Gabuyev said.

"It will have a direct impact on the interests of the US and its allies, including Japan." He noted that the

Kremlin, for its part, wants to show that the country's military is powerful enough to flex its muscle elsewhere despite the campaign in Ukraine. "The Russian leadership demonstrates that everything goes according to plan and the country and its military have resources to conduct the maneuvers along with the special military operation," Gabuyev said.

The exercise continues a series of joint war games by Russia and China in recent years, including naval drills and patrols by long-range bombers over the Sea of Japan and the East China Sea. Last year, Russian troops for the first time deployed to Chinese territory for joint maneuvers.

China's participation in the drills "aims to deepen pragmatic and friendly cooperation between the militaries of the participating countries, enhance the level of strategic cooperation among all participating parties, and enhance the ability to jointly respond to various security threats," Chinese Defence Ministry spokesperson Col. Tan Kefei said

JAPAN PM KISHIDA APOLOGISES FOR HIS PARTY'S LINKS WITH UNIFICATION CHURCH, VOWS TO CUT TIES

AUGUST 31

TOKYO (TIP): Amid sliding approval ratings, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida apologised for his party's links with the controversial Unification Church, vowing to win back public trust by severing such ties and tightening vigilance over political activities.

Revelations of long-running links between some lawmakers of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the church have become a headache for Kishida. Not only has his popularity slumped, they have fanned opposition to a state funeral planned for slain former premier Shinzo Abe, a one-time Kishida mentor.

Abe's suspected assassin bore a grudge against the church, officially called the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, alleging it bankrupted his mother, and blamed Abe for promoting it, according to his social media posts and news reports.

Appearing at his first in-person news conference as he emerged from COVID-19 quarantine, Kishida said politicians had a duty to be mindful about their relationship with "problematic" organisations.

While members of his cabinet had previously pledged to examine their own relationship with the Unification Church, Kishida said on Wednesday the LDP would go a step further to make it "party policy" to end such ties and step up compliance.

"There are still many people who are concerned and suspicious of strong ties ... due to a number of media reports on the matter," Kishida told a news conference.

"For this, I offer my sincere apologies as the president of the LDP."

Kishida reshuffled his cabinet on Aug. 10 and removed some cabinet members with ties to the church in an attempt to bolster support - to little avail so far. An Asahi newspaper poll at the weekend showed support for the cabinet at 47%, down 10 points from July.

The Unification Church, founded in South Korea in the 1950s and known for its mass weddings, has over the years faced questions over how it solicits donations.

Kishida also faces persistent opposition to the planned taxpayer-funded state funeral for Abe, but defended the decision given the late ex-premier's standing both domestically and internationally. Though Japan's longest-serving prime minister, Abe divided opinions deeply. The funeral, to be held on Sept. 27 at Tokyo's Nippon Budokan hall, will cost about 250 million yen (\$1.8 million) excluding outlays for security and the reception of overseas dignitaries, the government has said. (Reuters)

Body of missing German found on Swiss glacier after over 30 years



AUGUST 31

BERLIN/BERN (TIP): The body of a man from

Germany who had been missing since 1990 was found on a glacier near Zermatt in Switzerland, police said.

Mountaineers discovered the mortal remains and equipment of the man from Baden-Wuerttemberg state on the Stockji glacier at the end of July, dpa news reported citing the police as saying on August 30.

According to officials, a DNA comparison showed that it was the missing man from the German town of Nuringen.

He was 27 when he went missing.

In August 1990, the deceased was on a multi-day mountain tour in the Valais Alps from Chamonix, France, to Domodossola, Italy.

When he did not arrive at his destination, rescue efforts were initiated, but he was not found.

German police assume that he died in an accident.

According to Swiss police, the fact that the man has now been found is related to retreating glaciers.

Amidst retreating ice, the mortal remains of people have come to light, some of whom had been missing for decades. IANS

Natural remedies to remove stubborn makeup

Parties, weddings, festive occasions or workplace-when done right, makeup can bring you no possible harm. Whether it is just eyeliner or a dab of blush on our cheeks, the correct application of makeup helps you go a long way. But what comes after the makeup is as important as the main act.

We often forget that taking off the makeup off requires equal time and attention, because if left on over night, this very makeup can become a cause for several beauty problems, facial marks, freckles or even acne. While we have enough products in the market to remove all the colour from our face, most of them contain chemicals that aren't exactly wonderful for the skin. While finding the correct product for your skin is a tough task, nature-as always-has several surprises in store. Apart from being cheap and natural, these products are also easily available-five of which we list down below.

Baking Soda and Honey

This remedy is good for any skin type. Grab some honey lying in your kitchen and put it on a piece of cotton or a clean cloth. Sprinkle some baking soda on the honey and watch it act as great cleanser as well as exfoliator. Just rub the cloth or cotton gently on your face to wipe off the makeup and rinse it off. You can use a face wash but it can take away the after effect of honey on your skin, so it is better if you just rinse with lukewarm water and let the effect of honey repair your skin cells all night long.

Coconut oil

Coconut oil is a natural ingredient which the skin absorbs like magic. With a low molecular weight and beneficial fatty acids, coconut oil repairs the skin.

If you have coconut oil at home, there is literally nothing better to remove all the makeup on your face. This is particularly useful for heavy make-up and even waterproof



make-up. Simply rub some coconut oil all over your face and neck, and wipe it off with cotton pads. You can even make natural wipes, by putting lots of cotton balls soaked in a small jar full of coconut oil.

It is a natural moisturiser and is great for the winter season. It repairs and moisturises your skin well while restoring the natural oils on our face.

Milk

Remember stories where everyone from Cleopatra to Mughal princesses took milk baths?

Milk is known for its health benefits and for being a wonderful ingredient for your skin. The essential fats and protein found in whole milk allow our skin to retain moisture and repair damaged cells. Milk has strong bleaching properties and is a natural ingredient for skin lightening, in

case you're interested.

Simply soak your cotton pads in a small bowl of milk and use them to wipe off your makeup. You can even mix a tablespoon of almond oil in it for heavier make-up. This remedy will refresh your face and will keep your skin hydrated. If you have excessively oily skin, it is better to use a face wash followed by a night cream after washing off the milk.

Cucumber juice

Many commercial beauty products including face washes and cleaners have cucumber as an ingredient. That's because this common kitchen ingredient is a no-fuss healer. It has anti-inflammatory properties and can soothe irritated or acne prone skin. It is a water-based vegetable and is an excellent makeup remover particularly for oily skin.

Source: India Today

FOOD

Chilli Garlic Noodles



Ingredients

Noodles - 1/2 cup, cooked, Onions - 1/2 cup, chopped, Carrot - 1/2 cup, grated, Ginger Garlic Paste - 1 tblsp, Chilli Paste - 1/2 tblsp, Coriander Leaves - handful, chopped, Oil - 2 tblsp, Salt - as per taste

Method

- Heat oil in a pan over moderate flame.
- Add the onions, carrot, ginger garlic paste, salt and chilli paste.
- Stir to mix well.
- Add the noodles and mix well to combine all ingredients.
- Garnish with coriander leaves.
- Serve warm.

Kale Pakoda Chaat

Ingredients

Kale leaf 400gms, Mint chutney 50gms, Saunth chutney 50gms, Yoghurt 50gms, Sugar syrup 20 ml, Red chili powder 5 gms, Chat masala 5gms, Besan (Chickpea flour) 100gms, Rice flour 50gms, Corn flour 25gms, Salt to taste, Pomegranate seeds 20gms, Sev 10gms, Green coriander to garnish, Ajwain 5gms, Turmeric powder 5gms, Refined oil for fry

Method

- Batter - Add besan, rice flour and corn flour in a bowl and mix well. After mixing, add salt, turmeric powder, red chilli powder and ajwain. Add water and make a smooth batter of the mixture.
- Blanch the kale leaves, cool it in ice water and then dry with paper towel. Heat oil in a frying pan. Fry the leaves with batter till it become crispy and golden brown. Mix yogurt with sugar syrup, to make the yogurt sweet.
- Chaat - Keep the fried kale leaves in a serving plate. Pour mint chutney, tamarind chutney and sweet yoghurt on top. Sprinkle chaat masala.



Signs you are being catfished in a relationship

Simply put, you have been catfished if you have interacted with a real person who developed a false online identity to build relationships with others whether through social networking sites or dating platforms. Here are some red flags that should raise your concern.

They won't join you for a video chat

If you've been chatting with someone online for a time and they decline your request for a telephonic conversation or video chat, they might be a catfish. They might make up an explanation for why they can't do it, such as that their camera broke or that they're occupied with family people around. Catfishes fabricate lame justifications to stay away from video or

phone calls because doing so exposes their fraud.

They request for money

Many catfish are seeking money transfers from innocent people. An individual you've never seen asking for money is a massive red flag. They can make a financial request or claim to be in a tight spot. Some of them may blatantly demand you for money, while others will convince you with an emotive tale.

Their statements appear exaggerated

A catfish's trait is that they strive to present an idealised version of their lives. This tempts you to become infatuated with him or her, creating the perfect

scenario for abuse. Catfishes are skilled at using your emotions once they have earned your trust, whether they are attempting to win your sympathy or your money.

Their photographs appear professional

It's likely that the photographs you're receiving were stolen from someone else's account if they appear to be model-quality. Every time you request a photo and the person responds with a studio-quality, well edited, and precisely composed image, you can be sure you are dealing with a catfish. By using tools like Google Image Search, you can determine whether the photographs he or she provides you are false.

Source: Pinkvilla

Lack of sleep can make a person selfish: Study

Humans help one another; it is one of the pillars of civilised society. However, a new study conducted by scientists at the University of California, Berkeley, reveals that a lack of sleep impairs this fundamental human trait, with real-world consequences.

Sleep deprivation has been linked to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease, depression, diabetes, hypertension, and overall mortality. These new findings, however, show that a lack of sleep also impairs our basic social conscience, causing us to withdraw our desire and willingness to help others.

In one section of the new study, the researchers found that charitable giving dropped by 10% in the week following the start of Daylight Saving Time, when residents in most states “spring forward” and lose one hour of their day—a drop not seen in states that do not change their clocks or when states return to standard time in the fall.

The study, led by UC Berkeley research scientist Eti Ben Simon and Matthew Walker, a UC Berkeley professor of psychology, adds to a growing body of evidence demonstrating that insufficient sleep not only harms an individual’s mental and physical well-being but also jeopardises interpersonal bonds and even the altruistic sentiment of an entire nation.

“We have discovered a very intimate link between our sleep health and our mental health over the last 20 years.”

“We haven’t found a single major psychiatric condition in which sleep is normal,” Walker said. “However, this new research shows that a lack of sleep not only harms an individual’s health, but also degrades social interactions between individuals and, ultimately, the fabric of human society itself.” How we function as a social species—and we are a social species—appears to be profoundly dependent on how much sleep we get.”

“We’re seeing more and more studies, including this one, where the effects of sleep deprivation don’t just stop at the individual, but spread to those around us,”



Ben Simon said. “Not getting enough sleep not only harms your own well-being, but it also harms the well-being of your entire social circle, including strangers.”

Ben Simon, Walker, and their colleagues Raphael Vallat and Aubrey Rossi will publish their findings in the open access journal PLOS Biology on August 23. Walker is the Center for Human Sleep Science’s director. He and Ben Simon are both members of UC Berkeley’s Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute.

Sleeplessness dampens the theory of mind network. The new report describes three separate studies that looked at how sleep deprivation affects people’s willingness to help others. In the first study, the researchers scanned the brains of 24 healthy volunteers using a functional magnetic resonance imager (fMRI) after eight hours of sleep and after a night of no sleep. They discovered that after a sleepless night, areas of the brain that form the theory of mind network, which is engaged when people empathise with others or try to understand other people’s wants and needs, were less active. *Source: ANI*



Smoking also leads to thicker, weaker heart, warns new study

It is well known that smoking causes blocked arteries, leading to coronary heart disease and stroke. A new study on Thursday warned that smoking also leads to thicker, weaker hearts.

The researchers found that the more people smoked, the worse their heart function became. Some function was restored when people kicked the habit.

“It means that smokers have a smaller volume of blood in the left heart chamber and less power to pump it out to the rest of the body. The more you smoke, the worse your heart function becomes,” The heart can recuperate to some degree with smoking cessation, so it is never too late to quit,” study author Dr Eva Holt of Herlev and Gentofte Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark.

The heart can recuperate to some degree with smoking cessation, so it is never too late to quit, Holt added in a paper presented at ESC Congress 2022.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), tobacco kills more than eight million people each year.

Cigarette smoking is responsible for 50 per cent of all avoidable deaths in smokers, with half of these due to atherosclerotic cardiovascular diseases such as heart attack and stroke.

The detrimental effects of smoking on the arteries and arterial diseases such as heart attack and stroke are well established.

The new study explored whether smoking was related to changes in the structure and function of the heart in people without cardiovascular disease, and the effect of changing smoking habits.

The study analysed data of a total of 3,874 participants aged 20 to 99 years without heart disease.

The average age of participants was 56 years and 43 per cent were women.

Compared to never smokers, current smokers had thicker, weaker and heavier hearts.

“We found that current smoking and accumulated pack-years were associated with worsening of the structure and function of the left heart chamber -- the most important part of the heart,” said Holt.

Increasing pack-years were associated with pumping less blood. *Source: IANS*

Sitting for long periods may increase risk of dementia

According to a recent study, individuals aged 60 and more who sit for a long period of time watching TV or engaging in other passive, sedentary behaviours may be at an increased risk of developing dementia.

The study also showed that the risk is lower for those who are active while sitting, such as when they read or use computers.

The study was published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. It also revealed that the link between sedentary behaviour and dementia risk persisted even among participants who were physically active.

“It isn’t the time spent sitting, per se, but the type of sedentary activity performed during leisure time that impacts dementia risk,” said study author David Raichlen, professor of biological sciences and anthropology at the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences.

“We know from past studies that watching TV involves low levels of muscle activity and energy use compared with using a computer or reading,” he said. “And while research has shown that uninterrupted sitting for long periods is linked with reduced blood flow in the brain, the relatively greater intellectual stimulation that occurs during computer use may counteract the negative effects of sitting.”

Researchers used self-reported data from the UK Biobank, a large-scale biomedical database of more than 5,00,000 participants across the United Kingdom, to investigate possible correlations between sedentary leisure activity and dementia in older adults.

More than 1,45,000 participants aged 60 and older—all



of whom did not have a diagnosis of dementia at the start of the project—used touchscreen questionnaires to self-report information about their levels of sedentary behaviour during the 2006-2010 baseline examination period.

After an average of nearly 12 years of follow-up, the researchers used hospital inpatient records to determine dementia diagnosis. They found 3,507 positive cases.

Then, the team adjusted for certain demographics (e.g., age, sex, race/ethnicity, employment type) and lifestyle characteristics (e.g., exercise, smoking and alcohol use, time spent sleeping and engaging in social contact) that could affect brain health. *Source: ANI*

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Instagram testing improved content recommendation controls

Instagram is introducing changes to its application to enable users to inform the service about posts that are recommended to them. In a move that appears to be aimed at improving the algorithm used to serve users with customised content based on their actions and activity on Instagram, the company says it will make it easier for users to teach the service to recognise posts that they aren't interested in seeing in various sections of the app that serve personalised content.

The Meta-owned service announced in a blog post on Tuesday that it has begun testing the ability to allow users to select multiple posts in the Explore tab, and to inform the service that they are not interested in those posts. Until now, Instagram users would have to open (or long press) a post and indicate that they were not interested in the post, which could be a tedious process when the Explore feed is filled with irrelevant posts. Instagram is also working on allowing users to filter out strangers' posts containing specific hashtags and emoji, preventing them from showing up in their feed, the company explained in the post.

Back in March, the photo and video sharing service introduced the ability for users to view posts from accounts they follow in a chronological order, with two new feeds — Following and Favourites. With Following, users will see 30 days of posts in chronological order without suggested posts, while Favourites will let them choose to see posts from up to 50 accounts they follow.

Users can also 'snooze' suggested posts for a month at a time, by tapping the X on the top right corner and selecting Snooze all suggested posts in feed for 30 days. Users can also adjust their Sensitive Content Control settings on Instagram to customise the types of content they see on the service.

WhatsApp features in development: Companion mode, avatars, status reactions

Over the past few weeks, we have already seen WhatsApp launching several new features like emoji reactions for messages, the ability to transfer chats between iOS and Android, and muting specific participants on voice calls. But that's not all. WhatsApp is also developing a handful of exciting features that may make their way to iOS and Android smartphones soon. It's worth keeping in mind that these features are currently in development and are yet to be officially announced by WhatsApp.

View past group participants

WhatsApp is working on the ability to view past participants in groups. As of today, you can only see a list of current members of a WhatsApp group. But soon, you might be able to discover the list of people who exited the group — or were removed in the last 60 days. This list will be visible to everyone in the group, which means it won't be limited to group admins.

Status reactions

You may soon be able to react to a WhatsApp Status, just like Instagram and Facebook. You will be able to choose from any of the available emojis and your reaction will be sent as a message.

WhatsApp chat updates

Another useful feature that has been spotted in development is an official "chat" from WhatsApp where the company could announce new features coming to the app, share tips and tricks, and provide information about the app's features.

WhatsApp Avatars

Instagram and Facebook have already rolled out a Facebook Avatars feature that allows you to create your own personalised 3D cartoon image and use it in chats and Stories. Now WhatsApp could soon add support for the same Facebook Avatars on the app. You might be able to use an avatar as a mask while placing a video call and as a sticker.

Hide online status

You might feel the need to hide your online status if you don't want to be disturbed when you're online on



WhatsApp. This is an important privacy feature that users have been requesting for years. WhatsApp has been spotted working on a feature that could let you hide your online status. You may get two new options: "Everyone" and "Same as Last Seen", which will let you choose who can see you when you are online.

Admin delete

Another notable feature that WhatsApp is currently working on is Admin delete. This feature is said to allow group admins to delete any message in a group. If this feature is released then admins will finally have more control over their groups. They can choose to delete any message sent by a member, which will remove the message for all existing group members.

Companion mode

WhatsApp is also expected to launch a new Companion mode. This is another highly demanded feature. Currently, you can only use your WhatsApp account on one phone and PC, but with the Companion mode, which is currently in development, you may be able to access your WhatsApp account on multiple devices, including your tablets, phones and PC. You won't have to log out of one phone to use WhatsApp on another phone, and you may also be able to link a secondary mobile device to your existing WhatsApp account. *Source: NDTV*

Take 2: NASA aims for Saturday launch of new moon rocket

NASA will try again on Saturday to launch its new moon rocket on a test flight, after engine trouble halted the first countdown this week.

Managers said on Tuesday they are changing fueling procedures to deal with the issue. A bad sensor also could be to blame for Monday's scrapped launch, they noted.

The 322-foot rocket — the most powerful ever built by NASA — remains on its pad at Kennedy Space Center with an empty crew capsule on top.

The Space Launch System rocket will attempt to send the capsule around the moon and back. No one will be aboard, just three test dummies. If successful, it will be the first capsule to fly to the moon since NASA's Apollo programme 50



years ago.

Proceeding toward a Saturday launch will provide additional insight, even if the problem reappears and the countdown is halted again, said NASA's rocket program manager, John Honeycutt. That's better "than us sitting around scratching our heads, was it

good enough or not."

"Based on what I've heard from the technical team today, what we need to do is continue to pore over the data and polish up our plan on putting the flight rationale together," he said.

During Monday's launch attempt, readings showed that one of the four main engines in the rocket's core stage could not be chilled sufficiently prior to the planned ignition at liftoff. It appeared to be as much as 40 degrees Fahrenheit (5 degrees Celsius) warmer than the desired minus-420 degrees Fahrenheit (minus-250 degrees Celsius), the temperature of the hydrogen fuel, according to Honeycutt. The three other engines came up just a little short. *Source: AP*

Apple Watch, iPhone set to focus on 17 health, fitness areas in 200 nations

With iOS 16 and watchOS 9 this fall, Apple Watch and iPhone will offer features that focus on 17 areas of health and fitness, from heart health to sleep, women's health, mobility and more, according to the tech giant.

Apple users can now store over 150 different types of health data from Apple Watch, iPhone, and connected third-party apps and devices. They can also choose to share certain types of this health data with loved ones.

These features, available in nearly 200 countries and territories, provide users with high-quality data gathered throughout the day and night, said the company.

As pandemic show us the importance of being fit and healthy, Apple is creating devices and services packed with "science-based technology" that equips people with even more information and acts as an intelligent guardian for their health, "so they are no longer passengers on their own health journey", according to Jeff Williams, Chief Operating Officer at Apple.



ADANI WORLD'S THIRD RICHEST, FIRST FROM ASIA

Adani Group's chairman Gautam Adani is now the world's third-richest person after overtaking France's Bernard Arnault according to Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

With a total net worth of \$137.4 billion, 60-year-old Adani has surpassed the wealth of Louis Vuitton chairman Arnault and is now just behind business magnate Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos in the ranking.

In the latest Bloomberg Billionaires Index, Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani is at number 11 with a net worth of \$91.9 billion. This is the first time an Asian person has broken into the top three of the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

The index is a daily ranking of the world's richest people. Details about the calculations are provided in the net worth analysis on each billionaire's profile page. The figures are updated at the close of every trading day in New York.

The net worth of Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos are currently at \$251 billion and \$153 billion, respectively.

Adani is a first-generation entrepreneur and the Adani Group comprises seven publicly listed entities with businesses spanning energy, ports and logistics, mining and resources, gas, defence and aerospace and airports.

INDIGO, VIRGIN ATLANTIC IN CODESHARE PACT

The country's largest airline IndiGo and British carrier Virgin Atlantic on Wednesday announced a codeshare agreement. Under the pact, Virgin Atlantic will be allowed to sell seats to passengers connecting onto IndiGo flights.

Under the partnership, customers booking a Virgin Atlantic ticket will be able to fly on the airline's London (Heathrow) to Delhi and Mumbai flights and connect to and from seven additional cities in India.

Codesharing allows an airline to book its passengers on its partner carriers and provide seamless travel to destinations where it has no presence.



India's GDP grew at 13.5% in Q1 FY23, fastest in a year

NEW DELHI (TIP)

India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the first quarter (April-June) of the fiscal year grew by 13.5 per cent, as against a 20.1 per cent growth seen during the same period last year, data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) showed on Wednesday, August 31.

Many analysts had projected the Indian economy will expand at a double-digit growth rate due to the base effect.

According to rating agency Icra, the GDP was likely to grow at 13 per cent while the State Bank of India in its report, projected the growth rate at 15.7 per cent for April-June 2022.

Earlier this month, in its monetary policy meeting, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said that the GDP growth rate is likely to be around 16.2 per cent in the first quarter of this fiscal year.

China registered an economic growth of 0.4 per cent in April-June 2022.

News agency Reuters reported that the pace of growth is seen moderating going forward due to global recession fears and rising borrowing costs. The RBI has raised the benchmark policy rate by 140 basis points in three rates moves since May and has vowed to do more to bring inflation under its 6 per cent target ceiling. "We are seeing signs of waning of the intensity of tailwind generated by economic reopening," Reuters quoted Kunal Kundu, an economist with Societe Generale GSC Pvt, as saying. "Add rising borrowing cost to benign domestic consumption prospects, and business investment could be potentially underwhelming," Kundu added. Meanwhile, private investment during April-June increased 20.1 per cent from a year ago, data show. Government spending rose 1.3 per cent while private consumption was up 25.9 per cent.

Consumption

Private final consumption expenditure is the largest component accounting for 60 per cent of the GDP. Its movement has a huge weightage on the entire GDP number. It grew 1.8 per cent year-on-year in the March 2022 quarter. Government final consumption expenditure in January-March 2022 saw a marginal rise.

Investment and Infrastructure

Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) is an indicator of



investment activity in the country. A growth in GFCF indicates a jump in investment in the country. Now, that the country witnessed an outflow of foreign portfolio investment during April-June 2022, this data would be closely watched out for in the latest numbers. GFCF witnessed a growth of 5.1 per cent in the March 2022 quarter.

Agriculture Growth

Agriculture is the sector that remained resilient during the pandemic period. It provided positive growth when all other sectors posted negative growth during the lockdown. Now, however, rating agency Icra said the gross value added (GVA) growth in agriculture, forestry and fishing is likely to fall to 1 per cent in Q1FY23, compared with 4.1 per cent in the previous quarter. It said the likely decline is due to heat waves in several parts of the country that adversely affected wheat production in the country. Gross value added is GDP minus net product taxes.

Manufacturing Growth/ Industrial Sector

Manufacturing growth has been hit majorly first during the coronavirus pandemic and then due to the Russia-Ukraine war that led to supply disruptions, which increased commodity prices and thus input costs for companies. The manufacturing sector witnessed a contraction of 0.2 per cent in the March 2022 quarter.

Fed officials see U.S. interest rates rising further

NEW YORK (TIP)

U.S. Federal Reserve officials on Tuesday reiterated their support for further interest-rate hikes to quell inflation, with the influential chief of the New York Fed saying the central bank will likely need to get its policy rate "somewhat above" 3.5% and keep it there through the end of 2023.

"I see us needing to kind of hold a policy stance - pushing inflation down, bringing demand and supply into alignment - it's going to take longer, will continue through next year," New York Fed chief John Williams told the Wall Street Journal. "Based on what I'm seeing in the inflation data, and what I'm seeing in the economy, it's going to take some time before I would expect to see adjustments of rates downward."

The Fed in March embarked on what's become the sharpest round of rate hikes since the 1980s, and Fed

Chair Jerome Powell last week made clear he and fellow monetary policymakers are prepared to raise borrowing costs as high as needed to restrict growth and reduce inflation that's currently running at more than three times the Fed's 2% target.

Doing so, he said, will likely mean a softer labor market and pain for households and businesses; but allowing inflation to remain high would cause even worse damage, he said. Williams, who as vice chair of the Fed's rate-setting panel plays a key role steering monetary policy, said that the central bank's decision on whether to deliver a third straight 75-basis-point rate hike next month or a smaller half-point hike will depend on the incoming data, which includes Friday's monthly jobs report and the consumer price index reading just days before the Sept. 20-21 meeting. But September's decision will also, Williams said, depend on

policymakers' views of where they think interest rates will need to be by the end of the year.

"If based on the data it's clear that we need to get interest rates significantly higher by the end of the year, then obviously that informs a decision at any given meeting," Williams said. "We're going to need to have restrictive policy for some time - this is not something that we're going to do for a very short period of time and then change course; it's really more about getting policies to the right place to get inflation down and keeping it in this position" to achieve the Fed's 2% inflation goal.

The Fed's current target range for the benchmark Fed funds rate is 2.25-2.50%.

In June, the last time the central bank published a summary of policymakers' rate-path expectations, US central bankers saw rates rising to 3.4% by year end. *Source: Reuters*

Shree Ganeshaya Namah

Monthly Horoscope September 2022

By Chirag Daruwalla - Son of Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla



ARIES : Ganesha says your fortune favors love and romance. If you're single, you'll get a surprise proposal this month. A friend may make a relationship proposal to you, or if you fancy someone, this month is a great time to ask. You'll have a wonderful time with your spouse, and you'll almost certainly receive gifts from them. Avoid harsh consequences that indicate the possibility of misunderstanding due to inaccurate information. You should exercise caution when it comes to your health. Overall, you should prioritize your mental health this month because your workload may cause stress, or your relationship with your children or a romantic partner may cause stress. Exercise regularly, attend a meditation class, and maintain a positive attitude. You should exercise caution when it comes to your health. You are likely to benefit financially from the government's favor or your father's assistance this month. Although investing in the stock market can provide a good return, it is important to exercise caution before making large investments.



TAURUS : Ganesha says you're always drawn to romance and relationships. You should, however, appreciate those who are in a relationship or love. This is the month when your lover is more likely to be sympathetic and willing to collaborate with you to strengthen your relationship. My only piece of advice is to avoid fighting for insignificant reasons. If there are any ego issues, try to resolve them amicably. In terms of your well-being, the results may be mixed. As a result, you may experience minor health problems. Sleep deprivation is one such issue. You may also feel better from chronic ailments and have a renewed sense of vigor and vitality. Expansion is planned, particularly to new cities or towns. You want to push your business ideas to the next level. This month is also likely to see the formation of partnerships. Your partnership venture should produce positive results.



GEMINI : Ganesha says you will have the opportunity to travel with your partner on a trip. Spend quality time with your love partner this month to strengthen your relationship. A proposal from friends is possible this month. Those of you who have recently committed to a relationship should enjoy spending time with your partner because the stars predict that you will have the experience of love and romance all around with your mate. Try not to get into a fight with your spouse. You will have the opportunity to travel with your partner on a trip. Spend quality time with your love partner this month to strengthen your relationship. A proposal from friends is possible this month. Those of you who have recently committed to a relationship should enjoy spending time with your partner because the stars predict that you will have the experience of love and romance all around with your mate. Try not to get into a fight with your spouse. This month will most likely be a mixed bag in terms of money and finances. You may

be able to save money if you plan ahead of time.



CANCER : Ganesha says there may be numerous reasons for you to enjoy your relationship with your significant other. Many private and intense opportunities to rekindle your love life may come your way. Those born under this sign who are in a relationship should take advantage of this time to get to know one another and spend as much time as possible together. The natives' love and relationship horoscope suggest a romantic vacation to take as a break from their stressful daily lives. You may have a prosperous financial period. According to the financial horoscope, most people born under this sign will have a steady flow of money from various sources. Rapid advancement in your career may also result in additional funds in your bank account. Expenses, on the other hand, may rise, particularly if you're planning a romantic getaway or a lavish splurge. You may notice a rise in your career, as well as the possibility of advancement. Your gains may provide you with social standing as well as success in legal challenges relating to your profession, if applicable. You must exercise caution in your interactions with those business people.



LEO : Ganesha says your considerate behavior toward your partner may strengthen your relationship. Natives in love, on the other hand, may drift apart for a variety of reasons. Because of a third party, you may have reservations about your partner. However, we advise you not to make any decisions without solid evidence. This month, single natives may fall in love with someone, but the other person may not reciprocate their feelings. Take a walk every morning and evening to keep health issues at bay. You could also start exercising regularly to stay fit. This month, you should pay closer attention to your nutrition because eating a well-balanced meal may alleviate many of your problems. Even if the month begins well, certain health issues may force you to spend money on yourself by the middle of the month. In contrast, a friend or close relative may approach you for financial assistance. You should first consider your budget before offering assistance. It will not help you if you help someone out of a financial bind only to find yourself in the same situation later on.



VIRGO : Ganesha says you may feel compelled to make some lifestyle changes as the month begins to spice up your personal life and relationship. It could be an ideal time for dating, shopping, watching movies, and spending time with your significant other to strengthen your relationship. You can also anticipate help from family and friends in resolving some issues in your relationship. Planets may cause disruptions in your financial planning. To stay within your budget, you may need to cut out all unnecessary expenses. It could put your money management skills to the test. You may be able to meet your previous obligations while also recovering all outstanding debts from previous periods as the month progresses. It could greatly improve your financial strength if you had some good earning prospects. Despite some setbacks at the beginning, the month appears to be successful and promising. It could be a fantastic opportunity for business people to strike a lucrative deal. There may be

plenty of planetary assistance as the month progresses. It could be an excellent time to begin new projects. Businesses with planetary support may have a fantastic opportunity to expand their customer base. Your luck may be on your side, and you may complete all of your duties and exams successfully. Exams may be simple to pass if you have adequately prepared.



LIBRA : Ganesha says your heart may be filled with love, romance, and intimacy as the month begins. Your partner may understand and respond positively to your feelings. Planets are likely to shower blessings on your love life and relationship in general, so now is a good time to express yourself positively. However, as the month progresses, you may find yourself in a catch-22 situation. You may be overwhelmed by a range of emotions, and your mood swings may be annoying. If you have any illnesses, this month may help you recover faster. You should, however, avoid any physical risks and drive cautiously. You may need to keep track of and control your eating habits. Your mind may be a little more agitated this time. This month, you should be more cautious and calculated in your approach because your financial situation may be jeopardized.



SCORPIO : Ganesha says singles may fall in love and form a committed relationship as a result. If you're still in love with your ex, a recent breakup can lead to a reconciliation. This month, your connection could be revitalized. You can spend a lot of quality time with your partner and not let work get in the way of your relationship. A serious love connection can lead to marriage. You must be cautious about your health and well-being. Avoid drinking and driving and drive at a reasonable speed to avoid mishaps and accidents. Yoga and gentle exercises should be done first thing in the morning. These can help with stress reduction as well as strength and stamina development. This month could be a good time for you in terms of professional matters.



SAGITTARIUS : Ganesha says for the most part, the month appears to be favorable in terms of money and finance for the majority of you. You might be able to make some money this month. You may, however, need to manage your money and day-to-day spending with caution. Keep track of any other household and business expenses. Some losses are to be expected during this period. The period beginning in the middle of the month, on the other hand, may be quite beneficial for the native of this sign, as income may increase during this time. Loved ones and people in long-term relationships may face difficulties. This may take some time, but things should be back on track soon. Everyone needs love, and this month is likely to be a fantastic time for romantic pleasures. Even if you've been together for a long time, your relationship has a spark of romance and sensuality. Some of you will experience romantic pleasure for the first time in your life.



CAPRICORN : Ganesha says prepare to rejoice in your love for your partner. You may discover that you have a strong desire to please your spouse and make him or her happy. Your monthly horoscope

Shree Ganeshaya Namah



VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA

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

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - SEPTEMBER 5 TO SEPTEMBER 11, 2022



ARIES : Ganesha says this time, try to resolve your problem with patience. Love necessitates dedication-a sudden break in ignorance. Small events should be wished for and calibrated with your spouse. It is possible to meet your partner's family. This week could be a week of secret love affairs. Keep a close eye on your health. Avoid using electronics before going to bed. You should avoid eating junk food. This week is all about eating healthier. You may become exhausted as a result of your workload. Resolve all of your tax issues. This week, it is not advisable to lend to others. Learning occult science or religious work can be costly. Gains made previously and potential new investments in health or life policies this week's wholesale business could be profitable. Don't increase your workload. A career break caused by an argument can be stressful. You must be patient and prepare ahead of time. Independent professionals and freelancers have a chance to thrive. You must complete all of your projects and assignments. Maintain a positive attitude because the expected outcome may be delayed. Some of you might be successful in your research. Occult knowledge can sway.



TAURUS : Ganesha says the week is ideal for newlyweds, as their bond is likely to strengthen. Some people would be irritated by disagreements with their beloved partner. Some of you may prefer home remedies. This will most likely boost your immunity while also providing you with the strength you need this week. This week, all of your financial needs would be met. You've kept your income and expenses consistent. It is preferable to make some investment changes with the assistance of a professional. This week's professional development may go well. Do not give your superiors any reason to give the coveted senior position to your co-worker. Your efficiency will astound them. You will almost certainly be able to improve your academic performance through education and information. But don't get me wrong: you'll need to study from a variety of sources.



GEMINI : Ganesha says singles may become engaged or receive a relationship proposal. A family and partner gathering may be possible, but egocentric conflicts may need to be resolved with partners. A disagreement of ideas can lead to unexpected conflicts in relationships. This week, Mother's health may suffer. Pregnant women should be cautious about their diet and rest. This week may provide an opportunity to reap the benefits of a variety of outdoor activities. This week, Mother's health may suffer. Pregnant women should be cautious about their diet and rest. This week, your work may necessitate extra effort and concentration. It is

recommended to be determined and to move slowly toward your goal. Because your coworkers are not trustworthy, you should keep your project plans hidden from them. Exam success and mentorship are both guaranteed. Overall, if you work hard, this week will be beneficial to you. Health and diet must be prioritized. A supportive environment is essential for academic success.



CANCER : Ganesha says due to previous investment or tax concerns, the start of the week may be stressful. You should avoid making large commitments early in the week to avoid difficulties in fulfilling your obligations. Work may be a source of intense competition this week. However, your wisdom may provide you with an advantage, and you may make significant decisions that will assist you in resolving long-standing issues. Your seniors may appreciate your hard work. This week could be good for academics. Students studying creative disciplines, fine arts, management, and economics may do well. Your knowledge may be valued and improved. Certain deeply ingrained emotions, both passionate and painful, may surface this week. It is advised that you keep a level head and do not allow your emotions to take over. The weekend could be an excellent time to make a proposal or express your feelings to someone.



LEO : Ganesha says this week may begin with sadness for the majority of people. The vision to fight may be tricky; however, you should be extra cautious of character and subsequent fights. Health is critical, and you must prioritize it. A daily routine can be used to become more health conscious. Pain patients may face difficulties. This week is for people, as business profit margins may be increased. Success is not guaranteed in this situation. You may notice a great approach to increasing your profit margin as a result of your growing business. This week, some of you may seek advice and suggestions from experienced people for your business and career, which can help you improve your weaknesses. However, you must double your efforts in this regard. Great jobs present challenges. Your interest in this subject may grow in the future. This could be a good week for most of you because your learning could help you improve your academic performance.



VIRGO : Ganesha says a healthy diet and moderate exercise may be beneficial. Keep an eye on the big picture throughout the week to keep your mind in good shape. This is the time to prioritize your health and exercise. This week's middle may cause some mental tension. You may experience some anxiety or uneasiness as the week progresses. At the start of this week, some disruptions in your financial planning

may force you to resort to fire-fighting measures. You may have to drop everything and attend to the ensuing issues right away. At the start of this week, some disruptions in your financial planning may force you to resort to fire-fighting measures. You may have to drop everything and attend to the ensuing issues right away. Students may experience some disruptions. You may struggle to perform well in your studies if you lack focus. If you are studying for an exam, you may have to put in a lot of effort to get good grades.



LIBRA : Ganesha says your health may remain satisfactory, but you may be required to adhere to a proper diet plan and stick to a routine. Some old health issues may resurface this time. Love may gradually blossom, and you and your spouse may have a very happy married life. This week would be yours in all aspects of your life. You would live a happier life if you had a better life, allowing you to accumulate wealth and build property. Your financial situation would largely remain satisfactory. It may bring some good financial gains from your previous investments, strengthening your position. As the week draws to a close, you should see steady progress. Your financial situation would largely remain satisfactory. It may bring some good financial gains from your previous investments, strengthening your position. As the week draws to a close, you should see steady progress. Your financial situation would largely remain satisfactory. It may bring some good financial gains from your previous investments, strengthening your position. As the week draws to a close, you should see steady progress.



SCORPIO : Ganesha says on the romantic front, this week could be a good one for both couples and singles. If you are in a long-distance relationship, you may receive some unexpected news that your partner is planning to relocate to your location, which may bind you two together. On the romantic front, this week could be a good one for both couples and singles. If you are in a long-distance relationship, you may receive some unexpected news that your partner is planning to relocate to your location, which may bind you two together. On the romantic front, this week could be a good one for both couples and singles. If you are in a long-distance relationship, you may receive some unexpected news that your partner is planning to relocate to your location, which may bind you two together. This week is ideal for all types of learning. Whether traditional or unconventional,

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : SEPTEMBER 5 TO SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 BY ASTRO FRIEND CHIRAG - SON OF ASTROLOGER BEJAN DARUWALLA

SEPTEMBER 5 : Ganesha says most of you will travel extensively. You'll be relieved of needless stress as a result. In the coming year, your financial situation will also be fortunate. However, you are urged to exercise caution in concerns of the heart. Trips for fun with friends are anticipated. You'll be putting significant projects into motion in the upcoming year. You should learn to regulate your restless nature because doing so will not only lead to success but also make you feel satisfied. You anticipate events to take place twice as quickly. Relax and allow time to run its course.

SEPTEMBER 6 : Ganesha says you will engage in volunteer work that benefits the disabled and receive recognition for your good efforts. You'll need to develop self-control over this feature. You can be disturbed by little issues. Relax and let little issues be resolved on their own. You won't experience stress or strain as a result of this. Many of the individuals around you irritate you. But in the upcoming year, you will be able to meet a few nice buddies. You'll be ready to give your friends and loved ones your all.

SEPTEMBER 7 : Ganesha says those of you in business are likely to undertake important projects and achieve success in the same. You are a faithful friend and can be trusted to keep secrets of those who

confide in you. Systematic and sincerity, will lead you to newer heights of success, in your professional front, in the year ahead of you. An ability to be good at anything that you undertake is likely to catch the attention of your seniors, and you will be rewarded for your efforts.

SEPTEMBER 8 : Ganesha says those of you in the writing industry will achieve greater levels of achievement. But you frequently stress over unimportant issues. You'll need to develop the ability to unwind and wait for little issues to resolve themselves. You also have a propensity to occasionally behave selfishly. You are naturally diligent, as well as sincere and truthful in your work. Your sincerity and honesty will not be compromised. In the year ahead, you will complete each task you attempt perfectly. You'll be able to decide wisely in crucial situations.

SEPTEMBER 9 : Ganesha says being an introvert by nature, you find it difficult to express your emotions. In fact, you make an effort to keep your distance from talkative people. In the upcoming year, you'll live a lavish existence. It will be a wonderful year for you financially. However, you will need to suppress your tendency to find fault with others. Those of you getting married this year can anticipate

a successful and fulfilling marriage. You frequently obsess about little issues. You'll be able to avoid tension and strain as a result of this.

SEPTEMBER 10 : Ganesha says you are the centre of attention at every social event thanks to your engaging demeanor. You will be able to amaze the other sex in the year ahead with both your sense of style and your communication abilities. It will be a terrific year for you in terms of relationships. Single people can anticipate finding your life companion. You must exercise caution when it comes to respiratory illnesses. However, exercising caution and attention will enable you to recover quickly from any health issues.

SEPTEMBER 11 : Ganesha says because of your cooperative nature, you'll do everything in your power to keep things harmonious at work and at home. You have a lot of friends since you don't like to annoy people and are always willing to meet their needs. You will succeed in your business endeavors in the upcoming year because of your great power of observation and your bright intelligence. You are a quiet person who struggles to express your feelings. You will benefit more from this. Those of you who are single can anticipate finding your life companion in the coming year.

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your learning will improve your fundamental knowledge. This week, your concentration would be at its peak.



Sagittarius

SAGITTARIUS : Ganesha says protect yourself and your family from minor illnesses such as coughs and colds. Travel with caution and proper planning. You should exercise caution because a minor injury is possible if you are not. Avoid arguing for the sake of your love and relationship. You may believe that your partner is not supporting you. You want mutual respect and cooperation, but it appears that the other person does not share your viewpoint. Try to save money while your cash flow is strong. Spend your money wisely. Please save your money in the first half of the week so that you can enjoy it at the end of the week. In terms of your professional life, this week is going to be fantastic. You should avoid making any important career or business decisions. Take learning seriously this week because your exam performance may suffer if you do not. Take some mock exams this week before sitting for any final exams that will test your knowledge and ability to apply it.



Capricorn

CAPRICORN : Ganesha says language control is essential this week because you risk hurting your partner's feelings. Doubts and intrusions into your partner's daily life can lead to a string of

tense situations. You are far more likely to fall in love with a close friend or find true love among coworkers. You must take care of your health. Mental stress may have an impact on your mental health. Yoga, walking, and meditation can help you relax those tense muscles. You may be the center of attention and receive praise and gratitude for your efforts from your employer and superiors. Most locals may want to talk to their employers about relocating this week. You may be the center of attention and receive praise and gratitude from your employer and superiors for your efforts. Most locals may want to talk to their employers this week about relocating. Concentrate on your studies to achieve better results. Obtaining an excessive amount of information may be detrimental to your life. You may experience frequent agitated mood swings.



Aquarius

AQUARIUS : Ganesha says academics and studies may be making good progress. Students pursuing higher education may be able to reach new heights. You may achieve romantic results if you spend quality time with your partner, make them feel special, and adore them in the best way possible. If there are any misunderstandings, talk to your partner about them. Your stars indicate that your earnings could be satisfying throughout the week. Making new investments would be beneficial and could result in surprisingly high returns. Take a chance, and the stars

may align in your favor. Your stars indicate that your earnings could be satisfying throughout the week. Making new investments would be beneficial and could result in surprisingly high returns. Take a chance, and the stars may align in your favor.



Pisces

PISCES : Ganesha says week is likely to be beneficial to your career. New people, and agreements are about to be finalized. Be aware of your responsibilities if you want to succeed in a government job. A change in job profile and employment is possible. Love and relationships would yield conflicting results. Married couples may lose contact with their better half. Your married life may suffer if you become overly busy. Take a short trip with your loved one. Homeland could be the location of your meeting. A long illness may provide a good health condition. This week, migraine complications may have an impact on your health. Proper water and nutrition consumption is critical for good health. There may be some insomnia as a result of health complications. This week is all about going over old financial research. You must be cautious with your spending this week. Unexpected costs in fashion and grooming are possible. Furthermore, you may spend money on worldly items such as purchasing a car or paying a bill. This week, avoid asking new questions. It is recommended that all tasks and projects be completed on time. Unexpected illnesses or injuries may force a student to withdraw from school.

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advises you to be creative in your approach to inject some freshness into your long-term relationship. You may discover that your efforts to improve your connection will pay off for a long time. This month could be extremely beneficial to your overall health. This month may bring relief from previous health issues you've been dealing with. Don't engage in activities that require a lot of physical efforts, such as exercising. Some of you may be dealing with skin issues. Individuals who want to lose weight may find this month especially beneficial. Check that you have everything you need. There may be many changes and advancements on the professional front that will benefit you the most. Banking professionals are more likely to be promoted and given new responsibilities. This is a far cry from the low point in your career you've been in.



Aquarius

AQUARIUS : Ganesha says this month may bring you opportunities to enjoy your romantic life. However, the first half of the month is difficult for you. You and your partner may have pointless arguments that are detrimental to your relationship. You must ensure that no professional or financial disruptions disrupt your partnership's level of harmony. According to your monthly forecasts, your good health may keep you happy this month, and you'll be able to strike a good balance between your personal and professional lives. Making your mind sensitive to positive emotions such as love, hope, and faith may also be beneficial. The power of your mind can do wonders for your health. Maintain a positive and healthy mental attitude, and your health may improve. This month may bring about a lot of unexpected changes in your financial life. The revenue flow may be disrupted in the first half, and your regular income may be challenged.



Pisces

PISCES : Ganesha says this month may be favorable for love and relationships. If anything was bothering you in the second half of this month, it may now work in your favor. Your partner may be able to offer career advice, which can be extremely helpful in achieving the desired result at work. You and your spouse may achieve the expected results in your business plan, which may result in a good return the following month. This month, you may incur unanticipated expenses on short trips. Vehicle expenses are possible. Electronic devices can be repaired or purchased new. Overall, you may have a heavy workload this month, requiring careful planning. There's a good chance you'll get the desired outcome, but it will require more effort and determination. Receiving a favor from a senior or government official may be delayed. Working as a freelancer can also be financially rewarding.

Ganesh Chaturthi

The festival of Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated to honor the Hindu god Ganesh. The festival, also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi is observed in the Hindu calendar month of Bhaadrapada, starting on the shukla chaturthi (fourth day of the waxing moon period) and lasts for 10 days, ending on Anant Chaturdashi (fourteenth day of the waxing moon period). People start celebrations by preparing months in advance by making eco-friendly idols, artistic clay models of Lord Ganesh and decorating the idols. The size of these idols vary from inches to feet. Ganesh Chaturthi starts with the installation of these Ganesh statues in colorfully decorated homes and specially erected temporary structures mandapas (pandals) in many localities. The pandals are decorated using decorative items like flower garlands, lights, etc.. Some pandals are made theme based which depict religious themes, events related to Lord Ganesh or sometimes current events. The collective celebrations of Ganesh Chaturthi dates back to early 1890. At that time the society was divided on the basis of caste and religious beliefs. LokManya Bal GangaDhar Tilak decided to bring the divided society into one thread and asked the people to come together and celebrate the festival in collective manners.

During the celebrations, the chanting of mantras invokes the presence of Ganesh. This ritual is the Pranapratishtaha. After this, the ritual called as Shhodashopachara (16 ways of paying tribute) follows during which Coconut, jaggery, modaks, durva blades of grass and red flowers are offered. The statue of Lord Ganesh is anointed with red unguent, made of kumkum and sandalwood paste. The festival ends with Ganesh visarjana during which these installed statues of Lord Ganesh are immersed into the water bodies sea and river.

Lord Ganesh is considered to be the God who has the ability to bestow wisdom and wealth upon humans. All the new undertakings, whether at place of work or at home, start by reciting the mantra of Lord Ganesh. He is known as the God of good luck and prosperity. Therefore, before any auspicious occasion, Hindus perform the puja of Lord Ganesh, to achieve success in it. Ganesh Chaturthi, the day marking the birth of the Lord, is celebrated in a grand manner in Maharashtra as well as other parts of India. It falls in the Hindu lunar month of Bhadra and lasts over a period of ten days. One of the most loving festivals of India, Ganesh Chaturthi has many legends associated with it. Given below are the legends from Shiv and Skanda Purana.

Legend From Shiv Purana

The most popular legend associated with Lord Ganesh can be found in the Shiv Purana. It says that Lord Ganapati was created out of the dough that Goddess Parvati used for her bath. The Goddess wanted a door-keeper, to prevent the coming of any visitors when she took a bath. So, she created a doll from the dough and breathed life into him. The day she did this came to be known as the birthday of Lord Ganesh, which we today celebrate as Ganesh Chaturthi.

On day, while Goddess Parvati was taking her bath, Lord Shiva happened to visit her. Ganesh did not know him, so he did not allow the Lord to enter the house. This made Lord Shiva angry and he beheaded Ganesh. Later, when he came to know the truth, he fixed the head of an elephant in place of Ganesh's head. With this, the appearance of Lord Ganesh changed and he came to have the head of an elephant.

Legend From Skanda Purana

There is yet another popular legend associated with Ganesh Chaturthi, arising from Skanda Purana. It goes that once Ganesh was invited for a feast in Chandralok. He ate many Ladoos and later, as he got up to walk after the meal, he could not balance himself, because of his huge stomach, and slipped. His stomach burst and all the laddoos came rolling out. Seeing this, the moon could not control himself and began laughing. Ganesh got angry and cursed the moon that it will vanish from the universe.



Because of moon's absence, the whole world began to wane. The gods asked Lord Shiva to get Ganesh to change his mind. The moon also apologized for his misbehavior. Finally, Ganesh modified his curse saying that the moon would be invisible on only one day of a month and would be partially seen on Ganesh Chaturthi. He also added that anyone who watches moon on Ganesh Chaturthi would face a false accusation. This is the reason why, even today, it is considered inauspicious to look at the moon on Ganesh Chaturthi.

Law of worship

On this day, after bathing in the morning, an idol of Ganesh should be worshiped with gold, copper, silver, clay or cow dung. At the time of worship, we offer twenty-one Modakas and should offer twenty-one seedlings of Green Durva to the following ten names - 1. Gatapi, 2. Ghorisuman, 3. Aghanashak, 4. Ekdanta, 5. Ishputra, 6. Sarvasiddhiprada, 7. Vinayaka, 8. Kumar Guru, 9. Inbhakkatraya, 10. Mooshak Vahan Sant.

After that, out of twenty-one laddus, ten laddus should be donated to Brahmins and eleven laddus should be eaten by themselves.

Katha

Goddess Parvati created Ganesh out of sandalwood paste that she used for her bath and breathed life into the idol. She then set him to stand guard at her door while she bathed. When Lord Shiva returned from outside and as Ganesh didn't know him, he didn't allow Lord Shiva to enter. Lord Shiva became enraged and asked his follower Ganas to teach the child some manners. Ganesh being very powerful, defeated everyone and did not allow anyone to enter inside while his

mother was taking bath.

Finally angry Lord Shiva severed the head of the child Ganesh. After seeing this Goddess Parvati became enraged and then Lord Shiva promised Her that the child will be alive again.

The ganas searched for the head of person in North direction, but they could not find and human and instead brought the head of an elephant. Lord Shiva fixed it on the child's body and brought him back to life.

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Ahmedabad: Center of Gujarati cultural activities

Founded in the 15th century, Ahmedabad is the largest city in the state of Gujarat. The city is a vibrant business district and rising centre of education, information technology and scientific industries. Divided in two - the old city and the new city; The city offers different moods right from the hustle-bustle of C.G. Road in the heart of Ahmedabad to the quiet retreat of the Sabarmati Ashram. Ahmedabad enjoys a thriving cultural tradition, being the centre of Gujarati cultural activities and diverse traditions of different ethnic and religious communities. Popular celebrations and observances include Uttarayan - an annual kite-flying day on 14 January and the nine nights of Navratri - celebrated with people performing Garba - the folk dance of Gujarat - at venues across the city.

Places to see

Sabarmati Riverfront

Sabarmati Riverfront is a waterfront developed on the banks of river Sabarmati in Ahmedabad. Started with an objective for sustainable development and environmental improvement, the pace has now become a major tourist attraction owing to its lush green promenades, beautiful parks and plazas and an all-around soothing ambience.

Dada Hari Wav

Situated in Asarwa, 15 km from Ahmedabad, the Dada Hari Wav, initially known as the Bal Harir Stepwell is among the two famous stepwells of the region. Established during the Mehmud Begda era, this octagonal stepwell designed in sandstone is a remanence of the Solanki style of architecture. It is a space of respite for the locals during the summers.

The seven-levels of the stepwell, which is a great source of water conservation, can also accommodate several visitors at the same time. Located right behind the Dada Hari grave, this unique construction showcases three stairways to the bottom of the well from the first storey. The whole structure of the Dada Hari Wav is a masterpiece of Gujarati design and intricate artistry in stone.

Statue of Unity

Statue of Unity is a memorial to The Iron Man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The statue has been erected to propagate Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's vision of India and to inspire the Citizens of India through his patriotism and freedom struggle. The Bronze statue of the founding father of the Republic of India stands 182 metres tall grabbing the attention of the whole world as the 'Tallest statue in the World'. The statue of Unity is Located in Gujrat, by the banks of River Narmada on the River Island of Sadhu Bet overlooking the Narmada Dam (Sardar Sarovar Dam) from 3.2 km away.

The Statue of Unity will be well connected via expressways, improved rail system and helipads for the convenience of visitors. The surrounding of the statue is proposed to be a haven for clean



Industries, Research facilities and educational institutions to improve the economic integrity in and around the region.

Swaminarayan Temple

Located in the Kalupur area of Ahmedabad, Shri Swaminarayan Temple (also known as Akshardham Temple) is a shrine dedicated to Narayan Dev. This splendid temple was built in the year 1822 on the instructions of Swaminarayan, who was the founder of the Swaminarayan sect of Hinduism.

Embellished with vivid colours and intricate carvings, Swaminarayan temple is a marvellous example of the architecture of the nineteenth century. Inside the sanctum, the deities are decorated with ostentatious ornamentations and beautiful fabrics. The temple attracts a million people on the day after Diwali for darshan.

The personal artefacts of Swami Narayan are also preserved for safekeeping here. The temple is also quite well known for its morning 'Aarti' or

prayer service. The temple complex also has a multi-storey guesthouse and a medical clinic within its compound for the convenience of the visitors. This temple is also the headquarter of the Nar Narayan Gadi, which makes it an even more revered temple among believers. Beautifully carved out of Burma Teak wood, the intricate detailing in the carvings of this temple makes it an engineering masterpiece.

Sabarmati Ashram

Once the residence of Mahatma Gandhi and his wife Kasturba, Sabarmati Ashram is the site where Gandhiji started the famous Dandi March from. Situated in the 5km north of Ahmedabad's centre, it is located on the tranquil and serene stretch of Sabarmati River. Also referred to as the 'Gandhi Ashram', 'Mahatma Gandhi Ashram' and most importantly, 'Satyagraha Ashram', it is believed that Mahatma Gandhi chose this site for it is located between a prison and a cemetery and a Satyagrahi is likely to end up in one of these.



In gratitude of the substantial impact Dandi march had on the Indian independence movement, the Indian government has recognised the Sabarmati Ashram as a national monument. The Mahatma Gandhi Ashram has a number of other establishments within its bounds. The most famous among them is the museum 'Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya' which has some of Gandhi's personal letters and photographs on display.

Rani ki Vav

Rani Ki Vav or 'Queen's Stepwell' is a distinctive form of water storage system located in the small town of Gujarat called Patan, on the banks of River Saraswati. Believed to be the grandest stepwell in the state of Gujarat, Rani ka Vav epitomises the peak of Maru-Gujarat architectural style. The 900-year-old structure listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site is displayed prominently in the new ₹ 100 currency note issued by the Reserve Bank of India.

Kankaria Lake

Kankaria Lake is the second largest lake of Ahmedabad, formerly known as Hauz-e-Qutub. Located near the Maninagar area, the lakefront is popular for the balloon safari, zoo, toy trains and the amusement park.

The pristine lake is perfect for evening strolls with multi-coloured lights glowing all around its periphery. For adventure buffs, Kankaria Lake lays down a plethora of options like archery, gymnastics and water rides. The most beguiling festival - Kankaria carnival is celebrated with immense vim and vigour. Kankaria Lake is a place where entertainment, culture, knowledge and talent perfectly blend with each other.

Modhera

Modhera is an ancient village in the state of Gujarat, famed for housing the remains of the Sun Temple built by the Chalukya dynasty is a true historical treasure. The village is surrounded by a mystical aura that the Sun Temple brings along, it is also a hub for spirituality and culture. Modhera gives you a glimpse into the glory days of the royal lineage of the Chalukyas and is one of the finest testaments of the architectural excellence of the past. If history entices then this place is perfect for you with the village being neck deep in historical relics, structures and legends.

CONTD FROM PAGE 1

Biden warns Trumpism is a threat...

"MAGA forces are determined to take this country backwards," Biden is saying, according to prepared remarks released by the White House. "Backwards to an America where there is no right to choose, no right to privacy, no right to contraception, no right to marry who you love."

"For a long time, we've reassured ourselves that American democracy is guaranteed. But it is not," Biden says. "We have to defend it. Protect it. Stand up for it. Each and every one of us."

Biden, who largely avoided even referring to "the former guy" by name during his first year in office, has grown increasingly vocal in calling out Trump personally. Now, emboldened by his party's recent legislative wins and wary of Trump's return to the headlines, Biden is sharpening his attacks.

Trump plans a rally this weekend in Scranton, Pennsylvania, Biden's birthplace.

At a Democratic fundraiser last week, Biden likened the "MAGA philosophy" to "semi-fascism."

In Philadelphia, White House officials said, Biden intended to hark back to the 2017 white supremacist protest in Charlottesville, Virginia, which he says brought him out of political retirement to challenge Trump. Biden argues that the country faces a similar crossroads in the coming months.

Biden allies stress that he is not rejecting the entirety of the GOP and is calling on traditional Republicans to join him in condemning Trump and his followers. It's a balancing act, given that more than 74 million people voted for Trump in 2020.

"I respect conservative Republicans," Biden said last week. "I don't respect these MAGA Republicans."

Delivering a preemptive rebuttal from Scranton Thursday evening, House Republican leader Kevin McCarthy accused Biden of trying to divide Americans, and blasted the Democrats' record in Washington, pointing to rising inflation, crime and government spending.

"In the past two years, Joe Biden has launched an assault on the soul of America, on its people, on its laws, on its most sacred values," he said. "He has launched an assault on our democracy. His policies have severely wounded America's soul, diminished America's spirit and betrayed America's trust."

Asked about McCarthy's criticism, White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said "we understand we hit a nerve" with the GOP leader and quoted the Republican's prior statements saying Trump bore responsibility for the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Larry Diamond, an expert on democracy and senior fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, said calling Trump out for attacks on democracy "can be manipulated or framed as being partisan. And if you don't call it out, you are shrinking from an important challenge in the defense of democracy."

Even this week, Trump was posting on his beleaguered social media platform about overturning the 2020 election results and holding a new presidential election, which would violate the Constitution.

Timothy Naftali, a presidential historian at New York University, said it's not unusual for there to be tension between a president and his successor, but it's "unprecedented for a former president to be actively trying to undermine the U.S. Constitution."

"The challenge that President Biden faces is to get on with his agenda while still doing what he needs to uphold the Constitution," Naftali said. "That's not easy."

The White House has tried to keep Biden removed from the legal and political maelstrom surrounding the Department of Justice's discovery of classified documents in Trump's Florida home. Still, Biden has taken advantage of some Republicans' quick condemnation of federal law enforcement.

"You can't be pro-law enforcement and pro-insurrection," Biden said Tuesday in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania.

Biden's appearance Thursday night was promoted as an official, taxpayer-funded event, a mark of how the president views defeating the Trump agenda as much as a policy aim as a political one. The major broadcast television networks were not expected to carry the address live.

Biden's trip to Philadelphia is just one of his three to the state within a week, a sign of Pennsylvania's importance in the midterms, with competitive Senate and governor's races. However, neither Lt. Gov. John Fetterman, the Democrats' Senate nominee, nor Attorney General Josh Shapiro, their pick for governor, was expected to attend Thursday night.

The White House intended the speech to unite familiar themes: holding out bipartisan legislative wins on guns and infrastructure as evidence that democracies "can deliver," pushing back on GOP policies on guns and abortion that Biden says are out of step with most people's views and rejecting efforts to undermine confidence in the nation's election or diminish its standing abroad.

The challenges have only increased since the tumult surrounding the 2020 election and the Capitol attack.

Lies surrounding that presidential race have triggered harassment and death threats against state and local election officials and new restrictions on mail voting in Republican-dominated states. County election officials have faced pressure to ban the use of voting equipment, efforts generated by conspiracy theories that voting machines were somehow manipulated to steal the election.

Candidates who dispute Trump's loss have been inspired to run for state and local election posts, promising to restore integrity to a system that has been undermined by false claims.

There is no evidence of any widespread fraud or manipulation of voting machines. Judges, including ones appointed by Trump, dismissed dozens of lawsuits filed after the election, and Trump's own attorney general called the claims bogus. Yet Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research polling has shown about two-thirds of Republicans say they do not think Biden was legitimately elected president.

This year, election officials face not only the continuing threat of foreign interference but also ransomware, politically motivated hackers and insider threats. Over the past year, security breaches have been reported at a small number of local election offices in which authorities are investigating whether office staff improperly accessed or provided improper access to sensitive voting technology.

Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj...

Ambassador Kamboj said she had no idea that years later when she was posted at the Indian Mission as a junior officer, she would have an opportunity to work with Kiran Bedi at the UN. Ms Bedi was on deputation to the UN as a civil Police Administrator.

The book release was organized by the New York-based "Group 30" under the aegis of India Vision Foundation.

Dr V K Raju inducted as Morgantown...

In 1985, Rotary launched its Polio Plus Program, the first initiative to tackle global polio eradication through the mass vaccination of children. Today Polio is on the brink of eradication on the planet.

During his tenure, Raju is committing of two community projects and two global projects in collaboration with the Rotary District, Rotary International and the Eye foundation of America. As a trained physician and ophthalmologist, he wants to focus on hunger and nutrition in Monongalia County as community project.

Currently, the club works to provide several community projects, including scholarship. Empty Bowls and literacy programs. Visit <http://rotaryclubofmorgantownwv.com/projects/> to see the full list.

As global projects, the club is focusing on a world without childhood blindness through ophthalmologic

advancements and basic eye exams. Learn more about eye care projects at <https://eyefoundationofamerica.org/>.

Former Morgantown Rotary President Sarah Woodrum inducted Dr V K Raju as the current president at Mason-Dixon Park.

The Indian Panorama congratulates Dr. VK Raju on his induction as Rotary President of Morgantown Rotary Club.

Supreme Court questions Gujarat...

"Suppose we give her interim bail and let the matter be taken up [by the Gujarat High Court] on September 19?" the apex court queried.

The court is hearing a plea for bail filed by Ms. Setalvad, who is accused of forgery and fabrication of evidence in connection with the 2002 riots cases.

"There is no offence here against her which comes with a rider, nothing like POTA or UAPA in which bail should not be granted... There is no such thing. These are normal IPC [Indian Penal Code] offences. Under Section 437 of the CrPC a lady is entitled to favorable treatment," Chief Justice of India U. U. Lalit, heading a three-judge Special Bench, asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Gujarat.

Held on June 25 by the Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad She was arrested in Mumbai on June 25 by the Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS), a day after the Supreme Court, in a judgment, dismissed allegations of "larger conspiracy" levelled by Zakia Jafri, widow of Congress leader Ehsan Jafri who was killed in the 2002 Gujarat riots, against former Chief Minister Narendra Modi and over 60 senior State officials. In its judgment in the Jafri case, the apex court had snubbed Ms. Setalvad, who had fought the case on behalf of Ms. Jafri for decades.

The Supreme Court on Wednesday said it was "actually struck" by the fact that Ms. Setalvad was detained by the Gujarat Police on June 24 and kept in custody for over two months on the basis of a complaint which merely "recites" the adverse remarks made by the court against her.

"What actually struck us is that your complaint does not recite anything more than what the Supreme Court said... The judgment is out on June 24. The complaint is filed on June 25, within just a day... Obviously the author of this complaint was not privy to anything more than what the Supreme Court said..." Chief Justice Lalit observed orally.

Chief Justice Lalit, speaking for the Bench of Justices S. Ravindra Bhat and Sudhanshu Dhulia, challenged the State to produce on record at least one case in which the bail application filed by a woman was listed, after issuing notice to the State, for hearing again after six whole weeks.

The Gujarat High Court, which issued notice to the State on Ms. Setalvad's bail plea on August 3, chose to list the case on September 19. Bail jurisdiction normally requires the court to hear and decide pleas as quickly as possible as the personal liberty of a person is at stake.

Chief Justice Lalit asked Mr. Mehta whether this was the "standard practice in the Gujarat High Court".

The court asked the State whether it had collected any additional material during the custodial interrogation of the activist in the past two months.

"As things stand today, the FIR is nothing but what has happened in the Supreme Court... in the last two months, have you filed a chargesheet or is the investigation still on," Chief Justice Lalit asked.

COURT'S REMINDER : The court reminded the State about Section 167 of the Code which provides a 60 to 90-day deadline for completion of investigation after which the accused was entitled to bail.

"These are not offences like Sections 302 or 307 [murder, attempt to murder]... These offences are particularly based on documents... and this happens to be the case of a lady," the CJI pointed out.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)



OLYMPICS ATHLETE FAILS DOPE TEST, BLAMES 'CHICKEN WITH HORMONES'

Solomon Bockarie, who is a part of Netherlands 4x100m relay, has made a bizarre claim after testing positive for doping. The athlete had tested positive for growth hormone GHRP-2 during an out-of-competition check last month and in a recent interaction with local media he denied consuming any of the banned substance.

"I don't know how this product got into my body," Bockarie was quoted by the Netherlands public broadcaster, NOS. "I only know one thing for sure. And that is that I have not used doping. If anyone is vehemently against using banned stimulants, it's me."

"I have a lot of questions about this check and the results," said Bockarie. "Let me emphasize that an athlete is at all times responsible for the substances found in his body. But in this case, so much is unclear that I would like some clarification," he added.

In fact NOS in a report mentioned that Bockarie's spokesperson Robbin Pieterman pointed fingers at the chicken the athlete bought in the market in The Hague.

"It could be that this chicken had been treated with hormones and that he got this hormone in his body from eating this chicken," the report quoted Pieterman as saying.

Rohit surpasses Virat Kohli, becomes India's 2nd most successful T20I captain

DUBAI (TIP)

Rohit Sharma has surpassed Virat Kohli as India's second most successful captain in the T20I format after registering a comprehensive 40-run win against Hong Kong in the Asia cup here on Wednesday, August 31.

Sharma, who had taken up T20I captaincy after Kohli stepped down, has won 31 matches in the 37 outing while Kohli achieved 30 wins in 50 T20I matches.

Former captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who has helped India win 41 T20I matches under his captaincy from 72 matches, is still on top of the list.

On Wednesday, Suryakumar Yadav's fireworks in the last seven overs sealed India's Super Four spot in Asia Cup 2022 with a 40-run win over Hong Kong in a Group A match.

At 94/2 in 13 overs, when KL Rahul's struggle ended at 36 off 39 balls, Suryakumar walked in and completely changed the complexion of India's innings. With his drives, slashes, scoops and sweeps apart from audacious wrist play sending the ball all over the park, he remained unbeaten on 68 off 26 balls, hitting six fours and as many sixes. 60 of his 68 runs came off boundaries, scored at a strike-rate of 261.53.

His belligerent stroke-play made other batters in the Indian side look as if they were batting on a very different pitch. While Suryakumar hit 12 boundaries in his 26-ball knock, all other Indian batters managed to hit nine boundaries collectively in 96 balls.

Suryakumar also shared a 98-run stand off just 42 balls with Virat Kohli, who made 59 in 44 balls, hitting four and three sixes in his 31st T20I fifty and brought out some shots in the end as India fetched 78 runs in the last five overs to score a



Virat Kohli celebrates his half century with Suryakumar Yadav.
Pic credit: Reuters

daunting 192-2, something which was a far possibility at the half-way mark score of 70-1.

Asked to review the match, Rohit was pleased with the batting show, especially in the back end of the innings. But he felt that bowling could have been better.

Spinners Yuzvendra Chahal and Ravindra Jadeja conceded just 48 runs overall to make up for the 97 runs leaked collectively by young pacers Avesh Khan and Arshdeep Singh to reduce Hong Kong to 152-5 in their 20 overs.

"We batted pretty well to start with, got to a very good score. Came out and bowled reasonably well, we could have done slightly better with the ball."

Hong Kong gifts Virat Kohli team jersey, shares heartwarming message

Hong Kong cricket team on Wednesday sent star Indian batter Virat Kohli a heartfelt message and gifted him a team jersey.

Suryakumar Yadav's blistering 68*, Virat Kohli's 59* and Ravindra Jadeja's quick fielding helped India secure direct qualification to the Super Four phase of the ongoing Asia Cup 2022 after beating Hong Kong by 40 runs here at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Wednesday.

The message on the jersey read: "Virat, Thank you for inspiring a generation. We stand with you! There are many incredible days ahead. With strength. With love. Team Hong Kong."

The star batter was delighted by the gift and took to Instagram to thank the Hong Kong team for their gesture.

Source: IANS and ANI

Pakistani hockey legend Manzoor Junior passes away at 65

World of hockey has lost a stalwart. Olympian and Pakistan hockey legend Manzoor Hussain is no more. Also known as Manzoor Junior, he died of a heart attack in Lahore on Monday, August 29, at the age of 65.

Manzoor Jr, who remained associated with Pakistan Hockey Federation in different capacities, suffered a heart attack before he was taken to a hospital. All efforts of the doctors to revive him were unsuccessful. They even put three stents in but it was little too late.

Manzoor Jr is survived by his widow, three sons and a daughter.

Manzoor Hussain led Pakistan in its triumph in the

Junior World Cup in 1979. That was the only time Pakistan won the Junior World Cup.

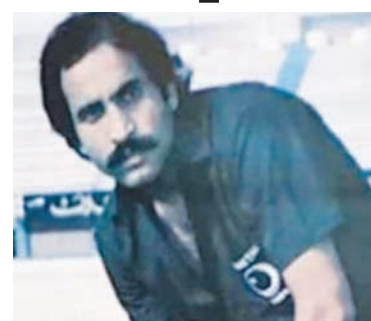
Manzoor Hussain was an outstanding forward and a lethal striker. He dominated the world hockey scene between 1975 and 1984 and was capped 175 times with 86 goals to his credit. He was part of the Pakistan team that won the Bronze Medal in the 1976 Olympics in Montreal.

Eight years later, he was the captain of the Pakistan team that won the Gold Medal at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. Manzoor Hussain was also a member of the Pakistan team that won World Cups in 1978 and 1982. He was known for his exceptional stick work, and one of its remarkable

displays was in the 1982 World Cup final where he scored the crucial match deciding goal by dodging six German defenders.

His recognition as the hero of the 1982 World Cup final would never be forgotten. In Pakistan he was honoured with the Presidential Medal.

Interestingly, Manzoor Hussain and his two brothers, Maqsood Hussain and Mahmood Hussain, represented Pakistan in the 1984 men's Hockey Champions Trophy in Karachi in a match. Manzoor Jr was also popular as a down to earth, humble and soft spoken, player with superb stick work. He was a perfectionist master of the game. He was passionate about the sport and



Manzoor Junior in his younger days.

served it in various capacities after retiring from competitive sports.

When the end came, he was still the Chairman of the national selection committee.

His death has been consoled by Hockey Olympians, officials and others.

Source: Canadianparvasi.com



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