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EVER TRUTHFUL

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MEMORIAL DAY: HONORING
THOSE WHO DIED WHILE SERVING
IN THE U.S. MILITARY

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The INDIAN PANORAMA
EVER TRUTHFUL

will bring out a profusely
illustrated special edition to
mark the 4th of July.
Articles and advertisements for the
special edition may please be
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A large number of Indians
among 'documented
dreamers' in US who face
uncertain future

Urge US lawmakers to pass
America's Children Act



"It is time to permanently end the aging out
and pass the America's Children Act," Dip
Patel, founder, Improve The Dream, said.

Photo for representation only

MAY 26, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP):

Running from pillar to post for the last
several years, 'documented dreamers',
a significantly large number of whom
are Indian-Americans, are seeking an
end to their uncertain future.

A group of these long-term visa
holders known as documented
dreamers made another round of the
US Capitol - the temple of American
democracy - knocking on the doors of

CONTD ON PAGE 38

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin to visit India next week

THE VISIT BY U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY LLOYD AUSTIN TO INDIA PRECEDES PM
MODI'S OFFICIAL STATE VISIT TO WHITE HOUSE NEXT MONTH

MAY 26, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): United
States Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin
will embark on a four-nation trip
including India from next week,
according to the official statement
released by the US Department of
Defense. The first stop in his four-nation
trip is Tokyo where he will meet with
Japanese Defense Minister Yasukasu
Hamada and other senior leaders and
visit U.S. troops stationed in Japan.

According to the statement, Secretary
Austin's visit comes as the United States
and Japan take important strides to
modernize Alliance capabilities,
optimize U.S. force posture, and build
links with like-minded partners
following the historic US-Japan "2+2"
Ministerial meeting earlier this year.

Later on, Mr. Austin will travel to
Singapore where he will deliver plenary
remarks at the International Institute
for Strategic Studies (IISS) 20th



U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin
Photo credit / U.S. Department of Defense

Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore.

On the margins of the Dialogue, the

Secretary will meet with key leaders to
advance US defense partnerships across
the region in support of our shared
vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific,
anchored in ASEAN centrality.

After completing his trip to
Singapore, Mr. Austin will visit India.
At the third stop in New Delhi, he will
meet with Defense Minister Rajnath
Singh and other leaders as the United
States and India continue to modernize
the US-India Major Defense
Partnership.

This visit provides an opportunity to
accelerate new defense innovation and
industrial cooperation initiatives and
drive ongoing efforts to expand
operational cooperation between the
U.S. and Indian militaries.

Secretary Austin will conclude his
trip in France to participate in events
commemorating the 79th anniversary of
D-Day and meet with French and United
Kingdom defense leaders.

Top UN officials voice support for India's initiative to establish memorial wall honoring fallen peacekeepers



"The greatest tribute we can pay to those who
have died is to rededicate ourselves to
continuing their work to build and maintain
peace. They are the best of all of us and we
must always pay tribute to their sacrifice that
is a demonstration of the courage and
generosity that the United Nations needs to
present in today's world": UN Secretary-
General António Guterres.

File photo

MAY 26, 2023

UNITED NATIONS

(TIP): Top United
Nations officials
voiced support for
India's initiative to
establish a memorial
wall honoring fallen
UN peacekeepers as
they lauded the
country's role and
contribution to the
global organization's
peacekeeping missions
across the world.

CONTD ON PAGE 38

Rahul Gandhi's US trip aimed at promoting shared values of real democracy: Sam Pitroda

MAY 22, 2023

WASHINGTON

D.C. (TIP): Congress
leader Rahul Gandhi's
visit to the United
States in June, during
which he is slated to
address public
meetings and interact
with university
students, is aimed at promoting shared values and vision of
"real democracy", Indian Overseas Congress chairperson Sam
Pitroda has said.

Gandhi is scheduled to visit San Francisco, Washington DC
and New York, where he is planning to address two public
meetings with Indian Americans, meet lawmakers at Capitol
Hill and members of think tanks, interact with university
students and meet Wall Street executives, said Indian Overseas

CONTD ON PAGE 38



Sam Pitroda

Rahul Gandhi

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- 5 Star Marina cruise with dinner
- Museum of the Future,
- Abu Dhabi city tour with Lunch
- Fujairah Day Trip
- Dubai Frame
- Miracle Garden

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GUEST COMMENT

New Parliament Building Inauguration

PM NEEDS TO STEP BACK, ACCEPT OPPN DEMAND

The upcoming inauguration of the new Parliament building by PM Narendra Modi has triggered an unsavory slugfest between the Centre and the Opposition. Nineteen parties have announced a boycott of the event, including the Congress, Trinamool Congress, DMK and Aam Aadmi Party. In a joint statement, they have described the PM's decision to inaugurate the building by himself as 'a direct assault on our democracy'. The parties have asserted that they 'find no value in a new building' when the 'soul of democracy has been sucked out from Parliament'.

Citing the Constitution, the Congress has said that the President, being the 'head

of Parliament', should be doing the honors, not the PM. The Centre, in turn, is accusing the Opposition of playing politics on a historic occasion. It claims that there is nothing unprecedented about the inauguration as the then PM Indira Gandhi had opened the Parliament House Annexe on October 24, 1975, while Rajiv Gandhi had laid the foundation stone for the Parliament Library on August 15, 1987, during his tenure as PM. It's noteworthy that respective Presidents had laid the stone for the annexe and inaugurated the library. In the present case, the PM laid the stone for the new building on December 10, 2020, and is now set to inaugurate it too.

When PM Modi entered Parliament

House for the first time in 2014, he knelt and bowed his head as a mark of respect for the 'temple of democracy'. It's due to his tireless efforts that this grand monument of 21st-century India has become ready less than a year after the nation celebrated 75 years of Independence. Now's the time for him to step back and let this remarkable building - the embodiment of a vibrant democracy - hog all the limelight. Accepting the Opposition's demand to invite the President to do the inauguration will only demonstrate his magnanimity. No controversy should be allowed to mar this momentous event.

(Tribune, India)

After Bakhmut: On the latest phase in the Ukraine war

RUSSIA AND UKRAINE SEEM DETERMINED TO CONTINUE THEIR HIGH-COST WAR

In December last year, while speaking at the U.S. Congress, Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy compared the battle for Bakhmut to the Battle of Saratoga, in which the American revolutionaries clinched a decisive victory against the British in October 1777. "... the fight for Bakhmut will change the trajectory of our war for independence and our freedom," he said. Five months later, Bakhmut is not in Ukraine's hands. After 10 months of fighting, Russia's Ministry of Defense announced last week the city's capture in the eastern Donetsk region, its first major territorial gain since January when it took neighboring Soledar. Ukraine claims that its troops continue to defend a small area of Bakhmut and is advancing on its flanks, but has admitted that the eastern city "is effectively in Russian hands, for now". For Vladimir Putin's Russia, which invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022, it was a much-needed victory after a series of setbacks late last year when Russian troops were beaten

back by the Ukrainians from the Kharkiv Oblast in the northeast and Kherson city in the south. The Russians are already in control of the whole of Luhansk and getting Bakhmut would potentially allow them to target other major urban centers in Donetsk such as Kramatorsk and Sloviansk. For Ukraine, which was preparing for a major counteroffensive, the loss of Bakhmut is a setback, but not the end of the road.

Russia, whose initial thrust into Ukraine failed to meet its objectives, seems to be learning from its battlefield mistakes as its invasion has turned into a war of attrition. According to a recent report by the London-based Royal United Services Institute, Russia's battlefield tactics, coordination, supplies, electronic warfare and air defense have improved. In Bakhmut, Russia suffered huge losses but the fighting was done by Wagner, a private military corporation, which provided much of the regular Russian troops, including the 300,000 freshly mobilized

soldiers, time to build fortifications along the over 1,000-km frontline and undergo training. On the other side, Ukraine was supposed to launch its counteroffensive at the beginning of Spring, and the delay points to its battlefield problems, which were partially revealed by leaked U.S. intelligence documents earlier this year. But Ukrainian troops now have some of the most advanced weapons, thanks to the West. In recent months, Ukraine has also carried out attacks inside Russia, using drones and medium-range fire or saboteurs, bringing the war home for Mr. Putin. Now, with advanced weaponry, Ukraine is betting on its counteroffensive and ability to create disruptions inside Russia. To recover from its setbacks in Soledar and Bakhmut, Ukraine will have to regain territories quickly, while Russia tries to capitalize on the momentum created by taking Bakhmut. As both sides are determined to continue the war, there is no hope for peace or talks on the horizon.

(The Hindu)

India-Australia ties

QUAD PARTNERS ON THE RIGHT TRACK DESPITE IRRITANTS

The relations between India and Australia are going from strength to strength. The two nations are getting closer not only bilaterally but also as Quad partners. Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Anthony Albanese have already met each other six times in the past one year. PM Modi's just-concluded visit to Australia ticked all the right boxes. Both countries decided to seal a comprehensive trade deal by the year-end. They also signed a migration and mobility partnership pact that is expected to open up opportunities for students, academic researchers and business people and curb illegal immigration. This agreement comes just

two months after the Australia-India Education Qualification Recognition Mechanism was finalized during Albanese's visit to India.

Considering the priority being given to strong ties in the education sector, India and Australia need to effectively tackle the menace of visa fraud. With some Australian universities refusing admission to Indian students, a large-scale clean-up is required to weed out unscrupulous immigration and education consultants.

Even as the talks focused on cooperation in a wide range of sectors - education, green hydrogen, defense and security, trade and investment, critical minerals - PM

Modi raised India's concerns over the attacks on temples and the activities of Khalistan sympathizers in Australia. The two governments decided to exchange information and coordinate with each other regarding action against separatists and vandals who have been defacing community centers and temples with anti-India graffiti. This is an area where Australia needs to be proactive to ensure that its territory is not misused by radical elements. Dealing firmly with such troublemakers can pave the way for a deeper engagement between New Delhi and Canberra.

(Tribune, India)



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BRITISH SIKH ENTREPRENEUR NAVJOT SAWHNEY AMONG WINNERS OF UK'S ICON AWARDS



Navjot Sawhney is among 14 winners of the annual 21st Century Icon Awards in London

MAY 22, 2023

LONDON (TIP): British Sikh entrepreneur Navjot Sawhney, founder of the Washing Machine Project providing low-income communities with accessible and sustainable washing solutions, is among 14 winners of the annual 21st Century Icon Awards in London.

Sawhney won the Sustainability Rising Star Award for the Washing Machine Project and received the trophy at a ceremony on Friday from Ibukun Adebayo, Group Director, Sustainable Finance and Investment Strategy, London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG).

His eco-friendly hand-cranked Washing Machine Project benefits families without access to an electric machine in underdeveloped countries and refugee camps.

"Since its creation in 2021, they have positively impacted the lives of over 30,000 people," read the citation for the project, which has won several awards, including the British Prime Minister's Points of Light award in the past.

CA Bhavani Devi, the first Indian woman fencer to qualify and compete at the Olympic Games, was awarded the Competitive Sports Award, and Indian-origin entrepreneurs Ashok Duppati and Dheeraj Siripurapu bagged the Relentlessly Resolute Award for their efforts behind several market beating businesses over the last 20 years.

"We are absolutely delighted to celebrate and recognize these outstanding global icons," said Tarun Ghulati and Preeti Rana of Squared Watermelon Limited, co-founders of the awards, now in their seventh year.

"We created these awards to showcase the young leaders who, through their tenacity, grit and hard work, have become the beacons of change, inspiring others and are on the front seat of innovation," they said.

Around 200 business leaders, celebrities, and sports and community champions gathered for the awards ceremony last week, for which the 14 winners were whittled down from 45 finalists and around 600 submissions from around the world.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

15 Punjabi-origin in fray for Alberta provincial elections in Canada

MAY 23, 2023

TORONTO (TIP): As many as 15 candidates of Punjab origin are in the fray for the Alberta provincial elections in Canada for which the polling is scheduled to be held on May 29 for all 87 constituencies.

The two major political outfits - National Democratic Party (NDP) and United Conservative Party of Alberta (UCP) - are not only banking heavily on South Asians and Punjabis in particular, they have also given "adequate representation" to their communities by fielding them. Punjabis are mostly contesting in Calgary and Edmonton area seats.

The major Punjabi candidates who are contesting the polls are Rajan Sawhney (Cabinet Minister for Trade, Immigration and Multiculturalism), contesting from Calgary North-West on a UCP ticket, MLA Devinder Toor, seeking re-election on a UCP ticket from Calgary-Falconridge and MLA Jasvir Deol, contesting from Edmonton Meadows on an NDP ticket.



15 candidates of Punjab origin are in the fray for the Alberta provincial elections in Canada for which the polling is scheduled to be held on May 29 for all 87 constituencies.

In 2019, Sawhney had won from Calgary North-East riding and earlier this year, she had announced that she wouldn't seek re-election from here, but after the UCP Environment Minister and sitting Calgary Northwest candidate Sonya Savage announced retirement from politics, UCP announced Sawhney as a candidate.

Sawhney has degrees in economics and political science from the University of Calgary, besides an MBA. Prior to her political stint, she worked in the oil and

gas industry for over 20 years.

Rajan Sawhney said, "I will work hard every day to see Calgary North-West move forward with growth, prosperity & a more affordable Alberta because we can't afford to go back to decline, high taxes & the failed policies of the NDP."

The UCP has also fielded Amanpreet Singh Gill from Calgary-Bhullar-Mccall, Inder Grewal from Calgary North-East, R Singh Bath from Edmonton Ellerslie, Amritpal Singh Matharu from Edmonton Meadows and Raman Athwal from Edmonton Mill Woods.

Other Punjabi candidates fielded by the NDP are Gurinder Singh Gill from Calgary-Cross, Parmmeet Singh Boparai from Calgary-Falconridge, Gurinder Brar from Calgary North-East, Harry Singh from Drayton Valley-Devon.

Aman Sandhu is contesting on a Green Party of Alberta (GPA) ticket from Calgary-Cross, Jeewan Mangat on Wildrose Independence Party of Alberta (WIPA) from Innisfail-Sylvan Lake and Braham Luddu on Alberta Party (AP) from Lethbridge-West.

First Indian-origin Lord Mayor, Councilor Sameer Pandey elected in Australia's Parramatta City Council



The City of Parramatta Council in Sydney on Monday, May 22, elected Indian-origin Councilor Sameer Pandey as its new Lord Mayor

MAY 23, 2023

MELBOURNE (TIP): The City of Parramatta Council in Sydney on Monday, May 22, elected Indian-origin Councilor Sameer Pandey as its new Lord Mayor.

Pandey's election to the post coincided with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's arrival in Sydney on Monday for a two-day visit at the invitation of his Australian counterpart.

Pandey was first elected to the council in 2017 and in 2022, became the City's first Deputy Lord Mayor from the Indian subcontinent, an official statement said.

Pandey was elected as Donna Davis stepped down from the role following her election as the State Member for Parramatta in Australia's New South Wales state.

Asserting that it was a privilege to lead the council of one of the fastest-growing centers in Australia, Pandey said, "The City of Parramatta is the geographical heart of Greater Sydney and a major economic powerhouse as well as the best place in Sydney to live."

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian-origin Sikh councilor Jaswant Singh Birdi becomes 1st turban-wearing Lord Mayor of UK's Coventry



Jaswant Singh Birdi has been appointed as the new Lord Mayor of Coventry

MAY 22, 2023

LONDON (TIP): An Indian-origin Sikh councilor has made history after being appointed as the new Lord Mayor of Coventry, a city in the West Midlands, England.

As a Lord Mayor, Punjab-born Jaswant Singh Birdi will be the Chairman of the City Council, and as Coventry's first citizen, he will be the non-political, ceremonial head of the city.

"I am so proud to become Lord Mayor of my adopted home city. It has given so much to myself and my family over the years and I will be honored to show why I love it so much and to promote the city and the wonderful people who live here," Birdi said in a statement.

Birdi was presented with the Chains of Office, worn as an official regalia by the Mayor, at an annual general meeting of Coventry Cathedral last week.

"As a Sikh, it also means so much that I will be wearing the Chains of Office and the turban. It will help show what a happy multi-cultural city we have and maybe inspire others as well," he said.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian-origin Singaporean climber missing Search under way around Mount Everest Summit



Shrinivas Sainis Dattatraya has been missing since Saturday, May 20.

MAY 24, 2023

SINGAPORE (TIP): A search and rescue operation involving several teams is under way around the Mount Everest Summit to trace an Indian-origin Singaporean climber who has been missing since Saturday, May 20.

Teams consisting of three Sherpas each have been searching for Shrinivas Sainis Dattatraya (39), according to Prakash Chandra Devkota, the owner of Nepal Guide Treks and Expedition.

Seven Summit Treks, a Nepal-based adventure travel operator, had organized Dattatraya's Everest ascent.

Devkota also shared photographs of the climber reaching the summit last Friday before he went missing, media reported on Tuesday.

In the photos, Dattatraya, a senior manager for software engineering at real estate tech firm JLL Technologies, is seen wearing a bright orange winter wear, sunglasses and an oxygen mask. He is surrounded by colorful prayer flags marking the 8,849 m summit.

He is clutching a rope with his right hand and stands upright on the peak.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American high schooler Sirihaasa Nallamotheu wins top computer science award

MAY 19, 2023

NORMAL, IL (TIP): An Indian American and three others have been selected among a pool of graduating high school seniors as a recipient of the Cutler-Bell Prize in High School Computing that empowers students to pursue computing challenges beyond the traditional classroom environment.

Sirihaasa Nallamotheu of University High School in Normal, Illinois, will receive a \$10,000 cash prize for her project that was selected by a panel of judges based on ingenuity, complexity, relevancy and originality.

Her project engages modern technology and computer science to address the research gap to predict Vasovagal Syncope -- a sudden drop in heart rate and blood pressure leading to fainting -- in Patients with Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS).

Inspired from a TikTok that led her down a rabbit hole about POTS, Sirihaasa found to her surprise there were no research studies or consumer solutions to predict syncope on real-world data.

Sirihaasa is the first person to conduct an Institutional Review Board research study and collect human subject field



Sirihaasa Nallamotheu of University High School in Normal, Illinois, will receive a \$10,000 cash prize for her project that was selected by a panel of judges based on ingenuity, complexity, relevancy and originality

data on POTS patients in the real world using non-invasive technologies, according to a news release.

She wrote a Python script to extract

the 15-minute window signal data of heart rate, blood volumetric pressure, EDA, temperature, and accelerometer data, the release added.

The high schooler also founded a Girls Who Code club at her Middle school, developed and taught coding curriculum/activities, managed grants/funding, and networked and planned events.

After completing her research, Sirihaasa plans to work toward creating a consumer product and pairing her algorithm with a smart watch.

The Cutler-Bell Prize promotes the field of computer science and empowers students to pursue computing challenges beyond the traditional classroom environment.

In 2015, David Cutler and Gordon Bell established the award.

Cutler is a software engineer, designer, and developer of several operating systems at Digital Equipment Corporation. Bell, an electrical engineer, is Researcher Emeritus at Microsoft Research.

This year's Cutler-Bell Prize recipients will be formally recognized at the Computer Science Teachers Association's 2023 Virtual Conference, July 11-13.

Indian-origin NYPD officer receives Medal of Valor



Sumit Sulan was honored at a White House ceremony on Wednesday, May 17

MAY 22, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP): A 27-year-old Indian-origin New York Police Department (NYPD) officer and nine others were honored by US President Joe Biden with the Medal of Valor, the country's highest award for public safety officers.

Sumit Sulan was honored at a White House ceremony on Wednesday, May 17, for shooting a convicted felon who killed two of his colleagues when the trio were investigating a domestic-violence call in New York City in January.

According to the police, three policemen - Sulan, Jason Rivera, 22, and Wilbert Mora, 27, visited the Harlem neighborhood in New York to investigate a 911 call from a distressed woman whose grown-up son threatened her and his brother.

The convicted felon ambushed the three officers, shooting at Rivera and Mora, who later died of their injuries.

Sulan was praised by the US president at the May 17 ceremony for swiftly jumping into action, despite being a rookie with the NYPD at that time.

"Detective Sulan had only been then - with the precinct - the 32nd Precinct, for two months... He shielded the mother and brother from gunfire, then drew his weapon to fire twice, hitting the gunman and ending the incident," Biden was quoted as saying in a White House press release.

Sulan "ensured the safety of the civilians on the scene and struck down the gunman with his service weapon, bringing an end to the deadly episode just 45 seconds after it had begun," Biden, who met Sulan shortly after the incident, said.

"..The entire nation is grateful for the quick thinking, swift action, and courage under fire that he demonstrated," Biden said, adding that the officers' poise and valor saved lives.

"He did a great job," Sulan's mother said of her son, who emigrated from India about 15 years ago, while a law-enforcement source described him as a "super rookie" after the incident.

The Medal of Valor is given for actions above and beyond the call of duty and exhibiting exceptional courage, extraordinary decisiveness, presence of mind, and unusual swiftness in action, regardless of his or her (officer's) personal safety, in an attempt to save or protect human life, according to the press release.

OFBJP gets ready to welcome PM Modi with unity march in 20 cities on June 18

MAY 22, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP):

Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the US in June, OFBJP is planning to welcome him with an 'India Unity Day' march in 20 major cities across America on June 18, organizers have announced.

Modi will embark on his first state visit to the US at the invitation of President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden in June. The US president and the First Lady will also host Modi at a state dinner on June 22.

"The (Indian American)



The Indian American community is really excited about Modi's visit, said community leader Adapa Prasad, who is the national president of Overseas Friends of BJP (OFBJP), USA.

community is really excited (about Modi's visit). The community is gathering on June 18 here in Washington DC at the National Monument. And there will be a march from Washington Monument to Lincoln Memorial, calling it 'India Unity Day' and welcoming Modiji. That is two days in advance," said community leader Adapa Prasad, who is also the national president of Overseas Friends of BJP (OFBJP), USA.

Also at the same time, in about 20 places across the United States, "from east to west, from north to south, covering major cities" there will be similar welcome marches at iconic places like Times Square in New York and Golden Bridge in San Francisco, he said on Sunday. The other cities are Boston, Chicago, Atlanta, Miami, Tampa, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Francisco, Columbus, and St Louis.

Indian-origin teen is arrested after he crashes truck into a White House barrier

MAY 24, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP):

A 19-year-old Indian-origin teen accused of deliberately crashing a rented U-Haul truck into a White House barrier told authorities that he wanted to get inside the mansion to "seize power" and "kill" US President Joe Biden, according to media reports. US Park Police arrested Sai Varshith Kandula after he crashed the truck into the security barriers on the north side of Lafayette Park shortly before 10 pm on Monday, May 22, sending multiple pedestrians running from the scene, media reported.

The crash was a good distance from the White House gates, but the incident prompted road and sidewalk closures, and the nearby Hay-Adams hotel had to be evacuated. No one was injured in the crash. Kandula, of Chesterfield, Missouri, rented the truck on Monday night immediately after flying from St Louis to Dulles International Airport on a one-way ticket, a Secret Service agent said in a statement of facts filed in federal district court in Washington DC, media reported. He drove the vehicle onto a sidewalk outside the White House and into a metal barrier just north of the White House, according to the document. Kandula put the truck in reverse and crashed into the barrier a second time before United States Park Police officers took him into custody, according to the document.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)



Sai Varshith Kandula was arrested after he crashed the truck into the security barriers on the north side of Lafayette Park shortly before 10 pm on Monday, May 22

Spiritual leader Sant Rajinder Singh honored with a citation from New York City Mayor



New York City Mayor Eric Adams honored Sant Rajinder Singh with a Citation for his commitment to fostering peace and interfaith harmony while inspiring diverse people worldwide on their paths to spiritual growth.

MAY 25, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP): On Monday, May 22, 2023, Sant Rajinder Singh spiritual head of Science of Spirituality, received a Special Citation from the city of New York by its Mayor Eric Adams, for his commitment to fostering peace and interfaith harmony while inspiring diverse people worldwide on their paths to spiritual growth.

Meeting at the historic New York City Hall, Sant Rajinder Singh and Mayor Adams were joined by the Spiritual Master's wife, Mata Rita Ji, son Dr. Kunwarjit Singh Duggal, delegates, and several of the Mayor's senior advisors, including Dilip Chauhan, Deputy Commissioner for International Affairs, New York City.

The Mayor welcomed Sant Rajinder Singh to New York City, home to the headquarters of the United Nations and the cultural and financial center of the United States.

Speaking at length about the intersection between meditation and

mental health, Sant Rajinder Singh explored how meditation can play a significant role in reducing stress and bringing peace, balance, and calmness to our lives. Not only can meditation help first responders like the police, firefighters, and medical practitioners deal with stress, but it can give students important tools to improving their concentration and leading calmer, more balanced lives. Meditation can also impact the lives of veterans, who have served their country with honor, helping them deal with the many challenges they face daily.

The Mayor then recommended that New York City officials and Science of Spirituality explore potential projects related to meditation that might help citizens of New York City.

Sant Rajinder Singh also explained that each of us has a reservoir of inner spiritual power within us that we can tap into through meditation. The experience we gain not only transforms our lives, but then spreads to our families,

communities, and the world.

Eric Adams then presented Sant Rajinder Singh Ji with a Citation from the Office of the Mayor of the City of New York welcoming him to the city in recognition of his work toward fostering inner and outer peace through meditation.

"As New York's first Mayor to champion a plant-based diet, I am pleased to count Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj in this mission, and I applaud his commitment to foster peace and interfaith harmony while inspiring diverse people on the paths to spiritual growth."

Sant Rajinder Singh, in turn, presented the Mayor with signed and inscribed copies of his best-selling books-Detox the Mind, which contains tips, meditations, and exercises to reduce daily stress and find joy within, and Meditation as Medication for the Soul, with research by experts and medical practitioners on how meditation improves physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing.

Consulate General of India in New York in partnership with Shanti Fund and New York Parks Department organizes Beach Cleaning at Jones Beach

MAY 23, 2023

JONES BEACH, LONG ISLAND (TIP): The Consulate General of India, New York in partnership with Shanti Fund, and New York State Parks Department, organized a Beach Cleaning activity on May 21, 2023, at Jones Beach, Long Island, New York as part of G-20 'Beach Cleanup'. "Addressing marine litter" is one of the focus areas under India's G20 Presidency. Keeping Gandhian ideals on cleanliness at centerstage, the beach cleanup drive was a part of India's global initiative to bring attention to the problem of marine litter and the need to work together towards sustainable development of oceans. The activity also formed part of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" - celebration of 75 years of India's Independence.

Speaking on the occasion, Consul General Mr. Randhir Jaiswal, highlighted the message behind the theme of India's G20 Presidency - 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. He emphasized the importance of Mission LiFE (Lifestyle For Environment) and the need



A group photo of volunteers with Consul General Randhir Kumar Jaiswal, the Deputy Consul General Dr. Varun Jeph and Consul (Culture) Vipul Dev

to adopt sustainable and environment-friendly lifestyles. Beach cleanup activity helps in preserving and protecting the coastal and ocean ecosystems. Plastic wastes harm marine life.

It is a matter of urgency that we, the global community, address plastic waste dumping into the sea. The initiative will draw global attention to the need to



Consul General Randhir Kumar Jaiswal meets with Parks department officials

combat coastal and marine pollution and the role of citizens and their participation in preventing and cleaning up marine litter. The event saw enthusiastic participation from the members of the community who came in large numbers including children to be part of the Swachhata Abhiyan and celebration of Mission LiFE.

Four NYC Health + Hospitals, MetroPlusHealth Leaders Recognized as Crain's 'Notable 2023 Leaders in Health Care'

MAY 25, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP): NYC Health + Hospitals, on May 25, announced that four of its leaders were among 84 people named to Crain's list of 'Notable 2023 Leaders in Health Care' for their tremendous work caring for vulnerable New Yorkers. To qualify, candidates needed to work at a health care-related institution in the New York-Metropolitan area and have at least a decade of experience. Crain's looked for professionals who share expertise with others in their fields and are involved in professional associations, community service initiatives, philanthropy, mentoring programs and the like. The publication noted these individuals, "... are truly exceptional - and their work is vital to the functioning of the city's health care system and the city

itself." The four honorees from NYC Health + Hospitals are:

Helena Grant, MS, CNM, LM, CICP, FACNM

Director of Midwifery Services
NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull

Laura Iavicoli, MD

Deputy Chief Medical Officer
NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst

Nicole Jordan-Martin

Chief Executive Officer
NYC Health + Hospitals/Community Care

Sanjiv Shah, MD, MPH

Chief Medical Officer
MetroPlusHealth

In addition to her role leading midwifery services at



Helena Grant, Dr. Laura Iavicoli, Nicole Jordan-Martin, and Dr. Sanjiv Shah are celebrated for their work addressing the needs of underserved populations and working to reduce health disparities

Brooklyn's first Baby-Friendly USA hospital, Grant is also co-chair of the health system's Midwifery Council. She has more than 25 years of experience caring for and empowering pregnant people and their families.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American woman killed trying to save dog from raging house fire in Herricks, New York, family says



Kashmira Patel holding the dog she was trying to save. In the background is the house on fire.
Photo credit / NBC

MAY 25, 2023

HERRICKS, N.Y. (TIP): A woman was killed and several family members were injured in an overnight fire on Long Island, a CBS report says.

The flames broke out around 3 a.m. Tuesday inside a split-level home on Lafayette Street in Herricks.

"The flame was up to high above. It was horrifying," neighbor Judy Landow said.

The house was filled with eight members of an extended family gathering for a funeral. Seven got out safely, but 60-year-old Kashmira Patel went back in for a beloved pet and never came out.

"She went to get the dog. She considered her a daughter, so she went back. She actually came all the way to the door, helped her mom out of the house, and then she went back," said the victim's

niece, Chush Patel.

Both she and the dog perished. Heartbroken relatives say Kashmira Patel, a devoted mom and daughter, was staying over for her father's funeral.

They claim it took at least 20 minutes for fire engines to arrive, and the one hydrant didn't work.

"Fire hydrants are 300 feet away from the house, so they took another while to get the water started. So, by that time, as you can see, the whole house has been burned down," Chush Patel said.

Fire officials said it was a quick response by nine departments with 60 firefighters, adding one nearby hydrant failed, but did not affect response time. A live electrical wire in front of the house briefly blocked their entry.

"Both police officers and firefighters attempted to make an entry. It was untenable. The conditions were too fierce. The conditions were too far gone. They could not get into the house to go search for that missing person from the family," Chief Michael Uttaro said.

Fire officials added with a fire raging, minutes feel like hours.

"The fire spread so quickly, so fast -- just crazy fast," said neighbor Jet Chen. "By 3:36, the whole house was gone."

The seven survivors, ages 21 into their 60s, were taken to area hospitals for minor to moderate smoke inhalation.

The family is still trying to figure out what started the fire. The fire marshal said nothing appears suspicious.

(Source: CBS)

The India Day Parade of Long Island is set for August 27



India Day Parade in Hicksville

File Photo

MAY 25, 2023

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP): The date for holding the 12th annual India Day Parade of Long Island has been announced: Sunday, August 27, 2023.

Preparations are in full swing to celebrate India's landmark 76 years of Independence (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav), IDP USA, organizers of the parade, have said.

Prominent community leader Deepak Bansal has returned as President for a second time (after leading the parade in 2021), along with businessman Vimal Goyal (President 2022-23).

Bansal requested all Indian-origin organizations, community groups and religious institutions in Long Island and New York to participate in the parade joyfully and make it a success. "We are one community - proud and united," he said.

More details about the parade route, Grand Marshall and celebrity guests will be announced as they become available. The Curtain Raiser will be held in a few weeks.

Deepak Bansal can be reached at 516 304 8808



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An ordinance, its constitutionality, and scrutiny



BY BISHWAJIT
BHATTACHARYYA

THE UNION OF INDIA IS UNLIKELY TO SUCCEED IN WRESTING POWER OF 'SERVICES IN DELHI IF THE GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 2023 IS CHALLENGED

On May 19, 2023, the President of India exercised legislative power under Article 123 of the Constitution, during the period Parliament was in recess, to promulgate The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023 (Ordinance). The ordinance negates a Constitution Bench judgment of the Supreme Court of India, which was delivered on May 11, that brought "services" under the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCTD).

KEY ISSUES

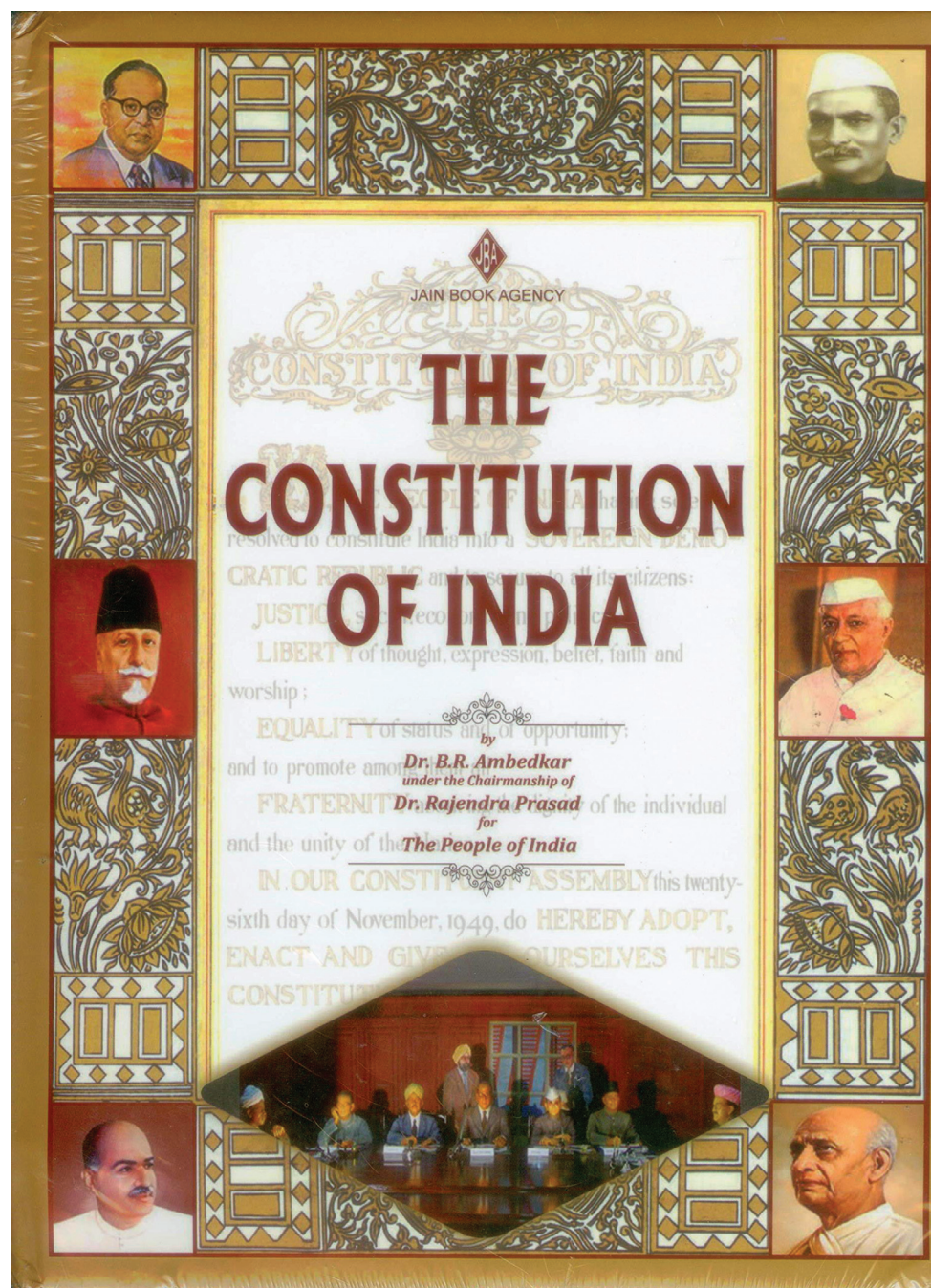
There are two issues here that require analysis: first, the scope of the Court's verdict. Second, the constitutionality of the ordinance.

While interpreting Article 239AA(3)(a), the Court ruled, inter alia, that these were the points: The Legislative Assembly of the NCTD has competence over entries in List II and List III, except for expressly excluded entries of List II (entries 1, 2, 18 are excluded); the executive power of NCTD is co-extensive with its legislative power; that is, it shall extend to all matters with respect to which it has power to legislate; the Union of India has executive power only over three entries in List II over which the NCTD does not have legislative competence (entries 1, 2, 18).

Thus, essentially, the Court interpreted that out of the 66 entries in List II (the State list), while the executive power of the Government of NCTD covers 63 entries, that of the Union of India is restricted to the remaining three: public order (entry 1), police (entry 2) and land (entry 18).

Consequently, executive power over "services" (entry 41) can be exercised exclusively by the Government of the NCTD. This interpretation of the Court is consistent with the wordings in Article 239AA(3)(a). But, this interpretation was negated by the Union of India, acting through its Council of Ministers under Article 74, by triggering extraordinary legislative power of the President under Article 123 in the promulgation of an ordinance on May 19.

What the ordinance did was to read/insert entry 41 of List II (State list) into Article 239AA(3)(a), thereby expanding the scope of excepted matter from three (1, 2, 18) to four (1,



2, 18, 41).

This could not have been done without amending Article 239AA(3)(a) of the Constitution. The power conferred on Parliament under Article 239AA(3)(b) is to make fresh laws - not to amend Article 239AA(3)(a) of the Constitution.

ALTERATION NEEDS AN AMENDMENT

Similarly, power conferred on Parliament under Article 239AA(7)(a) is to make laws for giving effect to or supplementing the provisions contained in various clauses of Article 239AA and for all matters incidental or consequential thereto.

Such a power cannot be pressed into action to amend Article 239AA(3)(a) of the Constitution. Significantly, Article 239AA(7)(b) stipulates that Parliament's law making under Article 239AA(7)(a) shall not be deemed to be an amendment of the Constitution for the purposes of Article 368. No such clause has been stipulated in Article 239AA(3)(a). Therefore, altering the scope of Article 239AA(3)(a) requires constitutional amendment under Article 368; there is not an iota of doubt.

Consequently, the ordinance promulgated under Article 123 of the Constitution to expand the scope of

excepted matters in Article 239AA(3)(a) is void ab initio and is liable to be struck down for bypassing constitutional amendment. It amounts to a colorable exercise of power. Article 123 is no substitute for Article 368 (amendment of the Constitution) in Part XX.

Besides, when a Constitution Bench (five judges) of the Supreme Court declares/interprets the law (Article 239AA(3)(a)), the same is binding on all courts and authorities in India in terms of Articles 141 and 144, respectively. Could Articles 141 and 144 have been negated by Article 123 without a constitutional amendment?

Articles 123, 141, 144 are in Part V (The Union) of the Constitution. None has a non-obstante clause. The aid and advice of the Union Council of Ministers to the President under Article 74 could not have overridden Article 144. The basis of the Court judgment is Article 239AA(3)(a). To alter this basis, a constitutional amendment is necessary.

A PERSPECTIVE

The Union of India's decision to prefer review (Article 137) and promulgate an ordinance (Article 123) simultaneously is ill-conceived; if the ordinance is challenged, the Union of India is unlikely to succeed through either route to wrest power of "services" in Delhi.

In the landmark seven-judge Bench verdict of the Supreme Court in the matter of Krishna Kumar Singh vs State of Bihar (2017) 2 SCC 136, the Court held that the satisfaction of the President under Article 123 is not immune from judicial scrutiny; powers under Article 123 is not a parallel source of law making or an independent legislative authority.

It was further held that the Court is empowered to look into the relevance of material placed before the President, but not its sufficiency or adequacy.

The ordinance is likely to be struck down since it expands excepted matters in Article 239AA(3)(a). Parliament alone can do this under Article 368.

(The author is a senior advocate in the Supreme Court of India and a former Additional Solicitor General of India)

Despite Karnataka win, why it's going to be tricky for Oppn to take on BJP in 2024 LS polls

EVEN AS A THIRD FRONT IDEA HAS BEEN DROPPED, EFFORTS ARE ON TO PUSH THE ELECTORAL STRATEGY OF FIELDING A 'SINGLE' OPPOSITION CANDIDATE AGAINST A BJP CANDIDATE IN THE 2024 LOK SABHA POLLS BUT IT SEEMS TO BE PAVED WITH TRICKY ISSUES.

If one is a detractor of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), it is easy to get euphoric after the Karnataka elections. Mechanical extrapolation of electoral data in state elections since 2019 can easily lead to arrogance and declaring that a victory in 2024, or defeat for the Narendra Modi led party, is imminent, whereas the possibility is yet to emerge as a realistic prospect.

State assembly elections in a country of serial polls, if one believes that the trend will hold true during the subsequent parliamentary bout, provide misleading projections of the national hustings. After voters turned out to elect members of the Lok Sabha in the summer of 2019, they have since voted in state assembly elections in as many as 400 parliamentary constituencies, according to an analysis done by the Hindustan Times.

Of these 400 seats, the data sets further points, the BJP won 223 Lok Sabha (LS) seats in 2019. But, as per current Vidhan Sabha holdings, this number is down to 177 - a loss of 46 LS seats which means its tally in 2024, based on these projections, will be 257 - 15 short of a majority in the Lower House, unless this is made up by the remaining 143 seats.

In seats where voters are yet to cast their lot in state elections since 2019 parliamentary elections, the BJP won 70 seats of which nearly 90 per cent or 62 seats were bagged in the bipolar states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh.

However, the BJP's notional loss till date has not triggered corresponding gains for the Congress in these states - its tally as per these projections, shall go up by just two to 46 (again from these 400 seats). But the biggest gainers are the Rashtriya Janata Dal, the Aam Aadmi Party, Samajwadi Party and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

THE POLL MATH FOR CONGRESS AND BJP

For the Congress to enter the electoral joust in 2024 with a sense of accomplishment, it will have to do exceedingly well in the three aforesaid listed states where elections are due before the end of this year. These states collectively elect 65 LS members and in 2019, as previously mentioned, the BJP won 62 (including one seat won by a minor alliance partner in Rajasthan), leaving the Congress with just three seats - two from Chhattisgarh and one from MP.

Significantly, the list of states where the BJP performed poorly in assembly



elections in comparison to 2019 Lok Sabha polls, is headed by Karnataka where, if the performance in the recently concluded elections is repeated, the BJP's tally will decline from 25 to 8 - effectively a loss of 17 LS seats.

Correspondingly, had it not been for gains made by the Congress from the state, its tally would have been even lower than what it secured in the 400 seats that have witnessed state polls post 2019.

STATE POLLS ARE POOR REFERENCE POINTS

State polls are poor reference points to draw projections for subsequent Lok Sabha elections and vice-versa. For instance, in 2013, the Congress secured 122 seats in Karnataka in a House of 224 but when it came to the 2014 LS polls, the Congress tally from the state was down to just nine, while the BJP's figure soared to 17.

Furthermore, the Congress formed governments in MP, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh in 2018. However, as previously noted, the party lost all but three PCs from these seats in 2019. As detailed in the HT data charts, 489 PCs witnessed assembly elections between 2014 and 2019 and based on the state figures, its score in these seats should have been 222, but the BJP won 291 of them.

This demonstrates that in 2019, the BJP improved its performance during parliamentary polls when compared to the preceding assembly poll.

This clearly underscores that multiple factors lead to different results in assembly and parliamentary elections, even if held in quick succession. Simplistically, for the former, people elect the chief minister or hand over reins to a party they wish to run the state government. But, when it comes to the parliamentary elections, it is more

presidential in nature since 2014, as the vote is sought in the name of Modi - Abki Baar, Modi Sarkar or Ek Baar Phir, Modi Sarkar.

However, while the state assembly elections do not, and are unlikely to again, have a direct bearing on seats won in LS elections, it does have an impact when Opposition parties, and even the ruling BJP, hold negotiations with other parties to firm up alliances and discuss seat distribution. Good performances in state elections indicate a party's strengths and weaknesses in various states and seat allocation can be demanded or turned down accordingly.

On paper, the Congress is the largest Opposition party with the widest footprint. But this has to be demonstrated by good performances in a series of state assembly elections. But after the party's improved performance in assembly polls in Maharashtra and Haryana in the autumn of 2019 within months of the parliamentary elections, it failed to improve upon the PCs it had won in parliamentary polls in other states.

An improvement on the 2019 verdict was finally notched in Himachal Pradesh later last year and now in Karnataka. But, HP is a small state to have widespread impact.

A 'SINGLE' OPPOSITION CANDIDATE

In recent months, efforts have been initiated to forge a loose understanding among Opposition parties to ensure that in 2024 the seats with a 'single' (not joint) Opposition candidate against the BJP nominee are maximized. Opposition leaders during informal conversation have let it be known that efforts are underway to strike an understanding among various parties to ensure one-on-one contests are held in at least 400 parliamentary seats if not more.



BY NILANJAN
MUKHOPADHYAY

The question is if this is doable among a motley cluster of non-BJP parties who in several states are also mutual rivals in the non-BJP space. This includes states where Bihar or Tamil Nadu style alliances do not exist. Most importantly however, these 'troublesome' states where striking an understanding is essential, includes states where the AAP has made its political presence felt.

Of these, the party is already in power in Punjab and Delhi while in Gujarat, it performed commendably and it would fancy its chances in the next assembly polls in 2027. When Opposition leaders start discussing seat adjustments, will either for instance, decide to leave a few seats for the other - AAP for the Congress in Delhi and the latter for the former in Gujarat?

In Punjab, there will be no need for an alliance, as the BJP is not a very significant force and as of now it appears that the Shiromani Akali Dal too is a receding force and the main contest in the majority of states may well be between the AAP and the Congress.

STRONG REGIONAL PARTIES TO TAKE ON BJP IN THEIR HOME TURFS

West Bengal chief minister, Mamata Banerjee's declaration at the conclusion of her meeting in Kolkata with her Bihar counterpart, Nitish Kumar and his deputy, Tejashwi Yadav, that strong regional parties should be left alone to take on the BJP in 2024 on their home turfs and in turn, they would back the Congress in the 200-odd seats where the two national parties are in direct contest.

This proposal has been backed by SP chief Akhilesh Yadav and he has joined the chorus for putting up a united Opposition. His move is a shift away from the earlier posture of having no truck with the Congress after the disastrous outing of the duo in 2017. Both Banerjee and Yadav have abandoned plans of pushing for a Third Front. The idea also appears to have the backing of Telangana chief minister, K Chandrashekhara Rao.

Banerjee in fact even displayed clarity about states where she wanted the Congress to yield ground; "in Bengal, we (Trinamool) should fight. In Delhi, AAP should fight. In Bihar, Nitish Ji, Tejashwi (Yadav) and Congress are together. They will decide. I cannot decide on their formula. In Chennai, they (MK Stalin's DMK and the Congress) have a friendship and they can fight together. In Jharkhand also, they (JMM-Congress) are together and in other states also...."

On paper, the plan appears tenable but there are several tricky matters that have to be resolved. To begin with, ambitions of Banerjee in states outside WB - she made a significant foray into Assam and other northeastern states.

CONTD ON PAGE 10

Rahul Gandhi: a profile of Courage



BY GEORGE
ABRAHAM



Rahul Gandhi on Bharat Jodo yatra

Courage has its complexities but has a certain level of power attached to it. Standing up for principles in today's world is both challenging and often costly. But it can inspire a whole new generation to follow that example. Rahul Gandhi brings forth that image of a man who would not bow even to the most powerful for expediency or to fulfill his ambitions.

Undoubtedly, Rahul Gandhi may be the most vilified man in contemporary Indian politics. Over the years, he has been an object of sarcasm and constant attack by a paid social media gang. The BJP may have successfully painted Rahul Gandhi as "Pappu," an entitled beneficiary of dynasty politics. The widespread anger against the entrenched elite, who are far removed from the realities of the ordinary people, may also have aided that campaign to demonize him. To err is human; he may have made his share of mistakes, but this level of hatred and cynicism directed at him by the governing party of India is quite inconceivable.

However, the Bharat Jodo Yatra (BJY), the 4080 kilometers march under the banner of 'uniting India' from Kanyakumari to Srinagar, proved to be a phenomenal one that is beginning to turn the heads of the public. The march took place at a time when the people of India are increasingly polarized over religion

and the Modi administration's failure in governance that resulted in the mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic, high unemployment among the youth, rising inflation and marginalization of minorities.

India is no stranger to Padayatras, and from Mahatma Gandhi on, it has been an Indian institution that has produced major results for its stakeholders. Only time will tell whether BJY will translate into any electoral dividends for the Congress party in the upcoming national elections. Nevertheless, it appeared to have captured the imagination of the ordinary Indians and reflected their yearnings for a peaceful coexistence with everyone regardless of their faith, caste, language, or regional differences.

One also wonders if Rahul Gandhi is such an ineffective and failed leader, why the BJP is so focused on targeting him. The truth is he is one of the few at the forefront to expose the duplicity and wrongdoings of this administration. He is totally unafraid to expose corruption at the highest levels and confront even the Prime Minister on issues like Rafael purchases or the Adani scam inside the parliament. In scanning today's political arena, one might see other politicians struggling to put together a few words to express their outrage at the corruption or the ongoing anti-democratic measures employed by this government.

The reason is simple: they know too well that they have many skeletons in their closets, or the government agencies are lurking around every corner.

The very reason that people are awake and listening to the message of Rahul Gandhi during the Yatra has become such an unsettling or probably terrifying issue for the BJP government. Therefore, they have determined to silence the man by using any means. Even before the Gujarat verdict and further disqualification of Rahul Gandhi as a Lok Sabha member, wheels were in motion to expel him from the parliament based on his alleged 'anti-nationalist statements' made during a trip to Great Britain. He only spoke about the state of democracy, which is a global good.

Rahul Gandhi is indeed a brave person who is willing to face challenges. Despite two of his family members falling victim to the hatred and division in the country, he has shown the moral Courage to continue on their path to serving the nation. An essential aspect of being courageous is accepting yourself and life's circumstances beyond one's control. Watching his controlled emotions and measured reactions is astounding, considering his immediate disqualification from the Lok Sabha after the verdict and a quick eviction from his residence.

There is no doubt that Yatra has shown him as a man of empathy who understands the daily struggle of an ordinary citizen. It also allowed him to present an alternative vision to India that would unite people for a common purpose. That is in direct contrast to the current leadership that is increasingly distanced from the people it serves and pursuing policies that negatively impact their well-being.

As Martin Luther King said in one of the last sermons he gave before his death, "You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don't have to know about Plato and Aristotle to serve. You don't have to know Einstein's theory of relativity to serve. You only need a heart full of grace—a soul generated by love. And you can be that servant".

Is Rahul on the verge of becoming that celebrated servant? During his padayatra, his often-repeated mantra was, "In the market of hatred, I am opening a counter for love." Let that love spread across India, touch humanity, and bear the fruits of peace and harmony for its 1.4 billion people. It is time for the people of India to wake up and smell the roses!

Jai Hind.

(The author is a former chief technology officer of the United Nations, and vice chairman of IOCUSA)

contd from page 9

Despite Karnataka win, why it's going to be tricky for Oppn to take on BJP in 2024 LS polls

Will the Congress and she be able to reach a pact for this region and will they be open to joining hands with other non-BJP parties? Furthermore, will she abandon plans of expanding outside eastern India - recall the over-ambitious move in Goa that did little but assist BJP?

But, more than individual states, it is important to assess if the Congress will risk more desertions from its ranks in states where the party 'decides' to give a free run to regional parties, for instance,

TRS in Telangana.

There are also state units like Delhi where Ajay Maken, a one-time Union Minister and Lok Sabha member from Delhi and party general secretary, who see the AAP as the primary hurdle to the party's return to, if not supremacy, at least being the main challenger to the BJP - or a return to the bipolar politics of the Indian capital before the advent of the Arvind Kejriwal led outfit in 2013.

This question would get linked to the Congress's status as a national party and not just from the PoV of the Election Commission of India's 'recognition'.

The figure of 200 Lok Sabha seats that according to Banerjee are those where the Congress is in a direct contest with the BJP has been arrived at by the non-Congress Opposition parties. There is no knowing that the Congress party would

agree to this figure, or it would demand more seats in states dominated by regional parties. It could cite recent performances in isolated by-elections, like in WB to say that the party can legitimately attempt parliamentary presence from the state.

Quite obviously, the pathway to Opposition parties maximizing one-on-one contests against BJP's candidates is paved with tricky issues. This is besides the other two troublesome matters - ideological or programmatic commonality and the issue of the Opposition's 'face'.

For the moment, it appears that this question is going to be kept open like in 2004. But this would leave the field wide open for the BJP, especially Modi to mount a searing campaign and ask people if they are willing to trust a

bandwagon, which cannot decide either on a common minimum programme, or on who shall be its leader in case the BJP is rejected by the electorate.

It is not that Nitish Kumar's initiative has no chances of succeeding, at least in putting up a single Opposition candidate from about 400 seats, as is the current thinking in some parties. But for that, a lot more backchannel discussions have to be conducted which although not impossible, is certainly not going to easy to negotiate.

(An NCR-based author and journalist, Nilanjan Mukhopadhyay's latest book is *The Demolition and the Verdict: Ayodhya and the Project to Reconfigure India*. His other books include *The RSS: Icons of the Indian Right* and *Narendra Modi: The Man, The Times*. He tweets at @NilanjanUdwin)

Rahul Gandhi to Visit US

MAY 25, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP): Shri Rahul Gandhi, former President of the Indian National Congress, will be visiting the United States towards the end of May and early June to participate in multiple events in San Francisco, Washington D. C., and New York. His schedule will include interactions with Universities, Tech entrepreneurs, Civil society, Business, Media, Politicians and Leaders. He will address the Diaspora in San Francisco and New York.

Rahul Gandhi will be visiting after his historic Bharat Jodo Yatra, a long journey of walking 2500 miles from Kanyakumari at the southern tip of India to Kashmir, the northern tip of India, to inspire, unify and listen to the people of India against the backdrop of divisive politics and religious polarizations.

Mr. Gandhi has been a champion of the universal values of human rights, freedom, Justice, Diversity, inclusion, nonviolence and sustainability in India and abroad. He has been working tirelessly to represent the young and the people at the bottom of the economic pyramid whose aspirations for jobs and improved living conditions are regularly brought to the focus as India gains global economic importance. He believes that political and social stability is a prerequisite for economic growth and peaceful co-existence of all communities regardless of their caste, race, religion, language, or region.

"The purpose of his trip is to connect, interact and begin new conversation with various individuals, institutions and media, including the Indian Diaspora that is growing in numbers in the United States and abroad to promote the shared values and vision of the real democracy with focus on freedom, inclusion, sustainability, justice, peace and opportunities world over," said Sam Pitroda, Chairman of the Indian overseas congress.

"I hope that Rahul Gandhi's visit will energize the Diaspora into a renewed appreciation of democracy and freedom

INDIAN OVERSEAS CONGRESS USA



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NRI'S INTERACTIONS WITH

SHRI. RAHUL GANDHI



4 JUNE 2023 - 2 PM

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the Indian Diaspora aspires to have as they constitute more than 30 million Non-resident Indians who live around the world, said George Abraham, Vice-Chairman of the Indian Overseas Congress, USA.

"The NRIs in the United States of America will get the much-awaited opportunity to interact with Rahul Gandhi in Si Valley, Washington and

New York," said Mr. Mohinder Singh Gilzian, who is spearheading the effort to give a rousing welcome to Mr. Gandhi in New York.

The Public meeting will be held at Javits Center, 429 11th Ave, in New York City on Sunday, June 4th, at 2:00 PM. Everyone is invited. Please go to www.rgvisitusa.com to register to attend this much anticipated event.

For further information: Please call 646-732-5119, 917-749-8769, 848-256-3381, 201-421-5303, 917-544-4137 or contact at iocusaorg@gmail.com

PROFILE OF RAHUL GANDHI

FORMER PRESIDENT, INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

Rahul Gandhi was a Member of Parliament from 2004 till earlier this year. In March 2023, he was disqualified from Parliament pursuant to a court verdict which is currently under challenge in a higher court. He last represented the constituency of Wayanad in Kerala in the Lok Sabha and prior to that served three terms as MP from Amethi in Uttar Pradesh. In 2007, he was named General Secretary of the Indian National Congress in charge of the youth and student organizations of the Party. In January 2013, he assumed office as Vice President of the Indian National Congress. He was the President of the Indian National Congress from December 2017 to July 2019.

Rahul was born on June 19, 1970 to Rajiv and Sonia Gandhi. He has attended St. Stephen's College, Delhi, Harvard College and Rollins College, Florida from where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts. He went on to receive an M. Phil. in Development Studies from Trinity College, Cambridge University. Thereafter, he joined the Monitor Group, a strategy consulting group, in London, where he worked for three years.

In the past, Rahul was a member of the Parliamentary Standing Committees on Home Affairs, Human Resource Development, External Affairs, Finance and Defense and the Consultative Committees for the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Ministry of Rural Development, the Ministry of Finance & Corporate Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs.

Rahul has championed the development of a self-help group movement and a non-profit eye care provider in North India. He also serves as a trustee of the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation.

Dr. Sampat Shivangi Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award by Xavier University in Aruba

MAY 25, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP): Dr. Sampat Shivangi, a physician, an influential Indian American community leader, and a veteran leader of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) was awarded the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award by the Xavier University School of Medicine on Friday, May 19, 2023 at the Xavier's Campus in Aruba. Dr. Shivangi was conferred with the Life Time Achievement Award by the Minister of Aruba, Mr. Croes along with the President of Xavier University of School of Medicine Mr. Ravi Bhooplalpur.

The award ceremony was part of the Global Leadership Summit organized by



Dr. Shivangi being conferred with the Life Time Achievement Award by the Minister of Aruba, Mr. Croes along with the President of Xavier University of School of Medicine Mr. Ravi Bhooplalpur



Dr. Shivangi with wife Dr. Udaya Shivangi

the University, which brought together world leaders in the Global Health Care

community, who shared their insightful thoughts and expertise on various topics

related to healthcare. The summit featured speakers from diverse backgrounds with areas of expertise, including healthcare policy, healthcare technology delivery, and healthcare education.

The summit was aimed at providing education not only to Xavier University School of Medicine students and faculty but also to healthcare professionals and educators, who are passionate about making a positive impact on the healthcare industry and improving patient outcomes worldwide.

"We are excited to bring together stingrays naked ladies from around the world did experiences and insights," said Dr. Ravi Bhooplalpur, President of Xavier University School of Medicine. "The goal is to create a platform for the exchange of ideas and best practices that will help shape the future of healthcare and improve the lives of people around the world."

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Baad Muddat ke Yeh Ghari Aayee: on Aligarh Alumni Association Eid celebration



Singing the AAA Tarana



A group of children at the celebration

MAY 25, 2023

MARYLAND (TIP): The Aligarh Alumni Association, Washington DC, organized an Eid Milan Party on 6th May 2023 after a hiatus of over three years. The community could not meet in person due to Covid-related health regulations. The Eid Milan party provided an excellent opportunity to foster a feeling of community and friendship. It was a very well-attended event, with families coming from far distances.

The party was held at Bohrer Park, Gaithersburg, Maryland—a popular venue in Metropolitan Washington. The ballroom was beautifully decorated with colorful banners, balloons, ribbons, lanterns, and flowers, giving a festive look to the event. Excellent lighting and sound systems enhanced the overall ambiance of the party.

The program started with a recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by a welcome speech by the Association's president, Ms. Aisha Azim Khan. She thanked and reminded the audience about the Eid Milan events the Association used to organize in the past, emphasizing children's participation. It was considered important to familiarize children with our heritage, language, and culture. She was pleased to note that many of those kids are now adults, and some now contribute to the scholarship program.

The audience witnessed an emotional display of affection and love for their Alma Mater by alumni in a chorus rendition of the famous Aligarh AMU Tarana Yeh Mera Chaman Hai led by Masood Farshori.

The Emcee of the event, Afzal Usmani, briefed the audience about the history of the Association and its role in community



Audience



A group of volunteers

building as well as doing charitable work, especially the scholarship program at Aligarh Muslim University, India. "The Association is a non-political, non-profit, tax-exempt, charitable, educational, social, and cultural organization striving for educational upliftment of deserving underprivileged students and to foster

cultural values of the Subcontinent in North America," he said. He also apprised the audience that AAA-DC took a bold step to change the name of Aligarh Old Boys to Aligarh Alumni Association. Another first begun by the Association was the establishment of International Mushaira in the Western Hemisphere. This annual

mushaira tradition has continued for over four decades in the Metro Washington area, and other Aligarh Alumni in North America are organizing such events.

It was impressive and heart-warming to see the special recognition of the founding members of the Association. The Association was started in a meeting held in 1975 at the home of the late Mr. Tufail Ahmed. The founders present in tonight's event were Dr. Abdullah, Mr. Azim Khan, Mrs. Aisha Khan, Mr. Tariq Farooqi, Mrs. Farzana Farooqi, and Mrs. Salma Ahmad (wife of Late Tufail Ahmad, founding president of the Association in 1975). In addition, the Association acknowledged current office bearers, the organizing committee, members of the core group, volunteers, and supporters of the Association.

It was pleasing to see the active participation of children under 14 in games arranged for them. Hafiz Salahuddin and Aminah received prizes as the winner and runner-up in these games.

There were several musical and cultural performances. Khursheed Bilgiri, Karamat Ali, and Mohammad Hamid entertained the audience with beautiful music singing everlasting songs and ghazals. Dr. A. Abdullah recited a poem on Eid and Masood Farshori recited Bekal Utsahi's famous nazm Taj Mahal and Dlawar Figar's humorous nazm Ishq ka Parcha in his style.

The guests enjoyed a sumptuous dinner with a variety of dishes, including sewain (vermicelli)—a traditional sweet dish on Eid.

(Report by Afzal Usmani and Zafar Iqbal. Dr. Iqbal can be reached at raabta.india@gmail.com and 240-328-0162)

ISKCON Chicago Sri Sri Kisora-Kisori to celebrate 50 Years



MAY 25, 2023

CHICAGO, IL (TIP): In the heart of Rogers Park, Chicago, the ISKCON temple, and home of the dear Sri Sri Kisora-Kisori (Radha Krishna) deities, is celebrating

their 50th Anniversary this June 15th-18th, 2023. The four-day event will honor all the members who have served in the ISKCON Chicago community during the last 50 years. 5000 plus devotees will participate in this auspicious 4 days event. The International Society for Krishna Consciousness, ISKCON, is a worldwide spiritual society based on the philosophy of Bhagavad Gita and Sankirtana or musical chanting and was founded in America by A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada in 1966.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

IRS alerts businesses, tax-exempt groups of warning signs for misleading Employee Retention scams; simple steps can avoid improperly filing claims

MAY 25, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): As aggressive marketing continues; the Internal Revenue Service, on May 25, renewed an alert for businesses to watch out for tell-tale signs of misleading claims involving the Employee Retention Credit.

The IRS and tax professionals continue to see a barrage of aggressive broadcast advertising, direct mail solicitations and online promotions involving the Employee Retention Credit. While the credit is real, aggressive promoters are wildly misrepresenting and exaggerating who can qualify for the credits.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Investment of US\$ 250 million by Yash Pakka Limited in Guatemala



Guatemala President Alejandro Giammattei, Minister of Economy Janio Rosales, and the Indian Ambassador to Guatemala, Dr. Manoj Kumar Mahapatra at the official ceremony at the National Palace on May 23, 2023, to honor Yash Pakka



Yash Pakka is honored. Seen on extreme right is Indian Ambassador to Guatemala Dr. Manoj Kumar Mahapatra.



Indian Ambassador to Guatemala, Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra addresses the gathering

MAY 24, 2023

GUATEMALA CITY (TIP): Compostable packaging industry pioneer Yash Pakka Limited has embarked on a significant venture by establishing its largest overseas plant in Guatemala, Central America. This milestone has been marked by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Yash Pakka Limited and major sugar companies in Guatemala to procure bagasse, the primary raw material used in its products. Anticipated to commence operations by mid-2025, the US \$250 Million plant will have a daily production capacity of 400 tons, focusing on flexible packaging and molded fiber products.

In recognition of this momentous occasion, the Government of Guatemala organized an official ceremony at the National Palace on May 23, 2023, to honor Yash Pakka. The event was attended by President

Alejandro Giammattei, Minister of Economy Janio Rosales, and the Indian Ambassador to Guatemala, Dr. Manoj Kumar Mahapatra. The participation of high-ranking officials highlights the significance of Yash Pakka's investment in Guatemala and its integration into the country's nearshoring initiatives.

Yash Pakka's investment has the potential to stimulate economic growth in Guatemala on various fronts. By establishing operations in the country, the company will contribute to the gross domestic product (GDP), generate tax revenue, and boost economic activity within the region. This increased economic activity can have a positive ripple effect, fostering entrepreneurship, attracting further investment, and bolstering local businesses and industries. Furthermore, Yash Pakka's investment exemplifies the growing economic cooperation between India and Guatemala. It signifies the confidence and interest of

Indian businesses in the Guatemalan market and vice versa, fostering stronger economic ties. This, in turn, can pave the way for increased bilateral trade, promoting a balanced and mutually beneficial trade relationship.

Beyond economic implications, Yash Pakka's investment also holds the potential to facilitate cultural exchange and people-to-people connections between India and Guatemala. The success of the investment venture would also strengthen the bilateral relationship, encouraging both governments to engage in further dialogue and cooperation across various sectors, including trade, investment, and development. Overall, Yash Pakka's investment in Guatemala signifies a significant milestone in the economic cooperation between India and Guatemala. It has the potential to generate positive economic, cultural, and diplomatic outcomes for both countries, laying the foundation for a promising and mutually beneficial partnership.

India gifts Millet Seeds to Guatemala



Indian Ambassador to Guatemala Dr. Manoj Mohapatra hands over millet seeds to Guatemalan Agriculture Minister Mr. Edgar René De León Moreno for cultivation of millets in the country



Ambassador Mohapatra holds discussions with Guatemala delegation about Signing of a MOU on Agricultural Cooperation between India and Guatemala



Ambassador Mohapatra served delicious millets-based food to the Guatemalan delegation

MAY 25, 2023

GUATEMALA CITY (TIP): On 24 May 2023, a significant event took place at the Embassy of India in Guatemala, where Ambassador Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra officially handed over a consignment of four varieties millet seeds to the Agricultural Minister of Guatemala, Mr. Edgar René De León Moreno. The handover ceremony was

organized at the Embassy Residence and was attended by Mr. Guillermo De León Agreda, Cooperation Director; Mr. Rafael Oroxon, International Cooperation; and Mr. Rafael Oroxon, General Manager of the Institute of Agricultural Science from Guatemalan side, including representatives from the Embassy.

The millet seeds provided by the Embassy of India will play a crucial role in promoting food security in Guatemala. Millets are highly nutritious and resilient crops that can thrive in various agro-climatic conditions. By introducing millet cultivation, the agricultural sector of Guatemala can diversify its food production and enhance resilience against climate change and other agricultural challenges. The handover of millet seeds signifies India's expertise in millet cultivation techniques and sustainable agricultural practices. By sharing these

seeds, India aims to contribute to Guatemala's agricultural development and promote the adoption of advanced farming methods. The millet seeds provided by the Embassy can serve as a valuable resource for research and development initiatives in Guatemala's agricultural sector. Researchers and scientists can study the characteristics of these seeds, explore their adaptability to local conditions, and develop improved crop varieties that are better suited to Guatemala's agro-ecosystem.

The handover ceremony serves as a platform to strengthen agricultural cooperation between India and Guatemala. It facilitates knowledge exchange, technical assistance, and collaboration in the field of agriculture. By nurturing this partnership, both countries can benefit from shared expertise, best practices, and innovative solutions to address common agricultural challenges. This gesture reflects the commitment of the Embassy of India to support Guatemala in its agricultural development endeavors. The event not only symbolizes the exchange of seeds but also signifies the deepening friendship and collaboration between the two nations in the agricultural sector. It is expected that this initiative will lead to fruitful outcomes, contributing to the sustainable growth of the agricultural sector in Guatemala.

BOLLYWOOD LOOKS TO DUBBING MOVIES IN GUATEMALA



Bollywood movies Photo for representation only

GUATEMALA CITY (TIP): Bollywood, in collaboration with local partners and artists from Guatemala, has undertaken the task of dubbing 100 popular Bollywood movies into the Spanish language. This ambitious project aims to introduce Indian cinema to the Guatemalan audience, provide a platform for Guatemalan artists to showcase their talent, and foster cultural understanding between the two countries.

The Embassy of India in Guatemala has played a crucial role in facilitating this project and ensuring its successful implementation. The embassy has provided support and guidance to Bollywood film makers, acting as a bridge between them and local stakeholders.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)



Centre pegs India's foodgrain output at record 330MT in 2022-23

India's food grain production in 2022-23 is estimated to be 330.53 million tonnes, with record output of rice, wheat, maize, soybean, rapeseed, mustard and sugarcane, according to the third advance estimates released by the agriculture ministry Thursday, May 25.

Despite a prolonged spell of untimely rain and hail in April 2023, the ministry said the production of winter-sown wheat is pegged at 112.74 million tonnes, five million tonnes more than last year's output.

"The assessment of production of different crops is based on the feedback received from states. This assessment shall undergo further revision over successive estimates based upon feedback received from the states, alternative sources and other factors," the farm ministry said in a statement.

Food output is closely linked to inflation as well as growth of the rural economy. Around 55% of India's population depends on agriculture for livelihood.

Output of rice in 2022-23 is estimated at a record 135.52 million tonnes, up six million tonnes from 2021-22, the data show. The ministry releases four quarterly advance estimates of food output in a year.

The data showed production of maize during 2022-23 is estimated at 35.91 million tonnes, which is higher by 2.18 million tonnes over 2021-22, while output of all pulses has been pegged at 27.5 million tonnes, around 200,000 tonnes more than the previous year's production.

Alwar lynching: Four accused convicted, VHP leader acquitted for 'lack of evidence'

NEW DELHI (TIP)

A district court in Alwar, Rajasthan on Thursday (May 25) found four of the five men accused of lynching Rakbar Khan in 2018 guilty. The fifth accused was acquitted.

The four men convicted of the crime – Dharmendra Yadav, Paramjeet, Vijay Kumar and Naresh Kumar – have been found guilty of culpable homicide and wrongful restraint, and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment.

The fifth accused – Nawal Kishore – was acquitted on grounds of insufficient evidence, NDTV reported. He is a local leader of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad.

Speaking to The Indian Express, Rakbar's wife expressed dissatisfaction with the judgment and the sentence. "The main accused has been acquitted while the others have been given only seven years – this should be increased. This is not justice. My husband was murdered by them," Asmina said.

Special public prosecutor Ashok Sharma too said while he was happy with the convictions, the sentence was not enough.

Nasir Ali Naqvi, another SPP in the case, told The Indian Express that he is writing to the government to appeal the case in the high court. "They should have been convicted under IPC 302 (murder) too. And the one acquitted (Naval Kishore) had been identified in the court by the other victim Aslam (who was with Rakbar when the mob stopped them, but had managed to escape). When you are considering his statement on others (leading to their conviction), how can you discard it for Naval?"

After being acquitted, Kishore reportedly told The Indian Express that the other four are also innocent: "The other four are also innocent, we have full faith in the high court. I



Victim Rakbar Khan's children. Credit: The Wire

won't say that there is political pressure (on the trial court), they must have acted as per their understanding. We have got some justice, and will get more from the high court."

Background

The case dates back to July 20-21, 2018, when Rakbar, a dairy farmer, and Aslam Khan were transporting cows on foot on the intervening night to their village Kolgaon in Haryana, when they were attacked by villagers at Lalwandi under Ramgarh Police Station in Alwar. While Aslam managed to escape, Rakbar was beaten to death.

According to accused Kishore, when the incident took place, he had informed the police immediately after reaching the crime scene. As per his version, some local youths had called him after midnight. As his phone was on silent mode, the youth had called his nephew, who then woke him up and told him that locals had caught a cow smuggler and asked him to call the police. So, he called the police at around 12:41 am. As he lived close to

the police station, it took him barely five minutes to reach there, and he had waited five to ten minutes for the police jeep before heading to the crime scene.

When they reached the spot around 1.15-1.20 am, Kishore had said, Rakbar Khan was lying in the mud, with two cows tied to a tree nearby. He said some villagers had run away seeing the police jeep.

After the incident, the FIR mentioned some Dharmendra Yadav, Paramjeet Singh, Naresh Sharma and Vijay Kumar, and they were arrested. However, the police kept investigation against Sharma pending under Section 173 (8) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).

Earlier, Rakbar's family had expressed fears that the accused would be let off the hook, as has happened in other vigilante lynching cases like the murder of Pehlu Khan.

The police's role on the night Rakbar was attacked has also been questioned, specifically after a photo of Rakbar sitting in a police vehicle went viral.

Source: The Wire

Kejriwal seeks meeting with Rahul amid battle with Centre over ordinance

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday, May 26, sought time to meet Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi to get party's support in Delhi services ordinance issue.

Kejriwal tweeted: "Sought time this morning to meet Cong President Sh Kharge ji and Sh Rahul Gandhi ji to seek Cong support in Parl against undemocratic n unconstitutional ordinance passed by BJP govt and also to discuss general assault on federal structure and prevailing political situation."

West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday, May 23, said that she would support her Delhi

counterpart Arvind Kejriwal's efforts to fight against the Union government's ordinance to retake control of appointments and transfers of bureaucrats working for the NCT government.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray and NCP president Sharad Pawar have also extended complete support to Kejriwal.

Kejriwal has pitted this battle as a semi-final to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. "If the BJP loses this in the Rajya Sabha, then Modi won't come to power in India next year," Kejriwal said in Mumbai.

Last week, a five-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, in a unanimous verdict,

put an end to the dispute between the centre and the Delhi government running since 2015.

Later, the centre issued a special order - known as an ordinance - to create an authority for the transfer and posting of senior officers in Delhi. The ordinance seeks to set up a National Capital Civil Service Authority for the transfer of and disciplinary proceedings against bureaucrats.

In a statement attributed to "government sources", it said it was forced to issue the order because of the Delhi government's regular "instigation" and "acrimonious attacks" on the centre and the city's unique character.





Indian Navy MiG-29K fighter jet lands on indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant for the first time, on Wednesday, May 24, night. (PTI)

MiG-29K fighter jet makes maiden night landing on INS Vikrant

An Indian Navy MiG-29K fighter jet on Wednesday, May 24, landed on the indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant for the first time at night, an important step towards the warship becoming fully operational along with its air wing by the year-end, navy officials said.

The aircraft carrier is currently sailing in the Arabian Sea. It was commissioned into the navy last September, marking a pivotal point in the country's quest for self-reliance in the defence manufacturing sector.

"The challenging night landing trial demonstrates the resolve, skill and professionalism of the Vikrant crew and naval pilots," navy spokesperson Commander Vivek Madhwal said. The development came three months after a MiG-29K and a prototype of the naval version of the locally made light combat aircraft (LCA) landed and took off from the aircraft carrier for the first time during day in February.

The aircraft carrier is presently undergoing air certification and flight integration trials with rotary wing and fixed wing aircraft to achieve combat-ready state at the earliest, Madhwal added.

2 more cheetah cubs die at Kuno, toll rises to three

Two more cubs born to Namibian cheetah Jwala died during treatment at Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh, a forest official said on Thursday, May 25. Jwala was translocated from Namibia last year.

With their deaths, three of the four cubs born to Jwala have died within a span of 72 hours.

The fourth cub has been shifted to a hospital at Palpur in MP. Forest officials are in touch with experts from Namibia and South Africa for further treatment.

Jwala had given birth to four cubs on March 24 this year. In all, six cheetahs, including these three cubs, have died at the KNP over the past few months.

Political row over India's new parliament opening

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The government and opposition have been trading barbs over the inauguration of India's new parliament building.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate it on 28 May.

Opposition leaders have accused the government of "constitutional impropriety" by not requesting the president to open the building.

They have also criticised the government's choice of date which is also the birth anniversary of Hindutva ideologue VD Savarkar.

Opposition parties consider Savarkar as a divisive figure, while the ruling BJP hails him as a hero.

Leaders from opposition parties said the choice of the inauguration date was an "insult" to India's founding fathers.

Congress MP Jairam Ramesh criticised the government's decision to inaugurate the new parliament building "on the birth anniversary of the man who opposed Mahatma Gandhi vehemently all his life".

The BJP has defended the decision, saying the new building was a matter of pride for Indians.

Work on the new parliament began in January 2021.

The four-storey building - designed by HCP Design, Planning and Management and constructed by Tata Projects - has increased seating capacity and is built at an estimated cost of 9.7bn rupees (\$117.1m, £94.2m).

The existing colonial-era parliament building will continue to be used.

As plans for the inauguration of the new building were announced last week, several opposition parties criticised the government's exclusion of Indian President Draupadi Murmu - the head of state - from the event.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said that the building should be inaugurated by her.

"The parliament of India is the supreme legislative body of the Republic of India, and the President of India is its highest constitutional authority. She alone represents government, opposition, and every citizen alike," Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge wrote on Twitter. "Inauguration of the new parliament building by her will symbolise [the] government's commitment to democratic values and constitutional propriety," his tweet read.

Gaurav Bhatia, a spokesperson of the BJP, dismissed the criticism as "chest-beating" by the Congress party.

He also said Gandhi was "a bad omen during auspicious



times" who could not welcome the "historic moment".

25 parties to attend event, 20 to boycott

A political row over the decision to have Prime Minister Narendra Modi preside over the inauguration of the new Parliament building instead of President Droupadi Murmu has erupted with 20 Opposition parties having decided to boycott the event, scheduled for Sunday. The row has sparked a debate on the role of the President and the Prime Minister in the constitutional framework. On Thursday, May 25, a lawyer also petitioned the Supreme Court, seeking an invite for President Droupadi Murmu to the preside over the ceremony. The top court is expected to hear the petition on Friday. 20 parties including the Congress, Aam Aadmi Party, Trinamool Congress and others issued a joint statement Wednesday, describing PM Modi's decision to inaugurate the new Parliament as an "assault on democracy". While some parties including the Biju Janata Dal have accepted the invite hailing the event "in the true spirit of democracy" and a "momentous occasion".

After fresh Manipur violence, Amit Shah to visit state, hold talks with stakeholders

GUWAHATI (TIP)

Union home minister Amit Shah on Thursday, May 25, called for peace in violence-torn Manipur and said he will visit the northeastern state next week to hold talks with all stakeholders — the first major public intervention by the Centre since ethnic clashes broke out three weeks ago, killing 74 people and displacing another 30,000.

Speaking at an event in neighbouring Assam, Shah said only talks between various groups can bring calm. His comments came a day after fresh bouts of violence roiled a district in Manipur that had previously been relatively unscathed by the clashes that convulsed the state from May 3.

"I will go to Manipur soon and stay there for three days but before that, both groups should remove mistrust and suspicion among themselves and ensure



that peace is restored in the state," he said.

Union minister of state (home) Nityanand Rai, who arrived in Imphal on Thursday, told reporters that Shah will reach Manipur on May 29 to take stock of the situation and stay till June 1.

"The Centre will ensure that justice is delivered to all those who suffered in the clashes in the state, but people must hold

dialogue to ensure peace....in the last six years, prior to the recent clashes, there was no blockade or bandhs in Manipur and people must ensure the return of such a situation again," Shah said.

"Charcha ke saath hi shanti ho sakti hain (Peace can only be restored through dialogue)," he added.

This is the first announcement of a high-level intervention by the Centre in Manipur since May 3, when clashes broke out in Churachandpur town after tribal Kuki groups called for protests against a proposed tweak to the state's reservation matrix, granting scheduled tribe (ST) status to the majority Meitei community. Violence quickly engulfed the state, displacing tens of thousands of people who fled burning homes and neighbourhoods into jungles, often across state borders. To be sure, the Indian Army has been deployed in the region since May 4.

Source: HT

India in history this Week

MAY 26, 2023, TO JUNE 01, 2023

26 MAY

1739 Afghanistan was once a part of India, but the Mughal Emperor Mohammad Shah signed an agreement with Nadir Shah of Iran which separated it from the Indian Empire.

1957 Janta Insurance Policy started in Bombay (now Mumbai).

1999 ISRO successfully orbited three satellites from India, Germany and South Korea.

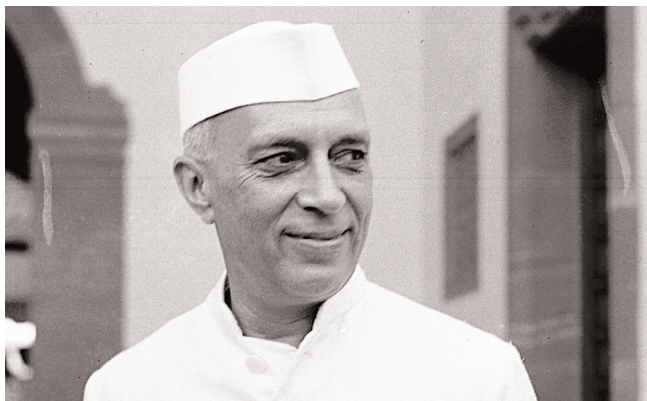


1999 Sourav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid set a world record of 318 runs in a one-day international cricket match against Sri Lanka.



2014 Narendra Modi was sworn in as the 15th Prime Minister of India.

27 MAY



1964 Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India and the founder of modern India, died. He was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize 11 times.

1962 Ravi Shastri, the most prolific all-rounder of the Indian cricket team, was born on this day.

2008 The central government has withdrawn the ban imposed on cement exports.

2016 Hungapan Dada, a brave soldier of the Indian Army, died. He was posthumously awarded the 'Ashoka Chakra'.

2010 India successfully test-fired the Dhanush and Prithvi 2 missile equipped with nuclear technology at Balasora district in Chandipur, Odisha. Prithvi 2

missile is an earth-to-earth ballistic missile with a range of 350 km. While Dhanush is the naval version of the Prithvi missile.

28 MAY

1883 Birth of Hindutva leader and poet Vinayak Damodar Savarkar.



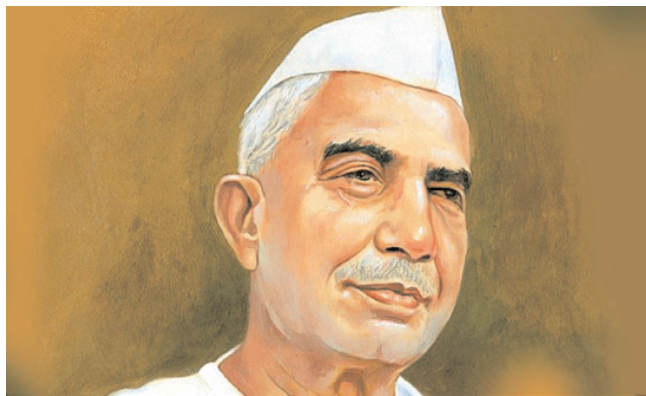
1923 The birth of Nandamuri Tarak Rama Rao, one of the most popular names in South India. After achieving immense success in films, NTR took a political stance and held the post of Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh three times.

1970 The All India Trade Union Congress was formally partitioned.

1989 Marthakavali David became the first woman Christian priest of India and second in the world.

1996 Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee resigned.

29 MAY



1987 Former Prime Minister of India Chaudhary Charan Singh died on 29 May.

1972 Prithviraj Kapoor, who had a distinct identity in Indian cinema, passed away.

1865 Ramanand Chatterjee, the leading personality of the journalism world, was born.

1906 Eminent Hindi essayist Kanhaiyalal Mishra Prabhakar was born.

1936 Gandhiji's son changed his religion and gave birth to a new controversy.



1968 Famous Wrestler Dara Singh set a record as a world wrestling champion.

30 MAY

1867 Dar-ul-Uloom was established in 1867 in Deoband, Uttar Pradesh.

1919 Rabindranath Tagore returned the title 'Sir' in 1919 in protest against the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

1987 Goa became the 25th full state in the country in 1987.

2012 Vishwanathan Anand became the World Chess Champion for the fifth time in 2012.

1909 Pandit Mukharam Sharma, the famous legend, screenplay and story writer of Indian Hindi films, was born in 1909.

1606 Guru Arjan Dev, the fifth Sikh Guru, died in 1606.

1991 Umashankar Dixit, a pioneer of the Indian Independence Movement, a priest of humanity and a pioneer of nationalism, died in 1991.

1955 N. M. Joshi died in 1955. He was the father of the 'Trade Union Movement' in India.

31 MAY

1774 The first postal service office was opened in India in 1774.

1867 Praya Samaj was established in Bombay in 1867.

1921 The flag of the Indian National Congress was adopted in 1921.

1959 The Buddhist religious Dalai Lama was granted asylum in India in 1959 after his exile from Tibet.

1964 The electric tram last ran in Bombay in 1964.

2010 The law to reserve 25% seats for poor children in every private school recognized in India was enacted in 2010.

1577 Noor Jahan, the wife of the Mughal emperor Jahangir, was born.

1725 One of the heroines of India, Ahilyabai Holkar was born.

1931 Purn Singh, one of the distinguished essayists of India, died.

1988 India's famous politician, freedom fighter, journalist, litterateur and former Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Dwarka Prasad Mishra died in 1988.

1942 Vinod Mehta, founder of Outlook and famous journalist was born.

01 JUNE

1819 Establishment of Serampore College in Bengal.

1835 Calcutta Medical College commenced functioning.

1874 The East India Company was dissolved.



1929 Birth of Nargis Dutt, who played the most memorable mother of Hindi films in the film Mother India.

1930 India's first deluxe train Deccan Queen was introduced between Bombay VT and Pune.

1955 The Untouchability (Prevention) Act came into existence.

1964 By removing the new word from new money, it is now called money.

2001 The first World Milk Day was celebrated.



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MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2023 falls on May 29 this year.

Originally known as Decoration Day, the Memorial Day originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

More than a half dozen places have claimed to be the birthplace of the holiday. In October 1864, for instance, three women in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, are said to have decorated the graves of loved ones who died during the Civil War; they then returned in July 1865 accompanied by many of their fellow citizens for a more general commemoration. A large observance, primarily involving African Americans, took place in May 1865 in Charleston, South Carolina. Columbus, Mississippi, held a formal observance for both Union and Confederate dead in 1866. By congressional proclamation in 1966, Waterloo, New York, was cited as the birthplace, also in 1866, of the observance. In 1868 John A. Logan, the commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans, promoted a national holiday on May 30 “for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion.”

After World War I, as the day came to be observed in honour of those who had died in all U.S. wars, its name changed from Decoration Day to Memorial Day. Since 1971 Memorial Day has been observed on the last Monday in May. A number of Southern states also observe a separate day to honour the Confederate dead. Memorial Day is observed with the laying of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, and by religious services, parades, and speeches nationwide. Flags, insignia, and flowers are placed on the graves of veterans in local cemeteries. The day has also come to signal the beginning of summer in the United States.



The Civil War, which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries.

By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers.

It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. And

some records show that one of the earliest Memorial Day commemorations was organized by a group of formerly enslaved people in Charleston, South Carolina less than a month after the Confederacy surrendered in 1865. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day.

Waterloo—which first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—was chosen because it hosted an annual, community-wide event, during which businesses closed

and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

Decoration Day

On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance later that month. “The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every



city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land," he proclaimed.

The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Civil War soldiers buried there.

Many Northern states held similar commemorative events and reprised the tradition in subsequent years; by 1890 each one had made Decoration Day an official state holiday. Southern states, on the other hand, continued to honor the dead on separate days until after World War I.

History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars, including World War II, The Vietnam War, The Korean War and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date General Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees. The change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.

Memorial Day Rituals

Cities and towns across the United States host Memorial Day parades each year, often incorporating military personnel and members of veterans' organizations. Some of the largest parades take place in Chicago, New York and Washington, D.C.

Americans also observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries and memorials. Some people wear a red poppy in remembrance of those fallen in war—a tradition that began with a World War I poem. On a less somber note, many people take weekend trips or throw parties and barbecues on the holiday, perhaps because Memorial Day weekend—the long weekend comprising the Saturday and Sunday before Memorial Day and Memorial Day itself—unofficially marks the beginning of summer.

Memorial Day Traditions

Annually at Arlington National Cemetery, the president of the United States speaks during a ceremony at the Amphitheater. Numerous military and government organizations also conduct services. In Washington, D.C., the National Memorial Day Parade, hosted by the American Veterans Center, proceeds down Constitution Avenue on Monday afternoon and is broadcast live on all the major networks.

Nearby, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Annual Observance at The Wall includes a wreath-laying and ceremony.

A National Memorial Day Concert, set this year for the evening of Sunday, May 28, is livestreamed on PBS. The 2022 event was broadcast live from the West Front of the United States Capitol.



Beyond the Washington, D.C., area, Memorial Day is observed in thousands of cities and towns throughout the nation every year. These events often include speakers, flyovers, wreath presentations, color guards, musical performances including the playing of taps, "flags in" ceremonies and more.

Flags are flown at half-staff at some municipal buildings, and wreaths and bouquets can often be seen at private residences.

Unofficially, Memorial Day weekend is widely considered to be the start of the summer season.

Why Are Red Poppies Worn on Memorial Day?

During World War I, the red poppy became a symbol of veteran sacrifice after a war memorial poem, "In Flanders Field," by soldier John McCrae, a Canadian surgeon.

The famous poem, which McCrae wrote while on the battlefield in 1915, opens with the lines:

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

After the Ladies Home Journal magazine printed "In Flanders Field," an Athens, Georgia, woman named Moina Michael was inspired in 1918 to make the red poppy a symbol for remembering WWI's fallen soldiers.

The idea caught on, and in the fall of 1920, the American Legion at its convention in Cleveland adopted the red poppy as the memorial flower.

What Does the Red Poppy Symbolize?

Before the advent of modern medicine, healers used plants and herbs to treat patients. Poppy seeds were commonly eaten as a pain reliever, thanks to their traces of morphine and codeine.

After the poem "In Flanders Field" evoked images of swaying poppies, the flower became a symbol of all those who died in WWI and, eventually, in other wars. The poppy's symbolism spread to include military service in general.



A Memorial Day parade in Gray, Maine features 17 empty chairs. Each is painted with a veteran's name and displays a helmet. The May 28, 1991 parade float represents Maine troops who are prisoners of war or missing in action.

CELEBRATE CINEMA WITH NYC'S TRIBECA FILM FEST

BY MABEL PAIS

Celebrate the continuation of Spring in NYC with the Tribeca Film Festival, June 7-18!

SCREENING WORLD PREMIERES:

INDIA'S big-budgeted visual feast ADIPURUSH



Adipurush

Photo credit / tribecafilm.com



American Sikh

Photo credit / tribecafilm.com

Director OM RAUT with Actors PRABHAS & KRITI SANON (Photos T 4 and T5 here) In the ESCAPE FROM TRIBECA Section

Co-Director VISHAVJIT SINGH'S AMERICAN SIKH Among ANIMATED SHORTS

South Asian House showcases the Indian diaspora varied artistic talents And many more

The 2023 Tribeca Festival, presented by OKX, gives us feature narrative, documentary, and animated films. The Festival, takes place June 7-18, showcases the best emerging talent from across the globe alongside established household names. Once again, movie fans can enjoy selections from the Tribeca Festival from the comfort of their homes immediately following the Festival, from June 19 through July 2,

via the "Tribeca at Home" online platform: tribecafilm.com.

The 2023 features program includes 109 feature films from 127 filmmakers across 36 countries. The lineup includes 93 world premieres, one international premiere, eight North American premieres, one U.S.

thrilling days, we invite audiences to explore the magic of storytelling as a powerful tool of democracy, activism, and social awareness," says Tribeca Festival Co-Founder and Tribeca Enterprises CEO Jane Rosenthal. "We're also proud to highlight the 50th anniversary of hip-hop as a culture-defining genre that originated right here in New York City, with insightful world premieres about beat-boxing legends and live performances from today's top-charting musicians."

This year's Festival commences on Wednesday, June 7 with the North American premiere of 'Kiss the Future,' a stirring documentary that follows the story of a community of underground musicians and creatives throughout the nearly four-year-long siege of Sarajevo, as well as the 1997 U2 concert celebrating the liberation of the Bosnian capital. The film serves as a testament to art's enduring ability to cast light even in the darkest of circumstances and reflects Tribeca's founding mission of utilizing the power of storytelling to heal communities. 'Kiss the Future,' produced by Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, and Sarah Anthony, and featuring U2's Bono, The Edge, and Adam Clayton, officially opens the 12-day festival and sets Tribeca's tone with its theme of artists-activists.

To close the Festival, Tribeca is commemorating the 30th anniversary of A Bronx Tale with a special screening of the classic film on Saturday, June 17. After the movie, the film's director and star Robert De Niro, producer Jane Rosenthal, and writer and co-star Chazz Palminteri are participating in a live conversation with the editor of The New Yorker David Remnick.

"A Bronx Tale is a very personal project that marked my directorial debut," said De Niro. "I'm pleased to celebrate its 30th anniversary at Tribeca with my longtime producing partner and Festival co-founder Jane Rosenthal, the wonderful Chazz Palminteri, and a live New York audience at the iconic Beacon Theatre."

This year's Centerpiece Gala is the New York premiere of Disney and Pixar's 'Elemental.' Set in Element City, where fire-, water-, earth- and air-residents live together, the film is about Ember, a fiery young woman, whose friendship with water-guy Wade challenges her beliefs about the world they live in and the person she wants to be. Directed by Peter Sohn, 'Elemental' is voiced by Catherine O'Hara, Leah Lewis, and Mamoudou Athie.

The remaining Gala selections include the world premieres of music documentaries about Grammy-winning artists Carlos Santana, Cyndi Lauper, and French Montana with dedicated performances by each artist after the screenings. Additionally, Grammy-winning Megan Thee Stallion is participating in a live conversation. The Gala events take place at the Beacon Theatre on Manhattan's Upper West Side.

"Music is an instrumental form of storytelling, and the Tribeca Festival is thrilled to weave dynamic performances into our Gala events. Our lineup features the best of soul, rock & roll, pop, and hip-hop," said Tribeca Festival Director and VP of Programming Cara Cusumano. "We are bringing to New York eye-popping 3D films and rousing music docs, white-knuckle thrillers and knee-slapping comedies, independent edge and old Hollywood glamour. And as potent as the work is on-screen, we are equally excited to 'plus up' the moviegoing experience off-screen with an incredible lineup of live experiences in 'Spotlight+.' "We hope our audiences are inspired by activism in art and riled up by the electrifying acts paired with the screenings."

2023 TRIBECA FESTIVAL FEATURE FILM LINEUP

U.S. NARRATIVE COMPETITION

Discover breakout independent voices from around the country as these extraordinary world premieres compete for honors in Tribeca's U.S. Narrative Competition.

Eight US films world premiere at the festival.

INTERNATIONAL NARRATIVE COMPETITION

The New-York based Festival breaks its geographical boundaries with the International Narrative Competition, welcoming filmmakers from abroad to join a global platform for contemporary world cinema.

Eight films from around the world premiere at Tribeca.

DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

Experience the cinema of reality with these remarkable non-fiction premieres sure to make waves in the coming year.

Twelve films premiere here.

SPOTLIGHT NARRATIVE

A launching pad for the most buzzworthy new films, Tribeca's Spotlight section brings audiences anticipated premieres from acclaimed filmmakers and star performers.

Twenty four films premiere here.

CONTD ON PAGE 21

CONTD FROM PAGE 20



Opening Night

Photo credit / tribecafilm.com

» SPOTLIGHT DOCUMENTARY

Both onscreen and behind the camera, Spotlight Documentary films represent the most noteworthy names in nonfiction premiering high profile new work.

Twenty six films premiere here.

» SPOTLIGHT+

Tribeca's unique Spotlight+ events bring the film experience off the screen with live events, performances, and conversations after each screening.

Eight films premiere here.

» VIEWPOINTS

Tribeca's home for distinct points of view and bold directorial visions, Viewpoints discovers the most boundary-pushing, rule-breaking new voices in independent film.

Twelve films premiere here.

» MIDNIGHT

Surprising, shocking, frightening, and thrilling, Tribeca Midnight is the destination for the best in horror and more for late night audiences.

Four films premiere here.

» ESCAPE FROM TRIBECA

Our Psychotronic Sidebar presenting genre movies from around the globe, giveaways, and special events sure to please even the rowdiest movie lovers.

Six films premiere here.

2023 TRIBECA FESTIVAL SHORT FILMS

There are 76 SHORT FILMS FROM 91 FILMMAKERS ACROSS 25 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING 48 WORLD PREMIERES

» NARRATIVE SHORTS

Forty two films are presented in this category.

» DOCUMENTARY SHORTS

Eighteen films are in this category.

» ANIMATED SHORTS

Tribeca's unique Spotlight+ events bring the film experience off the screen with live events, performances, and conversations after each screening.

Eight films are presented here.

» MUSIC VIDEOS

Eight music videos are featured in this category.

TALKS, REUNIONS & MASTERCLASS LINEUPS

"We are thrilled to unveil this year's dynamic lineup of Tribeca Festival's Talks, Reunions, and Master Classes from some of the most talented and celebrated voices in the entertainment industry," said Meredith Mohr, Tribeca's Vice President of Artist Relations. "We hope the extraordinary stories and valuable insights of these distinguished cultural icons will inspire and empower the next generation of creators and artists."

For information & updates, visit tribecafilm.com/festival

TRIBECA FESTIVAL DIRECTORS SERIES

Learn more at tribecafilm.com/festival.

Paula Weinstein, Tribeca's Chief Content Officer. "Harry inspired countless artists to use their fame and talent in the name of justice. He led by example and was a fearless warrior for civil rights. Jane Fonda, this year's recipient of the Harry Belafonte Voices for Social Justice Award, shares Harry's indefatigable commitment to activism. We are honored to have established this award in Harry's name to honor his ongoing legacy."

TICKETS

For more information, updates & individual tickets, passes & packages, visit tribecafilm.com/festival.

Follow @Tribeca and #Tribeca2023 on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

THE TRIBECA FESTIVAL

The Tribeca Festival, presented by OKX, brings artists and diverse audiences together to celebrate storytelling in all its forms, including film, TV, music, audio storytelling,



Centerpiece

Photo credit / tribecafilm.com

ANNIVERSARY SCREENING

Festival-goers are also invited to a 50th anniversary screening of the global phenomenon Enter the Dragon followed by a talk with co-star Angela Mao and producer Andre Morgan about superstar performer and choreographer Bruce Lee and the production of the film.

SPECIAL AWARD

The Tribeca Festival is also proud to announce that the second annual Human/Nature Award, a prize established to amplify a film that best exemplifies solution-oriented environmental storytelling, goes to Common Ground, directed by Rebecca and Josh Tickell, and will world premiere at the Festival.

THE HARRY BELAFONTE VOICES FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD

"As an artist, Harry Belafonte captivated audiences with his talent, but it was his work as an activist and mentor that truly set him apart," said

games, and XR. With strong roots in independent film, Tribeca is synonymous with creative expression and entertainment. Tribeca champions emerging and established voices, discovers award-winning talent, curates innovative experiences, and introduces new ideas through exclusive premieres, exhibitions, conversations, and live performances.

The Festival was founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal, and Craig Hatkoff in 2001 to spur the economic and cultural revitalization of lower Manhattan following the attacks on the World Trade Center.

In 2019, James Murdoch's Lupa Systems bought a majority stake in Tribeca Enterprises, bringing together Rosenthal, De Niro, and Murdoch to grow the enterprise.

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



Closing Night

Photo credit / tribecafilm.com

MPAC WITH CORNERSTONE LAUNCHES CREATIVE AGING ARTS PROGRAM

BY MABEL PAIS



MPAC-CORNERSTONE Adult Day Care Project
Photo Credit / mayoarts.org

The Mayo Performing Arts Center has launched a Creative Aging Arts program at the Cornerstone Adult Day Center in Morristown that will run through the end of June.

"MPAC thanks the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for providing the funding to launch this innovative

and exciting new program in partnership with Cornerstone Social Adult Day Center to engage our senior population in activities that stimulate creativity and self-expression," said Allison Larena President and CEO, MPAC.

MPAC Teaching Artist Dan Fenelon is working with senior citizens at the Cornerstone Adult Day Center in Morristown to create a mural using techniques they learn during 8-session residencies, which can accommodate up to 25 participants. Sessions are held twice a week for 90 minutes. The residencies are free of charge to both Cornerstone and its participants. The final mural will be installed and unveiled in early July.

The residency will enable participants to produce sophisticated artworks by learning how to create patterns and build complex shapes based on simple forms, and to enjoy a deep sense of relaxation as they become engrossed in the process. The final project will incorporate all the students' artwork into a community-based collage that will be mounted at the Cornerstone facility.

"We are so pleased to once again partner with our friends at Mayo Performing Arts Center to bring positive and enlivening experiences to our

clients," Cornerstone CEO Patrice Picard shared. "We seek to keep our seniors engaged, stimulated and active. Working with an artist to create something they'll enjoy seeing on the walls every day is truly special!"

While art making is the focus of the project, it will also include facilitation by Kadie Dempsey, Principal, Core Creative Placemaking, who will encourage participants to express their thoughts on the role of previous arts projects in their lives and what outcomes they hope to see in the finished product. Much like a quilting circle, the goal will be to work together towards a common goal while fostering a sense of shared purpose and encouraging storytelling by individuals in the group.

CORNERSTONE SOCIAL ADULT DAY CENTER:

Learn more at cornerstonefamilyprograms.org or call 973-326-7288.

THE MAYO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (MPAC)

Learn more at mayoarts.org.

CELEBRATE MPAC'S SEASON FINALE WITH CONCERTS AND FREE EVENTS

BY MABEL PAIS

A variety of concerts and free events end the entertainment season of the Mayo Arts Performing Center (MPAC) in June 2023. There are both ticketed and free events happening.

TICKETED MPAC EVENTS:

MATILDA THE MUSICAL



Matilda, the Musical, poster
Photo Credit / mayoarts.org

running approximately 2.5 hours, and is recommended for ages 6+.

HAPPY TOGETHER 2023

Friday, June 9 at 7:30 pm

An evening of hit after hit after hit that will have you heading home whistling the soundtrack of the 60s and 70s! Featuring The Turtles, Little Anthony ("Tears on My Pillow," "Goin' Out of My Head"), Gary Puckett & The Union Gap ("Young Girl"), The Classics IV ("Spooky," "Stormy"), The Vogues ("Turn Around, Look at Me," "Five O'Clock World") and The Cowsills ("Hair," "The Rain, The Park & Other Things").

MANHATTAN COMEDY NIGHT

Friday, June 16 at 8 pm

Get some comic relief with our popular stand-up series showcasing the rising stars of comedy. Mature content, language. Adults only.

ALMOST QUEEN

Saturday, June 17, 2023 at 8 pm

The most authentic Queen live show since the days of Queen themselves! Donning genuine costumes, and featuring signature four-part harmonies, Almost Queen captures the energy and precision that is the ultimate Queen experience.

BRUCE HORNSBY & THE NOISEMAKERS

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 7:30 pm

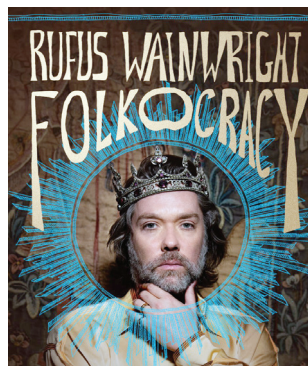
Bruce Hornsby first rose to prominence with The Way It Is, his 1986 Grammy-winning debut album. The 13-time Grammy nominee has sold over 11 million albums, and he has performed on releases with over 100 artists including Bob Dylan, The Grateful Dead and Willie Nelson, always seeking a unique and personal music path that sparks his creative interest.

THREE DOG NIGHT

Saturday, June 24, 2023 at 8 pm

Three Dog Night charted more Top 10 hits than any other music act from 1969-1974. Rock classics like "Joy to the World," "Black and White," "Shambala" and "One" crystallize Three Dog Night's continuing popularity as a legendary rock band.

RUFUS WAINWRIGHT: FOLKOCRACY TOUR



Folkocracy
Photo Credit / mayoarts.org

Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 8 pm

(Photo N 3 here)

One of the great male vocalists and songwriters of his generation, Rufus Wainwright performs music from his upcoming release 'Folkocracy,' in which he revisits his roots, of childhood summers spent at folk festivals and watching his famous family on stage. Featuring Lucy

Wainwright Roche and Petra Haden on back-up vocals and a four-piece band, the 'Folkocracy' tour showcases Wainwright's extraordinary vocal range and depth of interpretation. "Nobody sings quite like Rufus Wainwright" - The New Yorker

MPAC ARTS IN THE COMMUNITY FREE CONCERTS:

Wednesday, June 14 at 6 pm

MPAC MUSIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH RECITAL:

Location: Vail Mansion Plaza

Students from Morris County schools honored as MPAC Music Students of the Month throughout this past season showcase their talents.

Wednesday, June 28 at 6 pm

John McDermott Band's Sixties Rock & Roll Revue

Location: Pioneer Park

The John McDermott Band performs the iconic hits and music of the 1960s.

TICKETS

For tickets to one or more events, visit MayoArts.org, or call the box office at 973-539-8008. NOTE: All Programs Are Subject to Change.

THE MAYO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (MPAC)

The Mayo Performing Arts Center presents a wide range of programs that entertain, enrich, and educate the diverse population of the region and enhance the economic vitality of Northern New Jersey. Mayo Performing Arts Center was named 2016 Outstanding Historic Theatre by the League of Historic American Theatres, and is ranked in the top 50 mid-sized performing arts centers by Pollstar Magazine.

CONNECT WITH MPAC

THE MAYO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

100 South St., Morristown, NJ 07960

Box office (973) 539-8008

Online: www.mayoarts.org

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/MayoPerformingArtsCenter>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mayopac/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MayoCenter>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MayoCenter>

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

Pakistani TV journalist who supports Imran Khan goes missing, second such case in two weeks

ISLAMABAD (TIP): A prominent Pakistani television journalist known for his public support of former Prime Minister Imran Khan has gone missing, the police, his family and his employer said.

Sami Abraham's disappearance was first announced in a police tweet late May 24, hours after he went missing.

His family and the Karachi-based independent BOL television, where Abraham works, claimed on Thursday that he had been abducted.

Abraham has long publicly opposed the government of Khan's successor, Premier Shahbaz Sharif.

Khan, a former cricket star turned Islamist politician, was in office from 2018-2022 and was ousted in a no-confidence vote in the parliament last year.

In a news announcement, BOL TV said Abraham was taken by unidentified men on Wednesday.

Abraham's brother, Ali Raza, filed a police complaint claiming that eight people in four vehicles intercepted his brother's car on his way back home from



work in the capital, Islamabad, and took him away.

His driver was unharmed.

The police tweeted they would do their best to find the well-known TV reporter.

Abraham's disappearance comes two weeks after another pro-Khan TV journalist, Imran Riaz, went missing.

Pakistani police have denied detaining him.

Reporters Without Borders - the international media watchdog also known by its French acronym RSF -

expressed concern on Tuesday for Riaz's safety.

In a statement, it urged Pakistan's government "to ensure respect for the rule of law by immediately revealing where and in what conditions he is being held."

Earlier this month, Khan's supporters clashed for days with police across Pakistan, attacking public property" including a radio station in the northwestern city of Peshawar " and military installations, angered by his arrest from a courtroom in Islamabad.

The violence only subsided after Khan was released on a Supreme Court order.

Khan has repeatedly accused Washington, Sharif and the Pakistani military of being behind his ouster - charges that all three have denied - and has been leading an opposition campaign against the government, demanding early elections.

Since the violent protests, Sharif's government has cracked down on Khan's supporters, arresting more than 5,000 and threatening trials before military courts. (PTI)

IMRAN KHAN, WIFE BARRED FROM LEAVING THE COUNTRY: PAK MEDIA

ISLAMABAD (TIP) : Pakistan's government has barred former prime minister Imran Khan and his wife along with at least 80 people from leaving the country, a media report said on May 25. Khan and several top leaders of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party are facing cases following the violence after he was arrested on May 9 in a corruption case.

"The federal government has decided to add the names of 80 people, including PTI Chairman Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi, to the no-fly list," the Samaa News channel reported.

However, there was no official confirmation on the development from Khan's party. In addition to Khan and Bushra, those included in the no-fly list and barred from travelling abroad include PTI leaders Murad Saeed, Maleeka Bukhari, Fawad Chaudhry and Hammad Azhar, Qasim Suri, Asad Qaiser, Yasmin Rashid and Mian Aslam, the channel said. Fawad Chaudhry has already quit the party but his name has been listed among those who cannot fly out of Pakistan.

The names of all the PTI leaders were put in the list on the recommendation of the "institutions concerned", the news channel reported. It said that the police department, National Accountability Bureau and the anti-corruption department had requested the Ministry of Interior to include these names to the no-fly list. (Reuters)

Sri Lanka decries Canadian PM Trudeau's 'Tamil Genocide' comment on 14th War Heroes Day

COLOMBO (TIP) : Sri Lanka has summoned the Canadian High Commissioner here and registered a strong protest over Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's "Tamil Genocide" comment on the 14th anniversary of the end of the brutal civil war in the island nation.

The bitterly-fought conflict, which began in 1983, came to an end on May 18, 2009, with Sri Lanka's military killing the supremo of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) Velupillai Prabhakaran.

LTTE fought an armed conflict for a separate homeland for the minority Tamils. On Thursday, Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau said tens of thousands of Tamils lost their lives, including at the massacre in Mullivaikal, with many more missing, injured, or displaced.

PEACE CAN'T BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED

The stories of Tamil-Canadians affected by the conflict serve as an enduring reminder that human rights, peace and democracy cannot be taken for granted. — Justin Trudeau, Canadian Prime Minister

"Our thoughts are with the victims, survivors, and their loved ones, who continue to live with the pain caused by this senseless violence," Trudeau said.

"The stories of Tamil-Canadians affected by the conflict — including

many I have met over the years in communities across the country — serve as an enduring reminder that human rights, peace, and democracy cannot be taken for granted," Trudeau said.

"THAT'S WHY PARLIAMENT LAST YEAR UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED THE MOTION TO MAKE MAY 18 TAMIL GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY. CANADA WILL NOT STOP ADVOCATING FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF THIS CONFLICT, AS WELL AS FOR ALL IN SRI LANKA WHO CONTINUE TO FACE HARDSHIP," HE ADDED.

Sri Lanka's Ministry of Foreign Affairs rejected Trudeau's statements, asserting that they contained outrageous claims of genocide relating to past conflicts in the country. Subsequently, the foreign ministry summoned Canadian High Commissioner in Colombo Eric Walsh and registered a strong protest over Trudeau's remarks.

"Such irresponsible and polarising pronouncements by the leader of a nation breeds disharmony and hatred both in Canada and Sri Lanka, instead of promoting peace and reconciliation," the foreign ministry said. (PTI)

SHERPA KAMI RITA SCALES MT EVEREST FOR 28TH TIME, SETS NEW WORLD RECORD

KATHMANDU (TIP): Veteran mountaineer Kami Rita Sherpa scaled Mt Everest for a record 28th time on May 23, breaking his own record with the highest number of ascends on the world's highest peak, less than a week after setting it.

The 53-year-old record-holding mountain guide stood atop the 8848.86 metres-high peak at around 9:20 am Tuesday, according to Chhang Dawa Sherpa, Expedition Manager of the Seven Summit Trek, who organised the expedition.

This was Kami Rita's double ascent of Mt Everest this spring, as he previously scaled Mt Everest for the 27th time on May 17.

Kami Rita regained the title for the most number of climbs, a day after another veteran Sherpa guide Pasang Dawa equalled his previous record.

A resident of Solukhumbu district in eastern Nepal, Kami Rita first reached Everest on May 13, 1994. He works as a senior climbing guide at the Kathmandu-based Seven Summit Treks and has also scaled other famous peaks above 8,000 metres, including Mt K2, Mt Lhotse, Mt Manaslu and Mt Cho Oyu. (PTI)

AFGHAN MILITARY COPTER CRASHES, 2 PILOTS KILLED



KABUL (TIP) : An Afghan military helicopter crashed in the country's north on May 21 after hitting a power line base, killing two pilots, the Defence Ministry said.

The MD-530 chopper was patrolling in the area after it took off from northern Balkh province and crashed in the Kholm district in Samangan province, a ministry statement said. Officials said the chopper hit the base of a high voltage power line before crashing.

It's unclear how many helicopters, including US choppers, are in the hands of the Taliban-run government. As the US-backed Afghan government collapsed in mid-August 2021, dozens of Afghan pilots fled to Central Asian countries, including Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Afghan air force pilots played a key role, alongside their US counterparts, in the 20-year war against Taliban insurgents. — Agencies



Om Shanti Om actor Nitesh Pandey dies of suspected heart attack in a hotel

Actor Nitesh Pandey, who is known for his role in Om Shanti Om, died in Nashik. As per reports, he died of a heart attack at the age of 50 on Wednesday, May 24. Taking to Twitter, actor Gulshan Devaiah shared a picture of Nitesh and paid tribute. He wrote, "Nitesh Pandey: 17 January 1973- 23 May 2023 Goodbye sir (folded hands emoji)."

As per news agency ANI, Nitesh was found dead at a hotel in Igatpuri, Nashik in Maharashtra. Prima facie, the cause of death seems to be a heart attack. A police team is currently present at the hotel and an investigation is underway. The report of his postmortem is awaited. As per ANI, the questioning of hotel staff and people close to him is being done.

Filmmaker Hansal Mehta tweeted, "Three young persons. Three actors. Passed away in a span of 3-4 days. Rest In Peace dear colleagues. This is such an unkind time. Prayers with their grieving families. #AdityaSinghRajput #VaibhaviUpadhyay #NiteshPandey."

Cannes 2023: Behold The Glory Of Sunny Leone At Kennedy Screening

This is Sunny Leone's year and she is owning it and how. After a magnificent debut at the Cannes Film Festival in a gorgeous maroon velvet gown, Bollywood actress Sunny Leone walked the red carpet at the screening of her film Kennedy in a flowy high-slit pastel gown. The actress was accompanied by Kennedy director Anurag Kashyap and her co-star Rahul Bhat as she made a dramatic entry. Sharing her pictures with her Instafam, the actress wrote, "The world premiere of #kennedy and I could not be more proud to represent Indian cinema. Such an amazing moment for myself and the entire team!"

On Thursday, May 25, Sunny Leone also treated her fans to a picture of herself with director Anurag Kashyap and co-star Rahul Bhat at the screening of Kennedy. Sharing the images, Sunny Leone wrote a note of gratitude to her director and co-star for being a part of "the proudest moment" of her career so far. Sunny Leone's heartfelt note read, "The proudest moment of my career so far! Thank you Anurag Kashyap for this moment! And Rahul Bhat for letting me share the screen with you in this amazing performance! Love you both!"

On Wednesday, May 24, night, the Jism star made her debut at the prestigious film festival in a maroon velvet gown. The actress completed her look by wearing minimal jewellery while keeping her hair open.

Before her red carpet moment, the actress in an interview with PTI, disclosed how she came about auditioning for Kennedy and eventually bagged the role. She said, "Ten people were sitting there. I gave the audition. The director said you are right for the role and then turned to all the others and asked what they felt. That was a real test." Sunny added.



Manoj Bajpayee reacts to reports about his net worth being Rs 170 crore

Manoj Bajpayee is being praised for his performance in the recently-released courtroom-drama Sirf Ek Bandaa Kaafi Hai. The actor, who is known for films such as Satya (1998), was asked about his net worth in a new interview. Manoj gave a shocked reaction to reports that claim he has a Rs 170 crore net worth.

Manoj has been acting in films for nearly three decades. He has also featured in web series such as Prime Video's The Family Man. While speaking about his net worth in a recent interview, Manoj said he had earned enough to secure a comfortable future for him, his wife Shabana Raza and their daughter Ava Nayla.

In a recent interview with Aaj Tak, Manoj was asked about his net worth, and he reacted with shock on hearing it was reportedly around Rs 170 crore. He said, "Baap re baap! Aligarh aur Gali Guleiyan karke? Bilkul nahi hai par haan itna zaroor hai bhagwan ki daya se ki mera aur meri patni ka budhapa ache se guzar jayega aur meri beti set ho jayegi (Oh my God! By doing films like Aligarh and Gali Guleiyan? Absolutely not! However, through the grace of God, I have enough for my wife and me to live comfortably and my daughter will be well looked after)."



Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani first look posters out

Earlier this year, filmmaker Karan Johar completed the shoot of his upcoming directorial venture Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani. The family drama features Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt in lead roles. On Thursday, May 24, the cast and makers released Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani's first look. This is Karan's first film as a director since 2016's Ae Dil Hai Mushkil. In the poster, Ranveer wore funky sunglasses and a gold chain around his neck. He also showed his ripped body in the almost bare-chested image as he wore an animal printed shirt and gave a goofy expression. In another poster, Ranveer Singh wore a studded leather jacket. Alia Bhatt sported kohl-rimmed eyes, black bindi and a huge nose ring in the first look posters of her Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani avatar. Sharing her images on Instagram, Karan wrote, "Ladies and gentlemen, the queen is here to steal your hearts - meet Rani!"





Tom Hanks, Rita Wilson get in heated exchange with man at Cannes Film Fest

Hollywood star Tom Hanks and his wife Rita Wilson were involved in a tense exchange with a man at the Cannes Film Festival.

The actor and his wife seemingly scolded an employee as they attended the premiere of his new movie 'Asteroid City', reports aceshowbiz.com.

On Tuesday, May 23, the pair walked the red carpet together to support the special screening of Wes Anderson's film. In photos which have circulated online, the Oscar winner was seen furiously pointing his finger at the younger man and making a stern face while his wife was also holding her hand up in front of her as she spoke to the man. It's not clear what they were discussing, but the man was also seen gesturing at Hanks as he posed with his 'Asteroid City' co-stars on the red carpet. Despite the apparent misunderstanding, Hanks and Wilson continued to trek down the red carpet and were all smiles as they posed together on the stairs before heading inside the venue. The two were also seen dancing together as they reunited on the red carpet after posing for the cameras separately.

Things are still not back to normal between Megan Fox and Machine Gun Kelly: Report

Amid reports of strain in their relationship, Megan Fox and Machine Gun Kelly (MGK) are trying to keep the ship afloat. The couple had met in March 2020 on the sets of crime thriller *Midnight in the Switchgrass*, and then started dating. In May 2020, Megan starred in MGK's music video "Bloody Valentine" and in 2022, they got engaged. In August 2022, trouble started in their relationship and it has been a rollercoaster since then.

According to a source quoted by *People*, the couple are back together after recent problems in their relationship which also involved them taking a break in March this year.

"They are back together. They have explored therapy," a source was quoted as saying by *People*.

"Things are still not back to normal though," the source added.

The source also informed that Megan and MGK were earlier planning to get married but not anymore.

"They don't have a wedding date. Megan still seems hesitant," said the source. "She has just put so much time into their relationship. It's hard for her to let go," said the source.

Notably, in February 2023, Megan had deleted her Instagram account after posting a cryptic message which had sparked breakup rumours about her from MGK. Same month, Megan and MGK were spotted heading to a marriage counseling office. In March, 2023, the couple took a break from their



relationship, but stayed in contact. Later in April 2023, they vacationed together in Hawaii.

Very recently, when Megan featured as a cover girl on the *Sports Illustrated's* annual Swimsuit Issue, MGK was present at the launch to support his girlfriend.

"He's doing whatever he can to get her

back, and she's making him work for it. It's still an unhealthy dynamic though, and their friends just don't see this lasting. He has a lot of proving himself to do, and he doesn't want to give her up. He is great with her kids and super hands on. It's a work in progress," an insider had told *People* after the *SI* event.

Source: HT

UK Indian actress Indira Varma cast in of 'Doctor Who'

Game of Thrones actress Indira Varma, whom many will remember for her steamy debut in Mira Nair's "Kama Sutra: A Tale of Love", is joining the new series of "Doctor Who", the BBC hardy perennial which has been on air since 1963.

According to 'Variety', Varma will be seen as the Duchess, described by the BBC as a "mysterious new role". She was previously a part of the "Doctor Who" universe as Suzie Costello in Russell T. Davies' spin-off series "Torchwood".

Varma's recent roles include the Netflix show "Obsession" and the Disney+ Star Wars franchise series "Obi-Wan Kenobi". She won an Olivier, Britain's highest award for professional theatre, for her role in "Present Laughter", Noel Coward's luminous 1943 comedy staged at the Old Vic in 2019.

"Doctor Who" began in 1963 and follows the adventures of a Time Lord known as The Doctor, an extraterrestrial being with a human appearance. The Doctor travels the universe in a time-travelling spaceship called the Tardis, notes 'Variety'.

Jodie Whittaker, the 13th Doctor in the series, regenerated last year, revealing David Tennant, who was the 10th Doctor, as the 14th Doctor. The series returns in November, with Tennant as the Doctor and three special episodes to coincide with the show's 60th anniversary.

The next Doctor, played by "Sex Education" star Ncuti



Gatwa, will take control of the Tardis after Tennant. Gatwa's first episode as the 15th Doctor will air over the festive period.

Jinkx Monsoon, winner of the fifth season of "RuPaul's Drag Race" and the seventh season of "RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars", has also been added to the cast as has "Glee" star Jonathan Groff. Source: IANS

Fast X races to No. 1 at box office

The 10th installment of the "Fast and Furious" franchise was off to the races this weekend, knocking "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3" out of first place and easily claiming the No. 1 spot at the box office. "Fast X" earned \$67.5 million in ticket sales from 4,046 North American theaters, according to estimates from Universal Pictures on Sunday.

It's on the lower end of openings for the series which peaked with "Furious 7's" \$142.2 million launch, the sole movie in the series to surpass \$100 million out of the gates. "Fast X's" domestic debut only ranks above the first three. The last movie, "F9," opened to \$70 million in 2021. But this is also a series that has usually made the bulk of its money internationally, often over 70%. True to form, overseas it's on turbo drive. "Fast X" opened in 84 markets internationally, playing in over 24,000 theaters, where it earned an estimated \$251.4 million. The top market was China with \$78.3 million, followed by Mexico with \$16.7 million.



GREEK CARETAKER PRIME MINISTER SWORN IN, TO HEAD GOVERNMENT UNTIL NEW NATIONAL ELECTIONS

ATHENS, GREECE (TIP): Senior judge Ioannis Sarmas was sworn in May 25 as Greece's caretaker Prime Minister who will head the country until new national elections are held in about a month.

Sarmas, 66, took over from center-right Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, who won a landslide victory in parliamentary elections on May 21 but was unable to form a government. Although his New Democracy party beat the leftwing main opposition Syriza by 20 points — the biggest margin in 50 years — the one-off electoral system left it five seats short of a majority in the 300-seat Parliament. Syriza and the third-placed Pasok Socialists also proved unable to form a coalition. Therefore new elections will be held, with June 25 seen as the likeliest date, under a different electoral system which gives the first party up to 50 extra seats in Parliament. Mitsotakis hopes that vote will secure him a governing majority.

Sarmas will head a 16-member caretaker government, in which a former Greek ambassador to the US, Vassilios Kaskarelis, will be Foreign Minister. The key finance ministry will be headed by economist Theodore Pelagidis, deputy governor of Greece's central bank. (AP)

Man arrested after car rams into gates of Downing Street where UK Prime Minister lives

LONDON (TIP): A car collided May 25 with the gates of Downing Street in central London, where the British prime minister's home and offices are located, setting off a rapid security response in one of London's most-fortified sites.

The Metropolitan Police force said a man was arrested Thursday afternoon at the scene on suspicion of criminal damage and dangerous driving. There were no reports of injuries.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak was in his office at the time.

Video footage posted on social media showed a white car heading straight for the gates at low speed across Whitehall, the main thoroughfare in London's government district.

Footage shot soon after showed a car with its trunk open up against the tall metal gates, as police officers inspected the vehicle.

It was not immediately clear whether the crash was deliberate. Police said they were working to establish the circumstances.

"I heard a bang and looked up and saw loads of police with taser guns shouting at the man," said witness Simon Parry, 44. "A lot of police vehicles came very quickly and were very quick to evacuate



the area."

The BBC showed a photo of officers leading away a man with handcuffed hands behind his back.

Officers cordoned off Whitehall after the crash but began to lift the barriers within half an hour, allowing people back into Whitehall, which normally teems with civil servants and tourists keen to see the nearby Houses of Parliament and other historic buildings.

Downing Street is a narrow street with a row of Georgian houses that includes the prime minister's official residence at

No. 10.

Public access to the street is restricted and the gates are protected at all times by armed police officers.

The gates were erected in 1989 in response to threats from Irish Republican Army militants. In 1991 the IRA fired three mortars at the street, one of which exploded in the backyard of No. 10 while Prime Minister John Major was leading a Cabinet meeting inside. Three police officers and a civil servant suffered minor injuries. (AP)

One of Rwanda's most wanted genocide suspects arrested in South Africa after 22 years on run

CAPE TOWN (TIP): One of the most wanted suspects in Rwanda's genocide, a man suspected of orchestrating the killing of more than 2,000 people, has been arrested in South Africa after 22 years on the run, a special tribunal set up by the United Nations said on May 25.

"Yesterday afternoon, Fulgence Kayishema — one of the world's most wanted genocide fugitives — was arrested in Paarl, South Africa in a joint operation," the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (MICT) said in a statement.

He was captured in a joint operation by the tribunal's fugitive tracking team and South African authorities, the tribunal said.

MORE THAN 800,000 PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN RWANDA'S GENOCIDE, WHICH TOOK PLACE OVER THE COURSE OF THREE MONTHS IN 1994 WHEN ETHNIC HUTUS TURNED ON THE MINORITY TUTSIS, SLAUGHTERING THEM AND MODERATE HUTUS WHO TRIED TO PROTECT THEM.

Kayishema was indicted by the UN's



International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in 2001 and charged with genocide, complicity in genocide, conspiracy to commit genocide and crimes against humanity for killings and other crimes.

He and others allegedly murdered more than 2,000 Tutsi men, women and children who had taken refuge in a Catholic church in Nyange in Kivumu district.

"Kayishema directly participated in the planning and execution of this massacre, including by procuring and distributing petrol to burn down the

church with the refugees inside," the statement said.

"When this failed, Kayishema and others used a bulldozer to collapse the church, burying and killing the refugees inside.

"Kayishema and others then supervised the transfer of corpses from the church grounds into mass graves."

"Fulgence Kayishema was a fugitive for more than 20 years. His arrest ensures that he will finally face justice for his alleged crimes," IRMCT chief prosecutor Serge Brammertz said in a statement. (AP)

SOUTH KOREA, US TROOPS HOLD LARGE LIVE-FIRE DRILLS NEAR BORDER WITH NORTH KOREA

SEOUL (TIP): The South Korean and U.S. militaries conducted large live-fire drills near the border with North Korea on May 25, despite North Korea's warning that it won't tolerate what it calls an invasion rehearsal on its doorstep.

The drills, the first of five rounds of live-fire exercises through mid-June, mark 70 years since the establishment of the military alliance between Seoul and Washington. North Korea typically reacts to such major South Korean-U.S. exercises with missile and other weapons tests.

Since the start of 2022, North Korea has test-launched more than 100 missiles, but none since it fired a solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile in mid-April.

It says the tests are a response to expanded military drills between the U.S. and South Korea, but observers say North Korea aims to advance its weapons development and then wrest greater concessions from its rivals in eventual diplomacy.

The U.S.-South Korean firing exercises, called "Combined annihilation firepower drills," are the biggest of their kind. (AP)

Turkish voters weigh final decision on next president as Erdogan bids to retain power

ANKARA (TIP): Two opposing visions for Turkey's future are on the ballot when voters return to the polls on May 22 for a runoff presidential election that will decide between an increasingly authoritarian incumbent and a challenger who has pledged to restore democracy.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, a populist and polarising leader who has ruled Turkey for 20 years, is well positioned to win after falling just short of victory in the first round of balloting on May 14.

He was the top finisher even as the country reeled from sky-high inflation and the effects of a devastating earthquake in February.

Kemal Kilicdaroglu, the leader of Turkey's pro-secular main opposition party and a six-party alliance, has campaigned on a promise to undo Erdogan's authoritarian tilt.

The 74-year-old former bureaucrat has described the runoff as a referendum on the direction of the strategically located NATO country, which is at the crossroads of Europe and Asia and has a key say over the alliance's expansion.

"This is an existential struggle. Turkey will either be dragged into darkness or light," Kilicdaroglu said.

"This is more than an election. It has turned into a referendum."

In a bid to sway nationalist voters ahead of Sunday's runoff, the normally soft-mannered Kilicdaroglu (pronounced KEH-lich-DAHR-OH-loo) shifted gears and hardened his stance, vowing to send



back millions of refugees if he is elected and rejecting any possibility of peace negotiations with Kurdish militants.

The social democrat had previously said he planned to repatriate Syrians within two years, after establishing economic and safety conditions conducive to their return.

He has also repeatedly called on 8 million people who stayed away from the polls in the first round to cast votes in the make-or-break runoff.

Erdogan scored 49.5 per cent of the vote in the first round. Kilicdaroglu received 44.9 per cent.

At 69, Erdogan is already Turkey's longest-serving leader, having ruled over the country as prime minister since 2003 and as president since 2014.

He could remain in power until 2028 if reelected.

Under Erdogan, Turkey has proven to be an indispensable and sometimes

troublesome NATO ally.

It vetoed Sweden's bid to join the alliance and purchased Russian missile defence systems, which prompted the United States to oust Turkey from a US-led fighter jet project.

Yet together with the UN, Turkey also brokered a vital deal that allowed Ukraine to ship grain through the Black Sea to parts of the world struggling with hunger.

This week, Erdogan received the endorsement of the nationalist third-place candidate, Sinan Ogan, who garnered 5.2 per cent of the vote.

The move was seen as a boost for Erdogan even though Ogan's supporters are not a monolithic bloc and not all of his votes are expected to go to Erdogan.

Erdogan's nationalist-Islamist alliance also retained its hold on parliament in legislative elections two weeks ago, further increasing his chances for reelection as many voters are likely to

want to avoid a split government.

On Wednesday, the leader of a hard-line anti-migrant party that had backed Ogan threw its weight behind Kilicdaroglu after the two signed a protocol pledging to send back millions of migrants and refugees within the year.

Kilicdaroglu's chances of turning the vote around in his favour appear to be slim but could hinge on the opposition's ability to mobilise voters who did not cast ballots in the first round.

"It's not possible to say that the odds are favouring him, but nevertheless, technically, he stands a chance," said Professor Serhat Guvenc of Istanbul's Kadir Has University.

If the opposition can reach the voters who previously stayed home, "it may be a different story."

In Istanbul, 45-year-old Serra Ural accused Erdogan of mishandling the economy and said she would vote for Kilicdaroglu.

She also expressed concerns over the rights of women after Erdogan extended his alliance to include Huda-Par, a hard-line Kurdish Islamist political party with alleged links to a group that was responsible for a series of gruesome killings in the 1990s.

The party wants to abolish mixed-gender education, advocates for the criminalisation of adultery and says women should prioritize their homes over work.

"We don't know what will happen to women tomorrow or the next day, what condition they'll be in," she said. (AP)

Three dead in central Japan after being attacked by man carrying rifle, knife

TOKYO (TIP): Three people including two police officers were killed in Nagano in central Japan on May 25 and a suspect with a rifle and knife was holed up inside a building, according to police and media reports.

A witness told NHK public television that a woman fell while being chased by the suspect, who then stabbed her with a knife and shot at two police officers as they arrived at the scene in a patrol car in Nakano city in Nagano prefecture.

The witness said he asked the suspect why he attacked her, and he replied that he wanted to kill her, NHK said.

The three victims were taken to a nearby hospital, where the woman was later pronounced dead, police said. The two police officers also died, according to NHK. A fourth person who was injured could not be rescued because he was near the suspect, Kyodo News agency reported.

Video on NHK showed police wearing bulletproof vests and carrying shields, with an ambulance nearby. The area is in a quiet farming neighborhood.

Police described the suspect as a man



wearing a camouflage outfit, a hat, a mask and sunglasses, Kyodo News said. City officials urged those in the area to stay home.

No other details, including about the suspect and the motive, were immediately known.

Violent crimes are rare in Japan. It has strict gun control laws and only a handful of gun-related crimes annually. But in recent years, there have been some high-profile cases involving random knifings on subways and arson attacks, and there is growing concern about homemade guns and explosives. (AP)

Head of Russian private army Wagner says his forces are handing control of Bakhmut to Moscow

KYIV (TIP): The head of the Russian private military contractor Wagner claimed on May 25 that his forces have started pulling out of Bakhmut, in eastern Ukraine, and handing over control to the Russian military, days after he said Wagner troops had captured the ruined city.

Yevgeny Prigozhin, Wagner's millionaire owner with longtime links to Russian President Vladimir Putin, said in a video published on Telegram that the handover would be completed by June 1.

There was no immediate comment from the Russian defense ministry.

It was not possible to independently verify whether Wagner's pullout from the bombed-out city has begun, and the Ukrainian General Staff said on Wednesday that heavy fighting was continuing inside the eastern city after a nine-month battle that killed tens of thousands of people.

Prigozhin's Bakhmut triumph delivered a badly needed victory for Putin, whose invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 has lost momentum and

now faces the possibility of a Ukrainian counteroffensive using advanced weapons supplied by Kyiv's Western allies.

Top Ukrainian presidential advisor Mykhailo Podolyak said on Thursday that Ukraine's counteroffensive was already underway, cautioning that it should not be anticipated as a "single event" starting "at a specific hour of a specific day."

WRITING ON TWITTER, PODOLYAK SAID THAT "DOZENS OF DIFFERENT ACTIONS TO DESTROY RUSSIAN OCCUPATION FORCES" HAD "ALREADY BEEN TAKING PLACE YESTERDAY, ARE TAKING PLACE TODAY AND WILL CONTINUE TOMORROW."

Prigozhin has a long-running feud with the Russian military leadership, dating back to Wagner's creation.

He has also built a reputation for inflammatory -and often unverifiable- headline-grabbing statements. (AP)

Happy Life Yoga Celebrates National Nurses Week at Lincoln Hospital NYC 2023

MAY 23, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP) : Tirlok Malik, Emmy-nominated filmmaker and Happy Life Yoga speaker shared a highly interactive and informative session with the Nurses, Doctors, Administrators & staff at NYC Health + Hospitals/Lincoln Hospital. On the occasion of National Nurses Week, 2023, the whole team expressed their experience as an "absolute happy time with the incredible Happy Life Yoga creator Tirlok Malik, who made us all burst into roaring laughs while sharing life advice rooted in practical ways of living, Indian Philosophy and Ayurveda. All the doctors, nurses and the entire community of the front-line workers at NYCHHC/Lincoln Hospital were grateful to celebrate this event!"

Tara Sajan, Director of Nursing and Behavioral Health was the program's MC. The event was opened by Christopher Roker, CEO of NYCHHC/Lincoln Hospital, and Lillian Diaz, Deputy Executive Director & Chief Nurse Executive at NYCHHC/Lincoln Hospital. A closing speech of thanks was by Frankie Hamilton, Deputy Director of Ambulatory Care Services at



Tirlok Malik, the Happy Life Yoga creator, held a session with the medical fraternity at NYC Health + Hospitals/Lincoln Hospital

NYCHHC/Lincoln Hospital. Esteemed medical professionals Greta Bayne, Valerie St. Louis, Monica Anderson, Kencle Satchell, and Cheryl Simmons-Oliver were also present in the audience, among many others.

The event was energetic, knowledgeable, inspiring, and celebratory in nature. While highlighting the growing importance of being responsible for your own health and happiness in today's time, Malik emphasized "I love myself, I love

myself." Because if you love yourself, you will take responsibility for your own health and happiness. Malik explained his vision behind Happy Life Yoga and its underlying philosophy, "A way of living inspired by the wisdom of Ayurveda, Yoga and Indian Philosophy, Happy Life Yoga is beneficial for one and all." He guarantees that if you follow his workshop tools you will find a way to live happier and healthier, by yourself.

One of the major highlights of the

Happy Life Yoga event was the knowledge sessions moderated by Malik who is known for his ability to engage with his audience using the right mix of banter and substance.

Happy Life Yoga is the creation of Tirlok Malik. It is essentially an educational platform that offers a uniquely practical approach to health and happiness using tools from Ayurveda, Indian Philosophy, and Yoga to help better manage modern-day challenges such as work, finances, relationships, family, and other social pressures. It was launched in June 2019 in New York, featuring the chief guest Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President. Since then, Malik has done many sessions of Happy Life Yoga with professionals, college students, senior citizens, and people of all nationalities and professions. Malik's portfolio of work has won many awards and has been acclaimed by the media and people worldwide. Through his work, he intends to inspire others to live happier and healthier lives and the journey continues. Malik looks forward to continuing to bring Happy Life Yoga to people across the world.

Mahavir Jayanti celebrated at the Indian Consulate



Deputy Consul General Dr. Varun Jeph lighting the lamp



Dr. Varun Jeph giving his remarks



Guest speakers Samniji Nirdeshika Kamal Pragya and Samniji Karuna Pragya giving a talk

MAY 24, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP): The Consulate General of India, NY and International Ahimsa Foundation Inc. in partnership with JITO USA (Jain International Trade Org - USA), and JAINA (Federation of Jain Associations in NA), hosted Mahavir Jayanti, Lord Mahavir's 2621st birth anniversary Celebration on Saturday, May 20th, 2023, at the Ballroom of the Consulate General of India in NY. The event also celebrated India's yearlong initiative: Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (75 years of India's independence). The program was attended by about 200 guests.

The event was graced by many dignitaries and community leaders. Deputy Consul General of India Dr. Varun Jeph In his keynote address said : " Lets bring more of Lord Mahavir's message of Ahimsa & Satya (truthfulness) in our lives. " Congressman Gregory W. Meeks sent his best wishes via a video message. He said that this year's occasion will bring together the community to honor Lord Mahavir's principles of non-violence and peace." Former Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney also emphasized the



Honorees with Deputy Consul General Dr. Varun Jeph and organizers

importance of "Live and Let Live" in today's time, a teaching of Lord Mahavir. NYS Assemblyman David Weprin was represented by his Chief of Staff David Sprea and was also joined by Ms. Miosotis Munoz, Deputy Commissioner of External affairs, NYC Mayor's Office of Immigration Affairs. She also mentioned that Mayor Adams truly believes in non-violence. Democratic District Leader Gurdip Singh Narula also attended the event.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our esteemed guest speakers, Samniji Nirdeshika Kamal Pragya and Samniji Karuna Pragya, for their blessings and enlightening talks. Their profound insights and teachings on non-violence were truly educative.

Dr. Neeta Jain, Founder and President of International Ahimsa Foundation Inc. dwelt on Lord Mahavir's life She stressed on teaching children the 5 Jain principles to make the world a better place to live in.



A dance performance by Little Ustad Arts

She further mentioned that Lord Mahavir is the one that told the world that "Non-Violence is the Supreme Religion and it's more relevant in today's world than ever before. We should pass on Mahavir's teachings to our next generation so they can learn how to adopt the virtues of non-violence in their lives and make this world a better place to live in peace and harmony."

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR
BEJAN DARUWALLA

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

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - MAY 29, 2023 TO JUNE 4, 2023



Aries

ARIES : Ganesha says, this week, you will shine brighter than anybody around. Your level of performance will improve, allowing you to achieve all of your objectives. At home, everything will be tranquil and back to normal.

Your efforts will be seen in the outcomes in a professional atmosphere. You'll begin to carve out a new path and launch a new business. You're going down the correct path, so don't worry. As one of your longtime pals seeks to create a special relationship, your romantic life will begin an entirely fresh phase this week. Couples who are married will finally have some quality time with their spouse this week after waiting just a little bit more. In terms of health, you'll have heat stroke fever this week.



Taurus

TAURUS : Ganesha says, you'll be ready to go straight away this week. This week's beneficial moon shift will encourage you to be more decisive and concentrate your attention on the business problems at hand. This week,

you'll search for reality. Exploring your emotions will also assist you in maintaining your psychological wellbeing. There won't be any problems on the expert front; in particular, you'll discover simple answers to difficult problems. You'll have a love partner who will make you happy. You must keep an eye on your well-being. You'll discover the source of your mental issues but be aware of those back cramps.



Gemini

GEMINI : Ganesha says there will be volatility throughout the week. You'll have a lot of new friends and solid interpersonal relationships that will help your career. Go out and attempt to improve yourself after that.

You'll be able to achieve your objectives, which demand teamwork and interpersonal abilities. Many marital issues could necessitate a reality check. The issue you and your spouse are having this week will be brought to light and resolved on the love front. This week, the amount of sugar in your blood might spike, necessitating cautious diabetic management to protect your health.



Cancer

CANCER : Ganesha says, you'll draw attention to the gap between your ambitions and your current ability to achieve them. There will be a lot of activity among the rival surfaces. It's a good idea to deepen your connections

with people you already know. Furthermore, stay away from the stock market this week. The moment is not right now to buy equities. This week, you need to be as forthcoming and truthful about your connection as you possibly can. Any linguistic points that you have been arguing about with someone you know or work with will be clarified. You'll be able to look for your wellness by yourself. This week you will also start a new fitness routine.



Leo

LEO : Ganesha says, the existing world will be filled with new possibilities. There will be several borders with murky and uncertain conditions. Mar's visit will cause a lot of frantic bustles this week. You should

write down whatever information your gut gives you. This week will make you more emotional and yearn for a connection in regard to passion. The suitable individual will eventually come along but be careful not to glorify them too much. You will be pushed to contribute your unique thoughts on a business level. Before taking any action, make sure you've thought about the matter from a unique perspective, evaluated the possible consequences, and are very clear in your interaction. Otherwise, you run the chance of running into problems.



Virgo

VIRGO : Ganesha says, this week, you ought to feel encouraged to join in debates and disagreements since it will be healthy for you to let your thoughts roam. You won't be able to find the perfect balance in your life until then.

The latter part of the week will see a decrease in your physical results, and you'll pass the time sleeping. However, nothing new is expected in your work life this week, so your week will be dull. Moving ahead, you'll be able to voice your opinion with ease. This week is not an ideal time to buy a house. This week, your significant other will make an effort to capture your attention in order to express their goals for your romantic connection. Take note of them this week. Contributions are required for your well-being.



Libra

LIBRA : Ganesha says, this week, you have the chance to reveal boundaries, enigmas, and unstated objectives. To view what's going on behind the drapes, you'll lift the valance and you will meet unexpected

accomplishments. The final days of the week will put a conclusion to your bad feelings. You'll unwittingly annoy your lover this week of passion. Ensure that you finish it by the end of the week. This week, you'll need to keep an eye on your stomach in terms of your health. You face the risk of developing digestive tract infections more often if you eat a variety of diets.



Scorpio

SCORPIO : Ganesha says, this week, your subliminal thoughts will be empowered and assist you in escaping unpleasant situations. There will be plenty of happiness and worth throughout your week. You'll also

receive a few money benefits from an unexpected quarterly this week. Established entrepreneurs will pick up a new technique for setting their goods apart from the competition. This week, you will not feel like getting near to your beloved, but their love will continue to keep you safe in terms of your intimate relationships.



Sagittarius

SAGITTARIUS : Ganesha says, you'll be compelled to agree with someone's views and techniques this week, and it will turn out to be very good for your professional growth. You will be pleased with what you have accomplished after

investing in so much effort. This week, you'll learn to overlook your imperfections as well, and your patience will improve both your private and professional lives. This week, your natural enthusiasm and natural curiosity will help you in your job search. Regarding your love connection, your partner will accept your aspirations and your efforts to develop yourself. This week, Jupiter will energize romantic connections. Thursday's emotional eruption will have an impact on your physical well-being, but in the long term, you will feel better.



Capricorn

CAPRICORN : Ganesha says the problems you're having at home will be resolved this week. Your ability to communicate with your family will improve. Refrain from letting anything affect your emotions, while maintaining

your heart wide open to forgiving. At this point, it's time to discuss setting up some limits in your personal life. Your hubby is incredibly understanding and will undoubtedly believe in you. You will be given the chance for which you have longed for a very long time. You should pay attention to your legal problems. Wait until you can see the success indicators before calculating their total. The weather might have an impact on you this week.



Aquarius

AQUARIUS : Ganesha says, your career objectives will be a lot nearer to realization. Your capacity to recover from setbacks and refrain from making the same mistakes again will have a huge impact on how your economy

develops. You will lose the money you received from someone long ago. This week don't rely just on your gut instinct. Check the accuracy of the facts, numbers, and statistics. Relying on remarks when it involves relationships is not a good idea. your wellbeing will be alright this week.



Pisces

PISCES : Ganesha says, this week, you'll feel less anxious about money and discover a long-term solution for repeated short-term problems. Ensure you're still open to suggestions. Even while breaking from your usual routine

might make you feel a bit uneasy, it will benefit crucial aspects that influence how effectively you accomplish. Mercury is in a strong position in your zodiac, so you can be certain of receiving a positive reaction. This week, you'll want to avoid attracting attention. Join no important gatherings or make any statements in general. Rather, take this week to think about your goals and the way you'll utilize your resources to get them.

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : MAY 29, 2023 TO JUNE 4, 2023

BY ASTRO FRIEND CHIRAG - SON OF ASTROLOGER BEJAN DARUWALLA

MAY 29: Ganesha says the task you undertake this time will provide you with a lot of satisfaction. They would be supportive, and some of them would end up being your closest friends. You would make good money from your job, but it would be difficult for you to keep your profits. There will be nice romantic entanglements and good opportunities to form a marriage union. Expect to get gifts and treats in both cash and kind. Some of you have plans to travel abroad for business.

MAY 30 : Ganesha says for your efforts, you can anticipate receiving fantastic benefits. You would spend extra on comforts and amusement to mark your triumph especially. Your income would increase, and you would make some wise long-term investments. Better communication between you and your partner would make every time you share truly special. Your parents' health could be

a source of worry and concern.

MAY 31: Ganesha says for best results, make your plans far in advance. Long-term gains will be attained as a result of your efforts during this time when investing in real estate is advantageous. Your priority list will include romance. A new arrival also appears to be a possibility. As you take a job with more responsibility and position, your financial situation will get better. The entire family's spirits will rise if some exciting news comes in from distant relatives.

JUNE 1 : Ganesha says although there will be financial improvements, the increase in expenses will prevent you from being able to save. Your professional improvement should have your whole attention because it will rapidly produce the necessary effects. Business people will establish useful contacts. Children and spouses will be extremely demanding but supportive.

Minor health conditions like backaches, stiff necks, or body aches will cause issues. If you get out and participate in clubs and social gatherings, your social life will go smoothly.

JUNE 2 : Ganesha says to achieve the clear goal of success; you are likely to take advantage of all the opportunities that come your way as soon as possible. You keep up the good effort and attempt to imitate it constantly. It will be successful if you make an effort to change your sour attitude. Sometimes you become lost in pleasant ideas that gave you a boost. Messy situations could make you feel anxious, yet supportive grins from your loved ones can make you feel better. You always have the best of intentions for your family members.

JUNE 3 : Ganesha says you must examine your vacillating and spreading modes. You have a wide range of skills. Wherever you go,

people will notice you. Because of your bewilderment trait, you successfully attempt to recover your former appeal. When you are a channel anchor, you will eventually have well-planned interactive sessions with some well-known individuals. Your knowledge will be needed to do that. You are modern and a strong follower of Western culture where there is no room for superstitions.

JUNE 4 : Ganesha says you enjoy going to events and parties, mixing with people, and being around a large number of people. You will have an enjoyable time with your family, which will make you feel better. You'll be blessed on all fronts. Without many hassles or delays, you will get whatever you want. You always decide to choose to work on your projects before doing anything materialistic. You are the guy of your word. Gather all of your thoughts and sift out the most significant issues.

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMA ||



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World Famous Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla



Nastur Bejan Daruwalla

The festival of Ganga Dussehra is celebrated on the tenth day of the Shukla Paksha of Jyeshtha month. This day is a special day for Hindus as well as all mankind. Ganges Dussehra falls in the months of May and June. On Jyeshtha Shukla Paksha Dashami on Monday and Hasta-nakshatra, this date is considered to destroy the sins. Gangavataran took place on Wednesday in Hasta Nakshatra, on this date Ganga Dussehra is also known as Gangavataran. Therefore, this date is more important. On this date, ten sins are destroyed by bathing, charity, and tarpan, hence it is called Dussehra.

This is the day when Ganga was brought down to earth to cleanse the cursed souls of her ancestors and destroy sins. Before coming to earth, Goddess Ganga was residing in the kamandal of Lord Brahma.

Bathing in the Ganges has special significance on this day. All the sins of a person are destroyed by bathing the Ganges. The Ganges does not rot even if it is kept year round.

On this day, the fair of Ganga Dussehra is also held at Prayagraj, Allahabad, Garhmukteshwar, Haridwar, Rishikesh and Varanasi, devotees can also enjoy the fair after bathing in the Ganges. The Ganga Dussehra celebrations in Varanasi are legendary. Thousands of devotees bathe in the Ganges on the day of Ganga Dussehra and participate in the Ganga Aarti at Dasaswamedh Ghat in Varanasi and Har Ki Pauri in Haridwar.

Story

In ancient times, a king named Sagar ruled in Ayodhya. He had two queens named Keshini and Sumati. Keshini had a son named Anshuman and Sumati had sixty thousand sons. Once King Sagar performed the Ashwamedha Yagna. A horse was left for the Yajna fulfillment. Indra stole the horse and tied it in Kapil Muni's ashram to dissolve the yagna. Kapil Muni was doing penance. The king asked his sixty thousand sons to bring a horse. The king's sons reached the ashram of Kapil Muni, which disrupted the austerity of Kapil Muni and the anger of Kapil Muni was consumed by the fire.

Seeing his brothers after getting permission from the father of Anshuman, when Kapil reached Muni's ashram, Gurud ji told all the accounts of his brothers being consumed. Garuda ji also told Anshuman that if he wants his liberation, then Ganga ji will be brought from heaven to the earth.

After the death of Maharaja Sagara, Anshuman meditated to bring Gangaji to earth, but he failed. After this, his son Dileen also did penance but he also failed.

In the end, Dileep's son Bhagiratha went to the Gokarna Tirtha to do austerities to bring Gangaji to earth. Pleased with the austerity of Bhagiratha, Brahmaji gave the boon to take Ganga to earth. Now the problem was that after leaving Brahmaji's corpuscle, who would handle the velocity of Ganga on earth. Brahmaji said that none other than Lord Shankar have this power in the land which can handle the velocity of the Ganges. Therefore, it is appropriate that Lord Shiva be favored for handling the velocity of the Ganges. Bhagirath stood on one thumb and started worshipping Lord Shankar. Pleased with the harsh penance of Bhagiratha, Shivji agreed to handle Ganga in his jatas. In this way, with the inclinations of Lord Shiva, Ganga ji went to the plains by making a chalk in the valleys of the Himalayas.

Pleased with this act of Bhagiratha, Brahmaji declared that Gangaji would also be known as Bhagiratha on earth. In this way, mother Ganga came to earth.

Regions Where Ganga Avaratan Is Celebrated

The festival of Ganga Dussehra is observed by Hindus mostly in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, and West Bengal, where the river Ganga flows. Haridwar, Varanasi, Garhmukteshwar, Rishikesh, Allahabad now Prayagraj, and Patna are the major locations of the celebrations. Here the devotees gather at the banks of the Ganges and perform aartis (a religious ritual in which a light lamp is moved clockwise circularly in front of a deity as a part of prayer) to the river.

Invoke the blessings of Goddess Ganga and get rid of all the sins by following special personalized

Ganga Dussehra



Important information

Ganga Dussehra | Dasha Paapa Hara Ganga Dashami

Tuesday, 30 May 2023

Dashami Tithi starts : 29 May 2023 at 11:49 AM

Dashami Tithi ends : 30 May 2022 at 01:07 PM

rituals based on your birth chart.

The Significance Of Ganga Avataran Festival

Dussehra signifies ten auspicious Vedic calculations which show Ganga's power to wash ten sins related to thoughts, actions, and speech. The ten Vedic calculations include Jyeshtha month, Shukla Paksha, Tenth day, Thursday, Hasta Nakshatra, Siddha Yoga, Gar-Anand Yoga and Moon in Virgo and Sun in Taurus. The offering of prayer allows one to attain salvation. It is a favourable day for purchasing valuable items, new vehicles, or new property. Reciting Ganga Stotra on this day while standing in the Ganges can remove all the sins.

It is believed that taking a dip in the river on this day can bring the devotee to a state of purification and also heal any physical ailments he may have. In Sanskrit, Dasha means ten and Hara means destroy; thus bathing in the river during these ten days is believed to rid the person of the ten sins or, alternatively, the ten lifetimes of sins.

Rituals

Most of the devotees visit Prayag, Hrishikesh, Varanasi, and Haridwar for meditation and holy bath. People perform pitru puja for their ancestors. Devotees and priests perform the aarti at the bank of the Ganges during twilight with leaf boats laden with flames and flowers. While worshipping the Ganges, one must have ten of each article such as ten types of flowers, fruits, or betel leaves. While taking a bath, one must take ten dips.

Worship Of Yamuna

On the Ganga Dussehra, the river Yamuna is also worshipped and kite-flying events are organized. Devotees take a holy dip in the Yamuna at places like Mathura, Vrindavan, and Bateshwar, and give offerings of watermelon and cucumber. They distribute drinks such as lassi, sharbat and shikanji.



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

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

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

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Sikh History This Week

MAY 26, 2023, TO JUNE 01, 2023

26th May



1886 Maharaja Dalip Singh reentered Sikh faith. He received Khande Di Pahul (Amrit) on May 26, 1886 at Aden. Earlier, on March 8, 1853, Maharaja Dalip Singh was formally admitted into the Christian Church with water brought from Ganges nearby at his own private dwelling house. The service was conducted by the Rev. M.W. Jay, with Dr. John S. Login, Mrs. Login, Colonel Alexander and Mr. Guise signing the Baptism register as witnesses.

1960 Morcha initiated for seeking Punjabi Subha.

1984 The last meeting was held between Akalis and Indira Gandhi. The last meeting was held between Akalis and Indira Gandhi regime. Several such meetings preceded this meeting. However, by now it became abundantly clear that this was in fact a drama. The government had planned an attack on Darbar Sahib for several months. Russian KGB and even British Intelligence was guiding the invasion of Darbar Sahib.

1988 The President of India issued an ordinance banning the Sikh fundamentals of Miri-Piri (Cohesive oneness of Religion and Politics). An integral part of the Sikh religion Miri-Piri is the most fundamental to Sikh religion. This ordinance (which later became law) meant that the Sikhs shall have to adopt only that part of their religion which the Hindu majority will allow. This was the final blow to the Sikh nation which made the professing of their religion under the subjugation of the Hindu regime.

1996 Atal Bihari Vajpayee, in his capacity as Prime Minister of India, visited Sri Harmandir Sahib, Amritsar and apologized to the Sikhs for the following two abominations committed by the Government of India.

27th May

1710 Baba Banda Singh Bahadur announces the establishment of Sikh rule in a heavy Diwan organized in Sirhind city.

1921 The Governor of Punjab arrested Sardul Singh Caveeshar for spearheading the non-cooperation resolution at SGPC meeting of May 11, 1921. This meeting was really a confrontation that once again demonstrated the majority of the radicals in the SGPC.

28th May

1922 A meeting is called at Kaulgarh by Karam Singh Gargaj group to reform the Jholichuks.

1948 SGPC came under the control of Congress Sikhs.

29th May

1606 Martyrdom, Fifth Patshah, Guru Arjan Dev Ji. Guru Arjan Dev (1563-1606) Guru Arjan, the 'Prince of Martyrs' and the 'Prophet of Peace', proffered his precious life to nurture the glory that was to be the Sikh Panth. The Fifth Master's life was marked by divine bliss and sublime sacrifices, born of a sweet acceptance of God's Will. Gifted with a quintessential poetic afflatus, and immeasurable imaginative sympathies, the Guru gave the movement of Sikhism a definite



direction, perspective and program. He made the new faith coeval or coextensive with the whole gamut of existence and raised its exquisite edifice on values for which there is neither death nor change.

Guru Arjan Dev adorned the sacred throne of Guru Nanak from Sept. 1, 1581 to May 30, 1606. Born at Goindwal on April 15, 1563, he was the youngest and noblest son of Guru Ram Das and Mata Bibi Bhani. On 23 Hadh sunmat 1636, he married Ganga Devi, daughter of Krishan Chand of Mau village. He had an innate poetic sensibility which was exquisitely displayed in the epistles that he sent to his father from Lahore. They are deeply expressive of the pangs of separation and the exuberance of Love. The Fourth Master's decision to make Guru Arjan his spiritual heir was bitterly opposed by Prithvi Chand who contended that being the eldest son, he alone was entitled to the Guruship. Thus, he could never reconcile himself to his younger brother's installation as Guru. Under Guru Arjan Dev the Sikh movement registered great progress. In sunmat 1645, he cemented the Santokhsar sarovar. Further, the Guru not only completed the construction of the Sarovars started at 'Guru Ka Chak' by his predecessor but also constructed two more Sarovars. He had the Harmandar built in the middle of Amritsar Sarovar and invited a celebrated Muslim divine, Mian Mir, to lay its foundation stone in sunmat 1645. Remarkable for its architectural and aesthetic beauty and unique in its conception, the temple with its four doors symbolizes the inborn equality of all mankind.

1606 Shashter Dharan, Sixth Patshah, Guru Hargobind Ji.

1712 Badshah Jahandar Shah seeks reinforcements to deal with Sikhs.

1923 SGPC again declares the Babbar Akalis as anti-Panthic.

1960 The first batch courted arrest for Punjabi Suba agitation.

1981 The Hindus took out anti-Sikh procession at Amritsar.

30th May

1710 Bahadur Shah called for volunteers for Jihad against the Sikhs. Bahadur Shah was appraised of the news of Banad Singh's exploits. Taking this into view the poignancy of the situation, he made up with the Rajputs and called for volunteers for "Jehad", holy war, against the Sikhs. He ordered the mobilisation of all available forces, rallied Bundhela Rajputs against the Sikhs and himself personally proceeded in person to the Punjab.

31st May

1981 Sikh procession to seek Holy City status for Amritsar. The Sikhs brought out a procession to demand Holy City status for Amritsar. More than 25,000 Sikhs joined the procession. To quote a Hindu newspaper, the Tribune: Until 29 May it seemed that only 500 to 1,000 Sikhs would join the Sikh procession on Sunday when all the shops are closed in the city. Following yesterday's massive Hindu procession the number will be very high. This procession was a direct result of unfilled promises for the declaration of



Amritsar as a Holy City. The SGPC chief, G. S. Tohra, had met with the Prime Minister of India, Indira Gandhi, on September 24, 1980.

1986 In 1986 the International Sikh Organization (ISO) was established to educate the public and the U.S. Congress about the Sikh religion, the violations of human rights by the Indian government, India's genocide against the Sikhs, and the Sikh struggle for an independence. The Council of Khalistan was established on October 7, 1987, when Khalistan declared its independence.

1st June



1748 Small Holocaust that saw 10,000 Sikhs massacred in a single day. At least 10,000 Sikhs were massacred by Yahiya Khan and Lakhpat Rai, who had taken vow to avenge the death of his brother by annihilating the Sikhs. Diwan Lakhpat Rai, a katri of Kalanoar, was the Chief Minister to the Governor of Lahore, YayahKhan. When his troublemaker brother, Jaspat, was killed by Sikhs near Badoki Gusayia village, he unleashed a campaign of terror against the Sikhs to avenge the death of his brother. Jaspat Rai was actually killed in a skirmish with a Sikh outfit. However, Lakhpat Rai issued orders to shoot the Sikhs at sight. For some period, Lakhpat Rai even assumed completed control of Lahore, under orders of Ahmad Shah Abdali. Lakhpat Rai attacked Sikhs at Kahnoolw jungles and ordered to set the whole jungle on fire. Baba Deep Singh was among the Sikhs who escaped and subsequently fought back at the Beas River bank, and finally reaching Malwa. This incident culminated in what is common known as the "Chotta Ghalughara" (small genocide) in Sikh history.

1813 Maharaja Ranjit Singh obtained Kohinoor from Shahsuja Amir of Kabul.



Methods of removing facial hair

Hair that grows on the face, often on the chin, cheeks, and upper lip area, is referred to as facial hair. Being a woman if you're worried about it, then in situations when growth is excessive, hormonal and hereditary factors are also involved. Unwanted hair can be removed by a variety of methods. Unwanted facial hair can be removed in a variety of ways, such as shaving or waxing. But did you know that there are other options as well? Take a look at these various methods of removing facial hair:

Waxing

The most widely used technique for removing facial hair is waxing. Large regions of undesirable hair can be eliminated in a single session for a low cost. Waxing is thought to slow down hair growth over time since it eliminates the hair from the roots. Waxing strips and both hot and cold waxes are available.

Shaving

Body hair can be eliminated quickly by shaving, but after a few days, a blunt regrowth will be seen. Shaving often might make the growth tough and coarse. Chemical depilatories shouldn't be used on the face since they include substances that break down hair. They shouldn't be used on body parts with wounds, acne, damaged skin, or rashes. They may cause skin discolouration and allergic reactions. Epilation is a technique that makes use of a tiny device. You can do it at home. The hair needs to be cut at a specific length.

Plucking

Tweezers are used while



plucking. It works well on stray hairs on the chin and in the space between or behind the brows. Before using a mild antiseptic solution, the region has to be cleaned with cotton wool. Also, one should be cautious to avoid removing hair from a mole before seeing a doctor.

Threading

Threading is one of the most popular facial hair removal methods but it has a temporary impact. On sensitive skin, frequent threading might result in skin rashes, redness, or irritations. For the face, cold wax would be safer. Large sections of the face shouldn't be waxed, though. Smaller parts like the chin, the region above the lips, or the sideburns might benefit from it. Many women employ a mix of techniques to remove facial hair, such as threading the chin and the

region above the lips and bleaching the rest of the face. or waxing the sideburns and upper lip while threading the chin.

Electrolysis

Electrolysis is said to be a permanent method of hair removal, but re-growth can occur. But make sure to find a skilled operator for the transdermal electrolysis process.

Laser Method

Next is the laser method in which the hair follicles absorb the powerful light beam that a laser creates. The laser stops the hair follicle from growing hair. To stop further skin injury, cooling devices are utilised. Re-growth sometimes lasts a while. Finding a reputed laser clinic is essential because it is an expensive treatment.

Source: Her Zindigi



Depression lowers your chances of motherhood

Severe depressive symptoms can decrease your chances of becoming pregnant, says a study.

The study found a 38 percent decrease in the average probability of conception in a given menstrual cycle among women who reported severe depressive symptoms, compared to those with no or low symptoms.

The results were similar, regardless of whether the women were on psychotropic medications.

Despite associations in prior studies between infertility and the use of antidepressants, antipsychotics or mood stabilisers among already infertile women, "current use of psychotropic medications did not appear to harm the probability of conception," said lead author Yael Nillni, an assistant professor at Boston University Schools of Public Health and Medicine in the US.

"Our findings suggest that moderate to severe depressive symptoms, regardless of current psychotropic medication treatment, may delay conception," Nillni said.

The findings were published in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Although the study does not answer why women with more depressive symptoms may take longer to become pregnant, the authors noted several potential mechanisms.

Depression has been associated with dysregulation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis, which may influence the menstrual cycle and affect the ability to conceive, for example.

Data for the study came from more than 2,100 female pregnancy planners, ages 21-45 years, enrolled in a study known as PRESTO (Pregnancy Study Online) that is looking at factors influencing fertility.

The participants were asked to report their current depressive symptoms and psychotropic medication use, among many other factors.

How to Fight Depression

Get More Sleep

Sleep and mood go hand in hand. Get too little of the former and the latter is bound to be affected whether you have depression or not. To support your emotional well-being, make sure you have what sleep experts call "good sleep hygiene."

Cut Back on Caffeine

Coffee, tea, soda, and even chocolate are steeped in caffeine. It's fine to consume a reasonable amount of caffeine in the morning if you enjoy it, but avoid it after late afternoon so it doesn't interfere with sleep.

Get More Vitamin D

There's some evidence that a vitamin D deficiency could play a role in depression. If you aren't getting enough vitamin D through your diet and lifestyle (like sun exposure), ask your doctor if you should try taking a supplement.

FOOD CORNER

Chicken Burritos

Ingredients

- Chicken - 300 gms, cooked, shredded, skinless, boneless,
- Sweet corn kernels - 150 gms, boiled, drained
- Black beans (or red kidney beans) - 150 gms, rinsed, boiled, drained, Tomatoes - 150 gms, finely chopped
- Flour tortillas - 4, Green chillies - 2 to 3, chopped
- Jalapenos - 1 tblsp, chopped, Red chilli flakes as per taste, Garam masala powder - 2 tsp
- Black pepper powder as per taste
- Salt as per taste, Coriander leaves - handful, chopped
- Cheese - 100 gms, grated

Optional ingredients

- Sour cream lettuce - handful, shredded
- Tomatoes - 1/2 cup, chopped

Method

1. In a large bowl, combine the corn, black beans, tomatoes, green chillies, coriander leaves and jalapenos.
2. Add the cooked chicken and mix well.



3. Add the red chilli flakes, garam masala powder, black pepper powder, salt and toss gently.
4. Warm the tortillas and place them on a flat surface.
5. Divide the chicken mixture equally among the 4 tortillas.
6. Sprinkle some cheese on top.
7. If desired, add some sour cream, lettuce and chopped tomatoes.
8. Fold from the sides and roll tightly.
9. Heat a nonstick pan over medium flame.
10. Place the burritos on the pan and warm them up for 3 to 5 minutes, turning gently once or twice.

Over 800 million people globally may suffer back pain by 2050: Lancet study

More than 840 million people worldwide will suffer back pain by 2050, largely due to population increase and the ageing people, according to a modelling study published in the Lancet Rheumatology journal.

The researchers analysed over 30 years of data to show that the landscape of back pain cases is set to shift, with the biggest increases in cases to be in Asia and Africa.

The continued lack of a consistent approach on back pain treatment, and limited treatment options have researchers concerned that this will lead to a healthcare crisis, as low back pain is the leading cause of disability in the world, they said.

"Our analysis paints a picture of growing low back pain cases globally, putting enormous pressure on our healthcare system," said study lead author, Professor Manuela Ferreira from the University of Sydney in Australia.

"We need to establish a national, consistent approach to managing low back pain that is informed by research," Ferreira said in a statement.

The study found that since 2017, the number of low back pain cases has ticked over to more than half a billion people. In 2020, there were approximately 619 million cases of back pain.

At least one third of the disability burden associated with backpain was attributable to occupational



factors, smoking and being overweight. A widespread misconception is that low back pain mostly affects adults of working age.

However, researchers said this study has confirmed that low back pain is more common among older people.

Low back pain cases were also higher among females compared to males, they said.

The study analysed Global Burden of Disease (GBD) data from 1990 to 2020 from over 204 countries and territories to map the landscape of back pain cases over time.

The GBD is the most

comprehensive picture of mortality and disability across countries, time, and age.

"Health systems need to respond to this enormous and rising burden of low back pain that is affecting people globally," said Professor Anthony Woolf, co-chair of the Global Alliance for Musculoskeletal Health which is calling for priority to be given to addressing the growing burden of musculoskeletal conditions.

"Much more needs to be done to prevent low back pain and ensure timely access to care, as there are effective ways of helping people in pain," Woolf said. *Source: PTI*



Evidence of stress hormones in hair may reveal who is prone to get heart disease

The presence of glucocorticoids, a group of steroid hormones secreted in response to stress, in a person's hair, may indicate which of them is more likely to develop cardiovascular diseases (CVD) in the future, according to new research being presented at this year's European Congress on Obesity (ECO) in Dublin, Ireland.

"There is a tonne of evidence to support the notion that persistent stress has a significant role in determining general health. Now, according to our research, those who have higher long-term hair glucocorticoid levels are substantially more likely to experience cardiovascular and circulatory illnesses, in particular, says the study's principal author, Dr. Eline van der Valk of Erasmus University Medical Centre Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

Long-term levels of scalp hair cortisol and its inactive form, hair cortisone, are increasingly used biomarkers that represent the cumulative exposure to glucocorticoids over the previous months.

There is a large body of evidence indicating that the stress hormones cortisol and cortisone affect the body's metabolism and fat distribution. But data on these stress hormone levels and their effect on long-term CVD outcomes is scarce.

To find out more, researchers analysed cortisol and cortisone levels in 6,341 hair samples from adult men and women (aged 18 and older) enrolled in Lifelines—a multi-generational study including over 167,000 participants from the northern population of the Netherlands.

Study participants' hair was tested, and participants were followed for an average 5-7 years to assess the long-term relationship between cortisol and cortisone levels and incident CVD. During this time, there were 133 CVD events.

Researchers adjusted for factors known to be linked with increased risk of CVD including age, sex, waist circumference, smoking, blood pressure, and type 2 diabetes. The researchers found that people with higher long-term cortisone levels were twice as likely to experience a cardiovascular event like a stroke or heart attack, and this rose to over three times as likely in those aged 57 years or younger. *Source: ANI*

Shift work may affect fertility in women, shows study

According to a study presented at the 25th European Congress of Endocrinology, female mice can be put to shift work-like patterns for only four weeks before their biological clocks are thrown off and their ability to conceive is diminished. The study adds to our understanding of how circadian disruptions affect female fertility and may potentially aid in the development of prophylactic strategies for women who work irregular hours.

The body's internal clocks, which are synced to a 24-hour period primarily by changes in light throughout days, produce the circadian rhythm. The sleep-wake cycle, hormone secretion, digestion, and reproduction are just a few of the biological processes and functions that these clocks control, but they are readily thrown off by inappropriate light exposure, such as light at night.

The 'master biological clock' is



located in the suprachiasmatic nuclei, a small region in the centre of the brain called the hypothalamus. The hypothalamus is also the regulatory centre for reproductive function by acting on the pituitary gland - attached to the bottom of the hypothalamus - which in turn regulates ovarian activity to

promote ovulation. Numerous studies in both mice and humans indicate a negative impact on female reproduction when the circadian rhythm is disrupted. However, the underlying mechanisms are not yet fully understood.

Researchers from the Institute of Cellular and Integrative Neurosciences (INCI) and the University of Strasbourg have previously shown that shift work-like patterns for several weeks lead to a reduced pregnancy rate in female mice. Now, in this study, the researchers mimicked long-term shift work conditions in female mice by constantly shifting the light-dark cycle, delaying and advancing light exposure by 10 hours across four weeks, and found that the massive release of the pituitary hormone called luteinising hormone - which triggers ovulation - was abolished, subsequently reducing fertility in these mice. *Source: ANI*

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American private astronaut mission to test cancer drugs in space

American private space habitat company Axiom Space's latest mission to the International Space Station (ISS) also carried several experiments on human stem cell ageing, inflammation and cancer to the low Earth orbit lab.

Increasing evidence shows that microgravity conditions can accelerate ageing, inflammation and immune dysfunction in human stem cells.

Understanding this process is not only helpful for keeping astronauts healthy -- it could also teach us how to better treat cancer on Earth.

The Axiom Mission 2 (Ax-2) lifted off at 5:37 p.m. EDT on Sunday (3:07a-m Monday IST) on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket with a multinational crew including the first woman from Saudi Arabia.

The Ax-2 mission will now determine if two inhibitory drugs can reverse the regeneration in an organoid model of breast cancer.

Another line of experiments will track the health of astronauts' blood stem cells before, during and after spaceflight to evaluate the effects of the space environment on stem cell ageing, immune function and cancer stem cell generation.

These projects are part of the NASA-funded Integrated Space Stem Cell Orbital Research (ISSCOR) Center, a collaboration between University of California-San Diego Sanford Stem Cell Institute, JM Foundation and Axiom Space.

The experiments will take place over 10 days in orbit, with subsequent data collection and analysis performed at UC San Diego.

"Space is a uniquely stressful environment," said Catriona Jamieson, Professor at UC San Diego School of Medicine.

"By conducting these experiments in low Earth orbit, we are able to understand mechanisms of cancer evolution in a compressed time frame and inform the development of new cancer stem cell inhibitory strategies," Jamieson added.

The findings will inform the development of predictive models for cancer and immune dysfunction-related diseases and could lead to the development of new drugs to prevent or treat these conditions during space exploration and here on Earth. "We are pleased to have the opportunity with our private astronaut missions to advance this important work, aligned with the White House Cancer Moonshot initiatives," said Christian Maender, executive vice president of in-space solutions at Axiom Space.

"Our mission is to improve life on Earth and foster the possibilities beyond by building and operating the world's first commercial space station," she added.

Axiom Space astronauts are expected to depart the space station May 30, pending weather, for a return to Earth and splashdown at a landing site off the coast of Florida.

Source: IANS

World's oldest Homo sapiens footprint identified on South Africa's Cape south coast

Just over two decades ago, as the new millennium began, it seemed that tracks left by our ancient human ancestors dating back more than about 50,000 years were excessively rare.

Only four sites had been reported in the whole of Africa at that time. Two were from East Africa: Laetoli in Tanzania and Koobi Fora in Kenya; two were from South Africa (Nahoon and Langebaan). In fact the Nahoon site, reported in 1966, was the first hominin tracksite ever to be described.

In 2023 the situation is very different. It appears that people were not looking hard enough or were not looking in the right places. Today the African tally for dated hominin ichnosites (a term that includes both tracks and other traces) older than 50,000 years stands at 14. These can conveniently be divided into an East African cluster (five sites) and a South African cluster from the Cape coast (nine sites). There are a further ten sites elsewhere in the world including the UK and the Arabian Peninsula.

Given that relatively few skeletal hominin remains have been found on the Cape coast, the traces left by our human ancestors as they moved about ancient landscapes are a useful way to complement and enhance our understanding of ancient hominins in Africa.

In a recently published article in *Ichnos*, the international journal of trace fossils, we provided the ages of seven newly dated hominin ichnosites that we have identified in the past five years on South Africa's Cape south coast. These sites now form part of the "South African cluster" of nine sites.

We found that the sites ranged in age; the most recent dates back about 71,000 years. The oldest, which dates back 153,000 years, is one of the more remarkable finds recorded in this study: it is the oldest footprint thus far attributed to our species, *Homo sapiens*.

The new dates corroborate the archaeological record. Along with other evidence from the area and time period, including the development of sophisticated stone tools, art, jewellery and harvesting of shellfish, it confirms that the Cape south coast was an area in which early anatomically modern humans survived, evolved and thrived, before spreading out of Africa to other continents.

Very different sites

There are significant differences between the East African and South African tracksite clusters. The East African sites are much older: Laetoli, the oldest, is 3.66 million years old and the youngest is 0.7 million years



The oldest known footprint of our species, lightly ringed with chalk. It appears long and narrow because the trackmaker dragged their heel. (Charles Helm)

old. The tracks were not made by *Homo sapiens*, but by earlier species such as *australopithecines*, *Homo heidelbergensis* and *Homo erectus*. For the most part, the surfaces on which the East African tracks occur have had to be laboriously and meticulously excavated and exposed.

The South African sites on the Cape coast, by contrast, are substantially younger. All have been attributed to *Homo sapiens*. And the tracks tend to be fully exposed when they're discovered, in rocks known as *aeolianites*, which are the cemented versions of ancient dunes.

Excavation is therefore not usually considered – and because of the sites' exposure to the elements and the relatively coarse nature of dune sand, they aren't usually as well preserved as the East African sites. They are also vulnerable to erosion, so we often have to work fast to record and analyse them before they are destroyed by the ocean and the wind.

While this limits the potential for detailed interpretation, we can have the deposits dated. That's where optically stimulated luminescence comes in.

A key challenge when studying the palaeo-record – trackways, fossils, or any other kind of ancient sediment – is determining how old the materials are.

Without this it is difficult to evaluate the wider significance of a find, or to interpret the climatic changes that create the geological record. In the case of the Cape south coast *aeolianites*, the dating method of choice is often optically stimulated luminescence.

Source: PTI

LinkedIn's new tool to show verifications related to job post

Professional social networking platform LinkedIn has rolled out new tools to help job seekers feel safe and confident in their job search.

The new tools include job verifications, profile verifications, and message warnings.

LinkedIn will now start to show 'verifications related to a job post', displaying verified information about a job poster or their company.

"When you see verifications on job posts, that means there is information that has been verified as authentic by the job poster, LinkedIn or one of our partners," LinkedIn said in a blogpost.

According to the company, these new verifications to help job



seekers feel confident in their search and allow recruiters to build trust with potential candidates.

"Verifications on job postings are just rolling out, and as we expand access to our free verification tools,

you'll see even more across the jobs you're exploring," said LinkedIn.

Moreover, under profile verifications, the company rolled out new free ways users can verify their identity, work email addresses and workplaces on LinkedIn.

With the message warnings tool, the company will now alert users if messages on LinkedIn include high-risk content that could impact their security.

For instance, the company will alert users if a message asks them to take the conversation to another platform, as that can sometimes be a sign of a scam. If something doesn't feel right, these warnings will also give them the choice to report the content without letting the sender know.

Source: IANS

Growth expected to exceed 7 per cent in 2022-23: RBI Governor Das

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday said the growth for 2022-23 is expected to be more than the advance estimate of 7 per cent on the back of economic momentum maintained in the third and fourth quarters of the last fiscal.

As per the second advance estimate released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in February, the economy is estimated to grow at 7 per cent in 2022-23 against 8.7 per cent in the preceding fiscal.

"There is a possibility that it could be even more...it will not be a surprise if the GDP growth of last year comes slightly above 7 per cent," he said at a CII event here.

Provisional Annual Estimates for the year 2022-23 will be released on May 31, 2023.

"It initially appeared in the third quarter that there was a pent-up demand which was supporting the economic activity, but all the economic indicators in the fourth quarter of last financial year show that economic activities sustained momentum.

"In fact, all the high-frequency indicators, around 70 of them, which we monitored in the Reserve Bank of India, almost in all of these high-frequency indicators, the momentum was maintained in the fourth quarter. So therefore, we should not be surprised if the growth is slightly more than 7 per cent," he said.

For the current financial year, he said the RBI has projected a growth rate of 6.5 per cent.

About the global scenario, he said the coexistence of high inflation and banking stress is complicating the responses of central banks, as they face a trade-off between the risk of either straining financial markets or having to tolerate a longer period of high inflation.

Fitch puts US credit rating on negative watch

Ratings agency Fitch has put the US credit rating on watch for a possible downgrade on Wednesday, raising the stakes as talks over the country's debt ceiling go down to the wire, and adding to the jitters in global markets.

Fitch put the country's "AAA" rating, its highest rank, on a negative watch in a precursor to a possible downgrade should lawmakers fail to raise the amount that the Treasury can borrow before it runs out of money, which could happen as soon as next week.

On Thursday, May 25, stocks in Asia fell as investors remained wary of risky assets due to the hit the global economy will take if the US government defaults.

JPMorgan to lay off nearly 1,000 First Republic employees: Report

NEW YORK (TIP)

JPMorgan Chase & Co. notified about 1,000 First Republic Bank employees that they aren't being given jobs — even temporarily — following its takeover of the failed lender.

The biggest US bank on Thursday, May 25, offered full-time or transitional roles to almost 85% of the nearly 7,000 employees still working at First Republic when it collapsed, while the rest were told they wouldn't get offers, according to a person with knowledge of the matter. The temporary jobs will be for three, six, nine or 12 months, depending on the position, the person said, asking not to be identified discussing private information.

"Since our acquisition of First Republic on May 1, we've been transparent with their employees and kept our promise to update them on their employment status within 30 days," a spokesperson for New York-based JPMorgan said in a statement. "We recognize that they have been under stress and uncertainty since March and hope that today will bring clarity and closure."

Former First Republic employees who weren't offered jobs at JPMorgan "will receive pay and benefits covering 60 days and will be offered a package that includes an additional lump-sum payment and continuing benefits coverage," the spokesperson said.

First Republic said in late April it



would cut as much as 25% of its workforce, one of a series of actions intended to bolster the troubled bank and reassure investors. Those measures ultimately weren't enough, and the San Francisco-based firm was seized days later.

Most of the employees who didn't get an offer Thursday from JPMorgan had been identified as part of First Republic's planned cuts, but had yet to be notified when the bank failed, the person said.

JPMorgan, which had 296,877 employees at the end of March, beat out rivals in a government-led auction for First Republic. As part of its winning bid, JPMorgan acquired about \$173 billion of First Republic's loans, \$30 billion of securities and \$92 billion in deposits — and then had to decide what to do about its employees, dozens of whom were reeling in more than \$10 million a year, Bloomberg News reported earlier Thursday, May 25. *Source: Bloomberg*

Euro slips as Germany enters recession, dollar hits two-month peak

LONDON (TIP)

The euro dropped on Thursday, May 25, as Europe's largest economy Germany was confirmed to be in a recession, while the dollar hit a two-month peak, benefitting from safe-haven demand as worries mounted about a US default.

The latest concern was raised by ratings agency Fitch, who put the United States' "AAA" debt ratings on negative watch, a precursor to a possible downgrade should lawmakers fail to agree to raise the debt limit.

The greenback has paradoxically benefited from demand for safe havens with only a week left for a resolution to slow-moving debt ceiling talks before the June 1 "X-date", when the Treasury has warned it will be unable to pay all its bills.

"It has been risk-off this week and that has benefitted the dollar generally," said Stefan Mellin, senior analyst at Danske Bank.

Escalating signs of economic malaise in Europe sent the euro to multi-month lows against the dollar.



The latest sign of weakness out of Europe came from Germany, where the economy contracted slightly in the first quarter, and thereby was in recession after negative growth in the fourth quarter of 2022.

"We have seen some divergent cross-Atlantic macro data this week and while Germany is not the euro, the momentum

in the economy is stunningly weak," Danske Bank's Mellin said, also noting this week's Ifo and PMI data.

The US dollar index, which measures the currency against six major peers and is heavily weighted towards the euro, rose as much as 0.3% to 104.16, the highest since March 17.

The euro slipped about 0.2%, enough to refresh a two-month low at \$1.0715.

Sterling eased 0.1%, after briefly hitting its weakest since April 3 at \$1.2332.

Against the yen, the dollar edged to its strongest since Nov. 30 at 139.705, although was last down 0.1% at 139.345.

The US currency has also been supported by a paring of bets for Federal Reserve rate cuts this year, with the economy proving resilient to the effects of the central bank's aggressive tightening campaign until now.

US money market traders have trimmed expectations for Fed rate cuts this year to just a quarter point in December, from as much as 75 basis points previously. *Source: Reuters*

contd from page 1

A large number of Indians among 'documented dreamers' in US who face uncertain future

one lawmaker after the other, seeking support for the recently introduced 'America's Children Act'.

The 'dreamers' are basically undocumented immigrants who enter the United States as children with parents. They grew up legally in the US but risk deportation when they turn 21.

At a time when the US Congress is bitterly divided on political lines, these young dreamers, who are estimated to number 250,000, are looking for more support from congressmen and senators to make necessary legislative changes that give citizenship pathway to aged-out kids.

"It is time to permanently end the aging out and pass the America's Children Act," Dip Patel, founder, Improve The Dream, said.

He is leading an unprecedented fight on behalf of the documented dreamers.

Of the 2,50,000 dreamers, 90 per cent are pursuing STEM (Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) careers, he said.

"In 2005, my parents immigrated to the United States to start a small business to give our family the best opportunity to succeed. We made America our home," Patel told reporters at the Capitol.

"This country raised me, educated me, and has made me who I am today. After nearly two decades of living here lawfully, my parents and I have not yet received permanent resident status. This resonates with everyone standing with me today," he said, adding that a loophole in the system is forcing young people brought here legally to leave the country after they turn 21.

Muhil Ravichandran, 24, who first came to the United States at the age of two, said she would now have to self-deport from the country that she had been calling home for almost two decades.

"This means having to leave my family because they have already received their green cards. It is heartbreaking that I have to spend every day in fear that I may have to leave my home, simply because I aged out," she rued.

"Due to the Green Card backlog, I had aged out by the time my parents finally received their green cards. My

future is now uncertain," she added. (Source: PTI)

Top UN officials voice support for India's initiative to establish memorial wall honoring fallen peacekeepers

The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers was commemorated here on Thursday, May 25, with solemn ceremonies, including a wreath laid by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres at the Peacekeepers Memorial to honor the women and men who sacrificed their lives while serving under the UN flag. Guterres also presided over a ceremony in the General Assembly Hall at which the Dag Hammarskjöld Medals were awarded posthumously to 103 military, police, and civilian peacekeepers, who were killed in the line of duty last year, including three Indian personnel.

Border Security Force personnel Head Constables Shishupal Singh and Sanwala Ram Vishnoi, who both served with the Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), and Shaber Taher Ali who served in a civilian capacity with the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) were honored with the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal at the solemn ceremony.

India's Permanent Representative at the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj received the medal from the Secretary-General. (Source: PTI)

Rahul Gandhi's US trip aimed at promoting shared values of real democracy: Sam Pitroda

Congress, the organizers of the events, on Sunday, May 20.

Sharing the agenda and purpose of Gandhi's visit to the United States, Pitroda said, "We are not here to complain. We are here to share what is going on in India. Indian democracy is the biggest democracy in the world and we owe it to the people to tell them about the real situation on the ground."

"We are not asking for everybody to come and help us. We can deal with the problems. We want to share with you what is needed," he told a group of Congress supporters in Chicago. He was addressing a Karnataka Assembly victory celebration in Chicago which was organized by eminent community leader Ifteqar Sheriff

and the Indian Overseas Congress-USA.

"The purpose of his (Gandhi's) trip is to connect, interact and begin a new conversation with various individuals, institutions and media, including the Indian diaspora that is growing in numbers in the United States and abroad to promote the shared values and vision of the real democracy with a focus on freedom, inclusion, sustainability, justice, peace and opportunities world over," Pitroda said in a statement on Sunday.

George Abraham, the vice-chairman of the Indian Overseas Congress-USA, said, "I hope that Rahul Gandhi's visit will energize the diaspora into a renewed appreciation of democracy and freedom the Indian diaspora aspires to have as they constitute more than 30 million non-resident Indians who live around the world."

Pitroda said the Indian Overseas Congress has planned multiple meetings for Gandhi in the three cities.

"We have lots of meetings planned with think tanks, universities; a thousand people in San Francisco, 200 people having dinner in Washington DC... The programme is jam-packed to a point. We don't even have half-an-hour flexibility," he told a group of Congress supporters in Chicago.

"It has been worked out. And he (Gandhi) does a great job when he gets a chance to interact with people. He doesn't like to broadcast like a 'Mann ki Baat'. He likes to interact and that's what Indian democracy is all about -- to listen to people. So, we hope that we get a good reception on the Capitol Hill," Pitroda said.

In San Francisco, Gandhi is likely to meet a group of artists, while a private dinner has been planned by eminent Indian-American Frank Islam at his mansion in the Potomac suburb of Washington DC.

In March this year, Gandhi had visited the UK during which his remarks alleging that the structures of Indian democracy are under attack and there is a "full-scale assault" on the country's institutions, had created a row back home.

His remarks had triggered a political slugfest, with the BJP accusing him of maligning India on foreign soil and seeking foreign interventions, and the Congress hitting back at the ruling party by citing instances of Prime Minister Narendra Modi raising internal politics abroad. (Source: PTI)

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Summer break in Uttarakhand

If you are still looking for a break this summer, head to Dehradun, and check out a few options in the vicinity.

Dehradun

Like in our case, several hikers and holidaymakers tend to use Dehradun as the starting or transit point to explore spots that are located in the vicinity — either by self-drive or by hiring cabs here. Nestled in a valley, and once considered a quiet place to retire in, the city has witnessed unprecedented growth in the Past few years. Should you visit, be prepared for unending traffic jams, roads under construction and attractions that are teeming with people. Also, gone are the days of cooler climes.

Summers now mean unbearable heat. But, interspersed around the city are points that are worth checking out. We recommend visiting the informative Forest Research Institute or the local Buddha Temple. Those interested in a mix of adventure and nature could head to Sahastradhara.

Must-visit

Head to Robber's Cave to soak your feet in the waters of a flowing stream, while munching on chowmein or ice cream.

Haridwar

Distance from Dehradun: 52km (approximately)

Good for a day trip, this temple town needs no introduction. Photographers and tourists — local and international — are known to gather every evening in the thousands at the Har Ki Pauri ghat for the renowned Ganga aarti. A walk down the many bylanes leading to the ghats can offer enriching insights into the history of the city, thought to be one of the oldest in the world. Spend some time visiting the many temples in the area, head to the Bara Bazaar to shop, or indulge in some Aloo Puri with Halwa at Mohan Ji Puri Wale.

Must-visit

Prakash Lok, which is located near Har Ki Pauri, is renowned for its creamy lassi.

Rishikesh

Distance from Dehradun: 45km (approximately)

Head to the unofficial 'yoga capital of the world' that is usually packed with spiritual seekers looking to spend some time at one of the many ashrams or meditation centres that dot this town. But they aren't the only tourists you will spot here. You are also likely to come across backpackers, who use Rishikesh as a gateway to the many treks that one can undertake in the region.

The mighty Ganga is a force to reckon with here, and attracts adrenaline junkies looking to indulge in some white-water rafting at camping sites that have cropped up at Shimpur, which is located upstream. Visit the Lakshman Jhula, spend some time at the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi Ashram, where the Beatles once stayed, or learn more about rudraksh beads from the local shopkeepers.

Stay: At one of the ashrams.

Must-visit

The 13-storey temple on the banks of



the Lakshman Jhula.

Mussoorie

Distance from Dehradun: 37km (approximately)

A short drive away from Dehradun, making it ideal for a day trip, the famed hill station provides a welcome relief from the heat in the summer months. But avoid making the trip during long weekends or public holidays, when the car build-up to the place can put traffic jams on the Mumbai-Pune Expressway to shame.

Once there, make your way to Gun Hill — which is accessible by a cable car — for views of the Doon Valley; take a walk down the Mall Road (the staple main road of most hill stations in India) to visit Gandhi Chowk or Kulri Bazaar; spend time watching a piranha at the Jawahar Aquarium, head to the beautiful Kempty Falls, or try the momos with spicy Schezwan sauce available at every nook and corner of Mussoorie.

Must-visit

One of the many Maggi Points on the way to Mussoorie, or Howard, the revolving restaurant, in the main market.

Dhanaulti

Distance from Dehradun: 59km (approximately)

Another quick getaway, Dhanaulti offers solitude to those looking to escape the fast life. There isn't much to do over here, except breathe fresh air; enjoy the greenery and the scenery, and enjoy some chowmein or pakoras at the local stalls or restaurants. But, should you do decide to check the place out, head to the Eco Park or Adventure Park for some relaxation.

Must-visit

Surkhanada Devi Temple. Reaching here involves a bit of a trek, but the devout and nature lovers are likely to find the hike well worth it.

Chakrata

Distance from Dehradun: 95km



(approximately)

The roads to Chakrata are bumpy, and there's a chance of a landslide or cloudburst (we experienced one and just about managed to survive to tell the tale). But the destination is worth the journey. Surrounded by evergreen deodar trees and offering panoramic views of the Himalayan mountain ranges in the vicinity, this hill station looks like something straight out of a postcard. Do visit the tiny Chakrata market to snag a good deal on the Chakrata Ka Special

Rajma (grown locally), spend some time visiting the Tiger Falls, or just relax in your room to watch the sun rise and set behind the imposing snow-capped mountains.

Must-visit

Deoban is a picturesque spot that is located about 16km from Chakrata. A 15-minute walk through the dense deodar forest leads you to Vyas Shikhar, where Vyasa apparently penned the Mahabharata.



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Real Madrid's players wore shirts in support of Vinicius Junior, who has been racially abused recently. Reuters

Madrid brimming with love for Vinicius

With Vinicius Junior watching from the stands, Rodrygo scored the winning goal and raised his fist in solidarity with his Real Madrid and Brazil teammate.

It was one of the many tributes to Vinicius in Madrid's first game since the latest case of racial abuse against the player, who considered leaving the field after being insulted by Valencia fans.

"All the support for Vini was beautiful," said Rodrygo, whose late goal gave Madrid a 2-1 win over Rayo Vallecano in the La Liga on Wednesday. "What happened to him can happen to many players. We know that it has happened a lot of times in football. But we are happy because we see that the world is uniting to fight this." The show of support came a day after Spanish police arrested seven people on suspicion of hate crime and after Valencia was fined and ordered to partially close its stadium for five games. Vinicius was not on the field because of a minor injury, but his Real Madrid teammates all came out wearing his No. 20 jersey before the kick-off.

Basketball star Micahel Jordan's Olympic jersey fetches over \$3 million at auction

A jersey worn by basketball star Michael Jordan while representing the United States during the 1992 Summer Olympics was sold at auction for \$3.03 million on Thursday, May 25.

The auction was run by Goldin, an online collectibles marketplace.

The US basketball team, nicknamed "The Dream Team", brought together some of the best players of all time, including Jordan, Larry Bird and Magic Johnson, when NBA players were first allowed to compete at the Olympics. The US easily won the gold medal in Barcelona. The particular jersey worn by Jordan in the semi-final round against Lithuania was included in an auction featuring signed jerseys from all 12 members of the team. Another jersey worn by Jordan during the opening game of the 1998 NBA Finals was sold at an auction in September for over \$10 million, setting a new record as the most expensive piece of game-worn sports memorabilia in history.



IPL 2023

Gujarat Titans brace for Mumbai Indians storm

AHMEDABAD

Akash Madhwal's breathtaking bowling performance against Lucknow Super Giants in the Eliminator will fill Mumbai Indians with confidence as they take on defending champions Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 2 here on May 26.

Mumbai, riding on the magical figures of 5/5 produced by Madhwal at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai on Wednesday night, knocked out Lucknow with an 81-run win.

The massive victory was a warning to the rivals that they could lift their game even in the absence of star pacers Jasprit Bumrah, Jofra Archer and batting mainstay Tilak Varma.

Mumbai pride themselves on thriving when the odds are stacked against them, something they have done throughout the season. Having finished last in the previous edition, Rohit Sharma's team has managed to remain in contention for a sixth IPL title even with limited resources.

The likes of Cameron Green, Suryakumar Yadav and Tim David have responded well to the challenges and now form the backbone of the batting department, with the young Nehal Wadhwa also making a huge impact.

It will be a stern test for Gujarat's bowling attack, led by Mohammad Shami (26 wickets), to get the better of Mumbai's batsmen.

Gujarat, who were outclassed in Qualifier 1 by Mahendra Singh Dhoni's Chennai Super Kings, will have one last chance to get



themselves together in their bid to qualify for their second IPL final on the trot. It will be imperative for the holders that their batting clicks in unison as Shubman Gill and Vijay Shankar have done most of the heavy lifting with the bat in the last few games.

Gill might have had an off-day

against Chennai, but his two centuries in the closing stages of the league round make him the biggest threat for Mumbai. With 722 runs at an average of 55.53, the India batter has 421 runs and is just eight runs short of going past RCB's Faf du Plessis to finish with most runs in this IPL.

Source: PTI

India records exciting 3-1 win over Japan in Asian Junior Men's hockey

By Prabhjot Singh

Defending champions India overcame a 0-1 deficit to defeat spirited Japan 3-1 for its second successive win in the AHF Junior Men's Asia Cup Hockey Tournament at Sultan Qaboos Youth Complex for Sports and Entertainment in Salalah, Oman, on Thursday, May 25. With this win, India shares top spot with Pakistan with two wins each.

On May 24, Pakistan had beaten Thailand 9-0 for its second straight win. The main architect of its second big win was Abdul Rehman, who scored five of nine goals for his team. Pakistan had beaten Chinese Taipei 15-1 in its opening game.

India was cautious as it took to the field against Japan for its second game after a flattering 18-0 win over Chinese Taipei yesterday. The Japanese, who were playing to a strategy, with man to man marking, drew the first blood when Kumpei Yasuda scored a brilliant solo after dodging past the entire Indian defense. His goal in the 19th minute was a stunner for India that immediately went into attack.

After trailing 0-1 at half time, India came back



strongly in the third quarter, scoring twice. It was Arajit Singh Hundal, hero of yesterday's big win, who restored parity with his specialist reverse flick from the top of the striking circle in the 36th minute. Three minutes later Sharad Nand Tiwari made it 2-1 with a penalty corner conversion.

Skipper Uttam Singh finally made it safe with his 56th minute goal to make India a strong contender for a semi-final berth from the pool.

History This Week

MAY 26 - JUNE 01, 2023

MAY 26

May 26, 1940 - The Dunkirk evacuation began in order to save the British Expeditionary Force trapped by advancing German armies on the northern coast of France. Boats and vessels of all shapes and sizes ferried 200,000 British and 140,000 French and Belgian soldiers across the English Channel by June 2nd.



Birthday - Interpretive dancer Isadora Duncan (1878-1927) was born in San Francisco. She revolutionized the entire concept of dance by developing a free-form style and rebelled against tradition, performing barefoot in a loose fitting tunic. She experienced worldwide acclaim as well as personal tragedy. Her two children drowned, her marriage failed, and she met a bizarre death in 1927 when a scarf she was wearing caught in the wheel of the open car in which she was riding, strangling her.

Birthday - Actor, singer Al Jolson (1886-1950) was born in St. Petersburg, Russia (as Asa Yoelson). One of the premier American vaudeville entertainers of his day, he appeared in the first motion picture with full sound, The Jazz Singer, in 1927.

MAY 27

May 27, 1937 - In San Francisco, 200,000 people celebrated the grand opening of the Golden Gate Bridge by strolling across it.



Birthday - Legendary Wild West figure Wild Bill Hickok (1837-1876) was born in Troy Grove, Illinois. He was a frontiersman, lawman, legendary marksman, army scout and gambler. On August 2, 1876, he was shot dead during a poker game by a drunk in the Number Ten saloon in Deadwood, in the Dakota Territory. In his hand he held a pair of

eights and a pair of aces which became known as the 'dead man's hand.'

Birthday - American politician Hubert H. Humphrey (1911-1978) was born in Wallace, South Dakota. Humphrey was a mainstay of liberal Democratic politics, championed civil rights, and was considered by political friends and foes alike to be a truly decent man. He served as vice president under Lyndon Johnson. In 1968, Humphrey was the Democratic candidate for president, but lost to Republican Richard Nixon in a very close race.

MAY 28



May 28, 1961 - Amnesty International was founded by London lawyer Peter Berenson. He read about the arrest of a group of students in Portugal then launched a one-year campaign to free them called Appeal for Amnesty. Today Amnesty International has over a million members in 150 countries working to free prisoners of conscience, stop torture and the death penalty, and guarantee human rights for women.

Birthday - William Pitt the Younger (1759-1806) was born at Hayes, Kent, England. Following in his father's footsteps, he became British prime minister at age 24 and served from 1783 to 1801 and again from 1804 to 1806. Pitt was influenced by Adam Smith's economic theories and reduced Britain's large national debt brought on by the American Revolution.

Birthday - All-around athlete Jim Thorpe (1888-1953) was born near Prague, Oklahoma. He won the pentathlon and decathlon events at the 1912 Olympic Games and also played professional baseball and football.

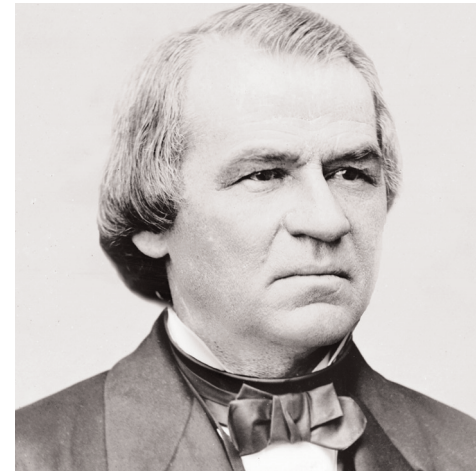
MAY 29

May 29, 1453 - The city of Constantinople was captured by the Turks, who renamed it Istanbul. This marked the end of the Byzantine Empire as Istanbul became the capital of the Ottoman Empire.

May 29, 1660 - The English monarchy was restored with Charles II on the throne after several years of a Commonwealth under Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell.

May 29, 1787 - At the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia the Virginia Plan was proposed calling for a new government consisting of a legislature with two houses, an executive chosen by

the legislature and a judicial branch.



May 29, 1865 - Following the American Civil War, President Andrew Johnson issued a proclamation granting general amnesty to Confederates. The amnesty excluded high ranking Confederates and large property owners, who had to apply individually to the President for a pardon. Following an oath of allegiance, all former property rights, except slaves, were returned to the former owners.

Birthday - American revolutionary leader Patrick Henry (1736-1799) was born in Studley, Virginia. He is best remembered for his speech in 1775 declaring: "I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death."

Birthday - German historian Oswald Spengler (1880-1936) was born in Blankenburg-am-Harz, Germany. He authored the influential book The Decline of the West which argued that civilizations rise and fall in regular cycles.

Birthday - John Fitzgerald Kennedy (1917-1963) the 35th U.S. President was born in Brookline, Massachusetts. He was the youngest man ever elected to the presidency and the first Roman Catholic. He was assassinated in Dallas, November 22, 1963, the fourth President to be killed by an assassin.

MAY 30

May 30, 1783 - The Pennsylvania Evening Post became the first daily newspaper published in America.

May 30, 1922 - The Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., was dedicated. The Memorial was designed by architect Henry Bacon and features a compelling statue of "Seated Lincoln" by sculptor Daniel Chester French.

May 30, 1943 - During World War II in the Pacific, the Aleutian Islands off the coast of Alaska were retaken by the U.S. 7th Infantry Division. The battle began on May 12 when an American force of 11,000 landed on Attu. In three weeks of fighting U.S. casualties numbered 552 killed and 1,140 wounded. Japanese killed numbered 2,352, with only 28 taken prisoner, as 500 chose suicide rather than be captured.

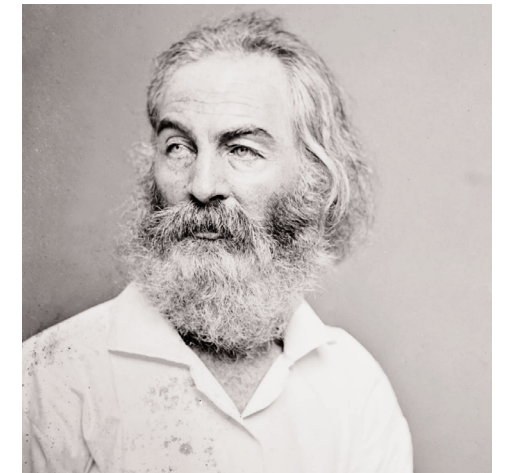
Birthday - Founder of the Russian empire Peter the Great (1672-1725) was born near Moscow. He vastly increased the power of the Russian monarchy and turned his backward country into a major power in the Western world.

Among his accomplishments, he completely overhauled the government and the Greek Orthodox Church as well as the military system and tax structure. He built St. Petersburg, established printing presses and published translations of foreign books, modernized the calendar, simplified the Russian alphabet and introduced Arabic numerals. He died at age 52 and was succeeded by his wife Catherine.

MAY 31

May 31, 1862 - During the American Civil War, the Battle of Seven Pines occurred as Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston's Army attacked Union General George McClellan's troops in front of Richmond Virginia and nearly defeated them. Johnston was badly wounded. Confederate General Robert E. Lee then assumed command, replacing the wounded Johnston. Lee renamed his force the Army of Northern Virginia.

May 31, 1889 - Over 2,300 persons were killed in the Johnstown flood in Pennsylvania. Heavy rains throughout May caused the Connemaugh River Dam to burst sending a wall of water 75 feet high pouring down upon the city.



Birthday - American poet Walt Whitman (1819-1892) was born in Long Island, New York. His poem Leaves of Grass is considered an American classic. His poetry celebrated modern life and took on subjects considered taboo at the time.

JUNE 1

Birthday - Founder of Utah and patriarch of the Mormon church Brigham Young (1801-1877) was born in Whittingham, Vermont. Called the "American Moses," he led thousands of religious followers across the wilderness to settle over 300 towns in the West, including Salt Lake City, Utah.

Birthday - Marilyn Monroe (1926-1962) was born in Los Angeles (as Norma Jean Mortensen). Following an unstable childhood spent in foster homes and orphanages, she landed a job as a photographer's model which led to a movie career. She later married baseball legend Joe DiMaggio. Beneath her glamorous movie star looks she was fragile and insecure and eventually succumbed to the pressures of Hollywood life. She died in Los Angeles from an overdose of sleeping pills on August 5, 1962.

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Peter J. McDonnell,
M.D. Director Wilmer Eye
Institute, Johns Hopkins
University, USA on the
occasion of laying the
foundation stone on
December 10, 2020**



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revelation of a society's soul
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