



The

WWW.THEINDIANPANORAMA.NEWS

INDIAN



PANORAMA

EVER TRUTHFUL

1 INDIAN AMERICAN WEEKLY : SINCE 2006

78th
YEAR

VOL 18 ISSUE 28 • NEW YORK / DALLAS • JULY 12 - 18, 2024

ENQUIRIES: 646-247-9458 • info@theindianpanorama.news

The INDIAN PANORAMA
EVER TRUTHFUL

will bring out a profusely illustrated
special edition to mark the
78th Independence Day of India

Articles and advertisements
may please be emailed to
salujaindra@gmail.com
by August 6, 2024

For any queries, please email us
or call 646-247-9458

:- INSIDE :-

NAVIGATING THE CIRCUS OF
AMERICAN DEMOCRACY PAGE 2

RUSSIA, CHINA KEEN ON RAPID
BRICS EXPANSION TO COUNTER
WEST PAGE 8

NEW CRIMINAL LAWS IN INDIA:
ARE THEY A THREAT TO CIVIL
LIBERTIES? PAGE 9

WHAT MODI CAN LEARN FROM
SUNAK PAGE 10

Eminent economists tell PM Modi to take steps to accelerate growth

UNION FINANCE MINISTER NIRMALA SITHARAMAN IS SCHEDULED TO PRESENT
THE BUDGET FOR 2024-25 IN LOK SABHA ON JULY 23



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and others during a meeting with economists at NITI Aayog, in New Delhi, Thursday, July 11, 2024. Photo credit / PTI

JULY 11, 2024

NEW DELHI (TIP): Ahead of the upcoming budget, eminent economists during a meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday, July 11, urged the government to take steps to accelerate economic growth and improve infrastructure, sources said.

The meeting was organized by the NITI Aayog on Thursday, July 11, to elicit views and suggestions of economists for the first budget of the Modi 3.0 government.

"Earlier today, interacted with eminent economists and heard their insightful views on issues pertaining to furthering growth," Modi said in a post on X. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is scheduled to present the Budget for 2024-25 in the Lok Sabha on July 23.

CONTD ON PAGE 38

Supreme Court Grants Interim Bail to Arvind Kejriwal in PMLA Case; Refers Plea Challenging ED Arrest to Larger Bench



In spite of the interim bail in PMLA case, Kejriwal will remain in custody under the Prevention of Corruption Act in relation to the same liquor policy case registered by the CBI on June 25.

Credit : PTI

JULY 12, 2024

NEW DELHI (TIP): In a significant development, the Supreme Court on Friday, July 12 granted interim bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in the case registered under the Prevention

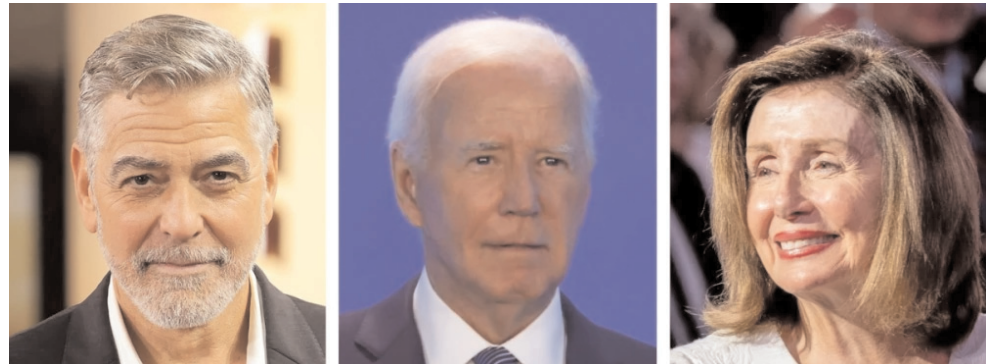
of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) over the liquor policy case, while referring his petition challenging the arrest by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to a larger bench.

A bench comprising Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta referred Kejriwal's petition to a larger bench to examine the question whether the need or necessity of arrest must be read as a condition into Section 19 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Kejriwal will however remain in custody since he was arrested by the CBI under the Prevention of Corruption Act in relation to the same liquor policy case on June 25. Reading the excerpts from the judgment in open court, Justice Khanna held that the "reasons to believe" for arrest meet with the

CONTD ON PAGE 38

Pelosi raises doubts about Biden's presidential race, Clooney asks him to end campaign



The embattled Joe Biden. George Clooney, Joe Biden, Nancy Pelosi

JULY 10, 2024

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): US President Joe Biden must decide quickly whether to stay in the 2024 White House race, former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, a long-time Biden ally, said on Wednesday, July 10, while declining to say definitively that she wanted him to run, says a Reuters report.

In an opinion piece published on Wednesday in the New York Times, Hollywood star George Clooney, a Democrat who co-hosted a fundraiser for Biden last month, withdrew his support.

Pelosi's remarks, which ignored Biden's repeated insistence that he remains in the race, suggested he could

CONTD ON PAGE 38



"In times of crisis, we will need to trust each other and act together... we need to be known to each other's systems and also know each other as humans. The US and India have to act together... take stand in principle against war," Garcetti said.

US envoy to India Eric Garcetti says India must not take ties for granted

JULY 11, 2024

NEW DELHI (TIP): Two days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Russia, US Ambassador Eric Garcetti described the US-India defense partnership as the most consequential, but went on suggest that the relationship couldn't be taken for granted and efforts were needed to maintain it, as was the case in a marriage.

I know India likes its strategic autonomy and I respect that. But in times of conflict, there is no such thing as strategic autonomy.

contd on page 38



Andy Singh

516-441-7000
16 E. Old Country Road
Hicksville, NY 11801

E-mail: herman@omnimortgage.com



OMNI MORTGAGE CORP.
Residential | Commercial | SBA Loans



Herman Singh

718-441-7000
118-18 101 Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Registered Mortgage Broker- NYS Dept of Financial Services
Loans arranged thru 3rd party providers

The INDIAN PANORAMA
EVER TRUTHFUL**PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER:**

Prof. Indrajit S. Saluja

VICE PRESIDENT:

Chitagam Saluja

CHIEF EDITOR:

Prof Indrajit S. Saluja

ASSISTANT EDITOR:

Bidisha Roy

SPL. REPORTER UNO:

H.S. Panaser

GRAPHICS DIRECTOR:

Om Parkash Malik

DIRECTOR**ADMINISTRATION:**

Gauri Beri

**CONTRIBUTING
PHOTOGRAPHERS:**

Baldev Singh / BJ Videos

Gunjesh Desai / Masala Junction

Jay Mandal,

Mohammad Jaffer,

SnapsIndia

Mohammad Shahzad,

Zia Khan,

Nisha Rani

Vaaho Photographers,

Vijay Shah - Photo Journalist.

CORRESPONDENTS :**SACRAMENTO:**

Parminder S. Aujla

NEW YORK :

Chitagam

FRESNO:

Tarlochan Singh

DALLAS:

Harjit Dhesi, Amarjit Dhillon

OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS**LONDON**

Nirpal Singh Shergill

SPL CORRESPONDENT**DELHI BUREAU CHIEF:**

Chandan Singh

CHANDIGARH:

Manjit Sidhu

LUDHIANA:

A.S. Arora,

R.P.Sharma

JAIPUR :

Dr. Yashpaul Goyal

DALLAS BUREAU CHIEF & VP

Lovlien Kaurr

972-330-3139

editor@theindianpanorama.news

The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South

Richmond Hill, NY 11419,

Tel: 646-247-9458

Email:

editor@theindianpanorama.news

DISCLAIMER

THE INDIAN PANORAMA ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CLAIMS MADE IN ADVERTISEMENTS. WE ONLY SELL SPACE. VIEWS PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPER ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE NEWSPAPER. ALL RIGHTS ARE RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IN WRITING FROM THE INDIAN PANORAMA IS PROHIBITED.

COMMENT

Navigating the Circus of American Democracy

BY
INDRAJIT SALUJA

Politics, as the adage goes, is a game of scoundrels. This sentiment seems to resonate universally, albeit with varying degrees of intensity. Whether one looks at politicians from the most developed nations or those struggling with basic infrastructure, there is a shared perception that politicians constitute a unique and often confounding species. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the United States, where the political landscape often resembles a chaotic circus rather than a beacon of democratic governance.

As we stand on the cusp of another presidential election in 2024, the American populace finds itself grappling with a disheartening reality: the perceived lack of viable candidates fit for the highest office in the land. With a nation of over 342 million inhabitants, it is indeed perplexing that the choices for the presidency appear underwhelming, if not outright unsuitable.

The two individuals currently vying for the White House exemplify this dilemma. Their campaigns, rather than inspiring confidence and hope, seem mired in controversy, incompetence, and a dearth of substantive policy proposals. The question naturally arises: how did we, as a nation, arrive at this juncture where the options for our next leader seem so disappointing?

Firstly, let us acknowledge the broader context of American politics. The electoral process, while ostensibly designed to promote meritocracy and representative governance, often becomes ensnared in partisan bickering, special interests, and the omnipresent influence of money. Candidates spend exorbitant sums on campaigning, turning what should be a platform for discussing pressing issues into a spectacle of mudslinging and

character assassination.

Moreover, the American electorate finds itself increasingly polarized along ideological lines. Issues that should unite the nation—such as healthcare, education, and economic prosperity—become battlegrounds for entrenched political factions. Compromise, once a cornerstone of democratic governance, has become a rare commodity. Instead, political strategy revolves around rallying a base rather than appealing to the broader spectrum of voters.

In this environment, the quality of candidates often takes a backseat to their ability to mobilize and energize their respective bases. This phenomenon has led to the nomination of candidates who may excel in rhetoric and theatrics but falter when it comes to leadership acumen and a genuine understanding of policy intricacies. Substance gives way to style, and governance becomes a casualty of political expediency.

The media, too, plays a significant role in shaping public perception of political candidates. The 24-hour news cycle thrives on controversy and sensationalism, often prioritizing headlines over substantive analysis. Candidates who can generate attention, whether through provocative statements or scandalous behavior, receive disproportionate coverage, overshadowing more qualified but less flamboyant contenders.

Against this backdrop, it is no wonder that disillusionment with the political process runs deep among American voters. Many feel disenfranchised, believing that their voices are drowned out by the cacophony of partisan warfare and media sensationalism. The very notion of public service as a noble calling has been tarnished by the perception of politics as a cynical game played by self-serving opportunists.

Yet, amidst the gloom and disillusionment, there remains a glimmer of hope. The American democratic system, for all its flaws and shortcomings,

possesses a resilience born out of its commitment to principles of freedom, equality, and the rule of law. The way forward lies not in despairing over the current state of affairs but in actively participating in the democratic process.

Citizens must demand accountability from their elected representatives, holding them to the highest standards of integrity and competence. Grassroots movements and civic engagement can serve as catalysts for change, promoting a more inclusive and responsive political culture. Furthermore, reforms aimed at reducing the influence of money in politics and fostering greater transparency are essential to restoring faith in democratic institutions.

Education also plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of American politics. A well-informed electorate is better equipped to discern between genuine leadership and empty promises. Civic education programs in schools can cultivate a sense of civic duty and empower young people to become active participants in shaping their communities and their country's future.

Ultimately, the path to reclaiming the integrity of American politics requires a collective effort. It demands that we transcend partisan divides and reaffirm our commitment to the principles upon which this nation was founded. It necessitates a reevaluation of our priorities as voters and a rejection of the politics of division in favor of a politics of unity and common purpose.

As we approach the upcoming presidential election, let us not resign ourselves to the belief that politics is irredeemably broken. Instead, let us recognize the power inherent in our democratic institutions and our ability, as citizens, to effect meaningful change. The circus of American politics may be chaotic and disheartening at times, but it remains within our power to steer it towards a future defined by integrity, competence, and the common good.

GUEST COMMENT

Shambhu barricades: Order to open border a win for public, protesters

The Punjab and Haryana High Court's order to remove barricades at the Shambhu border marks a significant moment in the ongoing protests by farmers. For over five months, the blockade, set up by the Haryana Government, has caused severe inconvenience to commuters, disrupted local businesses and ignited widespread public frustration. This court order represents a critical step towards restoring normalcy and addressing the grievances of both the protesting farmers

and the affected residents. The ruling underscores the importance of balancing the right to peaceful protest with the need to maintaining public order and accessibility. The blockade, which began as a measure to prevent farmers from advancing towards Delhi, had escalated into a roadblock for ordinary citizens. The HC directive to Punjab and Haryana to coordinate the removal of the barriers highlights a judicial acknowledgment of the hardship imposed on the public.

For the protesting farmers, this ruling is a validation of their stance. As one farmer leader pointed out, the order reveals that the barricades were a state-imposed restriction. This distinction is crucial for altering public perception and countering the narrative that farmers were

responsible for the blockade. The Samyukt Kisan Morcha's plan to discuss their next move shows a continued commitment to peaceful advocacy of their demands.

As the barricades come down and normal traffic resumes, traders in Ambala, who faced losses due to reduced customer flow, hope for a turn towards economic recovery. Even as both state governments must facilitate a smooth transition, the farmers should ensure that their next steps do not lead to any escalation. This episode highlights the delicate balance required in handling public protests and the need for solutions that respect both civil liberties and public welfare. Dialogue remains the most effective path to resolution.

(Tribune, India)

42nd Annual India Day Parade NYC Unveiled at Indian Consulate in New York

JULY 8, 2024

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): The Federation of Indian Associations NY-NJ-CT-NE (FIA) along with the Consulate General of India New York hosted a Curtain Raiser event on July 8th, unveiling the 42nd Annual India Day Parade NYC.

The Consul General of India in New York Binaya S Pradhan, FIA President Dr. Avinash Gupta, FIA Chairman Ankur Vaidya, FIA Past President & Board Member Anil Bansal, FIA Senior Advisor Dr. Sudhir Parikh, and CEO State Bank of India, New York Prasanta Tripathi unveiled the official poster for this year's parade, setting the tone for the evening.

Dr. Avinash Gupta delivered a heartfelt welcome speech. He highlighted the unique resonance of the parade's theme, "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," and explained the upcoming India Day Parade format. He appealed to the Indian community to come forward and participate in the event and thanked the media, sponsors, and the executive committee for their support.

The Consul General of India in New York Shri Binaya S Pradhan welcomed all the guests. He said that growing up in India, he knew about the parade and the significance of this event. He assured that the consulate will support this event, as they have for years, and they will come together to showcase India's great culture.

Ankur Vaidya, the Chairman of FIA, provided an overview of the organization's history and activities.



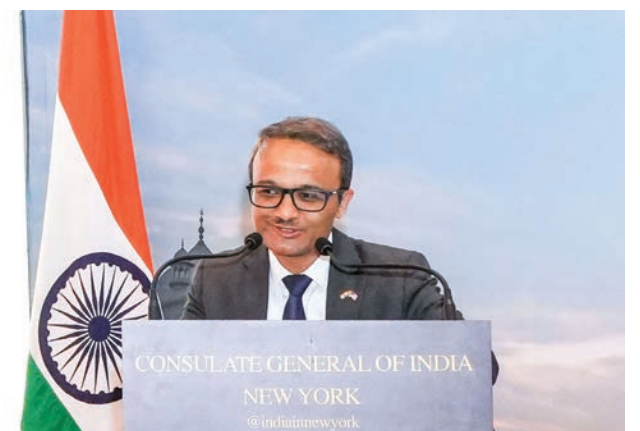
Unveiling of the 42nd Annual India Day Parade. L to R: Dr. Sudhir Parikh, Dr. Avinash Gupta, Consul General Binaya Pradhan, CEO SBI Prasanta Tripathi, Ankur Vaidya, Anil Bansal, Srujal Parikh, Alok Kumar -Photo / Jay Mandal-on assignment



Acclaimed actor Pankaj Tripathi was announced as the Special Guest of Honor for the 42nd Annual India Day Parade



FIA President Dr. Avinash Gupta extended a welcome to guests at the unveiling of the 42nd FIA Parade and appealed for community's participation



Consul General Binaya S Pradhan committed the Consulate's support to the FIA Parade



FIA Chairman Ankur Vaidya made an impassioned appeal for participation in large numbers



CEO SBI Prasanta Tripathi spoke of the State Bank's traditional support to the FIA Parade



FIA Past President and Board member Anil Bansal offered his support and praised the entire community for their hard work.

He earnestly urged the community to collaborate to ensure the upcoming event's success. He expressed appreciation for the selfless efforts of the executive teams, who diligently handle post-event responsibilities, including waste management and administrative tasks.

The highlight of the evening was the announcement of acclaimed actor Pankaj Tripathi as the Guest of Honor, accompanied by an exclusive video of his involvement in the parade.

Jai Bansal began his address with "Namaste, Jai Hind, and Jai Shree Ram" and then introduced VHPA.

He presented a mesmerizing overview of the Ram Mandir Float. A video showcased the design and construction of this centerpiece, providing attendees with a sneak peek. The India Day Parade is well-known for featuring colorful floats representing the diverse Indian-American communities and their cultural expressions. This year, the inclusion of a grand replica of the newly inaugurated Ayodhya Ram Mandir, measuring 18 feet long, 9 feet wide, and 8 feet tall, promises to be a powerful symbol of cultural significance and a testament to a historic moment for the global Indian community.

Representatives from VHPA, BAPS, and

CONTD ON PAGE 4

CONTD FROM PAGE 3



Dr. Sudhir Parikh expressed his gratitude to FIA for having him as a part of the parade since its inception.

Siddhivinayak Temple came together to unveil the stunning Ram Mandir Float, symbolizing the rich cultural heritage and traditions of India. Sanjeev Gupta, a representative from the Vishva Hindu Parishad of America (VHPA), elaborated on the significance of the replica's design and the



Jai Bansal, Vice President, VHP presented a mesmerizing overview of the Ram Mandir Float

collaborative efforts between the VHPA and the FIA. Padmashree Dr. Sudhir Parikh expressed his gratitude to FIA for having him as a part of the parade since its inception.

FIA Past President and Board member Anil Bansal offered his support and praised the entire community



Saurin Parikh, Executive Vice President, FIA expressed gratitude to all attendees, speakers, and organizers who contributed to the success of the curtain-raiser event.

for their hard work.

Prasanta Tripathi, CEO, State Bank of India, NY pledged full support for the upcoming parade and confirmed that the entire SBI team will participate. Tripathi expressed pride in witnessing the well-organized event for the past three years and assured that the entire SBI staff will be there to support the parade.

The evening concluded with a vote of thanks by FIA Executive Vice President Saurin Parikh, expressing gratitude to all attendees, speakers, and organizers who contributed to the success of the curtain-raiser event.

Attendees were served a delicious dinner from Andaz restaurant that set the tone for a grand finale, promising a vibrant and memorable celebration of India's rich heritage and the Indian-American community's contribution.

Mamta Narula emceed the program.

(Based on a press release)



**MOVE TO
A HOUSE
OF YOUR
DREAMS**

Move to desirable Garden City. Great schools.
4 bedrooms, large EIK, 2 modern bathrooms.
ORIGINAL PRICE WAS 1.3 MILLION.
Family moved to the West Coast.
Now accepting Cash offers of 1.1 million or 1.2 ,
if we have to wait for mortgage.

Call Tony (516)554-2008

**NEW JERSEY
SYMPHONY**

LIVE with the Symphony!
July 27 & 28
Newark | New Brunswick
njsymphony.org | 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476)

Twelve Indo-Punjabi MPs enter UK's House of Commons



Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi, Preet Kaur Gill, Gagan Mohindra are among 12 Punjab-origin politicians in the UK's House of Commons

JULY 5, 2024

LONDON (TIP): A record 12 Punjab-origin politicians entered the UK's House of Commons on Friday as the Labor Party registered a historic victory in the parliamentary elections. The count stood at five in 2019.

Of the 12 MPs, which includes six women, 11 belong to the Labor Party while Gagan Mohindra is from the Conservative

Party. The prominent faces include Preet Kaur Gill from Birmingham Edgbaston, Seema Malhotra from Feltham and Heston and Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi from Slough.

The trio have their roots in Jalandhar. Seema has won for record fifth time while it's third term for both Gill and Dhesi. Gill is said to be the frontrunner to be a minister in the new UK cabinet. "An honor and a privilege to be re-elected again as an

MP for Birmingham Edgbaston. Thank you to everyone who put their trust in me. I will continue to serve the people and place I love," Gill wrote on X. Her father Daljit Singh was the longest-serving president of Guru Nanak Gurdwara at Smethwick, which was the first Sikh shrine in the UK.

Gill was elected as a councilor for Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council in 2012 and re-elected in 2016. In 2017, she was giving the ticket by the Labor Party from Birmingham Edgbaston and she became the first woman British-Sikh MP.

Dhesi, who is the first turbaned Sikh MP in the UK, posted on X, "Huge honor to be re-elected by the good people of #Slough as their MP. They voted for change, unity and progress, which is what I will work hard to deliver."

Dhesi's father Jaspal Singh Dhesi is the former president of Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara at Gravesend, the largest Sikh shrine in the UK. He was first elected as a councilor to the Gravesham Borough Council in 2007. He later went on to become the Gravesham Mayor between 2011 and 2012. He lost his MP poll from Gravesham in 2015, but won in 2017, 2019 and 2024 from Slough.

INDIAN AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR BIDEN DECLINES SHARPLY BY 19 PERCENT SINCE 2020



JULY 11, 2024

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): There is a sharp 19-per cent decline in Indian Americans supporting incumbent President Joe Biden between the last election of 2020 and the 2024 election cycle, according to a bi-annual Asian American Voter Survey (AAVS), the longest-running survey of Asian-American voters released on Wednesday.

Conducted by Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote (APIAVote), AAPI Data, Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC) and AARP, the survey reveals that 46 per cent of Indian Americans intend to vote for Biden this year as against 65 per cent in 2020.

The alarming drop of 19 per cent is the largest among all the Asian-American ethnic communities. According to the survey, which was conducted before the June 27 presidential debate between Biden and his Republican challenger Donald Trump, 46 per cent Asian Americans are likely to vote for Biden, down eight percentage points since 2020, while 31 per cent are likely to vote for Trump, gaining one point since 2020.

However, Trump has gained just 2 per cent in favorability rating (28 per cent in 2020 to 30 per cent in 2024), despite the record 19-per cent drop in Biden's support from Indian Americans.

Asian-Americans have been a rapidly growing group of eligible voters in the United States over the past two decades, growing by 15 per cent in the last four years alone and turning out in record numbers in every federal election since 2016.

In 2020, a surge in the number of Asian American voters -- especially those voting for the very first time -- in battleground states was crucial to Biden's victory.

The sharp decline in Indian American voters' support for Biden might be crucial, given that the community has a sizable presence in many battleground states.

According to the survey, Biden has 55 per cent favorability rating among Indian Americans, while Trump has a favorability rating of 35 per cent. Interestingly, both Biden and Trump have the same 42 per cent unfavourability rating among Indian Americans.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Four Indian Americans arrested for 'running human trafficking racket' in Texas



Chandan Dasireddy, 24; Dwaraka Gunda, 31; Santhosh Katkoori, 31; and Anil Male, 37; all arrested in March, are now charged with trafficking of persons, a second-degree felony. Photo for representation only

JULY 9, 2024

HOUSTON (TIP): Four Indian Americans, including a woman, have been charged with running a human labor trafficking scheme out of a home in the US state of Texas, a media report said.

The Princeton Police Department released details of an investigation that led to four people being arrested after 15 women were found inside the home as alleged victims of human labor trafficking, a media portal said on Monday night. Chandan Dasireddy, 24; Dwaraka Gunda, 31; Santhosh Katkoori, 31; and Anil Male, 37; all arrested in March, are now charged with trafficking of persons, a second-degree felony, and more arrests are expected, the channel reported, quoting police.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian-origin Sikh preacher Baba Sukha Singh lays foundation stone of Param Purakh Academy in Edmonton, Canada



Baba Sukha Singh, head of Kar Sewa sect, Sarhali laid the foundation stone of Param Purakh Academy in Edmonton in Alberta state of Canada on Monday, July 8

JULY 9, 2024

EDMONTON (TIP): The foundation stone of Param Purakh Academy was laid in Edmonton in Alberta state of Canada by Baba Sukha Singh, head of Kar Sewa sect, Sarhali, on Monday. The sect head is on Gurmat Prachar tour in that country. He initiated the construction of the building which witnessed a large gathering from different cities in Canada. Members of the Sikh community attended the congregation in large numbers. Bhai Gurpreet Singh Moga performed Kirtan, while Gyani Harjit Singh (Kathawachak, Gurdwara Ber Sahib, Sultanpur Lodhi) captivated the congregation with his thoughts on Gurmat. Baba Sukha Singh also enthralled the audience with Kirtan.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian-origin student drowns at Barberville Falls in tragic incident



Sai Surya Avinash Gadde, an Indian student from Trine University, Indiana drowned at Barberville Falls in Poestenkill, New York, on Sunday, July 7th.

JULY 8, 2024

ALBANY, NY (TIP): An Indian student from Trine University, Indiana drowned at Barberville Falls in Poestenkill, New York, on Sunday, July 7th, the last day of the long 4th of July weekend. The Indian Consulate in New York expressed deep sadness over the death of Sai Surya Avinash Gadde and extended condolences to his grieving family and friends. The Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office reported that two men got into trouble while swimming at the falls. Multiple emergency crews responded to the scene, including the state dive team. While one man was successfully rescued by a good Samaritan, efforts to save Gadde were unsuccessful. The Indian Consulate in New York is providing necessary assistance, including the issuance of a No Objection Certificate (NOC) to facilitate the transportation of Gadde's mortal remains back to India.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Dr Sunil Kaza claims he is duly elected Chair of the AAPI Board of Trustees

CALLING SOME PUBLISHED PRESS REPORTS ABOUT THE BOT CHAIR ELECTION MISLEADING, DR KAZA LOOKS FORWARD TO AN AMICABLE RESOLUTION

JULY 6, 2024

NEW YORK (TIP): Dr Sunil Kaza, an eminent cardiologist who has served in many leadership roles in AAPI and outside AAPI and is currently on its Board of Trustees (BOT), claims he was duly elected as the BOT Chair for the year 2024-25 on June 8, 2024.

The election took place at a properly convened meeting of the Spring Governing Body of AAPI (American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin), as per the Bylaws of AAPI, at Mint restaurant in Garden City, NY with a full quorum. According to Dr. Kaza, 24 of the 25 who voted "in person" in the secret ballot endorsed his candidature.

"The election was conducted candidly and transparently by the sitting BOT Chair Dr. Lokesh Edara. The documentation, including meeting minutes, was sent soon after to the AAPI office," Dr Kaza recounted to this correspondent on the phone. He is based in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dr. Lokesh Edara, Chair of the Board



Dr Sunil Kaza, currently on AAPI Board of Trustees (BOT), claims he was duly elected as the BOT Chair for the year 2024-25 on June 8, 2024.

of Trustees, confirmed in a phone call that he conducted the meeting at which Dr Kaza was declared elected BOT Chair for 2024-25. There were two other candidates. Michigan-based Dr Edara adds that Dr Kaza's election was "further ratified" on June 19 by a majority of the Board of Trustees.

The majority of the Board stands by the results of the BOT Chair election conducted on June 8 at Spring Governing Body and affirms Dr. Kaza as the Incoming BOT Chair.

Yet, Dr Kaza's election to the prestigious position of the reputed national organization has been disputed. He says, "A second, unconventional, alternate duplicate election was conducted by the AAPI President. The President traditionally is not supposed to get involved in the BOT Chair election. It was done via Election Buddy software in an "extremely cryptic" manner without declaring who received the ballots and who voted."

Read full

story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Indo-American Senior Citizen Association of Hudson County Marks 248th independence Day with Grand Celebration

JULY 4, 2024

HUDSON COUNTY, NJ (TIP): The Indo-American Senior Citizen Association of Hudson County made the 248th American Independence Day a memorable event with a grand celebration. Over 160 members gathered to partake in the festivities, which highlighted the values of unity, happiness, and patriotism.

The event commenced with a ceremonial flag-raising, followed by a day filled with joyous activities. Chairman Jatinder Bakshi remarked, "We take pride in honoring the courageous individuals who fought for our freedom and celebrating the values that define American greatness."

contd on page 38



Committee Members of IASCAOHC with Chairman Jatinder Bakshi and Commissioner Bill O'DEA and President Dipak Valsadia

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT THE PERMANENT MISSION OF INDIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Applications are invited for two posts of RESEARCH ASSISTANTS in the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations, New York.

Requirements are as follows:

- Age: 20 years to 35 years
- Educational & Professional qualifications: Bachelors degree holder. Candidates with work experience in United Nations Missions preferred.
- Skills required : Fluent in English, any other UN language and Hindi (preferable). Preference for good writing skills, excellent communication, and good computer skills including MS Office / iOS , Video editing software, web applications, etc.).
- Applicant must either be US Citizen, Green Card holder or Permanent Resident, or hold valid visa and work permit at the time of recruitment. Proper Visa requirements/ renewal will need to be met by the applicants at their own expense.
- For job description and more details please visit <https://www.pminewyork.gov.in/vacancy>
- Resume/ CV along with copies of educational qualifications, passport, and visa (if applicable) may be sent by post/ e-mail/ by hand latest by 23 July 2024 to:

Attache (Admin)

PERMANENT MISSION OF INDIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

235 East, 43rd Street, New York, NY-10017 Fax: (212)-490-9656/57

E-mail: india.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in , admn.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in, ga.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT THE PERMANENT MISSION OF INDIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Applications are invited for one post of PROTOCOL ASSISTANT CUM CLERK/TYPIST in the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations, New York. Requirements are as follows:

AGE: 20 years to 35 years

EDUCATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelors degree holder. Candidates with work experience preferred.

SKILLS REQUIRED (PROTOCOL ASSISTANT & CLERK /TYPIST) : Fluency in English mandatory, working knowledge of Hindi preferable. Preference will be given for good writing skills, excellent communication, good knowledge of computer applications/ word processing software.

Applicant must either be US Citizen, Green Card holder or Permanent Resident, or hold valid visa and work permit at the time of recruitment. Proper Visa requirements/ renewal will need to be met by the applicants at their own expense.

For job description and more details please visit

<https://www.pminewyork.gov.in/vacancy>

Resume/ CV along with copies of educational qualifications, passport, and visa (if applicable) may be sent by post/ e-mail/ by hand latest by 30 June 2024 to:

Attache (Admin)

PERMANENT MISSION OF INDIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

235 East, 43rd Street, New York, NY-10017 Fax: (212)-490-9656/57

E-mail: india.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in , admn.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in, ga.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in

SUOZZI SEEKS NEW BIPARTISAN COALITION OF "BUSINESS, BADGES, AND THE BIBLE" TO BRING "ORDER TO THE BORDER"

WILL INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO FIX THE BROKEN IMMIGRATION AND BORDER SYSTEM

JULY 8, 2024

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): Congressman Tom Suozzi (D - Long Island, Queens) is seeking to build a bipartisan, broad-based coalition to bring 'order to the border' and reform America's antiquated, broken immigration system.

Suozzi says he is also determined to bring together a new alliance - "business, the bible, and badges" - in a collective effort to lobby Congress and force it to do its job.

He explained this unique partnership by saying:

"Business has a huge stake in immigration reform. Companies, farmers, hospitals, and manufacturers need a long-term immigration fix to better plan the future of our nation's economic health. Immigrant workers have become an essential part of the U.S. workforce, contributing across sectors and playing a noteworthy role in our country's economy." "By using the word 'bible,' I refer to those basic values, both



My goal is to introduce bipartisan legislation this summer that will 1) secure the border, 2) fix the broken and outdated asylum system, and 3) treat people like human beings," Suozzi announced.

religious and secular, that Americans have embraced - that all men and women are created equal and are entitled to human respect and dignity. Spiritual and secular leaders of all kinds can join hands to practice what they preach: the golden rule, human dignity, and the worth of all people.

And 'badges' represent our country's law enforcement community who need new, innovative technology, cutting-edge tools, and "order at the border" to better protect our borders and communities."

"The U.S. faces an immigration crisis because too many politicians have spent too many years 'weaponizing' immigration policy-fighting across the aisle - but haven't done a thing to fix it," declared Suozzi. "My goal is to introduce bipartisan legislation this summer that will 1) secure the border, 2) fix the broken and outdated asylum system, and 3) treat people like human beings," he announced.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Celebrating Entrepreneurial Spirit and Democratic Values at the Campaign for Democracy Reception



Ramesh Viswanath Kapur, Manoj Shinde and Rajendar Dichpally gifted the Governor a Gandhi Statue.

JULY 7, 2024

WINCHESTER, MA (TIP): On a bright summer evening, the US India Security Council President, Mr. Ramesh Viswanath Kapur and his wife Susan, opened their beautiful home and hosted a fund raiser for Governor Gavin Newsom, the 40th Governor of California. This event underscored the urgent need for democratic values, the entrepreneurial spirit, and the critical role of minority communities, especially Indian Americans, in shaping the future of our nation.

Mr. Kapur opened the evening by expressing gratitude to Governor Newsom for his decisive veto of the proposed SB 403 bill, which aimed to ban caste discrimination, and for his interest

in visiting a Hindu temple in Florida in the coming months. The room, filled with many Indian origin attendees, erupted in applause, recognizing Governor Newsom's steadfast support for entrepreneurial initiatives and his principled stance on critical issues. Mr. Kapur also stated that he feels the Governor has a good chance of being the 47th President of USA.

Governor Newsom shared his inspiring journey from entrepreneur to Governor, recounting his early days in the 80s when he sold wine from his living room as a teenager. His story deeply resonated with the audience.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

MAMASITA BAR & GRILL
212 315-9444 | www.mamasitanyc.com

MAMASITA FRESH MEXICAN FOOD BAR & GRILL
NEW YORK
HORNITOS
AVION

Best Food

Mexican

WITH HEALTHY JAIN, VEGETARIAN, VEGAN & GLUTEN FREE MENU

Mamasita Bar & Grill
818 10th Avenue, New York, NY 10019
(212) 315-9444; www.mamasitanyc.com

WE DO CATERING & PRIVATE PARTIES

FORMERLY KNOWN AS MI NIDITO

ENJOY 25+ MOUTH WATERING FLAVORS OF MARGARITAS

MAMASITA BAR & GRILL

ATLAS ROLL OFF CORP.

DISPOSAL SITE

OPEN Monday - Friday 6.30 AM to 4.00 PM
Saturday 6.30 AM to 1.30 PM

For construction Debris, Demolition & Cleanouts

Located at 895 Essex Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208
Just 5 minutes from JFK

Roll Off Container Service
10, 15, 20, 30 & 40 Yards

Serving all the five boroughs of New York Since 1983
NYC BIC LIC #711

Reasonable low rates ** All major credit cards accepted

Call @ 718-345-6451

Russia, China keen on rapid BRICS expansion to counter West



BY GURJIT SINGH

"Overall, the entry of ASEAN nations into BRICS will improve its geographical coverage and bring countries in the ambit of India's Act East Policy into the grouping. India should have no difficulty in supporting Vietnam, Malaysia and Thailand for their entry into BRICS and Indonesia whenever it seeks to join. India has close ties with these countries. And the economic and political expansion of relations with them remains a keystone of India's Act East Policy. They are all friends of India and could benefit by balancing the composition of BRICS."

Amid Russia's chairmanship of BRICS, Beijing and Moscow are making efforts to rapidly expand the grouping and gain traction for the organization to challenge Western domination. They aim to position BRICS as an upholder of the values of the Global South.

BRICS has traditionally tried to find better economic avenues not dependent on the West. It is also an important effort for a multipolar world.

As many as 33 countries are waiting to join BRICS. This is a huge number. Since 2010, when South Africa joined BRICS, it remained a club of five countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. In 2023, during the South African chairmanship, six countries were invited to join the bloc: Argentina, Ethiopia, Egypt, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Argentina withdrew, while Saudi Arabia has not ratified its membership. The criteria-based approach was ignored in this rush.

Among Ethiopia, Iran, the UAE and Egypt, there is a mix of pro- and anti-Western countries. But the dominant theme is how to join another pole in the emerging international order and seek greater economic opportunities for themselves.

Indonesia's reluctance to join the first expansion has left a gap in BRICS because no Southeast Asian country is a member so far. Indonesia, which was then the chair of ASEAN and had successfully helmed the G20 in 2022, was seen as an ideal partner. But it demurred.



The entry of ASEAN nations into BRICS will improve its geographical coverage and bring countries in the ambit of India's Act East Policy into the grouping

One reason was that it did not want to be a party to the international contestation between the US and China, assuming that it saw BRICS as a China-led grouping. Economically, Indonesia placed its bets on its application for the membership of the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development). Hence, it did not find BRICS equally attractive.

Currently, there are three ASEAN countries seeking BRICS membership - Vietnam, Thailand and Malaysia. Public pronouncements by their leadership have varied. Thailand and Malaysia are more public about their efforts, while Vietnam, which recently hosted Russian President Vladimir Putin, has been discreet. Other applicants include Venezuela, Senegal, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Bahrain and Pakistan.

Why this eagerness of ASEAN countries to join BRICS? They are not taking an ASEAN position on BRICS. Indonesia perhaps thought there should be an ASEAN point of view on BRICS before ASEAN members sought to join. On international issues like the Ukraine war and the Gaza crisis, there is minimal, if any, common ASEAN view. Various ASEAN countries see BRICS as having political and economic influence, which has been significantly higher since the outbreak of the Ukraine crisis. Russia, China and India offer economic opportunities for trade and investment, which several applicants for BRICS membership think could benefit them.

Thailand and Malaysia view their applications as a Global South initiative to seek a more determined international order where they could have a bigger voice. They seek to leverage South-South cooperation, play a more proactive role through BRICS and participate in a more balanced international order.

Prioritizing multilateralism, strengthening the role of the countries of the South and enhancing economic opportunities are the main reasons cited.

Within Thailand and Malaysia, however, there are voices that challenge their governments' inclination towards BRICS. They aver that ASEAN has traditionally maintained its strategic autonomy, which, in real terms, has come to mean close economic engagement with China and a security understanding with the US-led Western bloc. The discomfort that ASEAN countries had with Quad has diminished, but that this would lead to a rush to join BRICS was unanticipated.

It is not as if Vietnam, Malaysia and Thailand have had similar voting patterns on the Ukraine crisis in the UN. They voted separately. Now, they are keen on BRICS membership, even though Russia and Iran are under US sanctions and China leads the anti-Western bloc.

When these countries' push for membership is challenged domestically on the grounds of strategic autonomy, they revert to citing economic opportunities. However, this does not hold much water because Vietnam, Malaysia and Thailand are closely aligned with China in economic terms. For several years, Beijing has been their largest trading partner, and they are benefiting from the Belt and Road Initiative. They are all members of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, from which India withdrew in 2019. Yet, they are all members of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity, which is led by Quad countries. Vietnam is also a member of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, with several members from the Asia-Pacific; both China and Taiwan

are among the applicants.

The changing of the guard in Indonesia will take place in October, when Gen Prabowo Subianto will take over the presidency from Joko Widodo. This is likely to see a shift in the Indonesian position as well. Indonesia may not be able to enter the BRICS fray in time for the summit in Russia in October, when Vietnam, Malaysia and Thailand will be considered, but it could very well be a subsequent applicant. Prabowo has a geopolitical sense of foreign policy and is unlikely to feel the constraints that Widodo felt, even when Indonesia was a natural contender to join BRICS during the expansion in 2023.

Overall, the entry of ASEAN nations into BRICS will improve its geographical coverage and bring countries in the ambit of India's Act East Policy into the grouping. India should have no difficulty in supporting Vietnam, Malaysia and Thailand for their entry into BRICS and Indonesia whenever it seeks to join. India has close ties with these countries. And the economic and political expansion of relations with them remains a keystone of India's Act East Policy. They are all friends of India and could benefit by balancing the composition of BRICS. However, all of them are close economic partners of China, whose heft with their inclusion into BRICS would be clearly felt. India has been comfortable with the new members who have had good relations with it but prosperous economic partnerships with China.

Of the 33 current applicants, perhaps five to 10 that are acceptable to the others will be approved. ASEAN countries, with their wider reach and support from China, Russia and India, would perhaps find it easier to enter BRICS at this stage.

(The author is a former Ambassador to Indonesia and ASEAN)

New Criminal Laws in India: Are they a threat to Civil Liberties?



BY GEORGE ABRAHAM

Monday, June 30, 2024, marked a transformative shift in the legal landscape in India, overhauling the British-era criminal laws that have existed in the country for a century or more. The 'Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita' replaced the 163-year-old Indian Penal Code (IPC), 'Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita' made way for the 126-year-old 'Criminal Procedure Code' and the 'Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam' replaced the Indian Evidence Act. Together, they are said to have formed the bedrock of the criminal justice system in India. The new law trims the IPC from 511 to 358 sections and adds 20 crimes, significantly changing criminal laws in India.

Although the text of the new laws is still written in English, Hindi advocates would not miss an opportunity to send a message to mostly non-Hindi-speaking South India with any of their latest initiatives. Recently, Central funds were denied to Kerala because it said it could not comply with the Centre's request to name NHM (National Health Mission) centers in Kerala to 'Ayushman Arogya Mandirs' as it is incongruent with the language and culture of the rural population in Kerala. The story is that Kerala finally capitulated to the bullying of Hindi supremacists in Delhi due to the starvation of needed funds. If it had not been for the courage of Tamil Nadu, the country would have been steamrolled over by destroying federalism, the critical concept in running the Indian democracy.

The rewriting of these colonial-era laws cannot resolve the biggest crisis the court system faces in India. Today, 34 million cases are pending before the courts, and no end is in sight. 1.7 million are in the High Courts, and 18,122 cases are in the Supreme Court. Procedural delays, frequent adjournments, cumbersome legal procedures, and delays in submitting evidence are all blamed for the mounting crisis. The oldest case still pending in the Indian court system goes back 38 years. The adage that 'justice delayed is justice denied' appears to have no relevance in the judicial realm of Indian society.

Instead of helping to fast-track these pending cases and relieve those whose lives may be impacted, since most of them are filed under IPC, this unnecessary overhaul without proper discussions and necessary vetting only adds to the confusion and further delays. The biggest challenge for the system would be to operate in two parallel universes, as all the cases registered before June 30 would come under the old set of laws while the new ones would come under the purview of the newly created rules. All these new provisions may have to be interpreted by the court system, thereby further delaying the process. It should be noted that these bills were never sent to a Parliamentary



Various organizations protested the new criminal laws in India and demanded their repeal

Photo / Courtesy Amnesty International

Standing Committee for review but submitted as a supplementary agenda item and passed when 146 Members of Parliament were absent due to their suspension by the speaker. There were hardly any discussions with the State governments, which are supposed to implement these laws, or consultation with eminent constitutional experts available in the country. Once again, this has shown the arrogance and dictatorial ways the ruling disposition conducts the nation's business.

Why are the lawyers and Jurists across India quite upset about the implementation of these laws? Apart from relearning the new codes and practicing with two sets of law books, there are also serious concerns about how these would impact the civil liberties of Indian citizens. Mr. Manish Tiwari, a prominent Congress leader and a Supreme Court lawyer, summed up his concerns in the recent podcast with Mr. Sam Pitroda, the Chairman of the Indian Overseas Congress: "When you set a criminal law in motion, it is set in law by the legislation of the First Information Report (FIR). The Supreme Court in India, in the case of Lalithakumari, clearly said every complaint must be registered as a First Information Report. Therefore, they took away the discretion of the police completely as now these laws are going to be implemented in 17000 police stations across the length and breadth of this country; it is important that everyone has access to the first ladder of criminal law, that every complaint is registered as an FIR. However, this new law gives discretion to the police (section 1733 of BNSS). For offenses that range from three to seven years, it would be at the discretion of the police whether to register an FIR or not. The practical implications of this would be that those who are disempowered, marginalized, come from the weaker

sections of society, or live far away in rural areas where communications today is an effort will be at the tender mercies of the police stations in charge where an inspector of a sub-inspector in charge set the criminal law machine into motion".

Another big problem with the new law is the duration for which an accused can be held in police custody. The eminent jurist and a former Supreme Court judge, V.R. Krishna Iyer, famously said there would be bail, no jail. As the law stands now, if the police arrest someone, the custody will be a maximum of 15 days simultaneously in one go, and it can go up to 15 days. After that, the person is sent to judicial custody, and your chances of getting bail on the 16th day are eminently high. However, the new law takes custody of a person for 60 days for minor offenses and 90 days for major offenses. Therefore, whenever the bail application is made within 60 or 90 days, the police could say that a person is further wanted for investigation. Consequently, one's chances of getting bail before 60 or 90 days will be remote as these laws are being implemented.

The handcuffing of the accused is now left to the discretion of the police. The Supreme Court once said that it is an assault on human dignity. There are enough concerns out there that this new provision will be misused against political opponents or civil rights advocates merely for the purpose of humiliating and demeaning them.

The colonial-era sedition laws have always been a concern for human rights activists as even student demonstrators were imprisoned being falsely accused of using those draconian provisions. The revised laws removing sedition are divided into four separate activities, namely: Subversive activities, Separatist activities, Endangering the Unity and Integrity of India, and Armed rebellion. The major problem with these

provisions is what truly constitutes a subversive activity! In the past, the law was leisurely used to silence political criticism. Will a public speech from a podium, a debate forum, or a careless forwarding of a social media post constitute the 'endangering the unity and integrity' of India? A person who defends federalism and speaks against the Gujarat-centric rule be considered a separatist? Obviously, these areas are not well defined and may proscribe the fundamental right of free expression of India's citizenry.

There are also questions by many lawyers as to why the provision of Terrorism has been extrapolated into the general law as there are already existing stringent statutes to deal with it. India's "anti-terror act of 1967 requires prior sanction by the government and examination of all evidence by an independent authority to prosecute someone of terrorism charges. The new criminal statutes do not incorporate any such safeguard. The law defines a terrorist as someone who commits any act in India or in any foreign country to threaten the unity, integrity, and security of India with a provision to attach one's property. Even currency smuggling will be considered a terrorist act.

Mr. Tiwari further said, "If someone says something ironic or makes a joke out of something, it will constitute defamation. Freedom of speech and expression has been tossed out of the window. We must constitute a joint committee of the Parliament with eminent legal minds from all parties to scrutinize each of this bill provision by provision. These laws are pernicious in nature and draconian in their implementation, and they will lay the foundation of a police state in this country and will provide extensive latitude to the police because of the ambiguous nature by which certain provisions are crafted, such as bail laws".

With the additional provisions for capital punishment, questions are also raised about whether the judicial system is more fixated on retribution rather than reform. The new laws replacing the old sedition laws appear more oppressive than ever. It seems that the BJP has used the opportunity under the cover of colonial baggage to enact more draconian laws that fit well into the ongoing project of Hindu nationalism. Unless they are reviewed and revised, they may constitute a severe threat to civil liberties and freedom of expression, which may ultimately undermine the democratic and secular values of the nation.

(The author is a former Chief Technology Officer of the United Nations and is Vice Chairman of Indian Overseas Congress USA. He can be reached at gta777@gmail.com)

What Modi can learn from Sunak

FORMER UK PM GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEFEAT OF CONSERVATIVE PARTY



BY JULIO RIBEIRO

"Sunak is a practicing Hindu. It is obvious that he follows the essence of his religion. He was humble and penitent. He accepted responsibility for the defeat. The RSS should comment on this aspect of his personality and behavior like it commented on Modi's without naming him. After all, the core teachings of the great religions in the world are similar. They all teach humility and reject arrogance. They disapprove of lies. They preach compassion and service without expectation of reward."

Rishi Sunak and his Conservative Party badly lost the parliamentary elections in the UK last week. He was gracious in defeat. "I can hear your anger. I take responsibility for the loss to the many good, hardworking candidates," he said. He resigned as the Prime Minister immediately after the expected verdict was announced. The next day, he resigned as the leader of the Conservative Party, leaving the field open to ambitious politicians to vie for the top job in the party.

Considering that only 36.56 per cent of the voters supported the BJP this time, he should listen to the voices of those who voted against his party.

Sunak's stature in my eyes, at least, and I am sure in the eyes of Indians who think and feel, went up by several notches. I compared his reaction to the defeat to that of our own popular Prime Minister when the BJP lost 60 seats in the Lok Sabha compared to its 2019 tally of 303.

Narendra Modi had set his sights on winning 400 seats this time. He had launched several infrastructure projects, traversed the length and breadth of the country in his peripatetic fervor, and inaugurated the Ram Janmabhoomi temple in Ayodhya all by himself. All his efforts were in vain. His party lost ground in Uttar Pradesh and, wonder of wonders, the BJP lost the Ayodhya seat to Akhilesh Yadav's Samajwadi Party.

But our Prime Minister is made of sterner stuff than our former colonial master's ex-PM. Modi did not mention 'defeat' even once. He claimed victory for the NDA. His pre-poll tie up with



Sunak's reaction to a setback in his career was diametrically opposite to that of Modi

Chandrababu Naidu's TDP and the mercurial Nitish Kumar's JD(U) took the BJP-led alliance past the halfway mark.

Modi began his cherished third term without batting an eyelid. For him, it was business as usual. He showed no discomfiture at the BJP's below-par show in the Lok Sabha elections and did not think it necessary to offer any explanation to his party members for what can only be described as his personal failure as the BJP fought the elections in his name.

Sunak is of Indian origin. His family has its roots in Punjab. His wife, Akshata Murthy, is the daughter of Narayan Murthy, the founder of Infosys. Her roots are in Karnataka. They hail from the same stock as Modi and millions of Indians. Yet, Sunak's reaction to a setback in his career was diametrically opposite to that of Modi.

Sunak is a practicing Hindu. It is obvious that he follows the essence of his religion. He was humble and penitent. He accepted responsibility for the defeat. The RSS should comment on this aspect of his personality and behavior like it commented on Modi's without naming him. After all, the core teachings of the great religions in the world are similar. They all teach humility and reject arrogance. They disapprove of lies. They preach compassion and service without expectation of reward.

Then, why do our desi politicians differ from our brethren who have migrated to other countries and achieved unbelievable recognition? Sunak became the Prime Minister of the country that ruled over us for two centuries or more. Kamala Harris, whose mother's family migrated to the US from Tamil Nadu, is

the Vice-President of the world's most powerful country.

Besides Indians seeking a better quality of life in the West, there are Indian-origin citizens of smaller countries in the world. Their ancestors had been recruited as indentured labor to work in the cotton and sugarcane fields in British-ruled colonies in the West Indies, Mauritius and Fiji. Starting with Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam, the Prime Ministers of Mauritius have been of Indian origin.

Sir Vidiadhar Surajprasad Naipaul, whose origins are in a Dubey family from a village in Uttar Pradesh, is acknowledged as one of the greatest writers in the English language. His family was transhipped to the West Indies two or more centuries ago. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature for his writings, including *A House for Mr Biswas*, *An Area of Darkness* and *India: A Wounded Civilisation*. Indians are proud of his achievements like they are of many other PIOs (persons of Indian origin) whom our PM serenades whenever he travels to their adopted countries.

Here in India, Modi is securely installed in power till 2029. Should he rule in the same manner as he did from 2014 to 2024? Considering that only 36.56 per cent of the voters supported his party this time, he should listen to the voices of the 63.44 per cent who voted against him. Should he not change course imperceptibly to begin with but with greater momentum in the third year onwards or even from the second year if his alliance loses Maharashtra, as seems likely at present?

To begin with, he should discard

Islamophobia, which is breeding disunity in the country, a sure recipe for disaster, especially if China bares its dragon teeth more often than it does at present. Of course, the US is now on our side, but even then a fifth column within the country may prove fatal.

He should curb the enthusiasm of Central investigating agencies like the ED and the CBI to pursue only Opposition politicians and critics of his regime. The influx of Opposition legislators into the BJP will then become a trickle instead of a stream but it will recast his stature in men's eyes in more positive terms. Presently, it has become a source of talk and banter. The preponderance of questionable politicians in his party with skeletons in their cupboards is alarming. Unless it is corrected quickly, Modi's image will suffer, first nationally and then internationally.

Thirdly, even if the laws he introduces are good and beneficial to the people at large, he should not announce them dramatically for effect but should share his thoughts with the stakeholders in a graded manner and prepare for the after-effects. He should ruminate at the blow he suffered with the farm laws, which many said were good but not properly explained to the farmers' unions.

If Modi wants to be remembered by posterity, he should at least listen to the voice of the RSS Sarsanghchalak, even if he deigns to discard the voices of ordinary Indians who did not vote for him.

(The author is a former governor and a highly decorated retired Indian Police Service Officer)

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024

REGISTRATION, TEA & SNACKS 4PM - 5PM
PROGRAM STARTS 5PM FOLLOWED BY DINNER
www.sriniketanfoundation2015.org



LAKSHMI HALL

OF

THE COMMUNITY CENTER
143-09 HOLLY AVENUE, FLUSHING, NY 11355

SRINIKETAN FOUNDATION EST. 2015

A 501 (C) (3) Non Profit Organization Established in 2015
An Abode Of Success Of Body, Mind & Soul Through Various Therapies



FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
VIDUSHI PURNIMA A. DESAI
REIKI GRAND MASTER
(646) 472-9255



ADMISSION
\$21

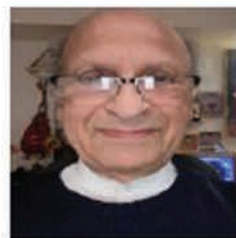
PRANAB KUMAR BISWAS
Classical and Semi-Classical Vocalist
Disciple of Ustad Nishaar Hussain Khan,
Ustad Rashid Khan, Pandit Rajan & Sajan Mishra.
Sang in 17 to 18 Bollywood Movies



Sriniketanfoundation2015@gmail.com / Gurupurnima24@aol.com



THAKUR CHAKRAPANI SINGH



NARINDER KAPOOR



DINESH PRABHAKAR



RABI SANKAR BHATTACHARYA



NARSINHA KAMATH



RAJ DHINGRA



SURESH KETWAROE



SANJIB BHATTACHARYA



ADITYA NARAYAN BANERJEE



Naturopathy – Homeopathy- Basic Yoga - Mantra Therapy Music Therapy - Laughing Therapy - Kriya Yog
Ayurveda – Meditation – Reflexology - Reiki Therapy - Listening Therapy
FOR CHAITANYA – JAGRUTI (AWARENESS & PURE CONSCIOUSNESS)
MONTHLY EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL EVENT "SHYAMA SHYAM SHASHTRIYA SUGAM SANGEET SAMMELAN"



Mailing Address: 146-29 Hawthorne Ave., Flushing, NY 11355

"HEALTH IS WEALTH"

"LONG LIVE HUMANITY"

"LONG LIVE WORLD PEACE"

JAISINGH BHANDARI ELECTED OFFICIAL NATIONAL DELEGATE FOR DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION TO REPRESENT VIRGINIA



Mr. Bhandari is a lifelong member of the Democratic Party and Central Committee member of the Virginia Democratic Party.

JULY 8, 2024

RICHMOND, VA (TIP): Prominent Indian American Leder and GOPIO Virgina President Jaisingh Bhandari was elected official Delegate to the National Democratic convention in Chicago from August 19 to August 21 that would formally nominate US President Joe Biden as the party Presidential Candidate.

Joe Biden is the presumptive Democratic Party candidate for the presidential election. An influential Indian American community leader, Mr. Jay Bhandari, has been elected in Richmond, Virginia as a National Delegate at the State convention with Majority vote. President Joe Biden Endorsed him. "It is a great pleasure and honor to share the news that I have been elected as (an) official delegate at the upcoming Democratic National Convention to be held in Chicago, Illinois, from August 19 to August 21st as the party's candidate for the November 5 presidential election. The nomination process would be completed by Democratic delegates votes from across the country.

Mr. Bhandari, a lifelong member of the Party and Central Committee member of the Virginia Democratic Party. Mr. Bhandari is a well-known and successful leader of the Asian and Indian community in numerous capacities both in India and here in the United States. He is a former vice chair and commissioner of Virginia Public School Authority Board. He served in several Social, Charitable and religious organizations. He has more than 25 years of experience in running successful Businesses and industries and was appointed by Indian government and Madhya Pradesh Government in numerous capacities. He was President of Jain Society of Soth Florida, Director in Jaina. He is also on Advisory Board of Eye Foundation of America.

Prabhjot Singh heads to Paris to cover 2024 Olympic Games

JULY 10, 2024

TORONTO (TIP): Senior journalist and sports editor Prabhjot Singh will head to Paris to cover the 2024 Olympic Games. He will be in Paris from July 23 till August 13. Besides covering all important events, he will also focus on the Indian Diaspora, hockey, boxing, wrestling, tennis, table tennis, athletics, badminton and other Games featuring players of Indian origin besides doing stories of human interest and general interest.

Prabhjot Paul Singh, better known as Prabhjot Singh, is a veteran all round journalist with over 40 years of experience of working with print and electronic media, including 37 years with The Tribune - the oldest and largest circulated English daily of North India. He had also worked as Executive Editor, PTC News, the world's largest Punjabi TV network, for more than 8 years.

He did his M.Sc. in Journalism from PAU, Ludhiana, MA (Eng) and BSc (Medical) from Panjab University, Chandigarh, and Bachelor of Journalism from Punjabi University, Patiala.

The man with solid ethical core, integrity, strong communication skills with knowledge of English, Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, German, French as well as courageous attitude and analytic mind had won KK Birla Foundation Fellowship on Media and Terrorism and also KC Kulish (Rajasthan) award for Excellence in International Journalism.

In fact, he had been a pioneer in introducing the concept sports page in Jalandhar (vernacular) newspapers in February, 1975, months before he was offered a job as a Sports Reporter



Prabhjot's love for sports can be witnessed from his travels to six summer Olympic games, one winter Olympic games, seven World Cups in Hockey, FIFA World Cup in 2006, besides three World Cups in Cricket, and two editions of Pan Am Games (Toronto and Lima).

by The Tribune group of newspapers.

In 2012, Vienna based International Press Institute (IPI) has recognized his commitment to promote free exchange of accurate, balanced news among nations and for Excellence in Journalism, for publishing an investigative series into the loot of the public transport system in Punjab by Punjab politicians, he was awarded IPI-India award.

The Sunday magazine section of The Tribune from Chandigarh dated 25 November 1984, carried an article titled "Profile of an assassin", is his most recognized work.

Though he has many feathers in his cap yet efforts to make IXC (Chd airport) active will be remembered always as a blessing for Punjabi Diaspora. His tireless pen had made Chandigarh airport as Chandigarh International Airport. He had raised issues related to IXC at various platforms.

His love for sports can be witnessed from his travels to six summer Olympic games, one winter Olympic games, seven World Cups in Hockey, FIFA World Cup in 2006, besides three

World Cups in Cricket, and two editions of Pan Am Games (Toronto and Lima). He has also covered Asian Games (New Delhi and Jakarta) and Commonwealth games in Melbourne and New Delhi. Also he has been to many other important international events and did spectacular stories of human interest.

Prabhjot has been contributing to The Indian Panorama for many years now.

Federation of Indian Associations (FIA) Announces "FIA Star Awards Night and 78th Independence Day Celebrations"



JULY 9, 2024

CHICAGO, IL (TIP): The Federation of Indian Associations (FIA) is thrilled to announce its upcoming mega event, the 'Star Awards Night,' a prestigious celebration of excellence within our community. Scheduled for August 16, 2024, at the Matrix Club in

Naperville, this gala promises an evening filled with inspiring tributes, exceptional entertainment, and fine dining. This event is scheduled for August 16th, 2024, at the prestigious Matrix Club in Naperville.

The 'FIA Star Awards Night' will honor outstanding achievements across various 19+ categories, including Best Community Service Organization, Entrepreneur of the Year, Best Medical Professional, Fashion Icon, and more. This exclusive event will shine a spotlight on individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to our community.

In addition to the awards ceremony, we are proud to announce that this year's event will coincide with FIA's grand celebration of India's 78th Independence Day. To mark this special occasion, Sparsh Shah, a talented singer, rapper, and Guinness World Record holder born with Osteogenesis Imperfecta, will open the event with a performance of patriotic songs. Adding to the excitement, FIA Team is honored to welcome Jaya Prada, an illustrious Bollywood star and multiple Filmfare Award winner.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American Sikh community support for Trump is 4 times more than what it was in 2020, says Jasdip Singh

JULY 11, 2024

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): Observing that the June 27 presidential debate did have some impact on the popularity of Donald Trump, the head of "Sikh Americans for Trump" has said the former president's victory will depend on whether the election is free, fair and legal.

"I think our community is very much in support. I have seen a lot of support in favor of President Trump. We are raising funds for President Trump. We are going to the convention soon," Maryland-based community leader Jasdip Singh Jassee, head of "Sikh Americans for Trump", told media ahead of the Republican National Convention (RNC) in Milwaukee next week. Republican delegates from across the country, during the four-day RNC convention in Milwaukee, would formally nominate Trump as their presidential candidate for the November 5 general election. Incumbent President Joe Biden is the presumptive nominee of the Democratic party.

"We will be mobilizing our team nationwide this time, even on the West Coast, in New York, Texas, in support of President Trump," said Jassee, who has been appointed on the finance committee for President Trump, the Trump 47.

"We all knew about President Biden's issues that he had for the last four years, but it was very interesting to see ... for the American public and media, to see it during the debate how much President Biden has declined his mental capacity and his thought processes, which was very evident throughout.



Jasdip Singh Jassee, head of "Sikh Americans for Trump" said: "I think our community is very much in support. I have seen a lot of support in favor of President Trump".

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN GUATEMALA ORGANIZES BUYERS SELLERS MEETS ON GEM & JEWELRY AND CERAMIC SECTOR

JULY 10, 2024

GUATEMALA CITY (TIP): The Embassy of India has been actively engaging with local companies from Central America to attract their attention towards exporting Indian goods or manufacturing locally using raw materials from India. This endeavor has created tremendous opportunities for Indian companies to tap into the Central American market, leveraging its advantageous location to cover both the northern and southern triangles. Various Indian commerce chambers and export councils have actively supported the Embassy in promoting India's trade image on the global stage.



Ambassador Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra highlighted Guatemala's strategic location near the Northern Triangle, positioning it as a gateway for Indian Gems Jewelry in Central America.

Recently, Embassy of India in Guatemala, in collaboration with the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) and Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI), successfully organized two Buyers-Sellers Meets on June 24, 2025 and 27 June 2024, respectively. These events aimed to foster trade relations and open new avenues for the gem and jewelry market and provided a platform for Indian ceramic, hardware and marble companies to explore business opportunities, establish connections, and enhance trade ties between the two countries. Guatemalan companies attended the meet physically, while Indian companies participated virtually.

The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) is an apex body under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, dedicated to the promotion of gem and jewelry exports. Established in 1966, GJEPC plays a pivotal role in enhancing the global reach and competitiveness of India's gem and jewelry industry. It provides comprehensive support to exporters through trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, and market research. The Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) is a premier trade and investment promotion organization under the Department of Commerce, Government of India. It is dedicated to facilitating the growth of Indian trade by promoting exports and fostering bilateral trade relationships globally. TPCI organizes trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, and business delegations, providing a robust platform for Indian businesses to showcase their products and services.

India and Guatemala have steadily strengthened their trade relations over the years, with significant potential for further growth. The gem and jewelry sector plays a pivotal role in enhancing these

bilateral ties, as India's exquisite craftsmanship and competitive pricing find a receptive market in Guatemala. The strategic location of Guatemala, particularly its proximity to the USA market, offers a significant advantage, making it an ideal hub for Indian businesses aiming to penetrate the Central American region. As the largest city in Central America, Guatemala City provides a robust platform for expanding trade and fostering economic collaborations, solidifying India's presence and influence in the region.

India and Guatemala share promising prospects in the trade of ceramics, hardware, and marble with approx. US\$25 million trade in 2023-24. Guatemala's strategic geographic position makes it an ideal hub for manufacturing and exporting these products to neighboring countries. With India's expertise in high-quality manufacturing and Guatemala's advantageous location facilitating access to regional markets, there is significant potential for bilateral cooperation in these sectors. The strategic location of Guatemala, particularly its proximity to the USA market, offers a significant advantage, making it an ideal hub for Indian businesses aiming to penetrate the Central American region. As the largest city in Central America, Guatemala City provides a robust platform for expanding trade and fostering economic collaborations, solidifying India's presence and influence in the region.



Chairman of Mr. Vipul Shah, GJEPC emphasized the commitment of Indian companies to the Central American market, highlighting the importance of strengthening trade relations and seizing opportunities

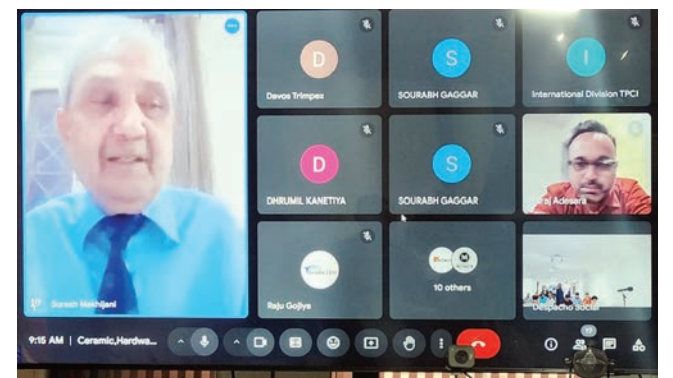
The meet featured a comprehensive presentation by GJEPC and TPCI, emphasizing the opportunities for trade and investment in Central America, aiming to foster stronger business ties and increase market penetration. During the presentation, local participants actively engaged in discussions, demonstrating enthusiasm and raising pertinent questions. Their involvement underscored their keen interest in understanding the offerings and opportunities presented by the Indian companies. This interactive session facilitated a dynamic exchange of ideas and insights, enhancing mutual understanding and paving the way for potential collaborations and partnerships in the future. The presentation emphasized the opportunities for trade and investment in Central America, aiming to foster stronger business ties and increase market penetration.

Ambassador of India to Guatemala, Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra, delivered insightful remarks, underscoring the significance of Guatemala's strategic location near the Northern Triangle,



Ambassador Dr Manoj Kumar Mohapatra highlighted strengthening trade ties between India and Guatemala

positioning it as a gateway for Indian gems and jewelry in Central America. He also highlighted the high global demand for Indian gems, enhancing trade opportunities and economic ties. Ambassador underscored the event's crucial role in nurturing strong business ties and exploring mutual trade prospects and emphasized the potential for Indian companies to leverage Guatemala's emerging market in ceramics, hardware, and marble. Chairman of GJEPC, Mr. Vipul Shah, also addressed the attendees, emphasizing the commitment of Indian companies to the Central American market. He highlighted the importance of strengthening trade relations and seizing opportunities in the region. Mr. Suresh Makhijani, Joint Director General of TPCI, reaffirmed TPCI's dedication to advancing bilateral trade efforts. He expressed confidence in the BSM's outcomes, citing the enthusiastic engagement and favorable feedback from participants of both Indian and Guatemalan origins.



Mr. Suresh Makhijani, Joint Director General, Trade Promotion Council of India address local companies of the commitment to strengthen bilateral trade.

The overwhelming response to these Buyer-Seller Meets organized by the Embassy is a testament to India's successful penetration in the Central American region. These countries significantly benefit from importing Indian goods, known for their high quality, diverse range, and competitive pricing. Furthermore, this burgeoning trade relationship facilitates knowledge exchange and fosters collaborations, potentially enhancing the local industries.

These events mark a significant milestone in strengthening economic ties between India and the Central American countries. We eagerly anticipate future collaborations and continued success, particularly in the gem and jewelry sector, as well as other industries.

India's population to peak in early 2060s to 1.7 billion before declining: UN

UNITED NATIONS (TIP)

India's population is projected to peak in the early 2060s at about 1.7 billion and then decline by 12%, but the country will remain the world's most populous throughout the century, the United Nations has said.

The World Population Prospects 2024 report, released here on Thursday, July 11, said that the world's population is expected to continue growing over the coming 50-60 years, reaching a peak of around 10.3 billion people in the mid-2080s, up from 8.2 billion in 2024. After peaking, the global population is projected to start declining gradually, falling to 10.2 billion people by the end of the century.

India, which surpassed China as the world's most populous nation last year, will continue to hold that position through 2100.

"The population of India, which is expected to remain the world's largest throughout the century, will likely decline by 12 per cent after reaching its peak in the early 2060s at about 1.7 billion," the UN report published by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA),



India, which surpassed China as the world's most populous nation last year, will continue to hold that position through 2100.

Population Division said.

According to the report, India's population in 2024 is projected at 1.45 billion and this will peak to 1.69 billion in 2054. After this, India's population is

projected to decline to 1.5 billion by the end of the century in 2100, but the country will still remain the most populous nation on earth.

Responding to a question by PTI on

population projections for India, Senior Population Affairs Officer, Population Division, UN DESA Clare Menozzi said at a press conference that "India is currently the largest country in the world in terms of population, and it is projected to stay so throughout the century. The population is currently estimated at 1.45 billion, and it's supposed to increase further" to 1.69 billion.

"It's supposed to peak around the 2060s in size and then it starts to slightly decline. So by the end of the century, India is projected to be around 1.5 billion, but still the largest country in the world by a large margin." The report said that China's population, currently 1.41 billion in 2024, will fall to 1.21 billion in 2054 and further decline to 633 million by 2100.

"It is anticipated that China, the country currently with the world's second-largest population, will likely experience the largest absolute population loss between 2024 and 2054 (204 million)," followed by Japan (21 million) and Russia (10 million). "Longer-range population projections are more uncertain" for China, it said.

Source: PTI

Ex-Agniveers to get 10% reservation, age relaxation, say CISF, BSF chiefs

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The chiefs of CISF and the BSF on Thursday, July 11, said 10 per cent posts of constables will be reserved in their respective forces for former Agniveers in line with a decision by the Union Home Ministry.

The remarks by CISF Director-General Nina Singh and her BSF counterpart Nitin Agrawal came amid fresh spotlight on the Agnipath recruitment scheme for short-term induction of personnel in the Army, Navy and the Air Force.

"The Union Home Ministry has taken an important decision regarding the recruitment of ex-Agniveers. Accordingly, the CISF is also preparing the process of the recruitment of ex-Agniveer," Singh said.

The chief of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) said 10 per cent jobs will be reserved for ex-Agniveers in all future appointments of constables.

"In physical tests also, they will be given exemption along with the relaxation on the age. In the first year the age relaxation is for five years and in the subsequent year, the age relaxation will be three years," she told DD News.

"Ex-Agniveer will be able to take advantage of this and the CISF will ensure that. This will be beneficial for the CISF too as the force will get trained and disciplined personnel," Singh said.

In June 2022, the government rolled out the Agnipath recruitment scheme with an aim to bring down the age profile of the Three Services.

The Agnipath scheme provides for recruiting youths between the age bracket of 17-and-half years and 21 for four years with a provision to retain 25 percent of them for 15 more years.

Several Opposition parties, including the Congress, have been targeting the government over the scheme wondering what will happen to 75 percent of the Agniveers after their four-year tenure ends as only 25 per cent of the total recruits will be retained for 15 years.



India abstains from UN vote on Ukraine's nuclear facility safety

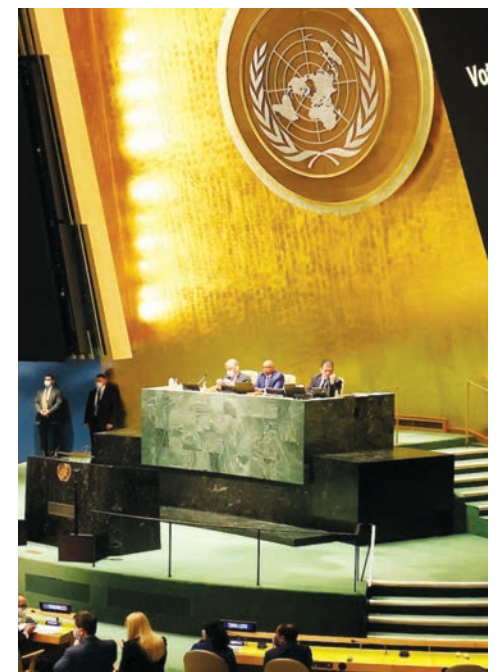
UNITED NATIONS (TIP)

India has abstained in the UN General Assembly on a resolution that demanded that Russia immediately cease its aggression against Ukraine and urgently withdraw its military and other unauthorised personnel from the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant.

The 193-member UN General Assembly adopted the resolution on Thursday, July 11, with 99 votes in favor, nine against and 60 abstentions, including India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Egypt, Nepal, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Sri Lanka. Those voting against the resolution included Belarus, Cuba, North Korea, Russia and Syria.

The resolution titled 'Safety and security of nuclear facilities of Ukraine, including the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant' demanded that Russia "immediately cease its aggression against Ukraine and unconditionally withdraw all of its military forces from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders".

It also demanded that Russia urgently withdraw its military and other unauthorised personnel from the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant and immediately return the plant to the full control of the sovereign and competent authorities of Ukraine to ensure its



safety and security. It called for the "immediate cessation of the attacks" by Russia against the critical energy infrastructure of Ukraine, which increases the risk of a nuclear accident or incident at all nuclear facilities of Ukraine.

The draft resolution was introduced by Ukraine and was sponsored by over 50 member states, including France, Germany and the United States.

Source: PTI



Patanjali asked to deposit Rs 50 lakh for breach of court order

The Bombay High Court (HC) has directed Patanjali Ayurved to deposit Rs 50 lakh for alleged breach of the HC's interim order restraining it from selling its camphor products, in relation to a trademark infringement case filed by another company.

Following trademark infringement allegations by Mangalam Organics Ltd, the HC in an interim order in August 2023 restrained Patanjali Ayurved Ltd from selling its camphor products.

A single bench of Justice R I Chagla on July 8 noted that Patanjali, in an affidavit submitted in June, admitted breach of the earlier order granting injunction against sale of the impugned camphor products.

"Such persistent breach of the injunction order dated 30th August 2023 by defendant no. 1 (Patanjali) cannot be tolerated by this court," Justice Chagla said in the order.

The bench said it would be appropriate to direct Patanjali to deposit a sum of Rs 50 lakh prior to passing of an order for contempt/breach of the injunction order.

Can still file fresh cases under repealed laws: Punjab and Haryana High Court

CHANDIGARH (TIP)

Just about 10 days after the new laws came into force, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has clarified that fresh cases and applications can still be filed under the repealed laws.

The order, issued by Chief Justice Sheel Nagu, just two days after his elevation, facilitates the coexistence of the old and new legal systems during the transition period, ensuring continued access to justice without procedural hindrances.

"In light of the enactment of new laws, 'Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023', 'Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023' and 'Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023', which have come into force with effect from July 1, fresh cases/applications can be filed in this high court either under the provisions of newly enacted laws or repealed laws, ie, Indian Penal Code, 1860; Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973; and Indian Evidence Act, 1872," says the order.

Dispelling all apprehensions, the High Court has explicitly directed that no objections will be raised by the High Court Registry regarding the filing of cases under either set of laws.

The order marks a crucial step in the implementation of the country's new criminal justice laws.

The new laws have been purportedly designed to align more closely with contemporary societal values, but challenges in terms of interpretation and implementation are anticipated. The flexibility in filing cases under both the new and repealed laws is expected to avoid confusion and ensure continuity and stability in the judicial process. The intent is to ensure that ongoing and new cases are not adversely affected by the transition.

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, defining offences and prescribing punishments, aims to address modern crimes and streamline criminal justice processes. The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita deals with procedural aspects of criminal law, including investigation and prosecution, and seeks to reduce delays and inefficiencies in the criminal justice system. The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam governs the rules of evidence, ensuring they are modern and fair.

Source: TNS



NEET-UG leak case: CBI arrests alleged kingpin

The CBI on Thursday, July 11, arrested one of the alleged kingpins in the NEET-UG paper leak case who was on the run ever since the crackdown on irregularities in the entrance exam began, officials said.

Rockey, alias Rakesh Ranjan, who hails from Nalanda, and is said to be a relative of mastermind Sanjeev Mukhia, was nabbed by the agency from outskirts of Patna, they said.

The CBI had been trailing him since the case came to the agency. His run came to an end Thursday morning when he was arrested by the agency, they said.

The agency produced him before a special court in Patna which has remanded him in 10 days of CBI custody, they said.

The CBI conducted searches at three locations in Patna and nearby areas and one in Kolkata after his arrest, they said.

Earlier this week, the CBI had conducted searches at 15 locations in Bihar and Jharkhand gathering incriminating evidence in the case, they said.

The agency had earlier arrested the principal and vice-principal of Jharkhand's Hazaribagh-based Oasis school in the case and two persons who allegedly lent premises to NEET candidates where burnt question papers were recovered by the Bihar Police.

The CBI, which is probing the alleged irregularities in the medical entrance exam, has registered six FIRs in the matter so far.

The FIR from Bihar pertains to paper leaks, while the remaining, from Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra, are linked to the impersonation of candidates and cheating.

SKAL International announces new board members for India

SKAL International, the premier professional organization of tourism leaders around the world, is pleased to announce the election of its new board members for India. This esteemed team will serve for the term 2024 - 2026, bringing with them a wealth of experience and a shared commitment to advancing the tourism industry and the aims of the SKAL fraternity in India.

The newly elected board members are as follows:

President: Sanjeev Mehra

Vice President 1: Venkat Reddy

Vice President 2: Krishna Gopalan

Secretary: Rohit Hangal

Treasurer: Monik Dharamshi

Director PR: Shalini Khanna Charles

Director Young SKAL: Raj Gopalan Iyer

Sr. Auditor: M Varadaraj Prabhu

Jr. Auditor: Dr Sheri Kurian

The newly elected President of SKAL International India Sanjeev Mehra, expressed enthusiasm about the new team, stating, "I am honored to lead such



SKAL International new board members for India.

a distinguished group of professionals. This election marks a new chapter for SKAL International India. I am excited to work alongside my fellow board members to support our members, expand our network, and advocate for the interests of the tourism community."

AGM was held at GRT Grand Hotel. NSN Mohan Director Skal International administered Oath to the newly elected

Board followed by the Skal Toast.

SKAL International India has 1200 members across 17 chapters and remains dedicated to its mission of uniting all branches of the travel and tourism industry. The organization will continue to offer valuable networking opportunities, professional development, and initiatives that support the growth and sustainability of the tourism sector.

About SKAL International

Founded in 1934, Skål International is the only professional organization promoting global Tourism and friendship, uniting all sectors of the Tourism industry. SKAL International is a professional organization of tourism leaders around the world, promoting global tourism and friendship. It is the only international group uniting all branches of the travel and tourism industry. Its members, the industry's managers and executives, meet at local, national, regional, and international levels to discuss and pursue topics of common interest. SKAL International is a professional organization of tourism leaders around the world, promoting global tourism and friendship. It is the only international group uniting all branches of the travel and tourism industry. For more information about SKAL International and its activities, please visit www.skall.org.

India in history this Week

JUNE 12 TO JULY 18

12 JULY

1674 Shivaji signed a friendship contract with the East India Company.

1799 Ranjit Singh captured Lahore from Bhangi Misl, an important step to establish the Sikh Empire and become Maharaja of Punjab.

1823 Diana, the first steam ship built in India, was unveiled in Calcutta (now Kolkata).

1966 Indira Gandhi visited Moscow.

2001 'Friendship' bus service between India and Bangladesh Agartala and Dhaka started.



1999 Film artist Rajendra Kumar died in Mumbai at the age of 71.

2012 Wrestler and Bollywood artist Dara Singh passed away.



1949 After the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi, the ban imposed on the RSS was conditionally lifted.

1970 The severe floods in the Alaknanda River killed 600 people.

13 JULY



1830 Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Alexander Duff started Scottish Church College with five students.

1905 The Bengali weekly Sanjeevani suggested burning Holi of British goods for the first time.

1974 India played their first ODI against England at Headingley.

1977 Public honors like Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan etc. were withdrawn during the Emergency.

2011 The country's financial capital, Mumbai was rocked by triple blasts. The blasts took place in Mumbai's Jhaveri Bazaar, Opera House and Dadar.

14 JULY



1945 Technology veteran and country's big industrialist Shiv Nadar was born on 14 July.

1969 85 people killed in a train and passenger train collision in Jaipur.

15 JULY

1857 Indian Rebellion of 1857: Second massacre took place in Kanpur.

1926 Buses were introduced for the first time in the Indian city of Mumbai.

1955 First President Dr. Rajendra Prasad announced the award of the highest civilian award Bharat Ratna to the then Prime Minister of the country, Jawaharlal Nehru.



1984 After the unrest of the Sikh community in Punjab, it was declared a terrorism affected area.

1903 Kamaraj, the veteran politician and reformist leader, was born.

1937 Well-known Hindi journalist Prabhask Joshi was born.



1909 Durgabai Deshmukh, the first female leader of Andhra Pradesh, was born.

1912 Mohammed Osman, a high officer of the Indian Army, was born. He was martyred in the First War of India and Pakistan (1947-48).

2004 Indian medical scientist and family planning expert Bano Jahangir Koyaji passed away.

2011 Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)

successfully launched GSAT-12A from Sriharikota through PSLV C-17.

16 JULY



1909 Aruna Asaf Ali, who fought the freedom struggle, was born.

1969 27 children died in the country due to food in school.

1856 The remarriage of Hindu widows got legal recognition.

17 JULY

1948 Women in the country were declared eligible in any type of civil services including the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Police Service.

1950 India's first plane crashed in Pathankot.

18 JULY

1927 Birthday of Ghazal Emperor Mehdi Hasan.

1947 The Indian Independence Act received royal approval.



2012 Indian films superstar Rajesh Khanna died in his bungalow Blessing.

1857 Establishment of Bombay University.

1955 Electricity produced from nuclear power was sold commercially for the first time.

1980 'Rohini-1' satellite built entirely in India, placed in the Earth's orbit.

2010 Joseph, a professor in Kerala, was attacked by eight people and cut off his hands, accusing them of insulting Islam.

2002 Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was elected the 12th President of the country in 2002.

2003 Venugopal Reddy became the new Governor of the Reserve Bank in 2003.

2008 Indian-origin Salman Rushdie set a record for signing over a thousand books in 57 minutes during a 2008 promotion tour.

THE WORLD'S LARGEST INDIA DAY PARADE



SAVE THE DATE

**42nd INDIA DAY PARADE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 18th, 2024
38th ST. MADISON AVENUE, NYC
12:00 PM ONWARDS**

info@fianynjct.org | www.fianynjct.org

NJS PRESENTS AMERICAN PREMIERE OF FIRST EVER HINDI LANGUAGE FILM CONCERT 'BAAHUBALI: THE BEGINNING'

BY MABEL PAIS

"What the New Jersey Symphony has established, bringing music to the Garden State in schools and in six different cities, is a sincere accomplishment. And it's never been better." - nj.com



'Baahubali: The Beginning', Poster

Credit: njsymphony.org

Experience one of India's biggest box-office smash-hit, 'Baahubali: The Beginning' on a vast HD screen while a full orchestra performs M.M. Keeravani's epic score, live in-sync with the motion picture. Program details are below.

'Baahubali: The Beginning' tells the story of a young orphan, Shivudu (Prabhas), as he embarks on the journey of a lifetime. Falling in love with the vision of a fearless warrior, Avantika (Tamannaah), he follows her on a mission to rescue her Queen from captivity in a neighboring kingdom. On this mission in Mahishmati, he encounters Kattappa (Satyaraj), a slave warrior and a confidante of the Mahishmati Royal Family. Through him Shivudu learns the truth of his family and the injustice imparted to them. He takes on the tyrannical ruler in a battle of mythical magnitude to restore to the kingdom their true King.

This is the first of two cinematic parts.

"Wide-eyed and wondrous, his film could be a blockbuster reboot, or the first blockbuster ever made. A reinvigoration of archetypes that is always entertaining, and often thrilling, to behold." -The Guardian

"It's possible to enjoy the film as pure entertainment even without being privy to the superlatives surrounding it." -The Hollywood Reporter



A scene from 'Baahubali: The Beginning'

Credit: njsymphony.org

PROGRAM

FILM: 'Baahubali The Beginning' Live in Concert
North American Premiere! | New Jersey Symphony at the Movies

This is the first of two cinematic parts.

Newark - Saturday, July 27, 2024, 7:30 pm

New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark, NJ

New Brunswick - Sunday, July 28, 2024, 3 pm

State Theatre, New Brunswick, NJ

Constantine Kitsopoulos conductor

New Jersey Symphony

Learn more at

https://www.njsymphony.org/events/detail/baahubali-the-beginning-live-in-concert?utm_source=TIP&utm_medium=digital&utm_campaign=Baahubali

TICKETS

Tickets are available at [njsymphony.org/baahubali](https://www.njsymphony.org/baahubali) or by phone 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476).

Please note: This film will be shown in Hindi with English subtitles.

CONSTANTINE KITSOPOULOS

Constantine Kitsopoulos has established himself as a dynamic conductor known for his ability to work in many different genres and settings. He is equally at home with opera, symphonic repertoire, film with live orchestra, music theatre and composition. His work has taken him all over the world where he has conducted the major orchestras of North America, the Hong Kong Philharmonic and the Tokyo Philharmonic. Learn more at maestrostock.com

NJS PRESENTS COMPOSERS FOR TENTH ED T CONE COMPOSITION INSTITUTE

BY MABEL PAIS



Cone Institute performances.

Credit: njsymphony.org

The New Jersey Symphony proudly presents the composers for the 10th Edward T. Cone Composition Institute. The 2024 Institute will take place Monday, July 15, through Saturday, July 20, in Princeton, culminating in a public performance at the Richardson Auditorium in Princeton, NJ on Saturday, July 20, at 8 pm with guest conductor Christopher Rountree. The program will also include Institute Director Steven Mackey's 'Urban Ocean.'

This year's winning compositions include Leigh Amick's 'Cascade', Santiago Beis's 'Spletna', Paul Cosme's 'A Stranger in a Festival of Spirits' and Jessie Leov's 'Speculations on a Rainbow'.

The four composers will hear their music rehearsed and performed by the Symphony and participate in feedback sessions with Institute Director Steven Mackey, guest conductor Christopher Rountree, New Jersey Symphony musicians and industry leaders.

By the conclusion of the Institute's comprehensive experience, participants will have gained invaluable musical and practical feedback about composing for orchestra. They will also have participated in critical discussions about best practices for getting contemporary classical music funded, published and performed.

COMPOSERS :

Leigha Amick Learn more at leighaamick.com

Paul Cosme Learn more at paulcosme.com

Santiago Beis Learn more at santiagobeis.com

Jessie Leov Learn more at jessieleov.nz

TICKETS : For more information and to purchase tickets, visit njsymphony.org/tickets and for concert information, visit njsymphony.org/scores.

NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY EDWARD T. CONE COMPOSITION INSTITUTE :

The New Jersey Symphony Edward T. Cone Composition Institute grew out of musical score-reading sessions the Symphony has held with Princeton University graduate students biennially for more than a decade. The Institute celebrates its namesake Edward T. Cone's legacy as both a composer and a Princeton University professor. Learn more at njsymphony.org/institute.

THE NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY : The Emmy and GRAMMY Award-winning New Jersey Symphony is redefining what it means to be a nationally leading,

relevant orchestra in the 21st century. The Symphony is renewing its deeply rooted commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion by championing new, and often local, artists; engaging audiences for whom the inspiring depth and breadth of classical music will be a new experience; and incorporating the broadest possible representation in all aspects of its organization-all to better reflect and serve its vibrant communities.

Since 2021, Music Director Xian Zhang has worked together with composer, violinist, educator and social-justice advocate Daniel Bernard Roumain, the orchestra's Resident Artistic Catalyst, to offer programming that connects with diverse communities in Newark and throughout New Jersey.

Internationally renowned Chinese American conductor Xian Zhang began her tenure as the New Jersey Symphony's current music director in 2016. Since her arrival at the New Jersey Symphony, Zhang has revitalized programming with an industry- leading commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion in mainstage concerts.

Connect with NJ Symphony:

Website: njsymphony.org

Email: information@njsymphony.org

njsymphony.org/subscribe

@NJSymphony on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, X and LinkedIn

@NewJerseySymphony on YouTube

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

REVEL IN MUSIC PERFORMED BY INDIA'S GLOBAL STARS

BY MABEL PAIS

'Bollywood & Beyond' is a rare opportunity to explore Indian music, from classical tradition to film music to global fusion, with two of its greatest stars.

Global violin icon Dr. L. Subramaniam and multi-platinum-selling singer Kavita Krishnamurthi, towering figures in Indian and world fusion music, will headline 'Bollywood & Beyond' at The Town Hall (123 West 43rd Street, between 6th Avenue and Broadway) in New York City on Saturday, July 20, at 8:00pm.

PERFORMERS

Kavita Krishnamurthi, singer
Dr. L. Subramaniam, violinist
Tanmoy Bose, tabla (with ensemble)
This concert is a presentation of Town Hall and the Indo-American Arts Council (IAAC).

KAVITA KRISHNAMURTHI

A soulful, expressive singer with a powerful voice, Kavita Krishnamurthi has long been a star playback singer in the Indian film industry, interpreting offscreen the songs that the on-screen actors later lip sync. It is a demanding art, as the vocalist must account for the actions and emotions that drive the film's entire musical storyline. She followed her first major Bollywood hit, 'Tumse Milkar Na Jaane Kyon,' from the Hindi film *Pyaar Jhukta Nahin* (1985), with two enormously popular songs from the movie *Mr. India* (1986). After giving voice to heroines and leading ladies in countless hit films, by the 1990s, Kavita had become a major star.

But success in playback singing did not limit her. Kavita has also performed with orchestras, sung ghazals, devotionals, and Hindi pop, collaborated with jazz, pop, and classical Western artists, and explored global music fusion, most notably with her husband, Dr. L. Subramaniam.

FOLLOW KAVITA ONLINE:

Facebook: facebook.com/kavitaksub;
Instagram: @kavitaksub;
X (formerly Twitter): @kavitaksub;
You Tube: @KavitaKrishnamurthiMusic

DR. L. SUBRAMANIAM

Born in a musical family (both his parents were accomplished musicians), Dr. L. Subramaniam



L. Subramaniam, Kavita Krishnamurthi & (front) Tanmoy Bose

Credit: www.iaac.us

was a child prodigy who followed in the footsteps of his father, a distinguished Carnatic violinist. He studied with his father and performed his first concert when he was six.

"My mother would play the veena (a stringed instrument) but was also a singer," he recalled in an interview, "and it was my father's dream to bring the violin to the fore and make it a solo instrument. Till then, the violin, in Carnatic South Indian music, was primarily used as an accompaniment. I wanted to play like him and be like him because he was my guru, teacher, and father."

Before fully dedicating to music, he completed his studies as a medical doctor. (For good measure, he later got a Masters degree in Western Classical music at CalArts and a PhD. for his thesis on Raga Harmony from Jain University, Bangalore.)

Fulfilling his father's dream, "which was to bring the violin to the world stages," Dr. Subramaniam seemed to cross musical borders from the beginning of his music career. He brought the Carnatic tradition of South India to Western Classical music, most notably as a soloist and composer for orchestras around the world, including the New York Philharmonic Orchestra (with a piece

commissioned by Maestro Zubin Mehta), the Houston Symphony, and the Berlin State Opera.

"The idea here is not to make an orchestra play Indian music," Dr. Subramaniam once explained. "But to create something where both Western and Indian musicians feel like they're playing their own music while creating something unique. With this context, we combine elements of Carnatic music with parts of Western classical music, like harmony and counterpoint, to build something entirely original."

He has written music for films, including 'Salaam Bombay!', 'Mississippi Masala', and 'Little Buddha', and ballet, including the Kirov Ballet and the Alvin Ailey Company. He also collaborated with Western jazz and pop musicians (including the late Beatle George Harrison, jazz pianist Herbie Hancock, and singer-songwriter Stevie Wonder), performed jugalbandis (classical music duets) with North Indian musicians, and explored global music fusion. Learn more at indianviolin.com.

TANMOY BOSE & ENSEMBLE

Backed by a seven-piece band comprising Indian and Western instruments, anchored by tabla

player Tanmoy Bose, in 'Bollywood & Beyond' Kavita Krishnamurthi and Dr. Subramaniam will offer a program that will blend different types and genres of music, including Kavita's Bollywood hits, Dr. Subramaniam's original compositions based on Indian ragas and performed with Indian and Western instruments, and fusion-based duets.

As the melodies intertwine and the rhythms intensify, the audience will experience the birth of a new musical language that celebrates the unity in diversity. 'Bollywood & Beyond' is not just a concert; it is a testament to the enduring power of music to bridge cultures, inspire generations, and touch the deepest corners of the human soul.

TICKETS

Visit the event link at thetownhall.org/event/kavita-krishnamurthi-dr-l-subramaniam

Tickets can be purchased by visiting ticketmaster.com or the Town Hall Box Office at 123 West 43rd Street (between 6th Avenue and Broadway), New York, NY 10036 or calling 212-997-6661.

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

NEW PLAY GIVES INSIGHT INTO LEGENDARY FIRST COUPLE

BY MABEL PAIS

'The Journals of Adam and Eve,' Ed. Weinberger's new comedy-play, starring Hal Linden and Marilu Henner gets an Off-Broadway special summer run at The Sheen Center, 18 Bleecker Street, New York city, July 10-28. Amy Anders Corcoran directs. Opening Night is July 11. The show is presented by the Sheen Center for Thought and Culture whose executive director is MaryLou Pagano.

The Journals of Adam and Eve will, for the first time in their own words, tell the true story of the legendary couple-the world's first love story. It chronicles from Eden to Exile...from their first date to their twilight years, and from bachelor and bachelorette to being the world's first parents.

SCHEDULE

Performance schedule is Wednesdays to Saturdays at 7 pm with matinees on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday at 2 pm.

TICKETS

Tickets can be purchased at sheencenter.org or by calling 212-219-3132.

MARILU HENNER

Marilu Henner has received these attributes: the energy of a teenager, the wisdom of a sage, and the memory of a superhero. She has done it all with 7 Broadway shows (including (Chicago, The Tale of the Allergist's Wife, Social Security, Grease!), 79 films (including 31 for Hallmark), 2 classic sitcoms ('Taxi', 'Evening Shade') 5 Golden Globe nominations and the New York Times Best Selling Author of 10 books on health, parenting, memory, and lifestyle improvement. Later this summer will reprise her role in the off-Broadway comedy 'Madwomen of the West' when it crosses the ocean to London, UK.

Connect with Marilu online:
instagram.com: @therealmarilu; X (formerly Twitter): @TheRealMarilu

HAL LINDEN

Hal Linden's career has spanned more than 65 years. He is best known for his iconic portrayal of police precinct captain 'Barney Miller' in the hit series that aired on ABC from 1975-1982 and earned him multiple Golden Globe and Emmy nominations.

Linden made his Broadway debut in 1957 in 'Bells Are Ringing'. He later starred in the 1962 revival of 'Anything



(left) Hal Linden with Marilu Henner

Credit: Paul Aphisit

Goes' followed by more than 20 Broadway and off-Broadway productions including 'Picasso at the Lapin Agile', 'The Scottsboro Boys', 'Tuesdays with Morrie', 'On Golden Pond', 'Chicago', 'Cabaret' and 'The Rothschilds', for which he received a Tony® Award for his performance. Learn more at hallinden.net.

ED WEINBERGER

Ed. Weinberger (Playwright) is one of the most celebrated television creators who wrote and produced for 'The Mary Tyler Moore Show' and co-created 'Taxi', 'Dear John', 'Amen' and 'The Cosby Show'.

Weinberger has also written for such celebrated and iconic comedians as Bob Hope, Richard Pryor, and Johnny Carson for five years on 'The Tonight Show'. He has been honored with three Golden Globe Awards, a Peabody, and nine Emmy Awards. In 2000, he received The Writer's Guild of America Lifetime Achievement Award. His two-character play 'Two Jews, Talking' ran off-Broadway in 2022 starring Hal Linden and Bernie Koppell.

AMY ANDERS CORCORAN

Amy Anders Corcoran (Director) currently has a brand-new adaptation of Disney's 'The Little Mermaid' on the Disney Wish, and recently directed 'Beautiful' for The Olney Theatre, 'What the Constitution Means to Me' at KC Rep and the world premiere of 'Christmas in Connecticut' for Goodspeed Opera House. She was the associate director of 'Escape to Margaritaville' for Christopher Ashley on Broadway, and she directed the national tour. Amy also directed versions of 'Mr. Ashley's Freaky Friday' for the Alley and Cleveland Playhouse. She helmed the NYC off-Broadway and London premieres of 'Unexpected Joy' and received the SDC Noel Coward Fellowship for Comedic Direction. Upcoming projects/works in development include 'Senior Class', 'Polly', and 'Teacher of the Year'. Learn more at amyanderscorcoran.com.

THE SHEEN CENTER

The Sheen Center for Thought and Culture is a haven for the arts and provides a platform for provocative

conversations about diverse and inclusive aspects of humanity as seen through the creative lens of faith and respect.

Located on historic Bleecker Street, the Sheen Center is a venue where art and spirituality meet. The Sheen Center also features an art gallery, rehearsal studios and meeting reception spaces. Since opening in 2015, the Sheen has hosted several film premieres as well as innovative productions by companies including Houses on the Moon, Red Bull theater, TheaterWorks USA and Bedlam.

Included among the hundreds of artists who have performed at The Sheen are Board Members, Vanessa Williams and Frank Shiner as well as Kristin Chenoweth, Nora Jones, James Taylor, Bernie Williams, Kirk Whalum, and Eileen Ivers. The Sheen features prominent creatives of color, ranging from actors to producers to directors, writers, and musicians. Learn more at sheencenter.org.

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



CO POWERED BY



PRRIA HAIDER & PRIYANKA JOTWANI
PRESENT



POWERED BY



*Shehnaaz
Gill*

SUMMER SOIRÉE

With

Shehnaaz Gill

Punjab Di Katrina Kaif ...

an Evening of Dinner Dance Music and Fun

Thursday JULY 18TH 2024

7:00 PM ONWARDS

VENUE



PEARL BANQUET
HICKSVILLE, LONG ISLAND

TO BOOK A SHOW IN YOUR CITY CONTACT

PRRIA HAIDER - 516-303-6597, PRIYANKA - 516-225-9772, POONAM LEKHI - 631-697-9184

DESIGN - ODEON GRAPHICS



‘Bayaan’: Huma Qureshi announces new film

Huma Qureshi has announced her next film titled 'Bayaan'. She will lead the upcoming investigative police procedural drama. The film will be backed by award-winning producer, Shiladitya Bora. Developed at Film Independent in Los Angeles, 'Bayaan' will be directed by writer-director Bikas Mishra, best known for his acclaimed feature film, 'Chauranga'.

Huma Qureshi announced the same on Instagram with a note: "A film I am very excited about #Bayaan, developed at Film Independent, Los Angeles goes on floors. It's a rare combination: a fantastic script, a talented crew, and their complete dedication to their work. The energy is infectious. Written and Directed by Bikas Mishra, Produced by Shiladitya Bora (Platoon One Films), Madhu Sharma (Summit Studios), Kunal Kumar, and Anshuman Singh (sic)."

She continued, "The film is supported by the International Film Festival Rotterdam's Hubert Bals Fund and was developed at LA Residency, a part of the Global Media Makers (GMM) program of Film Independent, Los Angeles. During the course of the residency, Bikas was mentored by Craig Mazin (HBO's 'Chernobyl') and received advice on the script from writer Jeff Stockwell and story editor Ruth Atkinson (sic)."

Set against the picturesque landscape of Rajasthan, the drama unfolds the story of a father-daughter duo. Roohi, a female detective, is dispatched to a small town in Rajasthan to tackle the first case of her career as a lead investigator. Despite her determination, she faces a formidable adversary with deep-rooted influence in the system. Roohi must strive to uphold her father's legendary legacy in law enforcement, as described in the film's logline. The film also stars Chandrachur Singh and Sachin Khedekar, and is set to begin production in Rajasthan this month. 'Bayaan' is jointly produced by Shiladitya Bora (Platoon One Films), Madhu Sharma (Summit Studios), Kunal Kumar, and Anshuman Singh.

The film is supported by the Hubert Bals Fund of the International Film Festival Rotterdam and was developed during the LA Residency, a segment of the Global Media Makers (GMM) program at Film Independent, Los Angeles. Throughout the residency, Bikas Mishra received mentorship from Craig Mazin (creator of HBO's 'Chernobyl' and 'The Last of Us') and script advice from writer Jeff Stockwell and story editor Ruth Atkinson.

Ranveer calls ‘Kalki’ trippy: ‘Deepika’s character is pregnant, she’s pregnant here’

Ranveer Singh was mind-blown after watching Deepika Padukone and Prabhas' 'Kalki 2898 AD' in theatres. The 'Rocky Aur Rani' actor called it 'trippy' as Deepika is pregnant in real-life and in the film as well. Deepika shared a reel on Instagram, which captured their reactions. Last week, the couple, along with his mother and sister, paid a visit to a multiplex to watch the Nag Ashwin-directorial on the big screen.

On July 9, Deepika shared a reel which features reactions from her and Ranveer, along with fans' response. She obliged for selfies with a few fans as well.

She captioned the video, "What was your favourite part? Comment Below. Have you watched it yet (sic)."

Ranveer Singh said, "It's really trippy to see a movie like this where her character is pregnant and she's pregnant. What's happening?" Deepika smiled and said, "Real review will come now when we go home."

The 'Kalki 2898 AD' actor continued, "I don't know what to feel. I'm just overwhelmed with emotions."

'Kalki 2898 AD' grossed Rs 900 crore worldwide and is still going strong in theatres. The sci-film with Indian mythology hit theatres on June 27 and has been receiving a positive response from celebrities and fans. The film ends on a cliffhanger with a lead-up to Part 2, which is still in the works.

Produced by Vyjayanthi Movies, the film features Prabhas, Deepika Padukone, Amitabh Bachchan and Kamal Haasan in lead roles. 'Kalki 2898 AD' is the highest grossing film of 2024.



‘Jaanam’: Vicky Kaushal, Triptii Dimri exude fiery chemistry in ‘Bad Newz’ song

After 'Tauba Tauba' became a cult, Vicky Kaushal is back with another track from 'Bad Newz', this time co-starring Triptii Dimri. The teaser of the song was unveiled on July 8. With their oh-so-hot romance and fiery chemistry, Vicky and Triptii are bound to set your screen on fire.

Vicky Kaushal and Triptii Dimri, co-stars in 'Bad Newz', are too hot to handle in a new song from the film. The teaser of 'Jaanam' was released on Monday. From their pool and shower romance to underwater kisses, the duo are hotness personified in the recently-released teaser of the track.

Fans had the most hilarious comments to the teaser of 'Jaanam'. Comments such as "Katrina didi, mein toh nah seheti (Katrina, I wouldn't have tolerated this) (sic)", "Bhai aapko Katrina bhabhi kuchh kehti nahi hai kya? (Doesn't Katrina say anything to you?) (sic)", "Katrina close your eyes (sic)."

Previously titled 'Mere Mehboob Mere Sanam', 'Bad Newz' will see Vicky Kaushal, Triptii Dimri and Ammy Virk team up for the first time. Directed by Anand Tiwari, the film also stars Neha Dhupia.

The film is backed by Dharma Productions and produced



by Hiroo Yash Johar, Karan Johar, Apoorva Mehta, Amritpal Singh Bindra and Anand Tiwari. It is written by Ishita Moitra and Tarun Dudeja.

'Bad Newz' will release on July 19.



Jennifer Lopez seeks 'revenge' on Ben Affleck: Targets his \$150m fortune

Jennifer Lopez is reportedly seeking financial revenge on her soon-to-be ex-husband, Ben Affleck. According to insiders, the 'Love Don't Cost a Thing' singer is aiming to take a significant portion of Affleck's \$150 million fortune, despite her own net worth being considerably higher at \$400 million.

The couple's rumoured split after just two years of marriage has led Lopez to reassess their financial dynamics.

Lopez is said to have borne the brunt of their extravagant lifestyle expenses. Affleck, however, "always grumbled about spending money," an insider revealed, leading Lopez to cover most of their costs to avoid his complaints.

"One of the little-known secrets is Jennifer paid for much of their marital expenses and now she feels he owes her," a source told.

"She's adding up all those private jet bills she put on her plastic, the hotels and meals, clothes, coffee runs, gas. The high cost of living was done on her dime. She paid the lion's share for that \$60 million mansion they bought, too. Ben took so much money out of her, at least that's what she's saying."

She is reportedly demanding a detailed account of their expenditures, seeking reimbursement for what she believes she "invested" in their life together. "She's demanding a full inventory of what she spent versus what he spent and wants all the money back she 'invested,'" another source shared.

"She isn't the one who gave up on their marriage and she's feeling seriously burned and is out for blood," the source added.

"If he had stayed in the marriage like a good boy, she wouldn't have minded. But he abandoned her and ultimately, Jennifer always gets payback and now she's ready to play hardball."

Scarlett Johansson gets surprise welcome to 'Jurassic World' from franchise favorite

As Scarlett Johansson begins filming the latest installment of Universal's enduring dino-centric action-adventure, she received a warm welcome to Jurassic World from franchise veteran Jeff Goldblum.

Johansson, who recently outed herself as a "huge nerd" for all things Jurassic Park and Jurassic World appeared on NBC's Today on Tuesday morning to promote her new romantic comedy, Fly Me to the Moon. As the interview with host Savannah Guthrie concluded, the Avengers star was informed that "somebody wanted to welcome you aboard to the team."

Johansson appeared slightly perplexed but that quickly turned to a delightful smile when a video of Goldblum was played on air.

"Dr Johansson, this is Jeff Goldblum," the veteran actor, donning his trademark glasses and a dinosaur sweater, says to the camera. "Here's what I want to say to you. This I know: Scarlett will find a way. Don't get eaten, unless you want to. I love you."

Goldblum's reference here is to the classic line, "Life finds a way," which he delivered in 1993's franchise launching Jurassic Park. In the beloved blockbuster, Goldblum portrays Dr. Ian Malcolm, a mathematician who along with a paleontologist and paleobotanist, finds himself fleeing cloned dinosaurs as they run amok at a new amusement park on a remote Central American island. The Ian character became iconic for both Goldblum and the franchise; he repeated the role in The Lost World and Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom.

Johansson, seemingly stunned by the personal video from a star of one of her favorite films, gushes, "I mean, I think my life is complete. It's done. Yes... done. I can retire. Oh my gosh!" The actor also politely corrected Guthrie's misstatement of the line when she recalled it as "water finds a way."

In a recent interview with Comicbook.com, Johansson said that it's been a decade-long struggle to get into the Jurassic



franchise, which after three Jurassic Park films in the 1990s, was rebooted in 2015 with Jurassic World, set 22 years after the first trilogy concluded. The movie took in \$1.6 billion globally and spawned franchise entries Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (2018) and Jurassic World Dominion (2022). The Johansson-led fourth entry into the franchise is scheduled for 2025.

Source: Hollywood Reporter

Brad Pitt has 'virtually no contact' with adult children, engagement with younger kids 'limited': Report



Brad Pitt often has visitations from his younger kids but has "no virtual contact" with the adult ones. The kids mostly stay with their mother, Angelina Jolie, however, the custody agreement stated that Brad Pitt was allowed to have visitation with the younger kids. Recently, their daughter, Shiloh, legally dropped her dad's surname 'Pitt' from her name which made headlines.

According to an exclusive by People magazine, the custody agreement, allowed Pitt to have meet-ups with the minor children. The source said, "He has virtually no contact with the adult kids. His engagement with the younger kids is more limited in recent months because of his filming schedule." The 60-year-old actor is currently on location to shoot for his upcoming film F1.

The source further added, "[Angelina] has the kids most of the time, but per their agreement, he has visitation with the younger kids."

Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt share six kids, namely Maddox, Zahara, Shiloh, Pax and twins Knox and Vivienne. The two got married in the year 2014 and parted ways in 2019. Pitt is currently dating Ines de Ramon while Jolie is not dating anyone.

Pitt and Jolie's daughter Shiloh filed documents right around her 18th birthday to drop Pitt from her name and simply go by Shiloh Jolie. The source informed that the actor is "aware and upset" about her daughter wanting to drop Pitt from her name. The source stated back in June, "He's aware and upset that Shiloh dropped his last name. The reminders that he's lost his children, is of course not easy for Brad. He loves his children and misses them. It's very sad."



RUSSIA ADDS NAVALNY'S WIDOW YULIA NAVALNAYA TO 'TERRORISTS AND EXTREMISTS' BLACKLIST

MOSCOW (TIP): Russia on July 11 added opposition figure Yulia Navalnaya to its list of "terrorists" and "extremists," two days after it issued an arrest warrant for the exiled dissident.

Navalnaya has vowed to continue the work of her husband Alexei Navalny, Russian leader Vladimir Putin's main opponent who died in an Arctic prison in unclear circumstances in February.

Her personal details appeared Thursday in an online blacklist maintained by Rosfinmonitoring, a state agency designed to combat the financing of people and organisations Moscow deems "terrorists" or involved in "extremist activity".

Russian officials frequently apply such labels to opposition figures and those who campaign against the Kremlin or its offensive on Ukraine.

Navalny's organisations were outlawed in Russia and are labelled "extremist."

The opposition leader himself was sentenced to 19 years in prison on charges of "extremism."

A court in the capital Moscow on Tuesday ordered Navalnaya arrested in absentia, also on charges of "extremism."

Following her husband's death, Navalnaya, 47, vowed to take up his work and has lobbied against Putin's government from abroad.

"If they're making such a fuss, then Yulia is doing everything right," Kira Yarmysh, Navalnaya's press secretary, said on social media after she was added to the blacklist. Navalnaya, an economist, stood by her husband as he galvanised mass protests in Russia, flying him out of the country when he was poisoned before defiantly returning to Moscow with him in 2021, knowing he would be jailed.

Like much of Russia's opposition, Navalnaya lives in exile and would be detained if she set foot in Russia. (AFP)

'We have nothing': Palestinians return to utter destruction in Gaza City after Israeli withdrawal

GAZA (TIP): Palestinians returned to breathtaking scenes of destruction in the Gaza City district of Shijaiyah after Israeli troops withdrew, ending a two-week offensive there. Civil defense workers said on July 11 that so far, they had found the bodies of 60 people in the rubble.

Families who fled the assault ventured back into Shijaiyah to see the condition of their homes or salvage whatever they could.

Nearly every building was flattened to rubble for block after block, leaving giant piles of concrete and twisted rebar. Here and there, grey gutted concrete frames still stood a few stories high. The ever-present buzzing sound of Israeli military drones hung in the hot summer air as people on bicycles or horse-drawn carts made their way over dirt paths where the streets had apparently been bulldozed away.

Sharif Abu Shanab found his family's four-story building collapsed. "I can't enter it. I can't take anything out of it, not even a can of tuna. We have nothing, no food or drink," he said.

Since fleeing the district, his family sleeps in the streets, he said. "Where do we go and to whom? ... We have no home or anything," he said in despair. "There's only one solution, hit us with a nuclear bomb and relieve us of this life."

Palestinian women walk through debris amid the destruction from Israeli airstrikes in Gaza.

The Israeli military has invaded Shijaiyah several times in the nine-month war against Palestinians in Gaza. Its latest assault began in late June, when it said it was pursuing militants who had



regrouped in the district. The assault sent some 80,000 people fleeing Shijaiyah, most into nearby areas, and it is not known how many people remained in the district during the fighting.

The Israeli military said in a statement Wednesday evening that its operations in Shijaiyah had ended. It said its troops had killed dozens of militants and destroyed eight tunnels in the area. Those claims could not be independently confirmed.

Gaza's Civil Defense organization said that during Israel's offensive, its emergency crews had largely been unable to respond to calls for help from residents in destroyed buildings. After the Israeli pullout, its crews entered and recovered 60 bodies, it said, adding that the search was ongoing. More bodies were believed buried under rubble, but the organization has little heavy equipment to clear debris.

Palestinian women walk through

debris amid the destruction from Israeli airstrikes in Gaza.

The United Nations estimated earlier this week that about 300,000 Palestinians were still in northern Gaza, after much of the population left earlier in the war. Most of Gaza's 2.3 million people are now experiencing widespread hunger while crammed into squalid tent camps.

Israel launched the war in Gaza after Hamas' Oct. 7 attack in which militants stormed into southern Israel, killed some 1,200 people — mostly civilians — and abducted about 250. Since then, Israeli ground offensives and bombardments have killed more than 38,300 people in Gaza, according to the territory's Health Ministry. It does not distinguish between combatants and civilians in its count.

The top United Nations court has ordered Israel to take steps to protect Palestinians as it examines genocide allegations against Israeli leaders. Israel denies the charge. (AP)

Israeli strikes hit UN agency's building in Gaza City

GAZA (TIP): Israeli forces launched more deadly strikes across Gaza on July 10, according to medical sources and the military, which said it targeted Hamas militants operating from inside a UN agency building.

The Israeli army also said it was reviewing an attack on Tuesday in which hospital sources said at least 29 people were killed in a nearby school in the southern Khan Yunis area -- the fourth attack on a school building in four days.

Early on Wednesday, four people were killed and one critically wounded in the bombing of a house in the central town of Nuseirat, a hospital source told AFP.

And two people were killed and six injured in another strike on a home in Bani Suhaila, near Khan Yunis, according to another hospital source.

Israel has stepped up air and ground attacks in Gaza City and southern Gaza since issuing evacuation orders for tens

of thousands of people in the war-stricken Palestinian territory.

The heightened military strikes come as Israeli officials start talks in Qatar on Wednesday on reaching a truce in the war raging since the October 7 Hamas attacks.

The Israeli military said that one overnight attack in Gaza City targeted Hamas and Islamic Jihad targets operating from inside the headquarters of the UN agency for Palestinians UNRWA.

The UN agency has not had control of the building since October. Israeli forces said in February they had found a Hamas tunnel underneath the headquarters.

The military said the militants were "operating inside UNRWA's headquarters in the area and using it as a base to conduct attacks on IDF (Israeli Defense Forces) troops in the central

Gaza Strip". It said that militants had been "eliminated" and "large amounts of weapons" found.

UNRWA had no immediate comment on the attack, but has said it has "no way to verify" claims that its facilities are being used by Hamas and its allies.

Meanwhile Tuesday's deadly strike near the Al-Awda school in Abasan, near Khan Yunis, brought new condemnation from Hamas over the Israeli military tactics.

The Hamas government said a "majority" of the dead were women and children.

The Israeli military said the air force had "struck a terrorist from Hamas' military wing who took part, among other terrorist activities, in the October 7 brutal massacre" in southern Israel.

It was the fourth time in four days that Gaza school buildings sheltering the displaced had been hit. (AFP)

China tells NATO not to create chaos in Asia and rejects label of 'enabler' of Russia's Ukraine war

BEIJING (TIP): China accused NATO on July 11 of seeking security at the expense of others and told the alliance not to bring the same "chaos" to Asia, a reflection of its determination to oppose strengthening ties between NATO members and Asian nations such as Japan, South Korea and the Philippines.

The statement by a Foreign Ministry spokesperson came a day after NATO labelled China a "decisive enabler" of Russia's war against Ukraine.

"NATO hyping up China's responsibility on the Ukraine issue is unreasonable and has sinister motives," spokesperson Lin Jian said at a daily briefing. He maintained that China has a fair and objective stance on the Ukraine issue.

China has broken with the United States and its European allies over the war in Ukraine, refusing to condemn Russia's invasion or even to refer to it as an act of aggression in deference to Moscow. Its trade with Russia has grown since the invasion, at least partially offsetting the impact of Western sanctions.

NATO, in a statement issued at a summit in Washington, said China has become an enabler of the war through its "no-limits partnership" with Russia and its large-scale support for Russia's defense industrial base.

Lin said China's trade with Russia is legitimate and reasonable and based on World Trade Organization rules.

He said NATO's "so-called security" comes at the cost of the security of other countries. China has backed Russia's contention that NATO expansion posed a threat to Russia, whose attack on Ukraine has only strengthened the alliance, leading to Sweden and Finland becoming formal members.



China has expressed concern about NATO's budding relationships with countries in the Indo-Pacific region. Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Korea sent their leaders or deputies to the NATO summit this week.

"China urges NATO to...stop interfering in China's internal politics and smearing China's image and not create chaos in the Asia-Pacific after creating turmoil in Europe," Lin said.

Chinese troops are in Belarus this week for joint drills near the border with Poland, a NATO member. The exercises are the first with Belarus, an ally of Russia, with which it shares a single-party system under President Alexander Lukashenko, whose regime cracked down brutally on 2020 mass protests against his rule.

Lin described the joint training as a normal military operation that is not directed at any particular country.

China is a key player in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which includes a strong military element involving Russia and several Central

Asian nations, India and, most recently, Belarus.

That is seen as creating a bulwark against Western influence in the region, but also tensions over rising Chinese influence in what Russia considers its political backyard made up of former parts of the Soviet Union, which included Belarus.

Earlier this month, Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping attended a meeting of leaders or top officials from the 10 SCO countries in Kazakhstan, at which Putin reiterated his demand that Ukraine withdraw its troops from parts of the country occupied by Russia. Ukraine has firmly rejected that, along with a Chinese peace proposal that makes no mention of the return of Ukrainian territory to the government in Kyiv.

China and Russia have closely aligned their foreign policies to oppose the West, even as Russia grows increasingly reliant on China as a purchaser of its oil and gas, that make up the bulk of its foreign trade. (AP)

11 KILLED AS PASSENGER BUS COLLIDES WITH PICKUP TRUCK IN NORTHERN PHILIPPINES

TUGUEGARAO (TIP): A bus collided with a pickup truck killing 11 people and injuring six others in a northern Philippine town on July 11.

Those who died were riding the small truck as it was rammed on the side by the bus, causing it to lose control and smash into a roadside food stall in Abulug town, about 600 km (373 miles) north of Manila, said police chief Maj Antonio Palattao.

The drivers of both vehicles were injured, along with the owner of the food stall that was hit by the truck. An investigation is underway to determine who was responsible for the accident, he said.

Deadly road accidents are common in the Philippines because of weak enforcement of traffic laws, dilapidated vehicles and dangerous road conditions, including inadequate safety signs and barriers in mountain roads and far-flung provinces.

Heavy rains halt search for 30 people missing in an Indonesian landslide that killed at least 23

PALU (TIP): Incessant rains July 10 halted the search for 30 people believed trapped under a landslide that engulfed an unauthorized gold mine on Indonesia's Sulawesi island over the weekend, killing at least 23 people.

More than 100 villagers were digging for grains of gold on Sunday in the remote and hilly village of Bone Bolango in Gorontalo province when tons of mud plunged down the surrounding hills and buried their makeshift camps. The search was suspended Wednesday afternoon due to heavy rains, said Heriyanto, head of the provincial Search and Rescue Office. Rescuers have not yet been able to locate the missing people, he said. The National Search and Rescue Agency said Wednesday that 92 villagers managed to escape from the landslide. Several of them were pulled out by rescuers, including 18 with injuries. It said 23 bodies were recovered, including that of a 4-year-old boy, while 30 people were missing.

More than 1,000 personnel, including army troops, have now been deployed in the search, said Edy Prakoso, the agency's operation director.

He said the Indonesian air force would send a helicopter to speed up the rescue operation, which has been hampered by heavy rains, unstable soil and rugged terrain.

Photos released by the agency showed an excavator removing tons of mud and rocks that blocked access to the site. (AP)

Twelve children killed in South African school minibus crash

JOHANNESBURG (TIP): Twelve children were killed in South Africa early July 10 when a minibus taking them to school near Johannesburg overturned and caught fire after being hit by another vehicle, the government said.

The driver of the minibus was also killed and seven other children were rushed to hospital, the Gauteng provincial government said in a statement.

It could not immediately give the ages of the children.

Television images showed that the minibus was totally destroyed by the fire in the early morning crash in Merafong,



more than 70 kilometres west of the city.

The statement said "a private scholar transport minibus was involved in a

tragic accident in the Kokosi-Wedela area in Merafong, claiming the lives of the 12 learners and their driver.

"Additionally, seven other learners have been rushed to a medical facility for urgent medical attention."

"I am profoundly saddened by this tragic event. The loss of our children is a devastating blow to our community, and our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the deceased and injured learners," Gauteng education minister Matome Chiloane said in the statement.

South Africa has one of the most developed road networks on the continent but also has one of the worst road safety records. (AP)

14 DEAD AS JEEP FALLS FROM MOUNTAIN ROAD INTO RAVINE IN PAKISTAN-OCCUPIED KASHMIR

MUZAFFARABAD (TIP): A jeep fell from a mountain road into a ravine in the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir on July 10, killing 14 people and injuring two others, officials said.

The incident happened in the Neelam Valley, government administrator Nadeem Janjua said.

Rescuers had transported the dead and injured to a hospital while the cause of the accident is still to be determined, Janjua said.

Kashmir is divided between neighbouring India and Pakistan, with both claiming the entire territory.

Road accidents are common in Pakistan mainly because of to poor road infrastructure and poor enforcement of traffic laws and safety standards.

Last month, a van fell into a river in the same district, killing 16 people, mostly children. (AP)

65 MISSING AFTER LANDSLIDE SWEEPS AWAY TWO BUSES IN NEPAL

KATHMANDU (TIP): As many as 65 people were believed missing in Nepal after two buses were swept by a landslide triggered off the highway and into a swollen river on July 9, officials said.

The two buses with 63 passengers, and two drivers went missing in the Trishuli river in the landslides at Simaltal area along the Narayanghat-Mugling road in Chitwan district.

Rescuers were trying to locate the bus and and help with rescue the passengers but the continuous rain was making rescue efforts difficult.

"As per the preliminary information both the buses were carrying a total of 63 people including the bus drivers. The landslide swept the buses at around 3:30 am. We are at the incident site and a search operation is underway. Incessant rain is hampering our efforts to search for the missing buses," Indradev Yadav, Chief District Officer, Chitwan confirmed to ANI.

The route leading to the accident area was also blocked in several places by landslides, said government administrator Khima Nanada Bhusal.

One bus had 24 people while the other had 42 but more could have boarded the bus while on the route, Bhusal said.

Expressing grief over the disappearance of the bus in the Trishuli River, Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda has issued directives for immediate search and rescue operations. Further details are awaited.(Agencies)

Can't progress without maintaining close friendly relations with India: Nepal's CPN-UML

KATHMANDU (TIP): The Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) on July 11 said the landlocked Himalayan nation can attain economic prosperity only by maintaining close friendly relations with India, asserting that it will not allow any activity directed against the southern neighbour from the Nepalese soil.

The remarks by a senior leader of the party led by former prime minister KP Sharma Oli came on the eve of a confidence vote in Parliament, which may see him return as the politically fragile Himalayan nation's premier once again.

"CPN-UML doesn't believe that Nepal can progress or the interest of Nepalese people could be promoted by pursuing anti-India policy," Dr Rajan Bhattarai, the Foreign Affairs Department chief and Standing Committee member of the CPN-UML, told PTI in an interview.

He said the party's chairman Oli wants to take Nepal-India relations to a new height as per the demand of the 21st century.

"We believe that we can attract more foreign investment, promote trade, and attain economic prosperity only by maintaining close friendly relations with India," he said.

"We consider India as an important neighbour, and we won't allow any activity directed against India from our soil."

Oli is known for his pro-China stance, and it would be interesting to see how he maintains ties of equi-proximity with both neighbours if he becomes prime minister after toppling Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda" after



Friday's floor test in the House of Representatives.

"Our party has a clear view in not allowing any activity directed against another neighbour by taking the side of one neighbour," Bhattarai told PTI.

Although there are some problems in bilateral relations due to some provisions of the 1950 treaty, border dispute, inundation of land in the border areas and the growing trade deficit, the CPN-UML wants to resolve them through dialogue, he said.

"We can resolve all our problems by sitting together and holding talks in a friendly manner," he added.

Ties between the two countries came under severe strain in 2020 after Kathmandu published a new political map that showed the three Indian territories—Limpiyadhura, Kalapani and Lipulekh—as part of Nepal.

Then Prime Minister Oli attempted to use the issue to fend off increasing domestic pressure and challenge his

leadership.

In the past, Oli had publicly criticised India for allegedly interfering in Nepal's internal affairs.

Land-locked Nepal relies heavily on India for the transportation of goods and services.

Nepal is also important for India in the context of its overall strategic interests in the region, and the leaders of the two countries have often noted the age-old 'Roti Beti' relationship.

Nepal shares a border of over 1,850 km with five Indian states: Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.

"It is our firm belief that a stable, prosperous, peaceful, and developed Nepal will also be in the interest of India," Bhattarai said.

"However, we would also like to make it clear that our relations will be based on non-intervention in internal affairs and promoting national interest."(PTI)

Sri Lanka to end constitutional ambiguity on presidential term

COLUMBO (TIP): The Sri Lankan Cabinet has approved a move to amend the Constitution giving clarity to terms of both the president and Parliament, restricting it to five years only, the government announced on July 10. The dispute about the president's term arose as the independent election commission was preparing to announce the poll date for the next presidential election. The terms for both posts are already five years as per the 19th Amendment since 2015. However, the problem was over Article 83, which said the term could be extended to six from five with a referendum. A petitioner approached the Supreme Court asking it to define if the terms were five or six years.

Earlier this week, the Supreme Court rejected the petition which sought a ruling on the seeming ambiguity between 30(2) and 83 in the Constitution, which means, it will be five years only. The amendment to be introduced now seeks to resolve the issue arising from Article 83 (b) that reads, "??extend the term of office of the president or the duration of parliament as the case may be? to over five years from the present six."

The election commission chief RMAL Ratnayake, who held preliminary arrangements with the police and the government printer, on Tuesday said that the date for the presidential polls could be announced by the end of the month.

Bangladesh suspends job quotas after student protests

DHAKA (TIP): Bangladesh's top court on July 10 temporarily suspended quotas for coveted government jobs after thousands of students staged nationwide protests against what they call a discriminatory system, lawyers said.

The quota system reserves more than half of well-paid and massively over-subscribed civil service posts, totalling hundreds of thousands of government jobs, for specific groups including children of liberation heroes.

Students launched protests earlier this month, demanding a merit-based system, with demonstrations on Wednesday blocking highways and railway lines.

"Our only demand is that the government abolish the quota system," said student protest leader Rasel Ahmed, from Chittagong University.

"We will not return to classrooms until our demand is met," Ahmed told AFP.

The quota system was abolished in 2018 after weeks of protests, but reinstated in June by Dhaka's High Court, sparking fury from students.

The Supreme Court on Wednesday suspended that order for a month, said lawyer Shah Monjurul Hoque, who represents two students seeking to end the quota system. (AP)

Sikh History This Week

JUNE 12 TO JULY 18

12th July



1675 Guru Tegh Bahadur along with leading personages of his Darbar, Dewan Mati Das, Sati Das, and Dayal Das, were taken into custody at village Malikpur Ranghran, Pargana Ghanaula near Ropar. At the time Furu was camping with his three companions on his way to Delhi. They were sent to Sirhind where they remained for four months before being sent to Delhi on receipt of formal orders from Aurangzeb. During this period Aurangzeb remained at Hasan Abdal.

13th July

1631 Mata Damodari, wife of Guru Hargobind passed away at Darauli Bhai, now in Faridkot district. Her marriage with Guru Hargobind gave birth to Baba Gurditta in 1613 and Bibi Viro in 1613. A small shrine on the outskirts of the village marks the site where the cremation took place.

14th July



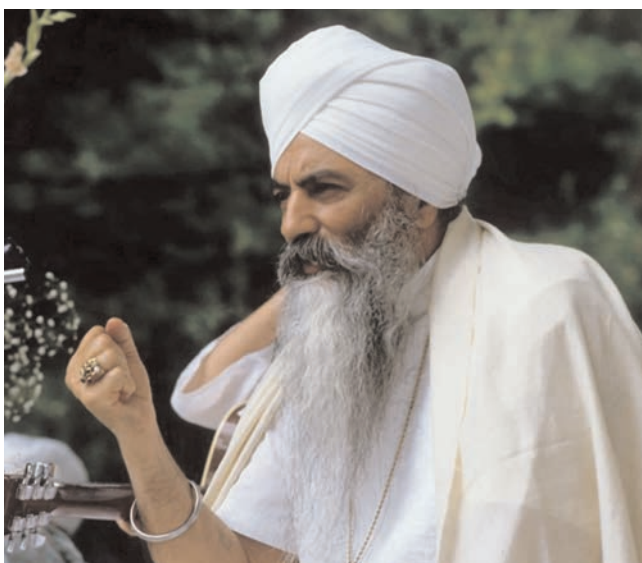
1920 The British government issued a communique, expressing its intentions to withdraw from the management of the Golden Temple and make alternative arrangements in consultation with Sikh members of the reformed Legislative Council. This was actually done to put off the matter by a year. However, the government's procrastination provoked the reformists to step up their campaign for immediate resignation of Arur Singh, the government's appointed Sarbarh. Demoralised at government's tactics, Arur Singh appeared before the reformers at the Jalianwala Bagh Diwan with folded hands. He asked for forgiveness and announced his resignation. This convinced the authorities who now regarded it as a "decided victory for the party of reformers."

1948 Deputy Prime Minister of India, Vallabhbhai Patel, eliminated the Sikh rulers and established the Patiala and East Punjab States Union, PEPSU. EAST PUNJAB STATES: Patiala, Nabha, Jind, Faridkot, and Malerkotla were the Sikh states in the East Punjab



before the integration of Indian States in 1948. The first four were the Sikh states under the sovereignty of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and were brought under British protection by the 1809 treaty of Amritsar. Patiala, Nabha, and Jind, also known as Phulkian states, share a common ancestor Phul, who was descendent of Baryam. The Emperor, in 1526, had granted Baryam, the office of revenue collection for the waste country south-west of Delhi. Emperor Shah Jahan continued Phul in this office. From his eldest son descended the families of Nabha and Jind while from his second son the Patiala family. The Faridkot family, founded in the middle 16th century sprang from the same stock as the Phulkians chiefs. The remaining two states were Kapurthala and Malerkotla. The Kapurthala rulers belonged to the Ahluwalia family. The real founder of this family was Raja Jessa Singh, a contemporary of Nadir Shah. The malerkotla rulers were Sherwani Afghans who traced their descent from Sheikh Sadrudin who had received 68 villages near Ludhiana in marriage gifts when he married the daughter of Sultan Bahlol Lodi.

1973 Bhai Sahib Harbhajan Singh Yogi met with the Archbishop of Canterbury to protest English laws which discriminate against Sikhs, particularly the law requiring motorcycle helmets.



15th July

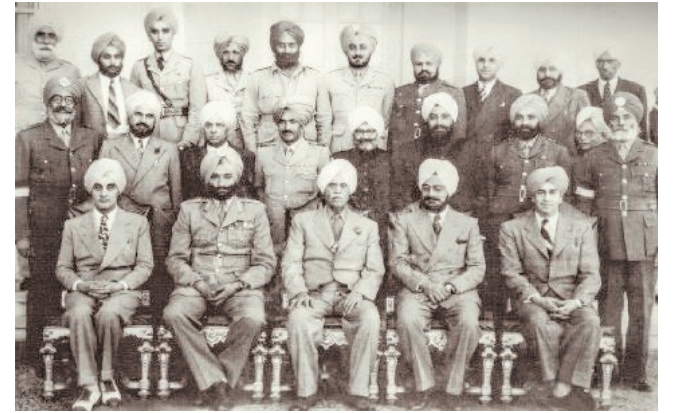
1775 Sikhs, under the leadership of Jai Singh, establish complete control over PahadGanj and JaiSinghPura, Delhi.

1923 Bishan Singh Sandhara assaulted by the Babbar Akalis.

1932 Rattan Singh Babbar of Rakkar killed in an encounter with the police.

1934 Gandhi reiterated to the Khalsa darbar deputation that "no constitution would be acceptable to the Congress which did not satisfy the Sikhs." He added, "Similarly, the Congress would not reject what

the Mussalmans wanted, nor could it accept what Hindus or Sikhs reject."



1948 The Patiala and East Punjab States Union, PEPSU, was inaugurated.

16th July

1984 1st Shahedi Jatha, under the leadership of Dr. Rajinder Kaur, marched for the liberation of Sri Harimandir Sahib. This jatha was arrested near Sri Harimandir Sahib.



1985 Harchand Singh Longowal wrote a letter to Rajiv Gandhi to find a solution to the Punjab problem.

18th July

1982 Amrik Singh and Baba Thara Singh were arrested under false implications. On this day, the police snatched a jeep belonging to Gurdwara at Chowk Mehta, arrested three men and snatched their belongings. The next day Amrik Singh went to the courts for their release. The police arrested them too. They were charged under flimsy causes. At this Jarnail Singh Bhindrawalae started an agitation for their release. The Sikhs started courting arrests every day. On July 25, 1982 the Akali party adopted the agitation.



Manicure mistakes you are making

Manicures may seem pretty straightforward, but there are probably a few things you're doing that could seriously harm your nail health.

Not washing your tools

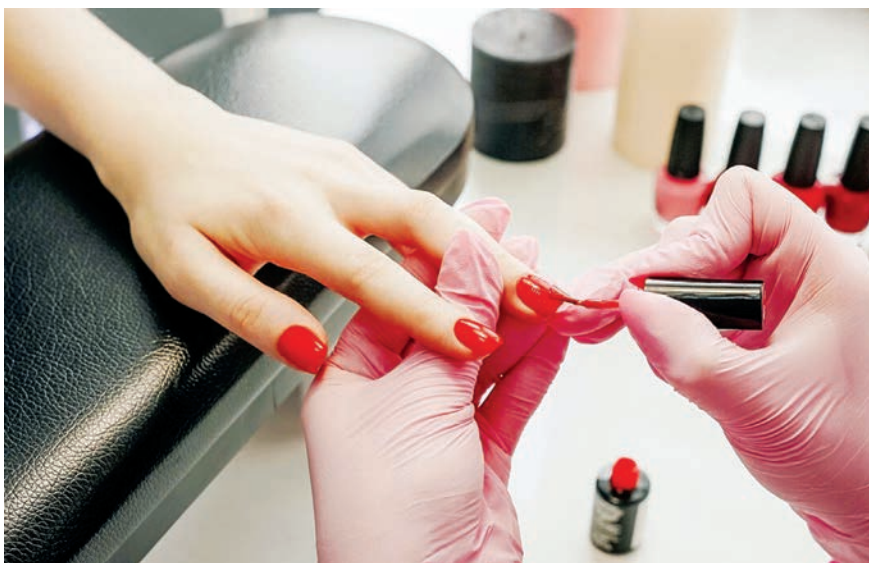
Sanitizing your tools should be the first step and your number one priority. According to research, the area around and under our fingernails stores the largest amount of harmful bacteria, and if these tools are not being washed with disinfectant you are allowing the spread of germs and risking contamination. In addition, storing tools in a sealed bag, allows bacteria to fester. So the best way to store your tools is in a breathable container and use disinfectant or alcohol to clean them before and after each use.

Cutting your cuticles

We've all been guilty of doing this because we've seen it occasionally done to us by professionals, but, cutting your cuticles is a major health risk, due to the fact that you leave unprotected cuts on your fingers which could potentially get infected. In addition to that, when the cuticles start growing again, they come back flaky and messy looking which completely ruins your look. If you love the look of nipped cuticles, then the best thing for you to do is to use a rosewood stick and push them back. This way you will protect your fingernails from getting an infection while still achieving the aesthetic look that you desire.

Not using a base coat

A lot of people believe that a



basecoat is unnecessary and a waste of time so they skip this step when they are getting their manicure. However, basecoats were originally created to bind with your natural nails and make your manicure last up to one week longer. This happens because our nails produce natural oils that prevent the nail polish from binding well with the nail, so a base coat keeps the oils out and keeps the manicure or gel polish from chipping.

Applying thick coats of polish

We all like a very pigmented look on our nails that takes less time to complete and looks solid, and that automatically makes us apply thicker coats of nail polish. Even though this may seem the best way to go, it is actually a major mistake when you are doing your manicure.

Thick coats of nail polish take twice as long to dry and underneath take approximately 5-6 minutes which is a recipe for a smudging

disaster. Nail polish, in general, is not designed to dry well when it's thick in order to be protected when it's housed in the bottle.

So the best thing to do is apply 3-4 thin layers of nail polish instead of 1-2 thick ones.

Using Q-tips

Q-tips are proven life-savers especially when it comes to makeup, so we slowly started incorporating them into our manicure routine as well. When nail polish gets on the skin around the nail, we just get a cotton pad and start wiping, but it takes the slightest motion to bring chaos to the whole look and have to start over from the beginning. The cotton fuzzies, no matter how many millimeters they are away from the wet nail polish have a tendency to stick to the manicure and ruin the whole look, forcing you to start from the beginning. Instead of using Q-tips, use a very thin makeup brush to clean the area.

FOOD CORNER

Homemade malpua

INGREDIENTS

1 cup all purpose flour, 2 tablespoon almonds, 1 teaspoon saffron, milk as required, 1/2 cup wheat flour, 2 tablespoon pistachios, boiling water as required

Method

- For the malpua batter: take a mixing bowl, add all purpose flour, wheat flour and milk as per the requirement. Begin to stir till its a thick flowing batter without lumps. Allow the batter to rest for 30 minutes.
- Meanwhile, blanch the almonds and pistachios by soaking them in hot water.
- Next, to prepare the sugar syrup: Put a pan on low flame and add sugar in it along with 1/4th cup water. Stir it well till the sugar melts. (Note: You need to have a 1/2-1 inch string consistency in the sugar syrup or wait until the syrup is sticky. Add saffron in the sugar syrup.
- Now, we are ready to prepare the malpuas. Put a pan on medium flame and melt some ghee in it. When the ghee is hot enough, take 2-3 tablespoons of the flour batter and gently pour it into the hot ghee. Spread the batter in round shape lightly with the back of the spoon.
- Fry the malpuas on low to medium flame from both sides until they are golden and crisp. Thereafter, drain them on kitchen towels. Then immediately place them in the warm sugar syrup. Gently coat the malpuas with the sugar syrup with a spoon or small tongs.
- After a minute or two, remove them from the syrup and place them in a serving tray or plate. Garnish with chopped almond and pistachios along with hot rabdi.



Humor can change your relationship



A sense of humor is an attractive trait. There is abundant cross cultural evidence that shows that being funny makes you more desirable as a mate, especially if you are a man. But once the initial flirting is over, and you are in a romantic relationship, how large a role does humor play?

For dating couples, use of positive humor (for example, using humor to cheer up your date) can positively contribute to relationship satisfaction. The use of aggressive humor, on the other hand (teasing and making fun of your partner) has the opposite effect. These feelings can fluctuate on a day-to-day basis depending on each partner's use of humor.

For long-term relationships, such as

in marriages, couples generally share a similar sense of humor – although similarities in sense of humor are not associated with greater marital satisfaction, nor with longer marriages. Perhaps not surprisingly, the research that resulted in this finding also found that couples with fewer children laugh more, compared to couples with a larger number of children.

In another study, conducted with 3,000 married couples from five countries, both husbands and wives were found to be happier with a humorous partner, but this trait was reported to be more important for the marital satisfaction of the wives than the husbands. Interestingly, both husbands and wives thought that the husband was humorous more often. Regardless,

married couples overwhelmingly say that humor has a positive impact on their marriages.

But what happens when things aren't going so well? Humor is a great ice breaker and a social lubricant, but can it also help resolve conflict in marriages? In one study, researchers observed 60 newlywed couples when they discussed a problem in their marriage. They coded how much humor was used in the conversation. The couples also completed a measure of life stress. What researchers found when they followed up 18 months later was quite surprising. In couples that reported high stress, the more the husband used humor, the greater the chance the couple would separate or divorce.

Higher screen time linked to increase in myopia in children

Myopia, or nearsightedness, makes distant objects appear blurry while close objects remain clear. This condition occurs when the eye's shape causes light rays to bend incorrectly.

A recent study, published in BMC Public Health, reviewed and analysed the link between screen time and myopia in children and adolescents.

Researchers from Soochow University in China assessed various studies to determine how screen exposure affects the risk of developing myopia.

Study Scope

The researchers reviewed 19 studies with 102,360 participants. They used data from major health databases to understand the link between screen time and myopia.

Screen Time Impact

Children who spent more time on screens had a higher risk of developing myopia. Those who had high screen time were much more likely to become nearsighted compared to those with low screen time.

Device-Specific Findings

The study found that using computers and watching TV were linked to higher myopia risk, but smartphone use was not as clearly



linked.

Geographic Variation

The increased risk was especially notable in studies from East and South Asia, and in research done after 2008.

Quality and Bias

Most of the studies were of good quality, but some had issues like small sample sizes and not accounting for all possible factors. Despite these issues, the overall results were strong.

The study highlights the potential risks of prolonged screen time for children's eye health and suggests that limiting screen exposure could help reduce the risk of myopia.

Source: India Today

Tips to trim your kids' screen time

- If your kids spend a lot of time on screens, including watching TV, start by setting smaller, more attainable goals. Instead of jumping right to the recommended one-two hours or less per day, start by cutting their screen time in half.
- After school or work, spend time each day talking face to face with kids and give them your full attention.
- During screen-free hours, put devices away or at a charging station in a common area so they're not attracting your kids' attention.
- Making family meal areas a phone-free zone is an easy way to start.



Zika virus can be sexually transmitted, says expert

Zika virus that recently infected five people in Maharashtra's Pune is majorly asymptomatic, but can resemble dengue fever, said health experts.

Zika virus disease (ZVD) is a mosquito-borne disease transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes, the mosquito which also transmits dengue, chikungunya, and yellow fever.

It usually bites during the daytime. It is usually a mild to moderate severity disease in adults and requires no specific treatment.

Common symptoms include mild fever, rashes, headache, muscle and joint pain, and inflammation of the underside of the eyelid, which normally lasts for 2-7 days.

"Around 80 per cent of cases are estimated to be asymptomatic, though the accuracy of this figure is hindered by the wide variance in data quality," Dr. Suruchi Mandrekar, Consultant Internal Medicine, Manipal Hospital, Pune, told IANS.

On the other hand, "symptomatic cases are usually mild and can resemble dengue fever, and may include fever, red eyes, joint pain, headache, and a maculopapular rash," the doctor said.

Dr. Digvijay Adke, Consultant and In-charge, Emergency Department, DPU Super Specialty Hospital, Pune, noted that "the rise in Zika virus cases, identical to dengue, is primarily owing to multiple factors, including sudden weather changes, followed by clogging of drains and water accumulation in the surroundings along with poor personal hygiene practices at an individual level."

On the other hand, "symptomatic cases are usually mild and can resemble dengue fever, and may include fever, red eyes, joint pain, headache, and a maculopapular rash," the doctor said.

Dr. Digvijay Adke, Consultant and In-charge, Emergency Department, DPU Super Specialty Hospital, Pune, noted that "the rise in Zika virus cases, identical to dengue, is primarily owing to multiple factors, including sudden weather changes, followed by clogging of drains and water accumulation in the surroundings along with poor personal hygiene practices at an individual level."

Source: IANS

Worried about your food addiction? Take heart, a team of researchers has identified a specific gut bacteria associated with both mice and human compulsive eating disorder and obesity.

In the research, presented at the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) Forum 2024, the international team identified bacteria that play a beneficial role in preventing food addiction.

While until now, the mechanisms underlying this behavioural disorder were largely unknown, the new findings, also published in the journal Gut, could be used as potential new treatments for this obesity-related behaviour.

"Potential new treatments could involve using beneficial bacteria and dietary supplementation," said Rafael Maldonado, from the Laboratory of Neuropharmacology-

Blame gut bacteria for your compulsive eating, obesity



NeuroPhar at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain.

In the study, the team investigated the gut bacteria in mice who were and were not addicted to food.

They found an increase in bacteria belonging to a group called

the Proteobacteria phylum and a decrease in bacteria belonging to the Actinobacteria phylum in the food-addicted mice.

These mice also had a decrease in the amount of another type of bacteria called Blautia from the Bacillota phylum.

Similar to the findings in mice, decreases in the Actinobacteria phylum and Blautia were seen among people with addiction to food and increase in the Proteobacteria phylum.

"The findings in both mice and humans suggested that specific microbiota could be protective in preventing food addiction," said Elena Martin-Garcia, from the varsity.

Source: IANS

PAGE SPONSORED BY

DR. SATISH AND GITANJLI ANAND



DR. SATISH ANAND
Former Chairman, Board of Trustees, AAPI National
E-Mail: sanandmd@gmail.com

GITANJLI ANAND
Former President, India Association of Long Island (IALI)
E-mail: gitanjlianand@gmail.com

Microsoft rolls out spellcheck, autocorrect for Notepad users in Windows 11

In good news for Notepad users, Microsoft has rolled out spellcheck and autocorrect in the Notepad app in Windows 11 -- 40 years after the text editor was first introduced in Windows in 1983.

The tech giant started testing both features in March. According to multiple reports, it has now quietly begun rolling out both the features for Windows 11 users.

The spellcheck feature is nearly identical to how Word or Microsoft Edge highlight misspelled words, with a red underline to show errors.

The users can enable or disable spellcheck on a file type basis in Notepad for Windows 11.

Microsoft has been adding new features to its Notepad app for Windows 11.

Notepad now offers character count, dark mode, tabs, Copilot integration, and even a virtual fidget spinner.

In December last year, Notepad app on Windows 11 received a character count feature at the bottom, similar to how Microsoft Word counts the number of words in a document.

When text is selected, the status bar shows the character count for both the selected text and the entire document.

Soon, get a satellite image of your backyard at click of mouse

Want a satellite picture of your backyard? It may soon be possible as Bengaluru-based space start-up Pixxel plans to unveil an online software suite to browse through images of earth captured by its satellites and also order customised pictures.

In an interaction with PTI editors here, Pixxel Space Chief Executive Officer and co-founder Awais Ahmed said the start-up's earth observation studio 'Aurora' was part of efforts to make space-based data accessible to the common person for a small fee.

Pixxel's earth observation studio is expected to go live later this year and make the hyperspectral images of the earth taken by its satellites and data analysis accessible to everyone.

"It would be as simple as using Google Earth but pictures and satellite imagery would be much more advanced," Ahmed, the 26-year-old CEO, who is among the handful of entrepreneurs who are making a mark in the space sector which was opened to private players about four years ago, said.

How a few days in space can change biology of astronauts

Only about 600 people have ever traveled to space. The vast majority of astronauts over the past six decades have been middle-aged men on short-duration missions of fewer than 20 days.

Today, with private, commercial and multinational spaceflight providers and flyers entering the market, we are witnessing a new era of human spaceflight. Missions have ranged from minutes, hours and days to months.

As humanity looks ahead to returning to the Moon over the coming decade, space exploration missions will be much longer, with many more space travelers and even space tourists. This also means that a wider diversity of people will experience the extreme environment of space -- more women and people of different ethnicities, ages and health status.

Since people respond differently to the unique stressors and exposures of space, researchers in space health, like me, seek to better understand the human health effects of spaceflight. With such information, we can figure out how to help astronauts stay healthy both while they're in space and once they return to Earth. As part of the historic NASA Twins Study, in 2019, my colleagues and I published groundbreaking research on how one year on board the International Space Station affects the human body.

I am a radiation cancer biologist in Colorado State University's Department of Environmental and Radiological Health Sciences. I've spent the past few



years continuing to build on that earlier research in a series of papers recently published across the portfolio of Nature journals.

These papers are part of the Space Omics and Medical Atlas package of manuscripts, data, protocols and repositories that represent the largest collection ever assembled for aerospace medicine and space biology. Over 100 institutions from 25 countries contributed to the coordinated release of a wide range of spaceflight data.

NASA's Twins Study seized on a unique research opportunity.

NASA selected astronaut Scott Kelly for the agency's first one-year mission, during which he spent a year on board the International Space Station from 2015 into 2016. Over the same time period, his

identical twin brother, Mark Kelly, a former astronaut and current U.S. senator representing Arizona, remained on Earth.

My team and I examined blood samples collected from the twin in space and his genetically matched twin back on Earth before, during and after spaceflight. We found that Scott's telomeres -- the protective caps at the ends of chromosomes, much like the plastic tip that keeps a shoelace from fraying -- lengthened, quite unexpectedly, during his year in space.

When Scott returned to Earth, however, his telomeres quickly shortened. Over the following months, his telomeres recovered but were still shorter after his journey than they had been before he went to space.

Chinese scientists identify super moss able to 'survive' on Mars

Scientists have identified a super resilient desert moss species in China's western region of Xinjiang that could help sustain possible colonies on Mars, a study by the Chinese Academy of Sciences showed.

When subjected to conditions that simulate the environment on Mars, the moss - *Syntrichia Caninervis* - was found to be able to withstand extreme dryness, ultra-low temperatures and radiation, the academy said in a research paper published in The Innovation journal last week.

The moss could serve as the "basis for the establishment and maintenance of the ecosystem by contributing to oxygen production, carbon sequestration, and soil fertility", the researched said in the study, published on July 1.

"(It) can help drive the atmospheric, geological, and ecological processes required for other higher plants and animals while facilitating the creation of new habitable environments conducive to long-term human settlement," the paper added.

In the research, scientists found that even after losing more than 98% of its cellular water content, the moss was able to recover photosynthetic and physiological activities within seconds after it was hydrated.

When intact, the plant can also tolerate ultra-low temperatures and regenerate after being stored in a freezer at minus 80 degree Celsius (minus 112 Fahrenheit) for five years or in liquid nitrogen for a month.



The moss is found in Xinjiang, Tibet, a Californian desert, the Middle East and polar regions.

The race to place a larger footprint in space has spurred China and the United States to launch exploration plans in recent years.

Chinese missions include launching near-Earth asteroid probe Tianwen-2 next year, and Tianwen-3 around 2030 to bring samples back from Mars. China last month retrieved samples from the far side of the moon. In the United States, NASA has formulated a 20-year plan for Mars, seeking answers to whether the red planet is habitable for humans.

Source: Reuters



Employment rate rises 6% provisionally in FY24 from 3.2% in FY23: RBI data

India's employment rate grew by 6 per cent in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024 from a growth of 3.2 per cent in 2022-23, according to the Reserve Bank of India's data. Employment in the country increased by 4.67 crore to 64.33 crore (provisional) in the fiscal year 2023-24, from 59.67 crore in 2022-23, the RBI's Measuring Productivity at the Industry Level-The India KLEMS [Capital (K), Labour (L), Energy (E), Material (M) and Services (S)] database showed. In the year ended 2022-23, employment in the country stood at 57.75 crore, compared to 56.56 crore in 2021-22, the RBI data showed.

The database covers 27 industries comprising the entire Indian economy. The database also provides these estimates at the broad sectoral levels (agriculture, manufacturing and services) and at the all-India levels.

It includes measures of Gross Value Added (GVA), Gross Value of Output (GVO), Labour Employment (L), Labour Quality (LQ), Capital Stock (K), Capital Composition (KQ), the consumptions of Energy (E), Material (M) and Services (S) inputs, Labour Productivity (LP) and Total Factor Productivity (TFP).

S&P 500 tops 5,600 mark in longest rally this year

NEW YORK (TIP)

A rally in the world's largest technology companies sent stocks to all-time highs, with Jerome Powell's remarks to Congress not doing much to dissuade traders from betting on Federal Reserve rate cuts this year.

For the first time in its history, the S&P 500 topped 5,600. A renewed bid for megacaps drove the US equity benchmark to its longest rally since November, with Nvidia Corp. up over 2.5% and Apple Inc. climbing on news it aims to ship 10% more new iPhones after a bumpy 2023. Treasuries remained fairly stable after a strong \$39 billion sale of 10-year bonds. Swaps are pricing in two Fed cuts in 2024 — and higher chances the first comes in September.

As Wall Street geared up for the consumer-price index, Powell said the Fed doesn't need inflation below 2% before cutting rates, while adding officials still have more work to do. He noted the labor market has cooled "pretty significantly." Powell cited a "good ways to go" on the balance-sheet runoff, and said commercial real estate doesn't threaten financial stability.

"The key takeaway from his testimony is the Fed's assessment of the balance of risks is shifting in ways that — if supported and sustained by incoming data — will deliver a rate cut in September," said Krishna Guha at Evercore.

The S&P 500 climbed 1% — up for a seventh straight day — to notch its 37th record this year. Gold and silver mining stocks rallied on Fed easing bets. Banks underperformed. Google parent



Alphabet Inc. has shelved efforts to acquire HubSpot Inc., according to people with knowledge of the matter.

US 10-year yields fell two basis points to 4.28%. Bank of England Chief Economist Huw Pill said the timing of a rate cut is still an "open question," prompting traders to pare bets on August cut. Oil rose as a US holiday boosted demand for gasoline and jet fuel.

"Markets remain remarkably calm despite the flood of data this week, including Fed Chair Powell's testimony, CPI/PPI reports, and the beginning of earnings season," said Mark Hackett at Nationwide.

The so-called core CPI, which excludes food and energy costs and is seen as a better measure of underlying inflation, is expected to rise 0.2% in June for a second month. That would mark the smallest back-to-back gains since August — a pace more palatable for Fed officials.

"June's CPI report looks to be another 'very good' report that should boost the FOMC's confidence about the inflation trajectory," said Anna Wong at Bloomberg Economics. "That should set the stage for the Fed to start cutting rates

in September."

A survey conducted by 22V Research shows 55% of investors expect the market reaction Thursday's CPI to be "risk-on," 16% said "risk-off" and 29% "mixed/negligible."

"There is optimism about inflation generally," said Dennis DeBusschere at 22V, adding that the survey also showed investors think "CPI is on a Fed-friendly glide path."

Meantime, some trading desks say investors should gear up for a potential break in the eerie calm that's recently descended on the market.

The options market is betting the S&P 500 Index will move 0.8% in either direction after Thursday's report on consumer prices, based on the price of that day's at-the-money straddles, according to Stuart Kaiser, Citigroup's head of US equity trading strategy.

If it happens, that would be the biggest move for the index since June 12, the day of the last CPI print and interest-rate decision.

Market volatility may pick up in the days and weeks ahead, amid US political uncertainty, comments from the Fed chair, and the start of the second-quarter earnings season, according to Mark Haefele at UBS Global Wealth Management.

For the first time since 2022, S&P 500 earnings may not be laser-focused on just technology, with the quarter's success hanging on everything aside from the megacap tech heavyweights that have driven stocks to all-time highs, according to Bloomberg Intelligence strategists led by Gina Martin Adams.

Source: Bloomberg

India's budget may retain fiscal deficit target at 5.1%; job creation, social spending, capex to be key themes: Morgan Stanley

MUMBAI (TIP)

US investment bank Morgan Stanley has said the Indian government is likely to retain fiscal deficit target at 5.1 percent of GDP in FY25, in line with the interim budget. Fiscal prudence, capital expenditure spending to help create jobs and targeted social sector spending are likely to be key themes of the Budget, it said. The government will unveil the Union Budget on July 23.

The fiscal deficit target which was 5.6 per cent of GDP in F24 is expected to be on track to attain the target of 4.5 per cent of GDP by FY26, Morgan Stanley report said. "The fiscal headroom has improved with a larger-than-expected transfer of surplus from the RBI, which in our view will help to maintain the momentum on capex expenditure and increase targeted welfare spending," it said.

Morgan Stanley said it expects the possibility of a slightly lower fiscal deficit target (tad below 5.1 per cent of GDP) given the support from tax and non-tax revenues.

According to the report, job creation supported



through capex, targeted social sector spending and focus on 'Viksit Bharat' plan are likely to be the themes in the budget. "With fiscal prudence guiding the overall fiscal policy stance, we expect the focus to remain on capex expenditure over revenue expenditure and targeted social sector spending with focus on improving access to physical, social and digital infrastructure," Morgan Stanley said.

"We also expect the budget to provide focus on the government's road-map for 'Viksit Bharat' (developed

nation) by 2047. In addition, the budget could also give a road-map for a medium-term plan for fiscal consolidation beyond FY26," it said.

It said the impact of the budget on the market has been on a secular decline, albeit actual performance is a function of pre-budget expectations (as measured by market performance ahead of the budget). As of now, the market seems to be approaching the budget with exuberance and could be dealing with both volatility and a correction post budget, if history is a guide, Morgan Stanley said.

"For the market, the key things to watch are the extent of fiscal consolidation (0 to 10 bps of GDP over the interim budget), the delta in spends on physical and social infrastructure (by about 20-25bps of GDP over the interim budget), sector level incentives/spends and changes to capital gains tax rates for equities... which we do not expect," the report said.

"We think the market could be surprised by the lack of major tax cuts or redistribution spends. We are overweight financials, consumer discretionary, industrials and technology and underweight all other sectors," it said.

R & R Dental Lab

86-24 Whitney Ave. Elmhurst, NY 11373

Tel. (718) 533-1611; (347) 808-7258

Email: rbarua1953@gmail.com



- We make all kinds of Acrylic, Metal and Flexite Dentures, applying high quality technology by experienced technicians.
- We repair, reline night guards etc.
- We do delivery and pick up. Quick delivery on the same day.
- EMERGENCY new dentures SAME DAY service

**We are in Dentures Work
for the last 40 years.
We GUARANTEE full satisfaction**

**SONU INSURANCE
AGENCY, INC.**

Specializing in :

- ✓ PASSPORTS NEW AND RENEWAL
- ✓ OCI CARD
- ✓ ITIN
- ✓ TAX PREPARATION

CALL US NOW:**Phone: 718-847-1878****Fax: 718-847-1879**

**135-15, 122nd Street,
S. Ozone Park, NY 11420**



Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
Licensed Mortgage Loan Originator
Call **Master Mohinder Singh**
at **646-523-5092**



77 North Broadway Hicksville, NY 11801
127-24 101 Ave. Richmond Hill, NY 11419
(516) 932-3400
www.hprealty1.com

- **Residential & Commercial Real Estate**
 - Single Family, Multi-family, Investment properties
 - Hotels/Motels, Gas Stations, Restaurants
 - Relocation Assistance - brokers licensed in
 - New York and Indiana
- **Insurance Services**
 - Home Life and Health
- **Mortgages** (provided by affiliate lenders)
 - New Purchase Refinance
 - Hard Money Loans Business/SBA Loan

**ARE YOU BEHIND ON YOUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS?
IS THE BANK GIVING YOU A HARD TIME FOR MORTGAGE DEFERRAL OR FORBEARANCE?**

STOP FORECLOSURE!**CALL THE EXPERTS AT HP REALTY FOR MORTGAGE RELIEF ASSISTANCE****Pal Singh Dhillon**

Licensed Real Estate Broker
QA Software Engineer, E-Pro Certified
Notary Public

(516) 304-2630**hprealty1@gmail.com****Jeet Dhillon**

Licensed Real Estate Broker
New York and Indiana

(516) 830-0352



ओ३म्
ARYA PRATINIDHI SABHA AMERICA
&
ARYA SAMAJ S OF TRI STATES - NY, NJ, CT



Welcome you to
GLOBAL ARYA SUMMIT-2024

INTERNATIONAL ARYA MAHASAMMELAN
Arya Samaj: Sanatan Vedic Dharma for a Better World



COMMEMORATING
**200th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF
MAHARSHI DAYANAND SARASWATI**
**150 YEARS OF
ARYA SAMAJ FOUNDATION**

**JULY
18-21
2024**

Register Today
For 3 Day Conference Style Vedic Retreat
ams.aryasamaj.com

**Hofstra
University,
Long Island,
New York**

THEMED SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS ON

Holistic Wellness & Mental Health
Science of Vedic Yog, Meditation
Arya Samaj Global Vision and Strategy
Global Yuva Sammelan
Global Mahila Sammelan
Arya Samaj Leadership Forum and Round Tables

TRI STATE HOSTING ARYA SAMAJ S

BEHAN DAVI LAKHNATH
United Arya Samaj Foundation

BEHAN SATI GURDIAL
United Arya Samaj Foundation

PT. BHARAT SINGH
Arya Spiritual Center

DR. VIJAY ARYA
Arya Samaj Long Island

BHAI KRISHAN NARAIN
Maharshi Dayanand Gurukul
New York

DR. MANJU GUPTA
Arya Samaj New Jersey

SMT. AMITA GUPTA
Om Temple New Jersey

SMT. GARIMA WADHWA
Arya Samaj Suburban New York

BHAI DAYAN DEONARAIN
Bronx Arya Samaj

BHAI BALRAM PERSAUD
Arya Samaj USA

DR. JETINDER SETHI
Vedic Samaj of New Jersey

SH. HARBANS ARYA
Arya Samaj of Connecticut

SH. BHUVNESH KHOSLA
President
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha America
(Sammelan Co-Chair)

SH. VINAY ARYA
General Secretary
Delhi Arya Pratinidhi Sabha
(Sammelan Co-Chair)

DR. RAMESH GUPTA
Past President
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha America
(Sammelan Co-Convenor)

SH. RANBIR KUMAR
President
Arya Samaj New York
(Sammelan Co-Convenor)

SH. VISHRUT ARYA
General Secretary
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha America

DR. KULBHUSHAN GULATI
Treasurer
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha America

SH. SANJAY SOOD
Joint Secretary
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha America

SMT. SUNITA BAGGA
Joint Secretary
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha America



iams2024@aryasamaj.com | aryasamaj | aryasamaj | aryasamaj | aryasamaj | aryasamaj | worldaryasamaj



BEJAN DARUWALLA AND CHIRAG DARUWALLA

**ARIES**

Ganesha says this week you will be very busy with your career. People in employment will get offers for new jobs, but it would be better for you to stick to your old job. You will get profit in the business you are doing in partnership. Students will be seen studying with full concentration. Time is good for love relationships. There will be happiness in married life. Your health will be good but you may have to face problems due to some of your bad habits. You will get the full benefit of the investment already made. Your income will be better. The economic situation will remain strong. You will be successful in controlling your expenses. Take someone's advice before making any new investment.

**TAURUS**

Ganesha says your health will be good this week, but take care of your health due to the changing weather. You will get full support from your spouse. You can also take your spouse out for a walk. Your love life will be better. If you give time to your love partner, you will see more love in your relationship. This is a good time for businesspeople. People working will get praise from their boss. Your financial condition will be good. Expenses will be higher. There are better times for investment. Students will not be able to concentrate on their studies due to any function at home but will be able to perform well with the help of friends. People who are involved in professional work will get good benefits. New contracts will be available. You will share your thoughts with your father.

**GEMINI**

Ganesha says married people of the Gemini zodiac will be seen enjoying their family life. The week will also be good for love relationships. Those who are unmarried will get a good life partner. Will get support from family members. Worship etc. will be organized at home. Employed people will get opportunities for promotion in the job. People doing business will be successful in expanding their business. Students will be seen studying diligently, but some people may create obstacles in their studies. Your health will be good. The financial situation will be good. Expenses will be higher. You will also spend a lot of money on home repairs. There will be more expenditure on children's education. Time is good for higher education. Students will get a chance to study their favorite subject.

**CANCER**

Ganesha says this week will be good for your financial situation. People doing business will get new contracts. People working will complete the tasks given in the job on time. You will receive good news from higher officials. Will get support from family. There will be happiness and peace in family life. Don't let any other person interfere in your life. People living a love life will seem happy with their beloved. You will express your feelings to your lover. You will achieve success in the field of education. Time is good for higher education. Students will get a chance to study their favorite subject. Your health will be better than before. There may be a lot of expenditure on home. You will invest money for the higher education of siblings. You will get the company of your mother.

**LEO**

Ganesha says this week you will get support from family. I plan to go to some religious place with family members, where everyone will look very happy. With the help of a relative, you will get sources of income. You will also attend a party with your family members, where you will interact with everyone. Those who work for the betterment of society, their respect will increase. You will achieve success in the field of education. You will get support from your spouse. Your love life will be good. Unmarried people will get the support of a new partner in life. Your financial condition will be good. There will be opportunities for promotion in the job. People doing business will go on a business-related trip, which will be beneficial for them. You will get support from brothers and sisters. Health will improve. You will share your thoughts with your parents.

**VIRGO**

Ganesha says this week is going to be good for students. Students will succeed in the examination. People working will get support from their senior colleagues. People doing business will be successful in taking the business forward. New opportunities will also be available. Daily income will increase. The financial situation will be good. If you want to invest in the stock market then consult an expert. Will get support from family. The marriage proposal of bachelors will be approved. You will get full support from your spouse. If your spouse is angry with you, try convincing him/her. The day will be good for people living a love life. Your health will be better than before. More money will be spent on children's education. You will plan to travel somewhere with your family, which will also cost you a lot of money.

**LIBRA**

Ganesha says this week is going to be important for you. Will get support from family. You will spend some time with family members and learn how to save money so that there is no problem in the future. People doing business will get new contracts, which will strengthen their financial position. Health will deteriorate due to excessive workload. Your house may be filled with guests in the evening, where everyone will be seen having a lot of fun. Worship will also be organized at home. You will participate in neighborhood functions with your family. You will be successful in politics. You will get support from your spouse. Your love life will be better. You will also spend more money on home repairs.

**SCORPIO**

Ganesha says this week you will start some new work with your spouse. Will get support from family. There will be sweetness in love relationships. You can also introduce your lover to your family. Don't let any other person interfere in your relationship. Health will improve. There may be fluctuations due to changing weather. You will achieve success in the field of education. Students will work hard to prepare for the competition. People working will get support from their boss. People doing business will go on a business-related trip, which will be very beneficial. Brother's marriage proposal will be accepted. Some auspicious programs will be organized at home, everyone will be seen working together, and worship will be organized at home.

**SAGITTARIUS**

Ganesha says at the beginning of the week, you will spend some time with your family members and learn to save money so that you do not face any problems in the future. You will get full support from your spouse. People living a love life will share their heartfelt feelings with their beloved. Love and trust will be seen in your relationship. Students will be seen studying with full concentration. Your financial condition will be good. Working people will have to maintain pleasant speech while talking to their boss. People doing business will be successful in taking the business forward. Do not make any investment on someone's advice, otherwise, you may have to suffer loss. Health will improve.

**CAPRICORN**

Ganesha says youths preparing for the competition will be successful. Will get support from family. Students will pay full attention to their studies and achieve success. Will get support from family. You

will be entrusted with more family responsibilities, which you will fulfill. You can get your spouse to start some new work. Your love life will be better. There can be talk of relationships among bachelors. You will plan to start a new business in partnership, which you will discuss with your family members. People who are working away from home will miss their families. Students will get opportunities for education from abroad. The economic situation will remain strong. Daily income will increase. Love life will be better.

**AQUARIUS**

Ganesha says this week is going to be very good for married people. This week you will get to know the good qualities of your spouse. You will feel proud of them. Love life will be better. Closeness will increase in love relationships. People doing business will bring some new changes in the business, which will cost more money. Working people will have to complete their work on time. You will achieve success in the field of education. Time is good for higher education. Students will be seen studying with full concentration. Being careless towards health will prove harmful. There may be some expenses on family life also. The obstacles coming in the way of the brother's marriage will be removed. An auspicious program will be organized at home. Those who work for the welfare of society will get respect.

**PISCES**

Ganesha says this week will bring happiness in life for married people. You can start some new work in the name of your spouse. Time will also be favorable for love relationships. You will introduce your lover to your family so that your marriage does not get delayed further. Will get support from family. People who do import-export work from abroad will get to hear good news. Time is good for higher education. There will be a gradual improvement in health. Time is good to change jobs. Your financial condition will be good. This will not cost much. Worship will be organized at home. You will share your thoughts with your parents.

Author Bio

Chirag Daruwalla is the best astrologer and one of the most famous names in the astrology world. He has more than 18 years of experience. Readers may seek his advice related to career, health, finance, business, money, love and marriage. He has complete knowledge, solutions, and guidance to all the problems related to life. Visit his website chiragdaruwalla.com. He is available for consultations on WhatsApp number +91 8141566266 or by email: info@chiragdaruwalla.com

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : JULY 15 TO JULY 21 BY VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA

JULY 15

Ganesha says that today is a day to celebrate love and affection with friends and family. You may feel more emotional and impulsive than usual, so be sure to think about what you are about to do before you do something. Spend some time showing your partner how much you value your relationship. If you are single right now, be open to exploring new possibilities for a romantic relationship.

JULY 16

Ganesha says that today is a great day for you to focus on your own needs and concerns. Spend some time taking care of yourself and indulging in the things that bring you the most joy. You may also consider devoting some time to reflecting on your goals and concerns for the future.

JULY 17

Ganesha says that in today's world, communication is very important. You may find yourself in situations where you need to express your thoughts clearly and confidently. Make sure to listen to others and look for areas of agreement to avoid arguments.

JULY 18

Ganesha says today is a day to connect with your feelings and express them. You may feel more sensitive and intuitive than usual, so you should heed the voice of your intuition. You should probably also spend some time with people you care about and be as honest as possible about your feelings.

JULY 19

Ganesha says today is a good day to focus on your personal growth, trust your instincts, and make choices that are in line with your values and long-term

goals. Today is a good day to focus on your personal growth and trust your instincts. Your ability to be realistic and your attention to detail will greatly assist you in managing these issues.

JULY 20

Ganesha says you may experience a sense of restlessness or a need for change. Take advantage of new possibilities and push yourself to do things that take you out of your comfort zone. You will be able to overcome any challenge that comes your way due to your resilience and resourcefulness.

JULY 21

Ganesha says that today you can focus on your relationships and your connections with other people. Maintain your existing friendships and be open to making new ones as well. It may be easy for you to connect with others as a result



**VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR
BEJAN DARUWALLA**

of your charisma and the abilities of other people that can be highlighted. Still, you must establish positive boundaries and make time for your self-care.

Nastur Bejan Daruwalla is available for astrological consultations. He can be reached at www.bejandaruwalla.com | info@bejandaruwalla.com | +91 81412 34275

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMAH ||



Know/Buy your Lucky Gemstones

From the House of Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla

To buy any Gemstone, visit www.BejanDaruwalla.com

Contact us for all kind of Astrology Services

Call/ Whatsapp **+91 8141234275**

Email: info@bejandaruwalla.com



World Famous Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla



Nastur Bejan Daruwalla



Sri Lanka tourism boosts Indian engagement with dynamic and exclusive networking events

India continues to be the leading source market, with nearly 200,000 Indian tourists having arrived so far

Sri Lanka Tourism is intensifying its promotional strategies towards Indian travellers by highlighting the country's diverse tourism offerings in one of the largest key markets, Kolkata. Sri Lanka Tourism conducted a networking evening on a Cruise over the Ganges on 10th July 2024, where Kolkata's travel agents, key figures in the industry, and media representatives met a delegation led by Sri Lanka Convention Bureau (SLCB), Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB) and around 30 Destination Management Companies (Leisure and MICE), leading hotels & resorts, homestays, tour operators and other service providers from Sri Lanka.

The goal is to strengthen the bonds between Sri Lanka and India, paving the way for mutually beneficial partnerships in the tourism sector. The notable increase in Indian visitors to Sri Lanka has been a driving force behind the upsurge in tourist arrivals, with 198,161 Indian tourists having explored Sri Lanka from January to 7th July 2024.

In June 2024, Sri Lanka conducted a series of B2B roadshows and networking events in Indore, Vadodara, and Surat on the 10th, 12th, and 14th of June 2024 to establish a robust and enduring brand presence in India. The main aim of these gatherings was to draw more visitors from Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, positioning Sri Lanka as a destination suitable for tourists throughout the year. By highlighting Sri Lanka's tourism sector, varied attractions, and progress, the events sought to reinforce the connection between Sri Lanka and India.

Mr. Harin Fernando, the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Lands, Sports, and Youth Affairs, expressed gratitude to India for consistently supporting Sri Lanka's tourism development. He highlighted Sri Lanka's progress into a middle-income nation with strong economic indicators, overcoming past challenges. In 2023, tourism earnings exceeded \$2 billion, and by April 2024 revenues had already surpassed \$1.25 billion. The goal for 2024 is to attract 2.5 million tourists and this looks achievable since almost 1 billion tourists have arrived to date. To achieve this goal, a global marketing campaign called "You'll Come Back for More" was launched. Sri Lanka has actively promoted its attractions at major international events and conducted roadshows in key cities worldwide. India remains our top source with 18% of total tourism arrivals being Indians in the past 5 months and the extension of visa-free entry for Indian tourists further aims to boost visitor numbers.

Mr. Chalaka D. Gajabahu, Chairman of the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, emphasized tourism as the third-largest revenue stream for the island, noting its growth beyond beach tourism



Kithulgala - White Water Rafting.



Viceroy Train - Rolling Tea Estates



Yala National Park

to encompass sports, culture, spirituality, and history. Since 2023, Sri Lanka established a strong presence in India with B2B roadshows in cities like Bengaluru, Chennai, Cochin, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Pune, Mumbai, and New Delhi, in addition to participating in major travel trade shows like Outbound Travel Mart (OTM) in Mumbai and South Asia's Travel & Tourism Exchange (SATTE) in New Delhi. The strategy shifted towards impactful events in the West and Middle East, including participation in prominent trade shows such as World Travel Market in London, ITB in Germany, and Arabian Travel Mart in Dubai. Furthermore, B2B roadshows were conducted in Brisbane,

Sydney, and Melbourne in Australia, as well as in Turkey, complemented by B2C initiatives involving influencers and media programs by hosting around 300 media personnel from 15 countries, showcasing Sri Lanka's readiness to welcome tourists.

Mr. Thisum Jayasuriya, Chairman of the Sri Lanka Convention Bureau, highlighted Sri Lanka's growth as a preferred MICE destination, with enhanced venues and accessibility attracting corporate events. The country's MICE sector saw success with the 3rd MICE expo in May 2024, featuring 100 international buyers and 113 local suppliers. India remains a key target market for MICE travel, with efforts to

increase revenue from this segment. The collected data shows that the MICE arrival comes to 9.5% in 2023 compared to the overall tourist arrival and is expected this percentage to grow up to 12% in 2024, aiming for earnings of over \$550 million. By 2026, the target is \$1.36 billion in earnings and 10% of total arrivals from MICE tourism. The bureau aims for an 11% increase in MICE arrivals annually, as MICE travellers spend significantly more than other tourist segments.

The networking evening will emphasise Sri Lanka's stunning landscapes, vibrant cultural heritage, and welcoming atmosphere through discussions and presentations, encouraging travellers to revisit this captivating island destination. Attendees will be treated to a showcase of Sri Lanka's varied attractions, ranging from pristine beaches to ancient temples, marking a new chapter of tourism excellence for the island nation.

Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau

Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB) is the official government agency responsible for managing all marketing and promotional initiatives pertaining to Sri Lanka's travel and tourism sector. The Chairman, Managing Director, and Board of Directors of the Bureau are composed of representatives from various organizations such as the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises in Tourism, the Sri Lanka Association of Inbound Tour Operators, and the Tourist Hotels Association of Sri Lanka. The primary goals of SLTPB are to work with the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority, the Sri Lanka Conventions Bureau, the Sri Lanka Institute of Hotel Management, and other travel and tourism stakeholders to market and advertise Sri Lanka both directly and indirectly as an exceptional tourist and travel destination that complies with the Tourism Development Plan. The promotion of Sri Lanka as a gateway into South Asia and its establishment as the region's leader in tourism development and management are the main objectives of these initiatives.

Sri Lanka Convention Bureau:

Sri Lanka Convention Bureau (SLCB) is the official governmental body and the primary goal is to promote the growth of the MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) Industry in Sri Lanka. SLCB is the go-to organisation for meeting planners, incentive houses, corporations, and associations interested in arranging and executing events in Sri Lanka. From handling inquiries to providing support for events, SLCB offers a comprehensive range of services.

INDO-AMERICAN SENIOR CITIZEN ASSOCIATION OF HUDSON COUNTY MARKS 248TH INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH GRAND CELEBRATION



Nitin Vyas, General Secretary, with Chairman Jatinder Bakshi, Commissioner Bill O'Dea, Tom Zuppa, and Vice President RASESH Shah/ Kamlesh Patel, Director Dinesh Pandya and Nishant Srivastava.

CONTD FROM PAGE 6



Committee members with Chairman Jatinder Bakshi and Commissioner Bill O'Dea

music, delectable food, and the cherished presence of family and friends."

The success of the event was attributed to the dedication and hard work of numerous individuals and groups including President Dipak Valsadia, General Secretary Nitin Vyas, Vice President Rashesh Shah, Dinesh Pandya, Kamlesh Patel, Nishant Shrivastav, Mukund & Rama Thakar from Arista Care CTR, Bharat Rana & Mahendra Shah from FISANA, H.K. Shah from World Vegan Vision, Ravi Parikh, Hervendar Pal Singh, and Arjumand Juweria. The committed members of the Indo-American Senior Citizen Association also played a significant role in making the event seamless. Special thanks were extended to Arista Care CTR, FISANA, World Vegan Vision, and all esteemed attendees.

The celebration was further graced by Commissioner Bill O'Dea and Tom Zuppa from Jersey City along with other respected figures, underscoring the importance of communal harmony and collective tribute to America's legacy.

(Based on a press release issued by Nitin Vyas, General Secretary, Indo-American Senior Citizen Association of Hudson County.)

It was a day to remember, complete with delightful

CONTD FROM PAGE 1

Eminent economists tell PM Modi to take steps to accelerate growth

Besides economists and sectoral experts, Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Suman Bery and other members also attended the meeting.

Finance Minister Sitharaman, Planning Minister Rao Inderjit Singh, Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran and economists Surjit Bhalla and Ashok Gulati and veteran banker K V Kamath, among others, were present in the meeting.

The Budget for 2024-25 will be the first major economic document of the Modi 3.0 government, which, among other things, is expected to lay the road map for making India a developed nation by 2047.

Suggestions were also made to accelerate economic growth and improve agriculture productivity, sources added.

According to sources, the discussions were also held on the Viksit Bharat @2047 document being prepared by the NITI Aayog.

President Droupadi Murmu, in her address to the joint sitting of Parliament last month, had indicated that the government would come out with historic steps to accelerate the pace of reforms.

She also said the Budget will be an effective document of the government's far-reaching policies and futuristic vision.

Sitharaman has already held discussions with various stakeholders, including economists and captains of Indian industry, on the forthcoming Budget.

Several experts have urged the government to provide tax relief to the common man to boost consumption and take steps to check inflation and accelerate economic growth.

The economy has recorded a growth

rate of 8.2 per cent in 2023-24.

Earlier in February, Sitharaman presented an interim budget for 2024-25 in view of the Lok Sabha elections.

Supreme Court Grants Interim Bail to Arvind Kejriwal in PMLA Case; Refers Plea Challenging ED Arrest to Larger Bench

parameters of S.19 of the PMLA, which gives the power of arrest to ED officers. "However, having said so, we have raised an additional ground which relates to the need and necessity of arrest...we felt that this issue whether the ground of need and necessity of arrest must be read into Section 19, especially in view of the doctrine of proportionality. We have referred those questions to the larger bench," Justice Khanna said.

We have also held that mere interrogation does not allow you to arrest. That is not a ground under S.19," Justice Khanna added.

While referring the matter to the larger bench, the present bench chose to grant him interim bail considering his incarceration so far. The bench clarified that the question of interim bail can be modified by the larger bench.

In another crucial development, Kejriwal has challenged before the Delhi High Court his arrest by CBI and 3 days of police remand. He has also filed a plea seeking bail in the CBI case. Both matters are fixed for hearing on July 17.

Pelosi raises doubts about Biden's presidential race, Clooney asks him to end campaign

face a fresh wave of doubts from fellow Democrats.

For nearly two weeks the 81-year-old Biden has sought to stem defections by

Democratic lawmakers, donors and other allies worried he might lose the Nov 5 vote to Republican Donald Trump, 78, after Biden's halting June 27 debate performance.

Pelosi said on MSNBC she was encouraging her colleagues on Capitol Hill with concerns about Biden to refrain from airing them while he hosts NATO leaders in Washington this week.

"I've said to everyone: let's just hold off. Whatever you're thinking, either tell somebody privately, but you don't have to put that out on the table until we see how we go this week," she said, describing Biden's strong remarks at the NATO summit on Tuesday as "spectacular". "We're all encouraging him to make that decision because time is running short."

In his opinion piece, Clooney wrote: "It's devastating to say it... He wasn't even the Joe Biden of 2020. He was the same man we all witnessed at the debate," Clooney wrote. "We are not going to win in November with this president. On top of that, we won't win the House, and we're going to lose the Senate."

US envoy to India Eric Garcetti says India must not take ties for granted

"Don't take the relationship for granted, but enjoy it every day. Pay something into it. It's like a marriage. Let's listen to each other in this relationship," the Ambassador said at a dialogue on "Deliverables to deliveries", supported by the US State Department and the United Services Institution, a think-tank. The two-day event is titled "Stories of US-India Defense and Security Partnership".

Garcetti also spoke on India's strategic autonomy, saying, "I know India likes its strategic autonomy and I respect that. But in times of conflict, there is no such thing as strategic autonomy." Though he did not elaborate, the hint was clear the US no longer wanted India to maintain a neutral approach on international

matters, including the Russia-Ukraine and the West Asia conflicts.

In an obvious reference to Russia's attack on Ukraine, the US Ambassador said, "We are interconnected in the world. No war is distant anymore and we must not just stand for peace. We must take concrete actions to ensure that war machines of those not abiding by peace rules cannot continue unabated."

"In times of crisis, we will need to trust each other and act together... we need to be known to each other's systems and also know each other as humans. The US and India have to act together... take stand in principle against war," he said. "Increasingly, we are not like two countries with two different cultures. We are two countries with one heart. The US and India together are an unstoppable force... India is now the number one US partner for doing military exercises."

Garcetti mentioned how the Malabar exercise off the Australian coast was like the Quad coming together in a strategic partnership to uphold a "rules-based order". The Quad comprises India, US, Japan and Australia and the phrase "rules based order" is used in diplomatic terms to question China's claims over the South China Sea and the East China Sea.

"The US-India defense partnership stands among the most consequential in the world. My Commander-in-Chief and President Joe Biden asked me to take this position (in India). This is the most important country in the world," he said.

Over the past three years, he said, countries had been witnessed ignoring sovereign borders. "I don't have to remind India how important borders are," he said, in an obvious reference to the ongoing military standoff with China along the Line of Actual Control. "The central principle is for peace in our world. I come here not to teach and preach or to lecture... always to listen and learn... also to remind us of those commonly shared values," the Ambassador added.

Kamada Saptami Vrat: A Hindu festival of devotion & self-discipline

Kamada Saptami Vrat is an important Hindu festival that is celebrated on the seventh day of the Chaitra month, according to the Hindu calendar. This day is dedicated to Lord Surya, the Hindu god of the Sun. The festival is also known as Chaitra Shukla Saptami, and it is believed that observing a fast on this day can bring good health and prosperity. According to Hindu mythology, the festival has a special significance as it is said that Lord Surya blesses his devotees and removes all their sins on this day. The festival is celebrated with great enthusiasm in many parts of India, particularly in North India. It is an important day for Hindus, and observing Kamada Saptami Vrat is considered a way of showing devotion to Lord Surya and seeking his blessings.

Story of Lord Shiva and Kamada Ekadashi

According to Hindu mythology, Lord Shiva once narrated the story of Kamada Ekadashi to Goddess Parvati. It is said that a pious and virtuous woman named Kamada observed the Kamada Ekadashi vrat with utmost devotion and dedication.

She prayed to Lord Vishnu to bless her husband with good health, wealth and prosperity. Her prayers were answered and her husband was blessed with all the good things in life. Since then, Kamada Ekadashi is celebrated every year as a day of penance and devotion toward Lord Vishnu.

Significance of Lord Satyanarayan and Lord Venkateshwara in the festival

Lord Satyanarayan and Lord Venkateshwara are considered the presiding deities of Kamada Saptami Vrat. Lord Satyanarayan is believed to be the incarnation of Lord Vishnu and is worshipped for wealth, prosperity and happiness.

Lord Venkateshwara is another form of Lord Vishnu and is considered the lord of wealth and prosperity.

Symbolic representation of Kamada Saptami Vrat

Kamada Saptami Vrat is observed on the seventh day of the Chaitra month (March-April) according to the Hindu calendar.

It is believed that observing this vrat with devotion and dedication can help one attain peace, prosperity, and happiness.

The vrat is observed by fasting and performing various rituals and puja.

It is also believed that observing Kamada Saptami Vrat can help in getting rid of sins and negative karma.

Rituals and traditions observed during the festival

Devotees wake up early in the morning, take a bath and dress in clean clothes. They offer prayers to Lord Vishnu or Lord Satyanarayan and recite mantras and shlokas. Fasting is observed by the devotees, and some choose to eat only fruits or drink only water.

Devotees offer flowers, fruits and other items to the deity.

In some regions, people take a dip in the holy river or perform charity work.

Importance of fasting

Fasting is believed to purify the body and mind, and help the devotee focus on the spiritual aspect of the festival.

It is seen as a way to express devotion and gratitude to the deity.

Some devotees also fast to seek blessings for their family, friends, and loved ones.

The fast is broken in the evening after performing the aarti and offering food to the deity.

The festival is associated with several Hindu



mythological stories and legends. One of the most popular stories is the tale of Lord Shiva and Kamada Ekadashi, which marks the beginning of the Kamada Saptami Vrat.

Another story involves Lord Satyanarayan, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu and how he helped a poor Brahmin overcome his troubles.

Kamada Saptami Vrat is considered an important festival in Hinduism and is observed with great reverence and devotion.

It is believed that observing the fast and performing the rituals during the festival can help in fulfilling one's wishes and desires.

The festival is also seen as an opportunity to seek the blessings of the gods and goddesses and to cleanse one's mind and body of impurities.

Role of Kamada Saptami Vrat in promoting devotion and self-discipline

Fasting during Kamada Saptami Vrat is seen as a way of purifying oneself and showing devotion to the gods and goddesses.

The festival is also seen as an opportunity to practice self-discipline and to strengthen one's willpower.

By observing the fast and performing the rituals with sincerity and dedication, devotees aim to deepen their spiritual connection with the divine and to

improve their overall well-being.

In conclusion, Kamada Saptami Vrat is a significant Hindu festival that is celebrated with great devotion and enthusiasm. The festival has both historical and mythological significance and it is an important part of Hindu culture and tradition. Through the festival, people not only seek the blessings of Lord Shiva and other deities but also strive to cultivate virtues such as self-discipline, devotion, and compassion. In today's modern world, the festival holds great relevance as it reminds us of our cultural heritage and the importance of preserving it. It is essential to continue celebrating festivals like Kamada Saptami Vrat to keep our traditions and culture alive for future generations. Let us strive to maintain the sanctity of this festival and promote cultural diversity and harmony.

Source: Itra Foundation

PAGE SPONSORED BY



ARISH K. SAHANI

Serving Since 1972

Please Call or Write for Your Insurance Needs

Arish K Sahani (Father)

Shiv Sahani (Son)

Priya Sahani Sood (Daughter)

718 - 271 - 1906

arish.sahani@gmail.com

"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."

"Everyone thinks how to become a better son or daughter, mother or father, brother or sister, husband or wife, and man or woman. But no one puts actual thoughts on that they are all HUMAN and how to become a better HUMAN. What can we do to learn how to be a better human? "

-- Arish K Sahani

History This Week JULY 11 - 17

JULY 11



Birthday - John Quincy Adams (1767-1848) the 6th U.S. President, and son of the 2nd President, John Adams, was born in Braintree, Massachusetts. After serving just one term as President, he served 17 years as a member of Congress. He died in 1848 while in the House of Representatives in the same room in which he had taken the presidential Oath of Office. He was the first president whose father had also been president.

JULY 12

July 12, 1943 - During World War II, in the Battle of Kursk, the largest tank battle in history took place outside the small village of Prohorovka, Russia. About nine hundred Russian tanks attacked an equal number of German tanks fighting at close range. When Hitler ordered a cease-fire, 300 German tanks remained strewn over the battlefield.

July 12, 1994 - Germany's Constitutional Court ended the ban on sending German troops to fight outside the country. The ban had been in effect since the end of World War II. The ruling allowed German troops to join in United Nations and NATO peace-keeping missions. On July 14, German military units marched in Bastille Day celebrations in Paris, the first appearance of German troops there since World War II.

Birthday - British pottery designer Josiah Wedgwood (1730-1795) was born in Burslem, Staffordshire, England.



Birthday - American philosopher Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862) was born in Concord, Massachusetts. At Walden Pond he wrote, "I frequently tramped eight or ten miles through the deepest snow to keep an appointment with a beech tree, or a yellow birch, or an old acquaintance among the pines."

JULY 13

July 13, 1787 - Congress enacted the Northwest Ordinance establishing formal procedures for transforming territories into states. It provided for the eventual establishment of three to five

states in the area north of the Ohio River, to be considered equal with the original 13. The Ordinance included a Bill of Rights that guaranteed freedom of religion, the right to trial by jury, public education and a ban on slavery in the Northwest.

JULY 14

July 14, 1789 - The fall of the Bastille occurred at the beginning of the French Revolution.

July 14, 1791 - In England, the Birmingham riot occurred on the second anniversary of the fall of the Bastille. Mob rule lasted for three days, targeting controversial scientist and theologian Joseph Priestly's home and laboratory as well as the homes of his friends. Priestly, who had expressed support for the American and French revolutions, fled to London with his family and later moved to America.



Birthday - American folk singer and social activist Woody Guthrie (1912-1967) was born in Okemah, Oklahoma. Best known for This Land Is Your Land, Union Maid, and Hard Traveling.

Birthday - Gerald R. Ford, the 38th U.S. President was born in Omaha, Nebraska, July 14, 1913 (as Leslie King). In 1973, he was appointed vice president following the resignation of Spiro T. Agnew. He became president on August 9, 1974, following the resignation of Richard M. Nixon. He was the first non-elected vice president and non-elected president of the U.S.

JULY 15

July 15, 1918 - During the Battle of the Marne in World War I, German General Erich Ludendorff launched Germany's fifth, and last, offensive to break through the Chateau-Thierry salient. However, the Germans were stopped by American, British and Italian divisions. On July 18, General Foch, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied troops, launched a massive counter-offensive. The Germans began a retreat lasting four months until they requested an armistice in November.

Birthday - Dutch painter Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669) was born in Leiden, Holland. Best known for The Night Watch and many portraits and self portraits.

Birthday - The first American saint, Frances Xavier Cabrini (1850-1917) was born in Lombardy, Italy. She was the founder of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and established



Catholic schools, orphanages, convents and hospitals. She was canonized, July 7, 1946, by Pope Pius XII.

JULY 16

July 16, 1769 - San Diego was founded as the mission San Diego de Alcalá by Father Junipero Serra.

July 16, 1945 - The experimental Atomic bomb "Fat Boy" was set off at 5:30 a.m. in the desert of New Mexico desert, creating a mushroom cloud rising 41,000 ft. The bomb emitted heat three times the temperature of the interior of the sun and wiped out all plant and animal life within a mile.

July 16, 1969 - The Apollo 11 Lunar landing mission began with a liftoff from Kennedy Space Center at 9:37 a.m.



July 16, 1999 - A small plane piloted by John F. Kennedy Jr. took off at 8:38 p.m. from Fairfield, New Jersey, heading toward Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. His wife, Carolyn Bessette Kennedy, and her sister Lauren were passengers on the 200 mile trip. The plane was expected to arrive about 10 p.m. but disappeared off radar at 9:40 p.m. Five days later, July 21, following an extensive search, the bodies were recovered from the plane wreckage in 116 feet of water roughly 7 miles off Martha's Vineyard. The next day, following an autopsy, the cremated remains of John F. Kennedy, 38, his wife Carolyn, 33, and her sister Lauren, 34, were scattered at sea from a U.S. Navy ship, with family members present, not far from where the plane had crashed.



Birthday - British portrait painter Joshua Reynolds (1723-1792) was born in Plympton, Devon, England.

Birthday - Christian Science founder Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910) was born

near Concord, New Hampshire.

Birthday - African American journalist and anti-lynching crusader Ida B. Wells (1862-1931) was born to slaves at Holly Springs, Missouri. Following the Civil War, as lynchings became prevalent, Wells traveled extensively, founding anti-lynching societies and black women's clubs.



Birthday - Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen (1872-1928) was born near Oslo. He was the first to sail from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean via the Northwest Passage. He discovered the South Pole in 1911 and flew over the North Pole in a dirigible in 1926. In June 1928, he flew from Norway to rescue survivors of an Italian Arctic expedition, but his plane vanished.

JULY 17



July 17, 1918 - In the Russian town of Ekaterinburg in Siberia, former Czar Nicholas II, his wife Alexandra, and their five children were brutally murdered by Bolsheviks.

July 17, 1996 - TWA Flight 800 departed Kennedy International Airport in New York bound for Paris but exploded in mid-air 12 minutes after takeoff, apparently the result of a mechanical failure. The Boeing 747 jet crashed into the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Long Island about 8:45 p.m. All 212 passengers and 17 crew members on board were killed.



Birthday - Puerto Rican patriot Luis Munoz-Rivera (1859-1916) was born in Barranquitas, Puerto Rico. He worked tirelessly to attain self-government for his homeland.



Dravid happy to forgo bonus amount after T20 World Cup win

Former India head coach Rahul Dravid has refused to take the additional bonus amount of Rs 2.5 crore offered to him by the BCCI following the recent T20 World Cup triumph in the Americas.

Dravid was offered the bonus amount following the national team's success but he was happy to settle for the due amount – Rs 2.5 crore – similar to other coaching staff. The BCCI wanted to repay Dravid for guiding India to the trophy in Barbados by hiking his reward to Rs 5 crore, which is at par with the players, PTI has learnt that the 51-year-old was happy with an equal pay check as other coaching staff.

It was more of a goodwill gesture than any official call as Dravid's tenure as India coach had originally ended after last year's 50-over World Cup at home.

However, skipper Rohit Sharma and the governing body were successful in convincing Dravid to stay till the T20 World Cup as they then had felt that time was too short for a new coach to take up the high-pressure job.

Dravid went on to end his India coaching stint as a World Cup winner, and talks have been swirling around him joining an IPL franchise as mentor.

All eyes on new coach Gautam Gambhir's supporting cast

The financial nitty-gritties of Gautam Gambhir's appointment as India's head coach are yet to be worked out but that's the "last of his concerns" right now as he is focussed on getting a support staff of choice to prepare for the enormous challenges that await him during the three-year stint. On July 9, BCCI secretary Jay Shah officially announced Gambhir's appointment, which was on cards for a long time. However, it is learnt that his salary is yet to be finalised although it is expected to be in the same bracket as that of his predecessors Rahul Dravid and Ravi Shastri. "For Gautam, it was important that he took charge and salary and other stuff can be worked out as it's not going anywhere. It is similar to the case of Ravi Shastri in 2014 when he was first made Director of Cricket over head coach Duncan Fletcher," a BCCI source said. "The salary will be in the same range of Rahul Dravid," he added.

EURO 2024

England stun Netherlands, to face Spain in final

BERLIN (TIP)

Substitute Ollie Watkins sent England to their second successive Euro final with a 2-1 victory over the resilient Netherlands in the semifinal.

Ronald Koeman's men got off to the perfect start when Xavi Simons danced through the England defense before unleashing a right-footed shot past goalkeeper Jordan Pickford to break the deadlock after just seven minutes.

The Netherlands' advantage didn't last long, as Harry Kane converted a foul-play penalty following a VAR review with a well-placed shot into the bottom right-hand corner in the 18th minute, reports Xinhua.

The Three Lions gained momentum and almost doubled their lead in the 23rd minute when Denzel Dumfries cleared Phil Foden's shot off the line.

Dumfries remained in the thick of things after rattling the woodwork with a header from a promising position on the half-hour mark.

Gareth Southgate's men controlled possession but couldn't convert their chances before the half-time whistle.

After a slow start to the second half from both sides, the Dutch gradually gained the upper hand, but it was not until the 65th minute that Pickford



England players celebrate at the end of a semifinal match against the Netherlands at the Euro 2024 soccer tournament in Dortmund, Germany, Wednesday, July 10, 2024. England won 2-1. PTI

was called into action to save Virgil van Dijk's header.

England continued to threaten and thought they had regained the lead, but Bukayo Saka's goal was ruled out for offside in the 79th minute.

The Three Lions stunned the Oranje in the 91st minute when Watkins finished off an attack with a curling shot into the right-hand corner.

The Netherlands piled on the

pressure, but England's defense held firm to set up a meeting with Spain in the final on July 14.

"I'm lost for words! I didn't want to come off the pitch at the end because I wanted to soak it all in. I don't think I have ever hit a ball that sweet. I never thought I would play at a Euro 2024 with England, but I've put in a lot of hard work to get to this point," said Watkins. *Source: IANS*

All-round show propels India to 3-1 lead over Zimbabwe; Gill hails team effort

HARARE (TIP)

Shubman Gill and Ruturaj Gaikwad produced high-quality knocks before the bowlers did their part as India outplayed Zimbabwe by 23 runs in the third T20I of their five-match series here on June 10.

Gill (66 off 49 balls), Yashasvi Jaiswal (36 off 27) and Gaikwad (49 off 28) propelled India to 182/4 after the visitors opted to bat on a fresh pitch.

Zimbabwe were never really in the hunt despite an entertaining effort from No. 4 Dion Myers (65 not out off 49), and ended at 159/6.

Washington Sundar, who is likely to play a bigger role in India's T20 set-up after the retirement of Ravindra Jadeja, struck thrice while Avesh Khan took a couple of wickets.

The fourth T20I will be played here on Saturday. After a loss in the series opener, India have restored normal service with back-to-back victories.

After Avesh Khan bounced out opener Wessly Madhevere in the second over, the wickets kept falling for the home team. However, Zimbabwe steadied the ship after losing their first five wickets for 39 runs. The 77-run stand off 57 balls between Myers and Clive Madande (37 off 26) fuelled their innings but it was not meant to be.

Earlier, India made some interesting selection calls. They duly inducted World Cup winners Jaiswal, Sanju Samson (12 not out off 7) and Shivam Dube into the playing XI, leaving out the likes of Riyan Parag in the middle-order. As for Zimbabwe, they were poor in the field to say the least, conceding extra runs and grassing regulation catches



Shubman Gill returned to form with a 49-ball 66. Photo: BCCI, AP/PTI

throughout the innings.

Remarkable effort

Gill hailed their "remarkable" team effort on a two-paced wicket as India got their second successive win to snatch the lead.

"It was a crucial match for us and the way we started with batting and bowling, it was remarkable," Gill said during the post-match presentation.

Asked if he was a little disappointed that the team couldn't reach 200 in the third T20, Gill said: "...the wicket was a bit double-paced, the odd ball was gripping and it was not easy to hit the length ball." *Source: PTI*



An Eye Institute in Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh combatting avoidable blindness in children.

"On behalf of all my colleagues of the Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore, MD. I send my best wishes and congratulations to our friends in Goutami on this extremely important occasion. This beautiful facility will match the wonderful world class work of your doctors, nurses, and staff in preserving and restoring the vision of so many patients. We in the United States are inspired by your dedication and admire your tireless efforts to serve so many who need your skills and compassion. Best wishes, Peter"

Peter J McDonnell, MD Director Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins



New Goutami Institute building to be constructed 2024

3.5 + million served
325,000 + vision restoring surgeries
30,000 + surgeries on children

Services Include:

- Treating disease and vision problems
- performing free cataract surgeries
- distributing glasses and visual aids
- conducting community research
- providing education to physicians and the public



In 2018 Prasanth, Sushanth and Nisanth were diagnosed and treated for Prematurity Retinopathy. An illness in premature babies which can cause blindness.

Luckily through GEMROP an initiative funded by EFA to screen premature babies throughout hospitals in India, the triplets were able to receive an expensive surgery free of charge. The boys are now the age of 4 with perfect vision.

Join our Vision.
Give the gift
of sight today.

Visit eyefoundationofamerica.org

695 WESTVIEW AVENUE, MORGANTOWN, WV 26505
TAX ID # 55-062-1735