



The

INDIAN



PANORAMA

20TH YEAR

www.theindianpanorama.news

EVER TRUTHFUL

1 Indian American Weekly : Since 2006

VOL 20 ISSUE 26 • NEW YORK / DALLAS • JUNE 26 - JULY 02, 2026

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

The INDIAN PANORAMA
EVER TRUTHFUL

250-Page Special Edition
in Commemoration of

Releasing on July 3, 2026

250th Anniversary of America's Independence

Contact: 646-247-9458
Salujindra@gmail.com

SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 05

Death toll in Venezuela earthquakes reaches 235, around 4,300 injured

The number of dead and injured is expected to rise with thousands reported missing after the 7.2- and 7.5-magnitude earthquakes that struck on Wednesday, June 24 evening

**JUNE 26, 2026
LA GUAIRA (TIP)**

Venezuelans searched for survivors beneath collapsed buildings on Thursday, June 26, and rescue teams raced to northern areas rocked by a pair of powerful earthquakes that officials say killed around 235 people and left at least 4,300 people injured, according to an AP report.

"Unfortunately, we have received around 235 patients who arrived without vital signs or died when they arrived at our health facilities," Health Minister Carlos Alvarado told state media on Thursday.

The number of dead and injured is expected to rise with thousands reported missing after the 7.2- and 7.5-

CONTD ON PAGE 36



Buildings collapsed, people buried, hundreds dead, thousands injured, thousands rendered homeless.

INSIDE

AMERICA @250: FREEDOM'S GREATEST TEST IS MORAL LEADERSHIP	PAGE 02
BREXIT'S LONG SHADOW	PAGE 08
INDIA HOLDS ITS GROUND ON BRICS TURF	PAGE 09
HOW MUCH DOES IT TAKE TO WIN AN ELECTION	PAGE 10

India-US trade deal near, but key issues still unresolved: Asia Society Policy Institute experts



US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer and India's Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal in New Delhi on June 23, 2026

**JUNE 25, 2026
WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP)**

India and the United States have made significant progress in trade negotiations following US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer's two-day meeting with Union Commerce

Minister Piyush Goyal in New Delhi on June 23-24, but experts say key differences continue to stand in the way of a final agreement, according to an ANI report. Wendy Cutler, Senior Vice President at the Asia Society Policy

CONTD ON PAGE 36

Guruji Dr. H.R. Nagendra transports the audience to a wonderland of Meditation at the Consulate General of India, New York

**JUNE 22, 2026
NEW YORK (TIP)**

On the occasion of 12th International Day of Yoga, the Consulate General of India in New York in collaboration with RANA hosted a special meditation session led by Guru Dr. H.R. Nagendra Ji, a revered Yoga master and a globally respected expert in Yoga, meditation and holistic well-being. The event brought together members of the diplomatic corps, academia, businesspeople, yoga institutions, spiritual organizations and the wider Indian American community.

In his welcome remarks, Consul General Binaya Pradhan expressed happiness that Yoga is gaining popularity in the US as demonstrated in good number of yoga enthusiasts participating in Yoga centers and events.



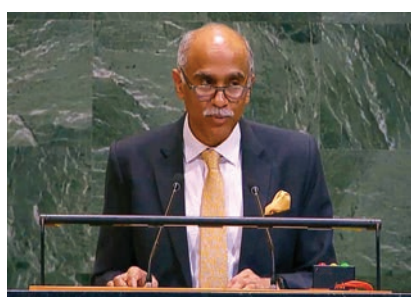
Guruji Dr. Nagendra speaking on meditation at the Consulate General of India, Monday, June 22, 2026

Guruji Dr. H.R. Nagendra guided the audience through meditation practices and shared insights on the importance of meditation in fostering inner peace,

CONTD ON PAGE 3

"Peacebuilding must be demand-driven & anchored in national ownership": Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni at UN

**JUNE 26, 2026
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK (TIP)**



Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, addressing the UN debate on "Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace" on Thursday, June 26, 2026

Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, addressed the UN debate on "Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace" on Thursday, June 26, emphasizing that long-term success in conflict-affected regions depends on prioritizing national ownership and institutional resilience, according to an ANI report. In a post on X, the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations, New York, stated that Ambassador Parvathaneni attended

CONTD ON PAGE 36



RESIDENTIAL LOANS

- First time Home Buyers
- No Tax Return Required
- Low Interest Rate
- Purchase
- Refinance



COMMERCIAL LOANS

- Hard Money
- Mixuse
- Gas Stations
- Hotel/Motel
- Apartment Buildings
- Warehouses
- Office Buildings
- and more!

HERMAN SINGH

Helping you with a smoother process



516-851-0102 718-441-7000
11818 101 Ave, Richmond Hill NY 11419

REGISTERED MORTGAGE BROKER
NYS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
NMLS# 22080 LOANS ARRANGED THROUGH 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

Lovllien 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

COMMENT

America @250: Freedom's Greatest Test Is Moral Leadership

BY INDRAJIT
SALUJA

In less than two weeks, the United States of America will commemorate one of the most remarkable milestones in the history of nations—the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It is a moment of immense pride, not only for Americans but for all those around the world who have looked to America as a symbol of liberty, democracy, constitutional government, and human aspiration.

The Fourth of July has always celebrated the birth of a nation. This year, however, it should also inspire a thoughtful examination of the nation's character.

Anniversaries are not only occasions to celebrate achievements; they are invitations to reflect upon the road travelled and the direction ahead. The Semi quincennial of American Independence presents an opportunity to ask not merely how far America has come, but whether it continues to uphold the ideals that made it exceptional.

The founders of the Republic did not simply declare independence from British rule. They proclaimed a revolutionary principle—that government derives its legitimacy from the consent of the governed, that liberty belongs to every individual, and that no public office stands above the Constitution.

Those principles have sustained America through civil war, economic depression, world wars, social upheaval, and profound political disagreements. They have made the American experiment one of history's greatest democratic achievements.

Yet every generation inherits not only the blessings of freedom but also the responsibility to preserve it.

Many Americans today express a growing unease about the tone of public life. Political divisions appear deeper than they have been in decades. Civility has given way, too often, to personal attacks. Public discourse is increasingly shaped by anger rather than reason, by suspicion rather than trust, and by confrontation rather than persuasion.

Democracy has never required unanimity. Indeed, disagreement is one of its defining characteristics. America's founders themselves debated passionately over the structure of government, the balance of power, and the future of the Republic. Their disagreements were often intense, but they understood that lasting institutions are built through argument guided by constitutional principles rather than by personal hostility.

The health of a democracy depends not only upon elections but upon civic culture.

The presidency, regardless of who occupies the office, carries responsibilities that extend beyond executive authority. It is one of the nation's principal moral institutions. Every president has faced criticism. Every administration has made controversial decisions. Such scrutiny is both inevitable and healthy in a

constitutional democracy.

What matters is whether public leadership strengthens confidence in democratic institutions, respects constitutional restraints, and elevates the quality of national conversation. Power commands obedience. Leadership inspires confidence. The distinction is profound.

History teaches that republics are seldom weakened first by external enemies. More often, they are challenged from within—through declining trust in institutions, increasing intolerance of dissent, the erosion of civic norms, and the concentration of excessive authority in individuals rather than in constitutional processes.

America's constitutional system was deliberately designed to prevent that outcome. The separation of powers, an independent judiciary, a free legislature, federalism, and an unfettered press were intended not to obstruct government but to protect liberty.

A free press deserves particular reflection during this anniversary year. Journalism has never been beyond criticism, nor should it be. Reporters make mistakes. Editorial judgments may be questioned. Newspapers and television networks often reflect differing perspectives.

But the proper response to journalism with which one disagrees is more journalism, more facts, more transparency, and more accountability—not the intimidation of those whose duty is to ask difficult questions.

The relationship between government and the press has always been marked by tension. That tension is not a weakness of democracy; it is one of its essential safeguards. Citizens are best served when governments welcome scrutiny rather than fear it, and when journalists pursue truth with independence, fairness, and responsibility.

The same principle applies to all democratic institutions. Courts, legislatures, universities, civic organizations, and independent agencies exist because democracy requires multiple centers of accountability. They are not obstacles to effective government; they are protections against the misuse of power.

Equally important is the language of public life. Words matter.

Political disagreement should never require personal humiliation. Strong criticism need not descend into insults. Public debate loses dignity when abuse replaces argument and threats replace persuasion.

Democracy flourishes where opponents remain fellow citizens, not enemies.

Perhaps the most significant question facing America @ 250 is not whether it remains the world's most influential nation. Its achievements in science, technology, medicine, higher education, entrepreneurship, and innovation remain extraordinary. Nor is there any doubt that generations of immigrants-

including millions from India—have enriched the country's economy, culture, and intellectual life.

The deeper question is whether America can preserve the moral qualities that made those achievements possible.

Can liberty continue to coexist with responsibility?

Can disagreement coexist with respect?

Can strength coexist with humility?

Can political success coexist with constitutional restraint?

These are not questions for one political party or one administration alone. They belong to every citizen, every institution, and every generation.

One of America's greatest strengths has always been its remarkable capacity for self-correction. It confronted slavery through immense sacrifice. It expanded civil rights through persistent struggle. It extended the franchise to those once excluded. It has repeatedly demonstrated that democracy possesses within itself the capacity for renewal.

That history should encourage optimism rather than despair.

The celebration of the nation's 250th anniversary should therefore become more than a remembrance of the events of 1776. It should become a reaffirmation of the enduring ideals that transformed a declaration into a living democracy.

Perhaps, in this anniversary year, Americans should reflect upon a broader meaning of independence.

Independence is not merely freedom from foreign rule.

It is freedom from fear.

Freedom from arbitrary power.

Freedom to speak without intimidation.

Freedom to question authority without being branded disloyal.

Freedom to disagree while remaining united as one people.

Above all, independence is the continuing commitment to place constitutional principles above personal ambition and public service above private interest.

The opening words of the Constitution remain as powerful today as they were more than two centuries ago:

"We the People." Not "We the Powerful." Not "We the Victorious." Not "We the Wealthy." Simply, "We the People."

Those three words remind us that America belongs not to any administration, any political party, or any single generation. It belongs to its citizens.

As America celebrates 250 years of independence, perhaps the greatest tribute it can pay to its founders is not merely to commemorate the past but to renew the democratic character that has sustained the Republic through triumph and adversity alike.

History will judge every generation not only by the prosperity it creates or the power it accumulates, but by the values it preserves.

That is the enduring challenge—and the enduring promise—of America at 250.

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.

Guruji Dr. H.R. Nagendra transports the audience to a wonderland of Meditation at the Consulate General of India, New York



A view of the audience in meditation



Guruji is being honored by Ambassador Binaya Srikanta Pradhan, Consul General of India, and RANA officials led by Mr. Prem Bhandari



Diplomats from other countries present at the meditation session being honored



Ambassador Binaya Srikanta Pradhan giving his remarks



RANA President Mr. Prem Bhandari speaking on the occasion



Guests sharing their thoughts

Consul General of United Arab Emirates Ms Amna Almheiri highlighted the importance of such initiatives in fostering dialogue, well-being and people-to-people connection in the international community.

Mr Jonathan Granoff, President of Global Security Institute, emphasized on meditation's transformative capacity to nurture both personal well-being and global harmony.

The session was also attended by Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates, Consuls General of United Arab Emirates, Serbia, Nepal, Romania and Malaysia, as well as senior diplomats from some other countries.

The event formed part of the Consulate General of India's continuing efforts to promote India's timeless traditions of yoga and meditation and to build bridges of friendship through cultural and wellness diplomacy.

CONTD FROM PAGE 1

mental clarity, harmony and holistic well-being. He underscored that yoga helps bring balance to the body, mind, and breath, improving physical and mental well-being. The session was received with deep appreciation by participants, who reflected on the universal relevance of India's ancient wellness traditions in the contemporary world.

Mr. Prem Bhandari, President of

Rajasthan Association of North America, stated that India has generously offered the timeless wisdom of Yoga to the world as a shared heritage for the well-being of humanity. He added that the global recognition of 21 June as the International Day of Yoga was made possible through the initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the United Nations, and that the Day is now celebrated in more than 190 countries worldwide.

12th International Day of Yoga 2026 with Focus on Healthy Ageing and Community Wellness



**JUNE 21, 2026
MILPITAS, CA (TIP)**

More than 100 community members gathered in Milpitas on Sunday, June 21, to celebrate the 12th International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2026, embracing this year's global theme, "Yoga for Healthy Ageing."

community organizations. The celebration took place at the Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center in Milpitas and brought together participants of all ages and backgrounds to experience the physical, mental, and spiritual benefits of yoga and meditation.



Dipak Awasty (Planning Commissioner, Milpitas), Ajay Bhutoria (Indian Community Advocate), Rishi Kumar (Past Councilmember, Saratoga), Bama Cariapa (Air India), Vandana Nair (Commercial Specialist, U.S. Consulate General in Dubai), Atma Dayal bhai, and

sessions led by Manoj Joshi and Ambili Sudhakaran, making the event accessible to both beginners and experienced practitioners. Participants engaged in practices designed to promote physical health, mental well-being, mindfulness, and healthy ageing.



The event was organized by the Consulate General of India, San Francisco, in collaboration with the Association of Indo Americans (AIA), Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center, Silicon Valley, and several supporting

Distinguished guests included Deputy Consul General of India Mr. Rakes Cariapa, Milpitas Mayor Carmen Montano, Fremont Mayor Raj Salwan, and Sister Kusum of Brahma Kumaris, William Lam (Councilmember, Milpitas),



many other community members, whose presence highlighted the growing impact and acceptance of yoga across diverse communities throughout the Bay Area.

The program featured guided meditation by Sister Kusum and yoga

As a proud co-hosting organization, the Association of Indo Americans (AIA) reaffirmed its commitment to promoting wellness, cultural understanding, and community engagement through initiatives that bring people together.

Speaking on the occasion, community leaders emphasized that yoga has evolved beyond a physical exercise and has become a global movement for holistic health, inner peace, and harmony. The event served as a reminder of yoga's enduring relevance in fostering healthier lifestyles and stronger communities. The enthusiastic turnout reflected the growing popularity of International Day of Yoga celebrations in the Bay Area and the increasing recognition of yoga's role in enhancing quality of life.

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF INDO AMERICANS (AIA)

The Association of Indo Americans (AIA) is a coalition of more than 50 nonprofit organizations dedicated to promoting community service, cultural awareness, education, health, and civic engagement throughout Silicon Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area.





The INDIAN PANORAMA

EVER TRUTHFUL

Announces a Historic 250-Page Special Edition

Celebrating 250 Years of American Independence

“THE MAKING OF AMERICA”

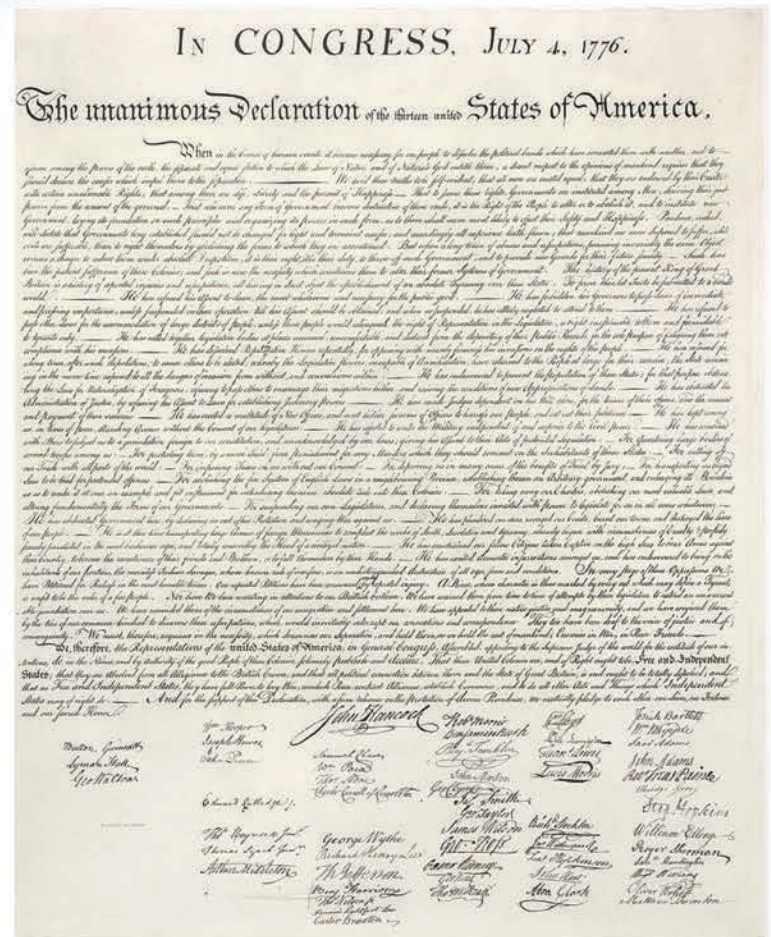
A Grand Commemorative Publication on America’s Journey: 1776–2026

The Indian Panorama proudly announces a landmark 250-page Special Commemorative Edition to celebrate the historic 250th Anniversary of the Independence of the United States in 2026.

The prestigious publication, titled “The Making of America,” will present a comprehensive account of America’s extraordinary journey from the pre-Independence era to the present day, highlighting its history, democracy, economy, scientific and technological achievements, military strength, cultural diversity, and global leadership.

A special section of this historic commemorative edition will be devoted to the evolving and increasingly significant relationship between India and United States—two great democracies bound together by shared democratic values, strategic cooperation, economic engagement, educational exchange, technological innovation, and deep people-to-people ties.

The section will also highlight the remarkable contribution of the Indian American community to the growth and progress of America in diverse fields including science, technology, medicine, business, academia, public service, arts, media, entrepreneurship, and philanthropy. It will celebrate the role played by Indian Americans in strengthening the bonds of friendship and understanding between the two nations and in enriching the multicultural fabric of American society.



THE MEGA EDITION WILL FEATURE:

- Scholarly articles and historical analyses
Editorial comments and readers’ reflections
Messages from world leaders, organizations, and eminent personalities
A special section on India–US relations and the contribution of Indian Americans to America
Rare photographs, timelines, and archival material
Greetings and advertisements from businesses, institutions, and community organizations

THIS COMMEMORATIVE EDITION WILL SERVE AS A COLLECTOR’S VOLUME AND A LASTING TRIBUTE TO THE SPIRIT OF LIBERTY, DEMOCRACY, DIVERSITY, AND OPPORTUNITY THAT AMERICA REPRESENTS.

THE INDIAN PANORAMA WARMLY INVITES SCHOLARS, WRITERS, ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES, COMMUNITY LEADERS, READERS, AND WELL-WISHERS TO PARTNER WITH US IN THIS GRAND CELEBRATION THROUGH ARTICLES, GREETINGS, SPONSORSHIPS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS.

THIS IS TRULY A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME PART OF A HISTORIC PUBLICATION COMMEMORATING AMERICA’S REMARKABLE 250-YEAR JOURNEY.

For Participation, Greetings, Messages, Articles & Advertisements: Please email at salujaindra@gmail.com | Website: www.theindianpanorama.news For any questions, please call 646-247-9458, or simply email at salujaindra@gmail.com

Last date for submission: June 30, 2026

Indian American Christian Delegation Holds Dialogue with Tom Suozzi, Congressman (NY) on Democracy and Religious Freedom



Leaders from the Indian American Christian community recently met with Congressman Tom Suozzi and exchanged views on a range of issues affecting the community both in the United States and in India

JUNE 26, 2026
NEW YORK (TIP)

A delegation of leaders from the Indian American Christian community recently met with Congressman Tom Suozzi and exchanged views on a range of issues affecting the community both in the United States and in India. Christians are estimated to comprise nearly 20 percent of the Indian diaspora in the United States. While most Indian American Christians trace their roots to Kerala, the community represents virtually every state and region of India and has made significant contributions to American society.

Welcoming Congressman Suozzi, George Abraham praised the Congressman for his principled and independent approach to public service. "The Indian American community has long admired your thoughtful and balanced approach to governance," Abraham said. "Your willingness to address difficult issues with candor,

common sense, and a spirit of bipartisanship has earned you the respect of many Americans, including members of the Indian American community. At a time when political discourse has become increasingly polarized, your emphasis on practical solutions and cooperation across party lines is particularly valued." Abraham further noted the Congressman's longstanding relationship with the Indian American community in the Tri-State area and his consistent support for the well-being and advancement of all segments of the community.

"We are mindful of your enduring friendship with the Indian American community and your commitment to the success of its members," Abraham added. "Indian Americans have made substantial contributions to the economic, cultural, scientific, and civic life of this nation, and we are grateful for your continued engagement and support over the years."

During the discussions, participants expressed grave concern over what they described as the declining state of democratic institutions and the erosion of religious freedom in India. Members of the delegation emphasized that India and the United States, as strategic partners and vibrant democracies, share a responsibility to uphold and promote the universal values of democracy, human rights, pluralism, and religious liberty.

The delegation underscored the importance of safeguarding these principles and stressed that strong bilateral relations between the two countries should be rooted not only in economic and strategic cooperation but also in a shared commitment to fundamental freedoms and the rule of law.

Participants at the meeting commended Congressman Suozzi as a pragmatic, middle-of-the-road leader who consistently seeks bipartisan and

commonsense solutions to the challenges facing the nation. They expressed appreciation for his willingness to listen to diverse viewpoints and engage constructively with community leaders on issues of mutual concern. The meeting wished him success in the upcoming elections and pledged their continuing support.

Among those participating in the discussions were Bishop Johny Itty, Rev. Fr. John Thomas, Rev. Itty Abraham, Rev. Wilson Jose, Rev. Sabu Varghese, Mr. George Koshy, and Rev. Jacob George, Rev. Sunny Philip and Mr. George Abraham

The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of the importance of continued dialogue and cooperation between elected officials and community leaders in addressing concerns affecting Indian Americans and promoting the values of democracy, religious freedom, and human dignity both in the United States and abroad.

Greenstein, Burgess & Gopal Bill to Eliminate Statute of Limitations for Human Trafficking Clears Committee

JUNE 24, 2026
TRENTON (TIP)

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee advanced legislation sponsored by Senators Linda Greenstein, Renee Burgess, and Vin Gopal, which would eliminate the statute of limitations for criminal prosecutions of human trafficking and criminal sexual conduct, as well as eliminate the statute of limitations for civil cases that arise from human trafficking.

"Human trafficking is no less than modern-day slavery, and it is on the rise," said Senator Greenstein (D-Middlesex/Mercer). "Increasing the statute of limitations for these offenses will help bring justice to more victims and give perpetrators of these horrific



crimes the consequences they deserve."

Under current law, both criminal and civil cases relating to human trafficking must be filed within 5 years of the offense. The bill, S-1270, would remove all limitations regarding the period in which a criminal prosecution or civil suit may be conducted.

"New Jersey's proximity to major

cities like New York and Philadelphia makes it susceptible to human trafficking, and it is our responsibility to do our part in mitigating the problem," said Senator Burgess (D-Essex/Union). "This legislation is just one part of a bigger plan for the ways in which we plan to help protect victims and prevent further harm."

"Survivors of human trafficking often face immense trauma and fear that can prevent them from coming forward for years," said Senator Gopal (D-Monmouth). "Justice for victims should not be denied simply because they did not report the crime within five years of it happening-this bill makes traffickers more likely to face accountability for their heinous crimes."

The United States Department of Justice reports that there was a 26% increase in human trafficking offenses in 2022 compared to 2021, with the number of persons convicted of the crime doubling in this time. This legislation would bring New Jersey's statutes regarding human trafficking into accordance with similar federal provisions.

Tom Suozzi Wins 3rd Congressional District Democratic Party Race

Suozzi defeated challenger Danielle Welch with 20,820 votes compared to Welch's 5,263 votes.

**JUNE 23, 2026
GLEN COVE, NY (TIP)**

Voters have spoken in the Democratic primary race for the 3rd Congressional District. Congressman Thomas Suozzi has won by a large margin after votes were tallied on Tuesday, June 23.

Long Island residents hit the polls on June 23 and voted on the outcome of the 3rd Congressional District Democratic race, with the district spanning

northeastern Queens, across the North Shore of Long Island in Nassau County, and including parts of northwestern Suffolk County.

Suozzi defeated challenger Danielle Welch with 20,820 votes compared to Welch's 5,263 votes.

Suozzi, 64, and a Glen Cove resident, previously told the media he believes strongly in the American Dream.

"I witnessed firsthand with my father, an Italian immigrant who came to our country, fought in WWII, and earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three Clusters," he said.

Suozzi released a statement on Tuesday night following his Primary victory:

"I am devoted to public service and am grateful for this result. Right now, I am fighting every day to lower costs, make health care more affordable,



Suozzi has won by a large margin and shares a statement with the public.

Photo / Suozzi for Congress campaign

protect Medicare and Medicaid, and stand up to the White House's reckless tariffs and costly wars. The challenges facing our country are too important for partisan games. The only way forward is for Democrats and Republicans to work together to deliver common-sense solutions that help people afford to live, raise a family, and build a future. The people know me, and they know that's exactly what I do every day

in Washington."

Kim Devlin, senior advisor to Suozzi for Congress, also released the following statement on Tuesday night:

"Voters have a clear choice between Tom Suozzi, an independent fighter who works across party lines to lower costs and get things done, and Mike LiPetri, a partisan loyalist who supports inflation-driving tariffs, costly wars, and cuts to Medicare and Medicaid. Long Island families need someone who will stand up for them, not rubber-stamp the policies that are making life more expensive."

Suozzi will be up against Republican candidate Michael LiPetri for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. The general election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

(With inputs from Patch)

Jenifer Rajkumar loses Queens Democratic Primary to David Orkin

**JUNE 23, 2026
RICHMOND HILL, NY (TIP)**

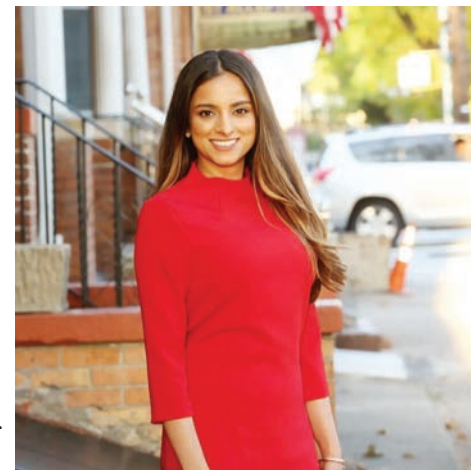
New York State Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar suffered a significant setback in her bid for a fourth term after losing the Democratic primary for the 38th Assembly District on Tuesday, June 23 night. Challenger David Orkin secured a decisive victory, buoyed by support from the New York City chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA).

With more than 94 percent of ballots counted, Orkin captured 58.8 percent of the vote, while Rajkumar received 40.9 percent. The 38th Assembly District encompasses several neighborhoods in South and Central Queens, including Glendale, Ozone Park, Richmond Hill, Ridgewood, Woodhaven, and portions of South Ozone Park and South Richmond Hill.

An attorney by profession, Orkin entered the race without a formal endorsement from NYC Mayor Zohran Mamdani. However, his backing from the DSA appeared to strengthen his campaign among progressive voters. His victory marks a notable shift in the district's political landscape.

Rajkumar has represented the district since 2021, when she emerged as part of a new generation of Queens Democrats who successfully challenged established incumbents. Among the candidates elected during that wave was Mamdani, whose growing influence within local progressive politics is widely seen as a factor in reshaping voter preferences in the district.

The primary result signals changing political dynamics in Queens, where progressive organizations continue to play an increasingly influential role in Democratic contests.



The 3-term Assemblywoman lost to Socialists backed David Orkin

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 40 YEARS**
- EDUCATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: BACHELORS DEGREE HOLDER. CANDIDATES WITH WORK EXPERIENCE IN UNITED NATIONS MISSIONS 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 OR GREEN CARD HOLDER/PERMANENT RESIDENT AND HAVE VALID WORK PERMIT AT THE TIME OF RECRUITMENT.**
- FOR JOB DESCRIPTION AND MORE DETAILS PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.PMINEWYORK.GOV.IN/VACANCY](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 24 JULY 2026 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: , admn.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in , ga.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in

india.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in

ATLAS ROLL OFF CORP. DISPOSAL SITE

**OPEN Monday - Friday
6:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Saturday 6:30 AM to 1:00 PM**



WE DELIVER ALL TYPES OF STONE!

Crushed Stone, 3/4" Stone, RCA, Mason Sand, Screened Topsoil

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

Reasonable low rates ★ All major credit cards accepted

Call @ 718-345-6451

BREXIT'S LONG SHADOW

10 years after Brexit, Britain is still arguing about immigration, identity and sovereignty

BY SHYAM
BHATIA



FOR MUCH OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY BRITAIN WAS ADMIRABLE FOR THE PREDICTABILITY OF ITS POLITICAL SYSTEM. TODAY, FOREIGN OBSERVERS INCREASINGLY SEE A COUNTRY STILL SEARCHING FOR A NEW BALANCE AFTER ONE OF THE MOST CONSEQUENTIAL POLITICAL DECISIONS IN ITS MODERN HISTORY.

Ten years after the Brexit referendum, when Britain voted to leave the European Union, the country is still living through its aftershocks.

The vote settled one question - whether Britain should leave the European Union. It opened a far larger one: what kind of country Britain wanted to become afterwards.

Successive prime ministers have tried to answer that question. None has succeeded for long. Instead, Britain has experienced a period of political turbulence unmatched in modern times, as governments and leaders have struggled to reconcile economic pressures, cultural divisions and public frustration.

The departure of Keir Starmer and the expected arrival of Andy Burnham, the former cabinet minister and Mayor of Greater Manchester, represent the latest chapter in a drama that began with former prime minister David Cameron's decision to hold the referendum in 2016.

At the time, Brexit was presented as a single political choice. In reality, it exposed divisions that had been building for decades.

The referendum revealed two very different visions of Britain.

One was outward-looking, metropolitan and comfortable with globalization. The other was rooted in towns and regions that felt ignored by political and economic elites concentrated in London and the south-east of England.

The vote did not create those divisions. It exposed them.

Nor did Brexit end the argument. If anything, it intensified it.

Supporters saw Brexit as an opportunity to restore sovereignty, strengthen democracy and revive national confidence. Critics feared economic disruption and international isolation.

A decade later, neither side feels entirely vindicated.

Britain remains a major economy and an influential diplomatic and military power. Yet economic growth has been sluggish, productivity weak and public services under severe strain. The National Health Service remains under pressure. Housing has become increasingly unaffordable. Immigration continues to dominate political debate despite repeated promises by governments of different parties to bring it under control.

These problems cannot be blamed solely on Brexit. Many developed countries face similar challenges. Yet Brexit became the lens through which voters judged political success or failure.

Prime ministers discovered that delivering Brexit was easier than defining what should come next.

Theresa May lost office trying to negotiate Britain's departure from the



British Prime Minister Keir Starmer announces the timeline for his resignation outside 10 Downing Street in London, Britain, on Monday, June 22. Photo credit / Reuters

European Union. Boris Johnson won a landslide election with the slogan "Get Brexit Done" but was later overwhelmed by scandal. Liz Truss attempted a radical economic experiment and lasted only weeks. Rishi Sunak promised competence but struggled to revive public confidence. Starmer entered office promising stability and renewal but found himself confronting many of the same frustrations that had damaged his predecessors.

Announcing his departure, Starmer acknowledged political reality with unusual candor.

"I have heard the answer of my parliamentary party to that question, and I accept that answer with good grace," he said after concluding that he no longer commanded the confidence of his MPs.

The man expected to replace him, Andy Burnham, is offering a different approach. Following his victory in the Makerfield byelection, Burnham declared that Britain had been "on a path for 40 years that simply hasn't worked for people and places in this part of the world."

Describing his victory as "the change moment", he promised: "We're going to lay out a new path for Britain."

The message was aimed not only at voters but at his own party.

"I do say to my own party, this is a final chance to change," Burnham warned after securing his commanding victory.

Whether he succeeds remains uncertain.

The greatest beneficiary of Britain's political upheaval has been Nigel Farage, the veteran Brexit campaigner and leader of the right-wing populist Reform UK party.

Farage argues that Britain's traditional political class has failed on immigration, economic growth and national identity. "The world is changing," he declared earlier this year

as Reform unveiled a programme that includes mass deportations of illegal migrants, withdrawal from some international human rights obligations and sweeping changes to the British state.

Farage's rise matters because he has shifted the center of political debate. For much of the post-war era, arguments focused on tax, spending and public services. Today, immigration, borders, national identity and cultural change dominate political discussion. Labour and the Conservatives disagree on the answers, but both increasingly find themselves responding to questions Farage has helped place at the center of British politics.

His influence extends far beyond the size of his parliamentary party. By forcing immigration and national identity to the top of the political agenda, he has reshaped the conversation across British politics. Politicians who once spoke primarily about economic management now find themselves debating borders, integration and national cohesion.

Yet Farage's challenge also exposes Britain's dilemma.

Voters demand lower immigration, but the economy depends heavily on foreign workers. Universities rely on overseas students. The National Health Service and social care sectors recruit internationally. Care homes, construction companies and hospitality businesses also depend heavily on migrant labor.

The question is no longer whether immigration should be reduced, but whether Britain can do so without damaging economic growth or weakening already stretched public services.

That contradiction lies at the heart of Britain's current political crisis. Voters want lower immigration, stronger public services and faster economic growth.

Achieving all three simultaneously may prove far more difficult than many politicians are willing to admit.

The concern extends beyond Labour and Reform. Liberal Democrat leader Ed Davey has argued that merely replacing leaders will not solve Britain's underlying problems. He warned that changing "the person at the top" would not fix Britain's "broken political system."

More significantly, Davey said the public was becoming "pretty fed up with the merry-go-round of prime ministers."

His remark goes to the heart of Britain's predicament.

At the same time, Britain's political culture has changed.

The era when prime ministers were granted years to prove themselves has largely disappeared. Social media, twenty-four-hour news coverage and increasingly restless parliamentary parties create relentless pressure for immediate success.

The result is a political system that appears permanently dissatisfied with its own leadership.

Yet Britain's crisis should not be exaggerated.

This is not the instability associated with military coups or fragile democracies. Governments continue to change peacefully. Elections remain free and competitive. Courts function independently. Parliament retains its authority.

The paradox is that Britain remains institutionally stable while becoming politically volatile.

That distinction matters internationally.

For India, Britain remains an important trading partner, source of investment, educational destination and strategic ally. The fundamentals of the relationship are unlikely to change dramatically under any mainstream British government.

What may change is Britain's ability to project confidence abroad.

For much of the twentieth century Britain was admired for the predictability of its political system. Today, foreign observers increasingly see a country still searching for a new balance after one of the most consequential political decisions in its modern history.

Burnham believes he can provide that balance. Farage argues that only a more radical break with the political establishment will work.

Ten years after Brexit, Britain is still arguing about immigration, identity and sovereignty. Until those arguments are resolved, prime ministers may continue to come and go while the forces that produced Brexit continue to shape British politics.

(Shyam Bhatia is London Correspondent with The Tribune. His X handle is @ShyamBh83243946)

India holds its ground on BRICS turf

NEW DELHI DESISTS FROM CHOOSING BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND BEIJING

BY C UDAY
BHASKAR



The 16th BRICS National Security Advisers' (NSA) Meeting, hosted earlier this week by New Delhi and chaired by India's NSA Ajit Doval, brought together the 11 member nations. They exchanged views on security challenges such as terrorism, cyber threats and the impact of emerging technologies. No joint statement was issued - this was indicative of the sharp divergence among members on critical macro-security issues.

The grouping was formed in June 2009 in Yekaterinburg (Russia), initially as BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China);

this reality. Ever since India was admitted into the global nuclear order in late 2008 as an exceptional state, how Delhi has positioned itself in relation to the two major powers has impacted the geopolitical framework. In keeping with its traditional stance of non-alignment, now transmuted to strategic autonomy and multi-engagement, India has maintained this continuity.

The underlying message emerging from the BRICS forum was that Delhi would highlight security issues relevant to the Global South. At the same time, Delhi tempered US expectations that

norms get equal billing. For the Global South, it signals that BRICS can produce policy language the West cannot ignore, especially on supply chain resilience, digital governance and the impact on human security.

The second strand was the closely watched Doval-Wang Yi meeting, which may be summarized as a case of managing a complex and long-festering rivalry within the current framework of multilateralism. Both sides described the talks as "constructive and forward-looking", but the readouts diverged sharply.

the September BRICS summit, this gives India space to lead without letting border tensions derail its presidency theme: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability".

The third strand was the manner in which India's plurilateral security diplomacy was burnished when Doval met his counterparts from Brazil, Ethiopia, South Africa and Iran's Deputy Secretary for Defense Affairs. The subtext: BRICS is not China-plus.

Delhi used this meeting to deepen ties with Africa and West Asia, discuss developmental cooperation and review

India's new approach is to engage with rivals multilaterally without conceding bilaterally. Photo / PTI



South Africa was admitted in 2011. The bloc currently has 11 full members: Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates. NSAs and other representatives from these countries attended the June 22-23 event; China was represented by Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

The fact that Delhi, as the current chair of BRICS, convened such a meeting amid two wars (Ukraine and Iran) and ensured the participation of regional rivals is testimony to the deft diplomatic acumen that India brings to the global table. This was a preparatory meeting in the run-up to the BRICS summit to be held in India in September.

The more significant outcomes of the deliberations can be reviewed along two symbiotic tracks - the multilateral relating to BRICS and the India-China bilateral. Since the bloc's inception, it has been evident that the relationship between the two Asian giants has a bearing on the credibility and relevance of BRICS in global geopolitics.

Both the US and China are cognizant of

India would align against China and dampened Beijing's hope that BRICS would project anti-US/West unity. Clearly, a warming of US-China ties would alter the BRICS dynamic.

Specific to the Delhi deliberations, three tangible outcomes can be inferred, each with implications that go beyond BRICS. First, the NSAs agreed that the most urgent security challenges were no longer just tanks, ships, aircraft and missiles. The theme was "Non-traditional security challenges", which include terrorism enabled by emerging technologies, cyberattacks on critical infrastructure, weaponization of supply chains, food, fertilizers and energy insecurity and the abiding yet intractable climate-induced instability.

The NSAs reviewed the work of BRICS Joint Working Groups on Counterterrorism and ICT (information and communication technology) security. For Delhi, chairing BRICS in 2026 lends a subtle leverage. It shifts BRICS from a China-centric economic club to a security dialogue, where India's priorities such as cross-border terrorism, terror financing and cyber

India stressed "gradual normalization" and "stable, predictable, constructive" ties. The subtext is that no reset would be possible until the LAC (Line of Actual Control) stabilizes. Peace on the contested border remains the precondition for a broader engagement.

China pushed to "respect each other's core interests" and "place the China-India border issue in an appropriate position, so that it doesn't affect the overall situation". This translates into compartmentalizing the border issue, resuming trade and flights and beginning technology transfer as the first step. The gap is one of sequencing - India wants trust to be established first and then ties to be normalized, while China is keen to delink the LAC and move ahead without any consensual settlement. This would be undesirable, given that Beijing ramps up its claim on Arunachal Pradesh when relations are tense and uses the Pakistan card to stoke Indian anxiety.

Hosting Wang while sticking to its stand shows Delhi's new approach: engage with rivals multilaterally but do not concede bilaterally. In the run-up to

the West Asia situation amid the tenuous US-Iran detente. It is evident that BRICS is becoming India's preferred platform to highlight issues relevant to the Global South without being seen as anti-West.

The Delhi NSAs' meeting did not address the India-China border dispute or create a standing BRICS army. It did something quieter: it proved that BRICS can function despite core rivalries and that India can chair it without choosing between Washington and Beijing.

For global geopolitics, that means a more fragmented and contradictory order - a contrapolar world. The US no longer sets the global security agenda and China cannot command BRICS loyalty. India has the potential to emerge as a swing state that can consensually manage emerging contradictions. Towards this end, Delhi must introspect objectively and course-correct, based on lessons learnt from the recent tilt with regard to West Asia. Is a new geopolitical grammar evolving?

(C Uday Bhaskar is a retired Commodore and the Director, Society for Policy Studies. His X handle is @theUdayB)

How much does it take to win an election

WITHOUT WINNING THE TRUST OF INDIA'S RICHEST, RAHUL GANDHI HAS VERY LITTLE CHANCE OF PUTTING UP A FIGHT IN 2029

BY AUNINDYO
CHAKRAVARTY



Let me begin with a provocative number - Rs 50,000 crore. That is how much Rahul Gandhi needs to be in the running to be Prime Minister in 2029.

To understand why, we need to take a temporal detour back to October 2024, the day before the counting in Haryana. I had accompanied a friend to a property broker's office in Gurugram. The man had been playing hooky for a couple of weeks, fixing and then cancelling appointments with my friend. He said he had been busy helping a relative of his who was a contestant for the seat of an MLA.

The broker claimed that his politician-relative had spent more than Rs 250 crore

and setting up the dais, but also on hiring buses to take people to the rally venue and providing them with food and cash. Elections also involve door-to-door outreach with voters, hiring local muscle to be able to enter areas controlled by rivals, the cost of transport and refreshments for party workers and volunteers and many other sundry expenses.

If this is how much it costs to contest an Assembly election, imagine how much more would be needed for a Lok Sabha contest. On an average, a Lok Sabha constituency has five to seven Assembly segments. If we assume that one can achieve 'economies of scale' here, even then a candidate will have to

parties, through their own bank accounts. Most of the expenditure would have been done by fronts for parties and their candidates and by their well-wishers and rich supporters.

Since we don't have a party-wise break-up of this unofficial expenditure, I will use the official, audited numbers as proxies. Out of the official expenditure, the BJP spent about 45 per cent. It is likely that the party's share of the overall, unofficial election expenditure was higher, but we will stick with this figure: 45 per cent of Rs 1 lakh crore is Rs 45,000 crore. The BJP got 23.6 crore votes in 2024, which means it had to spend an average of Rs 1,900 to win over each voter to its side. I repeat, this is not direct,

last few months before voting takes place. The Congress will also need to raise a lot of funds to fight the various Assembly elections scheduled over the next three years.

The first of these is likely to be Punjab, where the AAP has indicated that elections could be brought forward to this winter. It is a rich state, with even richer politicians. At a conservative Rs 50 crore per Assembly seat, the Congress will need about Rs 5,800-6,000 crore for Punjab alone. Then there will be Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand in early 2027. Both of these will cost big bucks.

In reality, the Congress needs much more than this because of the nature of the party. Unlike the BJP, it is not an



The Congress will need at least Rs 50,000 crore to win the 2029 elections.
File photo / PTI

on the elections, and he hinted that a part of the budget was the money he had to pay to get the party ticket since he was an outsider. The man didn't show even a bit of embarrassment in telling us about this jaw-dropping figure. He assumed that we shared his view that electoral politics was all about who had more money.

Even if the broker's claim was an exaggeration, it is an open secret that candidates from larger parties spend Rs 80-100 crore on an Assembly election. A large part of it involves greasing the palms of key officials, power brokers, panchayat and caste elders, distributing money to local dadas and even simply distributing cash to potential voters. Then there are the publicity expenses - handbills, posters and hoardings. Political rallies cost big money, not only on hiring tents, chairs, speaker systems

and setting up the dais, but also on hiring buses to take people to the rally venue and providing them with food and cash.

Now, let us return to Rahul Gandhi and the Congress. In 2024, the Congress party contested 328 seats. I assume that in 2029, it will put up its own candidates in the 325-335 Lok Sabha constituencies. At Rs 150 crore per seat, the total expenditure will come to around Rs 50,000 crore; at Rs 200 crore per seat, it will rise to roughly Rs 65,000 crore.

Let us look at these numbers from another direction. The Centre for Media Studies (CMS) has estimated that the 2024 Lok Sabha elections had cost Rs 1.35 lakh crore. This included the expenditure by the Election Commission, the Centre and the states. It would be fair to assume that at least Rs 1 lakh crore out of this was spent by the political parties. Only a tiny fraction of this was done directly by the political

official spending - it includes all the money spent through proxies and well-wishers. If everything else remains the same, inflation will increase this cost to Rs 2,400 per voter. Keep this figure in mind.

If Rahul Gandhi wants to be in a position to lead a coalition government in 2029, the Congress will need at least a 30 per cent vote share. If we assume a steady population growth, and take the same turnout as 2024, 30 per cent works out to 21 crore actual votes. At Rs 2,400 per vote, that works out to a total expenditure of more than Rs 50,000 crore.

So, whichever way you look at it - from the direction of the cost of fighting each Lok Sabha seat, or in terms of the cost per voter - the Congress will need at least Rs 50,000 crore to win 2029. But this is money needed for spending in just the

ideologically-driven political entity. This makes it difficult for it to centralize all fund-raising. So, money given to the Congress leaks into the coffers of individual leaders, much more than it does in other parties.

The funding hurdle is something that Rahul Gandhi has to address immediately. And for that, he will either have to mend bridges with India Inc, or empower party leaders who already have more business-friendly images than he does. The CM choices in the South suggest that the Gandhis are aware of this. In any case, without winning the trust of India's richest, Rahul Gandhi has very little chance of putting up a fight in 2029.

(Aunindyo Chakravarty is a business analyst and former Senior Managing Editor, NDTV India & NDTV Profit. His X handle is @Aunindyo2023)



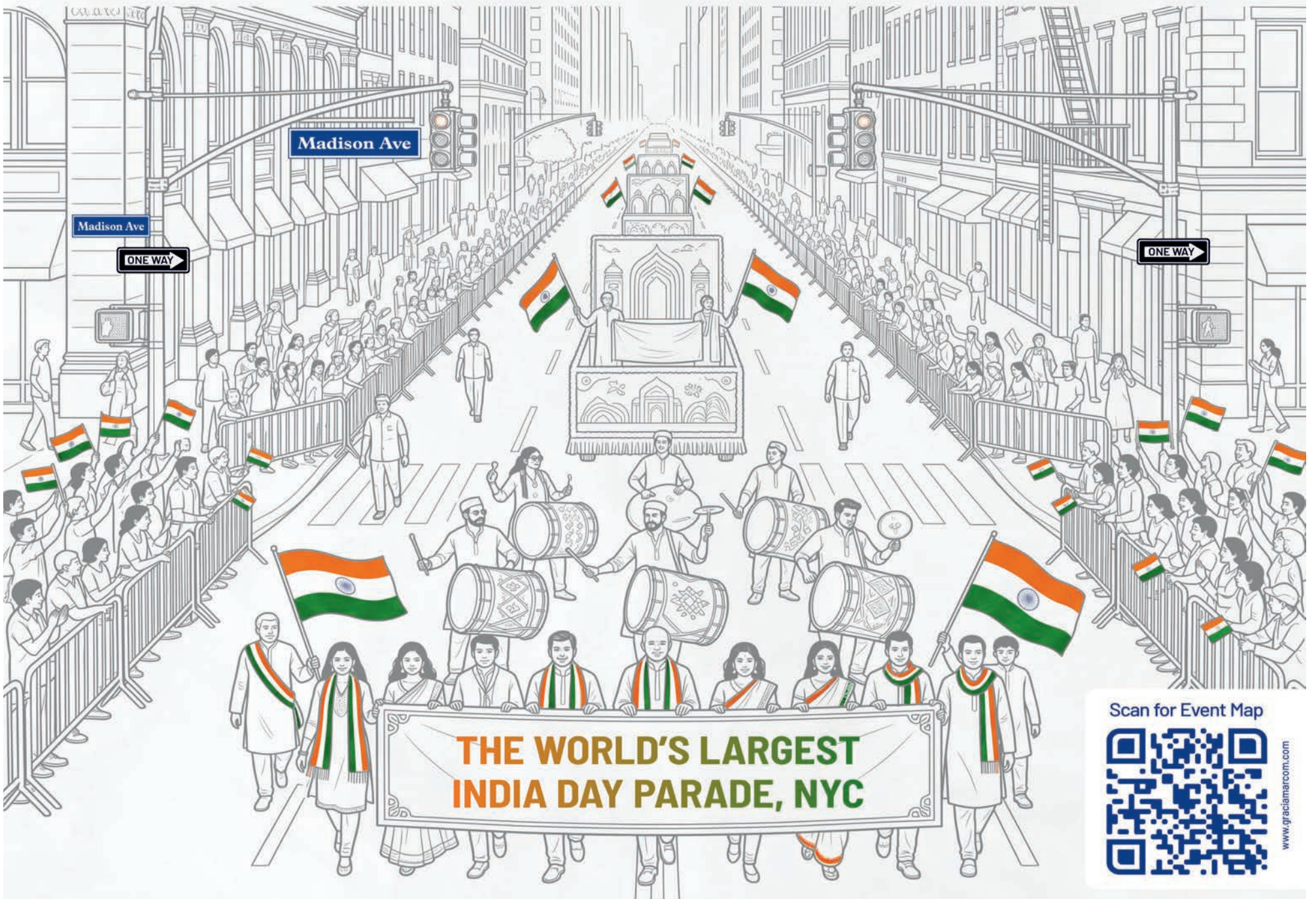
HARMONY IN HERITAGE

44th INDIA DAY PARADE

SUNDAY AUGUST 16th, 2026

12:00 PM

E38TH ST. MADISON AVE. NEW YORK CITY



Scan for Event Map



www.graciamar.com

PARADE HOTSPOTS

- Marching Groups & Colorful Floats
E36th St. | 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM
- Bollywood Celebrities
E26th & E27th St. Near Review Stage
1:15 PM to 1:45 PM

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

- Booths & Food Fest
Pani Puri King & Queen Contest
E26th St. | 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM
- Cultural Programs
E24th St. | 2:00 PM to 5:30 PM

LIMITED FREE PARKING

- Between 5th Ave. and Park Ave.
E36th St. | E35th St. | E30th St. | E29th St.
- Between Madison Ave. and Park Ave. - E25th St.
- Between 5th Ave. and Madison Ave. - E24th St.

FREE

• EVENT (NO VISITOR REGISTRATION)
• PERFORMANCES • PARTICIPATION • PROGRAMS • LIMITED PARKING

sponsorship@fianynjct.org
info@fianynjct.org | www.fianynjct.org

"America's doors are closed fully to asylum seekers," says US Dy Chief of Staff

JUNE 26, 2026
WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP)

White House adviser Stephen Miller reacted to Supreme Court decisions on immigration, saying the US is completely closed to asylum seekers and Haitian refugees who received temporary protected status should leave the country, according to ANI.

The comments come as the US Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that government officials can turn away asylum seekers at the southern border with Mexico if they have not yet set foot on US soil. The ruling on Thursday clears the way for the administration of President Donald Trump to revive a controversial policy known as "metering", in which immigration agents physically block those seeking asylum from crossing the border, Al Jazeera reported.

Miller, while speaking to reporters, as quoted by PBS News, said that Haiti is a safe country for Haitians and some pockets of the country may have high crime rates, just as the US has in Chicago.

"For Haitians? Absolutely. Yeah, so for, I mean, yes, Haitians live in Haiti. It's not our position that Haitians should leave Haiti. I mean it would be it would be crazy for us to say that Haitians couldn't live in Haiti. It's their country. Of course, Haitians should live in Haiti. The, there's no viable asylum or to use a technical term here CAT claim or withholding claim for any Haitian seeking relief from going back to Haiti, to their homeland," he said.

Miller said that it has never been the case that having communities that have high crime rates is a basis for asylum.

"The fact that there might be pockets of Haiti where there's higher crime rates, guess what? There's pockets of Chicago with crime rates just as high. Right? There's pockets of cities like St. Louis with crime just as high, pockets of Los Angeles with crime just as high. It has never been the case that having communities that have high crime rates is a basis for asylum. Never has been, never will be," he said.

Miller said that the right and correct way to end birthright citizenship is for the Supreme Court to rule what the 14th Amendment clearly and correctly meant.

"Well, just to just to clear, what I said was is this country doesn't have a future if we don't end birthright citizenship. Obviously the right and correct way to end birthright citizenship is for the Supreme Court to rule what the 14th Amendment clearly and correctly meant.



White House adviser Stephen Miller

But one way or another, this nation has to end birthright citizenship," he said, as per PBS News.

He said further that America's doors are closed fully to asylum seekers.

"Well, I think the most important point is that this administration, on the asylum point, has now implemented international agreements all over the world to take in our asylum seekers. So America's doors are closed fully to asylum seekers. We've set up agreements where if you want asylum, then we will find a country elsewhere in the world for you to go. It's a very simple, very elegant, very complete solution," he said.

Miller noted that all asylum claims across the southwest border are always fraudulent.

"Now, of course as you know, you've heard me talk about this many times before, all asylum claims across the southwest border are always fraudulent. They always involve somebody who is coming from a country where they're not being persecuted based on race, religion, ethnicity, so on and so forth. Overwhelmingly, they're coming from other countries in the Western Hemisphere where there's no persecution based on religion, no persecution based on race, etc. In many cases, of course, they also come through dozens of other countries on their way here, where if they wanted asylum they should have sought it first," he noted.

Miller added, "In every case, they're either criminals, benefit seekers, economic migrants, welfare seekers, etc. They're coming to join family members and so forth. But the good news for them is that we have other

countries willing to take them."

He also noted that the most humanitarian thing one could do was to end illegal immigration.

"Well, we, so first of all, on a humanitarian issue, the most humanitarian thing that we could do is, which is what we are doing and have done, is to end illegal immigration. That is the most humanitarian thing. Every single illegal immigrant who comes to the United States is brought here by a cartel, by a foreign terrorist organization. Those individuals are often raped, they're often beaten, they're often robbed. They come here as a form of indentured servitude. They have to pay off their debts to the cartel after they arrive. And beyond all of that, the profits that they earn from that human smuggling goes into kidnapping, torture, sex trafficking, drug trafficking, fentanyl," he said.

Miller also described every single undocumented immigrant as being smuggled by cartels who abuse them and force them to pay back their passage.

"So it's a very, this is a very important point. The individuals, by the way, so let's say you're in Mexico, you're an illegal immigrant from Mexico. You know full well who is smuggling you. When you pay them \$6,000, you understand those \$6,000 are going to one of the vilest organizations on planet earth. You know that when you're doing it. And it's a sinful thing, but we are doing the best we can and have done an extraordinary job under President Trump's leadership. There has been 13, I believe is the correct number, consecutive months with maybe it's maybe it's actually 14 now but 13 or 14 consecutive months with not a single person released across our southern border. Never been achieved before," he said.

Miller praised US Secretary of Homeland Security, Markwayne Mullin and cited the recent executive order to block undocumented immigrants from US bank accounts.

"Well, I think what you, I think what you've seen under the leadership of Secretary Mullin is a tremendous focus on achieving results through incredibly efficient mechanisms. So, for example, one of the, one of the things that you've seen in the recent days that has been really extraordinary is President Trump signed an executive order to de-bank illegal aliens, which is an incredibly effective action to get illegal aliens out of the country," he said.

Miller also noted the budgetary reforms at ICE to make sure that the resources are being allocated as efficiently as possible towards actual enforcement and removal operations.

"You've also seen continuing budgetary reforms at ICE to make sure that the resources are being allocated as efficiently as possible towards actual enforcement and removal operations, stretching every dollar further. And you've seen with this new ICE legislation that's been passed, and as Tom Homan has said, he's been here many times recently, I think in the last couple days, that the new funding that has been passed through Congress by reconciliation will allow deportation numbers to continue to climb. As well as all the legal reforms that are being put into place and the recent Supreme Court ruling of course means that now millions of illegal immigrants from Haiti who were previously beyond the reach of the law are now within the reach of the law," he said.

Miller alleged that former US President Joe Biden flew in millions of Haitians and all Haitians without their legal status in the US are subject to deportation.

"If you no longer have status in this country, then you're supposed to be deported. And in particular in the case of the Haitians, the Biden administration flew over vast numbers, it's hard to know the exact number, but there's probably more than a million illegal immigrants from Haiti. That's not counting the border crossers into the United States. These are people who have only been here for a few months, who are receiving welfare, whose all their ties, all their social connections, all their family is back in their home country of Haiti, and of course that's where they should go," he said.

(Source: ANI)

The INDIAN PANORAMA
EVER TRUTHFUL

250-Page Special Edition
in Commemoration of
250th Anniversary of
America's Independence

Don't Miss the opportunity to be a part of history

Contact for further information
Phone: 646-247-9458 Email: Salujaindra@gmail.com
By June 30, 2026.

53 Years of Divine Grace: Chicago's ISKCON Temple Celebrates Sacred Bond with Sri Sri Radha Krishna

Sri Sri Radha Krishna's Enduring Embrace - 53 Years in the Windy City

JUNE 18, 2026
CHICGO, IL (TIP)

On a warm Wednesday evening, June 17, 2026, the ISKCON Chicago Temple at 1716 W Lunt Ave came alive with devotion, nostalgia, and heartfelt celebration as it marked the 53rd anniversary of the sacred installation of Sri Sri Kishore Kishori (Radha Krishna deities). From 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, the temple filled with longtime devotees, newer faces, and community members who gathered to honor not just a milestone, but a living legacy of faith, service, and transformation that has touched thousands of lives across decades.

The evening unfolded like a beautiful tapestry woven with personal stories, historical reflections, and deep spiritual emotion. Devotees recalled how the beautiful deities of Sri Sri Kishore Kishori were first installed in a pandal program in Bombay before making their auspicious journey to Chicago. On this very day 53 years ago, the community became blessed with their daily darshan and worship. Lila Manjari devi dasi, one of the priests, noted with wonder, "Sri Sri Kishore Kishori to Chicago even before Srila Prabhupada visited in 1974-75."

The program opened with warm invitations for senior voices to share memories. Jitendriya das, a disciple of Srila Prabhupada and devotee who has lived at the temple for over 50 years often responding to late-night emergencies like plumbing issues reminisced about the early days. Other devotees spoke of the first small temple in an apartment on Halsted, the challenges of Chicago winters seeping through unscreened windows, and the pioneering spirit of early devotees who tolerated hardships to please the Lord. From there, the temple moved to a former YMCA building in Evanston in the 1970s, facing city violations and opposition, before securing its current home. The grand opening took place on Lord Rama's appearance day in 1980. The purchase of the building for \$140,000 was seen as a miracle, especially with a neighboring bank eyeing the property for a parking lot.

Jitendriya das painted vivid pictures of those foundational years: 24 sannyasis visiting, massive festivals with parades downtown, clay deities before the grand marble altar, and the evolution of the temple's infrastructure from wooden floors to beautiful marble, from a small Jagannatha deity to larger ones used in Rath Yatra processions. Sunil Madhava das, one of the ex-temple presidents fondly recalled replacing a broken boiler around 1989 and the transformation of the brahmachari ashram.

The emotional heart of the evening came through deep personal sharing. Gauramani das recounted his first encounter with the deities in the 1970s, where he found himself alone in the temple room, overwhelmed by tears upon hearing a kirtan album. "I laid at Their



feet... Krishna brought me there," he shared, dedicating a moving poem titled "She Never Leaves the Garden" to Radha and Krishna. Another pioneer who started ISKCON's prison ministry in America spoke of transitioning from impersonalism and psychology studies to recognizing God as a person through the mercy of devotees like Shyamadas das.

Russian-speaking devotees, Vraja Mohan Prabhu and Sri Guru Carana Padma dasi, highlighted the temple's vibrant international community. She also shared how the opulent Chicago temple amazed her upon arriving from smaller centers in Russia and Kazakhstan in 1996. She described the deep attachment to the deities and the joy of service. Acintya Prema devi dasi, a younger devotee, only 11 years into Krishna consciousness, beautifully articulated how love for the deities grows through consistent service: "Every time I think they cannot get dressed more beautifully... next week they are even more beautiful."

Multiple speakers emphasized the causeless mercy of Sri Sri Kishore Kishori. Stories flowed of prayers answered instantly, of protective spiritual spaces felt in the temple room, of families raising children within the community, and of lifelong commitments to service. Krsnarcana devi dasi read from Sri Caitanya

Caritamrita, highlighting simple acts like standing before the deity and opening one's mind as profound forms of worship. Subala das reflected on dedicating decades to children's programs and Sunday school under the guidance of his spiritual master, HH Romapada Swami.

ISKCON, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness, founded by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, has played a transformative role in spreading the timeless wisdom of the Bhagavad Gita and bhakti yoga across the globe. It emphasizes loving service to Krishna, community building, and making spiritual life accessible to everyone regardless of background. In Chicago, this mission has created a thriving hub of devotion, cultural richness, and selfless seva for over five decades.

The celebration also honored long-serving leaders temple presidents, book distributors who traveled through the night, devotees who embossed the altar with gold leafing, kitchen teams, and countless others whose quiet service sustained the temple. Gratitude extended to Indian community members who provided crucial loans and donations during the temple's acquisition. The evening concluded with a group photograph of all assembled devotees, a visual testament to the living community that continues to grow around Sri Sri Kishore Kishori.

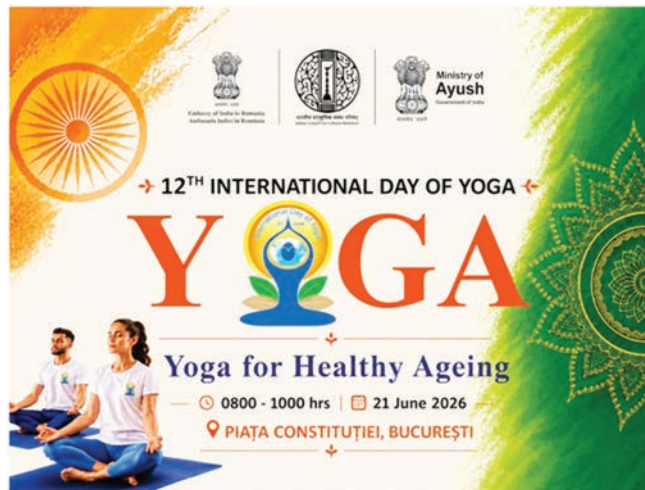
As voices rose in "Hare Krishna" and prasadam was distributed, the air remained thick with inspiration. The 53rd anniversary was more than a commemoration of deities' installation it was a powerful reminder of enduring faith, the beauty of surrender, and how one sacred space can anchor generations in love for the Divine. In a fast-paced world, the ISKCON Chicago Temple stands as a beacon of peace, reminding all who enter that Krishna's mercy is available to every sincere heart.

"In witnessing the 53rd anniversary of ISKCON Chicago's beloved Sri Sri Kishore Kishori deities, one cannot help but feel the timeless pull of genuine devotion. This temple is not merely a building but a living sanctuary where history, emotion, and spirituality converge. Mathuresh das said, "I am moved by the sincerity and humility of these devotees. May their example inspire more souls to discover the joy of bhakti and service. True legacy lies not in years past, but in hearts transformed. Haribol!"

Photographs and Press release by: Asian Media USA



12th International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2026 Celebrated at Piața Constituției, Bucharest, Romania



Banner for the 12th International Day of Yoga 2026 in Bucharest

**JUNE 21, 2026
BUCHAREST (TIP)**

The Embassy of India in Bucharest celebrated the 12th International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2026 on Sunday, 21 June 2026, at the iconic Piața Constituției (Constitution Square), in front of the Palace of Parliament, Bucharest. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation by a large number of yoga practitioners, members of the Indian community, Romanian friends of India, students, children, wellness enthusiasts and representatives from various sectors of society, reflecting the growing popularity of yoga and India's timeless wellness traditions in Romania.

Organized by the Embassy of India with the support of the Ministry of Ayush and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), the event was held under the global theme "Yoga for Healthy Ageing." The celebration brought together people from different nationalities, age groups and professions in a spirit of harmony, health and friendship.

Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra, Ambassador of India to Romania and Moldova, addressed the gathering and highlighted the significance of yoga as a holistic way of life promoting physical, mental and spiritual well-being. He underlined that yoga, one of India's most precious gifts to humanity, transcends geographical and cultural boundaries and continues to inspire millions across the world by fostering harmony between mind, body and nature. The Ambassador emphasized the relevance of yoga in today's fast-paced world and its role in promoting healthy lifestyles, inner



Remarks by Ambassador Shri Manoj Mohapatra on the 12th IDY 2026



Yoga Protocol by Ms. Veronica Mathew on the 12th IDY 2026



Honouring the support extended to organise the 12th IDY 2026



Yoga Sessions on the 12th IDY 2026

peace and collective well-being.

The Common Yoga Protocol session was conducted by Ms. Veronica Mathew, Yoga Teacher engaged by the Embassy with the assistance of ICCR. Participants enthusiastically performed various yoga postures and breathing exercises, demonstrating the spirit of unity and wellness that the International Day of Yoga embodies.

The event witnessed active participation from major yoga organizations and associations in Romania, including large groups from Brahma Kumaris, Isha Foundation and Sahaj Yoga. Following the Common Yoga Protocol session, Sahaj Yoga presented a special stage demonstration showcasing the richness and diversity of yoga traditions.

The celebration was further enriched by the participation of Indian and Romanian children,

students from universities and schools in Bucharest, members of various cultural organizations, corporate representatives and wellness groups. Their enthusiastic participation highlighted the universal appeal of yoga and its ability to bring communities together beyond barriers of age, nationality and profession.

As part of the preparations for IDY 2026, the Embassy had organized a Curtain Raiser event on 31 March 2026 and subsequently conducted more than thirty yoga sessions and outreach programmes in various Romanian institutions, universities, schools and corporate establishments. These events served to promote awareness about the benefits of yoga and generated widespread interest among the Romanian public in the run-up to the International Day of Yoga.

The Embassy expressed its sincere appreciation to the Mayor's Office and the City Hall of Bucharest for kindly providing the venue at Piața Constituției and for their excellent cooperation and support in facilitating the organization of this landmark event. The Embassy also conveyed its gratitude to the Romanian Police and the Jandarmeria for their invaluable assistance and cooperation in ensuring the smooth and secure conduct of the event.

The Embassy places on record its appreciation for the continued support extended by the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), whose guidance and assistance contributed significantly to the successful organization of IDY 2026 in Romania.

The celebration provided a unique opportunity for people from diverse backgrounds to come together in the spirit of health, harmony and friendship, further strengthening the vibrant people-to-people ties between India and Romania.

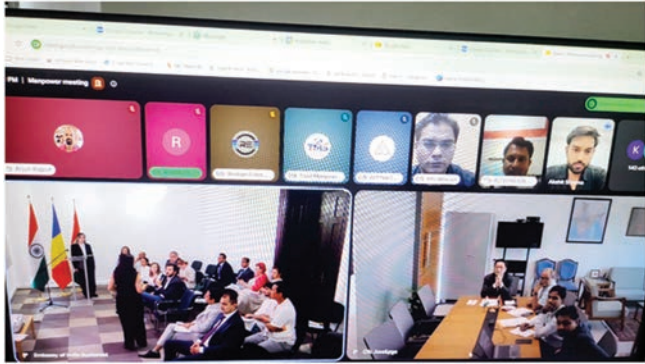
Since its adoption by the United Nations in 2014, the International Day of Yoga has evolved into a truly global movement promoting wellness, mindfulness and sustainable living. The successful celebration of IDY 2026 in Bucharest once again underscored the universal appeal of yoga and reaffirmed India's commitment to sharing its ancient wisdom for the well-being of humanity and the vision of "One Earth, One Health."

(Based on a Press Release issued by the Embassy of India in Bucharest)



Group photographs on the occasion of 12th IDY 2026

Embassy of India Hosts Hybrid Seminar on Romania's New Framework for Hiring Non-EU Workers in 2026



Remarks by Sh. John Mai, Joint Secretary (OE & PGE), Ministry of External Affairs



Remarks by Ambassador Dr. Manoj K. Mohapatra



Romanian companies participated enthusiastically, engaging in interactive discussions

**JUNE 25, 2026
BUCHAREST (TIP)**

The Embassy of India in Bucharest in collaboration with EY-Romania organized a high-level Hybrid seminar on "Romania's New Framework for Hiring Non-EU Workers in 2026" on 24 June 2026, bringing together representatives of Indian and Romanian companies, and labor mobility experts to discuss Romania's evolving regulatory framework governing the employment of non-EU workers.

The event was attended in person by Romanian companies engaged in manpower recruitment that are exploring opportunities to recruit professionals and skilled workers from India. More than 150 Indian recruitment agencies and representatives from various state governments also joined virtually from India, reflecting the growing importance of Romania as a destination for Indian workers and professionals.

Opening remarks was delivered by Mr. John Mai, Joint Secretary (OE & PGE), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, who underscored the Government of India's commitment to promoting safe, transparent, and legal overseas employment opportunities. He emphasized the importance of strengthening institutional cooperation and ensuring that Indian workers continue to benefit from fair recruitment practices and adequate protection abroad.

In his closing remarks, Ambassador Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra highlighted the growing strength of India-Romania bilateral relations and the significant potential for cooperation in skilled and semi-skilled workforce mobility. He underscored India's position as a trusted source of qualified and adaptable human resources across sectors such as construction, healthcare, hospitality, information technology, and engineering, noting that transparent and well-structured mobility partnerships can benefit both countries.

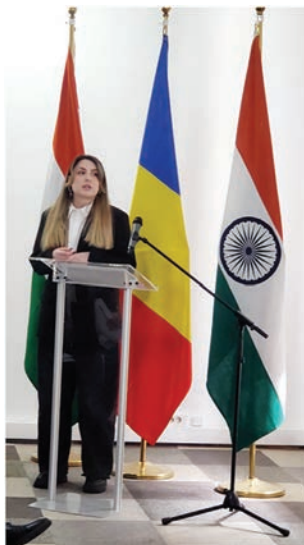
Ambassador Mohapatra also noted that Romania

continues to face manpower shortages in several key sectors due to sustained outward migration of its workforce to other European Union member states. To address these gaps, Romania has substantially increased its intake of annual work permit quotas for foreign workers approximately 100,000. In this context, he emphasized that India, with its vast talent pool and proven experience in international workforce deployment, is well positioned to support Romania's evolving labor market requirements.

The technical sessions were led by experts from EY

framework aims to create a more structured, transparent, and digitally managed system, while strengthening compliance requirements for employers and recruitment agencies.

A key feature of the reform is the introduction of the WorkinRomania digital platform, which will centralize recruitment and immigration procedures and serve as the primary interface between employers, recruitment agencies, and authorities. The platform is expected to simplify procedures while enhancing transparency and oversight.



Interactive Presentation was made by EY-Romania team

Romania, namely Ms. Corina Mîndoiu, Partner, Mr. Iulian Pîsniciuc, Director, and Ms. Silvia Sîrbu, Manager, People Advisory Services. The EY experts provided a comprehensive overview of Romania's proposed reforms, which are expected to fundamentally reshape the recruitment and employment of non-EU workers. The participants were informed that the new

The experts explained that access to non-EU workers will no longer be automatic. Employers will be required to satisfy stricter eligibility conditions, including registration on the WorkinRomania platform, compliance with tax and labor regulations, and maintenance of a clean legal and fiscal record. Additional requirements will apply to employers seeking authorization to recruit workers directly from outside the European Union.

During the interactive question-and-answer sessions, participants sought clarification on the implementation timeline, eligibility criteria, labor shortage occupations, employer obligations, digitalization of procedures, and the practical implications of the proposed reforms for Indian companies and workers.

Concluding the event, participants welcomed the opportunity to engage directly with experts and government representatives on a subject of increasing importance for bilateral economic cooperation. The seminar provided valuable guidance to companies seeking to adapt to the forthcoming regulatory environment and to continue benefiting from the contribution of Indian talent to Romania's economy.

The Embassy reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Indian businesses and workers, promoting ethical and transparent recruitment practices, and facilitating stronger economic and people-to-people ties between India and Romania.

(Based on a Press Release issued by the Embassy of India in Bucharest)



Group photo: Hybrid Seminar on Hiring of Manpower in Romania: Changes in 2026



Minister of Public Safety Gary Anandasangaree rises during Question Period in the House of Commons on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, on Wednesday, May 27, 2026.

Photo: The Canadian Press / Spencer Colby

Canada signs deal with Qatar to strengthen public safety, address transnational crime

**JUNE 25, 2026
OTTAWA (TIP)**

Canada has signed an agreement with Qatar that Ottawa says looks to address evolving security threats and strengthen public safety.

Public Safety Minister Gary Anandasangaree says strong international partnerships are essential

to keeping Canadians safe.

He says the memorandum of understanding will see both countries work together on addressing transnational crime and evolving security threats.

Ottawa says the deal went into effect upon signing and can be renewed after five years.

BY
PRABHJOT
SINGH



It comes after Prime Minister Mark Carney travelled to Qatar in January, calling the trip a "new chapter" in bilateral relations.

Carney said the two countries will work to boost trade and strengthen "people-to-people" cultural ties, such as by expanding direct flights from Canada to Qatar.

(Source: The Canadian Press)

Overwhelming response to Yoga Day celebrations in Toronto



Yoga is becoming popular day by day in Canada, as also elsewhere

**JUNE 20, 2026
TORONTO (TIP)**

Toronto had a date with yoga on June 20. To commemorate the International Yoga Day, the Consul-General of India in Toronto, organized an impressive show at Queens Park, outside the Ontario Provincial Assembly.

An enthusiastic gathering of government representatives, diplomatic

corps, yoga practitioners, wellness organizations, community leaders, and friends of India joined the celebrations, so most of the participants tried their hands at different asanas of the ancient Indian practice of keeping a sound mind in a sound body.

Addressing the vibrant gathering, Consul General Mahaveer Singhvi emphasized Yoga's unique power to



transcend cultural, linguistic, and national boundaries, bringing people together in a shared pursuit of well-being and reaffirming its timeless relevance as a universal path to health, harmony, and inner balance.

transcend cultural, linguistic, and national boundaries, bringing people together in a shared pursuit of well-being and reaffirming its timeless relevance as a universal path to health, harmony, and inner balance. Celebrating this year's theme - 'Yoga for Healthy Ageing', a beautifully synchronized yoga session served as a powerful celebration

of community, connection, and collective well-being.

Almost everyone in the 800-strong gathering evinced keen interest in the yogic exercises and asanas indicating the growing awareness about ancient Indian philosophy of wellness through meditation and asanas. As participants in cohesion performed different asanas under the guidance of yoga experts, it presented a pleasing treat to the eye reflecting a true testament to Yoga's universal appeal. The scale and energy of the gathering reflected how deeply Yoga's message of health and harmony resonates with communities far beyond India's shores.

The Consul-General and its staff appreciated the response and support extended by various yoga and wellness organizations and valued partners whose dedication, collaboration, and outreach helped bring the message of Yoga to people across regions, generations, and all walks of life.

(Toronto based Prabhjot Singh is an award-winning journalist recognized for investigative journalism, environment and business reporting, sports and feature writing. A Media Consultant, he has remained associated with various news agencies, including Reuters, and media houses like PTC News (India/Canada), Parvasi Media (Canada) the Liberal World (India), and The Indian Panorama, New York. He is interested in Indian Diaspora and the Sikh Diaspora in particular. His work has appeared in various international and national newspapers, magazines and journals.)



Practicing Yoga

Mahesh Dixit, 1993-Batch Telangana Officer, Named Intelligence Bureau Chief

JUNE 26, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Centre has appointed senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Mahesh Dixit as the next Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB), placing one of the country's most experienced intelligence professionals at the helm of India's premier internal security agency.

Dixit, a 1993-batch IPS officer of the Telangana cadre, will succeed outgoing IB Director Tapan Kumar Deka and will serve a two-year term from the date he assumes charge. According to the appointment order approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), Dixit, who is currently serving as Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau, has been granted an extension in service to take over the top post.

Dixit brings with him decades of experience in intelligence gathering, counter-terrorism operations and national security management. He is widely regarded within security circles as one of the key architects behind several sensitive intelligence operations undertaken by the government in recent years.



Indian govt lifts Iran war-linked curbs on commercial LPG

JUNE 26, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Centre on Thursday, June 25, lifted restrictions on the commercial supply of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders, and eased the curbs on sale of bulk LPG to industrial customers, signalling that the energy crunch triggered by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz has eased considerably.

"In a major relief to industrial and commercial LPG consumers, Government has removed all sectoral restrictions on the supply of Non-Domestic Packed LPG and restored supplies to the levels prevailing prior to the West Asia crisis," the petroleum ministry said in a statement. Packed LPG refers to the 19kg cylinders used by hotels, restaurants and industrial units.

The supply of bulk LPG, suspended at the onset of the crisis, has been relaxed to 50% of pre-crisis consumption levels, it added. Packed LPG generally refers to the 19kg cylinders used by hotels, restaurants and commercial units. Industries consuming more than 50 tonnes a month generally have bulk LPG facilities on their premises.

India imports about 60% of its LPG, almost 90% of which transits the Strait of Hormuz.

Petroleum secretary Neeraj Mittal wrote to chief secretaries of all states and union territories to ensure smooth implementation of the revised supply arrangements. "It has now been decided to remove all sectoral restrictions on supply of non-domestic Packed LPG and restore it to pre-crisis levels. Further, restriction on supply of bulk LPG also stands relaxed by 50% of the pre-crisis consumption levels," he said in the letter.

The war in West Asia and the closure of



the strait — a route carrying a fifth of the world's energy supplies — had disrupted India's gas supplies. In early March, the government invoked the Essential Commodities Act to ration natural gas distribution to commercial consumers, in order to meet the full requirements of households and commuters.

The Union government subsequently rationed LPG supply to non-domestic consumers, releasing limited quantities to commercial entities such as hostels, restaurants and hotels through state-run oil marketing companies (OMCs), under the guidance of respective state governments. The restrictions on commercial consumers, combined with a March 8 directive to domestic refineries to ramp up LPG output, helped meet the cooking gas demand of over 330 million domestic users. Refiners raised LPG production by using C3-C4 streams exclusively for LPG, at the cost of petrochemicals output.

Bulk LPG supply, suspended at the onset of the crisis, has now been relaxed to 50% of pre-crisis consumption levels — significant relief for commercial and industrial consumers, the ministry said. "The restoration follows the recent

improvement in the LPG supply situation," it said, adding: "Taking note of the improved indigenous LPG production and the projected availability of imported LPG cargoes, Government has also decided to reduce the diversion of C3/C4 streams to LPG pool."

The enhanced allocation of C3-C4 streams to non-LPG uses will be carried out while ensuring domestic LPG availability remains unaffected, with aggregate indigenous production maintained at not less than 40 thousand metric tonnes (TMT) a day, the ministry said. The government had accorded the highest priority to uninterrupted LPG availability for households, which is why temporary restrictions were imposed on commercial packed LPG, the statement said. "The timely policy interventions and coordinated efforts by OMCs helped maintain stable supplies despite challenging global supply chains," it added.

OMCs have been directed to continue maintaining comprehensive data on commercial and industrial LPG consumers for efficient planning, with a unified sectoral database to be maintained across OMCs to strengthen monitoring and coordination.

The government's drive to shift LPG consumers to piped natural gas (PNG), wherever infrastructure is available, continues. "Commercial and bulk consumers who have already shifted to PNG will continue to remain on PNG. Other eligible LPG consumers having access to the PNG network, or those in the process of shifting to PNG, will be progressively transitioned to PNG in coordination with City Gas Distribution (CGD) entities," the ministry said.

India, US 'very close' to interim trade deal: Piyush Goyal

JUNE 26, 2026

LONDON (TIP): India and the US are "very close" to an interim trade deal, Union commerce minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday, June 25, stressing that free trade agreements are "all about a comparative advantage."

The minister was speaking at an event in London where he was asked about the progress of talks between New Delhi and Washington, when he explained the principle of competitive benefit. "And until the framework of getting the competitive advantage can be finalised, we can't enter into force a US deal," Goyal said. He was replying to a specific question at the India Global Forum in London on the progress of the India-US BTA talks, following his two-day meeting with the US trade representative in New Delhi on June 23-24. "We are very close," he said, also referring to the US ambassador's recent statement that the interim BTA is 99% complete.

Explaining the business logic behind a mutually beneficial trade deal, Goyal said: "A free trade agreement is basically about getting a comparative advantage over your competitors for market access."

He explained that both New Delhi and Washington had agreed to a framework for an interim deal on February 6, but before it could be operationalised after legal vetting, the very basis of the deal—its tariff architecture—was invalidated by the US Supreme Court on February 20. He was referring to reciprocal tariff levies imposed on various countries by the US under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), which the court struck down.

"There were the IEEPA tariffs, when we finalised the deal," Goyal said, referring to the situation before the framework agreement, when Indian goods attracted a steep 50% tariff in the US market.



India had negotiated the deal to bring that tariff down to 18%, with the entire arrangement centred on the competitive advantage that gave Indian exporters an edge with higher tariffs imposed on rival exporting nations.

"So, we were lower than all our neighbouring countries, lower than all

ASEAN countries, other than Singapore," he said. "And that is why the deal was attractive."

With the Supreme Court striking down that tariff structure, and the current 10% tariff set to expire on July 24, "we obviously have to have some reasons to be able to enter into force," Goyal said, referring to the February 6 framework jointly announced by India and the US (February 7, India time).

He said India wants to ensure a competitive advantage over competitors at a similar stage of development with comparable cost structures, naming Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, China, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka as among them. "So that's broadly the discussions," he said. "I don't think I can be more transparent than that."

According to Goyal, the deal was almost finalised under the February 6 framework.

All 8 accused named in FIR in Ram temple donation row arrested

JUNE 26, 2026

AYODHYA (TIP): The eight people named in an FIR over the alleged embezzlement of donations received at the Ram temple in Ayodhya have been arrested, senior officials said on Friday, June 26.

The FIR, lodged at the instance of Krishna Mohan, a member of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, follows recommendations made in the preliminary report of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted by the Uttar Pradesh government to probe the allegations.

Senior officials said all eight people named in the FIR have been arrested and are being questioned as part of the investigation. Those named in the FIR were associated with the process of counting cash and valuables received as donations at the temple.

"All the accused were in Ayodhya itself and were arrested on Thursday night. Further questioning is under way. Police are preparing to present them before a magistrate," a senior official told PTI here.

The case has been registered under Sections 306 (theft by clerk or servant of property in possession of master), 316 (criminal breach of trust), 317 (dishonestly receiving stolen property) and 61 (criminal conspiracy) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, among other provisions.

Envoy to Bangladesh granted Cabinet Minister status

In a move underscoring the importance New Delhi attaches to ties with Bangladesh, the Centre has accorded Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dinesh Trivedi the protocol status of a Union Cabinet Minister in the Table of Precedence for ceremonial functions.

An Office Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on June 24 said Trivedi had been assigned Cabinet Minister-equivalent rank in the Table of Precedence as a measure personal to him, without any amendment to the existing order. The special dispensation, it said, would apply only to ceremonial functions. The development comes alongside a significant easing of travel restrictions, with Trivedi announcing the resumption of tourist visa applications for Bangladeshi nationals from June 28. "I am very happy to announce that we are resuming tourist visa applications, which can be submitted from Sunday, June 28," the High Commissioner said in Dhaka. He said India would continue to facilitate medical visas in urgent cases on humanitarian grounds. Visa applications would initially be processed through five visa centres, with operations to be gradually expanded to other cities.

NCERT Class 9 book adds Emergency, drops Preamble, Secularism

The changes have reignited a political battle between the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Congress

JUNE 26, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): A new National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) Class 9 Social Science textbook released on Thursday, June 25, introduces a discussion on the Emergency imposed by then prime minister Indira Gandhi while omitting the Preamble and references to "secular" and "secularism" that featured prominently in the previous Class 9 textbook, triggering a political row.

The revised textbook, released under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) 2023, discusses the Constitution through its making, democratic institutions and fundamental rights but does not reproduce the Preamble or explain its terminology. It also introduces the Emergency for the first time in the revised Class 9 curriculum, describing it as a period when democratic institutions came under severe strain and citizens' freedoms were curtailed.

The changes reignited a political battle between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Congress, with Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan saying future generations should understand the "dark deeds of the Emergency" and the Congress alleging that the move was driven by "divisive politics" and an attack on constitutional values. In the earlier textbook, Democratic Politics-I, an entire chapter titled Constitutional Design was devoted



to explaining the making of the Constitution. The chapter used the Preamble as the central framework for introducing students to constitutional values and described it as a document that "contains the philosophy on which the entire Constitution has been built". Students were taught the meaning of "Sovereign", "Socialist", "Secular", "Democratic" and "Republic". The chapter said the Preamble "reads like a poem on democracy" and explained secularism as a system with "no official religion" where the state accords equal respect to all faiths.

In the new textbook, the Constitution is discussed through sections on the Constituent Assembly, constitution-making, democratic institutions and fundamental rights. The textbook notes that the Constituent Assembly was formed in 1946 to draft a Constitution for independent India and describes the Constitution as a "robust, flexible, transformative, and responsive" document. It also emphasises liberty, equality, justice and fraternity, and discusses rights relating to equality, freedom and religion.

However, the new textbook does not reproduce the Preamble or explain its terminology. A review of the text shows that the words "secular" and "secularism" do not appear in the volume. Nor does the book indicate that these concepts will be taken up in later grades.

The Emergency was previously discussed in NCERT's Class 12 Political Science textbook, introduced in 2007 and still in use. This is the first time the subject has been incorporated into the revised Class 9 curriculum being rolled out under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) 2023.

The newly released 220-page textbook, Understanding Society: India and Beyond-Part 1, replaces separate textbooks for history, geography, political science and economics that were in use till the 2025-26 academic session. The integrated textbook, to be used from the 2026-27 academic year, contains two chapters each from the four disciplines.

A section titled "Challenges to Democratic Practices in India" under a chapter on democracy introduces the Emergency.

"In June 1975, a National Emergency was imposed on the grounds of internal disturbance. During this period, a majority of Fundamental Rights were suspended, the press was censored, and numerous political leaders and activists were arrested. Democratic institutions came under severe strain, and citizens' freedom was restricted," the book said.

Names of 6 soldiers killed in action during Operation Sindoor made public for 1st time

JUNE 26, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): The government has, for the first time, officially revealed the names of six Indian military personnel who were killed in action during Operation Sindoor, the cross-border military campaign launched to destroy terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in May last year.

The names of the six personnel have been published in the Roll of Honour section on the National War Memorial website and inscribed at the National War Memorial in New Delhi, marking the first formal public acknowledgement of the fatalities suffered by the Indian armed forces during the operation.

The fallen personnel include Subedar Major Pawan Kumar of Headquarters 10 Infantry Brigade, Rifleman Sunil Kumar, Vir Chakra, of 4 Jammu and Kashmir



Light Infantry, Lance Naik Dinesh Kumar of 5 Field Regiment, Aviation Technician Mood Muralinaik of 851 Light Regiment, Havildar Sunil Kumar Singh of 237 Field Workshop Company and Sergeant Surendra Kumar, Vayu Medal, of 39 Wing.

The names have been engraved on Wall 3D of the memorial in the 2025 section dedicated to military personnel who laid down their lives in service of the nation.

Until now, the government had not officially disclosed the identities of personnel killed during Operation Sindoor, despite reports and speculation

about military casualties during the four-day conflict between India and Pakistan in May 2025.

The publication of the names on the National War Memorial's Roll of Honour effectively amounts to the first official confirmation of the armed forces personnel who lost their lives during the operation.

Operation Sindoor was launched in the early hours of May 7, 2025, weeks after the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam in which 26 civilians, most of them tourists, were killed. Indian armed forces carried out precision strikes on nine terror-linked sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, targeting infrastructure linked to Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Taiba. India and Pakistan agreed to halt military action on May 10 following talks between the two countries' Directors General of Military Operations.

India in history this Week

JUNE 26 TO JULY 2

JUNE 26, 1539 - BATTLE OF CHAUSA



On June 26, 1539, the Mughal emperor Humayun suffered a decisive defeat at the hands of Afghan ruler Sher Shah Suri in the Battle of Chausa near present-day Buxar in Bihar.

The defeat forced Humayun to flee and paved the way for Sher Shah Suri to establish the Sur Empire. Sher Shah later introduced far-reaching administrative reforms, including improvements in revenue administration, road construction, currency and postal services, many of which influenced later Mughal and British systems.

JUNE 26, 1975 - NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED



Prime Minister Indira Gandhi announced the Emergency on June 26, 1975, marking one of the most controversial periods in India's democratic history. Civil liberties were curtailed, opposition leaders imprisoned and press censorship imposed across the country.

JUNE 27, 1880 - BIRTH OF HELEN KELLER

Although an international figure, Helen Keller, born on June 27, 1880, inspired generations of Indian educators, disability rights advocates and social reformers through her visits and writings.

JUNE 28, 1919 - TREATY OF VERSAILLES SIGNED

The signing of the Treaty of Versailles formally ended the First World War. More than 1.3 million Indian soldiers and labourers had served the British war effort, and the post-war period saw a dramatic rise in anti-colonial nationalism in India.



JUNE 29, 1757 - MIR JAFAR INSTALLED AS NAWAB OF BENGAL

A few days after the Battle of Plassey, Mir Jafar was installed as the Nawab of Bengal by the East India Company on June 29, 1757.

This event effectively established Company influence over Bengal and marked a turning point in British expansion in India.

JUNE 30, 1855 - BEGINNING OF THE SANTHAL HUL

The Santhal Rebellion began on June 30, 1855, under the leadership of brothers Sidhu Murmu and Kanhu Murmu.

The uprising protested exploitation by moneylenders, zamindars and colonial officials. Though suppressed, it remains one of India's most significant tribal resistance movements.

JUNE 30, 1937 - PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY COMES INTO EFFECT

Under the provisions of the Government of India Act 1935, elected ministries assumed office in several provinces in 1937, giving Indian leaders greater participation in governance and providing valuable administrative experience before Independence.

JULY 1, 1858 - RULE TRANSFERRED TO THE BRITISH CROWN



Following the Revolt of 1857, the British Parliament passed the Government of India Act, 1858, ending the rule of the East India Company and inaugurating direct Crown rule over India, known as the British Raj.

JULY 1, 1882 - BIRTH OF DR. B. C. ROY

July 1 marks the birth anniversary of Bidhan



Chandra Roy, an eminent physician, educationist and statesman. India observes National Doctors' Day on this date in his honor.

JULY 1, 1909 - MADAN LAL DHINGRA ASSASSINATED CURZON WYLLIE

Indian revolutionary Madan Lal Dhingra shot dead British official William Hutt Curzon Wylie in London. The act became a symbol of revolutionary resistance against British colonial rule.

JULY 1, 1955 - ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE BANK OF INDIA

The State Bank of India was created through the nationalisation of the Imperial Bank of India. It later emerged as the country's largest commercial bank.

JULY 1, 1962 - DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD RETIRES AS PRESIDENT

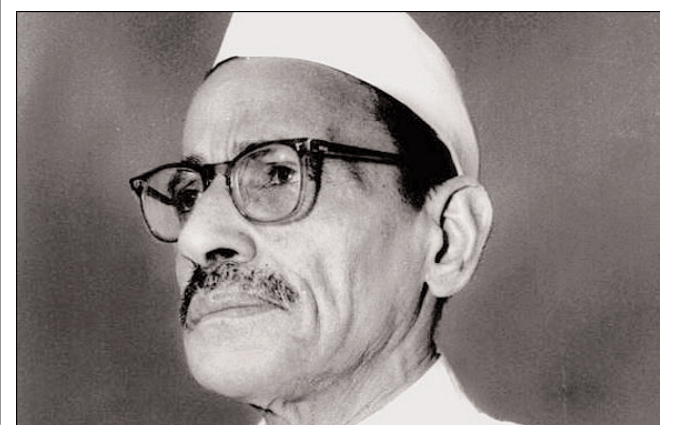
India's first President, Rajendra Prasad demitted office on July 1, 1962, after serving for nearly twelve years, the longest tenure by any Indian President.

JULY 2, 1757 - CAPTURE OF SIRAJ-UD-DAULAH

Following his defeat at Plassey, Nawab Siraj ud-Daulah was captured on July 2, 1757, and later executed. His fall accelerated British political dominance in India.

JULY 2, 1897 - BIRTH OF GULZARILAL NANDA

Two-time interim Prime Minister of India, Gulzarilal Nanda was born on July 4, 1898, and is often remembered during this period for his contributions to labor reforms and public policy.



NJ'S NORTH TO SHORE FESTIVAL CONTINUES, ALONGSIDE SOCCER MATCHES, OFFERING MANY FREE EVENTS



North to Shore performers. Credit: <https://njpac.org>

- July 10-11: Afro Beat Fest at Military Park
- July 11: North to Shore Festival Welcomes the World: Atlantic City at Texas Avenue Park & Soccer Field (10AM)
- July 11: Georgies Cup at Georgies Bar (2-8PM)
- July 11: Asbury Park United- Soccer Showcase at Asbury Park High School Stadium (10AM-5PM)
- July 11, July 14, July 15, July 19: Rbar's Not-So-Friendly Welcome World Luncheon & Afterparties at Rbar
- July 12: Rest Fest at Chambers Plaza (11AM-4PM)
- July 12: The National R&B Music Society Presents The 2026 Free Summer Concert at Boardwalk Hall (4-8PM)
- July 15: Orange Loop Soccer Celebration at Orange Loop (3-11PM)
- July 16: SPiNALL, Sounds of the City at Chambers Plaza (5:00PM)
- July 18: Riverfront Hip-Hop Day x Brick City Jam at Riverfront Park (2-8PM)
- July 18: Uptown Takeover at Uptown Skatepark (12-7PM)
- July 18: Asbury Park Welcomes the World: A Citywide Soccer Celebration at Citywide (12-7PM)
- July 19: Newark Pride Welcomes the World Fun Zone at Mulberry Commons Park (2-5PM)
- July 19: Stone Pony Summer Watch Party at Stone Pony Summer Stage
- July 23: Kurtis Blow, Sounds of the City at Chambers Plaza (5:00PM)
- July 24: Lincoln Park Jazzy Soul Series: Welcomes The World @ North To Shore at Chateau 55 (7-11PM)
- July 30: CIMA FUNK, Sounds of the City at Chambers Plaza (5:00PM)
- August 6: Vivian Green, Sounds of the City at Chambers Plaza (5:00PM)

For more information and event schedules, visit the official North to Shore Festival website @ northtoshore.com or download the festival app.

AIRBNB : Airbnb, a sponsor of "North to Shore Festival," will donate tickets to multiple festival mainstage concerts to Newark nonprofits.

Airbnb was born in 2007 when two hosts welcomed three guests to their San Francisco home, and has since grown to over 5.5 million hosts who have welcomed over 2.5 billion guest arrivals in almost every country across the globe. Every day, hosts offer unique stays, experiences, and services that make it possible for guests to connect with communities in a more authentic way.

"North to Shore Festival" Welcomes the World

A celebration of the Garden State's legacy of innovation and excellence in the arts, combined with all the excitement of a global soccer championship, "North to Shore Festival Welcomes the World" is the "festival only Jersey can handle."

"North to Shore Festival" Welcomes the World (June 13 – July 19) brings fans of the arts and soccer together for events at hundreds of venues throughout the state for an over-the-top showcase of Jersey excellence and global sports pride. "North to Shore Festival" Welcomes the World is an expansion of the annual "North to Shore Festival," launched in 2023 and produced by NJPAC, that features all the talent, diversity and creativity New Jersey has to offer, packed into a month of performances, parties and conversations.

THE NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (NJPAC), : NJPAC, located in downtown Newark, New Jersey, is an anchor cultural institution for both the city of Newark and the state of New Jersey. It is an artistic, cultural, educational and civic center where great performances and events enhance and transform lives every day. NJPAC brings communities together both on and off of our campus – on stages, in schools and community settings – providing access to the arts for all and showcasing the state's and the world's best artists, while acting as a leading catalyst in the revitalization of its home city. Through its extensive Social Impact programs, NJPAC leverages the arts to advance positive outcomes in education, health and well-being, civic engagement and community development. NJPAC has attracted more than 12.7 million visitors (including more than two million children) since opening its doors in 1997. Learn more at <https://njpac.org>.

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

BY MABEL PAIS

The "North to Shore Festival" returns for its fourth summer, lighting up New Jersey with hundreds of free events spanning Asbury Park, Newark, and Atlantic City.

Alongside a roster of big-name concerts featuring superstar artists, the festival offers an array of community gatherings, pop-up performances, and unique collaborations that celebrate local talent and the arts.

Even if money may be tight for many, "North to Shore Festival" believes that everyone deserves a chance to experience New Jersey's vibrant cultural scene. Festival-goers can enjoy live music, art installations, and family activities at no cost, simply by showing up and supporting local artists.

Events like Asbury Underground promise surprise celebrity appearances — last year, Jon Stewart joined the festivities, and this year could bring even more unexpected guests! Vivian Greene, Kenny Lattimore and more will participate in Georgies Block Party and more!

The full schedule of events is below while more events are being added! For updates, visit <https://northtoshore.com>.

Airbnb, one of the sponsors of the North to Shore Festival, is furthering its commitment to the community by donating tickets to major festival concerts through Newark-based nonprofit organizations. This initiative ensures that residents who may not otherwise have access can experience world-class performances and join in the summer celebration.

The festival, produced by the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), is back for its fourth summer with an extraordinary lineup of superstar artists — plus community events featuring New Jersey artists and arts organizations, and an extended schedule of gatherings that combine the arts with the excitement of a global soccer championship.

The North to Shore Festival invites everyone to enjoy the best of New Jersey this summer: Whether you're attending a free pop-up concert, cheering on your favorite band, or

participating in community arts events, there's something for all ages and interests. Support local talent, experience global entertainment, and make unforgettable memories — all without breaking the bank.

NORTH TO SHORE FESTIVAL 2026

For information, updates and tickets, visit northtoshore.com

Every Saturday & Sunday from June 13 to July 19 (except July 4):

Atlantic City Beach Soccer Series at Esports Innovation Center (10:00AM- 4:00PM)

Every Saturday & Sunday from June 13-July 19 (except July 4):

Esports Soccer Showdown 2026 Tournament at Stockton University Esports Innovation Center Boardwalk (10:00AM-4:00PM)

June 23: Georgies LGBTQ+ Singer Songwriter Showcase (7:00-11:00PM)

June 25: Groceries & Grooves at Our Community Grocery Store (6:00-8:00PM)

June 26: Newark Renaissance: A Living Archive at The 7 Space (6:00-9:00PM)

June 26: DJ Wallah, Sounds of the City at Chambers Plaza NJPAC, Newark.

June 26: The Antoinette Montague Experience: Blues Is The Roots! All else the fruit at WBGO Performance Studio (6:00-9:00PM)

June 26-28: Steel Pier Family Fun Kickoff Weekend at Steel Pier

June 27: Asbury Underground in Asbury Park (All day)

June 27: Needles & Thread Fest at the Mulberry Commons (1:00-8:00PM)

June 30, July 7, July 14: Celebrating the International Sounds of Soccer at Tuesdays at the Turf, presented by the Asbury Park African-American Music Project at Blackbird Community Commons (6-8PM)

July 7: One Shore, One Goal at Springwood Park (2-4PM)

July 9: A Tribute to Mtume, Kenny Lattimore, Ms. Lisa Fischer, Tawatha Agee, and Ray Chew at Chambers Plaza (5:00PM)

LINCOLN CENTER'S "SUMMER FOR THE CITY" DANCE FESTIVAL'S CLOSING WEEK FEATURES AKRAM KHAN'S "THIKRA"

BY MABEL PAIS

In the Lincoln Center Contemporary Dance Festival's closing week, audience favorite Akram Khan returns to campus with the U.S. premiere of "Thikra: Night of Remembering" in collaboration with Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. "Thikra," meaning 'memory' or 'recollection' in Arabic, is deeply rooted in the power of rituals. With arresting visual design by Manal AlDowayan and Khan's signature choreographic style — weaving the Indian classical dance form of Bharatanatyam with contemporary — past and present converge in a journey to connect with ancestral knowledge.

Imagined as an annual gathering, a tribe of women come together for one night only to awaken the spirits of those who came before them. Through ceremony and shared remembrance, they transcend time, uniting past and present in a profound act of renewal.

PROGRAM

Summer for the City
Lincoln Center Contemporary Dance Festival
Akram Khan Company
"Thikra: Night of Remembering"
Location: Alice Tully Hall
1941 Broadway @ West 65th Street), New York, NY 10023

Run Time: Approximately 1 hour

Schedule:

Thursday, July 02, 2026 at 7:30 pm

Friday, July 03, 2026 at 7:30 pm

Pre-show talk at 6:15 pm

Audio Description

Sunday, July 05, 2026 at 2:00 pm

Cost: Pay-As-You-go

The performance on July 3 will have Audio Description available, providing live description for guests who are blind or have low vision through receivers and headsets



"Thikra" dancers. Credit: <https://lincolncenter.org/series/summer-for-the-city/akram-khan-company>

Please note: This production features high sound levels, and atmospheric smoke and haze effects. Audience discretion is advised.

TICKETS & MORE INFORMATION

For ticketing, call CenterCharge at 212-721-6500 from Monday–Friday 10:00 am–6:00 pm (EST)

Accessible seating and designated aisle seats; Accessible restrooms and accessible routes

FM assistive listening devices with headsets and neck loops

Access Concierge Service: Access Reps, trained to support guests with disabilities, provide 1:1 support for individual guests and their party. Inquire about this service through the Lincoln Center Box Office or CenterCharge.

Guests can email guestexperience@lincolncenter.org or call 212-875-5456 for further information. It is preferred to request this service at least one week in advance.

Lincoln Center seeks to create a more inclusive experience for audiences by providing a range of accommodations — no request necessary. If you

require any additional accommodations, please contact access@lincolncenter.org or 212-875-5375.

SUMMER FOR THE CITY

"Summer for the City," a festival that carries forward Lincoln Center's founding promise to enliven New York with arts for all. This year that energy feels more alive than ever, with dance at the center, artists from around the world, and moments of connection unfolding across Lincoln Center's campus. The festival which started on June 10 continues until August 8, 2026.

Lincoln Center becomes a celebration of bodies in motion — dancing, gathering, and connecting people from all walks of life — with hundreds of performances that highlight the transformative power of live art.

Now in its fifth year, the festival reaffirms the Center's commitment to advancing the arts as a force for inspiration, and as essential to thriving communities. This year's programming is centered on movement and contemporary artistry, bringing international artists into dialogue with New York's dynamic cultural landscape and strengthening creative exchange. Lincoln Center's outdoor spaces transform once again through designs by Clint Ramos, Lincoln Center's Artist-in-Residence and "Summer for the City" Visual Director — bringing the campus to life through light and motion, with the iconic Revson Fountain as its centerpiece.

Lincoln Center invites patrons to come as you are, discover something new, and experience the joy, creativity, and community that make the global city of New York, extraordinary. All events are either Free or Choose-What-You-Pay, with tickets for Choose-What-You-Pay.

Audiences are welcomed all summer long, to move and be moved.

Learn more about Summer for the City events @ <https://lincolncenter.org/lincoln-center-at-home/calendar>

LEARN TO SING SANSKRIT MANTRAS, HYMNS AND SONGS WITH CHANDRIKA TANDON



Young People's Chorus 2026 gala Credit: <https://ypc.org/ypcgala-2026>

BY MABEL PAIS

Chandrika's Chant Club

Join Chandrika Tandon's Chant Club this summer, a welcoming community where people come together to learn and sing Sanskrit mantras, hymns, and songs inspired by Indian classical ragas and Vedic texts.

Led by Grammy Award-winning singer and composer Chandrika Tandon's belief that music is one of humanity's most powerful bridges. The program invites participants to experience chanting as a path to

connection, inner harmony, joy, and community.

Every Sunday, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Young People's Chorus of New York City
37 West 65th Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10023
Open to ages 9–99

REGISTRATION

Register @ <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdYIXN4NjZCFZ6eladvf7CC3g3acPuCggKA7mDVPkp5r9aqQ/viewform>

THE CULTURE TREE OFFERS SUMMER PROGRAMS

BY MABEL PAIS

Summer Classes

SUMMER INTRODUCTORY HINDI CLASS

Join the Culture Tree for a 6-week summer class in Introductory Hindi and Introduction to India, designed to help children build confidence in language while developing a deeper connection to culture and heritage.

SCHEDULE

July 8 - Aug 12, Wednesday 6pm EST,
Ages 5 - 10 years and
Tuesday 7pm, Ages 10 - 14 years

SUMMER GITA CAMP

Join the Culture Tree this summer for The Gita Camp, a special learning experience with acclaimed author and educator Roopa Pai, bringing the timeless teachings of the Bhagavad Gita to life in an engaging and accessible way. Through storytelling, discussion, and reflection, participants ages 14+ will explore ideas of purpose, mindfulness, resilience, ethical decision-making, and inner balance.

SCHEDULE

The program includes 5 virtual sessions starting Wednesday, July 8 at 7:30 PM EST.

To register, email



Student in class.
Credit: <https://theculturetree.com>

info@theculturetree.com.

Space is limited for both offerings. Enroll @ info@theculturetree.com.

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

NJPAC ARTS EDUCATION'S MILT HINTON INSTITUTE OF BASS IS ACCEPTING TEEN-STUDENT APPLICATIONS

BY MABEL PAIS

It's all bass, all the time at the Hinton Institute.

Those interested in learning bass are encouraged to dive into an immersive week of bass classes, performances, small ensemble work, studio sessions, lectures and workshops, **July 19–25, 2026 at Drew University (36 Madison Ave, Madison, NJ 07940 - 973 408 3000).**

Students can explore jazz, classical, early music, slap, Latin and electric in a non-competitive environment. They can learn from some of the planet's best bass players on NJPAC Arts Education's acclaimed faculty, trade tips and techniques with other student musicians. Students can also find their own people — the ones who inspire, motivate and will be their creative community for years to come. They will leave at the end of the week with a greater love of music and a deeper understanding of their place within it.

Dates: July 19-25

Tuition: Learn more @ <https://njpac.org/hinton>

Age range: 14-18

Experience level: beginner, intermediate and advanced

Type: Upright and Electric

The bass rental is included in the cost.

REGISTRATION

Register at <https://support.njpac.org/event/arts-education-summer-programming/e738705/register/new/select-tickets>

FINANCIAL AID FORM

Those who qualify for financial aid, can apply at (<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXeXamwy6ChH-u9kmSImVgmvFFjClFHAN18X0M9Q3xZYmDBQ/viewform>)

PLEASE NOTE:

FINANCIAL AID REQUEST FORM - SUMMER 2026

NJPAC is dedicated to making the Arts Education programs accessible to all students. The Arts Center has an abundance of financial aid programs available for its students, made possible by our generous donors. The program encourages families who are considering not participating in the programs because of monetary concerns to apply for financial aid.

Feel free to fill out both the financial aid form and the waitlist form. If a spot opens up, the Arts Ed department will contact the applicant along with a financial aid code.

NO STUDENT IS TURNED AWAY FOR FINANCIAL NEEDS.

The Arts Education department also offers a 10% sibling discount.

A representative from the Arts Education Department will then be in touch with the applicant to provide a code to offset some or all of the tuition costs.

NOTE: SUBMITTING THIS FORM DOES NOT REGISTER THE APPLICANT FOR SUMMER PROGRAMMING.

After clicking "submit," the department will review the applicant's financial aid application and email him/her a code. They will need to use that code when they complete the registration form. Until that form is completed, the student is not registered.

MILT HINTON

This program is named in honor of the legendary jazz bassist, a prolific performer and studio



Milt Hinton. Credit: Robert Asman.



NJPAC Arts Ed Milt Hinton Institute students. Credit: <https://njpac.org>



Milt Hinton and Peter Dominguez. Credit: <https://peterdominguezmusic.com>

musician whose long career intersected with countless greats, including Louis Armstrong, Pearl Bailey, Cab Calloway, Diahann Carroll, Sam Cooke, Bing Crosby, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman, Billie Holiday, Frank Sinatra and Barbra Streisand. (Just to name a few.)

The Milt Hinton Institute for Studio Bass (MHI) is designed for bassists aged 14-18. This week-long academy introduces emerging bassists to Milt Hinton and his amazing legacy of bass musicianship. MHI assembles the finest double bass performers and educators who interact, teach, and perform with emerging bassists. MHI clinicians all have an attachment to Milt Hinton and his life's legacy. The Institute will close with a celebratory concert on July 25th.

The week's activities include private lessons, student and faculty recitals, topic workshops and classes, small ensembles, bass orchestra, recording sessions, and a special Milt Hinton Day on July 22th. The week's immersion brings emerging bassists together who normally are the sole player in their respective school or communities. Reach out if you have any questions. In the meantime, remember; What Would Milt Do? (WWMD)

PETER DOMINGUEZ - DIRECTOR, MILT HINTON INSTITUTE FOR STUDIO BASS

Summer 2026 marks the 5th Milt Hinton Institute for Studio Bass, established in 2014, sponsored by NJPAC and hosted by Drew University. Says Peter Dominguez, "As the recipient of the inaugural Milton J. Hinton Competition in 1981, I am pleased to share Milt Hinton, and his legacy. In my role as founding director, I am honored to be returning to the 2026 Institute in this capacity and am excited to join forces with NJPAC to present an outstanding program. I know Milt would be very pleased."

"For the listener to have a 'SOUND' experience, we as players need to create feeling in the music to cause sensation. The Feeling comes from Belief in what you Know, and that Knowledge has Attachment to something greater than oneself."

Learn more about Peter Dominguez @ <https://peterdominguezmusic.com>.

MILT HINTON FACULTY

There are seventeen members that serve on the faculty. Learn more about each at <https://njpac.org/hinton>.

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



NARTAN RANG DANCE ACADEMY



Proudly Presents
NRITYA RANJANI 2026

Nritya Milan...A JOURNEY OF LOVE

Choreographed by: Swati Vaishnav, Siddhi Vaishnav

Sunday, June 28th, 2026

Showtime: 5:30PM

Admission: \$35.00



Adelphi University
Performing Arts Center
1 South Ave
Garden City, NY

For tickets and
more information,
please call:
(516) 395-1209

Sponsors:

Mrs. & Mr. Kalpana and Amit Doshi
Mrs. & Mr. Raji and Kishore Kuncham

The South Asian Times
excellence in journalism

**RADIO
ZINDAGI
540 AM
NY-NJ-CT**

INDIAN PANORAMA

The Indian Eye
NEWS GROUP



Aamir Khan's production house announces documentary on President Droupadi Murmu

Aamir Khan Productions has announced a documentary on the life and journey of President Droupadi Murmu, with filmmaker and writer Svati Chakravarty Bhatkal set to direct the project.

According to Variety India, the documentary will trace Murmu's remarkable journey from her roots in a small village in Odisha to becoming India's first tribal President and the country's second woman to hold the nation's highest constitutional office.

The film will chronicle the defining chapters of Murmu's life, including the personal tragedies, challenges and setbacks she overcame before entering public life and eventually ascending to the presidency. It will also explore her years in public service, offering a closer look at the resilience and determination that shaped her leadership.

The documentary continues Aamir Khan Productions' long-standing interest in telling stories rooted in real-life experiences and social change. Over the years, the production house has backed several projects that spotlight human stories while encouraging wider conversations on issues of public importance.

The project also reunites the banner with Svati Chakravarty Bhatkal, who previously directed Rubaru Roshni, the 2019 documentary anthology produced by Aamir Khan and Kiran Rao. Narrated by Aamir Khan, the film explored real-life stories of violence, grief, forgiveness and reconciliation, earning praise for its empathetic and nuanced storytelling.

To recreate key moments from Murmu's early life, portions of the documentary have reportedly been filmed in her native village in Odisha. Local actors have been cast to portray different phases of her life, while the filmmakers are expected to combine dramatised recreations with archival material and real locations to present a detailed account of her journey to Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Beyond documenting Murmu's personal story, the film will also examine the broader significance of her election as President. Her rise to the country's highest constitutional office has widely been regarded as a watershed moment for tribal communities, women and historically underrepresented groups, making her journey one of the defining political stories of contemporary India.

Eetha teaser: Fans crown Shraddha face of women-led cinema

The teaser of Eetha was unveiled on Tuesday and has already struck a chord with audiences on social media. Offering a compelling first look at the life of legendary tamasha and lavani artiste Vithabai Bhau Mang Narayangaonkar, the Shraddha Kapoor-starrer has received praise from X users. Many praised the 39-year-old actor's transformation and the film's rooted storytelling, while others expressed excitement about seeing the inspiring journey of one of Maharashtra's most celebrated folk performers.

One of the users expressed his anticipation for the film and wrote, "#ShraddhaKapoor Screen Presentation.#Eetha Teaser Is Literally Fantastic & Fabulous. Can't Wait," while another user wrote, "first a 500 crore blockbuster with stree. now another female-led film eetha. Shraddha Kapoor is the face of successful female-led commercial cinema." A third chimed in and wrote, "This isn't just the story of a performer. It's the story of a woman who carried an entire art form on her shoulders!! #Eetha looks incredible."

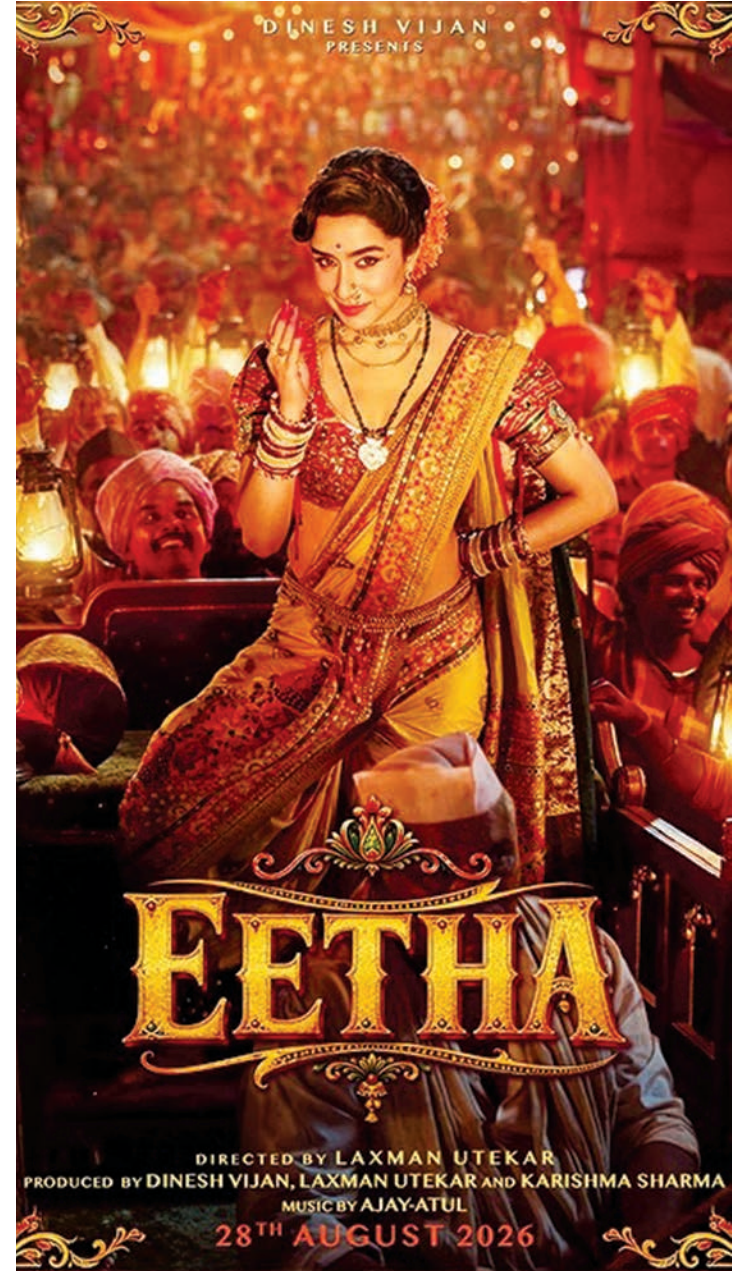
Another wrote, "This looks absolutely grand. Now all eyes will be on how she delivers the performance. #eetha."

Rich in vibrant visuals, colourful traditional attire and captivating glimpses of stage performances, the teaser immerses viewers in the world of tamasha and lavani, the folk art forms that defined Vithabai's life and legacy. It culminates with the powerful line, "Paan mein paan chakhna ho toh meetha, aur toofan ko nachte dekhna ho toh... Eetha!", portraying the titular character as an unstoppable force of nature.

Directed by Laxman Utekar and produced by Dinesh Vijan's Maddock Films, the musical biopic traces Vithabai's journey between 1940 and 1990 and celebrates her contribution to Maharashtra's folk performance traditions.

Vithabai Bhau Mang Narayangaonkar remains one of the most celebrated names in Marathi folk theatre. Revered for her contributions to tamasha and lavani, she captivated audiences with her powerful performances and played a pivotal role in preserving and popularising Maharashtra's rich folk traditions. Born into a family of performers, Vithabai devoted her life to the stage and went on to become a towering figure in the world of Marathi folk arts.

The film is scheduled to release in cinemas on August 28, 2026.



Akshay Kumar: 'Felt like slapping myself after a decade of doing only action films'

Akshay Kumar says he initially came to the industry with the sole aim to earn money but feels lucky to have had a career of 35 years where he got the chance to explore, reinvent and transform himself time and again.

Akshay said he realised after the first decade in the Hindi film industry that he was stuck in the action star image and needed to break out urgently. And he did that by exploring different genres such as comedy, drama, romance and horror comedy.

"Thirty-five years are a long time.... It is a one in a billion or million chance to have 35 years of career. I hope I go further and cross 40. The prayer is that I keep shooting just five minutes before my death. Initially, when I came to the industry, I only wanted to make money," he told PTI in an interview.

The actor added, "But after that



decade, when I saw my films, I felt like slapping myself. I had only done action roles and nobody thought I was capable of anything else. I realised that I needed

to transform myself and I wanted to do different characters. I then did Here Pheri, Dhadkan, Mujhse Shaadi Karogi, Toilet...Ek Prem Katha and Padman. I have kept transforming myself."

Akshay Kumar likened himself to a building, saying he wants to keep "dismantling" and rebuilding himself. The 58-year-old actor said he feels lucky to have been a part of the industry, which has given him beyond what he ever dreamed or hoped for and he just wants to return the favour by doing as many films as possible.

"I know there are people who say 'What's the need to do four films in a year, why not one movie?' But I say I want to work everyday. It is my duty to do at least four films so that there is more work and business in the industry. Hits and flops are part of the business but I have to deliver, I have to go to work and that's what I have been doing," he said.



Taylor Swift extends wedding invite to Blake Lively after rift

Singer Taylor Swift has reportedly taken a step towards reconciling with longtime friend actor Blake Lively after months of speculation about a rift between the two. According to recent reports, Swift has invited Lively to her wedding celebration with NFL star Travis Kelce, a gesture that sources describe as an "olive branch" as they work on rebuilding their friendship.

As per Page Six, Swift, 36 and Lively, 39, have recently been in touch and even spoken over the phone in an effort to move past their differences. Sources told the Daily Mail that the reported invitation signals Swift's openness to repairing the bond they once shared.

An insider claimed that Lively is welcome to attend the wedding festivities, although it remains uncertain whether she will accept the invitation. Another source suggested that the actor is "on the cusp" of getting a second chance, with both stars reportedly engaged in conversations aimed at restoring trust.

The strain in the friendship began after Lively became embroiled in a legal dispute with *It Ends With Us* actor-director Justin Baldoni. Court documents connected to the case revealed details about private conversations and the nature of Lively's friendship with Swift.

In May, reports suggested that Swift had initially decided to snub Lively from the ceremony following their friendship fallout over the actor's *It Ends With Us* legal feud. However, an insider told Page Six at the time there was "a far greater chance" of an invite being extended to Lively now that her sexual harassment case against Baldoni is over.

The friendship reportedly reached a breaking point after Lively pulled Swift into her dispute with Baldoni. According to reports, the actor referred to the singer as one of her "dragons" and sought her support for script changes as tensions escalated during the production of the film.

Private texts that surfaced through unsealed court documents reportedly exposed the extent of the rift between the two stars. The documents also allegedly revealed that the Gossip Girl actor attempted to mend fences with Swift after their friendship became strained.

David Corenswet fumes at paparazzi for touching Milly Alcock

Actor David Corenswet, who plays Clark Kent in DC's upcoming *Supergirl* film, has been applauded online after footage circulated showing him stepping in when a photographer appeared to touch co-star Milly Alcock's back without permission during a promotional event.

The incident reportedly took place on the red carpet in New York City, where cast members were attending an event for the highly anticipated superhero film. Video clips shared across social media platforms show Alcock speaking with fellow cast members Nicholas Hoult and Rachel Brosnahan when a photographer appears to reach out and touch her bare back.

Almost immediately, Corenswet is seen moving towards the photographer. While it wasn't audible in the video what the actor tells the photographer, we can only assume that he asked the photographer to back off.

While the exact words exchanged are not audible in the footage, social media users interpreted the actor's actions as a response to the physical contact, with many claiming he asked the photographer to back away.

Following the brief interaction, Corenswet rejoined Alcock, Brosnahan and Hoult, who portray *Supergirl*, Lois Lane and Lex Luthor respectively in the forthcoming DC Studios production.

It's widely known that David Corenswet will reprise his role as Clark



Kent/Superman in *Supergirl*, it is unclear whether Hoult or Brosnahan will appear in the film as well.

The clip quickly gained traction online, with many viewers praising Corenswet for acting swiftly and supporting his co-star. One social media user wrote: "That's not David Corenswet... that's Superman protecting his cousin in real life. Heat vision loaded (sic)."

Another commented: "That's a real man (sic)". A third person echoed the superhero comparison, writing: "That wasn't David Corenswet, it was superman protecting his cousin (sic)".

Others highlighted the speed with

which the actor appeared to react to the situation.

One user posted: "David clocked it immediately and handled business (sic)."

Another wrote: "That's some real Superman behavior right there David stepping up to protect Milly shows great co-star respect. Class act from the Man of Steel himself (sic)."

Some reactions also criticised the photographer's actions. One commenter remarked: "The photographer really thought he could pull that off right in front of Superman himself? Bro is lucky he didn't get blasted with heat vision (sic)".

Timothee Chalamet, Selena Gomez unite for alien film, to release in 2027

Actor Timothee Chalamet is set to lend his voice to an animated feature for the first time. The 30-year-old actor will star alongside Selena Gomez in *Not Alone*, a new sci-fi comedy from Illumination, the studio behind blockbuster franchises such as *Despicable Me* and *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*.

The project was unveiled at the Annecy Animation Festival, with Illumination confirming that *Not Alone* will release in theatres on April 16, 2027.

Chalamet will voice Joe, an introverted rocket mechanic who prefers a quiet life, while Gomez will play Fran, a brilliant astro-botanist developing the world's first plant-powered rocket.

According to the official synopsis, Joe and Fran cross paths as they prepare for the rocket's maiden launch. While sparks fly between the two, romance does not come easily for either of them. Their lives take an unexpected turn when three mischievous alien fugitives — Dunk, Welly and Shirm — seek refuge in Joe's home.

On the run from the determined but bumbling Officer Zandro, the trio believes Fran's experimental rocket could be their ticket back home, setting the stage for a space adventure filled with comedy, chaos and unlikely friendships.

The alien trio will be voiced by Rob Brydon, Diane Morgan and Jamie Demetriou, while Brett Goldstein will voice Officer Zandro. The supporting cast also includes Allison Janney and Lamorne Morris.



Not Alone will be co-directed by Illumination veterans Eric Guillon, Claire Dodgson and Jonathan Del Val. The film is produced by Illumination founder and CEO Chris Meledandri, with Joy Poirel, Richard Curtis and David Distenfeld serving as executive producers.

Taiwan detects hike in Chinese incursions around itself

JUNE 26, 2026

TAIPEI (TIP): Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense detected the presence of two sorties of Chinese Military aircraft, eight naval vessels and four official ships operating around its territorial waters.

The MND monitored the situation and responded.

In a post on X, it said, "2 sorties of PLA aircraft, 8 PLAN vessels and 4 official ships operating around Taiwan detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. ROC Armed Forces have monitored the situation and responded." Earlier, the MND said it detected five sorties of PLA aircraft, nine PLAN vessels and five official ships operating around itself. In a post on X, it said, "5 sorties of PLA aircraft, 9 PLAN vessels and 5 official ships operating around Taiwan detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 1 out of 5 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's southwestern part ADIZ. ROC Armed Forces have monitored the situation and responded." Meanwhile, Focus Taiwan reported how earlier in June, Taiwan's first domestically built submarine departed from the Port of Kaohsiung for its latest round of sea trials that included dive tests. Citing the Military News Agency, Focus Taiwan said that the trial marked the submarine's 15th sea trial overall and ninth submerged navigation test. The development comes amid the backdrop of China continuing to increase the intensity of its military activity around Taiwan. China's claim over Taiwan is a complex issue rooted in historical, political, and legal arguments. Beijing asserts that Taiwan is an inseparable part of China, a viewpoint embedded in national policy and upheld by domestic laws and international statements.

UN halts escort of ships through Hormuz after vessel comes under attack

JUNE 26, 2026

TEHRAN (TIP): The UN International Maritime Organization paused its operation to escort ships through the Strait of Hormuz on Thursday, June 25, after a vessel reported an attack, reigniting concerns about whether a preliminary deal to end the Iran war will hold.

The cargo ship said it was hit close to Oman by a projectile, British navy agency UKMTO said, hours after Tehran warned vessels against taking routes that it had not approved.

Two US officials told Reuters that Iran had fired on the ship, while Iran's Persian Gulf Strait Authority, which Tehran established to manage requests for ships to travel through the strait, said vessels outside routes it has set will not be guaranteed safe passage.

"Consequences arising from passage through unauthorized routes shall be the responsibility of the owner, operator, and vessel commander," the Iranian authority said.

Four sources identified the ship as the Singapore-flagged Ever Lovely. A security source said it was likely targeted by a drone. There was no immediate comment from the US government. US

President Donald Trump warned earlier this month that if Iran did not honor an agreement aimed at ending the war and reopening the strait that the US would probably go back to bombing the country again.

SHIPS AND SEAFARERS STRANDED FOR MONTHS

The IMO was helping to get hundreds of stranded ships and thousands of seafarers out of the strait where they had been stranded for months since the start of the war in late February.

It decided "to temporarily pause its implementation in order to reconfirm that the necessary safety guarantees continue to be in place for the ships on our evacuation list and all those in the region," IMO Secretary General Arsenio Dominguez said in a statement.

The IMO said the ship involved in the suspected attack was not part of its evacuation program.

The initiative, which was launched on Tuesday, was a voluntary option for ships and their crew to sail out of the Gulf using two routes – one via Iranian waters and the other via Omani waters, with US oversight, the IMO said this week.

Benchmark oil prices rose 2% following reports of the attack, which analysts said rekindled concerns about how long



Vessels in the Strait of Hormuz near the beach of Bandar Abbas, following the signing of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding between the United States and Iran. Image credit/Reuters

it could take for Gulf oil flows to resume normal levels.

The Oman incident is likely to refocus attention on the extent of Iran's future control over the Strait of Hormuz which, before the conflict, handled a fifth of the world's daily oil and liquefied natural gas supplies.

Before the incident, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio - wrapping up a tour of the Gulf to reassure states about the interim pact - told reporters that if Iran threatens or blocks ships in the strait, "then we're going to have a problem." Iran, though, has signaled it would continue to assert control over the strait.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said on Thursday that safe passage through the strait would only be possible through routes designated by Iran, adding that it would take action against vessels that failed to comply.

The Revolutionary Guards also ordered two Panama-flagged ships to change course on Thursday, British maritime security company Ambrey said.

Earlier, US Energy Secretary Chris Wright said shipments through the strait were approaching levels seen before the US

and Israel launched strikes on Iran on February 28, with at least 20 million barrels of oil exiting the waterway in the previous 24 hours.

Source: Reuters

Italy denies US used its airbases for strikes on Iran

JUNE 26, 2026

ROME (TIP): Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni on Thursday, June 25, denied claims of 'active usage' of Italian airbases by the US for airstrikes on Iran. Meloni said Italy only provided the US with technical and logistics support. Speaking during a Franco-Italian summit in France, Meloni firmly maintained that Italy never participated in the war between the US and Iran, Politico reported.

Meloni said NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte made "misleading remarks" on Italy's role in the US-Iran war. In an interview with Fox News, late on Tuesday, NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte had claimed that Italy played a key role in the US-Iran conflict by allowing 500 US aircraft for strikes on Iran to support operation 'Epic Fury'.

Shortly after Meloni's comments, Italian Foreign Minister Antonia Tajani dialled Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi to clarify Italy's role. In a post on X, Tajani shared the details of his conversation with Araghchi. Tanjani wrote on X: "Italy has never taken part in any military action against Iran and never authorised the use of its airbases against strike on them."

Italian Minister of Defence Guido Crosetto also



Shortly after Meloni's comments, Italian Foreign Minister Antonia Tajani dialled Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi to clarify Italy's role.

shared a brief description of the number of flights in transit when 'Operation Epic Fury' took place. In a post on X, he said: "The number of flights in transit at Sigonella and Aviano during the Epic Fury period was far lower than the number of flights in transit in the years 2019-2025."

Italy hosts about 120 US military facilities including the Sigonella naval air station in Sicily and the Aviano air base in northern Italy.

Responding to a request for comment by Reuters, a NATO official later clarified Mark Rutte had only pointed to existing bilateral agreements under which allies, including Italy, allow military basing, technical and logistical support and overflight arrangements.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi said that the statements by NATO chief Rutte suggesting use of Italian and Romanian airbases by the US for strikes on Iran calls for introspection of international responsibilities by these countries. Sharing a post on X, he said: "According to General Assembly Resolution 3314, the provision of territory by a state for use by a third state to carry out aggression against another country is considered an act of aggression."

Foreign Affairs of Iran Esmaeil Baqaei, sharing a post on X, said that Italy and Romania are explicitly named by NATO's Secretary General to have participated in the aggression against Iran.

Giorgia Meloni's government had previously said that only logistical and technical flights covered by the bilateral treaty governing US military bases in Italy would be allowed to use its airbases to fly to the Middle East. Meloni's government has maintained this stance ever since the war broke out between the US and Iran.

Iraq threatens to leave Opec if quota demands not met

JUNE 26, 2026

TEHRAN (TIP): Iraq does not intend to leave Opec, but it will consider doing so if demands for a higher production quota are not met, the country's Oil Ministry has said.

"There is currently no intention for the ministry to withdraw from Opec, and we remain committed to working within the organisation's mechanisms," the ministry's spokesman Salim Al Rikabi said on Thursday, June 25.

Mr Al Rikabi added that Iraq is moving ahead with plans to raise its oil production to match its capacity and national needs. He said the ministry expects Opec to increase Iraq's production quota accordingly.

"If that does not happen, there will be a decision regarding staying in or exiting the organisation," he said.

Iraq is Opec's second-largest producer and has repeatedly pushed for a higher quota, arguing that its output potential and postwar reconstruction needs justify an increase above current limits.

The country depends on oil for at least 90 per cent of its income, which has been slashed since the Iran war effectively blocked exports via the Strait of Hormuz. That has put the government in a tight financial spot.

No timeline was given for a potential decision on membership.

Later on Thursday, the Iraqi Oil Ministry issued a clarification, stating that reports suggesting Baghdad was planning to leave Opec "do not reflect the government's official position".

"Iraq has consistently emphasised the need to reassess production ceilings to align with the sustainable production capacities of member states, in line with agreement endorsed by all parties and understandings of Iraq's security and economic circumstances," it said.

The ministry noted that Opec and its allies had already responded by launching a process to reassess the maximum sustainable production capacity of member countries.

Trump says 'courageous' Zelenskyy is 'doing pretty well' in war with Russia

JUNE 26, 2026

WASHINGTON (TIP): US President Donald Trump heaped praise on Volodymyr Zelenskyy, calling his Ukrainian counterpart "courageous" and saying he was "doing pretty well" in the war against Russia.

Speaking to reporters from the White House alongside NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte, Trump said: "He's doing pretty well, no matter how you look at it". "He's holding his own at least," Trump continued. "A lot of people dying on both sides, but I think he's doing pretty well". "You have to say he's courageous, he's got great equipment, he's got great men, he's got fighters," he added.

Trump's comments come as Kyiv looks to cut off the Russian-occupied Crimean Peninsula by attacking energy industry infrastructure and transport links.

Ukraine's defence minister, Mykhailo Fedorov, has said Crimea would soon "turn into an island".

"Logistics are being cut off," he said in an interview with the YouTube channel Pressing, adding: "This could lead to some very unexpected consequences for the Russians".

Ukrainian attacks on the peninsula have sparked a major fuel crisis in the region, with long queues for petrol stations and limited supply.

Zelenskyy has said Russian forces are now redeploying some air defence assets to guard the Crimean Bridge, Russian President Vladimir Putin's prized road connecting Crimea to Russian-occupied territory on the mainland.

The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) announced on Wednesday that its forces had carried out a number of strikes on air defence systems and military airfields in Crimea.

It said the strikes hit four aircraft hangars at the Saky airfield.

"In addition, near Kerch, two components of an S-400 anti-aircraft missile system were destroyed, as well as



two 'Pantsir-S1' anti-aircraft missile and gun systems," the SBU said in a post on Telegram.

Zelenskyy met with Rutte and the leaders of the E5 - France, Germany, Italy, Poland and the United Kingdom - this week to discuss Ukraine's own air defences.

Rutte and the E5 leaders pledged to continue support for Ukraine moving forward.

"You can count on us now and in the future, so that you can defend yourself, that you are stronger at the negotiating table, that you can deter aggression in the future and on your irreversible path into NATO," Rutte said during the meeting.

Ukrainian attack on Crimea kills five, Russian officials say

At least five people have been killed in a Ukrainian attack on Russia and the Crimean peninsula as Kyiv steps up strikes, according to the Russian-appointed governor in the annexed region.

Crimea Governor Sergey Aksyonov said two people, including a child, were killed and two others wounded following "overnight enemy attacks" into

Thursday, June 25.

Drone strikes killed two people in the bordering region of Bryansk and one person was killed in Belgorod region, authorities said.

Russia's defence ministry said 269 Ukrainian drones were downed over Russia and Crimea overnight.

The head of the Krasnoarmeysk district in Krasnodar Krai said debris from a drone strike triggered an oil depot fire. "Following the fall of UAV debris, a fire broke out at the Poltavskaya oil depot," Aleksandr Kharitonov wrote on Russia's state-run Max platform.

Authorities in Crimea will impose power cuts across the peninsula following the Ukrainian attacks, Aksyonov said.

"Energy infrastructure has been damaged by hostile attacks. Consequently, temporary power outages will be implemented across Crimea," the Moscow-installed governor posted on Telegram.

At the same time, Russia attacked three rail locomotives, killing one driver and hit two petrol stations across Ukraine on Thursday, officials there said.

UK's Reeves says Burnham would provide stability as prime minister

JUNE 26, 2026

LONDON (TIP): British finance minister Rachel Reeves said on Thursday, June 25, she was backing Andy Burnham to be the next prime minister, adding that he would stick to her fiscal rules and provide stability while brushing off reports she could be moved to a more junior post.

Reeves told the BBC she was backing Burnham to be prime minister after he emerged as the only declared candidate to replace Keir Starmer, who announced his resignation on Monday.

Later she went further, saying that Burnham "will be the next prime minister" and had been clear that he was committed to her fiscal rules, which



include balancing day-to-day spending with tax revenues and reducing debt as a share of output.

"That is a good thing because it means that businesses here can be confident that that stability, that rigour to

policymaking, that tight grip on the public finances... will be continued," she said at a British Chambers of Commerce conference. Starmer said he would oversee an orderly transition to a new prime minister from his Labour Party, after bowing to pressure over weak poll ratings and poor local election results.

Burnham, who is the only candidate to have put his name forward to replace Starmer, is widely expected to be installed without a challenge, meaning he could become prime minister by mid-July. If appointed, he would be Britain's seventh leader in a decade.

Asked if she wanted to stay as finance minister, Reeves said she wouldn't preempt cabinet decisions, which would be a

matter for Burnham. Media reports have suggested she will be moved to a more junior role.

Stressing the need to stick to the fiscal rules, Reeves hinted that borrowing could fund increases in defence spending under a long-awaited defence investment plan, which she confirmed would be delivered before a NATO summit beginning on July 7.

Earlier this month John Healey resigned as defence secretary, saying that proposed increases in defence spending didn't match the threats Britain faces. Starmer defended the plans, saying increased spending would be sustainable and fair, and not based on "irresponsible borrowing."

French woman, 5 children held captive by Pakistani man for 12 years, rescued

JUNE 25, 2026

ISLAMABAD (TIP): A French woman who spent more than a decade cut off from the outside world, trapped inside a remote home in Pakistan with her five children, has finally been rescued after one of her sons slipped away and alerted police. Police say the woman's husband physically and psychologically abused the family while keeping them isolated from the outside world for a decade.

The rescue took place in Bara, a mountainous area in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, after one of the couple's sons managed to leave the house and alert police, according to BBC Urdu and local Pakistani media reports.

According to police officials cited by BBC Urdu, officers raided the family's home on June 18 after receiving information from one of the children.

Inside, they found 54-year-old Sylvie Yasmina and her five children living in a cramped and "extremely dilapidated room". Police said several family members had visible bruises and signs of physical injuries.

Yasmina and her children were immediately removed from the property and taken to a women's shelter in Peshawar.

Police later informed the French embassy that the family wishes to return to France.

In a statement to investigators, Yasmina accused her husband of trapping the family in a series of abuse and violence.

"We were deprived (of our) freedom, my husband didn't take care of us the way he should as a husband and the father of my children. He beats us and put pressure on our lives on a daily basis," she said, according to excerpts cited by BBC Urdu.

"I felt that my future was already ruined, the future of the children would also be ruined."

According to Geo TV and BBC Urdu, Yasmina described her husband as a "violent man" who allegedly subjected family members to physical and mental abuse on a daily basis.

Police officials said she told investigators that she and her children were prevented from interacting with other people and had little or no contact with the outside world.

According to a senior police officer, the family had lived under strict restrictions since moving to Pakistan from Australia in 2014.

"According to the woman... She was not allowed to meet anyone, their two older children had missed their studies, while the three younger children were born in Pakistan and never enrolled in school," the officer said.

Authorities said the family's two eldest children had their education interrupted after the move, while the three younger children, born in Pakistan, were never registered in school.

Taliban holds first Brussels talks with EU on Afghan returns amid outcry

JUNE 26, 2026

BRUSSELS (TIP): A Taliban delegation held closed-door talks with European Union officials and representatives of 15 EU countries in Brussels, with discussions centred on diplomatic services and what the Taliban called a "dignified return process" for Afghans being sent back from Europe. The meeting comes as a growing number of governments in the 27-member bloc want faster and higher deportations of Afghans whose asylum claims are rejected or who commit crimes in their host countries.

The talks also drew sharp criticism from rights groups and activists, who said any engagement with the Taliban should focus on human rights and accountability rather than returns. No EU country recognises the Taliban government, and Belgian authorities stressed that allowing the meeting to take place did not amount to recognition or legitimacy.

Abdul Qahar Balkhi, spokesperson for the Taliban Foreign Ministry, described the visit as "historic" and said it was the first time a delegation from the Islamic Emirate had held talks with the EU and EU nations in Brussels. Balkhi, who led the five-member delegation, said the talks focused on "trust-building measures", the Taliban's diplomatic presence in the EU and a "dignified return process". The meeting was held at an undisclosed location in the Belgian capital, where the EU and NATO are headquartered.

The European Commission said it co-chaired the meeting with Sweden. A Commission spokesperson, Markus Lammert, said the talks were held after pressure from a clear majority of EU member states, including 20 countries that signed a letter in October seeking tougher migration policies and more deportations. He said the Commission had been asked to coordinate "technical talks" on returns, adding: "This does not mean recognition." The meeting in Brussels followed earlier contact in January, when the Commission sent a mission to Kabul, where it also has staff.

Rights groups said the meeting risked harming Afghans both in Europe and Afghanistan. "Any engagement with the Taliban needs to prioritize protecting human rights and



accountability - not deporting people to danger there," said Fereshta Abbasi of Human Rights Watch. She added, "EU countries are undermining their credibility by condemning Taliban abuses and pursuing accountability on one hand, while cooperating with the Taliban to forcibly return Afghans on the other." Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai said on Monday that she was "deeply shaken" by the talks. "Europe must not legitimise a regime responsible for one of the worst human rights crises in the world. Any engagement with the Taliban must begin and end with the rights of Afghan women and girls," she wrote on X.

Belgium said Taliban delegates were given visas after security screening with limited territorial validity, allowing them 24 hours in Belgium and no travel to other Schengen countries. Belgian Foreign Minister Maxime Prvot said Belgium had complied with EU requests to issue the visas. "Making a meeting possible in the framework of our host-state policy does not amount to recognition, does not amount to legitimacy, and does not constitute an invitation by the Belgian government," he said. As neither Belgium nor the EU officially recognises the Taliban government, the meeting was not held at an official Belgian or EU site.

Pakistani rights activist Mahrang Baloch sentenced to life in prison

JUNE 25, 2026

QUETTA (TIP): A Pakistani anti-terrorism court has sentenced prominent civil rights activist Mahrang Baloch and an associate to life in prison over the killing of a paramilitary soldier during a July 2024 protest.

Baloch's lawyer said he would appeal against the verdict.

Baloch, who has been detained since March 2025, has been a vocal opponent of enforced disappearances and alleged human rights violations in Pakistan's southwestern Balochistan province, where ethnic separatists have waged a decades-long insurgency.

"Those who take the law into their own hands under the guise of peaceful protest, promote violence, and target state officials are in fact facilitators of terrorism," Bugti said.

The Quetta anti-terrorism court said it found Baloch and Sibghatullah guilty of murder and terrorism-related offences.

The court said Baloch had incited protesters to attack paramilitary personnel deployed at the protest and that eyewitness and medical evidence



supported the prosecution case.

BYCorganiser Lala Abdul Baloch called it a "faceless" trial and warned more Baloch youth would likely choose resistance.

"When you close access to the corridors of justice then more people will rise up against the state," he said, adding the group has called a province-wide strike to protest the court's decision.

Baloch's lawyer, Israr Jattak, said on Wednesday the verdict would be challenged in the Balochistan High Court.

Bangladesh, China to strengthen cooperation on Teesta river management

Dhaka and Beijing on June 25 agreed to strengthen cooperation on the management of the Teesta and other rivers and signed 13 agreements to bolster bilateral ties following talks between Bangladeshi Prime Minister Tarique Rahman and Chinese Premier Li Qiang. The understanding on cooperation relating to the Teesta may have implications for Dhaka-New Delhi ties given India's sensitivity over the Teesta water-sharing issue. The understanding was reached at a meeting between Rahman, who is currently in Beijing, and Chinese Water Resources Minister Li Guoying, Spokesman of the Bangladeshi prime minister's office Mahdi Amin told reporters. The two sides also reached a consensus on expanding cooperation in areas such as the Teesta Master Plan, river management, flood-risk mitigation, river dredging, erosion control, irrigation and inland navigation, a news agency quoted him as saying.

Sikh History This Week

JUNE 26 TO JULY 2

JUNE 26, 1984 - PUNJAB GRAPPLES WITH THE AFTERMATH OF OPERATION BLUESTAR

In the days following the military action at the sacred Harmandir Sahib earlier in June 1984, Punjab remained under heavy security deployment. Curfews continued in several districts, while restrictions on movement and communication were imposed. The operation, carried out to flush out militants from the Golden Temple complex, deeply affected the Sikh psyche across the world. The aftermath led to widespread political unrest, increased alienation among sections of the Sikh community, and became a defining chapter in modern Sikh history.

JUNE 27, 1839 - DEATH OF MAHARAJA RANJIT SINGH



On June 27, 1839, Maharaja Ranjit Singh, popularly known as the "Lion of Punjab," passed away in Lahore after ruling Punjab for nearly four decades. He had unified the various Sikh Misls and established a powerful empire extending from the Khyber Pass to Tibet and from Kashmir to the Sutlej. His administration was noted for religious tolerance, efficient governance and a modern army. Following his death, the Sikh Empire gradually weakened due to succession disputes and political intrigue, eventually paving the way for British annexation.

JUNE 27, 1606 - GURU HARGOBIND SAHIB ASSUMES LEADERSHIP OF THE SIKH PANTH



Following the martyrdom of Guru Arjan in June 1606, the young Guru Hargobind assumed the Guruship and initiated a transformative phase in Sikh history. Recognising the changing political realities, Guru Hargobind introduced the concept of Miri-Piri—the fusion of spiritual and temporal authority. He began maintaining an armed force and encouraged Sikhs to be both saints and soldiers, fundamentally reshaping the character of the Sikh community.

JUNE 28, 1710 - CONSOLIDATION OF SIKH RULE UNDER BANDA SINGH BAHADUR



After capturing Sirhind in May 1710, Baba Banda Singh Bahadur spent the following weeks consolidating Sikh control over large parts of Punjab. He abolished the feudal zamindari system in conquered territories and distributed land among cultivators, many of whom had long suffered under oppressive landlords. Banda Singh also introduced Sikh coinage and administrative reforms, making him the first Sikh ruler to establish sovereign governance in Punjab.

JUNE 29, 1716 - REMEMBRANCE OF THE MARTYRDOM OF BANDA SINGH BAHADUR AND HIS COMPANIONS

June is traditionally remembered for the martyrdom of Banda Singh Bahadur and nearly 700 Sikh prisoners in Delhi in 1716. Captured after the siege of Gurdas Nangal, Banda Singh and his followers were subjected to severe torture by Mughal authorities. Despite immense suffering, they refused to abandon their faith. Banda Singh Bahadur was executed on June 9, 1716, becoming one of Sikhism's greatest martyrs. Their sacrifices inspired future generations of Sikhs to continue resisting persecution.

JUNE 30, 1975 - AKALI DAL LEADS RESISTANCE DURING THE EMERGENCY

After the proclamation of the Emergency in India on June 25, 1975, the Shiromani Akali Dal became one of the few political organisations to openly oppose the suspension of civil liberties. Thousands of Akali volunteers courted arrest through peaceful protests. The party's resistance during the Emergency is regarded as a significant contribution to the defence of democratic rights in India.

JULY 1, 1780 - BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF BHAI MAHARAJ SINGH



Born on July 1, 1780, Bhai Maharaj Singh emerged as a prominent Sikh saint and early anti-colonial leader. Following the British annexation of Punjab in 1849, he organised resistance against colonial rule and sought to revive Sikh sovereignty. Arrested by the British in 1849, he was deported to Singapore, where he died in prison in 1856. He is remembered as one of India's earliest freedom fighters.

JULY 1, 1925 - ENACTMENT OF THE SIKH GURDWARAS ACT

The passage of the Sikh Gurdwaras Act, 1925 marked the culmination of the historic Gurdwara Reform Movement. Throughout the early twentieth century, Sikhs had launched peaceful agitations to free major shrines from the control of hereditary mahants accused of corruption and deviation from Sikh traditions. The Act recognised the authority of the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee to manage key Sikh gurdwaras, representing a landmark achievement in modern Sikh history.

JULY 2 - REMEMBERING THE LEGACY OF SIKH MISLS

The early days of July provide an opportunity to revisit the contributions of the Sikh Misls, the confederacies that emerged during the eighteenth century amid intense Mughal and Afghan persecution. The Misls—including the Sukerchakia, Ahluwalia, Ramgarhia and Bhangi Misls—preserved Sikh political and military power during a turbulent era. Their collective efforts eventually enabled the rise of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and the establishment of the Sikh Empire.

Other Important Themes Remembered During This Week

The Miri-Piri Doctrine

Introduced by Guru Hargobind Sahib, the doctrine of Miri-Piri remains central to Sikh philosophy. It emphasises balancing spiritual devotion with social and political responsibility.

Legacy of Sikh Martyrs

Gurdwaras around the world organise seminars and kirtan programmes to remember the sacrifices of Sikh martyrs, including:

- Bhai Mani Singh
- Baba Deep Singh
- Bhai Taru Singh
- Bhai Mati Das

Sikh Military Heritage

The martial traditions established by Guru Hargobind Sahib and later institutionalised by Guru Gobind Singh continue to inspire Sikhs worldwide. The ideals of courage, justice and defence of the oppressed remain integral to Sikh identity.

Protecting relationships from the damage of ego

Relationships thrive on love, trust, understanding and mutual respect. However, one silent factor has the power to weaken even the strongest bonds—ego. While self-respect is essential in every relationship, an inflated ego can create distance, misunderstandings and resentment between partners. If left unchecked, ego can gradually erode affection and companionship, turning a once-loving relationship into a battleground of pride and stubbornness.

Ego often manifests in subtle ways. It may appear as the unwillingness to apologize, the constant need to be right, or the refusal to compromise. Many people believe that admitting mistakes or expressing vulnerability is a sign of weakness. In reality, these qualities are the foundations of healthy relationships. A relationship is not about winning arguments; it is about strengthening the bond between two individuals.

One of the most damaging effects of ego is poor communication. When pride takes centre stage, partners stop listening to understand and begin listening merely to respond. Conversations become competitions rather than opportunities for connection. Small disagreements can quickly escalate because neither person is willing to take the first step towards reconciliation. Over time, unresolved conflicts pile up, creating emotional walls that become increasingly difficult to break down.

Ego also prevents empathy. When individuals are consumed by their own perspective, they struggle to see situations from their partner's point of view. They may dismiss their partner's feelings, believing that their own opinions matter more. This lack of emotional understanding can make the other person feel unheard, unappreciated and isolated. Relationships flourish when both individuals feel valued and respected, and empathy plays a crucial role in fostering that sense of security.

Another common consequence of ego is the tendency to keep score. Some partners constantly recall past mistakes or sacrifices, using them as ammunition during arguments. Such behaviour creates an unhealthy environment where love becomes transactional. Instead of nurturing affection, both partners begin focusing on proving who has done more or suffered more. True relationships are built on generosity and forgiveness, not on maintaining a record of wrongs.

Letting go of ego does not mean losing one's identity or compromising self-worth. Rather, it means



prioritising the relationship over the need to dominate or control. Learning to say "I'm sorry," acknowledging mistakes and appreciating a partner's efforts can go a long way in preserving harmony. Open communication, active listening and mutual respect help couples navigate disagreements without allowing pride to interfere.

Humility is a powerful relationship skill. It enables individuals to accept imperfections—both their own and their partner's. No relationship is perfect, and conflicts are inevitable. What determines the strength of a relationship is not the absence of disagreements but the willingness to resolve them with compassion and understanding.

In the end, love and ego cannot coexist peacefully for long. When forced to choose, nurturing love, kindness and humility will always strengthen relationships, while unchecked ego can slowly destroy them. Protect your relationships by keeping pride in check and placing understanding above the desire to be right.

FOOD CORNER

Mutton kofta

INGREDIENTS

500 gm minced mutton, 1 teaspoon ginger powder, 2 pinches asafoetida, 6 tablespoon vegetable oil, 2 tablespoon gram flour (besan), 1 cup water, 4 clove, 1 1/2 teaspoon red chilli powder, 3 teaspoon aniseed, 3 tablespoon yoghurt (curd), 3 crushed black cardamom, 3 pinches salt, 1/2 teaspoon garam masala powder

Method

- Take a large bowl and add minced mutton in it along with the spices - red chilli powder, ginger powder (1/4 teaspoon), aniseed powder (1 teaspoon), asafoetida (1 pinch), yoghurt (1 tablespoon), oil (2 tablespoons), black cardamom seeds, gram flour or besan and half of the salt. Knead well with your hand till the spices are well blended and the mixture starts to grease your hands.
- Make 15 equal portions of the mixture. On a flat greased surface, roll each portion gently into round ball. Put these aside.
- Next, put a kadhai on medium flame and heat 4 tablespoons of oil in it. On the other hand, mix red chilli powder and yoghurt together and make a paste of it. When the oil is hot enough, add the yoghurt paste and stir briskly. When the oil separates, add the water and stir again. Add the remaining ginger powder, aniseed powder and garam masala powder, asafoetida, cloves, bay leaves, black cardamom skins and the remaining salt into the pan. Cook till the gravy comes to a boil. Carefully slide in the koftas, one at a time and cook on high flame till the gravy starts to thicken. Lower the flame and cook, stirring gently till the oil separates. When the mutton kofta is cooked completely, serve it hot with rice or butter naan.



Turn back time with these age-defying makeup tips

Never skip primer

A lightweight, hydrating primer creates a smooth canvas for makeup application. It helps blur pores and fine lines while ensuring that makeup stays in place throughout the day. Avoid mattifying primers, as they can make skin look flat and dry.

Choose lightweight foundation

Heavy foundations often settle into wrinkles and emphasise texture. Instead, opt for lightweight, dewy or satin-finish foundations that provide sheer to medium coverage. Apply sparingly and build coverage only where needed. Tinted moisturisers and BB creams are also excellent choices for a natural, youthful look.

Use concealer wisely

Less is more when it comes to concealer. Apply a small amount only to areas that need brightening, such as under the eyes and around the nose. Thick layers can accentuate fine lines. A creamy, hydrating formula works best for mature skin.

Add warmth with cream products

Cream blushes and bronzers blend seamlessly into the skin and impart a healthy glow. Soft peach, rose and coral tones instantly brighten the complexion and create a youthful flush. Apply blush slightly higher on the cheeks to achieve a lifted appearance.

Define the eyes gently

Harsh eyeliner and heavy eye makeup

can make eyes appear smaller. Choose soft brown or charcoal liners and smudge them slightly for a softer effect. Curling the lashes and applying lengthening mascara can instantly open up the eyes and create a refreshed look.

Pay attention to eyebrows

Full, well-groomed eyebrows frame the face and can make you look younger. Fill in sparse areas with light, feathery strokes using a brow pencil or powder that matches your natural hair colour.

Opt for luminous finishes

Avoid excessive powder, as it can settle into fine lines and make the skin appear dull. Use powder only where necessary, such as the T-zone.

More screens, less sunshine: Why children are becoming vitamin D deficient

With children spending more time indoors on screens and less time playing outside, doctors say even healthy-looking kids are showing signs of vitamin D deficiency, raising concerns about their bone health, immunity and overall growth.

A growing number of children are being diagnosed with low vitamin D levels despite living in a country that receives abundant sunshine throughout the year. Doctors say excessive screen time, indoor lifestyles and shrinking outdoor playtime are emerging as key contributors to this trend.

From online learning and coaching classes to video games and social media, children's daily routines are becoming increasingly screen-centric. While technology has transformed education and entertainment, experts warn that it has also reduced the time children spend outdoors, limiting their exposure to natural sunlight.

Vitamin D, often called the "sunshine vitamin", is essential for strong bones, healthy muscles, immunity and overall growth. However, doctors are now reporting a growing number of children with low vitamin D levels despite appearing otherwise healthy.

"There is a noticeable increase in vitamin D deficiency among children, including those who appear otherwise healthy," said Dr Amit Gupta, Senior Consultant, Pediatrician and Neonatologist at Motherhood Hospitals, Noida.

According to Dr Gupta, many children today spend less than 30 minutes outdoors each day. Between school, tuition classes and recreational screen use, opportunities for sunlight exposure have become limited.

"In a week, three to four children aged between 7 and 16 years come to us with low vitamin D levels. Even children who seem physically healthy are testing significantly low," he said.

The concern goes beyond bone health. Vitamin D helps the body absorb calcium and plays a crucial role in supporting the immune system. Deficiency can lead to weakened bones, muscle pain, fatigue, delayed growth and an increased risk of fractures. It may also make children more vulnerable to frequent infections.



The worrying part, experts say, is that vitamin D deficiency often goes unnoticed until it starts affecting a child's growth and daily life.

What makes the issue particularly concerning is that the deficiency often develops quietly. Many parents may dismiss symptoms such as tiredness, body aches or reduced physical activity as signs of a busy school schedule rather than a nutritional problem.

Dr Gupta recommends at least 45 to 60 minutes of outdoor activity daily. Even 10 minutes of morning sunlight can help stimulate the body's natural vitamin D production.

A balanced diet can also help support healthy vitamin D and calcium levels. Parents should include:

- Milk, curd, paneer and cheese for calcium
- Ragi and almonds to support bone health
- Dark green leafy vegetables as a source of essential nutrients
- Egg yolks for vitamin D
- Fatty fish such as salmon and sardines for vitamin D and healthy fats
- Mushrooms as an additional vitamin D source.

Source: India Today

Chewing sugary gum after beetroot could lower blood pressure

A simple habit of chewing sugary gum after eating nitrate-rich vegetables such as beetroot, spinach and kale could temporarily boost their blood pressure-lowering benefits, according to a new study by researchers at King's College London. Researchers found that volunteers who chewed sugary gum after drinking beetroot juice had higher nitrite levels and modest reductions in blood pressure compared to those who chewed sugar-free gum.

Nitrate found in vegetables cannot be directly used by the body. It first needs to be converted into nitrite by bacteria living in the mouth. Once formed, nitrite helps

blood vessels relax and widen, allowing blood to flow more easily through the body.

Researchers wanted to investigate whether making saliva more acidic could improve this conversion process.

"Whether and how the acidity of saliva impacts the conversion of inactive nitrate into the more active nitrite is a fundamental question, as it affects important functions including blood pressure," said Dr Andrew Webb, Clinical Senior Lecturer at King's College London.

Previous research by the team had shown that grapefruit juice reduced saliva acidity and slowed nitrate conversion. The scientists therefore wanted to see if

increasing acidity would have the opposite effect.

Healthy volunteers drank a shot of beetroot juice and were randomly assigned to chew either a sugar-containing chewing gum or a sugar-free gum for three to six hours. At least a week later, participants repeated the experiment with the other type of gum. Researchers monitored blood pressure and analysed blood and saliva samples throughout the study. Chewing sugary gum increased saliva acidity significantly, causing a 1.4-point drop in pH compared to sugar-free gum. Participants also recorded a 45% increase in nitrite levels in the mouth and a 25% increase in nitrite levels circulating throughout the body.

Top vegan foods that pack a protein punch

Adopting a vegan lifestyle does not mean compromising on protein intake. Although vegans avoid meat, eggs, dairy and all other animal-derived foods, there are plenty of plant-based options that can easily help meet daily protein requirements. Protein plays a vital role in building and repairing tissues, supporting immunity and maintaining overall health. A deficiency in this essential nutrient can lead to fatigue, muscle loss and other health issues. Here are some of the best vegan-friendly sources of protein.

Lentils

Lentils are among the richest plant-based sources of protein and fibre. Nutrition experts recommend consuming around 0.8 grams of protein per kilogram of body weight each day. For instance, a person weighing 60 kg requires approximately 48 grams of protein daily, unless advised otherwise by a healthcare professional. A single cup of cooked lentils provides nearly 18 grams of protein, making them an excellent addition to soups, salads and curries.

Beans

Kidney beans, black beans, chickpeas and other legumes are nutritional powerhouses. One bowl of cooked beans can provide around 13 to 15 grams of protein, along with a generous amount of dietary fibre that supports heart and digestive health. They are versatile and can be used in salads, stews, wraps and dips.

Green Vegetables

While vegetables may not be as protein-dense as legumes, several green vegetables contribute significantly to daily protein intake. Spinach, broccoli, kale, green peas and French beans are all excellent choices. Including a variety of these vegetables in everyday meals can boost both protein and micronutrient intake.

Tofu

Made by coagulating soy milk and pressing the curds into soft blocks, tofu is a staple in many vegan diets. It is highly versatile and can be grilled, stir-fried, baked or added to curries. About 100 grams of tofu provides roughly 9 grams of protein, making it an easy way to increase protein consumption.

Soy Milk

Soy milk is one of the most nutritious dairy alternatives available. A cup of unsweetened soy milk contains around 8 grams of protein, along with healthy fats and beneficial plant compounds called phytosterols, which may support heart health. It can be consumed on its own or added to smoothies, cereals and beverages.

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: gitanjianand@gmail.com

ChatGPT could soon get smarter GPT-Bidi-1 voice model that can listen and talk at same time

OpenAI appears to be preparing a major upgrade for ChatGPT's conversational abilities. The reported changes are part of the company's broader plans to turn ChatGPT into a super app, with improvements expected across its AI products. While much of the overhaul is said to focus on OpenAI's Codex coding tool and agentic AI tools that can perform tasks on behalf of users, reports suggest the company is also working on a new bidirectional audio model called GPT-Bidi-1.

According to reports, "Bidi" is short for bidirectional, a design that allows the assistant to speak, hear, and listen simultaneously. TestingCatalog first spotted references to GPT-Bidi-1 last week, with internal code reportedly describing it as a "major leap in intelligence" and "the next generation of Voice."

The model is said to make conversations feel more natural. For example, it can reportedly respond with brief acknowledgements such as "okay" when a user pauses or slows down, without interrupting the conversation.

GPT-Bidi-1 is also said to handle interruptions more smoothly. If a user asks it to count from one to ten and then interrupts midway to reverse the count, the assistant can reportedly adjust immediately.

Perhaps the biggest change is its



ability to maintain the flow of a long conversation. Instead of losing track of earlier context, GPT-Bidi-1 is said to remember previous parts of the discussion and continue responding accordingly. Reports also suggest it no longer jumps into conversations during longer pauses, a behaviour that has sometimes frustrated users of ChatGPT's current voice mode.

According to reports, GPT-Bidi-1 could appear in ChatGPT's model selector alongside the standard and advanced voice options. Users who select the model may see the voice bubble turn yellow.

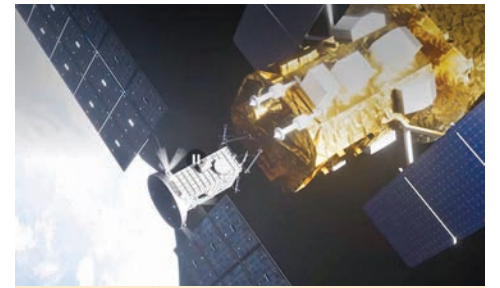
These details are based on code references, user interface sightings, and early user tests reported by multiple outlets. However, OpenAI has not published a technical whitepaper or engineering blog detailing the model's

capabilities.

A recent report from TestingCatalog suggests that GPT-Bidi-1 has already begun rolling out to a small group of ChatGPT app users, raising the possibility of a broader release in the coming days.

The report also notes that GPT-Bidi-1 could help OpenAI close the gap between its powerful text models and its older voice technology. That matters because the company is increasingly betting that speech, rather than typing, will become the primary way many people interact with AI in the future.

If the reports prove accurate, GPT-Bidi-1 could make conversations with ChatGPT feel less like talking to a chatbot and more like speaking with a person who can listen, understand, and respond in real time.



Nasa to push a telescope falling to Earth away from it with another spacecraft

Satellites don't always stay in orbit. As they get closer to Earth, atmospheric drag can pull them lower and lower until they burn up, with solar activity speeding up the process.

NASA's Swift Space Observatory is facing that fate -- its orbit is decaying, and if left alone, it will be destroyed in a matter of months.

But in a first-of-its-kind mission, Katalyst Space, a startup, is teaming up with NASA to try and rescue Swift using the company's newly developed robotic spacecraft, LINK.

"This is a historic mission, you know, some would call it the first of its kind, a robotic spacecraft that can go and capture an unprepared satellite," said Robert Lamontagne, vice president of strategic partnerships at Katalyst Space. Swift's original orbit was around 370 miles above the Earth's surface. But over the years, it's fallen to less than 250 miles, according to NASA. Now it's a race against the clock to keep Swift from falling even further and burning up in Earth's atmosphere.

To save the satellite before time runs out, the Arizona-based company built its 935-pound rescue spacecraft in just 250 days. LINK was designed to physically interact with Swift despite the observatory not being designed for this kind of operation.

"Over the last nine months, we have gone from a clean sheet to a spacecraft that is currently integrated on a rocket, on an airplane ready to go to college for launch," added Kieran Wilson, the principal investigator for LINK at Katalyst Space. "This is an absolutely unprecedented development timeline for this program."

If all goes as planned, LINK will be launched into space on Saturday aboard a Northrop Grumman Pegasus XL rocket, which will be launched from a Lockheed L-1011 TriStar carrier aircraft taking off from Kwajalein Atoll in the South Pacific.

Once in orbit, it will take about three weeks for LINK to rendezvous with and capture the 22-year-old observatory. Over two to three months, the spacecraft will use its thrusters to raise Swift into a more stable orbit.

The two will then separate as LINK lowers itself back into Earth's atmosphere, where it will burn up, keeping it from adding to the rest of the space debris in our orbit.

Competition in the smart glasses market is heating up. Last month, Google said it is developing new AI-powered eyewear in partnership with Warby Parker that will use its Gemini AI model. More recently, Snap announced Specs, a pair of smart glasses priced at \$2,195 (around Rs 2.06 lakh), which CEO Evan Spiegel described as the successor to the smartphone. Now, Meta has entered the spotlight with a more affordable option.

The company announced a new range of Meta Glasses starting at \$299 (around Rs 28,100), making them at least \$80 cheaper than the entry-level second-generation Meta Ray-Ban glasses. The new glasses are also significantly more affordable than the Ray-Ban Display glasses launched last year for \$799 (around Rs 75,100).

Although developed in collaboration with Luxottica, the new Meta Glasses are the first in the company's lineup not to carry one of the eyewear giant's well-known brands, such as Ray-Ban or Oakley. The glasses come in new colours and frame styles, including a rectangular design and a slim oval collection created in partnership with media personality Kylie Jenner.

Meta takes on Google and Snap with cheaper AI smart glasses



The new devices are also the first AI glasses from Meta to launch with Meta AI powered by Muse Spark, the first model developed by the company's Superintelligence Labs. While the glasses do not include a display, they feature a built-in camera and personal speakers. Users can interact with Meta AI through voice commands to translate languages, understand what they are seeing, or capture photos and videos of their surroundings.

Although the smart glasses market remains relatively small, Meta and EssilorLuxottica currently dominate the

category with an estimated market share of more than 80 per cent. The companies have sold millions of units since launching their first smart glasses in 2021.

Meta has invested billions of dollars in its pursuit of what it calls "personal intelligence," betting that AI-powered gadgets and electronics will help bring artificial intelligence directly to consumers.

Mark Zuckerberg has found greater success with smart glasses than with virtual reality headsets, which played a key role in Facebook's rebranding to Meta in 2021. While virtual reality remains a niche market largely focused on gamers, Zuckerberg is increasingly focused on building and controlling a hardware platform for the AI era.

With Google, Snap, and Meta all pushing aggressively into smart eyewear, the race to make AI-powered glasses the next major computing device is clearly gaining momentum.

Crude oil falls below \$75, its lowest level since Iran war started

JUNE 25, 2026

HOUSTON (TIP): Benchmark oil prices fell more than \$3 to their lowest level since before the start of the Iran war as supply concerns eased with more stranded oil tankers exiting the Strait of Hormuz. US crude futures, meanwhile, slipped below \$70 a barrel to their lowest since March 2. Brent crude futures, the global benchmark, were down \$3.08, or 4.02%, at \$73.98 a barrel as of 1715 GMT, and US West Texas Intermediate was down \$3.13, or 4.06%, to \$73.95 a barrel. Brent touched a low of \$73.22, its weakest since February 27, the day before US-Israeli strikes on Iran.

Around 20 million barrels of crude oil have exited the Strait of Hormuz in the last 24 hours, US Energy Secretary Chris Wright said on Wednesday at the Reuters Global Energy Forum in New York, adding that a return to normal oil flows was delayed due to Iranian mines in the strait.

Iran will not have the ability to block the strait going forward, Wright said, adding the US will ensure flows even without a deal with Tehran.

Three stranded tankers carrying 5 million barrels of crude oil were exiting the strait on Wednesday, with two heading to Asia, shipping data showed, as the interim deal between Iran and the US unlocks more supply stuck in the Gulf.

Physical crude oil cargoes were selling at discounts across the globe, changing trade flows as markets come under pressure from fast-rising Middle Eastern supply with Iran set to boost sales following a temporary reprieve from US sanctions.

Prices for Brent crude for second-month delivery were also trading higher than prices for prompt delivery for the first time since the war, a sign of increased near-term supply.

“Positive signals from the Persian Gulf are fuelling optimism about oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz. Vessel crossings increased in recent days, although they remain well below pre-war levels,” ING analysts wrote in a note.

The US also authorized Iranian oil sales this week, easing decades-old sanctions as it pushes toward a final peace deal with Tehran in return for commitments on nuclear



inspections and free transit through the Strait of Hormuz.

“If sanctions are eased, Iranian production and exports could ramp up relatively quickly given the substantial amount stored on tankers — we are likely talking weeks rather than months,” said Tim Waterer, chief market analyst at KCM Trade.

Oman said it would keep the Strait of Hormuz open to shipping without imposing tolls and had designated two temporary routes north and south of the existing shipping lane to facilitate the safe passage of vessels leaving the region.

Uncertainty remains over the durability of the US-Iran accord, even as US President Donald Trump said on Wednesday that Iran is making very big concessions. “We’re winning by a lot. Iran is making very big concessions. We’ll see what happens,” Trump told reporters.

US inventories remained tight on strong refining demand and amid a release of oil from the government’s emergency stash. US crude stocks, including commercial and those in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, fell by 15.1 million barrels to 743.3 million barrels in the week ended June 19, the EIA said, the lowest level since 1984.

J.P. Morgan on Wednesday lowered its second-half 2026 Brent crude oil price forecast due to lower-than-expected OECD commercial inventory draws and softer demand for oil.

Amazon to invest \$13 billion in India after PM Modi meet

JUNE 26, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): Amazon’s Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Andy Jassy, who is currently on a visit to India, has announced an additional \$13 billion investment in the co-untry. The announcement, wh-ich came after Jassy met Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi in the national capital on Thursday, takes the company’s total planned investment in India to nearly \$48 billion by 2030.

The fresh investment bet co-mes six months after the e-commerce (ecom) major said it will invest \$35 billion across all its businesses in India through 2030. With this, Amazon said that its cumulative investment in India from 2010-2030 stands at over \$88 billion, making it one of the largest global artificial intelligence (AI) and cloud infrastructure investors in the cou-n-try. Of the total \$48 billion investment, the firm will put in around \$21 billion to expand AI and cloud infrastructure.

Amazon said the investment will expand AWS data centre capacity in Mumbai and Hyderabad, giving startups, enterprises, and government organisations access to custom AI chips, managed AI services, secure cloud technologies, and developer tools. In addition to strengthening AI capabilities, Amazon said it will continue investing in its ecom and quick commerce (qcom) businesses.

Jassy’s visit comes at a time when the ecom giant is going through its most-contested period yet, as home-grown qcom rivals Blinkit, Zepto, Swiggy Instamart, and Walmart-owned Flipkart aggressively expand their dark-store networks to capture a larger share of the country’s fast-growing online grocery market.

The company said it plans to launch over 20 new fulfilment



centres and over 100 new last-mile delivery stations this year, with a focus on Tier-III and -IV cities. “We came to India over a decade ago and have since been serving customers, sellers, developers, startups, and enterprises through our different businesses. The response has been tremendous, with strong growth especially across our ecom, AI, and cloud businesses,” said Jassy in a statement.

He added, “We are inspired by Prime Minister Modi’s vision of a Viksit and Atmanirbhar Bharat, and we are committed to being a long-term partner in India’s growth story.”

Since its launch in India, Amazon said it has digitised 12 million small businesses, ena-b-led over \$20 billion in cumulative ecom exports, and su-pported 2.8 million jobs.

Going ahead, the company said it is committed to support 3.8 million jobs, \$80 billion in cumulative exports, enabling AI benefits for 15 million small businesses, and AI education for 4 million government school students.

Elon Musk no longer a trillionaire as SpaceX, Tesla shares decline

Elon Musk is no longer a trillionaire after a sharp fall in the share prices of Tesla and SpaceX wiped billions from his fortune. The world’s richest person saw his net worth drop below the \$1 trillion mark following a broader sell-off in technology stocks.

According to Bloomberg’s Billionaires Index, Musk’s net worth stood at around \$957 billion as of June 24, 2026, a decline of about \$118 billion from the previous day. Despite the setback, he remains comfortably ahead of everyone else on the global rich list.

The decline in Musk’s fortune came after investors sold technology stocks amid concerns about an artificial intelligence-driven market bubble and the possibility of higher interest rates.

The biggest blow came from SpaceX, whose shares have fallen sharply in recent days. The stock closed at around \$156 on Tuesday, more than 30% below its peak of \$225 reached shortly after the company’s highly anticipated public listing earlier this month.

Tesla shares have also been affected by the wider market weakness, further adding to the pressure on Musk’s wealth.

Here, it must be mentioned that SpaceX had briefly pushed Musk into trillionaire territory earlier this month after its initial public offering valued the company at more than \$2 trillion.

The strong rally in SpaceX shares after its market debut was driven by investor excitement around the company’s ambitious long-term plans, including space-based data centres and future missions to Mars.

However, some analysts have questioned whether the company’s valuation can be justified at current levels.

Investor concerns have also been fuelled by financial disclosures showing that SpaceX reported a loss of \$4.9 billion in 2025. Its artificial intelligence business reportedly spent heavily on expansion, with capital expenditure reaching \$12.7 billion.

Market participants are also closely watching the upcoming expiry of the lock-up period. Once restrictions are lifted, early investors and insiders will be able to sell some of their shares, which could create additional pressure on the stock price. The event is expected to be an important test of investor confidence in the company following its blockbuster listing.

While Musk’s fortune has fallen, he still remains far ahead of the world’s second-richest person.

Google co-founder Larry Page is currently estimated to be worth around \$297 billion, according to Bloomberg. His wealth also declined recently, though by a much smaller amount.

The gap between Musk and Page remains enormous, highlighting the scale of Musk’s holdings in both Tesla and SpaceX.



BEJAN DARUWALLA AND CHIRAG DARUWALLA

ARIES



Ganesha says this may be an energetic week for you and may result in sudden outbursts on several occasions. You should be proactive and try to make provision for immediate uncertainty. You may be restless and may wander throughout this week. Students may lose concentration for various reasons. Children may have success in foreign countries. They may feel happy about the increase in earnings. A spouse may be restless or weak because of overstress and strain. He/she may suffer from inferior feelings. This is not a good time for relations with a spouse. Father may have a philosophical outlook for this week. He may make fearless journeys to extreme places. Elder siblings may have joy because of childbirth. Younger siblings will be successful in important matters.

TAURUS



Ganesha says this may be a supporting week for you. You will get good recognition and support from superiors and fellow workers. This is the right time to pen down your plans. You should seek the collective support of subordinates and colleagues for an inspiring achievement. You will do well in foreign assignments or projects. Students may plan or schedule more time for studying. Children may divorce or leave a spouse for a minor issue. They may not be in a position to compromise with life. A spouse may have speculative losses throughout this week. Father will enjoy financial growth after a long time. He may initiate a new project for long-term gain. Elderly siblings may suffer from health complications. Younger siblings may be frustrated by the delay in getting clearance for Visa.

GEMINI



Ganesha says this may be a normal week for you. You may hesitate to make even minor decisions in life. You may hide your inadequacy in the name of faith in God. There may be challenging situations in your office. You may be assured of a better position in the future. This may be a tough week to complete assignments without delay. Students need to be watchful in their presentations. Children may have grand success with partnership business. They may make good money in speculation. A spouse may be transferred to a distant location. He/she may be confident about prospects. Father may pass the tough time in his career. They may be work-averse throughout this week. Elder siblings may be aggressive

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - JUNE 29, 2026 TO JULY 05, 2026

BY ASTROLOGER CHIRAG DARUWALLA

during this week. They should not make important decisions at this time. Younger siblings may decide to marry a person among relatives.

CANCER



Ganesha says this may be a remunerative week for you. This is a suitable time for agents, commission brokers, or any other intermediate services. Personal and official responsibilities may fill up your mind with pressure. You should make yourself comfortable with prior planning. Students may have more confidence than before. Children may have grand success in official matters. They may enjoy a wide reputation in society. Spouses will have trouble from secret enemies. He/she may be worried about entangled money. Father may have success through business operations. He may raise an overdraft to meet personal expenses. Elder siblings may decide on a marriage alliance. They may be worried about future financial prospects. Younger siblings may bring new troubles in life with rash and reckless behavior.

LEO



Ganesha says this may be a pleasant week for you. There may be surprising gains during this week. During this week you might also improve your projection in the market. You need to do a little harder work to settle down in life. You should not fall into the trap of some deceitful people. It is better to live with old friends rather than make new ones. Students may get decent results for their hard work. Children may have trouble with spouses or debtors. They may have heavy work pressure throughout this week. A spouse may face complex situations at work location. He/she may lend money to doubtful persons. Father may succeed in court litigation. Elder siblings may invest huge amounts in lands or speculative activities. Younger siblings may escape from major accidents on long journeys.

VIRGO



Ganesha says this may be an inspiring week for you and may fill up your brain with confidence. You may be optimistic about a few projects for which you are waiting. This is an excellent week for middlemen. People may find it difficult to understand your perceptions. Your words may sound challenging to others. Students may feel a real urge for education and knowledge. Children may have fluctuations in health. They may have a lethargic outlook for this week. Spouses will have a considerable hike in remuneration. He/she may plan for a big leap in a career. Father may have success in an interview, or he may be successful in getting a new job. Elder siblings may be cheated by close friends or lovers. This is not a bright time for initiating new activities. Younger siblings may become popular for their outstanding performance.



LIBRA

Ganesha says this may be a prosperous week for you and help you in your career through old friends or elder siblings. Some indiscreet decisions may bring huge monetary losses. You may bag decent profits for your previous investments. This is a very positive week for a high rating in appraisals. There will be all-round success with minor disturbances. Students may get outstanding results for their performance. Children may celebrate marriage during this week. A spouse may have major changes in a career without clear intimation. He/she may get reversed without any reason. Fathers may have problems with business partners. He may undertake speculative activities which may prove futile at a later date. Elder siblings will be helpful in important aspects of life. Younger siblings may be promoted to the next designation.

SCORPIO



Ganesha says this may be a positive week for you. You may get good recognition for your views and plans. Superiors may appreciate your innovative thoughts. You should be more practical rather than impulsive. Financial pressure may worry you for a while. Students may succeed in getting positive results. Children may have sharp fevers or a headache. They may fail in an examination. Spouses will enjoy prosperity in their careers. Fathers may have mixed results in career matters. He may be perplexed by the delay in getting the promotion. Elder siblings may have trouble with spouses or break up in love matters. Younger siblings may enjoy the comfort of a new conveyance or house. They may have good profits in commission-based activity.

SAGITTARIUS



Ganesha says this may be a dragging week for you. You may not have sufficient confidence to take up new responsibilities. It is troublesome to plan for long journeys. Relations with a superior may dwindle for various reasons. There may be decent returns for small investments in the business. Students may ruin exams because of over-excitement. Children may have a love affair with a colleague or classmate. They should realize the importance of time and effort. A spouse may have financial benefits from the current organization. He/she may suffer from digestive problems or constipation. Father may leave for a long journey. Elder siblings may enjoy a good name in society but a bad time at the house. Younger siblings may elevate to a higher status because of hard work and toil.

CAPRICORN



Ganesha says this may be a dynamic week for you and may revitalize

your constitution. You will be active and athletic throughout this week. You should be very strict with your financial decisions. Expenses may outweigh income. You may be overwhelmed by some happenings at your work location. Students may lack concentration because of some tempting reasons. Children may have challenging situations abroad. They may not be able to bring balance to their financial status. A spouse may have attitude problems with superiors. He/she may not be satisfied with status. Father may have strong opposition at the office. He may be charged with illicit activity. Elder siblings may be involved in a love matter. Younger siblings may land in foreign countries.

AQUARIUS



Ganesha says this may be a challenging week for you. People may not let you go. You may be entrusted with challenging assignments which are opportunities to prove your abilities. You should spend more time on career matters to attain perfection. Utmost care should be taken by the people engaged with technical know-how. Students will enjoy great success in their efforts. Children may have financial troubles throughout this week. Spouses will have success in foreign countries. He/she may be delighted with positive communication. Fathers may have an uplift in their careers after a long delay. Elder siblings may be fined for an illicit activity in business. Younger siblings may terminate a partnership business after a long contemplation.

PISCES



Ganesha says this may be a memorable week for you. Success is likely in professional matters. You may fall in love during this week. People engaged in government employment may benefit. This is a suitable week to initiate the search for a better job. Venus in the 8th house may cause vehicular accidents during night hours. You will have a good time with friends and family members. Students may have success in their efforts. Children may be involved in love matters with a person from a different community. A spouse may have sudden expenditure by the end of this week. He/she may have conflicts with younger siblings. Father may have a philosophical outlook this week. They may like to have a secluded life. Elder siblings may celebrate marriage after a long delay. Younger siblings may start a business.

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 : JUNE 29 TO JULY 5 BY ASTROLOGER CHIRAG DARUWALLA

JUNE 29

Ganesha says today is an action-packed day for you. Your energy is at an all-time high, and your mind is racing with new ideas. Whether it's a business project or a personal ambition, the time has come to take the first step. Your excitement, on the other hand, may overwhelm others around you. Keep in mind that not everyone can keep up with your pace. Today is a wonderful day to assess your investments, but avoid making any rash decisions. Your charisma is attractive in partnerships. Use this energy to repair any broken relationships or to strengthen current ones.

JUNE 30

Ganesha says you'll find yourself in a reflective mindset today. Today is ideal for reflection and self-discovery. Financial opportunities abound, but they necessitate cautious planning. Don't make any decisions without first assessing the benefits and drawbacks. Your attention to detail will capture the notice of someone prominent in your professional life. Be open to partnerships because this could be the start of a profitable partnership. You may experience an emotional desire for

steadiness. Reach out to loved ones; their support will give you the stability you need.

JULY 1

Ganesha says it is a good day to practice your communication talents. Whether you're giving a presentation at work or having a heart-to-heart with a loved one, your words will have a big impact. Be cautious, however, as misinterpretation is possible. Check your emails twice and think before you speak. You're on fire creatively. If you've been considering beginning a new project, now is the moment. Today, your intuition is especially strong, helping you through critical judgments. Listen to your inner voice; it is currently your finest advisor.

JULY 2

Ganesha says today is a day for emotional equilibrium. You may be juggling several duties at work and home. While it may be difficult, your natural inclination to nurture people will bring you through. Professionally, you will most likely be recognized for a job well done. Enjoy the moment, but remember that it is only the beginning.

Financially, the day is stable, although an unexpected expense may arise. Make a backup plan in case something goes wrong. Your empathic disposition can help you connect on a deeper level with your loved ones in partnerships.

JULY 3

Ganesha says today is a day of contrasts for you. On the one hand, your self-assurance is out of this world, making you the focus of attention wherever you go. On the other hand, you may experience a sudden desire for isolation. Balance is essential. Professionally, a difficult scenario will develop, but your leadership abilities will help you effectively navigate it. Today is not the day for high-risk investments; it is not the day for gambles. Your charisma is unstoppable in love and relationships. However, keep your partner's needs in mind; it's not all about you.

JULY 4

Ganesha says your analytical thinking is sharper than ever today. You'll discover solutions to issues that have been bugging you for some time. Your productivity at work will not go



unnoticed. Expect favorable feedback, which could lead to larger possibilities in the future. It's a terrific day to go over your budget and make any required changes. Your realistic attitude will save you money in the future. You may feel a little disconnected in relationships. To avoid misunderstandings, it is critical to explain your feelings openly.

JULY 5

Ganesha says today is a day of harmony and balance for you. Your diplomatic abilities will be tested in both professional and personal contexts. You may find yourself negotiating conflicting parties at work. Your sound judgment will gain you respect and, maybe, a larger role in future projects. Today is a good day to indulge financially. While pampering oneself is important, don't overdo it. Your charisma is on full display in relationships. It's a great day for meaningful chats and developing relationships with loved ones.

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMA ||



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

CONTD FROM PAGE 1

Death toll in Venezuela earthquakes reaches 235, around 4,300 injured

magnitude earthquakes that struck on Wednesday evening, which was among the strongest in Venezuela in more than a century and was felt throughout the region.

Thousands were reported missing and buildings were evacuated as far away as Brazil's Amazon.

In response to the devastation, the US Treasury on Thursday moved to waive some sanctions until October 23 to allow transactions related to earthquake relief efforts in Venezuela that would otherwise be prohibited.

Meanwhile, in cities across northern Venezuela, panicked residents poured into the streets and searched for the missing in the debris.

The injured were pulled out of the rubble covered in dust and blood, among them children and animals. Venezuelan state TV showed dramatic images of rescues, including a woman who was trapped under a cement slab, only a barefoot poking out before crews managed to get her out alive. But few government search teams were seen outside Caracas.

Dayana Delgado, mother of three children, asked where the heavy machinery was that government officials had promised, pointing out that neighbors were the ones digging through the rubble.

"I want to know where my child is, if he's trapped or in a shelter," she said of her eight-year-old son who was missing.

One mother sobbed and collapsed in grief as the bodies of her three- and ten-year-old children were wrapped in blankets and carried away. Others screamed the names of missing loved ones. Some stood in silent shock.

The coastal region of La Guaira -- north of the capital, Caracas -- suffered some of the heaviest damage and casualties. The country's main airport is there and was closed due to damage, complicating aid efforts.

Retired schoolteacher Juan Alberto Mendano climbed through wreckage in La Guaira and past a dead body when he spotted a woman who was trapped and signaling with her hand for help.

"May God rescue her as quickly as possible," said Mendano. "When we heard the scream, there was nothing we could do."

Offers to send aid and supplies poured in from around the world, including from the United States, which seized Venezuela's then-president Nicolas Maduro at the beginning of the year in a surprise military operation.

The natural disaster is just the latest challenge for acting President Delcy Rodriguez, the former vice president who took office in January after Maduro's capture. Venezuela has been facing economic disarray for more than a decade, and many people reject the legitimacy of the political movement Rodriguez represents. (Source: AP)

India-US trade deal near, but key issues still unresolved: Asia Society Policy Institute experts

Institute (ASPI), said that "Despite substantial progress made in recent meetings, concluding a trade

deal with India is proving illusive."

She added, "Each side has its own priorities and redlines which continue to prevent a successful conclusion. Moreover, developments over the last year have produced a serious trust deficit on the part of Delhi, which makes wrapping things up more complicated."

According to Cutler, India is seeking greater clarity on tariff arrangements before finalizing any agreement. She said, "India very much wants a preferential tariff edge over its competitors, so it is in no hurry to conclude until there is further clarity on tariff rates and product exclusions. Moreover, it is seeking assurances from Washington on no further tariff hikes, which most likely is a bridge too far for the Trump team."

While welcoming reports of progress, she cautioned that the final stage of negotiations is often the most difficult. She said, "Being very close on concluding a trade deal is welcome news, but it is typically the final remaining matters that are the toughest to resolve, meaning expect further rounds between negotiators."

Farwa Aamer, Director of South Asia Initiatives at ASPI, said sustained engagement from both governments points to the possibility of an agreement, though challenges remain.

She said, "The sustained effort from both sides shows promise toward the deal, but not without a fair share of speed bumps and lingering uncertainty."

She noted that broader geopolitical factors have influenced the negotiations. She added, "The wider geopolitical divergences between New Delhi and Washington have also impacted the way at least India has been coming to the negotiating table, cooperative but more assertive. There is also a lot of domestic pressure on the Indian leadership to secure a balanced and fair deal so that tracks."

Aamer said an interim agreement could provide a boost to the broader bilateral relationship. She said, "If the talks do come to fruition and an interim deal is reached within the anticipated timeframe, it would certainly help the otherwise strained US-India ties and lend some momentum to other areas of cooperation. Both countries will benefit from a comprehensive deal."

She also highlighted India's efforts to diversify its trade partnerships. She added, "It is important to note how India is proactively engaging other trade partners in tandem. US trade policy has fast-tracked the hedging behavior, and India recognizes the need to expand the trade portfolio, aiming to reduce vulnerabilities where possible." (Source: ANI)

"Peacebuilding must be demand-driven & anchored in national ownership":

Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni at UN

the PBC Annual Session marking 20 years of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture during the inaugural Peacebuilding Week and highlighted that "peacebuilding must be demand-driven & anchored in national ownership; Partnerships should rest on trust, dignity & equality, and move beyond donor-recipient approach; True test of peacebuilding: building national capacity & institutional resilience; India remains committed to the Women, Peace and Security Agenda especially in Peacebuilding."

During the General Assembly debate, Ambassador Parvathaneni commended the progress made during the 19th Session of the Peacebuilding Commission, noting the successful completion of the fourth review of the peacebuilding architecture and the presentation of the first national peacebuilding strategy. He also welcomed the General Assembly's approval of a \$50 million assessed contribution to the Peacebuilding Fund.

However, the Ambassador expressed deep concern regarding the financial health of the UN's peacebuilding efforts. Pointing to a report from the Secretary-General, he highlighted a three-year decline in voluntary contributions and noted that the organisation's ongoing liquidity crisis has further constrained the availability of funds.

To maximize impact under these fiscal limitations, he urged that resource prioritization be firmly directed toward "post-conflict settings."

"The Secretary General's report on the

Peacebuilding Fund notes a decline in voluntary contributions over the past three years. At the same time, the Organization's ongoing liquidity situation has constrained the availability of assessed contributions for peacebuilding activities. This is a concerning pattern. To ensure greater impact within reduced resources, resource prioritization should be directed to post-conflict settings. We would like to see further progress on this front during the development of the Fund's next Strategy," he said.

Addressing the theme of "UN Peacebuilding@20: Partnerships for Innovation, Inclusion and Impact," Ambassador Parvathaneni stressed that effective peacebuilding must move beyond the traditional donor-recipient model. He argued that the process should be demand-driven, reflecting the specific priorities and needs defined by national governments, while the international community provides necessary financial and technical support.

The Ambassador underscored that building institutional resilience and national capacity must be the cornerstone of these efforts. He reaffirmed that fostering trust-based partnerships is only possible if national ownership remains the central principle of all peacebuilding activities.

"We recognize the importance of fostering trust-based partnerships to advance peacebuilding and sustain peace. Such partnerships can be built provided national ownership remains the central principle across all peacebuilding activities," he said.

"Moreover, peacebuilding must move beyond the traditional donor-recipient approach. It should be demand-driven, reflecting the needs and priorities of national governments, with the international community playing a supportive role by providing financial and technical assistance. Additionally, peacebuilding should prioritize building institutional resilience and national capacity in post-conflict settings," he added.

Closing his remarks, Ambassador Parvathaneni highlighted India's active role in the Women, Peace, and Security agenda. He noted that the recognition of India's Major Abhilasha Barak as the 2025 Military Gender Advocate of the Year reaffirms India's commitment to these goals.

He concluded by reiterating India's readiness to collaborate with all international partners and share its unique experience in nation-building to advance the cause of sustainable peace.

"Earlier this month, India's Major Abhilasha Barak was named the 2025 Military Gender Advocate of the Year. It reaffirms our commitment to the Women, Peace, and Security agenda, especially in peacebuilding. We stand ready to work with all partners on peacebuilding and to share our unique experience in nation-building," the Ambassador affirmed.

The first annual UN Peacebuilding Week (June 22 - 26) serves as a dedicated platform to advance dialogue, share experiences, and strengthen partnerships across the global peacebuilding community. The primary purpose of this inaugural event is to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the UN Peacebuilding Commission and the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund, both established in 2006. (Source: ANI)

Sant Kabir Das Jayanti: Celebrating Life, philosophy and timeless teachings of mystic saint

Sant Kabir Das occupies a unique and revered place in the spiritual history of India. A mystic poet, social reformer and saint of the Bhakti movement, Kabir transcended religious boundaries and preached the message of universal brotherhood, devotion and inner realization. Every year, Sant Guru Kabir Das Jayanti is celebrated with great devotion on the full moon day (Purnima) of the Hindu month of Jyeshtha, commemorating the birth anniversary of one of India's greatest spiritual luminaries.

Kabir Das Jayanti will be celebrated on Monday, June 29, this year.

Kabir's teachings, expressed through simple yet profound couplets known as dohas, continue to inspire millions across the world. His message of love, compassion, equality and direct communion with the Divine remains as relevant today as it was over five centuries ago.

The Life of Sant Kabir Das

The exact details of Kabir's birth remain shrouded in legend and spiritual lore. According to popular tradition, Kabir was born in the fifteenth century, around 1398 CE, in or near Varanasi, one of India's holiest cities. It is widely believed that he was raised by a humble Muslim weaver couple, Niru and Nima, who belonged to the Julaha community.

Kabir spent much of his life as a weaver, earning his livelihood through honest labour. Despite his modest social background, he emerged as one of the most influential saints of medieval India.

Many traditions hold that Kabir became a disciple of the renowned Bhakti saint Ramananda. Legend narrates that Kabir, eager to receive spiritual initiation from Ramananda, lay on the steps leading to the Ganges where the saint used to bathe. When Ramananda accidentally stepped on him in the darkness and uttered "Ram, Ram," Kabir accepted these sacred words as his mantra and considered Ramananda his guru.

Throughout his life, Kabir travelled extensively, spreading his spiritual message among people from all walks of life. He challenged social inequalities, religious orthodoxy and empty rituals, advocating instead a direct, personal experience of God.

It is believed that Kabir attained Mahasamadhi at Maghar. According to tradition, after his passing, Hindus and Muslims disputed over his last rites. When the cloth covering his body was removed, only flowers were found, symbolizing the saint's transcendence of religious divisions. Both communities then performed their respective rites, underscoring Kabir's lifelong message of unity.

Kabir's Spiritual Philosophy



At the heart of Kabir's philosophy lies the belief in the oneness of God. He rejected sectarian divisions and emphasized that the Divine is beyond names, forms and religious labels.

For Kabir, God was neither exclusively Hindu nor Muslim. He proclaimed that the same Supreme Reality is worshipped under different names.

One of his famous sayings declares:

"Kankar pathar jor ke, masjid layi chunaye,

Ta chad mulla bang de, kya bahra hua Khudaye?"

Through such verses, Kabir questioned external religious practices and urged seekers to discover God within their own hearts.

The Concept of Nirguna Bhakti

Kabir is regarded as a leading exponent of Nirguna Bhakti-devotion to a formless, attributeless God. Unlike traditions centred on idol worship, Kabir emphasized inward spirituality and direct mystical experience.

He taught that God resides within every living being and can be realized through sincere devotion, self-purification and constant remembrance of the Divine Name.

His celebrated verse states:

"Moko kahan dhoonde re bande, main to tere paas mein."

("Where do you seek Me, O seeker? I am close to you.")

This simple yet profound teaching reminds humanity that spiritual realization lies within, not merely in external places of worship.

Kabir's Teachings

1. Unity of Humanity

Kabir strongly opposed caste discrimination and social hierarchy. He believed that all human beings are equal in the eyes of God.

He famously said:

"Jaat na pucho sadhu ki, pooch lijiye gyaan."

("Ask not the caste of a saint; ask about his wisdom.")

Kabir envisioned a society free from prejudice, discrimination and social divisions.

2. Rejection of Empty Rituals

Kabir criticized blind adherence to rituals, ceremonies and dogma. He observed that true spirituality cannot be attained through outward practices alone.

He urged people to cultivate purity of heart, compassion and self-realization rather than merely performing religious formalities.

3. Importance of the Guru

Kabir accorded immense importance to the spiritual guru, considering the Guru as the guide who illuminates the path to Divine realization.

His famous doha states:

"Guru Govind dou khade, kake lagu paay,

Balihari Guru aapne, Govind diyo bataye."

("When both Guru and God stand before me, whose feet should I touch first? I bow to the Guru, who showed me the path to God.")

4. Honest Living and Simplicity

Kabir advocated a life of simplicity, humility and honest labour. As a weaver himself, he demonstrated that spiritual growth does not require renunciation of worldly duties.

He taught that one can realize God while fulfilling responsibilities with sincerity and detachment.

5. Love as the Supreme Path

Love formed the essence of Kabir's spiritual message. He believed that Divine love transcends all barriers and leads the soul to liberation.

According to Kabir, the path of love demands surrender of ego, selfishness and pride.

Relevance of Kabir's Teachings Today

In a world increasingly marked by divisions, intolerance and materialism, Kabir's message remains profoundly relevant. His teachings encourage humanity to rise above religious and social barriers, embrace compassion and seek inner transformation.

Kabir reminds us that true religion is not found in external symbols but in kindness, truthfulness and selfless love. His timeless wisdom continues to inspire spiritual seekers, scholars and ordinary people alike.

As devotees celebrate Sant Guru Kabir Das Jayanti, they not only honour the birth of a saint but also reaffirm the eternal values of harmony, equality and universal love that Kabir championed throughout his life. His voice, resonating through centuries, continues to guide humanity towards a more compassionate and spiritually awakened world.

History This Week

JUNE 26 - JULY 02

JUNE 26

June 26, 1893 - Illinois Gov. John P. Altgeld issued a controversial pardon for three anarchists convicted after the Haymarket Riot. The riot had occurred in Chicago in May of 1886, after 180 police officers advanced on 1,300 persons listening to speeches by labor activists and anarchists. A bomb was thrown. Seven police were killed and over 50 wounded. Four anarchists were then charged with conspiracy to kill, convicted and hanged while another committed suicide in jail. Three others were given lengthy jail terms, then pardoned by Gov. Altgeld in a move that likely cost him his political career.

June 26, 1945 - The United Nations Charter was signed in San Francisco by 50 nations. The Charter was ratified on October 24, 1945.



Birthday - American author Pearl Buck (1892-1973) was born in Hillsboro, West Virginia. She became a noted authority on China and wrote books including *The Good Earth* which revealed the mysterious Chinese culture to Western readers. She received a Nobel Prize in 1938 for her many books.

Birthday - Champion athlete Mildred "Babe" Didrikson (1911-1956) was born in Port Arthur, Texas. Nicknamed after baseball legend Babe Ruth, she won two gold medals at the 1932 Olympics, setting world records in the javelin throw and high hurdle. She then took up golf, winning the 1946 U.S. Women's Amateur Tournament. In 1947, she won 17 straight golf championships and became the first American winner of the British Ladies' Amateur Tournament. As a pro golfer, she won the U.S. Women's Open in 1950 and 1954. She also excelled in softball, baseball, swimming, figure skating, billiards, and even football. In 1950, she was named 'woman athlete of the first half of the 20th century' by the Associated Press. She died of cancer at age 45.

JUNE 27



Birthday - American musician Mildred J. Hill (1859-1916) was born in Louisville, Kentucky. She composed the melody for what is now the world's most often sung song, *Happy Birthday to You*.

JUNE 28

June 28, 1862 - During the American Civil War, the siege of the Confederate city of Vicksburg began as Admiral David Farragut succeeded in taking a fleet past the Mississippi River stronghold. The siege continued over a year.



June 28, 1914 - Archduke Francis Ferdinand, Crown Prince of Austria and his wife were assassinated at Sarajevo, touching off a conflict between the Austro-Hungarian government and Serbia that escalated into World War I.

June 28, 1919 - The signing of the Treaty of Versailles formally ended World War I. According to the terms, Germany was assessed sole blame for the war, forced give up Alsace-Lorraine and overseas colonies, and pay reparations of \$15 Billion. The treaty also prohibited German rearmament.

Birthday - Flemish painter and diplomat Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) was born in Siegen, Westphalia, Germany. Regarded as the greatest of Flemish painters, he was considered the master artist of his day. He was also skilled in science and politics and spoke seven languages. Among his masterpieces; *Le Coup de Lance* and *The Descent from the Cross*.

Birthday - Philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778) was born in Geneva, Switzerland. His book *The Social Contract* stated that no laws are binding unless agreed upon by the people, a concept that deeply affected the French. In his novel *Emile* he challenged harsh child-rearing methods of his day and argued that young people should be given freedom to enjoy sunlight, exercise and play. "Man is born free," he wrote in *The Social Contract*, "and everywhere he is in chains."

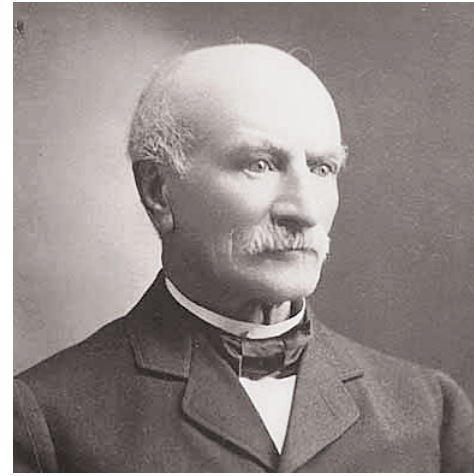
Birthday - German-American physicist Maria Goeppert Mayer (1906-1972) was born in Kattowitz, Germany. She participated in the secret Manhattan Project, the building of the first atomic bomb. She later became the first American woman to win the Nobel Prize, sharing the 1963 prize for physics for works explaining atomic nuclei, known as the nuclear shell theory.

JUNE 29

June 29, 1972 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled (5-4) that capital punishment was a violation of the Eighth Amendment prohibiting "cruel and unusual punishment." The decision spared the lives of 600 individuals then sitting on death row. Four years later, in another ruling, the Court reversed itself and determined the death penalty was not

cruel and unusual punishment. On October 4, 1976, the ban was lifted on the death penalty in cases involving murder.

Birthday - Social worker Julia Lathrop (1858-1932) was born in Rockford, Illinois. She fought to establish child labor laws and was instrumental in establishing the first juvenile court in the U.S. In 1912, President Taft named her to head the newly created Children's Bureau. In 1925, she became a member of the Child Welfare Committee of the League of Nations.



Birthday - American surgeon William Mayo (1861-1939) was born in LeSeuer, Minnesota. He was one of the Mayo brothers, pioneers of the concept of the group clinic, bringing together specialists from a number of medical fields to better perform diagnoses and treatment. The Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, became an internationally known medical center.

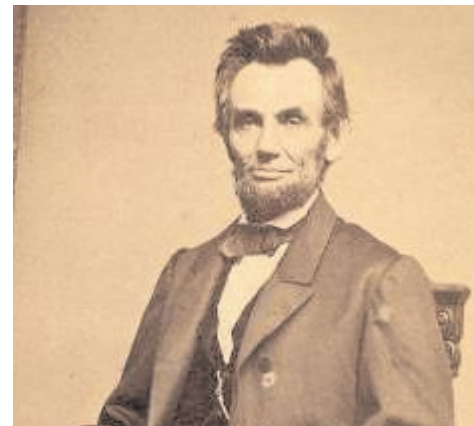
JUNE 30

June 30, 1971 - The 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was enacted, granting the right to vote in all federal, state and local elections to American citizens 18 years or older. The U.S. thus gained an additional 11 million voters. The minimum voting age in most states had been 21.

June 30, 1997 - In Hong Kong, the flag of the British Crown Colony was officially lowered at midnight and replaced by a new flag representing China's sovereignty and the official transfer of power.

JULY 1

July 1st - Canada Day, a national holiday in Canada, formerly known as Dominion Day, commemorating the confederation of Upper and Lower Canada and some of the Maritime Provinces into the Dominion of Canada on July 1, 1867.



July 1, 1862 - President Abraham Lincoln signed the first income tax bill, levying a 3% income tax on annual incomes of \$600-\$10,000 and a 5% tax on incomes over \$10,000. Also on this day, the Bureau of Internal Revenue was

established by an Act of Congress.

July 1, 1863 - Beginning of the Battle of Gettysburg during the American Civil War.

July 1, 1893 - President Grover Cleveland underwent secret cancer surgery aboard a yacht owned by his friend, Commodore E.C. Benedict. The surgery was performed on a cancerous growth in his mouth. The entire left side of his jaw was removed along with a small portion of his soft palate. A second, smaller operation was performed on July 17th. Cleveland was then fitted with a rubber prosthesis which he wore until his death in 1908. The secrecy was intended to prevent panic among the public during the economic depression of 1893.

JULY 2

July 2, 1776 - The Continental Congress in Philadelphia adopted the following resolution, originally introduced on June 7, by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia: "Resolved, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved. That it is expedient forthwith to take the most effectual measures for forming foreign Alliances. That a plan of confederation be prepared and transmitted to the respective Colonies for their consideration and approbation."

July 2, 1788 - Congress announced the United States Constitution had been ratified by the required nine states and that a committee had been appointed to make preparations for the new American government.

July 2, 1881 - President James A. Garfield was shot and mortally wounded as he entered a railway station in Washington, D.C. He died on September 19th.

July 2, 1917 - A race riot occurred in St. Louis, Missouri, resulting in an estimated 75 African Americans killed and hundreds injured. To protest the violence against blacks, W.E.B. DuBois and James Weldon Johnson later led a silent march down Fifth Avenue in New York.



July 2, 1964 - President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race in public accommodations, publicly owned or operated facilities, employment and union membership and in voter registration. The Act allowed for cutoff of Federal funds in places where discrimination remained.

Birthday - The first African American on the U.S. Supreme Court, Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993) was born in Baltimore, Maryland. Nominated by President Johnson, he began his 24-year career on the High Court in 1967.

Mist, Mountains and memories: Exploring the timeless charm of Ooty

Perched at an altitude of about 2,240 metres above sea level in the majestic Nilgiri Hills, Ooty, officially known as Udhagamandalam, is among India's most enchanting hill stations. Fondly called the "Queen of Hill Stations," Ooty has long been a favorite summer retreat for travelers seeking cool weather, breathtaking landscapes and old-world charm. Located in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, this picturesque destination offers a perfect blend of natural beauty, colonial heritage, adventure and tranquility.

A Colonial Legacy Amidst the Clouds

Ooty's transformation into a prominent hill station began during British rule in the early nineteenth century. Captivated by its salubrious climate and scenic surroundings, British officials developed it as the summer headquarters of the Madras Presidency. Even today, the town retains much of its colonial character through elegant churches, heritage buildings, sprawling bungalows and beautifully landscaped gardens.

The pleasant climate, mist-covered hills and vast stretches of tea gardens continue to attract tourists from across India and abroad throughout the year.

Places to Visit in Ooty

1. Ooty Lake

One of the most iconic attractions in Ooty, Ooty Lake is an artificial lake spread over nearly 65 acres. Constructed in 1824 by John Sullivan, the founder of Ooty, the lake is surrounded by eucalyptus trees and lush greenery.

Visitors can enjoy paddle boating, rowing and motor boating while soaking in the serene surroundings. The lakeside area also features horse riding, amusement activities and local food stalls, making it a favourite among families.

2. Government Botanical Garden

Established in 1848, the Government Botanical Garden is one of Ooty's most celebrated attractions. Spread across 55 acres on the slopes of Doddabetta Peak, the garden houses thousands of species of plants, shrubs, ferns, bonsai trees and exotic flowers.

A major highlight is the fossilised tree trunk believed to be over 20 million years old. During May, the annual Flower Show transforms the garden into a spectacular display of colours.

3. Doddabetta Peak

Standing at an elevation of 2,637 metres, Doddabetta is the highest peak in the Nilgiris. It offers breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding valleys, forests and distant plains.

A telescope house at the summit allows visitors to enjoy clearer views of the picturesque landscape. Early mornings



are considered the best time to visit, when the skies are clear and the scenery is at its most spectacular.

4. Nilgiri Mountain Railway

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Nilgiri Mountain Railway is undoubtedly one of Ooty's biggest attractions. The charming blue toy train travels through tunnels, bridges, deep valleys and dense forests between Mettupalayam and Ooty. The journey, covering approximately 46 kilometres, is regarded as one of the most scenic train rides in India and offers unforgettable

views of the Nilgiri landscape.

5. Rose Garden

Spread across several terraces, the Government Rose Garden boasts more than 20,000 varieties of roses. From miniature roses to hybrid tea roses and unusual green and black roses, the garden is a visual delight, especially during blooming season.

It is also one of the largest rose gardens in the country and a paradise for photographers and nature enthusiasts.

6. Pykara Lake and Pykara Falls

Located about 20 kilometres from Ooty, Pykara is known for its pristine lake, dense forests and spectacular waterfalls. Boating facilities are available at Pykara Lake, while the cascading Pykara Falls provide excellent opportunities for photography and picnics.

The scenic route to Pykara itself is a memorable experience, passing through verdant forests and rolling grasslands.

7. Avalanche Lake

For those seeking solitude and untouched natural beauty, Avalanche Lake is a must-visit destination. Surrounded by blooming rhododendrons, thick forests and rolling meadows, this serene location is ideal for trekking, camping, birdwatching and trout fishing.

Adventure enthusiasts often explore nearby trekking trails leading into the Nilgiri wilderness.

8. Emerald Lake

Situated in the Silent Valley region, Emerald Lake remains one of Ooty's hidden gems. Less crowded than other tourist spots, it offers spectacular sunrise and sunset views, making it an ideal destination for peace seekers and photographers.

Tea Estates: The Soul of Ooty

No trip to Ooty is complete without visiting its sprawling tea plantations. Vast carpets of emerald-green tea gardens stretch across the hills, creating postcard-perfect scenery.

Visitors can tour local tea factories to understand the tea-making process and sample the world-famous Nilgiri tea. Freshly brewed tea enjoyed amidst misty mountains is an experience unique to Ooty.

Wildlife and Nature Experiences

Nature enthusiasts can visit the nearby Mudumalai National Park, one of South India's premier wildlife sanctuaries. Home to elephants, tigers, leopards, deer, gaur and numerous bird species, the park offers exciting jungle safaris.

Birdwatchers will also find Ooty and its surrounding forests rich in avian diversity.

Best Time to Visit

Ooty can be visited throughout the year. However, April to June is the peak tourist season when the weather remains pleasantly cool. The monsoon months from July to September bring lush greenery, while winters from October to February offer misty mornings and chilly nights. Whether it is a romantic honeymoon, a family vacation, an adventure trip or a peaceful retreat amidst nature, Ooty promises an unforgettable escape where misty mountains, fragrant tea gardens and timeless beauty come together to create magical memories.

CALL FOR ALL YOUR LIFE INSURANCE NEEDS!
"MAKING FRIENDS THROUGH SERVICE"



SHIV KUMAR SAHANI

Agent, New York Life Insurance Co.

646-644-0174

OUR TEAM OF AGENTS ARE READY TO HELP!

PRIYA SAHANI - (917) 723-6684

RAVI SURTI - (614) 578-7070

ARISH K. SAHANI - (718) 271-0453

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1972



INDO US EXPRESS, INC.

Worldwide Couriers / Freight Forwarders
Domestic Rush Delivery / Import / Export
Custom Clearance / Trading Consultant

Gurinder Singh
CEO

SALES OFFICE

224 West 30th St., #604, New York, NY 10001

Mail: P.O. Box 7304, Hicksville, NY 11802

Office: 212.447.5720 Fax: 516.932.3750

Delhi: 98.1849.0552

Mumbai: 92.2453.1807

New York: 347.538.7041

Visit US Online: www.indousexpress.com

Email: indousexpress@gmail.com

Get
to the
Point



The INDIAN PANORAMA

EVER TRUTHFUL

A DELIGHTFUL READING EVERY WEEK

Widest Coverage

Your Trusted Partner in Business

The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South Richmond Hill, NY 11419, Tel: 646-247-9458

Dallas Edition - P.O. Box 121695, Arlington, TX 76012

www.theindianpanorama.news

Indian Visa Center

VISA / OCI PIO / PASSPORT
APPLICATION ASSISTANCE CENTER

349 S. Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801

DEEPAK BANSAL

Email: deepakbansalny@gmail.com

Cell: 516.304.8808 Fax: 516.218.8009



The Indian Panorama

FOR FREE AT

www.theindianpanorama.news

FIFA WORLD CUP 2026

Beaten 1-2 by Switzerland,
Canada moves to round of 32

BY
PRABHJOT SINGH

JUNE 26, 2026

TORONTO (TIP): Canada's final group game did not go the way it wanted to go. Beaten 1-2 by Switzerland, Canada still squeezed into the round of 32, where for the first time, it would travel to Los Angeles to take on the runners-up team of Group A on June 28 in probably one of the initial round of 32 matches.

Switzerland, by virtue of finishing at the top of the group, will stay put in Vancouver to play its first match of the knockout round on July 7.

Portugal also moved to the knockout round as Christiano Ronaldo became the first player in the history to score in each of the six World Cups he has played. Though Lionel Messi has the maximum number of World Cup goals (18) to his credit and is like Ronaldo, playing his sixth World Cup also, but he yields this record to his Portuguese opponent as Messi did not score any goal in the 2010 World Cup.

Ronaldo scored twice in Portugal's 5-0 win over Uzbekistan to complete a rare record. Norway defeated Senegal 3-2 to move to the knockout round.

In spite of 1-2 defeat at the hands of Switzerland, Canada continues to set new records. After getting its first ever FIFA World Cup point with a 1-1 draw against Bosnia Herzegovina, it scripted a golden chapter of its soccer history with a thumping 6-0 win over Qatar for its first ever and biggest win ever in the World Cup. Now it has qualified for the knockout round in its third World Cup appearance.

Its final match of the group stage did not exactly go to plan, with Canada, after putting up a splendid show in the second half, going down 1-2 to Switzerland at Vancouver's BC Place on Wednesday.

Canadians heaved a sigh of relief as at the same time Bosnia & Herzegovina recorded a 3-1 win over Qatar to guarantee that they still finish second in Group B and move on to the Round of 32.

Team coach Marsch made two changes to his starting lineup to face Switzerland, both in the central midfield. Nathan Saliba and Mathieu Choiniere came in for Stephen Eustáquio (who is dealing with muscle tightness) and the injured Ismael Kone.

And the packed BC Place Stadium stood as one with visual tributes to Koné, with fans displaying 8s (his jersey number) in various forms. He also received a touching ovation during warm-up when he came out to field level in a wheelchair.

In Eustáquio's absence, striker Jonathan David - fresh off a hat trick against Qatar - wore the captain's armband.

The game as expected started on a brisk note with players on either side started working on moves to gain early lead for their teams. The Swiss were the first to have a good glimpse of the Canadian goal. It was in the 11th minute, when a Swiss



Switzerland defeated Canada 2-1 in round 3 of the FIFA World Cup group stage in Vancouver, and both teams have made it to the playoffs. The goals were scored by Ruben Vargas (in the 46 minute) and Johan Manzambi (in the 57th minute) for Switzerland and by Promise David (in the 76th minute) for Canada.

AP Photo

attacker was through on goal, but Maxime Crepeau came up with a tremendous save.

The home side's first real scoring chance came in the 33rd minute. Cyle Larin, who scored back-to-back in first two games, fired a low shot within the penalty area. His shot was, however, saved by Swiss goalkeeper Gregor Kobel.

Midfielder Ali Ahmed forced another diving save from Kobel in the 41st minute. It was a tight, physical first half but there was no score at the halftime break.

After a change of ends, the game took a turn to the great dismay of the home team. Switzerland got behind the Canadian defense and Ruben Vargas scored from close range to put the visitors up 1-0. And not far behind was the second Swiss goal that came 10 minutes later. This time it was Johan Manzambi who found the back of the net.

Canada refused to give up as it got one back in a spectacular fashion in the 75th minute. A great touch and pass from Saliba led to a goal from Promise David, who had entered the match only a few minutes earlier.

The sold-out BC Place crowd desperately urged Canada forward as the game entered its dying minutes. But despite creating several half-chances, the



Canadians couldn't find the equalizing goal.

Despite Marsch suggesting beforehand that he expected captain Alphonso Davies to get his long-awaited first appearance of this World Cup, Davies did not enter the match against Switzerland.

Canada finished its Group B engagements with four points from three games. Though Bosnia & Herzegovina

also had four points, its goal average difference put it behind Canada at number three. Qatar finished fourth and last in the group and joined Turkey, Panama and other teams, in packing for return journeys home.

Canada's Round of 32 match will be played on Sunday at noon PT / 3 pm ET at Los Angeles Stadium. Their opponent will be the second-place team from Group A: either South Korea, Czechia or South Africa.

Canada's Round of 32 match will be back at BC Place on Thursday, July 2. Their opponent will be a third-place team from another group, though that won't be known until all group-stage matches are finished on June 28.

The knockout rounds consist of single-elimination matches that must have a winner. A level score after 90 minutes means extra time and, if required, a penalty shootout.

The winner of Canada's Round of 32 match will move on to the Round of 16, while the losing team is eliminated.

(Prabhjot Singh is a Toronto-based senior journalist who writes on Sports, politics and community.

He can be reached at prabhjot416@gmail.com)

FIFA WORLD CUP 2026

Lionel Messi surges ahead in race for the golden boot as he helps Argentina qualify for the round of 32



BY
PRABHJOT SINGH

JUNE 26, 2026

TORONTO (TIP): He is a legend. He is an icon. And he is already the highest scorer in the history of the FIFA World Cup. He is none other than Lionel Messi.

The Argentina captain netted twice against Austria to surpass Miroslav Klose's record of 16 strikes at the global tournament.

His brace has helped Argentina to become the fourth team after the USA, Mexico and Germany to qualify for the knockout round. As someone rightly commented after the final whistle in the match against Austria that "Messi is a player who can mesmerize any defense on his day." He has proved it twice in the games he has played in this biggest ever FIFA World Cup.

Meanwhile, Egypt had every reason to feel pleased with its second half performance against New Zealand. Besides overcoming 0-1 deficit, Egyptians scored thrice in the second half to record a splendid 3-1 win. Incidentally, it is the first ever win for Egypt in the FIFA World Cup.

It was a big heartbreak for New Zealand as it had taken the lead early in the first half and sustained it till the second half. Incidentally, three of the four goals scored in the match came from headers, a rare phenomenon indeed. New Zealand took the lead through a header by Finn Surman.

Ziko and Salah followed for Egypt with headers in the second half before Trezeguet scored the third goal to complete a historic win. Earlier, one of the co-hosts, Canada, also recorded its first ever FIFA World Cup win by defeating Qatar 6-0.

Lionel Messi has been making more and more FIFA World Cup history with his unmatched and unprecedented achievements. By becoming the tournament's all-time top scorer during Argentina's 2-0 win over Austria in Group J, he has embarked upon yet another feat, scoring all of five goals Argentina has to its credit in its first two games. Many more are expected from the magical feet of Lionel Messi in the remainder of the tournament as it moves to the knockout round.

Messi brushed off missing an earlier penalty by beating Austria goalkeeper Alexander Schlager late in the first half with a first-time left-foot finish for his 17th World Cup goal, overhauling former Germany striker Miroslav Klose as the tournament's leading overall scorer. Interestingly, in the first game against



Algeria, first goal by Messi was disallowed as he was adjudged offside.

The Argentina captain rounded off his record-breaking display by sealing victory for the holders with a second strike in stoppage time, following up Julian Alvarez's shot to take his total tally in the global event to 18.

Messi, who turns 39 on Wednesday 24 June, also leads the scoring charts at this World Cup with five goals following his stunning hat-trick in the defending champions opening game against Algeria.

Klose held the title of the World Cup's record scorer for 12 years, netting at every finals between 2002 and 2014. Speaking prior to the tournament, and in anticipation of Messi breaking his record,

Klose told FIFA: "Messi is simply Messi. I've always admired the way he solved problems and the way he carried himself as a person, even on the pitch.

"He always brought his team to life. In 2006 he was on the bench and [Juan

Roman] Riquelme played, until Messi was given that trust. What he then made of football, and the way he did it, I take my hat off to that. Huge compliment!

"I've always been a Messi fan, and now that he's standing in front of me, I have to say: that's not too bad either!"

Messi has played in a joint-record six editions of the World Cup, scoring at five of those, with his first goal at the tournament coming against Serbia and Montenegro in 2006. He was unable, however, to select his favorite of the 18 strikes, so exhausted was he after his latest act of history making.

"I don't know, to be honest, I can't remember right now," he told media. "I'm tired, I'm running low on energy, and I'm finding it hard to think, so anyway, I'm just going to enjoy this moment, and I'm looking forward to celebrating with my team-mates."

With each game, he has been further cementing his legacy as one of football's

all-time greats.

Messi opened the scoring with a brilliant goal, stroking into the bottom corner after Thiago Almada's dummy allowed Facundo Medina's ball to reach him in the area. He then found the net deep into injury time to seal a thrilling victory.

Messi's history-making opener in Dallas Stadium had been delayed by his early penalty miss and decisive blocks by David Alaba for a spirited Austria side. However, his dynamic double not only took him to the top of this tournament's Golden Boot standings but sent Lionel Scaloni's defending champions into the Round of 32 from Group J.

To cap off Argentina's day, the drama took place on the 40th anniversary of Diego Maradona's amazing goal against England. The closest Ralf Rangnick's men came to denting the Argentinian celebrations was a free-kick by Marcel Sabitzer, on his 100th international appearance, while Nico Gonzalez came close to finding the net for Argentina.

However, the European team struggled to break down the defending champions, and Messi, as he has done in seven of the last nine Albiceleste World Cup games, made the difference once again.

Everything was bigger in Texas, thanks to Lionel Messi.

(Prabhjot Singh is a Toronto-based senior journalist who writes on Sports, politics and community.

He can be reached at prabhjot416@gmail.com)

Hockey: India holds England to a 2-2 draw but fumbles in shootout



BY
PRABHJOT SINGH

JUNE 26, 2026

LONDON (TIP): After winning the opening game of the last leg of the FIH Pro League against Pakistan (4-3), India held the hosts England to a 2-2 draw with a late equalizer but fumbled in the subsequent penalty shootout to lose 1-4. With this penalty shootout win, England won an extra bonus point.

Dilpreet Singh turned out to be the star for India as he accounted for both the goals. It was he who gave India the lead in the 10th minute with an opportunist goal. Again, when England had mounted the lead and was going well, Dilpreet Singh scored again, this time in the 58th minute to neutralize the lead Nicholas Bandurak had given a couple of minutes earlier.

Taken aback by an early Indian goal,

English players went all out aggressive in search of an equalizer. Their offensive tactics paid dividends as David Goodfield scored a minute before the teams broke for the half time.

Evenly contested third quarter saw both the teams frittering away good scoring chances, including penalty corners, it was in the last and fourth quarter that England surged ahead, thanks to a neat goal by Nicholas Bandurak in the 57th minute.

India did not lose calm and relented pressure. Efforts paid dividends when Dilpreet Singh restored parity to force the game into a penalty shootout.

It was England's day as it notched up a 4-1 win to win extra point.

India now plays Pakistan in its second game on June 26 and the hosts again before wrapping up its FIH Pro League campaign 2026.

(Prabhjot Singh is a Toronto-based senior journalist who writes on Sports, politics and community. He can be reached at



Women's T20 World Cup

India beat Bangladesh by 5 wickets to stay in hunt

JUNE 26, 2026

MANCHESTER (TIP): A half-century from Shafali Verma and fine spells from Radha Yadav and Shree Charani helped India keep their semifinals dreams alive as they beat Bangladesh by five wickets in their group stage ICC Women's T20 World Cup clash at Manchester on Thursday, June 25.

With this win, India is in second place in Group A with three wins and a loss, giving them six points, below Australia, who have won all four matches. India still has one game to play against Australia and is not officially in the semifinals yet, South Africa, who have won two of their three matches, are also strong contenders to make it to the semifinals.

Coming to the match, Bangladesh opted to bat first and put up 136/8 in 20 overs.

Juairiya Ferdous (33 in 31 balls, with five fours) and Sobhana Mostary (22 in 26 balls, with two fours) put up a half-century stand for the second wicket and skipper Nigar Sultana (32 in 27 balls, with four boundaries) helped Bangladesh to a modest total. Radha Yadav (3/28) and Shree Charani (2/21) were among the lead wicket-takers for India, with Renuka Thakur and Nandni Sharma also getting a wicket each.

In the chase, India lost Smriti Mandhana (8) early, but Shafali (53 in 34 balls, with eight fours and a six) and Yastika Bhatia (23 in 18 balls, with three fours) added 45-runs for the second wicket. India experienced a min collapse from 76/2 to 98/4, but Jemimah Rodrigues (26 in 15 balls, with three fours and a six), skipper Harmanpreet



Kaur (13*) and Deepti Sharma (5*) guided India to a five-wicket win with 19 balls left.

During the match, Indian spinner Charani made history, overcoming Poonam Yadav for most wickets by an Indian in a single ICC Women's T20 World Cup edition.

Charani, the newly crowned world number one T20I bowler, achieved the milestone during her side's group stage T20 World Cup match against Bangladesh in Manchester on Thursday.

During the match, Charani took 2/21 in four overs, getting wickets of Nahida Akter and Shorna Akter. Now, in four matches in this tournament, she has 12 wickets at an average of 7.08 and an economy rate of 5.31, with her best figures of 4/19. She is the leading wicket-taker in the tournament so far. For India, the old record was in the hands of Poonam, with 10 wickets in five matches at an average of 11.90 and an economy rate of 5.95, with best figures of 4/19 in the 2019/20 edition.

India debut beckons for generational talent Sooryavanshi

June 26 is set to be the day that Vaibhav Suryavanshi plays his first game for India. The 1st T20I between vs Ireland in Belfast is expected to be the 15-year-old's entry into the senior format. Fans, players, former players, his family and the cricket world in general are waiting in anticipation.

But the real thing to look forward to is the history Vaibhav will create. In fact, that will happen even before a ball is bowled. How? That's because of the toss. The moment the toss takes place, the match is officially counted in the records and added to one's career. Even if a single delivery is not bowled, be it due to weather or any other reason, the match counts.

In Vaibhav's case, the moment the toss happens, he will set the record of becoming the youngest Indian to play international cricket. The young man will be 15 years and 91 days old when he officially goes on record of having played in one international game for his country.

The current record is held by Sachin Tendulkar who was 16 years and 205 days when he made his debut vs Pakistan on November 15, 1989, in Karachi. While Vaibhav's debut is in a T20I, Sachin's was in a Test.

Vaibhav earned his place thanks to a brilliant IPL 2026 where he slammed 776 runs to win the Orange Cap. He also showed he is ready with a 29-ball 94 vs Sri Lanka 'A' for India 'A' in the tri-nation final which his team won under Tilak Varma.

The 1st T20I in Belfast will also see Shreyas Iyer return to the format after nearly three years. He's also replaced Suryakumar Yadav as skipper. Suryakumar has been axed from the team altogether. India to England to play five T20Is after they play two in Ireland. The 2nd game is on June 28 and the England series is from July 1 to 11.

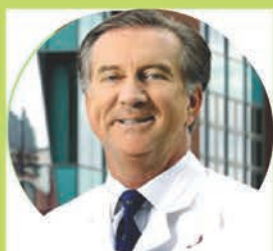




An Eye Institute in Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh combating avoidable blindness in children.

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 beautifully facility will match the wonderful world class work of your doctos, 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 to be constructed 2024



In 2018 Prasanth, Sushanth and Nisanth were diagnosed and treated and 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.

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

Join our Vision. Give the gift of sight today.

Visit eyefoundationofamerica.org
695, Westview Avenue, Morgantown, WV 36505
Tax ID # 55-062-1735