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ON 25 YEARS OF 9/11 TRUMP VOWS "WE WILL NEVER FORGET": HONORS HEROES OF 9/11

POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDS MEDAL OF FREEDOM TO "MAN IN THE RED BANDANA"



Man in the Red Bandana" Crowther's mother, Alison, and sister, Paige, accepting the Medal of Freedom from President Trump.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2026
WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP)

Standing beside a 16,000-pound steel beam recovered from the World Trade Centre, US President Donald Trump on Tuesday, September 8, paid tribute to the victims and honored the heroes of the 9/11 attack while renewing America's vow to "never forget."

The ceremony at the Ellipse near the White House brought together first responders, Gold Star families, and representatives from the Tunnel to Towers Foundation as part of its Steel Across America tour.

According to the White House, the steel beam has travelled over 10,500 miles as a living reminder of the courage displayed following the attacks.

During the ceremony, President Trump posthumously awarded the nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, to the family of Welles Crowther, the 24-year-old equities trader who saved multiple lives in the South Tower

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Wars, global crises may top agenda of 18th BRICS summit



18th BRICS summit at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi

SEPTEMBER 9, 2026
NEW DELHI (TIP)

The BRICS Summit kicks off in New Delhi on September 12, with Russian President Vladimir Putin already in the capital and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on his way. Both leaders are set to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while India pushes for deeper economic cooperation and highlights its growing market, manufacturing and

digital strengths.

Several heads of multilateral organizations, including the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, are also scheduled to attend the BRICS summit.

The External Affairs Ministry has confirmed that, apart from President Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, and Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto are among the top leaders who are expected to reach Delhi for the summit that is being held against the backdrop of a global crisis in the supply chains of energy and agriculture because of wars in West Asia and Ukraine. The conflict in West Asia that started in February, when Israel and the U.S. launched a joint attack on Iran, is likely to be among the top topics of the

CONTD ON PAGE 34

Vance, Rubio, Cruz? Republicans at Dallas convention ponder options for post-Trump leader

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
DALLAS (TIP)

As US Vice President JD Vance addressed the crowd at the Republican midterm convention, he was interrupted by a fan who shouted, "JD 48!" Others joined in, and Vance paused with a smile before cutting them off.

"We gotta take care of business this November and then we'll worry about what comes next," he said.

Vance was front and center Thursday night as he and President Donald Trump urged Republicans to turn out for fall elections that will signal the looming end of Trump's time in the White House and the beginning of the race to succeed him.

But in the hallways of the American Airlines Centre in steamy Dallas this week, the vice president's place as Trump's heir was hardly a given. In interviews with nearly two dozen



Vance, Rubio, DeSantis Cruz at Dallas Confab

attendees, there was no clear consensus yet on a favored 2028 candidate. While Vance received plenty of mentions, a long list of others -- including Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Texas Senator Ted Cruz and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis -- were on wish lists as well. And most said they weren't ready to commit.

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Putin lands in Delhi for BRICS summit, to hold bilateral with PM Modi



Russian President Vladimir Putin being accorded a warm welcome on his arrival in Delhi to attend the 18th BRICS Summit.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
NEW DELHI (TIP)

Russian President Vladimir Putin has arrived in New Delhi ahead of the 18th BRICS Summit, being hosted by India this weekend.

Upon his arrival, he was welcomed by Union Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh.

President Putin's arrival sets the stage for crucial bilateral talks with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday and an address at the BRICS Business Forum. The discussions are expected to focus on strategic trade

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COMMENT**BRICS IN INDIA: IS THE WORLD ORDER BEGINNING TO SHIFT?**

BRICS does not yet herald the end of American primacy or the birth of a new world order. But it reflects a world seeking more centers of power-and a greater voice for nations long kept at its margins.

When BRICS leaders gather in New Delhi, the photographs will show presidents and prime ministers attending another international summit. Behind those photographs, however, stands a question considerably larger than BRICS itself:

Is the geopolitical order beginning to change?

The answer may already be before us.

The unipolar moment after the Cold War has receded. China has risen. India is rising.

The Global South demands a larger voice. Russia has turned increasingly toward non-Western partners. Middle powers are asserting strategic autonomy. Even America's friends increasingly seek room to pursue relationships according to their own interests.

BRICS did not create those forces. BRICS is the political expression of them.

What began with Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa has expanded considerably. Its enlarged membership gives BRICS greater demographic, economic and diplomatic weight-and considerably greater internal complexity.

Its significance therefore lies not merely in what BRICS is today, but in what its growth tells us about the changing world.

WHY BRICS MATTERS : For decades, the international system has been shaped disproportionately by the United States and its Western allies.

American military power remains formidable. The dollar occupies a privileged position in international finance. Western nations exercise enormous influence through global financial institutions, markets and alliances.

That order did not arise without reason. American leadership helped construct institutions that contributed to decades of international trade, development and relative stability.

But the world of today is not the world of 1945-or 1991.

Countries representing billions of people and increasingly important economies are asking why international institutions should continue reflecting yesterday's distribution of power.

That question is not necessarily anti-American. It is a demand for representation. And Washington is understandably watching.

After the Soviet Union collapsed, the United States enjoyed a degree of global predominance unmatched by any other country. BRICS does not overturn that order; but it represents something Washington cannot comfortably ignore: major nations seeking greater freedom to trade, finance and conduct diplomacy without excessive dependence upon institutions in which America and its allies have traditionally exercised exceptional influence.

The dollar illustrates the point.

It is not about to disappear as the world's principal reserve currency. India itself has resisted presenting BRICS cooperation as a campaign to dethrone it. Yet member countries continue exploring greater use of national currencies and alternative payment arrangements.

The dollar may not be facing a rebellion. It is facing a search for alternatives.

The wiser American response, therefore, may not be to ask: How can BRICS be contained? It should ask: Why are so many consequential countries attracted to alternatives?

If part of the answer involves inadequate representation, sanctions, financial vulnerability, unilateralism or perceived double standards, those concerns deserve examination rather than dismissal.

America should not fear a world in which others become stronger. It should be concerned if others conclude that American leadership no longer serves them.

BRICS, however, deserves the same scrutiny.

Replacing American predominance with Chinese predominance would not democratize international affairs.

It would merely change the address of power.

China is economically the strongest BRICS member. India has its own aspirations and a complicated relationship with Beijing involving cooperation, competition and strategic mistrust.

That makes India's position particularly important.

**BY INDRAJIT SALUJA**

New Delhi need not choose between Washington and Beijing, or between West and anti-West. It can argue instead for strategic autonomy-a world in which nations cooperate where their interests converge without surrendering independence where they differ.

BRICS itself demonstrates why such independence matters.

Its expansion is simultaneously its strength and its weakness. Members bring different political systems, alliances, rivalries and strategic objectives. India and China remain

competitors. Russia's confrontation with the West shapes its priorities differently from India's. Iran and the United Arab Emirates have serious differences. Several members have no desire to sacrifice productive relationships with America and Europe merely to join an anti-Western camp.

Thus, BRICS has demographic weight. It has economic weight. It increasingly has diplomatic weight. What it does not possess yet is strategic coherence. That is the challenge before it.

WHAT CAN BRICS DELIVER?

Summit declarations are easy. Building durable institutions is harder.

- Can BRICS finance meaningful development?
- Can it increase trade without creating new dependencies?
- Can it develop alternative financial mechanisms without allowing its largest economy to dominate them?
- Can it defend national sovereignty consistently-even when the alleged violator happens to be a friend?
- Can nations with serious disagreements cooperate without pretending those differences do not exist? Above all, Can BRICS offer the world something better-or merely something different? That is the question by which history should judge it.

The world does not need another exclusive club of powerful nations claiming to speak for everybody else. It needs institutions in which emerging countries receive greater representation, smaller nations retain their sovereignty, development is not conditioned upon political obedience, and international rules apply to the powerful as well as the weak.

INDIA'S OPPORTUNITY : India may be uniquely positioned to articulate that vision.

It sits with Russia and China in BRICS while maintaining important partnerships with the United States, Europe, Japan and other democracies. It speaks naturally to the Global South while increasingly possessing the economic and political weight of a major power. What appears contradictory may actually be India's advantage. India can tell Washington that yesterday's distribution of global power cannot remain permanent. It can tell Beijing that tomorrow's world cannot simply substitute one dominant power for another. And it can tell BRICS that credibility will come not from the number of leaders standing for the photograph, but from what their cooperation delivers for the nations and people they represent.

That could be India's distinctive contribution: not leading an anti-Western coalition, but helping build a more representative international system.

The Delhi summit will not create a new world order over a weekend. Nor will American power suddenly disappear. But something quieter and potentially more consequential is occurring. The world is acquiring alternatives. BRICS is one expression of that transformation.

The geopolitical order is already changing. The question is whether BRICS can help shape what comes next.

Do you seek a fairer world order, or merely a larger share of power for yourselves?

That is the distinction upon which the promise of multipolarity rests.

A multipolar world should mean the democratization of global power-not merely its redistribution among the powerful.

If BRICS contributes to that transformation, its rise may someday be remembered as an important chapter in the remaking of the international order. If it merely produces another contest for supremacy, the flags will change.

The struggle for dominance will not.

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AMITY GLOBAL RESEARCH HUB INAUGURATED



SEPTEMBER 8, 2026
NEW YORK (TIP)

Consulate General of India, New York hosted the inauguration of the Amity Global Research Hub (AGRH) on 21 August, themed "Shaping the Future through Emerging Technologies."

The event featured the official launch of AGRH, including its website and research brochure, followed by two engaging panel discussions on multi-sector partnerships, research, innovation and India-US

collaboration.

Dr. Aseem Chauhan, Chancellor, Amity University; Prof. (Dr.) W. Selvamurthy, President, Amity Science, Technology & Innovation Foundation; and, Dr. Sandeep Mittan, Director, Amity Global Research Hub, among other senior representatives, joined the launch and discussions.

AGRH will serve as a platform to foster international research partnerships and advance innovation through collaboration between India and the United States.



Optima Global Solutions celebrates 4th Inc. 5000 honor and bold expansion into Cybersecurity and AI

HELMED BY INDIAN AMERICAN MAHESH YADAV, NEW JERSEY-BASED FIRM NOW IN ITS 25TH YEAR, HAS BEEN RANKED AMONG AMERICA'S FASTEST-GROWING PRIVATE COMPANIES FOR 2026.



BY PARVEEN CHOPRA
SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
HAMILTON, N.J. (TIP)

Optima Global Solutions is marking its 25th anniversary with its fourth appearance on the Inc. 5000 list of America's fastest-growing private companies, and a new chapter focused on helping organizations navigate the rapidly changing worlds of cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.

The Hamilton, N.J. based IT consulting and solutions provider is ranked No. 4,525 nationally on the 2026 Inc. 5000, placing it among 147 New Jersey companies recognized on this year's list and one of just nine honorees from the Princeton/Hamilton area. The recognition also marks Optima's second consecutive appearance on the list and fifth appearance overall.

The Inc. 5000 ranks the nation's fastest-growing privately held companies based on percentage revenue growth from 2022 through 2025.

"Every company on the Inc. 5000 has a story of perseverance, smart decision making, and a refusal to sit still," says Mike Hofman, Editor-in-chief of Inc. "Their

growth reflects more than strong financial performance—it reflects creativity, resilience, and the customer focus required to build companies that make a lasting impact."

For Optima, that evolution has been central to the company's 25-year history. Founded in 2001 as a boutique IT staffing firm, Optima has been built around helping organizations solve complex technology challenges. Today, in addition to offering IT staffing and custom solutions development, it is applying that experience to two areas increasingly central to the challenges companies face: cybersecurity and AI.

"Reaching 25 years is an achievement we're proud of, but we're not looking backward," said Mahesh Yadav, President and CEO of Optima Global Solutions. "The technology landscape is changing faster than ever, and our clients need more than another technology vendor. They need a partner who understands their business, can develop the strategy and has the expertise to actually execute it."

EXPANDING INTO CYBERSECURITY AND AI

The emphasis on strategy and execution is reflected in Optima's expanding cybersecurity practice. The company works with organizations on cyber risk and governance, Zero Trust strategy and implementation, AI security, incident readiness and organizational resilience, with a focus on making cybersecurity a measurable part of business operations.

Optima's AI service offering will round out its new offerings. As organizations move beyond experimentation and begin incorporating AI into everyday operations, the company is helping clients identify where the technology can deliver meaningful business value—and put those

ideas into practice.

Optima's AI transformation services include strategic advisory, intelligent automation and AI solutions designed to help organizations move from exploration to implementation while addressing the operational, security and governance challenges that accompany adoption.

Together, the two areas represent the next stage of Optima's evolution: helping organizations take advantage of emerging technology while preparing for the risks and challenges that come with it.

"Technology has never stood still, and neither have we," Yadav said. "Our first 25 years were about building trust, solving problems and delivering results for our clients. The next 25 will be about helping those same organizations, and new ones, take advantage of what is possible while protecting themselves from what is coming."

Optima's fourth Inc. 5000 recognition provides a fitting marker for that transition. After 25 years of growth and evolution, the company is entering its next chapter with a broader mission: helping organizations navigate the opportunities and risks created by the technologies shaping the future of business.

For the full Inc. 5000 list, honoree company profiles and a searchable database by industry and location, visit Inc. 5000.

ABOUT MAHESH YADAV

President and CEO of Optima Global Solutions, Mahesh Yadav is a well-known leader in the IT services industry and a prominent Indian American in the New York tri-state area. He serves as a Board Member of TechUnited, NJ, and as an Advisory Board Member with the School of Business, Department of Information Analytics, Montclair State University, NJ.



Mahesh Yadav - President and CEO of Optima Global Solutions

He is an active Angel Investor in various early-stage and growth-oriented technology companies in the USA and India.

Yadav is a passionate golfer and founder of South Asian Golf Association (SAGA), which promotes Golf in the South Asian community, and a Board Member of The First Tee Greater Trenton.

ABOUT OPTIMA GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

Founded in 2001, Optima Global Solutions Inc brings over 2 decades of experience and expertise in facilitating IT transformation within industries ranging from higher education and government to manufacturing and financial services. Sporting scalable and diverse business solutions expertise along with deep-domain based resourcing capabilities, Optima has a specialization in Automation and AI, Strategic Staffing, Cybersecurity and Custom Solutions Development, focusing on the core pillars of process, people, strategy and transformation.

Learn more about Optima Global Solutions at www.optimags.com.

Contact: George Nikanorov (973) 370-0381; gnikanorov@nikanmedia.com

Australia student visa refusals hit decade high: What it means for applicants from India, Nepal

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
NEW YORK (TIP)

Australia's international student visa regime has become significantly tougher, with the overall refusal rate reaching a 10-year high of 24.2% in June 2026, according to data from the Department of Home Affairs reported by ABC News.

The refusal rate has risen sharply from 7.9% in June 2016, making June 2026 the highest point recorded over the past decade.

Applicants from Nepal and India faced particularly high refusal rates during the 2025-26 financial year. More than 51% of applications from Nepal and over 40% from India were refused. By comparison, the refusal rate for applicants from China was 5.8%.

The figures do not mean nationality alone determines the outcome. The Department of Home Affairs says applications are assessed individually against Australia's migration requirements. However, the data points to increased scrutiny of student visa applications.

Why are student visas being refused?

One of the key areas of assessment is the Genuine Student requirement. Applicants must demonstrate that their proposed studies are consistent with their education, work history, personal circumstances and future career plans.

The Department may consider an applicant's circumstances in their home country, their likely circumstances in Australia, the value of the proposed



Australian student visa refusal rate reaches 24.2%; more than 40% of Indian and 51% of Nepali applications refused in 2025-26.

course, immigration history and other relevant factors.

A generic claim that Australia offers high-quality education is therefore unlikely to be sufficient on its own. Applicants need a clear and consistent explanation of why they have chosen a particular course, how it connects with their previous education or employment and how it fits into their future plans.

Nepal and India are among countries facing high refusal rates.

For 2025-26, the reported refusal rates were:

Nepal: More than 51%

India: More than 40%

China: 5.8%

The figures are particularly significant for Nepal, where more than half of the applications were unsuccessful during the period.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A STUDENT VISA REFUSAL?

Applicants whose visas are refused should first carefully read the refusal letter and identify the reasons for the decision, the visa criterion involved, the evidence considered and whether they have review rights.

Some applicants may be eligible to seek a review through the Administrative Review Tribunal (ART), while others may need to consider a fresh application or another migration pathway. Any applicable review deadline should be checked carefully.

Since June 1, 2026, most student visa refusal reviews at the ART are generally being decided without an oral hearing, making strong written submissions and supporting evidence even more important.

A refusal does not necessarily end an applicant's options, but rushing into a fresh application without addressing the reasons for the original refusal could weaken the case.

Applicants should therefore assess the refusal decision, understand the relevant requirements and, where necessary, seek qualified immigration advice before deciding on their next step.

Canada deports Punjabi family after eight years amid rejected asylum and humanitarian plea

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
VANCOUVER (TIP)

A Punjabi family that arrived in Canada in 2018 has been deported to India after Canadian authorities rejected its asylum claim and subsequent request to remain in the country on humanitarian and compassionate grounds.



The family, originally from Punjab's Jalandhar and residing in Quebec, had spent nearly eight years in Canada, where the parents worked, paid taxes and raised their two children. Photo provided by Gurmalkiat Singh Kahlon, Vancouver

The family, originally from Punjab's Jalandhar and residing in Quebec, had spent nearly eight years in Canada, where the parents worked, paid taxes and raised their two children.

The family's deportation came after their asylum application was rejected on the grounds that

authorities did not accept their claim that they faced a threat to their lives in India.

Their humanitarian and compassionate application was also rejected before they were put on a flight to India.

Harish, the head of the family and a resident of Goraya in Jalandhar, worked as a truck driver in Canada for several years. His wife also worked while raising and educating their two children.

The family's two sons, Japesh, 14, and Gaulash, 12, have spent most of their childhood in Canada.

Japesh said his childhood was spent in Canada and that his friends are also there. He said he feared feeling isolated after returning to India. Gaulash said he was being sent to a country he knew little about. He said he was four years old when his parents brought him to Canada and that he has no clear memories of India.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Mehul Choksi lawyer Vijay Aggarwal faces allegation of rape, UK court told

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
LONDON (TIP)

Criminal lawyer Vijay Aggarwal, who remains behind bars in London after his arrest last month on charges of sexual assault, faces an additional allegation of rape, a UK court was told on Thursday, September 10, 2026.

Aggarwal, who has represented fugitive businessman Mehul Choksi in fraud and money-laundering proceedings, appeared before Justice Nathaniel Rudolf at Southwark Crown Court, charged with four counts of sexual assault for a plea and trial preparation hearing.

His assistant, Manpreet Kaur, also appeared alongside in the dock, charged with two counts of intentionally encouraging or assisting sexual assault. They spoke only to confirm their names and are set to remain in prison until the start of their trial, which has been set for March 15 next year, unless they are granted bail in the interim.

At Thursday's hearing, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) sought an adjournment until next month before filing an indictment in the case due to the "complex" nature of the police investigation.

"This is an ongoing inquiry relating to a series of alleged sexual offences involving three complainants," CPS barrister Oliver Weetch told the judge. He said that the "complexity of the case and ongoing inquiries" indicated at least one other complainant who alleges "sexual intercourse" and the likelihood of "other participants and/or complainants".

Aggarwal's barrister, Sasha Wass, described Aggarwal as a man of "exemplary good character" who has been held at Wandsworth prison in south-west London for nearly a month now. She sought a written document detailing the charges against him, objections to his bail and the state of the police investigation from the CPS as a matter of "urgency for the defense to make a "meaningful application for bail". The judge said he was "not minded" to adjourn proceedings until October 2, as sought by the CPS, and set September 23 as the date for the indictment to be filed along with the document sought by the defense.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Punjab-origin man arrested in 5 Brampton armed robberies

PEEL POLICE SAY A 22-YEAR-OLD MAN ALLEGEDLY USED A LARGE KNIFE TO ROB FIVE RETAIL BUSINESSES IN OVER 10 DAYS IN AUGUST

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
BRAMPTON (TIP)

Investigators from the Central Robbery Bureau have arrested a 22-year-old Brampton man of Punjabi origin in connection with a string of armed robberies in Brampton.

According to the police, five retail establishments were allegedly targeted between August 14 and August 24.

In each case, the suspect entered the business, brandished a large knife, and demanded cash from employees.

Following the investigation, police identified and arrested Teepinder Singh Ghuman (22) of Brampton on August 29. The details about this arrest were shared by Peel Regional Police on Tuesday, September 8.

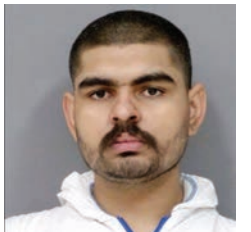
He now faces multiple charges, including robbery (five counts), disguise with intent to commit an indictable offence (six counts) and attempt to commit an indictable offence.

Ghuman was held for a bail hearing and appeared before the Ontario Court of Justice in Brampton.

Police say the series of robberies created significant concern among local businesses, as the suspect's use of a weapon posed a serious risk to staff and customers.

Investigators emphasized that swift identification and arrest were crucial in preventing further incidents.

The Peel police has urged anyone with information related to this investigation to contact the Central Robbery Bureau.



Teepinder Singh Ghuman (22) of Brampton

Indian-origin couple donates \$20 million to University of North Texas for AI and analytics studies



Anuradha and Vikas Sinha.

Image credit: Social media

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
DALLAS (TIP)**

An Indian-origin couple has donated USD 20 million to its alma mater in Texas, giving a push to studies on artificial intelligence and advanced analytics at the institute, underscoring contribution by immigrants to help build the "American dream".

Anuradha and Vikas Sinha have gifted USD 20 million to the University of North Texas (UNT) with a focus on artificial intelligence and advanced analytics while creating new opportunities for students and faculty, a press statement said.

In recognition of the gift, UNT will set up the Anuradha and Vikas Sinha College of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Analytics, which will serve as an academic and research hub focused on artificial intelligence, intelligent systems and data analytics, bringing together expertise in areas including AI, cybersecurity, data science, advanced analytics, health informatics, information science, library science and learning technologies.

The Sinhas' investment in UNT has grown

alongside their involvement with the university. In 2024, they gave a gift establishing the Anuradha and Vikas Sinha Department of Data Science, along with endowments supporting scholarships, faculty, research and special initiatives. A year later, they made another major gift, creating the Sinha Innovation Lab for Data Science.

"Education has opened doors for us throughout our lives, and we want to hold those doors open for others," Vikas Sinha said.

"It is a large part of why Anu and I believe so strongly in what UNT can make possible for students, including those who may come here from another country carrying the same ambition and belief in education that we once did.

"For us, this gift is about paying that opportunity forward and recognizing that immigrants don't simply participate in the American dream they help build it," he said.

Artificial intelligence will be one of the defining technologies of our generation, and universities have an essential role to play in preparing the people who will shape its future, he said.

"What excites us about UNT's vision is that it will go beyond teaching students how to use AI. It will prepare them to build it, understand it, question it, govern it and apply it responsibly developing both the builders and the stewards of intelligent systems," he said.

The USD 20 million gift will establish six permanent endowments supporting college leadership, student scholarships, endowed professorships, entrepreneurship and incubation, advanced research and emerging technologies.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Indian-American couple donates \$ 4 million to engineering college in Houston

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
HOUSTON (TIP)**

An Indian-American couple have donated USD 4 million to the University of Houston to support engineering research and education.

The gift to the University of Houston's Cullen College of Engineering will establish two endowed professorships, a faculty research fund, graduate fellowships and a seminar series in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, the varsity said.

Indian American engineer Manmohan Singh Kalsi and his wife Marie-Luise Schubert Kalsi have donated the amount to expand research and education.

"Manmohan Kalsi's journey from UH graduate student to industry innovator and entrepreneur embodies the transformative impact of the Cullen College of Engineering," said Dean Pradeep Sharma.

The commitment builds on the couple's long-standing ties to the institution. Manmohan Kalsi earned his master's degree and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from UH, studying under the late professor Gabriel Fazekas, and in 1978 founded Kalsi Engineering, a pioneer in hydrodynamic rotary sealing technology.

The couple previously funded an endowed professorship at the college in 2014 in Fazekas' honor.



Dr. Manmohan Singh Kalsi and Dr. Marie-Luise Schubert Kalsi have established an endowed professorship at the University of Houston Cullen College of Engineering mechanical engineering department.

American National Pluralism Awards Announced

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2026
WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP)**

Mr. Mike Ghouse, President, Center for Pluralism has in a press note to The Indian Panorama stated that the Center for Pluralism is recognizing 19 individuals who have made an impactful contribution to society. They will be presented the American National Pluralism awards at Capitol Hill, Washington, DC on Monday, September 14, 2026. The complete address is: Room 2043, Rayburn Building, Capitol Hill, 45 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20515.

Mr. Ghouse said, "Of course, many more deserve such recognition, and we hope to honor them in the future. One requirement for this award is that the individuals have interacted with, served, and stood up for the rights of at least four different religious groups. - Complete list, including previous recipients, is at <https://centerforpluralism.com/national-pluralism-awards/>."

Speaking about the awards, Mr. Ghouse said: "History often remembers those who built empires, led nations, or created significant institutions. However, societies are profoundly shaped by individuals, and our awardees have quietly resolute their lives to bringing people together.

"This vision inspired the launch of the *National Pluralism Awards*, an



Mike Ghouse, President,
Center for Pluralism

initiative that recognizes individuals whose lives and work embody bridge-building, understanding, and community leadership. Rather than celebrating prominence or position, the awards honor those who have devoted themselves to fostering connections across religious, cultural, and social differences, thus strengthening the very fabric of American

society.

"Building upon more than three decades of public engagement, interfaith dialogue, and civic leadership, the Center for Pluralism views these awards as more than just an annual recognition program; they are part of a broader national movement. By celebrating individuals who foster trust, encourage dialogue, and inspire cooperation, the organization aims to elevate pluralism as one of America's defining strengths for generations to come.

What can we do for the next 250 years? It is America's new frontier: <https://centerforpluralism.com/america-at-250-leading-the-world-through-pluralism/>

"The Center for Pluralism honors such individuals at its annual awards event, commemorating 30 years of contributing to a cohesive America where everyone feels secure, regardless of faith, race, ethnicity, or any other unique characteristic."

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CITY & STATE NEW YORK RECOGNIZES THREE NYC HEALTH + HOSPITALS LEADERS ON ITS 2026 "MANHATTAN POWER 100" LIST

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
NEW YORK (TIP)

NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan CEO Julian John, NYC Health + Hospitals/Harlem CEO Georges Leconte, and NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue CEO Dr. Eric Wei were recognized by City & State New York in their Manhattan Power 100 list for 2026. From government appointees to business executives to advocates, the annual recognition list highlights leaders in Manhattan who affect the lives of New Yorkers. City & State is the premier media organization dedicated to covering New York's local and state politics and policy.

Julian John is the Chief Executive Officer of NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan. In his role he oversees the hospital's strategic and operational initiatives, with a deep commitment to addressing the unique healthcare needs of the East Harlem community it serves. John has boosted employee engagement and satisfaction, and his focus on equitable access to care includes critical areas, like mental health, childhood development, and cancer. Under his leadership Metropolitan Hospital has created the NYC Health + Hospitals' only multi-service, multi-disciplinary Childhood Development Center to treat children with developmental, behavioral and other challenges including autism, ADHD and learning disabilities. Metropolitan Hospital also became the first hospital in the world to earn Pathways to Excellence with Distinction for workforce excellence and engagement among in nursing. Metrics include nurse-well-being, autonomy and collaboration, and safety, quality and work environment. In addition, Metropolitan Hospital has been recognized by the Lown Institute as the #1 hospital in the nation for inclusivity, 1 in the nation for racial inclusivity, one of the top 10 hospitals in the nation for health equity and community benefit, and #1 in New York State for community benefit. With over 20 years of executive leadership experience and more than 30



NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan CEO Julian John, NYC Health + Hospitals/Harlem CEO Georges Leconte, and NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue CEO Dr. Eric Wei were recognized for supporting New York City's most vulnerable residents.

years in hospital administration, John has built an extensive career spanning financial management, operations, and corporate strategy. He holds a Master of Public Administration from the New York University Wagner School of Public Service and a bachelor's degree in accounting from the City University of New York, Brooklyn College.

With over twenty years of progressive leadership experience, Georges Leconte is a seasoned health care professional dedicated to improving the health and well-being of communities across New York. He is currently the Chief Executive Officer of NYC Health + Hospitals/Harlem. Leconte has launched a state-of-the-art eye surgery service to help people with retina complications and continued programs to diagnose and treat gun violence. He also managed protracted labor negotiations with physicians, who accepted the terms of the deal and ratified it in March. Leconte holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Hunter College, and a Master of Public Administration degree from Alfred University, in addition to being a licensed Registered Respiratory Therapist. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Leconte put his Respiratory Therapy skills to use, joining clinical staff on the frontline to provide care to those affected by the virus. He also furthered that work through donations of PPE and supplies to organizations like

Vin Gopal Civic Association to help combat COVID-19 in India, and the Association Medicale Haitienne A l'Entranger (AMHE) to assist with medical care for the Haiti earthquake victims of 2021.

Eric Wei, MD, MBA serves as Chief Executive Officer for NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue, the oldest hospital in the United States dating back to 1736. Dr. Wei also serves as Senior Vice President for NYC Health + Hospitals, the nation's largest municipal safety-net health system, serving over 1.3 million New Yorkers every year. He is a Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai and Adjunct Professor at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. He is a practicing Emergency Medicine physician who has rotated through all 11 Emergency Departments in the system. Dr. Wei serves as faculty for the NYC Health + Hospitals Clinical Leadership Fellowship, the Greater New York Hospital Association/United Hospital Fund Clinical Quality Fellowship Program, and Ariadne Labs. He is also on the Advisory Committees for the CQFP and the UHF Health Equity Fellowship. He has been a champion for healthcare worker wellbeing and founded the Helping Healers Heal (H3) Program, starting in LAC+USC Medical Center before expanding it throughout the safety-net systems in Los Angeles

and New York City. H3 has since been spread to over 40 countries, and over 100,000 healthcare workers across the globe have been trained through Project Hope. Dr. Wei was named in Modern Healthcare's 50 Most Influential Clinical Executives and in the Becker's Hospital Review Top 50 Patient Safety Experts. He has been featured in the New York Times, PBS News Hour, NBC Nightly News, CBS Nightly News, Good Morning America, and Crain's New York Business.

ABOUT NYC HEALTH + HOSPITALS

NYC Health + Hospitals is the largest municipal health care system in the nation serving more than a million New Yorkers annually in more than 70 patient care locations across the city's five boroughs. A robust network of outpatient, neighborhood-based primary and specialty care centers anchors care coordination with the system's trauma centers, nursing homes, post-acute care centers, home care agency, and MetroPlusHealth - all supported by 11 essential hospitals. Its diverse workforce of more than 46,000 employees is uniquely focused on empowering New Yorkers, without exception, to live the healthiest life possible. For more information, visit www.nychealthandhospitals.org and stay connected on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Suoizzi Highlights Broad Local Support for Bipartisan, Bicameral Buffer Zone Bill

SUOZZI WAS JOINED BY LEADERS FROM PROMINENT LOCAL RELIGIOUS AND ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS AND CLERGY ACROSS FAITH GROUPS

SEPTEMBER 9, 2026
GLEN COVE, NY (TIP)

Congressman Suozzi (D-NY) today highlighted the broad, cross-religious coalition of support for his bipartisan, bicameral Right to Worship Act (H.R. 10052) at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center in Glen Cove. Surrounded by leaders of local religious and advocacy organizations and clergy across faith groups, Rep. Suozzi announced his legislation to establish federal protections around houses of worship and safeguard the right to worship for all Americans, without being threatened, intimidated, hindered, or deterred.

"Exercising your right to worship should not require you to exhibit particular courage as you enter your synagogue, church, mosque, temple, mandir, or gurdwara," said Congressman Suozzi. "I will always stand up for people's right to protest peacefully, but attendees of religious services should not be harassed, threatened, intimidated, or targeted for practicing their



Suoizzi introduced Right to Worship Act with Congressman Knott (R-NC) and Senators Cruz (R-TX) and Slotkin (D-MI)

faith. I am proud to lead this bipartisan and bicameral Right to Worship Act that both protects free speech and the freedom to worship."

"The breadth of support for the Right to Worship Act is very gratifying. So many groups recognize the horrifying reality that the threat to the freedom to not unique to any one faith or congregation. Every religious community feels it, which is why this bill will protect everybody," Suozzi continued. "I'm proud to stand with such a broad coalition of faith leaders

united behind this essential legislation to safeguard the right to worship for every religious community on Long Island, in Queens, and across America."

Congressman Suozzi's Right to Worship Act follows his earlier introduction of the SACRED Act in April 2026. Suozzi worked with colleagues in both parties and chambers to build bipartisan, bicameral support for his buffer zone legislation, introducing the Right to Worship Act in the House with Congressman Brad Knott (R-NC) last month alongside a companion measure in the Senate by Senators Cruz (R-TX) and Slotkin (D-MI). Suozzi also expanded the coalition of organizations supporting the legislation, securing the endorsement of more than 20 national groups across faiths for the Right to Worship Act.

Suoizzi was introduced today by Alan Mindel, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Suoizzi, Leader DeRiggi-Whitton, and Mayor Villafane Announce Expansion of Sea Cliff Sewer System

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
GLEN COVE, NY (TIP)

Congressman Suozzi (D-NY) today joined Nassau County Legislature Minority Leader DeRiggi-Whitton (D-Glen Cove), Sea Cliff Mayor Elena Villafane, and local residents in Sea Cliff to announce the expansion of the Sea Cliff sewer system. The \$6.5 million expansion will utilize more than \$1.1 million in funds Congressman Suozzi secured in the FY2026 Community Project Funding grants. Nassau County Legislature Minority Leader Delia DeRiggi-Whitton secured an additional \$4 million in bond authorization over the next two years to support the expansion of the sanitary sewer system in Sea Cliff, and local resources will cover the balance.

"This is a major accomplishment by Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton to help sewer critical areas in Sea Cliff and protect our precious Hempstead Harbor," Congressman Suozzi said. "The continued success of Sea Cliff's sewer expansion initiative is an outstanding illustration of what can be accomplished when all levels of government work collaboratively to solve problems for the communities we serve. I am excited to see how the \$1 million in federal funding



Congressman Tom Suozzi secured \$1.1 million in Community Project Funding grants to help fund the expansion

that I secured from the federal government has become a catalyst for millions more in County-level support spearheaded by Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton in partnership with Village leaders. This is transformational."

The funds will be applied toward sewerage a total of 2,860 linear feet on these streets:

- o Prospect Avenue between Carpenter Avenue & Albin Street (900 linear feet, 20 service connections)
- o Winding Way between 7th Avenue and Prospect Avenue (860 linear feet, 12 service connections)
- o The Drive between Park Way and Carpenter Avenue (370 linear feet, five service connections)
- o Park Way between 7th Avenue and Prospect Avenue (730 feet, eight service connections)

The forthcoming project will build upon previous work, completed during the summer of 2021, which sewer portions of Prospect, Maple, 12th, Sea Cliff, Summit, Central, 8th, and 7th Avenues, as well as all of Fairview Place.

Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.new

Consulate General of India in New York Seeks Details on Next Generation Data

SEPTEMBER 9, 2026
NEW YORK (TIP)

Tsewang Gyaltsen, Consul, Community Affairs, has in a letter to community organizations, sought details on Next Generation Data.

Mr. Gyaltsen said the Consulate recognizes and deeply appreciates the invaluable contributions of the Indian community, whose dedication, hard work, and commitment have played a significant role in establishing and strengthening the Indian diaspora in the United States. Their efforts and achievements have laid a strong foundation for the generations that have followed.

Building on this legacy, the next generation of the Indian diaspora continues to make meaningful contributions across various fields, including education, technology, business, culture, healthcare, public service, and community development.

Their achievements and active engagement not only contribute to the progress and prosperity of the communities in which they live but also further strengthen the enduring bonds between India and the United States.

In this regard, the Consulate is keen to engage more closely with the 2nd and 3rd generation of Indian community and establish continued communication and support networks with them for the future.

Mr. Gyaltsen called upon the community members to share information about individuals of the next generation.

Kindly share the link below with the individuals who can contribute to your organization's legacy to be associated with the Consulate.

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INDIA'S BRICS BALANCING ACT

Behind the summit rhetoric lie difficult choices over security, trade and diplomacy

BY KC SINGH



Beyond the speeches, hugging and hand-clasping, bilateral and regional issues will play out.

The 18th BRICS summit is scheduled for September 12-13 in New Delhi. Formally, it is another gathering of some global leaders of emerging economies. However, to put it in the correct perspective, the geopolitical context, including other recently held or upcoming summits, as well as the domestic politics and diplomatic priorities of the members, needs to be considered.

Ahead of the BRICS summit, the SCO Summit was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, from August 31 to September 1. Concurrently, the G-20 finance ministers met in the US. South Africa was neither invited for that nor is likely to be for the G20 summit scheduled for December 14-15. South Africa has the largest economy in Africa.

The SCO was created under Chinese leadership in 2001 as the focus shifted to terrorism emanating from Afghanistan, including the 9/11 attacks in the US. Hence, it originally focused on security and counterterrorism in the Central Asian region. However, as the Chinese economy rapidly grew and the US got entrenched, first in Afghanistan and then in Iraq post 2003, China's ambitions for the SCO's role expanded.

The BRIC acronym was coined by Goldman Sachs in 2001 to describe four emerging economies expected to play a greater role in the 21st century - Brazil, Russia, India and China. The first BRIC summit was held in 2009. South Africa joined it in 2010, with the acronym amended to BRICS. In January 2024, the membership was expanded to include Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran and the UAE. A year later Indonesia also joined, with Saudi Arabia and Argentina ignoring the invitations.

The countries that are members of both SCO and BRICS are: China, India, Russia and Iran. It is not a coincidence that while India joined these groups, having rising Chinese influence, India attended the first meeting of the QUAD, comprising Australia, India, Japan and the US, in 2007. I led the official delegation as Additional Secretary (international Organizations). India was then closely engaging the US to contain the Chinese role in the Indo-Pacific and placating China via

the SCO and BRICS.

Because geopolitics is not a static entity, these priorities kept fluctuating. Once the Labor government succeeded the Liberal government in Australia, its interest in QUAD waned. Almost conversely, the pro-QUAD Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe, lost power. QUAD was revived a decade later when Prime Minister Abe regained power. In US President Donald Trump's second term, the US has lost interest in the group as he engaged China in a G-2 format, sidestepping, perhaps temporarily, planned containment. But this undermined a basic assumption guiding the Indian foreign policy in the 21st century that for the US, India was critical for handling China.

Geopolitics is also shaping the role of all these groupings. With Canada, the UK and France sanctioning Israeli settlers in the West Bank, the cracks in NATO will widen. These had already surfaced over the US targeting Canadian trade and threatening to annex it and Greenland. The Mecca defense agreement of Türkiye, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan further complicates the geostrategic scenario in the Gulf and West Asia.

Also of immediate relevance are crucial upcoming elections in Brazil and Israel next month and the US midterms on November 4. The outcome in Israel and in the US can impact the Gulf crisis. In India, too, the youth-led protests, under the brand "Cockroaches", have fueled anti-government sentiment. Whether it becomes a storm or is contained, the upcoming Assembly elections, most importantly of Uttar Pradesh, will reveal, with implications for India's domestic and foreign policies.

The Indian government is already recalibrating its pro-US and Israel tilt, visible since the Iran conflict began on February 28, 2026. Now, India quietly signed the Bishkek Declaration after the SCO summit, attended by PM Narendra Modi, which expresses "condemnation" of military strikes on Iran. It also reiterates that peace and stability in West Asia are only possible "by comprehensively and justly" resolving the

THE WEEKEND WILL SHOW INDIA USING DIPLOMACY TO RESTORE THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT'S DOMESTIC IMAGE, ELEVATE ITS INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATIC STANDING AND ENGAGE RUSSIA AND IRAN WITHOUT OFFENDING THE US. BUT, AS THE BISHKEK DECLARATION NOTED, "GLOBAL GEOPOLITICS ARE UNDERGOING PROFOUND EVOLUTION, WITH PROFOUND CHANGES IN ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT." A FEW PLURILATERAL SUMMITS MAY AT BEST FRAME SOLUTIONS, BUT IMPLEMENTATION REQUIRES VISIONARY LEADERSHIP.

Palestinian issue. India had of late been dithering on these subjects.

Hence, the leaders attending the BRICS summit will operate at multiple levels. They would formally discuss the themes devised by India, which seek "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability". The first covers climate change and Trump's supply-chain disruptions. Innovation relates to digital public infrastructure, an Indian specialty, and financial technology as well as artificial intelligence, which China and the US dominate.

Cooperation is a slogan which BRICS members balance against national interests and international commitments. For instance, on global institutional reform, while India and China agree on reforming the World Bank and IMF, China openly, and Russia more subtly, oppose India and Brazil's ambitions of becoming permanent members of the UN Security Council. Finally, sustainability relates to accelerating green finance and action on climate change and energy transitions.

Behind the scenes, beyond the speeches, hugging and hand-clasping, bilateral and regional issues will play out. The presence of the presidents of Iran and the UAE ostensibly provides India an opportunity to facilitate a détente. But Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian is at best a messenger, with real decision-making resting with an IRGC-dominated power structure. By his constant dithering, President Trump has emboldened Iran, now expanding its demands. Iran is clearly delaying a compromise till the US midterms, hoping it leads to a weakened President Trump.

Similarly, Chinese President Xi Jinping is visiting India after seven years. After the last visit, Chinese troops intruded across the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh. This time too, the corps commanders recently met to discuss new border issues involving Arunachal Pradesh. China has been emboldened by President Trump conceding a G-2 format, elevating their international standing. China's \$100-billion trade surplus with India, when global trade stands disrupted by Trump's tariff onslaught, motivates a transactional detente without settling the border issue or accepting India's economic rise. China seeks dominance in the Indo-Pacific and bipolarity with the US globally.

The weekend will show India using diplomacy to restore the Indian government's domestic image, elevate its international diplomatic standing and engage Russia and Iran without offending the US. But, as the Bishkek Declaration noted, "global geopolitics are undergoing profound evolution, with profound changes in economic, social and technological development." A few plurilateral summits may at best frame solutions, but implementation requires visionary leadership.

(KC Singh is former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs)

A UNILATERAL AMERICA IN A POST-UNIPOLAR WORLD

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AFTER 9/11, AMERICA'S WAR ON TERROR HAS ALSO ALTERED ITS STRATEGIC POSITION WORLDWIDE

When the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks took place, the United States was at the pinnacle of its power. A decade earlier, its Cold War rival, the Soviet Union, had disintegrated. Russia was still struggling to emerge from the post-Soviet chaos while China remained a close economic partner of the U.S. In eastern Europe, Washington had successfully undertaken military interventions, while the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) had completed its first round of expansion into Russia's neighborhood. The U.S. also maintained a formidable military presence in West Asia. Then came 9/11.

The U.S., then the world's sole superpower, was understandably angry and anguished. It launched "a global war on terrorism", with Taliban-run Afghanistan, which had hosted al-Qaeda, the perpetrators of the 9/11 attacks, as its first target. But the war that then U.S. President George W. Bush launched went far beyond the remit of a fight against terrorism. Twenty-five years later, the U.S. remains bogged down in West Asia, its rivals are more assertive elsewhere, while the threat of terrorism has become more dispersed across West and South Asia and Africa.

Even though it was conceived as a transborder fight against terrorist organizations, primarily al-Qaeda, the war eventually evolved into a series of regime-change wars, driven by the goal of reshaping Afghanistan, West Asia and North Africa in accordance with American interests and worldview. Mr. Bush and his neoconservative allies believed that a "deficit of democracy" bred terrorism, and hence, the spread of democracy became a theoretical imperative of the war on terror. In Afghanistan, U.S. forces toppled the Taliban regime and established a new state - the Islamic Republic. The war forced al-Qaeda to disperse into autonomous cells and retreat, but it did not defeat the organization.

THREE CONSEQUENCES

In less than two years, the U.S. invaded Iraq. Besides the disastrous humanitarian cost of the war, the invasion had three lasting consequences. First, it diverted U.S. attention from Afghanistan and al-Qaeda, giving the Taliban space to regroup and lay the foundations for an insurgency that would eventually defeat the U.S. - 20 years after the 9/11 attacks.

Second, the destruction of the state of Iraq and the chaos that followed offered a new haven for al-Qaeda, which was also seeking to regroup. Before 9/11, Afghanistan had hosted Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda. After the Iraq war, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi built the deadliest branch of the jihadist organization in Iraq. The al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI) would outlive Zarqawi, who was killed in a U.S. airstrike in 2006, and transform itself into the deadly Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in the early 2010s, after Syria, too, plunged into civil war.

Third, the collapse of the Saddam regime in Iraq removed a historical buffer between Iran and the U.S.-backed Persian Gulf monarchies. Saddam had fought Iran for eight years in the 1980s. True, he had later become an outcast in the U.S.-Sunni axis, but he remained a staunch enemy of Tehran. After Saddam fell, Iraq's Shia movements, which had deep historical ties with Tehran but had been suppressed under Saddam, emerged as the new centers of power in Baghdad. Iran steadily expanded its influence in Iraq, strengthening its regional position while also trapping the U.S. in the morass of Iraq.

The regime-change wars did not end with Iraq. In 2011, amid the Arab Spring protests, NATO launched an extensive bombing campaign in Libya aimed at "protecting the Libyan people" from Muammar Qaddafi's forces. The war, which then U.S. President Barack Obama later said he had "led from behind", brought down the Qaddafi regime but effectively destabilized Libya, once one of the most stable states in Africa. The collapse of the Libyan state opened the floodgates to terrorism across Africa, as weapons were smuggled across borders and fell into the hands of

various militias and terrorist groups. Over the past 15 years, jihadist groups have spread their influence across the Sahel, while western influence has continued to diminish on the continent.

By the time Mr. Obama had left the White House, war weariness had set in across Washington. Iraq remained unstable, with growing Iranian influence. In Afghanistan, the Taliban were gaining strength with each passing day, putting American troops under enormous pressure. Libya was divided between rival governments and armed militias. In Syria, a Russian military intervention seemed to have turned the tide, though briefly, in favour of the Assad regime. While the U.S. was struggling to manage its wars in Afghanistan, West Asia and North Africa, China, America's key

post-Soviet security architecture in its rimland. Call it a geopolitical butterfly effect: in February 2022, less than a year after America's withdrawal from Afghanistan, Russia invaded Ukraine, testing the U.S. commitment to Europe.

Second, the October 7, 2023 Hamas attack on Israel shook the whole of West Asia. A furious Israel announced its own "war on terror", launching a full-scale attack on Palestinians in Gaza and extending it into a mini-regional war in West Asia, setting off a chain of developments that led to the February 2026 U.S.-Israeli bombing of Iran. America's failure to learn the lessons of its failed regime-change wars, its inability to strategically decouple itself from Israel, and its hubris, coupled with a refusal to accept the



The U.S.'s unilateralism is increasingly at odds with the emerging realities of the post-unipolar world.'

systemic rival, continued to rise economically and militarily. Having become bogged down in a strategic maze, the U.S. started cutting its losses and repositioning itself across the wider region.

The first move was to accept the fact that the U.S. had lost the war in Afghanistan, the first of its post-9/11 regime-change wars. Donald Trump's first administration began direct talks with the Taliban, and in February 2020, the U.S. signed an agreement with the Islamist insurgency, committing to withdraw American troops from Afghanistan. On August 15, 2021, two weeks ahead of the deadline, the Taliban entered Kabul.

The paradox of the post-9/11 era is that America emerged from the Cold War as the world's unrivalled power, but its attempts to consolidate that primacy through military interventions gradually eroded the very strategic freedom that unipolarity had given it. Take the case of the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. The U.S. saw the withdrawal as the swallowing of an inevitable bitter pill: Washington needed to trim its strategic overreach and prepare for the looming contest with China. But two developments since the withdrawal have erected obstacles to America's strategic repositioning.

First, the U.S. pullback from Afghanistan was interpreted as a sign of weakness by its rivals, particularly Russia, which had long sought to alter the

reality that the world has changed, have all contributed to this folly. The American-Israel axis sought to topple the Islamic Republic and reshape the region. But the war has trapped the U.S. in another quicksand in West Asia.

THE CHANGING GLOBAL ORDER

So, 25 years after the 9/11 attacks, terrorist groups have not only survived the war on terror but have also evolved into localized tentacles of a transnational jihadist project spanning multiple geographies. Despite America's commitment to Europe through NATO, there is a widening chasm in the transatlantic alliance. As traditional U.S. allies grow increasingly frustrated with Washington's newfound transactionalism, Israel, America's closest ally in West Asia, is dragging Washington deeper into a regional vortex. While the U.S. remains bogged down in West Asia, China has risen as the second pole of an increasingly fluid multipolar order, while Russia is violently challenging the U.S.-led security architecture in Europe. The U.S., as its ill-conceived Iran war would suggest, continues to act like a unilateral hegemon. But its unilateralism is increasingly at odds with the emerging realities of the post-unipolar world.

(Source: The Hindu)

The morning after Mohan Bhagwat: A Diaspora's moment of reflection

BY GEORGE
ABRAHAM



The Indian diaspora today occupies a remarkable place in the world. More than 30 million people of Indian origin are estimated to live outside India, building successful lives across North America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Australia, and elsewhere. Every year, thousands more leave India in search of higher education, professional opportunities, economic advancement, and a better future for themselves and their families.

Wherever Indians have settled, they have brought along not only their skills and ambitions but also their culture, traditions, faith, and heritage. Indian food, music, cinema, festivals, philosophy, and spiritual traditions have become increasingly familiar across the globe. Yoga, now practiced by millions internationally, is perhaps the most visible example of India's extraordinary cultural influence and "soft power."

But the Indian diaspora represents something more than culture and economic achievement. We also carry a responsibility to uphold the democratic and constitutional ideals that have formed modern India. The Constitution of India rests upon fundamental principles of liberty, equality, justice, secularism, and fraternity. Leaders such as Jawaharlal Nehru and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar understood that India's extraordinary diversity could be preserved only through a constitutional order in which every citizen, regardless of religion, caste, language, ethnicity, or social background, could enjoy equal rights and dignity.

For Indians living abroad, these values should have particular meaning because many of us have prospered precisely because similar principles protect us in our adopted countries. Across the United States and other democratic societies, Indians have built temples, churches, mosques, gurdwaras, cultural centers, schools, professional organizations, and community institutions. We worship openly, organize freely, publish newspapers, criticize governments, support political causes, contest elections, and participate fully in civic life.

These freedoms have become a fundamental part of the immigrant experience.

Among them, freedom of conscience deserves special attention. The freedom to believe, worship, question, change one's beliefs, or choose no religious faith at all is fundamental to human dignity. It should not depend upon the generosity of a government or the tolerance of a majority. It is an inherent human right.

Yet today we are witnessing troubling developments across many parts of the world. Authoritarian tendencies, religious intolerance, political division and anti-immigrant sentiment are gaining ground. Even societies that historically welcomed immigrants and celebrated multiculturalism are experiencing movements that question immigration, diversity, and the rights of minorities.

It is precisely at such a time that the Indian diaspora must become more committed, not less to democracy, pluralism, religious freedom, and equal citizenship.

A MOMENT IN REFLECTION:

Against that background, the gathering at Madison Square Garden on August 29, where thousands assembled to hear Mohan Bhagwat, the head of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), deserves serious reflection.

The RSS has long occupied an important and controversial place in debates concerning Indian nationalism, Hindu identity, minority rights, secularism, religious pluralism, and the nature of the Indian republic. Its ideology, history, political influence, and relationship with contemporary Indian society continue to generate passionate arguments both among advocates and detractors. Indians living in democratic societies abroad have a particular obligation to examine these questions carefully.

Many Indian Americans have taken an oath of allegiance to the Constitution of the United States. They have benefited from constitutional protections



Mohan Bhagwat, the head of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)

THE CHALLENGE FACING THE INDIAN DIASPORA, THEREFORE, IS NOT SIMPLY POLITICAL. IT IS MORAL. WHAT KIND OF INDIA DO WE WISH TO REPRESENT TO THE WORLD? WHAT VALUES DO WE WANT THE NEXT GENERATION OF INDIAN-ORIGIN CHILDREN GROWING UP ABROAD TO INHERIT? DO WE WANT THEM TO BELIEVE THAT LIBERTY AND EQUALITY ARE UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLES, OR MERELY PRIVILEGES THAT WE INVOKE WHEN THEY SERVE OUR INTERESTS? THE ANSWER WILL HELP DETERMINE THE DIASPORA'S CREDIBILITY AND LEGACY.

that guarantee freedom of religion, freedom of expression, equality before the law, and the right to organize politically and socially. Those protections have allowed Indian immigrants of every religious and regional background to succeed.

That reality raises an unavoidable moral question: Can we demand the fullest measure of freedom, equality, and religious liberty for ourselves abroad while remaining indifferent when those same freedoms are threatened for others in India? We cannot reasonably seek one standard for ourselves and another for people whose religion, ideology, politics, or worldview may differ from ours.

There is an old saying that one cannot have one's cake and eat it too. We cannot celebrate pluralism when it protects us in America, Canada, Europe, Australia, or elsewhere, while becoming silent when minorities, journalists, activists, dissenters, or other vulnerable communities in India seek those same constitutional protections. Such a position would represent a serious double standard.

More importantly, it could eventually weaken the moral credibility of the diaspora itself. If intolerance is acceptable when directed toward someone else, on what grounds can we demand tolerance when intolerance is directed toward us?

FREEDOM CANNOT BE SELECTIVE:

History teaches us that liberty is rarely lost overnight. Democratic freedoms are often weakened gradually.

Restrictions may first be justified against an unpopular minority. Later they may be extended to political dissenters, journalists, academics, activists, religious leaders, or civil society organizations. Eventually, the erosion of liberty may affect anyone who refuses to conform to the prevailing political or social orthodoxy.

That is why democratic standards must never depend upon which political party happens to govern, which religious community constitutes the majority, or which organization we personally support. Democracy has real meaning only when we consistently defend constitutional freedoms.

Freedom of expression is meaningful when it protects speech with which we disagree. Religious freedom is meaningful when it protects religions other than our own. Equality before the law is meaningful only when it applies to the weak as well as the powerful. Minority rights matter precisely because majorities generally possess the political power to protect themselves. Our devotion to these principles therefore cannot be selective.

Indian diaspora has achieved extraordinary success in medicine, technology, science, business, academia, government, engineering, finance, and countless other professions. Indian-origin individuals lead major corporations, universities, research institutions, community organizations, and public institutions around the world. With that success comes responsibility.

We should aspire to become ambassadors not simply for Indian cuisine, culture, technology, entrepreneurship, and economic achievement, but also for the highest ideals contained in the Constitution of India.

The Preamble speaks of justice, social, economic, and political; liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship; equality of status and opportunity; and fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual. Those words should mean something wherever Indians live. Our devotion to them should not disappear when we board an aircraft from New York to New Delhi.

ONE STANDARD OF FREEDOM:

We cannot champion democracy abroad while accepting majoritarianism at home. We cannot demand religious liberty for ourselves while remaining silent about the freedom of others. We cannot insist upon equality when we are minorities abroad and disregard equality when another community is in the minority in India. Constitutional principles cannot operate according to geography or convenience. There must be one standard.

If we value freedom of worship for a Hindu temple in America, we must value the same freedom for a church, mosque, gurdwara, or any other place of worship in India. If we defend an Indian immigrant's right to speak against discrimination abroad, we must defend the right of an Indian citizen to criticize those in authority at home. The principles are inseparable.

The challenge facing the Indian diaspora, therefore, is not simply political. It is moral.

What kind of India do we wish to represent to the world? What values do we want the next generation of Indian-origin children growing up abroad to inherit? Do we want them to believe that liberty and equality are universal principles, or merely privileges that we invoke when they serve our interests? The answer will help determine the diaspora's credibility and legacy.

At a time of growing polarization and intolerance worldwide, Indians abroad have an opportunity to become a powerful voice for constitutional democracy, pluralism, freedom of conscience, and human dignity. We should use that voice responsibly and consistently.

The Indian diaspora must stand for democracy not only when it benefits us, but when it protects others; for religious freedom not only for our own faith, but for every faith; and for justice not only when we are the victims of injustice, but whenever injustice occurs. Rejecting double standards is not simply a political necessity. It is an ethical obligation.

Our credibility, our democratic heritage, and perhaps even the future security of minority communities, including our own communities abroad, depend upon our willingness to defend these principles without exception.

Freedom cannot be selective. Equality cannot be conditional. Democracy cannot depend upon who holds power. Those values belong to everyone.

(George Abraham is a former Chief Technology Officer with the United Nations. He is Vice-Chair of the IOC)

EARLY WARNING OF DISASTERS CAN SAVE LIVES

BY SANDEEP
CHAKRAVORTY



In September 1893, a massive rockfall completely blocked the Birahi Ganga River valley, in the Indian Himalayas, constructing a natural landslide dam that stood over 900 feet high. This created a large, deep body of water called Gohna Lake.

Although a massive portion of the dam initially broke in 1894-destroying towns downstream like Srinagar-the lake was not entirely empty and remained a prominent feature for decades. During the severe Himalayan floods of 1924, the remaining landslide dam breached for a second time, unleashing another devastating wave down the Alaknanda valley. However, despite these catastrophic events taking place in highly fragile mountainous regions, in both 1894 and 1924 no lives were lost due to an early warning system being in place, even back then.

In the context of the landslide and horrific floods in Nepal questions are being raised if some early warning system could have been in place. In one case where Headmaster Rajendra Dawadi of Tribhuvan Trishuli School, perhaps got a few minutes early warning, he rang the bell, turned buses back and was able to save 1,643 lives of children.

In India, these days there exists a sophisticated early warning system run by the Indian Meteorological Department that warns about impending cyclones in the cyclone prone Bay of Bengal, saving countless lives by timely evacuation of people.

An excellent example of international cooperation in this field is the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWMS) that provides real-time alerts and threat assessments to countries in the Indian Ocean Rim to save lives from destructive tsunamis. It was created after the deadly December 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami that killed almost 250,000 people, mostly in Aceh province of Indonesia.

Operations rely on three designated national centers-Australia (JATWC), India (ITEWC), and Indonesia (InaTEWS)-which monitor seismic and sea-level activity round the clock. Land-based seismographs and seismic stations detect undersea earthquakes and measure their magnitude within minutes. Seafloor bottom pressure recorders detect pressure changes from passing tsunami waves and transmit data via satellite to warning centers. Coastal tide gauges monitor sea-level changes in real-time to verify whether a tsunami wave has formed. Regional Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs) process this data and issue risk assessments to national warning centers, which then alert local populations. Disasters do happen, but it is an early warning that can save lives.

The early warning system installed by the British in 1894 at Lake Gohna even worked for the 1924 lake breach. In 1894, faced with a massive 900-foot natural landslide dam that they knew would eventually overtop, Lt. Col Pulford, Lt. Col Crookshank, and geologist Thomas Holland engineered what is widely considered one of the first successful modern early warning systems in the world. The system relied on a highly coordinated mix of latest technology for the era, i.e., telegraph and strict infrastructural preparation.

What they did was nothing short of a miracle. They established a dedicated temporary telegraph line running directly from the remote monitoring outpost at Durmi village (near the lake) down to the district headquarters in Chamoli. Engineers stationed at the dam recorded the lake's water levels and structural behaviors continuously. Daily progress reports were telegraphed down the valley so authorities could track exactly how fast the lake was filling up. Ahead of the breach, authorities established a series of observation posts along the entire lengths of the Alaknanda and Ganga valleys. Physical danger levels were clearly marked on rocks and posts near downstream settlements. If local watchmen saw the river cross these lines, they had explicit orders to sound immediate local alarms and initiate pre-planned

AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THIS FIELD IS THE INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI WARNING AND MITIGATION SYSTEM (IOTWMS) THAT PROVIDES REAL-TIME ALERTS AND THREAT ASSESSMENTS TO COUNTRIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN RIM TO SAVE LIVES FROM DESTRUCTIVE TSUNAMIS. IT WAS CREATED AFTER THE DEADLY DECEMBER 2004 INDIAN OCEAN EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI THAT KILLED ALMOST 250,000 PEOPLE, MOSTLY IN ACEH PROVINCE OF INDONESIA.



Satellite imagery shows a lake that formed at site of glacier collapse as Nepal warns lake could burst.

evacuations.

Rather than waiting for a sudden failure, Crookshank and Holland studied the geomorphology of debris to map out a timeline. On August 22, 1894, Crookshank telegraphed a warning that the dam would fail within 48 hours. They were incredibly accurate-the lake overtopped just past midnight on August 25. Because of the precise timeline, every single vulnerable village, including the major town of Srinagar, was completely evacuated before the wall of water arrived.

Knowing the immense kinetic energy a flash flood holds, the authorities did not just move people; they dismantled suspension bridges in the expected path of the flood to prevent the iron and cables from being turned into destructive battering rams downstream. Major pilgrim routes winding through the Himalayas were entirely diverted to higher ground to ensure travelers were not caught in the valley floors. Thanks to this meticulous system, when 10 billion cubic feet of water were violently released in less than six hours during the 1894 burst, the entire valley was swept clean-yet virtually no lives were lost. This exact blueprint of observation posts and valley-wide

telegraph communication remained the foundational network that allowed authorities to quickly spread warnings further downstream when the lake suffered its second massive breach during the monsoons of 1924.

Satisfyingly, the IOTWMS is fully functional and operational. It is continuously tracking seismic activity across the entire ocean basin. The designated TSPs in Australia, India, and Indonesia actively monitor undersea earthquakes and routinely issue automated, public data bulletins. The framework is regularly stress-tested through basin-wide simulations. The comprehensive Exercise Indian Ocean Wave 2025 (IOWave25) successfully tested the end-to-end warning chain-from sensor detection to community evacuations-involving over 320,000 participants across multiple countries, including India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, and the UAE.

In 2004, the region had zero real-time basin infrastructure. Today, the system creates computerized impact forecasts within 10 to 30 minutes of a major earthquake, giving vulnerable coastal zones vital time to react. While the primary detection grid is highly functional, the system faces two ongoing operational hurdles. Firstly, while warning centers receive the data instantly, some countries still struggle to rapidly transmit the alert to remote, isolated coastal villages via local sirens or mobile texts. Secondly, if an earthquake strikes right next to a coastline, the resulting tsunami waves can hit land in less than 5 to 10 minutes. In these scenarios, even the fastest automated satellite network does not replace human education, which teaches people to instantly move to high ground the moment they feel the earth shake. One can only wish that some kind of an early warning mechanism existed between authorities of China and Nepal. The hope is that this disaster will lead to the establishment of one.

(Sandeep Chakravorty is ambassador of India to Indonesia, and a former Consul General of India in New York.)

Trump promises Americans \$5,000 if Republicans win Congress

The U.S. President did not say where the money would come from - with the theoretical bill likely topping \$1 trillion - citing only that "our country is making so much money"

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
DALLAS (TIP)

U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, promised \$5,000 to every American adult if Republicans retain control of Congress in November, coupling the extraordinary claim with a plea for his supporters to "pretend" he was on the ballot.

"If the Republicans win, you win with us and you get \$5,000. It will be called the Trump dividend," he told the Republican midterm convention in Dallas, as the party struggles in polls against the Democrats.

The U.S. President did not say where the money would come from - with the theoretical bill likely topping \$1 trillion - citing only that "our country is making so much money."

Doubling down on his bet that he can help Republicans defy opinion polls and retain both houses of Congress on November 3, Trump said: "I'm asking you to pretend that I'm on the ballot."

"I'm on the ballot, I'm on the ballot - just one more time," he told the crowd.

Trump claims Iran war will end right after U.S. midterm elections.

Opinion polls overwhelmingly show that Mr. Trump's approval ratings are in the low 30s, as voters become increasingly angry about high prices and the war he launched against Iran.

Decision Desk HQ projects Democrats to win the House 230-205 and the Senate to finish 51-49 in their favor in November.

Inside the American Airlines Center, there was little sign of Republican anxiety about November.

The convention even featured a video address from Democratic Senator John Fetterman, who has become increasingly at odds with his party's left wing over issues including Israel.

Republicans highlighted tax cuts and immigration enforcement, touting boosted manufacturing and lower prescription drug prices.

Trump revives election fraud claims ahead of U.S. midterms

The cavernous arena was festooned with Trump posters as supporters milled around in sequined jackets patterned with his name, image and the American flag, some topped with ten-gallon hats.

Food stalls hawked overpriced snacks while merchandise stands did brisk business in T-shirts, mugs, posters and copies of the latest literary offering from the Trump clan, "Under Siege" by the president's second son, Eric.

Despite the political headwinds facing Republicans, the mood was festive. Chants of "USA! USA!" - familiar from Trump's campaign rallies - echoed around the hall as the national anthem opened the programme.

Mr. Trump's speech was received warmly in the room, with spontaneous bursts of chanting after each applause line, and the enthusiasm spilt into the American Airlines Center's vast atrium outside.

If we don't win midterms, I will get impeached: Trump to House Republicans



U.S. President Donald Trump speaks at the Republican National Midterm Convention in Dallas, Texas, U.S., on September 9, 2026.
Photo Credit: Reuters

The gathering is the first Republican national convention held specifically for a midterm election, although no candidates are being nominated and no formal party business is planned.

Instead, organizers have constructed what amounts to a two-night television rally touting Mr. Trump's record and Republican candidates.

More than 100 House members and candidates were expected to attend, with over 50 speakers or presentations scheduled each night. (Source: AFP)

US Moves to End 60-Day Grace Period for H-1B, other Work Visa Holders

UNDER THE PLANNED RULE CHANGE, PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER BY THE US DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, THOSE WITH H-1B AND CERTAIN OTHER TEMPORARY WORK VISAS WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AS SOON AS THEIR EMPLOYMENT ENDS

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP)

The Trump administration has proposed eliminating a 60-day grace period that allows certain immigrants, including skilled workers on H-1B visas, to stay in the United States and find a new sponsor after losing their job, according to a government notice posted online Thursday.

Under the planned rule change, published in the Federal Register by the US Department of Homeland Security, those with H-1B and certain other temporary work visas would have to leave the country as soon as their employment ends - a potential blow to top American tech companies that rely heavily on foreign workers.

It is the latest step by US President Donald Trump to limit legal migration since returning to office in January 2025. His administration has also introduced higher visa fees for skilled workers and recently paused immigrant visa appointments at US missions around the world while it implements a new training program.

Companies impacted by the change could see some disruption, DHS wrote in its proposal, but it said the jobs could go to American workers instead. In some situations, immigrant workers who leave could potentially reapply if their employer petitions for them, it added.

"DHS presumes that they will either offer the same jobs to equally qualified US workers or go through the I-129 petition process depending on their workforce requirement," the notice said.

The 60-day grace period, in place since



2017, allows foreign workers time to find another US job or get their affairs in order - whether selling a home or pulling children out of school - before leaving the country.

H-1B visas, established by Congress in 1990, are especially critical for tech companies seeking talent from India and China, allowing them to fill roles where there is sometimes a lack of qualified US workers.

Consultancy companies such as Deloitte, PwC and Ernst & Young as well as outsourcing giants like Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys, HCL Tech and LTIMindtree are top H-1B sponsors.

Lawyers for Berardi Immigration Law, which specializes in business-related immigration issues, said the move would "sharply compress the timeline HR teams have to manage layoffs and offboarding for foreign national employees."

If implemented, the change would also apply to E-1 international trader visa holders; E-2 commercial vehicle operator visa holders; L-1 short-term work for executives or managers with international companies; O-1 visas for people "with an extraordinary ability" in science, sports or the arts; and TN professional workers.

It also would impact H-1B1 skilled worker visa holders from Singapore and Chile and E-3 specialty worker visa holders from Australia.

The rule is subject to a two-month public comment period before it can be enacted into law.

Fox News viewers brand Donald Trump 'pathetic' as president rants about 'fake news'

FOX NEWS VIEWERS WERE QUICK TO CRITICIZE DONALD TRUMP AFTER HE LOST IT AT AN ABC NEWS REPORTER.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
DALLAS (TIP):

The president, 80, had traveled to Dallas, Texas, for the Republican midterm convention. The event kicked off on Wednesday, September 9, and will run until Thursday, September 10. Trump spoke to reporters ahead of the convention and was questioned by ABC News reporter Mary Bruce about Republican candidates skipping the event.

"Mr President, several Republicans in competitive races are not coming to the convention. Do you understand why they're deciding not to come?" Bruce asked in an exchange which aired live on Fox News. It comes as Trump gave a long speech at the convention, during which he seemed to try and bribe voters.

Trump responded to Bruce, "Everybody's coming to the convention. Everybody wants to come, but we only want, and the people that - by the way, we're going to be sold out tonight, just so you understand. Who are you with?"

She revealed, "ABC News, sir." This didn't sit well with the president, who dubbed the network "ABC fake news." He added, "One of the worst - you are the worst of all, in my opinion."

Trump finally answered the question and said, "The reason that some people are not coming is because we don't have room for 500 politicians. We have room for the ones that have a close race, if they're slightly behind or slightly ahead



President Trump

or tied.

"But we don't have room for people that are 35 points up and don't need to be there. We said stay back and campaign. Every politician that we wanted to be there is there."

A clip of the Fox News segment was shared on X and viewers were quick to criticize Trump.

"Hahahahaha, you pathetic tub o' goo," one critic mocked as they gave the president a new nickname.

Someone else fumed, "I wish reporters wouldn't always play nice when Trump asks what organization they're with. It just plays into his hands. A better response would have been 'I'm with the United States, who are YOU with?'"

Another X user agreed, "When he asks who you are with just say Fox." One Fox News viewer asked, "Can he only get oxygen from the air when he lies? Does he suffocate if he tells the truth too often?"

A fifth person questioned, "Did you ever notice that we never had fake news, until we got a fake president? Think about that. Take your time," while someone else said, "His level of creativity when it comes to LIES is astronomical!"

"The ease with which Trump just switches to a new lie when confronted about the first lie would be comical if he weren't the president of the United States," one Trump critic fumed, while someone else joked, "DonOLD is Such a loser!" (Source: Scarlett O'Toole)

Trump admin removes controversial 'Mr Singh' self-deportation post; terms backlash 'nonsensical drive'

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP)

The US Department of Homeland Security on Thursday, September 10 removed an X post featuring a Transformers-themed cartoon confronting an Indian Sikh man with the phrase "Get off our roads, you don't know how to drive Mr. Singh" following fierce condemnation.

The deleted post portrayed a facial-haired man wearing a bandana opposite the Transformers character Optimus Prime adorned with the DHS seal on his armor. The poster also read, "Self deport or find out."

According to The New York Times, the image drew immediate backlash from Indian American organizations and Democratic lawmakers, who condemned it as racially discriminatory toward Sikh Americans and harmful to millions sharing the common surname.

Addressing the post, NYT reported that DHS said in a statement that the graphic depicted Harjinder Singh, an Indian national facing vehicular homicide and manslaughter charges after pleading not guilty in a fatal Florida turnpike crash that claimed three lives.

The federal agency dismissed the public outcry as "nonsensical drive" and

asserted that "Harjinder Singh is an illegal alien from India who should never have been in our country," according to the NYT.

It added that the department offered no immediate explanation for why the post was taken down.

NYT further highlighted that the timing of the incident, occurring alongside the 25th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, heightened public outrage. Sikh men, who traditionally keep beards and wear turbans, were repeatedly targeted in violent, anti-Muslim hate crimes following the 2001 attacks due to mistaken identity, NYT reported.

The controversial graphic also sparked an immediate online clash between state leadership and federal authorities.

California Governor Gavin Newsom sharply criticized the US President Donald Trump administration on social media, writing, "This is disgusting. Trump's government is trafficking in racist propaganda targeting the Sikh community."

This is disgusting. Trump's government is trafficking in racist propaganda targeting the Sikh community. <https://t.co/LUX5fOLFMA>

- Governor Newsom Press Office (@GovPressOffice) September 10, 2026

Responding directly to Newsom, DHS posted a video alongside the reply, "Hey Gavin, YOU gave him his CDL and then he killed three people with his tractor-trailer."

The deleted image was part of an aggressive, ongoing social media campaign by DHS highlighting unauthorized commercial drivers involved in fatal traffic accidents.

In additional posts on X, DHS reiterated its focus on enforcement, "DHS is getting the worst of the worst off of America's roads. Far too many American lives have been lost or permanently changed because illegal aliens who have no business being on our roads have been granted CDLs. Help us make America's roads safe by dialing 866-347-2423 to report CDL fraud."

The department spotlighted several other cases involving foreign nationals, stating, "Michael Bon, an illegal alien from Haiti, who caused a semi-truck crash that killed a Pennsylvania State Trooper in July 2026. He had been granted a CDL by Massachusetts."

Detailing another fatal incident, DHS added, "Another American family faced the unthinkable at the hands of an illegal alien criminal. Alexander Nunez, an illegal alien, was drunk driving in a stolen vehicle on the wrong side of the highway



when he crashed into another car. One young father was killed and two of his cousins were seriously injured."

Reaffirming its mandate, DHS stated it "is committed to getting criminal illegal aliens out of the country and preventing more of these tragedies in the future."

Six Indian Americans Received prestigious GOPIO Award of Excellence for their Extraordinary accomplishments

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026
WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP)

Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO Virginia) organized its Signature event of Annual Award of Excellence Banquet at Marriott Suits in Herndon and celebrated its 17th Anniversary and 80th Independence Day of India. A grand successful event liked by everyone present and praised by all guests of Honor.

Chief Guest, Congressman Suhas Subramanyam, special guests, Virginia State Senators Saddam Azim Salim and Jennifer Wexton and Ambassador's Representative Vinayak Patil led the houseful event. Many dignitaries and community leaders graced the occasion with their presence. National Anthem of US and India were sung by Miss Virginia Jr. Aneria and Swati Sharma.

GOPIO Virginia President Jaisingh Bhandari extended a word of welcome and explained the role of GOPIO for the betterment of community and society. He mentioned that GOPIO's mission is to Empower, Educate, and Enhance our community by fostering civic engagement, leadership, and active participation in society. Through education, advocacy, and community service, GOPIO Virginia strives to support the social, economic, and civic advancement of Indian Americans while strengthening our collective voice and impact. As proud members of the Indian American community, we all share a responsibility to contribute to the growth and success of our society.



Congressman Suhas Subramanyam inaugurating Souvenir with state Senators Saddam Salim and senator Jennifer Boyosky

Your participation helps shape the future of GOPIO Virginia and creates opportunities for present and future generations to thrive and achieve the American Dream.

Indian Americans have played a significant role in strengthening the bonds between India and the United States, contributing to the economic, educational, social, cultural, and technological advancement of both nations.

Across diverse fields, people of Indian origin have distinguished themselves through innovation, leadership, and service, earning respect and recognition worldwide.

As we celebrate the 80th year of India's Independence, we pay tribute to the vision, sacrifice, and unwavering courage of the freedom fighters who secured our nation's freedom. This historic milestone reminds us of our rich heritage, democratic values, and



Dr. V K Raju receiving award from senator Saddam Salim and GOPIO president Jay Bhandari

collective responsibility to contribute positively to the communities and countries we call home. As Indian Americans, we take pride in India's remarkable achievements and growing global leadership while continuing to strengthen the enduring bonds of friendship and cooperation between India and the United States. May this celebration inspire us to uphold the ideals of unity, service, excellence, and progress for generations to come.

Congressman Suhas Subramanyam thanked Jay Bhandari for organizing "a wonderful program". Also, he extended his greetings on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day of India.

Congressman presented GOPIO Excellence Award to Dr. Shiva Subramaniam who received award in Education. Dr. Siva is emeritus professor in University of George Town and Hospital in Pediatrics, and obstetrics and Gynecology. He has published more than 100 articles. He is one of the



Dr. Siva Subramaniam receiving award from congressman Suhas Subramanyam and President Jay Bhandari.

founders of Siva Vishnu temple in Maryland.

Dr. Hiren Pokharana received Award in Medicine. He worked during Covid time on front lines tirelessly, putting his life at risk. He is Doctor of Infectious Disease.

Dr. Javed Hassan received award for Leadership in Technology and Business. He runs a Billion Dollars Company.

Dr. V. K. Raju Received the award in Philanthropy from Senator Saddam. He is the Founder and chairman of Eye Foundation of America. He also received award in Medicine in 2021. He is working for last 59 years to eliminate childhood blindness in Children. In last April, he was recognized at the House of Lords in London for his 49 years of dedicated service in removing childhood blindness.

Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news

‘Enquiry panel can’t order FIRs over CJP protests’: CJI-led bench

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Supreme Court on Thursday, Sept 10, made it clear that its five-member high-powered enquiry committee (HPEC) cannot order registration of FIRs in connection with the July protests led by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), saying the power to direct criminal investigations rests exclusively with the court.

A bench, comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana, said the committee would examine the allegations, identify victims and make recommendations, but any decision to order a criminal investigation would have to be taken by the Supreme Court.

The clarification came as the bench agreed to expedite the proceedings before the committee and said it would “iron out” any creases that emerge in the course of its functioning.

“The committee has to work under the direct supervision of this court,” said the bench, adding that the HPEC could appoint its own amicus or lawyer to assist it before the Supreme Court.

It also permitted the committee to give wide publicity to its proceedings, invite suggestions and objections, and create a dedicated mechanism, including a helpline, for vulnerable witnesses who may be unable to approach it directly. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre and Delhi Police, told the court that the committee’s first meeting had been scheduled for September 15. The court’s clarification assumes significance because it had, on September 1, used its extraordinary powers under Article 142 to bring to an end criminal proceedings arising from the protests. It ordered that FIRs registered between July 20 and 25 in connection with the protests would not be pursued or investigated and would be treated as closed, while directing that no fresh FIRs be registered in relation to those incidents.

Centre tightens e-commerce rules; platforms must show prior price from January 1

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): The government has amended the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020, to tighten norms on price transparency, sponsored listings, search result manipulation and dark patterns, the Department of Consumer Affairs said on Thursday.

The Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) (Amendment) Rules, 2026, will come into force from January 1, 2027, it said in a statement.

“The amended rules seek to address emerging consumer concerns in the digital marketplace while taking into account the need for Ease of Doing Business and a balanced approach that protects consumer interests without imposing unnecessary regulatory burdens on e-commerce entities,” the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution said in a statement.

Under the amended rules, e-commerce entities will have to disclose the reduced price and “prior price” whenever a price cut is announced.

The prior price has been defined as the lowest price at which the product was offered in the 30 days before the discount was announced.

The rules bar e-commerce entities from manipulating search results that mislead users or adversely affect the relevance of results to a search query.

Sponsored listings will have to be identified through clear and prominent disclosures, the statement said.

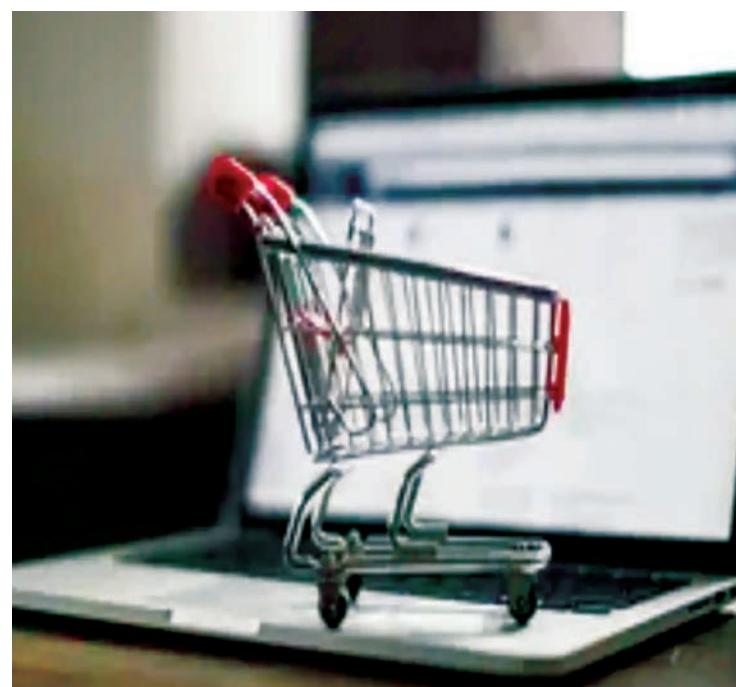
E-commerce entities will also be required to comply with the Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns, 2023, undertake a yearly self-audit and display a certificate of compliance, the department added.

Deceptive online practices are known as dark patterns that allegedly misled consumers during purchases and subscriptions. Dark patterns include drip pricing, basket sneaking, confirm shaming, subscription traps and misleading prompts. These tactics are aimed at nudging users toward decisions they may not have otherwise made.

In June 2025, the Central Consumer Protection Authority had directed e-commerce platforms to conduct self-audits and identify as well as remove dark patterns from their digital services.

The amended rules mandate every e-commerce entity to become a partner in the convergence process of the National Consumer Helpline (NCH).

The department said the NCH received 17,71,622 grievances



in 2025, of which 5,11,196, or about 29 per cent, related to the e-commerce sector.

Every e-commerce entity will have to provide a complainant with a copy of the complaint as recorded by its grievance officer, the rules said.

Marketplace e-commerce entities will have to disclose key information such as best before or use before dates, and details on returns, refunds, warranty, delivery and payment, to help consumers make informed decisions, according to the rules.

For imported goods, the importer’s details and country of origin will have to be disclosed, it said.

The rules also bar marketplace e-commerce entities from using consumer information for specified purposes without express and affirmative consent, and from collecting bundled fees for services unrelated to the e-commerce platform, except for loyalty or membership programmes.

The Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020, were notified under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, to protect consumers from unfair trade practices in e-commerce.

The department said the amendments were aimed at building a transparent, accountable and consumer-centric e-commerce ecosystem while ensuring ease of doing business.

Goyal pushes India-Russia trade ties, targets USD 100 billion bilateral trade by 2030

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday, Sept 10, called for an accelerated India-Russia economic and industrial partnership, urging businesses from both countries to work towards achieving the target of USD 100 billion in bilateral trade and USD 50 billion in two-way investment by 2030.

Addressing the INNOPROM India 2026 Co-Chair Plenary Session with Russian Minister of Industry and Trade Anton Alikhanov in New Delhi, Goyal said the targets set by the two Heads of State would serve as a measure of the performance of both governments and businesses.

Goyal said raising bilateral trade from the current level of around USD 60 billion to USD 100 billion would require an additional USD 40 billion over the next four years, translating into sustained double-digit year-on-year



growth. He stressed that achieving the target would require significant efforts not only from the two governments but also from businesses on both sides.

Highlighting the scope for diversifying bilateral trade, Goyal pointed to strong growth in several Indian export

categories.

Indian exports of meat and edible meat products more than doubled from USD 36 million to USD 97 million, an increase of nearly 170 per cent. Fish and aquatic products rose from USD 123 million to USD 159 million, while exports of edible vegetables increased from USD 38 million to USD 54 million.

Exports of coffee, tea and spices grew 13 per cent to USD 116 million, while products of the milling industry nearly doubled, he said.

Goyal said non-energy trade between India and Russia remained well below its potential, providing significant headroom to bridge the gap between the current USD 60 billion trade level and the USD 100 billion target.

He said rebalancing bilateral trade through greater Indian exports of pharmaceuticals, engineering goods, chemicals, textiles, food products, marine products and automobiles would be central to achieving the goal.

Trouble for Lalu, family members as court orders framing of charges in IRCTC scam

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): Finding a "strong suspicion" of abuse of public office and proceeds of crime, a Delhi court on Sept 10 ordered framing of money-laundering charges against RJD president and former Railway Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav, his wife Rabri Devi and son Tejashwi Yadav in a case linked to the alleged manipulation of tenders for two railway (IRCTC) hotels and transfer of prime land in Patna.

Special Judge (PC Act) Vishal Gogne of the Rouse Avenue Courts held that there was sufficient material at this stage to proceed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) against nine accused, including members of the Yadav family.

The court, however, drew a line between the accused and discharged seven others, including Lalu's son-in-law Rahul Yadav, finding insufficient grounds to put them on trial in the money-laundering case.

At the centre of Thursday's order was a parcel of land in Patna and the prosecution's allegation that its ownership was ultimately routed to members of the Yadav family following the award of leases for IRCTC hotels in Ranchi and Puri.

"There exists a strong suspicion of abuse of office and proceeds of crime in the hands of Rabri Devi and Tejashwi Yadav," the court observed while pronouncing its order.

The judge said the two continued to enjoy the allegedly tainted Patna property, which, according to the prosecution case, reached them at Lalu's behest through transactions carried out over the years.

The court referred to allegations that while Lalu was Railway Minister, railway officials manipulated a tender for leasing the Ranchi and Puri hotels. The directors of the beneficiary company allegedly transferred the Patna land to Sarla Gupta, described as a close associate of Lalu, following which shares were transferred to Rabri Devi for a nominal consideration.

It is this alleged trail, from the railway hotel contracts to the land transaction and its eventual control, that forms the backbone of the Enforcement Directorate's money-laundering case. Apart from Lalu, Rabri and Tejashwi, the court ordered charges against Lara Projects LLP, Sarla Gupta, former Union Minister Prem Chand Gupta, Sujata Hotels, Vinay Kochhar and Vijay Kochhar.

Rahul Yadav, Gaurav Gupta, Nath Mal Kakrania, Vijay Tripathi, Deoki Nandan Tulshyan, Rajiv Kumar Relan and Abhishek Finance Private Limited were discharged. Formal charges will be drawn up on October 3.

Chidambaram questions BRICS results, colleague Tharoor praises its diplomatic value

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on Friday, Sept 11, joined the debate on India's presidency of the BRICS Summit, saying New Delhi hosting the summit offers significant diplomatic value and an opportunity for India to strengthen its engagement with the Global South. He said the summit also showcases India's diplomatic convening power and enhances its prestige on the global stage by bringing together global leaders.

The Congress leader's comments came even as party colleague and former finance minister P Chidambaram questioned whether recent BRICS summits had delivered any "tangible benefits" for the country.

BJP leaders meanwhile seized the moment to attack Congress, saying party MP Tharoor himself exposed what they called Congress propaganda.

Chidambaram had questioned what India was gaining from its membership of BRICS, as well as other multilateral



Shashi Tharoor

groupings such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, G20 and QUAD.

"I don't think the last two or three BRICS summits have resulted in tangible benefits or tangible results," Chidambaram said. "What benefits are we getting out of that? I can't see. In the last two or three summits, I didn't see any benefits."

Responding to a question on the benefits India expects from hosting the summit, Tharoor, who has in recent times taken positions that differ from

the Congress line, said BRICS provides an important platform for the Global South.

"First of all, we're providing an important platform for the Global South," he said, noting that the 11 BRICS countries represent a majority of the world's population and 41 per cent of global GDP.

"The Global South is over 100 countries, but here we have 11 key players from the Global South who collectively represent much of the diversity of views, as well as the range of countries that we are essentially chairing on this particular occasion. This grouping, just the 11 BRICS countries, represents a majority of the world's population and 41 per cent of global GDP. It's not a small matter, it's something that has to be taken very seriously by the rest of the world," he observed. Tharoor also pointed to the diplomatic significance of hosting leaders from BRICS member and observer countries.

India's nuclear arsenal estimated at 190 warheads, says US report

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): India's nuclear arsenal is estimated at 190 warheads, including around 30 additional warheads intended for new missiles currently under production, according to the Federation of American Scientists (FAS), a US-based non-profit policy think tank.

The FAS estimate broadly aligns with the findings of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). In a report released in June, SIPRI estimated that India possessed a growing stockpile of about 190 nuclear weapons as of January 2026, a slight increase from the previous year. The assessment formed part of SIPRI's annual review of the state of armaments, disarmament and international security.

In its latest report, the FAS said its estimates were derived from analyses of open-source information, state-originating data and commercial satellite imagery.

"Based on available public information about its nuclear-capable delivery force structure and strategy, we estimate that India may have produced around 190 nuclear warheads," said Hans Kristensen, Director of the FAS Nuclear Information Project, in an article titled 'India's Nuclear Weapons 2026'.

According to the report, India's arsenal includes more than 160 warheads assigned to operational launchers, in addition to



warheads intended for new missiles under development. The article, published on Thursday, noted that India has continued to modernise its nuclear arsenal, fielding several new weapon systems in recent years while developing additional platforms to complement or replace existing nuclear-capable aircraft, land-based delivery systems and sea-based assets.

"We estimate that India may have produced enough military plutonium for 140 to 225 nuclear warheads and might have assembled up to 190. With more weapon systems in development, the country's warhead stockpile will likely increase further," the report said.

India adopted a no-first-use nuclear doctrine after the Pokhran-II tests in 1998 and continues to adhere to the policy. "India is committed to maintaining credible minimum deterrence and a

posture of 'no first use' of nuclear weapons," the government recently told Parliament.

The FAS article noted that, at the beginning of 2026, the International Panel on Fissile Materials estimated India had produced 730 kg of weapon-grade plutonium, with a margin of error of about 170 kg. According to the report, that quantity would theoretically be sufficient to produce between 140 and 225 nuclear warheads.

In its June assessment, SIPRI similarly noted that India continues to develop new nuclear weapon delivery systems and is pursuing the capability to deploy multiple warheads on ballistic missiles. It said nuclear weapons had been assigned to a maturing nuclear triad comprising aircraft, land-based missiles and nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs).

SIPRI also said additional warheads were believed to be in production for new missile systems. It noted that India's recent efforts have focused on canisterised missile deployment and strengthening its sea-based deterrent capability.

"Based on this assessment, SIPRI estimates that, as of January 2026, India may have started to deploy a small number of nuclear warheads on a single SSBN conducting occasional deterrence patrols," the report said.

Source: TNS

India in history this Week

SEPTEMBER 11 TO SEPTEMBER 17

SEPTEMBER 11

1893 - Swami Vivekananda's historic Chicago address



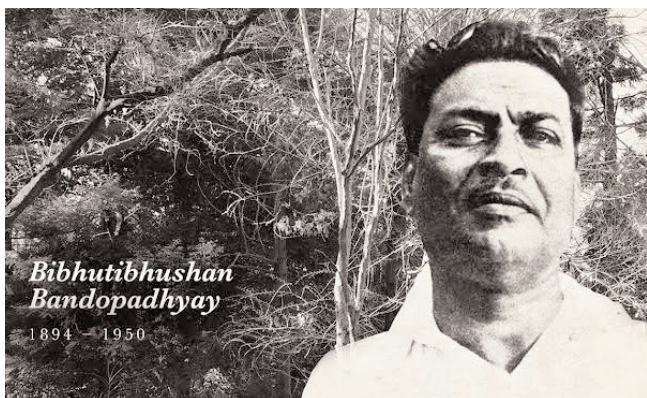
Swami Vivekananda delivered his celebrated opening address at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago on September 11, 1893. His message of religious harmony and universal brotherhood introduced a global audience to Indian spiritual thought. The address is widely regarded as a landmark moment in India's cultural and spiritual history.

1893 - Parliament of the World's Religions opens

The Parliament formally opened in Chicago on September 11, with representatives of different faiths gathering for what became an important event in the history of interfaith dialogue. Vivekananda's participation gave India a prominent voice at the gathering.

SEPTEMBER 12

1894 - Birth of Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay



Renowned Bengali writer Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay was born on September 12, 1894. He became one of the most influential figures in Bengali literature and is best remembered for Pather Panchali, which was later adapted by Satyajit Ray into the first film of the celebrated Apu Trilogy.

SEPTEMBER 13

1948 - Operation Polo begins

On September 13, 1948, the Indian Army launched Operation Polo, popularly known as the Hyderabad Police Action, to integrate the princely state of Hyderabad into the Indian Union. The operation followed prolonged negotiations with the Nizam, Mir Osman Ali Khan, who had sought to keep Hyderabad independent after British rule ended.

The military action lasted several days, with Indian forces advancing into Hyderabad from multiple



directions. The Nizam announced a ceasefire on September 17, while the formal surrender of Hyderabad's forces took place on September 18.

SEPTEMBER 14

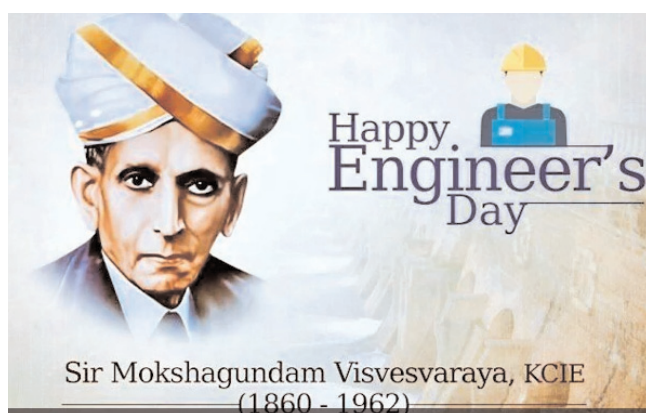
1949 - Hindi adopted as the official language of the Union

September 14, 1949, marks a major milestone in India's constitutional history. The Constituent Assembly adopted Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of the Union. The language question had generated extensive debate during the framing of the Constitution.

The date is observed every year as Hindi Diwas. The Constitution also provided for the continued use of English for specified official purposes, making the language arrangement a carefully negotiated constitutional compromise.

SEPTEMBER 15

1861 - Birth of M. Visvesvaraya



Engineer, statesman and administrator Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya was born on September 15, 1861. Remembered for his contribution to engineering, irrigation and public works, he served as the Diwan of Mysore and played an important role in the state's economic and industrial development.

His birth anniversary is observed as Engineers' Day in India, honoring the contribution of engineers to the country's development.

SEPTEMBER 16

1931 - Birth of physicist E.C.G. Sudarshan

Physicist Ennackal Chandy George Sudarshan, popularly known as E.C.G. Sudarshan, was born on September 16, 1931, in Kerala. He went on to make major contributions to theoretical physics, including work in quantum optics and particle physics.

His career reflected the growing international stature of Indian scientists in the decades following Independence.

SEPTEMBER 17

1948 - Hyderabad becomes part of the Indian Union



September 17 marks one of the crucial milestones in India's post-Independence political integration. Following Operation Polo, the Nizam's forces agreed to a ceasefire and Hyderabad moved towards integration with the Indian Union. The Nizam announced the ceasefire on September 17, while his military formally surrendered on September 18.

The former Hyderabad State covered territories corresponding to parts of present-day Telangana, Maharashtra and Karnataka. The Government of India later began officially commemorating September 17 as Hyderabad Liberation Day.

1949 - DMK is founded



On September 17, 1949, C.N. Annadurai founded the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), which emerged from the Dravidar Kazhagam and subsequently became one of Tamil Nadu's most influential political forces.

1915 - Birth of M.F. Husain

Celebrated Indian modernist painter Maqbool Fida Husain was born on September 17, 1915. Known for his bold, expressive paintings and distinctive visual style, Husain became one of India's best-known artists internationally.



L SHANKAR GRACES NYC WITH HIS MUSIC GENIUS

BY MABEL PAIS

Esteemed Indian violinist, singer, and composer L. Shankar will perform in New York City on September 18, 2026. Celebrated as one of the pioneers of East-West fusion and widely regarded as a living legend by his peers and fans alike, his versatility as a musician is reflected in his ventures into various musical genres. In addition to his classical albums, he has released globally acclaimed pop, rock, and EDM (electronic dance music) albums and has worked on soundtracks for award-winning films, including a collaboration with Peter Gabriel on the Grammy Award-winning soundtrack "Passion" for "The Last Temptation of Christ." Notably, Shankar created a 10-string stereophonic double violin — known as the LSD — which covers the entire orchestral string family's range.

Over his four-decade career, he has toured and recorded with artists such as U2, Talking Heads, Allah Rakha, and Zakir Hussain, and co-founded the groundbreaking world music ensemble Shakti with John McLaughlin in the mid-1970s.

PROGRAM

WHAT: World Music Institute



L Shankar.

Credit: World Music Institute

Masters Series

WHEN: Friday, September 18, 2026 @ 8 PM; Doors open @ 7 PM
WHERE: New York Society for Ethical Culture, Adler Hall
@ 2 West 64th Street, Manhattan
Performers:
L. Shankar: Electric Double Violin

and Vocals

Selvaganesh Vinayakram: Kanjira (frame drum), Mridangam (barrel drum), Konnakol
Swaminathan Selvaganesh: Kanjira (frame drum)
Amit Kavthekar: Tabla

TICKETS

Tickets are available at <https://ci.ovationtix.com/35721/production/1280513?performanceId=11829374>
At the door, prices are higher.

WORLD MUSIC INSTITUTE (WMI) MASTERS SERIES

WMI's MASTERS series showcases renowned artists from around the world, highlighting the most celebrated individuals in their crafts.

World Music Institute

Founded in 1985 as a not-for-profit, World Music Institute (WMI) has served as one of the leading presenters of world music and dance within the United States. WMI is committed to presenting the best in traditional and contemporary music and dance from around the world to enrich lives through the arts, promote awareness and appreciation for the world's rich cultural traditions, and encourage cross-cultural dialogue and exchange. WMI presents at venues throughout the city and depends on both public and private funding to accomplish its mission.

FEATURING TALENT AT 2026 FALL NEW YORK FASHION WEEK

BY MABEL PAIS

New York Fashion Week (NYFW) Spring-Summer 2027 will take place from September 10 to 15, 2026. Well before it officially commences, two iconic American brands will set the tone.

NYFW September 2026 at The Bureau begins Friday, September 11, 2026 at 3:00 PM and concludes Sunday, September 13, 2026 with The Grand Finale at 8:30 PM. The event runs across 3 days with 11 total runway shows, all at Gotham Hall, 1356 Broadway, Midtown Manhattan. The Rose Ball — the official after party — follows on Friday night, 11 PM to 2 AM at Gotham Hall (separate ticket).

For those who can attend only one show, Sunday September 13 at 8:30 PM - The Grand Finale - is the marquee show of the week. The Friday and Saturday evening shows are the most in-demand: Friday at 8:30 PM features Pia Bolte (40 looks), Romey Roe, Soragusa, Planet Zero Motorsports, and Krissy King Swim, and Friday at 6:00 PM (School of Couture + 6 designers, 85 total looks) is an equally strong option.

TALENT PARTICIPANTS

RAGHA ANCHALA: MODEL, ACTOR, & PHYSICIAN

Ragha Anchala is an actor and model whose path to entertainment runs through medicine, a physician turned performer, a background that sets her apart. Represented by Dave McMahon at Edge Entertainment and Charlie Winfield at FFT for commercial, lifestyle, and beauty bookings, she brings rare discipline to her craft, from international acting workshops in London and Seoul to a clinical approach to skincare. She moves fluidly between the set, the runway, and Fashion Week, building a career defined by range. Learn more @ragha.anchala

MANORMA JOISI

Manorma Joisi is a British-Indian actor, performer



Ragha Anchala

Credit: Chrissy Walker.



Manorma Joisi.

Credit: Chrissy Walker.

and creative producer known for her work across film, television, theatre, and commercial projects. She has appeared in productions including "Mujh Ko Pata Hai" (2022), "The Serpent" (2021), and "Blinded By The Light" (2019), showcasing her range and presence on screen. Beyond acting, Manorma is a classically trained Indian dance performer, singer-songwriter, and the executive producer behind her own company, Brown Eyed Production. In addition to her performance work, she has written her first feature-length film script, set to move into production, highlighting her expanding footprint as a multifaceted storyteller in the industry. Learn more @manormaj

TICKETS

Three nights of runway, hundreds of designers, one

landmark room. The dates are real, the seats are real — and there are exactly three ways to sit in them. There are 3 ways to attend the show: General Admission, Reserved Seating and Front Row VIP. For more details, visit <https://nyfw.com>

NEW YORK FASHION SHOWS (NYFS)

NYFW: The Shows is the preeminent New York Fashion Week destination at the forefront of shaping culture, trends, and the evolution of American fashion. NYFW: The Shows provides leading designers from around the world with an unrivaled global platform to showcase their collections bi-annually every February and September.

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

NEW JERSEY'S ANCHOR ARTS INSTITUTION CONTINUES ITS COMMUNITY EVENTS

BY MABEL PAIS

JAZZ JAM SESSIONS

Jazz Jam Sessions continue this Fall at Clement's Place located in the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Hall at 15 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102 . See schedule below.

Monthly Jazz Jam Sessions at Clement's Place feature top-flight NJ musicians directed by pianist and bandleader, James Austin, Jr. This series, running from September through June, is co-presented by NJPAC's Jazz Advisory Committee and Rutgers University-Newark's Institute of Jazz Studies (IJS - <https://libraries.rutgers.edu/newark/visit-study/institute-jazz-studies>).

Patrons are invited to immerse themselves in the relaxing sounds of jazz music that stimulate the players' and listeners' minds. Jazz musicians and singers of all levels are welcomed to jam and improvise with the professional band throughout the night. The Jazz Jam Sessions co-producers are Wayne Winborne, Executive Director, IJS, and Eyesha Marable, AVP, Community Engagement, NJPAC.

Thu, 09/17/26 @ 6:00PM
Thu, 10/15/26 @ 6:00PM
Thu, 11/19/26 @ 6:00PM
Thu, 12/10/26 @ 6:00PM
Thu, 01/21/27 @ 6:00PM
Thu, 02/18/27 @ 6:00PM
Thu, 03/25/27 @ 6:00PM
Thu, 04/15/27 @ 6:00PM



Jazz

Credit - <https://njpac.org>

Thu, 05/20/27 @ 6:00PM
Thu, 06/17/27 @ 6:00PM

DATES & RSVPS

RSVP is required for each date, separately. Register @ <https://njpac.org/series/td-jazz-series>
Sep 17, 2026 | RSVP
Oct 15, 2026 | RSVP

Nov 19, 2026 | RSVP
Dec 10, 2026 | RSVP
Jan 21, 2027 | RSVP
Feb 18, 2027 | RSVP
Mar 25, 2027 | RSVP
Apr 15, 2027 | RSVP
May 20, 2027 | RSVP
Jun 17, 2027 | RSVP

NEWARK HISTORY REMEMBERED

The Newark History Society (NHS) together with NJPAC, and Newark Public Library presents "Revolutionary Newark in the Park: History and Remembrance" on September 19, 2026 at 11 AM at the Harriet Tubman Square at 501-551 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102

This is a free outdoor program stepping into Newark's past. Set in Harriet Tubman Square, the event explores the stories behind two significant Newark landmarks, beginning with the Newark Academy monument and the school's fascinating role during the Revolutionary War.

Jim Coe, teacher of the humanities and archivist at Newark Academy, shares the story of the institution's founding in 1774, its transformation into a hospital and militia barracks, and its eventual burning by British forces in 1780. Newark journalist and author Guy Sterling turns the focus to J. Massey Rhind's equestrian statue of George Washington, exploring the monument's depiction of Washington's 1783 farewell to his troops. Together, these presentations offer a lively look at the people, places and stories that helped shape Newark's history.

RSVP

To attend, rsvp is required. RSVP @ <https://njpac.org/event/revolutionary-newark-in-the-park-history-and-remembrance/#rsvp>

SUNDAY VYBE



Sunday Vybe on Chambers Plaza. -

Credit - <https://njpac.org>

For a vibrant mix of music, dance, and positive energy and a chill afternoon, the public is invited to immerse in Sunday Vybe! This happens on September 20 at 2 pm at NJPAC's Chambers Plaza.

Hosted and curated by Marie (aka Sweeti), the event features selectors Terrance "Tee" Mallory and Herb Martin (Amadi, NY). The event will also feature a special performance by accomplished American poet and

songwriter Carl Hancock Rux, singing "Lamentations."

Music lovers and those simply looking for a fun time, Sunday Vybe is the perfect opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals in a laid-back atmosphere.

This is a great chance to unwind, get inspired, and enjoy the groove!

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

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‘Secret Lives of Mormon Wives’ returns, teases ‘Bachelorette’ fallout

MomTok is facing its toughest test yet. The group at the center of "The Secret Lives of Mormon Wives" will confront domestic violence allegations, divorce and more drama in its fifth season.

In the months since the Hulu reality show's fourth season premiered, the cast's scandals reached a fever pitch with the cancelation of Taylor Frankie Paul's season of "The Bachelorette."

ABC scrapped the season of "The Bachelorette" days before it was set to premiere in March after an alleged domestic violence incident involving Paul and her ex-boyfriend Dakota Mortensen. Both Paul and Mortensen leveled allegations against each other and were investigated by police, who ultimately declined to press charges.

The fallout, which occurred during the filming of "Mormon Wives," led to a temporary pause in production on Season 5. Now, with the premiere of the new season, the situation will be discussed in new detail.

"There's so much stuff the public doesn't know," Mayci Neeley said in the Season 5 trailer.

At just five episodes, Season 5 is significantly shorter than past seasons. The first season consisted of eight episodes; Seasons 2-4 each had 10 episodes, plus one reunion episode each for Seasons 2 and 3.

"The Secret Lives of Mormon Wives" is available to stream on Hulu.

The platform offers subscriptions ranging from \$11.99 a month to \$18.99 a month for standard streaming plans. Other packages that include both streaming and live television cost between \$ 89.99 and \$99.99 a month.

In addition to Paul and Neeley, the rest of the Season 5 cast includes Jen Affleck, Jessi Draper, Layla Taylor, Mikayla Matthews, Miranda Hope and Whitney Leavitt. Leavitt, whose Broadway run will play out on Season 5, previously announced that the season would be her last.

Source: USA Today

Amitabh Bachchan calls hosting KBC 18 a ‘heart-breaking experience’

Amitabh Bachchan has opened up about the emotional toll of hosting Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC), admitting that some contestants' personal stories can make it difficult for him to continue with the show. In a blog post dated September 7, the veteran actor described one such experience as "heart-breaking".

Amitabh, who is back as the host of KBC 18, regularly interacts with contestants beyond the quiz itself. Their conversations often bring out stories about their families, struggles and personal journeys. While these moments can make the show relatable, the actor revealed that some stories can be particularly difficult to handle.

In his blog entry, Amitabh wrote that some contestants arrive with extremely serious personal experiences, making it challenging for him to separate his emotions from his responsibility as the host. "Some contestants come with such grave personal stories, that it becomes difficult to conduct not just our feelings for them but also to continue hosting the show," he wrote.

He chose not to share further details and acknowledged that "it has been a heart-breaking experience."

The actor ended his blog on a reflective note, saying he wanted to retire for the night as it was late.

Amitabh Bachchan has returned to host the 18th season of Kaun Banega Crorepati. This season comes with the theme 'Sochna Padega', which focusses



on the importance of pausing and thinking before making decisions.

The new concept highlights thoughtful decision-making at a time when information is readily available. The show aims to focus not just on knowing an answer but also on understanding it and applying that knowledge.

In the promotional campaign, Amitabh used a game of golf to draw a parallel with life. He highlighted how patience and careful judgement can sometimes matter more than acting

quickly. Over the years, KBC has also become a space where Amitabh shares anecdotes from his own life and acting career while getting to know the contestants. These conversations have often resulted in humorous, nostalgic and emotional moments.

On the work front, Amitabh will next be seen in Nag Ashwin's Kalki 2898 AD sequel. The film also stars Prabhas and Kamal Haasan and is currently in production. The sequel follows the success of the first film, which crossed the Rs 1,000-crore mark worldwide.

‘Wheel of Fortune’ unveils new segment with more chances to win cash

More than 50 years after airing its first episode, iconic game show "Wheel of Fortune" is getting new gameplay.

Hosts Ryan Seacrest and Vanna White shared the news Sept. 8 during an appearance on "Good Morning America," teasing a new segment that packs more opportunities for contestants to win cash prizes into a 30-minute TV time slot.

"This is exciting. A lot of people say, 'How do you get more games into the show?' Seacrest told GMA. "It's not a long show, so we're squeezing more gameplay into the top of the show with a rapid-fire game that we just started to have, which I love, with \$1,000 for every puzzle they solve."

Season 44 marks the third year of Seacrest and White hosting together after long-time presenter Pat Sajak retired from the main show in 2024. Seacrest joined during the show's 42nd season; meanwhile, the ever-popular White has graced television screens since 1982.

Here's what to know about the new segment.

"Fortune Frenzy" is a segment at the beginning of each episode where contestants "shake the nerves off" by solving puzzles within a time limit, according to Seacrest. The lightning-round style not only enables showrunners to add more puzzles per episode, but also allows contestants to win \$1,000 every time they give the correct answer.

In a preview aired on GMA, contestants solving for the category "Season Premiere!" can be seen watching letters



appear on the board as the timer ticks down. One contestant, after a few seconds, gives the correct solution: "It's great to be back!" "I think it shakes off the nerves of the contestants at the top," Seacrest told GMA. "Because they're so excited, the adrenaline is pumping and rushing, and they've got to focus right into playing the game - and I noticed that when we did some of the first episodes."

"Yes, there's nothing else to think about but 'solve that puzzle.' It's gotta be quick," White agreed. "So they have nothing else on their mind but solving it."

Source: USA Today



Tara Sutaria shoves photographer as he gets too close

Tara Sutaria has been in the news for her role in Yash-starrer *Toxic*. Amid the buzz around the film, a video of the actor has been doing the rounds on social media. In the clip, Tara is seen shoving aside a photographer's camera after he appears to come too close to her.

The video shows Tara making her way to a store in Mumbai. She is dressed in an all-white outfit and wearing black sunglasses. As she approaches the entrance, she is surrounded by photographers, while members of her staff try to shield her with umbrellas. Amid the crowd, a photographer appears to move very close to Tara with his camera. The actor then pushes his camera aside before continuing towards the store.

However, some photographers are also heard calling out Tara's name in a mocking manner, with their behaviour bordering on catcalling. A few of them can be heard asking Tara to wait and pose for photographs after the incident.

The video did not go down well with several social media users, who criticised the paparazzi for invading Tara's personal space.

Drishyam 3: Ajay Devgn's perfect plan cracks as Jaideep Ahlawat's cop enters

The game is not over for Vijay Salgaonkar. The trailer of *Drishyam The Conclusion* is out, and this time, Ajay Devgn's master of careful planning has a new problem to deal with. Jaideep Ahlawat enters the franchise as SP Crime Branch Rajveer Singh Tomar, a sharp new officer determined to uncover the truth Vijay has spent years hiding.

The film picks up after the events of *Drishyam 2*, but there is a fresh mystery at its centre. As Rajveer takes charge of the case, old questions begin to surface again. Vijay, meanwhile, finds himself closer than ever to the secrets he thought he had buried for good.

The trailer sets up a battle of wits between the two men. Vijay has always stayed one step ahead, carefully building his story and making sure every detail fits. Rajveer, however, appears determined to pull that story apart, one piece at a time. And this time, Vijay has more than one person to contend with.

Tabu returns to the franchise, along with Shriya Saran and Rajat Kapoor. Prakash Raj also joins the conflict, adding another layer to a case where every move could change everything. The trailer keeps the focus firmly on the cat-and-mouse game, while hinting that the past may finally catch up with Vijay.

The *Drishyam* franchise has always been about one question: can Vijay Salgaonkar stay ahead of the truth? The first film introduced audiences to



a man who would go to extraordinary lengths to protect his family. *Drishyam 2* took that game further, showing Vijay carefully staying ahead of the law even as the investigation closed in.

There is also a sense of familiarity in the trailer, with Goa once again at the heart of Vijay Salgaonkar's world. The makers chose the state for the trailer launch too, taking members of the

media and influencers through locations connected to the earlier films before unveiling the trailer in Panaji. Ajay Devgn, Tabu, Shriya Saran, Rajat Kapoor and Jaideep Ahlawat attended the event on Wednesday.

Drishyam The Conclusion is directed by Abhishek Pathak and also stars Prakash Raj, Kamlesh Sawant, Ishita Dutta and Mrunal Jadhav.

After Ramayana, Rakul Preet Singh wants to explore horror, period films

Rakul Preet Singh, who will be seen as Surpanakha in Nitesh Tiwari's upcoming directorial *Ramayana*, is looking to experiment with more genres and characters as she continues to expand her work in Indian cinema.

The actress shared that she wants to take on roles that push her creatively and give her an opportunity to explore unfamiliar territory.

Rakul has worked across different film industries and genres throughout her career. However, she believes there are several kinds of stories and characters that she is yet to explore.

Among them, she is particularly interested in doing an intense romantic drama, a period film and a horror project.

Talking about the genres she would like to explore, Rakul said, "I haven't done an out-and-out love story. I haven't done, like, a heart-wrenching love story. That's something I'd love to do. I haven't explored a historical character or done a period

film either, and I would love to explore that space. I haven't done horror. There's a lot I haven't done, and I would like to experiment with different genres."

The actor also spoke about her current mindset while selecting projects. Rakul said she is at a point in her career where she wants to prioritise roles that offer her something substantial to perform rather than simply choosing projects based on their scale or genre.

She added, "I'm in that phase in my career where I want to challenge myself and do something meaty. Something that excites you to the core."

Ramayana has been planned as a two-part film. The project features Ranbir Kapoor as Lord Ram and Yash as Ravana. Sunny Deol, Sai Pallavi, Ravie Dubey, and Lara Dutta are also part of the cast.

Part 1 is set to release internationally on November 6, 2026. In India, the makers are targeting a Diwali release. The second part is planned for Diwali 2027.





Susan Sarandon says she has had 'movies taken away' for supporting Palestinians

Oscar-winning actor Susan Sarandon has said that she is still losing work in Hollywood over her outspoken support for Palestinians. The veteran actor said on Sunday that even though there is a broader shift in public opinion against U.S. support for Israel, public figures still get penalised for their anti-Israel opinions.

Speaking at the Venice Film Festival, where she is promoting her latest movie, *The Echo Chamber*, Susan Sarandon said that the public perception in the US has shifted over Israel's role in Palestine. "I think that the narrative has completely changed in terms of the historical relevance of Palestine and the ties of Zionists with America and our politics. That has been a major revelation for people, how much money the United States gives to Israel, nobody really understood that," she said.

Recent U.S. opinion polls have shown support for Israel softening and sympathy for Palestinians rising since the start of the Gaza war in 2023.

However, the 79-year-old actor said her support for the Palestinian cause continued to carry professional consequences. She said that some parts of the film industry continue to shun her for her activism.

"I've still had movies taken away recently because there are agencies that are telling people not to hire me still. But that's the power structure. I think (among) people, certainly internationally, I feel welcome," she told reporters at the press conference for her film.

An Academy Award winner for *Dead Man Walking*, Susan Sarandon rose to prominence in films including *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *Bull Durham* and *Thelma & Louise* in the 70s and 80s. But her recent outspoken support for Palestinians has seen her career take a hit. In 2023, she was dropped by her longstanding talent agency UTA after remarks she made while attending pro-Palestinian rallies shortly after the bloody Hamas attack on Israel that triggered the war in Gaza.

Digger final trailer: Tom Cruise is the villain who wants to save the world

The final trailer of *Digger*, starring Tom Cruise in the title role, has been released, offering a closer look at the chaos surrounding the unpredictable oil tycoon Digger Rockwell. Directed by Alejandro G Inarritu, the film blends high-stakes action with dark humor and satire.

The trailer opens with Digger at the centre of a massive disaster linked to his drilling operation. The catastrophe triggers a tsunami and leaves destruction in its wake, with the death toll running into hundreds of thousands. As the scale of the crisis becomes clear, Digger finds himself facing intense public anger and political pressure.

He is branded a villain by those around him, but Digger does not appear ready to accept the blame. Instead, he believes he is the only person capable of solving the crisis. The trailer sees him attempting to take charge of a situation that he may have helped create in the first place.

At one point, the film's increasingly absurd situation is summed up with the declaration, "We trust Digger!" As powerful figures become caught up in the unfolding crisis, they look to the oil tycoon to somehow get them out of the mess.

The trailer also hints at the film's unusual mix of spectacle, tension and humour. Digger's attempts to present himself as a saviour sit alongside the growing threat of a disaster with global



consequences, setting up what appears to be an unpredictable ride.

Cruise headlines the film as Digger Rockwell, with Oscar winner Riz Ahmed, John Goodman, Oscar-nominated Sandra Hller, Michael Stuhlbarg and Oscar-nominated Jesse Plemons also part of the cast.

Robert John Burke, Emma D'Arcy, Burn Gorman and Sophie Wilde also star in the film.

Digger marks another ambitious project from Inarritu, who has directed films including *Birdman* and *The Revenant*. He has also co-written the

screenplay with Oscar winners Alexander Dinelaris and Nicols Giacobone, along with Sabina Berman. The story comes from Inarritu and Berman. The film has been produced by Inarritu, Mary Parent, Tom Cruise and Michael Sharp.

Behind the camera, Inarritu has reunited with several of his previous collaborators, including Oscar-winning cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezki and editor Stephen Mirrione. Dennis Gassner serves as production designer, while Jacqueline West has designed the costumes.

For Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman, 'Practical Magic 2' heals old wounds



Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman view "Practical Magic" very differently today than they did when they made it 28 years ago. In 1998, the film received mixed reviews and had a modest box office performance. It has since become a cult favorite, embraced by a new generation who found the romantic comedy through social media clips. The two Oscar winners are returning to their roles of witchy sisters Sally and Gillian Owens in "Practical Magic 2," in theaters on Sept. 10, giving them a chance to reckon with the original's rocky reception and its unlikely second life.

Both films trace their roots to Alice Hoffman's novels: "Practical Magic," published in 1995, inspired the original film, while her 2021 novel "The Book of Magic" expands the Owens family's story and provides inspiration for the sequel.

Bullock recalls a promotional push for the original film that became memorable — for the wrong reasons.

"I had so much trauma from the press junket from the first one because it was brutal," Bullock recalls. "We were not well-received because we were 'too much,' 'too witchy,' 'too many women,' 'too many tones.' I'm like, 'Have you lived a day in a life as a woman?'"

"We didn't stumble, but it stumbled, but it didn't really stumble. Maybe it needed to marinate a little bit. We were marinating," said Bullock. "But here we are, and how lucky are we that we're still here to be able to go reap the benefits and the rewards of our work?"

Hamas commander, linked to recruitment of fighters, killed in Israeli strike

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

GAZA (TIP): Israel killed a senior Hamas commander in a strike on Gaza City, according to statements from both Israeli security agencies and the Palestinian militant outfit. Farah Hamed, who was a commander in Hamas's military wing, was killed on Wednesday, Sept 9, the group reportedly said.

The strike was carried out by the Israel Police's specialised Gideonim unit (Unit 33), in a joint operation with Israeli internal security agency Shin Bet and the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), Israeli officials said, per The Times of Israel. A drone-view footage of the targeted strike has also surfaced on X. It shows two motorbike-borne men being hit by an apparent aerial strike.

Hamed was reportedly a member of the "Silwad cell," which operated during the Second Intifada – an armed conflict that started as a Palestinian uprising and which lasted from September 2000 to early 2005. He was involved in several shooting attacks. Hamed was released by Israel in 2011 as part of a prisoner swap.

The Shin Bet described Hamed as a "senior figure" in a Hamas unit reportedly involved in recruiting fighters. According to the Israeli intelligence agency, he "continued to belong to Hamas's military wing and was involved in recruiting and directing the organization to advance attacks" in the West Bank since his release.

Anthropic report points to Iran-backed Houthis using Claude to develop missiles

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

TEHRAN (TIP): Iran-backed Houthi militants in Yemen may have used Claude, Anthropic's AI chatbot, to develop software for guided missiles, a threat intelligence report published by the tech company indicates.

The 154-page report, published on Thursday, details how governments, criminal groups and others misused Anthropic's powerful AI models in an attempt to develop biological weapons, conduct espionage, disseminate propaganda, and other malicious activities.

One startling revelation was how a Yemen-based group used Claude Code to work on guidance, navigation and control software for a guided rocket and other missile programmes. While Anthropic did not name the group involved, details in the report point to the Houthis, who have built a sizeable arsenal of missiles and drones.

Anthropic said these "threat actors" were also developing a ballistic missile with a stated range of more than 2,000 km and a missile variant featuring a hypersonic glide vehicle. The company said it did not have evidence that the actors successfully deployed an operational guided weapon, though they did test-fire a guided rocket that apparently failed.

According to Anthropic, a weapons engineering cell was based in northern Yemen and working on three missile programmes. One involved a guided rocket using a commercially available, phone-class flight computer and final-phase homing guidance.

Another was a multistage ballistic missile with a stated range of more than 2,000 kilometres. The third, described as the "R2000" set, included several missile variants, including a hypersonic glide vehicle.

The militants used Claude Code to develop guidance, navigation and control software, or GNC, which helps steer and stabilise a flying vehicle.

Anthropic said Claude was used to integrate an open-source autopilot with a phone-class flight computer. The AI helped



Members of the Saudi-backed Yemeni government forces clash with Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis. (Reuters)

write control and position-estimation software, tune control settings, run firmware builds and conduct flight simulations.

The operators also ran several Claude instances simultaneously, assigning different tasks to each. One instance was used to write code, another to conduct research and a third to review the first one's work.

Anthropic said its safeguards blocked many requests but couldn't stop all of them. "The actors used a variety of tactics to evade our safeguards, including hiding their goals and the products the software was meant for, and they split their work across multiple sessions, so no single session revealed their full intent," it said.

Within hours of the group's guided missile test-fire ending in failure, they returned to Claude to troubleshoot.

Anthropic said it identified the activity during an internal investigation, banned accounts linked to the actors and shared information with public- and private-sector partners.

Ceuta: Documents show Spanish intelligence warned of crisis

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

MADRID (TIP): Spain's national intelligence agency issued a warning about possible "mass entries" by migrants into Ceuta a day before more than 70,000 migrants stormed the border fences of the enclave in North Africa, according to documents declassified on Wednesday, Sept 9.

The Spanish government declassified a trove of more than 40 documents, including internal alerts, intelligence reports, charts and communications from multiple law enforcement and intelligence agencies.

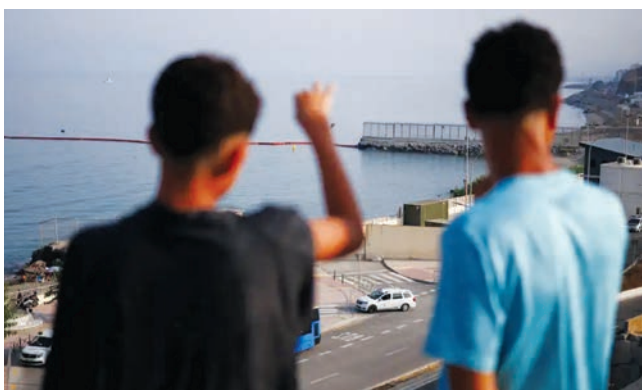
One urgent memo sent by the National Intelligence Center to authorities in Ceuta on the day before the incident warned of "several calls to carry out entries into Ceuta."

"There are two different groups with a total of 180,000 followers," the declassified memo read, "just to give you an idea of its scale."

CENIF, a border division of the National Police, also published a warning about the social media groups a day before the incident.

"Internal communications have been detected in migrant groups in which they are trying to organize mass entries on the night of 29/07/2026," a document from CENIF read.

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said the documents prove his government had not been



Though most of the more than 70,000 migrants who stormed into Ceuta have been returned, thousands remain in the Spanish North African exclave. REUTERS

warned of the magnitude of the crisis that was about to unfold.

He said the National Intelligence Center only alerted authorities in Ceuta and not the military or Ministry of Defense.

"This is understandable because, with the information available at the time, no one could have foreseen the migration crisis that unfolded on the 30th and 31st," Sanchez said on social media. "No competent body did so. Neither in Spain nor in the EU."

The European Union (EU) on Wednesday announced that it would grant Spain some 115 million (\$130 million) in emergency financial aid to help bolster the bloc's external borders and return thousands of individuals who overwhelmed authorities in the country's North African exclave Ceuta in late July.

Spain initially requested the funding on August 24.

Brussels said the funds would help finance "measures to enhance border surveillance, border protection and security-related infrastructure" such as thermal cameras, floating buoy systems and underwater drones: "It will also serve to set up facilities for the screening of migrants, as well as to support returns of those who remain illegally in Ceuta."

"The situation in Ceuta has put pressure on our external borders," said European Commission Vice President Henna Virkkunen. "Our message remains clear: We are committed to combating illegal migration and ensuring the swift return of those who remain illegally in Ceuta."

On July 30 and 31, images of migrants storming the borders of the exclave sent shockwaves across the EU and beyond as more than 72,000 individuals crossed into Spanish territory from Morocco. Scores of migrants died in their attempt to reach EU territory, most by drowning.

Kim Jong Un succession: NIS says daughter remains likely heir amid son query

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

SEOL (TIP): South Korea's National Intelligence Service said on Thursday that it is trying to determine whether North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has a son, while maintaining that his teenage daughter is the likely successor. The agency said that even if a son exists, he is not in a position to take over from Kim at present.

The NIS reaffirmed its earlier assessment that Kim's daughter, reported to be Kim Ju Ae and about 13 years old, is likely to inherit the North Korean leadership. Kim took power after the death of his father in 2011, and questions over his children have drawn attention because they are linked to possible succession plans in the North.

In its statement, the NIS said it was still trying to verify whether Kim's daughter has an elder brother, but added that under the current circumstances he cannot be his father's heir even if he exists. The agency also said Kim Jong Un has a younger child whose gender has not been confirmed. The statement did not explain in detail why the NIS believes Kim Ju Ae has a firm political position, though it had earlier cited a broad analysis of her public activities and the state protocols extended to her.

The statement appeared to be a response to a recent media report that South Korean intelligence authorities had concluded that Kim has no son with his wife, Ri Sol Ju. Since late 2022, Kim's daughter has accompanied him to several major events, including missile launches and large military parades. North Korean state media has described her as his "most beloved" or "respected" child, and has released footage and photographs showing their closeness and what observers see as her rising political standing. Reports about her name are based on remarks by former NBA star Dennis Rodman, who said he held Kim Jong Un's baby daughter during a 2013 visit to Pyongyang. In 2023, a South Korean lawmaker said the NIS had told a legislative committee that Kim Ju Ae had an older brother, but the agency later reportedly clarified that it was still trying to verify reports that Kim had a son. The question matters because North Korea has a deeply patriarchal and male-dominated power structure. Since the country was founded in 1948, all three of its leaders have been male members of the Kim family. Some experts doubt whether elderly senior officials would accept a woman as leader, while others say Kim, 42, is still too young to name an heir because doing so could weaken his absolute authority.

'Cannon fodder': Amnesty accuses Russia of trafficking foreigners to fight in Ukraine

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

KYIV (TIP): Russia is illegally trafficking foreigners to fight in Ukraine, Amnesty International said in a report Thursday, citing interviews with prisoners of war whom it said had been deceived into signing Russian military contracts.

Among the victims were citizens of Brazil, Colombia, Sri Lanka and South Africa, some of whom were lured to Russia through fake job advertisements and made to join the army upon arrival, the London-based rights group said.

In June, an AFP investigation likewise revealed how Moscow was using promises of well-paid civilian jobs to lure Kenyans into fighting at the front.

"The suffering linked... to the internationalisation of the war is affecting highly vulnerable communities and individuals around the world," Amnesty's Secretary-General Agnes Callamard told AFP in an interview coinciding with the publication of the report.

Russia made no immediate public comment on Amnesty's allegations.

Both Moscow and Kyiv have recruited thousands of foreign nationals into their armies since Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine four-and-a-half years ago.

Ukraine estimated in April that more than 28,000 foreigners from 136 countries were fighting in the Russian army, while officials believe Russia deployed some 14,000 North Korean troops to battle



Relatives hold photos of Kenyan nationals conscripted by the Russian army to fight in the Ukraine war, in a demonstration calling for their return in February 2026 [File: AFP]

Ukraine's 2024 incursion into the Kursk region.

Ukraine also uses foreign fighters, although Amnesty says it cannot conduct inquiries among those held in Russia due to the group's status as a "foreign agent" in the country.

Neither Moscow nor Kyiv discloses the total number of foreign soldiers in their ranks.

"Obviously, there are many individuals who work for the Russian state who know that the people they recruit to go to the front line are victims of trafficking," Callamard said.

"They are complicit in this phenomenon and they should be held accountable," she said.

The average foreigner targeted by recruiters working for Russia is under 40, living in a poorer country and lured by the "promise of a job", she said.

Russia has previously dismissed accusations of coercing foreigners into joining its army.

Among the main pathways recruiters use to exploit foreigners are job advertisements online, often with the promise of false civilian work, Amnesty said.

25 killed as fire erupts aboard foreign cargo ship undergoing repairs at China shipyard

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

BEIJING (TIP): 25 people were killed after a fire erupted on a foreign cargo ship at a state-owned shipyard in Qingdao, eastern China, on Thursday, Sept 10, according to state media.

The fire started around 11:15 am at the Qingdao Beihai shipyard, where the vessel was undergoing repair and inspection work. There were 42 people on board when the blaze broke out.

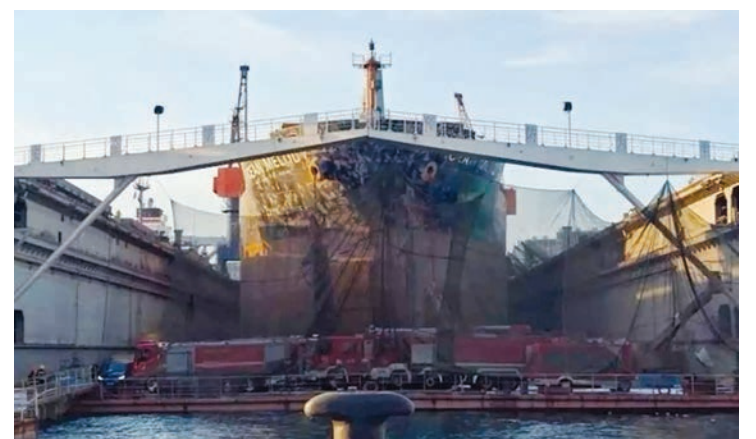
Twelve people managed to evacuate safely, while five others suffered injuries and were taken to hospital. Firefighters brought the blaze under control by early afternoon, state media reported.

A picture of the scene released by Xinhua showed the vessel involved to be the Ocean Melody. LSEG ship-tracking data identified it as a 20-year-old Liberia-flagged dry bulk carrier managed by Yuyangkunpeng Shanghai Shp Mgm, with Huili Shipping Co Ltd listed as its registered owner.

The vessel arrived at the Qingdao shipyard on August 31 and has remained there since, LSEG data showed.

Chinese President Xi Jinping called for intensified search and rescue efforts, a swift investigation and accountability measures, according to Xinhua.

The shipyard is controlled by state-owned China State



25 people were killed after a fire erupted on a foreign cargo ship at a state-owned shipyard in Qingdao, eastern China, on Thursday, Sept 10.

Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC), one of the world's largest shipbuilders. CSSC describes itself as China's principal naval shipbuilder and the country's largest designer and builder of ships and offshore equipment.

A 2022 recruitment notice on the CSSC-owned Qingdao unit's website said the shipyard had annual shipbuilding capacity of 3 million deadweight tons and could repair 212 vessels a year.

Bangladesh grants Hindu rights leader Chinmoy Krishna Das 5-hour parole for mother's funeral

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

DHAKA (TIP): Bangladesh authorities on Thursday granted jailed Hindu rights leader Chinmoy Krishna Das five hours' parole to attend his mother's funeral, according to local media reports. The decision came after his family sought his temporary release following the death of his mother, Sandhya Rani Dhar, who died early on Thursday, Sept 10, while undergoing treatment at a hospital in Hathazari.

Das, a Hindu monk arrested in November 2024 on sedition charges for allegedly disrespecting the national flag, has remained in jail amid multiple cases against him. He is facing six criminal cases in total, and although the High Court has granted him bail in four of them, he is not due for release because other cases are still pending.

Chattogram District Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Zahidul Islam Mia ordered Das's release on Thursday afternoon after receiving the family's application. The Daily Star reported. "Following an application by his brother over the death of his mother, we have passed an order to release Chinmoy Krishna from jail on parole for five hours in accordance with the law," the newspaper quoted Zahidul Islam Mia as saying.

'Won't let our soil be used against India', Sri Lankan President tells Rajnath Singh

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

COLOMBO (TIP): Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Wednesday assured defence minister Rajnath Singh that his country would "never allow its territory to be used for any activities inimical to India's security interests", repeating in Colombo the pledge he first gave Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year.

The assurance came on the second day of Singh's three-day visit, the first by an Indian defence minister to the island nation since K C Pant, defence minister in the Rajiv Gandhi cabinet, travelled there in 1988.

Sri Lanka's ports have been the sharpest irritant in the relationship for four years running. The Chinese space and missile tracking ship Yuan Wang 5 berthed at Hambantota in August 2022 over India's objections. The research vessel Shi Yan 6, described by Beijing as being on a scientific mission, docked at Colombo in October 2023.

Colombo barred foreign research vessels from its waters from January 2024. Announced as a one-year measure, the moratorium has stayed in force. India and the US had flagged that such ships map the seabed and monitor missile and satellite activity across the region. Hambantota itself passed to a Chinese state-run operator on a 99-year lease in 2017, after Colombo struggled to service the loans raised to build it. The



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh meets Sri Lanka President Anura Kumara Dissanayake in Colombo on Wednesday, Sep 09, 2026. (Photo | X @rajnathsingh)

Chinese-funded Colombo Port City remains the other pressure point on India's radar.

Singh, in turn, pitched India as the neighbourhood's first responder. India considered assistance to Sri Lanka "not a favour, but a responsibility", he said, and would continue to provide it.

Dissanayake thanked New Delhi for the relief mounted under Operation Sagar Bandhu during Cyclone Ditwah and for the rehabilitation package that followed, which covered reconstruction across several parts of the island.

"India will always stand firmly with Sri Lanka whenever the island nation faces a

crisis," Singh had said a day earlier, addressing the Indian diaspora in Colombo.

The two sides described themselves as "civilisational twins, close neighbours and maritime partners", and pledged to work jointly for the safety, security, peace and prosperity of the region.

Sri Lanka sits astride the sea lanes that carry the bulk of the Indian Ocean's east-west traffic. That places it at the centre of India's Neighbourhood First policy, the newer MAHASAGAR framework for maritime cooperation and the Colombo Security Conclave, which also groups Bangladesh, Maldives and Mauritius.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

ISLAMABAD (TIP): Two Hindu sisters, reportedly aged 13 and 14, broke down outside a court in Pakistan's Sindh province after it declined to send them home with their parents, according to journalists and minority-rights activists. The family alleged that Sita and Rupī, members of the Kachhi Kolhi community, were abducted, converted to Islam and married to Amjad Solangi and Mansoor Solangi, reported Sindh Renaissance, a US-based Sindh-rights group. The court in Sindh's Tando Allahyar district ordered that the sisters be moved to a safe house, even as they sobbed and pleaded, "We want to go home," revealed a video posted by Veengas, a Pakistani journalist and activist.

A day later, Veengas reported that "another Hindu girl, 14-year-old Pansi Kohli", had been abducted from Tando Allahyar on September 9. She said, going by reports, "six Hindu minor girls" in the Sindh district had been abducted and converted to Islam within 10 days.

Apart from the treatment of minorities in Pakistan, the case has put the spotlight on Tando Allahyar, a district where several abductions and

Send us home: Abducted, converted, married, 2 minor Hindu sisters plead outside Pak court



The family of the two sisters alleged that the two were abducted, converted to Islam and married to Amjad Solangi and Mansoor Solangi. (Image: Sorath Sindhu)

religious conversions involving Hindu minors have previously been reported.

Sindh, home to most of Pakistan's Hindu population, has emerged as the epicentre of complaints involving Hindu girls being abducted, converted and married to Muslim men. Poor families from the marginalised Kolhi, Bheel and Meghwar communities remain particularly vulnerable because of their limited access to police, courts, legal

assistance, meaningful political representation, and their near-disenfranchisement in Pakistan.

Amnesty International says that "hundreds" of young Hindu women in Pakistan have faced abduction, forced conversion and forced marriage. The rights' organisation has also warned of persistent discrimination against Pakistani Hindus, including attacks on their temples and businesses and misuse of blasphemy allegations.

"Is this some kind of state-sponsored group working to target Hindu Sindhis who are not willing to leave their motherland? Because if this isn't an emergency, then what would an emergency look like? Save our girls!!" Pakistani social activist Sorath Sindhu posted on X.

The sisters from Ibrahim Colony in Tando Allahyar were produced before the court in connection with a kidnapping case reported the previous week. People present outside the court

said the girls repeatedly asked to be returned to their family. Pakistani journalist Veengas described it as "heartbreaking to see the girls sobbing after the court refused to send them with their parents".

Pakistani social activist Sorath Sindhu said the girls had expressed their wishes clearly during the proceedings. "We want to go home," the activist quoted them as saying.

"No decision affecting them should be made without ensuring that they understand the process and can express their wishes freely... The court ordered that they be transferred to a safe house. We demand justice, protection from harm, and a fair, transparent, and child-sensitive process... The girls must be heard directly, provided with independent legal and psychosocial support," Sorath Sindhu wrote on X. "Their age, stated wishes, and best interests must remain central to every decision." *Source: India Today*

Sikh History This Week

SEPTEMBER 11 TO SEPTEMBER 17

11TH SEPTEMBER

1487 Guru Nanak Dev's marriage anniversary



Guru Nanak Dev Patshah married Bibi Sulakhani, daughter of Mul Chand of Batala city. This relationship was mediated by Bhai Jai Ram Jim, the husband of Guru Nanak's sister, Bibi Nanaki. The engagement took place on Vaisakh Wadhi 1, Sunmat 1542 when Guru Nanak Patshah was at the age of 16. At the time of marriage, Guru Nanak Patshah was 18 years of age. The marriage took place in Batala, which is on the railway from Amritsar to Pathankot. The location where Guru Nanak's marriage party stayed overnight is still marked by an earthen wall. Babae Da Viya, Guru Nanak Dev's marriage anniversary, is celebrated every year on Badro Sudi 7.

1807 Maharaja Ranjit Singh met Charles Matcalfe, the British agent to draw out the terms of the treaty.

1982 34 Sikhs of the Dharam Yudh Morcha were crushed under train near Tarn Taaran. The bus was carrying Akali Satyagrahies under police escort from Amritsar to Ferozpur when it accidentally ran into the train.

12TH SEPTEMBER

1897 Sara Garhi episode took place

One of the most celebrated episodes of Sikh military history took place on September 12, 1897, at Saragarhi in the North-West Frontier region, now in Pakistan. Twenty-one soldiers of the 36th Sikh Regiment defended the small Saragarhi outpost against a vastly larger force of Afghan tribesmen. Led by Havildar Ishar Singh, the Sikh soldiers refused to surrender and fought until the last man fell. The battle lasted for several hours and has become an enduring symbol of courage, duty and sacrifice.

1940 Master Tara Singh resigned from Congress because of Gandhi's communal attitude.

13TH SEPTEMBER

1604 Guru Granth Sahib installed



Holy Sri Guru GRANTH SAHIB was ceremonially installed in Sri Harmandir Sahib, Amritsar. Baba

Buddha Ji was appointed the first priest.

1670 Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji released from prison.

1923 SGPC's second Enquiry Committee to investigate the Doaba excesses was arrested by the Police.

1926 Orderes previously declaring the Sharomani Gurdwara Prabhandak Committee (SGPC) and Sharomani Akali Dal as unlawful bodies were withdrawn by the Punjab Government.

1931 Master Tara Singh led a Jatha of 100 Akalis in the Gurudwara Daska Morcha.

1944 All India Sikh Student Federation established in Lahore.

1981 Warrants were issued for Jarnail Singh Bhindrawalae n connection with Lala Jagat Narayan's murder. The police went to Chando Kalan, a Haryana village, to arrest Jarnail Singh. However, he had already left that place. When Jarnail Singh could not be found, the police burnt the volume of Holy Scriptures of the Sikhs, three vehicles of Bhindranwala Jatha and various other articles of the School. A large number of Sikhs were arrested and beaten by the police. The next day the police sieged the headquarters of Jarnail Singh Bhindranwalae.

14TH SEPTEMBER

1777 Nawab Zaibta Khan Ruhela, impressed by the character of Khalsa decided to become a member of the Khalsa order. He was baptise and named Dharam Singh.

1848 Raja Sher Singh Attari declared war against British Rule in Punjab. He was son of Sardar Chattar Singh Attari and at that time his sister was engaged to Maharaja Dalip Singh.

1923 Began the Jaito Morcha by Sikhs. The Maharaja of the kingdom of Nabha, Ripudaman Singh, sided with the Akalis, against the British. He was stripped of his kingly status, and in protest of this action of the British, the Sikhs initiated a string of Akhand Paths.

15TH SEPTEMBER

1539 Jotti Jot, First Patshah, Guru Nanak Dev Ji

GURU NANAK (1469-1539): In a world rife with falsehood, sunk in superstitions and plagued by all kinds of inequities and inequalities, Guru Nanak rang in the gospel of truth, universal love and brotherhood. The Founder Guru of the Sikhs and one of the greatest and saintliest of saviours, he redeemed the soul of a moribund society that had experienced a total eclipse, if not annihilation, of all abiding human values. The condition of the contemporary society has been vividly described by the First Master in the well-known words

Guru Nanak was born in a Bedi family at Talwandi (Nankana Sahib), near Lahore, in 1469. At an early age he learnt Sanskrit, Persian and the prevalent form of Gurmukhi. He was a precocious child with a pronounced penchant for religion. His father, Mehta Kalu, made vain efforts to woo him to a mundane mode of life. Accordingly, he was got employed in a Government store of the Nawab of Sultanpur where he served for 13 years.

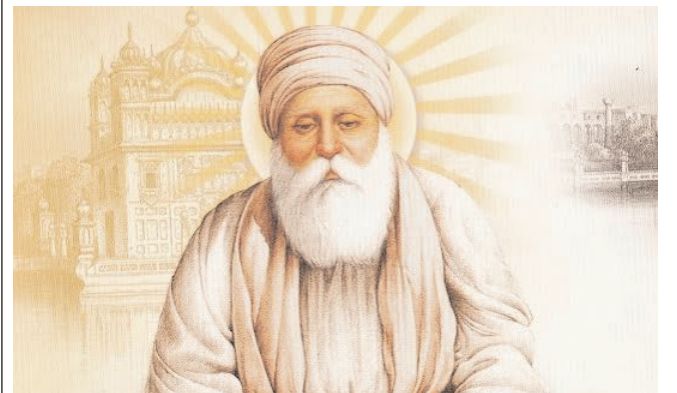
It was in 1499 that the day of destiny of ecstatic communion with God came. While taking his daily bath in the rivulet Bain that flows near Sultanpur, Nanak had his illumination through a soul-stirring vision of Almighty God. It was here that the Guru delivered his great sermon in the memorable words: There is no Hindu, there is no Musalman. The spiritual enlightenment enjoined on him a mission to the propagation of which he consecrated his entire life. He set out on his great Udasi's (Missionary journeys) to

deliver God's message to sinning and suffering humanity. He toured the whole of India and many foreign countries, preaching the gospel of true religion and rooting out ignorance and evil. The great Guru undertook five major missionary journeys in this behalf. In the course of his first long travel, Guru Nanak visited celebrated Hindu places of pilgrimage like Kurukshetra, Banaras and Jagnnath Puri.

1843 Maharaja Sher Singh shot dead by Ajit Singh Sandalwallia while inspecting troops.

1993 Punjab Police forces interrupted Akhand Path at Gurudwara Gurusar, Patshahi Sixth, at Gujrawal, Ludhiana. This event took place under Beant Singh's government.

16TH SEPTEMBER



1581 GURU AMAR DAS (1479-1574), the seventy-three years old disciple who had distinguished himself for his humility and simplicity in Guru Angad's holy company was nominated Guru in 1552.

1631 Baba Buddha Ji passed away.

BABA BUDHA JI: born on 7 katak sanmat 1563 at Kathunangal (Dist. Amritsar) to father Sudhae and mother Gora. Parents named the child as Budda. In sanmat 1574, Guru Nanak Dev Ji visited Kathunangal village. While grazing cattle, Budda met Guru Nanak and served milk in sewa. During their conversation, Guru Nanak declared that though young in age, he was "Budha" in terms of understanding and wisdom. Since then he came to known as Budha.

1843 Dalip Singh was enthroned as the Maharaja of Punjab. This only happened after some serious internal fighting for succession, upon the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh on June 22, 1839.



17TH SEPTEMBER

1922 The working committee of the Indian National Congress set up an inquiry committee to report on the brutal treatment meted out to the Akal Satyagrahies by the Govt. forces in Guru-Ka-Bagh.

Flakes to freedom: What your scalp is trying to tell you

A few white flakes on your shoulders may seem like a minor beauty nuisance, but when they keep returning despite repeated shampooing, oiling and home remedies, it can become a frustrating problem. The first step towards managing dandruff is understanding that it is not necessarily caused by poor hygiene or simply a lack of moisture.

Dandruff is a common scalp condition influenced by the interaction between natural scalp oils, microorganisms and the skin's protective barrier. One of the key players is *Malassezia*, a yeast-like microorganism that naturally lives on most people's skin.

There is no need to be alarmed by its presence. Under normal circumstances, *Malassezia* coexists harmlessly with the scalp. However, changes in the scalp environment can sometimes encourage greater activity. Excess oil, sweat, heat, humidity, pollution and product build-up may all contribute to an environment in which the scalp becomes more prone to irritation.

Malassezia uses sebum—the natural oil produced by the scalp—as a source of nourishment. In the process, it can produce substances that irritate susceptible skin. This irritation may trigger inflammation and accelerate the shedding of skin cells. Instead of being shed so gradually that they go unnoticed, the cells collect and form the familiar flakes.

This is why dandruff should not automatically be confused with a dry scalp. In fact, people with oily scalps can also struggle with persistent flaking.

Why Does It Keep Coming Back?

One of the biggest frustrations with dandruff is its tendency to return. A shampoo may remove flakes and excess oil, leaving the scalp feeling fresh for a few days. But if the factors contributing to irritation remain, the symptoms can reappear.

The solution, therefore, is not simply to keep washing your hair more frequently. A consistent scalp-care routine is more useful than constantly switching products. Anti-dandruff shampoos contain different active ingredients designed to address different aspects of the problem, so what works for one person may not work equally well for another.

Everyday habits can also make a difference. Avoid scratching the scalp aggressively, as this can worsen



irritation. Very hot water may also leave the scalp feeling dry and uncomfortable. At the same time, excessive use of oils, styling products or dry shampoo can contribute to build-up in some people.

Stress may also play a role. While stress does not directly cause dandruff, periods of poor sleep and increased stress can make existing scalp problems more difficult to manage.

If dandruff is accompanied by intense itching, redness, painful areas, thick scales or persistent symptoms despite appropriate care, it is worth consulting a dermatologist. Conditions such as seborrhoeic dermatitis, psoriasis and eczema can sometimes resemble ordinary dandruff.

Ultimately, beautiful hair begins with a healthy scalp. Rather than treating flakes as merely a cosmetic problem, understanding the scalp's natural ecosystem can help you choose a smarter, gentler and more effective hair-care routine.

FOOD CORNER

Baingan bharta



Baingan bharta or Baigan Chokha is an Indian dish prepared by mincing grilled eggplant and mixing it with tomato, onion, herbs and spices. Grilling the eggplant over charcoal or direct fire infuses the dish with a smoky flavour.

INGREDIENTS

- Eggplant, halved lengthwise -- 1 to 1 1/2 pounds, or about 2 large, Onion, chopped: 1, Garlic, crushed: 2 to 3 cloves, Ginger, minced: 1 tablespoon, Chili peppers, minced: 1 to 2, Oil or ghee: 3 tablespoons, Cumin seed: 2 teaspoons, Turmeric: 1 teaspoon, Tomatoes, chopped: 2, Water: 1/2 cup, Salt and pepper to taste, Garam masala: 2 teaspoons, Cilantro, chopped: 1/2 bunch

METHOD

- Preheat oven to 400°F. Place the eggplant, cut side down, on an oiled baking sheet and roast in the oven until softened, about 20 to 30 minutes. Allow to cool somewhat, then peel, cut into chunks and set aside.
- Puree the onion, garlic, ginger and chilies in a food processor or blender until smooth, adding a little water if necessary.
- Heat the oil or ghee over medium heat in a large pot, karahi or wok. Add the cumin seed and turmeric and stir until it is lightly browned and fragrant. Immediately stir in the onion puree and saute until any excess liquid has evaporated and the raw onion taste is cooked out, about 5 to 8 minutes. Take care not to burn the mixture.
- Stir in the chopped tomatoes and simmer until the tomatoes are cooked down and the liquid is reduced somewhat, around 5 to 8 minutes. Stir in the roasted eggplant and the water and salt. Bring to a simmer, and then reduce heat to low, cover and cook slowly for another 15 to 20 minutes. The eggplant will break down into a puree.
- Remove from heat, stir in the garam masala and adjust seasoning to taste. Sprinkle with the chopped cilantro and serve.

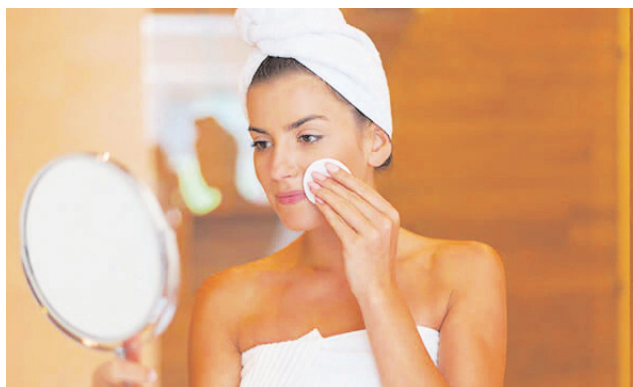
Pore perfect: Ways to make enlarged pores less noticeable

Acne, oily skin and blackheads often get all the attention when we talk about common beauty concerns. But there is another factor that can make all three appear more prominent: enlarged pores.

Pores are tiny openings through which sebum, the skin's natural oil, reaches the surface. Their size is influenced by genetics, skin type, age and oil production. They cannot be permanently "closed", but the right skincare routine can help keep them clear and make their appearance less noticeable. When the skin produces excess oil, dead skin cells and impurities can accumulate around the pore opening. If this material is exposed to air, it can oxidise and appear dark, creating a blackhead. This is why keeping pores clean and preventing excessive oil build-up is more useful than trying to shrink them overnight.

Apple Cider Vinegar

Apple cider vinegar is often promoted as a natural toner because of its acidic nature. However, applying undiluted vinegar directly to the face can cause burning, irritation and damage to the skin barrier.



If you want to use it, choose a properly formulated skincare product containing safe concentrations rather than experimenting with concentrated kitchen vinegar. People with sensitive or acne-prone skin should be particularly cautious.

Ice Cubes

A quick burst of cold can temporarily make the skin feel tighter and reduce puffiness, which may make pores appear smaller for a short period. However, ice does not

permanently shrink pores or reduce oil production. If you enjoy the cooling sensation, use a clean cloth wrapped around an ice cube rather than placing ice directly on the skin.

Baking Soda

Baking soda is another popular DIY remedy for oily skin and pores, but it is not necessarily a skin-friendly solution. Because it is alkaline, it can disrupt the skin's natural acidity and potentially cause dryness and irritation. Instead of reaching for a kitchen ingredient, use a gentle cleanser and skincare products specifically formulated for facial skin.

Egg White Masks

Egg-white masks have long been used as a homemade beauty treatment because they can leave the skin feeling temporarily firm and tight as they dry. However, this effect does not actually reduce pore size. A gentle clay mask, used occasionally, can be a more practical option for people with oily skin because it can help absorb excess surface oil.

Feed your gut: Everyday foods for happier microbiome

When it comes to improving gut health, most people immediately think about foods they need to avoid. Cut down on sugar. Skip processed food. Avoid greasy meals. While reducing certain foods may help in some situations, what you add to your plate can be just as important. Your gut is home to trillions of microorganisms, including bacteria and other microbes, collectively known as the gut microbiome. These tiny residents interact with the food you eat and play an important role in maintaining the gut environment.

The good news is that supporting your gut does not necessarily require expensive supplements or exotic superfoods. Many everyday foods found in an Indian kitchen can contribute to a varied, fiber-rich diet that supports a healthy gut microbiome. Here are simple foods worth adding to your meals.

Curd

Curd is one of the easiest gut-friendly foods to include in an Indian diet. It can contain live microorganisms and is also a useful source of protein and calcium. Choose plain, unsweetened curd



instead of flavored varieties that may contain added sugar. Enjoy it with lunch, turn it into a refreshing raita or have a small bowl alongside your regular meal.

Bananas

Bananas are convenient, affordable and packed with carbohydrates and fibre. Less-ripe bananas also contain resistant starch, a type of carbohydrate that is not completely digested in the small intestine and can be used by certain gut bacteria. Add sliced banana to your morning oats, eat one as a quick snack or blend it into a smoothie.

Oats

A bowl of oats can be a simple way to increase your daily fibre intake. Oats contain beta-glucan, a type of soluble fibre that can support

digestive health. Some fibres are fermented by bacteria in the gut, producing compounds that help support the gut environment. For a more nutritious breakfast, combine oats with fruits, nuts and seeds.

Dal and Other Pulses

Dal is already a staple in many Indian homes, and for good reason. Lentils, chickpeas, kidney beans and other pulses provide both plant protein and dietary fibre. Their fiber reaches the colon, where it can be used by gut microorganisms. If you are increasing your intake of pulses, do so gradually and drink adequate water, especially if you are prone to bloating.

Fermented Foods

Traditional fermented foods can add variety to the diet. Foods such as fermented vegetables and preparations made from fermented batters, including idli and dosa, are popular examples. The microorganisms present can vary depending on the ingredients and method of preparation, but including a variety of traditionally prepared fermented foods can be part of a diverse eating pattern.

Lesser-known signs you may be low on iron

Iron is an important mineral that our body needs to make haemoglobin, a protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen from the lungs to the rest of the body. Edwina Raj, Head of Services – Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics, Aster CMI Hospital, Bangalore, elaborates that it also supports energy levels, brain function, muscle activity and the immune system. So when iron levels are low, “the body may not get enough oxygen and a person may gradually feel less energetic”.

According to her, some common signs that may suggest iron deficiency are:

- Unusual tiredness and weakness
- Pale skin or paleness inside the lower eyelids
- Breathlessness, dizziness or headaches, particularly when doing normal physical activity

“While some people may notice the above-mentioned signs, some surprising clues that point towards low iron also include poor concentration, feeling cold more often, hair fall, brittle nails or unusual cravings such as eating ice. However, these symptoms are not always specific to iron deficiency, and should not be used to diagnose it on their own,” Raj tells indianexpress.com.

When does iron deficiency happen?

Raj explains that the body can experience iron deficiency when a person does not get enough iron through food, has difficulty absorbing iron, or loses blood through conditions such as heavy menstrual bleeding or gastrointestinal bleeding.

“If the deficiency becomes severe it can cause iron-deficiency anaemia, which can affect daily energy and physical performance,” she says. Therefore, persistent symptoms should be discussed with a doctor and confirmed through appropriate blood tests before starting iron supplements, because taking unnecessary iron can also be harmful, she adds.

What happens when there's an iron overload?

Dr Satish Koul, Director, Internal Medicine, Fortis Memorial Research Institute, Gurugram says that excess of iron can lead to deposition of iron in the organs and cause organ failure. Due to multiple transfusions, thalassemia patients can also develop endocrine disorders, he adds.

Dr Koul mentions that the daily allowance of iron differs from person to person. “Gender differences, age, and the amount of activity one does are important factors when it comes to deciding recommended daily allowance,” he tells indianexpress.com.

According to him, menstruating females need at least 20 to 25 mg per day of iron as compared to men of similar age group who need 15 to 17 mg per day.

Source: The Indian Express

The roti that beats wheat: Indian flatbread that packs the most nutrition

Do you know which roti can give you more protein, fibre, iron, calcium and magnesium than your everyday wheat roti? Hint: the answer may already be hiding in traditional Indian kitchens.

Ragi: The Mineral-Rich Millet

Ragi, also known as finger millet, is one of the most calcium-rich commonly consumed cereals. It also provides dietary fibre, iron, magnesium and other nutrients.

Its nutritional profile makes it an interesting alternative to conventional wheat roti, particularly for people looking to increase the variety of grains in their diet. But there is an important distinction: ragi is not necessarily the highest in every nutrient when compared with every other flour. The nutritional value depends on the grain, serving size, flour processing and what the roti is made with. So rather than searching for one magical “healthiest roti”, think of ragi as one excellent option to rotate into a varied diet.

What Makes Ragi Special?

Calcium



Calcium is essential for maintaining healthy bones and teeth and also plays a role in normal muscle and nerve function. Ragi is particularly notable for its calcium content compared with many other cereal grains.

Fibre

Fibre helps support normal digestion and contributes to feelings of fullness. Including fibre-rich foods in meals can also help support overall metabolic health.

Iron

Ragi contains iron, although the amount absorbed by the body depends on several factors. Plant-based iron is less readily absorbed

than the haem iron found in animal foods. Pairing iron-containing foods with vitamin-C-rich foods such as lemon, amla, tomatoes or certain fruits can help improve the absorption of non-haem iron.

Magnesium

Magnesium is involved in numerous processes in the body, including normal muscle and nerve function and energy metabolism. Whole grains and millets can contribute to daily magnesium intake.

What About Protein?

Here is where the story becomes more interesting.

Ragi is nutritious, but it should not be marketed as a particularly high-protein food on its own. If your primary goal is increasing protein intake, combining ragi with ingredients such as dal, besan, soy flour or other protein-rich foods can make the meal more substantial.

A ragi roti served with dal, curd or a pulse-based vegetable dish can therefore create a much more balanced meal than eating the roti alone.

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Apple's iPhone Duo steals the launch show, but India is left with a price puzzle

Apple has finally entered the foldable smartphone race, but its first attempt comes with a distinctly premium price tag for Indian consumers. The company on Wednesday unveiled the iPhone Duo, its first foldable iPhone, making it the centrepiece of its latest product launch even as the new iPhone 18 Pro models also received significant upgrades.

The iPhone Duo starts at Rs 2,99,900 in India for the 256GB version and goes up to Rs 4,49,900 for the 2TB model. Pre-orders will open on October 16, with the device going on sale from October 23.

The pricing immediately puts the Duo in a rarefied segment of India's smartphone market. While foldable phones are no longer new to Indian consumers, Apple's entry comes at a substantial premium, raising questions over how broadly the device can appeal beyond the company's most affluent and loyal customers.

Apple finally embraces the foldable form factor

The iPhone Duo marks Apple's biggest change to the iPhone design in years. The device opens like a book to reveal a 7.6-inch Super Retina XDR display, Apple's largest-ever iPhone screen. When folded, it uses a 5.4-inch outer display, allowing it to function like a conventional smartphone.

Apple has designed the phone around what it calls a new foldable experience rather than simply adapting its existing iPhone interface. The company has reworked iOS 27 to make better use of the larger screen, with an emphasis on multitasking, gaming, content consumption and productivity.

The inner display also features a nano-texture finish aimed at reducing glare and making the fold less prominent. Both displays support ProMotion and Always-On functionality.

The phone has a titanium frame and a specially designed hinge. Apple says the foldable design has been



engineered to maintain a slim profile while providing the durability expected from an iPhone.

A20 Pro at the heart of the Duo

Powering the new device is Apple's A20 Pro chip, also used in the iPhone 18 Pro models. The chip is built on a 2-nanometre process and is paired with a new thermal-management system designed to sustain performance during demanding tasks such as gaming, multitasking and on-device artificial intelligence workloads.

Apple says the A20 Pro brings faster CPU and GPU performance and a more powerful Neural Engine for AI applications. The Duo also incorporates Apple Intelligence and new Siri AI capabilities.

The company is pitching the foldable not simply as a larger-screen iPhone, but as a device designed around the combination of hardware, software and AI.

Camera gets a foldable twist

The Duo carries a 48MP dual Fusion camera system, comprising a main and an ultra-wide camera. Apple is

also using the foldable design to introduce new ways of taking photographs and making video calls.

The phone's Center Stage front camera is designed to work across different orientations, while the foldable form allows users to position the phone in different ways without requiring a separate stand.

Apple says the Duo can deliver up to 44 hours of video playback when using the outer display, while playback on the inner display is rated at up to 31 hours.

The Rs 4.5 lakh question

It is the price, however, that could prove harder for Apple to explain in India.

The base Duo at Rs 2,99,900 is already positioned well above Apple's conventional Pro models. The 512GB version costs Rs 3,24,900, the 1TB model Rs 3,74,900 and the 2TB variant Rs 4,49,900.

That creates an unusually wide price gap within the same product family. A consumer choosing the highest-storage Duo would be spending nearly Rs 2.7 lakh more than the starting price of the iPhone 18 Pro.

The pricing also gives Apple's rivals considerable room to compete on value. Samsung and Chinese smartphone makers have already spent several years developing foldable devices, giving consumers alternatives at lower prices.

Apple, by contrast, is banking on the strength of its ecosystem, brand value and the novelty of a foldable iPhone to justify the premium.

iPhone 18 Pro gets its own upgrade

Apple's other major announcements were the iPhone 18 Pro and iPhone 18 Pro Max, both powered by the A20 Pro chip.

The iPhone 18 Pro starts at Rs 1,64,900, while the Pro Max starts at Rs 1,79,900 in India. The models bring improvements to cameras, performance, battery life and Apple Intelligence.

Scientists turn human poop into concrete and it's surprisingly 42% stronger

What if human waste could one day help build stronger buildings? Scientists have found that a material made from treated faecal sludge can partially replace cement in concrete and, at the right concentration, significantly improve its strength.

The research, published in Scientific Reports, explored the use of biochar derived from faecal sludge, treated human waste collected from septic tanks and sanitation systems, as a partial replacement for cement in concrete.

Specialised treatment plants collect and process faecal sludge.

Researchers converted the material into biochar, a carbon-rich substance, and mixed it into concrete to study whether it could make the construction material stronger and more sustainable.

The results were striking. Concrete containing a 10% replacement of cement with faecal sludge-derived biochar showed a 21% increase in compressive strength and a 42% increase in flexural



strength after 91 days of curing.

Compressive strength measures how much pressure concrete can withstand, while flexural strength indicates how well it resists bending and cracking.

The researchers tested different amounts of biochar and examined several properties, including strength, water absorption, porosity and drying shrinkage. The findings suggested that replacing between 5% and 10% of cement with biochar could improve concrete performance. At a higher 15% replacement level, water absorption and porosity were comparable to conventional concrete after 28 days.

The material also appeared to remain

stable over time. After 120 days, mortar containing 10% biochar showed drying shrinkage similar to ordinary Portland cement mortar, indicating that the material could maintain its shape and stability over longer periods.

Another potentially important finding involved harmful heavy metals. The study reported a reduction in heavy metal concentrations in concrete specimens as biochar content increased, which could potentially reduce the leaching of harmful substances into the environment. The research could offer a double environmental benefit: finding a productive use for treated human waste while reducing the amount of cement needed in concrete.

Cement production is energy-intensive and a major contributor to global carbon emissions. While more research and real-world testing will be needed before faecal sludge-derived biochar can be widely used in construction, the study points towards an unusual possibility.

Hubble and Webb telescopes spot 27 frozen worlds hiding beyond Neptune

For the first time, scientists have combined the extraordinary powers of NASA's Hubble and James Webb Space Telescopes to peer deep into one of the most remote and mysterious regions of our solar system.

Their target: tiny, faint and frozen worlds orbiting the Sun beyond Neptune. The observations have revealed 27 previously unknown Trans-Neptunian Objects, or TNOs, including some of the smallest and faintest objects ever directly detected at the edge of the solar system.

But the discoveries have also thrown up a surprise: scientists found far fewer tiny objects than some models of planet formation had predicted.

TNOs are icy bodies that orbit the Sun beyond Neptune. Most are incredibly dim, more than 100 million times fainter than objects visible to the naked eye from Earth.

Brent holds above \$100 as Iran-US attacks threaten supply disruption

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

HOUSTON (TIP): Brent crude futures breached \$100 a barrel for the first time since late July, as Iran and the US hit tankers in the biggest wave of attacks on shipping since the war began, threatening to worsen the ongoing impairment of energy supplies from West Asia.

Front-month Brent crude rose \$3.40, or 3.5%, to \$101.32 a barrel while US West Texas Intermediate crude rose \$3.45, or 3.7%, to \$96.48 a barrel, highest since early June. Since late May, oil benchmarks have generally traded well below the \$100-per-barrel psychological threshold, reflecting expectations that the conflict would remain on a low simmer. That calculus has been shifting of late with the resumption of strikes.

Iran also said it had fired ballistic missiles at a base used by US forces in Jordan. Attacks by both sides since the end of August have shattered a month of relative calm, with the US and Iran hitting military, shipping and energy assets.

The Revolutionary Guards said they would sharply escalate their response to any further attacks, hitting 20 targets if the enemy struck two or three. Iran would soon release maps of a new, enlarged off-limits zone at sea that would extend as far as Chabahar on the far reaches of Iran's coast near Pakistan, the Guards said.

Recent days have also seen an



escalation in fighting between Saudi Arabia and the Houthis in Yemen, a second theatre of war that threatens global energy supplies from West Asia.

The US said it destroyed five Iranian oil tankers overnight, releasing video of ships ablaze before they sank. The US military's Central Command called its attacks a response to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps targeting a US Navy warship twice with ballistic missiles over the previous two days. No Americans were harmed, the US said.

Washington has announced a new policy of attacking Iranian tankers in retaliation for fire that threatens its warships, and says it has hit 10 so far over

the past week.

Iran said it fired on two US ships and eight tankers in response. One seafarer was killed aboard the oil products tanker Hercules Star while at anchorage off Dubai and another crew member was missing, the vessel's charterer, Peninsula, said. The British maritime security agency UKMTO described a vessel in the vicinity that was listing, possibly taking on water after being struck by a projectile. Two Iraqi port officials said a tanker carrying 2 million barrels of fuel oil, the New Andros, had caught fire after being struck by a drone in Iraqi waters. There were no reports of casualties among the 22 crew.

RBI's NRI deposit success creates a new liquidity challenge for the banking system

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Reserve Bank of India's special foreign-currency deposit scheme, launched to attract overseas funds and strengthen the country's external buffers, has turned out to be far more successful than anticipated. But the massive inflow of dollars has created a fresh challenge for the central bank: too much rupee liquidity in the banking system.

The special swap facility for Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank), or FCNR(B), deposits mobilised an unprecedented amount of foreign currency. By the time the window closed on August 31, FCNR(B) deposits had reached around \$127.2 billion, while total inflows under the broader facility were about \$136.37 billion, according to data cited in recent reports.

The scale of the response was dramatically higher than expectations when the scheme was introduced. The government had said on August 24 that total foreign-exchange inflows under the facility had already reached \$73 billion by August 21, with FCNR(B) deposits



accounting for \$65.4 billion.

From dollar inflows to excess rupees

The basic mechanics of the scheme explain the problem. When NRIs place their dollars with Indian banks under FCNR(B) deposits, the banks can exchange those dollars with the RBI through the special swap arrangement. In return, the RBI provides rupees to the banks. The dollars strengthen India's foreign-exchange reserves and provide banks with stable foreign-currency funding. But the rupees released by the RBI remain within the domestic banking system. They therefore add to overall liquidity rather than disappearing from circulation.

With the inflow reaching more than \$127 billion, the impact has been enormous. India's banking system liquidity surplus climbed to around Rs 9.7 trillion, or Rs 9.7 lakh crore, in early September, according to Reuters. Other estimates have subsequently put the surplus at around ₹14-15 trillion as the RBI grapples with the continuing overhang.

Why excess liquidity matters

A liquidity surplus is not necessarily bad for banks. In fact, abundant funds can reduce their dependence on expensive market borrowing and give them greater capacity to lend.

But an excessively large surplus can complicate the RBI's monetary policy operations. When banks have more money than they need, they may park funds in the overnight market, pushing short-term interest rates below the RBI's desired operating level. Excess liquidity can also encourage additional lending and investment, potentially creating demand-side pressures and, eventually, inflation or asset-price risks.

Adani Airports to raise \$1 billion for 5.54% stake sale, shares jump 5%

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

NEW DELHI (TIP): Adani Airport Holdings Ltd (AAHL), the airports arm of Adani Enterprises, will raise Rs 9,825 crore (around \$1 billion) from a consortium of global and domestic investors, who will collectively hold about 5.54% in the company after the completion of the transaction.

The investor consortium comprises Alpha Wave Global, Premji Invest, Temasek and funds managed by BlackRock. The investment values AAHL at a pre-money equity valuation of around \$18 billion, according to an exchange filing by Adani Enterprises.

Adani Enterprises shares rose 5% after the company announced the \$1 billion fundraise by its airport subsidiary. The stock was trading at Rs 3,094.80, up Rs 135 or 4.56%, as of 11:43 am, compared with the previous close of Rs 2,959.80. The stock opened at Rs 2,963.35 and touched an intraday high of Rs 3,141.40. The investors will subscribe to fresh equity shares of AAHL in three tranches under a Share Subscription Agreement and Shareholders' Agreement. The final tranche is expected to be completed by July 2027, subject to customary conditions and applicable approvals.

An expansion spree in recent years has turned AAHL into India's largest airport operator by the number of airports it manages.

The company operates eight airports, including Mumbai International Airport, and accounts for about 25% of India's passenger traffic and 33% of its air cargo volumes. The GMR Group, another major player in India's aviation sector, remains the largest operator by the number of passengers handled.

The expansion has given Adani Airports a sizeable presence across India's aviation infrastructure, as passenger traffic and air connectivity continue to grow.

The fresh capital will be used to modernise and expand airport infrastructure, develop Adani Airport City projects and scale up ground handling and other non-aeronautical businesses. AAHL plans around 22 million sq ft of mixed-use development in the first phase of its Airport City projects. The company aims to scale its airport capacity to around 200 million passengers annually.

Jeet Adani, Non-Executive Director of Adani Airport Holdings, said the investment marked an important milestone for the airports platform and that the company would continue to invest ahead of growth. "India's aviation sector is one of the most powerful multipliers of the country's GDP growth," he said, adding that air connectivity catalyses trade, tourism, employment and regional development.



BEJAN DARUWALLA AND CHIRAG DARUWALLA

**ARIES**

Ganesha says it is a tough week ahead for all those who are born under this sign. Professionally and financially, it is going to be a hard time. Family and personal relations will be going through a stressful period. From society, there will be pressure upon you, and health-wise, things are going to be under control. Put proper control on expenses that are seen in personal life. Your ability will give a negative impression. First of all, you should keep a check on your anger and words. Work pressure will require you to dedicate more hours to the office will eat up your time, and you may not be able to spend time with your loved one. The financial situation will be getting worse, so keep a close monitor on expenses. For financial assistance, don't depend on others or their commitments. For those who want to enter into any partnership deal or business venture, this is not the ideal time for that. Your superiors will not be happy with your work at all; they will always try to find mistakes committed by you.

**TAURUS**

Ganesha says this week there will be many uneasy things happening around you, and you would never be in a position to describe the same. Professionally, things will be getting incomplete. Even financially, things will also be out of control, and you will really not have any clue how to manage them. Health-wise, things are okay, and family and personal life are going to be average. Most of the things will get pending or postponed unexpectedly. You may get more mental stress, and your behavior is completely different this week. Personal relations will go sour, and tensions will be high between lovers. Your egoistic problems will create more within a small period of time; you should control your temper. This week, you will suffer from fluctuating finances. A disturbing time at work, and there will be a decline in mental peace. The business partner may hide some important information or may cheat you. Eat more seasonal fruits for better health.

**GEMINI**

Ganesha says this week it would be progressive in all ways and means. New communication may form, and you will participate in some of the social events. You will be in a romantic and joyful mood, and conjugal happiness will flourish. You should put control over your thoughts, as there may be a chance of getting impulses on minor

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - SEPT 14, 2026 TO SEP 20, 2026

BY ASTROLOGER CHIRAG DARUWALLA

issues. The flow of income will increase and help you to manage the show, and simultaneously, will put an end to some issues that are bothering you. You could see support from higher authorities, and the chance of getting an increment is likely. Transparency in communication may yield good results. Trade & Commerce, Garments import & export business will go well. You may face problems like poor blood circulation, an increase in cholesterol, and breathing problems. With memory power and family support, students can create an impression, and also rapport with professors/teachers may increase.

**CANCER**

Ganesha says the family and social life will be average. Your frustrations may make you restless and tempt you to take drastic steps in life. Healthwise, this is not a good week. Don't get discouragement if your efforts are not successful; be patient, as time will turn for the better in the coming days. If you can make the right decision at the right time, you will profit on a large scale. Be on your guard. Don't need to reveal your inner feelings to the public because they will try to do you harm. Additional responsibilities in the profession will increase. A sense of mental instability might creep in due to humiliation and loss of status at the workplace. You should adequately clear your family requirements this week. Do regular meditation and Yoga for better health. You should put more concentration on your studies. Higher education in foreign countries will go on average. This week, you need to sleep more.

**LEO**

Ganesha says this is a test week. A hectic schedule in the profession may give more responsibilities. You will meet new friends this week. You may get a short temper or an impulse on unnecessary issues. Appreciations from superiors are seen, but you should not get overconfident in your work. Professional growth is seen, keep patience for better results. Your social circle will enlarge speedily, and you may get honors and some financial benefits. There may be a possibility of slight misunderstandings with superiors, which should be noted, and do your work confidently. Clashes between co-workers should be strictly avoided. The progress of work will be overall good this week. Your capabilities will be appreciated, and you will get an identity in the profession. Exciting news will bring you immense happiness this week.

**VIRGO**

Ganesha says it is an average week, and even putting in the proper effort, you may not be satisfied with the results. Loss of confidence may give physical and mental stress, but your broad-minded nature

offers some solutions. You need to put the monitor on expenses. Family happiness will convert into problems and struggles. There will be some confrontation with your loved one. You need to attend social functions for peace of mind. Students may become frustrated with their behavior, and loss of the disciplinary system and their crude nature are likely. Drive carefully and watch your step on the stairs, as it is a period of accidents. It is better to avoid long journeys during the week. Your opponents will be stronger and may cause worries; try to avoid quarrels.

**LIBRA**

Ganesha says this week is average. There may be health problems for you and your family members. There will be mental unrest due to the pressures of your relatives, colleagues, and superiors. Family quarrels and misunderstandings would be massive this week. Try to control your thoughts and behavior. You may experience laziness, mental stress, disputes, and problems due to an ailment and the enemy's losses due to theft or fire. There will be some unexpected health issues that may cause much uneasiness and struggles for you. There will be mental unrest due to the pressures of your relatives, colleagues, and superiors. Family quarrels and misunderstandings would be massive this week. Try to control your thoughts and behavior. You may experience laziness, mental stress, disputes, and problems due to an ailment and the enemy's losses due to theft or fire. In financial matters, don't take hasty decisions, and let your feet be firmly grounded. If needed, seek the advice of some experienced persons. This week gives you slight financial benefits.

**SCORPIO**

Ganesha says this week will go fruitfully. You will have good money inflows. Professionally, things will take a new shape, and everything will turn out in your favor. Health-wise, things are fine, while family life is going to be slightly hectic. You will be able to suppress your enemies easily. Gains through friends are indicated. Control irritability and your tongue, which may create minor problems. With your egoistic feelings, your domestic life will be in turmoil, and there won't be any peace and happiness. Social life would be fine, and those who are in love will have a mixed time. You could see an increased income, and also, there will be a good flow of money around you, and you will resolve your financial issues. It is a comfortable time to put in your sincere efforts and show your capabilities in your career. New opportunities may give immense pleasure and happiness. Success in competitive exams and interviews is assured. You should make sure that you are not skipping your food based on your tensions.

**SAGITTARIUS**

Ganesha says the fruitful week ahead; your capabilities will get recognition. In your career, you may see some remarkable changes. Put your efforts. Sincerely, this gives me a respectable position. Character Artists, Surgeons, Professors, and Hierarchy Management officials will do well. You may receive unexpected financial assistance from the people in power and position. You may have company of the opposite sex, which may give excellent support and guidance. You may get new clients/businesses from overseas or far-flung places. Real estate, civil engineering, Pharmaceuticals, e-commerce, and fashion designing, the business will do well. Students may receive financial help from private / government sectors. Performance of studies will be up to the mark on all fronts and will shine in their studies. The health issues related to the face and neck region may haunt you. Joint pains or motion problems may cause worry.

**CAPRICORN**

Ganesha says this week is going to be average. Your fluctuating thoughts may change good things may go wrong. Keep patience, and don't give any personal commitments, skills will improve this week. Hectic schedules in your profession or individual life will provide physical and mental stress. You may miss an opportunity to get a new profession. You will be busy with business meetings/contracts, but some of the decisions may backfire. Lack of sleep and irritability will affect peace and harmony at home. Try to spend more time with your partner. Social life will be dull; avoid risky investments that may result in loss. Students may have a lack of concentration, laziness, and many unforeseen issues on the educational front. Watch out for fevers, stomach troubles, and eye troubles. Father's health may make you worry and tense. Your partner may face some health issues, and you will incur more expenses for treatment.

**AQUARIUS**

Ganesha says it is on both the financial and professional front that you will meet with success, but there will be a few occasions you might face reversals, too. Relations with spouses may spoil, and misunderstandings may create unnecessary gaps. There will be pressure building up in the office. You will have the frustration of doing all the hard work and then your hard work going unrecognized. A positive attitude and self-confidence would bring success in new projects during the week. You would incorporate innovative ideas and good strategies to reap better profits in your business. This week, you will be so emotional and often get hurt by harsh

CONTD ON PAGE 31

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : SEPTEMBER 14 TO SEPTEMBER 20 BY ASTROLOGER CHIRAG DARUWALLA

SEPTEMBER 14

Ganesha says today is a day to celebrate love and affection with friends and family. You may feel more passionate and impetuous than normal, so make sure to give some thought to what you're going to do before you do it. Spend some quality time demonstrating to your significant other how much you value the connection you share. Be willing to explore new possibilities for a romantic relationship if you are currently unattached.

SEPTEMBER 15

Ganesha says today is an excellent day for you to concentrate on your requirements and concerns. Spend some time caring for yourself and indulging in the pursuits that bring you the most pleasure. You might also consider devoting some time to contemplating the objectives and

concerns you have towards the future.

SEPTEMBER 16

Ganesha says in today's world, communication is essential. You can find yourself in circumstances that require you to articulate your thoughts in a way that is unequivocal and confident. Be sure to listen to what other people have to say and look for areas of agreement to help you avoid arguments.

SEPTEMBER 17

Ganesha says today is a day for getting in touch with your feelings and expressing them. You may feel more sensitive and intuitive than usual, in which case, you must pay heed to the voice of your intuition. You should probably also spend some time with the people you care about and be as honest as possible about your emotions.

SEPTEMBER 18

Ganesha says today is a good day to focus on your personal growth, trust your instincts, and make choices that align with your values and long-term goals. Today is a good day to focus on your personal growth and trust your instincts. Your ability to be realistic and your attention to detail will be of great assistance to you as you manage these issues.

SEPTEMBER 19

Ganesha says you might experience feelings of restlessness or a need for change. Take advantage of new possibilities and push yourself to do things that take you out of your comfort zone. You will be able to overcome any challenges that come your way because of your flexibility and resourcefulness.



SEPTEMBER 20

Ganesha says today you may find you concentrating on the personal relationships you have and the connections you have with other people. Maintain the friendships you already have while still being open to making new ones. It may be simpler for you to connect with others as a result of your charisma and other people's abilities, which may be highlighted. Nevertheless, it is imperative that you establish positive limits and make time for your self-care.

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words from others. You need to practice Yoga and breathing exercises regularly to improve your concentration levels. You need to develop good concentration and improve your learning abilities to reap success in education. Those dealing with progeny issues should seek medical assistance.



PISCES

Ganesha says professionally, there is a tough time, while financially, things will be under control. Personal and family life will be average, while health-wise things will be better. Under any circumstances, you should not lose patience. You will get on your enemies by the end of this week. Some of them may come to a compromise with you. During this entire week, you have had some hesitation about your capabilities. You will have a convincing functional capacity, and resolving some issues may be helpful. You should be careful about some sensitive decisions, as these decisions might prove fatal in your career later. Financial losses and unnecessary tensions may create problems in a career; better to excuse hypertension during this period. Students need to put more concentration on higher education; loss of confidence in studies may give tension. Health would be reasonable for the entire week.

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

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When Lord Ganesha arrives, homes seem to acquire a special warmth. Flowers brighten doorways, lamps glow in corners, the fragrance of incense fills the air and the familiar chant of "Ganpati Bappa Morya" rises from streets and neighborhoods. For millions of devotees, Ganesh Chaturthi is not merely a festival—it is an emotional celebration of faith, family, hope and new beginnings.

Also called Vinayaka Chaturthi or Vinayaka Chavithi, the festival commemorates the birth of Lord Ganesha, the beloved elephant-headed deity worshipped as the remover of obstacles and the embodiment of wisdom and intelligence. Celebrated during the Hindu month of Bhadrapada, generally falling in August or September, the festival brings together devotion, elaborate rituals, music, art and traditional food.

The Arrival of the Remover of Obstacles

Lord Ganesha holds a special place in Hindu tradition. He is traditionally worshipped before important ceremonies and new ventures because he is believed to remove obstacles and create favorable circumstances for success.

Known as Vighnaharta, Ganesha is associated with the removal of difficulties, while names such as Sukhakarta reflect his role as a giver of happiness and well-being. His blessings are sought by students, entrepreneurs, families and devotees embarking on new phases of life.

Ganesh Chaturthi therefore carries a powerful message: every new journey may have its challenges, but wisdom, determination and faith can help overcome them.

A Festival With Ancient Roots

The worship of Ganesha dates back centuries, but the transformation of Ganesh Chaturthi into a major public festival is closely associated with Maharashtra.

In 1893, freedom fighter and social reformer Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak helped popularise the public celebration of Ganesh Chaturthi. At a time when colonial restrictions made large public gatherings difficult, the festival provided an important cultural space for people to come together.

What began as a religious celebration gradually became a powerful expression of community and social unity. Public pandals brought people together irrespective of social and economic differences, while cultural programs provided a platform for music, theatre, art and public engagement.

More than a century later, Maharashtra remains synonymous with grand Ganesh celebrations. From Mumbai's famous neighborhood mandals to Pune's historic celebrations, the festival has become an integral part of the cultural landscape. It is also celebrated with enthusiasm in Karnataka, Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and many other parts of India.

Bringing Bappa Home

The festival begins with the installation of a Ganesha idol in homes, temples or

Ganesh Chaturthi: Welcoming Bappa, celebrating new beginnings



community pandals. The ritual installation, accompanied by prayers and sacred chants, is seen as inviting the deity into the home or community.

The duration of the celebration varies according to regional and family traditions. Some devotees keep the idol for a day and a half, while others observe the festival for five, seven or 10 days. Many major public celebrations continue until Anant Chaturdashi, when the final immersion takes place.

Throughout the festival, devotees offer flowers, fruits, sweets and other traditional offerings. Daily aartis create moments of collective devotion, with families and communities gathering to sing hymns and seek Ganesha's blessings.

The Sweet Taste of Devotion

If there is one food that immediately brings Ganesh Chaturthi to mind, it is the modak.

Tradition associates the modak with Lord Ganesha, making it an essential offering during the festival. Among the most popular varieties is ukadiche modak, a steamed delicacy made with a rice-flour covering and a filling of coconut and jaggery. Regional food traditions add their own flavors to the celebrations. Different kinds of sweets and savorys are prepared as naivedya, or food offered to the deity, before being shared with family and friends.

The festive kitchen becomes an important part of the celebration, turning food into an expression of love, hospitality and devotion.

Colour, Music and Community Spirit

Ganesh Chaturthi transforms public spaces into vibrant centres of

celebration. Community pandals are decorated with flowers, lights, artwork and elaborate themes, with some installations becoming remarkable displays of craftsmanship and creativity.

The celebrations extend beyond prayer. Music, dance, theatre, cultural competitions and social programs are often organized around the festival. Children and young people participate enthusiastically, while entire neighborhoods work together to organize decorations, processions and community activities.

The result is a festival that combines spirituality with a strong sense of collective identity.

The Emotional Journey of Visarjan

After days of celebration comes the moment of farewell.

On the final day, devotees carry the Ganesha idol in colorful processions accompanied by drums, music, dancing and devotional chants. The streets echo with "Ganpati Bappa Morya" as devotees make their way towards a water body for the immersion ceremony known as Ganesh Visarjan.

The farewell is both joyful and emotional. Devotees traditionally chant, "Ganpati Bappa Morya, Pudhchya Varshi Lavkar Ya"—a heartfelt invitation for Bappa to return soon the following year.

The immersion has a profound symbolic meaning. The idol, often made of clay, returns to the elements from which it came. In devotional belief, Ganesha returns to Mount Kailash, to Lord Shiva and Mata Parvati.

The ritual reminds devotees of the temporary nature of physical existence

and the enduring nature of faith.

Rediscovering an Eco-Friendly Tradition

The increasing environmental impact of large-scale idol immersion has brought sustainability into the conversation around Ganesh Chaturthi.

Traditional idols were generally made from natural clay and decorated with natural materials. The widespread use of plaster of Paris, chemical colours and non-biodegradable decorations has raised concerns about pollution in rivers, lakes and seas.

In response, many devotees and organizers are choosing eco-friendly alternatives. Clay idols, natural colors, biodegradable decorations and smaller installations can help reduce the festival's environmental footprint.

Several communities are also using the occasion to promote tree plantation, cleanliness, water conservation and waste management. In this way, the festival's traditional connection with nature is being given a contemporary meaning.

A Celebration That Gives Back

One of the most inspiring aspects of modern Ganesh Chaturthi is the way communities use the festival to support social causes. Ganesh mandals and local organizations often conduct blood donation camps, health check-ups, charitable drives, educational initiatives and programs for underprivileged communities. Such efforts add a deeper social dimension to the celebrations.

The festival becomes an opportunity not only to seek blessings but also to share them by helping those who need support.

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On 25 Years of 9/11 Trump vows...

before losing his own and is now remembered as the "Man in the Red Bandana".

Recounting Crowther's heroism, Trump said at the event, "After the plane hit the South Tower, a group of people on the 78th floor were trapped with broken bones, charred skin and eyes, and lungs filled with black smoke. Death was all about them; it was certain. They were sure they were going to die. Then suddenly, a rescuer appeared. They call him the 'Man in the Red Bandana.'" Crowther's mother, Alison, and sister, Paige, accepted the Medal on his behalf.

Expressing her gratitude, Alison stated, "This means the world to me, my daughters, Paige and Honor, and our entire family. This will be treasured for generations to come."

In addition, President Trump announced that the US Coast Guard will commission a new Fast Response Cutter in memory of FDNY firefighter and Coast Guard reservist Jeffrey Palazzo, who was among the 343 firefighters killed on 9/11.

Addressing Palazzo's legacy at the event, Trump said, "Before September 11, he had already saved many lives... Him and the other members of Rescue Squad 5 died at the World Trade Centre while fighting to rescue fellow New Yorkers."

Reflecting on the impact of the attacks, President Trump said, "On 9/11, nearly 3,000 precious souls were stolen from us - killed by evil terrorists at the World Trade Centre, the Pentagon, and on Flight 93. All of these years later, we gather on another Tuesday morning in September to reaffirm the sacred vow we made a quarter of a century ago: we will never forget."

Pointing to the steel beam brought by the tour, Trump remarked at the Ellipse, "In just over 100 minutes, 175,000 tons of steel and concrete were reduced to ruin and 3,000 lives were extinguished... This battered piece of steel here today on the Ellipse is a reminder that America is blessed with a strength no fire can consume, no evil can conquer, and no terror can destroy."

He continued, "The 16,000-pound beam lifted from the wreckage of the South Tower will forever testify to the courage and resilience and spirit of a city and a nation that saw our homeland struck, our towers knocked down and stood back up stronger, more determined, and more united than ever before... When we see the steel, we're reminded that no matter what threat or challenge comes our way, America will fight, America will endure, and America will prevail."

Recognizing the ultimate sacrifices made by first responders, Trump added, "For the past few months, Tunnel to Towers has taken this steel across the nation to remind Americans of what we overcame that day and what our heroes did... On September 11, 23 members of the New York Police Department, 37 members of the Port Authority Police, three Court officers, and 343 members of the New York Fire Department made the ultimate sacrifice."

The White House confirmed that on Friday, marking the 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001, President Trump and Vice President JD Vance will visit the attack sites to join the nation in remembering the fallen heroes and honoring the families who bear the loss.

The upcoming anniversary of the attack marks a quarter century since the coordinated terrorist attacks that profoundly reshaped the United States and its approach to national security.

On September 11, 2001, 19 al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked four commercial passenger aircraft in a coordinated attack against the United States. Two planes were flown into the World Trade Centre's Twin Towers in New York, while a third struck the Pentagon, the headquarters of the US Department of Defense, in Arlington, Virginia. The fourth aircraft crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, after passengers and crew attempted to regain control of the plane. The attacks killed 2,977 people, according to official US figures, making September 11 one of the deadliest terrorist attacks in history.

The destruction of the Twin Towers and the attack on the Pentagon triggered an immediate national crisis and ushered in a new era of US counterterrorism operations, military engagements and heightened

domestic security measures. At Ground Zero in New York, the site where the World Trade Centre towers once stood, an annual remembrance ceremony continues to honor the victims. The names of those killed are read aloud by family members and loved ones, preserving a solemn tradition that has become central to the country's 9/11 commemorations.

The attacks were orchestrated by al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden and followed years of confrontation between the terrorist organization and the United States. (Source: ANI)

Wars, global crises may top agenda of...

summit, especially as Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian is scheduled to be here. This will be the first visit to India by President Pezeshkian since he took charge after the death of President Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash in 2024.

Mr. Pezeshkian met Prime Minister Modi on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, on August 31. That was the first meeting between the two leaders since the war began. The differences between Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will be keenly watched as the two sides have been exchanging tough messages because of the ongoing hostilities in the region. UAE will be represented by Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Ministry informed. The Gulf Cooperation Council, which is also in focus because of the hostilities in the Persian Gulf region, will be represented by Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Foreign Minister of Bahrain.

Among the founding members of BRICS - launched in 2009 with the first summit hosted by Russia - South Africa will be represented by Cyril Ramaphosa and Brazil will be represented by Mauro Vieira. Among the founding members of BRICS, President Putin is the longest-serving leader.

Indonesia's President Subianto, who was the Guest of Honour at the Republic Day parade here on January 26, 2025, is also scheduled to attend the BRICS summit. Among the ten partner countries of BRICS, the notable leaders will be Malaysia's Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim and Vietnam's Prime Minister Le Minh Hung. President of the Philippines Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr; will attend the summit in his capacity as Chair of ASEAN and President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev will participate in the event in his capacity as President of the Eurasian Economic Union.

Apart from Mr. Guterres, World Health Organization head Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, World Trade Organization Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, and Dilma Rousseff, former President of Brazil, who will participate as the representative of the New Development Bank, will attend the summit. Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has invited to participate in the summit, but Bangladesh will not be represented at the event, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Humayun Kobir has confirmed. (Agencies)

Vance, Rubio, Cruz? Republicans at...

The uncertainty mirrors the wide-open field on the Democratic side, which is embroiled in its own soul-searching, and it underscores the early date, since no candidates have even officially said they're running. It also reflects how completely the party has come to revolve around Trump in the decade since he seized control, making it difficult for some Republicans to consider a future without him at the helm.

Rochelle Brooks shook her head at the prospect of voicing her preference for a 2028 nominee so soon. But when pressed, she offered up Trump's top rival for the 2024 nomination.

"If I had to name somebody at this moment, if I was forced, I would say it's the governor of Florida, Ron DeSantis," said the Dallas IT manager. "What he's done in Florida is a roadmap for what we need to do in America." Others were more certain.

Peggy Stanton could hardly get Rubio's name out of her mouth fast enough when asked who she would like to see atop the Republicans' 2028 ticket. Even though the Houston retiree didn't support his 2016 campaign for president, Stanton said she always believed Rubio would be president someday.

"He's so knowledgeable. He totally understands international threats, the threats of communism," she said. "Every single issue I hear him speak on, he gets it. He has charisma. I just feel like he would be a great president."

Many Republicans are torn between Vance and Rubio. For others, a decision will depend on the person Trump ultimately chooses to endorse, if he ends up doing so.

Norma Alruosan, a payroll tax analyst who lives in the Dallas suburb of Coppell, is currently torn between Vance and Rubio. She said she "loves Vance" and "can relate to him" because of their similar backgrounds, but she also loves what she dubbed Rubio's "Latino tongue," meaning his willingness to speak his mind.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Putin lands in Delhi for BRICS summit...

resilience, cross-border payment mechanisms, energy security, and conflict-resolution pathways regarding ongoing geopolitical tensions in Eastern Europe and West Asia.

According to a statement issued by the Kremlin, Putin will pay a working visit to India as the grouping marks its 20th anniversary.

The main BRICS Summit will be held in New Delhi on September 12 and September 13 under India's chairship.

The Kremlin said Putin will address the plenary session of the annual BRICS Business Forum on September 11, a platform that traditionally precedes the leaders' summit and brings together business representatives from BRICS countries.

On the same day, Putin is scheduled to hold a bilateral meeting with PM Modi and, along with the Indian leader, visit the INNOPROM exhibition, which has been organized by the industry and trade ministries of Russia and India.

"On September 11, Vladimir Putin will address the plenary session of the annual BRICS Business Forum, which traditionally precedes the summit and serves as an important platform for dialogue among business representatives from BRICS countries. On the same day, the President of Russia will hold a bilateral meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and, together with him, visit the INNOPROM exhibition, organized by the two countries' ministries of industry and trade," the statement read.

The Russian President's visit is expected to add further momentum to the India-Russia strategic partnership, with trade and economic cooperation likely to feature prominently in the discussions.

Putin's first major bilateral engagement during the summit is with PM Modi on September 11.

On September 11, Putin is also scheduled to meet Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, with Ushakov noting that contacts between the two leaders have become regular; TASS reported.

Putin will also meet Dilma Rousseff, head of the BRICS New Development Bank, on the same day.

Putin will further hold a bilateral meeting with South African President Cyril Ramaphosa on September 11.

Moscow is also exploring a possible meeting between Putin and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi on the same day, TASS reported.

On September 12, Putin is scheduled to meet Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed.

Putin also does not plan to hold a press conference for the Kremlin pool following the BRICS Summit.

The main programme of the BRICS Summit will begin on September 12, with leaders expected to discuss initiatives of India's presidency and prospects for further strengthening the BRICS strategic partnership.

India's BRICS chairship has focused on strengthening international cooperation across trade, digital technology, finance, energy security and global governance reform.

The September summit is expected to address resilient global supply chains, cross-border payment integration, greater use of national currencies, MSME development, digital trade and artificial intelligence.

Energy security, climate resilience, development finance, expansion of the New Development Bank and reforms of multilateral financial and political institutions are also expected to feature prominently. (PTI)

Nestled in the scenic Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh, Dalhousie is one of northern India's most charming and popular hill stations. Spread across five hills and surrounded by dense forests of pine, deodar and oak, the town offers magnificent views of the snow-clad Dhauladhar mountain ranges. With its colonial-era architecture, mist-covered valleys, rolling meadows, waterfalls and tranquil walking trails, Dalhousie continues to attract honeymooners, families, nature lovers and adventure enthusiasts alike.

Established in 1854 during British rule, Dalhousie was named after Lord Dalhousie, the then Governor-General of India. The British developed the town as a summer retreat to escape the intense heat of the plains. More than a century and a half later, the hill station still retains much of its old-world character. Quiet roads lined with tall trees, colonial bungalows, historic churches and panoramic viewpoints lend Dalhousie a distinctive charm that sets it apart from many other Himalayan destinations.

The town is particularly appealing to travellers looking for a peaceful escape. Unlike some of the more crowded hill stations, Dalhousie still offers pockets of serenity where visitors can simply walk through forests, admire the mountains or sit back and enjoy the cool mountain air.

A Town Steeped in Colonial Charm

One of Dalhousie's greatest attractions is its architectural heritage. The influence of the British era can still be seen in the town's churches, schools and old buildings. Several beautiful churches built in Scottish and Victorian styles stand as reminders of Dalhousie's colonial past. St Patrick's Church, St John's Church and St Francis Church are among the prominent landmarks. Their distinctive architecture, stained-glass windows and peaceful surroundings attract visitors interested in history as well as architecture. A leisurely walk through the older parts of Dalhousie is almost like stepping back in time. Narrow roads wind through forests and old buildings while the mountains rise in the distance. The combination of colonial heritage and Himalayan beauty gives the town its special identity.

Shopping on the Mall Road

No visit to Dalhousie is complete without exploring its bustling Mall Road, the commercial heart of the town. The market offers a variety of souvenirs, traditional handicrafts and local products. Visitors can shop for colourful Himachali shawls, woollen garments, Tibetan handicrafts and the famous Chamba handkerchiefs. These embroidered handkerchiefs are among the finest examples of traditional handicrafts from the Chamba region. Small shops selling jewellery, artefacts, warm clothing and souvenirs make the market an interesting place for an evening stroll. Cafes and eateries along the way provide an opportunity to relax while enjoying the cool mountain weather.

Panchpula: A Favorite Picnic Retreat

Located around 3.5 kilometers from

Dalhousie: A Colonial retreat amid Dhauladhar Hills



Gandhi Chowk, Panchpula is among Dalhousie's most popular tourist attractions. Surrounded by thick pine and deodar forests, the area is known for its natural beauty, streams and waterfalls.

The name Panchpula literally means "five bridges". The destination is particularly popular with families and young travellers looking for a relaxed outing amid nature.

Panchpula is also associated with revolutionary history. A memorial dedicated to Sardar Ajit Singh, the noted freedom fighter and uncle of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, stands here. Ajit Singh spent his final days in Dalhousie and passed away at Panchpula. The monument serves as a reminder of his contribution to India's freedom movement.

The area also serves as the starting point for the trek to Ganji Pahari. Adventure activities such as ziplining and Burma Bridge crossings have added another dimension to Panchpula's appeal.

Satdhara Falls: Where Seven Springs Meet

One of the most picturesque natural

attractions near Dalhousie is Satdhara Falls. Surrounded by dense forests and offering views of the Chamba Valley and distant snow-covered mountains, the waterfall is a refreshing retreat for nature lovers.

The name Satdhara means "seven streams". According to local belief, the waterfall is formed by the confluence of seven natural springs. The water cascades down the rocks amid thick greenery, creating a peaceful setting.

The area around the falls is particularly attractive during and after the monsoon season when the forests are lush and the flow of water is stronger. The sound of cascading water, the fragrance of wet earth and the cool mountain breeze make Satdhara an ideal place for those seeking tranquility.

Khajjiar: India's Mini Switzerland

A journey to Dalhousie is often considered incomplete without visiting Khajjiar, one of the most photographed and celebrated destinations in Himachal Pradesh. Located around 21 kilometers from Dalhousie, Khajjiar is popularly

known as the "Mini Switzerland of India".

Situated at an altitude of approximately 6,500 feet, Khajjiar is famous for its wide green meadows surrounded by dense forests and snow-covered Himalayan peaks. The landscape is strikingly different from the narrow valleys commonly associated with mountain destinations. The open grassy expanse, framed by towering deodar trees, gives Khajjiar an almost postcard-like appearance.

The region has fascinated travellers for centuries and has witnessed the influence of several cultures and kingdoms, including Rajput rulers and the Mughals.

At the centre of Khajjiar lies a small lake surrounded by meadows. The destination is also known for its nine-hole golf course, located amid spectacular natural surroundings.

Khajjiar has become a hub for adventure tourism as well. Activities such as trekking, zorbing and horse riding are popular among visitors. During winter, the surrounding region often receives snowfall, transforming the landscape into a white wonderland.

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History This Week

SEP 11 - SEP 17

SEPTEMBER 11

September 11, 2001 - The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history occurred as four large passenger jets were hijacked then crashed, killing nearly 3,000 persons. Four separate teams of Mideast terrorists, operating from inside the U.S., boarded the morning flights posing as passengers, then forcibly commandeered the aircraft. Two fully-fueled jumbo jets, American Airlines Flight 11 carrying 92 people and United Airlines Flight 175 carrying 65 people, had departed Boston for Los Angeles. Both jets were diverted by the hijackers to New York City where they were piloted into the twin towers of the World Trade Center. The impact and subsequent fire caused both 110-story towers to collapse, killing 2,752 persons including hundreds of rescue workers and people employed in the towers. In addition, United Airlines Flight 93, which had departed Newark for San Francisco, and American Airlines Flight 77, which had departed Dulles (Virginia) for Los Angeles, were hijacked. Flight 77 with 64 people on board was diverted to Washington, D.C., then piloted into the Pentagon building, killing everyone on board and 125 military personnel inside the building. Flight 93 with 44 people on board was also diverted toward Washington but crashed into a field in Pennsylvania after passengers attempted to overpower the terrorists on board.



Birthday - Ferdinand Marcos (1917-1989) was born in Sarrat, Philippines. He ruled the Philippines from 1966, imposing an authoritarian regime until he was ousted in 1986.

SEPTEMBER 12

September 12, 1943 - Former Italian Dictator Benito Mussolini was rescued by German paratroopers on orders from Adolf Hitler. Mussolini was being held prisoner by Italian authorities following the collapse of his Fascist regime.

September 12, 1953 - John F. Kennedy, 36, married Jacqueline Bouvier, 24, in a ceremony before 750 invited guests at St. Mary's Church in Newport, Rhode Island, conducted by Archbishop Richard Cushing of Boston.

September 12, 1953 - Nikita Khrushchev was elected First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR.

September 12, 1974 - Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, was deposed by an army coup after 44 years as ruler.

September 12, 1977 - Steve Biko, the South African black civil rights leader, died while he was in police detention.

September 12, 1990 - A treaty was signed by East and West Germany and the Allies of World War II allowing for the restoration of sovereignty to a reunified Germany.



Birthday - African American Olympic athlete Jesse Owens (1913-1980) was born in Oakville, Alabama (as James Cleveland Owens). He won four medals in track and field at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, defeating Nazi athletes and disappointing Nazi leader Adolf Hitler.

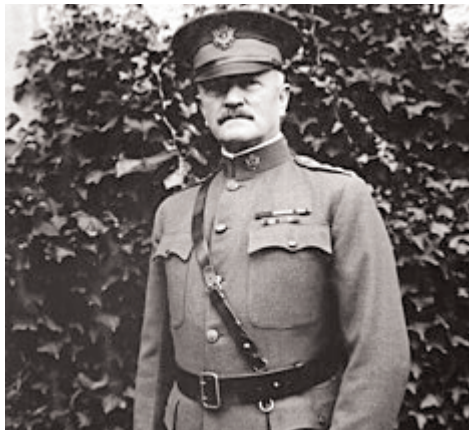
SEPTEMBER 13

September 13, 1788 - The U.S. Congress chose New York as the Federal capital of the new American government.

September 13, 1814 - The Battle of Fort Henry in Baltimore Harbor occurred, observed by Francis Scott Key aboard a ship. He watched the British attack overnight and at dawn saw the American flag still flying over the fort, inspiring him to write the verses which were later coupled with the tune of a popular drinking song and became the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.

September 13, 1971 - State police and National Guardsmen stormed Attica prison in New York State ending a five-day prisoners' revolt. Thirty one prisoners and 11 guards were killed.

Birthday - American Army physician Walter Reed (1851-1902) was born in Gloucester County, Virginia. Best known for his Yellow Fever research, he served as an army surgeon for more than 20 years. The U.S. Army's general hospital in Washington, D.C., is named in his honor.



Birthday - Army General John J. Pershing (1860-1948) was born in Laclede, Missouri. He commanded the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) during World War I and oversaw the Meuse-Argonne operation that helped bring about the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

SEPTEMBER 14

September 14, 1741 - Composer George Frederick Handel finished Messiah after working on it nonstop for 23 days.

September 14, 1812 - Napoleon and his troops first entered Moscow as the retreating Russians set the city on fire. Napoleon found it was impossible to stay through the winter in the ruined city. He then began a retreat from Moscow which

became one of the great disasters of military history. Fewer than 20,000 of the original 500,000 men with him survived the Russian campaign.

September 14, 1901 - Eight days after being shot, President William McKinley died from wounds suffered during an assassination attempt in Buffalo, New York. He was succeeded by Theodore Roosevelt.

September 14, 1927 - In Nice, France, famed ballet dancer Isadora Duncan was killed in a freak accident as the long scarf she was wearing became caught in the moving wheel of the car in which she was riding, strangling her.

September 14, 1930 - The Nazi Party became the second largest party in Germany following a stunning election triumph by Adolf Hitler.

September 14, 1960 - The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was formed by representatives of oil-producing countries meeting in Baghdad.



September 14, 1975 - Elizabeth Ann Seton became the first American saint.

September 14, 1982 - Princess Grace of Monaco died following an accident in which her car plunged off a mountain road in Monte Carlo. Her daughter Stephanie, also in the car, survived and was treated for shock and bruises. Princess Grace (Grace Kelly) was a Hollywood actress who met Prince Rainier III of Monaco during filming of the Hitchcock film To Catch a Thief. She then gave up a successful acting career and married him in 1956.

SEPTEMBER 15

September 15, 1776 - British forces under General William Howe captured New York during the American Revolution.

September 15, 1916 - Tanks were first used in combat, during the Allied offensive at the Battle of the Somme, in World War I.

September 15, 1935 - Nazis enacted the Nuremberg Laws depriving German Jews of their rights of citizenship.

September 15, 1940 - The height of the Battle of Britain occurred as massive German air raids took place against London, Southampton, Bristol, Cardiff, Liverpool and Manchester. The British claimed 185 German planes were shot down.

September 15, 1944 - The first entry of American troops into Hitler's Germany occurred as elements of the U.S. 7th and 5th Corps reached the southwestern frontier of Germany.

Birthday - American novelist, historian and social critic, James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851) was born in Burlington, New Jersey. Best known for The Last of the Mohicans.

Birthday - William Howard Taft (1857-1930) the 27th U.S. President was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He served as President from 1909-1913, then became a law professor at Yale University until his

appointment as Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1921.



Birthday - British mystery author Agatha Christie (1890-1976) was born in Torquay, England. She wrote nearly a hundred books including mysteries, dramas, poetry and nonfiction.

SEPTEMBER 16

September 16, 1620 - The Mayflower ship departed from England, bound for America with 102 passengers and a small crew. The ship weathered dangerous Atlantic storms and reached Provincetown, Massachusetts on November 21st. The Pilgrims disembarked at Plymouth on December 26th.

September 16, 1810 - Mexico's break from Spain began in the town of Dolores Hidalgo as Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla rang his church's bells and exhorted local Indians to "recover from the hated Spaniards the land stolen from your forefathers..."

September 16, 1908 - General Motors was founded by entrepreneur William Crapo "Billy" Durant in Flint, Michigan.

September 16, 1976 - The Episcopal Church in the U.S. approved the ordination of women priests and bishops.

September 16, 1982 - Beginning of a two day massacre in Palestinian refugee camps in West Beirut as Christian militiamen (the Phalangists) entered Sabra and Shatila and began shooting hundreds of Palestinians, including elderly men, women and children.

SEPTEMBER 17

September 17, 1787 - At the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, delegates from twelve states voted unanimously to approve the proposed U.S. Constitution.

September 17, 1862 - The bloodiest day in U.S. military history occurred as General Robert E. Lee and the Confederate armies were stopped at Antietam in Maryland by General George B. McClellan and numerically superior Union forces. By nightfall 26,000 men were dead, wounded, or missing.

September 17, 1908 - The first fatality involving powered flight occurred as a biplane piloted by Orville Wright fell from a height of 75 feet, killing Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, his 26-year-old passenger. A crowd of nearly 2,000 spectators at Fort Myer, Virginia, observed the crash of the plane which was being tested for possible military use. Wright himself was seriously injured.

September 17, 1939 - Soviet Russians invaded Eastern Poland, meeting little resistance and taking over 200,000 Poles prisoner. This was done in accordance with the Nazi-Soviet Pact in which the Nazis and Soviets had predetermined how they would divide up Poland.

Sikh Union celebrates sporting excellence, honors 27 Olympians and World Cuppers



BY
PRABHJOT SINGH

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

LONDON (TIP): A week after the conclusion of the 2026 FIH World Cup Hockey Tournament, Olympians owing allegiance to Sikh Union Clubs, both in London and Nairobi, organized a prestigious certificate of recognition ceremony in London where 27 Sikh Union Olympians were felicitated.

In May this year, the Sikh Union Club in Nairobi, one of the oldest Clubs of Sikh expatriates outside India, organized its centenary celebrations.

Manjinder (Munai) Singh Bansal, Chairman of the Sikh Union Club Centenary Celebrations Committee, specially travelled to London with Certificates of Recognition and other mementos.

Since many members of the Sikh Union have strong affiliations with both the Clubs in London and Nairobi, a function was a celebratory event was hosted as a remarkable Certificate of Recognition ceremony at Spencer Hockey Club, Tooting, and London on September 6. The special event saw honoring of the achievements and legacy of 27 outstanding Sikh Union Olympians and World Cup players, both living and passed on.

The Olympians attending were accompanied by family and friends (in the case of fallen Olympians or those who were physically challenged to attend were represented by their nominees) and marked a celebratory event which was a testament to the enduring spirit of Sikh Union Club Nairobi and the Olympic Games, and the profound impact of its athletes on the world of sport and beyond.

In attendance and to award the Certificates were Manjinder Singh Bansal (affectionately known as Munai Bansal), Chairman Centenary Ceremony Committee and Surjit Singh Rihal hosting the function on behalf of Sikh Union Club Nairobi.

A minute's silence was observed by everyone standing up to offer a prayer in memory of all the Sikh Union Club Nairobi Fallen Olympians, (especially - whose families were present there that day). Surjit asked everyone to remember Reynold DeSouza in their prayers, one of Kenya's oldest Olympians who played in 1956 and 1964 Olympic Games passed away recently in July, and Sarjit Singh of Malaysia who was at Sikh Union's centenary celebrations in May, passed away about 2 weeks ago in August.

Sarjit represented Malaysia in the 1984 and 1992 Olympic Games. Everyone remembered in their prayers the hundreds of people who had lost their lives in the tragic floods on 26 August in Nepal. Surjit



Canadian Olympian Ranjeev Singh Deol is being felicitated by British Olympian Kulbir Bhaura (extreme left) and Manjinder (Munai) Bansal flanked by Surjit Singh Rihal (extreme right).



Kulbir Bhaura, Manjinder (Munai) Bansal and Surjit Singh Rihal.



Tarlochan (Tochi) Singh Panesar, formerly of Spencer Club, being honored by Manjinder Singh Bansal and Surjit Singh Rihal. (Pictures by Surjit Singh Rihal)

reminded everyone to remember in their prayers the 11 Israeli Olympians who lost their lives 54 years ago on 6 September in the 1972 Munich Olympic Games

massacre, a terrorist attack by the Palestinian militant organization, Black September. A few Olympians present there that day were in the same Olympic village

at the time.

Among those felicitated, several luminaries stood out for their extraordinary contributions to Sikh Union and the Olympic legacy:

The oldest Olympian Honored

The ceremony paid tribute to the oldest Olympian of Sikh Union among the recipients Surjeet Singh Deol who participated in Melbourne 1956 as the first captain of Kenya Olympic team and played in 1960 Rome Olympic Games. He played for Sikh Union from early 1940s till 1962. He will always be remembered as a true pioneer who broke barriers and continues to inspire generations with his enduring passion for sport. His son Ranjeev Singh Deol represented Canada in the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Incidentally, his son, Ranjeev Deol, who represented Canada, was also among those honored.

The oldest living Olympian Honored

The ceremony paid tribute to the only living, oldest Olympian among the recipients, Joginder Singh Dhillon who participated in Melbourne 1956. He joined Sikh Union Club in the early 1950s. Unfortunately, because of his age and ill health, he was unable to attend.

Celebrating the Greatest of All Time

Avtar Singh Sohal was inducted into the Kenyan Hall of Fame being hailed as the "greatest of all time" captivating the audience with his unmatched record of achievements and unwavering dedication to the discipline. Rome 1960, Tokyo 1964, Mexico 1968 & Munich 1972, he is one of 3 Kenyan Olympians to have played in 4 Olympics, Captain in last 3 Olympics before becoming an International Umpire and FIH Coach in field hockey. He played for Sikh Union from around 1957 till 1975, captaining the team for many years. He received his Certificate of Recognition from Sikh Union recently in Nairobi.

Another Four-Time Olympic Participant

Surjeet Singh Panesar, Rome 1960, Tokyo 1964, Mexico 1968 & Munich 1972 - One of the three Olympians to have played in 4 Olympics; At the Munich 1972 Olympic Games, he became the first player to have played 31 matches, a record he held until 1988 when he was joined by Australia's Richard Charlesworth. They both held this record until the London Olympic Games. Another highlight was the recognition of an Olympian who competed in four Olympic Games, exemplifying resilience, determination, and a relentless pursuit of excellence over decades. He played for Sikh Union from around 1957 till 1989, captaining the team in 1974/75.

The most decorated Sikh hockey Olympian outside India

Kulbir Singh Bhaura accepted my invitation and was present at the function. He won a Bronze Medal in Los Angeles 1984 and Gold Medal in Seoul 1988 Olympic Games while playing for Great Britain.

Shafali Verma steers India to Women's Asia Cup final

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

DUBAI (TIP): Shafali Verma lived a charmed life for her stroke-filled 64 off 40 balls as India marched into yet another Women's Asia Cup final with a comfortable 40-run win over Bangladesh here on Thursday, September 10.

On a slow surface where batting was a struggle for majority of the batters, Shafali stood out with her fluent effort to take India to 149 for five. The Indian opener was dropped as many as three times and she duly made Bangladesh pay for those mistakes.

Considering the conditions and India's bowling resources, the seven-time champions were expected to defend the target and they did rather comfortably, limiting Bangladesh to 109 for 7 in 20 overs.

Bangladesh never threatened India despite the aggressive intent of opener Juairiya Ferdous (14 off 18). Eventually Ferdous and her opening partner Dilara Akter (21 off 26) fell while attempting to clear the mid-wicket boundary. Kranti Gaud's running catch to get rid of Akter was a brilliant effort on an otherwise ordinary day for the fielders.

Like in the last game, Pratika Rawal dropped a couple of catches.

The Indian spin trio of Deepti Sharma (3/26), Shree Charani (1/14) and Prema Rawat (1/21), delivered in spin-friendly conditions.

It has been a low scoring tournament mainly due to the slow nature of the pitches here. Considering that and Bangladesh's batting, India deep down knew they had got enough on the board. They play either Pakistan or Sri Lanka in the final scheduled for Sunday. With seven titles (four in 50-over and three T20s), India are the most successful team in the tournament. They had suffered a shocking loss to Sri Lanka in the previous edition.

Earlier, the Bangladesh bowling attack, which has been impressive in the tournament, was able to keep the accomplished Indian batters quiet for majority of the innings.

Rybakina rallies past Gauff to reach US Open final, sets up Sabalenka showdown

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

NEW YORK (TIP): Elena Rybakina recovered from a slow start to overcome Coco Gauff 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 in a gripping US Open semi-final on Thursday, September 10, and reach the championship match at Flushing Meadows for the first time.

The Kazakh second seed, who will become the new world No. 1 irrespective of the outcome of Saturday's final, weathered Gauff's aggressive opening before taking control of the contest with her powerful serve and relentless baseline game.

Rybakina will face defending champion Aryna Sabalenka in the final after the Belarusian top seed defeated American Jessica Pegula 7-5, 6-2 in the other semi-final.

The final brings together two of the most dominant players of the season and a repeat of their Australian Open final earlier this year. It will be Rybakina's fourth Grand Slam final and her first at the US Open.

Gauff makes strong start

Playing in front of a partisan Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd, the 2023 US Open champion Gauff made the brighter start. She broke Rybakina early and dictated much of the opening set with her movement and aggressive returns.

Rybakina struggled to find her rhythm and conceded the first set 6-3. But the Kazakh responded immediately in the second, tightening her game and putting greater pressure on Gauff's forehand.

Gauff's unforced errors began to mount as Rybakina found greater consistency from the baseline. The second seed secured the set 6-4 to level the match.

Rybakina takes charge

The momentum remained with Rybakina in the deciding set. Her serve became an increasingly important weapon, allowing her to dictate points and keep Gauff under pressure.

Gauff continued to fight and produced a late surge, but Rybakina held her nerve in the closing stages. She sealed the match 6-4 in the third set to complete the comeback.

Gauff finished with 34 unforced errors,



Elena Rybakina celebrates after defeating Coco Gauff in the US Open semifinal.



Sabalenka defeated Pegula 7-5, 6-2 to reach her fourth consecutive US Open final.

with her forehand proving particularly vulnerable as the match progressed.

The victory also extended Rybakina's remarkable record against American opponents. She remains unbeaten against American players in her career, according to reports following the semi-final.

Sabalenka stands in the way

Waiting for Rybakina in the final is a familiar rival in Sabalenka, who has dominated the US Open in recent years.

Sabalenka defeated Pegula 7-5, 6-2 to reach her fourth consecutive US Open final. She is now one victory away from completing a hat-trick of titles at Flushing Meadows, a feat last achieved by Serena Williams from 2012 to 2014.

Sabalenka's semi-final was another display of her aggressive power game. She produced 29 winners and seven aces and finished the match in 80 minutes.

The Belarusian has also won 19 consecutive matches at the US Open and will be bidding for her third straight title in New York.

New No. 1 versus defending champion

The final carries an added layer of significance because the world No. 1 ranking has already changed hands.

Rybakina secured the top ranking after reaching the semi-finals and will officially take over from Sabalenka. The title match, therefore, will pit the incoming world No. 1 against the defending champion.

The two have already developed one of the most compelling rivalries in women's

tennis. Their meetings this season have been closely contested, with the pair splitting their three matches, including finals at the Australian Open and Indian Wells.

For Rybakina, Saturday offers an opportunity to add a second Grand Slam title to the Australian Open crown she won earlier this year. For Sabalenka, victory would put her in an exclusive group of women to have won the US Open three years in succession.

Zverev storms into US Open semifinals

Alexander Zverev powered into the semifinals of the US Open with a commanding straight-sets victory over Botić van de Zandschulp on Wednesday. The German fourth seed defeated the Dutchman 6-2, 7-5, 6-1 at Arthur Ashe Stadium to reach the last four in New York. Zverev, who has now made 13 Grand Slam semifinals, controlled the contest with his powerful serve and aggressive baseline play, giving his opponent little opportunity to settle. After dropping serve early in the second set, Zverev quickly recovered and tightened his grip on the match. He broke van de Zandschulp late in the set before dominating the third. Zverev will next face Karen Khachanov in the semifinal on Friday. The Russian advanced after Alexander Bublik retired while trailing 6-2, 7-5, 3-2. Zverev is chasing his first US Open title after finishing runner-up at Flushing Meadows in 2020.

Continued from Page 38

He won a Silver Medal for England in the London 1986 World Cup.

Selected for the World XI team, Surjit Singh Rihal played in the 1972 Munich Olympic Games and was selected for the 'World XI Team'. Captain of the Kenya team from 1973-1981. He was selected as the first 'Hockey Player of the Year' in 1976 by Kenya Hockey Union. He played for Sikh Union from 1969 till 1989, captaining the team in 1982/83.

There are many more noteworthy Kenyan Olympians living as well as fallen from the list of recipients on this occasion and to all they have a legacy that will be remembered for generations to come.

The Certificate of Recognition: A Symbol of Pride and Dedication

The Certificate of Recognition represents more than just playing for Sikh Union and participation in the Olympic Games—it is a certificate of honor, signifying an athlete's lifelong commitment to Sikh Union Club Nairobi and the Olympic values and their role as ambassadors of sport worldwide. Each recipient has left an indelible mark on their sport and their communities, serving as role models for aspiring athletes and advocates for the power of sport to unite the world.

This Certificate of Recognition ceremony was a momentous occasion, not

only celebrating the achievements of these 27 remarkable individuals but also reflecting on the unifying power of sport. As the applause echoed through the venue, it was clear that the Sikh Union Club and Olympic spirit continue to shine brightly, inspiring a new generation of athletes and fans alike.

Surjit Singh Rihal who had organized the whole function and presented it gave a heartfelt vote of thanks to all who supported him in making this event possible. Surjit Singh expressed his sincere appreciation to the President and its Management of Spencer Club for making its facilities to hold this function. Special

appreciation was extended to Tochi Panesar, Trustee of the Hockey Museum, and former President of Spencer Club for his kind assistance in facilitating the use of the venue. Services of Hockey Historian Dil Bahra were also lauded.

At the end of Surjit's thanksgiving message, he asked everyone in the hall to stand up to raise a toast in the memory of the Founding Members and the Fallen Olympians of Sikh Union Club Nairobi.

(Prabhjot Singh is a Toronto-based senior journalist who writes on Sports, politics and community.

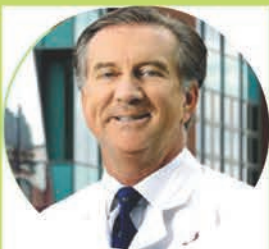
He can be reached at prabhjot416@gmail.com)



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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 doctors, nurses, and staff in preserving and restoring the vision of so many patients. We in the United States are inspired by your dedication and admire your tireless efforts to serve so many who need your skills and compassion.

Best Wishes, Peter



Peter J McDonnell, MD Director Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins



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