



## A4H supports Hon Lien's Milpitas Mayor bid

► Details on page 16

## 'Indian Diaspora raises calls for resolution'

► Details on page 6



## Alaya F wants to resonate with Gen Z

► Details on page 31

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# INDIA EXPELS CANADIAN DIPLOMATS

*India expels 6 Canadian diplomats hours after withdrawing its envoy to Canada*

NEW DELHI: Hours after deciding to withdraw its High Commissioner and other "targeted diplomats" and officials from Canada, India expelled six Canadian diplomats.

The reason cited behind withdrawing High Commissioner and other officials by India from Canada was Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's continued "hostility" towards the country.

In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said "the Government of India has decided to expel the following 6 Canadian Diplomats".

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2. Patrick Hebert, Deputy High Commissioner
3. Marie Catherine Joly, First Secretary
4. Ian Ross David Trites, First Secretary
5. Adam James Chuipka, First Secretary
6. Paula Orjuela, First Secretary

The statement mentioned that the diplomats "have been asked to leave India by or before 11.59 p.m. on Saturday (October 19).

The decision to withdraw the High Commissioner and other officials was conveyed to Canadian Charge d'Affaires Stewart Wheeler who was summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Secretary (East) in New Delhi and informed that the "baseless targeting" of the Indian High Commissioner and other diplomats and officials in Canada was completely unacceptable.

Details on page 5



Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif welcomes External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar at the venue of the SCO Summit, in Islamabad on October 16. (ANI Photo/Shrikant Singh)

Details on page 7



## Indian climber rescued from Mount Elbrus

► Details on page 6

## Australia launches New Visa for young Indians

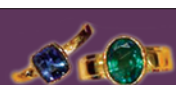
► Details on page 10

## Top industry leaders hail PM Modi

► Details on page 8

## CONTENTS

Bollywood	31
Classifieds	28
Community Post	16-24
Cover/Top Stories	5-7
Edit Page	29
Immigration Post	10-11
Info/Highlights	4
Life Style	30
OP-ED	26
TechBiz Post	8-9
Real Estate	12-13
Travel & Hospitality Post	27
Wellness Post	14-15



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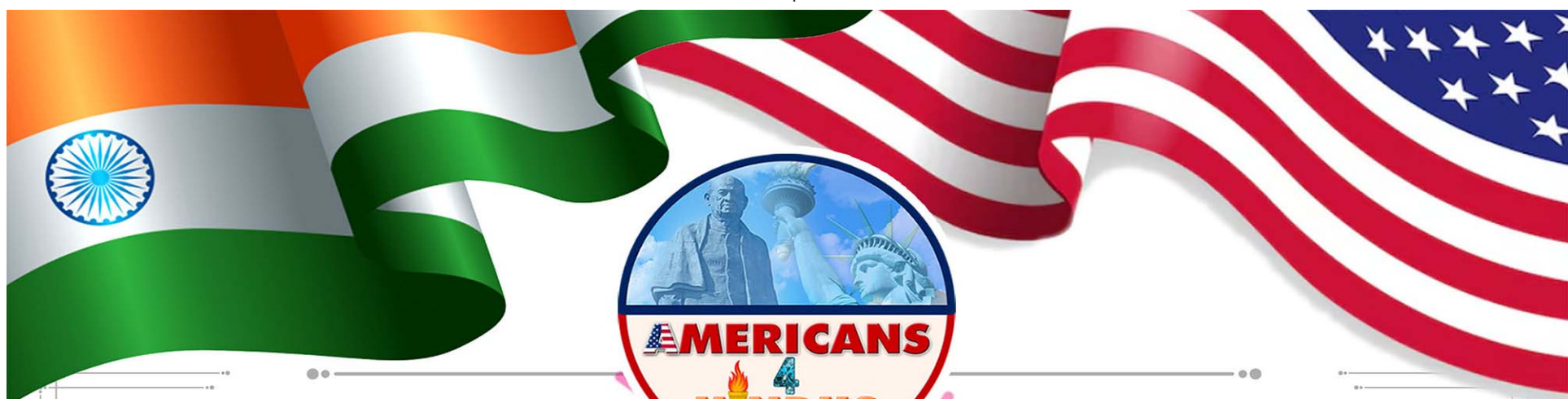


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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to India Post, 1860 Mowry Ave Ste 200, Fremont, CA 94538-1730.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Bollywood:

Alaya F with Gen Z



Alaya F shared, "I'm really excited to find a project that speaks to our generation-Gen Z and even the Alpha generation"

31

Lifestyle:

Soha shines at Lakme Fashion Week



Actor Soha Ali Khan dazzled as she turned showstopper for designer Simmi Saboo at the Lakme Fashion Week 2024, in partnership with FDCI

30

Cover Story:

INDIA EXPELS CANADIAN DIPLOMATS



Hours after deciding to withdraw its High Commissioner and other "targeted diplomats" and officials from Canada, India expelled six Canadian diplomats

5



Techbiz:

Top industry leaders hail PM

PM Modi inaugurated the 8th edition of the 'India Mobile Congress' during the International Telecommunication Union-World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly

8

Community:

A4H supports Milpitas Mayor bid



Americans4Hindus support Mayoral candidate Hon Lien's journey and how she achieved the American dream that resonates well with the community here

16



Travel

Kutch

Kutch comes to life during winters when the Rann Festival is held with cultural programs, functions and adventure activities like hot-air ballooning

27

Immigration:

Australia launches new Visa



In a significant move to strengthen ties between Australia and India, recently announced the launch of the Working Holiday Maker Visa

10



Wellness:

Climate change impact on health

Climate change is likely to have a severe impact on health emergency services around the world, international experts in emergency medicine warned

14

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The statement mentioned that the diplomats "have been asked to leave India by or before 11.59 p.m. on Saturday



Canadian Chargé d'Affaires Stewart Wheeler speaks to the media as he leaves from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) after being summoned by the Ministry, in New Delhi. (ANI Photo/Amit Sharma)

(October 19).

The decision to withdraw the High Commissioner and other officials was conveyed to Canadian Charge d'Affaires Stewart Wheeler who was summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Secretary (East) in New Delhi and informed

that the "baseless targeting" of the Indian High Commissioner and other diplomats and officials in Canada was completely unacceptable.

"It was underlined that in an atmosphere of extremism and violence, the Trudeau Government's actions endan-

gered their safety. We have no faith in the current Canadian Government's commitment to ensure their security. Therefore, the Government of India has decided to withdraw the High Commissioner and other targeted diplomats and officials," a statement read.

"It was also conveyed that India reserves the right to take further steps in response to the Trudeau Government's support for extremism, violence and separatism against India," it added.

Earlier in the day, India had issued a strongly worded statement, calling the diplomatic communication received from Canada on Sunday (13 Oct.) - suggesting that the Indian High Commissioner and other diplomats are 'persons of interest' in a matter related to an investigation in that country - as "preposterous imputations".

New Delhi asserted once again that the Trudeau government has "consciously provided" space to violent extremists and terrorists to harass, threaten and intimidate Indian diplomats and community leaders in Canada. *IANS*

## India's cooperation with Canada's legal process is right next step: UK on probe into Nijjar killing

LONDON: United Kingdom has said it is in contact with the Canadian government about serious developments outlined in the probe conducted in Canada into Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar case. The spokesperson called India's cooperation with Canada's legal process the "right next step."

Spokesperson for the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of UK said, "We are in contact with our Canadian partners about the serious developments outlined in the independent investigations in Canada. The UK has full confidence in Canada's judicial system. Respect for sovereignty and the rule of law is essential."

"The Government of India's cooperation with Canada's legal process is the right next step," the spokesperson said.

The diplomatic fallout between India and Canada came after Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Commissioner Mike Duheme claimed they had informa-

tion on certain criminal activity carried out by agents of the Indian government.

"Over the past few years and more recently, law enforcement agencies in Canada have successfully investigated and charged a significant number of individuals for their direct involvement in ho-

micides, extortions and other criminal acts of violence. In addition, there have been well over a dozen credible imminent threats to life which have led to the conduct of duty to warn, by law enforcement with members of South Asian community and specifically, members of the pro-Khalistan movement," Duheme said.

The RCMP Commissioner further claimed that investigations have revealed that Indian diplomats and consular officials based in Canada leveraged their official positions to engage in clandestine activities, such as collecting information for the Government of India, either directly or through their proxies; and other individuals who acted voluntarily or through coercion. *ANI*

*"We are in contact with our Canadian partners about the serious developments outlined in the independent investigations in Canada. The UK has full confidence in Canada's judicial system"*

## India's deteriorating relationship with Canada "reminiscent of relations with Pakistan"

WASHINGTON: Michael Kugelman, a US-based foreign policy expert and the Director of the South Asia Institute at the Wilson Center, has drawn a bleak comparison between India's deteriorating ties with Canada and its long-standing strained relations with Pakistan.

As tensions between India and Canada continue to escalate, Kugelman said, "One could not have imagined that things in this relationship could get worse, but they have." Kugelman highlighted the seriousness of the situation, noting that the diplomatic fallout between the two countries bears striking similarities to the Indo-Pakistan relationship.

"This is a relationship that's now hit rock bottom and indeed, looking at recent developments, certainly is reminiscent of India's relations with Pakistan in terms of these extremely serious allegations being made, in terms of senior diplomats being expelled, as well as the use of blistering language in government statements, it's all there and of

course, the core allegation that we're hearing from India that Canada is sheltering and sponsoring anti-India terrorists. This is what we're used to hearing India say about Pakistan," he pointed out.

Kugelman also spoke the internal political dynamics in Canada that have con-

tributed to the diplomatic rift, saying, "There are a lot of factors at play here. Certainly, one could acknowledge the relevance of the domestic political realities in Canada."

He further noted that Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's comments on India's internal matters, particularly his support for the

farmers' protests against agricultural laws, had sparked tensions.

"It is notable that PM Justin Trudeau has made some comments on internal developments in India that one would not expect a Canadian PM to make, such as commenting and expressing support for farmers protesting against Indian agricultural laws," Kugelman added. *ANI*

*As tensions between India and Canada continue to escalate, Kugelman said, "One could not have imagined that things in this relationship could get worse, but they have"*



# Indian enquiry team in Pannun assassination plot heads to United States

WASHINGTON DC: Amid the diplomatic row between India and Canada, the US State Department has announced that an Indian investigation team would travel to Washington DC on October 15 to investigate a plot to kill a US citizen in New York.

An Indian enquiry committee is set to visit the United States to investigate the involvement of an Indian government official in a foiled plot to assassinate a US national, the US Department of State said.

According to the State Department statement, an Indian enquiry committee "is

actively investigating the individual" and that India had informed the US it was looking in to "other linkages of the former government employee."

Notably, Indian national Nikhil Gupta is accused of being involved in the alleged failed murder plot of India-designated pro-Khalistani terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun.

Earlier in June, Gupta was extradited from the Czech Republic to the US to stand trial, where he pleaded "not guilty." The US Justice Department alleged that

Gupta (52) is an associate of the Indian government and that together they and others helped plot the assassination of Pannun in New York City.

"An Indian Enquiry Committee that was established to investigate activities of certain organized criminals is actively investi-

former government employee and will determine follow-up steps, as necessary."

Pannun is an India-designated terrorist who holds American and Canadian citizenship. Earlier in November, the US Justice Department unsealed an indictment against an Indian national for his alleged

*According to the State Department statement, an Indian enquiry committee "is actively investigating the individual" and that India had informed the US it was looking in to "other linkages of the former government employee"*

## *Indian Diaspora raises calls for resolution amid the India-Canada diplomatic standoff*

ONTARIO: Members of the Indian Diaspora in Canada raised concerns over the souring of ties between India and Canada. They made calls for a peaceful resolution of the matter. This comes amid a diplomatic standoff on Monday which saw India expelling six Canadian diplomats and recalling the Indian envoy to Canada.

Speaking exclusively to ANI, leading Canadian businessman, politician and social activist Baljit Singh Bawa called it a "disheartening news" and said the turn of events happened due to "politically

"sorrowful news" that India and Canada's relationship is going downhill. Emphasizing that Canada is home to a significant number of Indo-Canadians, he noted that the standoff would impact the citizens and even the trade relations of the two countries.

Maharaja suggested the intervention of a "third friendly country" between India and Canada to help in the resolution of the matters between the two nations.

With nearly 1.8 million diaspora and another 1 million Non-Resident Indians, Canada hosts one of the largest Indian

**D i a s p o r a** abroad, which account for more than 3% of its total population.

As of 2023, India and Canada's recorded bilateral trade in

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driven statements" given because of "someone's personal ego or favoring a community."

He said that the rising tensions between the two countries are a serious matter which has left him, "very concerned of my future, of every Indian Canadian's future on this land."

He highlighted that, "Canada and India must work together to ensure that these relations are strengthened"

Commenting on the economic prowess of India and how the country is the world's 3rd largest GDP, he said it becomes imperative for Canada and India to have good relations.

Indo-Canadian host Darshan Maharaja, speaking to ANI noted that it is a

goods amounted to 7.65 billion US Dollars.

India and Canada have been dealing with an unprecedented diplomatic crisis after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau alleged that Indian government agents were involved in the killing of Nijjar in Canada.

India has rejected Canada's allegations, terming it "absurd" and "politically motivated."

On Monday, Canada expelled six Indian diplomats and consular officials in connection with a probe of the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in British Columbia in 2023. India has also announced its decision to expel six Canadian diplomats. ANI

gating the individual who was identified last year in the Department of Justice's indictment as an Indian government employee who directed a foiled plot to assassinate a US citizen in New York City," the US Department of State said in a press release.

"The Enquiry Committee will be traveling to Washington, DC on October 15th, as part of their ongoing investigations to discuss the case, including information they have obtained, and to receive an update from US authorities regarding the US case that is proceeding," the State Department said.

"Additionally, India has informed the United States they are continuing their efforts to investigate other linkages of the

involvement in a foiled plot to assassinate a US-based leader of the Sikh Separatist Movement and a citizen in New York.

India in November last year formed a high-level inquiry committee to address the security concerns highlighted by the US government. The Ministry of External Affairs said that India takes such inputs seriously since they impinge on national security interests as well, and relevant departments were already examining the issue.

India withdrew the High Commissioner to Ottawa earlier, along with other "targeted diplomats and officials" that Canada named as "persons of interest" in its investigation. India later also expelled six Canadian diplomats. ANI

## *Indian climber rescued from Russia's Mount Elbrus*

MOSCOW: The Russian Emergencies Ministry said it has successfully rescued a climber from India, who fell ill while attempting a solo ascent of Mount Elbrus.

The climber, a 32-year-old man, encountered difficulties at a challenging altitude of 5200 meters and had not registered his route before the climb, the ministry revealed.

The rescue operation, coordinated by the Elbrus High-Mountain Search and Rescue Team of the Russian Emergencies Ministry, involved five skilled personnel who were swiftly dispatched to the site after receiving a distress call.

The team worked under difficult conditions, carefully evacuating the climber to safety. He was transported to a mountaineering camp, where he is now receiving medical attention and recovering.

The Ministry has reiterated the importance of proper route registration and climbing in groups, especially in such high-altitude environments.

Mount Elbrus, the highest peak in Europe, is a popular destination for climbers worldwide, but its severe weather conditions and challenging terrain demand careful planning and professional support.

The incident, said the Russian ministry, underscores the crucial role it plays in safeguarding lives, particularly in remote and hazardous regions like the Caucasus Mountains.

"The swift and efficient response of the Russian Emergencies Ministry highlights their expertise and commitment to protecting both locals and international visitors in the country's most extreme environments," the ministry said in a statement. /ANS



# "If activities across border characterized by terrorism....": Jaishankar's veiled jibe on Pakistan at SCO meeting

ISLAMABAD: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar termed cross-border terrorism, extremism and separatism as the "three evils" that hinder trade and travel as well as people to people relations between countries.

Addressing the 23rd Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation (Organization) Council of Heads of Government, Jaishankar took a veiled jibe at Pakistan to state that if activities across borders are characterized by terrorism, extremism and separatism, they are "hardly likely to encourage trade, energy flows, connectivity and people-to-people exchanges in parallel.

Further in an indication towards China's Belt and Road Initiative, Jaishankar, called out the "unilateral" connectivity moves in the region while stressing that "cooperation must be based on mutual respect and sovereign equality."

Jaishankar noted that globalization and rebalancing are realities that cannot be denied.

"We all realize that the world is moving towards multi-polarity. Globalization and rebalancing are realities that cannot be denied. Cumulatively, they have created many new opportunities in terms of trade, investment, connectivity, energy flows and other forms of collaboration. There is no question that our region would benefit immensely if we take this forward. Not just that, others too would draw their own inspiration and lessons from such efforts,"



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar delivers India's national statement at the 23rd Meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Council of Heads of Government meeting, in Islamabad. (ANI Photo/Shrikant Singh)

he said in his address.

"However, to do that, cooperation must be based on mutual respect and sovereign equality. It should recognize territorial integrity and sovereignty. It must be built on genuine partnerships, not unilateral agendas. It cannot progress if we cherry-pick global practices, especially of trade and transit," the External Affairs minister said.

The SCO Meeting is being chaired by Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif as the current chair of the Council.

Calling for firm commitment to the SCO Charter, Jaishankar said, "But most of all, our endeavors will progress only when our commitment to the Charter remains firm. It is axiomatic that development and growth requires peace and stability. And as the Charter spelt out, this means being

firm and uncompromising in countering the 'three evils'. If activities across borders are characterized by terrorism, extremism and separatism, they are hardly likely to encourage trade, energy flows, connectivity and people-to-people exchanges in parallel."

He further said, "Let us contemplate how much we all stand to gain if it was to be otherwise. Our very agenda today in

Islamabad gives us a glimpse of those possibilities. Industrial cooperation can enhance competitiveness and expand labor markets. MSME collaboration has positive implications for employment. Our collective endeavors can expand resources and encourage investment flows. Business communities will profit through larger networks. Collaborative connectivity can create new efficiencies." ANI

## EAM signs eight outcome documents at SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting

ISLAMABAD: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar signed eight outcome documents, highlighting India's contributions during the 23rd Shanghai Cooperation Organization's Council of Heads of Government meeting in Islamabad this week.

Taking to social media platform X, EAM S Jaishankar noted eight key takeaways from the Indian perspective on the "positive and constructive contribution to the deliberations" made on the concluding day of the summit.

During the meeting, the EAM developed a dialogue centered on the theme of One Earth, One Family, One Future, as well as stated the outcomes of India's initiatives, like the SCO Startup Forum, the Special Working Group on Startups and Innovation, and Traditional Medicine, which received support from member states.

He mentioned the inclusion of digital public infrastructure (DPI) and digital inclusion as an aspect of the SCO cooperation framework.

The meeting also focused on drawing inspiration from Mission LiFE, which is a global mass movement led by India in taking action to protect and preserve the environment towards advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs).

"Developing a dialogue on the idea of One Earth, One Family, One Future. Outcomes of India initiatives like SCO Startup Forum, SWG on Startups and Innovation and Traditional Medicine welcomed by SCO members. DPI & Digital inclusion becoming part of SCO cooperation framework. SCO taking inspiration from Mission LiFE to achieving UNSDGs," Jaishankar said. ANI

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## Industrial and warehousing demand surges 17 pc in top 5 Indian cities

NEW DELHI: Industrial and warehousing demand witnessed 20.2 million square feet of leasing in top five cities in the January-September period, registering a 17 percent annual growth, according to a recent report.

The quarterly average space uptake has steadily increased from 5.7 MN sq ft in 2021 to 6.7 MN sq ft in 2024, indicating steady and sturdy growth in industrial and warehousing demand, according to the report by Colliers India.

Third-party logistics (3PL) players accounted for 35 percent of Grade A space uptake, followed by engineering and FMCG segments.

At about 22 MN sq ft-supply rose 29 percent YoY in the first three quarters of 2024. During the first three quarters of the year, Delhi-NCR and Chennai cumulatively accounted for 53 percent share in the overall leasing.

At a micro-market level, Bhiwandi in Mumbai has witnessed 3.7 MN sq ft of leasing activity in 2024, followed by Oragadam in Chennai and Chakan-Talegaon in Pune. Both saw more than 2.0 MN sq ft of demand and continue to drive warehousing demand in respective cities.

"On a quarterly basis, Q3 saw about 7.3 MN sq ft of industrial and warehousing demand across the top five cities, an 18 percent rise YoY," said Vijay Ganesh, Managing Director, Industrial and Logistics Services, Colliers India. *IANS*

## India's Gen Z set to drive \$1.8 trillion worth direct spend by 2035

NEW DELHI: India is a young nation with 377 million Gen Z population and they will be the biggest contributor to the country's consumption growth, driving \$1.8 trillion worth of direct spend by 2035, a recent report showed. In 2025, Gen Z's direct spends will amount to \$250 billion as by then, every 2nd Gen Z will be earning, according to the report by Snap Inc, partnered with Boston Consulting Group (BCG).

Their collective spending power has reached \$860 billion, surging to \$2 trillion by 2035. Gen Z buys as many times as millennials and is 1.5 times more likely to research their purchases. *IANS*

## Top industry leaders hail PM Modi's vision for digital governance



Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a group picture with Union Minister for Communications Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Aditya Birla group chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman of Bharti Enterprises and founder of Bharti Airtel Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd Akash Ambani and others at the 8th International Telecommunication Union - World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (ITU-WTSA), at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. (ANI Photo)

NEW DELHI: Top industry leaders have lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his visionary leadership, which has catalyzed India's remarkable digital transformation, hailing the government's support towards reforms, innovation, and collaboration.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 8th edition of the 'India Mobile Congress' during the International Telecommunication Union-World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (ITU-WTSA) 2024 in the national capital. It is

for the first time that the ITU-WTSA is being hosted in India and the Asia-Pacific.

Bharti Airtel Founder and Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal said the real transformation began in 2014 with PM Modi's vision for a 'Digital India,' which ignited the 4G revolution.

"This has empowered millions, including those in rural areas, to access smartphones and essential digital services," he said. Mittal underscored the government's initiatives to boost local manufacturing through the production-linked

incentive (PLI) program, positioning India as a manufacturing hub for telecom equipment.

"We are committed to reducing our dependence on imports. With initiatives like the PLI program, we are transforming India into a manufacturing hub for telecom equipment," he said.

Mittal said India is set to lead in 5G technology, with extensive rollouts planned across urban and rural regions within the next 12 to 18 months. He also discussed the potential of low-earth orbit (LEO) networks.

Aditya Birla Group Chairman

Kumar Mangalam Birla highlighted the steadfast support by the government in recognizing the importance of digital connectivity and introducing several reforms over the years to drive India towards an even more connected, empowered and inclusive digital nation. Birla said they are committed to providing maximum support by promoting digital transformation to small businesses, making them future-ready. He also laid emphasis on focus on technologies like 5G, IoT, AI and cloud services. *IANS*

## India needs to create 100 million jobs towards 'Viksit Bharat' goal: Chandrasekaran

NEW DELHI: As Indian embarks on the journey to become a developed nation, the country needs to create 100 million jobs to meet the employment needs of the growing workforce, Tata Sons Chairman, N Chandrasekaran, has stressed.

The Tata Group has also doubled down on creating more manufacturing jobs in the coun-

try, as the whole ecosystem is brimming with multiple opportunities for the Indian companies, especially 500,000 small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

According to Chandrasekaran, as the Tata Group invests in semiconductors, precision manufacturing, assembly, electric vehicles, batteries, and related industries, it



Tata Sons Chairman, N Chandrasekaran

can create five lakh manufacturing jobs in the next five years.

Sectors like semiconductor manufacturing have a "multiplier effect" and can create multiple indirect jobs. "We need to create 100 million jobs towards becoming a developed nation," he said during an event organized by the Indian Foundation for Quality Management.

Nearly one million people enter the workforce in the country every month, making job creation in manufacturing essential for the future growth of the country.

Last month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met the leadership team of Tata Sons and Taiwan's Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (PSMC). *IANS*



# India's semiconductor market projected to surpass \$100 billion in revenues by 2030

NEW DELHI: India's semiconductor market is set to cross \$100 billion in revenues by 2030, driven by government initiatives like production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme amid robust demand to build digital infrastructure across industries, according to a report.

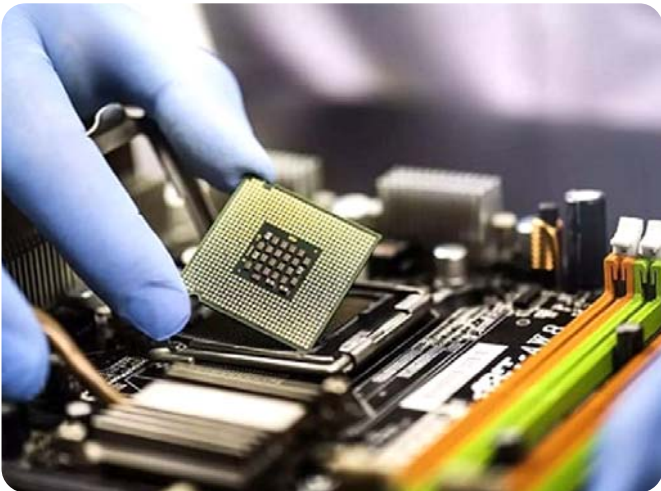
Mobile handset, IT and telecom segments are leading the semiconductor industry, contributing more than 75 percent of its revenues, according to a report by the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) and Counterpoint Research.

The government's \$9.1 billion 'Semicon India' program aims to boost semiconductor manufacturing and workforce development, driving innovation and growth in India's tech ecosystem.

"India has created one of the largest smart populations in the world, powered by semiconductors operating in the background. Semiconductors have a profound commercial, strategic and social impact," said Ved Prakash Mall, Director, IESA.

Semiconductors play a crucial role in sectors such as electronics manufacturing, digital transformation, defense, aerospace, renewable energy, IoT, healthcare, automotive and research.

India's semiconductor market was valued at \$45 billion in 2023 and is projected



to rapidly grow at a CAGR of 13 percent to surpass \$100 billion by 2030.

Tarun Pathak, Research Director at Counterpoint Research, said that the

handset sector is the leading force in India's semiconductor industry, playing a crucial role in the country's digital transformation as more consumers transition from feature phones to smartphones.

"This growth is driven by the increased use of social media, OTT platforms, affordable prices, accessible data, and the expansion of the 5G network. At the same time, India's IT sector is thriving, supported by pandemic-driven digitalization and government initiatives like 'Digital India' and 'Make in India'," he mentioned.

Union Minister for Electronics and IT, Ashwini Vaishnaw, said this month that India is moving towards becoming the next semiconductor hub for the world as big investment is happening in this sector in the country.

More than Rs 1.52 lakh crore (nearly \$18 billion) worth of investments have come in India's semiconductor manufacturing space in a short span of time and several projects are already in the pipeline. *IANS*

## Satellite broadband spectrum not be auctioned but allocated administratively: Center

NEW DELHI: The government has said that spectrum for satellite broadband will not be auctioned but allocated administratively, after SpaceX CEO Elon Musk termed the auction route being sought in the country by top industrialists as "unprecedented".

During a press briefing at the 'India Mobile Congress 2024', Telecom Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said the spectrum for satellite services will be allocated administratively.

"There is a paper that has already been circulated by TRAI and that regulatory authority of telecom has been empowered by the constitution to decide what administrative prices are going to be," the minister said.

"I am very confident that they will come up with the best prices that should be adopted, provided they are under administrative demand," the minister added.

Minister Scindia assured that the allocation process is in line with global standards. *IANS*

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JAKARTA: Indonesia here sent off \$3 million of humanitarian aid to refugees in Yemen, Palestine and Sudan.

During a press conference at an airport in Jakarta, the head of the National Disaster Mitigation Agency Suharyanto said the aid was respectively for around 270,000 disaster victims in Yemen, around 3,000 people infected with cholera and around 490,000 people affected by floods, and around 1.9 million Palestinian refugees who are aggravated by polio disease.

"All the aid is given officially, and of course, under accountability, including aid to Palestine, Sudan, and Yemen, which will start being delivered today," he said at Halim Perdanakusuma airport, accompanied by Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Culture Muhadjir Effendy and Minister for Foreign Affairs Retno Marsudi.

Suharyanto also mentioned that Palestine, Sudan and Yemen are the 12th, 13th and 14th countries to receive aid from Indonesia in the last two years, Xinhua news agency reported.

The aid, transported by a plane from the country's flag carrier, Garuda Indonesia, included dozens of refugee tents, mattresses, blankets, lighting, women's and children's clothing, ready-to-eat food, medicines, and medical equipment.

All aid from Jakarta departed 14 October and is expected to arrive in Yemen on October 15, before being distributed to the other two countries.

Suharyanto expressed hopes that this assistance would help alleviate the suffering of disaster and humanitarian crisis victims in the three countries, while also enhancing Indonesia's role on the international stage in promoting peace and upholding humanitarian values. *IANS*

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*"The Working Holiday Maker Visa will allow up to a thousand young Indians from the ages of 18 to 30 to come to Australia to either work or to study"*

## Australia launches new Working Holiday Maker Visa for young Indians

NEW DELHI: In a significant move to strengthen ties between Australia and India, Assistant Minister for Immigration Matt Thistlethwaite recently announced the launch of the Working Holiday Maker Visa during his visit to New Delhi.

Speaking to ANI, Australia's Assistant Minister for Immigration Matt Thistlethwaite MP said, "I'm here to launch a couple of new visas, new opportunities for Indians to travel to Australia. The Working Holiday Maker Visa will allow up to a thousand young Indians from the ages of 18 to 30 to come to Australia to either work or to study and to experience Australian culture for up to 12 months."

"It's a great symbol of the growing links and ties and partnership between Australia and India and it comes on the back of other areas where Indians have been studying in Australia under student visas, working in our industries under skilled visas. This is just another opportunity to build those stronger ties between our nations," he added.

Matt noted that the Working Holiday Maker Program is an opportunity for young members of the Indian community to be able to either work, study or travel around Australia and experience Australian life and Australian culture.

He stated that the ties between India and Australia are going from strength to strength. He recalled Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Australia in 2023.

Highlighting the ties between India and Australia, he said, "I think that the relationship is going from strength to strength. Australians were very positive and buoyed by Prime Minister Modi's visit last year. He was given a rock star welcome in Australia and we've got a growing Indian diaspora in Australia."

and they're getting more popular. We're seeing more and more Australians come to visit India and more and more Indians come to either study or to work here in Australia and it's a great symbol of our growing economic

Matt Thistlethwaite said, "Our Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, when he was a young university student, he backpacked around India. And in those young formative years, it was a great opportunity for him to experience another culture and to learn about the most populous democracy in the world."

"And the Prime Minister used his experience in his partnership and growing friendship with the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Modi, to ensure that we improved and increased opportunities for young members of the Indian community and Australian community to get to experience each other's culture. That's why I'm very proud today to launch the Working Holiday Maker Visa for young Indians to come to Australia and to experience Australian culture," he added.

Speaking about the Working Holiday Maker Visa, he said that young Indians between the ages of 18-30 will be able to apply for the Working Holiday Maker Visa to come to Australia for up to 12 months to study and to work, but most importantly, to get to know Australia, to get to know Australians and to experience country's beautiful environment and our wonderful culture. He stated that young Indians will get the opportunity to experience Australian culture.

The visa ballot process opened on October 1 and already 40,000 young Indians have applied to update this visa and we look forward to them coming early in the new year. He said that it is a "great symbol and a great demonstration of the growing friendship and partnership" between the people of two nations and governments. *ANI*



Australia's Assistant Minister for Immigration Matt Thistlethwaite MP

tween India and Australia are going from strength to strength. He recalled Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Australia in 2023.

Highlighting the ties between India and Australia, he said, "I think that the relationship is going from strength to strength. Australians were very positive and buoyed by Prime Minister Modi's visit last year. He was given a rock star welcome in Australia and we've got a growing Indian

ties and our people-to-people links," he added.

While addressing a media briefing, Matt Thistlethwaite MP said, "It's a great honor for me to be here today. My first visit to New Delhi and India to launch this important partnership and initiative between the people of Australia and the people of India."

He also recalled Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's visit to India as a

*"It's a great symbol of the growing links and ties and partnership between Australia and India and it comes on the back of other areas where Indians have been studying in Australia under student visas, working in our industries under skilled visas"*

diaspora in Australia."

"When I return home, one of the first things I'll be doing is going to a Diwali festival in Sydney

young university student. He noted that Albanese used his experience in his "partnership and growing friendship" with PM Modi.



# Trump reiterates he wants legal immigrants, promises strong action against illegal migrants

NEW YORK: Republican Presidential Candidate Donald Trump has reiterated that he wants immigrants as long as they come legally, but will take strong action against illegal migrants.

"We want to have people come into our country, but they have to come in legally", he said at the campaign rally in Aurora, Colorado.

As for illegal immigrants, he said, "All across our nation I make this pledge and vow to you. November, 5, 2024, will be Liberation Day in America, (there) will be liberation" from what he said was "the occupation" of the country.



Donald Trump

According to the Customs and Border Protection agency, till August as many as 82,610 Indian citizens were recorded crossing the borders illegally and 96,917 last year.

His opposition accuses him of being "anti-immigrant" - a refrain taken up by most of the mainstream media -- but Trump makes a distinction between illegal and legal immigrants while most Democrats lump those who waited for years and went through rigorous scrutiny to legally immigrate with those sneaking in.

He has promised Green Cards - legal immigrant status - for foreigners graduating from US colleges, going far beyond any Democrat proposals, which focus on legalizing illegal immigrants.

"What I want to do and what I will do is, you graduate from a college, I think you should get automatically as part of your diploma, a green card to be able to stay in this country", he said in June.

That policy would be difficult to implement, but in theory it sounds as good news for the nearly 269,000 Indian students enrolled in US colleges and universities, according to statistics from the International Institute of Education covering 2022-23.

Colorado, where Trump campaigned last week, is a blue state that Hillary Clinton carried in 2016 and by President Joe Biden in 2020, and a poll taken last month by Keating Research gave Harris a lead of 11 percent.

Trying to go against the odds, he made crimes by ille-

gal immigrants the centerpiece of the speech in Aurora where reports that an armed Venezuelan criminal gang had taken over local apartment complexes have sparked fears.

Trump interrupted his speech to show a video stringing news clips of crimes by illegal immigrants, ranging from rape and murder to shooting at police.

Standing against a black backdrop scrawled with "End Migrant Crime", and "Deport Illegals Now", he accused his Democrat rival Vice President Kamala Harris of bringing in criminal illegal immigrants through "open border" policies, asserting that she was the "Border Czar".

He cited an old quote of Harris that "we don't want to treat people who cross the border illegally as criminals."

While vowing mass deportations and stern action against criminal gangs, he said, "I'm hereby calling for the death penalty for any migrant that kills an American citizen or law enforcement officer."

Trump said that crime in countries like Venezuela had gone down drastically because they have emptied their prisons and mental hospitals and sent the inmates to plague the US.

He said he would invoke an 18th-century law, Alien Enemies Act, "to target and dismantle every migrant criminal network". But this law applies only to those from a foreign enemy country - and applying it across the board to all countries would be a challenge as would a mass

deportation campaign.

Till August this year, 2.75 million illegal immigrants from around the world were caught entering illegally and 3.2 million last year.

Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman, a Republican said that while there a few incidents, it was an exaggeration to say the city was a "war zone" run by Venezuelan criminal gangs.

Trump called on stage a woman who publicized a video recording of the Venezuelan gang armed with a high-power rifle overrunning an apartment building.

Although Trump called Harris the "Border Czar", her campaign has said that she was not put in charge of the border by Biden, but was only asked to work with other

*As for illegal immigrants, he said, "All across our nation I make this pledge and vow to you. November, 5, 2024, will be Liberation Day in America, (there) will be liberation" from what he said was "the occupation" of the country*

countries on stemming illegal immigration to the US.

After Aurora, Trump went to Reno in Nevada, a swing state that could determine the winner where his lead is a sliver of 0.2 percent.

He repeated most of the elements of his speeches -- that Harris was a "Marxist", was incompetent, that the US was on a downhill trajectory, and that he would stop World War III, bring back jobs, cut taxes, reduce prices, and make the nation safe. IANS

## Abhinav Immigration Welcomes Christian Tyler Properties to India for Exclusive US EB-5 Visa Events!

NEW DELHI: Abhinav Immigration Services, in collaboration with Christian Tyler Properties (CTP), is delighted to announce a series of exclusive one-on-one events across India, providing insights into the US EB-5 Visa program. This collaboration brings together Abhinav' unmatched expertise in immigration consultancy with Christian Tyler Properties' stellar track record in US real estate investments.

These events will take place in the following cities:

- \* Mumbai - Monday, October 14, 2024
- \* Ahmedabad - Tuesday, October 15, 2024
- \* Hyderabad - Wednesday, October 16, 2024
- \* Delhi - Monday, October 21, 2024

Each event will offer Indian High Net worth Individuals (HNI), the chance to interact directly with the Vice President of Christian Tyler Properties (CTP) and the VP of Real Estate, CTP USA. These exclusive, one-on-one meetings are available by appointment only, providing a unique opportunity to gain insights into the US EB-5 Visa investment pathway and how it can secure U.S. residency for investors and their families.

About Abhinav Immigration Services

Established in 1994, Abhinav Immigration Services has built a reputation as one of India's most trusted and reliable immigration consultancy firms. With a presence in major cities across India, Abhinav offers expert guidance on immigration processes for

countries such as the United States, Canada, Australia, and Europe. Specializing in business and investor immigration, Abhinav Immigration Services has helped thousands of clients achieve their residency dreams through investment-based visa programs. Their experienced team offers personalized assistance, ensuring that clients receive up-to-date information and streamlined application processes, making their immigration journey as smooth as possible.

About Christian Tyler Properties (CTP)

Christian Tyler Properties (CTP) is a U.S.-based real estate investment firm with a proven track record in helping international investors gain U.S. residency through the EB-5 Visa program. With over \$1.1 billion in successful developments and over 850 investors across 30+ EB-5 projects, CTP has become a trusted partner for global investors looking to secure U.S. residency.

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*Each event will offer Indian High Net worth Individuals (HNI), the chance to interact directly with the Vice President of Christian Tyler Properties (CTP) and the VP of Real Estate, CTP USA*



## Record 2.25 lakh housing units sold in India in Jan-Sep

NEW DELHI: The Indian housing market saw over 225,000 units being sold during the first nine months of the year, demonstrating strong performance in absolute terms, according to a new report.

The sustained positive sentiment in the housing market has encouraged developers to launch new projects and additional phases, resulting in approximately 215,000 new units entering the market in the first nine months of 2024, according to a report by real estate consultant CBRE.

"Given the strong performance in H1 2024 and the sector's tendency to peak during the festive season, we forecast both sales and new launches of



residential units to remain elevated," the report mentioned.

In addition, the report expected the high-end/premium categories (Rs 1 to 2 crore and Rs 2 to 4 crore, respectively) to witness strong demand.

Notably, the traditional mid-end segment-dominated markets such as Noida, Bengaluru, Pune, and Chennai are expected to continue gravitating increasingly towards high-end developments.

Meanwhile, equity investments in the Indian real estate sector surged 46 percent to \$8.9 billion during the January-September period.

According to Anshuman Magazine, Chairman and CEO-India, South-East Asia, Middle East and Africa at CBRE, sustained capital inflows are expected in both traditional and emerging sectors in the upcoming quarters, while institutional and collective vehicle investors, along with developers, are expected to drive the overall capital flows. *IANS*

# Real Estate POST

12 India Post

www.indiapost.com

October 18, 2024

Luxury Homes and Sustainability: A Growing Trend in Chandigarh Tricity's Real Estate

NEW DELHI: The real estate market in Chandigarh Tricity, comprising Chandigarh, Mohali, and Panchkula, is witnessing a paradigm shift. The demand for luxury homes, traditionally associated with grandeur and opulence, is now evolving to embrace sustainability. Homebuyers increasingly seek properties that balance luxury with eco-consciousness, driving developers to adopt green building practices. *ANI*



## India sees all-time high deal numbers in real estate sector in July-Sep

NEW DELHI: India saw 25 deals worth \$1.3 billion in the real estate sector in the July-September period (Q3), maintaining strong deal volumes and marking an all-time high in deal numbers and second-highest values since Q2 2023, a recent report showed.

Deal values were primarily driven by the qualified institutional placement (QIP) activity, private equity funding in residential and commercial segments, and real estate technology companies, according to the report by Grant Thornton Bharat.

Compared to Q2 2024, the third quarter saw a 71 percent decline in overall private equity (PE) and mergers and acquisitions (M&A) deal value but a 5 percent increase in deal volume.

"Year-over-year comparison shows a 54 percent increase in deal volumes and a 41 percent decline in values compared to Q3 2023," said the report.



Q3 2024 saw three inbound deals in the property development space and two outbound deals in the student housing and online rental platform sectors.

PE activity in Q3 2024 saw 12 deals valued at \$401 million. Deal volumes remained consistent with Q2 2024, indicating sustained interest in the sector. The top two deals accounted for \$346 million, highlighting a concentration of value in fewer

transactions.

Despite decline in funding values over Q2 2024, deal values continued to outperform those in both Q1 2024 and Q3 2023, according to the report.

Q3 2024 saw one IPO raising \$49 million, maintaining consistency with previous quarters. The quarter witnessed a significant surge in QIPs, with four deals totaling \$940 million.

"This represents a nearly six-fold increase in QIP values compared to Q2 2024," the report mentioned.

The robust QIP activity demonstrates growing confidence in real estate firms' ability to access public markets.

Renewed PE and M&A activity in the latter part of Q3 signals potential for increased momentum in Q4 2024, the report noted. *IANS*

## Listed Indian real estate players trim debt by 54 pc, bookings at record high

MUMBAI: Top eight listed real estate developers in India have reduced their net debt by over 54 per cent in the first quarter of current fiscal (FY25) from the previous peak in FY19, a report showed on Thursday.

The net debt of these companies collectively reduced to about Rs 20,808 crore in Q1 FY25, from over Rs 44,817 crore in Q4 FY2019 when the overall debt of these listed players was at its peak, according to data by Anarock Group.

With residential sales creat-

ing a new peak across the top seven cities in the last one year, buyer demand is heavily in favor of branded developers. In Q1 FY25 alone, the booking value of these eight listed developers stands at Rs 26,832 crore.

According to their investor presentations, FY19 saw these top eight listed players with a collective booking value of Rs 27,144 crore.

In FY24, it increased to about Rs 90,573 crore, thereby rising by a whopping 234 per cent in this period.

Notably, the first quarter of this financial year alone saw their collective booking value at Rs 26,832 crore - nearly 99 per cent of the total value clocked in entire FY19, and 30 per cent of the total value in the whole of FY24.

"This is significant, considering that there are three more quarters left in the ongoing financial year," said the report.

Dr Prashant Thakur, Regional Director and Head-Research, Anarock Group said that data shows a significant rise in their sales revenue.

"Some players even saw their net debt rise in this period. However, these developers also saw a high jump in their booking values over the year," said Thakur.

The rise in debt is mainly due to their aggressive expansion across the geographies and many have been on a land buying spree across cities.

The net debt decline of the other players is due to the significant jump seen in the booking values over the last few quarters, said the report. *IANS*



# Festive offers this season: Real estate e-commerce, and dining deals to watch out for

NEW DELHI: As the festive season approaches, it's the perfect time to take advantage of exclusive offers in both the real estate and e-commerce sectors. This season is full of prospects whether you are thinking of purchasing your dream house or you want to uplift your house comforts with luxury homeware or organize a festive gathering with friends and family, this season brings a range of deals designed to make celebrations even more special. With developers, brands and restaurants offering exciting promotions and deep discounts, this is the perfect time for prudent shoppers and foodies to grab the best deals.

### Real Estate Festive Offers

This festive season, leading real estate developers such as RPS Group, Goel Ganga Developments, Motia Group, and Vibhanu are offering irresistible deals that make home buying easier and more lucrative.

#### RPS Group

RPS Group is committed to delivering impactful projects that advance urbanization, natural resource management, and sustainability. As consultants, designers, planners, engineers, and technical specialists, they tackle complex challenges in a resource-scarce world. Their focus on high-quality developments ensures that your investment is not just in a home, but in a future-ready lifestyle. This festive season, the real estate sector presents exciting opportunities with developers offering attractive deals and flexible payment options. Projects like RPS 12th Avenue in Faridabad are providing luxurious living spaces at unmatched prices, making now the perfect time to invest in your dream home.

#### Goel Ganga Developments

Goel Ganga Developments encapsulates the spirit of the festival season with its vibrant offerings. "It's that time of the year when streets get more vibrant; delectable aromas of Indian delicacies fill up houses, and every porch sparkles in the light of celebrations." This season is deemed auspicious for buying property, and Goel Ganga Developments emphasizes finding a home that suits all your needs. Their Triple Festive Offer extends three exclusive benefits across ongoing projects, including No EMI till possession, 0% down payment, and reduced GST. With features like home automation, thoughtful space planning, and a focus on lifestyle amenities, Goel Ganga Developments ensures that every celebration at home is memorable.

#### Motia Group

At Motia Group, their expertise in construction and project management ensures that customers receive a quality product at a fair price and within a reasonable timeframe. Their commitment to responsible subcontractors and open, honest communication with clients fosters a collaborative environment, leading to successful projects and satisfied customers. This festive season, investing in a home



with Motia Group guarantees quality and reliability, making it a worthwhile choice for buyers.

#### Vibhanu

For buyers looking to invest in high-end living spaces, Vibhavangal Anukulakara Private Limited provides unique festive deals with added benefits like discounts on select premium properties. Their luxurious homes are designed to offer maximum

comfort and modern amenities, ensuring a perfect living experience.

### E-Commerce Festive Offers

Apart from real estate, e-commerce brands are also rolling out massive festive sales, perfect for those looking to upgrade their living spaces with stylish furniture and home decor. This season, you can shop at brands like Lavanya the Label, Saraf Furniture, and Rosemoore to get incredible deals on fashion, home decor, and fra-

Got Bigger This Diwali with a FLAT 15% OFF on all furniture and home decor. Additionally, the Grand Diwali Sale offers up to 60% OFF across a range of high-quality, solid wood furniture. This is the perfect time to invest in Sheesham or teak wood pieces that add a touch of elegance to your home.

#### Rosemoore

Rosemoore, renowned for its premium home fragrances, is running a Festival Sale with up to 40% OFF on selected products. Whether you're seeking to infuse your home with calming aromas or searching for thoughtful festive gifts, Rosemoore's selection of fragrances like Jasmine, Sandalwood, and Rose adds a sophisticated touch to any space.

#### Doodhvale

Adding to the festive spirit, Doodhvale is offering a special discount on its Cow A2 Vedic Desi Ghee. Get Rs. 250 OFF by using the coupon code A2VEDICGHEE when ordering this premium ghee. This festive season, enhance your celebrations with the rich, healthy taste of A2 Desi Ghee from Doodhvale.

### Festive Dining Deals

In addition to real estate and e-commerce, this festive season is also the perfect time to gather with friends and family for celebrations. Fat Tiger, a popular dining spot, is offering up to 20% OFF on bookings for Kitty Parties, Birthday Parties, and Get-Together Parties. Enjoy their wide range of flavorful dishes, including momos, Boba tea, and more mouth-watering options that will make your gatherings even more memorable. Whether it's a small get-together or a grand celebration, Fat Tiger ensures you enjoy the festive spirit with great food and even better savings.

Adding to the festive celebrations, The Old Delhi Restaurant is offering an exclusive 10% discount on their new additional menu, featuring a delectable selection of both food and beverages. Whether you're eager to savor their freshly introduced delicacies or explore unique dishes, this offer allows you to discover new flavors while enjoying great savings. Perfect for festive gatherings or casual meet-ups, The Old Delhi Restaurant guarantees that every meal is an unforgettable experience this festive season.

(ADVERTORIAL DISCLAIMER: The above press release has been provided by PNN. ANI and India Post will not be responsible in any way for the content of the same)

## Danube Group Launches Exclusive Diwali Bonanza Offering 100 Grams of Gold to Indian customers

NEW DELHI: Danube Group, the fastest-growing private real estate developer in the UAE, is celebrating the joyous spirit of Diwali with an exclusive offer for Indian homebuyers. As part of this offer, customers purchasing properties in the Bayz 101, Diamondz, Oceanz and Fashionz projects can earn gold based on the size of the apartment they choose.

For a limited festive period, homebuyers can win the following gold rewards on their purchase across the Danube Properties:

- \* 100 grams of gold for a 2-bedroom apartment
- \* 50 grams of gold for a 1-bedroom

grances.

#### Lavanya

Lavanya the Label is offering a FLAT 40% OFF, along with an extra 5% OFF on prepaid orders. Known for its exquisite ethnic wear and trendy festive collections, Lavanya The Label offers the perfect opportunity to refresh your Diwali wardrobe.

#### Saraf Furniture

At Saraf Furniture, their Biggest Sale

apartment

Speaking about the new offer, Rizwan Sajjan, Founder and Chairman, Danube Group said, "During this festive period, we are ecstatic to offer Indian homebuyers not just a chance to invest in luxury properties, but to receive gold rewards on top of that. Sharing a special connection with Danube Properties, Indian homebuyers have long played a crucial role in our success. Diwali is a time for joy, family, and new beginnings. During this auspicious period, our 1% monthly payment plan, combined with these gold rewards, will make the joy of homeownership even more special for our customers." ANI





## SC dismisses PIL over Covid-19 vaccine side effects

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court dismissed a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking a direction to the government to establish fast-track courts and vaccine courts to provide swift justice to the Covid-19 vaccine injured and their families.

A bench, headed by CJI D.Y. Chandrachud, said that the petitioners may choose to institute a class action suit instead of filing a PIL before the apex court.

After noting that the petitioners did not suffer any adverse effects personally, the Bench, also comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, proceeded to dismiss the PIL.

The plea said that there are "persisting risks" of long-term health consequences of Covid-19 vaccination and controversies over vaccine side-effects refuse to die.

"While vaccination was the cornerstone to control the pandemic and disease spread, concerns regarding safety and adverse health impacts (SAHIs) have been raised lately. There are health concerns about safety and adverse health impacts (SAHIs) of Covid-19 vaccines among common citizens," it said. *IANS*



*One can be said to be perfectly healthy in body and mind only if no part of the body or mind makes itself felt. A part makes itself felt only when there is something wrong with it. You know that you have a head only when it aches.*  
Sri Atmananda (1883 - 1959)

14 India Post

www.indiapost.com

October 18, 2024

# Climate change to have severe impact on health emergency services globally: Study

COPENHAGEN: Climate change is likely to have a severe impact on health emergency services around the world, international experts in emergency medicine warned on Sunday.

Despite this, few countries have assessed the scale of the impact or have a plan to deal with it, said researchers at a special session at the European Emergency Medicine Congress.

Luis Garcia Castrillo, a professor in emergency medicine at the Hospital Marques de Valdecilla, Santander, Spain, described how he and colleagues had asked 42 focus groups in 36 countries to complete a survey on climate change awareness and preparedness.

"On a scale of zero to 9, they rated the severity of the impact of climate change on health systems and specifically on emergency care, both now and in the

future, at an average of 7," Castrillo said. "This is a high figure, especially as some regions, such as northern Europe, consider it to be less of a problem

than on global health systems.

However, only 21 percent of the focus group members reported that assessments of the effect of climate change on

published in the European Journal of Emergency Medicine.

Out of all the focus group respondents, 62 percent said their governments or policy makers



than do other countries, such as Australia.

The focus groups considered that the impact of climate change on emergency medical services would be similar or even higher

emergency medical services had been carried out, and only 38 percent reported any measures had been taken to prepare for the impact of climate change," the team noted in the research to be

had made no assessment of the impact of climate change on emergency services, 9 percent said they didn't know, 55 percent said nothing had been done to prepare for the impact of climate change, and 10 percent didn't know.

"It is surprising how awareness is lacking in so many countries, as well as among emergency medicine societies. Some countries do not seem to be concerned at all. Yet this is going to affect rich and poor countries alike," said Castrillo.

Dr Roberta Petrino, director of the Emergency Department at Ente Ospedaliero Cantonale, Lugano, Switzerland, said that one interesting finding is that the need to implement actions to mitigate climate change is considered important everywhere.

"In particular, our survey showed the need to strengthen emergency medicine services and education programs for medical students and emergency medicine doctors, as well as research," she mentioned. *IANS*

## Indian healthcare, pharma sector sees highest quarterly deal volumes in 3 years

NEW DELHI: The healthcare and pharma sector saw an overall 64 deals, valued at \$2.8 billion in Q3 of 2024, marking the sector's highest quarterly volumes in three years, according to a recent report.

The report by Grant Thornton Bharat showed that mergers and acquisitions, and private equity deal volumes increased significantly, with 59 deals worth \$2.2 billion, the highest since Q4 2021.

However, Q3 2024 saw a 47 percent decline in deal values compared to Q2 2024.

The decline was mainly due to fewer high-value deals, with only two deals worth \$1.8 billion.

In contrast, Q2 2024 had 11 high-value deals (over \$100 million) totaling \$3.4 billion.

Healthtech, Pharma, and biotech and wellness segments led the deal volumes collectively with a 66 percent share, while Pharma and biotech led the deal values with a 79 percent share.



"Overall, the pharma and healthcare sector witnessed increasing investor interest, driven by strong consumer demand focused on healthy living, innovation, and a focus on high-growth areas like biologics and specialty care," Bhanu Prakash Kalmath S J, Partner and Healthcare Services Industry Leader, Grant Thornton Bharat.

"We anticipate the deal momentum to continue as companies position for growth both domestically and globally," he added.

The report said that Q3 2024 saw 26 merger and acquisition deals valued at \$1.9 billion, achieving record-high quarterly deal volumes.

Deal volumes also increased 44 percent from Q2 2024, and deal values rose by 39 percent to \$1.9 billion.

Further, Q3 2024 saw 33 private equity/venture capital deals valued at \$246 million. Deal values declined 91 percent from Q2 2024 due to the absence of big-ticket transactions. *IANS*



# New Lancet study shows how countries can reduce premature death by half

NEW DELHI: Childhood immunizations and low-cost prevention and treatments combined with new health technologies may help reduce premature deaths by 50 percent, according to a new study published by The Lancet Commission.

The report laid out a roadmap for every nation that chooses to do so to cut the chance of premature death for its citizens in half by 2050.

"The goal of '50 by 50,' is achievable", argues the report. If every country achieves the goal, then, a person born in 2050 would have only a 15 percent chance of dying before age 70, down from 31 percent for someone born in 2019.

It suggested measures such as "expanding childhood immunizations and low-cost prevention and treatments for common causes of preventable death, combined with scaling up financing to develop new health technologies".

Since 1970, about 37 countries have cut the probability of their citizens dying before they reach age 70 in half -- a milestone that signals the remarkable progress many countries have made in preventing and treating disease.

"Today, the case is better than ever for mortality reduction," said Gavin Yamey, director of the Duke University Center for Policy Impact in Global Health (CPIGH), who led the writing of the commission report.

"It's a prize within reach. It will have extraordinary health, welfare, and economic benefits. Reaching '50 by 50' would reduce mortality and morbidity, help grow economies, and alleviate poverty," Yamey added.



The report urged countries to prioritize the 15 health conditions that cause most premature deaths -- including tuberculosis and respiratory infections, diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and other issues such as accidents and suicide.

The researchers said that significant gains can be made in public health by

"subsidizing the costs of essential medicines, diagnostics, vaccines, and that address these 15 conditions.

The report also called for increased taxation on tobacco products, unhealthy foods and drinks, and fossil fuels, which the researchers said would both reduce illness and death attributable to those products and raise revenue that can be reinvested in health systems. *IANS*

## Second round of polio vaccination campaign starts in Gaza: UN

UNITED NATIONS: The second round of the polio vaccination campaign began in the middle area of the Gaza Strip, UN humanitarian said.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said, in less than two weeks UNRWA -- the UN relief agency for Palestinians, the World Health Organization, and the UN Children's Fund aim to vaccinate around 590,000 children under 10 years of age with a second dose of the novel oral polio vaccination, reports Xinhua news agency.

"But to vaccinate as many children as possible, all parties must respect local humanitarian pauses," OCHA said.

This follows a first round, which was implemented from September 1 to 12, reaching more than 559,000 children. As with the first round, the second round will have three phases, each involving three campaign days and one catch-up day.

Responding to recent Israeli strike on tents sheltering displaced people near Al Aqsa Hospital in Gaza, UN Acting Under-Secretary-General Joyce Msuya said that the horrors Palestinians are forced to endure "seem to have no end."

In a statement, Msuya said there really is no safe place in Gaza for people to go, calling for the atrocities to end and for civilians and civilian infrastructure to be protected. *IANS*



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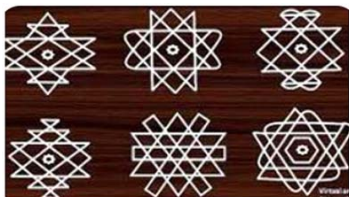
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Daily simple and easy Rangoli are done with lines not dots. Rangolis are one of the most beautiful and pleasing art forms that is done in front of the houses. The word Rangoli is comprised of two words, 'rang', meaning 'color', and 'aavalli', meaning colored 'creepers' or 'row of colors.'



Beautiful Rangolis are drawn to welcome guests and different Gods and Goddesses and to bring joy into homes. Basic Rangolis are drawn every day however large and complicated patterns are primarily made during festivals such as Diwali, Pongal, Tihar, and Onam, and special occasions like Pujas, weddings and other occasions.

## Dr. Kathula receives the Daniel Blumenthal Award

India Post News Service

CHICAGO: It was a true privilege and honor to receive the Daniel Blumenthal Award on behalf of AAPI," said Dr. Satheesh Kathula.

Details on page 19

# COMMUNITY ACROSS AMERICA

16 India Post

www.indiapost.com

October 18, 2024



## A4H supports Buddhist Coalition leader Hon Lien's Milpitas Mayor bid

India Post News Service

MILPITAS, CA: Americans4Hindus organized a Meet and Greet and Fundraiser for Hon Lien, Mayoral candidate for Milpitas City. Ms. Lien is strong supporter of Hindu Community and has participated as coach for Hindu Rajneeti Academy. A leader of Hindu Buddhist Coalitions. Hon Lien's journey as an immigrant and how she achieved the American dream resonates well with the community here.

Event was held at Milpitas community leader Vijay Aggarwal's home and was attended by many of Lien's supporters.

Presenting the endorsement



and campaign donation check, Americans4Hindus founder and chairman Dr. Romesh Japra said that it is critical for public leaders

like Hon Lien to take the lead and help community grow.

Thanking the gathering, Hon Lien Said, "I would like to express

my deepest gratitude to Americans4

Hindus for the endorsement. Your support means so much to me and I am truly honored to have the support from a much respected organization. Each time I have engaged with the Hindu community, I have always felt so warmly welcomed. Your kindness, openness, warmth, compassion and unity encourage a strong working relationship for the greater future of Milpitas."



VIDYA SETHURAMAN  
India Post News Service

The United States has long been a global leader in innovation, setting the pace for technological advancements that drive the international economy. Careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics are among the highest-paying jobs in the US. Workers in these fields earn over \$100,000 a year, in comparison to the national wage average of \$46,000. The US is the world's leader in research and development, but faces a critical shortage in its home-

grown workforce. Roughly 43% of STEM workers in the US are from abroad. The gaps are critical for students of color and girls as well as low income children. For the United States, this means fostering a diverse and highly skilled workforce capable of driving the next wave of breakthroughs. Speakers at the EMS briefing discussed novel initiatives to engage kids in STEM occupations, as well as some of the barriers in classrooms.

Growth in STEM jobs over the next decade is projected to significantly outpace the growth of non-STEM jobs. In fact, employment in STEM occupations is expected to increase by almost 11 percent, compared to a projected 2.3 percent change in non-STEM occupations. To meet that demand, U.S. policymakers should significantly strengthen the county's STEM talent pipelines over the next decade.

Dr. Louis Freedberg, interim

CEO of EdSource pointed out that the growth rate of STEM occupations in the next ten years is expected to be twice that of other jobs, so how to ensure that all students in the current public school system have access to these careers is critical. Freedberg believes that an important reason why African-American, Hispanic, indigenous and low-income students are underrepresented in STEM industries is that their families cannot provide relevant support

and environment, such as participating in summer programs focused on science. And early identification of an interest in math and science is a key indicator of students pursuing STEM careers. In addition, it is also necessary for students to understand STEM courses and the connection between learning content and careers, not just abstract things.

Cont'd on page 23

## Getting Students to Embrace STEM



# A Wedding Golu that fills you with joy!

**A**nother Golu season is just concluding. A tradition that started in 14th century South India has blossomed and grown in the Bay Area as the South Indian diaspora has embraced Golu with intensity and passion.

The Venkatraman family is one such example.

Led by the enthusiastic and driven Radhika Venkatraman, the family has celebrated Golu for a few decades now.

Over the last decade or so, the Venkatraman family has constructed their Golu each year around a "theme" that tries to tell a larger story.

The theme for Golu 2024 was "Weddings".

When you think about it, a wedding is the most seminal event in anyone's life.

Every society has created special ceremonies to conduct and celebrate marriages in memorable and delightful ways.

The Venkatraman Golu 2024 captures the gestalt of weddings by deploying 3 distinct sets of exhibits.

So, let's take a tour of the Golu.



and marries her (Step #4). Lord Vishnu gives away Meenakshi as her brother.

On Step #5, Andal marries Ranganatha idol in Srirangam in the presence of Shiva and Brahma and their consorts.

Then there is a depiction of Rama marrying Sita on Step #6 after breaking Shiva's bow at Sita's Swayamvaram.

The last 3 steps round up the Heavenly wedding stories with Lord Krishna-Rukmini, Lord Murugan with Valli and Deviyani, and Lord Ganesha with Riddhi & Siddhi.

On each step, you find marapachis or dolls related to the story about those Gods and Goddesses.

If you had any doubt that weddings are significant events, note the prominent presence of the Hindu Gods at these weddings!

## Next Stop - South Indian Wedding Ceremony

This sequence of exhibits captures the mystique and mechanics of a South Indian wedding by showcasing the head spinning preparation and activities around the events and ceremonies.

The Golu starts with the traditional version of "Boy meets Girl" (Poona Pattal) where the two families meet in a private setting where the boy and girl see each other for the first time.

After the boy and girl approve the match, we have the Janvasam. Here the groom is shepherded back to the wedding mandapam in a convertible at very slow speed from the temple, for the Nichayathartham (engagement) ceremony.

a "Reception", where the bride and groom appear as a married couple for the very first time in public.

## Brides & Grooms of India

The final stop on this tour takes you to 28 Indian states.

Standing on a Map of India, is a stunning collection of dolls representing married couples from the 28 Indian states adorned in their region's traditional wedding attire.

It is a beautiful encapsulation of that area's culture, customs, language and historical influences.

The attire is bright, elegant and colorful. The women wear sparkling accessories including necklaces, ear and nose rings, and even chains around the head. The men's outfits are sharp, some with necklaces and head gear with precious stones, footwear with adornments, and even a sheathed sword in one case.

Culture after culture has created iconic outfits for their weddings.

All this screams "Wedding is Very Special!". And the fabulous wedding dresses demonstrate how much the wedding day means to them.

This is followed by Mehndi, depicted by an absolutely endearing exhibit with the bride's palm and feet being decorated by the henna artists.

Next, for "Malai Mattal" there is a cute set of dolls where the bride and groom are carried by their mamas (mother's brothers) while the bride and groom try to garland each other thrice.

The bride and groom are dressed tastefully with garlands and seated on a flowery "Oonjal" (Swing) that can rock back and forth. Aunt dolls are waiting to sing and ward off evil spirits by throwing rice balls in all directions.

For the Kalyanam (Wedding) scene, the bride arrives in a palanquin. The priest leads the Vedic ceremony with music accompaniment from the Kerala Chenda Melam. On the floor in front of the bride and groom, is a wedding seer bakshanam consisting of different kinds of sweets and fruits.

On the left side, you can see the caterer serving Kalyanam Sapad (traditional wedding meal) on banana leaves and the guests are enjoying the experience.

The wedding ceremony concludes with



The Venkatraman family has built a vibrant Golu.

It is creative, uplifting, emotionally appealing and highlighting, something we have in common with all cultures and peoples:

Weddings!

Truly, Marriages are made in Heaven, and this Golu spreads the joy of Weddings on Earth!



## First Stop - Celestial Weddings

To get you in the wedding mood, as soon as you enter, 6 beautiful dolls dressed in pavadai dhavani (half sarees) welcome you.

The ambience exudes joy and fun and the wedding is in the air.

As you approach the main Golu Padi of 9 steps, you see the topmost step (#1) has Krishna, Lord Venkateswara and Panduranga with their consorts. The next step features all the Navarathri Devis.

As you go down the steps, the stories of celestial weddings begin to come alive.

There is Lord Srinivasa on Step #3 marrying Padmavati to keep the promise He made as Rama. Note the presence of Hanuman from the Ramayana.

You see Meenakshi, the daughter of Pandyan King Malayadhwaja who fell in love with Lord Shiva. Lord Shiva goes to Madurai as the handsome Sundareswar

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# Upcoming releases of Citadel

*Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Anthony Russo, Joe Russo, Angela Russo-Otstot, David Weil, Gina Gardini, Matilda De Angelis, Raj & DK, Sita R. Menon and Samantha celebrate the upcoming launches within the world of Citadel*

LONDON: The on-screen stars and creative teams involved in the world of Citadel joined together to celebrate the upcoming releases of Citadel: Diana and Citadel: Honey Bunny, which will launch on Prime Video worldwide on October 10 and November 7 respectively.

Executive Producer and Showrunner Gina Gardini and Italian lead Matilda De Angelis (who stars as Diana) represented the upcoming Italian series Citadel: Diana. While the Directors and Writers of Citadel: Honey Bunny, Raj & DK, writer Sita R. Menon and Indian lead Samantha (who stars as Honey) were present for the Indian series Citadel: Honey Bunny.

They were joined by Priyanka Chopra Jonas who stars as Nadia in season 2 of Citadel, which is currently in production in the UK, as well as the Executive Producers across all Citadel series; Anthony Russo, Joe Russo, Angela Russo-Otstot and David Weil.

Earlier in the evening, Anthony Russo, Joe Russo, Angela Russo-Otstot, David Weil, Gina Gardini, Raj & DK and Sita R. Menon gathered at Curzon Bloomsbury for a special on-stage conversation, sharing stories about creating each series and how these connect to form the wider world of Citadel. The group of creatives discussed expanding the world through their collaboration, creating a truly global collection of local-language, connected stories - with leading showrunners and writers at the helm and featuring huge local stars on-

screen.

Also in attendance were James Farrell - VP International Originals, Amazon MGM Studios, Davide Nardini - Head of Scripted Italian Originals, Amazon MGM Studios, Nikhil Madhok - Head of India Originals,

cover Citadel agent, is alone, trapped behind enemy lines as a mole in Manticore. When she finally sees a way out and the chance to disappear forever, the only way to do so is trusting the most unexpected ally, Edo Zani (Lorenzo Cervasio), the heir

espionage, and betrayal. Years later, as their dangerous past catches up, the estranged Honey and Bunny must reunite and fight to protect their young daughter Nadia.

### About Citadel

The first season of Citadel, starring Richard Madden and Priyanka Chopra Jonas alongside

Stanley Tucci and Lesley Manville, premiered to global success in 2023, becoming Prime Video's second most-watched new original series outside the U.S., and fourth most-watched worldwide, after 24 days. Executive produced by the Russo Brothers' AGBO, Citadel and its subsequent action-espionage Original Series traverse the globe, evolving the story of spy agency Citadel and its powerful enemy syndicate, Manticore. Each series born from the

world of Citadel stars top local talent and is created, produced and filmed in region-bringing about stylistically unique shows with strong cultural identities rooted in their respective country of origin. The Italian Original, Citadel: Diana, is the second series to debut from the world of Citadel (launching October 10, 2024) and will be followed by India's series, Citadel: Honey Bunny starring Varun Dhawan and Samantha on November 7, 2024. Season Two of Citadel, starring Richard Madden and Priyanka Chopra Jonas, has commenced production, with Joe Russo serving as director.



L-R: Joe Russo, Anthony Russo, David Weil, Sita R. Menon, Raj & DK, Angela Russo- Otstot, Matilda De Angelis, Gina Gardini, Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Samantha Ruth Prabhu

Prime Video, and Chris Bird - Director, Prime Video UK.

### Citadel: Diana Synopsis

Milan, 2030: Eight years ago, the independent global spy agency Citadel was destroyed by the powerful enemy syndicate, Manticore. Since then, Diana Cavalieri (Matilda De Angelis), an under-

cover of Manticore Italy and son of the head of the Italian organization, Ettore Zani (Maurizio Lombardi), who's vying for leadership against the other European families.

### Citadel: Honey Bunny Synopsis

When stuntman Bunny recruits struggling actress Honey for a side gig, they are hurled into a high-stakes world of action,

## Brinjal/Eggplant Pakoda

SUNIL KUMAR D.

Pakoda are made primarily with gram flour, spices, and a variety of vegetables like potato, spinach, onion, capsicum, spring onions, cauliflower, fenugreek leaves, etc.

These Brinjal/eggplant Pakoda have a lovely soft, mildly sweet taste from the inside and the outside texture is crisp. Use small to medium-sized variety of Brinjal. If you use larger sized Brinjal then chop them into bite-sized slices.

Make Pakodas when you have sudden unseasonal rains or dull cold weather. Not to forget the masala chai that is served with the Pakoda.

### How to make Brinjal Pakoda Batter:

1. In a mixing bowl, take the dry ingredients - 1 cup Besan (gram flour), ¼ tsp

turmeric powder, ¼ tsp red chili powder, ½ tsp coriander powder, ½ tsp cumin powder, a generous pinch of Asafoetida (Hing) and salt as required. Also, add 1 pinch of baking soda.

2. Add ? cup water or as required.



3. Whisk to a smooth batter without lumps. Add water as required to make a medium consistency batter.

Slicing and batter coating

4. Rinse and slice the Brinjals (Baingan) into thin slices if it is large in size. You can also use medium-sized eggplants.

5. Dip the Brinjal slices in the batter evenly.



### Making Brinjal Pakoda

6. In a Kadai or pan heat oil. When the oil becomes medium hot then gently place them in medium hot oil for frying.

7. Turn over when one side is cooked partly.

8. After a minute or so, flip again and fry them until crisp and evenly golden.

9. With a slotted spoon remove the Brinjal Pakoda/Bhajji and drain as much oil as possible.

10. Place them on a paper kitchen towel to remove excess oil. Fry the Brinjal Pakoda in batches.

11. Serve the Brinjal Pakoda hot or warm with any chutney of your liking.

### Serving Suggestions

Serve the Brinjal Pakoda hot or warm with mint and coriander chutney or tamarind chutney or tomato ketchup.

You can also have them with roti or bread. You can also wrap them in a roti, add some green chutney and Guacamole, and make a Pakoda wrap. It taste equally delicious. You can even stuff them in bread slices to make sandwiches or as stuffing for burgers.



# Dr. Satheesh Kathula receives the Daniel Blumenthal Award

India Post News Service

CHICAGO :It was a true privilege and honor to receive the Daniel Blumenthal Award on behalf of AAPI," said Dr. Satheesh Kathula, President of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) after receiving this prestigious award in Washington, DC on October 9, 2024.

"This award truly inspires all AAPI members, who are serving the community and our society at large."

The American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM) presented the fourth annual Dr. Daniel S. Blumenthal Award to four organizations in recognition of efforts to promote health equity. National Medical Association (NMA), National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians (NCAPIP) were the other organizations that were recognized for their organizations' exemplary work.

"ACPM congratulates the NMA, NHMA, NCAPIP and AAPI on this well-deserved recognition. Their dedication to promoting equity in the practice of medicine contributes significantly to the overall health and well-being of our nation," a statement issued by ACPM stated.

The Blumenthal Award serves as a celebration of the progress made to rectify inequities in our nation's health system and a reminder of the work that still needs to be done to address ongoing, persistent barriers to achieving full access to medical care, preventive services, lifestyle interventions, health education and well-being for all.

"I am proud to recognize these deserving organizations that have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to diversity in medicine," stated Dr. Mirza Rahman, President of ACPM

"Indian Americans are underrepresented in leadership roles disproportionate to the number of physicians we have, Dr. Kathula said during the panel discussion. "At AAPI, we all should prioritize encouraging and mentoring the physicians including young physicians to take leadership positions to make a positive impact."

Dr. Kathula expressed his appreciation



Dr. Satheesh Kathula Receives The Daniel Blumenthal Award On Behalf Of AAPI

to Dr. Mirza Rahman, President of ACPM for the invitation and Dr. Jill Whalen for moderating the session.

ACPM encourages collaboration among providers, policymakers and institutions to address the nation's health challenges effectively, as a diverse health professional workforce is integral to a highly functioning health system and a healthy nation.

The Blumenthal Award serves as a celebration of the progress made to rectify inequities in our nation's health system and a reminder of the work that still needs to be done to address ongoing, persistent barriers to achieving aims

Founded in 1982, the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin represents a conglomeration of more than 80,000 practicing physicians in the United States. In addition, it also serves as a platform for more than 40,000 medical students, residents and fellows of Indian origin in this country.

The AAPI YPS/MSRF (Young Physicians Section/Medical Students, Residents and Fellows Section) runs under the main AAPI umbrella to give representation

to them. 1 in every 7 people in the USA is touched by the care of a physician of Indian origin at any given time.

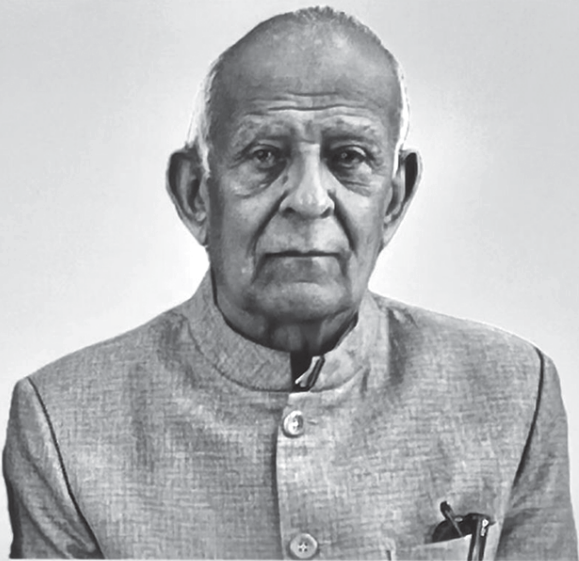
AAPI also has a Charitable Foundation (AAPI-CF) that spearheads free clinics

and health fairs in India. Currently, 7 such clinics are being actively run in various states of India under the AAPI flagship.

For more details, please visit: [www.aapiusa.org](http://www.aapiusa.org)

On behalf of the Rawal family,  
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**Dr. (Prof) Anantray Jatashanker Rawal, PhD**



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## Fremont and the California Manufacturers & Technology Association inspire the next generation of manufacturers with 13th Annual Manufacturing Week

FREMONT, Calif.: In recognition of National Manufacturing Day on October 4, the City of Fremont hosted its 13th annual celebration of Manufacturing Week from October 8 to October 14. Sponsored by the California Manufacturers & Technology Association (CMTA), the weeklong series

and universities participated in Manufacturing Week, which consisted of 16 tours hosted by 14 prominent companies spanning the biomedical, cleantech, auto tech, electronics, and semiconductor industries. By offering a behind-the-scenes look at careers in advanced manufactur-

its vital role in our economy," said Fremont Mayor Lily Mei. "Given 35% of jobs in Fremont are related to manufacturing, this event is crucial for inspiring local students about the rewarding career opportunities in this field. Thank you to everyone who made this year's Manufacturing

Week a success!"

tries - further solidifying Fremont's position as an advanced manufacturing hub. "Manufacturing Week in Fremont allows students to experience firsthand the dynamic world of manufacturing," said Lance Hastings, President and CEO of the CMTA. "With over 900 manufacturers



enabled local students, ranging from elementary school to college, to attend factory tours and presentations held at Fremont-based manufacturers while inspiring the next generation to explore careers in manufacturing and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Over 500 students from nine schools

ing, the City is helping students pursue their passions and empowering them to envision themselves as future leaders and innovators.

"I'm proud to have participated in eight Manufacturing Weeks, showcasing our City as the state's advanced manufacturing hub. Each year, I gain a deeper appreciation for our manufacturing industry and



Week a success!"

A Manufacturing Institute study estimates that by 2030, there could be up to 2.1 million unfilled manufacturing positions in the U.S. Recognizing the foundational role manufacturing plays in our nation's economy, Manufacturing Week serves as a proactive step to meet the future workforce needs of these indus-

in Fremont, we have a unique opportunity to inspire young minds. By engaging students in this industry, we not only ignite their interest but also help build a skilled workforce essential for driving future innovation and growth."

*Additional information about Manufacturing Day can be found at <https://mfgday.com/>.*

## Drop, Cover, & Hold On, California! Register for our earthquake preparedness briefing

**VIDYA SETHURAMAN**  
India Post News Service

**E**thnic Media Services and California Black Media, in partnership with Listos California presented a statewide ethnic media briefing to raise awareness around earthquake preparedness. In recognition of the 35th anniversary of the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, Listos California aims to reach communities across the state with vital knowledge and resources to ensure safety before, during, and after an earthquake. The briefing covered key elements, including participation in the Great ShakeOut on October 17, insights on earthquake science, and an overview of California's first-in-the-nation Earthquake Early Warning System, including the MyShake App.

The Loma Prieta earthquake occurred on October 17, 1989 and caused severe damage. Infrastructure and buildings in the San Francisco Bay Area were hit hard,

highways collapsed, and many people lost their lives. Experts participating in the meeting expressed their hope that by disseminating key knowledge on earthquake preparedness, they hope to help every community in California have the necessary resources and information before disaster strikes to ensure people's life safety. As earthquake warning technology advances, it is now more important than ever that people understand the steps to take when an earthquake strikes.

Sonya Harris, Senior Advisor, Listos California has a long-standing focus on emergency response efforts and emphasized at the meeting the need for communities to use tools and resources to better protect themselves. "In order for every community to be prepared before a disaster, they need to start today by taking advantage of the tools and information they already have."

Amy Palmer, Deputy Director of Crisis

Communications and Public Affairs, California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) talked about the operation of California's earthquake early warning system and related preparedness measures. She pointed out that California is currently using a statewide network of sensors to detect early shaking from earthquakes and send early warning signals to the public seconds in advance through mobile applications and other communication methods. A few precious seconds can buy people valuable time to take action quickly.

Jose Lara, Seismic Hazards Branch Chief, Cal OES introduced California's large earthquake drill plan. He said that starting at 10:17 a.m. on October 17, California will hold a statewide earthquake emergency drill. During the exercise, earthquake simulators will be used to provide the public with a realistic earthquake experience. This simulator can

simulate the intensity of earthquake shaking and help the public experience coping skills when experiencing strong shaking. He emphasized the importance of children and families in earthquake preparedness: "By making children aware of the dangers of earthquakes and teaching them the correct steps to respond, you are not only looking out for their safety, but also making the rest of the family better off. "Be prepared." He called on the public to actively participate in the drill on the 17th and spread earthquake emergency knowledge to more people.

The public must respond quickly and take "Drop, Cover, & Hold On" actions, in order to minimize the risk. This strategy has proven to be the most effective method of self-protection, especially with modern building codes, where many buildings have been designed to "life safety" standards to maintain structural stability during a major earthquake.



# Grand Dussehra Celebrations of Shivalaya Temple of Greater Boston



Shivalaya temple of Greater Boston, MA celebrated Dussehra/Vijayadashami with much enthusiasm to mark the triumph of good over evil. It is believed that Lord Rama killed Ravan and Goddess Durga defeated demon Mahishasura on this day. On the Vijayadashami day, more than four hundred devotees gathered in their traditional attires

marked the culmination of the nine-day-long Navratri festival. On the first Day of Navratri, temple priest Pt. Bharani performed Kalash Stapan, Planting of Jau, and lighting of Akhand Jyot. Sampurna Ramayana Sahaj Paath also started on this day. On Friday, October 4, Mata Ka Jagran by Usha Kamal Ji and Group was arranged and this followed by Ma Ka



grand Durga Ashtami, Kanjak Puja, Bhajans and Kirtan. Friday, Oct 11, Ramayana Paath Purna Ahuti was done with much religious fervor and zeal. Saturday, Oct 12, Dussehra Celebration included distribution of many sweets, fruits, biscuits, and juices to all the children, and mount watering foods were there for devotees as well. Bhajans and Rama Lila performance by Kids were the most notable events of the day. Ramleela reenacted the life of Lord Ram, highlighting his exile and victory over Ravan.

In present-day, Dussehra also symbol-

izes personal victories over indulgences. The nine days of fasting during Navratri encourage individuals to cleanse themselves, reflect good deeds, and foster a commitment to improvement - mentioned the temple priest, Pt. Bharani Ji.

After the Ramleela, temple president, Vijay Sethi thanked all the devotees, singers, and Ram Leela team for their active participation. He also extended his gratitude for the volunteers for their selfless services. Sudarshan Sharma Ji and team controlled crowd and helped the senior citizens to have suitable seats.



with their family members and children and enjoyed the Dussehra Celebrations. Vijayadashami marks the end of the five-day festivities of Durga Puja, and it

Langar/Prasadam. Sunday, October 06 Shree Ram Amritwani, Aarti, and Maha Bhog were organized for the devotees. Thursday, Oct 10, temple organized a

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**INDIA POST**



# "Spiritual path towards Inner Peace is by connecting to Nirankar" - Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj addresses Seattle Congregation

PRAFULL LANDE

On 8th September 2024, the North America Nirankari West Coast Samagam was held in Seattle, Washington in the divine presence of Her Holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj and Rajpita Ramit Ji. This event was held from 11 AM to 3 PM at McCaw Hall in Seattle Downtown. Over 2500 saints from all around North America attended this samagam.

At the samagam, there was an exhibition where saints from various branches presented their models and exhibits on the samagam's theme: Peace Within. Each branch's representatives got the opportunity to present their models and exhibits in front of Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj and Rajpita Ramit Ji. Afterwards, the exhibition was opened to the public and the branch representatives stayed near their models and exhibits to answer questions from the rest of the visitors.

During the congregation portion of the



Near the end of the congregation, Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj and Rajpita Ramit Ji blessed all the attendees with their divine wisdom and guided every-

one to choose the right path to attain it. He pointed out the contradiction in wanting peace while following the same patterns that lead us away from it. Rajpita Ji ex-

plained that when one begins to walk the spiritual path with the realization of God, they start receiving answers and experiencing inner peace. He reminded everyone that God is always ready to reside in

our hearts, but posed the important question: are we ready to let Him in? He further reflected on how we often resist transformation, asking whether we are truly willing to change. His message concluded with the powerful reminder that love is our true essence, and all we need to do is realize this one truth and connect with the one formless God and live our life truly as peace within. Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj explained that those who maintain a connection with Nirankar always have inner peace. She further discussed that many times we lose our sense of peace because of our interactions with the people around us. We fall prey to rumors and assumptions about others that may not even be true. This results in us becoming judgmental and hateful towards others, which causes us to lose our inner peace. Instead, when we look through the lens of Nirankar, we see only the good qualities



samagam, various saints from different branches got the opportunity to share their thoughts regarding the topic of Peace Within. Several saints shared their personal experiences of times when they lost their sense of peace and regained that inner peace by seeking the support of Nirankar. Other saints sang devotional hymns that raised the enthusiasm of the audience. Some saints also recited beautiful and thought-provoking poems to spread the message of inner peace in an artistic manner.

Several dignitaries from the greater Seattle area also had the opportunity to attend the samagam. These dignitaries included the Mayor of Bellevue, the Indian Consulate, and several members of the Interfaith Community Sanctuary. All of them expressed their enthusiasm for the samagam and welcomed Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj and Rajpita Ramit Ji to Seattle.

one towards the path of inner peace. Nirankari Rajpita Ji graced the entire Samagam with a beautiful and thought-provoking speech. He emphasized that although we desire peace, we often fail to

plained that when one begins to walk the spiritual path with the realization of God, they start receiving answers and experiencing inner peace. He reminded everyone that God is always ready to reside in

within everyone and have peaceful interactions with them. Similarly, if we apply this to the troubles in our life and view them as Nirankar's will, then we will see positivity even in the times of adversity and maintain a sense of peace.

The Sant Nirankari Mission is a spiritual organization. It emphasizes the importance of self-realization and devotion to God, promoting universal love, peace, and service to humanity. The Mission advocates for a direct, personal experience of the divine, transcending religious boundaries and fostering harmony among diverse communities. Through spiritual gatherings, social service initiatives, and educational programs, the Mission aims to uplift individuals and society as a whole, encouraging followers to lead a life of compassion and moral integrity. For more info visit [www.nirankari.org](http://www.nirankari.org)

(Inputs from Seattle media team)







# ShreejiDwar Haveli hosts successful Anand Mela

India Post News Service

CHICAGO: The ShreejiDwar Haveli event was a lively celebration filled with food, fun, and activities for all ages, drawing in both regular devotees and newcomers alike.

Visitors enjoyed a variety of Indian cuisine from multiple food stalls, along with an array of drinks. The marketplace offered an exciting selection of clothing, jewelry,

home decor, and Diwali decorations, while children delighted in arcade games set up for their entertainment.

Under the guidance of Dr. Umang Patel, youth leaders Tirath Desai and Kamlesh Mehta and their dedicated team of volunteers, worked tirelessly to ensure the event's success. It praised the efforts of the volunteers, stating, "This has been a very successful event. The unity of the

Vaishnav community and the dedication of our volunteers were key to making this happen."

All donations collected during the Anand Mela would benefit the local community, highlighting the event's commitment to giving back. The spirit of togetherness and joy was palpable, making the day a memorable occasion for everyone involved.



## Tribute to Ratan Tata

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A chief of global powerhouse  
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With great respect and love

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O' compassionate soul and  
An extraordinary human being  
We always remember you and  
Your legacy always inspires us



We always remember with great pride  
Your special innocent smile  
Your caring and loving heart  
Your warm embrace and hugs  
And passionately uphold your principles

O' Major of Bharatiya conglomerate  
You built a strong Tata Empire  
On the global Map with your footprints  
You also inspired immensely  
All the young hearts and their dreams

It broke our hearts to lose you  
The day God called you home  
But you left us wonderful memories

Your visionary approach is still our guide  
You are always at our little hearts

We always remember with much love  
Your spirit for Greatest Bharat  
Your business and philanthropic legacy  
There will never be another one  
To replace you in our times

Your life and work always stand out  
Your guidance is always invaluable  
Your contributions are immeasurable  
In shaping the progress of Bharat  
We hold you in our thoughts and actions



## Getting Students to Embrace STEM

Cont'd from page 16

Dr. Yasemin Copur-Gencturk, Associate Professor of Teacher Education, University of Southern California pointed out that stereotypes based on gender and race are deeply rooted in society, leading people to believe that certain gender and racial groups have higher math proficiency than others. Therefore, raising

awareness of invisible bias is the first step in combating it. Second, teachers and educators need to give struggling students a chance. Finally, targeted interventions need to be developed to help teachers overcome implicit bias in mathematics classrooms, with general bias training insufficient to address specific issues in subjects such as mathematics.



# Cultural significance of Garba and Dandiya dance during Navaratri

GEETHA PATIL AND MADHUMATI TYAGI

**G**arba is a religious and social event that highlights the village traditions. All sociocultural events that happen in the Sanatanis community always have a ritualistic or religious significance. Navaratri (Nava' means 'Nine' and 'Ratri' means nights in Sanskrit) is very dear to all Sanatanis because they worship the Goddess Durga. The nine forms of Devi/Shakti (meaning Strength

## What is Garba Dance?

Garba is a joyful style of dance, based on a circular pattern and characterized by a sweeping action from side to side. Garba performances often include singing and a musical accompaniment by Dhol (double-headed smaller drum), hand clapping and assorted metallic idiophones, such as cymbals.

Garba dances celebrate fertility, honour

formers of Garba. The basic dance formation is that of a circle that moves counter-clockwise; if space is small and there are many participants, then, dancers form concentric circles that move in opposite directions. In due course, the performers circle around an image of a mother goddess, Durga, or around a symbolic representation of her creative energy that is often an illuminated clay pot or a water-filled

some times when they are short on Dandiya they will use just one in right hand. Generally, in a four beat rhythm, opposite sides hit the sticks at the same time, creating a nice sound. One circle goes clockwise and another counter clockwise. In the west, people do not form full circles, but instead often form rows.

**What kind of costumes and music are used?**



or Power) is worshipped with Garba and Dandiya Raas the traditional folk dances of Gujarat and Vrindavan respectfully. everyone from doctor to drivers are going to the large Dandiya Raas arenas during the festival of Navratri, which heralds a season of upcoming festivals from Dashara to Diwali.

womanhood, and pay respect to mother goddesses. In Gujarat, the dances customarily mark a girl's first menstrual cycle and, later, her imminent marriage. Garba dancing also takes place during the nine-day Navratri festival, held annually during the Sanatana month of Ashvina (September-October). Women are the typical per-

vessel, Kalash. Dancing begins slowly and gradually increases in speed. Garba performance has spread beyond Gujarat to many other parts of India, also among other Sanatani communities worldwide.

## What is Dandiya or Dandiya Raas?

Raas or Dandiya Raas is the traditional folk dance form of Vrindavan, India, where it is performed depicting scenes of Holi, and Leela of Krishna and Radha. Along with Garba, it is the featured dance of Navratri evenings in Western India. During Navratri festival, in most of the cities of Gujarat and Mumbai people gather and perform Garba dance.

The word "Raas" comes from the Sanskrit word "Rasa". The origins of Raas can be traced to ancient times. Lord Krishna performed Rasa Leela" (Leela means Lord Krishna's playful dance. There are several forms of Raas, but "Dandiya Raas", performed during Navaratri in Gujarat is the most popular form. Other forms of Raas include Dang Lila from Rajasthan where only one large stick is used, and "Rasa Lila" from North India. Raas Lila and Dandiya Raas are similar. Some even consider "Garba" as a form of Raas, namely "Raas Garba".

In Dandiya Raas men and women dance in two circles, with sticks in their hands. In the old times, Raas did not involve much singing; just the beat of Dhol was enough. "Dandiya" or sticks are about 18" long. Each dancer holds two, although

The women wear traditional dresses such as colorful embroidered Choli, Ghagra and Bandhani dupattas, which is the traditional attire, dazzling with mirror work and wear heavy jewelries. The men wear special turbans and Kedias, but can differ from area to area. The dancers whirl and move their feet and arms in a choreographed manner to the tune of the music with drum beats. The Dhol/Dholak, The dance gets extremely complicated and energetic. Both of these dances are associated with the time of harvest.

## What is the difference between Dandiya and Garba?

The main difference between Garba and Raas is that Raas is played with Dandiyas (pair of colorfully decorated sticks), while Garba consists of various hand and feet movements. Most of the Dandiya steps require even number of people while in Garba there is no such requirement on number of people.

For Dandiya, sometimes instead of sticks, people also use "Swords". The circular movements of Dandiya Raas are much more complex than that of Garba. As people play with sticks, it is important to be careful while playing Dandiya.

Another difference between Garba and Dandiya is Garba is performed before Aarti (worshipping ritual), while Dandiya is performed after the Aarti, as a part of the merriment. Men and women join in for both Raas Dandiya and Garba.

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## Philosophy

FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE

All passions have a time when they are nothing but fatal, when they drag their victim down with the heaviness of their stupidity-and a later, much later time when they marry the spirit, they "spiritualize" themselves.

It used to be that on account of the stupidity in passion, one made war against passion itself: one conspired to destroy it-all the old moral monsters are of one mind on this point, "the passions must be killed". The best-known formula for this is in the New Testament, in that Sermon on the Mount in which, by the way, things are not contemplated from a height at all.

For instance, there it is said with reference to sexuality, "if your eye offends you, pluck it out." Fortunately, no Christian acts according to this prescription. To destroy the passions and desires, merely in order to protect oneself against their stupidity and the disagreeable consequences

mity, enmity to the death against sensuality, is always a symptom that repays reflection: it justifies one's suspicions about the general condition of one who goes to this kind of extreme.

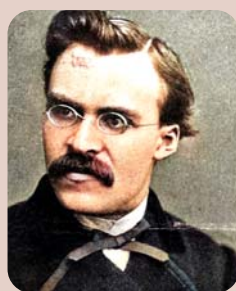
By the way, this enmity, this hatred reaches its peak only when such natures no longer have enough stamina even for the radical therapy, for the repudiation of their "devil." Survey the whole history of priests and philosophers, and artists too: the most poisonous words against the senses have not come from the impotent, not even from the ascetics. They have come from the impossible ascetics, from those who were in need of being ascetics

The spiritualization of sensuality is known as love: it is a great triumph over Christianity. Another triumph is our spiritualization of enmity. It consists in a deep grasp of the value of having enemies: in short, it is a way of acting and drawing conclusions that is the reverse of what people used to do.

In every age, the Church wanted its

*Ripping out the passions means ripping out life*

*The Church fights passion by cutting it out; its "therapy" is castration*



Friedrich Nietzsche

of their stupidity, seems to us today to be itself an acute form of stupidity.

We no longer admire dentists who pull out teeth so that they won't hurt anymore . . . But on the other hand, it's only fair to concede that on the soil from which Christianity grew, the concept of "spiritualizing the passions" was simply inconceivable. After all, the early Church fought, against the "intellectuals," on behalf of those who were "poor in spirit".

How could one expect the Church to wage an intelligent war against passion?-The Church fights passion by cutting it out; its practice, its "therapy" is castration. It never asks, "How does one spiritualize, beautify, deify a desire?"-its discipline has always emphasized eradication (eradication of sensuality, pride, the ambition to rule, covetousness, vengefulness).

But ripping out the passions by the root means ripping out life by the root; the practice of the Church is an enemy to life

Radical means are indispensable only for degenerates; having a weak will, or more precisely, being incapable of not reacting to a stimulus, is itself just another form of degeneration. Radical en-

emies to be destroyed; we immoralists and anti-Christians, see our own advantage in the Church's continued existence.

In the political sphere, too, enmity has now become more spiritual-much more clever, much more reflective, much more considerate. Almost every party grasps that its own interest, its own self-preservation, depends on the opposing party's not losing its strength; the same applies to politics on the grand scale.

*Excerpted from 'Twilight of the Idols'. The 180th birth anniversary of Friedrich Nietzsche was observed on October 15*

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## Diversity and democracy: Why India remains politically stable in a volatile South Asian neighborhood

MOHAMMAD TAHA ALI AND AKANKSHYA RAY

The recent crisis in Bangladesh is a stark reminder of how precarious the political realities of South Asia are and, how easily India's neighborhood can fall apart. Considering the range of political crises faced by every country in South Asia - India stands as one of the largest democracies in the world; Pakistan oscillates between civilian governments and military dictatorships; Bangladesh has once again plunged into political turmoil; Sri Lanka grapples with civil conflict and economic instability; Nepal became a secular republic in 2008 ending the world's last Hindu monarchy; and Afghanistan continues to be ruled by the oppressive Taliban regime - it is remarkable that these varied political experiments have survived and continue to thrive.

However, despite predictions of col-

political commentators. Their fundamental argument was based upon the diversity of independent India, it was considered very difficult for a country and democracy to survive if its population was diverse. Although of an exploitative nature, British colonialism could bequeath a strong institutional legacy for laying down the ground for democracy in India. The parliamentary system was indeed a boon to India, being endowed with a bicameral legislature and having an executive responsible to the elected representatives by the central government. The judiciary separation from the executive, which was the natural chemical rule under the rule of law, ensured that the judiciary was independent.

The Indian Civil Services, which would eventually turn into Indian Administrative Services over time, created a professional

bureaucracy to ensure stable governance. These institutions, though colonial in origin, were made to work under free India to provide continuity and a framework for the shift to democratic governance. The Consti-

*However, despite predictions of collapse, India stands out as a beacon of political stability. It has managed to sustain democratic governance despite its religious and ethnic diversity, economic disparities, and security threats*

lapse, India stands out as a beacon of political stability. It has managed to sustain democratic governance despite its religious and ethnic diversity, economic disparities, and security threats.

What factors have contributed to this stability, and are they missing in India's neighboring states? Built on a constitutional framework, India's democratic stability is repeatedly challenged by separatist movements, emergency rule, economic imbalances, and bouts of communal tensions. How did nations in South Asia, all cut from the same fabric of colonial rule, evolve into such diverse political realities while sharing a common thread of history? This is an attempt to understand the key factors behind India's democratic stability and examine why its neighbors have struggled to achieve the same.

### Foundations of Indian democracy

Aldous Huxley predicted in the 1960s that democracy in India would only last as long as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was leading the government; after that there would be dictatorship or military rule in India. Such predictions regarding Indian democracy were being made by various thinkers and

tution of 1950 further entrenched democratic governance into an Indian federal system of decentralized governance that established and enshrined fundamental rights that safeguard the Liberty and Equality of her citizens. One of the most significant landmarks of India establishing democracy was the first general election held in the years 1951-52 when, for the first time, universal suffrage of citizens came to fruition and, for the very first time, the peaceful transfer of power occurred. Along with the sound constitutional foundation, institutional legacy has been the backbone in the transformation of one of the largest and most vibrant democracies in the world.

### Political instability in South Asia

A comparative analysis of the political environment across South Asian countries is important to understand the unique challenges each nation has faced.

*(The authors are pursuing a Masters in Conflict Analysis and Peacebuilding at the Nelson Mandela Center for Peace Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia) South Asia Monitor*

For detailed story visit  
[www.indiapost.com](http://www.indiapost.com)

**Disclaimer: Views expressed are personal to the author**



Virtually an island that resembles the shape of a tortoise, Kutch is an erstwhile princely state of India holding onto its grandeur nature from the past. Kutch is probably one of the most beautiful, yet surreal places in India with the vast expanses of the white salt desert. The place comes to life during the winters when the Rann Festival is held during December-February everywhere in which there are huge camp settlements with cultural programs,

Kutch Desert Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the largest periodical saline wetlands in the world. Colloquially known as the "Flamingo City" this is the largest wildlife sanctuary with a vast expanse of about 7505.22 sq. km.

**Dholavira:** Known as a remarkable excavation site during the Indus Valley Civilization, Dholavira was one of the most developed cities roughly 4500 years ago. It was a flourishing Harappan site between 2650 and 1450 BCE.

**Kutch Museum:** The oldest museum of Gujarat, the Kutch Museum boasts of its collection of the extinct Kutchi Script and ancient coins. Tribal artifacts are also a part of the museum along with many other kinds of objects on display exhibits of embroidery, paintings,

arms, musical instruments, sculpture and precious metalwork.

**Kutch Bustard Sanctuary:** Popularly known locally as the Lala Prajan Sanctuary, Kutch Bustard Sanctuary primary aim is to conserve the Great Indian Bustard. It is located in Jakhu village in Naliya Taluka, Gujarat. Among many other different varieties of wildlife that can be found within the reserve, there are three different kinds of Bustards themselves in the sanctuary.

**Mandvi Beach:** Situated in the Kutch region of Gujarat, Mandvi Beach is a pristine and tranquil seashore which is one of the most popular holiday destinations in the region. In addition to being a laidback beach location, Mandvi Beach is popular for its camping and water sports facilities.

**Shopping in Kutch:** Kutch is famous for its Great Rann of Kutch, an enormous white salt desert that lies within the boundaries of Thar desert. The endless white fields of salt is truly a wonder India is blessed with. As much as we know Rann Of Kutch for its great salt desert, it is also a place known for its artistic handicrafts. Most of the small villages in the Kutch district are engaged in the craft business, preparing some of the finest artifacts that they

put on sale during the Rann Utsav.

**Aaina Mahal:** The Aaina Mahal palace, or 'Hall of Mirrors' was built during the flamboyant rule of Lakhpatji in the middle of the 18th century. The responsibility of engineering, architecture and embellishment

## Kutch "The White Desert of India"

functions and adventure activities like hot-air ballooning.

Kutch is also among the largest district of India with a terribly low population density. Also, Kutch lies on the India-Pakistan border and you can see parts of Pakistan from Kutch. Kutch is also famous for crafts and embroidery works, Flamingo Sanctuary and Wild Ass Sanctuary. Bhuj is an ideal starting point to visit the Rann of Kutch. Beautiful beaches of Mandvi near Bhuj are also totally worth visiting during your trip to Kutch. Don't miss to see the ancient town of Dholavira.

### PLACES TO VISIT IN KUTCH

**Great Rann of Kutch:** The Great Rann of Kutch, is a large area of salt marshland, is located in the District of Kutch, in the western state of India, Gujarat. The vast expanse is situated in the Thar Desert and is formed of salt marshes. Sunsets at the Great Rann of Kutch are a treat to the eyes after exploring the region.

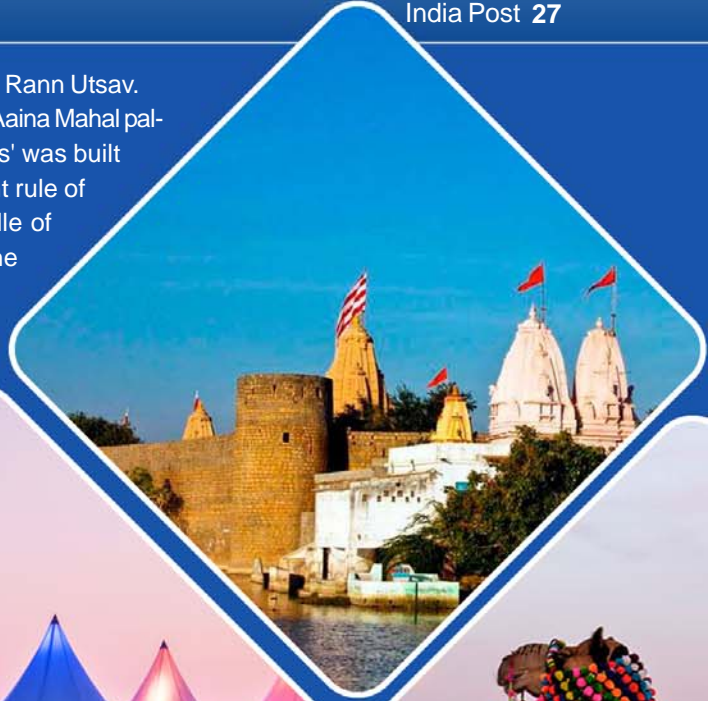
**Kutch Desert Wildlife Sanctuary:** Located 100 km away from Bhuj, the

was entitled to Ram Singh Malam - a genius of an artist who took his training in Europe for 17 years but came back to India seeking name and fame. He was asked by the king to create this palace of dreams for him, and thus the Aina Mahal came into existence.

### Best time to visit Kutch

Winters (November-Feb) are the best time to visit Kutch, mainly because of the full moon nights that turn the place into an absolute paradise. [www.holidify.com](http://www.holidify.com)

For detailed story visit [www.indiapost.com](http://www.indiapost.com)





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Udupi Palace is a South Indian vegetarian BYOB restaurant. My friend and I had dinner there shortly after I returned from south India. We were greeted warmly and the ambiance is pleasant. The menu is so enticing that we ordered too much food but it was almost as good the next day.

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# Mob justice: A growing threat to Bangladesh's stability

MONIRA NAZMI JAHAN

**O**n August 5, Bangladesh underwent a significant political upheaval as the government was overthrown in a revolution. On the same day, former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina resigned and left the country. Protesters' demands led to the establishment of an interim government, with Dr. Muhammad Yunus serving as Chief Advisor. The public, filled with anticipation for a new era, widely hoped that this new administration would eradicate vandalism, discrimination, looting, corruption, and violence while restoring the rule of law. However, a disturbing wave of mob justice has shaken the country instead of bringing stability, leaving the public deeply disillusioned.

Does mob justice establish justice or the rule of law in society? The answer is no; it does the opposite. When mob justice becomes the norm, the stability and integrity of the entire country are jeopardized. Such lawlessness threatens to plunge the nation into civil unrest, pushing it closer to the brink of a failed state.

The rule of law is a cornerstone of governance, establishing state legitimacy through accountability, transparency, and protecting citizens' human rights. Without implementation, these rights would remain mere rhetoric. However, the rise of mob justice, where individuals bypass legal processes to exact swift punishment on suspected offenders, directly threatens this principle.

## **Mob justice not alien to Bangladesh**

Undoubtedly, mob justice in Bangladesh is a significant threat to the rule of law and human rights as it violates the fundamental rights to life, liberty, and security that the Constitution of 1972 and international conventions guarantee. Al-

though Article 31 of the Constitution 1972 guarantees the right to legal protection, and Article 35 guarantees the right to a fair trial, pervasive mob violence persists unabated. This directly opposes Bangladesh's obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948 and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966, guaranteeing the right to a fair trial and the presumption of innocence. Mob justice violates national laws, too, such as the Penal Code 1860, Code of Criminal Procedure 1898, Special Powers Act 1974, Metropolitan Ordinances, and Cyber Security Act 2023.

Is mob justice an alien concept in Bangladesh? The answer is no. In the past, alleged thieves and robbers were subjected to violent mob beatings.

*Does mob justice establish justice or the rule of law in society? The answer is no; it does the opposite. When mob justice becomes the norm, the stability and integrity of the entire country are jeopardized*

But this time, there have been incidents of forcibly making teachers of educational institutions, university vice-chancellors, and heads or officials of various institutions resign, driving them away through beatings, attacks on defendants in court premises, vandalism of places of worship of people with opposing views, destruction of mausoleums, and even killings by beating and stabbing on university campuses. The alarming trend has brought the term "mob justice" into sharp focus. An enraged mob desecrated and destroyed a grave in a particularly shocking incident. Such acts raise serious concerns about the state of social order and the extent of lawlessness in the

country. As these incidents continue to unfold, they highlight a growing crisis in which not even the sanctity of the dead is respected, posing urgent questions about the state of collective morality and justice in Bangladesh.

Mob justice can be understood through Tylerian procedural justice theory and liberal democratic theory. Tylerian theory suggests that people resort to mob justice when they experience procedural injustice, as fair treatment by authorities fosters respect and compliance. Liberal democratic theory posits that citizens follow laws when the government is accountable and upholds legal principles, which lends legitimacy to the legal system. When this trust is absent, people may bypass the judicial system, perceiving it as

unfair or inconsistent, and take justice into their own hands.

## **Conflicting messages from government**

Following the recent revolution, Bangladesh established an interim government that appears to align with the aspirations of the revolutionaries. Yet, a troubling rise in mob justice overshadows the transition. Dr. Muhammad Yunus, the head of the interim government, has urged citizens to refrain from taking the law into their own hands.

*(The author is a PhD student of criminology, at the University of Manchester, UK) South Asia Monitor*

For detailed story visit  
[www.indiapost.com](http://www.indiapost.com)



## ADIEU TO INDIA'S RATAN

**R**atan Tata is no more. He was unquestionably India's most respected businessman, even though by standards of India's wealthiest billionaires he was relatively poor. By virtue of his position as chairperson of the Sir Dorab Tata Trust and the Sir Ratan Tata Trust, which own 66 percent of Tata Sons, the holding company for India's largest and most prestigious business house, he was more powerful than any other Indian businessman.

The reclusive bachelor was very much a loner and hard to fathom. His former executive assistant R Venkataraman, when asked about his proximity to his former boss in an unguarded moment, remarked that those closest to Ratan were not people but his pet dogs and all strays.

He had just embraced the mantle of leadership when the diversified group's growth story had some parallels with India's economic growth story as well. As India took its leap towards liberalization in 1991, Tata also worked towards revamping the Group, taking business decisions during his tenure that looked like failure to his critics, but helped turn around the fortunes of many group companies, both in domestic operations and the group's global footprint. From Tata Tea's acquisition of Tetley in 2000 to acquiring the UK-based Corus Group in 2007 and reviving the once-struggling British luxury car manufacturer, Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), post acquisition in 2008, Tata set the ball rolling with the Group's presence overseas, charting out a path for other companies to follow.

About 15 years ago, Ratan Tata promised something that would shake up the Indian vehicle market - Tata Nano, a car that would cost just Rs 1-lakh and fulfill the middle-class dream of owning a four-wheeler. It became commonly known as the Lakhtakia car, the Indian equivalent of a Rs 1-lakh car.

The proposal though, faced significant roadblocks. His proposed car factory at Singur in Bengal, this was when Buddhadeb Bhattacharya CPI (M)'s Bengal Chief Minister was trying to attract investment to the state and change the direction of his party, got caught in a land acquisition row, and Mamata Banerjee, keen to replace the CPI (M), launched a movement against the plan.

Tata did not wait long for the Singur crisis to resolve. Deft at doing business with politicians while maintaining enough distance, he bagged a deal from Narendra Modi, then CM of Gujarat, who was trying to build an industry-friendly image, to set up the car factory at Sanand in Gujarat instead.

The Ambassador car, although assembled in India, was essentially an Indian-assembled version of the British Morris Oxford. While the Suzuki suffix meant the Maruti was never truly an Indian car. India did not have a truly indigenous car until Tata launched Indica.

JRD Tata had dreamt of launching a fully indigenous family car during his time but prevailing government policies did not allow him to proceed. The idea of Indica came when JRD stepped down and named Ratan as Tata Sons chairman, and India's economy underwent structural reforms. Under his leadership Tata Group's revenues soared from USD 4-billion to over USD 100-billion.

Beside his success in business, he will be remembered mostly for his simplicity and significant contributions to corporate social responsibility and philanthropy.



## "MY FITNESS MANTRA IS STRENGTH TRAINING": SOHA ALI KHAN AT LAKME FASHION WEEK X FDCI 2024

NEW DELHI: Actor Soha Ali Khan dazzled in a lovely traditional outfit as she turned showstopper for designer Simmi Saboo at the Lakme Fashion Week 2024, in partnership with FDCI.

Her look just seemed perfect for the festive season. She walked the ramp in traditional attire.

The stunning actress wore a golden lehenga and a blouse with golden embroidery and silver motifs. Soha completed her look with a beautifully embellished dupatta.

The collection 'Zooni' was a grand fashion merger of timeless Indian crafts and artistry,

inspired by Kashmir. The highlight of the creations was the expert use of Kashmiri embroidery that was innovatively incorporated with colorful digital patterns.

The 'Dil Maange More' actor's mesmerizing look stunned everyone when she walked the ramp for the label 17:17 by Simmi Saboo. "I am wearing a golden lehenga and what I liked about it is that she has used the traditional craftsmanship of Kashmir and unique design details like coins, shells and beads it's manmade, not machine-made and they are also designed into a modern silhouette that the modern Indian woman will be very happy to wear," Soha told ANI.

Soha, who is often seen inspiring fans with her motivational fitness videos, talked about her fitness mantra, saying, "My current fitness mantra is strength training because I am in my 40s now and I believe for you to be fit for the next few decades of your life it is important to do the current investment now and that investment for me is in strength training, building up my muscles, the woman in 40s tend to lose a lot of muscles mass and then you have trouble with osteoporosis, arthritis and weakness and weight gain and these are the things I am fighting with as it is important to be fit."

Meanwhile, Soha is best known for her roles in films including 'Mumbai Meri Jaan', 'Tum Mile', 'Rang De Basanti', 'Hush Hush', 'Saheb, Biwi Aur Gangster Returns' and 'Tera Kya Hoga Johnny'.

Coming back to the mega fashion event, Bollywood actor Ananya Panday turned showstopper for ace designer Rohit Bal at the grand finale of Lakme Fashion Week X FDCI 2024.

She walked the ramp in a quintessential Rohit Bal signature ensemble. She looked beautiful in a black lehenga with huge red roses, a bralette blouse, and a cape-style blazer. ANI



## INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF SRINAGAR ALL SET TO BEGIN FROM NOVEMBER 20

SRINAGAR: The International Film Festival of Srinagar is all set to begin from November 20 to November 23 in Jammu and Kashmir.

"I would like to tell you that we are going to do the International Film Festival Srinagar and Jammu Film Festival. This year, we have more than 400 films from more than 50 countries internationally. After that, when our jury was selected and after selecting, 29 countries were selected. There are 59 short films, 5 feature films and 15 documentaries. And I would like to tell you in detail that on November 20, we are going to do its grand opening. In Jammu, the opening ceremony of the event will be held in Bagh-e-Bahu and the screening of movies will be at Abhinav Theatre and in Srinagar, it will be held at Tagore Hall," said the festival director Rohit Bhat.

Speaking to ANI, he said, "Every year we do a film festival but separately in Jammu and Kashmir but this year's event will be organized in both regions at a time. There will be local and international films that will be shown during the festival. Films from across the country and Iranian movies will also be part of the festival."

Advisor Vomedh Group, Sanjay Saraf said, "Not only Jammu, but Kashmir will see an increase in international visitors." Saraf added that it will also boost Jammu and Kashmir's economy.

From the presence of Bollywood celebrities to high-profile dignitaries like the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, previous editions of these festivals have brought significant attention to the region. ANI

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## ALAYA F WANTS TO RESONATE WITH GEN Z

Actress Alaya F recently opened up about the changing dynamics of the digital age, emphasizing how crucial it is for actors to stay relatable and relevant as trends shift.

Sharing her thoughts on the same, Alaya F, who made her Hindi film debut with 'Jawaani Jaaneman' alongside Saif Ali Khan and Tabu shared, "I'm really excited to find a project that speaks to our generation-Gen Z and even the Alpha generation. We live in such a dynamic time where everything is evolving so quickly, especially with social media, technology, and the way we communicate."

The actress also spoke about being a part of fresh and relative content that are based on personal and life experiences, "I think it's important to be part of stories that reflect how we're navigating all of this. I want to be involved in projects that not only entertain but also show the reality of our experiences and aspirations. Something fresh, relatable, and meaningful that really resonates with the youth," she concluded.

On the work front, Alaya, daughter of actress Pooja Bedi, gained recognition for her impressive debut in Nitin Kakkar's 2020 directorial 'Jawaani Jaaneman.' She also won the Filmfare Award for Best Female Debut. She has continued to take on diverse roles in various projects.

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## Bhumi: Want to do film about the freedom struggle

It was in 2015 when Bhumi Pednekar made her debut in films with "Dum Laga Ke Haisha" and ever since then she has featured in movies, which come with a message. The actress now manifests doing a period film around the freedom struggle.

After "Dum Laga Ke Haisha", Bhumi was seen in movies such as "Toilet: Ek Prem Katha", "Shubh Mangal Saavdhan", "Sonchiriya", "Saand Ki Aankh", "Dolly Kitty Aur Woh Chamakte Sitare", "Badhaai Do", "Bheed" and "Afwah" to name a few.

In a conversation with IANS, Bhumi spoke about branching out to genres she has never tried her into - action and a period film.

"I think what I would really want to do is maybe an action film, maybe do a film around the freedom struggle," Bhumi said.

She added: "I'm constantly putting this out there in the universe that I want to do a film, a period film around the freedom struggle." IANS



## TOP TEN HINDI FILM SONGS

- 1 Aaj Ki Raat : **Stree 2**
- 2 Tauba Tauba: **Bad Newz**
- 3 Sajni: **Laapataa Ladies**
- 4 Tainu Khabar Nahi: **Munjya**
- 5 Angaaron : **Pushpa 2 The Rule**
- 6 Akhiyaan Gulaab: **Teri Baaton Mein Aisa Uljha Jiya**
- 7 Agar Ho Tum: **Mr. And Mrs. Mahi**
- 8 Satranga: **Animal**
- 9 Chaleya: **Jawan**
- 10 Aayi Nai: **Stree 2**

## When Varun Dhawan was rejected by Aditya Chopra



Bollywood star Varun Dhawan, who has many interesting projects lined-up for release, has revealed that once producer Aditya Chopra refused to mount an action film featuring him in the lead role because of budget constraints.

Varun recently attended the trailer launch of his upcoming spy-action series 'Citadel: Honey Bunny' in the Juhu area of Mumbai along with actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu, and the creators of the series, Raj & DK.

During the event, Varun spoke with the media, and revealed that he was really intrigued to try his hands on an action spectacle.

Varun told the media at the event, "I remember, I met Aditya Chopra (the head-honcho of Yash Raj Films), he was playing badminton, and I got to join him and Maneesh (Sharma) for a game. I remember, they were making (one of the) 'Tiger' (the Salman Khan-starrer) movies that time.

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