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'Joint action to tackle migrant smuggling'

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Krishna Shroff does not believe in cheat days

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STUDENTS EVACUATED

Operation Sindhu: First flight carrying 110 citizens thank Modi govt, Indian embassies on safe evacuation from Iran



Indian students reach Zvartnots International Airport to board a flight from Armenia to New Delhi, under Operation Sindhu facilitated by the Government of India in view of the Israel-Iran conflict. (@MEAIndia X/ANI Photo)

NEW DELHI: After arriving safely in New Delhi on Thursday 19 June, all the 110 Indian citizens rescued from Iran by flight, thanked the Narendra Modi-led Union government as well as the Indian embassies in Iran and Armenia for evacuating them amid the escalating military conflict in the Middle East.

As part of Operation Sindhu, the first flight carrying 110 Indian citizens arrived in New Delhi after being successfully evacuated from Iran.

All the Indian nationals were flown to Delhi on IndiGo flight 6E 9487.

Union Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs, Kirti Vardhan Singh, welcomed the evacuated Indian citizens at the airport, IANS reported.

The flight carrying 110 Indian students from Urmia Medical University in Iran landed in New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International airport at Terminal-3.

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'Act of terror will be considered an act of war'

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STUDENTS EVACUATED

Operation Sindhu: First flight carrying 110 citizens thank Modi govt, Indian embassies on safe evacuation from Iran

NEW DELHI: After arriving safely in New Delhi on Thursday 19 June, all the 110 Indian citizens rescued from Iran by flight, thanked the Narendra Modi-led Union government as well as the Indian embassies in Iran and Armenia for evacuating them amid the escalating military conflict in the Middle East.

As part of Operation Sindhu, the first flight carrying 110 Indian citizens arrived in New Delhi after being successfully evacuated from Iran.

All the Indian nationals were flown to Delhi on IndiGo flight 6E 9487.

Union Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs, Kirti Vardhan Singh, welcomed the evacuated Indian citizens at the airport, IANS reported.

The flight carrying 110 Indian students from Urmia Medical University in Iran landed in New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International airport at Terminal-3.

After welcoming all 110 evacuated Indian citizens who arrived in New Delhi, Union MoS for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh told IANS, "We have planes ready. We'll be sending another plane today. We are evacuating some more people from Turkmenistan. Today, another plane will be going and our missions have opened a 24-hour helpline for any requests for evacuation. As the situation evolves, we'll be sending more planes and more chartered flights to evacuate all Indian nationals from Iran..."

Several Indian students spoke to IANS after being evacuated from Iran amid escalating military conflict between Iran and Israel.

Expressing his emotions after arriving in New Delhi, an evacuated student told IANS, "The situation was extremely

dangerous and we were scared. We saw drones, injured people and the internet was down, nothing was working... But the Indian government came through, took us in, and brought us home safely. Salute to them, they took

told IANS, "The situation in Iran is very bad. Two days ago, it was a bit better, but now it's much worse... We are extremely thankful to the Indian government for the way we were evacuated and treated. I'm truly grateful to the Indian

back to India first."

India has launched 'Operation Sindhu' to evacuate its nationals from Iran amid escalating regional tensions.

The evacuation was conducted via Armenia, with the students travelling by road to the Armenian capital, Yerevan, under the supervision of Indian missions in Iran and Armenia.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) had confirmed that Indian students residing in Tehran were safely evacuated from the city through coordination by the Indian Embassy.

"Indian students in Tehran have been moved out of the city for safety reasons through arrangements made by the Indian Embassy," the Ministry said in their official statement.

The Indian students left Zvartnots International Airport in Yerevan, Armenia, via a special flight at 14:55 IST on June 18, with their expected arrival in New Delhi during the early hours of June 19.

MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal announced through Twitter, "Operation Sindhu begins. India launched Operation Sindhu to evacuate Indian nationals from Iran. India evacuated 110 students from northern Iran who crossed into Armenia under the supervision of our Missions in Iran and Armenia on June 17.

This is part of the many steps that the Indian government has taken over the last several days for the safety and security of Indian nationals stuck in Iran and called for help in view of the deteriorating situation due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East.

The Indian government said that it is grateful to the governments of Iran and Armenia for the smooth facilitation of the evacuation process. IANS



Indian students board a flight from Armenia to New Delhi, under Operation Sindhu facilitated by the Government of India in view of the Israel-Iran conflict. (@MEAIndia X/ANI Photo)

After welcoming all 110 evacuated Indian citizens who arrived in New Delhi, Union MoS for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh told IANS, "We have planes ready. We'll be sending another plane today. We are evacuating some more people from Turkmenistan. Today, another plane will be going and our missions have opened a 24-hour helpline for any requests for evacuation

an unbelievable step and we're truly proud. We are Indians, and India got us out safely..."

Thanking Indian Embassy in Iran and Armenia as well as the Narendra Modi government, another evacuated student

Embassy and the Indian government."

Another evacuated student told IANS, "The situation there (in Iran) is definitely bad... the Indian Embassies in Iran and Armenia provided us with everything and prioritized our evacuation, bringing us

Act of terror will be considered an act of war: PM Modi tells Trump

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi informed US President Donald Trump that India will regard any act of terrorism, not as proxy actions, but as acts of war, stated Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri recently.

The Prime Minister, during a 35-minute-long phone conversation, also conveyed to Trump that India does not seek and will never accept any mediation on matters related to Pakistan.

President Trump, according to Misri, fully understood India's position and expressed support for its fight against terrorism. PM Modi also informed Trump that India will consider any terror act emanating from Pakistan as an act of war, and that Operation Sindoor remains ongoing.

Misri revealed that this conversation between the two leaders was their first since the Pahalgam terror attack and India's retaliatory Operation Sindoor.

The call took place after a scheduled in-person meeting between the two leaders on the sidelines of the G7 Summit was cancelled due to Trump's early return to the US.

"The phone conversation was held at the request of President Trump," said Misri, adding that PM Modi used the opportunity to detail India's measured military response to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, which killed 26 innocent

tourists.

The attack was claimed by The Resistance Front, a group affiliated with the Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba.

"Prime Minister Modi said that on the night of May 6-7, India had targeted only terrorist hideouts in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. India's actions were very measured, precise, and non-escalatory," Misri said. IANS

Both committed towards realizing potential of India-Canada relationship: Canadian PM Carney on meet with PM Modi

KANANASKIS: Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney held a press conference as the G7 Summit came to its conclusion, where he answered several pressing questions, including those on his meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Answering a question on the India-Canada ties, PM Carney said, "In terms of the bilateral relationship, I think the meeting today was important. I would describe it as foundational, as a necessary first step, an exchange of views, a frank, open exchange of views around law enforcement, transnational repression as two examples, an agreement to provide the necessary foundations to begin to rebuild a relationship based on mutual respect, sovereignty, trust."

In his remarks, he noted that the two countries would work on appointing their High Commissioners again. Carney told the media, "We will move to appoint high commissioners again, and let me just finish by putting that in context, which is that there are very deep ties of people and businesses between Canada and India. It's well known; it's part of your point about where the relationship could go. And they are not served at present by consular services in effect-- certainly by high commissioners, and it's necessary to have that level of service as a basis on which to build out again in the context of respect for sovereignty and to begin to realize the potential of the relationship, and we will. We're



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney on the sidelines of the 51st G7 Summit, in Kananaskis. (DPR PMO/ANI Photo)

both committed to working towards that, but there's a lot of work that will need to be done."

When asked about the case of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, the Canadian Prime Minister said, "We have had a discussion, Prime Minister (Modi) and I, about the importance of having the law enforcement to law enforcement dialogue, which is cooperation directly; the importance of addressing transnational repression as I noted, when we met, and obviously there is a judicial process that's underway and I need to be careful about further commentary."

Last year, tensions had escalated between India and Canada when former Ca-

nadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau claimed that his government had "credible allegations" of India's involvement in the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada in 2023.

India has strongly denied the allegations, terming them "absurd" and "motivated," and has accused Canada of giving space to extremist and anti-India elements.

In the aftermath, India recalled six diplomats from Canada after they were declared "persons of interest" by Canadian authorities investigating Nijjar's killing. Nijjar was shot dead outside a gurdwara in Surrey, British Columbia, on June 18,

2023.

After the meeting between PM Modi and his Canadian counterpart during the sidelines of the G7 Summit, the leaders reaffirmed the importance of India-Canada ties and agreed to take constructive steps to restore stability in the relationship, with the early return of High Commissioners to each other's capitals, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), said in a June 19 statement.

In his remarks, Carney also spoke about several global issues of importance.

On the situation in West Asia, Carney said, "G7 leaders also reiterated our commitment to the pursuit of peace and stability in the Middle East. Iran is the principal source of regional instability and terror, and we've been consistently clear that Iran can never have a nuclear weapon. We urge that the resolution of the Iranian crisis leads to a broader de-escalation of hostilities, including a ceasefire in Gaza."

Speaking about the Russia-Ukraine Conflict, Carney told media, "With our international partners, we're launching a major new package of sanctions on individuals, companies, vessels, the shadow fleet to exert maximum pressure on Russia. We're also sending over two billion dollars in funding for drones, ammunition, armored vehicles to help Ukrainians defend their territory and a 2.3 billion dollar loan to help rebuild the infrastructure". ANI

British Columbia Premier to ask PM Carney to declare Bishnoi gang as 'terrorist group'

BRITISH COLUMBIA: Canadian politician and the premier of British Columbia, David Eby, is set to ask Canadian PM Mark Carney to declare the Bishnoi gang a "terrorist group", as reported by the Vancouver Sun.

As per the Vancouver Sun, Eby said that this is an issue of huge concern not only in British Columbia but also in Alberta and Ontario.

As per the Vancouver Sun, he said the Lawrence Bishnoi gang had been linked to extortions and other crimes against South Asian community members in B.C., Alberta and Ontario.

Hence, he said he would write to Prime Minister Mark Carney to ask that the gang be given the terrorist designation "to enable police to be able to use the necessary tools to investigate."

According to the Vancouver Sun, police have said South Asian community mem-

bers are being extorted for cash under the threat of violence or death, and the gang has been linked to some of those threats.

Noting that the Canadian federal government had taken a similar action against a Mexican drug cartel, Eby said, "This is a serious step. We don't make this recommendation lightly, but this activity strikes at public confidence in the justice system, in our democracy."

As per the Vancouver Sun, Satish Kumar, the president of the Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Temple and owner of Reflections Banquet Halls, said his life was threatened after he said he wouldn't pay USD 2 million to an extortionist.

Earlier in May, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) had arrested a key aide of the dreaded Lawrence Bishnoi gang who was helping members of the syndicate with fake passports to evade arrest by fleeing the country, the agency said. ANI

Canada, India agree to resume diplomatic services, designate new High Commissioners

KANANASKIS: India and Canada agreed to resume full diplomatic services, ending the thaw between the two countries, triggered by Canadian allegations that Indian agents were involved in the killing of NIA-designated terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar outside a gurdwara in Canada in 2023.

At the G7 Leaders' Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney held talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and both leaders agreed to designate new high commissioners, with a view to returning to regular services to citizens and businesses in both countries, according to a press release from the Prime Minister of Canada.

Prime Minister Carney and Prime Minister Modi reaffirmed the importance of Canada-India ties, based upon mutual respect, the rule of law, and a commitment

to the principle of sovereignty and territorial integrity.

They discussed strong and historic ties between their peoples, partnerships in the Indo-Pacific, and significant commercial links between Canada and India -- including partnerships in economic growth, supply chains, and the energy transformation,

read the release.

Prime Minister Carney also raised priorities on the G7 agenda, including transnational crime and repression, security, and the rules-based order. ANI

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney held talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and both leaders agreed to designate new high commissioners

G7 leaders pledge joint action to tackle migrant smuggling

KANANASKIS: G7 leaders have issued a joint statement reaffirming their commitment to prevent and counter migrant smuggling, under the G7 Coalition to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants and the 2024 G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants.

"We are determined to enhance border management

The statement emphasized that the G7 Coalition has made concrete progress in strengthening the operational and investigative capacities of law enforcement agencies, as well as enhancing international cooperation between police, judicial, prosecution, and border services.

The G7 leaders tasked their Interior and Security Ministers to intensify work on the 2024 G7 Action Plan by fo-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi joins world leaders for a group photograph during the 51st G7 Summit, in Kananaskis. (@narendramodi X/ANI Photo)

and enforcement and dismantle the transnational organized crime groups profiting from both migrant smuggling and human trafficking," the statement read.

The G7 leaders highlighted that migrant smuggling is often connected to other serious criminal offences, including money laundering, corruption, and trafficking in persons and drugs, which pose significant threats to community safety.

"It can expose vulnerable smuggled persons to grave and life-threatening risks, including physical abuse, sexual and gender-based violence, extortion, labor exploitation, and forced labor and criminality," the leaders noted.

India never accepted mediation, does not accept it, will never accept it: PM Modi to Trump

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has conveyed to US President Donald Trump that India does not seek and will never accept any mediation on matters related to Pakistan, according to Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri.

Misri revealed that the two leaders spoke over the phone for 35 minutes, their first conversation since the Pahalgam terror attack and India's retaliatory Operation Sindoor.

The call took place after a scheduled in-person meeting between the two leaders on the sidelines of the G7 Summit was cancelled due to Trump's early return to the US.

"The phone conversation was held at the request of President Trump," said Misri, adding that PM Modi used the opportunity to detail India's measured military response to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, which killed 26 innocent tourists.

The attack was claimed by The Resistance Front, a group affiliated with the Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba.

"Prime Minister Modi said that on the night of May 6-7, India had targeted only terrorist hideouts in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. India's actions were very measured, precise, and non-escalatory," Misri said. *IANS*

cusing on four key areas.

These include adopting a "follow the money" approach by leveraging financial intelligence and information-sharing to identify and hold criminal actors accountable, seize assets, and strip profits.

They also plan to boost prevention with countries of origin and transit through stronger border management and raising awareness of risks.

The G7 committed to collaborating with social media companies on voluntary principles to prevent organized crime groups from using online platforms to coordinate migrant smuggling. *ANI*

India seeks SCO's condemnation on Pahalgam, Pak pushes for Jaffar Express attack: Reports

NEW DELHI: India has called for a reference to the Pahalgam terror attack in one of the documents to be presented during the upcoming summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) under the chairmanship of China, according to media reports.

Following this, Pakistan also pushed for a mention of the hijacking of the Jaffar Express and a recent bus attack carried out by the Baloch rebels in the same document.

According to the reports, India has urged that the official outcome statement of the upcoming SCO summit should include a condemnation of the Pahalgam terror attack, in which 26 tourists were brutally killed by heavily armed terrorists from Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba's offshoot, The Resistance Front. Individuals familiar with the development have said that serious discussions are underway to include India's proposal to mention the terror attack in the document, as any failure to do so, as per media reports, may undermine the SCO proceedings.

The SCO is a permanent intergovernmental international organization established on June 15, 2001, in Shanghai. The member states of SCO include India, Iran, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Belarus. *IANS*

Croatia endorsed India's approach, expressed solidarity on Pahalgam attack, says Indian Envoy

ZAGREB: India's Ambassador to Croatia, Arun Goel, has said that Croatians expressed shock when the dastardly Pahalgam terror attack happened and expressed solidarity towards India. Noting that India offers multiple options to Croatia, he said that the visit by PM Modi would further strengthen the ties between the two nations.

In an interview with ANI, Ambassador Goel said, "Croatia itself experienced terrorism, fundamentalism and extremism. When the Pahalgam episode happened, we were shocked. I got messages from several Croatians on my phone. They expressed solidarity with us. India's measured and restrained response through Operation Sindoor was appreciated by all Croatians. If you talk to anybody on the street, you will find Croatians endorsing India's approach. They are solidly with India. They are a reliable support".

He said that this is the kind of support needed globally to counter terrorism.

Speaking about the Indo-Pacific and how India is a great partner for Croatia



India's Ambassador to Croatia, Arun Goel

across several fronts, the Ambassador said, "In the Indo-Pacific, there are various other areas when we look at the whole region in terms of its prosperity. Currently, it's a scenario of a single choice. Single choice leads to fewer options and dependability. India is going to offer various options in different domains".

He listed the areas such as space-based applications, telecom, digital interfaces and infrastructure, and healthcare centers.

Noting that in the current unstable times, Croatia is looking for new partners, India offers great incentives.

"The people of Croatia have long long-lasting relationship with the people of India in terms of experiencing, enjoying and loving Indian culture, Indian ethos, and Indian spiritualism. Whichever Croatian companies are working in India, they have had positive experience, and they are looking for expansion and vice versa. The Indian companies working in Croatia are also finding it positive. Indian migrant workers here are finding it positive. So I feel that whether on a person-to-person basis or organization-to-organization, there is a connectivity, and now this is going to take a big boost with the visit of the Prime Minister. In that context, India offers multiple choices beyond a single choice. That's how I look at the Indo-Pacific angle." *ANI*

India seeks SCO's condemnation on Pahalgam, Pak pushes for Jaffar Express attack: Reports

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The SCO is a permanent intergovernmental international organization established on June 15, 2001, in Shanghai.

The member states of SCO include India, Iran, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan,

Later this month, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh is scheduled to visit China for the SCO Defense Minister meet, which will be followed by the SCO National Security Advisers' (NSA) meeting.

Earlier, India opted out of the SCO joint statement regarding the ongoing Israel-Iran conflict. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated that India did not participate in the discussions on the statement.

According to the MEA, the overall position of India, on the matter was communicated to the SCO members.

"The SCO has issued a statement on recent developments between Israel and Iran. India's own position on the matter had been articulated by us on June 13, 2025, and remains the same. We urge that channels of dialogue and diplomacy be utilized to work towards de-escalation, and it is essential that the international community undertake endeavors in that direction," read the statement issued by the MEA.

"The External Affairs Minister, too, discussed this matter with his Iranian counterpart yesterday and conveyed the deep concern of the international community at the turn of events. He also urged the avoidance of any escalatory steps and an early return to diplomacy," the statement added. *IAN S*

According to the reports, India has urged that the official outcome statement of the upcoming SCO summit should include a condemnation of the Pahalgam terror attack, in which 26 tourists were brutally killed by heavily armed terrorists from Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba's

by the Baloch rebels in the same document.

According to the reports, India has urged that the official outcome statement of the upcoming SCO summit should include a condemnation of the Pahalgam terror attack, in which 26 tourists were brutally killed by heavily armed terrorists from Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba's offshoot, The Resistance Front.

Individuals familiar with the development have said that serious discussions

Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Belarus.

The multilateral forum also has a permanent organ, the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS), headquartered in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, which serves to promote cooperation of member states against terrorism, separatism and extremism.

Reports suggest that since RATS addresses terror-related concerns, India's request to include the reference condemning the April 22 attack is entirely valid.

India's invitation to G7 'testament to India's importance, PM Modi's leadership': Canadian PM

KANANASKIS: India's participation in the G7 Summit as an invitee is a "testament" to the importance of India on the world stage and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, according to Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney.

At the start of their bilateral meeting here recently, Carney said that India's participation is also important for tackling together the fight against terrorism.

Prime Minister Modi said that he was grateful to Carney for inviting him to the G7 Summit, adding "it is my honor to visit Canada once again after 2015 and be present with the people here".

He also added that India is the world's largest democracy and while holding the presidency of the G20 Summit New Delhi has taken several positive initiatives for the world, and in the G7 Summit today, the strong foundation which India had set during the G20 Summit has taken a new shape and given new direction in its execution in the G7 summit. *IAN S*

People have negative opinion about Khalistanis here, says Canadian journalist Daniel Bordman

TORONTO: Canadian journalist Daniel Bordman said that public opinion in Canada has turned largely negative towards the Khalistani movement, which he described as a factor that made the country look "a bit silly" and severely strained Canada-India relations in 2023.

His remarks come as hundreds of Khalistani extremists held demonstrations in Alberta against Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, coinciding with the ongoing Group of Seven (G7) summit in Canada.

PM Modi is attending the summit as a special guest alongside world leaders, including US President Donald Trump, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

Among the protesters, one of the leaders, Manjinder Singh, made provocative statements, declaring he was prepared to

"ambush Modi" and "kill India's PM Modi's politics," sparking sharp condemnation.

Speaking to IANS, Bordman said, "I've been to an 'Ambush Modi' protest. They ambushed Modi. He wasn't near them, but they were still ambushing. The Khalistanis are into batting, and normal Canadians are

just terribly confused as to why they're yelling so much."

He said the Khalistani movement had peaked around the time of the Hardeep Singh Nijjar controversy, when Canada's liberal government, led by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, included several individuals with extremist affiliations.

"At the end of 2023, Khalistan had sort of maximum strength because you had a liberal government run by Justin Trudeau, deeply infiltrated with people with all types of extremist backgrounds. *IAN S*

"At the end of 2023, Khalistan had sort of maximum strength because you had a liberal government run by Justin Trudeau, deeply infiltrated with people with all types of extremist backgrounds"

'Mass murderer, shame on you': Pakistan Army chief Asim Munir booed in US

WASHINGTON: Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir, currently on a trip to the US, found himself in the crosshairs of protestors, apparently comprising overseas Pakistani citizens, as they protested against him and also shouted slogans, calling him a 'mass murderer'.

The embarrassment for the Pakistan Army Chief only got amplified as the videos of protestors calling him names got widely circulated on social media. Many videos showed people booing and shouting at him while he arrived at a hotel in Washington.

Slogans like 'Shame on You' and 'Islamabad Ka Qatil' were raised against him while banners depicting him as 'Mass Murderer' were waved on the streets. Other slogans like 'Asim Munir, you are a coward' were also heard in the videos.

The wave of anger and public backlash against Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff left the General as well as the terror-sponsoring nation red-faced over the fiasco, as his US visit was rather touted as Pakistan's dexterous maneuvering, in the wake of India's diplomatic outreach to the global fraternity.

Many protesters called him a despotic dictator, blaming him for the murder of democracy, stating that 'when dictators rise, democracy dies.'

Imran Khan-led PTI's overseas unit in the US also re-shared videos of demonstrations, where protestors could be seen gathering outside the hotel and chanting slogans against Pakistan's top military commander.

Sharing the video of a stir against Munir, it wrote on X, "Pakistani-Americans in Washington, DC are protesting outside the Four Seasons hotel, reminding General Asim Munir of the crimes he's committed against the people of Pakistan."

Earlier, Asim Munir's visit to the US hogged the headlines as it was initially reported that he was due to attend the military parade along with Donald Trump.

However, the US administration denied the reports, with a White House official stating, "This is false. No foreign military leaders were invited."

Pakistan Army Chief has been in the thick of controversy ever since his provocative and inflammatory public address on perpetuating the two-nation theory, relating to India and Pakistan, earned him a wave of criticism and rebuke online. *IAN S*



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Fremont Police Chief to retire after 28 years

FREMONT, Calif.: Today, Fremont Police Chief, Sean Washington announced he will retire from the City of Fremont on August 9, 2025.

"With deep gratitude and reflection, I formally announce my retirement from the City of Fremont. Serving this community and the Fremont Police Department for over 28 years-including nearly four years as Chief-has been an extraordinary honor and privilege," stated Chief Sean Washington. "This decision was made after careful consideration of both personal and professional factors. I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity to work alongside such talented individuals and will ensure a smooth leadership transition. I leave knowing that the Fremont Police Department will continue its legacy of excellence."

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ITServe's 5th Annual Capitol Hill Day's Impact

I'm proud to be the original sponsor of the HIRE ACT, which is foundational," Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthy, while addressing the nearly 200 ITServe Alliance members, who had come together on June 11th, 2025 as part of their annual Capitol Hill Day to make their voices heard on the corridors of power. "It just updates the law. It doesn't do anything revolutionary, but it does something necessary for our country, which is to make sure that we modernize our system in accordance with our needs, and plowing money into the STEM fields so that more indigenous talent rises, so that our children and others end up taking these jobs eventually."

Details on page 14

PM Modi's outreach to diaspora spurs FDI flow into India

Details on page 15

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June 20, 2025



International Yoga Day celebrated in Chicagoland

ANU MALHOTRA



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Malhotra of Expert Pain Physicians & SKN Institute!

This Grand Celebration was graced by esteemed dignitaries including, Congressman Bill Foster, Consul General of India,

Councilman Ashfaq Hussain Syed, Chief Information Officer at City Of Aurora Ram Tyagi, many respected organization heads and community leaders.

Participants practiced Power-

lective consciousness through a mesmerizing experience wrapped in the divine energy of Yoga Geetas, performed by renowned singers and musicians from Chicagoland.

My heartfelt gratitude to A3N Media, SEWA International, Sant Nirankari Mission and Shivam Vishwanathan for their incredible support and invaluable contributions toward the grand success of this MEGA event!

It was a true celebration of mind, body, and spirit - rooted in ancient wisdom and shared with open hearts. A living example of what we can achieve when hearts unite for a higher purpose!!



Chicago Somnath Ghosh, Consul Sanjeev Kumar Pal, Honorable First Lady Lynda Wehrli, Naperville

ful Yoga/Meditation with Live Music led by Certified Yoga Teacher, Anu Malhotra and lifted our col-



Across the U.S., Over 45,000 Participate in 100 BAPS Charities Walks



Houston, TX

NEW YORK, NY: In a powerful display of community unity and service, more than 45,000 Americans across 100 cities participated in the annual BAPS Charities Walk-Run this past weekend, turning local streets into pathways of collective action. Through a unique approach, this nationwide initiative allowed each city to support causes that mattered most to their communities. This year, the Walk-Run supported over 50 local organizations—from fire and police departments to groups serving veterans, seniors, women, and the homeless. More than 20 health-focused nonprofits also benefited, including those advancing mental health, cancer care,

and family wellness. Several schools and education programs received support as well—underscoring how the Walk continues to make a meaningful impact in neighborhoods across the country. The volunteer effort highlighted a quiet but profound spirit of service, as families and individuals set out to make a difference. From 16-year-old Aarav Dubal lacing his sneakers in Robbinsville, New Jersey, to seniors walking with canes in Los Angeles, California, the energy was contagious. This year's theme, "Spirit of Service," resonated deeply in cities and communities across the country. In Houston, TX, the



Los Angeles, California

walk supported NAMI Greater Houston, helping fund vital mental health services in a city where post-pandemic demand has surged. In San Jose, CA, thousands lined up to provide essential resources for local public schools. Orlando, FL walkers raised funds for a children's cancer camp, while the Dallas, TX community rallied behind local veterans to ensure they receive the support they deserve. In Detroit, MI, participants walked to support their community, and in Albany, NY, the walk also benefited the local fire department. Meanwhile, in Philadelphia, PA, walkers gave back to underserved neighborhoods and community centers.

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Robbinsville, NJ

"Wonderful charities like BAPS Charities are helping to fight the stigma around mental health, and we appreciate you for that," said Angela Hudson, CEO of NAMI Greater Houston. The wide range of causes supported by the walk made a meaningful impact across communities and enhanced the well-being of individuals and families. "It's one thing to care," said Bhargav Ashier, a participant in Edison, NJ. "But it's another thing to show up. And this weekend, America showed up in force, proving that compassion is a powerful force for change." The event's unique community-focused structure allowed each city to

"From New York to Houston, and San Jose to Detroit, our interconnected community," Mr. Patel explained, "is driven by compassion, ensures our work touches lives in cities all across the country." At a time when the importance of unity and harmony is paramount, this weekend offered a rare and compelling portrait of communities moving forward—step by step, city by city—towards tangible improvements in the lives of its citizens. (About BAPS Charities: BAPS Charities is a global charity active in nine countries across five continents. For additional information on BAPS Charities and its international and local philanthropic activities, please visit www.bapscharities.org)

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New York City Mayor Eric Adams and Dr. Raj Bhayani honor healthcare achievers of New York

New York City Mayor Eric Adams, in collaboration with the Healthcare Advisory Council, honored the Healthcare Achievers of New York during a solemn ceremony at the iconic Gracie Mansion in New York City on June 9, 2025.

Hosted by Eric Adams in partnership with Dr. Raj Bhayani, president of the Federation of Indian Physicians Association, the event was attended by over 150 prominent community, business, and healthcare leaders from across the New York tri-state region, representing Indian, Bangladeshi, Afghanistan, Jewish, Spanish, as well as Americans and Caribbean communities.

Mayor Eric Adams honored 13 healthcare leaders in New York, representing diverse areas of healthcare, such as physicians, pharmacists, pharmaceutical industries, Practice managers, and entrepreneurs in healthcare, along with people who are doing charitable health activities in the New York region for their accomplishments and contributions to the nation.

Mayor Eric Adams, in his address, highlighted the reasons for organizing this event and the sacrifice of healthcare workers, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, saving millions in New York City. Pointing to the healthcare professionals and their hard work, sacrifices, and dedication, Mayor Adams said, "They are the symbols of what makes our country what it is, and I want to thank them. And tonight is not so much about me, it's about our honorees, because public service is challenging and it's difficult, and it's always, for the most part, a thankless occupation that you go into."

Recalling their sacrifices, especially during the COVID pandemic, Mayor Adams referred to the vicarious trauma of healthcare professionals. "You continue to do your job. Nothing can signify that more than COVID, when I've witnessed the number of healthcare professionals who were in our hospitals, our healthcare centers, who were doing the testing, who were carrying out all the functions, and still had to worry about not infecting their family members at home. They still got up every day and did their job."

Addressing the honorees, Mayor Adams said, "And so, we need to continue to lift our healthcare professionals, and that's why we're doing it tonight. Honoring these professionals tonight is our way of honoring the entire healthcare profession and what they do every day for their loved ones and for our loved ones. And I want to personally say thank you for what you do. As they come on and receive their proclamation, let's show them the love that they deserve, because clapping for them is not only clapping for them individually, but it's clapping for the industry of healthcare that makes sure we live a healthy life, not only physically, but emotionally as well."

In his welcome address, Dr Raj Bhayani emphasized the importance and the critical role played by healthcare



professionals. Quoting Hippocrates, he said, "Love to Medicine is love to Humanity," adding that the ceremony is a way of expressing our love and appreciation for healthcare professionals of New York.

Al Mason introduced Eric Adams as the best Mayor the City has ever had and highlighted the need for continuing our support for him. Chintu Patel, Founder and CEO of Amnil Pharmaceuticals, and the keynote speaker at the event, emphasized the values that propel him to run his company. He said his company's prime goal is innovation, affordability and sustainability. Kanan Patel, the youngest entrepreneur, shared with the audience her passion to combine ayurveda and allopathy to create beauty and skincare products.

Ronald Blount Jr., Bronx County Executive Director, highlighted the need for more work at policymakers in Albany for the greater good of the communities in New York. Gary Schlesinger, the Brooklyn community and healthcare leader, highlighted his passion to serve indigenous communities in New York. Gary Sikka expressed his desire to do more charitable work in healthcare and various health camps. In closing remarks, Dr. Shashi Shah thanked all the organizers, attendees and thanked the Gracie Mansion staff and Caterer Mint by Gary Sikka for the great food.



Ronald Wayne honored

The event began by honoring Ronald Wayne, who, along with Steve Jobs, founded Apple. While accepting the award, Wayne said, "This is the highest honor I have received in the 71 years of my career."

Other prominent leaders who were honored at the ceremony included; Chintu Patel, founder and CEO of Amneal Pharmaceutical; Al Mason Fintech, entrepreneur; Dr. Shamim Sharma, eminent Cardiologist; Dr. Deepak Nandi, Neuropsychiatrist and entrepreneur; Dr. Atul Kukar, renowned Cardiologist; Gary Schlesinger, Healthcare Community Leader; Ronald Blount Jr, Bronx County Executive; Gary Sikka, President, American Punjab Society; Kanan Patel, founder and CEO of Kayura pharma health and beauty products; Bhavik Patel, Healthcare executive; Ahmad Masoud, IRCM founder; Jabur Chowdhury, young healthcare entrepreneur; and Dr Eyad Hijazin, a prominent physician from the region.



Chintu Patel honored

Fremont Police Chief to retire after 28 years of distinguished service

FREMONT, Calif.: Today, Fremont Police Chief, Sean Washington announced he will retire from the City of Fremont on August 9, 2025.

"With deep gratitude and reflection, I formally announce my retirement from the City of Fremont. Serving this community and the Fremont Police Department for over 28 years-including nearly four years as Chief-has been an extraordinary honor and privilege," stated Chief Sean Washington. "This decision was made after careful consideration of both personal and professional factors. I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity to work alongside such talented individuals and will ensure a smooth leadership transition. I leave knowing that the Fremont Police Department will continue its legacy of excellence."

Chief Sean Washington has been an unwavering pillar of leadership, integrity, and commitment in the Fremont Police Department for nearly three decades. From his first days as an officer in 1997 to his historic appointment as Fremont's first African American Police Chief in 2021, Chief Washington has exemplified the highest ideals of service.

Throughout his tenure, he has fostered trust and collaboration between law enforcement and the community, ensuring dignity, respect, and fairness for all. Chief Washington embraced transparency and community feedback as an effective



Fremont Police Chief Sean Washington

method to enhance crime mitigation strategies and responsiveness to community concerns. His leadership extended beyond policing-he inspired youth, mentored future officers, and was a champion for programs like Special Olympics of Northern California, Joshua's Gift Autism Registry, and the 30x30 Initiative, which aims to increase the representation of women and support fair opportunity.

Under his guidance, the Fremont Police Department embraced innovation by launching one of the nation's first Electric Patrol Vehicle Pilot Programs, deploying the Drone as First Responder program, organizing a community safety fair, and is establishing a Real-Time Information Center. Additionally, Chief Washington expanded the Police Chief's Community Advisory Board and created a new Police Chief's Youth Advisory Board. During challenging times, he remained resolute, leading courageously with both compassion and strength.

Chief Washington's retirement is a celebration of the profound impact he has had on Fremont, and his legacy will live on in the department, the community, and the many lives he has touched.

"On behalf of the City of Fremont, I extend our heartfelt gratitude to Chief Sean Washington for his unwavering service and exceptional leadership. Chief Washington has set high standards for excellence, blending progressive initiatives with a strong commitment to community engagement and operational effectiveness. His focus on compassion and fairness has fostered trust between law enforcement and our community while upholding the dignity of every person," stated City Manager Karena Shackelford. "I sincerely thank Chief Washington (Sean) for his remarkable contributions, which have enhanced public safety in Fremont. As he embarks on this new chapter, I wish him and his family all the best in his well-earned retirement."

During his 28 years of service, Chief Washington worked several assignments

gaining experience as a detective, field training officer, SWAT team member, Arrest Control Instructor, Driving Instructor, and member of the School Resource Officer Unit. Chief Washington was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2007, Lieutenant in 2011, and Captain in 2015. He was appointed Police Chief on October 1, 2021.

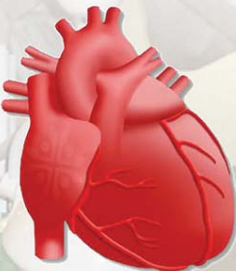
Additionally, Chief Washington has served in leadership positions for several law enforcement associations and organizations. He currently serves as the president of the Alameda County Chiefs of Police/Sheriff's Association (ACCOPSA), is a member of the International Association

of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), is a past president of the Alameda County Commanders Group, and served on the Training Committee and Legislative Committee for the California Police Chiefs' Association (CPCA). He has received numerous recognitions and awards throughout his career. This past January, the Fremont Police Department received national recognition as the first California law enforcement agency to satisfy all requirements for the IACP Trust Building Campaign.

City Manager Karena Shackelford will conduct a nationwide competitive recruitment for a new police chief.

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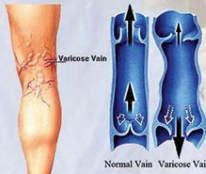


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ITServe's 5th Annual Capitol Hill Day's Impact; 145 meetings with key lawmakers

"I'm proud to be the original sponsor of the HIRE ACT, which is foundational," Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, while addressing the nearly 200 ITServe Alliance members, who had come together on June 11th, 2025 as part of their annual Capitol Hill Day to make their voices heard on the corridors of power. "It just updates the law. It doesn't do anything revolutionary, but it does something necessary for our country, which is to make sure that we modernize our system in accordance with our needs, and plowing money into the STEM fields so that more indigenous talent rises, so that our children and others end up taking these jobs eventually, because we need to make sure that at the same time that we attract the best and the brightest from around the world to come here, that we also grow talent here. Am I right about that? That's the only way that we compete. That's the only way that we compete."

ITServe Alliance leaders met with Rep. Jim Jordan, a Republican Congressman representing Ohio's 4th District. The powerful Chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary expressed openness to the concerns shared by ITServe leadership. Rep. Tim Moore, representing North Carolina's 14th District in the U.S. House, and a member of House Committees on Financial Services and the Budget, posted on his Facebook page: "ITServe Alliance visited to discuss education and building a skilled workforce in North Carolina."



ing with similar interests across the United States, had its 5th annual Capitol Hill Day in Washington, D.C., where they met with 145 US Representatives and Senators and their staff, including influential committee chairs and members from both the Parties, eliciting support for the causes put forth by ITServe.

High-Skilled Immigration Reform for Employment (HIRE) Act, introduced by US Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, D-Illinois in the past and is being considered to be reintroduced in the current Congress, has been a key measure ITServe supports and has made aware of among the more than 145 key Lawmakers who were part of the Capitol Hill Day by ITServe this year. The Bill would strengthen U.S.

ITServe National President 2025. "The impact of these efforts on lawmakers is invaluable, and it's inspiring to see such motivated teams working toward meaningful changes to the legal immigration system in the United States."

Recognizing that H-1B visa holders play a critical role in bolstering the U.S. economy, fostering innovation, and enrich-

fields, which contributes to scientific advancements and technological progress. Therefore, ITServe Alliance continues its efforts in supporting and advocating for immigration reforms that will help America maintain its tech leadership in the world."

ITServe supports the HIRE ACT Bill (High Skilled Immigration Reform for Employment). Innovation, STEM education,



Sen. Eric Schmitt of Missouri, Sen. Mark Kelly of Arizona, Rep. LaMonica McIver from New Jersey, and Rep. Robert Paul from Pennsylvania were among other key lawmakers that ITServe members met and advocated for immigration reforms.

ITServe Alliance, with an active membership of 2,500 + members who are small & medium-sized companies, representing prestigious IT companies function-

competitiveness by helping to close the skills gap - the space between the skills required for jobs that employers need to fill, and the skills possessed by current prospective employees.

"The dedication of ITServe members, especially those 200 members who came from across the nation and participated in our 5th annual Capitol Hill Day, and engaging in 145 meetings in a single day, is truly impressive," said Anju Vallabhaneni,

ing the fabric of American society through their skills, contributions, and diverse backgrounds, and knowledge to American workplaces, Siva Moopanar, President-Elect of ITServe said, "They facilitate knowledge transfer and skills development by engaging in research and development activities, particularly in STEM

and avoiding brain drain are the highlights of the Bill. Another area, where ITServe has focused is the STEM Program to promote the "American Ingenuity Account" to fund State-administered grants for STEM education and worker training.

For detailed story visit www.indiapost.com



Aaron Rai is 33rd as Spaun finishes with 2 birdies to win US Open

OAKMONT: Unheralded JJ Spaun produced two amazing birdies on the last two holes to win the 125th US Open and change his life and career.

Winner of one PGA Tour title before this, Spaun who began the day trailing Sam



Aaron Rai

Burns by one, had five bogeys in the first six holes, but with scoring being so difficult, he was still in contention when he came to the 17th and was chasing Scotsman Robert MacIntyre, who had set the clubhouse target of 1-over after finishing with a brilliant round of 2-under 68.

Spaun was tied with MacIntyre when he came to the 17th. He produced a great 314-yard drive on the 17th and birdied to take the lead. On the 18th, he needed two putts from 65 feet for the win, but he holed for a grandstand finish and the longest putt of the tournament to card 2-over 72 and grab a 2-shot win at the Oakmont Country

Club, which was at its most difficult in wet conditions. That made him the only player to finish under par at 1-under 279. It gave him a two-shot victory over MacIntyre.

Indo-British Aaron Rai, after three rounds of 72, added a 73 and was T-33. Indian-American Akshay Bhatia missed the cut, and Sahith Theegala missed the event due to a neck injury.

The win made Spaun, the 36-year-old Californian, a major champion in only his second U.S. Open. Spaun raised both arms and tossed his putter, jumping into the arms of caddie Mark Carens. Spaun finished last year at No. 119 in the world with only one PGA TOUR title in his career.

Burns had a two-shot lead going to the 11th tee, made a double bogey from a divot in the first cut, and from a lie in the fairway so wet he thought he deserved relief. He shot 78. Adam Scott, trying to become the first player to go more than 11 years between major titles, was tied for the lead with five holes to play. One of the best drivers could no longer find the fairway. He played them in 5-over and shot 79. He was T-12.

One shot behind at the start of the day, Spaun opened with five bogeys in six holes with some horrific breaks. And then came a rain delay of 1 hour, 37 minutes. Viktor Hovland, who shot 73 to finish third, saw it all, including the putt at the end, and the bogeys at the start.

The weather delay changed the whole vibe for Spaun, and he made only one bogey the rest of the way. Then came the amazing finish. *IANS*

Indian-origin man sentenced in \$2M call center fraud targeting US senior citizens

NEW YORK: An Indian-origin man has been sentenced to over six years in prison for his involvement in a nearly \$2 million scheme to defraud senior citizens by using call centers abroad.

Giving him the 75-month sentence recently, Federal Judge William Jung also ordered Pranav Patel to forfeit \$1.79 million that was collected from seniors in Florida and elsewhere.

According to court documents, Patel worked as a "money mule" -- collecting money or gold from victims -- and was convicted of money laundering, which he admitted to, in December.

"Preying on vulnerable, unsuspecting elderly victims to rob them of their hard-earned money is despicable," Secret Service Special Agent Robert Engel said after the sentencing in the federal court in

Tampa, Florida.

"Even worse, the defendant's co-conspirators posed as government agents to defraud victims of nearly \$2 million, threatening them with arrest if they didn't follow their demands," he said.

Patel was busted when he went to a house to collect what he thought was a box of gold.

Law enforcement officials, who had him under surveillance, arrested him immediately after he picked up the package.

According to court papers, his co-conspirators operating from call centers abroad fraudulently identified themselves as officers from the Treasury Department or other agencies and told the victims that there were "warrants for their arrest". They were told that they had to pay them to avoid arrest, the documents said. *IANS*

PM Modi's outreach to diaspora spurs FDI flow into India

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's outreach to the Indian diaspora to invest in their ancestral country has been bearing fruit with more FDI coming into India.

In a significant development signaling renewed Indian-African business ties, Shrai Madhvani, promoter of the globally diversified Madhvani Group, has announced major investment plans for India.

Commending Prime Minister Modi's visionary policies, such as Ease of Doing Business, Make in India, and the government's pro-business outlook, Madhvani acknowledged that these initiatives played a vital role in the Group's decision to invest in India.

Madhvani recalled Prime Minister Modi's visit to Kampala (Uganda) in 2018, where the Prime Minister had encouraged the Madhvani Group to become a part of India's growth story. With ancestral roots in Gujarat, the Madhvani family shares a deep emotional and cultural connection with India.

PM Modi, on his foreign visits, has been making it a point to interact with the Indian

diaspora and encouraging them to invest in the country of their origin.

Madhvani, along with his family, met PM Modi over the weekend and informed him that the Group is exploring investments in India of up to Rs 10,000 crore over the next five years, which is expected to generate substantial employment and contribute to industrial growth.



During the meeting, Madhvani briefed the Prime Minister on the Group's strategic entry into India through the acquisition of Hindustan National Glass & Industries Ltd. (HNGIL) - India's largest container glass manufacturer, currently under insolvency proceedings since October 2021. The acquisition is being undertaken through INSCO, a Madhvani Group company. *IANS*

Vishwa Hindu Sangh District President Raman Nehra demands Devalia Devasthan Management Act

SHIV KAURA
India Post News Service

PHAGWARA: Vishwa Hindu Sangh, District Kapurthala President Raman Nehra has demanded a legal framework for independent transparent and religious management of Hindu temples and religious institutions in Punjab. He appealed to the Punjab government to immediately implement the Devalia Devasthan Management Act. The main objective of this act is to ensure independent and transparent management of temples by freeing them from government control. He said that Articles 14, 19, 21 and 25-28 of the Constitution which guarantee equality, religious freedom and self-management Nehra said that this act includes protecting Hindu temples, removing illegal en-



Raman Nehra

croachments in temples, providing security to minority Hindus, providing government office to the Hindu Welfare Board which is doing solid work for the Hindu community in Punjab.

He said that their main demands are as follows.

Independent Management: Establishment of democratically elected Temple Management Committees at State, District and Tehsil levels.

Transparency: Full transparency in financial and administrative affairs of temples, statutory audits and regular elections.

End of Government Interference: End of government interference in religious and administrative affairs of temples. Establishment of a Religious Advisory Board headed by renowned saints, akharas and Shankar Khargal.

Global aviation experts join India's probe into Air India plane crash

AHMEDABAD: A high-level team of international aviation investigators and Boeing representatives have arrived in Ahmedabad to support India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) in examining the June 12 fatal crash of an Air India Boeing 787 Dreamliner.

The tragic incident claimed 241 lives, including passengers and crew on board.

The investigative delegation includes officials from the US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the UK's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), as confirmed by multiple sources.

Their involvement is in accordance with global civil aviation norms, particularly Annex 13 of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which mandates collaboration with the aircraft's country of manufacture and those with significant victim representation.

Among the deceased were 53 British nationals, seven Portuguese, one Canadian, and 181 Indian citizens, including 12 crew members. The AAIB initiated a formal inquiry on the day of the crash, dispatching a five-member "Go Team" led by the Director General. *IANS*

Arun Srinivas appointed as Meta's Managing Director and Head for India

NEW DELHI: Meta has appointed Arun Srinivas as the Managing Director and Head for its India operations. This comes after Sandhya Devanathan taking on an expanded role of leading both India and Southeast Asia.

"We are appointing Arun Srinivas as the Managing Director and Head for Meta in India. This follows the recent announcement of Sandhya Devanathan taking on an expanded role of leading both India and South East Asia," the tech giant said in a statement. *IANS*



Haryana emerges seventh largest in startups, 45 pc led by women

CHANDIGARH: Haryana has made strides in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship, emerging as the seventh largest state in startups, recognized with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

With over 8,800 DPIIT-recognized startups, the state reflects a vibrant and growing startup ecosystem. A particularly encouraging aspect of this growth is the strong presence of women entrepreneurs; women lead more than 45 percent of the startups. This was revealed at a recent review meeting of the State Startup Ecosystem and Incubator Schemes held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi.

The high percentage of women-led startups indicates the state's increasing focus on inclusive development and gender equality in the innovation



With over 8,800 DPIIT-recognized startups, the state reflects a vibrant and growing startup ecosystem. A particularly encouraging aspect of this growth is the strong presence of women entrepreneurs

landscape. Haryana's role in the country's unicorn story is also remarkable. Out of the 117 unicorns in India, 19 have their origins in Haryana.

"This underlines the state's

robust business environment, easy access to skilled manpower, and growing investor interest. These factors are positioning Haryana as a key contributor to the national economy

through innovation-led growth," he said.

The state has also built a strong incubation infrastructure to support startups at various stages. More than 25 incubators have been established in government and private universities across the state.

Additionally, over 10 private-sector-run incubators and 10 government-supported incubators are currently operational, offering a wide range of services, including mentorship, networking opportunities and infrastructural support.

Moreover, several institutions have expressed interest in setting up new incubation centers, which will further strengthen the support system for early-stage startups.

"Our vision is to build a self-sustaining ecosystem where innovation thrives from the grassroots to a global scale," said Rastogi at the meeting.

"By strengthening our incubators, we are not just funding companies; we are laying a durable foundation for the next generation of global enterprises to emerge from Haryana."

Commissioner and Secretary (Industries and Commerce) Amit Kumar Agrawal said the government is now preparing to launch a new set of schemes under the Haryana State Startup Policy of 2022. These schemes aim to provide comprehensive financial and infrastructural assistance to government-owned, government-supported, and private incubators.

The schemes include a capital subsidy covering 50 percent of the capital expenditure, up to Rs 2 crore for government host institutions and Rs 1 crore for private ones. *IANS*

India at forefront of the global digital economy in 11 years: Arundhati Bhattacharya

NEW DELHI: Arundhati Bhattacharya, President and CEO at Salesforce-South Asia said the digital ecosystem in India has grown rapidly in the last 11 years under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary government.

Speaking to IANS on the sidelines of an event here, Bhattacharya, who was recently honored with the Padma Shri, one of India's highest civilian awards said, the country now has one of the largest digitally enabled populations in the world.

"This transformation - powered by a strong policy push,

massive digital infrastructure rollout, and innovation - has placed India at the forefront of the global

(SBI), further stated that the groundwork laid over the past decade is creating a strong base



Arundhati Bhattacharya

digital economy," she told IANS.

Bhattacharya, former Chairperson of the State Bank of India

for technologies like AI to thrive, and for this, skilling is absolutely critical.

"The kind of skills required today are very different from those needed a few years ago. So, it's not just about training the youth - it's also about reskilling those already in the workforce," she mentioned.

More than nine in 10 (92 percent) software development leaders in India believe AI agents will become as essential to app development as traditional software tools. Leaders in the human resource industry in India expect adoption of agentic AI to grow by 383 percent by 2027, according to recent reports by Salesforce. *IANS Interview*

Indian defense entities projected to see revenue expansion of 15-17 pc in FY26: Report

NEW DELHI: Entities operating in the Indian defense sector are expected to sustain robust growth momentum, with likely revenue expansion of 15-17 percent in FY26, a recent report showed.

The healthy revenue growth is primarily driven by strong execution progress on the back of a robust order

cation of five 'Positive Indigenization Lists' and the online indigenization portal 'SRIJAN'.

"These apart, the government has also increased the budgetary outlay for the sector with a thrust towards capital outlay, which has grown at a CAGR of 8.29 percent over the previous five years to Rs 1.92 lakh crore in FY2026 budget estimates (BE)," the report mentioned.

Through these initiatives, the expenditure on defense procurement from domestic vendors has increased from 61 percent in FY2017 to about 75 percent in FY2025, while exports have grown by more than 15 times and at a healthy CAGR of 41 percent to Rs

23,622 crore during FY2017-FY2025 period.

"Entities across the entire spectrum of defense production - land, naval, aeronautical, armaments and ammunition and ICT2 - will benefit from the sustained expansion in budgetary outlay since 2015, which is expected to translate into healthy order inflows as the government continues to increase domestic procurement," said Suprio Banerjee, Vice President and Co-Group Head, Corporate Ratings, ICRA.

The weighted average operating margins are expected to remain healthy at 25-27 percent for FY2026, supported

by economies of scale, rising localization, with entities beginning to undertake the production of more value-accretive system-level products, compared to the earlier sub-component/assemblies manufacturing, Banerjee explained.

While the land and ICT-based segments are expected to see increased private sector participation, the defense public sector undertakings (DPSUs) continue their dominance in the naval, aerospace and armaments segments. *IANS*



book position, with order book/operating income (OB/OI) ratio at 4.4 times as of FY25 end, according to an ICRA analysis.

Over the years, the government has implemented numerous policy initiatives, with 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' at its core, to enhance domestic defense production capabilities, encourage investments and expand exports.

These include the liberalization of FDI policies in the defense sector, continuation of the defense offset policy, establishment of two Defense Industrial Corridors and a sustained push towards indigenization through the notifi-

Tata Motors bolsters presence in Qatar with launch of LPO1622 bus

DOHA: Tata Motors launched its all-new LPO1622 bus in Qatar this week, to strengthen its presence in the Middle East market.

Developed specifically for staff transportation, the company's first Euro VI-compliant bus in the Middle East offers superior performance, enhanced passenger comfort, and low total cost of ownership, according to a company statement.

The Tata LPO1622 bus is powered by a reliable Cummins ISBe 5.6L Euro VI-compliant engine, delivering 220hp of power and 925Nm of torque. The bus is available in two

seating configurations -- 65-seater and 61-seater -- offering flexibility for varied staff transport requirements.

It features a full air dual-circuit braking system with ABS, tubeless radial tires, and a heavy-duty suspension system to ensure safety, comfort, and road stability. The bus also comes equipped with a range of advanced fea-

tures, including Electronic Stability Control, Hill Start Assist, Cruise Control, and a Multimode Switch to optimize performance across varied operating conditions.

Asif Shamim, head of Tata Motors international business, said, "The Middle East continues to be a strategic focus for Tata Motors, where our products have consistently delivered value across a range of applications. With Qatar being a key market, we are pleased to further strengthen our presence with the launch of the all-new LPO1622 bus, designed to offer higher profitability to customers and superior comfort to passengers"

Tata Motors also unveiled an enhanced range of world-smart, Euro-V compliant Prima range of heavy trucks designed and engineered to suit the country's growing infrastructure and construction requirements. The range includes the advanced Prima 4040.K, Prima 4440.S, Prima 4040.T and the Prima 6040.S. *IANS*



Piyush Goyal embarks on UK visit to reinforce momentum on bilateral trade pact

NEW DELHI: Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has embarked on a high-level, two-day visit to the United Kingdom, to reinforce strategic momentum on India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and deepen bilateral economic cooperation.

At a time of evolving global trade dynamics, Goyal's visit aims to accelerate bilateral engagements, harness emerging opportunities, and lay a robust foundation for a forward-looking, resilient, and mutually beneficial economic relationship, according to a Commerce Ministry statement.

The visit underscores India's strategic focus on strengthening its economic and trade partnership with the UK, particularly in the backdrop of the announcement by the two Prime Ministers to conclude the India-UK FTA.



Piyush Goyal

During the visit, Goyal will hold a bilateral meeting with the UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade, Jonathan Reynolds.

Both leaders will review the progress made in the ongoing FTA negotiations and chart out a clear, time-bound roadmap for its finalization and implementation.

The minister will also meet the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rachel Reeves, to discuss macro-economic priorities, financial cooperation, and investment facilitation between the two countries, according to the ministry.

In addition, Goyal is scheduled to engage with Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Lisa Nandy, to explore avenues of collaboration in creative industries and innovation-driven sectors.

He will also participate in multiple high-impact sessions at the prestigious India Global Forum (IGF), including the Mainstage Plenary, the Future Frontiers Forum, and a roundtable titled 'From Agreement to Action: UK-India FTA'. *IANS*

India pharma market grows 6.9 pc in May, chronic therapies lead

NEW DELHI: The India pharma market (IPM) grew 6.9 percent (on-year) in May, driven by strong outperformance in cardiac, respiratory, and anti-diabetes therapies, a recent report showed.

In May, Indian companies grew 6.6 percent, while MNCs grew 8.4 percent YoY.

Acute therapy growth stood at 5 percent in May, the second consecutive month of muted YoY growth, according to the report by Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd.

For the 12 months ending in May, IPM growth was led by price/new launches/volume growth of 4.2 percent/2.3 percent/1.1 percent YoY.

As of May, the Indian pharma companies held a majority share of 83 percent in IPM, with the remaining held by multi-national pharma companies (MNCs).

In May, among the top 20 pharma companies, JB Chem (up 11.6 percent YoY), Glenmark (up 11.8 percent YoY), and Ajanta (up 10.6 percent YoY) recorded higher growth rates vs IPM.

Ajanta outperformed IPM, led by strong double-digit growth across key therapies like Anti Diabetic/Ophthal. JB Chemicals outperformed IPM, led by a strong show in Cardiac/Ophthal/Anti Parasitic.

On a MAT basis, the industry reported 7.6 percent YoY growth. Chronic therapies witnessed 10 percent YoY growth. *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)

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India continues to lead as global vaccine supplier, generic drug manufacturer: Anupriya Patel

NEW DELHI: India continues to lead as global vaccine supplier, and generic drug manufacturer, said Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel.

Speaking at the inaugural session of the Second Policymakers' Forum organized by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), in the national capital, Patel noted that India is one of the largest suppliers to the World Health Organization (WHO) while it also exports generic medicines to the US.

This reaffirms India's position as a valued and trusted partner in the realm of global health, said Patel.

"India continues to be a leading supplier of vaccines. As much as 70 percent of WHO's total vaccines are sourced from India," said Patel.

"India continues to be a leader in drug manufacturing, especially when it comes to generic medicines. And 14 percent of generics imported by the US come from India while India also has the maximum number of US FDA (Food and Drug Administration) recognized drug manufacturing



Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel

"India continues to be a leader in drug manufacturing, especially when it comes to generic medicines. And 14 percent of generics imported by the US come from India while India also has the maximum number of US FDA"

plants," she added.

Patel noted that "70 percent of our generics are exported to the highly regulated markets and our pharmacopeial regulations are regularly visited to meet the global benchmarks."

She also highlighted how India supplied numerous vaccines to over 100 countries under the Vaccine Maitri initiative during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Patel also reiterated India's commitment to ensure equitable

access to quality-assured medicines for its citizens. A perfect example of affordable healthcare solutions is the Jan Aushadi Kendras, the MoS said.

"Our Jan Aushadhi Kendras are the shining examples of India's commitment to providing quality and affordable medicines to all our citizens. Jan Aushadhi has been one of the most powerful instruments of bringing down the out-of-pocket expenditure of our citizens," she added.

Aimed at promoting the recognition of the Indian Pharmacopoeia and collaboration in India's flagship affordable medicines initiative -- the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) -- the Forum is being organized by the IPC under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in association with the Ministry of External Affairs.

This engagement builds on the momentum generated by the First Policymakers' Forum held in August 2024, which resulted in several participating countries formally recognizing the Indian Pharmacopoeia as a book of standards for drugs. *IANS*

Ageing population, smoking behind surge in global rheumatoid arthritis since 1980: Study

NEW DELHI: An increase in the elderly population as well as a rise in smoking are behind the surge in the global rheumatoid arthritis burden since 1980, according to an AI-powered study.

Rheumatoid arthritis is a chronic autoimmune disease that primarily affects joints, causing pain, swelling, and stiffness.

The novel analysis published in the Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases details significant socioeconomic disparities and worsening inequalities in disease burden.

The findings revealed that demographic ageing, population growth, and uneven healthcare infrastructure exacerbate rheumatoid arthritis burdens differ-

ently across regions.

Using data from the Global Burden of Disease (GBD), the study integrated the largest spatiotemporal rheumatoid arthritis



dataset spanning 953 global to local locations from 1980 to 2021 with a novel deep learning framework.

It showed that from 1980 to 2021, the global rheumatoid arthritis burden kept rising. The increase was significant among younger age groups and a wider range of geographic locations worldwide.

Notably, disability-adjusted life years (DALYs)-related inequality surged 62.55 percent from 1990, with Finland, Ireland, and New Zealand as the most unequal countries in 2021.

Economic factors were not found as the sole determinants of rheumatoid arthritis disease burden. *IANS*

Rising trend of women committing murders: Experts blame emotional dysfunctions, poor coping skills

NEW DELHI: Increasing emotional dysfunctions and poor coping skills may be behind the rising trend in cases of women committing or fostering the murder of their husbands, said mental health experts.

There is a rise in cases of intimate partner violence, especially those involving the female partner. From a planned honeymoon killing in Meghalaya to a dismembered body found sealed in a cement drum in Meerut, the wave of husband murders has sparked a fierce debate on the mental status of the women committing these ghastly murders.



"These crimes are not to be viewed as aggressor being men or women rather these are to be viewed as human tragedies resulting from emotional dysfunctions, unhealthy coping skills and impaired cognitions and judgment," Dr Shiv Prasad, Professor, and Head, Dept of Psychiatry at Lady Harding Medical College, New Delhi, told IANS.

From Bengaluru techie Atul Subhash committing suicide last December and blaming his wife in a 1.5-hour-long video posted online to the recent case of Raja

Raghuvanshi, who was murdered by his wife during their honeymoon trip in Meghalaya -- the cases have attracted huge public attention. These have also triggered misogynistic backlash and are posing a threat to the idea of gender equality.

"It becomes important to address here that these events are not acts by empowered women but by a woman suffering from immense psychological dysfunction. These two concepts can't be compared, and narrating empowered women as dangerous and emotionally

"These crimes are not to be viewed as aggressor being men or women rather these are to be viewed as human tragedies resulting from emotional dysfunctions, unhealthy coping skills and impaired cognitions and judgment,"

unstable on one end jeopardizes the long fight of gender equality, but on the other hand, it ignores the real underlying cause -- psychological dysfunctions," the psychiatrist said.

He added that these cases reflect the social and psychological shift with women being exposed to various economic, social, emotional, and even existential stressors. There is often a tug-of-war between partners for competence and power. IANS

Australian researchers launch pioneering trial targeting untreatable cancers

NEW DELHI: Australian researchers have launched a pioneering clinical trial that aims to combat aggressive cancers previously deemed untreatable.

The trial led by a team from the Australian National University (ANU) focused on malignancies driven by the elusive MYC protein -- a protein implicated in 70 percent of human cancers --, Xinhua news agency reported.

The success of the trial could redefine treatment paradigms for aggressive malignancies globally, offering a template for tackling other molecularly complex diseases, said the team.

The study will test an experimental drug, PMR-116, designed to disrupt cancer growth mechanisms in patients with prostate, breast, ovarian and, blood cancers, or MYC-driven tumors.

The MYC protein is a key regulator of cell growth. It is often implicated in cancer, contributing to tumor development.

Led by the ANU and Canberra Health Services the trial adopts an innovative "basket" approach, grouping participants based on molecular biomarkers rather than cancer type. This method streamlines research by targeting MYC through its downstream effects, meaning it blocks the processes MYC triggers in the cell rather than trying to block MYC itself, according to the study. IANS



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ED files chargesheet against arrested Pakistani national in Kolkata

KOLKATA: The Enforcement Direction informs it has filed a prosecution chargesheet against Azad Mullick, the Pakistani national who was arrested earlier this year in Kolkata by the central agency officials.

In the chargesheet filed at a special court of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in Kolkata, ED had detailed the multiple charges against Mullick.

According to a press statement issued by ED, their officials initiated an investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by West Bengal Police under Sections 14 and 14A of the Foreigners Act, 1946 against Mullick.

To recall, when Mullick, was arrested in April this year, documents seized by the ED official then showed that he was a Bangladeshi citizen, who was residing in India after arranging Indian identity documents, including an Indian passport, by furnishing fake documents.

However, on April 29, the ED counsel informed a special court in Kolkata that in the face of interrogation, Mullick admitted that he was an original resident of Pakistan. He said he first managed to arrange Bangladeshi citizenship for himself through the use of forged documents and subsequently, in the same manner, arranged Indian identity documents.

Azad's original name as a Pakistani citizen was Azad Hossain, which he changed to Ahammed Hossain Azad when he managed Bangladeshi citizenship through unfair means. *IANS*

Immigration

POST

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June 20, 2025

Organizers avoided calling for protests in Washington, where the military parade was staged

Protests against Trump's immigration policies staged across all US states

WASHINGTON: About 2,000 protests against the Trump administration's policies were held in all 50 US states, ranging from small groups in more rural communities to larger rallies in major cities, including New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, among others.

The protests last Saturday came as US President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown and decision to deploy the military in Los Angeles have already led to large-scale protests and additional protests in several other cities, reports Xinhua news agency.

On the same day, a military parade hosted by Trump was staged in Washington for the US Army's 250th anniversary, which coincides with his 79th birthday.

The protests, under the slogan "No Kings," have been arranged by a number of groups that overlap with the coalition that pulled together the "Hands Off!" protests on April 5 and other recent large protests against the Trump administration, according to US media reports.

The coalition behind the protests has branded Saturday as a



Courtesy- PTI

The protests, under the slogan "No Kings," have been arranged by a number of groups that overlap with the coalition that pulled together the "Hands Off!" protests on April 5 and other recent large protests against the Trump administration

"day of defiance" against what the groups describe as "authoritarian overreach" by Trump and his allies. Plans for the event had been underway well before federal immigration raids set off protests in Los Angeles and other cities.

Organizers avoided calling for protests in Washington, where the military parade was staged. They have characterized the Washington parade as a theatrical "display of dominance." Trump warned that anyone seek-

ing to protest at the parade would be met with "very big force."

In Atlanta, thousands of demonstrators gathered at Liberty Plaza, carrying signs with messages against the administration. The crowd also sang a protest version of the classic tune "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," reworded as "Take Trump Out of the White House."

In Nashville, more than 1,000 people gathered near the Tennessee State Capitol and a cheering crowd recited the Pledge of Allegiance, a patriotic verse that promises allegiance to the flag of the United States and the Republic.

In New York City, the police estimated that around 50,000 people took to the streets, shouted slogans like "What do we want? No ICE! When do we want? Now!" and waved banners reading "No Deportation! Trump Must Go!" and "No Justice, No Peace!" *IANS*

Shakira says being an immigrant in US 'means living in fear'

LOS ANGELES: Grammy-winning Colombia star Shakira has talked about the dire socio-political instability facing immigrants in the US.

In a new interview with BBC, the Colombia-hailing pop star alluded to president Donald Trump's attitude toward immigrants, which were among the key tenets of his administration that protested nationwide as thousands marched in cities from Los Angeles to Austin in the "No Kings" rallies, reports deadline.com.

Asked how it feels to be an



immigrant living in America today, the four-time Grammy winner responded, "It means living in con-

stant fear, and it's painful to see."

She continued, "Now, more than ever, we have to remain united. Now, more than ever, we have to raise our voices and make it very clear that a country can change its immigration policies, but the treatment of all people must always be humane."

Elsewhere in the interview, speaking to her own immigration experience to the US at the age of 19, she said she was "like many other Colombian immigrants who come to this country looking for a better future." *IANS*

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Trump directs immigration officials to expand deportation campaign in major cities

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump has instructed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials to intensify deportation efforts against the "illegal aliens" in major American cities.

The move came after large-scale demonstrations recently broke out in Los Angeles and major cities against the US administration's immigration policies.

"Our Nation's ICE Officers have shown incredible strength, determination, and courage as they facilitate a very important mission, the largest mass deportation operation of illegal aliens in history. Every day, the brave men and women of ICE are subjected to violence, harassment,

Democrat power center, where they use Illegal Aliens to expand their Voter Base, cheat in elections, and grow the welfare state, robbing good paying jobs and benefits from hardworking American citizens. These Radical Left Democrats are sick of mind, hate our country, and actually want to destroy our Inner Cities - And they are doing a good job of it! There is something wrong with them," the US President stated.

Trump accused Democrats of believing in "open borders, transgender for everybody, and men playing in women's Sports."

He asserted that that is the reason he wanted ICE, Border Patrol, and Great and Patriotic Law Enforcement Officers of the country to focus on the "crime-ridden" and "deadly inner cities and those places where Sanctuary Cities play such a big role."

Trump said that he directed his administration to carry out the deportation efforts to make the American cities, schools, and communities safe and free from "illegal alien crime."

"That's why I have directed my entire administration to put every resource possible behind this effort and reverse the tide of Mass Destruction Migration that has turned once Idyllic Towns into scenes of Third World Dystopia. Our Federal Government will continue to be focused on the remigration of Aliens to the places from where they came and preventing the admission of anyone who undermines the domestic tranquility of the United States," said the US leader IANS

Trump stated that immigration officials must expand efforts to detain and deport "illegal aliens" in America's largest Cities, such as Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York, where, he claimed, millions reside

and even threats from radical Democrat politicians, but nothing will stop us from executing our mission and fulfilling our mandate to the American People," Trump posted on his social media platform, Truth Social.

"ICE Officers are herewith ordered, by notice of this Truth, to do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest mass deportation program in history," he said.

Trump stated that immigration officials must expand efforts to detain and deport "illegal aliens" in America's largest Cities, such as Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York, where, he claimed, millions reside.

"These, and other such Cities, are the core of the

Protectorate of Emigrants, Chandigarh police raid illegal immigration setup

CHANDIGARH: In a significant joint operation by a team from the Protectorate of Emigrants (PoE), Chandigarh, and the Chandigarh Police, the authorities raided the premises of an unregistered immigration agent, M/S The Setup Overseas, located in Sector 34-A, Chandigarh.

The firm was found to be offering overseas jobs without a valid license.

According to a press release, police registered a case and seized numerous incriminating documents, including two laptops, 17 mobile phones, fake overseas job offer letters, and other evidence recently.

The unregistered firm had been using social media platforms to lure unsuspecting youth with false promises of high-paying overseas jobs in hotels and construction companies in countries such as Georgia, Jordan, Azerbaijan, and Dubai. Further investigations, including financial trails, are currently underway to identify and arrest the owners and others involved.

As per the press release, the Protectorate of Emi-

grants, Chandigarh, responsible for emigration oversight in northern States and Union Territories, including Chandigarh, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, and parts of Haryana, has been actively coordinating with State and UT police forces through designated nodal officers. This collaboration includes sharing information on unregistered agents and sensitizing law enforcement personnel to identify emigration-related violations and curb this menace.

Police registered a case and seized numerous incriminating documents, including two laptops, 17 mobile phones, fake overseas job offer letters

led to the registration of 13 FIRs against illegal agents by the Chandigarh Police. Additionally, 32 notices have been issued under the Emigration Act, 1983, to unregistered agents based in Chandigarh for advertising overseas jobs, employment visas, and work permits without proper authorization, said the press release. ANI

MHA clarifies exit fee for child passenger after AI-171 victim's relative alleges 1,000 pound demand by immigration officer

AHMEDABAD: After a relative of three victims of the AI-171 plane crash alleged that the family had to pay 1,000 pounds to an immigration officer to board the flight, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) sources clarified that the amount paid was a visa fee and a fine for overstaying in India, and proper procedure were followed while issuing the exit permit for the child holding a British passport.

Speaking to the reporters, Manish had claimed, "My daughter, her 15-month-old son, and her mother-in-law were on the flight. My son is now giving a DNA sample at the hospital. Before boarding, the family was stopped by an immigration officer and asked to pay 1,000 pounds to be allowed on the flight. They were not allowed to board despite having British passports. The officer asked for 1,000 pounds, saying that since the child was born and raised in Nagpur, they needed an additional letter, even though they already had his British passport."

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) clarified the procedure followed for issuing an exit permit to a child passenger. MHA sources said that the child, Rudra Kishan Modha, was a British passport holder born on August 22, 2023, and his UK pass-

port was issued on April 10, 2024. Based on these details, it was found that the child had overstayed in India by 1 year, 2 months, and 2 days.

As per immigration rules, visa fees for overstaying more than one year are 484 US dollars, which amounts to Rs 41,140. In addition, a penalty of Rs 50,000 is charged for overstaying more than 90 days. The total amount paid was Rs 91,140.

Meanwhile, the collection of DNA samples from the family members of the victims of the tragic plane crash continued last weekend to help identify the bodies.

Many came to the BJ Medical College in Ahmedabad to provide their samples. The massive identification effort has already collected samples from over 250 people. The victims' identification relies entirely on DNA results, as the bodies were charred beyond recognition.

The AI-171 Boeing Dreamliner 787-8 aircraft, bound for London's Gatwick, crashed shortly after taking off from the Ahmedabad International Airport on Thursday (12 June). The airline said 241 people on board the aircraft died in the crash, while only one passenger survived. ANI

As per immigration rules, visa fees for overstaying more than one year are 484 US dollars, which amounts to Rs 41,140. In addition, a penalty of Rs 50,000 is charged for overstaying more than 90 days. The total amount paid was Rs 91,140

'Debt recovery in stressed realty projects to rise 16 pc in 2025-26'

NEW DELHI: For Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs), the cumulative recovery rate of Security Receipts (SRs) issued towards stressed real estate projects will increase by 16 percentage points to 38 percent during the current financial year, according to a Crisil Ratings report released 16 June.

The improvement will ride on robust sales of new units in these projects, backed by steady demand in the residential real estate sector, on the back of strategic debt restructuring facilitated by the ARCs, the report states.

The Crisil report is based on an analysis of 70 stressed real estate projects located in NCR, MMR3 and Bengaluru's micro-markets, with SRs issued worth around Rs 10,800 crore.

Majority of these projects were trapped in a spiraling debt cycle due to falling sales, slow collections and lack of funds to complete construction - most of which are addressed today.

Increase in real estate prices and rising demand in the above micro-markets post-pandemic resulting in ramping up of sales have turned these projects viable for funding by external investors, the report further states.

Demand is expected to grow by 7-9 percent in 2025-2026 for residential real estate in the three micro-markets mentioned above and will support the sales for these stressed projects as well. *IANs*

Real Estate POST

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June 20, 2025

Amber Launches First-Ever Global Student Housing Fest - Now Live

PUNE: Amber, a global student housing solutions provider, has launched the industry's first-ever global 'Amber Student Housing Fest', live from June 15 to June 30, 2025. The fest aims to help students book their accommodation early while securing massive savings with limited-time offers, exclusively available on Amber's platform during the fest.



Household loans up in June on heated housing, stock markets in S. Korea

SEOUL: Household loans extended by five major banks in South Korea continue to be on the rise, recent data showed, amid a boost in local stock markets and signs of overheating in the housing market.

Household loans extended by the five major commercial banks here, including KB Kookmin, Shinhan and KEB Hana, gained nearly 2 trillion won (US\$1.46 billion) since the start of this month, reaching 750.08 trillion won as of 12 June, according to the data.

The banks have reported a continued increase in new household loans from a 1.8 trillion won on-month gain in March to 4.5 trillion won in April and 4.99 trillion won last month, reports Yonhap news agency.

Unsecured loans came to 103.9 trillion won, increasing by 600 billion won over the same period to reach the highest level since November.

Market watchers attributed the

recent rise in household loans to strong demand for investment in the real estate and financial markets.

The five major banks extended more than 3 trillion won in

data, with home prices in Seoul jumping at the fastest clip in nearly a year.

Last week, Seoul's apartment sale prices rose by 0.25 percent from the previous week, marking



The banks have reported a continued increase in new household loans from a 1.8 trillion won on-month gain in March to 4.5 trillion won in April and 4.99 trillion won last month, reports Yonhap news agency

fresh home-backed loans for house purchases in the first 12 days of this month, according to

the highest weekly increase since August last year, separate data from the Korea Real Estate

Board showed.

Amid the signs of a heat-up in the housing market, the Financial Services Commission and the Financial Supervisory Service plan to hold a meeting with officials from financial institutions, including major banks, on Monday (16 Jun.) to call for measures to rein in the recent spikes in household loans, according to sources familiar with the matter.

Meanwhile, a big portion of the unsecured loans is assumed to be used for stock and cryptocurrency purchases, with investors' deposits at securities firms having reached 62.9 trillion won as of 12 June, the highest in more than three years, according to data compiled by the Korea Financial Investment Association.

The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI) had risen for seven consecutive sessions until Thursday (12 Jun.), surpassing the 2,900-point mark for the first time since Jan. 14, 2022. *IANs*

US companies achieve record-breaking office leasing volumes in India: Report

MUMBAI: US firms have achieved record-breaking office leasing volumes in India in the past couple of years, with 2024 marking the highest annual activity ever recorded, with global capability centers (GCCs) emerging as the primary growth driver, a recent report showed.

The leasing volumes from 2017 through Q1 2025 shows US occupiers maintained a commanding 34.2 percent share of India's office market during the 2022-Q1 2025 period, with 2024 recording the highest annual leasing num-

bers in absolute terms.

In fact, Q1 2025 has also maintained the same quarterly average as the previous year,

has modestly declined since the pre-pandemic period, their absolute leasing volume has increased by approximately 16 per-

presence in India despite overall market diversification, the report mentioned.

"US-origin GCCs consistently represent over two-thirds of all leasing activity by American firms. This underscores India's central position in long-term business strategies for major US corporations," said Dr Samantak Das, Chief Economist and Head of Research and REIS, India, JLL.

The predominance of GCCs within US firms' real estate footprint demonstrates that American companies view India not merely as an outsourcing desti-

nation, but as a critical hub for innovation and strategic operations.

"Within the country, each city offers distinct advantages: Bengaluru has evolved into a multi-sectorial powerhouse beyond tech, Chennai boasts India's most balanced market across BFSI, e-commerce, and tech sectors, Mumbai serves as the financial nerve center where US-based BFSI GCCs dominate, and Hyderabad has established itself as a specialized hub for BFSI, healthcare, and pharmaceutical operations," Das informed. *IANs*



according to a JLL report.

While US firms' market share

cent, indicating a strategic deepening of American corporate

Worldmark by Bharti Real Estate: India shifts from commercial business districts to global business districts

GURGAON: Bharti Group is one of India's leading business conglomerates with interests in telecom, digital infrastructure, space communications, financial services, real estate, hospitality, manufacturing and food processing. Bharti Airtel, the group's flagship company, has since emerged as one of the leading global communications solutions providers with over 550 Mn customers in 15 countries across India and Africa. Bharti Airtel ranks amongst the top three mobile operators globally and its networks cover over two billion people.

Identifies and bridges the demand for Integrated Infrastructure, Global Connectivity, and Talent Concentration

Key Highlights

* For the first time in India, Bharti Real Estate, which is part of Bharti Enterprises, is constructing Worldmark as the first integrated boundary-less business district in the country. Following extensive research into the criteria for a Global Business District, this GBD will cover over 17 million square feet of leasable space adjacent to the international airport

* In this GBD, 0.2 million employees will work in and around Worldmark daily. Worldmark will be a talent-rich hub, a key component of Global Business Districts (GBDs) worldwide, thanks to its express connectivity offering 100km commutes in under an hour

For the first time in India, Bharti Real Estate, which is part of Bharti Enterprises, is constructing Worldmark as the first integrated boundary-less business district in the country. Following extensive research into the criteria for a Global Business District, this GBD will cover over 17 million square feet of leasable space adjacent to the international airport

* This GBD will also have The Mall at Worldmark slated to launch in late 2027 - The first entertainment-based shopping destination in India featuring an exclusive Luxury Shopping Destination - The Haute District alongside the largest indoor entertainment destination in the country

In India, Worldmark at the national capital is a renowned address. Bharti Real Estate, the realty arm of Bharti Enterprises and owner of Worldmark, plans to build the best Global Business District in the nation at Aerocity, New Delhi, adding over 17 million square feet of gross leasable area to its Worldmark portfolio with an investment of approximately 2 billion USD. Previous research has identified the top three global attractiveness factors of Global Business Districts (GBDs): talent concentration, business efficiency, and instant connectivity, among others like social infrastructure, wellness, and sustainability.

Mr. S. K. Sayal, MD & CEO, Bharti Real Estate said, "India must promptly prepare to accommodate forward-thinking corporations and brands, as it is increasingly acknowledged as one of the world's fastest-growing economies. In contrast to conventional commercial complexes, these businesses and brands are interested in ecosystems that are assessed according to global standards.

Our precise objective is to achieve this by providing Worldmark GBD with unparalleled leasing opportunities with our offices and retail spaces to the most reputable corporations and brands, who are currently experiencing exponential growth and are focusing on India as a potential market for this growth."

New Delhi has been yearning for a purpose-built commercial district for quite some time. A lack of contemporary commercial premises, much less business districts, has been out of place in India's capital, a city that is rich in history, culture, connectedness, and power. These days, businesses and brands are looking for locations that provide their employees and visitors with great commuting options, access to world-class infrastructure, a sense of safety and security, easy parking, and a social life that promotes happiness and productivity. Bharti aims to fill this gap as an inclusive urban destination as the demand for internationally comparable commercial districts becomes absolutely essential for corporations and retail brands both.

For Offices, the Global Business District, Worldmark provides on-lease offices anywhere from 2000 to 2,000,000 sq ft on a single floor plate, making it ideal for ambitious multinationals targeting India. The offices are campus-style and accessible by a multi modal mobility

network. Worldmark's proximity to the airport and excitingly the airport being at the center point for New Delhi, provides it a unique advantage in the commute to work, one of the world's most pressing issues for businesses and people. Worldmark can be reached from anywhere in India or the world via neighboring airports and adjacent national highways. Rapid metro lines in the multi-mobility network cover 100 km in about an hour.

Worldmark as a destination has demonstrated a strong desire for a substantial retail opportunity, which would cater to the 0.2 million workforce, walk-in visitors coming from national and international locations, and leisure travellers from the nearby hotels. The answer to this mega opportunity is The Mall, an expansive approx. 2.8 MN retail destination in the country comprising of an exclusive luxury zone, a generous family shopping and recreation zone and the largest indoor entertainment avenue, the country would have ever witnessed before.

While development continues, Offices and the Mega Retail have experienced a surge in pre-leasing enquiries, with several major companies already committing to Worldmark. Worldmark 3.0 and Worldmark 4.0 will add 10 million sq ft to the portfolio over the next three to five years. For these 10 MN square feet, Bharti Real Estate is getting several Built-to-Suit campus requests from multinational businesses.

*Worldmark is a registered trademark of Bharti Realty Ltd.

About Bharti Real Estate: Bharti Real Estate, the real estate arm of Bharti Enterprises, began its journey in

2003 with a vision to meet the growing need for Grade A commercial spaces in a rapidly evolving India. With over 5 million sq. ft. of marquee developments delivered, including Worldmark Aerocity, Worldmark Gurugram, Airtel Centre, and Bharti Crescent, the company has built a strong reputation for quality and innovation.

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Noida Emerges as India's Premier Real Estate Investment Destination in 2025, according to Aadinath Ur Homes

NOIDA: Noida is rapidly rewriting the rules of urban growth and real estate success in India. Once considered a satellite extension of Delhi, the city has now claimed its place on the national and global investment map. According to analysts, industry leaders, and institutional investors, backed by transformative infrastructure projects, progressive urban planning, and a burgeoning IT-industrial ecosystem, Noida has officially become India's most promising real estate investment destination of 2025. It's no longer a secondary option--it's the first choice for smart investors and future-focused homeowners.

Reasons behind the real estate boom in Noida in 2025 -

Jewar International Airport: A Game-Changer

Touted as one of the largest upcoming airports in Asia, the Noida International Airport in Jewar is catalyzing massive growth across sectors. Once operational, it is expected to handle over 12 million passengers annually in its first phase, dramatically improving domestic and international connectivity. Real estate values in nearby sectors are already appreciating in anticipation. The airport will also include a dedicated cargo terminal, which will unlock massive logistics and warehousing development, leading to exponential employment opportunities and industrial expansion in the region.

World-Class Infrastructure

With expressways like the Yamuna Expressway, Eastern Peripheral Expressway, and the Noida-Greater Noida Expressway, along with expanding metro lines, Noida is now among the best-connected urban hubs in India. Smart traffic management, green corridors, and integrated townships have redefined urban living here. Additionally, the FNG (Faridabad-Noida-Ghaziabad) Expressway is set to further boost regional connectivity and real estate potential across bordering zones.

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Philosophy

BERNADETTE ROBERTS

The moment was unheralded, unrecognized, and unknown; it was the moment "I" entered a great silence and never returned. Beyond the threshold of the known, the door upon self was closed, but the door upon the Unknown was opened in a fixed gaze that could not look away.

Impossible to see the self, to remember the self, or to be self-consciousness, the mind was restricted to the present moment. The more it tried to reflect back on itself, the more overpowering the silence.

By steadily gazing outward upon the Unknown, the silence abated and the emptiness of self became a joy. But the search for the still-point-God within-revealed not one emptiness, but two, for when there is no self, there is no Other; without a personal self there is no personal God-without a subject, there is no object.

The still-point had vanished, and with

At one time, the Oneness grew to an overpowering intensity, as if drawing itself together from all parts, drawing inward and obliterating all that existed, including the eye that saw it and that which remained.

To bear the vision, to enter in, the light of the eye must not go out. Somehow it must become stronger, but what kind of strength is this and how could it be acquired? There was something still to be done, but what? No-self is helpless; it has no strength; it is not the light of the eye nor the eye itself.

Nine months passed before the eye upon Oneness became the eye upon nothingness. Without warning or reason, all particulars dissolved into emptiness. At one point, the mind came upon the hideous void of life, the insidious nothingness of death and decay.

Only self can escape such a vision because only self knows fear, and only fear can generate the weapons of defense. Without a self, the only escape is no escape; the void must be faced-come



Bernadette Roberts

Life is not in anything;
all things are in life
In the absence of self, all that
remained was a stillness

its disappearance it took very sense of life the self possessed-a self which could no longer be felt to exist. What remained was not known. There was no life, no will, no energy, no feelings, no experiences, no within, no spiritual or psychic life. Yet, life was somewhere because all was as usual.

Though it could not be localized or found within any object of sight or mind, somewhere out-of-doors, life was flowing peacefully, assuredly. On a bluff above the sea, it revealed itself: life is not in anything; rather, all things are in life.

The many are immersed in the One, even that which remains when there is no self, this too, is absorbed in the One. No longer a distance between self and the other, all is now known in the immediacy of this identity. Particulars dissolve into the One; individual objects give way to reveal that which is the same throughout all variety and multiplicity.

To see this new dimension of life is the gift of amazing glasses through which God may be seen everywhere. Truly, God is all that exists-all, of course, but the self.

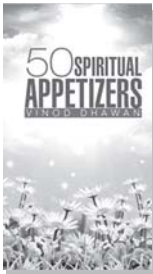
what may.

In the absence of self, all that remained was an immovable stillness, an unbreakable, unfeeling silence. Would it move-crack open? Or would it hold? This could not be known, surmised, or even hoped for. What would be, would be.

Excerpted from a biography self-written by Bernadette Roberts for the book *Mystics, Masters, Saints and Sages* by Robert Ullman and Judyth Reichenberg-Ullman. Bernadette was a Carmelite nun. This year is her 94th birth anniversary

50 SPIRITUAL APPETIZERS

Vinod Dhawan



"It's a lovely book. It feels energetically clear and light. It's easy to read, dip in and out and most importantly it offers information without fluff! Blessings on this project."

Jac O'Keeffe
Spirituality teacher based in USA.

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The Third Eye: Envisioning India's national security policy

DC PATHAK

When Prime Minister Modi briefly addressed the nation in the wake of Operation Sindoor, on May 12, he laid down some postulates that could be deemed to be a part of the country's national security policy.

Many strategic analysts had been advocating for a formal declaration of National Security Policy (NSP) little realizing that the release of any of its details in public domain could benefit the opponent and also that such a policy might require revisiting because of the changes in geopolitical scenario affecting the international spectrum of friends and adversaries.

Prime Minister Modi's statement that any further terror attack from Pakistan will be considered as an 'act of war' and responded to by our defense forces accordingly, certainly was an immutable part of

war cry of Jihad- which caused the dismemberment of the USSR and ended the Cold War.

What Pakistan did however, was to immediately think of replicating the success of Afghan Jihad in Kashmir and sent in the dreaded Harkat- ul -Ansar (HUA)-a mix of radical Islamic militants including elements of Taliban, to make what turned out to be a failed attempt to 'liberate' the valley. Faith-based terrorism is now a prime threat to the democratic world as a whole and it is good that both the US and Russia are against Islamic terror- the latter witnessed a terror attack on a concert hall in Moscow by ISIS-K, the competitor of Al Qaeda originating from Iraq-Syria region during the US-led 'war on terror'.

The attack carried out in March 2024 by a group of four terrorists armed with

Prime Minister Modi's statement that any further terror attack from Pakistan will be considered as an 'act of war' and responded to by our defense forces accordingly, certainly was an immutable part of our security doctrine that matched with India's call for 'zero tolerance towards terrorism of all kinds', made from all international platforms

our security doctrine that matched with India's call for 'zero tolerance towards terrorism of all kinds', made from all international platforms.

We may attempt to visualize the lasting paradigms of foreign and internal policies that would constitute our NSP even when we choose not to release any such formal document. When the Cold War ended at the beginning of the 90s, countries -big and small -sensed relief from the tension that existed between the two superpowers and felt free to assert their place under the sun. It is no wonder therefore, that the post-Cold War era became an era of 'proxy wars' marked by a sudden rise in insurgencies, separatist movements and cross-border militancy-their number touching the figure of 200 according to some estimates.

Meanwhile, Pakistan was given full credit by the US for the success of the anti-Soviet armed campaign- run on the

during the Cold War years was a mixed bag. India, apparently tilted towards one side in the combative ideological battle of the two superpowers - between International Communism propounded by the Soviet Union and Capitalism, with free market, practiced by the US leading the West.

Post-Cold War, India has come on its own on the basis of 'mixed economy' and shown the way for geopolitically remaining aligned only with friends across the international community on the basis of a mutually beneficial relationship. That India is against all military conflicts and is committed to world peace, has been clearly stated by Prime Minister Modi as a policy approach and this should serve India well in the long term.

(The writer is a former Director Intelligence Bureau) IANS

For detailed story visit
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Disclaimer: Views expressed are personal to the author

Kedarnath is one of the most sacred temples and the holiest Hindu pilgrimages in India. A part of Chhota Char Dham Yatra in Uttarakhand, Kedarnath is one of the most important among the 12 Jyotirlingas in India dedicated to Lord Shiva.

Located on the Garhwal Himalayan Range in the Rudrapur District, Kedarnath Temple can only be reached from Gaurikund through a trek and remains open only for six months from April to November, due to heavy snowfall in the region during the rest of the months.

During the winters from November to May, the deity is shifted from Kedarnath Temple to Ukhimath and is worshipped there. Kedar is another name of Lord Shiva, the protector, and the destroyer, and it's believed that a journey to Kedarnath provides one "Moksha" or salvation. Set amidst the snow-clad mountains near Chorabari Glacier with the Mandakini River flowing in front of it, Kedarnath witnesses lakhs of devotees every year due to its religious significance.

The present Kedarnath Temple is said to be re-constructed by Adi Shankaracharya, initially built by the Pandavas thousand years ago from enormous stone slabs over a large rectangular dais. The disastrous flash floods of 2013 wreaked great havoc in the Kedarnath Valley; however, the temple itself did not suffer major damage.

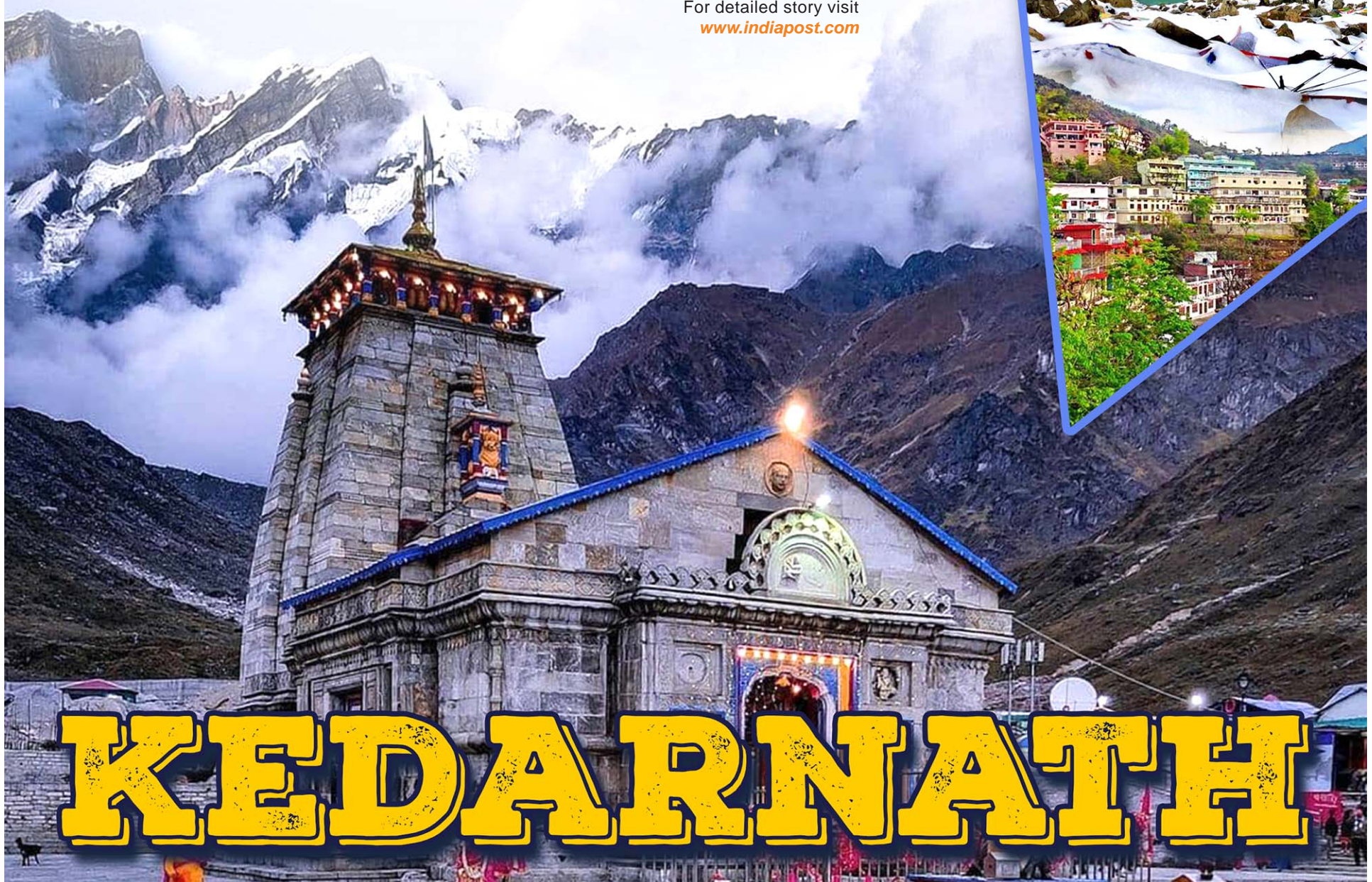
PLACES TO VISIT IN KEDARNATH

Shankaracharya Samadhi: Located just behind the revered Kedarnath Temple lies the sacred resting place of Adi Shankaracharya, the eminent saint credited with establishing the four sacred dhams in India, integral to Hindu pilgrimage. This renowned Hindu philosopher achieved nirvana at a remarkably young age of 32 and, according to legend, merged with the very land he treads upon. The Shankaracharya Samadhi in Kedarnath, drawing pilgrims in the thousands, stands as a significant tourist attraction.

Sonprayag: Sonprayag, situated in the Rudrapur district of Uttarakhand, India, holds profound religious significance as it marks the sacred confluence of two mighty rivers, Basuki and Mandakini. Nestled amidst the picturesque Himalayan landscape, this tranquil hamlet serves as a pivotal point for pilgrims embarking on the sacred Char Dham Yatra, which includes the revered shrines of Kedarnath and Badrinath.

Bhairavnath Temple: Situated at a distance of 500 m from the Kedarnath Temple on the southern side, Bhairavnath Temple is enshrined by the revered Hindu God - Lord Bhairav. It is perched on top of a hillock and offers magnificent views of the surrounding Himalayas and the entire Kedarnath valley below. Lord Bhairav is believed to be the main gana of Lord Shiva and hence the temple is all the more important. The enshrining deity of the temple is also known as Kshetrapal or the guardian of the region, has a Trishul for a weapon and a dog as his vehicle. www.holidify.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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Middle East on the brink: What India must do to shield its economy

JAYANTA ROY CHOWDHURY

The Middle East is once again spiraling into instability-and this time, the economic collateral could be global. A widening conflict stretching from the Red Sea to the Strait of Hormuz threatens not only oil supplies but the very arteries of international trade. Tanker traffic is being rerouted, insurance premiums are soaring, and energy markets are edging back toward the \$100 per barrel threshold.

For India, which imports over 85 percent of its crude oil, this is more than just an external crisis. It is a direct economic threat. The war has sent tremors through New Delhi's policy establishment, forcing urgent recalibrations on everything from energy procurement and trade fi-

assumption of uninterrupted Gulf access.

New Delhi needs to aggressively pursue long-term government-to-government oil contracts, particularly with producers outside the immediate conflict zone. Diversification toward Latin American, African, and Russian suppliers must be more than rhetorical. It should involve strategic investments in upstream assets, joint ventures in refining and storage, and preferential pricing arrangements that allow Indian refiners to maintain a crude basket below the global average. Such a move wouldn't just ensure stability at the pump-it would create a margin advantage for India's industrial economy.

India should also take this op-

portunity to rethink its strategic petroleum reserves (SPR). A dynamic reserve strategy-buying aggressively during price troughs, leasing storage space abroad, and coordinating regional stockpiles-could provide meaningful insulation from future disruptions.

This is hitting India's small and medium exporters especially hard. Low-margin sectors such as apparel, auto components, perishables, and engineering goods are struggling to stay competitive. If the government does not act, these businesses could be priced out of global markets just as India tries to boost its share in global value chains.

One policy option would be to create a targeted export support mechanism to absorb the spike in freight and insurance costs. Modeled on past credit guarantee schemes, such a mechanism could stabilize cash flow for smaller exporters while avoiding blanket subsidies. A longer-term response would involve building out an Indian marine insurance ecosystem-currently dominated by foreign firms whose rates tend to spike in times of crisis.

Mapping Opportunity in Crisis

Geopolitical crises don't just destroy-they also rearrange markets. As Europe, the U.S., and Southeast Asia recalibrate their supply chains away from high-risk routes, India must identify the sectors where it can step in. Pharmaceuticals, agri-processed foods, and low-cost electronics are potential winners. So are select chemicals and defense-related items. But to seize these opportunities, New Delhi needs to act fast.

The Commerce Ministry should establish a real-time export intelligence task force, working in tandem with Indian missions abroad to identify shifting demand patterns and supply bottlenecks India can exploit. Meanwhile, export promotion councils must reorient their focus toward war-resilient markets in Africa, Latin America, and East Asia.

(The writer is a senior journalist specializing in the political economy) *South Asia Monitor*

For detailed story visit
www.indiapost.com

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nance to maritime security and supply chain strategy. India now faces a critical inflection point: adapt quickly, or risk economic shockwaves that could stall growth and destabilize key export sectors.

India's Oil Dependency Trap

India's strategic vulnerability begins with its energy matrix. The country sources a significant portion of its crude from the Gulf, and much of it transits through chokepoints now under threat-particularly the Strait of Hormuz and the Bab el-Mandeb Strait. As global markets react to missile strikes, naval blockades, and proxy battles, Indian policymakers are confronting an urgent reality: long-term energy security cannot be built on the

portunity to rethink its strategic petroleum reserves (SPR). A dynamic reserve strategy-buying aggressively during price troughs, leasing storage space abroad, and coordinating regional stockpiles-could provide meaningful insulation from future disruptions.

Exporters Caught in the Crossfire

While energy costs dominate headlines, the broader trade disruption is equally serious. Insurance costs for cargo moving through the Red Sea have doubled in recent weeks. Major shipping lines are avoiding the Suez Canal altogether, rerouting vessels around the Cape of Good Hope-adding both time and cost to Indian exports destined



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WHAT CAUSED AI 171 CRASH?

The Air India flight AI-171 crash near Ahmedabad is suspected to be a dual engine failure, possibly combined with other factors like a bird strike or, issues with the landing gear and flaps. Reports from Captain's "May Day... May Day" calls, recovered from the black box, suggest there was loss of thrust and inability to gain altitude immediately after takeoff.

Video analysis and pilot reports suggest a severe loss of engine power, potentially affecting both engines simultaneously, which is a rare event, especially with a modern aircraft like the Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner. A bird strike could have also caused damage to the engines, leading to the loss of thrust, which was most unlikely, from watching the video footage. As per available footage the landing gear was not fully retracted, which could have increased drag and hindered the aircraft's ability to gain altitude. There are conflicting reports about the flap settings. Some suggest they were not properly configured for takeoff, which could have also impacted lift needed for takeoff. While a pilot error is always a possibility, the investigation is focusing on the mechanical and systems failures first, as those seem more likely given the circumstances.

Competing theories about what caused AI 171 to crash have generated a new set of possible explanations. Among them is the question that since Boeing 787s had replaced conventional pneumatic and hydraulic systems to make the aircraft lighter, in order to save fuel and maintenance costs, whether there could have been an electrical system failure. There's no consensus as yet. But as experts continue to look for answers, electrical system failure has emerged as one of the latest attempts to explain the tragedy.

All theories seem to start from the premise obtained from the lone survivor, who apparently heard a boom, which could indicate a single engine failure. That couldn't have caused a modern aircraft to crash? So what else went wrong? Did the second engine fail too, or was it something else? Dual engine failures are rare events: seven instances have been recorded in the past several decades, in aviation history.

Whatever be the reasons, it was a major air disaster in aviation's history and certainly for Air India, which is struggling to regain public confidence. I am myself a regular traveler on Air India, frequently flying between India and US. My last three flights within three years were so bad that I refuse to fly Air India. The main problems were in-flight systems not working, like seat recliners, lights, in-flight entertainment systems and clogged toilets. On asking in-flight crew members, I always heard that AI is in the process of switching to newer aircrafts as they are unable to fix these complaints. Hope their answers are not the same on engines and other critical safety issues.

As India's economic advancement surges ahead, the aviation sector must also keep pace with aviation safety issues. Let us hope the safety authorities, NTSB inspectors, Boeing engineers and DGCA, will succeed and come out with concrete findings of why AI 171 went down, extinguishing precious lives on board and on ground.

Disclaimer: Views expressed are personal to the author



INTERNATIONAL Yoga Day

set to rekindle true spirit of yoga

NEW YORK: In a world increasingly obsessed with external forms of wellness, a profound initiative is set to remind us of yoga's inner essence in the US, as cities globally prepare to celebrate the International Day of Yoga (IDY) on June 21.

'The Spirit of Yoga', a special International Day of Yoga celebration, is being co-hosted by

the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization at the serene Global Harmony House in Great Neck on Long Island on June 22, the organizers said in a statement on Sunday.

While most Yoga Day celebrations revolve around physical postures and public demonstrations of flexibility, 'The Spirit of Yoga' program seeks to reclaim

yoga's soul, rekindling its spiritual roots.

The event will witness a lineup of dignitaries, spiritual leaders and practitioners who bring wisdom, inspiration, and the lived experience of yogic values to about 250 seekers in the hall, and many more attending virtually.

Binaya Srikanta Pradhan, Consul General of India in New

York, will be the Chief Guest who will speak on India's gift of yoga to the world, in the presence of BK Mohini Didi, the revered Chief Administrative Head of the Brahma Kumaris international organization.

Set in the tranquil atmosphere of Global Harmony House, a spiritual sanctuary and the regional headquarters of the Brahma Kumaris for the Americas and the Caribbean, this gathering is designed to be an immersive, contemplative, and celebratory experience.

"In today's commercialized wellness world, yoga is often re-

duced to fitness," said Gayatri Naraine, the NGO representative of the Brahma Kumaris at the UN. "But the true spirit of yoga is about connecting to our highest self, to the Supreme, through spiritual awareness."

"We are focusing on yoga as a way of being - anchored in awareness, self-realization, and harmony," said Parveen Chopra, Founding Editor of ALotusInTheMud.com and co-moderator of the event. "Yoga, as in Patanjali's 8-limbed path, finds its fulfillment in dhyana, asanas are just a part and accessory." IANS



While most Yoga Day celebrations revolve around physical postures and public demonstrations of flexibility, 'The Spirit of Yoga' program seeks to reclaim yoga's soul, rekindling its spiritual roots

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Pragya Jaiswal chuffed with her films' big win at Gaddar Telangana Film Awards

MUMBAI: Actress Pragya Jaiswal's films 'Kanche' and 'Akhandha' have bagged the honors at the first edition of the Gaddar Telangana Film Awards in Hyderabad.

The awards were backed by the Telangana Government, and were held to honor the late revolutionary poet Gaddar, and it also marked the State's commitment towards celebrating cinematic legacy.

Expressing gratitude about receiving two honors, Pragya Jaiswal says, "It's the most credible and prestigious award that one can get for a film. My debut film, 'Kanche', won the second-best film of the year award, and 'Akhandha' also won the second-best film of the year award. Till 'Daaku Maharaaj' happened, these two films have been very close to my heart. Kanche is a very special film for me, it won a National award. When your

first film wins a National award, a State award and best debut award, you feel most validated with these awards. We received this award from the Chief Minister of Telangana, and it was a great feeling".

The actress also spoke about her closeness to both films, her parents' reaction, her experience of working with the legendary Nandamuri Balakrishna, director Boyapati Srinu and also shared the greatest lesson she learnt from

Kanche director, Krish Jagarlamudi.

Recalling the reaction she received from her parents, Pragya said, "Whenever I get an award, my parents are very happy. But for this one, especially, they were extra thrilled. It validates all the hard work and it feels very humbling".

Pragya also spoke about the greatest learning she received from Kanche director Krish Jagarlamudi. She said, "When I was doing Kanche, I knew that this film is very, very special. It will be one of the landmark films of my career, even if it was the first one. After almost a decade, if you're still being appreciated and awarded for that film, you know that feeling was correct".

"And my first film director, Krish Jagarlamudi, had told me that 'Epic or nothing'. That was the greatest learning, and those words have stuck with me. And even today, I truly think of that when it comes to making a decision for choosing a film or a certain role", she shared.

Delving into her work experience, Pragya shared, "For Nandamuri Balakrishna sir, I would only say that I have never met a human, a person, an actor of the caliber of Balakrishna sir. I am grateful to the universe for the greatest opportunity of giving me the chance to work with him

"IT'S THE MOST CREDIBLE AND PRESTIGIOUS AWARD THAT ONE CAN GET FOR A FILM. MY DEBUT FILM, 'KANCHE', WON THE SECOND-BEST FILM OF THE YEAR AWARD, AND 'AKHANDA' ALSO WON THE SECOND-BEST FILM OF THE YEAR AWARD"



twice. It was the greatest honor to work with Balakrishna sir and Boyapati Srinu sir (the director). He is the king of mass cinema and has redefined my career. Kanche is the best kind of debut that I could ask for, but my career-changing film was 'Akhandha'".

"All my gratitude goes to Boyapati Srinu sir for choosing me to be a part of this magnum opus film opposite the most legendary actor, Nandamuri Balakrishna sir", she added. IANS

Rawbare Wins Prestigious MAA Award 2025 at Adgully for Lifestyle Brand Campaign

KOLKATA: Rawbare, India's leading fashion eyewear brand, has been honored with the illustrious MAA Award 2025 on 11th June at the CMO Charcha Kolkata Chapter 2025, held at the Fairfield by Marriott in Kolkata. This recognition celebrates Rawbare's exceptional marketing innovation, strategic acumen, and leadership in redefining consumer engagement in the rapidly evolving digital landscape.

The MAA Awards 2025, held in conjunction with the third edition of CMO Charcha under the theme "Marketing 3.0: Where Data, Creativity, and Purpose Converge," honored exceptional professionals and brands that demonstrated innovation and measurable impact in marketing and advertising. Rawbare's recognition positions the brand among the elite marketing leaders who are pushing boundaries and delivering transformational results.

The MAA Award recognition comes as validation of

Rawbare's remarkable success story. The company has delivered extraordinary performance metrics that set new benchmarks in India's fashion eyewear industry, with a customer base surge of 300% proving consumer trust in



brands that marry quality with affordability. This growth momentum continued in FY 24-25, where the customer acquisition rate climbed by over 50%, underscoring sus-

tained expansion across multiple market segments.:

Co-founder and Business Head Affan Ahmed, whose entrepreneurial philosophy of "Creativity without cash flow is a short-lived story," has been instrumental in Rawbare's award-winning marketing approach. Ahmed, who brings over a decade of digital marketing expertise, has provided hands-on leadership since December 2022, instrumental in Rawbare's award-winning marketing approach. At the same event, Affan Ahmed was also honored as D2C Growth Leader of the Year.

Rawbare's path to the MAA Award was facilitated through its strategic partnership with Teamology Softech and Media Services Pvt. Ltd., which served as the nominations agency for the awards.

(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)

Krishna Shroff does NOT BELIEVE IN CHEAT DAYS

Unlike many other fitness influencers, fitness icon Krishna Shroff does not believe in the concept of cheat meals, and her reasoning seems very clear.

During her fitness journey, the entrepreneur has evolved from enjoying her cheat meals to now embracing a more intuitive eating style.

According to Krishna, having cheat meals takes her a couple of steps back from her progress.

She shared, "I don't have cheat meal days. When I first started my fitness journey I definitely did follow that rule where I would have one cheat meal a week. But now that I'm a little further along in my fitness journey, I actually realized that for me, it kind of backtracks me and takes me a couple of steps back from my progress. So what I prefer to do is just incorporate all my favorite foods in my diet plan. I wouldn't even say diet because I'm not really dieting. I'm kind of just into intuitively eating and that comes with practice."

Revealing her mindset behind this approach, Krishna added, "So the more experience you have in this field and throughout this process, the more you'd be able to do it that way too. So for me, I love to incorporate my favorite foods in my diet, and that way I don't really have that craving to binge and then feel like I've been backtracked!"

Furthermore, Krishna co-owns the fitness brand MMA Matrix with brother Tiger Shroff and mother Ayesha Shroff. Known for its inclusive approach, the programs and facilities have been designed for a wide range of people. *IANS*

Shanaya Kapoor 'dreaming' with 'eyes open'

Debutante Shanaya Kapoor has expressed her happiness and fulfillment as her dream of acting in films is finally coming true with her maiden film "Aankhon Ki Gustaakhiyan".

Shanaya took to Instagram, where she shared a picture from the behind-the-scenes of the shoot. In the image, the actress is seen standing behind the camera and looking at the shot she gave for the film.

For the caption, Shanaya, who is the daughter of actor Sanjay Kapoor and Maheep Kapoor, wrote: "dreaming with my eyes open... #11thJuly."

Directed by Santosh Singh, 'Aankhon Ki Gustaakhiyan' will see Shanaya paired opposite Vikrant Massey. *IANS*

TOP TEN HINDI FILM SONGS

- 1 Tu Hain Toh Main Hoon: **Sky Force**
- 2 Aaj Ki Raat : **Stree 2**
- 3 Tainu Khabar Nahi: **Munjya**
- 4 Jaane Tu: **Chhaava**
- 5 Ishq Hai: **Mismatched - Season 3**
- 6 Millionaire: **GLORY**
- 7 Aayi Nai: **Stree 2**
- 8 Uyi Amma: **Azaad**
- 9 Tumhare Hi Rahenge Hum: **Stree 2**
- 10 Maniac - Bonus Track: **Glory**

Chitrangda Singh on Deepika Padukone's demand for 8-hour shifts

Actress Deepika Padukone's demand for an 8-hour working shift after the birth of her daughter Dua has ignited a heated discussion in the industry about the working conditions of the actresses post-motherhood.

Pitching in on the discussion, actress Chitrangda Singh said that it all depends on an actor's equation with their director and producer.

Speaking to *IANS*, Chitrangda shared, "This is about the personal relationship between an actor's understanding with the director, the requirements of a director, the requirements of a producer- If they can, I am sure they will manage. But at times there are restraints- restrain of time, restrain of money, scheduling, so it is not possible. So, I think we also have to respect that aspect, because after all, time is money in this industry- everybody is investing in a project." *IANS*



Amandeep Sidhu on Tu Haii Aashiiki role: I don't relate to her

Actress Amandeep Sidhu, who plays Noor in Tu Haii Aashiiki, says she doesn't relate to her character.

Talking about her role, she says, "The character of Noor is a very simple, very outgoing, outspoken, mature college-going girl. She loves her family. I can relate to the way she loves her family, the way she cares about her family's decisions. But somewhere deep down, I don't relate to her."

Amandeep said that her character does not do much for her happiness.

"But Amandeep is not like that. I always listen to my heart. I always take opinions from my mother, my family. But last call is always mine. So in that way, I'll say Noor and Amandeep are a little different. I take charge of my life every time," she said.

Amandeep is a very "romantic person" and hence loves the title of the show.

"The name is all about love, and it means a lot to me because I am a very romantic person. I am an over-the-top romantic kind of a person. I'm a Cancerian. I have lived through all the scenes, all the episodes that you will see, all the things that I have shown, how Pumma is loving Noor, I have lived through it because on TV, we have never done anything like this, I have never done anything like this, so it was very new for me, falling in love."

"You know, as a full movie romance, I think this is what I wanted the most at this moment, I wanted to, you know, feel it, so I felt it and it was amazing, it was an amazing experience," she says.

The actress says that it is a pleasure being part of a show produced by actor-producers Ravi Dubey and Sargun Mehta.

"What I feel is that Sargun and Ravi are working on the characters more than on the story. They feel that if we make the character so strong that the audience can connect with it, then the story will work." *IANS*



Pooja Hegde always a 'Kanjivaram girl'

Actress Pooja Hegde has professed her love for Kanjivaram sarees and said that she is always a "Kanjivaram girl."

Pooja took to Instagram, where she shared a string of images and clips from a recent photoshoot, where she wore an exquisite aubergine and gold hued saree. She completed her look with drop earrings, a choker and bangles. For the make-up, she went subtle with nude lips and left her long straight black hair open.

She wrote: "Once a Kanjivaram girl, always a Kanjivaram girl."

Kanjivaram sarees are renowned for their South Indian origin and are made from pure mulberry silk. They are heavy and have exquisite craftsmanship.

On the work front, Pooja will next be seen next in "Hain Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hain," which is being made under the direction of David Dhawan.

With Varun Dhawan as the protagonist, the highly-anticipated drama enjoys a stellar cast including Mrunal Thakur, Mouni Roy, Chunkey Panday, Maniesh Paul, Jimmy Shergill, Rakesh Bedi, Ali Asgar, Kubbra Sait, Rohit Saraf, Rajeev Khandelwal, Nitish Nirmal, and Sreeleela, along with others.

The title of the romantic-comedy-drama, "Hain Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hain" has been derived from the song "Ishq Sona Hai" from Dhawan's 1999 hit "Biwi No.1," starring Salman Khan, Karisma Kapoor, and Sushmita Sen in the lead.

Produced by Ramesh Taurani under the banner of TIPS, the release date for "Hain Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hain" has not been disclosed yet.

She was last seen in the romantic action drama film "Retro" by Karthik Subbaraj. The film stars Suriya and Pooja in the lead roles.

In the film, Paarivel "Paari" Kannan, an orphan raised by a gangster, faces betrayal and a violent cult as he searches for his true origins, fulfills a prophecy, and tries to reunite with his lost love, Rukmini. *IANS*



Priyanka offers support to cousin Mannara Chopra

Global star Priyanka Chopra has extended her heartfelt condolences to her cousin sister Mannara Chopra, who is mourning the loss of her father.

The 'Baywatch' actress, known for her close bond with family, took to social media to mourn the loss of her paternal uncle. Priyanka Chopra took to her Instagram Stories to express grief over the passing of her paternal uncle, Raman Rai Handa. In a heartfelt message, she extended her condolences to the bereaved family, tagging her cousin Mannara Chopra and aunt Kamini Chopra in the post.

Priyanka wrote, "You'll always be in our hearts. Rest easy Raman uncle (fufaji). Om Shanti." *IANS*





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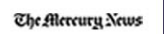
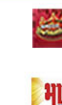
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