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VOL 31, No. 1566

October 25, 2024



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CALIFORNIA VOL 31, No. 1566

October 25, 2024



No place for double standards on terrorism: Modi

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Modi-Xi to hold first bilateral meeting in 5 yrs

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Why Parineeti wants an airport 'job'?

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NO 78%



YES 22%

## HOPE AT L

India-China meet to resolve issues at border



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit, in Kazan. (ANI Photo)

BEIJING: China has said that it has reached a resolution with India on resolving their border conflict and will work to implement solutions; a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson was quoted as saying by Reuters news agency.

China Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian told a regular press briefing, "We have reached a resolution on the relevant matter, will work with the Indian side to implement the solution. We are in close communication through diplomatic and military channels."

On October 21, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced that an agreement has been reached regarding patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the India-China border area.

The announcement came ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kazan, Russia, for the 16th BRICS summit that begins today and is scheduled to run till October 24.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri addressed the media, stating, "This agreement is the outcome of extensive discussions over the past several weeks with Chinese interlocutors at both diplomatic and military levels." He noted that military commanders have been involved in negotiations aimed at addressing the tensions that have persisted since 2020.

Details on page 11

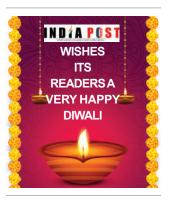


Dushahra festival celebrates in Edison, NJ

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India's GDP 7-7.2 pc in FY25: Deloitte

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To empower the Indian Diaspora and make their voice strong and effective in countries of their adoption. RJ Media conglomerate offers a credible, professional and complete package of news, opinion, entertainment, networking and information.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Bollywood:**

#### Why Parineeti wants an airport 'job'?

Bollywood actress Parineeti Chopra recently gave her fans a good laugh with a playful remark about her frequent travels



#### Lifestyle:

#### 'The Fable', at MAMI 2024

'The Fable', which stars Award-winning actor Manoj Bajpayee, now has Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga Kapoor and Achin Jain joining as executive producers

#### **Cover Story:**

#### **HOPE AT LAC**



China has said that it has reached a resolution with India on resolving their border conflict and will work to implement solu-



#### **Techbiz:**

#### India's GDP 7 - 7.2 pc: Deloitte

India's annual GDP growth projected between 7 and 7.2 percent in FY 2024-2025. as per Deloitte, which is in line with RBI's prediction

#### **Community:**

#### Dushahra festival of Edison, NJ



The daylong cultural celebration attracted more than 15,000 attendees; families enjoyed a vibrant array of activities, performances, and cultural showcases



#### **Travel** Sanasar

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J&K region, Sanasar is an adventure enthusiasts' haven in a cup-shaped meadow surrounded by gigantic conifers

#### **Immigration:**

#### Summit NJ Secures I-956F Approval



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#### **Wellness:**

#### PMBJP sales worth Rs 1,000 crore

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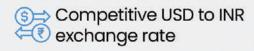
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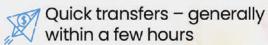
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Our Special Respect and Prayers For Late Mr. Arjan Tolani, Mr. Dilip Butani, Mr. Hiranand Kewal Ramani, Mr. Indersingh, Mr. Uka Solanki
Mr. Sam Bhogal and Ms. Smita Das

#### A MESSAGE FROM TOLANI FAMILY ON THE AUSPICIOUS OCCASION OF DIWALI:

Keep Up Your Faith And Belief In God. I Have Always Had A Strong Belief In A God Who Watches Over Us And Takes Care Of Us And Has Expectations Of Us To Do A Good Job For Our Home And Work Families, And Communities In The Life He Has Given Us. We Are All Rooting For Each Other To Succeed.



L to R - Aryan, Rani, Kamal, Krish | STANDING: L to R - Neelam & Sunil

## \*HAPPY DIVALI

We may be Republican or Democrat. We live in red states and in blue states. We are American, FIRST.

Friends, our politics have become toxic as the spirit of bipartisanship is gone.

This will NOT be a happy election, but an election of great importance, great struggle, and the greatest polarization. These are not the most optimistic times for majority of Americans as social, economic and civic norms are turned on its head. Like me, I hope each and every one American understands that this will be the most important election of our lifetime.

I don't think we have to shoot, beat, curse and critique each other, but to put aside recrimination and dissension. Turn away from violence and hatred. Believe in what America can do and believe in what America can be. The great nation of ours. I want young and old to continue to build a better America, the greatest country in the world.

Our family avoids taking a political stance on social media: We all vote according to our values and priorities. On taxes, abortion, climate action, immigration, healthcare, and other key issues, people can ANALYZE where each party stands.

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## HOPE AT LAC

#### India-China meet to resolve issues at border

BEIJING: China has said that it has reached a resolution with India on resolving their border conflict and will work to implement solutions; a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson was quoted as saying by Reuters news agency.

China Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian told a regular press briefing, "We have reached a resolution on the relevant



China Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian

matter, will work with the Indian side to implement the solution. We are in close communication through diplomatic and military channels."

On October 21, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced that an agreement has been reached regarding patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the India-

China border area

The announcement came ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kazan, Russia, for the 16th BRICS summit that begins today and is scheduled to run till October 24.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri addressed the media, stating, "This agreement is the outcome of extensive discus-

sions over the past several weeks with Chinese interlocutors at both diplomatic and military levels." He noted that military commanders have been involved in negotiations aimed at addressing the tensions that have persisted since 2020.

Misri explained that the agreement signifies a path toward disengagement and a potential resolution of the issues that arose during the significant confrontations in 2020.

Misri recalled the clashes between the People's Liberation Army of China and the Indian Army, particularly highlighting the violent encounters in June 2020, which resulted in casualties on both sides. He added that this agreement marks a critical step in stabilizing relations between India and China as both nations seek to manage their border disputes and prevent fur-

ther military confrontations.

Misri said, "On several areas along the Line of Actual Control, we held discussions with Chinese interlocutors both at the diplomatic as well as military levels through meetings with military commanders at various levels. These discussions had in the past resulted in the resolution of standoffs at various locations. There are some locations and areas where standoffs had not been resolved."

"Now, as a result of the discussions

April 2020 status quo.

"We are working to rebuild trust, and restoring that trust will take time," he said, highlighting the steps of disengagement, de-escalation, and buffer zone management as crucial for easing tensions between the two nations.

He further explained that the process will take place in phases, with each step aimed at reducing tensions. "This normal management of the LAC will not just stop there. There are phases in that as well,"

"We have reached a resolution on the relevant matter, will work with the Indian side to implement the solution. We are in close communication through diplomatic and military channels"

over the last several weeks, an agreement has been reached on patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the India-China border areas. This is leading to disengagement and eventually a resolution of the issues that arose in these areas in 2020," he said.

Earlier, Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi addressing an event in Delhi said that restoring trust along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) would be a gradual process, to return to the the COAS said.

The agreement marks a crucial step in stabilizing relations between India and China as both nations work to manage their border disputes and avoid further military confrontations. In early May 2020, troops from China's People's Liberation Army and the Indian Army clashed at locations along the LAC, the disputed boundary between China and India. The situation escalated on June 15-16, 2020, resulting in casualties on both sides. *ANI* 

#### Modi-Xi to hold first bilateral meeting in 5 years

KAZAN: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to hold a bilateral meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in the Russian city of Kazan on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit as both countries have taken significant steps towards easing tensions along their shared border.

The meeting in the capital of Tatarstan marks the first formal interaction between the two leaders in five years and follows the two countries reaching an agreement on resuming regular patrolling along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said at a media briefing, "I can confirm that there will be a bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping tomorrow on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit."

Modi met with Xi last in October 2019 in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu months before the June 2020 clashes in Galwan that led to a military standoff.

The two leaders met during the Group

of 20 meeting in Bali, Indonesia in 2022 and then in Johannesburg, South Africa (2023).

On October 21, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced that an agreement had been reached regarding patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control



Prime Minister Narendra Modi holds a bilateral meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit, in Kazan. (ANI Photo)

(LAC) in the India-China border area.

Foreign Secretary Misri told media persons that the agreement "is the outcome of extensive discussions over the past several weeks with Chinese interlocutors at both diplomatic and military levels."

He noted that military commanders have been involved in negotiations aimed at addressing the tensions that have persisted since 2020.

China also said that it has reached a resolution with India on resolving their border conflict and will work to implement solutions. China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian in a regular press briefing said, "We have reached a resolution on the relevant matter, will work with the Indian side to implement the solution". *ANI* 



#### PM Modi to BRICS leaders: No place for double standards on terrorism, terror financing



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval attend the Open Plenary Session of BRICS heads of delegation during the 16th BRICS summit, in Kazan. (ANI Photo)

KAZAN: Reiterating his call for dialogue and diplomacy, and not war, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged firm support of all BRICS members on the issue of terrorism, emphasizing that there can be no "double standards" on the serious matter.

"We support dialogue and diplomacy, not war. And just as we were able to overcome a challenge like Covid together, we are certainly able to create new opportunities to ensure a secure, strong and prosperous future for future generations," said PM Modi in his remarks at the closed plenary of the 16th BRICS Summit in the Russian city of Kazan.

"In order to counter terrorism and Terror financing, we need the single minded, firm support of all. There is no place for double standards on this serious matter. We need to take active steps to stop radicalization of youth in our countries. We must work together on the long pending matter in the UN of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism," he added.

The restricted format of the summit meeting had in attendance the Russian President Vladimir Putin, Egyptian Presi-

dent Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Chinese President Xi Jinping, UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and Brazilian Foreign Minister Mauro Luis Ecker Vieira.

In his remarks, PM Modi stated that the

grouping's approach must remain people centric. He insisted that a message should

"We support dialogue and diplomacy, not war. And just as we were able to overcome a challenge like Covid together, we are certainly able to create new opportunities to ensure a secure, strong and prosperous future for future generations"

go out that BRICS is not a "divisive" organization but one that works in the interest of humanity.

"Our meeting is taking place at a time when the world is facing several pressing challenges such as wars, economic uncertainty, climate change and terrorism. The world is talking about the North South

form, BRICS can play a positive role in all areas," he maintained.

divide and the East West divide.

countries in the world.

Preventing inflation, ensuring food se-

"And, in this era of technology, new

challenges have emerged such as cyber

deepfake, disinformation. At such a time,

there are high expectations of BRICS. I

believe that as a diverse and inclusive plat-

curity, energy security, health security,

water security, is matter of priority for all

The BRICS alliance, an intergovernmental organization comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, had added four new members - Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran and the United Arab Emirates - on January 1, 2024.

Addressing the gathering of leaders, Prime Minister Modi said that BRICS is an organization, which is willing to evolve with time, and India is ready to welcome new members into BRICS as 'Partner Countries'.

"In this regard all decisions should be taken by consensus, and the views of BRICS founding members should be respected. The Guiding principles, standards, criteria and procedures adopted during the Johannesburg summit, should be complied with by all members and partner countries," remarked PM Modi.

The BRICS grouping, he said, has been created by the confluence of different viewpoints and ideologies which is a source of inspiration for the world as it fosters positive cooperation.

"The hopes, aspirations and expectations of the countries of the Global South must also be kept in mind. During our Voice of Global South Summits and G20 Presidency, India put the voices of these countries on the global stage. I am pleased that these efforts are being strengthened under BRICS as well," opined PM Modi. IANS

#### 'PM Modi well qualified to become key mediator between Russia, Ukraine'

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is well qualified to become a key mediator to help end the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war as India has shown its ability to be neutral and to be fair to all, ace global investor Mark Mobius said recently.

Speaking to IANS on the sidelines of the 'NDTV World Summit 2024', Mobius, 88, said India is in a very good position to act as a mediator for peace on the global stage.

"The country has shown its ability to be neutral and to be fair to all, so it could be a great mediator between Russia and Ukraine. PM Modi is very well qualified to be a key mediator in the world today," Mobius stressed.



Mark Mobius

Joining global leaders who are batting strongly for India getting a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), Mobius said that given the size of the Indian economy and population, the country should have a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.

"India's growth story is continuing. It is very much in line and is at a takeoff stage to become one of the developed economies in coming years," Mobius told IANS.

As he turned 88 in August, Mobius announced plans to launch a new fund in January next year, in a rapidly changing financial landscape where innovation presents unprecedented opportunities. IANS

## Russia has never done anything to impact India's interests negatively: EAM Jaishankar

NEW DELHI: A day ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's departure to Kazan for the 16th BRICS Summit, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar hailed the longstanding and time-tested India-Russia relationship which has advanced to Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership over the past 10 years.

"If you look at our history with Russia after Independence, Russia has never done anything to impact our interests negatively. Among the major countries, there are not many about whom you can say this," Jaishankar said at the NDTV World Summit.

In July, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Moscow on a two-day visit to Russia - his first to the country since 2019 and first to its capital after 2015.

During the visit, Russian President Vladimir Putin conferred PM Modi with the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle the First-Called, Russia's highest civilian award.

A lot had changed in the region after the start of the Russia-Ukraine war in 2022 but India-Russia partnership has remained resilient in the wake of multiple geopolitical challenges that the world has been facing.

"Today Russia's situation is different, I think Russia's relationship with the West has obviously broken down. So, you have a Russia which is turning much more towards Asia. We need to ask ourselves that if Russia is looking at Asia, should Russia not have multiple options in Asia? Should we not do what is good for us in national interests?" the EAM stated.

While New Delhi has maintained a steady relationship with Moscow even as PM Modi repeatedly asserted that no solution can ever be arrived at the cost of human lives and that escalation of hostilities and violence is in no one's interest, India-Russia bilateral trade continues to increase, touching close to \$65 billion in 2023-24, primarily due to strong energy cooperation between the two countries.

"Clearly, Russia as a major natural resources power has a complementarity with India at this stage of development when we are big resource consumers. It isn't just Russian oil; it could be fertilizers, metals, coal. There is a whole economic logic to it. There is also a basic strategic logic, that if you look at the Eurasian landmass, there are three big countries. You always keep a balance, a relationship with the further away country in a very good state," added Jaishankar.

At the same time, the Russian President continues to hail India's rising global stature and the strength of its



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar speaks at NDTV World Summit 2024, in New Delhi. (ANI Photo)

growing economy under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi.

Putin and Modi are scheduled to hold a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Kazan which is being held under the theme of 'Strengthening Multilateralism for Just Global Development and Security' and will provide an important platform for leaders to discuss key global issues. *IANS* 

## Taiwan's Defense Minister warns of war, global trade risks amid Chinese military drills

TAIPEI: Taiwan's Defense Minister Wellington Koo stated that a Chinese blockade of Taiwan would be considered an act of war with serious repercussions for global trade, according to a report by Taiwan News

Notably, during its "Joint Sword-2024B" military exercises, China practiced blockading key ports and targeting maritime and ground locations, according to reports from Taiwan.

Koo explained that while the drills outlined specific exercise areas, there were no designated no-fly or no-sail zones established. He said, "If a blockade is implemented, as defined by international law, it would involve preventing all aircraft and ships from entering the area, and under United Nations resolutions, this is considered a form of war."

He emphasized the distinction between military exercises and an actual blockade, particularly regarding their implications for the international community.

The report further stated that Koo highlighted that a

Chinese blockade would significantly affect the global economy, noting that one-fifth of the world's freight transits through the Taiwan Strait, amounting to approximately NT\$78.57 trillion (USD2.45 trillion).

He added, "The international community cannot simply stand by and observe."

On the same day, the Legislative Yuan's Foreign and National Defense Committee discussed potential Chinese blockade strategies, including grey zone tactics and the "python strategy."

Additionally, Taiwan's agriculture ministry presented a wartime food plan to the Legislative Yuan to prepare for a possible blockade, indicating that it has secured rice stockpiles for over three months and organized food supplies nationwide to mitigate risks of attacks.

Koo also mentioned that the Taiwanese government is exploring measures to ensure the safe supply of industry, infrastructure, energy independence, essential resources for daily life, food security, and medical supplies. *ANI* 



## "We have such a relationship that I felt you don't need any translation": President Putin to PM Modi

KAZAN: Reflecting close ties between India and Russia and his personal rapport with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Russian President Vladimir Putin quipped during their bilateral meeting on October 23 that they have such a relationship that PM Modi will not need a translator.

"We have such a relationship that I felt that you do not need any translation," President Putin said with a smile.

PM Modi also smiled appreciatively on hearing the Hindi translation of the remarks which were made by President Putin in Russian.

The leaders had a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of BRICS Summit.

The Russian President also recalled their meeting during the India-Russia Annual Summit in July this year, which was held in Moscow.

"I remember we met in July and had a very good discussion on several issues. We also spoke on the telephone a lot of times. I am very grateful to you for accepting the invitation to come to Kazan. Today, we will participate in the opening ceremony of the BRICS Summit and after that, we will have a dinner. During the upcoming BRICS Summit today with other leaders, we should take some very important decisions,"

In his remarks, PM Modi said that his two visits to Russia in the last three months reflect close coordination and deep friendship between the two countries and he looks forward to take part in the BRICS Summit.

"My two visits to Russia in the last three months reflect our close coordination and deep friendship. Our Annual Summit in Moscow in July has strengthened our cooperation in every field...In 15 years, the BRICS has created its special identity and now many countries of the world want to join it. I am looking forward to participating in the BRICS Summit tomorrow,"

The Prime Minister said the opening of India's new consulate in Kazan will further strengthen ties between India and the Russian city. *ANI* 

## "There was valuable engagement": US on meeting with India's Inquiry Committee over alleged foiled plot to assassinate Pannun

WASHINGTON, DC: US has said there was "valuable engagement" with India's inquiry committee last week and information was exchanged between the governments to further their respective investigations regarding the alleged foiled assassination plot of the US-based Khalistani terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun.

While addressing a media briefing on Tuesday (Oct. 23), US Principal Deputy Spokesperson Vedant Patel stated that US understands that Indian inquiry committee will continue its investigation and expects to see further steps based on conversation held between officials of two nations last week.

On being asked about US government's message to India on alleged foiled plot to assassinate Pannun, Patel stated, "So, to take a step back, there was valuable engagement with India's inquiry committee last week, and information was exchanged between our two governments to further our respective investigations. We understand that the Indian inquiry committee will continue its investigation, and we expect to see further steps based on last week's conversations."

"We continue to expect and want to see accountability based on the results of that

investigation, and certainly the United States won't be fully satisfied until there is meaningful accountability resulting from that investigation. Beyond that, I'm just not going to address this in further detail given that this is an issue that is active and remains under investigation and ongoing under both of our countries," he added.

Indian enquiry committee has visited United States to investigate the involve-

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

Indian national Nikhil Gupta is accused of being involved in the alleged failed murder plot of India-designated pro-Khalistani

"We continue to expect and want to see accountability based on the results of that investigation, and certainly the United States won't be fully satisfied until there is meaningful accountability resulting from that investigation"

ment of former Indian government official in foiled plot to assassinate a US national, the US Department of State said.

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

India in November last year formed a

terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. Earlier in June, Gupta was extradited from the Czech Republic to the US to stand trial, where he pleaded 'not guilty.'

On October 17, the US Justice Department announced the filing of murder-forhire and money laundering charges against a former Indian government employee, Vikash Yadav, in connection with his alleged role in directing a foiled plot to assassinate Pannun. In a statement, the US Justice Department said, "Yadav is charged in a second superseding indictment unsealed today in the US District Court for the Southern District of New York. Yadav's alleged co-conspirator, Nikhil Gupta, 53, was previously charged and extradited to the United States on the charges contained in the first superseding indictment. Yadav remains at large."

The US Justice Department noted, "An indictment is merely an allegation. All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law."

Meanwhile, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has confirmed that the individual named in the US Justice Department's indictment case in a foiled assassination plot against Khalistani terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, was no longer an employee of the government of India

"The US State Department informed us that the individual in the Justice Department indictment is no longer employed by India. I confirm that he is no longer an employee of the Government of India," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in a press conference. *ANI* 

## "Big news for Sikh Sangat": Hardeep Singh Puri hails extension of validity of Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor agreement

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri has welcomed decision of India and Pakistan to extend the validity of the Agreement on Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor for a period of five years.

He stated that the decision to extend the validity of the Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor agreement is guided by the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his affection for members of Sikh Sangat and respect towards religious feelings of Sikh community.

He recalled that he was present during the groundbreaking ceremony of the corridor in 2018 and part of the first Jattha flagged off by PM Modi to pay obeisance at the Gurdwara Sahib in November 2019.

In a post on X, Puri stated, "Big news for Sikh Sangat! Guided by the vision of PM @narendramodi Ji and his immense affection for members of Sikh Sangat & respect towards our religious feelings, the validity of the Agreement to facilitate the visit of pilgrims from India to the historic Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur through the Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor has been

extended further for five more years."

"By divine will of Baba Nanak Ji, I was fortunate to be present during the groundbreaking ceremony of the corridor in 2018 and was blessed to be a part of the first Jattha flagged off by PM Modi Ji to pay obeisance at the Gurudwara Sahib in November 2019," he added.

Hardeep Singh Puri stated that PM Modi

also took keen interest in in organizing celebration of 550th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Nanak Dev, 350th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Gobind Singh, 400th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur and removal of GST from Langar Seva as well as FCRA approval for donations."

In the post on X, Puri further wrote, "In addition to the opening of Sri Kartarpur

Sahib corridor, PM Modi Ji also took keen personal interest in organizing befitting celebration of 550th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, 350th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, 400th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji & removal of GST from Langar Seva & FCRA approval for donations."

"Showing compassion & resolve, PM Modi Ji also took measures which ensured justice for victims of 1984 violence, and also offered safe refuge to Sikhs who wanted to escape the violence in Kabul with the Holy Swaroops of Guru Granth Sahib Ji. PM Modi Ji also honored our sentiments by declaring December 26 as Veer Baal Diwas," he added.

Puri made the statement in response to Jaishankar post on X regarding extension of validity of agreement on Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor for the next five years. *ANI* 





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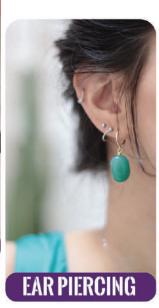












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16 India Post October 25, 2024 www.indiapost.com

## Malabar Gold & Diamonds unveils its flagship showroom in the USA at Los Angeles and continues to strengthen its presence across North America

alabar Gold & Diamonds, the 6th largest jewelry retailer globally with over 360 showrooms across 13 countries, has launched its flagship showroom in the USA at Los Angeles. Marking a major milestone in the brand's growth journey in North America, the new showroom will be Malabar Gold & Diamonds' 5th and largest showroom in the USA.

The showroom was inaugurated by the honorable Congresswoman for California, Michelle Steel. Mr. Tony Lima, Mayor of Artesia, Mr. Ali Sajjad Taj, Mayor Pro Tem of Artesia, Mr. M.P Ahammed, Chairman of Malabar Group, Mr. Abdul Salam K.P. Vice chairman of Malabar Group, Mr. Shamlal Ahamed, MD-International Operations, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Mr. Joseph Eapen, Regional Head of North America, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Mr. Jasar R, Branch Head, other senior directors, management team members from Malabar Gold & Diamonds, customers, media and well-wishers were present for the occasion.

Commenting on the occasion, Malabar Group Chairman M.P Ahammed said: "Malabar Gold & Diamonds has been making great headway in the international jewelry sector and North America continues to be a key market driving this growth. With the launch of our 5th and largest showroom in the USA at Los Angeles, we are committed to building on our foundation of providing an exceptional jewelry shopping experience to all jewelry lovers in the region in a 100% responsible and sustainable manner. The launch of our LA showroom was the key highlight in our ambitious plan of opening 20 showrooms globally in the month of October 2024. As we expand our horizon and embark on our vision of becoming the world's no 1 jewelry retailer with renewed focus and energy, I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to all our customers, team members, shareholders and other stakeholders for their contributions in making this occasion truly significant".

Located in the city of Artesia, and boasting over 6,500 sq. ft of jewelry shopping area, the showroom houses over 30,000 jewelry designs from 20 countries across 25 exclusive brands and collection in gold, diamond & precious gem jewelry. An extensive collection of bridal jewelry, along-

side a wide range of options for occasional wear, daily wear & office wear will also be available. The new showroom will also feature a customized jewelry design facility, providing jewelry lovers with the opportunity to bring their own designs to life with

fering exquisite jewelry with unparalleled service. Building on the success of our showrooms in New Jersey, Dallas, Chicago, and Naperville, we are confident that our Los Angeles venture will be equally well-received", commented Mr. Shamlal



Ribbon cutting ceremony

the expert assistance of artisans from Malabar Gold & Diamonds. As part of the inaugural offers, customers will get assured gold coins on the purchase of diamond and precious gem jewelry. The limited-period offers are valid till the 3rd of November 2024.

"California presented itself as the per-

Ahamed, MD-International Operations, Malabar Gold & Diamonds

Malabar Gold & Diamonds has announced that it will be opening its 6th showroom in the USA in Atlanta, Georgia. The brand has an aggressive expansion strategy in North America which will include new showrooms in cities like San



fect location for our expansion in the USA for several compelling reasons. As a global tech and fashion hub, California provides a unique opportunity to cater to a diverse audience, particularly those from the Indian sub-continent, who have a profound appreciation for the artistry and craftsmanship of Indian jewelry while also embracing contemporary styles and innovation. We opened our first U.S. showroom in 2018, and our growth since then has been driven by our steadfast commitment to of-

Francisco, Seattle, Austin, Tampa, Virginia, Detroit, Houston, Charlotte, Phoenix, New York, and San Diego. In Canada, the brand will extend its footprint into British Columbia and Alberta.

"I am extremely thrilled about the launch of our flagship showroom in LA, marking our 5th venture in the USA. At Malabar Gold & Diamonds we have always held our ESG (Environmental, Social & Governance) commitments in the highest regard. As we aim to become a



leading player in the global jewelry market, we are committed to growing sustainably and responsibly. We ensure that every piece of jewelry in our showrooms is not only crafted to the highest standards of purity but also responsibly mined, safeguarding the rights of humans, animals and their habitats, and this is our biggest promise to our customers. Our dedication to these values has been recognized globally, most notably with the Responsible Jewelry House Award at the India Gold Conference (IGC), a testament to our ongoing efforts to uphold transparency and integrity", commented Mr. Abdul Salam K.P., Vice Chairman of Malabar Group.

The ambitious global expansion plan that Malabar Gold & Diamonds has charted to open 20 new showrooms in the month of October to is in full swing, with 7 showrooms already launched and 13 showrooms to be launched in the coming weeks across the USA, UAE, Qatar, KSA & India.

Malabar Gold & Diamonds is renowned globally for offering an unparalleled jewelry buying experience with convenience and customer-friendly policies along with the 'Malabar Promise' of incomparable quality and service assurance. Apart from this, the Malabar Promise also includes transparent pricing, assured lifetime maintenance from any of the showrooms across 13 countries, guaranteed buyback, tested and certified diamonds, 100% value on diamond and gold jewelry exchange, 916 hallmarked jewelry, responsible sourcing, fair price policy, and fair labor practices.

ESG (Environmental, Social & Governance) initiatives have been a key component of Malabar Group's operations throughout the years, with a focus on Health, Housing, Hunger Eradication, Women empowerment, Education and the Environment. The group ensures that all stakeholders continue to benefit from the growth of the business and contributes 5% of its profit to CSR/ESG initiatives in the same country of operation. As part of the Malabar National Scholarship Program (Launched in 2007), the group has announced that it will be awarding 21,000 scholarships for female students worth USD 1.9 Million. The Group has also opened 247 micro learning centers in India with the aim of promoting basic education amongst the impoverished.

#### ABOUT MALABAR

Malabar Gold & Diamonds was established in 1993 and is the flagship company of Malabar Group, a leading diversified Indian business conglomerate.

With an annual turnover of \$6.2 billion, the company currently ranks as the 6th largest jewelry retailer globally and today has a strong retail network of over 360 outlets spread across 13 countries in addition to multiple offices, design centers, wholesale units, and factories spread across India, Middle East, Far East, the USA, the UK, Canada & Australia. The group, owned by more than 4,000 shareholders, has more than 21,000 professionals from over 26 countries working towards its continued success.

Malabar Gold & Diamonds also features an online store www.malabargoldanddiamonds.com providing customers the opportunity to purchase their favorite jewelry at any time and on any day from the comfort of their homes.

ESG (Environmental, Social & Governance) has been the primary commitment of the group since its inception. The key ESG focus areas of Malabar Group are Health, Housing, Hunger Free World, Education, Environment and Women empowerment. Integrating the principles of responsibility and sustainability into its core business, Malabar Group periodically strengthens its ESG goals to remain a socially conscious and responsible organization. The group contributes 5% of its profit to such initiatives in the same country of operation.



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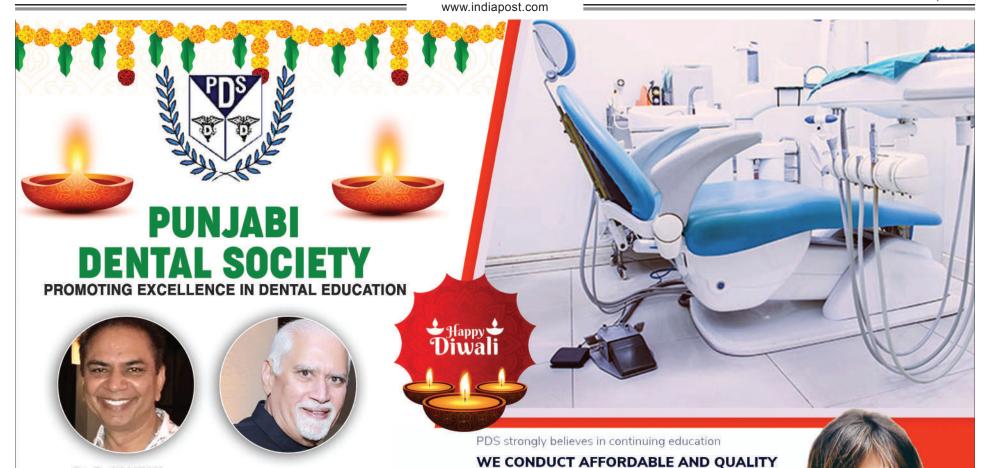






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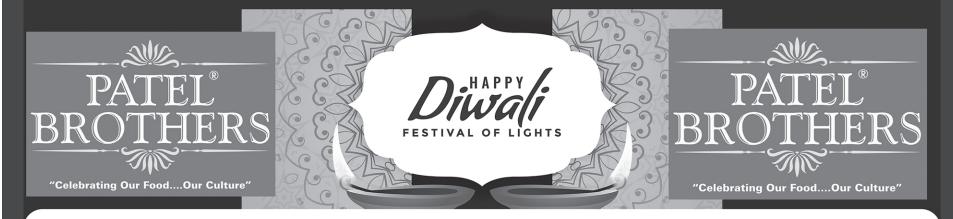
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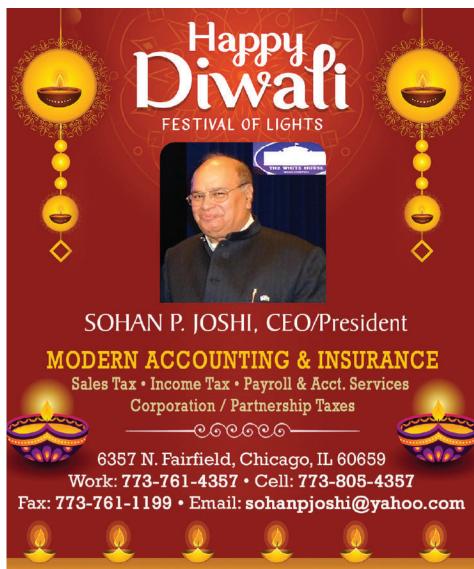
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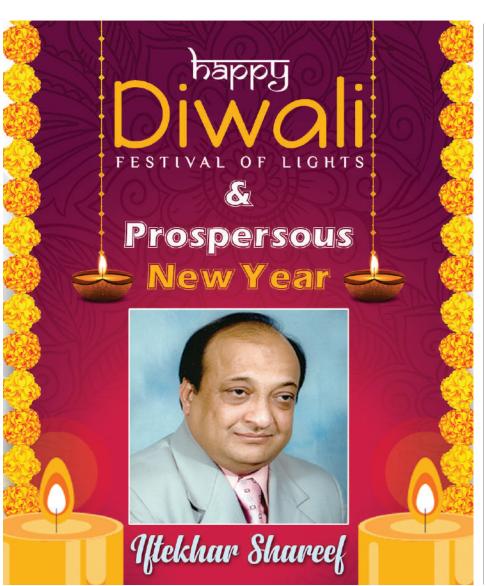


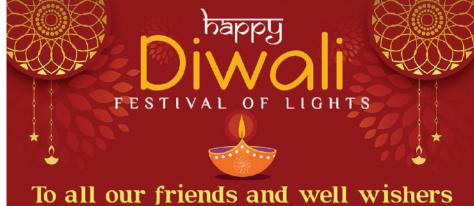
















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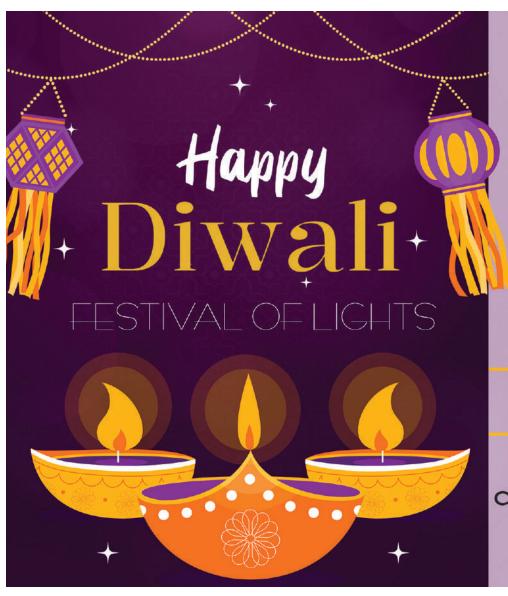
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#### Desi News

#### Diwali greetings to all our readers

**SURENDRA ULLAL** 

Diwali Phir Aa Gaye Sajana!!
A year has gone by and a great many things have happened in India and the world over.

For India PM Narendra Modi is firmly in saddle and that is good for the country as without stable Centre the nation could not progress or achieve much. One May like Narendra Modi or not but he is firmly in stable and it is good for country.

Details on page 29

## Ensuring our vote counts amid election threats

VIDYA SETHURAMAN India Post News Service

With the Presidential elections just three weeks away and early voting already underway or about to begin in most states, it's crucial to have accurate and thorough information to ensure our voices count. While some experts are sounding the alarm on threats to election sites and officials and the safety of the ballots, others are working around the clock to ensure communities' access. EMS briefing on Oct 18 brought together top national and local election experts who discussed whether all eligible voters are registered and able to vote, shared a roundup of new state voting laws that could facilitate or hinder participation, and delved into some of the most significant threats to conducting safe and secure elections.

Details on page 29

## IIT Kanpur reconnects with Alumni Network

India Post News Service

CHICAGO: IIT Kanpur's flagship initiative, 'IIT Karvaan,' aimed at reconnecting with its global alumni network, made a successful stop

The event in the 'Windy City' saw nearly 80 IIT Kanpur alumni from the Chicago area.

Details on page 32

## COMMUNITY ACROSS AMERICA

26 India Post

www.indiapost.com

October 25, 2024



## 26th Grand Dushahra festival celebrated with great enthusiasm in Edison, New Jersey

India Post News Service

EDISON, NJ: Indo-American Festivals, Inc. (IAF) proudly hosted its 26th Annual Grand Dushahra Festival on October 5, 2024, at the scenic Lake Papaianni Park in Edison, New Jersey. The day-long cultural celebration attracted more than 15,000 attendees, making it one of the most anticipated events in the Indo-American community. From 12:30 PM to 8:30 PM, families enjoyed a vibrant array of activities, performances, and cultural showcases.

The festival, known for celebrating the triumph of good over evil, kicked off with a series of dazzling performances curated by the talented Pratibha Nichakawade, featuring 22 song and dance acts, and captivating skits. The highlight of the day was an epic performance of \*Ramleela\* presented by Varsha Naik's group, with an impressive cast of 85 actors, ranging in age from under 2 to over 70 years. For the second year in a row, the



festival showcased a 15-foothigh Hanuman Murty, the largest of its kind at any Dushahra Festival in the USA, accompanied by a special \*Maha Aarti\*.

The evening culminated with the grand spectacle of \*Ravan Dahan\*, the ceremonial burning of a 25-foot-tall effigy of Ravan, meticulously crafted in the USA by Krishna Singhal. This symbolic act, representing the triumph of Lord Ram over Ravan, left the audience in awe as the effigy towered majestically over



the festival grounds before being set ablaze.

Throughout the day, attendees enjoyed a wide variety of delicious Indian and ethnic delicacies served by numerous food stalls. Vendors like \*Vatan\* offered everything from traditional Indian street food to fusion cuisine, satisfying the taste buds of all attendees and enhancing the festive atmosphere with the vibrant aromas and flavors of India.

Cont'd on page 34



## 5th Edition of the Bharat Ko Janiye (Know India Quiz 2024-25)

The BKJ Quiz will be

held online for two

categories of PIO/

Foreigners & NRI

aged between

14 to 50 years

India Post News Service

CHICAGO: Government of India will be organizing the 5th Edition of the Bharat Ko Janiye (Know India Quiz 2024-25) from 11 November to 10 December 2024. The Quiz aims at motivating People of Indian origin / Indian community living abroad to

know and understand India.

The web portal of the 5th edition of Bharat Ko Janiye https://bkjquiz.com/ will go live on 4th November for the benefit of familiarization by the prospective participants which features the Guidelines and

Rules, Registration

along with other relevant information including Dummy Test and FAQs.

The BKJ Quiz will be held online for two categories of PIO/Foreigners & NRI aged between 14 to 50 years. The quiz is open to foreign nationals also. The details of terms and conditions to participation may be accessed from the live web portal mentioned above. Registration on the Portal is

mandatory by eligible contestant. There is no entry fee.

The registered contestants may appear in the Quiz from anywhere from 11 November to 10 December 2024.

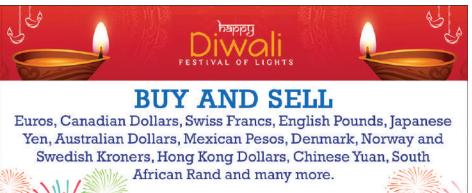
{Note: The Quiz will contain 30 multiple choice objective type questions to be an-

swered in maximum of 16-17 minutes without any negative marking. There will be no limit on the number of attempts and best score will be counted.

Top 15 winners worldwide in each category (total 30) are expected to visit India on a 2-week long BKJ Yatra, starting

with their participation in Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas (PBD) celebrations. Digital Certificate of participation to all the participants will be awarded.

Interested persons are requested to register online starting from 4th November at https://bkzquiz.com/ to participate in the Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz 2024-25 and familiarize themselves with the procedures and rules.



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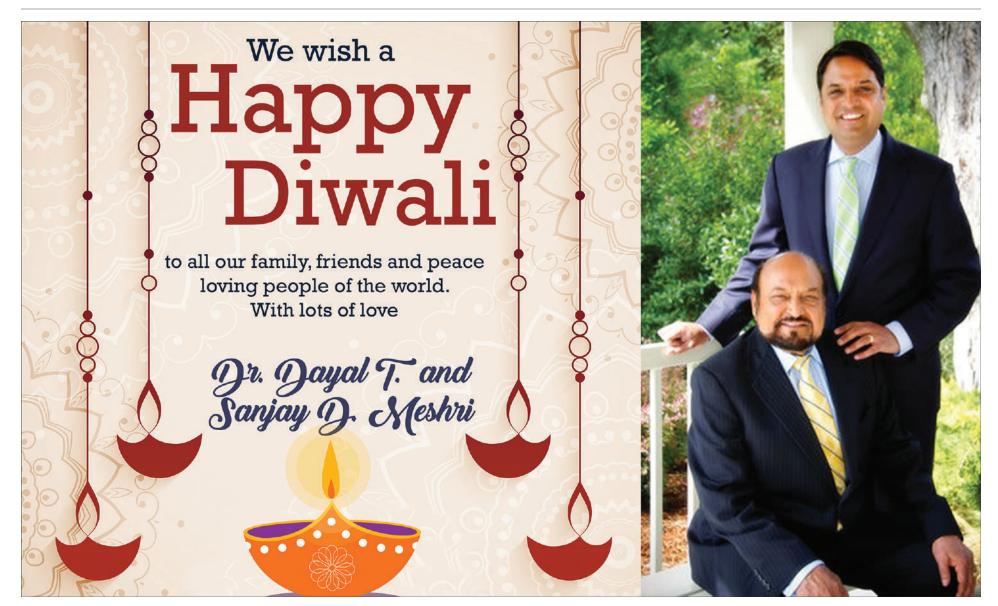


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## Saahas for Cause prepares for 2nd Annual Fundraising Gala to support South Asian Communities

aahas for Cause, a nonprofit or ganization dedicated to empower ing the South Asian community across LA and Orange County, is preparing for its 2nd Annual Fundraising Gala.

As Saahas enters its 6th year of operation, this highly anticipated event will take place at Marriott Suites Anaheim on Sunday, November 10, 2024, and promises to be a memorable evening.

Founded with a mission to serve South Asians in the region, Saahas has been instrumental in offering a wide range of programs aimed at improving the quality of life for its members. The organization focuses on key areas such as:

- Older Adult Wellness
- Family and Women Empowerment
- Youth Programs
- Community Health and Education

Through these programs and outreach, Saahas has reached 11,968 Individuals in the last one year alone and in just five years, they have made significant strides, reaching thousands through its services, and the upcoming Gala will spotlight these



achievements with a special focus on community impact. The event will help raise crucial funds to sustain and grow Saahas's efforts in providing educational workshops, mental health support, and resources for social and

economic empowerment.

"We are proud to be part of such a vibrant and growing community," said Payal Sawhney, Executive Director at Saahas for Cause. "We invite everyone to join us for this celebration and

to continue supporting our work to empower, enable, and educate the South Asian community."

For more information or to attend the Gala, please contact Payal Sawhney at payal@saahasforcause.org.

#### A grand Durgotshava celebration by Bangladeshi Sanatanis at Shivalaya Temple of Greater Boston

**GEETHA PATIL** 

he Bangladeshi-American Sanatani Organization, Boston, MA organized Durga Puja, also known as Durgotshava or Sharodia Durgotshava at Shivalaya Temple of Greater Boston on Saturday and Sunday of October 5 and 6, 2024 with much devotion and spiritual fervor. A Hall full of devotees participated in the auspicious event with their family members and friends and enjoyed it with much appreciation.

The Hall was decorated beautifully with garlands and the tall deities with gorgeous dresses and jewelries were placed on an artistically decorated pedestal. The event began with Lord Ganesh Puja by the priest

and the sponsor families, while chanting melodiously the Vedic Mantras. Later, the priest performed very elaborative Ma Durga, Ma Lakshmi, Ma Sarasvati Puja and chanted divine mantras and created righteous spiritual atmosphere in the hall.

After the puja of all the deities, Kanya or Balika Puja of young girls was also per-

After the puja of all the

deities, Kanya or Balika

Puja of young girls was

also performed with

much devotion. Kanya

Puja celebrates the

divine feminine energy

embodied by Goddess

Durga

formed with much devotion. Kanya Puja celebrates the divine feminine energy embodied by Goddess Durga. Young girls are seen as the power of feminine energy that remains behind the popularity of this puja and the puja denotes that women deserve appreciation for the roles they perform.

Durga Puja is an annual festival, which reveres and pays homage to Goddess Durga, and is celebrated because of Durga's victory over the shape-shifting asura, Mahishasura. Navaratri is also celebrated as a part of harvest festival honor-

ing the Goddess as the motherly power behind all the lives and the creation.

Durga puja is performed in the homes and in the public places as well, the latter featuring a temporary stage and structural decorations (known as Pandals). The festival is also marked by scripture recitations, performance arts, revelry, gift-giv-

> ing, family visits, feasting, and public processions/gatherings called mel?.

> The organizers of the event arranged sumptuous Maha Prasadam for all the devotees and the special invitees. Robin Das, Founder and President, thanked all the devotees for their active participation. He also

thanked Pankaj Das, Monoz Kumar, Sanjay Bala, Mukta Bhakta, and Joyanta Karmoker for putting this event together and making it a grand success. He also appreciated the services of the priest and his spiritual spirit.

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## Ensuring our vote counts amid election threats

VIDYA SETHURAMAN

India Post News Service

ith the Presidential elections just three weeks away and early voting already underway or about to begin in most states, it's crucial to have accurate and thorough information to ensure our voices count. While some experts are sounding the alarm on threats to election sites and officials and the safety of the ballots, others are working around the clock to ensure communities' access. EMS briefing on Oct 18 brought together top national and local election experts who discussed whether all eligible voters are registered and able to vote, shared a roundup of new state voting laws that could facilitate or hinder participation, and delved into some of the most significant threats to conducting safe and secure elections.

Celina Stewart, CEO, League of Women Voters of the United States introduced the Vote411.org website established by the organization to provide voters with one-stop services, including voting registration inquiries and updates, candidates Information, campaign fund disclosure, polling station information, etc., and provides bilingual services in English and Spanish. She emphasized that the organization has branches in various states and

voters to check and update their registration information in a timely manner.

Andrew Garber, counsel, Voting Rights and Elections Program, Brennan Center for Justice also pointed out that between 2020 and 2024, 30 states in the United States passed 78 restrictive voting bills, and 41 states passed 168 bills to relax vot-

EMS briefing on Oct 18 brought together top national and local election experts who discussed whether all eligible voters are registered and able to vote, shared a roundup of new state voting laws that could facilitate or hinder participation, and delved into some of the most significant threats to conducting safe and secure elections

actively holds candidate forums to promote dialogue between voters and candidates. At the same time, we will continue to monitor false information on the Internet to ensure that voters receive correct information. Since some voters may be expelled without knowing it, she called on

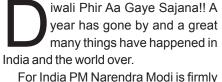
ing restrictions. Major restrictions include tightening postal voting regulations, shortening the voter registration period, and limiting voting assistance services. Garber said the restrictions were mostly justified to prevent electoral fraud but lacked concrete evidence to support them.

May Tiwamangkala, Democracy Defender Director at Arizona Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander for Equity shared the challenges facing the state. She pointed out that newly passed regulations require voters to provide stricter proof of citizenship. If they cannot provide documents within the specified period, voters may be removed from the rolls and may even face criminal investigation. Factors such as rising local antimmigration sentiment, rising cost of living and political polarization have further weakened voters' willingness to vote.

Pape finally emphasized that the vote counting and certification phase after the election is the period most likely to trigger political violence, and state governors should unite to condemn violence and ensure the safety of election officials. He and Garber also called on the media to emphasize that the voting experience of most voters will be positive, so that voters can plan their voting and maintain confidence in the election process.

## Diwali greetings to all our readers

SURENDRA ULLAL



in saddle and that is good for the country as without stable Centre the nation could not progress or achieve much. One May like Narendra Modi or not but he is firmly in stable and it is good for country.

The world wide there is turmoil in many countries, especially in Middle East and in For India PM
Narendra Modi is
firmly in saddle and
that is good for the
country as without
stable Centre the
nation could not
progress or achieve
much. One May like
Narendra Modi or not
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stable and it is good
for country



Happy Diwali



Ukraine. But hopefully things could change for better if wiser counsels prevail.

For India, good thing is that it has stable govt unlike its neighboring countries like Pakistan. Indo US relations are ok but much depends on the outcome of US elections. If Donald Trump wins Presidential elections, India can hope to have better hearing of its voice with the US administration. If Kamala Harris becomes next US President, things may not be that Rosy despite the fact she has Indian origin in her vein.

But international relations are not governed by political affiliation and India hopefully could count on better counsels to prevail

Pakistan could be a big problem as usual but hopefully a stable govt there could bring in improvement in situation.

The outcome of Presidential elections in US is eagerly awaited. If Donald Trump wins, India could certainly look forward to much improved relations. If Kamala Harris turns winner, India may have to try hard to gain US hearing. This is despite the fact that Kamala has her origins traced to India. Hopefully things do not look that bad and let us hope for the best

Diwali and Samvant New Year Greetings to all our Readers and Well wishers

- - India Post Team

## AAPI's 18th Global Healthcare Summit focuses on prevention strategies for Cancer and Heart Attacks

India Post News Service

NEW DELHI: The growing influence of physicians of Indian heritage is evident, as they are increasingly recognized and they hold critical positions in healthcare, academic, research, and administration across the United States.

In India, with a rise in population, there is an urgent need to create awareness and establish effective systems on the need for ways to prevent diseases and help India's 1.4 Billion people live healthier life.

It's in this context, the AAPI Global

mission has never been more urgent."

"We have chosen New Delhi for the Global Healthcare Summit 2024, because, this is where all the actions are taking place, including policy discussions and legislation to address the needs of the nation," said Dr. Kathula.

"AAPI has been engaged in harnessing the power of Indian Diaspora to bring the most innovative, efficient, cost-effective healthcare and preventable solutions to India, Dr. Kathula said. "This international health care summit is a progressive

diovascular diseases and stroke program, we are providing a framework for individuals across the country who access health education screenings and support services aimed at prevention and early detection. It is well known that the lifestyle modification is the key pillar in the prevention of ailments like cancer and cardiac diseases. Foundation of prevention of these diseases lies in adopting healthier lifestyles, like regular exercise, a balanced diet, and shunning tobacco and alcohol, Dr. Nadda told the AAPI delegates.

"This this year marks a significant milestone in the history of AAPI, as we proudly introduce the Fellowship of AAPI (FAAPI), said Dr. Kathula. "This prestigious recognition on is not only doctors, but also healthcare administrators who have made substantial contributions in their respective fields. In India, for the inaugural year, we are delighted to announce that three eminent physicians and administrators have been selected as eligible recipients. Dr. Rakesh Sharma, Dr. Bhasnji Kundaria, and Dr. Raman Kumar were honored by







Healthcare Summit (GHS 2024) from October 19-20, 2024 in New Delhi, India, organized by the Association of American Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) in collaboration with and participation from some of the world's most well-known physicians, and industry leaders becomes very critical and significant.

Dozens of Physician leaders of Indian origin came together in response to this call to contribute to the wellbeing of their fellow countrymen in India by participating at the 18th edition of the Global Healthcare Summit 2024 at the Le Meridien Hotel at the heart of New Delhi, India.

"It is with great pride and excitement that I welcome you all to the 18th AAPI Global Healthcare Summit in New Delhi," Dr. Satheesh Kathula, President of The American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI), in his inaugural address. "This year we gather under the important and timely theme of preventing cancer and heart attacks through lifestyle modifications and technology in a world where chronic diseases like cancer and cardiovascular illnesses continue to pose significant health threats, where corrective

transformation from the first Indo-US Healthcare Summit launched by AAPI USA in 2007. GHS 2024 will focus on Prevention Strategies for Cancer and Heart Attacks, Role of Lifestyle Changes, and Integration of Technology in Healthcare," said Dr. Satheesh Kathula, President of AAPI.

Health Minister of India, Jagat Prakash Nadda delivered via video an address on national prevention strategies. Dr. Nadda acknowledged that the world is staring at ing a key role in the exchange of experience and knowledge in the field of medicine between India and the US today," Dr. Nadda added

"Together, we can harness the power

"We all know that AAPI has been play-

of innovation and lifestyle modification to safety, frequently, reduce the burden of cancer and heart diseases, not only in India but across the globe. I thank AAPI for organizing the Global Healthcare Summit

"It is with great pride and excitement that I welcome you all to the 18th AAPI Global Healthcare Summit in New Delhi," Dr. Satheesh Kathula, President of The American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI), in his inaugural address

two most critical health challenges, cancer and cardiac diseases. Dr. Nadda said. "With aging population, changes in lifestyle and increasing urbanization, the incidence of cancer and cardiovascular diseases, particularly heart attacks, are on the rise."

Dr. Nadda said, "I'm happy to share that through the national program for prevention and control of cancer, diabetes, carin India, wishing the summit a grand success."

The CME sessions by eminent physicians from India and abroad offered a unique perspectives on Prevention Strategies for Cancer and Heart Attacks, Role of Lifestyle Changes, and the Integration of Technology into Healthcare Describing the message and theme for the Summit,

AAPI with this prestigious award.

This international healthcare summit is a progressive transformation from the first Indo-US Healthcare Summit launched by AAPI in 2007. "Providing a forum for innovative opportunities for learning, networking and giving back to our motherland that have now enabled us to plan ahead and prepare for an outstanding event that will be over 300 very prominent and talented physicians and surgeons from abroad, in addition to the hundreds of physicians from India, who are very passionate about serving their homeland, mother India," Dr. Sunil Kaza, Chair of AAPI BOT said.

According to Dr. Anjali Gulati, Convener of GHS 2024, "AAPI rapidly expands its vision for India - in educational research, clinical programs, global outreach and a tie-up with the Indian Government on healthcare programs. GHS 2024 offered a unique forum for physicians of Indian origin to come together, share their knowledge and expertise in their respective medical fields with their fellow physicians from around the world, and to learn from one another."

Cont'd on page 34

## India Development Service celebrates 50th Anniversary with memorable gala event



India Post News Service

CHICAGO, IL: India Development Service (IDS), a Chicago-based nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting sustainable development initiatives in India, celebrated its 50th anniversary in grand style on October 20, 2024, in Oakbrook, a Chicago suburb

The highlight of the evening was a keynote address delivered by Nobel Laureate Dr. Abhijit Banerjee, who captivated the bers, who reflected on the organization's journey since its inception in 1974. His passionate speech highlighted what inspired him to start the organization and thanked IDS team for sustaining the organization for 5 decades.

Two partner NGOs, who have worked closely with IDS for years, traveled from India to attend the event and share their stories. Representatives from these NGOs spoke about the transformative im-

lighted the attendees with a mix of Bollywood and Hollywood songs during the dinner.

The 50th anniversary gala, emceed by former host of WBEZ Worldview Jerome McDonnell was a fitting tribute to the en-

during legacy of IDS and its commitment to improving lives in India through sustainable development.

For more information about India Development Service and its ongoing projects, please visit idsua.org



audience with his insights on global poverty alleviation and the role of grassroots organizations in driving sustainable change.

Dr. Banerjee, co-recipient of the 2019 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, emphasized the importance of continued collaboration between organizations like IDS and local communities to create long-term development solutions.

Also speaking at the event was S. R. Hiremath, one of IDS's founding mem-

pact of their collaborations with IDS, demonstrating how grassroots initiatives are empowering rural communities across India.

The audience of over 280 guests enjoyed a lively atmosphere, participating in a Fun Fact Quiz on India, which kept the crowd engaged and entertained. The gala also featured a vibrant cultural program, including dance performances and a live musical performance by local artists Raju Bankpaur and Shree Mahonty, who de-



## IIT Kanpur reconnects with Alumni Network

India Post News Service

CHICAGO: IIT Kanpur's flagship initiative, 'IIT Karvaan,' aimed at reconnecting with its global alumni network, made a successful stop

The event in the 'Windy City' saw nearly 80 IIT Kanpur alumni from the Chicago area come together to celebrate their shared legacy and explore ways to strengthen their support and engagement with the institute's future initiatives.

The highlight of the event was the presence of the Chief Guest, Consul General of India in Chicago, Somnath Ghosh. A proud alumnus of IIT Kanpur himself, Ghosh delivered a powerful message in his keynote address, urging alumni to shift their mindset from merely "Giving Back" to "Paying Back" to their alma mater. He framed this support not as charity but as an obligation-a duty owed to the institution that laid the foundation for their professional and personal success.

His speech resonated strongly with attendees, fostering a renewed sense of responsibility and pride among the alumni. He also urged IIT Kanpur to look into ways to collaborate more with US universities.

The IIT Karvaan USA tour has also seen participation from some of IIT Kanpur's most distinguished alumni, including Dr. Ruchir Puri, Chief Scientist of IBM Research, Mr. Muktesh Pant, Former CEO of Yum! China, and Mr. Arvind Krishna, CEO

IIT KANPUR
Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur IITK Networking Lunch in Chicago

portance of alumni engagement and the pivotal role it plays in advancing IIT Kanpur's mission.

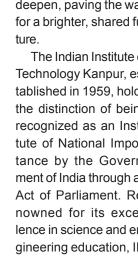
The IITK Chicago Chapter leader, Nitin Maheshwari, expressed gratitude for the strong turnout, stating, "IIT Karvaan has allowed us to rekindle connections and foster deeper engagement among our alumni. The energy in the room was palpable, and it is clear that the IIT Kanpur

The IITK Chicago Chapter leader, Nitin Maheshwari, expressed gratitude for the strong turnout, stating, "IIT Karvaan has allowed us to rekindle connections and foster deeper engagement among our alumni. The energy in the room was palpable, and it is clear that the IIT Kanpur community is as strong as ever"

celebrated the achievements of its distinguished alumni but also reinforced the collective responsibility to contribute to the institution's growth and global impact.

With each city, the IIT Kanpur family grows stronger, and the bonds deepen, paving the way for a brighter, shared fu-

The Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, established in 1959, holds the distinction of being recognized as an Institute of National Importance by the Government of India through an Act of Parliament, Renowned for its excellence in science and engineering education, IIT Kanpur has made significant contributions to research and developinterdisciplinary programs, and two specialized schools across engineering, science, design, humanities, and management disciplines. With over 590 full-time



ment over the decades. Its expansive, lush green campus spans 1,050 acres and hosts a rich array of academic and research resources. The institute comprises 19 departments, 26 canters, three

CG Somnath Ghosh

of IBM, among many others.

The event also featured senior leadership from IIT Kanpur, including Prof. Manindra Agrawal, Director; Prof. Braj Bhushan, Deputy Director; and Prof. Amey Karkare, Dean of Resources and Alumni, who shared updates on the institute's recent achievements and upcoming initiatives. Their presence underscored the imcommunity is as strong as ever." He also called for the alumni to come together and get involved in chapter activities.

IIT Kanpur Alumni members

As IIT Karvaan progresses through Seattle and the San Francisco Bay Area next, the event series stands as a powerful reminder of the enduring legacy of IIT Kanpur and the vital role alumni play in shaping its ongoing success. Each stop has not only

faculty members and more than 9,500 students, IIT Kanpur continues to be a leader in fostering innovation and academic rigor.

For more information, please visit www.iitk.ac.in

## Know the Significance of Karva Chauth

MADHIIMATI TYAGI AND GEETHA PATII

hy is Karva Chauth Vrat Observed?

Karva Chauth Vrat is an auspicious Sanatani festival, which is celebrated with pomp and vigor. This is a special occasion for married women, who observe fasting on this for a happy and prosperous married life and for the well-being of the husband and is one of the most popular Sanatana fasting and ritual. According to Drik Panchang, this festival is celebrated on Sunday, October 20, 2024, and is observed on the Krishna Paksha Chaturthi in the Sanatana month of Kartika.

#### Karva Chauth in Sanatana Scriptures

Karva Chauth is dedicated to Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati. It is believed

for married woman. Blue, brown and black color dress should not be worn on the day. Many women dress in traditional attire, often in shades of red, maroon, or pink, which are considered auspicious. In fact, many people re-wear their wedding dresses as part of the Karva Chauth celebrations. They also adorn themselves with jewelry, bangles, and apply mehndi (henna) on their hands.

- The women performing the vrat should not distribute milk, curd, uncooked rice and white color cloth.
- One should not get angry and insult elderly people on the day.
- Goddess Parvati should be worshipped before the seeing the moon. She should also be offered Puri and Halwa as Prasad.

moon to rise. During this time, women gather with their families on terraces or open areas where the moon is visible. Traditionally, women hold a sieve or chainni in their hand as they are waiting to see the Moon

Once, the moonrises, the ritual begins. Women view the moon through a sieve and then, look at their husbands through the same sieve, symbolizing the filtering of negative energy and receiving only the blessings for a long married life. This act is accompanied by offering of water/ Arghya to the moon, which is poured through the sieve as gesture of respect and devotion.

#### How to break and end the fasting?

After the Moon Puja, the husband offers his wife the first sip of water and a bit of

#### What is the significance of Karva Chauth?

Karva Chauth is more than just a fasting. It is celebration of love, faith, and commitment between married couples. The day serves as a reminder of the enduring bond shared by husband and wife, and the length to which they are willing go by caring each other's well-being. This tradition has a deep spiritual meaning, which has evolved into a festival that strengthens familial ties and celebrates our cultural heritage.

This Katha represents a wife's strength and devotion to her husband. It exhibits the power of unwavering commitment, faith, and steadfast resolution in the face of adversity. The marital bond is not only emotional but also spiritual, and through such







that Goddess Parvathi had observed severe penance to get Lord Shiva as her husband. Sanatana women follow the fasting practice observed by Goddess Parvati for her husband Lord Shiva.

#### What are the Karva Chauth Fasting Rules?

On the Karva Chauth day after an early morning bath, married women eat food made from selected grains and fruits before sunrise. After the sunrise, the women observe a strict fasting and some people even do not drink water.

Generally, women in the neighborhood gather in a house/temple and take advice from elderly women on how to observe Karva Chauth puja. They also listen to the significance to Karva Chauth Katha (stories) and perform rituals together. The fasting is broken after seeing the moon at night along with her husband. The moon is seen through a sieve. Later, women break the fast with an offering of water and flowers to the moon.

#### Karva Chauth Dos and Don'ts

• Red color dresses are the preferred on the day as it is considered auspicious

#### Karva Chauth Sargi from Mother-inlaw

Especially in Punjab and Haryana, mother-in-law prepares Sargi for her daughter-in-law. Sargi is a kind of meal basket with fresh fruits, sweets, dry fruits, traditional snacks and coconuts and other regional items. As those observing the vrat do not eat food or drink water after sunrise, however, the food items in Sargi are consumed before sunrise on Karva Chauth day. Now a day, gifts like sari and jewelry are included as the part of Sargi.

In the evening, the Karva Chauth Puja is performed with a group of women in a temple or at home with family members. The puja involves offering of prayers to Goddess Parvati and Lord Shiva. An earthen pot called Karva filled with water and covered with a lid, which represents prosperity, is used.

A story of Karva Chauth, known as the Karva Chauth Vrat Katha, is narrated, emphasizing the importance of faith, devotion, and the bond between husband and wife.

After this, women eagerly wait for the

food, which marks the official breaking of the fast. Many couple then, enjoy a small meal together, often including traditional sweets and foods prepared for the occasion. The conclusion of the fasting is a joyous time, marked by families coming together to share a meal and celebrate the festival with much devotion. It is also a time for exchanging gifts and blessings between family members, especially the husband and wife.

devotion, the longevity of marital life can be safeguarded. The bond between husband and wife is strengthened by performing the rituals of Karva Chauth. In addition, listening to the Vrat Katha with devotion helps gain the benevolent blessing from the holy Katha, further enhancing the benefits of the puja and a day long fasting. Karva Chauth promises a night of devotion and festivity, uniting families in the spirit of love and togetherness.

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## AAPI's 18th Global Healthcare Summit focuses on prevention strategies for Cancer and Heart Attacks

Cont'd from page 30

For the first time ever, AAPI delegates had an opportunity to visit to the Rashtrapati Bhavan, the Presidential Palace of India in New Delhi. During this unique guided tour of the historic premises of India's President.

Also, the AAPI delegates had an opportunity to visit and pray at the world famous Swaminarayan Akshardham at New Delhi with an informative and inspiring journey through an ancient culture's glorious art, values and contributions for the progress, happiness and harmony of all humans.

Fashion Show and live entertainment by Preeti Bhalla took the AAPI delegates to the nostalgic memories of the 1960s and 70s. The cuisine added special flavor to the Summit.

Poster and Research Contest by over 70 Medical students and Fellows from across the nation added value to the event with the new generation of Indian Medical students showcasing their talents, skills and commitment to medical education.

Dr. Amit Chakrabarty, President-Elect of AAPI says, "AAPI has a mandate to help

voice in the healthcare legislation and policy arena."

"In our quest to fulfill the mission of AAPI, we are proud to share best practice and experiences from leading experts in the world and develop actionable plans for launching demonstration projects that enable access to affordable and quality

For the first time ever, AAPI delegates had an opportunity to visit to the Rashtrapati Bhavan, the Presidential Palace of India in New Delhi. During this unique guided tour of the historic premises of India's President

disseminate our medical knowledge, our expertise and technological advances to the rest of the world, and to India in particular. Headquartered in Chicago, AAPI has come to be recognized as a strong

healthcare for all people. Thank you for your participation and for being part of this movement for healthier world, let's continue to work together, leveraging both the power of Prevention and the promise of technology to Save Lives," Dr. Kathula observed

Amit Chakrabarty, President-Elect of AAPI said, the current President of India, Smt. Draupadi Murmu suggested to have AAPI's collaboration in having a TB Free Tribal India, and this initiative will be led by Dr. Manoj Jain. The Diabetes related efforts are being led by Dr. Smitha Joshi. The Ayurveda Consortium is being led by Dr. Amit Shah, Dr. Artin Prasad, and Dr. Dilip Sarkar. Dr. Chakrabarty invited AAPI members to participate at the 19th edition of AAPI's Global Healthcare Summit with focus on Tuberculosis, Ayurveda, and Diabetes, which will be held in Bhubaneshwar, Orissa from January 9-11, 2026.

For more information on Global Health Summit 2024, please visit https:// aapisummit.org

## 26th Grand Dushahra festival celebrated with great enthusiasm in Edison, New Jersey

Cont'd from page 26

Beyond the cultural performances and culinary treats, the event offered a wide range of family-friendly activities, including:

- A free health and medical screening camp, organized by the Agarwal Samaj of the USA.
- A bustling \*Meena Bazaar\* with over 150 vendors offering Indian clothing, jewelry, handicrafts, and more.
- Raffles sponsored by Suhag Jewelers and LEMFI.
- Day-long live music, dance performances, and activities for all ages.

The event was graced by esteemed guests, including Edison Councilman Mr.





Ajay Patil and Grammy Award-winning artist Ms. Falguni Shah, who made a special appearance. The festival was also supported by generous sponsors and volunteers, whose dedication made the day a resounding success.

Welcoming the guests were Chanchal Gupta (Chair of IAF), Raj Mittal (Co-Chair of IAF), Shiva Arya (President of IAF), and Dinesh Mittal (Immediate Past President of IAF). Their leadership, alongside the efforts of IAF's hardworking volunteers, ensured a smooth and joyous celebration.

This event was made possible by a grant from the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders/Office of Culture & Heritage, and the New Jersey State Council for the Arts/Department of State.

About Indo-American Festivals, Inc. (IAF) Founded in 1999 by the late Mr. Mangal Gupta, IAF is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting cultural heritage through the annual Dushahra Festival in New Jersey. The festival, which attracts over 12,000 spectators annually, is free to the public and is supported through sponsorships and donations.

#### Health Line

#### 'Vietnam has eliminated trachoma as public health problem'

MANILA: The World Health Organization (WHO) recently declared Vietnam's successful elimination of trachoma, a major infectious cause of blindness worldwide, marking a significant milestone in global health.

During the 75th session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, the health body validated Vietnam's efforts, saying the country has implemented rigorous control measures and treated hundreds of thousands of people over the past seven decades.

According to the WHO, trachoma used to be a public health problem in four provinces in Vietnam. Thirty years ago, 1.7 percent of people living in these highrisk provinces required surgery to prevent blindness from trachoma, Xinhua news agency reported.

However, by 2023, the proportion of adults with the blinding form of the disease had fallen below 0.2 percent, which is the threshold required for the WHO validation of eliminating trachoma as a public health problem.

It added that Vietnam's adoption of the WHO's SAFE strategy, which focuses on surgery, antibiotics, facial cleanliness, and environmental improvement, has bolstered trachoma elimination. *IANS* 



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)

October 25, 2024 www.indiapost.com India Post 35

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

NEW DELHI: The government said the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) has achieved sales worth Rs 1,000 crore in October, a significant advancement from previous year when this target was met in December 2023.

Jan Aushadhi Kendras grew more than 170 times in number in last 10 years (from only 80 in 2014) and more than 14,000 kendras now cover almost all the districts of the country.

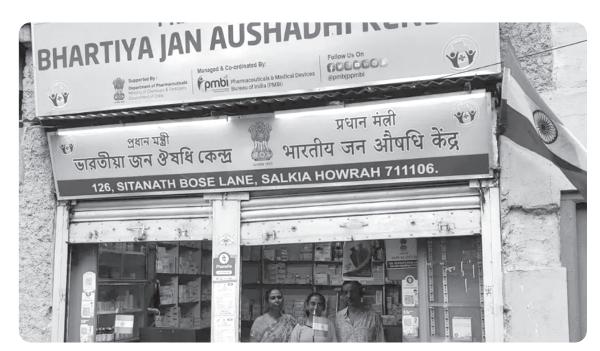
There will be 25,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras in the country in the next two years, said the government.

The product basket of PMBJP comprises 2,047 medicines and 300 surgical devices covering all major therapeutic groups such as cardiovascular, anti-cancers, Anti-diabetics, anti-infectives, anti-allergic, gastro-intestinal medicines and nutraceuticals, etc.

Almost one million people are visiting these popular people-friendly Kendras daily, according to the government.

"This substantial growth is a testament to the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India's (PMBI) commitment to making healthcare accessible and affordable for all by reducing

## PMBJP achieves sales worth Rs 1,000 crore in October



out of pocket expenditure. Notably few days ago, PMBI had sold medicines worth Rs. 200 crore in one single month of September," the government informed.

The PMBJP initiative continues to empower communities, ensuring that quality healthcare is within reach for every citizen.

The record-breaking sales not

only highlight the success of the program but also it plays a vital role in promoting health equity in the country.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendras have proved to be a boon for patients across the country, as thousands of patients are buying medicines at reasonably low prices and making a savings up to 60 percent on the range of medicines.

Under the PMBJP, the Aushadhi Kendras have sold medicines worth Rs 6,100 crore in past 10 years which has led to estimated savings of Rs 30,000 crore for the citizens, said a recent statement by the Health Ministry. *IANS* 

#### South Korea, WHO to host World Bio Summit next month

SEOUL: The health ministry here said it plans to co-host an annual biotechnology convention next month with the World Health Organization (WHO), bringing experts together to discuss strategies for a stable global healthcare supply chain.

Under the theme "Future investment for a healthy and secure decade," the World Bio Summit 2024 will kick off in Incheon, west of Seoul, on November 11-12, according to the Ministry of Health and

Welfare.

"The World Bio Summit 2024 will serve as a venue for discussions to address and prepare for global health care threats," Health Minister Cho Kyoo-hong said, reports Yonhap news agency.

The event, marking the third of its kind, will invite health ministers and other senior officials from governments, businesses and global organizations to discuss pressing issues in the vaccine and biotechnology sectors.

"Participants will exchange

the latest trends in areas such as innovative research and development, strengthening global supply chains and enhancing biotechnology capabilities, while ex-

Bank, the International Vaccine Institute and other major organizations plan to participate in seminars and other events, it added.

Under the theme "Future investment for a healthy and secure decade," the World Bio Summit 2024 will kick off in Incheon, west of Seoul, on November 11-12

ploring ways to expand global cooperation," the ministry said.

On the sidelines of the gathering, the Asian Development

The health ministry will also host the Global Business Lounge during the summit to expand South Korean health care companies' global cooperation.

Meanwhile, according to the WHO, increased investment is urgently needed to address evolving health risks and meet the mental and sexual and reproductive health needs for the nearly 1.3 billion adolescents (aged 10-19 years) globally.

"Promoting and protecting the health and rights of young people is essential to building a better future for our world," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO, recently. IANS

#### PM Modi inaugurates eye hospital in Varanasi, to launch projects worth Rs 6,100 crore

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on a visit to Varanasi, his Lok Sabha constituency, on Sunday, inaugurated the RJ Sankara eye hospital and is set to unveil various developmental projects worth Rs 6,100 crore.

During the day-long visit, PM Modi will lay the foundation stone for airport runway expansion, construction of a new terminal building, and other works at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, at an estimated cost of ?2,870 crore.

Ahead of the hospital's inauguration, PM Modi met Shankaracharya of the Kanchi Math. He also visited an exhibition and was accompanied by Governor Anandiben Patel and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

PM Modi is set to launch multiple initiatives aimed at enhancing infrastructure and connectivity in the region on Sunday.

The key projects include refurbishing of



Prime Minister Narendra Modi walks through the newly inaugurated RJ Sankara Eye Hospital, in Varanasi on Sunday. Uttar Pradesh Deputy CM Brajesh Pathak also present. (ANI Photo)

new terminal at Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, and laying the foundation stone for new civil enclaves at Agra, Darbhanga, and Bagdogra airports, with allocations of Rs 570 crore, Rs 910 crore,

and Rs 1,550 crore, respectively.

The inauguration of new terminal buildings at Rewa, Maa Mahamaya, Ambikapur, and Sarsawa airports costing more than Rs 220 crore, is also on the cards. This is likely to enhance passenger handling capacity to more than 2.3 crore annually.

Development of Sports and tourism centers also ranks high on PM Modi's agenda, on his visit to his Lok Sabha constituency. He is set to inaugurate phases 2 and 3 of the redevelopment of the Varanasi Sports Complex.

The facility, valued at Rs 210 crore will feature a National Centre of Excellence, player accommodations, a sports science center, and various practice fields.

In the tourism sector, initiatives related to the Buddhism pilgrimage in Sarnath will be launched, including improvements to pedestrian pathways, sewer systems, and vending zones to support local artisans.

Earlier, more than 500 party banners and flags were erected across the city, at major route crossings and intersections to give a warm welcome to Prime Minister Modi on the Varanasi visit. IANS

## Normal blood test can identify women at preeclampsia risk during pregnancy

NEW DELHI: A simple blood test could help doctors identify women in labor who are at the risk for preeclampsia - a leading cause of maternal death.

Between 5 to 10 percent of pregnant women develop preeclampsia (sudden



While preeclampsia can develop as early as the 20th week of pregnancy, the study focused on identifying women who were at risk for preeclampsia when they were admitted to the hospital in labor.

Researchers have determined doctors

can predict a woman's risk of developing preeclampsia by calculating the ratio of two blood proteins - fibrinogen and albumin - measured in routine blood tests done when women in labor enter the

> Fibrinogen is involved in blood clotting and inflammation, while albumin helps maintain fluid balance and carries hormones, vitamins and en

zymes throughout the body.

Both can be disrupted with preeclampsia - fibrinogen may be elevated, albumin may be reduced, or both can occur.

There is no universally established normal value for this fibrinogen-to-albumin ratio (FAR), which can range from 0.05 to 1 or higher. Higher FAR values are often associated with increased inflammation, infection or serious health conditions, and the higher the FAR, the lower FAR.

They found that the predicted likelihood of developing any degree of preeclampsia was 24 percent for patients with a FAR of at least 0.1 on admission to the hospital, and it rose to more than 41 percent when that value was above 0.3.

If a woman in labor is found to be at increased risk for preeclampsia based on the FAR and other clinical indicators - such as being older than 35 or having chronic

Researchers have determined doctors can predict a woman's risk of developing preeclampsia by calculating the ratio of two blood proteins - fibrinogen and albumin - measured in routine blood tests done when women in labor enter the hospital

greater the concern.

In the study, researchers analyzed the records of 2,629 women who gave birth between 2018 and 2024, 1,819 who did not have preeclampsia, 584 who had preeclampsia with mild features or symptoms and 226 who had preeclampsia with severe features or symptoms.

> The researchers determined those who had a higher FAR were more likely to develop preeclampsia than those with a

high blood pressure or obesity - obstetricians and anesthesiologists can take extra precautions to reduce the risk and ensure the patient's blood pressure and fluid levels remain stable and controlled.

"For example, they can order more frequent blood pressure checks or lab tests. If the FAR indicates a woman is at risk for preeclampsia with severe symptoms, an epidural for pain management can be placed early before it becomes too risky," the authors suggested. IANS

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#### Music speeds up recovery from surgery, reduces stress levels



NEW YORK: Listening to music may help patients recover from surgery through a lower heart rate, reduced anxiety levels, less opioid use and lower pain, according to researchers.

A reduction in cortisol levels when listening to music may play a role in easing patients' recovery, according to a meta-analysis presented at the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Clinical Congress 2024 in San Fran-

**ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS** 

"When patients wake up after surgery, sometimes they feel really scared and don't know where they are," said Eldo Frezza, professor of surgery at California Northstate University College of Medicine. "Music can help ease the transition from the waking up stage to a return to normalcy and may help reduce stress around that transi-

Dr Frezza and study co-authors noted that unlike some more active therapies such as meditation or Pilates which require considerable concentration or movement, listening to music is a more passive experience and can be incorporated by patients without much cost or effort almost immediately after surgery.

To reach this conclusion, the team analyzed existing studies on music and its role in helping people recover from surgery, narrowing a list of 3,736 studies to 35 research papers.

In their analysis, the researchers found that the simple act of listening to music after surgery, whether with headphones or through a speaker, had noticeable effects on patients during their recovery period:

Patients who listened to music had a statistically significant reduction in pain the day after surgery. Across all studies, patient self-reported anxiety levels were reduced by about 2.5 points, or 3 percent.

Patients who listened to music used less than half of the amount of morphine compared to those who did not listen to music on the first day after surgery, the research

They also experienced a reduced heart rate (around 4.5 fewer beats per minute) compared with patients who did not listen to music.

"Although we can't specifically say they're in less pain, the studies revealed that patients perceive they are in less pain, and we think that is just as important," said Shehzaib Raees, first author of the study. IANS

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#### \_Tech News

# Center slams X for 'abetting crime' after 100 flight bomb threats

NEW DELHI: The IT Ministry slammed Elon Musk-run social media platform X after more than 100 bomb threats were received by airlines over the past few days and many of these hoaxes were circulated via social media platforms.

In a virtual meeting with representatives of airlines and social media platforms such as X and Meta, the IT Ministry officials said the situation amounts to "X abetting crime" and questioned its representatives on the steps taken to stop such alarming rumors from spreading.

Joint Secretary, IT, Sanket S Bhondve chaired the virtual meeting, according to reports.

The online threats created panic among the passengers and set off alarm bells for security agencies. Several flights, including internationals, were diverted after the hoax calls. More than 120 flights operated by Indian carriers have received bomb threats over the past few days. On 22nd October, 30 flights operated by IndiGo, Vistara and Air India received such threats.

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# TechBiz Post

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October 25, 2024

97 pc Indians plan to travel this holiday season, leisure tops the list



Details on page 43

# India's annual GDP growth projected to be between 7-7.2 pc in FY25: Deloitte

NEW DELHI: India's annual GDP growth is projected to be between 7 and 7.2 percent in FY 2024-2025, a Deloitte report said recently, which is in line with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) prediction of the country witnessing real GDP growth at 7.2 percent for FY25.

Dr. Rumki Majumdar from Deloitte India said that India's economy is emerging with resilience as the dust settles after a high-stakes elections period.

"Its gross domestic product grew 6.7 percent year over year in the April-to-June quarter. While that was the slowest rate in five quarters, India remains one of the world's fastest-growing large economies, and Deloitte's analysis predicts continued strength in the year ahead," she mentioned in the 'India economic outlook, October 2024'

Growth is likely to pick up,

driven by increasing consumer spending, especially in rural India, as inflation subsides, and agricultural output improves after favorable monsoon conditions.

"India may benefit from higher

boosting manufacturing and improving youth employability, coupled with India's young and aspirational population, presents a unique opportunity for economic growth.



capital inflows, translating into long-term investment and job opportunities as multinational companies around the world look to reduce operational costs further," said the report.

The government's focus on

As the country advances toward becoming a \$5 trillion economy by fiscal 2027 to 2028, expanding manufacturing and emerging industries and transitioning toward clean-energy alternatives are likely to create high-quality, formal, and green jobs.

"This will help many Indian states that are aspiring to grow rapidly, as they are already investing in these areas to tap into India's demographic advantage. Subsequently, the improvements in the labor market will likely be reflected in future surveys," said Dr Majumdar, a Director and economist with Deloitte India.

Rural consumption spending is rebounding due to moderating inflation, specifically in food. Besides, better rainfall (over June to September, precipitation in the country as a whole was 109 percent of its long-period average in 2020, and it has been the third highest since 1994) and all-time high production and stock of kharif crops (such as rice and paddy sown during the monsoon season from June to August) point to robust agricultural output this year, thereby further pushing rural demand.

This will likely factor into spending during festive months and beyond, said the report. Manufacturing sector capacity utilization is at an all-time high of 76.4 percent, which suggests that private investments in the sector will pick up. Higher capex will also crowd in investments.

"We expect India to grow between 7 percent and 7.2 percent in fiscal 2024 to 2025 in our baseline scenario, followed by between 6.5 percent and 6.8 percent in fiscal 2025 to 2026 (admittedly, slightly lower than previously estimated)," said Dr. Majumdar.

India's slightly slower growth in the subsequent year will likely be tied to broader global trends, including sluggish growth and a delayed synchronous recovery in the West, as anticipated earlier. IANS

# 280 companies register 1.27 lakh internship offers under PM Internship Scheme

NEW DELHI: About 280 companies participated in the PM Internship Scheme (PMIS) and offered 1.27 lakh internship opportunities, according to reports.

The Centre has now closed the onboarding window for corporates' participation in the Scheme, which opened on October 3 for corporates to register their internship

offerings.

However, the window for youth registration, which commenced on October 12 is expected to remain open until early November.

The scheme was announced in the Union Budget 2024 by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with an outlay of Rs 800 crore for the pilot initiative. It will address youth unemployment by benefitting around 10 million young people over the

next five years. It will also connect young people with companies that are seeking talent.

Administered by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), the PMIS scheme allows the top 500 corporates by average CSR spending over the last three fiscal years to participate, providing valuable internship opportunities for youth.

Prominent companies participating in the scheme include

Mahindra & Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services, Larsen & Toubro, Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, Maruti Suzuki, Tech Mahindra, ONGC, Bajaj Finance, Eicher Motors, Max Life Insurance, Muthoot Finance, and Jubilant Foodworks.

Oil, gas, and energy; automotive; travel and hospitality; banking and financial services; and metals and mining are the sectors with the highest number of internship opportunities. Other key sectors offering internships are manufacturing, industrial,

infrastructure and construction, IT and software development, FMCG, and telecom. *IANS* 



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# Anand Desai Law Firm ROLE OF PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEYS

personal injury attorney is a legal advocate who specializes in representing individuals who have been physically or emotionally in jured due to the negligence or wrongdoing of others. Their primary objective is to ensure victims receive compensation for their losses, including medical expenses, lost wages, pain and suffering, and more. These lawyers navigate the complexities of personal injury law and help their clients pursue justice in a wide range of scenarios such as, but not limited to, car accidents, slip and falls, dog bites, and wrongful death matters.

#### WHAT IS PERSONAL INJURY LAW?

Personal injury law, also known as tort law, is a legal framework designed to provide remedies to individuals harmed by others. It holds people, businesses, and other entities accountable when their actions cause harm. The core of personal injury law is negligence, where a party fails to act with the level of care that someone else would have reasonably expected under the same circumstances. This legal structure allows injured parties to seek compensation for their losses and discourages future negligent behavior.

#### **TYPES OF PERSONAL INJURY CASES**

Personal injury attorneys handle a variety of cases, each with its own nuances and legal challenges. Common types include:

- **1. Car Accidents:** One of the most frequent causes of personal injury claims. Attorneys help victims prove liability, negotiate with insurance companies, and seek compensation for damages.
- 2. Slip and Fall Injuries: These claims are based on premises liability, which holds property owners responsible for maintaining a safe environment. Victims of un-



safe conditions like wet floors or poorly maintained staircases can seek damages through these claims.

- 3. Dog Bites: Being a victim of a dog bite means suffering from a physical injury caused by a dog. Beyond the physical harm, victims can face emotional trauma, potential infections, and even long-term scarring or disability. Legally, victims often have the right to pursue compensation for medical expenses, lost wages, pain, and suffering. In California, pet owners are strictly liable for the actions of their pets. Being strictly liable for the actions of your pets means that as a pet owner, you are legally responsible for any damage or injury your pet causes, regardless of whether you were negligent.
- **4. Wrongful Death:** When a person dies due to another's negligence or intentional actions, family members may pursue a wrongful death claim to recover compensation for funeral expenses, lost income, and emotional distress.

#### **KEY ELEMENTS OF A PERSONAL INJURY CASE**

To win a personal injury case, a few essential elements must be proven:

nies to ensure that their clients receive fair compensation for their injuries and losses.

- **5. Litigation:** If negotiations do not result in a fair settlement, personal injury attorneys will file a lawsuit and represent their clients in court. They present evidence, question witnesses, and make compelling arguments to persuade the judge or jury to rule in favor of the injured party.
- **6. Support and Guidance:** Beyond the legal work, personal injury attorneys offer emotional support and advice throughout the case. They help clients navigate complex legal processes and make informed decisions at every stage.

#### WHY HIRE A PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEY?

For those unfamiliar with the legal system, pursuing a personal injury claim can be daunting. Personal injury attorneys not only handle the legal complexities but also work to ensure their clients receive the compensation they deserve. They have extensive experience in dealing with insurance companies, negotiating settlements, and representing clients in court. Studies show that individuals who hire personal injury lawyers are more likely to receive

The core of personal injury law is negligence, where a party fails to act with the level of care that someone else would have reasonably expected under the same circumstances. This legal structure allows injured parties to seek compensation for their losses and discourages future negligent behavior

- **Duty of Care:** The defendant owed a duty to act in a way that would not cause harm to the plaintiff. For instance, drivers have a duty to follow traffic laws and avoid reckless behavior.
- "Breach of Duty: It must be shown that the defendant violated that duty by acting negligently or intentionally.
- "Causation: The breach of duty must have directly caused the plaintiff's injury. If a driver runs a red light and hits a pedestrian, causation would be clear.
- "Damages: The plaintiff must demonstrate that they suffered tangible losses, such as medical bills, lost wages, or emotional trauma.

#### WHAT DO PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEYS DO?

- **1. Case Evaluation:** During an initial consultation, personal injury lawyers assess the strength of a case. They gather details about the incident, evaluate potential damages, and determine if the claim is viable.
- **2. Investigation:** Attorneys conduct thorough investigations, collecting evidence such as medical records, police reports, witness statements, and accident reconstruction data to support their client's case.
- 3. Legal Strategy Development: Based on the evidence, personal injury lawyers develop a tailored strategy aimed at maximizing the client's compensation. This includes determining whether to negotiate a settlement or take the case to court.
- **4. Negotiation with Insurance Companies:** Insurance companies often attempt to minimize the amount they pay out in settlements. Experienced personal injury attorneys are skilled in negotiating with insurance compa-

larger settlements compared to those who try to handle their claims alone.

#### COMPENSATION IN PERSONAL INJURY CASES

Compensation in personal injury cases is designed to make the injured party "whole" again, to the extent possible. This can include:

- " **Economic Damages:** These cover tangible losses such as medical bills, lost wages, and property damage.
- "Non-Economic Damages: These address intangible losses like pain and suffering, emotional distress, and loss of enjoyment of life.
- " **Punitive Damages:** In rare cases, where the defendant's behavior was particularly egregious, punitive damages may be awarded to punish the wrongdoer and discourage similar conduct.

#### CONCLUSION

Personal injury attorneys are essential advocates for individuals who have suffered harm due to someone else's negligence. They play a crucial role in ensuring that victims are fairly compensated for their injuries and losses, providing both legal expertise and emotional support throughout the process.

If you or someone you know has been injured due to negligence, it's essential to consult with an experienced personal injury lawyer to protect your rights and explore your legal options.

Call the attorneys at Anand Desai Law firm and let us navigate the complexities of these matters for you. Visit us at www.CallDesai.com or call us at 833-270-7800.

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# Aim to make India's century as the world's century: PM Modi

NEW DELHI: Stressing that there is no scope for rest for him, as the government aims to fulfil its goals for a 'Viksit Bharat', Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he aims to make India's century as the world's century.

"We need stability and sustenance for growth and India is working on it. Our third term gives a message of stability. Initiatives taken by India are a solution towards world problems. We would aim to ensure that India's century is the world's century," PM Modi told the gathering at the 'NDTV World Summit 2024' in the national capital.

The world is amazed at the Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) India has created, including UPI which has gone global.

"The world celebrated the Chandrayaan mission. When India grows, the world feels happy. India's growth will benefit the world. The country drove the world's growth in the past but during colonialism, we couldn't. Now, we are independent and ready to drive the growth," PM Modi stressed.

India is now the fifth-largest economy in the world and is on its way to becoming the third-largest one sooner than expected. "The dreams we have seen, the pledges we have made, there is no rest, no relaxation," PM Modi added.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets as he arrives to attend the NDTV World Summit 2024, in New Delhi. (ANI Photo)

Highlighting the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme, PM Modi said they worked on two pillars -- building airports in tier 2 and 3 cities and making air travel affordable.

"Over three lakh flights have taken off under the UDAN scheme. Many flights connect the small cities. Now there are over 150 airports in India," said the Prime Minister.

"In the last 8-9 years, the participation of Indian universities has increased. Patent applications are at an all-time high. Over 2,500 research centers of companies across the world are located in India. We are taking the lead in giving a vision for the global future," said PM Modi.

He also said that India is moving ahead

with a forward-looking approach and the metric of success from now on for us would be 'what we want to achieve" in the years to come.

The PM said that India is on an unprecedented growth path and the world has seen robust transformation and reforms in the first 125 days of the NDA-led government's third term. *IANS* 

# India used digital tech to improve citizens' lives as US 'wasted' opportunities: Paul Romer

NEW DELHI: Nobel laureate, Professor Paul Michael Romer said that while the United States, which saw the rise of the Silicon Valley, failed to use technology to improve the lives of its citizens, India has shown to the world how to use digital technology to make the lives of 140 crore people better.

Citing the example of digital public infrastructure (DPI) solutions like Aadhaar and Unified Payment Interface (UPI), Romer said the technological opportunities that were presented to the US were "wasted and squandered".

"The question is, if we are given opportunities, what do we do with those? The digital opportunities that were given to the US were wasted and squandered phenomenally," the top economist said during the 'NDTV World Summit 2024'.

UPI-based transaction volume surged 52 percent to 78.97 billion in the first half



Nobel laureate, Professor Paul Michael Romer

of this year (H1 2024), from 51.9 billion in the same period last year.

Similarly, the value of transactions grew by 40 percent, increasing from Rs 83.16 lakh crore to Rs 116.63 lakh crore in the first six months of this year.

Hailing the Aadhaar initiative, the Nobel laureate said the digital technology was used to give citizens existence and further access to various government schemes seamlessly.

"The government has an important role to function as a regulator to effectively utilize technology for public good," the top economist said.

"The government in India was happy to make apps (like UPI). It did not happen in the US. People in India can see how because of the government's technological and digital intervention, their lives have become better," said Romer, a former Chief Economist of the World Bank. IANS

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# 97 pc Indians plan to travel this holiday season, leisure tops the list

NEW DELHI: A whopping 97 percent of Indians are planning to travel this festive and holiday season, and 33 percent have already booked their travel, a recent report showed.

Leisure tops the list of travel motivations (63 percent), followed by the desire to explore new places (54 percent) and reconnect with family and friends (27 percent), according to the Amex Trendex India findings released by American Express.

Nearly 94 percent of Indian travellers are willing to spend more for a convenient and enjoyable travel experience, the report mentioned.

About 73 percent of Indians are using travel credit card rewards, airline miles or loyalty points to manage costs, reflecting a shift toward maximizing value during the holidays.

Domestic travel remains popular, with 88 percent opting for trips within India, while international travel is on the radar for 61 percent.

"Indian consumers are eager to elevate their holiday experiences, from thoughtful gift-giving to unforgettable travel adventures," said Sanjay Khanna, CEO and Country Manager, American Express Banking Corp India.



In addition to travel, Indian adults are highly focused on holiday shopping and gifting.

The findings showed that an overwhelming 98 percent plan to buy gifts this season, with family (73 percent) and friends (65 percent) as the top recipients.

Popular gift choices include clothing

and accessories (73 percent each) followed by tech products (55 percent).

Meanwhile, 66 percent of Indians are opting for experiences like entertainment and travel as gifts.

The report further stated that 92 percent of the respondents are actively seeking one-of-a-kind gifts, while 88 percent prefer

shopping at stores that offer reward programs.

Several Indians are also turning to holiday discounts (64 percent) and sales events (59 percent), with 49 percent specifically looking for credit card offers to enhance their gift-buying experience, the report noted. *IANS* 

# Tata best business group in India, Ratan Tata was a humble figure: Mark Mobius

NEW DELHI: Terming Tata Group the best business group in India, global investor Mark Mobius recalled that he had met the (recently-deceased) Ratan Tata a few years ago and "despite being a titan of the

Indian Industry, he was very humble".

Participating in the 'NDTV World Summit 2024' Mobius talked about his investment mantra and said he looks at return-on-equity, debt-to-equity, and the management quality of the company as key levers for making investment decisions.

"I don't look at PE

(Price to Earning) ratio the way I used to. This is because the E of PE is backward-looking. The most important metric is the quality of the management. That is why I

travel so much, to meet these people," he said.

Mobius said that India is going to become a leader in the semiconductor sector in the coming times. The reason for this

> is demand, a good economy and a strong software ecosystem in India.

> The veteran investor further said that everyone has benefited from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's digitization program, which is "one of his greatest achievements".

He further said that Prime Minister Modi has integrated the tax system

with Goods and Services Tax (GST), which is a big change.

"International financial institutions understood that if you want to create wealth,

you have to create a market economy. That was a critical decision. For market economy, you need stock markets to raise capital," Mobius said.

Mobius also advised young investors to never rush into the market. "You should understand the market well and invest in selected stocks based on logic". *IANS* 

### Center slams X for 'abetting crime' after 100 flight bomb threats

Cont'd from page 40

Union Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu said those circulating such hoax threats will face tough action, including being put on a no-fly list. The government plans to amend the 'Suppression of Unlawful Acts' against the 'Safety of Civil Aviation Act' so that action could be initiated for offences when an aircraft is on the ground

Currently, the aviation security norms largely cover in-flight offences.

"We are trying to make amendments

and the legal team has worked on it. We need consultations with other ministries also. We are definitely pushing forward to have changes in the Act also so that it addresses offences that happen when the flight is on the ground and also make it a cognizable offence," the minister said.

After the hoax calls, the airlines followed standard operating procedures towards the safety of the passengers. Last week, an Air India flight from Mumbai to New York was diverted mid-air to Delhi following a bomb threat. *IANS* 



Ratan Tata

#### In Brief

# Indonesia submits proposal for Taiwan visa-free access approval

JAKARTA: Indonesia has submitted a proposal to grant visafree access to Taiwanese citizens, according to Tourism and Creative Economy Minister Sandiaga Uno.

The proposal is now with the Directorate-General of Immigration for approval, as the country seeks to expand its tourism reach and attract more international visitors, Taipei Times (CNA) reported.

Sandiaga disclosed the information during a meeting with foreign journalists, where he also outlined Indonesia's "golden visa" and "second home visa" programs. These initiatives are designed to boost tourism and encourage foreign investment in the country. The Minister emphasized the importance of these programs in increasing the nation's global tourism standing.

The announcement comes just days before Sandiaga is set to leave his post ahead of Prabowo Subianto's inauguration as Indonesia's next president. During the transition to the new government, Sandiaga highlighted key investment opportunities within Indonesia's special tourism economic zones, encouraging foreign companies to explore ventures in various cities.

Despite Taiwan being considered for visa-free access, it was notably absent from Indonesia's most recent list of 13 countries and regions granted such privileges. ANI

# Immigration Post

**44** India Post www.indiapost.com October 25, 2024

The I-956F petition was filed on February 23, 2024, and its approval, granted on October 4, 2024, reaffirms the project's alignment with EB-5 regulations

### U.S. Immigration Fund's Project Summit NJ Secures I-956F Approval

NEW DELHI: U.S. Immigration Fund is proud to announce that its premier Summit NJ Project has received I-956F approval from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). This critical approval signifies that the project fully complies with the EB-5 Immigrant-Investor Program requirements, representing a major advancement for the project and its investors.

The I-956F petition was filed on February 23, 2024, and its approval, granted on October 4, 2024, reaffirms the project's alignment with EB-5 regulations and ensures a smoother pathway for investors' immigration processes. "An approved Form I-956F is a vital first step to the approval of each EB-5 investor's I-526E petition," said Nicholas Mastroianni III, President of U.S. Immigration Fund. "This approval not only validates the Summit NJ Project but also brings our investors significantly closer to achieving their U.S. permanent residency goals."

Summit NJ, located in the heart of Jersey City's dynamic Journal Square, is a transforma-

tive mixed-use development designed to redefine urban luxury. The project consists of two iconic 60-story towers, featuring 1,723 upscale apartments with stunning views of the Manhattan skyline and the Hudson River. In addition to its residential offerings, Summit NJ includes 40,000 square feet of prime retail space, fully leased to a "City" Target, which includes a CVS Pharmacy and Starbucks, ensuring residents and visitors enjoy both convenience and luxury. The project also features 45,000 square feet of exclusive amenities, including indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a basketball court, and a variety of recreational and wellness facilities.

The project is now fully capitalized, marking a significant financial milestone that ensures the continued progress and success of Summit NJ. The latest cash infusion, totaling \$295 million, consisted of a senior loan from Apollo and a mezzanine loan from RXR and Hudson Realty Capital, further solidifying the financial foundation of the development. Additionally, 100% of the

jobs needed for all EB-5 investors in the project have already been created, underscoring the project's robust economic impact and compliance with EB-5 program requirements.

Construction on the project began in June 2022, with Tower 1 topping out in Q1 2024. Tower 2 construction began in Q2 2024, and full construction for both towers is expected to be substantially completed by Q1 2026.

also means investors' I-526E petitions could now be adjudicated by USCIS, now that the I-956F has been approved."

U.S. Immigration Fund is excited to continue supporting its investors as they move forward in the EB-5 process. The I-956F approval sets the stage for a streamlined adjudication of individual petitions, bringing investors closer to securing their U.S. permanent residency.

For more information about

Construction on the project began in June 2022, with Tower 1 topping out in Q1 2024.

Tower 2 construction began in Q2 2024, and full construction for both towers is expected to be substantially completed by Q1 2026

"With only a limited number of EB-5 investment units still available for this project, the I-956F approval marks a significant step forward for the development and a major milestone for our investors' United States immigration pursuits," added Mastroianni. "The milestone

U.S. Immigration Fund or the Summit NJ Project, please contact info@usifund.com

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### 'Does not violate Constitution's provisions': SC upholds constitutional validity of Section 6A of Citizenship Act

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday upheld the constitutional validity of Section 6A of the Citizenship Act, 1955, which was inserted to give effect to the Assam Accord and formed the basis of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam in 2019.

A Constitution Bench, headed by CJI D.Y. Chandrachud, was dealing with a clutch of petitions challenging Section 6A

and 7 of the Constitution.

Further, CJI Chandrachud said that the petitioners have been unable to prove that the ability of the Assamese to take steps to protect their culture is violated by the provisions of Section 6A, while holding that the impugned provisions do not violate Article 29(1) of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to take steps to protect the culture, language and script

and requires more robust policy measures to curb illicit movements and enhance border regulation.

On the other hand, Justice Pardiwala, in his minority opinion, struck down Section 6A with prospective effect. "Section 6A being manifestly arbitrary, temporally unreasonable and demonstrably unconstitutional cannot be allowed to continue for all times to come. Hence, in my opinion, it would be appropriate to declare Section 6A as unconstitutional with prospective effect," ruled Justice Pardiwala, clarifying that the benefit which has already been derived by the immigrants in Assam will not be taken away.

In substance, the Supreme Court held that immigrants who entered Assam prior to 1966 are deemed citizens, immigrants who entered between the cut-off dates of January 1, 1966, and March 25, 1971, can seek citizenship subject to the eligibility conditions prescribed in Section 6A, and immigrants who entered Assam on or after March 25, 1971, are not entitled to the protection conferred under Section 6A and declared to be "illegal immigrants".

Section 6A has become redundant with respect to those immigrants who have entered Assam on or after March 25, 1971, held the top court, ordering the deportation of the illegal immigrants.

Issuing a slew of directions to restrict illegal immigration post-1971, the SC said that while the statutory scheme of Section 6A is constitutionally valid, there is inadequate enforcement of the same, leading to the possibility of widespread injustice.

It directed that provisions of the Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Act, 1950 should be read into Section 6A for the purpose of identification of illegal immigrants.

Noting that the statutory machinery and tribunals tasked with the identification and detection of illegal immigrants or foreigners in Assam are inadequate, the Constitution Bench said that constant monitoring by the top court is necessitated because "implementation of immigration and citizenship legislations cannot be left to the mere wish and discretion of the authorities".

The Constitution Bench directed that the matter be placed before the Chief Justice of India (CJI) for the constitution of a bench to monitor the implementation of its directions. It referred to the statement made on behalf of the Union government that illegal immigrants entered the country in a clandestine and surreptitious manner, and therefore, it was not possible to collect accurate data on such people. *IANS* 



A Constitution Bench, headed by CJI D.Y.
Chandrachud, was dealing with a clutch of petitions challenging Section 6A of the Citizenship Act 1955, on the ground that it violates Articles 6,7,14, 29 and 355 of the Constitution

of the Citizenship Act 1955, on the ground that it violates Articles 6,7,14, 29 and 355 of the Constitution.

In December last year, the five-judge Bench, also comprising Justices Surya Kant, M.M. Sundresh, J. B. Pardiwala, and Manoj Misra, reserved its decision after hearing oral arguments from both sides.

In his opinion, CJI Chandrachud held that Section 6A of the Citizenship Act does not have the effect of amending Articles 6 and 7 of the Constitution, which prescribe a cut-off date for conferring citizenship for migrants from East and West Pakistan at the "commencement of the Constitution" (January 26, 1950).

"Section 6A of the Citizenship Act confers citizenship from January 1, 1966, for those who migrated before that date. Those who migrated between January 1, 1966, and March 24, 1971, are conferred citizenship upon the completion of ten years from the date of detection as a foreigner," he opined, adding that Section 6A confers citizenship from a later date to those who are not covered by Articles 6

of a section of citizens.

On similar lines, the concurring opinion rendered by Justice Surya Kant, on behalf of himself and Justices Sundresh and Misra, said that Section 6A falls within the bounds of the Constitution and does not contravene the foundational principles of fraternity.

However, Justice Kant flagged the ongoing influx of migrants through various border-states and called for more robust policy measures to curb illicit movements and enhance border regulation.

"Nevertheless, it is imperative to acknowledge and address the valid concerns raised by the petitioners regarding the persistent immigration in the State of Assam post-March 25,1971. Although Section 6A conferred citizenship rights exclusively to immigrants arriving before this cut-off date, there seems to still be an ongoing influx of migrants through various border States of India," he said. Justice Kant said that due to porous borders and incomplete fencing, unceasing migration imposes a significant challenge

#### DHS Offers Protections for Lebanese Nationals Currently in the United States

WASHINGTON: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is announcing new actions to provide temporary immigration reprieve to eligible Lebanese nationals currently in the United States and allowing them the opportunity to request work authorization. Included in today's announcement are details related to the Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) for Lebanese nationals as previously announced in July, and a planned new Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation for Lebanon.

After consultation with interagency partners, Secretary Mayorkas is announcing a new TPS designation for Lebanon for 18 months due to ongoing armed conflict and extraordinary and temporary conditions in Lebanon that prevent nationals of Lebanon from returning in safety. Those approved for TPS will be able to remain in the country while the United States is in discussions to achieve a diplomatic resolution for lasting stability and security across the Israel-Lebanon border. The designation of Lebanon for TPS will allow Lebanese nationals (and individuals having no nationality who last habitually resided in Lebanon) who have been continuously residing in the United States since October 16, 2024 to file initial applications for TPS, if they are otherwise eligible. Lebanese nationals who entered the United States after October 16, 2024 will not be eligible for TPS. More information about TPS, including how to apply for employment authorization, will be included in a forthcoming Federal Register Notice which DHS intends to publish in the next few weeks. Individuals should not apply for TPS under this designation until this Federal Register Notice publishes.

Today, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) also posted a Federal Register Notice establishing procedures for those Lebanese nationals covered by President Biden's July 26, 2024 grant of Deferred Enforced Departure to apply for Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) that will be valid through January 25, 2026. As described in the Federal Register Notice, eligible Lebanese nationals can apply for an EAD by filing Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization. *USCIS* 

#### **Realty Tidbits**

#### 'Million Dollar Listing India' makers announce six realtors

MUMBAI: The makers of the upcoming streaming reality show 'Million Dollar Listing', have announced the names of the six realtors who will be seen leading the charge, and packing a punch of solid real estate deals on the unscripted show.

The show is the Indian adaptation of the Emmy-nominated series 'Million Dollar Listing', and provides a glimpse into India's most sought-after homes and the high-stakes world of luxury real estate.

The show will feature realtors including Ankush Sayal, Hem Batra, Navdeep Khanuja, Karuna Gidwani, Deepti Mallik and Prajesh Bhatia.

'Million Dollar Listing: India' marks the second international version of the format, joining its successful editions of cities such as Los Angeles, New York, Miami, San Francisco, and Dubai. In each of its editions, the series follows the lives of cities' best and most aggressive real estate professionals as they navigate the high-stakes world of selling multimillion-dollar properties in exclusive neighborhoods. *IANS* 

# Real Estate Post

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October 25, 2024

#### Evoq Realtech Partners with Hrithik Roshan as Brand Ambassador

MUMBAI: Evoq Realtech, a prominent real estate developer based in Mohali, is delighted to announce its partnership with Indian superstar Hrithik Roshan, who will serve as the brand ambassador. Evoq's collaboration is set to enhance Evoq Realtech's brand image, aligning it with the ideals of excellence, innovation, and luxury that Hrithik embodies

Cont'd on page 47

# Foreign investors infuse \$436 mn in India's real estate sector, 139 pc YOY increase in Q3 2024



NEW DELHI: Institutional investments in India's real estate sector witnessed an annual growth of 41 percent in Q3 2024, reaching \$0.96 billion.

However, it sharply declined from the \$3.1 billion record investments received in the previous quarter, according to a report.

A Vestian Research report said that despite this significant quarterly decline of 69 percent, the outlook remains positive as investment nearly touches a billion mark.

"The significant uptick in investments compared to the previous year is a testament to India's robust economic growth amid prevailing geopolitical challenges. As a result, the share of foreign investors increased from 27 percent in Q3 2023 to 46 percent in Q3 2024," it said.

"Conversely, the share of do-

mestic investors declined to 43 percent in Q3 2024 from 71 percent in the same quarter a year earlier. However, the decrease was only 15 percent in terms of value," the report said.

Vestian CEO Shrinivas Rao said: "Investors have shown confidence in India's growth story on the back of robust GDP growth. As a result, the real estate sector witnessed increased participation from foreign investors which

led to institutional investments touching a billion mark in Q3 2024."

"Additionally, domestic investors are also actively participating, supported by the rapid infrastructure development across the country," he added.

Residential assets were the first preference for domestic investors during Q3 2024 whereas foreign investors accounted for 64 percent of the commercial deals. The growing prominence of work-from-office mandates and GCCs (global capability centers) lured foreign investors, leading to an increase in the share of commercial investments from 24 percent in Q3 2023 to 71 percent in Q3 2024.

On the other hand, the share of the residential sector reduced to 19 percent in Q3 2024 from 44 percent in the same period a year earlier. However, investment in residential assets is expected to grow in the coming quarters as niche asset classes such as co-living, senior housing, and serviced apartments are gaining traction.

According to the report, Chennai received the highest investments during Q3 2024 with a 48 percent share, and a majority of investments in the city were concentrated in industrial & warehousing, commercial, and residential sectors. *IANS* 

# Real estate top investment choice for Indians, bigger homes in demand as rentals surge

MUMBAI: Real estate remained the most preferred asset class for investment among 59 percent of Indians in the first half this year, as 57 percent of investors said they are buying premium properties to earn rental income, driven by surging rental rates in cities, according to a recent report.

About 51 percent of respondents prefer 3 BHK units, showing increased demand for larger home, as 67 percent of buyers seek property for end use, while 33 percent the investment purpose, said the report by FICCI and Anarock Property Consultants

The report highlighted significant shifts in homebuyer preferences and market dynamics in India's real estate sector.

"Investor confidence is vital for the industry's long-term success, and SEBI's focus on transstrong compliance and better disclosures will be crucial in attracting institutional investments.

According to Sandip Somany, Past President, FICCI, the significant shift in consumer preferences away from ready-to-move

"Investor confidence is vital for the industry's longterm success, and SEBI's focus on transparency and governance has been key in building this trust," said Pramod Rao, Executive Director, SEBI

parency and governance has been key in building this trust," said Pramod Rao, Executive Director, SEBI. He emphasized that homes towards under-construction properties indicates growing confidence in developers and the regulatory environment. The report found that the demand for ready homes has declined significantly. The ratio of ready homes to new launches is now 20:25, compared to 46:18 in the first half in 2020.

The Rs 45-Rs 90 lakh budget remains the most popular, but there's a shift towards premium properties. About 28 percent now prefer homes priced between Rs 90 lakh and Rs 1.5 crore.

Apartments are still the most preferred property type (58 percent), but residential plots are gaining popularity, especially in southern cities, the report mentioned. *IANS* 

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# Signature Global unveils exclusive festive offers for aspiring customers

NEW DELHI: Signature Global (India) Ltd., among India's leading real estate developers, has unveiled attractive Diwali offers tailored for customers. The festive benefits range from reduced booking amounts to exclusive rewards like luxury watches, complimentary club memberships, and car parking. Additionally, select projects offer special pricing and discounts on per square foot rates, ensuring a variety of appealing options for every buyer this festive season.

Leading up to Diwali, customers can book their dream

home with just a 9% down payment. The bookings will also entitle them to receive a complimentary RADO Watch Pair worth Rs. 6 Lakhs and guaranteed prizes of up to Rs. 1.5 lakhs.

Buyers of specific projects, such as Deluxe DXP, Twin Tower DXP, and Titanium SPR, can enjoy even more exclusive benefits. Signature Global is offering free club

memberships and car parking valued between Rs. 10 Lakhs and Rs. 32 Lakhs. Additionally, customers of certain residential projects may receive a flat discount of Rs. 1000 per sq. ft. and up to 15% off all commercial and signum properties.

On this occasion Pradeep Aggarwal, Founder & Chairman, Signature Global (India) Ltd., said, "The real estate market is witnessing an exceptional performance, and this festive season is set to be one of the strongest in recent years. Favorable conditions like rising incomes,

rapid infrastructure development, and strong market sentiment have positioned Gurugram as a standout among Delhi and NCR hotspots, drawing substantial attention from homebuyers and investors. The festive season is also a time wherein buyers look for exciting offers, discounts, and prizes. In line with the festive season tradition, we have also come up with some very exciting propositions. We are confident a large chuck of fencesitters will avail these offers to book their dream homes in and around the millennium city."

For Signature Global SCO, there's a flat 5% discount available whereas buyers of Daxin will receive a flat discount of Rs. 5 Lakhs Furthermore, the company will also be conducting a daily lucky draw from 25th - 27th October wherein buyers would stand a chance to win a car worth Rs 61 lakh daily.

It is pertinent to mention here that In H1FY25 Signature Global re-

ported its highest-ever pre-sales of Rs 5,900 crore, marking a 217% year-on-year growth. This year, the outlook is highly optimistic, and the company is confident that in this festive quarter, it is expected to surpass the guidance of Rs 10,000 crore for the current financial year, making it its best festive quarter ever.

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#### Evoq Realtech Partners with Hrithik Roshan as Brand Ambassador

MUMBAI: Evoq Realtech, a prominent real estate developer based in Mohali, is delighted to announce its partnership with Indian superstar Hrithik Roshan, who will serve as the brand ambassador. Evoq's collaboration is set to enhance Evoq Realtech's brand image, aligning it with the ideals of excellence, innovation, and luxury that Hrithik embodies.

Directors Gaurav Goyal and Satish Katyal expressed their enthusiasm about this significant alliance. "We are thrilled to welcome Hrithik Roshan to the Evoq Realtech family. His unwavering dedication to quality and performance aligns perfectly with our vision of creating exceptional real estate projects that elevate the lifestyles of our clients," remarked Gaurav Goyal.

Hrithik Roshan, one of India's most celebrated actors, is renowned not only for his captivating performances but also for his commitment to personal and professional excellence. His association with Evoq Realtech marks a pivotal moment for the brand as it continues to expand its portfolio of luxurious, customer-focused developments.

Reflecting on the partnership, Hrithik Roshan stated, "I admire Evoq's vision of enhancing the quality of life and providing innovative solutions to India's real estate landscape. Real estate being a high value invest-



Hrithik Roshan

ment, needs a trusted partner like Evoq who not only understands their customers requirements, but also has a history of developing infrastructures that are a class apart."

As Evoq Realtech advances with a series of upscale residential and commercial projects, this partnership positions the company to further solidify its standing as a key player in the North Indian real estate market. The collaboration with Hrithik Roshan underscores the company's commitment to achieving new heights of success while delivering unparalleled value to its clients.

About Evoq Realtech

Evoq Realtech is a distinguished real estate developer located in Mohali, Punjab, recognized for its dedication to creating innovative and high-quality residential and commercial spaces. Led by Directors Gaurav Goyal and Satish Katyal, the company has built a strong reputation for excellence in design, construction, and customer satisfaction.

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# Young homebuyers aged 18-34 lead real estate sentiment, focus on affordability

NEW DELHI: Individuals aged 18-34 show the strongest housing sentiment, with a housing sentiment index (HSI) score of 160, outpacing GenX and Baby Boomers, whose scores range from 141 to 156, according to the Magicbricks report.

The report highlights an interest among young homebuyers in properties priced between Rs 20-75 lakh and spanning 500-1,500 sq. ft., underlining a demand for affordability and optimized living spaces.

The HSI report identifies Pune, Thane/Navi Mumbai, and Gurugram as favored investment destinations for the 18-24 age group. These cities are attractive due to their established employment hubs and aspirational value.

Gurugram, in particular, saw a 17.4 percent year-onyear (YoY) increase in housing demand, alongside a 32.5 percent YoY rise in average prices to Rs 14,650 per square foot (psf). The city also witnessed a significant 35.85 percent growth in the under-construction housing supply during the third quarter of 2024.

For buyers aged 25-34, Hyderabad (HSI 180), Ahmedabad (HSI 171), and Noida/Greater Noida (HSI 169) emerged as top investment choices, driven by infrastructure development and robust housing demand.

Hyderabad recorded a 3.2 percent quarter-on-quarter (QoQ) increase in average prices, reaching Rs 8,188 psf in Q3 2024. Meanwhile, Ahmedabad remains a more affordable market, with average prices at Rs 5,927 psf, and popular micro-markets such as SG Highway and Bopal priced between Rs 5,500-7,900 psf.

Noida/Greater Noida stood out as a prime investment hub, with residential property prices almost doubling over the past year to Rs 11,625 psf. The surge was especially significant in the under-construction segment, where prices skyrocketed by 69 percent YoY, from Rs 7,547 psf in Q3 2023 to Rs 12,758 psf in Q3 2024. *ANI* 

### Priyanka Gandhi files nomination for Wayanad by-poll

WAYANAD: Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi filed her nomination for the Wayanad by-poll in Kerala in the presence of top leaders of the party on 23rd October. Priyanka Gandhi is making her electoral debut.

Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, Robert Vadra, Congress General Secretary KC Venugopal and a host of other leaders were also present during the nomination filing.

She filed her nomination papers to the district collector's office at Kalpetta.

Prior to her nomination, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka held a road show in Kalpetta town in Kerala and addressed a public rally where she expressed her gratitude to the people of Wayanad for supporting her brother in his difficult times.

"These values (truth and non-violence) moved my brother to walk 8000 km across India for love and unity... He could not have done that without your support... You stood with my brother when the whole world was turning its back against him... You gave



Congress General Secretary Privanka Gandhi Vadra with party leader Rahul Gandhi and Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi during the public meeting before her nomination filing for the Wayanad by-elections. (ANI Photo)

him your strength and courage to keep fighting... My whole family will always remain indebted and grateful to you... I know he had to leave you and I promise that I will only strengthen the bond between you and him...," Priyanka Gandhi said during the rally.

Rahul Gandhi urged the people of Wayanad to repose their faith in his sister, assuring them that she would be their

"I have a rakhi on my hand that my sister made, and I don't take it off until it

peaceful resolution of the conflict around

Ukraine through dialogue and diplomacy

breaks. Rakhi is the symbol of brother's protection for his sister. That is why I request the people of Wayanad to look after my sister and protect my sister. She will put her entire energy into looking after the people and the problems of Wayanad," he said.

The Wayanad seat was vacated by the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi who retained the Rae Bareli Lok Sabha Constituency.

Gandhi is up against Navya Haridas, a candidate fielded by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and Left Democratic Front's (LDF) candidate Sathyan Mokeri. Haridas is a two-time Kozhikode Corporation

If Priyanka Gandhi wins from Wayanad, she will be the third person from the Gandhi family to enter Parliament.

Priyanka Gandhi was responsible for taking care of the Gandhi family's stronghold in Amethi and Rae Bareli before entering active politics, where she emerged as an important strategist for her party.

The by-poll in the Wayanad is scheduled to be held on November 13. ANI

#### "Problems should be resolved in peaceful manner, India ready to provide all possible cooperation": PM Modi to President Putin on Ukraine conflict

KAZAN: Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Russian President Vladimir Putin here for bilateral meeting and said India believes that Ukraine conflict should be resolved in a peaceful manner and is ready to provide all possible cooperation.

He said India's efforts give priority to humanity.

"I have been in constant touch with you on the subject of the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. As I have said earlier, we believe that the problems should be resolved in a peaceful manner. We fully support the early establishment of peace and stability. All our efforts give priority to humanity. India is ready to provide all possible cooperation in the times to come," he said.

Russia and Ukarine have been engaged in a conflict since February 2022.

including engagement between both par-

"I have been in constant touch with you on the subject of the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. As I have said earlier, we believe that the problems should be resolved in a peaceful manner"

In a joint statement following the annual summit in July this year in Moscow, India and Russia highlighted the imperative of

They noted with appreciation relevant proposals of mediation and good offices aimed at peaceful resolution of the conflict in accordance with international law and on the basis of the UN Charter in its entirety and totality.

In his remarks during bilateral meeting with President Putin. PM Modi also said that his two visits to Russia in the last three months reflect close coordination and deep friendship between the two countries and he looks forward to take part in the BRICS Summit.

"My two visits to Russia in the last three months reflect our close coordination and deep friendship. Our Annual Summit in Moscow in July has strengthened our cooperation in every field...In 15 years, the BRICS has created its special identity and now many countries of the world want to join it. I am looking forward to participating in the BRICS Summit tomorrow," he said.

The Prime Minister said the opening of India's new consulate in Kazan will further strengthen ties between India and the Russian city.

"I express my heartfelt gratitude for your friendship, warm welcome and hospitality. It is a matter of great pleasure for me to have the opportunity to visit a beautiful city like Kazan for the BRICS Summit. India has deep and historical ties with this city. The opening of India's new consulate in Kazan will further strengthen these ties,"

PM Modi reached Russia today to attend the 16th BRICS Summit.

In his departure statement, PM Modi said that India values the close cooperation within BRICS which has emerged as an important platform for dialogue and discussion on issues concerning the global developmental agenda, reformed multilateralism, climate change, economic cooperation, building resilient supply chains, promoting cultural and people to people connect, among others.

The expansion of BRICS with the addition of new members last year has added to its inclusivity and agenda for the global good, he said.

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# Tibetan and Indian activists come together for roundtable discussion on 'Coexisting and Flourishing'

HIMACHAL PRADESH: The Tibetan Centre for Conflict Resolution (TCCR) held a round table discussion regarding collaborative initiatives, strengthening inter-community support and climate calamities in the North Indian hill town Dharamshala, of Himachal Pradesh.

Tibetan and Indian activists from various NGOs, environmentalists, research students, members of local organizations, including the hotel and restaurant association, representatives of Dharamshala Municipal Corporation and police also participated in the discussion.

The Round Table Discussion in the series of "Coexisting and Flourishing" brought local Indian and Tibetan leaders together and aimed at facilitating a platform for a reflective look at the current scenario and identifying solutions and new creative ideas that they can all take forward towards strengthening the friendship that they have shared for decades. The partici-

pants hoped to contribute towards building partnerships and a more supportive community of Indians and Tibetans.

One of the major purposes of this gathering was to address some issues that deeply impact the lives of people of these communities so that they can make better relations and harmony within and among

been living in India. We are living in exile, here, together with the Indian people and still, we are keeping our culture and tradition alive and we are also learning a lot from the Indian community. So, we wanted to create a platform where both communities can come together and share our grievances, worries and vision for the fu-

Tibetan and Indian activists from various NGOs, environmentalists, research students, members of local organizations, including the hotel and restaurant association, representatives of Dharamshala Municipal Corporation and police also participated in the discussion

different communities.

Sonam Dechen, associate director of Tibetan Centre for Conflict Resolution told ANI, "This is a roundtable discussion that we started in 2008 and it means a lot for the Centre. Since 1959, Tibetans have

ture. We also talk about the environment which is very important issue in recent time."

Arvind Sharma, an Indian activist from Dhauladhar Cleaners NGO told ANI, "We are here to attend this annual meeting or-

ganized by TCCR. Various people from different NGOs and environmentalists, including the local business community and people from the Tibetan community are here to discuss their problems so that we can address those issues amicably."

Priya, a research scholar from Central University of Himachal Pradesh, said, "Everybody has come here with a problem or some issue to be discussed and it will be interesting to see the conclusion or how do they address it. I think it will be a very fruitful meeting and we will learn a lot from this meeting."

Established in May 2001, the Tibetan Centre for Conflict Resolution (TCCR) is a registered NGO dedicated to peace and non-violence in the world at large. During the past 23 years, TCCR has conducted more than 450 workshops and training programs which has directly created a positive influence in the lives of more than 12,000 people belonging to various cultures and backgrounds. *ANI* 

### 'BRICS should not become anti-West group, India has important role to play'

"I think India has a very

important role to play in

BRICS. And I think

BRICS itself has

reached a very crucial

juncture. It has had its

ups and downs, but now

we have expanded

BRICS and we are also

looking at partner

countries"

NEW DELHI: Former diplomat and international affairs expert TS Tirumurti has said that India has a very important role to play in BRICS and the forum should not become an "anti-West group".

Tirumurti, a former Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations. told

ANI that India has a stabilizing role in a world that is seeing geo-political tensions.

"I think India has a very important role to play in BRICS. And I think BRICS itself has reached a very crucial juncture. It has had its ups and downs, but now we have expanded BRICS and we are also looking at partner countries. So the role of India

becomes even more important. The most important role we can play right now is to make sure that BRICS do not become an anti-west group. It is a non-West group, but it should not become an anti-West group because there are other things playing out in the rest of the world," he said.

"So I think India can play that stabilizing role through its contribution to make sure that, and we have played that role in

Ukraine... I think thanks to our digital prowess, and our UPI, I think we have an important role to play," he added.

He praised PM Modi's efforts towards strengthening BRICS.

Tirumurti also said that the western countries should be able to work with BRICS.

PM Modi reached Russia and held bilateral meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Iran President Masoud Pezeshkian.

In his pre-departure statement, PM Modi said that India values the close cooperation within BRICS which has emerged as an important platform for dialogue and discussion on

issues concerning the global developmental agenda, reformed multilateralism, climate change, economic cooperation, building resilient supply chains, promoting cultural and people to people connect, among others.

He said expansion of BRICS with the addition of new members last year has added to its inclusivity and agenda for the global good. *ANI* 

### Russian President welcomes PM Modi at dinner hosted for BRICS leaders

In his opening re-

marks at the bilateral

meeting, PM Modi

said his two visits to

Russia in the past

three months "reflect

our close coordination

and deep friendship"

KAZAN: Russian President Vladimir Putin welcomed Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the dinner hosted for BRICS leaders here.

The two leaders warmly shook hands as they met. They held a bilateral meeting earlier in the day.

In his opening remarks at the bilateral meeting, PM Modi said his two visits to Russia in the past three months "reflect our close coordination and deep friend-ship"

PM Modi had visited Russia in July for the annual summit between the two countries.

"Our cooperation in every field has been strengthened by our An-

nual Summit held in Moscow in July," he said.

PM Modi congratulated President Putin on the successful chairmanship of BRICS over the past year.

"In the last fifteen years, BRICS has established its unique identity, and now several countries around the world wish to join it. I look forward to participate in the BRICS Summit, he said.

"I sincerely express my gratitude for your friendship, warm welcome, and hospitality. I am delighted to have the opportunity to visit such a beautiful city as Kazan for the BRICS summit. This city shares deep and historical ties with India. The opening of a new Indian consu-

late in Kazan will further strengthen these ties," he added.

He also spoke about the Ukraine conflict and said India supports earliest possible restoration of peace and stability.

"We have remained in regular contact regarding the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. As I have stated before, we

believe that the resolution of issues should be achieved through peaceful means only. We fully support the earliest possible restoration of peace and stability. All our efforts prioritize humanity. India remains ready to provide all possible assistance in the future as well," he said.

The 16th BRICS Summit is being held at Kazan. ANI

### PM Modi receives a rousing welcome from Indian diaspora in Russia

KAZAN: Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a warm welcome from the members of the Indian diaspora and Russian citizens in Kazan.

The people who had gathered to welcome PM Modi sang Hindi songs and chanted "Vande Mataram" and "Bharat Mata ki Jai".

People donned in traditional Indian attire waved Indian flag as they welcomed the Prime Minister. Also, placards praising the PM were raised by the members.

PM Modi warmly acknowledged them with folded hands and appreciated their gesture towards him.

Indian students in Kazan, members of the ISCKON, were amongst others who warmly welcomed PM Modi earlier in the day during his arrival at Hotel Korston. Russian nationals also sung Krishna Bhajans for his welcome.

The BRICS Summit is being held under the Chairmanship of Russia.

This visit marks, PM Modi's second visit to Russia this year. He travelled to Moscow in July to attend the 22nd India-Russia Annual Summit where he held a bilateral meeting with President Putin. He was also conferred with Russia's highest civilian award, the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle at the Kremlin in Moscow.

BRIC, as a formal grouping, started after the meeting of the Leaders of Russia, India and China in St Petersburg on the margins of G8 Outreach Summit in 2006. The grouping was formalized during the first meeting of BRIC Foreign Ministers on the margins of UNGA in New York in 2006. The first BRIC Summit was held in Russia's



Prime Minister Narendra Modi receives a warm welcome from members of the Indian community in Kazan, Russia. (ANI Photo)

Yekaterinburg in 2009.

It was agreed to expand BRIC into BRICS with the inclusion of South Africa at the BRIC Foreign Ministers' meeting in New York in 2010. South Africa attended the 3rd BRICS Summit in Sanya in 2011. A further expansion of BRICS took place in 2024 with five new members -Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. ANI

#### PM Modi, Iranian President Pezeshkian discuss ways to strengthen cooperation

KAZAN: Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on the sidelines of the 16th BRICS Summit in Kazan on 22nd October. The two leaders reviewed bilateral relations and discussed ways to further strengthen cooperation in various fields.

During the meeting, PM Modi invited Masoud Pezeshkian to visit India at an early date. Iranian President Pezeshkian accepted the invitation, Prime Minister's Office said in a release

PM Modi congratulated Pezeshkian on his victory in the elections. He also welcomed Iran in the BRICS family. This was the first meeting between the two leaders since Masoud Pezeshkian took over as President of Iran in July this year.

In a post on X, PM Modi stated, "Had a very good meeting with the President of Iran, Mr. Masoud Pezeshkian. We reviewed the full range of relations between our countries. We also discussed ways to deepen ties in futuristic

The two leaders reaffirmed significance of Chabahar Port for reconstruction and redevelopment of Afghanistan and enhancing trade and economic linkages with Central Asia.

In a press release, Prime Minister's Office stated, "Noting that the signing of the long-term contract of Chabahar Port is an important milestone in bilateral relations, the two leaders reaffirmed its significance for reconstruction and redevelopment of Afghanistan and enhancing trade and economic linkages with Central Asia."

The Chabahar Port is an India-Iran flagship project that



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets and holds a bilateral meeting with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on the sidelines of the 16th BRICS Summit, in Kazan, (ANI Photo)

serves as an important transit port for trade with Afghanistan and Central Asian countries, which are landlocked countries.

PM Modi and Pezeshkian also exchanged views on regional developments, including the situation in West Asia. PM Modi expressed "deep concern" over the widening of the conflict and reiterated India's call to de-escalate the situation, according to press release.

During the meeting, PM Modi also emphasized on pro-

tection of civilians and the role of diplomacy in resolving the conflict. PM Modi and Pezeshkian agreed to continue their cooperation in various multilateral forums, including BRICS and SCO.

"PM @narendramodi met President @drpezeshkian of Iran on the sidelines of 16th #BRICS2024 Summit in Kazan. Discussions focused on India - Iran bilateral relations, including on the importance of INSTC and Chabahar port for regional connectivity. ANI







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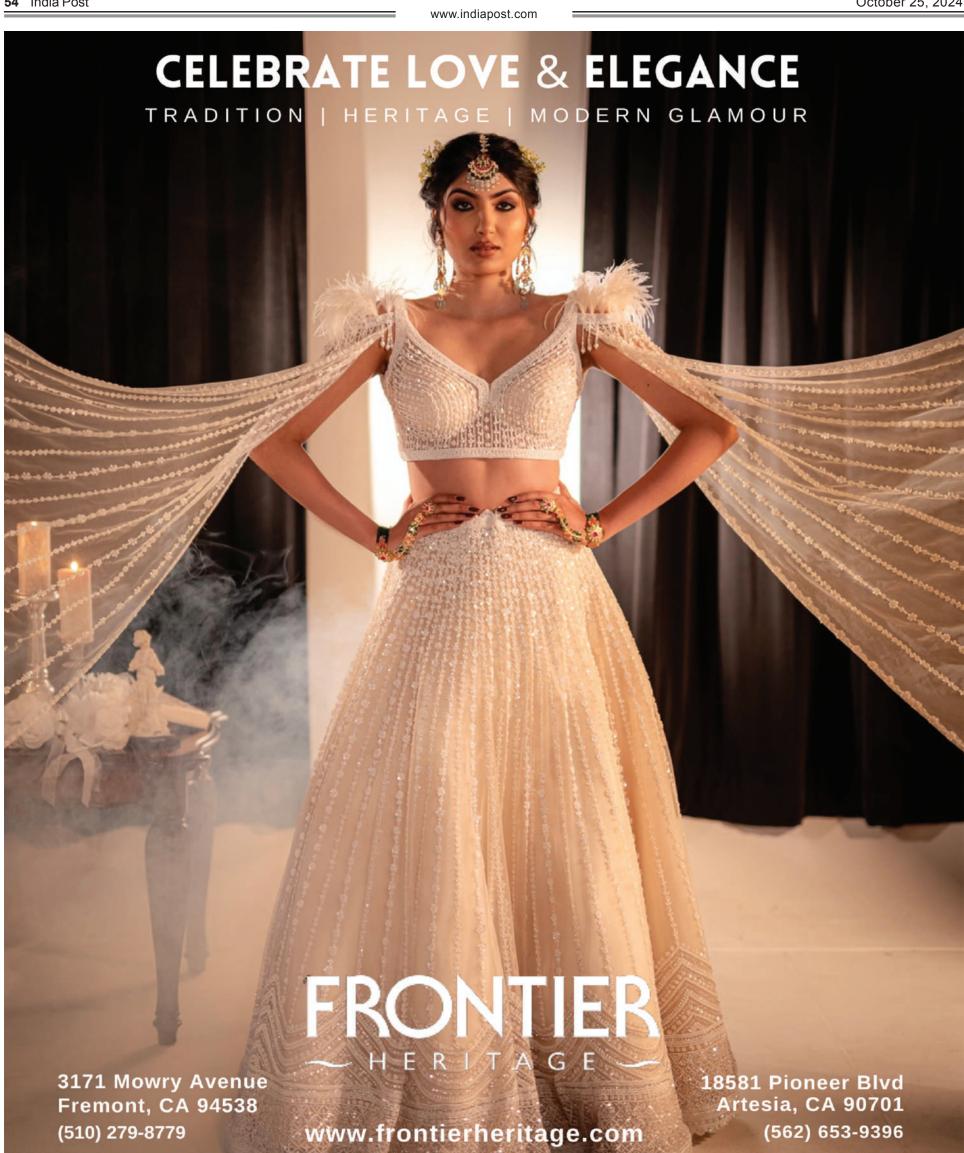
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MUMBAI: The upcoming movie 'The Fable', which stars National Award-winning actor Manoj Bajpayee, now has the Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga Kapoor, and Achin Jain joining as executive producers. The movie has set its India premiere at the upcoming edition of the Mumbai Academy of the Moving Image (MAMI) Film Festival this month.

The film is directed by Raam Reddy, who is known for the critically acclaimed Kannada film 'Thithi' which won two Golden Leopards at the 68th Locarno Film Festival and the National Film Award for the

Best Feature Film in Kannada.

Guneet Monga Kapoor, producer and founder, Sikhya Entertainment, expressed, "We're excited to bring The Fable to MAMI 2024. It's so refreshing to watch an Indian film with global appeal that goes against all the grains

and constraints many are tied to. The Fable by the incredibly talented Director, Raam Reddy magically captures the soul of our Himalayan hills".

She further mentioned, "It is a distinct Indian story with a universal message, mesmerizingly shot on film. With an incredible cast in Manoj Bajpaye, Priyanka Bose, Deepak

THE FILM IS DIRECTED BY RAAM REDDY,
WHO IS KNOWN FOR THE CRITICALLY
ACCLAIMED KANNADA FILM 'THITHI' WHICH
WON TWO GOLDEN LEOPARDS AT THE
68TH LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL AND THE
NATIONAL FILM AWARD FOR THE BEST
FEATURE FILM IN KANNADA

Dobriyal and Tillotama Shome to support this tale, we're excited to be jumping on board to ensure The Fable is celebrated worldwide. We all grew up with Fables, perhaps it's time to revisit one".

The film, which originally

premiered at Berlin International Film Festival in 2024, follows a family living in a sprawling Orchard Estate in the Indian Himalayas. Their peaceful life is filled with simple pleasures, Dev's morning flights with his homemade wings, his wife Nandini's (played by Priyanka Bose) mulberry jam, and their children's effervescence.

One day the family discovers a mysteriously burnt apple tree, followed by more destruction. As tensions rise and suspicions swirl, and a devastating fire breaks out, eventually forcing Dev to see himself and his family for who they truly are.

The film also stars Deepak Dobriyal, and Tilllotama Shome, and is a joint India-US co-production between Prspctvs Productions and Maxmedia, with Guneet and Achin from Sikhya Entertainment now joining as Executive Producers. *IANS* 



#### Kiran Rao talks about India's Oscar submission 'Laapataa Ladies' at LSE

MUMBAI: Filmmaker Kiran Rao, whose 'Laapataa Ladies' (Lost Ladies), has been submitted as India's official entry for the Oscars 2025, recently attended a fireside chat at London School of Economics (LSE).

Kiran engaged in an insightful conversation with Professor Shakuntala Banaji, Professor of Media, Culture and Social Change, and Sanam Arora, Founder and Chairperson of the National Indian Students and Alumni Union UK (NISAU). Kiran shared her thoughts on pushing the boundaries of storytelling in Indian cinema.

During the session, the filmmaker spoke about 'Laapataa Ladies' (Lost Ladies) tackling themes of identity, empowerment, and sisterhood through a satirical and humorous lens. The discussion resonated deeply with students, offering a rare glimpse into Kiran's creative process and her vision for impactful filmmaking.

Speaking about her participation at the event, Kiran Rao said in a statement, "I am truly pleased to have had the opportunity to meet and interact with students at the London School of Economics and from universities throughout the UK through NISAU. Their enthusiasm and curiosity were inspiring. The discussion reaffirmed my belief in the transformative power of storytelling to connect communities and spark change".

Kiran Rao has been in London this week alongside Jyoti Deshpande, Head of Jio Studios, to attend Laapataa Ladies (Lost Ladies) screenings and promotions. The film, which has just been released in Japan, continues to garner rave reviews from both critics and viewers.

Presented by Jio Studios, Laapataa Ladies (Lost Ladies) is directed by Kiran Rao and produced by Aamir Khan and Jyoti Deshpande. *IANS* 



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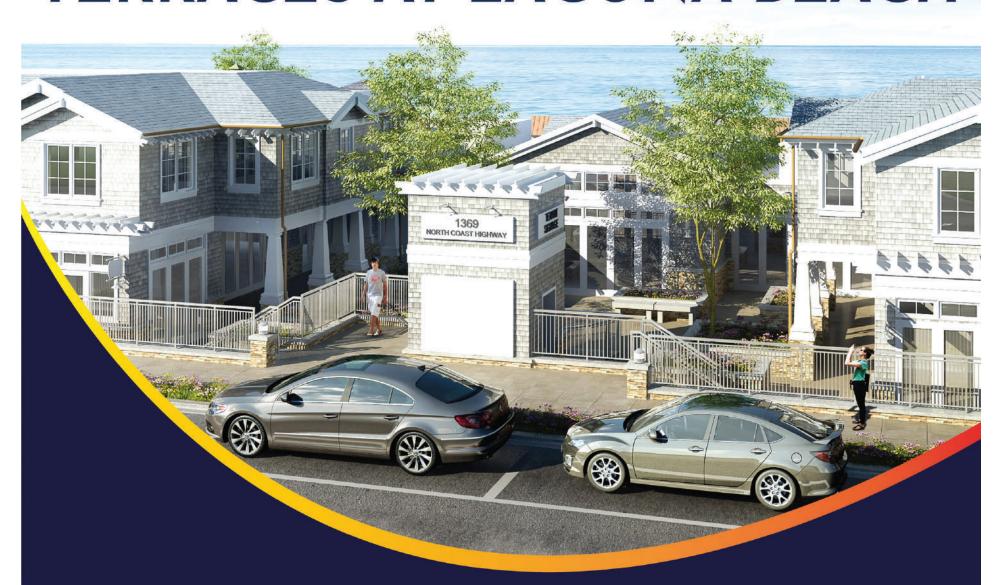






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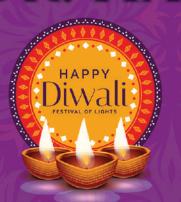
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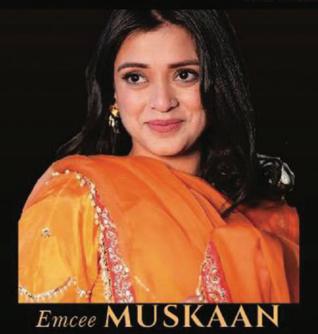


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#### **Philosophy**

#### **JEAN KLEIN**

ery often when you listen to some thing, you emphasize the object. There is still an action; there is still eccentric energy, I would say. In welcoming, you emphasize the welcoming. That means in welcoming you are completely open, open to the perception.

In welcoming you are waiting, completely directionless. You live freely without any representation, without psychological memory. Your real nature is welcoming.

When you come to the understanding that there is nothing to achieve, nothing to obtain-that all knowledge is a going away from what you are looking for-then there is a spontaneous giving up.

You do not give up, it gives itself up. Then there is welcoming and another way of listening where the listening and the welcoming are open to themselves. It refers to Itself.

Welcoming, listening, is an impersonal state where there is no place to be somebody, to be a person. That is why in welcoming you are spontaneously ex-

Real thinking starts from the unknown, from silence. This thinking has a completely other way of flowing, I would say. There is never assertion, there is never domination, never

manipulation. This thinking is constantly in a state of "I don't

know." The background of real thinking is "I don't know."

In any case, what you are looking for you cannot know. All that you know is representation. When you say "I know," you represent it. Thinking is in representation, but your totality-what you are fundamentallycan never be thought. You can only be it.

Will you pay the price for what you are looking for? Any price? Are you willing to live free from the person? Do you see that the person is the biggest price? Does that mean that you are not willing to share your past? You can only share with me what you are fundamentally. That we have in common.

That is not a relationship between personality and personality. When you pay the price of giving up the personality, then you can really share with me what we have in

#### Alternative Dispute Resolution should be encouraged to reduce burden on courts

he Indian government appears to be very serious about reducing the burden on courts by encouraging people, industry, business, and commerce to use Alternative Dispute Resolution approaches such as mediation and arbitration rather than going to court and spending money, time, and relationships.

Arbitration is an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process in which disputants refer their dispute to a mutually appointed arbitrator and accept the decision without further discussion. The Arbitration and Conciliation Act (the Act) of 1996 permits such an approach and encourages disputants to resolve their disputes through an arbitrator. The country's highest court has stated several times that the Act is intended to provide for a guick and inexpensive alternative mode of resolving disputes with minimal court intervention. The arbitration award is final, binding, and the courts are not authorized to interfere and modify the award.

The distinction between an arbitration award and a court judgment is that, in the latter case, an aggrieved party approaches a court unilaterally, whereas in the former case an arbitrator is appointed with mutual consent by disputing parties, and the dispute arises from an arbitration clause in an agreement or parties mutually decide to refer their dispute to an arbitrator, implicitly agreeing to abide by the arbitrator's decision. In a court case, the parties are unaware of who will be the judge, whereas in arbitration, the parties know their arbitrator, who is a neutral third party. As a result, the Act only allows for limited judicial intervention when an award violates Indian public policy.

Various high courts and the Supreme Court have pointed out that judicial interference, if any, is provided solely through Sections 34 and 37. Ironically, the advocates representing the parties take the decided arbitration cases to the courts, and the courts delay deciding the case under Section 34, despite the fact that it is a sum-

> mary trial. This causes unnecessary delays in justice, costs for courts and advocates, and disruptions in relationships, ultimately defeating the purpose of arbitration as an effective ADR method outside

The finality of awards promotes the growth of industry, business, and commerce, as well as the prompt resolution of property and other eager to encourage ADR for national

civil disputes. The Government of India is thus and international dispute resolution

Your real nature is welcoming Real thinking starts from the



unknown, from silence

cited. Excited is not really the word-you are completely expanded.

The moment the person comes in the play, you are contracted, fixed to the body. Do you live in a state of emptiness? I mean, when you are in meditation or even walking down the road, are you always in a state of emptiness? Emptiness is not a state; I correct you, it is a non-state.

What do you want really? Happiness? Joy? Peace?

In happiness and in joy you cannot say, "I'm happy," "I'm in joy"-it is not possible. When you think, "I'm happy," you objectify it, make it a state. Where there is happiness, nobody is happy, nothing is happy. There is only happiness.

You are still involved in calculative thinking, looking for a result, an experience. Real thinking is when you go away from thinking. When you look away from thinking, that is real thinking. All real thinking starts free from any thought. Real thinking comes out of silence. You may have a certain forefeeling of what you are looking for.

common. There is really nothing to ask.

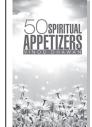
I would say that you cannot give up the personality, because you give up the personality still from the personality. The personality can never give itself up. It is only through understanding that the personality dissolves.

You must absolutely understand that the personality in itself does not exist.

Excerpted from 'Living Truth: Where Time and Timelessness Meet'. The 112th birth anniversary of Jean Klein was observed on October 12

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The finality of awards promotes the growth of industry, business, and commerce, as well as the prompt resolution of property and other civil disputes. The Government of India is thus eager to encourage ADR for national and international dispute resolution.

In addition to the stated objectives, the Act's intentions are to provide speedy, timely, and cost-effective justice in civil and arbitral matters, as well as to reduce court interventions when an arbitrator issues an award. Also, ADR law aims to make justice more accessible and reduce the burden on courts, which currently have over 4.48 crore (nearly 45 million) cases pending from District Court to Supreme Court, 1.08 crore of which are civil disputes and 3.40 crore of which are criminal cases. According to the National Judicial Data Grid, these cases have been pending for anywhere from one year to more than 30 years.

Act prohibits judicial intervention

of court.

Section 5 of the Act expressly prohibits judicial intervention once an award has been passed by an arbitrator who is appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and if judicial intervention is required, an aggrieved party must move the court with jurisdiction over the matter and request that the award be set aside. However, in a slew of decisions, the Supreme Court has categorically stated that courts should not overturn an award simply because an alternative view on facts and contract interpretation exists. The courts must exercise caution and defer to the Arbitral Tribunal's decision, even if the reasoning provided in the award is implied, unless the award depicts perversity that is unpardonable under Section 34 of the Arbitration Act."

(The author is a former International Senior Advisor, UNDP) South Asia Monitor

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# The Third Eye: National security is a multi-dimensional challenge

DC PATHAK

he ever-enlarging circle of national security con cerns is raising some interesting questions about a possible 'security overreach', the need for clarity about definitive threats as against interpretations of presumptive dangers and a better-defined approach to long-term and short-run problems.

Nothing should happen to dilute the 'core' threats to national security and a quick integral response to the same should be constantly evolved. Assessment of such a threat depends on a combination of available information or 'Intelligence' and a competent human assessment that uses data analytics in a major way.

Moreover, human 'sources' and our own technical intelligence are now supplemented by what we get from Intelligence-sharing arrangements with our strategic partners in

by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher in 1993 to the effect that 'national security was inseparable from economic security'- has appeared in the post-Cold War era, which was marked by the advent of 'proxy wars' as a replacement of the open military attack. Covert offensives including cyber attacks designed to damage the economy of the opponent, are now the order of the day and national security plans should effectively take care of these.

Above all, an evaluation of who the strategic friends and adversaries are at a given point of time becomes a basic prerequisite for framing the national security strategy.

National security obviously revolves around the safeguarding of the nation against external and internal threats, against an 'open' military attack as well as 'covert' offensives of the adversary and in fact against any

The 'open' attack is repulsed by the nation's defense forces while the 'unseen' danger is to be neutralized on the strength of prior information called Intelligence gathered by the nation's security set up including the Intelligence agencies

the international community - this gives new-found importance to the ongoing determination of our 'friends and adversaries' in the backdrop of changing geopolitics.

Military threats - imminent and long-range - and the danger of 'covert' attacks like cross-border terrorism, are the basic components of any national security evaluation. To these are added the global concerns that cast their shadow on national security perspectives - like environment and climate change, narcotics trade and human trafficking.

A newly recognized dimension of national security - traceable to the doctrine famously enunciated

moves of the opponents to directly or indirectly weaken our internal stability and unity.

The 'open' attack is repulsed by the nation's defense forces while the 'unseen' danger is to be neutralized on the strength of prior information called Intelligence gathered by the nation's security set up including the Intelligence agencies. Defense and Security both denote protection but they are not synonyms.

There is, of course, a hidden part of the open attack when the enemy would be secretly planning the offensive and the country would need 'Military Intelligence' for that collected through both human and technical

means - the latter covering signals, imagery and communication interceptions.

National security at its hardcore demands a total watch out against external and internal threats and a nation has to do whatever it takes to strengthen its defense forces as well as the security and Intelligence set-up to deal with them.

Strategic partnerships are meant to bolster the country's defense. In the area of security which is protection against covert offensives like terror attacks, Intelligence was the chief weapon for countering them.

Security fails for three reasons - failure of advance 'information', failure of 'communication' of Intelligence to the actiontaking authorities and failure of these authorities to take coordinated 'action'.

It is rightly said that 'either Intelligence succeeds or the enemy does'. As the sources of threat to internal security spread to the ground level, the importance of public awareness and the outreach of Central agencies to the local police and administrative authorities increases manifold. The Department of Homeland Security created in the US after 9/11 established Fusion Centers that provided for the flow of security-related information directly from the public too.

Over the years many 'unconventional' dimensions of national security have come to the fore and compelled the policymakers to include them along with the 'hardcore' threats in the framing of an integral assessment of what would sustain national security in a comprehensive long-term view. One is the acceptance of the thesis - as already mentioned - that the economic strength of the country contributed to its national security.

(The writer is a former Director of the Intelligence Bureau) IANS

For detailed story visit www.indiapost.com



# GOING AFTER TERRORISTS

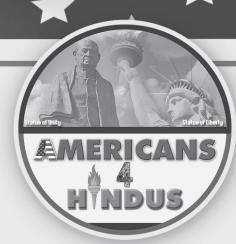
Recent reports across international media, flashed an Indian citizen Vikash (Vikas) Yadav on FBI's list of "wanted" fugitives in connection with a plot to kill a US citizen on US soil. He was arrested in India weeks after Department of Justice announced that Vikas Yadav faces "murder-for-hire and money laundering" charges, in connection with his role in directing a foiled plot to kill Sikh separatist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. According to the Department of Justice Yadav "remains at large".

He was identified only as "CC-1" (co-conspirator) in the first indictment according to US law. "The defendant, an Indian government employee, allegedly conspired with a criminal associate and attempted to assassinate a US citizen on American soil for exercising their First Amendment rights. Vikas supposedly hired Nikhil Gupta who was arrested in the Czech Republic and extradited to US to face trial in the alleged plot to assassinate Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. Nikhil Gupta was arrested in the Czech Republic last year and is now languishing in a US jail since extradition.

"Today's charges demonstrate that the Justice Department will not tolerate attempts to target and endanger Americans and to undermine the rights to which every US citizen is entitled," said, US Attorney General. There is also a warrant against him. The indictment stated, "Yadav has described his position as a 'senior field officer' with responsibilities in 'security management' and 'intelligence'. Yadav also has previously served in India's Central Reserve Police Force and received 'officer training' in 'battle craft' and 'weapons'. He was originally from the CRPF and was an "Assistant Commandant". Running into 18 pages, the indictment posts also gives a picture of two persons exchanging dollars in a car in New York, which federal prosecutors said was the money being paid to the alleged killer by a person on behalf of Nikhil Gupta and Vikas Yadav to assassinate the Sikh separatist leader in New York. According to reports it is not going to be easy for US to have him extradited as he also faces criminal investigation and charges against a kidnapping and murder plot, of a businessman in Delhi.

In another similar situation vis-a-vis, where India was trying to extradite the main accused, Thomas Headly from US government in connection of plotting and assisting Pakistani terrorist of 26/11, Mumbai attack has seen no light so far. It seems there is lots of hypocrisy in dealing with terrorists around the world. Of course, no country has the right to go and attack or harm another country's citizen or property. Equally the country that harbors any terrorist of any state is equally responsible and guilty of supporting such elements. Best example is Pakistan, which not only harbored Bin Laden for years and at the same time was milking US tax payer's funds meant to fight terrorism in Afghanistan.

India has been suffering from terrorism for years and asking countries not to support such elements and harbor them. The world, mainly US, woke up only after 911. Everything changed regarding national security in most parts of the world. Only way the disease of terror can be contained is by mutual cooperation and understanding.



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gave her fans a good laugh with a playful remark about her frequent travels. Of late, the actress has been jet-setting to various destinations, both for work and leisure.

Recently, she was in Turkey with husband Raghav Chadha for a close friend's wedding.

The 'Kesari' star has been sharing glimpses from the wedding on her Instagram handle. Parineeti recently took to her Instagram story and shared a note, jokingly asking someone to get her a job at an airport. Her note read, "Last 12 days worth of flights- Bombay, Abu Dhabi, Washington, DC, Virginia Beach, DC ,Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Istanbul, Bodrum, Istanbul, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Bombay, Delhi Someone get me a job at

an airport".

Her post clearly indicates that Parineeti has been travelling extensively over the past few days. Chopra also posted a video from the car where she is seen winking at the camera. Just days before her trip to Turkey, Parineeti celebrated her first wedding anniversary with Raghav Chadha in the Maldives. The couple appeared happy and relaxed, enjoying moments like cycling on the beach and walking hand-in-hand. Parineeti and Raghav tied the knot on September 24, 2023, at the Leela Palace Hotel in Udaipur, Rajasthan, in an intimate ceremony with

close friends and family.

Their wedding was attended by several prominent figures from the entertainment industry as well as politicians. On the professional front, Parineeti Chopra was last seen in 'Amar Singh Chamkila', where she starred alongside Diljit Dosanjh. IANS



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2 Tauba Tauba: Bad Newz

3 Sajni: Laapataa Ladies

4 Tainu Khabar Nahi: Munjya

5 Angaaron : Pushpa 2 The Rule

TOP TEN

6 Akhiyaan Gulaab: Teri Baaton

Mein Aisa Uljha Jiya

7 Agar Ho Tum:

Mr. And Mrs. Mahi

8 Satranga: Animal

9 Chaleya: Jawan

10 Aayi Nai: Stree 2

#### **Madhuri Dixit's** SPECIAL MESSAGE for Priyanka Chopra

riyanka Chopra Jonas recently took to Instagram to express her heartfelt gratitude to Madhuri Dixit for her kind words of praise for her film 'Paani.'

In an Instagram post, Madhuri appreciated the creativity and hard work of the whole team, urging fans to watch the film. The Marathi film, which addresses the critical global issue of water scarcity, is bankrolled by Priyanka's production house.

Taking to her Instagram story, the 'Dostana' actress reposted Madhuri's post, writing, "Thank you @madhuridixitnene." Heaping praise on the film, the 'Dil To Pagal Hai' actress shared the trailer of the film on her Instagram and wrote, "Bravo to the whole team for commendable creativity and hardwork! Please go and

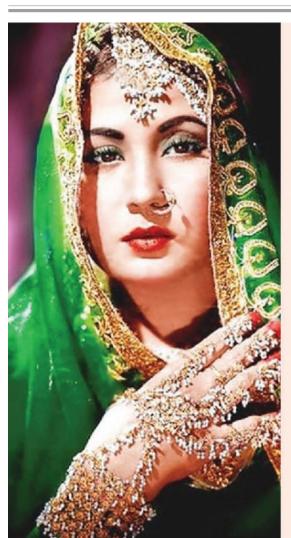
show them love and support. Paani is now out in theatres." She also tagged Priyanka and director Addinath M. Kothare in her post.

> Backed by Priyanka Chopra and her mother, Madhu Chopra's production house, Purple Pebble Pictures. 'Paani' stars Addinath, Rucha Vaidya, Subodh Bhave, Rajit Kapur, Kishor Kadam, Nitin Dixit and Sachin Goswami, among others.

> > *IANS*







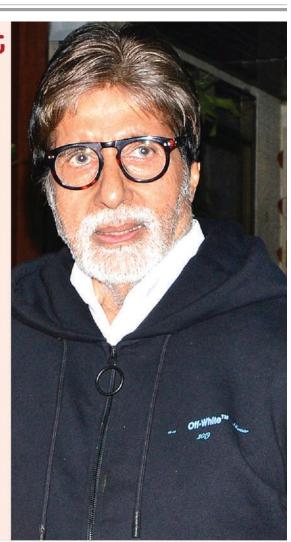
### Amitabh Bachchan regrets not working with Meena Kumari

n the upcoming episode of 'Kaun Banega Crorepati 16', Amitabh Bachchan reflected on his illustrious career and expressed a heart felt regret about never having the opportunity to work with the legendary actress Meena Kumari.

Big B also reminisced about the actress Waheeda Rehman's iconic close-up in the film 'Pyaasa', which left a lasting impression on him. During a conversation with Vidya Balan and Kartik Aaryan, Amitabh voiced his regret at not having worked with Meena Kumari while discussing the 1962 cult movie 'Sahib Bibi Aur Ghulam.' Big B said, "I never got the opportunity to work with Meena Kumari ji. In 'Sahib Biwi Aur Ghulam,' there's a song - 'Na jaao saiyaan' where she performed so gracefully that I found myself watching her continuously. The art of sitting in one place quietly, singing the song and coupled with her radiance, the effects used to be marvelous.

They used to take long shots back then and I think that was the beauty of it all. Unlike today, every shot ends in just a few words. And Waheeda Rehman Ji, she is my absolute favorite actress." Talking about Waheeda Rehman, the megastar spoke about how that particular shot in the song captured such exquisite emotion and artistry, truly showcasing her brilliance.

Amitabh shared, "What a beautiful shot it was; it took two or three takes to light up that close-up. These days, it all happens so quickly, but back then, it was never like that." Big B's anecdotes left Vidya Balan in awe as she exclaimed, "I would love to have been born in that era and be your heroine." Kartik then chimed in, saying, "Sir, I would love to be your heroine as well! (laughs)." *IANS* 





#### "Main baap ban gaya...": Prince Narula, Yuvika Chaudhary blessed

arwa Chauth has become extra spe cial for couple Prince Narula and Yuvika Chaudhary this year as a couple has been blessed with a baby girl.

Prince, best known for 'Roadies' and 'Bigg Boss' took to Instagram to share the exciting news with fans.

In a video filmed during a Roadies audition in Pune on October 20, Prince made the big announcement in front of a cheering crowd.

Speaking to the audience, a thrilled Prince said, "Mein aaplogo ko ek khushkhabri dera hu ki mein baap ban gaya hu," He then jokingly added, "Aur ab toh haq se bol sakte hain... baap ke aage koi bol sakta hai kya."

Thanking everyone for their love and support, Prince wrote, "Thanku everyone for the love ANI



#### RANVEER SINGH SAYS 'NO CHANCE' TO ORRY

Orry, aka Orhan Awatramani, known for his close ties with numerous Bollywood celebrities, shared an amusing video featuring Ranveer Singh, asking the burning question, 'Ye Orry karta kya hai?'

The clip guickly captured the attention of fans, as it highlighted a playful exchange between the two stars.

Taking to his Instagram handle, Orry posted a video showing the 'Simmba' actor cracking a joke about the frequently asked question concerning Orry. While gazing at the cameras, Ranveer wrapped his arm around Orry's shoulder and playfully remarked in Hindi, "Aksar baar humare desh mein bohot zyada log puuchhte hain do sawal. Pehla, 'Kattappa ne Baahubali ko kyu maara?' Aur dusra, 'Ye Orry karta kya hai?'" ("Often, two questions are asked in India by many people. First, 'Why did Kattappa kill Baahubali?' and second, 'What does Orry actually do?"). *IANS* 



#### Shraddha Kapoor blesses herself in st

ollywood actress Shraddha Kapoor recently captivated her fans on social media with a series of her stunning photographs.

Known for her enchanting beauty and infectious charm, the 'Baaghi' actress, took to Instagram to share glimpses of her radiant self, leaving her fans base in awe of her utter beauty. Shraddha posted a couple of her gorgeous photos, exuding natural elegance and showcasing her effortless style. Alongside them, she wrote, "Nothing to do... Just blessing myself." Whether she's wearing a chic outfit or sporting a casual look, her confidence shines through. In a recent set of photos,

the 'Stree 2' actress posed with utmost grace and style.

The first image shows her with her hand placed on her head. The actress looked breathtakingly beautiful in a white body-hugging gown, with her makeup game on point. In one photo, Shraddha wore a stylish short dress, while in another; she sported a blue skirt paired with a multi-colored top and a sparkling black blazer. Fans flocked to the comments section to shower praise on the actress. In terms of work, Shraddha Kapoor continues to make waves in the film



do... Just blessing myself."



### who is making Ananya Panday feel 'HAPPIER THAN EVER'?

Actor Ananya Panday took to Instagram to share snapshots and videos from her recent trip to Serengeti National Park in Tanzania.

In the photos, she is seen thrilled during a jungle safari, excitedly spotting lions, tigers, and other wildlife. Recently, the 'Liger' star has been sharing beautiful glimpses from her vacation, showcasing her love for animals. Taking to her Instagram handle, Panday posted a series of photos featuring the actress in her best candid moments. The post also included videos of wildlife such as rhinoceroses, lions, giraffes, and elephants. Alongside the post, the actress wrote, "happier than ever." In her posts, Ananya is seen beaming with joy as she spots majestic lions lounging under the shade of trees and graceful giraffes grazing in the distance.

The actress had previously shared a series of photos enjoying a jungle safari in Tanzania. On the professional front, the 25-year-old actress is currently riding high on the success of her recent release 'CTRL', where she played Nella Awasthi, an influencer who, after going through a breakup, turns to Artificial Intelligence (AI) to eliminate her ex-boyfriend Joe from her life. *IANS* 

Sidharth Malhotra shows POWER OF PERSPECTIVE

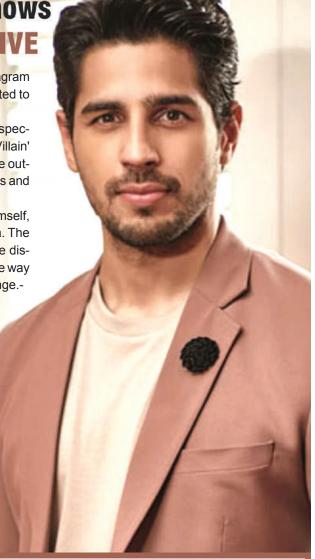
A ctor Sidharth Malhotra recently took to Instagram to share a thought-provoking quote attributed to the renowned author Wayne Dyer.

The inspiring quote reflects the power of perspective in shaping how we experience life. The 'Ek Villain' actor, known for his thoughtful posts and positive outlook, often shares motivational posts with his fans and followers.

Sidharth recently shared a candid photo of himself, where he is seen looking away from the camera. The actor is smiling as he gazes at something in the distance. The post was captioned, "If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.-Wayne Dyer." The 'Shershaah' star looks handsome in white tee paired with red and black checked t-shirt. Shortly after he posted his photo, fans flocked to the comments section and gushed over the actor's radiant smile.

One fan commented, "the smile means entire world to me." Another said, "Yeh Dil maange more of you." A third user wrote,

"Thisss smileee." Meanwhile, Sidharth recently made headlines after reports surfaced that he will be collaborating with his wife, actress Kiara Advani, for Maddock Films' upcoming love story. *IANS* 



# ALIA BHATT TURNS MAKEUP ARTIST, ASKS FANS, "KISKO TUTORIAL CHAHIYE?"

lia Bhatt is not only a talented actress but also a style icon.

Recently, she showcased a new talent that left her fans excited. In a fun and candid moment on social media, the actress turned makeup artist and playfully asked her followers, "Kisko tutorial chahiye?" (Who needs a tutorial?), hinting at sharing her beauty skills with her fans. Taking to her Instagram stories, the 'Raazi' actress posted a gorgeous photo where she is seen flaunting her flawless makeup. She wrote in the caption, "Makeup by me. Kisko tutorial chahiye???" In the selfie, Alia is seen striking a perfect pose with her makeup and hair looking on point. Yesterday, the actress posted cherished memories with her mother-in-law Neetu Kapoor.

Bhatt shared several throwback candid images from her vacation in Paris and wrote, "mirrors & memories." IANS





# "PUSHPA: THE RULE" RELEASE ON DECEMBER 5

he release date for Allu Arjun-starrer "Pushpa: The Rule" has been changed again and will now release on December 5.

Originally set for December 6, the film is now expected to hit theaters a day earlier, on December 5. The film went through several ups and downs related to the release date as it was initially planned to hit the screens in April 2024 and later was pushed for August 15.

Allu Arjun took to Instagram, where he shared a new poster of the film. In the poster, the star is seen smoking a pipe and looking at his gun very seriously. He captioned the post: "#Pushpa2TheRuleOnDec5th."

The producers of "Pushpa: The Rule" on Thursday held a press conference to announce the new date.

Directed by Sukumar, "Pushpa: The Rule" also stars Rashmika Mandanna, who will be seen reprising her role of Srivalli. The first installment "Pushpa: The Rise" released in 2021. The Telugu action drama had Allu Arjun as Pushpa Raj, a coolie who rises in a syndicate that smuggles red sandalwood, a rare wood that grows only in the Seshachalam Hills of Andhra Pradesh.

The film also stars Fahadh Faasil, Dhananjaya, Jagadeesh Prathap Bandari, Sunil, and Ajay Ghosh.

In September, the makers of the film had dropped a new poster from the film. The new poster of the film featuring Allu with his back towards the camera as he looks over the ruins in the aftermath of a possible destruction. The poster has a monochromatic hue of crimson with the text, "75 days to go" written over it.

They wrote in the caption, ""75 DAYS for the world to witness Pushpa and his matchless aura on the big screens. #Pushpa2TheRule will mark an unprecedented chapter in Indian Cinema. THE RULE IN CINEMAS on 6th DEC 2024".

Produced by Mythri Movie Makers, 'Pushpa 2: The Rule' is set to release on December 5. *IANS* 

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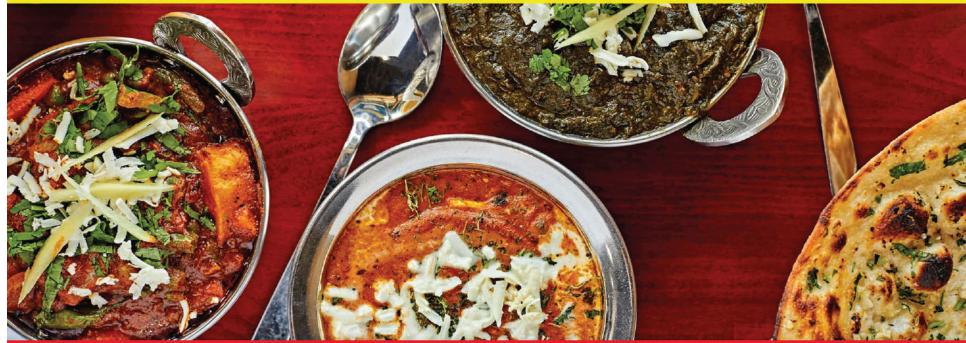
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