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SAAHAS FOR CAUSE HOSTS “FUN MELA” TO PROMOTE HEALING, INCLUSIVITY, AND UNITY DURING UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK



Cerritos, CA — More than **150** community members came together on October 25, 2025, for **Fun Mela**, a vibrant, healing-centered event hosted by Saahas for Cause to promote **inclusivity and unity**. Organized as part of **United Against Hate Week**, the gathering aimed to **“break the silence”** around **violence and discrimination** while uplifting hope, resilience, and compassion within the South Asian community.

The event welcomed people of **all ages** to reflect, connect, and celebrate culture through **art, dance, and yoga**. Fun Mela embodied both joy and introspection — a powerful reminder that **healing begins with understanding and empathy**. **“Hate doesn’t start in the streets — it starts in the heart. And that means healing must also begin there,”** one speaker shared, capturing the spirit of the day. A highlight of the Mela was a **yoga session** focused on **emotional healing and mindfulness**. Through breathing and meditation practices, participants explored the connection between inner calm and outer harmony. Saahas emphasized that **yoga is more than movement — it is a mindful practice rooted in ahimsa, or nonviolence toward oneself and others**. Attendees reflected on how cultivating patience, calm, and empathy can counter anger, chaos, and division. **“When we understand that we are all connected through the same air we breathe and the same earth we share, hate becomes impossible,”** a facilitator noted.

The event also featured **lively dance workshops**, including Bhangra with **Blitz Bhangra** and Bollywood, celebrating cultural diversity, unity, and creative expression. Described as **“movement with meaning,”** these sessions encouraged participants to release tension, express joy, and connect through rhythm. The **passion and artistry** of the instructors showcased how dance and movement can transform **pain into purpose and isolation into connection**.

Saahas for Cause also expressed **deep gratitude** to the many partner organizations that tabled at the event and distributed valuable community resources — **AAPI Equity Alliance, Department of Mental Health, Asian Youth Center, Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAAJ), the Indian Consulate, 211 LA, CALIF and several others**. Their presence strengthened the event’s mission by **equipping families with information, support, and tools for well-being**.

As the day progressed, Saahas called upon the community to continue **standing for empathy, justice, and peace**. The message was simple yet powerful: lasting change begins with **everyday acts of kindness and understanding**. Fun Mela concluded with the reminder that **peace must be practiced, not just preached — choosing love over hate and calm over chaos creates ripples of harmony far beyond ourselves**.

Filled with laughter, music, movement, and heartfelt conversations, **Fun Mela became a testament to how unity, compassion, and collective healing truly begin at the heart**.



A4H launches new Colorado Chapter

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SoCal Diaspora celebrates first CGI Los Angeles

► Details on page 16



Salim Khan a 'blessing in my life': Iulia Vantur

► Details on page 36

INDIA POST
SURVEY
survey@indiapost.com

This week's question

Will Russia accept Trump's peace plan with Ukraine?

Last week's result

Will EU continue support in funding Ukraine against Russia?

YES 82% **NO 18%**

RAM TEMPLE FLAG HOISTED

Resurgence of Hindu culture and dignity



(Combo Picture) Prime Minister Narendra Modi looks at the saffron flag after its hoisting atop the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple during the Dhawajrohan Utsav (left) Devotees in large numbers attend the Dhawajrohan Utsav at the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir, in Ayodhya on November 25. (ANI Photo)

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi had made a promise to the people of India -- of returning the childhood abode of Lord Ram to its historic glory.

Around noon, on Tuesday that promise was delivered when he unfurled the saffron flag atop the newly built Ram Mandir in Ayodhya.

It marked the completion of the temple's construction where the Prime Minister had himself laid its foundation stone on August 5, 2020.

"Today, the city of Ayodhya is witnessing yet another pinnacle of India's cultural consciousness. This moment of the flag hoisting ceremony on the tower of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple is unique and divine," said PM Modi, hailing Lord Ram and wife Goddess Sita.

"This religious flag is not just a flag... it is the flag of the renaissance of Indian civilization," he also said in his address.

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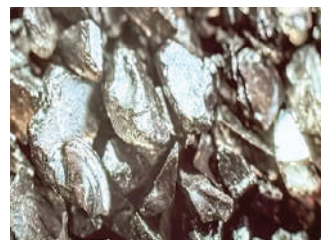


Dharmendra leaves timeless legacy

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'26/11 an attack on humanity': Israeli envoy

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India's scheme to boost REPM manufacturing

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Mission Statement
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:



Amitabh Bachchan tribute to Dharmendra

Big B penned, "... another valiant Giant has left us .. left the arena .. leaving behind a silence with an unbearable sound .. Dharam ji ..."

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Lifestyle:

Dharmendra leaves timeless legacy

'He-Man' of Bollywood, Dharmendra, worked in 300+ films; leaves everlasting impact with acting skills, handsome looks, and distinctive roles, passes at 89

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RAM TEMPLE FLAG HOISTED

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had made a promise to the people of India -- of returning the childhood abode of Lord Ram to its historic glory

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First CGI Los Angeles

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370 Indians rescued

Fifty-five people from Andhra Pradesh are among 370 Indian nationals repatriated from Thailand after they were rescued from cybercrime hubs in Myanmar

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Evidence-based Ayurveda

Evidence-based ayurvedic products are the future of wellness, said Union Minister for Ayush, Prataprao Jadhav

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3155 Kearney Street, Ste. 210, Fremont, CA 94538
Tel: 510-396-9140 • Fax: 510-790-2806 • e-mail: info@indiapost.com

E-SUBSCRIPTIONS & EDITORIAL: Vidya Sethuraman: Tel: 510-491-4867 • e-mail: vidya@indiapost.com

ADVERTISEMENT: Naresh Sodhi: Tel: 510-938-8667 • e-mail: naresh@indiapost.com or nareshsodhi@gmail.com

Graphics Inquiry: E-mail: ghanshyam@indiapost.com

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INDIA BAZAAR MARKS A REMARKABLE MILESTONE IN 2025 — CELEBRATING 22 YEARS OF VISION, PERSEVERANCE, AND LEGACY



RIYAZ KHAN
India Post News Service

Founded in 2004 by brothers Anand Pabari and Gopal Pabari, India Bazaar is built upon the strength of a seven-generation family heritage in the spice and grocery trade. Anand, originally from Gujarat, arrived in the United States at age 18 with great determination and a big dream. Within a few years, with the help of his parents, he opened his first Indian grocery store in Plano, Texas - a humble beginning that sparked a major retail movement.

The success of India Bazaar soon paved the way for new ventures. The launch of the Grain Market brand and its wholesale division marked the group's first expansion, quickly growing into a thriving business network. Today, India Bazaar and its affiliates proudly operate ten locations across the Dallas area. Beyond Texas, the brand continues to grow under the name Indiacore, with active stores in Chicago and Atlanta, and more in development.

The group continues to diversify with new ventures such as Rajula's Kitchen, Gharbazaar Home Delivery, Bazaar Builders & Developers, and Pushpa Flowers-each reflecting a commitment to innovation, community, and cultural connection.

Quality remains at the heart of India Bazaar's ethos. India Bazaar and Grain Market prioritize premium products at affordable prices, sourcing directly from farmers, manufacturers, and major suppliers across multiple countries. Their India-based quality-control team conducts rigorous checks and ensures fair pricing, allowing customers to receive exceptional value.

Anand attributes long-term success to truly understanding

the marketplace-its needs, sensitivities, and cultural expectations-and responding with integrity and insight.

A LEADER WHO BELIEVES IN EMPOWERMENT

Anand is a strong advocate for women's empowerment and consistently promotes equal opportunity across all fields. Inspired by his mother, he believes women are natural multitaskers who excel when given the right platform. Across India Bazaar's ventures, women form a powerful and integral part of the workforce, contributing with excellence, efficiency, and dedication.

MESSAGE TO YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

Anand shares three core principles for new entrepreneurs:

- Dedication** - Give your best to everything you do.
- Focus** - Keep your vision sharp and your goals in sight.
- Honesty** - Stay truthful to your work, your customers, and your values.

He encourages the next generation to embrace technology-especially AI-to enhance productivity, decision-making,



ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR
Anand Kishore Pabari, President & Co-owner, India Bazaar
IB Group of Companies

and growth. "Listen widely, learn continuously, and then choose the path that serves you best," he advises.

On November 13, 2025, Anand received the prestigious Entrepreneur of the Year award from the US-India Chamber of Commerce DFW-a testament to his leadership and impact.

A RELATIONSHIP BUILT ON TRUST

Entrepreneur and prominent grocery-brand distributor based out of California, Mr. Jay Parikh, CEO of Nijay International Inc., first met Anand in 2004 when Anand was running his first store in Plano. What immediately impressed him was Anand's ambition, discipline, and-above all-his unwavering honesty. Anand never compromises on quality or fair pricing, values Mr. Parikh deeply admires.

Mr. Parikh expresses his strong desire to continue working alongside Anand Pabari, with hopes that Grain Market and its affiliated ventures reach even greater heights, and that both businesses continue to grow together in partnership and trust.

RAM TEMPLE FLAG HOISTED

Resurgence of Hindu culture and dignity

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi had made a promise to the people of India -- of returning the childhood abode of Lord Ram to its historic glory.

Around noon, on Tuesday that promise was delivered when he unfurled the saffron flag atop the newly built Ram Mandir in Ayodhya.

It marked the completion of the

divine," said PM Modi, hailing Lord Ram and wife Goddess Sita.

"This religious flag is not just a flag... it is the flag of the renaissance of Indian civilization," he also said in his address.

He unfurled the right-angled triangular flag, which, according to an official statement, measures 10 feet in height and 20 feet in length, and bears the image of a

- the highest point -- or the peak of the temple on a day that coincided with Vivah Panchami, celebrating Lord Ram and Goddess Sita's marriage.

The event was also attended by Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Chief Mohan Bhagwat, and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, underscoring its significance.

By hoisting the saffron dhvaj, PM Modi positioned himself not just as a political leader but as a custodian of Hindu civilizational aspirations.

It was a moment layered with history, politics, and symbolism -- a culmination of centuries of religious contestation, decades of political mobilization, and a reassertion of cul-

tural nationalism.

The act resonated far beyond Ayodhya, shaping India's identity narrative at home and abroad.

As PM Modi asserted, "If India is to become developed by 2047... If society is to be empowered... Then we must

"Today, the city of Ayodhya is witnessing yet another pinnacle of India's cultural consciousness. This moment of the flag hoisting ceremony on the tower of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple is unique and divine," said PM

temple's construction where the Prime Minister had himself laid its foundation stone on August 5, 2020.

"Today, the city of Ayodhya is witnessing yet another pinnacle of India's cultural consciousness. This moment of the flag hoisting ceremony on the tower of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple is unique and

radiant Sun symbolizing the brilliance and velour of Lord Ram.

"This flag is a symbol of Lord Ram's radiance, velour and his ideals, as well as our faith, spirituality and cultural heritage," he had written in an X post a day before the event.

It was raised atop the 191-foot shikhar -



PM Narendra Modi speaks during the Dhvajarohan Utsav at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir, in Ayodhya. (DPR PMO/ANI Photo)

awaken the 'Ram' within ourselves," adding, "If the nation has to move forward, it will have to take pride in its heritage." /ANS

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Dreams, struggles and sacrifices find fulfillment today, says RSS chief after Ayodhya flag hoisting

AYODHYA: Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat, speaking at the Ram Temple flag hoisting ceremony here on Tuesday (25 Nov.), said the occasion symbolizes the realization of centuries of struggle, sacrifice and devotion by saints, activists and countless devotees.

He said the souls of those who had dedicated their lives to the Ram Temple movement -- including Ashok Singhal, Saint Paramhans Chandra Das and industrialist Vijay Sankeshwar Dalmia -- "must have found peace today".

"The construction of the temple has been completed, and the flag of Ram Rajya -- which once fluttered over Ayodhya and illuminated the world -- has again risen high before our eyes," he said.

Bhagwat explained the symbolism of the Orchid tree (Kovidar -- Bauhinia purpurea), depicted on the Ram Rajya flag as the emblem of the Raghukul. The tree, he said, stands for sacrifice, welfare and generosity -- "standing in the sun itself while offering shade, fruits and happiness to others. This has been the basis of Raghukul's strength and life philosophy."

The RSS chief said the task of building an India that offers shade to the world has now begun, emphasizing that one must work with determination even in adversity.

He said resolve is fulfilled through Satva (inner purity



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) Chief Mohan Bhagwat during the Dhvajarohan Utsav at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir, in Ayodhya

and strength). "Seven horses and reins drive a chariot, but without the rope and charioteer, it cannot move. Yet the Sun moves unfailingly from east to west. This is the power of Satva. Hindu society has demonstrated this Satva for 550 years, and today Ram Lala is seated in a magnificent temple. This is not just a structure, but the triumph of patience, endurance and unshakeable faith," he said.

"This is a day to renew our resolve. The world expects us to build an India that brings happiness and peace to all. It is our duty to accelerate this work in the name of Ram Lala." IANS

Ayodhya is 'very special' to me: South Korean Lawmaker traces her ancestry to Indian princess

NEW DELHI: South Korean lawmaker Jaewon Kim, who serves in the National Assembly of Korea, highlighted the deep historical and cultural connections between India and Korea, describing Ayodhya as a place of personal and symbolic significance.

Speaking about the longstanding cultural bond rooted in shared lineage, Kim told



South Korean lawmaker Jaewon Kim

ANI, "Ayodhya is a very special place, a very symbolic place to me. The Indian princess, my grand, grand, grandmother, the ancestors, taking that kind of pioneering and telling the spirit and with that kind of cultural open-mindedness, respect for the other unknown culture. She came to Korea, and

my grand, grand, grandfather, with respect to the other cultures from India, understood and accepted her."

Kim said this exchange continues to guide the relationship between India and Korea even today. "In the same way, we also respect each other, Korea and India... Understanding and respecting each other can be a little different and can be similar, but it is based on cultural understanding," she added.

She also underscored the need for a stronger institutional framework to deepen cinema collaboration between India and Korea, emphasizing the importance of a structured business-to-business (B2B) platform for the film industries of both countries. ANI

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Air forces of India, France execute varied mission profiles during Exercise Garuda

PARIS: The Indian Air Force and French Air and Space Force crew have been working together, executing varied mission profiles and showcasing outstanding proficiency as part of the bilateral Exercise Garuda 25.

In a statement on X, the Indian Air Force stated that professionalism, precision and cohesive teamwork continue to deepen interoperability and reinforce the strength of the bilateral partnership.

"Exercise Garuda 25: Maintaining a high operational tempo, the Indian Air Force and French Air and Space Force crew are working seamlessly together, executing varied mission profiles and showcasing outstanding proficiency. The professionalism, precision, and cohesive teamwork continue to deepen interoperability and reinforce the strength of this bilateral partnership," the Indian Air Force posted on X.

On November 17, Indian Air Force Su-30MKI fighter aircraft and French Air and Space Force Rafale aircraft soared into the skies, as they began coordinated missions as part of the bilateral air Exercise Garuda.

The Indian Air Force is participating in the 8th edition of the bilateral air exercise 'Garuda 25' with the French Air and Space Force (FASF) at Mont-de-Marsan in France from November 16-27.



The Indian Air Force participates in the bilateral exercise 'Garuda 25' with the French Air and Space Force, in Mont-de-Marsan. (Indian Air Force X/ANI Photo)

The Indian Air Force stated that the exercise will further enhance interoperability, foster exchange of best practices, and strengthen defense cooperation between the two Air Forces.

The IAF contingent is participating in the exercise with Su-30MKI fighter aircraft. In a statement, the Ministry of Defense stated, "The airlift support is being provided by the C-17 Globemaster III, for the induction and

de-induction phases of the exercise, while the IL-78 air-to-air refueling tankers are utilized for extending the range and endurance of the participating fighters."

During the exercise, the IAF's Su-30MKI aircraft will operate along with the French multirole fighters in complex simulated air combat scenarios, focusing on air-to-air combat, air defense, and joint strike operations.

"This exercise aims to refine tactics and procedures in a realistic operational environment, enabling mutual learning and fostering interoperability between the IAF and the FASF. Exercise Garuda 25 also provides an opportunity for professional interaction, exchange of operational knowledge, and sharing of best practices between the two Air Forces," the statement said. *IANS*

'26/11 an attack on humanity': Israeli envoy pays tribute to victims of Mumbai terror attack

NEW DELHI: Israeli Ambassador to India, Reuven Azar, on Wednesday paid tributes to the victims of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack, emphasizing Israel's strong support to India.

Azar said that the shared experiences of the fight against terrorism are what form the foundation of the deep and enduring partnership between India and Israel.

In a video message shared on X, he said, "Today, as India marks the anniversary of the horrific 26-11 Mumbai terror attacks, I, the people of Israel, stand with you, the people of India, just as we did on that dark day and every year since. 26-11 was not only an attack on Mumbai, it was an attack on humanity. It targeted people of every community, every nationality, every faith, Indians and Israelis alike. Unfortunately, Israel knows this pain."

He added, "We know what it means to lose innocent lives to terrorism. And we know what it means to fight back with cour-

age, clarity, and determination. Our shared experiences are what form the foundation of our deep and enduring partnership. Today, we remember the victims of 26-11. We honor the brave officers, security forces, and first responders who protected the city with extraordinary sacrifice and we stand in solidarity with the families whose lives were

forever changed. Israel is and will always remain committed to working with India to defeat terrorism in all its forms. As we remember 26-11, we reaffirm our shared values, freedom, democracy, and the unwavering belief that life must always triumph over hate. India, you are not alone. Israel stands with you today, always."

Earlier, French Ambassador to India Thierry Mathou paid tribute to the victims on the 17th anniversary of the 26/11 terror attack. He reaffirmed the unequivocal condemnation of terrorism and said that France stands together with India in combating this scourge. *ANI*



Reuven Azar

EAM Jaishankar reiterates India's "zero tolerance" for terrorism on 17th anniversary of 26/11

NEW DELHI: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar reaffirmed India's unwavering stand against terrorism as the nation marked the 17th anniversary of the horrific attack in Mumbai on November 26, 2008, that killed 166 people and injured 300, and left one of the busiest cities in the world to remain stand still.

In a post on X, the EAM said the world continues to remember the victims and brave responders who fought during the 2008 terror strikes.

"Zero tolerance for terror in all forms and manifestations. The world remembers the victims and heroes of 26/11. Reaffirm our resolve to bring all those involved to justice," Jaishankar wrote.

November 26, 2025, marks the 17th year since terrorists from the Pakistan-backed Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) unleashed mayhem on the streets of India's financial capital, Mumbai, in 2008.

Commonly referred to as 26/11, these coordinated assaults by a group of 10 ter-

rorists sent shockwaves through the nation and the world. The terrorists had entered the city of Mumbai on the night of November 26, 2008, via sea route and over the course of four days; they killed 166 people and injured 300.

The targets were carefully chosen after being surveyed for maximum impact, viz., the Taj and Oberoi Hotels, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, the Jewish Center at Nariman House, Cama Hospital, Metro Cinema and the Leopold Cafe, since these places were frequented by foreign nationals along with a major part of Mumbai's workforce.

The scars left by the tragic event continue to haunt those who witnessed it and the families who lost their loved ones. The bullet marks at Leopold Cafe and Nariman House, the bust of Assistant Sub-Inspector Tukaram Omble, who gave up his life while capturing the lone surviving Pakistani terrorist Mohammad Ajmal Amir Kasab. *ANI*



S Jaishankar

Beijing willing to be India's partner in pursuit of modernisation: China's envoy

NEW DELHI: China's Ambassador to India, Xu Feihong, said on Tuesday that Beijing is willing to be India's partner in the pursuit of modernisation as development is the "greatest common denominator" between the two countries.

Addressing a seminar on 'China's 15th Five-Year Plan: New Blueprint for China's Development, New Opportunities for China-India Cooperation'; the Ambassador said the two countries need to synergize their development strategies and jointly advance modernisation.

He also added that China is ready to work with India as a doer in high-level practical cooperation.

"In the 15th Five-Year Plan period, China will continue to strengthen the foundation of the real economy, accelerate high-level sci-tech self-reliance, and expand high-standard opening-up. This will create more cooperation opportunities for all countries, including India."

"We will upgrade traditional industries such as chemical and machinery, which is expected to unlock about \$1.4 trillion of new market space in the next five years.

We will foster emerging industries such as new energy and new materials, which is expected to give rise to several trillion-dollar new growth engines. We will strategically invest in future industries such as bio-manufacturing and sixth-generation mobile communication, with the scale added over the next decade equivalent to

come more premium goods imports from India and more Indian companies to invest and do business in China.

Ambassador Feihong also said that China is ready to work with India as a defender of multilateralism.

In a reference to the US, he said, "Some major countries, in pursuit of unilateral he-

"We will upgrade traditional industries such as chemical and machinery, which is expected to unlock about \$1.4 trillion of new market space in the next five years"

building an entirely new high-tech industrial ecosystem for China," the Ambassador said.

He also said: "At present, India is advancing major strategies such as "Make in India". China is ready to deepen practical cooperation with India to make a bigger pie of common interests, so that people in both countries will benefit more from the outcomes of development."

He added that China is ready to wel-

gemony, have frequently waged trade wars and applied international rules in a selective way, posing severe challenges to developing countries. In the face of the profound changes unseen in a century and the countercurrent of unilateralism, China and India should, more than ever, stand shoulder to shoulder, resolutely say no to hegemony, jointly steer multipolarity and economic globalization toward the right direction as expected by the whole world. IANS

Pakistan: How Asim Munir's power grab exposes a broken state

NEW DELHI: Pakistan's latest constitutional drama has exposed, yet again, the hollowness of its so-called democracy. But the tragedy this time didn't unfold with tanks rolling down Constitution Avenue or generals announcing martial law on primetime television.

The country has witnessed something even more disturbing: a slow, polished, paperwork-driven coup carefully designed to look respectable. Pakistan's parliament, already known for its obedience to the military, has quietly fortified the uniformed institution that has dominated the country since 1958.

At the center of this political theatre is General Asim Munir, elevated to a newly created super-post that sits above every elected institution, and in practice, above the Constitution itself. What has happened is not surprising to anyone familiar with Pakistan's power structure. The Army has never truly relinquished control; it has only changed its methods. IANS Analysis

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Gold, silver extend gains on Fed rate cut hopes

MUMBAI: Gold and silver prices continued their upward trend on Wednesday 26 November, rising by more than half a percent in early trade.

The gains came a day after both metals posted over 1 percent growth, supported by strong demand in the spot market and rising expectations of an interest rate cut by the US Federal Reserve.

During the early trade, MCX gold December futures were trading 0.50 percent higher at Rs 1,25,835 per 10 grams.



MCX silver December futures were also up 0.91 percent at Rs 1,57,750 per kg.

"In INR gold has support at Rs1,24,350-1,23,580 while resistance at Rs1,25,850-1,26,500. Silver has support at Rs1,54,850-1,53,600 while resistance at Rs1,57,110, 1,58,000," analysts said.

In the international market, gold prices touched a near two-week high as new US economic data weakened the dollar and strengthened hopes of a Fed rate cut next month. *IANS*

Tesla announces 1st all-in-one center in Gurugram

NEW DELHI: Tesla announced the opening of its first all-in-one Tesla Center in Gurugram, marking a major step in the company's expansion in India.

The new facility, located at Orchid Business Park in Sector 48, will open on November 27, and will bring retail, after-sales service, vehicle delivery, and charging facilities together under one roof for the first time in the country. *IANS*



India set to become global destination for aircraft MRO services: Aviation Minister

HYDERABAD: Civil Aviation Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu exuded confidence that with continued policy reforms, strong industry partnerships and, an emerging skilled workforce, India is set to become a preferred global destination for aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul services.

In his address at the inauguration of French aerospace major Safran's largest Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) center for the CFM International LEAP engines, he said India has become the fastest-growing MRO market, which is three times the global rate.

"Our MRO market is projected to rise up to 4 billion US dollars by 2031 at an 8.9 percent growth rate, which is far outpacing the global growth rate of 4.8 percent. I see this as an unprecedented opportunity for global engine manufacturers looking to partner with India's rapidly expanding aviation ecosystem," he said.

Naidu revealed that during the last 11 years, India's aviation ecosystem has taken a decisive



Civil Aviation Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu

lead by doubling the number of airports, aircraft, and passengers.

Spurred by rising passenger demand, the country's commercial aircraft fleet has expanded at

a rate of 7.6 percent Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), which is three times the global average. This alone creates demand for over 2,500 Safran engines to power the new

"Our MRO market is projected to rise up to 4 billion US dollars by 2031 at an 8.9 percent growth rate, which is far outpacing the global growth rate of 4.8 percent"

aircraft that are coming, he said.

The Union Minister termed the inauguration of the MRO facility as a defining moment in India's ascent as a global aviation hub for aviation services.

He said that this facility puts India well on the path to emerge as a leading MRO hub by 2030. Once fully operational, it will serve up to 300 engines annually, which presently go out of the country for service.

"Today's inauguration of the world's largest engine MRO facility by the Prime Minister is a resounding testament to deep trust and confidence which global OEMs now place in India's engineering capabilities and infrastructural excellence," he said.

"Establishment of Safran's largest LEAP engine MRO in India is a leap of capability, capacity and India's credibility as an MRO destination. I believe that with the onshore MRO facility in India, Safran Aircraft Engine Services India is set to derive substantial value creation in the Indian MRO sector." *IANS*

Union Cabinet okays Rs 7,280 crore scheme for manufacturing Rare Earth Permanent Magnets

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the scheme to promote the manufacturing of Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnets in the country with an investment of Rs 7,280 crore.

This first-of-its-kind initiative aims to establish 6,000 metric tons per annum of integrated rare earth permanent magnet (REPM) manufacturing capacity in India, thereby enhancing self-reliance and positioning India as a key

player in the global market, according to a Cabinet communiqué.

REPMs are one of the strongest types of permanent magnets and are vital for electric vehicles, renewable energy, electronics, aerospace, and defense applications. The scheme will support the creation of integrated permanent magnet manufacturing facilities, involving conversion of rare earth oxides to metals, metals to alloys, and alloys to finished REPMs.

Driven by the rapidly growing

demand from electric vehicles, renewable energy, industrial applications, and consumer electronics, India's consumption of REPMs is expected to double by

2030 from 2025. At present, India's demand for these magnets is met primarily through imports. With this initiative, India will establish its first-ever integrated

REPM manufacturing facilities, generating employment, strengthening self-reliance and advancing the nation's commitment to achieve Net Zero by 2070, the statement said.

The total financial outlay of the scheme is Rs 7,280 crore, comprising sales-linked incentives of Rs 6,450 crore on REPM sales for five years and capital subsidy of Rs 750 crore for setting up an aggregate of 6,000 million tons per annum REPM manufacturing facilities. *IANS*



Apple to surpass Samsung in global shipments for 1st time in 14 years

NEW DELHI: Apple's smartphone shipments have performed strongly throughout 2025, particularly in Q3, Counterpoint Research said recently, adding that the iPhone maker shipments will reach a global share of 19.4 percent in 2025, making Apple the world's top smartphone company for the first time since 2011.

Samsung's shipments are also expected to grow 4.6 percent (year-on-year) and reach a global share of 18.7 percent, yet the company will relinquish the top spot it has

the report.

"Beyond the highly positive market reception for the iPhone 17 series, the key driver behind the upgraded shipment outlook lies in the replacement cycle reaching its inflection point. Consumers who purchased smartphones during the COVID-19 boom are now entering their upgrade phase," said senior analyst Yang Wang.

Furthermore, 358 million second-hand iPhones were sold between 2023 and Q2 2025.

These users are also likely to upgrade to a new iPhone in the coming years. These factors will form a sizable demand base, which is expected to sustain iPhone shipment growth over the coming quarters, Wang added.

According to Counterpoint's latest weekly sell-through tracker, sales of the iPhone 17 series in the US, including the iPhone Air, during the first four weeks



held for more than a decade, the report noted.

iPhone shipments exceeded expectations in Q3 2025, posting a solid 9 percent YoY growth for the quarter. The launch of the iPhone 17 series marked a shift in Apple's usual lineup, with the new iPhone Air replacing the Plus model, accompanied by adjustments in memory configurations and pricing tiers.

Meanwhile, global smartphone shipments are expected to grow 3.3 percent on-year in 2025, according to

after launch were 12 percent higher than those of the iPhone 16 series, excluding the iPhone 16e.

Elsewhere, Apple also benefited from lower-than-expected tariff impacts globally and, a truce in the US-China trade and tech war.

This not only helped Apple's supply chain and the ongoing efforts to diversify manufacturing bases, but also aggregate demand in its key growth regions -- emerging markets. *IANS*

India's lower-income states grow faster than richer states due to higher capex

NEW DELHI: India's lower-income states are showing early signs of "growth convergence" after the pandemic, indicated by a rise in state public capital expenditure that has helped some lagging regions grow faster than richer states, a recent report said.

Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Bihar are standout states with higher public capex and strong growth, the report from HSBC Global Investment Research said.

"Those states that have lower GDP per capita can display strong catch-up growth for several years if the conditions are right. This is what we call 'growth convergence' in economics and can be a driver of strong national growth," the report said.

HSBC's analysts found that when states are comfortable on the fiscal revenue front, they tend to raise capex, especially in the case of emerging states, adding that the center's transfer of resources to states increased after the pandemic.

The report also flagged that slowing tax revenue growth at the center could slow automatic transfers to states. *IANS*

Modernization of systems, simplification of processes key to become Viksit Bharat: Sitharaman

NEW DELHI: To become a developed country by 2047, India needs to ensure timely modernization of the systems and simplification of processes, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said.



Nirmala Sitharaman

Finance Minister said that today is the era of governance and, therefore, Ministry of Corporate Affairs' (MCA) driving principle should be to make governance easy, transparent and with focus on facilitation.

"MCA must strive to be futuristic to be able to serve stakeholders in a time-bound manner," she said during a meeting to review the Regional Directorates and Registrar of Companies here.

The review meeting was also attended by Union Minister of State for Corporate Affairs, Harsh Malhotra; Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) and senior officers of MCA.

Sitharaman said the MCA has taken out frequent and required amendments in The Act and Rules to keep up with changing times, and Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board is one such example of a reform-driven law. *IANS*

Indian envoy discusses bilateral economic engagement agenda with US Under Secretary

WASHINGTON: India's Ambassador to the United States, Vinay Mohan Kwatra held a wide ranging conversation on India-US bilateral economic engagement agenda with Jacob Helberg, the 22nd Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

"Congratulated US Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Jacob Helberg on assuming his responsibilities. Had a wide ranging conversation on our bilateral economic engagement agenda, including a mutually beneficial trade deal, strategic trade dialogue, and technology cooperation including AI," Kwatra posted on X.

Helberg previously served as an Advisor to the Council of Economic Advisors at the White House before taking up the new assignment mid October. He founded The Hill and Valley Forum, a bipartisan coalition of Silicon Valley executives and US lawmakers, which became a major force in bridging the knowledge gap between Silicon Valley and Capitol Hill.

According to a statement released by the US Department of State, he has also worked with Congressional leaders to raise awareness regarding the national security risks posed by China. Helberg served as Senior Advisor to Palantir Technologies CEO and is an early investor in several fast-growing tech firms. From 2022 to 2024, he was a Commissioner on the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission, advocating for tariffs and industrial independence from China.

Helberg also served as Google's global lead for Search policy and was part of the founding team at GeoQuant.

On November 24, Ambassador Kwatra met US Representative Jay Obernolte and highlighted opportunities for bilateral cooperation in science, tech, innovation and AI.

"Enjoyed my conversation with Rep. Jay Obernolte, Chair of the House Science, Space, and Technology Research and Technology Subcommittee. Highlighted opportunities for stronger US-India cooperation in science, tech, AI and innovation," Kwatra wrote in a post on X.

Last week, Kwatra also met US Senator John Barrasso and underscored salient drivers of the strategic partnership between India and the US.

In a post on X, Vinay Mohan Kwatra wrote, "Honoured to meet with Senator John Barrasso, Majority Whip and member Senate Foreign Relations Committee in the Senate. Underscored salient drivers of the India-US strategic partnership. Spoke about our efforts to reach a balanced and mutually beneficial trade arrangement, increasing oil and gas trade, and cooperation in defence and security space."

Earlier in October, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal expressed hope of both countries working towards a fair and equitable trade agreement in the near future. *IANS*

In Brief

Chinese national caught while crossing India Nepal border

BAHRAICH: A Chinese national named Liu Quinjing was caught entering India illegally and was nabbed by the SSB(Sashastra Seema Bal) during a routine check by the police on the India-Nepal border at the Bahraich post, Uttar Pradesh.

Nanpara CO Pradyumn Singh told ANI, "During a routine check conducted by police on the India-Nepal border at the Bahraich post, Liu Quinjing, a Chinese national of age 48, was caught entering India illegally.

He was nabbed by the SSB at around 11 pm. A case has been registered against him under relevant sections, and due legal action is being taken."

Earlier, addressing the problem of illegal immigrants in Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath instructed all district magistrates to take strict action against illegal immigrants in the state.

CM Yogi Adityanath directed officials to set up temporary detention centers to house illegal infiltrators, according to a brief statement. The CM said that illegal immigrants held in detention centers will be deported to their countries of origin as per the standard procedures. UP CM's measures against illegal immigrants are aimed at ensuring national security and maintaining law and order in the state. ANI

Immigration

POST

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www.indiapost.com

November 28, 2025

The officials from AP Bhavan in Delhi received them from the Government of India officials and brought them safely to AP Bhavan

55 from Andhra Pradesh among 370 Indians rescued from Myanmar

AMARAVATI: Fifty-five people from Andhra Pradesh are among 370 Indian nationals repatriated from Thailand after they were rescued from cybercrime hubs in Myanmar.

Three flights carrying the Indians landed in Delhi.

According to Andhra Pradesh government officials, all 55 belong to Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam.

The officials from AP Bhavan in Delhi received them from the Government of India officials and brought them safely to AP Bhavan. They were provided with temporary accommodation and food.

Since their mobile phones were seized in Myanmar and they had no money, the repatriates were in a distressed condition. The state government extended assistance of Rs 1,000 per person to support their miscellaneous expenses during onward travel.

The team also coordinated



with Northern Railway officials for the release of Emergency Quota (EQ) to facilitate their journey. All individuals will depart for their respective destinations, it said.

All 55 members expressed

deep gratitude to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the exceptional care provided in Delhi.

With this operation, the state government has successfully facilitated 79 repatriates from the

Myanmar cybercrime network in reaching their homes.

Earlier, 24 people belonging to various regions of Andhra Pradesh were among the Indians repatriated from Thailand.

The rescued Indians were victims of organized cyber fraud networks, which had lured them with the promise of high-paying jobs. They were later held captive and forced to engage in illegal online activities.

After landing in New Delhi, the returnees were questioned by immigration and central agencies before being handed over to their respective state representatives.

Eleven people from Telangana were among 270 Indian nationals repatriated from Thailand early this month.

They had fled to Thailand following a military raid on cybercrime hubs in Myanmar.

The Indian government has been continuing the operation to bring back Indian nationals trapped in such fraudulent setups across the Myanmar-Thailand border region. IANS

DHS Terminating Temporary Protected Status for Burma

WASHINGTON: Today, Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem announced the termination of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Burma (Myanmar). The termination will be effective on Jan 26, 2026.

At least 60 days before a TPS designation expires, the secretary, after consultation with appropriate U.S. government agencies, is required to review the conditions in a country designated for TPS to determine whether the conditions supporting the designation continue to be met, and, if so, how long to extend the designation. If the Secretary determines that the conditions in the foreign

state continue to meet the specific statutory criteria for Temporary Protected Status designation, Temporary Protected Status will be extended for an additional period of 6 months or, in the Secretary's discretion, 12 or 18

At least 60 days before a TPS designation expires, the secretary, after consultation with appropriate U.S. government agencies, is required to review the conditions

months. If the Secretary determines that the foreign state no longer meets the conditions for Temporary Protected Status designation, the Secretary must terminate the designation.

"This decision restores TPS to its original status as temporary," said Secretary Kristi Noem. "The situation in Burma has improved enough that it is safe for Burmese citizens to return home, so we are terminating

the Temporary Protected Status. Burma has made notable progress in governance and stability, including the end of its state of emergency, plans for free and fair elections, successful

ceasefire agreements, and improved local governance contributing to enhanced public service delivery and national reconciliation."

After conferring with inter-agency partners, Secretary Noem determined that conditions in Burma no longer meet the TPS statutory requirements. The Secretary's decision was based on a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services review of the conditions in Burma and in consultation with the Department of State. The Secretary determined that, overall, country conditions have improved to the point where Burmese citizens can return home in safety. USCIS

White House defends Trump's H-1B stance as 'common sense'

WASHINGTON: The White House defended US President Donald Trump's views on the H-1B visas, saying that he has a "nuanced and common-sense opinion on this issue."

While speaking to reporters, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said that Trump would allow importing foreign workers "just at the beginning," but ultimately be replaced by American workers.

"He wants to see if foreign companies are investing trillions of dollars in the United States of America, and they're bringing foreign workers with them to create very

American workers in tech-related industries.

"You can't come in, open up a massive computer chip factory for billions and billions of dollars like it's being done in Arizona and think you're going to hire people often from unemployment line to run it. They're going to have to bring thousands of people with them. I am going to welcome those people," Trump said during a speech at the US-Saudi Investment Forum in Washington.

He added that the foreign workforce would "teach our people" to make "computer chips and other things."

"You are coming here, and you find that we don't have

the visa policy, telling IANS that the \$100,000 fee for new H-1B visa applications is a "significant first step to stop abuses of the system."

In an exclusive response to IANS, a White House spokesperson said that President Donald Trump has "done more than any president in modern history to tighten our immigration laws and put American workers first."

"The \$100,000 payment required to supplement new H1-B visa applications is a significant first step to stop abuses of the system and ensure American workers are no longer replaced by lower-paid foreign labor," White House Spokeswoman Taylor Rogers told IANS.

White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said that Trump would allow importing foreign workers "just at the beginning," but ultimately be replaced by American workers. "He wants to see if foreign companies are investing trillions of dollars in the United States of America, and they're bringing foreign workers with them to create very niche things like batteries"

niche things like batteries. He wants to see that at the beginning, to get those manufacturing facilities and those factories up and running, but ultimately, the President always wants to see American workers in those jobs," she added.

She noted that there has been "a lot of misunderstanding of the President's position" on the issue, and Trump has conveyed to foreign companies that if they're investing in the US, they "better be hiring my people."

The White House statement comes days after Trump staunchly defended legal immigration, saying he would welcome "thousands of people" from abroad to train

people that did that before. We are allowing you... if you have to bring people to get those plants open, we want you to do that. We want those people to teach our people - how to make computer chips and how to make other things," he noted.

Trump acknowledged that he may "take a little heat" from his conservative base about his position on bringing in foreign workers.

The US President's recent comments have sparked an intense debate with leading Republican and conservative leaders demanding the scrapping of the visa program.

The White House had earlier clarified its position over



Afghan returnees from Pakistan raise concerns about lack of shelter, need for winter assistance

KABUL: Several Afghan migrants who recently returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan have said that they are facing serious challenges ahead of winter season. They raised concerns about lack of shelter, the need for winter assistance, and difficulties in obtaining electronic ID cards (tazkira), the local media reported.

Abdul Baqi, one of the Afghan refugees who returned from Pakistan, stated, "Our main problem is that we have no shelter. When we return to the country, we don't know where to go. We ask the Islamic Emirate to address our situation." They stated that the aid which is available is inadequate and mentioned that they still struggle to meet their basic living needs, leading Afghan media outlet Tolo News reported.

Afghan returnee, Abdul Bari, said, "Everyone knows most people are homeless, spending their days in the streets and along the roads." Abdul Malik, a returnee, said that they are asked to apply for electronic ID cards when they reach their provinces and urged the authorities to provide them ID cards.

Another Afghan refugee who returned from Pakistan, Abdul Qahar, urged Taliban government to provide them essential things like tents, shelter.

Previously, several Afghan refugees in Pakistan have said that they have been overwhelmed by continuous pressure from the country's police which, apart from conducting searches, is arresting people and exploiting their vulnerable situation as a source of income.

A report in Afghanistan-based newspaper 8AM Media, also known as Hasht-e-Subh Daily, highlighted that Afghan refugees in Pakistan do not have basic human rights and live in constant fear and anxiety. Human rights groups and refugee-support groups have remained silent regarding the uncertainty and the government's failure to fulfill its commitment about human rights and the protection of refugees. IANS

Over 6,500 Afghan refugees forcibly deported from Pakistan, Iran in single day: Taliban

KABUL: Over 6,500 Afghan refugees were forcibly deported from Iran and Pakistan in a single day, the local media quoted a top Taliban official recently.

Sharing the High Commission for Addressing Migrants' Issues report on X, Taliban Deputy Spokesperson Hamdullah Fitrat stated that 1,200 families, comprising 6,532 people, returned to Afghanistan.

He stated that Afghan refugees entered Afghanistan through the Pul-i-Abresham in Nimroz, Spin Boldak in Kandahar, Bahramcha in Helmand, Islam Qala crossing in Herat and the Torkham crossing in Nangarhar.

According to the Pajhwok News, Fitrat said that 1,492 Afghan refugee families

comprising 7,695 people were taken to their respective home areas while 1,387 others were provided humanitarian assistance. He mentioned that telecommunication companies distributed 1,294 SIM cards to Afghan returnees.

Fitrat stated that 11,855 Afghan refugees were forcibly repatriated from Pakistan and Iran recently.

Fitrat stated that 11,855 Afghan refugees were forcibly repatriated from Pakistan and Iran recently

Last week, around 400 Afghan nationals, including artists and their families have approached the Peshawar High Court, requesting the judge to issue orders for the government to halt their forced deportation to Afghanistan in accordance with the principle of non-refoulment, as they would be subjected to persecution in their country. IANS

Desi News

NRI community celebrates Bihar election victory

India Post News Service

SAN FRANCISCO, CA: The Bay Area's Indian American community came together in a powerful show of unity and pride on Thursday, November 20th, to celebrate the historic Bihar Victory, in an event organized by the Overseas Organization of Better Bihar in collaboration with prominent NRI leaders across San Francisco.

The celebration brought together leaders and representatives from multiple organizations, with Dr. Romesh Japra attending on behalf of Americans4Hindus (A4H). He was joined by Rajesh Verma, Ashish Khurana, and Chandru Bhambhra from the Fremont Hindu Temple.

Details on page 18

IALA elects its new President and Executive Committee

India Post News Service

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, CA: On November 12, India Association of Los Angeles (IALA), unanimously elected Falguniba Zala as its president and 20-member strong executive team for the year 2025-2026. IALA was founded in 1999 to preserve, promote and nurture the values of Indian heritage, culture and traditions of India by organizing various cultural and social events. Ms. Zala has been involved in the IALA for many years and served in many capacities. She is a businesswoman by profession, and been active in community work for many years.

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COMMUNITY ACROSS AMERICA

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Reception for historic first Consulate General of India in Los Angeles as diaspora celebrates LA Consulate inauguration

CERRITOS, CA: Cerritos Center for Performing Arts located in Cerritos California witnessed a houseful of community leaders, prominent community members, business owners and Indian Diaspora, who were present to welcome Dr. K J Srinivasa to Los Angeles, the first Consul General of newly established Consulate of India in Los Angeles. He was accompanied by Consul Mr. Kulwant Singh and Vice Consul Priyanka Tyagi.

The event was organized by the United Indian Associations of Southern California (UIASC) representing Southern California's vibrant Indian community with a support from many other organizations from the greater Los Angeles Metro area. Even though it was just a day before Diwali many came from far away to participate in this historic event.

The event was meticulously organized by Executives of UIASC including Kewal Kanda as Chair, Ashok (Pat) Patnaik as Co-Chair, Sudip Gorakshakar, Dr. Sukrit Mukherjee, Charu Shivakumar, Amrit Bhandari, Hark Vasa, Ashok Madan, Dr. Rangaesh Gadasalli, Hasamukh Modi, Surekha Modi, Arvind Patel, Kumar Shah and Smita Shah and other community leaders including Anju Garg, Mallik Banda, and Kanak Singh Zala.



The cultural program organized by Charu Sivakumar started with Ganesh Vandana fol-

and Kathak performances were very much appreciated by the audiences while they waited for



lowed by beautiful singing by Priya and Rajeshwari. The dancers from Savitri Dance Academy

Consul General to arrive.

Upon arrival of the Consul General the official program began with lamp lighting and national anthems of USA and India. Ashok (Pat) Patnaik welcomed all the attendees and the guests of honor and invited the speakers for the evening.

Anju Garg spoke about the Consulate's long journey from "Vision to Manifestation of the opening in LA". She thanked many who were present and had supported her initiative and making this "Mission Impossible" to Mission Successful. Anju Garg

was instrumental in collecting letters and signatures in support for this initiative. During his speech Mr. Sudip Gorakshakar stressed on successful Indo-US relations to continue, while Mr. Mallik Banda welcomed the new Consul General and pointed to a new beginning.

Mr. Ashok Madan talked about the background for the community to desire for a consulate while Mr. Venkat Peddi and Mr. Kanak Singh Zala addressed on the possibility of a new frontiers with the opening of the historic Consulate in Los Angeles. In his welcome speech UIASC Vice President and Convener Dr.

Sukrit Mukerjee laid out the background of UIASC and its future relationship with the Indian Consulate. Legendary business magnate Dr. Kali Pradip Chaudhuri pointed out the patriotic feeling about the motherland and requested all Indians to come together and show the maximum unity against outside forces. All community leaders welcomed the Consulate General and reiterated their support for the consulate in any future missions that it undertakes.

Cont'd on page 22

Americans4Hindus launches new Colorado Chapter in Denver

DENVER, COLORADO: Americans4Hindus (A4H), the nation's fastest-growing Hindu American political empowerment organization, proudly announced the official launch of its Colorado State Chapter at a special gathering held in Denver on November 22nd.

The event was graced by Dr. Romesh Japra, Founder & Chairman of Americans4Hindus, and the Chief Political Strategist & Spokesperson of A4H, who provided an inspiring and comprehensive overview of the organization's mission, national structure, and its growing influence across the United States. The elite audience included leaders from Colorado's cultural, community, religious, civic, and professional sectors.

During the ceremony, Hemal Trivedi, a respected attorney and long-time community activist, was formally installed as President of the A4H Colorado Chapter. Dev Bhattacharya, Global Healthcare Hosting Head in Technology Services and a well-known cultural and social entrepreneur, was honored as Vice President. Both leaders addressed the gathering with heartfelt remarks and pledged their full commitment to advancing the mission, goals, and values of Americans4Hindus throughout Colorado.

The launch drew enthusiastic participation from attendees, many of whom pledged their time, expertise, and financial support to strengthen A4H's statewide presence and amplify the Hindu American voice in civic and political spheres.

Honorable Councilman Anil Pesaramelli and Neal Walia, upcoming Candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives, also delivered powerful messages. They emphasized the urgent need for political engagement, representation, and empowerment within the Hindu American community-highlighting how A4H is filling a critical gap in Colorado and nationally.

With the opening of the Colorado Chapter, Americans4Hindus continues its momentum toward building a strong, united, and politically engaged Hindu American movement across all major states.

For more information about Americans4Hindus or to get involved, please visit our official platforms or contact the A4H leadership team.



Are we now cutting healthcare to the bone?

VIDYA SETHURAMAN
India Post News Service

Speakers at the ACom weekly briefing unpacked the massive changes in health care costs for 2026 and beyond, and offered perspective on creating a more equitable and affordable healthcare structure.

Tomas Bednar, Senior Vice President & Counsel, Healthsperien LLC pointed out that one of the most critical changes in 2026 is that if the advanced premium tax subsidy cannot be extended, individual market premiums will skyrocket, and most people may face a premium increase of more than 70%. About 22 million people across the country are insured through the individual market, 92% of whom rely on subsidies. Once the subsidies disappear, millions of people will be unable to renew their insurance. Bednar emphasized that rising medical costs, declining medical access, and the potential for political gridlock in 2026 will make it difficult to promote large-scale reforms. He also pointed out that the Trump administration's resumption of public charge regulations may cause immigrant communities to give up applying for Medicaid for which they are already eligible due to fear, creating a clear chilling effect.

Amber Christ, Managing Director for Health Advocacy, Justice in Aging said the Big and Beautiful bill brings unprecedented reductions to Medicaid, Medicare, and food stamps (SNAP), which is equivalent to tax cuts that use the living resources of

low-income families to subsidize high-income groups. She pointed out that most of the elderly in the United States have limited incomes, with the average income being only about US\$30,000, and 70% less than US\$50,000. It is the medical support of this group of people that will be most affected by the "Big and Beautiful" cuts.

The most impactful one is the disqualification of some legal immigrants, refugees, and asylum applicants for Medicaid and federal health insurance, which even affects those who have paid taxes for many years and are currently receiving federal health insurance. Christ pointed out that these people are also unable to afford market insurance, and losing eligibility for premium subsidies means they are directly excluded from medical coverage. She pointed out that many states have already reduced medical expenditures in advance due to budget constraints, such as cutting long-term care services (HCBS), dental, vision and other optional items.

Sophia Tripoli, Senior Director, Health Policy, Families USA looked at the medical cost structure and pointed out that price is the biggest driver of soaring medical expenses in the United States, not excessive use or poor health behaviors by the people. She pointed out that large hospital systems, pharmaceutical companies, insurance companies, etc. in the medical system have accelerated mergers and acquisitions in recent years, forming monopoly advantages.



Caregivers often invisible but central to our lives

VIDYA SETHURAMAN
India Post News Service

Family and informal caregiving is central to California's health care system, supporting millions of older adults and people with disabilities every day. Yet many of the dedicated people who provide care don't consider themselves "caregivers."

As a result they miss out on information, services and resources that could support them. The California Department of Aging and ACoM co hosted the Nov.

19th virtual news briefing -- part of an ongoing series -- that aims to bridge that information gap even as we explore the broader concept and experience of "care".

Experts who spoke at the briefing pointed out that there are approximately 63 million family caregivers in the United States, with as many as 7 million in California alone, providing about 65% of the state's long-term care needs. However, most caregivers do not consider themselves "caregivers," resulting in their inability to receive timely assistance and

their neglect of the physical burden, emotional stress, social isolation, and financial pressure that come with caregiving.

Susan DeMarois, Director, California Department of Aging said caregiving has become an integral part of California's social fabric. If you ask someone if they are a caregiver, they might say no. But if you ask them if they drive seniors to the doctor, help them pick up medications, or prepare meals, they will most likely find that they are actually providing care. She emphasizes that raising public awareness and

early preparation for caregiving is a key policy goal at this stage, and also calls on the media to help disseminate information to vulnerable and neglected communities.

Dr. Donna Benton, Director, USC Family Caregiver Support Center (FCSC) and the Los Angeles Caregiver Resource Center (LACRC) shared that the complexity of care has increased dramatically over the past few decades.

SuVarnam 2025: A night to remember



ARVIND KOTHA
India Post News Service

The India Community Center in Milpitas was abuzz with excitement as Sunitha Upadrashtha, the Queen of Music, took the stage alongside Varnam Band for SuVarnam 2025, a spectacular Telugu music concert. The event, held November 22nd, was a grand celebration of Telugu music, culture, and energy.

Sunitha, a multi-award-winning playback singer, anchor, and dubbing artist, mesmerized the audience with her soulful renditions of beloved Telugu classics and contemporary hits. With a career spanning over 3,500 songs in Telugu, Tamil, and Kannada, Sunitha's voice has captivated

millions, and her live performance did not disappoint.

The Varnam Band, known for their electrifying performances and versatile fusion sounds, complemented Sunitha's voice



perfectly, creating an unforgettable night of music and magic. The concert was a perfect blend of classical, film, and contemporary music, showcasing the richness of Telugu culture.

The event was organized by HAMAARA, BEET & Commune9 Media and hosted at the India Community Center, a popular venue for cultural events. The concert featured a range of ticket options, from General Admission to VIP Admission Seated Tables, ensuring that everyone had a chance to experience the magic of SuVarnam 2025.

SuVarnam 2025 was part of Sunitha's US tour, which covered six major cities, including Dallas, Austin, Seattle, Virginia,

Atlanta, and Chicago. The tour was a grand success, with each city witnessing an evening filled with soulful songs, energetic rhythms, and pure Telugu magic.

The organizers of SuVarnam 2025 extended their heartfelt gratitude to the audience for making the event a grand success. Uday Kiran Sista, Murthy, Ramesh Attili (HAMAARA & BEET), Aditya, and Sampath Sagar (Communes 9 Media) took the stage to thank the crowd for their overwhelming support and enthusiasm, which made the concert an unforgettable experience. Their efforts, combined with Sunitha's captivating performance and the Varnam Band's energetic music, created a truly special night for all in attendance.

India Post News Service

SAN FRANCISCO, CA: The Bay Area's Indian American community came together in a powerful show of unity and pride on Thursday, November 20th, to celebrate the historic Bihar Victory, in an event organized by the Overseas Organization of Better Bihar in collaboration with prominent NRI leaders across San Francisco.

The celebration brought together leaders and representatives from multiple organizations, with Dr. Romesh Japra attending on behalf of Americans4Hindus (A4H). He was joined by Rajesh Verma, Ashish Khurana, and Chandru Bhambhra from the Fremont Hindu Temple. Several Board Members of the Bihar Organization also participated and shared their reflections

San Francisco NRI community hosts grand celebration of the Bihar election victory



on the significance of the win.

A highlight of the evening was an insightful address by Amit Prakash, whose family is closely associated with the Bihar government. He offered a detailed and spirited account of the developments on the ground and emphasized just how re-

markable and decisive this victory truly was.

The celebration showcased extraordinary unity among Indian states, with leaders representing major associations from Bihar, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, West Bengal, Karnataka, Gujarat, and Kerala. Prominent organizations such as Americans4Hindus (A4H), Fremont Hindu Temple, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS) and others were also present, underscoring the

strength and solidarity of the diaspora.

The event concluded on a patriotic and emotional note with the singing of Vande Mataram, marking the 150th anniversary of the iconic national song this November-filling the hall with pride, nostalgia, and reverence.

This vibrant gathering reflected the growing civic awareness, cultural pride, and collective determination of the Indian American community to stay connected to India's democratic journey.

Chor Ki Dadhi Mein Tinka (A twig in the thief's beard)

ARCHANA ASTHANA

Photo credit: Kyle Adler



Nikolai Gogol could not have imagined a better rebirth of his play, "The Government Inspector" than the one presented by Naatak as its 116th production in its 30th year at Cubberly Theater in Palo Alto in November. The locale shifts to Anand, a small rural town in Gujarat, India, and the story unfolds with the same shenanigans depicted in the original; the slapstick comedy tickles the

funny bone while the satirical portrayal of human vanity, greed and corruption is highlighted and provides food for thought to the rapt audience.

When corruption and inefficiency seeps through all bureaucratic levels at every department, outlandish measures are taken to avoid exposure by a visiting CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) fraud inspector, with the most unfortunate, hilari-

ous and unintended consequences.

The pivotal role of the "Inspector" is actually of Pyarelal Pandey (Vineet Mishra), a penniless love-struck Romeo trying to escape the wrath of some gangster's hooligans who end up in Anand chasing him. In the most comic ways, Pyare embraces his mistaken identity and grows really comfortable in his assumed skin; exaggerating his imaginary high placed con-

nections, accepting bribe with aplomb, and flirting outrageously with the Commissioner's wife and daughter.

The rampant greed and ineptness is present in all departments of the town, from the Municipal Commissioner (Maunic Dharia) and his cronies who are desperately trying to sweep all signs of corruption under the rug and remove any vestiges of it, to make it all appear legitimate. The civil surgeon (Jay Ruparel) laments the lack of patients as the hospital runs its rooms as an AirBnB, while diverting funds for a new X-Ray machine for video games! The police superintendent (Aditya Mahajan), ready to hand in his resignation at the drop of a hat, transfers the few mental patients from the hospital to fill up his jailhouse to provide the semblance of normalcy. The Chief Engineer (Anjali Kirloskar) explains her department's incompetence stating that a missing bridge or two is expected when you make so many, and that potholes are part of the engineering design of highways! The Chief Magistrate (Namita Vakil) only accepts chicken as payments (and gives them as bribes), claiming that children are drawn to them in the courthouse, and the friendships between them, dissolve the charges against the defendants.

The goons played with the required absurdity by Shashank Divekar and Sanjeev Redkar appear in all the departments, being mistaken for various characters in this rambunctious comedy.

The cast seemed to be having as much fun with delivering the aptly written dialogues in this over the top comedy of errors, adapted for stage by Harish Agastya, and deftly directed by Anitha Dixit. The props team deserves kudos for interesting and skillful change of scenes seamlessly. Does this play seem not so far fetched because we may spot likeness in the world regimes, is a question the audience may have to ponder.



Sutter Expands Silicon Valley Care with New Medical Center

Investment marks the largest in the organization's history, encompassing two new campuses totaling one million square feet of ambulatory space and a new medical center

NORTHERN CALIF. - As part of its vision to be the most comprehensive, integrated health system in Northern California, Sutter Health today announced plans to build a new medical center on a 13.63-acre site near Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara. The new flagship facility is part of Sutter's more than 100-year commitment to expanding access and meeting the evolving needs of patients across the region. As part of a dual-campus investment, Sutter is bringing even more integrated healthcare services directly to one of the fastest-growing communities in the state. It will also build on the significant physician presence in Silicon Valley

through the Palo Alto Foundation Medical Group (PAFMG).

"We are honored to work alongside our longtime partners at Palo Alto Foundation Medical Group, whose physicians have delivered exceptional care in the Silicon

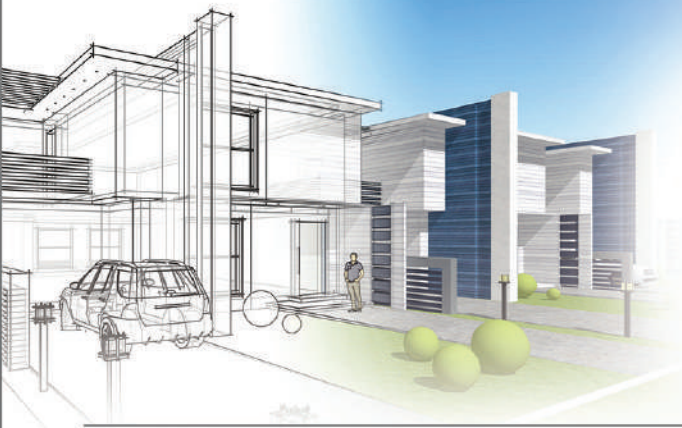


Valley for decades," said Warner Thomas, president and CEO of Sutter Health. "This new medical center builds on PAFMG's distinguished legacy and connects their award-winning care to a full continuum of services within a comprehensive, integrated model of care - ensuring we can meet every patient need. As part of our vision to create a dual-campus medical destination in Santa Clara, this investment expands access, advances clinical excellence and strengthens the coordinated experience for patients and families across the region."

Cont'd on page 20



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Sutter Expands Silicon Valley Care with New Medical Center

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Expanding Access to Medical Center Services
Sutter will build the planned eight-story medical center at 2831 and 2841 Mission College Blvd., replacing the existing office park.

Once complete, the approximately 850,000-square-foot medical center will feature:

272 licensed beds in private patient rooms, with room to add 30 more beds to meet future demand

- Private patient rooms
- A full-service emergency department
- Intensive care units
- Labor and delivery suites and a Level III neonatal intensive care unit

- Advanced operating rooms and surgical services
- Environmentally responsible building design
- A rooftop helipad for emergency transport
- Access for community and community physicians
- A Connected, Patient-Centered Care Destination

Sutter Medical Center, Santa Clara is part of the health system's plan for a broader integrated healthcare ecosystem in Silicon Valley. It will offer a comprehensive location with the latest state-of-the-art technology and innovations that enhance both patient care and patient experience, such as virtual monitoring, personalized patient controls and best practices around use of space to ensure a welcoming environment for patients, visitors and staff.

"By connecting physical infrastructure with digital technologies like AI, telemedicine and remote patient monitoring, we are not only improving access, but we are also redefining how care is delivered," said Ken McNeely, chair of the Sutter Health board of directors. "This investment in a flagship medical center expands care capacity, drives economic growth, attracts new medical talent and builds the healthcare workforce of the future. All of this reflects our long-term commitment to creating a healthier future in Silicon Valley and beyond."

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IALA elects its new President and Executive Committee

India Post News Service

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, CA: On November 12, India Association of Los Angeles (IALA), unanimously elected Falguniba Zala as its president and 20-member strong executive team for the year 2025-2026. IALA was founded in 1999 to preserve, promote and nurture the values of Indian heritage, culture and traditions of India by organizing various cultural and social events. Ms. Zala has been involved in the IALA for many years and served in many capacities. She is a businesswoman by profession, and been active in community work for many years.

Here is the list of newly elected members of the executive committee of IALA:

- President: Falguniba Zala
- Executive VP: Dharaben Patel
- Secretary: Ram Bali
- Joint Secretary: Himesh Mehta
- Treasurer: Rajesh Khandelwal
- V.P. Finance: Robin Paik
- VP Publicity: Navdeep Singh
- VP Cultural Affairs: Manisha Makwana
- VP Public Relations: Kiran Kamboj
- VP Youth Affairs: Nisha Rawal
- VP Health: Bama Sridhar
- Executive Members:

Vikash Jhunjhunwala, Rekha Khandelwal, Ruhi Chadha, Jugal Kishore, Darshansinh Zala, Sunil Prabhakar, Shekhar Chikhalikar, Ramesh Bramharouthu, Mohinder Kaur.

IALA conducts election every year to elect its executive committee. This year all executive committee members were elected unanimously.

IALA has been organizing India Independence Day Mela and celebrating Republic Day of India since 1999. India Independence Day celebration brings more than 10,000 people, mostly Indian community, every year and provides platform to community talent to showcase their talent live in front of thousands of people. Congressman, Indian Ambassador, and so many other officials have been part of these celebrations in previous years.

IALA also announced Republic Day of India celebration at Arbat Banquet Hall, Burbank on Jan 31, 2026. The grand celebration will include cultural performances, Gala style dinner, many dignitaries and much more.

IALA can be reached at IALAsfv@gmail.com or 818-600-1495 for any upcoming community events and information.

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 - Quarterly/Yearly Payroll Tax returns.
4. Management Services & other Services :-
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 - Inventory control and management.
 - Formation of Partnerships and Corporations.
 - Other advisory services.

GOPIO OC-Chapter re-launched in Southern California raises awareness of GOPIO mission and achievements



IRVINE, CA: GOPIO International, the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (www.gopio.net), welcomed the re-launch of its new chapter GOPIO-OC (Orange County) California, to a house full of 55 guests, on Nov 16, 2025 at the India Gate Restaurant, Tustin, CA.

Hosted by its former president, now Chairman Amrit Bhandari, current president Hark Vasa, and GOPIO Orange County Executive Committee, there was much pent up excitement and celebration as in the opening of a new chapter. GOPIO OC, with its brand new Executive Committee welcomed the guests in an initial meet and greet hour with tea and refreshments, prior to the formal information exchange session, followed by lunch and continued networking.

The key objectives of this gathering were to:

1. Raise awareness of what GOPIO is, its mission, and goals
2. Introduce the newly invigorated Executive Team, and
3. Invite guests to become members to further GOPIO's work

Attending as speakers were top three of GOPIO International Executive Team, namely:

- Mr. Prakash Shah, President, along

with his wife Rajul Shah

- Mr. Kewal Kanda, Vice President and local community leader, and
- Ms. J Nami Kaur, Global Ambassador and Chair, GOPIO Foundation

The event opened with a Welcome address by Amrit Bhandari, Chairman of GOPIO-OC; introducing the above dignitaries and setting the tone of the meeting. He was the original initiator of this chapter, encouraged by previous Southern California GOPIO leaders as the late Inder Singh and Dilip Bhutani. Next, co-host Hark Vasa, President of GOPIO-OC introduced his newly formed executive committee members, detailing their track record and experience serving the community in Southern California. Hark inspired and expressed his commitment, along with his GOPIO-OC team, to further the goals and mission of GOPIO for the well being of the Indian Diaspora.

Led by J. Nami Kaur, the GOPIO International part of the meeting followed next. Nami started as a junior volunteer with GOPIO when it was founded in 1989, and currently serves as its Global Ambassador, as well as the Chair of the GOPIO Foundation. She shared with the audience how GOPIO started, its mission, history, major achievements, and her vision for the



next few years. Nami introduced the GOPIO International president Prakash Shah, who addressed the audience as the keynote speaker.

GOPIO was founded in New York in 1989 at the First Global Convention, by its slate of founders, including the current Chairman of GOPIO International. Dr. Thomas Abraham. Its initial mission was to address the human rights violations and discrimination faced by Indians, not only in the USA but across the world. GOPIO is

considered an NGO by the United Nations. GOPIO has about 55+ active chapters in 40+ countries. The mission then expanded to working with the governments across the world and India to implement policies benefiting the Indian Diaspora. With its numerous chapters across the world, a huge pool of members, business owners, and entrepreneurs, it has now become a major opportunity for networking.

For detailed story visit
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Caregivers often invisible but central to our lives

Cont'd from page 17

She pointed out that care used to be an "acute, short-term" task, but with an aging population, many people now require intensive care for more than a decade. Coupled with trends such as "home hospitals," families are forced to shoulder higher technical demands, including medication management, pain management, and even basic medical procedures. She urged that policies and social structures

must keep pace with these changes.

Dan Salinger, Family Caregiver shared the changes his father underwent after being diagnosed with dementia, including getting lost, exhibiting abnormal behavior, and experiencing a decline in daily functions, ultimately forcing him and his family to take over caregiving entirely without preparation. "Most of us don't choose to become caregivers; we suddenly become caregivers one day," he said. Alma Valencia, Family Caregiver

First Consulate General of India in Los Angeles

Cont'd from page 16

UIASC President Mr. Kewal Kanda introduced the Consul General in a beautiful introduction. He told the audience the new consul general is well known to most of us as he was deputy consul general in San Francisco before being assigned here in LA as Consul General. Dr. Srinivasa spoke very eloquently about what made this consulate possible and stated that difference was the efforts made by the diaspora. He gave best wishes to everyone for Diwali. He said he was happy to be back as he had previously



worked with many of the leaders during Pravasi Bhartiya Divas. One of the initiatives he wants to undertake will be to start a non-stop flight from Los Angeles to major cities of India. He discussed the upcoming Olympics in LA and future of Cricket in the Olym-

pics. He also stated that with the new consulate he expects increase in collaboration and bilateral business between two countries. He announced that he expects a fully functional consulate in downtown LAAON building sometime in December.

The program concluded with Consulate warmly meeting all the community present at the event and taking pictures with them.

The community meet and greet was followed by a sumptuous dinner prepared and served by Ashoka the Great.

END OF AN ERA 'He-Man' of Bollywood DHARMENDRA passes away at 89, leaves timeless legacy

MUMBAI: The 'He-Man' of Bollywood, Dharmendra, who worked in over 300 films and created an everlasting impact with his acting skills, handsome looks, and distinctive roles, left for a heavenly abode at the age of 89 on 24 November.

Filmmaker Karan Johar confirmed the demise in an emotional social media post. An official statement from Dharmendra's family is still awaited. The news comes just weeks ahead of his 90th birthday on December 8.

"It is an end of an ERA..... a massive mega star... the embodiment of a HERO in mainstream cinema... incredibly handsome and the most enigmatic screen presence ... he is and will always be a bonafide Legend of Indian Cinema... defining and richly present in the pages of cinema history ... but mostly he was the best human being... he was so loved by everyone in our industry", Karan's Instagram post read.

He only had immense love and positivity for everyone ... his blessings, his hug and his incredible warmth will be missed more than words can describe ... Today there is a gaping hole in our industry ... a space that can never be filled by anyone ... there will always be the one and only DHARAMJI... we love you kind Sir.... We will miss you so much.... The heavens are blessed today.... It will always be my blessing to have worked with you.... And my heart

Dharmendra is survived by his first wife, Prakash Kaur; his second wife, actress Hema Malini, and six children, including sons Sunny Deol and Bobby Deol, and daughters Vijeta and Ajeita from his first marriage, as well as, daughters Esha Deol and Ahana Deol from his second marriage

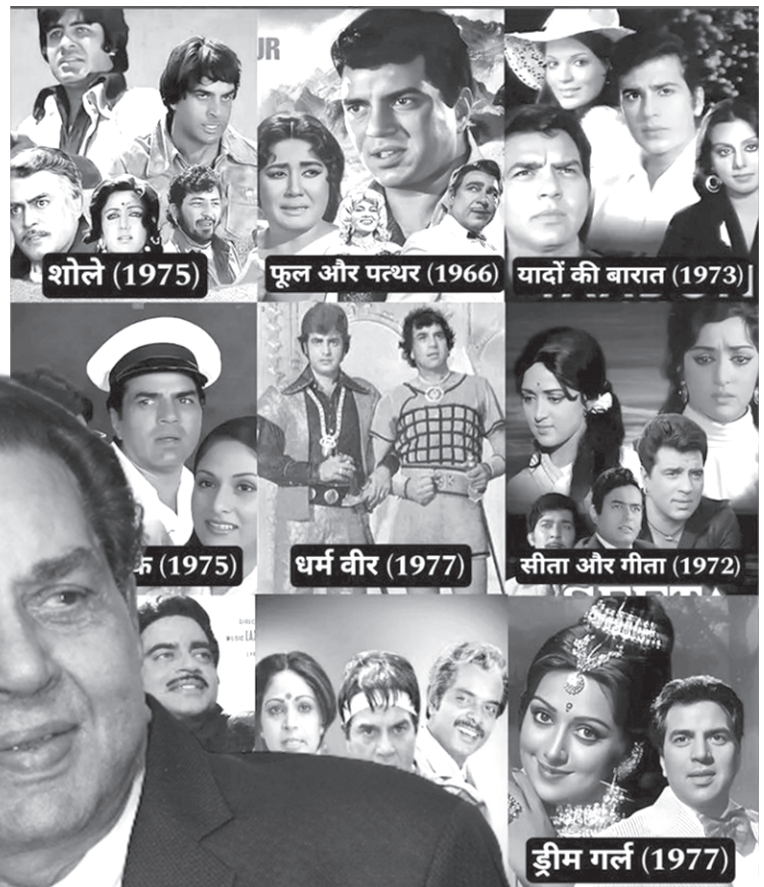
says with respect, reverence and love.... Abhi Na jao chodke.... Ke dil abhi bhara nahi.....," he said.

Dharmendra is survived by his first wife, Prakash Kaur; his second wife, actress Hema Malini, and six children, including sons Sunny Deol and Bobby Deol, and daughters Vijeta and Ajeita from his first marriage, as well as, daughters Esha Deol and Ahana Deol from his second marriage.

Born Dharmendra Kewal Krishan Deol on December 8, 1935, in the village of Nasrali in Punjab's Ludhiana district, his father, Kewal Kishan Singh Deol, was a school headmaster. His love for movies took him to Mumbai, and he made his film debut with the 1960s romantic drama 'Dil Bhi Tera Hum Bhi Tere', directed by Arjun Hingorani. Though the film flopped, it opened doors to a world of his dreams.

However, he got his first commercial success in 1961 with Ramesh Saigal's 'Shola Aur Shabnam'. He followed it with hits, such as Mohan Kumar's 'Anpadh' (1962) and Bimal Roy's 'Bandini' (1963), which won the National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Hindi.

In 1965, he had another major success in Ram Maheshwari's romantic drama 'Kaajal', also starring Meena Kumari, Raaj Kumar and Padmini in the lead roles. In 1966, Dharmendra reunited with Meena Kumari for O. P. Ralhan's 'Phool Aur Patthar'. The film topped the box office chart in 1966, becoming a major blockbuster and making him a saleable star. ANI



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Tetra Pak launches Tetra Pak® Factory OS™ to make factories AI-ready

SINGAPORE: Tetra Pak today unveiled its next-generation Automation and Digitalization (A&D) portfolio, Tetra Pak® Factory OS™ at Gulfood Manufacturing in Dubai. This new suite of modular, open and scalable smart factory technologies will transform food and beverage (F&B) production and lay the foundation for AI-ready factories.

* Tetra Pak's next-generation Automation and Digitalization portfolio, Tetra Pak® Factory OS™, delivers contextualized, real-time insights for smarter, faster decision-making in food and beverage production.

A recent comparative study[1] shows that highly automated beverage factories achieve 20% higher overall equipment effectiveness, 45% lower product waste and 20% fewer packaging line stops compared to less automated facilities. Yet, many producers struggle to adopt automation due to limited digital expertise and, difficulty of finding holistic, end-to-end solution providers with industry expertise[2]. Tetra Pak® Factory OS™ bridges this gap, by combining advanced technologies with deep food and beverage know-how to help producers tackle cost pressures, meet sustainability goals, and prepare for AI-driven manufacturing.

At the heart of the next-generation portfolio is a new data integration platform, powered by open technologies, powerful analytics and industry standards. It connects equipment and systems throughout the factory, transforming fragmented data into one unified, real-time view. This can empower food and beverage producers to deliver consistent product quality, enhance efficiency, reduce utility usage, and lower total cost of ownership (TCO)[3].

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November 28, 2025

Agrasheel Infratech: A Developer Shaped by Discipline, Long-Term Thinking and Customer First Approach

LUCKNOW: Agrasheel Infratech Pvt. Ltd. has grown quietly but steadily over the past few years, building its identity around something that many buyers today value more than glossy brochures, clarity, discipline and a sense of responsibility in how land is developed. The company began with a straightforward intention: to create spaces that feel grounded, modern and legally sound, without cutting corners or over-promising.

For detailed story visit www.indiapost.com

India rises to no. 2 in APAC real estate private credit: Report



MUMBAI: India has emerged as one of the most active and fastest-growing real estate private credit markets in the Asia-Pacific region, securing the second position and accounting for 36 percent of regional fundraising between 2020 and 2024, a recent report said.

The data compiled by Knight Frank notes that India's private credit assets under management have seen sharp growth, rising from \$0.7 billion in 2010 to \$17.8 billion in 2023.

Knight Frank expects India to contribute between 20 and 25 percent of the region's projected \$90-110 billion private credit ex-

pansion by 2028, driven by stronger investor appetite, policy reforms, and increased developer demand for non-bank financing.

This rapid expansion is being supported by structural shifts in

bank lending becomes tighter and regulatory frameworks evolve.

Global private equity firms, family offices, and institutional investors have been quick to de-

Managing Director of Knight Frank India, said India's strong economic position and regulatory evolution have helped private credit gain momentum.

He added that developers are now depending more on structured financing to bridge funding gaps amid rising housing demand.

"India's emergence as a leading private credit market within Asia-Pacific reflects the country's strong economic fundamentals, regulatory evolution, and deepening institutional participation," Baijal added.

According to him, the combination of governance improvements and growth potential makes India a compelling destination for global capital, especially at a time when interest rates remain high in many markets.

The report also highlights that India's private credit market is expanding beyond traditional development lending.

Structured debt, last-mile project funding, and special situation financing are now playing a crucial role in completing stalled projects and improving liquidity across the sector. IANS

The data compiled by Knight Frank notes that India's private credit assets under management have seen sharp growth, rising from \$0.7 billion in 2010 to \$17.8 billion in 2023

the financing ecosystem, according to the report.

Developers are increasingly turning to private credit and alternative lenders as traditional

ploy capital, attracted by favorable returns and rising confidence in India's real estate ecosystem.

Shishir Baijal, Chairman and

Mortgage finance AUM of non-banks to grow 18-19 pc: Report

NEW DELHI: Mortgage finance companies outside the banking sector are expected to see strong growth over the next two years, a new report said.

According to data compiled by Crisil Ratings, the assets under management (AUM) of non-bank mortgage lenders are set to rise by 18-19 percent this fiscal and the next, matching the 18.5 percent growth recorded last year.

However, the three key loan

segments -- home loans, loans against property (LAP), and wholesale loans -- will grow at different speeds.



Home loans, which make up the largest share of the portfolio at around 59 percent, will see moderate growth of 12-13 percent this year and the next, slightly lower than the 14 percent growth recorded last fiscal.

LAP, which accounts for about 32 percent of the total AUM, will continue to grow faster than home loans but at a slower rate than before. IANS

Samruddhi Solace: A high-growth investment opportunity in Vadodara's fastest-emerging corridor

PAYAL TALREJA

Samruddhi Solace is a premium residential plotted development by the trusted Samruddhi Group, located conveniently on the Ajwa Nimeta Link Road near Aatapi Wonderland in Vadodara. This project is an excellent combination of affordability, modern infrastructure and rapidly growing locality benefits, which makes it an ideal investment opportunity. Samruddhi Solace is a good choice for investors looking for a safe and long-term investment, along with the perks of a good lifestyle. Samruddhi Group has collaborated with Mulank Smartspaces, which is the Associate Partner for the project.

Prime connectivity and location advantages

Samruddhi Solace's major strength lies in its location in Rayan Talavadi, an emerging residential corridor with excellent access to city's key focal points. The project is



connected to Vadodara Station and a short drive from Vadodara Airport, ensuring convenient commuting options. Residents have access to quality education with the closely located Navrachana School and Parul University. Reputed hospitals like Sterling and Metro hospitals are a short drive away, ensuring timely access to medical needs and emergencies.

The project's proximity to other popular recreation spots, such as Ajwa Lake, a well-loved area for relaxation and weekend getaways, adds to the lifestyle appeal of the community. Situated near NH 48 and other arterial roads, Samruddhi Solace also benefits from smooth highway connectivity. This is further enhanced by ongoing infrastructure development, which boosts accessibility and the future real estate value. The blend of transport, education, healthcare facilities and recreation makes Samruddhi Solace a highly integrated ecosystem for living and investing.

Project features and amenities

Designed to foster a serene and high-quality living environment, Samruddhi Solace features thoughtfully laid-out residential plots averaging 1210 square feet. Dedicated landscaped areas, planned parks and recreation areas enhance outdoor activity and healthy living. The community is further strengthened with a variety of modern amenities such as a multipurpose clubhouse, pools, gym, quiet meditation pods, amphitheater, multi-use playground and parks. The presence of a mini-theatre, cafes, skating rinks and terraced gardens upgrades the living experience. The project is designed with a high degree of customization, enabling buyers to design and build their

homes to suit their personal preferences in style, architecture and space utilization.

Attractive pricing and financial flexibility

Samruddhi Solace is a promising opportunity due to the balance of affordability and flexible payment options. Plot prices start at approximately Rs 33 lakhs, catering to a much wider range of people, including primary market participants and people looking for ways to diversify. Such financial features break down barriers to entry and facilitate sound cash flow management, making Samruddhi Solace highly accessible and financially viable.

Appreciation and market potential

Samruddhi Solace's location at Ajwa Nimeta Link Road, one of Vadodara's most promising growth corridors, provides it with multiple drivers of demand and value appreciation. Vadodara's housing market has been performing steadily, and the city's housing market experienced a 5-year CAGR of 2.9% and a 2024 HPI growth of 5.9%, demonstrating ongoing demand in the real estate market across the city's significant micro-markets.

New major infrastructure projects, such as the Mumbai-Vadodara Expressway and the proposed Vadodara Metro, also enhance this locality's future potential. These corridors and the surrounding area are expected to see market appreciation of 15%-40% over the next three to five years, driven by improved investor activity and overall market mobility. The mid-segment housing market in Vadodara is also expected to appreciate by 6-10% annually, further contributing to the projected value increase for plotted developments like Samruddhi Solace.

Recent trends in the rental market support this expectation, as the localities surrounding Ajwa Road are now seen as a promising investment area, offering annual rental yields of 3.5%-4%. The combined growth of these projected trends in infrastructure, the economy and the local population secures Samruddhi Solace's strong position in a thriving market.

Developer credibility and assurance

By delivering high-quality projects on time, Samruddhi Group has established itself as a prominent player in Vadodara's real estate industry. With this strong reputation, the risk factors related to construction, such as delays and legal issues, are significantly mitigated. The Samruddhi Group ensures that all projects, including Samruddhi Solace, comply fully with RERA and the local regulatory framework. Their customer-centric approach and commitment to transparent transactions underpin buyer confidence and contribute to overall satisfaction and trust.

Conclusion

In summary, investing in the Samruddhi Solace project

on Ajwa Nimeta Link Road is supported by factors such as location, price, value, developer trust, and growth prospects. This project offers good accessibility and ease of living, strengthening the quality of everyday life with well-planned surrounding transport networks, schools, hospitals and parks. www.housing.com

RDB Infra shares fall nearly 3 pc after ED summons company executives in money laundering probe

MUMBAI: Shares of RDB Infrastructure and Power fell nearly 3 percent on 24 November after the company disclosed that its Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer had been summoned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

The stock hit an intra-day low of Rs 48 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).

The summons, issued on November 21 requires the Managing Director to appear before the ED and submit documents as part of an ongoing investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.

At 12:28 p.m., RDB Infra shares were trading 1.88 percent lower at Rs 48.47 on the BSE, while the benchmark Sensex was up 0.19 percent at 85,397.39.

The company also confirmed that the ED conducted search and seizure operations on November 20, at the residences of the Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer, as well as the RDB Group of office in Gurugram.

"We wish to inform that the Managing Director & CFO of the Company has received a summon dated November 21 from the Directorate of Enforcement, Ministry of Finance, Government of India," the firm said in its regulatory filing.

"The summon requires the attendance of Managing Director, to provide evidence and produce documents in connection with the investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002," it added.

The searches were linked to the acquisition of land in Sector 70A, Village Palra, Gurgaon. During the operation, the ED seized certain documents and electronic devices.

This is not the first time the company has been contacted by the ED regarding this matter.

One of the promoters received a summon on October 14, while the Managing Director was summoned earlier on October 1, both relating to the same land acquisition case.

RDB Infrastructure and Power is part of the RDB Group and focuses on residential and commercial real estate projects.

The company began by developing homes for middle- and lower-income buyers but has since expanded its portfolio across segments. *ANS*

IIT Bhubaneswar signs agreement for Novel TB vaccine technology

BHUBANESWAR: Taking a major stride toward advancing indigenous TB vaccine research, IIT Bhubaneswar, the Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), and the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) have formalized a Quadripartite License Agreement with TechInvention Lifecare Limited.

The agreement paves the way for technology transfer and potential commercialization of a promising new vaccine candidate, "HSP Subunit Vaccine in Adjuvant (DDA) Against Mycobacterium tuberculosis."

The agreement aims to advance the vaccine from laboratory research to product development and eventual commercial deployment.

According to the World Health Organization, TB claimed 1.23 million lives in 2024, making it one of the world's deadliest infectious diseases.

"However, the world continues to rely on the Bacillus Calmette Guérin (BCG) vaccine, developed over a century ago, which provides only limited protection mainly to infants and is largely ineffective in preventing pulmonary TB in adolescents and adults. IANS

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

26 India Post

www.indiapost.com

November 28, 2025

Evidence-based ayurvedic products are future of wellness: Prataprao Jadhav

NEW DELHI: Evidence-based ayurvedic products are the future of wellness, said Union Minister for Ayush Prataprao Jadhav.

He was speaking about the upcoming SIDDHI 2.0 (Scientific Innovation in Drug Development, Healthcare and Integration) program, organized by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), under the Ministry of Ayush.

The conclave, to be held in Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh from November 25-26, is positioned as one of the most significant national platforms advancing the scientific, industrial, and commercial ecosystem of Ayurveda.

"SIDDHI 2.0 represents our continuous efforts and commitment to boost the traditional medicine sector and transform Ayush into a system that stands firmly on scientific foundations," said Jadhav, Union Minister of

State (IC) for Ayush and Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare

"CCRAS has created a strong national platform for innovation, and its engagement with industry

uct development, indigenous technologies, and faster translational pipelines -- priorities at the heart of India's current Ayush innovation strategy.

"Ayurveda's future lies in its

capabilities of India's Ayush industry, enabling faster product development and smoother regulatory pathways," said Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush.

The initiative is being driven by the scientific leadership of CCRAS, which has articulated a strong national vision for evidence-based Ayurveda. CCRAS is poised to outline India's rapidly evolving Ayurvedic research ecosystem, playing a central role in drug development, standardization, validation, regulatory advancement, and commercialization.

Positioned as a national translational accelerator, SIDDHI 2.0 aims to expand industry adoption of CCRAS technologies, strengthen institutional networks, enhance quality and regulatory systems, and support the development of globally competitive Ayurvedic pharmaceuticals. IANS



is crucial for transforming research outcomes into high-quality Ayurvedic products that meet global expectations," he added.

SIDDHI 2.0 marks a decisive shift towards research-led prod-

ability to convert validated research into accessible and reliable solutions. SIDDHI 2.0 is a timely initiative that brings together CCRAS' scientific strength and the manufacturing

Long pepper compound may aid in treatment of colon cancer: NIT Rourkela

NEW DELHI: A natural compound found in long pepper can be an effective and cost-efficient agent against colon cancer cells, said researchers at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Rourkela on Tuesday.

Colon cancer is a disease in which the cells grow uncontrollably in the large intestine of the body, forming a tumor. It is one of the most common types of cancer globally. According to the World Health Organization, in 2022, nearly 1.9 million new cases and almost 900,000 deaths oc-

curred due to colon cancer.

While various international cancer research studies have examined natural molecules' activity towards a variety of cancers, the team at NIT Rourkela

conducted a set of laboratory experiments to demonstrate the activity of Piperlongumine -- a natural compound -- as an alternative to chemotherapy.

It is because conventional

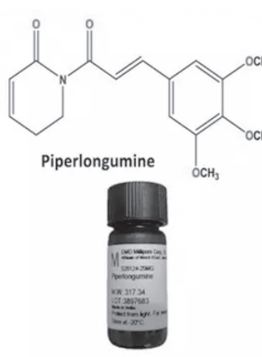
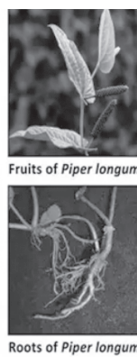
treatments such as chemotherapy are painful and have long-lasting side effects, including hair loss, fatigue, nerve damage, and weakened immunity.

In addition, the cancerous cells tend to develop resistance to chemotherapy agents, making the treatment difficult.

The findings, published in the prestigious journal Bio Factors, showed that Piperlongumine

selectively kills colon cancer cells while leaving healthy cells unharmed.

"This natural compound from long pepper has shown strong anticancer effects with minimal side effects, making it a promising and safer alternative therapy. Over time, many cancer patients stop responding to chemotherapy, meaning the treatment no longer works, which can increase the risk of death," said Prof. Bijesh Kumar Biswal, Associate Professor, Department of Life Science, NIT Rourkela. IANS



Researchers find immune cells use surprising trick to heal muscle faster

WASHINGTON DC: A research team has found that specific immune cells can connect with muscle fibers in a lightning-fast, neuron-like way to promote healing.

These cells deliver quick pulses of calcium, triggering repair within seconds. The mechanism works in both injury and disease models. The discovery could inspire new treatments for muscle recovery and degeneration.

At the cellular scale, the way muscle tissue repairs itself becomes surprisingly complex. The body does not respond the same way to all forms of damage. A sudden muscle tear from a sports injury differs greatly from the slow decline in muscle strength seen in conditions such as muscular dystrophy.

A research team at Cincinnati Children's has uncovered a shared and unexpected repair process that may help the body recover from several kinds of muscle damage.

The findings were published online on November 21, 2025, in Current Biology.

The project was led by first author Gyanesh Tripathi, PhD, and correspond-

ing author Michael Jankowski, PhD, who oversees the Research Division in Cincinnati Children's Department of Anesthesia and serves as Associate Director of Basic Science Research for the Pediatric Pain Research Centre.

The newly identified mechanism involves macrophages, a type of immune cell. These cells are usually known for act-

The newly identified mechanism involves macrophages, a type of immune cell. These cells are usually known for acting like tiny cleanup crews that remove bacteria, dead cells, and other unwanted material

ing like tiny cleanup crews that remove bacteria, dead cells, and other unwanted material.

A Neuron-Like Repair Signal

"The biggest surprise about this was finding that a macrophage has a synaptic-like property that delivers an ion to a muscle fiber to facilitate its repair after an injury," Jankowski says.

"It's literally like the way a neuron works, and it's working in an extremely fast synaptic-like fashion to regulate repair," added Jankowski.

Scientists have long known that macrophages respond to muscle injury by releasing cytokines and chemokines that create inflammation, influence pain, and help drive the growth and regeneration of muscle fibers.

Searching for Pain Relief Leads to a Different Breakthrough

The research team originally aimed to uncover ways to ease pain during recovery after surgery. They were looking for clues that could eventually reduce the need for pain medications that carry significant side effects. ANI

Stem cell therapy helps AMD patients see again: Study

WASHINGTON DC: A first-of-its-kind trial is testing adult stem cell transplants for advanced dry macular degeneration. Early results show the treatment is safe and can significantly improve vision, even in severely affected patients.

Participants gained measurable sight improvements in the treated eye. Researchers are now monitoring higher-dose groups as the therapy advances toward later trial phases.

In the United States, age-related macular degeneration is one of the most common causes of permanent vision loss in adults who are 60 and older.

It affects the macula; the central region of the retina that contains tightly packed cells used for sharp, detailed color vision.

Roughly 20 million adults in the country are living with some form of AMD. People with this condition typically lose the ability to see objects directly in front of them, although their peripheral vision remains intact. ANI



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Kohima is the hilly capital of Nagaland, which is one of the seven sister states of India. 'Kohima' is the Anglicized name given by the British, the original name being 'Kewhira' derived from the Kewhi flowers found in the region. Famous for its ethereal environment and untouched beauty, it is a land of folklore passed down through the ages. Situated at a height of 1500 meters above the sea level, it is endowed with quaint hills, emerald forests and a picturesque landscape. It is the go-to place for all you adventure enthusiasts, as it is ideal for trekking, camping and hiking.

Kohima was built by the British and is home to the Naga and Kuki tribes who can amaze one with their independence and a mystical and colorful culture that surrounds them.

Kohima finds its place in history as the site of an intense fight with the Japanese, a part of a 64 daylong battle during the World War II. One of the most popular here includes the Commonwealth War Cemetery where lie buried thousands of soldiers of World War II. Other than that, the city has a lot more to offer to its visitors - a museum, zoo, sanctuary, valleys, self-governing villages and much more.

PLACES TO VISIT IN KOHIMA

Dzukou Valley and Japfu Peak: Located some 25 km south of Kohima, Dzukou valley and Japfu Peak offer one of the most breathtaking landscapes of the continent. Nagaland is called the 'Switzerland of the East' and Dzukou valley and Japfu Peak provide solid proof to that moniker. Dzukou valley and Japfu Peak trek is an absolute must for all trekking enthusiasts.

Kohima Museum: Nagaland is truly an amalgamation of various tribes! The Kohima Museum portrays the traditions and culture of the many tribes of the state. The museum holds many unique artifacts related to different tribes of the region.

Touphema Village: On a green and verdant hillock, lies the township called Touphema Village. Built by the local community in partnership with the Tourism Department of Nagaland, Touphema Village is a collection of small huts built and decorated in traditional Naga design

sensibilities. The village intends on giving the tourists the feel of living in a Naga tribal house.

Kohima Zoo: the zoo houses the state bird, the rare Tragopan bird, and the state animal, the wild buffalo. The zoo is created on a hill and the hill has been beautifully used to provide natural landscapes for the animals.

Khonoma Village: A town belonging to the 'Angami Naga' ethnic group of Nagaland,

Khonoma Village is a one-of-its-kind project in the country. Located about 20 km from the state capital of Kohima, Khonoma village is a Green Village, where all forms of hunting have been abolished for a more sustainable eco-

KOHIMA

"NAGALAND'S CAPITAL WITH WAR HISTORY AND TRIBAL CULTURE"



system. It is testament to the will power of the tribal groups of Nagaland to protect and conserve their natural habitat. The resident Naga tribes here are traditionally dependent on nature for their food and have strong hunting practices.

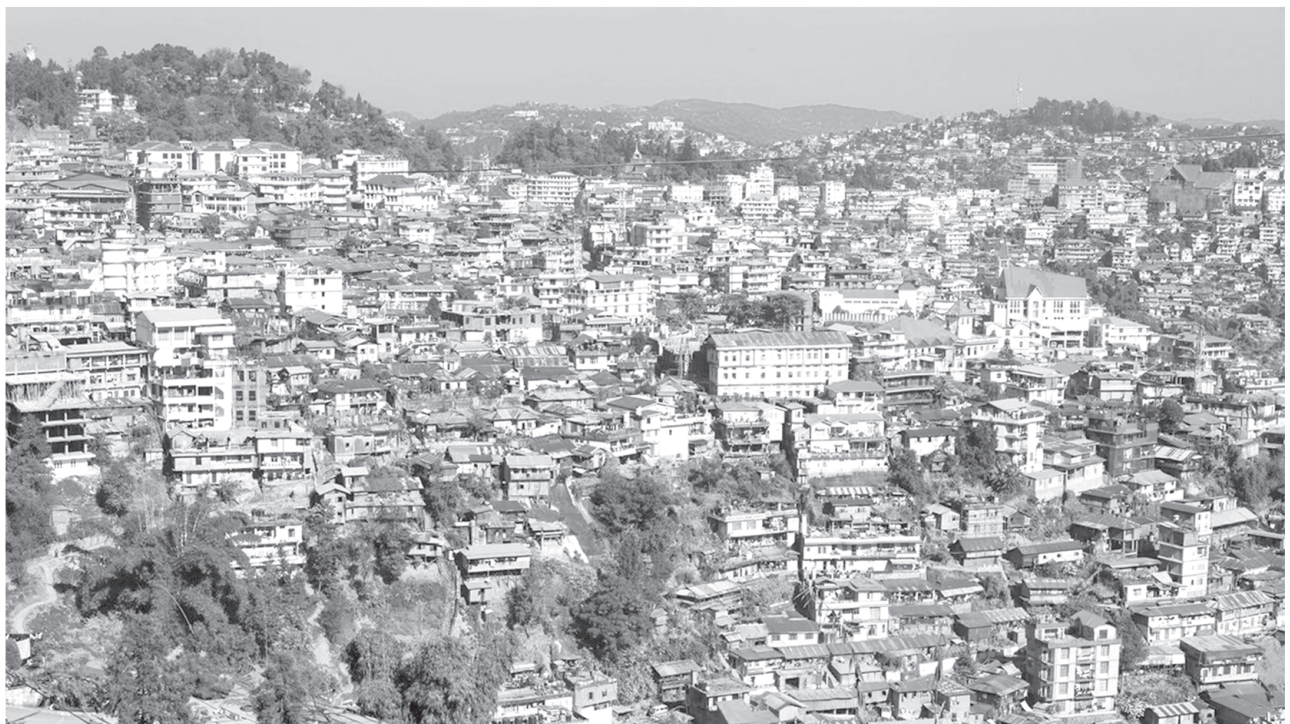


However, they have given up on their centuries old heritage for a more sustainable way of life with nature.

Shilloi Lake: A beautiful foot shaped lake in the heart of the Patkai range of Nagaland, Shilloi Lake is a very picturesque destination with verdant valley surrounding it from all sides. The lake is considered very important by the folks of Latsum village as it is believed that the spirit of a holy child rests in the bottom of the lake. It is one of the reasons why no one fishes or uses the lake water for drinking and irrigation.

Kohima War Cemetery: This is, perhaps, one place in Kohima you wouldn't want to miss at all. This beautiful site is dedicated to the 10,000 Allied soldiers who lost their lives during the Japanese invasion during the World War II. www.holidify.com

For detailed story visit www.indiapost.com



Philosophy

SWAMINI BRAHMAPRAJNANANDA

All of us feel loved in different ways, and we can classify them into five types. The first type is through hearing words of appreciation and needless to say, they are genuine. We are not going to fall for flattery. At times, even if there is genuine appreciation, some of us are so skeptical that we don't even trust a genuine compliment.

The second way, is caring actions from the loved person. It could range from making a cup of tea, to taking the person on a holiday, doing all kinds of things to make life comfortable for you.

The third way in which some of us will feel most loved is quality time, when we do things together.

The fourth way in which a lot of us will feel loved is the presence of the person. The person need not say a lot, or do a lot, you are just happy being in the



Swamini
Brahmajnananda

and they do not understand how I cannot possibly feel loved because I have given them all kinds of gifts, and it causes a fight and a misunderstanding which can lead to further arguments and accusations.

This happens because we did not understand that the other person's way of expressing love is different from mine. It is likely the way you feel loved, and the way you give love are the same. But, the other person's way of relating might be different, and it's time we open our eyes to this. A lot of our conflicts and misunderstandings are because we were not able to see that this is that person's way of expressing love.

I am not saying you reconcile with this, you can tell the person how you feel loved the most. Then, that person can include that mode in their repertoire of engaging with you, and of course you include the way in which that other person feels loved.

Different ways of feeling and expressing love

This happens because we did not understand that the other person's way of expressing love is different from mine

presence of that person.

The last one where we feel most loved is touch. Some of us are very tactile and the person may have said a lot of good things to us, may have given us gifts, spent quality time with us, but unless that hug is available, you don't feel loved.

Can you see yourself within any of these or some or all of these? One thing for us to understand is that given our background, the way we were brought up, and our preferences, we feel most loved in certain and specific ways. There is nothing right or wrong about it, it is a preference. The problem arises when the other person does not understand that, or we do not understand that.

Let's say that I want to hear words of appreciation, but for that person, giving gifts is important because that is how the person expresses his or her love best. Because I am not able to recognize that this is the person's preferred way of showing love to me, I will feel they do not love me.

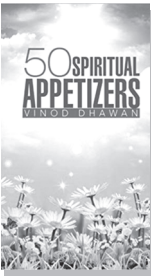
I do not see their expression of love,

In the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, we have a very sophisticated analysis of this topic wherein Yajnavalkya declares "Whatever is loved, is really for the sake of the self." When the husband is loved, or the wife is loved, it is not for the sake of that person, it is because that person evokes the pleased self in you.

Excerpted from a talk given at the World Yoga Festival UK in July 2019. The 51st birth anniversary of Swamini Brahmajnananda was observed on August 2

50 SPIRITUAL APPETIZERS

Vinod Dhawan



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

Jac O'Keeffe
Spirituality teacher based in USA.

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The Dawn of AI Deepfakes in 5th Generation Warfare: Need for regional framework to counter sinister threat

AARAV SHARMA

We have entered an era where the most dangerous explosion is not the one that destroys the buildings or kills the hundreds of people but the one that detonates into the billions of minds with no time. It is now everywhere, in everyone's access. This is terrifying but new reality: generative AI has not just entered our lives but dangerously reshaped them. AI is making its way dangerously in every aspect of life. Every technology has both good and bad impacts on people, but whenever technologies have been indulged in the defense field their effects have automatically become devastating.

When we look into the current security environment across the world, it has been totally changed from traditional to non-traditional warfare. Traditional warfare, which involved the different conventional techniques with the use of manpower, has now totally transformed into 5th Generation War-

level but in the minds of people. On the evening of 10th November, a car exploded near Delhi's Red Fort which took the lives of 13 people. Within the next six hours of the explosion, a confessional video in perfect Hindi language from Jaish-e-Muhammad starts circulating on WhatsApp and national television in India. In the next 12 hours the video had been seen by 40 million people. But what made it intriguing was that within 24 hours many of the AI detection tools marked the video 99.9% synthetic.

The point to ponder: how rapidly the video circulated on digital platforms and, even before its authenticity was confirmed, had already colonized millions of minds. People don't even believe the government's statements when the truth is revealed; many stated that the government might want to hide something (reality) from the public because people believe what

they firstly observed. Many people may label this episode as journalistic negligence; but it could be a fully matured demonstration of AI as a decisive enabler of the 5th GWF.

Before 2023,

or when the 5th GWF was introduced, it remained expensive, and many of the people were not even aware of it. It was mostly done by spreading fake news and using Photoshop, which takes days, and those who are less vulnerable to technology were less effective. Now generative AI collapsed that time duration from days to minutes and its accessibility from costly to almost free. In the case of the Red Fort attack, there were initially eight people who died, but in the cognitive domain, the blast had fractured the minds of millions of Indian people.

(The author is a political analyst and columnist with a deep interest in South Asian geopolitics, international diplomacy and policy reform. He graduated from King's College London with a focus on global governance and is passionate about narrowing the disparity between academia and policy making) South Asia Monitor

When we look into the current security environment across the world, it has been totally changed from traditional to non-traditional warfare. Traditional warfare, which involved the different conventional techniques

fare (GWF), which has already been launched on the tactical level where the battlefield is perception itself. The objective of 5th GWF is not to conquer the land or to defeat any military but to destroy the enemy's ability to form a coherent picture of reality.

Key characteristics of 5th generation warfare include minimal violence or absence of violence, weapons being narrative, and the most important part being when the target population voluntarily self-destructs the reality. One of the most dangerous parts of this warfare and digital landscape is that defense is nearly impossible because whenever anything circulates on media within minutes and hours, it has already shaped people's perception before the counter-response comes.

Deepfakes Fracturing Minds Of Millions

One of the most recent manifestations of 5th GWF with the use of AI content came to the forefront, which could possibly leave a devastating impact not on the ground

For detailed story visit
www.indiapost.com

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

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Transnational Jihadist Collaboration: ISI-LeT Nexus Threatening India, Reconfiguring Terror Landscape Across South Asia

SALAH UDDIN SHOAIB CHOUDHURY

Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) has long institutionalized the use of jihadist organizations as instruments of foreign policy. In recent months, credible intelligence assessments suggest that the ISI, in coordination with its principal proxy organization Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), is preparing a new wave of terrorist attacks targeting India. Preliminary information indicates that these operations are designed to possibly coincide with India's Republic Day celebrations, with particular focus on West Bengal.

This emerging threat underscores Pakistan's enduring reliance on asymmetric warfare to destabilize its neighbors. It also highlights the growing danger of transnational jihadist collaboration between Pakistan and

suggesting the involvement of technically trained operatives.

This pattern aligns with LeT's historical emphasis on both symbolism and psychological impact in its operations - seeking not only to inflict casualties but also to project an enduring sense of insecurity among civilian populations.

Recruitment of technocrats

The ongoing investigation into recent explosions in Delhi revealed the arrest of several individuals, including medical professionals, found in possession of significant quantities of potassium nitrate and other explosives. However, emerging intelligence suggests that LeT's recruitment network has expanded its scope beyond religious seminaries to include technically

Since the 2024 rise of the Muhammad Yunus regime, Dhaka's policies toward Pakistan have undergone significant reorientation, generating serious security concerns among regional intelligence agencies.

LeT's founder Hafiz Saeed has historically maintained strong networks in Bangladesh through Islamist figures such as Mufti Harun Izhar and Ansar al-Islam leader Mufti Jashimuddin Rahmani. These linkages, once under strict scrutiny, now appear to be reactivating under favorable political conditions.

Of particular concern is the reported entry of Ibtisam Elahi Zaheer, a senior member of Pakistan's Markaz-e-Jamiat Ahl-e-Hadith and a long-time associate of Hafiz Saeed. Zaheer entered Bangladesh on October 25, 2025, allegedly taking advantage of the weakened regulatory framework and the pro-Pakistan disposition of the current government.

Dhaka's policy reversals

The strategic environment in Bangladesh has shifted dramatically following a series of administrative and regulatory changes introduced between September and October 2024. A gazette notification issued by the Yunus government directed customs authorities to exempt shipments from Pakistan from mandatory inspection under the "National Selectivity Criteria".

In parallel, Dhaka also eliminated post-landing inspections for Pakistani consignments and security clearance requirements for Pakistani nationals applying for Bangladeshi visas.

(The author is a journalist, writer, and editor of the Weekly Blitz. He specializes in counterterrorism and regional geopolitics) South Asia Monitor

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DELHI'S DOCTORS OF DOOM

"Doctors of Doom" is the media moniker for a 'white-collar' terror module involving radicalized medical professionals linked to Pakistan-based terror group, Jaish-e-Mohammed. The module is responsible for a deadly car-bomb blast near Delhi's Red Fort on November 10, 2025. The module was busted following a multi-state investigation by teams of India's agencies, including the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

A car bomb exploded near the Red Fort, killing 12 people and injuring over 20. The attack is believed to be a suicide mission, carried out by a module member, Dr. Mohammad Umar, who panicked after the recent arrests of his associates. The network primarily consisted of educated medical professionals, many associated with the Al-Falah University in Faridabad.

Authorities uncovered a plot that spans across multiple states, including Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Jammu & Kashmir. The suspected suicide bomber died in the Red Fort blast. A co-accused lecturer, tasked with establishing a women's wing for the terror group, has been arrested along with associates, including a cleric from Shopian, accused of radicalizing the doctors.

A massive cache of nearly 2,900 kilograms of explosives (including ammonium nitrate and RDX), along with weapons like an AK-47 rifle and timer devices, was seized from properties rented by the suspects in Faridabad. The alleged mastermind's handler, codenamed 'Ukasa', has been traced to Turkey, and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) is investigating the financial trail of the conspiracy. Meantime, security agencies are working in tandem to dismantle the entire network.

The investigation highlighted an alarming trend of educated professionals being drawn into terror networks, and the use of seemingly legitimate institutions to plan attacks.

Why did these professionals opt for such missions one would ask? Experts believe that professionals like doctors and engineers join jihadi groups due to a complex interplay of ideological, social and personal factors, rather than a single cause such as lack of education or poverty. They are often driven by a search for meaning, identity, and a response to perceived global injustices. Many recruits, including educated individuals, feel moral outrage at perceived injustices or the suffering of Muslims globally. Their professional training, such as, the altruism often associated with doctors, can be exploited by radical narratives that cast the conflict as a humanitarian cause, where they can use their skills for a "noble" purpose. Individuals may also experience social marginalization, alienation, or a loss of personal significance within their social community.

Jihadi groups offer a strong collective identity (the Ummah, or global Muslim community) and close-knit social networks that provide a sense of camaraderie and belonging that may be missing from their professional or personal lives. These agents use persuasion and online propaganda to create an "echo chamber" that normalizes radical ideas and provide a path to involvement. Individual vulnerabilities, such as personal failures, family problems, or emotional issues, can make individuals more susceptible to radicalization. The group may offer a chance for redemption, a new life, or a sense of adventure that an ordinary professional career may not provide.

Besides all of the above reasons, countries like Pakistan and, others supportive of terrorism, take advantage to further their agenda culminating with events as at the Red Fort recently.

This emerging threat underscores Pakistan's enduring reliance on asymmetric warfare to destabilize its neighbors. It also highlights the growing danger of transnational jihadist collaboration between Pakistan and Bangladesh - a development that could significantly alter South Asia's counterterrorism landscape

Bangladesh - a development that could significantly alter South Asia's counterterrorism landscape.

Targeted operations

According to intelligence sources, ISI and LeT operatives are plotting a coordinated series of attacks aimed at key urban centers in West Bengal, including Kolkata, including high-visibility sites of symbolic and cultural significance. The use of gel-based improvised explosive devices (IEDs) has been discussed within operational channels as a means to evade conventional detection systems. Such materials are difficult to trace and can be easily assembled using commercially available chemicals,

trained individuals, particularly chemical engineers.

These recruits have reportedly been tasked with constructing and maintaining sleeper cells in strategic zones across West Bengal and Nepal, often under the cover of legitimate businesses or professional engagements. The inclusion of such technically proficient cadres represents a shift in LeT's operational architecture - from ideological fanaticism alone to a hybrid model combining technical expertise with jihadist ideology.

Bangladesh as safe haven

Recent developments in Bangladesh have introduced a new variable into South Asia's counterterrorism equation.

Disclaimer: Views expressed are personal to the author



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Amitabh Bachchan says 'VALIANT GIANT HAS LEFT US' IN TRIBUTE TO DHARMENDRA

Bollywood legend Amitabh Bachchan is heartbroken after the loss of his 'Sholay' co-star Dharmendra.

Expressing his profound grief on the passing away of Dharmendra at 89, Amitabh penned a heartfelt tribute for his 'Chupke Chupke' co-star on social media.

Taking to his official X (Formerly known as Twitter) handle, Big B penned, "... another valiant Giant has left us .. left the arena .. leaving behind a silence with an unbearable sound .. Dharam ji ... the epitome of greatness, ever linked not only for his renowned physical presence, but for the largeness of his heart, and its most endearing simplicity...(sic)."

"he brought with him the earthiness of the village in Punjab he came from, and remained true to its temperament .. un soiled throughout his glorious



career, in a fraternity that witnessed changes every decade ... the fraternity underwent changes .. not him .. his smile, his charm and his warmth, extending to all that came in his vicinity .. a rarity in the profession ... the air about us swings vacant ... a vacuum that shall ever remain vacuus ... prayers (Temple and folded hands emojis)," Amitabh went on to share.

Amitabh, along with other big names from Bollywood such as Shah Rukh Khan, Salman Khan, and Aamir Khan, were present at Dharmendra's funeral at the Pawan Hans Crematorium in Vile Parle. IANS



TOP TEN HINDI FILM SONGS

- 1 Saiyaara: **Saiyaara**
- 2 Barbaad: **Saiyaara**
- 3 Pardesiya: **Param Sundari**
- 4 Qayde Se: **Metro ... In Dino**
- 5 Dhun: **Saiyaara**
- 6 Janaab-e-Aali: **WAR 2**
- 7 Deewaniyat: **Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat**
- 8 Tum Ho Toh: **Saiyaara**
- 9 Raanjhan: **Do Patti**
- 10 Zamaana Lage: **Metro ... In Dino**

Neetu Chandra: BIHAR EMERGING AS HUB FOR FILM-MAKERS & TALENT

Actress-producer Neetu Chandra has opened up about how Bihar is steadily emerging as a promising hub for filmmakers and new talent.

Drawing from her 15-year journey of producing regional stories and nurturing artists from the state, she highlighted how the evolving film ecosystem and supportive policies are creating opportunities for local creatives to work, grow and shine on their own soil.

When asked about her journey and her deep connection with Bihar's storytelling, Neetu told IANS, "I have been building my character for fifteen years because I am a producer as well. I have launched talents from Bihar. I have produced most of the films made from the region. My love and passion for Bihar run deep. You cannot take Bihar out of your heart. We work on credentials, not relations. That is why I can stand here with confidence and say - Jai Bihar, Jai Hind."

Speaking about the growing opportunities within the state, Neetu Chandra explained that while many people once preferred not to leave their hometowns for work, Bihar is now creating avenues that allow them to build their careers locally. IANS

KUBBRA SAIT EMBARKS ON 12-DAY BRAHMAPUTRA JOURNEY

Actress Kubbra Sait is all set for a 12-day rafting expedition on the Brahmaputra river and said that it is going to be a mad experience. The dream started when she first rafted on the Kali River near Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand. Kubbra shared: "It has been on my bucket list ever since. This is going to be a mad experience."

Last year, she scaled Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. For the new trip, Kubbra will reach Dibrugarh, Assam, before traveling with her expedition group. Talking about her greatest challenge, she says rewards lie in stripping away comfort and facing the elements head-on. She said "Facing real fears in such expeditions makes my career challenges feel smaller. Once you have survived

nature's tests, the fear of projects not working out or acceptance doesn't scare you anymore. It's a hard reset-no luxuries, just focus and grounding." Kubbra also talked about the philosophy she picked up while rafting the Ganga. "I finally understood what 'go with the flow' truly means. The river doesn't stop for anyone. When you're without a phone and surrounded by nature, silence becomes part

of the experience. On long expeditions, there is no reception and no distractions. Your bond with nature deepens." Looking back at her year, Kubbra said it began with her Mahakumbh journey with her girl gang. On the big screen front, the actress is prepping up for the release of David Dhawan's Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai and Prakash Jha's Laal Batti. *IANS*



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Elnaaz Norouzi 'Mastiii 4': SEE I CAN BE FUNNY

Actress Elnaaz Norouzi, who steps into an all-new zone with Mastiii 4, says the film came to her at the perfect time, giving her a much-needed shift from the serious and patriotic roles she has taken on in recent years.

Speaking about what drew her to the part, Elnaaz said she had long been waiting for something that broke away from her earlier work. She added that the franchise's enduring popularity and the comic timing of its male leads Vivek Oberoi, Riteish Deshmukh and Aftab Shivdasani made the film even more appealing.

"I have waited to do a project that is different from the kind of work I have done till now. Masti has been an entertainment franchise and has been holding ground for so long," Elnaaz told IANS.

She added: "I find the boys extremely hilarious and they are just such good actors. Milap has evolved the script with changing

times. But after my serious roles in patriotic films, I wanted people to see that I can be funny too." IANS

Urvashi Dholakia: WOMAN PLAYS A THOUSAND ROLES

Popular television actress Urvashi Dholakia has summed up the essence of womanhood.

Taking to Instagram, Urvashi posted a series of photos from a short getaway. The actress, who shot to fame as the iconic Komolika in "Kasautii Zindagii Kay", is seen in a striking blue saree that blends seamlessly with the sea behind her.

"To be a woman is to play a thousand roles & still know exactly who you are," Urvashi wrote as the caption.

Urvashi made her acting debut at 6 for a TV commercial with Revathi. As a child she appeared as Rajlaxmi in the Doordarshan TV series Shrikant. Her first TV role as an adult was in Doordarshan's Dekh Bhai Dekh followed by Waqt Ki Raftar. Later in the 2000s, she was seen in Ghar Ek Mandir, Kabhii Sautan Kabhii Sahelii, Kasautii Zindagii Kay and Kahiin To Hoga.

The actress had also participated in the sixth season of the controversial reality show "Bigg Boss" in 2012, where she emerged as the winner of the season and then was seen in historical fantasy series Chandrakanta as Queen Iravati. In 2022, Urvashi made a comeback to the fiction genre in Naagin 6. IANS



Iulia Vantur: SALIM KHAN A 'BLESSING IN MY LIFE'

Actress-singer Iulia Vantur shared a heartfelt post on social media as she celebrated veteran writer Salim Khan's birthday.

Calling him a "blessing" in her life, she expressed deep respect and affection for Salim Khan.

Taking to her Instagram handle, Iulia posted a bunch of photos alongside a touching note that highlights the special bond she shares with Khan family. For the caption, the Romanian actress wrote, "Happy birthday to my favorite human being Salim Khan: a father, a teacher, a friend, an inspiration, a motivation, a believer, a pillar, a blessing in my life. Beyond grateful Love each other or perish!"

"May your heart be always full of love, happiness and compassion may u keep inspire and bless more people with your wisdom and strength I love u."

In the first image, Iulia can be seen warmly hugging Salim Khan as they sit together on a couch. In the next, the actress poses with Salman Khan's parents along with other family members. The last image shows Salim Khan cutting his birthday cake.

Iulia Vantur shares a warm and affectionate bond with the Khan family and is often seen at their private celebrations and intimate get-togethers. IANS



RONIT BOSE ROY QUITS SOCIAL MEDIA FOR NOW

Television and Bollywood actor Ronit Bose Roy has announced that he will be taking a break from social media to focus on his personal growth. The actor shared a lengthy note on his social media account where he announced his break, breaking the hearts of a lot of his fans.

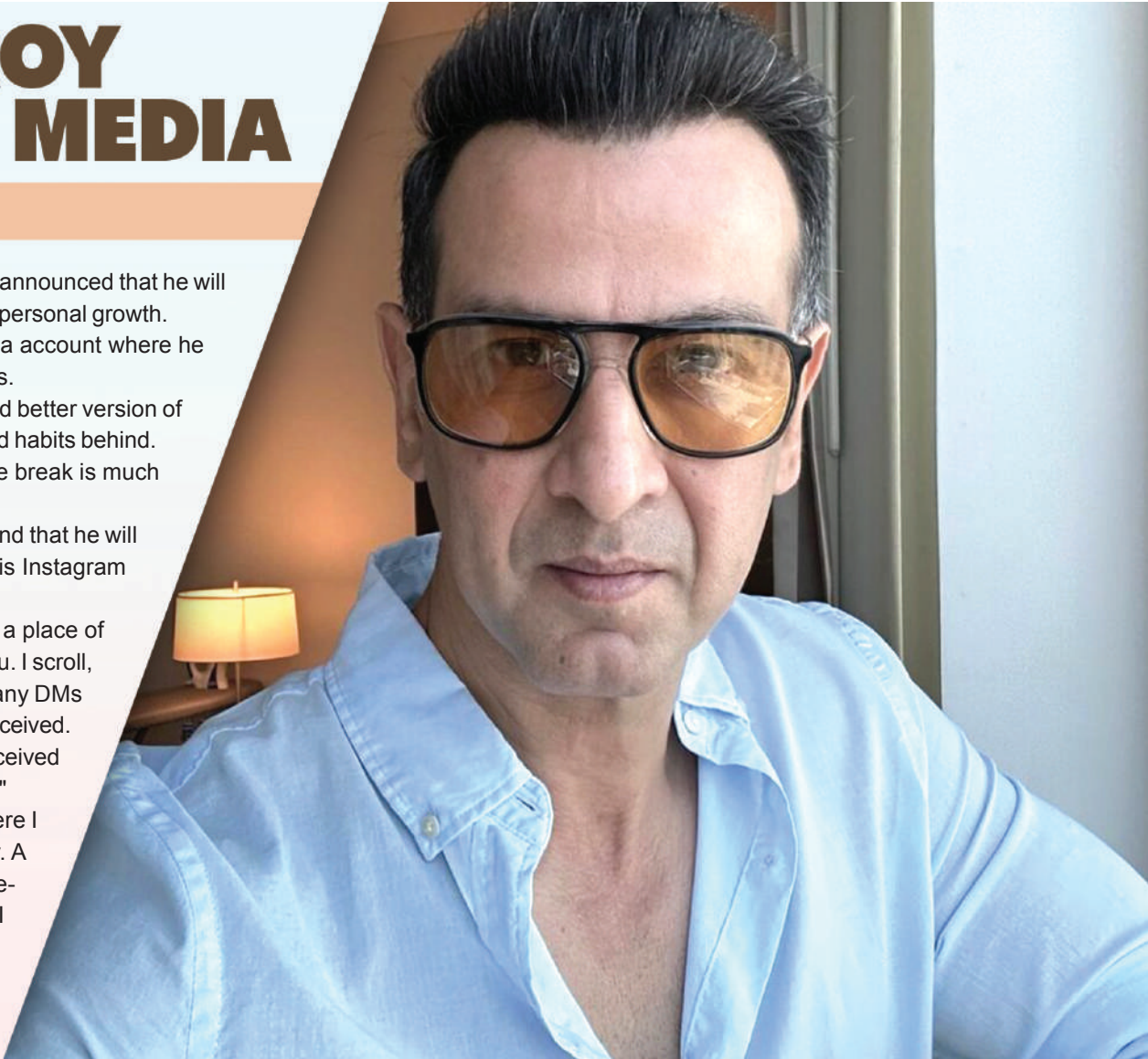
The actor said that he is working on finding the 'new' and better version of himself, and for that, he needs to leave comfort and old, bad habits behind.

The actor also mentioned that while it seems scary, the break is much needed.

Ronit also mentioned that it will be a temporary break and that he will return soon, further disabling the comments section on his Instagram post.

He wrote, "Hello, what I'm about to say will come from a place of love, understanding and gentleness. You all know I love you. I scroll, like your posts, comment on your posts and reply to as many DMs as I possibly can. I'm immensely grateful for all that I have received. I cherish everything. Especially the love and respect I've received from y'all, which I treasure and hold very close to my heart."

He added, "However, I have reached a place in life where I have to forge a new road ahead for myself and my family. A road which will hopefully lead to a better me as a human being, in relationships and as an actor. This road is one that I haven't walked on earlier. Leave comfort and old bad habits behind. Jump and live out of the box. Scary... I know... but it needs to be done!" */ANS*



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