



The INDIAN PANORAMA

Will bring out a profusely illustrated special edition on the occasion of

Deepavali

Please email your articles and advertisements for this edition at salujaindra@gmail.com by October 12, 2025. For any questions, Please call 646-247-9458

INSIDE

A RAY OF HOPE IN GAZA: HAMAS MOVE OPENS DOOR TO PEACE PAGE 02

INDIA MUST NOT MISS THE FINE PRINT OF GAZA PEACE PLAN PAGE 08

SAINTS, SADHVIS, AND THE STATE: HOW POLITICAL HINDUISM IS REWRITING INDIA'S DEMOCRACY PAGE 09

MODI'S POLL PRAGMATISM AND REVDI CULTURE PAGE 10

Hamas Agrees to Release All Hostages After Trump's Ultimatum

'Israel must immediately stop the bombing of Gaza, so that we can get the hostages out safely and quickly,' Trump said.



Israeli bombing, which has destroyed much of Gaza and killed thousands, is likely to stop now that Hamas has agreed to release all hostages, and Trump has called on Israel to stop bombing Gaza. -Photo credit : Mohammed Saber/ EPA

OCTOBER 3, 2025
WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): Gaza-based terrorist group Hamas said Friday it has agreed to release all hostages in accordance with U.S. President Donald Trump's 20-point peace plan.

The group also said it has accepted parts of the peace proposal to end its war with Israel, including giving up power over Gaza, but noted that other provisions would require further consultations among Palestinians.

Trump responded on social media to Hamas's statement.

"Based on the Statement just issued by Hamas, I believe they are ready for a lasting PEACE.

"Israel must immediately stop the bombing of Gaza, so that we can get the Hostages out safely and quickly..."

CONTD ON PAGE 36

'It'll be big insult to US if we don't get Nobel Peace Prize': Trump



President Donald Trump. -Credit : PTI

OCTOBER 1, 2025
WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): US President Donald Trump has said it will be a "big insult" to America if the Nobel Peace Prize is not awarded to him even though he has ended over seven global conflicts.

Referring to his plan to end the Gaza conflict, Trump said Tuesday, September 30, in remarks to military leaders in Quantico: "We got it, I think, settled. We'll see. Hamas has to agree, and if they don't,

it's going to be very tough on them. But all of the Arab nations, Muslim nations, have agreed. Israel has agreed. It's an amazing thing. It just came together."

Trump said that if his plan, announced Monday, September 30, to end the Gaza conflict works out, he would have solved eight conflicts in as many months.

"That's pretty good. Nobody's ever done that. 'Will you get the Nobel Prize?' Absolutely not. They'll give it to some guy that didn't do a damn thing. They'll give it to a guy that wrote a book about the mind of Donald Trump and what it took to solve the war... The Nobel Prize will go to a writer, yeah, but we'll see what happens," Trump said.

"But it'll be a big insult to our country. I will tell you that. I don't want it. I want the country to get it. It should get it because there's never been anything like it. Think of it. So if this (plan to end the Gaza conflict) happens, I think it will. I don't say that lightly because I know more about deals than anybody. This is what my whole life was based on," he said. (Source: PTI)

Canadian envoy presents credentials to Murmu, year after diplomatic row

OCTOBER 3, 2025
NEW DELHI (TIP): President Droupadi Murmu on Friday, October 3, accepted credentials from Canadian High Commissioner Christopher Cooter, who has taken charge of the diplomatic post nearly a year after bilateral ties broke down over the allegations of Indian links in the killing of Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

In October last year, India recalled its high commissioner and five other diplomats after Ottawa attempted to link them to the Nijjar case. India had also expelled an equal number of Canadian diplomats.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Canadian counterpart Mark Carney in June this year agreed to pursue "constructive" steps to restore stability in India-Canada ties, including the early return of envoys to each other's capitals.

Following this, both countries appointed envoys to each other's capitals in August, signaling their efforts to

CONTD ON PAGE 36



President Droupadi Murmu accepts credentials from the High Commissioner of Canada, Christopher Cooter, during a ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi, October 3 -Credit: PTI



Chief Justice of India B R Gavai delivers the inaugural Sir Maurice Rault Memorial Lecture 2025 on Rule of Law in the Largest Democracy, in Mauritius. -Credit : PTI

Indian legal system governed by rule of law, not by rule of bulldozer: CJI Gavai

OCTOBER 3, 2025
PORT LOUIS (TIP): Chief Justice of India B R Gavai on Friday, October 3, said the Indian legal system is governed by rule of law and not by "rule of the bulldozer". Delivering the inaugural Sir Maurice Rault Memorial Lecture 2025 in Mauritius on 'Rule of Law in the Largest

CONTD ON PAGE 36



Andy Singh

516-441-7000
16 E. Old Country Road
Hicksville, NY 11801



OMNI MORTGAGE CORP.
Residential | Commercial | SBA Loans



Herman Singh

718-441-7000
118-18 101 Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

E-mail: herman@omnimortgage.com

Registered Mortgage Broker- NYS Dept of Financial Services
Loans arranged thru 3rd party providers

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER:

Prof. Indrajit S. Saluja

VICE PRESIDENT:

Chitagam Saluja

CHIEF EDITOR:

Prof Indrajit S. Saluja

ASSISTANT EDITOR:

Bidisha Roy

SPL. REPORTER UNO:

H.S. Panaser

GRAPHICS DIRECTOR:

Om Parkash Malik

DIRECTOR**ADMINISTRATION:**

Gauri Beri

CONTRIBUTING**PHOTOGRAPHERS:**

Baldev Singh / BJ Videos

Gunjesh Desai / Masala Junction

Jay Mandal,

Mohammad Jaffer,

SnapsIndia

Mohammad Shahzad,

Zia Khan,

Nisha Rani

Vaaho Photographers,

Vijay Shah - Photo Journalist.

CORRESPONDENTS :**SACRAMENTO:**

Parminder S. Aujla

NEW YORK :

Chitagam

FRESNO:

Tarlochan Singh

DALLAS:

Harjit Dhesi, Amarjit Dhillon

OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS**LONDON**

Nirpal Singh Shergill

SPL CORRESPONDENT**DELHI BUREAU CHIEF:**

Chandan Singh

CHANDIGARH:

Manjit Sidhu

LUDHIANA:

A.S. Arora,

R.P.Sharma

JAIPUR :

Dr. Yashpaul Goyal

DALLAS BUREAU CHIEF & VP

Lovlien Kaurr

972-330-3139

editor@theindianpanorama.news

The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South

Richmond Hill, NY 11419,

Tel: 646-247-9458

Email:

editor@theindianpanorama.news

DISCLAIMER

THE INDIAN PANORAMA ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CLAIMS MADE IN ADVERTISEMENTS. WE ONLY SELL SPACE. VIEWS PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPER ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE NEWSPAPER. ALL RIGHTS ARE RESERVED.

REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IN WRITING FROM THE INDIAN PANORAMA IS PROHIBITED.

COMMENT

A Ray of Hope in Gaza: Hamas Move Opens Door to Peace

The announcement by Hamas that it is prepared to release all remaining Israeli hostages, and that it is willing in principle to accept a ceasefire under the terms laid out by President Trump, is a remarkably hopeful development in a conflict too long drenched in blood and suffering. While serious obstacles remain, this gesture deserves cautious optimism: it opens a door, however narrow, toward renewed negotiation - and possibly toward peace in a land that has known too little of it.

To be sure, these terms are far from trivial. Hamas has committed to a full exchange, stipulating that Israeli hostages - both living and deceased - be released in accordance with Trump's formula.

In exchange, Israel would free large numbers of Palestinian detainees.

Hamas also signals readiness to relinquish administrative control of Gaza in favor of a neutral Palestinian entity.

And it has voiced openness to a ceasefire.

If carried through, this would mark a pivot from open warfare to negotiation. Such a transition cannot come soon enough: the human and material toll of the Israeli-Hamas conflict has been catastrophic. Since the Hamas attack of October 7, 2023, Israeli sources report over 1,000 deaths on the Israeli side (many civilians), while Gaza's health authorities and independent studies put the Palestinian death toll in Gaza at tens of thousands - often cited figures range from 46,000 to over 60,000, with some research estimating at least 64,000 deaths from traumatic injury alone by mid-2024.

Many more have been wounded - over 100,000 in some official counts - and the

Above all, the most vulnerable in this conflict have long been the Palestinians - ordinary civilians, women and children - who have repeatedly suffered displacement, loss of homes and livelihoods, limited access to water, power, medical care, and education. Any peace must place their dignity and aspirations at its center. A deal that merely halts violence temporarily without addressing the underlying injustices will likely fail. Therefore, this moment should not be wasted: if world leaders encourage and support real negotiation rather than maximalist rhetoric, perhaps a path may yet emerge toward coexistence, reconstruction, and healing in a region that so sorely needs it.

destruction in Gaza has devastated infrastructure, housing, public services and agriculture.

One recent assessment found that some 78 percent of buildings have been damaged or destroyed.

The displacement of Gazans is nearly universal: in many rounds of conflict, up to 80-90 percent of the population have been uprooted or forced to relocate, with grievously inadequate shelter, sanitation, healthcare, and food security.

But this is not the first such cycle of violence. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict spans back many decades, with wars, uprisings, occupations, intifadas, and repeated attempts at peace (Oslo Accords, Camp David, etc.) that yielded painful compromises and often relapse into conflict.

Gaza in particular has endured multiple wars over the past two decades, including in 2008-09 (Operation Cast Lead), 2014, and subsequent flareups, each one imposing fresh trauma, loss, and demolition.

By Indrajit Saluja



Over the years, civilian populations - especially in Gaza - have borne disproportionate burdens of blockade, resource deprivation, displacement, and infrastructure collapse.

Thus, the possibility that Hamas might release hostages and consent to a ceasefire under credible terms is not only welcome - it is urgent. It represents an opening, albeit tentative, to break the cycle of military escalation. World leaders must seize this moment. They should urge both Hamas and Israel to uphold their commitments, to verify compliance, and to build confidence toward a lasting peace. Mediators, regional states, and international institutions should facilitate transparency, verification, and phased steps toward disarmament, reconstruction, and reconciliation.

Above all, the most vulnerable in this conflict have long been the Palestinians - ordinary civilians, women and children - who have repeatedly suffered displacement, loss of homes and livelihoods, limited access to water, power, medical care, and education. Any peace must place their dignity and aspirations at its center. A deal that merely halts violence temporarily without addressing the underlying injustices will likely fail. Therefore, this moment should not be wasted: if world leaders encourage and support real negotiation rather than maximalist rhetoric, perhaps a path may yet emerge toward coexistence, reconstruction, and healing in a region that so sorely needs it.

In welcoming Hamas's statement, one cautiously hopes that both sides are ready - with international support - to turn a page, and that successive steps will bring stability, relief, and justice to millions who have waited too long.

READERS WRITE**Dear Editor**

Apropos of your editorial comment "Save America From Its Guns and Its Wars", here are my thoughts.

The recent assassination of Charlie Kirk is a tragic reminder of the devastating

impact of gun violence in the United States. Each year, firearms are responsible for the deaths of approximately 40,000 to 50,000 Americans. Despite the urgency of this crisis, the issue of gun control remains highly polarized and politically gridlocked - largely due to the powerful influence of the gun lobby.

The debate over gun control touches on constitutional rights, evolving public policy, and varied interpretations of data. While the Second Amendment protects the right to bear arms, even the U.S. Supreme Court has acknowledged limits to this right. In the 2008 District of

Columbia v. Heller decision, the Court made clear that the right is not absolute and does not prohibit reasonable regulation.

I strongly believe that implementing more robust gun safety regulations is both necessary and effective in saving lives. Evidence supports this: States with stronger gun licensing laws tend to have significantly lower rates of firearm-related deaths, including both suicides and homicides. Research from the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions highlights the effectiveness of policies such as universal background checks, extreme risk

protection orders (ERPOs), and secure firearm storage requirements.

To address the national scope of the problem, we urgently need federal legislation to close loopholes that allow certain gun sales to occur without background checks. These loopholes make it easier for individuals who are legally prohibited from owning firearms to acquire them, putting lives at risk.

Gun violence is not a partisan issue - it's a public safety crisis. Thoughtful, evidence-based reform is essential if we are to protect American lives.

(Gobind Munjal)
New York

AIA announces fireworks and bigger attractions at Deepavali Festival on Long Island



Organizers and guests at Ganesh Vandana

OCTOBER 1, 2025

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP) : Moving to Long Island from Manhattan, the AIA-NY's iconic Deepavali Festival on October 11 promises to be bigger and grander.

Organized by the Association of Indians in America (AIA), New York chapter, at Overlook Beach in Babylon, the day-long celebration is choc-a-bloc with dance, drama, devotion, and many firsts.

On October 1, at the Asa Mai Temple in Hicksville, the organizers of the mega event provided details to the press and their 150+ supporters. They announced that, in addition to fireworks, new attractions this time include a recreation of an illuminated Ayodhya with Ram Darbar, a Kirtan Concert, and a Cultural Fashion Show.

Beena Kothari, President of AIA-NY, said, "Our 38th Deepavali Festival's move from Manhattan's South Street Seaport to Long Island's shores represents not just a change of venue but a wave of cultural expansion. Together with our team, our partners, and the entire community, we're building a bridge of light, unity, and joy that connects every generation of Indians in America."

Past AIA National President Animesh Goenka mentioned that organizing fireworks in Manhattan was becoming more difficult, and what is a Diwali celebration without fireworks? While welcoming many other Diwali melas, he noted that AIA-NY's celebration is the oldest and highlights India's culture and heritage.

Others who spoke and urged the community to join the Deepavali Festival again this year in big numbers included AIA National President Gobind Munjal and other AIA leaders such as Nilima Madan, Harish Thakkar, and Harsh Vyas. Congratulating Beena Kothari on her leadership of the Deepavali Festival were Bobby Kalotee, Chairman of the Nassau County Human Rights Commission; Jasbir Jay Singh, President of IALI; Deepak Bansal and Vimal Goyal, co-Presidents of the India Day Parade.

Some presenters and sponsors also spoke at the press conference. Harish Goyal from the Zee Group and CEO of their Yo1 health resort in upstate New York, said they are happy to sponsor AIA's mega show for the first time.

AIA President Beena Kothari, speaking with The Indian Panorama, said she has chanced upon a very talented young lady who is into film making, and surprisingly, is deeply immersed in matters spiritual, and that she has been a great help in preparing the matrix of the program. Neha Lohia is the person behind the concept of creating the Ram Setu and projecting the AIA as building bridges with the world.

Appointed as cultural ambassador for AIA NY Chapter - with her career in entertainment as director and filmmaker, her devotional and spiritual pursuits and her



A section of the audience



A Ganesha Invocation dance



AIA New York Chapter President Beena Kothari shares her thoughts



Prof. Indrajit Saluja, Chief Editor of The Indian Panorama, joined by media colleagues, gives his remarks

work with several non-profits in NY, Neha is bringing the dimension of bhakti, devotion, art and fashion to this year's Diwali celebrations with partners such as Paramahansa Vishwananda founded Bhakti Marga's team from Elmira and New York who will be doing a kirtan concert, putting a booth for people to try bhakti practices. Two representatives from Bhakti Marga founded by Paramahansa Vishwananda talked about the hour-long Kirtan Concert by their group.

Heritage India's Celebrity fashion designer Prashant Goyal will be doing a major fashion show. Celebrity designer Prashant Goyal said he will showcase India's culture through fashion.

Sadhu Vaswani Center For World Peace will be at a booth inviting people to light a diya for world peace and ignite hearts with love and compassion

The fireworks show, the most exciting part of the AIA Deepavali celebration, is scheduled for 7 pm on the shore (instead of on the water, as in previous years at the South Street Seaport) and will last 20-30 minutes.

Many lawmakers, dignitaries, including the Consul General of India in New York, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan, and celebrities will grace the festivities.

HIGHLIGHTS OF AIA-NY'S 38TH DEEPAVALI FESTIVAL

- Ramayana Live Musical Dance Drama
- Bhakti Marga Kirtan Concert
- Heritage India Fashion Show by Prashant Goyal
- Children's Art & Ram Setu Rock Painting Competition
- Rangoli & Diya Competitions
- Classical & Folk Dance Performances
- Health & Wellness Zone - Yoga, Zumba
- Meena Bazaar & Food Village

- Felicitations for Honorees and Esteemed Guests
- Lakshmi Aarti - For the well-being of all
- Grand Fireworks Finale (7 PM)

People can still purchase tickets for the VIP dinner, which will be held in a private area before the fireworks. Buying raffle tickets could win you exciting grand prizes.

Main sponsors of the celebration include Bolla Oil, Mount Sinai, New York Cancer and Blood Specialists, Cheap-o-Air, Navika Group, ICICI Bank, and Ranju & Ravi Batra.

Global TV channels Zee and Sony will show highlights of AIA Deepavali 2025. Local media supporters include Parikh Worldwide Media, TV Asia, Radio Zindagi, Jus TV, The South Asian Times, The Indian Panorama, The Indian Eye, Hum Hindustani, South Asian Insider, ALotusInTheMud.com, and Bollywood Insider.

Prof. Indrajit Saluja, Editor-Publisher of The Indian Panorama, praised AIA for keeping India's culture, history, and heritage alive in America.

Parveen Chopra, founder of ALotusInTheMud.com, said Diwali is going mainstream as New York and some other states have declared Diwali as a holiday in public schools.

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF INDIANS IN AMERICA

AIA is the oldest Indian community organization in America, set up in 1967 with the motto of 'Indian Heritage American Commitment'.

AIA-NY President Beena Kothari highlights that the chapter's achievements include New York City's official recognition of Diwali as a holiday, starting in 2024, the 2013



Organizers and supporters



Organizers and supporters

release of the USPS Diwali stamp, and celebrations of the festival at Gracie Mansion and the White House in 2006.

AIA-NY celebrates Diwali as the festival of joy and happiness, as it is common to Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Buddhists, and people of many different countries, including Indo-Caribbeans.

Contact for sponsorship and other details: Mrs Beena Kothari, Ph: +1 631 988 1280, theaianypresident@gmail.com, website: aia-ny.org

ADMISSION & EVENT DETAILS

Venue: Overlook Beach (next to Jones Beach), Babylon, Long Island, NY

Date: Saturday, October 11, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Fireworks (7:00 PM)

Free Admission | Free Parking

(Based on a press release issued by Parveen Chopra)

From Students to Benefactors: Indian Americans' \$3 Billion Investment in American Universities

From landmark donations to local colleges, a tradition of giving is unlocking innovation, strengthening research, and expanding access nationwide



Desh Deshpande



Kiran and Pallavi Patel



Sumir Chadha



Chandrika Tandon



Monte Ahuja

Satish &
Yasmin Gupta

OCTOBER 2, 2025

SAN FRANCISCO (TIP): For years, Indiaspora has examined the far-reaching impact of Indian Americans in the United States, most recently highlighted in the 2024 Impact Report produced in collaboration with the Boston Consulting Group. Building on that work, Indiaspora has taken a closer look at the vital role Indian American philanthropy plays in strengthening higher education across the United States. New research conducted by Indiaspora, reveals a powerful pattern: Indian Americans, many of whom credit their undergraduate and graduate experiences at U.S. universities as the foundation of their professional success, are giving back in transformative ways. Through landmark donations to higher education institutions across the country, the Indian American community is not only honoring the institutions that shaped their lives but also ensuring future generations have access to the same opportunities for learning, innovation, and leadership development. Notable findings include:

- 78% of Indian Americans hold a bachelor's degree or higher—far exceeding the national average.
- Approximately 270,000 Indian students are currently enrolled in American universities.
- Indian students contribute nearly \$10 billion annually to the U.S. economy, supporting an estimated 93,000 American jobs.
- By investing in universities, Indian

American donors who value education are "putting their money where their mouth is. They are also demonstrating a larger commitment to America, supporting Americans of all races, ethnicities and backgrounds to thrive." - MR Rangaswami, Founder & Chairman of Indiaspora.

Yet, the most enduring influence of Indian Americans may be their remarkable tradition of philanthropy. Since 2008, Indian Americans have donated over \$3 billion to U.S. universities, creating a powerful "flywheel effect" that strengthens the U.S. educational ecosystem while reinforcing professional and cultural ties between India and America.

"Through philanthropic donations to US-based educational institutions, Indian Americans are not only transforming lives today—they are building a meaningful legacy in and for this country and the world: one that multiplies across generations and ensures that American universities will continue to shape future leaders, foster innovation, and advance knowledge for the benefit of all." - Sanjeev Joshipura, Executive Director of Indiaspora.

These philanthropic pathways often reflect donors' professional roots, creating a self-reinforcing cycle that builds research capacity and strengthens workforce development in healthcare, engineering, and business sectors where Indian Americans excel. Beyond the major universities, Indian Americans are

quietly supporting community colleges, state schools, and city universities, demonstrating a deep commitment to broadening access to education nationwide.

The vast majority of publicly known donations have gone towards Medical & Health Sciences, Engineering and Business Education. In addition to professional fields, \$140 million has been directed toward cultural programming. This includes a substantial donation by Sumir Chadha to Princeton University, which established the Chadha Center for Global India. Endowments for South Asian, Hindu, and Indian studies symbolize the community's dedication to preserving their cultural heritage while enriching America's academic landscape.

The scale of these contributions reflects not just financial investment, but a deep belief in the power of education to inspire innovation and uplift communities. As Indian Americans continue to emerge as leaders in academia, industry, and philanthropy, the collective impact on higher education is set to endure for generations to come.

Substantial philanthropic impact is visible across the Midwest and South, exemplified by major donors such as Monte Ahuja, who has championed Ohio universities, and Satish & Yasmin Gupta, whose generosity has benefited institutions throughout Texas. Dr. Kiran and Pallavi Patel have emerged as leading philanthropists in Florida, making transformative contributions that have

reshaped medical education in the state.

In the Northeast, Chandrika and Ranjan Tandon's historic \$100 million donation to New York University's School of Engineering represents a milestone in higher education philanthropy. Indian American entrepreneur and philanthropist Desh Deshpande established an early benchmark in 2002 with his \$20 million gift to MIT, creating the Center for Technological Innovation, enabling America's leading scientists to pursue innovative research resulting in breakthrough technologies and new companies. More recently, Indra Nooyi's landmark \$50 million contribution to the Yale School of Management stands as one of the largest business school donations in history. Indiaspora is particularly proud to recognize substantial contributions from Indiaspora members to educational institutions, including those from Deepak Raj, Niraj Shah, Raj Gupta, and Venky Harinarayan.

For more information, please visit: <https://indiaspora.org/impact/from-migration-to-endowment-diaspora-support-for-education/>

ABOUT INDIASPORA:

Indiaspora (www.indiaspora.org) is a nonprofit community of powerful global Indian leaders from diverse backgrounds and professions who are committed to inspiring the diaspora to be a force for positive impact by providing a platform to collaborate, engage, and catalyze social change.

Indian-Origin Doctor Neil K Anand Jailed For 168 Months In US For Fraud, Drug Distribution



Neil K Anand has been sentenced to 168 months in prison for "orchestrating conspiracies to commit health care fraud, wire fraud, and unlawful distribution" of controlled substances and money-laundering related offenses

SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

NEW YORK (TIP): An Indian-origin doctor has been sentenced to 168 months

in prison for "orchestrating conspiracies to commit health care fraud, wire fraud, and unlawful distribution" of controlled substances and money-laundering related offenses, US Department of Justice has said.

Neil K Anand, 48, of Bensalem, Pennsylvania, was also ordered to pay over USD 2 million in restitution and over USD 2 million in forfeiture, the Department of Justice said in a statement.

Anand was convicted in April this year for conspiring to submit false and fraudulent claims to Medicare, health plans provided by the US Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Independence Blue Cross (IBC) and

Anthem for 'Goody Bags' of medically unnecessary prescription medications.

These medications were dispensed to patients by in-house pharmacies owned by Anand, the Department of Justice statement said on Tuesday.

"In total, Medicare, OPM, IBC, and Anthem paid over USD 2.4 million in reimbursements. To entice patients to take the unwanted Goody Bags, Anand also conspired to distribute oxycodone outside the usual course of medical practice and without a legitimate medical purpose," it said.

In furtherance of the conspiracy, unlicensed medical interns wrote prescriptions for controlled substances using blank prescriptions that were pre-

signed by Anand, it added.

As part of the scheme, Anand prescribed 20,850 oxycodone tablets for nine different patients, but after learning that he was under investigation, Anand "concealed the proceeds of the fraud by transferring approximately USD 1.2 million into an account in the name of a relative and for the benefit of a minor relative," the Department said.

In April 2025, Anand was convicted of conspiracy to commit health care fraud and wire fraud, three counts of health care fraud, one count of money laundering, four counts of unlawful monetary transactions, and conspiracy to distribute controlled substances.

Indian American Srini Gopalan to Start as T-Mobile CEO on November 1

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

BELLEVUE, WA (TIP): T-Mobile announced that Chief Operating Officer Srini Gopalan will succeed Mike Sievert as Chief Executive Officer effective November 1, marking a carefully planned leadership transition at the nation's second-largest wireless carrier.

Sievert, who has led T-Mobile since 2020 through the company's merger with Sprint and a period of rapid growth, will move into a newly created role of Vice Chairman. In that capacity, he will advise the company on long-term strategy, innovation, and talent development, while also representing T-Mobile in external forums.

The company said the succession was part of a multi-year process overseen by the board. "Srini is a proven leader with a deep understanding of both telecom and technology, and he is the right



Srini Gopalan will succeed Mike Sievert as Chief Executive Officer of T-Mobile effective November 1

person to steer T-Mobile into its next phase," Sievert said in a statement.

Gopalan brings decades of industry experience to the role. Before joining T-Mobile as COO, he led Deutsche Telekom's German operations and previously held senior leadership

positions at Vodafone, Bharti Airtel, and Capital One. An alumnus of the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, he has been credited with driving digital transformation and customer-centric strategies in competitive markets.

As CEO, Gopalan is expected to focus on expanding T-Mobile's 5G and fiber networks, strengthening its broadband offerings, and accelerating the company's transformation into a digital-first, AI-enabled business. The company emphasized that maintaining its "Uncarrier" culture-built on value, network quality, and customer service-will remain central to its strategy.

The leadership change comes at a time of intensifying competition in the U.S. telecom industry, as carriers race to capture market share in broadband and next-generation wireless services.

INDIAN AMERICAN RAHUL GOYAL APPOINTED MOLSON COORS PRESIDENT AND CEO



Molson Coors Beverage Company has announced the appointment of Rahul Goyal as its next President and Chief Executive Officer, effective October 1

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

CHICAGO (TIP): Molson Coors Beverage Company has announced the appointment of Rahul Goyal as its next President and Chief Executive Officer, effective October 1. Goyal, who has been with the company for more than two decades, will also join the board of directors. The current CEO, Gavin Hattersley, will step down from his role but remain in an advisory position through the end of the year to ensure a smooth transition.

Goyal, 49, has been serving as Chief Strategy Officer since 2019 and has played a central role in Molson Coors' expansion beyond its traditional beer portfolio. Under his leadership, the company forged partnerships with The Coca-Cola Company and Fever-Tree and acquired non-alcoholic and alternative beverage brands such as ZOA and Naked Life. His experience within Molson Coors is wide-ranging: he has served as Chief Financial Officer for the India business, Chief Information Officer in the UK, and has held senior roles in corporate strategy, mergers and acquisitions, and commercial operations.

Born and educated in India, Goyal earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Mysore University before moving to the United States, where he completed both an MBA and a master's degree in information systems at the University of Denver. Before joining Molson Coors in 2001, he worked as an engineer in India.

His appointment signals the board's preference for continuity and steady execution at a time of rapid change in the global beverage industry. Analysts note that Goyal's record of driving "beyond beer" growth positions him to build on Molson Coors' diversification efforts while also navigating challenges in the company's core beer business, which faces shifting consumer preferences and rising competition from craft and non-alcoholic alternatives. Hattersley's decision to remain as an advisor until year-end is expected to ease the leadership handover, but investors will be watching closely as Goyal takes the reins. With compensation details including a \$1.1 million base salary and a bonus target set at 150 percent of base pay, expectations are high for results.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian-origin Lambert High Senior Nazeefa Loladia Earns Girl Scout Gold Award for Bridging the Digital Divide



Nazeefa Loladia has been honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest recognition a Girl Scout can achieve

OCTOBER 1, 2025

JOHNS CREEK, GA (TIP) : Nazeefa Loladia, a high school senior at Lambert High School, has been honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest recognition a Girl Scout can achieve. She received her final confirmation on September 19, 2025, marking the culmination of a project that blended technology, education, and social impact - and extended its reach across borders.

Her project, titled "Bridging the Digital Divide," addressed one of today's most pressing global challenges - unequal access to technology and digital literacy. Through her leadership, Nazeefa empowered hundreds of students and families, both in Georgia and in India, to connect, learn, and thrive in the digital age.

Recognizing that many students lack access to computers and tablets, Nazeefa launched multiple device collection drives across her community. She gathered laptops, MacBooks, and other digital tools - both working and in need of repair - and partnered with Inspiredu, an Atlanta-based nonprofit that refurbishes and distributes devices to underserved families.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American Mahendra Patel Files \$25M Claim Against Acworth for Malicious Prosecution in 'Walmart Kidnapping' Case

OCTOBER 1, 2025

ACWORTH, GA (TIP): Mahendra "Mick" Patel, a Kennesaw resident, has filed a formal ante litem notice through his legal counsel The Merchant Law Firm, seeking \$25 million in damages from the City of Acworth. The notice says Patel was falsely arrested, wrongfully jailed for 46 days, and maliciously prosecuted after being accused of trying to kidnap a child at a Walmart store in March 2025 - charges that were later dropped.

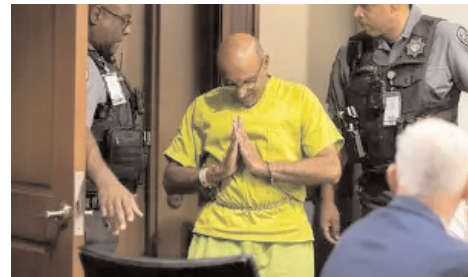
According to the notice, Patel went to the Walmart Supercenter on Cobb Parkway on March 18, 2025, to buy Tylenol for his elderly mother. There, he briefly interacted with a woman, Caroline Miller, who was riding a motorized cart with her two children. Patel says he thought she was disabled and tried to help her steady a child she was holding. He insists the contact was brief and harmless.

Miller, however, later told police that Patel tried to "snatch her baby." The incident led to a kidnapping charge by the Acworth Police Department (APD). Patel was arrested on March 21 by a Cobb County officer based on a warrant obtained with what his attorney calls false or misleading information from an APD detective.

Patel's letter states that police ignored Walmart surveillance footage, which showed the two ways calmly and without any sign of distress. He says the footage was withheld from the grand jury, which indicted him on attempted kidnapping, assault, and battery.

He remained behind bars for more than six weeks, unable to secure bond. The charges were dismissed on August 6, 2025, after prosecutors filed a nolle prosequi, meaning they chose not to pursue the case.

In the 12-page notice sent to Acworth officials, Patel details harsh conditions in the Cobb County Detention Center, where



Mahendra "Mick" Patel, a Kennesaw resident, has filed a formal ante litem notice through his legal counsel seeking \$25 million in damages from the City of Acworth

he says he was threatened by inmates, denied vegetarian meals, and lost 17 pounds.

He describes filthy living conditions, lack of medical care, and racial taunts.

Patel says the experience has left him with PTSD, anxiety, and nightmares.

The notice alleges that the City of Acworth and its police department acted negligently, defamed him publicly, and violated his constitutional rights. His attorney argues that the city failed to properly train and supervise its officers, leading to Patel's false arrest and imprisonment.

In a response letter dated September 19, the city's attorney, Douglas R. Haynie, said that after a "thorough and complete investigation," the Mayor and Board of Aldermen voted to deny the claim.

The city "denies any and all liability" related to the matter.

The city also reserved the right to challenge whether Patel's notice met all legal and procedural requirements under Georgia law.

An ante litem notice is a required step before suing a city in Georgia. It gives the city a chance to review and resolve claims before a lawsuit is filed. With Acworth's denial, Patel's attorney is expected to pursue a civil lawsuit in court.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

BROAD COALITION SUES TO BLOCK TRUMP-VANCE ADMINISTRATION'S INNOVATION BAN

**Medical Care, Education, and Economy
Face Harm as New H-1B Proclamation
Blocks Essential Talent**



Lawsuit seeks to stop Trump's \$100,000 fee for H-1B visas

Picture for representation only

OCTOBER 3, 2025

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO (TIP): A coalition of labor unions, health care providers, schools, and religious organizations filed suit today to stop President Trump's latest anti-immigration power grab: a sweeping executive action that slaps an unlawful new \$100,000 price tag on every new H-1B application. The proclamation - issued on September 19, 2025, and made effective just 36 hours later - has already thrown employers, workers, and federal agencies into chaos. Plaintiffs are represented by Democracy Forward, Justice Action Center, South Asian American Justice Collaborative (SAAJCO), Kuck Baxter LLC, Joseph & Hall, P.C., and IMMpact Litigation.

The H-1B visa program was created by Congress to provide a critical path for the United States to attract highly skilled professionals from around the world to fill urgent needs in the economy and public services to strengthen American innovation. Under the program, U.S. employers can hire qualified foreign talent - such as doctors, nurses, engineers, teachers, and researchers - after a rigorous review process.

The lawsuit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, challenges the order as unconstitutional and unlawful under the Administrative Procedure Act. Plaintiffs include Global Nurse Force; Global Village Academy Collaborative; Society of the Divine Word; the Fathers of St. Charles; Church on the Hill; International Union; United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW International); UAW Local 4811; American Association of University Professors (AAUP); Committee of Interns and Residents, SEIU (CIR), a citizen of the United Kingdom residing in the Appalachia region, and a citizen of India residing in the Northern District of California.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian Overseas Congress USA Hosts Memorial Event Honoring Late Harbachan Singh in New Jersey

SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

EDISON, NJ (TIP): The Indian Overseas Congress USA (IOCUSA), in association with its New Jersey, Telangana, and Kerala Chapters, organized a solemn memorial event at Albert's Palace, Edison, New Jersey, to pay tribute to Shri Harbachan Singh, the long-serving Secretary-General of IOCUSA, whose passing marks an irreplaceable loss to the organization and the Indian diaspora.

The program was attended by leaders and members representing multiple IOCUSA chapters. Ms. Praveen Singh, daughter of the late Harbachan Singh, offered floral tributes on behalf of the family.

The Chief Guests, Members of Parliament Shri Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy and Shri Hibi Eden, spoke warmly of Sri Harbachan Singh and joined the gathering in offering heartfelt tributes to his decades of dedicated service. Both leaders used the occasion not only to honor his memory but also to engage with the community on key issues facing India today. They spoke at length about India's current development trajectory, the challenges that must be addressed to achieve inclusive growth, and the critical role of the overseas Indian community in making the country more vibrant and self-sustainable. They also highlighted the growth and opportunities in their respective states, underlining the potential in export, innovation, and other emerging sectors, and encouraged diaspora members to contribute their expertise and investments to further strengthen these areas.

Messages of condolence were also shared by Sam Pitroda, Global Chairman of the Indian Overseas Congress, and Shri Rahul Gandhi, who described Harbachan Singh as a pillar of IOCUSA's



Members of Parliament Shri Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy and Shri Hibi Eden joined members representing multiple IOCUSA chapters, and the family of Late Harbachan Singh at the memorial event honoring the dear departed

activities in the United States, particularly in the New York area. They praised his simplicity, dedication to the nation, and selfless work, calling his passing a "huge loss to the IOC family and to the nation."

Among those present were IOC USA Vice Chair George Abraham, National President Mohinder Singh Gilzian, Working President Pradeep Samala, and New Jersey Chapter President Peter Kothari, along with Telangana Chapter President Rajeswar Reddy and Chairman Ram Gadula. From the Kerala Chapter, Chairman Paul Karukappally, Rajender Dichpally, IOC Leader, Deputy Chairman R. Jayachandran, and NJ Kerala Chapter President James George, who introduced MP Hibi Eden all took part in the program. Vice President Baldev Randhawa, Treasurer Joshua Jai Singh, General Secretary Sophia Sharma, and IT Focal Point Rajiv Mohan also joined, as did Jose Charummood, who delivered a moving eulogy together with Mohinder Singh and George Abraham. Other senior leaders, such as Rajiv Gowda, President of the Karnataka Chapter, Srinivasa Rao, President of the AP Chapter, Imran Pasha, President of the New York Chapter, along with other eminent personalities, Social Activists, and

friends of IOC USA were also in attendance.

Speaking on the occasion, Mohinder Singh Gilzian, National President of IOC USA, said Harbachan Singh "was a true soldier of the Congress and young at heart no matter what," recalling his tireless service and his warmth in bringing people together.

George Abraham, Vice Chair of IOCUSA, added that "his tireless service was not just an obligation, it was his calling, a reflection of his deep love for the Indian diaspora and his commitment to its unity."

Speakers throughout the evening celebrated Harbachan Singh's unwavering dedication, humility, and commitment to unity, emphasizing that his contributions shaped the very foundation of IOCUSA. On behalf of the Indian Overseas Congress USA, heartfelt condolences were extended to Harbachan Singh's family, including his son Ramesh Singh, daughters Praveen Singh and Sukhwant Shimmkaveg, and all loved ones.

Harbachan Singh's legacy of service, humility, and selflessness will continue to inspire the Indian Overseas Congress USA and guide its mission for years to come, instilling a sense of hope and inspiration in all those who follow in his footsteps.

Statement from Deputy Minority Leader Arnold W. Drucker Following Breaking News From Israel

OCTOBER 3, 2025

PLAINVIEW, NY (TIP): "Today's breaking news from Israel offers a glimmer of hope that Omer Neutra - whose remains are still in Hamas captivity after the terrorist assault - and all the hostages, whether alive or deceased, will finally come home to the families and loved ones who have endured two years of unthinkable anguish since the barbaric Oct. 7 assault upon Israel," Nassau County Legislature Deputy Minority Leader Arnold W. Drucker (D - Plainview) said. "However, the words of a malicious adversary such as Hamas must be met with action to have any meaning. As we continue to monitor these urgent new developments, may each of us



Deputy Minority Leader
Arnold W. Drucker

remain unwavering in our prayers and demands for the return of Omer Neutra and every single hostage - and may we remain steadfast in our commitment to forever ending the Hamas campaign of terror so that a just, lasting peace can be achieved."

Please contact me at 516-458-4967 if you would like to speak further with Deputy Minority Leader Drucker on this topic.

NYC HEALTH + HOSPITALS/WOODHULL AWARDED DESIGNATION AS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN LUNG CANCER SCREENING

GO2 for Lung Cancer recognizes NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull for commitment to highest standards in lung cancer early detection through low dose CT screening

OCTOBER 2, 2025

NEW YORK (TIP): NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull has been named a Center of Excellence (COE) in Lung Cancer Screening by GO2 for Lung Cancer (GO2) for its ongoing commitment to providing the North Brooklyn community with patient-centered, evidence-based lung cancer screening. An estimated 237,000 Americans are diagnosed with lung cancer annually, with most being found at an advanced stage of the disease. As a result, lung cancer has long been the leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S. By screening individuals at high risk for lung cancer using low-dose computed tomography (LDCT), this disease can now be found early, when it is most treatable and even curable.



CT Scan located in the radiology department at NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Lotus presents a spiritual event with Sarada Chiruvolu in Edison



Parveen Chopra, founding editor of ALotusInTheMud.com, introduced Sarada.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

EDISON, NJ (TIP) :

ALotusInTheMud.com organized an interaction here on September 20 with Sarada Chiruvolu, author of 'Home At Last', a spiritual memoir.

About 30 people listened intently as she shared her self-realization experience, clearing their doubts about the challenges and signposts of spiritual progress.

"Meditation is the best and most direct path to enlightenment," she stated, without discrediting other systems. She claimed that the highest spiritual level is possible with persistent, prolonged efforts and the grace of God.

During a brief meditation, she directed the attendees to focus on the middle of the eyebrows, the seat of the Ajna Chakra. When thoughts distract, return to focusing on the same point. Practice it for 10-15 minutes to begin with, she

advised.

Sarada strongly advised you to keep fulfilling your worldly duties while pursuing a spiritual path. She is married and lives with her husband in Princeton, NJ. They have two well-settled daughters.

When asked, "Why haven't you been taking disciples, guiding people directly?" She said there are other spiritual teachers and organizations for that. She pointed to Amma Karunamayi, with whom she has enjoyed a connection. Amma has written the Foreword for her book, 'Home At Last: A Journey Toward Higher Consciousness,' the proceeds from which go to Amma's humanitarian work.

Sarada signed copies of her book for the audience and donated the proceeds from the sale to Lotus.

Introducing Sarada, Parveen Chopra,



Meditation is the best and most direct path to enlightenment," Sarada Chiruvolu told the Lotus readers from personal experience

founding editor of Lotus, said that during his meeting with her some months ago in



About 30 people attended the inspiring talk in an intimate setting by Sarada Chiruvolu, author of a spiritual memoir.

Princeton, Sarada agreed to address Lotus readers. She had a successful career in pharmaceuticals when she received a divine calling. She quit her job to devote more time to her meditation. Since publishing her book in 2016, she has been giving talks at forums such as UU (Unitarian Universalists) and at yoga centers in various places.

Parveen thanked Abhishek Mishra, whose family hosted the event at their home in Edison.

He also thanked Jyoti Kachroo, who covered the event for ITV Gold.

A week earlier, Sarada Chiruvolu also addressed a webinar organized by Lotus, which was attended by about 30 people from India, the US, and Canada. One participant, Dr Sanjay Grover, an ophthalmologist based in Solan, Himachal Pradesh, said, "Enlightenment is our birthright."

Sarada Chiruvolu's book, 'Home at Last', is available as a Kindle version on Amazon.

To read an extract from her book, go to: <https://alotusinthemud.com/sarada-chiruvolu-enlightenment/>

ATLAS ROLL OFF CORP.

DISPOSAL SITE

OPEN Monday - Friday 6.30 AM to 4.00 PM
Saturday 6.30 AM to 1.30 PM

For construction Debris, Demolition & Cleanouts

Located at 895 Essex Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208
Just 5 minutes from JFK

Roll Off Container Service

10, 15, 20, 30 & 40 Yards

Serving all the five boroughs of New York Since 1983
NYC BIC LIC #711

Reasonable low rates ** All major credit cards accepted

Call @ 718-345-6451

VOTE NOV 4th

VOTE

RE-ELECT RAGINI SRIVASTAVA

For Town Clerk, North Hempstead

Contact Us :
516-654-7448

ElectRagini@gmail.com www.ElectRagini.com

Facebook.com/ElectRagini Instagram.com/ElectRagini

India must not miss the fine print of Gaza peace plan



By Syed Akbaruddin

Delhi's answer must be to keep Gaza de-hyphenated, Kashmir decoupled and the Gulf and Europe on side.

"India should focus on three metrics. First, Hamas's written reply via Qatar. The plan lives or dies there. Second, Israel's coalition arithmetic. Can Opposition parties provide cover if the far right bolts from Netanyahu's coalition or does it mean early elections? Third, whether monitors and the ISF secure a legally anchored mandate. Without that, compliance will be challenging."

Peace plans usually begin with borders. US President Donald Trump's 20-point Gaza ceasefire plan begins with a timer. Within 72 hours of Israeli assent, all hostages, living and deceased, are to be returned. What follows is less a map than a to-do list: transactional, sequenced, and by West Asia's standards, even audacious.

Israeli forces would pull back in stages tied to demilitarization milestones. Hamas exits governance, while Gaza's services pass to a Palestinian technocratic committee overseen by a Trump-chaired 'Board of Peace,' which includes former UK Prime Minister Tony Blair. An International Stabilization Force (ISF) would keep order and train vetted Palestinian police.

The prisoner exchange is choreographed. Nearly 2,000 Palestinians would be freed, including life-term prisoners, balanced by a hostage-for-remains swap and safe passage for militants who disarm. Demilitarization would be monitored independently, with a weapons buy-back. Israel, meanwhile, keeps a "security perimeter presence" until Gaza is deemed "properly secure." That hinge, temporary or indefinite, is the plan's make-or-break.

The optics are unusually broad. Trump is fully invested in it, attaching his name to what he brands the Comprehensive Plan to End the Gaza Conflict. He has given Hamas barely four days to decide, turning a ceasefire into a countdown. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu has endorsed it, saying that it "achieves our war aims".

The plan also borrows from ideas floated elsewhere. Saudi and French suggestions for international oversight, and Egypt and Jordan's role in the ISF, draw regional powers into Gaza's future. That gives it reach, and helps explain why Arab, Muslim and European capitals, as well as China and Russia, have welcomed it. The Palestinian Authority (PA) has offered qualified support. Even Hamas says it will "study"



Thumbs up: Netanyahu has endorsed Trump's plan, saying that it "achieves our war aims".

the plan. For once, there is a corridor of possible agreement.

In a shattered enclave, even small openings can feel tangible. If Hamas engages, a clocked hostage release linked to Israeli withdrawals could still the guns quickly, open space for aid, and ease political pressures. No one would be forced to leave Gaza, and those who do would retain the right to return.

Humanitarian reset is built in, not appended, with UN and ICRC-channeled assistance, infrastructure rehabilitation, and guaranteed access through Rafah. The humanitarian dividend must be immediate and visible, or the plan will lose legitimacy.

For families who have buried relatives and queued up for water, sequencing only matters if power returns, clinics are restocked, rubble is cleared and classrooms reopen. That depends on Palestinian buy-in, not as spectators but as co-designers such as doctors, teachers, engineers, civil defense volunteers and others who rebuild daily life.

Acceptance will hinge on whether aid feels real, governance is credible and disarmament does not erase political voice. Consent is not symbolic but essential. Without it, no board, monitor or mandate will hold.

Besides, the many hard edges remain sharp. For Hamas and smaller factions, disarmament is existential, not technical. A Trump-led board and an ISF without a clear legal mandate risk thin legitimacy, ambiguous rules of engagement and contested authority. The ISF could well become a peacekeeper with no peace to keep.

Inside Israel, coalition arithmetic looms large. Netanyahu's far-right partners reject PA engagement, oppose any pathway to statehood and demand a permanent IDF presence. That stance, combined with Netanyahu's hints at an indefinite security perimeter while ruling out both Hamas and the PA in governance, creates ambiguity that could fracture his coalition or sink the plan.

For India, this is not a spectator sport. Its vantage lies at the intersection of principle and prudence. On principle, New Delhi backs a negotiated two-state solution and sustained humanitarian relief. On prudence, it balances a growing partnership with Israel with expanding ties with Arab states.

That is why Prime Minister Modi swiftly welcomed the plan as a 'viable pathway to long-term peace.' This stance has domestic support and reflects both diplomatic calculation and regional balance. The alignment is not accidental. India has steadily increased aid to Palestinians, nearly \$80 million in the past decade, and consistently voiced support for Palestinian statehood at the UN, even when abstaining on contentious resolutions.

There is also a hard-nosed economic stake. Each month of war keeps Red Sea insurance high, shipping costs volatile and inflation pressures alive. India's Navy has already surged to secure sea lanes. Ending the conflict would lower maritime risk, stabilize prices, protect the arteries of India's trade and breathe life into projects like the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC),

which depend on regional peace and predictable politics. Quiet seas, not loud statements, move markets.

If Pakistan secures a role in the Gaza plan with US backing, the impact on India will be political, not military. Islamabad will surely push Kashmir analogies. Delhi's answer must be to keep Gaza de-hyphenated, Kashmir decoupled and the Gulf and Europe on side. Even if it materializes, Pakistan's role will remain that of a follower, not a fulcrum.

India should focus on three metrics. First, Hamas's written reply via Qatar. The plan lives or dies there. Second, Israel's coalition arithmetic. Can Opposition parties provide cover if the far right bolts from Netanyahu's coalition or does it mean early elections? Third, whether monitors and the ISF secure a legally anchored mandate. Without that, compliance will be challenging.

This is not Oslo 2.0. It is ceasefire as contract, sequenced, time-stamped, and transactional. It offers direction, not design. The upside is immediate: hostages home, guns silent, humanitarian lifelines restored. The downside is familiar: uncompromising militants, a fractured Israeli ruling coalition, and an international force without authority. The opening chorus is broad, but the structural cracks run deep. India is right to welcome the opening, but must keep its eyes on the fine print. Blueprints win peace, bullet points do not.

(Syed Akbaruddin is India's former permanent representative to the UN)

Saints, Sadhvis, and the State: How Political Hinduism is Rewriting India's Democracy



By Dave Makkar

The danger is no longer in the future-it's already here. As rituals replace reason, and holy men replace elected representatives in moral authority, India risks becoming a de facto Hindu nation in all but name.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Tirupati
Photo Tweeted by @narendramodi

India has long been a land of saints and sages—a civilization nurtured by its spiritual heritage. But today, the sacred and the secular are merging in unprecedented ways. Gurus, babas, sadhvis, and self-styled godmen—once relegated to the spiritual margins—have become central actors in the political theater of the world's largest democracy.

No longer just spiritual guides, these religious figures now wield real influence over public policy, elections, state institutions, and even India's international diplomacy. From the dusty ashrams of Uttar Pradesh to the plush auditoriums of Davos, India's holy men and women are reshaping the contours of power.

Back in 2009, scholar Meera Nanda sounded the alarm in *The God Market*, warning that Hindu nationalism's "tolerant façade" was cracking under the weight of growing intolerance cloaked in religiosity. Over a decade later, her warnings have proved eerily prescient.

FROM ASHRAMS TO ASSEMBLIES: THE HISTORICAL ARC

Religion and politics have always intersected in India, but the last three decades have seen that relationship transform into an institutionalized axis of power. In the 1970s, Swami Dharendra Brahmachari's influence over Indira Gandhi was well-known. But it was the 1990s Ram Janmabhoomi movement that marked a seismic shift.

Sadhvi Ritambhara, Uma Bharti, and other saffron-robed leaders emerged as the religious vanguard of an increasingly politicized Hindu nationalism. The campaign to build a Ram temple in Ayodhya was not just about reclaiming a religious site—it was about defining Indian identity in Hindu terms.

What followed was a surge in the visibility and power of godmen and godwomen. Liberalization, satellite TV, and later social media provided them platforms to build empires. Baba Ramdev turned yoga into a billion-dollar business and nationalist brand. Sri Sri Ravi Shankar exported "peace" and "well-being" while acquiring prime real estate from the state. Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev reinvented mysticism as eco-conscious modernity. This was the birth of a new market—what Nanda aptly called "The God Market."

THE POLITICAL POWER OF GODMAN

Godmen today are more than spiritual advisors—they are kingmakers. Their massive followings are political capital, often mobilized to sway elections and public opinion. In return, they are offered state protection, land, and legitimacy.

The most striking case is that of Yogi Adityanath—a former mahant (head priest) of the Gorakhnath Math, now serving as the saffron-clad Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. His rise reflects a new archetype in Indian politics: the monk-politician. Adityanath's rhetoric

blends religious symbolism with hardline nationalism, making him a formidable figure both within and outside the BJP. Despite past criminal charges ranging from incitement to attempted murder, his ascent to power saw most cases against him quietly vanish.

Another key figure is Uma Bharti, who became the first sadhvi to head a state government in 2003 when she became Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. Though forced to resign over pending legal issues, she returned to national politics as a union minister, proving that saffron-robed politicians are no longer fringe—they are the mainstream.

The pantheon is ever-growing. Alongside established figures like Ramdev and Sri Sri, new spiritual celebrities have emerged:

- Dharendra Shastri of Bageshwar Dham draws tens of thousands to his events, claiming supernatural powers and publicly blessing political leaders.
- Sadhvi Prachi, linked with the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, regularly makes headlines for incendiary, ultra-nationalist speeches.
- Jaggi Vasudev (Sadhguru) mixes yoga and ecological activism with sharp political alignments—often soft-selling state narratives as spiritual truths.
- Swami Avdhesanand Giri of Juna Akhara plays a key mobilizing role in religious mega-events like the Kumbh Mela.
- Even controversial figures like Radhe Maa and Nirmal Baba have acquired cult-like followings. Meanwhile, Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, despite being jailed for rape and murder, continues to influence politics in Haryana, Punjab, and Rajasthan—parties openly courted his support before elections.



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at the Virat Sant Sammelan in Prayagraj. - File Photo : X/@myogiadityanath

This new crop of spiritual leaders is media-savvy, multilingual, and politically plugged in. Many enjoy celebrity status, giving interviews on primetime television, hobnobbing with politicians, and drawing larger crowds than mainstream political rallies.

The most disturbing trend is the seepage of Hindu rituals and symbolism into the core of India's secular institutions. The line separating state and faith is no longer blurred—it is being actively erased.

In the Armed Forces, warships and aircraft are inaugurated with Vedic chants and coconut-breaking ceremonies. Senior officers, in full uniform, have been seen visiting ashrams and performing religious rituals.

In the Judiciary, judges—including those in the Supreme Court—have publicly participated in temple inaugurations and religious functions. In 2023, Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud hosted PM Modi for a Ganesh Puja at his residence, sparking concerns about impartiality.

In Education, BJP-ruled states have mandated rituals like Surya Namaskar, Vedic chants, and Sanskrit prayers in public schools, pushing a Hindu-centric

cultural curriculum.

In Governance, state events increasingly begin with Hindu rituals. When PM Modi laid the foundation stone for the new Parliament building in 2020 and inaugurated it in 2023, the ceremonies were led exclusively by Hindu priests—no interfaith representation, no secular symbolism.

These acts are not symbolic anomalies—they represent a calculated positioning of Hinduism as the de facto national religion, in stark contrast to the constitutional promise of secularism.

THE TRIUMPH OF FAITH OVER REASON

India now boasts over 3.01 million places of worship—more than double the number of schools and nearly 40 times the number of hospitals. That statistic alone is staggering. The country has roughly one shrine for every 450 people, yet only 1.5 hospital beds per 1,000 people. The message is clear: while spiritual infrastructure flourishes, healthcare and education suffer.

Over 50% of domestic tourism is religious in nature. Temples, pilgrimages, and spiritual festivals dominate travel patterns. And yet, rationalist voices who question blind faith are marginalized, often at great personal risk.

Prominent rationalists and activists—Narendra Dabholkar, Govind Pansare, and M.M. Kalburgi—were assassinated in chillingly similar patterns, allegedly by extremist Hindutva groups. Their deaths underscored a rising tide of intolerance against those challenging superstition and theocratic dominance.

What we are witnessing is not just the rise of a few influential religious figures. It is the structural entrenchment of political Hinduism—a transformation of India's secular democracy into a religio-political state.

The paradox is cruel: Hindu nationalism claims to be uniquely tolerant, yet its triumphalist form has fueled growing intolerance toward minorities, dissenters, and secular values. Victims of communal violence frequently find justice elusive. Critics of religious extremism are labeled anti-national or worse.

As Meera Nanda argues, the corporate-temple-state nexus is real and growing. Religious organizations receive land, tax exemptions, media amplification, and legal immunity in ways no secular entity can rival. Hindu religiosity is now part of the "official culture," often even in states where the BJP is not in power.

India today stands at a profound crossroads. The rise of godmen and sadhvis is not simply a cultural trend—it's a redefinition of what the Indian state stands for.

The critical questions are not just legal or political—they are civilizational:

Can the constitutional ideal of secularism survive in a country where religious symbolism dominates public life?

Can rationalist thought and scientific temper find space in a society overwhelmed by spiritual consumerism?

Can social justice movements take on not only caste and class hierarchies but also the growing hold of blind religiosity on the popular imagination?

These are not abstract questions. The answers will shape India's future—whether it remains a secular, pluralist democracy or slides into a soft theocracy powered by saffron robes and loudspeakers.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.new
(Dave Makkar is a social activist. He can be reached at davemakkar@yahoo.com)

Modi's Poll Pragmatism And Revdi Culture



By Subhash
Chandra Garg

"Worried about a Karnataka-like impact, Modi dropped his ideological opposition to freebies and launched a long list of Modi Guarantees, which were nothing but a copycat version of opposition parties' schemes. Ladli Behan was launched in MP. People perhaps found PM Modi's guarantees of freebies more credible. The freebies/ 'revdis' guaranteed by Modi helped the BJP romp home in the elections in all the three states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Modi's anti-revdis rhetoric started disappearing from his speeches and the BJP campaign. Instead, the creditworthiness of his guarantees began to be highlighted."

As Chief Minister of Gujarat, Narendra Modi was dead against individual beneficiary schemes. He even berated the employment safety-valve programme, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). As Prime Minister, Narendra Modi ran a blistering campaign, most stridently in 2022, against providing cash and other free benefits to people, contemptuously terming them freebies and 'revdis'.

PM Modi then gradually turned more tolerant towards the freebies and 'revdis', particularly those distributed by his party and ally chief ministers, including the Ladli Behan (Madhya Pradesh), Ladki Bahin (Maharashtra) schemes. He also quietly moderated his rhetoric against the 'revdi' culture.

On September 26, PM Modi transferred Rs 10,000 in the bank accounts of 75 lakh women under election-bound Bihar's scheme, the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana (MMRY). This programme promises cash assistance of Rs 2 lakh to more than 1.5 crore women and is likely to ultimately cost the government Rs 3 lakh crore! Undoubtedly, the MMRY is the mother of all freebies. How has this total transformation come about? Let me relate the story.

I joined as Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, in July 2017. At that time, PM Modi's strong views against populist expenditure by the states, the MGNREGA and other benefits programs were widely known. Yet, I was taken aback when the Prime

Minister's Office (PMO) wanted the draft Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the Fifteenth Finance Commission (FFC) proposed by the Finance Ministry to be modified to include an unprecedented ToR that deprived funds to states spending money on populist schemes before elections.

While the sentiment was understandable, it was not the job of the FC to use such a factor for determining the shares of states in the sharable pool of Central taxes. I managed to figure out a compromise solution to accommodate the PMO's directive. A measurable, performance-based incentive scheme was designed for incentivizing and disincentivizing states. It had nine criteria, including control or lack of it in incurring expenditure on populist

against populist expenditure, freebies and revdi culture went full blast.

The opposition parties, most unabashedly Congress and Aam Aadmi Party, were stridently in favor of delivering freebies to the people -both in kind (eg free electricity) and cash (direct transfer to beneficiaries).

The Congress promised many freebies, pushed as guarantees, in Karnataka and Telangana, which seemingly helped it to wrest power in these two states. The Congress governments in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh also embarked on many populist schemes for the poor, government servants, unemployed and others before the 2023 elections.

Worried about a Karnataka-like impact, Modi dropped his ideological opposition to freebies and launched a

and the Congress and other opposition parties on the other side.

The 'revdis' promised by the ruling party tend to appear more credible to the voters unless there is serious anti-incumbency against it. In Haryana and Maharashtra, the ruling BJP (with Shiv Sena) won; in Jharkhand, the ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) won.

Bihar's MMRY is the mother of all 'revdi' schemes. It is also a classic populist scheme, launched just before elections. The scheme promises a payment of Rs 2 lakh over a period of time to every Bihar woman who registers with the government, promising to start some 'rojgar'. On registration, she gets Rs 10,000 in her



Credibility: Modi's guarantees helped the BJP romp home in all the three states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

measures.

In 2022, PM Modi launched a blistering attack against the prevalent populist and freebies culture, using the 'revdis' metaphor. He castigated governments led by opposition parties for "indulging in the revdi culture to secure votes" and patted his own back by highlighting that "the double engine government is working towards creating new expressways and rail routes." He lamented that the revdi culture would take "India towards darkness."

Modi's lead was followed by party functionaries and sympathetic narrative-builders. PILs were filed in the Supreme Court challenging the practice of political parties promising freebies during elections and requesting directions to the Election Commission of India (ECI) to "seize election symbols and deregister political parties that promise to distribute freebies using public funds during election campaigns." The mission

long list of Modi Guarantees, which were nothing but a copycat version of opposition parties' schemes. Ladli Behan was launched in MP. People perhaps found PM Modi's guarantees of freebies more credible. The freebies/ 'revdis' guaranteed by Modi helped the BJP romp home in the elections in all the three states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

Modi's anti-revdis rhetoric started disappearing from his speeches and the BJP campaign. Instead, the creditworthiness of his guarantees began to be highlighted.

Subsequent state elections in Maharashtra, Haryana and Jharkhand confirmed that PM Modi had adopted 'revdis' as the big instrument of winning election politics, in addition to the Hindutva agenda.

The freebies became the center of a cut-throat competition between PM Modi, the BJP and its allies on one side

bank account. The rest (Rs 1.90 lakh) has been promised to be delivered after the elections. The declaration of elections in Bihar is only a few days away. Reportedly 1.5 crore women have registered already. Rs 10,000 has been paid in the accounts of 75 lakh women. On October 3, the remaining registered women will get Rs 10,000 each.

The Bihar MMRY is a state scheme. Yet, PM Modi delivered the transfer of Rs 10,000 in the accounts of 75 lakh women. These women will be casting their votes soon. Modi used the occasion to launch the ruling party alliance's election campaign in Bihar.

Prime Minister Modi is distributing 'revdis' now. What will it mean for India's politics? Time will tell is a favorite cliché. Let us see.

(Subhash Chandra Garg is Administrator, Policy Strategist (Economy, Finance and Fiscal) & Author, and a former Finance Secretary.)



PRESENTED BY



diwali

at times square

CELEBRATING 10TH ANNIVERSARY IN NORTH AMERICA

RAJA KUMARI

ANJANA PADMANABHAN

MALKIT SINGH

RISHI SINGH



CONCEPTUALIZED & PRODUCED BY



OCTOBER 12TH 2025

MANAGED BY

11AM TO 9PM



MEDIA PARTNERS

MEDIA SUPPORTERS



Montana Students experience Incredible India: Governor of Montana hosts welcome reception at State Capitol in their honor



Montana student delegation along with Hon'ble Governor of Montana Greg Gianforte, the First Lady of Montana and Consul General of India at the welcome reception at the State Capitol in Helena



Ms. Emily Brandenburg of the Montana student delegation sharing her experience of visiting Incredible India at the welcome reception at the State Capitol in Helena



Hon'ble Governor of Montana Greg Gianforte delivering his remarks at the welcome reception

SEPTEMBER 29, 2025

HELENA, MT (TIP): Hon'ble Governor of Montana Greg Gianforte hosted a special welcome reception at the State Capitol in Helena today (September 29) in honor of students from Montana who had recently returned from a two-week visit to India.

The ten-member student delegation from Montana to India was led by Mr. Jason Smith, Member of the Board of Directors of the Montana World Affairs Council. Their itinerary included prominent heritage landmarks and experiences such as the Rath Yatra in Odisha, the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, the ISKCON Temple in Vrindavan, the Taj Mahal in Agra, the Konark Sun Temple in Odisha, and Lucknow's Bara Imambara and Rumi Darwaza.

The Consulate General of India in Seattle worked in close partnership with the Montana World Affairs Council to arrange this exclusively curated visit from 26 June - 9 July 2025. The program featured interactions with senior government officials of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi, visits to leading educational institutions such as KIIT/KISS in Odisha and CMS in Lucknow, and vibrant exchanges with their youth counterparts in Lucknow and Bhubaneswar.



Mr. Prakash Gupta, Consul General of India in Seattle, delivering his remarks at the welcome reception



Dinner interaction hosted by Spokesperson Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. Randhir Jaiswal

through a competitive and extensive series of India-focused outreach programs across multiple school districts of Montana, culminating in the Indian Film Festival at the University of Montana in Missoula earlier this year (2-4 March 2025).

Addressing the welcome reception at Helena, Governor Greg Gianforte welcomed the initiative of the newly opened Indian Consulate in promoting people-to-

no place like it on Planet Earth. It is really important for our young delegation to spend time with their peers and to learn firsthand that there is more that unites us than makes us different."

During the welcome reception, the Montana students narrated their Incredible India experiences to an audience of leading scholars, media representatives, and industry leaders who had gathered at the State



Some of the places in India the students delegation visited

During this immersive experience, the Montana students also participated in interactive workshops aimed at deepening their understanding and appreciation of Indian arts and culture.

It may be noted that these students were selected

people ties, especially among the youth of the two countries. Recalling his India visit, Mr. Jason Smith, the delegation head, said "I have always found my time in India to be magical. The people are warm and wonderful-the sights, the sounds are so unique. There's

Capitol in Helena. The delegation's visit underscored the importance of developing deeper ties between the next generation of young leaders from India and the United States.

Video of the Montana students delegation's India visit
<https://youtu.be/ythR9-EO6h8?si=OL4iSEZ5DGI5HHI>

A Stroll along the beach in Odisha
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ythR9-EO6h8&authuser=0>

India Day celebrated at Gates Foundation on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti



Mr. Bill Gates, Chair and Board Member of Gates Foundation, addressing the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations on October 2, 2025



Mr. Bill Gates, Chair and Board Member of Gates Foundation, being presented a special publication on Gandhi ji by Mr. Prakash Gupta, Consul General of India in Seattle, at Gandhi Jayanti celebrations, October 2, 2025

OCTOBER 2, 2025 SEATTLE, WA (TIP): In partnership with Gates Foundation, Consulate General of India in Seattle hosted a special celebration showcasing Indian culture, arts and cuisine at the Gates Foundation today

(October 2). The event was graced by Mr. Bill Gates, Chair and Board Member of Gates Foundation, along with senior leadership of Washington State and Seattle City government. Addressing the gathering, Mr. Bill Gates said "It's fitting that we're coming



Dignitaries at Gandhi Jayanti celebrations



"Natyam - A Dance Mosaic of Bharat" - a specially curated dance performance on various states of India being performed at Gandhi Jayanti celebrations

together on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. The ideals he championed, the equality and dignity of every person, are foundational to the work we do. Today, India stands as a global leader in innovation and is pioneering solutions

with the potential to save and improve millions of lives across the Global South. We look forward to continuing to partner with India on its journey toward Viksit Bharat 2047."

The event also coincided with the Gandhi Jayanti and International Day of Non-Violence celebrations in the Greater Seattle area and also featured a special address on the 'Relevance of Gandhian Values in Contemporary World Order' by Mr. Jonathan Granoff, President of the Global Security Institute.

Earlier in the day, a commemorative event was also held at the Statue of Mahatma Gandhi near the Bellevue Public Library, where Bellevue City Council leadership joined in honoring the legacy of the Mahatma. In addition, another commemorative function was hosted in the afternoon at the Seattle Center (near the base of Space Needle) and floral tributes were offered at the bust of Mahatma Gandhi by Washington State Senator Vandana Slatter in the presence of Eddie Rye, Chairman and Founder of the Martin Luther King (MLK) - Gandhi Foundation. A large cross-section of Indian-American leadership attended these events in Seattle and Bellevue respectively, which also featured a special rendition of Gandhi Ji's favorite hymns by young school children.



Commemoration of Gandhi Jayanti at Seattle Center next to Space Needle on October 2, 2025

Canadian couple coauthor illustrious 3-volume series on Golden Temple with Raghu Rai, wife



--->By Prabhjot Singh

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

NEW DELHI / TORONTO (TIP):

For Mr. Baljit Singh Chadha, a leading businessman of Montreal, and his wife, Mandeep Kaur (Roshi) Chadha, the experience of working on an important illustrated book related to Sikhism with two of the top contemporary photojournalists - Raghu Rai and Gurmeet Kaur Sangha Rai - was like a dream come true.

Mr. Baljit Singh Chadha was one of the first businessmen of Indian origin who organized an introductory party for Mark Carney in his election as the leader of the Liberal Party for the post of Prime Minister after Justin Trudeau had announced his decision to quit.

Their efforts bore fruit as they travelled all the way from Montreal in Canada to New Delhi in India this



Montreal-based businessman Baljit Singh Chadha (sitting) and Mandeep Kaur (Roshi) Chadha present a set of illustrated books on Sri Harmandir Sahib they co-authored with legendary photojournalist Raghu Rai and Gurmeet Kaur Sangha Rai to the Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri in New Delhi -Photo / credit Baljit Singh Chadha

week to present a first set of their books to none other than the Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri.

The books, says Baljit Singh Chadha, "are a comprehensive study of heritage, significance and conservatism."

Raghu Rai is India's top photo journalist who worked for some of the top media houses in the country, and his wife, Gurmeet Kaur Sangha Rai, is a leading architect.

Gurmeet, who got married at the age of 23, balanced her family and her architectural goals with Raghu Rai. Interestingly, she managed to balance work and family obligations while working on important UNESCO projects, including the GT road project and the Sri Harmandir Sahib project.

Canadian, Indian foreign ministers meet on the sidelines of the United Nations



Foreign ministers of India, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, and Canada, Anita Anand, met on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York and discussed strengthening Canada and India's bilateral ties.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

NEW YORK / TORONTO (TIP): A couple of months after they talked to each other on the phone, foreign ministers of India, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, and Canada, Anita Anand, met on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. It was an Ottawa-based diplomat-journalist, Bhupinder Singh Liddar, who put up a picture of the two foreign ministers on his social media page yesterday.

Both Indian and Canadian foreign ministers held a wide range of discussions with foreign ministers of many other countries. Canadian PM Mark Carney also addressed the General Assembly of the United Nations. During their meeting, the ministers discussed strengthening Canada and India's bilateral ties, following productive discussions between Prime Minister Mark Carney and Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the G7 Leaders' Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta, in June this year. The ministers also agreed to advance shared priorities, including economic prosperity, security

and global governance. The ministers acknowledged recent progress in the two countries' relationship through the appointment of high commissioners in India and Canada. Minister Anand noted that Canada's high commissioners play a key role in promoting Canadian trade and investment, providing services to Canadians abroad and enabling dialogue between countries.

Minister Anand emphasized that Canada remains committed to supporting and growing the well-established commercial ties shared by Canada and India, including agricultural products, critical minerals and energy products.

The Indian Foreign Minister expressed the hope that he would greet his Canadian counterpart in India soon. There are speculations on social media that she may visit India next month. In June, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had at the invitation of Canadian PM Mark Carney, visited Canada to attend the G7 summit. The two ministers agreed to remain in contact.

Lawrence Bishnoi gang designated terrorist outfit in Canada

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

TORONTO (TIP): Canada has formally designated the Lawrence Bishnoi gang as a terrorist entity under its criminal code, citing the group's violent activities, intimidation tactics and threats to diaspora communities.

The announcement was made in Ottawa on Monday, September 29, by Public Safety Minister Gary Anandasangaree. It has come just days after India and Canada's National Security Advisers held talks in New Delhi, signaling possible cooperation in addressing concerns related to gangsterism and extremism.

On September 22, the Canadian authorities had arrested Inderjit Singh Gosal, a close aide of banned outfit Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) chief Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, on multiple firearms-related charges in Ottawa. As per sources, Gosal was later released on bail, though he is learnt to be on the radar of authorities. Following the assassination of Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Surrey in June 2023, Gosal took a more prominent role in coordinating diaspora mobilization, including the controversial "Khalistan referendum" campaigns promoted by the SFJ. The Bishnoi gang is led by Lawrence Bishnoi, who is currently lodged in Sabarmati Central Jail in Gujarat. He is accused in numerous charges, including murder, extortion and high-profile assassinations, including of famous Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala.

The Canadian Public Safety Minister said the decision to designate Bishnoi gang as a terror entity would give law enforcement "powerful and effective tools" to curb the gang's activities.

With the addition of Bishnoi gang, there are now 88 entities listed as terrorist groups under Canadian law. The government emphasized that the move reflected Ottawa's commitment to tackling transnational threats and ensuring public safety. "The Bishnoi gang is not just a criminal network



Gangster Lawrence Bishnoi.

File photo

but a terrorist organization that thrives on fear and violence. This designation makes it clear that Canada will not tolerate their crimes," Anandasangaree said.

After the listing, all property, vehicles and financial assets linked to the Bishnoi gang in Canada can now be frozen or seized. It also becomes a criminal offence for anyone in Canada or Canadians abroad to knowingly provide funds, services or resources to the gang.

"This group has targeted communities, cultural figures, businesses and prominent individuals through murder, shootings, arson and extortion. Canadians deserve to feel safe in their homes and neighborhoods. Today's decision is about protecting them," Anandasangaree said.

Originating in India, the Bishnoi gang has grown into a transnational crime syndicate with a footprint in Canada, particularly in areas with significant diaspora population. Security agencies say the outfit uses fear, extortion, and targeted killings to spread terror, often reaching across borders to execute its designs.

Canadian officials said the designation would help border and immigration authorities make decisions on the admissibility of individuals linked to the gang, while also strengthening the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's ability to prevent and disrupt terrorism-related crimes. (Source: TNS)

(Toronto based Prabhjot Singh is an award-winning journalist recognized for investigative journalism, environment and business reporting, sports and feature writing. A Media Consultant, he has remained associated with various news agencies, including Reuters, and media houses like PTC News (India/Canada), Parvasi Media (Canada) the Liberal World (India), and The Indian Panorama, New York. He is interested in Indian Diaspora and the Sikh Diaspora in particular. His work has appeared in various international and national newspapers, magazines and journals.)

Indian Embassy in Washington Celebrates Gandhi Jayanti



Ambassador Vinay Kwatra offering floral tribute to the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi Ji on the occasion of his birth anniversary on October 2, 2025.

OCTOBER 2, 2025 WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti, Ambassador Shri Vinay Kwatra and other embassy officials paid floral tributes to the Father of the Nation in Washington D.C.

The Embassy also organized an event on 30th September, 2025 to celebrate Mahatma Gandhi Ji's legacy with the participation of Indian diaspora, students, professionals, and friends of India.

At the event Srimati Karuna, Director of the Gandhi Memorial Center, Bethesda, Maryland (USA) delivered a talk on "Gandhi's life and Message". She shared anecdotes from Mahatma Gandhi Ji's life, his inspirations and his vision for the world. The talk was followed by rendition of beautiful bhajan and songs that Babu was fond of, by differently abled young Indian artists- Ms. Anusha Manjunath and Ms. Vasundhara Raturi.



Srimati Karuna, Director of the Gandhi Memorial Center, Bethesda, Maryland, delivered a talk on "Gandhi's life and Message"



Differently abled young Indian artists- Ms. Anusha Manjunath and Ms. Vasundhara Raturi-gave a beautiful rendition of bhajans and songs that Babu was fond of. -Photos / Instagram

Need to block 'inexpensive' tech consultants: Lutnick hints at more H-1B curbs



Lutnick says that visas should prioritize highly paid, highly skilled workers such as doctors, educators and engineers, not low-cost technology consultants.

OCTOBER 1, 2025

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick has strongly defended the Trump administration's proposed overhaul of the H-1B visa system, arguing that the United States should only admit the "most highly skilled and highly paid" foreign professionals, while blocking the entry of low-cost technology consultants. He termed the entry of "inexpensive" tech consultants into the US as "wrong" and insisted that it "should be eliminated".

Speaking on the administration's proposed \$100,000 one-time H-1B application fee, set to take effect from February 2026, Lutnick said the move was aimed at curbing abuse of the system, which is currently oversubscribed "seven to 10 times". He added that there would be a

significant number of changes in the H1B visa process when it goes into effect next year.

The Commerce Secretary, while speaking to a US news channel, argued that visas should prioritize highly paid, highly skilled workers such as doctors, educators and engineers, not low-cost technology consultants.

"I find this idea that inexpensive tech consultants should be coming into this country and bringing their families simply wrong," Lutnick said, adding that both he and President Trump shared the same view.

The US Commerce Secretary stressed that priority should go to doctors, educators and highly trained engineers, rather than cheaper contract workers. "If you want to hire engineers, you should hire highly paid ones," he remarked.

The proposed changes in the H-1B visa rules have already triggered intense debate. While sections of the 'MAGA (Make America Great Again) base' view the crackdown as necessary to protect American jobs, critics argue these measures will hurt innovation and the tech sector's ability to recruit global talent.

Lutnick also hinted that broader reforms were under discussion, including whether the US should scrap the lottery system altogether and move to a merit-based framework.

"The process, which was set up in 1990 and sort of butchered along the way, needs to change," he added.

AAPI Announces 2026 Global Healthcare Summit in Bhubaneswar, India

Focus on Tuberculosis Eradication, Diabetes, Ayurveda, and Healthcare Technology



AAPI President Dr. Amit Chakrabarty stated that the summit will emphasize cutting-edge technology and artificial intelligence as transformative tools for patient care, as also making quality healthcare both affordable and accessible in India.

OCTOBER 3, 2025

CHICAGO, IL (TIP): The American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) has unveiled plans for its 19th Annual Global Healthcare Summit (GHS), scheduled for January 9-11, 2026, in Bhubaneswar, Orissa. The event is set to address urgent health issues including Tuberculosis (TB), Diabetes, and the role of Ayurveda in contemporary medicine, alongside showcasing advancements in artificial intelligence and healthcare technology.

AAPI President Dr. Amit Chakrabarty stated that the summit aims to confront some of India's most significant healthcare challenges while encouraging collaboration and innovation among medical professionals. "This summit will bring together expertise from India and the global diaspora to tackle critical



The AAPI leadership at the 18th Global Healthcare Summit held in 2024

issues and foster new research," Dr. Chakrabarty said.

SUMMIT PRIORITIES: TB ERADICATION, DIABETES, AYURVEDA, AND TECHNOLOGY

The summit's agenda spotlights three main themes: eradicating Tuberculosis, managing Diabetes, and integrating Ayurveda into mainstream medical practice. Following a meeting with Indian President Droupadi Murmu, AAPI pledged support to the national effort for a TB-Free Tribal India, led by Dr. Manoj Jain. Diabetes management initiatives will be directed by Dr. Smitha Joshi, while Ayurveda Consortium activities will be coordinated by Dr. Amit Shah and Dr. Arti Prasad.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

India, UK quantum computing tie-up in focus ahead of UK PM's Mumbai visit

A research tie-up between Imperial College London and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay to harness quantum computing and biotechnology to help farmers grow stronger crops that are more resilient to climate change has emerged as a focus area ahead of British Prime Minister Keir Starmer's expected visit to Mumbai next week.

The project builds on quantum as a key pillar of the India-UK Technology Security Initiative (TSI), with a mission to cultivate healthier soil microbes and unlock new strategies for protecting crops in arid and climate-vulnerable regions.

The India-UK TSI, signed last year, is scheduled to be at the top of the agenda when Starmer joins Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2025, starting in Mumbai on Tuesday. Imperial College London President, Professor Hugh Brady, will be among the members of the prime ministerial delegation headed for Mumbai on Starmer's first visit to India as UK PM. While further partnerships between the UK university and Indian counterparts are expected, a team led by Imperial's Dr Po-Heng (Henry) Lee and IIT-Bombay's Dr Indrajit Chakraborty is already leveraging quantum computing to model the complex interactions between plants and bacteria in the soil.

Stop funding terror if you want to stay on world map, Army Chief warns Pak

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Friday, October 3, warned Pakistan that if it wanted to retain its place on the world map, it must stop state-sponsored terrorism.

Speaking at an outpost along the India-Pakistan border in Anupgarh, Rajasthan, General Dwivedi said Indian forces would not show any restraint this time, hinting that a second version of Operation Sindoor would not be far if Islamabad refused to stop exporting terror.

"This time, we will not maintain the restraint that we had in Operation Sindoor 1.0. This time, we will do something that will make Pakistan think about whether it wants to retain its place on the world map or not. If Pakistan wants to retain its place, then it must stop state-sponsored terrorism," he said.

Further, he asked Army and BSF personnel to stay prepared. "If the God wills, you'll get an opportunity soon. All the best," the General said. The Army Chief's visit was to see the preparedness of the troops. His statement comes just a day after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh warned Pakistan of a "strong reply" if it dared to act in the disputed Sir Creek sector along the India-Pakistan border in Gujarat.

The minister said, "Pakistan's recent



Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi interacts with soldiers at the Bikaner military station on Oct 3. ANI

expansion of military infrastructure in the sector reflects its ill intent... any misadventure in the sector will invite a decisive response."

"If Pakistan dares to act in the sector, the reply will be so strong that it will change both history and geography," he had added.

Operation Sindoor was undertaken by India to give a fitting reply in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack. Nine terror camps were hit in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir by the Indian forces using

long-range precision weapons on May 7. The attack on terror camps had brought the two countries to a near-war situation. A ceasefire followed on May 10 after Pakistani commanders called up their Indian counterparts, seeking an end to the offensive.

The Army Chief also honoured three officers for their exceptional work during Operation Sindoor. These were BSF's 140th Battalion Commandant Prabhakar Singh, Army's Major Ritesh Kumar and Havildar Mohit Gaira. *Source: TNS*

Rahul criticizes RSS, claims Indian democracy faces threat under BJP; sparks backlash

BOGOTA (TIP)

Congress MP and Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Thursday, October 2, took a swipe at the Narendra Modi government, asserting that the biggest challenge India is witnessing is the attack on its democracy.

Speaking at an event at EIA University of Colombia, Gandhi highlighted the issue of "structural flaws" and suggested that the country's diverse traditions must be allowed to thrive.

"India has strong capabilities in areas like engineering and healthcare, so I am very optimistic about the country. But at the same time, there are also flaws in the structure that India has to correct. The biggest challenge is the attack on democracy taking place in India," Gandhi said.

The Congress leader argued that the democratic system remains crucial for diversity, allowing different traditions, customs, and ideas, including religious beliefs, to thrive. However, he added, the democratic system in India is under attack, which is a "major risk" or threat.

"India has multiple religions, traditions, and languages — in fact, the country is essentially a conversation between all these people and cultures. Different traditions, religions, and ideas require space, and the best method for creating that space is the



democratic system," Gandhi said.

"Currently, there is a wholesale attack on this democratic system, and that is a major risk. Another big risk is the tension between different conceptions in parts of the country. With 16-17 major languages and many religions, it is crucial to allow these diverse traditions to thrive and give them the space they need," he added.

Furthermore, Gandhi lashed out at the Rashtriya

Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) duo, saying that "cowardice" was at the heart of their ideology.

"This is the nature of BJP-RSS. If you notice a statement of the foreign minister, he said, 'China is much more powerful than us. How can I pick a fight with them?' At the heart of the ideology is cowardice," the Congress leader said.

He further cites an incident from Vinayak Damodar Savarkar's book, where the Hindutva ideologue writes, "he and his friends beat up a Muslim man and felt happy about it". Reacting to this, Gandhi said that RSS' ideology is to "beat up weak people" and run away from those who are stronger than them.

Meanwhile, Union Minister Giriraj Singh on praised the role of RSS on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Targeting Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Singh said, "People like Rahul Gandhi only know how to abuse. Even if he gets seven lifetimes, he still won't be able to become a Sangh volunteer. A Sangh volunteer is not among those who insult India, but among those who work for India's dignity and honour."

Taking a swipe at Congress, Singh added, "When a party is led by someone like Rahul Gandhi who behaves like an urban Naxal, it's natural that other leaders of the Congress will also speak the same language."

Govt allows Sikh pilgrims to visit Pak for Guru Nanak's birth anniversary

The Indian government has given permission to specific groups of Sikh pilgrims to visit Pakistan for upcoming celebrations marking the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism, ANI reported citing sources. The visit will take place under the 1974 bilateral agreement between India and Pakistan, which permits religious pilgrimages to certain shrines across the border.

Only selected jathas (groups) will be allowed to travel, based on recommendations from the respective state governments. These suggestions will be reviewed by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and final approval will be granted by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

"The state government concerned will recommend to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Acting on MEA's inputs, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) will give further clearance for the visit, to jathas," ANI quotes its source as saying.

This decision comes shortly after the Indian government had earlier barred Sikh pilgrims from attending the November 2025 Parkash Purab celebrations in Pakistan due to security concerns and strained relations between the two countries.

According to sources, pilgrims will cross into Pakistan via the Attari-Wagah border and visit key religious sites such as Nankana Sahib—Guru Nanak's birthplace—and Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur. The pilgrimage will be organised by the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee in partnership with Pakistan's Evacuee Trust Property Board.

Despite political tensions, thousands of Sikh devotees continue to travel to Pakistan each year for major religious events like Prakash Purab, Baisakhi, and Martyrdom Day of Guru Arjan Dev.

Rajnath warns Pakistan against aggressive approach towards Sir Creek

NEW DELHI/BHUJ (TIP)

In a stern warning to Pakistan, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday, October 2, said any misadventure by Islamabad in the Sir Creek sector will invite a "decisive response" that will be strong enough to change both "history and geography".

Singh's remarks at a military base near the India-Pakistan border in Gujarat's Bhuj came against the backdrop of the neighbouring country expanding military infrastructure in the disputed region.

The defence minister celebrated Dussehra with soldiers and performed 'shastra puja' (worship of weapons) on the occasion.

Singh also said that the Indian military successfully achieved all the objectives of Operation Sindoor and starting a war with Pakistan by escalating the situation was not its aim.

The operation "exposed" Pakistan's air defence and proved India's "decisive capability", he said.

However, his comments on the disputed Sir Creek sector drew much attention.

"If Pakistan dares to act in the Sir Creek sector, the reply will be so strong that it will change both history and geography," the minister said.

"In 1965, the Indian Army showed courage by reaching Lahore and in 2025, Pakistan must remember that the road to Karachi also passes through the creek," he said.

Sir Creek is a 96-km-long tidal estuary between Gujarat's Rann of Kutch and Pakistan. It is considered a disputed region due to varying interpretations of maritime boundary lines by the two sides.

The defence minister drew attention to the fact that even after 78 years of independence, Pakistan "continues to create disputes" over the Sir Creek sector, despite India's repeated efforts to resolve the issue through dialogue.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addresses the gathering on Vijaydashmi, in Bhuj Sector. (@SpokespersonMoD/X via PTI)

Pakistan's recent expansion of military infrastructure in the Sir Creek sector reflects its ill intention, he said.

"Any misadventure by Pakistan in the Sir Creek sector will invite a decisive response," he said.

Singh also virtually inaugurated the tidal berthing facility and a joint control centre (JCC) in the strategic sector.

The facilities will act as major enablers for integrated coastal operations while significantly enhancing joint operational capability, coastal security coordination and rapid response to any threats, according to the defence ministry.

In his remarks, Singh lauded the Indian armed forces for "successfully thwarting" Pakistan's attempts to breach India's defence network during Operation Sindoor.

"Pakistan tried to penetrate India's defences from Leh to Sir Creek sector, but the swift and effective counter-action of the Indian forces not only exposed the weaknesses of Pakistan's air defence system but also sent out a clear message to the world that India can inflict heavy

damage at a time, place and manner of its choosing," he said.

Singh underlined that despite having the capability, India demonstrated restraint as Operation Sindoor was aimed at countering terrorism and not provoking a wider conflict.

He expressed satisfaction that all military objectives of Operation Sindoor were successfully achieved and reaffirmed that India's fight against terrorism will continue with full resolve.

"Escalating it and starting a war was not the objective of Operation Sindoor. I am happy that Indian forces have successfully achieved all the military objectives of Operation Sindoor. But our fight against terrorism continues," he said.

In response to the Pahalgam terror attack, India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7, targeting terrorist infrastructure in territories controlled by Pakistan. The strikes triggered four days of intense clashes that ended on May 10 with an understanding on stopping military actions.

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat salutes 'Hind ki chadar' Guru Tegh Bahadur

NEW DELHI (TIP)

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday began his customary Vijaydashmi address with a salutation to the ninth Sikh Guru, Guru Tegh Bahadur, calling him 'Hind ki chadar'. "We have gathered today on Vijaydashmi. Today is the centenary of the initiation of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's activities. Coincidentally, this year also marks the 350th anniversary of Guru Teg Bahadur Maharaj's martyrdom. He became a shield and sacrificed himself to protect the Hindu society from the atrocities of invaders from a foreign religion," Bhagwat said, before going on to pay tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri on their birth anniversaries.

Bhagwat stresses unity, self-reliance and cultural vision

Bhagwat stressed upon unity, self-reliance and cultural vision in his annual Vijaydashmi address at Nagpur's Reshimbagh ground, marking the organisation's centenary. Calling for India to pursue friendship with all, Bhagwat cautioned that the country "should remain vigilant and continue strengthening security



capabilities". Recalling the Pahalgam terror attack, Bhagwat said the government's response demonstrated strong leadership, and the armed forces too demonstrated their preparedness in such times. The government responded appropriately, and during this period, "the country witnessed strong leadership, the bravery of our armed forces, and most importantly, the remarkable unity of the people", he said. The episode, he noted, also tested who India's true allies on the global stage were.

Speaking on internal security, Bhagwat said the extremist Naxal movement has weakened due to firm government action and growing realisation of its "hollow ideology and cruelty". However, he cautioned that justice, development and empathy were essential in affected areas to ensure lasting peace.

He also weighed in on the US tariff row, saying, "This forces us to reconsider certain policies. While the world thrives on interdependence, we must make every effort to achieve self-reliance without making dependency a compulsion." Bhagwat also expressed concern over the political instability in India's backyard, in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal, noting that violent outbursts cannot bring meaningful change. "These neighbouring countries are linked with Bharat on the basis of both culture and long-standing ties between citizens. In one way, they are part of our own family. Peace, stability, prosperity, and ensuring comfort and well-being in these countries is a necessity arising out of our natural affinity with these countries, going beyond the consideration for protection of our interests," he said.

India in history this Week

OCTOBER 3 TO OCTOBER 9

03 OCTOBER

1994 India submitted its formal claim for permanent membership of the Security Council.

1978 The first test tube baby was born in the Indian state of Calcutta (now Kolkata) and the second in the world.

1984 India's longest distance train Himsagar Express was diverted from Kanyakumari to Jammu Tawi.

1831 Britain was captured by Mysore (now Mysuru).

1880 The first Marathi music drama 'Sangeet Shakuntal' was staged in Pune.

2008 Tata Motors Chairman Ratan Tata announced the move of the Nano car project from Singur to elsewhere.

1949 Indian film director J.K. P. Dutta was born.



1992 Geet Sethi won the World Professional Billiards Championship.

04 OCTOBER

1884 Ramachandra Shukla, the leading Hindi writer and critic, was born.

1977 India's Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee addressed the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in Hindi. This was the first address given in Hindi.

1986 Indian Helicopter Corporation was established.

1974 India refused to participate in the Davis Cup by going there to resist the pillar of the South African government.

1927 Sarla Grewal, the second woman officer of Indian Administrative Service and former Governor of Madhya Pradesh was born.

2011 The strike continued on the 22nd day in Andhra Pradesh for a separate Telangana state.

05 OCTOBER

1864 About 50,000 people died due to cyclone in Calcutta city.

1805 The second governor general of the British Raj in India, Commander in Chief Lord Cornwallis, died in Ghazipur.

1989 Meera Sahib Beevi became the first woman judge of the Supreme Court.

1999 India decided not to attend the special meeting on the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

2011 The world's cheapest Rs 2250 tablet PC Aakash was launched in India.

1676 The East India Company got the right to exchange Indian currency in Mumbai from the King of England.

2008 The Central Government started testing elsewhere for the 'Setu Samudram Project' as directed by the Supreme Court.

1524 The birth of Rani Durgavati, one of the famous Veeraganna queens of Indian history.

06 OCTOBER

1862 The Indian Penal Code Act was passed and came into force from January 1.

1954 Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru announced a National Health Plan for the country.



1858 The revolutionary Nana Saheb Peshwa died.

1983 President's rule was imposed in Punjab.

1935 Jeevan D Ghosh, the longest serving umpire in India, was born in Bengal.

1893 Indian scientist Meghnath Saha, who has done important work in the field of mathematics and physics, was born.

07 OCTOBER



1914 India's famous Ghazal singer Begum Akhtar was born.

1950 Mother Teresa established the Missionaries of Charity in Kolkata.

2008 Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas arrived in India on a four-day state visit.

1586 The Mughal army entered Kashmir.

1737 Three lakh people died in Bengal when a 20 thousand small ship sank 40 feet below the sea.

1919 Gandhiji's 'Navjeevan' magazine published.

1952 Chandigarh became the capital of Punjab.



2000 WWF - India won the first Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Conservation Award.

1891 Freedom fighter and close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, Narhari Parikh was born.

1907 Durga Bhabhi, the principal ally of revolutionaries, was born in India's freedom struggle.



1708 Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh died.

08 OCTOBER

1932 Indian Air Force was established.



1936 Famous Hindi writer and novelist Premchand died.

1998 India became a member of the Flight Safety Foundation.

2004 Monsanto's patent on Indian wheat revoked.

2005 Thousands died due to earthquake in Kashmir.

1926 Bollywood actor Rajkumar was born.

09 OCTOBER

1920 Aligarh's Oriental College was converted into Aligarh Muslim University.

1942 Freedom fighter Bibi Amar Kaur hoisted the national flag at the Lahore Jail Gate. He was arrested and sent to Ambala Jail.

1949 The first governor of independent India, C. Rajagopalachari, officially inaugurated the territorial army.

1976 International direct dialing service started between Bombay (now Mumbai) and London.

2008 The central government formed a committee of experts to save oil from the mafia.

1945 Famous Indian sarod maestro Ustad Amjad Ali Khan was born.





The Association of Indians in America - New York

38th Deepavali Festival - Live Fireworks

Saturday October 11, 2025

OVERLOOK BEACH,

Near Jones Beach, Ocean Parkway, Babylon (Long Island), NY 11702

12.00 PM - 8.00 PM

Fashion Show

First Time Ever, AIA-NY Deepavali Celebrations from SOUTH STREET SEAPORT TO LONG ISLAND!

JOIN FOR 'ALL DAY' FUN AT THE BEACH

- Indian Traditional Dances - classical & folk performances
- Creative Rangoli & Art Displays
- Ramayana Musical Live Dance Drama
- Indian Cuisine & Masala Chai
- Retail and Corporate Booths
- Kids Corner - Henna Painting & Fun Activities
- Health & Wellness Zone
- Meet & Greet Many Celebrities and Dignitaries
- Picture booth
- Yoga and Zumba
- Raffles - Play to Win Exciting Grand prizes

Surprise Bollywood Celebrity Appearance

FREE

Admission

Do Not Miss Out!



aia-ny.org



Sponsors



Media Partners



Contact (by text only) - 631 988 1280 | 516 603 5022 | 646 717 1000 | 347 804 7119 | 516 698 9272

aia-ny.org

[/aianyorg](https://www.facebook.com/aianyorg)

aianydeepavali2025@gmail.com

FREE PARKING OPEN TO ALL

WORLD MUSIC INSTITUTE CELEBRATES FORTY YEARS

BY MABEL PAIS

World Music Institute turns milestone 40!

Join the World Music Institute (WMI) to celebrate 40 years of presenting world music and dance in New York City on October 16, 2025. WMI will honor those whose artistic vision and long-standing financial and Board service support have most significantly contributed to WMI's success.

Food and drinks as well as live music will amplify the celebration.

All proceeds will benefit the next 40 years of bringing patrons the very best in music and dance from around the world.

PROGRAM

WHAT: WMI 40th Anniversary Celebration

WHEN: Thursday, October 16, 2025, 6:30 - 9:30 PM

WHERE: 150 West 17th Street, New York, NY

COST: For tickets to the event, visit ci.ovationtix.com/35721/production/1244870?performanceId=11661457

WMI HONOREES

ROBERT AND HELENE BROWNING (THE FOUNDERS OF WMI)

Robert Browning has promoted world music concerts in New York City since 1976. He co-founded the Alternative Center for International Arts in 1975, providing a platform for under-represented artists. By 1985, growing interest in world music led Robert and his wife, Helene, to establish the World Music Institute (WMI), which, under their leadership, organized more than 1,500 concerts over 25 years. Browning retired from WMI in 2011 but he and Helene continue their legacy through Robert Browning Associates, remaining committed to high-quality traditional music and community collaboration. Learn more at robertbrowningassociates.com.

KAMALA CESAR AND THOMAS BUCKNER

Kamala Cesar and Thomas Buckner have been long-time supporters as well as substantial artistic contributors to WMI over the past 40 years.

Kamala Cesar, a disciple of T. Balaraswati in Bharata Natyam, is of Native American (Mohawk) and Filipino descent, born in Brooklyn, NY. She received the National Endowment for the Arts Folk Art Apprenticeship in 1986. In 1994, WMI presented her Indian Dance performance during the Navaratri Festival. Learn more at lotusmusicanddance.org.

Thomas Buckner has championed avant-garde music for five decades as a singer, producer, and promoter and WMI is proud to have teamed up with him as early as 1990 in introducing innovative programs showcasing contemporary music by American composers and performers.

For more than 40 years baritone Thomas Buckner has dedicated himself to the world of new and improvised music. In collaboration with a host of prominent composers and improvisers, Buckner continues to commission and perform numerous chamber works, orchestral pieces and song cycles, as well as

WMI ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Honorees (left to right): WMI Founders Robert & Helene Browning, Tom & Kamala Buckner, David & Daisy Paradis, the late Tino Puri & Rajika Puri, Honorary Board Members Javier Limón and Farah Siraj

Performances from Yacouba Sissoko and Arun Ramamurthy, Mehrnam Rastegari with Camila Celin and Roshni Samlal, and DJ Nickodemus.

40TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT HONOREES & MUSICIANS, collage. -Credit: worldmusicinstitute.org.

improvisations, electronic constructions, and multi-media theater pieces. Learn more at thomasbuckner.com.

DAISY AND DAVID PARADIS

Daisy Paradis has served on WMI's Board of Directors since 1991 and between 2018 and 2024 co-chaired the Board with Andrew Faulkner. She is an accomplished musician and teacher and was a disciple of Maestro Ali Akbar Khan since 1966. She studied sitar with Krishna Bhatt and attended workshops with Pandit Ravi Shankar and Nikhil Banerjee. She is a co-founder of the Ali Akbar College of Music in California with Maestro Ali Akbar Khan and performed extensively on both the East and West Coasts as well as in India, with Maestro Ali Akbar Khan, Steve Gorn, and Pandit Samir Chatterjee, among others.

Daisy's husband David Paradis is a writer and an amateur jazz drummer. He graduated from Boston College and has a master's degree from The University of Iowa, where he was in the Iowa Writers' Workshop. He founded and for ten years published and edited the literary journal 'Pequod.' He has published one novel, 'Flew Away.' Follow him @ [instagram.com/daparadisedrums](https://www.instagram.com/daparadisedrums).

RAJIKA PURI AND THE LATE ANUPAM "TINO" PURI

Rajika Puri is a distinguished performer in the Indian classical dance forms of Bharata Natyam and Odissi, having gracefully exhibited her artistry throughout Europe, the U.S., Latin America, and India during her illustrious career, which includes a command performance for the President of Mexico. She has also studied Western music, American Modern Dance and flamenco. She earned an MA in the Anthropology of Human Movement from NYU, contributing her writings to both

academic journals and dance publications. Learn more at rajikapuri.com.

Rajika is the visionary behind WMI's critically acclaimed 'Festival of Indian Dance: Dancing The Gods,' which she expertly curated over 14 seasons, receiving accolades from The New York Times for its ability to attract "some truly god-like dancers".

ANUPAM "TINO" PURI

The late Anupam "Tino" Puri, aside from being a successful and respected business leader, mentor, and philanthropist, was a true connoisseur and lover of the arts. He was the first Indian American hired by McKinsey & Company and founded McKinsey's India practice in 1990. From 1996 onwards, he was an elected member of McKinsey's Board of Directors, and from 1998 onwards oversaw all of McKinsey's Asian, Middle Eastern and Latin American practices. His wisdom, humility, and generosity are missed by all who have known him. Tino passed away in 2025 at the age of 79.

JAVIER LIMÓN (WMI HONORARY BOARD MEMBER)

Javier Limón is a renowned composer, music producer, and guitarist specializing in flamenco, jazz, and world music. Educated at the Royal Conservatory in Madrid, he has collaborated with over 1,000 musicians, including notable artists including Paco de Lucía, Caetano Veloso, Mariza, and Anoushka Shankar, among others. A Grammy and 10 Latin Grammy Award winner, Limón has also garnered over 20 gold and platinum records. Learn more at javierlimon.net.

FARAH SIRAJ (WMI HONORARY BOARD MEMBER)

Farah Siraj, named Jordan's Musical Ambassador, has an extensive international career performing at

prestigious venues like the United Nations, Carnegie Hall, and MTV. She advocates for humanitarian issues, including women's rights and refugee rights, and has performed at the UN Humanitarian Awards. Farah uses music as a medium for peace, having toured globally with her album NOMAD, which blends various musical styles. Learn more at www.farahsiraj.com.

MUSICIANS

Musicians Yacouba Sissoko and Arun Ramamurthy, Merhnam Rastegari with Roshni Samlal and Camila Celin, and DJ Nickodemus will perform.

WORLD MUSIC INSTITUTE

Founded in 1985, World Music Institute (WMI) has served as one of the leading presenters of world music and dance within the United States. WMI is committed to presenting the best in traditional and contemporary music and dance from around the world to enrich lives through the arts, promote awareness and appreciation for the world's rich cultural traditions, and encourage cross-cultural dialogue and exchange. WMI presents at venues throughout the city and depends on both public and private funding to accomplish its mission. For more information, contact WMI @ info@worldmusicinstitute.org or call (212) 545-7536.

FOLLOW THE WORLD MUSIC INSTITUTE ONLINE!

Tiktok: @wminyc
Facebook: @worldmusicinstituteNYC
Instagram: @worldmusicinstitute
Youtube: @WorldMusicInstitute
Linktree: @wmi

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

DOC SOCIETY CLIMATE STORY UNIT LAUNCHES INDIGENOUS-LED DOCUMENTARY FILMS TO CREATE A BIO-DIVERSE FUTURE FOR ALL

BY MABEL PAIS

The Screening Tour has begun! It launched on September 30, 2025.

This pilot initiative empowers communities to work together and shift how impact distribution is shaped and shared.

In a move that prioritizes collective impact through collaboration, five critically acclaimed Indigenous-led documentaries are joining forces for a shared or joint impact screening tour that launched on September 30.

“This initiative is about more than just bringing powerful films to new audiences—it’s about honoring the collective strength of Indigenous storytellers and reimagining how impact can be built through kinship, not competition,” said **Megha Agrawal Sood, Co-Director of Doc Society**. “The Indigenous Impact Alliance represents a shift toward community-led strategies where filmmakers, impact producers, and partners move together, not alone. We’re proud to support this pilot and to learn alongside these visionary teams as they chart new paths for distribution, engagement, and sovereignty.”

With the support of Doc Society’s Climate Story Unit, the Indigenous Impact Alliance the global screening tour brings together the award-winning films ‘YINTAH,’ ‘SINGING BACK THE BUFFALO,’ ‘SUGARCANE,’ ‘REMAINING NATIVE,’ and ‘BRING THEM HOME’ to amplify Indigenous voices and stories through a distribution strategy focused on aligned efforts. These films tackle crucial issues facing Indigenous communities while celebrating resilience, healing, and cultural resurgence.

“Our film, ‘Remaining Native,’ shows the power of community when it comes to creating spaces for joy, healing, and collective sharing, so to be able to align with a strategy that mirrors that level of collaboration gives us hope that we can reach a lot of people and create meaningful impact,” said **Paige Bethmann, Director, Remaining Native**.

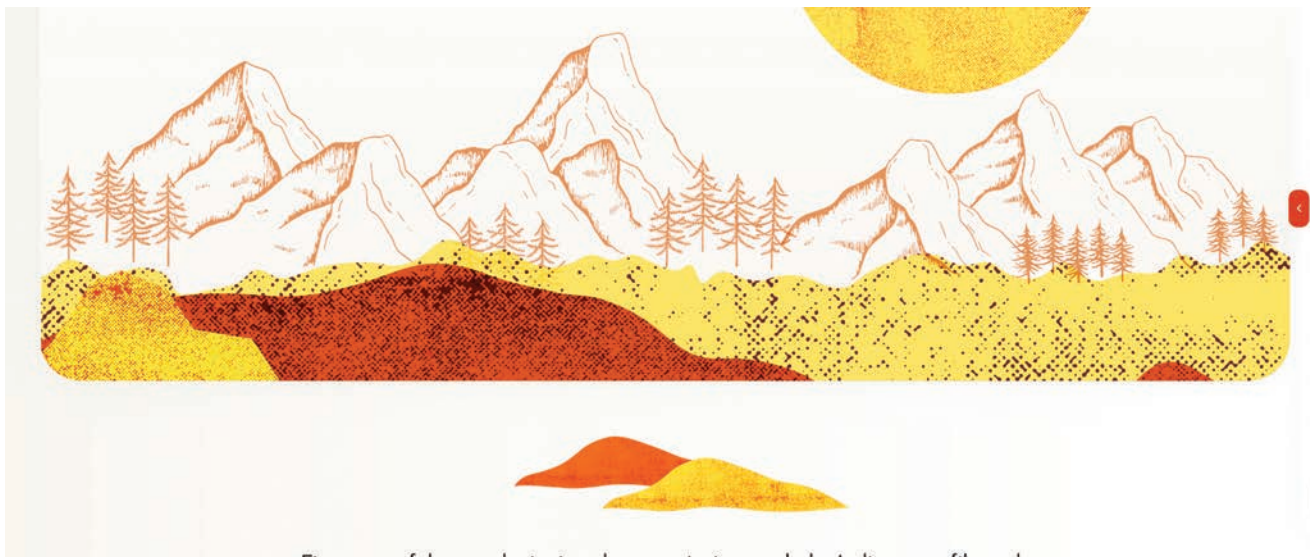
The films are available for screening from Sept 30, marking Truth and Reconciliation Day in Canada, through November 21, to coincide with the end of COP 30, the largest environmental gathering in the planet, offering communities an opportunity to curate their own screening experiences and choose which films to screen based on their specific needs and interests. This audience-led approach ensures accessibility and cultural relevance while empowering local organizations to contextualize screenings within their own communities.

Making the screening tour available beyond North America will connect international audiences who may be unfamiliar with the films’ subjects, providing crucial context and fostering cross-cultural understanding of Indigenous issues and experiences.

The tour will prioritize in-person scheduled events, ensuring broad accessibility while maintaining the powerful communal experience of shared film viewing, discussion, and lead to action and engagement.

The Indigenous Impact Alliance launched with a gathering in New Mexico in January of 2025, where participating teams defined the cohort’s core objectives around two primary goals: expanding Indigenous creative power and narrative sovereignty, and amplifying Indigenous stories through strategic, community-driven distribution and engagement.

This year-long pilot initiative, running through December 2025, is designed to enhance the impact of independent Indigenous films by coordinating strategies among film teams working on shared issues. By fostering collaboration, the program aims to build collective momentum in documentary impact work and address longstanding resource challenges in the independent film space. This cohort’s first goal centers on strengthening kinship among Native filmmakers,



Doc Society, Banner. -Credit: docsociety.org.



Megha Agrawal Sood (USA), Co-Director - Doc Society;
Director - Head of Climate Story Unit.
Credit: docsociety.org.



Film, Sugarcane. (left) Directors Emily Kassie and Julian Brave NoiseCat after filming at the Williams Lake Stampede.

Credit: Sugarcane Film LLC.

impact producers, and strategists, while developing support systems grounded in decolonization, land connection, and Indigenous creative sovereignty. A key component includes Indigenous/Native Impact Production workshops—hands-on, in-person trainings tied to festivals or existing events—that encourage earlier and deeper integration of impact strategy across the filmmaking process, from directors to producers and beyond.

The approach also represents a paradigm shift in independent documentary distribution, where film teams working on similar issues have chosen collaboration over competition to maximize their collective impact and reach diverse audiences across Turtle Island / North America, and beyond.

THE FILMS

The five participating documentaries each offer

unique perspectives on Indigenous experiences while sharing common themes of resilience, cultural preservation, and resistance to colonial systems:

YINTAH, meaning “land”, is a feature-length documentary on the Wet’suwet’en nation’s fight for sovereignty. Spanning more than a decade, the film follows Howilhat Freda Huson and Sleydo’ Molly Wickham as their nation reoccupies and protects their ancestral lands from several of the largest fossil fuel companies on earth.

SINGING BACK THE BUFFALO tells the story of Indigenous visionaries, scientists and communities rematriating buffalo to the heart of the plains they once defined, signaling a turning point for Indigenous nations, the ecosystem, and our collective survival.

SUGARCANE - A groundbreaking investigation exposes a shocking cover-up of cultural genocide perpetrated by the church and government, and illuminates the enduring love, beauty and courage of an Indigenous community.

REMAINING NATIVE is a coming-of-age story told through the perspective of Ku Stevens, a young Native American runner navigating college athletics while the memory of his great-grandfather’s 50 mile escape from an Indian boarding school begins to connect past, present, and future.

BRING THEM HOME tells the story of a small group of Blackfoot people and their mission to establish the first wild buffalo herd on their ancestral territory since the species’ near-extinction a century ago, an act that would restore the land, re-enliven traditional culture and bring much needed healing to their community.

DOC SOCIETY

Doc Society is a global impact organization that supports documentary films and filmmakers to create change. Through innovative programs and collaborative initiatives, Doc Society helps independent filmmakers maximize their social impact while building sustainable careers in documentary storytelling. Learn more at docsociety.org.

THE DOC SOCIETY CLIMATE STORY UNIT

The Doc Society Climate Story Unit is dedicated to supporting transformative storytelling to advance a climate just and biodiverse future. Across the Unit’s programs, artists, impact producers, and movement builders collectively envision, experiment and share how we can create an abundant world for all.

Learn more about The Indigenous Impact Alliance at indigenousimpactalliance.org.

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



Thamma's Tum Mere Na Huye stars Ayushmann, Rashmika in glam avatar

The first song from the upcoming horror comedy film 'Thamma', titled 'Tum Mere Na Huye, Na Sahi', has been released. Featuring Rashmika Mandanna and Ayushmann Khurrana, the track is an upbeat dance number with lyrics about heartbreak.

The song presents Rashmika in a red outfit with smokey makeup and open hair, while Ayushmann appears in an all-black outfit.

Madhubanti Bagchi sang the song with Sachin-Jigar, who also gave the music. The lyrics of 'Tum Mere Naa Huye' have been penned by Amitabh Bhattacharya.

Directed by Aditya Sarpotdar, 'Thamma' is the latest in Maddock Films' horror-comedy universe, following 'Stree', 'Bhediya', and 'Munjya'. The story is rooted in a forgotten legend from our folklore, blending Indian myths with supernatural elements. It follows two main characters as they navigate both otherworldly events and personal emotions.

Ayushmann, who plays Alok, earlier said, "Becoming a part of Dinesh Vijan's Maddock horror-comedy universe is a thrilling step in my journey as an actor. In 'Thamma', I play Alok—a man who never asked for the extraordinary, but is forced to confront it."

Rashmika, playing Tadaka, expressed that the film is very special for her. "Thamma' is a very special film for me because it brings together horror, comedy, folklore, and even a love story rooted in India. Playing Tadaka has been both challenging and exciting, as she's an age-old legend brought to life anew," she shared.

Producer Dinesh Vijan noted, "With 'Thamma', we aimed to take the universe to its next stage—not just in terms of story, but also in terms of scale, ambition, and technology. For us, the goal has always been to draw inspiration from Indian folklore for our characters."

The cast also includes Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Faisal Malik, and Geeta Agrawal. The trailer has received a strong response.

Tere Ishk Mein: Dhanush, Kriti Sanon's love story is about loss and longing

The makers of Tere Ishk Mein, starring Dhanush and Kriti Sanon, have unveiled the official teaser of their upcoming romantic film. With a musical score by A R Rahman, the teaser promises an emotionally charged love story that dives deep into longing, loss, and surrender.

The teaser introduces audiences to Shankar and Mukti, a couple not meant to be together. Shankar is seen coming from his father's funeral to Mukti's wedding. An angry Shankar pours Ganga jal on Mukti, who is sitting for her Mehendi ceremony, to wash away her sins and almost curses her to have a boy child so that she realises that people who die in love are also someone's son.

The visuals are poetic, set against the backdrop of Benaras. Director Anand L Rai paints a picture of love that isn't all romantic but deeply human. As the teaser unfolds, it reveals a tale where passion turns painful, where Kriti is seen drowning herself in alcohol while Dhanush fights with the unknown goons.

Music maestro A R Rahman, in his third Hindi collaboration with Dhanush and Aanand, delivers a haunting melody that lingers long after the teaser ends. With lyrics by Irshad Kamil and vocals by Arijit Singh, the track featured is setting the mood of the film.

Speaking about the film, Anand said,



"Ishk is only about surrender, letting it heal you, hurt you, and change you." Meanwhile, producer Bhushan Kumar said, "Tere Ishk Mein will bring forth a love story that's raw, intense, and emotionally charged. Dhanush and Kriti's pairing brings a unique energy to the screen, and Rahman's music elevates every moment. It's a world that stays with you." Backed by T-Series, Colour Yellow, Aanand L Rai, Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar, and Himanshu Sharma, Tere Ishk Mein is scheduled to hit cinemas worldwide on 28 November, releasing in both Hindi and Tamil.

Tere Ishk Mein is a spiritual successor to Raanjhanaa. It has been twelve years since Raanjhanaa was released, with Sonam Kapoor starring opposite Dhanush.

Dhanush later collaborated with Aanand L Rai on Atrangi Re in 2021. Although the themes-unrequited love and a passionate story-remain similar, the characters and plot in this film are distinct.

The story is written by Himanshu Sharma, with music composed by Academy Award-winner A R Rahman. The lyrics are penned by Irshad Kamil, with vocals by Arijit Singh.

The film is scheduled to release in cinemas on November 28, 2025.

The makers of Tere Ishk Mein released the teaser of the Dhanush and Kriti Sanon starrer earlier today. It offers a glimpse into an intense yet passionate love story, with the two lead actors sharing screen space for the first time.

SRK enters billionaire club for first time

Shah Rukh Khan has entered the billionaire club. Boasting a career spanning more than three decades, Shah Rukh Khan retained his first position in the Hurun India Rich List 2025, which was released on October 1. This is an annual list published by the Hurun Research Institute, assessing the wealth of celebrities across different fields in India.

Citing Shah Rukh's wealth growth, the list mentioned: "Bollywood's Badshah, Shah Rukh Khan (59), joins the billionaire club for the first time with a wealth of INR 12,490 crore." As per the report, Shah Rukh Khan has emerged as the wealthiest Bollywood icon in 2025.

As per the list, Juhi Chawla and her family are next, with a net worth of Rs 7,790 crore. Hrithik Roshan ranks third, with a wealth of Rs 2,160 crore. Karan Johar and Amitabh Bachchan have bagged the fourth and fifth spots respectively.

Shah Rukh Khan made an impressive debut on the 2024 Hurun India Rich List, boasting a wealth of Rs



7,300 crore at the age of 58. Apart from being an actor, Shah Rukh Khan is the co-owner of the production house Red Chillies Entertainment. He is also the co-owner of the IPL team Kolkata Knight Riders.

He boasts 43.9 million followers on X (formerly Twitter) and 48.6 million on Instagram, making him one of the

most followed Indian celebrities.

This year, Shah Rukh Khan received the Best Actor National Award for his performance in Jawan. This is his first National Award in a film career. Jawan, released in 2023, emerged as one of the biggest hits in the history of Indian cinema, minting Rs 1,000 crore at the domestic box office.

Nicole Kidman may lose \$11 million to Keith Urban over prenup cocaine clause



signed before their wedding, entitles Urban to USD 600,000 for each year of marriage if he remained sober. This could result in Urban receiving over USD 11 million after the divorce. The clause is reportedly linked to Urban's past struggles with substance abuse and was included to incentivise sobriety.

They have reportedly lived separately for months, with Urban moving out of their Nashville home. Their last major public appearance was at an AFI tribute, where Urban praised Kidman. These developments and the divorce filing have drawn attention to their personal circumstances and the financial implications of their agreement.

Keith Urban has been open about his struggles with drugs and alcohol. In a 2010 interview with Oprah Winfrey, Urban credited Kidman with initiating an intervention shortly after their wedding, saying, "She made a decision to turn around and initiate, ultimately, this intervention... I was like, 'Put the cuffs on, let's go.'"

Urban has acknowledged the difficulties he faced early in the marriage, stating, "We got married in 2006, and barely four months into our marriage, the addictions that I had done really nothing about blew our marriage to smithereens." The sobriety clause, designed to support his recovery, is now a focal point in the divorce.

Sources have described Kidman's reaction to the agreement's terms. One report states Nicole is "consumed with anger" that Keith stands to collect the full amount, reportedly USD 11.4 million.

Hollywood stars Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban, married since 2006, are reportedly ending their marriage after nearly two decades. The couple share two daughters and have reportedly been living apart since the summer, with Urban touring and

Kidman staying with their children.

During filming in London, Kidman rented a Hampstead property. Reports indicate Kidman has filed for divorce.

Attention has turned to a clause in their prenuptial agreement. According to RadarOnline.com, the agreement,



Tom Cruise planning to get married to Ana de Armas?

The world of Hollywood isn't just buzzing about Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban's split. Rumor has it that Tom Cruise could be ready to take his romance with actor Ana de Armas to the next level, with whispers suggesting the couple is even considering saying their "I dos" while skydiving.

As per a report by RadarOnline, Tom and Ana de want their wedding to be as "mind-blowing as a Mission: Impossible stunt". Though the pair isn't yet officially engaged, they are busy making their wedding plans.

"One of the things that really bonds them is how much they both love doing these daring feats, so having a wedding that leans into that really appeals to both of them," an insider said, adding, "Tom is already thinking on a larger-than-life scale. He's obsessed with space travel, so the idea of being the first couple to ever marry in outer space excites him. They've also talked about some sort of skydiving thing, saying their vows mid-air. Whatever they do they want it to be as far from ordinary as you can get."

The Top Gun star, 63, has been very guarded about his relationship with the 37-year-old Ana de Armas. They got together earlier this year, and have been getting steady since then.

Always felt like an 'underdog' in Hollywood: Jennifer Lopez

Jennifer Lopez said she considers herself an "underdog," despite having a decades-long career in acting.

During Sept. 28's episode of CBS News Sunday Morning, the star spoke to host Lee Cowan about her career and her latest movie, Kiss of the Spider Woman. It's Lopez's first-ever movie musical, the showcase that she says she has "been waiting for my whole life."

In the interview, Lopez, 56, opened up about having to prove herself as an actress when others wanted to box her in as only a dancer or singer.

"People, when they see you first as one thing, it's hard for them to see you as something else. You just have to show them. You can't let that discourage you," explained Lopez.

Cowan asked, "Did you struggle to be taken seriously at first?" Lopez responded with a laugh: "At first? At first — and maybe always."

"A little bit. Or maybe it's just me in my own head," she added. "I don't know. I've always felt a bit of the underdog. Definitely misunderstood. But it comes with



the territory of being in the public eye. People are not gonna really know who you are, your heart. And then they see it and go, 'Oh, that's who she is,' then they hear something and they go, 'Oh, no, that's not who she is.' And they get confused. I get it. I understand."

"But I stay steady," said Lopez. "And that's the most

important thing, I think. I don't change. I grow, but I don't change." Cowan pointed out that Lopez has starred in movies opposite other A-listers like Robert Redford, Jane Fonda, George Clooney and Robin Williams, so "how could you not be taken seriously?" Lopez said, "I don't know."

Lopez has been nominated for two Golden Globe awards: Best Actress in a Musical or Comedy for 1997's Selena and Best Supporting Actress for 2019's Hustlers. Hustlers also earned Lopez nods at the Screen Actors Guild Awards and the Independent Spirit Awards.

Kiss of the Spider Woman will be in theaters Oct. 10 after making its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in January. Lopez stars alongside Diego Luna and Tonatiuh as a "silver screen diva" named Aurora, a.k.a. Ingrid Luna.

An adaptation of the 1976 novel and its Tony Award-winning Broadway musical, Kiss of the Spider Woman comes from director Bill Condon, who wrote the Chicago movie musical that won six Oscars in 2003, including Best Picture.

Frenchwoman who escaped Nazi massacre dies aged 100

Camille Senon, a feminist and union activist who narrowly escaped the Nazi massacre in her French village of Oradour-sur-Glane died on October 2 aged 100, the mayor's office said.

Senon was a young woman when the Third Reich's elite SS unit marched into Oradour on June 10, 1944, killing 642 villagers, including all of her family. "I was working in Limoges, but I would return to Oradour at the weekend. That day I took the tramway as usual, and we quickly saw the black smoke in the distance," Senon told AFP in 2017.

"They kept us several hours, explaining to us what they had done to Oradour and letting us believe that maybe they would kill us too," she recounted.

"What I saw next is hard to speak of. There was not a soul left alive."

Most of the victims were women and children.

After the defeat of Nazi Germany and the liberation of France, Senon joined the CGT union and the Communist Party.

She rose up the male-dominated ranks of the trade union movement to head one of the CGT's most important women's sections in Paris.

Throughout her life, Senon, who styled herself as an "eternal rebel", never gave up fighting for women's rights.



Israel intercepts last Gaza flotilla boat, begins deportations

TEL AVIV (TIP)

The Israeli military intercepted the last boat in an aid flotilla attempting to reach blockaded Gaza on Friday, October 3, a day after stopping most of the vessels and detaining some 450 activists including Swedish campaigner Greta Thunberg.

The organisers of the Global Sumud Flotilla said the Marinette was intercepted some 42.5 nautical miles (79 km) from Gaza. Israeli army radio said the navy had taken control of the last ship in the flotilla, detained those aboard and that the vessel was being led to Ashdod port in Israel.

In a statement, the Global Sumud Flotilla said Israeli naval forces had now "illegally intercepted all 42 of our vessels—each carrying humanitarian aid, volunteers, and the determination to break Israel's illegal siege on Gaza".

MARINETTE PASSENGERS CLAIM TO SEE A WAR SHIP

A camera broadcasting from the Marinette showed someone holding up a note saying "We see a ship! It's a war ship", before a boat is seen approaching and soldiers boarding. A voice is heard telling the people on board not to move and to put their hands in the air. An Israeli foreign ministry spokesperson did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the boat's status. The ministry said on Thursday the flotilla's one remaining vessel would be prevented from breaching the blockade if it tried to. The flotilla, which set sail in late August, marked the latest attempt by activists to challenge Israel's naval blockade of the enclave, almost two years into Israel's siege of Gaza which was sparked by militant group Hamas' October 7 attacks. Israeli officials have repeatedly denounced the mission as a stunt. The foreign ministry had said the flotilla was previously warned that it was approaching an active combat zone and violating a "lawful naval blockade", and asked organisers to change course. It had offered to transfer aid to Gaza. The Israeli foreign ministry on Friday said that four Italians had been deported. "The rest are in the process of being deported. Israel is keen to end this procedure as quickly as possible," it said in a statement. All the flotilla participants were "safe and in good health", it added.

Pro-Palestinian demonstrators took to the streets in cities across Europe as well as in Karachi, Buenos Aires and Mexico City on Thursday to protest the flotilla's interception. On Friday, tens of thousands of Italians demonstrated, as part of a day-long general strike called by unions in support of the flotilla.

During a visit to Ashdod on Thursday night, Israel's far-



The flotilla of around 45 vessels carrying activists and politicians departed Spain in September © Eleftherios ELIS / AFP

right National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir was filmed calling the activists "terrorists" as he stood in front of them.

"These are the terrorists of the flotilla," he said, speaking in Hebrew and pointing at dozens of people sitting on the ground. His spokesperson confirmed the video was filmed at Ashdod port on Thursday night.

Cyprus said one of the flotilla boats had docked in Cyprus with 21 foreigners aboard. The vessel had asked to dock in Larnaca for refuelling and humanitarian reasons, a Cypriot government spokesperson said.

The spokesperson did not identify the boat, or say whether it had been among those stopped by the Israeli military.

Israel has faced widespread global condemnation over the war in Gaza, and is defending itself against charges of genocide in the International Court of Justice.

Israel says its actions have been in self-defence and has consistently denied genocide allegations.

Israel's offensive has killed over 66,000 people, Palestinian health authorities say. It began after Hamas-led militants attacked Israel on October 7, 2023. About 1,200 people were killed during the assault, and 251 were taken hostage, according to Israeli figures.

Israel has accepted a new U.S. proposal announced this week to end the war that demands Hamas surrender. U.S. President Donald Trump has given Hamas a few days to respond, and warned Hamas that Israel would continue its siege of Gaza if the group refused. *Source: Reuters*

Putin praises Trump but warns support for Ukraine will 'damage relations'

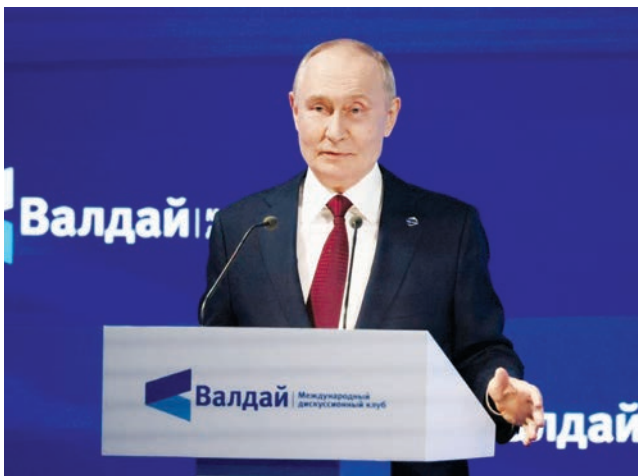
MOSCOW (TIP)

Russian President Vladimir Putin warned the United States that supplies of long-range missiles to Ukraine will seriously damage relations between Moscow and Washington but will not change the situation on the battlefield, where the Russian army is making slow but steady advances.

The potential supply of U.S. Tomahawk cruise missiles to Kyiv will signal a "qualitatively new stage of escalation, including in relations between Russia and the U.S.," Putin said at a forum of international foreign policy experts in Russia's Black Sea resort of Sochi.

The Russian leader noted that even though Tomahawk missiles will inflict damage on Russia if supplied to Ukraine, Russian air defenses will quickly adapt to the new threat. "It will certainly not change the balance of force on the battlefield," he added, emphasizing that the Russian military is continuously making gains against Ukraine.

Asked about Trump dismissing Russia as a "paper tiger" because of its failure to defeat its smaller neighbor after more than 3 1/2 years of fighting, Putin argued that Russia has faced all the NATO allies backing Kyiv.



"We are fighting against the entire bloc of NATO and we keep moving, keep advancing and feel confident and we are a paper tiger; what NATO itself is?" he said. "A paper tiger? Go and deal with this paper tiger then."

A White House official who was not authorized to publicly discuss the issue and spoke on condition of anonymity said Russia's economy and reputation have taken a battering because of the war as Putin has

repeatedly rejected proposals for a peace deal that would have benefited his country.

At the same time, Putin hailed U.S. President Donald Trump's efforts to help negotiate peace in Ukraine and described their August summit in Alaska as productive.

"It was good that we made an attempt to search for and find possible ways to settle the Ukrainian crisis," he said, adding that he felt "comfortable" talking to Trump. Putin also reaffirmed his offer to the U.S. to extend their last remaining nuclear arms control pact for one more year after it expires in February. The 2010 New START treaty limits each country to no more than 1,550 deployed nuclear warheads and 700 deployed missiles and bombers.

"If they don't need it, we don't need it either," he said, adding that "we feel confident about our nuclear shield."

While praising Trump and trying to emphasize potential common interests, the Russian president sent a stern warning to Ukraine's Western allies against trying to seize ships that carry Russian oil to global markets. He argued that would amount to piracy and could trigger a forceful response while sharply destabilizing the global oil market. *Source: AP*

French prime minister puts onus on lawmakers to strike budget deal

French Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu on Friday ruled out using special constitutional powers to ram the budget through parliament without a vote, putting the onus on lawmakers to agree on a compromise.

Lecornu's pledge came ahead of crunch talks with political rivals - the far-right National Rally (RN) and Socialist Party - over how to pass a slimmed-down 2026 budget, a complex legislative balancing act that could lead to his ouster.

The two parties welcomed Lecornu's decision but said that was not enough, and that the new prime minister would have to do more if he wanted them to agree not to vote him out.

Lecornu, who last month became President Emmanuel Macron's fifth prime minister in two years, has been in complex talks with party leaders and unions to find a way to push the budget through a deeply fragmented parliament.

"In a functioning parliament — one that's been recently renewed and reflects the face of France — you can't just force things through," Lecornu said in his first televised address since being named by Macron three weeks ago. The special clause in article 49.3 of the constitution allows prime ministers to skip votes and ram bills through parliament, but exposes them to a no-confidence vote that can bring down the government.

It has been criticised as disrespectful of lawmakers and undemocratic, but Lecornu's predecessors have often used it to pass complex legislation.

Two killed, 3 critically injured in Manchester synagogue attack: UK Police

MANCHESTER (TIP)

British police said on Thursday that four people were injured in a violent incident near a synagogue in Manchester, northwest England, Reuters reported. According to Greater Manchester Police (GMP), officers were called to the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in Crumpsall after receiving reports that a car had been deliberately driven at pedestrians. Witnesses also reported that one man had been stabbed.

In a series of posts on X, Greater Manchester Police said they were called to the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in Crumpsall shortly after 9:30 am by a member of the public, who said he had witnessed a car being driven toward members of the public and that one man had been stabbed.

Responding officers confronted the suspect, who was subsequently shot by police. The individual has been taken into custody and is receiving medical treatment. Authorities confirmed that four people sustained injuries during the incident. Their conditions are not yet known. Police said the situation is contained and there is no wider threat to the public.

Prime Minister Keir Starmer said he was appalled by the attack and additional police officers would be deployed at synagogues across the UK.

On the attack at a synagogue in Crumpsall, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer told reporters, "This morning's attack is absolutely shocking. I'm on my way back to London to chair an emergency meeting, and additional police assets are being deployed to synagogues across the country. We will



An elderly woman is helped from the scene of a stabbing incident at the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue [Peter Byrne/PA via AP]

do everything we can to keep our Jewish community safe."

King Charles III said he and Queen Camilla were "deeply shocked and saddened" to learn of the attack "on such a significant day for the Jewish community."

"Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by this appalling incident and we greatly appreciate the swift actions of the emergency services," the monarch said on his social media feed.

The motive behind the attack has not yet been established, and investigations are ongoing.

The incident took place as people gathered at the synagogue on Yom Kippur, the day of atonement and the most solemn day in the Jewish calendar.

Witnesses told police they saw a car

being rammed into people walking on the street close to the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in Crumpsall, an outer suburb of Manchester. They also reported a man being stabbed.

Greater Manchester Police officers were called to the incident site at 9:31am (08:31 GMT) by a member of the public.

"GMP declared a major incident at 9.37am. Shots were fired by Greater Manchester Police firearms officers at 9.38am," the police stated.

Paramedics arrived at the scene at 9:41am (08:41 GMT) and were tending to members of the public.

The National Health Service (NHS) North West Ambulance Service said in a statement that its crews had treated patients at the scene, and critically injured people had been transported to hospital.

Refugees to face longer route to UK settlement rights

LONDON (TIP)

Refugees will have to wait longer than the current five years before they can apply to settle permanently in the UK, under changes the government has said it is planning to the asylum system.

It has also confirmed that the route enabling refugees to automatically bring close relatives to the UK - which was temporarily suspended in September - will be permanently scrapped.

Sir Keir Starmer said the changes will mean "there will be no golden ticket to settling in the UK, people will have to earn it."

It comes as the prime minister meets leaders at the European Political Community summit in Copenhagen, where he will be discussing ways to tackle illegal migration.

Ahead of that meeting, the prime minister said "fundamental changes" were being made to the asylum system to show that "settlement must be earned by contributing to the country".

The changes are similar to those already being planned for people arriving in the UK for other reasons, such as on a work visa, many of whom will



have to wait 10 years to settle.

Earlier this week, Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood set out her plans to make it similarly harder for other categories of migrant to qualify for indefinite leave to remain.

Under the proposals, those wishing to apply will have to learn English to a high standard, have a clean criminal record, and volunteer in their community to be granted permanent settlement status.

Details of the new conditions refugees will have to meet in order to settle in the UK and be accompanied

by family members will be set out later in the autumn.

A government source said the UK had been "overly generous" towards asylum seekers and wanted to show "we get it, we will reduce the pull factors."

But shadow home secretary Chris Philp called the planned changes a "Starmer gimmick" that "will make no difference whatsoever".

The Refugee Council, a charity, said the government's approach would not deter people trying to get to the UK but would instead push "more desperate people into the arms of smugglers in an effort to reunite with loved ones".

The government has been trying to reduce the numbers of people arriving in the UK on small boats crossing the Channel.

On coming to power in July 2024, Labour promised to "stop the chaos" of the "small boat crisis" but numbers remain at high levels.

Currently refugees can apply to settle in the UK - also called indefinite leave to remain - after five years, giving them the right to live, work and study in the country for as long as they want provided they meet certain conditions.

Source: BBC

Pakistan successfully test-fires Fatah-4 cruise missile

Pakistan has successfully conducted a training launch of the newly inducted and indigenously developed cruise missile 'Fatah-4' that can strike targets up to 750 kilometres, the army said.

The army carried out the launch of the missile with a range of 750 kilometres, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the army's media arm, said in a statement.

"Equipped with advanced avionics and state-of-the-art navigational aids, this weapon system is capable of evading enemy's missile defence system due to terrain-hugging features and engaging targets with high precision," the army said.

As part of the Army Rocket Force Command, Fatah-4 "will further enhance the reach, lethality and survivability of Pakistan Army's conventional missile systems", it said.

The launch was witnessed by the chief of general staff, senior officers from Pakistan's armed forces, scientists and engineers.

Nepal: Probe panel bars former PM Oli from travelling abroad

The commission investigating the death of 75 people during the youth-led protest in Nepal has banned former prime minister K P Sharma Oli and four former officials from travelling abroad.

The judicial enquiry commission, headed by Gauri Bahadur Karki, a retired High Court judge, wrote to the government Sunday to ensure that Oli and the four others don't leave the country. "As they are under the purview of the investigation, they should not be leaving the capital without its prior consent," Karki wrote. Along with Oli, the chairman of the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist Leninist), the others under investigation include Nepali Congress leader and former Home Minister Ramesh Lekhak, former chief of intelligence Hutaraj Thapa, former home secretary Gokarna Mani Duwadi and Kathmandu's former chief district officer Chhabi Lal Rizal.

While the probe could lead to their custodial detention, it may further give a shot in the arm for a CPN-UML faction that has been demanding Oli's resignation from the party's leadership. While 19 people were killed in the police firing on September 7, the first day of the anti-corruption protest, at least 56 others have succumbed to their injuries since.

Prime Minister Karki has given the commission 45 days to investigate the excesses committed by the state to suppress the protest and find those responsible.

Trump's 20-point Gaza plan 'not ours': Pakistan FM Ishaq Dar

ISLAMABAD (TIP)

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Friday, October 3, told the National Assembly that the 20-point Gaza peace plan unveiled by US President Donald Trump was "not ours," while stressing there was no room for politicking on the issue, Dawn reported.

Dar, referring to his earlier press briefing in Islamabad, said: "I made it clear that the 20 points that President Trump made public are not ours. Changes were made to our draft. I have the record." He added, "This is the end result, and there is no room for politicking."

According to Dawn, Dar explained that eight Muslim and Arab countries Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, Pakistan, Turkiye, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Egypt had engaged in a meeting with Trump on the sidelines of the 80th United Nations General Assembly session, where the US president presented his plan to halt Israel's assault on Gaza.

Dar recounted that before the main session, foreign ministers of the eight countries convened a preparatory meeting in New York. "During the meeting, there was no other agenda. Today I am telling you the details," he said, noting that the discussions were deliberately kept discreet.

He said that Trump responded positively and assured that his team would work with the ministers on a "workable solution." Dar added that Trump mentioned he was scheduled to



meet Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu soon and wanted to attempt halting the bombardment of Gaza.

"President Trump's committee also came and open talks were held on what they wanted. They gave us a 20-point proposal," Dar said. The foreign ministers, he explained, chose to work within that framework, amending or deleting points as needed. "We held different meetings in the next 24 hours. We were exchanging hard copies in hotel rooms," he added.

Dawn reported that Dar described how the eight countries produced a counter-draft and sent it onward. Shortly after leaving New York, he received word that while some states wanted all eight ministers to sign, others said it was not essential. "This was a small thing in my eyes," Dar noted. "By the time we landed at our next destination, I was told the American side had received the draft."

When Trump later met Netanyahu on September 29, the US president

announced the 20-point plan. Dar said he spoke with the Saudi foreign minister afterward, who told him some of the urgent points proposed by the eight countries were accepted, while others needed further discussion.

Quoting the Saudi minister, Dar said there were two choices: "to continue and perhaps Israel will continue its bloodshed, or we let Trump's plan be implemented and issue a joint statement." Dar agreed, saying, "I said you are right, we should do this," adding that the statement was finalised on September 29.

"This was the only way to end Israel's bombardment of Gaza when all other forums had failed. Statements will not suffice. We need practical work," Dar said, extending his gratitude to the other states involved.

Reaffirming Pakistan's long-held stance, Dar told the Assembly, "Pakistan's policy on Palestine remained the same as that of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah. There has not been any change nor will there ever be," reiterating Islamabad's call for an independent Palestinian state with Al Quds Al Sharif as its capital.

Dawn also reported that Dar condemned Israel's interception of the Global Sumud Flotilla (GSF), which included former Jamaat-i-Islami senator Mushtaq Ahmad Khan. "According to our information, it is not confirmed yet, but according to our information, Khan is included in this," Dar said, noting that Israel had detained activists after seizing 22 vessels from the fleet.

Bangladesh's interim regime faces global criticism over rights violations

GENEVA (TIP)

Human rights activists and experts from South Asia and Europe expressed grave concern over widespread violations of human rights in Bangladesh under the interim regime of Chief Advisor Mohammad Yunus.

The remarks came during a side event held on Friday at the 60th Session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Organised by the Centre for Gender Justice, the discussion, titled "Violations of Fundamental Human Rights, Rule of Law, and Democracy in Bangladesh," drew attention to the deteriorating situation in the country following the ousting of elected Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on August 5, 2024.

A short film screened at the event depicted extrajudicial killings, attacks on religious minorities, and the destruction of temples and Sufi

shrines. It also highlighted how radical Islamist groups have openly threatened and lynched political activists linked to the Awami League, while media houses have come under violent attack.

The panel featured Professor Md Habibe Millat, President of the Global Center for Democratic Governance (Canada); Paulo Casaca, former Member of the European Parliament and Executive Director of the South Asia Democratic Forum (Belgium); Suhas Chakma, Director of the Rights and Risks Analysis Group (India); Natalia Sineaeva-Pankowska of the NEVER AGAIN Association (Poland); and Chris Blackburn, Founding Editor of Narrative360 (UK).

Speaking to ANI, Professor Millat reported that at least 213 Awami League leaders and activists have been killed since the interim government took power, while historic sites linked to the 1971 Liberation War have been

destroyed.

He further noted a rise in mob violence, with 637 people killed in lynching incidents, and said 30 members of minority communities had been murdered.

He added that 17 churches were set on fire on Christmas Day 2024.

"Human rights violations in Bangladesh are at the highest level in the last 54 years. All populations, not just minorities, are tortured...Nobody has been spared over the last 14 months. More than 2500 cases of torture have been documented, more than 30 people of the minority community have been killed," he said.

"As per a report, at least 637 people were killed by mob lynching...At the moment, they are trying to do a fraudulent election...So, Bangladesh needs to get back to democracy, the rule of law and justice. That's what we are fighting for," he added.

ASAMA HINDU TEMPLE

Proudly Presents

21st

DIWALI MELA

Across the AsaMai Temple at 80 East Barclay Street, Hicksville, NY

SUNDAY October 5, 2025

12 - 8PM

(Rain Date: Sunday October 12, 2025)

**FREE
PARKING**

**FREE
ENTRY**

**Attractions:
DJ**

Live Music & Dance

Carnival Rides

Food & Shopping Stalls

Entertainment, Games, Raffles

Handicrafts, Food Booths And Much More

GRAND SPONSORS

**Homewatch
Care Givers**
JMD Care Services

**PATEL
BROTHERS**

**Asa'Mai
Hindu Temple**

BCB Bank

**Plainview Hospital
Northwell Health**

Gogia & Raj Law
— ATTORNEYS AT LAW —

PANAM MORTGAGE

**HAB
BANK**

NAVIKA

BLUESKY
— CSR TALENT SOLUTIONS —

MEDIA SPONSORS

**RADIO
ZINDAGI**
— 102.5 FM —

**APNA
PUNJAB**
— 107.5 FM —

The INDIAN PANORAMA

**AASTHA
USA**

The South Asian Times
— KATHMANDU —

Hum Hindustani

INSIDER

FOR SPONSORSHIPS AND BOOTH INFORMATION

Anil Khanna 212-759-9100
Nanda Sundri 516-510-1271
Temple 516-433-4388

FOR MEDIA AND JOURNAL ADVERTISEMENT

Gobind Bathija 631-748-9333
Sunder Luthra 516-728-6890
Rinkal Sami 516-728-0425

Skincare tips for busy women: Glow on the go

In today's fast-paced world, women often juggle multiple responsibilities—career, family, social commitments, and personal goals. Amid such a hectic schedule, skincare often takes a back seat. But healthy, glowing skin doesn't always demand hours at the salon or a 12-step beauty ritual. With the right strategy, even the busiest woman can maintain radiant skin without compromising her time.

Here are some practical skincare tips for women on the go:

Keep It Simple - The 3-Step Rule

You don't need an elaborate routine. A basic cleanser, moisturizer, and sunscreen can keep your skin healthy. Choose a gentle face wash that suits your skin type, a lightweight moisturizer to hydrate, and a broad-spectrum sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher) to protect against UV damage.

- Tip: Keep travel-size products in your handbag so you can refresh your skin anywhere.

Hydration is Key

Busy schedules often mean skipping water and surviving on coffee or tea. Dehydration shows up quickly on your skin, making it look dull and tired. Aim for at least 7-8 glasses of water daily. If you're forgetful, keep a reusable bottle at your desk or set phone reminders.

- Bonus: Include hydrating foods like cucumbers, oranges, and watermelon in your diet.

Don't Skip Sunscreen

Sun damage is one of the leading causes of premature aging, pigmentation, and dullness. Even if you work indoors, harmful rays from windows and digital screens affect your skin. Always apply sunscreen in the morning and reapply if you step out.

- Time-saver: Use a tinted sunscreen to combine sun



protection with light coverage.

Overnight Care - Let Your Skin Heal While You Sleep

Nighttime is when your skin repairs itself. Use this to your advantage. After cleansing, apply a nourishing night cream or serum with ingredients like hyaluronic acid, vitamin C, or retinol (depending on your skin concerns).

- Tip: Keep skincare products by your bedside so you never "forget."

Multitasking Products for the Win

Instead of juggling many products, opt for multi-

purpose skincare items. For example:

- A moisturizer with SPF
- A lip balm with tint and hydration
- A face mist that refreshes and hydrates on the go

Quick Face Masks for Instant Glow

Pressed for time? Sheet masks or quick-rinse masks are great options. Just 10 minutes while you check emails or relax can instantly refresh tired skin. A DIY option is applying plain yogurt or honey for a natural glow.

With a few smart shortcuts and habits, you can keep your skin radiant and healthy.

Spots you should never apply perfume

Applying perfume is like the cherry on top of getting ready in the morning—who doesn't love smelling like a bed of roses or spicy seduction? But as every perfume enthusiast knows, it's definitely possible to over-do it and spray, well, everywhere, but spritzing fragrance in these five spots is a big no-no.

Eyes

Perhaps one of the most obvious spots to avoid spraying perfume is near your eyes. Alcohol-based perfumes contain ethyl—some even consist of up to 95 percent, which can cause irritation and stinging if it comes into contact with sensitive areas, like your eyes.

Hair

Hair naturally absorbs scents, which is why it might initially seem like a good idea to spray the fragrance in your locks. However, alcohol-based perfumes can really dry it out, especially if you spray the perfume directly onto your hair. Instead, Cosmopolitan suggests spraying perfume onto your hairbrush, then brushing your hair to avoid damage or try spritzing the ends, ever so lightly.

Hands

While applying perfume on your wrist might be one of the most popular ways to smell great throughout the day, if the fragrance happens to accidentally get onto your hands in the process, alcohol-based perfumes can make your skin dry and potentially cause cracking and bleeding. Plus, should you happen to rub your eyes after getting perfume on your hands, it could cause irritation.



Armpits

Spraying perfume onto your armpits poses as another potential cause of irritation. The interaction between your perfume and your armpits' sweat glands could result in itching and burning.

Genitals

Similarly, spraying perfume near private areas can also result in skin dryness. For women, fragrances can "potentially irritate the vagina and cause inflammation, itchiness, and pain," according to Insider Health. These 15 other every day habits can also mess with your vaginal health.

Where to spray instead

The best places to spritz perfume are on your body's pulse points, including your wrists, neck, and the back of your knees. By applying perfume to these heat-emitting areas, your favorite fragrance won't irritate your skin. Want to make it last longer? Start with these tricks to make your perfume linger.

FOOD CORNER

Handi paneer

Ingredients

200 gms paneer, 2 ginger, grated, 1/2 tsp turmeric powder, 1/2 tsp chilli powder, 1/2 tsp garam masala powder, 1 tomato, 2 stalks coriander leaves, 2 pinches powdered black pepper, 4 tbsp refined oil, 3 onion, chopped, 1/2 cup beaten curd

Method

- Put oil in a handi, stir fry the chopped onions on medium flame, when done, reduce the flame to low. Then add two pieces of grated ginger, turmeric powder, chilli powder, garam masala and mix well. Add chopped tomato and green chilli, and cook on low flame for about 10 minutes. Add half cup beaten curd and cook till dry, before adding salt. Add half cup water and bring it to a boil. Mix in malai paneer and coriander, cook till the masala dries.
- Add pepper and remove from the flame. Serve in a large bowl.



Experts weigh in on viral ‘mouth taping’ sleep trend



Having your mouth taped shut is the stuff of nightmares — but some people are doing just that to themselves. And in an attempt to sleep better, no less. Doctors say don't do it.

Some on social media say it's a hack for getting more and better sleep and to reduce snoring. The claims — which are not backed by science — are taking off on places like TikTok, sometimes pushed by people working for companies selling related products.

“The studies behind mouth tape are small, the benefits are modest and the potential risks are there,” said Dr Kimberly Hutchison, a neurologist and sleep medicine expert at Oregon Health & Science University. Some of those risks include making sleep disorders like sleep apnea worse, or even causing suffocation.

It is better to breathe through your nose most of the time. Mouth breathing in adults is not a major health problem, but it is better to breathe through your nose,

experts say. Your nose is a natural filtering system, trapping dust and other allergens before they can get to your lungs. If you're breathing with your mouth open at night, you could wake up with a dry mouth and irritated throat, which can contribute to bad breath and oral health problems. Mouth breathing is also associated with more snoring.

Don't rush to use mouth tape

But even though breathing through your nose is better than breathing through your mouth, taping your mouth shut isn't the best way to fix the issue.

There's no strong evidence that it helps improve sleep. A few studies have been conducted, most of which showed little or no impact, but they were so small that experts say conclusions should not be drawn from them.

And meanwhile, there are the potential dangers to be avoided.

Dr David Schulman, a sleep doctor at Emory University, said there are other things to try, like prescription mouth pieces that can open up your airway, or a CPAP machine. If you're a smoker or are overweight, for example, quitting smoking and losing weight can help.

Mouth breathing could be a sign of something serious — so find out.

The safest approach is to figure out why exactly you are breathing with your mouth, because there could be something else going on.

You may be breathing through your mouth because you have obstructive sleep apnea, a sleep disorder where breathing repeatedly stops and starts during sleep because of a blocked airway. The disorder is linked to both open mouth breathing and snoring, and is typically treated with a CPAP machine. *Source: AP*



Mangoes may actually lower diabetes risk: Study

Mangoes, often dismissed as too sugary, may hold hidden benefits for those at risk of diabetes. A George Mason University study found that individuals who ate mangoes daily showed better blood sugar control and less body fat than those who consumed a lower-sugar snack.

The results suggest that it's not just sugar levels, but how the sugar is packaged in whole foods, that matters.

Tropical fruits contain anywhere between 10-50 grams of sugar, with mangoes on the high end of the spectrum, making them seem a poor snack choice based on that alone.

However, research by clinical nutrition researcher Raedeh Basiri suggests that mangoes, despite containing more sugar than many low-sugar snacks, may offer protective benefits for adults with prediabetes.

“It is not just the sugar content that matters, but the overall food context that matters,” said Basiri, assistant professor in George Mason's Department of Nutrition and Food Studies.

This study is the first long-term clinical trial to demonstrate the metabolic and body composition benefits of mangoes in individuals with prediabetes.

Simply put, it's more than the sugar in the food; it's about the whole food. The sugars naturally found in mangoes and other fruits are complemented by fibre and other vitamins and nutrients that offer additional health benefits.

Food with added sugar, such as breakfast cereals, and even low-sugar snack options, may not have the same nutritional value and can even increase diabetes risk.

“The goal is to encourage people to include whole fruits, like mango, as part of healthy eating behaviours and practical dietary strategies for diabetes prevention,” said Basiri.

Sitting too long can shrink your lungs: The hidden risk of sedentary lifestyle

In today's digital age, most of us spend hours hunched over computers, glued to smartphones, or sitting in cars. While the dangers of prolonged sitting on posture, back pain, and heart health are well known, one surprising effect often goes unnoticed: extended sitting can actually reduce your lung capacity and make breathing less efficient.

The Science Behind It

Your lungs don't literally shrink in size, but sitting for long stretches—especially with poor posture—compresses your chest cavity and prevents your lungs from expanding fully. When the diaphragm, the muscle responsible for drawing air into the lungs, is restricted, your breaths become shallow. Over time, this pattern can weaken respiratory muscles, reduce oxygen intake, and give the sensation of having “smaller lungs.”

Researchers in occupational health have observed that sedentary office workers often display lower lung capacity compared to those with more active lifestyles. The culprit is posture. When you slouch, your rib cage collapses inward, squeezing the lungs and leaving less room for air.

Why It Matters

Restricted breathing isn't just uncomfortable—it has long-term consequences:

- Reduced Oxygen Supply: Shallow breathing



decreases the amount of oxygen reaching the blood, leaving you feeling tired and mentally foggy.

- Weaker Respiratory Muscles: Just like unused leg muscles weaken, underused breathing muscles can lose strength, making physical activity harder.
- Greater Risk of Illness: Poor lung expansion means mucus and particles aren't cleared out as efficiently, raising susceptibility to infections.
- Impact on Chronic Conditions: People with asthma, COPD, or heart disease may find their symptoms aggravated by prolonged sedentary behavior.

PAGE SPONSORED BY

DR. SATISH AND GITANJLI ANAND



DR. SATISH ANAND
Former Chairman, Board of Trustees, AAPI National
E-Mail: sanandmd@gmail.com

GITANJLI ANAND
Former President, India Association of Long Island (IALI)
E-mail: gitanjlianand@gmail.com



Amazon launches new Alexa Plus powered Echo speakers and Kindle Scribe upgrade

Amazon has kicked off its latest hardware refresh with a double headline act: the company's first-ever Kindle Scribe with colour support and a long-awaited upgrade to its voice assistant, now called Alexa Plus. Being a Kindle fan, this is one of the most exciting news. But, before diving into Kindles, it's worth talking about Alexa. Amazon's virtual helper has long been accused of being stuck in the past, struggling to keep up with Google Assistant and Apple's Siri. Now, with Alexa Plus, the company promises an assistant that feels less like a robot and more like a conversation partner.

In early access, Alexa Plus already shows off new "agentic" skills. Link it to your Uber, OpenTable or Ticketmaster account, and you can ask it to book you a ride, make dinner reservations, or even grab tickets for a gig. You can also get it to remember details for later, whether that's a friend's birthday or your Wi-Fi password, and create smart home routines using natural voice commands.

Perhaps the most refreshing change is that you no longer need to "speak Alexa" to get things done. Instead of memorising specific phrasing, you can talk casually, and Alexa Plus will figure it out. That shift alone might be the breakthrough Amazon needs to put its assistant back in the spotlight. The upgraded assistant will come preloaded on new Echo speakers and Fire TV devices, all of which are already available for pre-order. Some Echo models are expected to ship in October. For now, Alexa Plus remains US-only under its early access programme, but Amazon hints at wider rollouts in the coming year.

Kindle Scribe goes colour

Now, onto the main act for book lovers. Amazon's Kindle Scribe lineup has been completely refreshed, with the star of the show being the Kindle Scribe Colorsoft, a model that finally lets readers and note-takers use colour. This marks the first time a Kindle has moved beyond the classic greyscale E Ink experience.

According to Amazon, the Colorsoft display technology is designed to be softer on the eyes than traditional LCD panels. Users will be able to highlight text in multiple colours, sketch with different digital pens, or add shading to illustrations. It's not aiming to be a tablet replacement, but rather an evolution of the Kindle philosophy: distraction-free reading with a splash of creativity.

Moon's far side may be cooler deep inside: Study

The mysterious far side of the Moon may be significantly cooler deep within its interior than the side that permanently faces Earth, according to a new study co-led by researchers from University College London (UCL) and Peking University.

The research, published in *Nature Geoscience*, analysed rock and soil fragments collected in 2024 by China's Chang'e-6 spacecraft from a vast crater on the Moon's far side.

Using advanced chemical analysis, the team found that the sample, about 2.8 billion years old, crystallised from lava at roughly 1,100C, around 100C cooler than near-side rocks studied from the Apollo missions.

Professor Yang Li, co-author from UCL's Earth Sciences department, described the phenomenon as one of the "great mysteries" of lunar science.

"The near side and far side of the Moon are very different at the surface and potentially in the interior. We call it the two-faced Moon," he said. "Our study provides the first evidence for a dramatic temperature difference using real samples."

The far side, with its thicker crust and rugged, cratered terrain, appears to have been less volcanically active than the near side. Researchers suggest this may be due to a shortage of heat-producing elements, uranium, thorium, and potassium, within its interior. These elements, typically associated with volcanic activity, seem disproportionately concentrated on the near side, where vast basalt plains are visible. The imbalance may have been caused by a massive impact early in the Moon's history, redistributing heat-producing material, or potentially by the collision of two



smaller moonlets forming today's lunar body. Another theory is that Earth's gravitational pull helped sustain higher temperatures beneath the side it constantly faces.

To reach their conclusions, scientists used electron and ion probes to map mineral compositions and measure isotopes within the 300 grams of lunar soil returned. Additional computer simulations and satellite data confirmed consistent temperature differences between the two hemispheres.

Lead author Sheng He of the Beijing Research Institute of Uranium Geology emphasised the significance of the findings: "This is the first sample ever collected from the far side of the Moon. It gives us a rare window into the hidden half of our nearest neighbour."

Researchers hope to further investigate whether these thermal differences still persist today, as the Moon continues its slow cooling journey since its fiery origins billions of years ago.

OpenAI launches new social app Sora, lets you add friends to videos using AI

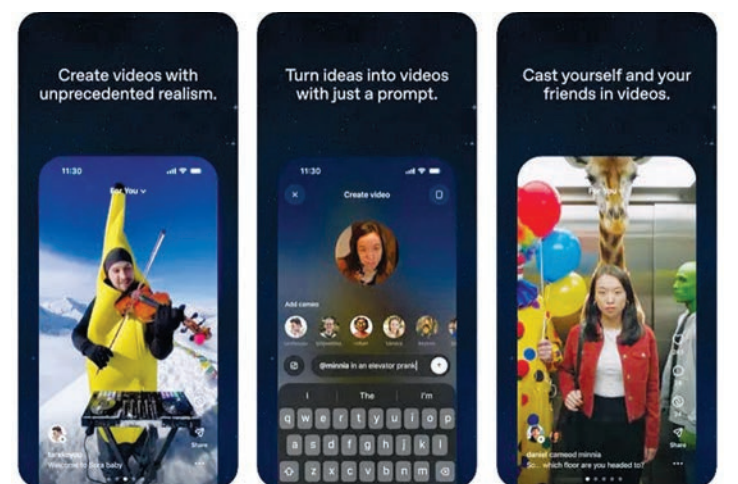
OpenAI has announced the launch of its new social video app Sora, which brings artificial intelligence-powered video creation directly to users. The app, currently limited to iPhones in the US and Canada, works on an invite-only basis. Those who gain early access can also share four additional invites with friends. An Android release has not been confirmed yet.

Unlike traditional short-video platforms such as TikTok or Instagram Reels, Sora is built around AI-generated content. Users can record a short video of themselves, called a "cameo," which others can then use to generate fresh clips using OpenAI's upgraded Sora 2 model. This cameo feature allows friends, or even the wider community if permitted, to add someone into their own videos. Importantly, the person whose face is being used remains a "co-owner" of that video, with the ability to delete or revoke access at any time.

The app includes a "Remix" feature that encourages users to interact with existing clips and trends, though the generated videos are capped at 10 seconds for now. To maintain safety, OpenAI has put in restrictions that prevent the generation of explicit or extreme content. The company has also barred public figures from appearing in AI-generated clips unless they personally upload a cameo and allow its use.

The launch of the app goes hand in hand with the introduction of Sora 2.0, OpenAI's most advanced video generator so far. The company says the new model improves physical realism, audio-video sync, and supports more complex storytelling across multiple shots.

During a press briefing, OpenAI employees described the project as having the potential to become the "ChatGPT



moment for video." The comparison highlights the company's expectation that Sora could change how people approach video creation, in the same way ChatGPT altered everyday use of AI for text.

However, the rollout is already attracting scrutiny. A report in *The Wall Street Journal* revealed that OpenAI has informed studios and talent agencies that their copyrighted material might appear in Sora-generated videos unless they specifically opt out. The company, on its part, says it sees this as a form of fan engagement and creative expression, similar to how users remix images and memes.

That said, OpenAI has drawn a strict boundary when it comes to personal likeness. Individuals cannot be generated without uploading their cameo, ensuring that people retain complete control over whether and how they appear in any content made with the app.

NEW YORK (TIP)

Gold is having its best year in decades. It's hitting record highs in 2025, on track to be the strongest since 1979. Here is what's driven the bump in bullion.

WHY IT MATTERS

Gold glitters again. The rally shows deep anxiety about the global financial system and rising fear over US politics and the dollar's future.

IN NUMBERS

- \$3,848/oz: Record high spot price of gold.
- +45%: Increase in gold prices since Jan. 1, 2025.
- 1979: Last time gold rose so sharply, up 126% during Iran's revolution and an oil shock.

IN DEPTH

Gold is rallying as investors brace for a potential US government shutdown, escalating trade tensions, and political battles over the Federal Reserve's policies. US President Donald Trump's attacks on the Fed, new tariffs, and expansive fiscal policies have heightened uncertainty, driving demand for the world's oldest safe haven.

The surge recalls the turmoil of the 1970s. Back then, inflation, oil shocks, and political crises sent gold soaring. In 1971, Richard Nixon cut the dollar's convertibility into gold, ending Bretton Woods. Economist Yanis Varoufakis calls it a "magic trick" that lets the US fund deficits through global demand for its debt — what he terms the "Global Minotaur."

Gold had an extraordinary bull run in the late 1970s (peaking in 1979), then crashed in 1980.

October's 1 rally carries the same paradox. Gold rises when confidence in the dollar wavers, yet panic often drives investors back into dollars. The two move in a tense dance — one's strength often signalling the other's rebound.

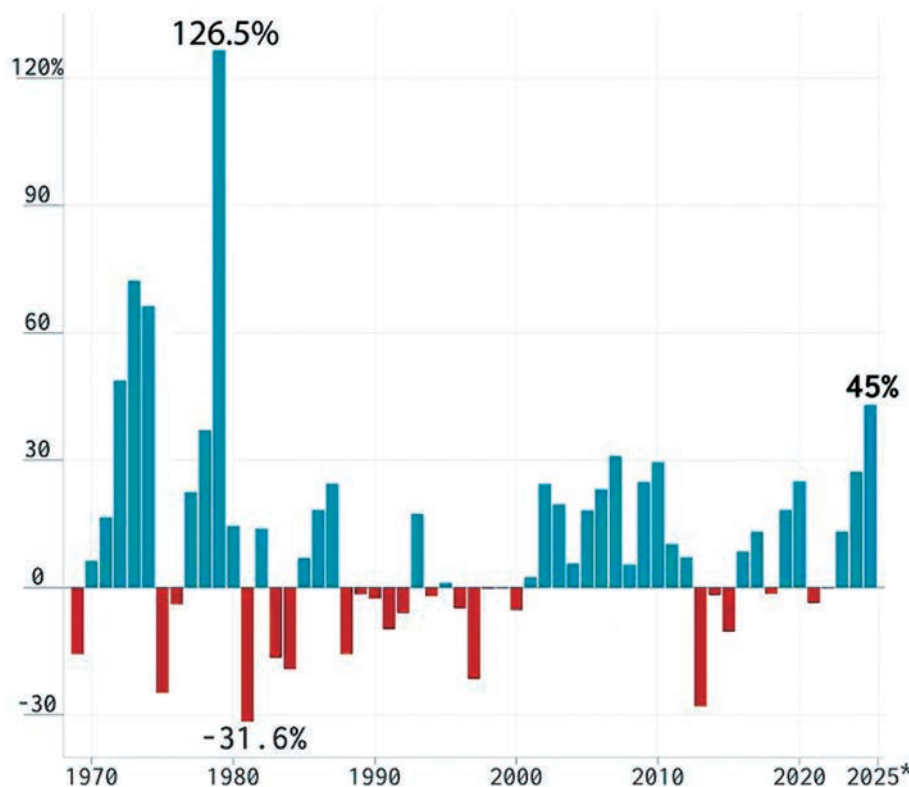
Geopolitics adds fuel. China and Russia are stockpiling bullion. Russia and China trade mostly in local currencies, 90% of it. Trump and Biden followed Nixon's lead in protecting key industries.

Why the price of gold keeps breaking records

Gold's Best Year in 46 Years

Annual % change in gold prices

Gold prices surged more than 45% in 2025 (through Sept 30), marking the strongest annual performance since the historic 1979 rally when prices jumped 126.5%. The precious metal has become a safe haven amid global economic uncertainty and geopolitical tensions.



Source: WGC, WB and Media Reports | Note: % change at end of year close except 2025 (30 September) | Graphic: Dipu Rai

For now, the dollar remains the dominant currency. However, gold's climb suggests unease about whether that dominance can be sustained.

BIG PICTURE

Gold is not just a commodity. It is a signal of trust — or distrust — in the

value of money itself. Gold is unique due to its scarcity, durability, and limited supply. When politics undermines faith in the dollar, investors turn to gold. The question is, will it remain a hedge or become a pillar in a new system?

Source: India Today

OpenAI hits \$500 billion mark as SoftBank, others buy shares: Report

OpenAI, the maker of ChatGPT, has reached a valuation of \$500 billion after a share sale by employees, reported news agency Reuters. The deal involved current and former employees selling about \$6.6 billion worth of shares to investors.

The latest valuation marks a sharp rise from the company's previous valuation of \$300 billion and highlights how quickly OpenAI's value has grown as demand for artificial intelligence tools continues to rise.

The buyers in this round included a consortium of large global investors such as Thrive Capital, SoftBank, Dragoneer Investment Group, Abu Dhabi's MGX, and T. Rowe Price, according to the Reuters report.

The company had authorised more than \$10 billion worth of stock sales on the secondary market, although the current transaction was lower at \$6.6 billion.

Thrive Capital, SoftBank, Dragoneer, MGX and T. Rowe Price did not respond to Reuters' requests for comment. This share sale comes on top of earlier funding rounds. SoftBank had previously invested in OpenAI through its \$40 billion primary funding round, further strengthening its bet on the future of artificial intelligence.

OpenAI's financial performance has also been improving quickly. According to a report by The Information earlier this week, the company generated around \$4.3 billion in revenue in the first half of 2025, which is already about 16% higher than its total revenue for all of 2024.

The strong growth in revenue has supported its rising valuation and shows how demand for AI products such as ChatGPT and other tools is expanding across industries.

Nadella bets big on AI, names Judson Althoff to lead Microsoft

WASHINGTON (TIP)

Microsoft MSFT.O Chief Commercial Officer Judson Althoff will take on an expanded role as CEO of commercial business, freeing up company chief Satya Nadella to focus more on the technical side of the business in the tech giant's quest to dominate the AI race.

Althoff will lead what Microsoft CEO Nadella called a new organisation, which will combine sales, marketing and operations.

Nadella said the reorganisation would help him and other engineering leaders to be "laser focused on our highest ambition technical work - across our datacentre buildout, systems architecture, AI science, and product innovation," in a recent blog post.

Althoff will also be the chief of a new



commercial leadership team that includes leaders from engineering, sales, marketing, operations and finance.

"We are in the midst of a tectonic AI platform shift, one that requires us to both manage and grow our at-scale

commercial business today, while building the new frontier and executing flawlessly across both," Nadella said.

In 2021, Microsoft brought together its global sales and marketing organisation and worldwide commercial business into a single unified organisation, helmed by Althoff, who joined the company in 2013 as president of Microsoft North America.

Microsoft last month said it is combining the separate marketplaces for its AI tools aimed at businesses into one offering called "Microsoft Marketplace."

It previously offered tools for software developers, who use its Azure cloud computing service, on one marketplace, and applications and so-called "agents" — AI tools designed to carry out tasks on behalf of human users within applications — on another.

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - OCT 6, 2025 TO OCT 12, 2025

By Chirag Daruwalla - Son of Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla



BEJAN DARUWALLA AND CHIRAG DARUWALLA



ARIES

Ganesha says this week, Aries natives will see excellence in various aspects of life. This is the time for you to understand yourself better and uncover your inner talents. You will take more interest in social activities, which will strengthen your friendships and relationships. The results of the efforts you make will be positive. Sweetness will be added to family and friendly relationships, which will increase your mental peace. This is a time when you will recognize opportunities to keep yourself and your loved ones happy. Positive communication, clarity, and empathy will deepen your relationships. Take advantage of opportunities that can lead you to new friendships or possibilities of relationships. This week do not hesitate to share your feelings; this can be a chance for you to strengthen a special relationship. Overall, this week will be highly beneficial for you.

TAURUS

Ganesha says the overall situation is going to be a bit challenging for Taurus natives this week. Many types of stress and troubles may arise in your life. This is the time to keep negativity away from yourself. Try to maintain balance in your life. Openness and honesty in communication will support you, especially when it comes to interacting with friends and family members. This week is all about trying to create harmony in your social circle. Make efforts to strengthen your relationships, even if the situation is difficult. Avoid negative thinking during this period and try to adopt positivity. People around you will be inspired by your strength and stability. Although this week may not bring good experiences for you, you can show your ability to self-analyze and reorganize yourself. Note that every challenge also brings an opportunity, and this is your time to recognize it.

GEMINI

Ganesha says the overall macro outlook for this week is excellent for Gemini natives. You will be able to use your thinking and communication skills to the fullest during this time. People around you will enjoy your energy and versatility. There will be a special strength in establishing communication, which will enable you to present your ideas in a better way in society. This week will also bring positivity in your relationships. There

will be openness and honest communication in relationships, which will further increase your closeness. This is the right time to share your feelings with clarity, which can make your relationship even stronger. Your creativity will be at its peak during this time, which will inspire you to start new ideas and projects. Actively pursue your hobbies and interests, as this time will help you move towards new possibilities. Overall, this week will prove to be positive and inspiring for you. Share happiness with people around you and increase your social presence.



CANCER

Ganesha says this week brings mixed results overall for Cancer natives. You may face some challenging times in various aspects of your life. There may be instability and confusion in relationships, which will require you to increase communication with people close to you. This week, you should try to explain yourself and your loved ones. Your sensitive nature can help you at this time, but you may feel difficulty in expressing yourself. An excess of emotion may overwhelm you, causing you to experience anxiety and sadness. It is time for you to understand that even though circumstances may be difficult, it will be necessary to maintain self-motivation and positivity. This week, prioritize communication and express your thoughts clearly. Your empathy and understanding will prove to help strengthen your relationships. Finally, this week will also provide you with an opportunity to recognize your inner strength.

LEO

Ganesha says the general situation appears a little challenging for Leo natives. Your energy may drop, and the environment around you may be tense. You may feel some turmoil in your relationships. If you are more restrained and patient while communicating with others, you can deal with this difficulty better. This situation is also an opportunity to bring stability within you. If you learn from your past mistakes and maintain your composure, you will be able to overcome the difficulties. This week, it will be most important to control your emotions and try to make informed decisions while reacting to small things. Have open dialogues with your contacts and try to understand each other. Remember, this time will also pass, and your relationships can grow stronger if you maintain a positive attitude. Take this conflict as a lesson and recognize the power within you.



VIRGO

Ganesha says this week is a great period for Virgo natives. Harmony and understanding will increase in relationships.

This is a great time to spend with your loved ones, when you will express your feelings more openly. You will be able to bring depth and strength to your relationships. Understanding each other's thoughts and feelings will bring you closer. Your social activities will increase, which will give you a golden opportunity to meet new people and make new connections. Move forward with your confidence, as your positivity and charisma will attract others. This week, goodness will be abundant in your relationships, which will make you feel that friendship and love have a new color. Overall, this week is best for love and relationships. You will feel energetic and happy by getting love and support from the people around you. Pay attention to the tunes of your heart and enjoy harmonious relationships.



LIBRA

Ganesha says harmony and balance will be of special importance in your life this week, as you will bring a lot of positivity to your relationships by understanding the energy around you. Moments spent with friends and family will double your happiness. You will share your thoughts with them, which will strengthen mutual relations. Openness and honesty in mutual conversations will help you find true friends and partners. This is the time to resolve any old disputes, so that you can resolve your love-related issues. This week is also favorable for those entering new relationships; the relationship can grow rapidly. Listen to your heart and plan to spend time with a loved one. Your sensitivity will help you form a deeper connection with others. Focusing on your relationships will be beneficial for you this week. Overall, this period will prove to be very good and satisfying for you.



SCORPIO

Ganesha says this week, the overall situation is not going to be favorable for Scorpio natives. During this time, you may face problems in your relationships. Tension is possible in communication with family and friends. This is the time to consider the issues that have bothered you. You need to understand your feelings and accept them, so that you can understand your situation better. The feelings of people around you can also be sensitive towards you. In such a situation, you have to maintain patience and discipline. This can be a time of mistrust and suspicion, so communicate honestly with those close to you. This is the time to break free from negativity and process your feelings. Meditation and spiritual practice can ease your worries. Engage in creative activities to keep yourself positive and happy. Remember, every difficulty is an opportunity, and you can turn this week's challenge into a part of your growth.



SAGITTARIUS

Ganesha says this week may prove to be somewhat dull and challenging for Sagittarius. Overall, you may face various kinds of difficulties during this period. There may be a feeling of inequality in relationships, which will make the environment around you a little volatile. Lack of communication and mutual understanding in personal relationships may create tension. This is the time when you will need to talk openly with your loved ones to deal with any negativity. This week, it is important to be patient in whatever you do. Keep yourself calm and try to bring positivity into your relationships. Difficulties are not permanent; it is important to keep yourself strong and try to face the problems. Remember, every challenge also brings an opportunity; you just need to recognize it. If you adopt the right approach, you will be able to get some happy moments this week too.



CAPRICORN

Ganesha says this week is a great time for Capricorn natives. Positivity will flow in your personal and social life. You will feel more confident and energetic. Spending time with your family and friends will make you happy, and these relationships will strengthen. Love relationships will also be in a very good position this week. If you are eligible, new relationships can be formed, and if there is already a relationship, it can become even deeper. Your feelings will be clearly expressed, which will improve communication and mutual understanding. This is a good time to share your feelings with your loved ones, which will strengthen mutual bonds. This week, you will experience joy and satisfaction in your life. The communication of positivity and love in relationships will inspire you to move forward, making this week memorable for you. Overall, this period will prove to be pleasant for you.



AQUARIUS

Ganesha says this week is going to be very positive for Aquarius natives. Your social life and relationships will be especially strong at this time. You will be able to establish deep emotional connections with others, which will be very satisfying for you. You will get an opportunity to spend time with family members, which will increase mutual understanding. Your creativity and imagination will be at their peak during this period, allowing you to express your thoughts without any social restrictions. Friends and loved ones will appreciate your ideas and perspectives, which will strengthen your relationships. This week, you may participate in some new

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : OCT 6 TO OCT 12 BY VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA

OCTOBER 6

Ganesha says you may get new job opportunities, and you may get what you want very soon. New opportunities to earn money that can be highly promising, but may require you to give your best. Your relationship with your partner can be perfect during this period. Children can bring good news for you, and you can be proud of their achievements. Investing in a house or land can give you long-term benefits.

OCTOBER 7

Ganesha says you may get new offers and assignments that can boost your morale and confidence. Property deals can give you good returns and can also help in raising funds. Wedding bells may ring for some at the end of the year, and others may find romance to keep them going. Old patients need to take extra care of their health. Traveling can be done to make important relations and earn money. For some, there are chances of foreign travel or business transactions.

OCTOBER 8

Ganesha says you may get new ideas and plans to work on your further projects. An excellent year can improve your earning potential and help you establish important relationships. The partner may provide love and care but behave excessively possessively and unpredictably. A trip to some distant place cannot be ruled out at the end of the year. Support from your seniors and colleagues can boost your morale and instill new confidence.

OCTOBER 9

Ganesha says you may soon get rewards and recognition from your workplace. Your financial condition may also improve, and you may feel more secure and satisfied with whatever you do. Family and friends can be with you if needed. Legal matters can get complicated, and you should avoid making guarantees for others, as it can lead to embarrassment and many legal problems. Marital relations may come to you. Pilgrimage and religious activities can bring peace of mind.

OCTOBER 10

Ganesha says there may be moments when your achievements exceed your expectations, but most of the time, you may have to put in your maximum effort to get the required results. Those who have stood by you till now may continue their support. Relations with your partner can be extremely cordial and on an equal level, but you need to restrain yourself from being too stubborn, which can create uncomfortable moments at home. Romantic relationships can flourish and become strong.

OCTOBER 11

Ganesha says you can enjoy the best time with your family. You need to focus your maximum efforts on career improvement, as this may yield the desired results. You can do very well socially if you travel and join clubs and social events. Some of you are likely to go on a long-distance pilgrimage. Your partner and children may be supportive, but your parents' health may be a matter of concern.



VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA

OCTOBER 12

Ganesha says you may be on the verge of discovering a new horizon for yourself, something you had only ever dreamed of. You are a productive and profitable resource for your company. You need to be transparent and expressive while facing your blood relatives. This is a favorable time for children to excel in their careers. Your health concern may soon compel you to join a yoga or gym class.

Nastur Bejan Daruwalla is available for astrological consultations. He can be reached at www.bejandaruwalla.com
info@bejandaruwalla.com | +91 81412 34275

CONTD FROM PAGE 32

activities, which will make your heart happy as well as expand your social circle. Keep your enthusiasm intact and try to work together with others. Your activeness and positivity will make your relationships even better. Overall, this week will be good in all aspects of your life, especially in your relationships. Cherish your relationships and feel their depth.

PISCES



Ganesha says this week may be full of some challenges for Pisces natives. There will be some lack of compatibility in the overall situation. This time shows normalcy in relationships, but there may also be some small conflicts. People around you may be unable to understand your feelings, which may create tension. Lack of communication in family relationships can not only increase differences, but it can also disappoint you. This week, try to express your thoughts and feelings clearly. During this time, try to spend time with your

loved ones, so that you can strengthen your relationship. This will give you mental peace, and you will be able to stay

away from worries. This week can also allow you to develop a new idea, so that you can improve your relationship.

Remember, stay calm and patient, so that you can improve the situation in the coming time.

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMAH ||



Know/Buy your Lucky Gemstones

From the House of Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla

To buy any Gemstone, visit www.BejanDaruwalla.com

Contact us for all kind of Astrology Services

Call/ Whatsapp +91 8141234275

Email: info@bejandaruwalla.com



World Famous Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla



Nastur Bejan Daruwalla

AUTHOR BIO

Chirag Daruwalla is the best astrologer and one of the most famous names in the astrology world. He has more than 18 years of experience. Readers may seek his advice related to career, health, finance, business, money, love and marriage. He has complete knowledge, solutions, and guidance to all the problems related to life. Visit his website chiragdaruwalla.com. He is available for consultations on WhatsApp number +91 8141566266 or by email: info@chiragdaruwalla.com

Sikh History This Week

OCTOBER 3 TO OCTOBER 2

3rd October

1710 Sikh uprising in Jalandar Doab came to a successful fruition, when they drove out the forces of Faudjar Shams Khan from Rahon.

4th October



1708 Guru Gobind Singh appointed Baba Gurbakhash Singh (Banda Bahadur) as the Jathedar of the Panth and attached to him five leading Sikhs. These Sikhs were to provide the corporate leadership to the Khalsa. The Guru handed him a seal, five arrows from his quiver and the nishan sahib, flag pole. Baba Gurbakhash Singh accompanied by about 25 Sikhs left for the Punjab on this day, to punish the Subedar of Sirhind, and uproot the oppressive Mughal rule.

1708 Guru Gobind Singh stabbed by Jamshed Khan, a hired assassin.

1930 Bhai Sahib Randhir Singh released from imprisonment. He was arrested on May 9, 1915 for participating in an unsuccessful attempt to attack Ferozpur Fort on November 27, 1914.

5th October

1708 SPIRITUAL guruship passed to Sri Guru Adi Granth while CORPORATE guruship transferred to Guru Khalsa Panth. Mata Sahib Devan was given the title of being the "MOTHER OF KHALSA"

1983 6 Hindu passengers murdered near Dhilwa. As a result, the Punjab government was suspended and President's direct rule imposed over Punjab.

6th October

1661 JOTI JOT, Patshahi Seventh, Guru Har Rai Ji.

Patshahi Seventh, Guru Har Rai Ji, left for heavenly abode. Guru har Rai had retired to Nahan to avoid confrontation with his elder brother Dhirmal, who had set himself as the Guru at Kiratpur and was in possession of the original copy of Granth Sahib, and to avoid Mehrban, son of Prithi Chand, Guru's great grand uncle, who had taken over control of Harimandir Sahib and had declared himself as the Guru at Amritsar. Guru Har Rai lived at Nahan for 12 years though he did visit other Sikh places for short intervals. Here he left for his heavenly abode.

1661 GUR GADHI, Patshahi eighth, Guru Har Krishan Ji. Patshahi Eighth, Guru Har Krishan Ji, ascended to Guruship. Guru har Rai selected Har Krishan, his youngest son, to lead the Sikh nation, who at the date of his anointment was only five years old. The eldest son, Baba Ram Rai, was disinherited and disowned by Guru Har Rai for sycophancy at the Royal court in Delhi, where he was sent by Guru Har Rai to represent him. Guru Har Rai put before Har Krishan five paise and a coconut and bowed to him. Baba Gurditta put the saffron mark on his forehead and declared him to be the eighth Guru of the Sikhs.

1840 Davender Singh, son of Jasvant Singh became Raja of Nabha.

1920 The control of Babe Ki Baer at Sialkot passed over to SGPC. This was the first Gurdwara to be liberated after Khalsa Sewak Jatha of local Sikhs, despite hurdles, started performing daily services at the Gurdwara and restarted Guru Ka Langar. C.M. King, the commissioner of Lahore Division, approved the Committee of 13 persons under Baba Kharak Singh to control and manage the Gurdwara.

1922 Babbars appealed, through their "Babbar Akali Doaba" newspaper, to Sikhs in British forces to join the Babbar ranks.

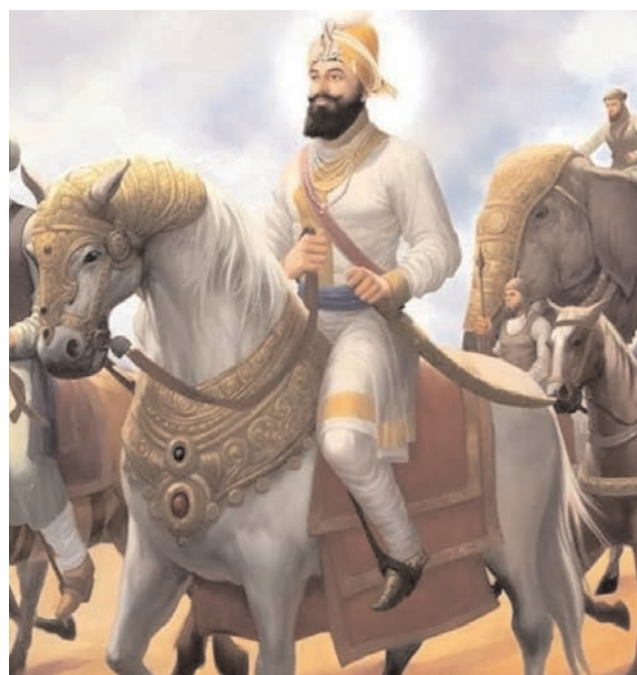
1963 Baba Khadak Singh, leading Panth luminary, passed away.

7th October



1534 Prakash Utsav, Fourth Patshah, Guru Ram Das Ji. GURU RAM DAS (1534-1581). the Fourth Master, ascended the holy gaddi (throne) of Guru Nanak in 1574 and continued to adorn the exalted office till 1581. Though he was the son-in-law of Guru Amar Das, being married to his daughter Bibi Bhani, yet he revered the Third Master as a Guru with an unwavering fervor. Inebriated with the nectar of the divine Nam, he spurned delights, and spent all his time in an ecstatic communion with the Lord through moments of deep meditation.

1664 Guru Tegh Bahadur disclosed his mission, through Makhan Shah, a trader from Muzaffrabad, Kashmir. He announced thrice from the house top, to the congregation gathered for Diwali – "Guru has been found".



1708 JOTI JOT, Patshahi Tenth, Guru Gobind Singh Ji, at Nanded.

Tenth Patshahi, Guru Gobind Singh Ji, left for heavenly abode in Nanded, South India. This is the actual date of Joti Jot, though it is observed on a different date by Guru Khalsa Panth. His mortal remains were consigned to flames by Bhai Daya Singh. Shortly before his demise, the Guru advised the Sikhs to henceforth seek guidance from the Holy Granth. He didn't appoint any successor. The abolition of the personal Guruship actually took place in 1699 when the Guru established the Khalsa and after administering 'Khanda Pahzzl' to his five disciples, himself took Khanda Pahul from them in the same manner whereby the Guru also became the disciple. The personal Guruship stood formally abolished after the death of Guru Gobind Singh. Guru Gobind Singh was a great scholar, a brave warrior, and a great commander. He wrote many compositions which are named 'Dasam Granth'. He fought 20 battles in 30 years. He breathed a spirit in his Khalsa disciples, that has been evident in exemplary courage for the last about two centuries. Khushwaqt Rai in his 'History of Sikhs' has stated that Guru Gobind Singh issued a coin with the legend, "Deg Tegh Fated, Nasrut Baidarang, Yaft uz Nanak Guru Gobind Singh".

1753 Nawab Kapur Singh passed away in Amritsar.

8th October

1745 Bhai Taru Singh's scalp was removed by orders of Nawab Zakaria Khan.

Nawab Zakaria Khan's orders were carried out and Bhai Taru's scalp was removed. On Harbhagat Naranjania's complaint, Bhai Taru Singh of his village was arrested and accused of providing rations to the Sikhs. Bhai Taru Singh admitted the facts. Nawab Zakaria Khan ordered the removal of his scalp. Bhai Taru Singh said that the Governor would suffer as much torture. And Bhai Taru would take Zakaria Khan along with him to the other world.

1839 Maharaja Khadak Singh was dethroned by Dogras and Maharaja's chief advisor, Sirdar Chaet Singh Bajwa was murdered. This event took place barely three months after the demise of Ranjit Singh and marked the beginning of a long drawn tragedy of intrigues and murders of royal princes and high officials.

9th October

1664 Sikh masses rediscovered their Ninth Guru with the help of Makhan Shah. Makhan Shah was a sea merchant, who when caught in a storm at sea, had vowed to make an offering of a hundred and one gold coins to the Guru if his ships were saved. On this day he arrived in Bakala. Upon seeing so many Gurus, he was confused. He went to each one of the imposters and placed two gold coins and bowed; each one was pleased to have an offering of two gold coins. However, Makhan Shah was disappointed. He knew that the Guru would know about the promised offering of hundred and one gold coins, and would not be willing to accept just two gold coins. At the end he went to Tegh Bahadur and put two gold coins and bowed his head. Tegh Bahadur smiled and said that Makhan Shah had promised to give a hundred and one gold coins and not just two gold coins, if his ships were saved. The Guru showed him the wound he had on his shoulders when he had rescued the ships. Makhan Shah was stunned, he could not believe his eyes or ears. He ran to the roof of the house and shouted at the top of his voice, "Guru Lado re, Guru Lado re" (I have found the Guru, I have found the Guru). Thus was re-discovered the Ninth Guru of the Sikhs by the masses. This historic incident sealed the affair for good and the people renounced the imposters and came to the fold of the true Guru.



Suromurchhana
celebrates

80th Birth Anniversary

of
Living legend of tabla
Padma Shri

Pt. Swapan Chaudhuri



Vocal: Sri Sanjoy Banerjee
Tabla: Pt. Swapan Chaudhuri
Harmonium: Sri Kedar Naphade



Vocal: Smt Namami Karmakar
Tabla: Sri Dibyarka Chatterjee
Harmonium: Sri Anirban Chakrabarty

SATURDAY
25 OCT
2025
6 P.M.

at Scandinavia House, New York

58 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016

Tickets: \$100, \$75, \$50 & \$25

For tickets go to: www.suromurchhana.org
www.viewcy.com



Suromurchhana's programmes are made possible by
the New York State Council on the Arts with the
support of the Office of the Governor and the New
York State Legislature.

Community Partner:

Media Partner:

Media Partner:

Media Partner:

Food Partner:



CONTD FROM PAGE 1

Hamas Agrees to Release All Hostages...

this is about long sought PEACE in the Middle East."

Trump followed up with a video message on Truth Social later that same day, thanking the Middle Eastern nations that worked with the United States on this deal, including Qatar, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Egypt.

"We'll see how it all turns out," Trump said in the video message. "We have to get the final word down in concrete. Very importantly, I look forward to having the hostages come home to their parents."

The U.S. president said it was "a very special day, maybe unprecedented in many ways."

"Everybody was unified in wanting this war to end and seeing peace in the Middle East, and we're very close to achieving that," he said. "Thank you all, and everybody will be treated fairly."

The announcement came after Trump gave Hamas until Oct. 5 to accept a deal to end the war and release all the hostages the terrorist group took during its Oct. 7, 2023, surprise attack on Israel. Trump announced the deadline in a post on Truth Social on Oct. 3.

"If this LAST CHANCE agreement is not reached, all HELL, like no one has ever seen before, will break out against Hamas. THERE WILL BE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST ONE WAY OR THE OTHER," Trump wrote in his post.

"As retribution for the October 7th attack on civilization, more than 25,000 Hamas 'soldiers' have already been killed. Most of the rest are surrounded and MILITARILY TRAPPED, just waiting for me to give the word, 'GO,' for their lives to be quickly extinguished. As for the rest, we know where and who you are, and you will be hunted down, and killed."

Hamas said it welcomed Trump's proposal but sought clarification on certain provisions, adding that it would release all living hostages and hand over the bodies of those who have died. It also said it's ready to immediately engage in negotiations through mediators to discuss the details.

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) voiced disappointment with Hamas's response, calling it "unfortunately predictable."

"Hamas' recent response to President Trump's plan to end the war-which Israel had accepted-is unfortunately predictable. A classic 'Yes, but,'" Graham wrote on X.

"No disarmament, keeping Gaza under Palestinian control, and tying hostage release to negotiations, along with other problems. This is, in essence, a rejection by Hamas of President Trump's 'take it or leave it' proposal."

The war in Gaza has raged since Oct. 7, 2023, when a number of groups led by Hamas attacked Israel, killing about 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and capturing more than 250 hostages. Today, an estimated 20 hostages are still believed to be alive in captivity.

"Hamas must choose peace or its own destruction. Send the hostages home, now," Sen. John Fetterman (D-Pa.) wrote on X. "Politics aside, credit to @POTUS' peace plan to get to this encouraging point."

Trump's 20-Point Peace Plan

Early last week, the Trump administration unveiled a peace plan for Gaza, presenting it to Arab leaders on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly in New York City.

Israel approved Trump's plan earlier this week during Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's visit to the White House, and leaders across the Middle East and Europe have also voiced support for the peace proposal.

The deal included Israel's withdrawal to an agreed line, a suspension of all military operations in Gaza, and the release of 250 prisoners serving life sentences, along with 1,700 Gazans detained after Hamas's October 2023 terrorist attack on Israel.

"Israel will not occupy or annex Gaza," according to the agreement.

The peace plan also states that when the Palestinian Authority completes its reform program, it could prepare the conditions for "a credible pathway to Palestinian self-determination and statehood."

The plan includes deradicalizing Gaza and making it a terror-free zone so that it does not pose a threat in the future. The Gaza Strip will receive full aid when hostilities end.

Both Trump and Netanyahu have made it clear that Hamas will play no role in the governance of Gaza.

"All military, terror, and offensive infrastructure, including tunnels and weapon production facilities, will be destroyed and not rebuilt," according to the plan.

"No one will be forced to leave Gaza, and those who wish to leave will be free to do so and free to return."

Trump touted the plan during a joint press conference with Netanyahu at the White House on Sept. 29.

"Working with the new transitional authority in Gaza, all parties will agree on a timeline for Israeli forces to withdraw in phases. They'll be withdrawing in phases," the U.S. president said.

Details of Hamas Statement

In its statement, Hamas said it "has conducted in-depth consultations within its leadership institutions, broad consultations with Palestinian forces and factions, and consultations with brothers, mediators and friends, in order to reach a responsible position in dealing with the U.S. President Donald Trump's plan."

After consultations, Hamas said it agreed to release the hostages according to the exchange formula contained in the peace plan if the necessary conditions for the exchange are met. Hamas expressed readiness to begin negotiations, through mediators, to finalize the details of the exchange.

Hamas also agreed "to hand over the administration of the Gaza Strip to a Palestinian body of independents (technocrats), based on Palestinian national consensus and supported by Arab and Islamic backing," according to the statement.

The groups said other parts of Trump's proposal concerning Gaza's future and Palestinian rights will be addressed through a unified national process in line with international law. They will be "discussed within a comprehensive Palestinian national framework, in which Hamas will be included and will contribute with full responsibility," Hamas said.

Meanwhile, the White House has highlighted the "global support", including from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for President Donald Trump's "visionary" plan for peace in war-battered Gaza.

President Trump's "groundbreaking plan for peace in Gaza has galvanized a chorus of international praise as the potential pivotal turning point after years of devastating war," the White House said in a statement on Wednesday, October 1.

"Hailed as a game changer by nations across continents, President Trump's comprehensive framework emphasizes an urgent end to hostilities, the full liberation of all hostages, sustained humanitarian relief, and Gaza's transformation into a beacon of prosperity," it said.

It said the visionary plan has been embraced by key leaders from the Arab world to the West. The statement lists reactions and comments of world leaders, including Prime Minister Modi, on Trump's plan to end the conflict in Gaza. "We welcome President Donald J. Trump's announcement of a comprehensive plan to end the Gaza conflict. It provides a viable pathway to long term and sustainable peace, security and development for the Palestinian and Israeli people, as also for the larger West Asian region. We hope that all concerned will come together behind President Trump's initiative and support this effort to end conflict and secure peace," Modi had posted on social media.

The statement includes remarks by other world leaders including the joint statement by Foreign Ministers of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, UAE, Indonesia, Pakistan, Türkiye, Qatar, and Egypt.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese; Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney; China; European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen; French President Emmanuel Macron; Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni; Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba; British Prime Minister Keir Starmer; Palestinian Authority and Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Trump's 'Comprehensive Plan to End the Gaza Conflict', announced on Monday, entails that Gaza will be a deradicalized, terror-free zone that does not pose a threat to its neighbors and will be redeveloped. (With inputs from Agencies and the White House)

Canadian envoy presents credentials to...

mend ties. While India named seasoned diplomat Dinesh K Patnaik as the next high commissioner to Ottawa, Canada appointed Cooter as its new envoy to New Delhi.

Patnaik presented his credentials to Canada's Governor General Mary Simon on September 25.

Cooter has 35 years of diplomatic experience, having served most recently as Canada's charge d'affaires to Israel and as Canada's high commissioner to South Africa, Namibia, Lesotho, Mauritius and Madagascar. He also served as first secretary at the Canadian High Commission in New Delhi from 1998 to 2000. (Source: PTI)

Indian legal system governed by rule of...

Democracy', he referred to his own verdict deprecating 'bulldozer justice'.

Sir Maurice Rault, a noted jurist, was the Chief Justice of Mauritius from 1978 to 1982.

Highlighting the principle of rule of law and its expansive interpretation by the Supreme Court of India, Justice Gavai, who is on a three-day official visit to the island nation, said, "The judgment sent a clear message that the Indian legal system is governed by the rule of law, not by the rule of the bulldozer."

In the judgement in the 'bulldozer justice' case, the apex court held that demolition of houses of accused in response to alleged offenses bypasses legal processes, violates the rule of law and infringes upon the fundamental right to shelter under Article 21.

"It was further held that the executive cannot assume the roles of judge, jury, and executioner simultaneously," the CJI said.

He delivered the lecture in the presence of President of Mauritius Dharambeer Gokhool, Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam and Chief Justice Rehana Mungly Gulbul among others.

In his address, the CJI referred to various landmark judgments of the apex court, including the 1973 Kesavananda Bharati verdict that had brought the basic structure doctrine and clipped the powers of Parliament to amend every bit of the Constitution.

"Over the past 75 years since the adoption of the Indian Constitution, the concept of the Rule of Law has evolved far beyond legal texts, permeating social, political, and constitutional discourse alike," he said.

Justice Gavai said in social sphere, laws have been enacted to redress historical injustices and marginalized communities have frequently invoked them, and the very language of rule of law to assert their rights against entrenched systems of oppression.

"In the political arena, the rule of law serves as a benchmark of good governance and societal progress, standing in stark contrast to misgovernance and lawlessness, where institutions and public officials might otherwise evade accountability," he said.

Referring to the contributions of Mahatma Gandhi and B R Ambedkar, Justice Gavai said their vision demonstrated that in India "the Rule of Law is not a mere set of rules".

"It is an ethical and moral framework designed to uphold equality, protect human dignity, and guide governance in a diverse and complex society," he said.

The CJI referred to recent notable verdicts including the one which abolished the practice of instant triple talaq among Muslims.

He also highlighted the judgments in the case challenging the law on adultery and the electoral bond scheme. "Taken together, these four judgments demonstrate how the Supreme Court has developed the rule of law as a substantive principle, using it to strike down laws that are manifestly arbitrary or unjust," he said.

Justice Gavai also emphasized the importance of the judgment which held right to privacy as a fundamental right. "This articulation underscores that, when understood as a core principle of constitutionalism, the rule of law operates on both procedural and substantive levels: it restrains arbitrary action by the State, guarantees equality before the law, and embeds democratic accountability across all branches and levels of governance," he said.

Justice Gavai said the principle has animated the legal discourse as the apex court repeatedly invoked the language of rule of law to both legitimize and explain its constitutional role, as well as the constitutional roles of other branches of the state.

"The rule of law is thus not a rigid doctrine but a conversation across generations, between judges and citizens, parliaments and peoples, nations and their histories. It is about how we govern ourselves in dignity, and how we resolve the inevitable conflicts of liberty and authority in a democratic society," he said. (Source: PTI)

In India's vibrant calendar of festivals, Karva Chauth stands out as one of the most intimate and emotionally powerful observances. Celebrated with devotion and grandeur by married women, especially in North India, it is not just a ritualistic fast but a celebration of marital love, faith, and togetherness. With mehendi-clad hands, glowing faces waiting for the moon, and beautifully decorated thalis, the festival is a perfect blend of tradition and romance, handed down through generations.

The Origins of Karva Chauth

The term "Karva" refers to an earthen pot, while "Chauth" means the fourth day, as the festival falls on the fourth day after the full moon in the Hindu month of Kartik. Historically, the earthen pot symbolized prosperity, friendship, and blessings exchanged among women. The origins of Karva Chauth are both social and spiritual. In ancient times, newlywed women, often far from their parental homes, found in this festival a means to bond with others in their marital homes. Exchanging karvas created a sisterhood that became a source of strength and support. Mythological stories also add depth to its significance, such as the tale of Queen Veervati whose steadfast fast restored her husband's life, and the story of Karva, whose devotion persuaded Yama, the God of Death, to spare her husband. These legends underline the festival's core themes of fidelity, faith, and love.

Rituals and Traditions

Karva Chauth is marked by meticulous preparations and heartfelt rituals. The day begins before sunrise with Sargi, a pre-dawn meal prepared by the mother-in-law. It includes pheni (vermicelli cooked in milk), fruits, dry fruits, sweets, and snacks, all of which provide energy for the long fast ahead. After this meal, women observe a nirjala fast, refraining from food and even water until the moonrise.

In the evening, women dress in festive attire—often bridal sarees or lehengas in red, maroon, or bright hues—adorned with sindoor, jewelry, and intricate mehendi designs. Groups of women gather with decorated thalis for the Karva Chauth puja, where they listen to the Karva Chauth katha, exchange decorated karvas, and pray together. The sense of community and shared devotion makes this ritual especially meaningful.

The highlight of the festival comes with the moonrise ritual. Women eagerly wait for the moon, and once it appears, they view it through a sieve or chalni and then look at their husband through the same. The husband then offers his wife water and food, breaking her fast with love and tenderness. This moment is the most iconic part of Karva Chauth, symbolizing not just the breaking of the fast but the reaffirmation of marital bonds.

Symbolism and Spiritual Meaning

While Karva Chauth is known for its rituals, its symbolism runs deeper. It is an expression of love and commitment, a form of spiritual discipline, and a

Karva Chauth: A timeless celebration of love, faith and tradition



testament to female solidarity. For many women, the fast is not merely about sacrifice but about celebrating the sanctity of marriage and demonstrating inner strength.

Regional Variations

Though predominantly celebrated in Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan, Karva Chauth takes on different colors across regions. In Punjab, it is marked by grandeur with folk songs and decorated karvas exchanged among women. In Rajasthan, women create clay idols of Gaur Mata and perform unique regional rituals. In Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, the prayers include offerings to Goddess Parvati along with lamps and gifts. In urban India, the festival has evolved into a celebration where many men also fast alongside their wives, symbolizing equality and mutual love.

Karva Chauth in Modern India

In modern times, Karva Chauth has



become a blend of tradition and popular culture. Bollywood has played a huge role in popularizing the festival, with films like Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge and Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham immortalizing its rituals on screen. Social media has added another dimension, with women sharing photos of decorated thalis, mehendi, and moonrise celebrations. While some critics question the gender roles associated with the festival, many couples today reinterpret it as a mutual celebration of love, with both partners participating in the fast.

Fashion, Beauty, and Festivity

Karva Chauth is also an occasion for women to relive the joy of their wedding day. From bridal sarees and lehengas to sparkling jewelry and colorful bangles, the fashion element

of the festival is inseparable from its rituals. Mehendi, often with hidden initials of the husband, adds charm, while decorated thalis and festive gatherings create an atmosphere of joy. It is as much about beauty and celebration as it is about devotion.

Karva Chauth endures as one of the most cherished festivals because it is more than just a fast—it is a heartfelt expression of love, devotion, and togetherness. Even as it adapts to modern values and lifestyles, its essence remains intact. The sight of women gazing at the moon through a sieve, followed by the tender moment of breaking their fast with their husbands, captures the enduring beauty of this festival. It is a reminder that in the midst of changing times, some traditions continue to glow with timeless relevance, shining as brightly as the moon that inspires them.

CALL FOR ALL YOUR LIFE INSURANCE NEEDS!

"MAKING FRIENDS THROUGH SERVICE"



SHIV KUMAR SAHANI

Agent, New York Life Insurance Co.

646-644-0174

OUR TEAM OF AGENTS ARE READY TO HELP!

PRIYA SAHANI - (917) 723-6684

RAVI SURTI - (614) 578-7070

ARISH K. SAHANI - (718) 271-0453

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1972



INDO US EXPRESS, INC.

**Worldwide Couriers / Freight Forwarders
Domestic Rush Delivery / Import / Export
Custom Clearance / Trading Consultant**

Gurinder Singh
CEO

SALES OFFICE

224 West 30th St., #604, New York, NY 10001
Mail: P.O. Box 7304, Hicksville, NY 11802

Office: 212.447.5720 Fax: 516.932.3750
Delhi: 98.1849.0552
Mumbai: 92.2453.1807
New York: 347.538.7041

Visit US Online: www.indousexpress.com
Email: indousexpress@gmail.com

Indian Visa Center

VISA / OCI PIO / PASSPORT
APPLICATION ASSISTANCE CENTER

349 S. Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801

DEEPAK BANSAL

Email: deepakbansalny@gmail.com

Cell: 516.304.8808 Fax: 516.218.8009

Get
to the
Point



The **INDIAN PANORAMA**
EVER TRUTHFUL

A DELIGHTFUL READING EVERY WEEK

Widest Coverage

Your Trusted Partner in Business

The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South Richmond Hill, NY 11419, Tel: 646-247-9458
Dallas Edition - P.O. Box 121695, Arlington, TX 76012

www.theindianpanorama.news



**The Indian Panorama
FOR FREE AT**

www.theindianpanorama.news

Perched on the rolling hills of the Eastern Himalayas, with the mighty Kanchenjunga watching over its serene landscapes, Kalimpong is a destination that quietly enchants rather than overwhelms. Unlike its more famous neighbors Darjeeling and Gangtok, Kalimpong exudes a subtle charm—an unhurried rhythm of life, colonial-era architecture, Buddhist monasteries, orchid nurseries, bustling bazaars, and panoramic views that seem painted in pastel hues. For travelers seeking serenity, culture, and a touch of nostalgia, Kalimpong is a Himalayan paradise waiting to be discovered.

A Town with a Story

Kalimpong's history is as colorful as its landscapes. Once under Bhutanese rule and later part of the British colonial trade route to Tibet, the town grew into a thriving center of commerce, culture, and spirituality. Its name is believed to be derived from the Tibetan word Kalibong, meaning "ridge where we play," as it was once a ground for tribal gatherings. Today, Kalimpong retains this spirit of multicultural harmony, where Lepchas, Bhutias, Nepalis, and Tibetans coexist, blending their traditions into a vibrant mosaic.

The Landscape: Where Nature Paints a Canvas

Kalimpong's beauty lies in its tranquility. Spread across terraced hills and lush valleys, the town offers breathtaking views of snow-capped Himalayan ranges, especially at sunrise when the peaks of Kanchenjunga glow golden. The Teesta River flows gracefully through its foothills, offering adventure opportunities like rafting, while its surrounding forests shelter exotic flora and fauna.

For nature enthusiasts, the highlight is the abundance of orchids and rare Himalayan flowers. The town's nurseries—famous for gladioli, orchids, and cacti—make Kalimpong a horticultural hub, with flowers exported worldwide.

Durpin Monastery

Perched on Durpin Hill, this monastery offers panoramic views of Kalimpong and the Teesta Valley. Built in 1972, it houses rare Buddhist scriptures brought from Tibet after the Chinese invasion, making it a place of spiritual and historical significance.

Deolo Hill

At 5,500 feet, Deolo is the highest point in Kalimpong and a favorite spot for picnics, paragliding, and sunrise views. The sweeping vistas of the valley below, dotted with villages, rivers, and forests, are simply unforgettable.

Kalimpong Arts & Crafts Centre

A hub for traditional handicrafts, carpets, and wood carvings, this center preserves the town's artistic heritage while offering travelers a chance to take home authentic souvenirs.

Colonial Churches and Schools

Kalimpong's British legacy lives on in its old churches, like St. Teresa's Church and MacFarlane Memorial Church, and

Kalimpong: The hidden gem of the Eastern Himalayas



its historic schools such as Dr. Graham's Homes, set amidst sprawling grounds with stone cottages that look straight out of a storybook.

Cactus and Orchid Nurseries

Nature lovers will delight in Kalimpong's nurseries, such as the Pine

View Nursery, which boasts one of the largest collections of cacti in Asia. These gardens are both educational and aesthetic, a testament to Kalimpong's global reputation in floriculture.

Local Markets

The bustling bazaars of Kalimpong,

such as Rishi Road and Haat Bazaar, are alive with Tibetan woolens, Himalayan pickles, handmade bags, and traditional jewelry. Wandering through these markets offers a slice of everyday life infused with local color and flavor.

Culture and Cuisine

Kalimpong's cultural fabric is woven from its diverse communities. Festivals like Losar, Tihar, and Buddha Purnima bring the town alive with music, dance, and ritual. The cuisine is equally varied—steaming plates of momos and thukpa, Nepali gundruk soup, Tibetan tingmo bread, and homemade pickles are must-tries. Don't miss tasting local cheese, a legacy introduced by Swiss missionaries, and sipping a hot cup of Darjeeling tea while soaking in the mountain views.

Adventure and Activities

Kalimpong is not just about relaxation—it caters to the adventurous soul as well. Paragliding from Deolo Hill gives you bird's-eye views of the valleys, while river rafting on the Teesta is a thrilling experience. Hiking and nature walks around the surrounding villages—like Lava, Loleygaon, and Pedong—offer encounters with dense forests, hanging bridges, and breathtaking Himalayan panoramas. Birdwatchers too will find Kalimpong rewarding, with sightings of Himalayan monals, flycatchers, and sunbirds.

When to Visit

Kalimpong is a year-round destination, though the best seasons are spring (March to May) and autumn (September to November), when the skies are clear, flowers are in bloom, and mountain views are at their best. Winters are chilly but magical, while monsoons bring lush greenery, though heavy rains may limit travel.

How to Reach

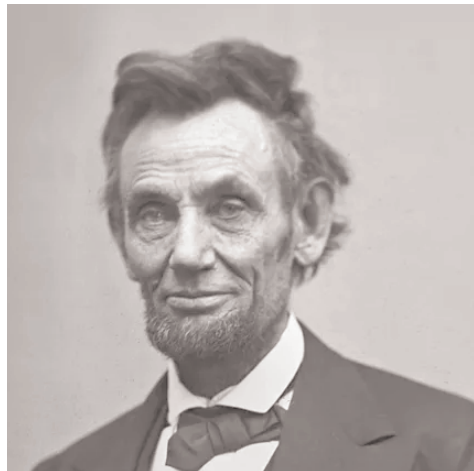
Kalimpong is well connected yet retains its quiet charm. The nearest airport is Bagdogra (75 km away), and the nearest railway station is New Jalpaiguri (around 70 km). From there, a scenic drive through tea gardens and winding hill roads takes you to Kalimpong. The journey itself, with the Teesta River running alongside, is part of the adventure.

Kalimpong Today: A Destination of Peace

What sets Kalimpong apart is its peaceful rhythm. While Darjeeling buzzes with tourists, Kalimpong invites you to slow down, breathe, and absorb its quiet beauty. Whether you are sitting at Deolo Hill watching the sunrise, wandering through orchid nurseries, sipping tea on a colonial veranda, or losing yourself in the chants of a monastery, Kalimpong restores a sense of calm in the soul.

History This Week OCT 03 - OCT 09

OCTOBER 3



October 3, 1863 - President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation designating the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

October 3, 1932 - Iraq gained independence from Britain and joined the League of Nations.

October 3, 1974 - Frank Robinson was hired by the Cleveland Indians as baseball's first African American major league manager.

October 3, 1990 - After 45 years of Cold War division, East and West Germany were reunited as the Federal Republic of Germany.

OCTOBER 4

October 4, 1943 - The Island of Corsica became the first French territory in Europe freed from Nazi control as Free French troops liberated the city of Bastia.

October 4, 1957 - The Space Age began as the Russians launched the first satellite into orbit. Sputnik I weighed just 184 lbs. and transmitted a beeping radio signal for 21 days. The remarkable accomplishment by Soviet Russia sent a shockwave through the American political leadership resulting in U.S. efforts to be the first on the moon.



October 4, 1965 - Pope Paul VI became the first Pope to visit the U.S. and the first to address the United Nations.

October 4, 1993 - Russian tank-soldiers loyal to President Boris Yeltsin shelled the Russian White House, crushing a hard-line Communist rebellion. Yeltsin then fired Vice-president Alexander Rutskoi and jailed other opposition leaders.

Birthdays - St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226) was born in Assisi, Umbria, Italy (as Giovanni Francesco Bernardone). He renounced his family's wealth and founded the Friars Minor (Franciscan

Order).

Birthdays - Rutherford B. Hayes (1822-1893) the 19th U.S. President was born in Delaware, Ohio. He served from March 4, 1877 to March 3, 1881. He was a Republican best known for his much-quoted statement, "He serves his party best who serves his country best."

Birthdays - Artist Frederic Remington (1861-1909) was born in Canton, New York. He studied at Yale Art School then traveled extensively throughout the American West in the late 1800s sketching cowboys, Native Americans, frontiersmen, and soldiers. He also created lively sculptures featuring bucking broncos.

OCTOBER 5



October 5, 1938 - Czech President Dr. Eduard Benes resigned and fled abroad amid threats from Adolf Hitler.

October 5, 1964 - The largest mass escape since the construction of the Berlin Wall occurred as 57 East German refugees escaped to West Berlin after tunneling beneath the wall.

October 5, 1986 - Former U.S. Marine Eugene Hasenfus was captured by Nicaraguan Sandinistas after a plane carrying arms for the Nicaraguan rebels (Contras) was shot down over Nicaragua. This marked the beginning of the "Iran-Contra" controversy resulting in Congressional hearings and a major scandal for the Reagan White House after it was revealed that money from the sale of arms to Iran was used to fund covert operations in Nicaragua.

Birthdays - Theologian Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) was born in East Windsor, Connecticut. He led the "Great Awakening" religious revival in the American colonies and later became president of Princeton.

Birthdays - "Father of the Space Age" Robert Goddard (1882-1945) was born in Worcester, Massachusetts. During his lifetime he was ridiculed by the public and the press over his idea of constructing a space flight machine. In 1926, he launched the world's first liquid-fueled rocket on a farm near Auburn, Mass. In 1935, his liquid-fueled rocket surpassed the speed of sound. Other developments included a steering apparatus for rocket machines, staged rockets to reach high altitudes, rocket fuel pumps, and a self-cooling rocket motor.

Birthdays - Czech playwright and political leader Vaclav Havel was born in Prague, October 5, 1936. He spent over 5 years in prison for speaking out against government abuses. He went on to lead the peaceful "velvet revolution" which

ended Soviet-style Communism in Czechoslovakia in 1989.

OCTOBER 6

October 6, 1927 - The first "talkie" opened in New York. The Jazz Singer starring Al Jolson was the first full-length feature film using spoken dialogue.

October 6, 1928 - Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek became president of the Republic of China upon the introduction of a new constitution.



October 6, 1949 - "Tokyo Rose" (Iva Toguri d'Aquino) was sentenced in San Francisco to 10 years imprisonment and fined \$10,000 for treason. She had broadcast music and Japanese propaganda to American troops in the Pacific during World War II. She was pardoned by President Gerald Ford in 1977.

October 6, 1973 - The Yom Kippur War started as Egypt and Syria launched attacks on Israeli positions on the East Bank of the Suez and the Golan Heights.

October 6, 1978 - Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Khomeini was granted asylum in France after being expelled from Iran for his opposition to the Shah.

October 6, 1981 - Egyptian President Anwar Sadat (1918-1981) was assassinated in Cairo by Muslim fundamentalists while watching a military parade. He had shared the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize with Menachem Begin of Israel. He had signed an American-sponsored peace accord with Israel, but had been denounced by other Arab leaders.

Birthdays - Engineer and inventor George Westinghouse (1846-1914) was born in Central Bridge, New York. He developed air brakes for trains and was later responsible for the adoption of alternating current (AC) systems for electric power transmission in the U.S. He was also the first employer to give his employees paid vacations.

Birthdays - Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl was born in Larvik, Norway, October 6, 1914. He used Kon-Tiki and other primitive ocean-going vessels to prove the possibility of transoceanic contact between ancient, widely separated civilizations.

OCTOBER 7

October 7, 1940 - During World War II in Europe, German troops invaded Romania to take seize strategic oil fields.

October 7, 1949 - The German Democratic Republic came into existence in East Germany. Dominated by Soviet Russia, it lasted until German reunification in 1990.

October 7, 1985 - Palestinian terrorists seized the Italian passenger ship Achille

Lauro carrying about 440 persons, threatening to blow it up if Israel did not free 50 Palestinian prisoners. Leon Klinghoffer, an elderly wheelchair-bound American, was murdered.

OCTOBER 8

October 8, 1993 - The U.N. General Assembly lifted economic sanctions against South Africa following the end of racial apartheid. The sanctions had been imposed since the 1960s.



October 8, 1996 - Palestinian President Yasser Arafat made his first public visit to Israel for talks with Israeli President Ezer Weizman at his private residence.

October 8, 1998 - The U.S. House of Representatives voted 258-176 to approve a resolution launching an impeachment inquiry of President Bill Clinton. It was only the third time in U.S. history the House launched a formal impeachment inquiry of a sitting president. (The other two: Andrew Johnson and Richard Nixon).

Birthdays - American fighter pilot Ace Eddie Rickenbacker (1890-1973) was born in Columbus, Ohio. He commanded the first U.S. aero unit to take part in World War I and was credited with 26 victories, becoming America's leading Ace. He was awarded the Medal of Honor. He later got involved in auto racing and headed Eastern Air Lines from 1934-63.

OCTOBER 9

October 9, 1962 - Uganda achieved independence after nearly 70 years of British rule.

October 9, 1970 - Cambodia declared itself the Khmer Republic following the abolishment of the monarchy by the legislature.



Birthdays - John Lennon (1940-1980) was born in Liverpool, England. He was a member of The Beatles, an influential rock group which captivated audiences first in England and Germany, and later in America and throughout the world. He was murdered in New York City on December 8, 1980.

Restoring vision, renewing lives: SOS/SKRM's 41st Eye Camp transforms hundreds of lives

NEW DELHI (TIP): Continuing its mission to eradicate avoidable blindness and uplift communities, Science of Spirituality (SOS)/Sawan Kirpal Ruhani Mission (SKRM) organized the 41st Free Eye Checkup and Cataract Surgery Camp at Kirpal Bagh, Delhi, from September 14 to 21, 2025.

Held under the divine guidance of Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj, head of SOS/SKRM, the camp brought the precious gift of sight to hundreds across Delhi-NCR and northern India - transforming lives through the light of vision and compassion.

Fighting Avoidable Blindness

Cataract remains one of the leading causes of visual impairment, especially among underserved communities, affecting both livelihoods and quality of life.

This year's camp restored eyesight to 1,200 patients, thanks to the combined service of volunteer physicians from the United States - who travel to India twice a year for this cause - and specialist doctors from ICARE Hospital, Noida, a premier institution in advanced eye care.

The eight-day humanitarian initiative was powered by the tireless dedication of volunteers from India and the US, united in their mission of compassion and service.

Compassion in Action

From the opening day, long queues of patients formed at Kirpal Bagh, where teams of medical professionals and volunteers meticulously screened each individual.

A total of 2,771 patients were assessed, with 1,685 found eligible for cataract surgeries.

Patients received comprehensive care - including free accommodation, nutritious meals, transportation, reading glasses, and essential provisions to ensure their well-being throughout recovery.

SKRM volunteers managed patient registration, coordinated logistics, and



oversaw smooth operations.

Those selected for surgery were transported to ICARE Eye Hospital, Noida, in buses arranged by the hospital. There, an expert team of in-house ophthalmologists and US-based volunteer surgeons performed cataract-removal procedures using advanced-quality lenses.

Following surgery, patients were provided with reading glasses and post-operative care kits, ensuring a seamless recovery experience.

Throughout the camp, SKRM volunteers worked tirelessly behind the

scenes - handling on-ground coordination, administration, and compassionate caregiving.

Restoring Dignity, Renewing Lives

For many patients, the camp marked a turning point - a journey from darkness to light.

Jogender Pal, a resident of Delhi, shared, "I came to know about the Free Eye Camp through my relatives. I had cataract in both eyes and couldn't see clearly, especially from the left eye. After surgery, I can now live independently and no longer depend on

anyone."

Sheela, another Delhi resident, expressed joy at finding a "new lease of life." She said, "I live alone, and this surgery has helped me regain independence and confidence."

Narang Devi, who often stumbled due to poor vision, was beaming after her successful surgery. "Now, I will be self-reliant," she said, her eyes filled with gratitude.

For hundreds like them, the initiative not only restored sight but rekindled dignity, confidence, and livelihood - enabling them to reengage with life with renewed vigor.

Hands That Heal

For the doctors involved, too, the experience was profoundly rewarding.

"It is a blessing to be able to serve others with the skills God has given me," shared one US-based volunteer physician.

Another added, "Light is God's first gift to the world; restoring sight lets that light shine again."

Emphasizing the deeper impact, a doctor remarked, "Volunteering reminds me that sometimes the simplest gift - the ability to see - can change a life forever."

A Tradition of Selfless Service

Over the decades, SOS/SKRM has enabled more than 21,000 people to regain their vision through similar camps - all conducted entirely free of charge, embodying the organization's long-standing commitment to seva (selfless service) and compassion for humanity.

These eye camps are held twice every year - during the International Human Unity Conference (February) and the Global Conference on Mysticism (September) - continuing a noble legacy that brings together science, spirituality, and service to humanity.

Through such compassionate initiatives, SOS/SKRM continues to illuminate lives - one eye, one heart, and one soul at a time.



Carrying the Torch: How Raell Padamsee is Taking Alyque Padamsee's Legacy Forward



By Murtaza Ali Khan



Alyque Padamsee and Raell Padamsee

When Raell Padamsee speaks about theatre, there is a spark in her voice that carries both pride and responsibility. As the daughter of legendary theatre director Alyque Padamsee and actress Pearl Padamsee, Raell grew up immersed in the magic of the stage. Today, she is not only preserving that legacy but also reshaping it for a new generation—balancing reverence for tradition with the courage to innovate.

Her latest endeavour, taking Broken Images—directed by Alyque himself and starring the incomparable Shabana Azmi—to the US, starting with New York this October, feels particularly personal. "Broken Images is very close to my heart because it reflects both the artistry and vision of my father, Alyque Padamsee," she says. "He directed it with such brilliance—merging theatre and technology in a way that was ahead of its time. Bringing it to the US, and especially to New York, feels like completing a circle—taking Indian theatre of international quality to the world stage, just as Alyque always believed it should be."

For Raell, staging this production is far more than another theatre tour. It is an act of homage. "This performance is not just about staging a play; it's about sharing his legacy with global audiences and proving, once again, that Indian theatre can be world-class, bold, and relevant. It's an honour to both Girish Karnad and Dad," she reflects.

COURAGE AS LEGACY

Ask Raell what she considers her father's greatest gift, and the answer is immediate: courage. "My father's legacy is one of courage—courage to experiment, to challenge norms, and to tell stories that matter. He taught me that theatre must be larger than entertainment; it should provoke thought, stir emotion, and reflect the society we live in," she says.

This philosophy lies at the heart of her work with the CREATE Foundation,

which she founded in 2002. Through productions like Rediscover the Epic, Mahatma, and The Sound of Music, she has brought together children from mainstream schools and marginalized NGOs—including differently abled children—on one stage. "Integration has been at the heart of all our work... giving them equal space to shine on stage," she explains.

That mission continues with her upcoming play Alice in Paradise, which reimagines the classic tale while uniting children across diverse backgrounds.

Nirbhaya Squad to promote the women's helpline "103." "This was more than theatre—it was a mission to make Maharashtra the safest state in the world. By amplifying the helpline, we aimed to create awareness, galvanise action, and push for institutional change," she recalls.

In this way, Raell carries forward not just her father's artistic courage but also her mother's compassion. "For me, this is how I continue the legacy of both Alyque and Pearl Padamsee—by ensuring theatre remains a catalyst for transformation,

Casting her in Broken Images was his way of ensuring the role had both intellectual weight and emotional authenticity," Raell says.

She fondly recalls a memory from their Singapore staging of the play: "The response was so overwhelming that the auditorium filled to capacity, and Dad and I actually had to sit outside because there were no seats left for us. For me, that moment captured exactly what he envisioned: theatre that moved people so deeply that it transcended borders, languages, and even our own access to it!"

LOOKING AHEAD

Raell is determined that Alyque's contributions to theatre and advertising should not be relegated to nostalgia. Along with new productions—Unfaithfully Yours starring Mona Singh and Rohit Roy, Untitled and Aruna's Story with Lushin Dubey—she is working on a Virtual Alyque Padamsee Museum. The immersive platform will allow audiences to rediscover his iconic plays, ad campaigns, and creative philosophy.

She has also overseen the release of Alyque's final book, Let Me Hijack Your Mind, co-authored with Vandana Saxena Poria and published by Penguin India. "True to his style, the book is bold and provocative—it challenges deep-rooted societal beliefs and invites readers to rethink love, marriage, money, gender, leadership, and faith. It is truly Dad's legacy for the future—it teaches people to question their innermost thoughts and follow only those that lead to a flourishing life," she says.

THE GUIDING VOICE

To Raell, her father's influence is not confined to memory; it remains a daily compass. "Alyque Padamsee was a visionary. He redefined what theatre could be in India—grand in scale, uncompromising in quality, and deeply human in storytelling. He was exacting, yes, but his precision was born out of love for the craft. For him, theatre was sacred—it demanded rigor, passion, and honesty. To me, he was not just a father; but a mentor whose voice still guides me every time I step into rehearsal," she reflects.

She adds, with humility, "If I can achieve even a fraction of the impact he made on stage, I will feel I have done justice to his legacy."

The tickets are available on Sulekha.Com

(Murtaza Ali Khan is an award-winning cultural writer and critic with more than a decade and a half experience. He can be reached at murtaza.jmi@gmail.com.)

PRRIA HAIDER AND PRIYANKA JOTWANI PRESENTS
FIVE TIME NATIONAL AWARD WINNER & PADAM BHUSHAN WINNER
SHABANA AZMI STARS IN RAËLL PADAMSEE'S ACE'S
BROKEN IMAGES
Written by Girish Karnad | Directed by Alyque Padamsee

NEW YORK
SATURDAY OCTOBER 4, 2025
8PM ONWARDS
THE KAYE PLAYHOUSE AT HUNTER COLLEGE
695 PARK AVE, NEW YORK, NY 10065
ticketmaster Sulekha.com
FOR TICKETS & MORE INFO
PRRIA HAIDER 516-303-6597, PRIYANKA 516-225-9772

Poster - Broken Images

"Our whole life ethos, thanks to both Alyque and my mother Pearl, was using theatre not just to entertain, but to give back," she adds.

THEATRE AS SOCIAL CATALYST

Raell's projects frequently extend beyond art, entering the realm of activism. In 2024, she collaborated with theatre veteran Lushin Dubey for the Rise Up for Equality!! festival, showcasing women-centric plays while working with the Mumbai Police's

empowerment, and lasting social change."

THE SHABANA AZMI CONNECTION

Broken Images also represents a creative convergence between Alyque and one of his most admired collaborators, Shabana Azmi. "Shabana and my father shared a bond rooted in artistry, mutual respect, and a relentless pursuit of truth on stage. He always admired her ability to embody complexity with honesty and depth.

USA Cricket declares itself bankrupt; ducks legal procedures to buy more time

TEXAS (TIP)

In a dramatic legal gambit, USA Cricket filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy just minutes before a scheduled preliminary-injunction hearing in Colorado on its dispute with American Cricket Enterprises. The move automatically pauses the proceedings and shifts key decisions to the federal bankruptcy court. This adds a twist to the entire incident in a governance saga that has roiled American cricket for months. (reported by Cricbuzz)

This is the first instance known globally of an ICC member board declaring itself bankrupt. The filing arrived after weeks of boardroom unrest, ICC pressure over reforms, and a public rupture with ACE, the entity that backs Major Cricket League.

Under Chapter 11, USA Cricket seeks protection while it restructures its obligations. The Colorado hearing, where ACE sought a preliminary injunction, has now been effectively paused, pending the bankruptcy process. For the stakeholders, this means the bankruptcy court will now oversee immediate questions that would have been aired in Colorado.

Early bankruptcy schedules offer a first look at US Cricket's finances: modest assets and unsecured claims of just over half a million dollars. The current player contracts, including those of several senior internationals, appear on the executory contracts schedule with end dates of December 31, 2025. This means that those deals now sit under Chapter 11 oversight and



could face delays or renegotiation, subject to the approval of the court. ACE condemned the timing and intent of the filing. As quoted by Cricbuzz, an ACE representative said, "USAC could not bear for the preliminary injunction hearing to even begin, and knew the result was a forgone conclusion. It had no basis to terminate the parties' agreement and was recklessly imperiling the success of cricket in the US. USAC has zero regard for the best interest of cricket and its players, and is only motivated by politics and its directors' personal agendas."

The report further claims that ACE offered to continue payments if USAC accepted a voluntary preliminary

injunction, allowing the commercial agreement to run while the dispute proceeded to arbitration; however, USAC did not accept it.

The filing follows months of pressure from the ICC and USOPC, who repeatedly urged the USAC board to resign to pave the way for reforms and restart ICC clash flows, which the board declined. A separate flashpoint saw director Anj Balasu recalled by leagues amid arguments that bankruptcy was being used as leverage over the ICC. For players and pathways, the near-term picture is uncertainty around payments and planning cycles until the court sets a path forward.

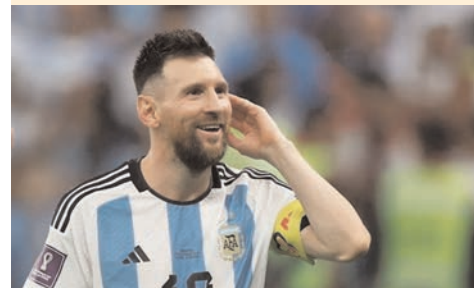
India a passionate football nation, honor to return: Messi

Lionel Messi on Thursday, October 2, confirmed his participation in the much-anticipated GOAT Tour of India 2025, calling it an "honour" to revisit the "passionate football nation" country where he last played 14 years ago. "It is such an honor for me to make this trip. India is a very special country, and I have good memories from my time there 14 years ago — the fans were fantastic.

"India is a passionate football nation, and I look forward to meeting a new generation of fans while sharing the love I have for this beautiful game," Messi said in an official statement.

The organisers had already unveiled the itinerary on August 15, and Messi's statement on Thursday marked the first time the football icon himself confirmed the visit.

Messi will begin his whirlwind four-city tour in Kolkata on December 13 before travelling to Ahmedabad, Mumbai and New Delhi. The trip will end with a meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 15. During the tour, the Argentine superstar will headline concerts, meet-and-greet sessions, food festivals, football masterclasses, and even a padel exhibition at Mumbai's Brabourne Stadium.



India reach 448/5 at stumps on Day 2, lead West Indies by 286 runs

AHMEDABAD (TIP)

KL Rahul's 11th hundred grounded the West Indies before Dhruv Jurel and Ravindra Jadeja followed the suit with stylish tons as India literally batted the visitors out of the opening Test taking a huge lead of 286 runs at the end of second day's play. At stumps, India were 448 for 5 and with the West Indies spinners getting appreciable turn and bounce off the rough, the hosts will like to finish the game by the end of the third day itself and consolidate their position in the World Test Championship points table. Rahul (100 off 197 balls), Jurel (125 off 210 balls) and Jadeja (104 batting off 178 balls) had their own distinct approach to Test match batting and even interesting ways of celebrations.

Rahul's was for his infant daughter while Jurel's gun salute was for the Indian Army while Jadeja's now familiar sword celebration is something people wait for.

The West Indies bowling was insipid and there was lack of energy on the field which also enabled India to actually increase their stranglehold on the opposition.

India through 128 overs scored at 3.50 runs per over which is reminiscent of Test cricket from a bygone era but also hit 45 boundaries and eight sixes—five of them by Jadeja, same shot in the same region.

While Rahul brought an end to his century drought at home by hitting his second century since December 2016, Jurel brought up his maiden Test century in only his sixth



Test for India having made his debut last year.

Jadeja, whose purple patch saw the venerable all-rounder notching up his seventh score in last six Tests in excess of 50 including two hundreds since the England tour, brought up his sixth century in the format.

Jurel and Jadeja put on 206 runs for the fifth wicket for an imposing fifth-wicket stand, but they also narrowly missed breaking the record for highest fifth wicket partnership for India against West Indies, which belonged to VVS Laxman and Sachin Tendulkar who put on 214 runs at Kolkata's Eden Gardens in October 2002.

The partnership ended when Jurel, who smacked 15

fours and three sixes got an inside edge off Khary Pierre late in the day to be caught behind for the West Indies debutant's maiden wicket in Tests.

On the second day, India opted for a traditional approach with the bat to pile up immense pressure on the West Indies, who, at the best, remained disciplined but could not put pressure back on the hosts.

Gill and Rahul resumed India's innings at 121 for 2 and by drinks in the first session, the deficit of 41 runs was erased with the two batters going about their jobs with ease.

In the 56th over off Pierre, Rahul reverse-swept a ball for a four which was enjoyed thoroughly by the Indian captain who tried to emulate his partner in the next. However, Roston Chase's (2/90) delivery, which pitched on off, took a leading edge and Justin Greaves in first slip was nimble to move in direction of the ball to grab an easy catch. Gill, who added 98 runs for the third wicket with Rahul, fell immediately after completing his half-century. His innings had five boundaries.

But Rahul carried on to bring up only his second century at home in nine years and 11th overall. The right-handed batter had scored 199 in the Chennai Test against England in December 2016 and since then a triple-figure score had remained elusive.

Rahul also had his share of luck early on in the first over of the morning when an outside edge of Jayden Seales flew between the wicketkeeper and wide first slip, with neither of the fielders reacting.



An Eye Institute in Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh combating avoidable blindness in children.

"On behalf of all my colleagues of the Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore, MD. I send my best wishes and congratulations to our friends in Goutami on this extremely important occasion. This beautiful facility will match the wonderful world class work of your doctors, nurses, and staff in preserving and restoring the vision of so many patients. We in the United States are inspired by your dedication and admire your tireless efforts to serve so many who need your skills and compassion. Best wishes, Peter"

Peter J McDonnell, MD Director Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins



New Goutami Institute building to be constructed 2024

3.5 + million served
325,000 + vision restoring surgeries
30,000 + surgeries on children

Services Include:

- Treating disease and vision problems
- performing free cataract surgeries
- distributing glasses and visual aids
- conducting community research
- providing education to physicians and the public

Join our Vision.
Give the gift
of sight today.

Visit eyefoundationofamerica.org

695 WESTVIEW AVENUE, MORGANTOWN, WV 26505
TAX ID # 55-062-1735



In 2018 Prasanth, Sushanth and Nisanth were diagnosed and treated for Prematurity Retinopathy. An illness in premature babies which can cause blindness.

Luckily through GEMROP an initiative funded by EFA to screen premature babies throughout hospitals in India, the triplets were able to receive an expensive surgery free of charge. The boys are now the age of 4 with perfect vision.