



AMERICA MARKS 24TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11 TERROR ATTACKS

Read the special article
United Nations at 80 - The
80th Session of the United
Nations General Assembly
Pages 19 - 23



FBI Director Kash Patel, former NYC Mayor Rudy Giuliani, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick, Former NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Gov. Kathy Hochul, William Hochul Jr., New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy, Tammy Murphy and NYC Mayor Eric Adams attend the annual 9/11 Commemoration Ceremony at the National 9/11 Memorial and Museum on Sept. 11, 2025 in New York City.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025
NEW YORK (TIP): Thursday marks 24 years since Sept. 11, 2001, when 2,977 people were killed in terrorist attacks on New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a plane that crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

In New York, families of the Sept. 11 victims participated in the annual reading of the names at Ground Zero, where the World Trade Center's Twin Towers collapsed. More than 2,700 of those killed on Sept. 11 died in that attack.

New York City Mayor Eric Adams was among the mourners gathered at Ground Zero, along with New York Gov. Kathy Hochul, former Gov. George Pataki, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy, and former Mayors Rudy Giuliani and Michael Bloomberg. FBI Director Kash Patel and Deputy Director Dan Bongino could also be seen in the crowd. Hochul directed more than a dozen state landmarks, including One World Trade

CONTD ON PAGE 40

- SAVE AMERICA FROM ITS GUNS, AND ITS WARS PAGE 2**
- A JOINT AND NEW JOURNEY ALONG THE SCO PATHWAY PAGE 8**
- NEPAL IS FACING A MOMENT OF RECKONING PAGE 9**
- AILING MANIPUR NEEDS HEALING TOUCH PAGE 10**

CP Radhakrishnan is sworn in as India's 15th Vice President



President of the Republic of India, Droupadi Murmu administers the oath of office of the Vice President of India to CP Radhakrishnan on Friday, September 12

SEPTEMBER 12, 2025
NEW DELHI (TIP): CP Radhakrishnan was on Friday, September 12, sworn in as the 15th Vice President of India. President of India Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office.

Radhakrishnan, the NDA nominee, was elected as the Vice President on September 9, securing 452 votes.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, former Vice-Presidents Jagdeep Dhankar and Venkaiah Naidu, former President Ram Nath Kovind, Home Minister

CONTD ON PAGE 40

80th session of UN General Assembly kicks off in New York

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025
UNITED NATIONS (TIP): The 80th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA-80) began on September 9, 2025 in New York, with Germany's Annalena Baerbock elected as President.



The President of the 80th UNGA, H.E. Annalena Baerbock, opened the session on September 9, 2025. File photo on X

The new President of UNGA has emphasized the theme "Better Together: 80 years and more for peace, development and human rights," arguing for reform, inclusivity and stronger multilateral cooperation.

Comprising 193 Member States of the United Nations, the General Assembly is the main policy-making organ that provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the Charter of the United Nations.

This year the UNGA makes key decisions for the UN, including appointing the Secretary-General on the recommendation of the Security Council, electing the non-permanent members of the Security Council, approving the UN budget, etc.

CONTD ON PAGE 40

Manhunt for Charlie Kirk's killer continues

PRESIDENT TRUMP SAID HE'LL AWARD KIRK THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM



Charlie Kirk at Utah Valley University on September 10 where he was fatally shot

SEPTEMBER 12, 2025
NEW YORK (TIP): Conservative activist and Turning Point USA co-founder Charlie Kirk died Wednesday, September 10, after he was shot at an event at Utah Valley University. He was speaking to a large crowd at an outdoor "Prove Me Wrong" debate, where he invites students to challenge his political and cultural views.

CONTD ON PAGE 40



Ex-chief justice Sushila Karki likely to head caretaker government in Nepal

GEN Z LEADERS PROPOSE KARKI'S NAME FOR THE POST OF NEW PRIME MINISTER

SEPTEMBER 12, 2025
KATHMANDU (TIP): Nepal's former Chief Justice Sushila Karki is likely to be appointed as the head of a caretaker government in the strife-torn Himalayan nation, which would conduct fresh elections, addressing the demands of the agitating group, according to sources. Talks among various stakeholders, including representatives of

CONTD ON PAGE 40



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Nepal's former Chief Justice Sushila Karki
File photo

Save America from Its Guns, and Its Wars

On September 10, 2025, America once again confronted its ugliest truth. Charlie Kirk, the conservative commentator and youth organizer, was gunned down in broad daylight while speaking at Utah Valley University. A sniper's bullet-delivered from nearly 200 yards away-silenced him mid-sentence. In an instant, what was meant to be a campus debate about free speech became another entry in America's expanding ledger of politically motivated bloodshed.

We mourn, we rage, we ask the usual questions. But deep down we already know the answers. We know why this keeps happening. Guns are too freely available. Violence is tolerated, even glorified. Leaders posture about peace, but their actions reveal an obsession with war-both abroad and at home.

The killing of Charlie Kirk should have been a jolt to America's conscience. Instead, it risks becoming one more incident in a nation that has normalized the abnormal. Every week brings another headline: a school classroom turned into a morgue, a nightclub riddled with bullets, a church defiled by gunfire. And now, a political assassination at a university campus.

The scale of American gun violence is staggering. In 2023 alone, there were 46,278 gun-related deaths-more than the number of U.S. soldiers killed in the entire Vietnam War. That year, 80% of murders in the United States involved guns. By mid-2025, America had already endured over 300 mass shootings, claiming more than 300 lives and leaving over 1,300 wounded. Every single day, 125 Americans are killed with guns, while 200 more are shot and survive, often with life-altering injuries.

No other developed democracy tolerates this. In Japan, the average annual gun death toll can be counted on one hand. In the United Kingdom, fewer people die by firearms in a year than in a single violent weekend in Chicago. Yet America, wrapped in romantic myths of cowboys, militias, and frontier heroes, continues to treat gun violence as the "price of freedom."

This obsession with violence does not stop with domestic gun culture. It is mirrored, even amplified, at the highest levels of leadership. Consider the symbolism: in 1949, American legislators wisely renamed the "Department of War" the Department of Defense, signaling to the world that the nation's posture was not conquest but protection. That shift represented democratic maturity-the recognition that peace, not endless war, ought to be the organizing principle of a modern republic.

And yet in 2025, President Donald Trump restored the old title: Department of War. The change was not just semantic. It was a declaration that America would once again define itself by its capacity to wage war, not its responsibility to preserve peace. The renaming spits in the face of the legislative wisdom that tried, however imperfectly, to steer the nation away from perpetual conflict.

It also exposes a breathtaking hypocrisy. America's leaders-Democrat and Republican alike-love to talk about peace, diplomacy, and human rights. They fly across the world to deliver lofty speeches at the United Nations. They crave recognition, even the Nobel Peace Prize. Yet their budgets tell another story. In 2024, the U.S. spent \$916 billion on its military-more than the next ten countries combined. Contrast that with the paltry sums devoted to



Charlie Kirk at Utah Valley University where he was shot on September 10

curbing gun violence at home, or to addressing poverty, education, and healthcare.

It is a peculiar kind of blindness: the nation that preaches peace abroad but cannot stop killing itself at home.

Time and again, American presidents have styled themselves as peacemakers while presiding over death. Theodore Roosevelt won the Nobel Peace Prize for brokering the end of the Russo-Japanese War, even as he celebrated the projection of American military power. Woodrow Wilson won for championing the League of Nations, even though his administration brutally suppressed dissent at home. Barack Obama accepted the Nobel Prize less than a year into his presidency-while simultaneously authorizing

drone strikes that killed civilians in Pakistan and Yemen.

And now, we see leaders obsessed with restoring the language of war, not peace. It is difficult to reconcile their hunger for honors with their indulgence of violence. How can a president who renames the Department of Defense back to the Department of War claim to desire peace? How can lawmakers who take millions from the gun lobby claim to care about the safety of children in schools?

At the root of America's paralysis is the stranglehold of the gun industry and its political enablers. The National Rifle Association and allied lobbies pour tens of millions of dollars into election campaigns, ensuring that meaningful reform dies in committee before it can ever reach the president's desk. For them, blood is currency. Every mass shooting is an opportunity to sell more guns. Every political stalemate ensures more profit.

It is not just Republicans who are complicit. Democrats, too, have failed to act boldly, often content with half-measures that leave the underlying epidemic untouched. The result is a bipartisan failure-a government too timid, too compromised, or too corrupted to confront the crisis head-on.

The truth is simple: guns are not sacred. They are not the foundation of liberty, nor the guarantor of democracy. They are tools of destruction, fetishized by a culture that confuses violence with strength. It is time to break the romance. To admit that the free availability of guns is not only unnecessary but actively harmful to the nation.

Durable peace-at home and abroad-will never be achieved through the barrel of a gun. It will be achieved by rejecting the mythology of war, by refusing to let the gun lobby dictate national policy, and by reclaiming the wisdom of those who once sought to rebrand America's war machine as a defensive shield, not a sword of conquest.

The killing of Charlie Kirk is not just another tragedy-it is a warning. A nation that allows political violence to flourish, which tolerates school massacres, which glorifies war while speaking of peace, is a nation on the path to self-destruction.

To the gun lobby, I say: stop hiding behind the Constitution while you cash in on death. To political parties, I say: put America before your lust for campaign dollars. To American leaders, I say: if you truly want to be remembered as peacemakers, then stop renaming departments, stop glorifying war, and start building a society where children, students, and political figures alike can live without fear of being gunned down.

Save America. Save Americans from Americans. And save peace from those who dare to speak its name while waging war against it.

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COMMENT

Save America from Its Guns, and Its Wars

By Indrajit Saluja



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Charlie Kirk at Utah Valley University where he was shot on September 10

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Mayor Adams Will Conduct Private Polling, Could Determine Future Of Campaign: Reports

Adams made the comments to the Association for a Better New York during a closed-door meeting on Wednesday, September 10

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): New York City Mayor Eric Adams hinted to a group of business leaders on Wednesday, September 10, that he would conduct his own polling that could determine whether he continues his reelection campaign.

Adams made the comments to the Association for a Better New York during a closed-door meeting, according to the New York Times.

According to NBC News, Adams implied that if his poll numbers do not move, he would put the best interests of the city first. He told members of the association that he loves "the city more than I dislike Andrew."

Last Friday, Adams reiterated that he is still running for reelection, despite a previous New York Times report that claimed he could potentially drop out of the race and take a job with the Trump administration.



Last Friday, Adams reiterated that he is still running for reelection, despite a previous New York Times report. -Credit: NYC Mayor's Office

Todd Shapiro, a spokesman for the Adams campaign, told NBC News and the New York Times, that the mayor never "alluded to leaving the race" during the meeting.

"He clearly indicated that he will be spending resources to get his message out and will then look at his own independent poll to make a decision," Shapiro told the Times. "Nothing he said should give any indication that he has abandoned the race."

A Siena College and the New York Times poll released on Tuesday, September 9, showed that Democratic candidate Zohran Mamdani remains in the lead in the mayor's race.

The poll found in a four-man race that Mamdani would lead the pack with 46 percent of the vote, Cuomo got 24 percent and GOP nominee Curtis Sliwa ended up with 15 percent. Mayor Eric Adams finished with nine percent of the vote.

World Food Movement to Launch Feeding Program for Students and Communities in the USA

WORLD FOOD MOVEMENT' (WFM) WILL FORMALLY LAUNCH WITH A MUSIC CONCERT IN VICTORIA THEATRE, NJPAC IN NEWARK, NEW JERSEY ON SEPTEMBER 28.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

NEWARK, NJ (TIP): The World Food Movement (WFM) is a not-for-profit organization established in the USA to fulfill the great desire of Srila Prabhupada, Founder-Acharya of ISKCON, to see that No One Goes Hungry.

Due to various factors, including rising living expenses, many people are forced to choose between food and other essentials. WFM strives on nourishing students and the community at large by providing access to healthy meals in the USA.

This initiative is inspired by The Akshaya Patra Foundation, the world's largest NGO-run school lunch program serving fresh, nutritious meals to 2.3 million of children every day in India since 2000. Akshaya Patra is known for its state-of-the-art, ISO-certified kitchens, which can cook up to 100,000 meals a day. Its efficient systems have become case studies at leading institutions, including Harvard University, Stanford University, and London Business School. Former Presidents Mr. Barack Obama and Mr. Bill Clinton during their trip to India have expressed their appreciation for the scale, quality and use of advanced technologies in its feeding programs.

The World Food Movement has brought this transformative model to the USA, and commenced feeding initiatives in New Jersey, New York, and California, with a vision to expand nationwide.

On September 28, 2025, the 'World Food Movement' (WFM) will formally launch with a music concert in Victoria Theatre, NJPAC in Newark, New Jersey. The event will be inaugurated by Sri Chanchalapati Dasa, Vice Chairman of World Food Movement, and Sri Binaya Srikanta Pradhan, Consul General of India in New York. Eminent dignitaries from across the USA will be attending the event.

The evening will feature a musical performance by internationally acclaimed musician Abby V (Abhishek Venkatachalam) is set to give a vibrant cultural dimension to the event. He is a multi-award-winning



singer, songwriter, and composer, celebrated for blending classical and contemporary styles of music. This event marks the beginning of a movement that aspires to bring about a transformation in the United States of America.

Sri Chanchalapati Dasa said, "We are happy to launch the 'World Food Movement' in the USA to serve the students and other communities of this wonderful country. We believe it is essential for citizens to be well-nourished to thrive and engage effectively in nation-building. We are committed to promoting well-being, restoring dignity and making a difference in people's lives."

We invite you to participate in this event and join us in our mission to ensure food for all. We welcome the support of government and administrative agencies, philanthropists, corporate leaders, entrepreneurs, and individuals in providing abundant, nutritious meals and helping build a healthier, happier nation.

Learn more about the World Food Movement on <https://wfmnj.org/about> and secure your tickets for the Fundraising event on <https://wfmnj.org/events>.

INDIAN-ORIGIN MOTEL MANAGER BEHEADED IN DALLAS, CO-WORKER ARRESTED



Chandra Mouli "Bob" Nagamalliah, originally from Karnataka, was killed after a dispute over a broken washing machine with his co-worker Yordanis Cobos-Martinez, according to the Dallas Police Department.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

DALLAS (TIP): The incident took place at Downtown Suites motel in Dallas on Wednesday, September 10.

The suspect, a co-worker with a criminal record, has been arrested and charged with capital murder.

A 50-year-old Indian-origin motel manager was beheaded in front of his wife and son in Texas following a dispute over a washing machine, police said.

Chandra Mouli "Bob" Nagamalliah, originally from Karnataka, was killed after a dispute over a broken washing machine with his co-worker Yordanis Cobos-Martinez, according to the Dallas Police Department.

Cobos-Martinez, 37, reportedly became enraged when Nagamalliah asked another person to translate his instructions instead of addressing him directly.

Surveillance footage showed Cobos-Martinez retrieving a machete and attacking Nagamalliah.

The victim fled towards the motel office where his wife and 18-year-old son were present, but the suspect pursued him, carrying out the assault despite their attempts to intervene.

Cobos-Martinez, who has a prior criminal history in Houston, including arrests for auto theft and assault, is being held without bond.

If convicted, he could face life imprisonment without parole or the death penalty.

Known as Bob to friends and family, Nagamalliah was remembered as a loving husband, devoted father, and a kind soul who touched the lives of everyone he knew.

"This unimaginable tragedy was not only sudden but deeply traumatic," friends said.

"Bob's life was taken in a brutal attack that occurred in front of his wife and son, who bravely tried to protect him. The shocking nature of this event has shaken our community." Friends, family, and the local Indian community are coming together to support his family.

A fundraiser has been set up to help cover funeral expenses, immediate living costs, and his son's college education. Funeral services for Nagamalliah are scheduled for Saturday.

Indian American student Aneesha Raj named Student Trustee to Miami University board

September 9, 2025

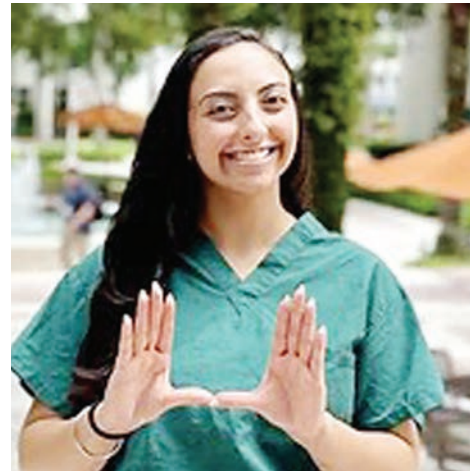
MIAMI, FL (TIP): Aneesha Raj, an Indian American University of Miami Miller School of Medicine student from the Class of 2026, has been elected by the University of Miami Board of Trustees as the student trustee for the 2025-2026 academic year.

This prestigious appointment places Raj as a full voting member of the Board of Trustees, representing more than 19,000 University of Miami students across the undergraduate, graduate, law and medical campuses, according to a university release.

Raj's selection marks a significant milestone for the Miller School, as she becomes only the sixth representative from the medical school to serve in this role since the student trustee position was established in 2002. Her appointment reflects both her academic excellence and her commitment to advancing student interests across UM.

"I'm incredibly honored to be granted the responsibility of articulating student needs across the University of Miami," said Raj. "In providing our institutional leadership with insights into the student experience, I hope to navigate high-level decisions with their best interests in mind and strengthen the University of Miami's presence in academic leadership, research and service to our community."

As student trustee, Raj will attend all full Board meetings and serve on the Student Affairs Committee.



Aneesha Raj has been elected by the University of Miami Board of Trustees as the student trustee for the 2025-2026 academic year.

"As the first UM student trustee to come from the Miller School of Medicine in more than five years," Raj said, "I look forward to contributing my unique perspective as a medical student and engaging with leadership to foster unity and collaboration across the University of Miami ecosystem."

Raj's leadership journey is rooted in her passion for global health and health equity. During her time at the Miller School, she has been involved in research in tuberculosis care, collaborating with the Florida Department of Health to evaluate the effectiveness of video-directly observed therapy (VDOT) in improving treatment outcomes for patients with active TB.

Her study, published in the Journal of Clinical Tuberculosis and Other Mycobacterial Diseases, analyzed data from more than 1,300 patients and found that VDOT significantly improved therapy completion rates and reduced treatment duration compared to traditional methods.

"When choosing the subject for my M.D./M.P.H. practicum, I sought to connect the material I was learning in my clinical education to real-world public health interventions happening in the community around me," Raj explained.

Inspired by a lecture from Dr. David Ashkin, Florida's medical director for TB, she joined his research team to explore how telehealth could transform TB care in Florida.

Raj's commitment to service and innovation has earned her recognition not only within the Miller School but also across the broader UM community.

She previously served as executive student government president for the Miller School, where she championed initiatives to enhance student wellness, academic support and interprofessional collaboration.

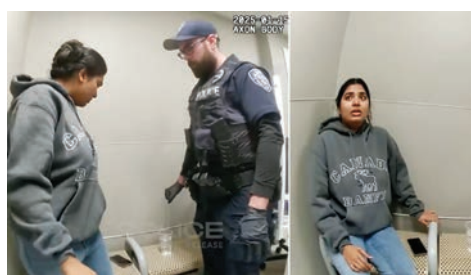
Her appointment as student Trustee emphasizes the importance of student voices in institutional governance and highlights the Miller School's role in shaping future leaders who are deeply engaged in both clinical practice and public health policy, according to the release.

Indian-origin woman caught shoplifting at a Target store in Illinois

SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

ILLINOIS (TIP): A video has gone viral showing an Indian woman being confronted by police after she was allegedly caught shoplifting at a Target store earlier this year.

The incident, which occurred on January 15, shows the woman visibly distressed-sobbing, gasping for breath, and hyperventilating while officers attempt to question her. At the start of the interaction, one of the officers tells her, "Right now, you're not free to leave."



An Indian origin woman was caught shoplifting in Illinois

As she struggles to breathe, the officers urge her to calm down, with one advising, "Take a deep breath... I can't talk to you if you're breathing like that."

When asked if she spoke English, the woman responded, "Not very good," and

identified Gujarati as her primary language. She confirmed she was from India but declined the need for a translator. Officers also asked if she had any medical conditions due to her breathing difficulties.

During the encounter, Target staff presented CCTV footage showing the woman bypassing the checkout with a cart full of unpaid merchandise. An officer remarked, "So she just put everything in the cart and then just walked past," to which a staff member replied, "Just walked straight out."

The woman, who reportedly holds a Washington-issued driver's license, was described by store employees as a regular customer. However, this was the first time she had been caught shoplifting. She admitted to officers that she intended to resell some of the items she had taken.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian-origin immigration officer jailed by Singapore for obtaining sexual favors

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

SINGAPORE (TIP): An Indian-origin Singapore immigration officer was sentenced to 22 months' jail on Thursday for obtaining sexual favors in exchange for helping people get visit passes, a media report said here.

Kannan Morice Rajagopal Jayaram, an inspector with the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA), had pleaded guilty to three charges of corruptly obtaining gratification in the form of sexual acts in exchange of helping the bribers with short-term visit pass applications.

Another three similar charges were considered in sentencing the 55-year-old Kannan, Channel News Asia reported.

Court papers detailed his encounters in 2022 and 2023 - including Indian nationals aged between 25 and 30 - who had come to Singapore to study, according to the channel report.

While there were prevailing guidelines governing short-term visit pass extensions, Kannan's subordinates would consult him if they encountered difficulties, and Kannan had the discretion to approve or reject any application, it said.

The prosecution called it an "appalling case."

"Instead of acting as a custodian of our borders and as an impartial, unbiased, public representative of Singapore, the accused exploited these young foreigners," the channel quoted the prosecutors as saying.

Kannan's jail term will begin on September 18.



Kannan Morice Rajagopal Jayaram, an inspector with the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) was sentenced to 22 months' jail on Thursday, September 11, for obtaining sexual favors in exchange for helping people get visit passes

Three Indian American scholars join Brown University faculty

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

PROVIDENCE, RI (TIP): Three Indian American scholars have joined the faculty of Brown university with 38 new appointees with research and teaching expertise spanning topics from neuroscience to Hispanic studies to biostatistics, Providence, Rhodes Island-based university announced.

"Our faculty are central to Brown's research and educational mission," said Brown Provost Francis J. Doyle III. "These new members of our community are vital to the continued growth of Brown as a preeminent research university that is dedicated to the education of future generations."

Kim Fernandes, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, is a sociocultural anthropologist interested in disability, data and technology. Their research explores how assumptions about normalcy and body shape are shaped by the development of various technologies.

Focusing on urban India, Fernandes' first book project looks at how the body meets and moves through the world. This ethnographic project studies how national enumeration and identification infrastructures are shaped by numerical representations of everyday experiences with disability. Research for this project has been supported by the Social Science Research Council and the Taraknath Das Foundation.

Fernandes' research interests lie at the intersections of disability studies, science and technology studies, and the anthropology of South Asia. Their interest in disability and technology has led them to begin a new collaborative research project on neurotechnology and disability.

Focusing on North America and centering the perspectives of disabled people, this ethnographic project attends to the development of neurotechnology that targeted specifically toward experiences of disability.

Fernandes' research, teaching and community



Kim Fernandes, Saloni Gupta, and Divya Murthy have joined the faculty at Brown University

engagements are informed by their experience working in education and monitoring and evaluation prior to beginning their PhD.

Saloni Gupta is Jonathan M. Nelson Assistant Professor of Education and Entrepreneurship. Her work lies at the intersection of education, innovation, and economic development.

She examines how education systems develop higher-order skills for a changing labor market and how new technologies influence the scaling of educational innovations.

Gupta is an invited researcher at the J-PAL's Science for Progress Initiative. Her work is supported by the Weiss Fund for Development Economics, the National Academy of Education, the King Center on Global Development at Stanford University, the Learning for All Initiative (LAI) at J-PAL, and the What Works Hub for Global Education.

Gupta completed her PhD in Economics and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University in 2024 and a postdoc at the Stanford King Center on Global Development in 2025.

Before her PhD, she taught in a juvenile home for children rescued from the streets, launched nationwide teacher training programs, worked as a software engineer, and served as a policy consultant to several Indian state governments.

Divya Murthy is an Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (Research). Her research centers on metabolic reprogramming in pancreatic cancer and its tumor microenvironment, focusing on the mechanisms driving metastasis and therapy resistance.

She earned her PhD from CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, New Delhi, India, where she made significant strides in identifying an unconventional role of autophagic machinery in organelle transport within skin cells.

During her postdoctoral work at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Dr. Murthy investigated the metabolic crosstalk between pancreatic cancer cells and the tumor microenvironment, specifically targeting interactions with cancer-associated fibroblasts and macrophages to uncover metabolic vulnerabilities that could inform new therapeutic approaches.

She continued her work on cancer metabolism at Baylor College of Medicine, where she discovered a novel metabolic role for the stem cell marker CD24 in triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC), opening avenues for new TNBC treatment strategies.

In the Mani Lab, Dr. Murthy continues to expand her research, delving into the roles of epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) and cancer stem cells in pancreatic cancer metastasis and development of therapy resistance.

Her work aims to elucidate key metabolic and cellular processes as potential therapeutic targets to improve the current standard of care therapies for pancreatic cancer patients.

Indian American Assistant Professor Priyasha Mukhopadhyay wins Yale's 2025 International Book Prize

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025
NEW HAVEN, CT

(TIP): Priyasha Mukhopadhyay, an Indian American Assistant Professor of English at Yale University, has been awarded a 2025 International Book Prize by its Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies.

Among Yale's most prestigious honors for scholarly publishing, the prizes highlight the MacMillan Center's role in advancing research that examines the forces shaping our world, according to a media release.

Established in 2004 to honor two former directors of the MacMillan Center, the Gustav Ranis International Book Prize celebrates the most outstanding book by a Yale ladder faculty member, and the Gaddis Smith International Book Prize honors the best first book by a Yale ladder faculty member. Recipients receive a research appointment at the MacMillan Center along with \$5,000 in funding to support their continued scholarship.

Mukhopadhyay, received the 2025 Gaddis Smith International Book Prize for her book



Priyasha Mukhopadhyay has been awarded a 2025 International Book Prize by its Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies.

"Required Reading: The Life of Everyday Texts in the British Empire" (Princeton University Press, 2024).

In *Required Reading*, Mukhopadhyay offers a fresh perspective on the history of reading by examining how everyday texts such as manuals, government documents, and almanacs shaped the imaginative and political lives of readers in colonial South Asia.

Through compelling case studies, she shows how even partial, resisted, or utilitarian

reading practices became central to the ways individuals navigated and responded to imperial rule.

The prize committee praised the book as "deeply researched, deft in its style, innovative in its analysis, and a model of interdisciplinary scholarship."

Lauren Benton, Barton M. Briggs Professor of History and Professor of Law, received the 2025 Gustav Ranis International Book Prize for "They Called It Peace: Worlds of Imperial Violence" (Princeton University Press, 2024).

Last year marked the 20th anniversary of the International Book Prizes

Indian American entrepreneur Bajju Bhatt Named Among Youngest Billionaires on Forbes 400

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (TIP): Bajju Prafulkumar Bhatt, the Indian American co-founder of Robinhood, has been named to the Forbes 400 list of the Top 10 Youngest Billionaires in the United States for 2025.

Bhatt, 40, who grew up in Virginia as the son of Gujarati immigrants, is the only person of Indian origin in the prestigious group.

According to Forbes, Bhatt's net worth is estimated to be between \$6 billion and \$7 billion, driven largely by his stake in Robinhood, the fintech company he co-founded in 2013 that popularized

commission-free stock and cryptocurrency trading. Robinhood went public in 2021 with a valuation of about \$32 billion, cementing Bhatt's place in the financial technology world.

Bhatt, who studied physics and mathematics at Stanford University, served as Robinhood's co-CEO until 2020 before moving into the role of Chief Creative Officer. In 2024, he stepped down from executive duties but continues to serve on the company's board of directors. More recently, he launched Aetherflux, an ambitious space-based energy startup that seeks to beam solar power from orbit back to Earth-an innovation he hopes will help address global energy shortages.

Bhatt's personal journey has been one of resilience and vision. Raised in a modest household, he has spoken of how his family once could not afford to travel to India. Today, he stands as a symbol of Indian American achievement in the global entrepreneurial landscape.



Bajju Prafulkumar Bhatt has been named to the Forbes 400 list of the Top 10 Youngest Billionaires in the United States for 2025



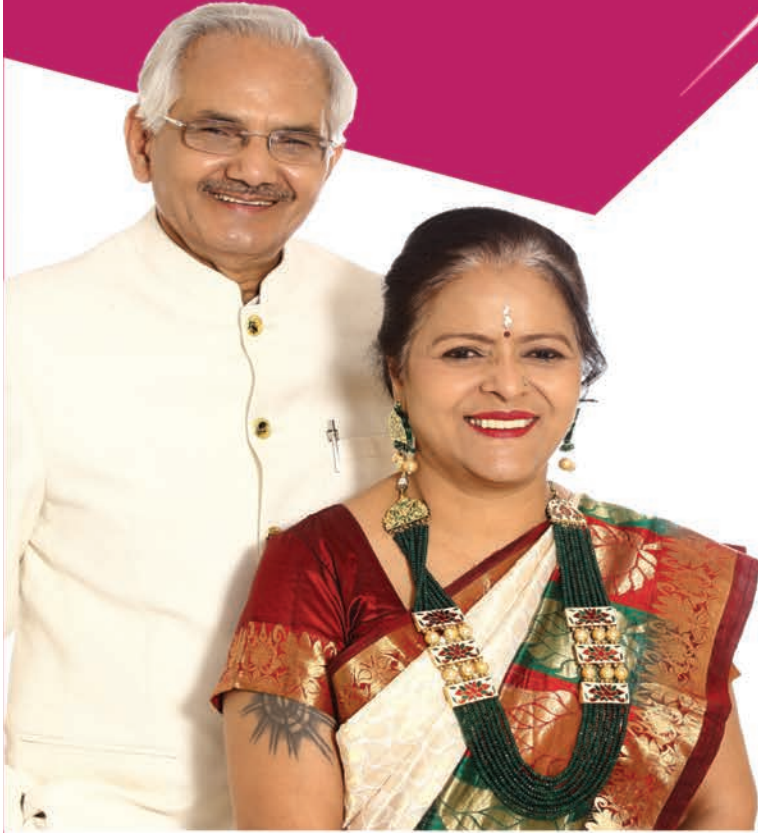
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WORKSHOP	DATE	TIME	VENUE
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Healing Secrets of Reiki & Past Life (Free Entry)	6th Sept. (Sat)	7 PM	Online
Reiki 1st Level (Online) (Free Entry)	7th Sept. (Sun)	4 PM to 8 PM	Online
Reiki-IInd Level (Offline)	14th Sept. (Sun)	11 AM to 5 PM	Lakshmi Hall, Flushing, New York
Reiki-IIIrd Level (Offline)	19th Sept. (Fri)	9 AM to 5 PM	146-29 Hawthorn Avenue, Flushing, N.Y. 11355
Reiki Mastership (Professional Teacher)	20-21Sept. (Sat-Sun)	9 AM to 2 PM	146-29 Hawthorn Avenue, Flushing, N.Y. 11355
Past Life Therapist (Professional Course)	9-11 Sept.	9 AM to 2 PM	146-29 Hawthorn Avenue, Flushing, N.Y. 11355
Personal Consultation, Past Life Session & Reiki Healing Sessions	5-23 Sept.	By Appointment	146-29 Hawthorn Avenue, Flushing, N.Y. 11355

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A joint and new journey along the SCO pathway

China stands ready to work with India in enhancing cooperation under the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)



By Xu Feihong

"SINCE JOINING THE SCO IN 2017, INDIA HAS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN ADVANCING THE SCO'S DEVELOPMENT. CHINA DEEPLY APPRECIATES MR. MODI'S AND INDIA'S FULL SUPPORT FOR CHINA'S SCO PRESIDENCY. CHINA STANDS READY TO WORK WITH INDIA TO ENHANCE COOPERATION UNDER THE FRAMEWORK OF SCO IN VARIOUS AREAS SUCH AS SECURITY, FINANCING, ENERGY, GREEN INDUSTRY AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY, TO BETTER IMPROVE THE WELL-BEING OF THEIR PEOPLE."

Last week, I was privileged to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Tianjin, China, for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit, and attend the meeting between China's President Xi Jinping and Mr. Modi. This is a summit of solidarity and friendship. After 24 years of development, the SCO has grown into the world's largest regional organization. The SCO Tianjin Summit has been the largest since the organization's establishment. Leaders or the representatives of 23 countries, Mr. Modi included, and 10 heads of international organizations gathered to renew friendship, explore cooperation, seek common development, and advance the SCO into a new stage of high-quality development.

A HIGH-YIELDING SUMMIT

There were fruitful outcomes. The Tianjin Declaration announced the establishment of "four security centers", including the SCO Universal Center for Countering Security Challenges and Threats and the SCO Anti-drug Center, and decided to set up the SCO Development Bank. Member-states of the SCO issued statements which expressed a fair stance in support of the multilateral trading system, and a just voice for defending the achievements of the victory in the Second World War.

This was a summit that focused on development. The leaders adopted the SCO's development strategy for the next

decade. Against this backdrop, Mr. Xi announced that China would establish three major platforms for China-SCO cooperation in energy, green industry, and the digital economy, and set up three major cooperation centers for scientific and technological innovation, higher education and also vocational and technical education. These initiatives are open to all member-states, providing the organization with new opportunities and empowering the region's sustainable development.

It was a summit leading global governance. In response to the governance deficit facing today's world, Mr. Xi put forth the Global Governance

relations further. Mr. Xi pointed out that it should be the right choice for China and India to be good-neighborly friends and partners who help each other succeed, and have the dragon and the elephant dance together. Mr. Modi also stated that India and China are partners, not rivals. Their consensus far outweighs their disagreement. India is ready to view and develop the bilateral ties from a long-term perspective.

We should uphold the important and common understandings reached by the two leaders as guidance, and push bilateral relations forward for more practical progress.

interests and promote people-to-people bonds.

Third, we should further enhance good-neighborliness and friendship. We should continue to uphold the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence initiated by the older generation of Chinese and Indian leaders, truly respect each other's core interests and major concerns, and combine our strength to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas. We should not allow the boundary question that was left over from the past to define current China-India relations, nor let specific differences affect bilateral cooperation, so as to ensure the sound and stable



China and India share common interests in pursuing development and revitalization, maintaining world peace and stability, and promoting global governance'. -Photo Credit: AFP

Initiative, calling for adhering to sovereign equality, abiding by international rule of law, practicing multilateralism, advocating a people-centered approach, and focusing on taking real actions, which became the biggest highlight of this summit.

Since joining the SCO in 2017, India has played an important role in advancing the SCO's development. China deeply appreciates Mr. Modi's and India's full support for China's SCO presidency. China stands ready to work with India to enhance cooperation under the framework of SCO in various areas such as security, financing, energy, green industry and the digital economy, to better improve the well-being of their people.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE OF TIES

This year marks the 75th anniversary of China-India diplomatic ties. In Tianjin, Mr. Xi and Mr. Modi reached new, important and common understandings on growing China-India

First, we should further consolidate strategic mutual trust. We should earnestly draw the lessons from the past 75 years, strengthen correct strategic perception, explore right ways for neighboring major countries to get along with each other, which are characterized by mutual respect and trust, peaceful coexistence, pursuit of common development, and win-win cooperation, and gradually resume various mechanisms for dialogue and exchange between the two governments.

Second, we should further expand exchanges and cooperation. We should focus on development, which is the biggest common denominator of the two countries, and promote mutual support and success, and better facilitate trade and investment flows. The Chinese side is ready to strengthen cooperation with the Indian side in technology, education, culture, tourism and poverty alleviation, and promote exchanges and communications between political parties, think-tanks, media and the youth, so as to expand the convergence of

development of China-India relations.

THE ROAD AHEAD

As the world's two most populous major developing countries and important members of the Global South, China and India share common interests in pursuing development and revitalization, maintaining world peace and stability, and promoting global governance. India and China will successively assume the BRICS presidency in the next two years. China stands ready to work with India to support each other's presidency, deepen and strengthen greater BRICS cooperation, jointly implement the Global Governance Initiative, resolutely oppose bullying and hegemony, defend international fairness and justice, and join hands to build a community with a shared future for humanity.

(Xu Feihong is a Chinese diplomat, currently serving as Chinese Ambassador to India)

Nepal is facing a moment of reckoning

Endemic corruption, nepotism, inequality and misgovernance had angered the people of Nepal



By Jayant Prasad



The destruction of public property wrought two days ago in 10-11 hours surpassed that in the 10-11 years of the Maoist civil war. The structures set ablaze included the Singha Durbar, the seat of the Nepalese government, the Sanghiya Sansad, the Federal Parliament, and Sheetal Niwas, the presidential palace

The GenZ protest launched by Hami Nepal, an NGO, three days ago, against nepotism and corruption has swept from power the entirety of the Nepalese political elite. This was demonstrated by the torching of the offices of the Nepali Congress (NC), the Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist-Leninist (UML) and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist Centre). Besides, the houses of several prominent politicians were burnt, vandalized or stoned.

Nepal's premiership has changed nine times since 2015. Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli of the UML served as PM four times since, for a total period of one-and-a-half months short of six years.

Pushpa Kamal Dahal (Prachanda) of the Maoist Centre served twice, as did Sher Bahadur Deuba of the NC. Sushil Koirala of the NC served once.

Power has rotated among the three major parties because of the opportunistic alliances forged by them without any ideological affinity or programmatic consensus. They played musical chairs for sharing the spoils of office.

Disaffection had been simmering in Nepal for several years, and the banning of 26 social media platforms - ostensibly to protect national security and combat online hate, false news, cybercrime and misinformation - triggered the protests.

Endemic corruption, nepotism, inequality and misgovernance had angered the people of Nepal. The three main political parties have been irreparably damaged, at least in the short to medium term, unless new faces emerge.

Government law enforcement viciously cracked down on the peaceful assemblage that was proceeding towards the Nepalese Parliament House in New Baneshwar, Kathmandu. By the end of the police firing, there were 19 persons killed and nearly 400 injured. A DSP-level officer, who had reportedly served in Oli's personal security staff, allegedly gave the firing order.

The previous violence on a similar scale was seen two decades ago, at the time of the Jana Andolan. Nineteen persons had then lost their lives over a period of 19 to 20 days. On September 8, the same number of people died in two hours.

Never before have public protests in Nepal resulted in so many casualties in such a short period of time.

Hami Nepal had confined the march to those less than 28 years old. The youth wanted to be visible and were hoping for a better Nepal. Among those shot were schoolchildren in uniform. The resulting revulsion led to lawlessness and mayhem the following day.

Although Hami Nepal had discouraged the participation of the older citizenry and had specifically asked the youth wings of political parties to keep away from the march on Monday, as with all such apolitical, spontaneous movements, vested interests would have taken advantage of the inept handling by the Nepalese government and infiltrated the ranks of the protesters.

The lesson from what has happened in Nepal is that absolute political power is ephemeral. Just last week, a confident and dapper Oli, sporting dark glasses, was visible in the second or third row at the victory parade in Beijing to commemorate the Second World War, walking on the red carpet behind China's President Xi Jinping and the North Korean

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un (the only other South Asian leader at the parade was Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif).

Thereafter, a UML convention, on Oli's return from China, decided to amend its 70-year age limit for leadership positions, enabling leaders to serve for more than two terms. Oli's position was apparently strengthened.

Ironically, his career, punctuated by a 14-year jail sentence and writing of revolutionary poetry on cigarette packets while incarcerated, has come to a sudden end.

An unsettled Nepal will seriously jeopardize Indian interests. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has rightly underlined that stability, peace and prosperity of Nepal are of "utmost importance" to India. India must also indicate support for democracy, republicanism and the supremacy of popular will.

The destruction of public property wrought two days ago in 10-11 hours surpassed that in the 10-11 years of the Maoist civil war. The structures set ablaze included the Singha Durbar, the seat of the Nepalese government, the Sanghiya Sansad, the



The Nepal Army, under General Ashok Raj Sigdel, has taken charge of law and order.

"An unsettled Nepal will seriously jeopardize Indian interests. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has rightly underlined that stability, peace and prosperity of Nepal are of "utmost importance" to India. India must also indicate support for democracy, republicanism and the supremacy of popular will."

Federal Parliament, and Sheetal Niwas, the presidential palace.

No Nepalese political leader of note is now in his own or official residence. Violence did not abate even after the revocation of the social media sites shutdown order and Oli's resignation.

The killings by Nepal's Armed Police Force three days ago are reminiscent of events in Dhaka last year. Although some similarities exist, the conditions in Nepal and Bangladesh differ.

The snowballing nationwide protests beginning with students, the exit of the incumbent PM, the army playing a stabilizing role and the appointment of a transitional government seem to follow a familiar pattern.

The young and articulate mayor of Kathmandu, Balen Shah, was widely expected to be chosen as the head of the interim government - his reputation as a hip-hop rapper, who obtained his MTech degree from Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belgaum, precedes him. However, Sushila Karki, the first woman Chief Justice of Nepal was on Monday evening named as the head of the interim government.

In Bangladesh, the ageing head of the interim government, Muhammad Yunus, has mismanaged the transition. With considerable experience, Karki, 73, is expected to do much better.

"Nothing can stop a revolution in Nepal," Jawaharlal Nehru wrote to Jayaprakash Narayan in November 1950, adding, "except the folly of those supporting it."

It was a turbulent period in Nepal's history when King Tribhuvan was in New Delhi and the Mukti Sena, the liberation army of the Nepali Congress, was waging an armed struggle against the Rana government. Meanwhile, Nehru was engaged in delicate negotiations to arrive at an amicable settlement.

Nehru's comment was made at a different time. After the recent bloodshed, the Nepalese are hopeful of cleaner politics and an improved Nepal.

Rebuilding Nepal's polity and economy will be arduous. With its multi-layered partnership, India should lend a helping hand.

(Jayant Prasad is a Former Ambassador of India to Nepal (2011-13).)

Ailing Manipur needs healing touch

PM Modi must sensitively address legitimate political aspirations of Kuki-Zomi-Hmar groups



By Kham Khan Suan
Hausing

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to visit Manipur on Saturday, September 13, just over a week after the Centre claimed to have cleared two roadblocks to restore peace in the state that has been roiled by violence for over two years.

The first development pertains to the extension of the Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement with two Kuki-Zomi-Hmar armed conglomerates - the Kuki National Organisation and United Progressive Front - after the matter was stalled for one-and-a-half years due to opposition from the then N Biren Singh-led BJP government. The second is about affirming the primary role of the Central forces in providing security on the National Highway-2 and securing the commitment of the Kuki-Zo Council to open it in ways that allow free movement of commuters and goods.

That the Centre chose a tight balancing act is evident as the tripartite pact it forged with the state government and these armed groups on September 4 reiterates 'the territorial integrity of Manipur' on the one hand and the 'need for a negotiated solution' on the other.

On the face of it, the lexical priority accorded to the question of 'territorial integrity' in a note issued by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs is significant in two senses. First, it seeks to instill confidence in the minds of the dominant Meitei community about their longstanding concerns about the state's 'territorial integrity'.

Second, prefixing the qualifier 'reiterate' and not 'protect/uphold' to 'territorial integrity' - although the original text commits the armed groups to 'abide by' - comes through as a deliberate and ingenious contrivance to lend flexibility to the agreement. This ensures that future negotiation on the political demands of the Kuki-Zomi-Hmar armed groups, including a 'separate administration', remains open-ended.

A deeper probe into the pact, however, suggests that the imprimatur of the old political chessboard of a counter-insurgency approach by the Centre is apparent. Driven by the Kautilian statecraft of saam (persuasion), daam (incentive), dand (stick) and bhed (ethnic fractionalization), this approach seeks to contain and control armed insurgent groups within a disparate set of nested territorial space.

The return of arms to the nearest CRPF/BSF camps, the relocation - albeit a reduced number - of designated camps away from 'areas vulnerable to conflicts' and the promise of 'negotiated solution' represent saam. The renewal of monthly stipends and the financial incentives that come along with the relocation of designated camps constitute daam of this agreement. The saam and daam components are, however, contingent on dand, namely 'stringent verifications... to delist foreign nationals' and close monitoring on the 'enforcement of ground rules' by the Joint Monitoring Group (JMG).

The containment of armed factions

within their designated camps, which would be closely monitored and sternly dealt with in case of any 'violation of ground rules', implies that ethnic fractionalization (bhed) within the Kuki-Zomi-Hmar groups gets institutionalized. While this may be amenable to leveraging interlocking balance within and across armed groups, it privileges the unrivalled power/control of the Centre.



Durable peace in Manipur will require non-partisan, sustained and credible political commitment to provide a healing touch to the deep psychological wounds, massive displacement of people and destruction of lives and properties caused by the prolonged violence.

Blunting the bargaining power of these groups is the immediate consequence. As rival armed factions get preoccupied with zealously guarding their operational areas under the close watch of the Army/Central paramilitary forces and the JMG around their designated camps, it is likely to dent, if not permanently forestall, the prospect of the emergence of a larger framework of unity and solidarity across armed groups.

If previous experience of ceasefire agreements with armed groups in Manipur or elsewhere in Northeast India is any guide, political patronage under the SoO may normalize and leverage the outsourcing of law and order to non-state actors in the long run. Putting the onus on armed groups to maintain peace by enforcing the 'ground rules' through the Army/Central paramilitary forces, especially under the overarching ambit of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, has fostered a precarious regime of human rights and citizenship in the past. It also serves as a convenient excuse to justify the abdication of the State's primary responsibility to maintain law and order.

This problem is accentuated in a deeply fractured state like Manipur, where the police forces conspicuously lack professionalism and are now deeply communalized in the aftermath of over two years of violence. As the State failed to ensure security of lives and properties to citizens across the divide, communities have resorted to 'self-help' to guarantee security to themselves. Given that Manipur sits on

given the complete rupture of demographic and territorial space across the divide in Manipur since the outbreak of violence on May 3, 2023. This rupture has already raised the pitch for de jure political separation, a demand which remains increasingly distant with the turnaround of the SoO groups on the 'territorial integrity' of Manipur. Hence, PM Modi must sensitively address the legitimate political aspirations of the

the cusp of the Golden Triangle, the easy availability of arms and ammunitions across the India-Myanmar border is not likely to help augment their security but may exacerbate ethnic security dilemma as more groups arm themselves to the teeth.

It is in this sense that despite its inherent limitations, involving SoO groups in negotiations is necessary but not sufficient to foster durable peace and normalcy in the strife-torn state.

Howsoever much frontal organizations in the valley areas and oppositional groups in the hills want to discredit them, the considerable hold of SoO groups on society means that they cannot be wished away anytime soon. Yet, involving them cannot be a substitute for an inclusionary space of political dialogue where important stakeholders are given effective participatory rights and voice. Another formidable challenge is to not replicate the mistake of Chhattisgarh's Salwa Judum model, wherein unscrupulous government agents have used these groups as proxies to witch-hunt rival groups and dissenters who espouse legitimate grievances.

This is a compelling need, especially

Kuki-Zomi-Hmar groups during his visit so that they are not subjected to dehumanization and oppressive rule in future.

His government must now walk the talk on upholding a rules-based constitutional order where rioters who committed egregious violence, including rape, arson and murder, are immediately nabbed and their cases put on the fast track irrespective of their political connections and positions.

The jury is out on whether the PM's visit can salvage his dented image for having ignored Manipur for so long. This will be contingent on his political willingness to turn the wheels of justice and uphold a rules-based order. Reopening a national highway and signing an agreement may create favorable conditions for peace and normalcy. Yet, durable peace in Manipur will require non-partisan, sustained and credible political commitment to provide a healing touch to the deep psychological wounds, massive displacement of people and destruction of lives and properties caused by the prolonged violence.

(Kham Khan Suan Hausing is Professor, Political Science, University of Hyderabad)



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THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

Meet Sarada Chiruvolu
the author of "Home At Last"

September 20 2025
(Saturday)
4:00 - 5.30 pm
25 Lavender Drive,
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In her talk, Sarada Chiruvolu will share with you her direct experience of self-realization and answer your questions in an intimate setting.

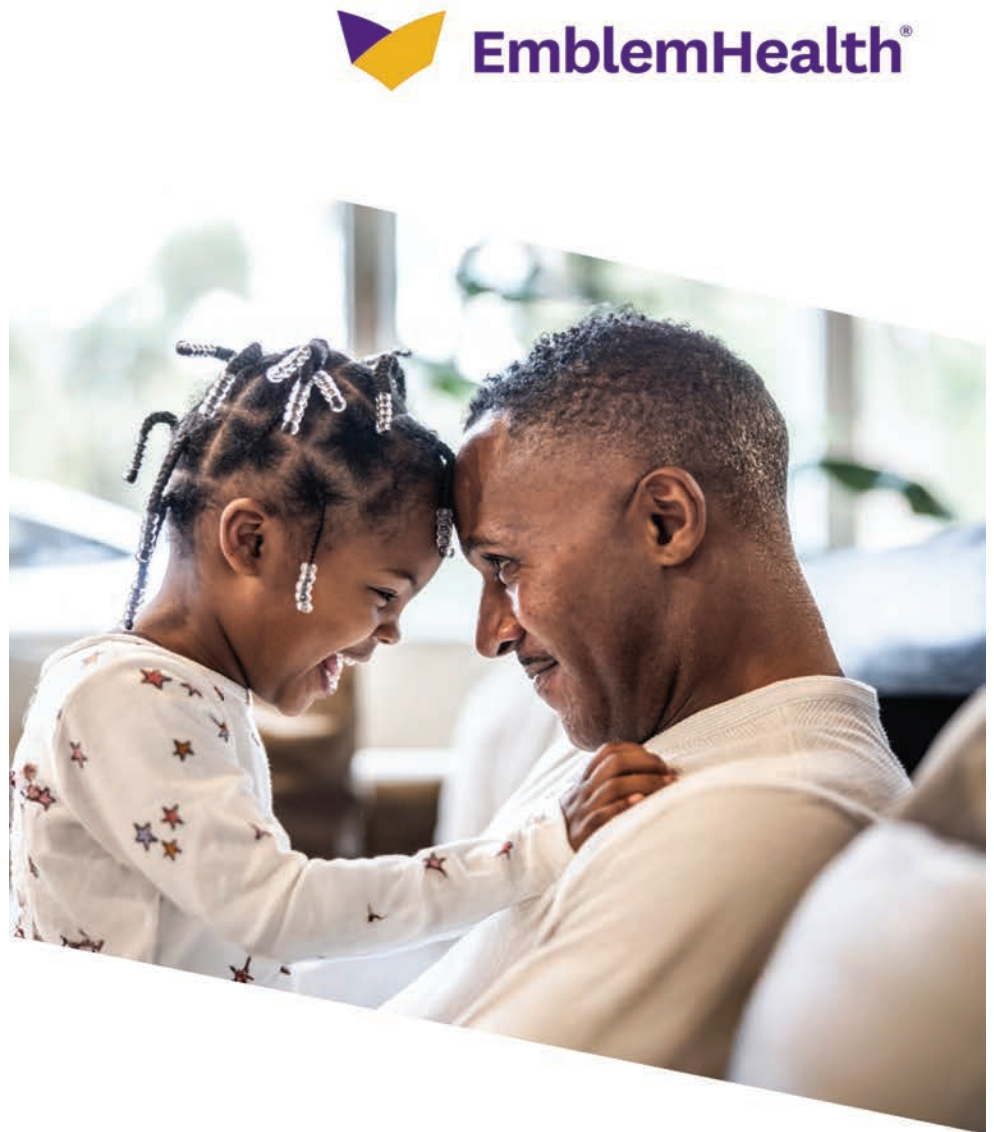
In her 2017 book, Home at Last (with a Foreword by Amma Karunamayi), the Princeton-based Sarada wrote how she left a pharma career to pursue a spiritual calling. She has given numerous public talks since then, sharing tips on balancing spritual discipline with everyday life.

You can get your own copy of Home At Last signed by Sarada.

To know more, visit:
www.saradachiruvolu.com
Lotus thanks
Abhishek Mishra
for hosting the event.

RSVP by Sept 15,
Parveen Chopra 516 710 0508
Abhishek Mishra 732 690-0404

WEBINAR with Sarada - Sept 13, 10 am EST/ Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/4f668e8n>



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AAPI's First Ever Nationwide Stem Cell Donor Drive for Indian American Community Receives Overwhelming Responses Across the US

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

PITTSBURGH, PA (TIP): In a groundbreaking initiative, the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) has launched the first-ever nationwide campaign to expand the stem cell donor pool among Indians. This effort addresses a critical gap in cancer treatment options for patients of Indian descent, who face significant challenges in finding compatible donors due to ethnicity-specific Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) matching. This noble initiative was launched in 2024 under leadership of AAPI's immediate past President, Dr. Satheesh Kathula.

THE URGENCY BEHIND THE MISSION

Dr. Amit Chakrabarty, AAPI President expressed deep gratitude to the many AAPI members and students across the nation, who have been part of these initiatives. "Stem cell transplants are a vital treatment for blood cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma HLA markers, which determine donor compatibility, are inherited and vary by ethnicity. I'm thankful to our local AAPI Chapter leaders, members and volunteers across the nation who have initiated and are spearheading the Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Registration across the nation, joining hands with the national AAPI in our efforts in creating awareness and enrolling more youth and adults to be part of this noble mission."

Patients of Indian ethnicity are more likely to match with Indian donors-but the existing donor pool is alarmingly small. Until now, families have had to organize donor drives independently, while also coping with the emotional and



medical toll of a cancer diagnosis.

Stem cells are one of the treatment options for certain types of cancers. HLA typing, based on which stem cell donors and patients are matched is ethnicity specific. Indian patients have higher chances of matching with Indian donors. Unfortunately, Indian donor pool is very limited, making it difficult for patients to find a proper match. Moreover, until now, patients and their families are doing these drives on their own to find the match in addition to dealing with the diagnosis. There has been no unified push to increase the Indian donor pool.

Recognizing this urgent need, AAPI partnered with the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), the world's largest stem cell registry-in 2024 to launch a unified, nationwide campaign.

MOBILIZING COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE U.S.

Dr. Sashi Kuppala, Chair of the Stem Cell Drive, while explaining the science,

said "Matching donors is based on HLA typing, which is inherited and ethnicity-specific. Thousands of patients rely on transplants to survive." Dr. Kuppala pointed to the "tremendous response to this initiative from the AAPI members and the wider Indian community."

Since November 2024, AAPI has organized drives in Milwaukee, Atlanta, Louisville, Evansville, San Jose, Los Angeles, San Diego, Chattanooga, Huntsville, Little Rock, Austin, Dallas, Houston, Columbus, Edison, Chicago, Charlotte, Scranton, Sunnyvale, Milpitas, Frisco, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Leesburg, and San Diego under the leadership of the local high school and college students. AAPI provides volunteer certificates to the students who participate in the drives.

Dr. Hetal Gor, Chair of AAPI BOT, emphasized the need for commitment. She said, "You could be someone's only match-their only hope. Registering is a serious promise, but the donation process

is safe and complication-free."

EXPANDING THE EFFORT TO INDIA

With the experience gained in the US, AAPI is expanding the stem cell drives to India. AAPI has partnered with the Global Association of Indian Medical Students, and DATRI, the stem cell bank in India and launching the stem cell drives at the Global Health Summit in Bhubaneswar, Odisha in January, 2026 in a grand scale. The campaign will then expand to medical schools across the country.

Dr. Meher Medavaram, President-Elect, outlining the process, said, "Registration is simple. Scan the QR code, fill out your details, and return the cheek swab kit. Your HLA data will be stored securely."

Dr. Krishan Kumar, Vice President-Elect, while highlighting the disparity, said, "70% of patients lack a family match. For Indians, the odds are even lower due to the limited donor pool."

Dr. Seema Arora, Secretary, described the donation logistics, stating, "If matched, you'll provide blood samples locally. Travel may be required, but all costs are covered. The process takes 20-30 hours over 4-6 weeks."

Dr. Soumya Nerevetla, Treasurer, in reinforcing the impact of Stem Donors on saving lives, said, "Finding a match is especially difficult for South Asians. Every donor helps save lives."

Dr. Kuppala and the AAPI leadership encourage individuals and communities to host local drives and spread awareness. For more information or to organize a drive, contact: Sashikuppala@yahoo.com Learn more at: www.aapiusa.org

(Based on a Press Release issued by Ajay Ghosh)

Indian-American Community along with FIA-New England Holds 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony in Boston

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

BOSTON, MA (TIP): Members of the Indian-American community gathered at 43 Milk Street in Westborough on Wednesday, September 10, to honor the lives lost in the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The remembrance ceremony was organized to pay tribute to the nearly 3,000 innocent victims, including at least 41 individuals of Indian origin, as well as the courageous first responders who gave their lives while saving others during the devastating terror attacks.

A special highlight of the ceremony was the installation of a metal piece from the original World Trade Center, serving as a powerful symbol of remembrance and resilience. Community members paid their respect by laying flowers and standing in silence around the artifact, which stands as a physical connection to the tragic events of that day.

"THIS METAL PIECE IS MORE THAN STEEL - IT'S A REMINDER OF THE LIVES LOST, THE COURAGE SHOWN, AND THE UNITY THAT FOLLOWED," SAID ONE OF THE EVENT ORGANIZERS.



The event brought together families, local residents, and leaders of the Indian-American community, who stood in solemn unity to reflect on the impact of that fateful day. A moment of silence was observed, followed by heartfelt remarks recognizing the bravery of firefighters, police officers, emergency personnel, and ordinary citizens who acted heroically in the face of terror.

Several community members shared personal reflections, with many emphasizing the importance of teaching younger generations about the tragedy and the strength of unity in times of crisis.

The ceremony served as both a memorial and a call for peace, underscoring the Indian-American community's deep connection to the broader American experience. It also reflected the ongoing commitment to never forget the lives lost and the heroes who rose in the face of unimaginable adversity.

Seventeenth Annual Mushaira-Kavi Sammelan Celebrates South Asia's Shared Heritage in Washington, DC



By Dr. Zafar Iqbal



The session was presided over by Dr. Harish Naval, an acclaimed satirist and author of more than 40 books, as well as a recipient of the Yuva Jnanpith Prize

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

ROCKVILLE, MD (TIP) The Metro Washington chapters of the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO-Metro Washington) and the Aligarh Alumni Association (AAA-DC) jointly hosted the 17th Annual Mushaira-Kavi Sammelan on Saturday, September 6, 2025, at the Montgomery County Executive Building Auditorium in Rockville, Maryland. The program was co-sponsored by several local literary and cultural organizations, including the Association of Indian Muslims (AIM), the Hyderabad Association of the Washington Metro Area (HAWMA), the Montgomery Nawabs (MONA), the Global Beat Foundation (GBF), the Bazme-e-Harf-o-Sukhan (BHS), and RR K Biosciences.

ORIGINS AND GROWTH

Program Coordinator Dr. Zafar Iqbal welcomed the audience. He recalled the event's origins in 2008 as a forum to commemorate Yaum-e-Azadi (South Asia's Independence Day) through poetry in both Urdu and Hindi. Conceived by Drs. Renuka Misra and Zafar Iqbal (GOPIO-Metro Washington) and Dr. A. Abdullah (AAA-DC), the Mushaira-Kavi Sammelan has since become an annual tradition celebrating South Asia's shared



A view of the audience

Ganga-Jamuni cultural heritage.

A milestone was reached in 2011, when the Embassy of India joined GOPIO and AAA-DC to host the first international bilingual poetry recitation—an initiative inspired by Dr. Virandar Paul (my colleague from the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi), then Minister at the Indian Embassy in Washington. This recognition solidified the event as a platform for cultural

encouragement of literary talent in the diaspora, often marked by book launches of both emerging and established writers. Over the years, the stage has hosted acclaimed authors and poets such as Prof. Satyapal Anand, Prof. Asghar Wajahat, Dr. A. Abdullah, Dr. K. Mohan, Raj Kumar Qais, Anadi Naik, Dr. Astha Naval, Dhananjaya Kumar, Rashmi Sanan, Farah Kamran, Surinder Deol, Daler Deol Aashna, Salman Akhtar, and

area-Professor Satyapal Anand, Aziz Qureshi, and Rakesh Khandelwal—as well as to eminent Urdu scholars Professor C.M. Naim (University of Chicago) and Professor Tahsin Siddiqi (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor).

GUESTS AND PARTNERS

Special guests included representatives of partner organizations and the Embassy of India. Recognized for their



Another view of the audience - Photos / Courtesy Aslam Azad and Mohammad Haziq

diplomacy.

This year, Mr. Vivek Chaudhary, First Secretary at the Embassy of India, applauded the organizers for presenting an inspiring and meaningful program.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS

A defining feature of the Mushaira-Kavi Sammelan has been its

Prof. Gopichand Narang.

The 2025 session featured an impressive lineup of poets, including A. Abdullah, Astha Naval, Harish Naval, Madhu Maheshwari, Mohammed Akbar, Mohammed Jaweed, Narendra Tandon, Nisha Narayan, Preethi Govindaraj, Razi Raziuddin, Rizwan Ali, Sarwat Parvez, Sarwat Zehra, Shamsa Najam, Sneha Sudha, Sukesh Chopra, Tabassum, Uday Kamath, Vinita Tiwari, Vishakha Thaker, and Yusuf Rahat.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025 PROGRAM

The session was presided over by Dr. Harish Naval, an acclaimed satirist and author of more than 40 books, as well as a recipient of the Yuva Jnanpith Prize. He enriched the proceedings with his literary observations.

The program was conducted with elegance by Mohammed Akbar, who also introduced poets with verses of his own.

Dr. Mohammad Haziq served as master of ceremonies, and Dr. Salman Rashid delivered the vote of thanks.

The gathering also paid warm tributes to late senior poets of the Washington

continued support were Ms. Ariena Rashid (AAA-DC), Dr. Renuka Misra (GOPIO), Mr. Kaleem Kawaja (AIM), Mr. Mir Zahid Ali (HAWMA), Dr. Mohammad Akbar (MONA), Ms. Nuzaira Azam (GBF), Dr. Arif Mahmood (BHS), and Dr. Qazi Hamid (R K Biosciences).

CULTURAL IMPACT

By bringing together poets from both Urdu and Hindi traditions, the Mushaira-Kavi Sammelan bridges linguistic divides and highlights the deep interconnections between vocabulary, idiom, and poetic form. Over the years, it has drawn audiences ranging from students and families to immigrants, longtime residents, and diplomats, fostering interfaith understanding and intergenerational bonds within the diaspora. Its continuity and inclusiveness ensure that South Asia's literary heritage remains vibrant in the Washington, DC area.

The author gratefully acknowledges Mr. Aslam Azad and Mr. Mohammad Haziq for providing photographs.



Mr. Vivek Chaudhary, First Secretary at the Embassy of India, Washington, D.C., and Dr. Renuka Misra at the Mushaira-Kavi Sammelan

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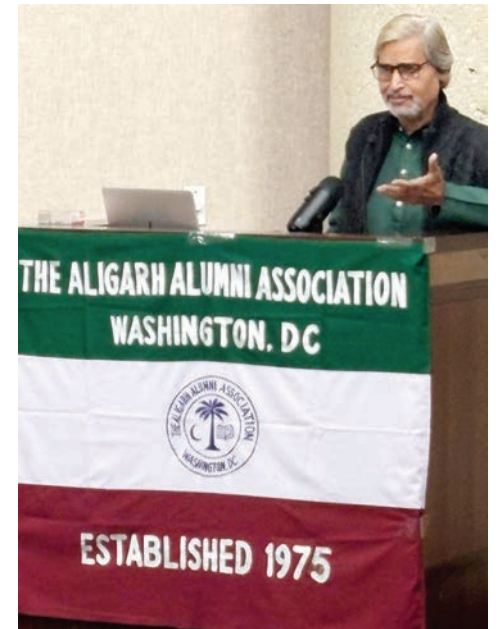
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A view of the audience



Another view of the audience - Photos / Courtesy Aslam Azad and Mohammad Haziq



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When determination of an individual triumphed over the might of the mightiest nation of the world



--->By Prabhjot Singh



USA vs Raj"-a biography by Dr Raj Bothra

It is not fiction. It is a real-life drama where an individual, a professional, stood by his ideals and brought the mightiest of the nations of the world on its knees.

It is the story of a doctor of Indian descent who withstood the onslaughts of the criminal system of the most powerful nation of the world, the United States, for a little over three years, before coming out clean of all legal adjudications. He may have suffered immensely, both physically and mentally, but the ultimate triumph, vindication of his professional uprightness, has been so overwhelming that he now wants to share his story with the world.

And the story was narrated by none other than Veteran actor Kabir Bedi "Sandokan" ("Octopussy") who is all set to play as Dr. Raj Bothra, the hero of USA vs Raj, a biographical drama about an Indian-American surgeon's three-and-a-half-year imprisonment that ended in full acquittal.

And all these revelations were made as a part of the ongoing Toronto International Film Festival that has brought together the elite and cream of the world cinema on a single platform.

The Presser saw Neha Mehta and Sunil Hali introducing the cast and the authors besides the family members of Dr Raj Bothra.



Neha Mehta and Sunil Hali introducing the cast and the authors besides the family members of Dr Raj Bothra

Present at the release of "USA vs Raj" biography by Dr Raj Bothra and co-author Jennifer Debellis, were Ramesh Sippy of "Sholay" fame and Hollywood and Bollywood iconic star Kabir Bedi. The story of "wrongful doing of a powerful state that has shaken the foundations of public trust in the justice system with a harrowing account of one of the most shocking false arrests and continuous imprisonment of a doctor of Indian origin, it was announced would be rolled into a film.

Emily Shah joins the cast as Sonia Bothra, playing the physician's daughter who stood by him during the legal battle. The film, an adaptation of "USA v/s Raj," was presented at this year's Toronto Film Festival by "Sholay" director Ramesh Sippy and "Fire" filmmaker Deepa Mehta.



Ramesh Sippy releasing the book "USA vs Raj". L to R: Author of the book, Dr. Raj Bothra, Ramesh Sippy, and Kabir Bedi

Interestingly, the film that is all set for a next year release, has Oscar-winning sound designer Resul Pookutty of the Slumdog Millionaire fame heading the technical team while Zill-e-Huma, Shubho Deep Pal, Hussain Dalal and Abbas Dalal have been mandated to work on the script of the film.

Prashant Shah of Bollywood Hollywood Productions will work with London's Twickenham Productions. Sunny Vohra and Superna Sethi of Twickenham Studios will be the executive producers.

The film, directed and shot by Ravi K. Chandran ("Bhramam") and targeting a summer 2026 release, will tell the story of Dr. Raj Bothra, who faced 54 federal charges at age 79 before being cleared by a unanimous jury verdict in June 2022. The doctor spent more than 1,300 days incarcerated while repeatedly denied bail.

In a powerful and unflinching debut, USA v Raj is set to shake the foundations of public trust in the justice system with a harrowing account of one of the most shocking false arrest and imprisonment cases in recent U.S. history. This tell-all memoir, based on a true story, is more than a personal narrative-it's a bold exposé on systemic abuse, prosecutorial overreach, and the resilience of the human spirit.



Panelists included, among others, Ramesh Sippy, Kabir Bedi, and Dr. Raj Bothra

USA v Raj dares to share the truth behind a nearly four-year-long nightmare endured by a respected Indian-American surgeon and interventional pain specialist who found himself at the center of a federal scandal. Wrongfully indicted, falsely imprisoned for 1,301 days, and subjected to inhumane treatment, Raj fought an uphill battle that culminated in a unanimous jury acquittal-a rare and resounding vindication.

"This isn't just my story," says Raj, "it's the story of what can happen when power goes unchecked, when the government's obsession with 'winning' overrides truth and justice. But it's also about faith, perseverance, and never giving up-even in the face of darkness."

From humble beginnings in India to achieving the American dream through hard work and integrity, USA v Raj retraces a journey that was nearly destroyed by a corrupt system. Yet, through the injustice, Raj emerges not broken, but emboldened-an advocate for truth, justice reform, and the protection of the innocent.

This memoir is both a cautionary tale and an inspiring testament to the strength of character in the

face of unimaginable adversity. Readers will be gripped by the twists and turns of Raj's legal and emotional battle, and inspired by his enduring gratitude and unwavering faith.

For two decades Dr Raj spent a month each year in India at his own expense to bring awareness on issues like Drug Abuse, HIV AIDS and Smoking Tobacco. For that he was awarded one of the highest civilian honors-Padma Shri- by the President of India. He produced educational documentaries on HIV AIDS, Smoking. He travelled across the country to bring awareness on these issues. He worked with Mother Teresa and had the opportunity to brief Pope John Paul I at the Vatican on health issues in third world countries. He ran Nargis Dutt Charity Foundation for a decade to provide state of the art medical equipment to multiple hospitals in India. Here in America and in India he participated in political discourses and wrote multiple papers on various medical and political issues.



Ramesh Sippy is speaking on the occasion
Photos by Maninder K. Chandhoke

He worked for two countries he loves most- India and U.S.A. He was wrongly imprisoned by the federal government for 1301 days without trial. On June 29th, 2022 he was acquitted unanimously by a Jury of 12 common men and women. Nothing else was fair or just in the U.S. judicial system. The culture of "Winning At Any Cost" is so pervasive that justice has become blind. This book is to bring awareness and some commonsense proposals to bring in changes that no person has to spend 1301 days and eventually declared innocent by Jury.

Co-author Jenifer DeBellis, is a transformational speaker, PhD candidate, and award-winning author of Warrior Sister; Cut Yourself Free (Library Tales Publishing), New Wilderness (Cornerstone Press), and Blood Sisters (Main Street Rag). She hosts the Restore Your Inner Warrior® Podcast, edits Pink Panther Magazine, and directs the Detroit Writers' Guild (501c3). She's featured in Psychology Today and her writing appears in CALYX, Medical Literary Messenger, The Good Men Project, Solstice, and elsewhere. For more information visit JeniferDeBellis.com.

Dr Raj Bothra, who moved to the US, and started practicing medicine, narrated his story saying one fine morning he was shocked when gun trotting cops told him he was arrested. He was taken to a police station where four other co-accused, too, were brought.

"All were released on bail the same day. They, however, refused me bail not once but nine times and imprisoned me for more than three years without letting me know why I was being singled out as all fellow co-accused very enlarged on bail the first day.

"They wanted to extort a confession out of me that I refused. I stood strong and underwent untold misery and suffering while being imprisoned. I could not trust such a thing could happen in a country like the US. I had one of the largest private practices in the US. The police made 54 charges against me, with each of the charges could send me to imprisonment for 20 years.

"They even tried to pressurize my wife, Pammi, and daughter Sonia but I stood firm.

"Ultimately, when the trial went to jury I was acquitted of all charges and came out clean.

"My only question was could the system return my years in prison," said Dr Raj Bothra at the book release event.

Embassy of India in Guatemala Celebrates National Nutrition Week 2025



Ambassador Mr. Rajkumar Singh highlighted India's flagship program PM ROSHAN Scheme showcasing how the program improves child nutrition, health and school attendance



Hon'ble Mayor Mr. Emilio Vargas appreciated India's initiatives and exploring ways for India-Guatemala collaboration in nutrition and child welfare

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

GUATEMALA CITY (TIP): The Embassy of India in Guatemala City, in collaboration with the India-Guatemala Chamber of Commerce & Culture, organized a special programme to mark National Nutrition Week 2025 in Guatemala City on 9 September 2025. The event aimed to highlight India's achievements in the field of nutrition and child welfare while creating a platform to explore opportunities for collaboration with Guatemala on these important issues.

In his keynote address, H.E. Mr. Raj Kumar Singh, Ambassador of India to Guatemala, underscored the need to move beyond mere awareness and bring nutrition onto our plates every day. He highlighted India's flagship programs, particularly the PM Poshan Scheme (formerly the Mid-Day Meal Scheme), which provides hot cooked meals to over 120 million school children daily. He explained how such initiatives have improved children's health, nutrition and school attendance while also contributing to social equity and women's empowerment. The Ambassador welcomed greater cooperation between India and Guatemala to develop similar approaches and share expertise for healthier futures.



Mr. Ramesh Khulbey, Head of Chancery delivered an insightful presentation of India's flagship PM ROSHAN Scheme

Mr. Ramesh Khulbey, Head of Chancery, delivered a detailed and informative presentation on the PM Poshan Scheme. He explained the scheme's objectives, its scale of implementation across India, and the measurable impact it has created on children's health and learning outcomes. His presentation generated keen interest from Guatemalan officials, local business leaders, health professionals and members of civil society, who saw the potential for adapting elements of the scheme within the Guatemalan context.

Hon'ble Mayor Mr. Emilio Vargas, along with other distinguished guests, commended India's initiatives in the field of nutrition and child welfare. They appreciated the insights shared during the programme and expressed their willingness to explore avenues for bilateral collaboration. Their remarks highlighted a shared understanding that nutrition is fundamental to public health and education, and that India's experience offers valuable lessons for Guatemala.



A view of the gathering

The event was well attended by representatives from the Guatemala City Municipality, NGOs, health professionals, members of the India-Guatemala Chamber of Commerce & Culture, and the Indian community. It successfully raised awareness about India's nutrition initiatives and generated interest among Guatemalan stakeholders to learn from India's experience. The Embassy intends to build on this momentum by facilitating further dialogue and knowledge-sharing sessions, including possible hybrid interactions between Indian experts and Guatemalan counterparts, with the long-term goal of strengthening cooperation in health, nutrition and child welfare.

(Based on a press Release issued by the Embassy of India in Guatemala)

No case against Sonia Gandhi for name in voter roll before citizenship: Court

A Delhi court on Thursday, Sept 11, dismissed a complaint that sought registration of an FIR against Congress leader Sonia Gandhi over allegations related to her name in the voter list before she became an Indian citizen.

The Rouse Avenue Court pronounced its order on a plea that accused Gandhi of being included in the Delhi voters' list in 1980, despite acquiring Indian citizenship only on April 30, 1983.

The complaint was filed by a lawyer, who urged the court to direct registration of an FIR and sought directions to police to investigate the matter. The complainant alleged that Gandhi's name was included in the voters' list in 1980 and then deleted in 1982.

The complainant argued that Gandhi formally acquired Indian citizenship on April 30, 1983, yet her name appeared in the 1980 Delhi voters' roll. The petition insisted that this warranted a police investigation.

The BJP also alleged that Congress MP Sonia Gandhi's name appeared on the electoral rolls three years before she became an Indian citizen as it clapped back at the opposition's claims of voter fraud in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Former Union Minister and BJP MP Anurag Thakur, addressing a press conference, claimed Sonia Gandhi, who was born in Italy, was added to the voter list in 1980, three years before she became an Indian citizen.

NIA court junks agency plea for polygraph test of 2 Pahalgam accused

A special NIA court in Srinagar in late August rejected the plea of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) for a polygraph test of the two accused arrested in the Pahalgam terror attack, details emerging now show. NIA arrested the two men, Pravaiz Ahmad Jothatd and Bashir Ahmad from south Kashmir on June 22 for allegedly harbouring the Pakistani terrorists involved in the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people were killed, and providing them with food and logistical support.

While NIA claimed that the accused had volunteered to undergo a lie-detector test and narco analysis to prove their innocence, the accused told the court that they were not willing for such a test.

"...Keeping in view the fact that both the accused persons have submitted in court today that they are not willing to undergo polygraph/narco analysis test, the application is accordingly dismissed," said the judgement by the NIA judge.

'Fraught with danger', MEA tells citizens not to join Russian army

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Amid reports that nine Indian nationals had recently been recruited into the Russian army to fight in the ongoing Ukraine conflict, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Thursday issued a fresh advisory, warning citizens against such offers and describing the path as "fraught with danger".

"We have seen reports about Indian nationals having been recruited recently into the Russian army. The government has, on several occasions over the past year, underlined the risks and dangers inherent in this course of action and cautioned Indian citizens accordingly," said MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal.

He emphasised that India had repeatedly raised the issue with Moscow and urged families to maintain close contact with authorities.

"We have also taken up the matter with Russian officials, both in Delhi and Moscow, demanding an end to this practice and the release of our nationals. We are also in touch with the families of the affected Indian citizens," Jaiswal said.

Disturbing video messages shared by anguished families showed young men, many of whom are from Punjab, Haryana and Jammu, wearing Russian military uniforms and pleading for urgent intervention.

"We have been caught in the Russian army. We are nine youths. We came here on student visas. We are being grossly mistreated. We are not getting food and are being sent to the frontline daily," said Samarjeet Singh from Ludhiana, speaking in Punjabi.

Sumeet Sharma from Jammu echoed similar fears, stating, "We have been deceived by agents. We request the BJP government to help us as soon as possible."

Another person, Buta Singh, claimed some among them had already died in the fighting. "We were promised work in Moscow. Instead, we are trapped in a war. The situation is dire, get us out immediately," he urged.

Over the past year, The Tribune has extensively reported on



A video grab of Samarjeet Singh (R) from Ludhiana and another Indian in Russian military uniforms.

the growing anguish among families of men who have been missing for more than 15 months, allegedly coerced into joining Russia's war with Ukraine. Many of these young men hail from Punjab and Haryana. Several families allege that despite approaching the Indian authorities, including the embassy in Moscow, little progress has been made. Some have even travelled to Russia on their own, hoping to find help. *Source: TNS*

India vows \$680-mn aid, maritime security boost for Mauritius

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday, Sept 11, underscored that a free, open, secure and stable Indian Ocean remained a "shared priority" for India and Mauritius, as he unveiled a \$680 million package of development and strategic initiatives alongside his Mauritian counterpart Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam.

Welcoming Dr Ramgoolam in Varanasi, Modi invoked the centuries-old cultural connect between the two nations, likening Mauritius' deep-rooted Indian heritage to the "eternal flow of the Ganga." He described ties with Port Louis as not just a partnership but "a family bond."

At the heart of the package are big-ticket projects in health, infrastructure and energy, funded through both direct grants (\$215 million) and a grant-cum-line of credit (\$440 million). These include a 500-bed Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam National Hospital, an AYUSH Centre of Excellence, a veterinary school and animal hospital,

and the country's first Jan Aushadhi Kendra to improve access to affordable medicines.

India will also support road expansion, completion of a new ATC tower at SSR International Airport, development of Ring Road Phase-II, and modernisation of Mauritius' port facilities.

Calling the package "an investment in our shared future, not assistance," Modi said cooperation would also extend to clean energy, with 100 electric buses and a 17.5 MW floating solar power plant at Tamarind Falls to be funded under the plan. On the fiscal side, India will extend \$25 million as budgetary support for Port Louis during the current financial year.

On the strategic front, Modi pledged New Delhi's continued role as a "first responder and net security provider" in the Indian Ocean. The two sides signed a fresh hydrographic cooperation agreement covering joint surveys, navigation charts and data sharing over the next five years.

India will also help strengthen Mauritius' Exclusive Economic Zone,

including the refitting of Coast Guard assets and training of 120 Mauritian officers. Both leaders agreed in principle on redevelopment of Mauritius' port and cooperation in the Chagos Marine Protected Area.

Reaffirming India's backing for Port Louis' sovereignty, Modi hailed the conclusion of the Chagos Agreement as a "historic milestone" in the decolonisation process, stressing that India had "always stood firmly with Mauritius on this journey."

"India and Mauritius are two nations, but our dreams and destiny are one," Modi declared, paying tribute to Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, the father of the Mauritian Nation, whose 125th birth anniversary is being marked this year.

The Varanasi talks further cemented the "Enhanced Strategic Partnership" announced earlier this year, consolidating New Delhi's position as Mauritius' primary development partner and reaffirming their shared vision for peace and prosperity in the Indian Ocean.

Jaishankar speaks to Poland FM, says India favors 'durable solution' for Ukraine conflict

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar spoke to Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski and reiterated India's position that the Ukraine conflict must be resolved at the earliest with a "durable solution".

"Spoke to Foreign Minister @sikorskiradek of Poland today. He shared his concern about recent developments pertaining to Poland's security. I underlined that India favors an early end to hostilities and a durable solution for the Ukraine conflict," Jaishankar posted on X late Thursday.

The call came amid heightened tensions in eastern Europe after repeated Russian drone incursions into Polish territory. According to Polish officials, their airspace has been violated 19 times by Russia-manufactured drones.

Sikorski, while addressing the issue earlier, said the drones were "deliberately targeted" and not accidental incursions. "Poland, EU and NATO will not be intimidated and we will continue to stand by the brave people of Ukraine. It's time for the leadership of Russia to understand that the attempt to rebuild old spheres of influence will not succeed," he said.

French President Emmanuel Macron also stepped in to reassure NATO allies of France's commitment to European security. Announcing additional deployments, Macron said, "Due to the incursion of Russian drones into Poland, I have decided to mobilize three Rafale fighter jets to support the protection of Polish airspace and Europe's eastern flank together with our NATO allies. The security of the European continent is our highest priority. We will not give in to growing intimidation from Russia."

Knives out in INDIA bloc over cross-voting in Vice-Presidential poll

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The row over the claims of cross voting in the Vice Presidential election deepened on Wednesday, Sept 10, with allegations flying thick and fast in the ruling NDA and the INDIA bloc camps blaming each other on the issue.

While Union ministers and senior BJP leaders took aim at the opposition for the fissures in their ranks, senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi alleged 'Vote theft' in the Vice President election, in which NDA candidate CP Radhakrishnan was elected with 'more than expected' margin.

Knives were out in the Opposition camp too, with Trinamool Congress (TMC) hinting at the possibility of cross voting by AAP members. Speaking to reporters in Kolkata, TMC MP Abhishek Bajnerjee asserted that all of the 41 members voted for opposition nominee B. Sudershan Reddy.

"Since this was a secret ballot vote, it's difficult to say whether there was cross-voting or whether Opposition members' votes were discarded. Even if I accept that there was cross-voting, there are certain parties like AAP, where a woman MP openly supports BJP and speaks against Arvind Kejriwal. There are 2-4 such MPs," he said. "Yesterday, I spoke to a few people and learned that they spent Rs 15-20 crores on each person to buy votes. People elected as representatives are selling the people's trust and emotions. Representatives can be bought, but not the people.

BJP has tried this again, but since this was a secret ballot, everything is speculation. It is a matter of speculation whether the 15 votes which were declared null and void were from the INDIA bloc or not. There could be certain people who said they were aligned with INDIA but were still



supporting BJP," said Banerjee.

Radhakrishnan secured a total of 452 votes, while the INDIA bloc candidate, B Sudershan Reddy, managed to get only 300 votes, though it was expecting to get 320 plus. Though several senior Congress leaders maintained that the result was a 'moral victory' for the Opposition, some spoke in different voices. Responding to the cross voting allegations, senior Congress MP Manish Tewari demanded a probe into such claims.

"If there was cross-voting, then it should be seriously investigated by each of the constituents of the INDIA Alliance. Cross-voting is an extremely serious matter. If at all what is being said or speculated has an iota of truth in it, it deserves a systematic and clinical investigation", Tewari told the media.

Man of faith: On C.P. Radhakrishnan, Vice-President-elect of India

C.P. Radhakrishnan, 68, who joined the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) as a teenager, has been elected as the Vice-President of India, marking another attempt by the Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) to link its version of nationalist ideology with the Sangh Parivar agenda. Mr. Radhakrishnan was a member of the T.N. Jan Sangh executive committee by 1974 — a time when the Sangh Parivar's presence in Tamil Nadu was marginal and his political affiliation was clearly inspired by ideology than careerism. On September 9, 2025, he became the Vice-President of India, a reward for his ideological fealty on the one hand, and as a milestone in his journey of the RSS on the other: He secured 452 out of 752 valid votes, and defeated Justice B. Sudershan Reddy from the INDIA bloc by 152 votes. He was elected to the Lok Sabha twice, from Coimbatore in 1998 and 1999, as a BJP candidate supported by the AIADMK and then the DMK. He served on parliamentary committees and a special committee investigating a stock market scam. He also represented India at the UN General Assembly. From 2004 to 2007, as BJP State president, he undertook a 93-day "Ratha Yatra", advocating river linking, ending untouchability, countering terrorism, and promoting a Uniform Civil Code.

ECI to press ahead with nationwide SIR despite Bihar process backlash

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Amid controversies over implementation of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Bihar, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has taken steps to conduct the exercise across the nation. In a conference of Chief Electoral Officers from all states and Union Territories held on September 10, the ECI has directed them to be prepared for the nation-wide SIR.

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi attended the conference along with CEOs for all states/Union Territories. Though ECI issued a press release after the conference, it is silent on the dates or duration of the exercise. According to officials, no particular date or schedule was fixed for the SIR.

The conference discussed the strategies, constraints and best practices adopted by the CEO Bihar where the first SIR was introduced in July this year. The CEOs of states and UTs gave detailed presentations on the number of electors, qualifying date of the last SIR and



electoral rolls as per the last completed SIR at the meeting, the press statement said.

There has been a widespread protest over the implementation of SIR in Bihar as the state was set to face the Assembly election in October-November 2025. If there is a nation-wide SIR, similar concerns will arise from Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, which will go to polls in May 2026. In Assam, the last intensive revision happened in 2005 while it was 2002 in Kerala. All the electors who haven't found themselves in the electoral roll of the last revision will have to submit a new enumeration form to be included in the roll.

According to ECI, revision of electoral rolls is mandatory as per section 21(2)(a) of the Representation

of People Act 1950 and Rule 25 of the Registration of Elector Rules 1960. ECI has argued that the exercise was necessary as the electoral roll keeps changing due to deaths, migration, addition of new voters etc. Though ECI has been conducting annual and intensive revisions, the SIR conducted on a short notice in Bihar triggered a controversy, especially with concerns of deletion of eligible voters from the list.

One of the major allegations against SIR in Bihar was in connection with the list of 11 documents, which were sought as a proof of eligibility. The set of 11 documents included government ID cards, birth certificate, passport, matriculation certificate, permanent residence certificate, forest rights certificate, caste certificate, family register and land/house allotment certificate. Though it was not implemented in Bihar, the national register of citizens too was enlisted as one of the documents for eligibility. Finally the ECI decided to include Aadhar as the 12th document following the direction of the Supreme Court last week.

India in history this Week

SEPTEMBER 12 TO SEPTEMBER 18

12 SEPTEMBER

1931 Mahatma Gandhi arrived in London to attend the Round Table Conference.

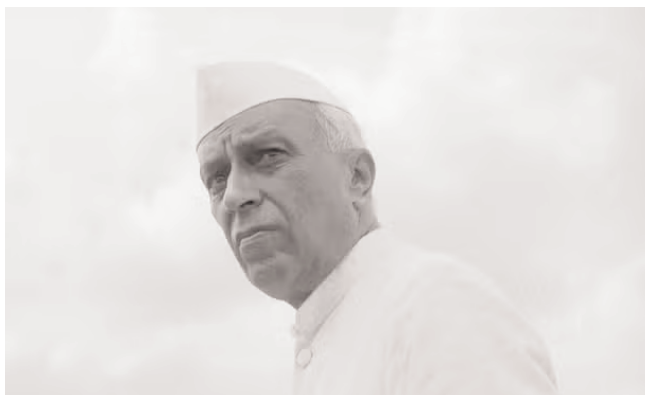
1966 Indian swimmer Mihir Sen swam across the Dardanelles Strait.

2008 Sahara India Investment Corporation closed its non-banking financial business.



1922 Renowned litterateur Chandradhar Sharma Guleri passed away.

13 SEPTEMBER



1947 Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru suggested mutual transfer of 40 lakh Hindus and Muslims.

1929 Jatin Das died after 63 days of hunger strike in Lahore jail.

1971 The World Hockey Association was formed.

1977 The first diesel automobile was introduced by General Motors.

2000 India's top chess player Vishwanathan Anand won the first FIDE Chess World Cup in Shenyang.

2008 Four bomb blasts occurred one after another at three places in Delhi, killing 30 people and injuring more than 130.

1948 Deputy Prime Minister Vallabhbhai Patel ordered the army to enter Hyderabad and take action and integrate it with the Indian Union.

2006 The first summit of IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa Trilateral Organization) begins in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil.

2009 ISRO-NASA's campaign to find ice on the moon failed.

2009 Charles Dias of Kochi was nominated as the representative of the Anglo Indian community in the Lok Sabha.

1845 Indian Cotton Congress President Henry Cotton was born.

1926 India's revolutionary woman Nagendra Bala was born.

1929 India's famous revolutionary Jatindranath Das died.

14 SEPTEMBER

1949 The Legislative Assembly gave Hindi the status of the official language of India.

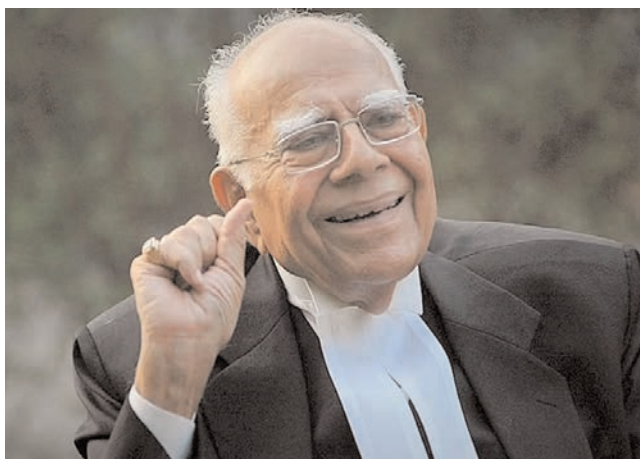
1803 British general Lord Lake captured Delhi

during the Second Anglo-Maratha War.

1949 The Constituent Assembly adopted Hindi as the official language of India. Since 1953, 14 September is celebrated every year throughout India as Hindi Day.

1947 The famous poet Chandra Kunwar Bertwal died as Kalidas of Hindi.

2009 India won the Compaq Cup of the tri-series by defeating Sri Lanka by 46 runs.



1923 Birth of eminent serialist and former Union Law Minister Ram Jethmalani.

15 SEPTEMBER

1860 M Visvesvaraya, considered India's greatest engineer, was born. It is celebrated as Engineers Day in the country.

1948 The first flag of independent India INS-Delhi reached the port of Bombay (now Mumbai).

1958 The deadly disease trachoma virus was first discovered in medical science.

1959 India's national broadcasting service Doordarshan started in Delhi for the first time.

2004 'Woman of the Year' award to British citizen Gurinder Chadha.

1931 Gandhi-Irwin Pact.

1909 Famous Tamil Nadu leader and former Chief Minister C.N. Birth of Annadurai.

1939 Birth of Subramanian Swamy for Indian Economist, Educational, and Politician, Law Minister and Justice India.

1946 Jokin Arputham, a man who struggled for the slums of Mumbai, was born.

16 SEPTEMBER



1916 Classical singer and actress MS Subbulakshmi was born.

1932 Nobel laureate Dr. Ronald Ross, who discovered malaria, a deadly disease spread by mosquitoes, was born.

2008 The employees of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) were awarded the Vishwakarma Award.

2009 The Incredible Bharat Vigyan Abhiyan, presenting India as an outstanding tourist destination

to the world, received the British Award.

1882 Freedom fighter Balwant Singh was born.

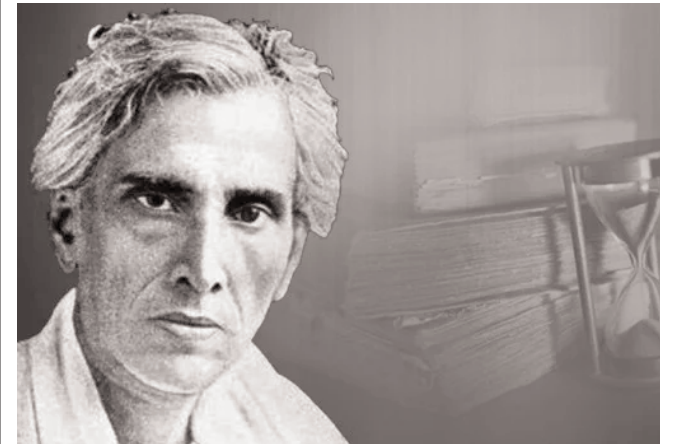
2017 The most senior of the Indian Air Force and the only Marshal to reach the five-star rank, Arjan Singh died.

1965 Lieutenant Colonel A. B. Tarapore, PVC, died.

17 SEPTEMBER

1915 Popular painter of India Maqbool Fida Hussain was born.

1867 Birth of Indian artist Gaganendranath Tagore.



1876 Birth of great Bengali novelist Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay.

1948 The princely state of Hyderabad merged with India.

1950 Birth of Indian politician and current Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

1956 Constitution of Indian Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

1982 The first cricket Test match was played between India and Ceylon (present-day Sri Lanka).

1778 The first treaty (Fort Pitt) was signed between the US and Indian tribes.

18 SEPTEMBER

1947 National Security Act passed.

1803 The British captured Puri in Odisha.

1931 The birth of Shrikant Verma, the famous Hindi writer, lyricist, critic and politician.

1967 Nagaland adopted English as the official language.

2003 Dhaka-Agartala bus service started.



1906 Kaka Hathrasi, the great poet of comic compositions, was born on this day.

2008 Shobhana Bhartia was appointed the chairman of HT media.

2009 Information technology sector company HCL Shiva Nair, the founding president of the UK, was awarded the UK's Trade and Investment Business Person of the Year Award.

2009 India opened another airstrip in Ladakh region.

United Nations at 80 - The 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

The 80th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA-80) began on 9 September 2025 in New York, with Germany's Annalena Baerbock elected as President. Baerbock has emphasized the theme "Better Together: 80 years and more for peace, development and human rights," arguing for reform, inclusivity and stronger multilateral cooperation. During the High-Level Week (starting 22 September), dozens of heads of state and government will descend to present priorities, engage in

diplomacy and debate global challenges.

Key issues expected to dominate include:

- Enhancing and reforming the UN system, including financial sustainability and governance transparency.
- Gender equality and women's empowerment, especially in light of the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration.

- Climate action, ahead of COP30: new climate pledges, accelerating sustainable development, clean energy transitions.
- Global health issues: non-communicable diseases (NCDs), mental health and universal health coverage.
- Conflict and peacebuilding: the war in Gaza, Palestinian statehood recognition, tensions in Ukraine, and calls for stronger international response.

UNITED NATIONS (TIP)

The 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) was declared open by Annalena Baerbock, the new president of the General Assembly, at the UN headquarters in New York on Tuesday, September 9, afternoon.

The theme of the 80th session of the UNGA, which marks the 80th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, is "Better Together: 80 years and more for peace, development and human rights."

"The 80th session of the General Assembly is no ordinary session," Baerbock said in her opening remarks at the first plenary meeting of the 80th session.

"80 years. Longer than the average human lifespan. Normally this would be a moment to celebrate, but are we really in a mood for celebration?" the new UNGA president asked.

Parents in Gaza are watching their children starve, Afghan girls are banned from school, women in Darfur are hiding their daughters from being raped, Pacific Islanders are watching sea rise and waves lap against their homes, and 808 million people are still trapped in extreme poverty, she said.

"Instead of celebrating, one might rather ask: where is the United Nations, which was created to save us from hell?" Baerbock asked.

However, the world needs the United Nations, and it remains the only organization capable of bringing together every country in the world, and the only one capable of acting on a truly global scale, she pointed out.

This is the year to adapt, to evolve, and to build the United Nations we need for the next 80 years -- for the lifetimes of our children, said the UNGA president. "It is a moment to show eight billion people why this organization still matters."

Speaking at the meeting, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said that eight decades ago, the founders of the United Nations gathered in San Francisco, U.S. state of California, and envisioned "something different" -- a global-problem-solving body that could not only prevent calamities like war, but could forge solutions to other age-old problems haunting humanity -- poverty, hunger, illness and inequality.

These efforts, built by the world for



Annalena Baerbock (C), president of the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), strikes the gavel after it was handed to her by Philemon Yang (R), president of the 79th session of the UNGA at the UN headquarters in New York, Sept. 9, 2025. At the closing of the 79th UNGA session, Annalena Baerbock was sworn in as president of the 80th session, which will open Tuesday afternoon. (Xinhua/Xie E)

the world, and grounded in the values and principles of the UN Charter, are what this Assembly is all about, Guterres said.

"The United Nations provides the place. The Charter provides the tools," stressed the UN chief, adding that the Pact for the Future, adopted last September, provided a shot in the arm for the multilateral system and the values that have defined this organization from day one.

The UN Charter "is not self-executing," Guterres pointed out, adding that by design, it requires countries looking beyond their national interests and re-building trust and faith in one another, and in what the international community can accomplish through collaboration and solidarity.

"And it requires realizing that, while we cannot solve all the world's problems here, we can unite behind solutions that will ultimately move humanity closer to a better, fairer, more peaceful and equal world for all," he said.

A high-level week will kick off on Sept. 22 and run through Sept. 30, during which world leaders will gather to attend the General Debate and a series of conferences, including the High-level Meeting to Commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the United Nations,



Annalena Baerbock, president of the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), speaks at the opening of the 80th session at the UN headquarters in New York, Sept. 9, 2025. The 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) was declared open by Annalena Baerbock, the new president of the General Assembly, at the UN headquarters in New York on Tuesday afternoon. (Xinhua/Xie E)

the SDG Moment, the High-level Meeting on the 30th Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Climate Summit, and the High-level Meeting to Launch the Global Dialogue on AI Governance.

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi will not speak at the General Debate during the annual high-level session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) later this month. The update comes after the UN released a

revised provisional list of speakers in New York, news agency PTI reported.

US President Donald Trump will address world leaders on 23 September, delivering his first speech at the UNGA since starting his second term as US President.

According to the updated list of speakers, India will be represented by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. He is scheduled to address the Assembly on 27 September.

United Nations: History, membership, objectives and structure

The United Nations (UN) is the world's foremost international organization dedicated to peace, security, cooperation, and development. It was founded on 24 October 1945, in the aftermath of World War II, when 51 nations signed the UN Charter in San Francisco. The devastation of the war and the failure of the League of Nations highlighted the urgent need for a stronger global institution to prevent conflicts and promote collective security. The UN officially came into existence when the Charter was ratified by the majority of signatory nations, including the five permanent members of the Security Council. Since then, 24 October is celebrated annually as United Nations Day.

From its modest beginnings, the UN has grown into a near-universal organization, serving as the world's largest forum for multilateral dialogue and international cooperation.

Current Membership

As of 2025, the United Nations has 193 member states, encompassing virtually every recognized sovereign nation in the world. South Sudan, which joined in 2011, is the most recent member. The UN also recognizes two observer states: the Holy See (Vatican City) and the State of Palestine.

Membership in the UN signifies equal sovereignty of states, regardless of their size, wealth, or political system, under the principle of "sovereign equality" enshrined in the Charter.

Objectives of the UN

The purposes of the United Nations, as laid down in its Charter, include:

- Maintaining international peace and security by preventing conflicts, mediating disputes, and deploying peacekeeping missions.
- Promoting friendly relations among nations based on equal rights and self-determination.
- Encouraging international cooperation in solving global issues-economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian.
- Promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination.
- Serving as a center for harmonizing the actions of nations to achieve common goals.

Over the decades, these objectives have expanded to include sustainable development, climate action, gender equality, and humanitarian relief.

Composition of the UN

The General Assembly (GA)

The General Assembly is the deliberative organ of the UN where all 193 member states have equal representation, each with one vote. It



meets annually in regular sessions, usually beginning in September.

- Functions: Debates major issues, approves the UN budget, admits new members, and elects non-permanent members of the Security Council.
- GA President: The Assembly elects a President annually, on a rotational basis among regional groups, to preside over sessions and guide discussions.

The Security Council (UNSC)

The Security Council is the executive organ responsible for maintaining international peace and security.

- Membership: It has 15 members - 5 permanent (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) and 10 non-permanent members elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms.
- Powers: The Council can impose sanctions, authorize military action, and establish peacekeeping missions. Each permanent member holds veto power, allowing them to block substantive resolutions.

The Secretary-General

The Secretary-General is the chief administrative officer and the symbolic leader of the United Nations. Appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council, the Secretary-General serves a five-year renewable term.

Duties and Powers:

- Acts as the head of the UN Secretariat.

- Brings attention to threats to peace.
- Mediates disputes and undertakes "good offices" diplomacy.
- Oversees peacekeeping operations and humanitarian programs.
- Serves as a spokesperson for the international community on global issues.

The Secretary-General thus plays both a political and administrative role, embodying the values and vision of the UN Charter.

Major Organs and Specialized Wings

Besides the General Assembly, Security Council, and Secretariat, the UN system encompasses various organs, specialized agencies, and programs:

International Court of Justice (ICJ)

Based in The Hague, Netherlands, it is the principal judicial organ of the UN, settling legal disputes between states and giving advisory opinions on legal questions.

UN Peacekeepers

Often called the "Blue Helmets," they are deployed to conflict zones to maintain ceasefires, protect civilians, support elections, and aid post-conflict recovery.

UN Women

Established in 2010, it is the UN entity dedicated to promoting gender equality and empowering women worldwide.

UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)

Focuses on child welfare, health, and

education.

WHO (World Health Organization)

Directs international health efforts and coordinates responses to global pandemics.

UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)

Protects refugees and stateless people, providing aid and seeking durable solutions.

UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)

Works to eradicate poverty and promote sustainable development.

WFP (World Food Programme)

Addresses global hunger and food security.

These specialized agencies and programs reflect the UN's wide-ranging role in global governance-beyond security, into development, rights, and humanitarian aid.

The United Nations, despite criticisms and challenges, remains the most important global forum for dialogue and cooperation. With 193 members, it is both a symbol and a mechanism of collective responsibility. Its organs-General Assembly, Security Council, and Secretariat-along with specialized agencies like the ICJ, UN Women, and peacekeeping forces, illustrate its multidimensional mandate.

In an era of climate change, pandemics, migration crises, and geopolitical conflicts, the UN's objectives of peace, cooperation, and human dignity remain as vital today as they were in 1945.

Past and present crises UN has dealt with

When the United Nations (UN) was born in October 1945, the world was still reeling from the devastation of the Second World War. Its founders pledged to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and to promote peace, security, and cooperation among nations. Over nearly eight decades, the UN has confronted numerous crises—some it helped resolve, others it could not prevent. Its record is a mixture of remarkable successes, painful failures, and continuing struggles.

Historical Crises

The Korean War (1950-1953)

- **Background:** Following World War II, Korea was divided at the 38th parallel into Soviet-backed North Korea and U.S.-backed South Korea. When the North invaded the South in June 1950, it sparked the first major postwar conflict.
- **UN Role:** With the Soviet Union temporarily boycotting the Security Council, the UN authorized a multinational military response under U.S. command.
- **Impact:** The war ended in stalemate, but it was the first demonstration of UN collective security.

The Suez Crisis (1956)

- **Background:** Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal, provoking military action by Britain, France, and Israel.
- **UN Intervention:** Under Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, the UN deployed the first large-scale peacekeeping force (UNEF) to supervise ceasefire and withdrawal.
- **Significance:** This established peacekeeping as a core UN function.

The Congo Crisis (1960-1964)

- **Background:** Congo's independence from Belgium descended into chaos with secessionist movements and Cold War rivalries.
- **UN Response:** The UN Operation in the Congo (ONUC) was deployed to stabilize the country, protect civilians, and prevent foreign intervention.
- **Outcome:** Though criticized, ONUC laid the groundwork for later large-scale peace operations.

Arab-Israeli Wars (1967, 1973)

- **Background:** The Six-Day War (1967) and the Yom Kippur War (1973) deepened tensions in the Middle East.
- **UN Actions:** Security Council Resolution 242 (1967) called for Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories in exchange for peace—a cornerstone of later peace efforts. After 1973, the UN deployed peacekeepers (UNDOF, UNEF II) to monitor ceasefires.

The Rwandan Genocide (1994)



- **Background:** Longstanding ethnic tensions between Hutus and Tutsis exploded, leading to the massacre of nearly 800,000 people in 100 days.
- **UN Failure:** Despite warnings, the UN mission (UNAMIR) was poorly equipped and restrained by a weak mandate. Peacekeepers could not stop the killings.
- **Legacy:** The genocide led to widespread criticism of UN inaction and prompted reforms in peacekeeping and the development of the "Responsibility to Protect" doctrine.

The Balkan Wars (1990s)

- **Background:** The breakup of Yugoslavia triggered violent conflicts in Croatia, Bosnia, and Kosovo. Ethnic cleansing and mass atrocities shocked the world.
- **UN Response:** Peacekeepers were deployed, but they lacked authority to prevent atrocities like the Srebrenica massacre (1995), where 8,000 Bosnian Muslims were slaughtered.
- **Aftermath:** Eventually, NATO intervened with UN backing. The International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) was created, setting a precedent for international justice.

Present Crises Confronting UN

Russia-Ukraine Conflict (2022-present)

- **Background:** Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 violated the UN Charter's principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity.
- **UN Response:** The Security Council has been paralyzed by Russia's veto power, blocking condemnation or enforcement actions.
- The General Assembly passed multiple resolutions (with overwhelming support) demanding Russian withdrawal.
- The International Court of Justice (ICJ) ordered Russia to suspend its military operations, though



- unenforceable.
- UN agencies like UNHCR and WFP are providing humanitarian aid to millions of refugees and displaced persons.
- **Significance:** The conflict underscores the limits of the UN when a permanent Security Council member is directly involved in aggression.

Israel-Palestinian Conflict (intensified 2023-2025)

- **Background:** The Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains unresolved after decades. Violence escalated dramatically in October 2023 with Hamas' attacks on Israel, followed by Israel's large-scale operations in Gaza.
- **UN Role:** The Security Council has been blocked by U.S. vetoes on resolutions calling for ceasefires.
- The General Assembly has passed symbolic resolutions urging humanitarian access and Palestinian rights.
- UNRWA (UN Relief and Works Agency) continues to provide aid to millions of Palestinian refugees but faces funding crises.
- **Challenges:** The UN's credibility is undermined by political divisions and accusations of double standards.

Sudan and Sahel Conflicts

- Civil wars in Sudan (especially in Darfur and since the 2023 power struggle) have created humanitarian catastrophes. The UN is struggling to deliver aid amid

violence.

- The Sahel region (Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso) faces insurgencies, coups, and terrorist threats, stretching UN peacekeeping operations.

Myanmar Crisis

- After the 2021 military coup, Myanmar has descended into civil war, with the junta committing atrocities.
- The UN has condemned the violence, but Security Council action is blocked by China and Russia.

Afghanistan under Taliban (since 2021)

- The Taliban's takeover has rolled back women's rights and plunged millions into poverty.
- UN agencies remain the primary providers of humanitarian aid, but face restrictions from Taliban authorities.

Climate Change and Global Disasters

- Unlike traditional conflicts, climate change is a slow-moving crisis threatening peace and security.
- Through the UNFCCC and annual COP summits, the UN leads global climate negotiations.
- Small island nations rely on the UN to advocate for survival against rising seas, while Africa and Asia face climate-driven famines and displacement.

Achievements and Limitations

- **Achievements:** The UN has pioneered peacekeeping, delivered humanitarian aid on an unprecedented scale, and established international law institutions like the ICJ and the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- **Limitations:** Political deadlock in the Security Council, particularly due to the veto power of permanent members (P5), often paralyzes the organization. Critics argue that the UN is only as strong as its members allow it to be.

The history of the United Nations is one of ambition tempered by political realities. It has played a central role in mediating crises—from Korea to Congo, from Suez to Rwanda, from Bosnia to Gaza and Ukraine. Its peacekeepers, agencies, and diplomats have saved millions of lives, yet its inability to prevent wars and genocides continues to tarnish its reputation.

As the UN confronts today's crises—Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, Myanmar, Afghanistan, and climate change—its founding promise "to save succeeding generations" remains both relevant and elusive. The organization's future effectiveness depends on whether the international community can reform its structures, particularly the Security Council, and renew its commitment to genuine multilateralism in an increasingly divided world.

India's Contribution to the United Nations

Since becoming a founding member of the United Nations (UN) in 1945, India has played a consistent and active role in the organization. As the world's largest democracy and one of its oldest civilizations, India has aligned its foreign policy with the UN's founding principles of peace, human dignity, and cooperation among nations. From peacekeeping missions to championing decolonization, from promoting human rights to advocating climate justice, India's contributions to the UN have been significant, wide-ranging, and deeply influential.

India and the Founding of the UN

India was still under British colonial rule when the UN was created, but it became a founding signatory to the UN Charter in 1945. This early participation underscored India's aspirations to shape global peace and justice. At the San Francisco Conference (1945), India was represented by Sir Arcot Ramaswamy Mudaliar, who later served as the first President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Role in Decolonization, Human Rights

- **Champion of Freedom Movements:** In the 1950s and 1960s, India emerged as a strong advocate of decolonization. It raised the issue of apartheid in South Africa at the UN as early as 1946, one of the first countries to do so. India consistently supported liberation movements in Asia and Africa.
- **Human Rights Advocacy:** Indian diplomat Hansa Mehta, as part of the UN Human Rights Commission, played a key role in shaping the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), ensuring that Article 1 referred to "all human beings" rather than "all men."
- **Peaceful Diplomacy:** India's policy of non-alignment and peaceful negotiation influenced many UN debates during the Cold War era.

India and UN Peacekeeping Operations

Perhaps India's most visible and enduring contribution has been through UN Peacekeeping. India is among the largest troop-contributing countries and has participated in more than 50 UN missions since 1948.

Key Contributions:

- **Korean War (1950s):** India sent a medical unit and chaired the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission.
- **Congo (1960s):** Indian troops played a critical role in stabilizing the Congo during its post-independence crisis.
- **Middle East (1956 onwards):** India sent troops to supervise peace after the Suez Crisis and in later Arab-Israeli conflicts.
- **Modern Operations:** India has contributed to missions in Somalia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, South Sudan, Lebanon, and Democratic Republic



of Congo.

Notable Features:

- India has deployed over 200,000 personnel in UN missions—the largest by any country.
- Indian peacekeepers have earned global respect for professionalism and sacrifice, with more than 175 Indian soldiers having laid down their lives in UN service.
- India has pioneered the inclusion of women in peacekeeping. In 2007, India deployed the first all-female Formed Police Unit to Liberia, which inspired local women to join security services.

India and Global Development Agendas

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** India has actively supported the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Its domestic programs like *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* (Clean India Mission) and *International Solar Alliance* align with global goals on health, sanitation, renewable energy, and climate change.
- **Climate Action:** India has emerged as a leader in climate diplomacy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposal of the International Day of Yoga (adopted by the UN in 2014) links wellness with sustainable living. India's role in forming the International Solar Alliance (ISA), supported by the UN, underscores its leadership in renewable energy.

India and the UN Security Council

India has served as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council (UNSC) eight times (most recently for 2021-2022). During these terms, India has contributed to discussions on counterterrorism, peacekeeping reforms, and global security.

India has long advocated for UNSC reform, arguing that the Council's



structure-frozen since 1945—no longer reflects contemporary realities. India seeks a permanent seat in the UNSC, supported by many countries, citing its:

- Large population (world's most populous nation)
- Status as the world's largest democracy
- Growing economic and military power
- Consistent record in supporting UN activities

India and the International Court of Justice (ICJ)

India has actively participated in the ICJ. In 2017, Indian judge Dalveer Bhandari was re-elected to the ICJ after a fiercely contested election, signaling international support for India's judicial expertise.

India's Recent UN Engagements

- **Counterterrorism:** India has consistently urged the UN to adopt a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) to define and combat terrorism.
- **COVID-19 Pandemic:** India supplied

vaccines and medicines to many countries under the UN-backed COVAX initiative, earning the title "Pharmacy of the World."

- **Humanitarian Assistance:** India has contributed generously to UN humanitarian funds and disaster relief, such as aid for earthquakes, floods, and refugee crises.

India's journey with the UN reflects both ideals and pragmatism. From championing decolonization and human rights to becoming a global leader in peacekeeping and climate diplomacy, India has left an indelible mark on the organization. While it continues to press for reforms in the Security Council to reflect contemporary realities, India's contributions to peace, justice, and sustainable development remain central to the UN's mission.

In the words of former Indian diplomat V.K. Krishna Menon, one of India's most prominent voices at the UN: "The United Nations is not merely a forum of states—it is the conscience of humanity." India's role ensures that this conscience continues to speak for peace, justice, and a better future for all.

Successes and failures of the United Nations

When the United Nations (UN) was founded on 24 October 1945, it was hailed as humanity's best hope to prevent another world war. With the horror of the Second World War fresh in memory—over 60 million dead, the Holocaust, the atomic bombings—the UN Charter began with a pledge to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war."

Nearly eight decades later, the UN remains the world's only truly universal body, with 193 member states. It has been the stage of high diplomacy, the manager of peacekeeping forces, the architect of international law, and the world's largest humanitarian coordinator. But its record is deeply mixed: marked by undeniable successes in peacekeeping, human rights, and development, but also by grave failures in conflict prevention, genocide response, and Security Council reform.

Successes of the UN

Preventing Another World War

- The most fundamental success of the UN is that there has been no global conflict on the scale of World War I or II since its founding.
- The UN created a forum where rival powers can engage diplomatically, even during intense crises like the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962), when UN Secretary-General U Thant played a mediating role between the U.S. and Soviet Union.
- While wars still occur, the existence of the UN and its institutions has served as a "safety valve" against global escalation.

Peacekeeping and Conflict Resolution

- UN Peacekeeping began in 1948 with unarmed military observers deployed in the Middle East (UNTSO). Since then, there have been over 70 operations across the globe.
- Peacekeepers—"Blue Helmets"—help monitor ceasefires, protect civilians, and assist in political transitions.

Key Successes:

- Namibia (1989-1990): The UN supervised elections and independence after decades of South African rule.
- El Salvador (1990s): UN peacekeepers monitored a ceasefire, helping end a brutal civil war.
- East Timor (1999-2002): UNTAET administered the territory, guiding it from Indonesian occupation to independence.
- Mozambique (1990s): The UN oversaw a successful peace process after years of civil war.

While peacekeeping missions are not always perfect, they often "contain violence and save lives" in fragile states.

Decolonization and Self-Determination

- One of the UN's proudest achievements was its role in ending colonialism.



- The UN Trusteeship Council, now dormant, oversaw 11 territories' transition to independence.
- The General Assembly became a powerful platform for newly independent states, especially in Africa and Asia.
- Today, almost one-third of UN members are countries that emerged from this wave of decolonization.

Human Rights and International Law

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR, 1948): Drafted by Eleanor Roosevelt and others, it set global norms on dignity, freedom, and equality.
- Treaties and Conventions:
 - Convention on the Prevention of Genocide (1948)
 - Refugee Convention (1951)
 - Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (1965)
 - Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979)
 - Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)

Courts and Tribunals:

- International Court of Justice (ICJ) handles disputes between states.
- Ad hoc tribunals for Rwanda and Yugoslavia prosecuted war crimes and inspired the International Criminal Court (ICC, 2002).

These frameworks, while not always enforced equally, have created a body of global legal and moral standards.

Humanitarian Assistance

The UN has become the world's leading humanitarian coordinator through its agencies:

- World Food Programme (WFP): feeds over 100 million people annually.
- UNHCR (Refugees): protects and assists 35+ million displaced people.
- UNICEF: provides healthcare, education, and child protection in

crisis zones.

- WHO: coordinates global health responses (polio eradication campaigns, Ebola outbreaks, COVID-19).

Notable interventions:

- Tsunami 2004: Massive UN relief operation in South and Southeast Asia.
- Haiti Earthquake (2010): Coordinated aid and medical response.
- COVID-19 Pandemic: UN's COVAX initiative worked to distribute vaccines to poorer nations.

Global Development and Climate Action

- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs, 2000-2015): Helped reduce poverty, improve literacy, and cut child mortality.
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, 2015-2030): A 17-goal blueprint for inclusive growth, climate action, and equality.

Climate Change:

- The UNFCCC (1992) framework led to global agreements:
 - Kyoto Protocol (1997)
 - Paris Agreement (2015) - nearly universal participation in tackling climate change.

Failures of the UN

Genocides and Mass Atrocities

- Rwanda (1994): Despite clear warnings, the UN failed to act decisively. The peacekeeping force (UNAMIR), underfunded and restricted, stood by as 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were slaughtered in 100 days.
- Srebrenica (1995): In Bosnia, UN peacekeepers failed to protect a declared "safe zone." Over 8,000 Bosnian Muslims were massacred by Serbian forces.
- These episodes remain searing indictments of UN inaction.

Security Council Paralysis

- The veto power of the five permanent members (U.S., Russia, China, U.K., France) often blocks consensus.

Examples:

- Russia vetoes on Ukraine, Syria, Georgia.
- U.S. vetoes on Israel-Palestine resolutions.
- This has led to deadlock, undermining credibility.

Inability to Prevent Wars of Aggression

- Vietnam War (1950s-70s): The UN played no major role.
- U.S. invasion of Iraq (2003): Launched without Security Council approval, undermining UN authority.
- Russia-Ukraine War (2022-present): The UN condemned Russia, but could not act militarily due to Russia's veto.

Peacekeeping Shortcomings and Scandals

- Missions in Somalia, Darfur, Central African Republic, and South Sudan often lacked sufficient mandate or strength.
- Allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers have tarnished credibility.

Inequality in Global Governance

- The Security Council reflects 1945 realities, not today's world.
- No permanent seat for India, Brazil, Japan, Germany, or Africa.
- Developing nations argue the system perpetuates Western dominance.
- Reform proposals have stalled for decades.

Selective Enforcement of Intl Law

- ICJ and ICC rulings are often ignored by powerful states.

Has been accused of double standards:

- Strong action in some cases (Libya 2011), inaction in others (Syria, Myanmar).
- Developing countries see the system as tilted toward great powers.

The Future of the UN

The UN stands at a crossroads. It has succeeded in building norms, delivering aid, and avoiding global catastrophe, but it has failed in decisive conflict prevention and institutional reform.

For the UN to remain relevant:

- Security Council Reform is essential to reflect today's power distribution.
- Peacekeeping mandates must be strengthened, with accountability for misconduct.
- Human rights enforcement must apply equally, regardless of state power.
- Global challenges like climate change, pandemics, cyber threats, and inequality must be prioritized.

A WINDOW INTO HUMAN TRAFFICKING: SURVIVORS' HOPES AND DREAMS

BY MABEL PAIS

"If it wasn't for this program, I believe I wouldn't be alive. They have opened my heart and mind to a new and better life for myself... From the time I wake up to the time I go to sleep, I always feel safe." - Survivor & PEHT Resident

Time and again, high-profile cases capture public attention, but the cycle repeats: Outrage rises, then headlines fade, and justice is stalled, while survivors are left to carry the weight of silence and denial. What's being hidden isn't just lists, it's perpetrators who must be held accountable.

LOVE CHANGES EVERYTHING!

The Sheen Center for Thought and Culture, New York City, is hosting a Pop-Up PEHT (Partnership to End Human Trafficking) Shop to peruse and purchase survivor-artists' creations in their Janet Hennessey Dilenschneider Gallery. The exhibition opened on September 4 and the display will be available to the public until September 28. The Center is located at 18 Bleecker Street, New York, New York, 10012 (212 219 3132).

WHAT: Pop-Up Shop with PEHT

WHEN: September 4 to 28, 2025

WHERE: Janet Hennessey Dilenschneider Gallery, The Sheen Center,

18 Bleecker Street, Manhattan, New York, 10012

Hours: 10:00AM to 5:00PM

COST: Free

The artwork is inspired by the courage and dreams from those who have survived trafficking and exploitation; finding healing and hope through art and creative expression.

Each item tells a story of resilience, restoration, and empowerment and every purchase directly supports survivors of human trafficking on their journey to independence. Whether you're looking for a unique gift or a meaningful way to give back, shopping at The PEHT Shop POP-UP is a chance to support a future free from exploitation, one product, one survivor, one story at a time.

The PEHT Shop is PEHT's survivor-led social enterprise offering beautifully crafted, survivor-made products created by the incredible women in the program. Each item tells a story of resilience, restoration, and empowerment and every purchase directly supports survivors of human trafficking on their journey to independence. Whether you're looking for a unique gift or a meaningful way to give back, shopping at The PEHT Shop POP-UP is a chance to support a future free from exploitation, one product, one survivor, one story at a time.

OPENING RECEPTION

The Opening Reception was held on Tuesday, September 9, 5:30-7:30PM to welcome PEHT and the featured artists on display in the Gallery (sheencenter.org/events/detail/peht-survivors-hopes-and-dreams). This was a free event.

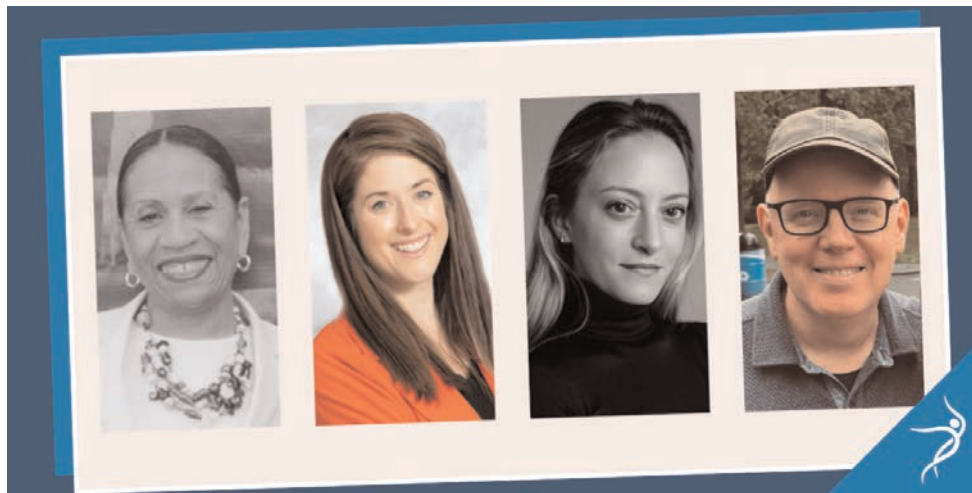


Survivor-Artists working on their creations.

-Credit : sheencenter.org.



Survivor-Artists display their work. -Credit : sheencenter.org.



Panelists (left to right): Jamie Manirakiza, Laura Riso, Taina Bien-Aimé, Kevin Ryan

-Credit : sheencenter.org.

PANEL DISCUSSION -

WHAT: TOPIC - 'WHAT YOU DON'T SEE: UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND FINDING HOPE'

WHEN: Thursday, September 18, 2025, 7:00-9:00 PM

WHERE: Loreto Theater, The Sheen Center (see address above)

Lobby Opens 1 Hour Before Event |

Doors 30 Mins Before Event

COST: Free

RSVP is required. RSVP @ https://sheencenter.app.getcuebox.com/o/MVQSLDZL/shows/1Z7ZS6VV?utm_source=Sheen+Center+Email+List&utm_campaign=338303cdea-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_Sept2_PEHT&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ab93b6277b-185553505

PANELISTS:

Jamie Manirakiza, Executive Director, PEHT

Laura Riso, Victim Specialist, FBI NY
Taina Bien-Aimé, Executive Director, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women

MODERATOR:

Kevin Ryan, Former President and CEO, Covenant House International
Experience inspiring stories of survival and resilience and meet the very human side of this challenging and all-too-timely topic.

Join the speakers for a raw, urgent panel that goes beyond scandal and asks the harder question: **How do we confront the systems that enable exploitation and fight for real change?** Exploitation doesn't end when the cameras turn off and the headlines fade. That's why PEHT'S work centers on restoration, housing, healing, and dignity.

Meet subject matter experts who have dedicated their efforts to ending this cycle and gather in the community to move from awareness, through outrage, to **action**. Together, the panelists will explore the systemic failures that allow exploitation to thrive, elevate the voices of survivors, and highlight pathways toward justice, healing, and hope.

ORIGIN OF PEHT

PEHT was founded in 2016 by Elizabeth Koldyke Boolbol and a passionate group of individuals who recognized that human trafficking is not just a distant phenomenon — it is a local one. Aware of the challenges survivors face on their journey to recovery, the group committed themselves to providing the resources and support needed to help them rebuild their lives and thrive.

In 2019, PEHT opened a drop-in center at a church in Bridgeport, Connecticut, offering food, hygiene products, and essential support for survivors in need.

In January 2021, PEHT launched its first residential home, creating a safe and stable environment for survivors. This home offers 24/7 support, case management, trauma-informed therapy, skill training, and economic opportunities. Just six months later, PEHT expanded its impact by opening The PEHT Shop, a social enterprise that provides survivors with meaningful employment opportunities and hands-on job training in a supportive workplace.

In February 2024, PEHT proudly opened a second residential home, further expanding access to vital resources. Since then, both residential homes have operated at full capacity, underscoring the growing need for

comprehensive survivor support, creating a safe and stable environment for survivors, and offering support, case management, trauma-informed therapy, skill training, and economic opportunities. Their animating belief is simple and profound: Love changes everything.

PEHT continues to build strong connections within the local community, expand access to essential resources, and support survivors as they heal, grow, and reclaim their independence. Together, PEHT strives for a world free from exploitation, where every individual can live with dignity and hope.

PEHT'S PHILOSOPHY OF CARE

What sets PEHT apart as a service organization is its use of The Sanctuary® Model, a comprehensive approach to providing trauma-informed care. The Sanctuary® Model serves as a framework for building an organizational culture that acknowledges how trauma, adversity, and chronic stress shape individual behavior.

PARTNERSHIP TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING (PEHT)

PEHT Artists and Survivors create art that tell a story - of survival, growth, and hope. Thanks to PEHT's social enterprise and community partnerships, they have transformed their creative gifts into meaningful work. Their handmade pieces serve as powerful reminders that recovery is possible, and that beauty can rise from even the darkest places.

The PEHT Shop - PEHT's survivor-led social enterprise offering beautifully crafted, survivor-made products created by the incredible women in the program - and shop with a purpose!

Attendees at the September 18 event can peruse and purchase the products! Each item tells a story of resilience, restoration, and empowerment and every purchase directly supports survivors of human trafficking on their journey to independence. Whether you're looking for a unique gift or a meaningful way to give back, shopping at The PEHT Shop POP-UP is a chance to support a future free from exploitation, one product, one survivor, one story at a time.

CONNECT WITH P.E.H.T. ONLINE

Website - peht.org

Instagram - [instagram.com/p.e.h.t](https://www.instagram.com/p.e.h.t)

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



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Manoj Bajpayee calls box office obsession a 'monster' created by Bollywood's successful people

Actor Manoj Bajpayee is not a fan of film producers and studios throwing around box office numbers to promote their titles. The actor, who balances commercial and independent cinema, says this obsession with box office is a monster that will 'eat up' its own creators.

The actor is gearing up for the release of *Jugnuma*, directed by Raam Reddy. The film has earned acclaim worldwide as *The Fable* and is finally getting a release in Indian theatres this month. Ahead of the release, the National Award winner sits down with *Hindustan Times* to talk about the state of independent films in the country and the newfound obsession with the box office.

Over the last few years, box office numbers have turned into promotional tools to leverage buzz for films. Talking about the phenomenon, Manoj says, "It's a monster that is created by the producers themselves, the commercial producers, for their own game. Very soon, this monster is going to eat you up. You have created *Bhasmasura*. Just wait for the day you are going to put your hand on your own head, and you will be ruined. This has been created by our own successful people, and one day it will eat them up."

Equating box office success with quality has particularly hurt smaller, independent films, as their low collections are now considered a sign of bad quality. Manoj argues, "The small, independent films always experience struggle. Then came a very brief time when OTT had just entered the country, and they were welcoming. But very soon, they changed their stance, and all of them started focusing on mainstream subjects and faces. One feels sad, because I am of the opinion that if you finish independent movement, your cinema will become just a product and nothing more. If the art is taken out, it has no value."

He gives the example of Amitabh Bachchan, a rare superstar who also did smaller films during the peak of his stardom. "Mr Bachchan has also done a few fabulous (small) films like *Abhimaan* and *Mili*. He has done many more. Only *Don*, after a point, will be boring. He is Mr Bachchan also because of the kind of films he has done earlier in his career," says the actor.

He mentions OTT platforms, the streaming giants that occupy a large chunk of India's entertainment space now, and laments that even they have given in to commercial compulsions now.

Aishwarya Rai wins big legal fight against AI-generated fake content

Bollywood star Aishwarya Rai Bachchan has won a big legal battle to protect her name and image. On Thursday, Sept 11, the Delhi High Court ruled that no one can misuse her identity, especially through new technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), deepfakes, and face morphing.

Justice Tejas Karia, who gave the order, said that using Aishwarya's name, pictures, or likeness without her permission is not just a matter of money but also about her dignity and reputation.

The court said such misuse could mislead people into thinking that she supports or promotes certain products or services when she actually does not.

The court made it clear that every person has "personality rights." This means that individuals, especially public figures, have control over how their name, face, and personal identity are in use.

In its order, the High Court restrained several parties, both known and unknown, from using Aishwarya Rai Bachchan's name, initials 'ARB', photos, or any digital likeness for personal or commercial benefit.

The order also applied to content already circulating online. The court directed Google LLC to remove all the links (URLs) listed in the case within 72 hours.

The actress had approached the High Court after online platforms started circulating AI-generated content that



misused her identity, including pornographic material. She argued that such actions caused her emotional distress. In addition, they damaged her reputation, and put her at risk of being wrongly linked with things that she had nothing to do with.

Aishwarya is not the first celebrity to

face such problems. Many public figures across the world have complained about the misuse of their identity. The concern has grown especially after the rise of deepfake and AI technology.

Recently, her husband Abhishek Bachchan also reached the court for the same.

Salman Khan shares BTS glimpse of 'Battle of Galwan' in soldier's uniform

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan is balancing two big projects at the same time: the new season of 'Bigg Boss 19' and his upcoming film 'Battle of Galwan'.

The actor gave his fans a surprise glimpse of the movie on Tuesday when he shared a behind-the-scenes picture from the set on Instagram.

In the photo, Salman is seen peeking through a clapperboard while preparing for a scene. According to the details on the board, it was the 86th scene of the film, and Salman was giving his first take. He is dressed in full military uniform, wearing the old Personal Camouflage Disruptive Pattern Material (PC DPM), which was the Indian Army's official pattern until 2021. The makers have kept the costume true to the time period since the Galwan clash took place in June 2020. For authenticity, the team did not use the current New Battle Dress Uniform (NBDU) of the INCAM pattern. It was introduced later in January 2022 during



the Army Day Parade in New Delhi. That design was developed in partnership with the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT).

In the picture, Salman's look also includes a wound across his face, hinting at the intensity of his role. Sharing the post, he kept the caption

simple and powerful: "#BattleOfGalwan."

The film is inspired by the Galwan Valley clash that shocked the nation in 2020. The incident happened during the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic when Indian and Chinese troops came face-to-face in eastern Ladakh.

Selena Gomez spills sweet details about her wedding plans

When love meets laughter, even wedding talk turns into comedy gold. That's exactly what happened when Selena Gomez dropped by 'The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon' this week.

The 33-year-old singer and actress, glowing with happiness, couldn't stop smiling as she spoke about her upcoming wedding with fiancé Benny Blanco.

Selena Gomez, joined on the show by her 'Only Murders in the Building' co-stars Martin Short and Steve Martin, gave fans a small but joyful glimpse into her big day. Fallon couldn't resist asking her about the wedding, and Selena, with her usual charm, said, "It's wonderful, I'm very lucky. It's going well, I'm so excited."

When asked if Short and Martin would be invited, Selena quipped, "Course they are; Marty's the ring bearer."

Short didn't miss a beat. He dramatically pretended to hold out the ring in a "Lord of the Rings" fashion, announcing, "Here's your ring, Selena. Take it."

And the jokes didn't stop there. Short went on to tease, "We are all so excited because we love this lady and we love her fiancé, Bad Bunny."

Selena immediately burst out laughing and corrected him: "Benny Blanco!"

Earlier this year, comedian and actor Martin Short openly praised her relationship. On Amy Poehler's 'Good Hang' podcast, he called Benny Blanco "fabulous" and described him as "one of the great, cool guys... funny and loose," adding that Selena truly adores him.

And of course, fans can't forget the excitement from Selena's best friend Taylor Swift. Right after the engagement news broke last December, Taylor cheekily commented on Instagram, "Yes I will be the flower girl."

Selena and Benny made their relationship public in December 2023, though their story goes back much further. The couple had already collaborated musically on the 2019 track 'I Can't Get Enough', long before their romance began.



Modern Family star Eric Stonestreet marries his longtime partner Lindsay Schweitzer

Actor Eric Stonestreet, widely known for his role as Cam on 'Modern Family', has married his long-time girlfriend and paediatric nurse Lindsay Schweitzer in a heartfelt ceremony surrounded by close friends and family. The couple, who have been together since 2017, shared glimpses of their special day on Instagram, giving fans a glimpse into their intimate celebration.

The 54-year-old actor posted several snapshots from the wedding, including moments from the aisle walk and their first dance. The ceremony took place on September 8, 2025, at the couple's dream home in Kansas City, Missouri – a location they had often described as perfect for the occasion.

Interestingly, the wedding date fell between their birthdays. Stonestreet playfully captioned one of the posts, "It's my birthday and guess what I got," followed by, "I got married! (sic)." Another photo was captioned simply, "The Stonestreeets," signalling the start of their life together as a married couple.

For the occasion, the actor looked dashing in a fitted navy blazer, while Schweitzer stunned in a satin gown adorned with crystal embellishments, radiating elegance and grace.

The celebrations were made even more special by the presence of family and friends. Stonestreet's Modern Family co-star, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, left a heartfelt comment: "Of all second marriages, this one is my favourite! I love you both (sic)." Oscar-winning actor Octavia Spencer also extended her wishes, writing, "Congratulations! So happy for you both (sic)."

The couple's decision to exchange vows at home reflected their desire for a personal and meaningful event. Speaking to People Magazine, Stonestreet shared that their property was an ideal setting, offering the privacy and intimacy they desired. The ceremony was enriched by live music, with acoustic guitarists accompanying the couple's first dance, creating a warm and celebratory atmosphere.

Die My Love trailer: Robert Pattinson, Jennifer Lawrence play a chaotic couple



The trailer of Lynne Ramsay's dark psychological drama 'Die My Love' was recently released. The film, featuring actors Robert Pattinson and Jennifer Lawrence shows a woman having trouble adjusting to motherhood.

The trailer initially starts with Lawrence and Pattinson as a happy couple who are very much in love. However, the tone of the movie later shifts to melodramatic, intense and dark. Set in rural Montana, Pattinson is portrayed as a not-always-helpful husband in this intense psychological drama.

Actors Sissy Spacek, Nick Nolte and LaKeith Stanfield also play key roles in the upcoming film. The dark theme of the promo indicates that the film delves into themes of post-partum depression, psychosis or borderline personality disorder.

'Die My Love' premiered in competition at Cannes Film Festival in May 2025. Distributor and streaming service provider Mubi bought distribution rights for the film in a major deal totalling \$24 million, landing rights for North America and various international territories, reported by Variety. The acquisition came a year after Mubi bought 'The Substance' (2024) ahead of its Cannes premiere. The body-horror film featuring actors Demi Moore and Margaret Qualley was nominated in five categories at the 97th Academy Awards in 2025. Interestingly, both, 'The Substance' and 'Die My Love' are backed by Universal Pictures. Director Martin Scorsese, who was an executive producer for the former, is also credited as the producer in Pattinson-Lawrence Psychosis drama.



First ever EU-Egypt summit to take place in Brussels on October 22

The European Council announced Thursday, Sept 11, that the first-ever summit between the European Union and Egypt will be held on October 22 in Brussels. The EU will be represented by European Council President Antonio Costa and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, while Egypt will be represented by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi.

According to the Council's statement, the summit comes within the framework of the comprehensive strategic partnership established in March 2024 that aims to deepen political and economic cooperation while supporting stability, peace, and shared prosperity.

The summit will also address pressing global issues, including the situation in the Middle East, Russia's war against Ukraine, as well as multilateralism, trade, migration, and security.

German extremists charged with planning neo-Nazi state

BERLIN (TIP)

German federal prosecutors on Wednesday brought charges against eight suspected members of a far-right extremist group based in the eastern German state of Saxony that was broken up in 2024.

The members of the so-called "Saxony Separatists" are said to have expected the imminent collapse of the German state, and were accused of preparing to violently take over chunks of territory in Saxony after what they referred to as "day X."

Federal prosecutors charged the eight men with establishment of and membership in a terrorist organization, along with the preparation of a treasonous undertaking, according to German public broadcaster MDR.

State based on Nazi ideology

After "day X," prosecutors said the group planned to establish an independent state based on Nazi ideology, which included "removing" ethnic minorities, along with representatives of the previous state order.

Prosecutors said the group's training included target practice and paramilitary exercises, during which, for example, house-to-house combat or night marches and forced marches were practiced.

Investigators said searches of premises used by members uncovered knives and machetes, ammunition, combat helmets, camouflage and other equipment.

How was the group uncovered?

The group's existence became known in November 2024 when it was broken up in a raid by police. The eight defendants



were also arrested at the time.

According to the federal prosecutor's office, the militant group was founded in early February 2020. It most recently had around 20 members.

"Its members are united by a deep rejection of the free democratic basic order of the Federal Republic of Germany," federal prosecutors said in a November 2024 statement.

"From the group's point of view, there is no doubt that Germany is on the verge of 'collapse' and that, on a still-undetermined 'day X,' the state and society will collapse," it added.

"Even ethnic cleansing was part of their inhuman plans," former German Justice Minister Marco Buschmann said in a statement at the time, adding that the arrests showed the importance of

protecting Germany's free and democratic order from threats "from many sides."

Three of the group's members arrested had ties with the far-right political party Alternative for Germany (AfD). Shortly after the arrests, the AfD revoked the suspects' membership in the party.

One of the men, who was a former local AfD politician, was shot and injured by police during his arrest after he aimed a pistol at officers. He is facing additional charges of attempted murder, MDR reported.

A Dresden court will now decide whether to allow the charges to proceed. According to the federal prosecutor's office, investigations into other suspected members or supporters are ongoing.

'Italy does not forget': Giorgia Meloni remembers 9/11 victims, vows to continue fight against terrorism

ROME (TIP)

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni on Thursday paid tribute to the victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States, saying the memory of that day continues to guide Italy's commitment against terrorism and in defence of democratic values.

In a message posted on X on the 24th anniversary of the attacks, Meloni said, "September 11, 2001, was a date that struck not only the heart of the American people but of the entire West. 24 years have passed since that ferocious terrorist attack and today, as then, my thoughts are directed to the thousands of innocent victims, together with the closeness that, with the entire Italian Government, I wish to express to the families, in the sign of the deep



friendship that binds Italy and the United States."

She wrote that "Italy does not forget," stressing that the bond between Rome and Washington remains rooted in shared values of freedom and democracy.

The Italian leader also said that the memory of 9/11 "strengthens our daily action in combating Islamic

fundamentalism and every terrorist threat." She added that Italy's commitment is not only to stand with its allies but also to protect its own constitutional values of liberty and democracy.

US President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump on Thursday, Sept 9, attended a solemn observance ceremony at the Pentagon to mark the 24th anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

The attacks claimed the lives of 2,977 people after hijacked planes struck New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. At Ground Zero in New York, the annual tradition of reading aloud the names of those who perished continues, honouring more than 2,700 victims who died in the collapse of the Twin Towers.

The morning of September 11, 2001, began like any other in New York City. Office workers hurried through crowded streets, tourists paused to admire the skyline, and vendors opened their stalls as sunlight glinted off the glass towers.

The rhythm of daily life seemed unshaken—until the sudden roar of jet engines broke the calm, and a plane crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center, turning an ordinary day into the opening chapter of the deadliest terrorist attack on American soil.

After the initial crash, another plane struck the South Tower as onlookers stared at the devastating sight of the two towers turning into rubble in just a few moments.

Brazil's Supreme Court finds Jair Bolsonaro guilty of coup charges

The majority of a panel of Brazilian Supreme Court justices on Thursday, Sept 11, voted to convict former president Jair Bolsonaro of attempting a coup to remain in office despite his 2022 electoral defeat.

The far-right politician who governed Brazil between 2019 and 2022 was found guilty on five counts by three members of a five-justice panel. The latest to rule was Cármen Lúcia on Thursday, a day after another justice, Luiz Fux, disagreed and voted to acquit the ex-president of all charges.

There is only one pending justice to vote. Once all five justices have voted, the panel will decide on Bolsonaro's sentence, which could amount to decades in prison.

US President Donald Trump came out in strong defense of former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro. rump said he was shocked and disappointed by the decision. Speaking to reporters at the White House, he described Bolsonaro as "an outstanding leader" and called the ruling "a terrible thing for Brazil." Trump added, "I watched that trial. I know him pretty well, a foreign leader. I thought he was a good president of Brazil. And it's very surprising that that could happen."

Claiming the charges against Bolsonaro were similar to what he himself has faced, Trump continued, "That's very much like they tried to do with me, but they didn't get away with it at all. But I can always say this: I knew him as the president of Brazil. He was a good man, and I don't see that happening."

'This place is ours': Israeli PM Netanyahu signs West Bank settlement expansion plan

BEIJING (TIP)

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu signed an "umbrella agreement" Thursday, Sept 11, officially moving forward with expansion plan that would cut across land that the Palestinians seek for a state.

"There will never be a Palestinian state. This place is ours," Netanyahu said during a visit to the Maale Adumim settlement in the West Bank where thousands of new housing units would be added.

"We will safeguard our heritage, our land, and our security," he added.

The office of Prime Minister Netanyahu, confirmed the signing of the deal on X, saying, "Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, this evening, at the signing ceremony for the roof agreement in Maale Adumim. There will be no Palestinian state! This place is ours."

Netanyahu was joined by nationalist members of his coalition, including far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, who in August said a Palestinian state "is being erased from the table, not with slogans but with actions."

Last month, the long overdue East 1 (E1) project, that was stalled amid objections from the US and European government in 2012 and 2020, received final approval from a Defence Ministry planning commission.

Total investment in the project, which will include adding roads and upgrading major infrastructure, is estimated at nearly \$1 billion.

The settlement, on a 12-square-kilometre (4.6sq-mile) tract of land east of Jerusalem, is known as "East 1" or "E1".



Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu at the signing ceremony for the roof agreement in Maale Adumim. (Source: @IsraeliPM/X)

The move, coming two days after Israel tried to kill Hamas leaders in Qatar and was roundly condemned, may add to already strained relations with many of its allies.

Restarting the project, which aims to bisect the West Bank and cut it off from East Jerusalem, could further isolate Israel, as many Western allies, including Britain and France, announced they intend to recognise the state of Palestinian at the United Nations General Assembly later this month.

Western governments and advocacy groups have opposed the settlement, expressing concerns that it could jeopardize the prospects of a future peace agreement with the Palestinians.

UN Security Council members condemn Israel over deadly strike on Qatar

The United Nations Security Council has condemned the Israeli attack on the Qatari capital Doha on Tuesday and called for de-escalation in a statement agreed by all 15 members, including

Israel's chief ally, the United States.

Council members issued the statement ahead of the emergency meeting on Thursday, which was convened to discuss Israel's attacks targeting Hamas leaders in the Qatari capital, as it ramped up its offensive in Gaza City, forcing more than 200,000 to flee. Five Hamas members were killed, but the Palestinian group said its leadership survived the assassination bid. A Qatari security force member was also killed in the unprecedented attack, which has sent tensions in the region skyrocketing.

Hamas leaders were meeting to discuss a new deal proposed by US President Donald Trump when the attack happened.

"Council members underscored the importance of de-escalation and expressed their solidarity with Qatar," said the statement, drafted by France and the United Kingdom, which nonetheless stopped short of explicitly mentioning Israel.

World's first AI 'minister' Diella takes charge in Albania to combat corruption

TIRANA (TIP)

Artificial intelligence, which is rapidly spreading across every sector, has now entered politics. Albania has become the first nation to appoint an AI-generated "minister" tasked with tackling corruption.

On Thursday, Sept 11, Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama announced that he had appointed the world's first AI-generated government minister to oversee public tenders, assuring that its artificial intelligence would make the process "corruption-free", news agency AFP reported.

Revealing his new cabinet during a Socialist Party meeting after a decisive election win in May, Rama introduced the new "member," Diella, which in Albanian means "sun."

"Diella is the first (government) member who is not physically present, but virtually created by artificial intelligence," Rama said.

Rama, who won a fourth consecutive term in the May elections, is expected to present his new cabinet to the parliament in the coming days.

Diella's role in public tenders: Prime Minister



Diella is the first (government) member who is not physically present, but virtually created by artificial intelligence, Albanian PM Edi Rama said.(X)

Rama said that Diella will manage all decisions related to public tenders, ensuring they are "100 per cent corruption-free and every public fund submitted to the tender procedure will be perfectly transparent".

Origins as a virtual assistant: Diella was initially introduced in January as an AI-powered digital assistant, designed to resemble a woman dressed in traditional Albanian attire. It was meant to help

citizens navigate the official e-Albania platform, which offers access to documents and services.

Services already provided: According to government figures quoted by AFP, Diella has so far facilitated the issuing of 36,600 digital documents and delivered nearly 1,000 services via the platform.

Corruption challenges in Albania: Public tenders in Albania have historically been at the centre of corruption scandals. Experts highlight that the country has become a hub for international criminal networks laundering profits from drug and arms trafficking, with corruption reportedly reaching into senior levels of government, according to The Guardian.

Praise from Albanian media: Local media described the appointment of Diella as "a major transformation in the way the Albanian government conceives and exercises administrative power, introducing technology not only as a tool, but also as an active participant in governance".

Link to EU accession bid: The crackdown on corruption, especially within the public sector, remains a crucial benchmark for Albania's efforts to join the European Union.

Muslim countries need to unite to stop Israeli aggression: Pakistan PM Sharif in Qatar

ISLAMABAD (TIP)

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Thursday, Sept 11, urged Muslim countries to unite against Israeli aggression as he met the Qatari emir and expressed solidarity following Tel Aviv's recent attacks targeting residential areas in Doha.

Shehbaz Sharif, who travelled to Qatar on a day-long visit, held a "very warm and cordial meeting" with Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, according to an official statement.

"Israel's brazen aggression in the Middle East must be stopped, and the Ummah needed unity among its ranks in the face of Israeli provocations," Sharif said.

He conveyed Pakistan's strongest condemnation of the Israeli attack of September 9, calling it a blatant and flagrant violation of Qatar's sovereignty and territorial integrity, the statement said.

He said that the "leadership and people of Pakistan were deeply disturbed by this attack against the brotherly State of Qatar, which constituted a serious breach of international law," the statement added.

Sharif appreciated Qatar's responsible, constructive and mediatory role in efforts to bring peace in Gaza, and stressed that such acts of Israeli aggression were clearly meant to undermine regional stability and threaten ongoing diplomatic and humanitarian efforts, it added.

While reaffirming the historic,



fraternal bonds between Pakistan and Qatar, Sharif stated that the two countries had proudly stood with each other through thick and thin.

It was in this spirit of brotherhood that Pakistan stood shoulder to shoulder with the Emir, the Royal Family of Qatar and with the brotherly people of Qatar during this challenging time, the statement said.

Sharif assured the Qatari leadership of Pakistan's full solidarity and support in the face of this unjustified provocation.

He also conveyed deep sympathies on the loss of precious lives in this attack by Israel and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Sharif said that at Qatar's request, Pakistan had requested an emergency session of the UN Security Council to discuss the recent developments in the

Middle East.

He also welcomed Qatar's decision to host an Extraordinary Arab-Islamic Summit on September 15, and said Pakistan had indicated its willingness to the OIC to co-sponsor and co-convene this Summit.

The Emir thanked the Prime Minister for his thoughtful gesture of visiting Doha to express his solidarity with Qatar at this time, it said.

Both leaders agreed to maintain close coordination in promoting regional peace, upholding international law and supporting the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, it added.

This visit reaffirmed the deep-rooted brotherly ties between Pakistan and Qatar and their shared commitment to peace and stability in the region, the statement said.

The Prime Minister was accompanied

by a high-level delegation, including Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, according to the Foreign Office (FO).

The visit was "a gesture of solidarity and regional unity, following the recent Israeli cowardly airstrikes targeting residential areas in Doha," the FO said.

"The visit underscores Pakistan's unwavering support for the security and sovereignty of Qatar and its commitment to peace and stability in the Middle East," the FO added.

Pakistan has close ties with Qatar and has already condemned the air strikes by Israel.

It was not clear if the visit was limited to solidarity or if the two sides discussed some possibility of defence cooperation to bolster the security of Qatar.

Earlier, Israel claimed to have targeted the leaders of Hamas in Doha, sparking anger and condemnation from different countries.

Qatar awoke Wednesday, Sept 10, still digging through the rubble of an Israeli attack the previous day on Hamas' political leaders who had gathered in the capital of the energy-rich Middle East country to consider a US proposal for a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.

Qatar's local media hewed tightly to government statements issued after Tuesday's attack, which killed at least six people in a Doha neighborhood that is home to foreign embassies and schools. Qatar is ruled by a hereditary emir and tightly restricts speech like other Gulf Arab nations.

UN seeks \$140 mln for Afghanistan

The United Nations said it was seeking \$139.6 million to help half a million people affected by earthquakes that struck eastern Afghanistan, and it urged donors to set aside any reservations about the Taliban authorities.

Afghanistan's worst earthquake in years, which struck on the night of August 31 into September 1, killed more than 2,200 people and was followed by a series of powerful aftershocks. The quakes have left tens of thousands of people homeless, with some fearing further landslides.

Colder temperatures set to arrive within weeks will mean tougher conditions for survivors in remote mountain areas, said Indrika Ratwatte, the U.N. Humanitarian Coordinator for Afghanistan.

"This is a moment where the international community must dig deep and show solidarity with a population that has already endured so much suffering," he told a Geneva press briefing.

'4 million phones under govt's radar': Amnesty flags illegal surveillance in Pakistan

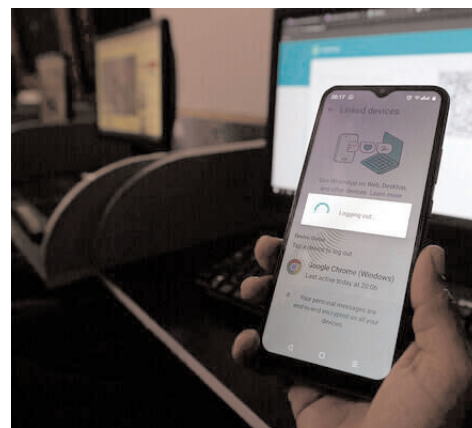
ISLAMABAD (TIP)

Pakistan — with the help of Chinese technology — is spying on millions of its citizens to curb dissent and free speech, an Amnesty International report said.

According to the report, Pakistan is using a Chinese-built internet firewall that censors social media, enabling spy agencies to monitor at least 4 million mobile phones at a time through its Lawful Intercept Management System (LIMS). The firewall, known as WMS 2.0, inspects internet traffic and can block 2 million active sessions at once.

The human rights watchdog said it reviewed licensing agreements, trade data, leaked technical files, and Chinese records linking the firewall supplier to state-owned firms in Beijing.

Amnesty said the firewall uses equipment from US-based Niagara Networks, software from Thales DIS — a unit of France's Thales — and servers from a Chinese state IT firm. An earlier



version relied on Canada's Sandvine.

"The two monitoring systems function in tandem: one lets intelligence agencies tap calls and texts, while the other slows or blocks websites and social media across the country," the report said.

The report further said that Pakistan is currently blocking about 650,000 web links and restricting access to platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, and X.

It also accused agencies of spying on at least 4 million mobile phones at a time through LIMS, while WMS 2.0 can block 2 million active sessions at once, Amnesty said.

Amnesty noted that its findings draw on a 2024 Islamabad High Court case filed by Bushra Bibi, the wife of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, after her private calls were leaked online.

In court, Pakistan's defense ministries and intelligence agencies denied running or even having the capacity for phone tapping. However, under questioning, the telecom regulator admitted it had already ordered phone companies to install LIMS for use by "designated agencies."

Crackdowns have tightened in recent years, particularly after the military broke with then Prime Minister Imran Khan in 2022. Khan was later jailed, and thousands of his party activists were detained.

Sikh History This Week

SEPTEMBER 12 TO SEPTEMBER 18

12th September



1897 Sara Garhi episode took place. The Sikh solidiers continued to hold the picket until their last breath. All in all 21 men gave their lives.

1940 Master Tara Singh resigned from Congress because of Gandhi's communal attitude.

13th September

1604 The Holy Sri Guru GRANTH SAHIB was ceremonially installed in Sri Harmandir Sahib, Amritsar. Baba Buddha Ji was appointed the first priest.



1670 Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji released from prison.

1923 SGPC's second Enquiry Committee to investigate the Doaba excesses was arrested by the Police.

1926 Orderes previously declaring the Sharomani Gurdwara Prabhandak Committee (SGPC) and Sharomani Akali Dal as unlawful bodies were withdrawn by the Punjab Government.

1931 Master Tara Singh led a Jatha of 100 Akalis in the Gurudwara Daska Morcha.

1944 All India Sikh Student Federation established in Lahore.

1981 Warrants were issued for Jarnail Singh Bhindrawalae n connection with Lala Jagat Narayan's murder. The police went to Chando Kalan, a Haryana village, to arrest Jarnail Singh. However, he had already left that place. When Jarnail Singh could not be found, the police burnt the volume of Holy Scriptures of the Sikhs, three vehicles of Bhindranwala Jatha and various other articles of the School. A large number of Sikhs were arrested and beaten by the police. The next day the police sieged the headquarters of Jarnail Singh Bhindranwalae.

14th September

1777 Nawab Zaibta Khan Ruhela, impressed by the character of Khalsa decided to become a member of the Khalsa order. He was baptise and named Dharam Singh.

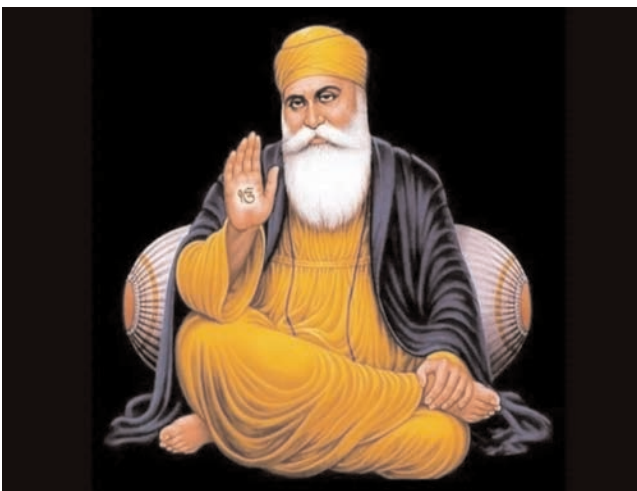
1848 Raja Sher Singh Attari declared war against British Rule in Punjab. He was son of Sardar Chattar

Singh Attari and at that time his sister was engaged to Maharaja Dalip Singh.



1923 Began the Jaito Morcha by Sikhs. The Maharaja of the kingdom of Nabha, Ripudaman Singh, sided with the Akalis, against the British. He was stripped of his kingly status, and in protest of this action of the British, the Sikhs initiated a string of Akhand Paths.

15th September



1539 Jotti Jot, First Patshah, Guru Nanak Dev Ji. GURU NANAK (1469-1539): In a world rife with falsehood, sunk in superstitions and plagued by all kinds of inequities and inequalities, Guru Nanak rang in the gospel of truth, universal love and brotherhood. The Founder Guru of the Sikhs and one of the greatest and saintliest of saviours, he redeemed the soul of a moribund society that had experienced a total eclipse, if not annihilation, of all abiding human values. The condition of the contemporary society has been vividly described by the First Master in the well-known words

Guru Nanak was born in a Bedi family at Talwandi (Nankana Sahib), near Lahore, in 1469. At an early age he learnt Sanskrit, Persian and the prevalent form of Gurmukhi. He was a precocious child with a pronounced penchant for religion. His father, Mehta Kalu, made vain efforts to woo him to a mundame mode of life. Accordingly, he was got employed in a Government store of the Nawab of Sultanpur where he served for 13 years.

It was in 1499 that the day of destiny of ecstatic communion with God came. While taking his daily bath in the rivulet Bain that flows near Sultanpur, Nanak had his illumination through a soul-stirring vision of Almighty God. It was here that the Guru delivered his great sermon in the memorable words: There is no Hindu, there is no Musalman. The spiritual enlightenment enjoined on him a mission to the propagation of which he consecrated his entire life. He set out on his great Udasi's (Missionary journeys) to deliver God's message to sinning and suffering

humanity.

He toured the whole of India and many foreign countries, preaching the gospel of true religion and rooting out ignorance and evil. The great Guru undertook five major missionary journeys in this behalf.

In the course of his first long travel, Guru Nanak visited celebrated Hindu places of pilgrimage like Kurukshetra, Banaras and Jagnnath Puri. He taught people how to distinguish Dharma from Adharma and abandon such pretentious rituals and prayers as constituted the accepted religious practice of the times. During his second journey the Guru went as far as Sangla Deep and having done his ministry returned to the Punjab.

1843 Maharaja Sher Singh shot dead by Ajit Singh Sandalwallia while inspecting troops.

1993 Punjab Police forces interrupted Akhand Path at Gurudwara Gurusar, Patshahi Sixth, at Gujrawal, Ludhiana. This event took place under Beant Singh's government.

16th September

1581 GURU AMAR DAS (1479-1574), the seventy-three years old disciple who had distinguished himself for his humility and simplicity in Guru Angad's holy company was nominated Guru in 1552.



1631 Baba Buddha Ji passed away.

BABA BUDHA JI: born on 7 katak sanmat 1563 at Kathunangal (Dist. Amritsar) to father Sudhae and mother Gora. Parents named the child as Budda. In sanmat 1574, Guru Nanak Dev Ji visited Kathunangal village. While grazing cattle, Budda met Guru Nanak and served milk in sewa. During their conversation, Guru Nanak declared that though young in age, he was "Budha" in terms of understanding and wisdom. Since then he came to known as Budha.

1843 Dalip Singh was enthroned as the Maharaja of Punjab. This only happened after some serious internal fighting for successsion, upon the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh on June 22, 1839.

17th September

1922 The working committee of the Indian National Congress set up an inquiry committee to report on the brutal treatment meted out to the Akal Satyagrahies by the Govt. forces in Guru-Ka-Bagh.

18th September

1708 Guru Gobind Singh Ji Patshah was attacked by two Pathans in Nanded. These Pathans were commissioned by Governor of Sarhind or the Mughal emperor.

1924 13th Jatha of 500 Akalis, under the leadership of Shaheed Lakha Singh Jahan Shah (Gujara Walae), departed from Amritsar for Jaito.

Honey, often called "liquid gold," has been revered since ancient times for its healing, beauty-enhancing, and nutritional properties. From the Ayurvedic scriptures of India to Egyptian beauty rituals and Greek medicinal texts, honey has been a symbol of health and vitality. This natural sweetener, rich in antioxidants, enzymes, vitamins, and minerals, is more than just a healthy alternative to sugar—it is a versatile remedy for the skin, hair, and overall health.

Benefits of Honey for Skin

Honey is a natural humectant and antibacterial agent, making it a popular ingredient in skincare.

Natural Moisturizer

- Honey attracts and retains moisture, keeping the skin soft, supple, and hydrated.
- Regular use helps prevent dryness and flakiness.

Fights Acne and Pimples

- Its antibacterial properties help reduce acne-causing bacteria.
- Honey also soothes inflammation and speeds up the healing of acne scars.

Anti-Aging Elixir

- Rich in antioxidants, honey combats free radicals that cause wrinkles, fine lines, and dullness.
- Regular application improves skin elasticity and gives a youthful glow.

Wound and Scar Healing

- Honey promotes tissue regeneration, making it effective in healing minor cuts, burns, and scars.
- Manuka honey, in particular, is widely recognized for its wound-healing properties.

Natural Exfoliant

- Honey gently exfoliates dead skin cells, revealing brighter and clearer

Sweet cure: Unlocking the beauty and wellness secrets of honey

- skin.
- Mixing it with oats or sugar makes an effective DIY scrub.

Benefits of Honey for Hair

Honey's nourishing and antimicrobial qualities make it a great natural treatment for hair health.

Boosts Hair Growth

- Honey improves scalp circulation and strengthens hair follicles, promoting growth.
- Its antioxidants protect the scalp from damage.

Natural Conditioner

- As a humectant, honey seals moisture in hair strands, leaving them soft and shiny.
- It prevents frizz and dryness when used in hair masks.

Fights Dandruff

- Its antifungal and antibacterial properties help fight scalp infections and dandruff.
- A honey scalp mask can soothe itching and flakiness.

Restores Damaged Hair

- Honey repairs damage caused by heat styling, pollution, and chemical treatments.
- It strengthens brittle hair, reducing breakage and split ends.

Honey for Overall Health

Beyond beauty, honey offers multiple therapeutic benefits for internal health.



Natural Energy Booster

- A quick source of natural sugars (fructose and glucose), honey provides instant energy.
- Athletes often use it as a natural performance enhancer.

Soothes Sore Throat and Cough

- Honey coats the throat and reduces irritation, making it a traditional remedy for cough and cold.
- Combined with warm water or ginger, it provides relief from respiratory infections.

Aids Digestion

- Honey promotes gut health by acting as a prebiotic, supporting beneficial bacteria.
- It soothes indigestion and helps reduce acid reflux.

Strengthens Immunity

- With its antioxidants and antibacterial compounds, honey boosts the immune system.
- Regular consumption can help ward off infections.

Heart Health

- Honey may lower bad cholesterol (LDL) and increase good cholesterol (HDL).
- Its antioxidants support cardiovascular health by improving blood circulation.

Supports Weight Management

- A warm glass of water with honey and lemon helps detoxify the body and may aid weight control.
- It provides a healthier alternative to refined sugar.

Ways to reduce hair shedding after shower

Use a Mild, Sulfate-Free Shampoo

Harsh shampoos with sulfates can strip the scalp of natural oils, causing dryness, irritation, and increased hair fall. A gentle, sulfate-free shampoo helps maintain your scalp's pH balance and minimizes shedding.

Look for ingredients like aloe vera, tea tree oil, biotin, or argan oil for added nourishment.

Avoid Hot Water While Washing

Hot water can dehydrate both your scalp and hair, weakening strands and increasing fall-out during rinsing. Use lukewarm or cool water to rinse your hair — it's gentler and helps keep the scalp hydrated.

Scalp Massage to Boost Circulation

Massaging your scalp stimulates blood flow to hair follicles, encourages growth, and reduces stress — a common trigger for hair



shedding. Massage for 3–5 minutes before shampooing using fingertips or a scalp massager. You can also use oils like coconut, rosemary, or castor oil for added benefits.

Detangle Gently

Wet hair is more fragile and prone to breakage. Detangling before the shower and gently combing after — using a wide-tooth comb — reduces

tension on the strands and prevents excessive pulling.

Condition Properly

A good conditioner strengthens hair, improves elasticity, and prevents it from snapping. Focus conditioner on the lengths and ends of your hair — not the scalp — to prevent buildup.

Bonus: Use a leave-in conditioner or hair serum to protect against post-wash tangling and dryness.

Manage Stress

Stress and nutritional deficiencies are major causes of hair shedding. Ensure your diet includes protein, iron, zinc, biotin, and omega-3 fatty acids to support hair health.

Practice stress-reducing techniques like meditation, yoga, or journaling to keep hormonal hair loss at bay.

FOOD CORNER

Chilli Garlic Noodles

Ingredients

Noodles - 1/2 cup, cooked, Onions - 1/2 cup, chopped, Carrot - 1/2 cup, grated, Ginger Garlic Paste - 1 tblsp, Chilli Paste - 1/2 tblsp, Coriander Leaves - handful, chopped, Oil - 2 tblsp, Salt - as per taste

Method

- Heat oil in a pan over moderate flame.
- Add the onions, carrot, ginger garlic paste, salt and chilli paste.
- Stir to mix well.
- Add the noodles and mix well to combine all ingredients.
- Garnish with coriander leaves.



Why preserved vegetables can turn deadly, how to stay safe

A food truck in southern Italy recently became the centre of a deadly health scare. A food-borne outbreak linked to preserved vegetables killed two people and sent more than a dozen to the hospital.

At the same time, the UK's Food Standards Agency warned shoppers to avoid jars of broccoli from a specific batch code, fearing they too could contain the same hidden danger, *Clostridium botulinum*, the bacterium that produces the toxin responsible for botulism – one of the deadliest food-borne illnesses known.

The canning process removes air from food and seals it tightly, creating an oxygen-free (anaerobic) environment. This is normally what keeps food safe for long storage, but it also creates the perfect conditions for *C. botulinum*. Unlike many bacteria, it doesn't need oxygen to grow.

Its spores, which are commonly found in soil, can survive cooking and processing. In low-acid foods such as broccoli, green beans, corn, beets and peas, if the canning process isn't hot enough or long enough, those spores can "wake up", multiply and release their toxin.

Because the toxin is invisible, tasteless and odourless, contaminated food can look and smell perfectly normal while being deadly.

Botulism is rare but extremely serious, and even a tiny amount can be deadly – just two nanograms per kilogram of body weight can be fatal.

The spores themselves are usually harmless if swallowed. But in an anaerobic environment, they can germinate and release toxins. That's why homemade preserved foods are a common cause of outbreaks.

Why is botulism so dangerous

Botulism is caused by a neurotoxin that attacks the nerves, leading to muscle weakness, breathing difficulties, paralysis, and, in severe cases, death. Symptoms usually appear within 18 to 36 hours of eating contaminated food, but can range from six hours to ten days.

Early signs include difficulty swallowing or speaking, drooping eyelids, blurred or double vision, facial weakness, vomiting and progressive muscle paralysis, which can cause respiratory failure.

Diagnosis is tricky, as symptoms can mimic other conditions, including stroke, Guillain-Barre syndrome



(a rare autoimmune disorder where the body's immune system attacks the nerves), and myasthenia gravis (a chronic condition that causes muscle weakness due to problems with communication between nerves and muscles).

Doctors usually confirm botulism through clinical assessment and laboratory testing of serum, stool or food samples.

The main treatments for botulism are supportive care and antitoxin. Supportive care means treating the complications of the illness – for example, patients may need a ventilator if they develop breathing difficulties, or help managing infections.

Antitoxin is a medication that binds to and neutralises the toxin circulating in the body. If given early, it can stop the toxin from causing further harm, though it cannot reverse damage already done. Survivors often face long recoveries with lingering fatigue and breathing problems.

There are simple but vital ways to reduce the risk of foodborne botulism. First, never eat food from cans or jars that are dented, bulging, leaking, or discoloured.

If you can, make your own low-acid foods, and make sure you boil them for ten minutes before eating to kill spores. And make sure to use proper pressure canners and always follow tested canning instructions.



Study in US households links higher intake of sugary foods with rising temperatures

A study that analysed consumption of sugary foods in up to 60,000 US households has found that a higher intake of soda, juice and ice creams could be related to rising temperatures, with low-income and less-educated groups affected more.

Findings published in the journal *Nature Climate Change* suggest that for every increase in a day's temperature of one degree Celsius within the 12-30 degrees Celsius range, an individual might consume 0.7 grams more sugar per day.

Researchers from the US, UK and China said the study highlights that health risks due to an overconsumption of added sugar would need to be mitigated as global warming continues – high levels of added sugar intake are known to contribute to obesity and metabolic disorders.

Hot weather can drive a physiological or psychological demand for liquids and chilled, sweetened products, the team said.

Data collected when a consumer scans a product for purchase in a supermarket and gathered over 2004-2019 was analysed.

"Using individual transaction-level data for US households in 2004-2019, we find that added sugar consumption is positively related to temperature, notably within 12-30 degrees Celsius at a rate of 0.70 grams per degree Celsius," the authors wrote.

Sweetened beverages were found to emerge as the main driver, with intake rising sharply between 12 degrees Celsius and 30 degrees Celsius of ambient temperature. Climate change is projected to widen inequities in nutrition and health, and vulnerable populations – such as the socio-economically disadvantaged groups – would need to be identified and targeted for adapting diets, the researchers said.

A 2020 study found that individuals aged two and above consumed more than 70 grams of added sugars per day in 2017-2018, "far surpassing the dietary guidelines of less than 10 per cent of daily calories from added sugars, equivalent to about 60 grams on a 2,400 calorie diet," the authors said.

5 medical tests that could save your life

When we talk about health in a country where late diagnoses are all too common, preventive health check-ups are the only thing that can make the difference between catching a disease early and facing serious complications later. But when screenings are done on time, they can save lives. Here are five essential tests you should not ignore.

BLOOD TESTS

A routine blood test can act as an early warning system for multiple conditions. From checking cholesterol and liver function to spotting deficiencies like anaemia or vitamin D, blood tests give doctors a comprehensive view of your overall health. They provide a window into



what's happening inside your body and can detect health issues before symptoms appear.

ELECTROCARDIOGRAM (ECG)

Heart disease is one of the leading causes of death in India. An ECG can record the electrical activity of the heart, and it can also detect irregular rhythms, blockage, or early signs of cardiac distress, often before symptoms even appear. Early identification can possibly prevent sudden cardiac events, which have

been increasing in recent years.

THYROID TEST

Thyroid dysfunctions are increasingly common, especially among women. The thyroid gland regulates metabolism, energy, and hormone balance. A simple blood test (TSH, T3, T4) can detect early issues, preventing fatigue, weight fluctuations, and long-term complications.

KIDNEY FUNCTION TEST

Kidney helps to filter the waste and regulate minerals in the body, but kidney damage often goes unnoticed until it's severe. Tests like serum creatinine and urine analysis can flag early dysfunction, helping prevent chronic kidney disease.

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Spotify finally adds lossless audio: What is it, charges, and how to enable in Spotify app now

Spotify is finally delivering on a promise it first made years ago, lossless, high-quality music streaming for paying subscribers. After repeated delays, licensing wrangles, and endless speculation, the platform has started rolling out support for CD-quality audio to premium users across the globe. Now, the wait is over. Spotify has confirmed that premium subscribers will be able to stream tracks in up to 24-bit/44.1 kHz FLAC quality, a format designed to deliver music exactly as it was recorded, without the compromises of compression.

The idea of a dedicated hi-fi tier was first floated back in 2021, but it quickly became one of those “coming soon” features that never seemed to arrive. Even last year, CEO Daniel Ek admitted the company was still in the “early days” of bringing lossless audio to listeners, despite a steady drip of reports and even snippets of hidden code in the app hinting at a pricier subscription plan. The rollout will cover more than 50 countries through October, with users in markets such as the UK, US, Germany, Japan, Australia, Sweden, and the Netherlands already seeing the feature appear in their apps. Subscribers will receive a notification when their account is eligible, after which they can activate the option by heading to Settings and Privacy > Media Quality and selecting “Lossless” for Wi-Fi, mobile data, and downloads. The company states, “Lossless is available on mobile, desktop, and tablet, as well as on many devices that support Spotify Connect, including Sony, Bose, Samsung, Sennheiser, and more. Support for additional devices, including those from Sonos and Amazon, arrives next month.”

Slim iPhone Air could be a design win for Apple, say analysts

Apple CEO Tim Cook appeared to be channeling his predecessor and design genius Steve Jobs on Tuesday, Sept 9, when he unveiled the iPhone Air, the company’s slimmest handset yet and the biggest change in eight years to a lineup that fans and analysts complained was stagnating.

Cook kicked off the company’s annual product launch event at its Cupertino, California, headquarters with a Jobs quote: “For us, design goes beyond just how something looks or feels. Design is also how it works.”

Inside its 5.6-millimeter-thick (0.22 inch) frame - thinner than Samsung Electronics’ S25 Edge at 5.8 mm - the iPhone Air’s circuitry has been shrunk to the size of a few postage stamps, clearing the way for as much battery capacity as possible.

Going into the event, many analysts had predicted a hohum reception to the product launches, but on Tuesday some said the four new iPhones - iPhone Air, iPhone 17, iPhone 17 Pro and iPhone 17 Pro Max - offered a lineup likely to appeal to customers with varied budgets.

And doubts still linger about whether the new smartphone will match its promised battery capacity, and whether consumers will settle for one fewer camera.

It will have Apple’s best and newest A19 Pro processor chip, which is tuned to handle artificial intelligence tasks, and two new custom Apple communications chips.

“I heard loud claps the moment it was announced,” said Gaurav Chaudhary, a YouTuber with nearly 24 million followers, popularly known as “Technical Guruji.” He praised the Air’s titanium frame and “ceramic shield” glass, which Apple said make the device more durable.

Chaudhary said that despite hearing numerous leaks about the device ahead of time, he was still impressed after handling it in the Steve Jobs Theater at Apple headquarters, even if he still wants to see if Apple’s battery life claims hold up. Seventeen years ago, Jobs famously introduced the company’s first MacBook Air by pulling the ultra-thin laptop from an interoffice envelope, to highlight how portable it was.

The iPhone Air, which borrows its name and design language from the laptop, may be what Apple fans have



wanted for years: A device that looks different from others on the market and is packed with feats of hardware engineering in every square millimeter.

“I think in an era where we’ve seen a large degree of sameness, it’s great to see Apple bring a new product to the market. It kind of reinvigorates the whole segment of iPhone,” said PP Foresight analyst Paolo Pescatore.

On the downside, however, the iPhone Air has only one camera, compared with two separate cameras on the base iPhone 17 and three on the Pro models.

Ben Bajarin, CEO of technology consultancy Creative Strategies, said it will also be critical to confirm whether it can live up to Apple’s battery life claims. He said Apple’s custom chips should help, because the company has spent more than a decade designing its own chips with a relentless focus on energy efficiency and size.

The new product launches brought no new announcements, however, on artificial intelligence features that would help Apple to close the gap with the likes of Alphabet’s Google, which has used its latest flagship phones to showcase the capabilities of its Gemini AI technology.

NASA rover finds potential sign of ancient life in Martian rocks

A sample obtained by NASA’s Perseverance rover of reddish rock formed billions of years ago from sediment on the bottom of a lake contains potential signs of ancient microbial life on Mars, according to scientists, though the minerals spotted in the sample also can form through nonbiological processes.

The discovery by the six-wheeled rover in Jezero Crater represents one of the best pieces of evidence to date about the possibility that Earth’s planetary neighbour once harboured life.

Perseverance scientist Joel Hurowitz of Stony Brook University, lead author of the study published in the journal *Nature*, said a “potential biosignature” was detected in rock that formed at a time when Jezero Crater was believed to have been a watery environment, between 3.2 and 3.8 billion years ago.

Acting NASA Administrator Sean Duffy told a news conference that the US space agency’s scientists examined the data for a year and concluded that “we can’t find another explanation, so this very well could be the clearest sign of life that we’ve ever found on Mars — which is incredibly exciting.”

NASA released an image of the rock — a very fine-grained, rusty-red mudstone — bearing ring-shaped features resembling leopard spots and dark marks resembling poppy seeds. Those features may have been produced when the rock was forming by chemical



reactions involving microbes, according to the researchers.

A potential biosignature is defined as a substance or structure that may have a biological origin but needs more data or further study before a conclusion can be made about the absence or presence of life.

Nicky Fox, associate administrator for NASA’s Science Mission Directorate, noted that the scientists were not announcing the discovery of a living organism.

“It’s not life itself,” Fox said.

The rover since 2021 has been exploring Jezero Crater, an area in the planet’s northern hemisphere that once was flooded with water and home to an ancient lake basin. Scientists believe river channels spilled over the crater wall and created a lake.

Perseverance has been analysing rocks and loose material called regolith with its onboard instruments and then collecting samples and sealing them in tubes stored inside the rover. It collected the sample named Sapphire Canyon in July 2024 from a rock called Cheyava Falls in a locale known as Bright Angel rock formation.

The sample came from a set of rocky outcrops on the edges of Neretva Vallis, an ancient river valley about a quarter of a mile (400 metres) wide carved by water rushing into the crater.

Two minerals were detected that appear to have formed as a result of chemical reactions between the mud of the Bright Angel formation and organic matter present in that mud, Hurowitz said.

They are: vivianite, a mineral bearing iron and phosphorus, and greigite, a mineral bearing iron and sulfur.

“These reactions appear to have taken place shortly after the mud was deposited on the lake bottom. On Earth, reactions like these, which combine organic matter and chemical compounds in mud to form new minerals like vivianite and greigite, are often driven by the activity of microbes,” Hurowitz said. “The microbes are consuming the organic matter in these settings and producing these new minerals as a byproduct of their metabolism,” Hurowitz said.

US consumer inflation rises 2.9%, highest in seven months

NEW YORK (TIP)

US consumer inflation rose to its highest this year after January, government data showed on Thursday, Sept 11. The US consumer inflation, highest in seven months, rose more than what was expected by analysts.

The US Consumer Price Index shot up by 2.9 per cent in August, data showed. This is a 0.2 per cent increase from July, when inflation rose 2.7 per cent year-on-year.

According to a poll by Reuters, economists had predicted that US August inflation would rise 0.3 per cent and increase 2.9 per cent on a year-over-year basis.

The inflation was high because the prices of gas, groceries, hotel rooms and airfare shot up, along with the cost of clothes and used cars.

As per data from the Labour Department core prices increased by 3.1 per cent excluding the volatile food and energy categories.

Both these numbers are higher than the US Federal Reserve's inflation target of 2 per cent.

In the 12 months through August, the so-called core CPI inflation increased 3.1 per cent. That followed a year-on-year rise of 3.1 per cent in July.

The pass-through from President Donald Trump's US tariffs has been gradual, but prices could accelerate in the months ahead as companies have now depleted their pre-tariff inventories. Business surveys have for some time been signalling imminent price increases.

"The evidence is overwhelming that more tariff-related inflation is coming, though it may still be several months before it passes through fully," Stephen Stanley, chief economist at Santander US Capital Markets, told Reuters.



According to the news agency, the latest US CPI inflation data could give rise to concerns about stagflation following recent downbeat news on the labour market.

Markets set for muted open

Wall Street's main indexes were set for a subdued open on Thursday, Sept 11, after the latest US consumer inflation data.

"Inflation is firming, not as much as we expected, but firming nonetheless ... in a way, that the market can digest it," Gary Schlossberg, global strategist at Wells Fargo Investment Institute, was quoted as saying by Reuters.

Will Fed cut rates now?

According to the report by Reuters, the US CPI data is not expected to prevent a much-anticipated interest

rate cut from the Federal Reserve next week against the backdrop of labour market weakness.

The reading is the last data the Fed will receive before its key meeting next week, when policymakers are widely expected to cut their short-term rate to about 4.1 per cent from 4.3 per cent. Still, the figures underscore the challenges the Fed is facing as it experiences relentless pressure from President Donald Trump to cut rates.

Even as inflation has ticked higher, recent government reports have also shown that hiring has slowed sharply in recent months and was lower than previously estimated last year. The unemployment rate ticked up in August to a still-low 4.3 per cent. And weekly unemployment claims rose sharply last week, a sign layoffs may be picking up.

ED files fresh money laundering case against Anil Ambani for alleged bank fraud

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) registered a money laundering case against industrialist Anil Ambani and Reliance Communications Ltd (RCom) on Wednesday in connection with an alleged Rs 2,929-crore fraud on State Bank of India (SBI). The case was filed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) based on a first information report (FIR) filed in August 2025 by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Earlier, the CBI booked RCom and Anil Ambani, besides unnamed public servants and others for allegedly defrauding the SBI. It also raided and searched Anil Ambani's Mumbai residence and RCom's corporate offices, as part of its investigation.

The CBI's FIR was based on a complaint by Jyoti Kumar, deputy general manager of SBI's Mumbai branch, who alleged that a forensic audit conducted on October 15, 2020, had revealed irregularities in loan utilisation by Anil Ambani's companies.

Acting on the CBI case, the ED has widened the scope of its investigation by writing to nearly 20 public and private sector banks to obtain details of loans sanctioned to Anil Ambani-led Reliance Anil Dhirubhai Ambani (ADA) group companies. The agency has also sought credit assessments carried out at the time of sanctioning loans, even as it investigates whether bank funds were diverted or laundered through shell entities and offshore channels. The ED has questioned several senior Reliance ADA group executives. "On Tuesday, Amitabh Jhunjhunwala, an aide of Anil Ambani, appeared before the ED once again. Jhunjhunwala and other officials had previously been summoned in connection with a larger Rs 17,000-crore loan fraud probe involving multiple Reliance Anil Dhirubhai Ambani (ADA) group companies.

Fitch projects GDP at 6.9%, says US tariffs to be negotiated lower, GST to boost spending

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Fitch Rating on Sept 10 raised India's GDP (gross domestic product) forecast for the financial year 2025-26 to 6.9 per cent from 6.5 per cent.

The global rating agency said domestic demand will be the key driver of growth, as strong real income dynamics support consumer spending and looser financial conditions should feed through to investment.

Fitch said that at the global level, the GDP will slow significantly this year, with the global growth forecast to be 2.4 per cent in 2025, up 0.2 percentage points (pp) since June. However, there is a sizable slowdown from 2.9 per cent last year and below the trend.

World growth for 2026 is edged up by 0.1 pp to 2.3 per cent.

For India, the rating agency further said, at the same time, "annual growth will slow in the second half of the financial year, and so we expect growth to



slow in FY27 to 6.3 per cent".

"With the economy operating slightly above its potential, we expect growth will edge down to 6.2 per cent in FY28."

For China, Fitch revised the country's GDP to 4.7 per cent from 4.2 per cent, the Eurozone's to 1.1 per cent from 0.8 per cent, and the US to 1.6 per cent from

1.5 per cent.

Highlighting the impact of US tariffs and GST, Fitch believes that the US tariffs on India will eventually be negotiated lower, but the uncertainty around trade relations will dampen business sentiment and potentially investment.

However, the reforms to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) to be effective from 22 September, it said, should modestly boost consumer spending over the remainder of this and the next fiscal years.

"We expect food price pressures will remain weak in the context of above-average monsoon rainfall and high food stockpiles, so that inflation will only pick up to 3.2 per cent by end-2025 and 4.1 per cent by end-2026. We still expect the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to cut rates by 25 basis points (bp) towards the end of the year, as it assesses the impact of the policy loosening already implemented, and that rates will stay there until the end of 2026. We expect the RBI to start raising rates in 2027," Fitch said.

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - SEP 15 TO SEP 21, 2025

By Chirag Daruwalla - Son of Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla



BEJAN DARUWALLA AND CHIRAG DARUWALLA



ARIES

Ganesha says the situation is going to be excellent this week. These days are very suitable for strengthening your self-esteem and mental state. You will get an opportunity to recognize the energy within you and channel it in a positive direction. There will be clarity in your thoughts, which will also enable you to communicate better in relationships. There will be harmony in your personal relationships, and spending time with your loved ones will make you happy. You will feel close to your friends and family, which will strengthen your social relationships. This week will give a new perspective to your relationships, making you more sensitive. The flow of positive energy will reduce your worries and keep you spiritually balanced as well. Therefore, take full advantage of this week and have a good time with the people around you. Believe me, this time is going to bring new inspiration for you in love and relationships.

TAURUS



Ganesha says this week can be full of some challenges. During this time, your emotions and mood may remain somewhat unstable, which can affect your personal relationships. You may feel the need to communicate more with your loved ones, but you need to avoid any kind of disagreement or confrontation. Try to remain emotionally strong. Practice introspection and self-sensitivity at this time, so that you can understand your feelings and express them in the right way. It is important to maintain cordial harmony in relationships so that happiness remains in the relationship. Do not let any negativity dominate your mental health. This week will allow you to learn how to maintain harmony with your loved ones, no matter what the circumstances. Move forward with patience and understanding, and remember that there is a solution to every problem.

GEMINI



Ganesha says this week, Gemini people may have to face some challenges. Overall, this time is not favorable, and due to this, there may be confusion and turmoil in your mind. People around you may be unable to understand your feelings, which may make you feel a little lonely. However, you must use your communication skills. Try to express your thoughts clearly, as this may be

your opportunity to improve the circumstances. It is important to avoid conflict or misunderstanding in relationships. Talk openly with your loved ones; this can help in handling the situation. Recognize your inner strength and take it in a positive direction. This is the time for self-introspection and recognizing your inner strengths. Remember, every challenge can lead to new opportunities. Maintain your positive attitude and accept this week as a new learning experience.



CANCER

Ganesha says this week is going to be full of perfection and positivity for Cancer people. At this time, your inner energy and sensitivity will be at their peak. You will feel emotionally strong, which will bring sweetness to your relationships. Time spent with family and friends will be even more enjoyable. Your little things and behavior will be successful in touching the hearts of others. Your empathy and understanding will deepen your relationship, which will strengthen mutual trust. This week, you may get some new opportunities in which you will be able to spend new moments with your loved ones. Positive communication and exchange of ideas will make your relationships even more interesting. You should try to maintain emotional balance at this time. It is important to share your emotional experiences. In short, this week there will be an atmosphere of love and understanding in relationships, which will bring a new energy to your personal life. This time will be full of harmony and sympathy for you.

LEO



Ganesha says this week, the overall situation will be great for Leos. This week will infuse positivity and confidence in you. You will experience happiness and enthusiasm around you, which will also improve your relationships. Your confidence will have a positive impact on your conversations with your loved ones, which will deepen mutual understanding and bonding. A new shine will also be seen in your social life. This is the right time to spend time with friends and family, which will strengthen your emotional state. You will be able to easily communicate even on serious issues and find solutions. Your sensitivity and compassion will make your relationships even more beautiful. Share your feelings and communicate openly these days. Your honesty and truth will impress others. Overall, this week is going to be great for you, which will bring happiness and satisfaction in your relationships.

VIRGO



Ganesha says this week will be full of many experiences. During this time, your energy and enthusiasm will be

normal, but some challenges may also come. Overall, the crises you face will force you to think more and plan. This is the time when you need to focus on your relationships. There may be tension in some relationships, so maintain clarity in conversation. If you are finding it difficult to express your feelings, listen to your conscience. Even small things can lead you to big problems. Your social life can also be a little disturbed. In such a situation, you should insist on taking support from your close friends and family. Remember that your colleagues and family will be with you in these difficulties. This week will be focused on personal growth and introspection for you. Pay attention to your conscience and work to improve your relationships.



LIBRA

Ganesha says this week, the experience of totality will be unique for Libra people. Your natural charm will make this time especially pleasant. You will be able to build great relationships with the people around you. This is the time when you will give a new dimension to the relationships important to you. Your presence in society will have a positive impact, which will attract people directly to you. If you have experienced some troubles in a relationship, then this is the time to find a solution. You can solve problems through conversation and understanding. This week, you will feel more comfortable expressing your feelings, which will strengthen your relationships. Spending quality time with your friends and family will bring a new wave of happiness in your life. Remember, the foundation of your relationships is built on love and understanding. Try to understand others' points of view and connect with them from the heart. This week will be full of overall insights for Libra.



SCORPIO

Ganesha says this week, the general situation may remain a little challenging for Scorpios. You may feel some uncertainty and conflict in the currents of life. Ups and downs are possible in personal relationships, which may make you feel stressed. This is the time when communication with loved ones will have to become more important. Despite your efforts, some communication problems may arise, so it is important to maintain patience. Your emotions may fluctuate like the ocean at this time, which may affect your spiritual balance. Having positive thoughts and showing empathy towards people around you can prove to be helpful for you this week. Understand your feelings and be empathetic towards each other. This is the time to connect with your loved ones and get their support. Remember, every challenge leads to a new opportunity. Be courageous, overcome negativity, and try to strengthen your relationships.



SAGITTARIUS

Ganesha says this week, the overall experience for Sagittarius natives will be very wonderful. You will experience a lot of inner energy and confidence, which will make your mood even better. This is the time when you can establish harmony with the people around you. Your generosity and open-mindedness will strengthen your relationships. Friends and family will enjoy activities with you that will fill you with happiness. During this time, you will be able to express your thoughts clearly, which will bring freshness to your relationships. Mutual understanding and cooperation will make it easier to solve problems. By taking advantage of the positive energy around you, you can establish new contacts, which will bring positive changes in your life. By participating in social activities, you can get new hope and inspiration. Consider this a joyful and satisfying week, in which you will not only improve your relationships but also deepen them.



CAPRICORN

Ganesha says this week, circumstances seem to be somewhat unfavorable for Capricorn natives. Some challenges may come in your life, for which you will need to keep yourself stable. This is the time for self-control and restraint, as you may have to face many pressures. There may be some turmoil in your relationships this week. There may be minor differences and misunderstandings, but you can resolve them with patience and communication. Try to spend time with your loved ones; this will give you mental peace. It is also important to understand your feelings and express them in the right way at this time. Be aware of such small moments, which sometimes remain unnoticed. It is very important to meditate and relax from time to time to keep your mental state stable. Do not hesitate to seek support from people around you this week. This is the time to increase your emotional intelligence, so that you can become even stronger in the coming time.



AQUARIUS

Ganesha says this week will bring mixed experiences for Aquarius natives. During this time, you will see some conflicts and confusion in your life, which may cause you mental stress. It will be very important to maintain harmony at this time. According to the context, some problems may also arise in love relationships. Keep the conversation with your partner open and honest so that misunderstandings can be cleared. This week, your creativity and self-expression will be somewhat limited, but it can also allow you to organize your thoughts and think deeply. You will be

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : SEP 15 TO SEP 21 BY VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA

SEPTEMBER 15

Ganesha says on this day, the universe will reveal some of its deepest, most profound mysteries to you. You'll notice that as the day progresses, you're more drawn to periods of self-reflection than usual. This is not daydreaming; rather, it is an opportunity to grasp the deepest needs and concerns that lie within you. While the rest of the world goes about its business as normal, a chance encounter could completely alter the way you look at things. You should put your faith in the feelings that come up since they serve as an internal compass that will lead you in the proper route.

SEPTEMBER 16

Ganesha says the presence of a burst of dynamic energy throughout the day makes today an especially fortunate day for starting fresh and new endeavors. The universe is encouraging you to take that leap of faith, whether you're thinking of making a change in your professional life or healing a personal relationship. Even though it can be frightening, change is the universe's way of telling us something better is on the horizon. Confront the difficulties head-on, and keep in mind that a good outlook can transform any barrier into an opportunity.

SEPTEMBER 17

Ganesha says the cosmos surrounds you with a warm and reassuring hug on this day. You are given a momentary reprieve as the mayhem of the world recedes into the background. Indulge in some form of self-care today, whether that takes the form of meditation, digging into a book, or simply going for a leisurely walk surrounded by nature. These stretches of peace are more than just breaks; they are necessary for the revitalization and lucidity of your spirit.

SEPTEMBER 18

Ganesha says in our modern world, words still have a great deal of power. Conversations that are held from the heart will generate strong vibrations, which will in turn build connections that may last a lifetime. Your words have the power to transform any situation, whether it's a long-overdue conversation with a friend or an expression of gratitude to a coworker. But keep in mind that communication is a process that goes in both directions. It's possible to uncover hidden truths and broaden one another's perspectives simply by listening with an open heart.

SEPTEMBER 19

Ganesha says there is a sense of daring and exploration in the air! Today is not simply another day; rather, it is a blank canvas ready to be painted with your strokes of color. Discover unexplored territory, whether that's through travel, acquiring new talent, or simply interacting with people who look different from you. When you dare to step into the unknown, life's secrets begin to reveal. Allow the wonder in your heart to direct your actions.

SEPTEMBER 20

Ganesha says today is all about maintaining a balance. You are being nudged by the cosmos in every facet of your life to find that place that is just right for you. If your job has been keeping you from spending time with the people you care about, now is the moment to change that. Find refuge in activities that help you feel more rooted in the present moment if your feelings have been running high. Keep in mind that life is a delicate dance of opposites, and right now you are the choreographer designing a harmonious pattern for the dance.



VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA

SEPTEMBER 21

Ganesha says the day brings with it an opportunity for introspection. Your life has been a unique tapestry that has been woven from the experiences and feelings that you've had along the way. Take a minute to be thankful, not just for the milestones that have been reached, but also for the life lessons that have come in the form of obstacles. You may always count on the support and encouragement of the universe. Take with you into the next week the lessons you've learned and the hope you've gained from the days that have passed.

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CONTD FROM PAGE 36

able to focus on some important things. Controlling your emotions will be important to overcome any kind of crisis. At this time, even if difficulties are coming, it will be beneficial for you to accept them and learn from them. This week will provide you with an opportunity to move towards harmony and balance. Listen to your inner voice and try to maintain positivity.

PISCES



Ganesha says this week will be very positive. There will be a flow of new energy and inspiration in your life, which will help you understand the world around you better. This is the time for you to go deep within yourself and unleash your creativity. Your intuition can open new paths for you. You will also feel depth and stability in your relationships. This week symbolizes harmony and understanding, which will make your relationship even stronger. Qualities like spontaneous communication, openness, and honesty will support you. This week, you will

want to spend time with your loved ones, which will increase sweetness in your relationships. Time spent with each

other will lead you to a new vision and harmony. Thus, this week you will experience positive changes in your life

and a deepening of relationships. This time, full of joy and enthusiasm, will be very auspicious for you.

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMA ||



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Nastur Bejan Daruwalla

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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

Matra Navami: The sacred day of remembering mothers and maternal ancestors

India's spiritual traditions are rooted in the concept of shraddha-reverence and gratitude toward those who came before us. Among the many observances dedicated to ancestors, Matra Navami stands out as a unique day honoring the maternal lineage, especially mothers who have passed away. Observed during Pitru Paksha, Matra Navami embodies the balance of remembering both paternal and maternal ancestors, acknowledging that life and dharma flow equally from both lineages.

Matra Navami in Context of Pitru Paksha

Pitru Paksha is a 15-day lunar period in the Hindu month of Bhadrapada/Ashwin (September-October), when Hindus pay homage to their ancestors through Shraddha and Tarpan. It is believed that during this period, the spirits of ancestors (Pitrs) descend to the earth to bless their descendants, provided they are remembered and offered food and prayers.

Each day of Pitru Paksha is traditionally reserved for specific categories of ancestors-fathers, mothers, grandparents, those who died untimely deaths, and even departed children. Matra Navami, falling on the Krishna Paksha Navami tithi (ninth day of the waning moon), is reserved for mothers and female ancestors.

Why the Ninth Day?

In Hindu numerology and tradition, the number nine holds great significance. It represents completeness and divine feminine energy (Shakti). Thus, Navami is seen as the most auspicious day for remembering mothers, who embody nurturing, sacrifice, and unconditional love.

Scriptural and Mythological References

Garuda Purana

The Garuda Purana, one of the most important texts on afterlife rituals, emphasizes the importance of Shraddha for both paternal and maternal ancestors. It prescribes that ignoring maternal ancestors creates imbalance in the karmic cycle of the family.

Mahabharata (Anushasana Parva)

Bhishma explains to Yudhishtira that ancestors are like roots of a tree. If not nourished, the tree cannot flourish. He stresses that both mother's and father's lineages must be honored equally.

Puranic Traditions

According to certain Puranas, failing to perform Matra Navami Shraddha may result in misfortune, whereas performing it ensures maternal blessings of health, prosperity, and protection.

Rituals and Practices of Matra Navami

The observance of Matra Navami is solemn and performed with deep



devotion, often under the guidance of priests.

Preparations

- Purification: Devotees take a ritual bath early in the morning.
- Sacred Setup: A sanctified place is arranged with a photo, symbol, or pinda representing the departed mother or maternal ancestors.

Key Rituals

Tarpan (Water Offering):

- Devotees offer water mixed with sesame seeds, kusa grass, and flowers while chanting mantras.
- This offering is symbolic of quenching the thirst of departed souls.

Pinda Daan:

- Rice balls (pinda) mixed with black sesame seeds, honey, and ghee are offered.
- The pindas symbolize nourishment for the soul and continuity of the lineage.

Shraddha Puja:

- A sacred fire is lit. Offerings of cooked food, fruits, and sweets are made.
- Priests and Brahmins are fed, as they represent the medium between the devotee and the departed souls.

Daan (Charity):

- Donations of food, clothes, and money are given to the needy.
- Items dear to the departed mother (such as fruits, sweets, or fabrics) are often offered.

Feeding of Cows, Crows, and Dogs:

Important information

Matra Navami 2025

Monday, 15 September 2025

Navami Tithi starts : 15 September 2025 at 03:06 am

Navami date ends : 16 September 2025 at 01:03 am

In Hindu belief, these beings act as carriers of offerings to ancestors. Feeding them is considered an act of compassion and remembrance.

Regional Variations of Matra Navami

North India

- Families in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan perform Shraddha at home or on riverbanks.
- Temples and ghats are filled with families offering pindas and performing tarpan.

Eastern India (Bihar, Jharkhand, Bengal)

- Gaya Shraddha is the most renowned tradition. Thousands travel to Gaya, on the banks of the Phalgu River, to perform pinda daan.
- Matra Navami is especially significant in this region, with rituals lasting several hours.

South India

- In Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, Shraddha rituals are often performed at temples or in ancestral homes.
- The emphasis is on feeding Brahmins, cows, and birds as acts of compassion.

Western India (Maharashtra, Gujarat)

- Families observe the day with simple puja and charity.
- Some communities prepare the favorite foods of the departed

mother and offer them symbolically.

Philosophical and Spiritual Dimensions

Mothers as Eternal Nourishers: In Hindu philosophy, a mother is revered as the first guru and a divine embodiment of Shakti. Honoring her after death acknowledges her role in shaping destiny.

Balancing Lineages: By remembering both maternal and paternal ancestors, Hindu rituals recognize the equal importance of both family lines in karmic balance.

Cycle of Karma: Ancestor rituals ensure liberation (moksha) for the departed, while also reducing karmic debts (pitru rin) of the living.

Scientific and Social Perspectives

Psychological Healing:

- Rituals like Matra Navami provide closure, reduce grief, and strengthen emotional bonds with one's heritage.

Social Cohesion:

- Feeding Brahmins, the needy, and animals fosters community welfare and compassion.

Cultural Continuity:

- Such observances preserve family histories, ensuring younger generations remain connected with ancestral values.

Pawapuri, Nalanda: A sacred pilgrimage and cultural heritage destination

Nestled in the heart of Bihar, Pawapuri, also known as Apapuri or the "Sinless Town," holds a special place in India's spiritual and cultural landscape. Just 90 kilometers from Patna and a short distance from the ancient seat of learning Nalanda, Pawapuri is revered as one of the most significant Jain pilgrimage sites. It is believed to be the place where Lord Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankara of Jainism, attained nirvana around 500 BCE. Today, Pawapuri draws pilgrims, history enthusiasts, and travelers eager to explore the confluence of spirituality, heritage, and scenic beauty.

Religious Significance

Pawapuri's fame stems from its association with Lord Mahavira's final liberation. According to Jain tradition, Mahavira delivered his last sermon here before attaining moksha. His cremation at Pawapuri was marked by a unique event: devotees carried away every particle of ash and soil from his pyre, leaving behind a pit that later filled with water. Over time, this spot became the site of the magnificent Jal Mandir (Water Temple).

For Jains, Pawapuri is not just a destination but a place of deep spiritual resonance, symbolizing detachment, peace, and the ultimate release from the cycle of birth and death.

Major Attractions in Pawapuri

Jal Mandir (Water Temple)

The crown jewel of Pawapuri, this white marble temple is built in the middle of a large lotus-filled tank.

Dedicated to Lord Mahavira, it marks the site of his cremation.

A marble causeway connects the temple to the shore, making it one of the most picturesque religious structures in Bihar.

Samosharan Temple

Believed to be the site where Lord Mahavira delivered his final sermons, this circular temple represents the Jain concept of universal preaching.

Its architecture symbolizes peace and equality, welcoming devotees from all walks of life.

Gaon Mandir (Village Temple)

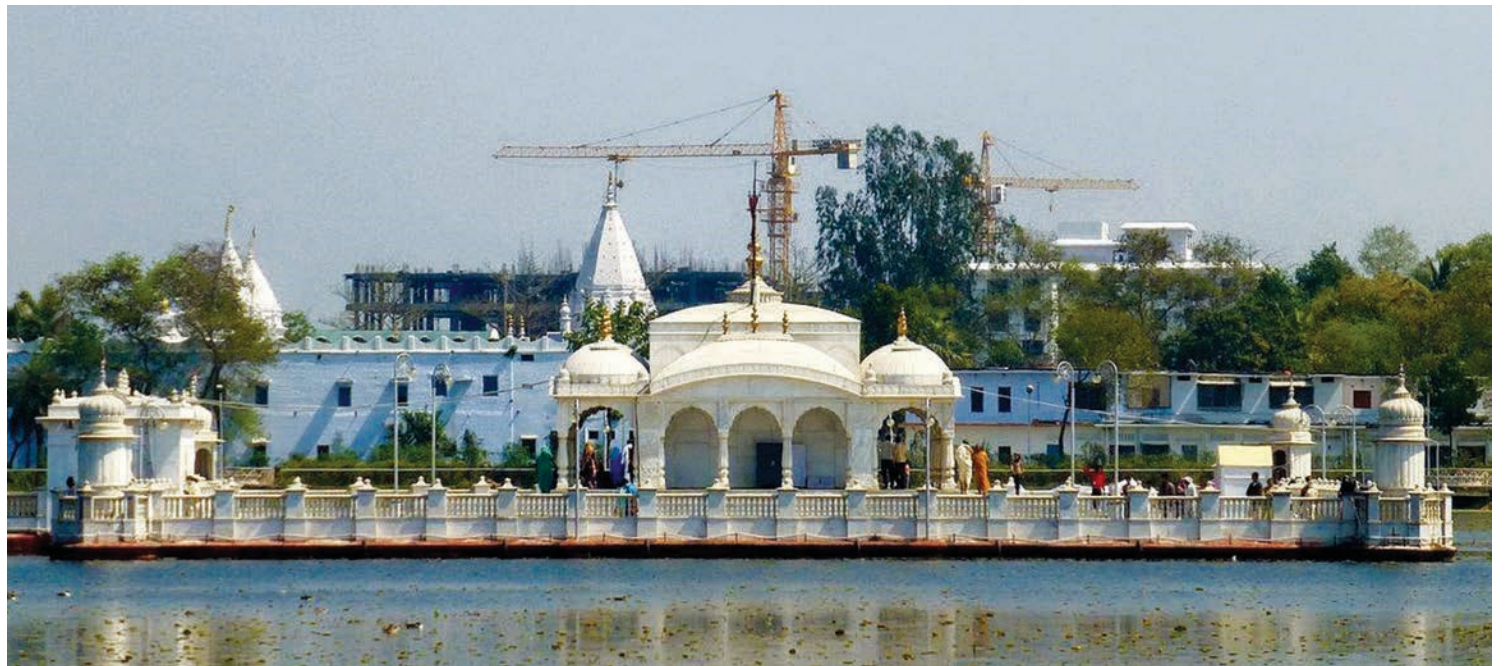
Another sacred temple marking Lord Mahavira's final moments.

It is an important stop for pilgrims, often included in religious circuits with Jal Mandir and Samosharan Temple.

Nalanda Mahavihara (Nearby Attraction)

Located about 12 km from Pawapuri, Nalanda houses the ruins of the world's oldest residential university, dating back to the 5th century CE.

Nalanda's UNESCO World Heritage



status makes it a must-visit for travelers seeking history alongside spirituality.

Rajgir (Nearby Excursion)

About 30 km from Pawapuri, Rajgir is another heritage-rich site, associated with both Jainism and Buddhism.

Attractions include the Vishwa Shanti Stupa, hot springs, and ancient caves.

Cultural and Historical Importance

Pawapuri is more than a religious site; it is a testament to Bihar's ancient legacy of knowledge, philosophy, and spiritual harmony. Situated close to Nalanda, it connects the rich intellectual traditions of Buddhism and Jainism, both of which flourished in this region. Festivals like Mahavira Nirvana Diwas draw thousands of devotees, adding vibrancy to the serene town.

Best Time to Visit

- October to March: The winter months are pleasant, making it ideal for sightseeing and pilgrimage.
- Festivals: Visiting during Diwali, which coincides with Lord Mahavira's Nirvana, offers a unique cultural and devotional experience.

How to Reach Pawapuri

- By Air: The nearest airport is Patna (approx. 90 km), connected to major Indian cities.
- By Rail: Rajgir and Bihar Sharif are the closest railway stations, well linked with Patna and other towns in Bihar.
- By Road: Pawapuri is easily accessible by buses, taxis, and private vehicles from Patna, Nalanda, Rajgir, and Bodh Gaya.

Travel Tips

- Dress modestly while visiting temples and maintain silence in prayer areas.



- Carry drinking water, though facilities are available at temple complexes.
- For a deeper experience, combine your Pawapuri trip with Nalanda, Rajgir, and Bodh Gaya creating a spiritual and heritage circuit.
- Photography may be restricted inside temple sanctums, so check beforehand.

Pawapuri, with its serene temples, lotus-filled tanks, and spiritual aura, is a timeless reminder of India's rich Jain heritage. When coupled with the historic wonders of Nalanda and Rajgir, the journey offers an enriching blend of spirituality, history, and culture. Whether you are a pilgrim seeking divine peace or a traveler eager to explore ancient India's soul, Pawapuri in Nalanda is a destination that inspires both the heart and the mind.

CONTD FROM PAGE 1

America Marks 24th Anniversary of September 11 Terror Attacks

Center and the Empire State Building, to be illuminated with blue lights Thursday in observance.

"Today I join the world in remembering the nearly 3,000 souls taken on 9/11, the people who went to work and never came home, and the brave heroes - uniformed and otherwise - who ran toward danger to save others," the governor said in a statement.

"Many of our enemies, foreign and domestic, thought we were going to collapse as a country, but we got up 9/12," Adams said before the ceremony. "Teachers taught, builders built. We showed the globe our resilience, even in the midst of pain."

Adams' mayoral opponents, former Gov. Andrew Cuomo and state Assemblyman Zohran Mamdani, were also in attendance, while Republican Curtis Sliwa was scheduled to visit a different 9/11 tribute in the Rockaways.

Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, who was CEO at Cantor Fitzgerald on Sept. 11, 2001, which was located in the World Trade Center North Tower and more than 650 employees died, described to CNBC his own "harrowing" experience that day.

"I ran my tail off, dressed like this, running with that big sort of black cloud chasing me. And then I dove under a car. But it was. Yeah, it was harrowing, to say the least," Lutnick said.

Lutnick said he would have been at Cantor Fitzgerald's offices on the 100th floor and above but he had been dropping his son off at kindergarten. Lutnick then said he drove down after the plane first hit the building, and that he was in the doorway of the North Tower when the other tower collapsed.

President Trump attended the ceremony at the Pentagon, noting that "an entire generation of Americans have come of age in a totally different world" but "they are carrying on the legacy of those" who died.

President Trump issued a proclamation on Thursday declaring Sept. 11, 2025, as "Patriot Day 2025," saying that "we renew our resolve to ensure that we never again face such a ruthless attack."

"September 11, 2001, will forever live in the collective consciousness of those who witnessed four commercial jetliners converted into weapons of terror to target innocent Americans on a beautiful Tuesday morning in September, 24 years ago," the proclamation says.

President Trump and first lady Melania Trump watched as a wreath was laid at the Pentagon. The president also signed a guest book to mark his visit.

CP Radhakrishnan is sworn in as India's 15th Vice President

Amit Shah, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and others were present during the oath taking ceremony.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Mr. Radhakrishnan on X.

"Congratulations to Thiru CP Radhakrishnan Ji on winning the 2025 Vice Presidential election. His life has always been devoted to serving society and empowering the poor and marginalized. I am confident that he will be an outstanding VP, who will strengthen our Constitutional values and enhance Parliamentary discourse".

80th session of UN General Assembly kicks off in New York

Inaugurating the 80th session of the UNGA, President Ms. Annalena Baerbock urged all Member States to unite in addressing global crises of climate change, conflicts, and poverty.

Underscoring the UN's vital role in humanitarian assistance in the time of world needs she pledged to lead with courage and inclusiveness.

"Our world is in pain, indeed. But imagine how much more pain there would be without the United Nations," Ms. Baerbock underscored in the General Assembly Hall, promising to serve all 193 members equally, saying she would like to be "a bridge builder" and to ensure every voice is heard to make the UN "fit for the 21st century."

Congratulating Ms. Baerbock on her election, Secretary-General António Guterres in his speech praised the new UNGA President's vision and experience. "To re-build trust and faith in one another among all the Member States, the United Nations is a floor on which the UN Charter provides the tools to work as one," Mr. Guterres stressed. Earlier in the day, outgoing Assembly President Philémon Yang closed the 79th session. (With inputs from The Foreign Affairs News)

Manhunt for Charlie Kirk's killer continues

Authorities shared a video late Thursday, September 11, of the suspect climbing down from a roof following the shooting, after sharing images throughout the day of a "person of interest" and asking the public for help in identifying the individual. A law enforcement official said investigators have "good video footage" of the suspect and had recovered the weapon used in the

shooting. Kirk's body returned to his home state of Arizona on Vice President JD Vance's plane Thursday.

President Trump paid tribute to Kirk, and elected officials on both sides of the aisle swiftly condemned the attack and denounced acts of political violence.

The state of Utah plans to seek the death penalty in Kirk's murder, Utah Gov. Spencer Cox said.

"We've been working with our attorneys, getting everything that we need, affidavits ready, so that we can pursue the death penalty in this case. And that will happen here in the state of Utah," the governor told reporters at a press conference.

Police have not arrested a suspect.

Authorities investigating Kirk's killing have received more than 7,000 leads and tips, Cox said in a press conference Thursday.

Cox said that's the largest number of digital tips received by the FBI since the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013.

Authorities have also conducted nearly 200 interviews, the governor said.

Trump said he'll award Kirk the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

President Trump told reporters that he planned to attend Charlie Kirk's funeral and said he believed it would be the weekend after this upcoming one.

Ex-chief justice Sushila Karki likely to head caretaker government in Nepal

the Gen Z group-which spearheaded the anti-government protests-the Army chief, and President Ramchandra Paudel, ended inconclusively on Thursday midnight. However, the youth-led Gen Z group proposed Karki's name for the post of new prime minister, multiple sources said.

President Paudel is expected to appoint Karki as the first female prime minister of Nepal on Friday morning. The president is currently holding consultations with various political leaders as well as constitutional experts to find a way out of the current political impasse, according to sources close to the president. Two options were considered for forming the new government: dissolving Parliament or retaining it. However, the agitating group has agreed to seek a solution within the constitutional framework.

Meanwhile, the overnight curfew has been relaxed for four hours from 7 am to 11 am to allow people time to ease into daily life.

Restrictive orders will be in place across the country from 11 am to 5 pm, followed by a two-hour window before curfew resumes from 7 pm to 6 am the next day.

According to the Ministry of Health, the number of people killed so far during the protests held on Monday and Tuesday has risen to 34. (Source: PTI)

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History This Week

SEP 12 - SEP 18

SEPTEMBER 12



September 12, 1943 - Former Italian Dictator Benito Mussolini was rescued by German paratroopers on orders from Adolf Hitler. Mussolini was being held prisoner by Italian authorities following the collapse of his Fascist regime.

September 12, 1953 - John F. Kennedy, 36, married Jacqueline Bouvier, 24, in a ceremony before 750 invited guests at St. Mary's Church in Newport, Rhode Island, conducted by Archbishop Richard Cushing of Boston.

September 12, 1953 - Nikita Khrushchev was elected First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR.

September 12, 1974 - Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, was deposed by an army coup after 44 years as ruler.

September 12, 1977 - Steve Biko, the South African black civil rights leader, died while he was in police detention.

September 12, 1990 - A treaty was signed by East and West Germany and the Allies of World War II allowing for the restoration of sovereignty to a reunified Germany.

Birthday - African American Olympic athlete Jesse Owens (1913-1980) was born in Oakville, Alabama (as James Cleveland Owens). He won four medals in track and field at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, defeating Nazi athletes and disappointing Nazi leader Adolf Hitler.

SEPTEMBER 13

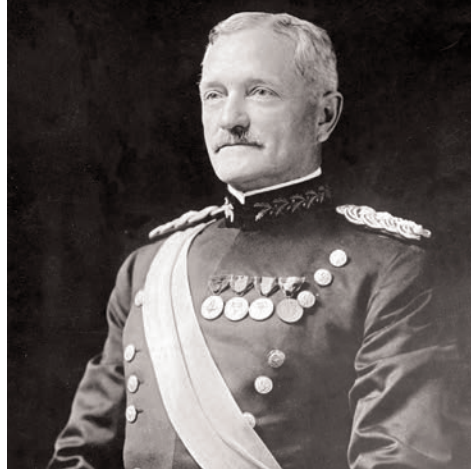
September 13, 1788 - The U.S. Congress chose New York as the Federal capital of the new American government.

September 13, 1814 - The Battle of Fort Henry in Baltimore Harbor occurred, observed by Francis Scott Key aboard a ship. He watched the British attack overnight and at dawn saw the American flag still flying over the fort, inspiring him to write the verses which were later coupled with the tune of a popular drinking song and became the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.

September 13, 1971 - State police and National Guardsmen stormed Attica prison in New York State ending a five-day prisoners' revolt. Thirty one prisoners and 11 guards were killed.

Birthday - American Army physician Walter Reed (1851-1902) was born in Gloucester County, Virginia. Best known for his Yellow Fever research, he served as an army surgeon for more than 20 years. The U.S. Army's general hospital in Washington, D.C., is named in his honor.

Birthday - Army General John J.



Pershing (1860-1948) was born in Laclede, Missouri. He commanded the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) during World War I and oversaw the Meuse-Argonne operation that helped bring about the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

SEPTEMBER 14



September 14, 1741 - Composer George Frideric Handel finished Messiah after working on it nonstop for 23 days.

September 14, 1812 - Napoleon and his troops first entered Moscow as the retreating Russians set the city on fire. Napoleon found it was impossible to stay through the winter in the ruined city. He then began a retreat from Moscow which became one of the great disasters of military history. Fewer than 20,000 of the original 500,000 men with him survived the Russian campaign.

September 14, 1901 - Eight days after being shot, President William McKinley died from wounds suffered during an assassination attempt in Buffalo, New York. He was succeeded by Theodore Roosevelt.

September 14, 1927 - In Nice, France, famed ballet dancer Isadora Duncan was killed in a freak accident as the long scarf she was wearing became caught in the moving wheel of the car in which she was riding, strangling her.

September 14, 1930 - The Nazi Party became the second largest party in Germany following a stunning election triumph by Adolf Hitler.

September 14, 1960 - The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was formed by representatives of oil-producing countries meeting in Baghdad.

September 14, 1975 - Elizabeth Ann Seton became the first American saint.

September 14, 1982 - Princess Grace of Monaco died following an accident in which her car plunged off a mountain road in Monte Carlo. Her daughter Stephanie, also in the car, survived and was treated for shock and bruises. Princess Grace (Grace Kelly) was a Hollywood actress who met Prince Rainier III of Monaco during filming of the Hitchcock film *To Catch a Thief*. She then gave up a successful acting career and married him in 1956.

SEPTEMBER 15

September 15, 1776 - British forces under General William Howe captured New York during the American Revolution.

September 15, 1916 - Tanks were first used in combat, during the Allied offensive at the Battle of the Somme, in World War I.

September 15, 1935 - Nazis enacted the Nuremberg Laws depriving German Jews of their rights of citizenship.

September 15, 1940 - The height of the Battle of Britain occurred as massive German air raids took place against London, Southampton, Bristol, Cardiff, Liverpool and Manchester. The British claimed 185 German planes were shot down.

September 15, 1944 - The first entry of American troops into Hitler's Germany occurred as elements of the U.S. 7th and 5th Corps reached the southwestern frontier of Germany.

Birthday - American novelist, historian and social critic, James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851) was born in Burlington, New Jersey. Best known for *The Last of the Mohicans*.



Birthday - William Howard Taft (1857-1930) the 27th U.S. President was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He served as President from 1909-1913, then became a law professor at Yale University until his appointment as Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1921.

Birthday - British mystery author Agatha Christie (1890-1976) was born in Torquay, England. She wrote nearly a hundred books including mysteries, dramas, poetry and nonfiction.

SEPTEMBER 16

September 16, 1620 - The Mayflower ship departed from England, bound for America with 102 passengers and a small crew. The ship weathered dangerous Atlantic storms and reached Provincetown, Massachusetts on November 21st. The Pilgrims disembarked at Plymouth on December 26th.

September 16, 1810 - Mexico's break from Spain began in the town of Dolores Hidalgo as Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla rang his church's bells and exhorted local Indians to "recover from the hated Spaniards the land stolen from your forefathers..."

September 16, 1908 - General Motors was founded by entrepreneur William Crapo "Billy" Durant in Flint, Michigan.

September 16, 1976 - The Episcopalian Church in the U.S. approved the ordination of women priests and bishops.

September 16, 1982 - Beginning of a two

day massacre in Palestinian refugee camps in West Beirut as Christian militiamen (the Phalangists) entered Sabra and Shatila and began shooting hundreds of Palestinians, including elderly men, women and children.

SEPTEMBER 17

September 17, 1787 - At the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, delegates from twelve states voted unanimously to approve the proposed U.S. Constitution.

September 17, 1862 - The bloodiest day in U.S. military history occurred as General Robert E. Lee and the Confederate armies were stopped at Antietam in Maryland by General George B. McClellan and numerically superior Union forces. By nightfall 26,000 men were dead, wounded, or missing.

September 17, 1908 - The first fatality involving powered flight occurred as a biplane piloted by Orville Wright fell from a height of 75 feet, killing Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, his 26-year-old passenger. A crowd of nearly 2,000 spectators at Fort Myer, Virginia, observed the crash of the plane which was being tested for possible military use. Wright himself was seriously injured.

September 17, 1939 - Soviet Russians invaded Eastern Poland, meeting little resistance and taking over 200,000 Poles prisoner. This was done in accordance with the Nazi-Soviet Pact in which the Nazis and Soviets had predetermined how they would divide up Poland.



Birthday - Supreme Court Justice Warren E. Burger (1907-1995) was born in St. Paul, Minnesota. Appointed by President Nixon, he had the longest tenure (1969-86) of any Chief Justice in the 20th Century. In 1973, he voted in the majority on *Roe vs. Wade* which upheld a woman's right to an abortion. In 1974, he voted to force Nixon to surrender White House audio tapes to the Watergate special prosecutor.

SEPTEMBER 18

September 18, 1810 - Chile declared its independence from Spain after 269 years as a colony.

September 18, 1947 - The U.S. Air Force was established as a separate military service.



Birthday - Movie actress Greta Garbo (1905-1990) was born in Stockholm, Sweden (as Greta Lovisa Gustafsson). She retired and became a recluse after making 27 films, spanning the silent era through the beginning of sound movies.

Kuldeep stars as India beat UAE by nine wickets to open Asia Cup defence

DUBAI (TIP)

Kuldeep Yadav returned figures of 4-7 to lead holders India to a crushing nine-wicket win over hosts United Arab Emirates in their opening match of the Asia Cup.

Kuldeep struck three times in one over with his left-arm wrist spin as tournament favourites India skittled UAE for a paltry 57 in 13.1 overs after they elected to field first in the T20 in Dubai on Wednesday, Sept 10.

India romped home to victory in 4.3 overs after left-handed opener Abhishek Sharma hit 30 off 16 balls and vice-captain Shubman Gill stood unbeaten on 20. But it was the bowlers who set up victory for the reigning T20 World Cup champions as medium-pacer Shivam Dube claimed three before Kuldeep wrapped up the innings.

Put in to bat, UAE opener Alishan Sharafu started briskly with boundaries before falling to pace bowler Jasprit Bumrah for 22 off 17 balls.

Skipper Muhammad Waseem struck 19 to be the only other batsman to make double figures in an otherwise shambolic show by the rest of the team.

Kuldeep's three wickets, including Waseem, in his second over rattled the opposition batting, which soon fell apart.

In reply, Sharma came out attacking as he smashed left-arm spinner Haider Ali for a six and a four.

He hit two more sixes in his blitz before being caught out by off-pace bowler Junaid Siddique.

Gill finished off the chase with a boundary as skipper Suryakumar Yadav,



Kuldeep Yadav of India celebrates with Suryakumar Yadav of India after dismissing Muhammad Waseem of UAE during the Asia Cup match [Francois Nel/Getty Images]

unbeaten on seven, looked on from the other end.

India won the previous Asia Cup, which was played in a 50-over format in 2023, when they beat hosts Sri Lanka in the final in Colombo.

India will next face Pakistan on Sunday in the most highly anticipated match of the T20 tournament, which serves as a build-up competition for next year's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka.

Litton Das guides Bangladesh to first win with match-winning half-century against Hong Kong

Bangladesh registered their first victory of this year's Asia Cup after defeating Hong Kong by seven wickets in

Abu Dhabi on Wednesday. Chasing 144, skipper Litton Das played a captain's knock, scoring a crucial half-century to guide his side home in 17.4 overs.

Parvez Hossain Emon and Tanzid Hasan could not provide the ideal start to Bangladesh, as Emon departed after scoring 19, they lost the first wicket at 24.

The next wicket fell in the form of Tanzid Hasan, as he departed after scoring 14. Then came the turning point of the match, as Litton Das and Towhid Hridoy stitched a decisive partnership of 95 runs, but Litton departed when two runs were required after scoring a brilliant 59 off 39 deliveries, which included six boundaries and a maximum.



Cristiano Ronaldo races ahead of Lionel Messi in goal-scoring list

There aren't too many goal-scoring records that Cristiano Ronaldo has had the opportunity to crack without finding a way to do so. Even at 40 years old, the football legend continues to bang in goals at the top level. While he enters the twilight of his career at Al Nassr in the Saudi Pro League, he remains the leader and talisman for an immensely talented Portugal side as they have their eyes on helping their captain lift the FIFA World Cup next year.

Ronaldo continues to do his part as the European FIFA World Cup Qualifiers begin. Having scored a fantastic brace against Armenia last week, Ronaldo capped off a good international break for himself as he scored in Portugal's come-from-behind victory over Hungary in Budapest on Tuesday night. Ronaldo converted from the spot early in the second half to push Portugal ahead, and ensured his team emerged victorious from there to keep a strong start to their qualification schedule going.

This was Ronaldo's 39th goal in FIFA WC Qualification, adding onto his brace against Armenia last week.

Asia Cup conquered: India ready to chase World Cup glory

RAJGIR (TIP)

"It's relief in a way in a sense, because we've been on the road for 2 months, and it's nice to walk away from here, being champions."

These were the words of India coach Craig Fulton right after the Asia Cup 2025 final win in Rajgir on Sunday, September 7. You can't blame the coach for feeling relieved — his side has endured a roller-coaster ride in 2025 following a fruitful period last year. India won the bronze medal at the Paris Olympics and then went on to claim the Asian Champions Trophy title.

But 2025 turned into a major reality check. India entered the European leg of the Hockey Pro League sitting third in the standings but went on to lose seven of their eight games against Australia, the Netherlands, Argentina and Belgium. That run saw them finish seventh and lose their chance at direct World Cup qualification.

This meant the Asia Cup was their last hope. If they failed, the high-pressure qualifiers awaited. Criticism about Fulton's tactics and India's inconsistency grew louder after the opener against China. Despite a 4-3 win, rust was visible in India's game and the heavy reliance on captain Harmanpreet Singh to score goals was evident.

Wins against Japan and Kazakhstan gave the side momentum heading into the Super 4s. But then came



the draw with Korea, where India lacked consistency and even failed to execute basic plays.

The response was emphatic. India clicked in the final three matches of the tournament, showcasing why they are still the best in Asia and ultimately securing the title.

It was hard-earned, but this transitioning side once again showed why they belong in the conversation among the best teams in world hockey.

For any team to succeed in tournaments like this, mindset matters as much as skill. Mental conditioning coach Paddy Upton said during the tournament that he believed the group had it in them to win major trophies

like the World Cup and Olympics.

Vice-captain Hardik Singh echoed that belief after the final, saying the mindset from the start was to dominate Asia and secure World Cup passage. He also pointed out how the team managed to find the finishing touch in the latter stages, which proved decisive.

"Our mindset was that from here we have to qualify for World Cup and we have to dominate in Asia, so that was our message before this tournament."

"And the way team has performed, after the match against Korea which was a draw, we made sure this time the finishing touch which was missing in that match will be completed. And how it went, I think we knew that we can beat any team here but our final had to be good and we worked on that," said Hardik.

Hardik also highlighted the presence of multiple leaders within the group, which helped the team cross the finish line. Former captain Manpreet Singh, still one of the fittest players in world hockey despite playing over 400 matches, continues to set the tone. Add in the experience of Amit Rohidas and Harmanpreet, and the leadership core is strong.

"I think in this team there are many seniors, many juniors are coming, and also guys who are there in the team for eight-nine years. The combination is quite good. And like I said before, in every match we need five or six captains. Only one captain will not be enough."



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Peter J McDonnell, MD Director Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins



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In 2018 Prasanth, Sushanth and Nisanth were diagnosed and treated for Prematurity Retinopathy. An illness in premature babies which can cause blindness.

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