

Golden Temple filled with devotion as Sikhs celebrate Bandi Chhor Divas



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Crowds of devotees gathered at the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar to commemorate Bandi Chhor Divas, offering prayers and taking holy dips in the 'Sarovar' early Friday morning. The site, home to the sacred Harmandir Sahib, was adorned with LED lights, creating a dazzling display.

A festive atmosphere enveloped the shrine as tens of thousands of worshippers converged to seek blessings and participate in the celebrations. The domes, buildings, and floors of the complex were meticulously cleaned and illuminated for the occasion.

Bandi Chhor Divas, or Prisoner Liberation Day, honors the return of the sixth Sikh guru, Sri Guru Hargobind, to Amritsar after being freed along with 52 kings from imprisonment by Mughal Emperor Jahangir in 1619. According to the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), Jahangir imprisoned Guru Hargobind to suppress the Sikh faith. However, after falling ill, he was advised by Sufi Saint Sain Mian Mir to release the Guru.

Guru Hargobind refused to leave alone and requested that other prisoners be released alongside him. Jahangir agreed, stating that those who could grasp the end of the Guru's robe would be freed. The Guru had a special robe made, allowing for the release of the 52 imprisoned kings.

Upon his arrival in Amritsar, the Guru was greeted by Sikhs who lit earthen lamps in his honor. "This day is celebrated as Bandi Chhor Divas with the grandeur of Khalsa," explained the SGPC, detailing the significance of the occasion.

One devotee from Lucknow shared their experience, noting, "It is one of the most revered places of worship in the world, where serenity allows you to connect peacefully with the divine, even amidst lakhs of devotees."

Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Raghbir Singh had urged Sikhs to forgo decorating their homes with electric lights this year, as Bandi Chhor Divas coincides with the 40th anniversary of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, recommending traditional ghee 'diyas' instead.

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## Biden hosts Diwali celebration at the White House with over 600 Indian Americans in attendance

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US President Joe Biden hosted a Diwali celebration at the White House on Monday, welcoming more than 600 prominent Indian Americans, including members of Congress, officials, and corporate leaders from across the nation. Vice President Kamala Harris and First Lady Dr. Jill Biden were unable to attend due to campaign commitments.

The event featured remarks from Vice Admiral Vivek H. Murthy, the US Surgeon General, and a video message from Sunita Williams, a retired Navy officer and NASA astronaut broadcasting from the International Space Station. Indian-American youth activist Shrusti Amula introduced the president.

Biden expressed his pride in hosting the largest Diwali receptions at the White House, highlighting the significant contributions of South Asian Americans to his administration.

Cont. on page 02



## Trump pledges to enhance ties with India while extending Diwali greetings

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former US President Donald Trump, now a Republican presidential candidate, has expressed his commitment to strengthening the "great partnership" between the United States and India, along with his support for Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In a post on X, Trump shared his Diwali greetings, stating, "... Happy Diwali to All. I hope the Festival of Lights leads to the Victory of Good over Evil!"

In the same message, Trump condemned the violence against Hindus and other minorities in Bangladesh, calling the situation there "chaotic." He asserted, "I strongly condemn the barbaric violence against Hindus, Christians, and other minorities who are getting attacked and looted by mobs," adding that such incidents would have "never happened" during his presidency.

Trump criticized Vice President Kamala Harris and President Joe Biden for neglecting the concerns of Hindus both globally and in the United States. He emphasized his intention to make "America Strong Again" and to restore peace through strength.

"We will protect Hindu Americans against the anti-religion agenda of the radical left. Under my administration, we will also strengthen our great partnership with India and my good friend, Prime Minister Modi," he said.

Trump further claimed that Harris would "destroy your small businesses with more regulations and higher taxes," contrasting this with his own record of cutting taxes and regulations, which he claimed contributed to building "the greatest economy in history." He concluded by promising to replicate that success, declaring, "We will do it again, bigger and better than ever before -- and we will Make America Great Again."



Albanese celebrates Diwali as a symbol of hope and community for Australians



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese described Diwali as an "extraordinarily beautiful celebration of faith and culture" that resonates with Australians from diverse backgrounds.

In his Diwali greetings, Albanese highlighted the festival's essence, "This annual festival of joy, hope, and togetherness affirms the ideals that inspire Australians from all walks of life." He noted that the rituals and traditions of Diwali express community, culture, and heritage, offering a time for families to enjoy each other's company and reflect on centuries of shared traditions.

Wishing the Indian community in Australia a joyous celebration, he remarked, "As families and friends gather in homes, parks, temples, and community centers across our nation, may the glowing lights of this cherished festival bring you peace and joy. To everyone who celebrates, I wish you a wonderful Diwali."

Cont. on page 02



Buttigieg announces automatic refund rule for canceled U.S. flights ahead of busy holiday season



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In a significant win for U.S. travelers, airlines are now required to issue automatic cash refunds if a flight is canceled or significantly delayed. This new rule, implemented by the Department of Transportation (DOT), removes the need for passengers to formally request refunds, making the process more transparent and efficient.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg announced the regulation on X, stating, "Passengers deserve to get their money back when an airline owes them—without headaches or haggling." The rule takes effect just a month before the holiday season, which is anticipated to see a surge in travelers. Originally proposed in April, the regulation mandates that airlines provide a full refund within seven business days for credit card purchases and within 20 days for other payment methods.

The automatic refund policy aims to address common passenger grievances and restore trust in the airline industry. Buttigieg has also urged airlines to clearly communicate passengers' rights to refunds under this new rule.

While the airline industry has expressed some pushback, the lobby group Airlines for America has voiced support for the automatic refund policy, affirming its commitment to accommodating customers who prefer refunds over rebooking.

This change marks a significant step forward in consumer rights for air travelers, particularly as holiday travel demand is expected to test the industry's preparedness.

# Citizenship crisis? Elon Musk's immigration history raises legal questions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Elon Musk could face serious consequences regarding his U.S. citizenship if he is found to have lied during the immigration process, according to legal experts. Born in South Africa, Musk emigrated to Canada before settling in the U.S. and becoming a citizen. He has controversially spent over \$100 million supporting Donald Trump and has made numerous posts on social media demonizing immigrants.

Recent reports indicate that Musk may have worked illegally in the U.S. during the 1990s, which, if true, could jeopardize his citizenship. In 1995, he was admitted to Stanford for graduate studies but reportedly did not attend, instead focusing on a startup that became Zip2. Allegedly, both Musk and his brother Kimbal, who have stated they were "illegal immigrants," lacked the proper work authorization during that time.



While Musk denies these allegations, claiming he transitioned from a J-1 visa to an H-1B visa, experts emphasize that working without authorization and failing to disclose this during the immigration process could be grounds for revocation of citizenship. U.S. law allows for citizenship to be stripped if it was obtained through misrepresentation or concealment of material facts.

Musk's past, along with his substantial

connections to national security, adds further complexity to the situation. If the allegations hold true, the legal ramifications could be severe, although experts note that such cases are often challenging to prosecute, particularly for actions that occurred decades ago.

Despite the potential legal challenges ahead, Musk has not yet made his immigration records public, leaving many questions unanswered.

## Survey reveals inflation and abortion as key issues for Indian-Americans

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Inflation has emerged as the leading election concern among Indian-Americans, according to a recent poll, with abortion and jobs/economy following closely behind. The 2024 Indian American Attitudes Survey conducted by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace found that 17% of respondents identified inflation as their top issue, while 13% cited abortion and reproductive rights, and another 13% mentioned jobs and the economy.

Notably, the survey revealed a partisan divide: 39% of Republican respondents prioritized economic concerns, compared to just 24% of Democrats. In contrast, 19% of Democrats selected abortion as their top issue, while only 5% of Republicans did so.

The survey, conducted online with 714 Indian-American citizens between September 18 and October 15, 2024, also found that immigration (10%), healthcare (9%), and



climate change (8%) were significant concerns. Additionally, U.S.-India relations, education, and national security were less emphasized, each cited by only 4% of respondents.

The report underscored the growing political influence of the Indian-American community, which now numbers over 5.2 million and is recognized as the second-largest immigrant group in the U.S.

## Albanese celebrates Diwali as a symbol of hope and community for Australians



Contd. from page 01

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister of New Zealand extended his own greetings to those celebrating Diwali and Bandi Chhor Divas, wishing for a "meaningful, vibrant, and joyful Diwali" on X.

Earlier in the week, the White House hosted a Diwali reception where President Joe Biden emphasized the contributions of the South Asian American community to American life. "On this day in America, we think about that journey of light," he said, reflecting on how Diwali is now celebrated openly and proudly at the White House, a contrast to earlier generations who faced suspicion.

# Biden hosts Diwali celebration at the White House with over 600 Indian Americans in attendance

Contd. from page 01

"From Kamala to Dr. Murthy to so many of you here today, I'm proud that I kept my commitment to have an administration that looks like America," he said.

Reflecting on the changing social climate since he first hosted a Diwali celebration in 2016, Biden noted the importance of inclusivity in American society. "An Irish Catholic President, Vice President at the time, opened our home for holiday celebrations by Hindus, Buddhists, Jainists, Sikhs, and more," he said. During the celebration, Biden lit a diya in the Blue Room and remarked on the enriching role of the South Asian American community in the United States. He emphasized the significance of Diwali as a symbol of light in times of darkness, asserting,



"On this day in America, we think about that journey of light." Biden concluded by underscoring the importance of democratic values and the collective journey toward a brighter future.

"American democracy has never been easy... but we never lose sight of how we got here and why," he stated, reaffirming his commitment to embodying the American spirit through his presidency.





# Ramaswamy takes to the streets in protest against Biden's 'garbage' comment on Trump supporters

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In response to President Joe Biden's comment referring to Donald Trump's supporters as "garbage," pharmaceutical multi-millionaire Vivek Ramaswamy took to the streets to pick up trash alongside a garbage crew in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Posting on X, Ramaswamy declared, "We're not garbage, we're patriots recycling the American Dream," sharing a photo of himself in action. He also mentioned, "Proud to be rolling up in a garbage truck to a Trump campaign event in North Carolina shortly. Going to clean up some actual trash on the streets first."

Ramaswamy, who previously ran for the Republican presidential nomination before endorsing Trump, donned a yellow trash collector's vest over a T-shirt featuring Oscar the Grouch, the beloved children's character who resides in a garbage can. He received a brief training session on operating the truck's compactor before getting to work.



His protest was sparked by Biden's remarks about Trump's supporters, stating, "The only garbage I see floating out there is his supporters," while criticizing the demonization of Latinos. These comments were reportedly ignited by a racist joke made by comedian Tony Hinchcliffe during a Trump rally.

Both Trump and Ramaswamy have embraced this imagery in their campaigns, with Trump appearing at a rally in a garbage collector's vest as well. In an interview with the New York Post, Ramaswamy acknowledged that he and Trump arrived on private planes, but emphasized that "we're all equal as Americans."

Biden's remarks have drawn comparisons to Hillary Clinton's 2016 description of Trump supporters as "deplorables," a comment that alienated many working-class voters from the Democratic Party. Vice President Kamala Harris has also expressed disagreement with Biden's characterization, stating, "I strongly disagree with any criticism of people based on who they vote for."

## White House warns Iran against retaliation following Israeli airstrikes



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The White House has issued a warning to Iran against retaliating in response to Israel's recent airstrikes, emphasizing U.S. support for Israel's defense. "Iran should not respond to Israel's retaliation. If they choose to do so, we will support Israel in defending itself," White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre stated during a press briefing.

Israel's airstrikes, described as "precise strikes on military targets," came in retaliation for a missile attack attributed to Iran. Iranian officials claimed they successfully countered the strikes with limited damage.

Iran's Foreign Minister, Seyyed Abbas Araghchi, stated that Israel would face consequences for its actions and affirmed Iran's right to respond to what he termed "clear aggression." He stressed that Iran would act neither hastily nor without deliberation.

## Trump takes Madison Square Garden by storm; Harris draws star power with Springsteen and Beyoncé



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In a night of intense political rallies, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump packed New York's Madison Square Garden on Sunday, while Vice President Kamala Harris energized thousands alongside celebrities Bruce Springsteen and Beyoncé in key battleground states.

Trump's rally at the iconic venue drew an enthusiastic crowd, featuring a lineup of allies, including former NYC Mayor Rudy Giuliani, who employed divisive rhetoric to rally support. Trump maintained his hardline stance, pledging an aggressive approach to immigration and promising a nationwide crackdown on sanctuary cities. He referred to Harris as "a very low IQ individual" and accused the current administration of mismanaging both the economy and immigration, positioning himself as the solution to reversing their policies.

The evening sparked criticism, with former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton comparing Trump's rally to a 1939 pro-Nazi event held at the same venue—an accusation Trump dismissed, stating, "This is called Make America Great Again, that's all this is."

In contrast, Harris adopted a more unifying tone. Speaking to a crowd of over 30,000 in Houston, she held rallies in Philadelphia and Atlanta, emphasizing her commitment to diversity and unity. Beyoncé joined her on stage in Houston, capturing significant media attention, while Springsteen performed in Atlanta.

These rallies highlighted the candidates' contrasting styles: Trump focused on grievances and sharp attacks on Harris's record, while Harris embraced a message of resilience and hope. With polls showing the candidates neck and neck, these high-energy events underscore the high stakes as Election Day approaches.

## Russia condemns U.S. actions against Russian journalists



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russia has denounced the recent actions of U.S. authorities against Russian journalists as violations of the right to information. Maria Zakharova, spokesperson for the Russian Foreign Ministry, reported that a film crew from Izvestia was detained and interrogated upon arrival in Washington to cover the presidential election, with one member expelled from the country.

Zakharova noted that the journalists had informed U.S. authorities of their intentions and received prior permission to enter. She asserted that such actions reflect the U.S.'s readiness to employ repressive measures against dissenting voices. Zakharova vowed that Russia would respond appropriately to these "arbitrary" actions.





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# The 2024 U.S. presidential election—its impact on Indo-U.S. relations



**Dr. (H) Avi Verma**  
Publisher



The 2024 U.S. presidential election may be one of the most consequential in American history, especially in its foreign policy implications for India. Kamala Harris and Donald Trump represent divergent paths for the U.S. on the global stage, and each has unique bearings on Indo-U.S. relations, which have become increasingly vital in light of strategic interests in the Indo-Pacific and the global technology landscape.

Both Democrats and Republicans now view India as a crucial partner for maintaining balance in the Indo-Pacific region against China's growing influence. This bipartisan alignment reflects India's importance in U.S. foreign policy—particularly as a defense ally and a technology collaborator. Under Trump's prior administration, the focus was on strengthening defense ties, promoting economic trade, and fostering the Quad alliance, which aligns with India's regional priorities. Trump's approach may continue to be pragmatic, emphasizing economic and strategic defense without extensive interference in India's internal policies, allowing India more autonomy while securing U.S. interests in Asia.

Kamala Harris, if elected, is likely to continue building on existing frameworks while placing a strong emphasis on democratic values and human rights, as demonstrated by her recent positions on domestic issues within India. However, Harris's approach to multilateral partnerships and her ties to South Asia may enhance India's standing in global arenas, including the G20 and the United Nations. Although there may be challenges around domestic policies, her administration would likely prioritize collaborative defense, climate, and energy goals aligned with India's objectives on the world stage.

An essential element of recent U.S.-India relations has been the 2023 launch of the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET), a testament to both countries' focus on key sectors like artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and clean energy. This initiative reflects a commitment by both nations to foster deeper strategic cooperation in technology—a step that could shape global tech policies in significant ways. Regularized high-level engagements have

become a platform for India and the U.S. to not only advance their mutual defense goals but to lead in the fields that are defining this century's economic and technological landscape.

As we await the outcome of this election, it is clear that both Trump and Harris view India as essential to U.S. interests in defense, economics, and technology.

The IndoUS Tribune will follow the developments closely and analyze the incoming administration's impact on our community and the U.S.-India relationship. This election will define the future of this critical alliance, and with it, the potential for India and the United States to jointly shape a more secure and prosperous global landscape.

Best Regards,  
Dr. (H) Avi Verma,  
Publisher, IndoUS Tribune

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# Liz Cheney discusses Trump, women's rights, and election concerns in Face the Nation interview

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In a recent interview with Face the Nation, former Congresswoman Liz Cheney, who represented Wyoming and is the daughter of former Vice President Dick Cheney, expressed her deep concerns regarding Donald Trump's enduring influence in American politics. Cheney, known for her conservative stance, gained national recognition for her outspoken opposition to Trump, particularly after the January 6th Capitol attack. She reiterated her belief that Trump is "not fit" for office, highlighting testimonials from high-ranking military officials and former members of Trump's administration who have publicly opposed his potential return to the White House.

Cheney took aim at both Trump and Senator JD Vance, particularly criticizing their personal attacks on her following her description of Vance as a "misogynistic pig." She argued that these attacks serve to divert attention from Trump's actions on January 6 and his reported derogatory comments about service members, whom he allegedly referred to as "suckers and losers." Notably, Cheney pointed out that several of Trump's former key advisors,



including his vice president and chiefs of staff, have voiced their refusal to support him, marking a significant moment in U.S. political history.

On the electoral front, Cheney expressed

confidence in Harris's chances in the upcoming election, highlighting a diverse coalition of women—both pro-choice and pro-life—rallying around her due to increasingly restrictive state laws affecting women's healthcare. She cited states like

Texas, where stringent abortion laws threaten women's health by limiting access to vital medical procedures. Cheney also condemned the Texas Attorney General's attempts to access the medical records of women who sought abortions, emphasizing the inconsistency between the demands of Trump's supporters and his own refusal to disclose his medical information.

Cheney's endorsement of Harris represents a notable bipartisan effort, as many Republicans, she noted, are prepared to "vote their conscience" despite potential pressure to conform. She echoed former First Lady Michelle Obama's sentiments on the gender divide in this election, encouraging women to vote privately if they feel influenced by family or community opinions.

Regarding Harris's decision to make a final campaign appearance at the Ellipse near the White House, Cheney commended her for effectively addressing a wide range of issues, from inflation to the rule of law. Cheney concluded by underscoring the significance of the upcoming election as the first presidential race since January 6, urging voters to choose a leader who respects democratic principles.

## Haley critiques Trump campaign's approach while offering support



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nikki Haley, former U.S. ambassador to the UN and a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, has criticized Donald Trump's campaign strategy as "overly masculine," suggesting it may alienate female voters. In an interview with Fox News, she remarked, "This is not a time for them to get overly masculine with this bromance thing... 53 percent of the electorate are women."

Haley, who was the last candidate to exit the race before endorsing Trump, emphasized the importance of appealing to women voters and noted that the Trump campaign has not reached out to her for assistance, although they are aware she is available to help.

In contrast, Tulsi Gabbard, the first Hindu elected to Congress, has actively supported Trump, helping him prepare for debates and canvassing in key states. Haley criticized some of Trump's supporters for making offensive remarks towards women and minorities, stating that the campaign's current tone might make women uncomfortable.

## Zelensky confirms Ukraine's request for Tomahawk missiles from the US

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has confirmed that Ukraine has formally requested long-range Tomahawk missiles from the United States. He described this request as part of Ukraine's "victory plan," stating it would be a preventive

measure if Russia escalates the conflict further. Zelensky emphasized that the discussions had been confidential between Ukraine and the White House, responding to recent media reports regarding the missile request. Tomahawk missiles have a range of approximately 2,400 kilometers and are intended to bolster Ukraine's defense capabilities.



## New security features coming to U.S. dollar bills in decade-long redesign initiative

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In an effort to combat counterfeiting and strengthen the security of U.S. currency, the Federal Reserve and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing are embarking on a nationwide redesign of all dollar bills. This extensive project, backed by the Advanced Counterfeit Deterrence Steering Committee and the Secret Service, aims to enhance security measures on the seven bill denominations currently in circulation — \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100.

The timeline for the redesigned bills spans over the next decade, with the \$10 bill set to enter circulation in 2026, followed by the \$50 bill in 2028, the \$20 bill in 2030, the \$5 bill between 2032 and 2035, and finally, the \$100 bill from 2034 to 2038. While the redesigns focus primarily on advanced security features, the government has not confirmed if the portraits or visual designs on the bills will change.

To ensure a smooth transition, damaged bills will begin to be removed from circulation at an accelerated pace. Banks and retailers will be instructed not to accept bills that show significant wear or defects, and ATMs are being reprogrammed to reject damaged currency. Customers will need to visit banks in person to exchange these bills.



### New security features to protect against counterfeiting

As the new bills roll out, they will incorporate advanced security elements, some of which have already been seen in high-denomination notes like the \$100 bill. These include:

- ▶ **3D security bands:** A blue band with moving symbols that shift when the bill is tilted.
- ▶ **Color-shifting ink:** A feature that changes the color of the number in the lower right corner from copper to green when tilted.
- ▶ **Watermarks and microprinting:** Designed to be visible only under close inspection, these features include a watermark of the bill's portrait and microprinted text.
- ▶ **Raised printing:** Provides a rough texture on parts of the bill, notably around the portrait.

These enhanced features aim to make U.S. currency more resilient against counterfeiters and preserve the value and authenticity of the dollar for years to come.

## H5N1 bird flu confirmed in US pig for the first time



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has confirmed the first case of H5N1 bird flu in a pig in the United States. The affected farm in Oregon has been quarantined to prevent any further spread of the virus, with other animals, including sheep and goats, under surveillance.

The USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories verified that one of the farm's five pigs tested positive for H5N1. It is important to note that the farm is non-commercial, and the animals were not intended for the food supply. The USDA assured that there are no concerns regarding the safety of the nation's pork supply due to this finding. Additionally, the USDA has approved two safety trials for vaccine candidates aimed at protecting dairy cows from H5N1.



**Trump files \$10 billion lawsuit against CBS**

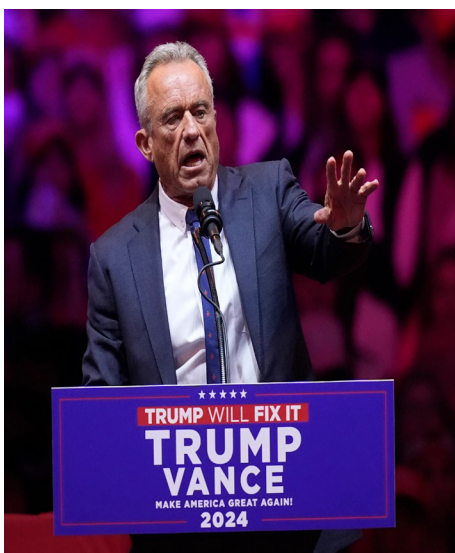


● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**D**onald Trump has filed a \$10 billion lawsuit against CBS, claiming that a recent “60 Minutes” interview with Vice President Kamala Harris misrepresented her responses regarding the Israel-Hamas conflict. The lawsuit alleges that CBS aired two conflicting answers, omitting a version that included what Trump called a “word salad” response.

CBS has dismissed the lawsuit as meritless and plans to vigorously defend itself. Trump’s legal action comes as he and Harris face each other in a tight presidential race, with Trump previously criticizing CBS on the campaign trail and threatening to revoke its broadcasting license if elected.

**Supreme Court denies RFK Jr.’s request to be removed from ballots in two states**



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he U.S. Supreme Court has denied former independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr.’s emergency requests to have his name removed from the ballots in Wisconsin and Michigan for the upcoming November 5 election. Kennedy indicated he prefers that voters who would have supported him instead back Republican nominee Donald Trump. The court’s decision means that both states, crucial battlegrounds in the race against Democrat Kamala Harris, will retain Kennedy on their ballots. Justice Neil Gorsuch dissented regarding the Michigan decision, but no other justices publicly opposed the ruling. Kennedy, an environmental lawyer and anti-vaccine activist, had previously suspended his campaign in August and endorsed Trump, urging his supporters to do the same.

**Supreme Court reviews Pennsylvania mail ballot rules**

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Supreme Court is set to address critical issues regarding mail balloting in Pennsylvania, a key battleground state where litigation has intensified since the 2020 election. Two cases could affect thousands of ballots already submitted. The first case concerns whether voters can cast provisional ballots if their mail ballots are deficient, such as missing envelopes or being misdated. The state Supreme Court has allowed this, but the U.S. Supreme Court may overturn it.

The second case questions the rejection of undated or misdated mail ballots.

A recent ruling has prompted renewed consideration of this issue, potentially impacting the counting of thousands of ballots. Given the state’s significance in the presidential race, mail ballot errors are especially concerning, as Democrats typically vote by mail at higher rates.

Currently, over 1.6 million mail ballots have been returned, with approximately 5,059 deemed invalid under state law. Despite these challenges, efforts to correct deficiencies have led to some ballots being fixed. The uncertainty surrounding the court’s decisions means that the number of problematic ballots could increase as the election approaches.



**Biden expresses concern over democratic backsliding in Georgia**



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**resident Joe Biden criticized the recent parliamentary elections in Georgia, which were marred by violence, and called for a thorough investigation into potential electoral violations. Observers have described the elections as lacking fairness, prompting Biden to urge the Georgian government to engage in dialogue with all political parties to restore election integrity. He also called for the repeal of a controversial law on “foreign agents” seen as a tool for suppressing dissent. The ruling party claimed victory amid allegations of fraud, leading opposition leader Salome Zourabichvili to demand a re-run of the election and call for public protests. Violence was reported at multiple polling stations during the election, with international observers raising concerns about vote-buying and unfair campaign practices.

**Senators push for reform of customs program to combat fentanyl smuggling**

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**D**emocratic senators are urging the Biden administration to reform a duty-free customs program that drug traffickers reportedly exploit to import Chinese-made fentanyl chemicals into the U.S. In a letter to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, the senators highlighted concerns over the de minimis rule, which allows

duty-free entry for goods valued under \$800. They called for action to close this loophole to protect families and combat the opioid crisis. Nearly four million de minimis packages arrive daily in the U.S., with about 60% coming from China, complicating law enforcement’s ability to intercept dangerous shipments. The senators emphasized the need for further measures beyond recent actions taken by President Biden to restrict de minimis eligibility for certain Chinese imports.



**Kenneth Chesebro suspended from practicing law in New York after plea deal**



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**K**enneth Chesebro, who reached a plea deal in the 2020 election interference case against Donald Trump, has been suspended from practicing law in New York following a felony conviction. A state appeals court ruled that his actions met the definition of a serious crime. Chesebro was indicted in August 2023 in Fulton County, Georgia, for efforts to overturn Trump’s election loss. He faced seven counts but pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit filing false documents and agreed to testify. His attorney, Scott Grubman, previously denied claims that Chesebro orchestrated any illegal schemes. Chesebro’s suspension serves as a warning to attorneys who violate ethical standards, according to legal groups that had previously filed complaints against him.



# Vance discusses LGBTQ voters in Rogan interview

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In a recent interview with Joe Rogan, Republican vice presidential nominee JD Vance suggested that he and Donald Trump could win the “normal gay guy vote” by advocating for less governmental interference in personal lives. Vance claimed that families with transgender children often seek advantages in elite college admissions and expressed concerns about the medical treatments available for transgender youth.

The conversation also touched on broader social issues, with Vance addressing fears about religious influences in governance, particularly concerning Muslims. He voiced skepticism about COVID-19 vaccines, citing personal health experiences.

Vance revealed that Trump initially considered announcing him as a running mate at a rally in Pennsylvania but decided to wait. He recounted a recent assassination attempt on Trump, emphasizing the heightened security concerns that have come with his campaign. The interview reflects Vance’s attempts to connect with various voter demographics as the election approaches.



## Arizona court orders release of unverified voter list



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Maricopa County Superior Court judge has ordered Arizona’s Secretary of State to release a list of tens of thousands of voters whose citizenship has not been verified due to a coding error.

The list includes 98,000 voters who were mistakenly classified as eligible for the full ballot. This decision follows a public records request by America First Legal, which was initially denied due to safety concerns.

Judge Scott Blaney stated there was no credible evidence to suggest the information would be misused. The ruling also mandates the release of communications and data from various government agencies regarding the error.

Arizona requires voters to prove citizenship for local and state elections, and the glitch primarily affected voters who obtained licenses before October 1996.

## Democrats focus on defending Wisconsin’s ‘blue wall’ ahead of election



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

With the election approaching, campaign signs for Kamala Harris and Donald Trump are visible in Door County, Wisconsin. This swing state is crucial for the presidential race and one of the three Rust Belt states Democrats are eager to protect. Door County, with around 30,000 residents, has closely followed national voting trends. Trump won in 2016, while Biden claimed victory in 2020 by a narrow margin. The area is characterized by farmland, small towns, and tourism, with a strong agriculture and manufacturing base.

Voter opinions vary on key issues like the economy and immigration. Many Republicans attribute rising inflation to Biden’s policies, while Democrats argue that previous fiscal measures also contributed. Local business owner Mario Micheli supports Harris for her inclusivity, contrasting with Trump’s divisive approach.

As the November 5 election nears, both candidates are campaigning in Wisconsin, a state vital for their paths to victory. Polls show a tight race, reflecting deep political divisions among voters.

# Health care providers challenge Louisiana’s abortion pill law

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Louisiana has classified the drugs mifepristone and misoprostol as Schedule IV controlled substances, imposing strict penalties for unauthorized use. This decision has prompted a lawsuit from medical providers and affected women, arguing that it violates the state constitution by discriminating against patients based on their medical needs.

The lawsuit claims the classification unjustly groups these safe and effective medications with high-risk drugs, despite the FDA’s long-standing approval of their use without addiction risks. Under the new law, possession of these drugs—except by pregnant women—could lead to five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

The lawsuit highlights how the



regulation delays critical care, as these drugs are essential for treating miscarriages and other health conditions. One plaintiff described being denied care at two hospitals, emphasizing that the law makes it even harder to access necessary medical treatment during emergencies.

# Harris criticizes Trump on women’s reproductive rights

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

During a recent rally in Nevada, Vice President Kamala Harris criticized Donald Trump’s stance on abortion, asserting that women should have the freedom to make decisions about their bodies without government interference. She accused Trump of influencing the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn Roe v. Wade by appointing justices intended to eliminate abortion protections, resulting in many women living under strict abortion bans. Harris emphasized that Trump’s past remarks indicated a disregard for women’s autonomy, recalling his suggestion that women should face punishment for their choices. She warned that his re-election could lead to increased restrictions on reproductive rights, including threats to birth control access and heightened scrutiny of pregnancies.



Citing a Republican plan called “Project 2025,” she urged voters to take action to protect their healthcare decisions. Harris pledged that as president, she would sign a bill restoring reproductive freedom nationwide.

She also highlighted potential threats to the Affordable Care Act if Trump wins, noting that his allies have promised to dismantle it. With Election Day approaching, Harris and Trump are in a tight race, according to polls.



**Woman and her sons arrested for arms and drug smuggling in Canada**



**IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk**

**F**ive individuals of Punjabi descent, including a woman and her two sons, have been arrested in Canada for alleged arms and drug smuggling. The Peel Regional Police identified the suspects as Narinder Kaur Nagra, 61, and her sons Navdeep Nagra, 20, and Ravneet Nagra, 22, all from Brampton, along with Ranveer Araich, 20, and Pavneet Nahal, 21. They face approximately 160 charges related to various violations.

The investigation began when a traffic stop in July resulted in the recovery of a firearm from one of the suspects. Following this, the Specialized Enforcement Bureau initiated "Project Sledgehammer," focusing on a group suspected of drug trafficking in the Peel Region and the Greater Toronto Area. In September, investigators executed five search warrants across the GTA, leading to the arrests and the seizure of 11 firearms, 32 prohibited magazines, over 900 rounds of ammunition, 53 Glock selector switches, and a quantity of drugs.

**Indian diaspora celebrate Diwali, Bandi Chhor Divas in Canada**



**IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk**

**T**he Indian diaspora in Canada celebrated Diwali and Bandi Chhor Divas amid ongoing diplomatic tensions between India and Canada. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau wished the community well, emphasizing the significance of the festival. Indo-Canadian MP Maninder Sidhu also extended greetings in Parliament. The historic Bandi Chhor Divas commemorates the release of Hindu princes from Gwalior Fort, aligning with Diwali festivities. Despite opposition leaders canceling a planned Diwali event, they expressed support for the celebrations, highlighting shared values. Celebrations included events across Canada, with community leaders and local MPs actively participating, showcasing the vibrant Indian culture.

**Punjabis face hurdles as Canada reduces immigration intake**

**IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk**

**T**he dreams of many Punjabis seeking a new life in Canada have been dashed with the recent announcement of a 20 percent reduction in the number of Permanent Resident (PR) applications to be accepted in 2025 by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). The intake will decrease from 500,000 to 395,000.

Consultants noted that this decision reflects the Canadian government's struggle to manage immigration expectations while addressing local employment concerns. Immigration lawyer RP Singh pointed out that many newcomers, particularly students, faced difficulties transitioning to PR status, leading to frustration among those who were promised opportunities.

Recent reports indicate a significant housing crisis in Canada, with a need for 3.5 million new housing units by 2030. Despite a surge in student applications from Punjabis in 2022, the stricter immigration norms are likely to impact future PR seekers. The IRCC has also projected further reductions in immigration numbers for 2026 and 2027.



**Indian-origin man charged with attempted murder in the UK**

**IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk**

**A**n Indian-origin man has been charged with the attempted murder of a woman and two children in East London. Kulvinder Ram, 48, appeared at Barking Magistrates' Court, facing charges related to the stabbing of a woman in her 30s, an eight-year-old girl, and a two-year-old boy. All three victims sustained injuries but are not in life-threatening condition.

The Metropolitan Police confirmed that the individuals involved are known to each other. Detective Superintendent Lewis Basford described the stabbings as "truly shocking" and thanked the community for their support during the investigation. The police have



established a crime scene and are seeking additional information from the public.

Ram was also hospitalized after experiencing health issues but has since been discharged into police custody.

**Punjab-origin man arrested in Canadian police bust of major drug super lab**

**IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk**

**C**anadian police have shut down a large drug "super lab" in Falkland, British Columbia, operated by a transnational organized crime group involved in the production of fentanyl and methamphetamine. A Punjab-origin man, Gaganpreet Randhawa, has been arrested. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) reported seizing 54 kg of fentanyl, 390 kg of methamphetamine, and other drugs, along with 89 firearms, including handguns and AR-15-style rifles. The operation is estimated to have prevented over 95 million potentially lethal doses of fentanyl from reaching communities, denying the crime group approximately \$485 million in profits.



The investigation, which began on October 25, involved coordinated searches across Metro Vancouver, including a significant drug operation linked to earlier seizures of precursor chemicals in Enderby, BC. This bust highlights a concerning shift in methamphetamine production methods in Western Canada, now mirroring techniques used by Mexican cartels.

**VHP thanks Trump for supporting Hindus in Bangladesh, questions UN's silence**

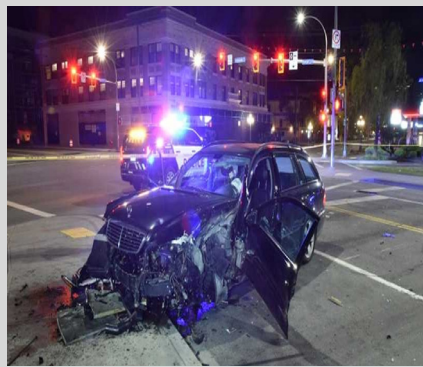


**IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk**

**T**he Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) has expressed gratitude to former President Donald Trump for advocating on behalf of persecuted Hindus in Bangladesh. VHP spokesperson Vinod Bansal criticized the United Nations and international human rights organizations for their silence regarding the persecution of Hindus and other minorities in the country. Bansal noted Trump's acknowledgment of the plight faced by these communities due to Islamic extremism and called for global democratic unity against such threats. In a recent message for Diwali, Trump condemned violence against minorities in Bangladesh, asserting that such events would not have occurred under his administration.



Four Indians killed in high-speed crash in Ontario



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In a tragic accident in Ontario, four Indian nationals lost their lives and one was injured when their Tesla crashed and caught fire. The incident occurred at the intersection of Lake Shore Boulevard East and Cherry Street in Toronto.

The victims, aged between 25 and 32, were traveling at high speed when the vehicle lost control, hit a guardrail, and collided with a concrete pillar before bursting into flames. Toronto Police noted that speed appeared to be a contributing factor. Emergency responders pronounced four individuals dead at the scene, while a 25-year-old woman was taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. She was rescued by a passing motorist.

The Indian Consulate in Toronto expressed its condolences and stated that it was in contact with local authorities and the affected families to provide necessary assistance. Police are urging anyone with dash cam footage or eyewitness accounts to come forward.

Indian man arrested after shooting outside singer AP Dhillon's home



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canadian authorities have arrested an Indian man in connection with a shooting incident outside the home of Punjabi singer AP Dhillon in Vancouver. A video circulating on social media captured multiple shots being fired at Dhillon's residence, along with the burning of two vehicles during the incident on September 2.

Superintendent Todd Preston of the West Shore Royal Canadian Mounted Police confirmed that investigators are diligently working to identify all suspects involved and will continue to pursue the investigation until all are apprehended.

New York City schools recognize Diwali as an official holiday

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In a significant move, New York City public schools will observe Diwali as an official holiday, allowing over 1.1 million students to celebrate the festival of lights.

This decision follows legislation signed by Governor Kathy Hochul, which recognizes Diwali as a school holiday starting this year.

The schools will be closed on November 1 in honor of Diwali. Deputy Commissioner for the Mayor's Office for International Affairs, Dilip Chauhan, hailed this milestone as a celebration of the city's diversity and the efforts of community leaders. He emphasized the importance of Diwali as a symbol of unity and community bonding.

Chauhan acknowledged the challenges in balancing instructional days but affirmed the city's commitment to respecting and supporting all communities.



Indian-origin couple charged with PPE fraud in the UK



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian-origin couple has been charged with fraud and money laundering related to personal protective equipment (PPE) sales during the COVID-19 pandemic. Jogesh Kumar Bhandari, 58, and Meenakshi Bhandari, 56, from Loughborough, appeared in court alongside Craig Vincent Morris, 41, who is also implicated.

The UK's National Crime Agency

revealed that the group is believed to have brokered agreements to supply nitrile gloves worth over \$35 million to companies in the U.S. and Germany, defrauding them of nearly £1.9 million (approximately \$2.35 million). The Bhandaris face multiple charges related to conspiracy and money laundering and have pleaded not guilty.

They are currently out on bail and are scheduled for a trial preparation hearing in December.

US deports 1,100 Indians in a year



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States has deported approximately 1,100 Indians over the past year, according to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Royce Bernstein Murray, Assistant Secretary for Border and Immigration Policy, stated that these deportations mainly involved individuals who had entered the country illegally through Mexico or Canada.

In the fiscal year 2024, which ended on September 30, a charter flight returned 100 illegal immigrants to India, with the last flight taking place on October 22. Murray noted that all deportees were adult men and women without legal grounds to remain in the U.S., emphasizing that those overstaying visas or committing serious crimes could also face deportation.





## Ayodhya sets records with Deepotsav 2024 celebrations



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**D**uring Deepotsav 2024, Ayodhya set a new record by lighting over 2.5 million diyas along the Saryu River, surpassing last year's count. A total of 1,121 Vedacharyas performed the Sarayu aarti, marking another milestone. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the event, which featured a unified effort from various groups, including local organizations and educational institutions. The event celebrated both the cultural significance and growing pride in the region, reflecting the Yogi government's commitment to enhancing Ayodhya's stature.

## Manoj Tiwari criticizes AAP for Ayushman Bharat scheme delay



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**B**JP MP Manoj Tiwari criticized the AAP government for not implementing the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) in Delhi, claiming it prevents elderly residents from accessing free healthcare. Tiwari urged the government to adopt the scheme, emphasizing PM Modi's commitment to provide treatment to seniors. In response, the AAP defended its healthcare model, highlighting its comprehensive services and accusing the central government of scams related to the Ayushman Bharat initiative.

## PM Modi celebrates Diwali with soldiers in Gujarat's Kutch

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**rime Minister Narendra Modi continued his Diwali tradition by celebrating the festival with armed forces personnel in the Kutch region of Gujarat. He visited troops from the Border Security Force, Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force stationed in the remote Sir Creek area, known for its challenging terrain. Modi brought festive cheer, offering sweets and engaging with the soldiers, while praising their unwavering dedication to national security.

He spent about an hour with the personnel, discussing operational conditions and expressing gratitude for their service, underscoring the importance of their role in safeguarding the nation.

This visit marks his annual practice of celebrating Diwali with troops since 2014, reflecting his commitment to honoring the armed forces.



## WBJDA plans convention demanding CBI charge sheet in R.G. Kar case

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he West Bengal Junior Doctors' Association (WBJDA) is organizing a mass convention on November 9 to demand the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) submit a final charge sheet in the rape and murder case of a junior doctor at R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital.

The WBJDA, which reportedly has backing from the ruling Trinamool

Congress, emphasizes the need for progress in the investigation, expressing frustration over the lack of updates. Meanwhile, the rival West Bengal Junior Doctors' Front held a torch rally demanding swift action from the CBI.

Tensions between the two groups have escalated, with accusations flying regarding motives and actions in the ongoing protests, raising concerns about the unity of the medical community amid such a serious issue.



## Kerala to receive new Vande Bharat trains as Diwali gift



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**K**erala is set to receive new Vande Bharat train racks, seen as a Diwali gift from Prime Minister Modi. Currently, two pairs of Vande Bharat trains operate in the state, and plans are in place to expand their capacity. The existing train from Thiruvananthapuram to Mangalore will increase from eight to 16 coaches, while the train to Kasargod will expand to 20 coaches. The high-speed trains have been popular, often running at full capacity, and have significantly improved travel times in the region.

## Congress questions relief for consumers after petrol dealer commission hike

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Congress party criticized the recent hike in commission for petrol pump dealers, calling it mere "eyewash." Spokesperson Randeep Surjewala questioned when consumers would benefit from lower fuel prices, highlighting that the Modi government has earned over 31.75 lakh crore from crude oil and petroleum taxes in its ten years in power. While the hike may lead to price reductions in states like Chhattisgarh and Himachal Pradesh, Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri welcomed the change as a "Dhanteras gift," suggesting it would enhance services for millions visiting fuel outlets daily.





BJP MP calls for CM Siddaramaiah's resignation over MUDA scam



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**B**JP Rajya Sabha member Lahar Singh Siroya has demanded the resignation of Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, alleging deep-rooted corruption in the MUDA scam, which involves land allotments to Siddaramaiah's family. Siroya called for a thorough investigation, asserting that the CM should step down to allow for transparency. He also criticized the Congress party's claims regarding electronic voting machines, urging them to introspect rather than blame their electoral losses on technical issues.

## Ex-Union Minister RCP Singh to launch new political party in Bihar



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**F**ormer Union Minister RCP Singh is set to launch a new political party in Bihar on a date that coincides with both the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Diwali.

Singh aims to provide a fresh political alternative ahead of the 2025 Bihar Assembly elections, drawing support from various regions. He stated that his party would focus on addressing the

specific needs of the people in Bihar and neighboring states. His departure from the Janata Dal (United) and subsequent experiences in the BJP have shaped his decision to create an independent party, positioning himself as a viable contender in the upcoming political landscape.

Singh, who has a notable background as an IAS officer, is seeking to re-establish his political presence in Bihar, leveraging his extensive experience in governance and administration.

## Delhi's air quality worsens post-Diwali celebrations



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he air quality in Delhi-NCR has deteriorated to the 'very poor' category following Diwali celebrations, with the average Air Quality Index (AQI) reaching 361. Many areas reported AQI levels exceeding 400, attributed largely to the use of firecrackers, which violated the city's ban. Surrounding cities also experienced rising pollution levels, with factors like stubble burning and stagnant weather contributing to the decline. The Delhi government has enforced a ban on firecrackers until January 2025, deploying teams to monitor compliance, but many residents defied the restrictions.

## Leaders extend greetings on State Foundation Day



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**resident Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi extended warm wishes to several states and union territories on their State Foundation Day. In messages shared on social media, they acknowledged the unique contributions of states like Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, and Kerala to the nation's development. PM Modi emphasized the importance of each state's cultural heritage, while Rahul Gandhi celebrated India's diversity and the strength it brings to the nation.

## India and China finalize disengagement in Eastern Ladakh



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia and China completed their disengagement process along the Line of Actual Control in Eastern Ladakh, marking a significant step in de-escalating tensions that have persisted for over four years.

Troops have withdrawn to deeper positions, and both nations are now verifying the dismantling of temporary structures in key areas like Depsang Plains and Demchok.

Coordinated patrolling is set to resume shortly, with Indian troops expected to access previously restricted points. However, a large troop presence will remain until a comprehensive agreement on border patrolling is reached.

## Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi express sorrow over Kerala temple fireworks tragedy



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**R**ahul Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi expressed deep sorrow over a fireworks explosion at the Anjootambalam Veerakavu temple in Kasargod, Kerala, which injured over 150 people during a festival. In a Facebook post, Rahul Gandhi shared his thoughts with the

victims and urged Congress members to support relief efforts.

The explosion occurred shortly after midnight when more than 1,500 people had gathered for the Theyyam festival. Eyewitnesses reported that sparks ignited stored fireworks. Authorities have since arrested two temple officials for questioning, citing negligence regarding safety protocols.

## Delhi High Court addresses BJP's plea on CAG report suppression



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Delhi High Court has agreed to examine a plea from BJP MLAs asking the Delhi government to submit 12 reports from the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) to the Lieutenant Governor. The petition claims that Chief Minister Atishi has failed to forward crucial reports related to pollution and alcohol regulations, hindering legislative transparency. The BJP argues that this suppression violates democratic principles and prevents effective scrutiny of government actions. The court has issued notices to the relevant parties for their responses.



### South Korea and US conduct first joint drone strike drills



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea and the US held their first joint drone strike drills, following North Korea's recent ICBM launch. The exercises involved a South Korean RQ-4B surveillance drone and a US MQ-9 Reaper, simulating a response to enemy provocations. The decision to publicize the drills aimed to send a warning to North Korea, reinforcing the allies' commitment to regional security. Military analysts noted that this demonstration of cooperation underscores the ongoing tensions on the Korean Peninsula and the need for a unified response to North Korean threats.

### Canadian officials admit to leaking intelligence against India to U.S. media

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Two senior Canadian government officials have confirmed leaking intelligence regarding India to The Washington Post, heightening diplomatic tensions. Nathalie Drouin, National Security and Intelligence Advisor, and David Morrison, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, disclosed that the leak was part of a "communications strategy" to present Canada's position on escalating issues with India, particularly accusations linking Indian officials to the murder of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

Drouin stated that the information was non-classified and shared before Canada's Thanksgiving on October 14, 2023. Although reviewed by the Prime Minister's Office, it did not require Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's direct approval. This has sparked criticism from opposition parties, with Conservative public safety critic Raquel Dancho calling the move "unfair to the Canadian public."

Tensions rose further when India expelled six Canadian diplomats on the same day the RCMP made serious allegations against India.



### UN migration agency appeals for funds to combat Mpox outbreak in Africa



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The IOM has requested \$27.8 million to assist migrants and IDPs in Africa amid a rising Mpox outbreak, with cases increasing from over 2,800 to more than 9,300. The plan includes health screenings, risk communication, and community engagement to address the health needs of affected populations. However, only \$1 million of the initial \$18.5 million request has been secured, raising concerns about the impact on health services and exacerbating existing vulnerabilities. The IOM stressed the urgent need for international support to prevent further spread of the virus and protect at-risk communities.

### Congressional elections will shape the US presidential agenda

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The outcomes of the Congressional elections will significantly affect the next president's agenda, as both the Senate and House have razor-thin majorities. Polls suggest Republicans have a slight edge in the Senate, while the House remains closely contested. Key races in traditionally Democratic districts will be crucial for both parties, as candidates distance themselves from polarizing issues to appeal to moderate voters. The shifting political landscape indicates that the ability to enact significant policies may hinge on which party gains control, making these elections pivotal for shaping the future legislative agenda.

### Hezbollah's new leader vows to continue war strategy

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Hezbollah's new Secretary-General, Sheikh Naim Qassem, has pledged to uphold the war strategy of his predecessor, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, particularly in supporting the Gaza front against Israel. In his first televised address, Qassem stressed that his program encompasses political, social, and jihadist dimensions, emphasizing the importance of resistance against Israeli aggression. He warned Israel to vacate Lebanese territory, asserting that the group is fighting to liberate its land without being a mere proxy for Iran. Qassem acknowledged the challenges following Nasrallah's assassination but expressed confidence in Hezbollah's ability to fill leadership gaps.

The recent escalation has seen intensified Israeli airstrikes against Lebanon amid ongoing skirmishes along the border.



### Greek leaders address WWII reparations with German President

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

During German President Steinmeier's visit to Greece, officials raised the issue of WWII reparations and a forced occupation loan, matters that continue to resonate deeply with the Greek populace. Prime Minister Mitsotakis emphasized the importance of these unresolved issues, while Steinmeier acknowledged Germany's historical responsibility and commitment to dialogue. The visit also included tours of Holocaust memorial sites, highlighting the historical context of their discussions. Both leaders aimed to strengthen bilateral relations amid ongoing challenges, such as migration and economic cooperation.

### Iraqi parliament elects new Speaker after extended vacancy

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Iraqi parliament has elected Mahmoud al-Mashhadani as its new Speaker after nearly a year of vacancy due to political disputes. He received 182 votes, defeating Salem al-Issawi in a competitive election process. The position became vacant following the federal court's ruling against former Speaker Mohammed al-Halbousi for legal violations. Al-Mashhadani, who previously served in the role, now faces the challenge of navigating a divided parliament and addressing pressing issues such as security, governance, and economic reform in Iraq.

### Tanzania faces significant crop loss due to El Niño floods

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Tanzania has suffered a devastating loss of 240,709 metric tons of crops, valued at \$69 million, due to floods triggered by El Niño-related rains during the 2023-2024 season. Additionally, around 90,000 livestock worth \$62 million were lost across 14 districts, impacting thousands of households and

displacing over 200,000 people. The report, compiled by the World Food Program, the Tanzanian government, and the FAO, highlights the severe setbacks to Tanzania's agriculture, which constitutes a significant portion of its GDP. The findings underscore the urgent need for humanitarian assistance to support affected communities and restore livelihoods.



### UN overwhelmingly votes against US embargo on Cuba



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution urging the US to end its economic embargo on Cuba, receiving support from 187 countries. Cuba's Foreign Minister condemned the embargo as a violation of human rights and called it a form of "commercial warfare." The resolution reflects growing international criticism of US policy, with many nations advocating for Cuba's sovereignty and economic autonomy. The persistent nature of this annual resolution highlights the longstanding diplomatic tensions between the US and Cuba, and the UN's call for a reassessment of the embargo's impact on the Cuban population.





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## McDonald's faces class action lawsuit over E. coli outbreak

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

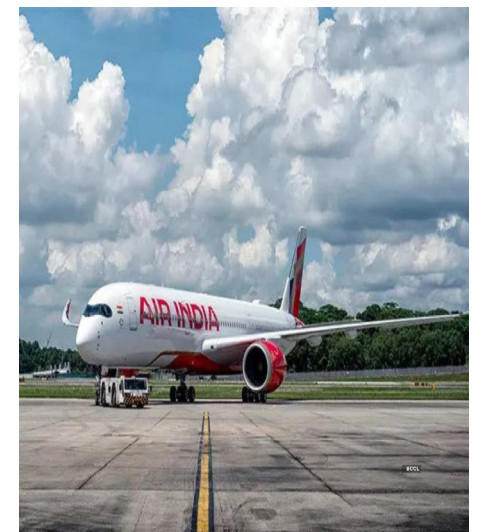
A proposed class action lawsuit has been filed against McDonald's related to an E. coli outbreak linked to its Quarter Pounders. The complaint seeks over \$5 million in damages for customers who purchased contaminated burgers and claims the chain failed to warn consumers about the risk.

Plaintiffs Amanda McCray and William Michael Kraft, who experienced symptoms of E. coli after eating the burgers, allege McDonald's breached its duty to provide safe products. The lawsuit is among at least three filed in connection with the outbreak, which has sickened at least 90 people and resulted in one death.

McDonald's has removed sliced onions from its supply chain, identified as the likely contamination source, and stated it is confident that affected products are no longer in its restaurants. The company has not commented on the lawsuit's allegations.



## Airlines suspend flights amid Middle East tensions



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

As tensions escalate in the Middle East, numerous international airlines have suspended flights to the region or adjusted routes to avoid affected airspace.

Airlines such as Aegean Airlines, Air France-KLM, and Lufthansa have canceled flights to and from key destinations like Beirut and Tel Aviv. Other carriers, including Emirates and United Airlines, have also suspended services, citing security concerns.

This wave of suspensions is a response to potential safety risks, with many airlines indicating that the situation will be reassessed as conditions change. The flight cancellations have impacted numerous travelers and are expected to continue as tensions remain high.

## Spirit Airlines to furlough 330 pilots in January



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Spirit Airlines will furlough over 300 pilots starting January 31, 2025, as part of its cost-cutting measures. This decision follows previous furloughs, including 186 pilots in October and 260 in July. Additionally, 120 captains will be reassigned to first officer roles.

The airline has yet to file its Q3 financial report but previously announced plans to reduce its pilot workforce and defer aircraft deliveries with Airbus.

In a recent move, Spirit sold 23 A320 aircraft for \$519 million, which will boost its liquidity. The airline has also experienced reduced flight capacity, with plans to operate significantly fewer weekly departures and seats in 2025 compared to 2024.

## Canada faces worsening home ownership crisis as condo sales decline



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canada's home ownership crisis is expected to worsen as pre-construction condo sales remain historically low, hindering necessary funding for new construction. Economists and realtors report that many Canadians have been priced out of the housing market amid rising interest rates, with even recent mortgage rule changes failing to attract non-investor buyers.

Investors, who previously fueled a

construction boom, are now hesitant due to high mortgage costs and uncertain market conditions. A lack of pre-sales signals that future construction will decline, exacerbating the demand-supply mismatch in housing.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's approval ratings have been negatively affected by the ongoing crisis, despite government efforts to address the issue. Recent data shows that new condominium sales have dropped more than 50% compared to last year, highlighting the urgency for increased housing supply.

## Google wins trademark lawsuit over YouTube Shorts



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

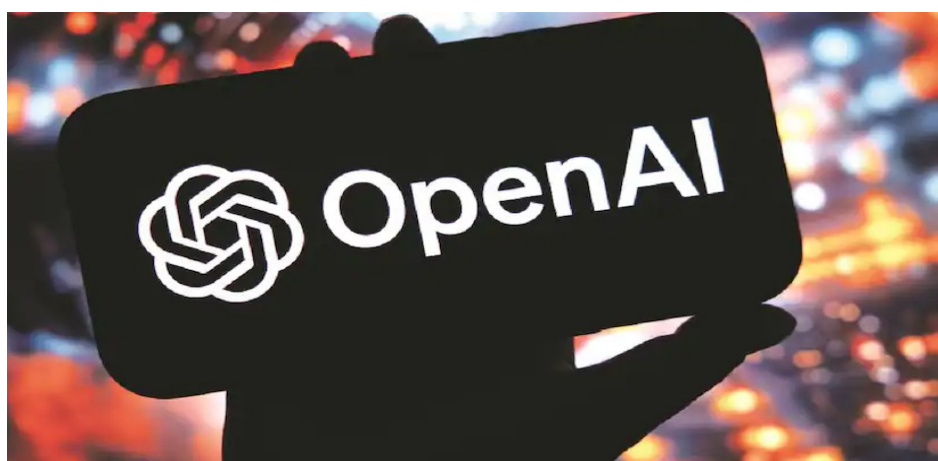
Google has successfully defeated a trademark lawsuit from Shorts International concerning YouTube's short video platform, Shorts. The High Court in London ruled there was no risk of consumer confusion regarding the use of the name.

Shorts International claimed that Google infringed on its trademark related to short films, but Judge Michael Tappin stated that the use of "Shorts" by Google clearly identifies the platform as part of YouTube. The court found that Google's usage would not damage Shorts International's trademark reputation, resulting in a dismissal of the case. Both parties have not commented on the ruling.

## OpenAI enhances ChatGPT with new search capabilities

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

OpenAI has introduced new search features for ChatGPT, improving its ability to provide real-time information and attribute responses to credible news sources. The search functionality, available on mobile and web for ChatGPT Plus and Team users, aims to enhance competition with Microsoft and Google, who offer similar AI search capabilities. Free users will gain access to this feature in the coming months, positioning ChatGPT as a more robust tool for current information retrieval.





**Judge expected to rule on Tesla CEO's \$56 billion pay package**



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Delaware judge is anticipated to decide on the reinstatement of Elon Musk's \$56 billion pay package, previously voided by the court. Chancellor Kathaleen McCormick indicated that a ruling would be made before the end of the year. Musk's 2018 compensation, which included stock options, is recognized as the largest in corporate history.

**US job growth expected to slow amid disruptions**

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US job growth is forecasted to slow sharply in October, with nonfarm payrolls expected to rise by just 113,000 jobs, down from 254,000 in September. Disruptions from hurricanes and strikes could subtract at least 100,000 jobs. The unemployment rate is likely to remain steady at 4.1%, with average hourly earnings predicted to increase by 0.3%.

The upcoming Labor Department report will be the last major economic data before the election. Despite challenges, economists suggest underlying job growth may be closer to 170,000, reflecting a resilient labor market.

# LA County sues Pepsi and Coca-Cola over misleading plastic claims

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Los Angeles County has filed a lawsuit against PepsiCo and Coca-Cola, alleging the companies misled consumers about the recyclability of their plastic bottles. The lawsuit accuses them of downplaying the environmental and health impacts of plastic waste. LA County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath stated, "Coke and Pepsi need to stop the deception and take responsibility for the plastic pollution problems your products are causing."

The lawsuit points out that Coca-Cola produces approximately 3.224 million metric tons of plastic annually, while PepsiCo generates about 2.5 million metric tons, making them major contributors to global plastic pollution. The complaint claims both companies have engaged in "disinformation campaigns," misleading consumers into believing their single-use plastics are fully recyclable.

The American Beverage Association has



rejected these claims, stating California achieved a 71% recycling rate for bottles in 2023. The lawsuit seeks to halt these practices and demands restitution for

consumers and civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per violation, part of a broader effort to hold corporations accountable for plastic pollution.

## Purdue Pharma nearing new bankruptcy settlement with Sacklers

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Purdue Pharma is close to a new bankruptcy settlement involving its owners, the Sackler family, and state and local governments due to the opioid crisis linked to its painkiller OxyContin.

Mediator Shelley Chapman reported progress in negotiations, stating that remaining issues are likely resolvable. Judge Sean Lane ruled to keep opioid lawsuits against the Sacklers on hold until December 2, aiming to preserve resources for mediation. Previous settlements aimed at shielding the Sacklers from lawsuits were overturned by a Supreme Court ruling in June.



## South Korea aims for strong supply chain ties with the US

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea is committed to strengthening supply chain cooperation with the United States, irrespective of the outcome of the upcoming presidential election. Trade Minister Cheong In-kyo emphasized that South Korea will focus on collaboration in advanced

industries and supply chains.

The government plans to support local companies in navigating uncertainties in trade, maintaining close communication with businesses. Additionally, South Korea will analyze the potential impacts of the U.S.'s investment restrictions in key technology sectors in China but expects limited direct



## India and Germany partner to advance research in materials

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Germany have signed a joint declaration to enhance research and development in advanced materials. The collaboration was highlighted during a meeting attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and key ministers from both countries.

Recent successes include joint projects on sustainable packaging and AI for sustainability. The Indo-German Science and Technology Centre (IGSTC) has facilitated over 50 collaborative projects. The discussion also touched on India's commitment to international research initiatives, including the Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research (FAIR), and national programs aimed at boosting research in various fields.





**India secures runner-up position at Asian ArmWrestling Cup 2024**



India finished as the runner-up at the Asian ArmWrestling Cup 2024, held at the Aurika Skycity hotel, accumulating a total of 223 medals: 63 gold, 100 silver, and 60 bronze. Kazakhstan topped the medal table, continuing its dominance in the sport. The competition included nine nations and featured categories such as para, masters, and juniors. Notable Indian winners included Denic Lalruattluanga, who captured gold in the 80kg Right Men's Seniors, and Yogesh Chaudhary, who triumphed in both Left and Right 80kg+ Women's Seniors. Lalruattluanga faced an emotional journey, losing to Kazakhstan's Islam Nurmanov in his first match but defeating him in the final. The success of the event has set a positive tone for future arm wrestling competitions in India, with plans for the 2025 Asian ArmWrestling Championship already underway.

**Ashlyn Krueger replaces Jessica Pegula for Billie Jean King Cup finals**



Ashlyn Krueger will step in for world No. 6 Jessica Pegula on Team USA for the Billie Jean King Cup finals in Spain, following Pegula's withdrawal. Krueger, ranked No. 65, joins Danielle Collins, Caroline Dolehide, Peyton Stearns, and Taylor Townsend for the competition held from November 13-20. The event will take place concurrently with the Davis Cup Finals at the same venue. Pegula previously played a crucial role in the U.S. team's qualification, winning two matches in April. Krueger, having reached the third round of the US Open and achieved a career-high ranking of No. 51, will look to contribute to the U.S. team's quest for its 19th title in the tournament's history.

**Vinicius Jr. supports Barca trio after racial abuse from Madrid fans**



Vinicius Jr., who has faced racial abuse during his time in Spain, voiced his support for Lamine Yamal, Ansu Fati, and Raphinha after they were targeted with racist insults following Barcelona's 4-0 victory over Real Madrid at the Santiago Bernabeu. In a post on X, he expressed his regret about the incidents, stating, "There is no place for these criminals in our society. All my support to Lamine, Ansu, and Raphinha. I know that

Madrid and the police will take action to identify and punish the guilty!" The abuse occurred during a match in which Yamal became the youngest player ever to score in an El Clasico, celebrating with Vinicius's signature move. Following the incident, Real Madrid released a statement condemning the behavior of a small group of fans and announced an investigation to identify the perpetrators, emphasizing their commitment to combating racism in football.

**Lewis Hamilton pays tribute to Ayrton Senna at Brazilian Grand Prix**

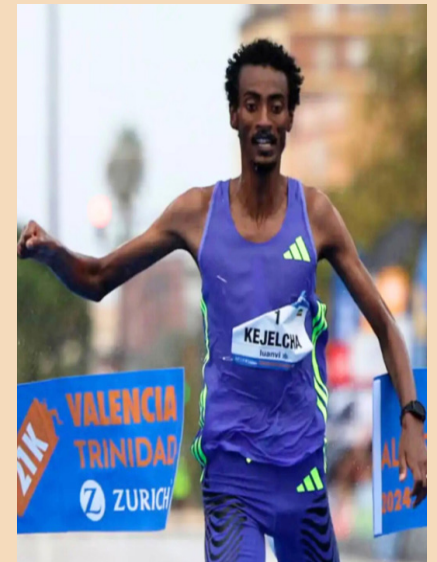
Lewis Hamilton, the seven-time World Champion, will pay tribute to his idol Ayrton Senna by driving the legendary driver's title-winning McLaren MP4/5B at the Brazilian Grand Prix.

This event, named "Senna Sempre" (Senna Always), commemorates 30 years since Senna's tragic death at the 1994 San Marino Grand Prix. Hamilton's tribute, set to take place after the F1 sprint and qualifying sessions, continues a series of remembrances for Senna throughout the season.

Hamilton, who has often cited Senna as an inspiration, has also won three races at Interlagos, further strengthening his connection to the Brazilian legend.



**Yomif Kejelcha sets new world half marathon record in Valencia**



Ethiopia's Yomif Kejelcha broke the world half marathon record at the 2024 Valencia Half Marathon, finishing in 57:30. The 27-year-old athlete took the lead just before the third kilometer and maintained a fast pace throughout, ultimately surpassing the previous record held by Jacob Kiplimo. In the women's race, Agnes Ngetich finished second-fastest ever at 1:03:03, while Fotyen Tesfay and Lilian Kasait followed her to complete a strong showing for Kenyan runners.

**2025 Asian Winter Games unveil torch, medals, and anthem**



The 2025 Asian Winter Games in Harbin revealed its torch, medals, and anthem. The torch, themed "Surging," symbolizes vibrant energy and features a design resembling a blossoming lilac. The medals, titled "Spirit of Speed," reflect competitive spirit through their streamlined design. The anthem, "Snow of Harbin," promotes unity and peace among Asian nations, encapsulating a vision for collaboration and shared goals.



**Humbert stuns Alcaraz at Paris Masters**

Ugo Humbert pulled off a major upset, defeating top seed Carlos Alcaraz 6-1, 3-6, 7-5 in the Paris Masters. Humbert dominated the first set and regained his composure in a tense final set to secure his first win over Alcaraz. He will face Jordan Thompson in the quarterfinals.





Copa del Rey kicks off with few expected surprises



The first round of Spain's Copa del Rey is set to begin, but major upsets are unlikely due to the tournament's structure. Notably, top teams like Real Madrid, FC Barcelona, and Athletic Bilbao are exempt from early rounds. This means that most of the 16 top-flight teams will face semi-professional sides, creating a challenging environment for underdogs.

As the matches unfold, Rayo Vallecano will face Villamuriel, and Alaves will take on SD Compostela, which could potentially lead to an upset given Alaves's recent struggles. The Copa del Rey promises excitement, but the dominance of higher-tier teams makes surprises unlikely in this initial stage.

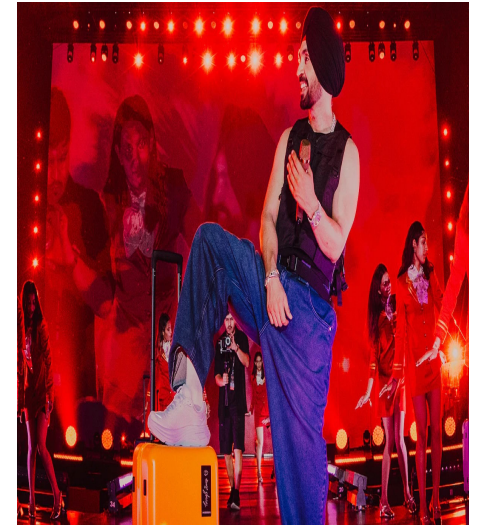
Real Madrid's boycott of the Ballon d'Or ceremony sends a message

Real Madrid's decision to boycott the Ballon d'Or ceremony in Paris highlighted a disconnect between their expectations and the award's outcomes. The club withdrew at the last minute after learning that Vinicius Jr. would not receive the award, which went to Rodri of Manchester City instead. The Madrid delegation, including prominent players and coach Carlo Ancelotti, was already on the plane when

the decision was made. In a statement, Real Madrid criticized the award criteria and expressed their belief that Vinicius deserved recognition. Vinicius echoed this sentiment on social media, while his teammate Aurelien Tchouameni offered words of encouragement. Although Vinicius's performances warrant consideration, Rodri's contributions to his club and national team were also significant factors in the award decision.



Calls for ban on concerts in stadiums after disarray at JLN Stadium



Following a chaotic state left at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium after a concert by Punjabi singer Diljit Dosanjh, an Asian Games medallist has called for a ban on hosting concerts at athletic venues. The concert, which attracted around 70,000 attendees, resulted in significant litter, including alcohol bottles and food waste on the track. Athletes have expressed concern about the impact of such events on training facilities. The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has assured that the stadium will be ready for upcoming events, including an Indian Super League match, and shared images of the cleaned venue.

Vidit Gujrathi to compete among top grandmasters at London Chess Classic

Indian chess star Vidit Gujrathi, a Budapest Olympiad gold medalist and 2024 Candidate, will join seven other elite players at the upcoming London Chess Classic.

The tournament is set to take place at Arsenal's Emirates Stadium from November 29 to December 7.

Notable participants include Women's World Champion Ju Wenjun, England's No. 2 Nikita Vitiugov, British Champion Gawain Jones, and former World Rapid Champion Shakhriyar Mamedyarov.

The identity of the eighth player will be announced later. In addition to the main event, the tournament will feature several other competitions, including the Super Blitz and ProBiz Cup, aimed at raising funds for Chess School and Communities (CSC).

Opportunities for amateur players include FIDE Masters and U-2000 tournaments, alongside social events each evening.



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Big names hit the IPL 2025 mega auction

The IPL 2025 mega auction will feature big names like Rishabh Pant, KL Rahul, and Shreyas Iyer, all released by their teams. Delhi Capitals retained key players but likely end Pant's nine-year tenure. Rahul's exit from Lucknow Super Giants and Iyer's release as a title-winning captain set the stage for a competitive auction.



Guardiola worried about injuries at Manchester City

Pep Guardiola is concerned about Manchester City's injury crisis after a 2-1 loss to Tottenham. With only 13 fit players, including the recent losses of Savinho and Akanji, Guardiola faces challenges ahead of a critical match against Bournemouth. Key players like De Bruyne and Rodri are already sidelined, raising doubts about the team's title defense.



### Shahid Kapoor's funny take on Punjabi success secrets



**B**ollywood star Shahid Kapoor recently shared a funny video on Instagram outlining the "7 Punjabi keys to success." He humorously emphasized the importance of paying attention as he listed the keys: "Number 1 is 'Tenu Key', Number 2 is 'Menu Key', Number 3 is 'Ae Key', Number 4 is 'O Key?', Number 5 is 'Hoya Key', Number 6 is 'Tepher Key', and the final one is 'Saanu Key?'" He invited followers to comment "Okey" if they understood his playful take. Additionally, Shahid offered a glimpse of his laid-back mornings in an Instagram story featuring a casual selfie that showcased his impressive physique and home decor. He is currently preparing for his role as gangster Hussain Ustara in Vishal Bhardwaj's upcoming film, having started intense training for the character.

### Varun Dhawan and friends enjoy an epic UFC night out

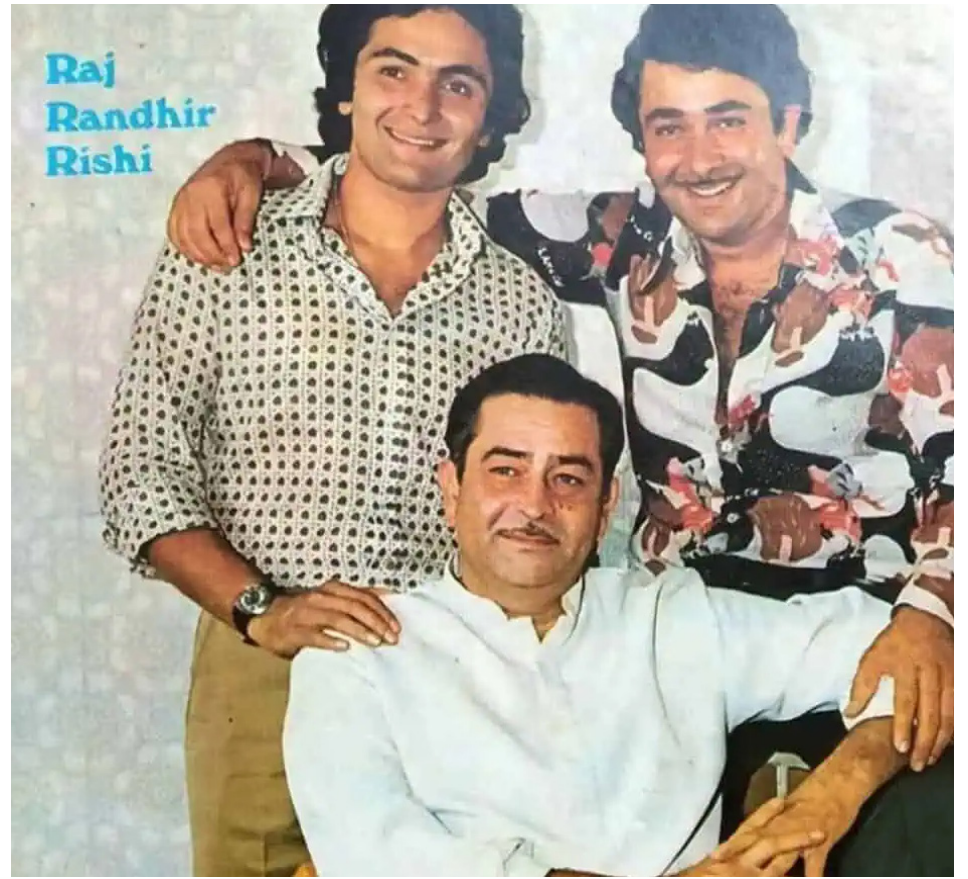


**B**ollywood actors Varun Dhawan, Ranveer Singh, and Aditya Roy Kapur recently attended a UFC event on Yas Island, Abu Dhabi. Varun shared moments from the outing on Instagram, where he and fellow new dads Ranveer and Aditya were seen having a great time. Varun captioned the post, "Boys knight!!! Swipe right to see." The evening featured a fun moment when producer Dinesh Vijan mixed ice cream with cola. On the work front, Varun is set to appear in 'Baby John,' while Ranveer has multiple projects lined up, including 'Singham Again' and 'Don 3.'

## Raj Kapoor's Diwali parties: A celebration of tradition and stardom!

**D**iwali parties have become a trend in Bollywood, with numerous celebrities hosting extravagant celebrations during the festival. From Shah Rukh Khan and Karan Johar to Manish Malhotra and Amitabh Bachchan, many stars are known for throwing unforgettable Diwali bashes. Recently, Ayushmann Khurrana and his wife, Tahira Kashyap, have joined this festive tradition by hosting their own grand Diwali festivities.

However, one name that stands out above all in the realm of Diwali parties is the legendary actor Raj Kapoor. His celebrations were iconic, setting the



standard for glamour and grandeur during the festival. Raj Kapoor's Diwali parties were not just gatherings; they were extraordinary events that brought together the biggest names in cinema. His star-studded bashes were the talk of the town, blending glamour, joy, and an unbreakable bond among Bollywood's elite.

Raj Kapoor celebrated Diwali in grand style at RK Studio, attracting numerous prominent personalities. According to several media reports, the "Showman" of Indian cinema would shower lavish gifts on his entire team and friends, including actress Nargis, the composer duo Shankar-Jaikishan, lyricists Shailendra and Hasrat Jaipuri, as well as singers Lata Mangeshkar, Mukesh, and Manna Dey.

With this superhit team, Raj Kapoor delivered numerous blockbuster films. He spent significant time at RK Studio, celebrating not only festivals but also his birthday there. This studio was home to his iconic festive parties, and it's worth noting that not only were Kapoor's productions made at RK Studio, but films from other banners were produced there as well.

Reports suggest that a fire in 2017 significantly impacted the studio, and the Kapoor family later sold it to Godrej Properties in 2018. Raj Kapoor passed away on June 2, 1988, at the age of 63, but his unique style of celebrating Diwali at RK Studio remains etched in the memories of many.

### Al Pacino reveals the darker side of fame and its impact on his mental health

**H**ollywood icon Al Pacino revealed that the pressures of fame led him to seek therapy, echoing the feelings of his favorite writer, Jack Kerouac. During an appearance on BBC Radio 2, he shared his discomfort with celebrity status, recalling moments when he skipped Oscar ceremonies out of fear and anxiety. He

described how he felt out of place in the limelight, leading to misunderstandings about his absence. Pacino recounted a pivotal moment when he won an acting award while performing in Boston, feeling so overwhelmed that he immediately asked for a psychiatrist. His reflections highlight the mental toll that fame can take on artists.



### Salman Khan receives another death threat



**B**ollywood superstar Salman Khan has received another death threat, with an unknown caller demanding Rs. 2 crore. This follows the arrest of a man from NOIDA for previously threatening Khan. The Delhi police are investigating the latest threat, linked to past controversies involving the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. Salman's close friend, politician Baba Siddique, was recently murdered, heightening concerns about Khan's safety as he continues to host 'Bigg Boss 18'.





### Anupam Kher celebrates 40 years in film and inspires others to dream big



Veteran actor Anupam Kher shared a heartfelt message on Instagram about his 40-year journey in the film industry, urging everyone to be dreamers. He recalled the challenges he faced at the start of his career, emphasizing his determination to succeed despite lacking industry connections. Anupam noted how his breakthrough role in 'Saaransh' showcased his talent and paved the way for his career. His upcoming film, 'Vijay 69', features him as a 69-year-old man training to be a triathlon athlete, highlighting his belief in resilience and the human spirit. He encouraged others to dream big and pursue their aspirations, regardless of age.

### Olivia Rodrigo expresses a desire to return to the acting scene



Olivia Rodrigo, the Grammy-winning singer and former Disney Channel star, expressed her desire to return to acting. After finishing her role in 'High School Musical: The Musical: The Series,' she shared her interest in pursuing a big-screen role during the premiere of her concert film. Olivia stated, "I love telling stories, and I'm not opposed to telling them in film too." She has previously mentioned her interest in starring in a coming-of-age movie. Despite her rapid rise in the music industry, she credits her friends and family for keeping her grounded amidst fame.

### Dolly Parton shares the secret to her private yet enduring marriage

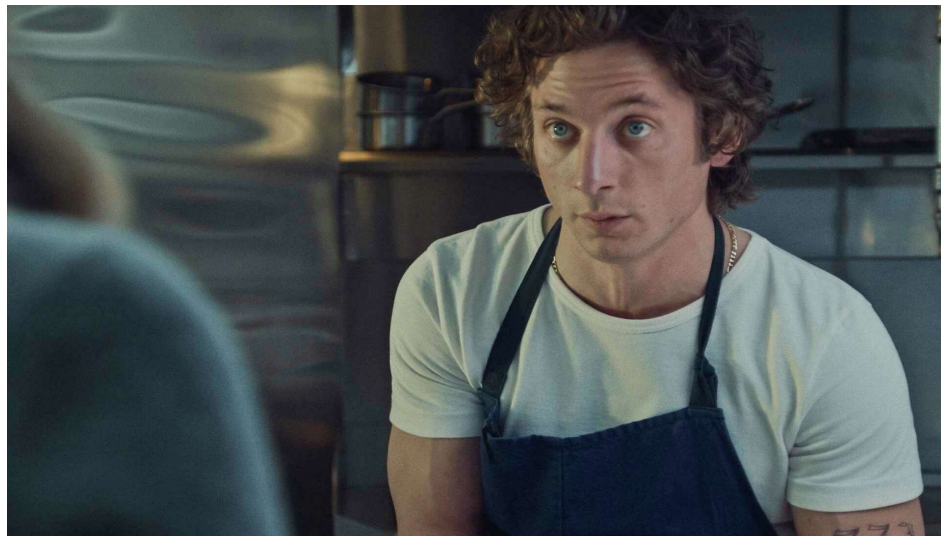


Dolly Parton revealed her reasons for keeping her marriage to Carl Thomas Dean private over the decades. Married since 1966, the couple enjoys traveling together in their RV, and Dolly believes their lasting relationship stems from their mutual enjoyment of each other's company. She stated, "It just felt natural to me to keep my life private." The country music legend, who has no children but maintains a close-knit family, also recently ventured into the wine business with her Dolly Wines company, emphasizing her newfound interest in viticulture.

### Jeremy Allen White transforms for his role as Bruce Springsteen in upcoming biopic

Jeremy Allen White is set to star as Bruce Springsteen in the upcoming biopic 'Deliver Me From Nowhere', with the first look of his character unveiled. Directed by Scott Cooper, the film adapts Warren Zanes' book about the making of Springsteen's iconic 1982 album 'Nebraska'. Filming

primarily takes place in New Jersey and New York, with the film expected to be released next year. Cooper described the project as a deeply personal endeavor, aiming to authentically portray Springsteen's life and the raw essence of his music, capturing the spirit of resilience that characterizes the album.



### Bradley Cooper reflects on his surprise at being named Sexiest Man Alive in 2011



Hollywood star Bradley Cooper expressed surprise upon being named Sexiest Man Alive in 2011, a sentiment shared by his friend Dax Shepard. On the 'Armchair Expert' podcast, Shepard revealed that Cooper initially thought the honor was a prank. He emphasized that even celebrities like Cooper experience insecurities, stating that many high-status individuals often feel inadequate. Currently, Cooper is dating supermodel Gigi Hadid, and sources say they are "really happy" in their relationship, with open communication about their future and shared goals.

### Karnataka High Court reserves order on actor Darshan's bail plea

The Karnataka High Court has reserved its order on jailed actor Darshan's bail petition after hearing arguments. Darshan's attorney argued that the actor suffers from severe back pain requiring surgery, which he claims has worsened since the initial bail request. The

prosecution opposed the bail, citing that Darshan's health issues were not severe enough for immediate release. Darshan, who has been imprisoned for four months, hopes for bail ahead of Diwali. He faces charges related to the kidnapping and murder of Renukaswamy, and his case has garnered significant public interest.



### Sara Ali Khan seeks blessings at Kedarnath Temple



Bollywood actress Sara Ali Khan visited Kedarnath Temple to seek blessings and shared her experience on Instagram. Posing in front of the temple in a red T-shirt and white pants, she expressed her feelings of tranquility in the sacred setting. The temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, is accessible to the public only from April to November due to weather conditions. Sara recently started filming a new spy comedy with Ayushmann Khurrana in Manali, marking their first collaboration.

### Maroon 5 to debut in India with Mumbai concert



Maroon 5 will make their Indian debut with a concert in Mumbai on December 3, 2024. Led by Adam Levine, the band will perform at the Mahalaxmi Racecourse, featuring a mix of their greatest hits and fan favorites. Maroon 5 has a storied career with numerous chart-topping songs and has sold over 98 million albums worldwide. The concert is produced by BookMyShow Live in partnership with Live Nation.

### Sophie Turner says her life was on pause during divorce from Joe Jonas

Sophie Turner recently reflected on her divorce from Joe Jonas, describing her time in the U.S. as feeling like her life was on hold. In an interview with Harper's Bazaar, she expressed sadness about the end of their

relationship but joy in returning to England, where she feels most at home. Turner noted the importance of personal connections and experiences she missed while living abroad. She and Jonas, who finalized their divorce in September, share two daughters.





# Dr. Krishnamurthy Subramanian outlines India's economic vision at Chicago event



By: Vandana Jhingan

In a recent event held at the Consulate in Chicago, Dr. Krishnamurthy Subramanian, India's Executive Director at the IMF, presented insights from his book, INDIA@100 - Envisioning Tomorrow's Economic Powerhouse. Dr. Subramanian highlighted India's potential to become the fastest-growing large economy in the world, projecting that it could be the third-largest economy by 2030. He emphasized India's crucial role in global economic growth and innovation in emerging technologies.

Drawing on his extensive background, which includes serving as Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India and earning degrees from IIT Kanpur, IIM Calcutta, and the University of Chicago, Dr. Subramanian outlined an ambitious vision for India to become a US\$ 55 trillion economy by 2047, coinciding with the centenary of its independence. Somnath Ghosh, the Consul General of India in Chicago, was also present at the occasion, underscoring the significance of the event. Co-hosted by the Global Indian Diaspora Foundation, the gathering engaged attendees in a meaningful discussion about India's economic potential.



# Kadwa Patidar Samaj celebrates Diwali 2024 with vibrant festivities in Chicago

By: Jayanti Oza

The Kadwa Patidar Samaj (KPS) Chicago recently marked its annual Diwali celebration in grand fashion. The event took place at Atlantis Banquets in Arlington Heights, welcoming 350 families and friends of KPS members.

Incumbent President Vijay Patel kicked off the festivities with a warm welcome, wishing all attendees a joyous Diwali. The celebration commenced with the Deep Pragatya ceremony, led by Grand Sponsors Chhotalal and Harshaben Patel, along with guest Mafat Patel. Following the ceremony, Chhotalal Patel shared a



thoughtful message with the audience.

Former President Harmil Patel was honored for his contributions to the organization, with Jatin Patel, Past President and Advisory Committee member, highlighting Harmil's impactful tenure. Harmil then delivered an inspiring address that resonated with the audience.

The evening was filled with delicious appetizers and a lavish dinner, complemented by entertainment from the orchestra Saregama, which played a

diverse range of songs. After dinner, KPS Vice President Satish Patel and Secretary Himanshu Patel provided an overview of upcoming KPS events for 2024 and expressed gratitude to volunteers for their efforts during various activities throughout the year.

Narendra Patel from the KPS Advisory Committee also took a moment to honor past presidents and dedicated volunteers for their extraordinary service. The attendees enjoyed the lively atmosphere, participating in dance and music, making the Diwali celebration a memorable occasion for all involved.



# Consulate General of India in Chicago celebrates 9th Ayurveda Day

By: Vandana Jhingan

The Consulate General of India in Chicago proudly hosted the 9th Ayurveda Day on October 25, 2024, celebrating the theme “Ayurveda: Innovation for Global Health,” as designated by the Ministry of AYUSH. The event attracted over 100 Ayurveda enthusiasts from across the Midwest, highlighting the increasing recognition of Ayurveda as a holistic approach to health.

The program commenced with the traditional lighting of the lamp by Consul General Somnath Ghosh, who emphasized the significance of Ayurveda as one of the oldest and most well-documented medical systems in the world. In his remarks, Ghosh underscored the importance of achieving harmony among body, mind, and spirit through balanced living and natural treatments, reinforcing the comprehensive nature of Ayurveda.



The event featured a distinguished panel of speakers, including Dr. Venkateswara R. Karapathy, an anesthesiologist and pain medicine specialist; Dr. Colleen Taylor Sen, a culinary historian specializing in the cuisine of the Indian subcontinent; and Vaidya Ulka Nagarkar and Vaidya Pushpalatha Biradar, both esteemed practitioners of Ayurvedic medicine. Their insights provided attendees with a deeper understanding of Ayurveda’s relevance in modern health practices.



The audience, comprising prominent members of the Indian diaspora, yoga practitioners, and diplomats, expressed great appreciation for the program, reflecting a growing interest in holistic health solutions. Attendees were also informed about an e-kit published by the Ministry of AYUSH, which

offers valuable resources on Ayurveda and its applications.

As the 9th Ayurveda Day concluded, it reinforced the commitment to promoting Ayurveda as a vital component of global health and wellness.



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# FIA-New England's Grand Diwali Celebration unites community with music, service, and gratitude



By: Vandana Jhingan

Last week, East Providence High School transformed into a vibrant hub of cultural celebration as the Foundation of Indian Americans - New England (FIA-NE) hosted its Grand Diwali Celebration. The event featured a spectacular concert by renowned singer Kailash Kher and included a massive food donation drive, inaugurated by East Providence Mayor Bob DaSilva and Consul General of India in New York, Binaya S. Pradhan. Their joint efforts aimed to spread the bounty and joy of Diwali to the broader American community.

## Announcement of Indian Consulate in Boston

A key highlight of the evening was the expression of gratitude toward India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his announcement to establish a new consulate in Boston, which will serve the New England states. With a significant population of Indian and Indian-origin students, scientists, researchers, and business professionals in the region, the consulate is expected to enhance travel, tourism, and collaboration between India and the U.S.

Consul General Binaya Pradhan emphasized that the new consulate would facilitate easier communication between the Indian government and both American friends and the Indian diaspora, fostering better government-to-government and people-to-people contacts. FIA-NE's Abhishek Singh expressed heartfelt appreciation for this initiative, highlighting its importance for strengthening India's



diplomatic ties with the U.S. Dr. Dinesh Patel noted that the consulate would serve as a vital bridge between the two nations, enhancing cooperation and understanding.

## Celebration with generosity

This year's Diwali celebration was particularly meaningful, as the Indian American community in New England came together to donate over 20,000 pounds of non-perishable food items to local organizations, including the Rhode Island Community Food Bank and the Blackstone Valley Emergency Food Center. This initiative exemplified the spirit of Diwali—sharing hope and joy with those in need.

The evening began with a tribute to esteemed businessman and philanthropist, Shri Ratan Tata, observed with a moment of silence.

## Dignitaries and special guests

The celebration featured dignitaries such as Mayor Bob DaSilva and Consul General

Binaya Pradhan, who led the "Lighting of the Lamp" ceremony, illuminating the venue in true Diwali tradition. Other esteemed guests included Ravi and Ranju Batra, Ram and Meetu Gupta, Sandeep Asija, and Kaushik Patel.

## Recognizing community heroes

Mayor DaSilva presented special citations to Kailash Kher for his musical achievements and to FIA-NE for its dedication to community service. He also recognized Mr. Subhash Agarwal for three decades of volunteer work. Certificates were awarded to community leaders, including members of the Kailasha Band and representatives from various organizations that have made significant contributions to the community.

## Night of entertainment

With over 1,000 attendees, the event was filled with energy and excitement. Guests enjoyed a vibrant Diwali Mela, showcasing an array of culinary delights



and captivating dance performances from the Ekta Dance Academy. The evening culminated in an enchanting concert by Kailash Kher and his Kailasha Band, enhancing the festive spirit of the occasion.

## Grateful community

FIA-NE President Abhishek Singh, along with the executive team, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all community members, cultural partners, and the supporting staff from the East Providence School District. Special thanks were also extended to local law enforcement and vendors for their support.

The Grand Diwali Celebration not only showcased the rich cultural heritage of the Indian community but also emphasized the importance of service, unity, and gratitude. As the lights dimmed and the last notes of Kailash Kher's music lingered, attendees left with a renewed sense of community and the joy of giving, embodying the true essence of Diwali.



Photo Credit: Ramesh Punatar, USA Film Production



# Shreejidwar Haveli celebrates Sharad Poonam with energetic Garba, uniting hundreds in tradition and joy



Devotees at ShreejiDwar: L to R - Chandrakant Patel, Ashok Shah, Naresh Shah, Avani Shah, and Dr. Umang Patel.

By: Jayanti Oza

Shreejidwar Haveli hosted a vibrant Sharad Poonam Garba event, attracting hundreds of devotees to celebrate this cherished tradition. “Our tradition has been revived,” shared Mrs. Paragi Patel, reflecting the joy and unity felt throughout the gathering. The evening commenced with a special Thakurji Arti, setting a spiritual tone for the celebration.

The true highlight of the night was DJ Oza, who infused the event with electric energy. Known for his ability to seamlessly blend tradition with modernity, DJ Oza (Bharat Oza) kept the crowd dancing non-stop for over four hours. From beloved Garba classics like Dholida, Pankhida, and Sannedo to his innovative mixes, he catered to attendees of all ages. His talent for energizing the room was evident as the dance circles grew larger throughout the night, with participants ranging from 3-year-olds to seniors over 85 joining in the spirited celebration.

DJ Oza’s magic extended beyond this event. He also played a key role in maintaining the festive spirit at other major celebrations in the area. At the Iskcon Temple in Naperville, IL, he spun traditional Garba tunes, and later, at Pratham’s Chicago Gala at the Palmer House, he infused the event with Western beats. His dynamic range and ability to engage diverse audiences made him an indispensable part of these celebrations.

Even after hours of Garba and Dandiya, the enthusiasm at ShreejiDwar Haveli remained high, with nostalgic tunes like Tara Vina Shyam, Bhammariya, and Melo adding a heartfelt touch to the night.

Sharad Purnima, a significant night in the Hindu calendar, celebrates the Ras Lila performed by Lord Krishna with the Gopis under the full moon. It’s a time for spiritual reflection, devotion, and joy, making it a cherished occasion for the entire community.

Shreejidwar Haveli is dedicated to preserving these traditions while

educating future generations about culture and spirituality. Under the leadership of Dr. Umang and Mrs. Paragi

Patel, Shreejidwar Haveli plans to host the Sharad Poonam Garba annually, with continued support from the Haveli’s dedicated volunteer team and Board of Trustees.

The success of this year’s event was made possible by generous sponsors. Prasadam, featuring Milk Poha, was provided by Relia Care, LTD, while ice cream was enjoyed courtesy of Sandi’s Homemade Ice Cream. Jahnvi’s Collection showcased stunning Indian dresses, enhancing the festive atmosphere. Special thanks to our media partners—Hi India, Media Oza, Inc., and Warenium Photography—for capturing the evening’s joyful memories.

We are deeply grateful to our volunteers, sponsors, and partners for their continued support in keeping these traditions alive.

Looking ahead, Shreejidwar Haveli is excited to host upcoming events such as a Hindu New Year celebration on November 2, 2024, and Annakoot Darshan on November 9, 2024, from 4–7 PM.

**For more information, please contact:**  
**Email: [Contact@Shreejidwar.org](mailto:Contact@Shreejidwar.org)**



Devotees enjoying Garba and Sanedoo.



DJ Oza (Bharat Oza), one of Chicago’s most popular DJs, performing music on a digital track.



Devotees distributing Shree Ji Prasad.





# IACA hosts heartwarming joint Diwali-Halloween celebration with Ray Graham Association

By: Dr. Avi Verma

In a unique blend of cultural celebration, the Indian American Cultural Association (IACA) brought the spirit of both Diwali and Halloween to the Ray Graham Association (RGA) on Wednesday, October 23rd. Held at the Hanson Center Campus, the event created an inclusive, joyous atmosphere where community members, led by IACA President Vinita Gulabani, came together with RGA's children and adults with special needs for a memorable, festive evening.

The celebration featured Halloween-themed activities, including pumpkin decorating with paint, stickers, and glitter, allowing the children to showcase their artistic talents. In addition, a lively costume parade saw participants proudly display their costumes, ranging from friendly superheroes to spooky ghosts, as the crowd cheered them on.

IACA Treasurer Richa Paal coordinated many of these activities with support from Executive Director Kamlesh Kapoor



Photo Credit: Ramesh Punatar, USA Film Production

and Pallavi [Last Name].

"IACA is committed to creating a welcoming environment for everyone, and we're delighted to bring joy to the RGA community," said Vinita Gulabani, expressing her appreciation for the IACA team and volunteers.

The team ensured all attendees could enjoy the festivities meaningfully and comfortably, including Indian treats like samosas and thoughtfully crafted goodie bags. In a gesture of gratitude, IACA gifted warm shawls to RGA employees, recognizing their dedication and support.

The success of the event owed much to the collaborative effort of many. Special thanks went to Ramesh Punatar

for capturing the celebration's special moments and FIA Chairman Sunil Shah for his ongoing support.

IACA Secretary Shanu Sinha also expressed gratitude to the youth volunteers, acknowledging their hard work in organizing Diwali and Halloween games, preparing festive greeting cards, and supporting RGA's attendees throughout the event.

Neal Patel and the RGA team received special mention for their invaluable assistance.

With events like this, IACA continues to demonstrate its dedication to building strong, inclusive community ties by fostering joy, cultural celebration, and compassion across all backgrounds.





# Chicago INDO-US Lions Club and Illinois youth unite for Environmental Awareness Drive

In a dynamic show of community and environmental responsibility, the Chicago INDO-US Lions Club, in collaboration with Illinois schools, including Leyden High School, recently held an Environmental Awareness Drive on October 26, 2024. As shared by Hina Trivedi in an interview with IndoUS Tribune, the event united young volunteers from across the state, including both typically-developing students and students with special needs, in their commitment to a cleaner, greener Illinois.

This initiative offered hands-on opportunities for youth to foster environmental consciousness and community pride. Organized teams took on specific tasks, such as:

- ▶ **Tree Planting:** Adding greenery to enhance local ecosystems.
- ▶ **Litter Collection:** Cleaning streets, football fields, and school grounds.
- ▶ **Recycling Drives:** Sorting and reusing

materials to reduce waste.

- ▶ **Yard Clean-Up:** Assisting senior residents with yard maintenance.

This impactful day underscores the Chicago INDO-US Lions Club's dedication to youth empowerment and environmental stewardship. The club is already planning the next Environmental Awareness Drive in 2025 to broaden its community impact.

"We're thankful to the students and community members who came together to make this event a success," a club representative shared. "By involving our youth, we're building a generation of environmentally conscious citizens."

The Chicago INDO-US Lions Club invites new volunteers and partners eager to join this mission of creating a greener, healthier Illinois. For more information on future events, please contact the club.





CHICAGO INDO US LIONS CLUB D1A

**Join Hands  
Let's Save Our  
Environment  
Together**







## विमला देवी आदिशक्तिपीठ: पुरी का एक पवित्र स्थल जहां शिव और विष्णु एकाकार होते हैं

आइए, भारत के सबसे पवित्र स्थलों में से एक, विमला देवी मंदिर की यात्रा करें। यह मंदिर ओडिशा के पुरी में स्थित जगन्नाथ मंदिर परिसर में स्थित है। यह मंदिर 51 शक्तिपीठों में से एक है और चार प्रमुख आदिशक्तिपीठों में से एक है। पारंपरिक मान्यताओं के अनुसार, यहां सती का नाभि भाग गिरा था, जबकि अन्य कथाओं के अनुसार यहां सती का बायां चरण गिरा था।

पुरी के जगन्नाथ मंदिर परिसर, जिसमें 100 से

अधिक मंदिर शामिल हैं, शहर के केंद्रीय स्थल पर स्थित है। इसी परिसर के दक्षिण-पश्चिम कोने में स्थित है श्री विमला देवी का मंदिर, जिसे स्थानीय रूप से श्री विमला के नाम से भी जाना जाता है। मंदिर का सबसे प्राचीन हिस्सा छठी सदी का है, हालांकि इसके बाद समय-समय पर इसका जीर्णोद्धार और विकास हुआ। मंदिर की वास्तुकला कलिंग शैली और रेखा देउला शैली का अद्भुत संगम है, जो इसे प्राचीन और राजसी रूप प्रदान करती है। मंदिर की दीवारों पर जटिल

नक्काशी हमें इतिहास की एक झलक देती है।

शक्तिपीठ का यह मंदिर बलुआ पत्थर और लेटराइट पत्थर से बना है और रोहिणी कुंड के पास स्थित है। देवी विमला गर्भगृह में विराजमान हैं, जहां दीवारों पर कोई नक्काशी नहीं की गई है। उनके चार हाथों वाली प्रतिमा में अक्षमाला (माला), अमृतकलश (अमृत का घड़ा) और एक नागफासा (नागिनी) का संकेत माना जाता है, जबकि चौथा हाथ आशीर्वाद मुद्रा में है।

विशेष बात यह है कि यहां मां विमला देवी के पास दुर्गा के पारंपरिक अस्त्र-शस्त्र नहीं हैं।

इस शक्तिपीठ की एक अद्भुत विशेषता यह है कि यहां भगवान विष्णु को भैरव के रूप में पूजा जाता है, जो देवत्व के एकत्व का संकेत है। शिव-शक्ति के भक्तों के लिए यहां विमला देवी को शक्ति और भगवान जगन्नाथ को शिव के रूप में माना जाता है, जबकि विष्णु भक्तों के लिए इन्हें लक्ष्मी और विष्णु के रूप में पूजनीय माना जाता है। विमला देवी को पूरे जगन्नाथ मंदिर परिसर की रक्षक देवी माना गया है, और भक्त पहले मां विमला की पूजा करते हैं, फिर मुख्य मंदिर में भगवान जगन्नाथ के दर्शन करते हैं।

रथ यात्रा के दौरान जगन्नाथ मंदिर के देवताओं का भोग पहले देवी विमला को अर्पित किया जाता है, फिर इसे महाप्रसाद का दर्जा मिलता है, जो उनकी महिमा को दर्शाता है। एक और प्रमुख उत्सव यहां दुर्गा पूजा के दौरान मनाया जाता है, जब पुरी के गजपति राजा विजयादशमी के दिन देवी की पूजा करते हैं।

यह मंदिर भारतीय शास्त्रीय संगीत और नृत्य का भी प्रमुख केंद्र है, जिसमें ओडिशा का ओडिसी नृत्य प्रमुख है। विशेष पर्वों के अवसर पर यहां सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम आयोजित किए जाते हैं, जिससे मंदिर का वातावरण और भी जीवंत हो जाता है। यह स्थान देश-विदेश के श्रद्धालुओं के लिए आकर्षण का केंद्र है। हाल के दिनों में मंदिर का जीर्णोद्धार किया गया है, ताकि इसकी प्राचीन गरिमा को संजोते हुए यहां आने वाले भक्तों के लिए सुविधाएं बेहतर की जा सकें। आधुनिक रोशनी और संकेतों के बावजूद, यह मंदिर अपनी प्राचीन आभा बनाए रखता है।

विमला देवी मंदिर का दर्शन इतिहास, संस्कृति और अध्यात्म का अनूठा अनुभव कराता है। आइए हम इन अनमोल धरोहरों को संजोएं और उनके प्रति अपने कृतज्ञ भाव को प्रकट करें।





# रामचरित मानस में प्रवाहित ऋषि परम्परा

## दूसरा सोपान- ब्रह्म ऋषि विश्वामित्र

ऋषि विश्वामित्र का रामजी के जीवन में बहुत बड़ा योगदान है। सबसे पहले यह ऋषि विश्वामित्र ही थे, जिन्होंने राम और लखन के अदम्य शौर्य को पहचाना था। विश्वामित्र का जन्म राजा गाधि के कुल में एक क्षत्रिय परिवार में हुआ था।



**Rajendra Kapil**  
Phone: 847-962-1291



युवावस्था में उनका नाम कौशिक नरेश था। पिता के साम्राज्य को बढ़ाने के लिए, उन्होंने अनेक युद्ध किए। ऐसे ही एक बार युद्ध से लौटते समय उनकी भेंट ऋषि वशिष्ठ से हुई। ऋषि वशिष्ठ ने उनका आश्रित्य स्वीकार करने का आग्रह किया। चूँकि कौशिक नरेश के साथ सेना भी थी, तो उन्हें आश्रित्य स्वीकार करने में थोड़ा संकोच हुआ। लेकिन अधिक आग्रह करने पर, वह रुक गए। इतने में ऋषि वशिष्ठ ने कामधेनु का आवाहन किया, और देखते ही देखते, सेना समेत सभी को भर पेट भोजन करवा दिया। कौशिक नरेश को यह कामधेनु बड़ी अच्छी लगी। उन्होंने ऋषि वशिष्ठ से यह गाय उन्हें भेंट स्वरूप देने का आग्रह किया, तो ऋषि वशिष्ठ ने साफ मना कर दिया। और कहा कौशिक नरेश यह बड़े तप बल से प्राप्त होती है। बस फिर क्या था, कौशिक नरेश ने घोर तपस्या का निर्णय ले लिया।

तपस्या करते करते क्षत्रिय राजा कौशिक ब्राह्मण्य की ओर बढ़ चले। और जल्दी ही विश्वामित्र, अर्थात् विश्व के मित्र, के नाम से प्रसिद्ध हो गए। उनका मन तपस्या में अधिक से अधिक रमने लगा। ऋग्वेद के एक सूत्र के अनुसार ऋषि विश्वामित्र ने, इसी समय, गायत्री मंत्र की रचना की:

**ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यं भर्गो देवस्य धीमहि धियो यो नः प्रचोदयात् ॥**

**हिंदी में अर्थ:** हम उस प्राणस्वरूप सृष्टिकर्ता की महिमा पर मनन करते हैं; जिसने ब्रह्मांड को बनाया है; जो पूजनीय है; जो ज्ञान और प्रकाश का स्वरूप है; जो समस्त पापों और अज्ञानता को हरने वाला है; वह परमात्मा हमारी बुद्धि को सन्मार्ग की ओर ले जाये।

इसी गायत्री मंत्र को गीता में सभी मंत्रों में सबसे उत्तम माना गया है। भगवान कृष्ण ने अर्जुन से स्पष्ट कहा, अगर मंत्रों में अगर तुम मुझे देखना चाहो, तो गायत्री मंत्र मैं हूँ। इन्हीं उपलब्धियों के कारण, ऋषि विश्वामित्र की गणना भारत के सप्तऋषियों में की जाने लगी।

**कश्यपौत्रिभरद्वाजो विश्वामित्रोथ गौतमः ।**

**जमदग्निर्वसिष्ठश्च सप्तैते ऋषयः स्मृताः ॥**

**दहंतु पापं सर्वं गृह्णन्त्वर्ध्वं नमो नमः ॥**

इस श्लोक में कश्यप, अत्रि, भारद्वाज, विश्वामित्र, गौतम, जमदग्नि, वसिष्ठ ऋषियों के नाम बताए गए हैं। इनके नामों के जाप से सभी पाप कर्म नष्ट हो जाते हैं।

एक और घटना के अनुसार हमारे देश का नाम भारत भी कहीं न कहीं विश्वामित्र से जुड़ा है। कथा इस प्रकार है, कि एक बार जब विश्वामित्र घोर

तपस्या कर रहे थे, तो देवता घबरा गए। ऋषि की तपस्या को भंग करने के लिए, देवराज इंद्र ने मेनका नाम की अति सुंदर अप्सरा को ऋषि के पास भेजा। मेनका ने अपने रूप लावण्य से ऋषि पर डोरे डालने शुरू कर दिये। बस काम का जादू काम कर गया। ऋषि की तपस्या भंग हो गई और ऋषि विश्वामित्र ने मेनका से विवाह रचा लिया। उस विवाह संयोग से उनकी एक कन्या उत्पन्न हुई, जिसका नाम रखा गया, शकुंतला। इसी शकुंतला को ऋषि कण्व ने पाला। जब शकुंतला बड़ी हुई, तो वह राजा दुष्यंत, पर मोहित हो गई। दोनों ने गंधर्व विवाह कर लिया, और उनका एक पुत्र हुआ, जिसका नाम रखा गया भरत। और कहा जाता है कि, इसी भरत के कारण हमारे देश का नाम भारत पड़ा।

**रामचरितमानस में ऋषि विश्वामित्र को महामुनि की उपाधि दी गई:**

**विश्वामित्र महामुनि ज्ञानी,  
बसहि विपिन सुभ आश्रम जानी**

जब ऋषि वृद्ध हुए, तो अपने शिष्यों के साथ सुंदर वन में रहने लगे और यज्ञ आदि करके लोक कल्याण में लग गए। उसी वन के पास ताड़का नाम की एक राक्षसी अपने दो दुष्ट पुत्रों, मारीच और सुबाहु के साथ रहती थी। अपने राक्षसी स्वभाव के कारण वह समय समय पर ऋषियों के यज्ञ आदि में कई तरह के विघ्न डालती थी। इससे परेशान होकर, एक दिन ऋषि विश्वामित्र उपाय सोचने लगे, तो उन्हें भान हुआ, रामजी का जन्म राजा दशरथ के यहाँ हो चुका है:

**गाधितनय मन चिंता व्यापी,  
हरि बिनु मरहि न निसिचर पापी  
तब मुनिवर मन कीन्ह बिचारा,  
प्रभु अवतरेउ हरन महि भारा**

यह सोच कर ऋषि विश्वामित्र राजा दशरथ के दरबार में जा पहुँचे। राजा दशरथ ने उनका आदर सत्कार किया और उनके कष्ट को बड़े प्यार से सुना। राजा दशरथ ने उन्हें पूरी सेना देने का प्रस्ताव सुझा दिया, लेकिन विश्वामित्र तो कुछ और ही चाहते थे। इतने में वहाँ चारों राजकुमार आ गए। राजा दशरथ ने उन्हें ऋषिवर को प्रणाम करने को कहा।

**पुनि चरननि मेले सुत चारी,  
राम देखि मुनि देह बिसारी  
भए मगन देखत मुख सोभा,  
जनु चकोर पूरन ससि लोभा**

ऋषि विश्वामित्र रामजी के मुखारविंद की शोभा को देख मंत्र मुग्ध हो गए। राजा दशरथ से कहने लगे, मुझे सेना नहीं चाहिए। मुझे केवल यह दोनों भाई राम और लखन दे दीजिए, मेरा काम हो जाएगा।

**अनुज समेत देहु रघुनाथा,  
निसिचर बध मैं होब सनाथा**

जब राम और लक्ष्मण ऋषि विश्वामित्र के साथ के साथ ऋषि के आश्रम पहुँचे, तो इसका समाचार ताड़का को मिल गया। अगले ही दिन वह अपने दल बल के साथ ऋषि आश्रम आ धमकी और ललकारने लगी। ऋषि ने राम लखन को सज्ज किया।

**चले जात मुनि दीन्ही देखाई,  
सुनि ताड़का क्रोध करि धाई  
एकहि बान प्रान हरि लीन्हा,  
दिन जानि तेहि निज पद दीन्हा**

रामजी ने एक ही बाण में ताड़का का वध कर दिया। और उसे अति दीन जान कर अपना धाम प्रदान किया। यह है रामजी कि परम दयालुता। अगर कोई उनसे वैर भी करता है, तो उसे भी रामजी अपने दयालु स्वभाव के कारण, अपना धाम ही प्रदान करते हैं। बाकी भी राक्षसों का सफाया कर रामजी ने उस वन को निष्कंटक बना दिया। और ऋषि गण बड़ी शांति से अपने यज्ञ जप आदि शुभ कर्मों में व्यस्त हो गए।

एक दिन ऋषि विश्वामित्र के पास राजा जनक के दूत आये और उन्हें जनकपुत्री सीता के स्वयंवर का न्यौता दिया। कृपया आप अपने शिष्यों के साथ स्वयंवर में भाग लीजिए। ऋषि ने मन ही मन विचारा कि, इससे अधिक सुंदर अवसर, राम लखन को मिथिला ले जाने का नहीं हो सकता। यह सोच कर ऋषि ने दोनों राजकुमारों को समाचार सुनाया, और चलने की तैयारी करने को कहा। अगले दिन सभी मिथिला की ओर कूच कर गए। रास्ते में, गौतम ऋषि की पत्नी अहिल्या, जो शापवत एक शिला के रूप में, रामजी की प्रतीक्षा कर रही थी। रामजी ने अपने चरणों के स्पर्श से उसका उद्धार किया। वह ऋषि विश्वामित्र और रामजी का आशीर्वाद लेकर वैकुण्ठ धाम पहुँच गईं। तुलसी बाबा रामजी की उदारता पर गद गद हो बोल उठे:

**अस प्रभु दीनबंधु हरि,  
कारन रहित दयाल  
तुलसीदास सठ तेहि भजु छड़ी कपट जंजाल**

मेरे प्रभु राम बिनु कारण ही दयालु हैं, इसीलिए मैं हर तरह का कपट त्याग इन्हें भजता रहता हूँ।

जब ऋषि मिथिला पहुँचे, तो यह समाचार चारों ओर फैल गया। महाराज जनक अगवानी के लिए दौड़े आए:

**विश्वामित्र महामुनि आए,  
समाचार मिथिलापति पाए  
कीन्ह प्रनामु चरन धरि माथा,  
दीन्ह असीस मुदित मुनिनाथा**

जब राजा जनक ने ऋषि के साथ राजकुमारों को देखा, तो बड़े प्रसन्न हुए। उनका सहज वैरागी मन भक्तिमत् हो गया। ऋषिवर से पूछने लगे कि, इनका परिचय करवाइए। ऋषि ने बड़े प्यार से बताया, यह राजा दशरथ के राजकुमार हैं, और आजकल मेरी सहायता के लिए मेरे आश्रम में रह रहे हैं। अब मैं इन्हें इस स्वयंवर के लिए ले आया हूँ। राजा जनक को उन्हें देख अति प्रसन्नता हुई। उनका वैराग्य कहीं विलुप्त हो गया।

**इन्ही बिलोकत अति अनुरागा,  
बरबस ब्रह्म सुखहि मन त्यागा**

इसके बाद राजा जनक सभी धनुष शाला में ले आये, और होनेवाली सभी स्वयंवर विधि से परिचित करवाया। अगले दिन जब स्वयंवर था, तो ऋषि समेत दोनों राजकुमारों को एक विशेष मंच पर बिठाया गया। स्वयंवर की शर्त थी, कि इस सभा में से जो कोई भी शिव धनुष को तोड़ देगा, सीता जी का विवाह उसी से कर दिया जाएगा। बहुत सारे राजा राज्य सभा में थे। सभी एक दूसरे को आंक रहे थे। रामजी को देख भिन्न राजाओं में अलग अलग भावना थी।

**जाकी रहि भावना जैसी,  
प्रभु मूरत देखी तिन तैसी**

जब कोई भी राजा धनुष न तोड़ पाया, तो राजा जनक काफी निराश हो गए। तब विश्वामित्र जी ने उस निराशा को भापतें हुए राम को आदेश दिया:

**विश्वामित्र समय सुभ जानी,  
बोले अति सनेहमय बानी  
उठहु राम भंजहु भवचापा,  
मेटहु तात जनक कर परितापा**

इस प्रकार ऋषि विश्वामित्र रामजी के विवाह का भी कारण बने। सप्त ऋषियों में से एक, ऐसे महान ऋषि विश्वामित्र को मेरा कोटि कोटि प्रणाम!!



# Why & when to get Medicare?



● Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

**M**any keep working until the MEDICARE health insurance kicks in & then retire. But rules are complex & serious mistakes can be made with consequences of lifelong penalties. So, pay attention to these details.

The Medicare ELIGIBILITY age is 65 but it may be delayed if working & covered by work group insurance. Part A is free with at least 40 WORK-CREDITS; a maximum of 4 work-credits per year are possible. If you aren't eligible based on your work record, you may gain eligibility when your eligible younger spouse turns 62. There are stiff lifelong PENALTIES for delayed signup for Medicare. COBRA & RETIREE insurance don't count for delaying Medicare.

The Medicare ENROLLMENT is through SSA within a +/- 3-month window around age 65. Login access to SSA & Medicare websites are possible only after respective approvals. There is AUTO SIGNUP for Medicare at 65 if you are already getting Social Security early at ages 62-65. You may decline if you have group health insurance through work, but the default is acceptance. All others need to apply for Medicare through

SSA. The open annual enrollment period (AEP or OEP) is October 15-December 7 to make changes in any existing Medicare plan; there is also MA-OEP January 1-March 31 to make changes in existing MAPD plans.

Enrollment beyond normal signup at 65 is tricky. Special enrollment period (SEP) signups are allowed when switching from work group health insurance to Medicare. All others who missed a timely signup must use the annual general enrollment period (GEP) signup window (January 1-March 31, with coverage effective on July 1). You must rely on COBRA or private insurance until Medicare becomes effective.

The ORIGINAL Medicare includes hospital/ surgical Part A, physician Part B, prescriptions Part D. It covers only about 80%, so you must also buy MEDIGAP insurance. Plan G has the best coverage & the highest price; Plan N may also be acceptable; the old (best) Plan F is now closed to new people. These plans are standardized for coverage, but not for prices. At 65+, Medicare may become the primary insurance for employees & retirees in group plans & the employer group insurance may become the supplemental insurance (instead of the Medigap).

You will have to carry 3 ID cards. Don't laminate the Medicare card.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (MA or MAPD) is a combined plan (Part C) that includes Part A, B, D, & possibly eye &/or dental coverages. Medicare pays private insurers under contracts to provide standard Medicare services under MA. The MAPD-HMO & MAPD-PPO (flexible) options are available. You (& your spouse) must have Part A & B to signup for MAPD. Large employers may have special MAPD plans with payroll/ pension deductions. Only one ID card is needed with MAPD (don't use your Medicare card).

Medicare HOLD-HARMLESS provision will limit Medicare premium increases to Social Security COLA for those having Medicare premiums deducted from Social Security payments.

IRMAA for high income earners apply to Part B & D premiums. Medicare is subsidized & premiums are higher in quantum steps for those with higher incomes. Income (MAGI = AGI + tax-exempt interest) from 2 years prior is considered. Medicare announces income related annual premiums based on the percentage of its estimated costs per person. IRMAA tiers are at the cost levels of 25%

(basic premium with 75% subsidy, no IRMAA), 35%, 50%, 65%, 80%, 85% (highest premium with 15% subsidy). Appeals are possible if there are sudden changes in income.

Beyond the initial free-look periods, Medigap switches or enrollments require medical underwriting. This is what makes the later switches from MAPD to original Medicare difficult. But there are a few exceptions; several states also require Medigap on guaranteed-issue basis. Except for short transitions, one cannot have both Medigap & MAPD.

PREMIUMS must be paid to the SSA for Parts B & D (including IRMAA payments & late-penalties); when using MAPD (Part C), Part B premium & all IRMAA (for Part B & D) must be paid to Medicare. Once the Social Security payments start, all direct Medicare premiums will be deducted from those payments; otherwise, there may be monthly or quarterly billings. The Medigap premium or the additional premium for MAPD goes to the insurer. Make another family member aware of all Medicare related premium payments to avoid accidental coverage lapses.

For more information, see [ybbpersonalfinance.proboards.com/](http://ybbpersonalfinance.proboards.com/)





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# Why the wait? Delays and expectations for final U.S. presidential election results

By: Dr. Avi Verma

In the 2024 U.S. presidential election, Americans may experience shorter delays in knowing the final results compared to the 2020 election. While quick results were the norm before 2020, delays then stretched for days due to a historic surge in mail-in voting amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year, modifications in vote-processing policies in key states aim

to speed things up, but factors like a close race could mean results aren't fully known on election night.

**Key factors impacting election results timing**

**1. Policy Changes for Mail-in Ballots:**

Several states have changed rules to allow for processing mail-in ballots before Election Day, including signature verification and ballot

preparation. According to Quinn Yeargin of Michigan State University, these adjustments may reduce delays, although states like Pennsylvania and Wisconsin still restrict ballot processing until Election Day itself.

**2. Potential for a Close Race:**

When races are particularly close, the media's decision desks take extra time to analyze vote data before projecting a winner, as even a small margin can impact the results. This year,

polls indicate a tight race, so media outlets may wait until enough ballots are counted to rule out any major shifts.

**3. Misinformation and Public Trust:**

Mis- and disinformation spread doubts about the legitimacy of mail-in voting and counting procedures, adding scrutiny and public tension, especially in battleground states. Pete Seat of the University of Arizona highlights that the same processes are used nationwide, but misinformation can create public distrust in specific states.

**When will we know the results?**

Historically, Americans expected results by the following morning, but a repeat of 2020's extended wait isn't out of the question if the race is too close to call. Election officials encourage patience as results are confirmed.

**What if the loser does not concede?**

A concession is a symbolic act, not legally required to determine the outcome. However, if a candidate challenges results, the case could go to court, especially in close states. This scenario would prolong the process, potentially leaving the public waiting for legal rulings to settle any disputes.

**Conclusion:** This year's election timing depends largely on the margin of victory and the impact of new ballot processing rules. While experts expect quicker results than in 2020, they caution that a close race might still delay the final call, requiring patience and trust in the process.







# Why Hindus in America must consider voting for Donald Trump

● By: Er. Purnima Nath

As the United States enters another critical election season, many Hindu Americans find themselves at a crossroads, questioning which candidate will truly protect their interests and respect their contributions. For many, Donald Trump represents a leader who aligns with the values and needs of the Hindu community in America—a community that feels increasingly sidelined in today's political and social landscape.

## The growing anti-Hindu sentiment

The Hindu American community has watched with concern as anti-Hindu sentiments have intensified across the nation. Reports from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) indicate a marked rise in anti-Hindu incidents, reflecting a climate of hostility that many Hindu Americans experience in their daily lives. This community, known for its commitment to education, self-sufficiency, and legal immigration, feels increasingly marginalized. Hindu Americans contribute approximately 6% of the U.S. GDP, despite making up only about 1% of the population. Yet, they are often portrayed by the media through stereotypes that fail to capture their reality.

For many Hindu Americans who grew up in India, these experiences feel familiar. “We grew up hearing narratives that prioritized Abrahamic figures over Hindu ones, stories that did not truly reflect our history,”

Nath shares. In the U.S., she feels Hindu Americans face similar biases, with their contributions often overlooked or dismissed.

## A shift in political loyalties

In recent years, the Democratic Party has adopted policies that many Hindus perceive as dismissive or even hostile toward their values. Measures like anti-CAA (Citizenship Amendment Act) resolutions, caste-based initiatives, and what some see as the normalization of Hinduphobia have prompted a growing number of Hindu Americans to reconsider their traditional support for the Democratic Party.

“I personally witnessed a shift in my own outlook when I saw my values and heritage continually disrespected and ignored by the Democrat party that claims to be for all,” Nath says. Increasingly, Hindu Americans are joining movements like #HindusAndTrump and #iExit, which Nath launched to encourage traditional Democrat Indian American voters to shift their support and to inspire independents to vote for President Trump.

## Trump as a beacon for change

In the 2016 election, Donald Trump made unprecedented outreach to the Hindu community, recognizing Diwali at the White House and standing against global terrorism—a gesture that resonated with many Hindu Americans. While the Trump campaign could still expand its outreach to Hindus further, Nath feels that the alignment



of values is there. “Trump has the backbone to stand up to Islamic terrorism, to respect the sovereignty of Hindu Americans’ heritage, and to protect religious freedoms,” Nath asserts.

Though the Trump campaign’s involvement with Indian American voices has been limited, figures like Vivek Ramaswamy signal a new level of engagement with the community. “The fact that Trump has people like Ramaswamy speaking openly and boldly is an encouraging sign,” Nath remarks.

## Challenges and the path forward

Nath acknowledges that neither political party is without flaws and that Trump’s campaign has occasionally partnered with figures or movements she disagrees with.

However, she believes that Trump’s core policies align more closely with Hindu values than those of any other candidate.

“We are living in a time when Hindu Americans can no longer sit back and assume their rights will be protected. This election is our chance to make our voices heard,” Nath states. For Hindu Americans, this election represents a crucial moment to reflect on which leaders and policies will safeguard their future and respect their contributions.

For those ready for change, Donald Trump presents a clear choice.

**Disclaimer:** The views expressed in this opinion piece are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official stance of Indo-US Tribune or its editorial board. The publication of this article is intended to encourage discussion.



# Medical Doctor program (MD) - 4 year hybrid study

By: Dr Avi Verma, MD(h)

The International University of the Health Sciences (IUHS) School of Medicine offers a flexible and accredited 4-year MD program, with a 5-year option available. This hybrid program combines online and in-person study, making it ideal for allied health practitioners and recent graduates who want to become medical doctors without quitting work or relocating.

## Program Highlights

**Hybrid Learning:** The first two

years consist of pre-clinical studies conducted online, complemented by local physician mentorships. The final two years involve clinical rotations in hospitals.

**Innovative Technology:** The program employs award-winning tools like the DxR virtual patient simulator and the Distributed Online Campus System, allowing students to study from anywhere in the world.

**Global Reach:** Graduates are eligible to sit for licensing exams in numerous countries, including the USA, Canada,

Australia, Mexico, UAE, India, and South Africa.

**Affordable Tuition:** The program's tuition is competitively priced, averaging only 40% of the cost of most other private medical universities.

## Course Structure

### Years 1 & 2 - Pre-Clinical Years

The pre-clinical phase is a 92-week program divided into 11 blocks, focusing on the basic sciences and the development of clinical skills.

▶ **Block 0:** Introduction to Medicine



(12 weeks)

- ▶ **Block 1:** Introduction to Basic Medical Science (8 weeks)
- ▶ **Block 2:** Microbiology & Immunology (8 weeks)
- ▶ **Block 3:** Respiratory & Cardiovascular Systems (8 weeks)
- ▶ **Block 4:** Endocrine & Reproductive Systems (8 weeks)
- ▶ **Block 5:** Gastrointestinal & Renal Systems (8 weeks)
- ▶ **Block 6:** Central & Peripheral Nervous Systems (8 weeks)
- ▶ **Block 7:** Hematology, Musculoskeletal, Pathology, Dermatology, Anatomy, Behavioral Science (8 weeks)
- ▶ **Block 8:** Epidemiology, ENT, Histology, Legal, Autoimmune & Tropical Diseases (8 weeks)
- ▶ **Blocks 9 & 10:** Exams & remediation, customized study plan for board exams (16 weeks)

Throughout the pre-clinical years, students participate in a mentorship program with local physicians to gain early exposure to patients and clinical environments.

### Years 3 & 4 - Clinical Years

The clinical phase involves 80 weeks of rotations in hospitals, divided into core and elective rotations:

#### Core Rotations (48 weeks):

- ▶ Internal Medicine (12 weeks)
- ▶ Surgery (12 weeks)
- ▶ Obstetrics & Gynecology (6 weeks)
- ▶ Pediatrics (6 weeks)
- ▶ Psychiatry (6 weeks)
- ▶ General Family Practice (6 weeks)

▶ **Elective Rotations (32 weeks):** Students can choose specialties based on their interests and career goals.

#### Additional Information

**Award-Winning Innovation:** IUHS was awarded the Zairi Award for Excellence in Digital Innovation in 2023 for its advanced use of technology in medical education.

**Year-Round Applications:** IUHS accepts applications year-round, with start dates in May and September.

**Supportive Learning Environment:** The university fosters a collaborative and supportive learning environment, integrating technology with best practices in medical education.

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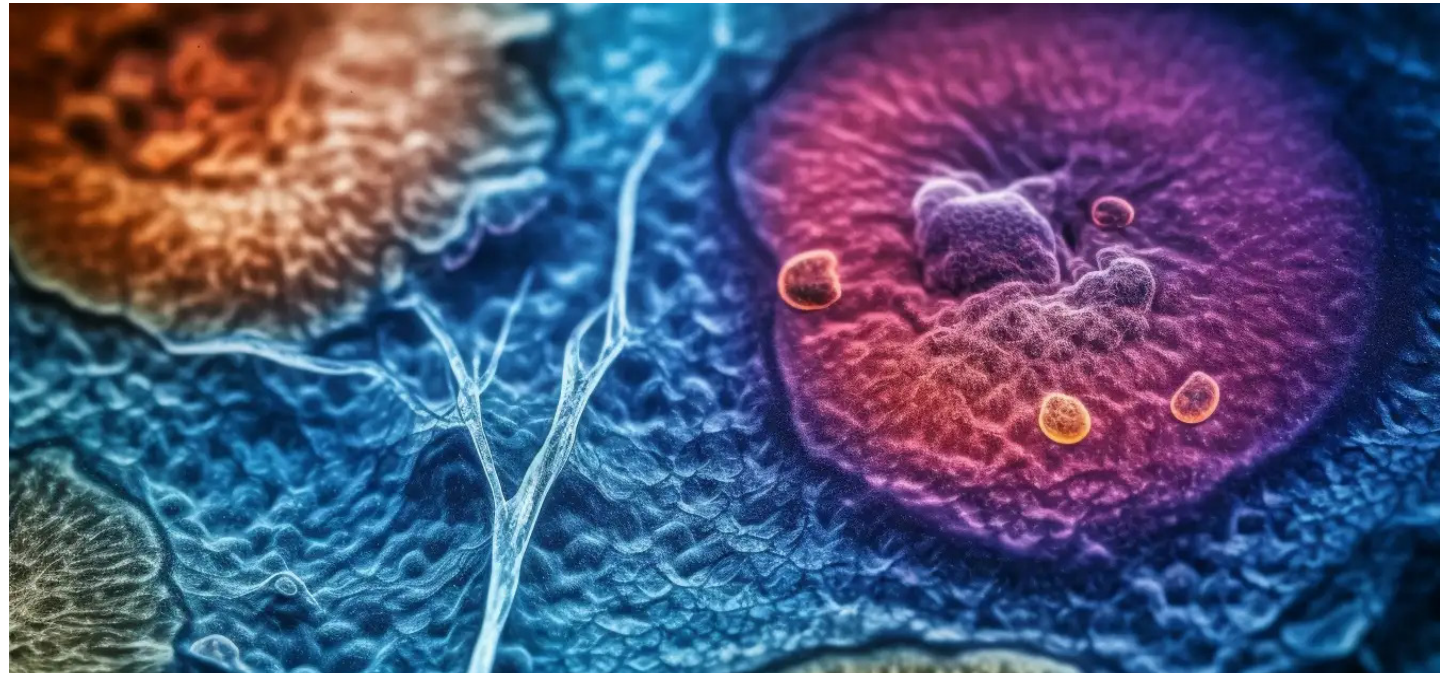
# Exploring 'biological aging' tests: Can your cells predict your risk of mortality?

● By: Dr Avi Verma, MD(h)

In a groundbreaking development, researchers have introduced a test that may be able to predict a person's mortality risk over the next year by analyzing cells from inside the cheek. Known as "CheekAge," this innovative tool examines DNA markers in cheek, or buccal, cells to provide insight into biological aging—a concept suggesting that the age reflected in our DNA might be more relevant to health than our chronological years. Findings published in *Frontiers in Aging* suggest that CheekAge could predict mortality within one year, particularly in adults aged 69-101, where it showed a significant correlation with mortality risk. With each increment in a subject's CheekAge score, their likelihood of death within a year rose by approximately 21%.

## How CheekAge works

CheekAge belongs to a class of biological tests known as "epigenetic clocks." These clocks assess the DNA methylation patterns across various tissues to estimate biological age, which often reveals more about health status than chronological age. This particular test focuses on buccal cells, analyzing chemical markers that can modify gene expression, essentially switching genes on and off as part of the aging process. The researchers built the tool by examining the DNA of individuals ranging from 18 to 93 years old, mapping DNA methylation patterns against various health indicators, such as stress, body mass



index, and educational background.

## Linking DNA methylation to mortality risk

One of the most compelling findings from this research is that CheekAge can detect signals associated with mortality risk across different tissue types. To test this, scientists analyzed blood samples from over 15,000 participants in the Lothian Birth Cohorts, tracking changes in DNA methylation patterns across nearly half a million genome sites. Despite being designed with cheek cell data, CheekAge's epigenetic insights successfully correlated with the blood-derived mortality data, highlighting its potential for more versatile health tracking.

While the CheekAge tool is still under study and not yet commercially

available, the research group has released a similar test, TallyAge, which tracks aging in other tissues. Although such epigenetic tests are not yet prescriptive, they hold promise for tracking aging-related health risks.

## The future of epigenetic clocks in health

In the long term, tools like CheekAge could help identify ways to slow down biological aging or lower disease risks linked to aging. Though some, such as Dr. Steve Horvath, a pioneer in the field, urge caution, epigenetic clocks may prove "moderately useful" for tracking whether behavioral changes—like increased exercise or dietary adjustments—positively impact biological aging markers. However, until more research shows how specific

interventions could influence our epigenetic "landscape," these clocks serve primarily as health indicators rather than direct guides for medical action.

For now, while the ability of tests like CheekAge to forecast biological age and mortality risk is promising, it's essential to interpret the results carefully. As science advances, these insights could provide a valuable roadmap for tracking health, understanding aging, and exploring ways to live longer, healthier lives.

*For more information and tips on managing your health, consult your healthcare provider and stay tuned to Health Corner, IndoUs Tribune.*

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