

Khamenei warns of retaliation if US strikes again, as Iran halts nuclear cooperation



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has warned that Tehran will strike American military bases in the Middle East if the United States launches further attacks. In his first remarks since the ceasefire with Israel, Khamenei called Iran’s recent missile strike on a US base in Qatar “a slap to America’s face.” The strike caused no casualties.

He accused the US of entering the war to protect Israel from collapse and claimed Iran emerged “victorious.” Khamenei also dismissed US claims of success in striking Iran’s nuclear facilities, calling them exaggerated.

Meanwhile, Iran’s parliament has approved a bill suspending cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), pending guarantees of nuclear safety. France and Germany urged Iran to resume talks, while IAEA head Rafael Grossi said cooperation is a legal obligation.

Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi said Iran has no plans to negotiate with the US. A spokesperson admitted Iran’s nuclear sites were “severely damaged,” fueling debate about leaving the non-proliferation treaty. Iran also criticized Western silence over Israel’s attacks.

Jaishankar to attend Quad foreign ministers’ meeting in Washington next week



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will attend a Quad foreign ministers’ meeting in Washington next week, hosted by U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio. Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong and Japan’s Iwaya Takeshi will also participate. The meeting aims to lay the groundwork for the upcoming Quad Summit in India, expected to bring together President Donald Trump and the prime ministers of Australia and Japan. Ahead of the meeting, Jaishankar and Wong discussed preparations via phone. Jaishankar will also inaugurate a United Nations exhibition on “The Human Cost of Terrorism” on Monday. The session follows India’s Operation Sindoor and the April Pahalgam terror attack, underscoring regional security concerns as focus shifts back to the Indo-Pacific.

A VENTURE OF ANSAL MEDIA GROUP OF USA, LLC

VOL:02•ISSUE:34 27 JUNE 2025 MIDWEST EDITION www.indoustribune.com We serve community first

India pushes for united action against terrorism at SCO as Rajnath meets Russian, Belarusian counterparts

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defense Ministers’ Meeting held in Qingdao this week, India strongly pushed for a united front against terrorism, but a joint statement was not adopted due to one member country objecting to references on terror. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh urged SCO nations to reject double standards and hold terror sponsors accountable, citing the April 22 Pahalgam attack that killed 26 civilians. He reiterated India’s zero-tolerance approach and referenced Operation Sindoor, under which India launched targeted airstrikes on terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

On the sidelines of the meeting, Singh held bilateral discussions with Russian Defence Minister Andrey Belousov and Belarusian Defence Minister Viktor Khrenin. Talks focused on regional



security challenges and enhancing defense ties. Singh and Belousov discussed longstanding India-Russia military cooperation, including joint projects such as the BrahMos missile system, S-400

air defense systems, and production of AK-203 rifles. This visit marked the first by an Indian Union Minister to China since the 2020 military standoff in Ladakh, signaling a renewed diplomatic engagement.

Hegseth defends Iran strike as Pentagon leans on AI over physical intel



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth has defended the Trump administration’s airstrikes on Iranian nuclear sites, claiming they “obliterated” key infrastructure, even as early intelligence suggested minimal long-term damage.

At a Pentagon briefing, Hegseth and Joint Chiefs Chair General Dan Caine cited artificial intelligence models to support claims of success, rather than traditional battlefield assessments.

Caine said Operation Midnight Hammer used 14 massive bunker-buster bombs to target key shafts in the Fordow enrichment complex, aiming to destroy the “mission space” where centrifuges

operate. He insisted all weapons hit their marks, but admitted much of the assessment is based on computer modeling rather than verified on-site damage.

Iran dismissed the strike as ineffective. Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei called Trump’s claims “exaggerated,” while Iran’s foreign minister confirmed serious damage but rejected calls for renewed U.S. talks. A bill suspending Iran’s cooperation with international nuclear inspectors has now become law.

Meanwhile, CIA Director John Ratcliffe and Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard claimed new intelligence shows multiple facilities, including Fordow and Natanz, could take years to rebuild—contradicting earlier reports the program would only be delayed by months.

India slams Bangladesh interim government over temple demolition



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India has strongly condemned the demolition of a Durga temple in Dhaka, accusing Bangladesh’s interim government, led by Muhammad Yunus, of enabling religious extremism. India’s Foreign Ministry said the government failed to protect the temple and falsely framed the destruction as a land dispute.

The incident follows a series of temple attacks this week, including in Dinajpur, where idols were desecrated. India called on Bangladesh to uphold the rights of Hindus and protect religious institutions. New Delhi also expressed concern over growing ties between Bangladesh, China, and Pakistan, noting their recent trilateral meeting.

Officials are monitoring potential security threats from non-state actors exploiting regional instability and radical networks.



## India seizes 1,115 tonnes of smuggled Pakistani goods via Dubai



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has seized 39 containers containing 1,115 metric tonnes of Pakistani-origin goods falsely declared as originating from the United Arab Emirates.

The shipments, intercepted at Nhava Sheva port, were smuggled into India via Dubai to bypass a complete ban on Pakistani imports imposed after the Pahalgam terror attack.

Operation Deep Manifest uncovered the smuggling network, which used dual container transfers and falsified documentation. Investigators found financial links to Pakistani entities and traced the cargo's route from Karachi to Dubai to Indian ports.

One importer has been arrested, and officials say the sophisticated smuggling operation involved Pakistani and Emirati nationals using a complex web to conceal the goods' origin.

## EU envoy hopes for credible elections and democratic restoration in Bangladesh



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

European Union Ambassador to Bangladesh Michael Miller expressed hope for a return to democratic order through free and fair national elections. After meeting with Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) leader Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury, Miller emphasized the EU's desire to work with an elected government. Discussions included electoral transparency, labor rights, and future cooperation with Parliament. Concerns were raised over new laws enabling the ban of political parties, including the Awami League, under the Muhammad Yunus-led interim government. International bodies, including the United Nations and Human Rights Watch, have criticized these changes for restricting civil liberties. The UN has urged reforms to ensure inclusive and democratic elections.

# India thanks partner nations for support during Operation Sindhu evacuations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has expressed gratitude to Israel, Iran, Jordan, Egypt, Armenia, and Turkmenistan for supporting the evacuation of its citizens under Operation Sindhu. Launched on June 18 amid conflict in West Asia, the operation has so far repatriated 3,426 Indian nationals from Iran and 818 from Israel. Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal noted that 14 flights were operated, with additional help from Armenia and Turkmenistan.

Due to Israeli airspace closure, Indians were rerouted through Jordan and Egypt. India also evacuated non-citizens, including Nepalis and Sri Lankans, and continues to assess the ground situation before deciding on further action. Jaiswal



highlighted Iran's special gesture of opening its airspace, calling it deeply appreciated. On June 26, a flight carrying 275 people from Iran landed in New Delhi, while the Indian Air Force also

flew out 224 individuals from Israel a day earlier. Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje received the returnees, as India reaffirmed that citizen safety remains its highest priority.

## Israel shuts northern Gaza aid crossing amid famine risk and global outcry

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israel has shut down the Zikim crossing into northern Gaza, cutting off the most direct route for aid deliveries to a region already facing critical famine conditions. The closure, announced Thursday, follows recent Israeli airstrikes and shelling that have killed dozens more in the territory, including 56 people in one day, according to Gaza's civil defense.

The move comes as global condemnation of Israel's conduct in Gaza intensifies. Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez labeled the crisis a "genocide," citing a European Union report that found evidence of human rights violations, including civilian deaths, attacks on journalists, and destruction of infrastructure.

Israel denied the allegations, insisting its actions target Hamas and not civilians. The Zikim crossing had been key to supplying wheat and essentials to northern Gaza, where



humanitarian access is most limited. Israel claims the closure was necessary after footage appeared to show armed guards—allegedly Hamas—escorting aid convoys. Local tribal leaders, however, say the guards were organized independently to prevent theft.

Since March, the UN and aid groups have struggled to deliver relief, as 2.3 million Palestinians face worsening hunger amid violence and chaos.

## Pakistani forces accused of killing Baloch teen in alleged extrajudicial incident

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) has condemned the extrajudicial killing of 17-year-old Ehsan Shah by Pakistan's Frontier Corps, calling it part of a wider pattern of state violence in Balochistan. Ehsan was shot on June 3 near the Lak Pass Tunnel while traveling to Quetta for Eid shopping.

His mother, speaking at a press conference in Mastung, recounted that her son was unarmed and innocent. Eyewitnesses said an FC soldier acknowledged the boy's innocence before declaring him dead.

The family's attempts to seek justice were reportedly met with threats and intimidation. Human rights organizations have documented widespread abuses in Balochistan, including enforced



disappearances and killings. In May 2025 alone, 138 cases of disappearance were reported—12 of which ended in extrajudicial deaths.

The BYC called on international human rights bodies to urgently intervene and investigate these violations. Ehsan's killing has intensified calls for accountability in a province where repression and armed resistance have long coexisted.

## Sanchez defends Spain's military budget amid Trump tariff threats



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez defended Spain's decision to keep defense spending at 2.1 percent of GDP, despite pressure from U.S. President Donald Trump to raise it to five percent.

Speaking in Brussels, Sanchez stressed Spain's sovereignty and commitment to NATO, but highlighted the importance of balancing defense with social welfare. Trump threatened tariffs on Spanish goods in response, calling them "unfair."

Sanchez countered that trade policy is determined by the European Union, not individual states. He also criticized the EU's failure to suspend its agreement with Israel despite alleged human rights violations in Gaza, contrasting it with its multiple sanctions on Russia for the war in Ukraine.



## Russia downplays NATO's defense spending pledge as insignificant



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**R**ussian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said NATO's pledge to raise defense spending to five percent of GDP by 2035 will not significantly affect Russia's security.

The statement follows a NATO summit in The Hague, where members committed to a dual-spending structure: 3.5 percent for core defense and 1.5 percent for infrastructure and defense-related capabilities.

The plan will be reviewed in 2029. U.S. President Donald Trump welcomed the decision but criticized Spain for only allocating 2.1 percent of its GDP. Lavrov dismissed the target, suggesting it will have no real impact on Russia's strategic posture and calling it more of a symbolic move than a substantial threat.

## India slams Pakistan at UN over child rights abuses and terrorism



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia strongly rebuked Pakistan at the United Nations Security Council on Wednesday, accusing it of using the forum to deflect attention from its own human rights abuses and cross-border terrorism. Speaking during a debate on children in armed conflict, India's UN envoy Parvathaneni Harish condemned Pakistan's record, citing the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam that killed 26 civilians. He referenced India's retaliatory Operation Sindoor, which targeted nine terrorist camps in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Harish also cited the Secretary-General's recent report, which documented attacks on girls' schools and health workers in Pakistan, and blamed Pakistani forces for killing Afghan children during cross-border shelling. India labeled Pakistan one of the "grave violators" of child rights and called its actions hypocritical. Harish reaffirmed India's stance that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the country and criticized Pakistan's continued patronage of terrorism. "To preach at this body after such behavior is grossly hypocritical," he said.

# EU says ready for US trade deal but braces for failure as tariffs loom

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**E**uropean Commission President Ursula von der Leyen says the EU is open to a trade deal with the US but is preparing for failure as former President Donald Trump threatens steep tariffs on European goods.

Trump plans to raise tariffs to 50 percent on all EU imports starting July 9 if a deal is not reached. Most goods already face 10 percent duties, with cars and car parts at 25 percent and steel at 50 percent. Von der Leyen said "all options remain on the table," and emphasized the EU would



protect its interests. Germany favors a quick agreement, even if unbalanced, while France warns against weakening Europe's competitiveness. Spain called the threat "unfair," and Ireland urged swift resolution to protect jobs.

The EU has paused tariffs on \$22.5 billion of US goods until mid-July and is considering new levies on \$102 billion in imports. The bloc rejected Trump's demand to change digital regulations, calling it a matter of sovereignty. EU trade chief Maroš Šefčovič said the car industry is "bleeding" and called for unity and predictability in any final agreement.

## Trump calls Netanyahu trial a 'witch hunt,' urges pardon for Israeli leader

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**U**.S. President Donald Trump has called for an end to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's corruption trial, labeling the charges a "witch hunt." In a post on his platform Truth Social, Trump said Netanyahu's recent military operation against Iran demonstrated exceptional leadership and that prosecuting him now is "unthinkable." Referring to Netanyahu as a "warrior," Trump argued that Israel should either cancel the trial or grant a pardon.

He mocked the allegations—accepting gifts like cigars and seeking favorable media coverage—as minor, politically driven, and unjust. Netanyahu has been under investigation since 2020 but denies any wrongdoing, claiming the legal system is biased. Trump praised Netanyahu's role in neutralizing an alleged nuclear threat and vowed continued U.S. support. He said, "Bibi



could not have been better or stronger," and insisted that the United States had saved Israel before and would now stand by Netanyahu. Trump's remarks come amid growing political pressure on the Israeli leader at home and abroad.

## South Korean court rejects detention request for former president Yoon



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A** Seoul court this week dismissed a special counsel's request for a detention warrant against former South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol in connection with his controversial attempt to impose martial law last December.

The Seoul Central District Court ruled that the request lacked urgency, citing Yoon's expressed willingness to cooperate. The special counsel, led by Cho Eun-suk, had begun operations only a week earlier following the National Assembly's approval of an independent investigation into insurrection charges.

Yoon had previously ignored three police summonses earlier this month—on June 5, 12, and 19. He now faces allegations of ordering the deletion of sensitive military records and obstructing a warrant executed by the Corruption Investigation Office in January.

Officials have ordered Yoon to appear for questioning this Saturday. Should he fail to comply, a formal detention request may be refiled. Yoon's legal team claims the earlier warrant was illegally executed.

## Lavrov, Tharoor discuss RIC revival and terrorism concerns in Moscow meeting

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndian MP Shashi Tharoor met Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Tuesday on the sidelines of the Primakov Readings, an international affairs forum in Moscow. Lavrov emphasized restoring the Russia-India-China (RIC) trilateral format, which has been on hold since the COVID-19 pandemic and India-China border tensions.

He said that with easing tensions, a resumption of RIC dialogue is expected soon. Tharoor also held a separate meeting with Duma Committee chair Leonid Slutsky, where they discussed an upcoming anti-terror conference involving India, Pakistan, China, Iran, and Turkey.

Tharoor strongly criticized Pakistan for harboring terrorists, referencing cross-border attacks like the April 22 Pahalgam incident. The meetings also covered the situation in Gaza, the Ukraine war, and India-Pakistan tensions post-Operation Sindoor. Tharoor recently led an Indian

delegation abroad as part of diplomatic outreach following the Pahalgam terror attack. The meetings reaffirmed growing India-Russia parliamentary and diplomatic collaboration under the BRICS framework.





INDOUS

TRIBUNE

Published Weekly by:

Ansal Media Group

of USA, LLC

Chicago Office:

Lincolnwood, IL 60712

marketing@indoustribune.com

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# After the firestorm: Was it worth it? U.S. strike fallout and the fragile ceasefire in the Israel-Iran conflict



Dr. Avi Verma

In continuation of our June 20th Publisher’s Note—“From Warning to Warfare”—we return this week with a sobering update: the worst may have been temporarily averted, but the embers still burn.

After U.S. President Donald Trump authorized a high-stakes strike on Iran’s nuclear facilities just over a week ago, the Middle East descended into a level of direct, sustained combat not seen in modern times. What followed was a devastating 72-hour exchange that left hundreds dead, cities smoldering, and global oil markets in chaos.

The U.S. assault targeted Iran’s three most critical nuclear development sites: Natanz, Khondab (formerly Arak), and the underground Fordow facility. Though Pentagon sources claim the strikes set back Iran’s nuclear capabilities by “at least three to five years,” independent analysts have cast doubt, noting that while infrastructure damage was significant, key personnel, centrifuge designs, and uranium stockpiles remain largely intact or dispersed.

Iran’s retaliation came swiftly. Over 180 ballistic and hypersonic missiles were fired, some directly striking military and civilian infrastructure in Israel and even a U.S. base in Qatar—marking a bold and dangerous escalation.

And then, silence.

On June 25, under mounting international pressure and diplomatic shuttle-work led quietly by France, Turkey, and Oman, a tenuous ceasefire was brokered. Both sides have ceased major offensives for now, though drone incursions, cyberattacks, and smaller proxy clashes continue. The truce—fragile, unformalized, and tentative—is holding, at least at the surface level.

But was it worth it?

Supporters of the Trump strike argue it showed the world that the U.S. would not tolerate the emergence of a nuclear-armed Iran. They claim the “shock” prevented Tehran from crossing the final threshold in its nuclear ambitions. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu praised the offensive as “historic, necessary, and overdue.”

But skeptics—and they are many—point to the aftermath:

- ▶ **Over 600 Iranian civilian deaths**, according to Human Rights Activists News Agency.
- ▶ **24 Israeli and 9 U.S. military casualties** reported in retaliatory missile strikes.
- ▶ **Soroka Hospital in Beersheba struck**, leaving dozens injured.
- ▶ **Thousands displaced** in southern Israel and parts of western Iran.
- ▶ **International travel and trade paralyzed**, particularly across the Gulf states.
- ▶ **Oil prices surged 22%**, throwing global energy markets into turmoil.

President Trump, who initially declared the strike a “decisive message,” has since walked back his tone, calling for restraint and “a path to future talks.” Meanwhile, U.S. military assets in the Gulf remain on high alert, and senior defense officials are preparing contingencies in case Iran resumes hostilities.

India's strategic tightrope

India finds itself walking an especially narrow diplomatic path. As a key

defense partner to Israel and a long-time energy and trade ally of Iran, New Delhi has so far refused to pick sides. Official statements have called for “maximum restraint and immediate de-escalation.” But behind the scenes, Indian intelligence is actively tracking the movements of nationals in the Gulf, and contingency plans are in place for possible evacuations.

More critically, India is watching U.S. and Chinese maneuvers closely. Any formal entry by either into the conflict could dramatically disrupt the balance of power in Asia.

The bigger question: Was this the beginning of World War III, or the end of the beginning?

Though the missiles have stopped—for now—the political calculus is only getting more complex. The U.S. has shown it is willing to strike preemptively. Iran has shown it is not afraid to hit back. Russia, while silent militarily, has issued a strong rebuke to both Israel and Washington. China has called for a U.N. emergency session.

In this delicate intermission, the world has a moment to reflect—on brinkmanship, on diplomacy, and on the value of restraint. But the fuse, once lit, remains smoldering.

At IndoUS Tribune, we will continue to cover these developments with urgency, depth, and clarity—keeping in mind not only geopolitics, but the human consequences.

We urge all readers, especially those with loved ones in affected regions, to stay alert, stay informed, and stay hopeful.

Best Regards,  
Dr. Avi Verma,  
Publisher, IndoUS Tribune



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# Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sanchez tie the knot in star-studded Venice wedding amid local backlash



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**mazon founder and tech billionaire Jeff Bezos is set to marry former journalist Lauren Sanchez in a high-profile wedding in Venice, Italy, this week. The extravagant three-day celebration, expected to cost over \$51 million, has drawn global attention for its guest list and location, as well as local criticism. According to Luca Zaia, President of the Veneto region, the festivities have transformed parts of Venice into a restricted zone with heightened security measures to protect the privacy of the couple and their 200–250 elite guests. A host of celebrities, royalty, and political figures have already arrived, including Bill Gates, Orlando Bloom, Queen Rania of Jordan, Oprah Winfrey, Kim Kardashian, and Ivanka Trump with Jared Kushner. Despite efforts to minimize disruption, environmental activists and residents have voiced concerns about the pressure such events place on the already overburdened city, which sees over 30 million tourists annually.

## Oil heads for biggest weekly drop in two years as geopolitical fears ease

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**O**il prices climbed slightly on Friday but remained on track for their sharpest weekly decline since March 2023, with markets reacting to diminished geopolitical risks from the recent Iran-Israel conflict. Brent crude rose 42 cents, or 0.6 percent, to \$68.15 per barrel, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate gained 51 cents, or nearly 0.8 percent, reaching \$65.75.

Despite briefly topping \$80 per barrel during the 12-day conflict that began on June 13—after Israel struck Iranian nuclear sites—prices plummeted following the announcement of a ceasefire by U.S. President Donald Trump. Both benchmarks were set for a 12 percent weekly loss.

Analysts say the lack of significant supply disruption has shifted market focus back to fundamentals. Rystad Energy’s Janiv Shah noted that risk premiums have largely faded. Traders are now watching for developments at the July 6 OPEC+ meeting, where an output increase of 411,000 barrels per day is expected.

Support for prices came from U.S. inventory data showing a drop in crude and distillate stocks, and a drawdown in gasoil inventories at the Amsterdam-Rotterdam-Antwerp hub and in Singapore. China’s Iranian oil imports also surged to record levels this month.

# Mexico demands evidence after US sanctions banks over fentanyl-linked money laundering

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**M**exican President Claudia Sheinbaum has demanded proof from the United States after the US Treasury sanctioned three Mexican financial institutions—CiBanco, Intercam, and Vector Casa de Bolsa—for allegedly laundering money linked to fentanyl trafficking. Sheinbaum said her government has not received any evidence supporting the claims and urged Washington to share documentation.

The US Treasury’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) accused the banks of facilitating financial transactions for drug cartels. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said these entities are key to enabling the fentanyl crisis in the US. Specific allegations include CiBanco laundering \$10 million for a Gulf cartel leader and Intercam meeting with suspected New Generation Jalisco cartel members.



Sheinbaum confirmed Mexico has launched its own investigation but found the US-provided information insufficient. The sanctions follow earlier US actions, including visa bans and tariffs aimed

at pressuring Mexico to act against trafficking. Sheinbaum reiterated Mexico’s stance: “There is no impunity, but allegations must be backed by hard evidence.”

## IMF presses Bangladesh on election date before releasing next loan tranches

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**B**angladesh’s Finance Advisor Salehuddin Ahmed confirmed Wednesday that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) sought clarity on the date of the upcoming national elections before disbursing nearly \$1.34 billion in loans.

The IMF approved the long-delayed fourth and fifth tranches of a \$4.7 billion loan program this week, following political upheaval after the ouster of the Awami League government in August 2024.

The fourth tranche had originally been

scheduled for release in December but was held due to unmet reform conditions and instability. The IMF reportedly asked whether elections would take place in February 2025, and the interim government confirmed the plan. Despite the disbursement, the IMF warned that Bangladesh’s economy is under stress due to weak reforms, high banking sector risks, and investor uncertainty.

It urged structural reforms, improved financial safeguards, and increased foreign investment. Critics say the interim administration under Muhammad Yunus has failed to stabilize the economy amid growing unrest.

## Supreme Court partially upholds Trump's birthright citizenship order, limits nationwide injunctions

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**n a significant 6-3 ruling along ideological lines, the Supreme Court on Friday allowed President Trump’s executive order restricting birthright citizenship to take effect in certain parts of the country. The high court’s decision curtails the ability of lower federal judges to issue nationwide injunctions, a legal tool frequently used by plaintiffs to broadly block presidential policies.

The ruling found that three federal district judges overstepped their authority by issuing injunctions that applied across the entire nation against President Trump’s order. While the Supreme Court’s decision empowers the administration to enforce the order more widely, it does not definitively rule on the constitutionality of the birthright citizenship restrictions themselves. That fundamental legal question could still return to the justices for a final determination.

For the time being, the lower court

rulings have been narrowed. President Trump’s order is now only blocked in the 22 Democratic-led states, and as applied to the expectant mothers and immigration organizations directly involved in the lawsuits.

President Trump’s executive order, signed on his first day in office, significantly alters the conventional understanding of the 14th Amendment’s Citizenship Clause. This clause has long been interpreted to grant citizenship to nearly all children born on U.S. soil, with very few exceptions. The order specifically curbs birthright citizenship for children born in the United States if at least one parent does not hold permanent legal status.

This ruling represents a major procedural victory for the Trump administration, enabling the partial implementation of a key policy initiative while the larger constitutional debate over birthright citizenship continues to unfold.

## Egypt and Britain call for diplomacy after Israel-Iran ceasefire



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**E**gyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer urged renewed diplomacy following the recent Israel-Iran ceasefire.

During a phone call this week, both leaders emphasized the need for a peaceful resolution and a return to negotiations. They welcomed the calm after weeks of conflict that began with Israeli strikes on Iranian facilities and retaliatory missile attacks.

Sisi stressed using the de-escalation as an opportunity to push for a Gaza ceasefire and increased humanitarian aid. He reaffirmed support for an independent Palestinian state.

Starmer praised Egypt’s regional leadership and highlighted stronger bilateral cooperation between Cairo and London in economic and strategic areas.



### Bessent urges Congress to drop 'foreign revenge tax' from Trump bill



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has called on Congress to eliminate Section 899 from Donald Trump’s tax bill—a provision that would allow the United States to impose retaliatory taxes on companies from countries with aggressive tax regimes. The measure had raised concerns among investors and U.S. allies.

Bessent said the tax is no longer necessary due to a new agreement with G7 nations that protects U.S. firms from additional levies under the OECD’s global minimum tax rules. The Treasury estimates the deal will save American companies over \$100 billion in foreign taxes over the next decade.

Republican leaders in both the House and Senate said Thursday they plan to remove the provision, as pressure mounts to finalize the bill ahead of the July 4 deadline set by Trump.

### Trump administration to try Abrego Garcia on smuggling charges before deportation



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration plans to try Kilmar Abrego Garcia on federal child smuggling charges before deporting him to a third country, not El Salvador, where he was wrongly deported in March. Abrego Garcia, a Maryland construction worker with a U.S. family, became a symbol of the administration’s hardline immigration policies after his illegal removal. Though a Tennessee judge initially allowed his release on bail, she delayed action, fearing immigration officials would deport him prematurely.

Justice Department officials insist he will remain in the U.S. to face trial. His lawyers filed an emergency motion in Maryland to prevent deportation and ensure his return to family. A July 7 hearing is scheduled.

## Supreme Court allows South Carolina to cut Planned Parenthood from Medicaid

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Supreme Court ruled Thursday that South Carolina can exclude Planned Parenthood from its Medicaid program, siding with Republican state officials in a closely watched case. The 6–3 decision overturned a lower court’s ruling that had blocked the state from defunding the healthcare provider.

The ruling is a major victory for Republican-led states seeking to cut off public funds to abortion providers. Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, which operates clinics in Charleston and Columbia, offers a range of services to Medicaid patients, including cancer screenings, contraception, and physical exams. The state had argued that abortion providers are not qualified to offer family planning services.

Planned Parenthood and a patient sued under a federal civil rights law, claiming the right to choose their medical provider.



Lower courts had agreed, but the Supreme Court rejected that reasoning.

The decision follows growing Republican efforts to limit abortion access since the 2022 reversal of *Roe v. Wade*, and will likely embolden similar efforts in other states.

## Trump touts tax bill as Senate Republicans remain divided

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Donald Trump is intensifying efforts to push his major tax-and-spending bill through Congress, but internal Republican disagreements threaten its passage in the Senate. Speaking at the White House Thursday, Trump urged voters to pressure lawmakers to support the legislation, which includes new tax cuts, extended reduced rates, and more immigration enforcement funding.

Though the House narrowly passed the bill last month, Senate Republicans are split. Some moderates, including Senators Lisa Murkowski and Thom Tillis, have not

yet committed. The bill’s projected \$4.2 trillion cost over 10 years has also raised concerns among fiscal conservatives.

Democrats oppose the bill, calling it a “big, ugly betrayal” due to major Medicaid and nutrition aid cuts. The legislation could strip healthcare coverage from up to 16 million people and reduce food assistance nationwide.

Adding to the challenge, the Senate parliamentarian ruled Thursday that a key Medicaid tax provision cannot be passed through reconciliation, complicating Republicans’ strategy to bypass a filibuster. Trump wants the bill passed before July 4, but key votes are still in play.

## Adams launches re-election bid as Mamdani reshapes New York mayoral race

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New York Mayor Eric Adams has launched his re-election campaign as an independent, just days after democratic socialist Zohran Mamdani’s surprise victory in the Democratic primary. Adams, whose popularity suffered amid a corruption scandal—later dismissed—skipped the Democratic race but now positions himself as a centrist alternative to Mamdani.

At a press conference, Adams portrayed the race as a contrast between “solutions and slogans,” branding Mamdani a “silver spoon socialist.” Wall Street leaders, who had backed Andrew Cuomo, are now reconsidering Adams amid Mamdani’s progressive agenda, which includes rent freezes and free public transport.

The business community is wary of Mamdani’s rise, with Partnership for New



York City’s CEO Kathy Wylde warning of political instability. Adams, once criticized for his ties to Donald Trump’s administration, is now seeking support from moderate voters, business leaders, and his base of Black and Jewish New Yorkers.

If elected again, Adams promises to reduce crime, expand affordable housing, and improve mental health services.

### Scorching heat wave shatters records across eastern U.S., strains power grid



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A dangerous and record-breaking heat wave swept across the eastern United States on June 24, pushing temperatures to triple digits and triggering widespread heat warnings. Cities from St. Louis to Boston, including Chicago, Detroit, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, and New York, faced extreme heat advisories.

At JFK Airport in New York City, temperatures hit 102°F—setting a new June record. Newark, Baltimore, and Boston also recorded highs above 100°F, while Philadelphia hit 101°F for the first time since 2012.

The National Weather Service said dozens of daily high records were broken, with Baltimore reaching 105°F and LaGuardia Airport reporting 101°F. The intense heat strained power grids, leading to outages in some areas.

Meteorologist Bob Oravec called June 24 “likely the worst day for widespread heat records,” especially in the Northeast. Relief was expected starting June 25, but officials continue to urge caution amid persistent heat risks.

### U.S. expands military detention zones for migrants at southern border

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. military is expected to announce two new National Defense Areas (NDAs) along the southern border, enabling service members to detain migrants who trespass. One NDA will extend 250 miles near Joint Base San Antonio, Texas, while the other will span about 100 miles near Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona.

These zones follow earlier NDA designations in Texas and New Mexico. While federal law typically prohibits military involvement in law enforcement, NDAs allow temporary detainment and crowd control within the designated areas. Critics, including Democratic Senators Jack Reed and Martin Heinrich, argue the move undermines due process and evades the Posse Comitatus Act.

Convictions for NDA-related trespassing have recently begun, although judges have dismissed several charges due to lack of evidence that migrants knew they were entering restricted zones.



## General Motors recalls over 62,000 trucks for brake defect risk



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

General Motors is recalling 62,468 heavy-duty Chevrolet Silverado trucks from model years 2019 to 2024 due to a brake defect that could lead to fires. The issue involves leaking brake fluid that may cause electrical short circuits in the brake pressure switch, posing a fire risk whether the truck is in motion or parked.

The recall affects Silverado 4500 HD, 5500 HD, and 6500 HD models. Vehicles produced with an updated brake switch harness containing silicone sealant are not impacted. The largest number of at-risk trucks includes over 10,000 2023 Silverado 5500 HD vehicles.

GM informed the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of the problem on June 25 and has urged affected owners to contact dealers for free repairs. No injuries or crashes have been reported so far.

## White House plays along as NATO chief's 'Daddy' comment goes viral



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The White House has embraced the viral “Daddy” label for President Trump after NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte made a tongue-in-cheek comment during their press conference in the Netherlands. A video posted by the administration featured Usher’s song ‘Hey Daddy (Daddy’s Home)’ alongside highlights of Trump’s NATO summit trip.

Rutte later clarified he had not called Trump “Daddy,” explaining he used the analogy to describe European nations seeking reassurance from the U.S. about its commitment to NATO. Trump laughed off the remark, joking that Rutte said it “very affectionately.”

The lighthearted exchange has since gained traction online, with the White House using it to portray Trump’s dominant role in transatlantic affairs amid ongoing tensions in the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

## House committee subpoenas Harvard in tuition price-fixing probe

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The House Judiciary Committee has subpoenaed Harvard University, demanding documents related to tuition and financial aid policies as part of a broader investigation into alleged Ivy League price-fixing.

Chairman Jim Jordan accused Harvard of withholding key materials, particularly regarding legacy admissions, aid algorithms, and communications with the now-defunct 568 Presidents Group. Though Harvard was not a member, the committee insists on seeing documents related to its decision not to join.

Harvard has produced fewer than 400 documents—“among the lowest,” according to the committee—and now faces a July 17 deadline. A university spokesperson called the subpoena



“unwarranted” and said Harvard has acted in good faith.

The subpoena arrives amid ongoing legal battles between Harvard and the Trump administration, including over frozen funding and visa restrictions. With tuition set at \$86,926 for 2025–2026, Harvard has expanded aid but remains under scrutiny for pricing and access.

Democrats claim the probe reflects Trump’s political agenda, while Republicans argue it targets “discriminatory” financial practices at elite universities.

## Boeing faulted for safety failures in Alaska MAX 9 midair blowout, says NTSB

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The National Transportation Safety Board has sharply criticized Boeing for serious lapses that led to a midair blowout on an Alaska Airlines 737 MAX 9 in January 2024. Investigators found that Boeing failed to install four bolts during production and provided inadequate training, oversight, and documentation for the door plug—errors the NTSB said were avoidable and long-standing.

NTSB chair Jennifer Homendy said Boeing and the Federal Aviation Administration overlooked red flags identified over the past decade. She called it a “miracle” that no one was killed or seriously injured. The FAA acknowledged weak oversight and has since increased inspections and imposed a production cap of 38 jets per month, which remains in effect.

Boeing said it regrets the incident and



is working on safety reforms, including a new design to ensure the door plug cannot be closed unless secured. The incident damaged Boeing’s reputation and led to a Justice Department probe. Former CEO Dave Calhoun stepped down, and new CEO Kelly Ortberg now faces the task of rebuilding the company’s safety culture.

## State Department layoffs could affect thousands as court ruling nears

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. State Department may begin laying off over 2,000 employees, including 700 Washington-based foreign service officers, as early as Friday. The cuts are part of Secretary of State Marco Rubio’s plan to overhaul what he calls a “bloated” bureaucracy. However, the layoffs could be delayed by a pending Supreme Court decision on whether to lift a lower court’s order that temporarily halted federal workforce reductions.

Internal memos show rooms have been reserved to process dismissals, and employees have received checklists for returning badges and IT equipment. The department aims to cut 3,448 domestic staff by July 1. The American Foreign Service Association has warned that the plan bypasses long-standing merit-based



procedures. A State Department official denied any intention of violating court orders, while AFSA insists layoffs cannot legally proceed without a ruling from the Supreme Court.

## Trump’s defense budget shifts focus to drones, missiles over jets



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Trump’s \$893 billion defense budget for 2026 prioritizes high-tech missiles and drones while cutting back on F-35 fighter jets and Navy staffing. The plan includes a 3.8% pay raise for troops and funding to boost defense manufacturing, particularly in response to threats from China.

The Pentagon’s share is \$848.3 billion, with additional money allocated for nuclear weapons and homeland security. The proposal slashes procurement of F-35s to 47 jets, compared to 68 requested under President Biden, and seeks to retire the A-10 Warthog fleet. The Navy would reduce 7,286 civilian jobs.

Congress is reviewing the budget, with lawmakers pushing to increase F-35 purchases. Separate funding is expected for submarine procurement and Trump’s controversial “Golden Dome” missile shield, which was omitted from this request.

## RFK Jr. panel urges caution on flu preservative, endorses RSV shot



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A new vaccine advisory panel under Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has voted to recommend against using flu vaccines containing thimerosal, a mercury-based preservative rarely used in the U.S. The panel also endorsed a new RSV shot for newborns, adding Merck’s Enflonisia to the list of approved options.

The vote drew criticism from pediatric experts and vaccine advocates, who warned that reexamining long-settled science could erode public trust. The American Academy of Pediatrics stressed there is no evidence thimerosal is harmful, citing decades of safety data.

The panel, now filled with Kennedy’s appointees, plans a broader review of pediatric vaccine schedules, raising concerns among mainstream medical groups. CDC officials described the meeting as a sign of Kennedy’s increasing influence over vaccine policy.



# Shubhanshu Shukla takes a taste of India to space in historic ISS mission

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In a landmark moment for the Indian diaspora and the country's growing space ambitions, Air Force Group Captain and ISRO astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla has successfully reached the International Space Station (ISS) as part of the Axiom-4 mission launched by SpaceX. He becomes only the second Indian to travel to space after Rakesh Sharma in 1984—and the first to board the ISS.



wanted to share these treats with his fellow astronauts on board the orbiting laboratory.

"There will be plenty of food in space, but I will carry mango nectar, 'gajar ka halwa', and 'moong dal halwa' with me," he said during a pre-launch press conference. The astronaut is also

carrying a private souvenir for Rakesh Sharma—a tribute to the pioneering figure who has guided him through the mission preparation process.

The Axiom-4 mission launched from Florida on June 25 aboard the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. The crew successfully docked at the ISS on June 26 at approximately 4:30 pm IST. The team, which includes Shukla and three other astronauts, is expected to spend up to 14 days conducting scientific experiments, outreach initiatives, and commercial activities in microgravity.

The mission is being commanded by former NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson, while Shukla serves as pilot. For millions of Indians worldwide, his presence aboard the ISS marks a symbolic renewal of India's space legacy and a step toward its future manned missions.

## Sikh coin exhibit in Birmingham connects faith, resistance, and rare history

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A rare and deeply personal exhibition at Birmingham's Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha (GNNSJ) complex is drawing admiration for its presentation of Sikh history through the lens of numismatics. Titled Coins of Courage, the exhibition runs parallel to a Gurmat education conference and is curated by UK-based Ravinder Pal Singh Kohli, a descendant of Rawalpindi Sikhs. This extraordinary collection features copper, silver, and gold coins dating from the time of Guru Nanak (1469) to the annexation of Punjab by the British in 1849. Items include coins tied to pivotal events: the copper denomination Guru Nanak used during Sacha Sauda; gold mohurs used for the cremation of the Chhote Sahibzade; and coins issued during Sikh persecution under Lahore's Governor Mir Mannu. Kohli's collection, supported by his Global Sikh Vision nonprofit and presented under the patronage of Bhai Sahib Dr. Mohinder Singh Ahluwalia, reflects the role of currency not only in trade but in identity, memory, and resilience. Many early coins bear Farsi script, while later ones include Gurmukhi and even symbols of Punjab's pluralism, underscoring the Sikh empire's inclusive spirit. Paired with the adjoining educational conference, the exhibit bridges historical knowledge and spiritual philosophy—making Sikh values visible in both words and metal.

## Kapurthala native Kamalpreet Singh earns commission in Royal Australian Air Force

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Kamalpreet Singh, a 33-year-old engineer from Kapurthala, Punjab, has been commissioned as a Flying Officer in the Royal Australian Air Force, marking a significant personal and community milestone.

Singh completed his schooling at Kendriya Vidyalaya and Army Public School in Kapurthala before earning a B'Tech degree from a college in Jalandhar. He initially worked as an engineer at a thermal power plant in Goindwal Sahib, Punjab.

However, his aspiration to serve in the armed forces remained strong. After moving to Australia in 2017, he worked relentlessly to qualify for the military and was eventually selected for officer training.

His father, Sewa Singh, a retired Army veteran, and his entire family migrated to Australia by 2019. They describe Kamalpreet's success as the culmination of years of determination.

His elder brother, Sarabjit Singh, currently serves as an officer in the New South Wales police force.

Kamalpreet's journey reflects the deep-rooted military tradition in his family—his grandfather also served in the Indian Army. The achievement is being celebrated not only by his family but also by the wider Punjabi diaspora.

## Indian-origin man posed as doctor, messaged 3,000 women to scam crores on matrimonial site

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A bhishek Shukla, an Indian-origin man based in Perth, Australia, has been arrested by Pune Police for allegedly defrauding a woman of Rs.3.6 crore (approx. USD 430,000) after posing as "Dr. Rohit Oberoi" on a matrimonial website. Authorities say he messaged over 3,000 women using this false identity.

Shukla, originally from Lucknow and holding an Australian passport, contacted the victim—a Delhi native living in Pune—in 2023. After gaining her trust and promising marriage, he lured her into a fake business venture linked to mindfulness programs for children, promising international expansion and funding. He introduced two fictitious associates—"Yvonne Handayani" and "Vincent Kuan" from Singapore—and convinced her to transfer money to



accounts in India and abroad.

Later, Shukla faked an oral cancer diagnosis, broke off contact, and in September 2024, the woman received an email claiming he had died. Suspecting fraud, she alerted police. Authorities arrested Shukla at Mumbai airport in June 2025. Investigators believe the scam could be wider and have appealed to other victims to come forward.

## Missing Indian-origin woman's remains found in Canadian landfill; partner charged with murder

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The partial remains of Shalini Singh, a 40-year-old Indian-origin mental health worker who went missing in December 2024, have been identified by Canadian authorities. Singh was last seen entering her Hamilton, Ontario, apartment on December 2, and her family reported her missing on December 10.

Police investigations revealed signs of foul play and determined that Singh's body had been removed from the building through the garbage chute. After tracing waste disposal records, officers located human remains at a landfill on May 21. DNA testing confirmed they were Singh's.



Her partner, Jeffery Smith of Burlington, was arrested on June 20 and charged with second-degree murder and indignity to human remains. Authorities stated that the search of the landfill is ongoing and is expected to conclude by June 27. Smith appeared in court the day after his arrest. Police have urged anyone with relevant information to come forward.

## Renowned Aussie scientist donates family land to build rural health dispensary in Punjab

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Professor Harbans Bariana, a globally respected agricultural scientist based in Australia, has donated family land in his native village of Nangal Isher in Hoshiarpur district to establish a public dispensary. A former professor of Cereal Rust Genetics at the University of Sydney, Bariana returned to India earlier this year and persuaded his family to contribute the land to the village panchayat. Bariana has remained deeply connected to India despite his international career. During his visit, he also conducted a three-week academic workshop at Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), his alma mater. A 2013 recipient of the Borlaug Global Rust Initiative Gene Stewardship Award, Bariana is a key figure in the development of rust-resistant wheat varieties and has collaborated with institutions in India, China, Kyrgyzstan, and Pakistan.

Now an adjunct professor at Western Sydney University, Bariana says giving back is his way of honoring his roots and supporting future generations. His act of philanthropy continues a family tradition of service, and his story is one of humility, perseverance, and global impact rooted in a small Punjabi village.



Zohran Mamdani wins New York Democratic mayoral primary amid backlash over India remarks



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Zohran Mamdani, a 33-year-old Indian-Ugandan-American and progressive Democrat, secured a surprising victory in the New York City mayoral primary, capturing 43.5 percent of the vote against former Governor Andrew Cuomo’s 36.3 percent.

Mamdani, an outspoken member of the Democratic Socialists of America and son of filmmaker Mira Nair and scholar Mahmood Mamdani, ran on a grassroots platform centered on housing affordability, youth engagement, and inclusive governance.

However, his campaign has ignited strong controversy in the Indian-American community. Critics have condemned his past remarks describing India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a “war criminal” and accusing him of complicity in the 2002 Gujarat riots.

In a May forum, Mamdani suggested Modi should be viewed similarly to Israel’s Benjamin Netanyahu.

These statements drew rebuke from Indian-American leaders such as Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar and Sikh lawyer Jaspreet Singh, who said his rhetoric caused division and displayed prejudice.

Despite the backlash, Mamdani maintained his focus on local issues like affordability and representation. His primary victory signals a shift in New York’s political landscape—challenging centrist figures and redefining the rise of progressive politics.

The primary unfolded shortly after the NYPD launched an investigation into Islamophobic death threats and racial slurs leveled against Mamdani, underscoring rising tensions.

Mamdani’s nomination represents both a bold change for New York Democrats and a test: Can a candidate with controversial global views maintain unity at home and uphold progressive principles ahead of a potentially closely watched general election?

Chicago boy earns world record for creating over 80 Rubik’s Cube mosaic portraits

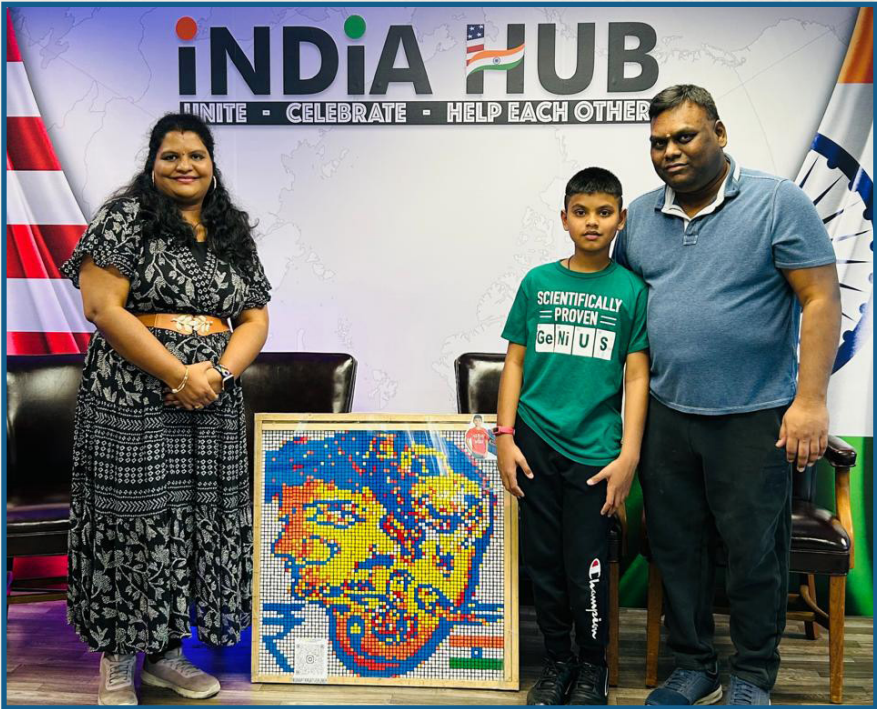
IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At just 11 years old, Sai Khusheel Krishna Bayya is turning heads across the globe with his extraordinary talent for Rubik’s Cube mosaic art. A resident of Chicago and of Indian origin, Sai Khusheel has earned a World Record from the International Book of Records for the most number of mosaic portraits created by a child using 555 Rubik’s Cubes. With a strong focus on both human and devotional subjects, he has so far completed 81 portraits, each made with intricate precision. Remarkably, he can complete a human portrait in under one hour and a devotional one in less than two hours. His portfolio also includes flags of 85 countries, optical illusions, and cultural icons—all crafted entirely from colorful cubes.

Notable achievements and recognitions:

- World Record: Most mosaic portraits made with 555 Rubik’s Cubes by a child at age 10 – International Book of Records
- Creative Genius Award 2024 – Magic Book of Records
- Star Performer & Creative Cuber Title – International Star Kids Awards
- GKAA 2024 Arts & Culture Award – Global Kids Achievers Awards
- ISKA Advocate 2025 – Appointed by International Star Kids Association
- 1st Prize, 3D Model Art – JKYog International Gita Festival 2024
- Devotional Contribution: Has hand-written "Sri Rama" in Telugu 200,000 times as part of Sri Rama Nama Likhitha Japa

Sai Khusheel has actively showcased

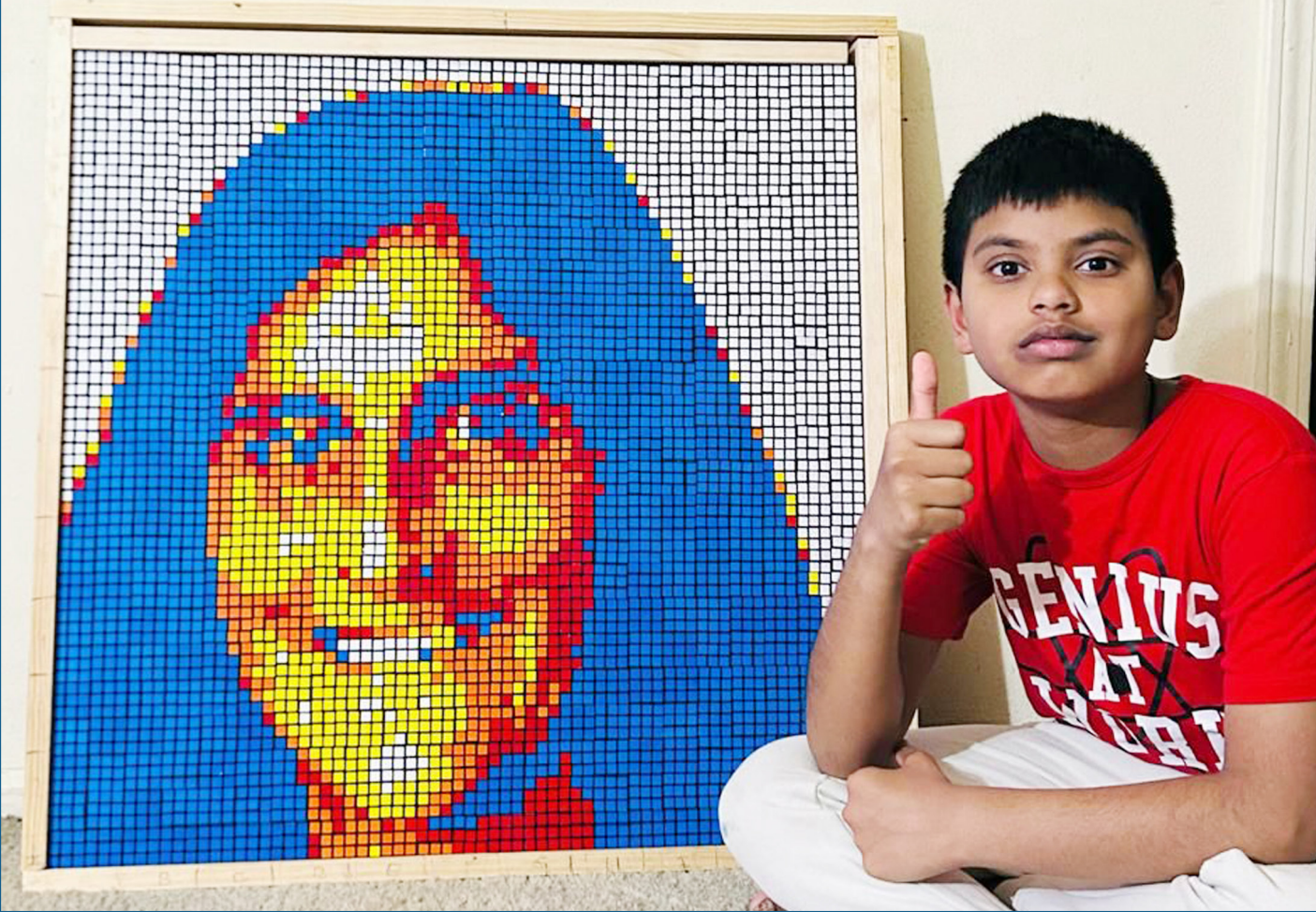


his Rubik’s Cube mosaic art at major Indian-American community events and organizations in the U.S., including TTA, TAGC, IAGC, NATS, CHITA, National India Hub, CVA, and CAA.

His vision, patience, and creativity have not only earned him prestigious accolades, but also made him an emerging



name in youth art and cultural circles. With a growing global following, Sai Khusheel is a young artist redefining how the classic Rubik’s Cube can be used as a powerful tool for storytelling and expression.





Friday, 27 June 2025

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## Sixteen killed and hundreds injured in violent Kenya protests

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



At least 16 people were killed and over 400 injured during nationwide protests in Kenya on June 25. The demonstrations, held in memory of those killed during last year's tax protests, turned violent as police clashed with marchers in Nairobi and other cities. Amnesty International confirmed most fatalities were caused by police. Protesters lit fires, chanted against President William Ruto, and tried to approach Parliament, prompting police to use tear gas and water cannons.

In cities like Mombasa and Kisumu, buildings were torched. The government also shut down live TV coverage. Public anger has intensified due to rising costs, police brutality, and recent deaths, including a teacher allegedly killed in custody. Protesters, many of them youth, vowed to continue demanding justice. "The youth are unstoppable," one demonstrator said. Civic groups urged dialogue, warning of worsening political tension.

## Jamaica seeks UK legal review on slavery reparations



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Jamaica will formally petition King Charles III to refer the issue of slavery reparations to the UK's judicial committee of the privy council. The move aims to determine whether the forced transport and enslavement of Africans was lawful and if it constitutes a crime against humanity. Culture Minister Olivia Grange told Parliament the request will also ask if Britain owes Jamaica reparations for the historical and ongoing impacts of slavery.

The privy council, the highest court of appeal for Jamaica, could issue a nonbinding legal opinion. Experts say the monarch is authorized to refer such matters under the Judicial Committee Act of 1833. King Charles has previously expressed sorrow over slavery, but the UK government has resisted calls for reparations. Jamaica's petition follows its December proposal to remove the king as head of state. Advocates hope this legal step will add international weight to the reparations campaign.

## Pakistan faces backlash over Trump Nobel peace prize nomination after Iran strike

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan's decision to nominate Donald Trump for the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize has sparked fierce domestic criticism, following the United States' bombing of Iranian nuclear sites. The Pakistani government had credited Trump's "pragmatic diplomacy" and "pivotal leadership" in helping to broker a ceasefire with India in June, just before the US launched airstrikes that threatened a wider Middle East conflict.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif called Iran's president to express concern, while opposition lawmakers and diplomats condemned the nomination. Former ambassador Maleeha Lodhi called the move "ill-conceived" and demanded its withdrawal.

The conservative Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam party submitted a resolution to retract it. Despite the backlash, several ministers



defended the nomination. Defense Minister Khawaja Asif praised Trump's role in defusing crises, and Senator Musadik Malik pointed to Trump's efforts in the Russia-Ukraine war as further justification. Critics, however, labeled the decision as "crass flattery," especially in light of Trump's controversial strike on Iran and his ongoing criticism of international institutions like the Nobel committee. Ukraine's parliament also withdrew its own Trump nomination. Trump, meanwhile, posted that he did not expect to win but believed "the people know" his efforts.

## Kim Jong-un unveils beach resort, calls it major national feat

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

North Korea's leader Kim Jong-un inaugurated a new beach resort in Wonsan Kalma, calling it one of the country's "greatest feats" this year. Joined by his wife Ri Sol-ju and daughter Kim Ju-ae, Kim oversaw the ribbon-cutting and relaxed by the pool as citizens used water slides nearby. The 4-kilometer coastal resort is expected to host 20,000 annual visitors after its July 1 opening.

The site, developed over more than a decade, features hotels, recreation areas, and restaurants. However, it will remain off-limits to most foreigners due to ongoing border restrictions. The visit also renewed speculation about Ju-ae's role as a potential heir. The event marked a



rare public moment for the ruling family amid continued international scrutiny over Pyongyang's nuclear program and support for Russia. South Korean media noted Ri Sol-ju's first appearance in months, with some observers pointing out possible sanctions violations due to her luxury handbag.

## Japan executes 'Twitter killer' in first hanging since 2022

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Japan executed Takahiro Shiraishi, known as the "Twitter killer," on June 27—the country's first execution since 2022. Shiraishi had been sentenced to death for murdering and dismembering eight women and one man in 2017. He lured his victims via Twitter, targeting individuals who had expressed suicidal thoughts. Justice Minister Keisuke Suzuki approved the execution, calling Shiraishi's crimes "extremely selfish" and deeply disturbing to society.

Shiraishi's execution is the first under Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's administration and follows a 2022 hanging related to a 2008 mass stabbing. Japan currently has 105 inmates on death row,



and executions are carried out by hanging, often with little prior notice. Human rights groups have long criticized this practice. Suzuki defended the death penalty, stating it remains necessary due to ongoing violent crimes. In 2023, Japan acquitted Iwao Hakamada after he spent decades on death row for a wrongful conviction.

## Mexico threatens lawsuit over SpaceX rocket debris



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum has threatened legal action over debris and contamination from SpaceX rocket launches near the US-Mexico border. Following a recent explosion at Elon Musk's Starbase site in Texas, Sheinbaum said Mexico is studying international laws to pursue lawsuits due to "clear contamination." The review focuses on environmental risks to Tamaulipas, a neighboring Mexican state.

The US Federal Aviation Administration recently approved up to 25 launches per year, despite concerns from environmentalists about threats to sea turtles and shorebirds. Mexico's government considers the move part of a broader pattern of negligence. In May, it sued Google over renaming the Gulf of Mexico to the "Gulf of America" on its US maps. Sheinbaum's latest warning signals a growing willingness to challenge large American companies over cross-border impacts.

## Denmark moves to protect identities from AI deepfakes



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Denmark plans to update its copyright laws to protect citizens from unauthorized AI-generated deepfakes. The proposed amendment, backed by a broad political majority, would give people legal rights over their body, face, and voice—preventing digital imitation without consent. Culture Minister Jakob Engel-Schmidt called the bill a strong message that individuals must retain control over their likeness.

If passed, the law will allow Danes to demand that platforms remove deepfake content. It will also apply to digitally created performances of artists shared without permission. Parodies and satire will remain protected.

Engel-Schmidt warned that failure to comply could result in severe fines or broader European Union enforcement if Denmark's example is adopted across the bloc. The legislation is expected to be introduced this fall following a public consultation phase during the summer.



Lynne Tracy, first female  
US ambassador to Russia,  
steps down



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Lynne Tracy, the first woman to serve as the United States ambassador to Russia, is stepping down amid ongoing tensions between Washington and Moscow. Appointed by former President Joe Biden, Tracy led the embassy during a period marked by Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and escalating diplomatic rifts.

In a farewell message, she said she was proud to represent her country "during such a challenging time" and praised Russians working for a better future. The embassy thanked Tracy for her service and her efforts to maintain dialogue with the Russian people.

Her departure comes as both countries explore the possibility of resetting relations. President Donald Trump, seeking to broker peace in Ukraine, has expressed frustration over the lack of progress. Tracy's exit is not linked to political pressure, and her replacement has yet to be named.

Russia claims Ukrainian  
village with lithium deposit in  
latest advance



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian forces have reportedly captured Shevchenko village in eastern Ukraine's Donetsk region, near a lithium deposit, after intense fighting. The Russian Defense Ministry announced the seizure on Thursday, along with nearby Novoserhiivka. Ukrainian sources have not confirmed the report, though open-source military maps show Shevchenko under Russian control. The lithium-rich area was identified by Soviet geologists in 1982 and is considered commercially viable. Russian-backed officials claim the site will be developed when the conflict subsides. Lithium is crucial to electronics and electric vehicle batteries, and Ukraine holds an estimated 500,000 tons of reserves.

## Orban warns of legal action against Budapest Pride marchers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has warned that participants and organizers of the banned Budapest Pride march could face legal consequences. The march, scheduled for Saturday, was prohibited by police, prompting Orban to issue a statement urging compliance with the law.

Speaking on state radio, Orban emphasized that Hungary is a "civilized country" and that authorities prefer persuasion over force. However, he said those who violate the ban should expect enforcement. Hungarian police have legal authority to disperse unauthorized gatherings, and the ban has sparked concern among LGBTQ+ rights activists.

Orban's administration has faced



increasing criticism from European Union leaders over its stance on LGBTQ+ issues and restrictions on civil liberties. This latest move is seen as part of a broader crackdown on dissent and minority rights under Orban's conservative leadership.

## Argentina to try 10 suspects in absentia for 1994 AMIA bombing



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Argentine judge has ordered that ten Iranian and Lebanese nationals be tried in absentia for the 1994 bombing of a Jewish community center in Buenos Aires that killed 85 people and injured over 300. This marks Argentina's first such trial under a new law passed in March allowing trials without the suspects present.

The suspects include former Iranian ministers and diplomats, some of whom have been wanted by Argentina since 2006. The attack, attributed to Hezbollah and allegedly orchestrated at Iran's request, remains the deadliest in Argentina's history.

The trial, backed by President Javier Milei, follows decades of stalled investigations and accusations of government cover-ups. Iran has denied involvement and refuses to extradite the suspects. Victims' families remain divided on trying the accused in absentia, with some fearing it could undermine justice.

## UK government eases disability benefit cuts after internal rebellion

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



The UK government has scaled back its planned welfare reforms after facing opposition from over 100 Labor MPs. Work and Pensions Secretary Liz Kendall confirmed that existing recipients of Personal Independence Payment and the health portion of Universal Credit will not be affected by cuts; only future claimants will see reduced benefits. The compromise is expected to allow the legislation to pass through Parliament. Originally, the government aimed to save \$6.3 billion annually by 2030, but internal critics called the proposals unfair to disabled individuals. A \$1.3 billion support package has also been fast-tracked. Despite concessions, some MPs remain opposed. Prime Minister Keir Starmer said the reforms should reflect "Labour values and fairness."

## Israel says Iran's Supreme Leader evaded assassination by going underground

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz claimed on Thursday that Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei avoided an Israeli assassination attempt by going into deep hiding during the recent 12-day conflict between the two nations. In an interview with Israel's Kan public television, Katz said, "If Khamenei had been in our sights, we would have taken him out." He added that Khamenei broke off contact with military commanders and went underground, making a strike against him "unrealistic."

The conflict, which began on June 13, saw Israel target and eliminate several senior Iranian commanders and nuclear scientists. Both Israeli Prime Minister



Benjamin Netanyahu and U.S. President Donald Trump had previously suggested that Khamenei's life could be at risk during the war, which concluded with a U.S.-brokered ceasefire earlier this week. The Israeli government has not provided further details on the alleged plan to target Iran's top leader.

## Japan says no fentanyl seizures despite US-linked smuggling claims

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Japan's Finance Minister Katsunobu Kato confirmed this week that no fentanyl has been seized in the country between 2018 and 2024, responding to a media report alleging a Japanese company helped smuggle fentanyl ingredients to the United States. The report, by Nikkei Business, named a company in Nagoya suspected of trafficking precursor chemicals until July 2024.

Kato did not clarify whether the absence of seizures included precursor substances. He reiterated Japan's commitment to strict drug enforcement and said authorities would continue efforts to prevent illegal drug smuggling.

The report surfaced as Japan is negotiating with the United States to



reduce a 25 percent tariff on car exports. US President Donald Trump previously imposed additional tariffs on countries allegedly linked to fentanyl trafficking. Japan's foreign minister stated the allegations would not impact the ongoing trade discussions.



## Hundreds evacuated from Iran as Operation Sindhu brings more citizens home



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A total of 275 people — including 272 Indian nationals and three Nepalese citizens — arrived in New Delhi from Mashhad, Iran, this week as part of Operation Sindhu, India's ongoing evacuation mission amid growing tensions in the Middle East. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the latest arrival brings the total number of individuals repatriated from Iran to 3,426.

The evacuees expressed deep gratitude toward the Indian government and the Embassy of India for their swift and compassionate response. Many described how embassy officials stayed in constant contact and even delayed departures to locate missing individuals.

Emotional returnees praised the government's efforts, with one evacuee saying, "They did not leave us orphaned in a foreign country." Another noted, "No other country has done anything like this for its nationals." The Iran leg of Operation Sindhu is nearing completion.

## Uddhav and Raj Thackeray to unite against Hindi imposition in Maharashtra



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena founder Raj Thackeray will join forces in a united protest opposing the imposition of Hindi as a third language in Marathi and English-medium schools for grades 1 to 5. MNS leader Sandeep Deshpande emphasized the need to protect Marathi identity, calling for unity among all Marathi-speaking citizens. The joint protest will now take place on July 5 in Mumbai. Uddhav stressed that they oppose the imposition—not the Hindi language itself—and warned of a hidden agenda behind the state government's decision. Raj Thackeray reiterated that the march will be non-political, without party flags, focused solely on Marathi interests. The rare show of unity comes amid talks between the estranged brothers ahead of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation elections.

## Massive crowds, tight security mark Rath Yatra festivities in India

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The annual Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath was celebrated with immense fervor across India, with Puri in Odisha witnessing one of the largest turnouts in recent years. Devotees pulled the grand chariots of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra, and Devi Subhadra from the Jagannath Temple to Gundicha Temple, accompanied by traditional rituals, music, and chants.

In Puri, elaborate security arrangements were put in place, including deployment of over 10,000 police personnel, NSG commandos, anti-terror squads, drone surveillance, and AI-enabled CCTV monitoring. East Coast Railway arranged 365 special trains, set up mela sheds, water points, medical kiosks, and introduced a special helpline to assist pilgrims.

President Droupadi Murmu extended her greetings to all devotees on the occasion, praying for the well-being of citizens and global harmony. In her message, she emphasized the spiritual and cultural significance of the yatra and



praised the unity displayed by devotees across regions.

Celebrations were equally grand in other parts of the country. In Ahmedabad, Gujarat's 148th Rath Yatra saw massive participation. The procession included elaborately decorated chariots, 15 elephants, over 100 trucks and tableaux, and akharas performing martial arts. More than 24,000 personnel were deployed to

ensure security, with GPS-tracked chariots and drone monitoring systems in place.

In Kolkata, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) organized multiple processions, attracting thousands of devotees. Cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mumbai, and New Delhi also witnessed Rath Yatra processions, bhajans, and community feasts organized by ISKCON temples and local Jagannath devotees.

Despite heavy rains in some areas, devotees continued celebrations with enthusiasm. In Ranchi and Patna, traditional processions were accompanied by cultural programs and mass prayers. Local administrations in several states ensured traffic regulation, safety, and healthcare support.

The nationwide observance of Rath Yatra reinforced the deep spiritual and cultural connection of the festival across India, transcending regional boundaries and drawing communities together in shared devotion.

## CBI arrests nine in nationwide cyber fraud crackdown under Operation Chakra-V

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Central Bureau of Investigation has arrested nine individuals and conducted raids at 42 locations across five states in a sweeping crackdown on cybercrime under Operation Chakra-V. The operation targeted a large network of 'mule' bank accounts used in digital frauds, including impersonation scams, investment fraud, and fake UPI schemes. Over 850,000 suspicious accounts were found across

700 bank branches, many opened using fake or incomplete Know Your Customer documents. Bank officials were accused of failing to conduct proper due diligence. Incriminating documents, mobile phones, and digital evidence were seized. An FIR was registered under the Indian Penal Code and the Prevention of Corruption Act. The CBI stated that the scam exploited systemic banking lapses, and investigations are ongoing to trace more culprits and plug regulatory loopholes. Jagannath devotees.



## Bengal braces for legal fallout as DA payment deadline nears

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

With the Supreme Court's deadline to clear 25 percent pending dearness allowance (DA) dues expiring at midnight on June 27, the West Bengal government faces possible legal consequences. State government employees, currently receiving just 18 percent DA compared to 55 percent for their central counterparts, are awaiting a formal notification. The delay is further complicated by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's ongoing engagements in Digha.

The United Forum of State Government Employees warned of contempt proceedings if the government fails to act. The pending payout, estimated at \$1.44 billion, could strain welfare budgets. Forum convener Bhaskar Ghosh said detailed plans for future action will be announced Saturday if the government remains unresponsive.

## Black box analysis underway in Air India crash probe

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's Civil Aviation Ministry has confirmed that data analysis of the black boxes from the June 12 Air India Flight AI-171 crash in Ahmedabad is ongoing. The Cockpit Voice Recorder and Flight Data Recorder were recovered from the crash site and transferred to Delhi's AAIB lab under high security. A multidisciplinary investigation team, including U.S. National Transportation Safety Board representatives, is examining the devices. The crash claimed nearly 270 lives. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation has also identified recurring safety lapses at airports, triggering a broader review of airline maintenance protocols across the country.

## Haryana Cabinet clears new land policy and adopts Unified Pension Scheme

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Haryana Cabinet has approved a new land purchase policy and adopted the Unified Pension Scheme to benefit state employees. The land policy allows landowners to voluntarily offer property for development projects, helping prevent distress sales. Under the pension scheme, effective August 1, employees hired on or after January 1, 2006, will be entitled to a minimum

pension of Rs.10,000 per month after 10 years of service or 50 percent of their last drawn salary after 25 years.

Family pensions, dearness relief, and lump-sum retirement payouts are also included. The state's contribution will rise from 14 to 18.5 percent, increasing expenditure by approximately Rs.600 crore annually. Employees may opt into the new scheme or continue under the existing National Pension System. Once selected, the choice will be final.



## India exports rose-scented litchis from Punjab to Qatar and Dubai



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has exported its first-ever batch of rose-scented litchis from Pathankot, Punjab to Qatar and Dubai, marking a milestone in horticultural exports. Facilitated by APEDA in collaboration with the Punjab government and farmer Prabhat Singh, one metric tonne was sent to Doha and half a tonne to Dubai. Punjab contributes over 12 percent of India's litchi output, and this shipment showcases the region's agro-export potential. According to the National Horticulture Board, India exported 639.53 metric tonnes of litchi in 2023–24. APEDA highlighted the initiative as a boost for India's agricultural exports and farmer empowerment, aligning with its goal to increase global market access for premium produce.

## Foundation laid for \$11 million Akhanda Godavari tourism project in Andhra Pradesh



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat laid the foundation for the Akhanda Godavari project in Rajamahendravaram, Andhra Pradesh, aimed at boosting cultural and religious tourism. Valued at \$11.3 million, the project includes redeveloping Pushkar Ghat, restoring the Havelock Bridge, building a nursery experience center, and enhancing pilgrim infrastructure. Expected to attract 3.5 million tourists by 2035, it will also generate 8,000 jobs. The project, supported under the Special Assistance for Capital Investment scheme, includes features like waterfalls, glass bridges, and a hologram zoo. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan praised the double-engine government's efforts. Additional tourism projects worth \$54 million have been sanctioned for Andhra Pradesh, with developments planned at Araku, Lambasingi, and other key sites through schemes like Swadesh Darshan and PRASAD.

## J&K leaders pledge support for Amarnath Yatra during LG's all-party meet

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha met with political leaders on Thursday to review preparations for the Amarnath Yatra, beginning July 3. Leaders from major parties, including Omar Abdullah, Sajad Lone, and Iltija Mufti, attended the meeting at Raj Bhawan in Srinagar. Sinha highlighted improvements in infrastructure, safety, and services for pilgrims. He called the Yatra a socio-cultural responsibility and urged cooperation across political lines to ensure its success. Leaders expressed commitment to support the pilgrimage and condemned the recent Pahalgam terror attack. They praised the public's unified stand against



terrorism and emphasized that the Yatra is integral to Kashmir's culture and economy. Officials have assured that all necessary security and logistical arrangements are in place to make the pilgrimage safe and spiritually enriching.

## Three more bodies recovered as NDRF intensifies rescue in cloudburst-hit Himachal

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Rescue efforts intensified in Himachal Pradesh's Kangra district after cloudbursts triggered deadly flash floods. The National Disaster Response Force recovered three more bodies on Thursday and rescued one person who had fled into the forest. At least 10 hydroelectric project workers were swept away in Manuni Khad earlier this week. Four bodies were recovered a day prior, while 170 workers were safely evacuated. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu directed officials to remain on high alert and expedite relief and rehabilitation. Over 24 hours, the state recorded three cloudbursts, nine flash floods, and three landslides, with five deaths reported.

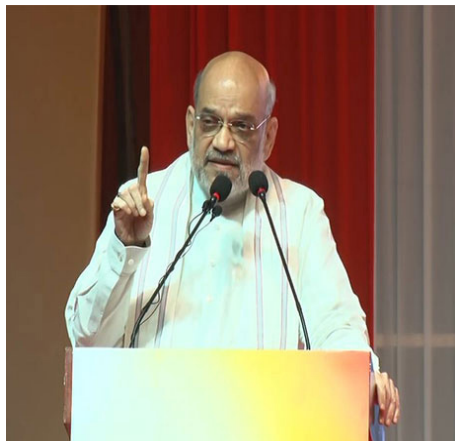


National Highways 505 and 03 remain blocked. Hydro projects in Sainj and Parvati have shut operations as a precaution. Search efforts continue with support from SDRF and Home Guards.

## Amit Shah says Indian languages vital to ending Colonial mindset

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Union Home Minister Amit Shah emphasized the importance of Indian languages in shedding the nation's Colonial mindset, urging citizens to think, speak, and make decisions in their native tongues. Speaking at the Official Language Department's Golden Jubilee, Shah said Indian languages should unite, not divide, the nation. He highlighted government efforts to promote regional languages in national exams like NEET and JEE. Shah also stated that Hindi complements other Indian languages and can help build self-respect and national pride. He reiterated



Prime Minister Modi's vision of a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047 rooted in India's cultural and linguistic identity.

## Delhi Minister warns of CBI probe into night shelter corruption

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Delhi Urban Development Minister Ashish Sood has indicated a possible Central Bureau of Investigation inquiry into alleged corruption at night shelters under the previous Aam Aadmi Party government. After inspecting facilities at Sarai Kale Khan, he cited serious irregularities including ghost

employees, absent attendance records, and labor exploitation. Sood claimed NGOs colluded with senior AAP leaders to siphon off public funds, with shelter residents forced to work for meager wages. He vowed action against Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board officials and contractors. The BJP-led administration plans vigilance inquiries and warned that further negligence will face strict accountability.

## Government revamps Sugamya Bharat app to improve accessibility



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Government of India has revamped the Sugamya Bharat App to make it more accessible and user-friendly for people with disabilities and the elderly. The app now features an artificial intelligence-powered chatbot, improved navigation, and real-time updates on accessibility initiatives. Launched in 2021, it enables users to report barriers by uploading geo-tagged photos, prompting corrective action. As of June 25, the app has 14,358 users and 83,791 downloads. It has received 2,705 complaints, of which 1,897 have been resolved. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment stated the overhaul aligns with India's vision of a barrier-free, inclusive society.

## RJD releases campaign song portraying Tejashwi Yadav as 'son of Bihar'

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

As Bihar heads toward Assembly elections, the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) launched a campaign song portraying Tejashwi Yadav as "Bihar ka beta" (son of Bihar). The song highlights promises like 200 units of free electricity, a Rs.1,500 monthly pension, and improved healthcare and education. At a student event, Tejashwi pledged to achieve in 20 months what others could not in 20 years. He also proposed a youth commission, 100 percent domicile policy for state jobs, and education reforms including mandatory attendance, free exam prep, and digital libraries. Emphasizing the need for change, he distributed pens to students, symbolizing a new chapter for Bihar.

## Majithia sent to seven-day remand in alleged drug money laundering case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Mohali court has remanded Shiromani Akali Dal leader Bikram Singh Majithia to seven days of vigilance custody following his arrest by Punjab's Vigilance Bureau. He is accused of laundering over Rs.540 crore in drug-related funds through Saraya Industries, allegedly using unaccounted cash deposits, foreign transactions, and suspicious corporate dealings. The prosecution cited Majithia's failure to explain large financial inflows and claimed he threatened officials during his arrest. Authorities also flagged links to firms in Cyprus and Singapore.

The case stems from a 2021 FIR filed under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, backed by a special investigation team's findings.



## Saudi Arabia and Russia help secure India's oil supply amid Hormuz risks



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**s tensions rise over Iran's potential closure of the Strait of Hormuz, Saudi Arabia and Russia have emerged as key players in maintaining India's oil supply. India, which imports 5.5 million barrels of oil per day, sources over 35 percent of its crude and 42 percent of liquefied natural gas through the strait.

However, Saudi Arabia's Petrolina-Yanbu corridor offers a rerouting option via the Red Sea. Russia, now India's top oil supplier, ships 2.2 million barrels daily—more than all Middle Eastern nations combined. Additional imports from the United States, West Africa, and Latin America also bypass Hormuz.

While a full blockade remains unlikely due to its impact on Iran's own exports and diplomatic ties with China, even short-term disruptions could spark freight delays and market volatility. Analysts expect only brief interruptions, but with higher costs and logistical challenges.

## India's engineering exports to U.S. grow despite global challenges



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia's engineering goods exports to the United States rose 4.6 percent in May 2025 to \$1.74 billion, despite trade uncertainties and tariff concerns. Exports to European countries like Germany and the United Kingdom also saw gains. However, shipments to the Middle East declined, especially to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Turkey, due to geopolitical tensions and logistical disruptions.

This caused a slight overall dip of 0.82 percent in engineering exports, which totaled \$9.89 billion for May. Still, the sector's share in total exports increased to 25.53 percent, indicating a shift toward higher-value manufacturing. For April–May 2025, total engineering exports grew 4.77 percent to \$19.4 billion. The sector saw strong performance across 26 of 34 product categories, while exports of aluminum, zinc, machine tools, and ships declined. North America remained the top export destination, followed by the European Union and the West Asia and North Africa region.

## Walmart CEO Doug McMillon says India is central to company's global growth strategy

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia continues to be a vital part of Walmart's global growth story, said Walmart Inc. president and CEO Doug McMillon during an event in New Delhi on Tuesday. Reflecting on the company's two-decade-long presence in the country, McMillon highlighted Walmart's efforts to empower small businesses, boost exports, and foster innovation in e-commerce and digital finance.

"India reflects Walmart's commitment to shared value," said McMillon, noting how the company's initiatives are driving inclusive growth for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), supporting community

development, and improving access to digital payments and financial services.

Kath McLay, CEO of Walmart International, emphasized the transformative impact of local partnerships, including those with Flipkart and PhonePe, which are tailoring solutions for Indian consumers in areas such as logistics, payments, and e-commerce.

McLay said Walmart's India-based models are also shaping its approach in other global markets. Over the past 20 years, Walmart's operations in India have expanded to include sourcing, technology, financial inclusion, and job creation, reinforcing the company's long-term commitment to the region.



## Campa Cola faces boycott over ad linked to Lord Jagannath

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**C**ampa Cola, the soft drink brand recently revived by Reliance Industries, is under fire for allegedly hurting religious sentiments by using imagery associated with Lord Jagannath in an advertisement. The controversy erupted days before the Rath Yatra festival, triggering the nationwide hashtag #BoycottCampa. Social media users slammed the campaign as disrespectful and exploitative. Critics said the brand misused sacred symbols for commercial gain, with calls for a public apology.

Some also voiced concerns over corporate dominance, accusing Reliance of turning a nostalgic product into a tool for market



control. Campa Cola was acquired by Reliance Consumer Products in 2022 for Rupees 22 crore and relaunched in March 2023 with three flavors. While it once symbolized Indian-made alternatives, critics argue its revival has strayed far from its roots. The company has yet to respond to the backlash.

## South Korea imposes anti-dumping tariffs on Chinese steel

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**S**outh Korea has imposed anti-dumping tariffs on stainless steel plates from four Chinese firms following a year-long investigation. The Korea Trade Commission (KTC) recommended five-year duties of 21.62 percent on imports from Schuang International, STX Japan, Best Win International, and Jiangsu Daekyung Stainless Steel. The decision follows a complaint by South Korean steelmaker DK Corp. and was backed by findings that Chinese dumping practices caused substantial damage to domestic industries. The products involved are widely used in sectors like shipbuilding, semiconductors, and energy. The KTC also held hearings on Chinese sodium dithionite and Thai particle boards, with preliminary duties of up to 33.97 percent and



17.19 percent respectively. In a related April decision, South Korea imposed duties on stainless steel imports from two Vietnamese companies after complaints from POSCO Holdings. The commission continues to monitor international dumping impacts across the steel and chemicals sectors.

## UAE fund invests \$100 million in Trump-backed crypto venture World Liberty



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A** United Arab Emirates-based fund, Aqua 1 Foundation, has invested \$100 million in digital tokens issued by World Liberty Financial, a crypto venture launched by former U.S. President Donald Trump's family. The investment makes Aqua 1 the largest publicly known backer of the project.

The tokens, known as \$WLFI, are governance tokens that are currently non-tradable but grant holders voting rights on changes to the platform's code. World Liberty confirmed it is working to make the tokens transferable. Aqua 1 said the investment aims to accelerate the development of a blockchain-powered financial ecosystem, with a focus on stablecoins and tokenized assets. The partnership plans to identify and support blockchain projects, particularly in South America, Europe, and Asia.

The venture has faced scrutiny from Democratic lawmakers and ethics groups over potential conflicts of interest. World Liberty has generated hundreds of millions in revenue since its 2024 launch. Aqua 1 also plans to launch a new fund focused on digital transformation in the Middle East using blockchain and artificial intelligence.

## Nike to reduce China production for U.S. market amid tariff impact

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**N**ike announced plans to significantly reduce its reliance on Chinese manufacturing for the U.S. market as new tariffs under President Donald Trump's trade policy increase costs. China currently accounts for 16 percent of Nike's footwear imports to the United States, but the company aims to bring that down to the high single digits by May 2026.

Chief Financial Officer Matthew Friend said Nike will reallocate production to other countries and evaluate internal cost-cutting strategies to offset the tariff burden, which could add up to \$1 billion. The company has also introduced price hikes in the U.S. Despite the challenges, Nike reported better-than-expected results. Fourth-quarter revenue fell 12 percent to \$11.1 billion, beating estimates of a nearly 15 percent drop. The company expects first-quarter revenue to decline in the mid-single digits.













# Mela Maiya Da Jagran Chowkis

by **Legendary Lakhbir Singh Lakha**





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## Chris and Sarra Hoy awarded London honor for charity work and sporting legacy

Olympic cycling legend Chris Hoy and his wife, Sarra Hoy, were awarded the Freedom of the City of London on Thursday in recognition of their contributions to public life. Chris, a six-time Olympic gold medalist, was honored for his achievements in cycling, while Sarra was recognized for her advocacy in neonatal care and support for cancer awareness. The couple was jointly nominated by Lord Mayor Alastair King and Caroline Haines. Chris, 49, called the honor “deeply personal,” recalling the pride of bearing the flag at London 2012. Diagnosed with stage 4 prostate cancer in 2024, Hoy has been candid about his health while continuing his public work. Sarra, who lives with multiple sclerosis, is also an ambassador for Bliss, a UK charity for premature babies. Their son, Callum, was born at just 2 lbs in 2014. “London will always be a precious place for us,” she said at the ceremony.

## Stop clock, new DRS rules among major ICC cricket changes



The International Cricket Council has implemented several new rules, including a stop clock for Test matches to combat slow over rates. Fielding teams must start the next over within 60 seconds or face a five-run penalty after two warnings. Also, under updated Decision Review System protocols, umpires will retain their original decisions during LBW reviews even if the ball-tracking shows “umpire’s call.” Saliva ball changes are now optional. Other changes include fairness checks on catches off no-balls, strategic penalties for deliberate short runs, and trials for full-time injury substitutes in domestic first-class matches under concussion-like rules.

## Haaland scores 300th career goal as Manchester City dominates Juventus in Club World Cup

Erling Haaland marked his 300th career goal in style as Manchester City cruised past Juventus 5–2 in their final Group G match at the Club World Cup in Orlando. The Norwegian striker scored early in the second half, helping City top the group and advance to the Round of 16, where they will face Al-Hilal.

City’s win was powered by a blend of experience and youth. Jeremy Doku opened the scoring in the 9th minute, and although Juventus briefly equalized through Teun Koopmeiners, City regained control with goals from a Pierre Kalulu own goal, Haaland, Phil Foden, and a stunning long-range strike from Savinho.

Rodri made his first start since recovering from a major injury and lasted 65 minutes. Pep Guardiola praised his team’s sharp performance, saying it



was their best display in recent memory. Juventus managed a late consolation goal through Dusan Vlahovic, but it did little to overshadow City’s dominance.

## Champion jockey Oisin Murphy charged with drunk driving after crash in Berkshire

British champion flat jockey Oisin Murphy has been charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and refusing to take a roadside breath test following a car crash on April 27 in West Berkshire.

Thames Valley Police confirmed that Murphy, 29, was charged by postal requisition on June 19—the same day he rode a double at Royal Ascot. The crash involved a gray Mercedes that left the road and struck a tree near Hermitage. Murphy had missed four scheduled races the following day, with “travel issues” cited in official reports.

Murphy, who has been champion jockey four times since 2019, currently leads the 2025 championship with 49 wins. Despite the



legal trouble, he remains active on the circuit, with multiple rides scheduled at Doncaster and York this weekend.

The British Horseracing Authority has acknowledged the charges and is gathering information to assess any potential consequences. Murphy is expected to appear in court on July 3.

## Barcelona to return to renovated Camp Nou on August 10

FC Barcelona confirmed they will return to Camp Nou on August 10 after a two-year renovation-related hiatus. The iconic stadium will host the Joan Gamper Trophy, marking the club’s symbolic homecoming from Lluís Companys Olympic Stadium, where they played temporarily. While Camp Nou’s full capacity of 99,354 is yet to be restored, around 60,000 fans will be accommodated during the opener. Ongoing construction includes the

third stand, a double VIP ring, roof installation, and interior upgrades. Barcelona launched an emotional campaign titled “Tornem a casa, vibrem” to mark the return, aiming to reconnect with fans both locally and globally. Though parts of the stadium remain under construction, the move is seen as a step forward in the club’s long-term vision. Despite limitations, the return is expected to reinvigorate the matchday experience and rekindle the club’s deep-rooted connection with its supporters.

## Cristiano Ronaldo signs new Al-Nassr deal through 2027, ending exit rumors

Cristiano Ronaldo has signed a two-year contract extension with Saudi club Al-Nassr, keeping him with the team through June 2027—when he will turn 42. The renewed deal follows weeks of speculation after Ronaldo had hinted at a possible departure. The Portuguese star confirmed he received several offers, including from Club World Cup qualifiers, but chose to stay. Since joining Al-Nassr in December 2022, Ronaldo has scored 99 goals in 111 appearances and won the Saudi Pro League Golden Boot last season with 35 goals. He currently has 938 goals across his club and international career, just 62 short of reaching 1,000. The club recently parted ways with manager Stefano Pioli after a third-place finish. Ronaldo’s renewed commitment offers the team continued star power as it prepares for its next campaign.

## Liverpool sign Milos Kerkez from Bournemouth for \$50.5 million



Liverpool have signed Hungarian left-back Milos Kerkez from Bournemouth for approximately \$50.5 million, bringing their summer spending under new manager Arne Slot to over \$215 million. Kerkez joins fellow newcomers Jeremie Frimpong and Florian Wirtz as part of the club’s overhaul following their Premier League title. Goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili will also arrive from Valencia on July 1. Kerkez, 20, called the move “a real honor” and said he is excited to play for “the biggest club in England.” The defender made 74 appearances for Bournemouth since joining from AZ Alkmaar in 2023. Liverpool may still pursue Crystal Palace center-back Marc Guéhi and could sign a striker if Darwin Nunez, who is attracting interest from Italy and Saudi Arabia, departs. The club values Newcastle forward Alexander Isak but has yet to make a formal offer.



## Tickets sold out for India–Australia games in Sydney and Canberra

Cricket Australia announced that public tickets for the India–Australia ODI in Sydney and T20I in Canberra have sold out, four months ahead of schedule. Over 90,000 tickets across eight matches have been sold in just two weeks, reflecting strong demand, especially from the Indian diaspora. Fan clubs like Bharat Army and Brissy Baniyas accounted for thousands of purchases. CA praised the enthusiasm and urged fans to book early for what promises to be one of the biggest cricket seasons in Australia.



### GROUP A

KUWAIT (H)

AUSTRALIA

MONGOLIA

INDIA



## Jayden Seales fined for ICC Code of Conduct breach against Australia



**W**est Indies fast bowler Jayden Seales has been fined 15 percent of his match fee and given one demerit point for violating the ICC Code of Conduct during the first Test against Australia in Bridgetown. Seales breached Article 2.5 by using a gesture that could provoke an aggressive reaction after dismissing Pat Cummins in the 55th over. It was Seales's second offense within 24 months, taking his demerit points total to two. He admitted the offense and accepted the penalty proposed by match referee Javagal Srinath, avoiding a formal hearing. Seales later downplayed the gesture, saying it stemmed from frustration rather than malice.

## Diksha Dagar, Vani Kapoor start strong in German Masters opening round



**D**iksha Dagar was two-under with three holes left in the first round of the Amundi German Masters, sitting tied for 13th at the Par-73 Green Eagle Golf Course near Hamburg. Vani Kapoor finished at one-under 72, tied for 20th. Dagar carded four birdies and two bogeys, with strong back-nine play. Among other Indians, Avani Prashanth shot even-par 73, while Tvesa Malik was even through 13 holes. Sneha Singh, Amandeep Drall, and Hitaashee Bakshi were five-over, and Neha Tripathi shot 10-over. England's Alice Hewson led with a bogey-free 68, tied with Helen Briem, Amelia Harvey, and Eliner Sudow.

## Faith Kipyegon falls short of sub-4 mile in Paris, eyes next attempt

**K**enya's Faith Kipyegon missed her bid to become the first woman to run a mile in under four minutes, finishing in 4:06.42 at Stade Charl  y in Paris. Though faster than her current world record, the time will not count since she was paced by male runners, which violates World Athletics rules. Kipyegon, 31, had hoped to replicate Roger Bannister's historic sub-4 minute mile and was aided by 13 pacemakers

and Nike's latest super spikes and skinsuit. Despite reaching the bell in 3:01.84, fatigue set in during the final lap. "This was the first trial. I'll go back to the drawing board," she said. The wave lights, programmed for a 3:59.99 finish, drifted ahead in the final stretch. Kipyegon's attempt was seen as a serious bid backed by advanced technology, with Nike hopeful of a future breakthrough. She remains optimistic about achieving the milestone in future races.



## IOC to revise gender policy after Paris boxing row, vows to protect women's category

**N**ew IOC President Kirsty Coventry has announced a new task force of scientists and international federations to revise the organization's gender eligibility policy, following widespread criticism over Paris 2024.

Two boxers—Imane Khelif and Lin Yu-Ting—won Olympic gold after having been previously disqualified for not meeting gender eligibility standards. Coventry said the IOC will not retroactively alter medal results but emphasized that future policies must "protect the female category" using a scientific approach.

The working group is expected to recommend banning transgender and athletes with differences of sex development from female competition categories. Coventry stressed that different sports may adopt varied interpretations, but consensus would be key. The decision follows two days of workshops in Lausanne where

IOC members reportedly expressed overwhelming support for stricter eligibility rules.

Coventry described the shift as a forward-looking move to ensure fairness in women's sport and reinforce trust in the Olympic movement.



## Nehru World School wins opener at NBA Rising Stars Invitational



**I**ndia's Nehru World School defeated Singapore's United World College SE Asia Dover 66-62 in the Boys' Division at the NBA Rising Stars Invitational in Singapore. Team captain Abhyupang Mishra led with 20 points. The tournament, held at Kallang Tennis Hub, features boys' and girls' teams from 11 Asia-Pacific nations. The five-day event includes games, NBA player appearances, fan activities, and entertainment performances. Two Indian teams—Nehru World School, Ghaziabad, and Delhi Public School, Rajnandgaon—are participating. The tournament is part of the NBA's multiyear partnership with Sport Singapore and the Singapore Tourism Board to grow youth basketball in the region.

## Indian U-17 wrestlers win five medals at Asian Championships in Vietnam



**I**ndia's U-17 freestyle wrestlers secured five medals—three gold and two bronze—at the Asian Wrestling Championships in Vung Tau, Vietnam. Gold medalists included Gaurav Punia (65kg), Arjun Ruhil (92kg), and Lacky (110kg). Shivam (45kg) and Dhanraj Ganapati (51kg) won bronze. Despite missing out on a team trophy, the Wrestling Federation of India praised the individual performances and thanked the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Sports Authority of India for their support. The Indian women's team had earlier dominated with 10 medals—five gold, three silver, and two bronze—clinching the overall trophy with 215 points.

## India grouped with Kuwait and Australia in AFC Futsal qualifiers

India has been drawn into Group A alongside Kuwait, Australia, and Mongolia for the AFC Futsal Asian Cup Indonesia 2026 qualifiers. The qualifiers, held from September 20 to 24 in Kuwait City, will feature 31 teams across eight groups. India, ranked 135th globally, will aim for a better outing after losing all their matches in the 2023 qualifiers. The top team from each group and seven best runners-up will join host Indonesia in the final tournament, scheduled from January 27 to February 7, 2026.



## Warren Deutrom to step down as Cricket Ireland CEO after 19 years

Warren Deutrom will step down as CEO of Cricket Ireland at the end of August after nearly 19 years in the role. Appointed in 2006, he led Ireland to full ICC membership and Test status in 2017. Calling his tenure a "labor of love," Deutrom highlighted key milestones, including co-hosting the upcoming T20 World Cup. Cricket Ireland praised his vision, leadership, and legacy, and will begin the process of finding a successor to carry forward Irish cricket's continued growth and international ambitions.



## Anna Wintour steps back from American Vogue to focus on global role



**A**fter nearly four decades at the helm of American Vogue, Anna Wintour announced she will appoint a new head of editorial content for the magazine, marking a shift in her responsibilities rather than a departure. The 75-year-old fashion icon, who joined American Vogue in 1988, will continue as global editorial director of Vogue and chief content officer at Condé Nast.

The move reflects Wintour's expanded influence across Condé Nast's global titles, including Vanity Fair, GQ, and Wired. Wintour told staff she finds joy in mentoring the next generation of editors. CEO Roger Lynch said Wintour has effectively handled three roles since 2020 and the change will allow her to focus on broader priorities.

Her leadership transformed Vogue's cover strategy, mainstreamed celebrity fashion, and helped create the Met Gala's global appeal. While the transition raises questions about succession, Wintour's stature at the top of fashion media remains firmly intact.

## Kapil Sharma teases Sara Ali Khan about wedding plans on comedy show



**A**ctress Sara Ali Khan was left laughing during a recent taping of The Great Indian Kapil Show Season 3 when host Kapil Sharma jokingly asked her about wedding plans. The cast of 'Metro... In Dino' appeared on the show to promote their film, and the promo clip, now viral on social media, shows Sara responding to Kapil's teasing with her trademark wit.

Kapil also ribbed Aditya Roy Kapur about past co-stars getting married, implying Sara might be next. Fatima Sana Shaikh humorously replied she wants a boyfriend "like Kapil," leaving the comedian visibly flustered.

The episode features stars like Anupam Kher, Neena Gupta, Pankaj Tripathi, Konkona Sen Sharma, and director Anurag Basu. Highlights include Pankaj's confession of romantic loyalty and Aditya recreating his iconic 'Aashiqui 2' rain scene with Kiku Sharda. The episode streams June 28 on Netflix.

## 'Sardaar Ji 3' backlash intensifies as Canadian university honors Diljit Dosanjh



**P**unjabi superstar Diljit Dosanjh is set to become the subject of a new course at Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU), even as he faces mounting criticism in India over his latest film. The course, launching in late 2026 at TMU's The Creative School, will explore his impact on Punjabi music, global pop culture, and diasporic identity.

Announced during the Billboard Summit at Toronto's NXNE festival, the course is the first of its kind by a Canadian university focused on a Punjabi artist. TMU's Dr. Charlie Wall-Andrews praised Dosanjh's role in highlighting the global influence of Punjabi music, while Billboard UK and Canada's Mo Ghoneim called him "the perfect fit."

This recognition comes amid controversy surrounding Dosanjh's film 'Sardaar Ji 3', which features Pakistani actress Hania Aamir and other Pakistani cast members. The film, set for an overseas-only release on June 27, has drawn criticism from Indian film bodies due to rising India-Pakistan tensions following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor.

The Federation of Western India Cine Employees (FWICE) and All Indian Cine Workers Association (AICWA) have called for boycotts and bans. On social media, Dosanjh has faced accusations of being "anti-national," though his team says the film was shot before recent hostilities and is geo-blocked in India out of respect.

## Kangana Ranaut slams Zohran Mamdani for 'anti-Hindu' remarks

**A**ctor and BJP MP Kangana Ranaut has criticized Zohran Mamdani, the newly elected Democratic nominee for New York City Mayor, for his past remarks on India and Hinduism. In a social media post, Kangana accused Mamdani—son of filmmaker Mira Nair and scholar Mahmood Mamdani—of promoting pro-Pakistani and anti-Hindu views.

Calling him someone who "sounds more Pakistani than Indian," she expressed dismay over his political stance and questioned his cultural identity. She also referenced his mother's Bharat roots and congratulated the family with veiled sarcasm.

An old video of Mamdani protesting in New York, reportedly criticizing India's policies, resurfaced on social media, though it could not be independently verified.



Congress leader Abhishek Singhvi also criticized Mamdani, comparing his statements to Pakistani propaganda. Mamdani recently defeated Andrew Cuomo in the New York Democratic mayoral primary.

## Top Indian filmmakers join forces for second edition of 'My Melbourne'

**A**claimed directors Rajkumar Hirani, Shoojit Sircar, Anjali Menon, and Onir are set to helm stories for the second edition of My Melbourne, an anthology film produced by Mind Blowing Films and presented by the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.

The project, aimed at deepening cultural ties between India and Australia, celebrates diversity through cinema. The first edition premiered in March 2025 and featured directors Imtiaz Ali, Rima Das, Kabir Khan, and Onir, focusing on themes like identity, race, and disability.

Hirani called the opportunity "a chance to connect two vibrant cultures," while Sircar noted the power of storytelling across borders.



Anjali Menon and Onir also shared their excitement in working with new themes and emerging voices.

CEO Mitu Bhowmick Lange emphasized that the project gives a platform to underrepresented communities and continues to grow as a cross-cultural cinematic dialogue.

## Kerala court grants anticipatory bail to 'Manjummel Boys' producers in profit dispute case



**T**he Kerala High Court on Thursday granted anticipatory bail to producers of the hit Malayalam film Manjummel Boys in a cheating case related to alleged non-payment of profit shares. The complaint was filed by Siraj Valiyathara Hameed, who claimed he invested Rs. 7 crore in the film in exchange for 40% of the profits—a share he says he never received. The court observed that while an element of criminality may exist, custodial interrogation was not necessary. The producers—Shawn Antony, actor Soubin Shahir, and his father—have been asked to cooperate with the investigation and appear before the officer on July 7 and 8. The public prosecutor alleged that part of the investment was diverted to personal accounts. The producers argued the matter was a commercial dispute, but the court noted it involved criminal implications.

## Anil Kapoor immerses late mother's ashes at sacred Ganga site



**V**eteran actor Anil Kapoor has immersed the ashes of his mother, Nirmal Kapoor, in the Ganga at the same site where his father, Surinder Kapoor, was laid to rest nearly a decade ago. Sharing a photo of the ceremony on Instagram, Anil reflected on the emotion of the moment, writing, "Ma and Dad are finally back together... With each other, home at last."

Kapoor performed the rituals alongside his family in the presence of Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati. He and filmmaker Boney Kapoor visited Parmarth Niketan Ashram and met Swami Chidanand Saraswati before the immersion.

Nirmal Kapoor, who passed away at 90 on May 2, was remembered by Anil as the "glue" of their family. Her legacy lives on through her children and grandchildren, including Arjun Kapoor, Sonam Kapoor, Janhvi Kapoor, and others in the Kapoor film family.



Friday, 27 June 2025

## Scarlett Johansson joins celebrities urging Congress to protect food aid



Scarlett Johansson has signed an open letter urging Congress not to cut essential food and healthcare programs for low-income Americans. The letter, signed by over 30 celebrities in partnership with Feeding America, opposes proposed cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid under President Trump's budget plan.

The letter appeals to all 535 members of Congress, stating that food is a basic right and a vital form of human connection. It notes that millions—including 15.5 million children and 7.2 million seniors—depend on these programs for nutrition and dignity.

Johansson, who previously spoke about growing up on public assistance, shared in 2023 how free school meals helped her family during hard times. "Now, as an adult, I have a tremendous amount of gratitude for those meals," she wrote. The letter calls the proposed cuts "unacceptable and wrong," warning of rising food insecurity if passed.

## Priyanka Chopra calls working with John Cena and Idris Elba 'an amazing experience'



Priyanka Chopra is set to star as MI6 agent Noel Bisset in 'Heads of State', premiering July 2 on Prime Video. The action-comedy also stars John Cena and Idris Elba as political rivals—the U.S. President and U.K. Prime Minister—who must team up to stop a global threat. Reflecting on her experience, Chopra said it was "amazing" working with Cena and Elba, adding, "I didn't feel left out at all."

The film is directed by Ilya Naishuller and features an ensemble cast including Paddy Considine, Carla Gugino, and Jack Quaid. Chopra said she enjoyed being the only woman amid strong masculine energy and appreciated the collaboration. The film will be released in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, and Kannada.

## Denis Villeneuve to direct next James Bond film for Amazon MGM Studios

Acclaimed filmmaker Denis Villeneuve has been confirmed as the director of the next James Bond film, Amazon MGM Studios announced. Known for his work on 'Dune' and 'Blade Runner 2049', Villeneuve called the opportunity a childhood dream, noting his lifelong admiration for the 007 franchise.

Producers Amy Pascal and David Heyman will lead the project, with Tanya Lapointe as executive producer. Villeneuve said he plans to honor Bond's legacy while paving the way

for new adventures. Amazon's Mike Hopkins praised Villeneuve as a "cinematic master," citing his powerful storytelling and world-building.

The film marks a major shift, as Amazon now holds creative control after a deal with longtime Bond producers Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson. Villeneuve's 'Dune: Messiah' is currently in development for a 2026 release, but his commitment to Bond signals a high-profile evolution for the beloved British spy series.



## George and Amal Clooney attend King Charles' palace celebration

Hollywood couple George and Amal Clooney joined King Charles at Buckingham Palace on June 25 to honor winners of The King's Trust Awards 2025. The event recognized young individuals who overcame adversity and made positive contributions to their communities.

Photographs from the reception show the Clooneys laughing and posing with the King and award recipients. Amal wore a black off-shoulder dress while George opted for a relaxed gray suit.

This isn't the couple's first royal engagement; they previously attended a 2019 dinner at Buckingham Palace when the charity was still known as The Prince's Trust. They also joined Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's 2018 wedding at Windsor Castle, where George



reportedly served drinks at the reception.

The Clooneys, who share a long-standing friendship with the Sussexes, have also hosted the couple at their Lake Como villa in the past, continuing a warm bond with the British royal family.

## India launches Mahavatar Cinematic Universe spanning 12 years

India's own mythology-based cinematic universe has been announced, with the Mahavatar Cinematic Universe (MCU) launching a seven-film saga centered on the ten avatars of Lord Vishnu. Beginning with 'Mahavatar Narsimha' in July 2025, the series will conclude in 2037 with 'Mahavatar Kalki Part 2'.

Produced by Kleem Productions and presented by Hombale Films (K.G.F., Salaar), the MCU includes films like 'Mahavatar Parshuram', 'Mahavatar Raghunandan', and 'Mahavatar Gokulananda'. Director Ashwin Kumar and producer Shilpaa Dhawan describe it as a "transcendental experience."

The cinematic universe will expand beyond film into video games, comics, and digital storytelling. Graphic novels and interactive content are also planned to engage a new generation with India's

spiritual heritage. The films will be released in 3D and five Indian languages.



## Pedro Pascal criticizes J.K. Rowling's anti-transgender stance



Pedro Pascal has spoken out again against author J.K. Rowling's views on transgender rights. In an interview with Vanity Fair, the 'Mandalorian' star said he felt conflicted about publicly criticizing Rowling but ultimately decided to stand up for what he believes in. "Bullies make me sick," said Pascal, whose sister Lux came out as transgender in 2021.

Pascal previously called Rowling's stance "heinous loser behavior" after she supported a U.K. court ruling that defined women based only on biological sex. His sister Javiera also defended his response, saying his comments were rooted in defending family. Earlier this year, Pascal wore a "Protect the Dolls" T-shirt at a film premiere to show support for trans women. He said his actions stem from a desire to protect loved ones and fight injustice.

## 'Kannappa' makers issue legal warning against defamation and piracy



The makers of 'Kannappa', starring Vishnu Manchu, have issued a legal notice warning against defamatory remarks, unauthorized streaming, or distortion of the film. Produced by 24 Frames Factory, the devotional epic releases June 27 and tells the story of Thinnadu, a warrior-turned-devotee of Lord Shiva.

The production house emphasized their creative rights and referenced Delhi High Court protections for lead actors Vishnu Manchu and Mohan Babu. They stated that while freedom of speech is fundamental, malicious commentary could result in civil or criminal action.

The film, directed by Mukesh Kumar Singh, features a star-studded cast including Akshay Kumar as Lord Shiva, Mohanlal as Kirata, and Prabhas as Rudra. The team remains vigilant after past disruptions and urged critics to engage responsibly.



# वृंदावन यात्रा का पहला पड़ाव

## बांके बिहारी मंदिर—राधा-कृष्ण भक्ति का दिव्य केंद्र

IndoUS Tribune की श्रृंखला 'यात्रा और दर्शन: वृंदावन के मंदिर' में आपका स्वागत है। इस पवित्र श्रृंखला की शुरुआत हम वृंदावन के सबसे प्रसिद्ध और आध्यात्मिक मंदिर बांके बिहारी मंदिर से कर रहे हैं — एक ऐसा स्थल जो राधा-कृष्ण भक्ति के असंख्य श्रद्धालुओं के लिए केवल मंदिर नहीं, बल्कि एक जीवंत अनुभव है।

**इतिहास और महिमा: हरिदास जी की भक्ति से प्रकट हुआ ईश्वर का रूप**

बांके बिहारी मंदिर की स्थापना स्वामी हरिदास जी ने 1864 में की थी। हरिदास जी स्वयं राधा-कृष्ण के महान उपासक और प्रसिद्ध संगीतज्ञ थे। किंवदंती है कि जब वह वृंदावन के निधिवन में ध्यानपूर्वक भजन गा रहे थे, तब राधा और कृष्ण उनके सामने संयुक्त रूप में प्रकट हुए। स्वामी हरिदास जी ने उनसे आग्रह किया कि वे एक ही मूर्ति के रूप में भक्तों के लिए सदा प्रकट रहें। यही मूर्ति बाद में बांके बिहारी के नाम से प्रसिद्ध हुई।

बांके का अर्थ होता है टेढ़ा, और बिहारी का मतलब है ब्रज में रमण करने वाला। भगवान की इस प्रतिमा की झुकी हुई मुद्रा इस बात की प्रतीक है कि वे प्रेम से अपने भक्तों की ओर आकर्षित हो गए हैं। यह स्वरूप राधा और कृष्ण के मिलन का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है।

**मंदिर की अनूठी परंपराएँ और दिव्यता**

बांके बिहारी मंदिर अपने विशेष दर्शन और भक्ति परंपराओं के लिए जाना जाता है:

**पर्दा दर्शन:** मंदिर में भगवान के दर्शन हर कुछ मिनटों में पर्दा खोलकर कराए जाते हैं। ऐसा इसलिए माना जाता है कि भगवान के रूप को लगातार देखना भक्तों के लिए अत्यधिक आध्यात्मिक और भावनात्मक रूप से तीव्र हो सकता है।

**कोई शंख या घंटी नहीं:** मंदिर में शंख और घंटियों का प्रयोग नहीं होता क्योंकि मान्यता है कि भगवान बिहारी जी यहाँ विश्राम की मुद्रा में हैं और उन्हें शांति प्रिय है। यहाँ सिर्फ 'राधे राधे' का सुमिरन गूंजता है।

**राग-सेवा:** भगवान को रोज विभिन्न संगीत रागों के माध्यम से भक्ति अर्पित की जाती है, जो संगीत और भक्ति का अद्वितीय संगम प्रस्तुत करता है।

**राधा-कृष्ण भक्ति का वैश्विक केंद्र**

बांके बिहारी मंदिर न केवल उत्तर भारत का, बल्कि पूरे विश्व में राधा-कृष्ण भक्ति का सबसे बड़ा और जीवंत केंद्र बन चुका है। अमेरिका, यूके, कनाडा, ऑस्ट्रेलिया और खाड़ी देशों से हजारों श्रद्धालु यहाँ



आकर दर्शन करते हैं। मंदिर के प्रांगण में प्रवेश करते ही भक्तों का मन आत्मिक शांति और प्रेम से भर उठता है।

यह मंदिर सांस्कृतिक, आध्यात्मिक और भावनात्मक ऊर्जा का संगम है, जहाँ संगीत, भजन, सेवा और प्रेम के साथ राधा-कृष्ण की भक्ति जीवंत रूप में प्रकट होती है।

**त्यौहार और विशेष अवसर**

बांके बिहारी मंदिर में अनेक पर्व अत्यंत धूमधाम से मनाए जाते हैं:

- झूलन यात्रा
- शरद पूर्णिमा
- राधा अष्टमी
- जन्माष्टमी
- दोलयात्रा (धुलेंडी)
- वसंत पंचमी
- बिहारी पंचमी — स्वामी हरिदास जी की प्रकट तिथि

त्यौहारों के दौरान मंदिर पूरी तरह राधा-कृष्ण के रंगों में रंग जाता है, लेकिन इसी समय अत्यधिक भीड़ और प्रशासनिक अव्यवस्था की भी झलक दिखाई देती है।

**चुनौतियाँ: भीड़ प्रबंधन और मंदिर प्रशासन**

बांके बिहारी मंदिर की लोकप्रियता के कारण यहाँ दर्शन के समय भारी भीड़ एक सामान्य दृश्य बन चुकी है। दुर्भाग्यवश, स्थानीय प्रशासन और मंदिर प्रबंधन द्वारा उपयुक्त सुरक्षा एवं व्यवस्था न किए जाने के कारण कई बार भगदड़ जैसी स्थितियाँ उत्पन्न हो जाती हैं।

2022 में जन्माष्टमी के दौरान ऐसी ही एक घटना में कई श्रद्धालुओं को जान गंवानी पड़ी थी।

मंदिर परिसर की संकरी गलियाँ, अपर्याप्त निकास मार्ग, और आपातकालीन सेवाओं की कमी लगातार चिंता का विषय बनी हुई है।

कई बार ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि पुजारी वर्ग अपने लाभ और दान संग्रह में अधिक रुचि लेते हैं, बजाय इस बात के कि श्रद्धालुओं की सुरक्षा और सुविधा सुनिश्चित हो।

उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा मंदिर परिसर में एक कॉरिडोर विकसित करने की योजना भी विवादों में घिरी है, जिसमें मंदिर की परंपरा और पुजारियों के अधिकारों को लेकर न्यायालय तक में मामला पहुंचा।

**कैसे पहुँचें?**

**रेलवे स्टेशन:** मथुरा जंक्शन ( 12 किमी )

**हवाई अड्डा:** आगरा ( 67 किमी ) और दिल्ली ( 200 किमी )

**स्थानीय परिवहन:** ई-रिक्शा, ऑटो, टैक्सी उपलब्ध हैं

**श्रद्धा और सुधार का संगम आवश्यक**

बांके बिहारी मंदिर एक आध्यात्मिक तीर्थ है, जो श्रद्धालुओं के मन, हृदय और आत्मा को कृष्ण-प्रेम से जोड़ता है। परंतु इसकी प्रतिष्ठा और दिव्यता को बनाए रखने के लिए प्रशासनिक सुधार, पारदर्शिता और पुजारियों की भूमिका की स्पष्ट परिभाषा आज की आवश्यकता बन चुकी है।

IndoUS Tribune की यह श्रृंखला न केवल आपको धार्मिक स्थलों के दर्शन कराती है, बल्कि उन सामाजिक और व्यवस्थागत पहलुओं को भी उजागर करती है जिन्हें समझना और सुधारना हम सभी की जिम्मेदारी है।

अगली कड़ी में हम आपको वृंदावन के एक अन्य महत्वपूर्ण मंदिर की यात्रा पर ले चलेंगे। तब तक के लिए, राधे राधे।







इस अध्याय का मूल भाव है, कर्म संन्यास योग. इसमें भगवान कृष्ण ने कर्म संन्यास योग को बड़े सुंदर ढंग से परिभाषित किया है.



Rajendra Kapil  
Phone: 847-962-1291

## गीता स्वाध्याय- मेरी समझ से, पाँचवा अध्याय

अब तक अर्जुन को निष्काम कर्म में बारे में बहुत सारा ज्ञान प्राप्त हो चुका था. एक और प्रश्न उसके मन में उभरा, कि निष्काम कर्म और कर्मों के संन्यास में से कौन सा मार्ग बेहतर है? इस अध्याय का आरम्भ इसी प्रश्न के उत्तर से शुरू होता है. भगवान कृष्ण कहते हैं कि, कर्मों का संन्यास मार्ग और निष्काम कर्म की डगर, दोनों, एक ही गंतव्य तक ले जाते हैं. लेकिन निष्काम कर्म का मार्ग सुगम होने के कारण अधिक अनुकरणीय है. इसे जीवन में उतारना आसान है. इसमें एक समर्पण भाव है. आइये इन दोनों मार्गों को जरा अच्छी तरह से समझनेका प्रयास करते हैं.

**कर्मों का संन्यास-** कर्मों के संन्यास का सीधा अर्थ है, कर्मों से संन्यास ले लेना. इसका मतलब यह है कि, जो भी कर्म आप करो, उसे पूरी निष्ठा से कर, बाकी सब प्रभु पर छोड़ दो. आप उस कर्म करने के निमित्त बने, लेकिन यह मान कर चलो कि, किया प्रभु ने ही है. आप केवल उसका माध्यम बने. यानी कर्म करके उससे जो अहम भाव या करतापन का बोध होता है, उसका परित्याग करना ही, कर्मों का संन्यास है. कर्म की उपलब्धि के बाद जो अहंकार आ जाता है, उसका परित्याग करना, इसे कहते हैं कर्म संन्यास योग. इसी भाव को भगवान कृष्ण अलग अलग तर्कों से, अर्जुन को समझाने का प्रयास करते हैं.

**निष्काम कर्म-** निष्काम कर्म में, कर्म करने वाले की पूरी निष्ठा एवं ईमानदारी होती है. लेकिन वह कर्म एक ऐसे समत्व भाव से किया जाता है कि, उससे जो भी परिणाम निकले, सफलता अथवा असफलता, दोनों ही योगी को समान रूप से स्वीकार्य होती है. वह जो दोनों ही स्थितियों में एक समान रहे, सदा प्रसन्न रहता है. उसमें कबीर जैसी फक्कड़ता आ जाती थी. जो कहती थी:

कबिरा खड़ा बाजार में, सबकी माँग खैर  
न काहू से दोस्ती, और न काहू से बैर  
गीता के दूसरे अध्याय में भगवान कृष्ण ने भी यही कहा है:

कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन ।  
मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते संगोऽस्त्वकर्मणि ॥ ( ४७ )  
**भावार्थ:** तेरा कर्म करने में ही अधिकार है, उसके फलों में

अधिकार नहीं है, इसलिए तू न तो अपने-आप को कर्मों के फलों का कारण समझ और कर्म न करने में तेरी आसक्ति भी न हो ।

कर्म पर तेरा अधिकार है, फल पर नहीं. तेरे कर्म को मैं स्वयं आँक कर, उचित फल दूँगा. फल की चिंता प्रभु पर छोड़ दो, और उस परम पिता परमात्मा पर अटूट विश्वास रखो कि, वह तुम्हें उसका सही फल देगा, जो आपके लिए उस घड़ी में सर्वोत्तम होगा. ऐसी विचारधारा वाला योगी सदा प्रसन्न रहता है. यही निश्चितता, कबीर जैसे संतों में थी, इसीलिए कबीर आज भी याद किए जाते हैं.

**युक्तः कर्मफलं त्यक्त्वा शान्तिमाप्नोति नैष्ठिकीम् ।**

**अयुक्तः कामकारेण फले सक्तो निबध्यते ॥ ( १२ )**

**भावार्थ:** कर्मयोगी सभी कर्म के फलों का त्याग करके परम शान्ति को प्राप्त होता है और जो योग में स्थित नहीं वह कर्मफल को भोगने की इच्छा के कारण कर्म-फल में आसक्त होकर बँध जाता है ।

ऊपर के श्लोक में स्पष्ट है कि, जो निष्काम कर्म योगी करतापन का भाव त्याग कर, सारे कर्म को मुझे अर्पित कर देता है, वह परम शान्ति को प्राप्त करता है. और जो ऐसा नहीं कर पाता, वह उन्हीं कर्मों के बंधनों में फँसा रहता है.

**नादत्ते कस्यचित्पापं न चैव सुकृतं विभुः ।**

**अज्ञानेनावृतं ज्ञानं तेन मुह्यन्ति जन्तवः ॥ ( १५ )**

**भावार्थ:** शरीर में स्थित परमात्मा न तो किसी के पापकर्म को और न ही किसी के पुण्य-कर्म को ग्रहण करता है किन्तु जीवात्मा मोह से ग्रसित होने के कारण परमात्मा जीव के वास्तविक ज्ञान को आच्छादित किये रहता है ।

एक और बड़ी रहस्यमय बात, प्रभु ने यहाँ कही है. वह यह कि, परमात्मा किसी के बुरे कर्म ( यानि पाप आदि को ) और किसी के अच्छे कर्म ( यानि पुण्य आदि को ) ग्रहण नहीं करता. प्रभु सदा केवल यही देखते हैं कि, भक्त के

अन्तर्मन में क्या चल रहा है. भक्त का भाव कितना शुद्ध है. तुलसी बाबा ने भगवान राम के मुख से यहाँ तक कहलवा दिया:

**निर्मल मन जन सो मोहि पावा,**

**मोहि कपट छल छिद्र न भावा**

भक्त कभी कभी क्रोध में आकर, शुद्ध भाव से, अगर कोई गलत कर्म कर भी देता है, तो भी प्रभु उसे शिरोधार्य कर लेते हैं. रामायण का एक प्रसंग है, जिसमें ब्रह्म ऋषि नारद एक बार क्रोध कर, रामजी को श्राप दे डालते हैं, तो भी प्रभु बिना नाराज हुए, नारद के श्राप को पूरा करने के लिए रामावतार में नरलीला कर, उसे पूरा करते हैं. क्योंकि नारद की भावना शुद्ध थी, तो प्रभु ने उसके श्राप को कहा, तथास्तु!!!

**समत्व भाव:-**

**इहैव तैर्जितः सर्गो येषां साम्ये स्थितं मनः ।**

**निर्दोषं हि समं ब्रह्म तस्माद् ब्रह्मणि ते स्थिताः ॥ ( १९ )**

**भावार्थ:** तत्त्वज्ञानी मनुष्य का मन सम-भाव में स्थित रहता है, उसके द्वारा जन्म-मृत्यु के बन्धन रूपी संसार जीत लिया जाता है क्योंकि वह ब्रह्म के समान निर्दोष होता है और सदा परमात्मा में ही स्थित रहता है ।

इस श्लोक में समत्व भाव को खुल कर समझाया गया है. सम भाव का सरल भाषा में अर्थ है, हर सुख दुख में एक समान रहना. हर प्रकार के हानि लाभ में स्थिर रहना. सदी गमी में, रामजी को समर्पित रहना. एक साधारण भक्त ऐसा नहीं कर पाता. वह दुख में दुखी तथा सुख में, सातवें आसमान पर उछल रहा होता है. परंतु ज्ञानी लोग यह भली भाँति जानते हैं कि, सुख दुख दोनों ही अस्थायी हैं, टेम्पोरेरी हैं. आज हैं, लेकिन कल नहीं रहेंगे. इसीलिए ज्ञानी जन सुख दुख दोनों प्रभु को सौंप, बड़ा निश्चित एवं आनंददायी जीवन जीते हैं. उन्हें प्रभु की बनायी हर विधा पर पूरा भरोसा होता है. वह कभी अस्थिर नहीं होते. ऐसे स्थिर मन वाले योगी, जिन्होंने अपनी इंद्रियों को वश कर, प्रभु को सब कुछ सौंपा

होता है, वह प्रभु के सबसे निकट होते हैं. ऐसे भक्त, प्रभु को भी अत्यंत प्रिय होते हैं. और प्रभु ऐसे भक्तों का योग क्षेम स्वयं वहन करने लगते हैं. इसीलिए गीता के अंतिम अध्याय में, भगवान कृष्ण ने यह घोषणा कर दी:

**सर्वधर्मान्परित्यज्य मामेकं शरणं व्रज ।**

**अहं त्वा सर्वपापेभ्यो मोक्षयिष्यामि मा शुचः ॥**

**भावार्थ:** संपूर्ण धर्मों को अर्थात् संपूर्ण कर्तव्य कर्मों को त्यागकर तू केवल एक मुझे सर्वशक्तिमान, सवाधार् परमेश्वर की ही शरण में आ जा । मैं तुझे संपूर्ण पापों से मुक्त कर दूँगा, तू शोक मत कर'

सब कर्तव्य कर्मों को, यथा योग्यता तथा यथा स्वभाव करके मुझे सौंप दो. मैं तुम्हें हर प्रकार के पाप से मुक्त कर दूँगा, किसी प्रकार कि सोच या चिंता मत करो. और इस प्रकार इस अध्याय के अंत में अर्जुन को यही याद करवाया कि:

**भोक्तारं यज्ञतपसां सर्वलोकमहेश्वरम् ।**

**सुहृदं सर्वभूतानां ज्ञात्वा मां शान्तिमृच्छति ॥ ( २९ )**

**भावार्थ:** ऐसा मुक्त पुरुष मुझे सभी यज्ञों और तपस्याओं को भोगने वाला, सभी लोकों और देवताओं का परमेश्वर तथा सम्पूर्ण जीवों पर उपकार करने वाला परम-दयालु एवं हितैषी जानकर परम-शान्ति को प्राप्त होता है ।

हे अर्जुन, मेरा भक्त जब यज्ञ आदि पूजा अर्चना के माध्यम से, स्वार्थ रहित हो, निर्मल मन से, जब सब कुछ मुझे समर्पित कर, मुझसे जुड़ता है तो, वह मुझे ही पाता है. मुझे पाकर ही उसका मन की परम शान्ति एवं संतोष का अनुभव करता है. उसके मन प्राण में, मैं बस जाता हूँ, और वह दिन रात बस यही सुमिरन करता रहता है, वासुदेवाय नमः वासुदेवाय नमः !! सभी गीता प्रेमियों को शत शत नमन तथा जय श्री कृष्णा!!!!

**जय श्री कृष्णा!!!**



# Chicago's Navy Pier becomes the center of harmony and wellness for 11th International Day of Yoga



neighborhoods, the 2025 International Day of Yoga became a shared moment of global mindfulness—bringing

together people of all ages and backgrounds in the pursuit of health, harmony, and inner peace.



By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

The 11th International Day of Yoga (IDY) was marked with a vibrant and inspiring celebration at one of Chicago's most iconic locations—Navy Pier. Organized by the Consulate General of India, Chicago, the event attracted more than 400 yoga enthusiasts from across the region who gathered to honor the global significance of yoga and its power to unite mind, body, and community. The celebration was inaugurated by Consul General Somnath Ghosh, who delivered opening remarks emphasizing this year's IDY theme: “Yoga for One Earth, One Health.” He described yoga as a timeless gift from India's ancient heritage that continues to offer balance and sustainability—not just as a physical practice, but as a holistic lifestyle rooted in harmony with self, society, and nature.

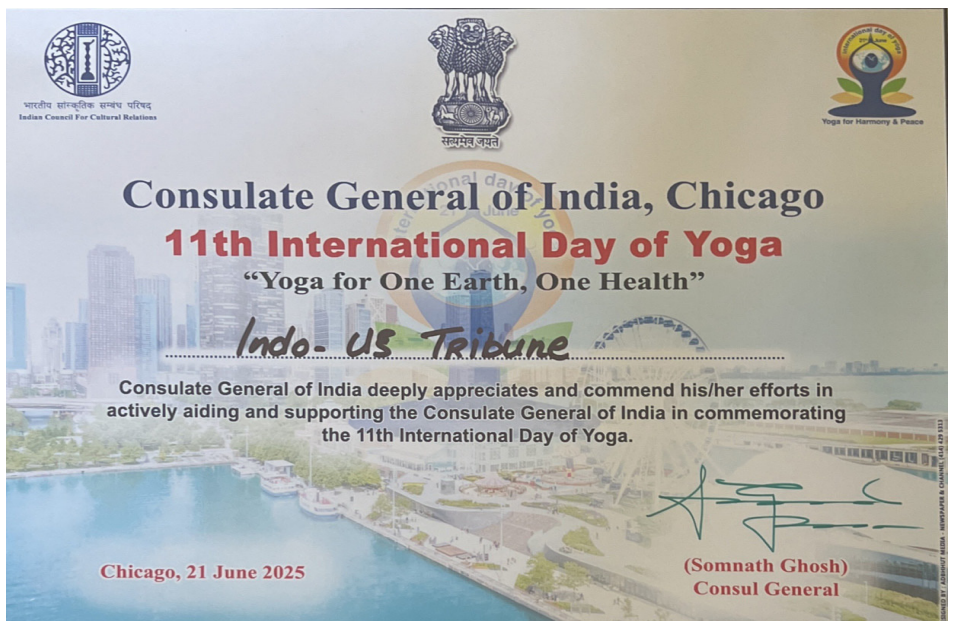
Consul General Ghosh highlighted yoga's global reach and inclusive nature, noting how it transcends borders, cultures, and faiths to become a universal practice of well-being. “Yoga,” he said, “is not just a set of exercises, but a philosophy of mindful living—benefiting both personal health and planetary harmony.”

The event featured a live demonstration of the Common Yoga Protocol, skillfully led by experienced instructors who guided the crowd through foundational yoga postures, breathing techniques, and meditation. Among the instructors were Ms. Anu Malhotra, Ms. Vimi Shukla, Ms. Parna Mazumdar, Ms. Pam Brockman, and Ms.

Saba Haider, each contributing to the uplifting atmosphere and collective spirit.

Set in the serene Polk Bros Park, with the calm waters of Lake Michigan in the background, the morning was marked by blue skies, fresh air, and vibrant participation. Yoga mats lined the lush green lawns as attendees followed the flow in peaceful unison, embodying the unity and mindfulness that the day celebrates. The success of the event was made possible through the support of several community partners and sponsors, including State Bank of India, Chicago. Dozens of yoga and cultural organizations contributed to the celebration, such as Art of Living – Chicago, Mindful Meditation, Isha Foundation, Sewa International USA, Brahma Kumaris, Sahaja Yoga, Heartfulness, Yoga Habitat, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh, Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur, Yogapathic, and others. Media partners included Indo-US Tribune, TV Asia, I-USA Media, Adbhut Media, and PTC News.

Beyond Chicago, the Consulate supported International Day of Yoga events throughout its jurisdiction. Celebrations took place in Urbana at the University of Illinois, in St. Louis, MO, in several cities across Michigan, in Pewaukee, WI, and in Johnston, IA. Events were also organized in partnership with Indian cultural groups such as Chinmaya Mission, Sanskriti Pewaukee, Icon Shakti, United Senior Pariwar, National Indian Hub, and the Indian Community of Niles Township. From large cities to suburban





# Indian community of Niles Township celebrates 11th International Yoga Day with enthusiasm and unity



By: Staff writer IndoUS Tribune

The Indian Community of Niles Township (ICNT), in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Associations (FIA) Chicago and United Senior Pariwar (USP), hosted its 11th International Yoga Day celebration at Gurukul Swaminarayan Mandir in Arlington Heights, Illinois. The Sunday morning event brought together community leaders, yoga enthusiasts, and dignitaries to honor yoga as India's timeless gift to the world.

Rohit Joshi, President of ICNT, warmly welcomed attendees from all three participating organizations—ICNT, USP, and FIA—and introduced the dedicated Yoga team that led the session. He expressed gratitude to the community for its continuous support and recognized the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the event a success.

Consul General of India in Chicago, Somnath Ghosh, graced the occasion as Chief Guest. In his address, Ghosh stressed the need for incorporating yoga into everyday life, emphasizing its mental, physical, and spiritual benefits. He proudly asserted India's role as the birthplace of yoga and commended the ICNT for its longstanding commitment to promoting health and wellness through community engagement. "This was the very first venue I visited after taking charge in Chicago, and I always feel welcomed coming back to ICNT," Mr. Ghosh said

with fondness.

Ramesh Chokshi, President of United Senior Pariwar, presented a book to the Consul General as a token of respect and appreciation. Other community leaders, including Hemant Patel, President of FIA Chicago, echoed the sentiment that yoga is a profound legacy of India that continues to benefit people across the globe. Both speakers emphasized the importance of making yoga a daily practice, especially in today's fast-paced lifestyle.

ICNT honored Jignesh Dixit, the Yoga Team Leader, for his leadership and commitment, presenting him with a bouquet. Smitesh Shah, Secretary of ICNT, offered a flower to each member of the Yoga team as a gesture of gratitude. Rohit Joshi also took the opportunity to recognize key volunteers whose behind-the-scenes efforts ensured the success of the event—Arvind Ankleshwariya, Virendra Patel, Pravin Gandhi, Jagdish Hingu, Harish Topiwala, and Mahesh Danak were all applauded for their service.

Audio-visual support for the program was provided by JK Photography, capturing the spirit of unity, wellness, and celebration that marked the day. The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by ICNT President, who extended his appreciation to Consul General Somnath Ghosh, members of ICNT, USP, FIA, Gurukul Swaminarayan Mandir, IndoUS Tribune, all participants, and the dedicated volunteers who made the 11th International Yoga Day celebration a meaningful and memorable event.





# Chicagoland's largest International Yoga Day celebration inspires unity, wellness, and spiritual harmony



By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

The 11th International Yoga Day celebration in Chicagoland unfolded as a transformative gathering of over 1,000 participants at The Matrix Club in Naperville, radiating peace, prana, and purpose. Organized by Mindful Meditation Yoga in partnership with FIA-Chicago, the event served as a vibrant reminder of yoga's enduring relevance in today's world.

With support from the Consulate General of India in Chicago and numerous community and medical organizations, the celebration offered a powerful blend of movement, mindfulness, and community spirit. Participants came from across the Midwest to take part in the region's largest International Yoga Day event—demonstrating a growing collective commitment to holistic health and spiritual well-being.

The morning began with devotional yoga geets sung by local talent, creating a serene atmosphere that set the tone for the sessions ahead. The structured yoga flow, which included asanas, pranayama, and guided meditation, was led by experienced instructors. It encouraged participants to reconnect with their breath, center their focus, and cultivate inner stillness amidst life's constant movement.

Dignitaries from local and national levels graced the occasion and addressed the audience, highlighting the global impact of yoga and India's invaluable contribution to world wellness. A traditional lamp-lighting ceremony marked the spiritual beginning of the event and underscored the values of light, balance, and harmony that yoga represents.

The celebration emphasized discipline, inclusivity, and community service. More than 70 dedicated volunteers from various organizations ensured the event ran smoothly—from logistics and coordination to guiding attendees and



maintaining the sanctity of the practice. Every detail was executed with a sense of devotion, reflecting the principles of Karma Yoga.

A soulful live music accompaniment during the yoga sessions elevated the collective energy, transforming the practice

into an immersive spiritual journey. Participants expressed a deep sense of clarity and peace during the concluding meditation session, describing it as one of the most grounding experiences of their wellness journey.

The event concluded with the distribution of prasadam and a collective clean-up effort—underscoring the spirit of selfless service and gratitude that yoga espouses.

Backed by community support from organizations such as Sewa International, Arya Samaj of Chicagoland, A3N Media, Sant Nirankari Mission, and Hindu Satsang, this year's celebration was more than just a gathering—it was a movement. It exemplified Chicagoland's evolving embrace of conscious living, community unity, and ancient Indian wisdom.

In every posture held and every breath shared, the 11th International Yoga Day in Chicagoland echoed a simple yet powerful truth: when communities come together with purpose and peace, transformation is not only possible—it is inevitable.





# Congressman Krishnamoorthi demands oversight and transparency from Trump administration on Iran Strikes and ICE facility access

By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL), a senior member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, has issued two separate but urgent appeals this week demanding transparency and lawful oversight from the Trump Administration—one in connection with the recent U.S. military strikes on Iran and the other concerning federal immigration enforcement in Chicago.

## Demand for full Congressional access to intelligence post-Iran strikes

In a strongly worded letter sent to President Donald Trump on Saturday, Krishnamoorthi called on the administration to reverse reported plans to withhold classified information from Congress following the June 21 U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities. The covert operation—dubbed Operation Midnight Hammer—targeted major nuclear development sites in Fordow, Natanz, and Esfahan.

The Congressman cited U.S. law, which requires that the President “ensure that the congressional intelligence committees are kept fully and currently informed” of

all significant intelligence activity. “Your Administration’s reported plans to limit the sharing of sensitive information with Congress would not comply with the law,” Krishnamoorthi warned.

Reports of conflicting assessments about the effectiveness of the strikes have further raised concerns within Congress. “These conflicting reports are deeply alarming and require further evaluation from the intelligence community,” Krishnamoorthi stated in the letter. The Congressman stressed that classified leaks should be investigated but not used as an excuse to obstruct lawful oversight.

## Denied oversight at Chicago ICE facility

Separately, Krishnamoorthi and Congressman Jonathan Jackson (D-IL) issued a joint demand for access to a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility in Chicago’s South Loop after being denied entry earlier this week. The two lawmakers arrived at the facility to investigate reports that at least 10 individuals were detained under questionable circumstances on June 4—reportedly lured in by text messages requesting a “routine appointment.”

Instead of being allowed to inspect the facility and receive answers, the



congressmen say an ICE officer refused to identify himself and called the Chicago Police Department, accusing them of trespassing.

“We were denied the ability to perform congressional oversight – as is our duty as members of the United States House of Representatives,” Krishnamoorthi and Jackson wrote in a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem.

They are seeking immediate access to the facility and a full explanation of recent enforcement actions, particularly in light of President Trump’s recent announcement to initiate “the single largest mass deportation program in history”—a plan that specifically targets Democratic-led cities,

including Chicago.

## Call for accountability

Both letters reflect Congressman Krishnamoorthi’s growing concern over what he sees as a pattern of obfuscation and legally questionable actions by federal authorities under the Trump Administration. In both cases, the Congressman is calling for urgent corrective action and legal compliance.

“Congress has a constitutional obligation to provide oversight—whether it involves military actions abroad or immigration enforcement at home,” Krishnamoorthi emphasized.

The Consulate General of India in Chicago has not issued any formal statement in response to the developments. Meanwhile, local communities—particularly immigrant families and civil rights advocates—are watching closely, concerned about the broader implications of secrecy, accountability, and due process in both national security and domestic enforcement operations.

IndoUS Tribune will continue to follow these developments and provide timely updates.



# IndoUS T R I B U N E



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Friday, 27 June 2025

www.indoustribune.com

# Néktar Juice Bar redefines clean living and conscious eating

By: Dr. Avi Verma

In an age saturated with sugary beverages and fad diets, Néktar Juice Bar offers a refreshing and authentic alternative. Founded in 2010 in Costa Mesa, California, Néktar is transforming the health food scene with one simple philosophy: real ingredients, real nutrition, real results.

During a recent visit to the Néktar outlet at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) campus, the IndoUS Tribune team—led by Publisher Dr. Avi Verma, Board Member Rakesh Malhotra, and community leader Joy Shah—met with Nirav Shah, Development Manager at Néktar. Shah emphasized that Néktar is not just a juice bar, but a wellness movement. After sampling a range of nutrient-rich smoothies, açai bowls, and freshly pressed juices, the team declared Néktar a must-visit destination for anyone pursuing clean, vibrant nutrition.

## What makes Néktar stand out?

Néktar has grown into a trusted wellness brand with locations across the United States—including in Geneva, South Barrington, and downtown Chicago. Its approach is rooted in radical simplicity:

- ▶ No added sugar
- ▶ No preservatives
- ▶ 100% organic and raw ingredients
- ▶ No artificial flavors or fillers

Rather than promoting short-term diets, Néktar encourages a long-term, sustainable lifestyle. Its menu, filled with superfood smoothies, cold-pressed juices, and wholesome plant-based options, is designed to fuel the body and mind without compromise.

## More than a hashtag—it's a movement

"It's more than a hashtag," Néktar staff say. "It's about embracing health as a way of life." From first-timers to lifelong wellness advocates, customers are welcomed into a space that feels more like a community



than a café. The UIC team exemplified this commitment, greeting the IndoUS Tribune delegation with warmth, product knowledge, and contagious enthusiasm.

## Real food, real purpose

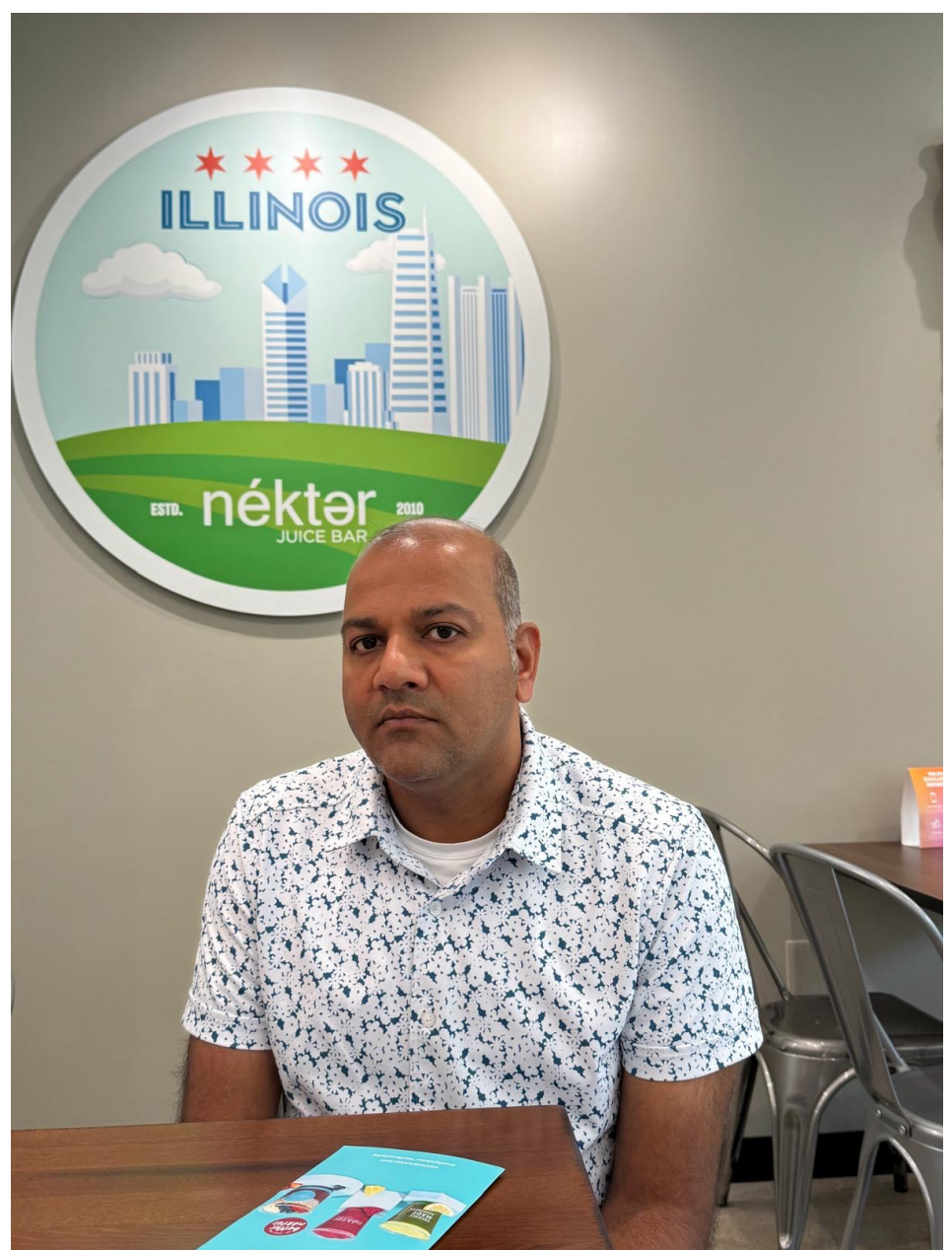
Every item at Néktar is handcrafted daily to retain its nutritional integrity—no shortcuts, just honest, whole ingredients. In a world of synthetic energy drinks and processed snacks, Néktar offers a transparent, energizing, and flavorful option.

As health becomes increasingly commercialized, Néktar returns to the roots of wellness: trust, taste, and truth.

So, whether you're a student on the go, a working professional, or a wellness enthusiast, Néktar makes it easy to choose clean living—without compromising on flavor or convenience.

We at the IndoUS Tribune enthusiastically recommend Néktar Juice Bar as a vital addition to any health-conscious lifestyle.

Visit a Néktar near you—and experience the difference. Because wellness should not be a trend—it should be a way of life.





# Indian Seniors of Chicago mark June birthdays, Father’s Day, and talent show with festive gathering



June birthday celebrants were welcomed with roses by Mithabhai Patel

By: Jayanti Oza

The Indian Seniors of Chicago came together at Manav Seva Mandir on Saturday, June 14, for a joyful celebration honoring June birthdays, Father’s Day, and the vibrant talents of their members.

The program began with a devotional recitation of ‘Ganesh Stuti’ and ‘Hanuman Chalisa’ by birthday celebrants. Mithabhai Patel greeted each with a rose, and Bhupendra Suthar led the group in singing ‘Baar Baar Din Ye Aaye’ and ‘Happy Birthday’ to mark the occasion. A moment of silence was observed in memory of those who perished in a recent plane crash in Ahmedabad.

Health and wellness took center stage with a light yoga session led by Umaben Desai, invited by Naveen Patel, offering attendees simple stretches for better mobility. Hemant Modi presented the financial update and acknowledged donors for their continued support.

Lunch was generously sponsored by Praveen and Jayshree Sheth in honor of Jayshree’s 75th birthday. The couple was recognized with a bouquet by group president Dilip Patel, who also



Senior fathers received roses and warm wishes on the occasion of Father’s Day

shared Father’s Day greetings and distributed roses to senior fathers.

The event’s highlight was a spirited talent show featuring Bollywood dance performances by Daksha and Satish Parikh, and Ami and Sanjay Hasoti.

Vocal performances by Jayanti Oza, Bhadra Shah, Baiju Mehta, Bharat and Rita Gandhi, Deepesh Modi, and Ashwin Thakkar brought a musical flair to the celebration. Looking ahead, Kantibhai Patel announced a floral arrangement event for August, and

details of the group’s annual picnic on July 13 were shared by Chimanbhai and Naveen Patel.

The afternoon concluded with a group prayer and a communal lunch, leaving attendees uplifted and united.



Jayshree and Praveen Sheth sponsored lunch in celebration of Jayshree's 75th birthday





# The Rath Yatra

## A festival of faith on wheels

● By: Rakesh Malhotra, President of Global Indian Diaspora Foundation

For Indian Americans, the annual Rath Yatra—the grand chariot festival celebrated in Puri and replicated in cities like New York, San Francisco, Chicago, and Houston—holds profound emotional and spiritual significance. Organized by ISKCON, Odia communities, and cultural groups, these processions allow the diaspora to experience the divine energy of Jagannath on American streets.

During this festival, the deities leave the sanctum of the temple and travel in majestic wooden chariots, giving darshan to all. In a deeply democratic gesture, the Lord Himself comes to the people, breaking the barriers between the divine and the devotee. This journey reminds us that even in foreign lands, our cultural roots can find new soil.

### Significance and faith

The Rath Yatra is not just a festival but a profound spiritual journey. It commemorates Lord Jagannath's annual visit with his siblings, Balabhadra and Subhadra, from their main temple to the Gundicha Temple, considered their aunt's home. This 3-kilometre procession is symbolic of the soul's journey toward spiritual liberation and the Lord's willingness to come out and bless all devotees, regardless of caste, creed, or status.

Touching or pulling the ropes of the chariots is believed to be highly auspicious, as it is capable of cleansing past sins and attracting divine grace. The festival embodies the ideals of unity, equality, and collective devotion, as people from all walks of life participate together.

### A collage of a parade

Many captivating stories surround the festival. One such tale is of Salabega, a devout Muslim who was once unable to reach Puri in time for the Yatra. Miraculously, Lord Jagannath's chariot would not move until Salabega arrived, showing that the Lord's compassion knows no boundaries of faith.

Another legend tells of the incomplete idols: When the celestial architect Vishwakarma was carving the idols, he left them unfinished after being disturbed, resulting in the unique, unfinished forms of the deities worshipped today—a reminder that divinity transcends human



notions of perfection.

### Rituals and traditions: Bringing the divine to the people

The Rath Yatra is not just a spectacle but a tapestry of ancient rituals. The festival begins with Snana Yatra, where the deities are bathed in 108 pots of sacred water. On the day of the Yatra, the idols of Lord Jagannath, his brother Balabhadra, and sister Subhadra are carried out of the sanctum in a rhythmic procession called Pahandi Bijie and placed on their majestic wooden chariots. In a powerful gesture of humility, the King of Puri himself sweeps the chariot platforms with a golden broom during the Chera Pahara ritual, reminding all that before the divine, everyone is equal.

As the chariots roll through the streets, devotees from all backgrounds join in to pull the ropes—a deeply democratic act that symbolizes unity and the breaking of barriers between the divine and the devotee. For many, touching the chariot ropes is believed to cleanse past sins and attract divine grace.

### Mahaprasad: The sacred feast of equality

Think of Mahaprasad as the sacred soul food of India's Jagannath Temple in Puri, Odisha. It's not just a meal—it's a spiritual offering that becomes a symbol of divine grace and communal harmony. Food is first offered to Lord Jagannath, a revered deity, and then re-offered to Goddess Bimala. Only after this ritual does it become Mahaprasad, meaning "great offering" in Sanskrit.



What makes it extraordinary is that it's cooked in the temple's massive kitchen, one of the largest in the world—using traditional methods, without onions, garlic, or even tasting during preparation. Mahaprasad includes rice, dal, vegetables, and sweets, all cooked in earthen pots over wood fires. During the festival, a special rice cake called Poda Pitha is offered, reflecting Odisha's culinary heritage.

Mahaprasad is more than a meal; it is a symbol of equality and community. In Puri and at diaspora celebrations, people of all backgrounds sit together to partake, reinforcing the festival's message of unity.

### Bhagvan Jagannath: Symbol of inclusion and transformation

Bhagvan Jagannath stands apart as a deity who embodies the confluence of tribal, Vaishnavite, Shaivite, Shakta, and even Buddhist traditions. Saints and scholars—from Adi Shankaracharya to Chaitanya Mahaprabhu—have revered him as a symbol of sarva-dharma-sambhava, the harmony of all paths. For Indian Americans navigating cultural diversity and generational gaps, Jagannath's inclusive image offers a spiritual lens where tradition meets acceptance and unity arises from diversity.

### A living connection to India's soul

Temples dedicated to Jagannath in places like Atlanta, New Jersey, and Fremont are not just centers of worship; they are vibrant hubs of community life. They host language classes, cultural events, charity drives,

and spiritual discourses, keeping the flame of Indian heritage alive.

For second-generation Indian Americans, Jagannath is a cultural anchor. As Sarthak Wadhawan, a college student from New Jersey, shares, "Pulling the chariot rope with my parents and friends each year, I feel connected not just to my roots, but to something timeless and universal. It's a tradition that moves with us, wherever we are."

### A divine presence in modern life

Whether you're a tech professional in Silicon Valley, a physician in Chicago, or a student in Boston, Bhagwan Jagannath's message is profoundly relevant: surrender your worries, embrace simplicity, and walk the path of service (seva) and love. In a fast-paced, achievement-driven American life, Jagannath invites us to pause, reflect, and remember the eternal truth:

"You are not alone. The Lord of the Universe walks beside you."

### Bringing Jagannath closer to home

Building a Jagannath culture in America isn't just about celebrating rituals—it's about reviving the spirit of inclusiveness, humility, and shared joy. As we chant "Jai Jagannath!" with our children, friends, and neighbors, we weave a sacred thread that ties our American dreams with the spiritual legacy of India.

Let us continue this journey—chariot by chariot, prayer by prayer, generation by generation.\_



# Chicago celebrates Laxmikant-Pyarelal's musical legacy with heartfelt tribute



Shaila Khedkar opens the concert with a moving rendition of 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram'

By: Jayanti Oza

In a memorable celebration of Bollywood's golden era, over 900 music lovers gathered at Hari Dham Mandir in Schaumburg to pay tribute to the legendary composer duo Laxmikant-Pyarelal. Organized by noted Chicagoland film producer Ramesh Punatar, the evening spotlighted the enduring magic of LP's music, which defined decades of Indian cinema.

The concert opened with the devotional classic 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram', soulfully performed by Chicago's own Shaila Khedkar, setting a tone of reverence and nostalgia. A talented ensemble of local artists—including Avani Sing, Joy Christian, Rina Motiwala, Alam Syed, Suman Mooker, Kamlesh Desai, and Melody Mahesh—brought LP's timeless



Julia Lewandpowski Performing Bollywood song on Saxophone instrument



Show's one of sponsor Ashok Punjabi drawing raffle ticket

songs to life with captivating vocals.

Adding a patriotic touch, young talents Shania Tandon and Anyraa Singh performed the American and Indian national anthems, earning heartfelt applause. Dance numbers by Sataakshi Joshi, Shivana, and Samir Soni further energized the crowd and reflected the rhythmic brilliance of LP's cinematic soundtracks.

Event curator Ramesh Punatar was widely lauded for his continued efforts to preserve and promote Indian musical heritage in the Midwest. He honored several community leaders on stage, including Neil Khot, a U.S. Congressional candidate, and acknowledged the media presence of IndoUS Tribune, represented by Dr. Avi Verma and Jayanti Oza, for their work in amplifying South Asian voices.

The first 100 attendees received special gift packages, and several lucky guests won prizes through a raffle draw, adding festive cheer to the musical evening.

More than just a concert, the event was a moving homage to Laxmikant-Pyarelal's unmatched contributions to Indian music—and a reminder that their melodies continue to resonate with generations across continents.



# Maharana Pratap Jayanti marked with powerful skit and patriotic tributes in Mumbai



By: Dr. Avi Verma

The legacy of Rajput warrior Maharana Pratap came alive in Mumbai this week as the organization 'Mein BHARAT Hoon' hosted a two-day cultural celebration to mark his birth anniversary. Held at Bollywood Park in Film City, the event drew large crowds and featured a professionally choreographed theatrical performance honoring Pratap's courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to freedom.

The skit narrated key moments from Maharana Pratap's life, including his early struggles, battles against the Mughal empire, and the legendary role of his horse Chetak, who died protecting his master in the Battle of Haldighati. Presented by a cast of trained stage actors, the performance was coordinated by Ekta, Archana, Sheetal, and Nisha, and received acclaim from both attendees and online viewers across the globe. Arun Mundra, international coordinator for 'Mein BHARAT Hoon,' emphasized the event's mission to instill pride in India's heritage and highlight the values of self-respect, patriotism, and resistance. "Our goal is to inspire the younger generation with stories of real courage," he said.

Mundra also referenced the continued symbolic resistance of the 'gadoliya lohar' (roaming blacksmith) community, who centuries ago vowed not to return to royal life until Mewar

was freed from Mughal control—a vow they still uphold today.

As part of the event, Mundra welcomed key dignitaries including Rajasthan minister Jhabar Singh Khara, Industry Minister KK Vishnoi, and Rajya Sabha member Rajendra Gehlot. Also in attendance

were community leaders and media representatives, including those from IndoUS Tribune represented by Dr. Avi Verma. Rajasthan MLA Deepti Kiran Maheshwari, daughter of the late Kiran Maheshwari—widely known as the 'Lioness of Mewar'—sent her wishes and highlighted her recent efforts to honor descendants of Haldi Ghati warriors. Mundra, who recently

participated in the Rising Rajasthan summit in Jaipur inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, used the opportunity to further connect cultural and political leaders in support of heritage preservation. The event concluded with a strong message of cultural pride and historical remembrance, reinforcing Maharana Pratap's enduring legacy in modern

30 मार्च  
**राजस्थान**  
स्थापना दिवस

मैं भारत हूँ फाउंडेशन  
**आपणों राजस्थान 8**  
वर्ष में प्रवेश

Very special guest from Rajasthan!! .... for "Aapno Rajasthan" , Mein BHARAT Hoon:  
Pl. join in max. number for getting gracious company and inspiration from great dignitaries ...

multiple programs for all age groups all flavors Rang Rangeelo Reliable Rajasthan.



**Minister K K Vishnoi Ji**  
Industry & Commerce Minister  
Rajasthan

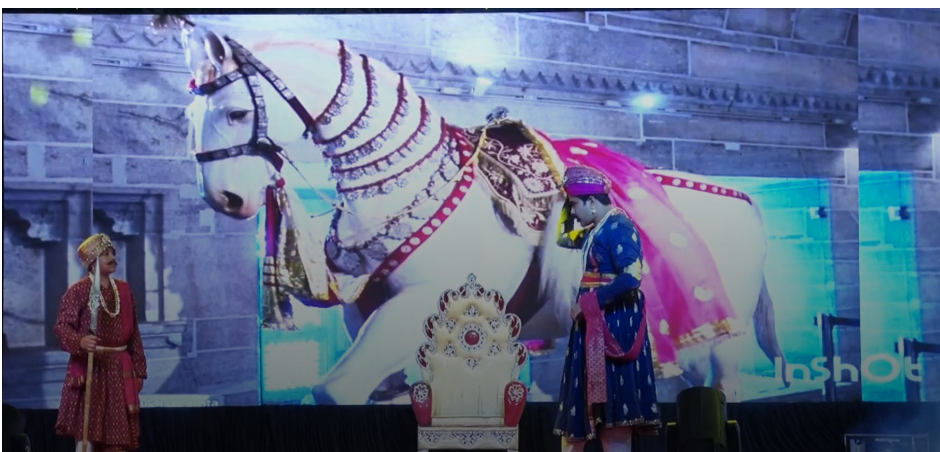


**Minister Jhabar Singh Ji Kharra**



**Rajendra Ji Rajyasabha with Arun Mundra,USA**







# Texas cities honor Mahesh Navami as NRI Maheshwaris amplify global humanitarian impact



By: Dr. Avi Verma

**F**ort Bend County and the City of Stafford in Texas officially recognized Mahesh Navami with proclamations this June, honoring the Maheshwari community's global contributions and humanitarian outreach. The proclamations, coordinated by Houston-based NRI leader Arun Mundra, mark yet another milestone in his ongoing efforts to spotlight the Maheshwari legacy of service and unity worldwide.

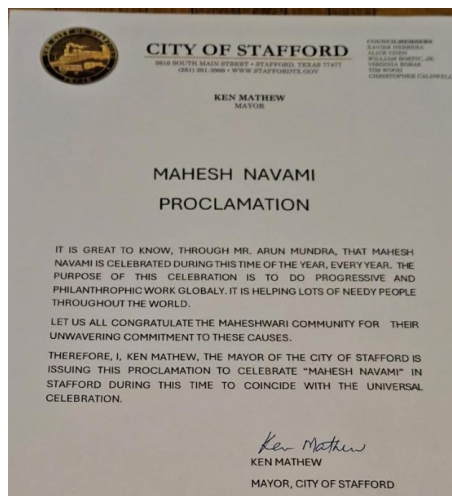
County Judge KP George praised the community's commitment to 'Seva, Tyag and Sadhachar' (Service, Sacrifice, and High Moral Values), noting their pandemic relief work, MSME support, and youth leadership initiatives. Stafford Mayor Ken Mathew emphasized the Maheshwaris' dedication to philanthropy and progressive change, influenced by Mundra's updates on their global engagement.

Mahesh Navami greetings poured in from around the world—Singapore, Indonesia, the UK, Germany, and the Middle East—many thanking Mundra for past aid during crises. From supporting stranded families during the pandemic to mobilizing solidarity after the Pahalgam attack, Mundra's global coordination continues to unify and empower the diaspora.



Celebrations included cultural tributes like Shiv bhajans by singer Seema Soaboo Moondra and messages from figures like Ravidrums, who has previously performed in Maheshwari events. The Maheshwari Global Coordination team, alongside co-leader Dheeraj Rathi, also called for participation in the upcoming Maheshwari Global Convention.

By blending cultural pride with global purpose, Mahesh Navami 2025 became more than a festival—it became a reaffirmation of values that transcend borders, uniting Maheshwaris and Sanatanis in a shared commitment to service, community, and Bharat.







# Honoring Anna Wintour's fashion legacy



**F**ew figures in fashion command the reverence of Anna Wintour, the long-standing Editor-in-Chief of Vogue and Global Chief Content Officer of Condé Nast. With her trademark bob, oversized sunglasses, and unflinching front-row presence, Wintour has turned her personal style into an institution. Here's a look at her most defining fashion moments over the decades.

## 1. The Power Bob and Chanel Tweed (Late 1980s)

As she took the helm at Vogue in 1988, Wintour made headlines for pairing a Christian Lacroix couture jacket with jeans on the magazine's cover. Her own aesthetic—neatly cropped bob, structured Chanel jackets, and printed midi dresses—quickly established her signature.

## 2. The Florals, Furs, and Flow (1990s-2000s)

Through the '90s and 2000s, Wintour embraced floral Prada dresses, Oscar de la Renta gowns, and floor-length furs. Whether attending Paris Fashion Week or the Met Gala, she stayed true to a clean silhouette—structured at the top, flowing at the bottom.

## 3. The Met Gala Muse (2010s)

As the curator of the Met Gala, Wintour never disappoints. Memorable moments include her 2012 white feathered Chanel gown, the 2014 ivory couture with gold accents, and the 2019 floral appliqué

Chanel cape for Camp: Notes on Fashion.

## 4. The Pandemic Shift (2020)

Even during lockdown, Wintour made headlines in a red and white striped bathrobe, Zooming in from her home office. It marked a rare departure from polished high fashion—but proved her ability to adapt style to any era.

## 5. Sustainability and Edge (2023–present)

More recently, Wintour has paired tailored Bottega Veneta coats with bold green accents and sustainable pieces from emerging designers, reinforcing her role as both a gatekeeper and trailblazer.

### Wintour's style commandments:

- ▶ No black head-to-toe (she rarely wears all-black).
- ▶ Always wear sunglasses (even indoors).
- ▶ Support new designers (not just legacy houses).
- ▶ Fashion should evolve, not repeat.



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# Personal finance insights: News & Features

●
Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

## SENTIMENTS

AAII Bull-Bear Spread -8.2% (below average). (Thursday-Wednesday)  
\$NYA50R, NYSE %Above 50-dMA 67.23% (positive)  
\$SPXA50R, SP500 %Above 50-dMA 67.20% (positive)  
Delta MSI 66.4% (positive)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 4/30/25  
OEFs & ETFs: Stocks 59.51%, Hybrids 4.20%, Bonds 18.28%, M-Mkt 18.00%

## INTEREST RATES

CME FedWatch  
Cycle peak 5.25-5.50%  
Current 4.25-4.50%  
FOMC 7/30/25+ hold  
FOMC 9/17/25+ cut

## Treasury

T-Bills 3-mo yield 4.39%, 1-yr 4.07%;  
T-Notes 2-yr 3.90%, 5-yr 3.96%, 10-yr 4.38%; T-Bonds 30-yr 4.89%;  
TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 1.59%, 10-yr 2.05%, 30-yr 2.59%  
FRNs Index 4.285%  
US Savings I-Bonds, rate from 5/1/25 – 10/31/25 is 3.98% (previous 3.11%); the fixed rate is 1.10%, the semiannual inflation is 1.43%.

For current banking rates, see [www.depositaccounts.com/](http://www.depositaccounts.com/)

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 6/1/25  
TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates  
Restricted RC 5.50%, RA 5.25%  
Flexible RCP 4.75%, SRA 4.50%, IRA-101110+ 4.75%  
TSP G Fund 4.50% (previous 4.250%).

Weekly ETFs INDA -0.26%, EPI -0.84%, INDH +0.43%, SPY -0.16%

The data above are as of Sunday preceding the publication date.

## MARKETS

Israel-Iran skirmishes have continued



for several days (June 12- ) with missiles, drones & aerial bombings. Many lives have been lost & military & infrastructure targets have been damaged. The US also joined the fight on 6/21/25 by bombing 3 nuclear sites in Iran. Global stock & oil market reactions were pending.

Indian IPO market has cooled in 2025 following a record 2024. Some companies have postponed their IPOs despite receiving the clearances from SEBI. But this a pause & several high-profile IPOs are coming.

Indian securities & exchange regulator SEBI will limit weekly derivative contract expiries to Tuesdays on NSE exchange & Thursdays on BSE exchange. This will replace multiple expiries during the week. Previously, the SEBI restricted index derivative contracts to one benchmark per exchange.

## ECONOMY

G-7, June 15-17, was in Canada. Several guests were invited including India. President Trump left the G-7

meeting late-Monday, 6/16/25, to attend to important matters, but the US delegation remained. The remaining G-6 & guests were left scrambling on the issues of trade, geopolitics, energy transitions & new technologies. Instead of a joint G-7 communique, there were several broad statements & Chair's (Canada) Summary.

## SPECIAL TOPICS

Air India AI-171 Boeing 787-8 (Dreamliner) crashed after takeoff in Ahmedabad. Some observations: a catastrophic dual-engine & electrical/hydraulics failure occurred because RAT (air turbine-generator) was seen & heard. The landing gear remained extended & wing flaps may have retracted prematurely. The fully loaded plane took extra distance for takeoff on a hot day. The takeoff initially looked normal, but soon the plane stalled & fell on a medical college campus. There was only 1 survivor who walked away. Both black-boxes have been found; a damaged black box may be sent to the US NTSB (DC).

## COLLEGE 529 REVISITED

Many limitations or deficiencies of State 529s have been eliminated by various modifications. But many people aren't familiar with these changes.

### A TIMELINE of favorable changes follows:

2008: Rollover of unused 529 (for college) to 529-ABLE (for disabled) was allowed up to the annual exclusion amount (including contributions).

2010-15: Computer equipment & accessories became qualified educational expenses. This provision started as temporary but became permanent.

**2017: \$10K/yr allowed for K-12 tuition at private schools.**

**2019:**  
Limited student loan payments were allowed - lifetime max \$10K for the beneficiary; also, additional \$10K for each sibling of the beneficiary.

**Apprenticeship/vocational training expenses became qualified expenses.**

**2022:**  
Limited Roth Rollovers - lifetime max \$35K from 15+ year old 529 & balances that are 5+ years old can be rolled over up to the Roth IRA annual contribution limit.

Employer match (taxable) allowed for 529 contributions. Some states allow state tax credits for 529 matches.

2024: Grandparent 529 penalty was removed - withdrawals no longer count as student's income in FAFSA forms. (Grandparent 529 are not included in FAFSA assets, only the Parent 529)

## OTHER 529 FEATURES

- ▶ Tax-deferred growth & tax-free withdrawals for qualified expenses.
  - ▶ State 529s may have state tax incentives for residents. People can use any state 529.
  - ▶ 529 assets are out of the estate except for some possible clawbacks.
  - ▶ 5 years' worth of annual exclusions can be contributed immediately to 529 (double for couples). The Form 709 filing will be required.

UTMA assets can be transferred to a specially titled 529 (but reverse is not allowed); its beneficiary cannot be changed as for regular 529.

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





# Everything you need to know about IUHS School of Medicine

● By: Dr. Avi Verma

**1. Location:** Our study centre is based on the Caribbean island of St. Kitts, but there is no requirement to travel there. The administrative office is in Winnipeg, Canada.

## 2. Program Structure & Exams:

- ▶ **Preclinical Phase (Years 1 & 2):** Fully online, divided into 11 study blocks. The first block is 12 weeks, the rest are 8 weeks each. After completion, students take the IUHS Exit Exam, and U.S. students also prepare for Step 1.
- ▶ **Clinical Phase (Years 3 & 4):** 80 weeks of rotations—48 weeks core, 32 weeks electives. Students then take the IUHS Exit Exam 2 and officially graduate. U.S. students also take Step 2 before graduation.

## 3. Assessments:

- ▶ End-of-block graded exams
- ▶ DxR Clinician virtual patient simulation graded assignments • Non-graded DAR exams (at the end of Blocks 3, 6, 9) to identify

knowledge gaps

- ▶ Lecturio self-assessments which are mandatory but not graded

## 4. Teaching methods:

- ▶ **Systems-based learning:** Integrates anatomy, pathology, and pharmacology within each body system.

## ▶ Problem-based learning:

Encourages critical thinking and challenges students to draw on all the knowledge they have acquired as they would in a real-life scenario when treating a patient.

- ▶ **Spaced repetition:** Reinforces knowledge through periodic review, enhancing long-term retention.

## 5. Clinical rotations:

- ▶ U.S. students can complete all rotations at the main affiliated hospital in Chicago, Illinois with additional sites in Texas, West Virginia, California, Nevada, Missouri and Arizona (subject to availability). Clinical rotation preparation starts around Block 8.



- ▶ Australian students have a dedicated clinical director assisting them with the arrangements for clinical placements.

**6. DxR Clinician:** is a medical education software designed to help students develop clinical reasoning and diagnostic skills. It provides virtual patient cases that simulate real-life medical scenarios, allowing students to practice taking patient histories, ordering diagnostic tests, making differential diagnoses, and developing treatment plans.

## Key Features:

- ▶ Interactive case-based learning with simulated patient encounters
- ▶ Clinical reasoning training to improve diagnostic accuracy
- ▶ Access to medical history, physical exams, and lab results
- ▶ Immediate feedback on decision-making and reasoning DxR Clinician is integrated into IUHS's problem-based learning (PBL) and case-based learning (CBL) curricula to enhance students' ability to apply medical knowledge in real world scenarios.

**7. Live lectures:** Learn from top-tier professors who also teach at prestigious universities through live, interactive lectures. Sessions are scheduled on weekdays, and if you miss one, you can easily catch up with recorded lectures available in the virtual library at your convenience.

## 8. Question and Concept Sessions:

In addition to live lectures, students can participate in weekly live Q&C sessions with the academic advisor for their current block of study. These sessions provide valuable support for students studying from home, fostering engagement with both peers and faculty.

**9. Lecturio:** is a digital learning platform providing medical education resources. It offers a comprehensive, AI-driven learning system designed to support medical education through high-quality video lectures, question banks, and advanced learning tools.

## Key Features:

- ▶ Comprehensive Medical

Curriculum Support – Covers preclinical and clinical subjects aligned with USMLE, NBME, and other global medical exams.

- ▶ High-Quality Video Lectures – Taught by expert professors from leading medical institutions.
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- ▶ Spaced Repetition & Smart Recall – Helps reinforce learning and improve long term retention.

Lecturio supplements the education delivered, improves student performance, and provide flexible, self-paced learning opportunities.

**10. Mentorship:** IUHS integrates the Integrated Clinical Medicine program into the preclinical years of the MD curriculum, allowing students to gain early exposure to clinical settings. This hands-on experience gives IUHS students a competitive edge over their peers from other universities.

IUHS students become comfortable and confident in a clinical environment before starting clinical rotations having developed the necessary clinical skills. Working alongside a local physician mentor, each student spends 20 hours per month shadowing and discussing cases with their mentor, a doctor from their own community. Under the guidance of IUHS's clinical director, students select a mentor who fits their needs and location. This early integration of clinical skills enhances learning, bridging the gap between theory and practice, and making the transition to full-time clinical training more seamless and rewarding.

**11. Get in Touch:** You can ask me anything about IUHS if you still have more questions!

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# Gut bacteria under the microscope: Breakthrough links microbes to Multiple Sclerosis risk

By: Dr. Avi Verma

In a major development that could shape future strategies for managing Multiple Sclerosis (MS), researchers have identified specific gut bacteria that appear to influence the onset and progression of this debilitating neurological condition. The new findings support the growing body of evidence that the trillions of microbes living in our digestive tract—collectively called the gut microbiome—play a pivotal role not just in digestion but in immune and nervous system health.

## Twin study sheds light on microbial role in MS

A European research team, studying identical twins where one twin has MS and the other does not, has pinpointed two microbial strains found to be significantly more prevalent in individuals with MS. These strains, belonging to the Lachnospiraceae family, are now under scrutiny for their potential role in triggering immune dysfunction.

The bacteria, provisionally identified as *Eisenbergiella tayi* and a strain of *Lachnoclostridium*, were found to be correlated with increased inflammation and MS-like symptoms when introduced into laboratory mice that had been genetically modified to develop autoimmune conditions.

This is not the first time gut microbes have been linked to MS. However, what makes this study significant is the use of genetically identical twin pairs. This unique approach helped isolate environmental factors—such as differences in gut flora—from genetic predisposition. Such precision allows scientists to dig deeper into cause-and-effect relationships.

## Mouse models confirm disease-related behavior

The researchers took fecal samples from both MS-affected and unaffected twins and transplanted them into mouse models engineered to be vulnerable to autoimmune attacks. The mice that received microbiota from MS-affected individuals displayed higher susceptibility to inflammation and nervous system dysfunction—key markers of multiple sclerosis.



The microbes identified appeared to influence the immune system in ways that may provoke it to attack the protective myelin sheath surrounding nerve fibers—a hallmark of MS.

## Gut-brain axis: A critical pathway

This research adds to a growing field investigating the gut-brain axis—a bidirectional communication system between the gastrointestinal tract and the brain. Scientists believe that certain bacteria in the gut can produce neuroactive compounds or provoke immune responses that reach the brain and may contribute to neurological conditions like MS, Parkinson's, and even depression.

One hypothesis gaining traction is that gut dysbiosis (an imbalance in

microbial populations) may serve as an environmental trigger in genetically susceptible individuals.

## Implications for prevention and treatment

The real-world impact of this research could be significant. If further studies confirm these findings, therapies targeting the gut microbiome—such as probiotics, dietary interventions, prebiotics, or even fecal microbiota transplantation (FMT)—could emerge as non-invasive treatment options to reduce MS risk or slow its progression.

Moreover, since MS currently has no cure, understanding modifiable environmental triggers such as diet and microbial composition becomes crucial. The new findings may also assist in early diagnosis or help identify individuals at higher risk.

## Key takeaways for IndoUS Tribune readers

- ▶ A study of identical twins has identified two gut bacteria strains that may play a role in Multiple Sclerosis onset.
- ▶ These microbes may influence the immune system to attack the brain and spinal cord, a process seen in MS.
- ▶ The study used mouse models to test human gut bacteria and found links to MS-like symptoms.
- ▶ Gut health may be an important

environmental factor in MS, opening new doors for treatment.

- ▶ Further research is needed, but the gut-brain connection offers promising ground for preventive care and intervention.

## What can you do now?

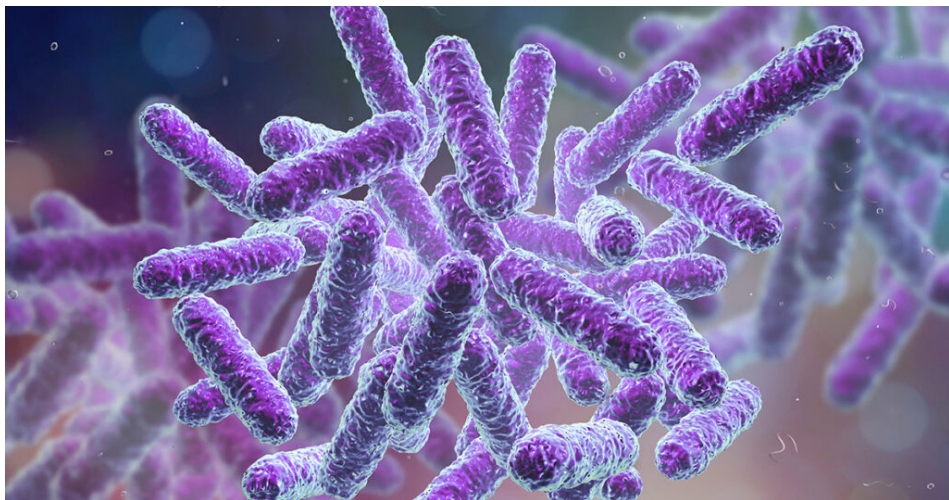
While treatments targeting MS-specific gut bacteria are still in the research phase, individuals can begin prioritizing gut health through:

- ▶ A high-fiber, plant-based diet
- ▶ Minimizing processed foods and added sugars
- ▶ Incorporating probiotic-rich foods (yogurt, kefir, kimchi)
- ▶ Avoiding unnecessary antibiotics
- ▶ Staying physically active

As we uncover more about the inner universe of microbes that live within us, it's increasingly clear: Your gut could be the key to your brain's future health.

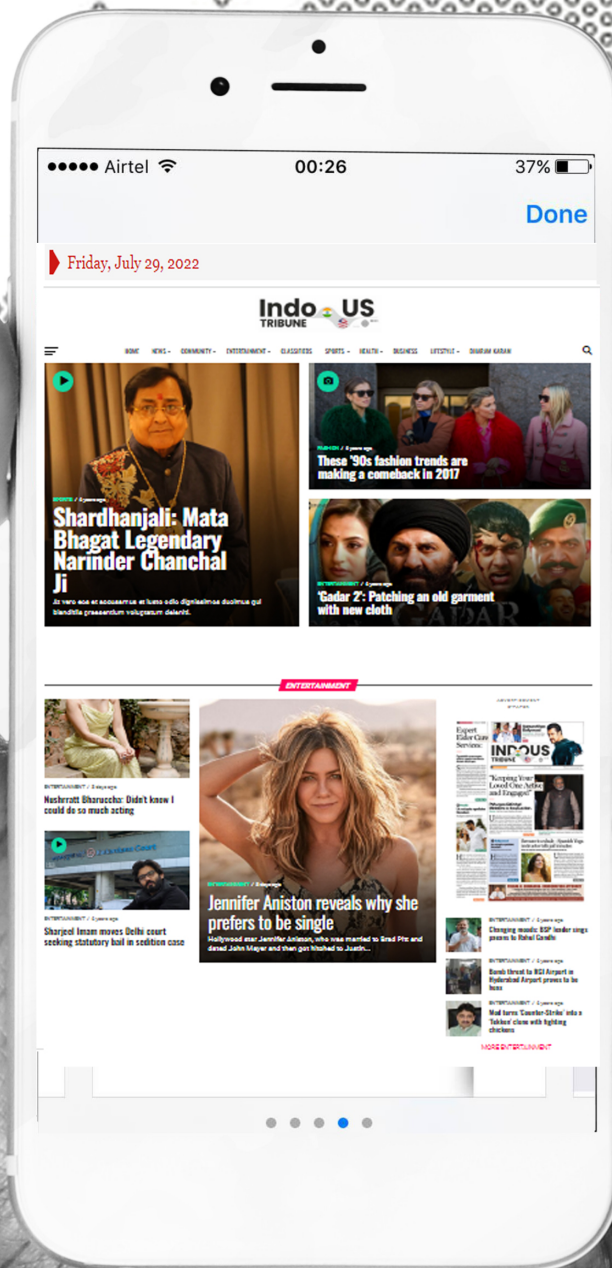
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