



## Modi says India is set to become world's third-largest economy

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said India is on track to become the world's third-largest economy, citing a decade of transformation rooted in stable governance. Addressing Ghana's Parliament, Modi stated India now contributes nearly 16 percent to global growth and remains the fastest-growing emerging economy.

He highlighted India's demographic strength and growing innovation, noting it has the third-largest start-up ecosystem globally and is now a hub for technology and global business. Modi emphasized India's leadership in science, space, and healthcare, saying: "We are recognized as the Pharmacy of the world... Indian women lead in science, space, aviation, and sports. India landed on the Moon, and today an Indian is in orbit."

He reaffirmed India's goal to become a developed nation by 2047, marking 100 years of independence. Modi also pledged deeper cooperation with Ghana, pointing to India's ongoing support across Africa. He cited the India-Africa Summit, the African Development Bank meeting in India, and over 200 projects in Africa, including Ghana's Tema-Mpakadan railway.

Prime Minister Modi was also conferred Ghana's highest civilian honor, the Officer of the Order of the Star of Ghana, which he described as a "matter of immense pride."

## Quad foreign ministers reaffirm security priorities and condemn Pahalgam attack in Washington meeting



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

On Tuesday, July 2, 2025, the Quad foreign ministers—India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Australia's Foreign Minister Penny Wong, and Japan's Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya—met in Washington to reaffirm their shared vision of a free and open Indo Pacific. Their joint declaration strongly opposed any unilateral moves that aim to alter regional status quo by force, citing concerns over militarization and provocative actions in the East and South China Seas.

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# IndoUS TRIBUNE

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## India, US in final stages of talks to secure interim trade deal before deadline

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and the United States are engaged in intense negotiations in Washington to finalize an interim trade deal before the July 9 deadline set by President Donald Trump. The talks center around reciprocal tariff concessions, with India pushing for greater access for labor-intensive goods like garments, leather, and footwear, while the US is seeking lower duties on agricultural and dairy exports.

India's team, led by Special Secretary Rajesh Agarwal, has extended its stay to resolve key differences. New Delhi is also seeking better access for seafood, spices, coffee, and rubber — sectors where India is globally competitive.

The interim deal could be a stepping stone toward a broader agreement expected in September or October. India



has already increased energy imports from the US and proposed cutting average tariffs from 13% to 4% in return for exemption from prior tariff hikes. The goal is to double bilateral trade to \$500

billion by 2030.

Negotiations are seen as crucial in balancing trade while maintaining strong strategic ties.

## Republicans push Trump's \$3.4 trillion tax and spending bill through Congress



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump secured a major legislative victory as Republicans narrowly passed a sweeping tax-cut and spending bill in the House on Thursday, following a 51–50 Senate vote earlier in the week. The \$3.4 trillion measure, passed 218–214, makes Trump's 2017 tax cuts permanent, adds new tax breaks, slashes healthcare and green energy programs, and funds his immigration crackdown. Vice President JD Vance cast the tiebreaking Senate vote.

The bill is expected to add \$4.5 trillion in tax cuts while offsetting only \$1.1 trillion in spending reductions over 10 years, according to the Congressional

Budget Office. Medicaid will see the deepest cuts, with tighter enrollment rules and work requirements, potentially leaving 12 million Americans uninsured. The bill raises the debt ceiling by \$5 trillion.

Democrats unanimously opposed the bill, calling it a handout to the wealthy. House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries gave a record-breaking 8-hour, 46-minute speech condemning the legislation. Only two Republicans voted against it.

Despite internal GOP concerns, Speaker Mike Johnson praised the bill as "jet fuel for the economy." Trump is expected to sign it into law on July 4. Analysts warn it may deepen debt burdens and disproportionately impact low-income Americans.

## Jaishankar meets U.S. leaders to strengthen ties, defends relationship independent of Pakistan



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar visited Washington, D.C., where he engaged in high-level talks with key U.S. officials—FBI Director Kash Patel, Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, Energy Secretary Chris Wright, and Secretary of State Marco Rubio on the sidelines of the Quad Ministerial.

Jaishankar expressed appreciation for collaboration with Patel on issues like organized crime, drug trafficking, and terrorism, highlighting deeper India–U.S. intelligence and security ties. He described his meeting with Gabbard as "a good exchange on the global situation and our bilateral cooperation".

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## Quad foreign ministers reaffirm security priorities and condemn Pahalgam attack in Washington meeting



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

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The ministers stressed support for regional frameworks like ASEAN and the Pacific Islands Forum while launching a refreshed Quad agenda focused on four pillars: maritime and transnational security, economic prosperity, emerging technologies, and humanitarian assistance. They announced a critical minerals initiative to diversify supply chains and revealed plans for the inaugural Quad Indo Pacific Logistics Network exercise to enhance disaster response capabilities.

Addressing global terrorism, the group condemned the April 22 Pahalgam attack in India, which killed 26 civilians, calling it "reprehensible." They urged all nations under UN mandates to swiftly bring those responsible—perpetrators, organizers, and financiers—to justice, reinforcing the Quad's growing role in advancing regional stability and counterterrorism.

## Jaishankar meets U.S. leaders to strengthen ties, defends relationship independent of Pakistan



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Contd. from page 1

Discussions with Hegseth centered on advancing defense collaboration under the U.S.-India COMPACT framework and preparations for the upcoming INDUS X innovation summit. In talks with Wright, they explored deepening cooperation in India's energy transformation, while his meeting with Rubio covered trade, security, critical technologies, connectivity, energy, and mobility. At a press briefing, Jaishankar emphasized that the India-U.S. partnership is grounded in shared strategic interests—trade, defense, energy—not shaped by third countries. He specifically dismissed Pakistan's influence on their ties and rejected President Trump's statement that the U.S. brokered the post-Operation Sindoor ceasefire, asserting instead it was negotiated directly by military leaders. This was echoed by remarks during the Quad ministerial, underscoring that significant relationships are not forged around third-party involvement.

# Hegseth says India and US can counter regional threats together during Pentagon talks

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

During a meeting on Tuesday at the Pentagon, U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth told Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar that the United States and India are mutually aware of regional security concerns and capable of countering those threats together. "We're eager to work alongside you to realize our shared goals," Hegseth said at the start of their talks.

Jaishankar described defense cooperation as one of the most consequential pillars of the India-U.S. relationship, rooted not only in shared interests but also in converging capabilities and responsibilities.

The two sides discussed completing major pending U.S. defense sales, enhancing defense industrial



collaboration, and signing a new 10-year Major Defense Partnership Framework.

They also discussed participation in the upcoming INDUS-X Summit, which aims to boost innovation in

defense technology and manufacturing. Hegseth welcomed Jaishankar with full military honors, affirming the vision set by President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a strong and enduring strategic partnership.

## Israel ramps up Gaza bombardment ahead of ceasefire decision

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israel launched one of its most intense assaults on Gaza in months, killing around 90 people since Wednesday night, as ceasefire talks gained momentum. Gaza officials said this week's death toll could reach 300, with many victims being women and children. Among those killed was Dr. Marwan al-Sultan, director of the Indonesian hospital, who died with his family in an airstrike.

The strikes come ahead of a possible deal between Israel and Hamas, brokered by the U.S. President Donald Trump. The proposed agreement includes a 60-day pause in fighting, partial Israeli troop withdrawal, and the release of some hostages held by Hamas. Israel's security cabinet was set to meet Thursday night to consider the terms.

Thursday's attacks targeted northern Gaza,



with 12 people killed at a school sheltering civilians. Aid seekers have also been caught in the violence; dozens were killed while approaching humanitarian aid sites.

The war, which began with Hamas' October 2023 attack on southern Israel, has now killed at least 57,012 people in Gaza, mostly civilians, according to local health authorities.

## Trump reports no progress with Putin as Ukraine endures new Russian strikes



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

U.S. President Donald Trump said Thursday that a phone call with Russian President Vladimir Putin yielded "no progress" toward ending the war in Ukraine. The Kremlin said Putin reiterated Moscow's stance to resolve the conflict by addressing its "root causes," a reference to NATO expansion and Western support for Kyiv. The nearly hour-long conversation did not touch on the recent pause in American weapons shipments to Ukraine.

Just hours later, a Russian drone attack sparked a fire in a residential area near Kyiv, while shelling in eastern Ukraine killed five people. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he hopes to speak with Trump soon about the paused military aid, which comes amid intensifying Russian strikes.

A senior Ukrainian air commander warned that Kyiv may adopt more dangerous tactics without critical air defense support. Meanwhile, Russia claimed it had captured the village of Milove in the Kharkiv region, opening a new front.

Amid the conflict, U.S. firm Techmet is bidding to develop Ukraine's lithium reserves through a joint investment fund.

## India backs Dalai Lama's authority on succession, rejects China's claim

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has voiced strong support for the Dalai Lama's authority to choose his own successor, pushing back against China's claim that it holds that right. In a rare public statement, Indian minister Kiren Rijiju said on Thursday that only the Dalai Lama or the institution he established—the Gaden Phodrang Trust—has the right to decide on his reincarnation. His remarks come ahead of the Dalai Lama's 90th birthday celebrations in Dharamshala, where Rijiju and other Indian officials will be in attendance.

The Dalai Lama, who has lived in exile in India since 1959 following a failed Tibetan uprising, stated this week that he will be reborn and that his successor would likely be born outside China. Beijing, however, insists it has the authority to appoint his successor, citing historical precedent.



Rijiju, a practicing Buddhist, emphasized the importance of the Dalai Lama's autonomy to his global followers. While India's foreign ministry has not commented officially, Rijiju's statement reflects growing Indian confidence amid gradually easing tensions with China after the deadly 2020 border clash. India currently hosts tens of thousands of Tibetan refugees, and the Dalai Lama's presence remains a key factor in its diplomatic stance toward Beijing.



## Phumtham appointed acting Prime Minister of Thailand amid Paetongtarn suspension

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Thailand's cabinet has named Deputy Prime Minister Phumtham Wechayachai as acting Prime Minister after Paetongtarn Shinawatra was suspended by the Constitutional Court. Phumtham, who also serves as Interior Minister, will assume full prime ministerial duties while the court reviews ethics complaints against Paetongtarn. The court's suspension follows a leaked phone call with Cambodian Senate President Hun Sen, which sparked protests and led 36 senators to seek her dismissal.

The court gave her 15 days to respond. The King of Thailand approved a new cabinet lineup earlier this week, and Phumtham was sworn in on Thursday. Deputy Prime Minister Suriya Jungtrungreangkit, who briefly acted as Prime Minister, was named second in line. Paetongtarn, also Culture Minister, is accused of breaching ethical norms related to sensitive border issues.

Government spokesperson Jirayu Houngsub confirmed the temporary leadership change, which comes at a politically volatile time for the country.

## Kim Min-seok confirmed as South Korea's new Prime Minister by parliament



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Kim Min-seok was confirmed as South Korea's new Prime Minister on Thursday after receiving parliamentary approval in a 173–3 vote. A member of the ruling Democratic Party and a four-term lawmaker, Kim was nominated by President Lee Jae Myung to become the first Prime Minister under the new administration. The main opposition People Power Party boycotted the vote, citing concerns about Kim's wealth, his son's university admissions, and his academic record from China's Tsinghua University.

After the confirmation, Kim pledged to focus on overcoming the economic crisis and “upholding the will of the people.” The Prime Minister is the only cabinet role requiring parliamentary approval in South Korea. In the same session, lawmakers passed revisions to the Commercial Act, expanding fiduciary duties and capping voting rights of major shareholders during auditor appointments. A separate law prohibiting police and military entry into the National Assembly during martial law also passed.

## Baloch rights group condemns disappearances and killing amid military crackdown

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Baloch rights organization has condemned the forced disappearance of six men from Balochistan between July 1 and 2, allegedly carried out by Pakistani security forces. According to Paank, the Human Rights Department of the Baloch National Movement, individuals were abducted from Gwadar, Turbat, and Kech districts. Victims include Talal Baloch and four others from Khuda Bakhsh Chaat in Mand.

The organization called the disappearances



part of a systematic campaign of repression against Baloch youth. Protests also erupted in Panjgur over the extrajudicial killing of Zeeshan Zaheer, a member of the Baloch Yakjehti Committee, whose father was previously disappeared.

The BYC accused Pakistan's military of “judicial terrorism” and called for the release of all detained human rights defenders. It also denounced intimidation of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, warning of shrinking civic space and escalating state violence against minorities and activists.

## Awami League slams Hasina's sentence as 'judicial terrorism'

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bangladesh's Awami League has strongly rejected a six-month jail sentence handed to former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina by the International Crimes Tribunal on contempt charges.

The party labeled the decision as “unconstitutional and farcical,” blaming the interim regime led by Muhammad Yunus for politicizing the judiciary.

The tribunal acted on a leaked phone call allegedly showing Hasina interfering with judicial proceedings. The Awami League claims Hasina was denied legal representation and that the verdict was issued without due process.

The party accused the interim government of carrying out “judicial terrorism” and warned of national outrage over Hasina's treatment. It also condemned the verdict



against Chhatra League leader Shakil Akanda Bulbul in the same case.

Calling the tribunal illegitimate, the party described the ruling as a broader effort to dismantle democracy and called on citizens and the international community to resist what it views as a militant regime's campaign of political persecution.

## Geneva exhibition highlights human rights abuses in Bangladesh under Yunus regime



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A three-day exhibition held during the 59th United Nations Human Rights Commission session in Geneva drew attention to alleged human rights violations in Bangladesh under the Muhammad Yunus-led interim government. Organized by the International Forum for Secular Bangladesh and others, the exhibition featured 30 posters depicting incidents of mob violence, press suppression, and minority persecution.

The arrest of Hindu leader Chinmoy Krishna Das was prominently spotlighted. Organizers said global diplomats, NGO workers, and human rights activists reacted strongly to the displays.

The exhibition emphasized the rise in communal violence, abuse of women and children, and repression of political dissent. Pashtun activist Fazlur Rahman Afridi accused Yunus of disgracing the Nobel Peace Prize.

Swiss Socialist Party official Sylvain Thevot and German activist Claudia Wadlich expressed deep concern. Critics warned that Bangladesh is heading toward instability and civil conflict in the wake of Sheikh Hasina's exit from power.

## India, Mauritius reaffirm ties as FS Misri meets island's leadership

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri visited Mauritius to deepen bilateral ties, meeting President Dharambeer Gokhool and Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam. Discussions centered on cooperation in health, education, traditional medicine, and regional security under India's Vision MAHASAGAR framework. Misri also met opposition leader Pravind Jugnauth, who called the meeting productive. The visit emphasized the India-Mauritius Joint Vision for an Enhanced Strategic

Partnership and community development efforts. Deputy Prime Minister Paul Raymond Bérenger and Foreign Minister Dhananjay Ramful both reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening ties. The Indian High Commission noted the visit reflects India's focus on Mauritius through its Neighbourhood First, SAGAR, MAHASAGAR, and Africa Forward policies. Talks also included preparations for Ramgoolam's upcoming visit to India. The long-standing relationship is built on cultural and historical ties, mutual development goals, and India's strategic interest in the Indian Ocean region.







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# A victory or a gamble? Trump's 'One Big Beautiful Bill' heads to the White House



Dr. Avi Verma

History has taken a sharp turn in Washington D.C. this week as the House of Representatives passed the hallmark legislation of President Donald Trump's second term: the 'One Big Beautiful Bill.' Narrowly approved by a 218–214 vote, this \$3.4 trillion tax and immigration overhaul — now on its way to Trump's desk — reshapes the U.S. tax code, redefines entitlement priorities, and puts fiscal hawks and populists on a collision course.

After securing a tie-breaking vote from Vice President JD Vance in the Senate, and following weeks of pressure campaigns from both Trump and Elon Musk (on opposite sides), the bill moves from legislative battle to political legend — or potentially, financial infamy.

## What's in the bill? More than just cuts and credits

While the headlines focus on tax relief, the fine print tells a more complicated story. Here's a breakdown of key changes from current law to final legislation:

These measures are aimed at turbocharging working-class support for the GOP. Particularly popular among waitstaff, gig workers, and young parents are the new tax exemptions on tip income, overtime pay, auto loans, and the launch of “Trump Accounts” for newborns.

## At what cost? A fiscal and social trade-off

### Yet the generosity has a price:

- ▶ \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid and health subsidies
- ▶ \$185 billion shaved from food assistance (SNAP)
- ▶ 17 million Americans projected to lose healthcare coverage over the next decade
- ▶ \$4 trillion added to the national debt, factoring in debt service
- ▶ \$5 trillion debt ceiling hike to prevent a default

While Republicans call it a “return to fiscal sanity,” critics see it as a dangerous rollback of social safety nets. Democrats, led by Rep. Hakeem Jeffries and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, have slammed the bill as “a deal with the Devil” that favors the ultra-wealthy and deepens inequality.

## Trump vs. Musk: The conservative rift widens

Ironically, two of the most influential voices in today's conservative landscape — Donald Trump and Elon Musk — found themselves on opposing sides of this bill.

- ▶ Trump threatened to “sink the careers” of GOP lawmakers opposing the bill.
- ▶ Musk, wielding his control of major

media platforms and Super PAC money, vowed to primary Republicans who supported the legislation, citing concerns over rising deficits and government overreach.

This ideological divide — nationalist populism vs. libertarian techno-conservatism — signals deeper fissures within the modern Republican coalition that may spill into 2026 primaries.

## What's next? Populist triumph or policy time bomb?

Speaker Mike Johnson declared on the House floor:

“This bill is a revolution in American policy. It empowers workers, honors families, strengthens our borders, and secures our economy.”

Time will tell whether this is truly a new conservative dawn or a financial gamble with far-reaching consequences. What is clear: Trump's legislative machine is running at full speed, and both his allies and adversaries are now on notice. As Americans celebrate Independence Day, Washington has delivered fireworks of its own — with historic consequences.

Stay tuned for IndoUS Tribune's ongoing coverage as this bill becomes law, and the nation navigates its aftermath.

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

Provision	Current Law (2025)	Final Legislation (2025–2028)
Standard Deduction	\$15,000 (single) / \$30,000 (joint)	\$15,750 (single) / \$31,500 (joint)
Senior ‘Bonus’ Deduction	\$1,600 (age 65+) / \$2,000 (unmarried elderly)	\$7,600 (age 65+) / \$8,000 (unmarried elderly)
SALT Deduction Cap	\$10,000 limit	\$40,000 cap (2025), increases 1% annually through 2029, reverts to \$10K in 2030
Child Tax Credit	\$2,000 per child max; \$1,700 refundable	\$2,200 per child max; \$1,700 refundable
Estate Tax Exemption	\$13.99M (single) / \$27.98M (joint)	\$15M (single) / \$30M (joint), effective from 2026
Tax on Tips	Not deductible	Deduct up to \$25,000 annually (2025–2028)
Overtime Pay Deduction	Not deductible	Deduct up to \$12,500 per taxpayer (2025–2028)
Auto Loan Interest	Not deductible	Deduct up to \$10,000 in interest on new car loans
“Trump Account” Child Savings	Not applicable	One-time \$1,000 per child born between 2025–2028
Charity Deduction (Non-itemizers)	Not available after 2021	\$1,000 (single) / \$2,000 (joint); made permanent post-2025



## Egypt and Italy push for Gaza ceasefire, plan reconstruction talks



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**E**gyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty and Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani have discussed efforts to secure a ceasefire in Gaza. Abdelatty, in coordination with Qatar and the United States, outlined Egypt's plan to resume talks, release hostages, and ensure humanitarian aid reaches Gaza.

Tajani supported Egypt's mediation and stressed the need to stop attacks on civilians, release hostages, and implement a 60-day ceasefire. The truce, backed by Washington, Cairo, and Doha, is intended as a first step toward lasting peace.

Meanwhile, Hamas said it is reviewing the latest proposals and urged for an end to Israeli aggression. President Donald Trump confirmed Israel has accepted the ceasefire terms and urged Hamas to do the same.

## Dengue surge in US states signals new health threat, experts warn



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**D**engue fever cases are rising sharply in the United States, particularly in California, Florida, and Texas, prompting health officials to prepare for a possible "new normal." The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported around 3,700 cases in 2024, nearly doubling from 2,050 in 2023.

California saw the most dramatic rise, with 725 new cases, including 18 locally transmitted. Aedes mosquitoes, which spread dengue, have expanded across 25 California counties — a spread fueled by climate change and urban heat.

Dr. Michael Ben-Aderet of Cedars-Sinai warned the disease may become permanent in some regions. The CDC issued a health alert in March, urging vigilance as local outbreaks become more common.

# Norway launches first national radiation safety strategy

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**N**orway has introduced its first national strategy for radiation protection and nuclear safety to boost health preparedness and address global security risks. The policy outlines international obligations and responds to a 2019 review by the International Atomic Energy Agency that found gaps in Norway's safety systems.

The plan includes 10 goals, such as ensuring independent oversight, adopting a life-cycle approach to radiation activities, and reducing nuclear risks. It also highlights the need for openness, transparency, and inter-agency coordination.

Health Minister Jan Christian Vestre said the strategy strengthens national preparedness, while Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide emphasized its urgency



amid growing global tensions.

Norway aims to actively engage

in international cooperation on radiation safety, with patient safety and environmental protection also prioritized.

## Two Chinese nationals charged in U.S. for spying on Navy bases

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**wo Chinese nationals, Yuan Chen and Liren "Ryan" Lai, have been charged in the U.S. with spying on behalf of China's Ministry of State Security. The men allegedly photographed U.S. Navy facilities in Washington and California and sought to recruit military personnel with Chinese links.

Chen, a lawful U.S. resident since 2015, allegedly sent personnel data and reconnaissance photos to Lai, who coordinated operations from Texas. The charges, filed in San Francisco and unsealed Monday, include acting as unregistered foreign agents.

The FBI said the case fits a broader



pattern of Chinese intelligence targeting U.S. military infrastructure. A 2023 case also saw two Navy sailors charged with sharing sensitive military information with China. The Chinese Embassy dismissed the accusations. Attorney General Pam Bondi warned of China's "aggressive efforts" to infiltrate U.S. defense systems.

## UN-backed report warns of rising global drought crisis, urges urgent action to prevent catastrophe

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A** new UN-backed report has warned that the world is facing one of the most destructive drought crises in history, with devastating effects on food, energy, ecosystems, and human survival. The report, Drought Hotspots Around the World 2023–2025, was published by the US National Drought Mitigation Center and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification.

The report highlights severe impacts in Eastern and Southern Africa, where over 90 million people face hunger. Zimbabwe lost 70% of its corn crop, and Zambia's hydropower output collapsed due to plunging river levels. The Amazon saw mass deaths of fish and dolphins, while European nations suffered extreme agricultural losses.

Drought is also worsening social crises, with rising child marriages, school



dropouts, and water scarcity. The report urges urgent investment in early warning systems, drought-resilient infrastructure, and international cooperation. UN officials call it a "slow-moving global catastrophe" demanding immediate action.

## Supreme Court rejects Montana bid to restore abortion consent law

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear Montana's appeal to reinstate a law requiring parental consent for minors seeking abortions. Originally passed in 2013, the law was blocked after years of legal challenges. The Montana Supreme Court struck it down in 2024, affirming minors' right to reproductive autonomy. State officials argued the law protected parental rights under the Constitution's 14th Amendment. Justices Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas said the case was dismissed due to technical reasons, not its merits. Montana currently allows abortion up to fetal viability, and voters passed a 2024 ballot measure preventing government restrictions before that stage—about 24 weeks into pregnancy.

## Seven missing after massive fireworks facility blast in California

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**S**even people are missing after a massive explosion destroyed a commercial fireworks facility in Esparto, northern California. The blast occurred Tuesday evening, just days before July 4 celebrations, triggering a fire that burned 78 acres and caused widespread damage.

Aerial footage showed the warehouse leveled and fireworks igniting in rapid bursts. Two people were injured and treated. Authorities have not confirmed if the missing are workers or bystanders. Firefighters are maintaining a safe distance due to ongoing hazards, including random explosions. Drones and aircraft are surveying the area, while about 150 homes remain without power. The cause remains under investigation by the state fire marshal.





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### Supreme court allows deportation of eight men to war-torn South Sudan



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled Thursday that the government can deport eight men from a military base in Djibouti to South Sudan, despite most having no ties to the country. The men, from nations including Vietnam, South Korea, Mexico, and Cuba, were convicted of serious crimes in the U.S. but had completed or nearly completed their sentences.

The court's decision overturns a lower court's order that migrants must be given a chance to prove they'd face danger if deported to a third country. Only one of the eight is from South Sudan. Justice Sonia Sotomayor dissented, warning they could face torture or death.

The men were initially told they would be deported to South Africa, but were later rerouted to South Sudan without proper notice. Their detention in Djibouti raised concerns about inadequate medical care and security. Immigration officials reportedly sought third-country deals to expedite deportations when direct repatriation was not feasible.

### California's largest wildfire of the year scorches over 50,000 acres



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Madre fire in San Luis Obispo County has become California's largest wildfire of 2025, burning more than 50,000 acres by Thursday morning. Fueled by extreme heat and strong winds, the blaze erupted Wednesday afternoon and rapidly spread across dry grasslands, threatening small communities near State Route 166 and edging toward the Carrizo Plain National Monument. Only 5% of the fire is contained, according to Cal Fire. More than 300 firefighters are battling the flames in conditions nearing 100°F, with wind gusts expected to reach 40 mph. The cause of the fire remains unknown. California Governor Gavin Newsom's office warned that about 95% of wildfires in the state are caused by human activity, especially during holidays like the Fourth of July. At least a dozen wildfires are burning across the state, and similar conditions are raising alarm in Oregon. Experts have expressed concern over federal readiness, citing cuts to staffing and key weather services during the Trump administration.

## Trump kicks off a yearlong celebration of America's 250th anniversary in Iowa

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump kicked off a yearlong celebration for America's 250th anniversary at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines on July 3, just hours after Congress passed his landmark tax and spending package. Calling it a "phenomenal victory," Trump told a crowd of supporters that the legislation, which includes major tax cuts and funding boosts for deportation and defense, was the "perfect birthday present for America."

The rally marked Trump's first return to Iowa since winning the Republican caucus earlier this year. The event featured patriotic displays, campaign music, and fireworks. Trump used the occasion to tout his administration's military strikes on Iranian nuclear sites, lower food prices, and tightened immigration controls. He reiterated promises to celebrate the semiquincentennial with large-scale national events, including a UFC championship fight at the White House



and a new high school sports contest called the "Patriot Games."

The president also unveiled plans for a "Great American State Fair" with exhibits from all 50 states next summer on the National Mall. While Trump emphasized national unity, he sharply criticized Democrats for voting against his bill, claiming they "hate our country."

Despite the celebratory tone, critics have raised concerns about recent cuts to cultural funding tied to the anniversary.

## Supreme court to hear challenge over transgender student sports bans

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. Supreme Court will review appeals from West Virginia and Idaho seeking to enforce laws that bar transgender girls from participating in female public school sports. The justices agreed to hear the cases after lower courts sided with transgender students who argued the laws violate the Constitution's 14th Amendment and Title IX, which prohibits sex-based discrimination in education.

Both states define sports teams based on "biological sex," excluding transgender girls from girls' teams. The legal battle gained national attention as 27 states, mostly Republican-led, have enacted similar laws. Critics argue these measures unfairly target transgender youth, while supporters claim they protect fairness in sports.

The court's decision to hear the case follows



its June ruling that upheld Tennessee's ban on gender-affirming care for minors. Arguments are expected in the October term. The outcome could significantly shape civil rights protections for transgender students amid ongoing political and legal clashes over gender identity across the U.S.

## Conservative ex-judge criticizes chief justice for silence on Trump

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

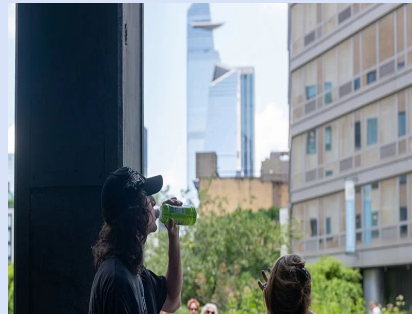
Former federal judge J. Michael Luttig publicly criticized Chief Justice John Roberts for what he called an "unforgivable reticence" in addressing Donald Trump's attacks on the judiciary. In an appearance on the Court of History podcast, Luttig—once a potential Supreme Court nominee and longtime friend of Roberts—said the chief justice has failed to condemn Trump's growing threats against judges.

Luttig, who testified before Congress about Trump's role in the January 6 attack, argued that Roberts' vague public statements have emboldened Trump's rhetoric. He accused Roberts of prioritizing institutional image over the safety of federal judges, especially amid rising political violence.



The criticism comes as public trust in the Supreme Court wanes, with just 47% of Americans viewing it favorably, according to Pew Research. Roberts has occasionally pushed back against Trump, but Luttig said those responses have been too general. "It's his highest obligation to speak for the safety of the judiciary," Luttig said.

### Four killed, 14 injured in mass shooting at Chicago album party



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Four people were killed and 14 others injured in a mass shooting outside a Chicago nightclub early Thursday, following an album release party for local rapper Mello Buckzz. The shooting occurred around midnight in the River North area, when suspects in a black SUV opened fire on a crowd as the party ended. The vehicle fled, and no arrests have been made.

Victims ranged in age from 21 to 32. Two women and two men were killed, including Leon Andrew Henry, 25, and Devonte Terrell Williamson, 23. Three others remain in critical condition. The injured were taken to local hospitals, including Northwestern and Stroger.

"This was a cowardly act," said Police Superintendent Larry Snelling, noting that 18 people were shot within seconds. Pastor Donovan Price described the aftermath as "mayhem and confusion."

Mello Buckzz later posted a message asking for prayers for those hurt, saying she was devastated and struggling emotionally after the violent attack.

### EPA suspends 139 employees over letter criticizing Trump-era policies



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Environmental Protection Agency has placed 139 employees on paid administrative leave after they signed a public letter criticizing the agency's current direction. The letter, titled a "declaration of dissent," accused the EPA of abandoning its mission to protect human health and the environment under Administrator Lee Zeldin and the Trump administration. The EPA responded by calling the action "unlawful," saying it will not tolerate staff who "undermine or sabotage" official policy. Employees were notified of their suspension pending an internal investigation, though the agency emphasized it is not a disciplinary action.

More than 170 employees signed the letter, with around 100 more doing so anonymously out of fear of retaliation. Zeldin has led sweeping rollbacks of climate rules, environmental justice programs, and pollution regulations since taking office.



## Jeffries blocks Trump tax bill with record-breaking 8-hour, 44-minute speech



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries delivered an unprecedented 8-hour, 44-minute speech on July 3, 2025—breaking the previous modern record—ending at 1:37 p.m. ET after beginning at 4:53 a.m.—to delay the final vote on President Trump’s comprehensive tax and spending bill. Using the House “magic minute” privilege, Jeffries criticized the legislation as a “reckless Republican budget” that would strip healthcare and food aid from vulnerable Americans while providing massive tax breaks to billionaires.

Despite his marathon speech, the House passed the \$3.4 trillion “One Big Beautiful Bill” later that afternoon in a 218–214 vote, with Vice President J.D. Vance casting the tiebreaking vote in the Senate earlier. All Democrats voted no, joined by two Republicans. Jeffries’s floor speech became the longest in modern House history, surpassing Kevin McCarthy’s 2021 record of 8 hours, 32 minutes.

## Trump proposes \$8.6 billion boost for Coast Guard icebreakers to counter Russia and China in Arctic



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump’s new tax and spending bill earmarks \$8.6 billion to expand the U.S. Coast Guard’s fleet of Arctic icebreakers. The funding would support up to three Polar Security Cutters (\$4.3 billion), medium Arctic cutters (\$3.5 billion), and \$816 million for additional light and medium icebreakers. The move is part of Trump’s broader push to revive American shipbuilding and challenge China and Russia’s growing Arctic influence. As polar ice recedes due to climate change, Arctic sea routes are becoming key trade corridors. The U.S., Canada, and Finland launched the “ICE Pact” in 2024 to build up to 90 icebreakers over the next decade. The U.S. currently has only three Arctic-capable ships, while Russia operates dozens. Trump also proposed tariffs on Chinese maritime equipment earlier this year to counter Beijing’s naval dominance.

## Court rules Trump’s southern border asylum ban unlawful

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge has ruled that President Donald Trump’s proclamation of an “invasion” at the US-Mexico border, and his move to suspend the right to seek asylum there, was unlawful and exceeded presidential authority. The ruling, issued by US District Judge Randolph Moss on Wednesday, found that Trump had no legal basis to shut down asylum processing for thousands waiting to cross legally.

The case was filed by 13 asylum seekers and three immigrant rights groups, challenging Trump’s order—which directed border officials to “repel, repatriate, or remove” migrants entering from the south. Moss ruled that neither the Immigration and Nationality Act nor the US Constitution grants the president the authority to override existing asylum law or replace it with executive policies.

The court gave the Trump



administration 14 days to appeal before the ruling takes effect. If upheld, the Department of Homeland Security must reinstate a legal pathway for asylum seekers at the border.

Immigrant advocates called the ruling “a win for humanity” and a check on executive overreach. The plaintiffs included individuals fleeing violence in Afghanistan, Egypt, Peru, and other nations.

## Boeing and Justice Department seek approval for plea deal over 737 MAX crashes

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Boeing and the U.S. Department of Justice have requested a judge’s approval of a plea deal that would allow the aerospace giant to avoid prosecution over the two fatal 737 MAX crashes in 2018 and 2019, which killed 346 people.

The proposed agreement includes a \$444.5 million payment to victims’ families, a \$243.6 million fine, and \$455 million for safety and compliance reforms. Families of victims strongly oppose the deal, calling it insufficient and urging the appointment of a special prosecutor.

The Justice Department argues the deal serves the public interest by securing accountability and financial penalties. Critics say the agreement lets Boeing avoid a felony



conviction and independent oversight.

A 2023 court ruling labeled Boeing’s actions possibly “the deadliest corporate crime in U.S. history.” Most families have already settled civil lawsuits with Boeing for billions.

## UPS offers voluntary buyouts to U.S. drivers amid major overhaul

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

UPS announced it will offer voluntary buyout packages to full-time U.S. drivers as part of a massive reorganization that includes cutting 20,000 jobs and closing 73 facilities. The move follows a drop in deliveries for major customer Amazon and impacts from President Donald Trump’s tariffs. The buyout is separate from retirement benefits such as pension and healthcare. The Teamsters union, representing around 330,000 UPS workers, called the offer a violation of their national contract, which guaranteed 22,500 new jobs. Union president Sean O’Brien rejected the move, urging UPS to uphold its commitments. UPS said it intends to honor its contractual obligations with the union despite the network restructuring.



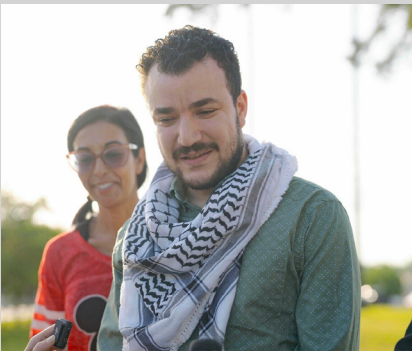
## Trump signs order raising national park entry fees for foreign tourists



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump signed an executive order to raise national park entry fees for foreign visitors while keeping prices stable for Americans. The order directs Interior Secretary Doug Burgum to develop a strategy for new fee structures at parks that currently charge for access. Trump emphasized the decision would fund park improvements and prioritize American families. The Interior Department estimates the surcharge could generate over \$90 million annually. Trump also ordered preferential treatment for U.S. citizens in recreational access and lotteries. The move follows deep cuts to the National Park Service, which has lost 24% of its staff under Trump. A separate order also revoked a 2017 Obama-era inclusion memo and created a “Make America Beautiful Again” Commission, chaired by Burgum, to expand access to public lands and encourage voluntary conservation.

## Palestinian student Mahmoud Khalil speaks out after release from U.S. immigration detention



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Palestinian student activist Mahmoud Khalil, recently freed from a U.S. immigration jail, says his arrest was an attempt to silence dissent. Detained in March during President Trump’s crackdown on pro-Palestinian protests at universities, Khalil had led demonstrations at Columbia University calling for divestment from Israeli-linked companies. A federal judge ruled his detention likely violated free speech rights. Upon his release, Khalil was welcomed by Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and later addressed rallies in New York. The government still seeks his deportation, citing threats to U.S. foreign policy. Khalil denies any ties to Hamas and urges universities to protect student activism. Meanwhile, Trump’s administration has cut federal funding to schools like Columbia and Harvard, demanding stricter protest oversight and more “intellectual diversity.” Khalil remains unemployed and missed his graduation, but says his focus is now on family and advocacy.



# Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla developing brain-computer interface aboard ISS

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla is working on a groundbreaking brain-computer interface (BCI) aboard the International Space Station (ISS). As part of Axiom Space's Ax-4 mission, Shukla is collaborating with Polish astronaut Sławosz Uznański-Wiśniewski to test a system using near-infrared technology (fNIRS) that reads brain activity in microgravity.

In NASA's Columbus lab, Uznański wore a Bluetooth-connected brain-monitoring cap while Shukla calibrated the hardware to ensure signal quality. The experiment, titled "Thoughts over Gravity," aims to demonstrate that astronauts can control or interact with computers using only brain signals—even in space.

Previously, Shukla conducted experiments on tardigrades to understand their survival in harsh environments and studied muscle repair using stem cell



cultures. He also recorded a video for students about digestion in space and is scheduled to interact with schoolchildren and scientists at ISRO via ham radio.

The Lucknow-born Air Force officer is on a 14-day scientific mission alongside astronauts from the United States, Poland, and Hungary.

## Buffalo herd in Surrey sparks viral meme and debate over 'Punjab in Canada'



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A video showing a herd of buffaloes roaming a residential street in Surrey, British Columbia, has gone viral online, sparking both humor and controversy. Originally posted by Instagram user Kultaran Singh, the video includes the caption "Punjab ultra pro max," referencing the strong Punjabi presence in the area. It was later re-shared by meme page Troll Canada with on-screen text reading "Canada ch vi Gujjar aagye lagda" (Looks like the Gujjars have arrived in Canada too).

According to the original post, the animals had escaped from a nearby farm and wandered into the neighborhood. While some social media users found the video funny and embraced the cultural nod, others criticized it as a stereotype or an insult toward the Gujjar community. The post sparked mixed reactions, with comments ranging from humorous appreciation to calls for sensitivity regarding cultural representation. The incident adds to ongoing online discourse about the visibility and portrayal of Indian diaspora communities abroad.

## Indian-origin man arrested in U.S. for mid-flight assault on passenger



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A 21-year-old Indian-origin man, Ishaan Sharma, was arrested after allegedly attacking a fellow passenger during a Frontier Airlines flight from Philadelphia to Miami on June 30. According to reports, Sharma became aggressive after returning to his seat and directed threatening remarks at Keanu Evans, who was seated in front of him. Evans said Sharma grabbed him by the throat without provocation, prompting a physical struggle between the two.

Video footage shows the men grappling as other passengers called for calm. Flight attendants intervened, and Sharma was taken into custody upon landing in Miami. He was charged with battery and remains in custody on a \$500 bond. His attorney claimed the incident was a misunderstanding related to Sharma's meditative state and religious practice. While Evans described the assault as unprovoked, at least two passengers suggested Evans may have made hostile remarks earlier. A judge has issued a stay-away order as the case proceeds.

## Modi invites Trinidad and Tobago diaspora to India, announces OCI card expansion

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his first bilateral visit to Trinidad and Tobago, invited members of the Indian diaspora to visit the land of their ancestors and announced a major expansion of the Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card program. Now, persons of Indian origin up to the sixth generation in Trinidad and Tobago will be eligible for OCI status, allowing them to live and work in India without restrictions.

Modi was warmly welcomed by Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, whose ancestors hail from Bihar. Calling her a "daughter of Bihar," Modi invited her to offer Mahakumbh water to the Ganga Dhara. He urged the diaspora to "walk the soil your ancestors walked," promising a



welcome "with open arms and jalebi."

Bissessar praised Modi as a "visionary leader" and a "transformational force," recognizing his leadership in modernizing India and extending vaccine diplomacy during the pandemic. Modi was also conferred Trinidad and Tobago's highest civilian honor.

## Indian store owner and son sentenced in Australia for selling banned opium

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian-origin father and son in Adelaide, South Australia, have been sentenced for selling illegal opium and tobacco from their grocery and takeaway store. The operation came to light in January 2024, when Australian Border Force (ABF) officials executed a search warrant and uncovered 6.1 kilograms of opium and 49 kilograms of illicit tobacco across their shop, residence, and a storage locker.

The opium, sold in forms of "Kamini Vidrawan Ras"—a banned Ayurvedic product containing opium and toxic heavy metals—was hidden and distributed from their Plympton business. The son was caught on surveillance video selling the substance.

On June 26, 2025, the son received



a six-month prison sentence but was released immediately under a Recognizance Release Order (RRO) and fined \$6,000. He also forfeited \$23,450 under proceeds of crime laws. The father received a three-month sentence and a \$3,000 fine under similar conditions.

Kamini opium has been banned in Australia since 2016 due to its health risks, including opioid addiction, overdose, and heavy metal poisoning.

## India urges Mali to secure release of three Indians abducted amid terror attacks

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has urged the government of Mali to ensure the safe and swift release of three Indian nationals abducted during a terrorist attack on July 1. The incident occurred at the Diamond Cement Factory in Kayes, where armed assailants stormed the premises and took the three employees hostage. No group has claimed direct responsibility, though Al-Qaeda-affiliated Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin has claimed responsibility for coordinated attacks across Mali on the same day.

The Ministry of External Affairs expressed "deep concern" and said India's embassy in Bamako is in constant contact with local authorities and the hostages' families. The government condemned the "deplorable act of violence" and reaffirmed its commitment to bringing the citizens home safely. Indians living in Mali have been advised to exercise extreme caution. Senior Indian officials are closely monitoring the situation and have pledged continued engagement with Mali to ensure the abductees' return.



## Punjab Congress chief raises alarm over youths missing in Russia



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Punjab Congress president Raja Warring met Jagdeep Kumar, brother of Mandeep Kumar—missing in Russia for over a year—during a press conference in New Delhi. Jagdeep, a resident of Goraya in Punjab, last spoke with Mandeep on March 3, 2024. Since then, there has been no contact, despite repeated visits to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Warring expressed deep concern, stating, “This is not just one family's pain. Many Punjabi families are suffering, unsure if their sons are even alive.” Jagdeep said he traveled to Russia in search of answers but returned with none.

The incident underscores growing worries over young Indian men believed to be stranded or untraceable in Russia, some allegedly recruited under false promises or as laborers. Families continue to appeal to Indian authorities for updates and intervention. Warring has urged the central government to act swiftly and transparently to bring relief to these distraught families.

## Amritsar youth making waves in U.S. soccer with standout season

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Daksh Sandhu, a rising soccer star with roots in Amritsar, has emerged as the top goal scorer for Washington's Sound FC during the 2024–2025 season. His standout performance helped the team clinch the Washington Youth Soccer Presidents Cup title and qualify for the regional championships in Idaho.

Daksh's grandfather, retired Punjab Police Inspector Puran Singh Sandhu, expressed pride in his grandson's achievements. “He's made us proud not just as a player but as a representative of Indian talent on the global stage,” he said.

Praised for his speed, control, and scoring ability, Daksh has drawn attention from coaches and fans alike. His parents, Rukwinder Singh Rocky and Monika Sandhu, a Microsoft software engineer, have supported his development in both academics and athletics.

Daksh's success serves as a beacon for Indian youth aspiring to pursue soccer professionally and challenges the notion that cricket is the only path for Indian athletes.

## Jalandhar boy honored at UK Parliament for tech innovation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Meedhansh Kumar Gupta, a young tech innovator from Jalandhar, received global recognition at the Global Child Prodigy Awards (GCPA) 2025, held at the British Parliament's House of Commons. Selected from thousands of nominations across 130 countries, Meedhansh was honored for his groundbreaking work in education and technology. He was the only recipient from Punjab to be featured in the book Top 100 Child Prodigies 2025.

Meedhansh began his tech journey at the age of nine during the COVID-19 pandemic, developing a telemedicine portal. He has since earned multiple accolades, including national and world records, such as being named the Youngest Website Developer in 2020. Committed to social impact, he has trained thousands



of students through the NGO Mission Aatmanirbhar and completed 50 tech courses in one week via LinkedIn Learning—a feat recognized as a world record. In 2022, he received India's Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar from Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

## Youth missing for six months after taking illegal route to U.S.

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A young man from Kathunangal village in Punjab has been missing for six months after attempting to enter the United States via the dangerous ‘dunki’ route. Jeetpal, whose family paid Rs.4.4 million (approximately \$52,000) to alleged human smugglers, last contacted them in December 2024 while still en route through Mexico. The family claims they were later contacted by Ranjit Singh, a garment trader-turned-fake travel agent, who demanded additional money, stating Jeetpal was being held captive by traffickers.

Police have booked Ranjit Singh and his associate Pallavi under human smuggling and criminal conspiracy charges. The FIR was filed on June 24 following a complaint from Jeetpal's father, who also reported being threatened by the accused. Authorities



confirmed an ongoing investigation and said no arrests have been made yet. The case highlights the persistent risk and exploitation faced by Indian youth who seek illegal migration routes in pursuit of better opportunities abroad.

## Guru Nanak Dev University to establish offshore campus in California

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Amritsar, has approved a proposal to open its first offshore campus in California, United States. The decision was made during a syndicate meeting led by Vice Chancellor Dr. Karamjeet Singh and aligns with the objectives of India's National Education Policy 2020.

The new campus aims to serve the educational and cultural needs of the Punjabi diaspora and promote academic exchange with international students. Dr. Singh emphasized that this initiative would enhance India's global presence in education while strengthening cultural connections abroad.

Regulatory preparations are underway, and GNDU is calling on the overseas Punjabi community to support the effort. The California campus will not only



provide academic opportunities but also serve as a bridge between Indian and Western educational systems.

This move marks a significant step toward internationalization of Indian higher education and is expected to create new pathways for global partnerships and student mobility.

## O-1 visa emerges as new gateway to U.S. for high-skilled Indians

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

With increased barriers and long wait times for the H-1B visa, the O-1 visa is gaining popularity among Indians seeking employment in the United States. Known as the “extraordinary ability” visa, the O-1 allows individuals with exceptional achievements in fields such as science, arts, business, education, athletics, and entertainment to live and work in the U.S. without facing a lottery system.

Unlike the H-1B, which has a 37 percent approval rate and strict eligibility requirements, the O-1 visa offers more flexibility. It has a 93 percent approval rate and allows applicants to submit evidence of their accomplishments—such as awards, publications, or media coverage—instead of requiring a degree or minimum salary.

O-1A visa applications, however, are costlier, ranging from \$10,000 to \$30,000. Despite this, demand is rising. Between 2020 and 2023, O-1A issuances more than doubled from 8,838 to 18,994, with Indians receiving over 1,400 of them in 2023, making them the third-largest cohort globally.

Startups, universities, and global firms like Google and Tesla increasingly favor this visa. Experts say its appeal lies in bypassing the uncertainty of the H-1B process. “It's like an H-1B without the lottery,” said Sahil Nyati of Jinee Green Card. With continued year-on-year growth, the O-1 is quickly becoming a preferred route for skilled Indian professionals.

## Indian-origin astronaut Anil Menon to launch into space in 2026

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

NASA astronaut Anil Menon has been selected for his first spaceflight and will serve as a flight engineer aboard the International Space Station (ISS) as part of Expedition 75. The mission is scheduled to launch in June 2026 aboard Russia's Soyuz MS-29 spacecraft, alongside cosmonauts Pyotr Dubrov and Anna Kikina. The crew will depart from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan and is expected to spend eight months aboard the ISS. Menon, born in Minneapolis to Indian and Ukrainian parents, has an extensive academic and medical background. He holds degrees in neurobiology, engineering, and medicine from Harvard and Stanford, and a master's in public health from the University of Texas. His career includes service in the California Air National Guard, deployments to Afghanistan, and humanitarian missions during the Haiti and Nepal earthquakes.

He joined NASA in 2014 as a flight surgeon and was later selected as SpaceX's first flight surgeon. After becoming a NASA astronaut in 2021, he completed training in 2024. Menon continues to practice emergency medicine in Houston and teaches at the University of Texas. He is married to SpaceX's Anna Menon, and they have two children.



## Ethiopia reports over 520,000 malaria cases in May, WHO says



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The World Health Organization reported that Ethiopia saw 520,782 malaria cases in May, part of a record 8.4 million cases in 2024. Health officials are responding amid concurrent outbreaks of cholera, measles, and mpox. Conflict in parts of the country has worsened public health access, particularly in remote areas.

Roughly 69 percent of Ethiopians live below 2,000 meters elevation, where malaria risk is highest. The disease typically peaks after seasonal rains in May and later in the year. While malaria is preventable and treatable, severe cases—featuring fever, seizures, or breathing difficulty—are most dangerous for children under five, pregnant women, and people with HIV/AIDS. The WHO report stresses mosquito prevention, medical treatment, and improved surveillance systems are critical to control the spread and protect vulnerable populations.

## First Dutch heatwave in three years triggers warnings



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Netherlands recorded its first official heatwave in three years when De Bilt exceeded 30 °C for five consecutive days beginning July 2. KNMI issued an orange alert for southeastern provinces and a yellow alert elsewhere.

This was the country’s 31st recorded heatwave since records began in 1901. The criteria require temperatures over 25 °C for five days with at least three exceeding 30 °C. Southeastern provinces also faced thunderstorms, prompting severe weather warnings. Health officials warned older adults and vulnerable individuals to take precautions against heat exhaustion and dehydration, and noted lightning and fire risks.

## Macron and Putin revive direct dialogue with phone call on Iran and Ukraine

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

French President Emmanuel Macron and Russian President Vladimir Putin held their first phone conversation since 2022 this week, discussing Iran’s nuclear program and the ongoing war in Ukraine. According to the Élysée Palace, Macron emphasized the urgent need for Iran to comply with its commitments under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and resume full cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). He reaffirmed France’s commitment to a diplomatic resolution of Iran’s nuclear and missile activities.

The Kremlin, in its own statement, stressed Iran’s legitimate right to develop peaceful nuclear energy and maintain commitments under the NPT, including collaboration with the IAEA.

On Ukraine, Macron reiterated



France’s unwavering support for Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, urging an immediate ceasefire and a negotiated settlement. Putin blamed Western countries for fueling the conflict and claimed military support from the West was prolonging the war. He insisted that peace talks must address the root causes of the conflict and recognize the “new territorial realities” created since Russia’s invasion in 2022.

## Modi’s top honor in Trinidad and Tobago draws both celebration and criticism

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was officially conferred with the Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (ORTT) during his landmark visit to the Caribbean nation—the first-ever by a sitting Indian prime minister. The award, the country’s highest civilian honor, was presented on Thursday in recognition of Modi’s contributions to regional development and India’s diplomatic ties with Trinidad and Tobago.



The decision, however, has stirred mixed reactions. While Indo-Trinidadian Hindu communities celebrated the moment as a powerful cultural milestone, the Anjuman Sunnat-ul-Jamaat Association (ASJA), the nation’s largest Muslim organization, voiced deep concern over honoring a leader whose record they say has emboldened religious intolerance.

In a statement, ASJA referenced the 2002 Gujarat riots, India’s 2019

revocation of Kashmir’s special status, and ongoing criticism from international rights groups. They argued that honoring Modi undermines values of justice and accountability. Still, Modi’s global diplomacy has been widely recognized—he has previously received honors from Muslim-majority nations like Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Egypt.

Modi departs for Argentina on July 4 as part of a wider diplomatic tour.

## Quad ministers urge Myanmar ceasefire, call for humanitarian support

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At their Washington meeting on July 2, Quad foreign ministers expressed serious concern over the escalating crisis in Myanmar, urging the military regime to implement a ceasefire and support humanitarian aid delivery. They backed ASEAN’s Five Point Consensus and called for safe humanitarian corridors.

Their statement voiced alarm at the rise in regional insecurity and

transnational crime linked to the Myanmar crisis. The group reiterated its commitment to counter cybercrime and online scams.

Referencing a UN Human Rights Council briefing, they cited nearly 6,800 civilian deaths and 22,000 detentions since Myanmar’s 2021 coup, with 22 million people in urgent need of aid. UN officials described the country as being gripped by war and repression, with the military obstructing earthquake relief by staging more than 600 attacks in quake hit regions.

## US pauses Ukraine military aid amid low munitions stockpile concerns



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States has paused part of its military assistance to Ukraine following a Pentagon review that revealed dangerously low stockpiles of key munitions. White House spokesperson Anna Kelly confirmed the decision, stating it prioritizes U.S. military readiness. The review, ordered by U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, examined depletion following three years of aid to Ukraine, airstrikes in Yemen, and recent military operations involving Iran. Pentagon official Elbridge Colby said the department remains committed to supporting Ukraine while safeguarding American defense capabilities. President Donald Trump recently acknowledged Ukraine’s request for Patriot missile systems during a meeting with President Volodymyr Zelensky at The Hague but stopped short of confirming further aid. Analysts suggest this marks a potential shift in U.S. policy, as Hegseth skipped a Ukraine military coordination meeting last month—the first such absence by a U.S. defense secretary since the war began in 2022. The U.S. has supplied over \$66 billion in military support to date.

## UK launches probe into National Grid after Heathrow blackout



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Ofgem has opened an enforcement action against National Grid Electricity Transmission following a March fire at the North Hyde Substation that left Heathrow Airport powerless. A report by NESO revealed the fault was avoidable: elevated moisture in 2018 and delayed maintenance in 2022 were ignored. Moisture in a high voltage bushing caused an explosion that shut down Heathrow’s power, stranding over 270,000 passengers and cancelling about 1,300 flights. The blackout lasted around 16 hours after one of three external supply sources failed. Energy Secretary Ed Miliband said the oversight of known risks was “deeply concerning.” Police have ruled out foul play in the incident, which exposed vulnerabilities in the airport’s power network.



## Ferry bound for Bali sinks, six dead and dozens still missing



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A ferry carrying 65 people sank late Wednesday en route from Java to Bali, killing six and leaving dozens missing. The KMP Tunu Pratama Jaya sank in rough seas shortly after issuing a distress call. So far, 35 survivors have been rescued, though some were unconscious after hours in the water. The ferry had 53 passengers and 12 crew, and survivors reported a suspected engine room leak. Waves up to two meters and strong winds have hampered search operations involving helicopters and 15 boats. President Prabowo Subianto has ordered an emergency response. Indonesia's transport ministry said the ferry was operating within its capacity.

## Over 900 quakes hit Japan's Tokara islands in two weeks



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Japan's Tokara islands have experienced over 900 earthquakes since June 21, alarming residents and raising concerns of stronger tremors. The Japan Meteorological Agency recorded a peak of 183 quakes on June 23, with activity continuing through early July. While no major damage has occurred, authorities urged residents to prepare for evacuation. The island chain, home to about 700 people, sits on a complex tectonic zone along the Pacific "ring of fire." Local officials say people are losing sleep and fear the activity may escalate. A similar swarm in 2023 saw 346 quakes. Experts warn the area's seafloor topography contributes to frequent seismic stress.

## Iran orders halt to IAEA cooperation amid tensions with West and Israel

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian issued a formal directive on Wednesday to suspend the country's cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), citing recent violations of its sovereignty. The move follows a new law passed by Iran's parliament and endorsed by the Constitutional Council, demanding guarantees for the protection of Iran's nuclear facilities and personnel before allowing IAEA inspections.

Officials said the decision was prompted by a recent IAEA Board of Governors resolution, which accused Iran of non-compliance with nuclear safeguards—claims Iran strongly rejected. Tehran views the resolution, backed by the United States and its European allies, as biased and politically motivated. Lawmakers have



also called for banning IAEA chief Rafael Grossi from entering Iran, accusing him of facilitating Israeli and American aggression. Iran's response includes the announcement of new nuclear facilities and upgraded enrichment capabilities at Fordow.

The directive came days after Israel conducted deadly strikes on Iranian nuclear sites, and the United States targeted facilities in Esfahan, Natanz, and Fordow. A temporary ceasefire with Israel was reached on June 24.

## Taliban welcome Russia's 'brave decision' to formally recognize their rule

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Taliban government in Afghanistan announced that Russia has officially recognized its administration, calling it a "brave decision." This recognition came after a meeting in Kabul between Taliban Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi and Russian Ambassador Dmitry Zhirnov. Russia's Foreign Ministry and its special envoy to Afghanistan confirmed the move. Russia is now the first country to formally recognize the Taliban since they returned to power in 2021. Moscow recently removed the Taliban from its list of terrorist organizations and appointed a Taliban diplomat as ambassador in Moscow. While countries like China and Pakistan accept Taliban envoys, they have stopped



short of formal recognition. Human rights concerns, particularly the Taliban's restrictions on women and girls, remain key obstacles to broader international recognition. The Taliban continue to seek global legitimacy and foreign investment amid Afghanistan's ongoing economic crisis.

## At least 32 killed in Pakistan flash floods, government faces backlash

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Flash floods triggered by heavy rains in Pakistan have killed at least 32 people, including 16 children. Among the victims was a tourist family in the Swat River area, swept away after reportedly waiting over an hour for rescue. Videos of the tragedy went viral, sparking public anger. The government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province suspended four officials and launched an inquiry. Despite prior flood warnings, locals say rescue services failed to act in time. Former climate minister Sherry Rehman criticized the disaster authority's slow response and lack of resources. Pakistan, highly vulnerable to climate change, has experienced recurring flood disasters, including the devastating 2022 floods



that killed over 1,700. The latest tragedy has reignited debate over the government's preparedness, warning systems, and the public's failure to heed extreme weather alerts. Rescue operations are ongoing, with several victims still missing.

## UK ex-civil service chief calls Xi a 'dictator,' warns of conflict



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former UK civil service head Simon Case has described Chinese President Xi Jinping as a "dictator" and warned of an impending conflict over Taiwan. Speaking at a defense event in London, Case said Xi has publicly outlined a timeline for "reunifying" Taiwan and called on Europe to increase defense spending. He credited President Donald Trump with applying "helpful pressure" on NATO allies to meet military funding targets. The comments follow the UK's strategic review, which highlights China's drills around Taiwan as destabilizing. China rejects the "dictator" label. Case also warned of possible Russian aggression beyond Ukraine and now chairs Team Barrow.

## Russian drone attack on Kyiv injures 14, damages rail and homes

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



At least 14 people were injured in a Russian drone attack on Kyiv early Friday, with fires breaking out across six city districts and railway infrastructure heavily damaged. Twelve people were hospitalized, and debris from downed drones ignited fires in residential areas, medical facilities, and warehouses. Ukraine's rail service rerouted several trains due to the damage. Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko confirmed widespread destruction. Meanwhile, Ukraine struck Sergiyev Posad near Moscow, injuring at least one. President Donald Trump said a recent call with President Vladimir Putin yielded no progress on peace talks. Ukraine continues to warn of weakening defenses due to delayed U.S. aid.



## Kejriwal's solo Bihar poll move sparks backlash from INDIA bloc allies



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**am Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Arvind Kejriwal's declaration to contest the Bihar Assembly elections independently has triggered strong criticism from INDIA bloc allies, particularly the Congress. Speaking at a press conference in Gandhinagar, Kejriwal stated that the INDIA bloc was formed solely for the Lok Sabha elections and that no alliance now exists with the Congress.

Congress leaders dismissed AAP's plans as a "publicity stunt," arguing the party has no organizational presence in Bihar. Party leader Akhilesh Prasad Singh said voters barely recognize AAP in the state, while Tariq Anwar warned Kejriwal of political backlash.

Janata Dal (United) leader Rajiv Ranjan echoed these views, calling the move another sign of deepening fractures in the INDIA bloc. He added that AAP's participation could complicate electoral strategies for Rashtriya Janata Dal, an existing ally in Bihar.

Kejriwal also accused Congress of sabotaging AAP in the recent Visavadar bypolls in Gujarat.

## Thousands join Amarnath Yatra amid heightened security after terror attack

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**O**ver 12,000 devotees visited the holy Amarnath cave shrine in Kashmir on the opening day of the annual pilgrimage, which began on July 3 and will continue for 38 days until August 9. On Friday, another batch of 6,411 pilgrims left Jammu's Bhagwati Nagar base camp in two security-escorted convoys—2,789 heading to Baltal and 3,622 to Pahalgam.

The pilgrimage, deeply significant to Hindus, is being held under intense security following the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, where Pakistan-backed militants killed 26 civilians. Authorities have deployed an additional 180 companies of central armed forces to secure the routes and base camps. Local Kashmiri residents welcomed the first batch of pilgrims with garlands and placards, signaling unity and solidarity after the tragedy. The shrine, located at an altitude of 3,888 meters, is known for its naturally formed ice lingam, believed to represent Lord Shiva. Pilgrims can trek either the 46-kilometer Pahalgam route or the shorter 14-kilometer Baltal route to reach the sacred site.

# Modi's Trinidad and Tobago visit rekindles bilateral ties, says MEA

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**M**inistry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal called Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Trinidad and Tobago a historic moment that reaffirms India's commitment to strengthening bilateral relations. Speaking in Hindi and Bhojpuri to connect with the local Indian diaspora, Jaiswal highlighted that this is the first Indian Prime Ministerial visit to the Caribbean nation in 26 years.

PM Modi received a warm welcome in Port of Spain from Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar and her Cabinet. Jaiswal noted that with about 45 percent of Trinidad and Tobago's 1.3 million people being of Indian origin—many tracing roots to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar—the cultural ties are profound.

Describing the emotional significance, he said the bonds between the two nations are



"unbreakable." Jaiswal's use of regional dialects underscored India's cultural diplomacy and

outreach to its diaspora, reinforcing people-to-people ties as a pillar of foreign policy.

## Amit Shah offers central aid to five states as monsoon rains wreak havoc

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**U**nion Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday extended support to five states—Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, and Chhattisgarh—after heavy monsoon rains triggered widespread damage, flooding, and casualties. In a post on social media, Shah said he had spoken with the chief ministers of the affected states and assured them of full central assistance. He confirmed the deployment of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams and additional reinforcements wherever needed.

In Uttarakhand, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami thanked Shah for swiftly mobilizing emergency forces to ensure the Char Dham Yatra remains uninterrupted, particularly in rain-hit areas like Kedarnath.

Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district was among the worst affected, with cloudbursts and flash floods sweeping away buildings and vehicles. One death has been confirmed, while many homes



near riverbanks were severely damaged.

Meanwhile, in Gujarat, over 1,000 people were relocated across four districts due to flash floods. In Jharkhand, multiple cities including Ranchi and Jamshedpur experienced waterlogging and property loss. Relief and rescue operations remain ongoing.

## Air India denies coercion claims from families of AI 171 crash victims

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**ir India has denied serious allegations from UK-based Stewarts Law, which represents over 40 families affected by the June 12 crash of Flight AI 171 in Ahmedabad that killed 241 people. The law firm claimed the airline pressured bereaved families into disclosing financial dependency information before issuing interim compensation—an act they called "coercive" and "distressing."

Air India responded by calling the accusations "unsubstantiated and inaccurate." The airline clarified that the circulated questionnaire was solely to verify familial relationships and ensure compensation reached the rightful beneficiaries. Officials also refuted claims that staff made unsolicited visits to families' homes.

According to the airline, interim compensation of approximately \$30,000 (Rs.25 lakh) has been paid to 47 families, with 55 more cases in progress. While international law requires immediate advance payments without financial disclosures, lawyer Peter Neenan claimed Air India's practices could potentially undercut payouts by over \$128 million, prompting calls for an investigation.



## Karnataka persuades cop allegedly humiliated by CM to resume duty

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Karnataka government has convinced Additional Superintendent of Police Narayana V. Baramani, who claimed Chief Minister Siddaramaiah publicly humiliated him, to return to duty. Baramani had submitted a voluntary retirement letter after the alleged incident at a Belagavi political event on April 28, describing a public rebuke and near-slap that caused emotional distress to him and his family. His resignation on June 12 threatened to embarrass the government. On Thursday, Baramani confirmed he had resumed work following discussions



with Siddaramaiah, Home Minister G. Parameshwara, and Law Minister H.K. Patil. Baramani, who has served 31 years, has not withdrawn his resignation, however. He suggested he may still pursue it, despite assurances from senior officials who appealed to him not to proceed with his retirement.



## No coercive action against Padma awardee monk till July 7, court orders



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

West Bengal’s Murshidabad District Police have been barred from taking coercive action against Padma Shri awardee monk Kartik Maharaj, accused in a 2013 rape case, until a Kolkata High Court hearing on July 7. Justice Jay Sengupta’s order came after the monk petitioned to quash the recently filed FIR. Maharaj, who is linked to Bharat Sevashram Sangha, arrived in court instead of reporting to Nabagram police station.

He claims the FIR is based on a 13-year-old allegation lodged only last week amid protests over another recent campus rape incident in Kolkata. The state counsel opposed a private hearing, resulting in an open session and the delay in any arrest or other action until the next court appearance.

## Train services disrupted in Northeast after landslide on Lumding-Badarpur route



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Rail operations were halted Thursday in the Lumding-Badarpur hill section of the Northeast Frontier Railway after a landslide between Dihakho and Mupa stations. According to NFR Chief Public Relations Officer Kapinjal Kishore Sharma, debris needs clearing before service can resume. Restoration is underway under senior supervision.

Trains on routes linking South Assam, Tripura, Manipur, and Mizoram via Guwahati are affected. Five trains have been canceled, with others rescheduled, as help desks assist passengers in Guwahati, Lumding, Silchar, Badarpur, and Agartala. The disruption follows earlier landslides on June 23 in the same section. During monsoon months, northeastern connectivity frequently suffers due to landslides and flooding, impacting local communities and travel plans.

## IMD issues 15-day heavy rainfall warning for multiple states

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a 15-day alert forecasting heavy to very heavy rainfall across several Indian states, including Delhi, Mumbai, Himachal Pradesh, and Odisha. The period from July 5 to 9 is expected to see the most intense weather activity. Coastal and marine regions may experience strong winds up to 65 km/h, prompting advisories for fishermen and travelers.

The IMD has issued a ‘Red Warning’ for several high-risk areas, citing potential for floods, landslides, and lightning strikes. This heightened alert aligns with projections of an above-average July monsoon, which could benefit agriculture but pose risks



to infrastructure and public safety. State authorities have been asked to remain on high alert and ensure response teams are prepared. The alert underscores the need for preparedness across vulnerable regions, particularly in mountainous and low-lying zones prone to monsoon-related disasters.

## Swami Chidanand praises Modi, compares his leadership to Lord Ram’s

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Spiritual leader Swami Chidanand Saraswati of Parmarth Niketan has lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s global recognition, likening his leadership to that of Lord Ram. Speaking to IANS, Swami Chidanand highlighted Modi’s recent honor in Ghana and said that the Prime Minister’s outreach reflects discipline, patriotism, and a unifying vision. “I have seen many prime ministers, but none like Modi,” he said, adding that India’s global stature has grown under Modi’s leadership.

He emphasized that Modi’s efforts were inclusive, citing visits to smaller nations and his commitment to building diplomatic bridges. Swami Chidanand recalled a powerful speech Modi gave two decades ago at a



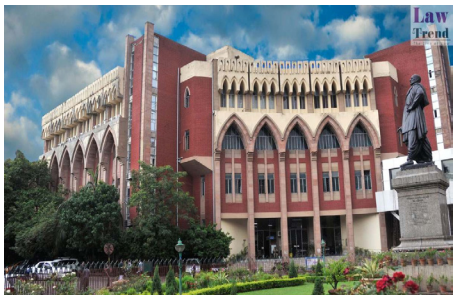
diaspora event, describing it as a reflection of his long-standing commitment to national values. Referring to the enthusiastic public receptions abroad, including in Trinidad and Ghana, he said the honors Modi receives reflect the growing respect for India, and that the Prime Minister dedicates these accolades to all Indians.

## Calcutta High Court orders closure of union rooms amid campus violence concerns

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Calcutta High Court has directed the West Bengal Higher Education Department to lock all student union rooms in state-run colleges and universities until students’ union elections are held and results are announced. The order follows a petition by advocate Sayan Banerjee, who alleged that unofficial unions were occupying these spaces and engaging in antisocial activities.

A division bench comprising Justice Soumen Sen and Justice Smita Das issued the order and asked the state to clarify its position on the delay in elections within two weeks. The



directive comes after a recent gang-rape case at South Calcutta Law College, where the accused reportedly lured the victim into the college’s common room before the assault. The same bench also ordered Kolkata Police to submit a progress report and the case diary related to the incident within seven days. The next court hearing is scheduled for July 17.

## Parliament to review aviation safety after deadly Air India crash

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India’s Parliament will hold a high-level hearing on July 9 to examine civil aviation safety in the wake of the AI 171 crash, which killed 241 passengers and crew. A parliamentary committee will review protocols involving airlines, airport operators, and air traffic control. Although not directly investigating

the crash, the review is expected to assess systemic issues in flight safety and regulation. The Air India disaster has drawn international attention, with multiple investigations underway. Lawmakers are likely to demand stricter oversight, better pilot training, and enforcement of maintenance standards as aviation passenger volumes rise nationwide.

## Delhi enforces vehicle fuel ban to cut toxic air, affecting over 6 million cars



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

To curb escalating pollution, the Delhi government has implemented a sweeping ban on refueling diesel vehicles older than 10 years and petrol vehicles older than 15. The move affects over 6.2 million vehicles in Delhi and nearly 10 million in the National Capital Region. Enforcement began with just three days’ notice, sparking public frustration. Authorities are using digital monitoring and impoundment for violations.

The ban follows Supreme Court and Green Tribunal orders, but citizen groups are calling for a phased approach and compensation for compliance. Officials insist the action is essential to address Delhi’s hazardous air quality, especially during the monsoon-to-winter pollution buildup.

## India unveils \$11.7 billion job push to counter youth unemployment



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian government has greenlit a \$11.7 billion labor incentive program aimed at generating 35 million jobs over two years. The scheme includes wage subsidies for new hires and incentives for employers retaining staff for over six months. Announced amid rising urban youth unemployment, the plan is part of a broader \$23 billion employment and skills package.

It also offers targeted relief for the manufacturing sector. Officials hope the initiative, which will use Aadhaar-linked verification systems, will stabilize the labor market. Economists say its success hinges on uptake by small businesses and rural employers, where informal employment dominates.



## EU seeks tariff relief in last-minute talks with Trump administration



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The European Union is pushing for immediate tariff relief in talks with the United States ahead of a July 8 deadline set by President Donald Trump. In exchange, the EU may accept a 10% baseline tariff on goods, similar to a deal previously reached with the United Kingdom. Four EU diplomats say a nonbinding political agreement could be reached, though final details remain unresolved. Trade Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič is in Washington to lead negotiations with U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer. The EU also wants reduced tariffs on sectors like pharmaceuticals, semiconductors, alcohol, and aircraft, but officials see limited chances of success. Tariffs on European cars and metals, currently as high as 50%, remain under review. The EU has prepared limited retaliatory measures, with more significant actions paused until July 14. While Berlin and Rome support a swift deal, other EU nations remain cautious. A complete breakdown of talks is considered unlikely, but continued negotiations through summer are expected.

## Canada's new supply law may not block U.S. trade pressure, experts say



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canada's new law to protect supply management may not stop President Donald Trump's efforts to dismantle the system during trade talks, according to experts. Bill C-202, passed in June, bars the foreign minister from negotiating increased dairy imports or lower tariffs. However, legal experts say the law doesn't bind the federal government due to the royal prerogative in foreign affairs. Trump paused talks with Canada after criticizing its tariffs on U.S. dairy, calling them as high as 400%. Canada's tariffs on over-quota imports can reach about 250%, though the U.S. rarely meets its allowed quotas under the existing trade deal. Experts say Canada could bypass the law by having the Prime Minister lead talks or changing quota access rules. Expanding import permissions to retailers could ease U.S. concerns. While dismantling supply management remains politically untenable, experts believe Canada may offer limited concessions through trade mechanisms to avoid escalating tensions with Washington.

## AstraZeneca eyes \$15 billion lung cancer drug deal with Summit Therapeutics

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

AstraZeneca is in advanced talks with Summit Therapeutics to license its lung cancer drug ivonescimab, in a deal potentially worth up to \$15 billion. The agreement may involve a multibillion-dollar upfront payment and performance-based milestone payments. However, the terms are still under discussion and the deal is not finalized.

Ivonescimab, co-developed with China's Akeso, generated early excitement after outperforming Merck's Keytruda in a Chinese trial. But a more recent trial in

Western countries showed no statistically significant survival benefit, prompting Summit to delay its U.S. regulatory filing. If completed, this would be AstraZeneca's second major licensing deal since June, following Bristol-Myers Squibb's \$11.1 billion pact with BioNTech. Summit, majority-owned by Bob Duggan, saw its market value reach \$17 billion. Duggan previously sold Pharmacyclics to AbbVie for \$21 billion.

AstraZeneca declined to comment, while Summit did not respond. The deal reflects growing pharmaceutical interest in dual-action cancer therapies, despite mixed clinical outcomes.



## Albanese urges U.S. to scrap tariffs as trade pause nears end

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has called for U.S. tariffs on Australian goods to be removed entirely, as President Donald Trump's 90-day pause on a 10% baseline tariff is set to expire next week. Albanese stressed that, under the U.S.-Australia Free Trade Agreement, tariffs "should be zero."

Tensions have risen after Trump's administration targeted Australia's meat, fruit, pharmaceuticals, and media sectors, while imposing 25% duties on steel and aluminum. U.S. officials have also pressured allies to increase defense spending to at least 3% of GDP, with some suggesting up to 5%.

The Pentagon is reviewing the AUKUS



pact, questioning its alignment with Trump's "America First" agenda. Australia plans to raise defense spending from 2% to 2.4% of GDP by 2033, but Albanese said there are no immediate plans for further increases. Foreign Minister Penny Wong is visiting Washington for Quad discussions this week.

## End of U.S. tax exemption hits Chinese e-commerce shipments hard

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The end of the U.S. tax-free exemption for low-value goods from China has sharply reduced air cargo shipments from Asia. Since May 2, packages worth under \$800—primarily from platforms like Shein and Temu—have faced tariffs initially as high as 145%, later reduced to around 30% after a U.S.-China trade truce.

According to the International Air Transport Association, Asia-to-U.S. air cargo demand dropped 10.7% in May year-on-year. Aevean estimates that low-value shipments to the U.S. from China fell by 43% in May compared to April.

With U.S. trade policy shifting, companies



are diverting shipments to Europe and Southeast Asia. Air cargo capacity between China and the U.S. was down 11% in June compared to March, according to Rotare. Industry analysts say the long-term impact depends on whether U.S.-bound e-commerce rebounds under the reduced tariff rate.

## Boeing wins \$2.8 billion contract to build satellites for U.S. military



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Boeing has secured a \$2.8 billion contract to design and produce two satellites under the U.S. Evolved Strategic Satellite Communications (ESS) program. The project supports nuclear command, control, and communications for the U.S. president and global strategic forces.

The first of the two satellites is expected to be delivered by 2031. Positioned in geostationary orbit, the ESS satellites will provide secure and persistent global coverage for high-level military communication.

The deal includes options for two additional satellites, expanding Boeing's role in U.S. space defense infrastructure. This strategic investment underscores the Pentagon's long-term shift toward space-based security assets as part of its broader military modernization efforts.

Boeing's announcement comes amid renewed competition in space and defense technology, particularly with growing geopolitical tensions and evolving threats in cyberspace and global communications networks.

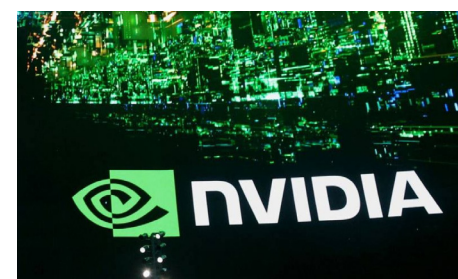
## Nvidia briefly overtakes Apple in historic race for top market value

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nvidia briefly surpassed Apple on Thursday to become the most valuable company in history, reaching a market capitalization of \$3.92 trillion as investors continued to bet on artificial intelligence. The stock rose as much as 2.4% in morning trading, outpacing Apple's December 2024 record of \$3.915 trillion.

Shares later settled, putting Nvidia's valuation at \$3.89 trillion—just short of the record. Microsoft followed closely with a market cap of \$3.7 trillion. Nvidia's advanced chips, which power AI models and data centers, have made it a key player in the global AI boom.

Its market value has soared from \$500 billion in 2021, now exceeding the total stock markets of Canada, Mexico, and the UK. Despite its meteoric rise, Nvidia still trades at a lower-than-average price-to-earnings ratio, driven by strong earnings growth and surging demand for AI infrastructure.





South Korea's current account surplus grows despite U.S. tariff pressures



South Korea's current account surplus rose to \$10.14 billion in May, up from \$5.7 billion in April, driven by lower global oil prices and higher dividend income, despite a decline in exports. This marked the 25th consecutive monthly surplus since May 2023 and the third-largest May surplus on record, according to Bank of Korea data.

Goods exports dropped 2.9 percent year-on-year to \$56.93 billion, while imports fell 7.2 percent to \$46.27 billion. The services account showed a \$2.28 billion deficit due to increased travel spending, while the primary income account posted a \$2.15 billion surplus.

The impact of U.S. tariffs, particularly on autos and steel, is becoming more evident and may intensify in the second half of 2025. Trade talks between South Korea and the U.S. continue ahead of a July 8 deadline.

India ranks third globally in fintech funding with \$889 million in H1 2025



India secured the third spot globally in fintech startup funding with \$889 million raised in the first half of 2025, according to Tracxn. Early-stage funding rose to \$361 million, marking a 10 percent increase from H2 2024. The period also saw 16 acquisitions, a 45 percent jump year-on-year, with the largest being Groww's \$150 million acquisition of Fisdom.

Bengaluru led funding activity with 55 percent of total investments, followed by Mumbai at 14 percent. One new unicorn emerged during this time. Top early-stage investors included Peak XV, Accel, and Bessemer Venture Partners.

Blume Ventures added seven new firms to its portfolio, and Accel led with 34 rounds of funding. Despite a slowdown in late-stage deals, strong investor interest continues in scalable and innovative fintech models across India's growing startup ecosystem.

India promotes mango exports in UAE with festive showcase

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) launched 'Indian Mango Mania 2025' in Abu Dhabi to boost mango exports to the Gulf region. Held in partnership with the Indian Embassy and Lulu Group, the event featured premium varieties like Dasheri, Chausa, Amrapali, and Langda, many of which are GI-tagged. The UAE remains India's top mango export market, with over 12,000 metric tons valued at \$20 million shipped in 2024. Indian Ambassador Sunjay Sudhir praised Lulu's support in expanding Indian produce globally. APEDA Chairman Abhishek Dev noted the festival helps farmers access international



markets while celebrating regional diversity. The promotion also showcased mango-based dishes, from traditional Indian recipes to pastries and smoothies. The initiative highlights India's efforts to enhance its agri-exports through strategic retail partnerships and cultural outreach.

Hyundai and Kia launch open UX lab for future mobility

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Hyundai Motor and Kia have opened a new user experience (UX) research hub, UX Studio Seoul, aimed at involving the public in designing future mobility systems. Replacing their 2021 UX Studio, the new center includes an Open Lab for visitors and an Advanced Research Lab for immersive development. The facility allows participants to explore early-stage UX concepts and see how their input shapes vehicle design. Meanwhile, Hyundai's global vehicle sales rose 1.5% year-on-year in June, with domestic



sales climbing 3.8% to over 62,000 units. Hyundai said it will maintain momentum by introducing competitive new models tailored to growing demand at home and abroad.

Starlink's India launch pending final approval from space regulator

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Starlink's rollout in India remains under review by the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), despite most regulatory and licensing requirements being addressed. IN-SPACe has issued a draft letter of intent, and once signed, the satellite internet service led by Elon Musk can launch operations in India.



government's end is complete. Starlink currently operates the world's largest satellite internet network, with over 6,750 satellites. It already serves countries including Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. India is expected to join this list in the coming months, pending final regulatory clearance from IN-SPACe.

IN-SPACe Chairman Dr. Pawan Goenka recently met SpaceX President Gwynne Shotwell to resolve pending technical issues. Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia confirmed due diligence on the

Microsoft to cut 9,000 jobs, Xbox division hit hardest

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Microsoft is laying off nearly 9,000 employees, or 4% of its workforce, in another round of job cuts, with significant impacts on the Xbox division. Xbox head Phil Spencer cited the need to prioritize strategic growth areas and streamline operations. The company has already laid off over 6,000 employees in May, plus 305 more in June, and had earlier job losses across Activision Blizzard, HoloLens, and Azure units. Microsoft has made repeated staff reductions this year, even as the company sees strong performance across its gaming platforms. Spencer said the layoffs are



part of a long-term strategy to focus on key opportunities and deliver high-quality gaming experiences.

HDFC Bank CEO seeks to quash bribery FIR in Supreme Court



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

HDFC Bank CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan has petitioned the Supreme Court to dismiss a police complaint filed by the Lilavati Kirtilal Mehta Medical Trust, which accuses him of accepting a Rs.2.05 crore bribe. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, representing Jagdishan, called the FIR an attempt to pressure the bank during recovery proceedings.

The FIR, filed under sections including criminal breach of trust and cheating, alleges Jagdishan misused his position to benefit the Chetan Mehta Group. The case is now scheduled for a Supreme Court hearing on July 4 after five Bombay High Court judges recused themselves from earlier hearings.

Jagdishan denies all charges, calling the case malicious and unfounded. The dispute relates to loans given in 1995, defaulted in 2002, and continuing legal action against the Mehta family.

Alstom secures \$2.4 billion rail deal with New York MTA



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

French train manufacturer Alstom has won a €2 billion (\$2.4 billion) contract from the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to supply M-9A railcars for the Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad. The deal, announced by MTA in June, will be booked in Alstom's Q2 2025-26 fiscal year.

The contract covers 316 railcars—160 for Long Island Rail Road and 156 for Metro-North. Initial pilot railcars are expected in 2029, with full delivery by 2032. The agreement is part of MTA's broader \$10.9 billion capital plan to modernize New York's commuter rail systems.

MTA Chair Janno Lieber emphasized the significance of the order, which aligns with plans to eventually procure nearly 2,000 new railcars to meet growing ridership demands and aging fleet replacements.



## Spain and Italy open Euro 2025 with dominant wins amid Jota tributes

Spain and Italy made powerful starts to their UEFA Women's Euro 2025 campaigns on Thursday, on a day shadowed by grief following the tragic deaths of Diogo Jota and his brother.

Spain dismantled Portugal 5-0 at Wankdorf Stadium in Bern, led by Esther González, who scored twice, and Vicky López, who added a goal. Alexia Putellas and Cristina Martín-Prieto also found the net. The match began with a minute's silence, observed by nearly 30,000 fans.

In Sion, Italy edged Belgium 1-0 thanks to Arianna Caruso's curling strike just before halftime. Belgium's captain Tessa Wullaert threatened early but could not convert. Both matches showcased solidarity across teams and fans honoring the late Jota, whose passing cast a somber tone over the tournament's opening fixtures. Spain next face Belgium; Italy take on Portugal.

## Djokovic crushes Evans to advance at Wimbledon



Novak Djokovic produced a clinical performance on Thursday to defeat Britain's Dan Evans 6-3, 6-2, 6-0 in the second round at Wimbledon. The sixth seed looked sharp from the start, neutralizing Evans' trademark backhand slice and slicing through service games with ease. Evans, 35, has been on a comeback trail after falling outside the top 200 earlier this year. Despite recent wins against top-15 players, he was unable to challenge Djokovic's precision and rhythm on Centre Court. After the match, Djokovic said he "executed perfectly" and felt everything was "flowing." Evans received a warm sendoff from the crowd, reflecting on the positives of his grass season. Djokovic remains a strong contender for a record 25th Grand Slam title.

## Mexican boxer Chávez Jr. detained by ICE, faces deportation over alleged cartel links

Mexican boxer Julio César Chávez Jr. has been detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement just days after his high-profile fight against Jake Paul in California. Chávez Jr., son of boxing legend Julio César Chávez, is now facing deportation over alleged cartel affiliations and immigration violations, the Department of Homeland Security confirmed Thursday.

Chávez Jr. entered the U.S. on a tourist visa in August 2023, which expired in February 2024. DHS claims he made fraudulent statements on his residency application, filed in April after marrying a U.S. citizen. Officials allege the woman has past ties to the Sinaloa cartel, through a relationship with one of Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman's late sons.

DHS also cited an active arrest warrant in Mexico for Chávez Jr., accusing him



of involvement in organized crime and weapons trafficking. He was allowed back into the U.S. in January but was deemed removable on June 27—just a day before his fight with Paul, which he lost.

A DHS official criticized the prior administration for allowing Chávez Jr. to reenter the country, calling his arrest a message to cartel affiliates. His attorney has denied all allegations.

## Swiatek rallies past McNally to reach Wimbledon third round

World No. 8 Iga Swiatek overcame a slow start to defeat American Caty McNally 5-7, 6-2, 6-1 and reach the third round at Wimbledon on Thursday. McNally, ranked 208 and returning from injury, impressed early by taking the first set.

Swiatek, a five-time Grand Slam champion, quickly regained control with aggressive play and solid serving. Despite her limited success on grass, the Pole remains one of the tournament's key contenders.

She now faces Danielle Collins in a



challenging third-round matchup. Swiatek said she was "happy" with how she reset and took control of the match, noting her improved intensity and accuracy. Fellow seeds Elena Rybakina and Barbora Krejickova also advanced in the day's action.

## Murphy fined and banned for drink-driving crash

Champion jockey Oisin Murphy has been fined \$89,000 and banned from driving for 20 months after pleading guilty to a drink-driving charge linked to a car crash in West Berkshire. The 29-year-old tested nearly twice the legal alcohol limit around seven hours after crashing his Mercedes near Hermitage on April 27. His female passenger was taken to the hospital, though no serious injuries were reported. Murphy admitted being the driver and apologized to his passenger and the public. The court heard he earns around \$1,600 per week and won

\$325,000 in 2024. Despite the incident, Murphy remains active in racing and recently won the Group One Lockinge Stakes. The British Horseracing Authority (BHA) expressed disappointment and is considering new licensing conditions. Murphy, who has a prior 14-month suspension for unrelated offenses, released a statement acknowledging the seriousness of his actions. The BHA noted the offense jeopardized public safety and said it would follow up with further disciplinary measures. Murphy continues riding and is scheduled to compete in the Belmont Derby in New York.

## Gukesh defeats Carlsen again, takes lead in Grand Chess Tour

Indian Grandmaster D. Gukesh stunned World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen in the sixth round of the rapid section at the SuperUnited Rapid and Blitz Croatia in Zagreb on Thursday. Playing with black pieces, Gukesh took advantage of Carlsen's time pressure and won after 49 moves, marking his fifth straight victory and securing sole lead with 10 points. This follows Gukesh's earlier win over Carlsen at the Norway Chess 2025.

Carlsen had previously dismissed Gukesh as a "presumably weaker player" after the Indian teen became the youngest classical world champion in 2024. Gukesh's latest win firmly rebuts that claim. Poland's Jan-Krzysztof Duda is second with 8 points, while Fabiano Caruana earned his first win by beating Nodirbek Abdusattorov.

## Gill's 269 powers India to commanding lead at Edgbaston



India captain Shubman Gill scored a career-best 269 to help India post 587 in the second Test against England at Edgbaston. Supported by Ravindra Jadeja (89) and Washington Sundar (42), Gill registered the highest Test score by an Indian in England and the second double century by an Indian captain there.

England ended Day Two at 77/3, trailing by 510 runs. Akash Deep, replacing Jasprit Bumrah, struck twice, while Mohammed Siraj took one wicket. Gill's innings included 30 fours and three sixes, showing composure against short balls and spinners alike. The visitors now hold a commanding position going into Day Three of the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy series.

## Tim Mayer to challenge Ben Sulayem for FIA presidency in December election

American motorsport official Tim Mayer has announced his bid for the FIA presidency in the December 2025 election, challenging current president Mohammed Ben Sulayem. Mayer, 59, said his decision is not personal, despite being removed as a Formula 1 steward last year. With over 15 years of experience in F1 and U.S. racing series, Mayer believes he can offer better leadership. He also emphasized a broader focus on sustainability, mobility, and safety, calling for change to better serve member clubs.





## Neeraj Chopra Classic brings global javelin stars to Bengaluru



The Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru is ready to host the Neeraj Chopra Classic 2025, a World Athletics Gold-level meet set for Saturday. Organized by two-time Olympic medalist Neeraj Chopra and JSW Sports, the event will feature top global javelin throwers, including Chopra and Rio 2016 champion Thomas Röhler. The stadium has undergone major upgrades, with new turf, refurbished stands, and a hospitality zone for fans. Chopra praised the Karnataka government for its support in elevating the event's standards. School children and young athletes have already gathered at the venue, reflecting the growing excitement and rising popularity of javelin throw in India.

## Hitesh and Sakshi assure India more medals at World Boxing Cup



Hitesh Gulia and Sakshi Chakravarty advanced to the semifinals of the 2025 World Boxing Cup in Astana, Kazakhstan, this week guaranteeing medals for India. Hitesh defeated Kazakhstan's Almaz Orozbekov 5-0 in the men's 70kg quarterfinal, while Sakshi beat Brazil's Tatiana Chagas in the women's 54kg division. They join semifinalists Minakshi (48kg), Pooja Rani (80kg), and Sanju (60kg), as India builds momentum toward the finals in New Delhi this November. Anamika (51kg) also reached the quarterfinals. India earned six medals in the Brazil leg earlier this year. The tournament plays a key role in preparing athletes for top international competition.

## Liverpool star Diogo Jota dies in car crash at 28, football world in mourning

Diogo Jota, the 28-year-old Liverpool and Portugal forward, died in a car crash alongside his brother André Silva in northwestern Spain early Thursday morning. The fatal accident occurred near Cernadilla in Zamora province, when the Lamborghini they were traveling in reportedly suffered a tire puncture while overtaking, veered off the road, and burst into flames. Firefighters extinguished the blaze, which also scorched nearby vegetation.

Jota had married his long-time partner, Rute Cardoso, just 11 days earlier and was a father of three. Tributes poured in from across the football world, including emotional messages from Cristiano Ronaldo, Liverpool legends, and teammates. Liverpool described the loss as "devastating," with manager Arne Slot and former coach Jürgen Klopp



expressing heartbreak.

Jota scored 65 goals in 182 appearances for Liverpool and helped win the Premier League, FA Cup, and League Cup. He also lifted two Nations League titles with Portugal, most recently in June. His funeral will take place Saturday in Porto. Liverpool opened a condolence book at Anfield, where fans have gathered to honor the beloved No. 20.

## NHL stars to return to Olympic action in 2026 after 12-year gap

NHL players will return to Olympic ice in 2026 for the first time since 2014, thanks to a landmark agreement finalized between the NHL, NHLPA, IIHF, and IOC. The deal confirms NHL player participation in the Milano-Cortina Winter Olympics and the 2030 Games, while also laying the groundwork for regular international tournaments like the 2028 and 2032 World Cup of Hockey.

The NHL last sent players to the Olympics in Sochi, missing 2018 and

2022 due to financial and pandemic-related concerns. To celebrate the comeback, a send-off event will replace the NHL All-Star Weekend in February 2026 at UBS Arena in New York.

Top stars like Auston Matthews, Jack Eichel, and the Tkachuk brothers are already named in preliminary rosters. The men's hockey tournament will run from February 11-22. NHL officials say the agreement marks a turning point in growing the sport globally and sets the stage for a consistent "best-on-best" international calendar.



## Dal Lake to host India's first water sports festival in August



Srinagar's Dal Lake will host the inaugural Khelo India Water Sports Festival from August 21-23, Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya announced Thursday. The event will feature five disciplines: kayaking and canoeing, rowing, water skiing, shikara racing, and dragon boat. Over 400 athletes from across India are expected to participate, with nominations made through national championships or technical selection. Mandaviya emphasized the importance of inclusive sports development and expanding opportunities for water sport athletes. This marks the fifth Khelo India event in 2025, following games held in Ladakh, Bihar, Delhi, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

## Wimbledon travel disruption called 'international embarrassment' by local MP

London MP Paul Kohler has slammed recent travel chaos on the District line, calling it an "international embarrassment" during Wimbledon week. Spectators heading to the All England Club faced signal failures, track fires, and overcrowded trains—especially at Southfields, the closest station.

The Liberal Democrat MP criticized Mayor Sadiq Khan and Transport for London for failing to ensure smooth transit during one of Britain's most prestigious events.

Fans described packed, overheated trains and long delays, with some arriving late to matches. Transport for London and Network Rail apologized, citing track circuit failures and a track fire as key causes. TfL said only 75 percent of services ran as planned on Monday and Tuesday. With future expansion expected to draw 8,000 more visitors daily, Kohler warned that current infrastructure is already overstretched. Khan's office assured that restoring normal service remains a priority amid global scrutiny on SW19.



## Knicks set to hire Mike Brown as new head coach

The New York Knicks have offered their head coaching job to Mike Brown, a two-time NBA Coach of the Year, and are finalizing a deal, according to sources. Brown would succeed Tom Thibodeau, who was dismissed despite leading the Knicks to the Eastern Conference finals for the first time in 25 years. Brown, who led Sacramento to the playoffs in 2023 and ended a 17-year drought, was fired mid-season by the Kings. He previously coached the Cavaliers and Lakers, guiding Cleveland to the 2007 NBA Finals.



## AIFF ends contract with Marquez, begins search for new coach

The All India Football Federation has parted ways with men's national team head coach Manolo Marquez following poor results and India's drop to 127 in FIFA rankings. The decision, made during the AIFF executive committee meeting, follows India's disappointing AFC Asian Cup Qualifier start. Marquez, who took charge in 2024 after Igor Stimac's exit, won just one of eight matches. The AIFF will now invite applications for a new coach. Discussions also included reducing foreign players in leagues to increase game time for Indian players, especially U-23 strikers.



Aamir Khan praised for prioritizing big-screen experience with ‘Sitaare Zameen Par’



Filmmaker Subhash Ghai has lauded Aamir Khan for releasing his latest film, ‘Sitaare Zameen Par’, exclusively in theaters and delaying its digital debut for six months. Ghai called the decision a move that restores dignity to Hindi cinema, praising Aamir for his commitment to preserving the theatrical experience. The film’s release was met with support from exhibitors nationwide, and the Multiplex Association of India thanked Aamir for his continued faith in the cinema format. MAI President Kamal Gianchandani said the move showcases the filmmaker’s dedication to audiences and the magic of moviegoing. Directed by RS Prasanna, the film is a sequel to the 2007 hit ‘Taare Zameen Par’ and stars Genelia D’Souza alongside Aamir. It released in theaters on June 20 and has been celebrated as a reaffirmation of cinema’s communal power.

## Austin celebrates ‘Tanvi the Great’, a film on autism and acceptance



Austin hosted a special screening of Tanvi the Great, a Hindi film directed by Anupam Kher, in collaboration with Hindu Charities for America (HC4A). Held at Galaxy Cinema, the event aimed to raise awareness about autism and reduce associated stigma through powerful storytelling.

The film follows Tanvi, a young autistic woman who aspires to fulfill her late father’s dream of saluting the Indian flag at Siachen. Shubangi Dutt, a graduate of Kher’s Actor Prepares school, stars in the lead role. The cast includes veterans like Boman Irani, Pallavi Joshi, and Kher himself, with music by Oscar-winner M.M. Keeravani.

Critics praised the film for its sensitivity and restraint, avoiding stereotypes while showcasing emotional growth, family dynamics, and the challenges of autism. The post-screening Q&A drew strong community engagement.

With its theme “I am different, but not less,” Tanvi the Great sends a poignant message of inclusivity, resonating with Austin’s South Asian film lovers and the broader audience.

Alia Bhatt reacts to Ranbir Kapoor’s look as Lord Ram in ‘Ramayana’



Alia Bhatt responded emotionally to the unveiling of Ranbir Kapoor’s first look as Lord Ram in the upcoming epic, ‘Ramayana’. Sharing the teaser on Instagram, she called it “unforgettable” and expressed excitement for the film’s 2026 Diwali release. The teaser features a visual transition from depictions of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva to animated versions of Ranbir as Ram, Sai Pallavi as Sita, and Yash as Ravana. The contrast between Ranbir’s calm aura and Yash’s intensity sets the stage for a powerful cinematic saga. Directed by Nitesh Tiwari, the film’s first part will release in Diwali 2026, followed by part two in 2027. The ambitious project aims to present the Ramayana with reverence, aiming to be a global representation of the Indian epic through world-class storytelling and visual excellence.

Amitabh Bachchan celebrates 25 years of ‘KBC’, the show that revived his career




Actor Amitabh Bachchan is celebrating 25 years of the iconic game show ‘Kaun Banega Crorepati’ (KBC), which first aired on July 3, 2000. Taking to Instagram, the megastar reflected on the show’s impact, sharing that he is preparing for this year’s season. The program marked a turning point in his career, helping him recover from a major financial crisis in the late 1990s, when his production house, AB Corp, faced severe losses. With KBC, the once-only-on-the-silver-screen star became a daily fixture in Indian households. Adapted from the UK’s ‘Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?’, KBC received immense love from viewers, cementing Bachchan’s renewed popularity. Though Shah Rukh Khan hosted one season, it was Big B’s presence that truly resonated with audiences and made the show a cultural staple in Indian television history.

Brad Pitt recalls being starstruck by Geena Davis and Susan Sarandon



Hollywood star Brad Pitt recently revealed on the ‘New Heights’ podcast that he was once starstruck by his ‘Thelma & Louise’ co-stars Geena Davis and Susan Sarandon. The 1991 film marked Pitt’s breakout role as J.D., a charming drifter who leaves a lasting impact on Davis’s character. Reflecting on his early experience, Pitt called Geena Davis “sweet and kind” and said she helped him through filming their iconic love scene. Susan Sarandon, in an earlier interview, praised Pitt’s humor and nuanced performance, noting that he brought more depth to the role than expected. She added that Pitt’s willingness to push creative boundaries, despite his striking looks, set him apart from others. Pitt, now an Oscar winner and global star, continues to reflect on the beginnings of his career with humility and gratitude.

Mandakini mourns father’s passing and reflects on personal journey




Former Bollywood actress Mandakini expressed heartbreak on social media following the death of her father. Sharing an emotional tribute on Instagram, she posted his photo and wrote, “My heart is shattered today... No words can express the pain of this goodbye.”

Mandakini, who rose to fame with the 1985 hit ‘Ram Teri Ganga Maili’, has since transitioned to a spiritual life. Married to Buddhist monk Dr. Kagyur T Rinpoche Thakur, she runs Tibetan yoga classes and has two children.

Though she faced setbacks in the 1990s, including a controversial link to gangster Dawood Ibrahim—which she denied—

Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas attend Wimbledon amid summer film promotions



Priyanka Chopra and husband Nick Jonas took a break from their packed schedules to attend the Wimbledon Championships in London. The couple was spotted in the Royal Box, with Nick sharing photos of their official invites on Instagram. Priyanka also posted videos from the stands and images of Nick during the game. Among the other celebrities in attendance were John Cena, Olivia Rodrigo, and Louis Partridge. Meanwhile, Priyanka used her Instagram stories to share the less glamorous side of showbiz, poking fun at wardrobe malfunctions and the demands of promoting summer films in the fall. She recently appeared in the action-comedy ‘Heads of State’, portraying MI6 agent Noel Bisset alongside Idris Elba and John Cena. The film, directed by Ilya Naishuller, is now available for viewing and has received a positive reception.



Friday, 04 July 2025

## 'The Devil Wears Prada 2' begins filming with original cast returning



Filming has officially begun for the highly anticipated sequel to 'The Devil Wears Prada', set to release on May 1, 2026. Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway, Emily Blunt, and Stanley Tucci will reprise their iconic roles, with Kenneth Branagh joining as Miranda Priestly's husband.

The sequel, reportedly centered on Priestly's struggle to remain influential in a digital-first publishing world, will feature Blunt's character as a powerful fashion executive.

The return of director David Frankel and writer Aline Brosh McKenna signals a continuation of the sharp wit and style fans loved in the original. Based on Lauren Weisberger's novel, the film originally drew inspiration from her time working with Vogue editor Anna Wintour.

Disney's teaser—featuring devil-red heels—set social media abuzz. Fans now await how Hathaway's character, Andy, fits into this evolving high-fashion drama.

## BTS to release new album and world tour in 2026 after military break



Global K-pop group BTS has announced its official return with a new album and world tour set for spring 2026. The announcement came during a livestream on Weverse—the first time all seven members appeared together since 2022. BTS confirmed they will begin working on the album this month in the United States. The upcoming release will be their first since the 2022 anthology 'Proof' and their last studio album, 'Be' in 2020. The reunion follows the completion of mandatory military service by most members, including RM, V, Jimin, and Jung Kook, who were discharged in June 2025. Suga completed alternate service, while Jin and J-Hope returned earlier. Their comeback promises to reflect a renewed spirit and collective creativity. Fans worldwide are already anticipating what may be one of the biggest global pop events of the decade.

## John Cena and Idris Elba team up for action-comedy 'Hheads of State'

John Cena and Idris Elba reunite in the action-comedy 'Hheads of State', now streaming on Prime Video. The duo—who first appeared together in 2021's 'The Suicide Squad'—play clashing world leaders forced to work together to prevent a global conspiracy. Cena stars as President Will Derringer, a former actor with a flair for dramatics, while Elba plays Prime Minister Sam Clarke, an ex-soldier with waning

political clout. Director Ilya Naishuller infuses classic buddy-action humor into the film, drawing inspiration from 'Lethal Weapon' and 'Midnight Run'. Cena and Elba's chemistry fuels the banter and explosive set pieces, with both actors praising each other's comedic timing and team spirit. Also starring Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Jack Quaid, the film blends laughs with global stakes, offering a fresh take on high-level diplomacy and mischief.



## 'Kaanta Laga' star Shefali Jariwala dies at 42

Indian actress and model Shefali Jariwala, renowned for her breakout role in the 2002 music video "Kaanta Laga," passed away at her Mumbai home on June 27 at the age of 42. She was rushed by her husband, Parag Tyagi, and others to Bellevue Multispecialty Hospital but was declared dead on arrival; police sources suggest cardiac arrest as the likely cause.

Mumbai Police have conducted an autopsy at Cooper Hospital, sending tissue and toxicology samples for further analysis. Preliminary investigations indicate she had been fasting after a religious ritual, took an anti aging injection and medication on an empty stomach, which may have caused a drop in blood pressure leading to cardiac arrest. Authorities do not suspect foul play.

Jariwala gained fame through music video success, roles in films like Mujhse Shaadi Karogi, reality shows including 'Bigg Boss 13,'



and dance shows 'Nach Baliye' and 'Boogie Woogie.' Colleagues and fans nationwide have expressed deep shock and grief over her sudden passing.

## Veteran actor Michael Madsen dies at 67 in Los Angeles

Michael Madsen, the Hollywood actor best known for his roles in 'Reservoir Dogs', 'Kill Bill', and 'The Hatful Eight', died of cardiac arrest at his Los Angeles home on July 1. He was 67. Known for his gritty voice and intense screen presence, Madsen worked with directors like Quentin Tarantino and appeared in nearly 200 films. Early in his career, he starred in 'Thelma & Louise' and 'Donnie Brasco', solidifying his status as a character actor.

Madsen's passing follows years of personal struggles, including the loss of his son. He is survived by four sons and his sister, actress Virginia Madsen. The film industry mourns the loss of a powerful performer whose contributions to neo-noir and action cinema remain unforgettable.



## Miley Cyrus to get Hollywood Walk of Fame star in 2026



Miley Cyrus will be honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2026, joining her father Billy Ray Cyrus, who introduced her to the iconic landmark as a child. The announcement comes just weeks after the release of her latest music video, 'Walk of Fame', and reflects her evolution from Disney's 'Hannah Montana' to Grammy-winning artist.

Cyrus expressed gratitude and described the honor as a dream come true. Her career has spanned acting, pop music, activism, and cultural reinvention, cementing her legacy as a modern icon. The 2026 inductee list also includes actors, musicians, and directors across global entertainment industries.

## John Cena pauses fan expo to honor U.S. Army veteran

John Cena, currently on his WWE farewell tour, paused an appearance at Fan Expo Dallas to honor a U.S. Army veteran. Cena signed a 20-year-old photo of them together, calling it a moment that "completed a story." The veteran, visibly emotional, was recognized in front of a cheering crowd.

The actor-wrestler, known for his humility, said such moments are rare and meaningful. Cena's bond with military fans has been a hallmark of his career. As Cena transitions fully into Hollywood, this heartfelt gesture reinforced his deep connection to fans—especially those in uniform.

## Shanaya Kapoor lands debut film after failing first audition

Shanaya Kapoor, daughter of actors Sanjay and Maheep Kapoor, will make her acting debut opposite Vikrant Massey in 'Aankhon Ki Gustaakhiyan'. Interestingly, Kapoor shared that she initially failed the audition but later received a call offering her the role. Reflecting on the journey, she admitted it was not a great feeling to be rejected, but she stayed persistent.

The upcoming romantic drama will test her on-screen range and marks a significant launch for the next generation of Bollywood actors. Despite being from a film family, Kapoor's experience underscores the industry's growing focus on merit and resilience over legacy alone.



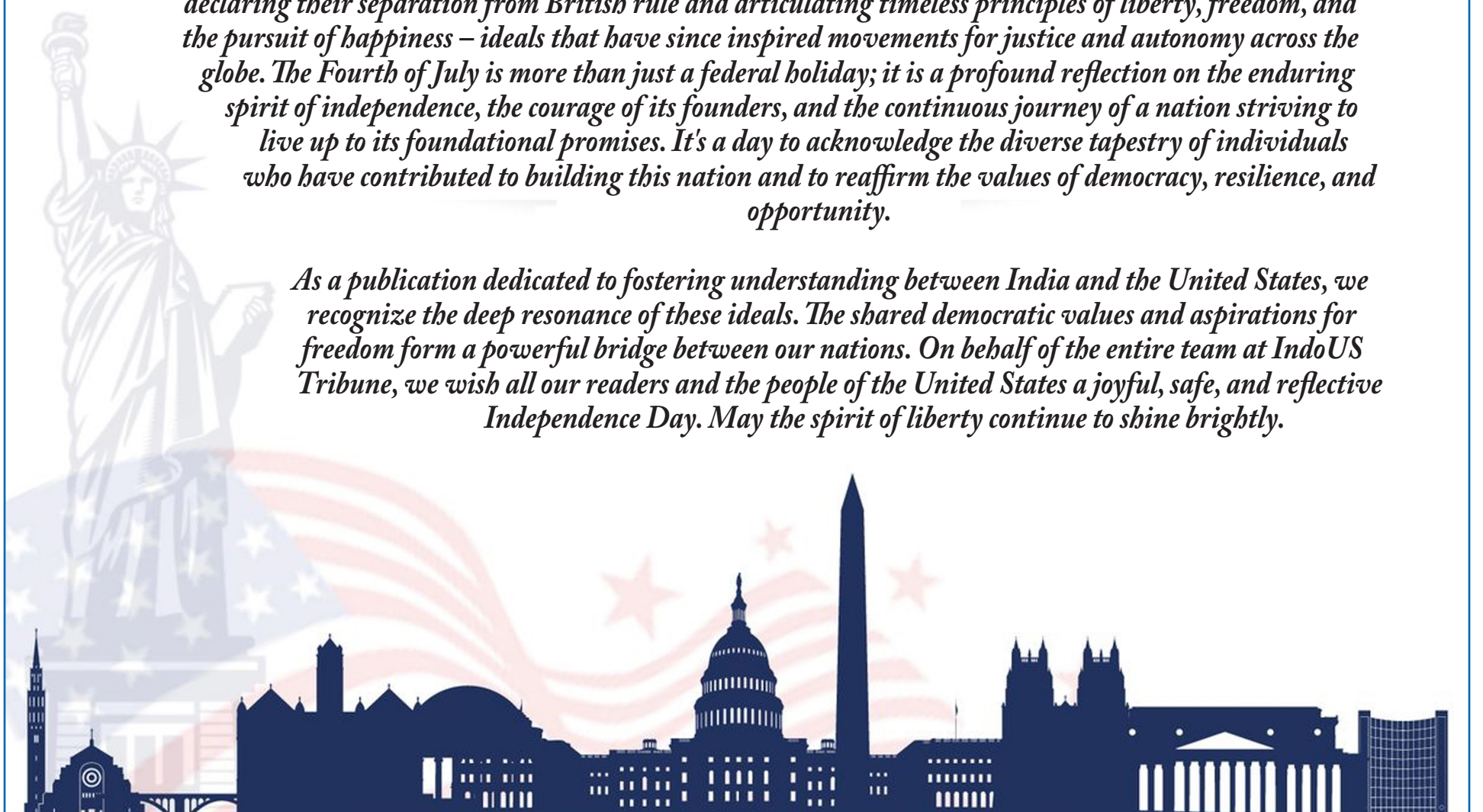


# HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY INDEPENDENCE DAY UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## From the IndoUS Tribune

*As the vibrant fireworks light up the skies and communities gather in celebration, the IndoUS Tribune extends its warmest wishes to the United States on this Happy Fourth of July! This historic day, July 4th, commemorates a pivotal moment in human history: the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. It was on this day that the thirteen American colonies formally asserted their right to self-governance, declaring their separation from British rule and articulating timeless principles of liberty, freedom, and the pursuit of happiness – ideals that have since inspired movements for justice and autonomy across the globe. The Fourth of July is more than just a federal holiday; it is a profound reflection on the enduring spirit of independence, the courage of its founders, and the continuous journey of a nation striving to live up to its foundational promises. It's a day to acknowledge the diverse tapestry of individuals who have contributed to building this nation and to reaffirm the values of democracy, resilience, and opportunity.*

*As a publication dedicated to fostering understanding between India and the United States, we recognize the deep resonance of these ideals. The shared democratic values and aspirations for freedom form a powerful bridge between our nations. On behalf of the entire team at IndoUS Tribune, we wish all our readers and the people of the United States a joyful, safe, and reflective Independence Day. May the spirit of liberty continue to shine brightly.*







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# वृंदावन यात्रा का दूसरा पड़ाव राधा रमण मंदिर — जहां शालिग्राम बने श्रीकृष्ण

**IndoUS Tribune की विशेष श्रृंखला "यात्रा और दर्शन: वृंदावन मंदिर" की दूसरी कड़ी में हम चलते हैं वृंदावन के एक दिव्य और चमत्कारिक मंदिर — राधा रमण मंदिर की ओर। यह मंदिर न केवल अपनी अलौकिक मूर्ति और जीवंत भक्ति परंपरा के लिए प्रसिद्ध है, बल्कि इसकी स्थापना और इसके गर्भगृह में विराजित मूर्ति स्वयं शालिग्राम शिला से प्रकट हुई मानी जाती है — जिसे भक्तगण आज भी जीवंत भगवान मानते हैं।**

**इतिहास:** जब शालिग्राम ने लिया श्रीकृष्ण का रूप राधा रमण मंदिर की स्थापना श्री गौरांग महाप्रभु (चैतन्य महाप्रभु) के प्रमुख शिष्य गोपाल भट्ट गोस्वामी ने 1542 ईस्वी में की थी। यह वृंदावन के छः गोस्वामियों में से एक थे।

किंवदंती है कि एक बार गोपाल भट्ट गोस्वामी को नेपाल से 12 शालिग्राम शिला प्राप्त हुईं। वे प्रतिदिन इन शिलाओं की पूजा करते थे, लेकिन उनका हृदय श्रीकृष्ण की मूर्ति की सेवा करने के लिए व्याकुल रहता था। एक दिन उन्होंने मन से प्रार्थना की कि हे प्रभु! यदि आप मेरी पूजा से प्रसन्न हैं तो मूर्तिरूप में प्रकट हो जाएं।

अगले ही दिन, जब उन्होंने स्नान कर पूजा प्रारंभ की, तो देखा कि एक शालिग्राम शिला ने स्वयं श्रीकृष्ण का त्रिभंग मुद्रा वाला रूप धारण कर लिया है! यह वही स्वरूप है जो आज राधा रमण के नाम से विश्व प्रसिद्ध है।

## राधा रमण: एकमात्र स्वयंभू श्रीकृष्ण मूर्ति

- ▶ यह मूर्ति 12 इंच ऊँची है और बिना किसी मानव प्रयास के स्वयं शिला से प्रकट हुई मानी जाती है।
- ▶ मूर्ति की आंखें, मुस्कान और सौम्यता अद्वितीय हैं — इसे देखने मात्र से ही भक्तों को गहन शांति और प्रेम की अनुभूति होती है।
- ▶ यह मंदिर वृंदावन का एकमात्र स्थल है जहाँ स्वयंभू श्रीकृष्ण विराजमान हैं।

हालाँकि इस मंदिर में राधारानी की कोई मूर्ति नहीं है, लेकिन पास ही एक चांदी की थाली में राधारानी की चप्पल रखी जाती हैं, जो इस बात का प्रतीक हैं कि वे सदैव यहाँ विराजती हैं।

## मंदिर की विशेषताएँ

- ▶ राधा रमण मंदिर की वास्तुकला राजस्थानी और बंगाली शैलियों का समन्वय है।
- ▶ यहाँ पूजा विधि अत्यंत विशुद्ध और पारंपरिक



है — मंगल आरती, श्रृंगार, राजभोग और संध्या आरती अत्यंत भक्ति भाव से होती हैं।  
▶ मंदिर में संगीत और राग-सेवा का विशेष महत्व है। वैष्णव भक्तगण यहाँ प्राचीन रागों में श्रीकृष्ण स्तुति करते हैं।

## भक्तों का अनुभव और श्रद्धा

- ▶ यह मंदिर अपेक्षाकृत छोटा होते हुए भी अत्यंत शांतिपूर्ण और दिव्य अनुभव प्रदान करता है।
- ▶ यहाँ दर्शन के दौरान लंबी कतार या भगदड़ जैसी स्थिति कम होती है, क्योंकि व्यवस्थाएं सुव्यवस्थित हैं।
- ▶ यहाँ के पुजारी अब भी गोपाल भट्ट गोस्वामी के वंशज हैं, जो परंपरा के अनुसार पूजा करते हैं।

## उत्सव और आयोजन

- ▶ नरसिंह चतुर्दशी: राधा रमण के प्राकट्य दिवस के रूप में मनाया जाता है।
- ▶ झूलन यात्रा, शरद पूर्णिमा, राधा अष्टमी,

जन्माष्टमी, और वसंत पंचमी यहाँ उल्लास के साथ मनाए जाते हैं।  
▶ राधा रमण मंदिर में होली के अवसर पर फूलों की होली अत्यंत प्रसिद्ध है।

## स्थान और पहुँच

- ▶ मंदिर वृंदावन के हृदय में स्थित है — मणिपुर मंदिर के पास।
- ▶ मथुरा जंक्शन ( 12 किमी ), आगरा हवाई अड्डा ( 67 किमी ), और दिल्ली हवाई अड्डा ( 200 किमी ) से पहुँचा जा सकता है।
- ▶ स्थानीय रिक्शा, ई-रिक्शा और पैदल रास्तों से मंदिर तक पहुँचना आसान है।

## सुधार की आवश्यकता: बढ़ती भीड़ और सुविधाओं का अभाव

हाल के वर्षों में राधा रमण मंदिर में भक्तों की संख्या बढ़ी है, लेकिन प्रशासनिक ढाँचे और सुविधाओं में

पर्याप्त सुधार नहीं हुआ है। यह आवश्यक है कि:

- ▶ वरिष्ठ नागरिकों और दिव्यांगों के लिए अलग पंक्ति की सुविधा दी जाए,
- ▶ संकरे मार्गों को विस्तारित किया जाए,
- ▶ भीड़ नियंत्रण के लिए प्रशिक्षित सुरक्षाकर्मी नियुक्त किए जाएँ।

इसके साथ ही, यह सुनिश्चित करना जरूरी है कि मंदिर की पारंपरिक पूजा पद्धति और पवित्रता बनी रहे।

## प्रेम, सेवा और भक्ति का अमूल्य केंद्र

राधा रमण मंदिर केवल एक मंदिर नहीं, बल्कि एक अनुभव है — आत्मा से आत्मा को जोड़ने वाला।

**IndoUS Tribune** की इस यात्रा श्रृंखला के माध्यम से हम न केवल मंदिरों के दर्शन कर रहे हैं, बल्कि उस भक्ति, अनुशासन और परंपरा की गहराई भी समझ रहे हैं, जो आज भी वृंदावन की आत्मा में जीवंत है।





# Shreemad Bhagwat Gita - As I understand

## Chapter Five: The yoga of renunciation of action

The central message of this chapter is — **Karma Sannyasa Yoga**. In this chapter, Lord Krishna beautifully and insightfully explains the difference between renunciation of action and performing action without attachment.



Rajendra Kapil  
Phone: 847-962-1291



**B**y now, Arjuna had gained significant insight into the concept of nishkama karma (selfless action), but a new question arose in his mind — “Which path is better — renunciation of actions or performing them without attachment?”

This chapter begins by addressing that very question.

Lord Krishna replies that both Karma Sannyasa (renouncing actions) and Nishkama Karma (selfless action) ultimately lead to the same destination — self-realization and liberation. However, He emphasizes that the path of Nishkama Karma is easier, more practical, and more applicable to daily life. It is a path of devotion and surrender. Let's try to understand these two paths more deeply.

### Renunciation of Action

Renunciation of action means the inner renunciation of the ego of doership. Whatever action you perform, do it with sincerity and full dedication, but surrender the result to the Lord.

Act as if you are merely an instrument, and the Lord is the real doer. This surrender of ownership and the sense of “I did it” is what defines karma sannyasa. Letting go of the ego that arises from achievement is the true Karma Sannyasa Yoga.

Lord Krishna explains this idea to Arjuna through various logical perspectives.

### Selfless Action (Nishkama Karma)

In nishkama karma, the person acts with full integrity and sincerity, but the action is done with equanimity, where both

success and failure are accepted equally. Such a yogi remains joyful and stable in both situations. This approach reflects the detachment and equanimity found in the words of Kabir:

**"Kabira stands in the marketplace, wishing well to all, He makes no close friendships, nor bears enmity with anyone."**

Similarly, Lord Krishna says in Chapter 2 of the Gita:

**"Karmanyevadhikaraste, Ma phaleshu kadachana. Ma karmaphalaheturbhurma te sangostvakarmani." (2.47)**

**Meaning:** You have a right to perform your duties, but not to the fruits thereof. Do not consider yourself the cause of the results, and do not be attached to inaction either.

### Renouncing the Fruits and Attaining Peace

**"Yuktah karma-phalam tyaktva shantimapnoti naishthikim; Ayuktah kama-karena phale sakto nibadhyate." (5.12)**

**Meaning:** The selfless yogi attains supreme peace by giving up the fruits of action, whereas one who is attached to the outcome becomes bound by it.

### God's Justice and Higher Wisdom

**"Naadatte kasyachit paapam na chaiva sukritam vibhu; Ajnaanenavritam jnanam tena muhyanti jantavah." (5.15)**

Here, Lord Krishna makes a profound statement:

The Divine does not accept one's sins or virtues; He simply observes the true intentions of the heart.

### As Tulsidas wrote in the Ramcharitmanas:

**"The one with a pure mind alone attains Me — I do not delight in deception or pretentiousness."**

Sometimes, even if a devotee acts wrongly in anger but with a pure heart, the Lord still accepts it with love.

In one instance from the Ramayana, even when Sage Narada cursed Lord Rama out of anger, Lord Rama humbly accepted the curse and incarnated as a human to fulfill it — because Narada's bhava (devotional intention) was pure.

### The Yoga of Equanimity

**"Ihaiva tairjitah sargo yesham samye sthitam manah;**

**Nirdosham hi samam brahma tasmad brahmani te sthitah." (5.19)**

This verse explains samattva — the state of equanimity. In simple terms, this means remaining steady in both joy and sorrow, gain and loss, heat and cold.

An ordinary person becomes elated in pleasure and broken in pain. But a wise person understands that both are temporary. Hence, such people surrender everything to God and lead a blissful, untroubled life.

They place full faith in the divine plan and do not become disturbed. These yogis,

who have conquered their senses and dedicated their every act to the Lord, are the dearest to God.

And for such devotees, Lord Krishna takes personal responsibility for their wellbeing. In the final chapter of the Gita, Krishna makes a solemn declaration:

**"Sarva-dharman parityajya mam ekam sharanam vraja; Aham tva sarva-papebhyo mokshayishyami ma shuchah."**

**Meaning:** Renounce all duties and come to Me alone for refuge. I shall liberate you from all sins; do not grieve.

Surrender all your actions to Me with full faith — I will liberate you and carry all your burdens.

### The Final Message

**"Bhoktaram yajna-tapasam sarva-loka-maheshvaram;**

**Suhridam sarva-bhutanam jnatva mam shantim ricchhati." (5.29)**

Lord Krishna tells Arjuna: When a soul realizes that I am the enjoyer of all sacrifices and penance, the Supreme Ruler of all worlds, and the true well-wisher of every living being, then that soul attains supreme peace.

In the end, selfless action, equanimity, and complete surrender to the Divine are the true essence of spiritual life. This is the heart of Karma Sannyasa Yoga.

My heartfelt salutations to all lovers of the Gita. Jai Shri Krishna!

**Jai Shri Krishna!!**



# Bharatiya Senior Citizens of Chicago hosts fun summer picnic in Warrenville

By: Jayanti Oza

The Bharatiya Senior Citizens of Chicago (BSC) held their annual summer picnic on Sunday, June 29, 2025, at St. James Farm in Warrenville. More than 900 members gathered for a day filled with music, games, and community bonding. The event began with breakfast, followed by a lively atmosphere of DJ music and interactive games such as musical chairs, lemon-and-spoon races, water balloon tosses, and bingo. Prizes were awarded to winners by BSC President Haribhai Patel and Managing Trustee Parsottambhai Pandya.

Lunch and dinner were served during the day, providing members with hearty meals and refreshments to beat the heat. Despite the 99°F temperature, attendees participated with enthusiasm and made the most of the day. At the conclusion of the picnic, BSC leadership thanked all sponsors, volunteers, and committee members for their support in organizing the successful event.



BSC members resting under trees to stay cool in the humid weather



Volunteers managing food service efficiently during peak hours



Members enjoying the water balloon game despite the high temperatures



Committee members distributing picnic wristbands at the registration desk

# Hundreds gather in Chicago for Satsang and self-realization sessions with Pujya Deepakbhai

By: Jayanti Oza

The Dada Bhagwan Pariwar of Greater Chicago hosted a two-day spiritual seminar centered on Self Realization, featuring Satsang and Gnanvidhi sessions led by Pujya Deepakbhai Desai, the spiritual head of the Dada Bhagwan Foundation.

Held at YDS Chicago in Schaumburg on June 26 and 27, 2025, the event welcomed over 500 participants each

day from across Chicagoland and beyond. During the sessions, attendees engaged deeply with topics like inner peace, overcoming negative thoughts, and attaining lasting happiness through self-knowledge (Atma-Gnan).

The highlight of the event was the Gnanvidhi ceremony, which aims to help seekers break free from the false belief that they are merely the body or mind, and instead realize their true nature as pure souls — a foundational step toward liberation.





# Shreeji Dwar Haveli marks 17th Patotsav with devotion and community spirit



By: Prachi Jaitly

**S**hreeji Dwar Haveli in Addison, Illinois, celebrated its 17th Patotsav (temple anniversary) with spiritual fervor and vibrant community participation. The celebration united hundreds of Vaishnavs from across the Chicago area, reaffirming the temple's role as a beacon of devotion and cultural heritage. Acharya Goswami 108 Shree Madhusudan Lalji Mahoday, fondly known as Shree Tilak Bawa, was specially invited from Ahmedabad, India, by Dr. Umangbhai Patel, Chairman of the Haveli, to lead the celebration.

The day opened with a grand Shobhayatra—a devotional procession featuring singing, traditional dance, and drums—as devotees accompanied the sacred image of Shreeji through the temple grounds. Ceremonies such as the Flower

Mandal Manorath, Tilak ritual, and Rajbhog Aarti were performed by Shree Tilak Bawa, who also led an inspiring Vachanamrut on the virtues of Vivek, Dhairya, and Ashray.

Youth from the VYOE and Tavasmi group enriched the program with Yamunashtak recitations, a presentation on Pushtimarg principles, and a dramatic performance on the life of Shree Vallabhacharyaji. Shree Tilak Bawa praised their dedication and encouraged future participation.

The event culminated with Shayan Aarti and Mahaprasad, bringing a serene close to a spiritually uplifting day. Thanks to the combined efforts of temple trustees, volunteers, and families, the 17th Patotsav stood as a powerful testament to enduring faith and unity within the Vaishnav community.





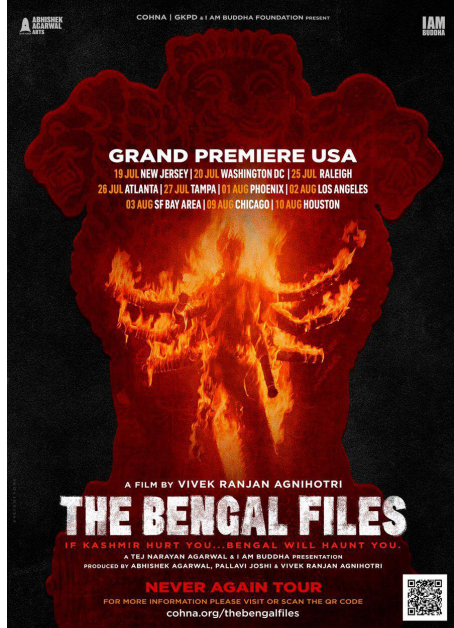
# Global Indian Diaspora Foundation to host exclusive pre-release screening of Vivek Agnihotri's 'The Bengal Files' in Chicago

By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

The Global Indian Diaspora Foundation (GIDF), a prominent nonprofit committed to cultural preservation and historical awareness, is set to host an exclusive pre-release screening of filmmaker Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri's much-anticipated new film, 'The Bengal Files,' on Saturday, August 9, 2025, at AMC Naperville in suburban Chicago.

Directed by Agnihotri—renowned for thought-provoking films like 'The Kashmir Files' and 'The Tashkent Files'—'The Bengal Files' delves into the chilling and often-suppressed history of Direct Action Day and the Great Calcutta Killings of 1946. The film sheds light on the communal violence that unfolded in Bengal, including the Noakhali riots—events that significantly shaped the narrative of India's independence and partition but remain marginalized in mainstream discourse.

"This film is a cinematic thunderstorm—a piercing mirror to our history," said Rakesh Malhotra, President of GIDF. "The Bengal



Files' doesn't just recount a forgotten chapter—it demands reflection. As a community, it is our responsibility to bear witness to this truth."

Abhinav Raina, General Secretary of GIDF, emphasized the purpose behind the screening: "This exclusive preview is not just about watching a film—it's about reclaiming our collective memory. We urge the community to be part of this important conversation."

The screening is part of the national 'One Truth. Ten Cities.' tour, organized in collaboration with the I Am Buddha Foundation, Coalition of Hindus of North America (CoHNA), and the Global Kashmiri Pandit Diaspora (GKPD).

These organizations share a common mission to uncover suppressed histories and promote cultural truth through education and the arts.

Speaking ahead of the screening, Director Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri stated, "If 'The Kashmir Files' hurt you, 'The Bengal Files' will haunt you. This is more than a film—it's a moral responsibility. We owe it to the silenced generations to speak their truth."

The Chicago premiere has received wide support from local and national organizations, including the Bengali Association of Greater Chicago, Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America (VHPA), Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS), Chicago Kali Bari, Federation of Indian Associations (FIA), Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation, and Indica USA.

Avatans Kumar, Director of Indica

USA—Chicago, praised the film's importance: "'The Bengal Files' tackles historical amnesia head-on. It gives voice to those erased from our textbooks and lost in silence. This film is a powerful act of cultural restoration."

The event will feature a red-carpet reception, keynote addresses from Vivek Agnihotri and actress Pallavi Joshi, followed by a post-screening discussion session to facilitate reflection and dialogue on the events portrayed in the film.

'The Bengal Files' will release globally on September 5, 2025, but Chicago-area audiences will get an exclusive preview nearly a month early on August 9—a unique opportunity to engage with the film and its creators ahead of the worldwide premiere.

**For tickets, sponsorship, or press inquiries:**

**Email:** admin@gidfoundation.org

**Website:** https://gidfoundation.org/events/

**Contact:** Rakesh Malhotra or Abhinav Raina

# IndoUS Tribune condemns shooting at Utah Krishna Temple as attack on faith and peace

By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

The Shree Sri Sri Radha Krishna Temple in Spanish Fork, Utah, renowned globally for its vibrant Color Festival, has been subjected to a shocking act of violence, with over two dozen bullets fired at its sacred premises. The IndoUS Tribune unequivocally condemns this abhorrent incident in the strongest possible terms, viewing it as a deeply disturbing attack on religious freedom and community harmony.

Over several nights in recent days, the temple building and its surrounding property endured a barrage of gunfire. On June 18, temple staff reported hearing a loud noise and observing smoke from the radio station roof, though the cause was then unclear. Days later, the grim reality emerged: a bullet hole was discovered in a temple window, with the projectile piercing a wall within the main worship area. Additional bullet holes were found in the temple's intricately hand-carved arches, resulting in thousands of dollars in structural damage. Approximately 20 shell casings were subsequently recovered from the road adjacent to the temple's security fence. Surveillance footage from the night of the shooting reportedly shows a pickup truck in front of the property, though no suspects have yet been identified. This



brazen act occurred while devotees and visitors were present inside the temple.

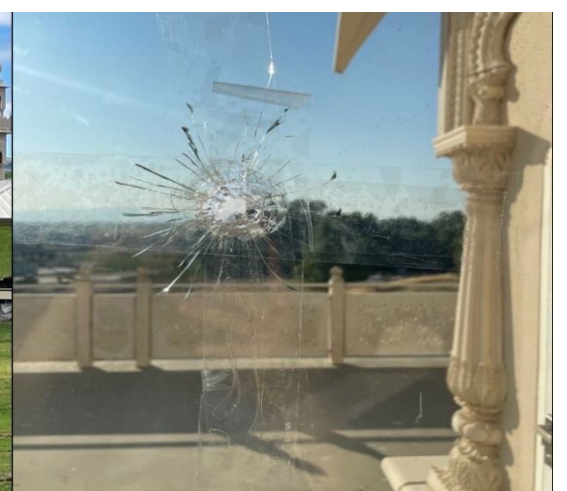
For decades, the Hare Krishna community in Spanish Fork has cultivated a strong and positive relationship with its neighbors in Utah County, fostering an environment of mutual respect. In the wake of the attack, expressions of solidarity have poured in from various community leaders. Monica Bambrough, Assistant Director for the Mount Nebo Communication Council for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and a friend of the Krishna Community, conveyed deep sorrow over "these senseless acts [that] have no place in our communities." She further highlighted gratitude for the temple's "teachings of peace" and expressed a commitment to

fostering ongoing relationships of "love, kindness, service, understanding, and acceptance." Other leaders from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have also visited the temple to offer their support.

The Utah County Sheriff's Office has launched an active investigation into the incident and has increased patrols around the temple grounds to ensure safety. In response, the temple administration is also bolstering its security measures. A security surveillance company in Springville, GARD, has commendably offered to deploy a surveillance truck to the temple site free of charge for two weeks. Temple officials are offering a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to an arrest and

conviction, urging local residents to report any gunfire in the area. Local media outlets are also assisting in appealing to the public for any relevant information.

This deliberate targeting of a place of worship is not merely an act of vandalism; it is an assault on the shared values of peace, tolerance, and religious pluralism that define a civilized society. The IndoUS Tribune stands in unwavering solidarity with the ISKCON Sri Sri Radha Krishna Temple and the entire Hindu-American community. We call upon law enforcement to swiftly bring the perpetrators of this heinous act to justice and urge all members of our community to remain vigilant and united against all forms of hatred and bigotry.





# Congressman Krishnamoorthi battles budget cuts, condemns political violence, and champions civil liberties in tumultuous week

● By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

In a week marked by urgent action and unwavering conviction, Illinois Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-8th) made national headlines by vociferously opposing a "cruel and reckless" Republican budget, confronting the alarming rise of political violence, and introducing key legislation to protect civil liberties. His determined stand underscores a commitment to working families and core democratic values.

## A 14-hour drive to oppose the GOP's "Large Lousy Law"

Demonstrating his resolve, Congressman Krishnamoorthi undertook a remarkable 14-hour drive from Schaumburg, Illinois, to Washington, D.C., after severe weather grounded his flight. His mission: to cast a crucial vote against the GOP's \$3.4 trillion budget bill. Officially named the "One Big Beautiful Bill," Krishnamoorthi aptly dubbed it the "Large Lousy Law," a name reflecting its devastating proposed impacts.

"This bill rips health care away from millions, slashes Medicaid, cuts food assistance, and hands billions to the ultra-wealthy," Krishnamoorthi stated, calling it not just bad policy but "a betrayal of working Americans." The Congressional Budget Office, a nonpartisan entity, estimates that over 17 million Americans could lose health coverage if this legislation, now headed to President Trump's desk, becomes law.

Key provisions include:

- ▶ Over \$1 trillion in cuts from Medicaid.
- ▶ Nearly 20% reduction in SNAP (formerly food stamps) benefits.
- ▶ Rollbacks of clean energy incentives.
- ▶ An estimated \$3.3 trillion added to the national debt over the next decade, much of which is intended to finance tax cuts and defense spending.

During his arduous drive, Krishnamoorthi even hosted a Zoom town hall from a rest stop, sharing his personal connection to the safety net programs he was fighting to protect. He emphasized his own family's past reliance on food stamps and public housing, stating, "These safety net programs made my family's American Dream possible. I won't stand by while they're dismantled."

## Standing up against political violence after personal threats

Earlier in the week, Congressman Krishnamoorthi addressed the House floor with a solemn condemnation of political violence, following a tragic shooting in Minnesota. The incident claimed the lives of State Rep. Melissa Hortman and her husband, while critically injuring another public official, State Sen. John Hoffman, and his wife. Disturbingly, Krishnamoorthi's own name was found in the suspect's notes, underscoring the chilling reality of escalating threats. "This was not a random act," he declared. "Political violence is no longer abstract. It is here, it is escalating, and it is an attack on our democracy itself."



He called for bipartisan unity, urging colleagues to condemn all forms of political violence and hateful rhetoric, stressing that "Our public institutions—and the people who serve them—must be protected, not targeted."

## Introducing legislation to curb presidential overreach

In a significant legislative move, Congressman Krishnamoorthi, alongside Representatives Haley Stevens (MI) and Salud Carbajal (CA), introduced the Stop Trump's Abuse of Power Act. This crucial legislation seeks to amend the Insurrection Act, aiming to restrict the President's authority to deploy active-duty military forces against peaceful

protestors without an explicit request from a state governor.

This bill directly responds to recent controversial incidents, including President Donald Trump's deployment of U.S. Marines into Los Angeles during protests and threats of similar militarized ICE crackdowns in Chicago. "No president should have unchecked power to use the military against their own citizens," Krishnamoorthi asserted. "Our armed forces exist to defend freedom—not suppress it." This act is designed to restore constitutional checks and safeguard the fundamental freedoms upon which American democracy is built.

## A week of action and accountability

Congressman Krishnamoorthi's intense week of activity in Washington clearly signals his unwavering commitment to protecting vulnerable Americans and preserving the integrity of constitutional democracy. From challenging austerity-driven legislation that would harm working families to confronting political extremism and championing civil rights for all citizens, his message resonates with clarity and conviction.

"I will keep fighting for working families, for democratic norms, and for a future where the American Dream belongs to everyone—not just the privileged few," he affirmed. His actions reflect a deep personal conviction, rooted in his own family's experiences, making him a leading voice for justice and fairness in these turbulent times.

# StandWithUs condemns Hinduphobic attacks on Krishna Temple in Utah

● By: Vandana Jhingan

In a powerful show of solidarity, the international education organization StandWithUs has strongly condemned a recent series of violent attacks targeting the Hindu community in Spanish Fork, Utah—calling them acts of "Hinduphobic terrorism."

Over the past month, the renowned Krishna Temple has reportedly been shot at in three separate incidents, with over 30 rounds fired, causing structural damage and instilling fear among worshippers. In at least one of the incidents, devotees were inside the temple during the gunfire, leaving the community traumatized and on high alert.

Peggy Shapiro, Director of Policy and Outreach at StandWithUs, condemned the attacks in the strongest terms while speaking to a Board Member and Senior Journalist



of IndoUS Tribune. "These hate-driven acts are intolerable and must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," she said. "We cannot allow this wave of Hinduphobia to grow unchecked in America."

Stand WithUs has urged local leadership and law enforcement to act swiftly to protect places

of worship and ensure the safety of religious minorities. The organization emphasized that hate and misinformation too often give rise to violence—whether against Hindus, Jews, or other communities.

"These acts are horrifyingly reminiscent of recent terrorist attacks on Jewish communities in Washington, D.C. and Boulder, Colorado," said the StandWithUs statement. "With antisemitism and Hinduphobia both on the rise, we reaffirm our belief that education is the most powerful antidote to hate."

The organization called on the United States and other pluralistic democracies to take immediate and effective steps to protect communities targeted for their faith or national origin.

"We stand firmly with the Hindu community in Spanish Fork and across the country," Shapiro added. "Freedom of religion must not be compromised

by fear and violence."

## About StandWithUs

StandWithUs (SWU) is a 23-year-old international, non-partisan educational organization that supports Israel, challenges misinformation, and combats antisemitism. The organization produces educational resources in multiple languages, conducts conferences and missions to Israel, and runs impactful programs like the StandWithUs Saidoff Legal Department and its student Fellowship and Internship initiatives.

StandWithUs also provides educational tools through its IsraelLINK middle school program, Holocaust Education Center, and K-12 Fairness Center.

Headquartered in Los Angeles, SWU has a global presence with chapters across the U.S., Israel, Canada, the UK, South Africa, Brazil, Argentina, and beyond.





# Prada reimagines the classic **Indian Kolhapuri chappal** for the global runway

**P**rada's Spring/Summer 2026 menswear show in Milan introduced a star item: minimalist, toe-ring leather sandals strikingly similar to India's traditional Kolhapuri chappals. Crafted in rich, natural tan tones with wicker

detailing and the iconic toe loop, these sandals transformed a centuries-old Maharashtrian staple into a luxury runway statement without heavy redesign—celebrating heritage through authenticity.

The silhouette retains its grounded rustic charm: flat, T-strap design, braided craftsmanship, and minimalistic flair. Prada's version is elevated with a polished finish and logo stamp, echoing the modern trend of blending artisan tradition with contemporary elegance.

This fusion exemplifies a shift in fashion narrative—where simplicity and authenticity become luxury. Yet, Prada initially offered no attribution, prompting a public prompt to credit its origins. The brand later acknowledged the Kolhapuri inspiration and expressed interest in collaborating with Indian artisans.

While the controversy over cultural credit remains, the inclusion of Kolhapuri design at this level underlines a growing appreciation of its timeless craftsmanship, and spotlights opportunities for ethical partnerships that elevate both style and tradition.



Ashwani Chadha's

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# Personal finance insights: News & Features

●

Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

SENTIMENTS

AAII Bull-Bear Spread -5.2% (below average). (Thursday-Wednesday)  
\$NYA50R, NYSE %Above 50-dMA 72.43% (overbought)  
\$SPXA50R, SP500 %Above 50-dMA 73.00% (overbought)  
Delta MSI 66.8% (positive)  
ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 5/31/25  
OEFs & ETFs: Stocks 60.61%, Hybrids 4.16%, Bonds 17.70%, M-Mkt 17.54%

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 3.97%;  
T-Notes 2-yr 3.73%, 5-yr 3.83%, 10-yr 4.29%; T-Bonds 30-yr 4.85%;  
TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 1.52%, 10-yr 2.00%, 30-yr 2.57%  
FRNs Index 4.240%  
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, 7/1/25

TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates  
Restricted RC 5.25%, RA 5.00%  
Flexible RCP 4.50%, SRA 4.25%, IRA-101110+ 4.50%  
TSP G Fund pending (previous 4.500%).

Weekly ETFs INDA +3.64%, EPI +3.57%, INDH +2.30%, SPY +3.47%

The data above are as of Sunday



preceding the publication date.

MARKETS

ISRAEL-IRAN mini-war (June 12-23, 2025) ended soon after the US "Daddy" joined the bombing raids on Iran on 6/21/25 & declared a ceasefire that seems to be holding. Many lives were lost & there was a lot of damage to military facilities & infrastructure. Global stock markets were resilient. Oil rose & fell; gold didn't react much.

ECONOMY

Trade talks for FTAs between India & the US, UK, EU are continuing. India-US trade agreement may not be done by July 9 & only a general agreement may be announced. Points of contention are that in exchange for lowering tariffs, India wants access to advanced US technologies & commitments from US companies on technology transfers & local productions (in India), but the US sees that conflicting with its America-First push.

FUNDS

Mutual fund (MF) industry in India is rapidly evolving. Several domestic & foreign companies, including some joint-ventures, are operating in this growing area. People buy them directly from MF firms (Direct Plans) or through advisors/brokers (Regular Plans). MF fees (TERs or ERs) are quite high but that will change as the industry grows. Structurally, the public MFs in India are distinct from retirement/pension funds & insurance funds. MF assets have grown to 31% of bank deposits. Traditionally, the Indian investors have stuck with real estate, gold & bank accounts/CDs. For comparison, the US MF assets are 153.26% (115.40% excluding money-market funds) of the bank deposits; the US ETF assets 57.10%.

SPECIAL TOPICS

Defense Ministers meeting at SCO in Qingdao, China failed to agree on a joint declaration due to objections from India.  
  
A second Indian in space, Shubhanshu Shukla, is visiting International Space Station (ISS) for 2 weeks. There have also been several Indian-Americans in space including Kalpana Chawla, Sunita (Suni) Williams (who was stuck at ISS for months instead of planned 2 weeks), etc.

TARGET-DATE FUNDS (TDFs)

TDFs are popular in workplace retirement plans (401k/ 403b/ 457) as these are allowed as default choices for auto-signup & -escalation. They are also available for use elsewhere in taxable & IRA accounts. These are funds-of-funds of active, passive or mixed funds that follow age-dependent GLIDE-PATHS of different tilts - conservative, moderate, aggressive.

Most firms include only their own/ in-house funds, so the TDFs become attractive as feeder funds for firms' other funds. Some firms include both in-house & external funds but these tend to be expensive. TDFs can be listed mutual funds (OEFs; regulated by the SEC) or cheaper, unlisted collective investment trusts (CITs; regulated by the OCC).  
  
There are "Through" TDFs that have about 50-50 allocation at the retirement date & then the equity allocation continues to decline to 20-40% over the subsequent 5-10 years; some firms eventually terminate & merge the series into a retirement-income fund. On the other hand, "To" TDFs become most conservative at the retirement date & the equity allocation remains unchanged in subsequent years.

There are various models for retirement plan fees - all-in-one fees or itemized fees (plan level, top TDF level, underlying funds). Many plans have been sued recently by employee or external lawyer groups for not including the cheapest fund classes in plan TDFs; after all, plans have millions/ billions in assets, so it is not reasonable for firms to include only expensive classes of funds within their TDFs.

SECURE Act 1.0 (2019) allowed annuitization option in company 401k at retirement within the framework of TDFs. These products require agreements between the fund firms & insurers. Rollout has been slow but now several firms are involved. Annuities have existed within school/ university/ nonprofit 403b for many years.

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.
- ▶ AI-Powered Adaptive Learning – Personalized study recommendations based on student performance.
- ▶ Question Banks & Clinical Case Scenarios – USMLE-style questions, explanations, and performance tracking.
- ▶ 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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# Smartphone pauses may predict Alzheimer's: Subtle behavior could offer early warning

By: Dr. Avi Verma

In a striking advancement at the intersection of neuroscience and digital health, a group of researchers has found that the way older adults navigate with smartphones may offer a crucial window into their cognitive health—possibly years before clinical symptoms of dementia emerge.

Published in PLOS Digital Health in January 2025, the study highlights a newly observed behavior: frequent orientation stops—short pauses to reorient while walking—could be an early indicator of cognitive decline, a known precursor to Alzheimer's disease.

The findings are particularly timely. With global dementia cases projected to triple by 2050, early detection is not just ideal—it's essential. But traditional tests often miss the earliest signs. This study, conducted by researchers at a prominent European neurodegenerative center, leverages the growing use of smartphones to collect real-world behavioral data in a simple yet revealing way.

## A real-world test using smartphones

To conduct the study, scientists recruited 72 participants, divided into three groups:

- ▶ 24 young adults,
- ▶ 25 cognitively healthy older adults, and
- ▶ 23 individuals who self-reported subjective cognitive decline (SCD)—a state of perceived memory problems without a formal diagnosis.

Participants were asked to navigate a university campus using a specially designed mobile app named Explore. The app initially showed a map with the participant's location and the destination. However, once the user began walking, the map disappeared—forcing them to rely on memory and spatial awareness to complete the task. The app passively collected GPS data every two seconds—tracking the participant's movements, pauses, and route choices. At each of the five designated



destinations, a QR code had to be scanned to confirm arrival.

## Orientation stops: A quiet red flag

While all groups completed the task, stark behavioral differences emerged. Younger participants navigated faster and more efficiently. Older participants generally moved slower, but it was the SCD group that stood out—they made significantly more orientation stops, particularly at intersections or unfamiliar junctions.

"These short pauses may seem trivial," said the study's lead researcher, a cognitive science expert in Germany, "but they could indicate early struggles with executive function and spatial memory—two cognitive domains affected early in

Alzheimer's progression."

Statistical modeling showed that just tracking the number of orientation stops could predict early cognitive decline in nearly 67% of cases—a level comparable to more complex, costly assessments using virtual reality or brain scans.

## Digital behavior as a diagnostic tool

What makes these findings revolutionary is the accessibility of the method. Unlike traditional lab assessments, smartphone-based tasks can be conducted remotely, anonymously, and without special equipment—making them scalable across communities and healthcare systems.

Crucially, this behavior (frequent stopping) was not associated with physical limitations like slower walking speed or distance covered, suggesting the issue is cognitive, not physical.

## Other benefits of this approach include:

- ▶ Passive data collection with minimal user effort.
- ▶ Higher frequency tracking over time, aiding longitudinal studies.
- ▶ Early alerts that may prompt follow-up testing or intervention.

## Caveats and the road ahead

The study's authors caution that subjective cognitive decline is a broad category—not everyone who experiences it will develop

dementia. Ideally, future versions of this research will include genetic markers (like APOE), neuroimaging, or longitudinal follow-up to improve accuracy.

Nevertheless, the potential is clear. With further development, smartphone apps could become daily-use tools for monitoring cognitive health—similar to how wearables monitor heart rate or sleep patterns today.

## Conclusion: A pause that speaks volumes

This study reinforces a powerful insight: what may seem like a subtle habit—pausing to think while walking—could actually be a red flag. And with smartphones already in the hands of billions, harnessing them for cognitive health monitoring is no longer a futuristic dream—it's a growing reality.

For the IndoUS Tribune readers and their families, this offers hope: a future where early detection of Alzheimer's could be as simple as walking with your phone.

Stay tuned for more updates in our Health Corner series on dementia, mental wellness, and digital breakthroughs.

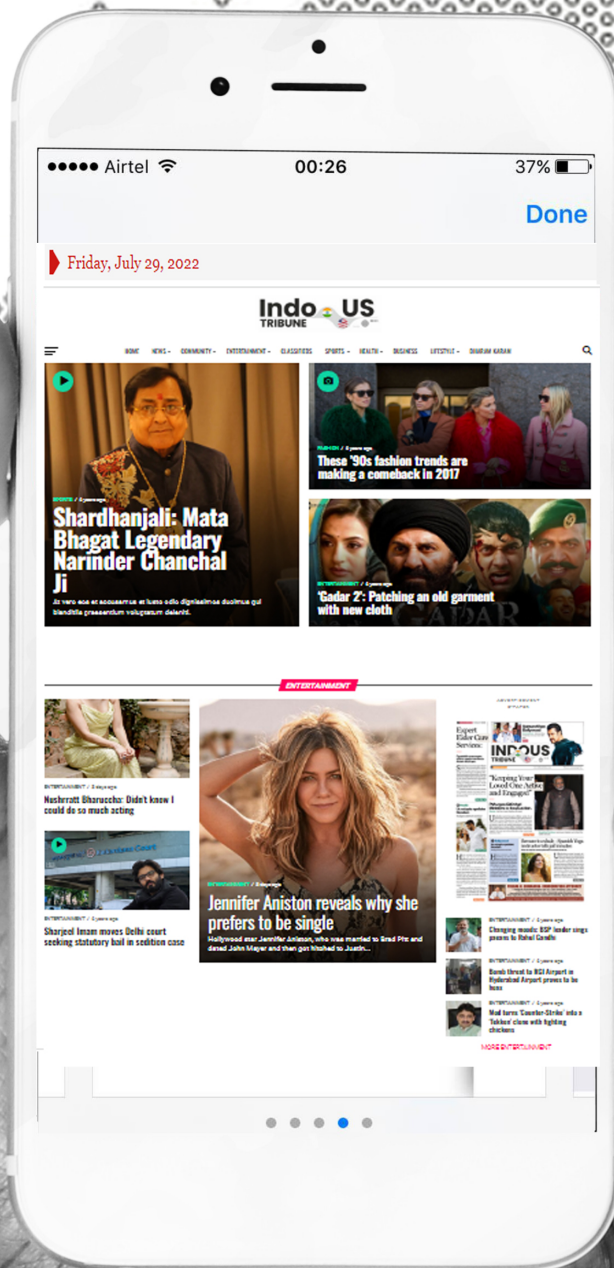
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