### Trump stays firm as US shutdown enters ninth day



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he U.S. government shutdown entered its ninth day on Thursday, with President Donald Trump refusing to reopen federal operations without a deal that meets his terms. "We don't want to have a gun held to our head," Trump said, signaling no immediate plans for talks with Democrats. Vice President JD Vance accused Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer of causing hardship for military families by blocking troop payments during the shutdown.

The closure has led to pay suspensions for military and civilian employees, with active-duty troops expected to miss their paychecks on October 15. Thousands of air traffic controllers are working without pay, resulting in major flight delays at airports in Chicago, New York, Denver, and Los Angeles. The Department of Transportation has halted training and hiring programs.

National parks, museums, and federal monuments in Washington, DC, and other states have also closed. This marks the first U.S. government shutdown in seven years and the second under Trump's leadership.

### Khalistan issue discussed during Modi-Starmer meeting in Mumbai



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

rime Minister Narendra Modi raised concerns over Khalistani extremism during his meeting with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer in Mumbai on Thursday, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri confirmed.

Modi stressed that violent radicalism has no place in democratic societies and must be countered through law and intelligence cooperation. Both leaders condemned terrorism and agreed to strengthen joint efforts against extremist financing and cross-border networks.

They also expressed condolences over the recent attack near a Manchester synagogue, reaffirming their shared commitment to zero tolerance toward terrorism in all forms.

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# India-UK ties strengthened through major trade, defense, and education agreements

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer in Mumbai on Thursday has brought India and the United Kingdom closer through a series of strategic agreements across trade, defense, and education. The two leaders committed to doubling bilateral trade to \$120 billion by 2030 under a comprehensive economic pact, covering goods, services, innovation, and intellectual property rights. Tariff reductions on key sectors such as textiles, automobiles, and whisky are expected to deepen commercial links.

In defense, both nations agreed to expand collaboration on air defense, joint military exercises, and training programs. The Royal Navy will participate in Exercise KONKAN, and work is underway on maritime electric propulsion systems for Indian naval platforms. A \$350 million deal for lightweight multirole missiles further strengthens security



cooperation. Education ties also received a boost, with the University of Lancaster and the University of Surrey approved to open campuses in India, fostering knowledge exchange and closer academic collaboration.

Prime Ministers Modi and Starmer

highlighted shared commitments to global peace, countering terrorism, and promoting maritime security, signaling a growing alignment of strategic, economic, and security priorities between the two nations. This meeting is being seen as a milestone in deepening the India-UK partnership.

### US lawmaker criticizes President Trump's anti-India policies, urges renewed engagement

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

S. Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove has sharply criticized President Donald Trump's approach toward India, describing his policies as "incredibly unfortunate" and counterproductive to American interests. Speaking during an interview, the California Democrat and ranking member of the Subcommittee on South and Central Asia said the administration's tariffs, visa restrictions, and diplomatic stance were undermining a decades-long strategic partnership.

Kamlager-Dove, one of 19 Democratic lawmakers who wrote to President Trump

on Wednesday urging a reset in bilateral relations, said Republicans had "stayed silent out of fear." She accused the President of adopting "erratic, xenophobic, arbitrary" policies that have "scared allies and weakened U.S. credibility."

She also denounced Trump's new rule linking H-1B visa approvals to a \$100,000 payment, calling it "a bribe that will hurt American innovation." The lawmaker urged renewed U.S. participation in the Quad and warned that strained ties could drive India closer to China and Russia. "Relationships need constant attention," she said. "The U.S.-India partnership is too vital to let it calcify."



### US to deploy 200 troops to Israel to oversee Gaza ceasefire deal



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

he United States will deploy about 200 troops to Israel to help oversee the Gaza ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas, senior American officials confirmed on Thursday. The task force all "observe and ensure" that no violations occur during the truce, which was announced by President Donald Trump on his Truth Social platform. Officials clarified that the troops will remain in Israel to provide logistical, engineering, and planning support, emphasizing that there will be "no U.S. boots on the ground in Gaza."

The ceasefire, approved by the Israeli government on Thursday after a two-year conflict, is expected to take effect within 24 hours. It includes a hostage-prisoner exchange involving about 20 Israeli captives believed to be alive and the return of remains of others. The American team, which will also include personnel from Egypt, Qatar, and Turkiye, will help coordinate humanitarian aid deliveries and manage security deconfliction efforts to ensure both sides uphold the agreement.

### Pakistan's ISI still backing jihadist networks in Kashmir, says report



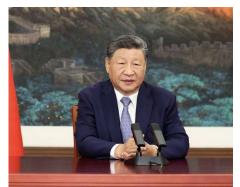
#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

new report released on Thursday has accused Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence of continuing to fund and shelter jihadist groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed operating in Kashmir.

The Afghan outlet Amu TV said these groups remain Pakistan's long-standing proxies for waging low-cost wars against India and Afghanistan. It noted that despite international bans, the outfits continue to function under new names, aided by ISI coordination.

Citing the 2008 Mumbai attacks as evidence of state complicity, the report urged tougher global sanctions and greater diplomatic pressure to end Pakistan's covert support for terrorism.

### Stockholm report blames China's expansion for Tibet's ecological crisis ahead of COP30



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

new report by the Stockholm Centre for South Asian and Indo-Pacific Affairs has warned that China's rapid infrastructure expansion, militarization, and unchecked resource extraction have turned Tibet into a zone of "extreme ecological stress."

Released ahead of the COP30 climate summit in Brazil, the Stockholm Paper urges the global community to place the Tibetan Plateau — the planet's "Third Pole" — at the center of climate policy, noting it is warming at twice the global average.

The study highlights that massive dam projects, mining for lithium and rare earths, and large-scale relocations of Tibetan communities have destabilized ecosystems and threatened water security for nearly two billion people in South and Southeast Asia.

Calling Tibet a "frontline of the global climate emergency," the report proposes a 10-point plan for transparent monitoring, transboundary water governance, and stronger environmental accountability across the region.

# India slams Pakistan at UN, says democracy 'alien' to Islamabad

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ndia has strongly criticized Pakistan at the United Nations, accusing it of misusing the global platform to spread falsehoods about Kashmir. Speaking at the General Assembly Committee on Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Issues this week, Indian parliamentarian P.P. Chaudhary said that "democratic traditions and values are alien to Pakistan," noting that its army chief had earlier described the country as a "dump truck."

Chaudhary said Jammu and Kashmir has made "astounding progress" under India's governance, improving the quality of life for its citizens. He accused Pakistan of diverting attention from domestic turmoil, including rigged elections and violent crackdowns on protesters. Last week, Pakistani security forces reportedly killed at least 12 people in Pakistanoccupied Kashmir during demonstrations

for government reform.

Chaudhary urged UN members not to be misled by Pakistan's "baseless" claims,

saying Islamabad continues to insult the intelligence of the global community by misusing the principle of self-determination for political propaganda.



# EAM Jaishankar urges balanced approach to AI governance

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

xternal Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, speaking on Monday at the Trust and Safety India Festival, emphasized the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence while urging a balanced and responsible approach to governance. He highlighted that AI will impact every citizen globally, reshaping economies, education, healthcare, and work practices. Jaishankar stressed that trust and safety must guide innovation, citing India's achievements in digital governance and public infrastructure. He noted that inclusive frameworks, indigenous tools, and self-assessment protocols are crucial for responsible AI deployment. The EAM also called for global collaboration on AI governance, drawing on India's leadership in initiatives such as the G20, Global Partnership on AI, and previous international AI summits, to ensure equitable, transparent, and ethical adoption worldwide.



# Bangladesh faces rising mob violence as rights abuses intensify

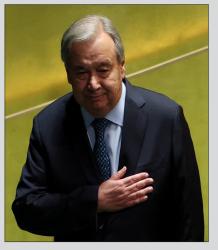
### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

angladesh is witnessing a sharp rise in mob violence, with at least 111 people killed in public lynchings over the past year, according to a report by the rights group Sapran presented in Dhaka on Wednesday.

Between August 2024 and July 2025, the study documented 195 mob attacks, 496 assaults on journalists, and over 2,800 murders. Experts said political impunity and weak justice systems have deepened public distrust. Rights lawyer Sara Hossain warned that minorities, women, and the poor remain excluded from policymaking, fueling social unrest and lawlessness across the country.



### UN chief welcomes Gaza deal, calls for two-state solution



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

nited Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres welcomed the Gaza ceasefire agreement announced on Thursday, calling it a "momentous opportunity" for peace between Israel and Palestine. The deal, brokered by the United States with mediation from Egypt, Qatar, and Turkiye, was unveiled by President Donald Trump as the first phase of his 20-point peace plan.

Under the agreement, Hamas will release all hostages, while Israel will withdraw troops from Gaza in stages. Guterres urged both sides to fully honor the accord and to allow "unimpeded humanitarian access" to the war-torn territory. He said the UN would support implementation of the deal and step up reconstruction and relief operations in Gaza, where most health and education infrastructure has been destroyed.

The two-year conflict has claimed more than 67,000 Palestinian and 1,250 Israeli lives. Guterres expressed hope that the deal could pave the way toward a two-state solution, ensuring peace, security, and mutual recognition between Israel and Palestine.

# China welcomes resumption of direct flights with India



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

hina on Thursday welcomed India's decision to resume direct passenger flights later this month, calling it a step toward rebuilding trust and cooperation. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said the move reflects "mutual understanding and goodwill" following the recent meeting between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Tianiin. India's Ministry of External Affairs confirmed that airlines are finalizing schedules to restart regular routes by late October. The restoration of air connectivity marks a gradual normalization of ties after years of strained relations due to the border standoff in Ladakh.

### Russian, Chinese and Vietnamese leaders in North Korea for party anniversary



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

op leaders from Russia, China, and Vietnam arrived in Pyongyang on Thursday to attend the 80th founding anniversary of North Korea's ruling Workers' Party. Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev, Chinese Premier Li Qiang, and Vietnamese Communist Party chief To Lam were among those welcomed by leader Kim Jong-un. Li called for stronger "socialist unity" while Lam discussed trade and agricultural cooperation. A large military parade is expected on Friday, with Kim emphasizing party discipline and loyalty as Pyongyang continues to expand ties with Moscow and Beijing

### Von der Leyen survives two no-confidence motions in European Parliament

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

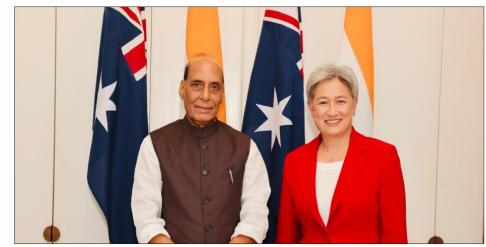
uropean Commission President
Ursula von der Leyen survived two
no-confidence motions on Thursday,
backed by centrist lawmakers in the
European Parliament. The motions, brought
by far-right and far-left groups over trade,
migration, and transparency concerns, failed
by wide margins. Von der Leyen thanked
members for reaffirming their support and
pledged continued focus on European unity
and security. Critics had accused her of
favoring U.S. trade interests and mishandling
asylum policies. The result secures her majority
but highlights growing polarization within the
European bloc ahead of next year's elections.

# Rajnath Singh, Penny Wong reaffirm India-Australia strategic ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

efence Minister Rajnath Singh met Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong in Canberra this week to discuss expanding the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Wong described both nations as "joint custodians of the Indian Ocean" and highlighted their shared commitment to a stable Indo-Pacific region.

The two leaders reviewed cooperation in defense, maritime security, technology, and trade. Earlier in the day, Singh also held meetings with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Richard Marles, marking the first visit by an Indian defense minister to Australia in 12 years.



Singh emphasized India's rapidly growing defense industry and its role as a credible supplier of advanced defense technology. Both sides agreed to deepen defense production and cybersecurity ties, as well

as expand joint exercises across all military branches. Singh will also participate in a business roundtable in Sydney as the two nations mark five years of their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

# Climate change linked to nearly 100,000 deaths from 2023 heatwaves, study finds

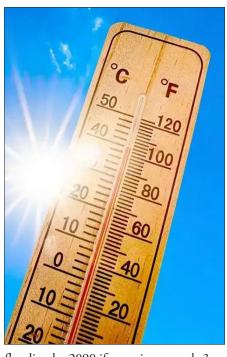
IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

early 100,000 deaths from last year's record heatwaves were linked to humaninduced climate change, according to a global study led by Monash University.

Researchers analyzed data from 67 countries and estimated 178,486 excess deaths in 2023, with over half caused by manmade climate change. The year was also the hottest on record, 1.45 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Southern Europe recorded the highest heatwave death rate, while most fatalities occurred across the Northern Hemisphere. The study urged urgent health and climate action to curb future losses.

Separately, Australia's National Climate Risk Assessment warned that over three million homes could face coastal



flooding by 2090 if warming exceeds 3 degrees Celsius.

## IAEA chief warns of rising risks after shelling near Zaporizhzhia plant



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he United Nations nuclear watchdog warned of "growing risks" at Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant after multiple rounds of shelling were heard on Monday afternoon.

The plant, which has been without off-site power for nearly two weeks, was forced to rely on diesel generators to cool its reactors. The International Atomic Energy Agency said two explosions occurred about 1.25 kilometers from the site, though no casualties or damage were reported.

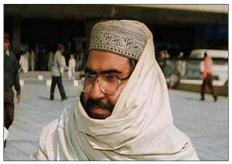
Director General Rafael Grossi called the situation "extraordinarily challenging" and urged both Russia and Ukraine to show maximum restraint near nuclear facilities while working to restore the plant's power connection.

### Rights group accuses Bangladesh's interim government of abuse of power

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

uman Rights Watch on Wednesday accused Bangladesh's caretaker government led by Muhammad Yunus of using anti-terrorism laws to detain political opponents. The group alleged that the 2025 amendments to the Anti-Terrorism Act have enabled arbitrary arrests of thousands of supporters of the former Awami League. It warned that these measures, combined with media restrictions and mob violence, could destabilize the transition to civilian rule. HRW urged the United Nations to intervene, stating that misuse of terror laws was eroding public trust and worsening Bangladesh's human rights climate.

### Masood Azhar launches women's wing of Jaish-e-Mohammed led by



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

aish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar has approved the creation of a women's wing named 'Jamaat-ul-Mominaat', intelligence sources confirmed on Wednesday. Based in Bahawalpur, Pakistan, the wing is led by Azhar's sister Sadiya Azhar and reportedly recruits the widows and wives of slain militants. Officials said the move follows heavy losses suffered during India's Operation Sindoor earlier this year. The group aims to train women in logistics and suicide missions, signaling a new phase in JeM's strategy to evade counterterrorism crackdowns while expanding its operational network.

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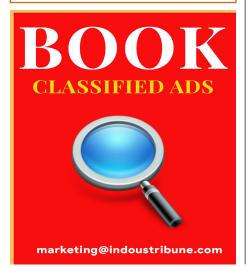
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# From Nehru's blunder to today's missed seat: India still paying the price for lost opportunities



### Dr. Avi Verma

ew decisions have defined India's global position as profoundly as Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's choice in the early 1950s to decline informal offers from both the United States and the Soviet Union — offers that could have secured India a permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). What Nehru viewed as a principled stand for Asian solidarity has, in hindsight, become one of independent India's greatest diplomatic blunders.

### A seat India could have had

In the post-World War II world order, India stood uniquely poised to play a leading role in global governance. Yet when the question arose whether India should replace the Republic of China (Taiwan) on the Security Council, Nehru refused. He insisted that the newly established People's Republic of China (PRC) rightfully represented Asia and that India should not appear as a rival power.

That decision proved tragically short-sighted. By supporting China's claim, Nehru surrendered India's best

opportunity for a permanent UNSC seat and empowered a neighbor that would soon turn aggressive — first on the battlefield in 1962 and now through persistent diplomatic obstruction. The very China Nehru championed today wields its veto to block India's legitimate bid for permanent membership.

### The legacy of misplaced idealism

Nehru's foreign policy, steeped in idealism — non-alignment, Asian unity, and moral diplomacy — often lacked strategic realism. His missteps on the UNSC, his handling of Article 370, and his failure to reclaim Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) share a common theme: sacrificing long-term national interest at the altar of moral symbolism.

When history offered India a chance to shape the global order, we chose posture over power. Seven decades later, India — the world's largest democracy and a rising economic powerhouse — still waits outside the chamber where global power is decided.

### India's renewed push and the roadblocks ahead

Since the 1990s, India has worked to reverse this historic setback. Aligning with Japan, Germany, and Brazil as part of the G4 coalition, and the L.69 group of developing nations, New Delhi has pressed for UN reforms to reflect 21stcentury realities. Successive governments have built strong support among the P5 — with the U.S., U.K., France, and Russia openly backing India's claim. Yet China's opposition remains the single largest obstacle.

Beyond Beijing's veto, members of the "Coffee Club" — including Pakistan, Italy, and Argentina — continue

to block expansion of permanent membership. Even within reform debates, disagreements over veto power stall progress, delaying justice for nations like India that have earned their place through merit and contribution.

### Why India deserves its place now

India's claim is undeniable. It is the world's most populous democracy, a responsible nuclear power, one of the largest contributors to UN peacekeeping forces, and a consistent voice for the Global South. Excluding India undermines the UN's very claim to be democratic, representative, and relevant.

A Security Council without India is not just incomplete — it is outdated.

#### A lesson from history

Nehru's 1950s refusal may have been born of idealism, but global leadership demands vision anchored in realism. The cost of ignoring that balance has been decades of exclusion, diplomatic frustration, and lost influence.

As the world transitions to a multipolar order, India's rightful place at the global high table can no longer be delayed. Yet, the road to that seat is still shadowed by the legacy of one man's misjudgment — when Nehru's misplaced idealism became the nation's enduring burden.

"It is time for the world to correct history and give India its rightful seat at the UNSC.'

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





### Sudan and South Sudan pledge to protect vital oil infrastructure

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

udan and South Sudan agreed on Monday to protect oil facilities and key pipeline stations transporting crude to Port Sudan. Both nations also committed to enhancing technical cooperation, boosting oil production, and improving border security and intelligence sharing.

The agreement followed a three-day visit by South Sudan's Foreign Minister Monday Semaya Kumba, who met Sudan's military leader Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan in Port Sudan. The two countries also announced plans to form a joint economic committee and establish a free trade zone at Port Sudan to facilitate investment, energy collaboration, and trade. Oil exports remain South Sudan's main revenue source.

### Netanyahu hails ceasefire as Israel achieves 'great victories' in Middle East



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

sraeli Prime Minister Benjamin
Netanyahu said on Friday that Israel
has achieved "great victories" that are
"changing the face of the Middle East,"
as a ceasefire with Hamas took effect in Gaza
at noon. The Israel Defense Forces confirmed
that troops withdrew to agreed deployment
lines to facilitate the release of hostages under
a deal backed by President Donald Trump.
Both sides approved a hostage-prisoner
exchange freeing about twenty Israelis and
returning the remains of others. Around two
hundred U.S. troops have been sent to Israel
to oversee the ceasefire implementation,
officials said.

# Moscow warns against U.S. plans to send Tomahawk missiles to Ukraine

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ussia has warned the United States against transferring Tomahawk cruise missiles to Ukraine, saying such a move could cause "irreparable damage" to bilateral relations. On Wednesday, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said Moscow is monitoring the situation closely and urged Washington to show restraint. The warning followed comments by U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance last week, confirming that the White House is considering allowing European allies to purchase and transfer the missiles to Kyiv, pending approval from President Donald Trump. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky reportedly discussed the proposal with Trump during their meeting on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly.

### Om Birla chairs technology and democracy workshop at Commonwealth parliamentary conference

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ok Sabha Speaker Om Birla chaired a workshop on "Leveraging Technology: Enhancing Democracy through Transformations and Tackling the Digital Divide" on Thursday during the 68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Barbados.

He highlighted India's leadership in democracy, inclusive growth, and human rights, citing contributions to the Commonwealth Youth Programme and Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation.

Birla also stressed India's achievements in climate action, including meeting carbon intensity reduction targets, advancing the Green Hydrogen Mission, and developing solar parks. He underscored progress in digital transformation, women and youth



empowerment, and citizen engagement. Earlier, Birla attended the conference's opening ceremony, which emphasized dialogue, cooperation, and shared democratic values.

The Indian delegation, led by Birla, arrived on Tuesday and includes key parliamentarians and secretaries.

# Colombian ambassador calls India a trustworthy partner and eyes stronger trade ties

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

olombia's Ambassador to India, Victor Hugo Echeverri Jaramillo described India and Colombia as reliable partners with growing potential for trade, investment, and cultural cooperation. He noted bilateral trade currently stands at around \$4.7 billion, with Colombia exporting more than \$3 billion in goods to India and India exporting \$1.4 billion.

Colombian exports to India include energy products such as oil and thermal coal, while Indian companies are active in pharmaceuticals, three-wheelers, services, and technology. Jaramillo highlighted opportunities for Indian firms to expand via Colombia's network of free trade agreements, which reach 1.5 billion consumers worldwide.

He emphasized the importance of



high-level political exchanges, citing visits by India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Secretary P. Kumaran, and encouraged collaboration in the audiovisual and technology sectors.

### Kim Jong-un assures Putin that North Korea-Russia alliance will continue

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

orth Korean leader Kim Jong-un, in a letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin, assured that the alliance between the two nations "will be invariably carried forward in the future." Reported on Monday by North Korea's KCNA, the letter congratulated Putin on his birthday and emphasized the "warm friendly relations and close comradely ties" between the countries.

Kim highlighted North Korea's support for Russia's "just struggle" and its contribution to the war in Ukraine, noting the deployment of 15,000 troops and weapons since last October. The letter follows a phone conversation between the leaders in August, where Kim reaffirmed his commitment to the



DPRK-Russia treaty and full support for Russian measures.

The communication underscores deepening military cooperation amid global geopolitical tensions.

### UN chief laments setback in women, peace, and security agenda



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

nited Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday expressed regret over the lack of progress in advancing the women, peace, and security agenda. Speaking at the Security Council's annual open debate, he said women remain largely excluded from peace negotiations and are facing rising violence and underfunding. Guterres noted that 676 million women now live within 50 kilometers of conflict zones, the highest in decades, with sexual violence against girls up 35 percent. He warned that gains achieved over 25 years since Resolution 1325 are being reversed and urged concrete action to empower women in peacebuilding and crisis recovery efforts.

### Powerful earthquake hits Philippines' Mindanao region

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

powerful offshore earthquake with a magnitude of 7.6 struck the Mindanao region of the Philippines on Friday morning, prompting tsunami warnings across coastal areas. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology reported the quake's epicenter about 62 kilometers east of Manay at a depth of 10 kilometers. The U.S. Tsunami Warning System said hazardous waves could affect coasts within 300 kilometers of the epicenter. Residents were urged to move to higher ground as one-meter waves were forecast along the Pacific coast. No immediate damage was reported. The Philippines lies along the Pacific "Ring of Fire," making it prone to strong quakes.

### Nepal families file complaints against former leaders over Gen-Z protest deaths

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

epal Police on Tuesday registered complaints against former Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli and former Home Minister Ramesh Lekhak, filed by families of victims from the Gen-Z protests on September 8 and 9. Nineteen people were killed in police firing during the demonstrations, which ultimately led to Oli's resignation and the formation of a new government led by former Chief Justice Sushila Karki. The complaints, forwarded to the High-Level Judicial Inquiry Commission, accuse the leaders of crimes against humanity and state offenses. Meanwhile, Gen-Z activists launched social media campaigns demanding arrests and called for the removal of senior officials. The situation has sparked political debates over accountability and the investigation of violence during the protests.

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### Judge blocks National Guard deployment in Chicago for two weeks



#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

federal judge on Thursday blocked the deployment of National Guard troops in the Chicago area for at least two weeks, ruling there is no substantial evidence of a "danger of rebellion" during President Donald Trump's immigration and crime crackdown. The decision is a win for Democratic leaders in Illinois, who have clashed with Trump over his plan to send troops to major cities. Governor JB Pritzker said, "There is no credible evidence of a rebellion in the state of Illinois, and no place for the National Guard in the streets of American cities like Chicago." The judge cited violations of the 10th and 14th Amendments. About 500 Guard members from Texas and Illinois were activated for 60 days and were already on the ground at an Army Reserve Center in Elwood and an ICE facility in Broadview. A hearing is scheduled for Wednesday to decide whether the order should be extended.

### U.S. scientists dominate 2025 Nobel Prize awards

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

merican researchers have claimed several of the 2025 Nobel Prizes, highlighting the United States' continued prominence in global science. The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to Mary E. Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell, and Shimon Sakaguchi for their work on regulatory T cells, which help prevent the immune system from attacking the body. Their discoveries have advanced understanding of autoimmune diseases, cancer treatments, and organ transplantation. Brunkow is affiliated with Seattle's Institute for Systems Biology, while Ramsdell has ties to UCLA.

In Physics, John Clarke of the University of California, Berkeley, Michel H. Devoret of Yale University, and John M. Martinis of the University of California, Santa Barbara, were recognized for experiments demonstrating macroscopic quantum phenomena in electrical circuits. Their research underpins advances in quantum computing, sensors, and secure communication technologies.

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to Omar Yaghi along with Susumu Kitagawa and Richard Robson for their development of metal—organic frameworks. These materials have applications in carbon capture, clean energy, and water purification.

The announcements, made this week, reinforce the United States' leadership in scientific innovation and its ongoing contributions to global research addressing health, energy, and technological challenges.

### California to phase ultraprocessed foods out of school meals by 2035



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

alifornia became the first state to begin phasing ultraprocessed foods out of public school meals after Governor Gavin Newsom signed legislation Wednesday. The law targets foods deemed "ultraprocessed foods of concern," which the state health department will identify by June 2028 based on health risks, addictive potential, and existing restrictions elsewhere. Schools must begin the phaseout by 2029 and complete it by 2035. The law defines ultraprocessed foods as those with additives and high levels of sugar, sodium, or saturated fat. Lawmaker Jesse Gabriel highlighted the health and emotional benefits of wholesome meals for children. The bipartisan bill reflects growing national interest in improving school nutrition, following similar moves in West Virginia and Texas.



John Clarke University of California, USA



Michel H. Devoret
Yale University &
University of California, USA



John M. Martinis
University of California,

# Biden preferred CIA not to distribute sensitive Ukraine report

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

resident Joe Biden strongly preferred that the CIA not distribute a sensitive report detailing his 2015 visit to Ukraine, declassified documents show. The report, declassified Tuesday by CIA Director John Ratcliffe, stated Ukrainian officials were "bewildered and disappointed" after Biden's December 2015 visit, expecting discussions on personnel matters, including Burisma Holdings, where Biden's son was employed. Biden instead delivered a

public speech calling for government and energy sector reforms. The report was marked "non-disseminated" and sensitive, intended for select recipients only. An email from a Presidential Daily Brief briefer confirmed Biden's preference that the report not be shared more widely. The findings reflect internal U.S. concerns about transparency and perceptions of corruption, though Biden's actions were legally permissible. Officials noted the report highlighted tensions over U.S. and Ukrainian governance expectations. The CIA declined to comment, and Biden could not be reached

# James Comey pleads not guilty to federal charges

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ormer FBI Director James
Comey pleaded not guilty
Wednesday to federal charges
of making a false statement and
obstructing a congressional proceeding.
Comey, 64, appeared in federal court
in Alexandria before Judge Michael
Nachmanoff and requested a jury trial.
The charges relate to his September
2020 testimony to the Senate Judiciary
Committee regarding authorization of
an anonymous FBI source. Prosecutors

allege Comey knowingly misrepresented information and attempted to obstruct the Senate's inquiry. A trial date is tentatively set for Monday, January 5, 2026. Judge Nachmanoff instructed both sides to agree on a discovery schedule within two days or submit proposals by October 13. The two approved charges carry a maximum sentence of five years in prison. Comey maintains his innocence and has suggested the case is politically motivated. Attorneys for the government and Comey are working to finalize procedural matters before trial.

# State Department fires diplomat over relationship with CCP-connected woman



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he State Department on Wednesday dismissed a diplomat who concealed a romantic relationship with a Chinese national reportedly connected to the Chinese Communist Party. The decision followed a review by President Donald Trump and Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who emphasized a zero-tolerance policy for any staff compromising U.S. national security. The diplomat's identity was not disclosed. The case highlights ongoing concerns over transnational repression, where foreign regimes exert influence abroad. Lawmakers, including Rep. Zach Nunn, have warned that Beijing is capable of intimidation campaigns, disinformation, and harassment on U.S. soil. The dismissal underscores U.S. efforts to counter CCP influence and protect national security interests.

# attorney general Letitia James on bank fraud charges

Grand jury indicts New York

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ew York Attorney General Letitia James, a Democrat President Donald Trump, was indicted Thursday by a federal grand jury in Virginia on bank fraud and making false statements charges. Prosecutors allege James misrepresented a Norfolk, Virginia, home as her second residence to secure favorable loan terms and illegally rented it to a family of three. James called the charges "baseless" and accused Trump of seeking political retribution. U.S. Attorney Lindsey Halligan said the case involves intentional criminal acts and breaches of public trust. James is scheduled to appear in Norfolk court on Thursday, October 24. Democrats condemned the indictment as Justice Department weaponization, while some Republicans defended the process.

### FBI, LAPD raid gang linked to Mexican Mafia in Los Angeles



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he FBI and Los Angeles Police Department raided the Rancho San Pedro gang, linked to the Mexican Mafia, arresting more than a dozen individuals in Southern California on Tuesday. Officials said the decades-old gang, with around 500 members, controls street gangs and criminal operations while enforcing Mexican Mafia rules. Eight of 14 federally charged defendants were taken into custody, with additional state charges pending. Charges include racketeering, drug distribution, and firearm violations, carrying potential life sentences. FBI Los Angeles Assistant Director Akil Davis said the operation would significantly disrupt the gang, while FBI Director Kash Patel emphasized that nationwide efforts, including "Operation Summer Heat," are dismantling violent networks across the United States.

### Former FDA vaccine chief Peter Marks joins Eli Lilly



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

r. Peter Marks, who previously led the FDA's vaccine oversight, has joined Eli Lilly as senior vice president of molecule discovery and head of its infectious disease unit, the company said Tuesday. Marks, who resigned from the FDA in April citing disagreements with Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., oversaw the accelerated approval of the first COVID-19 vaccines. At Lilly, he will advise on scientific projects across the company's portfolio, though the firm currently does not produce vaccines for the U.S. market. Marks' move follows a trend of former FDA officials joining pharmaceutical companies. Federal law bars former employees from participating in matters that could impact their new employer financially, and the FDA enforces restrictions to prevent conflicts of interest.

# Man charged with sparking Los Angeles' most destructive wildfire

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ederal authorities charged a 29-year-old man Wednesday with starting the Palisades Fire, one of the most destructive wildfires in Los Angeles history. Jonathan Rinderknecht allegedly ignited a small fire on New Year's Day that smoldered underground before reigniting six days later, destroying Pacific Palisades homes and killing 12 people. Rinderknecht was arrested Tuesday in Florida and appeared in court Wednesday in Orlando on charges including malicious destruction by fire. Wearing a T-shirt and shorts, he denied mental health issues. Investigators said Rinderknecht lit the fire after leaving a New Year's Eve Uber drop-off and recorded videos of the blaze. Authorities found a lighter in



his possession, believed to have started the fire. Los Angeles' interim fire chief said the department struggled with insufficient resources during the first 36 hours. A bond and extradition hearing is scheduled for Friday, October 17.

## White House denies plan to limit Social Security disability for older workers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he White House on Tuesday rejected reports suggesting the Trump administration plans to make it harder for older Americans to qualify for Social Security disability benefits. Reports had claimed age might be removed as a factor in determining an individual's work capacity. White House spokesperson Kush Desai said there are no such plans and emphasized that President Donald Trump supports Social Security. He highlighted the recent tax cut legislation, which reduced Social Security taxation for most beneficiaries. Social Security and Medicare trustees have warned that their funds could be depleted earlier than expected. The Social Security



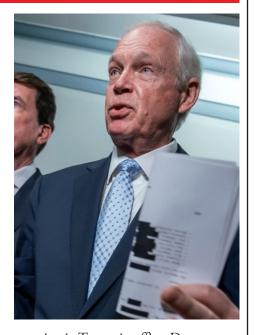
Administration is reviewing possible updates to occupational data and will request public comment once proposals are developed. Think tanks caution potential policy changes could reduce eligibility for older applicants by up to 30 percent.

# FBI tracked eight Republican senators in Arctic Frost probe

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

newly disclosed document shows the FBI monitored the cellphone activity of eight Republican senators during the Arctic Frost investigation, which examined alleged efforts to overturn the 2020 election. Senators tracked included Marsha Blackburn, Lindsey Graham, Bill Hagerty, Josh Hawley, Ron Johnson, Cynthia Lummis, Dan Sullivan, and Tommy Tuberville.

The FBI collected toll records showing call details but not content. FBI Director Kash Patel said employees involved were terminated and reforms were implemented to prevent future political surveillance. Attorney General Pam Bondi called the operation an unconstitutional abuse of power. Arctic Frost, initiated in 2022 under President Joe Biden, targeted alleged conspirators



to maintain Trump in office. Documents indicate 92 conservative organizations were also monitored, raising concerns of broad partisan targeting.

### White House hints some federal workers may miss back pay after shutdown



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he Trump administration has suggested that some federal employees furloughed during the ongoing government shutdown may not receive back pay, sparking criticism from Democrats and some Republicans. An Office of Management and Budget memo argued that a 2019 law guaranteeing retroactive pay applies only to essential workers required to report, not those sent home.

About 750,000 employees are affected. Lawmakers, including House Democrat Hakeem Jeffries and Senators Mark Warner and John Thune, condemned the stance, emphasizing that retroactive pay has traditionally been provided after shutdowns.

### Speaker Johnson open to paying air traffic controllers and military during shutdown



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ouse Speaker Mike Johnson said Wednesday he supports emergency legislation to ensure FAA air traffic controllers and military personnel are paid during the ongoing government shutdown.

He spoke alongside Senate Majority Leader John Thune, emphasizing the importance of timely pay for critical workers. FAA staffing shortages have forced slower air traffic at multiple U.S. airports, including Burbank, Las Vegas, Denver, and Boston, to maintain safety.

Controllers could miss paychecks scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 14. The National Air Traffic Controllers Association warned that while protests or job actions are illegal, the shutdown places workers under significant stress.

Airlines have noted the shutdown reduces efficiency and affects millions of travelers, highlighting the need for measures to maintain operations safely.

### Indian worker from Punjab dies in Canada construction accident



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

30-year-old Indian worker from Kapurthala district, Punjab, has died in a construction accident in Surrey, Canada. Manvinder Singh had been working in Canada for two years on a valid work permit when the accident occurred at a job site earlier this week. Authorities are investigating the cause of the incident. Singh's family and the local Punjabi community have expressed deep sorrow over his death. Efforts are underway to repatriate his body to India. The tragedy has once again highlighted the occupational risks faced by Indian migrant workers in Canada's construction sector, where safety issues remain a persistent concern.

### No update on Indian man captured in Ukraine while fighting for Russia

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ndia has received no official response from Ukraine regarding Majoti Sahil Mohamed Hussein, a 22-year-old student from Gujarat, who was captured while fighting for the Russian army earlier this week. Hussein appeared in a video released by Ukraine's 63rd Mechanized Brigade, claiming he joined Russia's forces to avoid prison after being jailed for drug use. His family insists he was misled into joining in exchange for academic leniency. Indian officials said communication may first come through Moscow if he is being treated as a prisoner of war. His family in Morbi has appealed to the Indian government for urgent intervention to ensure his safe return.

### Canadian theaters halt Indian film screenings after arson attacks

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

everal Canadian theaters have paused screenings of Indian films following a series of arson and shooting incidents over the past week. York Cinemas announced on Friday that it will not show Indian movies until further notice, citing the safety of staff and guests. Film.Ca Cinemas in Toronto also canceled South Asian film screenings after a suspect fired multiple rounds at its Oakville location on the night of October 2. Last week, the theater had faced an arson attempt, though the blaze caused minimal damage. Similar incidents have been reported across the Greater Toronto area and British Columbia. Some South Indian film distributors suggest these attacks may be part of a campaign to influence the market.

# India showcases Ayush and innovation at Russia's TIME Business Forum

#### Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

ndia's traditional wellness systems and innovation took center stage at the Tatarstan India Mutual Efficiency (TIME) Business Forum, which began on Wednesday in Kazan, Russia. The event highlighted India-Russia collaboration in health, technology, and banking, alongside cultural showcases and a friendly cricket match.

Led by Indian Ambassador Vinay Kumar, the delegation included officials from the Ministry of Ayush, the Telangana government, the Mayor of Agra, and prominent entrepreneurs and film personalities. Ambassador Kumar met with Rustam Minnikhanov,



Head of the Republic of Tatarstan, and announced plans to open an Indian Consulate in Kazan to further strengthen bilateral ties.

At the plenary session, Kumar highlighted India's rapid economic growth and opportunities for Tatarstan businesses, particularly in industrial corridors and skill development.

He toured the TIME exhibition with Tatarstan's Prime Minister Aleksei Pesoshin, viewing displays of India's Ayush traditions and joint ventures. Earlier, the ambassador inaugurated a Centre for Indian Studies at Kazan Federal University, supported by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

### Indian Mission in New York celebrates Diwali, honors visiting parliamentary delegation

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he Indian Mission in New York hosted a vibrant Diwali celebration on Thursday to honor a visiting 12-member parliamentary delegation. India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Parvathaneni Harish, led the event, which was attended by UN ambassadors, senior officials, and friends of India.

The celebration coincided with the conclusion of India's campaign for a seat on the UN Human Rights Council. Harish said India views the council's membership as both a privilege and a responsibility to advance global human rights through dialogue and cooperation.

Members of the delegation included Poonamben Maadam, PP Chaudhary, Vivek Tankha, Nishikant Dubey, and others. During their visit, they met with France's Permanent Representative Jerome Bonnafont to discuss cooperation between India and France at the UN. They also



interacted with Richard Gowan of the UN Crisis Group to discuss global challenges. Earlier in the week, delegates Vivek Tankha and Brijesh Chowta presented India's national statements at UN General Assembly committees on law and development.

## Indian-origin brothers jailed in U.K. for child sex crimes

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

wo Indian-origin brothers have been jailed in London following convictions for serious child sex offenses. On Tuesday, Snaresbrook Crown Court sentenced 26-year-old Vruj Patel to 22 years in prison for multiple child rape charges, while his brother, Kishan Patel, received 15 months for possessing indecent images. Detectives discovered the crimes after Greater Manchester Police found videos on a device sent for repair. The Metropolitan Police later confirmed Vruj Patel's identity through forensic and video evidence. Officers believe the abuse dates back to 2018 and may involve other victims. Both brothers are now subject to lifelong restrictions under the U.K. sex offenders register as police continue to appeal for additional witnesses.

### Calgary Mayor Jyoti Gondek seeks re-election amid rising Punjabi influence

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

algary Mayor Jyoti Gondek, the city's first woman and the first mayor of Punjabi origin, has launched her campaign for reelection ahead of the October 20 municipal vote. Her platform focuses on economic revitalization, housing affordability, and public safety.

Gondek, who made history in 2021, has pledged to strengthen partnerships with provincial and federal governments to secure infrastructure funding. Her leadership symbolizes Calgary's growing multicultural representation, particularly among Punjabiorigin residents who are increasingly active in local politics.

This election, seven Punjabi-origin candidates are running for city council,



including Reet Mushiana, Raj Dhaliwal, and Gurpreet Dhillon. Observers say Ward 5 and Ward 10, both with large South Asian populations, will be key battlegrounds.

Meanwhile, Edmonton's outgoing mayor Amarjeet Sohi, also of Punjabi heritage, is stepping away from municipal politics after losing a federal race earlier this year. Gondek remains among the frontrunners, with polls suggesting a close contest shaped by issues of safety, taxes, and city planning.

### Indian man in U.S. faces deportation after perfume mistaken for drugs



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

n Indian man in Arkansas is facing deportation after police mistook his designer perfume for narcotics during a traffic stop in May. Kapil Raghu, who was legally living in the U.S. and married to an American citizen, was arrested when officers found a bottle labeled "Opium" in his car. Lab results later confirmed it was perfume, and drug charges were dropped weeks later. However, immigration authorities revoked his visa over an earlier filing lapse. Raghu spent 30 days in detention, losing his right to work. His wife, Alhley Mays, now supports their family alone. Raghu's lawyer alleges police violated international protocols by not informing the Indian Consulate of his arrest.



# U.S. plans major overhaul of H-1B visa program



#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he Trump administration is preparing to introduce sweeping changes to the H-1B visa system, including a proposed \$100,000 mandatory filing fee. The Department of Homeland Security confirmed that the proposal, titled Reforming the H-1B Nonimmigrant Visa Classification Program, will be published in December. Planned reforms include tighter oversight on employers, stricter eligibility criteria, and tougher rules for third-party placements. The H-1B visa, which allows U.S. employers to hire skilled foreign professionals, currently has an annual cap of 65,000 visas with an additional 20,000 for U.S. master's degree holders. Nearly three-quarters of H-1B approvals in 2023 went to Indian nationals. Officials say the new measures aim to enhance transparency and protect American workers' wages.

### Texas man arrested for killing Indian student in Fort Worth

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

olice in Texas have arrested a 23-year-old man in connection with the fatal shooting of Indian student Chandrashekar Pole at a Fort Worth gas station on Friday night. The suspect, identified as Richard Florez, allegedly shot the 28-year-old while he was working a part-time shift, then fled before being captured. Officers recovered a firearm from his vehicle after he also fired at another car nearby. The Indian Consulate in Houston is assisting with repatriation of Pole's remains. The student had recently completed a master's degree in data analytics from the University of North Texas. The incident has reignited safety concerns among Indian students and immigrant workers in the United States.

### Indian motel owner killed by guest in Pennsylvania

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

51-year-old Indian-American motel owner, Rakesh Ehagaban, was fatally shot outside his property on Friday in Pennsylvania. Ehagaban confronted a guest, 37-year-old Stanley Eugene West, who had been staying at the motel for about two weeks with a woman and child, and was shot in the head. Prior to this, West had shot a woman in the neck in the parking lot; she survived and reached a nearby repair shop for help. West fled in a U-Haul van but was later tracked by police to East Hills, Pittsburgh, where a shootout injured a detective. West was apprehended and faces charges including criminal homicide, attempted homicide, and reckless endangerment. The attack comes less than a month after another Indian-origin motel manager was killed in Texas, highlighting growing safety risks for small business owners.

# Indian-origin veterinarian's memoir exposes racism in Canada's veterinary industry

#### Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

r. Hakam Singh Bhullar, a veterinarian from Punjab's Sangrur district, has released his memoir 'Underdog: A Veterinarian's Fight Against Racism and Injustice', recounting his 13-year struggle against institutional racism in Canada's veterinary profession.

After moving to Canada in 1991, Dr. Bhullar opened Vancouver's first low-cost animal clinic in 1995, making veterinary care accessible to low-income families and mentoring immigrant veterinarians. His success, however, drew backlash from the British Columbia Veterinary Medical Association (BCVMA), which subjected him to discriminatory barriers and inspections.

The conflict culminated in Canada's longest human rights trial, ending with a landmark ruling and a public apology from the BCVMA. The book details



shocking incidents, including a BCVMA official caught on video making racist remarks. Dr. Bhullar describes 'Underdog' as both a memoir and a call to confront systemic inequality. He says his story reflects persistence and faith in justice, urging readers to challenge racial bias in professional institutions.

# Indian Americans celebrate California's recognition of Diwali as state holiday

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ndian Americans across California celebrated on Tuesday as the state officially recognized Diwali, the 'Festival of Lights,' as a statewide holiday. Governor Gavin Newsom signed the bill into law over the weekend, making California the third U.S. state—after Pennsylvania and Connecticut—to honor Diwali as an official holiday.

The Indian Consulate in San Francisco thanked state leaders for embracing the festival's message of light, hope, and unity. Advocacy groups including the Coalition of Hindus of North America and the Hindu American Foundation praised the move as a milestone in cultural inclusion.

Assembly members Ash Kalra and Darshana Patel, who co-sponsored the bill, were lauded for their leadership. The law allows students to take the day off and grants paid leave to state employees



celebrating Diwali. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America hailed the decision as a historic recognition of Hindu American heritage, emphasizing that the festival's universal values now have a place in California's civic calendar.

# CBI joins Interpol crackdown on cybercrime, arrests eight offenders

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) announced Tuesday that it participated in Interpol's Operation HAECHI-VI, leading to the arrest of eight offenders involved in transnational cyber-enabled financial crimes. The global operation targeted crimes such as voice phishing, investment fraud, money laundering, and online sextortion.

Working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Department of Justice, and German authorities, the CBI identified 45 suspects and blocked 30 bank accounts linked to criminal activity. Investigators recovered around \$66,000 in cash from the accused.

The CBI said two offenders were caught



targeting American minors through social media, while others operated illegal call centers in New Delhi, Amritsar, and Siliguri, defrauding foreign nationals through fake tech-support schemes. The agency described the operation as a major success in dismantling organized cybercrime networks and reaffirmed its commitment to international law enforcement cooperation under Interpol's guidance.

### Pentagon beard ban sparks backlash from Sikh and minority communities



#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he U.S. Department of Defense has introduced a strict new grooming policy that effectively bans most beards in the military, except for elite special forces. Announced on Tuesday, the directive requires all branches to return to "pre-2010 standards," eliminating facial hair waivers. Civil rights groups, veterans, and religious freedom advocates criticized the move, arguing it forces Sikhs, Muslims, Orthodox Jews, and Black service members with skin conditions to choose between their faith or health needs and military careers. The North American Punjabi Association called it a "betrayal of trust" and demanded intervention from the Trump administration and Congress. Former Jathedar Giani Harpreet Singh highlighted Sikh soldiers' contributions in past wars. A 2022 federal court ruling had previously allowed Sikh recruits to maintain beards and turbans during basic training.

### Indian student from Hyderabad shot dead at Texas gas station



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

27-year-old Indian student was killed at a Dallas gas station on Friday during an alleged robbery, authorities said. Chandrashekar Pole, originally from Hyderabad, had completed a Bachelor of Dental Surgery in India and was pursuing a Master's in Data Analytics at the University of North Texas, Denton. He was working a part-time shift at the gas station when he was shot. The Dallas Police Department confirmed the investigation is ongoing, while the Dallas County Medical Examiner is conducting a post-mortem to release the body for repatriation. The Consulate General of India in Houston is coordinating with local authorities and Pole's family to expedite necessary paperwork. The incident has raised concerns about the safety of international students in parttime roles during late hours, following similar cases of Indian students facing violence in the U.S.

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### Singapore and Australia unveil upgraded strategic partnership



#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ingaporean Prime Minister
Lawrence Wong and Australian
Prime Minister Anthony
Albanese launched an upgraded
Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
2.0 on Wednesday during their annual
leaders' meeting in Canberra.

Wong, on a four-day official visit to Australia since Sunday, marked 60 years of diplomatic ties and a decade of the original partnership signed in 2015. The new phase includes 80 initiatives, 20 new agreements, and 11 policy dialogues spanning five pillars: peace and stability, economic connectivity, net-zero transition, innovation, and human capital development.

### North Korea's Kim urges naval buildup after inspecting destroyer

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

orth Korean leader Kim Jong Un inspected the country's new 5,000-ton destroyer on Sunday, calling for stronger naval capabilities to counter what he described as "enemy provocations."

According to state media on Monday, Kim visited the Choe Hyon destroyer during a military exhibition, accompanied by top party officials. He emphasized that the navy must be ready to "deter and punish" threats to national sovereignty.

The warship, unveiled in April, is equipped with supersonic cruise missiles and tactical ballistic systems. Kim said the country will continue expanding its naval fleet, including plans for another destroyer by October 2026.

# Belgium foils drone terror plot targeting prime minister

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

olice in Belgium arrested three people on Thursday in Antwerp for allegedly plotting a jihadistinspired drone attack targeting political leaders, including Prime Minister Bart De Wever. Federal prosecutor Ann Fransen said the suspects, aged between 18 and 24, planned to use a drone carrying explosives. A search near De Wever's home uncovered a partially built improvised explosive device and metal pellets, while another suspect's residence contained a 3D printer believed to be used for making bomb parts.

Two suspects remain in custody for questioning, while the third was released. Belgian authorities have heightened security as investigations into the potential terror plot continue.

### Maria Corina Machado wins 2025 Nobel Peace Prize, Trump misses out

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

enezuelan opposition leader Maria Corina Machado has been awarded the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize for her unwavering fight for democracy and peaceful transition from dictatorship in Venezuela. The Norwegian Nobel Committee announced the award on Friday, praising her as "a brave and committed champion of peace" who kept "the flame of democracy burning amid a growing darkness."

Machado, a central figure in Venezuela's pro-democracy movement, has long advocated nonviolent resistance and human rights. The Committee said her leadership exemplified that "the tools of democracy are also the tools of peace," and that she symbolized hope for a future where citizens' voices are heard and their rights upheld.

This year's Peace Prize drew global attention as U.S. President Donald Trump emerged as a high-profile contender,



reportedly nominated by several countries for his claimed role in mediating global conflicts.

The Nobel Peace Prize, awarded since 1901, has recognized 139 laureates to date, including 19 women and 28 organizations.

# Russia agrees to pay compensation over Azerbaijani jet crash

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ussian President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday that Moscow will compensate victims of the Azerbaijani passenger jet crash that occurred in December last year, after fragments from Russian missiles may have caused the tragedy. Speaking in Dushanbe during a meeting with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev, Putin said Russia's air defense systems were tracking three Ukrainian drones when technical malfunctions might have caused two missiles to self-destruct near the aircraft. He said fragments likely damaged the plane, causing it to crash.

According to the flight's black box, the pilot was advised to land in Makhachkala after what was believed to be a bird strike but instead



attempted to return to Kazakhstan. Putin said Russia would provide compensation and conduct a legal review of the case. Aliyev thanked Putin for his personal involvement and said the investigation would be conducted objectively. The Embraer 190, operated by Azerbaijan Airlines, crashed near Aktau with 67 passengers on board, killing 38 people.

# India warns of Khalistan networks shifting operations to the UK

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ndian intelligence agencies have warned that pro-Khalistan groups are likely moving their operational base to the United Kingdom following Canada's recent crackdown on extremist networks. Officials said on Sunday that Canada's improved cooperation with India, including the listing of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang as a terrorist entity, has forced separatist groups to seek new ground in the UK. Indian authorities believe that Khalistan supporters, though limited in number, may use Britain's free speech protections to expand their activities.

The UK Charity Commission recently allowed a British gurdwara to retain plaques with the word "Khalistan," while protests have frequently taken place outside the Indian High Commission in London. Indian officials said they are ready to share intelligence with the UK to curb these movements. As Canada



strengthens financial scrutiny of charities linked to extremist funding, Indian agencies believe the UK could become the next hub unless its government acts decisively. The issue is expected to feature prominently when Prime Minister Keir Starmer meets Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to India this week.

# Trump suggests Spain could be expelled from NATO



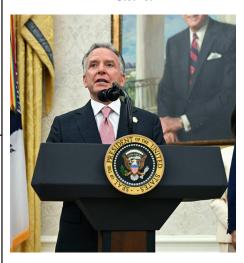
IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

resident Donald Trump said on Thursday that Spain should be expelled from NATO for failing to meet the alliance's new defense spending targets.

Speaking at the White House alongside Finnish President Alexander Stubb, Trump criticized Spain for refusing to raise its defense budget to five percent of gross domestic product by 2035, a goal NATO members approved in June.

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez rejected the target, saying it was incompatible with Spain's welfare priorities. Trump warned that Spain's resistance could have consequences, urging allies to pressure Madrid to comply.

### Trump's mediation efforts stall in Ukraine but progress in Gaza



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

resident Donald Trump's global peace efforts have produced mixed outcomes. His mediation between Israel and Hamas is showing progress toward a Gaza ceasefire, but his push to end the war in Ukraine has stalled. Russian President Vladimir Putin continues to demand recognition of territorial gains, which Ukraine refuses.

Putin's insistence on NATO's rollback and his rhetoric about "neo-Nazis" in Kyiv remain major roadblocks. Analysts say Trump's past criticism of NATO may have emboldened Moscow. While Trump's engagement helped open Gaza negotiations in Egypt, experts caution that his deal-making approach often lacks sustainable solutions.

### India to reopen embassy in Kabul and deepen ties with Afghanistan



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ndia will reopen its embassy in Kabul, upgrading its technical mission to a full diplomatic post. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar made the announcement during talks with Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi in New Delhi.

Jaishankar pledged new development projects, including medical aid, vaccines, food supplies, and earthquake relief materials. He also expressed concern over Afghan refugee repatriation and offered to help build housing for returnees.

India plans to expand scholarships, promote trade and mining cooperation, and enhance counterterrorism coordination to support regional stability.

### Pakistan's suspected airstrikes in Kabul raise border tensions



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

abul residents reported multiple explosions after suspected Pakistani airstrikes hit District 8, intensifying tensions between the two nations. Witnesses said aircraft were seen overhead before the blasts near key government buildings.

The incident followed remarks by Pakistan's Defense Minister Khawaja Asif, who warned Islamabad's patience over "terrorism from Afghan soil" had ended. Pakistan has not confirmed conducting the strikes, but the timing has fueled speculation of military action.

Mobile internet services were briefly suspended in Islamabad and Rawalpindi, while Baloch leader Mir Yar Baloch condemned the attacks as "state terrorism."

### French Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu resigns amid political turmoil

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

rance plunged back into political uncertainty on Monday after Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu resigned just weeks after taking office.

President Emmanuel Macron accepted the resignation following growing dissent within the ruling coalition and opposition over Lecornu's cabinet appointments. The new lineup, announced on Sunday, reinstated several former ministers, including Bruno Le Maire as defense minister and Roland Lescure as economy minister.

Lecornu, 39, had been appointed in early September after former Prime Minister Francois Bayrou's government was ousted in a parliamentary confidence vote. His short tenure was marked by protests and criticism from both the conservative Republicans and the far-right National Rally.

Analysts say Macron's decision to quickly appoint Lecornu last month aimed to stabilize his government but backfired amid accusations of political continuity. The resignation now leaves Macron facing renewed challenges in consolidating his leadership.



### Peru's Congress removes President Dina Boluarte amid political turmoil

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

eru's Congress voted to impeach President Dina Boluarte after mounting protests, corruption scandals, and rising crime. She skipped a late-night hearing where 118 lawmakers backed her removal, citing "permanent moral incapacity."

Congress leader José Jerí was sworn in as interim president and will lead a transitional government until elections in April 2026. Boluarte, who succeeded Pedro Castillo in December 2022, faced probes over undeclared luxury gifts in the "Rolexgate" scandal. Her term saw



widespread unrest, economic frustration, and growing gang violence. Peru now faces yet another leadership change—its sixth president in just nine years.

# Trinidad and Tobago gets U.S. approval to pursue gas deal with Venezuela

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he United States has granted Trinidad and Tobago permission to negotiate a gas development deal with Venezuela without risking sanctions, the Caribbean nation's attorney general announced Thursday. The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) license, issued by the U.S. Treasury Department on Wednesday, authorizes transactions that would otherwise be prohibited under existing sanctions against Venezuela.

Attorney General John Jeremie said the approval allows six months to finalize negotiations for the project, which involves developing a gas field in Venezuelan waters. He added that discussions will proceed under specific parameters aligned with U.S. policy toward Venezuela.



The gas project is seen as crucial for Trinidad and Tobago, which has faced declining natural gas output and rising budget pressures. Officials view the deal as a potential boost for national energy security and revenue generation.

### ICC convicts Sudan's Ali Kushayb for Darfur war crimes



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he International Criminal Court in The Hague has convicted Sudanese militia leader Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-al-Rahman, known as Ali Kushayb, for 27 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur.

Prosecutors said he led the Janjaweed militia responsible for mass killings, rapes, and torture in 2003–2004. The verdict marks the ICC's first conviction for atrocities in Darfur, where about 300,000 people were killed and millions displaced.

Abd-al-Rahman denied all charges, claiming mistaken identity, but judges found him guilty beyond reasonable doubt. Sentencing will be announced soon.

### Protests intensify in Morocco as death toll rises to three

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

orocco is bracing for a sixth night of protests after Prime Minister Aziz Akhannouch confirmed that three people have died during nationwide demonstrations over corruption and poor public services. On Wednesday night, two people were killed in the southern city of Lqliâa when security forces fired at protesters reportedly attempting to storm a police facility. The unrest began on Saturday following anger over the deaths of eight women in an Agadir hospital and has since spread to multiple cities. Youth group GenZ 212, organizing online, has urged peaceful rallies on Thursday. The protests have become Morocco's largest in years, fueled by frustration over inequality and World Cup spending priorities.

### Colombian president accuses U.S. of killing citizens in Caribbean strikes

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

olombian President Gustavo Petro has accused the United States of killing Colombian citizens in recent strikes on alleged drug-trafficking boats in the Caribbean Sea. Writing on Wednesday, Petro said a "new theater of war" has opened, claiming there were signs Colombians were among those killed. Since early September, at least four U.S. airstrikes have targeted suspected "narco-boats," killing 21 people. Washington has denied Petro's claims, calling them baseless and urging him to retract his statements. Two U.S. officials told the New York Times that Colombians were on at least one destroyed boat. Petro said the strikes, conducted under President Donald Trump's direction, were more about oil than narcotics.

### Haryana CM pitches state as global investment hub in Osaka



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

aryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini held high-level meetings with top Japanese companies in Osaka on Tuesday, promoting the state as a destination for global investment. He met executives from Minebea Mitsumi, Mitsui Kinzoku, and Nitto Seiko to discuss business expansion in Haryana. CM Saini also participated in an Investor Roadshow, highlighting opportunities in electric vehicles, electronics, semiconductors, renewable energy, technical textiles, IT, and emerging technologies. He emphasized connecting Japan's innovation ecosystem with Haryana's skilled workforce and described India-Japan relations as a strategic partnership underpinning regional prosperity. The visit aims to position Haryana as a hub for advanced manufacturing, research, and sustainable growth. CM Saini opened the event by greeting the Japanese audience in their native language.

### EAM Jaishankar bids farewell to Iran's outgoing envoy





IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

xternal Affairs Minister S Jaishankar received Iran's outgoing Ambassador to India, Iraj Elahi, for a farewell meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. The minister recognized Elahi's contribution to strengthening bilateral ties since his appointment in 2022. India and Iran share centuries-old relations, and the two countries have recently conducted annual Political Consultations in Tehran, discussing connectivity, trade, economic cooperation, and regional and global developments. The officials reaffirmed the importance of regular consultations, with the next round scheduled in New Delhi in 2026. S Jaishankar noted the ongoing commitment to deepen cooperation through multilateral frameworks, cultural exchanges, and high-level engagement, building on the India-Iran strategic partnership and long-standing people-topeople connections.

### UK Prime Minister looks to India's Aadhaar as model for digital ID system

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

K Prime Minister Keir
Starmer visited Mumbai on
Tuesday to explore India's
Aadhaar initiative as a
blueprint for a nationwide digital identity
system in Britain. Starmer met Nandan
Nilekani, Infosys co-founder and former
Chairman of the Unique Identification
Authority of India, to understand how
India developed one of the world's largest
digital ID programs. Downing Street
clarified that the discussion was not linked
to any commercial deals.

Starmer has emphasized that a central digital ID will simplify citizens' access to services such as schools, childcare, and public programs. Last month, he announced that digital ID cards will be mandatory for British citizens and permanent residents seeking employment. Unlike Aadhaar, the UK plan will not initially involve biometric data. Britain has not had compulsory ID cards since World War II, and a previous biometric ID initiative under Tony Blair was abandoned



after public opposition.

During his visit, Starmer and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi also discussed enhancing trade, technology, and investment ties. Agreements included establishing a joint artificial intelligence centre, an India-UK connectivity and innovation centre, and collaborations in renewable energy, health research, critical minerals, and climate technology startups to boost bilateral trade and economic growth.

### Sonam Wangchuk's wife meets him in Jodhpur jail, vows legal challenge

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

limate activist Sonam
Wangchuk, detained in
Jodhpur Central Jail for 11
days, was visited by his wife
Geetanjali for the first time on Tuesday,
accompanied by lawyer Ritam Khare. She
shared on social media that the detention
order will be legally challenged, noting
Wangchuk's spirit remains strong and his
commitment to Ladakh's rights resolute.

Wangchuk was detained on September 24 under the National Security Act following violent protests in Ladakh that left four dead and nearly two dozen injured. Clashes also resulted in a BJP office being set ablaze and several police officers harmed. Authorities allege Wangchuk incited violence, encouraged self-immolation, and committed financial irregularities.

Prior to his wife's visit, his elder brother



Tsetan Dorjay and Leh Apex Body legal advisor Mustafa Haji met him in jail. The Supreme Court has issued a notice to the Centre and Ladakh administration, questioning the justification for his continued detention and asking why he cannot be released immediately. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, representing Geetanjali, has requested formal access and sharing of the arrest order. The next hearing is scheduled for October 14.

# India and Maldives discuss military cooperation and regional security

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

efence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh met Maldives Foreign Affairs Minister Abdulla Khaleel in Male on Tuesday to discuss military cooperation, capacity building, and regional security in the Indian Ocean. Singh, on a two-day official visit, also met Maldives National Security Advisor Ibrahim Latheef and Minister of Defence Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon to explore training, equipment promotion, and emerging maritime challenges. On Monday, he co-led the 6th Annual Defence Cooperation Dialogue with Maldives, focusing on joint exercises and strengthening bilateral defence ties. The meetings reinforced India-Maldives



commitment to peace, stability, and security in the region. The visit follows September discussions between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Maldivian counterpart on development support and strategic cooperation.

### India and Qatar strengthen trade ties during ministerial meeting in Doha



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

nion Minister Piyush Goyal met Oatar's Minister of State for Foreign Trade, Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Sayed, in Doha on Tuesday, reaffirming India's commitment to enhancing bilateral trade and investment. The meeting followed up on August discussions in New Delhi, when a Qatari investment delegation visited India. Both sides discussed the proposed India-Qatar Free Trade Agreement and Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, aiming to double trade from \$14 billion to \$28 billion by 2030. Goyal highlighted collaboration opportunities in manufacturing, artificial intelligence, data centers, and financial services. During his visit, he launched India's Unified Payments Interface at Lulu Hypermarket in Doha, enhancing digital connectivity. Qatar has invested \$4 to \$5 billion in India, with additional investments underway.

### New controversy emerges over gold plating of Sabarimala yoga danda and rudraksha mala



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

fresh controversy has emerged at Kerala's Sabarimala temple over the gold plating of the Yoga danda' and 'rudraksha mala' adorning the Ayyappa idol. On Friday, it was revealed that Jayashankar Padman, son of former Devaswom Board president A. Padmakumar, carried out the work, reportedly on the instruction of the temple tantri. Questions have arisen over whether mandatory High Court approval was obtained. The items, originally taken from the sanctum sanctorum in 2018 for gold-plating, have no verified records confirming their return. The revelations link two sensitive temple gold-plating operations to the same team, amid ongoing probes into missing Dwarapalaka pedestals and lapses in oversight. One temple official has been suspended, and the SIT has six weeks to submit its report.



### Bihar elections 2025: Voters can show 12 alternative photo IDs besides EPIC to cast ballot

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he Election Commission of India has clarified that voters in Bihar whose names appear on the electoral roll can present any one of 12 alternative photo identity documents if they do not have an Electors' Photo Identity Card (EPIC). The permitted IDs include Aadhaar Card, driving licence, PAN Card, Indian Passport, health insurance or pension documents, service or official identity cards, and the Unique Disability ID Card. The ECI emphasized that being on the electoral roll remains mandatory to vote. Special arrangements will be made for women covering their faces, allowing identification in privacy with female polling officers. The twophase Bihar Assembly elections are scheduled for November 6 and 11, with counting on November 14.

### India becomes world's third-largest FinTech startup hub

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ndia has emerged as the world's thirdlargest FinTech startup ecosystem, raising \$1.6 billion in the first nine months of 2025, according to a report by Tracxn. The country trails only the United States and the United Kingdom in funding. Early-stage startups attracted \$598 million, up from \$555 million last year, while latestage funding declined to \$863 million. The period saw two \$100 million-plus rounds, including Groww's \$202 million Series F and Weaver Services' \$170 million raise, alongside 23 acquisitions, a \$2 billion Resulticks-Diginex deal, one IPO, and two new unicorns. Bengaluru and Mumbai remain key hubs, accounting for 52 percent and 22 percent of investments respectively. Analysts highlight continued investor confidence and sector resilience.

### Meghalaya CM urges peace after Assam border clash



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

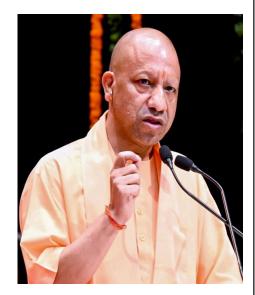
eghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma called for calm following a violent clash along the Assam-Meghalaya border that killed one person and injured several others. The incident occurred in West Karbi Anglong district when villagers from Meghalaya harvested paddy in a disputed area, sparking a confrontation with local residents. Speaking during a visit to Manipur, CM Sangma described the clash as "deeply unfortunate" and emphasized dialogue to resolve disputes. Security forces had been deployed anticipating tensions, he noted. The Chief Minister highlighted ongoing efforts to resolve the 12-point border dispute, of which six areas have already been settled through mutual understanding, and urged citizens to maintain peace and cooperate with authorities.

# CM Yogi criticizes Akhilesh Yadav for glorifying rioters, attacking social justice icons

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday accused Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav of sympathizing with rioters and distorting the legacy of India's social justice leaders. Speaking in Jalaun, CM Yogi said, "The SP chief sees communalism in saints and peace in rioters," and warned that those inciting violence or threatening citizens will face strict action.

During the visit, he inaugurated and laid the foundation for 305 development projects worth over \$230 million and distributed welfare benefits, calling the initiatives "a festival of development." CM Yogi also highlighted government achievements, including employment for over 2 crore youth through MSMEs



and 60 lakh under job guarantees, while cautioning against reviving caste-based and communal politics.

# Government aims for carbon neutrality in textiles sector by 2030

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he government aims to achieve a \$350 billion textiles sector target by 2030, including \$100 billion in exports, while moving toward carbon neutrality, Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh said on Tuesday. Speaking at a Ministry of Textiles and CITI event on World Cotton Day, Singh highlighted cotton as the soul of Indian agriculture, representing farmers' hard work and resilience.

He emphasized efficient water use, soil conservation, and renewable energy adoption to meet climate challenges. With India's productivity at 450 kilograms per hectare, initiatives like the Mission for Cotton Productivity and Kasturi Cotton aim to boost yields and sustainable fibers such



as milkweed, ramie, and flax. Minister of State Pabitra Margherita underlined India's potential to lead globally in quality and ethical textile production.

# Gehlot accuses BJP government of corruption and Jal Jeevan Mission failure

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ormer Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Wednesday accused the BJP government of corruption and mismanagement in the Jal Jeevan Mission. He noted that the 2024–25 target of 2.5 million new water connections delivered only 944,000, compared with 1.388 million under Congress in 2022–23.

For 2025–26, only 97,000 connections have been provided in six months against a 2 million target. Gehlot raised concerns over sidelining senior officers in the Public Health and Engineering Department while giving double charges to "favored" officers. He called for accountability and urged Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil, visiting on Friday, to question the state government. The mission aims to provide safe tap water to all rural households.



### West Bengal fast-tracks crop insurance for flood-hit farmers



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he West Bengal government has launched special registration camps across north Bengal to help flood-affected farmers quickly enroll in the state's crop insurance scheme.

Heavy rains caused rivers to overflow, submerging over 18,400 hectares of farmland, with Jalpaiguri worst hit at nearly 13,953 hectares. Officials are assisting farmers to expedite claims for paddy, maize, and vegetables.

State Panchayat Minister Pradip Majumdar visited affected areas on Wednesday to assess damage. Additional food supplies and 29 extra Sufal Bangla stalls have been arranged to support residents in the flood-affected districts.

### Punjab CM Mann and Kejriwal launch 3,100 stadiums scheme



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

unjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday launched a scheme to build over 3,100 modern stadiums with a Rs 1,194 crore outlay.

The project aims to channel youth energy positively, promote fitness, and provide training in football, cricket, volleyball, and other sports. Villages with larger populations are prioritized, with stadiums ranging from half an acre to four acres.

Mann highlighted Punjab's contribution to national sports, noting several Punjabis lead or play in national teams. The state has also appointed 300 coaches to support emerging athletes.

### Elon Musk settles \$128m Twitter executive severance lawsuit



#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

lon Musk has reached a settlement in a \$128m (£100m) lawsuit brought by four former top Twitter executives over unpaid severance after his 2022 takeover of the company. The executives, including former CEO Parag Agrawal, claimed they were terminated "without reason" and denied one year's salary and stock awards under an existing severance plan. The settlement, whose terms were not disclosed, resolves one of several legal disputes over unpaid severance at Twitter. Previously, Musk and X settled a separate \$500m lawsuit involving roughly 6,000 rank-andfile employees. Musk's acquisition led to the dismissal of top leaders and a workforce reduction of more than half, sparking multiple compensation claims.

### Alex Jones asks Supreme Court to block \$1.5 billion defamation ruling

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ight-wing conspiracy theorist Alex Jones has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to pause a nearly \$1.5 billion defamation judgment against him, which could force the sale of his Infowars media company. The ruling stems from his false claims that the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting was a hoax.

Jones argues that selling Infowars to The Onion to fund the payout would cause "irreparable harm" to him and his 30 million followers. His attorneys claim he should have First Amendment protections similar to journalists and warn that the judgment could create a chilling effect on media figures. The Supreme Court is expected to review his request privately on Friday.

### Rupee slips 3 paise to 88.78 against US dollar in early trade

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he Indian rupee weakened by 3 paise to 88.78 against the US dollar in early Thursday trading, October 9, 2025, as investors monitored US fiscal developments, trade tariff concerns, and foreign portfolio investment flows.

Forex traders noted that positive trends in domestic equities provided some support, limiting sharper losses. The rupee traded in a narrow range amid cautious market sentiment, with global cues and policy updates likely to influence its movement in the coming sessions.

# Jobless claims rise as U.S. government shutdown triggers contractor layoffs

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he number of Americans filing for new unemployment benefits increased last week as the ongoing government shutdown began to affect federal contractors, according to economists' estimates released on Thursday.

Initial applications for state unemployment benefits rose to a seasonally adjusted 235,000 for the week ending Friday, up from 224,000 the previous week, based on calculations by economists at JPMorgan and Goldman Sachs. Data from Hawaii and Massachusetts was unavailable, so economists made assumptions for those states. Citigroup placed its estimate at 234,000 claims.

Although official economic data collection has been suspended due to the



shutdown, states continue to gather and upload unemployment information to the Labor Department's database. The shutdown, now in its second week, has furloughed hundreds of thousands of federal workers and disrupted contractors, many of whom are temporarily laid off.

Economists said claims could rise further in the coming weeks but remain within a relatively low range.

# Gold and bitcoin surge as investors hedge against global debt and weak currencies

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

nvestors are rushing into gold, bitcoin, and stocks as mounting concerns over government debt, central bank independence, and weakening major currencies fuel what analysts call the "debasement trade."

The trend reflects fears that governments will not, or cannot, control borrowing without jeopardizing economic stability. Economists warn that political pressure on central banks to finance large deficits is eroding confidence in traditional flat currencies such as the U.S. dollar.

Gold reached a record high of \$4,000 an ounce on Wednesday, up 50 percent this year, while bitcoin has gained more than 20 percent since January, touching \$125,000 on Monday. Meanwhile, the dollar has fallen about 9 percent against a basket of major currencies since the start of the year.



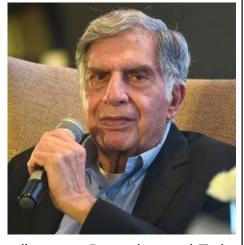
# A year after Ratan Tata's death, Tata Group faces internal divisions

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

year after the passing of industrial icon Ratan Tata, the Tata Group is struggling with internal disagreements within its charitable arm, Tata Trusts, which controls about 66 percent of Tata Sons.

The dispute reportedly centers on board appointments and governance, splitting the trust between factions led by Noel Tata and trustees aligned with Mehli Mistry, a close associate of the Shapoorji Pallonji family. The tensions became public after the Tata Sons board rejected the reappointment of Vijay Singh, who later resigned.

Since Tata's death on Wednesday last year, the group's market value has fallen by about 21 percent, losing nearly seven



trillion rupees. Despite the turmoil, Tata's legacy of ethical leadership, innovation, and philanthropy continues to guide the \$180 billion conglomerate and inspire generations of Indian entrepreneurs and business leaders.

### US extends \$20 billion support to stabilize Argentina's peso



#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he United States has taken the next step in its financial support for Argentina by purchasing pesos, as part of a \$20 billion plan to stabilize the country's currency, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent announced Thursday. The move strengthened the peso and Argentine debt in global markets but drew criticism in the U.S. amid domestic spending cuts.

Bessent stressed the support is not a bailout, highlighting the strategic importance of a stable Argentina to the Western Hemisphere. President Javier Milei, an ally of former President Donald Trump, thanked the U.S. for the assistance. Argentina faces rising inflation, a declining peso, and debt pressures despite Milei's austerity measures, which have won international investor support but stirred domestic discontent.

### Silver prices surge amid global economic uncertainty

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ilver prices rose sharply on Thursday, driven by strong investor demand amid global economic uncertainty and a weaker U.S. dollar. Traders cited rising inflation fears and ongoing geopolitical tensions as key factors boosting the precious metal's safe-haven appeal.

Spot silver climbed by 2.3% to \$28.45 per ounce, while futures also reflected similar gains. Analysts predict sustained volatility in silver markets, noting that industrial demand and investment flows could further influence prices in the coming weeks.

### BMW Ventures, Om Freight, and Glottis shares tumble up to 40 percent after listing

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

nvestor enthusiasm over recent initial public offerings has faded quickly as BMW Ventures, Om Freight Forwarders, and Glottis Limited saw their shares plunge as much as 40 percent after debuting on the market. Om Freight, which listed on Tuesday at 39 percent below its issue price of 135 rupees, ended the day down 36 percent despite its IPO being subscribed nearly four times. Glottis Limited, listed on Monday, opened 35 percent lower than its issue price of 129 rupees and continued to face selling pressure. BMW Ventures also disappointed investors, debuting last week at a 25 percent discount and falling 40 percent below its issue price. Nearly two-thirds of newly listed firms are now trading below offer prices.

Iraq signs initial deal with ExxonMobil to boost energy development



#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

raq's Oil Ministry signed a preliminary agreement on Wednesday with U.S. energy company ExxonMobil to advance the country's energy sector. The deal, described as a Heads of Agreement, sets the framework for ExxonMobil to operate in major oil fields, including the Majnoon field in Basra, one of the world's largest.

Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' al-Sudani said Iraq is committed to working with leading international firms to expand oil and gas production and attract new investments. ExxonMobil senior vice president Peter Larden thanked Iraq for fostering stronger cooperation and praised the country's progress in the energy industry. Oil exports account for about 90 percent of Iraq's national revenue.

### Carney and Trump discuss possible Keystone XL pipeline revival during Washington talks



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

anadian Prime Minister Mark Carney met US President Donald Trump in Washington on Tuesday, discussing trade, security, and the potential revival of the Keystone XL pipeline. Sources familiar with the talks said Carney raised the pipeline amid broader discussions on US tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminium, and Trump was reportedly receptive.

The Keystone XL project, approved in 2010 but blocked by the Obama and Biden administrations, would run from Alberta to Nebraska, carrying up to 830,000 barrels of oil daily. Construction began under Trump's first term but halted after Biden revoked permits. Calgary-based South Bow, which now owns the project, said it had "moved on" but supports solutions to transport Canadian crude. Discussions between government teams are expected to continue.

### Sunak takes paid advisory roles at Microsoft and AI firm Anthropic

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

ormer UK Prime Minister
Rishi Sunak has joined tech
giant Microsoft and AI startup Anthropic as a paid adviser.
Sunak, who remains MP for Richmond
and Northallerton, said he was "delighted"
to work with two leading tech firms and
plans to donate his earnings to the charity
he founded, The Richmond Project.

The Advisory Committee on Business Appointments has barred him from lobbying ministers or advising on UK contracts for two years. Sunak's role at Microsoft involves providing strategic perspectives on geopolitical trends, while his work with Anthropic is described as acting like an internal think tank. He previously set up an AI safety summit in 2023. Sunak emphasized that he aims to ensure technological advancements benefit





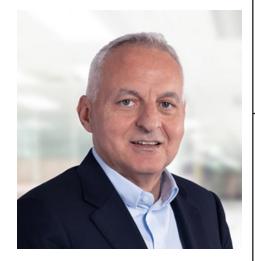
society and compared upcoming changes to the impact of the industrial revolution.

# Rolls-Royce aims to make India its 'home market' during UK Prime Minister's visit

#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

olls-Royce announced plans to make India a "home market" as part of UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer's visit to strengthen trade ties. The company's Chief Executive Officer, Tufan Erginbilgic, who is accompanying Starmer's delegation, said Rolls-Royce aims to expand its presence across defense, aviation, and energy by building local capabilities and fostering innovation.

Erginbilgic said the company wants to support India's Atmanirbhar and Viksit Bharat goals through strategic partnerships. Prime Minister Starmer called Rolls-Royce "a symbol of British excellence" and said its investment will drive jobs, growth, and deeper economic cooperation between the



two nations. Rolls-Royce said its expertise aligns with India's ambitions for self-reliance and energy independence.

# JP Morgan chief warns of higher risk of US stock market fall

### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

amie Dimon, CEO of JP Morgan, has warned that US stocks face a higher risk of a serious fall than the market currently reflects. Speaking to the BBC, Dimon said he was "far more worried than others" about a potential market correction over the next six months to two years, citing uncertainty from geopolitical tensions, fiscal spending, and global remilitarization.

Dimon noted that rapid growth in AI investments has driven much of the recent market rise, but some of that money could be lost, comparing it to the early adoption of cars and TVs. He emphasized the importance of Federal Reserve independence despite Trump-era criticism. Dimon also highlighted US-India trade negotiations aimed at reducing tariffs and reaffirmed his focus on maintaining JP Morgan's stability rather than pursuing politics.



### US provides \$20 billion lifeline to Argentina, buys pesos to stabilize markets



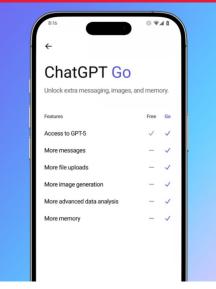
#### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

he Trump administration has finalized a \$20 billion support package for Argentina and directly purchased Argentine pesos, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said.

The move aims to stabilize financial markets after the peso's sharp devaluation following local election losses for President Javier Milei, a Trump ally.

The framework, a currency swap, allows Argentina's central bank to exchange pesos for US dollars, boosting liquidity. Bessent called the action urgent, though critics questioned it given Trump's "America First" policy.

### OpenAI expands low-cost ChatGPT Go to 16 more Asian countries



### IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

penAI has expanded its budget-friendly subscription plan, ChatGPT Go, to 16 additional Asian countries, bringing the total to 18 across the region. The move aims to make the company's latest AI model, GPT-5, more accessible, OpenAI said Thursday. Launched earlier this year in India and Indonesia, ChatGPT Go offers advanced tools such as image generation, file uploads, and data analysis at a fraction of the cost of other plans.

It is priced at Rs. 399 (\$4.50) in India and Rp75,000 (\$4.53) in Indonesia. The rollout covers nations including Bangladesh, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Nepal.

OpenAI said adoption in lower-income countries is growing over four times faster than in wealthier nations.

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## Cristiano Ronaldo becomes football's first billionaire

ristiano Ronaldo has become football's first billionaire, Bloomberg reports. The 40-year-old Portugal captain and Al-Nassr striker's net worth is now estimated at \$1.4 billion, including career earnings, endorsements, and investments. Between 2002 and 2023, Ronaldo earned over \$550 million in salaries, boosted by a decade-long Nike deal worth nearly \$18 million annually. His 2022 move to Al-Nassr reportedly made him the highest-paid footballer in history, with a £177 million annual salary, followed by a two-year extension valued at over \$400 million. By comparison, Lionel Messi has earned \$600 million in career salaries, with a \$20 million annual salary since 2023, and is expected to receive a stake in Inter Miami after retirement. Ronaldo's financial milestone underscores his unmatched success on and off the pitch.

### Aishwarya Pissay set for historic Rallye du Maroc appearance



ollowing her historic win at the BP Ultimate Rally-Raid Portugal 2025, Aishwarya Pissay is set to become the first Asian and Indian woman to compete in the Rallye du Maroc. The 26th edition of the rally, running from Fez to Erfoud, covers 2,299 kilometers, including 1,478 kilometers of competitive special stages.

Pissay, competing in the W2RC Rally2 – Women's category, will face 229 entries, including 120 championship riders. "After Portugal, my confidence is high. Rallye du Maroc is one of the most demanding events on the W2RC calendar. I'm here to learn, evolve, and push my limits," she said. The rally's challenging dunes, rocky terrain, and navigation tests also serve as preparation for Dakar 2027.

# Trump warns 2026 World Cup matches could be moved if host cities are unsafe

on Thursday said he would "absolutely" consider relocating matches for the 2026 World Cup if any planned host cities are deemed unsafe. The tournament, set to take place across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, marks the first three-nation World Cup in history. Trump did not specify which cities concerned him but stressed that the safety of players, fans, and attendees would be a deciding factor in determining whether games should be moved.

His remarks come amid ongoing preparations for stadium readiness, security measures, and local infrastructure improvements. Experts note that relocating World Cup matches on short notice would be highly challenging, given



logistical and commercial considerations. Trump's comments add a political dimension to the event, raising questions

about oversight, security evaluations, and contingency planning in one of football's most high-profile tournaments.

### Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones fined \$250,000 for inadvertent obscene gesture

allas Cowboys owner
Jerry Jones has been fined
\$250,000 by the National
Football League for making
what appeared to be an obscene gesture
during Sunday's road win against the
New York Jets, officials said Wednesday.

In the final minutes of Dallas' 37-22 victory at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, video footage appeared to show Jones briefly flashing his middle finger toward fans near his box. NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy confirmed the fine and noted that Jones

has the right to appeal.

Jones, 82, said the gesture was unintentional and meant as a thumbs-up while celebrating a Dallas touchdown with nearby Cowboys supporters. "There was no antagonistic issue," he told Dallas radio station KRLD, explaining that excitement caused the hand signal to appear incorrect. The gesture was quickly corrected, and Cowboys senior vice president Tad Carper confirmed Jones intends to appeal.



### Scotland come from behind to beat Greece 3-1 in World Cup qualifier



cotland staged a thrilling comeback to defeat Greece 3-1 in their Group C World Cup qualifier on Thursday, moving closer to their first World Cup since 1998. Greece took the lead in the 62nd minute through Kostas Tsimikas, but Ryan Christie equalized two minutes later after a VAR review.

Lewis Ferguson scored his first international goal in the 80th minute, and Lyndon Dykes sealed the win in stoppage time following a goalkeeping error. Manager Steve Clarke, who equaled Scotland's record for most games in charge, praised his team's resilience. Scotland now sit level on points with group leaders Denmark, while Greece faces a crucial away match against Denmark to avoid early elimination.



### Rahim Ali's stoppage-time goal earns India 1-1 draw with Singapore

Rahim Ali netted a dramatic 90th-minute equalizer to help India secure a 1–1 draw with Singapore in their AFC Asian Cup 2027 qualifier on Thursday. Singapore controlled much of the game and took the lead before halftime, but a defensive lapse allowed Ali to slot the ball into an empty net. India faced further trouble when defender Sandesh Jhingan was sent off early in the second half. Despite defensive inconsistencies, India's hopes for a strong group finish remain alive.



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### Algeria secure World Cup qualification with 3-0 win over Somalia



lgeria became the fourth African team to qualify for the 2026 World Cup after a 3-0 win over Somalia on Thursday. Mohamed Amoura scored twice, bringing his campaign total to eight goals, while captain Riyad Mahrez added the third. The match, held in Oran, marked Algeria's first World Cup appearance since 2014. The victory lifted Algeria to 22 points in Group G with one game remaining. Meanwhile, Uganda strengthened their chances of finishing second with a 1-0 win over Botswana, as Mozambique and Namibia fell behind in the playoff race. The team's consistent performances highlight their return as a strong African contender on the world stage.

### Nadine de Klerk stars in South Africa's thrilling World Cup win over India



outh Africa overcame an early collapse to beat India by three wickets with seven balls to spare in Visakhapatnam on Thursday. Chasing 251, the Proteas were in trouble at 102 for six before No. 8 Nadine de Klerk smashed 84 not out off 54 balls, supported by Chloe Tryon. De Klerk's late assault, including 55 runs off the last 20 balls, turned the match in South Africa's favor. India's top-order struggles continued, with Smriti Mandhana dismissed early for the third consecutive match, while middle-order contributions from Harmanpreet Kaur and Jemimah Rodrigues proved insufficient. The win highlighted South Africa's resilience and the impact of lower-order heroics.

# Former college football star Julian Fleming charged in girlfriend's death in ATV crash

ormer college football wide receiver Julian Fleming, 24, was charged Wednesday with homicide by motor vehicle, driving under the influence, and other offenses after an ATV crash killed his girlfriend, Alyssa Boyd, 23, in Columbia Township, Pennsylvania. The crash occurred on May 23 when Fleming was operating the ATV and a deer ran into the roadway, causing both occupants to be knocked unconscious. Boyd did not survive. Fleming submitted to a blood-

alcohol test that registered at .118, his attorney David Bahuriak said. Fleming posted \$75,000 bond and cooperated fully with authorities.

Bahuriak described the incident as "unavoidable" and said Fleming had not acted unlawfully. Fleming played five seasons of college football, first with Ohio State and then Penn State, finishing his final year in 2024. He went undrafted but was training to pursue an NFL career.



### Judge halts Nassau County trans athlete ban after roller derby league lawsuit

New York state appeals court on Wednesday temporarily blocked Nassau County from enforcing a law that would have barred transgender women from participating on female sports teams at county-run parks and recreational facilities.

The ruling came after the Long Island Roller Rebels and the New York Civil Liberties Union challenged the law, arguing it would force the women's roller derby league to become coed and harm its identity, membership, and ability to compete. A lower court had upheld the ban on Monday, calling it "narrowly tailored."

League president Amanda Urena said players were "thrilled" by the decision. NYCLU attorney Gabriella Larios said the ruling clarified that banning transgender women and girls from sports violates state anti-discrimination laws. Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, who initially proposed the ban to protect women from injuries, said the county will continue to safeguard women's sports, but it is unclear whether it will comply with the order.



### Erik Spoelstra expected to lead Team USA at World Cup and Olympics



iami Heat head coach Erik Spoelstra is set to take over as head coach of the U.S. men's national basketball team for the 2027 World Cup and 2028 Summer Olympics, ESPN reports. Spoelstra, 54, joins from the coaching staff that won gold at the 2024 Paris Olympics alongside Mark Few and Tyronn Lue. A two-time NBA champion, Spoelstra has led the Heat to six NBA Finals appearances, claiming titles in 2012 and 2013. His appointment continues Team USA's tradition of top-level NBA coaching talent guiding national squads in major international competitions.

### Sam Kerr returns to Australia squad for first time since 2023



am Kerr has earned her first call-up to the Australian national team in nearly two years, joining the squad for friendlies against Wales and England in Britain. The 31-year-old striker recently returned to Chelsea following recovery from an ACL injury suffered in January 2024. Coach Joe Montemurro emphasized Kerr's leadership and experience as vital for the team ahead of the 2026 Women's Asian Cup. Australia face Wales on October 25 in Cardiff and European champions England on October 28 in Derby, with Kerr expected to play a key role in guiding the squad through these crucial preparatory matches.

### Andrew Flintoff leaves Northern Superchargers after pay dispute

Former England all-rounder Andrew Flintoff has resigned as head coach of The Hundred's Northern Superchargers following a pay dispute with new franchise owners, the Sun Group, which also owns the IPL's Sunrisers Hyderabad. Flintoff, an Ashes hero, guided the Leeds-based team from fourth place in 2024 to the Eliminator this season. His exit exposes growing tensions in franchise cricket between leadership and ownership demands, leaving the Superchargers seeking new direction before the next season.



# Rogers shines as Tuchel's strategy pays off, Bellingham sidelined

England coach Thomas Tuchel's team-first strategy paid off as Aston Villa's Morgan Rogers impressed in Jude Bellingham's role during a 3-0 friendly win over Wales at Wembley. Rogers opened the scoring and dominated midfield play, reflecting England's confident form since their Belgrade qualifier. Tuchel stressed that selection depends on performance, not reputation. Rogers's display likely secures his place for the upcoming match against Latvia, underlining England's growing depth and adaptability ahead of major international qualifiers.

### Emma Watson, Nicole Kidman, and Margot Robbie dazzle at Paris Fashion Week



aris Fashion Week opened on Monday with top celebrities attending major runway shows, including Chanel and Miu Miu. Emma Watson sparked engagement rumors with a sparkling ring at the Miu Miu event. Nicole Kidman attended with her daughters Sunday Rose and Faith, while Margot Robbie wore a black bralette with a quilted bomber jacket. Chanel designer Matthieu Blazy debuted a cosmosinspired collection of suits, blouses, and tweeds, accompanied by dramatic planet-like sculptures. Supermodels Naomi Campbell and Tilda Swinton embraced the black-and-white theme, while Pedro Pascal and Anna Wintour were also present. Thom Browne and Miu Miu offered eccentric runway concepts, including alien-inspired and apron-themed designs. The shows celebrated creativity, star power, and the blend of classic and avant-garde fashion.

### Justin Bieber shares playful photos of son Jack Blues



ustin Bieber shared new Instagram photos of his 13-month-old son, Jack Blues, on Thursday, showing the toddler exploring in a pink hoodie with a swirl and black-and-white checkered pants.

Jack ventured outdoors to what appeared to be a golf course, displaying playful curiosity. Earlier, Hailey Bieber shared Halloween-themed images, including Jack examining pumpkins and wearing a hoodie supporting the Toronto Maple Leafs.

In September, Justin posted candid family shots at Coachella, and another of himself cradling Jack while wearing a 'Pray for Me' T-shirt. The posts give fans a glimpse of the Bieber family's private moments, highlighting their joy in parenthood.

# Sean 'Diddy' Combs' lawyers request low-security New Jersey prison for sentence

ean "Diddy" Combs' legal team has requested that the hip-hop mogul serve his 50-month prison sentence for interstate prostitution charges at a low-security facility in New Jersey, citing access to drug treatment and family visitation. In a Monday letter to U.S. District Judge Arun Subramanian, defense attorney Teny Geragos asked for Combs to be placed at Federal Correctional Institution Fort Dix, approximately 40 miles from Philadelphia, which offers residential drug programs, educational and occupational opportunities.

Combs, convicted of transporting former girlfriends for prostitution, was acquitted of racketeering and sex trafficking charges. At his sentencing on Friday, he apologized to two former girlfriends, acknowledging past drug abuse and abusive behavior, calling his actions



"disgusting, shameful, and sick." Combs told the court, "I can't change the past, but I can change the future," emphasizing his desire for rehabilitation and personal growth.

### UK Prime Minister greeted with 'Tujhe Dekha To' during 'Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge' visit

K Prime Minister Keir Starmer was welcomed with the iconic love song 'Tujhe Dekha To' from the 1995 blockbuster 'Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge' during his visit to Yash Raj Studios in Mumbai on Wednesday. Yash Raj Films shared a video on Instagram showing Starmer smiling as he listened to the track.

The visit marked a new three-film

collaboration with the United Kingdom, ending an eight-year production hiatus. The studio is also producing a stage adaptation, the English musical 'Come Fall In Love,' bringing the East-meets-West romance to international audiences. Starmer met actor Rani Mukerji, highlighting DDLJ's lasting legacy in Indian cinema as one of the most successful and longest-running films in history.



### Richa Chadha highlights low screen count for India's Oscar entry 'Homebound'

ctress Richa Chadha, last seen in 'Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar', has spoken out about the challenges independent films face with limited screen availability, even when backed by major production houses. On Thursday, she shared a note on X (formerly Twitter), emphasizing that films with critical acclaim and international recognition often incur losses due to restricted screenings.

Chadha cited India's Oscar entry, 'Homebound', produced by Dharma Productions, as an example, noting that despite the producer's influence, audience turnout remains low. She explained that high ticket prices, fewer single-screen theaters, and distribution bottlenecks contribute to the problem. "Each screen, each show costs



money. Exhibitors weigh that against literally the number of people in the hall that buy samosas," she wrote. Chadha warned that independent films continue to bear financial risks long after awards, while actors gain visibility and credibility.

### Halle Bailey to release debut solo album 'Love? Or Something Like It'



ctress and singer Halle Bailey will release her debut solo album 'Love? Or Something Like It' on Friday, October 24. Known as one half of the Chloe x Halle duo with her sister Chloe, she described the album as a story of first love, heartbreak, and everything that comes after. Halle shared on Instagram, "This one means everything to me."

Earlier this year, she released solo singles 'Braveface' and 'Back and Forth,' and collaborated with Leon Thomas. She emphasized that she and Chloe will continue making music together while she embarks on her solo journey, marking an important step in her evolving artistic career.

### A\$AP Rocky calls newborn daughter with Rihanna his favorite creation



\$AP Rocky shared that his newborn daughter, Rocki Irish, born in September with partner Rihanna, is his favorite creation of the year. Rihanna announced the birth on social media on September 13 with photos of Rocki in a pink onesie and ribboned gloves, while wearing a ring that read "Mom." A\$AP Rocky confirmed the news in the comments, writing "MY LIL LADIES." The couple, thrilled to welcome their daughter, join her with Rihanna's other children, RZA and Riot. Both parents expressed excitement at sharing their first moments as a family with Rocki Irish.



### Taylor Swift offers fans multiple ways to experience latest album



aylor Swift's latest album release provides fans with 31 unique ways to engage, including collectible editions, deluxe boxed sets, and special theatrical events.

The rollout features physical merchandise, exclusive content, and interactive experiences celebrating her music and storytelling. Swift's innovative approach combines music, narrative, and collectibles to create an immersive experience for her global fanbase, reflecting her attention to detail and commitment to connecting with fans.

### Jennifer Lopez opens up on new role in 'Kiss of the Spider Woman'



ennifer Lopez discussed her upcoming role in 'Kiss of the Spider Woman,' where she plays multiple characters imagined by a prisoner in Argentina. Lopez highlighted the challenge of portraying each persona while maintaining emotional depth.

She described the project as a rare opportunity to explore complex narratives and character dynamics. The film promises audiences a mix of drama and creativity through Lopez's nuanced performance and the story's layered structure.

### Meghan makes surprise appearance at Paris Fashion Week



he Duchess of Sussex surprised attendees at Paris Fashion Week on Saturday, attending the Balenciaga show to support designer Pierpaolo Piccioli. Meghan, 44, wore a white trouser and blazer ensemble with black pointed heels, later changing into a black dress.

She greeted Vogue editor Anna Wintour

and director Baz Luhrmann, highlighting her admiration for Piccioli's designs. This marks Meghan's first visit to Paris Fashion Week in over a decade. Meghan and Prince Harry currently live in Montecito, California, with their children, Archie and Lilibet.

Her appearance drew attention for its elegance and timing, as she re-engages with major international fashion events.

### Sunjay Kapur's children challenge will in inheritance dispute

he Delhi High Court heard a petition on Thursday as Karisma Kapoor's children, Samaira and Kiaan, challenged a will allegedly produced by Sunjay Kapur's widow, Priya Sachdev Kapur.

Senior Advocate Mahesh Jethmalani claimed the document, dated March 21, 2025, was forged to exclude the children and give Priya full control of the estate. Evidence cited included travel records and digital data showing Sunjay was on holiday when the will was altered.

Jethmalani described Priya as "an evil Cinderella mother" who pressured family members. The case is part of a broader inheritance dispute over Kapur's estate, and



the court will now examine the legitimacy of the contested will.

# Two of Zubeen Garg's personal security officers arrested, total arrests rise to seven

he Criminal Investigation
Department (CID) arrested
two of Zubeen Garg's Personal
Security Officers (PSOs) on
Friday, sending them to five days of police
custody. The arrests raise the total number
of people in custody in connection with
the death of the iconic Assamese singer to
seven.

The PSOs, identified as Nandeshwar Bora and Paresh Baishya, were questioned for four consecutive days by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) before their arrest. Both were produced before the Chief Judicial Magistrate court, where the SIT sought fourteen days of custody for further interrogation. The court granted five days of police custody.

The arrests followed their suspension on Monday amid allegations of serious

financial irregularities. Investigators reportedly traced large digital transactions linked to their accounts, with around seventy lakh rupees found in Bora's account and forty lakh rupees in Baishya's. Authorities are examining whether the PSOs had any role in managing or diverting Garg's funds.

Earlier this week, Sandipan Garg, cousin of the singer and a Deputy Superintendent in the Assam Police Service, was sent to seven days of police custody. He was present at the yacht party in Singapore on September 19, where Garg tragically died while swimming. Both had traveled to Singapore to attend a northeast India music festival.

With Friday's arrests, the investigation continues to focus on financial and circumstantial aspects surrounding the singer's death.

Kirti Kulhari celebrates 'Full Plate' opening Indian Film Festival of Sydney



irti Kulhari's film 'Full Plate' opened the Indian Film Festival of Sydney, marking a career milestone for the actor. Kulhari praised the cast and crew for their efforts and emphasized the film's cultural significance.

The festival screening provides global audiences the opportunity to experience Indian cinema and celebrate storytelling that resonates internationally, highlighting the growing impact of Indian films on world stages.

## Nicole Kidman files for divorce from Keith Urban



icole Kidman filed for divorce from Keith Urban on Tuesday, ending nearly 20 years of marriage. The couple, married since June 2006, share daughters Sunday Rose, 17, and Faith Margaret, 14. Kidman cited irreconcilable differences.

Reports suggest the couple had been living apart since summer. Throughout their marriage, they supported each other's careers and overcame challenges, including Urban's past addiction struggles.

Their final public appearances together were at the FIFA Club World Cup in June and the Academy of Country Music Awards in May.

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# वृंदावन मंदिर यात्रा का 16वां पड़ाव गोपश्वर महादेव मंदिर

IndoUS Tribune की "यात्रा और दर्शन: वृंदावन मंदिर" श्रृंखला में आपका पुन: स्वागत है। वृंदावन की हर गली में राधा-कृष्ण की लीलाओं का अमृत झरता है, और यहाँ के मंदिरों में भक्ति की धारा निरंतर प्रवाहित होती है। हमारी इस पवित्र यात्रा का सोलहवाँ पड़ाव है गोपेश्वर महादेव मंदिर, जहाँ भगवान शिव स्वयं गोपी रूप धारण कर श्री कृष्ण की रास लीला के साक्षी बने थे।

### गोपेश्वर महादेव मंदिर: नित्यत्व के देव का दिव्य रूप

वृंदावन के पावन बंसीवट क्षेत्र में, पवित्र यमुना नदी के समीप स्थित गोपेश्वर महादेव मंदिर भगवान शिव के एक अलौकिक स्वरूप को समर्पित है। यहाँ भगवान शिव शिवलिंग रूप में विराजमान हैं, परंतु मंदिर का विशेष आकर्षण वह कथा है जब महादेव ने गोपी का रूप धारण किया, और इसलिए इन्हें गोपेश्वर महादेव कहा जाता है।

यह मंदिर वृंदावन के प्राचीनतम मंदिरों में से एक माना जाता है। किंवदंती के अनुसार, जब भगवान कृष्ण ने राधा और गोपियों के साथ महानंदमयी रास लीला रचाई, तो राधा रानी ने नियम बनाया कि इस रास में केवल महिलाएँ ही सम्मिलित हो सकती हैं।

भगवान शिव भी इस दिव्य रास का दर्शन करना चाहते थे, अतः उन्होंने गोपी रूप धारण किया। ललिता सखी के मार्गदर्शन में वे रास स्थल पर पहुँचे।

श्रीकृष्ण ने जब उस नई गोपी को देखा, तो मुस्कुराते हुए बोले— तुम आज से गोपेश्वर महादेव कहलाओगे। उन्होंने शिवजी को रास द्वारपाल का दायित्व सौंपा। तब से गोपेश्वर महादेव को वृंदावन के रास लीला के रक्षक और गोपियों के भाव के दाता के रूप में पूजा जाता है।



मंदिर का इतिहास और महिमा यह मंदिर अत्यंत प्राचीन है और इसकी स्थापना

भगवान कृष्ण के परपोते वजनाभ ने महर्षि शांडिल्य के निर्देशन में की थी। गोपेश्वर महादेव मंदिर की विशेषता यह है कि यहाँ भगवान शिव का शिवलिंग शाम के समय गोपी वस्त्रों से अलंकृत किया जाता है, जो भक्ति का अद्भुत प्रतीक है।

श्रावण मास ( जुलाई-अगस्त ) में यहाँ हजारों श्रद्धालु जलाभिषेक के लिए आते हैं। सोमवार का दिन भगवान शिव को समर्पित होने के कारण इस दिन भक्तों की विशेष भीड़ होती है।

महा शिवरात्रि के पर्व पर मंदिर में रात्रि जागरण, रुद्राभिषेक, और फूलों से भव्य सजावट का विशेष आयोजन किया जाता है। उस समय मंदिर की अलौकिक आभा और वातावरण भक्तों को गहरी आध्यात्मिक अनुभूति कराता है।

### दर्शन और समय सारणी शीतकालीन समय:

- प्रातः 4:00 बजे से दोपहर 12:00 बजे तक
- सायं 4:00 बजे से रात 8:30 बजे तक
- मंगला आरती: 4:00 बजे प्रात:

### ग्रीष्मकालीन समय:

प्रातः 3:30 बजे से दोपहर 11:30 बजे तक सायं 5:00 बजे से रात 9:00 बजे तक मंगला आरतीः 3:30 बजे प्रातः

### कैसे पहुँचें गोपेश्वर महादेव मंदिर सडक मार्गः

. मंदिर तक पहुँचने के लिए राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-19 से वृंदावन पहुँचा जा सकता है।

स्थानीय परिवहनः

वृंदावन पहुँचने के बाद ई-रिक्शा या ऑटो-रिक्शा से सीधे मंदिर जाया जा सकता है।

### निकटतम हवाई अड्डे:

आगरा एयरपोर्ट - लगभग 80 किमी दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट - लगभग 160 किमी

### आस्था का केंद्र: गोपेश्वर महादेव

गोपेश्वर महादेव मंदिर न केवल भगवान शिव की भक्ति का केंद्र है, बल्कि यह राधा-कृष्ण की लीलाओं में शिव के पूर्ण समर्पण का प्रतीक भी है। भक्त यहाँ गोपि भाव की प्राप्ति के लिए आते हैं, जो प्रेम और भक्ति का सर्वोच्च स्वरूप माना जाता है।

गोपेश्वर महादेव मंदिर, वृंदावन की हमारी आध्यात्मिक यात्रा का सोलहवाँ पड़ाव, हमें यह सिखाता है कि भगवान शिव जैसे महायोगी भी श्रीकृष्ण की भक्ति में लीन होकर रास की महिमा का अनुभव करना चाहते थे। यह मंदिर हमें भक्ति, प्रेम और आत्मसमर्पण का अद्भुत संदेश देता है।

IndoUS Tribune की ओर से, हम आशा करते हैं कि इस यात्रा ने आपको गोपेश्वर महादेव की महिमा और वृंदावन की पवित्रता का अनुभव कराया होगा। हमारे अगले पड़ाव में, हम चलेंगे श्री राधा श्यामसुंदर मंदिर की ओर — जहाँ राधा-कृष्ण का अद्भुत मिलन अपने शाश्वत स्वरूप में प्रकट होता है। तब तक के लिए — हर हर महादेव! जय श्री राधे-कष्णा।

जय श्रीराधे!



# Shreemad Bhagwat Gita-As I understand

### Chapter Twelve: Vishwaroopa Darshan Yoga



Rajendra Kapil Phone: 847-962-1291

he twelfth chapter of the Bhagavad Gita is known as Bhakti Yoga, the Yoga of Devotion. In this chapter, Lord Krishna explains two primary paths to attain Him:

- ▶ The Path of Knowledge (Jnana Yoga) the way of the wise who seek to realize the Supreme through study, reflection, and meditation.
- ▶ The Path of Devotion (Bhakti Yoga) — the way of pure faith and love, where the devotee surrenders completely to God through heartfelt remembrance and worship.

The path of knowledge demands deep intellectual discipline, scriptural study, and austerity—it is a difficult road. The path of devotion, however, is simpler and more accessible. It requires only shraddha (faith) and prem (love). There are countless ways to remember and adore God, all natural and easy. Perhaps for this reason, about five centuries ago, Bhakti Yoga became the most popular path in India. Saints and poets like Tulsidas spread its message far and wide through their divine poetry.

Tulsidas beautifully expressed the essence of devotion through his couplets:

"Nij anubhav ab kahun khagesa, binu Hari bhajan na jahi kalesa." "Ram kripa binu sunu khagarai, jani na jai Ram prabhutai." "Binu biswas bhagati nahi, tehi binu dravahi na Ram."

"Ram kripa binu sapnehun, jeev na lah vishram."

Tulsidas declares that without faith, there can be no devotion; without devotion, one cannot receive the grace of Lord Ram; and without that grace, the soul can never find peace—even in dreams.

A true devotee loses himself in divine love, dancing and singing in ecstasy:

"Payo ji maine Ram ratan dhan payo,"

"Mere to Giridhar Gopal, doosro na koi."

### The Question of Arjuna

This chapter begins with Arjuna's question:

"O Madhava, who is superior—the



devotee who worships You with form, or the one who contemplates You as the formless Absolute?"

### Lord Krishna answers:

"Mayyaveshya mano ye maam nityayuktaa upasate, Shraddhaya parayopetaaaste me yuktatamaa mataah." (12.2)

### Meaning:

O Arjuna, those who fix their minds on Me, ever steadfast in worship with supreme faith, are considered by Me to be the most perfect in Yoga.

### The path of knowledge, Krishna says, is indeed difficult:

"Klesho'dhikataras tesham avyaktasakta chetasam, Avyakta hi gatir duhkham dehavadbhir avapyate." (12.5)

### Meaning:

For those whose minds are attached to the formless, realization is very difficult; as long as one identifies with the body, the formless is hard to grasp.

But those who dedicate all their actions to Me, meditate upon Me with single-minded devotion, and surrender completely—

"Tesham aham samuddharta mrityu samsara sagarat,

Bhavaami nachiraat Partha, mayyaaveshita chetasam." (12.7)

### Meaning:

I swiftly rescue such devotees from the ocean of birth and death, for their minds are steadfastly fixed on Me.

The path of knowledge may lead to ego—attachment to one's spiritual success. The devotee, however, loses all sense of self in loving surrender.

His remembrance of God becomes constant and effortless. Guru Nanak described it perfectly:

"Naam khumaari Nanaka, chhadi rahe din raat." (The intoxication of God's Name

remains day and night.)

### Therefore, Krishna advises Arjuna:

"If you cannot fix your mind on Me, then at least surrender the fruits of all your actions to Me."

"Shreyo hi jnaanam abhyaasaat, jnaanaad dhyaanam vishishyate, Dhyaanaat karma phala tyagas, tyaagaat shantir anantaram." (12.12)

### Meaning:

Better than mechanical practice is knowledge; better than knowledge is meditation; better than meditation is renunciation of the fruits of action—for peace immediately follows such renunciation.

### The Character of a True Devotee

The devotee who truly surrenders to God becomes peaceful and pure in heart. He bears no hatred, harbors no ego, and loves all beings equally. Even if wronged, he forgives.

### A poet once wrote:

"Rahe sada tusht santusht khud, kare na kuch parvaah, Jisse bhagti dridh gyaan ki, rahti har kshan chaah."

Such a devotee is ever content, detached from material desires, and free from pride or attachment.

### Krishna describes the qualities of such a devotee:

"Yo na hrishyati na dweshti na shochati na kaankshati, Shubhaashubha parityaagi bhaktimaan yah sa me priyah." (12.17)

"Samah shatrau cha mitre cha tathaa maanaapamaanayoh, Sheetoshna-sukh-dukheshu samah sang vivarjitah." (12.18)

"Tulya nindaa stutir maunee santushto yena kenachit, Aniketah sthiramatir bhaktimaan me priyo narah." (12.19)

### Meaning:

He who neither rejoices nor hates, neither grieves nor desires, who renounces good and evil results alike—such a devotee is dear to Me.

He who is the same to friend and foe, in honor and dishonor, in heat and cold, in joy and sorrow—free from attachment and self-centeredness—is dear to Me.

He who accepts praise and blame equally, is silent and content with whatever comes his way, has no fixed home, and is steady in devotion—such a man is dear to Me.

Thus, in this chapter, Lord Krishna lovingly simplifies the path of Bhakti Yoga for Arjuna—and for all seekers. He assures that those who worship Him with faith and surrender, seeing Him as their ultimate refuge, will surely attain His divine abode.

For such pure-hearted devotees, God Himself takes care—just as a parent protects a beloved child.

With folded hands and deep reverence, we bow to Lord Krishna—.

Jai Shri Krishna!!

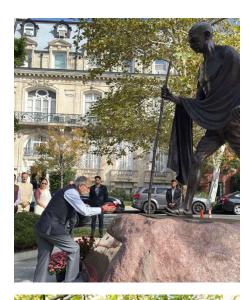
### www.indoustribune.com Friday, 10 october 2025

# Gandhi Jayanti 2025: Celebrating nonviolence, service, and community across the U.S.

From the East Coast to the West, Indian diplomatic missions and diaspora communities across the United States came together to commemorate the 156th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The celebrations reflected not only reverence for Gandhi's legacy but also the enduring relevance of his principles of nonviolence, peace, and service in contemporary society.

By: Dr. Avi Verma

t Union Square Park, the Consulate General of India in New York held its annual observance at the Gandhi statue. Community members, friends of India, and local citizens gathered for a meaningful program of floral tributes and bhajans. Consul General Binaya S. Pradhan addressed the audience,







emphasizing that Gandhi's philosophy is as much about the means as the ends, and that nonviolence remains central to his enduring legacy.

Houston: The Consulate General in Houston hosted a public event at Hermann Park, where community leaders garlanded the statue of Gandhi and led musical tributes. Traditional bhajans filled the air, and speakers highlighted the connection between Gandhi Jayanti and the United Nations' International Day of Non-Violence, linking local remembrance with global reflection.

San Francisco: On the West Coast, the Consulate General in San Francisco paired its observance with civic engagement activities. The day included a Philanthropy Summit and the Viksit Bharat run near the Golden Gate Bridge, bringing together service, public participation, and cultural commemoration in a single program.

Seattle: In Seattle, the Consulate collaborated with the Gates Foundation to host a multifaceted celebration of Indian

culture, arts, and cuisine. Among the attendees was Bill Gates, who remarked, "The ideals he [Gandhi] championed equality and dignity — are foundational to the work we do." A keynote address by Jonathan Granoff, President of the Global Security Institute, explored "The Relevance of Gandhian Values in the Contemporary World Order." The program also featured floral tributes at Gandhi statues in Bellevue and Seattle Center, alongside musical performances by school children honoring Gandhi's favorite songs. Distinguished dignitaries, including Washington State Senator Vandana Slatter and MLK-Gandhi Foundation Chairman Eddie Rye, attended the event, highlighting its broad community impact.

Washington, D.C.: At the Indian Embassy in Washington, Ambassador Vinay Kwatra led the observance, calling Gandhi the "Father of the Nation" and reflecting on the ways his message of truth and nonviolence continues to inspire people around the world.

Atlanta: The Consulate in Atlanta,



led by Consul General Ramesh Babu Lakshmanan, partnered with the Gandhi Foundation USA at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center. The gathering paid tribute at both the MLK Center and the Gandhi bust at the Consulate, reflecting on the shared legacy of Gandhi and Dr. King in advancing justice, equality, and human dignity.

Communities in Chicago, Washington, and other major diaspora hubs also held local tributes. These included prayers, hymn singing, and public readings of Gandhi's writings, offering participants moments of reflection and connection. Across all venues, the celebrations combined formal diplomatic observances with grassroots engagement, fostering a deeper understanding of Gandhian values and their relevance today.

For Indian missions in the United States, Gandhi Jayanti has evolved beyond a ceremonial event into a platform for promoting service, tolerance, and nonviolent civic engagement. It is a day when communities come together to honor the life of a visionary leader, strengthen bonds among diaspora members, and celebrate the enduring ideals of peace and humanity that continue to guide India and the world.





# Global rhythms unite Delhi at 9th India International Folk Festival

By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

ain, rhythm, and remarkable performances defined the closing day of the 9th India International Folk Festival at Central Park, Connaught Place this week. Despite Sunday morning showers, the audience's energy remained undimmed, proving once again that folk music transcends weather and borders.

The festival brought together artists from around the world, showcasing everything from the royal melodies of Laos to the soulful drums of the Maldives, the elegance of Belarusian traditions, and the dynamic rhythms of Kazakhstan. The final evening became a living mosaic of global sound and movement, affirming that music and dance are a universal language of togetherness.

Organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), the festival opened on October 4 with a ceremony led by ICCR Director General K.
Nandini Singla and Deputy Director General Manisha Swami. International dignitaries including the Ambassador of Armenia, Vahagn Afyan, and the Chargé d'Affaires of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zozo Binti Josephine, were in attendance. Mrs. Singla emphasized the power of cultural diplomacy and people-to-people connections through art.

Over three days, Central Park became a vibrant stage for global folk, featuring performances from Kantera (Malta), Ziemia Bydgoska (Poland), Molmol



Orchestra & Aalam Ensemble (Kyrgyzstan), and Folk Ceylonia (Sri Lanka). Distinguished guests such as H.E. Reuben Gauci, High Commissioner of Malta, and representatives from Sri Lanka and Poland witnessed the standing ovations that celebrated unity through folk music.

Even on the final day, light rain added a poetic charm rather than dampening spirits. Audiences embraced the weather, seated with umbrellas, as flutes, drums, and folk chants resonated across the park. The festival concluded with a Vote of Thanks from Ms. Swami and a felicitation ceremony honoring participating artists for their contribution to global friendship through art.







The 9th edition of the India International Folk Festival reaffirmed Delhi's position

as a cultural hub, where rain became the rhythm and a stage celebrated the world.





www.indoustribune.com

### BSC of Chicago seniors celebrate vibrant Navratri Garba and Raas



BSC Volunteers team success of Navratri Garba

By: Jayanti Oza

he Bharatiya Senior Citizens of Chicago hosted their annual DJ Tracking Navratri from September 22 to October 1 at the Rana Reagan Center, drawing over 400 members, family, and friends each day.

The event filled the venue with devotion, music, and dance, bringing the community together in festive spirit.

The celebrations featured spirited two- and three-tali Garba, Sanedo, and late-night Dandiya Raas, along with a traditional Arti for Shree Ambe Maa. Guests also enjoyed a variety of food options provided by Uru Swati. Organizers credited the success of the event to the generous support of sponsors, the dedication of volunteers, and the energy of the BSC's younger generation, whose service ensured smooth execution throughout the festival.



BSC ticketing team ready to serve



Members taking 'Maa Amba' Arti with BSC President Haribhai Patel



BSC Kitchen team preparing food for participants



BSC members performing 'Teen Tali' Garba

# Chicagoland Nepali community celebrates grand Dashain-Tihar musical event

By: Jayanti Oza

he Chicagoland Nepali Friendship Society hosted its annual Dashain-Tihar Musical Event on a lively evening at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, bringing together over 300 attendees from across the region. The celebration showcased Nepali culture through a vibrant mix of music, food, and entertainment. Renowned Nepali artists Badri Pangeni, Pratap Das, and Elina Chauhan energized the crowd with live performances, while DJ Oza of Chicago provided high-quality sound and kept the audience engaged between sets. Guests also enjoyed traditional Nepali cuisine throughout the night.

The event was graced by notable personalities, including President Narayan Khadka, Event Host Anita Kunwar, and Chief Guest Balaram Ghimire, alongside representatives from local organizations supporting the Nepali community. Established

in 2007, the Chicagoland Nepali Friendship Society continues to unite the diaspora through cultural programs. Shyam Parajuli, Advisor and Former General Secretary, said, "We are proud to keep our cultural spirit alive in Chicago and grateful to everyone who made this celebration truly memorable."



Chief Guest Balaram Ghimire giving a speech



Singers Badri Pangeni, Pratap Das, & Elina Chauhan with Nepali Friendship Society



# Know India Programme offers diaspora youth an immersive cultural experience

By: Dr. Avi Verma

he Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) continues its flagship initiative, the Know India Programme (KIP), aimed at connecting Indian-origin youth with their ancestral roots.

Open to participants aged 21 to 35, the three-week immersive programme provides a firsthand exploration of India's heritage, democratic institutions, and economic progress. Each edition hosts up to 40 youth, with priority given to those from Girmitiya countries, where Indian indentured laborers migrated during the colonial era. The government provides full hospitality and covers 90 percent of international airfare, making the programme accessible to diaspora youth worldwide.

Participants experience India through cultural performances, visits to historical landmarks, universities, and research centers, and interactions with government officials and industry leaders. Sessions on Yoga, Ayurveda, and traditional knowledge, as well as exposure to initiatives such as Digital India, Skill India, Aatmanirbhar Bharat, and StartUp India, highlight the nation's blend of tradition and innovation.

The programme, managed through the KIP Portal at https://kip.gov.in/, encourages diaspora youth to rediscover their heritage while becoming ambassadors for India's evolving identity.

For details and applications, visit https://kip.gov.in





### KNOW INDIA PROGRAMME (KIP)

### **APPLICATIONS INVITED**



FOR THE 83<sup>RD</sup> EDITION OF KNOW INDIA PROGRAMME

LAST DATE TO APPLY: 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025

PROGRAMME DURATION:

10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 TO 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

TO APPLY: CONTACT NEAREST INDIAN EMBASSY / CONSULATE

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Indian Diaspora Youth Members

- Age 21-35
- Persons of India Origin (PIO)
- Passionate About India

# Bharatiya Senior Citizens of Dallas celebrate grand Navratri festival with joy and unity

By: Jayanti Oza

he Bharatiya Senior
Citizens of Dallas hosted
a vibrant Navratri festival
on Saturday at Otto
Middle School in Plano, Texas,
bringing together members, families,
and invited guests for a lively "3G
Raas Garba" celebration. The event
opened with a warm welcome,
complemented by traditional
Gujarati treats including fafda, jalebi,
and hot tea. A photo booth allowed
attendees to capture memorable
moments with friends and family.

Members celebrating October

birthdays and anniversaries were honored with bouquets, and everyone joined in singing Happy Birthday. Stage management was handled by Shri Vitthalbhai Deora and Sharadbhai Patel. Esteemed sponsors Rajeshbhai Sanchala from New York Life, Romaben Peethadia from Affordable Insurance, and Realtor Sheetalben Balar offered guidance on health insurance, life insurance, financial planning, and housing. Around 25 raffle prizes were distributed during the program.

The festival featured a beautifully decorated Mataji altar, a grand aarti ceremony, and spirited Garba and

Raas performances accompanied by DJ Sre, live music, and dhol. Guests enjoyed a wide variety of food, including panipuri, pavbhaji, pizza, and ragda patties, followed by ice cream during intermission. The evening continued with Dandiya Raas and Sanedo dances, spreading energy and joy throughout the hall.

The success of the event was made possible through the contributions of committee members Hirabhai Sutaria, Praveenbhai Pansuriya, Shantibhai Gabani, Praveenbhai Hirpara, Champaklal Cheta, Vinodbhai Ramolia, Vitthalbhai Deora, Balwantbhai Dhanani, Vitthalbhai Balar, and Secretary Nareshbhai Shah. President Shri Praveenbhai Pansuriya expressed heartfelt gratitude to all attendees, sponsors, and volunteers, noting that such cultural programs for senior citizens bring renewed energy and joy. The program concluded with blessings of Mataji, leaving everyone uplifted.



Bharatiya Senior Citizens of Dallas committee members



Bharatiya Senior Citizens of Dallas members enjoying program

www.iiidodstiibdiic.com

# Ranking Member Krishnamoorthi urges administration to act as Trump's trade war devastates Illinois soybean farmers

Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL), Ranking Member of the House Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, has issued a sharp warning to the U.S. Trade Representative and the Agriculture Secretary regarding the severe economic damage caused by former President Trump's trade war.

By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

n his letter to U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer and Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins, Krishnamoorthi cautioned that "the profound damage that President Trump's trade war is inflicting on Illinois soybean farmers" demands immediate federal action to "minimize the impact of the PRC's punitive action."

"President Trump's capricious and careless moves on trade have given the People's Republic of China reason to exercise punishing measures on this key part of the U.S. economy," Krishnamoorthi wrote. "This has effectively eliminated the largest export market for U.S. soybean farmers and allowed foreign competitors to supplant U.S. producers."

### Illinois: The epicenter of the crisis

Krishnamoorthi underscored that Illinois — the nation's top soybean-producing state has been hit hardest. The state's farmers produce 15 percent of all U.S. soybeans, generating \$7 billion in annual economic activity and supporting tens of thousands of jobs.

Yet, he noted with alarm, "Last year, Illinois exported \$1.4 billion of soybeans to China. This year, that number has dropped to zero."

"This abrupt collapse has dealt a devastating blow to Illinois' farm economy, threatening livelihoods and the stability of our rural communities," he said.

"The President's uncoordinated tariffs and the PRC's punishing retaliation are costing U.S. soybean farmers their largest export market."

Krishnamoorthi warned that countries like Brazil and Argentina are now stepping in to fill the void, offering China long-term supply agreements that could permanently displace American farmers.

### Ignored warnings and unheeded calls for action

The Illinois Congressman pointed out that he had earlier written to the administration in February and March, urging them to prepare contingency plans and adopt a coordinated trade strategy — warnings that were ignored.

"In February, I urged the Department of Agriculture to develop contingency plans to respond to PRC agricultural retaliation — a request that appears to have gone unheeded," he wrote. "Instead, this Administration is reportedly preparing a one-time bailout for impacted farmers — an unsustainable and poorly supervised approach."

# **Krishnamoorthi's three-point plan**To address the crisis, Krishnamoorthi urged the Administration to:

- Expand and diversify export markets by strengthening USDA trade-promotion programs and leveraging U.S. diplomacy to open new channels in Southeast Asia, South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.
- Stabilize farm income through targeted direct support, enhanced crop-insurance tools, and low-interest financing.
- Reaffirm long-term support for U.S. farmers to ensure they "will not be sacrificed in broader geopolitical maneuvering" and to restore access to the Chinese market.

### Pushing for transparency in the Epstein investigation

In a separate action this week, Congressman Krishnamoorthi alongside Congressman Robert Garcia (CA-42) — sent a formal letter to Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard demanding full disclosure of all intelligence and law enforcement materials related to Jeffrey Epstein, Ghislaine Maxwell, and their network of associates.

The lawmakers cited "numerous public reports" raising questions about Epstein's foreign contacts, unexplained

wealth, and potential links to intelligence services.

"Survivors of Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell's sex trafficking conspiracy deserve justice and closure," the letter stated. "The American people deserve a full accounting."

The request directs the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to preserve all related materials and provide documents by October 21, 2025.

### Balancing national security with accountability

Krishnamoorthi emphasized that maintaining America's credibility abroad requires upholding democratic norms and transparency at home. "Whether it's resisting the misuse of troops on our streets or demanding answers about Epstein's network, our duty is to protect both the Constitution and the American people," he said.

Disclaimer: This article is based on official press releases and statements issued by the Office of Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi. The IndoUS Tribune has not independently verified all claims or statements contained herein. All quotes and policy positions are attributed directly to Congressman Krishnamoorthi's office.







www.indoustribune.com



By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

he IndoUS Tribune extends heartfelt congratulations to all Indian Suhagans (married women) around the world observing the sacred Karwa Chauth Vrat, a festival that symbolizes love, sacrifice, and the unbreakable bond between husband and wife.

Each year, women rise before dawn and observe a nirjala vrat (fast without food or water) from sunrise until moonrise, praying for the long life, health, and prosperity of their husbands. More than a ritual, Karwa Chauth is a timeless expression of faith, love, and spiritual strength.

### Legends of faith and devotion

### Queen Veervati's love

One of the most cherished legends is of Queen Veervati, who fasted for her husband's longevity. Her brothers, concerned for her, tricked her into breaking the fast early by showing a false moon. Tragically, her husband passed away. Grief-stricken, Veervati prayed to Goddess Parvati, who guided her to complete the fast faithfully. Her prayers were answered, and her husband's life was restored.

Karwa's courage

Another tale recounts Karwa, whose husband was seized by a crocodile. With unwavering faith, she confronted Yama, the god of death, demanding her husband's life. Moved by her devotion, Yama granted her wish, blessing her husband with long life.

These stories remind us that love, coupled with faith and courage, can overcome even fate.

### A festival with ancient roots

Karwa Chauth traces back over 2,500 years, rooted in prayer, gratitude, and community:

- ▶ Prayers for warriors: Wives fasted while husbands were away in perilous battles.
- ▶ Harvest and lunar worship: Celebrated at harvest's end, honoring the moon and cycles of life.
- **Evolution through centuries:** Legends of devotion enriched the festival, creating the Karwa Chauth we celebrate today — a celebration of love, loyalty, and family unity.

### The modern celebration

Across India and the global Indian diaspora, Karwa Chauth is celebrated with vibrant enthusiasm: Women adorn festive attire, apply mehndi (henna), and gather for community pujas before sighting the moon.

Husbands often offer water and the first morsel of food to their fasting wives, symbolizing shared love and mutual respect.

### The deeper significance

- ▶ Marital devotion: A symbol of selfless love and dedication.
- ▶ Longevity and well-being: Prayers for husband's health, success, and long life.
- **▶** Strengthening bonds: Reinforces emotional connection

and mutual commitment.

▶ Community and sisterhood: Women fast and pray together, sharing strength and encouragement.

### A universal message

Karwa Chauth transcends cultural boundaries, celebrating love, trust, and faith — values that sustain all relationships. Devotion is measured not by rituals alone but by the sincerity of the heart.

As the moon rises tonight, the IndoUS Tribune salutes all Suhagans whose prayers, strength, and love uphold the timeless values of family, faith, and togetherness.

### Happy Karwa Chauth!

May your marriages be blessed with joy, prosperity, and eternal companionship.

> **Disclaimer:** This article honors the traditional and historical significance of Karwa Chauth and acknowledges its diverse interpretations and practices across regions and communities.



# Timeless denim trends for every wardrobe

s we transition into the cooler months, many fashion enthusiasts are looking to update their wardrobes with pieces that are both stylish and practical. Denim remains a staple in many closets, and certain trends are proving to be longlasting investments. Here's a closer look at six unstoppable denim trends that will elevate your style this season.

#### 1. The versatile bermuda short

Traditionally associated with warm weather, the Bermuda short is making a splash in fall fashion. This trend has been embraced by fashion-forward individuals who pair denim Bermudas with tall, overthe-knee boots. This combination creates a chic look that's perfect for transitional weather. Designers like Dries Van Noten have showcased this trend on runways, demonstrating its versatility as a stylish alternative to heavier fabrics.

### 2. Stovepipe jeans for a sleek silhouette

Stovepipe jeans are another trend that offers a flattering fit while providing a sense of structure. With a straight fit from thigh to ankle, these jeans elongate the legs and create a polished appearance. Unlike traditional straight-leg jeans, stovepipe jeans hug the body more closely, making them a favorite among models and influencers alike. Pairing them with blazers and heels can effortlessly transition your look from casual to sophisticated.

### 3. The cool factor of twisted seams

Twisted seams are becoming a hallmark of modern denim designs. This trend adds an intriguing element to otherwise standard jeans, transforming them into eye-catching pieces. Designers such as Victoria Beckham and Versace are leading the charge with innovative silhouettes



that incorporate these unique seams. Whether it's a low-rise design or a straight-leg cut, twisted seam jeans are a must-have for anyone looking to stand out.

### 4. Functional drawstring styles

The rise of drawstring jeans has redefined casual wear, combining functionality with trendiness. Adjustable waistbands offer comfort while allowing for a customizable fit. This practical detail can transform a simple outfit into something effortlessly chic. Brands like Citizens of Humanity have popularized this trend, making drawstring jeans a go-to option for laid-back yet stylish looks.

### 5. Retro-inspired flared jeans

The return of flared jeans signals a revival of bohemian aesthetics in modern fashion. These retro-inspired styles provide a fun, flirty silhouette that pairs beautifully with fitted tops. The key to rocking this trend is to balance volume with fitted pieces, creating a harmonious look. Designers are embracing flares in various fabrics, making them a versatile choice for any occasion.

### 6. Cocoon-shaped barrel jeans

For those who prefer a more sculptural approach to denim, barrel jeans offer a unique twist on the baggy trend. With a cocoon shape that adds structure while remaining comfortable, these

jeans are perfect for those looking to make a statement. Pairing barrel jeans with fitted tops or structured outerwear can create a visually interesting ensemble that stands out from the crowd.

Denim trends continue to evolve, but certain styles have proven to be timeless and adaptable. From versatile Bermuda shorts to the chic lines of stovepipe jeans, these trends offer various options for elevating your wardrobe. As you embrace the cooler weather, consider incorporating these enduring denim styles into your outfits, ensuring you remain both fashionable and comfortable all season long.





# Personal finance insights: News & Features

Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

### **CONTRARIAN INDICATORS**

AAII Bull-Bear Spread +3.7% (below average; bipolar)
CNN Fear & Greed Index 54 (neutral)

NYSE %Above 50-dMA 62.27% (positive)

SP500 %Above 50-dMA 61.40% (positive)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 8/31/25

OEFs & ETFs: Stocks 61.38%, Hybrids 4.13%, Bonds 17.45%, M-Mkt 17.05%

### **INTEREST RATES**

CME FedWatch Cycle peak 5.25-5.50% Current 4.00-4.25% FOMC 10/29/25+ cut FOMC 12/10/25+ cut

### Treasury

T-Bills 3-mo yield 4.03%, 1-yr 3.64%; T-Notes 2-yr 3.58%, 5-yr 3.72%, 10-yr 4.13%; T-Bonds 30-yr 4.71%:

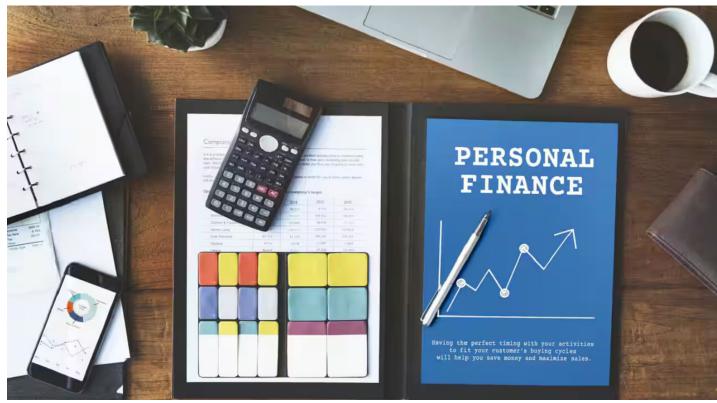
TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 1.34%, 10-yr 1.80%, 30-yr 2.48% FRNs Index 3.898%

Bank Rates www.depositaccounts.com/

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 10/1/25 TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates Restricted RC 5.00%, RA 4.75% Flexible RCP 4.25%, SRA 4.00%, IRA-101110+ 4.00% TSP G Fund pending (previous 4.250%)

India Fear & Greed MMI 58.18 (greed) Weekly ETFs: INDA +0.38%, INDY +0.04%, EPI +0.63%, INDH +0.24%, SPY +1.12%

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



#### **ECONOMY**

New H-1B fees (\$100K) are one-time, 9/21/25 - 9/21/26 (may be extended). They are not per year, don't apply at renewals, don't affect holders on foreign travel & may even benefit recently laid off H-1B visa holders.

Global Capability Centers (GCCs) by multinationals in India may get a boost from new H-1B fees. GCCs have advanced capabilities for R&D, IT, analytics, HR - much more than the old call centers. Some are dedicated, others serve multiple companies. There are government incentives. Limited movement of people can be under H-1, or intracompany transfer L-1, O-1 visas.

Many Indian owned/ controlled businesses in Asia, Middle East & Europe may boost production for export to the US. Rules against product transshipments & relabeling won't apply with sufficient localization.

Indian jewelry industry found a loophole to avoid 50% US tariffs - import raw materials or semi-finished products from US & export the

finished products back to US. Then, a US tariff exception applies.

Some countries have just slashed the declared US Customs & Border Protection (CBP) value to 33-50%. CBP staff is overworked or poorly trained to detect this.

100% branded pharma tariffs don't apply to generics.

The new US Gold Card (immigrant visa) requires \$1 million by individuals (\$2 million by companies on behalf of individuals). There may be potential challenges to the program by Congress or courts despite Administration's tweaking of lot of existing immigration rules (EB-1, EB-2) to launch it.

### **SPECIAL TOPICS**

### REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONS

News about big changes in real estate commissions made a big splash last year.

Recall that NAR (National Association of Realtors) was fined over its control of MLS (multiple listing services) that favored NAR members. It also had guidelines on real estate commissions that were determined to be anticompetitive.

Well, more than a year after settlements & fines, nothing much has changed. The overall level of real estate commissions is basically the same.

However, there is more awareness & transparency about commissions by buyers' & sellers' agents. Buyers' agents are more common now, while they were rare/ ad-hoc before & were at the mercy of sellers' agents (or broker) when it came to splitting commissions. Agreements have to be signed beforehand by disclosing the

commissions to be paid. Buyers or sellers have to wait until the end of the agreements to switch, so it's better to sign shorter-term agreements that can be renewed.

Some sellers offer to cover buyers' agent commissions (in full or up to a cap) as sale incentives. This may be a reason why the total commissions for real estate transactions haven't fallen. When both sellers & buyers face 2.5-3.0% commissions (rather than seller facing 5-6% commission before), they both find it acceptable, & if the seller has to cover buyer agent's 2.5-3.0% to close the deal quicker, the seller may think of it as sale incentive similar to others (discounts, buydown mortgage, etc).

Buyers typically don't shop for agents. As real estate brokers don't publish their commission schedules, it's not easy to shop around. Buyers may even be wary of low commissions worrying about poor services or problem brokers.

VA (Department of Veterans Affairs) loans now allow up to 4% sellers' concessions that may or may not include buyers' agent commissions. VA will pay reasonable & customary buyers' agent commissions.

Real estate (RE) brokerage industry is rapidly consolidating. Compass (brands Compass, Christie's, etc) is acquiring Anywhere Real Estate (brands Century 21, Sotheby's, Coldwell Banker, etc) & the combo will have 18% market share. Mortgage company Rocket acquired RE brokerage Redfin & mortgage servicer Mr Cooper Group in what is seen as a vertical integration. The industry is highly fragmented with 100,000 firms.

For more information, see www.ybbpersonalfinance.
proboards.com





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# 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,
- 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 O&C

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:**

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!.

Join IUHS to transform your dream of becoming a medical doctor into reality.

For more information and to apply, visit www.iuhs.edu



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# Flu season 2025–2026: What you need to know about risks, prevention, and new vaccine options

By: Dr. Avi Verma

s the 2025–2026 flu season begins, public health officials are predicting a moderate year—but experts caution that even a "moderate" season can take a heavy toll if people let their guard down.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), influenza activity in the United States is expected to rise steadily through November. While last year's flu wave was unusually severe, health experts say that does not mean this season will be mild.

"We may not see back-to-back severe flu seasons," said Dr. Adrienne Keen of the CDC's Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics, "but that's not a reason to ignore prevention."

### Why even a moderate season can be dangerous

During the 2023–2024 flu season—considered relatively average—there were an estimated 28,000 flu-related deaths in the U.S., according to Dr. Ryan Maves of Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

The following 2024–2025 season, however, was worse than expected, with over a million hospitalizations and as many as 130,000 deaths, including 280 pediatric deaths, one of the highest totals since national reporting began in 2004.

Doctors stress that anyone can get seriously ill from influenza, not just older adults or those with chronic conditions.

"Every year, emergency rooms see healthy young adults laid out by the flu," said Dr. William Schaffner of Vanderbilt University Medical Center. "It's a serious respiratory infection, not just a bad cold."

### Who is most at risk

- Adults 65 years and older
- ▶ Children under 2 years of age



- ▶ Pregnant women
- ▶ People with chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease

Complications can include bronchitis, pneumonia, and even heart inflammation.

### Flu or cold? How to tell

Both illnesses share symptoms like cough, sore throat, and fatigue—but the flu often comes on suddenly with fever, chills, and body aches. COVID-19 remains in circulation as well, and combined infections have been reported. Over-the-counter flu—COVID combo tests now available at pharmacies can help distinguish between them within minutes.

### What's new this flu season 1. At-home nasal vaccine

For those who dislike needles, FluMist Home, a nasal spray vaccine, is now available in 34 states, including Illinois. The vaccine can be ordered online, reviewed by a licensed professional, and administered by a caregiver or self-

administered (for ages 18–49). It's not recommended for people with severe immune conditions or children with asthma.

### 2. Expanded access to "super" flu shots

The Flublok vaccine, one of three high-dose flu shots, has been newly approved for individuals ages 9 and up (previously limited to 18+). It contains three times the antigens of a standard flu shot and may offer stronger protection, especially for older adults. Unlike some traditional vaccines, Flublok is egg-free, making it a good choice for people with egg allergies.

### 3. Thimerosal-free formulations

Most single-dose flu vaccines this year are thimerosal-free, reducing the risk of mild redness or swelling at the injection site. This aligns with CDC's long-term goal to minimize mercury-based preservatives in vaccines.

### 4. Wider range of at-home tests

The Healgen Rapid Check COVID-19/Flu A&B Antigen Test—now fully approved by the FDA—allows quick detection of both viruses in 15 minutes. The CDC advises repeating the test after 48 hours if results are negative and symptoms persist.

### When to get vaccinated

The CDC recommends getting vaccinated in September or October, though later is still beneficial.

If you're traveling during the holidays, get your shot at least two weeks before your trip for maximum effectiveness.

This year's vaccines target A (H1N1), A (H3N2), and B/Victoria strains—the same viruses that dominated in the Southern Hemisphere, where vaccination reduced flu hospitalizations by nearly half.

"The vaccine works best at preventing severe illness," said Dr. Schaffner. "Even if you get infected, you're less likely to end up in the hospital."

### If you get sick

If symptoms develop, especially in highrisk individuals, antiviral medications such as oseltamivir (Tamiflu) can reduce the severity and duration of illness when started within the first 48 hours.

### Your at-home flu season toolkit

- Annual flu shot (preferably thimerosal-free or high-dose for seniors)
- ▶ Thermometer and rapid flu/COVID test kits
- Fever reducers like acetaminophen or ibuprofen
- Cough drops and saline spray for congestion
- Hydration fluids or electrolyte drinks
- Face masks if household exposure occurs

### **Bottom line:**

Flu prevention starts with vaccination, but it doesn't end there. Good hand hygiene, staying home when sick, and quick testing for flu or COVID can all help reduce transmission this season.

### Disclaimer:

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