

White House defends
'America First' reforms
amid H-1B visa overhaul



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The White House reaffirmed on Thursday that President Donald Trump's H-1B visa reforms aim to prioritize American workers, even as business groups filed lawsuits challenging the new rules. Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said the administration would "fight these lawsuits in court," emphasizing the need to stop visa fraud that "has driven down American wages." Under the new policy, foreign workers switching from other visa categories, such as student visas, are exempt from the \$100,000 application fee. The rule applies only to new visa petitions from outside the United States.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has sued the administration, arguing the policy could harm businesses and increase labor costs. Trump signed the proclamation in September, stating his goal is to "hire American workers first."

'No Kings' protests sweep across United States against Trump



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Hundreds of thousands of people across the United States joined anti-Trump protests under the banner of "No Kings" on Saturday, denouncing what organizers described as the president's authoritarian tendencies. The demonstration, sponsored by the Democratic Party, civil rights groups, teachers' unions, and the Human Rights Campaign, marked the second nationwide "No Kings" protest since June, with larger crowds this time.

Vice President Kamala Harris, who lost the 2024 election to Trump, encouraged participation, saying on X that citizens should "express our voice" and asserting that power rests with the people. Protesters drew parallels with historic anti-monarchy movements, while Trump denied any royal ambitions.

Major rallies occurred in New York's Times Square, Los Angeles, and Chicago, highlighting opposition to Trump's federal interventions in Democratic-run states, including immigration enforcement and law-and-order measures. The protests coincided with a government shutdown triggered by a Senate standoff over healthcare cuts, leaving federal funding stalled. Thousands of participants combined serious slogans with costumes and satire to challenge Trump's administration across more than 2,500 planned demonstrations nationwide.

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India hails Trump's leadership in achieving Gaza peace deal

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has praised President Donald Trump's pivotal role in achieving the landmark Gaza peace agreement, calling it a major step toward regional stability. Speaking at a United Nations Security Council debate on Thursday, India's Permanent Representative P. Harish said the U.S.-led initiative had generated diplomatic momentum and urged all parties to honor their commitments.

India, which attended the Gaza Peace Summit in Egypt earlier this month, commended Egypt and Qatar for mediating between Israel and Hamas.

The Trump-brokered 20-point plan focuses on Gaza's reconstruction and a long-term two-state solution.



Harish reaffirmed India's support for Palestine's sovereignty and called for economic programs promoting social development and employment. He noted

that India has contributed over \$170 million in aid to Palestine, including medicines, supplies, and ongoing development projects.

India rebukes Pakistan's 'doublespeak' at UN after it defends terrorists as freedom fighters

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has strongly criticized Pakistan at the United Nations for attempting to portray its cross-border terrorists as "freedom fighters," calling it a display of "doublespeak and hypocrisy" by the "epicenter of global terrorism." The exchange took place on Wednesday during a UN General Assembly committee session on humanitarian affairs.

Pakistan's UN representative Muhammad Jawad Ajmal claimed that international law distinguishes between terrorism and liberation movements. However, India's First Secretary Raghoo

Puri countered that UN resolutions clearly condemn terrorism "wherever and by whomever committed," without justification under any cause. Puri asserted that Pakistan continues to shelter and support groups responsible for global terror attacks and remains "the worst violator of human rights" through its support for terrorism. He accused Islamabad of trying to misuse the term "Islamophobia" to deflect attention from its own atrocities.

The debate reflected long-standing tensions at the UN, where Pakistan has blocked progress on India's proposed global convention against terrorism for nearly two decades.



Senate gridlock extends shutdown as federal workers go unpaid



● Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Senate on Thursday failed to advance the Republican-backed "Shutdown Fairness Act," which would have ensured pay for federal employees, military personnel, and contractors during the ongoing government shutdown, now in its twenty-fourth day.

The bill, introduced by Republican Senator Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, received 54 votes, short of the 60 required. Three Democrats broke ranks to support it. Democrats opposed the measure, arguing it gave the President excessive discretion over which workers would be paid.

After the failed vote, the Senate adjourned for the weekend and will reconvene on Monday, marking Day 27 of the shutdown. White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt warned that the prolonged impasse could disrupt Thanksgiving travel, noting that about 13,000 air traffic controllers are working without pay. The Transportation Security Administration screened over three million passengers on the Sunday after Thanksgiving last year.

Israel suspends West Bank annexation bills after U.S. criticism



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israel has frozen two controversial bills aimed at annexing parts of the West Bank and the Maale Adumim settlement following criticism from U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance. Government coalition chair Ofir Katz announced on Thursday that the bills will not move forward “until further notice.”

The Israeli Parliament had approved the measures in a preliminary vote on Wednesday, coinciding with Vance’s visit. The vice president later dismissed the vote as a “political stunt.” Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s office said the proposal was an opposition provocation and noted that his Likud party did not support the bills.

Meanwhile, Hamas and Fatah delegations met in Cairo to discuss post-war arrangements in Gaza as part of the second phase of President Donald Trump’s peace plan. Egypt is preparing to host a reconstruction conference for Gaza in November.

Iran says it will not resume talks unless US drops ‘excessive demands’



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iran’s Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi said on Wednesday that Tehran will not return to nuclear negotiations until the United States abandons what he called its “excessive and unreasonable demands.” Speaking in Mashhad, Araghchi said Iran remains committed to diplomacy but will not compromise on its national rights.

He blamed the suspension of indirect talks with Washington and European powers on U.S. inflexibility and insisted that discussions must be based on mutual respect. The minister also said negotiations would resume only if the U.S. changes its approach.

The stalled talks come after Israel’s airstrikes earlier this year on Iran’s nuclear sites, followed by U.S. attacks on Iranian facilities. The U.S. has repeatedly demanded that Tehran curb its missile program and halt uranium enrichment, both of which Iran rejects as non-negotiable.

Quad partnership crucial to strengthening ties with India, says ex-US diplomat

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former US diplomat Nicholas Burns highlighted that the Quad grouping of India, Japan, Australia, and the United States is a crucial platform to “cement our relationship” with India and maintain close alignment on security issues.

Speaking at an Atlantic Council event on Tuesday, Burns, a former US Ambassador to China and key architect of the India-US relationship, traced the Quad’s origins to 2006-07 and noted that it evolved into a heads-of-government exercise during President Trump’s first term. He expressed hope that the upcoming Quad Leaders’ Summit, initially scheduled in India for November, would be rescheduled early next year to reinforce regional cooperation.

Burns pointed to strong bipartisan support in the US Congress for the summit. Lawmakers, including Gregory W. Meeks, Young Kim, Ami Bera, Bill Huizenga, and Sydney Kamlager-Dove, urged Trump to attend, emphasizing that the Quad is “the cornerstone for advancing shared interests in the Indo-Pacific.”



Democratic Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove’s amendment in the Department of State Policy Provisions Act, passed by voice vote, specifically called on the President to continue leadership in the Quad.

The former diplomat also criticized Trump-era 50 percent tariffs on India, warning they could hinder defense cooperation. Burns, now a Harvard University professor, described India as a “great strategic partner” and stressed that collaboration with India, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and the EU is essential to managing China’s rise and maintaining regional stability.

Putin urges dialogue after Trump cancels Budapest meeting

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday called dialogue with the United States “better than confrontation” following President Donald Trump’s decision to cancel their planned meeting in Budapest. Putin said the summit was proposed by Washington but has now been postponed, adding that both sides must approach talks seriously to achieve results.

The cancellation came as the United States announced new sanctions targeting Russia’s largest oil firms, Rosneft and Lukoil. Putin dismissed the move as futile, warning it could raise global oil prices. The U.S. Treasury Department said the sanctions were intended to limit Moscow’s ability to fund



its war in Ukraine.

Trump, speaking at the White House on Wednesday, said he hoped the conflict would soon end and described the sanctions as “tremendous.” He added that his past talks with Putin “did not go anywhere” but maintained that “it is time to make a deal.”

World Court rules Israel must uphold human rights in Palestine and cooperate with UN

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The International Court of Justice in The Hague has declared that Israel is obligated to uphold international human rights law in the Palestinian territories and work with the United Nations and humanitarian agencies to provide relief to civilians. The advisory opinion, issued on Wednesday at the request of the UN General Assembly, emphasized that Israel must not use starvation as a weapon of war and must ensure access to essentials such as food, water, fuel, shelter, and medical supplies.

The court also directed Israel to cooperate with the UN Relief and Works Agency, which it has banned, accusing it of ties to Hamas. Israel rejected the ruling, calling it a political move, while its UN



envoy Danny Danon accused the court of ignoring Hamas’s war crimes. The U.S. State Department also criticized the opinion as politically motivated.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres welcomed the decision, urging Israel to respect humanitarian operations in Gaza, where famine risks remain high following restrictions on aid amid ongoing conflict.

China welcomes resumption of direct flights with India as boost to bilateral ties



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Beijing on Friday welcomed the resumption of direct flights with India, describing it as a sign of continued healthy and stable development in bilateral relations. Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Guo Jiakun said the flights reflect the consensus reached during the leaders’ Tianjin meeting and promote people-to-people exchanges between the 2.8 billion citizens of both countries. Indian airline IndiGo will restart daily Kolkata-Guangzhou flights from October 26 and New Delhi-Guangzhou flights from November 10. China Eastern Airlines will operate Shanghai-Delhi flights three times weekly from November 9, fully restoring its India network and enhancing economic, trade, and cultural cooperation.

Cyberattack on Jaguar Land Rover causes \$2.55 billion hit to UK economy



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A massive cyberattack on Jaguar Land Rover has caused an estimated \$2.55 billion loss to the United Kingdom’s economy, according to a report released Wednesday by the Cyber Monitoring Centre. The attack forced a six-week shutdown of JLR’s three car factories, halting production and affecting more than 5,000 suppliers and dealerships nationwide.

The independent cybersecurity group called it the most expensive cyber incident ever recorded in the UK. Losses largely stemmed from halted production, which cost JLR around \$63 million per week. The British government later offered a \$1.9 billion loan guarantee to help the automaker and its partners recover.

The report rated the breach as a Category 3 systemic event, saying it disrupted not only manufacturing but also the country’s wider automotive supply chain.

President Trump to visit Japan for talks with Prime Minister Takaichi



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump will make a three-day official visit to Japan next week, where he will hold his first summit meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi since she took office. He will also meet Emperor Naruhito during the trip.

Japan’s foreign ministry said the visit will strengthen the Japan–U.S. alliance and deepen security cooperation. The two leaders are expected to discuss defense ties, trade, and maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific.

This will be President Trump’s fourth visit to Japan. Earlier this year, he met then–Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba in Washington to affirm their commitment to a “new golden age” of bilateral relations. Japan reiterated its plan to boost defense capabilities, which the U.S. has welcomed as vital for regional stability.

Venezuela launches military drills amid US threat concerns



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro launched nationwide military exercises on Saturday, named the “Great Corridor of the Venezuelan Plain,” to strengthen defense readiness amid perceived U.S. threats. The drills cover central states, coordinating civilian, police, and military forces to safeguard sovereignty and internal stability.

Maduro said the exercises aim to achieve “optimal readiness” and involve broad civic participation. Meanwhile, U.S. President Donald Trump announced the destruction of a drug-smuggling submarine in the Caribbean, killing two and repatriating two surviving suspects. Maduro described the drills as a measure of preparedness, citing concerns over U.S. military activities near Venezuelan waters.

South Korea suspends Cambodia water project amid rise in crimes targeting nationals

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea has suspended its collaborative water management project in Cambodia following a surge in crimes targeting South Koreans, the Science and Technology Policy Institute announced on Sunday.

The project, part of a United Nations-led initiative, aimed to improve water resilience along the Mekong River using renewable energy.

The transfer of the pilot program to Cambodian authorities has been delayed, although similar projects will continue elsewhere. The suspension follows the brutal death of a South Korean student in August and the recent return of over 60 nationals after diplomatic intervention.

South Korea is strengthening



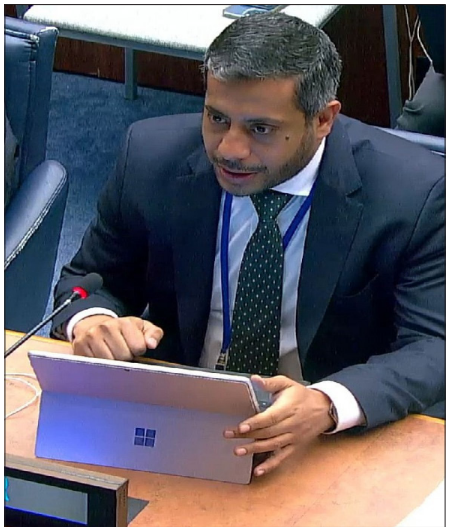
investigative and protective measures for its citizens in Cambodia.

Qatar calls for urgent Middle East nuclear-weapons-free zone

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Qatar emphasized the urgent need for a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the Middle East during discussions at the United Nations General Assembly’s First Committee on Saturday. Khalid Ibrahim Al Mansouri warned that nuclear proliferation heightens the risk of catastrophic accidents and global tensions.

He stressed that the development and modernization of nuclear arsenals undermines regional and international peace. Qatar supports the upcoming sixth UN Conference on a Middle East WMD-free zone and the 2026 Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, advocating for global disarmament,



responsible peaceful nuclear energy use, and robust safeguards under the International Atomic Energy Agency.

US and Australia sign critical minerals agreement amid China tensions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump hosted Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese at the White House on Monday to sign a critical minerals agreement, shortly after China imposed new export controls on rare earth minerals. The deal aims to strengthen cooperation on rare earths and critical minerals, with Trump projecting that production could reach \$2 billion in value within a year.

Albanese said the agreement would elevate

bilateral relations. Trump also endorsed the AUKUS defense pact, under which the United States will supply Australia with nuclear-powered submarines and jointly develop a new generation of submarines with the United Kingdom.

Trump expressed optimism about reaching a fair trade deal with China at the upcoming Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit in South Korea, warning that tariffs could be imposed if Beijing proceeds with export restrictions. On Taiwan, he argued that China is unlikely to attempt an invasion, citing U.S. military strength and readiness.



China says US visa restrictions will not affect ties with Central America



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China warned on Tuesday that U.S. visa restrictions targeting citizens and family members of Central American countries cooperating with China will not hinder growing relations. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun criticized the U.S. move as a politically motivated attempt to suppress regional countries and individuals under the guise of “rule of law.”

Guo said the United States is undermining international law, violating principles of sovereignty, and disrupting global order by imposing unilateral sanctions.

He described Washington’s accusations against Central American nations’ cooperation with China as “groundless” and reflecting arrogance and bias.

Pakistani forces accused of abducting more Baloch students



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Human rights groups reported this week that Pakistani security forces abducted three students from Balochistan, deepening the province’s human rights crisis. The Baloch Voice for Justice said troops raided the home of Abdul Wahid in Baloch Abad and took Haroon, Hamood, and Fahad Baloch. The group urged the United Nations and global rights bodies to intervene. It also cited five earlier student disappearances from Kharan district last week. Other organizations, including the Baloch National Movement, have reported similar cases this month. A recent Baloch Yakjehti Committee report documented 182 disappearances between July and August, blaming Pakistan’s Frontier Corps for most incidents.



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The cloud monopoly: Is the internet too dependent on Amazon?



Dr. Avi Verma

The massive Amazon Web Services (AWS) outage this week sent shockwaves across the digital world — not only because it briefly silenced platforms like Snapchat, WhatsApp, Venmo, and several airline and banking systems, but because it exposed an uncomfortable truth: the modern internet has become dangerously dependent on a handful of corporations. What was once hailed as the dawn of digital decentralization now looks increasingly like a cloud monopoly, where the failure of one company's servers can bring large parts of the global economy to a halt.

The AWS crash, which originated in the company's U.S.-East-1 region, disrupted critical infrastructure across continents and cost businesses hundreds of millions of dollars in downtime and lost productivity. But the financial losses, though staggering, tell only part of the story. The deeper cost was loss of confidence — in the illusion of digital stability that powers our hyper-connected world. When one provider controls vast swaths of internet hosting, financial processing, communications, and even government data, we must ask: who truly controls the modern world — elected governments or cloud monopolies?

The outage highlighted how fragile our



global systems really are. Hospitals, airlines, schools, and banks now depend on third-party servers to function, often without any alternative route when the cloud fails. In India too, where the digital economy is surging, AWS and its peers dominate everything from fintech startups to e-commerce and digital payments. A single disruption in a foreign data center can ripple across millions of Indian users and businesses — a digital domino effect that no national regulation can easily prevent. So what are the safeguards? Today, there are few. Businesses migrate to the cloud because it is convenient, scalable, and seemingly invincible. But convenience has quietly replaced sovereignty.

Even governments rely on the same networks controlled by private corporations headquartered thousands of miles away. When an outage strikes, there are no emergency protocols, no international redundancy frameworks, and no enforceable accountability. It is time for policymakers to confront this imbalance. Cloud diversification, domestic data infrastructure, and stricter transparency laws must become central to national security strategies — not after the next outage, but now. And yet, one must ask: why isn't the U.S. Justice

Department taking appropriate steps to address this growing monopoly? When one company's infrastructure can paralyze communication, commerce, and security, this goes beyond a business concern — it becomes a matter of public safety and economic sovereignty.

Antitrust laws exist for precisely this reason: to prevent any single entity from holding the world's digital arteries in its hands. The Justice Department's silence is becoming more glaring as the stakes rise. The AWS blackout of 2025 will be remembered not just for the temporary chaos it caused, but for what it revealed: the internet — the great equalizer of our age — has itself become centralized, monopolized, and vulnerable. As the world rushes to digitize every transaction, every communication, and every record, one question looms large: are we building progress on a platform too powerful for anyone to control, and too fragile for everyone to trust?

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



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EU hails US sanctions on Russia as sign of unity

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

European Union foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas welcomed new U.S. sanctions on Russia's two largest oil companies, calling them "an important sign of strength." Speaking ahead of an EU summit in Brussels this week, she said the coordinated move showed unity between Washington and Europe. The sanctions targeted Rosneft and Lukoil as part of efforts to curb Moscow's ability to fund its war in Ukraine. Kallas also backed an EU plan to use frozen Russian assets to provide a \$150 billion loan to Ukraine. European Council President Antonio Costa voiced confidence that EU leaders would approve the loan to support Ukraine's fight for peace and stability.

Jaishankar to represent India at East Asia Summit in Malaysia



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's Ministry of External Affairs announced this week that External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will represent Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday. Modi will instead attend the ASEAN-India Summit virtually on Saturday due to Diwali celebrations. Both summits will focus on strengthening India's partnership with Southeast Asian nations under the Act East Policy and Indo-Pacific vision. Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim confirmed Modi's virtual participation and expressed appreciation for India's role in regional cooperation. The three-day ASEAN meetings will bring together over 30 world leaders to discuss regional stability, economic growth, and inclusive development.

South Korean president orders action over law enforcement misconduct

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

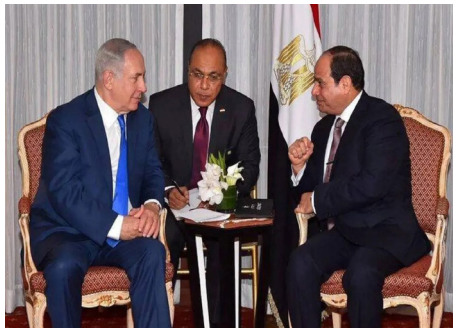
South Korean President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday demanded strict punishment for law enforcement officials accused of fabricating or concealing criminal cases. Speaking after parliamentary audits revealed misconduct within the prosecution, Lee said such acts "undermine democracy and the rule of law." His remarks followed testimony from Prosecutor Moon Ji-seok, who alleged pressure to omit key evidence in a corporate case. Separately, former Defense Minister Lee Jong-sup appeared in court over claims of interfering in a probe into a Marine's 2023 death.

Egypt and Palestine leaders meet in Cairo to advance Gaza ceasefire

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Egypt's Intelligence Chief Hassan Mahmoud Rashad met Palestinian Vice President Hussein al-Sheikh in Cairo on Thursday to review implementation of the Gaza ceasefire agreement and discuss ways to stabilize the region. Palestinian Intelligence Chief Majed Faraj also attended the meeting. According to Egypt's Al-Qahera News, both sides reaffirmed support for the U.S.-brokered truce and rejected Israel's recent annexation moves. Rashad had earlier met Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to discuss advancing President Donald Trump's peace plan.

The ceasefire, in effect since early



October after two years of conflict, was mediated by the U.S., Egypt, Qatar, and Turkey. Egypt is now preparing to host a Gaza reconstruction conference in November. Gaza's health authorities report over 68,000 Palestinians killed and 170,000 injured since the start of Israel's campaign in 2023.

Pakistan honours media figures linked to Operation Sindoor disinformation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan has awarded two media personalities, Qamar Cheema and Wajahat Kazmi, for their roles in reporting during the recent Indo-Pak military standoff, sparking criticism from media watchdogs. Cheema received the Tamgha-e-Imtiaz, while Kazmi was honored by the Sindh Chief Minister.

Investigations by the Digital Forensic Research and Analysis Centre revealed both individuals spread disinformation during Operation Sindoor, including false reports of Indian aircraft being shot down and video game footage passed off as combat visuals. Cheema's ties to controversial figures and Kazmi's



history of manipulating social media for communal tensions have further raised concerns. Observers say Pakistan's recognition signals state endorsement of individuals involved in narrative warfare and misinformation campaigns.

Brazil's Lula calls for independent Latin America

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva urged the creation of a "Latin American doctrine" to promote regional independence, saying no foreign leader should speak arrogantly to Brazil. Speaking to students in Sao Bernardo do Campo, Lula emphasized sovereignty as a matter of dignity and character.

His remarks come amid a thaw in Brazil-United States relations following U.S. tariffs of up to 50 percent on Brazilian goods. Lula confirmed that Brazil and the United States will hold



a formal meeting to discuss the tariffs, following earlier talks with President Donald Trump. He stressed that Brazil must not depend on one country or leader and called for mutual respect in resolving disputes.

Netanyahu announces bid for Israeli prime minister in 2026 elections

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu confirmed on Saturday that he will run in the 2026 parliamentary elections. Netanyahu, 76 next week, leads an extreme-right coalition and previously served as prime minister from 1996-1999 and 2009-2021.

He made the announcement in an

interview with Channel 14, expressing confidence in winning.

Netanyahu's office also stated that the Rafah border crossing with Gaza remains closed until Hamas fulfills obligations under the ceasefire, which went into effect on October 10. The ceasefire includes prisoner exchanges, humanitarian aid access, and the return of deceased Israeli hostages.

Trump to meet China's Xi Jinping in South Korea amid Asia tour



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump will meet Chinese President Xi Jinping in South Korea next Thursday as part of a major Asia tour focused on trade and regional peace. The meeting will take place on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit. Trump departs Washington on Friday and will first attend the ASEAN summit in Malaysia on Sunday before traveling to Japan and South Korea. In Malaysia, he is expected to sign a trade deal and witness a peace accord between Thailand and Cambodia. Trump will meet Japan's new Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi on Wednesday before traveling to Busan, South Korea, where he will meet President Lee Jae Myung and U.S. business leaders. Global markets are watching closely as Trump and Xi aim to ease trade tensions and discuss China's role in ending the war in Ukraine.

Sindhi leader seeks global support for Afghan refugee repatriation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Jay Sindh Muttahida Mahaz chairman Shafi Burfat on Wednesday urged the international community to assist in the orderly repatriation of Afghan refugees from Pakistan's Sindh province. Speaking from Berlin, Burfat said Pakistan had settled most refugees in Sindh to alter its demographic balance and weaken local political identity. He called the policy a form of "demographic engineering" but clarified that Sindhis hold no hostility toward Afghan families. Burfat said repatriation should be humane and internationally supported. He urged NATO, the United Nations, and allied nations to ensure a process that respects Afghan sovereignty while addressing Sindh's political and demographic concerns.

United States sees highest measles cases since 1992

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States has recorded 1,618 measles cases and three deaths this year, marking the highest total since 1992, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Forty-two states have reported infections, with 198 hospitalizations, including 95 children under age five. Officials said 92 percent of patients were unvaccinated or had unknown vaccination status. Public health experts warned that the surge highlights declining vaccination rates nationwide. Measles, a highly contagious airborne virus, can cause fever, cough, and a widespread rash.

Indian envoy, US senator discuss trade talks and Indo-Pacific cooperation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's Ambassador to the United States, Vinay Kwatra, met U.S. Senator Bill Hagerty this week in Washington to discuss expanding bilateral cooperation, including ongoing negotiations for a trade deal, boosting hydrocarbons trade, and strengthening collaboration in the Indo-Pacific region.

Kwatra later hosted Senator Hagerty and his wife at his residence, expressing appreciation for the senator's support for India-U.S. ties. Earlier, Kwatra and his wife attended a Diwali celebration at the White House, hosted by President Donald Trump. Trump lit a ceremonial diya and praised India's cultural traditions, calling Prime Minister Narendra Modi "a great person." He said he recently spoke with Modi about "great trade deals" and added that India had significantly reduced oil imports from Russia, expressing optimism about deepening economic cooperation between the two nations.

India, Honduras explore trade and investment opportunities at Viksit Bharat seminar



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Honduras reaffirmed their commitment to mutual growth at the 'Viksit Bharat – Invest India: India-Honduras Bilateral Trade Relations' seminar on Wednesday. The event, organized by the Indian Embassy in Guatemala, highlighted opportunities for trade, investment, technology, and development partnerships.

Honduran dignitaries, including the Vice Ministers of Health and Energy, discussed potential collaboration with India in pharmaceuticals, healthcare, renewable energy, and sustainable development. Indian Ambassador Raj Kumar Singh emphasized India's transformation into a Viksit Bharat and encouraged Honduran businesses to explore the country's growing economy.

The seminar concluded with a shared commitment to deepen cooperation through continued dialogue, trade missions, and collaboration in emerging sectors. Both sides acknowledged the strong convergence of interests and expressed optimism about building enduring economic and strategic partnerships.

World leaders and global communities celebrate Diwali with unity and cultural pride

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Diwali was celebrated with enthusiasm around the world on Monday, as leaders, diplomats, and communities highlighted the festival's message of light triumphing over darkness and good over evil. In the United States, President Donald Trump wished Americans prosperity, hope, and peace, calling Diwali a "timeless reminder of light's victory over darkness."

FBI Director Kash Patel, the first Indian-American to lead the agency, extended greetings worldwide, while Republican Governor Greg Abbot of Texas hosted celebrations at his mansion with India's Consul General DC Manjunath. Other lawmakers, including Vivek Ramaswamy, Ro Khanna, Pete Sessions, Brian Fitzpatrick, and Suzan DelBene, shared greetings and joined local festivities. Los Angeles City Hall was illuminated for the first time, celebrating the Indo-American community and cultural ties with India.

International leaders and diplomatic



missions also joined in the celebrations. Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Ambassador Reuven Azar, Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, Bhutan's Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay, New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon, and Ukraine's Foreign Ministry extended greetings, while Indian missions in Japan, Hungary, Myanmar, Shanghai, Dubai, Singapore, and Cyprus hosted cultural events featuring Laxmi Puja, rangoli, performances, and lectures.

Across the globe, Diwali brought together diverse communities, celebrating unity, cultural heritage, and the enduring spirit of hope, renewal, and togetherness.

Indian envoy and Canadian minister discuss boosting economic ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian Acting Consul General Kapidhwaja Pratap Singh met with Canadian Minister of Economic Development Victor Fedeli on Tuesday to discuss strengthening economic relations ahead of Fedeli's upcoming trade mission to India. The meeting focused on opportunities across the India-Ontario corridor, including energy, technology, healthcare, and life sciences. The Consulate General highlighted the forward-looking nature of the talks and the renewed cooperation in India-Canada relations. Fedeli described the discussion as "excellent," emphasizing the shared strengths of both jurisdictions.

Earlier this month, Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand met with India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar



to restore and reinvigorate bilateral mechanisms. A joint statement outlined a 'New Roadmap' for cooperation, emphasizing mutual respect for democratic values, rule of law, and strategic stability amid global economic uncertainty. Bilateral trade reached \$23.66 billion in 2024, and both sides are focused on expanding commercial presence and creating jobs.

India's sacred Buddha relics draw thousands of devotees in Russia's Kalmykia

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Over 50,000 devotees visited the Geden Sheddup Choikorling Monastery in Elista on Saturday to pay homage to India's Sacred Relics of Lord Buddha, with queues stretching nearly one kilometer. The relics, recognized as a National Treasure of India, were brought by a high-level delegation led by Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya along with senior Indian monks.

The delegation is conducting special religious services and blessings for Kalmykia's predominantly Buddhist population, the only European region with Buddhism as the main religion. The exposition, which began on Saturday, is the first of its kind in the Russian Republic and reflects deep civilizational ties between India and Russia.

Officials noted the event revives the



legacy of the 19th Kushok Bakula Rinpoche, a revered monk from Ladakh who helped revive Buddhism in Mongolia and Russia. The exposition is organized by India's Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the International Buddhist Confederation, the National Museum, and the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts. Pilgrims have been arriving continuously since early morning, highlighting the profound spiritual resonance of this historic event.

Indian Air Force joins multinational Ocean Sky exercise in Spain



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian Air Force is participating in the multinational air combat exercise Ocean Sky 2025, hosted by the Spanish Air Force at Gando Air Base in the Canary Islands from October 20 to 31. The exercise aims to enhance interoperability, sharpen air combat skills, and strengthen defense cooperation with allied nations. More than 50 aircraft, including F-18M, Eurofighter, F-16 variants, Su-30MKI, MRTT, KC-767, KC-30M, A-332, and A400M tankers, are involved. The exercise focuses on Defensive and Offensive Counter-Air missions, promoting operational synergy and tactical leadership in a complex multinational environment.

The Canary Islands provide optimal training conditions with favorable weather and low air traffic density. The exercise follows India's recent receipt of 16 Airbus C-295 military transport aircraft at the Seville assembly line, reflecting expanding operational capabilities and defense collaboration with Spain.

India-Japan defense partnership enhances modernization and regional security

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India-Japan defense ties are increasingly pivotal for India's military modernization and regional stability, focusing on stealth systems, naval platforms, unmanned vehicles, cyber defense, and potentially fighter jets and submarines, according to a report released Tuesday.

The partnership supplies India with critical technology, promotes indigenous production, and fosters operational synergy. Following the August Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation, both nations have enhanced interoperability, joint exercises, and collaboration in chemical, biological, radiological defense, cyber warfare, and maritime security.

The report emphasizes that India gains technological expertise and industrial collaboration, while Japan secures a trusted regional ally with strong maritime capabilities. The partnership strengthens readiness against terrorism, piracy, and hybrid threats, supporting a free, open, and rules-based Indo-Pacific. Joint development of advanced combat systems is seen as a promising future direction for strategic cooperation.



Friday, 24 october 2025

7



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Trump halts federal surge in San Francisco after talks with mayor



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump announced Thursday that he is backing off plans to send federal agents and the National Guard into San Francisco following discussions with Mayor Daniel Lurie and local business leaders, including Salesforce CEO Mark Benioff and Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang. Trump had planned the surge to address what he described as rising crime, though city and state officials said crime is declining. Earlier Thursday, U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents arrived at Coast Guard Base Alameda, drawing several hundred protesters. Lurie said he welcomes continued federal collaboration but warned that military or militarized immigration enforcement could hinder the city’s recovery. Trump indicated that federal authorities remain ready to act in the future.

U.S. Anglican Church archbishop faces sexual misconduct allegations



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Archbishop Stephen Wood, the senior leader of the Anglican Church in North America, is facing allegations of sexual misconduct and financial impropriety, according to a church presentment obtained by The Washington Post. A former children’s ministry director accused Wood of trying to kiss her in April 2024 and of giving her thousands of dollars in unexpected payments. The denomination, which has over 1,000 congregations across the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, may launch an ecclesiastical trial if the presentment is validated. Wood denies the allegations. The case comes amid a broader crisis in the church, including ongoing trials of other leaders accused of abuse or misconduct. Observers say how the church handles Wood’s case could affect its credibility.

White House seeks donors as East Wing demolished for \$300 million ballroom

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The White House is seeking additional donors to fund President Donald Trump’s \$300 million East Wing ballroom, after nearly \$200 million in contributions were pledged. The project has drawn support from corporations including Amazon, Apple, Meta, Microsoft, and Google, as well as individuals such as Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss.

Trump pledged Thursday to contribute millions himself, saying he would “donate whatever’s needed.” Demolition crews have nearly finished tearing down the East Wing, which previously housed the first lady’s offices. The 90,000-square-foot addition has drawn criticism from Democrats and preservationists concerned about the historic building.

White House officials said demolition



may finish in the coming days and emphasized transparency in the project, noting adjustments are normal in large-scale construction. Trump has repeatedly assured that the new ballroom will not interfere with the existing structure.

Virginia governor declares emergency as SNAP benefits at risk

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin declared a state of emergency Thursday to help residents at risk of losing federal



food assistance if the government shutdown continues. Over 850,000 Virginians could lose Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits starting Nov. 1 without a budget agreement to reopen the government.

The emergency declaration allows Youngkin to deploy state funds to protect residents’ health and welfare. SNAP provides an average of \$332 per household monthly, with households with children receiving \$574, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

About four in five recipients include children, elderly, or disabled individuals. Other states are taking similar action: California plans to fast-track \$80 million in state funds and deploy the National Guard to support food banks, while Colorado’s governor requested \$10 million to aid food pantries.

Trump praises FBI after 28,000 violent criminals arrested since January

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump on Monday lauded the FBI for arresting over 28,000 violent criminals since January 20, seizing more than 6,000 illegal weapons, rescuing 5,000 children, and dismantling 2,000 criminal enterprises. The president highlighted Operation Summer Heat, conducted from June through September, which targeted violent offenders nationwide, including 11,000 murder suspects. Trump called the summer “the safest and most peaceful in two decades.” Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem reported more than 480,000 criminal illegal aliens arrested in nine months, with 70 percent convicted or facing charges. The



FBI, along with the Coast Guard under Operation River Wall, has strengthened southern border security along the Rio Grande, deploying boats and personnel to deter illegal immigration. Trump credited the agency’s work with restoring law and order and ensuring Americans can live safely in their communities.

Vance criticizes Israel’s West Bank annexation vote as ‘insult’



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

U.S. Vice President JD Vance on Thursday condemned a preliminary vote in Israel’s parliament approving parts of the West Bank for annexation, calling it an “insult” and inconsistent with Trump administration policy. The symbolic 25-24 vote was unlikely to pass additional rounds or become law.

Vance said the United States plans to begin rebuilding Gaza in “Hamas-free” areas over the next two to three years, potentially accommodating half a million residents. He noted that eight out of ten buildings in Gaza were destroyed during the conflict that began in October 2023, with reconstruction costs estimated at \$53 billion. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the vote a political provocation.

Anonymous donor covers \$130 million military pay shortfall during shutdown



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump announced Thursday that an anonymous donor contributed \$130 million to cover unpaid military salaries during the ongoing government shutdown. The donor, a personal friend of the president, wanted to remain unnamed. Trump said the funds would go directly to troops affected by the funding lapse, as essential military personnel continue working without pay. The contribution came after a Senate vote on a bill to ensure troop pay failed Wednesday, falling short 54–45 of the 60 votes required. Senators from both parties have since proposed alternative measures to support federal employees and prevent disruptions during the shutdown, which has now become the second-longest in U.S. history.

Federal judges admit AI led to errors in recent court rulings

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Two federal judges acknowledged that artificial intelligence contributed to errors in recent court decisions, following an inquiry by Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley. Letters released this week show that U.S. District Judge Julien Xavier Neals of New Jersey withdrew a draft securities ruling after discovering it contained mistakes. Neals said a law school intern had used OpenAI's ChatGPT for research without authorization. U.S. District Judge Henry Wingate of Mississippi reported that a law clerk used the AI tool Perplexity to draft a civil rights order that was issued in error before undergoing the usual review process. Both judges said they have since strengthened internal review procedures and created formal AI policies.

Supreme Court to weigh whether regular marijuana users can own guns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Supreme Court said on Monday it will consider whether people who regularly use marijuana can legally possess firearms, raising questions under the Second Amendment. The case involves Ali Danial Hemani, a Texas man whose felony gun charge was largely dismissed by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled that the federal law banning all illegal drug users from owning guns may be unconstitutional. Hemani's lawyers argue the law risks penalizing millions of Americans, as about half the states allow recreational marijuana use. The Justice Department contends that restricting firearms for regular drug users is justified for public safety. Arguments are expected early next year, with a decision likely by early summer.

Trump refiles \$15 billion defamation lawsuit against New York Times

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump refiled his \$15 billion defamation lawsuit against The New York Times, publisher Penguin Random House, and three reporters on Wednesday after a judge dismissed his original case. The amended complaint cites two articles and a book published before the 2024 election, alleging false claims about Trump's finances, tax compliance, and role in "The Apprentice." Trump seeks \$15 billion in compensatory damages and additional punitive damages. The defendants have called the lawsuit meritless, asserting it threatens free speech and press freedom. The case follows a prior settlement with Paramount over a "60 Minutes" interview, highlighting Trump's ongoing legal challenges against media organizations.

Pardoned Jan. 6 rioter charged with threatening House Democratic leader

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Christopher Moynihan, 34, pardoned by President Donald Trump for crimes linked to the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol breach, was charged Thursday with making a terroristic threat against House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.). Court documents show Moynihan sent texts on Oct. 17 threatening to kill Jeffries during a scheduled New York City appearance.

A New York State Police investigator said the messages placed the recipient in reasonable fear for Jeffries' life. Moynihan, arraigned and pleading not guilty, faces 2-7 years in prison if convicted. Jeffries thanked law enforcement for the arrest, emphasizing threats will not deter congressional work.



Moynihan was convicted in 2023 of obstructing an official proceeding and five related misdemeanors, receiving 21 months in prison followed by three years supervised release. Trump pardoned approximately 1,500 Jan. 6 defendants, citing unfair treatment, though several have since faced new criminal charges.

North Carolina Republicans approve new congressional map to boost GOP



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

North Carolina's Republican leaders completed remapping the state's U.S. House districts Wednesday, aiming to secure an additional seat for President Donald Trump's party ahead of next year's midterm elections. The changes target Democratic Representative Don Davis's swing district covering over 20 northeastern counties.

The state Senate approved the plan Tuesday, and Democratic Governor Josh Stein cannot veto redistricting under state law. Filing for candidates begins Dec. 1. Republicans said the new boundaries respond to Trump's call for GOP-led states to strengthen party representation in Congress. Democrats have challenged the map, with legal action and rival proposals emerging in other states to counter similar Republican efforts.

New York Mayor Adams endorses Cuomo to block leftist opponent

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Outgoing New York Mayor Eric Adams endorsed former Governor Andrew Cuomo this week to prevent democratic socialist Zohran Mamdani from winning the November 4 mayoral election. Adams and Cuomo described Mamdani as an "existential threat" to the city.

Adams, who dropped out of the race in September amid low approval ratings, said he would campaign in Black and brown communities to support Cuomo. Cuomo praised Adams for prioritizing the city over personal ambition. Mamdani criticized the endorsement, accusing both men of aligning with corruption and Trump.



The race also includes Republican Curtis Sliwa, whom Cuomo has urged to withdraw to improve his chances, though Sliwa refused. Early voting begins Saturday. Cuomo and Mamdani traded barbs in the final debate Wednesday, ahead of the campaign's last days.

US military moves to deploy hypersonic weapons on mobile launchers



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. military is adapting Castalion's Blackbeard hypersonic strike weapons for deployment on mobile platforms such as the Army's High Mobility Artillery Rocket System. The development, announced Friday, aims to expand global positioning of nearly unstoppable weapons capable of traveling over five times the speed of sound. Castalion's Blackbeard is designed for mass production at a fraction of the cost of older systems, with annual production targets in the thousands. The company's contracts with the Army and Navy mark an initial step toward operational deployment, though financial terms were not disclosed. President Donald Trump's 2026 budget request allocated \$25 million for further integration. The U.S. is racing to keep pace with China and Russia, which are also developing advanced hypersonic arms capable of evading traditional missile defenses.

US government shutdown strains aviation safety workers' finances

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The ongoing government shutdown has left 60,000 aviation safety workers, including TSA officers and air-traffic controllers, without full pay, forcing many to rely on savings, loans, or side jobs. Union leaders and employees reported that recent paychecks were partial or missing, prompting difficult decisions for workers with families.

Neal Gosman of the American Federation of Government Employees said colleagues were considering rideshare jobs to make ends meet. Air-traffic controllers were notified they would not receive pay for the upcoming week. Airports like Minneapolis-St. Paul plan



to provide food support if the shutdown continues. During a past shutdown, absences among TSA officers and controllers rose sharply, highlighting risks to safety and efficiency. Lawmakers are negotiating a funding bill, with a vote expected on Thursday, but disagreements over healthcare subsidies continue to delay resolution.

Indian American Nirav Shah announces run for Maine governor as Democrat



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former federal health official Nirav Shah announced on Monday that he is running for Governor of Maine as a Democratic candidate, seeking to succeed Janet Mills, who will challenge Republican Senator Susan Collins next year. Shah emphasized his commitment to tackling housing, healthcare, and child nutrition from the first day of office.

A doctor and lawyer, Shah previously served as principal deputy director of the Centers for Disease Control during President Joe Biden's administration and headed the Maine CDC. He gained prominence during the COVID-19 pandemic for leading the state's health response.

If elected, Shah would become the third Indian American governor in the United States, following Bobby Jindal in Louisiana and Nikki Haley in South Carolina. Shah began his campaign in Portland and Brunswick, drawing support from residents. He will compete with at least four others for the Democratic nomination, while Republican Jonathan Bush is seeking his party's ticket.

New York road renamed Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji Marg to honor Sikh legacy



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A stretch of road in Richmond Hill, Queens, was renamed Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji Marg over the weekend, honoring the ninth Sikh Guru's legacy of sacrifice, compassion, and justice. The renaming coincided with the eve of Deepavali.

Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri described it as a proud moment for the Sikh community, while City Councilwoman Lynn Schulman, who introduced the resolution, highlighted the Guru's commitment to human rights. The road is home to Gurdwara Makhan Shah Lubana, one of the oldest Sikh temples on the East Coast, rebuilt after a 2002 fire.

Community leader Sukhjinder Singh Nijjar welcomed the move, saying it recognizes the Sikh community's service and contributions. The temple, founded in 1972, continues to play a central role in Richmond Hill, reflecting the cultural and spiritual heritage of Sikhs in New York.

Britain's Indian and Asian communities struggle under rising cost-of-living pressures

● Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Britain's Indian and Asian communities are among the worst affected by the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, according to the Indian Workers Association (Great Britain). Rising energy bills and soaring food prices are pushing Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, and Black working-class families to the brink, the Leicester-based organization said.

"People are paying more and getting less," said Sital Singh Gill, the association's general secretary, emphasizing that these communities face the heaviest financial strain despite contributing significantly to Britain's economy during the pandemic.



Government and charity data underline the disparity. About 22 percent of Indian households live on low income after

housing costs, compared with nearly half of Pakistani households and more than half of Bangladeshi households. Child poverty is also high, affecting 27 percent of Indian-origin children and up to 65 percent of Bangladeshi children.

Overcrowding exacerbates challenges, with four percent of Indian households and 18 percent of Bangladeshi households living in cramped conditions.

The association has called on the government to reform fixed energy charges, invest in energy efficiency, ensure transparency in grocery pricing, address ethnicity pay gaps, and strengthen public services, urging policymakers to prioritize low-income and overcrowded households.

Sikh grandson fulfills lifelong quest to trace grandfather to Australia

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Baljinder Singh spent decades pursuing the story of his grandfather, Mehnga Singh, who left pre-independence Punjab for Australia in 1920 and later adopted the name Charles Singh. As a child, Baljinder listened to his grandmother Radh Kaur recount the grandfather who had left, promising to return—a story that shaped his determination. In February 1986, armed with fragmented clues, half-remembered names, and a vague reference to "Surry Hills" on an old postcard, Baljinder arrived in Sydney to begin the search.

He navigated archives, cemeteries, and local institutions, checking land records, church registers, and aged care homes for decades. Each lead often ended in disappointment, but his resolve never waned. Finally, in July 2009, a letter from the National Archives confirmed Mehnga Singh's records, revealing his marriage and life details in Australia.

Baljinder's journey, captured in the



documentary "Finding Grandpa," reflects a profound story of familial devotion, persistence, and cultural memory. After eighty-nine years, he fulfilled the promise made to his grandmother, uncovering a family history lost to time and reconnecting with a grandfather who had long been a symbol of hope and determination.

Indian-origin truck driver arrested after fatal California crash kills three

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian-origin Jashanpreet Singh, 21, from Yuba City, was arrested on Tuesday for causing a deadly chain-reaction crash on California's 10 Freeway in Ontario while allegedly under the influence of drugs. The collision left three people dead and at least four others injured.

According to the California Highway Patrol, Singh was driving a speeding semi-truck and failed to brake for slow-moving traffic. Eyewitnesses described a devastating impact that sparked a fireball. Singh is in custody at West Valley Detention Center awaiting charges including vehicular manslaughter and driving under the influence.

Fox News reported that Singh is an undocumented immigrant released at the California border in 2022. The crash has sparked public outrage over safety, drug use, and licensing regulations. Victims have not been publicly identified.

Kathakali performance brings Mahabharata to life in South Korea

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The inland city of Miryang hosted a spectacular Kathakali performance on Thursday, showcasing India's classical dance tradition and bringing the epic Mahabharata to life through music and expressive gestures. The event at Yoga Culture Town marked the first Kathakali performance in Miryang, highlighting storytelling, rhythm, and vibrant costumes.

The Indian Embassy in South Korea praised Miryang City and Yoga Culture Town for hosting the landmark event. The performance followed a Wednesday show at Busan Citizens Hall, where Kathakali was paired with Chhau dance to celebrate cultural exchange.

Ambassador-designate Gourangalal Das and Deputy Chief of Mission Nishi



Kant Singh felicitated the troupe, led by renowned artist Sreenathan Sreenatha Mandiram. The event was part of the 11th Sarang Festival, which features music, films, art exhibitions, and culinary experiences. Around 400 guests attended, including diplomats, cultural figures, and friends of India in Korea. The festival aims to strengthen India-South Korea cultural ties and celebrate the country's rich heritage.

Indian-American Paul Kapur sworn in as US Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian-American security expert Paul Kapur was officially sworn in on Wednesday as Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs at the US Department of State. Kapur will oversee American diplomatic engagement and strategic partnerships in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Born in New Delhi to an Indian father and American mother, Kapur previously served on the State Department's Policy Planning Staff and was a professor at the US Naval Postgraduate School. He is a visiting fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and has authored several books on South Asia, nuclear proliferation, and Islamist militancy. Kapur succeeds Donald Lu in the post.

Indian student dies of cardiac arrest during Diwali celebrations in Dubai



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Vaishnav Krishnakumar, an 18-year-old Indian student and UAE Golden Visa recipient, died of cardiac arrest on Tuesday during Diwali celebrations at Dubai International Academic City. He was a first-year BBA Marketing student at Middlesex University Dubai.

Vaishnav was rushed to hospital, but doctors declared him brought dead. The Dubai Police Forensic Department is investigating. His family plans to transport his body to Kerala for final rites on Friday. The student community and schools, including GEMS Our Own Indian School, mourned his loss, remembering him as bright, compassionate, and talented. He is survived by his parents VG and Vidhu Krishnakumar and younger sister Vrishti.

US lawmaker urges Pentagon to review beard-shaving policy for Sikhs



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Congressman Thomas R. Suozzi has urged the Pentagon to reconsider a policy enforcing a blanket beard-shaving mandate, highlighting that maintaining uncut hair and beards is a core part of Sikh faith. In a letter to Secretary of War Pete Hegseth, Suozzi emphasized that faith-based and medical accommodations should not be overlooked.

Suozzi noted that Sikhs have served in the US military for generations and that similar considerations apply to Muslim and African American service members. Shaving can also cause medical issues like pseudofolliculitis barbae for Black personnel. Suozzi called for a balanced approach that maintains high standards while respecting religious and cultural practices. His appeal coincides with the introduction of the bipartisan Indian American Heritage Resolution, marking Diwali and honoring the community's contributions.

Belgian court approves Mehul Choksi's extradition to India

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

A court in Antwerp on Friday approved the extradition of fugitive diamantaire Mehul Choksi to India, ruling that his arrest by Belgian authorities on India's request was valid, officials said. Choksi, 66, has the option to appeal in a higher Belgian court.

Choksi was arrested in Belgium on April 11 following an extradition request from the Central Bureau of Investigation. He is accused, along with his nephew Nirav Modi, of orchestrating a \$1.26 billion fraud at Punjab National Bank through fraudulent letters of undertaking. Belgian prosecutors, assisted by Indian officials, argued that Choksi remains a flight risk.

India assured Belgian authorities that



if extradited, Choksi would be housed in Barrack No. 12 at Arthur Road Jail in Mumbai, meeting European standards, with proper living space, security, and amenities, including outdoor exercise, games, and access to media and legal consultation.

Choksi had previously fled to Antigua and Barbuda, where he obtained citizenship. Nirav Modi remains in a London jail, contesting extradition.

Indian Air Force instructors to train British pilots in Wales

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

For the first time since World War II, Indian Air Force instructors will be based at RAF Valley in Wales to train British pilots, reversing a historic flow of training from Britain to India. The move addresses a shortage of qualified flight instructors and technical issues with Britain's Hawk T2 trainer jets.

Indian instructors, experienced with similar Hawk jets built under license by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, will strengthen professional ties while easing the RAF's training bottleneck. The collaboration also follows recent defense deals, including a £350-million order for British-made air-defense systems,



highlighting growing operational trust and strategic partnership between India and the United Kingdom.

Historian Sunil Amrith wins British Academy Book Prize for environmental history

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian-origin historian Sunil Amrith has won the British Academy Book Prize for his work 'The Burning Earth: An Environmental History of the Last 500 Years'. The award, worth 25,000 pounds, honors outstanding non-fiction writing.

Amrith, born in Kenya to South Indian parents, grew up in Singapore and is a

professor at Yale University. He accepted the award virtually from London on Wednesday.

Judges described the book as essential reading for understanding the climate crisis, highlighting its detailed exploration of the interconnectedness of human history and environmental change over centuries and continents. Amrith traced the impact of colonization, industrialization, and settlement patterns, revealing lessons for sustainable futures.



Eight Punjab youths stranded in Kazakhstan after alleged travel fraud



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Eight youths from Punjab are stranded in Kazakhstan after allegedly being duped by a local agent promising lucrative driver jobs. Instead, they were forced into hard labor in snow-covered mountainous areas, enduring hunger, freezing conditions, and cramped living spaces. The situation emerged when victim Harvinder Singh called BJP district president Ajayvir Singh Lalpura. The group, mostly from Ropar district, includes Manjit Singh, Amarjit Singh, Hardeep Singh, Avtar Singh, and Harvinder Singh. Parents have approached Punjab Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains, urging intervention. Lalpura expressed deep concern over the exploitative conditions and pledged to raise the matter with central authorities to ensure the safe return of the stranded youth.

Three Indians killed, one injured as boat capsizes off Mozambique coast

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Three Indian nationals were killed, one injured, and five others rescued after a boat capsized off Beira, Mozambique, on Thursday. The launch, carrying crew members of a tanker including 14 Indians, overturned during crew transfer operations. The Indian High Commission expressed condolences and is assisting the families of the deceased. A Consular Officer visited the survivor, who is receiving medical care in Beira. India and Mozambique maintain close diplomatic and economic ties. Around 3,000 Indians live in the country, working in Indian companies or as professionals, while nearly 20,000 Mozambicans trace their ancestry to India, mostly from Gujarat, Goa, Daman, and Diu.

Twenty-three Indians rescued after fire on LPG tanker off Yemen coast

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Twenty-three Indian crew members were rescued after a fire broke out on the Cameroon-flagged LPG tanker MV Falcon off Aden, Yemen, on Saturday. The vessel, traveling from Oman's Sohar Port to Djibouti, caught fire following an explosion, with about fifteen percent of the ship ablaze. Twenty-four crew abandoned the ship; twenty-three Indians were rescued safely, while two remain missing and one was still onboard. The European Union Naval Force launched a search-and-rescue operation. Due to the risk of further explosions, nearby vessels were advised to maintain a safe distance. A private company has now taken over salvage operations.

Slovenia's Bled named among UN's best tourism villages



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bled, a scenic town in Slovenia, was named one of the world's Best Tourism Villages by the United Nations Tourism on Monday. Known for its glacial lake with a central island church and the 11th-century Bled Castle, the town joins a network of villages recognized for sustainable, community-based tourism. The initiative highlights destinations that preserve natural and cultural heritage while promoting economic opportunities. Bled, home to around 8,000 residents, follows Solcava, Radovljica, and Bohinj in receiving the award. This year, 52 villages were selected from over 270 applications worldwide, gaining international visibility and access to UN Tourism's development network.

Elon Musk celebrates Starlink milestone of 10,000 satellites



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Elon Musk praised Starlink on Monday after the satellite internet service reached 10,000 satellites in orbit. The milestone was achieved on Sunday with a Falcon 9 rocket launch carrying 28 Starlink satellites from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California. More than 8,000 of the satellites are currently operational, providing high-speed internet worldwide, including in remote areas and conflict zones. Starlink, launched in 2018, aims to expand its network to over 30,000 satellites and is approved for use in over 150 countries, including India. The launch marked SpaceX's 132nd Falcon 9 flight in 2025.

Russian President Putin to skip G20 Summit in South Africa

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian President Vladimir Putin will not attend the G20 Summit in Johannesburg on November 22–23, Presidential spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said Wednesday. Russia will instead be represented “at a worthy level,” with officials to be announced later.

South Africa, holding the G20 Presidency until November 30, 2025, plans to discuss global issues including the Ukraine crisis.

The G20 comprises 19 countries and two regional bodies, representing 85 percent of global GDP and two-thirds of the world population. South Africa will hand over the Presidency to the United States in December 2025.

Trump terminates all Canada trade talks over ad criticizing tariffs

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US President Donald Trump announced on Thursday that he is ending all trade negotiations with Canada, following the release of a Canadian television ad opposing US tariffs. Trump accused Canada of “egregious behavior” intended to influence court decisions, claiming the ad misused remarks by former President Ronald Reagan. The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation confirmed that Ontario had not received permission to use or edit Reagan’s 1987 address and described the ad as misleading. Trump said tariffs are critical to US national

security and the economy and justified terminating talks as a response to Canada’s actions. The announcement came after Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said he intends to double Canadian exports outside the United States to mitigate the impact of US tariffs.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford had earlier promoted the ad on social media, asserting the province would continue opposing American tariffs. Carney was set to leave Friday for an Asia summit, while Trump planned to travel later that day. More than three-quarters of Canadian exports go to the US, totaling approximately \$2.7 billion daily.



Britain pushes tougher measures on Russia as Zelenskiy visits London

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Britain called on Friday for stronger action against Russia to support Ukraine as President Volodymyr Zelenskiy arrived in London for meetings with allies. Prime Minister Keir Starmer said he would convene a “Coalition of the Willing” to discuss removing Russian oil and gas from global markets, using frozen Russian assets to aid Ukraine, and supplying long-range missiles.

The visit follows US President Donald Trump’s sanctions on Russia’s two largest oil companies, reversing his recent plan for a summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Starmer said Putin had repeatedly rejected opportunities to end the invasion, stressing the need to increase pressure.



Friday’s meetings will include NATO chief Mark Rutte, Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof, and Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen. The EU recently approved its 19th sanctions package targeting Russian liquefied natural gas.

US sinks alleged drug-trafficking vessel in Pacific, killing two

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The US military conducted its first Pacific strike on an alleged drug-trafficking vessel, killing two people aboard, Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth said on Wednesday. The operation, carried out at the direction of President Donald Trump, targeted a ship accused of transporting narcotics along a known trafficking route in international waters near Colombia.

Hegseth described the victims as “narco-terrorists,” drawing comparisons to Al Qaeda, though no evidence or group affiliation was provided. This marks the eighth such US operation, following seven previous strikes in Caribbean waters since early September, which have killed at least 34 people.



Relations with Colombia have been strained, with President Gustavo Petro condemning earlier attacks as “murder,” prompting Trump to cut aid and threaten tariffs. Survivors from previous strikes were repatriated, with Ecuador releasing one, citing no evidence of criminal activity.

Diwali celebrations in US and Canada marred by fires and social media backlash



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Diwali celebrations in the US and Canada turned chaotic this year, with multiple fire accidents reported after fireworks were set off, sparking outrage on social media. In Edmonton, Canada, three men were charged with arson after fireworks damaged two homes on Monday. In Queens, New York, fireworks ignited a fire that injured two people on Wednesday. Edison, New Jersey, also received dozens of fire-related calls during Diwali. Social media users criticized participants for ignoring civic responsibility, causing noise, pollution, and property damage. Officials warned that fireworks are illegal in many areas and urged residents to celebrate safely, emphasizing permits and responsible practices to prevent further accidents and injuries.

ISI appoints Babbar Khalsa to lead unified terror network in Punjab



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Intelligence officials revealed on Tuesday that Pakistan’s ISI has chosen Babbar Khalsa International to lead the Khalistan movement’s terror operations in Punjab and neighboring states.

The decision aims to consolidate 41 pro-Khalistan groups under one umbrella for more effective recruitment. Babbar Khalsa’s strong network in Punjab and abroad, including Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom, and ties with gangster networks, makes it a key player in funding and executing attacks.

Recent drone operations smuggling drugs and ammunition into Punjab support this recruitment push. Security agencies are closely monitoring the group as it mobilizes resources with ISI backing.

Mongolia's measles cases rise above 13,000



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Mongolia reported 13,532 measles cases on Wednesday, with 13,514 recoveries, leaving seven patients hospitalized. Most new infections involved school-age children who had received only one vaccine dose. The National Centre for Communicable Diseases urged parents to ensure children receive two doses for protection. Measles, highly contagious and spread via respiratory droplets, can cause fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, inflamed eyes, and a widespread rash. Vaccination remains the most effective preventive measure. Historically, before vaccines, major epidemics occurred every two to three years, causing millions of deaths globally.

37 arrested in Greece for EU farm subsidy fraud

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Greek authorities arrested 37 individuals on Wednesday in a nationwide crackdown on a criminal network accused of defrauding the European Union's farm subsidy system. The suspects allegedly submitted false claims to OPEKEPE, causing estimated losses of \$22.5 million. Investigators identified 324 individuals involved, with 42 considered active members of the network. Most suspects have no farming background, and the core group consists of around 10 people.

The European Public Prosecutor's Office led the 18-month investigation. Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis pledged to imprison offenders and recover misappropriated funds, warning of risks to future EU subsidies if corruption continues.

South Korea requests Pope Leo to visit North Korea for peace

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea's National Assembly Speaker Woo Won-shik delivered a letter to the Vatican on Tuesday requesting Pope Leo XIV visit North Korea to promote peace. The visit, potentially during the 2027 World Youth Day in Seoul, could draw up to one million youths from around the world. Woo met Cardinal Pietro Parolin, who expressed support for renewed inter-Korean dialogue. Woo also held talks with Italian officials to expand cooperation, including faster visa issuance for South Korean businesses. The 10-day European trip aims to strengthen ties in renewable energy, supply chains, and global peace efforts.

EU leaders stall plan to use frozen Russian assets to fund Ukraine's defense

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

EU leaders failed to agree on using Russia's frozen assets to fund Ukraine's defense during talks in Brussels on Thursday, despite a direct appeal from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Belgium blocked the plan, citing concerns about guaranteeing access to the €183 billion held at Euroclear, which represents the majority of Russian central bank assets in the EU.

The European Council agreed only to ask the European Commission to propose "options for financial support" for Ukraine without directly using frozen Russian

funds. The Commission, led by Ursula von der Leyen, confirmed a reparation loan in principle but said technical details still need resolution. Leaders emphasized the need for burden sharing among member states to prevent Belgium from shouldering potential liabilities if Russia claims its assets.

Zelenskyy urged swift action, warning delays would limit Ukraine's defense and slow European progress. EU officials hope the loan, worth up to €140 billion, can be structured without confiscating the assets and remain compliant with international law. Discussions are expected to continue at the December EU summit.



Japan confirms first bird flu outbreak of the season in Hokkaido

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Japanese authorities confirmed the first avian influenza outbreak of the season in Hokkaido on Wednesday. At a poultry farm in Shiraoi, preliminary testing detected the highly pathogenic H5 strain, prompting culling of 459,000 chickens and a transport ban on 620,000 birds at nearby farms. The prefectural government plans to complete disinfection by November 2. Experts warned migratory birds may spread the virus across the country. Avian influenza primarily affects poultry but can occasionally infect humans through contact with infected birds. Authorities urged nationwide vigilance to prevent further outbreaks.



Louvre heist leaves France reeling as thieves steal crown jewels worth \$102 million

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In one of Europe's most audacious museum robberies, thieves made off with jewels worth about €88 million (approximately \$102 million) from the Louvre Museum's Galerie d'Apollon on Sunday morning. The burglary took place during visiting hours, with the suspects reportedly using a vehicle-mounted lift to reach a balcony window before smashing display cases and escaping within minutes.

The stolen collection included eight pieces from France's royal jewels, while a ninth item was dropped during the escape. Officials confirmed that the famed "Regent" diamond, centerpiece of the display, was not taken. French police have launched a large-scale investigation, reviewing surveillance footage and interviewing staff.



The museum's director acknowledged that the balcony used by the thieves had no active camera coverage at the time. Experts described the loss as culturally "inestimable," noting that while the monetary value is immense, the historical significance of the stolen jewels cannot be replaced. Security at all French national museums is now under review.

Iran pledges to honor nuclear commitments despite UN resolution expiry



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iran announced on Monday that the termination of UN Security Council Resolution 2231 will not affect its nuclear commitments under the 2015 JCPOA, including the pledge not to pursue nuclear weapons. Iranian officials said the country retains rights to uranium enrichment and peaceful nuclear activities. Tehran criticized France, Britain, and Germany for invoking the "snapback" mechanism to reinstate sanctions before the resolution expired. Iran emphasized that it had fully complied with the JCPOA until 2019 and noted that the U.S. withdrawal in 2018 prompted scaling back some commitments.

Protests erupt in Cameroon over alleged election fraud

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Protests broke out in Yaounde on Tuesday over alleged fraud in Cameroon's October 12 presidential election. Demonstrators carried placards denouncing a "stolen victory" and clashed briefly with police and gendarmes, who used tear gas to disperse crowds. Similar demonstrations occurred in Garoua, the hometown of opposition candidate Issa Tchiroma Bakary, who claims victory. The National Commission for the Final Counting of Votes completed tallying and will submit provisional results to the Constitutional Council, which is expected to announce official outcomes by October 27. Local outlets report that President Paul Biya is leading with over 50 percent of votes.

Australians warned of severe heat and damaging winds

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Millions of Australians were warned on Wednesday to prepare for extreme heat and damaging winds across multiple states. Temperatures in Sydney are expected to reach 39 degrees Celsius, exceeding October records, while New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, and the Northern Territory face severe weather alerts. Authorities urged residents, especially the elderly, children, and pregnant women, to stay indoors and hydrated. The Bureau of Meteorology issued extreme fire danger warnings for Greater Sydney. Recent heatwaves have set record highs, and officials noted climate change is increasing the frequency and severity of these events.

NC alliance takes lead in J&K Rajya Sabha election as voting concludes peacefully

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Voting for the Jammu and Kashmir Rajya Sabha election concluded peacefully on Friday, with 86 MLAs casting their votes. Detained Doda MLA Mehraj Malik voted via postal ballot, while Peoples Conference MLA Sajad Lone abstained. In the 90-member Assembly, the NC alliance, supported by Congress, PDP, CPI(M), AIP, and independents, holds an advantage for all four seats. NC candidates include Muhammed Ramzan Chowdhary, Sajad Kichloo, Shami Oberoi, and Imran Nabi Dar, while BJP nominated three candidates, including J&K President Sat Sharma. The two bypolls in Nagrota and Budgam are scheduled for November 11. Results for all four Rajya Sabha seats are expected after 4 p.m., with cross-voting needed for BJP to claim the fourth seat.

Karnataka deputy CM calls for high-level probe into Andhra Pradesh bus fire



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar on Friday demanded a high-level investigation into the Andhra Pradesh bus fire in Kurnool district that killed 19 people. Speaking in Bengaluru, he raised concerns about possible negligence or foul play, citing a similar bus fire last week that caused no fatalities due to timely passenger intervention. Shivakumar urged Andhra Pradesh authorities to ensure strict safety measures and accountability. Survivors recounted harrowing escapes, with passengers breaking emergency exits to flee the flames. Venu, a passenger, described witnessing fellow travelers burn alive before reaching safety. The Karnataka deputy CM also requested state ministers to coordinate with Andhra authorities to probe the private transport operator involved.

India develops first indigenous antibiotic effective against respiratory infections

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh announced on Saturday that India has developed its first fully indigenous antibiotic, Nafithromycin, effective against resistant respiratory infections and particularly beneficial for cancer patients and poorly controlled diabetics. Conceptualized, developed, and clinically validated entirely in India, the antibiotic represents a major step toward self-reliance in the pharmaceutical sector. Singh highlighted breakthroughs in gene therapy, including a 60–70 percent correction rate for hemophilia without bleeding episodes, and India's genomic research, having sequenced over 10,000 human genomes. The minister also emphasized AI's role in integrating biotechnology and genomics to advance healthcare, citing the Anusandhan National Research Foundation's Rs 50,000 crore five-year research program.

Bhai Dooj celebrated with warmth and special arrangements in Uttar Pradesh jails

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bhai Dooj was celebrated on Thursday across Uttar Pradesh, including jails in Shahjahanpur, Meerut, and Moradabad, with special arrangements for inmates and their sisters.

In Shahjahanpur, sisters queued early to meet their brothers, applying tilak, performing aarti, and offering sweets. Jail authorities ensured comfortable meetings.

Meerut jail hosted 4,000 to 5,000 sisters with tents, seating, and refreshments, while female inmates also participated in celebrations. In Moradabad, over 700 sisters met their brothers by early afternoon under a slip system and received symbolic gifts.

Meanwhile, in Kolkata, the festival of Bhai Phota was celebrated with traditional rituals. The day marks the conclusion of Diwali festivities and honors the bond between siblings.



Election Commission reactivates economic intelligence panel ahead of Bihar polls

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Election Commission reactivated its Multi-Departmental Committee on Election Intelligence on Friday after a six-year gap to combat the influence of money, liquor, and drugs in Bihar elections. The committee, which includes 17 departments such as the Income Tax, Enforcement Directorate, and Narcotics Control Bureau, aims to strengthen coordination among law enforcement agencies. Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and Election Commissioners S. S. Sandhu and Vivek Joshi reviewed strategies to ensure free and fair elections. Officials



emphasized intelligence sharing and monitoring of economic offenses to prevent inducements from swaying voters. The panel, originally formed in 2014, is expected to play a critical role in curbing corruption and vote-buying.

Chandrayaan-2 observes Sun's coronal mass impact on Moon for first time

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's Chandrayaan-2 mission made the first-ever observation of the Sun's Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) impacting the Moon, ISRO announced Saturday. The Chandra Atmospheric Compositional Explorer 2 (CHACE-2) payload detected a significant increase in the lunar exosphere's total pressure when CMEs struck, confirming long-standing theoretical predictions. Launched in 2019, Chandrayaan-2 remains operational in a 100 km lunar orbit despite losing contact with its Vikram lander. The findings highlight how solar activity can temporarily alter the Moon's environment, offering critical insights for planning future lunar bases and understanding space weather



effects on airless bodies. ISRO said the observation occurred on May 10, 2024, during a series of solar CMEs.

Defence ministry approves \$9.5 billion weapons and equipment purchase plan



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian Defence Ministry on Thursday approved the purchase of weapons and military equipment worth Rs 79,000 crore (\$9.5 billion), clearing key proposals through the Defence Acquisition Council chaired by Rajnath Singh. The army will receive the Nag Missile System Mk-II, Ground-Based Mobile ELINT System, and High Mobility Vehicles. The navy will acquire Landing Platform Docks, 30mm Naval Surface Guns, Advanced Light-Weight Torpedoes, and Smart Ammunition, enhancing amphibious, peacekeeping, and disaster relief capabilities. The air force's upgrades include the Collaborative Long Range Target Saturation/Destruction System, capable of autonomous takeoff, navigation, and payload delivery. Officials said the acquisitions aim to strengthen India's combat, intelligence, and joint operational capacity.

J&K Assembly session dominated by ex-Governor tribute and MLA detention protests



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The first day of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly on Thursday was marked by an obituary reference to former Governor Satya Pal Malik and protests over the detention of AAP legislator Mehraj Malik under the Public Safety Act. NC and PDP legislators demanded his release, displaying placards and urging discussion on the matter. J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah criticized the detention, calling it an excessive use of force, and proposed reforming obituary references to include a moment of silence. BJP members objected to remarks on Malik's tenure, highlighting tensions between parties over protocol and political commentary. The session also addressed global issues, including Palestine, during member interventions.

Centre raises maximum number of notaries in four states under amended rules



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Department of Legal Affairs notified the Notaries (Amendment) Rules, 2025, on Friday, increasing the ceiling on notaries in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, and Nagaland. Gujarat's limit rises from 2,900 to 6,000, Tamil Nadu from 2,500 to 3,500, Rajasthan from 2,000 to 3,000, and Nagaland from 200 to 400. The changes respond to population growth, creation of new districts, and increased demand for legal services. Notaries authenticate documents, witness signatures, administer oaths, and prevent fraud. The amendment, effective immediately, is issued under the Notaries Act, 1952, and aims to ensure sufficient notarial services to meet administrative and commercial needs in the four states.

India and WHO launch global call for AI health use cases



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, in collaboration with the World Health Organization, announced a global call for abstracts highlighting impactful applications of Artificial Intelligence in health systems. Shortlisted entries will contribute to a casebook documenting successful AI health solutions across the global south, serving as a reference for policymakers, researchers, and innovators. The initiative aims to scale replicable AI solutions to improve healthcare access, delivery, and outcomes. Researchers, institutions, and innovators are invited to submit abstracts by the end of this month. Officials said the project reflects India's commitment to digital innovation and global collaboration in addressing health system challenges.

3,639 cold wave deaths prompt NHRC to urge protective measures for vulnerable populations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New Delhi: The National Human Rights Commission on Thursday asked 19 states and four union territories to take preemptive measures ahead of winter after 3,639 cold wave deaths were reported between 2019 and 2023.

The NHRC emphasized protecting newborns, children, the elderly, homeless people, and those involved in beggary. Authorities were asked to submit Action Taken Reports detailing measures adopted. The commission highlighted National Disaster Management Authority guidelines, including establishing day and night shelters, medical care for cold-related illnesses, and monitoring relief efforts.

According to the National Crime



Records Bureau, about 11.4 percent of accidental deaths caused by natural forces in 2023 were due to cold exposure. The NHRC stressed that climate change impacts human rights and reaffirmed its commitment to protecting vulnerable populations with dignity.

New banking laws on nominations for accounts and lockers to take effect from November

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Provisions under the Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025, relating to nominations for deposit accounts, safe custody articles, and safety lockers, will come into effect on November 1, the Finance Ministry said on Thursday.

Customers may nominate up to four persons simultaneously or successively, specifying their share, ensuring total entitlement equals 100 percent. For articles and lockers, only successive nominations are allowed. The next nominee becomes operative upon the death of a higher-ranked nominee, ensuring clarity and continuity.



The Banking Companies (Nomination) Rules, 2025, will detail procedures and forms for nominations. The Act aims to enhance depositor protection, improve audit quality, strengthen governance, and simplify claim settlements across banks.

Khasi Hills Council opposes removal of public hearings for uranium mining projects

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council on Wednesday passed a resolution opposing the central government's directive exempting uranium mining projects in tribal areas from public consultations.

Chief Executive Member Winston Tony Lyngdoh warned that the exemption could undermine tribal governance, silence community voices, and threaten the environment and public health. The

council asked the government to exclude Khasi Hills from the memorandum issued in September under amendments to the Mines and Minerals Act, 2023.

Opposition leader Titosstarwell Chyne urged a complete withdrawal of the exemption across Meghalaya's tribal territories, citing past protests and the risk of irreparable impacts on indigenous lands. The council reiterated the importance of public hearings for transparency and environmental protection.



Railways to run 1,500 extra trains to manage Chhath festive rush



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian Railways plans to operate 1,500 special trains over the next five days to manage passenger surges for the Chhath festival, averaging 300 trains daily, officials said on Wednesday.

These trains will complement existing services and follow a robust festive schedule that has already seen over 11,865 trips between October 1 and November 30, including 9,338 reserved and 2,203 unreserved trips. Last year, 7,724 special trains were run.

At Udhna Station in Gujarat, over 36,000 passengers were handled on October 19, a 50 percent increase from 2024. Holding areas, ticket counters, and crowd control measures ensured smooth travel, allowing passengers to reach home safely for celebrations.

Kerala BJP seeks central agency probe into Sabarimala gold scam



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Kerala BJP president Rajeev Chandrasekhar wrote to Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday, demanding a central agency probe into the alleged Sabarimala gold scam.

The demand followed a high-level BJP delegation meeting with President Droupadi Murmu late Tuesday night, highlighting irregularities in gold plating from Dwarapalaka plates handed to Unnikrishnan Potti in 2019. The Kerala High Court has appointed an SIT to investigate, noting discrepancies in records, improper documentation, and possible misappropriation.

Chandrasekhar urged examination of financial dealings over three decades to restore devotees' confidence. The court also directed the SIT to seize relevant minutes and probe the involvement of Travancore Devaswom Board officials at all levels.



Piyush Goyal invites CEOs to join India's growth story

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal met top CEOs and industry leaders in Berlin this week to boost trade, investment, and innovation in sectors like automotive, semiconductors, renewable energy, and infrastructure. He held discussions with Mercedes-Benz CEO Ola Kallenius on expanding operations in India, and Infineon's Jochen Hanebeck on semiconductor collaboration. Goyal also met RENK GmbH, ENERTRAG, and Herrenknecht AG executives to explore defence, clean energy, and infrastructure opportunities. Meetings with Schaeffler AG and Luxembourg's Deputy Prime Minister focused on AI, advanced manufacturing, and bilateral trade. Goyal highlighted India's growth potential and the benefits of deeper industry partnerships.

APEC summit eyes South Korea-US trade deal

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

With the APEC summit in Gyeongju next Friday, South Korea and the United States are racing to finalize a trade agreement linked to Seoul's \$350 billion investment pledge. Presidential policy chief Kim Yong-beom and Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan recently held negotiations in Washington with U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, likely marking the last face-to-face talks before the summit. The focus remains on the scale and timing of South Korea's investment. The framework reduces U.S. tariffs on Korean goods to 15 percent and increases cooperation in semiconductors, shipbuilding, batteries, and advanced industries, with installment-based investment proposed to ease Seoul's foreign exchange burden.

ADB, World Bank sign \$3 billion pact to boost lending in Asia-Pacific



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Asian Development Bank signed a \$3 billion sovereign exposure exchange agreement with the World Bank to expand lending capacity for developing members. This is ADB's first exchange with the World Bank and its sixth with multilateral banks since 2020, raising the cumulative total to \$9 billion. Exposure exchanges reduce concentration risk, freeing capital for additional loans. Earlier, ADB approved a \$500 million policy-based loan to support Indonesia's competitiveness, green growth, and trade under the CITA Program. The initiative aims to modernize industries, empower women-led enterprises, attract sustainable investment, and address climate challenges, supporting Indonesia's long-term goal of high-income status by 2045.

Record Diwali sales highlight success of 'Made in India' initiative and GST reforms

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Industry leaders across India hailed this year's Diwali trade as historic, saying Prime Minister Narendra Modi's push for 'Made in India' products, coupled with recent GST reforms, significantly boosted domestic consumption. According to a nationwide survey by the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), total Diwali sales reached an unprecedented Rs 6.05 lakh crore, reflecting strong consumer confidence and a growing preference for Indian-made goods.

BRICS Chamber of Commerce & Industry Chairman Harvansh Chawla described the festive season as "a bumper Diwali," noting the remarkable enthusiasm among traders and consumers. PHDCCI CEO Ranjeet Mehta highlighted the positive impact of GST reforms, which lowered taxes on consumption-related products, enabling greater affordability and driving sales. Mehta added that approximately 80 percent of goods purchased



were domestically produced, signaling a clear shift toward supporting local industry.

In Kolkata, Bharat Chamber of Commerce President Naresh Pachisia credited pent-up demand following September's GST announcements for the surge. PHDCCI President Rajeev Juneja emphasized the need to continue empowering small and medium enterprises, fostering long-term growth, and integrating them into the broader national economy in line with the vision of a 'Viksit Bharat.'

Amazon blames software bug for major AWS outage affecting global services

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Amazon confirmed on Thursday that a bug in its automation software caused the widespread AWS outage earlier this week, disrupting thousands of websites and applications, including Signal, Snapchat, and Roblox. The issue stemmed from a defect in the automated domain name system of DynamoDB, AWS's database service. The bug created an empty DNS record at the company's Virginia-based data center, preventing automatic repairs and requiring manual intervention.

The outage, which lasted several hours, affected over 2,000 companies worldwide, including banking platforms and smart home systems such as Ring and Eight Sleep. AWS said it has temporarily disabled its automated DNS planner globally while implementing additional safeguards.



Experts noted the incident highlighted global dependence on a few major cloud service providers. Computing systems expert Dr. Suelette Dreyfus said the disruption exposed vulnerabilities in internet infrastructure dominated by a handful of tech giants. AWS holds around 30 percent of the global cloud market.

Oil price surges and FTSE 100 hits record high after Trump sanctions Russian firms

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Oil prices jumped sharply and the FTSE 100 reached a record high after President Donald Trump announced sanctions on Russia's two largest oil producers, Rosneft and Lukoil, on Thursday. Brent crude rose 5.7 percent to \$66.13 a barrel, while energy stocks Shell and BP gained about 3 percent, boosting the UK index to 9,594.82.

The sanctions freeze all US-based assets of the Russian companies and bar American individuals and firms from conducting business with them. Secondary sanctions could target foreign banks facilitating Russian oil sales, including in China, India, and Turkey. In response, Chinese state oil companies have temporarily halted purchases of seaborne Russian oil, while India's Reliance



Industries plans to reduce imports.

The move marks Trump's first sanctions on Russia since returning to the White House in January and comes amid broader efforts to pressure Moscow over the Ukraine conflict. The European Union also announced new measures, including a ban on Russian liquefied natural gas imports.

Japan's core inflation rises, challenging new prime minister



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Japan's core inflation accelerated to 2.9 percent in September, the first rise since May, while headline inflation also reached 2.9 percent, remaining above the Bank of Japan's two percent target. The "core-core" inflation measure, which excludes fresh food and energy, eased to three percent. The data presents an early test for new Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi, who faces pressure to contain inflation without slowing growth. Rice inflation eased sharply to 49.2 percent. Analysts warn that if inflation remains above two percent over the next six to nine months, the government's popularity could decline. Takaichi plans a stimulus package of \$92 billion to support households and growth.

Reliance to comply with new US and Western sanctions on Russian oil

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Reliance Industries said on Friday it will fully comply with the latest sanctions imposed by the United States and other Western nations on Russian oil. The company said it is reviewing the impact of new restrictions announced by the European Union, the United Kingdom, and the US on Russian crude imports and the export of refined products to Europe. A Reliance spokesperson said, "We will comply with the EU's guidelines on the import of refined products into Europe." The announcement follows Washington's decision to impose additional sanctions on Russia's two largest oil companies, Rosneft and Lukoil, heightening global supply concerns linked to the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Trump pardons Binance founder Changpeng Zhao



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump issued a pardon for Binance founder Changpeng Zhao, who pleaded guilty in 2023 to failing to maintain an anti-money laundering program and served four months in prison. The pardon marks a major shift in U.S. crypto regulation under Trump's administration, signaling a lighter regulatory approach. Binance settled related allegations for \$4.3 billion and remains barred from operating in the U.S. The Trump family's crypto business previously engaged with Binance for a \$2 billion transaction. Zhao emphasized that no deal was made for the pardon. The move drew criticism from Democratic senators concerned about reduced oversight on an industry previously linked to money laundering violations.

Friday, 24 october 2025

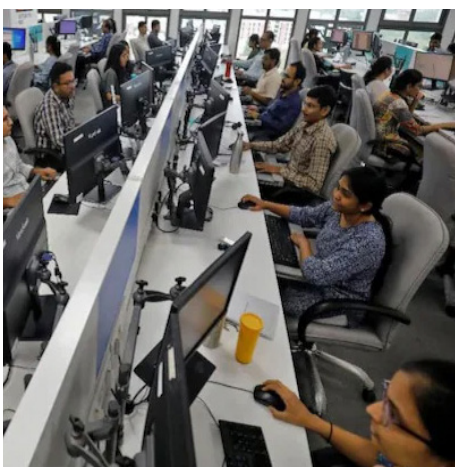
Apple begins shipping American-made AI servers from Texas



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Apple has started shipping advanced servers for artificial intelligence from its Houston, Texas factory, marking a milestone in the company's \$600 billion U.S. investment plan for advanced manufacturing, suppliers, and other initiatives. Chief Operating Officer Sabih Khan said the servers will power Apple Intelligence and Private Cloud Compute services, using Apple's own silicon. The Houston facility, which previously manufactured servers overseas, is expected to create thousands of jobs. Apple plans to expand production next year. The move supports President Donald Trump's push for more U.S.-based manufacturing. Apple CEO Tim Cook has also partnered with Michigan State University to open a manufacturing academy as part of its American Manufacturing Program.

Tata Technologies to hire more U.S. locals amid immigration changes



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Tata Technologies will increase hiring of local U.S. nationals in response to the Trump administration's immigration reforms affecting H-1B visas. CEO Warren Harris said the changes aim to shield Americans from foreign wage competition, prompting Tata to rely more on domestic talent. North America accounted for roughly 20 percent of the company's \$588 million revenue last year. Tata Technologies, serving clients like Jaguar Land Rover, VinFast, and Boeing, already employs over 70 percent local staff in the U.S., UK, Sweden, and China. The company expects a pickup in U.S. business over the next six to nine months and plans targeted acquisitions, including the recent €75 million purchase of Germany's ES-Tec Group.

Boeing union to vote on contract offer for 3,200 striking workers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers announced on Thursday that its more than 3,200 striking members at Boeing will vote on October 26 on a revised contract offer. The workers, who assemble fighter jets and munitions in St. Louis-area plants, have been on strike for about 80 days.

The company's latest modifications extend the return-to-work period and remove a provision allowing non-union workers to

perform union tasks for up to 30 days after the strike ends. The union's bargaining committee did not issue a recommendation on the offer.

The strike began on August 4 after members rejected two prior proposals, including one offering a 24 percent wage increase over five years and a \$4,000 ratification bonus. The union seeks a contract similar to its Seattle-area agreement, which included higher retirement contributions. Members previously voted 90 percent in favor of a four-year proposal Boeing refused to consider.



Coca-Cola sells majority stake in African bottling operations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Coca-Cola and Gutsche Family Investments agreed to sell a 75 percent controlling interest in Coca-Cola Beverages Africa to Coca-Cola HBC, which operates across 14 African countries and accounts for 40 percent of Coca-Cola volume in Africa. Coca-Cola will sell 41.5 percent of its stake, while Gutsche sells 33.5 percent.

The transaction is expected to close by the end of next year, part of Coca-Cola's decade-long refranchising strategy to reduce direct bottling operations, which will drop to around five percent of company revenue.

The company reported third-quarter net income of \$3.70 billion, a 30 percent increase from last year, with revenues rising five percent to \$12.46 billion.

Target to cut 1,800 corporate jobs in restructuring effort

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Target plans to eliminate 1,800 corporate roles, or eight percent of its global headquarters team, as part of a restructuring to streamline operations and accelerate decision-making. The cuts, impacting managers at three times the rate of other employees, include 1,000 layoffs and closure of 800 open positions. Affected staff will receive pay, benefits, severance, and support until early January. No store or supply chain jobs are affected. Incoming CEO Michael Fiddelke, who



will assume leadership in February, said the restructuring is aimed at reducing complexity and overlapping work, allowing the company to implement its strategy and return to growth following recent sales challenges.

Google faces demand to forfeit \$2.36 billion following privacy verdict

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Following a \$425 million privacy class action verdict, 98 million Google users are now seeking an additional \$2.36 billion in compensation, asking the company to forfeit profits from allegedly unlawful data collection. The lawsuit alleges Google secretly collected

app activity data even after users disabled tracking, breaching federal and state privacy laws. Google denies wrongdoing and plans to appeal, arguing that its privacy settings give users meaningful control. The company also seeks to decertify the class, citing individualized factors. Legal experts say a ruling in favor of plaintiffs could result in one of the largest financial penalties in U.S. privacy litigation.

Tesla recalls over 63,000 Cybertrucks for front light issue

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Tesla announced a recall of 63,619 Cybertrucks from model years 2024 to 2026 after the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration flagged an issue with front parking lights exceeding legal brightness. Vehicles affected were manufactured between November 2023 and October 2025 and ran software versions prior to 2025.38.3. Tesla issued a free over-the-air update to correct the lighting. Owner notification letters will be mailed on December 13. The recall follows a similar action six months ago affecting 46,000 Cybertrucks over a trim panel risk. Tesla confirmed no injuries, fatalities, or warranty claims related to the lighting issue, emphasizing that the software correction resolves the compliance concern.

Unilever leads U.S. market with beauty and personal care growth

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Unilever reported stronger-than-expected sales in the United States, driven by double-digit growth in beauty brands including Dove, K18, and Nutrafol. CEO Fernando Fernandez said the company is prioritizing premium segments, digital commerce, and markets like the U.S. and India to enhance margins amid weak consumer sentiment. Overall sales grew more than three percent, with beauty and wellbeing units rising 5.1 percent. North America, where volume growth was robust, "stole the show," according to analysts. The company aims for two percent volume growth and remains on track to spin off its Magnum-led ice cream business despite a temporary delay caused by the U.S. government shutdown.

Nike develops motorized sneakers to regain innovation edge



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nike is developing motorized sneakers through Project Amplify, a collaboration with bionic footwear company Dephy, designed to help casual athletes and mobility-impaired individuals move faster. The attachable, battery-powered motor system remains years from market release. Nike also introduced the Mind 001 and Mind 002 shoes, designed to enhance mental focus through underfoot sensory stimulation, and the Aero-FIT sports jersey with cooling technology for next year's World Cup. CEO Elliott Hill said innovation is key to regaining market share lost to newer brands like On and Hoka. The company aims to combine patented technology with performance and athlete-focused design to drive growth and brand differentiation.

Vishvajit More wins bronze at U-23 World Wrestling Championship



Indian wrestler Vishvajit More won the bronze medal in the 55 kg Greco-Roman category at the Under-23 Senior World Wrestling Championship held in Novi Sad, Serbia, on Wednesday. He defeated a Kazakh wrestler 5-4 in a close bronze medal bout, securing India's first medal at the event. Vishvajit began with strong victories over Romanian and American opponents before losing in the quarterfinals. In the repechage, he overcame a Georgian wrestler to earn his place in the medal match. His victory highlights India's growing presence in international wrestling, with 29 athletes competing across 10 weight categories in the week-long championship.

India re-elected as vice-chair of COP10 Asia-Pacific Bureau



India has been re-elected as vice-chair of the Asia-Pacific Bureau for the 2025-2027 term during the 10th Session of the Conference of Parties (COP10) to the International Convention against Doping in Sport, held from Sunday to Tuesday at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. Azerbaijan was elected chair, while Brazil, Zambia, and Saudi Arabia were chosen as vice-chairs for other regions.

Marking the convention's 20th anniversary, the session focused on clean sport, gene manipulation, and ethics in athletics. India also presented educational amendments promoting the Values Education through Sport approach. Over 500 delegates attended, reaffirming their shared commitment to integrity and fairness in global sport.

Tyreek Hill uncertain about future after knee injury

Miami Dolphins receiver Tyreek Hill said Thursday he has not decided whether he will return to play after a serious knee injury ended his season. Hill dislocated his knee in Week 4 against the New York Jets and underwent surgery to repair ligament damage.

Speaking on The Set podcast with former teammate Terron Armstead, Hill said he is "happy being with my kids" and has not ruled out retirement. His agent Drew Rosenhaus has maintained Hill intends to play next season, but the 30-year-old said he first wants to "live in the moment" with his family before making a decision.

The Dolphins are expected to release Hill after the season unless he agrees to



a restructured contract that reduces his \$36 million salary for 2026.

NBA places Chauncey Billups and Terry Rozier on leave amid gambling probe

The NBA placed Portland Trail Blazers coach Chauncey Billups and Miami Heat guard Terry Rozier on leave Thursday following federal indictments in a gambling-related investigation.

The league said it is "reviewing the indictments" and emphasized that "the integrity of our game remains our top priority." Prosecutors allege Billups participated in a rigged poker scheme while Rozier conspired to profit from

betting on his own performance by leaving games early with pre-planned "injuries."

Rozier's attorney, Jim Trusty, criticized the FBI's handling of the arrest, claiming his client "is not a gambler" and was previously cleared by the NBA.

Both men have denied wrongdoing. The National Basketball Players Association said it will ensure Rozier's rights are protected, while prosecutors said they have enough evidence to seek convictions.



Gaganjeet Bhullar targets comeback at International Series Philippines



Indian golfer Gaganjeet Bhullar is eyeing redemption at the International Series Philippines after missing out on victory in Indonesia three weeks ago. The 11-time Asian Tour winner, who finished 19th after leading early in Jakarta, said Thursday he feels "mentally and physically in a great place." Competing against major champions Dustin Johnson, Patrick Reed, and Louis Oosthuizen, Bhullar sits 35th in the season-long rankings that determine qualification for LIV Golf. He hopes a strong finish in the final four tournaments will revive his chances. Bhullar said the focus remains on "72 holes, more birdies, fewer bogeys," emphasizing his confidence ahead of the event.

Abhinav Bindra named torchbearer for 2026 Winter Olympics



Olympic gold medalist Abhinav Bindra has been selected as one of the torchbearers for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy. The announcement was made Tuesday, honoring India's first individual Olympic gold winner for his enduring contribution to sport. Bindra said he was "truly humbled" to carry the Olympic flame again, calling it a "symbol of dreams, perseverance, and unity." The Winter Games, scheduled from February 6 to 22, will feature 116 medal events across 16 disciplines. Bindra joins a global group of athletes who will carry the flame across Italy, promoting the Olympic spirit of friendship and excellence.



Neeraj Chopra honored as Honorary Lieutenant Colonel in Indian Army

On Wednesday, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh conferred the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel on javelin star Neeraj Chopra during a ceremony at South Block in New Delhi. Chopra, who serves with The Rajputana Rifles, made history as India's first Olympic gold medalist in track and field. Singh praised him as an "epitome of perseverance and patriotism." President Droupadi Murmu approved his honorary commission earlier in April in recognition of his sporting excellence and contributions to the nation.



Chepngetich handed three-year doping ban, keeps world record



Kenya's marathon world record holder Ruth Chepngetich has been banned for three years after testing positive for the banned diuretic hydrochlorothiazide. The Athletics Integrity Unit dismissed her claim that she accidentally took her housemaid's medication for fever and heart palpitations. Chepngetich, who set a world record of 2 hours 9 minutes 56 seconds at the Chicago Marathon in 2024, will keep her record as the failed test occurred months later. Investigators said her explanation was "hardly credible" and are reviewing phone data suggesting possible links to other banned substances. The 31-year-old, who had withdrawn from the London Marathon earlier this year, will be eligible to return to competition in 2028.

Rain ends New Zealand-England T20 series in washout

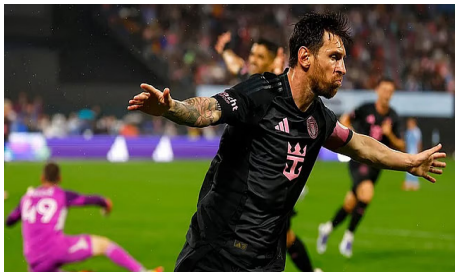


England's Twenty20 series in New Zealand ended in disappointment on Thursday as heavy rain forced the abandonment of the final match in Auckland after just 25 balls. England, who won the toss and chose to bowl, saw New Zealand reach 38 for one before the weather ended play. Despite the washout, England claimed the series victory. Harry Brook expressed frustration, saying it was "disappointing to come all this way and barely play." Three players, including Zak Crawley, Phil Salt, and Jordan Cox, will now depart as England prepares for its one-day matches beginning Sunday in Mount Maunganui.

Messi extends Inter Miami contract through 2028, securing future with club

Lionel Messi has signed a new contract with Inter Miami, extending his stay through the 2028 Major League Soccer season. The deal was announced Thursday, a day before Miami's playoff opener against Nashville.

Messi, who led the league in goals this season with 29 and 19 assists, said he was "happy to continue with this beautiful project" at Miami Freedom Park, the team's soon-to-open stadium. Inter Miami co-owner David Beckham called Messi's extension a "commitment to the city and the game."



The Argentine star, 38, joined the club in 2023 and has since helped it win its first trophy, the Leagues Cup. His new deal ensures he will lead Miami into its new era, with longtime teammates Sergio Busquets and Jordi Alba retiring after this season.

Portugal stun USA in Alex Morgan farewell match



Portugal shocked the United States with a 2-1 victory Thursday in Chester, Pennsylvania, marking their first-ever win and goals against the American women's team. The match was also the emotional farewell for soccer star Alex Morgan.

Rose Lavelle scored for the U.S. within 33 seconds, but Portugal equalized through Diana Gomes before Fatima Pinto sealed the win late in the second half. U.S. coach Emma Hayes admitted the team looked "rusty" after a long break. The 36-year-old Morgan, honored for her 224 international appearances and 123 goals, was celebrated by fans and former teammates in her final national team appearance.

Hockey India announces 39-member women's camp



Hockey India has announced a 39-member core group for the Senior Women's National Coaching Camp beginning Friday in Bengaluru. The six-week camp will prepare the team for upcoming international tournaments following their silver medal finish at the Women's Asia Cup in China. Chief coach Harendra Singh said the focus will be on improving defense and goal conversion. The camp includes experienced players like Nikki Pradhan, Sushila Chanu, and Navneet Kaur, along with young talents such as Mahima Tete and Samiksha Saxena. Singh said the blend of youth and experience will help raise the overall standard of the squad.

Afghan cricketers killed in airstrike, board withdraws from Pakistan series

Three Afghan cricketers were killed Friday in a Pakistani airstrike in Paktika province, prompting the Afghanistan Cricket Board to withdraw from next month's Tri-Nation T20 Series with Pakistan. The victims, identified as Kabeer, Sibghatullah, and Haroon, were among eight people killed during the attack after returning from a friendly match in Sharana.



sports community. Captain Rashid Khan also condemned the attacks as "immoral and barbaric," saying the decision to withdraw was a matter of national dignity. Pakistan's airstrikes reportedly violated the fragile ceasefire between the two nations.

The ACB condemned the strike as a "devastating blow" to Afghanistan's

Ex-NBA coach Damon Jones accused of leaking injury info for bets

Former NBA player and coach Damon Jones has been indicted for allegedly selling insider injury information about Los Angeles Lakers stars LeBron James and Anthony Davis to sports gamblers.

Prosecutors said Jones, charged with conspiracy to commit money laundering and wire fraud, tipped off associates before games, leading to large bets

against the Lakers. In one instance, Jones allegedly told gamblers that James would miss a February game against Milwaukee before the news became public.

He also leaked information on Davis ahead of a January game against Oklahoma City. Jones was arrested Thursday and faces federal charges in New York.



Sivanandan becomes youngest player to beat world champion

British chess prodigy Bodhana Sivanandan, aged 10, achieved a stunning victory on Sunday by defeating Ukraine's former world champion Mariya Muzychuk at the European Club Cup in Greece. Born in London to Indian parents from Tamil Nadu, she became a Woman FIDE Master in 2024 and earned a Woman Grandmaster norm in 2025. Ranked over 280 points lower than Muzychuk, Bodhana's win has been hailed as "incredible" by top chess players, marking her as one of the sport's brightest young talents.



Afghanistan's Ismat Alam reprimanded for ICC code breach

Afghanistan cricketer Ismat Alam was officially reprimanded on Tuesday for breaching level one of the ICC Code of Conduct during the Test match against Zimbabwe in Harare. He was penalized for throwing the ball dangerously close to batter Tafadzwa Tsiga in the 90th over of Zimbabwe's first innings. One demerit point was added to his record. Alam accepted the charge and the sanction without a formal hearing. The match referees and umpires jointly issued the disciplinary decision.

Lizzo faces lawsuit over alleged song copyright infringement



Singer Lizzo has been sued for allegedly using elements of Sam Dees' 1970s soul track 'Win or Lose (We Tried)' in an unreleased song previewed on TikTok this summer. The lawsuit, filed by Georgia-based GRC Trust on Monday, claims Lizzo's short clip — which referenced actress Sydney Sweeney — infringed copyright despite not being commercially released.

Lizzo's representatives said they were "surprised" by the filing, stressing the song has not been monetized. The singer, who recently released her mixtape 'My Face Hurts from Smiling,' has also expressed frustration with current music streaming algorithms and visibility challenges.

Anupam Kher visits Switzerland as 'DDLJ' celebrates 30 years



Veteran actor Anupam Kher marked the 30th anniversary of 'Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge' by visiting Switzerland for the first time. On Monday, Kher visited Mount Titlis, where Shah Rukh Khan and Kajol filmed scenes for the 1995 classic.

Sharing photos online, Kher called it a "wonderful feeling" to see the film's poster at the iconic location and congratulated director Aditya Chopra and the entire team. The actor also revealed that his wife Kirron Kher had suggested the movie's title. Actress Kajol later posted a video of fans celebrating the film's continued run at Mumbai's Maratha Mandir.

Veteran actor

Asrani

passes away at 84



Veteran Bollywood actor and comedian Govardhan Asrani, popularly known as Asrani, passed away on Sunday at the age of 84 due to a chest infection. His last rites were performed at Santacruz Crematorium on Monday. A post on his official Instagram account confirmed the news, calling him "the king of comedy" who "gave Indian cinema a new identity with his humor and simplicity."

Just hours before his death, Asrani had shared a Diwali greeting with his fans

online. Over a prolific career spanning five decades, he appeared in more than 350 films and became one of Indian cinema's most beloved comic faces. A graduate of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, Asrani transitioned from supporting roles to iconic comedic performances in films like 'Sholay', where his portrayal of the bumbling jailor remains legendary.

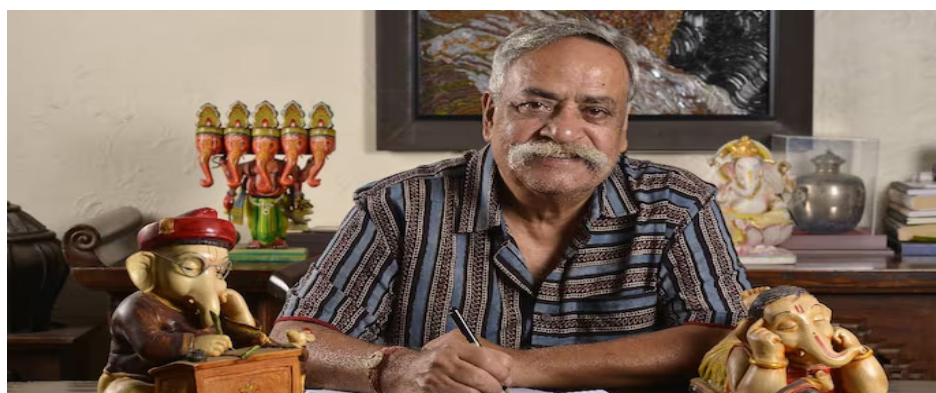
Known for his impeccable timing and expressive humor, Asrani also directed films and worked across languages, leaving behind a legacy that bridged generations of laughter.

Industry mourns loss of advertising legend Piyush Pandey

Advertising legend Piyush Pandey passed away on Thursday at the age of 70, leaving a lasting impact on Indian advertising. Filmmaker Hansal Mehta called him "the glue of the ad world," while musician Ehsaan Noorani praised his creativity in crafting memorable campaigns.

Piyush, Executive Chairman India of Ogilvy, began his career in 1982 and

is credited with iconic campaigns such as Fevicol, Luna moped, Cadbury, the BJP's "Abki Baar Modi Sarkar," and Polio awareness ads featuring Amitabh Bachchan. He was the first Asian jury president at the Cannes Film Festival in 2004 and received the CLIO Lifetime Achievement Award and the Padma Shri. Born in Jaipur, he also played Ranji Trophy cricket and worked as a tea taster, leaving a versatile legacy in and beyond advertising.



Bill Gates makes surprise cameo in 'Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi' promo



Billionaire philanthropist Bill Gates makes a surprising television appearance in a new promo for 'Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi,' greeting actress Smriti Irani's character Tulsi with "Jai Shri Krishna." The clip, released on Wednesday, shows Gates joining a video call with Tulsi as they discuss health and family well-being. The collaboration highlights maternal and child health awareness, tying Gates' global philanthropy to the show's social message. The episode will air on Thursday night on Star Plus and Hotstar. This marks Gates' second TV cameo after his appearance on 'The Big Bang Theory.'

Guddi Maruti returns to television with 'Udne Ki Aasha'



Veteran actress Guddi Maruti is making her television comeback with the show 'Udne Ki Aasha'. In an interview, she expressed excitement about exploring a complex, layered character that combines comedy with shades of grey. Maruti revealed her role will challenge the lead protagonist Sailee, played by Neha Harsora, and promised to add humor to the dramatic storyline.

The actress emphasized that television now allows actors to break traditional stereotypes. "Earlier I was typecast as the 'fat funny girl', but TV is letting me explore layered roles, even with negative shades," she said. Known for her comic performances in films like 'Dulhe Raja', 'Biwi No.1', and 'Shola Aur Shabnam', Guddi is eager to engage audiences with this fresh role.

Friday, 24 october 2025

Fans go bald for 'Bugonia' as Emma Stone's stylist praises the trend



Emma Stone's transformation for Yorgos Lanthimos's sci-fi dark comedy 'Bugonia' has inspired fans to shave their heads at a themed screening in Culver City. The film's hair designer Torsten Witte said he was thrilled by the reaction, calling it "freeing." Witte revealed that Stone decided to go fully bald to save hours in makeup rather than wear a bald cap. "Emma said it felt liberating," he shared. On set, Stone even shaved Lanthimos's head, creating a playful bond that carried into the movie's promotion.

Johnny Depp to headline 'Ebenezer: A Christmas Carol' in Hollywood return



Johnny Depp is set to play Ebenezer Scrooge in Ti West's upcoming film 'Ebenezer: A Christmas Carol,' a new adaptation of Charles Dickens's classic story. Described as a "thrilling ghost tale," the role marks one of Depp's major returns to American cinema after years of legal battles with ex-wife Amber Heard. Depp last appeared in 'Jeanne du Barry,' which opened the Cannes Film Festival. He will also star in Marc Webb's thriller 'Day Drinker,' slated for release in 2026, signaling a strong career comeback.

Kim Kardashian reveals brain aneurysm in 'The Kardashians' season premiere

Kim Kardashian revealed she has a brain aneurysm during the season seven premiere of her reality show 'The Kardashians.' In a preview aired on Thursday, Kardashian, 45, is seen undergoing brain imaging and sharing the diagnosis with her sister Kourtney Kardashian Barker. While details of her condition remain unclear, doctors reportedly linked it to stress. Kardashian, a billionaire entrepreneur and television personality, continues to manage her beauty and shapewear empires while raising four children. The Hulu series follows the personal and professional lives of the Kardashian-Jenner family.

Hollywood unfazed by President Trump's renewed movie tariff threat



The global film industry appears largely undeterred after President Donald Trump renewed his plan to impose a 100 percent tariff on movies produced outside the United States. Speaking during a campaign-style event earlier this week, Trump said the measure aims to "bring Hollywood jobs back home" and reduce dependence on international studios.

Despite the announcement, major film projects continue overseas. Productions such as 'Star Wars: Starfighter' in Britain, 'Dune: Part Three' in Hungary, and Marvel's next franchise installment in Australia remain on schedule.

Industry insiders say global studios offer substantial tax breaks and lower production costs, making relocation unlikely.

Analysts note that such tariffs, if enacted, could disrupt distribution channels and spark trade tensions with key film markets, including the United Kingdom and Canada. However, many producers believe the proposal may face legal challenges before implementation. Meanwhile, Hollywood unions are advocating for enhanced domestic tax incentives to encourage more U.S.-based filming instead of punitive trade measures.

Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh reveal daughter Dua's face for the first time

Hollywood stars Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh delighted fans this Diwali by sharing the first-ever glimpse of their daughter Dua on social media. The couple, who are known for keeping their private life out of the spotlight, posted a heartwarming family portrait. Deepika captioned the post, "Diwali ki hardik shubhkamnayein," accompanied by smiling and evil eye emojis.

In the photos, Deepika wore a red silk salwar kameez with traditional gold jewelry and jasmine flowers in her hair, while Ranveer looked dashing in an ivory sherwani with layered pearls and sunglasses. Baby Dua, dressed in matching red, looked adorable in her parents' arms. Born in September 2024,



Dua is the couple's first child, arriving nearly five years after their 2018 wedding in Lake Como, Italy. This Diwali marked the first time fans saw the family together.

Ben Stiller says comedy's power is waning amid political and social media pressures

Hollywood actor and director Ben Stiller has expressed concern that comedy is losing its edge due to increasing political sensitivity and shrinking attention spans. Speaking with Radio Times on Monday, the director of 'Severance' said taking creative risks in



comedy has become "more challenging" in today's climate. He urged comedians to "keep speaking truth to power" and remain fearless in their work despite growing scrutiny.

Stiller pointed to the temporary suspension of 'Jimmy Kimmel Live!' last month after the host's controversial on-air remarks about conservative activist Charlie Kirk, calling it an example of how public backlash can stifle free speech. He also criticized the influence of social media, noting that platforms like TikTok and Instagram have "reduced attention spans" and made audiences less patient with nuanced humor.

Reflecting on his career in hits like 'Meet the Parents,' 'Zoolander,' and 'Tropic Thunder,' Stiller said he feels "lucky to have grown up in the analogue world."

Stars with disabilities shine at Foscars film awards



The third annual Foscars ceremony in Hexham, Northumberland, celebrated short films made by individuals with learning disabilities on Friday. Four films were screened at The Forum Cinema, followed by awards for best actor and best comedy performance. Among the participants was Stagefright, a community arts group whose members described the event as the "highlight of the year." Actor Hannah said performing made her "happy and relaxed," while her mother praised the group for boosting confidence and teamwork. Stagefright's film this year had a spooky theme, showcasing how inclusive filmmaking allows every participant to find their own creative strength and "time to shine."

Jesse Williams returns as Dr. Jackson Avery on 'Grey's Anatomy'

'Grey's Anatomy' fans can look forward to the return of Jesse Williams as Dr. Jackson Avery in episode four of season 22, airing Thursday. The promo for the episode, titled 'Goodbye Horses,' shows Avery receiving a warm yet awkward welcome from the Grey Sloan staff. Williams, who left the series after season 17 in 2020, has made three guest appearances since then. His latest cameo follows his tense scene with Meredith Grey in the season 21 premiere. The upcoming episode promises drama involving a complex surgery, leaving Avery's new storyline under wraps until it airs on ABC.

Guns N' Roses clarify Axl Rose's onstage outburst in Argentina



Guns N' Roses issued a statement clarifying frontman Axl Rose's erratic behavior during a concert in Buenos Aires on Saturday. The singer was seen throwing his microphone and kicking the drum kit during 'Welcome to the Jungle.' The band later explained that a technical issue caused Rose's in-ear monitor to play only percussion sounds. The issue was fixed by the third song, and the band continued without incident. They confirmed the problem was not related to new drummer Isaac Carpenter, calling him "top notch." The current lineup includes Axl, Slash, Duff McKagan, and others.

वृंदावन मंदिर यात्रा का 18वां पड़ाव राधा कृष्ण मंदिर (पागल बाबा आश्रम)

IndoUS Tribune की 'यात्रा और दर्शन: वृंदावन मंदिर' श्रृंखला में आपका पुनः स्वागत है! जहाँ हर श्वास में राधा-कृष्ण की भक्ति रची-बसी है, और हर मंदिर श्रीकृष्ण की लीलाओं का साक्षी है। इस श्रृंखला के अठारहवें और अंतिम पड़ाव में हम आपको ले चलते हैं पागल बाबा आश्रम, जिसे राधा कृष्ण मंदिर के नाम से भी जाना जाता है। यह मंदिर वृंदावन-मथुरा मार्ग पर स्थित है और अपनी भव्यता, श्रद्धा और अद्भुत कहानी के लिए प्रसिद्ध है।

पागल बाबा मंदिर का इतिहास और प्रेरणा

पागल बाबा मंदिर का निर्माण वर्ष 1969 में हुआ था। इसका इतिहास एक अत्यंत भावनात्मक कथा से जुड़ा है — एक भक्त ब्राह्मण, जो श्री बांके बिहारी जी के परम उपासक थे।

कहा जाता है कि एक बार आर्थिक तंगी के कारण उन्होंने एक साहूकार से धन उधार लिया। समय पर किस्तें चुकाने के बाद भी साहूकार ने झूठा मुकदमा दायर कर दिया। अदालत में जब ब्राह्मण से साक्ष्य माँगा गया, तो उन्होंने निडर होकर कहा, 'मेरे साक्षी स्वयं श्री बांके बिहारी जी हैं।'।

न्यायालय ने मंदिर को नोटिस भेजा और अगले दिन एक वृद्ध व्यक्ति अदालत में उपस्थित हुए, जिन्होंने सटीक तिथियाँ बताईं जब ब्राह्मण ने भुगतान किया था। जांच के बाद सब सत्य पाया गया, और ब्राह्मण निर्दोष घोषित हुआ।

न्यायाधीश इस दिव्य घटना से अभिभूत हो गया। उसने अपना पद, परिवार सब कुछ त्याग दिया और वृंदावन आकर ठाकुर जी की खोज में भटकने लगा। लोगों ने उसकी दीवानगी देखकर उसे 'पागल बाबा' कहना शुरू किया। भक्तों की सहायता से उसने यह भव्य मंदिर बनवाया — जोकि भगवान बांके बिहारी जी को समर्पित है।

मंदिर की वास्तुकला और विशेषताएँ

सफेद संगमरमर से निर्मित यह नौ मंजिला मंदिर आधुनिक नागर शैली का अद्भुत उदाहरण है। यह 221 फीट ऊँचा और लगभग 150 फीट चौड़ा है। मंदिर के हर तल पर अलग-अलग 'धाम' की स्थापना की गई है। मंदिर के प्रवेश द्वार पर सुंदर हरियाली, जलफव्वारा और तालाब भक्तों का स्वागत करते हैं। भीतर एक काँच के कक्ष में अखंड ज्योति 24 घंटे जलती रहती है। मंदिर ट्रस्ट की प्रबंध समिति द्वारा संचालित धर्मशालाएँ यात्रियों की सुविधा के लिए दोनों ओर स्थित हैं।

आध्यात्मिकता और सांस्कृतिक प्रदर्शन

मंदिर के भूतल पर वर्षभर कठपुतली शो आयोजित किया जाता है, जिसमें रामायण, महाभारत और कृष्ण लीला के दृश्य प्रदर्शित होते हैं।

इसके अलावा, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक झोंकियाँ भी उपलब्ध हैं, जहाँ भक्त 'पागल बाबा लीला' का दिव्य अनुभव कर सकते हैं।



पहली मंजिल पर बना वृत्ताकार झरोखा भगवान विष्णु के सुदर्शन चक्र का प्रतीक है। मंदिर की ऊपरी मंजिल से आप पूरे वृंदावन शहर का विहंगम दृश्य देख सकते हैं।

मंदिर के दर्शन का समय

ग्रीष्मकाल:

सुबह: 5:00 AM से 11:30 AM

शाम: 3:00 PM से 9:00 PM

शीतकाल:

सुबह: 6:00 AM से 12:00 PM

शाम: 3:30 PM से 8:30 PM

(मंदिर दोपहर 12 बजे से 3:30 बजे तक बंद रहता है।)

पागल बाबा की विरासत

पागल बाबा ने न केवल भक्ति का उदाहरण प्रस्तुत किया, बल्कि उन्होंने समाजसेवा में भी अपना जीवन समर्पित किया। उन्होंने आँखों के अस्पताल, होम्योपैथिक क्लीनिक और ओपीडी जैसी सेवाएँ भी शुरू कीं, ताकि गरीबों को उपचार और सहायता मिल सके।

यात्रा का समापन: IndoUS Tribune की ओर से राधा कृष्ण मंदिर (पागल बाबा आश्रम) की यह यात्रा हमारी वृंदावन श्रृंखला का अठारहवाँ और अंतिम पड़ाव है। **IndoUS Tribune** की ओर से हम हृदय से धन्यवाद देते हैं कि आपने हमारे साथ यह अद्भुत आध्यात्मिक यात्रा की — बांके बिहारी जी से लेकर राधा-कृष्ण मंदिर तक। हम आशा करते हैं कि यह श्रृंखला आपके हृदय में भक्ति, श्रद्धा और वृंदावन की पवित्रता का संचार करने में सफल रही होगी। जल्द ही, हम एक नई 'यात्रा और दर्शन' श्रृंखला प्रारंभ करेंगे — जो आपको भारत के अन्य पवित्र स्थलों की ओर ले जाएगी।

तब तक के लिए, श्री राधे-कृष्ण की कृपा आप पर बनी रहे — यही हमारी शुभकामनाएँ।

लेख श्रृंखला संकलन:

डॉ. अवि वर्मा

संपादक एवं प्रकाशक,

IndoUS Tribune



Shreemad Bhagwat Gita - As I understand

Chapter Thirteen: Kshetra-Kshetrajna Vibhaga Yoga



Rajendra Kapil
Phone: 847-962-1291

This chapter is truly profound. In it, Lord Krishna imparts to Arjuna the knowledge of both — that which is visible (the body) and that which is invisible (the soul). It is well known that the soul animates the body — it is the life within it.

The central theme of this chapter is the Yoga of the Field and the Knower of the Field (Kshetra-Kshetrajna Yoga).

The Field refers to the body, while the Knower of the Field refers to the soul. The Field is physical and tangible, while the Knower is subtle and spiritual.

To understand this better, Lord Krishna offers an analogy — the body is like a field, and the soul is like a farmer. The farmer can sow whatever seeds he desires; the field is his land of action. If he sows mango seeds, he will get mangoes; if he sows thorns, he will reap thorns. The environment too influences the field's yield. Similarly, the impressions and actions we sow within this body will bear corresponding fruits. Good deeds bring good results; evil deeds bring suffering. The Knower — our inner consciousness — guides our actions in the right direction.

The Body and the Soul

This body, a gift from our parents, is perishable and limited. The soul within, however, is a divine spark of the Supreme. The body is made up of various imperfections and is governed by ten sensory organs, five organs of action, the mind, intellect, ego, and endurance.

These faculties enable us to perform worldly actions — both good and bad. The mind or intellect acts as our guide. This intellect is the Ketrājña, the Knower of the Field. It perceives all the powers and weaknesses of the body and directs them accordingly.

Qualities of a True Yogi

Lord Krishna then explains how a wise Yogi — through self-control, patience, and devotion to his Guru — can transcend worldly faults and reach the Supreme.

The following verses describe the qualities that must be cultivated and those that must be avoided:

Verses 8–12:

**Amanitvam adambhitvam ahimsa
kshantir arjavam
Acharyopasanam shaucham sthairyam
atmavinigraha (8)**



**Indriyartheshu vairagyam anahankara
eva cha**

**Janma-mrityu-jara-vyadhi-duhkha-
doshanudarshanam (9)**

**Asaktir anabhishvngah putra-dara-
grihadishu**

**Nityam cha samachittatvam
ishtanishtopapattishu (10)**

**Mayi chananya-yogena bhaktir
avyabhicharini**

**Viviktadesha-sevitvam aratir
janasamsadi (11)**

**Adhyatma-jnana-nityatvam tattva-
jnanartha-darshanam**

**Etaj jnanam iti proktam ajnanam yad
ato'nyatha (12)**

Meaning

Humility (freedom from pride and vanity), Simplicity (absence of hypocrisy), Non-violence (a heart that harms none), Forgiveness (the spirit of pardon), Honesty and transparency, Purity (of body and mind), Devotion to one's teacher, Steadfastness in determination, Self-control (restraint of the senses), Detachment from sensory pleasures (sound, form, taste, smell, touch), Freedom from false ego, Reflection upon birth, death, old age, disease, and sorrow, Non-attachment to spouse, children, home, or material possessions, Equanimity in gain or loss, pleasure or pain, Unwavering devotion to Me alone, Joy in solitude, and indifference to worldly crowds, Constant contemplation of the Self, and Vision of the Truth — the realization of the Supreme.

These, O Arjuna, are called true knowledge; whatever is contrary to this is ignorance.

The Supreme's Gift and Control

The Lord has given us much — the right to act, to labor with sincerity and devotion. But the results of our actions rest with Him.

Hence, He tells Arjuna —

“The Eternal, the Imperishable, the Supreme Brahman — the ultimate

purpose of life — all lie within Me. I alone determine how pure one's journey is, how selfless one's devotion is, and accordingly, I bestow the fruits of action.”

**Sarvendriya-guna-abhasam sarvendriya-
vivarjitam**

**Asaktam sarvabhic chaiva nirgunam
guna-bhoktr cha (15)**

Meaning:

The Supreme Being is the source of all the senses, yet beyond them. He sustains all, yet remains unattached. He is beyond the three modes of nature (sattva, rajas, tamas), and yet experiences them all.

Understanding the Divine Mystery Here the Lord reveals a profound mystery:

“O Arjuna, I know well the worldly delusions that bind men — for I Myself created them. Though I dwell within all beings, I remain untouched by their nature. Desires easily entangle an ordinary man, but a true Yogi, aware of this weakness, rises above it.

He lives amidst the world, experiences it, but is not bound by it. Be cautious of My Maya, for it binds all beings. Live in this world, but know its frailty — do not let it obstruct your ultimate goal: union with the Divine.”

**Karya-karana-karttrve hetuh prakritir
uchyate**

**Purusha sukha-duhkhanam bhoktrve
hetur uchyate (21)**

Meaning:

Material nature is said to be the cause of all physical actions and their effects; the soul (the conscious being) is the cause of experiencing pleasure and pain.

Thus, while living in this world, a Yogi partakes of both good and bad — the outcomes of nature's threefold qualities (sattva, rajas, tamas).

Yet the soul within remains merely a

witness, discerning good from evil, guiding us toward righteousness. It is within us the destroyer of darkness (Shiva), and the creator of goodness (Brahma). He who realizes this truth rises beyond the cycle of birth and death and attains My eternal abode.

**Yavat sanjayate kinchit sattvam sthava-
rangamam**

**Kshetra-kshetrajña-samyogat tad viddhi
bharatarshabha (27)**

Meaning:

O Arjuna! Whatever exists — moving or unmoving — know it to have arisen from the union of the Field (matter) and the Knower of the Field (spirit).

The Vision of Oneness

**Yada bhuta-prithag-bhavam ekastham
anupashyati**

**Tata eva cha vistaram brahma
sampadyate tada (31)**

**Anaditvan nirgunatvat paramatma ayam
avyayah**

**Sharirastho'pi kaunteya na karoti na
lipyate (32)**

Meaning:

When a person sees the One Supreme Being dwelling equally in all living entities, and perceives that all beings emanate from that One — then he attains the Supreme. O son of Kunti, though dwelling in the body, the imperishable soul neither acts nor is tainted by action, for it is eternal, beyond nature and its qualities.

Conclusion

Thus, he who understands the distinction between the Field and the Knower of the Field, though surrounded by the world and its delusions, remains ever surrendered to the Lord. He perceives the Divine in every atom of creation, and every creature becomes a mirror of God Himself. This knowledge may appear simple in words, but its depth is immense — attainable only through divine grace. Those who seek sincerely, receive it unfliningly.

Diwali 2025 shines bright with 'The Epic of Ramayan' at the International University of Vedic Wellness, Chicago



Dr. Santosh Kumar with the cast of 'The Epic of Ramayan'

By: Jayanti Oza

The International University of Vedic Wellness (IUVW) in Streamwood, Illinois, marked Diwali 2025 with a spectacular celebration that brought together over 400 members of the Chicago community. The evening's centerpiece was an awe-inspiring dance drama, 'The Epic of Ramayan,' presented by Gauri Jog's Indian Dance School in collaboration with MAFS/UMAS.

The free community event brought the legendary tale of Ram, Sita, Laxman, and Ravan to life through mesmerizing choreography, vivid costumes, and expressive storytelling. The performance transported audiences into the spiritual world of the Ramayan, blending devotion, artistry, and cultural pride in a way that resonated deeply with all who attended.

Under the artistic direction of Guru Gauri Jog Ji, each movement and sequence reflected precision, emotion, and reverence for the timeless epic. The production was not just a performance, but a spiritual journey — one that rekindled the essence of Deepawali by celebrating the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil.

"What better way to celebrate Diwali



Dr. Santosh Kumar, founder of IUVW and MAFS/UMAS, thanked all supporters

than through the story of Ramayan?" shared one attendee, capturing the collective sentiment of the evening.

Dr. Santosh Kumar Ji, founder of IUVW and MAFS/UMAS, extended heartfelt gratitude to all supporters and



participants for making the celebration a grand success. The program served as a reminder of how cultural traditions continue to unite generations, preserving heritage while

fostering community spirit. The night concluded with warm Diwali wishes and a shared sense of pride in the enduring power of India's spiritual and cultural legacy.



Scenes from 'The Epic of Ramayan' drama



The Chicago community enjoys the vibrant cultural program



The moment Rama defeated Ravan and his warriors





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Mata Bhagat: Avi Verma



Krishnamoorthi condemns racist attacks and promotes unity, introduces bipartisan Diwali resolution in Congress

By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi (IL-08) strongly condemned recent racist attacks following remarks by Florida politician Chandler Langevin, who called for the mass deportation of Indian Americans and mocked Krishnamoorthi's heritage. Langevin referred to the Congressman as a "foreign occupier," prompting Krishnamoorthi to reject the hate and reaffirm his American identity.

"I was born in India, raised in Peoria, and elected by the people of Illinois—there is nothing 'foreign' about standing up for my fellow Americans," Krishnamoorthi said. "Hate may be loud, but it will never drown out the values of decency and democracy that unite us." He warned that such rhetoric creates a climate of fear reminiscent of former President Donald Trump's mass ICE raids, urging Americans to stand together against all forms of hate.

In a move to foster unity, Krishnamoorthi, along with



Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), introduced a bipartisan resolution in Congress honoring Diwali, the Festival of Lights celebrated by millions of Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs in the U.S. "Diwali celebrates the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil," he said. Fitzpatrick added that the resolution highlights the Indian-American community's vital contributions and the enduring belief that light will always conquer darkness.

Krishnamoorthi's actions underscore his commitment to protecting democracy, promoting cross-cultural understanding, and ensuring every individual can live free from fear and discrimination.

About Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi: He represents Illinois' 8th Congressional District and serves as Ranking Member of the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party. He advocates for immigrant rights, religious freedom, and U.S.-India relations.

Appleton declares Diwali Awareness Day in partnership with Global Indian Diaspora Foundation

By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

The City of Appleton came alive with the glow and spirit of Diwali as it officially celebrated the Festival of Lights in collaboration with the Global Indian Diaspora Foundation (GIDF). Mayor Jake Woodford read the official proclamation, declaring October 23 as "Diwali Awareness Day", marking a historic recognition of the city's vibrant Indian American community.

The event at Appleton City Hall opened with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolizing wisdom, hope, and the triumph of light over darkness. Mayor Woodford said, "Diwali reminds us of the universal values of light over darkness and good over evil. This celebration honors the Indian American community whose contributions enrich the social, cultural, and economic life of Appleton."

GIDF leaders Rakesh Malhotra (President), Abhinav Raina (General Secretary), and Chetan Natoria (Director of Community Affairs) joined city officials in the ceremony,

alongside Anindita "Andy" Anaam, Director of Communications in the Mayor's Office. Malhotra expressed gratitude, saying, "We thank the people of Appleton and Mayor Woodford for proclaiming Diwali Awareness Day. This gesture highlights the shared values that unite all communities — light, hope, and harmony."

As diyas illuminated the hall, attendees celebrated not just a festival but the growing spirit of cultural solidarity, reflecting Appleton's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and recognition of traditions that strengthen community bonds.

About the Global Indian Diaspora Foundation

GIDF promotes Indian cultural heritage and civic engagement worldwide, building bridges between diaspora communities and local societies through celebrations, partnerships, and public initiatives.

(Photo: Mayor Jake Woodford presents the Diwali Proclamation to GIDF President Rakesh Malhotra)

joined by Abhinav Raina, Chetan Natoria, and Anindita "Andy"

Anaam at Appleton City Hall. Courtesy: GIDF



A festival of light and leadership: President Trump's Diwali celebration unites faith, friendship, and future investments



By: Dr. Avi Verma

The White House shimmered with the glow of Diwali on October 21, 2025, as President Donald Trump hosted a special celebration honoring the festival of lights alongside top Indian-American business leaders and dignitaries.

The gathering reflected the festival's enduring message of light triumphing over darkness while underscoring the growing influence and achievements of the Indian diaspora in the United States.

Among the distinguished attendees were Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen, Micron CEO Sanjay Mehrotra, and IBM CEO Arvind Krishna — all of whom announced major U.S. investments by their companies. Together, these commitments exceeded \$350 billion, signaling the community's vital role in strengthening economic ties between the two nations.

President Trump praised the entrepreneurs' contributions, noting that more than \$17 trillion in investments have flowed into the country since his return to office. "Diwali stands for light and renewal, and the United



States is a light to the rest of the world," said Mehrotra, commending the administration's efforts to revive American manufacturing.

During the ceremony, President Trump invited IBM's Krishna to light a traditional diya, symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness. He extended his "warmest wishes to the people of India," calling Prime Minister Narendra Modi a "great friend" and confirming they had spoken earlier that day on

strengthening trade.

Prime Minister Modi later expressed gratitude on social media, emphasizing the shared values of democracy, peace, and unity between the two nations. Ambassador Vinay Kwatra represented India at the event, conveying greetings on behalf of Prime Minister Modi and the Indian government.

In his official Diwali message, President Trump described the festival as "a timeless

reminder of light's victory over darkness" and lauded the 5-million-strong Indian-American community for its cultural and economic contributions.

As the White House radiated with the soft glow of diyas, the evening stood as a testament to the harmony between faith, culture, and enterprise — a celebration not just of Diwali, but of a shared vision for renewal, prosperity, and enduring friendship between the United States and India.



Hari Om Mandir's Gurukul celebrates annual Graduation Day, honoring Hindi language and Indian heritage



By: Ashwani Mahajan

Hari Om Mandir's Hari Om Gurukul held its annual Graduation Day 2025, marking another successful year of preserving and promoting Hindi language education and Sanatani Indian culture among young learners in the United States.

The event, held in the temple's main

hall, was filled with joy and pride as students, parents, teachers, and community members gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of the year. The graduation ceremony recognized students who completed various levels of the Hindi Language and Culture Class 2024–25.

The program began with children offering prayers through recitations of

sacred mantras and shlokas, including the Ganesh Mantra, Saraswati Mantra, Shiva Mantra, Krishna Stuti, Durga Shlokas, Shri Ram Stuti, and Hanuman Chalisa. Throughout the year, students also participated in a wide range of cultural performances — from Hindi poetry recitations and Ramayana plays to traditional Indian dances — both within and beyond the temple premises. These performances not only showcased their linguistic progress but also their

spiritual and cultural connection to their Indian roots.

During the ceremony, community leaders commended the Gurukul's contribution to nurturing cultural identity and promoting Hindi learning among Indian-origin children in America. The event also celebrated the culmination of a 24-hour Shri Ram Charit Manas recitation, underscoring the temple's devotion to spiritual and cultural continuity.

Students who successfully passed their examinations received certificates and awards recognizing their dedication and progress. Shanaya Kapoor, Shrey Mudgal, and Medha Kumar received first-place honors for their outstanding performance, while Anuj Verma, the youngest participant, was presented with a special award titled "Dhruv Purush."

The event concluded with expressions of gratitude toward the Gurukul's volunteer team and teachers, whose consistent efforts made the program's success possible. The atmosphere was filled with pride and celebration as families and students shared in the accomplishments of the day.

For the past three years, Hari Om Gurukul has served the Indian-American community by offering a structured curriculum in Hindi language and culture, starting for children as young as five. Following the educational framework of HindiUSA, which supports over 4,000 students nationwide, the Gurukul continues to grow, fostering a generation of young ambassadors for Indian heritage and Sanatan Dharma.



MyPinkHealth global wellness and cultural collaboration strengthens Indo-U.S. partnership



By: Ashwani Mahajan

The 2nd Annual Beautiful Minds Pink Saree 5K & Wellness Expo brought together dignitaries, survivors, and youth leaders from across Illinois and India in a vibrant celebration of women's wellness, mental health, and cultural unity. Organized under the #MyPinkHealth global initiative, the event reaffirmed the growing Indo-U.S. collaboration for a healthier, more empowered generation.

Hosted by Beautiful Minds Youth Mentoring Foundation (USA) in partnership with Beautiful Youth Minds India (Section 8 Company), the initiative created a dynamic platform promoting awareness, mentorship, and artisan empowerment. Together, the organizations championed a shared vision of advancing women's health, emotional well-being, and self-reliance through education and enterprise.

Distinguished guests and honorees

The event was graced by several dignitaries and community leaders, including:

- Mr. K. D. Thokchom, Deputy Consul General of India in Chicago – Chief Guest & Pink Saree Youth Changemaker Awardee
- Hon. Natalie Manley, Illinois State Representative (98th District) – Keynote Speaker, Event Sponsor & Pink Saree Spirit Awardee
- Hon. Mary Alexander-Basta, Mayor of Bolingbrook – Event Sponsor
- Village of Bolingbrook Trustees: Michael Carpanzano (Community Champion Awardee), Bhavini Patel, and Jose Quintero
- Ashfaq Hussain Sayed, Naperville



Councilman – Community Champion Awardee

- Saba Hyder, DuPage County Commissioner – Community Champion Awardee
- Sushreeya Mishra, Youth Leader, Waubonsie Valley High School – Community Champion for Leadership & Service

Other honorees included Debansi Dey (Visionary Leader Award), a differently-abled youth honored with the Outstanding Youth Award, Noah Martinez (Outstanding Youth Mentor Award), and Soumya Subhas (Artisan of Change Award) for empowering women artisans through creative enterprise.

A day of wellness, culture, and impact

The day-long celebration featured a 5K Walk & Run for Awareness, Yoga and Mindfulness

sessions, free health screenings, and a Women's Enterprise Empowerment Marketplace highlighting women-owned small businesses and artisan ventures.

Youth participants showcased creativity and advocacy through the Pink Saree Parade and a Global Art Exhibition, linking students from Illinois and Odisha in a shared mission of empowerment and empathy. The blend of cultural displays, interactive sessions, and artistic exchanges reflected a powerful unity of purpose between the two nations — intertwining wellness, creativity, and community service.

Building a global bridge of wellness

The MyPinkHealth initiative continues to expand as a bridge between India and the United States, inspiring inter school art contests, mental health workshops in Odisha,

and youth mentoring forums across the U.S. Rooted in the belief that “wellness is not just physical, but also emotional, social, and cultural,” the program continues to redefine global health and collaboration.

Looking ahead

Following this year's success, organizers announced the upcoming Global Wellness & Women's Enterprise Week 2026, set to unite artisans, health professionals, and youth leaders from both nations. The initiative aims to further the mission of women's health, empowerment, and mental wellness on a global scale.

The Beautiful Minds Pink Saree 5K & Wellness Expo 2025 stood as a shining example of how compassion, collaboration, and cultural pride can foster not just wellness, but a deeply connected world.



Your guide to the perfect winter coat collection



As temperatures drop and winter winds set in, the right coat becomes more than a necessity; it is also a style statement. This season, investing in a few key silhouettes can ensure you stay both cozy and effortlessly chic.

Start with the classic wool coat, a timeless piece that transitions seamlessly from office wear to evening outings. Opt for camel, charcoal, or navy tones for maximum versatility. For casual days, nothing beats the puffer jacket. Lightweight yet incredibly warm, it is ideal for travel or

weekend errands. A tailored trench remains a year-round essential. In winter, look for heavier fabrics or leather finishes that add sophistication while shielding against the cold. The teddy coat, with its plush texture and oversized fit, is perfect for those who love comfort without compromising on style. Pair it with denim and boots for a laid-back, cozy look.



Lastly, the statement coat in bold checks, rich jewel tones, or faux fur instantly elevates even the simplest outfit. It turns heads while keeping you snug through the frostiest days. This winter, focus on blending warmth with personality. Choose coats that complement your lifestyle and wardrobe, balancing function with fashion. A well-chosen coat is not just outerwear; it is the finishing touch to your cold-weather identity.

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● Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAII Bull-Bear Spread +10.3% (above average; bipolar)
CNN Fear & Greed Index 29 (fear)
NYSE %Above 50-dMA 36.01% (negative)
SP500 %Above 50-dMA 38.40% (negative)

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 4.02%, 1-yr 3.60%; T-Notes 2-yr 3.52%, 5-yr 3.65%, 10-yr 4.05%; T-Bonds 30-yr 4.63%;
TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 1.30%, 10-yr 1.75%, 30-yr 2.41%
FRNs Index 3.888%

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 64.64 (greed)



Weekly ETFs: INDA +0.61%, INDY +0.86%, EPI +0.58%, INDH +0.73%, SPY -2.42%
The data above are as of Sunday preceding the publication date.

MARKETS

IT/TECH

US cybersecurity firm Absolute Security is entering the Indian market.

SPECIAL TOPICS

Danish Scan Global Logistics (SGL) is entering the Indian market. Much bigger Danish Maersk also operates in India.

Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) will sell its Finland-based agricultural, farm & forestry machinery unit Sampo Rosenlew to Finland's Tera. Sampo was a small part of M&M & many of its technologies have been integrated into M&M product lines. The original idea of expanding Sampo operations in

Europe also didn't work out.

JSW Paint has an offer to buy 74.76% of AkzoNobel-India (only liquid paint/ coating businesses) from Dutch multinational AkzoNobel. Subsequently, JSW Paint will make open market offer for the remaining public shares. Several institutions have bought or increased stakes in AkzoNobel-India. AkzoNobel will retain powder coating/ paint businesses & the R&D center portion of AkzoNobel-India.

Selected Indian sovereign bonds may be included in Bloomberg global bond index; J P Morgan/JPM is the only firm to do so now. Indian bonds were included in EM bond indexes in 2024 by several firms.

SOFTWARE & SEMICONDUCTORS

US denial of most advanced Cray supercomputer to India in 1987 (it could buy a less advanced version) was responsible for starting India's push for domestic computer industry. In Indian history, this has been seen time & again - India cannot rely exclusively on imports in critical areas. Some advanced technologies cannot be bought but must be developed domestically.

In the aftermath of EU sanctions on Indian refinery Nayara, US Microsoft/ MSFT abruptly blocked Nayara's access to all online products & Azure cloud - access was restored only after a court fight. Now, German SAP has restricted Nayra's access to ERP (enterprise resource planning) software & the matter is in court. There are also interruptions in Nayara's crude oil supply & refined product sales. Nayara's has been operating only at half-capacity.

There should be domestic alternatives for IT office, business & social-media software (evolving - Zoho, Titan, etc) & cloud services (evolving - CtrlS,

HCLTech, Tata Commumications, Utho, etc) even though those are available now from several multinationals.

A huge hole has been for semi chips - as of mid-2025, India produced NONE. The big news about iPhones produced in India for export relates only to their final assembly with most parts imported from elsewhere. While India has a highly developed IT/software industry & an educated IT workforce, it simply cannot go on without a functioning semi chip manufacturing/ fabrication ("fab") industry.

A national crash program has been launched by MEITY (Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology) to catchup in chip testing, packaging & fabs. These semi fabs require very high capital expenditures (capex). The first Indian commercial chips may be available by late-2025 or 2026. Some early chips may be low-end, mature node chips used in many electronics & industrial products. After a few years, India may catchup to the most advanced chip produced by fabs in US, Taiwan, S Korea, Japan - the state of the art in 2025 is 2 nm semi chips & that will keep advancing.

Where global sourcing is necessary, it's important to have access to multiple vendors located in different countries so that India isn't at the whims of any one foreign corporation or government. There is already a push by GoI for some localization of software & storage that has been met with resistance from multinationals.

While beyond the scope of this discussion, this general self-sufficiency theme also applies to telecom, EVs, aerospace, rare-earths, nuclear power, etc.



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

Everything you need to know about IUHS School of Medicine

● By: Dr. Avi Verma

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

2. Program Structure & Exams:

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

3. Assessments:

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

knowledge gaps.

- ▶ Lectorio self-assessments which are mandatory but not graded.

4. Teaching methods:

- ▶ **Systems-based learning:** Integrates anatomy, pathology, and pharmacology within each body system.
- ▶ **Problem-based learning:** Encourages critical thinking and challenges students to draw on all the knowledge they have acquired as they would in a real-life scenario when treating a patient.
- ▶ **Spaced repetition:** Reinforces knowledge through periodic review, enhancing long-term retention.

5. Clinical rotations:

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



dedicated clinical director assisting them with the arrangements for clinical placements.

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

Key Features:

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

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

8. Question and Concept Sessions:

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

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

Key Features:

- ▶ Comprehensive Medical Curriculum Support – Covers

preclinical and clinical subjects aligned with USMLE, NBME, and other global medical exams.

- ▶ High-Quality Video Lectures – Taught by expert professors from leading medical institutions.
- ▶ AI-Powered Adaptive Learning – Personalized study recommendations based on student performance.
- ▶ Question Banks & Clinical Case Scenarios – USMLE-style questions, explanations, and performance tracking.
- ▶ Spaced Repetition & Smart Recall – Helps reinforce learning and improve long term retention.

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

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

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

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

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Mental exercise may reverse age-linked brain chemical decline, new study finds

By: Dr. Avi Verma

Engaging in targeted mental exercises could help restore levels of a key brain chemical that typically falls with age, according to new research led by scientists at McGill University in Montréal.

What the Study Found

In a 10-week trial involving 92 healthy adults aged 65 or older, participants who performed 30 minutes of rigorous cognitive training each day exhibited a 2.3 percent increase in cholinergic activity—a chemical system in the brain tied to learning, memory and attention—within a region called the anterior cingulate cortex.

By contrast, participants who played more passive computer games (such as solitaire) showed no significant change. The authors note that a decline of about 2.5 percent per decade is typical for this chemical system as people age.

The lead investigator, neurologist Étienne de Villers Sidani, said the finding marks the first human evidence that brain training can up-regulate this neurotransmitter system to levels “typically seen in someone 10 years younger.”

Why It Matters

The cholinergic system—specifically the neurotransmitter acetylcholine and its associated receptors—is known to decline with both normal aging and more sharply in conditions like Alzheimer’s disease.

Even modest increases in this system may support better attention, memory, and cognitive flexibility—a promising result for older adults looking to protect brain health. As neuroscientist Michael Hasselmo (not part of the study) noted, “even small increases in acetylcholine can have a profound and notable effect” in older brains.

Important Caveats

- ▶ The study size was modest and the effect size, though statistically significant, remains small. Experts caution that more replication is needed before broad clinical claims can be made.
- ▶ The participants were healthy older adults; whether these results extend to those with cognitive impairment or dementia remains unproven.
- ▶ The training used in the study was highly structured and targeted (e.g., speed-based tasks via an app) rather than casual brain games. Thus, generalizing results to all “brain-training” apps should be done carefully.

Practical Take-aways for Brain Health

- ▶ Older adults may benefit from purposeful, structured cognitive tasks (such as speed/attention drills) in addition to general healthy habits



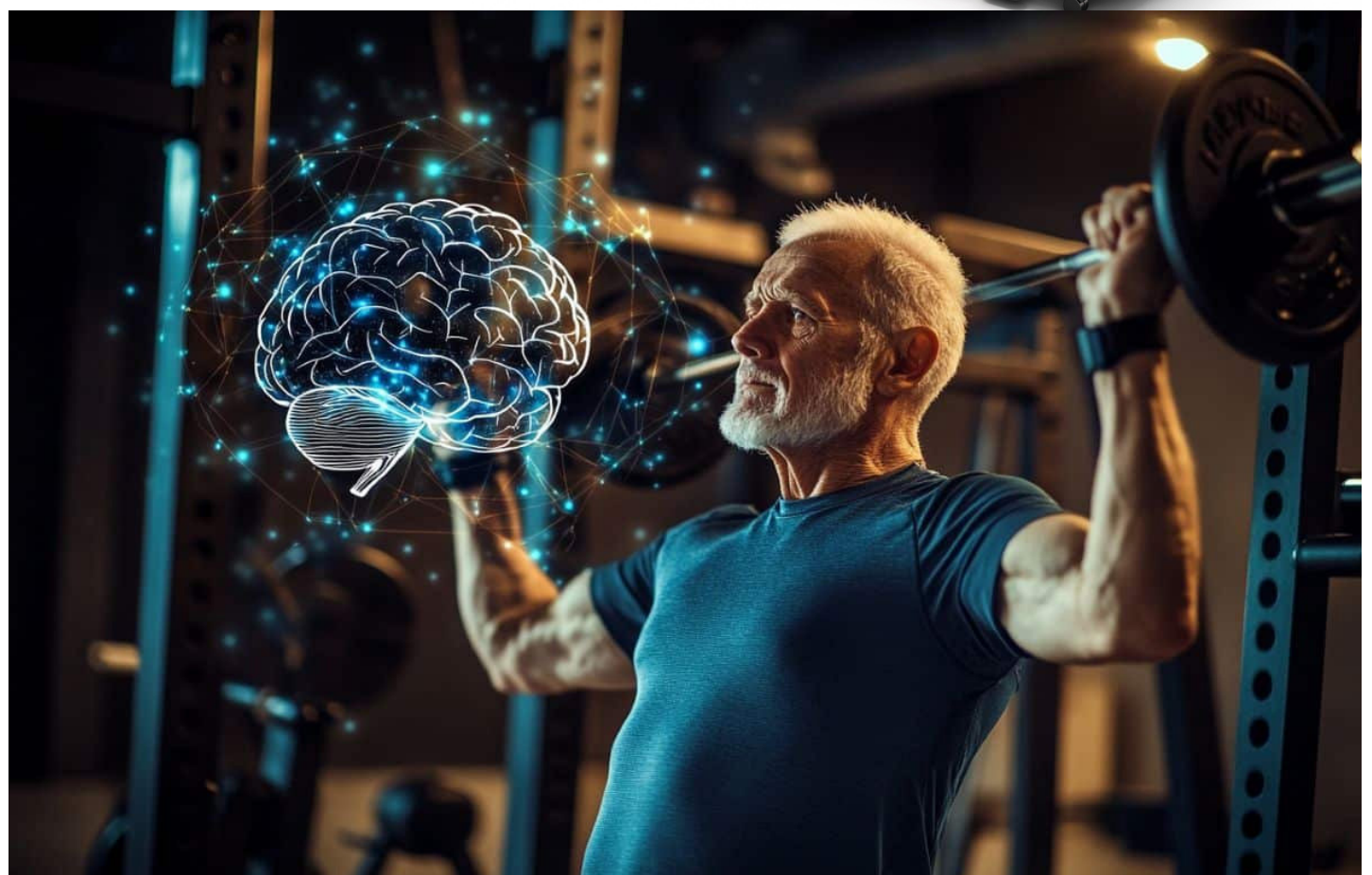
(exercise, balanced diet, good sleep) that support brain function.

health conditions—please consult a qualified healthcare professional.

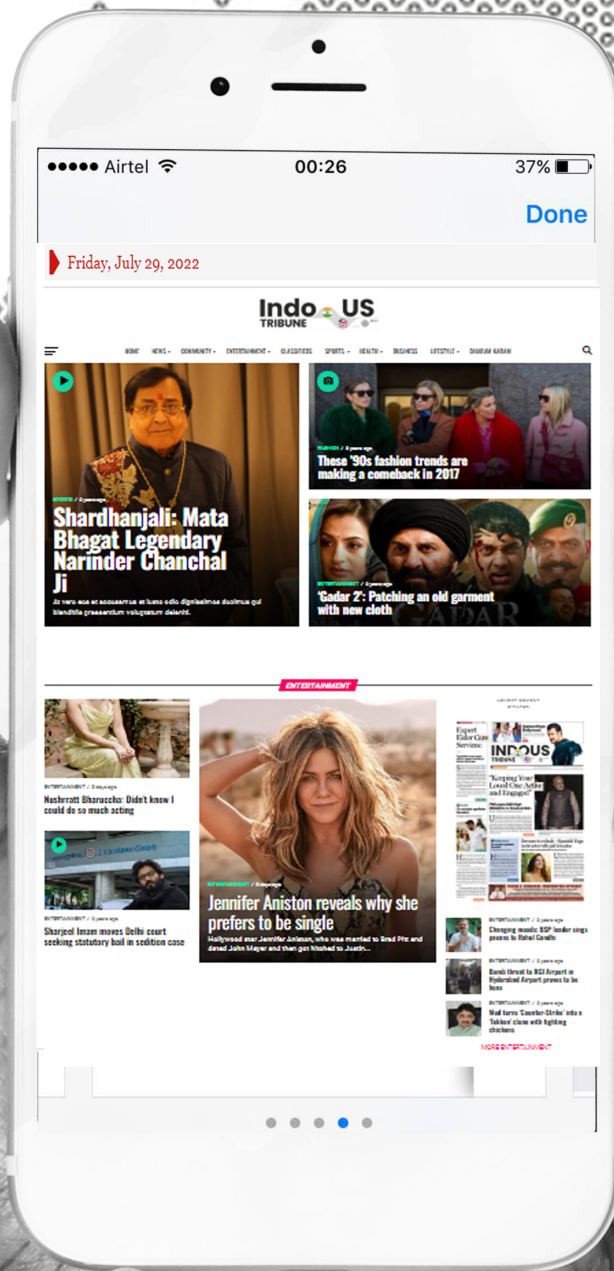
- ▶ Diversifying brain-health activities is wise: learning a new skill, playing a challenging instrument, or following targeted cognitive programs may help build “cognitive reserve.”
- ▶ Consider consultation with a healthcare provider if you are using cognitive training in the context of memory concerns or early cognitive decline.

Disclaimer:

The information presented here is for educational purposes only and does not constitute medical advice. Before beginning any new exercise or cognitive training program—especially if you have existing



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