

US says partnership with India is vital as agencies target terror-linked networks



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States said on Thursday that it values its partnership with Indian security agencies as both countries work to dismantle terror-linked networks and hold offenders accountable. The US Embassy in India issued the statement in response to the National Investigation Agency's announcement on Wednesday about the arrest of gangster Anmol Bishnoi following his deportation from the United States.

According to the NIA, Bishnoi had been living in the United States and played a key role in the Bishnoi syndicate by coordinating operations, aiding terrorists and overseeing extortion rackets in India. He was remanded to 11 days of NIA custody on Wednesday and remains under investigation for several high-profile criminal cases.

Trump reiterates support for legal immigration amid debate on H-1B visas



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump on Wednesday reaffirmed his support for legal immigration, saying he would welcome highly skilled foreign workers needed to operate major technology and semiconductor facilities. Speaking at the United States-Saudi Investment Forum in Washington, he said that new chip plants cannot rely solely on American workers without proper training, adding that overseas specialists would help "teach our people" advanced manufacturing skills.

Trump acknowledged that his stance may draw criticism from conservative allies but insisted it aligns with his agenda, saying that bringing skilled workers is essential to rebuilding the semiconductor sector. On Monday, he also defended the H-1B visa program, arguing that foreign talent is necessary to train local workers, especially as the United States attempts to revive chip production lost to Taiwan.

His remarks sparked backlash from several Republican lawmakers, some of whom renewed calls to end the H-1B system. The White House later said the recent one hundred thousand dollar application fee is meant to curb misuse of the program.

IndoUS TRIBUNE

A VENTURE OF ANSAL MEDIA GROUP OF USA, LLC

VOL: 03 • ISSUE: 03 21 NOVEMBER 2025 MIDWEST EDITION www.indoustribune.com We serve community first

Pakistani politician admits Islamabad's role in Delhi Red Fort blast

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A senior Pakistani politician has publicly admitted Islamabad's direct involvement in the car bomb blast outside Delhi's Red Fort on November 10. In a video that went viral on Wednesday, Chaudhry Anwarul Haq, who was ousted as the "Prime Minister" of Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir this week, boasted about Pakistan's hand in the attack. Speaking in the Legislative Assembly, he claimed he had warned India of retaliation "from the Red Fort to Kashmir's forests."

Investigators have said the attack, which killed more than thirteen people, was carried out by a Jaish-e-Mohammad module. Analysts believe the strike reflects Pakistan's effort to shift the focus away from Jammu and Kashmir and target India's interior regions, prompting calls for stronger inter-agency coordination.



Officials also warn that Pakistani online networks continue to spread misinformation aimed at radicalizing

Indian youth, while the Inter Services Intelligence is attempting new recruitment operations across the country.

Modi's Johannesburg visit places Global South priorities at the center of G20 dialogue

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi began a three-day visit to Johannesburg on Friday to attend the G20 Leaders' Summit, which for the first time is being hosted on African soil. His participation reflects India's continued effort to strengthen the voice of the Global South and build on the momentum created during India's G20 presidency in the previous year. At that time, India played a key role in securing permanent membership for the African Union, a change widely viewed as a major step toward a more representative global governance framework.

South Africa's theme for this year's summit focuses on solidarity, equality, and sustainability. Modi is expected to deliver

India's perspective in all three official sessions, which will cover inclusive economic growth, the role of trade, financing for development, the burden of debt, disaster risk reduction, climate change, just energy transitions, food systems, critical minerals, decent work, and the responsible use of artificial intelligence.

Indian officials have emphasised that this summit continues a sequence of four consecutive G20 meetings hosted by countries of the Global South, a development that has widened space for emerging economies to shape the global conversation.

Modi is also scheduled to hold several bilateral meetings and participate in the India-Brazil-South Africa leaders' dialogue, reaffirming India's commitment to deeper cooperation among developing nations.



Trump signs bill requiring release of Epstein investigation files



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump signed a law on Wednesday directing the Justice Department to release all non-classified files related to Jeffrey Epstein within 30 days. The move came after weeks of growing pressure in Congress, where lawmakers from both parties argued that the public deserved full access to the case records. The House passed the bill on Tuesday with a 427 to 1 vote, and the Senate later approved it by unanimous consent.

Trump, who had previously resisted the proposal, said on social media that the issue had become a distraction for his party and that he wanted to move forward. The law requires the Justice Department to disclose files tied to Epstein's earlier conviction and the investigation into his death in federal custody in 2019. It permits redactions only for ongoing investigations and to protect victims, but it prohibits withholding information due to embarrassment or political sensitivity.



Indian Ambassador engages conservative think tank as US ties intensify

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India’s Ambassador to the United States Vinay Kwatra met experts on Thursday at the Heritage Foundation in Washington as part of his expanded diplomatic outreach. On X, Kwatra said the roundtable covered economic cooperation, balanced trade arrangements and oil and gas engagement under key pillars of the India United States partnership. The Heritage Foundation is an influential conservative think tank aligned with the Trump administration’s priorities. The ambassador has recently increased his meetings with legislators and officials. On Wednesday he met House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Jason Smith to discuss progress on a mutually beneficial trade deal. He also met Congresswoman Chrissy Houlahan to discuss cooperation in defense, energy, artificial intelligence and emerging technologies. Earlier this month, Kwatra held discussions with Assistant Secretary of State Paul Kapur. Both nations are expected to finalize the first tranche of a trade agreement soon.

China suspends Japanese seafood imports as tensions rise over Taiwan remarks



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China has informed Japan that it is suspending imports of Japanese seafood, escalating tensions over Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi’s recent comments on Taiwan. Earlier this month, China had lifted its year-long ban on marine products imposed after the release of treated wastewater from the Fukushima nuclear plant.

A meeting on Tuesday between senior officials Masaaki Kanai of Japan’s Foreign Ministry and China’s Liu Jinsong failed to resolve the dispute. Beijing has demanded that Tokyo retract Takaichi’s statement that a military attack on Taiwan could create a “survival-threatening situation” for Japan.

China has also issued travel and study warnings for its citizens, citing alleged safety risks in Japan. Tokyo rejected the claims and protested a social media post by China’s Consul General in Osaka that appeared to threaten the Japanese leader. Japan has now advised its students in China to take safety precautions as tensions continue to ripple across tourism, education and cultural exchanges.

Rights groups condemn ICT verdict against Sheikh Hasina as politically driven

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Five European rights and advocacy groups on Wednesday criticized the International Crimes Tribunal’s verdict against former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, calling the ruling politically motivated. In a joint statement, the organizations said the tribunal, originally created to investigate the 1971 Liberation War, has “deviated from its core principles,” especially by conducting trials in absentia.

Hasina was sentenced to death on Monday for alleged crimes against humanity linked to demonstrations in July of last year. Two top aides were also convicted, including former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal. The groups raised concerns about rushed proceedings, lack of legal representation and what they called evidence of collusion.



Hasina rejected the charges, describing the tribunal as a “rigged” institution under the interim government led by Muhammad Yunus. She accused the administration of eroding public services, failing to control violence and suppressing the Awami League, arguing that the verdict aims to eliminate her party from Bangladesh’s political system.

EU proposes new military mobility rules to strengthen defense readiness

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The European Commission on Wednesday introduced a package aimed at improving military mobility and modernizing Europe’s defense industry. The proposal seeks to create a European Union-wide military mobility area by 2027, allowing troops and equipment to move across borders within three days. The plan also outlines fast-track procedures and priority access to key infrastructure for forces operating under European Union or North Atlantic Treaty Organization missions.

The roadmap calls for deeper integration of advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence, quantum systems, drones and space-based tools, to strengthen Europe’s defense capabilities. It also emphasizes expanding industrial production through innovation.

The Commission will now send the



regulation to the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament for adoption. The proposal follows an informal summit in Copenhagen in October, where leaders discussed a “drone wall” and long-term defense cooperation, with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen confirming continued work on both initiatives.

Jaishankar opens two new Indian consulates to strengthen ties with Russia

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Wednesday inaugurated two new Indian Consulates General in Yekaterinburg and Kazan, saying the move marks a new phase in India–Russia engagement. Speaking at the ceremony, he noted that months of coordinated work led to the openings, which were supported by Russia’s Deputy Foreign Minister Andrey Rudenko and regional governments.

Jaishankar highlighted Yekaterinburg’s industrial importance, calling it Russia’s “third capital” and a gateway to Siberia, with strengths in heavy engineering, gem cutting, defense manufacturing and nuclear fuel. He said the new consulate will help expand technological, economic and scientific cooperation.

He also described Kazan as a multicultural



hub known for energy, automobiles, pharmaceuticals and defense industries. The consulate, he said, will deepen cultural exchanges, support Indian students and strengthen tourism and trade. Jaishankar added that the expanded diplomatic presence will boost business opportunities and enhance academic and scientific partnerships.

Israel seeks assurance on military edge as US moves ahead with Saudi F-35 sale



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israel said on Thursday that it expects Washington to preserve its access to the most advanced American weapons as the United States plans to sell F-35 fighter jets to Saudi Arabia. Israel is currently the only Middle Eastern nation operating the stealth aircraft, and United States law requires that regional arms sales do not weaken Israel’s qualitative military edge. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s spokesperson Shosh Bedrosian said both countries have a long-standing understanding that Israel maintains that advantage. The planned sale, announced on Monday during a White House meeting between President Donald Trump and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud, includes up to 48 F-35s. Saudi Arabia and Israel do not have formal ties, and Riyadh has signaled that normalization requires a clear path toward a two-state solution with Palestinian statehood, which Netanyahu opposes.

Egypt, Britain and Arab League urge action to reinforce Gaza ceasefire



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer on Tuesday discussed strengthening the recently adopted United Nations Security Council resolution on Gaza. Both leaders said follow-up action is essential to maintain the current ceasefire and advance reconstruction efforts. The resolution, adopted on Monday, endorses the creation of an international stabilization force in Gaza and authorizes member states to contribute personnel in coordination with Egypt and Israel. It also supports the Board of Peace, a transitional administration that will oversee humanitarian assistance and rebuilding.

Starmer emphasized the importance of delivering adequate humanitarian aid, while Sisi called for building on the Sharm el-Sheikh summit held in October. Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul-Gheit welcomed the resolution but said it marks “only the beginning,” stressing that significant work is needed to ensure the plan leads to lasting improvements for Palestinians and a clear path toward an independent Palestinian state.

Canadian security agencies warn of continued exploitation by Khalistan-linked extremists



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A renewed debate over Mewa Singh, sparked this week by online discussion and a government-funded film, has revived concerns about Khalistan-linked extremism in Canada. Singh, a Ghadar Party member, shot Canadian immigration officer William Hopkinson inside a Vancouver courthouse in the aftermath of the Komagata Maru incident and was executed in 1915. Some groups view him as a martyr, while others see the killing as politically motivated terrorism.

Reports from Khalsa Vox and Juno News say modern Khalistan-aligned actors increasingly invoke Singh's legacy to justify violence. Intelligence assessments indicate that a small but persistent network of Canada-based Khalistani extremists continues to engage in propaganda, fundraising and operational planning.

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service says the vast majority of Canadian Sikhs are peaceful but warns that extremist actors exploit Canada's openness, citing the legacy of the 1985 Air India Flight 182 bombing as a central lesson for policymakers.

Afghan petitioners challenge forced repatriation in Peshawar court



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Around 400 Afghan nationals, including artists and their families, approached the Peshawar High Court on Thursday seeking an end to Pakistan's forced repatriation policy. The petition argues that returning to Afghanistan would violate the principle of non refoulement and expose them to persecution under Taliban rule. The applicants cited a previous high court judgment from December of the past year that protected other artists and transgender individuals in similar situations. They named Pakistan's Interior Ministry, Nadra officials, immigration authorities, and senior Khyber Pakhtunkhwa administrators as respondents. The petition stresses that Pakistan's policy contradicts agreements with the United Nations refugee agency and broader international commitments.

India calls stalled Security Council reform process a 'theater of the absurd'

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India on Tuesday sharply criticized the long-stalled effort to reform the United Nations Security Council, calling the discussions under the Intergovernmental Negotiations format a "theater of the absurd." India's Deputy Permanent Representative Yojna Patel said the seventeen-year process has been reduced to endless statements without progress.

She urged the adoption of a negotiating text with clear timelines and milestones, saying the current system allows a small group of countries to block reform. The United for Consensus group, led by Italy and including Pakistan, opposes adding new permanent members and has repeatedly resisted adopting such a text.

Patel argued that the Council must



correct historic imbalances, particularly for Africa. She rejected proposals to create seats for the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, saying faith cannot determine entitlement. The G4 countries — India, Brazil, Germany and Japan — reiterated that United Nations reform is now an urgent necessity.

US Army Secretary upbeat after Kyiv talks on emerging Ukraine peace plan

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The White House said on Thursday that US Army Secretary Daniel Driscoll was very optimistic after meeting Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in Kyiv to discuss a new American peace plan. White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said President Donald Trump supports the developing framework, which is being drafted by Special Envoy Steve Witkoff and Secretary of State Marco Rubio.

She said the team has spent a month speaking equally with Russia and Ukraine to identify commitments needed for a durable peace. Ukrainian officials said Zelensky will speak with President Trump in the coming days. Reports indicate the draft includes 28 points, with major territorial concessions by Ukraine,



reductions in its military size and limits on long-range weapons. European officials have reacted sharply and insist that any viable plan must have strong support from both Ukraine and Europe.

India and US advance maritime cooperation during Naval Chief's Washington visit

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Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi continued his official visit to the United States on Thursday with discussions at the National Defense University in Washington. He met NDU President Vice Admiral Peter Garvin to review military education, training exchanges and shared maritime interests.

Admiral Tripathi also interacted with Indian officers studying at the Eisenhower School, National War College and College of Information and Cyberspace. On Wednesday

he met US Navy Secretary John C Phelan, Under Secretary of War for Policy Elbridge Colby and senior naval officials.

Both sides discussed maritime cooperation, defense industry collaboration, emerging challenges, intelligence sharing, maritime domain awareness and joint innovation. The visit also included a tour of the guided missile destroyer USS Daniel Inouye and briefings at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam.

The Indian Navy says the visit underscores the growing interoperability and strategic convergence between the two nations.



US sanctions India-based firms and others over alleged Iran-linked petroleum trade



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States announced sanctions this week, targeting two India-based companies and two individuals as part of what it describes as an effort to disrupt networks tied to Iran's illicit petroleum trade. The State Department designated 17 entities, individuals and vessels across nations including India, Panama and Seychelles that it alleges facilitate the sale or shipment of Iranian petroleum products.

The Treasury Department separately sanctioned 41 additional entities, individuals, vessels and aircraft linked to Iran's exports. Among them is TR6 Petro India LLP, which the United States says imported more than 8 million dollars in Iranian-origin bitumen between October last year and June this year.

Washington argues that such networks generate revenue that supports Iran-backed groups and weapons programs, accusations Iran rejects. The move follows several recent US actions against companies accused of obscuring the origin of Iranian petroleum or routing payments through intermediaries.

South Korean and Egyptian leaders agree to deepen cooperation for regional peace

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung met Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi in Cairo on Thursday, where both leaders agreed to expand cooperation on peace efforts in the Korean Peninsula and the Middle East. The summit marked Lee's first official visit to Egypt in three years.

Lee said both sides aim to act as facilitators of peace and contribute to international stability. He thanked Egypt for its work on securing a ceasefire and reconstruction efforts in Gaza. The two leaders also discussed expanding defense cooperation beyond the joint production of K9 howitzers to areas including aircraft and ground weapons. Egypt signed a 1.7 billion dollar contract in 2022 for K9 systems, with delivery expected next year.

Both nations signed a declaration to launch negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and also finalized memorandums on education and cultural exchanges.



Published Weekly by:
Ansal Media Group
of USA, LLC

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The tariff tango: A retreat or a reroute?



Dr. Avi Verma

The recent executive order from President Trump rolling back "reciprocal" tariffs on hundreds of food products, including staples like beef, coffee, bananas, and spices, has sent ripples through Washington and global markets. The move, which exempts over 200 items from the duties imposed earlier this year, sparks a key question. Did the administration blink under pressure from rising grocery costs, or is this a calculated adjustment within a broader and aggressive trade strategy?

Blink or strategy? The domestic calculus

While the White House frames the modification as the result of "substantial progress" in securing more reciprocal trade deals and a strategic decision to strengthen U.S. supply chains, the reality of soaring grocery prices cannot be ignored. Consumer frustration over the cost of living, which has become a central rallying point for critics, appears to have played a role in forcing a tactical correction.

The affordability pressure

The rollback arrived amid mounting public concern and election outcomes where affordability was a defining message. By removing tariffs on widely consumed and largely non-domestic products, the administration implicitly acknowledges that its earlier tariff structure contributed to inflation, despite months of denials.

The strategic angle

This move is not a complete departure from the tariff-as-leverage

philosophy. Alongside the rollback, the administration announced framework agreements with multiple Central and South American nations to further reduce duties on select items. This signals a pivot toward targeted bilateral negotiations instead of a single broad tariff approach. It represents a nuanced recalibration: keep global tariff leverage intact while easing pressure points that directly affect voters.

Impact on India and Indo-US relations

India has been especially affected by tariff tensions and continues to face a steep 50 percent tariff structure. This includes a 25 percent reciprocal tariff and an additional 25 percent penalty tied to India's continued purchase of Russian crude oil.

A partial reprieve

Exemptions covering spices, tea, coffee extracts, and select nuts provide relief and could positively impact more than 1 billion dollars in trade. The exemptions narrow barriers for these items, which had been heavily affected by earlier tariff rules.

The core sticking point remains

Higher duties continue on major Indian exports including textiles, gems and jewelry, leather, and seafood. The additional penalty related to Russian oil imports also remains. These continuing barriers threaten key Indian export sectors and complicate strategic and economic cooperation between the two nations.

The path to repair

Indian leaders continue to describe the bilateral relationship as strategic and essential. Officials express optimism that a positive trade agreement remains possible once terms are equitable for both sides. Recent developments, including Reliance Industries pausing Russian crude imports for its export-focused refinery, may signal efforts to address one of the central obstacles.

Is it too late to repair the relationship?

Most analysts believe it is not. Strong defense and strategic cooperation continue to act as stabilizing pillars. While the tariff dispute has created

strain, active trade conversations remain ongoing. The partial rollback may serve as an opening, even as India maintains that it is willing to wait for a comprehensive and fair outcome.

Global and U.S. market reaction

Reaction to the evolving U.S. tariff policy remains mixed, reflecting uncertainty despite the partial rollback.

U.S. markets

Consumers are expected to gradually benefit from lower prices on select imported foods. However, broader trade uncertainty continues. A narrower August trade deficit, partly attributed to reduced imports in anticipation of tariffs, temporarily helped Q3 GDP. Despite this, sustained high industrial tariffs and legal challenges to the policy have contributed to a cautious economic outlook.

Global supply chains

The tariff landscape has already altered sourcing patterns, with many countries diversifying trade away from the United States. Indian exporters, for example, are increasing engagement with Europe and Africa. The selective rollback may intensify global supply-chain segmentation. Countries that secure tariff-free status will benefit while others continue facing elevated barriers.

Conclusion

The food tariff rollback appears to be a tactical maneuver rather than a policy reversal. It acknowledges the political and economic pressure of inflation while keeping the broader tariff structure intact. Although this adjustment provides immediate relief for consumers and select trade partners, the core reciprocal and punitive tariffs remain. The larger trade conflict continues, especially with key partners such as India, sustaining geopolitical complexity and market uncertainty.

Best Regards,

Dr. Avi Verma.

Publisher,

IndoUS Tribune





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HRW calls on Nepal's interim government to probe killings and arson during Gen Z protests

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Human Rights Watch urged Nepal's interim administration on Wednesday to investigate deadly force used by police during the Gen Z protests in Kathmandu. The group said officers fired repeatedly for three hours on Saturday during demonstrations against political corruption and a social media ban, killing 17 people.

Violence continued on Sunday when mobs attacked public buildings, politicians, journalists, and businesses, while security forces were largely absent.

HRW said authorities have arrested 423 people for the Sunday attacks but have not acted against officers involved in Saturday's shootings. The group warned that long standing impunity in Nepal risks fueling future unrest.

UN climate chief urges stronger action as COP30 enters final stretch

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United Nations Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell said on Wednesday that the world must intensify efforts to turn climate commitments into results as COP30 moves toward conclusion. Speaking at the Global Climate Action High Level Closing Event, held from Monday to Tuesday, he highlighted progress on clean energy investment, sustainable fuel expansion, new green industries, and climate adaptation finance. Stiell said national climate plans now take a more comprehensive, society wide approach.

He added that the COP30 Action Agenda's 30 priorities are designed to support real world solutions, from transforming energy and transport to protecting forests and food systems. The conference continues in Belem until Thursday.

Donald Trump Jr. visits Taj Mahal with global delegation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Donald Trump Jr. arrived in Agra on Thursday to visit the Taj Mahal along with 126 guests from 40 countries. He landed at Kheria Airport before traveling to the monument, marking his first visit, although President Donald Trump toured it with Melania Trump in 2020. Local authorities conducted cleaning drives and cleared stray animals along the route for security. Trump Jr. is expected in Udaipur over the weekend for a high profile destination wedding at Jag Mandir Palace, with related events planned at Manek Chowk. Guests include Indian politicians and celebrities, prompting heightened security measures across the city.

SpaceX launches NASA satellite to track sea level change

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

SpaceX on Monday launched NASA's Sentinel 6B satellite from Vandenberg Space Force Base to strengthen global monitoring of sea level rise. Sentinel 6B was jointly developed by NASA and European partners and will build on more than 30 years of ocean data. The satellite will measure rising seas, improve forecasts of ocean currents, and support more accurate weather predictions. NASA said the mission will help protect coastal infrastructure and guide emergency planning. SpaceX noted that this is its second launch in the Sentinel 6 program, following the Sentinel 6 Michael Freilich satellite in 2020. The new satellite will



provide data covering about 90 percent of Earth's oceans.

India criticises Pakistan's role in un security council committees

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India sharply criticized Pakistan on Friday for chairing the UN Security Council committee that oversees sanctions on the Taliban and for co chairing the counterterrorism panel. India's Permanent Representative P. Harish said members with vested interests should not lead committees, citing clear conflicts. He noted that Pakistan has provided safe havens to terrorist groups sanctioned by the UN. India also raised concerns about secretive decisions within sanctions panels, including blocked listings of Lashkar e Tayyiba and Jaish e Mohammad leaders. Harish called for



greater transparency and time bound selection of committee chairs. He also questioned the continued existence of UN peacekeeping mandates that India says have outlived their purpose.

US colleges report decline in new Indian student enrollment

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A new Open Doors report released on Monday shows a significant drop in Indian student enrollment across U.S. universities for the fall 2025 intake. About 61 percent of surveyed institutions reported fewer Indian students, while overall new international enrollment fell by 17 percent. Nearly all colleges experiencing a decline cited visa application concerns as the main reason, followed by travel issues. Although new numbers have fallen, India remained the largest source of international students in



the previous academic year, accounting for nearly half of all graduate students in the United States. Colleges also noted rising scrutiny of international students in recent months, including visa investigations and proposed higher fees.

Telangana delegation reaches Madina to support families of umrah victims

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Telangana government delegation led by Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin reached Madina on Tuesday to assist families of the 45 Umrah pilgrims who died in a bus accident late on Sunday night. The team includes B. Shafiullah and MLA Majid Hussain and is coordinating with Saudi authorities and India's Consulate General in Jeddah. The government said last rites may take place in Saudi Arabia according to religious



customs. Telangana will arrange travel for two relatives of each victim. The Indian Consulate has also set up a camp office in Madina to support families. The accident occurred about 30 kilometers from Madina when the bus collided with a diesel tanker.

EU praises Brazil's leadership as COP30 pushes climate negotiations forward

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The European Commissioner for Climate, Wopke Hoekstra, on Wednesday commended Brazil's presidency for steering COP30 negotiations in Belem. He said President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's full support has strengthened talks focused on energy transition and climate adaptation funding. Hoekstra stressed that vulnerable nations, especially small island states, must be prioritized. He added that global climate action should encourage sustainable economic growth rather than slow it. United Nations climate chief Simon Stiell also highlighted advances at COP30, including progress on clean energy investment, sustainable fuels, new green industries, and climate adaptation finance. The conference continues until Thursday.

Iran rejects any deal requiring zero uranium enrichment

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

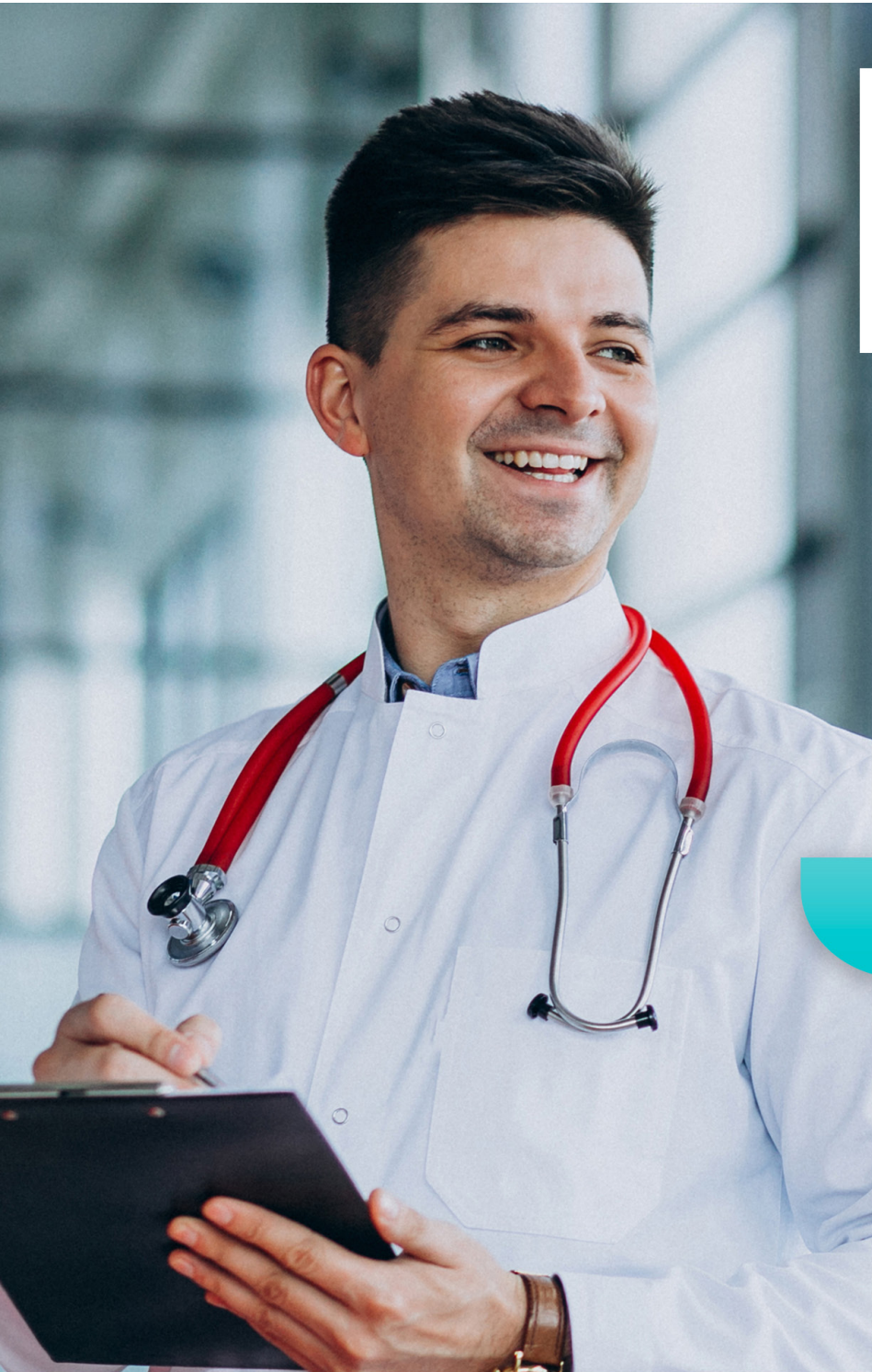
Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi said on Wednesday that Iran will not accept any agreement requiring zero uranium enrichment, calling such a demand a betrayal of national pride. He said Iran cooperates with the International Atomic Energy Agency only at facilities not damaged during attacks by the United States and Israel in June. Iran suspended broader cooperation under a parliamentary law. Araghchi also denied President Donald Trump's claim that the two countries are engaged in nuclear talks. Iran's Foreign Ministry said there is no negotiation process and cited past United States failures to honor commitments as the reason.

Germany preparing long range weapons for Ukraine, says Chancellor Merz



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said on Wednesday that Germany is working with Ukraine on long range weapon systems. Standing beside Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson in Berlin, he said both countries are committed to strengthening security cooperation. The announcement came as reports surfaced that the Trump administration has drafted a new 28 point plan for eventual peace talks with Russia. The plan is being shaped by United States envoy Steve Witkoff, who has held discussions with Russian and Ukrainian officials in recent weeks. Moscow and Washington have not agreed on major issues, and active fighting in Ukraine continues.



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India invites Israeli businesses to expand investment across fast-growing sectors



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal urged Israeli companies on Thursday to invest in India during the India-Israel Business Summit in Tel Aviv. He highlighted opportunities in technology, pharmaceuticals, defense, artificial intelligence, fintech, agritech, and quantum computing. Goyal said India offers a stable business environment, strong growth, record foreign exchange reserves of about seven hundred billion dollars, and a unified taxation system.

He also emphasized major infrastructure investments and India’s demographic advantage. Israeli Minister of Economy and Industry Nir Barkat called the partnership mutually beneficial, encouraging entrepreneurs to scale with Indian collaboration. Goyal is accompanied by a large business delegation and will hold high-level meetings during his three-day visit. Both sides expressed optimism about expanding trade, investment, and joint innovation.

India hands over modular bridges to Nepal to support post-flood reconstruction



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India handed over a seventy-meter modular Bailey bridge to Nepal on Thursday as part of a commitment to supply ten such bridges this year. The support aims to restore connectivity in areas affected by floods and landslides. The remaining bridges are expected to arrive within a week. The Indian Embassy said the bridges, valued at more than seventy-three crore Nepali rupees, are being provided as grant assistance. India’s Ambassador Naveen Srivastava said the support reflects strong bilateral ties and India’s commitment to Nepal’s disaster recovery and infrastructure development. Nepal’s Minister of Physical Infrastructure and Transport Kul Man Ghising welcomed the assistance and said the new bridges will help restore damaged transport networks. Last year, India supplied ten prefabricated bridges, four of which are already installed.

Jaishankar calls on Qatar Amir, pledges stronger India-Qatar ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Qatar Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani in Doha and reaffirmed India’s commitment to enhancing bilateral relations. During the meeting, he conveyed warm greetings from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and expressed appreciation for the Amir’s guidance on expanding cooperation.

Jaishankar also met Qatar’s Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani. They discussed key areas of their Strategic Partnership, including energy, trade, investment, and people-to-people exchanges, while sharing perspectives on regional and global developments.

The Qatar Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the talks focused on strengthening cooperation and addressing issues of



shared concern. Earlier in October, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal met Qatar’s Minister of State for Foreign Trade Affairs Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Sayed to promote economic engagement. India and Qatar have enjoyed close diplomatic, commercial, and cultural ties since 1973, elevated to a strategic partnership during the Amir’s state visit to India in February this year.

India and Australia reaffirm strategic partnership during foreign ministers’ dialogue

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Thursday that the 16th India–Australia Foreign Ministers’ Framework Dialogue remains central to the countries’ comprehensive strategic partnership. Speaking in New Delhi alongside Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, he highlighted expanding cooperation in trade, defense, education, innovation, science, space, and energy. He noted strong people-to-people ties and shared democratic values that define the relationship.

Jaishankar said both sides are optimistic about concluding negotiations on the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement. He also welcomed Australia’s support for India’s Gaganyaan mission



and plans to launch an Australian satellite on an Indian rocket. He added that growing geopolitical challenges make collaboration essential, especially in maritime security, resilient supply chains, counterterrorism, and climate action.

Indian ambassador advances India-US trade and defense cooperation with Republican leaders

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India’s Ambassador to the United States, Vinay Kwatra, met Republican Congress leaders and key trade committee chairs this week to promote India-US commercial and defense ties.

On Thursday, he discussed strengthening trade and defense relations, oil and gas cooperation, and technology opportunities with Vern Buchanan, Vice Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. He also met Trade Subcommittee Chair Adrian Smith, appreciating his support for advancing bilateral trade, and briefed Blake Moore, Vice Chair of the House Republican Conference, on ongoing trade discussions.

Earlier, Kwatra met House Ways and Means Chairman Jason Smith and attended a roundtable with experts from the Heritage Foundation, highlighting shared economic



priorities and mutually beneficial trade arrangements.

These engagements come ahead of the expected formalization of the first tranche of the India-US trade agreement.

India and Tanzania strengthen naval cooperation with focus on maritime security



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Tanzania concluded the first edition of Navy Staff Talks in Dar es Salaam on Thursday, focusing on strengthening maritime partnership and future cooperation. Officials from both sides discussed coordinated approaches to maritime security, training, and operational exchanges under ongoing defense engagement efforts. The Indian Navy said the meeting builds on existing collaboration, including joint exercises. Earlier, the Indian warship INS Sahyadri participated in the sea phase of Exercise Malabar in Guam alongside the navies of the United States, Japan, and Australia. The drills included anti-submarine missions, boarding operations, refueling at sea, and cross-deck helicopter operations. The Navy said the engagements demonstrate India’s commitment to strengthening interoperability and securing the Indo-Pacific through strategic maritime partnerships.

Indian ambassador makes first official visit to Bolivia’s Beni region to boost ties



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian Ambassador Rohit Vadhvana made his first official visit to Bolivia’s Beni Department this week, meeting Governor Jose Alejandro Unzueta and Trinidad city officials to strengthen bilateral cooperation. Discussions focused on agriculture, livestock development, business collaboration, and education partnerships.

Vadhvana also met Trinidad Mayor Cristian Camara Arratia, and was honored as a “Distinguished Guest” by the Municipal Council. The visit included discussions with the Autonomous University of Jose Ballivian on academic exchanges and training opportunities through India’s Technical and Economic Cooperation program.

The ambassador also engaged with the Beni Private Business Federation to explore investment opportunities and commercial partnerships. The Indian Embassy said the visit reflects growing diplomatic and cultural ties, highlighted by a Mahatma Gandhi bust displayed at the Mayor’s office.

India, Bangladesh hold rare high-level talks as both sides signal interest in improving ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Bangladesh held rare high-level talks in New Delhi on November 19 as National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval met Bangladeshi NSA Khalilur Rahman. This was the first such engagement since Bangladesh's interim government assumed office. The meeting took place a day after a Bangladesh tribunal sentenced former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to death. Both governments did not say whether Bangladesh's request for Hasina's extradition was discussed.

Rahman was in New Delhi to attend the seventh meeting of the Colombo Security Conclave, a regional security grouping led by India. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, Doval hosted NSAs from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and Mauritius for discussions on maritime and security cooperation in the Indian Ocean region.

Following the bilateral talks, Bangladesh said the two NSAs discussed the work of the conclave and key issues in the relationship. Rahman invited Doval to visit Bangladesh. This was the highest-level visit from the interim administration to India so far. Pakistan has recently increased its engagement with Dhaka. A senior Pakistani military delegation led by General Sahir Shamshad Mirza visited Bangladesh in late



October, followed by a visit from Pakistan's Navy Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf in early November.

Indian and Bangladeshi officials exchanged messages of solidarity during the conclave. Rahman condemned the Red Fort blasts in India and expressed support for the victims. Earlier in the month, Doval commented publicly on political changes in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal, describing them as

outcomes of poor governance.

Travel and communication between the two countries continue to face delays. A request from the Bangladeshi High Commissioner to visit South India has been pending with India's Ministry of External Affairs for more than two months, a diplomatic source said.

Concerns over misinformation were



raised by Rahman in his statement at the conclave. He said Bangladesh continued to face a steady flow of misinformation and called for stronger cooperation among member countries on cybersecurity.

Officials in Dhaka have previously said India-based outlets and social media accounts circulated incorrect reports about Bangladesh, including allegations of large-scale attacks on the Hindu minority.

A fact-checking report by Rumour Scanner in 2024 recorded 13 false reports about Bangladesh published by 49 Indian media outlets between August and December that year. Bangladesh is expected to hold national elections in February 2026, although no dates have been confirmed.

Both sides are continuing formal contact as the political situation in Dhaka evolves.

Indian envoy discusses cultural and tourism collaboration with Karo officials



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Consul General of India in Medan, Ravi Shankar Goel, met Karo Deputy Regent Komando Tarigan to discuss historical linkages and collaboration in culture, tourism, and education, highlighting the Sembiring clan's roots and shared heritage. Goel also met Parisada Hindu Dharma Indonesia Karo Chairman Komang Agus Aryawan and members of Wanita Karo Indonesia to explore cultural partnership opportunities. The Consulate emphasized India and Indonesia's two-millennia-old commercial and cultural ties, with Indian epics influencing Indonesian art and folklore. In January, Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto visited India as Chief Guest for the 76th Republic Day.

India and Denmark expand cooperation in defense and emerging technologies

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Denmark held the 8th Foreign Office Consultations in New Delhi, agreeing to strengthen collaboration in defense, security, new technologies, and Arctic affairs. Both nations reaffirmed their commitment to combating terrorism and enhancing bilateral engagement under the India-Denmark Green Strategic Partnership.

Co-chaired by MEA Secretary Sibi George and Denmark's State Secretary for Foreign Policy Lotte Machon, the talks also focused on trade, investment, renewable energy, sustainability, and



research. Earlier, EAM S. Jaishankar and Denmark's Foreign Minister Lars Lokke Rasmussen discussed India-EU cooperation, while Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Danish PM Mette Frederiksen reaffirmed their Green Strategic Partnership.

India and Afghanistan explore ways to expand trade and connectivity ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Afghanistan's Industry and Commerce Minister Alhaj Nooruddin Azizi in New Delhi on Thursday to discuss expanding trade, connectivity, and people-to-people engagement. Jaishankar reiterated India's continued support for the welfare and development of the Afghan people.

The Afghan delegation is focused on operationalizing the India-developed Chabahar Port in Iran to boost

regional transit and reduce dependence on Pakistan amid ongoing border disruptions.

Azizi also visited the India International Trade Fair on Wednesday, engaging with Afghan traders and exploring opportunities for investment and market access. Afghanistan is seeking cooperation in mining, hydroelectric power, and food exports.

The visit marks the first attendance by a senior Afghan official at the fair since 2021 and signals efforts to strengthen economic ties.

Nadda and Norwegian health minister explore digital health and collaboration



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Union Health Minister J P Nadda met Norwegian Health Minister Jan Christian Vestre to discuss collaboration in digital health, maternal and child nutrition, human resource development, and disease research. Nadda proposed signing Memorandums of Understanding to strengthen cooperation in health, medicine, and drug regulation. Vestre highlighted participation in the Bengaluru Tech Summit and ongoing healthcare innovation initiatives. Nadda noted the India-Norway Partnership Initiative, now in its fourth phase, which has provided technical support to Bihar, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Jammu and Kashmir, demonstrating the impact of joint efforts in achieving India's health and Sustainable Development Goa

US State Department labels diversity policies and abortion support as human rights violations

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The US State Department has issued new rules directing embassies and consulates to classify countries enforcing race or gender diversity, equity, and inclusion policies, subsidizing abortion, or facilitating mass migration as infringing on human rights. The guidelines, announced this week, aim to curb what the administration calls “destructive ideologies,” though rights campaigners argue they redefine established international human rights principles for ideological purposes. Officials said the rules target practices such as child gender-transition surgeries and restrictions on speech. Critics warn the measures undermine protections for women, LGBTQI+ individuals, religious minorities, and free expression while reflecting the Trump administration’s domestic political agenda abroad.

RFK Jr. ally Calley Means appointed senior adviser at HHS

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Calley Means, previously aligned with the “Make America Healthy Again” movement, has been appointed as a senior adviser to the Department of Health and Human Services. The department confirmed the appointment on Tuesday. Means previously served as a special government employee during the second term of Donald Trump and will now take on a permanent advisory role focused on food and nutrition policy. His appointment highlights the growing influence of Robert F. Kennedy Jr.’s leadership team. Critics have raised concerns about potential conflicts because of Means’ history in the health and wellness business sector.

CDC updates autism vaccine webpage amid criticism

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated its website on Wednesday stating that the claim “vaccines do not cause autism” is not evidence based. The agency noted that current scientific research has not conclusively ruled out the possibility that childhood vaccines may contribute to autism. The change reflects the position of Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who currently leads the Department of Health and Human Services after years of scientific consensus finding no proven link. Public health experts and autism advocacy groups criticized the revision and warned that the move could weaken trust in childhood immunizations and increase vaccine hesitancy.

Trump accuses Democratic lawmakers of sedition, urges trial

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump on Thursday accused several Democratic lawmakers of “seditious behavior” and called for their arrest and trial, with some posts on his platform claiming the acts may be “punishable by death.” The remarks followed a video released Tuesday by the lawmakers, many of whom are veterans, urging military and intelligence officers to refuse unlawful orders. The president described their message as an existential threat and alleged conspiracy.

At a White House briefing, Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said the video “perhaps is punishable by law” and insisted the lawmakers were encouraging disobedience of legitimate command. The lawmakers responded by condemning Trump’s comments as threats against Congress and defended



the message as reaffirming the military’s duty to the Constitution. The episode intensifies partisan tensions and raises questions about the limits of free speech and accountability for public officials.

US lawmakers push bipartisan resolution to strengthen India partnership

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States Representatives Ami Bera and Joe Wilson introduced a bipartisan resolution on Monday reaffirming the strategic importance of the United States-India partnership. The resolution received support from 24 original cosponsors across party lines, signaling continued commitment to cooperation regardless of political transitions.

It highlighted shared counterterrorism goals and urged swift prosecution of perpetrators behind the 2008 Mumbai attacks. Lawmakers also referenced a terrorist attack in Pahalgam in April that killed 26 people and was claimed by The Resistance Front.

The resolution encouraged deeper collaboration through the Quad and



ongoing cooperation on technology, energy security, and people-to-people exchanges. It follows a recent letter from five United States lawmakers urging President Donald Trump to reconsider the H-1B visa proclamation because of its possible negative impact on bilateral ties.

Epstein files reveal email exchanges involving Harvard head Summers

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Preliminary leaks from Jeffrey Epstein’s files revealed emails suggesting former US Treasury Secretary and Harvard head Larry Summers sought advice from Epstein about pursuing a woman. Summers said he was “deeply ashamed” and will withdraw from public engagements. The disclosures emerge as Congress prepares to vote on releasing all Epstein files. Democrat Representative Ro Khanna said the documents aim to expose elite figures linked to Epstein, who had extensive political, business, and social connections. Former President Donald Trump allowed House members to vote for disclosure after initially



opposing it. Summers has not been implicated in criminal activity but is facing public scrutiny over the emails. Harvard and other institutions associated with him are reviewing the situation.

Judge orders end to Trump administration’s National Guard deployment in Washington

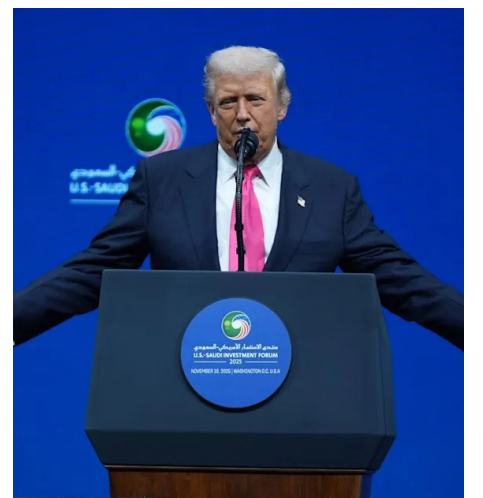


● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge has ruled that President Donald Trump’s deployment of National Guard troops in Washington, D.C., was unlawful. The ruling stated that the president did not have the authority to use the Guard for general law enforcement purposes. U.S. District Judge Jia Cobb issued the order on Thursday and said the decision exceeded statutory limits and the role of Congress in the governance of the capital.

The ruling has been paused for 21 days to allow for an appeal, which means troops will remain in place during the review period. The case adds to ongoing debate over the limits of presidential power in domestic military actions.

Trump acknowledges slip in approval ratings while addressing business audience



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump conceded on Wednesday that his approval ratings have fallen, citing a Reuters/Ipsos poll that put his approval at 38 percent—his lowest since returning to office. He told a Washington business audience that his numbers “went way up” among what he called “smart people,” while taking aim at conservative critics of his stance on skilled foreign workers.

The poll also found only 26 percent of Americans believe he is doing a good job managing the cost of living, while college-educated respondents were especially critical. Trump once blamed Democrats for inflation and said it would reduce over the coming months.

Trump and Vance excluded from Dick Cheney's Washington funeral



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump and Vice President J.D. Vance were not invited to the funeral service for former Vice President Dick Cheney, held at Washington National Cathedral on Thursday. The invitation list included former Presidents George W. Bush and Joe Biden, and former Vice Presidents such as Kamala Harris and Mike Pence, illustrating Cheney's broad bipartisan recognition. Cheney, who passed away at age 84 on November 3, served as a congressman, defense secretary and vice president under Bush, and became a vocal opponent of Trump's 2020 election claims. While the White House lowered flags to half-staff in Cheney's honour, Trump did not issue public condolences and acknowledged neither event nor invitation.

Feud between Trump and Greene rattles Republican unity



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A widening rift between President Donald Trump and Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene is stirring concern among Republicans over party cohesion ahead of the next major elections. At a meeting of the Walker County Republican Party in Georgia, local chair Jackie Harling urged unity while addressing the conflict, which centres on Greene's vocal criticism of Trump's record including his handling of the Jeffrey Epstein case. The tension has prompted some voters to question whether the party is losing focus on core issues like affordability, while others say it reflects a new assertion of independence within the MAGA movement.

New York City mayor elect keeps police commissioner, signaling cautious approach to reforms

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Incoming New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani announced Wednesday that Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch will remain in her role, marking one of his most significant early decisions. The move aims to calm concerns among business leaders and law-enforcement supporters who worried Mamdani's past calls to defund the New York Police Department would shape his administration. Mamdani praised Tisch for lowering crime, confronting internal corruption and standing firm during political pressure.

Tisch acknowledged the pair have different views but said recent conversations made her confident



they could work together. Mamdani has said he plans to shift some police responsibilities to mental health teams but will maintain the department's workforce size. The decision drew mixed reactions from progressives who expected broader change within the nation's largest police force.

Florida governor threatens legal action over offshore drilling plan

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis sharply criticised the federal government's new offshore oil-and-gas leasing plan announced this week, calling the move "dead on arrival" for the Sunshine State.

The proposal, championed by President Donald Trump and Interior Secretary Doug Burgum, would allow drilling in federal waters off California, Florida and Alaska for the first time in decades, including six lease sales between 2027 and 2030.

Environmental groups and state officials warn the plan threatens tourism, coastal ecosystems and military training zones. Proponents



argue it supports jobs and energy independence, but critics say it reveals deeper conflicts over climate policy and federal-state power.

Air traffic controllers with perfect shutdown attendance to receive \$10,000 bonuses

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Federal Aviation Administration announced on Thursday that 776 air traffic controllers and technicians who maintained perfect attendance during the roughly 43-day government shutdown will receive \$10,000 each. The bonus is part of a directive from the Donald Trump administration to reward those who stayed on the job without pay.

Recipients will be notified next week and payments distributed by December 9. The union representing air traffic controllers, the National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA), said that only 311 of its more than 10,000 members will be eligible—raising



concerns that thousands who also worked through the shutdown without pay are excluded. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy called the award a recognition of "patriotic men and women" who kept the skies safe during operational chaos. Critics say the narrow criteria leave many frontline workers without recognition despite similar sacrifices.

House vote on Senate January 6 provision exposes Republican fraying



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. House of Representatives moved on Wednesday to repeal a controversial Senate provision permitting lawmakers to sue federal investigators for up to \$500,000 over phone-record searches. The measure had been added to a recent funding bill that ended the historic government shutdown.

The move signals growing fractures within the Republican Party just ten months into President Trump's second term, as lawmakers from both sides criticised the loophole as self-enriching. With the repeal headed to the Senate, where support remains uncertain, the debate underscores concerns about the weaponisation of government agencies and internal GOP dissent.

Thanksgiving dinner cost declines as turkey prices drop



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The cost of a traditional Thanksgiving meal for ten people is expected to be about \$55.18 in 2025, according to the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual holiday cost survey.

The average cost equals about \$5.52 per person and represents a five percent decrease from last year. The decline marks the third year in a row that prices have fallen. The biggest factor is a steep reduction in turkey prices, which dropped by about 16 percent. A sixteen pound frozen turkey now averages \$21.50 or about \$1.34 per pound.

Prices for rolls and stuffing have also declined, although some produce, including sweet potatoes, increased slightly.



125 Indian nationals repatriated from Thailand after scam operations



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At least 125 Indian nationals were repatriated from Mae Sot, Thailand, to India on Wednesday aboard a special Indian Air Force flight, bringing the total number of Indians rescued from Myanmar scam centers and returned via Thailand since March to 1,500. The Indian Embassy in Bangkok and Consulate in Chiang Mai coordinated closely with Thai authorities in Tak Province to ensure safe repatriation.

Earlier, 269 Indians were repatriated on Tuesday and 197 last week, including women and other vulnerable individuals. The embassy advised Indian citizens to verify the credentials of foreign employers and warned that visa-free entry to Thailand is meant for tourism or short business visits, not employment. Thai Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul visited Mae Sot to oversee operations and appreciated India's efforts. Authorities stressed that cooperation between Indian and Thai agencies has been crucial in safely repatriating citizens trapped in illicit operations.

Indian man wanted for murder arrested in US after being denied entry to Canada



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Vishat Kumar, a 22-year-old Indian citizen wanted for murder in India, was arrested by US Customs and Border Protection officers at the Port of Buffalo, Peace Bridge border crossing on Monday after being denied entry into Canada. Kumar, who illegally entered the US in 2024 and missed an asylum interview, was found using a false identity. Biometric checks confirmed his true identity and linked him to an Interpol Red Notice for murder.

He was processed by CBP and handed over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and is now detained at the Federal Detention Facility in Batavia, New York, awaiting removal proceedings. Acting Area Port Director Sharon Swiatek praised the arrest, saying it highlights the critical role of officers in safeguarding the nation and collaborating with international partners to uphold justice.

Times Square hosts vibrant saree celebration highlighting culture and women's empowerment

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Times Square in New York City transformed into a kaleidoscope of color and culture on Sunday as the second edition of 'Saree Goes Global' celebrated the elegance of the saree and women's empowerment through heritage, artistry, and community. Organized by New York-based philanthropic group Uma Global in partnership with the Consulate General of India, the event attracted participants from India, Bangladesh, the UK, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the West Indies, and multiple U.S. cities.

Attendees showcased a wide range of saree styles and fabrics, highlighting India's millennia-old artistic traditions.



The celebration featured vibrant Bihu dance performances and a symbolic 'saree walkathon' around Times Square, emphasizing unity, confidence, and cultural expression. Consul (Head of Chancery) Pragya Singh described

the saree as one of the world's oldest continuously worn garments, reflecting India's diversity and creativity.

Deputy Commissioner Dilip Chauhan of the New York City Mayor's Office noted that the event honored generations of craftsmanship, storytelling, and leadership, while promoting the role of women in community development. Uma Global President Dr. Rita Kakati-Shah, wearing a traditional 'paat silk mekhela chador' from Assam, said the gathering connected cultures, generations, and communities.

A letter from Governor Kathy Hochul recognized the event's contribution to diversity, empowerment, and cross-cultural engagement across New York State, underscoring the global reach of this unique cultural initiative.

Indian Sikh pilgrim goes missing in Pakistan, reportedly marries local man

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Chandigarh authorities are investigating the disappearance of Sarabjeet Kaur, a middle-aged Sikh pilgrim from Kapurthala district, who went missing during a pilgrimage to Pakistan for Guru Nanak Dev's birth anniversary.

Reports indicate she converted to Islam, adopting the name Noor Hussain, and married Nasir Hussain in Lahore. Kaur had traveled with 1,923 pilgrims on November 4 under a bilateral agreement facilitating religious visits.

After spending ten days visiting historic gurdwaras, the group of 1,922 returned Thursday, but Kaur's name was absent from immigration records on both sides. Sikh groups have demanded a thorough investigation, questioning the circumstances of her disappearance. Intelligence agencies are



reportedly tracing her movements, and the Indian mission in Pakistan is in contact with local authorities.

The incident has sparked concern among the Sikh community, highlighting the sensitivities surrounding cross-border religious pilgrimages and the safety of Indian citizens traveling abroad.

70 Sikh pilgrims depart for Bangladesh to honor historic events

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Seventy Sikh pilgrims departed Amritsar Thursday for a special religious yatra to Bangladesh, marking the 356th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev and the 350th martyrdom anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur. Organized by the Kar Sewa Sampardai of Sarhali, the pilgrims assembled at Amritsar railway station, receiving a traditional 'Siropa' robe of honor before departure.

The delegation will visit several prominent gurdwaras in Dhaka, Chatogram, and Mymensingh, engaging in religious programs, prayers, and community service at each site.

The Sampardai has coordinated this annual pilgrimage for nearly two decades, promoting cross-border religious and cultural connections. The trip comes after a recent controversy in Pakistan,



where 14 Hindu devotees traveling with Sikh pilgrims to Nankana Sahib were reportedly humiliated and sent back, highlighting ongoing challenges for religious travelers. Indian authorities condemned the act, emphasizing the importance of maintaining faith-based respect and safety for all pilgrims.

Iran ends visa-free entry for Indian travelers from November 22

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iran has officially ended visa-free entry for ordinary Indian passport holders from November 22, following incidents in which Indian nationals were trafficked, kidnapped, and extorted after being lured with false job or travel promises.

The Ministry of External Affairs warned that criminal networks exploited the visa-waiver loophole, targeting vulnerable job-seekers. Indian authorities urged travelers to secure visas in advance and exercise caution, avoiding intermediaries offering quick overseas placements or visa-free routes.

The MEA stressed that the new measure aims specifically to curb exploitation by trafficking and smuggling rings.

The government continues to monitor the situation and coordinate with Iranian authorities to ensure the safety of Indians abroad.

Body of Indian student found dead in Russia returned to Rajasthan

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The body of 22-year-old Indian student Ajeet Chaudhary, missing since October 19, was returned to Kafanwada village in Alwar, Rajasthan, on Monday for cremation. Chaudhary, pursuing MBBS at Bashkir State Medical University in Russia, was found near White River in Ufa on November 6. After a post-mortem in Russia, his body was taken to the district hospital in Alwar for a second examination. Locals and family members gathered to pay their respects.

Ajeet's family had sold part of their farmland to support his education abroad. Relatives said the circumstances of his death remain unclear, and authorities are expected to conduct a deeper investigation into the incident.

Indian-American venture capitalist claims role in Trump's H-1B policy shift



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian-origin venture capitalist Asha Jadeja Motwani claimed she influenced President Donald Trump's stance on H-1B visas, advocating for skilled Indian talent in the United States. A Republican donor, Motwani said she spoke directly with Trump and Vice President JD Vance, emphasizing the value of Indian professionals.

She urged more high-net-worth Indian-Americans to engage with the administration, warning that few are supporting India's interests in Washington. Motwani noted that many Indian-American billionaires maintain ties only with Democrats and have not lobbied for India. She described her recent weekend at Mar-a-Lago as a unique opportunity to discuss policy access.

Trump, in a recent interview, stressed the need for specific talent in the U.S., reigniting debate within his political base over H-1B visas and the balance between domestic priorities and attracting skilled foreign workers.

Two Indian-origin Canadians charged in U.S.-led cocaine trafficking crackdown



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Two Canadian men of Indian origin were arrested in a U.S.-led crackdown on a violent transnational cocaine network run by former Olympic snowboarder Ryan James Wedding. The operation, dubbed Operation Giant Slalom, led to 10 arrests this week and 29 indictments overall. Toronto lawyer Deepak Paradkar, 62, and crime blogger Gursewak Singh Bal, 31, face extradition to the U.S.

Paradkar allegedly advised Wedding on murders and obstructing justice, while Bal used his now-seized website to locate a witness in Colombia. Wedding remains at large in Mexico. The network reportedly moved tons of cocaine annually from Colombia through Mexico into North America. Extradition hearings are underway, and if convicted, Paradkar and Bal could face life sentences. The investigation involved the FBI, U.S. Treasury, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and Colombian National Police.

Calls grow for tougher action as Punjabis targeted in Canadian extortion crisis

● Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Lawyers, business owners, and community leaders in British Columbia, Canada, are pressing the federal government to designate extortion as a terrorism offense following a surge in threats and violent incidents targeting the Punjabi diaspora. Punjabis have been disproportionately affected, both as victims and alleged perpetrators, as criminals exploit transnational networks originating from Punjab and Haryana, including the Bishnoi gang.

On Thursday, the Law Society of British Columbia issued an urgent notice warning members of lawyers receiving extortion calls demanding large sums of money and



threatening physical harm. Conservative MLA Steve Kooner called the wave “a direct attack on the justice system” and urged immediate federal intervention. The crisis, which intensified in 2025, has included over 100 incidents province-wide, including arson, shootings, property

damage, and cryptocurrency ransom demands, creating widespread fear among immigrant entrepreneurs.

Prominent victims include Surrey temple president Satish Kumar and businessman Arshdeep Singh Arora. Authorities have launched the BC Extortion Task Force, a 40-member unit coordinating municipal, provincial, and federal law enforcement to investigate and prosecute organized crime. Recent deportations, public awareness campaigns in English and Punjabi, and community mobilization aim to curb threats and reassure residents while emphasizing immediate reporting to police. Experts warn that without stronger federal action, such attacks could undermine the safety and security of communities across Canada.

Indian community aids hurricane-hit Jamaica with relief efforts

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Members of the Indian community in Kingston actively supported relief efforts in St. Elizabeth Parish, Jamaica, following Hurricane Melissa, reaffirming India's solidarity with the Caribbean nation. The community raised over \$3.2 million, enabling delivery of 550 care packages containing food, clothes, stoves, hygiene kits, and other essentials to affected households in St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland, and Black River.

The team, led by Gul Mansukhani and joined by Indian High Commissioner Mayank Joshi and Jamaican Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining Floyd Green, coordinated closely to ensure effective distribution. Earlier, India sent 20 tonnes of humanitarian aid aboard an Indian Air Force C-17 aircraft, including the BHISHM modular trauma kit, designed for field-level emergency medical support.



The Indian High Commission highlighted the efforts as an example of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam,' the philosophy of treating the world as one family, demonstrating compassion, solidarity, and partnership with Jamaica in times of natural disaster.

Indian-origin McDonald's employee in Massachusetts honored for 40 years of service with \$40,000 reward

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian-origin McDonald's employee in Massachusetts received a grand tribute for completing four decades with the fast-food chain, marked by a red-carpet event, a limousine ride, and a \$40,000 reward. The celebration honored Balbir Singh, who began his career at the restaurant shortly after moving to the United States in the mid-1980s. Singh started with basic roles in the kitchen, gradually taking on every task available, before rising through the ranks to oversee multiple outlets within the franchise network.

Franchise owner Lindsay Wallin, who manages nine McDonald's locations in the region, organized the anniversary celebration. She described Singh as a key figure in the business whose dedication reflects the values her family instilled in the company. “One of the things I admire most about Balbir is that he has



embraced our company motto of ‘Why not? Why not try something new? Why not grow? Why not push for better?’ Wallin said, emphasizing how his attitude shaped the workplace culture and opened opportunities for other employees.

At the event, Singh received a service award, a commemorative “One in Eight” jacket, and a \$40,000 check. The festivities highlighted Singh's lifelong commitment, hard work, and the family-like environment that continues to define the franchise.

Belgium supreme court to hear Mehul Choksi's extradition appeal

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Belgium's Court of Cassation will hear fugitive diamond trader Mehul Choksi's appeal against his extradition on December 9. Choksi challenged an October 17 ruling of the Antwerp Court of Appeal, which upheld India's extradition request and deemed it enforceable. The supreme court will review only legal procedures and the application of law, not new evidence.

Choksi, accused in the Rs-13,000 crore PNB scam, allegedly siphoned Rs 6,400 crore. He fled to Antigua and Barbuda in January 2018 and later surfaced in Belgium. Indian authorities have assured Choksi's safety, fair trial, and humane treatment during his legal proceedings. The Antwerp Court of Appeal previously ruled that Choksi faces “no risk” of torture or unfair trial in India.

The case highlights India's continued efforts to secure extradition of high-profile financial offenders and reinforces international cooperation in combating cross-border economic crimes.

Pregnant Indian woman killed in Sydney car crash

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Samanvitha Dhareshwar, 33, eight months pregnant, was killed last Friday in Sydney while walking with her husband and three-year-old son. Police said a Kia Carnival had slowed to allow the family to cross George Street in Hornsby when a speeding BMW collided with it, pushing the Kia into Dhareshwar at the entrance to a car park.

She and her unborn child were rushed to Westmead Hospital but could not be saved. The BMW driver, 19-year-old Aaron Papazoglu, was arrested and charged with dangerous driving causing death, negligent driving causing death, and causing the loss of a fetus. Dhareshwar, an experienced IT systems analyst employed at AlSCO Uniforms, will be remembered for her professional and personal achievements. The case will proceed under Zoe's Law, which allows harsher penalties for deaths of unborn children caused by criminal acts.

Russia plans major energy expansion as data center power use set to triple



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned that the country’s data center power consumption is expected to more than triple this decade, emphasizing the need for reliable energy supply.

Speaking at the "AI Journey" conference in Moscow this week, he said data centers should be aligned with national energy development, including eco-friendly coal and nuclear power. Putin announced plans to build 38 new nuclear units over the next two decades in the Urals, Siberia, and the Russian Far East, matching current nuclear capacity.

Highlighting AI as a historic technological undertaking, he stressed investments in computing power and energy. Earlier on Tuesday, Putin joined via video link the keel-laying ceremony of the nuclear-powered icebreaker Stalingrad, underlining Russia’s strategic priorities in the Arctic and trans-Arctic transport from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok.

US hails joint fact sheet as new chapter in South Korea alliance



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau said Thursday that South Korea and the United States have opened a “new chapter” in their alliance with the release of a joint fact sheet on security and trade agreements. The document reflects outcomes from summits between President Lee Jae Myung and President Donald Trump in Washington in August and Gyeongju last month. Landau highlighted priorities including rebuilding critical industries, strengthening commercial ties, modernizing the alliance, and advancing maritime and nuclear partnerships. He noted that South Korea is vital for US manufacturing and investment in sectors such as semiconductors, energy, and shipbuilding. Landau also addressed the September visa incident at a Korean factory in Georgia, promising reforms to facilitate skilled Korean workers training Americans.

Zelenskyy to discuss controversial US-backed peace plan with Trump

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he will engage with President Donald Trump over a US-backed peace proposal that calls for significant concessions from Ukraine to end Russia’s invasion. The draft plan, prepared by US and Russian officials without Kyiv’s consultation, reportedly includes giving up Crimea and the Donbas region, limiting Ukraine’s army to 600,000 personnel, and freezing frontlines in Kherson and Zaporizhzhia. It also rules out NATO troops on Ukrainian

soil, though European jets would be based in Poland, and \$100 billion of frozen Russian assets would support reconstruction. Zelenskyy’s office said Ukraine would pursue diplomacy without making rash statements, emphasizing the importance of maintaining military support. The plan drew sharp criticism from Ukrainian officials, who called it a provocation that mirrors Moscow’s early 2022 demands. Trump has assigned US Army Secretary Dan Driscoll as a special representative to Kyiv, while European leaders stressed that any settlement must have Ukrainian and European backing.



Iran denies holding nuclear talks with the United States

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iran’s Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei has rejected claims by President Donald Trump that Tehran and Washington are negotiating on nuclear issues. Speaking to reporters in Tehran on Wednesday, Baghaei said, “No negotiation process currently exists between Iran and the United States,” citing Washington’s history of failing promises and presenting excessive demands.

The statement followed Trump’s Tuesday remarks at the White House with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, where he suggested Iran was eager to strike a deal. Baghaei also noted that a recent message from Iran’s President to the Saudi crown prince was purely bilateral, thanking Saudi authorities for supporting



Iranian pilgrims. Iran and the U.S. previously held five rounds of indirect talks mediated by Oman, while a sixth round scheduled in June was canceled following Israeli and U.S. attacks on Iranian nuclear sites.

UK Covid response labeled “too little, too late” in damning inquiry report

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The UK government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic has been condemned as “too little, too late,” according to a new official report released this week. The inquiry found that an earlier lockdown by a week could have saved 23,000 lives, criticizing a “toxic and chaotic” culture inside Boris Johnson’s Downing Street. The report highlights repeated delays, indecision, and an inability to learn from early warnings, including the February 2020 “lost month.” Dominic Cummings and Johnson were blamed for fostering a culture of fear, sidelining women, and prioritizing political reputation over public safety. Failures were also noted across the devolved governments, and slow



responses during subsequent waves left the country exposed. Experts said the report underscores the urgent need for improved crisis preparedness and decisive leadership in future pandemics.

Greece and Ukraine sign LNG deal to secure energy supply



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy visited Greece on Monday, where he and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis signed a natural gas agreement. The letter of intent allows the transport of American liquefied natural gas to Ukraine through the Vertical Corridor from December to March.

Zelensky praised Greece’s support and called the deal vital for Ukraine’s energy security amid ongoing Russian attacks on critical infrastructure. The two leaders also discussed reconstruction, defense cooperation, and Ukraine’s Euro-Atlantic integration. Mitsotakis emphasized Greece’s role as a hub for energy flows to Central and Eastern Europe, while Zelensky thanked Greece and the United States for backing Ukraine’s sanctions initiatives and efforts to return abducted children and prisoners of war.

Lee to meet business leaders on follow-up for US trade deal



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung will meet major conglomerate leaders on Sunday to discuss follow-up steps after the release of a joint US-Korea fact sheet on trade and security. Attendees include Samsung’s Lee Jae-yong, SK Group’s Chey Tae-won, Hyundai’s Euisun Chung, and LG’s Koo Kwang-mo. The fact sheet outlines \$350 billion in South Korean investments in the US in exchange for tariff reductions and covers sectors such as semiconductors, automobiles, defense, and pharmaceuticals. The meeting aims to align corporate strategies with the final trade deal and reinforce cooperation. Experts note the alliance is moving forward, though financial, geopolitical, and implementation challenges remain.

USFK commander highlights strategic triangle of Korea, Japan, Philippines



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US Forces Korea Chief General Xavier Brunson said Monday that South Korea, Japan, and the Philippines form a “strategic triangle” for regional security. Using an east-up map, which places east at the top, Brunson emphasized the geographic and strategic advantages of the three allies in the Indo-Pacific. He noted Korea’s central location, Japan’s technological and maritime reach, and the Philippines’ access to southern sea lanes. Brunson said the framework enhances collective deterrence against North Korea while maintaining US strategic flexibility amid rising China-US tensions. North Korea has condemned the map as an invasion blueprint. The US continues to assess potential adjustments to the 28,500-strong USFK to respond to regional contingencies, including Taiwan Strait scenarios.

PM Modi looks forward to hosting President Putin in India

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi told Russian President Vladimir Putin’s aide Nikolai Patrushev on Tuesday that he looks forward to hosting Putin in India next month for the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit. The two leaders discussed maritime cooperation, connectivity, skill development, and shipbuilding. The PMO confirmed Modi conveyed warm greetings to Putin and emphasized strengthening strategic ties. Patrushev also toured India’s National War Memorial and Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, in Moscow for the SCO, met Putin and Russian officials to discuss preparations for the summit and broader bilateral and multilateral cooperation through the UN, SCO, BRICS, and G20. The summit coincides with the 25th anniversary of the India-Russia Strategic Partnership.

Afghan minister begins India visit to promote Chabahar port trade

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Afghan Industry and Commerce Minister Alhaj Nooruddin Azizi arrived in New Delhi on Wednesday to advance bilateral trade and investment, focusing on India-developed Chabahar Port in Iran. The delegation will meet Indian ministers, investors, and private sector representatives at Pragati Maidan to explore joint investment and transit opportunities. Afghanistan aims to boost exports and regional trade through Chabahar, particularly amid rising border tensions with Pakistan that have caused over \$100 million in losses for traders. Officials emphasized the port’s strategic role in connecting Afghanistan to the Persian Gulf, the Middle East, and beyond, while facilitating regional transit and reducing transportation costs.

US report accuses China of disinformation following Operation Sindoor

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The US-China Economic and Security Review Commission reported Tuesday that China orchestrated a disinformation campaign after India’s Operation Sindoor, using fake social media accounts to circulate AI-generated images of aircraft debris to promote its J-35 fighter jets over French Rafale aircraft. The commission described



the campaign as part of China’s “Gray Zone” strategy to influence perceptions and advance its defense industry goals. The report also noted that Beijing opportunistically leveraged the India-Pakistan conflict in May to demonstrate the sophistication of its weapons, which India used during Operation Sindoor, a retaliatory strike targeting terror installations in Pakistan after the Pahalgam attack that killed 26 civilians.

The commission highlighted an asymmetry in India-China border negotiations, with China aiming for partial resolutions to facilitate trade and bilateral cooperation while safeguarding core interests, whereas India seeks sustainable and comprehensive solutions. Analysts also warned that upcoming issues, including the succession of the Dalai Lama, could become additional points of tension. The report emphasized that China’s disinformation efforts serve both military and economic objectives, reinforcing its strategic posture while complicating India’s regional and defense planning.

Nepal’s Pokhara International Airport struggles to attract airlines

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nearly three years after opening, Pokhara International Airport in western Nepal continues to see minimal international traffic, raising concerns about its economic viability. Only Himalaya Airlines operates weekly flights on the Pokhara–Lhasa route. A government report highlighted flaws in runway design that limit medium-haul flights due to high climb gradients, affecting payload capacity.

Although an Instrument Landing System exists, geographic constraints reduce its effectiveness. Experts suggest advanced navigation upgrades are



needed. Corruption allegations in project contracting and previous accidents have further undermined confidence. The airport, funded by China’s EXIM Bank at \$216 million, faces challenges in attracting carriers despite Nepal’s overcrowded Kathmandu airport.

PTI alleges police brutality against Imran Khan’s sisters outside Rawalpindi jail

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) alleged that police violently detained former Prime Minister Imran Khan’s sisters Aleema, Noreen, and Uzma outside Adiala jail in Rawalpindi on Tuesday after denying their weekly visit. Party workers staged a sit-in, accusing authorities of violating a court

order. Videos show Noreen being dragged and pushed by police. PTI condemned the “inhumane” treatment, claiming lights were cut and the area flooded. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi criticized the police action and warned the situation is nearing a point of no return. PTI described the incident as an unprecedented assault on human dignity and constitutional rights.

Poland to close Russian consulate after railway sabotage

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski announced on Wednesday the withdrawal of consent for Russia’s last operating consulate in Gdansk after sabotage on the Warsaw-Lublin railway line. Explosives damaged tracks near Mika village, while power lines were cut, prompting investigations into “acts of

sabotage of a terrorist nature” linked to foreign intelligence. Prime Minister Donald Tusk said the attacks threatened Polish security and the route’s role in delivering aid to Ukraine. Officials are tracking suspects, including two Ukrainians reportedly connected to Russian intelligence who fled to Belarus. Interior Minister Marcin Kierwinski confirmed the Mika incident is sabotage-related, with further investigations underway.

Japan ordered to pay \$25 million over air base noise



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Japanese court on Wednesday ordered the government to pay around \$25 million to residents near Atsugi air base for long-term noise-related health and psychological damage. Judge Nobuhiro Okada at Yokohama District Court ruled the disturbances “exceeded what could be tolerated in social life.” The base, used by both the Japanese Self-Defense Forces and the US Navy, has been the subject of lawsuits since 1976. The decision affects about 8,000 residents and highlights the base’s impact on local communities, while the Defense Ministry said it would coordinate next steps with relevant agencies. Atsugi remains a strategic hub for US Navy operations in the Western Pacific.

Uncertainty surrounds Türkiye’s Pakistan visit amid Afghan peace talks

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

More than a week after announcing a high-level delegation to Pakistan, Türkiye’s visit to mediate Afghanistan-Pakistan border tensions remains unclear. President Erdogan had planned for Foreign and Defense ministers, alongside the intelligence chief, to discuss Islamabad’s stalled ceasefire talks with Kabul. Analysts say the silence indicates deep complexities in the conflict. Meanwhile, Iran and Russia offered to host talks to ease tensions along the porous Durand Line, following recent skirmishes and cross-border attacks. Previous mediation by Qatar and Türkiye had led to a truce, but follow-up discussions faltered as both sides blamed each other for “unreasonable demands,” leaving the border dispute unresolved.

Trump pledges US role to end Sudan civil war after Saudi request

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US President Donald Trump said on Wednesday he would begin working to help end Sudan’s civil war following a request from Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. Speaking at the US-Saudi Investment Forum, Trump called Sudan “the most violent place on Earth” with a severe humanitarian crisis. He pledged to coordinate with Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt, and other regional partners to stabilize the country. The war, which began in April 2023, has displaced millions, killed at least 150,000 people, and triggered famine. The US is also engaging Sudanese paramilitary forces and the army to negotiate a political solution, as international mediation efforts continue.

CRPF pledges to eliminate Maoist presence in Chhattisgarh by March 2026



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has reaffirmed its commitment to eradicate Maoist influence in Chhattisgarh, targeting complete elimination by March 2026. CRPF Director General Gyanendra Pratap Singh visited the new Tadapala Forward Operating Base in Bastar on Friday, reviewing operations and interacting with troops. The base, established after April-May's 'Operation Black Forest', which neutralized 31 Maoists and destroyed over 200 hideouts, strengthens year-round security in Karregutta hills. DG Singh praised the efforts of the 205 CoBRA commandos and 196 Battalion. With 2,01,444 postal ballots cast and 9,10,730 voters choosing NOTA in the Bihar polls, the CRPF highlighted its success in operational planning and morale-building in one of India's toughest anti-insurgency regions.

Anandpur Sahib prepares grand commemorations for 350th martyrdom day of Guru Tegh Bahadur



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The city of Anandpur Sahib is set to host a three-day religious celebration from November 23 to 25 marking the 350th martyrdom anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur, ninth Sikh Guru. The city, founded in 1665, is adorned in white to honor the Guru's legacy. Key events include nagar kirtans, martial arts demonstrations, heritage walks, a 'sarv dharm sammelan', and exhibitions at Virasat-e-Khalsa. For the first time, a special Vidhan Sabha session will be held outside Chandigarh. Over 8,000 police personnel have been deployed, and shuttle services will facilitate movement for pilgrims. Evening drone shows will use technology to showcase the Guru's teachings to younger generations, ensuring a blend of tradition and modernity.

Election Commission defends Bihar poll integrity as Nitish Kumar begins historic tenth term

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Election Commission on Friday dismissed viral claims alleging a mismatch between the number of registered voters and votes cast in the recently concluded Bihar Assembly elections. The allegations circulating online suggested that votes counted exceeded the total eligible electorate. The Election Commission clarified that the claims ignored postal ballots and therefore misrepresented the polling data. Officials confirmed that more than 2,01,000 postal ballots were submitted, with nearly 24,000 rejected, and over 9,10,000 electors chose NOTA. The Election Commission stated that once postal ballots were included, the numbers fully aligned with the official records, confirming the accuracy of the final turnout figure of 67.13 percent.

The clarification came as Bihar witnessed a major political milestone on Thursday when Nitish Kumar was sworn in as Chief Minister



for the tenth time. The ceremony at Gandhi Maidan was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, marking the first time he has been present for Nitish Kumar's oath-taking.

Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Sinha were sworn in as Deputy Chief Ministers, followed by several cabinet ministers, signaling the start of the new NDA government in the state.

IITF 2025 sees record footfall as artisans applaud government support

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Exhibitors and artisans at the 44th India International Trade Fair 2025 are celebrating unprecedented visitor turnout since November 14. Thousands visited Bharat Mandapam to explore India's crafts, culture, and innovations. At the Gujarat Pavilion, artisans displayed handmade jewelry, brass bells, and textiles, benefiting from government support including free stalls and travel assistance. Attractions such as the Defense Pavilion, featuring Operation Sindoor equipment, and Jharkhand's sustainability-themed exhibits drew significant attention. Visitors praised the showcase of India's heritage and innovation. The fair



continues until November 27, providing a platform for small producers and traditional craftsmen to reach national and international audiences, strengthening appreciation for Indian art, crafts, and industrial progress.

National Haj conference in Mumbai to finalize 2026 pilgrimage preparations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Ministry of Minority Affairs will host the National Haj Conference on Saturday at Haj House in Mumbai to finalize arrangements for Haj 2026. Secretary Chandra Shekhar Kumar will chair the high-level meeting, bringing together State and Union Territory Haj Committee officials to ensure smooth coordination. The agenda includes accommodation, logistics, transportation, baggage handling, medical preparedness, and training of field staff to deliver efficient, safe, and dignified services to over 175,000 Indian pilgrims.

Delhi-NCR chokes under severe smog as AQI rises above 400

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Delhi-NCR experienced hazardous air quality on Thursday as the AQI reached 400, with hotspots such as Wazirpur recording 477. Stagnant winds and dropping temperatures trapped pollutants near the surface. Several locations including Anand Vihar, RK Puram, Punjabi Bagh, and Ghaziabad entered the 'severe' category,

prompting GRAP Stage 3 restrictions. Measures include bans on construction, road water spraying, and traffic curbs. Schools shifted primary classes to hybrid mode. Residents and activist groups protested, urging urgent action, while the Supreme Court directed the central government to develop long-term air quality management policies. Authorities continue monitoring and enforcing pollution control strategies to mitigate the crisis.

IAF Tejas fighter jet crashes at Dubai Air Show, pilot killed

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian Air Force Tejas fighter jet crashed during a demonstration at the Dubai Air Show on Friday afternoon, around 2:10 pm local time. Thick black smoke rose from the crash site near the airport, alarming spectators, including

families with children.

The IAF confirmed that the pilot sustained fatal injuries. In a statement, the Air Force said a court of inquiry will be set up to determine the cause of the accident. The IAF expressed deep condolences to the pilot's family and reaffirmed its commitment to investigating the incident.

CID to file chargesheet in RCB victory stampede case



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Criminal Investigation Department has completed its probe into the stampede during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's IPL victory celebration, which killed 11 people on June 4, 2025. Authorities are preparing a 2,200-page chargesheet against RCB, event management firm DNA, and the Karnataka State Cricket Association for organizing the event without necessary permissions.

Hundreds of eyewitness accounts and CCTV footage were reviewed, holding the accused directly responsible. RCB has announced \$30,000 compensation for each victim under its 'RCB Cares' initiative.

Enforcement Directorate introduces QR-coded summons to curb fraud



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has launched a system-generated summons with QR codes and unique passcodes to prevent citizens from falling prey to fake notices. The move follows reports of fraudsters circulating imitation ED summons to extort money. Citizens can verify the authenticity of any ED summons through the QR code or official website. The Ministry of Home Affairs has strengthened cybercrime enforcement through the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, blocked thousands of fraudulent accounts, and implemented awareness campaigns. Authorities also monitor and block spoofed international calls impersonating Indian officials. The initiative aims to safeguard citizens while ensuring efficient legal processes for genuine ED actions.

Madhya Pradesh Governor welcomes ASEAN delegation, highlights Act East Policy



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel welcomed a senior ASEAN delegation at Raj Bhavan on Wednesday, emphasizing shared cultural roots and economic potential. He noted that India's Act East Policy reflects Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, strengthening trade, tourism, education, and sustainable development ties. The delegation, visiting Madhya Pradesh from November 18 to 20, also toured industrial zones, UNESCO sites at Sanchi and Bhimbetka, and cultural institutions. Malaysian High Commissioner Dato' Mujfar Shah Mustafa praised the warm reception and reiterated ASEAN's commitment to regional cooperation. The visit aims to enhance investment, cultural, and industrial collaboration between Madhya Pradesh and the Southeast Asian bloc.

Delhi Assembly panel proceeds with 'Faansi Ghar' probe amid non-appearance of Kejriwal and allies

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia, and other Aam Aadmi Party leaders failed to appear before the Delhi Assembly Committee of Privileges for the second time on Thursday.

The hearing is part of an inquiry into the alleged fabrication of 'Faansi Ghar' within Assembly premises inaugurated in 2022. Committee Chairperson Pradyumn Singh Rajput stated that continued non-cooperation will prompt further action.

Verified documents, historical maps, and research confirm no gallows or tunnel existed, contradicting earlier claims. The committee emphasized transparency and accountability, noting that cooperation from all concerned



individuals is crucial for completing a fair and comprehensive investigation into the controversial installation.

Gujarat leads India's blue economy with over 10.42 lakh metric tonnes of fish production

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

As World Fisheries Day is observed, Gujarat continues to dominate India's blue economy with 10.42 lakh metric tonnes of fish production in 2024-25, including 7.64 lakh MT from marine sources and 2.78 lakh MT inland. Ranking second in marine output and sixth overall, Gujarat exports shrimp, ribbonfish, cuttlefish, and squid to China, Europe, the US, and Japan.

State Fisheries Minister Jitu Vaghani credited policy support and infrastructure improvements under Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and former CM Narendra Modi. Four new fishing



harbors are under development, while Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana projects totaling Rs 897.54 crore enhance sustainable fisheries, modernisation, and livelihood opportunities for fishing communities.

Sabarimala temple tightens crowd management amid heavy pilgrim rush

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

With a surge in devotees during the two-month pilgrimage season, authorities at Sabarimala have implemented stricter crowd control measures starting Saturday. The temple, which opened the season on Monday, witnessed unexpected congestion, prompting officials to cap the spot booking facility at 20,000 pilgrims per day. Entry from Nilakkal to Pamba will now be regulated

hourly, and arrangements for darshan and return have been improved. Additional staff have been deployed along key routes, while accommodation, resting facilities, drinking water, and free refreshments including traditional dry ginger coffee are provided. National Disaster Response Force teams from Thrissur and Chennai have been stationed to assist in crowd management and emergency response. Authorities urged pilgrims to follow their time slots and cooperate with personnel to ensure a safe and orderly pilgrimage season.

Khan Market retains title as India's priciest retail street, ranks 24th globally

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Khan Market in New Delhi remains India's most expensive retail location, with rents at \$223 per square foot per year, up 3 percent from last year, according to Cushman & Wakefield's 35th edition of 'Main Streets Across the World' released this week. The market's global ranking slipped from 23rd to 24th, yet it continues to attract both

domestic and international brands due to its prime location and enduring appeal. London's New Bond Street topped the list at \$2,231 per square foot per year, surpassing Milan's Via Montenapoleone and New York's Upper Fifth Avenue. India's high streets, including Connaught Place and Galleria Market, accounted for over half of retail leasing activity this year, reflecting strong demand, limited mall supply, and a trend toward premium and experiential retail across Tier 1 cities.

Rajasthan University students lathi-charged during protest over exam irregularities



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Police used force to disperse students protesting at Rajasthan University on Wednesday against alleged irregularities in exam results and inflated re-evaluation fees. Students claimed being deliberately failed by one mark to compel re-evaluation payments. Several leaders, including Shubham Rewad and Kamal Chaudhary, were detained, while female students climbed police vehicles in protest. Demonstrators symbolically wore garlands of currency notes to highlight financial grievances. Authorities faced criticism for suppressing peaceful protests, with students accusing police of protecting the administration instead of ensuring rights. The protest underscored rising tensions over academic accountability and students' demands for transparent evaluation and fair fee structures.

Anmol Bishnoi remanded to NIA custody following extradition from the United States

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A special court on Wednesday remanded Anmol Bishnoi, brother of gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, to 11 days of NIA custody, with his next hearing scheduled for November 29. Extradited from the US, Bishnoi is accused of aiding the BKI-Bishnoi syndicate, coordinating terrorist activities, and facilitating extortion operations between 2020 and 2023. Investigations include links to the murders of singer Sidhu Moosewala, former minister Baba Siddique, and a shooting outside Salman Khan's residence. The NIA stated Bishnoi used his US base to manage gang operations and provide logistics to shooters. Authorities continue probing the syndicate's broader nexus of terrorists, gangsters, and arms traffickers.

Bengal CM slams Election Commission after BLO suicide

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee condemned the Election Commission on Wednesday following the suicide of a female Booth Level Officer in Mal Bazar, Jalpaiguri, allegedly due to the workload from the Special Intensive Revision exercise. Banerjee said 28 people have died since the SIR began, some from stress and fear, and urged the Commission to halt the unplanned drive. The deceased, Shantimani Ekka, was responsible for door-to-door enumeration. Banerjee criticized the rushed two-month schedule, highlighting the human toll of compressed electoral processes.

India records decade-high growth in foodgrain production



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India reported its highest increase in foodgrain output in a decade, according to government data released on Thursday. Production has risen from 251.54 million tonnes in the 2015 to 2016 season to an estimated 357.73 million tonnes in the 2024 to 2025 season. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said rice production reached a record 1,501.84 lakh tonnes, which is 123.59 lakh tonnes higher than last year. Wheat output climbed to 1,179.45 lakh tonnes, while crops like moong, maize and millet also saw growth. Oilseed production rose to an estimated 429.89 lakh tonnes. The minister said government support programs including minimum support price procurement and the Self Reliance in Pulses Mission are helping farmers and contributing to continued agricultural growth.

Samsung appoints new co-CEO and CTO amid restructuring



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Samsung Electronics announced a leadership reshuffle on Friday, appointing President Roh Tae-moon as co-CEO alongside Vice Chairman Jun Young-hyun. Roh will now officially head the Device Experience division, which oversees mobile, television and home appliances. Samsung also promoted Yoon Jang-hyun as CTO and president of the division. The company said the new management structure aims to strengthen competitiveness and support future technology development. Harvard professor Park Hong-kun was also named head of the Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology. The changes come as Samsung remains the top corporate donor in South Korea during the first nine months of the year, contributing about 110.4 billion won, although donations were lower than last year.

India inks historic first LPG import deal with U.S.

● By: Vandna Jhingan

India has signed its first major structured liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) import contract with the United States, Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announced. Under the one-year agreement, Indian public-sector companies Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum, and Hindustan Petroleum will import approximately 2.2 million tonnes of LPG from the U.S. Gulf Coast in 2026. The volume represents nearly 10 percent of India's annual LPG imports. The contract is benchmarked to Mount Belvieu, a key U.S. pricing index, and includes around 48 cargoes delivered via very large gas carriers.

Puri described the deal as a "historic development" that strengthens India's energy security and opens one of the world's fastest-growing LPG markets



to U.S. producers. He noted that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, public-sector oil companies have consistently delivered LPG to Indian households at some of the lowest global prices while absorbing significant subsidies. The new arrangement will ensure uninterrupted access to clean and affordable cooking fuel for millions of Indian families.

Major media companies place initial bids for Warner Bros. Discovery

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The race to acquire Warner Bros. Discovery intensified on Thursday as Paramount, Comcast and Netflix submitted non-binding first-round bids for parts of or the entire company. The bids mark the official start of what is expected to be a competitive sale process that could reshape the global entertainment landscape.

Paramount, led by CEO David Ellison, is currently the only bidder seeking to buy the full Warner Bros. Discovery portfolio, including HBO, HBO Max, CNN, TNT, TBS, HGTV and Food Network. Comcast and Netflix are instead focused on the film, television and streaming assets and would need to divest the cable channels if selected.



Warner Bros. Discovery had previously explored a company split that would separate studio and streaming operations from linear television networks. It remains unclear whether Saudi Arabia or other Middle Eastern investors are backing any proposals or whether additional bidders may emerge in later stages.

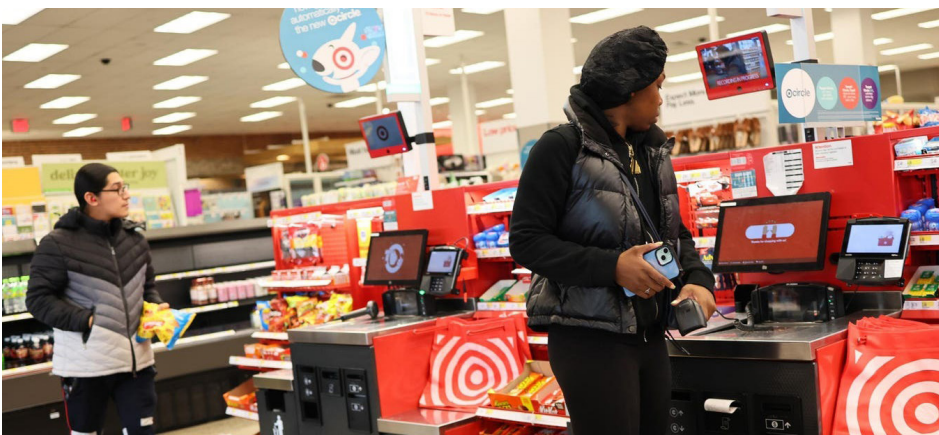
Target plans \$5 billion investment in turnaround bid

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Target Corporation has announced it will raise its capital spending to about \$5 billion in 2026 to revive faltering performance, the company said on Wednesday. The new budget includes an additional \$1 billion compared with this year. The funds will support opening and remodeling stores, upgrading digital and fulfillment systems, and strengthening merchandising under

incoming CEO Michael Fiddelke.

The move follows a 19 percent drop in net profit to \$689 million and a 1.5 percent fall in net sales to \$25.3 billion in the third quarter, with comparable store sales down 2.7 percent. Management acknowledged the investment is necessary to counter competitive pressures and modernise operations to win back customers. The company also trimmed its full-year adjusted earnings forecast to between \$7 and \$8 per share.



Larry Summers resigns from OpenAI board amid renewed scrutiny

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Larry Summers resigned from OpenAI's board and stepped away from his Harvard University teaching role after additional emails linking him to convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein became public last week. In a statement issued Wednesday, Summers said he was withdrawing from public commitments, including advisory work with Santander Bank. The released emails included personal correspondence and inappropriate comments. Harvard confirmed that Summers will not complete the current semester and has gone on leave from his leadership role at the Mossavar-Rahmani Center. A House committee is reviewing his past relationship with Epstein. Summers previously served as Treasury secretary under President Bill Clinton and as president of Harvard University. OpenAI's board thanked him for his contributions.

SoftBank plans major investment to convert Ohio EV plant into OpenAI-focused data center facility

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

SoftBank is reportedly preparing to invest up to \$3 billion to convert an electric vehicle manufacturing plant in Lordstown, Ohio, into a production site for equipment used to build OpenAI data centers. According to reports, the facility will manufacture portable modular data center units and is expected to begin production early next year. The investment is part of SoftBank's \$18 billion Stargate Project, which aims to expand advanced artificial intelligence infrastructure across the United States. The project will support upcoming OpenAI facilities in Texas and other states. The Lordstown site will also include a small working data center to demonstrate the design. The move reflects SoftBank's ongoing strategy to scale its artificial intelligence investments.

Google rolls out anti-scam tools and AI safety investments in India



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

On Thursday, Google announced new Artificial Intelligence safety measures in India focused on protecting children, teenagers and older users. The company introduced an on-device Scam Detection feature powered by Gemini Nano that analyzes suspicious calls on Pixel phones without recording or storing data. Google also expanded its SynthID watermarking technology to help identify AI-generated content. The company announced a 200 thousand dollar grant to CyberPeace Foundation to support cyber protection and AI-based safety programs. It will also fund one million dollars in research across leading Asia Pacific universities to study the impact of artificial intelligence. Company executives said the goal is to ensure safety and public trust as India expands its digital ecosystem.

China avoids U.S. soybeans for second month as Brazil boosts exports



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China did not import soybeans from the United States for a second month during October, according to customs data released Thursday. The country instead increased purchases from South America, importing a record 9.48 million tons of soybeans for October. Brazil provided 7.12 million tons, representing more than 75 percent of total imports. Argentina supplied 1.57 million tons. The decline in U.S. imports follows higher tariffs and limited remaining supplies from earlier shipments. Despite the slowdown, year-to-date U.S. soybean imports still rose 11.5 percent because of earlier purchases in 2025. Since late October, China has resumed some U.S. buying after meetings between leaders in South Korea, with state-run COFCO securing more than one million tons.

X drops \$90 million lawsuit against Wachtell without settlement

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Elon Musk's social media company X has withdrawn its lawsuit against law firm Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen and Katz. The case sought to recover most of a \$90 million legal fee paid during the legal battle over Musk's 2022 acquisition of Twitter. In a Wednesday filing in California, X dismissed the case with prejudice, meaning it cannot be refiled. The dismissal followed a judge's ruling that the dispute should be handled through private arbitration. Wachtell stated it was satisfied with the outcome and emphasized that no settlement was reached. The original lawsuit argued that Twitter executives approved improper bonus payments to the firm before the sale closed. Wachtell denied wrongdoing and maintained the fees were lawful.

Australia adds Twitch to upcoming social media ban for users under 16

Australia has announced that livestreaming platform Twitch will be included in a nationwide social media ban for users under age 16 starting next month. Officials confirmed Friday that the ban already includes Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, YouTube, Reddit, X and other platforms. Companies must prevent new underage accounts beginning Tuesday December 10 and deactivate existing underage accounts by early January or face fines up to \$49.5 million. Twitch said new underage accounts will be blocked beginning December 10 and existing accounts will be shut down starting Thursday January 9. The Australian government said the rule aims to reduce exposure to online risks including harmful content. Enforcement tools may include ID verification or age-estimation technology.

India US trade agreement signals progress as tariff cuts boost export optimism

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Hopes for a long-awaited India US trade agreement grew stronger as White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett said talks could conclude "soon." Speaking to CNBC this week, he noted both nations remain "good friends," but described negotiations as complex due to India's ties with Russia and competing strategic priorities. On the same day, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said in New Delhi that the Bilateral Trade Agreement is "nearing closure," with regular virtual rounds underway. He added that while no deadline has been set, the first phase of talks is progressing steadily.

The momentum comes days after President Donald Trump announced tariff cuts on several food imports, including



tropical fruits, juices, spices, and tea. The move is aimed at easing rising food prices in the United States and may benefit India's mango, pomegranate, and tea exports. Trump also said he plans to lower broader tariffs on India "at some point," adding he believes a deal is "pretty close." Indian Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal reiterated that India will not compromise on farmers, dairy, and workers as negotiations advance.

Bitcoin drops to six-month low as selling pressure intensifies

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bitcoin has fallen sharply, slipping close to the \$90,000 level on Tuesday and erasing all gains made earlier in 2025. The cryptocurrency has dropped nearly 30 percent from its October peak of about \$126,000, pushing its market value below \$2 trillion again. Analysts say sustained selling pressure is visible across derivatives and exchange-traded products. Bitcoin exchange-traded fund outflows have reached approximately \$815 million, with nearly \$2 billion exiting over the week.

Market experts note that stronger than expected United States manufacturing data has lowered expectations of a December rate cut, prompting investors to move away from risk assets. Despite the United States



government shutdown ending, negative sentiment has continued. The broader crypto market has also weakened. Ethereum has slipped below \$3,000, Solana has fallen over 20 percent this week and XRP has declined around 16 percent.

ED intensifies action against Anil Ambani linked companies

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Enforcement Directorate expanded its probe into the Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group after issuing a fresh provisional attachment order worth about Rs 1,400 crore, officials said on Wednesday. This brings the total seized assets in related cases to nearly Rs 9,000 crore. The move follows Anil Ambani's second absence

from a scheduled summons in a FEMA investigation tied to the Jaipur Reengus highway project. Investigators say around Rs 40 crore from the project may have been funneled abroad through shell companies in Surat and later routed to Dubai. The agency alleges the trail may link to a larger hawala network worth more than Rs 600 crore. The Reliance Group says Ambani remains willing to cooperate virtually.

Apple reveals finalists for 2025 App Store Awards across 12 global categories

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Apple announced 45 finalists for the 2025 App Store Awards on Wednesday, celebrating innovation and technical excellence across 12 categories. The shortlist includes creative and productivity apps, gaming releases and cultural impact platforms. For iPhone App of the Year, BandLab, LADDER and Tiimo

gained recognition, while Capybara Go, Pokemon TCG Pocket and Thronefall led the iPhone gaming category. On iPad, finalists included Detail, Gaintouch and Structured, along with games like DREDGE and Infinity Nikki. Mac contenders include Acorn and Essayist, while Vision Pro nominees featured Camo Studio and Explore POV. Apple said the finalists reflect global creativity and groundbreaking digital experiences.

Meta leadership agrees to \$190 million payout to settle shareholder privacy lawsuit

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg and a group of current and former company leaders have agreed to pay \$190 million to resolve claims that they damaged the company by failing to protect user privacy. The settlement, announced Thursday, includes new policy measures that address oversight, whistleblower protections and director conduct. Shareholders originally sought \$8 billion, alleging the leadership team allowed extensive privacy violations that led to expensive legal penalties, including a \$5 billion fine following the Cambridge Analytica scandal. The settlement also halted a planned eight-day trial during its second day, before expected testimony from Zuckerberg and other high-profile figures including Sheryl Sandberg, Peter Thiel and Marc Andreessen. The defendants did not admit wrongdoing.

EU appears close to free trade deal breakthrough with Australia

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Negotiators from the European Union and Australia appear close to finalizing a long-delayed free trade agreement, according to officials speaking ahead of a meeting planned for this weekend during the G20 summit in Johannesburg. EU Trade Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič said Thursday that only a few unresolved trade issues remain and that negotiators may complete the agreement within months. Beef access remains the main unresolved topic. Šefčovič said global trade tensions, including past U.S. tariffs, have increased the importance of cooperation between allied economies. The EU also signaled interest in adopting a policy similar to Australia's recently approved ban on social media access for users under 16. Both sides said recent talks have been positive.

South Korea raises anti dumping duties on two Chinese PET film makers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea's trade watchdog decided on Thursday to increase anti dumping tariffs on polyethylene terephthalate film imports from two Chinese companies to protect domestic manufacturers.

The Korea Trade Commission said duties on Kanghui New Material Technology products will rise to 7.31 percent from 2.2 percent. Tariffs on Tianjin Wanhua products will increase to 36.98 percent from 3.84 percent. The review was requested in February by four South Korean firms including Kolon Industries and Hyosung Chemical. PET film is used in packaging, electronics and energy sectors. This marks the first case where the commission revised duties after a re examination request. Authorities also held hearings last month over suspected dumping in steel and optical fiber imports.

Muller confirms another season with Vancouver Whitecaps



Thomas Muller announced on Sunday that he will remain with the Vancouver Whitecaps for another Major League Soccer season. The 36-year-old German forward said he is enjoying his time in Canada and feels motivated by the club's growing fan base. Muller has scored nine goals and made four assists in 10 matches. He said the league's intensity and emotional stakes have exceeded expectations and called the current playoff run exciting. Vancouver supporters are hopeful for a historic title push as the Whitecaps prepare to face Los Angeles FC. Muller said leading and inspiring young talent has been as meaningful as scoring goals.

India secures historic nine golds at World Boxing Cup Finals



India delivered its strongest boxing performance yet on Thursday, winning nine gold medals at the World Boxing Cup Finals in Greater Noida. Jaismine Lamboria led the victory with a 4-1 win over Olympic medalist Wu Shih Yi, while World Champion Nikhat Zareen earned a dominant 5-0 win.

The women's lineup produced most of the gold medals, and India finished the tournament with nine golds, six silvers, and five bronzes. Men's boxers Sachin and Hitesh added two more golds. The event marked a major milestone ahead of the Los Angeles Olympics as India showed rising strength across key weight divisions.

David Beckham signs partnership with Bank of America ahead of World Cup

Former England captain David Beckham has signed a multi-year partnership with Bank of America to help promote global sports programs ahead of the 2026 FIFA World Cup in North America. The agreement was confirmed Wednesday and builds on growing momentum for soccer in the United States. Beckham, who co-owns Inter Miami, helped increase U.S. interest in the sport during his MLS career and later as a club owner, most notably by bringing Lionel Messi to Miami in 2023.

Bank of America said the partnership is part of its broader strategy to expand its presence in global sports and strengthen connections with fans, communities and future customers. The bank is also a World Cup sponsor. While financial details were not



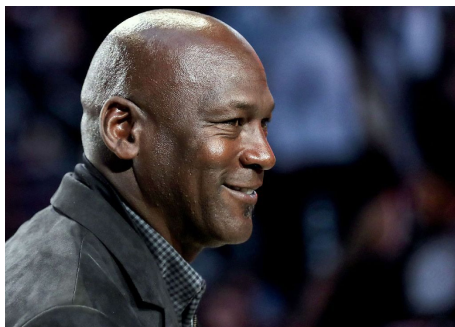
shared, the agreement is expected to support promotional campaigns and community sports initiatives.

Beckham said the United States remains a "sleeping giant" for soccer but added that rising MLS investment and fan culture signal long-term growth.

Michael Jordan donates \$10 million to North Carolina medical center in honor of his mother

Michael Jordan has donated \$10 million to Novant Health New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington to honor his mother, Deloris Jordan. The announcement was made Tuesday, and the medical center confirmed that its neuroscience institute will now be named after her. Jordan said the donation reflects the values his mother instilled in him, especially compassion and community support.

The funding will help expand access to advanced neurological care, including treatment for Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, stroke, and spine disorders. The donation also aligns with Deloris Jordan's longtime work in public health and



education through the James R. Jordan Foundation in the United States and Africa.

She said the naming of the institute was humbling and expressed gratitude for helping bring quality care to more communities across North Carolina.

Curaçao becomes smallest nation to qualify for men's World Cup

Curaçao made World Cup history Tuesday by becoming the smallest nation by population to qualify for the men's tournament. With about 156,000 residents, it surpasses Iceland, which held the previous record when it qualified for the 2018 World Cup. Curaçao secured its place after earning a 0-0 draw against Jamaica in Kingston, finishing at the top of its qualifying group that also included Bermuda and Trinidad and Tobago. The team relied heavily on talent from its diaspora. Several players previously represented the Netherlands at youth levels and were cleared by FIFA to switch eligibility. Veteran Dutch coach Dick Advocaat led Curaçao through

the campaign, although he missed the final game due to family reasons. The result marks a major milestone as the nation prepares for the expanded 48-team 2026 World Cup in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Haiti and Panama also qualified Tuesday, joining Curaçao as regional representatives.



IPC elects seven new Members-at-Large to complete board

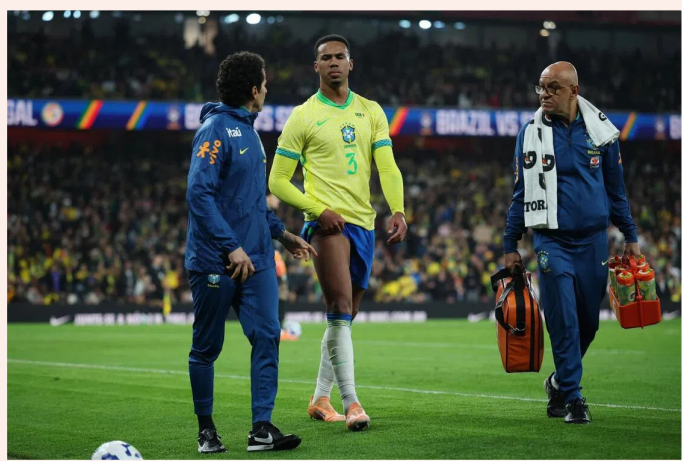


The International Paralympic Committee completed its Governing Board election on Thursday during an online Extraordinary General Assembly. Seven Members-at-Large were elected to serve four-year terms, joining President Andrew Parsons, who secured a third term earlier in September. The newly elected board now totals twelve leaders representing all five global regions, including eight Paralympians. Parsons said the diverse lineup strengthens the future of the Paralympic Movement. The elections finalize the board leadership through 2029. Parsons also thanked outgoing members, highlighting Duane Kale for his contributions and steady leadership during governance reforms.

Smith says keeping Stokes quiet key to Ashes opener



Stand-in captain Steve Smith said on Thursday that Australia's top priority in the first Ashes Test in Perth is limiting England captain Ben Stokes. With Pat Cummins unavailable, Smith will lead Australia and said England's aggressive style requires flexibility in tactics. He also confirmed debuts for Jake Weatherald and Brendan Doggett and praised Weatherald's domestic form. Smith believes conditions will suit pace bowlers and welcomed sold-out crowds for the opening days. Australia has won four of five Tests at Perth Stadium, and Smith said the team feels confident entering the series.



Arsenal defender Gabriel sidelined after thigh injury

Arsenal defender Gabriel has been ruled out after suffering a right thigh muscle injury during Brazil's friendly against Senegal on Sunday in London. He left the match after feeling discomfort, and the Brazilian Football Confederation confirmed he will not join the squad for Tuesday's match against Tunisia. Gabriel has started every Premier League game for Arsenal this season. The team now awaits medical assessment to determine how long he will be unavailable. His injury adds pressure to Arsenal's already thin defensive lineup.



Lakshya Sen reaches Australian Open semifinals after straight-games win



Lakshya Sen advanced to the men's singles semifinals of the Australian Open Super 500 in Sydney after defeating Ayush Shetty 23-21, 21-11 on Friday. Sen, the seventh seed, overcame a close opening game before taking full control in the second. He will next face second seed Chou Tien Chen of Chinese Taipei. Chou reached the semifinals after defeating Farhan Alwi in a three-game match. Sen, who made the Hong Kong Open final earlier this year, is still seeking his first title of the season. With HS Prannoy and Kidambi Srikanth already eliminated, Sen is now India's only remaining contender in the tournament.

Shubman Gill travels for further medical assessment after neck injury



The Board of Control for Cricket in India said on Friday that Shubman Gill will travel to Mumbai for further assessment of a neck injury sustained during the first Test against South Africa. Gill had been ruled out of the second Test in Guwahati after hospitalization earlier in the week. Rishabh Pant will captain in his absence, becoming India's 38th Test captain and the second wicketkeeper to lead the team after MS Dhoni. Gill is also uncertain for the upcoming One Day International series against South Africa. He is expected to consult Dr. Dinshaw Pardiwala, who is also overseeing the recovery of Shreyas Iyer.

Pranavi Urs makes history with shared lead at IGPL Invitational

Pranavi Urs became the first woman to lead at any point in an IGPL Tour event after an impressive 6-under 62 during the opening round in Mumbai on Tuesday. Playing her debut IGPL tournament, she produced eight birdies and finished tied at the top with Karandeep Kochhar, who also shot a 62 after closing eagle-par-eagle.

Four women finished inside the top 10, including Vani Kapoor and Durga Nittur. Pranavi, who currently plays on the Ladies European Tour, said her consistent putting and accuracy helped her score. She will play the second round alongside Kochhar as both compete to maintain their lead.



Kimmich calls for unity after Germany qualifies for 2026 World Cup

Joshua Kimmich encouraged teamwork and continuity after Germany qualified for the 2026 FIFA World Cup with a 6-0 win over Slovakia on Sunday. Kimmich assisted the opening goal, later sharing that small gestures help build team culture. One example is a playful cartoon frog he sends to striker Nick Woltemade after club matches. Kimmich praised the progress of Florian Wirtz and Leroy Sane and urged the squad to stay grounded ahead of next year. Younger talent including Felix Nmecha, Nathaniel Brown and Assan Ouedraogo was also highlighted. Germany



will play Côte d'Ivoire next in a March friendly as the squad continues preparations for the World Cup.

McLaren makes major changes after difficult Las Vegas race

McLaren Team Principal Andrea Stella said on Tuesday that the team has made major adjustments ahead of its return to the Las Vegas Grand Prix in 2025. Stella called last year's race one of their toughest, citing tire problems, aerodynamic issues, and setup limitations. Despite strong

results later in the season, McLaren finished sixth and seventh in Vegas. Stella confirmed changes in tire strategy, aerodynamic efficiency, and car setup. He said improvements will be tested only on race day but believes the adjustments address last year's weaknesses as the team prepares for another championship battle.

Hamilton denies Ferrari tensions ahead of Las Vegas Grand Prix

Seven-time Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton dismissed suggestions of internal friction at Ferrari ahead of the Las Vegas Grand Prix. Reports circulated after Ferrari chairman John Elkann commented that Hamilton and teammate Charles Leclerc should focus more on driving.

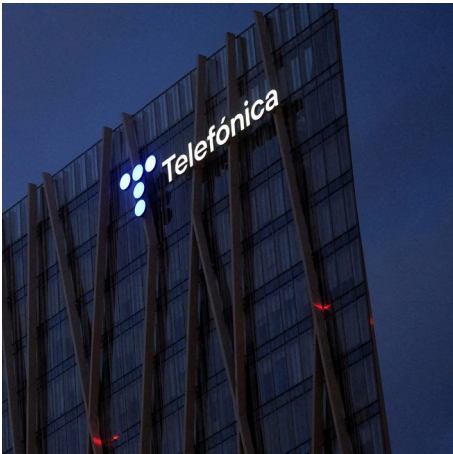
Hamilton said he and Elkann speak regularly and maintain a strong working relationship. Ferrari has struggled this season, including a double retirement in Sao Paulo on Sunday. Hamilton said progress will take time but expressed confidence in the team's long-term strategy. Leclerc agreed, describing the remarks as a push for better results.

Spain and Germany advance to Davis Cup semifinals after comeback victories



Spain and Germany advanced to the Davis Cup semifinals after comeback wins on Thursday in Bologna. Spain recovered from Pablo Carreno Busta's opening loss to defeat the Czech Republic 2-1, with Jaume Munar evening the tie before Marcel Granollers and Pedro Martinez secured the doubles win. Germany followed a similar pattern against Argentina. After Tomas Etcheverry earned the lead, Alexander Zverev equalized the tie. A tense doubles decider saw Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz win a final set tiebreak to take Germany into the semifinals. Spain will face Germany next, while Italy meets Belgium in the other semifinal.

Telefonica signs four-season deal for UEFA broadcast rights



Telefonica has signed a four-season agreement with UEFA valued at approximately USD 1.68 billion per season to broadcast the Champions League and Europa League tournaments in Spain starting in 2027. The deal also includes rights for the Conference League and the UEFA Super Cup. The agreement continues Telefonica's long-standing investment in European sports media rights and reinforces its role as a major broadcaster in Spain. The contract represents one of the largest media sports deals in the region and ensures domestic broadcasting continuity for UEFA competitions for several years.

United States beat Paraguay 2-1 in friendly match

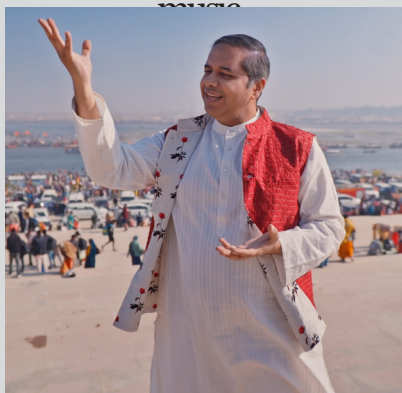
The United States defeated Paraguay 2-1 on Saturday in a friendly match at Subaru Park. Gio Reyna scored early, and Paraguay equalized through Alex Arce. In the second half, Folarin Balogun scored the winning goal, securing another victory against a World Cup-qualified opponent. The match featured strong attacking play and missed opportunities from both sides. The United States now prepares to face Uruguay on Tuesday as part of its international match window ahead of the 2026 World Cup.



Spain nears World Cup qualification with big win

Spain moved closer to securing a 2026 World Cup spot after beating Georgia 4-0 on Saturday. Mikel Oyarzabal scored twice and assisted once, while Ferran Torres and Martin Zubimendi added goals in a dominant performance. Spain controlled possession and created constant pressure throughout the match. The victory keeps Spain unbeaten in qualifiers and in a strong position to confirm its place next week. In other results, Switzerland beat Sweden 4-1, strengthening its qualification bid with one match remaining.

Siddhant Bhatia calls Grammy nomination for 'Sounds of Kumbh' a milestone for Indian spiritual music



Singer and composer Siddhant Bhatia said on Wednesday that his Grammy nomination for 'Sounds of Kumbh' marks a defining moment for Indian spiritual music. He shared in an interview that the recognition celebrates India's cultural roots and creates opportunities for global collaborations. Siddhant added that working with Grammy winners and senior artists, including violinist Kala Ramnath, shaped his musical journey.

He described the process as "experiencing an Upanishad," with every moment offering a lesson. 'Sounds of Kumbh' is nominated in the Best Global Music Album category at the 68th Grammy Awards and features more than 50 Indian and international musicians. The album is inspired by the Mahakumbh held in 2025.

Classics like 'Umrao Jaan' and 'Pyaasa' to be showcased at IFFI



The restored classics 'Umrao Jaan', 'Pyaasa', 'Gaman', 'Rudaali', and several others will be screened at the 56th International Film Festival of India, beginning Tuesday in Goa. The restoration, led by NFDC-NFAI in partnership with Prasad Studios, includes digital cleaning, color grading, and sound enhancement to preserve the films' original vision. Abhishek Prasad, CTO at Prasad, said restoring these films is both a "privilege and responsibility" to safeguard cinematic history. This year's festival will feature over 240 films from 81 countries, including 13 world premieres. The event also introduces inflatable outdoor theatres, a creative hackathon, and will honor Rajinikanth for 50 years in cinema during the closing ceremony.

Dolly Parton addresses health concerns after missing major honors

Country music icon Dolly Parton shared a video message on Tuesday reassuring fans after missing two high-profile events because of ongoing health concerns. The 79-year-old star was inducted into the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions Hall of Fame on Sunday, but she said doctors advised her to rest. Parton also missed the Academy Governors Awards one day earlier, where she received an honorary Oscar.

Her health made headlines earlier this fall after she postponed Las Vegas performances. In her video, the 'Jolene' singer told fans she had "nothing major" but needed time for "procedures and treatments."

She also mentioned that her health worsened while caring for her late husband Carl Dean, who died in March. Parton thanked fans for their prayers and said she was "not ready to retire or slow down."



Pras Michel sentenced to 14 years in foreign funding case involving Obama campaign

Grammy-winning rapper Pras Michel from the Fugees was sentenced Thursday to 14 years in prison for charges connected to illegally channeling foreign money into former President Barack Obama's reelection campaign. A federal jury convicted Michel of 10 charges including conspiracy, witness tampering, and acting as an unregistered agent of a foreign government.

Prosecutors said Michel funneled millions from Malaysian billionaire Jho Low, who remains a fugitive. They claimed Michel attempted to influence both the Obama administration and later the Justice Department to protect Low. Michel declined to speak before sentencing. His legal team argued that the punishment was excessive and said he



would appeal.

Michel was a founding member of the Fugees with Lauryn Hill and Wyclef Jean, and the group sold tens of millions of records during its peak.

'House of the Dragon' renewed for season 4 before season 3 release

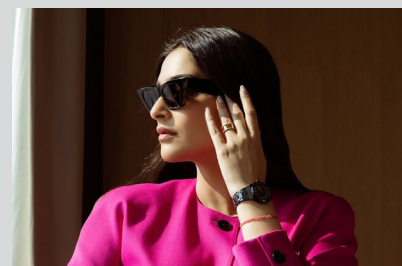
The hit fantasy drama series 'House of the Dragon,' a prequel to 'Game of Thrones,' has been renewed for a fourth season ahead of the premiere of season three. The announcement was made Wednesday during an HBO presentation in New York. Season three is expected to arrive in summer 2026, while the newly announced fourth season is planned for 2028.

HBO also confirmed that another prequel, 'A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms,' has already been renewed before its debut in January. Executives said the goal is to deliver new stories from author George R. R. Martin's universe every year.



The series follows the Targaryen dynasty roughly two centuries before the events of 'Game of Thrones' and stars Matt Smith, Emma D'Arcy, Olivia Cooke, and Rhys Ifans.

Sonam Kapoor confirms second pregnancy with maternity photoshoot



Sonam Kapoor announced on Thursday that she is expecting her second child with her husband Anand Ahuja. She shared a photo on Instagram wearing a bright pink wool suit while cradling her baby bump, captioning it "MOTHER." Rumors about her pregnancy began in October, when she was reportedly in her second trimester. Sonam and Anand married in May 2018 and welcomed their first child, Vayu, in August 2022. The actress, who began her career assisting filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali, was last seen in the crime thriller 'Blind' in 2023. Recently, Sonam has been in the spotlight for her fashion appearances and cultural collaborations, including promoting Manipuri weaves.

Orry summoned in high-value drug probe in Mumbai



Social media personality Orry, whose real name is Orhan Awatramani, has been summoned by the Mumbai Anti-Narcotics Cell and is expected to appear this week regarding a drug case worth around \$30 million. This marks the second time he has faced controversy linked to substance laws. Earlier, he was booked in Katra for allegedly consuming alcohol at a hotel near the Vaishno Devi shrine, where such consumption is prohibited by law. Known for his presence in celebrity circles and distinct public persona, Orry has become a viral internet figure without a traditional career path. He frequently appears at high-profile events and is known for his online content, humor, and ambiguous identity.

Palak Sindhvani and 'TMKOC' makers settle dispute

The long-running dispute between actress Palak Sindhvani and the makers of 'Tarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah' has been resolved, according to an official statement released on Tuesday. Neela Film Productions said all issues were settled amicably and wished the actress well.

Palak joined the show in 2019 as Sonu Bhide and exited after five years, later alleging mental harassment and unpaid dues. The producers denied the allegations at the time. The show, created by Asit Kumarr Modi, continues to hold the record as the world's longest-running daily comedy with more than 4,500 episodes.

Keanu Reeves thanks FBI after recovering stolen items



Actor Keanu Reeves expressed gratitude to the FBI on Tuesday after authorities recovered items stolen from his Los Angeles home during a burglary in 2023. Some possessions, including a Rolex watch featured in ‘John Wick’, were located in Chile and returned through international cooperation.

In a handwritten note, Keanu thanked officials for their dedication and professionalism. Police officials said the case demonstrated the importance of global coordination in tackling organized crime.

The recovered items included six luxury watches valued at around \$125,000. Meanwhile, the fifth installment of the ‘John Wick’ franchise is currently in development, with Keanu expected to return.

Leonardo DiCaprio to receive top honor at Palm Springs festival



Leonardo DiCaprio will be honored with the Desert Palm Achievement Award at the Palm Springs Film Festival on Saturday, January 3, 2026. Festival chairman Nachhattar Singh Chandi praised DiCaprio’s performance in Paul Thomas Anderson’s film ‘One Battle After Another’, calling it powerful and emotionally charged. DiCaprio has been celebrated for roles in ‘Titanic’, ‘The Departed’ and ‘The Revenant’, and is recognized for his strong artistic range. The festival will also honor Michael B. Jordan with the Icon Award and Adam Sandler with the Chairman’s Award. Several past recipients of DiCaprio’s award later won Academy Awards.

Nora Fatehi makes debut on ‘The Tonight Show’ with Jimmy Fallon



Actor and dancer Nora Fatehi made her first appearance on ‘The Tonight Show’ this week, performing her new track ‘What Do I Know (Just a Girl)’ with Jamaican artist Shenseea. Fatehi shared photos on Tuesday from the studio, including a picture posing with host Jimmy Fallon. The performance follows the release of the single under 5 Junction Records and Warner

Records. Fatehi said the song marks the start of her “pop girl era” and described the creative process as inspiring. The track was written by Grammy-nominated songwriter Justin Tranter. Fatehi rose to fame through Bollywood films and reality television in India before expanding into international music collaborations. She previously appeared in ‘Light The Sky,’ a theme song for the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

Legal approval granted to advance case in Zubeen Garg’s death investigation

On Tuesday, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the Union Home Ministry has approved the required legal sanction to move forward in the case surrounding singer Zubeen Garg’s death in Singapore. The announcement coincided with what would have been the artist’s 53rd birthday.

Sarma shared that Union Home Minister Amit Shah granted approval under Section 208 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, which allows Indian courts to act on offenses committed outside the country only after central approval.

The Chief Minister said the sanction allows investigators to file the charge sheet and move the case toward trial. Garg’s passing triggered significant public grief, with fans and civil society groups



repeatedly seeking accountability.

The Assam government said it remains committed to submitting the charge sheet by the second week of December.

Paul McCartney joins AI protest album with silent recording

Beatles legend Paul McCartney has joined an ongoing protest against artificial intelligence in music by contributing a silent track to the album ‘Is This What We Want’. The album features more than one thousand musicians, including Kate Bush, Annie Lennox and Damon Albarn. The initiative criticizes the United Kingdom’s proposed AI copyright policy, which creatives fear could allow technology companies to use music without proper consent. The physical edition of the album, featuring McCartney’s track, will be released on Sunday and profits will support the charity Help Musicians.

McCartney, along with more than four hundred artists including Elton John and Coldplay, also signed a letter urging

Prime Minister Keir Starmer to protect creators’ rights. Speaking earlier this year, McCartney warned that without protections, new artists could lose ownership and income, arguing that governments must safeguard human creativity.



Billy Bob Thornton injured during intense scene while filming Landman season two



Actor Billy Bob Thornton suffered minor injuries while filming a dramatic dinner scene for season two of the series ‘Landman’. The seventy year old actor revealed that pieces of plate shards hit him during a scene where his character dodges dishes thrown by a co star.

Thornton shared in an interview that the plates used felt heavy and realistic. He clarified that the injuries were minor and included small cuts sustained during filming.

The scene portrays an emotional confrontation between characters and unfolds in front of family and guests, adding to its intensity.

Thornton, who has an extensive acting career, said he still prefers to remain distanced from the Hollywood spotlight despite his continued success and major roles. The second season of ‘Landman’ remains highly anticipated by viewers and critics.

Jaya Prada visits Mahakal Temple after political win in Bihar



Actor turned politician Jaya Prada visited the Mahakal Temple in Ujjain after a significant political win in Bihar. She was accompanied by her son Samrat and supporter Abhay Yadav.

Sharing the moment online, Prada wrote that she felt blessed to offer prayers after the victory. Images from the visit showed her posing with folded hands at the temple premises.

The National Democratic Alliance crossed the two hundred seat mark in the Bihar elections, with the Bharatiya Janata Party emerging as the largest party. Prada has been associated with the party since early 2019.

She also recently shared a public message expressing concern for veteran actor Dharmendra’s health, calling him an inspiration and wishing him a strong recovery. Prada and Dharmendra have worked together in several popular films over the years.

आंध्र प्रदेश: चौथा पड़ाव

श्री सिम्हाचलम मंदिर (विशाखापट्टनम)



IndoUS Tribune की विशेष श्रृंखला 'यात्रा और दर्शन' में आपका पुनः हार्दिक स्वागत है। तिरुमला वेंकटेश्वर, श्रीकालहस्ती और श्री कुर्म मंदिरों के पवित्र दर्शन के बाद अब हमारी यात्रा पहुँच रही है आंध्र प्रदेश के एक अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण और दिव्य तीर्थ—श्री सिम्हाचलम मंदिर।

विशाखापट्टनम की सिम्हाचलम पहाड़ी पर स्थित यह मंदिर भगवान विष्णु के वराह-लक्ष्मी नरसिंह स्वरूप को समर्पित है, जहाँ भक्तों को अद्भुत शांति, शक्ति और आस्था का अनुभव होता है।

श्री सिम्हाचलम मंदिर: भगवान वराह-लक्ष्मी नरसिंह का दिव्य धाम

श्री सिम्हाचलम मंदिर, जिसे श्री वराह लक्ष्मी नरसिंह स्वामी मंदिर भी कहा जाता है, आंध्र प्रदेश का एक प्राचीन, ऐतिहासिक और अत्यंत शक्तिशाली तीर्थ स्थल है। यह मंदिर विशाखापट्टनम शहर से लगभग 16 किलोमीटर दूर सिम्हाचलम पहाड़ी पर स्थित है और समुद्र तल से लगभग 300 मीटर की ऊँचाई पर स्थित होने के कारण यह आसपास की पहाड़ियों और

शहर का अद्भुत दृश्य प्रस्तुत करता है।

मुख्य विशेषताएँ

1. प्रमुख देवता — वराह-नरसिंह स्वरूप यहाँ भगवान विष्णु के अद्वितीय वराह-नरसिंह रूप की पूजा होती है — जिसमें मानव शरीर, वराह के दाँत और नरसिंह का उग्र तेज एक साथ प्रकट होते हैं।

2. अद्वितीय प्रतिमा

यह प्रतिमा पूरे वर्ष चंदन के लेप से ढकी रहती है और केवल अक्षय तृतीया (चंदनोत्सव) के दिन ही इसका पूर्ण स्वरूप दर्शन के लिए खुलता है। चंदन लेप के कारण प्रतिमा शिवलिंग जैसी प्रतीत होती है।

3. स्थापत्य कला

मंदिर का निर्माण कलिंग- द्रविड़ शैली में हुआ है। इसमें —

- ▶ तीन प्राकार
- ▶ पाँच द्वार
- ▶ लगभग 1000 सीढ़ियों वाला मार्ग
- ▶ सुंदर नृत्यमंडप
- ▶ उत्कृष्ट नक्काशी वाले स्तंभ दर्शनीय हैं।

मंदिर का गर्भगृह पश्चिममुखी है — जो भारतीय मंदिरों में अत्यंत दुर्लभ माना जाता है।

4. ऐतिहासिक महत्व

मंदिर का इतिहास लगभग 1000 वर्षों से भी पुराना है। यहाँ चोल, पूर्वी गंग राजवंश, गजपति, विजयनगर साम्राज्य आदि अनेक राजवंशों के अभिलेख मिलते हैं। वर्तमान मंदिर का पुनर्निर्माण पूर्वी गंग राजवंश के राजा नरसिंहदेव प्रथम द्वारा 13वीं सदी में कराया गया था।

सिम्हाचलम की पुराण कथाएँ और उत्पत्ति

प्रह्लाद, हिरण्यकशिपु और भगवान नरसिंह की कथा
श्री सिम्हाचलम का उल्लेख विष्णु पुराण और भागवत पुराण में मिलता है।

कथा है कि —

- ▶ प्रह्लाद को बचाने के लिए भगवान विष्णु पहले वराह रूप में प्रकट हुए और हिरण्यक्ष का वध किया।
- ▶ बाद में वह नरसिंह रूप में प्रकट हुए और हिरण्यकशिपु का संहार किया।
- ▶ प्रह्लाद ने भगवान से वराह और नरसिंह दोनों के संयुक्त स्वरूप की स्थापना का आग्रह किया।
- ▶ उसी स्थान पर इस मंदिर की स्थापना हुई।

उर्वशी और पुरुवा की कथा

कहा जाता है कि एक काल में मूल मंदिर मिट्टी में दब गया था। राजा पुरुवा और अप्सरा उर्वशी ने यहाँ तप करके प्रतिमा को पुनः खोज निकाला और फिर से प्रतिष्ठित किया।

रामानुजाचार्य का आगमन

11वीं शताब्दी में श्री रामानुजाचार्य ने यहाँ आकर मंदिर को वैष्णव परंपरा में पुनर्स्थापित किया और चंदन-लेप की परंपरा को कायम रखने का आदेश दिया।

कैसे पहुँचें (Travel Guide)

सड़क मार्ग:

विशाखापट्टनम से टैक्सी, ऑटो, बस द्वारा आसानी से पहुँच सकते हैं।

वायु मार्ग:

सबसे नजदीकी हवाई अड्डा — विशाखापट्टनम अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा (14 किमी)

रेल मार्ग:

सबसे नजदीकी बड़ा स्टेशन — विशाखापट्टनम रेलवे स्टेशन (18 किमी)

मुख्य उत्सव

1. चंदनोत्सव (अक्षय तृतीया)

इस दिन प्रतिमा से चंदन हटाया जाता है और भक्त

भगवान के वास्तविक स्वरूप के दर्शन करते हैं।

2. सहस्रकलशाभिषेक, चंदनाभिषेक

विशेष पूजा और अभिषेक पूरे वर्ष आयोजित होते रहते हैं।

प्रसाद, दर्शन और अन्य आकर्षण

- ▶ कण्ठम स्तंभ — जिसे स्पर्श करने से मनोकामनाएँ पूर्ण होने की मान्यता है
- ▶ नृत्यमंडप की 96 खूबसूरत प्रतिमाएँ
- ▶ माता सिंहावल्ली अम्मावरु का मंदिर
- ▶ पहाड़ी से समुद्र और शहर का विहंगम दृश्य

अंतिम विचार – अगले पड़ाव पर मिलते हैं

सिम्हाचलम मंदिर का दिव्य आशीर्वाद हमारी 'यात्रा और दर्शन' श्रृंखला को और अधिक पवित्र और समृद्ध बनाता है।

भगवान वराह-लक्ष्मी नरसिंह के चरणों में समर्पित यह स्थल भारतीय आस्था, परंपरा और शास्त्रीय वास्तुकला का अद्भुत संगम है।

IndoUS Tribune की ओर से —

हम आशा करते हैं कि यह चौथा पड़ाव भी आपकी आध्यात्मिक यात्रा को प्रेरणा और शांति प्रदान करेगा।

अगला पड़ाव:

अब हमारी यात्रा आगे बढ़ती है अहोबिलम मंदिर (कर्नूल) — जहाँ भगवान नरसिंह के नौ रूपों के दिव्य दर्शन होते हैं।

तब तक के लिए भगवान वराह-लक्ष्मी नरसिंह स्वामी की कृपा आपके जीवन में शक्ति, सुरक्षा और आनंद लेकर आए।

लेख श्रृंखला संकलन:

डॉ. अवि वर्मा

संपादक एवं प्रकाशक,

IndoUS Tribune



Shreemad Bhagwat Gita - As I understand

Chapter Fifteen: Purushottama Yoga



Rajendra Kapil
Phone: 847-962-1291

This chapter of the Bhagavad Gita reveals a profound and unique secret—one that is supremely excellent. Because this excellence belongs only to the Supreme Lord, He is called Purushottama. And the yogi who strives to attain Him through this knowledge is considered a seeker of Purushottama Yoga.

In the very first shloka, the Lord describes this extraordinary nature. He says, “O Arjuna, this world is like an inverted tree.” Its roots are above and its branches extend downward.

How are the roots above? Because the roots represent the foundation of any tree, and the foundation of this entire world is the Lord Himself—who exists above. Thus, the roots are above, symbolizing the eternal Brahman, the supreme, indestructible source. The branches below represent this world, created by the Lord’s threefold Maya. Every type of sensory pleasure resides within it.

Shri Bhagavan Uvacha

**"Urdhvamoolam adhashaakham
ashvattham prahuravyayam
Chhandamsi yasya parnani yas tam
veda sa vedavit" (1)**

Meaning: The Lord said—O Arjuna! This world is described as an eternal tree, with its roots above and its branches below. The Vedic hymns are its leaves. One who truly knows this tree is the knower of the Vedas.

The branches of the worldly tree are driven by desires. All three gunas (sattva, rajas, tamas) fill it completely. This cosmic tree is so vast that its beginning and end cannot be perceived. Yogis dwelling beneath it often lose their way.

But the wise understand its reality—they recognize its hidden defects and do not become entangled in them. Such yogis partake of worldly experiences with detachment and move forward. These devotees remain free from delusion and ego.

Rising above the dualities of joy and sorrow, gain and loss, they strive only for the Supreme Truth—God—and seek the eternal abode. What is this divine abode like?



**"Na tad bhasayate suryo na
shashanko na paavakah
Yad gatva na nivartante tad dhaama
paramam mama" (6)**

The glory of that realm is extraordinary. The sun, which illuminates the world, cannot light that abode. The moon, which beautifies the night, cannot brighten it either. All these are parts of nature, but the Supreme Abode lies far beyond nature. It is illuminated only by the divine radiance of the Lord Himself.

**"Mamaivamsho jeevaloke
jeevabhootah sanaatanah
Manah shashthaaneendriyaani
prakritisthaani karshati" (7)**

**"Shareeram yad avaapnoti
yacchaapyutkraamatishwarah
Griheetvaitaani samyaati vaayur
gandhaan ivaashavaat" (8)**

Meaning: O Arjuna! Every living being in this world carries My eternal fragment as the soul, which works through the mind and senses, influenced by nature. When the embodied soul leaves one body and enters another, it carries with it the impressions of the mind and senses—just as the wind carries fragrance from one place to another.

The Lord explains that He exists as life-force within every being. When the body dies, He guides that soul to another body—or to His divine abode. This subtle movement is possible only

through His grace, just as wind carries fragrance effortlessly.

**"Utkramantam sthitam vāpi
bhuñjānam vā gunānvitam
Vimūhā nānupaśyanti paśyanti
jñāna-chakhua" (10)**

The ignorant cannot understand this mysterious cycle of birth and death. Absorbed in desires, they mistake worldly pleasures for life’s true purpose and waste their precious existence. But true yogis, whose eyes are opened by divine knowledge, do not get entangled. They perform all duties selflessly and dedicate everything to the Lord, seeking only His eternal abode.

**"Yad āditya-gata tejo jagad bhāsayate
'khilam
Yac chandramasi yac cāgnau tat tejo
viddhi māmakam" (12)**

**"Gām āviśhya cha bhūtāni
dhārayāmy aham ojasā
Puhāmi chauhadhī sarvā somo
bhūtvā rasātmaka" (13)**

Meaning: O Arjuna! The radiance in the sun that lights up the entire world, the shine of the moon, and the brilliance of fire—all arise from Me alone. I enter every realm and sustain all living beings. As the essence of the moon, I nourish all vegetation.

The Lord repeatedly reminds Arjuna that He is the creator of this universe. Through His Maya, He becomes the sun and illuminates the world,

the moon that infuses fragrance into flowers and sap into plants. He becomes the senses that allow beings to experience the world.

He becomes digestive fire, enabling beings to transform food into energy. He is memory, wisdom, and even forgetfulness. He alone is worth knowing, the essence of all Vedas—the sustainer and the destroyer of the universe.

**"Yasmāt kharam atīto 'ham
akṣharād api chottama
Ato 'smi loke vede cha prathitaṣ
puruhotama" (18)**

**"Yo mām evam asammūho jñāti
puruhotamam
Sa sarva-vid bhajati mā sarva-
bhāvena Bhārata" (19)**

Meaning: Because I am beyond both the perishable and the imperishable, I am celebrated in the world and in the Vedas as Purushottama. O Arjuna, one who knows Me without doubt as the Supreme Person worships Me wholeheartedly and in every way.

Thus, Lord Krishna revealed His Purushottama form to Arjuna and explained that He alone is worth knowing, loving, and trusting. This supreme knowledge has blessed not only Arjuna but all of us. We offer countless salutations to this compassionate Lord. May we avoid the traps of worldly flaws and continue moving toward His divine abode.

Phil Andrews

brings crisis leadership and FBI experience to high-stakes IL-9 Congressional race

A former FBI agent, crisis negotiator, and community advocate outlines his vision for one of Illinois' most competitive Democratic primaries

By IndoUS Tribune Staff

In a detailed conversation with IndoUS Tribune Publisher Dr. Avi Verma, Chicago entrepreneur and community leader Phil Andrews laid out his vision for Illinois' 9th Congressional District as he officially enters what is expected to be one of the most competitive Democratic primaries in the state. The seat, long held by retiring Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, has drawn a crowded field, but Andrews believes his leadership record, public service career, and pragmatic policy approach uniquely position him to guide the district during a period of rising national and local challenges.

A career shaped by crisis and public service

Phil Andrews, a former FBI agent, attorney, hostage negotiator, and survivor of the 1988 Winnetka mass shooting, is considered among the leading contenders to succeed Congresswoman Schakowsky. In his interview, he emphasized how more than two decades of work across counterterrorism, counterintelligence, public corruption, violent crime, and crisis negotiation shape his approach to governance.

After retiring from federal service, Andrews founded PAX Group, a conflict management and crisis response consultancy operating internationally. He credits surviving the Maury Dan shooting as the moment that created a lifelong commitment to preventing violence, a mission that guides his public policy views.

A diverse district facing rising hate

Andrews describes IL-09 as one of the most diverse districts in the country, home to Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, South Asian, East Asian, Black, LGBTQ+, and immigrant communities. With hate crimes rising nationally, he argues that the district needs a coordinated strategy grounded in prevention, reporting, enforcement, and education.

Calling hate crimes "terrorism at the community level," Andrews supports modernized reporting systems, multilingual hotlines, community-based reporting, and stronger training for police, prosecutors, judges, and schools. He has helped develop LEAD, an evidence-based training initiative at the Illinois Holocaust Museum. He also advocates increased federal security grants for synagogues, mosques, LGBTQ+ centers, and immigrant institutions as well as stronger civil-rights enforcement through specialized prosecutors and joint task forces.

He stresses survivor-centered support through culturally competent counseling, legal aid, trauma services, and long-term

investments in Holocaust education, anti-bias curricula, and interfaith youth programs. He believes IL-09 can become a national model for preventing hate.

Foreign policy priorities

On the Israel-Hamas war, Andrews draws on extensive Middle East experience, stating that Israel has the right to defend itself while emphasizing that humanitarian aid for Palestinians is necessary to reduce future violence. His crisis-negotiation background informs his call for policies that combine stability, hope, and long-term security.

He strongly supports Ukraine and noted that his team trained civilians to document war crimes after Russia's invasion. He also highlighted the strategic importance of the United States-India partnership, shaped in part by his work on the FBI response to the 2008 Mumbai attacks. He criticized recent actions by the current administration that he says damaged trust with India, calling for deeper intelligence sharing, training, and values-aligned diplomacy.

Immigration and economic opportunity

Andrews believes current immigration and visa systems are confusing and harmful to families and employers. He supports a stable H-1B visa process, clear timelines, protections for dependents, and pathways that reduce exploitation. He prioritizes



PHIL ANDREWS, A FORMER FBI AGENT, ATTORNEY, HOSTAGE NEGOTIATOR, AND SURVIVOR OF THE 1988 WINNETKA MASS SHOOTING, IS CONSIDERED AMONG THE LEADING CONTENDERS TO SUCCEED CONGRESSWOMAN SCHAKOWSKY.

enforcement against serious criminals while rebuilding trust between immigrant communities and law enforcement, which he says was eroded by aggressive ICE actions.

He connects affordability, housing, and economic opportunity, pointing to rising costs, aging infrastructure, and uneven development across the district. His proposals include transit-linked affordable housing, permitting reform, commercial revitalization, and new career pipelines connected to institutions such as Northwestern and the Illinois Innovation

Network. He notes that immigrant communities, including large South Asian and East Asian populations, are central to the region's economic strength.

Public safety and democratic stability

Drawing on his crisis-management background, Andrews supports intelligence-informed public safety strategies that include early-threat detection, school-based violence prevention, behavioral analysis tools, and police partnerships that focus on community trust. Reflecting on the 43-day government shutdown, he criticized Democrats for ending it without enforceable healthcare protections, adding that attacks on institutions and the rule of law endanger democracy.

Why he believes voters should choose him

Andrews argues that his combination of FBI experience, legal training, crisis leadership, and global coordination prepares him to navigate the district's most urgent challenges. He has lived in the district his entire life, raised four children there, and says he understands its concerns. His campaign has gained early momentum, outperforming most first-time candidates.

"People are tired of career politicians," he told IndoUS Tribune. "They want leaders who are ethical, experienced, and serious about solving real problems. That is what I have done my entire life, and that is what I will do for the 9th District."

BJUS celebrates Diwali Deepotsav 2025 with cultural pride, community unity, and a year of accomplishments

By: Prachi Jaitly

The Bihar Jharkhand Association of Midwest (BJUS) celebrated Diwali Deepotsav 2025 with remarkable enthusiasm, gathering more than 200 attendees for an evening of cultural pride, vibrant performances, and strong community connection.

The program held last week, opened with heartfelt renditions of the U.S. and Indian national anthems by elementary school students under the guidance of Dr. Arti Manchanda. A diverse lineup of performances followed, featuring children and adults, traditional music, and the ceremonial lighting of diyas. Led by the BJUS core team and honored by Chief Guest K. D. Thokchom, Deputy Consul General of India, the diya-lighting symbolized hope, positivity, and new beginnings.

Guests enjoyed festive delicacies and lively DJ music throughout the evening. Community leaders including Neelam Dwivedi and Harish Kolasani shared thoughtful remarks, while emcees Pramod Kumar Singh and Pankaj Kumar guided the event with warmth.

The celebration also featured informational and business booths, including:

- State Bank of India (SBI): banking services and new schemes
- Eye Level Naperville: academic enrichment programs
- Attorney Sagar Thakkar: guidance



on wills and trusts, along with raffle sponsorship

In her presidential address, Shikha Kumari expressed gratitude to the community and highlighted major accomplishments of the 2024–2026 leadership team as it marked its first anniversary. Key initiatives included:

- Women’s and men’s cricket

- tournaments
- Volunteer service with Feed My Starving Children
- Pickleball and badminton tournaments
- Participation in India’s Independence Day celebration at the LCIA event
- Representation at the National India Hub Parade
- CPR training sessions for members
- Co-sponsoring Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas with the Consulate General of India

“Today’s Diwali celebration reflects the strength of our community and the richness of our shared cultural roots,” Kumari said. “It is uplifting to see families and friends come together to honor our traditions with such pride and unity.”

BJUS reaffirmed its commitment to promoting cultural exchange, strengthening community ties, and celebrating the vibrant heritage of Bihar and Jharkhand.



Krishnamoorthi advances major tourism, security, and census initiatives with wide national impact

● By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi has launched a series of major initiatives that strengthen tourism, safeguard national security, and push for accuracy in the nation's census, reflecting a broad legislative agenda with direct consequences for Illinois and the country.

In a significant economic move, he introduced the Brand USA Restoration Act, which reinstates eighty million dollars in federal funding for America's flagship tourism marketing agency. The funds were sharply reduced by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, placing international tourism at risk ahead of major events such as the America 250 celebrations and the 2026 FIFA World Cup. Krishnamoorthi emphasized that restoring this funding protects American jobs and boosts small businesses nationwide. The Asian American Hotel Owners Association strongly endorsed the bill, noting Brand USA's one hundred forty billion dollar economic impact and its support of more than three hundred thousand jobs.



On national security, Krishnamoorthi joined Congressmen Joe Courtney and Donald Norcross in warning the Trump

Administration against selling F-35 fighter jets to Saudi Arabia. Their letter argued that Saudi Arabia's expanding

military relationship with China raises serious concerns about technology transfer and the protection of advanced U.S. defense systems. The lawmakers posed detailed questions to federal officials and requested a formal response by December 3, 2025.

Krishnamoorthi also led the Illinois Democratic delegation in demanding an urgent briefing from the U.S. Census Bureau regarding repeated undercounts of Illinois residents. The lawmakers highlighted that more than forty six thousand people were missed in the 2020 Census, resulting in inaccurate population totals, reduced representation, and diminished federal funding. They asked the Bureau to explain its outreach, planned improvements for 2030, and opportunities for collaboration with Illinois agencies.

Together, these actions underline the Congressman's focus on economic growth, national security, and fair representation, while placing Illinois communities at the center of his leadership.



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A night of music and philanthropy strengthens Indiana’s commitment to ending classroom hunger



By: Prachi Jaitly

The 2025 Akshaya Patra Indiana Chapter hosted a musical fundraiser at the Indian American Cultural Center in Merrillville, bringing together a large gathering of supporters united by a shared mission to end classroom hunger for children in India. The evening was warm, inspiring, and reflective of the community’s long-standing dedication to Akshaya Patra’s work.

Guests were captivated by the soulful and energetic performance of National Award Winning Music Composer Bishakh Jyoti. His music filled the hall with joy and celebration, while a delicious dinner added to the sense of connection and purpose.

Chapter Chairs Dr. Saket Sinha and

Dr. Ravi Bhagwat, along with executive team members Soumita and Subir Bandyopadhyay, Dr. Shailesh Bhatt, Dr. Vijay Dharla, Darshana and Niru Patel, and Chandan Rai, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all guests, donors, and volunteers for their steadfast support.

A major highlight was the keynote address by entrepreneur and philanthropist Rajiv Khanna, whose inspiring message encouraged attendees to deepen their commitment to the cause.

Akshaya Patra USA CEO Navin Goel also offered insights into the organization’s impact and outlined its vision for the years ahead.

As the chapter reflected on the success of the event, the team shared excitement for 2026 and renewed dedication to service and community engagement. The



funds raised will help ensure countless children receive nutritious meals that keep them in school and moving toward brighter futures.

The Akshaya Patra Indiana Chapter Team extends sincere gratitude to every guest and donor whose generosity will help transform young lives.



Khadi takes center stage at the India International Trade Fair



By: Satyaprakash Dwivedi

At the 44th India International Trade Fair in New Delhi, the Khadi pavilion has become one of the most visited spaces, reflecting this year's theme of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat.' The pavilion brings together the cultural and craft identity of every region of India, aligning closely with national campaigns such as 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Vocal for Local.'

More than 150 stalls have been dedicated to Khadi and village industry crafts, including handcrafted textiles, rural food items, bamboo and cane creations, natural beauty products and traditional carved artwork. Visitors are drawn to iconic specialties like Pashmina shawls from Jammu and Kashmir, Kanchipuram silk from Tamil Nadu, wood carving from Andhra Pradesh and natural skincare collections from Jharkhand.



Live demonstrations such as hand-spinning, traditional oil extraction and pottery wheels offer an immersive experience. A unique feature, the podcast booth titled 'Baat Khadi Ki Hai,' allows artisans to share their journeys, skills and cultural heritage in their own voices, making the space not just an exhibition but a storytelling experience celebrating India's craft legacy.



KVIC leadership highlights growth and innovation at IITF

The India International Trade Fair in New Delhi is also showcasing the evolution of Khadi under the leadership of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). Executives at the pavilion shared that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership over the last eleven years, Khadi has

transformed into one of the most trusted and fast-growing Indian brands. Its market value has now crossed USD 20.4 billion, reflecting rising consumer interest in local, sustainable and handmade products.

KVIC Chairman Shri Manoj Kumar has strongly promoted natural wellness, herbal

goods and indigenous raw-material-driven manufacturing across Khadi platforms. This push directly supports farmers, rural producers and traditional craft communities while aligning with the national movement of 'Vocal for Local.'

Nearly 40 percent of the pavilion's stalls

have been allocated to Khadi manufacturing organizations, while the remaining stalls feature products from PMEGP and SFURTI units. A specialty attraction, the Kangra Valley tea counter in Hall 6, offers more than 40 regional tea varieties and has received high visitor engagement for its authentic Himalayan flavors.

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Warmth, texture, and ease: A fashion-focused guide to Thanksgiving dressing

Thanksgiving style blends comfort with quiet polish. The holiday invites softness, rich color, and relaxed silhouettes that feel festive without becoming overly formal. Whether your celebration is casual or more traditional, the right mix of texture and tailoring can make the day feel effortless.

For women: Elevated ease and seasonal texture

Knit dresses remain a favorite for good reason. They flatter, stretch,



and maintain shape throughout a long day of eating and conversation. Ribbed midis in caramel, chocolate, or charcoal pair easily with ankle or knee high boots. If dresses are not your preference, try a silky skirt with a plush cashmere or alpaca sweater. The movement of the skirt and the cozy top create a balanced, elegant look. Wide leg trousers with a tucked blouse also offer refined comfort and work well with pointed boots or flats.

For men: Polished comfort with seasonal depth

A textured sweater is the foundation of a strong Thanksgiving outfit. Fisherman knits, waffle patterns, and brushed merino add interest and pair

well with Oxfords or flannels layered underneath. Chinos or wool trousers in olive, tan, or espresso create a relaxed but sharp profile. An overshirt in heavyweight flannel or herringbone is ideal for a day that moves in and out of cooler air.

Gender neutral trends that define this season

Velvet pieces provide instant warmth and elegance. Monochrome dressing in camel, oat, or soft brown creates a calm, luxurious feel. Statement coats, from wrap styles to quilted silhouettes, make practical layers that photograph beautifully. For footwear, choose options that can last all day, such as loafers, suede boots, or elevated sneakers.



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CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAII Bull-Bear Spread -17.5% (very low)
CNN Fear & Greed Index 22 (extreme fear)
NYSE %Above 50-dMA 41.60% (negative)
SP500 %Above 50-dMA 43.60% (negative)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 9/30/25
OEFs & ETFs: Stocks 61.72% (new high), Hybrids 4.09%, Bonds 17.33%, M-Mkt 16.86%

INTEREST RATES

CME FedWatch
Cycle peak 5.25-5.50%
Current 3.75-4.00%
FOMC 12/10/25+ hold
FOMC 1/28/26+ cut

Treasury

T-Bills 3-mo yield 3.95%, 1-yr 3.70%; T-Notes 2-yr 3.62%, 5-yr 3.74%, 10-yr 4.14%; T-Bonds 30-yr 4.74%;
TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 1.36%, 10-yr 1.86%, 30-yr 2.51%
FRNs Index 3.8165%

Bank Rates www.depositaccounts.com/

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 11/1/25
TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates
Restricted RC 4.75%, RA 4.50%
Flexible RCP 4.00%, SRA 3.75%, IRA-101110+ 3.75%
TSP G Fund pending (previous 4.250%).

India Fear & Greed MMI 56.91 (greed)
Weekly ETFs: INDA +1.62%, INDY +1.83%, EPI +1.49%, INDH +1.76%, SPY +0.14%
The data above are as of Sunday



preceding the publication date.

ECONOMY

The longest US government shutdown finally ended (10/1/25 - 11/12/25) but the main issues that caused it remained outstanding.

UK sanctions on Russian oil follow those from EU & US. These will affect Russian-controlled Nayara (India) - it's focusing on domestic market & exploring exports to non-EU/US/UK markets. Reliance Industries & Indian Oil corporation (IOC) may also be impacted.

FUNDS

US State Street/STT is looking for an Indian partner to launch mutual funds & ETFs in India. In US, it offers SP500 SPY, SPLG; gold GLD, GLDM, etc.

SPECIAL TOPICS

MEDICAL TOURISM in India is growing. High-quality medical treatment, care & rehabilitation in India are much cheaper than those

in US. Procedures can range from transplants, surgeries (including eyes/dental), conventional (Western) & unconventional (Eastern/ Ayurveda) treatments to cosmetic procedures. The related costs of travel, stay in hotels or Airbnb-type rentals & other expenses are also modest.

Special Med-visa are available for patients & Med-X-visa for up to 2 attending family members &/or caregivers. There may be some inconveniences arising from local infrastructure issues. Beware that US health insurance won't typically cover procedures outside of US (unless preapproved), so this may be an option for those uninsured or underinsured. Medical tourism is also flourishing in other Asia countries.

ROTH CONVERSION

Roth Conversion is the process of converting Traditional IRA (TIRA) into Roth IRA (RIRA), or converting 401k/403b into Roth 401k/403b. It's a taxable event. The tax can be withheld (& that reduces the amount going into RIRA) or paid from a taxable account (preferred).

TIRA contributions may be deductible (pre-tax) with eligibility requirements, or large amounts of pre-tax money in 401k/403b may be rolled over on job changes into TIRA without tax implications. There is tax-deferred growth within TIRA. However, when the money is withdrawn in retirement (after 59.5), it's taxable. TIRA is subject to RMDs at 73+. Rules for 401k/403b are similar although the RMD consolidation rules don't apply to 401k.

RMDs for all TIRAs can be added (i.e. consolidated) & the total amount can be taken from any of the TIRAs; the same can be done for 403b. This RMD consolidation rule doesn't apply to 401k & appropriate RMDs must be taken from each 401k.

When the TIRA is subject to RMDs, the first withdrawals are assumed to be RMDs. So, do Roth Conversion after taking all required RMDs. Otherwise, serious complications may arise. The RMDs cannot go into RIRA.

RIRA contributions are after-tax, there is tax-deferred growth, but withdrawals in retirement (59.5+) are tax-free for any purpose, so many use RIRAs to supplement education 529. RMDs don't apply. RMD rules for Roth 401k/403b were made similar in 2024 & that eliminated the urgent need to convert Roth 401k/403b into RIRA.

Roth Conversion should be done gradually in stages so that the higher taxable income doesn't put one into a higher tax bracket. Roth Conversion for the year must be completed by December 31. Retirees should also watch for IRMAA thresholds for Medicare premiums 2 years out.

Converting 401k/403b into RIRA in 1-step may lead to complications if the plan withholds taxes. In that case, use a 2-step procedure, 401k/403b to TIRA (without tax implications), then TIRA to RIRA (taxable event, but there is choice about paying tax from taxable account or use tax withholding).

Inherited IRAs now require emptying the account within 10 years for most nonspousal beneficiaries. So, the old estate angle of stretch for younger beneficiaries is no longer available. Spousal beneficiaries have the most flexibility including redesignating the Inherited IRA as their own. Beneficiary rules for Inherited IRAs are very complicated now, so be sure to study them or consult a tax professional.

For more information,
see 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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Three promising new strategies that help reduce knee arthritis pain

By: Dr. Avi Verma

Knee osteoarthritis affects nearly half of all adults at some point in their lives. The condition develops when protective cartilage in the knee wears down, causing pain, stiffness, and limited mobility. While this damage cannot be reversed, new research highlights several ways to reduce discomfort and possibly slow disease progression. Recent studies focus on three key areas: weight management, walking mechanics, and accessible exercise programs.

Weight-management therapies show strong potential for pain relief

Excess body weight is a major risk factor for knee arthritis and often leads to earlier diagnosis and more severe symptoms. New findings emphasize that effective weight management requires more than simple advice to lose weight. Researchers compared multiple approaches, including lifestyle changes, medications, and surgeries, to evaluate their long-term benefits.

The treatments reviewed included:

- ▶ Diet and exercise
- ▶ GLP-1 medications such as tirzepatide and semaglutide
- ▶ Gastric sleeve surgery
- ▶ Gastric bypass surgery

Tirzepatide delivered the greatest improvement in quality of life among non-surgical options, while gastric bypass surgery produced the best outcomes for individuals with a BMI of 35 or higher. Even with these advances, physical activity remains the most accessible therapy, and new research is helping make exercise less painful for many patients.

Modifying walking mechanics can ease knee pressure

Walking is widely recommended for knee arthritis, yet the repetitive force on the inner portion of the joint can aggravate pain. About 70 percent of walking-related load naturally falls on this medial side, where arthritis typically begins.

A recent study found that small adjustments in walking

mechanics, such as slightly turning the toes inward or outward, can shift pressure away from painful areas. After a six-week gait-retraining program:

- ▶ All participants experienced mild to moderate pain reduction
- ▶ Most benefited from turning toes slightly inward
- ▶ Improvements increased even after one year of maintaining the new gait pattern

Although researchers used specialized tools, a trained physical therapist can assess gait and teach simple modifications to reduce strain.

Online tai chi programs provide effective and accessible exercise

To address barriers to in-person exercise programs, researchers developed free online routines designed specifically for individuals with knee arthritis. One study evaluated a 12-week tai chi program featuring three 45-minute video sessions each week. Participants reported:

- ▶ Significant pain reduction while walking
- ▶ Better balance and mobility

- ▶ Improved emotional well-being
- ▶ High satisfaction with the convenience of at-home exercise

Tai chi is particularly beneficial because it builds strength, stability, posture, and coordination, all of which help protect the joints.

A promising outlook for managing knee arthritis

Although knee osteoarthritis cannot be reversed, these research-based strategies offer meaningful relief.

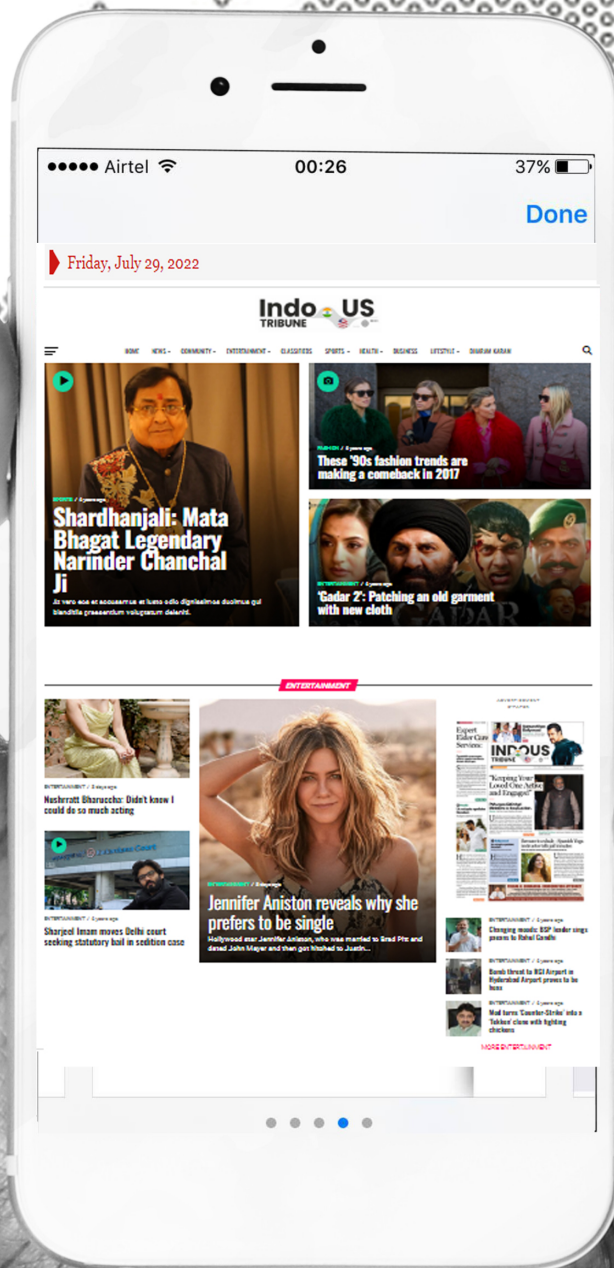
By combining weight-management tools, small gait adjustments, and accessible exercise options, many individuals can improve mobility and reduce everyday pain.

Disclaimer

This article is for general informational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always consult your physician or a qualified healthcare provider before beginning any new medication, exercise program, or treatment for knee arthritis or any other medical condition.



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