

Rubio outlines US strategy
balancing China ties and
Indo-Pacific alliances



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Friday that Washington is pursuing a dual approach toward China, combining engagement with strengthened Indo-Pacific alliances. Speaking at a year-end briefing, Rubio acknowledged ongoing tensions but said cooperation with Beijing remains necessary where interests align. At the same time, he emphasized firm commitments to allies including Japan, South Korea, India, Australia, and others. Rubio said the strategy aims to manage rivalry without confrontation while reinforcing regional deterrence. United States relations with China remain strained over trade, technology, Taiwan, and maritime security, even as Washington expands defense and economic partnerships through regional frameworks such as the Quad.

Declassified United States
records show how India
shaped a flexible Paris climate
deal while protecting growth



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Newly declassified United States diplomatic records show that India played a decisive role in shaping the Paris climate agreement, ensuring it remained non binding while safeguarding space for economic growth. The documents were released earlier this month by the National Security Archive to mark the agreement's tenth anniversary and include internal cables and negotiating papers from Sunday through 2015.

United States officials viewed India as essential to any credible global climate deal, while also seeking to weaken the traditional divide between developed and developing countries. A 2014 United States position paper rejected that framework, calling it unworkable in the post twenty twenty period.

India pushed back through coalitions including Brazil, South Africa, India, and China, as well as the Like Minded Developing Countries group. These alliances resisted binding emissions cuts and emphasized development priorities. United States negotiators warned that India and China together could block consensus.

The final agreement adopted nationally determined contributions, allowing countries to set their own climate targets. This structure enabled India to avoid mandatory emissions caps while allowing the United States to participate without Senate ratification, reflecting a negotiated compromise shaped in part by India's strategy.

IndoUS T R I B U N E

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International alarm grows over escalating violence against Hindus in Bangladesh amid political unrest

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A wave of violent attacks targeting Hindu minorities in Bangladesh has drawn widespread international concern, highlighting fears over law and order amid ongoing political instability. A few days back, 25-year-old Dipu Chandra Das was brutally lynched in Mymensingh district after being falsely accused of blasphemy by a coworker. Despite being under police protection, Das was seized by a mob, beaten, hanged, and set ablaze. Days later, another Hindu man, Amrit Mandal, was killed, signaling a growing pattern of religiously motivated violence.

Human rights organizations and advocacy groups, including the Coalition of Hindus of North America, condemned the killings and criticized global media and institutions for largely ignoring the incidents. New York Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar cited data from the Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council, noting over 2,400 attacks on minorities and more than 150 temple vandalizations from August 2024 to July 2025.

US Congressmen Raja Krishnamoorthi and Suhas Subramanyam urged the Bangladeshi government to conduct transparent investigations, prosecute



perpetrators, and protect vulnerable communities. United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres emphasized that minorities must feel safe, and UN human rights officials called for calm to prevent retaliation. Protests in India, Nepal, and diaspora communities in

North America and Europe demanded justice and international intervention. With elections approaching, rights groups warn that unchecked attacks on Hindus threaten public safety, undermine democratic processes, and heighten communal tensions.

Christmas marked worldwide with calls for peace, unity and goodwill

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Christmas Day on December 25 was celebrated worldwide with religious services, cultural events, and festive gatherings emphasizing peace, joy, and community. In the United Kingdom, King Charles III released his annual Christmas message, recorded this year at the Lady Chapel of Westminster Abbey. The monarch focused on themes of reconciliation and hope, reflecting on shared spiritual values in a divided world. Across Europe and beyond, leaders echoed calls for unity and compassion as part of the holiday spirit. At the Vatican, Pope Leo XIV delivered the traditional Urbi et Orbi Christmas blessing in Saint Peter's

Square, urging an end to conflict and a renewed commitment to human dignity. In the United States, Christmas blended deep-rooted traditions with broad cultural observance. Large cities like Chicago, New York, San Francisco, Philadelphia, and Boston hosted festive light displays, parades, and holiday markets, while families across the country gathered for meals, worship services, and community events.

From sacred liturgies in churches to beloved national traditions on television and in city streets, Christmas 2025 underscored both the faith-based roots and evolving cultural expressions of the holiday around the globe and within the United States.



China denounces Pentagon assessment on India ties, calls it divisive and misleading

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

China said on Thursday that it strongly opposes a recent United States Defense Department report, accusing it of distorting Beijing's defense policy and attempting to drive a wedge between China and India. Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said the report was groundless and irresponsible, and was aimed at justifying United States military dominance.

The Pentagon report suggested China may seek to reduce border tensions with India to prevent closer strategic ties between New Delhi and Washington. Lin said China approaches its relationship with India from a long term and strategic perspective, emphasizing dialogue, trust building, and proper management of differences.

He added that the border situation is generally stable, with smooth communication channels in place. China rejected third party commentary on bilateral issues. The report also noted that China continues military preparedness along the Line of Actual Control, including high altitude training, despite recent disengagement efforts.

Joint Syrian and United States led operation nets senior Islamic State commander near Damascus



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Syrian security forces arrested a senior Islamic State leader during a coordinated operation near Damascus, state media reported on Wednesday. The raid was carried out in cooperation with Syrian intelligence services and a United States led international coalition.

Authorities identified the suspect as Taha al Zoubi, also known as Abu Omar Tabiya, described as the top Islamic State commander operating in the Damascus area. Several aides were also detained during the operation in al Moadamiya after extensive surveillance.

Security forces seized a suicide explosive belt and military grade weapons, calling the arrest a significant blow to Islamic State networks around the capital.

Thailand and Cambodia press on with border talks as violence along frontier subsides



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Thailand and Cambodia continued border negotiations on Thursday as military officials reported a general decline in clashes along their shared frontier. Talks under the Thai Cambodian General Border Committee were held in Chanthaburi province, with Cambodian delegates and regional observers participating. Thai military officials said exchanges of fire have decreased and are now limited to localized areas. Thailand's Second Army Area Command confirmed that two Thai soldiers were injured by a landmine while carrying out demining operations near Ta Kwai Temple.

Cambodia's Defense Ministry said another civilian was killed on Thursday, raising the civilian death toll in Cambodia to thirty one since the conflict escalated. The fighting has entered its third week, affecting seven Thai border provinces and disrupting daily life for hundreds of thousands of residents. Officials said discussions are scheduled to continue through Friday, with a possible defense minister level meeting on Saturday if progress is achieved.

Trump says United States struck Islamic State targets in Nigeria after attacks on Christians

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump said on Thursday that the United States carried out a powerful military strike against Islamic State fighters in northwestern Nigeria, following attacks that targeted Christian communities. Posting on social media on Christmas evening, Trump said the action came after weeks of criticism of Nigeria's government for failing to stop violence against Christians, although he did not provide operational details.

United States Africa Command confirmed that the strikes were conducted at the request of Nigerian authorities in Sokoto State and resulted in the deaths of multiple Islamic State militants. A United States defense official said the operation was coordinated with Nigeria and approved by its government.

Nigeria's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the cooperation involved intelligence sharing and strategic coordination consistent with international law and respect for national sovereignty. The ministry stressed that extremist violence



has affected Christians, Muslims, and other communities.

The strikes followed earlier United States measures, including visa restrictions

on individuals linked to religious violence and Nigeria's designation as a country of particular concern under the International Religious Freedom Act, amid renewed attacks on churches and schools.

Denmark and Greenland push back after US envoy appointment sparks sovereignty row

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Denmark said on Monday it will summon the United States ambassador after President Donald Trump appointed a special envoy to Greenland, triggering strong objections from Danish and Greenlandic leaders. Foreign Minister Lars Lokke Rasmussen said comments suggesting Greenland could become part of the United States were unacceptable and undermined territorial integrity. Greenland's Prime Minister Jens-Frederik Nielsen and Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen jointly rejected any notion of annexation, saying sovereignty cannot be questioned under the guise of security concerns.

The backlash followed remarks by the newly appointed envoy that appeared to support United States control of the Arctic island. Trump has repeatedly expressed interest in Greenland since taking office, at times refusing to rule out economic or

military pressure. Greenland has home rule but remains part of the Kingdom of Denmark, which oversees defense and foreign affairs.



Tarique Rahman's return after 17 years raises political stakes in Bangladesh

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bangladesh Nationalist Party acting chairman Tarique Rahman returned to Dhaka on Thursday after seventeen years in self imposed exile, amid a deepening political crisis. He arrived with his wife and daughter and was welcomed by senior party leaders and supporters.

Thousands of party workers gathered in the capital to receive him, with Rahman later traveling in a bulletproof bus to address a large rally. He is also expected to visit his mother, former prime minister

Khaleda Zia, who has been undergoing medical treatment in Dhaka.

Security was tightened across key areas of the city, with the army and multiple law enforcement agencies deployed. Rahman's return comes as Bangladesh prepares for its next parliamentary election scheduled for February.

Political analysts say his reentry into active politics could reshape opposition strategy and intensify tensions under the interim administration, which faces mounting pressure to ensure a credible and peaceful election.

Private Bush Putin talks reveal early concerns about China's rise



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Newly released transcripts of private discussions between President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin show that China's rise featured as an early long term concern in their conversations. The records, released by the National Security Archive following a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit, cover meetings and phone calls from Saturday through 2008.

China was raised during their first meeting on Saturday in Slovenia, where Bush warned that Beijing's ambitions would shape global politics for decades. He returned to the issue during a Sunday meeting at the White House in 2005, telling Putin that China represented the biggest long term strategic challenge ahead. Putin acknowledged China's growing influence but repeatedly redirected discussions toward what he saw as Russia's more immediate threats, including North Atlantic Treaty Organization expansion and United States missile defense plans in Europe.

The exchanges highlight differing strategic priorities, with Washington focused on China's future power and Moscow viewing Western military pressure as the more urgent concern.

United States and Venezuela clash at Security Council over oil seizures



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States and Venezuela confronted each other at an emergency United Nations Security Council session on Tuesday as tensions escalated over Washington's seizure of Venezuelan oil shipments. United States Ambassador Mike Waltz said sanctions would be enforced to cut off funding to criminal networks and justified the interception of oil tankers as part of the fight against drug trafficking. Venezuela's envoy Samuel Moncada rejected the claims, calling the actions piracy and a violation of international law. China and Russia strongly backed Venezuela, while European members voiced concern over both human rights conditions in Venezuela and adherence to international law at sea.

Australia plans special honors for heroes of Bondi terror attack

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announced on Wednesday that a special honors list will be created to recognize first responders and civilians who acted during the deadly Bondi Beach mass shooting. The recipients, to be announced next year, will include police officers, medical workers, and members of the public who risked their lives to help others. The attack, which targeted an event marking the first day of Hanukkah, killed 15 people and was described by Albanese as an antisemitic assault on Australian values. Lawmakers in New South Wales have since passed tougher gun and protest laws in response.

South Korea and United States move toward nuclear submarine cooperation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea and the United States have agreed to pursue a separate agreement on cooperation involving nuclear-powered submarines, with working-level talks expected to begin early next year. National Security Adviser Wi Sung-lac said discussions followed in-depth consultations with senior United States officials during his visit earlier this week.

Seoul reaffirmed its commitment to nuclear nonproliferation and said any submarine program would rely on low-enriched uranium below 20 percent. Under existing agreements, South Korea cannot enrich uranium independently and must import fuel. A United States delegation is expected to visit Seoul to discuss implementation details.

Sindhi nationalist leader claims Pakistan is stoking extremism to destabilize Bangladesh

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Sindhi nationalist leader Shafi Burfat on Thursday accused Pakistan of deliberately fueling religious extremism in Bangladesh to destabilize the country and seek revenge for its defeat in the 1971 liberation war. Burfat, chairman of the Jeay Sindh Muttahida Mahaz, alleged that Pakistan's intelligence agencies are encouraging unrest to delay elections and deepen communal divisions.

He claimed that Bangladesh's interim administration is prolonging its hold on power by fostering religious polarization and targeting minorities. According to Burfat, Pakistan is reviving tactics used during the 1971 conflict by backing extremist groups to weaken Bangladesh internally.



Warning of broader regional consequences, he said such actions could spread terrorism and instability across South Asia. Burfat urged the United Nations and global powers to closely

monitor what he described as Pakistan's destabilizing role. He added that continued interference risks prolonged unrest and could undermine Bangladesh's democratic transition at a critical political moment.

Attack on Imran Khan ally in Britain fuels concerns over safety of exiled dissidents

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Mirza Shahzad Akbar, a former adviser to ex-Prime Minister Imran Khan, was attacked at his home in Cambridge in the United Kingdom, leaving him bruised and with facial fractures. Akbar confirmed on Wednesday that he was hospitalized and that police are investigating the assault.

His party, Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf, said the attacker repeatedly punched Akbar, fracturing his nose and jaw. The party expressed serious

concern about the safety of political dissidents living in exile. Akbar has resided in the United Kingdom since April 2022.

The attack follows a previous incident on a Sunday in November 2023, when a masked individual threw acidic liquid at Akbar outside his home in Hertfordshire. Akbar has linked both attacks to pressure connected to legal cases involving Imran Khan. The incident comes amid growing scrutiny after a United Kingdom parliamentary report warned of increasing transnational repression targeting Pakistani dissidents abroad.



United States tightens H1B visa selection rules to curb manipulation

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The United States government has cited concerns over manipulation and abuse in the H1B visa system as a key reason for changing how visas are selected each year. In a federal notice issued this week, the Department of Homeland Security said the revisions are aimed at strengthening process integrity and ensuring fairness in the capped program.

The department highlighted practices that raised red flags during recent filing cycles, including wage manipulation, inconsistent job details, and multiple registrations tied to related entities. Officials said some employers may have listed inflated wages or higher paying job

locations during registration, only to alter the information later.

Under the revised rules, immigration authorities will closely review consistency between registration submissions and full petitions, including job duties, wages, and work locations. The rule also addresses concerns about multiple registrations filed for the same worker by connected organizations.

The final changes reinforce certification requirements and outline penalties for inaccurate or misleading filings. Officials said the measures are intended to improve transparency while preserving access to high skilled workers, as demand for visas continues to exceed the annual limit set by Congress.

Russian parliament speaker blames Europe and Biden allies for Ukraine war

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian State Duma Speaker Vyacheslav Volodin said on Tuesday that the European Union and supporters of former United States President Joe Biden were responsible for the conflict in Ukraine. Speaking at the final session of parliament's fall term, Volodin accused Western leaders of prolonging the war to maintain political power and falsely portraying Russia as the aggressor. He said Russia had never viewed Europe as an enemy and had supported its economic growth through affordable energy supplies. Volodin also echoed President Vladimir Putin's criticism of European efforts to seize Russian assets, warning of serious economic consequences.

Bangladesh tribunal charges former prime minister Sheikh Hasina



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal on Tuesday formally charged former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and 16 others in a crimes against humanity case linked to enforced disappearances during her administration. The charges also include senior security officials and former Rapid Action Battalion officers, most of whom pleaded not guilty. The tribunal scheduled opening statements for Tuesday next week. The case follows a controversial earlier verdict that sentenced Hasina to death over last year's protests. Hasina has rejected the tribunal's legitimacy, calling it politically motivated. International observers have raised concerns over due process and judicial independence under the interim government.

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December 25 is more than Christmas

A day of Tulsi, sacrifice, and truth behind the celebration, conscience, and civilizational memory



Dr. Avi Verma

December 25 is celebrated across the world as Christmas, commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, whose message of love, compassion, sacrifice, forgiveness, and service to humanity has inspired billions across centuries. Christmas is not merely a festival of lights, gifts, and goodwill; at its core, it is a reminder of humility, charity, and moral responsibility. Its global observance reflects humanity’s shared yearning for peace, kindness, and hope—values that deserve sincere respect.

At the same time, December 25 in India carries layered and profound meanings, especially within the Hindu and Sikh traditions, where the day transcends festivity and enters the realm of spiritual discipline, remembrance, and sacrifice.

For Hindus, December 25 is observed as Tulsi Pujan Diwas, a day dedicated to the worship of Tulsi Mata (Holy Basil)—revered not symbolically, but as a living, divine presence in Hindu homes. Tulsi is believed to be an avatar of Goddess Lakshmi and is lovingly called “Vishnupriya”, the beloved of Lord Vishnu. Worshipping Tulsi on this day is believed to invite purity, prosperity, peace, and spiritual balance.

Beyond modern observance, December 25 often aligns with the Dashami Tithi (tenth lunar day) of the Krishna Paksha (waning moon) in the sacred Pausha month, a spiritually significant period in the Hindu lunar calendar. This alignment deepens the day’s sanctity, linking it to ancient mythology, devotion, and seasonal spiritual practice.



The Tulsi tradition also connects directly with Ayurveda, recognizing Tulsi as a powerful adaptogen and medicinal plant used for mental well-being, immunity, respiratory health, and stress relief—symbolizing the Hindu integration of spirituality, health, and nature.

Tulsi Pujan Diwas therefore offers a compelling spiritual alternative to excessive material celebration—calling for mindfulness over indulgence, devotion over intoxication, and ecological responsibility over excess.

For the Sikh community—and indeed for the conscience of the nation—December 25 marks the most solemn days of remembrance associated with the supreme sacrifices of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the Tenth Sikh Guru. A saint, poet, philosopher, and fearless warrior, Guru Gobind Singh Ji sacrificed his entire family for the defense of Dharma, justice, and freedom of belief.

This sacred remembrance culminates on December 26, now nationally

observed as Veer Baal Diwas, honoring the martyrdom of the youngest Sahibzadas—Baba Zorawar Singh Ji (9) and Baba Fateh Singh Ji (7)—who were bricked alive for refusing to abandon their faith. Their sacrifice stands unmatched in world history, redefining courage, conscience, and moral strength at an age when innocence itself becomes resistance.

Veer Baal Diwas is not merely a historical observance; it is a moral education for future generations, reminding society that true strength lies in principles, not power, and that faith and conviction can triumph even over empire and cruelty.

At IndoUS Tribune, we believe that honoring Christmas and its universal message does not require forgetting our own civilizational roots. December 25 is a rare convergence—a day where global compassion, Hindu spiritual ecology, and Sikh martyrdom intersect.

Celebrate Christmas with joy, generosity, and goodwill.

Observe Tulsi Pujan Diwas with devotion, gratitude, and reverence for nature and health.

Bow in solemn respect during Veer Baal Diwas to the eternal sacrifice of Guru Gobind Singh Ji’s Sahibzadas.

Together, these observances remind us that celebration is richest when anchored in faith, remembrance, and conscience—and that true civilization thrives when joy and sacrifice walk hand in hand.

Best Regards,

Dr. Avi Verma.

Publisher,

IndoUS Tribune

BOOK

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Yoon denies drone provocation claim in martial law case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol denied on Tuesday that he authorized drone operations into North Korea to justify a failed martial law declaration. Speaking at a closed court hearing, Yoon said such actions could not have occurred without his knowledge and insisted he received no reports of any drone deployment. Prosecutors argue the alleged operation was intended to provoke retaliation and create a pretext for martial law. Yoon, who has been in custody since July, cited a phone call with United States President Donald Trump to support his claim of restraint toward North Korea. The court will rule on extending his detention.

European Union renews Russia sanctions amid peace talks concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The European Union has renewed its sweeping economic sanctions against Russia for another six months while seeking a greater role in United States-led peace talks on Ukraine. The measures, covering energy, trade, finance, and transport, were first imposed in 2014 and expanded after the Ukraine conflict escalated. European leaders also approved new sanctions targeting Russia's shadow oil fleet and hybrid operations. At the same time, concerns have grown in Europe over being sidelined in negotiations. French President Emmanuel Macron said the bloc must remain open to dialogue with Moscow if current diplomatic efforts fail.

Trump says United States will keep seized Venezuelan oil



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump said on Monday that the United States will retain control of recently seized Venezuelan oil, signaling a firm stance toward Caracas. Speaking at a news conference, Trump said the administration had not decided whether the oil would be sold, stored, or added to strategic reserves but stressed it would not be returned. He confirmed holding discussions with major United States oil companies about Venezuela's energy sector, though no details were shared. The seizure follows continued United States sanctions on Venezuelan oil exports, which Trump said are intended to restore leverage and counter corruption in the country.

Pentagon signals ideological shift under Trump administration

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States Secretary of War Pete Hegseth said on Monday that the Pentagon is undergoing a cultural reset under President Donald Trump, with a renewed focus on merit, readiness, and what he described as a "warrior ethos." Speaking at a news conference in Florida, Hegseth said the administration has removed diversity and inclusion policies and political correctness from military frameworks. He claimed the changes have boosted morale and recruiting across the armed forces. Hegseth said deterrence is being restored across land, sea, space, and border security, supported



by new investments in shipbuilding and advanced military technologies. Critics have argued that cultural debates risk overshadowing operational readiness.

Indian Intelligence warns of large-scale infiltration plot via Bangladesh

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian intelligence agencies have issued a high alert along the eastern border amid warnings that Pakistan's intelligence service is planning mass infiltration into India through Bangladesh. Officials said the strategy involves pushing large numbers of illegal migrants, including Rohingya, to overwhelm border systems, particularly around West Bengal elections. Agencies fear trained militants could be embedded among civilians, exploiting riverine gaps and forested terrain in Assam, Tripura, and West Bengal. Intelligence reports say recruitment camps in Bangladesh have been operating for over a year, luring migrants with financial incentives.



Officials warned the plan aims at long-term demographic disruption and internal instability across eastern and northeastern India.

UAE and France deepen strategic partnership during Macron visit

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan met French President Emmanuel Macron on Sunday to strengthen bilateral cooperation across defense, energy, technology, and sustainability. The leaders reviewed their longstanding strategic partnership and discussed regional stability in the Middle East. France remains a major defense supplier to the UAE, including advanced fighter aircraft, and is exploring expanded cooperation on future combat systems. During the visit, Macron also met French troops stationed in the UAE and confirmed approval for replacing France's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier as part of a



long-term defense plan. Macron said the talks underscored shared commitments to security, innovation, and regional stability.

Trump presses defense firms to speed up ship and aircraft production

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump said on Monday that the United States must dramatically accelerate the production of warships and military aircraft, warning that decade-long delivery timelines undermine national security. Speaking alongside senior defense officials in Florida, Trump said his administration would pressure defense contractors to

expand factory capacity and shorten production cycles. He cited delays in fighter jets and naval vessels, arguing that manufacturing limits, not technology, are the primary bottleneck. Trump said companies should reinvest profits into building new plants rather than executive payouts. He also highlighted efforts to reopen and expand shipyards, saying faster production would strengthen deterrence, create jobs, and counter rapid naval expansion by China.

Putin says NATO expansion fueled mistrust with Russia

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday that Russia has been repeatedly deceived by NATO over promises not to expand eastward, arguing that alliance infrastructure near Russian borders has created security concerns. Speaking at his annual press conference, Putin said Russia had once considered joining NATO but realized it was not welcome. He said Europe and Russia would benefit more from cooperation than confrontation and called for a new security framework based on mutual respect. Putin also said Russia could consider measures to avoid strikes deep inside Ukraine during any election period. He warned that continued asset seizures by European states would undermine trust in the euro zone.

Epstein survivor urges accountability for Mountbatten-Windsor in United States

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Epstein survivor has called for Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor to face questioning in the United States following the release of new court documents linked to Jeffrey Epstein. Speaking this week, Marina Lacerda said accountability is long overdue for individuals accused of involvement in Epstein's abuse network. The renewed scrutiny follows the death of Virginia Giuffre earlier this year, who had accused Mountbatten-Windsor of sexual abuse when she was 17, allegations he has denied. Emails released this week appear to show requests for arranging meetings with young women. Giuffre's lawyer said those who believed past denials should reassess their position. A civil settlement was reached in 2022.

Italy plans continued military role in southern Lebanon after UN exit



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Italy will maintain a military presence in southern Lebanon after United Nations peacekeepers withdraw in 2027, Defense Minister Guido Crosetto said on Monday during talks in Beirut. Crosetto said Italy aims to support the Lebanese Army in maintaining stability south of the Litani River, adding that other European countries are considering similar roles. Lebanese President Joseph Aoun welcomed the plan, saying it would help secure the border following Israel's withdrawal. The United Nations Security Council has extended the peacekeeping mission through the end of 2026 before a phased drawdown. A ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah has been in place since late November, though sporadic strikes continue.



Friday, 26 December 2025

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Severe winter storms bring floods to California and snow to the Midwest and Northeast

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

California faces life-threatening flash floods and debris flows as torrential rains pounded the coast on Wednesday, prompting Governor Gavin Newsom to declare a state of emergency in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Shasta counties. Mandatory evacuations were issued in Wrightwood, and Highway 2 remains impassable. Over 43 million people across California, southern Nevada, and northwest Arizona are under flood watches, with winds gusting 40 to 50 miles per hour causing power outages for more than 100,000 residents. Meanwhile, a major winter storm is moving east, bringing snow and ice to the upper Midwest on Thursday and spreading to the lower Northeast by Friday. Cities including New York, Philadelphia, and Boston could see up to nine inches of snow, with freezing rain causing hazardous driving conditions and potential power outages across Pennsylvania, Michigan, and West Virginia.

Over 20 states challenge Trump's \$100,000 H-1B visa fee

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

More than 20 US states on Tuesday filed a legal challenge against the Trump administration's \$100,000 fee on H-1B visas, warning it would disrupt schools, hospitals, and public institutions nationwide. The fee affects skilled foreign professionals, including doctors, nurses, researchers, and educators. California Attorney General Rob Bonta and other states argue the policy is unlawful, would worsen labor shortages, and undermine public services. H-1B workers contribute an estimated \$86 billion annually to the US economy. States assert the fee would make it financially impossible for public employers to hire, threatening healthcare access and educational programs, while reducing quality of services for communities across the country.

Tina Peters asks Colorado appeals court to honor Trump's pardon

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Attorneys for former Mesa County Clerk Tina Peters filed a motion on Tuesday asking the Colorado Court of Appeals to release her, citing President Donald Trump's pardon issued on December 5. Peters was convicted in August 2024 of state election-related charges and sentenced to nine years in prison. Colorado officials maintain only the state governor may grant pardons for state offenses. Peters's lawyers argued historical precedent and asked the court for a rapid ruling. The appeals court scheduled a hearing for mid-January, with the attorney general required to respond by the first week of January.

Release of Epstein grand jury records renews focus on Maxwell and victims

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The public release of grand jury transcripts in the Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell case has renewed scrutiny of Maxwell's role in sex trafficking. The transcripts, part of the Justice Department's ongoing Epstein files disclosure, detail how Maxwell allegedly assisted Epstein in abusing underage girls during the 1990s and early 2000s. Maxwell, who was convicted in December 2021, filed a petition seeking early release, claiming new evidence proves constitutional violations at her trial.

An FBI agent's testimony recounted one girl's encounters with Epstein and Maxwell, describing grooming, gifts, and sexual abuse, reflecting trial testimony from four women. Victims have expressed concern over the petition and potential pardon. The



Justice Department continues releasing documents, noting delays due to the redaction of victim identities. Advocates warn that the ongoing disclosures highlight both the scope of the crimes and the need to protect survivors while maintaining transparency.

White House to outline Trump's East Wing ballroom project in January

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The White House plans to present details of President Donald Trump's proposed East Wing ballroom at a federal planning commission meeting on January 8. The \$400 million project would create a 90,000-square-foot addition, dwarfing the existing 55,000-square-foot White House structure. Preservationists have filed lawsuits claiming the project threatens historic properties, while some Democratic lawmakers allege an abuse of power. The National Capital Planning Commission has so far not reviewed demolition or site preparation activities.

The commission stated that a formal review in the spring will consider public spaces, lines of sight, and landscaping, with opportunities for public comments. Trump has been



personally involved in the renovations, including gold leaf decorations in the Oval Office and plans for a new grand arch in Washington ahead of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. A hearing next month will consider ongoing legal challenges.

US labor unions prepare to challenge Trump's 'Billionaire First' agenda

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US labor unions are gearing up to confront President Donald Trump's "Billionaire First" policies in 2026, citing what they describe as a year of "unrelenting attacks on working people." Liz Shuler, president of the AFL-CIO, said the federation is mobilizing to support candidates who back labor rights and affordability issues ahead of key elections. The House recently passed legislation restoring collective bargaining rights for federal workers after Trump's executive orders stripped more than a million employees of such protections.

Shuler emphasized that unions are organizing across cities and states to push for economic fairness, citing inflation,



rising credit card debt, housing costs, and healthcare as major concerns. Thousands of Starbucks baristas are striking for their first union contract, highlighting broader economic divides. "People are working multiple jobs just to get by," Shuler said, warning that inequality and advanced technologies like artificial intelligence risk worsening economic divides without stronger worker protections.

Supreme Court blocks Trump National Guard deployment in Illinois

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The US Supreme Court on Tuesday blocked President Donald Trump's attempt to deploy the National Guard in Illinois, ruling 6-3 that the federal government lacked authority to execute laws in the state. The dispute began in October when Trump activated 300 Illinois National Guard members, followed by Texas troops, to protect federal buildings in Chicago. A district court issued a temporary restraining order, upheld by the Seventh Circuit, allowing federalization but not deployment. White House officials said the Guard was needed to safeguard federal property, while Illinois Governor JB Pritzker praised the ruling as a victory for state rights and democracy, preventing federal overreach and unauthorized military action.

Church Committee exposed CIA role in Chile coup 50 years ago

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Fifty years ago, the US Congress held hearings led by Senator Frank Church exposing secret CIA operations to overthrow Chilean democracy. The committee revealed that the CIA worked to block Salvador Allende's election and later undermined his government. Newly declassified documents show the Nixon and Ford administrations attempted to conceal assassination plots, payments, and policy instructions. The hearings highlighted the costs and risks of covert actions and established that classified intelligence is a matter of congressional oversight, not solely executive control. The Church Committee's investigation paved the way for permanent intelligence oversight and remains a landmark in promoting transparency, accountability, and democratic control over secret foreign interventions.

US imposes visa bans on EU official, activists over alleged censorship

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. Department of State imposed travel restrictions on five Europeans on Tuesday, accusing them of pressuring American platforms to censor speech. Former European Union Commissioner Thierry Breton and four activists are affected. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the individuals engaged in coercive campaigns against U.S. tech companies, while EU leaders and France and Germany condemned the move. Breton called the bans a "witch hunt." The visa restrictions intensify transatlantic tensions over digital regulation, following Washington's criticism of the EU Digital Services Act, which European officials say addresses misinformation and online harm.

Hung jury declared in trial of former New York governor's aide

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge declared a mistrial Monday in the case of former New York governor's aide Linda Sun after jurors could not reach a verdict on charges she sold influence to China and benefited from pandemic-era medical contracts. Sun and her husband, Chris Hu, were charged with fraud, money laundering, and acting as unregistered agents for China. Prosecutors alleged Sun advanced Beijing's agenda, blocked Taiwan interactions, and profited through shell companies and luxury purchases. Sun's lawyers argued she acted within official duties. Prosecutors plan to retry the case. The trial was part of a Justice Department effort to identify foreign agents attempting to influence U.S. politics and exploit pandemic contracts.

Pediatrics group sues HHS over \$12 million funding cuts

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The American Academy of Pediatrics filed a lawsuit Wednesday against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to block nearly \$12 million in cuts to child health programs. The funding supported initiatives to prevent sudden infant deaths, improve rural pediatric care, and assist teens with mental health and substance use challenges. The lawsuit alleges the cuts were retaliatory for the group's criticism of federal vaccine and gender-affirming care policies. Without the grants, dozens of programs could be terminated and staff laid off. AAP leaders said the funding is critical for children's health and called the federal actions an attempt to silence one of the nation's trusted public health voices.

DOJ sues Illinois governor over immigrant protection laws

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

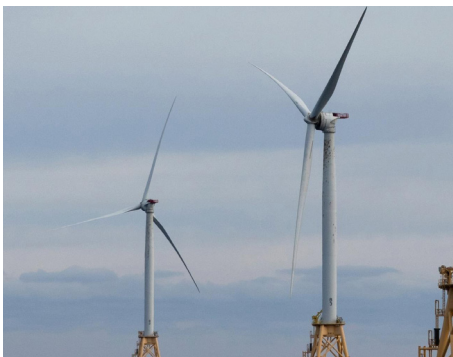
The Department of Justice filed a lawsuit Monday against Illinois Governor JB Pritzker over new state laws protecting immigrants at courthouses, hospitals, and day care centers. The laws, signed earlier this month, ban civil arrests near courthouses and require institutions to safeguard personal information and establish procedures for federal immigration operations. Violations allow affected individuals to seek legal remedies, including \$10,000 for unlawful arrests. Immigration advocates praised the legislation as a bold step to protect communities from fear of detention. The Justice Department argued the laws threaten federal officers' safety and violate the Constitution. Pritzker acknowledged the measures could face legal challenges but called them essential for immigrant rights.

Trump administration pauses East Coast offshore wind projects over security concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration has ordered five major offshore wind projects along the East Coast to halt operations for at least 90 days while national security risks are assessed. The Interior Department said the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management will work with developers to determine whether potential threats can be mitigated, and the pause may be extended if needed.

The suspension, announced Monday, follows a federal judge's recent ruling that struck down Trump's previous executive order blocking wind energy projects. Letters cited classified information on adversary technologies and the projects' sensitive East Coast locations, warning of potential immediate harm.



The move drew criticism from Democratic leaders and wind energy advocates. Governors of Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New York said it could raise costs, threaten grid reliability, and cost thousands of jobs. Senators Sheldon Whitehouse and Martin Heinrich warned it undermines congressional efforts to streamline permitting for energy projects.

State Department recalls 29 Biden-era ambassadors

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The State Department has recalled 29 career diplomats serving as U.S. ambassadors, all appointed under President Joe Biden. The diplomats, senior members of the Foreign Service, were informed last week that their tenures will end in January and that they may assume new assignments in Washington. Ambassadors serve at the president's discretion, a State Department official said, noting the move is standard procedure across administrations. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said



the recalls reflect a recalibration of U.S. foreign policy to address global changes. The recalled ambassadors include 15 from Africa, eight from the Asia-Pacific region, four from Europe, and two from the Americas.

US signs \$2.3 billion health agreements with African nations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States signed \$2.3 billion in health agreements with Botswana, Madagascar, Sierra Leone, and Ethiopia on Monday and Tuesday, under the America First Global Health Strategy. The U.S. will contribute \$1.4 billion, with partner countries co-investing \$900 million.

The deals focus on HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, maternal and child health, and outbreak preparedness while shifting long-term program management to local governments. Ethiopia received the largest share, \$1.5



billion. U.S. officials said the compacts tie aid to measurable results, reduce reliance on American taxpayers, and promote self-reliance, marking a strategic overhaul of foreign health assistance.

CMS unveils model to expand coverage of weight loss drugs

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services introduced the BALANCE Model on Monday, a voluntary program allowing Medicare Part D plans and state Medicaid to cover GLP-1 medications for weight management. The initiative pairs drug access with lifestyle interventions

and negotiates lower prices. CMS officials said the model aims to improve long-term health outcomes and reduce costs while empowering patients to manage metabolic conditions such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Participation is optional, with applications due in early January. The program could launch in Medicaid by May 2026 and Medicare Part D in January 2027.

USCIS updates domestic abuse immigration rules amid fraud concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has updated its Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) policies after a 360% surge in self-petitions between 2020 and 2024. The changes require petitioners to prove a good-faith marriage with the alleged abuser and to currently reside with them. USCIS said the updates aim to prevent fraud while continuing to protect legitimate survivors. The policy clarifies how officials evaluate "good moral character" and "battery and extreme cruelty." Meanwhile, the House passed the Preventing Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act, which remains in Senate committee and has raised concerns about potential risks to abuse survivors.

DHS offers \$3,000 for illegal immigrants to self-deport during holidays

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Department of Homeland Security is offering illegal immigrants \$3,000 to voluntarily leave the United States as part of a holiday initiative. The incentive, available through the CBP Home app until year-end, triples the prior \$1,000 exit bonus and includes forgiveness of immigration fines. Since January, 1.9 million people have voluntarily self-deported. DHS Secretary Kristi Noem encouraged participation, warning that those who remain illegally will face enforcement. The Trump administration has boosted deportations, allocated \$170 billion to ICE and Border Patrol through 2029, and plans to expand staffing and detention facilities in 2026.

Federal judge blocks California gender secrecy policies for students



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge on December 22 struck down California policies that prevent parents from being informed when their children switch gender or use different names at school. U.S. District Court Judge Roger T. Benitez issued a permanent injunction, citing harm to children, parents, and teachers. The policies required teachers to conceal gender-related information from parents and use students' preferred pronouns without parental knowledge. The ruling restores parental rights under the Fourteenth and First Amendments. California officials, including Attorney General Rob Bonta, said they plan to appeal, emphasizing that the state seeks to provide safe school environments for transgender students.



Indian student killed near University of Toronto; suspect at large



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A 20-year-old Indian student, Shivank Avasthi, was fatally shot near the University of Toronto Scarborough campus on Tuesday afternoon, prompting a police manhunt. Officers responded around 3:34 p.m. to reports of a person with serious injuries near Highland Creek Trail and Old Kingston Road. Avasthi was found with a gunshot wound and pronounced dead at the scene. The suspect fled before police arrived. This is Toronto's 41st homicide of the year. The Indian Consulate in Toronto expressed deep sorrow and confirmed it is providing full support to Avasthi's family. The incident comes days after another Indian national, Himanshi Khurana, was murdered in Toronto, with her partner charged with first-degree murder. These cases have raised concerns about safety for international students and residents. Local and Indian authorities are working closely to ensure justice and protect the community while investigations continue.

Indian-origin human rights lawyer M Ravi found dead in Singapore



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian-origin human rights lawyer M Ravi, 56, was found dead Wednesday morning in Singapore. Police are investigating his death as unnatural. Ravi, born in 1969, represented death row inmates and advocated for LGBTQ rights and the abolition of the death penalty. He had over 25 years of legal experience and founded M Ravi Law in 2019. He received the International Bar Association's award for outstanding contributions to human rights. Ravi was diagnosed with bipolar disorder in 2006 and faced legal challenges, including a suspension in 2023 for accusations against authorities. Colleagues said he was deeply committed to pro bono work and social justice. Ravi also authored an autobiography, Kampong Boy, shortlisted for the Singapore Literature Prize. His death is mourned across the legal community, with peers praising his dedication to defending marginalized groups and advancing human rights in Singapore.

Indian American official Ricky Gill receives National Security Council's top honor

● Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Indian American official Ricky Gill has been awarded the Distinguished Action Award by the United States National Security Council, one of its highest internal honors, for his role in diplomatic coordination linked to the India Pakistan ceasefire during 2025, according to an official government statement released on Thursday.

The award recognizes exceptional contributions to national security and is given to officials whose work has strategic importance. Gill was selected for his leadership in coordinating efforts across multiple United States government agencies on South Asia related issues and for supporting sensitive diplomatic engagement during a critical period.

The honor was presented by United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio. Officials said the recognition was based on



impactful behind the scenes work rather than public facing diplomacy.

Gill currently serves in a senior role within the United States administration, focusing on policy coordination and international affairs. The award comes at a time when global attention remains on regional stability between India and Pakistan.

US H-1B visa changes worry Indian tech workers and families

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian technology professionals and Indian American families are concerned about new changes to the US H-1B visa process announced Thursday. Previously selected by a lottery, H-1B visas will now be prioritized based on wage levels. Critics say this may favor large companies over startups and early-career professionals. Indian nationals, who make up a large share of H-1B approvals and face long waits for green cards, could be significantly affected. The Department of Homeland Security said the rule aims to address shortages of skilled workers while protecting US wages and jobs. It also seeks to prevent misuse of the program. Employers and institutions warned that limiting access to international talent could hurt startups and research organizations. Many Indian Americans noted that the changes could affect



families, home ownership, and long-term settlement plans. DHS added measures to prevent wage manipulation and multiple registrations, emphasizing legal clarity and fairness in the system.

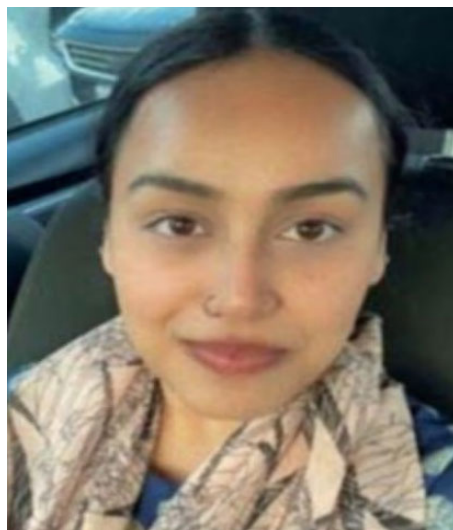
Indian woman Himanshi Khurana murdered in Toronto; partner charged

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A 30-year-old Indian woman, Himanshi Khurana, was found dead in a Toronto residence on Saturday morning after being reported missing Friday night. Police have charged her partner, Abdul Ghafoori, 32, with first-degree murder.

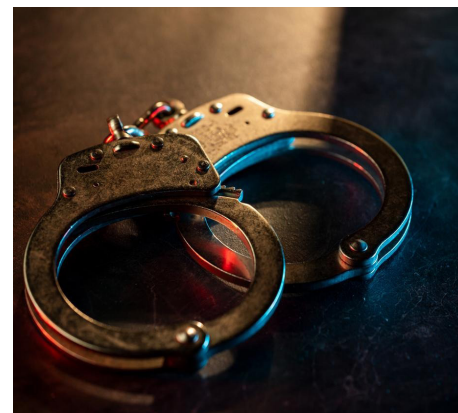
Officers responded to Strachan Avenue and Wellington Street West Friday night and launched an investigation. Khurana's body was discovered Saturday at 6:30 a.m., and the death was ruled a homicide. Police said the victim and suspect were in an intimate partner relationship and released images to help locate Ghafoori.

The Consulate General of India in Toronto expressed shock and sorrow over her death and is supporting the family while coordinating with authorities. The case follows the earlier murder of Indian



student Shivank Avasthi near the University of Toronto, raising concerns about the safety of Indian nationals in the city. Investigations continue to hold perpetrators accountable and ensure protection for international students and residents.

Indian-origin man charged for false terrorist threat at Singapore church



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian-origin man, Kokulananthan Mohan, was charged on Monday for making a false terrorist threat at St Joseph's Church along Upper Bukit Timah. The incident occurred on Sunday when Mohan allegedly placed three cardboard rolls filled with pebbles and red wires to mimic an explosive device. Preliminary investigations suggest he acted alone, with no evidence pointing to a religiously motivated attack. All church services were canceled that day. Mohan, 26, has been remanded for three weeks for psychiatric evaluation and will return to court in January. If convicted, he faces up to 10 years in prison, a fine of up to SGD500,000 (USD386,757), or both. Authorities said the evaluation was requested based on his behavior during arrest and police operations.

Indian political phrase 'Aya Ram Gaya Ram' resurfaces in Canada



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The political phrase "Aya Ram Gaya Ram," originally from Haryana in 1967, is appearing in Canada after Conservative MP Michael Ma defected to the ruling Liberal Party. Ma, representing Markham-Unionville, cited Prime Minister Mark Carney's "practical approach" as the reason for his switch. This is the second recent defection and strengthens the Liberals' position, worrying the Conservative Party. Analysts said further defections could give the Liberals a majority, delay federal elections, and allow internal Conservative opposition to regroup. The phrase originally referred to Gaya Lal, who switched parties three times in two weeks in Haryana, triggering political turmoil and leading to India's Anti-Defection Act in 1985. Experts note that party-hopping is now global, often driven by pragmatism and personal ambition rather than ideology. The Canadian incident highlights how individual political decisions can influence broader party dynamics, showing parallels with political shifts in India and other countries.

New Zealand eases visa rules for Indian students and professionals



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New Zealand has relaxed mobility rules under a recently concluded trade pact, allowing Indian students to obtain longer post-study work visas and offering 5,000 professional visas to Indian workers, including chefs, yoga instructors, and IT professionals. The pact, announced Monday, still requires approval from the New Zealand Parliament and is expected to be implemented in seven to eight months. Indian students will now receive work visas based on their level of study: two years for degree courses, three years for bachelor's with honors or STEM graduates, and four years for postgraduate studies. Students can also work 20 hours per week. The agreement includes a Skilled Employment Pathway allowing Indian professionals to stay up to three years and does not replace existing visa programs. Additionally, New Zealand will provide 1,000 multiple-entry working holiday visas annually for young Indians. The pact also facilitates trade in health and traditional medicine services and introduces fast-track approval for Indian pharmaceuticals. Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said the initiative will expand mobility options and strengthen professional and educational ties between the two countries.

Indian-origin Anand Varadarajan appointed Starbucks chief technology officer

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Starbucks has appointed Indian-origin technology executive Anand Varadarajan as its new executive vice president and chief technology officer. He will assume charge on January 19, join the company's Executive Leadership Team, and report directly to CEO Brian Niccol. Varadarajan, a nearly two-decade Amazon veteran, previously oversaw technology and supply chain operations for Amazon's Worldwide Grocery Stores business. He holds a civil engineering master's degree from Purdue University and a computer science master's from the University of Washington. Starbucks said his appointment is expected to strengthen its global technology operations and accelerate digital initiatives while keeping customer experience at the center. Varadarajan succeeds Deb Hall Lefevre, who retired in September, and brings extensive experience in developing secure, reliable systems and scaling technology to support operational excellence.

Immigrant truckers sue California over license revocations

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

A group of immigrant truck drivers filed a class-action lawsuit against California's Department of Motor Vehicles on Tuesday, claiming the state violated thousands of workers' rights by revoking their commercial driver's licenses.

The licenses were canceled after drivers' legal stay in the US expired, affecting around 17,000 truckers. The move follows federal pressure, as the Trump administration had warned states that issuing licenses to immigrants could result in withheld funds. The Sikh Coalition and the Asian Law Caucus are representing the drivers, arguing that revocations threaten livelihoods and economic stability.

"These drivers have anchored their lives to these careers only to face potential ruin through no fault of their own," said Munmeeth Kaur, legal director of the Sikh Coalition. The lawsuit asks the Alameda County Superior Court to halt



license cancellations. California DMV has declined to comment on pending litigation. Concerns about immigrant truck drivers intensified after unauthorized drivers caused fatal crashes in Florida and California earlier this year, raising safety concerns and prompting calls for stricter oversight while balancing workers' rights.

US Border Patrol arrests 30 Indian nationals operating trucks illegally

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US Border Patrol agents arrested 30 Indian nationals living illegally in the United States while operating semi-trucks with commercial driver's licenses. Between November 23 and December 12, agents apprehended 42 unauthorized truck drivers along interstate highways and immigration checkpoints in California. Overall, 49 illegal immigrants, including individuals from India, El Salvador, China, Eritrea, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Russia, Somalia, Turkey, and Ukraine, were detained. Thirty-one of the licenses had been issued by California, with the rest from other states, including Florida and New York. In addition, during Operation Highway Sentinel on December 10 and 11, led by Homeland Security Investigations in Ontario and Fontana, California, 45 illegal truckers were arrested. Authorities said these operations aim to enforce



immigration laws, protect highways, and prevent accidents caused by unqualified drivers. Recent incidents involving Indian nationals, including deadly crashes in Florida and California, highlighted safety risks. El Centro Sector Acting Chief Patrol Agent Joseph Remenar said the arrests underscore the need for regulatory compliance and public safety, stressing that those issued licenses illegally should not have been operating commercial vehicles.

Deported youths from Malaysia report mistreatment to Amritsar MP

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Several Indian youths deported from Malaysia have claimed they were subjected to humiliating treatment by Malaysian authorities and airport officials. The youths met Lok Sabha member Gurjeet Singh Aujla on Monday at Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport in Amritsar after arriving from Malaysia. They said they were detained, harassed, and deported despite holding valid tourist and employment visas. Some alleged that Punjabi nationals were specifically targeted during immigration checks and reported physical mistreatment during questioning. Aujla condemned the incidents, calling them unacceptable, and said he would raise the issue with India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar. The MP also stated that the Indian Embassy in Malaysia would



be asked to seek explanations from Malaysian authorities. He emphasized the importance of safeguarding the rights, dignity, and safety of Indian citizens traveling or working abroad and said urgent discussions would be held with Malaysian officials to prevent such incidents in the future. The matter highlights concerns over the treatment of Indian nationals abroad and the need for diplomatic intervention.

Walking Singh completes 710 km challenge to raise men's mental health awareness

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Gurmeet Singh Sidhu, known as Walking Singh, completed a 710 km walk in the United Kingdom to raise awareness about men's mental health and suicide prevention. The challenge exceeded his original goal of 600 km, symbolizing the 60 men who die by suicide every hour worldwide. Sidhu, a teacher at Gravesend Grammar School, covered an average of 24 km daily for 30 days while continuing his teaching duties. He raised nearly £3,000 for the Movember charity and aims to break the stigma surrounding men discussing mental health issues. "Resilience does not mean silence. Many men suffer quietly, believing they must bear every burden alone," he said. Sidhu's walk drew inspiration from personal experiences and community losses and aimed to encourage open conversations about mental health. Last year, after recovering from a spinal injury, he completed a 500 km challenge and received the UK and Europe Movember "Going the Distance" award. Louie French, Shadow Minister for Culture, Media and Sport, invited Sidhu to the Houses of Parliament to discuss suicide prevention strategies and promote men's mental health initiatives.

GNDU alumnus Jaspreet Singh elected to New Jersey governing council



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Guru Nanak Dev University alumnus Jaspreet Singh has been elected to the New Jersey Governing Council, aiming to represent the Indian Sikh community. Singh, an attorney in the US, has met with senior political and administrative leaders, including members of Governor-elect Mikie Sherrill's transition team, outgoing Governor Phil Murphy, New York Governor Kathy Hochul, and New York Attorney General Letitia James. He also engaged with former North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper. Singh hosted discussions with Sikh representatives and the managing committee of the Sikh Cultural Society of New York to address community and public interest issues. GNDU Vice-Chancellor Karamjeet Singh said Singh's election and engagements reflect leadership, public service, and global citizenship, highlighting the increasing involvement of diaspora leaders in American politics and governance.

France passes emergency law to avert government service disruption



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

France’s parliament approved an emergency bill on Tuesday to prevent a U.S.-style government shutdown after 2026 budget negotiations collapsed. The law allows public services, including tax collection and local disbursements, to continue based on 2025 levels. Despite deep divisions among President Emmanuel Macron’s centrist minority, Marine Le Pen’s far-right National Rally, and left-wing forces, the bill passed in both the National Assembly and Senate. Finance Minister Roland Lescure warned that relying on it too long could weaken the economy. Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu urged all parties to work through the holidays to reach a 2026 budget, after narrowly passing a key health care bill that suspended Macron’s pension reform.

India pledges \$450 million for Sri Lanka’s cyclone reconstruction



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India announced a \$450 million reconstruction package for Sri Lanka on Tuesday following Cyclone Ditrwah. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met President Anura Kumara Dissanayake in Colombo, delivering a letter from Prime Minister Narendra Modi reaffirming India’s “first responder” role. India’s assistance includes \$350 million in concessional credit and \$100 million in grants. Operation Sagar Bandhu has already delivered over 1,100 tons of relief materials, set up field hospitals, and provided medical care to thousands. Jaishankar emphasized restoring connectivity and rebuilding critical infrastructure, assuring close collaboration with Sri Lanka to prioritize urgent needs while demonstrating India’s commitment under its Neighbourhood First and MAHASAGAR policies.

Zelenskyy hails ‘solid’ progress in US-led Ukraine peace talks amid ongoing Russian strikes

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Monday that initial drafts of U.S.-proposed peace agreements with Russia meet nearly 90 percent of Kyiv’s demands, calling the progress “quite solid.” The plan includes a 20-point framework covering Ukrainian security, European Union membership, and a peacetime army of 800,000 troops, with European countries and the U.S. providing oversight in air, land, and sea defense. Zelenskyy emphasized that the bilateral U.S.-Ukraine security document could be reviewed by Congress,

with sensitive annexes classified.

The announcement came as Ukrainian forces continued operations inside Russian territory, striking an oil terminal, a pipeline, two ships, and Russian-controlled bases in Crimea and Donetsk. Ukrainian partisans also set fire to two Russian fighter jets near Lipetsk. Meanwhile, Russian forces targeted Ukraine’s energy infrastructure overnight with 86 drones, cutting power across five regions. Zelenskyy reaffirmed that defensive lines remain firm despite Russia’s intensified attacks, underlining Kyiv’s determination to maintain leverage in peace talks.

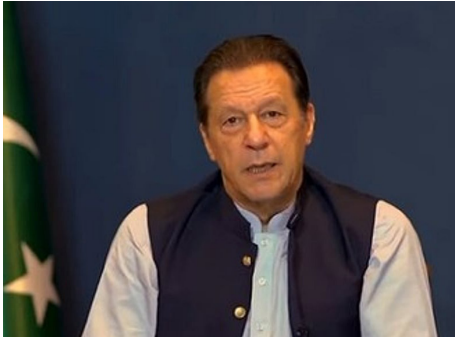


Imran Khan calls for protests after Toshakhana-II verdict, plans high court challenge

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan has urged nationwide protests following his and his wife Bushra Bibi’s 17-year prison sentences in the Toshakhana-II case. Announced Saturday, the verdict relates to their purchase of a Saudi-gifted jewelry set at a nominal price. Khan labeled the ruling “blatantly unconstitutional” and “political revenge,” saying his legal team was not adequately heard.

Khan, currently jailed, instructed supporters to mobilize in protest and confirmed his intention to appeal in the Islamabad High Court. The Federal Investigation Agency’s special court sentenced him to ten years of rigorous imprisonment under multiple



Pakistan Penal Code sections and seven years under the Prevention of Corruption Act. Bushra Bibi received an identical sentence. Both were fined 16.4 million Pakistani rupees, with additional imprisonment if unpaid. The court noted Khan’s age and Bibi’s gender as factors in applying a relatively lenient sentence.

Turkey recovers black boxes after jet crash kills top Libyan officials

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Search teams in Turkey recovered flight recorders on Wednesday from a private jet crash that killed eight people, including western Libya’s military chief Gen. Muhammad Ali Ahmad al-Haddad. The Falcon 50 crashed on Tuesday after departing Ankara, following a technical malfunction. The delegation had attended defense talks to enhance Libya-Turkey military cooperation. Wreckage scattered over three square kilometers complicated recovery efforts. Libyan Prime Minister Abdul-Hamid Dbeibah called it a “tragic accident,” while Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan expressed condolences. Four prosecutors are leading the investigation, and the flight data will be examined in a neutral country to ensure



impartial findings. Libya declared three days of mourning.

Australian PM apologizes to Jewish community, unveils new hate speech laws



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese apologized on Monday to the Jewish community after the Bondi Beach Hanukkah shooting that killed 15 people. At a press conference in Canberra, he described the attack as “weighty” for the nation and pledged daily government efforts to protect Jewish Australians. His cabinet approved a legislative package to tackle hate speech, including harsher penalties, consideration of hate motivation in sentencing, visa cancellations for offenders, and new offenses for radicalizing children. Attorney General Michelle Rowland noted a rising trend of youth radicalization, citing that over half of current terrorism defendants are minors. The government plans to introduce the laws in parliament in 2026.

Portugal signals willingness for post-war peacekeeping in Ukraine



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Portuguese Prime Minister Luis Montenegro indicated on Saturday that Portugal could join a peacekeeping mission in Ukraine after the Russia-Ukraine conflict ends. Speaking in Kyiv alongside President Volodymyr Zelensky, he emphasized that no such mission is currently planned. Portugal, part of the Coalition of the Willing supporting Ukraine, also contributes to developing underwater drones. Montenegro’s visit coincided with EU approval of a \$105 billion loan package to support Ukraine’s military and economic needs, financed through joint EU borrowing. Zelensky welcomed the loan, calling it critical for Ukraine’s resilience in the coming years.

US pushes for humanitarian ceasefire as Sudan crisis worsens



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Friday that the United States is pressing for a humanitarian ceasefire in Sudan to allow aid delivery amid one of the world's worst crises. Civil war between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces has displaced millions since April 2023. Rubio highlighted challenges including battlefield dynamics and external support fueling the conflict. He emphasized accountability and the urgent need for a truce during the holidays to relieve civilians. The US continues engaging regional partners to secure a cessation of hostilities and ensure humanitarian relief reaches those in distress.

'G20' dominates South Africa's language landscape in 2025

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The term "G20" was South Africa's most used word in 2025, the Pan South African Language Board announced on Tuesday. Analysis of print, broadcast, and online media showed its prominence due to South Africa's G20 presidency and hosting the Leaders' Summit. Other top terms included "Government of National Unity" and "Tariffs," reflecting political and economic discourse. The G20 summit, held for the first time in Africa, produced a Leaders' Declaration addressing disaster resilience, energy access, sustainable development, and critical minerals. Leaders pledged to triple renewable capacity, double energy efficiency, and promote technology transfer, emphasizing support for vulnerable countries.

Brazil's Lula may visit India to strengthen strategic and economic ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva could visit India in late January or early February to boost bilateral ties, sources said on Tuesday. The proposed visit aims to expand cooperation in trade, investment, defense, energy, agriculture, and technology, while reinforcing their strategic partnership within BRICS and the G20. Prime Minister Narendra Modi met President Lula at the G20 summit last month and highlighted ongoing momentum in relations. Previous agreements included trade expansion, people-to-people ties, and collaborative frameworks across multiple sectors. Both leaders have emphasized a people-centric approach to enhance South-South cooperation and global development influence.

Trump-backed candidate Asfura declared winner in Honduras presidential race

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Donald Trump-backed candidate Nasry "Tito" Asfura has been declared the winner of Honduras's presidential election after nearly a month of vote counting. The 67-year-old former mayor of Tegucigalpa secured 40.27 percent of the vote, narrowly defeating center-right Salvador Nasralla, who received 39.53 percent, a margin of roughly 28,000 votes.

The electoral council announced Asfura's victory before completing a review of all ballots flagged as inconsistent, prompting criticism from Nasralla and Honduras's Congress. Nasralla alleged fraud, including the alteration of original tally sheets, and refused to concede, urging supporters to remain peaceful.



The Organization of American States lamented the early declaration. Asfura, supported by President Donald Trump, will assume office on January 27, 2026. The council's decision faces potential legal challenges from the leftist president's party.

Chile to create new national park linking 2,800-kilometer wildlife corridor

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Chile is set to establish its 47th national park, Cape Froward, protecting nearly 200,000 hectares of remote coastline and forest. The park completes a 1,700-mile wildlife corridor stretching to the southernmost tip of South America, preserving unique biodiversity and cultural heritage.

The area hosts endangered species, including the huemul deer, river otters, and pumas, and contains 10,000 hectares of carbon-storing sphagnum bogs. The site also holds archaeological evidence of the Kawésqar Indigenous people, who navigated fjords and forests in carved canoes.

The San Isidro lighthouse, abandoned in



the 1970s, has been restored as a museum and visitor center. Conservation groups, led by Kristine Tompkins, have spent over a decade assembling land parcels to establish the park, which celebrates both Chile's natural wilderness and Indigenous history.

Bushfires and storms threaten homes across Australia on Boxing Day

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Australians faced extreme weather on Boxing Day as a bushfire south-east of Perth continued to burn and heavy storms hit north-eastern states. The fire, believed to have started near the Boddington goldmine, remained uncontained, though authorities downgraded the evacuation alert to "watch and act" for nearby communities. Strong winds and dry heat contributed to the fire's spread.

In north-west Queensland and parts of the Northern Territory, a monsoon trough brought heavy rain, showers, and thunderstorms, raising flood concerns. The extreme weather



caused a partial crane collapse on the Gold Coast, though no injuries were reported. Authorities warned residents to remain vigilant as firefighters and emergency services continued to monitor fire and flood risks.

Fourteen countries condemn Israel for approving 19 new West Bank settlements

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Fourteen countries, including the United Kingdom, Canada, and Germany, condemned Israel for approving 19 new settlements in the occupied West Bank on Sunday, calling the expansion a violation of international law and a threat to regional stability. The move increases the number of settlements in the West Bank to 210, nearly a 50 percent rise under Israel's

current government.

The joint statement urged Israel to reverse the decision, reaffirmed support for Palestinian self-determination, and emphasized the importance of a negotiated two-state solution. Israel's foreign minister, Gideon Sa'ar, rejected the criticism, saying the settlements were necessary to address security concerns and asserting that calls to restrict Jewish settlement rights were discriminatory.

US lawmakers warn Bangladesh against restricting political participation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Powerful US lawmakers wrote to Bangladesh's interim government on Tuesday, warning that banning political parties could undermine free and fair elections ahead of February polls. The letter, signed by members including Gregory W. Meeks and Bill Huizenga, urged Chief Adviser Dr. Mohammed Yunus to ensure inclusive participation and restore confidence in democratic institutions. The lawmakers cited concerns over past flawed elections and urged accountability for human rights violations. They stressed that inclusive elections are essential for public trust and highlighted Bangladesh as a critical US partner, offering support to promote a transparent democratic transition.

Russian drone and missile strikes kill civilians, cut power across Ukraine

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russia launched over 650 drones and three dozen missiles at Ukraine on Tuesday, killing at least three people, including a 4-year-old child. The strikes affected 13 regions, damaging homes and the power grid during bitter winter temperatures. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the attack, occurring amid peace talks, highlighted Russia's determination to continue the invasion. He condemned the timing before Christmas and stressed the civilian toll. The bombardment disrupted recent progress in U.S.-led negotiations, demonstrating Moscow's unwillingness to compromise. European officials also criticized the attacks, noting that Russian actions undermined prospects for a diplomatic resolution to the ongoing war.

Hawaii's cruise passenger climate tax cleared by federal judge



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge on Tuesday upheld Hawaii's new climate change-focused tourist tax, allowing it to take effect in early 2026. The law, signed by Governor Josh Green in May, is designed to help the state fund responses to climate impacts such as eroding shorelines, wildfire prevention, and other environmental challenges. It raises the transient accommodations tax to 11 percent and, for the first time, imposes an 11 percent levy on cruise ship passenger fares prorated for the number of days vessels spend in Hawaii ports, with counties able to add an additional three percent surcharge. Officials estimate the tax could generate nearly \$100 million annually to support sustainability and resilience efforts. The Cruise Lines International Association and other plaintiffs had sought to block the tax, arguing it could hurt tourism and violate the Constitution, but the judge denied their request to halt enforcement.

PM Modi urges Gen Z and Gen Alpha to lead India's future at Veer Baal Diwas event

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed young Indians at a Veer Baal Diwas event at Bharat Mandapam on Friday, urging Gen Z and Gen Alpha to remain focused, principled, and ambitious as India moves toward developed nation status. Drawing inspiration from the sacrifice of Sahibzadas Zorawar Singh and Fateh Singh, Modi said age should never limit courage or achievement. He encouraged youth to dream boldly while staying grounded in values. The Prime Minister highlighted opportunities created through the New Education Policy, startup missions, and innovation platforms, urging young achievers to avoid distractions and short term fame while contributing meaningfully to national progress.

West Bengal hotel associations bar Bangladeshi tourists amid protests over minority violence



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Hotel owners in West Bengal's Darjeeling and Malda districts on Friday decided to stop accommodating Bangladeshi tourists in protest against the killing of Dipu Chandra Das in Bangladesh and reported attacks on religious minorities. While Malda hoteliers are still debating whether the ban will include medical visa holders, Darjeeling's association has extended it to medical and student visa visitors. Local trade bodies supported the move, citing public anger and security concerns. The decision follows nationwide protests after Das, a garment factory worker, was allegedly lynched by a mob over blasphemy accusations earlier this week.

Shiv Sena names Eknath Shinde, Govinda among 40 star campaigners for Maharashtra civic polls

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Shiv Sena on Tuesday announced a list of 40 star campaigners for the upcoming Maharashtra municipal elections, led by Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. The list includes senior leaders, Cabinet ministers, Members of Parliament, and actor and party MP Govinda. Key figures named include Ramdas Kadam, Shrikant Shinde, Prataprao Jadhav, Milind Deora, and several state ministers. The party said the campaign will emphasize its governance record and recent electoral performance. Shinde also criticized the opposition over alleged scams during earlier administrations, asserting that Shiv Sena has expanded its influence across Maharashtra.

India's 'Bahubali' rocket makes history with heaviest commercial satellite launch

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India marked a major milestone on Wednesday when its heavy-lift rocket LVM3, nicknamed 'Bahubali', successfully launched the BlueBird Block-2 communications satellite into orbit from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. The mission carried a United States-built payload for AST SpaceMobile, weighing about 6,100 kilograms, making it the heaviest satellite India has ever launched into low Earth orbit on an Indian launcher.

The mission, known as LVM3-M6, lifted off early in the morning, completing its flight about 15 minutes later with precise deployment of the satellite into a planned

orbit of roughly 520 kilometers. BlueBird Block-2, equipped with a large phased-array antenna, is designed to enable space-based 4G and 5G broadband connectivity directly to ordinary smartphones without special hardware.

Officials and industry leaders described the launch as a significant achievement for India's space program and its expanding role in the global commercial launch market. Contributions from Indian private firms such as Ananth Technologies and MTAR Technologies played a key role in the success of this mission.

This success underscores India's growing capabilities and partnerships in international space ventures.



Revanth Reddy Christmas remarks spark political backlash in Telangana

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's comments at a Christmas program on Saturday triggered a political row, with the Bharatiya Janata Party accusing him of politicizing a religious festival. Speaking at a government-hosted event in Hyderabad, Reddy said the state could celebrate Christmas because of the sacrifices of Congress leader Sonia Gandhi.

The Bharatiya Janata Party responded sharply, calling the remarks inappropriate and accusing the chief minister of making political comparisons at a religious gathering. Party leaders said religious festivals should



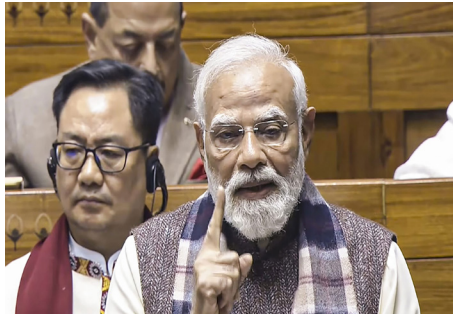
not be linked to political credit or vote bank considerations. They also questioned the relevance of invoking party leadership during a public celebration. Neither Reddy nor the Congress issued a clarification following the criticism, as the debate continued across political circles in the state.

Modi and Kharge clash over illegal immigration claims in Assam

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Political tensions flared on Saturday as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge traded sharp remarks over illegal immigration in Assam. Speaking at a public event in Namrup, Modi accused the Congress of encouraging illegal Bangladeshi immigrants to settle in Assam to strengthen its vote base, calling the move harmful to national interests. He said the central and state governments were committed to protecting Assamese land, identity, and culture.

Kharge rejected the allegations, saying the ruling party was blaming the opposition to hide governance failures. He questioned how



the government could deflect responsibility when it was in power at both the center and in Assam. Kharge added that the Congress does not support illegal infiltration and condemned what he described as politically motivated accusations. Illegal immigration remains a sensitive issue in Assam, with hundreds deported in recent months.

Delhi lifts strict pollution curbs after air quality shows improvement



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Delhi authorities lifted the strictest pollution control measures on Wednesday after air quality improved following strong winds and favorable weather conditions. The Commission for Air Quality Management said pollution levels dropped to the poor category, prompting the removal of the highest tier of restrictions under the Graded Response Action Plan.

While curbs under the earlier stages remain in place, older vehicles that were temporarily barred from roads are now permitted to operate again. Officials cautioned that forecasts indicate pollution levels could rise in the coming days due to slowing winds. Vehicular emissions remain a major contributor to winter pollution in the region, accounting for a significant share of particulate matter. Authorities said restrictions on high-emission vehicles would continue as needed to safeguard public health.

India dismisses Bangladesh media claims after protest near Dhaka mission in Delhi



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India on Sunday rejected what it described as misleading reports in sections of the Bangladeshi media following a brief protest outside the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi. The demonstration, held over the killing of Hindu citizen Dipu Chandra Das in Bangladesh, involved a small group of protesters and lasted only a short time, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Officials said there was no attempt to breach security or threaten diplomatic premises and confirmed that police dispersed the group promptly. Bangladesh later questioned how protesters reached a sensitive diplomatic zone and warned it could scale back its diplomatic presence in India if concerns persist. Despite the exchange, both sides said diplomatic channels remain open as investigations into the killing continue, with multiple arrests already made in Bangladesh.

Friday, 26 December 2025

Railway fare hike comes into force as ministry revises ticket prices nationwide



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Railway Ministry on Thursday formally notified an increase in passenger train fares, with revised ticket prices taking effect on Friday. Under the new structure, fares rise by one paise per kilometer for ordinary class journeys beyond 215 kilometers and by two paise per kilometer for both non air conditioned and air conditioned classes on mail and express trains.

Officials said suburban services and all season tickets remain unaffected. Short-distance second class ordinary travel up to 215 kilometers will see no increase, while longer journeys face graded hikes. The ministry said the revision aims to balance passenger affordability with operational sustainability. Tickets booked before Friday will not attract the higher fares.

Dense fog disrupts flights as January emerges as worst month for air travel delays

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Severe fog and cold weather disrupted air travel across northern India on Wednesday, grounding flights and causing widespread delays. At Delhi's main airport, at least ten flights were canceled and more than 270 were delayed after visibility dropped to extremely low levels, according to weather officials. Earlier in the week, hundreds of flights were delayed nationwide, with additional cancellations reported in Srinagar following snowfall. Aviation authorities warned that disruptions are likely to continue as winter intensifies. Data from aviation regulators shows January has overtaken December as the most disruptive month for weather-related flight cancellations in recent years, highlighting growing challenges for airlines and passengers alike.

Haryana to honor Vajpayee by naming public spaces after him

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini announced that at least one public place in each of the state's 87 Urban Local Bodies will be named after the late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Saini described Vajpayee as a visionary leader whose life reflected integrity, democratic values, and people-centered governance. Statues will also be installed at these sites, and institutions created to educate youth about his life and contributions. The government aims to complete the renaming and development within six months. In addition, several digital portals and projects were launched to improve government transparency, efficiency, and citizen services.

President Murmu gives assent to G Ram G, replaces MGNREGA

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Droupadi Murmu gave her assent on Sunday to the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin law, clearing the way for its nationwide implementation. The new legislation replaces the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and marks a major shift in India's rural employment policy.

Under the VB G Ram G framework, the guaranteed wage employment entitlement has been increased to a minimum of 125 days per rural household each financial year. The law links employment with the creation of durable rural assets such as water conservation projects,



infrastructure and climate resilient works. States have been given flexibility to pause work during peak agricultural seasons without reducing the overall entitlement. The law also restores unemployment allowance provisions and strengthens safeguards for timely wage payments, transparency and decentralized planning through village assemblies.

Yogi Adityanath's assembly remark draws sharp political counter from Akhilesh Yadav

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath triggered a fresh political exchange on Tuesday after making a veiled remark in the state assembly that opposition leaders described as derogatory. Referring to "two specimens," Adityanath dismissed allegations over a contaminated cough syrup case and said no child deaths had occurred in the state, without naming any leaders.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav responded on social media, calling the remark a public admission of internal tensions within the Bharatiya Janata Party. He accused the ruling party of exposing a Delhi and Lucknow power struggle and urged those holding constitutional positions to maintain decorum. The exchange



followed earlier comments by Adityanath at a rally, where he mocked several opposition leaders, intensifying the political rivalry ahead of upcoming elections.

Activist urges Supreme Court to revisit Aravalli definition over ecological concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Environmental lawyer Hitendra Gandhi on Sunday wrote to the Chief Justice of India and the President, urging reconsideration of the Supreme Court's recent operational definition of the Aravalli range. The court had ruled that only landforms rising at least 100 meters above surrounding terrain qualify as Aravalli hills.

Gandhi welcomed the court's recognition of the Aravallis as

ecologically vital but warned that a narrow height-based criterion could weaken environmental protection across northwestern India. He argued that low-relief ridges and corridors play a critical role in groundwater recharge, biodiversity connectivity, and desertification control. The activist cautioned that excluding such areas could create regulatory gaps, enabling mining and construction. He grounded his appeal in constitutional provisions that recognize the right to a healthy environment and impose environmental protection duties on the state.



Terrorist visit to Udhampur village prompts wide security searches across Jammu region

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Security forces launched extensive search operations on Sunday in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district after reports that two unidentified terrorists visited a home in Chore Motu village for food the previous evening. The house is located about five kilometers from an encounter site where a policeman was killed on Monday during a gunfight with militants.

Officials said two terrorists were injured in the encounter and escaped into nearby forests under cover of darkness. Following intelligence inputs, joint operations were expanded from the international border to the Line of Control to prevent infiltration. Authorities cited increased militant activity and the reactivation of multiple launch pads across the border as a key concern.

Elephant movement disrupts rail traffic as Northeast Frontier Railway highlights wildlife safety gains

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Rail services across parts of eastern India were disrupted this week due to frequent elephant movement near railway tracks, leading to the cancellation of several local trains and temporary halts of long distance services in Jharkhand. Officials said trains were stopped to allow elephant herds to cross safely, preventing accidents. The developments come as the Northeast Frontier Railway reported that its technology driven safety measures helped protect more than 160 elephants during 2025. The zone has deployed Artificial Intelligence based intrusion detection systems, speed restrictions, and deterrent measures in wildlife corridors. Railway authorities said such precautions remain essential as elephant movement continues to affect rail operations across the region.

Congress launches statewide organizational revamp after Bihar election defeat



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Congress has begun a major organizational overhaul in Bihar following its poor showing in the recent Assembly elections, where it won only six seats. On Thursday, the party held a review meeting at its Patna headquarters, directing district observers to assess party strength at the booth and block levels. State Congress President Rajesh Ram said observers will submit reports identifying strong and weak leadership by early January. The party aims to rebuild grassroots presence, improve public outreach, and address internal dissent that surfaced after the election setback.

Mercedes-Benz to pay \$149.6 million to settle multistate diesel emissions case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Mercedes-Benz USA and its parent company Daimler AG have agreed to pay \$149.6 million to settle allegations that the automaker installed illegal emissions control software in diesel vehicles, a coalition of attorneys general announced on Monday. The settlement involves claims that more than 211,000 diesel passenger cars and vans sold between 2008 and 2016 were equipped with devices that reduced emissions controls during normal driving while passing regulatory tests. The states alleged the vehicles exceeded legal limits for nitrogen oxides, a pollutant linked to respiratory illness and smog. The agreement includes a \$120 million payment, with an additional \$29 million suspended pending completion of a consumer relief program. Eligible vehicle owners may receive \$2,000 for approved emissions fixes and extended warranties. Mercedes-Benz said the settlement resolves remaining United States litigation but denied wrongdoing. The deal still requires court approval.

China announces provisional tariffs on European Union dairy imports

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China said on Monday that it will impose provisional tariffs of up to 42.7 percent on selected dairy products imported from the European Union starting Tuesday, following the first phase of an anti subsidy investigation.

The duties, which mostly average around 30 percent, will apply to products including milk and cheese, even covering protected origin varieties such as French and Italian specialty cheeses.

Beijing said it found evidence that subsidized European imports were harming domestic producers. The European Commission strongly criticized the move, calling it unjustified and saying it would respond to Chinese authorities.

The decision is widely seen as retaliation for European Union tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles, with trade tensions between both sides continuing to escalate.

Hyundai recalls over 51,000 U.S. vehicles over fire risk

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Hyundai Motor recalled 51,587 vehicles in the United States on Wednesday due to a potential fire hazard from a short circuit in non-functioning trailer lights. The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said the problem stems from incorrectly installed wiring harnesses. Owners are advised to park vehicles away from structures until repairs are completed. Dealers will replace the trailer wiring harness free of charge.

India strengthens global trade ties with UK, New Zealand, and Oman

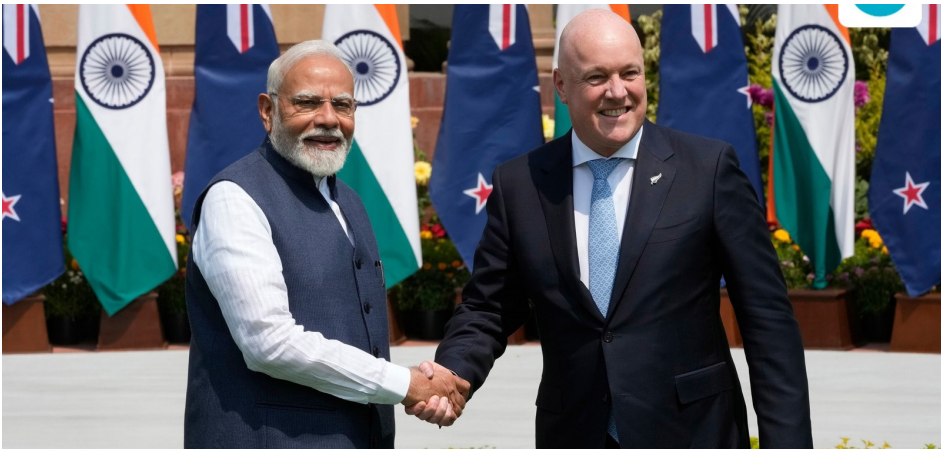
IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India stepped up its efforts this year to expand economic and trade partnerships amid global uncertainties triggered by US tariff disruptions. On Sunday, India finalized major free trade agreements with the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Oman, while talks with the European Union continue. The deals aim to enhance trade, boost competitiveness, attract quality foreign investment, and provide access to advanced technologies and markets.

India's Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with the UK offers duty-free access to 99 percent of Indian exports, benefiting labor-intensive sectors like textiles, leather, gems, marine products,

and engineering goods. The agreement also eases mobility for IT, healthcare, finance, and education professionals. The New Zealand FTA removes duties on all Indian exports and encourages \$20 billion in investment over 15 years, opening new opportunities for manufacturing, infrastructure, and services.

During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Muscat, India and Oman signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, providing near-total tariff elimination for major goods and a forward-looking services package. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal highlighted that growing global interest reflects India's strong economy, expanding consumer demand, and commitment to sustainable development.



Trump administration delays China chip tariffs to 2027 despite unfair trade ruling

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration announced on Tuesday that it will delay imposing tariffs on Chinese semiconductors for 18 months, citing unfair practices by Beijing aimed at dominating the chip industry. A U.S. Trade Representative investigation under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 concluded China's policies, including state-backed support and wage-suppressing labor practices, are unreasonable and restrict U.S. commerce. Current tariffs remain at zero and will increase on June 23, 2027, with the new rate announced at least 30 days prior. Beijing condemned the decision on Wednesday, accusing Washington of abusing tariffs, destabilizing global supply chains, and harming all countries' semiconductor sectors. The investigation began in December 2024 under the Biden administration and continued



when President Trump took office. Analysts say the 18-month delay may give both sides time to negotiate, while Trump's history of sector-specific tariffs underscores the U.S. focus on protecting domestic technology interests.

Paramount's latest Warner Bros bid fails to satisfy major investor

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Paramount Skydance's revised offer for Warner Bros Discovery is still insufficient for significant shareholder Harris Oakmark, the company told Reuters on Monday. Oakmark, the studio's fifth-largest shareholder with 96 million shares, or about 4 percent, said it expects more from the Ellison family-controlled Paramount. Paramount amended its \$108.4 billion hostile bid, with Larry Ellison personally guaranteeing \$40.4 billion to secure Warner Bros, which owns HBO Max

and franchises including Harry Potter and Superman. Paramount also raised the non-approval fee to \$5.8 billion but kept the \$30-per-share bid. Warner Bros' board unanimously recommended shareholders reject Paramount's previous offer in favor of Netflix's cash and stock deal, citing more secure financing. Investors noted that Paramount and Netflix bids reflect the value of Warner Bros' high-quality media assets. Oakmark said the two deals are a toss-up, and Paramount will need to offer greater incentives to win shareholder support. The deadline for shareholders to decide is now January 21.

Gold and silver hit fresh records as geopolitical risks lift demand

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Gold and silver prices climbed to new record highs on Friday as rising geopolitical tensions and expectations of interest rate cuts in the United States boosted safe haven demand. Gold futures gained more than half a percent, while silver surged sharply during morning trade. International markets also saw bullion advance, with spot gold rising after touching an intraday peak earlier in the session. Analysts said escalating tensions involving the United States and Venezuela, ongoing Russia Ukraine hostilities, and recent United States military action in Nigeria have supported defensive buying. Expectations that the United States Federal Reserve may deliver two rate cuts next year have further strengthened sentiment. Strong central bank purchases and steady inflows into exchange traded funds continue to underpin precious metals prices.

US bars imports of new foreign drones citing national security risks

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. Federal Communications Commission announced on Monday that it will bar imports of all new foreign-made drones and critical components, including models from China's DJI and Autel, citing national security concerns. The FCC's addition of these companies to its "Covered List" means they cannot obtain approval to sell new models in the United States. Existing drones remain unaffected, and consumers may continue using previously purchased devices. Beijing condemned the move on Tuesday, calling it discriminatory and urging Washington to correct its practices. The decision follows a White House interagency review citing threats from unauthorized surveillance, data exfiltration, and supply chain vulnerabilities. Officials emphasized the action supports domestic drone production ahead of major global events.

IMF advises Pakistan to cut remittance incentives, raising hawala concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The International Monetary Fund has advised Pakistan to reduce government incentives for foreign remittances, prompting concerns that funds may shift to informal channels such as hawala. The staff-level recommendation followed the second review of Pakistan's \$7 billion bailout program. Remittances, the country's largest source of foreign exchange, totaled around \$38 billion in the last financial year, exceeding export earnings of \$32 billion. Currently, the government provides cash rebates to banks and exchange companies, often passed on to overseas Pakistanis as bonuses or favorable exchange rates. Analysts warn that reducing incentives could weaken official channels, putting pressure on Pakistan's trade deficit of nearly \$27 billion. Strong remittances previously helped achieve a small current account surplus of \$2 billion, making them critical for currency stability amid weak foreign direct investment.

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India to chair Kimberley Process from January 1, 2026

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India will assume the chair of the Kimberley Process, the international initiative to prevent trade in conflict diamonds, from January 1, 2026. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said India's selection reflects global confidence in the government's commitment to integrity and transparency in trade. India served as Vice Chair in 2025 and will work with all participants and observers to strengthen compliance, governance, and traceability, while enhancing consumer trust in conflict-free diamonds. The Kimberley Process, established under a UN resolution, involves governments, the diamond industry, and civil society to curb the use of rough diamonds to fund conflicts. With 60 participants representing over 99 percent of global trade, this is India's third term as KP Chair. The tenure will focus on digital certification, data-driven monitoring, and building a more inclusive multilateral framework.

Europe new car sales rise for fifth consecutive month fueled by EVs

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New car sales in Europe rose year-on-year in November for the fifth consecutive month, driven by strong electric vehicle registrations, the European auto lobby ACEA reported on Tuesday. Battery electric vehicles accounted for 21 percent of EU sales, 26 percent in the United Kingdom, and 98 percent in Norway. Total sales across the EU, Britain, and the European Free Trade Association reached 1.1 million units, up 2.4 percent. Volkswagen and Renault saw gains of 4.1 and 3 percent, while Stellantis declined 2.7 percent. Tesla registrations fell 11.8 percent, offset by BYD's 221.8 percent surge. Overall, electric, hybrid, and plug-in hybrids accounted for 65.6 percent of EU registrations, up from 56 percent in August 2024. Analysts say EVs remain central to Europe's automotive future despite regulatory and global trade challenges.

Nike shares jump as Tim Cook doubles personal stake

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nike shares rose 4.6 percent on Wednesday after Apple CEO Tim Cook doubled his personal stake in the company, purchasing 50,000 shares at \$58.97 each. Cook, a Nike board member since 2005, now holds approximately 105,000 shares valued at \$6 million, signaling confidence in CEO Elliott Hill's turnaround strategy. The purchase is the largest open-market buy by a Nike executive in over a decade. Last week, Nike reported weaker margins and soft sales in China, even as Hill focuses on marketing, innovation, and rebuilding wholesale relationships. Analysts said Cook's move is a positive endorsement of Nike's "Win Now" plan, highlighting investor faith in the company's efforts to revive demand amid stiff competition.

Italy orders Meta to suspend policy banning rival AI chatbots on WhatsApp

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Italian Competition Authority ordered Meta on Wednesday to suspend its policy restricting rival AI chatbots on WhatsApp. The regulator said Meta's policy, effective January, could harm competition by limiting market access and technical development for third-party AI services. The restriction affects chatbots like ChatGPT or Claude, but not AI-powered customer service bots used by businesses. Meta argued its API was not intended as a marketplace for AI chatbots and said the decision is flawed, pledging to appeal. The European Commission has also launched an investigation, expressing concern that



Meta's policy could block third-party AI providers from offering services within the European Economic Area.

Waymo updates driverless fleet after San Francisco blackout

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Waymo announced updates to its driverless fleet on Tuesday after a blackout last week in San Francisco forced the company to pause services. Power outages affected 130,000 customers, with 21,000 still without electricity by Sunday, causing citywide traffic gridlock. Waymo directed vehicles to pull over and park safely to avoid obstructing emergency services. The company outlined three immediate steps: updating fleet software for better situational awareness during outages, improving emergency protocols, and coordinating with city officials for enhanced first responder collaboration. Waymo, which also operates in Austin,



Phoenix, Atlanta, and Los Angeles, said the updates aim to prepare vehicles for infrastructure failures while maintaining safety and service reliability.

Apple to allow third-party app stores on iOS in Brazil after settlement

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Apple agreed on Wednesday to open its iOS ecosystem in Brazil to third-party app stores and alternative payment systems, resolving a three-year antitrust investigation by the country's regulator, CADE. The settlement follows a complaint by MercadoLibre alleging Apple limited competition and charged high commissions. Under the agreement, developers can offer alternative app stores, use third-party payment processors, and promote external offers, with safeguards for child users. Apple has 105 days to implement changes, which will last three years. The move aligns Brazil with the



EU, Japan, and South Korea in regulating Apple's app policies, giving users more choice and reducing developer costs.

U.S. holiday retail sales rise about 4 percent this season

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

U.S. holiday retail sales rose roughly 4 percent year-on-year this season, according to Visa and Mastercard, reflecting solid but slightly slower growth than last year. Visa reported retail spending, excluding autos, gasoline, and restaurants, up 4.2 percent from November 1 to December

21, while Mastercard's measure, including retail and food services, rose 3.9 percent. Electronics and apparel led growth, with electronics up 5.8 percent and clothing 5.3–7.8 percent. In-store shopping accounted for 73 percent of sales, while e-commerce grew faster at 7.8 percent. Shoppers started earlier and leaned on discounts, often using AI tools to compare prices amid inflation and tariffs.

China calls for lawful and balanced solutions in TikTok U.S. handover



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China urged companies on Thursday to reach solutions that comply with Chinese law while balancing all interests, following agreements by ByteDance to hand control of TikTok's U.S. operations to investors including Oracle. The move aims to prevent a U.S. ban and end years of uncertainty over the popular short-video app. A Chinese commerce ministry spokesperson said companies should resolve matters within legal frameworks and ensure fair outcomes. The handover is seen as a critical step for TikTok to maintain its U.S. presence while navigating geopolitical and regulatory pressures, allowing operations to continue without disruption.

Oil rises slightly amid supply concerns and geopolitical tensions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Oil prices edged higher on Friday after the U.S. increased economic pressure on Venezuelan oil shipments and conducted airstrikes in northwest Nigeria. Brent crude rose six cents to \$62.30 per barrel, while West Texas Intermediate also gained six cents to \$58.41. Analysts said supply disruptions are the main factor driving prices amid subdued holiday trading. Year-to-date, Brent and WTI are down 16 and 18 percent, their steepest annual declines since 2020, as global supply is expected to exceed demand next year. Additional disruptions, such as a one-third drop in Kazakhstan oil exports following a drone attack, have further contributed to market uncertainty.

U.S. auto regulator probes Tesla Model 3 emergency door release

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration opened a defect investigation into Tesla Model 3 sedans on Wednesday over concerns that emergency door releases may not be easily accessible or intuitive. The probe covers approximately 179,071 2022 vehicles after a petition alleged that mechanical releases are hidden and unlabeled, posing risks during emergencies. Tesla's vehicles rely mainly on electronic latches, with manual releases for power failures, but experts have criticized inconsistent visibility and usability. While a defect petition does not guarantee a recall, it marks the first step in potential regulatory action. Tesla did not immediately comment on the investigation.

Real Madrid to bring back Nico Paz after breakthrough spell in Italy

Real Madrid will re-sign former academy graduate Nico Paz in the summer following a breakthrough 18-month spell with Italian club Como 1907. The 21-year-old attacking midfielder has scored 11 goals and provided 14 assists in 51 appearances under coach Cesc Fabregas, catching the attention of top European clubs. Madrid confirmed that Paz will return to continue his development at Santiago Bernabeu rather than being sold for profit, as the team seeks creative options in midfield this season. Paz aims to cement a place in Argentina's national squad for the upcoming World Cup, while continuing to impress in Europe. Despite Como's attempts to retain him, clauses in the loan agreement prevented a permanent deal. Real Madrid sees the Argentine as a vital long-term asset who can develop into a first-team regular while gaining high-profile experience in Spain's top flight.

India clinches T20 series over South Africa with strong final match



India secured the Twenty20 series against South Africa 3-1 after a commanding 30-run win last week in Ahmedabad. Tilak Varma and Hardik Pandya played pivotal roles, scoring fifties to power India to 231 for 5. South Africa started well, reaching 120 for 1, but Jasprit Bumrah triggered a collapse, finishing with 2 for 17, while Varun Chakravarthy recovered from an expensive over to claim 4 for 53. Sanju Samson, opening in place of the injured Shubman Gill, scored 97 off nine overs alongside Abhishek Sharma, helping set the foundation for a strong total. Despite Quinton de Kock's 65 and Dewald Brevis's 31, South Africa could not chase down the target. The victory marks India's eighth consecutive T20 series win since December 2023. India now looks ahead to a T20 series against New Zealand in January before co-hosting the men's T20 World Cup with Sri Lanka in February.

A globe-spanning grind awaits as the 2026 tennis season takes shape

The 2026 tennis season is set to unfold across six continents, offering a demanding schedule filled with Grand Slams, premier tour events, and high-profile team competitions. The year opens in January with the Australian Open in Melbourne, traditionally setting early momentum for the season. Attention then shifts to Europe for the French Open in Paris during late spring, followed by the grass-court highlight at Wimbledon in early summer.

The Grand Slam cycle concludes in New York with the US Open toward the



end of summer. Between the majors, the ATP and WTA Tours will feature marquee stops in Indian Wells and Miami, an extensive European clay swing through Monte Carlo, Madrid, and Rome, and a late-season push across Asia and indoor Europe.

Team events add further intrigue, including the United Cup at the start of the year, the Laver Cup in September, and the Billie Jean King Cup and Davis Cup Finals in November. The season ends with prestigious year-end championships in Turin and Riyadh.

Boxing Day Test no-ball controversy sparks debate as Australia collapses

The opening day of the Boxing Day Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground saw Australia's innings end in dramatic fashion amid a contentious no-ball call. Mitchell Starc was dismissed caught by Ben Stokes at mid-off when Australia were struggling at 142 for 7.

Replays suggested bowler Brydon Carse's front foot may have landed beyond the popping crease, but third umpire Ahsan Raza ruled part of his foot was behind the line, sparking criticism from former Australian players including Mark Waugh and Kerry O'Keeffe. Starc's dismissal triggered the fall of the final three wickets in just four balls, leaving Australia all out for 152.

England responded strongly at 62 for 4,



with Starc and Michael Nesar taking two wickets apiece. The match drew a record Boxing Day crowd of 93,442, surpassing previous Ashes attendance and setting the stage for a high-stakes contest in the series.

Curry and Butler lead Warriors past Mavericks in high-scoring Christmas Day win

Stephen Curry scored 23 points, including a crucial three-pointer in the final four minutes, and Jimmy Butler contributed 14 points with nine rebounds and nine assists as the Golden State Warriors defeated the Dallas Mavericks 126-116 on Christmas Day. Mavericks rookie Cooper Flagg impressed with 27 points, while Brandon Williams added 26 off the bench. Klay Thompson returned after missing a recent game with a knee injury, receiving a warm ovation as he entered the arena.

Al Horford also returned from a seven-game absence, hitting four three-pointers and scoring 14 points. Draymond Green added seven points and five rebounds despite foul trouble. Golden State overcame a poor start from three-



point range, with bench contributions from DeAnthony Melton and Brandin Podziemski helping the Warriors build a lead. The victory maintains Golden State's momentum as they prepare for a challenging holiday schedule in the NBA.

Nottingham Forest and Scotland great John Robertson dies at 72

John Robertson, a legendary winger for Nottingham Forest and a key figure in Scotland football history, died on Christmas morning at the age of 72 following a long illness. Robertson was an integral part of Forest's golden era under manager Brian Clough, helping the club win back-to-back European Cups. He played for Forest from 1970 to 1983, later joining Derby County before returning for a final season. At the international level, Robertson earned 28 caps for Scotland and scored eight goals, including memorable strikes against England and at the 1982 World Cup. Forest paid tribute on Thursday, calling him one of the club's greatest players. After retiring, Robertson moved into coaching, serving as an assistant to Martin O'Neill at several clubs, including Celtic and Aston Villa. He is survived by his wife, children, and grandchildren.

Brazilian teenager Joao Fonseca targets top 15 rise in men's tennis

Brazilian tennis player Joao Fonseca has set his sights on breaking into the world's top 15 next year as he builds on a breakthrough season on the ATP Tour. Speaking on Wednesday, the 19-year-old said his recent success marked only the beginning of his ambitions. Fonseca climbed from outside the top 100 to world number 24 after winning titles in Buenos Aires and Basel during his first full ATP season. He also reached the third round at both the French Open and Wimbledon and posted a winning record for Brazil in Davis Cup competition. Fonseca has already made history as the youngest Challenger champion of the 2024 season and won the Next Generation ATP Finals despite being the lowest-ranked entrant. Brazil's only men's Grand Slam singles champion remains Gustavo Kuerten, and Fonseca is widely viewed as the country's most promising successor.



Inter fall to Bologna on penalties in Super Cup semifinal

Inter Milan were eliminated from the Italian Super Cup on Friday after losing to Bologna in a penalty shootout following a 1-1 draw in Riyadh. Marcus Thuram scored after just over a minute, but Riccardo Orsolini equalized from the penalty spot in the 35th minute after a video review confirmed a handball by Yann Bisseck. Inter dominated the second half but failed to convert chances. In the shootout, Alessandro Bastoni, Nicolo Barella and Ange-Yoan Bonny missed as Bologna advanced to face Napoli in the final.



Calcutta High Court rejects demand for central probe into Messi event chaos



The Calcutta High Court on Monday rejected pleas seeking a central agency investigation into alleged mismanagement and chaos during an event involving football star Lionel Messi at Salt Lake Stadium earlier this month. The division bench ruled that there was no reason to doubt the impartiality of the ongoing investigations being conducted by a state police special investigation team and a committee appointed by the West Bengal government. Petitioners had argued that ticketing irregularities, crowd mismanagement, and Messi's delayed arrival warranted a central probe. They also claimed spectators who paid high prices were denied proper access due to the presence of influential individuals. The state government maintained that adequate steps were taken after the incident and noted that Messi's security was handled by central forces. The court concluded that parallel investigations were sufficient at this stage and dismissed the petitions.

Vikings make history with rare low-passing win over Lions



The Minnesota Vikings produced a historic victory on Christmas Day, defeating the Detroit Lions 23-10 despite recording just three net passing yards. According to Associated Press data, it marked only the fifth time in the Super Bowl era that a team won by 10 or more points with fewer than 10 net passing yards, a feat not seen in 47 years. Quarterback Max Brosmer completed nine of 16 passes for 51 yards but was sacked seven times for 48 yards in losses. Minnesota's defense forced six turnovers, including five by Detroit quarterback Jared Goff. The win eliminated Detroit from playoff contention and extended Minnesota's winning streak to four games.

Virat Kohli shares festive greetings as domestic milestone adds to legacy

Indian batting star Virat Kohli extended Christmas and New Year greetings to fans around the world on Thursday, sharing a message of warmth and happiness on social media. The message followed a strong domestic performance earlier in the week, when Kohli scored a match-winning 131 for Delhi in a Vijay Hazare Trophy group match against Andhra Pradesh.

The innings marked his 58th List A century and took him past 16,000 runs in the format, making him only the second Indian batter to reach the milestone after Sachin Tendulkar.

Kohli, who now plays only the fifty-over format internationally, guided Delhi to



a four-wicket win while chasing a target of 299. He is next set to feature in Delhi's upcoming group match later this week. Meanwhile, India's women's team also marked Christmas with celebrations ahead of their T20 match against Sri Lanka.

BCCI raises match fees for women's domestic cricket competitions

The Board of Control for Cricket in India approved a significant increase in match fees for women's domestic cricket during an Apex Council meeting held on Monday. Under the revised structure, players in senior women's fifty-over and multi-day matches will earn higher daily fees, with reserves also receiving increased compensation. Match fees for senior women's T20 competitions have similarly been raised. The council also approved higher payments for junior players across Under-23 and Under-19 formats, along with increases for reserves. Match officials are set to benefit as well, with umpires and referees receiving higher daily remuneration, particularly during knockout stages. The decision comes in the wake of India's Women's ODI World Cup triumph and reflects the growing emphasis

on strengthening the domestic structure. Officials said the move is aimed at improving player welfare, attracting new talent, and reinforcing the pathway from grassroots cricket to the national level.



Kirsty Coventry signals listening-first approach in early IOC presidency

Kirsty Coventry's first year as president of the International Olympic Committee has been marked by a deliberate shift in tone and governance style. Elected earlier this year, Coventry became the first woman and first African to lead the IOC in its 131-year history. Rather than announcing sweeping reforms, she launched a "Pause and Reflect" phase after taking office on Monday in June, holding consultations with members to assess

long-term challenges. This process led to the creation of working groups focused on the Olympic program, youth events, commercial partnerships, and the protection of the female category in sport. Coventry also paused future host city elections and ended the IOC's partnership for the proposed Olympic Esports Games, citing the need for careful review. With the Milan-Cortina Winter Games approaching, Coventry's leadership will soon face its first major test on the global stage.

Charles Barkley criticizes National Football League for Christmas scheduling



Basketball Hall of Famer Charles Barkley criticized the National Football League on Christmas night, accusing the league of encroaching on a day traditionally associated with professional basketball. Speaking on Inside the National Basketball Association, Barkley said the league had grown greedy by adding multiple Christmas games, calling the day an basketball showcase. The National Football League aired three games on Thursday, all expected to draw strong ratings despite mixed reviews of game quality. The National Basketball Association, meanwhile, featured a full slate of nationally televised matchups. While Barkley argued that Christmas belonged to basketball, he acknowledged the National Football League's consistent dominance in television viewership.

Chiefs face rare two-touchdown underdog status against Broncos



The Kansas City Chiefs entered their Christmas night matchup against the Denver Broncos as 13.5-point underdogs, marking their largest underdog role since Sunday in late December 2013. Unlike that earlier game, when starters were rested after clinching a playoff spot, this time the Chiefs were struggling, sitting at 6-9 and already eliminated from postseason contention. Kansas City was set to start third-string quarterback Chris Oladokun against a Denver team holding the best record in the league. When the matchup was scheduled, the league could not have anticipated the Chiefs' sharp decline this season, which has been among the franchise's worst in years.

Barcelona target La Liga advantage against Villarreal

Barcelona travel to face Villarreal on Sunday aiming to finish the year with a strong La Liga lead. The match will be played in Spain after plans to stage it in Miami were dropped following opposition from players, fans and Real Madrid. Barcelona come off a narrow Copa del Rey win on Wednesday, while Villarreal suffered a surprise loss in the same competition. Villarreal are missing several players due to injuries and international duty. A Barcelona win would give Hansi Flick's side at least a four-point cushion over Real Madrid.



Indian golfers dominate US Kids Indian Championship

Indian players delivered standout performances at the US Kids Indian Championship, which concluded on Friday at Classic Golf and Country Club in Manesar. Nihal Cheema won the Boys 8 title with consistent rounds, while Drona Singh Dhull impressed in Boys 11 with a four-under-par final round. Prince Bainsla claimed the Boys 15-18 crown. Among the girls, Aanya Dandriyal, Naaysha S Sinha, Gairat Kaur Kahlon and Shiksha Jain topped their categories. Weather disruptions led organizers to reduce the final round to nine holes across divisions.

Actor James Ransone dies by apparent suicide at 46



Actor James Ransone, known for his roles as Ziggy Sobotka in 'The Wire' and Eddie Kaspbrak in the horror film 'It: Chapter Two', died Friday at 46, reportedly by suicide, according to the Los Angeles County medical examiner. A Maryland native, Ransone also appeared in 'Generation Kill', 'Bosch', the 'Sinister' series, 'Tangerine', and the 'Black Phone' films. His final TV appearance aired in June in 'Poker Face' Season 2. In interviews, he shared struggles with adolescence and early addiction, later finding his calling in acting after sobriety. He is survived by his wife, Jamie McPhee, and their two children. Colleagues and fans have paid tribute to his talent and enduring impact on film and television.

Janhvi Kapoor condemns lynching of Dipu Chandra Das in Bangladesh

Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor spoke out Thursday against the brutal lynching of Dipu Chandra Das in Bangladesh. She condemned the act as inhuman and urged public awareness of mob violence. Das was killed after a violent crowd tied his body to a tree and set it on fire last week.

Kapoor highlighted the dangers of communal discrimination and extremism, calling on society to recognize and prevent such injustices. Civil rights groups and authorities have condemned the incident, and police are investigating those responsible. Kapoor's statement emphasizes the need for lawful accountability over vigilante actions and a renewed focus on human rights in the region.

Prakash Jha promises his most political film yet, tackling ideologies and rights

Filmmaker Prakash Jha has revealed that his latest project is the most politically charged film of his career, surpassing works like 'Raajneeti', 'Gangajal', and 'Satyagraha'. While previous films often depicted power struggles within families, this new project tackles core ideologies, human rights, and constitutional issues head-on. Jha, known for his hard-hitting, socially conscious cinema, is set to discuss the film at the London Indian Film Festival. The director's commitment to exploring contemporary political issues continues his tradition of blending realism with gripping storytelling, engaging mainstream audiences with socially relevant narratives.

Jimmy Kimmel uses UK Christmas message to critique U.S. political climate

Talk show host Jimmy Kimmel addressed U.K. viewers on Thursday in Channel 4's annual "Alternative Christmas Message," delivering a sharp critique of the U.S. political climate under President Donald Trump. Kimmel warned about the rise of fascism in America, saying, "From a fascism perspective, this has been a really great year. Tyranny is booming over here."

The program, aired on Christmas day, offers a counterpoint to the British monarch's traditional broadcast and often features provocative reflections on current events. Kimmel reflected on his own struggles with censorship, referencing the September suspension of his show "Jimmy

Kimmel Live!" following backlash over comments on the killing of conservative activist Charlie Kirk. He credited public support for free speech in allowing his return to air less than a week later, saying, "We won, the president lost, and now I'm back on the air every night giving the most powerful politician on earth a right and richly deserved bollocking."

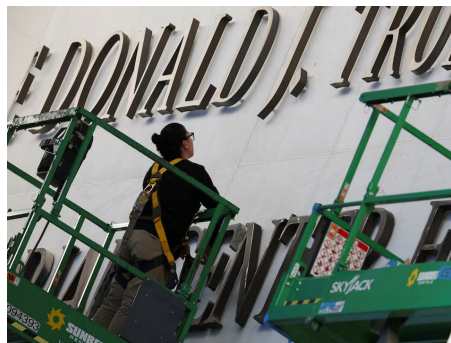
Kimmel told the U.K. audience that threats to press freedom, science, and judicial independence in the U.S. were not isolated, urging Britain to remain engaged with the nation despite current turmoil. He concluded with a note of solidarity, emphasizing the enduring bond between the two countries.



Kennedy Center cancels Christmas Eve jazz concert after Trump name added

A Christmas Eve jazz concert at the Kennedy Center, a holiday tradition for over 20 years, has been canceled following the addition of President Donald Trump's name to the building. Musician Chuck Redd, the host of the annual "Jazz Jams" since 2006, said he called off the performance after seeing the center's website and exterior read The Donald J. Trump and The John F. Kennedy Memorial Center for the Performing Arts. Redd, a drummer and vibraphone player who has toured with legends like Dizzy Gillespie and Ray Brown, cited the name change as the reason for canceling.

The White House said Trump's handpicked board approved the renaming, which scholars say violates the 1964 law that established the center as a memorial to President Kennedy. Trump has overhauled the Kennedy Center's leadership, forced out directors, and



personally hosted this year's Kennedy Center Honors, breaking precedent.

The decision has sparked criticism from artists, including Issa Rae, Peter Wolf, and Lin-Manuel Miranda, who canceled performances or productions in protest. Kennedy's niece, Kerry Kennedy, has vowed to restore the original name once Trump leaves office, highlighting the legal and cultural controversy surrounding the renaming.

'Animal' to roar into Japanese theaters next February

Director Sandeep Reddy Vanga's blockbuster film 'Animal', starring Ranbir Kapoor, Rashmika Mandanna, and Bobby Deol, is set to release in Japan on February 13 next year. The announcement came via Bhadrakali Pictures on X, highlighting the film as a thrilling cinematic experience. The film, which released on December 1, 2023, quickly became one of the year's biggest hits. Its ensemble cast, action-packed sequences, music, and gripping performances received widespread praise, while its extreme violence sparked debate. Fans celebrated the movie's second anniversary recently, with Anil Kapoor and



Vanga sharing emotional posts and behind-the-scenes glimpses. Bobby Deol's fierce portrayal earned him the title 'Lord Bobby' among fans.

Martin Scorsese pays tribute to Rob Reiner and wife



Legendary filmmaker Martin Scorsese honored the late Rob Reiner and his wife Michele after they were found murdered in their Brentwood home on December 14. Their 32-year-old son, Nick Reiner, was arrested and charged with two counts of murder. In an essay for The New York Times, Scorsese recalled his friendship with Reiner, praising his humor, freedom, and cinematic contributions. He highlighted Reiner's films 'Misery' and 'This Is Spinal Tap', calling them "immaculate creations," and noted casting him in 'The Wolf of Wall Street'. Scorsese described the loss as deeply personal, reflecting on the bond they shared since the early 1970s and Reiner's lasting influence on Hollywood.

Mariah Carey wins payout as Christmas song lawsuit dismissed

Singer Mariah Carey scored a legal victory Thursday as a lawsuit over her hit 'All I Want for Christmas Is You' was dismissed. Songwriters Andy Stone and Troy Powers, claiming her 1994 song copied their 1989 track, had sought \$20 million. A judge ruled their case lacked merit and ordered them to pay Carey \$92,303 in sanctions. The decision coincides with the festive classic achieving its 100th week atop the Billboard Hot 100 across all her hits. Carey, 56, celebrated the ruling as validation of her song's originality and her enduring influence on holiday music, cementing 'All I Want for Christmas Is You' as a seasonal staple.

P Diddy appeals for early release from prison



Rapper and actor Diddy, serving a four-year sentence at FCI Fort Dix, appealed Thursday for immediate release, claiming the federal judge improperly considered evidence from charges he was acquitted of. Convicted under the Mann Act for transporting individuals for sexual activity, Combs had been acquitted of racketeering and sex trafficking in July. His lawyers argue the sentence exceeds typical terms for similar prostitution offenses and request either an acquittal, immediate release, or sentence reduction. Diddy, 56, is currently in a special drug treatment unit and was transferred from MDC-Brooklyn in October. The appeals court has not yet scheduled oral arguments on the motion.

RGV calls ‘Dhurandhar’ a warning for formulaic films

Filmmaker Ram Gopal Varma praised 'Dhurandhar' Thursday as a transformative hit challenging India's traditional "hero worship" film formula. He likened it to a "scary dog" that filmmakers cannot ignore, noting the film's success relies on story and craft rather than expensive VFX or star-centric masala elements. RGV warned that upcoming big-budget projects modeled on older formulas risk being overshadowed. He described 'Dhurandhar' as a wake-up call for industry insiders, forcing them to rethink their creative approach. The film's acclaim for narrative innovation and audience engagement marks it as a milestone in Indian cinema, reshaping expectations for content-driven success.

Elton John celebrates platinum success of ‘Step Into Christmas’



Sir Elton John celebrated Thursday as his 1973 festive hit 'Step Into Christmas' was certified platinum in the U.S. and quadruple platinum in the U.K. The 78-year-old singer shared a photo with plaques marking the achievement, expressing joy at the song's lasting popularity. The track reached number nine on the U.K. Singles Chart this Christmas, joining other holiday classics. Elton thanked fans for keeping 'Step Into Christmas' alive for decades and dismissed social media criticism about his kitchen's cleanliness, insisting on his dedication to home upkeep. The milestone underscores his enduring influence on holiday music and international pop culture.

Bharti Singh shares emotional postpartum journey with newborn Kajju

Comedian Bharti Singh opened up about the emotional toll of postpartum life while introducing her newborn son, Kajju, to her fans. In a heartfelt vlog, she revealed that Kajju was under routine observation for two days, making the first hold even more emotional. Bharti described sleepless nights, intense emotions, and the challenges of postpartum life, while also navigating her elder son Golla's reactions. She expressed joy and relief finally holding Kajju, calling him "adorable, healthy, and just like Golla." Promising to introduce her son soon, Bharti's candid account resonated with fans, highlighting the universal struggles and joys of early parenthood.

Kate Hudson recalls almost becoming Mary Jane in ‘Spider-Man’



Actress Kate Hudson revealed she nearly played Mary Jane Watson in the 2002 'Spider-Man' movie but opted for the war drama 'Four Feathers' instead. Speaking on 'Watch What Happens Live', Hudson reflected, "It would have been fun to be Mary Jane," while expressing gratitude for the experiences and friendships gained through 'Four Feathers',

including working with Heath Ledger. She acknowledged that life unfolds as it should, and she felt the cast of 'Spider-Man', which included Kirsten Dunst and Tobey Maguire, were the right choices. The original trilogy grossed \$826 million, cementing the superhero franchise as a global phenomenon, with Maguire returning years later for 'Spider-Man: No Way Home'.

Bhagyashree reveals magical and soul-stirring experience in Banaras

Bollywood actress Bhagyashree shared her enchanting experience visiting Banaras, describing it as "fulfilling" and "overwhelming." She posted serene pictures by the ghats, capturing the Ganges, temples, and boat rides. Bhagyashree also highlighted the city's street food, recommending malaiyo, tandoori chai, and local chaat as must-tries. Accompanied by her husband, Himalaya Dasani, she enjoyed the boat ride at Dashashwamedh Ghat, guided by a skilled oarsman. Bhagyashree's posts reflected the city's spiritual and cultural essence, offering fans a glimpse into its rich traditions and sensory delights. Her reflections resonated as a blend of gratitude, awe, and appreciation for Banaras's unique charm.



Kevin Costner sued over unpaid costume rentals for ‘Horizon: An American Saga – Chapter 2’

Kevin Costner and producers of 'Horizon: An American Saga – Chapter 2' face a lawsuit from Western Costume Leasing Company for unpaid rentals totaling over \$134,000. The suit, filed in Los Angeles, claims the costumes were used in the film, but invoices went unpaid. The plaintiffs seek additional economic damages, attorney fees, interest, and punitive damages, exceeding \$400,000 in total.

The film, part of Costner's Western epic series, premiered at international film festivals after Chapter 1's underwhelming box office performance. The lawsuit underscores ongoing legal and financial challenges in high-profile Hollywood productions, even for established stars like Costner.



Anupam Kher opens heart about bond with Anil Kapoor after Satish Kaushik's passing



Anupam Kher shared a heartfelt birthday message for his longtime friend Anil Kapoor, celebrating the actor's 69th birthday. Kher highlighted their silent mornings together as some of his richest moments and acknowledged leaning on Anil after the death of close friend Satish Kaushik. Praising Anil's talent, kindness, and wisdom, Kher called him a "great friend, great anchor, and fabulous actor." He expressed gratitude for Anil's silent support and guidance, emphasizing the depth of their friendship. The touching message revealed Kher's emotional dependence and admiration, celebrating both personal and professional bonds formed over decades in Bollywood.

Bradley Cooper seeks Gigi Hadid's mother's blessing ahead of proposal

Hollywood star Bradley Cooper reportedly sought approval from Gigi Hadid's mother, Yolanda Hadid, before proposing to the model. Cooper, 50, and Hadid, 30, have been dating since October 2023, and sources say he intends to build a family with her in New York. The model has already discussed marriage with her parents, making the step official. Cooper has also informed his mother, Gloria Campano, of his plans. The couple aims to unite their children—Lea, eight, from Cooper's relationship with Irina Shayk, and Khai, five, Hadid's son with Zayn Malik. The insider claims both families are supportive, paving the way for a potential 2026 wedding.

Steven Spielberg reportedly snubbed Ben Affleck over quirky family incident

Filmmaker Steven Spielberg reportedly refused to work with Ben Affleck on 'Man About Town' after learning Affleck had accidentally made Spielberg's son cry during a pool incident. Screenwriter Mike Binder revealed that Spielberg pulled out of directing but allowed the film to stay at DreamWorks. Affleck, confused by Spielberg's decision, discovered the reason only later. The incident reportedly involved playful roughhousing that upset the director's son, prompting Spielberg to distance himself from the actor. Binder attempted to persuade Spielberg, but the project eventually moved to Lionsgate. Affleck's misadventure highlights how off-screen incidents can unexpectedly influence major Hollywood collaborations.

आंध्र प्रदेश की आराधना यात्रा

श्री क्षेत्र द्वारका तिरुमला (चिन्ना तिरुपति), एलुरु



IndoUS Tribune की 'आंध्र प्रदेश के मंदिर' श्रृंखला में आपका पुनः हार्दिक स्वागत है। इस विशेष यात्रा में अब हम अपने दसवें पड़ाव पर पहुँच चुके हैं—आंध्र प्रदेश के अत्यंत पूज्य और प्रसिद्ध श्री क्षेत्र द्वारका तिरुमला, जिसे श्रद्धा से 'चिन्ना तिरुपति' कहा जाता है। यह पावन धाम भगवान श्री वेंकटेश्वर को समर्पित है और उन भक्तों के लिए एक आध्यात्मिक विकल्प माना जाता है, जो तिरुमला तिरुपति की यात्रा करने में असमर्थ रहते हैं।

मंदिर का ऐतिहासिक परिचय

पुराणों के अनुसार, द्वारका तिरुमला की पवित्रता सत्ययुग से मानी जाती है। ब्रह्म पुराण सहित अनेक ग्रंथों में इस क्षेत्र का उल्लेख मिलता है। मान्यता है कि भगवान श्रीराम ने भी यहाँ पूजा-अर्चना की थी। कालांतर में चोल शासकों और राजा थोडईमान द्वारा मंदिर संरचनाओं का विकास हुआ। आधुनिक काल में 18वीं-19वीं शताब्दी के दौरान धर्मा अप्पा राव ने विमाना, मंडप, गोपुरम और प्राकार का निर्माण कराया, जबकि मायलावरम की रानी चिन्नम्मा राव ने स्वर्ण आभूषण और रजत वाहन दान कर मंदिर की भव्यता को और बढ़ाया।

पौराणिक कथा

इस मंदिर की स्थापना से जुड़ी कथा महर्षि द्वारका से संबंधित है। कठोर तपस्या में लीन ऋषि द्वारका के चारों ओर एक विशाल वल्मिकम (चींटी का टीला) बन गया। उसी वल्मिकम से भगवान श्री वेंकटेश्वर स्वयं प्रकट हुए। भगवान की प्रतिमा का निचला भाग वल्मिकम में समाया हुआ है, जिसके कारण चरण पूजा संभव नहीं हो पाती। इस समस्या के समाधान

हेतु आचार्य श्रीरामानुजाचार्य तिरुपति से एक दूसरी पूर्ण प्रतिमा लेकर आए और मूल प्रतिमा के पीछे स्थापित की। यही कारण है कि इस मंदिर में भगवान श्री वेंकटेश्वर की दो प्रतिमाएँ एक ही गर्भगृह में विराजमान हैं—एक स्वयंभू और दूसरी पूर्ण मूर्ति।

धार्मिक महत्व

द्वारका तिरुमला को 'कलियुग वैकुण्ठ' भी कहा जाता है। यहाँ विराजमान भगवान श्री वेंकटेश्वर को मोक्ष प्रदान करने वाला माना जाता है। दो प्रतिमाओं की उपस्थिति इस मंदिर को विशेष रूप से पवित्र बनाती है—जहाँ स्वयंभू प्रतिमा मोक्ष का प्रतीक है, वहीं पूर्ण प्रतिमा धर्म, अर्थ और काम के संतुलन का संदेश देती है। हर वर्ष लगभग 50 लाख श्रद्धालु यहाँ दर्शन के लिए आते हैं, और शुभ अवसरों पर प्रतिदिन 40,000 तक भक्तों की उपस्थिति दर्ज की जाती है।

स्थापत्य और विशेषताएँ

मंदिर की वास्तुकला द्रविड़ शैली की उत्कृष्ट मिसाल है। पाँच मंजिला राजगोपुरम, सुंदर नक्काशी, और भव्य प्राकार इसकी शोभा बढ़ाते हैं। गर्भगृह में भगवान श्री वेंकटेश्वर की प्रतिमा सामान्यतः वक्षस्थल तक ही दिखाई देती है। यहाँ भगवान का मुख दक्षिण दिशा की ओर है, जो एक अनोखी विशेषता मानी जाती है। मंदिर परिसर में माता पद्मावती, नंचारी अम्मा, अंजनेय स्वामी, महर्षि द्वारका और संत अन्नमाचार्य की प्रतिमाएँ भी स्थापित हैं।

स्थान

श्री द्वारका तिरुमला मंदिर आंध्र प्रदेश के एलुरु ज़िले में स्थित है। यह एलुरु से लगभग 42 किमी,



भीमाडोल जंक्शन से 15 किमी और राजामुंदरी से लगभग 75 किमी की दूरी पर है।

समापन

श्री क्षेत्र द्वारका तिरुमला का दर्शन IndoUS Tribune की आंध्र प्रदेश मंदिर यात्रा के दसवें पड़ाव को आध्यात्मिक पूर्णता प्रदान करता है। यह मंदिर न केवल आस्था और भक्ति का केंद्र है, बल्कि भारतीय संस्कृति, पुराण परंपरा और स्थापत्य कला की जीवंत विरासत भी

है। हमें आशा है कि यह यात्रा आपको भी भारत की दिव्य धार्मिक धरोहर से जोड़ रही होगी।

हमारे अगले पड़ाव में हम पहुँचेंगे श्री कूर्मनाथ स्वामी मंदिर (श्रीकाकुलम)—जहाँ भगवान विष्णु के कूर्म अवतार की दुर्लभ और पावन आराधना होती है।

तब तक के लिए, भगवान श्री वेंकटेश्वर की कृपा आप सभी पर बनी रहे—यही मंगलकामना।

गीता स्वाध्याय- मेरी समझ से अठारहवाँ अध्याय- मोक्ष संन्यास योग (भाग 1)



Rajendra Kapil
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प्रिय पाठकों अब हम गीता के अंतिम अध्याय तक आ पहुँचे हैं। यह भगवद् गीता का अंतिम पड़ाव है। इस अध्याय को मोक्ष संन्यास योग भी कहा गया है। इसे समझने के बाद मोक्ष की पूरी पूरी सम्भावना बन जाएगी। यह भगवद् गीता का सबसे लम्बा अध्याय है। इसीलिए मैंने इसे दो भागों में बाँट दिया है, ताकि इसे अच्छी तरह से समझा जा सके। इसमें पूरी गीता का सार समाहित है। इसे सुनने के बाद अर्जुन का मोह पूरी तरह से भंग हो जाता है।

**नष्टो मोहः स्मृतिर्लब्धा त्वप्रसादान्मयाच्युत ।
स्थितोऽस्मि गतसंदेहः करिष्ये वचनं तव ॥**

भावार्थ: अर्जुन बोले- हे अच्युत! आपकी कृपा से मेरा मोह नष्ट हो गया और मैंने स्मृति प्राप्त कर ली है, अब मैं संशय रहित होकर स्थिर हूँ, अतः आपकी आज्ञा का पालन करूँगा ॥

इस अध्याय के अन्त में संजय भी यह घोषणा करते हैं कि, जहाँ जहाँ योगेश्वर कृष्ण होंगे, विजय और विभूति वहाँ स्वयं चली आयेगी। इस अध्याय के पहले भाग में संन्यास और त्याग के अन्तर को स्पष्ट किया गया है।

हर बार की तरह, अध्याय का आरम्भ अर्जुन के प्रश्न से होता है:

**सञ्ज्ञासस्य महाबाहो तत्त्वमिच्छामि वेदितुम् ।
त्यागस्य च हृषीकेश पृथक्केशिनिषूदन ॥**

हे महाबाहो, मैं संन्यास और त्याग के अन्तर को अच्छी तरह से समझना चाहता हूँ। भगवान् कृष्ण इसके उत्तर में कहते हैं कि, कुछ विद्वान् काम्य कर्मों या काम्य सांसारिक वस्तुओं, जैसेकि धन, स्त्री, पुत्र आदि सम्पदाओं के त्याग को संन्यास कहते हैं। और एक दूसरा विद्वान् वर्ग सब कर्मों के फल त्याग को त्याग कहता है। पर मेरा मत यह है कि, यह एक दूसरे के पूरक हैं। मैं त्याग को अधिक महत्व देता हूँ। मेरा निश्चय यह है कि, त्याग तीन प्रकार का होता है, सात्त्विक राजसिक और तामसिक। कुछ लोग सभी कर्मों के त्याग को त्याग मानते हैं, लेकिन भगवान् कृष्ण समझाते हैं कि, जीवन कर्म के बिना चल नहीं सकता। जीने के लिए कर्म करना, अधिकार भी है और कर्तव्य भी। कुछ कर्म शास्त्र सम्मत हैं और कुछ दुर्भावना से प्रेरित। शास्त्र सम्मत कर्म, जैसे यज्ञ, दान और तप आदि, योगी के कर्तव्य कर्म हैं। इसे उन्हें अवश्य करना चाहिए। इन सब के करने से, योगी पवित्र होता है। इसलिए इनका त्याग कभी भी नहीं करना चाहिए, हाँ, इन कर्मों को करते समय, उससे जुड़ी फल की कामना और आसक्ति का त्याग अवश्य करना चाहिए।

यहाँ भगवान् कृष्ण कर्मयोग की सबसे बड़ी कुंजी को पुनः दोहरा रहे हैं। पूरी गीता में कर्मयोग पर बहुत कुछ कहा गया है। जैसे कि दूसरे अध्याय में:

**कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन ।
मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते सङ्गोऽस्त्वकर्मणि ॥**

कर्म के बिना जीवन की गति नहीं है। यह जीवन का बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है। हर छोटे बड़े कर्म हमें, हमारी दिनचर्या में करने पड़ते हैं। वह हमारे कर्तव्य और स्वभाव बन जाते हैं। कर्म पर हमारा पूरा अधिकार है। लेकिन कर्म के फल पर योगी का अधिकार न कभी



था और न कभी होगा। इसलिए एक बार फिर भगवान् कृष्ण, अर्जुन को सचेत कर रहे हैं कि, यज्ञ दान और तप शुद्ध कर्म योगी को करने चाहिए, इससे उसका मन प्राण, पवित्र होता है तथा उससे समाज का बहुत सारा कल्याण होता है। यह सब कर्म जब फल की आशा किए बिना किए जाते हैं तो, सात्त्विक त्याग की श्रेणी में आते हैं।

अनिष्टमिष्टं मिश्रं च त्रिविधं कर्मणः फलम् ।

भवत्यत्यागिनां प्रेत्य न तु सञ्ज्ञासिनां क्वचित् ॥

आगे प्रभु श्री कृष्ण और भी स्पष्ट करते हुए कहते हैं कि, हर कर्म का फल मिलेगा। अच्छे कर्म का अच्छा और बुरे का बुरा। कई लोग अपने कर्मों के फलों को इसी जन्म में भोगेंगे। और कुछ उसे अगले जन्म तक साथ ले जाएँगे। लेकिन कर्म की गति से कोई बच नहीं पाएगा। अगर योगी कर्म को कर्म फल की कामना से रहित होकर, तथा केवल प्रभु चरणों में अर्पित, करता है तो, वह उसके परिणाम से अवश्य मुक्त हो जाएगा। महत्वपूर्ण बात यह है कि, योगी में कर्तापन का अभिमान नहीं होना चाहिए। कर्म केवल निष्काम भाव से, आसक्ति रहित हो, शुद्ध भावना से, पूजा की भाँति करना चाहिए। भावना का उद्देश्य और शुद्धि सर्वोपरि है।

जिस ज्ञान से योगी को इस संसार के कण कण में परमात्मा की उपस्थिति का भान होता है, वही ज्ञान सात्त्विक ज्ञान कहलाता है। जिस ज्ञान में एक योगी विभिन्न वस्तुओं में भिन्न भिन्न रूप देखता है, उसे राजसिक ज्ञान कहा जाता है। और जिस ज्ञान के चलते कर्मयोगी हर कर्म के बाद फल की कामना करता है, और कभी कभी तो दूसरों के अनिष्ट कि भी कामना करता है, उसे तामसिक योगी या तामसिक ज्ञान कहा जाता है। नीचे के श्लोकों में तीनों प्रकार के त्याग की

बड़ी सुंदर व्याख्या की गई है।

मुक्तसङ्गोऽनहंवादी धृत्युत्साहसमन्वितः ।

सिद्धयसिद्धयोरिर्विकारः कर्ता सात्त्विक उच्यते ॥

भावार्थ: जो कर्ता संगरहित, अहंकार के वचन न बोलने वाला, धैर्य और उत्साह से युक्त तथा कार्य के सिद्ध होने और न होने में हर्ष-शोकादि विकारों से रहित है- वह सात्त्विक कहा जाता है ॥26 ॥

रागी कर्मफलप्रेप्सुर्लुब्धो हिंसात्मकोऽशुचिः ।

हर्षशोकान्वितः कर्ता राजसः परिकीर्तितः ॥

भावार्थ: जो कर्ता आसक्ति से युक्त कर्मों के फल को चाहने वाला और लोभी है तथा दूसरों को कष्ट देने के स्वभाववाला, अशुद्धाचारी और हर्ष-शोक से लिप्त है वह राजस कहा गया है ॥27 ॥

आयुक्तः प्राकृतः स्तब्धः शठो नैष्कृतिकोऽलसः ।

विषादी दीर्घसूत्री च कर्ता तामस उच्यते ॥

भावार्थ: जो कर्ता आयुक्त, शिक्षा से रहित घमंडी, धूर्त और दूसरों की जीविका का नाश करने वाला तथा शोक करने वाला, आलसी और दीर्घसूत्री (दीर्घसूत्री उसको कहा जाता है कि जो थोड़े काल में होने लायक साधारण कार्य को भी फिर कर लेंगे, ऐसी आशा से बहुत काल तक नहीं पूरा करता) है वह तामस कहा जाता है ॥28 ॥

इसी प्रकार योगी की बुद्धि या प्रवृत्ति भी तीन प्रकार की बताई गई है, सात्त्विक, राजसिक और तामसिक। जिसका विश्लेषण नीचे के श्लोकों में है:

प्रवृत्तिं च निवृत्तिं च कायाकार्ये भयाभये ।

बन्धं मोक्षं च या वेति बुद्धिः सा पार्थ सात्त्विकी ॥

भावार्थ: हे पार्थ ! जो बुद्धि प्रवृत्तिमार्ग (गृहस्थ में रहते

हुए फल और आसक्ति को त्यागकर भगवदपूजा बुद्धि से केवल लोकशिक्षा के लिए राजा जनक की भाँति बरतने का नाम 'प्रवृत्तिमार्ग' है।) और निवृत्ति मार्ग को (देहाभिमान को त्यागकर केवल सच्चिदानंदधन परमात्मा में एकीभाव स्थित हुए श्री शुकदेवजी और सनकादिकों की भाँति संसार से उपराम होकर विचरने का नाम 'निवृत्तिमार्ग' है।), कर्तव्य और अकर्तव्य को, भय और अभय को तथा बंधन और मोक्ष को यथार्थ जानती है- वह बुद्धि सात्त्विकी है ॥30 ॥

यथा धर्ममधर्मं च कार्यं चाकार्यमेव च ।

अयथावत्प्रजानाति बुद्धिः सा पार्थ राजसी ॥

भावार्थ: हे पार्थ! मनुष्य जिस बुद्धि के द्वारा धर्म और अधर्म को तथा कर्तव्य और अकर्तव्य को भी यथार्थ नहीं जानता, वह बुद्धि राजसी है ॥31 ॥

अधर्मं धर्ममिति या मन्यते तमसावृता ।

सर्वार्थान्विपरीतांश्च बुद्धिः सा पार्थ तामसी ॥

भावार्थ: हे अर्जुन! जो तमोगुण से घिरी हुई बुद्धि अधर्म को भी 'यह धर्म है' ऐसा मान लेती है तथा इसी प्रकार अन्य संपूर्ण पदार्थों को भी विपरीत मान लेती है, वह बुद्धि तामसी है ॥32 ॥

इस तरह से प्रभु कृष्ण ने एक बार फिर कर्म की शुद्धता और त्याग के विभिन्न प्रकारों और उनमें छुपे दोषों से, हम सब को परिचित करवाया है। साथ ही यह भी बताया कि उनसे कैसे बचा जा सकता है। यह सब सुन अर्जुन जैसे महारथी का मोह छूट जाता है। हम आशा करते हैं कि, यह ज्ञान हम में समाये बहुत से संशयों को भी समाप्त कर देगा। गीता के गोपनीय ज्ञान ज्ञान के लिए प्रभु श्री कृष्ण को हमारा शत शत नमन।

**इसी आशा के साथ,
जय श्री कृष्णा !!!!!**

Congressional candidates weigh in on global religious violence and Supreme Court ruling on troop deployment

As concerns mount over global religious violence and domestic civil liberties, two congressional candidates seeking office in Illinois have publicly outlined their positions on separate but consequential issues. Other candidates contacted by IndoUS Tribune for comment did not respond by press time.



By: Dr. Avi Verma

Bruce Leon condemns Hindu killing in Bangladesh, stresses rule of law at home

Democratic congressional candidate Bruce Leon strongly condemned the targeted killing of Dipu Chandra Das, a Hindu man lynched by a mob in Bangladesh, calling the incident part of a disturbing global rise in religiously motivated violence.

Leon described the killing as “a religiously motivated act during a period of dangerous unrest” and urged Bangladeshi authorities to conduct a full and transparent investigation, prosecute those responsible, and take immediate steps to protect Hindu communities and other religious minorities.

Earlier in the day, Leon met with Jewish and Hindu community leaders in the Chicago area to discuss what he described as a troubling increase in attacks on faith communities worldwide, citing both the Bangladesh killing and a recent antisemitic attack in Australia.

“As a Jew, I know what happens when violence against minorities is excused or left unanswered,” Leon said. “Jewish history teaches us that silence enables persecution. Standing against antisemitism means standing against all forms of religious hatred.”

Leon framed the issue as a universal human rights concern rather than a regional one, emphasizing that religious freedom must be defended consistently across borders.

“Religious freedom is non-negotiable,” he said. “The rule of law must prevail. No community is expendable.”

Leon also addressed a major domestic issue, responding to the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling blocking the deployment of federal troops in Illinois. He said he respected the Court’s decision and emphasized the importance of constitutional limits on executive power.

“Our democracy depends on the balance of powers and on leaders acting within clear legal authority,” Leon stated. “Public safety matters deeply, but it must always be pursued in partnership with state and local officials, with a focus on de-escalation, accountability, and community trust.”

Bushra Amiwala praises Supreme Court for blocking National Guard deployment

In a separate statement, Bushra Amiwala, Democratic candidate for Congress in Illinois’ 9th District, welcomed the Supreme Court’s decision blocking the deployment of the National Guard to accompany ICE agents in Chicago.

The Court ruled that the federal government failed to demonstrate a lawful justification for deploying military forces, following months of controversial federal enforcement actions in the Chicago area.

Amiwala framed the ruling as a rare but important moment of judicial independence.

“Today’s ruling demonstrates that the Supreme Court is not always commandeered

by right-wing extremism,” Amiwala said. “Every now and then, the Court has a conscience. This is one of those times.”

She expressed concern that the ruling could still be ignored, citing past instances in which court orders were challenged or sidestepped.

“This is what it looks like when a ruler believes he is above the law,” she said, referring to former President Donald Trump.

Amiwala focused much of her statement

on the impact of aggressive immigration enforcement on daily life in her district, which includes communities such as Chicago and Skokie.

“Residents should be able to go to work, take their children to school, shop for groceries, and participate in society without fear,” she said. “They should be able to leave their homes without being harassed.”

She also called on local governments to continue passing ordinances limiting where and how ICE operates, arguing that schools, libraries, and parks must remain off-limits to immigration enforcement actions.

“Violent fascism has no place on our streets,” Amiwala said. “I’m glad the President is blocked from distorting the Guard’s mission any further.”

IndoUS Tribune reached out to other congressional candidates for their views on the killing of religious minorities abroad and the Supreme Court ruling on troop deployment in Illinois. No responses were received by the time of publication.

The contrasting statements from Leon and Amiwala highlight how candidates are positioning themselves on issues of religious freedom, civil liberties, and the rule of law—both internationally and at home—as the congressional race continues.



Club of Indian Women hosts vibrant 'Halla Gulla 2025' celebration in Naperville

By: Jayanti Oza

The Club of Indian Women (CIW) brought together community, culture, and celebration as it hosted its much-anticipated Halla Gulla 2025 event at Matrix Naperville. More than 200 women attended the lively evening, which featured music, games, performances, and cuisine in an atmosphere of warmth and camaraderie.

The program opened with emcee Madhu Uppal, who welcomed guests and set the tone for the evening, followed by an encouraging message from CIW President Vinita Gulabani. The venue was transformed into a vibrant and elegant space by the décor team led by Prem Sharma, Suman Mihaljee, and Manju Vashisht, with striking purple and pink floral arrangements by Deepti Suri adding to the festive ambiance.

Guests were greeted by a dedicated



registration and welcome team comprising Preeti Chawla, Alka Sood, Pankaj Tanna, and Usha Gupta, ensuring a smooth and hospitable experience. The raffle segment, organized by Urmil Chawla and Neerja Aggarwal, along with Pankaj Tanna, kept the audience engaged with exciting prizes and enthusiastic participation.

Entertainment was a highlight of the evening, with the team led by Vandana Bunkapur and Tara Swaminathan presenting a lively mix of games and performances. A classic dance performance by Falguni Rana and a

popular Bollywood-themed game drew particular applause. Singer Paulami Mazumdar energized the crowd with her dynamic performances, getting many attendees on their feet.

The event was further enriched by the presence of special guests Vandana Jhingan, a community leader, and Shweta Baid, Alderman of Aurora, who shared words of encouragement. CIW General Secretary Alka Sood honored them with the organization's signature scarves. Mr. Neil Khot also attended the event, extending his best wishes to CIW, while the organization reciprocated by wishing him success in his

congressional campaign.

Guided by Pimi Malhotra and Sangeeta Ginde, and supported by numerous volunteers working behind the scenes, the CIW team delivered a memorable and well-organized evening. The celebration concluded with an exceptional dinner and desserts provided by Matrix, leaving attendees with lasting memories. Halla Gulla 2025 underscored CIW's commitment to its motto, "Empowering Women, Enriching Lives, Embracing Community," and highlighted the strength and spirit of togetherness within the community.

Americans4Hindus hosts virtual Meet-and-Greet with New York Attorney General candidate Saritha Komatireddy

By: Dr. Avi Verma

Americans4Hindus (A4H) hosted a virtual Meet-and-Greet on December 21 with Saritha Komatireddy, a prominent American Hindu leader and candidate for Attorney General of the State of New York. The event drew community members from across the country and focused on leadership, public safety, and civic engagement.

The program opened with remarks from A4H Global President Prमित Makoday, who highlighted Komatireddy's credentials, noting that she is the only prosecutor in the race. He underscored her academic background, including education at Harvard University and teaching experience at Columbia University, describing her profile as a rare combination of legal expertise, academic achievement, and real-world prosecutorial experience.



A4H Communications Vice President Geeta Sikand emphasized the importance of political participation by American Hindus, calling for greater civic engagement to ensure strong and authentic representation within the political system.

Addressing participants, Komatireddy

identified affordability and public safety as New York's most pressing challenges. She outlined her record as a prosecutor, including her role in securing the conviction of an ISIS terrorist, and reaffirmed her commitment to strengthening public safety across the state. She also noted that her campaign has gained significant attention from media outlets and community leaders within its first few weeks.

Dr. Romesh Japra, Founder and Chairman of Americans4Hindus, urged the community to support Komatireddy at the grassroots level, particularly during the early fundraising phase. He emphasized that early, unified backing from Hindu Americans would be critical to building momentum and demonstrating broad-based support for her candidacy.

During the event, Americans4Hindus formally announced its full endorsement of Komatireddy. Sandeep Deswal, A4H Social

Media Chair and Political Strategist, pledged national-level support for the campaign, noting that public safety has become a defining issue in major cities and that the race carries significance beyond New York.

A4H New York Chapter Vice President Monolita Mitra and Chapter President Dr. Rakesh Shreedhar also announced plans to organize a series of in-person Meet-and-Greet events across New York State, providing opportunities for direct engagement between the candidate and community members.

Offering support from outside the state, Hemal Trivedi, President of A4H Denver, Colorado, commended Komatireddy for entering public service and encouraged greater political participation among second-generation Hindu Americans, highlighting civic engagement as both a responsibility and a pathway to sustained community representation.



Personal finance insights: News & Features

● Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAIL Bull-Bear Spread +10.9% (above average)
CNN Fear & Greed Index 45 (neutral-low)
NYSE %Above 50-dMA 55.64% (positive)
SP500 %Above 50-dMA 57.00% (positive)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 10/31/25
OEFs & ETFs: Stocks 61.75% (new high), Hybrids 4.05%, Bonds 17.29%, M-Mkt 16.90%

INTEREST RATES

CME FedWatch
Cycle peak 5.25-5.50%
Current 3.50-3.75%
FOMC 1/28/26+ hold
FOMC 3/18/26+ cut

Treasury

T-Bills 3-mo yield 3.62%, 1-yr 3.51%; T-Notes 2-yr 3.48%, 5-yr 3.70%, 10-yr 4.16%; T-Bonds 30-yr 4.82%;
TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 1.43%, 10-yr 1.92%, 30-yr 2.61%
FRNs Index 3.592%

Bank Rates www.depositaccounts.com/

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 12/1/25
TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates
Restricted RC 5.00%, RA 4.75%
Flexible RCP 4.25%, SRA 4.00%, IRA-101110+ 3.75%
TSP G Fund 4.125% (previous 4.125%)

India Fear & Greed MMI 38.75 (fear)
Weekly ETFs: INDIA +1.90%, INDY +1.39%, EPI +2.27%, INDH +0.78%, SPY +0.12%

The data above are as of Sunday



preceding the publication date.

ECONOMY

In continuing relaxation of rules for foreign ownership, foreigners can now own up to 100% of Indian INSURANCE companies (the previous limit was 74%). Regulatory oversight would be enhanced. Companies in insurance business must include the term insurance in their names - a transition period will be allowed for implementation.

Indian quick DELIVERY model relies on small local grocery merchants (Kirana shops). Although not invented by Amazon, it's applying the model globally. Robustness of speedy delivery needs testing for reliability & security.

Fitch has issued a rating warning for India due to falling Indian RUPEE. Because of currency translation, foreign investors in India don't see good returns seen locally.

Ahead of USMCA renegotiations, MEXICO imposed 35-50% tariffs on several Asian countries, including

India, that don't have trade treaties with Mexico. India is in contact with Mexico.

FUNDS

In an agreement with BSE, INDIA POST will serve as distributors for some mutual funds in rural areas - new accounts, buy & sell transactions, etc. Designated India Post employees will receive special training.

SPECIAL TOPIC - LIFE INSURANCE

Life insurance is a touchy subject for many as it requires the thoughts of one's own mortality. If you have dependents, you need life insurance to provide your dependents with resources for essential expenses. There are rules of thumb for multiples of income.

Younger families need lot of insurance, but they also have competing needs for expenses. People in retirement have lesser need for insurance - dependent spouse may be provided for from accumulated assets.

Many rely on limited life insurance provided through their employers. There are 2 problems with this: (i) the default amount is a low multiple of annual income (1x-2x) & that isn't enough, (ii) the employer group life insurance disappears on job change, loss or retirement. Don't load up on cheap accidental death & dismemberment (AD&D) insurance that kicks-in only for deaths from accidents.

An advantage of employer group insurance is that the default level of coverage is offered without medical underwriting, but if you want to buy more insurance, then medical underwriting is required.

There are many types of life insurance - annual renewable term-life, multiyear level-term-life (10, 20, 30 years with uniform premiums) that

may be renewable, whole-life (high uniform premiums), universal-life (UL; flexible premiums with annual policy statements showing insurance charges & interest/earnings on cash value), variable-universal-life (VUL; flexible premiums; cash values fluctuate based on the value of funds held), single-premium-life (SPL; only one large premium upfront), endowment-insurance (highest premiums with saving goals that are paid on untimely death).

There are hybrid policies (or, with riders) that combine life insurance with LTCI (long-term care insurance) or accelerated benefits for catastrophic or terminal illnesses. Any benefits utilized reduce the amount of life insurance payable.

All life insurance, except annual renewable term-life, has insurance & investment/saving components that may or may not be broken down. The principle behind uniform premiums is that in earlier years, the premium is higher than the insurance component, but in later years, it's lower than the insurance component & the difference is made up from investment earnings.

Younger families may start with a combination of mostly multiyear level-term with some permanent insurance - universal-life or whole. One advantage of permanent insurance is that it stays in force so long as premiums are paid.

Several online quote services provide quotes from 4-5 insurers but be careful to choose insurers with high credit ratings. If an insurer goes bankrupt, the recovery through state insurance program is very slow & buying new life insurance with medical underwriting may not be an option.

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







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Veer Baal Diwas

Honoring courage and sacrifice of Guru Gobind Singh's sons

Veer Bal Diwas is observed every year on December 26 to honor the extraordinary bravery and martyrdom of the Sahibzadas, the sons of Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the tenth Sikh Guru. The day specifically commemorates the younger sons, Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh, who chose death rather than renounce their faith when captured by Mughal authorities during the early 18th century. Their courage and unwavering commitment to Sikh principles continue to inspire millions of

people around the world.

The Indian government officially declared December 26 as Veer Baal Diwas in 2022, underscoring the day's importance as a tribute to youth courage and moral strength. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the observance pays homage to the Sahibzadas' unshakable faith and commitment to righteousness, ensuring their story is remembered by future generations.

This year, communities across

India marked Veer Baal Diwas with prayer services, educational programs, exhibitions on Sikh history, and gatherings at local gurdwaras. In cities such as Ludhiana, Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria urged youth to emulate the bravery, devotion, and selflessness of the four Sahibzadas and highlighted their example in nation-building and moral courage.

International Sikh communities in North America, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Europe held special

kirtan programs, prayer meetings, and storytelling sessions focused on the Sahibzadas' sacrifice. These events aimed to educate younger generations about the historical significance of their martyrdom and to reinforce values of faith, courage, and moral integrity.

Veer Baal Diwas is not only a reminder of a profound historical moment but also a day to reaffirm principles of truth, bravery, and resilience that continue to resonate across cultures and generations.

TULSI

PUJAN DIWAS

Honoring sacred basil, spirituality and nature every Christmas Day

While December 25 is celebrated globally as Christmas, many Hindus also observe Tulsi Pujan Diwas, a day devoted to worshipping the Tulsi plant, or holy basil, which is seen as a symbol of purity, protection, and spiritual well-being. The observance became widely promoted starting in 2014 by religious groups aiming to highlight Tulsi's spiritual, medicinal, and ecological importance. In Hindu belief, Tulsi is deeply revered as beloved by Lord Vishnu and Goddess Lakshmi, and worshipping the plant is believed to bring peace,

prosperity, and positive energy into the home.

This year, Tulsi Pujan Diwas fell on Thursday, a day considered particularly auspicious in Hindu tradition. Devotees began celebrations early, bathing, wearing clean clothes, and decorating their Tulsi plants with flowers and rangoli. Many households

offered water, rice, and sweets while chanting mantras like "Om Tulasye Namah" and performing parikrama, walking around the plant three or seven times to invite blessings. Lamps were lit near the plant to dispel negative energy, and families gathered to share prasad and sing devotional songs.

Across India, homes and temples saw people planting new Tulsi saplings and offering garlands, reflecting both devotion and environmental respect. In many communities, the celebration also included distributing Tulsi plants to neighbors and visitors, emphasizing a collective reverence for nature's gifts. Through these rituals, devotees connected spiritual practice with gratitude for the healing and cleansing qualities of Tulsi, uniting households in reflection, harmony, and cultural affirmation at the year's end.





Krishnamoorthi challenges Trump administration on National Guard deployment, national security, human rights, and immigration oversight

● By: Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL) has intensified his oversight and legislative efforts against the Trump administration across a wide range of issues, from the use of the National Guard and FBI resources to immigration enforcement, human rights abuses abroad, and access to immigration detention facilities.

Krishnamoorthi welcomed a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that blocked President Trump from deploying the National Guard into the Chicago area, calling it an important check on what he described as an abuse of presidential power.

While praising the ruling, the congressman cautioned that it applies only to the immediate case and does not permanently prevent similar actions in the future. He urged Congress to pass his proposed Stop Trump's Abuse of Power Act, legislation aimed at clarifying and limiting a president's authority to deploy the military or National Guard within American cities.

"Illinois has stood united in opposing this illegal and political deployment since day one," Krishnamoorthi said, crediting Governor JB Pritzker's leadership and vowing continued resistance to what he characterized as the misuse of servicemembers for political purposes.

In a separate action, Krishnamoorthi raised alarms over reports that the Department of Justice has redirected FBI counterterrorism and counterintelligence personnel to assist with mass immigration enforcement operations. In a letter to FBI Director Kash Patel, the congressman warned that diverting agents from national security work risks leaving the country vulnerable to terrorism, espionage, and cyber threats.

Citing media reports and internal sources, Krishnamoorthi said that as many as a quarter of FBI agents nationwide—and up to 40 percent in major field offices—have been reassigned to immigration-related duties. He warned that these shifts have delayed or halted critical investigations, including probes into terrorist financing, foreign influence operations, and the Iranian oil black market used to fund terrorism. The congressman requested detailed explanations from the FBI about the scope of the reassignments, their impact on national security, and steps being taken to restore full operational readiness.

Beyond domestic issues, Krishnamoorthi also spoke out on



international human rights concerns. He condemned the targeted mob killing of Dipu Chandra Das, a Hindu man in Bangladesh, amid rising unrest in the country. Calling the killing "appalling," he urged Bangladeshi authorities to conduct a full and transparent investigation, prosecute those responsible, and take urgent steps to protect religious minorities and restore the rule of law.

On immigration and asylum, Krishnamoorthi issued a statement after reports that the Department of Homeland Security has paused efforts to deport Guan Heng, a Chinese human rights whistleblower who documented abuses by the Chinese Communist Party against Uyghurs in

Xinjiang. Krishnamoorthi, who had earlier urged DHS to grant asylum to Guan, said halting the deportation was a "commonsense first step" and argued that the United States has a moral responsibility to protect individuals who expose atrocities recognized by the U.S. government as genocide.

The congressman also recently conducted an oversight visit to the Broadview Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in Illinois, following a federal court ruling that blocked Trump administration policies restricting congressional access to detention centers. Krishnamoorthi had previously been denied entry to the facility multiple times, despite citing his statutory authority. He said the

visit was necessary to ensure transparency and accountability as immigration enforcement becomes increasingly militarized.

"Congress has both the legal authority and the obligation to conduct real-time oversight," Krishnamoorthi said, adding that he would continue pressing the administration to follow the law, respect due process, and treat people in custody with dignity.

Taken together, the actions reflect a broad effort by Krishnamoorthi to challenge the Trump administration on executive power, national security priorities, immigration enforcement, and human rights—both at home and abroad.

Carrots and diabetes

New research points to promising dietary support



● By: Dr. Avi Verma

New scientific findings suggest that a common kitchen staple—carrots—may play a supportive role in managing type 2 diabetes, offering hope for a natural, diet-based complement to conventional treatment.

Researchers from the University of Southern Denmark (SDU), in collaboration with Odense University Hospital and the University of Copenhagen, have reported that carrots can improve blood sugar regulation and promote a healthier gut microbiome. While the findings are based on animal studies, they add to growing evidence that everyday foods may significantly influence metabolic health.

Study overview

In the study, researchers examined the effects of carrots over a 16-week period using mice induced with type 2 diabetes through a high-fat diet designed to mimic unhealthy human eating patterns. The mice were divided into two groups. One group received a diet supplemented with 10 percent freeze-dried carrot powder, while the control group received an identical diet without carrots. Both diets were calorie-matched, ensuring that any differences observed were due solely to the bioactive compounds in carrots.

The results were notable. Mice consuming carrot powder demonstrated better glucose control,

as measured through glucose tolerance tests, and showed favorable changes in gut bacteria composition.

Gut health and blood sugar control According to project coordinator Dr. Morten Kobæk Larsen, Associate Professor at SDU's Department of Clinical Research, carrot consumption altered the gut microbiome in a beneficial way.

“Mice consuming carrots exhibited a healthier balance of gut bacteria,” Larsen noted. The study also found increased levels of bacteria that produce short-chain fatty acids (SCFAs)—molecules known to support energy metabolism, improve insulin sensitivity, and strengthen gut health.

“Everything we eat affects the composition of gut bacteria,” Larsen explained, adding that carrots appear to shift the balance toward microbes associated with improved metabolic outcomes.

Why carrots may help

Carrots contain bioactive compounds, particularly falcarinol and falcariindiol, which are derived from unsaturated fatty acids. These compounds help cells absorb glucose more efficiently, supporting blood sugar regulation. Similar compounds are also found in vegetables from the same botanical family, including parsley, celery, and parsnips.

Professor Lars Porskjær Christensen of SDU emphasized that carrots could



become part of future dietary strategies for diabetes management, though more research is needed.

Can these results apply to humans?

Researchers caution against directly translating animal study results to humans. Clinical trials are needed to confirm whether the same benefits occur in people with type 2 diabetes. Plans are underway to conduct smaller human studies using carrot varieties rich in bioactive compounds.

Encouragingly, earlier research on carrots and colon health suggests that consuming 30–40 grams of raw or lightly cooked carrots daily may already offer measurable benefits.

Does preparation matter?

Cooking does reduce some bioactive compounds, but not entirely. Researchers recommend raw or lightly cooked carrots to retain the highest levels of beneficial substances, although even cooked carrots continue

to offer health value.

Nutritional highlights

Carrots' key bioactive compounds—falcarinol and falcariindiol—are produced naturally by the plant to protect against fungal infections. Beyond their antifungal role, these compounds also exhibit anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, and potential disease-preventive properties.

Disclaimer

This article is published in the Medical Corner of IndoUS Tribune for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended as medical advice and should not replace consultation with a qualified healthcare professional. Individuals with diabetes or other medical conditions should not alter their diet, medication, or treatment plan based solely on this article without consulting their physician or healthcare provider. Research cited includes animal studies, and human outcomes may differ.

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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Sustainable fashion choices
to embrace in 2026



As the fashion world enters 2026, sustainability has moved from a niche conversation to a central pillar of style. Designers, brands, and consumers alike are embracing eco-conscious practices, proving that chic and responsible fashion can coexist seamlessly. This year, conscious wardrobes are defined by a commitment to quality, versatility, and ethical sourcing, making every purchase a statement of both style and values.

Natural fabrics are at the forefront of sustainable fashion choices. Organic cotton, hemp, linen, and bamboo offer breathable, biodegradable alternatives to conventional textiles, while recycled polyester and regenerated silk are redefining luxury in eco-friendly terms. Designers are also championing plant-based dyes and low-impact processes that minimize water usage and chemical

pollution, resulting in garments that are as kind to the planet as they are to the eye.

Pre-loved and vintage pieces continue to dominate the sustainability movement. Curated secondhand shopping allows fashion lovers to acquire unique, one-of-a-kind items while reducing the environmental toll of fast fashion. Similarly, clothing rental services are gaining popularity, providing access to high-end pieces for special occasions without contributing to waste.

Minimalist and capsule wardrobes are becoming increasingly influential in 2026. Investing in timeless silhouettes, neutral palettes, and versatile staples ensures that clothing can be worn season after season, rather than discarded after fleeting trends pass. Repair, upcycling, and circular fashion initiatives are further extending the life of garments, encouraging a culture of

longevity rather than disposability.

Sustainability also extends to footwear and accessories. Vegan leather, cork, and recycled materials are emerging as premium choices, offering luxurious finishes without compromising ethical principles. Transparent production processes and fair labor practices are becoming essential markers of a brand's credibility and desirability.

In 2026, sustainable fashion is about more than trends, it is a lifestyle choice. By opting for ethically produced, durable, and thoughtfully designed pieces, fashion enthusiasts can curate a wardrobe that reflects both personal style and environmental responsibility. This year, conscious choices are not just fashionable—they are transformative, paving the way for a more stylish, ethical, and sustainable future.

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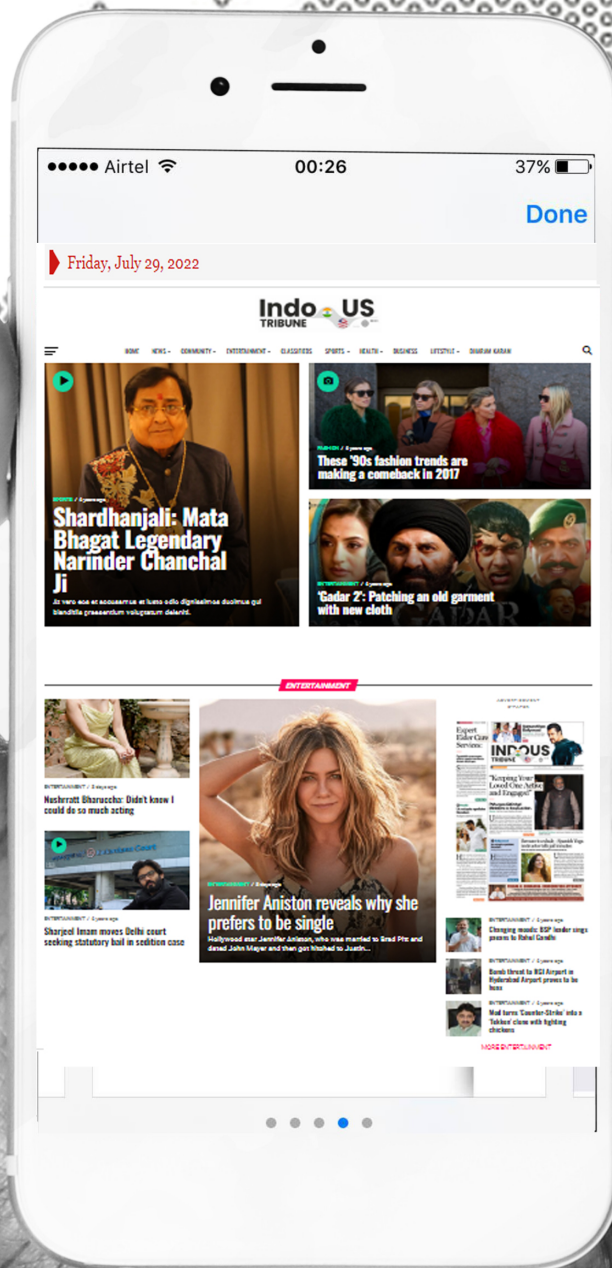
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