

Lebanon and Israel extend ceasefire after White House talks as United States pushes diplomatic breakthrough



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Lebanon and Israel extended their ceasefire by three weeks following high-level talks at the White House on Thursday, where United States President Donald Trump hosted the Israeli and Lebanese ambassadors for a second round of US-facilitated discussions.

The ceasefire extension comes after Israeli strikes earlier in the week killed at least five people, including a journalist. Trump said the meeting went well and emphasized that the United States would help Lebanon strengthen its ability to defend itself from Hezbollah.

The Iran-aligned group was not part of the talks and reiterated its right to resist Israeli forces. Trump said he looked forward to future meetings involving the leaders of both countries and expressed optimism about a possible peace agreement this year.

Despite the truce, violence continues in southern Lebanon, where Israeli forces maintain a buffer zone and sporadic clashes persist.

Trump orders military to target Iranian small boats in Strait of Hormuz escalation



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump said he has ordered the military to “shoot and kill” small Iranian boats suspected of deploying mines in the Strait of Hormuz, escalating tensions after Iranian forces seized vessels linked to oil smuggling. The move followed a tanker seizure in the Indian Ocean, intensifying a standoff over the key waterway through which a large share of global oil flows. Iranian Revolutionary Guard forces have detained ships, raising maritime concerns. Negotiations between Washington and Tehran remain stalled, while international leaders including Pope Leo XIV have urged talks. The situation has increased regional instability and pressure on global energy markets.

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One year on from Pahalgam attack, global allies reaffirm support for India’s fight against terrorism

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India on Wednesday marked one year since the Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir, in which 26 civilians, mostly tourists, were killed by Pakistan-backed terrorists who singled out victims based on religion in one of the deadliest attacks on civilians in recent years, prompting renewed global solidarity with India’s counterterrorism efforts.

Diplomatic missions and foreign envoys across countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, France, Australia, Japan, Israel, Argentina and many others, paid tribute to the victims and reiterated support for India’s fight against terrorism. Leaders including US Ambassador Sergio Gor, Japanese Ambassador Ono Keiichi, and other envoys stressed their countries’ commitment to standing with India against terrorism in all forms, while Australia, Britain and France highlighted shared global security concerns.

Israel’s Foreign Minister Gideon Sa’ar and Ambassador Reuven Azar expressed condolences and reaffirmed deep bilateral cooperation, with Sa’ar stating that Israel and



India will continue strengthening coordination to confront terrorism and advance peace and stability. Azar drew parallels with Israel’s own experience of terror, underscoring a shared global challenge. Argentina’s Ambassador Mariano Caucino said that Buenos Aires supports India’s right to defend itself and condemns terrorism unequivocally.

In Washington, a major exhibition titled “The Human Cost of Terrorism,” hosted with the support of the Embassy of India on Capitol Hill, marked the anniversary

alongside other global terror attacks, including September 11. The exhibition brought together lawmakers, survivors and testimonies through photographs, videos and personal accounts, highlighting the long-term human impact of terrorism across regions such as Kashmir, Mumbai and New York, and reinforcing the need for sustained international cooperation. India’s Ambassador Vinay Kwatra said India will never bow to terror and will continue deepening global partnerships to eliminate terrorism in all its forms.

India and Indian American leaders condemn Trump’s immigration remarks, call rhetoric divisive and inaccurate

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian American lawmakers, community leaders, and the Government of India have strongly condemned President Donald Trump’s recent remarks targeting immigrants and India, including a widely circulated social media post that described India as a “hellhole” and made disparaging references to immigrants in the United States.

According to multiple reports, the post shared by Trump on Truth Social amplified comments from conservative commentator Michael Savage, which criticized birthright citizenship and used inflammatory language about immigrants from India and China. The remarks included claims that immigrants exploit citizenship laws and negative characterizations of Indian professionals working in the United States technology sector.

The Ministry of External Affairs in India responded on Thursday, calling the comments “obviously uninformed, inappropriate and in poor taste,” and said they do not reflect the reality of India–United States relations, which are based on mutual respect and shared strategic interests.

Indian American leaders also strongly criticized the remarks. Congressman Ami Bera said the immigrant experience of his family reflects the American dream, noting that his parents legally came to the United States and contributed through education and engineering. He said the comments were



inconsistent with American values.

Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi said the remarks were offensive and risk undermining relations with a key global partner. Former White House adviser Ajay Bhutoria said the rhetoric distorted the contributions of Indian Americans, particularly in technology, healthcare, and entrepreneurship.

Community leaders highlighted that Indian Americans are among the most highly educated and economically influential groups in the United States, contributing significantly to innovation, public service, and tax revenues, including a large share of the country’s medical workforce.

Officials and community voices warned that such rhetoric risks fueling xenophobia and harming long-standing India–United States relations, which continue to expand across defense, trade, and technology cooperation.

US concerns grow over Pakistan’s role in Iran diplomacy amid strategic and credibility questions



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Concerns are emerging in United States policy circles over Pakistan’s potential role in facilitating diplomacy between the United States and Iran, with analysts and former officials warning that it could carry long-term strategic risks. A report in Eurasia Review argued that any future United States–Iran agreement may struggle due to structural contradictions in regional geopolitics, particularly Washington’s reliance on Pakistan as a possible intermediary. It noted Pakistan’s historical “strategic depth” doctrine and past involvement in Cold War and post 9/11 conflicts, raising questions about neutrality and credibility in mediation efforts. Separately, former United States National Security Advisor H. R. McMaster told IANS that Pakistan functions as a “client” of China and may have “ulterior motives” in such diplomacy. He also pointed to longstanding concerns over Pakistan’s dual approach in counterterrorism. Analysts caution that these factors could undermine trust in any negotiation process involving Pakistan.

European nations accuse Russia of erasing Stalin-era crimes after memorial dismantled

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Four European countries on Thursday accused Russia of attempting to erase the memory of Soviet-era repression after a memorial to victims of Josef Stalin's secret police was dismantled in Tomsk, Siberia. The site, which included a memorial arch and stone dedicated to victims of mass executions, was removed overnight. Local officials initially cited safety concerns but later withdrew the explanation. Embassies from Poland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania condemned the move, calling it an attack on historical memory and demanding restoration of the site. The memorial honored victims of Stalin's Great Terror, when hundreds of thousands were executed in the 1930s.

Venezuela rallies nationwide as government intensifies push against United States sanctions

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Venezuela escalated its nationwide campaign against United States sanctions on Monday, with National Assembly President Jorge Rodriguez leading a rally in San Felix calling for political unity and an end to economic pressure. He said the movement aims to build national consensus and push for lifting long-standing sanctions that he blamed for economic hardship. The mobilisation began on Saturday under acting President Delcy Rodriguez and has spread across multiple states including Zulia, Tachira, and Amazonas. She said nearly a decade of restrictions has affected basic living conditions for millions of children born during the sanctions period. The campaign, marked by marches and public events, will conclude in Caracas on May 1.

South Korea says it is fully implementing non-discrimination pledge for United States firms after Republican lawmakers' letter



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea said on Thursday it is fully implementing its pledge not to discriminate against United States digital companies, responding to a letter from 54 Republican lawmakers accusing Seoul of targeting American firms. The dispute involves Coupang, a United States company under investigation in South Korea over a data breach affecting more than 33 million users. Ministry said the probe is conducted under domestic law and due process regardless of nationality, in line with bilateral agreements. It added it has communicated its position to Congress. Seoul also rejected claims that security talks, including nuclear submarine discussions, are linked to the case.

Lufthansa cuts 20,000 flights as war-driven fuel surge strains European aviation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Lufthansa Group said on Tuesday it will cancel around 20,000 short-haul flights through October as soaring jet fuel prices, driven by the ongoing Iran conflict, place severe pressure on European airlines. The German carrier said the reductions will mainly affect less profitable routes operating through its Frankfurt and Munich hubs, and are expected to save about 40,000 metric tons

of fuel. The restructuring also includes Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Swiss, and Ita Airways, along with operational adjustments across major hubs in Brussels, Vienna, Rome, and Zurich. Jet fuel prices have more than doubled in several markets since late February, when strikes on Iran escalated the conflict. Airlines across Europe are already trimming schedules, increasing fees, and warning passengers of fewer options and higher fares ahead of the peak summer travel season as energy instability continues.



Hindu businessman shot dead in Pakistan's Sindh province, rights groups demand justice

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

AHindu businessman was shot dead in Sukkur city in Pakistan's Sindh province on Tuesday, triggering concern from minority rights organizations over worsening security for religious minorities. According to the Voice of Pakistan Minority, Vishal Kumar was killed when armed attackers entered his shop in broad daylight and opened fire before fleeing the scene.



He later died from his injuries, leaving behind his wife, children, and grieving family. Authorities initially described the incident as a robbery attempt, but the victim's family rejected that explanation, insisting that nothing was stolen and calling it an execution-style killing.

Rights groups said repeated violent incidents and weak investigations have intensified fear among minority communities in Sindh. They urged a

transparent inquiry, swift arrest of the attackers, and stronger protection measures, warning that continued impunity is deepening insecurity and eroding public trust in law enforcement.

Russia signals Arctic cooperation while emphasizing security concerns over communication disruptions

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russia said it is open to cooperation with other nations in the Arctic while maintaining that it will defend its national interests in the region, according to remarks made by President Vladimir Putin on Thursday during a government meeting. Putin highlighted the strategic importance of the Arctic, describing it as critical for global energy resources, trade routes, and environmental stability. He pointed to the development of the Transarctic transport corridor, which he said could become one of the most efficient global shipping routes.



He also addressed internet disruptions in major cities, linking them to security

operations aimed at preventing terrorist threats. Putin said authorities must prioritize public safety even if operational restrictions are not always publicly disclosed in advance. The Russian leader emphasized that international cooperation in the Arctic remains possible, but only alongside protection of national sovereignty and strategic infrastructure.

US soldier arrested for alleged betting on Maduro capture operation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A United States soldier has been arrested after allegedly profiting more than 400,000 dollars in bets linked to the January capture of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro. Authorities said the soldier placed multiple wagers on a prediction market while reportedly involved in planning aspects of the operation. He now faces charges including fraud and misuse of classified information, with a potential sentence of up to 60 years in prison. Officials said the case represents a breach of trust involving sensitive military intelligence. The investigation continues amid wider concerns about insider betting on geopolitical events.

India shields consumers as global fuel prices surge on geopolitical tensions

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has kept petrol and diesel prices unchanged despite a global spike in fuel costs triggered by West Asia tensions and rising crude oil prices. According to industry data, countries including the United States, Australia, and the United Arab Emirates have seen fuel price increases ranging from more than 60 percent to as high as 85 percent this year. In contrast, Indian retail prices have remained stable at about 94.7 rupees per liter for petrol and 87.6 rupees per liter for diesel since January. Analysts say state-run oil companies are absorbing losses to avoid passing volatility on to consumers, even as global crude fluctuations continue to pressure refining margins.

French prosecutors summon Elon Musk over X platform investigation into child abuse material and deepfake allegations



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

French prosecutors have summoned Elon Musk to Paris for questioning as part of a cybercrime investigation into platform X over allegations including child sexual abuse material, deepfake content, and manipulation of automated systems.

The probe began after a search of X's French offices and expanded following concerns about the platform's AI system generating harmful content, including posts linked to Holocaust denial. Musk and former X chief executive Linda Yaccarino have been invited for voluntary interviews.

Authorities are also examining whether misleading content was used to influence the market value of Musk-related companies, while United States officials have declined cooperation with the investigation.

United Nations chief saddened by death of second French peacekeeper in Lebanon mission

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres said he is saddened by the death of a second French peacekeeper serving with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon after wounds sustained in Saturday's attack in southern Lebanon. The 31-year-old corporal, a dog handler, died in a hospital in Paris after being severely injured while his explosive ordnance disposal team was clearing a road to restore access to isolated positions. The United Nations said the team came under fire from non-state armed groups, likely Hezbollah. Guterres expressed condolences and urged respect for the Israel-Lebanon ceasefire and full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701.

Kash Patel sues media outlet for \$250 million over FBI leadership allegations

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

FBI Director Kash Patel has filed a \$250 million defamation lawsuit against The Atlantic and journalist Sarah Fitzpatrick, accusing them of publishing false and malicious claims about his conduct in office. Filed in federal court in Washington, the suit alleges the report fabricated accusations of excessive drinking and unexplained absences intended to damage his reputation and remove him from leadership. Patel's legal team says the article relied heavily on anonymous sources and unverified allegations. The Atlantic has defended its reporting and said it will vigorously contest the lawsuit. The case comes amid heightened scrutiny of Patel's leadership since he took charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in February 2025.

European Union approves \$106 billion Ukraine loan package after Hungary lifts veto



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The European Union on Thursday approved a 90-billion-euro, about 106-billion-dollar loan package to support Ukraine's economy and military over the next two years, after Hungary lifted its veto following the resumption of Russian oil flows through the Druzhba pipeline to Hungary and Slovakia. The agreement ends months of deadlock. The bloc also approved new sanctions on Russia targeting its shadow fleet, banks, and other entities. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy thanked European partners, saying the funds will strengthen Ukraine's armed forces and weapons production. European Council President António Costa said the priority is advancing Ukraine's European Union membership.

Trump expands disputed election probe as claims of voting machine manipulation resurface

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

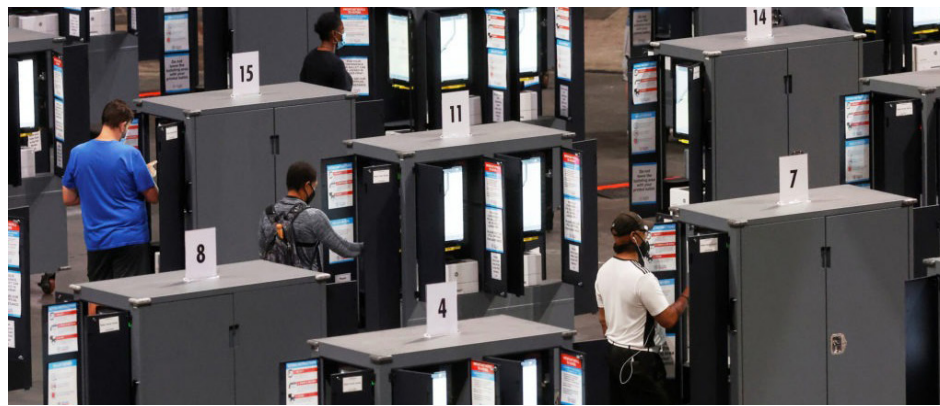
President Donald Trump's administration has expanded a controversial election investigation involving claims of foreign interference and voting machine manipulation, despite multiple inquiries finding no evidence of hacking.

According to reports, Trump authorized attorney Kurt Olsen to re-examine the 2020 election and investigate allegations involving Dominion Voting Systems machines. A federal review of equipment in Puerto Rico reportedly found no signs of intrusion, but the inquiry continued and later expanded to states including

Georgia and Arizona.

Federal agencies including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, and Office of the Director of National Intelligence have been involved. The Central Intelligence Agency also granted access to related intelligence.

Critics warn the probe is reviving debunked conspiracy theories about election fraud. Supporters argue it is focused on election security and system vulnerabilities ahead of future national votes. The investigation continues amid political tensions and approaching congressional elections.



United States trade chief defends tariff strategy, says policy is boosting wages and industry

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States Trade Representative Jamieson Greer on Wednesday strongly defended President Donald Trump's tariff-centered trade policy, telling lawmakers that it is already delivering measurable benefits for American workers and domestic manufacturing.

Speaking before the House Ways and Means Committee, Greer said the administration's approach has helped reduce the trade deficit by about 24 percent since April 2025 and contributed to rising industrial output. He argued that tariffs are being used to enforce "reciprocal and balanced trade," requiring foreign countries to provide equal market access in return for access to the United States market. Greer



said wage growth, productivity, and labor demand are improving in the manufacturing sector. However, he acknowledged the transition will take time after decades of offshoring. Critics, including some lawmakers, warned that tariffs may increase consumer prices and add uncertainty to the broader economy.

Starmer faces scrutiny after ex Foreign Office head cites pressure over Mandelson posting

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former Foreign Office head Olly Robbins told lawmakers that he felt political pressure from Prime Minister Keir Starmer's office to speed up the appointment of Peter Mandelson as ambassador to the United States despite security vetting concerns. He said officials pushed for Mandelson to be in Washington quickly ahead of President Donald Trump's second term, even though the vetting agency considered him a borderline case and leaned against approval. Robbins said concerns were not related to Jeffrey Epstein but broader risk factors. He added Foreign Office approved appointment. The testimony has intensified political pressure on Starmer, who later dismissed Robbins and faces calls for accountability.



South Korea, Thailand and Cambodia seize over 650 kilograms of narcotics in joint crackdowns

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

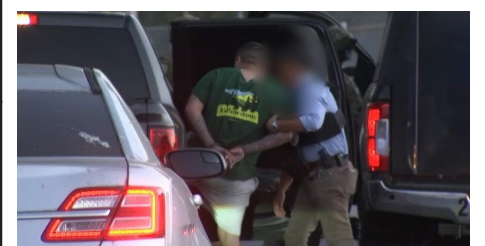
South Korea customs agency said Thursday that joint operations with Thailand and Cambodia led to the seizure of more than 650 kilograms of drugs in the first quarter. A total of 657 kilograms were confiscated in 32 cases, including methamphetamine, marijuana, and etomidate, an anaesthetic drug used for sedation. Most seizures came from Thailand under an operation called TRIDENT, accounting for 651.4 kilograms across 28 cases, the largest amount since cooperation began in 2022. Cambodia operations under LIONSTONE resulted in four cases involving 5.7 kilograms. Drugs could have supplied about 1.8 million users. Officials pledged to strengthen cross-border cooperation to block trafficking routes.

Netanyahu orders probe after Israeli soldier damages Christian statue in Lebanon

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday condemned the vandalism of a statue of Jesus Christ in southern Lebanon and ordered a criminal investigation into the incident. The case involves an Israeli soldier seen striking the religious symbol, an act that went viral on social media. Netanyahu said he was "stunned and saddened" and stressed Israel's commitment to religious tolerance. The Israel Defence Forces also said the conduct is inconsistent with military values and confirmed a formal investigation is underway. The military added it is assisting in efforts to restore the statue while continuing operations against Hezbollah infrastructure in southern Lebanon, saying it does not target religious or civilian sites.

United States arrests 43 alleged Mexican mafia members in southern California crackdown



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Authorities said Thursday that 43 alleged members and associates of the Mexican mafia were indicted and arrested in a large-scale crackdown across southern California, mainly in Orange County. Prosecutors said charges include murder, kidnapping, extortion, illegal gambling operations, and drug trafficking. Officials seized about 120 pounds of methamphetamine, more than 8 pounds of fentanyl, 25 firearms, and over 30,000 dollars in cash. The gang, founded in the 1950s, continues to operate through prison networks, with leaders allegedly using contraband phones to direct crimes from inside correctional facilities. The indictment also links members to a motel murder in Anaheim and widespread drug distribution.



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Indefinite ceasefire or illusion of peace? Inside the high-stakes US–Iran–Israel standoff



Dr. Avi Verma

The rapidly shifting dynamics of the Iran–Israel–United States confrontation have once again exposed how fragile “ceasefires” can be when they are driven more by pressure than by resolution. As of today, the situation is best described not as peace, but as a tense pause layered over active confrontation—military, economic, and psychological.

Where are we today?

Despite announcements of a ceasefire framework earlier in the week, the ground reality suggests a volatile stalemate. The Strait of Hormuz remains heavily militarized, with U.S. naval enforcement actions, Iranian counter-maneuvers, and commercial shipping disruptions continuing to define the region. Reports of vessel seizures, aggressive maritime warnings, and continued proxy tensions in Lebanon and surrounding theaters indicate that the conflict has not de-escalated—it has merely shifted form.

The strategic objective on all sides appears unchanged. The U.S. continues to apply pressure on Iran’s economic and military capabilities, Israel maintains its security posture against Iranian influence, and Iran is signaling resilience through asymmetric responses.

What does an “indefinite ceasefire” really mean?

An “indefinite ceasefire” without a formal agreement, verification mechanism, or mutual concessions is, in practical terms, a political statement rather than a binding reality. It lacks the architecture of a traditional ceasefire—no monitoring, no guarantees, and no clearly

defined obligations.

In this context, the term serves more as a diplomatic placeholder than a genuine de-escalation. It allows all sides to pause without conceding ground, regroup without appearing weak, and recalibrate strategy without formally ending hostilities.

The Trump factor: Strategy or domestic compulsion?

Donald Trump’s unilateral move to declare an indefinite extension—after signaling no continuation of the Pakistan-facilitated ceasefire—raises important questions about intent and timing.

- ▶ Domestically, the pressures are undeniable:
- ▶ Rising fuel prices have directly impacted American households
- ▶ Inflationary concerns tied to energy markets are intensifying
- ▶ Stock market volatility is shaking investor confidence
- ▶ Sections of the MAGA base are increasingly vocal about economic strain
- ▶ The looming midterm elections add political urgency

In this light, the indefinite ceasefire announcement can be interpreted as an attempt to stabilize global energy markets and signal control over a situation that risks spiraling economically. It projects de-escalation without requiring immediate concessions from Iran.

However, this move also reflects a strategic recalibration. Sustained conflict in the Strait of Hormuz threatens not just adversaries but global supply chains—including those critical to U.S. allies.

Contradictions on the ground

Even as the ceasefire narrative is advanced, developments on the ground tell a different story:

The cancellation of a planned diplomatic engagement led by JD Vance to Islamabad signals stalled or strained backchannel negotiations.

U.S. naval actions, including the interception and capture of Iranian vessels,

continue public threats to engage Iranian boats near the Strait of Hormuz escalate tensions rather than ease them.

Iran’s reported seizure of multiple ships demonstrates its willingness to respond asymmetrically.

Taken together, these actions undermine the credibility of the ceasefire claim. They point instead to an active conflict operating below the threshold of declared war—what many analysts describe as “managed escalation.”

Is this a ceasefire or strategic posturing?

The answer lies in the contradictions. A true ceasefire reduces friction points; this situation multiplies them. Military signaling continues. Economic pressure intensifies. Diplomatic channels remain uncertain.

What we are witnessing is not peace, it is positioning.

What lies ahead

The current phase is perhaps more dangerous than open conflict. Miscalculation in such an environment—where forces are active but rules are undefined—can trigger rapid escalation. The Strait of Hormuz remains the most critical flashpoint, with global consequences tied directly to its stability.

For now, the “indefinite ceasefire” offers breathing room, but not resolution. It reflects a convergence of geopolitical strategy and domestic political necessity rather than a durable pathway to peace.

Final word

This is not the end of the conflict, it is an intermission shaped by pressure, perception, and political calculus. Whether it evolves into meaningful diplomacy or slides back into open confrontation will depend on what happens next—not what has been announced.

The world should not mistake silence for stability.

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



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European Union cuts Venice Biennale funding over Russia's return to international art show

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The European Union said this week that it will reduce a 2 million euro, about 2.3 million dollar, grant to the Venice Biennale after the decision to allow Russia to return to the international contemporary art exhibition for the first time since its 2022 invasion of Ukraine. The European Commission said the funding reduction will be applied over three years and confirmed that the Biennale has 30 days to respond and defend its position. EU officials strongly criticized Russia's participation, saying it undermines the bloc's stance on the war. The Biennale responded that it does not have the authority to exclude countries recognized by Italy and emphasized its commitment to cultural openness and dialogue. The dispute highlights ongoing tensions between cultural institutions and political pressure over Russia's international reintegration, as global events continue to grapple with participation amid the Ukraine conflict.

Bushra Bibi moves to court for medical relief in Al-Qadir Trust case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bushra Bibi, wife of former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, has sought suspension of her sentence in the Al-Qadir Trust case on medical grounds, according to local reports. Her application to the Islamabad High Court follows recent eye surgery at a private hospital in Rawalpindi, after which she returned to jail.

The petition alleges prolonged incarceration, lack of transparency in medical treatment, and limited access to legal counsel and family. It also seeks continued treatment under specialist supervision at a hospital in Rawalpindi. Her legal team says her appeal has been pending for more than a year and argues that continued detention serves no meaningful purpose. The court will resume hearing the case on April 22.

Japan approves lifting restrictions on lethal weapons exports in major shift from postwar pacifist policy

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Japan on Tuesday approved a policy change allowing the export of lethal weapons, scrapping long-standing restrictions under its postwar pacifist framework. The decision enables exports of fighter jets, missiles, and destroyers to countries that have defense cooperation agreements with Tokyo. Exports will be limited to 17 nations and require approval from the National Security Council. The move follows Japan's growing military cooperation with allies, including a deal to build frigates for Australia and joint development of a next-generation fighter jet with Britain and Italy. Japan has also supported United States defense supply chains by exporting missile systems. Critics say the shift could increase global tensions.

Uyghur activist criticizes United Kingdom over China embassy approval and human rights concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Uyghur activist Sayragul Sauytbay has criticized United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer over the approval of a new Chinese embassy in London, calling the decision a failure to prioritize human rights. Speaking to a British newspaper, Sauytbay said the move reflects a shift toward closer ties with China despite ongoing allegations of human rights abuses in Xinjiang, where Uyghur and other minority groups have faced detention and alleged mistreatment.

She described experiences of abuse in detention camps, including forced labor and torture, and accused Western governments of overlooking these issues for economic reasons. Sauytbay argued that prioritizing trade over human rights



undermines democratic values. The British government has defended its engagement with China, citing economic and diplomatic considerations. The decision to approve the embassy project has drawn criticism from human rights advocates and raised security concerns among some lawmakers.

European Union warns Bosnia over pipeline contract linked to United States political allies

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The European Union has warned Bosnia and Herzegovina that awarding a major pipeline contract to a United States-linked company could jeopardize its path toward membership, according to reports. The dispute centers on a proposed gas pipeline project involving a firm reportedly fronted by individuals associated with President Donald Trump's political circle. The project aims to connect Bosnia to a liquefied natural gas terminal in Croatia, reducing dependence on Russian energy supplies. European Union officials reportedly cautioned Bosnia that bypassing standard tender procedures could conflict with energy and governance rules required for integration into the bloc.

The company involved has pledged significant investment but has no publicly



verified track record in large-scale infrastructure projects. Supporters argue the pipeline would enhance energy security, while critics warn it could set a dangerous precedent for politically influenced contracting. The issue highlights growing tensions between European regulatory frameworks and United States-linked commercial interests in the region.

Canada says United States cannot dictate terms of North American trade review

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prime Minister Mark Carney said on Wednesday in Ottawa that the United States does not get to dictate the terms of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, ahead of its review in July. He noted that the trade pact, which has linked the economies of Canada, the United States, and Mexico since the early 1990s, is facing renewed strain amid shifting tariff policies under President Donald Trump.

Carney said refining the agreement will take time and that both sides have trade irritants that must be resolved through negotiation toward a mutually beneficial outcome. Responding to a Radio-Canada report alleging United States officials were demanding concessions before talks, he said concessions are a normal part of negotiations and Canada is diversifying its options. He also pointed to recent criticism from United States Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick over tariffs, liquor sales, and trade policies.

NATO chief dismisses fears of United States exit amid alliance tensions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte has rejected concerns that the United States may withdraw from the alliance, saying he does not see such a move taking place. In remarks published on Saturday, he emphasized the need for a stronger European role within NATO while maintaining transatlantic unity. His

comments follow repeated criticism from United States President Donald Trump, who has questioned alliance commitments and described NATO as weak. The White House has confirmed that discussions about future United States involvement are ongoing. Rutte acknowledged tensions but said most European allies have supported Washington's military actions and described recent talks as frank and constructive.

Prince Harry visits Kyiv in unannounced show of support for Ukraine war effort



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prince Harry made an unannounced visit to Kyiv on Thursday in a show of support for Ukraine as the country continues its war with Russia, now in its fifth year. He arrived by train and said it was "good to be back in Ukraine." He is attending a security conference during visit and is expected to meet Ukrainian participants of his Invictus Games Foundation, which supports wounded veterans through sport. He plans to visit the HALO Trust demining charity supported by his mother Princess Diana. Trip comes as global attention shifts to other conflicts, and Harry emphasized importance of not overlooking Ukraine's defense of Europe's eastern flank.

Trump administration probes New York education department over pro-Palestinian educator group

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration on Thursday launched a civil rights investigation into the New York City Department of Education over activities linked to a pro-Palestinian educators' group. Officials said the probe focuses on seminars organized by NYC Educators for Palestine, which discussed topics such as Palestine, Zionism, and resistance. The Education Department said it is examining whether Jewish students were exposed to a hostile environment under Title Six of the Civil Rights Act, which bars discrimination in federally funded programs. New York officials said the group is not affiliated with public schools. The investigation comes amid broader scrutiny of campus speech and diversity programs.

Baloch students protest forced disappearance of medical student in Quetta as rights groups raise alarm

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Students at Bolan Medical College in Quetta continued protests for a second day on Thursday demanding the safe recovery of a female student Khadija Baloch who they say was forcibly disappeared by Pakistani security forces on Tuesday from the college hostel. Baloch Yakjehti Committee said she was taken to an undisclosed location and her whereabouts remain unknown. Rights groups including Baloch Voice for Justice warned that enforced disappearances of women are increasing and being used to intimidate communities. Baloch National Movement condemned the incident, calling it part of broader repression and urging international attention. Protesters demanded accountability and release of student.

India and United Kingdom deepen defence cooperation during chief of defence staff visit

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and the United Kingdom expanded defence cooperation as Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan made the first official visit by an Indian chief of defence staff to the United Kingdom. On Monday, he was accorded a ceremonial step line in London and received by United Kingdom Chief of Defence Staff Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Knighton. The two sides discussed cyber security, intelligence sharing, industrial collaboration, and joint military exercises aimed at strengthening global security and resilience. General Chauhan also met senior British civil and military officials and defence industry representatives to advance co-production talks. He visited the Royal College of Defence Studies and interacted with multinational officers. The visit follows multiple high-level military exchanges this year, reinforcing a growing strategic defence partnership between the two countries.

India expands humanitarian aid to Africa amid deepening food insecurity crisis

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has expanded humanitarian assistance to African nations as the continent faces a worsening food security crisis, according to a report in a South African news outlet. New Delhi recently sent 1,000 metric tonnes of rice each to Malawi and Burkina Faso, along with 500 metric tonnes of rice and relief supplies including tents, hygiene kits, and medicines to Mozambique. The report highlighted that over 87 million people in East and Southern Africa are facing acute hunger, with several countries declaring national disasters due to drought. It noted that global conflicts have intensified economic strain in Africa, worsening food shortages. While acknowledging India's aid as limited in scale, the report described it as a symbolic gesture of solidarity amid widespread global inattention to Africa's escalating humanitarian emergency.

India welcomes visa-free airport transit for Indian travellers in France

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has welcomed France's decision to allow visa-free airport transit for Indian citizens traveling through French airports, calling it a major step toward easing mobility and strengthening people-to-people ties. The Ministry of External Affairs said the decision, effective from April 10 next year, was agreed during the India-France summit in Mumbai earlier this year when both countries elevated their relationship to a Special Global Strategic Partnership. Under the new arrangement, Indian passport holders transiting through mainland France by air will no longer require a transit visa. Officials said the move reflects deepening bilateral relations and aligns with efforts to enhance travel convenience. India and France have also expanded cooperation in defence, nuclear energy, space, and digital technologies.

India-United States ties are the most important relationship of the twenty-first century, says Kurt Campbell

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former United States Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell described India as America's most important strategic partner of the twenty-first century, even while acknowledging recent strains in the relationship. Speaking at the New India Conference hosted by the Hudson Institute, he said, "I believe the most important relationship for the United States in the twenty-first century is between the United States and India," but added that it was "troubling" that the partnership sometimes requires reminders of mutual respect.

Campbell highlighted the strength of people-to-people ties, especially the Indian diaspora's role during the coronavirus pandemic, when Indian American communities rapidly organized large-scale medical assistance for India. He also pointed to education and technology as central pillars for future cooperation,



noting strong Indian participation in United States programs.

He urged deeper academic and technological exchanges and warned that cuts to such initiatives were slowing progress. Campbell also said global conflicts are straining United States attention and resources, potentially weakening deterrence in the Indo-Pacific. Despite challenges, he stressed the structural importance of the partnership and called for stronger political commitment to sustain momentum.

India and Canada trade talks regain momentum amid shifting global dynamics

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India-Canada trade negotiations are gaining renewed importance after years of setbacks linked to political tensions, with the relaunch of discussions during Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's visit in March seen as a potential turning point, according to former Indian High Commissioner to Canada Sanjay Kumar Verma.

In an article, Verma said aid Canada's heavy economic dependence on the United States has become a strategic limitation, making diversification essential, with India emerging as a long-term partner

rather than just another market. He noted that the shift toward an Early Progress Trade Agreement in 2022 reflected a more pragmatic approach that could gradually evolve into a comprehensive economic partnership agreement.

He suggested a phased structure, starting with existing commitments and later expanding into areas like digital trade and investment protection, while sensitive sectors could be addressed later. Verma also highlighted growing investment ties and called for stronger institutional safeguards to protect the partnership from political disruptions.

Ajit Doval holds talks in Riyadh to deepen India-Saudi strategic partnership

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval visited Riyadh on Sunday for high-level talks aimed at strengthening India-Saudi Arabia relations and expanding cooperation in energy, security, and regional stability. He met Saudi Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman, Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan, and National Security Advisor Musaed Al-Aiban. Discussions focused on bilateral cooperation, evolving regional security

challenges, and shared strategic interests, reflecting growing engagement between the two countries. The Indian Embassy in Riyadh said the meetings covered a wide range of issues of mutual concern.

Doval's visit comes amid India's broader diplomatic outreach on global security matters, following his recent talks with Ukraine's National Security and Defence Council. These engagements highlight India's continued emphasis on dialogue and diplomacy while strengthening partnerships with key global and regional players.

India and Vanuatu explore expanded cooperation during ministerial visit

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Vanuatu discussed strengthening bilateral cooperation as Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita met Prime Minister Jotham Napat in Port Vila on Thursday.

The two leaders reviewed opportunities to expand collaboration across development, health, capacity building, and climate-resilient infrastructure. Margherita also met Vanuatu's Acting

Foreign Affairs Minister Xavier Emanuel Harry, reaffirming India's role as a committed development partner. He visited a centre for information technology training established with Indian support, highlighting cooperation in digital skills development. India reiterated its commitment to support Vanuatu's development priorities and strengthen engagement in multilateral forums. The visit underscores growing ties between India and Pacific Island nations, with a focus on sustainable development and capacity building.

India delivers two tonnes of medical supplies to Tanzania hospital

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has delivered a two-tonne consignment of medical equipment and supplies to Shree Hindu Mandal Hospital in Tanzania's Dar es Salaam, reinforcing bilateral cooperation in healthcare. The shipment includes oxygen concentrators, suction units, oximeters, microscopes, stethoscopes, wheelchairs, and essential medical consumables such as syringes, bandages, gloves, and inhalers. Indian High Commissioner Bishwadip Dey formally handed over the supplies during a ceremony attended by hospital trustee Kaushik L. Ramaiya. The initiative aims to strengthen diagnostic and treatment capabilities and improve patient care services. Both sides described the gesture as a reflection of long-standing India-Tanzania friendship. This follows earlier Indian assistance in February, when critical cardiac monitors, ventilators, and infusion pumps were provided, further deepening cooperation in public health and medical infrastructure development.

India and Germany sign defence industrial roadmap during Rajnath Singh's visit

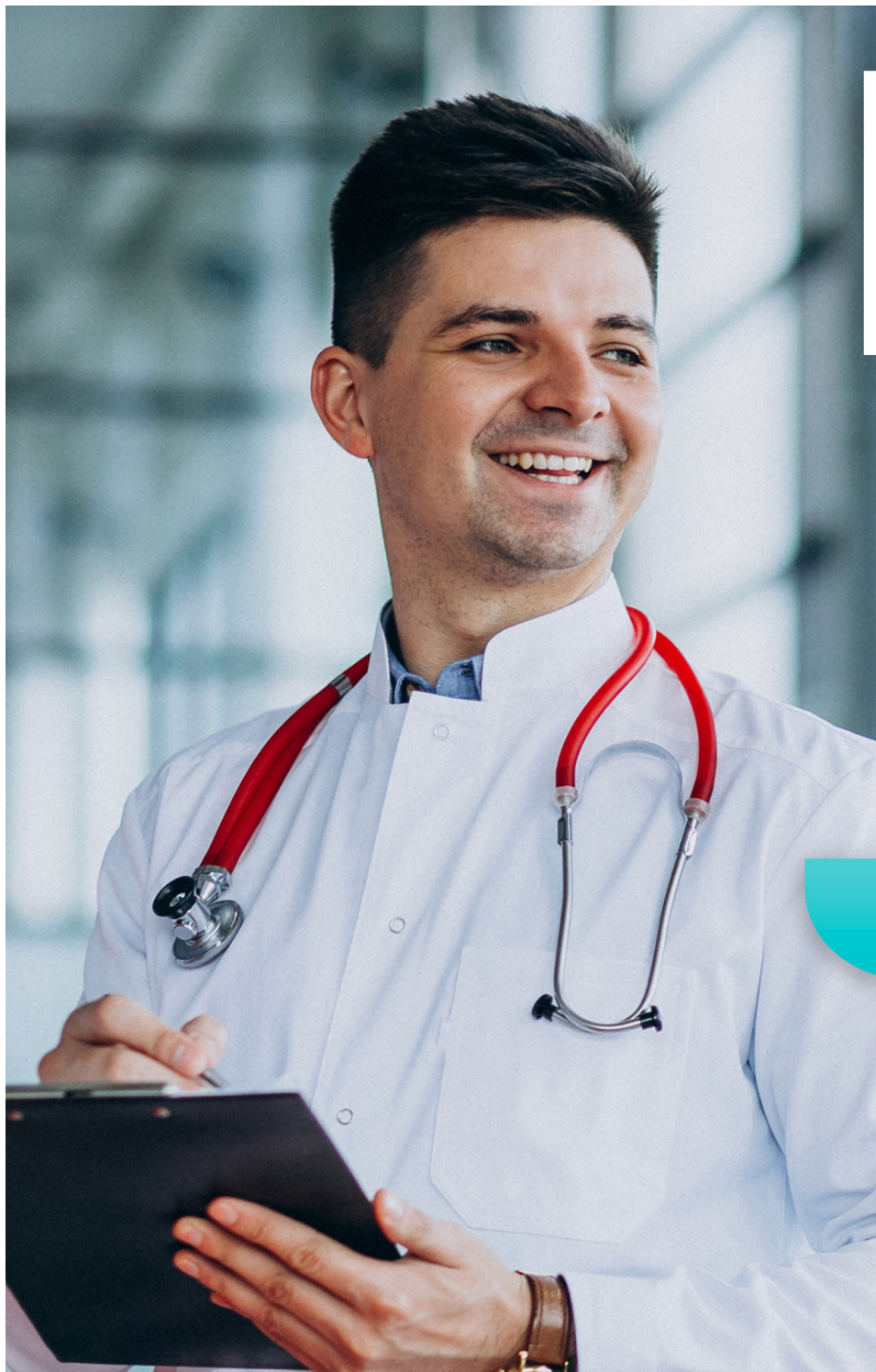
● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Germany strengthened defence cooperation as Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met his German counterpart Boris Pistorius in Berlin on Wednesday. Both sides signed a Defence Industrial Roadmap and an agreement on cooperation in United Nations peacekeeping operations. The ministers discussed expanding co-development and co-production of defence technologies, with a focus on advanced and niche systems. Singh also emphasized the importance of countering terrorism and highlighted growing global economic uncertainty. Germany welcomed deeper military cooperation, including joint exercises and staff-level exchanges. Singh was accorded a ceremonial guard of honour and paid tribute at a Bundeswehr memorial. The visit marked 25 years of the India-Germany strategic partnership and reinforced collaboration across defence, trade, technology, and energy sectors.

India reaffirms commitment to Israel partnership during independence day event

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India reiterated its commitment to strengthening its Special Strategic Partnership with Israel during a meeting between Ambassador J. P. Singh and Israeli President Isaac Herzog. The meeting took place during celebrations marking Israel's seventy-eighth Independence Day. The ambassador conveyed greetings from India's leadership and emphasized continued cooperation in key areas. Earlier, President Droupadi Murmu also extended Independence Day wishes to Israel, highlighting the growing strength of bilateral ties. Both countries have recently expanded engagement in defence, technology, and innovation.



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Severe drought fuels destructive wildfires across Georgia and Florida



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At least eight wildfires continued burning across southern Georgia and northern Florida on Thursday, driven by severe drought and low humidity. Officials said a major fire in Brantley County had grown to over 5,000 acres with limited containment, while another blaze in the region has burned tens of thousands of acres. Hazardous air quality has been reported in nearby areas, including parts of Georgia and South Carolina. On Wednesday, Georgia's governor declared a state of emergency in more than half the state, allowing National Guard deployment. Authorities also issued a sweeping burn ban for at least 30 days. Nearly the entire Southeast is facing severe to exceptional drought, with officials warning that conditions have already pushed wildfire activity beyond the state's recent averages.

Communication failures cited in deadly LaGuardia runway collision



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A preliminary report released on Thursday found that multiple communication and coordination failures contributed to the fatal runway collision at New York's LaGuardia Airport last month. The crash, which occurred on Sunday, killed two pilots and injured 40 people after an Air Canada aircraft collided with a fire truck crossing the runway. Investigators said air traffic control staffing constraints and overlapping responsibilities created confusion in the moments leading up to the collision. The fire truck crew received clearance to cross shortly before impact, while unclear radio transmissions delayed critical stop instructions. Safety systems also failed to detect the conflict due to tracking limitations. Despite the crash, the pilots were credited with saving the lives of all passengers through their actions.

Senate rejects Democratic effort to end Iran military involvement for fifth time

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Republican-controlled Senate on Wednesday rejected for the fifth time a Democratic-led attempt to end United States military involvement in Iran, voting 51 to 46 against a War Powers Resolution. The measure, introduced by Senator Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin, sought to require the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities with Iran unless Congress explicitly authorizes continued action. Democrats argued that President Donald Trump has expanded military engagement without a clear strategy or proper legislative approval, warning of the risks of another prolonged conflict. Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky was the only Republican to support the resolution, while Senator John Fetterman of Pennsylvania was



the only Democrat to oppose it. Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer said the administration has failed to provide a credible plan to end the conflict. Republicans opposed the measure, with Senator Lindsey Graham praising Trump's handling of the situation and supporting continued pressure on Iran through military and diplomatic channels. The issue is expected to remain a major point of contention in Congress.

Justice Department ends probe into Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell, clearing path for confirmation process

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Justice Department has closed its investigation into Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell, removing a major obstacle ahead of the Senate confirmation process for nominee Kevin Warsh, according to officials on Thursday. The inquiry focused on renovation work at the Federal Reserve but was transferred to the central bank's inspector general for review.

Authorities said prosecutors had found no evidence of criminal wrongdoing, and a federal judge had

earlier described the case as lacking substantive support. The decision is expected to speed up Senate consideration of Warsh, who was nominated by President Donald Trump earlier this year.

The investigation had drawn criticism from legal experts and Fed officials, who viewed it as politically motivated pressure on the central bank over interest rate policy.

Powell has maintained that monetary decisions are made independently based on economic conditions, not political influence.

Senate advances \$70 billion immigration funding plan amid partisan divide

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. Senate on Thursday voted 50-48 to advance a \$70 billion funding plan for immigration enforcement agencies, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Border Patrol, sending the measure to the House of Representatives. The proposal, backed by Republicans, aims to fund operations for the next three years and help end a partial Department of Homeland Security shutdown that has lasted since mid-

February. Two Republican senators opposed the measure, while Democrats pushed for stricter oversight following recent fatal shootings involving enforcement agents. Their proposed amendments on healthcare costs, food assistance, and consumer protections failed during a lengthy overnight session. Republicans plan to pass the final legislation using budget reconciliation, allowing approval with a simple majority. If enacted, the funding would extend through President Donald Trump's current term, which runs until January 2029.

Mall of Louisiana shooting leaves one dead as police detain suspects

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

On Thursday afternoon, one person was killed and five others were injured in a shooting at the Mall of Louisiana in Baton Rouge, where two groups opened fire during a dispute. Police said the incident was not random, with innocent bystanders caught in the crossfire near the food court around early afternoon. Five suspects were taken

into custody and are being questioned, while authorities continue searching for additional individuals involved. One victim remained in critical condition later in the day, while others suffered minor injuries. Three of the injured are high school seniors. Officials said a handgun was recovered and confirmed that none of the victims are suspects. The mall was closed following the incident, and investigators have urged the public to share any video evidence.

Family released after nearly 10 months in immigration detention in Texas



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A woman and her five children were released from an immigration detention center in Dilley, Texas, on Thursday after being held for nearly 10 months, the longest detention of any family under current policies. A federal judge ordered their release earlier in the day, with conditions including ankle monitors for the mother and her eldest child. The family had been detained since last summer following the arrest of the children's father in connection with a deadly attack in Colorado, which the mother has condemned. Attorneys cited serious health concerns as a key factor in seeking release. The case drew attention to detention conditions and prolonged legal battles, as previous court rulings allowing their release had been delayed by government actions.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. faces backlash over Medicaid caregiver remarks



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. faced strong criticism this week after calling Medicaid programs that pay family caregivers "rife with fraud." Speaking during a congressional hearing last week, he argued that such programs compensate relatives for routine tasks without sufficient oversight. His remarks triggered backlash from disability advocates and caregivers, who said the comments misrepresented the demanding nature of full-time care for medically complex individuals. Experts noted that more than 11 million Americans rely on these programs, which are widely seen as cost-effective alternatives to institutional care. While officials acknowledged that fraud exists, critics warned that broad characterizations could undermine essential support systems already strained by worker shortages and long waitlists.

Two workers killed in chemical release at West Virginia plant

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Two workers died and more than 30 people sought medical care following a chemical release at a manufacturing facility in Kanawha County, West Virginia, on Wednesday. Officials said the incident occurred during a cleaning process as the plant prepared for closure, when two chemicals were accidentally mixed, triggering a violent reaction. The release produced hydrogen sulfide, a toxic gas, which quickly overwhelmed workers at the site. Emergency responders treated several individuals, including first responders, while nearby schools issued temporary shelter-in-place orders. Authorities later confirmed there was no broader threat to air or water quality. State and federal agencies have launched an investigation into the incident, as the company works with officials to determine the cause and ensure safe cleanup.

Tornadoes strike northern Oklahoma, injuring at least 10

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At least 10 people were injured on Thursday after tornadoes swept through parts of northern Oklahoma, causing significant damage and triggering emergency response efforts. Local media reported that one of the tornadoes impacted Vance Air Force Base in the city of Enid, prompting officials to begin accountability procedures to ensure all personnel were safe. Base leadership said assessments were underway to determine the extent of damage to infrastructure. Emergency crews launched search and rescue operations in affected areas, while Enid Mayor David Mason said police and fire departments were coordinating relief efforts. Residents were urged to avoid the Grayridge area, which was among the hardest hit. Officials indicated that the reported injuries were minor, though authorities were still working to gather full details as the situation continued to develop.

FBI-led operation dismantles gang and seizes drugs worth \$20 million in Georgia

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Federal and local authorities have dismantled a violent street gang in Columbus, Georgia, as part of Operation Sweet Silence, seizing more than \$20 million worth of methamphetamine, cocaine, marijuana, and fentanyl. The FBI said the multi-year investigation led to 30 convictions or guilty pleas tied to the Zohannon criminal street gang, which was involved in armed drug trafficking and violence. Officials also recovered about 119 firearms during the operation. The latest conviction involved Fernando Brown, who was found guilty on April 16 for distributing multiple drugs through a network that included wiretapped communications and stash houses. Sentencing is scheduled for July 22.

Justice Department watchdog launches review of Epstein files release

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Justice Department's internal watchdog announced on Thursday that it will investigate how the agency handled the release of records related to convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, focusing on whether all required documents were properly disclosed and redacted. The inquiry will assess compliance with a transparency law passed in November that required public release of Epstein-related files, with limited exceptions.

The Office of Inspector General said it will examine how records were identified, processed, and released, as well as how officials handled concerns raised after publication. The Justice



Department ultimately released around 3.5 million pages of documents but missed the original deadline set by Congress. Some victims and lawmakers have alleged that sensitive information may have been improperly withheld or insufficiently redacted. Officials say they attempted to comply with the law despite the scale and tight timeline of the release.

U.S. moves to loosen marijuana restrictions in landmark policy shift

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Department of Justice on Thursday announced a major shift in federal drug policy, moving to ease restrictions on certain marijuana products and fast-track efforts to reclassify cannabis as a less dangerous substance. While the change does not legalize marijuana nationwide, it marks one of the most significant federal reforms in decades for the \$47 billion industry, which has expanded rapidly across states.

Under the new approach, state-regulated medical marijuana would be moved from the most restrictive category of controlled substances to a lower-risk classification alongside drugs such as ketamine and some painkillers. Officials also plan to accelerate a broader review of cannabis scheduling. Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche said the move would improve research access, reduce barriers for businesses, and support patient care by enabling more scientific study. The Justice Department will begin formal proceedings in late June.

Pennsylvania court strikes down Medicaid abortion funding limits

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Pennsylvania appellate court on Monday ruled that the state constitution protects the right to abortion and struck down a decades-old law that barred Medicaid from covering abortion services. The decision marks a major legal victory for abortion rights advocates and is expected to have significant implications for low-income healthcare access in the state.

The ruling stems from a long-running

lawsuit challenging a 1982 law restricting state-funded abortion coverage. The court said excluding abortion from Medicaid violated constitutional protections against discrimination and called for broader investment in maternal health services if the state wishes to reduce abortions.

The case may still be appealed to the state's highest court. Supporters of abortion rights hailed the decision as a historic affirmation of reproductive autonomy, while opponents criticized it as forcing taxpayers to fund abortion services.

Federal crackdown intensifies as immigration arrests rise amid local resistance

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials in Houston said they arrested 277 undocumented immigrants over a two-week period ending Friday, citing convictions tied to 751 crimes. The agency said those detained included individuals convicted of murder, sexual assault, drug trafficking, robbery, and gang activity, and claimed the group had entered the United States illegally multiple times.

Officials said the arrests were carried out with federal and local partners and credited cooperation for improving public safety. The operation comes as the Houston City Council moves to limit local law enforcement cooperation with federal immigration authorities. State officials have warned that restricting collaboration could affect public safety funding. Immigration enforcement remains a political flashpoint, with federal officials defending recent policy changes as necessary for national security while critics argue the measures are overly broad and lack transparency.

JetBlue faces lawsuit over alleged use of personal data in airfare pricing

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

JetBlue Airways is facing a proposed class action lawsuit in federal court in New York, alleging the airline uses customers' personal data to influence ticket prices through so-called surveillance pricing. Filed on Wednesday, the complaint claims JetBlue relies on tracking tools and shares data with third parties to adjust fares based on individual online behavior and browsing activity. The plaintiff argues passengers should not face different prices for the same seat based on personal digital activity. JetBlue has denied using personal data or artificial intelligence in pricing decisions, saying fares change due to demand and seat availability. The case follows a viral social media exchange about a sudden fare increase and has prompted questions from lawmakers. The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages under federal and state consumer protection laws.

United States approves first applicant under million-dollar gold card visa program

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States government has approved its first applicant under a new gold card visa program that grants residency in exchange for a \$1 million contribution, Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick said on Thursday. Launched by President Donald Trump in December, the program aims to attract wealthy foreign applicants seeking expedited immigration processing and permanent residency. Lutnick told lawmakers that hundreds of applications are currently being reviewed, with more expected as the system expands. Applicants must complete background checks before making the required financial contribution. Officials said the program remains in its early phase with strict vetting procedures. The administration has previously projected that thousands of applicants could participate over time, potentially generating billions of dollars in revenue.

Georgia Republican pleads not guilty in alleged \$156 million Ponzi scheme case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A prominent Georgia Republican accused of running a \$156 million Ponzi scheme pleaded not guilty on Thursday to a federal wire fraud charge, marking the first criminal filing in a case that followed the collapse of First Liberty Building and Loan last June. Prosecutors allege Edwin Brant Frost IV used new investor funds to pay earlier investors while diverting millions for personal spending, including luxury travel, jewelry, and credit card bills. He waived indictment, a step often preceding a plea agreement, and is free on bail. Federal prosecutors say he is likely to plead guilty in early May and could face a significant prison sentence depending on loss calculations. The Securities and Exchange Commission has also filed a civil case as recovery efforts for investors continue.

Indian-origin childcare worker found dead in Ontario park, police probe underway

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A family from Manuke village in Ludhiana district is in deep shock after their 24-year-old daughter, Anmoldeep Kaur, was found dead under mysterious circumstances in Ontario, Canada on Thursday. She had moved to Canada in 2021 on a study visa and was working as a childcare worker on a valid work permit, though she had not yet obtained permanent residency.

Her body was discovered lying on a park bench near her residence, prompting a police investigation into the circumstances of her death. Authorities are reviewing surveillance footage and speaking with witnesses, while the postmortem report is awaited. The grieving family, including her parents and brother based in the United States, is also working to repatriate her remains. Community volunteers and local leaders have stepped in to assist with the process and support the bereaved family.

Indian climate activist alleges mistreatment at embassy in Rome, mission denies claims

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian-origin climate activist has alleged that he was mistreated by staff at the Indian Embassy in Rome, an accusation the mission has strongly denied. The activist, Jaydip Lakhankiya, shared a video online claiming he was physically handled while outside the embassy premises. He said he was on a long-distance climate awareness walk from Malta to India and had attempted to engage with the embassy after months of seeking an appointment. The embassy, however, stated that he was asked to follow standard security procedures, including identity verification, which he refused, and called his claims false and fabricated. The activist countered that he was only documenting his journey and was not seeking entry at the time. The incident has sparked an online debate, with both sides maintaining conflicting versions of events as the video continues to circulate on social media.

Brampton man charged in theft of hurricane relief supplies bound for Jamaica

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Peel Regional Police in Canada have arrested a Brampton man of Punjabi origin in connection with the theft of relief supplies worth more than one million United States dollars intended for hurricane victims in Jamaica. Investigators say that in December 2025 the suspect broke into a secured storage facility in Mississauga, used a transport truck to steal a trailer containing clothing and food supplies, and fled the scene. Following an investigation by the Commercial Auto Crime Bureau, authorities identified Varinder Dhillon, a forty-year-old resident already on probation for similar offences, as the accused. The stolen container was later recovered, and police confirmed that goods worth more than one million dollars were returned to the rightful owners before being shipped to Jamaica for distribution. The man was arrested in March after a search warrant was executed at a residence in Brampton, with charges later announced publicly.

Video of elderly Sikh man's harassment in Ontario sparks outrage over rising hate incidents

● Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

A disturbing video showing an elderly Sikh man being verbally harassed by a masked individual in Woodstock, Ontario has triggered widespread condemnation and renewed concern over rising hate incidents in Canada. The footage, circulating online, shows the man being targeted in a public setting, prompting calls for stronger action against racism and discrimination. Local police have acknowledged the incident and are reviewing the case.

The episode comes amid growing alarm highlighted in a new World Sikh Organization of Canada report, which finds that 80 per cent of more than 1,600 Sikh Canadians surveyed believe anti-Sikh hate has increased in recent years,



while 65 per cent report experiencing verbal harassment. The study points to racism, xenophobia, and misinformation as key drivers of discrimination. The organization says the findings underline an urgent need for stronger protections, awareness, and education to address hate-driven incidents across Canada.

Sayani Gupta crowned Harvard South Asian person of the year 2026, marks global breakthrough in storytelling

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Actor Sayani Gupta has been named the Harvard South Asian "Person of the Year" for 2026, an honor presented by the Harvard South Asian Association in recognition of individuals shaping South Asian identity and global cultural representation. The award highlights her contribution to cinema and storytelling that centers on social themes and underrepresented voices.

Known for her unconventional and socially driven roles, Gupta has built a reputation for choosing projects that challenge stereotypes and reflect issues such as gender inequality, identity, and social justice. Her work across films, web series, and theatre has earned her critical acclaim and a strong international audience, positioning her as one of the more influential contemporary South Asian performers.

The recognition places her among past honorees who have made significant cultural impact beyond entertainment. It also comes at a pivotal moment in her career as she expands into filmmaking.



Her directorial debut short film, 'Aasmani', is scheduled to premiere at international film festivals in April 2026, marking a new creative chapter.

The award underscores her growing global presence and the increasing visibility of diverse South Asian narratives in international storytelling spaces.

Sisters from Punjab elected in Germany bring pride to hometown village

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Two sisters from Rara village near Tanda in Punjab's Hoshiarpur district have been elected to local governing bodies in Germany, bringing pride to their native region. Harpreet Kaur Sandhu has been re-elected to the Foreigners' Advisory Council and City Parliament for a second term, while her sister Kamalpreet Kaur has also secured a position in local civic representation. Harpreet thanked voters for their support, saying the victory belonged to the community that believed in them.

She pledged to serve diligently over the next five years and encouraged civic participation among young voters. The family migrated to Germany decades



ago but maintained strong ties with their village. Community leaders in Punjab called the achievement a moment of pride, noting that it reflects growing global representation of Punjabi-origin families and serves as an inspiration for others pursuing public service abroad.

Violent clash at Germany gurdwara leaves 11 injured amid committee dispute



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A violent clash at a Sikh place of worship in Duisburg, Germany, left 11 people injured after more than 40 individuals fought using pepper spray, knives, kirpans, and reportedly a firearm on a recent day, triggering a major police response, according to local reports. German outlet Bild said the incident took place at Gurdwara Singh Sabha and was linked to a long-running dispute over management control and financial matters within the gurdwara committee. Eyewitnesses described tensions building for months over influence, leadership, and handling of community funds, although police have not confirmed a specific trigger. Around 100 officers, including a special tactical unit from Dusseldorf, were deployed after reports of possible gunfire, with a helicopter supporting the operation. Authorities later entered the building, detained one suspect, and confirmed no active gunman was found. Investigators are still reviewing evidence, including cartridge cases believed to be from a blank-firing weapon.

Two Punjabi-origin men killed in targeted Italy gurdwara shooting



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Two Punjabi-origin men were killed in a targeted shooting outside a Sikh place of worship in northern Italy's Bergamo province on a recent Thursday night, in what investigators believe was a premeditated attack involving Indian-origin suspects, according to local reports. The victims, identified as Rajinder Singh, 48, and Gurmit Singh, 48, were shot after stepping out of the gurdwara in Covo, about 30 kilometers from Bergamo.

Eyewitnesses said four suspects arrived in two cars and opened fire around 11:50 at night, and more than 10 bullet casings were recovered from the scene. A third person was also grazed during the attack. Police believe the shooting was planned, with one suspect reportedly a former gurdwara president among those being probed.

Investigators are reviewing surveillance footage and suspect details while examining possible motives linked to internal disputes. Authorities cancelled Baisakhi celebrations following the killings.

CBC documentary alleges gang-linked threats in Canadian cricket corruption probe



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An investigation by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation alleges individuals linked to a Punjab-based gang attempted to influence Canadian cricket through threats and intimidation, expanding from earlier involvement in kabaddi, according to a documentary. The program claims that in July 2025 in Surrey, British Columbia, players were allegedly threatened by men linked to the Bishnoi gang to support Indian-origin cricketer Dilpreet Singh Bajwa's rise to captain. Bajwa, originally from Batala in Punjab and a former student who moved to Canada in 2020, was appointed captain shortly before the Twenty20 World Cup, a decision that reportedly surprised selectors and officials. The report also says the International Cricket Council Anti-Corruption Unit is examining allegations related to a suspicious over against New Zealand in Chennai, where he conceded runs and bowled a no-ball and wide. Authorities in Canada and India are investigating coercion claims, while no formal charges have been filed.

Punjabi-origin court interpreter detained in United States immigration case



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A 53-year-old Indian-origin court interpreter who has lived in the United States for 35 years is facing a legal challenge after being detained by immigration authorities in Texas, according to court filings. Meenu Batra was arrested at an airport in Texas in March while travelling for an immigration court assignment and is currently held in a detention centre in Raymondville. Her lawyers say she had work authorization under a withholding of removal order, which prevents deportation to countries where she may face persecution, though it does not grant permanent residency. The petition filed in federal court alleges she was held without food or water for nearly 24 hours after arrest and has faced inconsistent medical care in custody. Her son, who recently enlisted in the United States military, has filed a parole request seeking her temporary release, while authorities say she remains under a final removal order dating back to 2000.

South Korea to honour India's silent role in Korean War with new memorial

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Seventy-five years after India played a significant humanitarian and diplomatic role during the Korean War, South Korea is set to honour that contribution with a new war memorial. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is expected to visit South Korea next month for the joint inauguration of the memorial, which recognises India's non-combat but influential involvement in the 1950 to 1953 conflict.

India, under Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's policy of non-alignment, chose not to send combat troops to the war. Instead, it deployed the 60th Parachute Field Ambulance unit in November 1950, an airborne medical team led by Lieutenant Colonel A. G. Rangaraj. Known for their frontline medical service near conflict zones, the unit earned recognition for treating wounded soldiers on both sides and was widely referred to as the "parachute doctors."



Beyond medical support, India also played a key diplomatic role in breaking a deadlock over prisoners of war. Its proposal for a Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission eventually became the basis for the 1953 armistice agreement, highlighting India's unique position as a mediator during the Cold War-era conflict.

UK man pleads guilty in religiously aggravated rape of Sikh woman

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A 32-year-old man has pleaded guilty at Birmingham Crown Court in England to the religiously aggravated rape of a Sikh woman during a violent attack in Walsall last October, according to court proceedings this week. John Ashby had previously denied multiple charges, including sexual assault, strangulation, robbery, and racially aggravated bodily harm, before changing his plea during trial.

Prosecutors told the court that Ashby followed the victim, in her twenties, after she left a bus stop and later forced entry into her home. CCTV footage reportedly showed him on the same bus as the victim before the attack. During the assault, he subjected her to repeated anti-Muslim abuse, wrongly



assuming her religious identity, and stole her mobile phone and jewellery before fleeing.

The attack ended when he was disturbed by a noise outside. The victim later identified him in an identity parade. Sentencing is scheduled for later this week, with the judge describing him as a dangerous offender.

Pre-1947 texts help rediscover forgotten Sikh gurdwaras in Pakistan

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A new wave of historical research is bringing attention to Sikh gurdwaras in Pakistan that were largely forgotten after the Partition of 1947, when Punjab was divided and many religious sites were cut off from community memory. While major shrines such as Nankana Sahib and Kartarpur Sahib remained widely known, dozens of smaller village gurdwaras linked to Sikh Gurus gradually faded from collective remembrance and, in many cases, fell into disrepair or were repurposed.

According to research based on pre-1947 Gurmukhi texts, nearly 250 historical Sikh shrines have been identified across present-day Pakistan. The findings draw on early publications, including an 1884 Gurmukhi text and Bhai Kahn Singh Nabha's Mahankosh, which documented locations and descriptions of these sites before Partition.



Field visits with local villagers have helped confirm several locations, including Gurdwara Pehli Patshahi in Narowal district, associated with Guru Nanak's visit in 1515. Many of these sites are now in ruins, occupied, or completely rebuilt, with only a handful still functioning as gurdwaras. Researchers say oral history combined with archival texts is proving crucial in mapping this lost heritage and restoring awareness of neglected Sikh religious sites across Pakistan.

UK pharmacist fights extradition in India murder conspiracy case



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A United Kingdom-based pharmacist of Indian origin is contesting extradition to India on serious murder and conspiracy charges linked to alleged attacks on his former wife's family in Hyderabad, with a hearing underway in London this week. Ajith Kumar Mupparapu, 45, appeared before Westminster Magistrates Court as prosecutors outlined a case involving multiple alleged plots in 2023. Authorities claim the incidents include a conspiracy to poison his wife and her relatives using arsenic, plans to use injections on his father-in-law, and attempts to hire contract killers to stage a fatal road accident.

Court documents state that one of the alleged victims, the woman's mother, died in July 2023 following suspected poisoning. Mupparapu denies the allegations and is opposing extradition, with his legal team arguing lack of evidence and raising concerns about potential mistreatment if returned to India. A verdict is expected after the hearing concludes later this week.

Eight Indians dead, one missing as west asia conflict continues, government steps up evacuation efforts



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian government has confirmed that eight Indian nationals have died and one remains missing since the ongoing West Asia conflict began, while efforts continue to repatriate citizens affected by the crisis. Officials said more than 2,590 Indian seafarers have been safely brought back from the Gulf region so far. During a recent briefing, authorities noted that several Indian-flagged vessels remain in the Strait of Hormuz, though shipping operations have largely continued without disruption. The government also stated that essential services, including fuel, milk supply, and logistics, remain stable despite geopolitical tensions. Emergency measures such as inspections and anti-hoarding drives have been intensified to ensure uninterrupted supplies. Officials added that coal shipments to states have been increased to support energy needs. The government emphasized coordinated efforts across ministries to maintain economic stability and safeguard Indian citizens working in affected regions.



Friday, 24 April 2026

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Calls grow for protection after Chinese student allegedly jailed over Australia protests

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Australian government is being urged to act after reports that a Chinese student was allegedly sentenced to six years in prison in China for joining pro-democracy protests in Sydney. The student reportedly lost contact with friends after returning to China in December 2024. Employers said they had not heard from him since January 2025. A family representative said he was arrested and charged with secession over participation in demonstrations, including solidarity rallies for ethnic minorities, and the family was not given a copy of the judgment. The University of Sydney declined to comment, citing privacy. Human Rights Watch said the case reflects repression targeting overseas Chinese students after the 2022 white paper protests, as activism extends beyond China.

Duterte to stand trial at International Criminal Court over drug war killings



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former Philippine president Rodrigo Duterte will face trial at the International Criminal Court after judges on Thursday unanimously confirmed charges of crimes against humanity linked to his so-called war on drugs. The pre-trial chamber found substantial grounds to believe he was responsible for murder and attempted murder during anti-drug crackdowns that killed thousands, spanning his presidency from 2016 and earlier as mayor of Davao. Duterte, 80, was arrested in Manila last year and transferred to The Hague. He denies the charges. The trial date has not been set. Victims' families and rights groups welcomed the decision, while his defence says he is unfit and challenges jurisdiction were rejected.

Slovenia, Spain and Ireland boycott Eurovision broadcast over Israel participation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Broadcasters in Slovenia, Spain and Ireland have moved to boycott this year's Eurovision over Israel's participation, escalating controversy around the event. Slovenia's public broadcaster RTV said on Thursday it will not air the contest and instead broadcast a series of Palestinian documentaries and films under the title Voices of Palestine. Spain confirmed last week it would not broadcast the contest, while Ireland decided in December last year not to participate or air the show. The European Broadcasting Union has allowed Israel to compete despite the war in Gaza prompting protests, while the Vienna contest from May 12 to 16 features 35 countries. Russia remains banned since 2022 and organisers are introducing new rules to reduce political campaigning during the contest.

India pushes UN reform and Global South priorities in talks with Antonio Guterres

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's External Affairs Ministry Secretary Sibi George held talks with United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Thursday, focusing on United Nations reform and strengthening the voice of the Global South within the multilateral system. India's Permanent Mission said George reaffirmed New Delhi's strong commitment to multilateralism, a principle Guterres has repeatedly emphasized amid growing strain on global institutions. The discussions also covered India's development partnerships,



including the India United Nations Development Partnership Fund aimed at supporting projects across developing countries. George also met senior United Nations officials on peacekeeping, political affairs, and financial management, reiterating India's long-standing role as one of the largest contributors to United Nations peacekeeping operations. He also participated in reform-focused discussions, urging greater Global South representation, particularly for Africa in permanent Security Council membership, and called for a more equitable international financial system aligned with sustainable development goals.

Trump threatens tariff on United Kingdom over digital services tax dispute

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States President Donald Trump on Thursday warned that he could impose "a big tariff" on the United Kingdom if it does not remove its digital services tax on American technology companies, escalating tensions over trade policy. Speaking from the Oval Office, he accused the United Kingdom of trying to "make an easy buck" from major United States tech firms and said Washington could respond with equivalent or higher tariffs.

The tax, introduced in 2020, imposes a two percent levy on revenues from large digital companies earning more than \$500 million globally, with at least \$25 million generated from United Kingdom users. It was not changed in the United States-United Kingdom trade agreement agreed in May last year.



Trump said any tariff would be "more than what they're getting," adding that the United States would "reciprocate" against countries with similar taxes, a dispute that has also involved several European nations.

Netherlands faces highest security threat in decades, intelligence agency warns

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Netherlands is confronting the most severe national security threat since World War Two, driven primarily by Russia and China, according to the Dutch intelligence agency on Thursday. In its annual report, the agency said an increasingly unstable global order has replaced decades of relative predictability. Director Simone Smit said the country has never experienced such sustained pressure on national security from multiple directions at once. The agency warned that Russia has become more aggressive toward Western nations, including through cyberattacks, and is preparing for long-term confrontation with the West, making military conflict no longer unthinkable. It also said China continues efforts to acquire sensitive technology to reshape the global order in its



favor. Domestically, jihadist networks and far-right groups remain key threats, with rising influence among some young people. Both Russia and China deny the allegations.

Eurail breach puts over 300,000 travellers at risk as passport data surfaces on dark web

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Holidaymakers across Europe are being warned to replace passports after a data breach at Eurail led to personal information being posted on the dark web. The breach, which occurred in December, affected more than 300,000 travellers and included passport numbers, names, contact details and birth dates. Eurail said on Thursday that stolen data had been offered for sale online and a sample had appeared on Telegram, prompting renewed concern among customers. Some authorities including the United Kingdom Passport Office have advised affected travellers to cancel and replace passports at their own cost, while others have called for clarity. Eurail apologised and urged customers to remain vigilant for suspicious messages and update passwords while saying it is working to mitigate impact.

WHO says vaccine recovery drive reaches 100 million doses after pandemic disruption

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

More than 100 million vaccine doses have been delivered to 18.3 million children since 2023 under a global recovery effort led by the World Health Organization and vaccine alliance Gavi. The initiative, called "The Big Catch-Up," was launched in 2023 to restore childhood immunisation disrupted during the pandemic and concluded in March across 36 countries. It targeted children aged one to five and helped vaccinate millions who had never received routine shots. Around 12.3 million previously unvaccinated children received protection against diseases such as polio and diphtheria. The agencies said the programme is nearing its goal of reaching 21 million children, despite declining global health funding and rising vaccine access gaps.

Guatemala court halts attorney general selection and orders full review of shortlist

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Guatemala's Constitutional Court has suspended the process to appoint the country's next attorney general and ordered a full reassessment of candidate rankings. The ruling requires the nominating commission and the president to review scoring criteria, especially for applicants with judicial experience. The decision affects a shortlist of six finalists that excluded current Attorney General Consuelo Porras, who has been sanctioned by several Western governments over corruption allegations and efforts to undermine President Bernardo Arevalo's election. The court also set strict deadlines, giving the commission 48 hours to revise evaluations and instructing the president to return the list if already received. The process must now be reworked before moving forward.

Fire at Russian oil terminal contained after days of drone-linked blaze

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Firefighters have brought under control a major blaze at Russia's Tuapse oil terminal on the Black Sea following a reported Ukrainian drone attack, regional officials said Thursday. The fire had burned for four days before being contained, with crews still working to fully extinguish remaining hotspots. A large emergency response involving hundreds of firefighters and dozens of vehicles remains deployed at the site. Authorities had earlier warned that smoke and chemical residues, including benzene and xylene, had impacted air quality and urged residents to stay indoors. The refinery, a key export facility, reportedly halted operations after attacks on April 16, with additional damage reported to nearby transport and storage infrastructure.

Mexico seeks calm after deaths of two Americans during security operation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum has moved to ease tensions with the United States after the deaths of two Americans in a vehicle crash during an anti-narcotics operation in northern Mexico. The individuals are reported to have had links to United States intelligence, though their exact role remains unclear. Mexico has demanded full clarification from Washington, stressing that all foreign security activity must be coordinated through federal authorities.

Sheinbaum said her government had no prior knowledge of their involvement and emphasized respect for national sovereignty. The incident has reignited debate over cross-border security cooperation and follows longstanding Mexican opposition to direct foreign operational participation in anti-cartel actions.

Turkey passes law restricting social media access for children under fifteen

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Turkey's parliament has approved legislation restricting access to social media platforms for children under fifteen, state media reported. The law requires platforms such as YouTube, TikTok, Facebook, and Instagram to introduce age verification systems, parental controls, and faster removal of harmful content. It also introduces penalties including fines and bandwidth restrictions for noncompliance.

The move follows a recent school shooting in southern Turkey that intensified debate over online safety for minors. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is expected to sign the bill into law within fifteen days. The main opposition has criticized the measure, arguing that digital safety should be addressed through rights-based protections rather than broad access restrictions on children.

Argentina restricts press access to presidential palace after espionage allegation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Argentina's government on Thursday barred accredited journalists from entering the presidential palace, Casa Rosada, after alleging illegal espionage involving smart glasses used to record footage inside the building. The decision followed a television report that showed interior footage reportedly captured with wearable camera technology. Government communications officials said fingerprint-based access for journalists was suspended as a preventive security measure. President Javier Milei

sharply criticized the journalists involved, calling them offensive and accusing media workers of misconduct on social media. Press associations condemned the move, warning it represents a direct attack on press freedom and public access to information.

Milei has repeatedly clashed with journalists since taking office in 2023, with growing concern from media rights groups about deteriorating relations. Reporters said the restriction disrupts coverage of official government briefings and undermines transparency at the highest level of government.



Exiled Iranian prince urges Western backing for political change in Iran

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Reza Pahlavi, the exiled son of Iran's last Shah, called on Western governments on Thursday to take a stronger stance against Tehran, arguing that international hesitation is enabling continued repression. Speaking in Berlin, he criticized European leaders, including Germany, for not meeting him during his visit and accused the West of passivity amid ongoing unrest in Iran.

Pahlavi said political change in Iran is inevitable but warned that delays could cost more lives. Demonstrations supporting and opposing him were held outside the venue, and a protester threw red liquid during his appearance. Once viewed as a potential opposition figure



after mass protests in Iran last year, he remains a controversial figure, with Western governments divided over his role and influence. European nations have rejected joining military action against Iran, even as conflict tensions remain high and diplomatic efforts stall.

Trump administration considers expanding refugee program for white South Africans

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration is considering expanding the United States refugee program to admit more white South Africans, potentially increasing the annual limit by about 10,000 people, according to officials familiar with internal discussions. The current ceiling is set at 7,500 refugees for the fiscal year.

Since taking office in 2025, President Donald Trump has sharply reshaped refugee policy, prioritizing Afrikaners from South Africa under claims of racial persecution, which Pretoria denies. Officials said discussions are ongoing about scaling up processing capacity for South African applicants, with some already arriving in the United States under the program. The State Department confirmed that an increase is being



reviewed but provided no details. The refugee program, created in 1980 to protect displaced populations worldwide, has largely focused under Trump on South Africans of European descent. Officials are also considering broader categories, including religious minorities from Iran and former Soviet states under existing resettlement frameworks.

Denmark train crash leaves five critically injured in morning collision

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Two trains collided near Hillerød, north of Copenhagen, on Thursday morning, critically injuring five people and leaving several others hurt. Authorities said around 38 passengers were aboard the trains when the crash occurred near a level crossing during peak commuter hours. Emergency services initially reported four critical injuries but later updated the figure. About a dozen others sustained minor injuries, and several were taken to hospital, including by air ambulance. Investigators are examining the cause of the collision, with early focus on the level crossing area. Both trains were heavily damaged but remained upright. Officials said the line is widely used by commuters, students, and workers in the region.

Somali migrants die after boat capsizes on Mediterranean route to Spain

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At least seventeen Somali migrants, including twelve men and five women, have died after a boat capsized between Algeria and Spain, Somalia's ambassador to Algeria said Thursday. Ambassador Yusuf Ahmed Hassan said families alerted him after losing contact with relatives attempting the dangerous sea crossing to Europe. He later confirmed visiting hospitals in Bou Ismail, where the bodies were recovered. The vessel was part of a commonly used migration route across North Africa to Spain, where overcrowded and unsafe boats frequently lead to fatal accidents. Authorities have not confirmed the total number of passengers or the cause of the capsizing. The tragedy highlights continued migration driven by conflict, poverty, and climate pressures.

United States charges two Chinese nationals over Myanmar cyber scam compound



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Two Chinese nationals have been charged in the United States for allegedly running a large cyber scam compound in Myanmar that forced workers into cryptocurrency fraud schemes, according to court filings. Prosecutors say Huang Xing Shan and Jiang Wen Jie managed the Shunda Park facility, which was later seized by armed forces in November 2025. The suspects are currently in custody in Thailand after immigration arrests and are expected to face extradition proceedings. Authorities say the compound used fake investment platforms to defraud victims worldwide, making it part of a growing network of cyber scam operations across Southeast Asia. Officials described the case as one of the fastest-growing forms of global cybercrime.

Raghav Chadha, Harbhajan Singh among seven AAP Rajya Sabha MPs to join BJP

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A major political shake-up unfolded on Friday as Aam Aadmi Party Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament Raghav Chadha announced that seven of the party's ten Upper House MPs are set to merge with the Bharatiya Janata Party. Speaking at a press conference in New Delhi on Friday, Chadha said the move has been formalized with a letter submitted to the Rajya Sabha Chairman. He cited constitutional provisions under the anti-defection law, which allow a merger if two-thirds of a party's legislators agree. Chadha said the MPs joining him include former cricketer Harbhajan Singh, industrialist Rajendra Gupta, strategist Sandeep Pathak, businessman Vikram Sahney, Swati Maliwal, and Ashok Mittal. He added that six of the seven are from Punjab. The development follows recent internal tensions within the party and comes ahead of the next Punjab assembly election. The Bharatiya Janata Party has not officially responded yet to the announcement.

Court orders investigation into Rahul Gandhi over dual citizenship allegation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Allahabad High Court has directed police to file a case and investigate allegations concerning Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's citizenship status on a recent Friday. The court acted on a petition claiming he holds foreign nationality. The petitioner argued that the matter requires a detailed probe under multiple legal provisions, including citizenship and passport laws. The court said the allegations warranted examination and instructed authorities to proceed with an investigation or assign the matter to a central agency. The complaint had earlier been rejected by a lower court, prompting the appeal. The ruling has triggered political reactions, with the petitioner claiming preliminary findings support the allegations while legal proceedings continue.

India withdraws from bid to host COP33 in 2028



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has withdrawn its bid to host the United Nations 33rd Conference of Parties in 2028, according to the Ministry of External Affairs. Speaking on a recent briefing day, ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal confirmed the decision and said multiple considerations were taken into account before India stepped back. He stressed that the country remains fully committed to its climate change obligations and continues to advance its green development agenda. Jaiswal said India is among major economies that have met their Paris Agreement commitments and will continue working with international partners through initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance. He added that India will support global climate action despite not pursuing the hosting role.

India to remain Asia Pacific's fastest growing economy at 6.4 percent despite global uncertainty, says United Nations report

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India is expected to remain the fastest growing large economy in the Asia Pacific region with a projected growth rate of 6.4 percent in the current financial year, despite global headwinds triggered by energy market disruption and the Iran conflict, according to a United Nations report released by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. The report said India's real gross domestic product growth slowed from 7.4 percent in the previous year and is forecast to rise modestly to 6.6 percent in the next financial year. The projections were based on conditions observed in mid-March, when tensions in the Strait of Hormuz were affecting global energy flows.

The report added that the broader Asia Pacific region is seeing slower momentum, with growth expected at 3.5 percent this year, compared to 4.1 percent last year. China is projected to slow to 4.3 percent this year, while Pakistan is expected to remain among the weakest performers in South Asia.

India's growth has been supported by strong



rural consumption, goods and services tax adjustments, and robust performance in the services sector. However, exports to the United States declined after higher tariffs were imposed last year, affecting industrial activity in the second half of the year.

ESCAP officials said India's underlying productivity growth, large workforce, and expanding domestic demand continue to support resilience. They also highlighted targeted fiscal support for vulnerable populations as a key factor helping sustain consumption and cushioning external shocks.

Seizures in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal cross one thousand crore rupees ahead of elections, says Election Commission

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Election Commission of India said on Wednesday that poll-related seizures in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have crossed the one thousand crore rupee mark ahead of the upcoming assembly elections, reflecting intensified enforcement against voter inducements. According to official data, seizures since the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct reached Rs.1,072.13 crore between February 26, when the Election Seizure Management System was activated, and Tuesday. Tamil Nadu

accounted for Rs.599.24 crore, while West Bengal recorded Rs.472.89 crore. The recovered items include Rs.127.67 crore in cash, over 40 lakh litres of liquor worth Rs.106.3 crore, drugs valued at Rs.184.83 crore, precious metals worth Rs.215.19 crore, and inducements such as freebies estimated at Rs.437.97 crore. The Commission said multiple enforcement agencies have been deployed with strict instructions to curb illegal cash flows and ensure "inducement-free, violence-free and intimidation-free" elections. More than 5,000 flying squads and 5,300 surveillance teams are conducting checks across both states ahead of voting.

Supreme Court remarks on interference in probe spark BJP attack on Mamata Banerjee ahead of West Bengal polls

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Bharatiya Janata Party on Wednesday launched a sharp attack on West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, calling her a "symbol of anarchy" after Supreme Court observations on a case linked to an Enforcement Directorate search at the office of political consultancy firm Indian Political Action Committee. The court had said that democracy is endangered if a chief minister

intervenes in an ongoing investigation. BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia said the remarks exposed Banerjee's "anarchist attitude" and demanded she step down, alleging interference in probes such as the coal scam investigation. He claimed voters were ready for change and predicted an end to what he called "jungle raj" in the state after the upcoming assembly polls. The comments come as West Bengal heads into a closely watched election beginning Thursday, with voting spread across two phases and counting scheduled for May 4.

Independent Member of Parliament Pappu Yadav's remarks on women in politics spark outrage

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Independent Member of Parliament Pappu Yadav has triggered a political controversy after claiming that most women cannot succeed in politics without the influence of male politicians. While speaking on the women's reservation debate, he alleged that many women in politics face exploitation and made comments suggesting inappropriate interactions within political circles. His remarks drew strong criticism from the Bharatiya Janata

Party, which called them offensive and misogynistic, accusing opposition parties of being insensitive toward women's rights. Leaders also demanded accountability from senior opposition figures associated with him. Following backlash, the Bihar State Women's Commission issued a notice to Yadav seeking clarification. He later said his comments were misinterpreted and that he intended to highlight exploitation faced by women in politics. He also criticized the commission, claiming it was silent on other cases of violence against women in the state.

Indian parliament rejects women's quota bill after missing two thirds majority

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's lower house of parliament on a recent Friday rejected a constitutional amendment bill aimed at reserving seats for women in legislatures by two thousand twenty-nine. The government secured two hundred ninety-eight votes in favour, but fell short of the required two thirds majority, with two hundred thirty against. The bill proposed expanding seats in the lower house to implement thirty-three percent reservation for women after a future delimitation exercise. Following the defeat, related bills linked to union territory representation were withdrawn. The ruling alliance said it would campaign nationally against opposition parties, while critics called it a political attempt at electoral advantage. The proposal remains stalled amid ongoing legal and political debate.

Punjab partners with IIT Ropar to deploy artificial intelligence against organized crime

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Punjab government has partnered with the Indian Institute of Technology Ropar to strengthen its fight against organized crime using artificial intelligence tools, as announced on a recent weekday. The initiative aims to build a unified digital database of criminals by integrating structured and unstructured police records, including handwritten files and scanned documents. It will support existing state campaigns against gang networks and drug trafficking. The system will also use data analytics, predictive modelling, and real time dashboards to improve intelligence led policing. Officials said the project will help track gang activity, including operations run from abroad. A technical support unit based in Mohali will coordinate implementation to improve speed, accuracy, and coordination in investigations across the state.

Indian Railways sets record revenue from scrap sales and expands non fare earnings

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian Railways reported record earnings from scrap sales in the financial year two thousand twenty-five to twenty-six, generating more than six thousand eight hundred crore rupees on a recent reporting day.

This exceeded its internal target of six thousand crore rupees. Officials said the removal and sale of unused materials helped improve efficiency, cleanliness, and space utilization across railway facilities. At the same time, non fare revenue grew significantly over the past five years, driven by services such as medical outlets, retail brands, and passenger amenities at stations.

Initiatives like affordable medicine stores, premium retail spaces, and digital lounges contributed to rising income. Railway authorities said these additional earnings are being reinvested to improve infrastructure, safety, and passenger convenience nationwide.

Severe heatwave grips Odisha as Jharsuguda hits 44.6 degrees Celsius

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Odisha is facing intense heatwave conditions, with Jharsuguda recording the country's highest temperature at 44.6 degrees Celsius on Wednesday, according to the India Meteorological Department. At least 25 places in the state recorded temperatures of 40 degrees Celsius or above, including Talcher, Sambalpur, Hirakud and Angul, all above 43 degrees. Even Bhubaneswar crossed 41 degrees for the first time this summer. The weather department has warned of continued heatwave conditions in several districts, including Bolangir, Jharsuguda and Sambalpur, along with hot and humid weather across much of the state over the coming days.

Government notifies new rules for online gaming with light regulatory framework

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The government on Wednesday notified rules to implement the Online Gaming Act, creating a light regulatory framework and setting up an Online Gaming Authority of India. The rules, effective May 1, 2026, introduce user safety features such as age checks, parental controls and grievance systems. Online money games will be classified based on financial transactions, winnings and monetisation models, with decisions required within 90 days. Officials said most social games will not need mandatory registration, while esports will require registration and real-money gaming remains banned. A digital certificate will be issued for approved platforms, valid up to 10 years.

Rijiju says opposition responsible for women's reservation bill defeat, calls it setback for nation



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said the defeat of the women's reservation bill in the Lok Sabha should not be viewed as a failure of the government but as a setback caused by Congress and other opposition parties. The Constitution amendment bill, which proposed 33 percent reservation for women in Parliament and state assemblies, failed to secure the required two-thirds majority during a vote earlier this week, receiving 278 votes in favor and 211 against. Rijiju said the outcome was "painful for the nation's women" and accused the opposition of blocking a historic step toward women's empowerment. He claimed the government held multiple consultations but opposition leaders largely did not participate. Rijiju also said the bill's failure reflects an "anti-women mindset" and stressed that the government followed all democratic procedures during the voting process.

Harivansh re-elected unopposed as Rajya Sabha deputy chairman, Prime Minister Modi calls it rare trust of the house

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Harivansh Narayan Singh was re-elected unopposed as Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha on Friday, securing a third consecutive term in the post. His unopposed election was formally welcomed in the Upper House, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi described it as a rare expression of trust and confidence from members of the Rajya Sabha.

Modi praised Harivansh's experience, collaborative approach, and his efforts to take all members along in parliamentary functioning. He also highlighted Harivansh's background in journalism and noted his use of local area development funds to support research projects in universities, calling it a reflection of his commitment to knowledge building.

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge also congratulated him and expressed hope that the Deputy Chairman would ensure adequate time and space for the opposition in debates. Earlier during the



proceedings, opposition parties briefly staged a walkout before the motion confirming his election was adopted.

Alleged chana dal scam in Darjeeling hills triggers political storm ahead of West Bengal polls

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An alleged financial irregularity involving subsidised chana dal distribution has triggered a political controversy in the Darjeeling hills ahead of the West Bengal elections. The Indian Gorkha Janshakti Front has accused the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration of failing to account for nearly 14,000 metric tonnes of pulses under a central welfare scheme, claiming discrepancies worth around Rs.300 crore.

The Bharat Brand programme, launched to provide essential food items at subsidised rates, reportedly approved the allocation in 2024 after an initial demand for 45,000 metric tonnes. The opposition alleges that execution was handled through a private agency instead



of cooperative bodies, raising concerns over transparency.

The Gorkhaland Territorial Administration has not yet responded to the allegations. The issue has intensified politically in the region just before polling begins in North Bengal, where voters will go to the polls in the first phase on Thursday.

Government appoints special public prosecutor to lead Pahalgam terror attack trial

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The central government has appointed senior advocate Karambir Singh Nalwa as the Special Public Prosecutor to lead the trial in the Pahalgam terror attack case, which killed 25 tourists and one local pony operator on April 22 last year. The appointment was made by the Ministry of Home Affairs under provisions of the National Investigation Agency Act and the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.

Nalwa will represent the National Investigation Agency before the special court in Jammu and the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh for three years, or until the trial concludes. The agency has filed a chargesheet against six individuals and two Pakistan-based



terror groups, Lashkar-e-Taiba and The Resistance Front, accusing them of planning and executing the attack in the Baisaran meadow. Several accused, including handlers and attackers, have either been named or killed in subsequent counterterror operations.

Arvind Kejriwal warns Tamil Nadu voters against National Democratic Alliance, says it could undo M K Stalin's work

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday urged voters in Tamil Nadu to be cautious of the National Democratic Alliance, saying that even a mistaken vote for the alliance could quickly undo the welfare and development work done by Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader M K Stalin. Speaking at the end of his two-day campaign in Chennai, he claimed that wherever the Bharatiya Janata Party has ruled, governance and public services have suffered, citing examples from Delhi and Gujarat. Kejriwal said the National Democratic Alliance could choose its own chief minister if it comes to power in Tamil Nadu, similar to Bihar. He also accused the Bharatiya Janata Party of weakening federalism and praised Stalin for supporting democracy and states' rights. He urged voters to ensure continuity of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's welfare programmes.

Mallikarjun Kharge's remark calling Prime Minister Narendra Modi a terrorist sparks political row

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

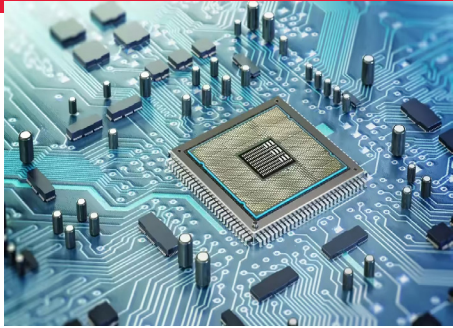
Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge has sparked a political controversy after referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a "terrorist" while criticizing the Bharatiya Janata Party's alliance with the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam ahead of the Tamil Nadu elections. He made the remarks during a press conference in Chennai, accusing the alliance of weakening democracy and undermining equality. Following strong objections from the Bharatiya Janata Party, Kharge later clarified that he meant the Prime Minister "terrorises" political opponents rather than using the term literally. The party has filed a complaint with the Election Commission seeking action against him. The controversy comes amid heightened political campaigning in Tamil Nadu, where multiple parties are engaged in sharp exchanges ahead of voting scheduled later this week in the first phase of the assembly elections.

Delhi Police uncover terror conspiracy linked to Pakistan-based network, two arrested

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Delhi Police Special Cell has uncovered a major conspiracy involving planned shootings, grenade attacks, and targeted killings in the National Capital Region, arresting two men allegedly working for a Pakistan-based gangster linked to an intelligence network. The accused, Rajveer and Vivek Banjara from Madhya Pradesh, were allegedly recruited through social media and guided by handlers operating from Pakistan. Investigators said the duo had been planning attacks on high-profile targets, including hotels in Delhi-NCR. Police recovered weapons, ammunition, cash, and digital evidence from the accused, including videos and voice messages. The investigation revealed attempts to carry out earlier attacks in Punjab, including a failed shooting attempt after a weapon malfunctioned. Authorities said the network was actively coordinating cross-border instructions and recruiting young operatives in India.

South Korea posts strongest growth in five years on chip export surge



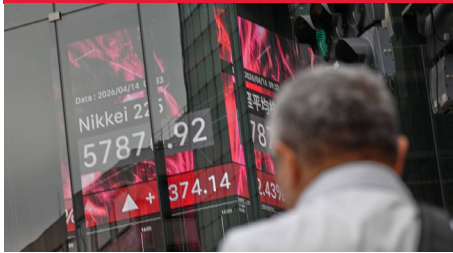
● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea's economy grew 1.7 percent in the January to March quarter, marking its fastest growth in more than five years, driven by strong semiconductor exports and domestic demand, Bank of Korea data showed on Friday.

Exports rose 5.1 percent as global chip demand surged, accounting for nearly half of total growth. Private consumption and investment also improved, while construction recovered after earlier weakness. Officials said the impact of Middle East tensions was limited in the first quarter but may emerge later due to shipping risks in the Strait of Hormuz.

Finance officials credited government measures and improved sentiment for the rebound in growth.

Meta cuts thousands of jobs as Microsoft offers voluntary buyouts



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Meta said on Thursday it will lay off about 8,000 employees, or roughly 10 percent of its workforce, as it shifts spending toward artificial intelligence infrastructure and higher cost talent. The company said the move is aimed at improving efficiency and leaving some roles unfilled. On the same day, Microsoft announced voluntary buyouts for about 8,750 employees in the United States, around 7 percent of its workforce, to be offered in early May. Both companies are restructuring as artificial intelligence investments rise sharply and firms seek leaner operating models amid rising costs.

World shares fall as oil climbs on Iran war standoff

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

World shares mostly fell on Friday as crude oil prices climbed amid stalled United States and Iran ceasefire talks and ongoing disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz. European indexes slipped, while United States futures were mixed after recent record highs on Wall Street. In Asia, technology stocks lifted Japan, but India and Australia declined. Brent crude held above one hundred dollars a barrel after weekly gains driven by supply concerns. Investors remain focused on geopolitical risks, shipping disruptions, and the potential inflation impact of higher energy costs.

Warner Bros shareholders clear Paramount's \$81 billion takeover in Hollywood mega deal

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Warner Bros. Discovery shareholders on Thursday approved Paramount's \$81 billion takeover bid, moving the proposed mega merger a major step closer to reshaping Hollywood's entertainment landscape. The approval allows Paramount to proceed with its offer of \$31 per share, valuing the transaction at nearly \$111 billion when debt is included, based on Warner's outstanding shares.

The deal would bring together Warner's vast portfolio, including HBO Max, CNN, and the 'Harry Potter' franchise, with Paramount's assets such as CBS, Paramount Pictures, and Paramount+ streaming service. Warner

CEO David Zaslav called the vote "another key milestone" toward completing what he described as a historic transaction. Paramount said it expects to close the deal in the coming months, pending regulatory approval.

However, the merger still faces scrutiny from antitrust regulators in the United States and abroad, amid concerns over further media consolidation. Critics, including filmmakers, actors, and advocacy groups, warn it could reduce competition and creative diversity. Some lawmakers have also raised concerns over potential political and editorial influence across major news networks, including CNN and CBS, as the combined company would significantly consolidate power in film, television, and streaming.

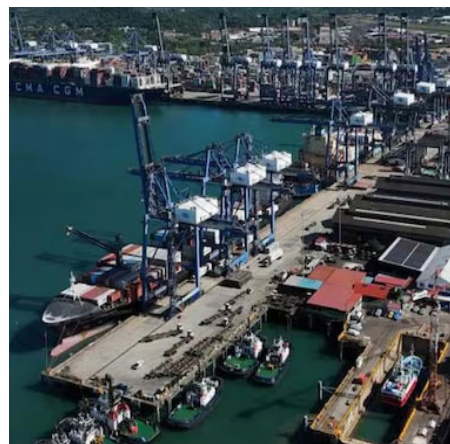


Panama Canal sees record fees as ships divert amid Strait of Hormuz crisis

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Businesses are paying as much as 4 million dollars to secure passage through the Panama Canal as the Strait of Hormuz remains effectively disrupted by escalating United States and Iran tensions, according to the Panama Canal Authority. The surge has transformed the canal's auction system, where vessels without reservations bid for available slots, with the highest offers winning priority transit.

Officials said demand has sharply increased in recent weeks as shipping routes are rerouted away from the Middle East, where attacks, drones, and missile threats have made navigation riskier. Standard transit fees range between 300,000 and 400,000 dollars, but premium bids have jumped dramatically, with some companies reportedly paying an additional 3 million to 4 million dollars to avoid delays.



Canal administrator Ricaurte Vásquez said one fuel ship paid 4 million dollars after being diverted toward Asia. He added that pricing spikes reflect urgency, not a fixed tariff, as global supply chains adjust to geopolitical instability. Panama also condemned Iran's seizure of a Panama-flagged vessel, calling it a threat to maritime security.

India advances 6G rollout as regulator strengthens spectrum strategy

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India is actively preparing for 6G rollout and has extended the validity of the 600-megahertz spectrum band, crucial for next-generation high-speed internet, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Chairman Anil Kumar Lahoti said on Friday. He said the move aims to improve spectrum availability and efficiency amid rising data demand. Lahoti said the regulator has also recommended spectrum sharing, leasing of surplus airwaves, and wider infrastructure sharing among operators. Guidelines for private 5G networks have been issued, though adoption remains limited. He added that hybrid connectivity combining fibre and



fixed wireless access will be key as artificial intelligence driven demand rises. India added 17 million fixed broadband users this financial year, he said.

India edges closer to United States trade deal, says Piyush Goyal



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday that the first tranche of the India United States trade agreement is nearly finalised, with officials currently in Washington for talks.

He said discussions focus on improving market access for Indian exporters and securing better terms compared to competing countries. The negotiations follow changes in United States tariff policies after recent court rulings.

The deal aims to expand trade flows and resolve tariff issues across sectors. Officials are also addressing a United States investigation into import practices involving multiple countries, including India. Both sides are now working to advance the initial phase of the agreement.

India's Vee Technologies completes 3,000th US fire truck design

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India-origin Vee Technologies has completed the design of its 3,000th fire truck for the United States market, marking a milestone in its decade-long engineering operations, the company said on Friday. The firm designs emergency response vehicles tailored to diverse United States fire codes and building structures, including high-rise buildings. It said increasing complexity requires precise, data driven engineering for safety and rapid response. The company will showcase its capabilities at a fire services conference in Indianapolis. Industry estimates say India's engineering research and development segment is a key driver of technology exports, supported by global demand for product engineering and digital manufacturing services.

Czech power firm signs deal with Rolls-Royce for small nuclear reactor

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

CEZ said on Friday it signed a deal with Rolls-Royce SMR to begin preparatory work for building the Czech Republic's first small modular nuclear reactor at the Temelin plant site. The work includes project planning and licensing documentation needed for construction permits. The company aims to secure all approvals by 2030. The reactor would be the second such project for Rolls-Royce SMR after its United Kingdom plans. ČEZ, partly owned by the Czech state, is also expanding its nuclear partnership with the British firm as part of long term energy strategy.

Geely Caocao plans large robotaxi rollout by next year



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Caocao, the ride hailing arm of Geely Holding Group, said on Friday it plans to deploy thousands of robotaxis globally next year using its purpose built Eva Cab vehicle. The company aims to begin large scale production in 2028 and expand its fleet to about 100,000 vehicles by 2030. Initial deployment is planned for Abu Dhabi, Hong Kong, and several Chinese cities. The vehicles are designed specifically for autonomous use with simplified interiors to reduce costs. The move positions Caocao as a competitor to Tesla and other global robotaxi developers.

Porsche agrees to sell stakes in Bugatti Rimac venture



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Porsche said on Friday it has agreed to sell its stakes in Bugatti Rimac and Rimac Group to a consortium led by HOF Capital, pending regulatory approvals. The transaction ends Porsche's ownership in the joint venture created in 2021 with Rimac Group to house the Bugatti brand. Porsche previously held minority and investment stakes across both companies. After completion expected later in 2026, Rimac Group will take control of Bugatti Rimac with new strategic investors supporting expansion. Financial terms were not disclosed.

Bob Iger returns to Thrive Capital as advisor

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bob Iger has returned to Thrive Capital as an advisor, according to reports on Thursday, about a month after stepping down as chief executive officer of Disney. He previously served briefly as a venture partner at the firm in 2022. Iger will work with Thrive's investment team and portfolio company founders, but is not expected to take a full time role. Thrive Capital manages over fifty billion dollars in assets and has major stakes in several artificial intelligence and technology companies, including Cursor, which is linked to a potential acquisition deal with SpaceX.

SpaceX secures option to acquire AI coding startup Cursor for \$60 billion

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

SpaceX has secured an option to acquire artificial intelligence coding startup Cursor in a deal valued at \$60 billion, expanding Elon Musk's artificial intelligence and space technology ecosystem. The agreement, announced on Tuesday, also includes a fallback clause requiring SpaceX to pay \$10 billion if it chooses not to proceed with the acquisition, covering prior collaborative work between the two firms.

Cursor, known for its "vibe coding" tools that help developers write and debug software using artificial intelligence, has seen rapid valuation growth from \$2.5 billion in early 2025 to nearly \$30 billion by late 2025 after major funding rounds.

The move strengthens the combined SpaceX and xAI ecosystem, positioning it as a competitor to firms such as OpenAI and



Anthropic, and signals deeper integration of artificial intelligence with Musk's broader space and computing ambitions.

India and New Zealand to sign free trade agreement next week

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and New Zealand will sign a Free Trade Agreement on Monday next week, New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon said on Friday. He said the deal will improve market access, reduce tariffs, and strengthen trade ties between the two countries. Luxon said exporters will benefit from easier access to

markets and lower trade barriers, boosting jobs and growth in New Zealand. He added that the agreement will also enhance bilateral economic cooperation.

New Zealand Trade Minister Todd McClay said legal verification has been completed and called it a "once-in-a-generation opportunity" to expand trade and investment between the two sides.

Nasscom appoints Srikanth Velamakanni as chairperson

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nasscom on Friday appointed Srikanth Velamakanni, co-founder and group chief executive of Fractal, as its new chairperson. He succeeds Sindhu Gangadharan, who completed her term in April 2026. Velamakanni will work with Nasscom president Rajesh Nambiar and the executive council to lead the industry's artificial intelligence driven transformation agenda. He previously served as vice chairperson and executive council member.

He said India will play a major role in global artificial intelligence innovation and focus on scaling services and product ecosystems. Nasscom said his leadership comes at a key moment for autonomous systems and enterprise artificial intelligence adoption.



Kishor Patil of KPIT has been named vice chairperson.

Gold set for weekly loss as oil rally and inflation fears weigh on bullion

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Gold prices fell on Friday and were on track for their first weekly decline in five weeks, as markets reacted to rising oil prices and persistent geopolitical tensions linked to the United States and Iran standoff. Spot gold slipped about 0.2 percent to 4,683 dollars per ounce, after touching its lowest level since April 13, while weekly losses neared 3 percent. U.S. gold futures also declined.

Analysts said gold has struggled to gain

momentum as crude oil surged more than 18 percent this week due to concerns over the Strait of Hormuz and Middle East tensions. Higher oil prices are fueling inflation expectations, which may keep interest rates elevated and reduce demand for non-yielding assets like gold.

The dollar and U.S. Treasury yields also strengthened this week, adding further pressure. Meanwhile, silver and platinum declined, while palladium edged higher. Physical demand in India and China showed some strength despite global price weakness.

Nike to cut 1,400 jobs in global efficiency push



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nike said it will cut about 1,400 jobs as part of a broader efficiency drive, with most reductions expected in North America and Europe, according to Chief Operating Officer Venkatesh Alagirisamy. The layoffs will primarily affect the company's technology teams as the sportswear giant restructures operations amid ongoing cost pressures and investment shifts. The move reflects Nike's effort to streamline its global workforce while continuing to invest in digital and technology capabilities. The company did not provide a timeline for the job cuts but indicated they are part of a wider operational review aimed at improving productivity and long term competitiveness.

American Airlines rejects United merger, explores deeper Alaska ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

American Airlines Chief Executive Officer Robert Isom on Thursday firmly rejected any merger proposal with United Airlines, calling it anti competitive and reaffirming the company's commitment to its Chicago hub. He said American and United will remain long term competitors at Chicago O'Hare airport, even as federal limits cap flights at the congested hub for the summer. Instead of consolidation, Isom signaled growth through partnerships, including potential deeper cooperation with Alaska Airlines. American is also in early talks to expand its existing alliance with Alaska into broader international routes. The airline stressed any expansion will remain within labor agreement limits.

Kellogg brings back cereal box toys with Toy Story tie in



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Kellogg announced on Thursday that it is reintroducing toys inside cereal boxes for the first time in over a decade through a limited promotion tied to 'Toy Story 5'. Starting Sunday, special editions of Frosted Flakes, Froot Loops, Apple Jacks, and Corn Pops will include plastic figures inspired by the upcoming film. The move revives a nostalgic tradition that largely disappeared due to cost cuts and safety concerns, including past recalls over choking hazards and unsafe components. Kellogg said the promotion aims to create a screen free moment of discovery for families ahead of the film's June release.

India advances bid to host 2038 Asian Games at Olympic Council of Asia meeting



India has taken a significant step toward bringing the Asian Games back to the country in 2038, presenting its vision at the Olympic Council of Asia executive board meeting in Sanya, China. India last hosted the continental event in 1982, having also staged the inaugural edition in 1951, and now aims to secure the next available slot after the 2030 and 2034 editions are already allocated to Doha and Riyadh respectively. The Indian Olympic Association delegation, led by president PT Usha, met Olympic Council of Asia president Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani to discuss broader sporting collaboration. The discussions also focused on grassroots development, athlete pathways, and strengthening regional cooperation, while India reaffirmed its long term commitment to advancing Olympic values across Asia.

Real Madrid suffer double injury setback as Guler and Militao ruled out



Real Madrid suffered a major setback ahead of the final stretch of the Spanish league season after midfielder Arda Guler and defender Eder Militao were ruled out for the remainder of the campaign due to muscle injuries. Militao was injured during a 2-1 win over Deportivo Alaves earlier this week, while Guler picked up his issue in training on Thursday before the Real Betis match. Medical tests confirmed biceps femoris injuries in both players, ruling them out for several weeks. The club has not given a return timeline. Both could still recover in time for international duty in June for Turkey and Brazil at the International Federation of Association Football World Cup.

WNBA announces record 216-game broadcast schedule across major networks

The Women's National Basketball Association has unveiled a record-breaking 216-game regular-season broadcast schedule across multiple television and streaming platforms for its 30th season. Games will be shown on ABC, ESPN, CBS, Amazon Prime Video, Ion, NBC, USA Sports, and NBA TV, reflecting the league's expanding media reach. Commissioner Cathy Engelbert said the milestone follows a landmark 2025 season and significant offseason player movement, highlighting the league's growing popularity and commercial appeal. ESPN and ABC will air 30 games, including 13 on ABC such as the All-Star Game and opening weekend doubleheader featuring Indiana against Dallas and Las Vegas



against Phoenix. CBS will expand to eight primetime broadcasts, while Ion will carry over 50 Friday night games. Amazon will stream 31 matches, including the Commissioner's Cup final. NBC returns with Sunday coverage and Peacock will stream additional games. The Finals will air across NBC platforms and Peacock.

Indian equestrian Anush Agarwalla wins silver at Hagen dressage event



Indian equestrian Anush Agarwalla delivered a strong performance at the Concours de Dressage International event in Hagen, Germany, finishing with a silver medal on Saturday. Riding his mare Floriana, he scored 70.94 percent in a polished dressage test that impressed international judges for harmony, precision, and artistic presentation. The event is part of the International Equestrian Federation calendar and attracts elite riders from across the world. Agarwalla said the performance reflected his strong partnership with Floriana and pride in representing India in Europe. He also highlighted steady progress following a fourth place finish in Belgium last month with 68.85 percent, showing consistent improvement at the international level.

Chelsea face internal review as pressure mounts on Liam Rosenior

Chelsea Football Club has triggered internal discussions over manager Liam Rosenior's future after a 3-0 defeat to Brighton and Hove Albion left the team on a five-match goal drought. The loss has intensified pressure on the West London club's leadership, which is now expected to hold an urgent review meeting. According to reports, Rosenior's position is not guaranteed ahead of Chelsea's FA Cup match against Leeds United this weekend. The manager, appointed on a long-term six-year deal at the start of the year, replaced Enzo Maresca but has struggled to deliver consistent results. Chelsea currently sit seventh in the Premier League, five points off the top five with four matches



remaining. After the Brighton defeat, Rosenior publicly criticized his squad's attitude and performance, calling it unacceptable at every level. The club's leadership is now assessing whether a managerial change is required during the decisive phase of the season.

India backs Thomas and Uber Cup campaign with major financial support



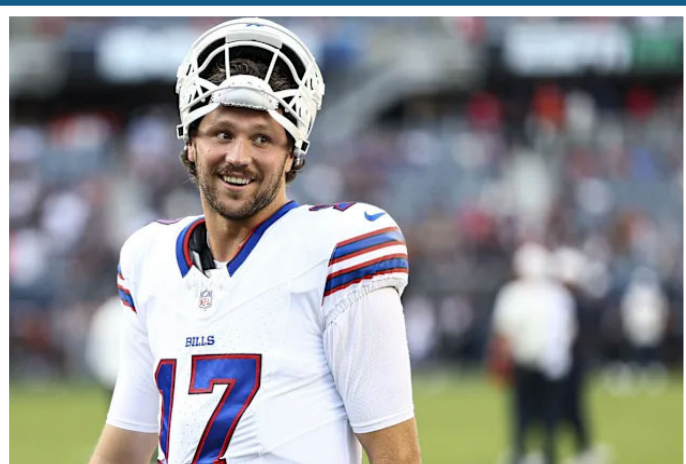
The Sports Authority of India has provided more than 1.45 crore rupees in financial and logistical support to the national badminton team for the Thomas and Uber Cup Finals in Denmark from April 24 to May 3. A 34 member squad featuring PV Sindhu, Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth, and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty will compete. The men face Canada, Australia, and China, while the women face Denmark, Ukraine, and China. India won the Thomas Cup in 2022. Support covers travel, accommodation, insurance, and staff. The event is important preparation as badminton will not feature in the next Commonwealth Games.

Controversy grows as suggestion emerges to replace Iran with Italy at World Cup

Reports say a special envoy to United States President Donald Trump has suggested that the International Federation of Association Football consider replacing Iran with Italy at the upcoming World Cup starting June 11. The proposal comes amid rising political tensions and disputes linked to Iran's participation and security concerns. Iran has qualified for a fourth consecutive World Cup but faces uncertainty due to geopolitical issues. Italy, a four time world champion, failed to qualify after playoff defeat. Iran remains officially qualified, and no decision has been announced. The



suggestion has sparked debate in global football circles as tensions around the tournament continue.



Buffalo Bills trade back in NFL draft to add extra selections

The Buffalo Bills completed three trades on Thursday night to move out of the first round of the National Football League draft while adding future selections. General manager Brandon Beane slid from pick 26 to 35 overall, gaining additional third and fourth round assets. Buffalo moved up in the third round to pick 66 and secured pick 101 in the fourth round, finishing with nine total selections. The strategy follows earlier moves and reflects a defense focused roster build.



United Arab Emirates captain Muhammad Waseem fined for code of conduct breach



United Arab Emirates captain Muhammad Waseem has been fined 15 percent of his match fee for breaching the International Cricket Council Code of Conduct during the second Twenty20 international against Nepal on Wednesday. He was found guilty of a Level one offence after making post match comments suggesting biased umpiring decisions. Match officials reported the remarks. Waseem admitted the charge and accepted the sanction without a formal hearing. He also received one demerit point, his first in 24 months. The United Arab Emirates lost the second match by eight wickets after winning the opener, leaving the series level in Kirtipur.

Inter Miami extend unbeaten run with win over Real Salt Lake



Inter Miami extended their unbeaten run in Major League Soccer to eight matches with a 2-0 away win over Real Salt Lake on Wednesday. Rodrigo De Paul opened the scoring in the 82nd minute with a long range strike after a pass from Segovia, who registered his fifth assist of the season. Luis Suarez added a second goal a minute later to seal victory. The first half remained goalless despite chances from Lionel Messi. Goalkeeper St Clair made a key second half save. The win strengthens Miami's strong away record and keeps them among the top teams in the current season standings.

Sportsmanship shines as runners carry fallen competitor to finish line at Boston Marathon

A moment of sportsmanship and humanity defined this year's Boston Marathon after runners Aaron Beggs of Northern Ireland and Robson De Oliveira of Brazil helped fellow competitor Ajay Haridasse reach the finish line. Haridasse collapsed roughly 1,000 feet from the end after his legs gave out, but the two runners lifted him and supported him through the final stretch on Monday. Beggs later said the decision was instinctive despite his own exhaustion, adding that crowd support helped him push through. He described seeing Haridasse fall near Boylston Street and immediately stepping in to help. The trio's emotional finish has gone viral, highlighting the camaraderie of marathon running. Beggs said the experience was unforgettable and symbolized unity among strangers



from different countries. Haridasse, a Massachusetts native and Northeastern University student, has since connected with Beggs, and the runners' finish time also qualified them for next year's Boston Marathon.

Erling Haaland fires Manchester City to top as Burnley relegated



Manchester City moved to the top of the Premier League table on Wednesday with a one nil win over Burnley, ending Arsenal's long stay at the summit and confirming Burnley's relegation. Erling Haaland scored the only goal early, his 35th of the season, after being set up by Jeremy Doku. City dominated possession and created several chances but failed to extend their lead. Burnley also missed opportunities, keeping the match competitive. Manager Pep Guardiola said his team performed well but lacked finishing. The result strengthens City's title push as the season reaches its decisive stage.

Pakistan withdraws from South Asian Women's Championship in India

Pakistan's women's football team has withdrawn from the South Asian Football Federation Women's Championship scheduled in India from late May to early June, citing ongoing political tensions. The decision reduces the tournament to six teams in Goa, with groups already confirmed after the official draw. Pakistan's absence is seen as a setback for the development of its women's football program, which has struggled with limited international exposure. India and Bangladesh remain among the strongest contenders, while Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, and Maldives complete the lineup. Pakistan has also missed several recent regional competitions due to similar issues.



Suzie Bates to retire after Twenty20 World Cup



New Zealand great Suzie Bates will retire from international cricket after the Twenty20 World Cup in England and Wales, which begins on June 12. The 38 year old has played 362 international matches since her debut in 2006 and is New Zealand's leading run scorer across formats. She has scored 14 centuries and taken 145 wickets in a remarkable career. Bates also captained the side for several years and helped New Zealand win the 2024 World Cup. She said she hopes to end her career by helping her team compete for another global title in her final tournament.

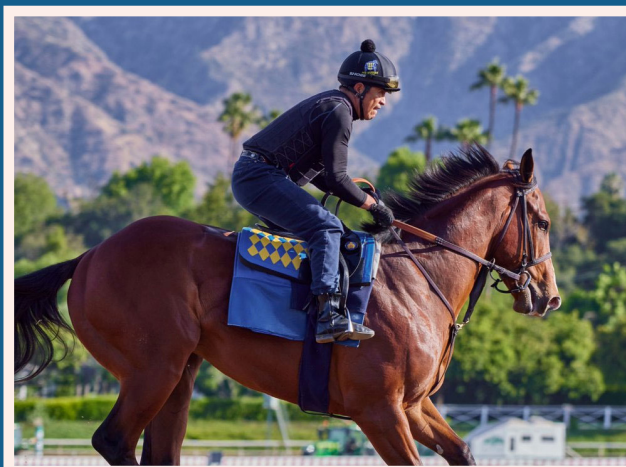
India selected among 12 nations for FIFA Women's Development Programme

India has been selected as one of 12 countries for FIFA's Women's Development Programme under its Commercial Strategy 2026, marking a major boost for the country's women's football ecosystem. The other selected nations include Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Scotland, Canada, Mexico, Finland, Ghana, Jordan, Lithuania, and Paraguay. India's inclusion was confirmed after the All India Football Federation submitted an application followed by a detailed commercial presentation outlining its future roadmap.

The programme will be conducted online from May to October 2026 and will be tailored for key stakeholders in women's football. It aims to strengthen commercial planning, sponsorship development, and fan engagement. All India Football Federation Deputy Secretary General M. Satyanarayan said the initiative comes at the right time, especially as India's women's teams continue to qualify for major continental tournaments and youth leagues expand domestically. FIFA has long supported Indian football development.

Kona Gold and trainers Clement and Shirreffs enter Hall of Fame

Sprinter Kona Gold and late trainers Christophe Clement and John Shirreffs were elected to the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame on Thursday. Kona Gold won the 2000 Breeders' Cup Sprint and earned champion sprinter honors. Clement recorded 2,576 wins, while Shirreffs trained Kentucky Derby winner Giacomo and champion mare Zenyatta. The class also includes Gulch and Mongo. Induction will take place on August 7 in Saratoga Springs, honoring careers across racing history.



Bob Baffert names 10.5-million-dollar colt Zedan

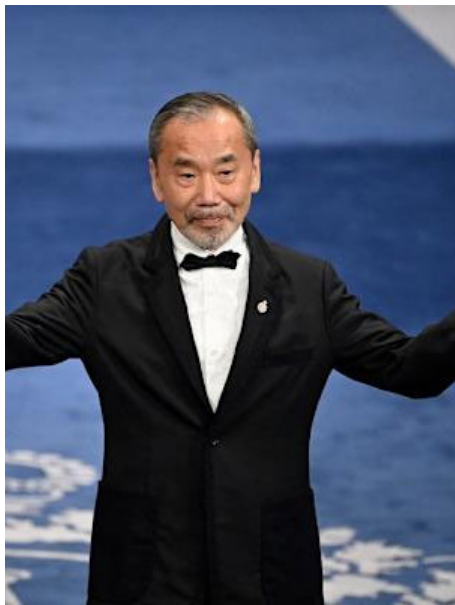
Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert has named a record 10.5-million-dollar colt Zedan after it joined his Santa Anita stable. The bay colt, sired by Flightline, was purchased in Florida by Amr Zedan. It is the second highest price for a juvenile in North America. Baffert called the horse a standout specimen with elite potential. The colt's dam is Lucrezia by Into Mischief. Baffert said its pedigree justifies the valuation and hinted at future top level racing targets.

Dwayne Johnson highlights 'Moana' as a bridge to Polynesian culture



Dwayne Johnson has emphasized the cultural importance of the live action 'Moana', saying it has helped bring global audiences closer to Polynesian traditions and heritage. Speaking on Thursday at CinemaCon, he said the film offers meaningful representation for younger generations. The project stars newcomer Catherine Laga'aia and is directed by Thomas Kail. Johnson also revealed that his character Maui was inspired by his grandfather, High Chief Peter Maivia. He described the story as a powerful celebration of identity and culture. The live action adaptation of the popular animated film is expected to release later this year and is already generating strong anticipation.

Haruki Murakami to release first novel in three years with female lead



Haruki Murakami will publish his first novel in three years, 'The Tale of KAHŌ', set for release on Thursday, July 3, in print and digital formats. The 352-page book follows Kaho, a 26-year-old picture book author navigating a strange, surreal world, marking the author's first full-length novel centered on a lone female protagonist. The story began as a short piece titled 'Kaho', first presented during a reading at Waseda University and later published in a literary magazine. Murakami expanded the narrative through additional stories before compiling them into the upcoming novel. His previous work, 'The City and Its Uncertain Walls', explored themes of love and the subconscious through a male protagonist.

Taylor Swift leads Spotify's all time streaming chart as platform reveals historic rankings

Taylor Swift has topped Spotify's first ever list of the most streamed artists of all time, released on Thursday, with Bad Bunny in second place. The ranking reflects years of dominance by both artists, who have alternated the top position, with Bad Bunny leading from 2020 to 2023 and again in 2025, while Swift held the top spot in the intervening years. Drake placed third, followed by The Weeknd, Ariana Grande, and Ed Sheeran among others in the top

ten. The list was unveiled as Spotify marked its twentieth anniversary and also included rankings for most streamed songs, albums, podcasts, and audiobooks.

Streaming now accounts for about 82 percent of music industry revenue in the United States, underlining its central role in the business. Spotify continues to lead the global market with more than 751 million users, including 290 million subscribers, across over 184 markets.



'Dhurandhar-The Revenge' surpasses 'Pathaan' to become top Indian film in United Kingdom

Ranveer Singh's film 'Dhurandhar-The Revenge' has become the highest-grossing Indian film of all time in the United Kingdom, overtaking Shah Rukh Khan's 2023 action thriller 'Pathaan'. On its thirty-third day, the film collected 4.383 million pounds, surpassing 'Pathaan', which earned 4.380 million pounds, according to makers.



The achievement includes becoming the first Indian film to cross 25 million dollars in North America, where it is the highest-grossing Indian title after its third weekend. It also became the first Indian film to cross 1 million pounds in Germany and performed strongly in markets such as Finland.

Indian intelligence agent infiltrating Karachi's criminal and political networks, continuing a covert mission linked to avenging the 2008 Mumbai attacks and countering terror threats.

The cast includes Ranveer Singh, Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt, Arjun Rampal and R Madhavan, while 'Pathaan' directed by Siddharth Anand starred Shah Rukh Khan, Deepika Padukone and John Abraham.

The film is a duology about an undercover

Delhi high court restrains misuse of Allu Arjun's identity in artificial intelligence case

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday granted interim relief to actor Allu Arjun, restraining multiple entities from misusing his name, image, voice, and likeness, including through artificial intelligence and deepfake tools.

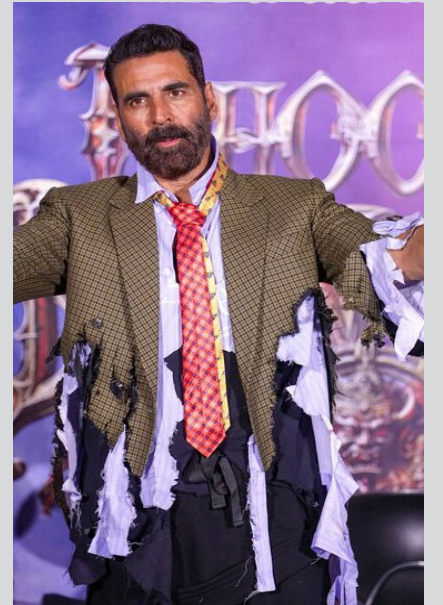
The actor had filed a suit alleging unauthorised commercial exploitation through merchandise, explicit content, and fake AI-generated interactions. Justice Tushar Rao Gedela noted Arjun's strong public identity built through films like 'Pushpa: The Rise' and 'Pushpa 2: The Rule'.

The court said his persona carries distinct commercial value and found a prima facie case of infringement. It barred defendants from using his identity across platforms and ordered



removal of identified infringing content, citing risk of irreparable harm.

Akshay Kumar plans film honoring homemakers as 'Ghar Ke Superstars'



Akshay Kumar has revealed plans to make a film centered on homemakers, describing them as 'Ghar Ke Superstars', during an appearance on Wheel of Fortune on Thursday. The actor said he has been developing the idea for some time and already has a complete script focused on women and their central role in family life, but is waiting for the right opportunity to begin production. The announcement came during an interaction with contestants whose personal stories reflected similar themes. Kumar, who has spent more than three decades in the industry, was recently seen in 'Bhoot Bangla', his reunion with filmmaker Priyadarshan, which received mixed responses despite praise for his performance.

'Varanasi' heads to Mexico comic con with global showcase and rising buzz



The upcoming film 'Varanasi', starring Mahesh Babu, Priyanka Chopra Jonas, and Prithviraj Sukumaran, will be presented at Comic Con Experience Mexico on Thursday through a special panel. Producer S. S. Karthikeya will lead a segment titled 'Varanasi to the world', featuring a video message from director S. S. Rajamouli and exclusive behind the scenes footage. The film has already generated strong global buzz after its first glimpse premiered at a major European trailer festival. Character reveals have further heightened anticipation. Positioned as a major international release, the film is scheduled to arrive in theaters on April 7, 2027.

Jon Favreau admits he misjudged Iron Man's ending in 'Avengers: Endgame'



Jon Favreau has said he was wrong to initially oppose the decision to kill off Tony Stark in 'Avengers: Endgame'. Speaking on Thursday, he recalled voicing concerns to directors Anthony Russo and Joe Russo about how audiences might react to the emotional loss. However, he later praised their execution, along with performances by Robert Downey Jr. and Gwyneth Paltrow. Favreau said the ending added emotional depth and resonated strongly with viewers, even making him emotional. He also expressed excitement about Downey's return to the Marvel universe in a new role as Doctor Doom.

'The Devil Wears Prada 2' brings Milan into global spotlight as fashion and film collide



The upcoming sequel 'The Devil Wears Prada 2' has turned Milan into a focal point of global fashion excitement ahead of its Italian premiere on Thursday. While the film pays homage to the iconic Prada label, it also highlights Milan's broader fashion ecosystem. Scenes were filmed during fashion week last September, including a runway show by Dolce & Gabbana.

The buzz has extended to a popular installation at La Rinascente, where fans have gathered to explore a replica of Miranda Priestly's office and themed displays. The film also celebrates the cultural legacy of Prada, founded in Milan's historic Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, reinforcing the city's enduring influence on global fashion.

Kanye West faces backlash ahead of Italy concert over past antisemitic remarks

Kanye West is facing mounting backlash ahead of his scheduled performance at the Hellwatt Festival in Reggio Emilia on Saturday, as criticism intensifies over his past antisemitic remarks. The concert, set at the RCF Arena with a capacity of more than 100,000, is expected to be one of his largest live appearances, with tens of thousands of tickets already sold. However, Jewish organizations, anti fascist groups, trade unions, and political

leaders have called for the event to be canceled. Several European shows in countries including the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, and Poland were previously scrapped following similar concerns. Senior Italian politician Pina Picierno has urged authorities to intervene, questioning why Italy has not taken a stronger stance. While the mayor of Reggio Emilia has distanced himself from the artist's statements, the final decision rests with the Interior Ministry, which has not yet commented.



Amrinder Singh Raja Warring sends legal notice over 'Lawrence of Punjab' docu-series

Congress MP Amrinder Singh Raja Warring from Ludhiana Lok Sabha constituency has sent a legal notice to streaming platform Zee5 over its upcoming docu-series 'Lawrence of Punjab'. On Tuesday, he urged the platform to suspend or defer, citing violations of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 under the Information Technology Act, 2000.

In his notice, Warring argued that the series, based on gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, could glorify criminal activity and romanticize organised crime, creating validation for unlawful conduct. He warned that dramatizing the life of a criminal may encourage imitation, especially among vulnerable youth in Punjab, where gang influence remains a concern.

He also cited Article 19(2) of the Constitution stating that free speech is subject to reasonable restrictions when public order



is at risk. Warring noted Bishnoi's alleged involvement in serious crimes, including the 2022 killing of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moose Wala, and said such portrayals could worsen law and order concerns.

Reese Witherspoon encourages women to learn artificial intelligence early

Actress Reese Witherspoon has urged women to learn artificial intelligence, warning they risk falling behind as technology advances. In a social media post on Sunday, she said women's jobs are more likely to be automated while adoption among women remains lower. She called for shared learning and greater awareness of artificial intelligence tools. In a video, Witherspoon said many women she spoke to had little experience with artificial intelligence, highlighting a knowledge gap. She stressed that early understanding is key to keeping up with rapid technological change. She added that artificial intelligence could simplify daily life and said she plans to document her learning journey to encourage others.



Anup Jalota and Anuradha Paudwal honor Asha Bhosle with online tribute



Singers Anup Jalota and Anuradha Paudwal paid a one-hour online tribute to late legend Asha Bhosle on Tuesday, celebrating her musical legacy. During the virtual session, Paudwal performed iconic songs including 'Abhi Na Jao Chhodkar' and 'Aala Aala Wara', while Jalota reflected on Bhosle's impact on Indian music. He later shared the tribute online, calling it a heartfelt remembrance of her timeless voice. Paudwal described Bhosle's passing as the end of an era, praising her versatility, energy, and emotional depth across genres. Jalota also earlier performed at her funeral, honoring her with live renditions of her songs.

Offset breaks silence after being shot, returns to stage days later in defiant comeback

Rapper Offset has spoken out for the first time after being shot outside the Hard Rock Hollywood casino in Seminole, Florida on Monday, April 6, saying he feels "blessed" to still be able to move and is determined to keep pushing forward. The 34-year-old suffered non-life-threatening injuries after being struck in the hip and was rushed to hospital following the incident. Speaking on the Creators Inc podcast, recorded just days later, he downplayed the ordeal and said he does not want sympathy or pity. Despite the shooting, Offset returned to performing on Saturday, April 11, at Rowfest at the University of Arkansas. He initially appeared in a wheelchair before standing on stage to perform, drawing loud cheers from fans. He described himself as lucky to be alive, while his mother later called him a "walking miracle."

'Leaving Neverland' director criticizes Michael Jackson biopic, calls out portrayal and abuse allegations

Controversy is building around the Michael Jackson biopic, with documentary filmmaker Dan Reed sharply criticizing the project before its release. Reed, who directed the 2019 HBO documentary 'Leaving Neverland', accused the film of overlooking serious allegations of child sexual abuse made against the late pop star. The documentary featured detailed accounts from Wade Robson and James Safechuck, which Jackson's estate has strongly denied, calling the claims false and one-sided. In a recent interview with The New Yorker, Reed also pushed back on comments from biopic director Antoine Fuqua, who defended the project's approach. Reed accused those involved in the film of profiting from Jackson's story while ignoring the allegations. He further argued that the media and entertainment industry were failing to address the accusations responsibly, escalating his criticism by comparing Jackson to Jeffrey Epstein. The biopic has not yet been released.

असम के मंदिरों की यात्रा का दूसरा पड़ाव उमानंद मंदिर, गुवाहाटी



कामाख्या मंदिर की दिव्य अनुभूति के पश्चात **IndoUS Tribune** की यह आध्यात्मिक यात्रा अब अपने दूसरे पड़ाव की ओर अग्रसर होती है। कामाख्या शक्तिपीठ ने हमें जहाँ शक्ति और सृजन का गहन दर्शन कराया, वहीं अब हमारी यात्रा हमें भगवान शिव की पवित्र स्थली उमानंद मंदिर की ओर ले जाती है, जो ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के मध्य स्थित एक अद्भुत और शांत आध्यात्मिक धाम है।

दूसरा पड़ाव - उमानंद मंदिर, गुवाहाटी

असम की राजधानी गुवाहाटी में ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के बीच स्थित पीकोक आइलैंड (मोर द्वीप) पर विराजमान उमानंद मंदिर भगवान शिव को समर्पित एक अत्यंत प्राचीन और पवित्र स्थल है। यह मंदिर 17वीं शताब्दी में अहोम वंश के राजा गदाधर सिंह के आदेश पर 1694 ईस्वी में निर्मित कराया गया था।

यह स्थान केवल धार्मिक दृष्टि से ही नहीं, बल्कि प्राकृतिक सौंदर्य और शांति के लिए भी प्रसिद्ध है। ब्रह्मपुत्र की लहरों के बीच स्थित यह द्वीप विश्व का सबसे छोटा आबाद नदी द्वीप माना जाता है, जो अपने आप में एक अनोखा आकर्षण प्रस्तुत करता है।

मंदिर तक पहुँचने के लिए भक्तों को नाव या फेरी के

माध्यम से लगभग 30 मिनट की यात्रा करनी पड़ती है, जो स्वयं में एक आध्यात्मिक अनुभव बन जाती है। द्वीप पर पहुँचकर श्रद्धालुओं को ऊँची सीढ़ियाँ चढ़कर मंदिर तक पहुँचना होता है, जहाँ भगवान शिव का स्वयम्भू स्वरूप विराजमान है।

धार्मिक मान्यता और पौराणिक कथा

उमानंद मंदिर का संबंध एक अत्यंत रोचक पौराणिक कथा से जुड़ा है। मान्यता है कि इसी स्थान पर भगवान शिव गहन ध्यान में लीन थे, तभी कामदेव ने उनके ध्यान को भंग करने का प्रयास किया। इससे क्रोधित होकर भगवान शिव ने अपने तीसरे नेत्र की अग्नि से कामदेव को भस्म कर दिया। इसी कारण इस पर्वत को भस्माचल या भस्मकूट कहा जाता है।

‘उमानंद’ नाम भी अत्यंत अर्थपूर्ण है—‘उमा’ अर्थात् माता पार्वती और ‘आनंद’ अर्थात् सुख। अर्थात् यह वह स्थान है जहाँ शिव-पार्वती का दिव्य आनंद प्रकट होता है।

ऐतिहासिक महत्व और संरचना

इस मंदिर के प्राचीन अवशेषों में गुप्तकाल के पश्चात की स्थापत्य शैली के प्रमाण मिलते हैं। यहाँ पत्थरों पर उकेरी गई मूर्तियाँ और शिल्पकला उस समय की धार्मिक समृद्धि

को दर्शाती हैं।

मंदिर परिसर में केवल भगवान शिव ही नहीं, बल्कि गणेश, सूर्य देव, देवी शक्ति और भगवान विष्णु के दशावतारों की भी प्रतिमाएँ स्थापित हैं, जो इस स्थल को समग्र हिन्दू आस्था का केंद्र बनाती हैं।

1897 के विनाशकारी भूकंप में मंदिर को काफी क्षति पहुँची थी, जिसे बाद में एक स्थानीय व्यापारी द्वारा पुनर्निर्मित किया गया, जिससे इसकी पवित्रता और भव्यता आज भी अक्षुण्ण बनी हुई है।

आध्यात्मिक अनुभव और विशेषताएँ

उमानंद मंदिर का वातावरण अत्यंत शांत और मन को सुकून देने वाला है। सुबह के समय यहाँ का दर्शन विशेष रूप से आध्यात्मिक ऊर्जा प्रदान करता है। महाशिवरात्रि और शिव चतुर्दशी के अवसर पर यहाँ विशेष उत्सव मनाया जाता है, जिसमें बड़ी संख्या में श्रद्धालु भाग लेते हैं।

यहाँ की प्राकृतिक सुंदरता—चारों ओर बहती ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी, हरियाली से घिरा द्वीप, और कभी-कभी दिखाई देने वाले दुर्लभ गोल्डन लंगूर—इस स्थान को और भी अद्वितीय बनाते हैं।

यात्रा से जुड़े उपयोगी सुझाव

कैसे पहुँचें: गुवाहाटी के कचारी घाट से नाव/फेरी द्वारा
समय: प्रातः 5:30 बजे से सायं 6:00 बजे तक
विशेष सुझाव: साधारण वेशभूषा रखें और द्वीप पर बंदरों से सावधान रहें
उत्तम समय: सुबह का शांत समय दर्शन के लिए सबसे उपयुक्त

समापन

उमानंद मंदिर की यह यात्रा हमें यह अनुभव कराती है कि भारत की आध्यात्मिकता केवल भव्यता में नहीं, बल्कि प्रकृति के बीच स्थित उन शांत स्थलों में भी बसती है जहाँ मन स्वतः ही ध्यानमग्न हो जाता है। ब्रह्मपुत्र की गोद में स्थित यह मंदिर शिव की अनंत शक्ति और शांति का अद्भुत संगम है।

IndoUS Tribune की असम यात्रा का यह दूसरा पड़ाव हमें आस्था, प्रकृति और आत्मिक शांति के गहरे संबंध का बोध कराता है। अब हमारी यह दिव्य यात्रा आगे बढ़ेगी असम के एक और पवित्र स्थल हाजो स्थित हयग्रीव माधव मंदिर की ओर, जहाँ वैष्णव और बौद्ध परंपराओं का अद्वितीय संगम हमारा इंतजार कर रहा है।



बाल्मीकि रामायण में छुपे कुछ विरले प्रसंग



रावण ने सीता को हाथ क्यों नहीं लगाया ?

क्या यह धैर्य था या किसी श्राप का बल ?

ऋषि पुलस्त्य कुल में जन्मा, जगत प्रतापी रावण, एक महा बलशाली एवं ज्ञानी राजा था। उसने अपने युवाकाल में भगवान शिव की अनन्य आराधना की। जिसके फलस्वरूप उसे बहुत से सिद्ध अस्त्र शस्त्र प्राप्त हुए। वह महान ऋषि विश्रवा का पुत्र और ऋषि पुलस्त्य का पौत्र था। भारत के विद्वान रावण के गुणों की प्रशंसा करते नहीं थकते। उसकी बस एक ही कमजोरी थी, उसकी काम वासना। उसके चलते वह सुंदर स्त्री को देख, अधीर हो उठता था। फिर बहुतों ने रावण की, यह कह कर, प्रशंसा की कि, वह चरित्र का इतना अच्छा था कि, सीता का अपहरण करने के बाद भी, उसने सीता को बल पूर्वक, कभी छूने का प्रयास भी नहीं किया। वह विद्वान इसे रावण के धैर्य का एक सुंदर उदाहरण मानते हैं। क्या यह वाकई उसका धैर्य था या कोई और कारण ?

रामचरित मानस के सुंदर कांड में इस प्रसंग का थोड़ा सा वर्णन है। इसमें वह सीता को मंदोदरी से भी बड़ी पटरानी बनाने का प्रलोभन देता है। सारा वैभव उसके चरणों में लुटाने को तत्पर दीखता है। इस पर भी जब सीता, कोई सीधा उत्तर नहीं देती, तो उसे डराने और धमकाने का पूरा यत्न करता है। यहाँ रावण के धैर्य की परीक्षा थी।

कह रावण सुनु सुमुख सयानी, मंदोदरी आदि सब रानी तव अनुचरी करउ पन मोरा, एक बार बिलोकु मम ओरा

लेकिन सीता ने उसकी ओर देखा तक नहीं। बल्कि उसे कहा कि, कहाँ मेरे सूर्य जैसे प्रतापी राम और कहाँ तुझ जैसा निस्तेज जुगनू। रावण को यह सुन क्रोध आ गया। वह चिल्लाने लगा, सीता तुमने मेरा अपमान कर दिया, मैं अभी तुम्हारा सिर काट कर फेंक सकता हूँ।

**सीता तैं मम कृत अपमाना,
कटिहवूँ तव सिर कटिन कृपाना
नहि त सपदि मानु मम बानी,
सुमुखि होति न त जीवन हानि**

क्या यह रावण का धैर्य था या फिर कोई और शक्ति उसे रोक रही थी ? बाल्मीकि रामायण में इस प्रसंग को विस्तार से वर्णित किया गया है। इस रामायण में रावण अपने एक सचिव महापार्ष्व से सीता के बारे बात करते दिखाया गया है। यह सचिव रावण के बल और प्राक्रम से भली भाँति परिचित है। जब महापार्ष्व रावण को सीता के लिए तड़पता हुआ देखता है, तो वह रावण को सीता के साथ बलात् संबंध बनाने के लिए प्रेरित करता है।

**बलात् कुक्कुटवृत्तेन प्रवर्तस्व महाबल ।
आक्रम्याक्रम्य सीतां वै तां भुङ्क्त्व च रमस्व च ॥ ४ ॥**

महाबली वीर रावण आप सीता के साथ बलात् संबंध कीजिए। बारम्बार आक्रामक व्यवहार कर, उसके साथ रमण कीजिए। आपको किसी का भय नहीं होना चाहिए। इसके उत्तर में रावण महापार्ष्व को एक रहस्य बताता है।

**महापार्ष्व निबोध त्वं रहस्यं किंचिदात्मनः ।
चिरवृत्तं तदाख्यास्ये यदवाप्तं पुरा मया ॥ १० ॥**

बहुत दिन हुए एक गुप्त घटना घटित हुई थी, उसके परिणाम स्वरूप मुझे एक श्राप मिला था। मैं उसी श्राप के डर के कारण कुछ नहीं कर पा रहा हूँ। आज मैं तुझे वह घटना सुनाता हूँ। वह कहानी इस प्रकार है:

रावण महापार्ष्व को बताता है कि, एक बार वह भ्रमण के लिए वन गया हुआ था। जब वहाँ वह विश्राम कर रहा था, तो वहाँ से पुँजिकस्थला नाम

की एक बहुत सुंदर अप्सरा गुजर रही थी। वह अप्सरा, हमारे पितामह ब्रह्मा जी से मिलने जा रही थी। मुझे वहाँ देख, वह छुपने छुपाने लगी, ताकि मेरी नजर उस पर न पड़े। उसका सौंदर्य अप्रतिम था। जब मैंने उसे छुपते छुपते देखा, तो मेरी उत्सुकता और बढ़ गई। जैसे जैसे मैं उसे करीब से देखता गया, मेरी लालसा उसे पाने की और भी बढ़ने लगी। जैसे ही मैंने उसे पकड़ने का प्रयास किया, तो उसने उसका विरोध किया। लेकिन मेरी काम वासना, उस समय अपनी चरम सीमा पर थी। मैंने उसकी एक नहीं सुनी। जल्द ही मैंने, उसे अपने आलिंगन में ले, उसके साथ बलात् संबंध बनाए। वह मेरे सामने, एक असहाय अप्सरा, के समान विनती करती रही। लेकिन मैंने उसकी कोई बात नहीं सुनी। इस घटना के बाद वह सीधी पितामह ब्रह्मा जी के पास गई। एक दुखी और क्रोधित अप्सरा को देख, पितामह बहुत विचलित हुए। उस अप्सरा का चेहरा एक मुरझाए हुए कमल के समान मलिन लग रहा था।

ब्रह्मा जी ने जब पुँजिकस्थला के दुख का कारण पूछा, तो उसने रावण के साथ घटी पूरी घटना को अक्षरशः पितामह को बता दिया। ब्रह्मा जी यह सुन, बड़े ही क्रोधित हो उठे। उन्होंने अप्सरा को सांत्वना देते हुए कहा कि, बेटी तेरे साथ जो हुआ है, उसे तो ठीक नहीं कर सकता। लेकिन मैं अब कुछ ऐसा करने जा रहा हूँ कि, इसके बाद रावण किसी अन्य स्त्री में साथ ऐसा दुर्व्यवहार न कर सके। फिर उन्होंने हाथ में थोड़ा जल लेकर, रावण को एक श्राप दिया कि, अगर रावण किसी भी स्त्री को उसकी इच्छा के विरुद्ध छुएगा, तो उसके मस्तक के सौ टुकड़े हो जाएँगे। कुछ समय के बाद, इस श्राप का समाचार रावण तक पहुँच गया।

रावण यह सब सुनकर बहुत भयभीत हो उठा। रावण ने इस श्राप के रहस्य को गुप्त ही रखा। लेकिन मन ही

मन, वह स्त्रियों से थोड़ा दूर रहने लगा। अगर किसी दासी पर उसका दिल आ भी जाता, तो पहले वह उन्हें कई प्रकार के कीमती पुरस्कारों से बहलाता फुसलाता। इस तरह उन्हें स्वेच्छा से अपने बस में कर, फिर प्रणय ब्रीड़ा करता।

अब इसे सीता के प्रसंग में देखते हैं। सचिव महापार्ष्व के फुसलाने पर, रावण जब उसे यह रहस्य बता, स्पष्ट करता है कि, उसे इस श्राप का भय हमेशा सताता रहता है। इसीलिए सीता का अपहरण कर, लँका में लाने के बाद, वह कई बार, सीता के सम्मुख गया। उसने सीता से मंदोदरी से भी बड़ी पटरानी बनाने का भी प्रस्ताव रखा। लेकिन माँ सीता, अपने पतिव्रत धर्म पर अडिग रहते, उसके हर प्रस्ताव को टुकराती रही। सीता को न छूने के पीछे, उसका धैर्य कम और इस श्राप का भय अधिक हावी था। उसके भय का एक और कारण यह भी था कि, रावण भली भाँति जानता था कि, राम नर नहीं नारायण हैं। उनकी पत्नी के साथ छेड़ छड़, बहुत बड़ा दंडनीय अपराध है। यह सब उसे केवल सीता के सम्मुख गिड़गिड़ाने के लिए मजबूर करता रहा। वह सीता को छूने की हिम्मत नहीं जुटा पाया। और अंत में, उसे रामजी साथ युद्ध करके, अपना राज्य और सीता के मोह, दोनों को हारना पड़ा। यह था बाल्मीकि रामायण में छिपा एक रहस्य, जिसे सभी नहीं जानते। 'जय श्री राम'



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Shree Jalaram Mandir hosts 14th Annual Health Fair, serving over 270 in Hoffman Estates



Representatives from a Chicago-based adult care organization provide information on senior care services across the Chicagoland area.

By: Jayanti Oza

Shree Jalaram Mandir successfully organized its 14th Annual Health Fair on Sunday, April 19, 2026, reaffirming its commitment to community service through accessible healthcare initiatives.

free medical services to devotees and local residents, particularly those facing financial barriers to care. This year, more than 270 individuals benefited from a wide range of services offered by a dedicated team of healthcare professionals and volunteers.

Attendees received consultations from general physicians, along with EKG

The charitable event aimed to provide



Healthcare professionals and volunteers pose for a group photo during the event.



Volunteers at Shree Jalaram Mandir prepare food for participants.

evaluations by cardiologists, dental checkups, pulmonary assessments, eye examinations, and physical therapy consultations. Guidance on diet, nutrition, and Ayurveda was also available, reflecting a holistic approach to health and wellness.

In addition to consultations, participants underwent key diagnostic screenings, including blood pressure and blood sugar checks, urinalysis, and other laboratory tests. The event was supported by nearly 75 medical and non-medical volunteers, alongside

contributions from temple committee members, the Lohana Association, and participating vendors. Volunteers from the temple kitchen served tea, coffee, and a light breakfast, adding a warm and welcoming touch to the day's activities.

The event's success underscored the spirit of seva, or selfless service, with organizers Bakul Thakkar, Jigna Tucker, and Jayantibhai Thakkar expressing gratitude to all volunteers and community members who contributed to the Health Fair.



The 'Ascension' booth offers dietary guidance for diabetic patients.

OFBJP Chicago marks BJP Foundation Day with diaspora dialogue and cultural pride

By: Dr. Avi Verma

The Overseas Friends of Bharatiya Janata Party Chicago Chapter commemorated the 47th Foundation Day of the Bharatiya Janata Party with a well-attended community event that blended cultural expression, political reflection, and civic dialogue.

Marking the party's Sthapna Diwas on April 6, 1980, the gathering brought together members of the Indian diaspora to celebrate India's democratic journey while emphasizing active civic participation in the United States.

The program opened with the national anthems of both countries, followed by a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony and a Vedic invocation for peace and prosperity. A cultural segment featured young performer Vardaan Tiwari presenting 'Vande Mataram' on the saxophone, while Yashswini Desai delivered a vocal rendition that resonated with the audience.

The event also observed a moment of silence in memory of Balbir Punj, acknowledging his contributions to



Speakers at the BJP Foundation Day Celebration, Prachi Jaitly, IUSA Media, Rakesh Malhotra, Member Executive Committee, OFBJP USA, Devesh Pandit, Commissioner Morton Grove, Harish Kolasani, Founder of National Indian Hub and Dr. Avi Verma of Indo US Tribune.

India's public life.

Chicago Chapter Coordinator Amar

Upadhyay welcomed attendees and thanked community members for their continued engagement. The keynote presentation by Rakesh Malhotra from the OFBJP USA Executive Committee highlighted the ideological foundations of the party, including Integral Humanism, Antyodaya, and 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas.' He also traced the party's evolution from the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, founded by Syama Prasad Mukherjee in 1951, to its establishment in 1980 under Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Media professionals, including Vandana Jhingan, Dr. Avi Verma, Jayanti Oza, and Prachi Jaitly, spoke about the importance of responsible journalism in shaping accurate narratives about India, particularly in the context of a 'Viksit Bharat' vision.

Community leaders engaged in a broader discussion on civic participation in the United States, emphasizing the diaspora's role in contributing to local governance while advocating for stronger India-United States ties. Topics included trade partnerships, defense cooperation, and policy engagement with American institutions.

Speakers also referenced key policy developments under Prime

Minister Narendra Modi, including the abrogation of Article 370, the Citizenship Amendment Act, the consecration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, and the abolition of triple talaq, highlighting their impact on India's governance and socio-cultural framework.

A personal reflection by Hasmukh Patel, recalling early interactions with Prime Minister Modi, added a nostalgic touch to the evening. The event concluded with a felicitation ceremony honoring Amar Upadhyay for his contributions to the Chicago Chapter.

At the organizational level, OFBJP USA leadership under Adapa Prasad and Vasu Patel continues to strengthen diaspora engagement and promote India's image in the United States.

Coordination with the party's global outreach is guided by Vijay Chauthaiwale and Ashwin Johar, ensuring alignment between the party's vision and its international network. The Chicago event reflected a broader effort to connect cultural identity with civic responsibility, as the diaspora reaffirmed its commitment to both India's progress and active participation in American public life.



Vardaan Tiwari Student of Middle School Performing 'Vande Mataram' on Saxophone.



Mrs. Yashaswini Desai Singing, full version of 'Vande Mataram' at the BJP Foundation Day Celebration.

BJUS hosts colorful Holi Milan celebration in Hinsdale



By: Prachi Jaitly

The Bihar Jharkhand Association of Midwest (BJUS) brought together more than 200 community members for a vibrant Holi Milan celebration at The Community House, marking an evening filled with culture, unity, and tradition.

The program opened with the national anthems of the United States and India, followed by a moment of silence in memory of former BJUS President Poornima Jha, in recognition of her contributions to the community.

A series of cultural performances by children and adults showcased the rich heritage of Bihar and Jharkhand through traditional dance and music. The ceremonial diya lighting, symbolizing hope and new beginnings, was led by Chief Guest Lima Mathew, Consul (Head



of Chancery and Community Affairs), along with BJUS leadership.

A major highlight of the evening was a tabla and Kathak jugalbandi performed by Bindoo Pathak and her team from the



Jugalbandi Academy, blending rhythm and classical dance. A lively dance tribute to actor Dharmendra also drew enthusiastic applause from the audience.

Guests enjoyed traditional Holi delicacies including malpua, kathal sabji, dahi vada, and thandai, while music and a DJ kept the festive energy going throughout the event.

Chief Guest Lima Mathew, along with community leaders Neelam Dwivedi and Ashok Lakshmanan, addressed the gathering, speaking about cultural continuity and the importance of community engagement. The program was anchored by Rohini Sinha and Pramod Singh, whose lively emceeing added to the evening's flow.

BJUS President Shikha Kumari thanked attendees and volunteers, highlighting the organization's 35-year journey and emphasizing that its strength lies in active community participation.

The celebration concluded on a festive note, reinforcing BJUS's mission to preserve cultural heritage and strengthen community bonds through shared gatherings.



Lake Park student Sunny Trivedi earns national leadership and service honor

By: Dr. Avi Verma

In a standout achievement that reflects both academic excellence and community impact, Sunny Trivedi of Lake Park High School has been awarded the prestigious National Academic and Community Service Leadership Award. The honor recognizes students who demonstrate exceptional performance across five key areas: leadership, community service, education, teamwork, and innovation.

Trivedi distinguished himself



by excelling in all five categories, showcasing a well-rounded commitment to academic success and meaningful engagement beyond the classroom. Educators and community members noted that his consistent dedication, collaborative spirit, and drive to make a positive difference have set him apart among his peers. His contributions within the school and the

broader community have made a lasting impression, embodying the values the award seeks to celebrate.

His mother, Hina Trivedi, joined the community in celebrating the milestone, acknowledging the hard work and perseverance behind the achievement. The recognition underscores not only Trivedi's

accomplishments but also the supportive environment at Lake Park High School that fosters leadership and service among its students. As the community marks this achievement, Sunny Trivedi's success stands as an inspiring example of how academic excellence, service, and innovation can come together to create meaningful impact.

'Dhadkan' musical evening raises support for Parkinson's Foundation in Chicagoland

By: Dr. Avi Verma

What began as a deeply personal mission rooted in resilience and a love for music has evolved into a meaningful community tradition. The annual 'Dhadkan' musical fundraiser once again brought the community together in support of the Parkinson's Foundation.

Held on May 9, 2026, at The Avery Coonley School, this year's edition carried special emotional significance. Dr. Dipak

Shah, a respected dentist and long-time member of the Chicagoland Indian community, lived with Parkinson's disease for nearly two decades. Known for his warmth, strength, and enduring spirit, he inspired many both professionally and personally. Following his passing, Dr. Sheela Shah has continued the Dhadkan tradition in his memory.

The evening featured a rich musical program led by Dr. Sheela Shah, joined by Chicagoland singer Rajesh Chalam and vocalist Manmeet Kaur. Their



performances created a heartfelt and engaging atmosphere that resonated strongly with the audience.

The musical experience was elevated by live accompaniment from Orchestra SAREGAMA, with musicians Hitesh

Master, Richard Christiansen, and Anand Nayak delivering a cohesive and polished performance. The program was smoothly anchored by Rajendra Shah, ensuring a seamless flow throughout the evening.

A strong community turnout reflected continued support for both the cause and the legacy behind the event. Organizers expressed gratitude to attendees and donors, noting that proceeds will support research, awareness, and care initiatives for individuals affected by Parkinson's disease.

'Dhadkan' continues to stand as a tribute to perseverance, community spirit, and the power of music to inspire collective action, bringing the community closer to the shared goal of a world without Parkinson's.



‘Mor Bani Thangat Kare’ Gujarati concert delights Chicago seniors with music and nostalgia



A large gathering of BSC members at India Hub during the Gujarati 'Dhamaal' concert.



Melissa Bean receives a floral welcome from community leaders and BSC officials.

● By: Jayanti Oza

The Bharatiya Senior Citizens of Chicago hosted a vibrant and high-energy Gujarati ‘Dhamaal’ concert, ‘Mor Bani Thangat Kare’, on Saturday, April 18, 2026, drawing an audience of over 1,000 members at the India Hub.

The evening opened with BSC Secretary Rakshika Anjaria sharing updates on upcoming community initiatives. Presented by national promoter Bhavana Modi of ‘Manpasand,’ the event brought together a rich blend of culture, music, and nostalgia.

Renowned singers Disha Patel and Sanket Patel captivated the audience with soulful renditions of folk songs and poetry by Jhaverchand Meghani.

Their performances of traditional Garba and popular folk melodies created an

atmosphere of joy and cultural pride, keeping the senior audience fully engaged throughout the evening.

The program was skillfully anchored by Jigna Gandhi, whose lively and polished presentation added warmth and seamless continuity to the event.

A special highlight was the welcome of Melissa Bean, Democratic Party candidate for Illinois’ 8th Congressional District. She was honored with a floral welcome

by community leaders Vandana Jhingan, Vinesh Virani, and BSC President Haribhai Patel.

In her brief address, Bean spoke about the upcoming November elections and encouraged attendees to participate actively in the democratic process.

The evening concluded with a dinner, leaving attendees with a memorable cultural experience marked by music, community bonding, and celebration.



Singers Disha Patel and Sanket Patel perform Meghani's folk compositions, joined by BSC President Haribhai Patel and emcee Jigna Gandhi.

‘Sharia exemption’

The truth behind India’s property gift law and viral misinformation

By: Dr. Avi Verma

A viral claim circulating on social media alleges that Muslims in India can transfer property without registration or stamp duty under a so-called ‘Sharia exemption,’ while Hindus cannot. While the claim draws partial reference to Indian property law, its framing is misleading, legally incomplete, and distorts a nuanced statutory provision into a communal narrative.

A closer examination shows that the issue is not about religion-based privilege, but about the form of transfer under civil law and the recognition of personal law practices within a statutory framework.

Understanding the legal framework

The controversy primarily arises from the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, particularly Sections 123 and 129.

Section 123: General rule

Section 123 lays down the standard requirement for transferring immovable property by gift:

- ▶ A gift must be executed through a registered instrument
- ▶ It must be signed by the donor and attested by witnesses
- ▶ Registration attracts stamp duty, governed by respective state laws

This is the default legal position applicable to all citizens, irrespective of religion, when a gift is made through a written document.

Section 129: Limited exception

Section 129 states that the provisions of the Act do not affect Muslim personal law relating to gifts. This provision recognizes the Islamic legal concept of hiba (gift under Muslim personal law), which predates the statute.

What is hiba?

Under Muslim personal law, as recognized



through the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937, a valid gift (hiba) requires:

- ▶ A clear declaration of gift by the donor
- ▶ Acceptance by the recipient
- ▶ Actual or constructive transfer of possession

Importantly, a hiba may be made orally, and in such cases:

- ▶ No written document is required
- ▶ Registration under the Registration Act, 1908 is not mandatory
- ▶ Stamp duty is not triggered, since no registrable instrument exists

This applies only when the gift is purely oral and completed through transfer of possession.

Where the viral claim misleads

The viral narrative presents a selective interpretation and incorrectly suggests a blanket religious exemption. The legal position is more limited and conditional.

1. Oral vs. written transactions

The exemption applies only to oral gifts under Muslim personal law. If a written instrument is used, such as a gift deed or hibanama:

- ▶ The transaction falls under the Registration Act, 1908
- ▶ Registration becomes mandatory
- ▶ Stamp duty applies as per state law

At that stage, the transfer is treated like any other registered property transaction in India.

2. No religion-based blanket exemption

Indian law does not provide a general exemption based on religion. The distinction is procedural, not communal:

- ▶ Oral hiba may be valid without registration (subject to proof)
- ▶ Written/documented gift must comply with statutory requirements

Courts have repeatedly emphasized that

legal consequences depend on the mode of transfer, not the identity of the parties.

3. Strict burden of proof in courts

The Indian judiciary, including the Supreme Court of India, has consistently held that:

- ▶ Oral gifts must be strictly proven
- ▶ Three elements must be established: declaration, acceptance, and delivery of possession
- ▶ Evidence may include revenue records, witness testimony, and mutation entries

In the absence of clear proof, courts have rejected claims of oral hiba, making documented transfers far more common in modern practice.

Recent legal context

In March 2026, the Supreme Court of India reportedly declined to entertain a Public Interest Litigation challenging Section 129 on revenue-loss grounds, observing that such matters fall within the legislative and policy domain, not judicial review.

The Court also reiterated a key principle:

- ▶ A valid hiba is not restricted by the religion of the recipient
- ▶ Non-Muslims may also be lawful beneficiaries

This further undermines claims of a rigid religion-based privilege.

The ‘British-era divide’ argument

While it is true that the Transfer of Property Act, 1882 was enacted during British rule, Section 129 did not create a new religious distinction. Instead, it preserved existing personal law practices. India’s legal system continues to recognize certain personal laws alongside codified statutes, resulting in a layered legal framework, rather than a uniform system.

Ground reality in practice

Although oral hiba remains legally valid, it is relatively uncommon in contemporary India due to:

- ▶ High potential for family disputes
- ▶ Difficulty in proving oral transactions
- ▶ Requirement of strong evidentiary support in litigation

As a result, most property transfers across communities are executed through registered instruments with applicable stamp duty.

Conclusion

The viral claim is based on a partial reading of the law but expands it into a misleading conclusion. Indian property law does not grant blanket exemptions from registration or stamp duty on religious grounds. The correct legal distinction is between oral and written transactions, not between communities. Misinterpreting this framework distorts legal reality and risks fueling unnecessary social division.

Disclaimer

This article is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Readers should consult qualified legal professionals for advice specific to individual circumstances.



Indian embassy marks first anniversary of Pahalgam attack with Capitol Hill exhibition; U.S. lawmakers reaffirm counterterrorism partnership

● By: Vandana Jhingan

Marking the first anniversary of the Pahalgam terrorist attack on April 22, 2026, the Embassy of India, Washington D.C., in coordination with the Consulate of India in Washington, hosted a solemn exhibition titled “The Human Cost of Terrorism” on Capitol Hill.

The exhibition honored the memory of innocent victims of the attack and highlighted the devastating human impact of terrorism through curated displays, survivor narratives, and visual documentation. It underscored the broader global consequences of extremist violence and the need for sustained international cooperation to address the threat.

According to a press note issued by the Consulate of India in Washington, the event was attended by 19 Members of the United States Congress, along with Administration officials, diaspora leaders, and other U.S. partners.

Their participation, the statement noted, reflected a shared resolve to strengthen the counterterrorism partnership between India and the United



States and to stand united in the global fight against terrorism “in all its forms and manifestations.”

Lawmakers from both major political parties expressed solidarity with India and reiterated support for a coordinated global approach to counterterrorism. Several members emphasized the importance of

deepening security cooperation between Washington and New Delhi, while also calling for accountability for perpetrators of cross-border terrorism. The exhibition is part of India’s broader diplomatic outreach aimed at raising awareness of terrorism’s human toll and reinforcing international partnerships to combat extremist violence worldwide.



TAGC hosts grand experiential International Women's Day celebration in Chicagoland

By: Dr. Avi Verma

The Telugu Association of Greater Chicago (TAGC) celebrated International Women's Day with a vibrant and immersive event in March 2026, bringing together more than 400 women from across Chicagoland at the Pearl Banquets and Conference Center in Hoffman Estates. Designed as an experiential celebration focused on empowerment, creativity, and community bonding, the venue was transformed into an elegant space honoring the spirit of womanhood.



A key highlight of the event was a "Sip &



Photo credit: Ramesh Punatar

Paint" session with a creative twist, where participants used coffee powder instead of traditional paints. Guided by artist Ramya Roddom, the activity offered a unique artistic experience that was widely appreciated.

The celebration also featured interactive segments including a derby-style game experience, a ball dance session, a Fashionista Online challenge, and a Netflix-themed group activity, all designed to encourage engagement and friendly competition.

Décor curated by Signature Events by Prasuna created a refined high-tea-inspired ambiance, while refreshments sponsored by Saffron Spoon added to the festive atmosphere. One of the most memorable moments of the evening was a group performance by the Women's Day core team and TAGC lady Board of Directors, which received enthusiastic applause from attendees.

A raffle supported by Skanda Jewels, DekaLash Hoffman Estates, and Isha Jewellery added excitement to the evening, with proceeds pledged toward supporting victims of domestic violence, reinforcing the event's social purpose.

The event was chaired by Swetha Chinnari, with organizing support from Nishigandha Geebu, Shubha Kirani, and Ramya Dachepalli. It was held under the leadership of TAGC President Archana Podduturi and the Board of Directors.

Swetha Chinnari said the aim was to create a space where women could connect, express themselves, and celebrate one another, noting that the strong participation reflected the unity and strength of the community. The celebration reaffirmed TAGC's ongoing mission to honor women, foster connection, and support meaningful social causes.

Chicago Indo-US Lions host successful meeting and appreciation dinner in Carol Stream

By: Dr. Avi Verma



The Chicago Indo-US Lions brought together members, sponsors, volunteers, and community supporters for a combined meeting and "Thank You Dinner" at Taj Mahal Indian Restaurant on Sunday, April 19, 2026. The gathering was marked by gratitude, reflection, and a renewed commitment to service initiatives across the Illinois community.

The event served as both a post-event team meeting and an appreciation dinner, highlighting the collective efforts behind the organization's recent community programs. Attendees acknowledged the dedication of volunteers and sponsors, with special recognition given to Valentine's sponsors whose contributions strengthened ongoing outreach efforts.

Organizers expressed heartfelt appreciation to all participants, noting that the evening reflected a strong spirit of teamwork and shared purpose within the organization. Funds raised through the initiative will support hearing and vision screening programs, along with environmental projects aimed at benefiting underserved communities.

Leadership encouraged continued

engagement, underscoring the importance of sustained community involvement and collaborative impact.

Media representatives Prachi Jaitly of IUSA Media and Dr. Avi Verma of IndoUS Tribune were present to document the event.

The Chicago Indo-US Lions reaffirmed their commitment to community service and thanked all participants, donors, and volunteers for making the event a meaningful success.



New directions in osteoporosis treatment Focus on bone regeneration science

● By: Dr. Avi Verma

Recent discussions circulating online suggest that researchers in Japan are developing a breakthrough osteoporosis therapy that “stimulates natural bone regeneration by activating proteins that control osteoblasts,” with the aim of fully restoring bone density rather than merely slowing bone loss. While this concept broadly reflects ongoing research trends in bone biology, the specific claim oversimplifies and overstates the status of any single new treatment.

Understanding osteoporosis and current treatments

Osteoporosis is a widespread condition affecting millions globally, particularly older adults, and is characterized by reduced bone mass and an increased risk of fractures.

Current standard therapies fall into two main categories:

- ▶ Antiresorptive drugs, which slow bone breakdown (for example, bisphosphonates)
- ▶ Anabolic therapies, which stimulate bone formation

Among anabolic options, medications such as:

- ▶ Teriparatide (a parathyroid hormone analog)
- ▶ Romosozumab (a sclerostin inhibitor)

are already approved in several countries. These treatments work by enhancing osteoblast activity, the cells responsible for building bone, and have been shown to increase bone density in clinical use.



Emerging research directions

Research groups in Japan and other countries are actively exploring advanced regenerative approaches, including:

- ▶ Stem cell-based therapies
- ▶ Modulation of the Wnt signaling pathway

- ▶ Protein targets involved in bone remodeling

These areas represent promising scientific directions aimed at improving bone regeneration. However, most remain in preclinical or early clinical trial stages, and none have yet resulted in a single,

approved therapy capable of fully restoring bone structure in patients.

What the viral claim gets wrong

While the idea of stimulating natural bone formation is scientifically valid and already part of existing treatment strategies, the claim that a specific Japanese-developed therapy can fully regenerate bone and reverse osteoporosis is not supported by verified clinical evidence.

At present:

- ▶ No unified “regenerative cure” exists for osteoporosis
- ▶ Advances in bone-building therapies are incremental, not transformative breakthroughs
- ▶ All emerging treatments must still pass long-term safety and efficacy trials

Conclusion

The direction highlighted in the viral narrative aligns with legitimate scientific goals in osteoporosis research, particularly the push toward enhancing bone formation rather than only preventing loss. However, it misrepresents early-stage research as an established or imminent cure.

Osteoporosis treatment is steadily advancing, but current progress remains grounded in evolving, evidence-based therapies rather than a single breakthrough solution.

Disclaimer

This article is for informational purposes only and is based on currently available peer-reviewed medical knowledge. It does not constitute medical advice. Readers should consult qualified healthcare professionals for diagnosis or treatment of osteoporosis or any medical condition.



Personal finance insights: News & Features

Mini Feature: ULTRA-SHORT-TERM BOND FUNDS

● Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAll Bull-Bear Spread -11.1% (below average)
 CNN Fear & Greed Index 68 (greed)
 NYSE %Above 50-dMA 67.11% (positive)
 SP500 %Above 50-dMA 61.00% (positive)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 2/28/26

OEfs & ETFs: Stocks 61.70%, Hybrids 4.02%, Bonds 17.45%, M-Mkt 16.43%

INTEREST RATES

CME FedWatch
 Cycle peak 5.25-5.50%
 Current 3.50-3.75%
 FOMC 4/29/26+ hold
 FOMC 6/17/26+ hold

Treasury

T-Bills 3-mo yield 3.70%, 1-yr 3.64%;
 T-Notes 2-yr 3.71%, 5-yr 3.84%, 10-yr 4.26%;
 T-Bonds 30-yr 4.88%;
 TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 1.28%, 10-yr 1.90%, 30-yr 2.65%
 FRNs Index 3.653%

Bank Rates www.depositaccounts.com/

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 4/1/26
 TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates
 Restricted RC 5.00%, RA 4.75%
 Flexible RCP 4.25%, SRA 4.00%, IRA-101110+ 3.45%
 TSP G Fund 4.375% (previous 4.000%)

India Fear & Greed MMI 66.35 (greed)
 Weekly ETFs: INDA +3.93%, INDY +2.97%, EPI +4.45%, INDH +3.15%, SPY +4.52%

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



ENERGY

German RENEWABLE ENERGY Enerparc is setting up Enerparc Power Trading in India to supplement its power generation operations via Enerparc-India. Power trading involves trading & distribution of power among power generators & power users.

Nayara-SAP lawsuit is ongoing. The issue is whether German parent SAP can impose European sanctions through its SAP-India subsidiary. The SAP software was purchased & customized for Nayara over 18 years & SAP-India provides essential services & support (including updates). SAP-India says YES, citing its dependence on German SAP, but Nayara says NO. There is a court precedent on how Nayara-Microsoft dispute was resolved.

TRANSPORTATION

Wabtec-India, a subsidiary of US Wabtec/WAB (Westinghouse Airbrake Technologies), has a large order to supply 680+ overhead pantograph

systems for electric trains (commuter & long-distance) that will be manufactured in its facility at Hosur, TN, India. These pantograph systems have been manufactured in India since 2023. (Not to be confused with similarly named Webtec)

US KKR (private-equity/credit) & Indian PMI Electro Mobility (EV bus manufacturer; including its EV bus operations subsidiary Allfleet) have a financing deal for EV busses (e-busses) for several Indian states.

SPECIAL TOPICS - ULTRA-SHORT-TERM BOND FUNDS

Ultra-ST bond funds are next to money-market funds in safety. While they don't maintain \$1 NAV, their volatility is very low. Because their ERs are lower than those of the money-market funds, they compete well in yield.

There is also some confusion about the ultra-ST bond funds that performing poorly during the GFC, 2008-09. That did happen, but the ultra-ST bond funds of today are quite unlike those that existed before/during the GFC. Then, the ultra-ST bonds funds loaded up on HY debt to boost yields & articulated that not much could go wrong for short maturities of under 1 yr. But plenty went wrong during the GFC & many HY bonds they held couldn't be rolled over & defaulted. This rollover risk is very high for ST-HY & that's still so.

The old ultra-ST fund category disappeared for a few years after the GFC after such funds from Fidelity, Schwab, etc had big & uncharacteristic losses. There were investor lawsuits & fines by the SEC for improper ads/ disclosures. All of these old ultra-ST bond funds were dissolved or renamed or merged into another bond category. Post-GFC reforms may have also overregulated

the money-market funds, so there were some consolidations but their ER remain stubbornly high.

A new ultra-ST category & funds evolved a few years after GFC that use primarily invest-grade bonds with ST maturities. None of them is a continuation of the old ultra-ST bond fund. Confusion arises because the same name was used for the category, but the new requirements were very different.

Morningstar definition now says that (new) "Ultrashort bond portfolios invest primarily in investment-grade US fixed-income issues & have durations typically of less than 1.0 year. This category can include corporate or government ultrashort-bond portfolios, but it excludes international, convertible, multisector, and high-yield-bond portfolios...". You can check the holdings of the ultra-ST fund you are holding at fund websites or at Morningstar, etc.

There are several ultra-ST bond ETFs: SGOV, BIL, JPST, PULS, ICSH, etc. Watch their durations because there can be significant variations within the range of 0-1 year. Some ETFs such as USFR & TFLO use FRNs (Treasury Floating-Rate Notes) that have 2-year maturity on issue but their rates reset weekly to 3-month T-Bills; so, their effective durations are very short & they provide yields slightly better than money-market funds due to their lower ERs.

ETFs with high % of income derived from government sources may have that portion exempt from state & local taxes.



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

Everything you need to know about IUHS School of Medicine

● By: Dr. Avi Verma

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

2. Program Structure & Exams:

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

3. Assessments:

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

knowledge gaps.

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

4. Teaching methods:

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

5. Clinical rotations:

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



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

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

Key Features:

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

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

8. Question and Concept Sessions:

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

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

Key Features:

- ▶ Comprehensive Medical Curriculum Support – Covers

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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Blush denim takes the spotlight as spring's most wearable statement

This season, denim steps away from its comfort zone and into something far more refined.

Enter blush-toned jeans, a quietly luxurious update that feels equal parts fresh and fashion-forward. Once considered tricky territory, pink denim has been reimagined in sophisticated washes and modern silhouettes that make it not just wearable, but undeniably chic.

The key lies in the cut and the color. Think high-rise

wide legs, sculpted barrel shapes, and fluid palazzo styles rendered in soft rose, dusty pink, and muted petal hues. These tones lend a polished softness that elevates everyday dressing while remaining effortlessly versatile. It is less about making a loud statement and more about introducing a subtle, directional shift to your wardrobe.

Styling pink denim is where its true appeal unfolds. Pair it with crisp shirting or tailored jackets for a clean, editorial look, or

lean into texture with linen tops and woven accessories for an understated daytime ensemble. For evenings, contrast becomes your strongest ally. A sleek black top, a defined belt, or sharp accessories instantly ground the look, giving it structure and depth.

What makes blush denim resonate now is its balance between femininity and edge. It softens a look without diluting its impact, offering a modern alternative to neutrals while maintaining the ease of classic jeans.

In a season that celebrates lightness and renewal, pink denim emerges not as a fleeting trend, but as a considered style evolution.



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