

## Oil supply fears persist despite progress in US-Iran peace talks



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**G**lobal oil markets could face prolonged supply pressure even if the United States and Iran reach a peace deal, according to energy executives and analysts. Industry leaders warned that depleted stockpiles, damaged infrastructure, and shipping delays may continue disrupting fuel supplies through the summer.

Analysts estimate up to 2 billion barrels could be lost from global supply systems before markets stabilize. While oil prices fell this week on optimism over diplomatic progress, experts warned shortages in gasoline, jet fuel, and crude supplies could persist across Europe, Asia, and the United States for months.

## WHO launches international alert after deadly hantavirus outbreak on cruise ship



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**H**ealth authorities across multiple countries are racing to trace passengers who disembarked from the cruise ship MV Hondius before a deadly hantavirus outbreak was confirmed. The World Health Organization on Thursday confirmed five Andes hantavirus infections linked to the vessel, while three additional suspected cases remain under investigation. Three deaths have been reported.

At least 29 passengers from 12 countries left the ship on April 24, at Saint Helena in the South Atlantic Ocean before isolation measures were introduced. Many have since returned home, prompting global contact tracing efforts involving countries including the United States, the United Kingdom, Singapore, Switzerland, and Canada.

The WHO said the public health risk remains low and stressed that the outbreak is not comparable to Covid-19, though additional cases remain possible due to the virus's incubation period of up to six weeks. The ship, carrying 149 people from 23 nationalities, is now heading toward Spain's Canary Islands, where passengers will undergo medical evaluations before any evacuation or repatriation procedures begin.

# IndoUS TRIBUNE

A VENTURE OF ANSAL MEDIA GROUP OF USA, LLC

VOL: 03 • ISSUE: 27 08 MAY 2026 MIDWEST EDITION www.indoutribune.com We serve community first

## BJP redraws India's political map with Bengal breakthrough and Northeast dominance

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Bharatiya Janata Party's sweeping victories across West Bengal, Assam and Puducherry have emerged as one of the most significant political developments of the 2026 Assembly elections, reinforcing the party's growing influence across regions once considered difficult electoral territory. Bharatiya Janata Party Member of Parliament Anurag Thakur described the Bengal verdict as "historic," saying voters had rejected years of "fear and mafia rule" under the Trinamool Congress government led by Mamata Banerjee.

The Bharatiya Janata Party secured more than 206 seats in the 293-member West Bengal Assembly, dramatically improving from its 77-seat tally in the previous election and ending the Trinamool Congress's long dominance in the state. Political analysts have described the result as a watershed moment for the party, which had spent years building its organizational network and expanding its presence across urban, semi-urban and rural Bengal.

Thakur credited the victory to the leadership of Narendra Modi and Amit Shah, saying the results reflected growing voter support for the Bharatiya Janata



Party's development-focused governance model. The Prime Minister also described the Bengal result as the beginning of a "new chapter" for the state.

In Assam, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma led the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance to a third consecutive term, with the alliance crossing the 100-seat mark in the 126-member Assembly. The Bharatiya Janata Party alone won 82 seats, its

strongest performance in the state so far. The alliance also retained Puducherry, further strengthening the National Democratic Alliance's regional footprint.

Observers say the combined results underline a broader shift in India's political landscape, with voters increasingly prioritizing governance, leadership and organizational strength over traditional regional loyalties and identity-driven politics.

## Indus Water Treaty remains in abeyance over Pakistan's support for cross-border terrorism, says India's MEA

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia on Thursday reiterated that the Indus Waters Treaty remains in abeyance because of Pakistan's continued support for cross-border terrorism. Speaking during a weekly media briefing in New Delhi, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said Pakistan must "credibly and irrevocably" end its backing of terrorism.

The remarks came as India marked the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, the military action launched on May 7, 2025, against terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-

occupied Kashmir after the Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir.

Jaiswal said the world had recognized the Pahalgam attack for what it was and added that Pakistan had long used cross-border terrorism as an instrument of state policy. He stressed that India has every right to defend itself and remains committed to strengthening the global fight against terrorism.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar also said Operation Sindoor demonstrated India's resolve to ensure accountability for terrorist attacks under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's zero-tolerance approach toward terrorism.



## US and Iran explore temporary deal to halt conflict



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he United States and Iran are moving closer to a temporary agreement aimed at halting their ongoing conflict, officials said Thursday. The proposed framework would formally end fighting and open a 30-day negotiating window for broader talks while leaving major disputes unresolved.

President Donald Trump said a deal remained "very possible," while Iranian officials reacted cautiously. Oil prices fell sharply amid hopes that tensions in the Strait of Hormuz could ease if negotiations succeed.

### Vatican urges peace as Rubio meets Pope Leo amid tensions with Trump

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Vatican on Thursday stressed the need for peace during talks between Marco Rubio and Pope Leo XIV in Rome, amid growing tensions between Washington and the Holy See over the Iran war. Rubio met the pope at the Apostolic Palace before holding discussions with Vatican Secretary of State Pietro Parolin. The Vatican said the talks focused on conflicts, humanitarian crises, and efforts to promote peace.

The visit came after President Donald Trump criticized Pope Leo over his stance on the Iran conflict. On Wednesday, the pope defended the Catholic Church's long-standing opposition to nuclear weapons and called for criticism to be based on truth.

### Lula meets Trump amid trade tensions between Brazil and US

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**L**uiz Inácio Lula da Silva met President Donald Trump in Washington on Thursday as Brazil sought to avoid possible new United States tariffs on its exports. The talks focused on trade, security, and critical minerals cooperation. Relations between the two countries worsened last year after Trump imposed steep tariffs on Brazilian goods and criticized legal action against former Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro. Brazilian officials remain concerned about a possible new United States trade investigation, while both sides are also expected to discuss digital trade disputes, ethanol tariffs, and environmental concerns linked to timber exports.

### Congo warns ongoing rebel conflict could derail 2028 elections

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**D**emocratic Republic of the Congo President Félix Tshisekedi said Wednesday that the country may be unable to hold presidential elections in 2028 if fighting in the east continues. Speaking in Kinshasa, Tshisekedi said elections could not proceed without participation from North Kivu and South Kivu provinces, where M23 rebels have seized territory since renewed offensives earlier this year. He said restoring security and rebuilding the military remained his government's top priority, insisting any election delay would be driven by the conflict rather than political calculations.

### IMF warns prolonged Iran conflict could trigger global slowdown

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**nternational Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva warned Monday that a prolonged Iran conflict could sharply slow global economic growth. Speaking in Washington, Georgieva said oil prices could rise to \$125 per barrel if the war continues into 2027, driving inflation higher worldwide. The IMF said its adverse economic scenario now projects global growth slowing to 2.5 percent in 2026 as energy prices remain elevated.

### India rejects Canada's foreign interference claims as 'baseless imputations'

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia on Thursday rejected allegations made in a recent Canadian Security Intelligence Service report linking New Delhi to foreign interference activities in Canada, calling the claims "baseless imputations." Speaking during a media briefing in New Delhi, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India respects the sovereignty of other nations and does not interfere in the internal affairs of foreign countries. Jaiswal said concerns of this nature should be addressed through established diplomatic mechanisms rather than through politicized public narratives. His remarks came after the Canadian intelligence report alleged that countries including China, Russia, Iran, Pakistan, and India were involved in attempts to influence Canadian politics and public discourse.



The report also acknowledged that Canada-based Khalistani extremist groups continue to pose a national security threat to both Canada and India. India said the findings reinforced its longstanding concerns about extremist and separatist elements operating from Canadian soil. Jaiswal added that India has repeatedly urged Canadian authorities to act against anti-India activities, including threats against diplomats, vandalism of religious sites, and secessionist campaigns.

### Netanyahu says Israel and US remain closely aligned on Iran



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**sraeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Wednesday that Israel remains fully coordinated with the United States on Iran and is prepared for "any scenario." Netanyahu said he speaks with President Donald Trump almost daily and rejected reports suggesting Israel had been blindsided by Washington's diplomatic outreach to Tehran. Trump meanwhile said negotiations with Iran had shown progress but warned Tehran would face renewed attacks if talks collapsed.

### BJP aide shot dead as violence and political turmoil grip West Bengal after election

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**olitical tensions intensified across West Bengal on Thursday after Chandranath Rath, a senior aide to Bharatiya Janata Party leader Suwendu Adhikari, was shot dead amid escalating post-election violence. Rath was attacked by motorcycle-borne gunmen near Kolkata late on Wednesday and later died in hospital. The violence erupted after the Bharatiya Janata Party claimed victory in Monday's state election, ending 15 years of rule by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her Trinamool Congress party. Banerjee alleged widespread voting irregularities and accused the BJP of "looting" the election, while refusing to resign.



denied involvement and demanded an independent probe.

Police said three people have died in election-related violence since Monday, with more than 433 arrests made in over 200 registered cases. Both parties have accused each other of arson, vandalism, and attacks on party offices as unrest continues across the state.

Adhikari, considered the frontrunner for chief minister, called Rath's killing a "pre-planned and cold-blooded murder" linked to the election result. Trinamool Congress

### First China spying convictions in UK tied to Hong Kong dissident surveillance

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**B**ritain on Thursday secured its first convictions for spying on behalf of China after a London court found two dual British-Chinese nationals guilty under the National Security Act. Chi Leung "Peter" Wai, a Heathrow Border Force officer, and Chung Biu Yuen, a Hong Kong trade official in London, were convicted of assisting a foreign intelligence service in an

alleged covert operation targeting Hong Kong dissidents.

Prosecutors said the pair gathered intelligence on exiled activist Nathan Law and infiltrated pro-democracy groups in Britain. Wai was also convicted of misconduct in public office for unauthorized Home Office database searches. British officials said the case highlights growing concerns over foreign interference operations in the UK.

### Democrats blame Trump's Iran war for rising fuel and food costs



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**C**ongressional Democrats intensified criticism of President Donald Trump on Wednesday, accusing his administration of driving up fuel and food prices through the ongoing conflict with Iran. Five senior House Democrats said the administration failed to assess the economic fallout before launching military operations, arguing that oil, gasoline and transportation costs have surged since the conflict escalated. Congressman Jason Crow also introduced legislation aimed at blocking funding for further military action against Iran without congressional approval.

### North Korea rejects nuclear treaty obligations ahead of major UN review



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**N**orth Korea declared Thursday that it is no longer bound by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, dismissing international pressure to comply with its obligations. In a statement carried by state media, Pyongyang's UN envoy Kim Song defended the country's nuclear program as a sovereign right protected under its constitution. The statement came during a UN review conference on the treaty and ahead of an expected summit between President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping next week.

### German chancellor vows to preserve US ties despite troop withdrawal tensions

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**G**erman Chancellor Friedrich Merz said on Monday that Berlin would continue working closely with Washington despite tensions over President Donald Trump's decision to reduce American troop levels in Europe.

The Pentagon announced on Friday that about 5,000 US troops would be

withdrawn from Germany after Merz criticized Washington's Iran strategy as "planless." Trump later suggested even deeper cuts across Europe. Speaking to broadcaster ARD, Merz insisted the troop decision was unrelated to his criticism and described the United States as Germany's most important NATO ally. He also confirmed that planned deployment of US Tomahawk missiles to Germany has been delayed because of limited American military resources.

Friday, 08 May 2026

## Netanyahu says Hezbollah has 'no immunity' after Beirut strike



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Thursday that Hezbollah commanders have "no immunity" after Israel carried out its first strike on Beirut's southern suburbs since last month's ceasefire. The Israeli military said the attack killed Ahmed Ali Balout, a commander in Hezbollah's Radwan force.

The strike has increased pressure on the fragile Lebanon ceasefire as fighting between Israel and Hezbollah continues despite ongoing regional negotiations involving Iran and the United States.

## Macron pushes for immediate reopening of Strait of Hormuz



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

French President Emmanuel Macron on Wednesday called for the Strait of Hormuz to reopen immediately following talks with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. Macron said France and Britain were preparing a multinational maritime mission aimed at restoring freedom of navigation once fighting between the United States and Iran ends. His remarks came amid reports that Washington and Tehran are moving closer to a temporary agreement designed to reduce tensions and reopen the key shipping route.

## India presses Bangladesh to clear backlog in migrant verification cases



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India on Thursday urged Bangladesh to speed up nationality verification for undocumented Bangladeshi nationals living in India, saying thousands of cases remain unresolved. External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said more than 2,860 requests are pending with Dhaka, with several awaiting action for over five years, delaying deportation efforts. The remarks came amid renewed political tensions following the Bharatiya Janata Party's election victory in West Bengal and recent comments from Bangladeshi leaders.

## Melania Trump honors military mothers ahead of Mother's Day

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

First Lady Melania Trump paid tribute to military mothers at the White House on Wednesday ahead of Mother's Day, honoring families carrying the burden of war and military service. Addressing service members and their families, Melania Trump reflected on visiting Dover Air Force Base last year to honor soldiers killed in Kuwait, saying no words could ease a mother's grief after losing a child in uniform. She also spoke about the fear and loneliness experienced by mothers and spouses while loved ones serve overseas.

President Donald Trump briefly addressed



tensions involving Iran during the event, while praising military families and the strength of the US armed forces. Vice President J. D. Vance and Second Lady Usha Vance also attended.

## Baltic states demand stronger NATO protection after drones crash near Russian border

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Latvia and Lithuania called on NATO this week to reinforce regional air defenses after two suspected stray Ukrainian drones crossed from Russia into Latvian territory, with one exploding at an oil storage facility near Rezekne. Latvian Defense Minister Andris Spruds said the drones were likely intended for Russian targets but accidentally entered NATO airspace. The incident damaged four empty oil tanks and triggered drone alerts, school closures and emergency responses across border communities.

Lithuanian Defense Minister Robertas



Kaunas warned that drone threats facing the Baltic region were "real, not theoretical," as French NATO fighter jets were deployed during the alert.

## Thailand and Cambodia reopen dialogue after deadly border conflict

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The leaders of Thailand and Cambodia agreed Thursday to pursue fresh trust-building measures aimed at preserving a fragile ceasefire following months of deadly border tensions.

Thai Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet held rare talks during regional meetings hosted in the Philippines by Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The conflict along their disputed border killed nearly 150 people and displaced about



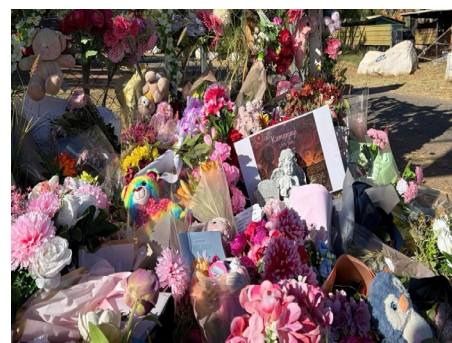
300,000 after clashes escalated into artillery fire and airstrikes last year. Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., who facilitated the talks, said both sides agreed to exercise restraint despite continuing disputes over offshore energy claims.

## Australia mourns Indigenous child whose death sparked outrage across the Outback

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Thousands gathered across Australia on Thursday to honor five-year-old Indigenous girl Kumanjayi Little Baby, whose death near Alice Springs has triggered grief, anger and renewed scrutiny over Indigenous safety in remote communities.

The child disappeared from an Aboriginal town camp before her body was found several days later. During candlelight vigils held nationwide, mourners dressed in pink, left flowers and toys, and listened to tributes from family members describing the child's love for music, cartoons and video games.



A 47-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the case. Community leaders appealed for calm after unrest erupted outside a hospital where the suspect was being treated following an alleged assault by residents.

## Japan orders mass pig cull after fourth swine fever outbreak of 2026

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Japan confirmed its fourth swine fever outbreak of the year after infected pigs were detected at a farm in Shizuoka prefecture. Authorities said nearly 3,000 pigs at the Fujinomiya farm will be culled after tests confirmed classical swine fever following reports of piglet deaths on Monday. Officials are increasing disinfection measures and investigating the source of the outbreak. The virus does not affect humans but can severely damage livestock populations and farming economies.

## Indian diaspora sends record \$137.7 billion home in global remittance surge

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India remained the world's top recipient of overseas remittances in 2024, receiving a record \$137.7 billion, according to a new report from the International Organization for Migration. The report highlighted the growing economic influence of the Indian diaspora, particularly in the United States and United Arab Emirates, where millions of Indians live and work. It also credited overseas Indians with strengthening India's technology sector, investments, and global political influence.

## Nepal renews objection to India-China Kailash route through disputed Lipulekh Pass

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nepal on Sunday reiterated its sovereignty claim over the disputed Lipulekh Pass after India and China announced plans to resume the Kailash Mansarovar pilgrimage route through the area later this year.

Kathmandu said it had formally raised concerns with both countries, arguing that Lipulekh is part of Nepali territory and cannot be used without Nepal's consent. India recently confirmed that pilgrims would travel through Lipulekh and Nathu La between June and August.

Nepal incorporated Lipulekh, Kalapani, and Limpiyadhura into its official political map in 2020, though India has maintained control over the territory for decades.

## ASEAN pushes emergency energy cooperation as Iran war disrupts oil supplies

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Foreign ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations called Thursday for stronger regional coordination as the Iran conflict continues threatening global oil supplies. Meeting in Cebu, ASEAN leaders discussed faster implementation of a regional fuel-sharing framework to help stabilize energy supplies across Southeast Asia. The summit also included talks between Thailand and Cambodia aimed at preserving a fragile border ceasefire.



**Published Weekly by:**  
Ansal Media Group  
of USA, LLC

**Chicago Office:**  
Lincolnwood, IL 60712  
marketing@indoustribune.com

**PUBLISHER**  
Dr. (H) Avi Verma  
publisher@indoustribune.com  
(773) 866-1222

**Editor**  
Nikita Sharma  
editor@indoustribune.com

**Graphics & Web Development**  
Sunil Panchal  
graphics@indoustribune.com

**Board of Advisors**  
Rakesh Malhotra  
Ramesh Soparwala  
Madhu Patel  
Vandana Jhingan  
Neelam Verma

**Legal Advisors**  
Seth Kebron  
Ankush Ansal

**Special Contributor**  
Rajesh Ansal

**Special Correspondent**  
Sunita Verma

**Social Media**  
Pooja Singh

**Chicago Office:**  
Lincolnwood, IL 60712

**Surrey Canada Office**  
surrey@indoustribune.com

**San Jose Office**  
sanjose@indoustribune.com

**Delhi Office:**  
delhi@indoustribune.com

**Disclaimer**

The aim of IndoUS Tribune is to entertain, educate and inform the readers. The opinions expressed in our published works are those of the author(s) and do not reflect the opinions of IndoUS Tribune or the editors. Neither IndoUS Tribune nor its authors guarantee the accuracy or completeness of any information published herein. Neither IndoUS Tribune nor its authors shall be responsible for any errors, omissions, or claims for damages, including exemplary damages, arising out of use, inability to use, or with regard to the accuracy or sufficiency of the information contained in this publication. Neither the editor, nor the publisher or any other party associated with the production of IndoUS Tribune accept the responsibility of any accident or injury resulting from the use of materials contained herein. All the content of the IndoUS Tribune is printed and published in Chicago. All rights reserved. No part of any work published in the paper may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

**BOOK**  
CLASSIFIED ADS



marketing@indoustribune.com

# BJP's 2026 triumph redefines India's political map Is Punjab the next frontier?



**Dr. Avi Verma**

**T**he 2026 Assembly election results will likely be remembered as one of the most transformative political moments in contemporary Indian history. The verdicts from West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Kerala, and Puducherry have not merely changed governments — they have fundamentally altered the psychology of Indian politics. The Bharatiya Janata Party deserves congratulations for achieving what many once considered politically impossible: breaching entrenched regional strongholds and redefining the electoral geography of India. Its historic victory in West Bengal, coupled with a commanding repeat performance in Assam, signals that the BJP is no longer confined to its traditional Hindi-heartland base. It is now positioning itself as a truly pan-Indian political force.

The fall of Mamata Banerjee after 15 years in power is symbolic of a broader national trend: voters are increasingly impatient with political stagnation, corruption allegations, dynastic structures, and personality-driven regional dominance. The BJP's victory in Bengal was built not merely on ideology, but on organization, booth-level expansion, targeted social engineering, and the ability to convert anti-incumbency into a disciplined electoral machine.

Equally important was the party's emphatic victory in Assam under Himanta Biswa Sarma. The Northeast now appears firmly aligned with the BJP's development-plus-identity narrative. A third consecutive



mandate demonstrates that governance stability, infrastructure expansion, and assertive leadership continue to resonate strongly with voters. Yet perhaps the most intriguing story of 2026 emerged from Tamil Nadu, where actor-politician Vijay and his party TVK disrupted six decades of Dravidian bipolar politics. His rise reflects a growing national appetite for political alternatives that appear "clean," youthful, and outside entrenched political families. This development should concern every traditional regional party across India.

For the opposition bloc nationally, the 2026 elections expose a deeper structural crisis. The decline of the Left in Kerala and the collapse of the Trinamool Congress in Bengal indicate that regional parties can no longer rely solely on emotional identity politics or historical loyalties. Voters increasingly expect performance, credibility, and organizational agility.

But the real political question now shifts to 2027 — and particularly to Punjab. Punjab may become the BJP's next major experiment in independent expansion. For decades, the party functioned as a junior ally to the Shiromani Akali Dal. However, the Bengal breakthrough appears to have convinced BJP strategists that even seemingly resistant political landscapes can eventually be transformed through long-term cadre building, digital outreach, and

targeted social alliances.

The political environment in Punjab today presents both volatility and opportunity. The growing dissatisfaction with governance, internal instability within the ruling establishment, economic distress, drug-related concerns, farmer anxieties, and increasing reports of political defections have created an atmosphere of uncertainty. The BJP appears determined to capitalize on this vacuum by expanding beyond its urban Hindu voter base and reaching deeper into Dalit, Sikh, youth, and first-time voter constituencies. If the BJP succeeds in establishing itself as a credible standalone force in Punjab, it would represent one of the most significant political realignments in post-independence northern India.

At the same time, the BJP must recognize that Punjab is not merely another electoral battleground. Punjab's political consciousness is deeply rooted in faith, federal identity, agrarian concerns, and emotional memory. Any attempt at expansion will require sensitivity, inclusive dialogue, and credible local leadership rather than overreliance on central narratives alone.

The 2026 verdicts also reveal another undeniable reality: elections in India are now digital-first wars. AI-driven localized messaging, hyper-targeted outreach, influencer ecosystems, and rapid narrative control are becoming decisive instruments of political success. Traditional campaign structures alone are no longer sufficient.

For the Congress and regional parties, the message from 2026 is stark. Reinvention is no longer optional. The old formulas of caste arithmetic, populist announcements, and legacy leadership are rapidly losing effectiveness in an electorate increasingly driven by aspiration, nationalism, governance expectations, and political novelty.

**India has entered a new political era.**

The BJP's 2026 triumph is not simply about winning states — it is about changing the national perception of what is electorally possible. The psychological barrier that once protected regional fortresses has been broken.

The road to 2027 now begins, and all eyes will be on Punjab.



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

## Colorado firebombing suspect pleads guilty in attack on pro-Israel rally



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**M**ohamed Soliman pleaded guilty Thursday to all state charges tied to a deadly firebombing attack at a pro-Israel rally in Boulder. Prosecutors said Soliman threw Molotov cocktails and used a makeshift blowtorch during the 2025 attack, killing one person and injuring more than a dozen others. The Egyptian national still faces separate federal hate crime charges that could carry a life sentence or the death penalty.

## Australia launches new anti-extremism center amid rise in youth radicalization

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**ustralia announced a new \$48.8 million counter-extremism center on Wednesday as authorities warned of rising online radicalization among teenagers. Home Affairs Minister Tony Burke said the new unit will target extremist activity across social media, encrypted messaging apps, and gaming platforms. Police said 19 of the 31 people charged under new online extremism laws are minors, with some investigations involving children as young as 12.

## Russia warns Armenia against moving closer to Europe

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**R**ussia accused Armenia on Thursday of drifting into the European Union's "anti-Russian orbit" as ties between the allies continue deteriorating. Russian officials criticized Armenia's growing engagement with European institutions after Yerevan hosted a major European summit this week. Relations have worsened since Armenia accused Moscow of failing to protect it during Azerbaijan's takeover of Nagorno-Karabakh in 2023.

## Ethiopia rejects Sudan's accusation over alleged drone attacks

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**E**thiopia denied Sudan's accusations Tuesday that drones launched from Ethiopian territory targeted Sudanese facilities. The dispute escalated after Sudan recalled its ambassador and warned it was prepared for confrontation. Ethiopia dismissed the claims as baseless and instead accused Sudanese forces of backing armed groups near the border amid Sudan's ongoing civil war.

## South Korean court cuts ex-prime minister's sentence in martial law rebellion case

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A** South Korean appeals court on Thursday reduced former Prime Minister Han Duck-soo's prison sentence from 23 years to 15 years for his role in former President Yoon Suk Yeol's failed martial law declaration in 2024.

The Seoul High Court upheld most convictions, ruling Han helped legitimize the decree during a Cabinet meeting and participated in actions targeting media organizations. Judges said he abandoned his duty as the government's second-highest official during the political crisis.

Han can still appeal to the Supreme



Court. Yoon, who was impeached and removed from office, is serving a life sentence for rebellion linked to the martial law order.

## China sentences former defense ministers in sweeping military corruption crackdown

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**C**hina has handed suspended death sentences to former defense ministers Wei Fenghe and Li Shangfu after both were convicted on corruption charges tied to President Xi Jinping's expanding military purge.

State media reported Thursday that a military court found both men guilty of

accepting major bribes and ordered all personal assets confiscated. Their sentences are expected to be commuted to life imprisonment after two years without parole.

Wei served as defense minister from 2018 to 2023, while Li was removed from office in 2023 after disappearing from public view for months. The rulings mark one of the most significant military corruption cases under Xi's anti-corruption campaign.

## Jerusalem attack on French nun raises alarm over hostility toward Christians

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**sraeli police said Wednesday they arrested a 36-year-old man accused of attacking a French nun near King David's Tomb in Jerusalem, in an incident that has intensified concerns over rising hostility toward Christian communities. The 48-year-old nun, affiliated with the French School of Biblical

and Archaeological Research, was reportedly chased, pushed to the ground and kicked. Authorities released footage showing bruising on her face and said violence targeting clergy would be treated with utmost seriousness. Father Olivier Poquillon condemned the assault, while Israel's Foreign Ministry described the attack as "shameful" and reaffirmed its commitment to protecting religious freedom.

## Pakistan court refuses to suspend Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi sentences

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Islamabad High Court on Monday rejected petitions filed by former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi seeking suspension of their prison sentences in the £190 million Al-Qadir Trust corruption case. The court said their main appeals are already scheduled for hearing on Wednesday. Khan is serving a

14-year sentence at Rawalpindi's Adiala jail, while Bushra Bibi received seven years after their conviction earlier this year. Prosecutors allege the couple received land and financial benefits from Bahria Town in exchange for legalizing funds returned to Pakistan by the United Kingdom during Khan's government. The ruling came days after Khan's party marked 1,000 days of his detention and renewed claims of political victimization.

## Russia accuses US of forcing citizenship on diplomats' children

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**R**ussia on Monday accused the United States of unlawfully granting American citizenship to children born to Russian diplomats on US soil. Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova said Washington was wrongly applying birthright citizenship rules despite diplomatic exemptions under US law.

Writing in the newspaper Vedomosti, Zakharova claimed the move violated international norms and was being used to pressure Russian diplomats. She also alleged the policy contradicted President Donald Trump's anti-immigration stance. Moscow said it does not recognize US citizenship automatically assigned to children of Russian diplomatic and consular staff and would continue pressing Washington for clarification on the issue.

## United States naval blockade cuts Iran oil exports, forces crude into floating storage



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A** federal appeals court on Thursday appeared skeptical of the Trump administration's attempt to punish Democratic Senator Mark Kelly over remarks urging military personnel to refuse unlawful orders. Judges questioned whether the Pentagon could legally demote the retired Navy captain and reduce his retirement pay over constitutionally protected speech. Kelly sued earlier this year after Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth sought sanctions linked to comments Kelly made in a 2025 video criticizing military deployments ordered by President Donald Trump. Kelly called the case a broader fight over First Amendment rights.

## South Korea and US set to discuss wartime command transfer amid regional tensions



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**S**outh Korea and the United States will hold high-level defense talks in Washington from Tuesday through Wednesday next week, with the transfer of wartime operational control expected to dominate discussions. Seoul's Defense Ministry said the allies will also discuss combined defense readiness, North Korea's growing nuclear threats, and civilian access control in parts of the Demilitarized Zone. The talks come as President Lee Jae Myung's government pushes to regain wartime command of South Korean forces before 2030. The Strait of Hormuz crisis and possible allied support for maritime security operations are also expected to feature prominently.

## Trump plans unprecedented UFC event on White House grounds

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**resident Donald Trump announced Wednesday that the White House will host a major Ultimate Fighting Championship event next month, describing it as "the greatest show on earth." Standing alongside leading UFC fighters in the Oval Office, Trump said the June 14 event would feature about 4,000 seats on the White House grounds, with much larger crowds expected nearby. Several fighters credited Trump with helping the sport grow during its early years, while Trump said the event could become the largest public spectacle ever held at the White House.

### India and Kuwait discuss regional security and strategic cooperation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's Ambassador to Kuwait Paramita Tripathi met Kuwait's Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah on Tuesday to discuss regional developments and ways to deepen bilateral cooperation. The discussions reviewed outcomes of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Kuwait visit last year and explored collaboration in technology, research and innovation. India reiterated support for diplomacy and stressed the need to keep the Strait of Hormuz open for regional peace and global energy security. Separately, aviation officials from both countries held talks on restoring Indian airline operations to Kuwait and improving connectivity for the large Indian community living there. India and Kuwait have also remained in close contact over the evolving situation in West Asia.

### India and Sudan review cooperation amid push for regional stability

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Sudan held the ninth round of Foreign Office Consultations in Port Sudan on Sunday, reviewing progress in bilateral ties and discussing regional developments of mutual interest. The talks focused on cooperation in trade, agriculture, mining, education, healthcare and small businesses. The meeting was co-chaired by senior officials from both countries. The discussions follow External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's meeting with Sudanese Foreign Minister Mohieldin Salim Ahmed Ibrahim in New Delhi earlier this year, when India reiterated its support for ending violence in Sudan and restoring dialogue. India and Sudan share long-standing historical ties dating back thousands of years, while modern diplomatic relations were formally established in the mid-1950s.

### India pushes for wider migration agreements to protect overseas workers

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh said on Tuesday that India's migration and mobility agreements with 23 countries should be expanded further to safeguard overseas workers and create safe migration pathways. Speaking at the United Nations' International Migration Review Forum, Singh said India has signed 27 such agreements that focus on worker welfare, fair recruitment and social protection. He highlighted initiatives such as Skill India International Centres, digital recruitment platforms and pre-departure orientation programs aimed at preparing Indian workers for global opportunities. Singh also emphasized India's consular support systems, including the MADAD grievance portal and the Indian Community Welfare Fund, which assist overseas Indians facing legal, financial or employment-related issues abroad.

## India and Canada accelerate trade pact talks after diplomatic reset under Carney

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Canada on Monday launched the second round of negotiations for a long-pending bilateral free trade agreement, signalling a sharp turnaround in ties after years of diplomatic strain. The five-day talks in New Delhi are aimed at fast-tracking the proposed Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, with both countries targeting completion by the end of the year. The negotiations come ahead of Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal's planned visit to Canada later this month.

The renewed momentum follows Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's efforts to rebuild relations with New Delhi after ties deteriorated under former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, whose government India repeatedly accused of tolerating



Sikh extremist activities. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Carney had agreed earlier this year to deepen cooperation in trade, energy and critical minerals, while setting a target of increasing bilateral trade to \$50 billion by 2030. Bilateral goods trade stood at \$8.66 billion in 2024-25.

## US signals stronger strategic partnership with India ahead of Rubio's high-stakes visit

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor on Wednesday underlined Washington's push for closer strategic ties with New Delhi ahead of Secretary of State Marco Rubio's upcoming India visit, describing the relationship as one of the United States' most important global partnerships. Calling Rubio a "good friend," Gor said both nations are eager to deepen cooperation in areas including trade, defense, critical minerals and emerging technologies. The visit comes amid growing diplomatic coordination between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Donald Trump on regional security and economic issues. Last month, the two leaders discussed the situation in West Asia and stressed the



importance of keeping the Strait of Hormuz open for global energy security. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri also met Rubio during a recent Washington visit, where both sides reviewed cooperation under the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership, including work through the Quad and expanded defense collaboration.

## Dutch warship visit highlights growing India-Netherlands maritime partnership

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Dutch naval delegation led by Royal Netherlands Navy Deputy Commander Major General Rob De Wit arrived in Kochi on Sunday aboard the warship HNLMS De Ruyter, underscoring expanding maritime cooperation between India and the Netherlands. The frigate, currently on a five-month Indo-Pacific deployment, received a ceremonial welcome from the Indian Navy. During

the visit, the delegation held talks with Southern Naval Command officials on enhancing naval cooperation, training and maritime security engagement. Dutch representatives also paid tribute at the Southern Naval Command War Memorial on the Netherlands' National Remembrance Day. The visit includes exchanges on advanced naval training systems and shipbuilding cooperation before the Dutch vessel conducts a joint Passage Exercise with the Indian Navy on departure.

## India and Ecuador expand cooperation in health, trade and digital innovation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Ecuador agreed to deepen cooperation in healthcare, trade, digital technology and critical minerals during Ecuadorian Foreign Minister Gabriela Sommerfeld's two-day visit to India last week. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Sommerfeld signed an agreement under which India will provide grant assistance worth up to \$1.4 million over five years for development projects in Ecuador. Ecuador also formally

joined the International Solar Alliance and the International Big Cat Alliance during the visit.

Discussions focused on boosting pharmaceutical exports, exploring cooperation in copper and gold supply chains, and advancing digital systems inspired by India's public infrastructure models such as Aadhaar and direct benefit transfers. Sommerfeld also visited a Jan Aushadhi center in New Delhi to study India's affordable medicine model.

## India and France deepen space and ocean research collaboration

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and France agreed to expand cooperation in space, ocean research and emerging technologies during a ministerial-level virtual meeting held on Wednesday between Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh and French Minister Philippe Baptiste. Both sides reviewed ongoing collaboration in Earth observation, launch systems and human spaceflight, while also discussing joint work under the proposed Indo-French Year of Innovation in 2026. France invited India to participate in the International Space Summit in Paris next year, while India highlighted opportunities created by its rapidly growing private space sector. Discussions also covered ocean data sharing, microgravity experiments and support for India's Gaganyaan mission. The two nations also explored deeper cooperation between French and Indian space agencies and research institutions.

## India and UAE review strategic partnership amid regional tensions

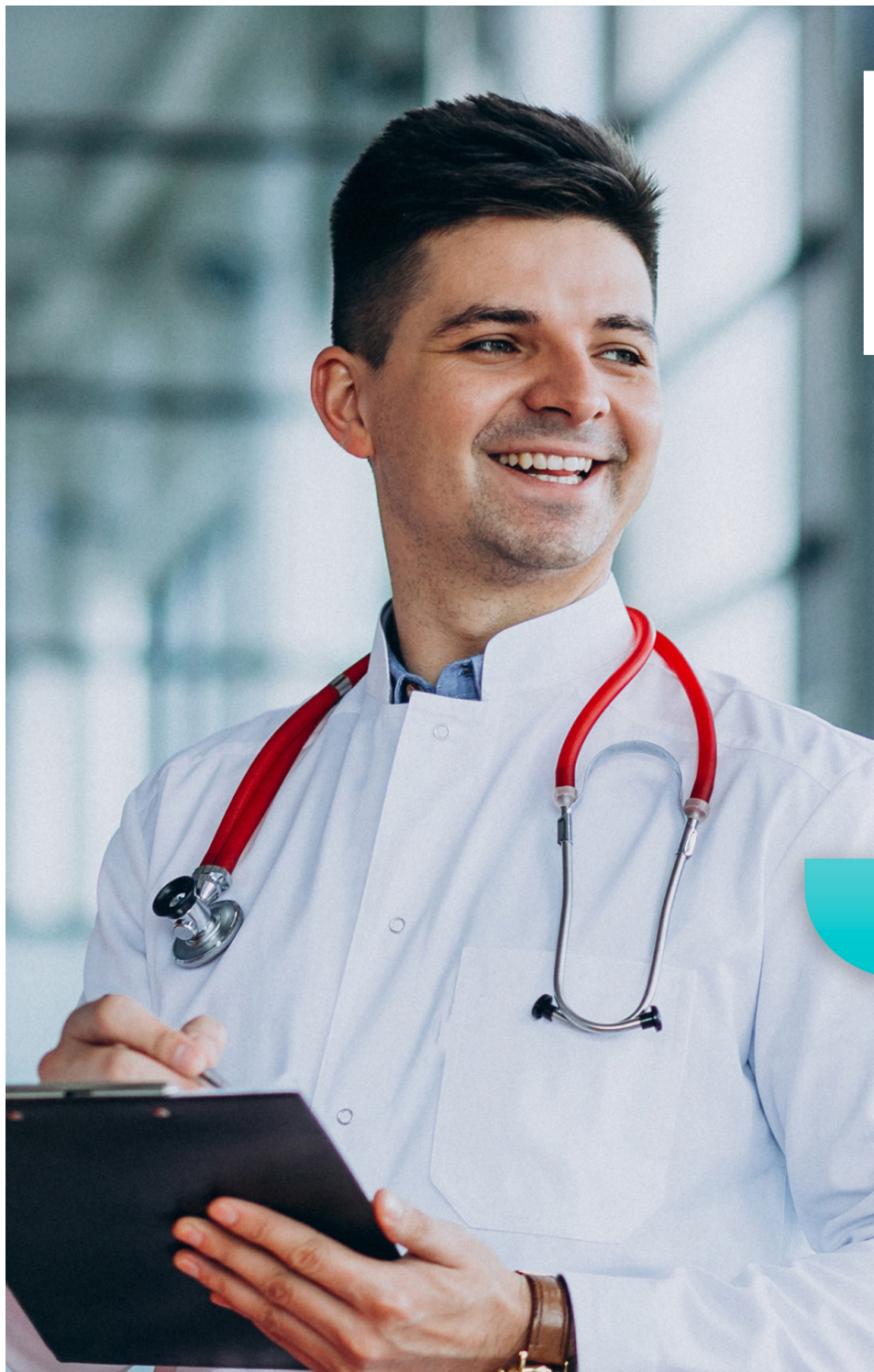
● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met UAE Minister of State for International Cooperation Reem Al Hashimy in Abu Dhabi on Thursday to review the full scope of the India-UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. The talks covered trade, investment and regional developments amid heightened tensions in West Asia. The meeting came days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi condemned attacks in Fujairah that injured three Indian nationals and reaffirmed India's support for dialogue and diplomacy in the region. India also stressed the importance of keeping the Strait of Hormuz secure for global energy stability. The UAE had accused Iran of carrying out the attacks on civilian infrastructure in Fujairah earlier this week.

## Jaishankar strengthens India-Suriname ties during landmark visit

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar held wide-ranging talks with Suriname's leadership during his visit to Paramaribo on Wednesday, focusing on trade, digital cooperation, energy, healthcare and cultural exchanges. Jaishankar met President Jennifer Geerlings-Simons and Foreign Minister Melvin Bouva and co-chaired the ninth Joint Commission Meeting between the two countries. He also paid tribute to Indian indentured laborers at memorial sites linked to Suriname's Indian-origin community. The minister reaffirmed India's commitment to supporting Suriname's development and highlighted cooperation in digital technology, investment and capacity building. During the visit, Jaishankar also interacted with members of the Indian diaspora and emphasized the deep historical links between the two nations.



# MW MIDWEST

CLINICAL & RECRUITMENT CENTER INC

PIONEERS IN QUALITY MEDICAL EDUCATION FOR OFFSHORE MEDICAL STUDENTS

## HELPING TO TRAIN **SUCCESSFUL** PHYSICIANS FOR TOMORROW

### SPECIALIZE IN

- ▶ Clinical Rotations
- ▶ Externships
- ▶ Observership
- ▶ Residency guidance



More information call us

 **PH: 773 866 1222 • FAX: 773 337 1222**

For further information contact us at:  
[midwestclinicals@gmail.com](mailto:midwestclinicals@gmail.com)

To enroll : Contact us at  
[registrar.mwc@gmail.com](mailto:registrar.mwc@gmail.com)

### Canvas cyberattack disrupts university access across the United States

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A cyberattack targeting the educational platform Canvas disrupted access for students at universities across the United States on Thursday, according to multiple student newspapers and company updates. The hacking group ShinyHunters claimed responsibility, alleging that thousands of schools using Canvas were affected. Students at institutions including Harvard University, University of Pennsylvania and Duke University reported being unable to access coursework and grades. Canvas owner Instructure confirmed it had placed services into maintenance mode while investigating login issues affecting student ePortfolios. Reports said hackers posted messages warning schools to contact them before student data was released publicly. ShinyHunters has previously been linked to major global cyberattacks involving large corporations and online platforms.

### Tennessee Republicans approve map removing Black-majority Memphis House district

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Tennessee Republicans on Thursday approved a new congressional map that eliminates the state's only Black-majority U.S. House district centered in Memphis, drawing protests and immediate legal action. The revised map splits Shelby County, home to the majority-Black city of Memphis, into three Republican-leaning districts and is expected to strengthen Republican control ahead of the midterm elections. The move follows last week's Supreme Court ruling that weakened key protections under the Voting Rights Act. Democrats and civil rights groups condemned the redistricting plan as discriminatory, with protesters disrupting proceedings inside the state capitol. Black lawmakers linked arms in prayer during the final House vote, while Tennessee's NAACP branch filed a lawsuit seeking to block the map. Republicans defended the proposal as a political, not racial, redistricting effort and said it could create an all-Republican congressional delegation from Tennessee.

### California man sentenced after \$59 million unemployment fraud scheme linked to China

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A California man was sentenced to 12 years in federal prison after admitting to a massive fraud scheme that stole nearly \$59 million in public benefits and transferred millions to China. Bruce Jin, 61, of Los Angeles, pleaded guilty in January 2025 to conspiracy charges tied to fraudulent unemployment and COVID-19 relief payments. Federal prosecutors said Jin and his co-conspirators created fake businesses claiming to sell pandemic protective equipment while using stolen identities to open thousands of U.S. bank accounts. Authorities said more than \$35 million was wired to a company-linked account in China, with another \$2 million sent directly to a Chinese national.

### Republicans claim fundraising lead as redistricting fight reshapes midterm battle

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Republicans said Monday they are entering the final stretch before November's midterm elections with a fundraising advantage and growing confidence about expanding their narrow House majority. The National Republican Congressional Committee said it closed the first quarter with \$78.2 million in cash, compared with \$69.9 million for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. Republican groups aligned with President Donald Trump, including MAGA Inc. and the Congressional Leadership Fund, also reported hundreds of millions in combined resources.

The battle for House control remains tight, with Republicans holding a 218-214 edge. Democrats need to flip three seats to



reclaim the chamber and on Monday added eight more candidates to their priority target list. The fight is also intensifying over congressional maps after the Supreme Court's recent Voting Rights Act ruling involving Louisiana. Republicans believe new district maps in states including Texas and Florida could help them gain seats, while Democrats are targeting opportunities in California, Utah and Virginia.

### U.S. trade court strikes down President Trump's new 10 percent global tariffs

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A U.S. trade court on Thursday ruled that President Donald Trump's latest 10 percent global tariffs were unlawful, siding with 24 states and several businesses that challenged the measure. In a 2-1 ruling, the U.S. Court of International Trade said the administration improperly used Section 122 of the Trade Act of 1974 to impose the duties after the Supreme Court had already struck down earlier

tariffs under emergency powers. The court ordered the administration to stop collecting the tariffs from Washington state and two businesses involved in the lawsuit and to issue refunds with interest. Judges ruled that the White House failed to demonstrate a qualifying balance-of-payments crisis required under the law. President Trump criticized the ruling Thursday night, calling the judges "radical left," while insisting his administration would continue pursuing alternative tariff strategies.

### Pirro leaves door open to reviving Powell probe after watchdog review

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Washington's top federal prosecutor Jeanine Pirro said Saturday she will decide whether to reopen the criminal investigation into Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell after reviewing findings from the Federal Reserve's inspector general. The Justice Department suspended its probe on Thursday after a judge blocked grand jury

subpoenas tied to the Federal Reserve's \$2.5 billion headquarters renovation project. Judge James Boasberg ruled prosecutors had shown no evidence Powell committed a crime "other than displeasing the President." President Donald Trump has repeatedly criticized Powell for refusing to cut interest rates. Powell's term as Fed chair expires next year, though he will remain on the board if successor Kevin Warsh is confirmed by the Senate.

### Justice Department moves to back Trump in E. Jean Carroll defamation appeal

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. Department of Justice said this week it will ask the Supreme Court to intervene in President Donald Trump's appeal of the \$83.3 million defamation verdict awarded to writer E. Jean Carroll. The department argues Trump was acting within the scope of his presidential duties when he denied Carroll's sexual assault allegations during his first term in 2019. The Justice Department plans to invoke the federal Westfall Act to substitute the United States as the defendant in the lawsuit, a move previously rejected by an appeals court. Carroll won separate verdicts worth \$5 million and \$83.3 million after



juries found Trump liable for sexual abuse and defamation. Trump has denied the allegations. His legal team separately requested a pause in the judgment while preparing a Supreme Court appeal.

### Judge allows Justice Department to retain seized Fulton County 2020 ballots

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge on Wednesday ruled that the Justice Department can keep 2020 election ballots and records seized from Georgia's Fulton County during an FBI raid earlier this year. U.S. District Judge J.P. Boulee said the seizure was "not perfect" but found the county failed to prove its constitutional rights were violated. The Justice Department is investigating alleged election irregularities in the Democratic-leaning county, despite multiple recounts confirming Joe Biden's 2020 victory in Georgia. Fulton County officials strongly criticized the ruling and vowed to continue fighting in court. The dispute comes as the Trump administration seeks election records from several battleground states ahead of the midterm elections.

### Trump administration eases visa freeze for foreign doctors amid healthcare shortages

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration has lifted a freeze on immigration applications for foreign doctors while keeping restrictions in place for thousands of other applicants from 39 countries. The exemption, quietly introduced last week, allows physicians seeking visas or green cards to resume processing after months of delays. Medical groups had urged the administration to act, warning that many rural and underserved communities rely heavily on foreign-trained doctors. Libyan pulmonologist Dr. Faysal Alghoula, who treats patients across Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky, said he remains worried about attending his immigration interview despite the policy change. Researchers, entrepreneurs and other applicants from countries including Iran, Afghanistan and Venezuela remain affected by the suspension.

### Rare May snowstorm shuts schools and disrupts travel across Colorado

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A powerful late spring snowstorm swept across Colorado this week, forcing school closures, delaying flights and creating hazardous road conditions from Denver to the Rocky Mountains. Several mountain communities received nearly 2 feet of snow, while Denver recorded one of its biggest snowfalls of the season with almost 6 inches at the city's airport. Officials warned residents about falling tree branches and slick roads as temperatures dropped into the low 30s Fahrenheit. The storm also postponed two Colorado Rockies games and disrupted travel across the region. Forecasters said warmer weather is expected by the weekend, with temperatures in Denver likely to return to the mid-70s.

### Louisiana asks Supreme Court to restore limits on abortion pill access by mail

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Louisiana on Thursday urged the U.S. Supreme Court to reinstate restrictions on abortion pills distributed through telemedicine and mail delivery. Republican Attorney General Liz Murrill asked the justices to uphold a lower court ruling blocking a 2023 federal regulation that expanded access to mifepristone during President Joe Biden's administration. The Supreme Court temporarily paused that ruling earlier this week while reviewing emergency appeals from drugmakers Danco Laboratories and GenBioPro. Louisiana argues the relaxed rules undermine the state's near-total abortion ban. Abortion rights advocates say decades of medical research show mifepristone is safe and accuse opponents of using politically motivated claims to limit access before the midterm elections.

### Alabama Republicans push new House primaries amid redistricting fight

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Alabama Republicans moved closer on Thursday to resetting the state's U.S. House primaries if courts allow new congressional maps before November's midterm elections. The proposal follows a recent Supreme Court ruling that weakened Voting Rights Act protections and sparked redistricting battles across Southern states. Republican lawmakers hope to replace a court-ordered map containing a second Black-majority or near-Black-majority district with a previously rejected map that could help the party regain a Democratic-held seat. Democratic lawmakers and civil rights advocates warned the effort would weaken Black political representation in Alabama. Similar redistricting efforts are underway in Tennessee, Louisiana and South Carolina as both parties fight for control of the narrowly divided House.

### Private payroll growth beats forecasts as healthcare hiring drives gains

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

U.S. private employers added 109,000 jobs in April, surpassing economists' expectations and signaling continued labor market resilience despite inflation concerns tied to the conflict in Iran. Payroll company ADP reported Wednesday that most gains came from education and healthcare services, which added 61,000 positions. Trade, transportation and utilities also posted solid growth, while professional and business services lost jobs. Small businesses led hiring gains, adding 65,000 positions. Wage growth remained steady, with workers changing jobs receiving larger pay increases. Economists now await the government's broader employment report, while investors continue debating whether the Federal Reserve may keep interest rates elevated longer to contain rising inflation.

### Trump restores Presidential Fitness Test and school achievement awards

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump signed a proclamation Monday restoring the Presidential Fitness Test Award program in U.S. schools, reviving a competitive fitness initiative ended during the Obama administration. Trump said the move aims to promote athletic excellence and competitiveness among students. The program traces back to President Dwight D. Eisenhower's 1956 youth fitness

initiative and later became a nationwide school benchmark under President Lyndon B. Johnson. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., athletes and cabinet officials joined the Oval Office ceremony. The Obama administration replaced the program with the Presidential Youth Fitness Program, shifting focus from competition to health metrics. Kennedy criticized that approach, saying children should learn "how to win and how to lose" as childhood obesity rates continue rising nationwide.

### United States expands passport crackdown on parents with unpaid child support

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. State Department said Thursday it will begin revoking passports of Americans who owe significant unpaid child support, starting Friday with parents owing at least \$100,000. Officials said about 2,700 passport holders will initially be affected, with plans to later expand enforcement to anyone owing more than \$2,500 under a long-standing federal law. Previously, only passport renewal applicants faced penalties linked to unpaid support. Under the expanded policy, the Department of Health and Human Services will share broader arrears data with the State Department, allowing active



passports to be revoked. Officials said the program has already prompted hundreds of parents to settle debts since reports of the policy emerged earlier this year. Those affected must repay arrears before receiving a new passport or travel document.

### John Roberts warns against growing perception of Supreme Court as political institution

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts said Wednesday he is concerned that Americans increasingly view the Supreme Court as a political institution rather than a legal one. Speaking at an event in Hershey, Pennsylvania, Roberts said many people wrongly believe justices make policy decisions instead of interpreting the law. Roberts acknowledged declining public confidence in the court as its conservative majority continues issuing major rulings on abortion, gun rights, affirmative action and voting laws. He defended the judiciary's independence and warned that personal attacks on judges could undermine public trust. The



comments came days after the Supreme Court weakened a key Voting Rights Act provision and amid continued criticism over decisions involving President Donald Trump. Roberts also stressed that criticism of court rulings is legitimate, but attacks targeting judges personally are dangerous.

### New York budget deal includes mask ban for law enforcement officers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New York Governor Kathy Hochul said Thursday the state will prohibit law enforcement officers, including federal immigration agents, from wearing masks during routine operations. The measure is part of a broader immigration package tied to New York's 2027 state budget agreement. Under the proposal, state and local agencies would also be barred from cooperating with

federal immigration enforcement efforts, while immigration officers would need judicial warrants to enter schools, hospitals and homes. Hochul said masks would only be allowed in limited operational situations, such as the use of protective gas masks. Similar policies introduced in California and New Jersey have already faced legal challenges from the Trump administration, with a federal judge previously blocking California's mask restriction on federal officers.

### Democrats cling to Michigan Senate majority after key special election win

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Democrat Chedrick Greene defeated Republican Jason Tunney in Tuesday's special election for Michigan's 35th Senate District, helping Democrats maintain control of the narrowly divided state Senate. Greene's victory expands the Democratic edge to 20-18 ahead of November's midterm elections. Greene, a Marine veteran and fire chief endorsed by Gretchen Whitmer, campaigned on economic issues affecting working families. Voters in Saginaw cited inflation and rising gas prices as major concerns. Tunney, a former prosecutor and business executive, focused on taxes, schools, and public safety. The race followed months of criticism over delays in filling the seat vacated by Kristen McDonald Rivet after her move to Congress in early 2025. Republicans had accused Whitmer of leaving nearly 270,000 residents without Senate representation for too long.

### Federal lawsuit accuses New York Times of bypassing white editor in diversity hiring push

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has sued The New York Times, alleging the newspaper discriminated against a white male editor while filling a senior newsroom role. The lawsuit, filed Monday in federal court in New York City, claims the editor, who had worked at the paper since 2014, was denied promotion to deputy real estate editor despite meeting all qualifications. The commission alleged the company instead selected a multiracial woman who lacked the required real estate journalism experience. According to the complaint, none of the final candidates were white men, and hiring managers were influenced by the newspaper's public diversity goals. The agency said the decision violated federal employment laws banning discrimination based on race or sex.

### Justice Department operation rescues over 200 children in nationwide abuse crackdown

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Department of Justice announced Monday that a month-long nationwide crackdown on child exploitation rescued more than 200 children and led to over 350 arrests. Operation Iron Pursuit, conducted throughout April, involved all 56 FBI field offices and federal prosecutors across the country. Authorities said suspects face charges including child sexual exploitation, sex trafficking, kidnapping, and possession or distribution of child sexual abuse material. Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche said the operation was meant to warn offenders that federal agencies are intensifying efforts against crimes targeting minors. Kash Patel said the FBI rescued more than 6,300 missing children last year. The Justice Department cited cases spanning Ohio, Washington, New York, and Pennsylvania as part of the operation.

## Singapore court jails Indian-origin car dealer in luxury vehicle tax fraud case

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A** Singapore court has sentenced Indian-origin businessman Thiyambarawatta Subash Indrajith to two months in jail and fined him more than SGD 1 million, or about \$785,000, for under-declaring the value of imported luxury vehicles to evade taxes and duties. The 59-year-old director of Concordway pleaded guilty to multiple violations under Singapore's Customs Act involving 34 imported vehicles, including a Porsche. Authorities said the fraud took place between 2018 and 2024 and resulted in the evasion of more than SGD 161,000 in duties, along with over SGD 1 million in unpaid registration-related charges. Investigators said Subash worked with overseas suppliers in Japan and the United Kingdom to create invoices showing falsely reduced vehicle prices. Customs officials launched the probe after a suspiciously low valuation was submitted for a Porsche 718 Cayman Style Edition.

## Surrey police release photo of deported Punjabi youth linked to extortion probe

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**olice in Surrey have released the photograph of a 20-year-old Punjabi man deported from Canada as part of an ongoing investigation into a widening extortion crisis affecting the region. Prabhjot Singh was arrested earlier this year before authorities shared intelligence with the Canada Border Services Agency, which later revoked his legal status and removed him from the country. The Surrey Police Service said on Monday that publishing Singh's image was necessary to gather more information about his associates and activities. Police data shows Surrey has recorded 91 extortion complaints and 16 related shootings since the start of 2026. Officials believe identifying lower-level operatives could help uncover criminal networks operating both inside and outside Canada. Authorities also reminded the public that a \$250,000 reward remains available for information leading to arrests and convictions connected to the extortion cases.

## Indian journalists win Pulitzer for exposing global cybercrime networks

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndian journalists Anand RK and Suparna Sharma won the Pulitzer Prize on Monday for a Bloomberg illustrated investigation into cyber fraud operations targeting victims in India. Their award-winning report detailed how Lucknow neurologist Ruchira Tandon was tricked by scammers posing as officials, placed under "digital house arrest" for six days, and robbed of nearly \$335,000 from her bank accounts. The Pulitzer committee said the project highlighted the growing global threat posed by surveillance-linked cyber scams. Mumbai-based illustrator Anand RK and investigative journalist Sharma shared the award with Bloomberg reporter Natalie Obiko Pearson in the Illustrated Reporting and Commentary category. Another Indian journalist, Bangkok-based Devjyot Ghoshal, was named a finalist for reporting on cybercrime compounds in Southeast Asia where trafficked workers, including Indians, are forced to run online scams.

## Gurdaspur man becomes Canada's first bearded Sikh marine engineer

● Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

**K**arambir Singh Kang from Punjab's Gurdaspur district has become the first Sikh marine engineer in Canada allowed to serve while maintaining his beard, marking a significant moment for religious inclusion in the country's maritime sector. Kang, who belongs to Kang village near Dhariwal, secured the position after years of advocacy over workplace rules that Sikh groups said discriminated against employees with beards and turbans.

The breakthrough followed an



agreement between the World Sikh Organization and the BC Ferries and Marine Workers' Union, paving the way for Sikh employees to maintain their religious identity while working in maritime roles. Sikh workers in Canada have long argued that grooming and safety regulations created barriers to employment in sectors requiring specialized equipment.

In another milestone, Gurpreet Bajwa became the first turbaned Sikh deck officer and captain within the organization. Sikh leaders described the developments as an important step toward workplace equality and representation in British Columbia.

## New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani joins Sikh officers to celebrate Vaisakhi

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**Z**ohran Mamdani joined members of the Sikh Officers Association to mark Vaisakhi and Khalsa Sajna Diwas in New York, praising Sikh officers for embodying the values of courage, justice and selfless service. In a message shared during the celebration, Mamdani said he was "humbled by the Sikh officers who carry these values into our streets every day," while invoking the Sikh principle of "Nirbhau Nirvair," meaning "without fear, without hate." The mayor wished the Sikh community a happy Vaisakhi and highlighted the importance of standing against hate and discrimination.

Mamdani has repeatedly voiced support for Sikh causes and community issues in recent years. During King Charles' recent visit to the



United States, he publicly called for the return of the Koh-i-Noor diamond to India. He also participated in Sikh heritage celebrations in Manhattan on Friday, joining supporters in honoring Sikh culture and traditions. In an earlier statement, Mamdani had pledged solidarity with Sikh New Yorkers against hate crimes and violence.

## Indian American Vivek Ramaswamy moves closer to becoming first Hindu US governor

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndian American entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy won the Republican nomination for Ohio governor on Tuesday with strong backing from President Donald Trump, moving a step closer to potentially becoming the first Hindu governor in US history. Ramaswamy secured about 87 percent of the vote in Ohio's Republican primary, defeating businessman Casey Putsch, whose campaign drew criticism for racist remarks targeting the candidate's Indian heritage and immigrant family background.

The 40-year-old biotech billionaire, born to Indian immigrant parents from Kerala, first gained national attention during the 2024 Republican presidential race



before later endorsing Trump and briefly joining the administration's Department of Government Efficiency initiative alongside Elon Musk. In November, Ramaswamy will face Democrat Amy Acton. If elected, he would become the third Indian American governor in the United States after Bobby Jindal and Nikki Haley.

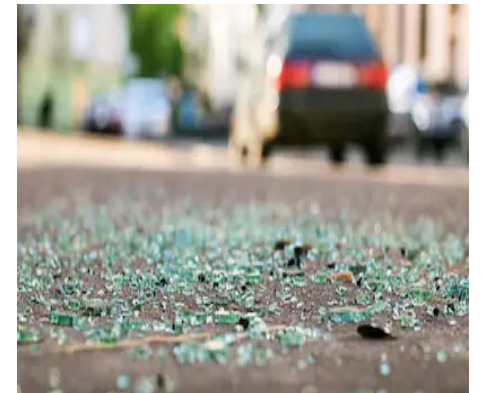
## Indian student in Chicago dies by suicide amid financial and job stress



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A** 26-year-old Indian student from Andhra Pradesh died by suicide in the United States after reportedly struggling with unemployment and financial pressure following the completion of his studies. Iraganaboyina Chandu had recently earned a master's degree from DePaul University in Chicago after completing his engineering studies at CMR College of Engineering. He had also briefly worked as a software developer at Dell last year. Friends said Chandu had been searching for a stable job for several weeks and was deeply worried about supporting his family in India, particularly his father, who works as a security guard. Members of the Indian community in the United States have launched a fundraiser seeking nearly \$120,000 to help transport his body to India and support his parents financially. Andhra Pradesh minister Nara Lokesh also expressed condolences and sought assistance for the repatriation process.

## Assault on elderly Sikh taxi driver sparks outrage in New York



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**n assault on an elderly Sikh taxi driver in New York City has triggered anger among Sikh groups after videos of the incident spread across social media this week. The footage shows the driver being shoved to the ground during a roadside altercation after a man accused him of hitting another vehicle. The attacker was also heard threatening further violence before pushing the elderly man forcefully onto the pavement. Community members said the victim suffered injuries but remains in 'Chardi Kala', a Sikh expression referring to resilience and optimism. Sikh organizations condemned the attack and raised concerns over the safety of elderly immigrant drivers working in public-facing jobs such as taxi services. The incident comes amid growing concern over violence targeting Sikh community members in North America. Community leaders pointed to a separate case reported in Ontario last month involving an elderly Sikh man allegedly being assaulted in what was described as a hate-motivated incident. Authorities in New York have not yet issued a detailed public statement as calls for accountability continue to grow.



Friday, 08 May 2026

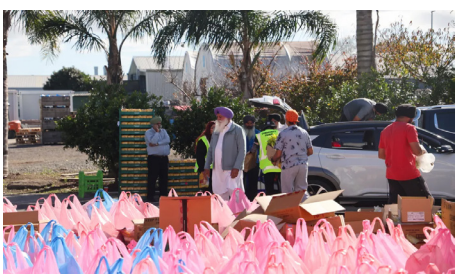
Punjab man deported after eight years in Australia amid immigration troubles



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Punjab man deported from Australia after eight years abroad has become the focus of renewed discussion around the hardships faced by migrants living without valid documentation overseas. Harpreet Singh, a resident of Moga, returned to India last week aboard a special chartered deportation flight carrying 15 Indian nationals. According to reports, Harpreet moved to Australia around 2018 seeking better opportunities, but personal and financial difficulties following a separation from his wife reportedly left him unable to regularize his immigration status after his visa expired. Officials said he was not accused of criminal activity but had overstayed his visa and spent time at Melbourne Immigration Detention Centre before deportation. Authorities said 11 of the deportees were from Punjab, while several others faced allegations ranging from assault to traffic offenses. Due to security concerns and disruptive behavior by some passengers, Australian officials used a chartered aircraft with escorts and medical personnel. Harpreet's case has since sparked conversations in Punjab about the emotional and legal vulnerabilities faced by migrants abroad.

New Zealand Sikh food drive distributes 1,000 relief packages in Auckland



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A large community food drive organized by the Supreme Sikh Society of New Zealand brought hundreds of families together in Auckland on Saturday as volunteers distributed nearly 1,000 food packages outside Gurudwara Sri Kalgidhar Sahib. The initiative drew Sikh families, Maori households, Pacific Islander communities and local residents from across the city. Volunteers loaded cars with vegetables, bread, milk, canned food and other essentials as long lines stretched across nearby streets. Organizers said the effort began during the COVID-19 lockdown period when farmers struggled to distribute produce. Since then, the group says it has distributed nearly 684,000 food packets across New Zealand. Saturday's event opened with both an Ardas and a traditional Maori Karakia prayer, reflecting the multicultural nature of the gathering. Community leaders said rising living costs have increased demand for such drives, which many residents now rely on for regular support and relief.

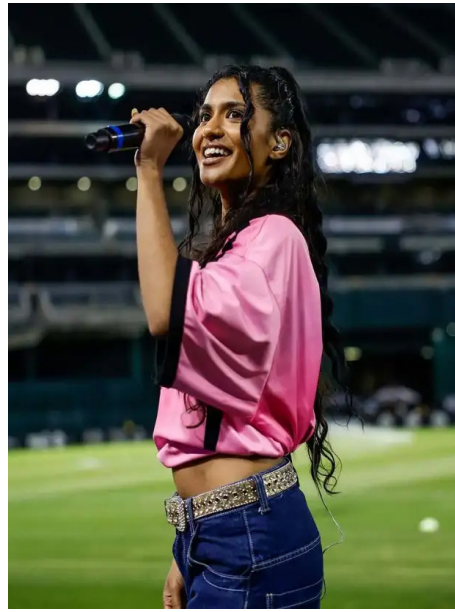
## Indo-Fijian rapper Fijiana turns diaspora identity into a global hip-hop movement

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Rising Indo-Fijian rapper Fijiana is gaining international attention for blending Bay Area hip-hop with deeply personal stories about diaspora identity, migration and belonging. Her breakout track, Welcome to the Bay, has crossed more than 20 million views, resonating with listeners navigating multiple cultural identities across the world.

Raised in Richmond, California, Fijiana grew up surrounded by Indo-Fijian traditions, American street culture and immigrant experiences. Her family history traces back to Indian indentured laborers taken to Fiji during British colonial rule, a legacy that strongly influences her music and understanding of identity. She has described performing in India as emotionally complex rather than a simple homecoming, reflecting the layered experiences of many diaspora communities.

Her music combines hip-hop, rhythm



and blues, and diasporic pop influences, drawing inspiration from artists such as A. R. Rahman, E-40 and Too Short. Beyond music, Fijiana has also attracted attention for using her work to address issues of identity, power and personal autonomy.

## Patiala-born Sukhi Bal becomes first Punjabi woman to summit Ama Dablam

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Sukhvir Kaur, popularly known as Sukhi Bal, has become the first Punjabi woman to scale Ama Dablam, one of the Himalayas' most challenging peaks. The 43-year-old, originally from Chehal village in Punjab's Patiala district and now based in Sydney, completed the 6,812-meter summit expedition in Nepal last month.

Bal, who works as a prison officer in Australia and has also acted in Punjabi films, said the climb took six days and tested her endurance through harsh weather and food shortages. She revealed that she and her Sherpa guide survived on only two biscuits for nearly 35 hours after being forced back by a snowstorm before making a final push to the summit.



The climber carried a photograph of her parents and unfurled a white Punjabi 'chunni' at the peak. Bal said she hopes her achievement inspires women to continue pursuing their dreams after marriage. She now plans to attempt Mount Everest next.

## Woman charged nearly three years after London school crash killed Indian-origin girl

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

British prosecutors on Friday charged Claire Freemantle with dangerous driving over the 2023 crash at The Study Prep School that killed eight-year-old Nuria Sajjad and her classmate Serena Lau. The collision occurred during an end-of-term gathering when a vehicle crashed into the school grounds, injuring several others, including Nuria's mother.

An earlier investigation had treated the incident as a tragic accident and did not result in charges. However, the Metropolitan Police Service reopened the case after a review identified new evidence and additional lines of inquiry. Prosecutors have now charged Freemantle with two counts of causing death by dangerous driving and seven counts of causing serious injury by dangerous driving.

Police officials acknowledged



shortcomings in the original investigation and said procedures surrounding serious crash investigations would now be overhauled. Freemantle is scheduled to appear in a London court on Monday, June 16.

## Nikhil Gupta agrees to forfeit cash and phones in US murder-for-hire case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nikhil Gupta, who pleaded guilty earlier this year in a United States murder-for-hire conspiracy case, has agreed to forfeit \$15,000 in cash and two mobile phones to the US government under a federal court order filed in New York. The consent preliminary order, signed by US District Judge Victor Marrero on Wednesday, stated that the money represented proceeds linked to the offenses charged in the indictment.

Gupta pleaded guilty on Thursday, February 13, to charges including murder-for-hire conspiracy, murder-for-hire, and conspiracy to commit money laundering. Prosecutors said the forfeited assets included \$15,000 seized in New York in June 2023, along with an iPhone 11 Pro Max and a Vivo Y56 5G phone seized by Czech authorities before being transferred to US custody.

The case has drawn international attention because it involved allegations of a plot targeting a Sikh separatist figure in the United States. Federal authorities said Gupta was jointly liable with co-defendant Vikash Yadav for the money judgment tied to the case.

## US judge dismisses espionage case against Indian-American scholar Ashley Tellis



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge in Virginia has dismissed without prejudice an Espionage Act case against Indian-American strategic affairs expert Ashley J. Tellis after ruling that prosecutors charged him under the wrong legal provision. US District Judge Michael S. Nachmanoff granted Tellis' motion to dismiss on Wednesday, April 16, in Alexandria, Virginia. Tellis had been charged under Section 793(e) of the Espionage Act for allegedly retaining classified national defense information at his residence while serving in senior government-linked positions. Prosecutors accused him of storing classified documents in both digital and hard-copy form.

However, Tellis' legal team argued that the law cited by prosecutors applies only to people in "unauthorized possession" of classified material. They said the indictment itself acknowledged that Tellis held high-level security clearance and had been entrusted with access to the documents. The court dismissed the case without prejudice, meaning prosecutors may refile charges under a different statute. The case attracted attention in Washington because of Tellis' long career advising the US government on defense and Indo-Pacific policy.



### Japan's constitution debate returns as PM pushes for reform



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi renewed calls on Sunday to revise Japan's postwar constitution, saying the 1947 charter should reflect modern realities. In a message marking Constitution Memorial Day, Takaichi said the ruling party would continue discussions in parliament and work with opposition parties toward possible amendments. The constitution's Article 9, which renounces war and limits military capabilities, remains at the center of the debate. Takaichi said discussions must lead to concrete decisions, not symbolic debate. Her push has sparked protests in recent months, with demonstrators warning against weakening Japan's pacifist framework. She has repeatedly said the time has come to revise key security policies and strengthen national defense.

### Canada flags Khalistani extremism as security threat

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canadian Security Intelligence Service has identified Canada-based Khalistani extremists as a violent extremist threat in its latest public report, according to media reports. The agency said a small group continues using Canada as a base to promote, fundraise and plan violence linked to separatist activity. The report added that foreign interference from countries including China, Russia, Iran and Pakistan remains a major concern. It warned that extremist networks and covert influence operations are undermining democratic institutions and public trust. The findings have renewed debate within the Indian diaspora and Canadian politics over balancing free expression with national security concerns.

### Nepal removes nearly 1,600 political appointees in sweeping overhaul

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nepal's government under Prime Minister Balendra Shah has removed 1,594 political appointees through a new ordinance issued on Saturday, triggering one of the country's biggest administrative shakeups in years. The order automatically terminated appointments made before late March across universities, public boards, councils and state-run institutions. Critics warned the move could disrupt governance by leaving several bodies without leadership, while supporters said it was necessary to reform politicized institutions. The government has also launched anti-corruption and money laundering investigations targeting influential figures, alongside reforms focused on faster digital governance and public service delivery.

### Sheinbaum invokes Mexico's historic resistance to reject foreign interference amid rising US tensions

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Claudia Sheinbaum used Mexico's Cinco de Mayo commemorations on Tuesday to deliver a forceful defense of national sovereignty, warning that no foreign power would dictate the country's future. Speaking during ceremonies marking the 164th anniversary of the Battle of Puebla in Puebla state, Sheinbaum praised the historic Mexican victory over French troops as a lasting symbol of resistance against foreign intervention and political division. The Mexican president said politicians seeking support from foreign governments because they "lack the support of the people" were "destined for defeat." Her comments came amid mounting tensions with the United States following Washington's request for the extradition of 10 Mexican citizens, including Sinaloa Governor Ruben Rocha Moya, over alleged links to arms and drug trafficking.

Sheinbaum also referred to recent reports that two United States intelligence agents



killed during an anti-narcotics operation in Chihuahua had allegedly been operating in Mexico without the federal government's knowledge. Addressing the United States directly, she said Mexico's history proved that its people would always defend national independence and sovereignty. During the event, Sheinbaum also swore in more than 31,000 National Military Service recruits and nearly 800 female volunteers, urging them to preserve the memory of May 5, 1862, as a symbol of resistance and unity.

### Russian strikes intensify across Ukraine hours before Kyiv ceasefire deadline

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian attacks across eastern and southeastern Ukraine killed at least 27 people on Tuesday, just hours before a ceasefire proposed by Kyiv was due to take effect at midnight. The deadliest strike hit Zaporizhzhia, where aerial bombs and drones killed 12 people and injured about 20 others, according to regional officials. Six more people were killed in Kramatorsk, while additional fatalities were reported in Dnipro, Poltava and Kharkiv regions. President

Volodymyr Zelensky condemned the attacks as "cynical" and accused Moscow of escalating violence while ignoring Ukraine's offer for an open-ended ceasefire beginning Wednesday night. Russia had separately announced a short truce for Thursday and Friday to coincide with Victory Day commemorations in Moscow.

Within minutes of the deadline passing, Russian-installed officials in Crimea claimed a Ukrainian drone strike killed five civilians in Dzhankoi. Russian officials gave little indication they intended to accept Kyiv's ceasefire proposal.

### Venezuela rejects World Court authority in escalating Guyana border dispute

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Venezuela told the International Court of Justice on Wednesday that it does not recognize the court's authority in the long-running territorial dispute with neighboring Guyana over the oil-rich Esequibo region. The case centers on a 160,000-square-kilometer territory and offshore waters believed to contain major oil and gas reserves. Addressing judges in The Hague, Venezuelan representative Samuel Reinaldo Moncada Acosta argued that the

1899 arbitration ruling, which granted the territory to then-British Guiana, was fraudulent and imposed under colonial pressure. He insisted the dispute should only be resolved through direct negotiations between Caracas and Georgetown. Guyana, which brought the case to the court in 2018, is seeking confirmation of the internationally recognized border and has described Venezuela's claims as an existential threat affecting more than 70 percent of its territory. A final ruling is still months away, though decisions of the court are legally binding.

### Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government halts work in rare protest against federal policies

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government observed a province-wide pen-down strike on Wednesday in an unprecedented protest against the federal administration, sharply escalating tensions between Islamabad and the province.

Chief Minister Sohail Afridi led the protest, ordering departments to suspend routine administrative work while keeping emergency services operational. Provincial

officials accused the federal government of unfair treatment over revenue distribution, electricity and gas allocation, and broader fiscal marginalization.

Local reports said offices remained open, but officials stopped signing documents or processing files. The protest also reflected growing frustration over the detention conditions of former Prime Minister Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi. Analysts described the move as a major escalation in long-running disputes over provincial authority and resource sharing.

### Cuba condemns Trump's military threat remarks

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Miguel Díaz-Canel on Saturday condemned remarks by President Donald Trump suggesting possible military action against Cuba, calling them an unprecedented escalation of threats. Trump reportedly said the United States could move quickly against Cuba after addressing the Iran conflict and mentioned deploying the USS Abraham Lincoln near the island. Cuba's government accused Washington of intimidation and violating international norms, while also criticizing new US sanctions announced Friday. Cuban officials said the measures amount to collective punishment and vowed the country would defend its sovereignty despite mounting tensions with Washington.

### Iran's foreign minister heads to China for regional talks



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Seyed Abbas Araghchi is set to arrive in China on Tuesday for talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi as Iran expands diplomatic consultations over the Middle East conflict. The visit follows Araghchi's recent trips to Russia, Oman and Pakistan. Discussions are expected to focus on bilateral ties, regional tensions and efforts to stabilize the region after failed ceasefire talks between Iran and the United States. Russia and Oman have both recently urged renewed diplomacy to prevent further escalation.

### US prosecutors say White House dinner attack targeted Trump

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

US Attorney Jeanine Pirro said Sunday that investigators believe President Donald Trump was the intended target in last week's shooting at the White House Correspondents' Dinner in Washington. Pirro said forensic and surveillance evidence showed the suspect planned the attack after learning Trump would attend the event. Authorities recovered multiple weapons, including a shotgun and knives, and said the suspect tracked the President's movements before opening fire. The suspect remains in custody as prosecutors prepare further proceedings. The incident has intensified concerns about security at high-profile political gatherings in the United States.

## UNESCO warns conflicts are disrupting education across Arab world

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**U**NESCO warned Monday that escalating conflicts across the Arab world are disrupting education for more than 100 million children and pushing fragile school systems toward collapse. The agency said at least 15 countries have faced severe interruptions, with millions of students affected by school closures, displacement and remote learning challenges. In Gaza, nearly all schools have been damaged or destroyed, while Lebanon and Syria are also struggling with overcrowded classrooms and displaced students. UNESCO warned the region risks creating a “lost generation” unless urgent international support helps rebuild education systems and expand access to learning.

## North Korea attacks Japan's military policy overhaul



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**N**orth Korea criticized Japan on Monday over plans to revise key security documents and expand defense exports, calling the move a threat to regional peace. North Korean state media accused Japan of using growing global tensions to justify military expansion and revive ambitions linked to its wartime past. Japan recently revised rules to allow broader exports of defense equipment, including some weapons systems. Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi has also pledged to increase defense spending and strengthen military capabilities amid rising regional tensions involving China and North Korea.

## Deadly fireworks factory blast kills 21 in China



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**t least 21 people were killed and 61 injured after a massive explosion at a fireworks factory in Liuyang on Monday, Chinese authorities said. Rescue crews evacuated residents within a nearly two-mile radius and deployed robots to help search the site amid fears of secondary explosions near black powder warehouses. President Xi Jinping called for an urgent investigation and demanded accountability. Police have detained the company's manager while investigators determine the cause. Liuyang is widely known as one of the world's largest fireworks manufacturing hubs.

## Rubio warns China and Russia as US pushes new Iran resolution at United Nations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**M**arco Rubio on Tuesday escalated pressure on China and Russia over the growing Strait of Hormuz crisis, warning that countries helping Iran bypass sanctions could face economic consequences from the United States. Speaking during a White House briefing, Rubio said the Trump administration would make a renewed push at the United Nations to secure international condemnation of Iran over attacks on commercial vessels and the mining of key shipping lanes in the Gulf region. Rubio said Washington had revised the wording of its proposed United Nations resolution in hopes of avoiding vetoes from Beijing and Moscow, both of which resisted earlier efforts. He argued that the crisis was testing the credibility of the United Nations as a forum for peacefully resolving global conflicts. The secretary of state accused Iran of targeting civilian shipping and disrupting one of the world's most important trade corridors. He warned that foreign financial institutions and companies assisting Tehran in evading



sanctions could face secondary sanctions and lose access to the United States financial system. Rubio also suggested that China had strong economic reasons to pressure Iran, noting that Beijing's export-driven economy depends heavily on uninterrupted global shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. Referring to Iran's growing ties with China, Rubio said he hoped Beijing would urge Tehran to stop actions that were increasing its global isolation. He added that tensions in the region and instability in the strait were harming economies worldwide, including China's own trade interests.

## Boko Haram assault kills 23 Chadian soldiers in Lake Chad region

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**t least 23 Chadian soldiers were killed and 26 injured after militants from Boko Haram attacked a military base in the Lake Chad region late Monday, according to Chadian military officials. Army spokesperson Issakha Acheikh Chanane said militants launched the assault on the Barka Tolorom island base before security

forces retaliated, killing a significant number of attackers and seizing weapons.

Mahamat Idriss Déby visited injured soldiers in hospital and pledged that Chad would remain “united and unwavering” against terrorism. Boko Haram has operated across the Lake Chad Basin for more than a decade, carrying out attacks in Chad, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Niger.

## G7 ministers push critical minerals alliance amid renewed US-EU tariff tensions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**rade ministers from the Group of Seven nations met in Paris on Wednesday seeking closer cooperation on securing critical mineral supply chains, while fresh tariff threats from President Donald Trump against European automobiles strained transatlantic unity.

France, which currently holds the G7 presidency, pushed for concrete agreements to reduce dependence on China for rare earth minerals and strategic resources used in electric vehicles, defense systems and clean energy technology. In a joint statement, ministers pledged to prevent countries from “weaponizing

economic dependencies.”

Despite broad agreement on reducing reliance on Chinese supply chains, divisions reportedly emerged between American and European proposals on how to achieve that goal.

Tensions also rose after President Trump threatened to increase tariffs on European-made cars from 15 percent to 25 percent, arguing the European Union had failed to fully implement last year's Turnberry trade agreement.

European officials said negotiations were continuing, while Germany warned the tariff threat could further hurt its already struggling auto sector.

## United States shuts Peshawar consulate amid security and resource concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he United States announced on Tuesday that it will gradually close its consulate in Peshawar, transferring diplomatic responsibilities for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province to the embassy in Islamabad. The US Department of State said the move reflected concerns over diplomatic staff safety and efficient resource management. Washington did

not provide a timeline for the closure or clarify whether staffing reductions had already begun. Despite ending its physical presence in Peshawar, the United States said it would continue engagement with provincial officials and residents on economic cooperation, regional security, and bilateral ties. The closure marks a significant shift in a region long associated with militancy, cross-border tensions, and counterterrorism operations linked to neighboring Afghanistan.

## Rights group warns of worsening press crackdown in Bangladesh

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**J**ustice Makers Bangladesh in France warned Sunday that journalists in Bangladesh continue facing intimidation, arrests and legal harassment amid a deepening crackdown on independent media. The group said several journalists and rights defenders remain detained under politically motivated cases dating back to 2024. It argued that restrictive laws, surveillance and threats against reporters are fueling self-censorship and eroding democratic norms. The organization urged the international community to increase pressure on Bangladeshi authorities and protect press freedom as concerns grow over shrinking space for dissent.

## EU moves to remove leather from anti-deforestation rules



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he European Commission has proposed removing leather from the scope of the European Union's revised anti-deforestation law to avoid hurting industries such as footwear and luxury goods manufacturing. The draft changes, announced Monday, would also add products like soluble coffee and some palm oil derivatives to the regulation. The commission said the revisions could cut compliance costs for companies by about 75 percent. The law aims to ensure products sold in the European Union are not linked to deforestation or environmental degradation.

## Australia opens hearings into antisemitism after Bondi attack



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**ustralia on Monday opened the first public hearings of a national antisemitism inquiry launched after the deadly attack at Bondi Beach in December 2025. The inquiry, led by former High Court judge Virginia Bell, will examine antisemitism, online radicalization and social cohesion. Authorities say 15 people were killed in the attack during a Hanukkah event. Investigators allege the suspect was inspired by Islamic State ideology. The inquiry's final report is expected before the first anniversary of the attack.

## Delhi High Court defers CBI plea against Kejriwal and Sisodia discharge

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

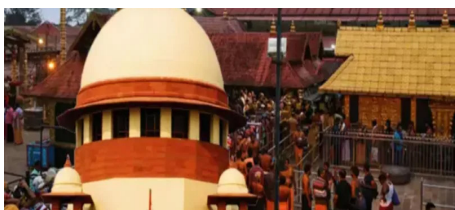
**T**he Delhi High Court on Friday adjourned the hearing on the Central Bureau of Investigation's plea challenging the discharge of Aam Aadmi Party leaders Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia and others in the alleged Delhi excise policy case. Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma deferred the matter to Sunday, saying the court was awaiting consent from senior advocates proposed as amici curiae for the leaders, who have chosen not to participate in the proceedings. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Central Bureau of Investigation, said replies had been filed to applications by other accused and that issues regarding the petition's maintainability would be addressed during arguments. Kejriwal, Sisodia and Aam Aadmi Party leader Durgesh Pathak abstained after Justice Sharma declined to recuse herself. Earlier, the trial court had discharged all accused, ruling the excise policy emerged from a consultative process rather than a criminal conspiracy.

## Cabinet approves proposal to raise Supreme Court strength to 37 judges

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Union Cabinet has approved a proposal to increase the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court from 33 judges to 37, excluding the Chief Justice of India. The move will be introduced through the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026, which seeks to amend the 1956 law governing the court's composition. The government said the expansion is aimed at improving efficiency and reducing the growing backlog of cases in the apex court. Additional spending on judges, staff, and infrastructure will be funded through the Consolidated Fund of India. The Supreme Court originally began with eight judges, including the chief justice, and its strength has been revised several times over the decades. The last increase came in 2019, when Parliament raised the number of judges from 30 to 33.

## Supreme Court questions basis of original Sabarimala petition



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Supreme Court on Tuesday sharply questioned the foundation of the 2006 public interest litigation that resulted in the landmark 2018 Sabarimala verdict allowing women of all ages to enter the temple. A nine-judge Constitution bench led by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said the plea "ought not to have been entertained" and criticized the use of unverified material and newspaper reports. Justice B V Nagarathna remarked that the documents should have been "thrown in the dustbin," while Justice M M Sundresh called the petition an "abuse of the process of law." The bench also warned against misuse of public interest litigation for publicity or political motives. Senior counsel R P Gupta defended the plea, arguing that access to worship is protected under constitutional rights.

## Modi promises Ayushman Bharat rollout in Bengal after BJP's historic victory

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**rieme Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday announced that Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana will be implemented in West Bengal after the BJP's sweeping election victory ended the All India Trinamool Congress government led by Mamata Banerjee. Addressing party workers at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi, Modi said the scheme would receive approval in the new government's first cabinet meeting.

The flagship health insurance program provides cashless medical coverage of up to \$5,800 per family annually and automatically covers all citizens above 70 years of age. Bengal had earlier refused to adopt the centrally sponsored scheme, arguing that it already operated its own healthcare program. Modi said the BJP government would focus on development, women's safety and employment generation in the state. The BJP crossed the 200-seat mark in the 293-member Assembly, ending the Trinamool Congress's 15-year rule in Bengal.



## West Bengal prepares statewide crackdown on illegal immigration networks

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**uthorities in West Bengal are preparing a major crackdown on illegal immigration networks following renewed focus on border security after the recent elections. Officials said the planned drive will begin in border districts such as Malda and Murshidabad, where demographic changes and infiltration concerns have drawn attention for years. Intelligence officials claim illegal immigration has been aided by cross-border tout networks operating in India and Bangladesh, with many migrants later moving to southern states for low-wage work. The crackdown is expected to target both undocumented migrants and trafficking intermediaries. Officials also said tighter



coordination between state authorities and central agencies will be crucial. The Bharatiya Janata Party had made illegal immigration a major campaign issue and pledged stronger border controls, including increased surveillance in riverine and forest areas along the Bangladesh border.

## India steps up assistance for citizens as tensions continue in West Asia

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia's Ministry of External Affairs said on Monday that it is closely monitoring developments across West Asia while prioritizing the safety of Indian nationals in the region. Additional Secretary Aseem R. Mahajan said Indian embassies and consulates are operating round-the-clock helplines and coordinating with local authorities, state governments, and Indian community groups. The ministry said flight operations from the Gulf region are gradually improving, with services resuming from the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar. India has also advised citizens to avoid travel to Iran



and urged those already there to leave with embassy assistance. Officials said more than 2,500 Indians have already been evacuated from Iran through land and sea routes. The ministry added that welfare support for Indian seafarers in the region remains a priority.

## Nirmala Sitharaman to attend Asian Development Bank annual meeting in Italy



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**F**inance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is leading the Indian delegation to the Asian Development Bank's annual meeting in Milan from Sunday through Wednesday. Officials said Sitharaman will participate in the governors' business session, plenary discussions, and a seminar focused on cross-border cooperation and economic resilience. On the sidelines of the event, she is expected to hold bilateral meetings with finance ministers from Italy, Japan, and Bhutan, along with senior officials from the Asian Development Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation. The finance minister will also interact with members of the Indian diaspora, business leaders, and global think tanks. She is additionally scheduled to speak at Bocconi University during the NEXT Milan Forum on balancing economic and climate resilience.

## Allahabad High Court rejects plea seeking case against Rahul Gandhi over remarks on Indian state



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Allahabad High Court on Friday dismissed a petition seeking criminal proceedings against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over remarks he made during the inauguration of the party's new headquarters in New Delhi last year. The petition alleged Gandhi's statement about fighting the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, and "the Indian state itself" was anti-national and hurt public sentiments. Justice Vikram D. Chauhan upheld a lower court decision rejecting the plea for a police case. Gandhi had made the remarks while accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh of capturing national institutions and said the Congress was defending the Constitution and democratic values. The court order came after a challenge filed by petitioner Simran Gupta.

### SEBI forms cyber task force over rising AI-driven security threats



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Securities and Exchange Board of India has launched a dedicated cyber task force after warning financial institutions about advanced artificial intelligence tools capable of identifying software vulnerabilities and launching cyberattacks. The regulator highlighted concerns surrounding Anthropic's unreleased AI model "Mythos," which reportedly detects vulnerabilities at unprecedented speed.

SEBI's new task force, cyber-suraksha.ai, will coordinate cybersecurity measures across exchanges, depositories, registrars, and regulated entities. The regulator has directed firms to strengthen system protections, improve API security, and conduct AI-assisted vulnerability assessments. The move comes amid growing global concern over AI-driven cyber risks in financial systems. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has also reviewed preparedness measures with major banks as authorities push for coordinated defenses and stronger threat intelligence sharing.

### India pitches Bharat Innovates 2026 to investors in Paris



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Ministry of Education hosted a roadshow in Paris on Tuesday to promote Bharat Innovates 2026, a global innovation summit scheduled in Nice in June. The event aimed to connect Indian deep-tech startups and universities with global investors, corporations, and research institutions.

Representatives from French business groups, universities, venture networks, and Indian officials attended the event. Discussions focused on sectors including semiconductors, biotechnology, advanced computing, defense, and Industry 4.0 technologies. Officials said the initiative will strengthen India-France innovation ties and attract global investment into India's startup ecosystem.

### Congress escalates attack on Great Nicobar project over tribal and environmental concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian National Congress on Sunday called for a full parliamentary debate on the proposed Great Nicobar Island Development Project, alleging serious risks to the island's ecology, indigenous communities and environmental clearance process. Party leader Jairam Ramesh said the government was attempting "damage control" after Rahul Gandhi visited the island on Monday and described the mega project as a threat to India's natural and tribal heritage.

The Congress questioned the government's claim that only a small portion of land would be affected, arguing that the island's fragile ecosystem makes any large-scale construction environmentally damaging. Ramesh highlighted concerns over proposed development at Galathea Bay, a nesting site for the endangered Leatherback sea turtle, and alleged irregularities in the project's approval process. The party also raised concerns over the rights of the Nicobarese and Shompen tribes, while questioning the need for a large international airport and tourism infrastructure on the remote island.



### Nitin Gadkari reviews major highway expansion projects across Maharashtra

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Monday reviewed several proposed highway and expressway projects aimed at improving connectivity across Maharashtra. Officials said discussions focused on major corridors including Nagpur-Hyderabad, Gwalior-Nagpur, Durg-Gadchiroli-Mancherial, and Pune-Satara, along with multiple six-laning and four-laning projects. The meeting also reviewed nine build-operate-transfer highway projects covering more than 500 kilometers across the state. The government said the projects are intended to accelerate regional economic growth and strengthen transport infrastructure. Officials noted that India's

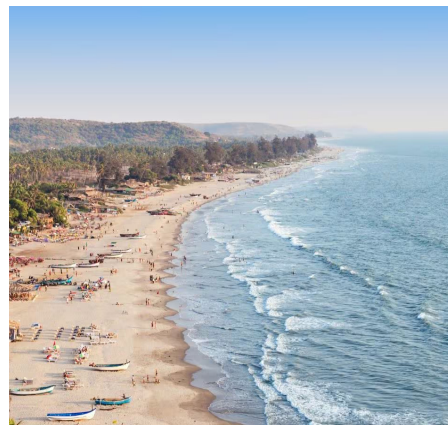


national highway network has expanded significantly over the past decade, growing from about 91,000 kilometers in 2014 to more than 146,000 kilometers in 2025. The ministry also highlighted rising employment generation linked to highway construction activity nationwide.

### Goa declares thousands of hectares along key rivers as protected ecological zones

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Goa's Forest Department has designated more than 6,700 hectares along the Mandovi and Zuari riverbanks as ecologically sensitive areas, effectively restricting commercial construction and tightening controls on sand mining. Officials said the move follows directions from Forest Minister Vishwajit Rane and aims to protect vulnerable river ecosystems from unchecked development. The protected zones cover large stretches along both rivers and will now be integrated into the state's planning framework. Authorities said the designation prevents new commercial projects in the identified areas and could further complicate efforts to revive sand mining, which has faced restrictions since 2019. Environmental groups have long raised



concerns about damage caused by mining and construction near Goa's waterways. Officials described the decision as a major shift toward long-term ecological conservation and stricter environmental oversight.

### Jammu-Srinagar Vande Bharat draws over 16,000 passengers in four days

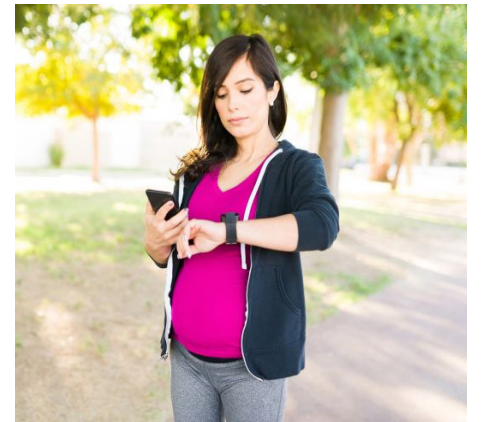


IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Jammu-Srinagar Vande Bharat Express has carried more than 16,000 passengers within four days of launch, reflecting strong public demand for the new service. The train was flagged off on Friday by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Union Minister Jitendra Singh.

Railway officials said occupancy averaged around 82 percent between Friday and Monday, with bookings rising to 96 percent on Monday. Tourists and pilgrims have preferred the train for its speed, comfort, and modern facilities. Passengers also praised the smooth ride and onboard food services.

### Government launches JANANI platform to digitally track maternal and child healthcare



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian government on Thursday launched JANANI, a digital healthcare platform designed to monitor maternal and child health services nationwide through QR-enabled records. Officials said the system will track women's healthcare journeys from pregnancy and childbirth to newborn care and family planning.

Developed as an upgraded version of the Reproductive and Child Health portal, JANANI creates long-term digital health records and provides alerts for high-risk pregnancies, immunizations, and medical appointments. The platform also integrates with national systems such as U-WIN and POSHAN for better coordination across healthcare programs.

Beneficiaries can register using Aadhaar, ABHA, or mobile numbers, while migratory populations can maintain uninterrupted healthcare records across states. According to the government, the platform has already registered more than 1.34 crore beneficiaries and generated over 30 lakh mother and child health cards.

**Tata Trusts postpones board meetings amid governance discussions**



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**ata Trusts has postponed board meetings of Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and Sir Ratan Tata Trust to May 16 amid ongoing legal and governance discussions. The meetings were earlier scheduled for May 8 and were expected to review trustee representation on the Tata Sons board. Sources said discussions also included the sensitive issue of a potential listing of Tata Sons, though most trustees continue to support keeping it unlisted. The matter has long triggered internal differences within the group. The postponement reflects continued deliberations on board structure and nominee alignment at one of India's largest conglomerates.

**Air India weighs cost cuts and leadership transition amid mounting financial losses**



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**ir India's board has reviewed cost-cutting steps including unpaid leave options and possible delays in performance-linked bonuses as losses and operating costs rise. The Gurugram meeting lasted over three hours and focused on financial pressures, including higher jet fuel prices and longer routes due to West Asia tensions. The airline is also evaluating leadership transition plans, with Chief Executive Campbell Wilson set to step down later this year. Air India Group is estimated to have posted losses above 22,000 crore rupees in the financial year ending March 2026, while continuing selective expansion in Gulf markets.

**IndiGo to begin operations at Noida International Airport from June 15**

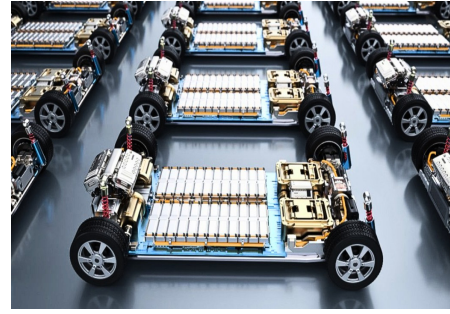
● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndiGo will start flights from Noida International Airport in Jewar on June 15, becoming the first airline to operate from the new facility. The carrier will connect the airport to more than 16 Indian destinations, including Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Jaipur and Srinagar. Bookings are now open through its website and travel partners. The airport, developed with an investment of about 11,200 crore rupees, will initially handle 12 million passengers annually and scale up to 70 million. The launch strengthens IndiGo's multi-airport strategy in the National Capital Region and supports India's expanding aviation infrastructure.

**India and European Union launch \$19.8 million electric vehicle battery recycling program**

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia and the European Union on Wednesday launched a new coordinated call for proposals to advance electric vehicle battery recycling, strengthening cooperation under the Trade and Technology Council framework. The initiative carries a funding pool of about \$19.8 million and is aimed at developing advanced technologies for recycling and recovering critical materials such as lithium, graphite, and cobalt from used batteries. Proposals will be accepted until September 15, 2026.



demonstrations of new technologies. A key component includes setting up a joint pilot line in India for real-world testing and industrial deployment.

Supported by the European Union's Horizon Europe programme and India's Ministry of Heavy Industries, the drive will focus on improving recycling efficiency, safe collection systems, and pilot-scale

Officials said the programme will support a circular economy, strengthen mineral security, and reduce dependence on imported critical resources as electric vehicle adoption expands in India.

**Gold heads for weekly gain as markets watch United States-Iran tensions and jobs data**

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**G**old rose on Friday and was on track for a weekly gain as investors weighed easing inflation concerns and ongoing optimism around a possible United States-Iran deal despite renewed clashes. Spot gold climbed 0.7 percent to 4,715.49 dollars per ounce, while weekly gains stood at 2.2 percent. United States gold futures also rose to 4,725 dollars.



Markets were reacting to reports that the United States and Iran exchanged fire earlier in the week, though both sides signaled restraint and support for a ceasefire. Analysts said optimism over diplomacy was helping support prices, even as volatility remained likely ahead of key United States employment data due

later in the day. Silver, platinum and palladium also posted gains, reflecting broad strength in precious metals. Traders are closely watching whether labor market data will influence Federal Reserve policy expectations in the months ahead.

**Trump raises European Union auto tariffs to 25 percent, signals tougher trade stance**

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**U**S President Donald Trump on Friday announced a sharp increase in tariffs on cars and trucks imported from the European Union, raising them to 25 percent. He accused the bloc of failing to comply with an existing trade agreement and said the move was intended to pressure manufacturers to shift production to the United States. Speaking to reporters, Trump said the higher tariffs

would bring "billions of dollars" into the US economy and support domestic factory growth, claiming record levels of automotive investment from countries including Japan, South Korea, Canada, and Mexico.

On Iran, Trump said negotiations were ongoing but unstable, adding that he preferred a diplomatic solution despite tensions. He also highlighted strong US economic performance, pointing to stock market gains and job growth.

**Warner Bros Discovery streaming grows as HBO Max drives global expansion**

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**W**arner Bros Discovery reported stronger-than-expected streaming growth in the first quarter, powered by HBO Max's international rollout and rising subscriber engagement across markets. Streaming revenue rose 9 percent to 2.89 billion dollars, beating estimates, although the company posted a wider net loss due to merger-related costs tied to a separate deal structure. Advertising revenue declined 7 percent, reflecting weaker television audiences and

the absence of major sports programming.

Chief Executive David Zaslav said HBO Max is central to the company's long-term growth strategy as it completes its global expansion. The platform has now largely rolled out internationally and is expected to be a key driver of scale once integration efforts stabilize. Warner Bros Discovery ended the quarter with more than 140 million streaming subscribers, while the company flagged continued near-term pressure on advertising revenue before improvements from content expansion and global reach take hold.

**Samsung exits home appliance and TV sales in China amid competition pressure**



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**S**amsung Electronics is withdrawing from its home appliance and television sales business in China due to rising competition and declining profitability. The company confirmed that its mobile, semiconductor and medical equipment operations will continue in the country. The move follows shrinking profits in its China sales unit and growing pressure from local Chinese rivals. Samsung has also been restructuring its global display and TV business with leadership changes aimed at improving competitiveness. The exit highlights challenges faced by foreign electronics brands in China's rapidly evolving consumer market, especially in televisions and home appliances.

**Skyroot Aerospace becomes India's first space-tech unicorn after \$60 million funding**



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**S**kyroot Aerospace has raised 60 million dollars in fresh funding, making it India's first space-tech unicorn with a valuation of 1.1 billion dollars. The round was led by Shergo Ventures and Singapore's sovereign wealth fund GIC, with participation from global investors including BlackRock. The Hyderabad-based startup plans to use the funds to expand manufacturing and increase launches of its Vikram-1 rocket, which is set for launch in the coming weeks. The company has raised over 160 million dollars so far and aims to strengthen India's private space launch capabilities and global competitiveness.

**Apple to invest 100 crore rupees in India's renewable energy push**

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**pple will invest 100 crore rupees in India's renewable energy sector in partnership with CleanMax to add more than 150 megawatts of clean energy capacity. The project is expected to power around 150,000 households annually and support Apple's goal of carbon neutrality by 2030. The company said the investment will strengthen renewable energy use across its supply chain in India. Apple also announced partnerships with WWF India and Acumen to support recycling, waste management and green startups. The initiative expands its earlier solar projects and reinforces India's role in its global sustainability strategy.

India launches Swasth Bharat portal to unify digital health systems



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The government has launched the Swasth Bharat portal to integrate multiple national health programs into a single digital platform. The system is designed to reduce fragmented databases, eliminate duplicate data entry and improve efficiency for frontline health workers. It brings together applications used by health workers into one interface and integrates with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission for secure health record exchange. Officials said the platform could cut data duplication by up to 40 percent and reduce infrastructure costs by 20 to 30 percent. The initiative aims to build a unified and interoperable digital health ecosystem in India.

Emirates signals stable growth as fuel secured through 2028-29

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Emirates Group said it expects a steady operating outlook into 2026-27, supported by fuel hedging, secured supply agreements and strong cash reserves despite ongoing geopolitical uncertainty. Chairman Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum said tensions involving the United States, Israel and Iran remain a risk, though a ceasefire has temporarily eased pressure.

He said fuel costs are protected through hedging arrangements until 2028-29, giving the airline cost stability while it scales operations. The group reported a record profit before tax of Dh24.4 billion for the year ending March 31, 2026, with cash holdings rising to Dh59.6 billion.

Emirates said it will continue investing in fleet expansion, retrofits and infrastructure while maintaining financial discipline and operational resilience.

United States invites top executives including Nvidia and Boeing CEOs for China visit

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration has invited chief executives from major companies including Nvidia, Apple, ExxonMobil and Boeing to potentially accompany President Donald Trump on his planned trip to China next week, according to a report. Executives from Qualcomm, Blackstone, Citigroup and Visa are also among those invited. Citigroup chief Jane Fraser has confirmed receiving an invitation, while Qualcomm chief Cristiano Amon is expected to attend if the visit goes ahead. The trip is expected to focus on trade discussions and potential commercial agreements, including a possible large Boeing aircraft order from China, which would be a major boost for US-China business ties.

BP to sell stakes in major carbon capture projects amid strategic shift away from green investments

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

British energy major BP has announced plans to sell portions of its stakes in two flagship carbon capture and storage projects in northeast England, signaling a further retreat from its earlier green energy push.

The company aims to reduce its holdings in the Net Zero Teesside project and the Northern Endurance Partnership, both

designed to capture industrial carbon emissions and store them under the North Sea. The projects had been central to BP's previous low-carbon strategy under former chief executive Bernard Looney.

BP said the timing was right to bring in new partners as construction begins, though it did not disclose the size of the planned stake sale. The move comes amid broader portfolio reviews under new leadership and speculation about reduced UK exposure.



Superdry co-founder jailed for eight years for raping woman after night out in Cheltenham

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Superdry co-founder James Holder has been sentenced to eight years in prison after being convicted of raping a woman following a night out in Cheltenham in May 2022.

A court heard that Holder, 54, and a friend entered the victim's taxi uninvited and went to her flat, where the assault took place. The woman told the court she repeatedly asked him to stop and was intoxicated at the time, making her more vulnerable.

Although Holder admitted sexual activity occurred, he claimed it was consensual. A jury at Gloucester Crown Court rejected his defense and found him guilty. The judge described the crime as "despicable" and an abuse of entitlement,



emphasizing the violation of the victim's home and bodily autonomy.

Holder founded the Superdry brand in 2003, which now operates globally.

Meta challenges United Kingdom online safety fines regime over global revenue calculation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Meta has launched a legal challenge against the United Kingdom communications regulator Ofcom over how fines and fees are calculated under the Online Safety Act.

The company argues that penalties should not be based on global revenue and has filed for a judicial review in the High Court. Under the current framework, fines for breaches can reach up to 10 percent of worldwide qualifying revenue, which could expose Meta to multi-billion-dollar penalties.

Meta says the approach is disproportionate and should instead reflect revenue generated within the United Kingdom. Ofcom, however, maintains its system follows a plain reading of the law and says it will defend



its position in court.

The case is scheduled for hearing in October and marks one of several legal disputes between major technology companies and the regulator over digital safety enforcement.

Whirlpool shares crash to 14-year low after profit warning and dividend cut



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Whirlpool shares fell to their lowest level in more than 14 years after the company sharply reduced its profit outlook and suspended its dividend, citing weak demand, high costs and slowing consumer spending. The appliance maker said high interest rates and a sluggish housing market are hurting replacement demand, with more consumers opting to repair rather than replace products. Chief Executive Marc Bitzer also pointed to weaker consumer sentiment driven by inflation and rising energy costs. Whirlpool now expects 2026 adjusted earnings of 3 to 3.5 dollars per share, nearly half of earlier guidance, and lowered its revenue forecast. The company said it will accelerate debt reduction and tighten costs to stabilize its balance sheet amid sustained pressure on sales and margins across the US appliance market.

Tesla Model Y first to pass new US driver-assistance safety benchmark

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The 2026 Tesla Model Y has become the first vehicle to pass new driver-assistance safety tests introduced by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration under its updated New Car Assessment Program. The tests evaluate key systems including automatic emergency braking, lane-keeping assistance, blind spot warning and blind spot intervention. They apply to vehicles built after November 12, 2025, and form part of a broader effort to modernize safety ratings used by consumers. While Tesla met the new standard, regulators continue separate investigations into its Full Self-Driving system over concerns about performance in low visibility conditions. The agency said the updated program aims to improve transparency and encourage stronger safety performance across advanced driver-assistance technologies in the auto industry.

HawkEye shares surge in New York Stock Exchange debut, valuation hits \$3.15 billion

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

HawkEye 360 surged 30 percent in its New York Stock Exchange debut on Thursday, lifting its valuation to \$3.15 billion and highlighting strong investor appetite for defense and space analytics companies. The stock of the Herndon, Virginia-based firm opened at \$33.80, above its offer price of \$26. The company raised \$416 million in its initial public offering on Wednesday by selling 16 million shares at the top end of its range. Founded in 2015, HawkEye provides satellite-based signals intelligence to defense and national security agencies. It operates more than 30 satellites and counts the United States government and allied nations as major customers. Market watchers said rising defense spending expectations are supporting demand for such listings, with broader space sector optimism adding momentum.

### NHL salary cap jumps to record 104 million dollars ahead of 2026-27 season



**T**he National Hockey League and the National Hockey League Players Association have set a record salary cap of 104 million dollars for the 2026 to 27 season, marking an 8.5 million dollar increase and the biggest jump since the system began in 2005. The salary floor rises to 76.9 million dollars, while the midpoint stands at 90.4 million dollars. The maximum individual salary is also set to climb to 20.8 million dollars, raising expectations of landmark player contracts. The surge, driven by strong league revenues, is expected to reshape offseason strategies. Wealthier teams like Pittsburgh could aggressively pursue talent, while cap-tight contenders such as Dallas may face difficult roster decisions. The change also fuels speculation about the first 20 million dollar player.

### Sinner credits early sacrifices as he targets historic run at Italian Open



**W**orld number one Jannik Sinner reflected on the sacrifices behind his rise as he prepared for the Italian Open, saying leaving home as a teenager shaped both his career and character. Sinner, who has won all four ATP Masters 1000 events this season, is chasing his tenth Masters title and a Career Golden Masters milestone achieved only by Novak Djokovic. He described moving away from friends and family at age 13 as difficult but necessary for growth. The Italian star, who has 28 career titles and four Grand Slam wins, said living with a Croatian family and adapting to intense training helped him mature. He opens his Rome campaign after a short break following his Madrid title. Sinner also hopes to end Italy's long wait for a home champion in Rome, last achieved in 1976.

### Kush Maini makes Formula 2 history at Monaco as India celebrates breakthrough moment

**K**ush Maini delivered a landmark moment for Indian motorsport on Saturday by becoming the first Indian driver to win a Formula 2 race, claiming victory in the Sprint Race at the Monaco Grand Prix. The 25-year-old, racing for DAMS Lucas Oil, started from pole position under the reverse-grid format and produced a composed, controlled drive on one of racing's most demanding street circuits to secure a historic win.

The achievement immediately sparked national celebration. Mahindra and Mahindra chairman Anand Mahindra praised Maini, saying the country stands tall with him and calling the result a proud milestone for India. The Indian national anthem played during the podium ceremony, underscoring the significance of the moment as Maini celebrated a breakthrough on one of motorsport's biggest stages.

Maini's rise has been building steadily. In the 2024 Formula 2 season, he secured five podium finishes, including a win in Hungary, and helped Invicta



Racing capture the teams' championship. He also became the first Indian to take a Formula 2 pole position earlier that year in Jeddah. Currently serving as a reserve driver for the BWT Alpine Formula One Team, Maini said the role is a dream opportunity and a crucial step toward his long-term goal of securing a full time Formula One seat.

### FIFA triples World Cup final ticket prices to \$32,970 amid backlash over dynamic pricing

**F**IFA has sharply increased ticket prices for the 2026 World Cup final, tripling the cost of its highest category seats to \$32,970 for the July 19 match at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey. The price hike marks a major escalation in the governing body's dynamic pricing strategy, which has already drawn criticism from lawmakers and fans.

Previously, the top category for the final was priced at \$10,990, though that tier is now limited to accessibility seating. FIFA has also

listed other high-demand matches at steep rates, including semifinal tickets ranging up to \$11,130 in Texas and over \$10,600 in Atlanta. United States group-stage matches are priced between \$840 and \$2,970.

FIFA President Gianni Infantino has defended the pricing model, arguing it reflects market demand and prevents inflated resale pricing. However, critics, including United States lawmakers, have raised concerns over transparency, supply control and rapidly shifting ticket categories.

### Real Madrid training fight leaves Valverde injured ahead of El Clasico

**R**eal Madrid midfielders Federico Valverde and Aurelien Tchouameni were involved in a training-ground fight that left Valverde requiring stitches above his eyebrow, according to Spanish media reports. The incident reportedly escalated after earlier tensions during Wednesday's session before spilling into Thursday's training. Valverde was taken to hospital, with coach Alvaro Arbeloa accompanying him. The club is said to have opened

disciplinary proceedings against both players. The clash comes just days before the El Clasico against FC Barcelona, a match that could decide the league title. Reports also suggest wider dressing-room unrest following a difficult season. Meanwhile, concerns continue over Kylian Mbappe's fitness and off-field scrutiny. The forward has 41 goals this season but has faced criticism in sections of the Spanish media over his recent travel while injured and timing of appearances.

### Mbappe future and fitness under spotlight ahead of Real Madrid versus Barcelona Clasico



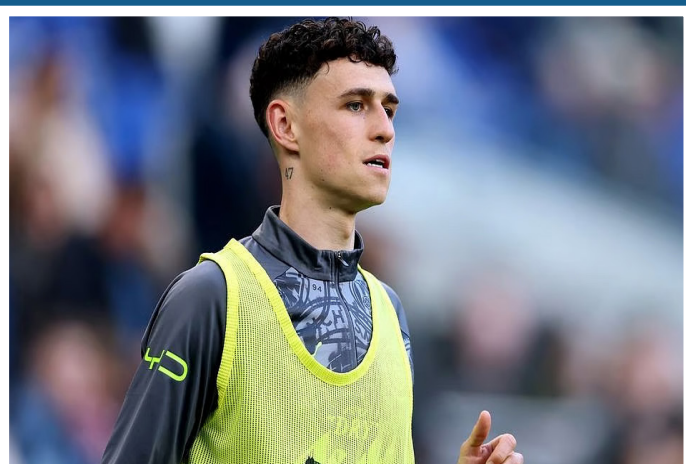
**K**ylian Mbappe is under intense scrutiny as Real Madrid prepare for Sunday's Clasico against Barcelona, where the Catalan side can clinch the La Liga title with a draw. The French forward missed last weekend's win over Espanyol due to a muscle injury and has been limited to light training, raising doubts over his availability. While his output remains elite with 41 goals in 41 matches this season, questions about his commitment have grown after reports of off-field travel during recovery and previous injury-related controversies. Real Madrid are also enduring a difficult season, with limited silverware and multiple knockout exits in Europe and domestic cups. The club is expected to undergo significant squad changes this summer amid uncertainty around several senior players and the long-term attacking balance.

### Lucy Staniforth announces retirement after 16-year career in women's football

**A**ston Villa midfielder Lucy Staniforth has announced she will retire from professional football at the end of the season, closing a 16-year career. The 33-year-old joined Villa from Manchester United in 2023 and quickly became a key figure in midfield, helping the club achieve its best Women's Super League finish and scoring in a 6-2 win over Brighton. She also made more than 50 appearances for Villa across three seasons, overcoming injuries along the way. Staniforth began her career at Sunderland at age 16, winning the FA Women's Premier League Northern Division and reaching an FA Cup final. She earned 17 caps for England between 2018 and 2023, scoring twice and featuring at the 2019 World Cup. Aston Villa officials praised her influence and professionalism.

### Phil Foden set for long-term Manchester City contract extension

Phil Foden is set to extend his stay at Manchester City after agreeing to a four-year contract that will keep him at the club until 2030, according to reports. The 25-year-old midfielder's current deal runs until next summer, but City have moved to secure his future despite a dip in form this season, with no goals since December. Foden has 365 appearances and 110 goals, winning six Premier League titles and the 2023 UEFA Champions League. The deal reinforces City's trust in one of their key homegrown stars for the long term.



## Australia to tour Pakistan for three match ODI series starting May 30

Australia's men's cricket team will tour Pakistan for a three match one day international series starting May 30, the Pakistan Cricket Board confirmed. The tour begins with the first match in Rawalpindi before the second and third games are played in Lahore on June 2 and June 4. Australia will arrive in Islamabad on May 23. The series comes after both sides met earlier in Twenty20 cricket this year in Pakistan. Player availability may be affected by overlapping Indian Premier League commitments, with several Australian stars possibly missing due to franchise duties or rest ahead of future tours. However, players such as Alex Carey, Adam Zampa, and Marnus Labuschagne are expected to feature. The series is part of both teams' preparations for future global tournaments and will help refine combinations in the one day format.

## Wang Chuqin leads China into quarterfinals at World Table Tennis Championships



World number one Wang Chuqin inspired China's comeback victory over Romania, winning two matches as his team advanced to the men's quarterfinals at the World Table Tennis Championships in London. China overcame an early setback after Liang Jingkun lost the opening match, but Wang leveled the tie with a straight games win over Iulian Chirita. Lin Shidong then put China ahead before Wang sealed a 3-1 overall victory against Eduard Ionescu. In the women's event, China delivered a dominant 3-0 win over Sweden without dropping a game, led by strong performances from Sun Yingsha, Wang Manyu, and Wang Yidi. China will face either South Korea or Austria in the men's quarterfinals, while South Korea awaits in the women's last eight.

## BCCI tightens IPL security protocols, mandates room access control and surprise inspections

The Board of Control for Cricket in India has introduced a stricter security framework for Indian Premier League franchises, issuing detailed seven-page guidelines that highlight risks such as targeted honey-trapping and other forms of off-field compromise in high-profile sporting environments. The board has warned teams to remain vigilant and said its operations unit will conduct unannounced surprise inspections during the tournament to ensure full compliance with regulations.

Under the new rules, no person will be allowed entry into a player or support staff member's hotel room without prior written approval from the team manager, regardless of relationship or purpose. All meetings with guests must take place only in designated public areas such as hotel lobbies, and franchises must



maintain formal logs of all approved visits and movements.

The board has also instructed teams to self-report any breaches immediately. In addition, it reiterated bans on vaping in restricted areas and prohibited franchise owners from interacting with players during live matches, citing risks to team discipline and match integrity.

## IOC lifts restrictions on Belarusian athletes for international competitions

The International Olympic Committee has recommended lifting all remaining restrictions on Belarusian athletes competing in international events, marking a significant policy shift. The decision removes conditions previously imposed in 2022 and 2023.

The committee said athletes should not be penalized for political actions of their governments and reaffirmed its commitment to keeping sport separate from geopolitical conflicts. Belarusian athletes have already competed as neutral participants in recent Olympic events, including Paris 2024.

The IOC also confirmed that Belarus's National Olympic Committee remains in good standing, unlike Russia's suspended



status, which is still under review.

The move is part of the IOC's broader "Fit for the Future" initiative aimed at expanding athlete access. However, restrictions for Russia remain unchanged for now as the organization continues evaluating its position.

## Freiburg storm into Europa League final after Braga red card shifts semifinal

SC Freiburg reached their first Europa League final after a 3-1 win over Sporting Braga in the second leg of their semifinal, overturning a 2-1 first-leg deficit to win 4-3 on aggregate. Braga were reduced to ten men in the sixth minute after Mario Dorgeles was sent off for a last-man foul, dramatically changing the match.

Freiburg capitalized through Lukas

Kubler, Johan Manzambi and Kubler again in the second half, while Braga briefly pulled one back through Pau Victor. Despite late pressure, Freiburg goalkeeper Noah Atubolu made key saves to preserve the lead. The German club will face Aston Villa in Istanbul on May 20 in the final. Kubler called the victory unforgettable and credited the fans for driving the team forward in a historic night for the club.

## AFC bans Mongolian official and player for attempted match manipulation



The Asian Football Confederation has banned a Mongolian match official for 10 years and a player for five years after finding them guilty of attempting to manipulate the outcome of an AFC Women's Champions League match. The incident involved a preliminary stage fixture between Stallion Laguna and Khovd Western in August 2025. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee said the two individuals violated integrity rules and acted in breach of its code of conduct. The governing body reiterated its zero tolerance policy toward match manipulation, stating the sanctions are part of broader efforts to protect the integrity of Asian football. The decision aligns with cooperation agreements with betting integrity bodies aimed at monitoring suspicious activity across competitions. The AFC also emphasized its continued commitment to safeguarding the sport from corruption.

## Netherlands name squad for historic Women's Twenty20 World Cup debut

The Netherlands have announced their 15 player squad for their first appearance at the Women's Twenty20 World Cup, set to begin on June 12 in England and Wales. Captain Babette de Leede will lead the team into their debut tournament after guiding them through qualification last year. The Netherlands earned their place by winning all three matches in the Global Qualifiers. They have been drawn in a challenging group alongside Australia, India, Pakistan, South Africa, and Bangladesh. Their campaign begins against Bangladesh on June 14, followed by high profile matches against India and Australia. De Leede said the team is excited to compete on the global stage and expects strong support from fans in England. The squad will also play a preparatory tri series in Scotland before the tournament.

## India retain top spot in ICC men's T20I rankings after annual update

India have retained their top position in the ICC men's T20I rankings after the latest annual update on Tuesday. Led by Suryakumar Yadav, India hold 275 rating points, ahead of England and Australia. The update reflects strong recent performances, including ICC T20 World Cup success and unbeaten series runs. No changes were seen in the top seven, while Bangladesh moved to eighth and Sri Lanka slipped to ninth. The United States and Italy were among notable gainers. The standings underline India's continued dominance in the shortest format.



## Zahaan Hemrajani wins fourth straight O'pen Skiff under seventeen national title

Zahaan Hemrajani won his fourth consecutive O'pen Skiff under seventeen national sailing title with a dominant display, winning seven of eight races in light to medium wind conditions. He finished with a net score of 7.0 points, the best in the fleet, with his only setback coming from a penalty after finishing first in one race. The result was discarded. His performance highlights steady development under structured coaching and strengthens his form ahead of upcoming international competitions in Europe. The victory confirms his consistency at the national level across four straight years.

## David Attenborough turns 100 as world celebrates the voice of nature



**S**ir David Attenborough turned 100 on Friday, marking a rare centenary for the world's most recognizable voice of nature documentaries, as global tributes poured in from broadcasters, scientists and conservationists. The BBC hosted celebrations at the Royal Albert Hall, while cinemas screened his landmark wildlife films. Despite the attention, colleagues say Attenborough remains modest, often insisting that "the animals are the stars." Over a career spanning more than 70 years, he transformed natural history storytelling through programs such as 'Life on Earth' and 'The Blue Planet', bringing gorillas, whales and remote ecosystems into homes worldwide. Born in London on May 8, 1926, he joined the BBC in 1952 and helped redefine science broadcasting. In later years, he became a leading voice on climate change, urging action to protect biodiversity while continuing to work well into his late 90s.

## Dave Grohl says 'Wicked' sequel forced Foo Fighters album name change



**D**ave Grohl revealed that Foo Fighters changed the title of their latest album 'Your Favourite Toy' after realizing its original name conflicted with the 'Wicked' sequel 'Wicked: For Good'. Speaking on Radio X, Grohl said the album was initially titled 'For Good', inspired by a lyric in the title track, but the coincidence with the 2025 film release led to confusion concerns. He admitted being frustrated by the overlap before ultimately renaming both the song and the album. Grohl also recalled an awkward encounter with David Bowie, where he accidentally told the music icon he first noticed his "imperfections" after being awestruck by a live performance. Despite the blunder, Grohl praised Bowie's studio presence, describing his voice as raw, powerful, and completely unprocessed, calling the experience unforgettable.

## Diljit Dosanjh says he is 'abused from both sides' as Khalistan tensions overshadow Canada tour

**P**unjabi singer and actor Diljit Dosanjh has found himself at the center of growing political tensions during his Aura World Tour 2026 in Canada after confrontations involving pro-Khalistan supporters erupted at his Calgary concert on Friday. Videos circulating online showed protesters waving Khalistan flags and arguing with concertgoers inside the venue.

Addressing the situation from the stage, Dosanjh said protesters were free to display flags but added that anyone creating disruption should be removed from the concert. The audience responded with loud cheers and applause. A day before his Winnipeg performance, the singer released another video saying he was being "abused from both sides." Speaking in Punjabi, he said some people in India label him a Khalistani, while some activists abroad criticize him for being "too Indian."



The controversy intensified after Gurbatwant Singh Pannun warned that his group would oppose Dosanjh's upcoming United States concerts. The tensions have also overshadowed the larger theme of Dosanjh's tour, which pays tribute to the Punjabi diaspora, the 1914 Komagata Maru incident, and revolutionaries linked to the Ghadar Party.

## Jimmy Kimmel mocks Trump's Iran messaging and vapes push, calls threats 'longer than Kash Patel's bar tab'

**L**ate-night host Jimmy Kimmel took aim at the Trump administration's shifting messaging on Iran and its reluctance to use the word "war" on Jimmy Kimmel Live! aired on Tuesday. He joked that the situation was "still very much in flux, as in what the flux are we doing over there," referring to tensions around the strait of Hormuz. He added that gas prices remained high and quipped that Trump's "list of threats is now longer than Kash Patel's bar tab." Kimmel also mocked diplomatic outreach involving Marco Rubio and the pope, and criticised a reported internal dispute over fruit-flavoured vape approvals. He said the issue was being treated as a priority for "young Maga." The segment also referenced



remarks involving Melania Trump at a pre-Mother's Day event, blending political satire with commentary on economic pressure and foreign policy confusion.

## Shakira teases World Cup anthem 'Dai Dai' with Burna Boy, set for release May 14

**S**hakira has previewed a new FIFA World Cup 2026 anthem titled 'Dai Dai', featuring Afrobeats star Burna Boy, ahead of the tournament beginning in June. The Colombian singer shared a teaser on Thursday from Maracanã Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, confirming the song as the official World Cup track and announcing its release on May 14. In the clip, Shakira performs on the pitch with dancers,

singing, "Here in this place, you belong," and "What broke you once made you strong." The song is part of FIFA's expanded musical rollout for the 2026 tournament, which opens on June 11 in Mexico City and concludes on July 19 in New Jersey. Shakira previously delivered the 2010 World Cup anthem 'Waka Waka (This Time for Africa)', reinforcing her long association with FIFA's global music identity.

## Milind Soman completes Europe to Africa swim across Strait of Gibraltar

**A**ctor and fitness enthusiast Milind Soman has completed another endurance milestone, swimming from Europe to Africa across the Strait of Gibraltar on May 1. The 60-year-old said he covered around 15 kilometers, starting from Tarifa in Spain and reaching the Moroccan coast, calling it a "beautiful swim" in a social media post. The challenge adds to his recent fitness feats, including a 20-kilometer open-water swim in Goa in April, which he completed in about eight hours with fellow swimmer Ankita Konwar covering eight kilometers. Soman has frequently shared his long-distance



swimming and endurance training journeys, often alongside Konwar, whom he married eight years ago. He also recently marked their anniversary, thanking her for bringing warmth and joy into his life while continuing to inspire fans with his focus on health and extreme outdoor challenges.

## Priyanka Chopra and Orlando Bloom lead survival thriller 'Reset'

**P**riyanka Chopra and Orlando Bloom are set to headline the survival thriller 'Reset', directed by Matt Smukler, with production scheduled to begin in August. The film follows a woman who wakes up in the wilderness with no memory of how she arrived and must rely on a mysterious stranger to survive, though he may not be trustworthy. Smukler said the casting was driven by the need for chemistry that balances attraction and suspicion, which he believes the two actors naturally bring. Written by Jordan Rawlins, the film is produced by multiple banners including Chopra's Purple Pebble Pictures and Bloom's Amazing Owl. Chopra was last seen in 'Heads of State' and will next appear in 'Citadel' season 2 and 'Varanasi'. Bloom recently starred in 'The Cut' and 'Deep Cover'.

## Ekta Kapoor says 'it's because of the Dharmendras, the Jeetendras, the Akshays' that Bollywood flourished

**E**kta Kapoor has praised veteran stars Dharmendra, Jeetendra and Akshay Kumar, crediting their discipline and consistency for sustaining Bollywood's commercial strength. Sharing photos of Jeetendra with Akshay Kumar, Ekta said their approach to work reflects similar values of commitment and trust in producers. She added that actors who work regularly ensure opportunities for the wider industry, helping maintain its economic balance. Kapoor said this steady output creates jobs across production levels, not just for top-tier films. She thanked Akshay Kumar for supporting producers of all scales and called him a key part of the industry's structure. Akshay, recently seen in 'Bhoot Bangla', remains one of Bollywood's busiest actors. Jeetendra, now 83, continues to be celebrated for classics like 'Himmatwala', while Dharmendra, who passed away in 2025, is remembered for films including 'Sholay'.

## South Indian producer R.B. Chaudhary dies in Rajasthan road accident

**S**outh Indian film producer and businessman R.B. Chaudhary died at 76 after a road accident near Jhunta village on National Highway 162 in Rajasthan's Pali district. Police said the vehicle in which he was travelling lost control after cattle suddenly came onto the road and crashed into a roadside barrier on Tuesday afternoon. Chaudhary was returning from a family wedding when the accident occurred. The driver sustained serious injuries and was taken to Jodhpur for treatment. Chaudhary's body was sent for post-mortem and later transported to Chennai for last rites. Former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot expressed condolences, calling the incident deeply saddening and praying for strength for the bereaved family. The accident has triggered mourning in both the regional film fraternity and business circles.

Friday, 08 May 2026

### Brendan Fraser confirms return for new 'The Mummy' film, teases fitness push

**B**rendan Fraser has confirmed that a new instalment of 'The Mummy' franchise is in development, marking the return of the original cast. Speaking on 'The Tonight Show', he said the team plans to reunite for the long-awaited sequel. Fraser, who originally played Rick O'Connell in the 1999 film, joked about preparing his "57-year-old gear" for the physically demanding role. He said the project aims to deliver what fans have been asking for over two decades. The actor expressed optimism about revisiting the franchise, which became a global hit with its mix of action and adventure. Production details and release timelines have not yet been officially announced.

### 'Harry Potter' season 2 greenlit ahead of debut, Chamber of Secrets next in line

**T**he 'Harry Potter' television adaptation has already secured a second season even before its first season premieres this Christmas, underscoring the studio's long-term plan to adapt all seven of J.K. Rowling's books over seven seasons across a decade. According to 'Variety', season 2, based on 'Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets', is set to begin filming in the fall. Jon Brown has been promoted to co-showrunner alongside Francesca Gardiner, who said the overlapping production schedules make additional leadership essential. Season 1, titled 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone', follows Harry's journey after receiving his Hogwarts letter on his eleventh birthday. Dominic McLaughlin stars as Harry. The series is executive produced by Rowling, David Heyman, and Mark Mylod under Warner Bros Television.

### Hollywood actors and studios reach tentative four-year deal, easing strike fears



**H**ollywood studios and actors have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract, helping avert the possibility of another industry strike following the 2023 shutdown. The deal, announced on Saturday, still requires approval from the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists board and membership vote. A person familiar with the talks said the agreement spans four years instead of the traditional three. Negotiations began in February and concluded after several weeks of discussions between unions and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers. Key issues included protections around artificial intelligence, improved residual payments and streaming-era compensation structures. If ratified, the agreement would provide stability across the entertainment industry and clear the way for upcoming negotiations with directors' unions later this month.

### Matthew Perry's 'Friends' memorabilia to be auctioned for addiction recovery charity

**I**tems belonging to Matthew Perry, including scripts from 'Friends', artwork and personal memorabilia, will be auctioned on June 5 to benefit the Matthew Perry Foundation, which supports addiction recovery initiatives. The auction is being organised by Heritage Auctions.

Highlights include 26 scripts from key episodes such as 'The One With Ross's Tan' and 'The One Where Joey Speaks French', along with signed finale scripts featuring the main cast. Perry's 1995 Screen Actors Guild Award and a replica of the iconic peephole frame from Monica and Rachel's apartment are also included.

The proceeds will fund addiction medicine fellowships, recovery programmes and community initiatives.



Perry, who played Chandler Bing on 'Friends', died in 2023 at the age of 54. The foundation says the auction reflects his belief in compassion, treatment access and reducing stigma around addiction.

### Ted Turner, CNN founder and media pioneer, dies at 87

**T**ed Turner, the media mogul who transformed global broadcasting by founding CNN and pioneering the 24-hour news cycle, has died at 87. He passed away on Wednesday while surrounded by family, according to Turner Enterprises. Turner built a vast media empire that included CNN, CNN International, TNT and 'Turner Classic Movies', and also owned the Atlanta Braves, who won the World Series in 1995. His creation of CNN during the cable television boom reshaped global news coverage, particularly during the Gulf War.

Beyond media, Turner became a major philanthropist and conservationist, donating heavily to United Nations causes and acquiring millions of acres for wildlife preservation.



Known for his outspoken personality and bold business moves, he was one of the most influential figures in modern American broadcasting and remained a polarising yet transformative force until his death.

### Mina Kimes to host revamped Scripps National Spelling Bee broadcast

**S**ports analyst Mina Kimes has been named the new host of the Scripps National Spelling Bee broadcast, part of a reimagined production aimed at boosting engagement for the long-running competition. She becomes the first celebrity host since LeVar Burton in 2022. The 101-year-old event will take place from May 26 to May 28 in Washington, D.C., featuring 247 competitors. Producers are attempting to give the broadcast a more

dramatic presentation, with executive producer Michael Davies leading the effort. Kimes said her preparation has been similar to studying game film, comparing the spellers to elite athletes. She previously appeared on 'Good Morning Football' and is known for her analytical NFL coverage. Organisers hope the refreshed format will help revive viewership for the competition, which has fluctuated in recent years after moving away from ESPN.

### Blake Lively and Justin Baldoni settle 'It Ends With Us' dispute ahead of trial

**A**ctors Blake Lively and Justin Baldoni have settled their legal dispute over the film 'It Ends With Us', avoiding a trial scheduled to begin later this month in New York. The agreement was announced on Monday, with settlement terms not disclosed. Lively had accused Baldoni of misconduct during filming and alleged a coordinated effort to damage her reputation, while Baldoni denied the claims and filed counter-lawsuits for defamation. Both actors also exchanged claims of reputational harm linked to the film's production and publicity. The 2024 adaptation of Colleen Hoover's novel had already drawn attention for its depiction of domestic violence. In a joint statement, both parties said they hoped the resolution would allow them to



move forward and support survivors of abuse. The case will now be dismissed ahead of the previously scheduled trial.

### Manoj Bajpayee leads economic crisis drama 'The Silent Saviour: Governor'

**T**he teaser for 'The Silent Saviour: Governor', starring Manoj Bajpayee, was released on Thursday, offering a glimpse into a political drama inspired by India's 1990s economic crisis. The film follows Bajpayee as a central banking figure working to stabilise a collapsing economy during a period of financial reform and liberalisation. While not officially confirmed, it is believed to draw inspiration from real events linked to India's economic restructuring era. Directed by Chinmay Mandlikar, the film explores policy decisions that shaped India's transition toward a market-driven economy. It is scheduled for release on June 12, 2026, and features music by Amit Trivedi with lyrics by Javed Akhtar.

### Scarlett Johansson to lead Ari Aster's thriller 'Scapegoat'



**S**carlett Johansson will star in 'Scapegoat', a new thriller written and directed by Ari Aster, marking another collaboration with studio A24. The project is being kept under tight secrecy, with plot details not yet revealed. Industry reports say Aster personally chose Johansson for the lead role. Despite her packed 2026 schedule, including work on the next 'Exorcist' film and a sequel to 'The Batman', she agreed to join the project after reading the script. Johansson recently appeared in 'Jurassic World: Rebirth' and made her directorial debut with 'Eleanor the Great', which premiered at Cannes. The film continues Aster's reputation for high-profile, concept-driven storytelling following titles such as 'Hereditary'.

### Kamal Haasan backs Vijay's political rise, urges respect for Tamil Nadu mandate



**A**ctor Kamal Haasan has backed Tamil actor-politician Vijay following the Tamil Nadu assembly election results, while also praising Chief Minister M. K. Stalin's response to the outcome. In a post on Thursday, Haasan said Vijay's party emerged as the single largest force with 108 seats, while no party achieved the majority mark of 118 in the 234-member assembly. He argued that denying Vijay the opportunity to form a government would go against the public mandate. Haasan also referenced the S.R. Bommai Supreme Court ruling, stressing that majority support must be demonstrated inside the assembly. He called Stalin's acceptance of the verdict politically mature and said constitutional principles must be upheld. His remarks positioned the situation as a democratic test for all political stakeholders in the state.

# असम के मंदिरों की यात्रा का चौथा पड़ाव ताम्रेश्वरी मंदिर, सादिया

हाजो के पावन हयग्रीव माधव मंदिर की आध्यात्मिक अनुभूति और धार्मिक समरसता के संदेश को अपने हृदय में संजोए **IndoUS Tribune** की यह विशेष यात्रा अब असम के पूर्वोत्तर छोर की ओर बढ़ती है। पिछले पड़ाव पर जहाँ हमें हिंदू और बौद्ध आस्था के अद्भुत संगम का दर्शन हुआ, वहीं अब हमारी यात्रा हमें ऐसे रहस्यमयी और ऐतिहासिक शक्ति-स्थल तक ले आती है, जिसने सदियों तक असम की शक्ति साधना, जनजातीय परंपराओं और सांस्कृतिक इतिहास को दिशा दी।

हमारा चौथा पड़ाव है तिनसुकिया जिले के सादिया क्षेत्र के निकट स्थित प्राचीन ताम्रेश्वरी मंदिर – जिसे 'कॉपर टेम्पल' अथवा 'दिवकारवासिनी मंदिर' के नाम से भी जाना जाता है। आज भले ही यह मंदिर खंडहरों में परिवर्तित हो चुका हो, किंतु इसकी ऐतिहासिक महत्ता, स्थापत्य कला और रहस्यमयी शक्ति परंपरा आज भी असम और पूर्वोत्तर भारत की सांस्कृतिक चेतना में जीवित है।

## शक्ति, इतिहास और जनजातीय आस्था का केंद्र

ताम्रेश्वरी मंदिर 13वीं से 16वीं शताब्दी के बीच शक्तिशाली सुतिया ( चुटिया ) साम्राज्य का प्रमुख धार्मिक और राजनीतिक केंद्र था। यह मंदिर देवी केचाईखाती को समर्पित था, जिन्हें स्थानीय जनजातीय परंपराओं में अत्यंत शक्तिशाली देवी माना जाता है। 'केचाईखाती' का अर्थ है – 'कच्चा मांस खाने वाली देवी', जो विनाश, सुरक्षा और उर्वरता की प्रतीक मानी जाती थीं। समय के साथ इस देवी की पहचान हिंदू शक्ति स्वरूपा माँ शक्ति और बौद्ध देवी तारा से भी जोड़ी गई। यही कारण है कि ताम्रेश्वरी मंदिर केवल एक धार्मिक स्थल नहीं, बल्कि जनजातीय और हिंदू परंपराओं के अद्भुत समन्वय का प्रतीक बन गया।

## ताम्रेश्वरी नाम की कहानी

मंदिर की सबसे विशेष पहचान इसकी तांबे से बनी छत थी। कहा जाता है कि मंदिर की छत तांबे की चादरों से ढकी हुई थी, जिसके कारण इसे 'ताम्रेश्वरी' अर्थात् 'तांबे का मंदिर' कहा जाने लगा। मंदिर की दीवारों बिना चूने या गारे के विशेष तकनीक से निर्मित थीं, जो उस समय की स्थापत्य कुशलता का अद्भुत उदाहरण मानी जाती हैं।

मंदिर परिसर विशाल ईंट और पत्थरों की दीवारों से घिरा



हुआ था। मुख्य द्वार पर चांदी के दांतों वाले विशाल हाथियों की प्रतिमाएँ स्थापित थीं, जो इसकी भव्यता और समृद्धि को दर्शाती थीं।

## देवी पुजारियों की अनूठी परंपरा

असम के अधिकांश मंदिरों से अलग, ताम्रेश्वरी मंदिर ब्राह्मण पुजारियों के अधीन नहीं था। इसकी देखरेख देवी समुदाय के पुजारियों द्वारा की जाती थी, जो सुतिया साम्राज्य के पारंपरिक जनजातीय पुजारी माने जाते थे।

देवी पुजारियों के चार प्रमुख वर्ग – बार भराली, सरू भराली, बार देवरी और सरू देवरी – मंदिर की व्यवस्थाओं और अनुष्ठानों का संचालन करते थे। यह व्यवस्था इस

मंदिर की विशिष्ट जनजातीय पहचान को दर्शाती है।

## बलि प्रथा और रहस्य

ताम्रेश्वरी मंदिर अपने समय में मानव और पशु बलि की परंपराओं के लिए भी प्रसिद्ध था। माना जाता था कि देवी को बलि अर्पित करने से युद्ध में विजय और राज्य की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित होती है। बाद में अहोम शासकों ने इन प्रथाओं पर रोक लगा दी। यद्यपि आज यह परंपरा इतिहास का हिस्सा बन चुकी है, लेकिन इससे मंदिर की रहस्यमयी छवि और भी गहरी हो जाती है।

## ऐतिहासिक पतन और वर्तमान स्थिति

सन 1524 में अहोम साम्राज्य द्वारा सादिया पर अधिकार

करने के बाद मंदिर का राजनीतिक प्रभाव धीरे-धीरे कम होने लगा। बाद में बर्मा के आक्रमणों और प्राकृतिक आपदाओं के कारण यह मंदिर उजड़ गया।

1959 की विनाशकारी बाढ़ के बाद मंदिर का अधिकांश भाग पया नदी की मिट्टी और जल में समा गया। आज वहाँ केवल कुछ अवशेष ही दिखाई देते हैं, किंतु वे भी असम के गौरवशाली अतीत की कहानी कहते हैं।

## शिलालेख और ऐतिहासिक प्रमाण

मंदिर परिसर में मिले एक शिलालेख से ज्ञात होता है कि सन 1442 में सुतिया राजा मुक्त धर्मनारायण ने मंदिर की ईंट और पत्थरों से बनी प्राचीर का निर्माण कराया था। यह शिलालेख आज भी इस मंदिर के ऐतिहासिक महत्व का साक्ष्य माना जाता है।

## निष्कर्ष

ताम्रेश्वरी मंदिर की यह यात्रा हमें यह एहसास कराती है कि भारत की सांस्कृतिक और आध्यात्मिक विरासत केवल पूजा-अर्चना तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि वह जनजातीय परंपराओं, लोक आस्थाओं, शक्ति साधना और इतिहास के गहरे अध्यायों से भी जुड़ी हुई है।

सादिया की धरती पर स्थित यह प्राचीन शक्ति पीठ आज भले ही खंडहरों में परिवर्तित हो चुका हो, लेकिन इसकी गूँज आज भी असम की सांस्कृतिक स्मृतियों और लोककथाओं में जीवित है। ताम्रेश्वरी मंदिर हमें यह संदेश देता है कि सभ्यताएँ बदलती हैं, साम्राज्य समाप्त होते हैं, लेकिन आस्था और इतिहास की छाप सदियों तक अमिट बनी रहती है।

**IndoUS Tribune** की असम यात्रा का यह चौथा पड़ाव हमें पूर्वोत्तर भारत की उस विरासत से परिचित कराता है, जहाँ रहस्य, अध्यात्म, शक्ति और संस्कृति एक साथ प्रवाहित होते हैं।

अब हमारी यह आध्यात्मिक यात्रा आगे बढ़ेगी गुवाहाटी के प्रसिद्ध नवग्रह मंदिर की ओर, जहाँ ब्रह्मांडीय शक्तियों, ज्योतिषीय मान्यताओं और प्राचीन वैदिक परंपराओं का अद्भुत संगम हमारा इंतजार कर रहा है।



# बाल्मीकि रामायण में छिपे कुछ विरले प्रसंग लंका में हनुमान जी ने मरने के लिए, क्यों सोचा ?



रामचरितमानस और वाल्मीकि रामायण में जो सबसे बड़ा अंतर है, वह यह है कि, वाल्मीकि रामायण हर घटना को विस्तार से प्रस्तुत करती है. हर पात्र की भावनाओं को गहराई से कुरेदने की कोशिश करती है. ऋषि वाल्मीकि ने, हर पात्र को गहराई से परखा, और उसकी भावनाओं को एक सशक्त वाणी प्रदान की. जैसे हम इस लेख में देखेंगे, हनुमान जी जब लंका में, सीता खोज में लगे हुए थे, तो किन विचारों की उथल पुथल से गुजरे. उन्होंने अपनी निराशा में, यहाँ तक सोच लिया कि, असफल हो कर वापिस लौटने से बेहतर है कि, यहाँ पर अपने प्राण त्याग दूँ.

रामचरितमानस में यह प्रसंग सुंदरकाण्ड में है. जिसे तुलसी बाबा ने कुछ ही चौपाइयों में समाप्त कर दिया. इसमें हनुमान जी पहले विभीषण को मिलते हैं, वह उन्हें, सीता जी के अशोक वाटिका में होने की सूचना देते हैं. हनुमान जी सीधे अशोक वाटिका पहुँचते हैं, और माँ सीता के दर्शन कर लेते हैं.

**जुगुति विभीषण सकल सुनाई,  
चलउ पवनसुत बिदा कराई  
करि सोइ रूप गयउ पुनि तहवाँ,  
बन असोक सीता रह जहवाँ**

और हनुमान जी अशोक वाटिका जा पहुँचे

**देखी मनहि महु कीन्ह प्रनामा,  
बैठेहि बीति जात निसि जामा  
कस तनु सीस जटा इक बेनी,  
जपति हृदय रघुपति गुन श्रेनी**

सीता जी का शरीर विरह से शिथिल हो चुका है. वह बड़े उदास मन से रात दिन रामजी का सुमिरन करती दीख पड़ती हैं. हनुमान जी सीता की यह दशा देख, बड़े दुखी होते हैं. बस इन्हीं कुछ चौपाइयों में प्रसंग समाप्त हो जाता है.

लेकिन अगर आप वाल्मीकि रामायण का अध्ययन करें, तो पता चलता है कि, हनुमान जी को, सीता

जी तक पहुँचने में बड़ी मेहनत करनी पड़ी. और इस प्रक्रिया में, उन्हें बहुत सारी निराशा झेलनी पड़ी. उस निराशा के क्षणों में, हनुमान जी ने किस किस के बारे में, क्या क्या सोचा, यह नीचे के श्लोकों में स्पष्ट है.

**भूयिष्ठम लोडिता लन्का रामस्य चरता प्रियमे  
न हि पश्यामि वैदेहीम सीताम सर्वं अन्ना शोभनामे  
५-१३-३**

मैंने सीता की खोज में सारी लंका छान मारी, फिर भी सर्वांगसुंदरी सीता, कहीं दिखाई नहीं पड़ी. कहीं मेरा समुन्दर लंघन जैसा विशाल प्रयास बेकार तो नहीं चला जाएगा. ? फिर हनुमान जी सीता की कुशलता की चिंता करने लगे.

**उपरि उपरिवा नूनम सागरम क्रमतः तदा ५-१३-१०  
विवेष्टमाना पतिता समुद्रे जनक आत्मजा**

कहीं यहाँ आते समय सीता पुष्पक विमान से, नीचे गिर तो नहीं पड़ी ?

कहीं सीता जी ने रावण के आलिंगन से बचने के लिए, अपने प्राण तो नहीं त्याग दिए ?

कहीं आकाश मार्ग से आते आते विमान से समुन्दर में कूद, अपनी रक्षा हेतु, अपने प्राण तो नहीं गवाँ दिए ?

**हा राम लक्ष्मण इति एव हा अयोध्येति च मैथिली  
५-१३-१४  
विलप्य बहु वैदेही न्यस्त देहा भविष्यति**

कहीं हे राम, हे लक्ष्मण पुकारती, विलाप करती सीता ने, निराशा में अपने प्राणों की आहुति तो नहीं दे दी ?

इसी उधेड़ बुन में, हनुमान जी बड़ी देर तक तड़पते रहे. फिर सोचने लगे कि, अगर सीता नहीं मिली, तो

यह अशुभ समाचार, रामजी को बिल्कुल नहीं दिया जा सकता. वह इससे बहुत ही हताश हो जाएँगे. मैं अब इस असफलता की स्थिति में किष्किन्धा नहीं लौट सकता. मेरे लिए यहीं रह कर मरना बेहतर होगा. हनुमान जी की निराशा अपनी चरम सीमा पर थी. वह मरने तक के लिए तैयार थे.

फिर शुरू हुई उनके मन में एक और विचार शृंखला. भाव था कि, अगर मेरी असफलता का समाचार किसी प्रकार रामजी के खेमे में पहुँचता है तो, किस किस पर, क्या असर होगा ?

**गत्वा तु यदि काकुत्स्थम वक्ष्यामि परम अप्रियमे  
५-१३-२३  
न दृष्टा इति मया सीता ततः त्यक्ष्यन्ति जीवितमे**

अगर मैंने यह अशुभ समाचार रामजी को दिया तो, वह इस विरह को नहीं सह पायेंगे. और बड़ी बात नहीं, की वह अपने प्राण भी त्याग दें. अगर रामजी ने प्राण त्याग दिए तो, उनके छोटे भाई लक्ष्मण जी, जो उन्हें प्राणों से भी अधिक प्यार करते हैं, भी चुप नहीं बैठेंगे. वह भी भाई के साथ स्वर्ग का रास्ता अपना लेंगे.

**विनष्टौ भ्रातरौ श्रुत्वा भरतो अपि मरिष्यति  
५-१३-२६  
भरतम च मृतम दृष्ट्वा शत्रुघ्नो न भविष्यति**

अगर इन दोनों भाइयों की मृत्यु का समाचार अयोध्या पहुँच गया, तो भरत और शत्रुघ्न भी जीवित नहीं बचेंगे.

**पुत्रान मृतान समीक्ष्य अथ न भविष्यन्ति मातरः  
५-१३-२७  
कौसल्या च सुमित्रा च कैकेयी च न संशयः**

चारों पुत्रों की मृत्यु का समाचार, तीनों माताओं को विह्वल कर देगा. पुत्रों की अनुपस्थिति में, माँ कौशल्या, माँ सुमित्रा, और माँ कैकेयी भी, शायद

जीवित न रहें. यह विचार शृंखला यहीं समाप्त नहीं हुई.

रामजी की मृत्यु का समाचार सुनकर मेरे स्वामी महाराज सुग्रीव क्या जीवित रह पायेंगे ? अगर महाराज सुग्रीव को कुछ हो गया, तो उनकी पत्नी रूमा का क्या होगा ? यह जान सुन कर, क्या युवराज अंगद जीवित रह पायेंगे ? और इस संकट की घड़ी में, जब वानर जाति के राजा लोग ही नहीं रहेंगे, तो क्या वानर सेना या वानर जाति रह पायेगी ? पूरी वानर जाति के विनाश की, संभावना के विचार मात्र से, हनुमान जी काँप उठे. बस उसके आगे उन्होंने सोचना बंद कर दिया. उनका शरीर शिथिल हो गया. जब थोड़ा सँभले, तो विचार किया कि, इस तरह निराशा लौटने से तो, न लौटना बेहतर है. यही कुछ समय गुजार कर, यहीं प्राण त्याग दूँगा, लेकिन इतने बड़े विनाश का कारण, मैं नहीं बनूँगा.

हनुमान जी मन में चल रहे, इन द्वन्दों का चित्रण, इतनी बारीकी से, वाल्मीकि जैसे महान ऋषि ही कर सकते थे.

वाल्मीकि जी ने हनुमान जी के माध्यम से निराशा और असफलता की भयावह मनोदशा को बड़ी खूबी से चित्रित किया. यह है, वाल्मीकि रामायण की शोभा और शक्ति. यही भाव राम प्रेमी भक्तों के हृदय में, भक्ति एवं श्रद्धा का संचार कर जाता है.

जय श्री राम



Rajendra Kapil  
Phone: 847-962-1291



# Grand preparations underway for 22nd foundation day celebrations at Joshi Nagar Dham



By: Dr. Avi Verma

**A**wave of devotion, community service, and spiritual enthusiasm is sweeping through the Siddh Peeth Mahabali Sankatmochan Shri Hanuman Temple in Joshi Nagar, Shankaracharya Nagar, Haibowal Kalan, as preparations intensify for the temple's 22nd annual Foundation Day celebrations scheduled for May 27.

With only a few days remaining for the grand religious event, the temple complex has transformed into a vibrant center of activity. Devotees and volunteers are working tirelessly day and night to decorate the premises and finalize arrangements for the large influx of worshippers expected from Punjab and neighboring states.

Temple management representatives said that extensive preparations are being made to ensure the celebrations are conducted smoothly and on a grand scale.

Special meetings are being organized with volunteers and department coordinators to allocate responsibilities related to hospitality, langar service, security, crowd management, bhajan-kirtan, and other religious activities.

The upcoming Foundation Day is being viewed not merely as an annual observance, but as a spiritual festival for devotees of Shri Balaji Maharaj. The temple has witnessed a significant rise in footfall in recent days, with many devotees eager to participate in seva during the celebrations.

Organizers noted that several devotees consider receiving any form of service duty during the event as a blessing.

As part of the lead-up to the celebrations, invitation drives are being conducted across different parts of the city with deep religious fervor. During these visits, devotees have been seen respectfully placing invitation cards on their foreheads while chanting slogans expressing their unwavering faith in Balaji Maharaj, reflecting the deep emotional and spiritual bond shared with the temple.

Religious programs including weekly Sandhya Chowki, Hanuman Chalisa recitations, havan yajna, and devotional singing are also being organized regularly at the temple premises. During a recent evening

congregation, the sacred flag of Shri Balaji Maharaj was ceremonially hoisted and devotees were blessed with holy water sprinkling amid devotional chants and bhajans.

Community members associated with the temple said the growing popularity of the shrine and the ever-increasing number of devotees visiting the temple symbolize the strong faith people have in the spiritual center. They also emphasized that the celebrations are being made possible through collective community participation, voluntary service, and devotional dedication.

The Foundation Day celebrations are expected to attract thousands of devotees and are likely to become one of the major spiritual gatherings in the region this month.



# Indian Americans join Senator Jack Reed's Spring Breakfast to foster community relationships

By: Vandana Jhingan

An Indian American group, led by Dr. Amrut & Deena Patel, Sumesh Hirway, Rakesh & Aditi Soni, Rakesh Kavari, Girish Soni, Hardik Patel, Sanjay Gokhale, and Abhishek Singh, joined U.S. Senator Jack Reed at his annual Spring Breakfast held at the historic Rhodes on the Pawtuxet in Cranston, Rhode Island, strengthening ties and fostering meaningful community relationships.

Sabina Matos, East Providence Mayor Bob DaSilva and Karina DaSilva, as well as Rhode Island General Treasurer James A. Diossa.

The Indian American delegation also met with Boston's first Deputy Consul General of India, Ms. Shruthi Purushotham, along with entrepreneur leaders Jaymin & Kinnari Patel and several distinguished guests dedicated to community service and public engagement.

The gathering brought together prominent political leaders, business professionals, and community representatives from across Rhode Island and New England for discussions focused on leadership, collaboration, and the future of diverse communities.

Community leaders described the breakfast as an inspiring morning filled with meaningful conversations, friendship, public service, and opportunities for continued collaboration between elected officials and the Indian American community.

During the event, attendees had the opportunity to interact with Rhode Island's U.S. Congressman Gabe Amo, Congressman Seth Magaziner, Lieutenant Governor

The event reflected the growing engagement of Indian Americans in civic and community leadership across New England and reaffirmed a shared commitment toward unity, service, and positive change.



## GLIMPSE OF U.S. SENATOR JACK REED'S 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPRING FAMILY BREAKFAST



A proud moment with U.S. Senator Jack Reed and the Indian American community.



with U.S. Senator Jack Reed, DCGI- Shruthi Purushottam, Lt. Governor Sabina Matos, East Providence Mayor Bob DaSilva, with businessman Jaymin Patel



with DCGI- Shruthi Purushottam, Abhishek Singh with businessman Jaymin & Kinnari Patel and Sanjay Gokhale.



with Dr. SallyAnne Lund, Rakesh Kavari with Dr. Amrut & Deena Patel



With Congressman Gabe Amo, With Congressman Seth Magaziner and DCGI Shruthi Purushotham, Abhishek Singh, with RI General Treasurer - James A. Diossa



with Senator Jack Reed with Dr. SallyAnne Lund & Sanjay Gokhale

# Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi seeks release of sealed Epstein suicide note

● By: Dr. Avi Verma

**R**aja Krishnamoorthi, a senior member of the House Oversight Committee, has formally urged the U.S. Department of Justice to seek the unsealing and public release of a purported suicide note linked to convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

In a letter sent to Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche, Krishnamoorthi called on federal officials to work with U.S. District Judge Kenneth Karas to obtain, review, and publicly release the document, which has reportedly remained sealed since 2019.

According to the congressman's letter, the alleged note was reportedly discovered by Epstein's cellmate, later provided to defense attorneys, and subsequently sealed during unrelated federal proceedings. Krishnamoorthi raised concerns that the document may not have been included in prior federal investigations or disclosure efforts surrounding Epstein's death.

"I write to demand that the Department of Justice work with U.S. District Judge Kenneth Karas to unseal a purported suicide note attributed to Jeffrey Epstein," Krishnamoorthi wrote. "This note must be immediately reviewed and publicly released to aid federal officials who are

investigating Jeffrey Epstein and the circumstances around his death."

The Illinois congressman also criticized the pace and scope of federal action connected to the broader Epstein case, pointing out that only Epstein and his associate Ghislaine Maxwell have faced criminal prosecution despite years of allegations involving an extensive trafficking network.

"The Department of Justice has yet to make any arrests other than Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell, despite the existence of millions of documents that suggest a vast network of sex traffickers, including many high-profile individuals at the center," Krishnamoorthi stated in the letter. "It is critical that the Department avoid the appearance of covering up for criminals simply because of a person's status and resources."

Krishnamoorthi requested that the Department of Justice provide answers by May 18, 2026, regarding whether the agency or its affiliated entities—including the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the DOJ Office of Inspector General—had ever reviewed or sought access to the purported note.

The congressman also asked whether the DOJ considered the document relevant to previous Epstein investigations, what steps



had been taken to verify its authenticity, whether officials intend to seek its unsealing, and if additional Epstein-related materials remain undisclosed.

The renewed push for transparency

comes amid continuing public scrutiny and unanswered questions surrounding Epstein's death in federal custody in 2019, a case that has fueled widespread speculation and demands for greater accountability from federal authorities.

**IndoUS**  
TRIBUNE

Available Online  
[www.indoustribune.com](http://www.indoustribune.com)

# Hari Om Mandir's Mother's Day celebration honors women through music, dance and community spirit

By: Ashwani Mahajan

The Ladies Wing of Hari Om Mandir celebrated Mother's Day with great enthusiasm, warmth, and vibrant cultural festivities, bringing together members of the community to honor the love, sacrifice, strength, and dedication of mothers.

The special celebration featured a lively cultural program titled "Golden Melodies of Bollywood Concert," which showcased a colorful lineup of performances including singing, dance, ghidha, fashion show presentations, and energetic floor dance performances. The event created a joyful and festive atmosphere filled with music, entertainment, and heartfelt appreciation for mothers.

One of the highlights of the evening was the enthusiastic participation of senior women from the community, whose performances received tremendous applause and admiration from the audience. Their confidence and energy added a unique charm to the celebration.

The program featured performances by several renowned artists and entertainers including Abbas Ali, Richa Chand, Dharmender Rana, and musical performer Mahesh. A particularly emotional moment came when 90-year-old Adarsh Babuja recited a touching poem dedicated to mothers. Her heartfelt words created an emotional atmosphere and deeply moved the audience.

Organizers said the objective of the



celebration was to bring the community together in a spirit of joy, unity, and gratitude while recognizing the invaluable role mothers play in families and society.

The successful event was organized by Manisha Garg, Mrs. Chander, Umesh

Singh, and Kanchan Bajaj, whose efforts were widely appreciated by attendees.

The celebration concluded with a delicious lunch served to all the ladies, adding to the warmth and fellowship of the occasion.

## Veteran community leader Pramodh Joshi joins Gandhi Memorial Foundation board

By: Dr. Avi Verma

He has welcomed longtime community leader Pramodh Joshi to its Board of Directors, marking a significant addition to the organization's mission of promoting peace, nonviolence, and community harmony. Founded in 2001, the Gandhi Memorial Foundation is a volunteer-driven nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and spreading the life, philosophy, and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. The organization is best known for establishing the iconic 12-foot Mahatma Gandhi statue at Heritage Park, which was officially dedicated on October 2, 2004, in honor of Gandhi Jayanti. The Foundation has consistently worked to promote Gandhian values such as Ahinsa (nonviolence), religious tolerance, compassion, equality, and human dignity through educational outreach, cultural programming, and annual community observances including Martyrs' Day and Gandhi Jayanti celebrations.

Joshi, a respected civic and community figure, has long been active in public service and currently serves as a commissioner with the Village of Skokie government. His appointment is being viewed as a major boost for the Foundation as it expands its outreach to younger generations and broader communities across the Chicago area. In its official welcome letter dated April 20, 2026, the Foundation praised Joshi's commitment to service and leadership, noting that his "voice and vision will play an important role in guiding our future" and helping "build stronger bridges across

communities." Responding to the appointment, Joshi expressed deep gratitude and reflected on his lifelong connection to Gandhian ideals. "I'm very grateful to all of you for giving me an opportunity to spread the message of Gandhiji in a very challenging world that we are living in," Joshi stated. Recalling his childhood memories, Joshi shared how he used a charkha during his school days to spin cotton into thread as part of his education, a symbolic connection to Gandhi's philosophy of self-reliance and simplicity.

He also spoke emotionally about his family's historic ties to India's freedom movement, noting that his uncle from Kathalal in Gujarat had gone to jail alongside Gandhi as a freedom fighter during India's struggle for independence. "Promoting Gandhi's ideals to create a peace-loving society with my actions would be the goal," Joshi said. "My commitment is to carry Gandhi's message to the community that we live in, with all resources that would be available and created, to accomplish the target of achieving nonviolence, human dignity, equality, and compassion." Community leaders believe Joshi's inclusion comes at a crucial time when Gandhian principles of dialogue, tolerance, and peaceful coexistence are increasingly relevant in addressing social divisions and global conflicts.

With Joshi joining its leadership team, the Gandhi Memorial Foundation is expected to further strengthen its mission of preserving Gandhi's timeless teachings while inspiring future generations to embrace peace, service, and humanity.





# THE INDUS WATERS TREATY

## Asymmetric obligations, unequal concessions and Pakistan's weaponization

*Part I: The Architecture of inequity — How India's goodwill was codified into concession*



● **By: Dr. Pradeep Kumar Saxena**  
Former Indian Commissioner for Indus Waters

### 1. Background: The partition of a river system

The Indus River System comprises six major rivers—the Indus, Chenab, Jhelum, Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej—flowing through the territories of both India and Pakistan. The system sustains drinking water, agriculture, and electricity generation across the Indus Basin, supporting hundreds of millions of people on both sides of the border. When British India was partitioned in 1947, the Indus River System was also divided between the two successor states. The geographic reality was stark: India, as the upper riparian state, held the headwaters of most rivers, while Pakistan's agricultural heartland—the heavily irrigated Punjab plains—depended critically on continued water flows from the east. India, for its part, required access to the system for its own development objectives in Punjab and Rajasthan, while seeking stability and normalized relations with its new western neighbor. Despite its own pressing domestic needs, India concluded this highly concessionary water-sharing pact with Pakistan on 19 September 1960, an agreement facilitated by the World Bank.

### 2. Negotiations – India paid the price for rationality

#### 2.1 Pakistan's strategy of delay and the 1954 World Bank proposal

The trajectory of the negotiations was shaped, from the outset, by the asymmetry between India's reasonable and constructive approach and Pakistan's maximalist, sometimes absurd,

demands — an asymmetry that anchored outcomes far more favorably to Pakistan than equity would have warranted. The World Bank's first substantive proposal of 5 February 1954 illustrates this plainly: even at this initial stage, it required significant one-sided concessions from India:

- ▶ All planned Indian developments along the upper reaches of both the Indus and Chenab were to be abandoned, with those benefits accruing to Pakistan instead
- ▶ India was required to forgo diverting approximately 6 MAF from the Chenab River.
- ▶ No Chenab waters at Merala (now in Pakistan) would be available for Indian use.
- ▶ No water development would be permitted in Kutch from the river system.

Despite these considerable impositions, India accepted the proposal in good faith almost immediately, signalling its genuine desire for a speedy resolution. Pakistan, by contrast, delayed its formal acceptance for nearly five years until 22 December 1958. As a result of this goodwill gesture of India, the restrictions were imposed on her while Pakistan continued developing new uses on the Western rivers without equivalent constraints. Pakistan absorbed the lesson that obstruction pays and cooperation costs—and has applied this lesson consistently ever since.

### 3. What India lost: The scale of sacrifice

#### 3.1 The water allocation

Under the Treaty's allocation formula,

India received exclusive rights to the three Eastern rivers—the Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi—while Pakistan received rights to the waters of the three Western rivers—the Indus, Chenab, and Jhelum.

India was permitted certain limited, non-consumptive uses of the Western rivers within its own territory, primarily for run-of-river hydropower generation, subject to extensive design and operational restrictions. In volumetric terms, the Eastern rivers allocated to India carry approximately 33 million acre-feet (MAF) of annual flow, while the Western rivers allocated to Pakistan carry approximately 135 MAF—giving Pakistan roughly 80 percent of the system's water. India received 20 percent, in exchange for relinquishing all claim to the vastly larger Western system.

The critical point is that India did not gain new water from the agreement. What India received was formal acknowledgment of flows it already accessed, in exchange for relinquishing all claim to the far larger Western system. India was permitted certain non-consumptive uses of the Western rivers within its territory—primarily run-of-river hydropower generation.

#### 3.2 The financial concession: Paying to give away water

Perhaps the most striking anomaly of the Treaty is the financial provision. India agreed to pay approximately £62 million (approximately \$2.5 billion in present value) as compensation to Pakistan to build water resources infrastructure in

Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. This payment represents a unique precedent in which the upstream country, which was already surrendering the majority of the system's water, additionally paid the downstream country for the “privilege” of doing so. India essentially subsidized Pakistan's acceptance of a deal that heavily favoured Pakistan on the fundamental question of water allocation.

### 4. The Treaty's structural unfairness

#### 4.1 Unilateral asymmetric restrictions on India

The Treaty imposes a series of specific design and operational restrictions on India's use of the Western rivers that have no corresponding obligations on Pakistan's side:

- ▶ India can develop only a limited Irrigated Cropped Area (ICA) in its territory.
- ▶ India faces strict limits on the volume of water that can be held in any storage facility on the Western rivers.
- ▶ India must comply with specific design criteria for any hydropower facilities on the Western rivers, including restrictions on pondage and storage capacity.

These restrictions are one-directional: they constrain India's lawful development of resources within its own territory while imposing no equivalent transparency or restriction requirements on Pakistan. The result is a treaty that treats the upstream state—India—as the party requiring oversight and restraint, while the downstream state benefits from guaranteed flows.

# THE INDUS WATERS TREATY

## Asymmetric obligations, unequal concessions and Pakistan's weaponization

### Part II: Obstruction, exploitation and the long-overdue reckoning



● By: Dr. Pradeep Kumar Saxena  
Former Indian Commissioner for  
Indus Waters

#### 1. Pakistan's Weaponization of the Treaty

##### 1.1 Systematic obstruction of Indian development

Since the Treaty's signing, Pakistan has consistently used its dispute resolution provisions as a strategic tool to delay and effectively obstruct development rather than genuine dispute resolution. Virtually every significant hydropower project India has proposed on the Western rivers—even those explicitly permitted under the Treaty's terms—has faced formal Pakistani objection, technical challenge, or referral to arbitration. Projects including Baglihar, Kishenganga, Pakal Dul, and Tulbul have all been subjected to prolonged Pakistani challenges. In several cases, Pakistan has acknowledged the potential benefits of Indian projects for regulated water flow—including flood moderation—while simultaneously opposing them. This pattern reveals that Pakistani objections are not genuinely about Treaty compliance; they are about preventing Indian development in Jammu and Kashmir, regardless of the legal merits.

##### 1.2 The 'Water War' narrative and its deployment

Pakistan has simultaneously exploited India's consistent compliance with the Treaty to construct and disseminate an international narrative portraying India as a potential 'water aggressor'. Pakistani officials, academics, and diplomatic channels have repeatedly raised the spectre of India 'weaponizing water' against Pakistan—citing the very Treaty that India has scrupulously honoured. This narrative—posing the upper riparian as a threat—has proven remarkably effective with international audiences unfamiliar with the Treaty's history.

Pakistan has used it to generate diplomatic pressure, attract multilateral sympathy, and constrain India's ability to assert its legitimate Treaty rights. The singular irony of this strategy is that India has not committed a single violation of the Treaty—not during the 1965 war, not during the 1971 war, not during the 1999 Kargil conflict, and not at any other point in the sixty-five years of the Treaty's operation. India has maintained compliance even as Pakistan has used its territory to conduct state-sponsored terrorism against India.

#### 2. The consequences for India

##### 2.1 Unrealized development potential

The Treaty's constraints have had measurable, lasting consequences for India's development in the Indus Basin. Vast areas of Rajasthan and parts of Punjab that could have been irrigated remain arid or dependent on alternative, more expensive water sources. The agricultural productivity foregone over six decades represents an incalculable economic loss.

##### 2.2 Jammu and Kashmir's suppressed hydropower potential

The impact on Jammu and Kashmir has been particularly acute. The Union Territory sits astride the Western rivers and possesses enormous, largely untapped hydropower potential. Development of that potential is constrained at every turn by the Treaty's design restrictions, Pakistan's systematic objections, and the perpetual risk of multi-tiered long drawn dispute resolution mechanism. Local populations have increasingly come to view the Treaty not as a framework for shared benefit but as an instrument of their own economic marginalization—an external imposition that prevents them from developing the natural resources flowing through their own territory.

##### 2.3 Energy security implications

India's inability to optimally develop the hydropower potential of the Western rivers has direct implications for national energy security. The Treaty's restrictions mean that potential capacity—as a clean, renewable, and economically efficient energy source—has been sacrificed purely because of Pakistan's strategic obstruction of even the limited rights India possesses in this asymmetric agreement.

#### 3. India's case

The Treaty was intended achieve the "most complete and satisfactory utilisation of the waters of the Indus system of rivers" in a "spirit of goodwill and friendship"—a context that no longer exists. The treaties derive their legitimacy not merely from the force of law but from the good faith implementation of their terms by all signatories. Pakistan's documented and persistent use of state-sponsored terrorism as an instrument of foreign policy against India—culminating in atrocities including the 2001 Parliament attack, the 2008 Mumbai attacks, and most recently the Pahalgam attack of April 2025—fundamentally challenges the premise upon which India's continued compliance with the IWT rests.

Bilateral agreements cannot be selectively honoured: a state cannot simultaneously breach the foundational norms of interstate conduct while demanding that its negotiating partner fulfil treaty obligations that disproportionately benefit the norm-breaker. The Treaty cannot be an island of Indian compliance within a sea of Pakistani bad faith. India's step represents an assertion long overdue—that international agreements are a two-way street.

#### 4. Conclusion

The Indus Waters Treaty has long been

celebrated as a triumph of international diplomacy. This paper has argued that such a characterization fundamentally misrepresents what actually occurred: a negotiation process in which Pakistani intransigence was rewarded with concessions, and Indian goodwill was systematically exploited to produce an agreement that was inequitable from its inception.

Nevertheless, India surrendered 80 percent of the water, paid £62 million (approximately \$2.5 billion in present value) to facilitate that surrender, accepted one-sided operational restrictions on its own territory, and has maintained scrupulous compliance for sixty-five years—including through Pakistan inflicted multiple wars and sustained sponsoring of cross border terrorism.

In return, India has received a Treaty agreed to in good faith that Pakistan uses as a tool of developmental obstruction, a 'water war' narrative it deploys internationally with no factual basis, and the permanent underdevelopment of vast tracts of Indian territory.

India's step is to protect its legitimate interests in the Indus Basin. This is not aggression; it is the long-overdue correction of an asymmetric arrangement premised on a goodwill that was never reciprocated. To those who ask why hold the Treaty in abeyance now, it would be useful to remember that there is no wrong time for a right decision.

*Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publication or its editorial team. The article is intended for informational and analytical purposes only.*

# Gene therapy restores vision in children born with rare inherited blindness

## Breakthrough treatment offers new hope for genetic eye disorders



By: Dr. Avi Verma

**D**octors and researchers in London have reported remarkable success using an experimental gene therapy to restore vision in children born with one of the most severe inherited eye disorders, known as AIPL1-related Leber Congenital Amaurosis (LCA4). The condition is caused by mutations in the AIPL1 gene, which is essential for the healthy functioning of retinal

photoreceptor cells. Children born with this disorder are typically considered legally blind from infancy and are often only able to distinguish between light and darkness. Over time, the disease progressively destroys retinal cells, leading to profound vision loss.

The pioneering treatment was developed through research led by specialists at Moorfields Eye Hospital and the UCL Institute of Ophthalmology. The procedure involved a highly delicate “keyhole” surgery in which surgeons injected healthy copies of the defective AIPL1 gene directly into the retina at the back of one eye. The healthy gene copies were delivered using a harmless viral vector designed to penetrate retinal cells and restore their function. The results have been described by researchers as “life-changing.” Following treatment, several children showed dramatic improvements in functional vision. Some were able to recognize faces, identify shapes and objects, navigate independently, draw, and even begin reading and writing — milestones previously thought impossible for children affected by this condition.

Researchers also observed that the treated eye maintained significantly improved vision over long-term follow-up, while the untreated eye continued to deteriorate,



reflecting the natural progression of the disease. This contrast provided strong evidence that the therapy itself was responsible for the visual improvements.

The findings, published in medical research journals including *The Lancet*, are being viewed as a major breakthrough in the field of inherited retinal diseases. Scientists say the study demonstrates that early intervention with gene therapy may not only slow disease progression but potentially restore meaningful vision in certain forms of childhood blindness.

However, experts caution that the treatment remains under ongoing clinical evaluation. Researchers are continuing

to study the long-term durability of the therapy, optimal timing for intervention, and broader safety outcomes before it becomes widely available.

*Source: Clinical studies conducted by Moorfields Eye Hospital and UCL Institute of Ophthalmology, London.*

**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: MYGA

● Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

### CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAll Bull-Bear Spread -1.6% (below average)  
 CNN Fear & Greed Index 67 (greed)  
 NYSE %Above 50-dMA 62.20% (positive)  
 SP500 %Above 50-dMA 54.80% (positive)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 3/31/26

OEFs & ETFs: Stocks 60.49%, Hybrids 4.01%, Bonds 17.98%, M-Mkt 17.53%

### INTEREST RATES

CME FedWatch  
 Cycle peak 5.25-5.50%  
 Current 3.50-3.75%  
 FOMC 6/17/26+ hold  
 FOMC 7/29/26+ hold

### Treasury

T-Bills 3-mo yield 3.68%, 1-yr 3.73%;  
 T-Notes 2-yr 3.88%, 5-yr 4.02%, 10-yr 4.39%;  
 T-Bonds 30-yr 4.97%;  
 TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 1.33%, 10-yr 1.91%, 30-yr 2.67%  
 FRNs Index 3.623%

### Bank Rates [www.depositaccounts.com/](http://www.depositaccounts.com/)

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 5/1/26  
 TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates  
 Restricted RC 5.25%, RA 5.00%  
 Flexible RCP 4.50%, SRA 4.25%, IRA-101110+ 3.50%  
 TIAA MYGA 4.15% (3-yr), 4.30% (5-yr), 4.40% (7-yr)  
 TSP G Fund 4.50% (previous 4.375%)

India Fear & Greed MMI 63.69 (greed)  
 Weekly ETFs: INDA -0.93%, INDY -0.62%, EPI -0.23%, INDH +0.71%, SPY +0.94%



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

### ECONOMY

India is the 6th largest economy in the new annual IMF data for \$GDP. Weak rupee & GDP base & benchmark revisions by India were responsible for this rank decline. The unofficial claims for #4 were premature. However, India remains the fastest major economy.

Top 10: #1-US, #2-China, #3-Germany, #4-Japan, #5-UK, #6-INDIA, #7-France, #8-Italy, #9-Russia, #10-Brazil.

### FINANCIAL

Bharat Maritime Insurance (BMI) Pool of \$1.4 billion for 10 years, renewable for another 5 years, has been initiated. Based in GIFT City (IFSC), it would be managed by GIC Re. It will provide insurance coverage for Indian-flagged vessels, Indian-controlled ships & vessels carrying cargo to or from India. India has so far relied on foreign insurers

that can raise premiums suddenly or withdraw insurance on short notices.

US I-Bonds rate, 5/1/26 – 10/31/26, 4.26% (previous 4.03%).

### INDUSTRIAL

Austrian company Getzner Werkstoffe (GW) has opened a new manufacturing for railroad vibration-isolation systems in Baramati (near Pune) expanding its local presence in India. Global GW specializes in vibration isolation solutions for transportation (railroads), construction & industrial applications.

German printing ink & coating company Seigwerk is buying Hi-Tech Inks, India, to expand capabilities in specialized inks used for printing on packaging. It bought Swiss SICPA's packaging inks division in 2005.

### GEOPOLITICAL

UK shelved Diego Garcia deal for this session of the parliament. The planned UK deal involved the handover of Diego Garcia Island to Mauritius & get a 99-yr leaseback to be subleased for the US base there. But US switched from initial support to being critical of the deal. Without US formal commitment, UK has shelved the deal for now. Mauritius will press on its claim on the Island in other ways.

### SPECIAL TOPIC - MYGA

MYGA are multiyear (3-10 years) guaranteed annuities that can be viewed as tax-deferred CDs from insurers or fixed-annuities (typically with longer-terms & for higher amounts) tailored for bank CD buyers. The guarantee is from the insurer (regulated by states), not FDIC, so stick with highly rated insurers. If the insurer goes under, the resolution may take a long time or there may be steep haircuts for quick withdrawals.

MYGA money stays within the annuity wrapper with related restrictions - penalties for withdrawals before 59.5; on the other hand, earnings are tax-deferred until withdrawn. There may also be early surrender charges (early withdrawal penalties for bank CDs are less severe).

At maturity, you can rollover to another MYGA or another form of annuity from the same insurer/ vendor, or can use 1035 transfer/exchange to another insurer/ vendor. Higher rates than bank CDs are offered because insurers consider MYGA captive money.

MYGAs can also be bought within IRAs although IRAs already have tax-deferral (T-IRA) or are tax-free in retirement (R-IRA). Those are subject to additional requirements such as RMDs from T-IRAs & have additional features such as QCDs from T-IRA (although possible from R-IRAs too, but there isn't much benefit from that). You may also be familiar with IRA CDs that look similar but are from banks (not insurers) & FDIC insured; these have lower rates compared to MYGAs.

MYGAs have been around at least since 1990s, but became popular in 2022 that was historically the worst year for allocation/balanced funds as both stocks & bonds had bad year. Surprisingly, MYGA sales have remained strong since then.

Annuities are complex products with several bells & whistles that are sold with very long prospectuses. Unless you have special needs, stick with basic annuities - MYGA, immediate-annuities, etc. Beware that agents get very high commissions for complex annuities, so be prepared to ask for what you want.

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



# Everything you need to know about IUHS School of Medicine

● By: Dr. Avi Verma

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

**2. Program Structure & Exams:**

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

**3. Assessments:**

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

knowledge gaps.

- ▶ 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](http://www.iuhs.edu)*



## MEDICAL DOCTOR DEGREE

- Hybrid: Online + In-person study
- Competitive Tuition Fees
- Sit the USMLE Step Exams to Practice Medicine in the USA
- Clinical Training in Affiliated US Hospitals
- Apply now to start in September

[www.iuhs.edu](http://www.iuhs.edu)

# India turns the Met Gala 2026 into a celebration of couture, craft and culture

India made a commanding statement at the Met Gala 2026, with celebrities, designers and royals transforming the red carpet into a global showcase of Indian craftsmanship and storytelling. From sculptural couture to heritage textiles, Indian stars embraced this year's "Fashion is Art" theme with looks rooted deeply in culture and artistry.

Isha Ambani emerged as one of the evening's standout names in a custom ensemble by Gaurav Gupta. Her gold-woven tissue saree and jewel-encrusted blouse featured more than 1,800 carats of heirloom diamonds and gemstones, crafted by 40 artisans over 500 hours. The look blended zardozi, kundan and Mughal-inspired detailing with a playful crystal mango-shaped bag.

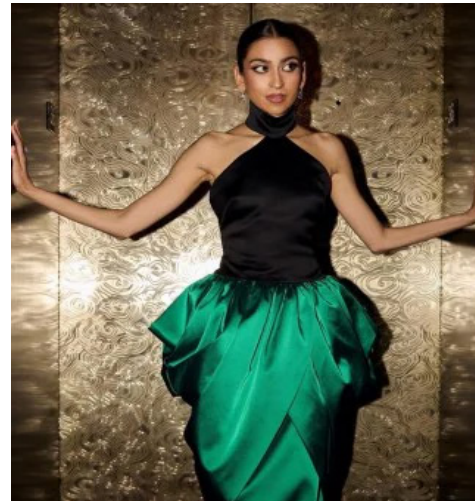
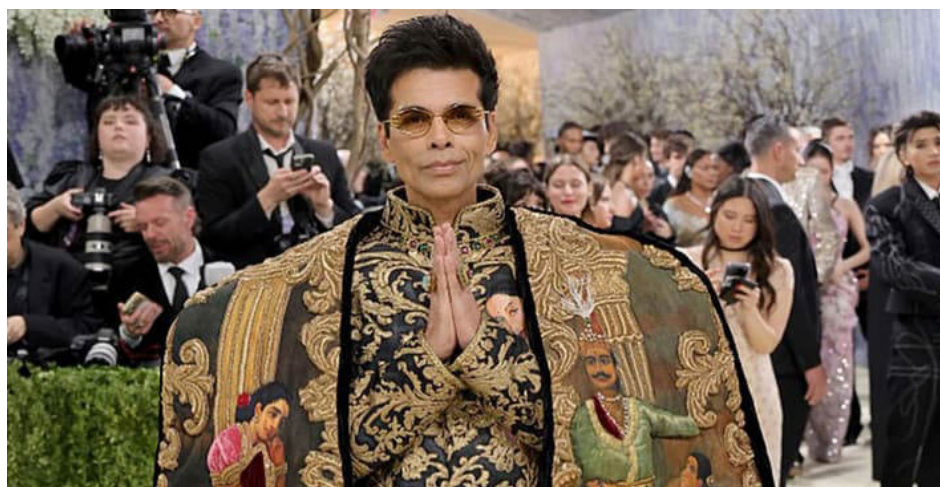


Making a dramatic debut, Ananya Birla wore structured Robert Wun couture paired with a silverware mask sculpture by Subodh Gupta, creating one of the night's most theatrical fashion moments.



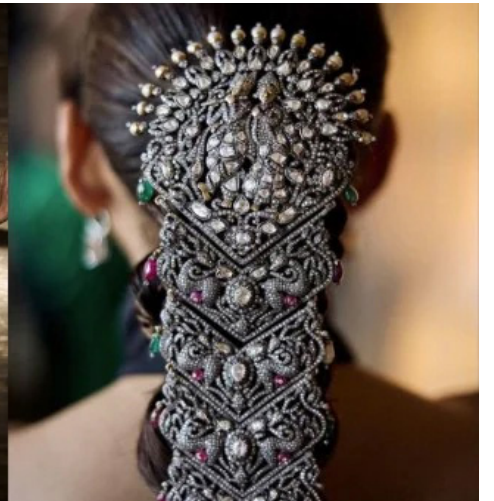
Karan Johar delivered cinematic grandeur in a hand-painted Manish Malhotra creation inspired by legendary painter Raja Ravi Varma. Johar described the outfit as a tribute to storytelling and Indian art, while Malhotra himself appeared in a monochrome couture ensemble embroidered with the names of artisans from his atelier.

Meanwhile, Natasha Poonawalla



opted for understated elegance in a sculptural orchid-inspired look by Marc Quinn and Dolce & Gabbana, while Sudha Reddy paid homage to Kalamkari traditions in an intricately embroidered couture creation.

A softer but equally striking moment came from Diya Mehta Jatia, who wore a gown by Mayyur Girotra crafted from Kanjeevaram silk and Bengal's delicate shola art. The look highlighted regional Indian



crafts rarely seen on an international red carpet.

Representing Indian royalty, Gauravi Kumari and Sawai Padmanabh Singh brought Jaipur's regal legacy to the gala in detailed Prabal Gurung ensembles inspired by Maharani Gayatri Devi and traditional Rajasthani craftsmanship.



Ashwani Chadha's  
**JALANDHAR**  
JEWELLERS

**DIAMOND | GOLD | KUNDAN  
POLKI | PLATINUM**



**G.T. Road, Civil Lines, Near Company Bagh Chowk Jalandhar**

**Mb: 9815192100**

**www.jalandharjewellers.com | jalandharjewels@gmail.com**

# READ THE WORLD TODAY!



**IndoUS**  
TRIBUNE



[WWW.INDOUSTRIBUNE.COM](http://WWW.INDOUSTRIBUNE.COM)

