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Carney uses Canada Day unity message to confront Alberta referendum and Quebec sovereignty push

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canadians marked the country's 159th birthday on Wednesday with public celebrations across the country, but the national holiday also unfolded against renewed pressure on Canadian unity. Prime Minister Mark Carney used his Canada Day message to argue that "unity is not uniformity," saying Canada's differences should be treated as strengths rather than risks. The message comes as Alberta prepares for a non-binding October referendum on whether the province should begin steps toward a possible future independence vote. In Quebec, the Parti Québécois remains ahead in recent polling before the fall provincial election, keeping the sovereignty debate alive. Carney has tried to ease western frustration by supporting plans for a new Alberta-to-Pacific crude pipeline, while maintaining environmental review and Indigenous consultation. For Canada, the holiday became both a celebration of nationhood and a test of whether federal leadership can answer regional discontent without deepening division.

Gaza marks 1,000 days of war as ceasefire efforts stall and civilians remain trapped



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Palestinians and Israelis marked 1,000 days of war Thursday with Gaza still devastated, Israel politically divided and the ceasefire process stalled over Hamas' disarmament. The war began with the Hamas-led attack on southern Israel in 2023, which killed about 1,200 people and led to 251 hostages being taken. All hostages or their remains have since been released or handed over, while survivors have described starvation, physical abuse and psychological trauma. Gaza's Health Ministry says Israel's military campaign has killed 73,066 Palestinians as of Tuesday.

More than 2 million people in Gaza remain largely displaced, with many living in ruins or tent camps and facing tight limits on movement and aid. Although a ceasefire took effect last year, Israeli strikes continue almost daily and the ministry says more than 1,000 Palestinians have been killed since then. A United States-backed peace board has made little visible progress, while Israel heads toward national elections amid anger over security failures and the war's toll.

Trump-led Independence Day pageantry meets divided public mood on America's 250th birthday

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States will mark its 250th Independence Day on Saturday with one of the largest anniversary programs in its history, led partly by President Donald Trump's Freedom 250 initiative. In Washington, celebrations include the Great American State Fair on the National Mall, military-themed programming and a fireworks finale that organizers say will feature more than 850,000 pyrotechnic effects from multiple locations around the National Mall, West Potomac Park and the Potomac River.

The display is expected to last about 35 minutes, roughly twice the length of a typical National Mall show. Events are also planned in Philadelphia, where a national time capsule will be dedicated for 2276,



and in New York, where the Times Square Ball will drop eight times for American time zones. A Reuters/Ipsos poll found 80 percent

of Americans planned to celebrate, but 38 percent doubted the country would still exist as a single nation 250 years from now.

India says Indus treaty will remain suspended as Pakistan warns against water weaponization

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan has warned that any attempt by India to disrupt its share of water under the Indus Waters Treaty would amount to the weaponization of water and could threaten regional security. Speaking Tuesday at an international seminar in Islamabad, Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said shared rivers should remain a source of cooperation, not confrontation, and must be governed by international law. The dispute has intensified since India placed the 1960 World Bank-brokered treaty in abeyance after the killing of 26 tourists in Indian-controlled Kashmir last year. New Delhi blamed Pakistan-based militants for the attack, while Islamabad denied involvement and offered to join an independent investigation. Pakistan says the treaty remains legally binding and cannot be suspended unilaterally. Its water regulator



has also accused India of reducing Chenab River flows, though New Delhi has not immediately responded to that specific allegation. India's Ministry of External Affairs has maintained that the treaty will remain suspended until Pakistan completely and irreversibly ends support for cross-border terrorism. The treaty gives India control over the Ravi, Beas and Sutlej rivers, while Pakistan receives the Indus, Jhelum and Chenab.

Supreme Court upholds birthright citizenship, Indian Americans call ruling a constitutional win

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected President Donald Trump's attempt to restrict birthright citizenship, reaffirming that children born in the United States to parents who are unlawfully or temporarily present in the country are citizens at birth under the Fourteenth Amendment. The six-to-three ruling in 'Trump v. Barbara' struck down Executive Order 14160, titled 'Protecting the Meaning and Value of American Citizenship.' The order had argued that children born to undocumented immigrants or temporary visa holders were not fully "subject to the jurisdiction" of the United States and therefore should not automatically receive citizenship. Chief Justice John Roberts, writing for the court, said such children

satisfy the Constitution's requirements because they are born on United States soil and remain subject to the country's laws. The decision drew strong support from Indian American lawmakers and community leaders, who said it protected immigrant families from uncertainty. Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi called it a reaffirmation of a fundamental constitutional principle, while Representatives Suhas Subramanyam, Pramila Jayapal and Shri Thanedar described the ruling as a defense of civil rights and a clear limit on presidential power. Indian American groups said the decision carries special importance for families affected by long green card backlogs and for H-1B professionals whose children are born in the United States. The ruling preserves automatic citizenship for most children born on American soil, except narrow historical exceptions such as children of foreign diplomats.

2027 to be celebrated as India-Japan 'Year of Shared Horizons' to mark 75 years of ties



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India and Japan will celebrate 2027 as the India-Japan Year of Shared Horizons, marking 75 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Thursday.

The two governments will organize commemorative programs across both countries, with a strong focus on youth participation, cultural exchange and future cooperation. The week beginning April 28, 2027, will be observed as India-Japan Week through coordinated outreach activities.

Planned initiatives include a logo and theme competition, IMAGE-75 for manga, anime and gaming, RASA-75 for arts and culture, and SPORT-75 for sports exchanges.

A Buddhist delegation from Japan will visit major Buddhist sites in India, while a friendship cricket match during the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games 2026 and Cricket Kizuna-75 will promote youth sporting links.

Deadly floods and canoe capsizes kill dozens in Côte d'Ivoire as officials urge evacuations from risk zones

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At least 69 people were killed in two separate incidents in Côte d'Ivoire this week, officials said Wednesday, as flooding and a river accident struck the country's south. Government spokesperson Amadou Coulibaly said torrential rain from Sunday night into Monday killed 59 people in the Abidjan district, with the commune of Attécoubé recording the highest toll.

Authorities said landslides, mudslides and flooding affected several neighborhoods and urged residents to leave areas identified as unsafe, including sites where some people had previously been relocated. Separately, at least 10 people died when a canoe carrying villagers capsized between Avikam Island and Liboli Village from Tuesday night into Wednesday. Several people remain missing.

Bangladesh hospitals brace for dengue surge as measles outbreak keeps pediatric wards under pressure

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bangladesh's health system is facing mounting strain as a major measles outbreak overlaps with rising dengue infections during the monsoon season, local media reported Thursday. Public hospitals in Dhaka continue to admit large numbers of measles patients, despite an emergency measles-rubella vaccination campaign in April and May that reached 18.4 million children. Health officials recorded 718 deaths from measles or measles-like symptoms between mid-March and the end of June, with more than 113,000 hospitalizations, mostly involving children. Dengue cases also rose sharply in June, accounting for nearly half of this year's infections and most deaths so far. Experts urged stronger mosquito control, temporary treatment facilities and dedicated dengue units.

German prosecutors allege Ukrainian state-linked role in 2022 Nord Stream pipeline sabotage

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

German federal prosecutors have accused Ukrainian state authorities of ordering the 2022 Nord Stream pipeline sabotage, a claim likely to strain ties between Kyiv and Berlin. A former Ukrainian army officer, identified in reports as Serhii K., was indicted this week on charges including causing explosions, disrupting public services and complicity in war crimes for an attack on civilian infrastructure. Prosecutors allege he led a group of divers, a skipper and an explosives expert who used forged documents to charter a yacht in Germany, transported military-grade explosives and planted timed devices near Denmark's Bornholm island. The blasts severely damaged Nord Stream 1 and 2. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Ukraine was awaiting full details before responding.

Iran warns United States against any role in Strait of Hormuz security after Bahrain talks

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iran's top military command warned on Thursday that any United States interference in the Strait of Hormuz would be treated as a threat to national security and met with a swift military response. The Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters said the strategic waterway was not a "United States playground" and argued that its security falls within Iran's sovereign authority. It warned oil tankers and commercial vessels to follow routes and navigation rules designated by Tehran, saying violations could endanger ships' safety. The statement came a day after United States Central Command led a security



dialogue in Bahrain with military officials from 12 countries on regional defense cooperation and the free flow of commerce. Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi rejected the forum's authority, saying Gulf security cannot be imposed through a United States military framework.

House panel presses technology agenda as China expands in artificial intelligence and robotics

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States lawmakers used a House Energy and Commerce subcommittee hearing this week to push a broad technology agenda aimed at countering China's rise in artificial intelligence, robotics, semiconductors and other strategic industries. Republicans called for faster innovation, stronger domestic manufacturing and more secure supply chains, warning that Beijing's state-backed industrial strategy could erode American competitiveness. Democrats supported the goal of technological

leadership but argued that cuts to federal research funding would weaken the same innovation base Congress is trying to protect.

The panel reviewed bills covering robotics, artificial intelligence, quantum technology, biotechnology, connected vehicles, memory chips and semiconductor supply chains. Industry witnesses warned that China is advancing quickly, especially in humanoid robotics and open-source artificial intelligence. Several urged Congress to pair new legislation with sustained investment in research, talent and scientific infrastructure.

Modi tells Japanese investors India's Kaizen-driven reforms have changed its economic DNA

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the India-Japan Joint Economic Forum on Thursday that India has reshaped its economic DNA through Kaizen, the Japanese principle of continuous improvement, as he urged Japanese businesses to expand investment. Modi said India remains the world's fastest-growing major economy and recorded 7.7 percent gross domestic product growth in the last financial year. He pointed to reforms in taxation, governance and ease of doing business, saying more sectors are being opened to private participation and supported through incentives. Citing a Japan Bank for International Cooperation survey, he said India

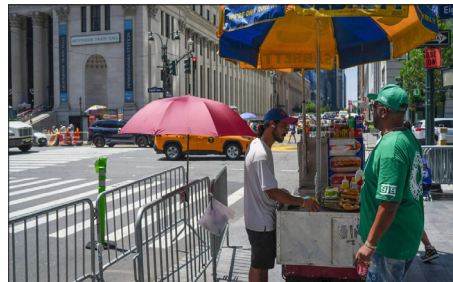


has ranked as the most promising destination for Japanese businesses for four consecutive years. Modi said India and Japan share strategic clarity in areas such as economic security, artificial intelligence, defense and health care, and urged companies to turn policy alignment into concrete outcomes.

Extreme heat disrupts Independence Day plans across the eastern United States

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Dangerous heat across the central and eastern United States is forcing communities to reshape Independence Day weekend plans, with record-breaking temperatures expected to continue through Friday and along the East Coast through Saturday. The National Weather Service said temperatures in parts of the Northeast could climb into the high 90s Fahrenheit, with Philadelphia and Boston possibly topping 100 as humidity makes conditions feel worse. In Boston, entry to the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular will begin later Saturday because of the heat. Philadelphia shortened a Thursday parade route, canceled an afternoon block party and pushed back evening events at Independence Mall. Several Pennsylvania communities canceled,



postponed or moved celebrations indoors, including Gettysburg National Military Park. Amtrak canceled some Thursday service, including Acela trains between Boston and Washington, and warned that heat could slow other routes through Saturday. Cities opened cooling centers, extended pool hours and urged residents to conserve electricity as grids prepared for unusually high summer demand across several regions.

Trump signals possible Cuba policy shift while revisiting United States influence in the Caribbean

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump hinted Wednesday at a possible change in United States policy toward Cuba, saying the island nation was "coming our way," but he did not announce any new steps. Speaking at the dedication of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library in Medora, North Dakota, Trump made the remark while discussing Roosevelt's foreign policy legacy, the Spanish-American War and United States influence in the Western Hemisphere. He noted that Spain relinquished control of Cuba, Guam, the Philippines and Puerto Rico after the war before briefly turning to Cuba. Trump has long favored a harder line on Havana and, during his first administration, reversed several Obama-era openings by tightening sanctions, travel rules and financial restrictions.

Trump keeps North American trade pact alive but declines long-term renewal amid deficit concerns

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump's administration declined Wednesday to renew the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement on its existing terms, keeping the North American trade pact in force but moving it into annual reviews.

The decision came at a required six-year review point for the agreement, which Trump signed during his first term as a replacement for the North American Free Trade Agreement. United States Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said Washington would continue talks with Canada and Mexico to address shortcomings, including trade imbalances and manufacturing concerns.

Mexico's Economy Minister Marcelo Ebrard said the differences could be resolved, while Canada has indicated it remains open to negotiations. The pact governs about \$2 trillion in annual regional trade.

Haiti gang massacre exposes spread of violence from Port-au-Prince into rural communities

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Averified investigation published Thursday found that Haiti's Gran Grif gang killed at least 70 civilians in Jean-Denis, a rural community in the Artibonite region, as gang violence spreads beyond Port-au-Prince. Survivors said armed men stormed the area before dawn, shooting residents, burning homes and killing people who tried to flee. Victims included elderly residents, parents and children, with some reportedly burned alive inside their houses. The attack forced thousands of people to flee and highlighted the growing reach of criminal groups into farming regions, major roads and smuggling corridors. Human rights monitors say gangs are now active in five of Haiti's 10 departments. More than 1.4 million people have been displaced nationwide.

Family seeks probe after Indian seafarer's body returns from Venezuela with organs missing



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The family of Indian seafarer Rakesh Chauhan has sought a full investigation after a second autopsy in India reportedly found that several major organs were missing from his body after it was repatriated from Venezuela. Chauhan, 33, from Deoria in Uttar Pradesh, had been working on a merchant navy vessel and was earlier reported to have died after a cardiac arrest or injuries from a fall. His family says the body arrived nearly a month later without an official Venezuelan autopsy report or clear documentation on the cause of death. The Federation of Seafarers' Unions of India said the brain, heart, lungs, liver, kidneys and other organs were absent, making the cause of death impossible to determine. The union has demanded intervention by Indian authorities, accountability from Venezuelan officials and compensation for the family.

Modi and Pezeshkian discuss West Asia peace and India-Iran cooperation after ceasefire understanding



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Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian appreciated Prime Minister Narendra Modi's role in supporting regional peace during a telephone conversation Tuesday, while the two leaders discussed West Asia and India-Iran cooperation. Iran's embassy said Pezeshkian welcomed India's hosting of the BRICS energy ministers' meeting and called for deeper engagement through multilateral forums. He said Iran wanted to expand ties with India in politics, trade, transit and international affairs. India's government said Pezeshkian briefed Modi on recent developments in West Asia and that Modi welcomed the understanding reached to end hostilities. Modi reiterated India's position that disputes should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy, with lasting peace, stability and freedom of navigation protected.

Russia pounds Kyiv with missiles and drones in one of the war's biggest strikes

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Russia unleashed one of its largest attacks on Kyiv early Thursday, firing hundreds of drones and dozens of missiles in an overnight assault that killed at least 21 people, wounded more than 90 and damaged about 130 buildings across the Ukrainian capital. Explosions shook central Kyiv as residents crowded into metro stations and shelters, while fires and smoke spread across several districts. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy cut short a visit to Ireland and returned to Ukraine, later visiting a heavily damaged nine-story residential building.

He blamed part of the destruction on delays in promised allied air defense systems. Ukraine's air force said Russia launched 74 missiles and 496 drones, including an



unusually high number of ballistic missiles. Moscow said it targeted military and energy sites and called the strikes retaliation for Ukrainian drone attacks inside Russia. Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko declared Friday a day of mourning, while European Union officials called for stronger pressure and additional sanctions against Moscow as rescue crews searched damaged homes.

Canada seeks 10 founding nations for global defense bank ahead of NATO summit

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canada is trying to secure around 10 founding countries for a proposed global defense financing bank before next week's North Atlantic Treaty Organization summit in Turkey, the lead Canadian negotiator said Thursday. Isabelle Hudon, chief executive of the Business Development Bank of Canada, said the planned Defense, Security and Resilience Bank is intended to raise up to 100 billion pounds, or about \$133 billion, in low-cost financing to strengthen allied defense. Prime Minister Mark Carney has promoted the project as part of a broader push to organize "middle powers" amid uncertainty over the traditional United States-led order. Hudon said the initial members, besides Canada, would likely be European, though



talks over capital commitments are still unfinished. Luxembourg is the only other public participant so far and is expected to serve as the bank's European base. South Korea has held productive talks and could join later, while Germany is observing discussions and Britain has explored possible alignment with a separate defense financing initiative.

Iran prepares mass funeral rites for slain supreme leader Ali Khamenei

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iran's ruling clerics are preparing a week of mass mourning for Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, using the funeral of the slain supreme leader to project unity after a war that has shaken the Islamic Republic. Funeral events are set to begin over the weekend in Tehran, followed by large processions next week in Qom and Mashhad and ceremonies in Iraq's shrine cities. Khamenei was killed in United States and Israeli strikes on the first day of the war, and his son, Mojtaba Khamenei, has succeeded

him as Iran's third supreme leader.

State-linked clerics have framed the expected turnout as a show of loyalty to the Islamic Republic, while authorities are organizing transport, lodging and public facilities for mourners. Black funeral flags and posters supporting Mojtaba have appeared in Tehran. Officials and foreign dignitaries, including representatives from Russia and China, are expected at condolence events Friday. Khamenei is due to be buried Thursday in Mashhad near the tomb of Imam Reza under tight security arrangements.

Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi face setback in bid to suspend convictions in \$260 million Al-Qadir Trust case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan's Supreme Court registrar has returned petitions filed by former Prime Minister Imran Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, seeking suspension of their convictions in the \$260 million Al-Qadir Trust case. The couple had challenged the Islamabad High Court's refusal to suspend their sentences while their main appeals remain pending. Khan is serving a 14-year sentence and Bushra Bibi a seven-year sentence after an anti-corruption court convicted them in the case, which prosecutors linked to land allegedly received from a real



estate developer. Their petitions argued that the high court ignored key evidence and that health concerns made continued detention unjust. Khan's family has also demanded independent medical treatment, alleging violations of his prisoner rights.

Florida bars undocumented students from public colleges, triggering legal and economic backlash



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Immigration advocates in Florida criticized a new rule approved Tuesday by the state Board of Education that bars undocumented students from attending 28 public colleges and universities. The policy applies to anyone who is not a United States citizen or lawfully present in the country, following an earlier state move that ended in-state tuition benefits for some immigrant students. Critics called the rule cruel, harmful and legally questionable, arguing that the board is creating policy without approval from the state legislature. Analysts warned it could cost Florida up to \$15 million a year in lost tuition and hurt the state's higher education goals. Republican supporters said taxpayer-funded colleges should serve citizens and documented immigrants.

Blockades and internet curbs deepen unrest in Pakistan-administered Kashmir after deadly protests

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan-administered Kashmir is facing deepening disruption as protests over political rights and local governance trigger road blockades, internet restrictions and a heavy security response. A report published Wednesday said routes to Muzaffarabad and Rawalakot had been sealed, public transport was halted, petrol pumps were closed and shortages of food, fuel and medicines were affecting residents. The restrictions follow weeks of unrest led by the Joint Awami Action Committee, which opposes reserved legislative seats for Kashmiri refugees living in Pakistan and demands greater local rights. Reuters reported that more than 20 people were killed during the protests, while hundreds were detained. Local accounts cited in the report alleged that supply trucks and medicine carriers were being stopped, worsening public anger.

China's ethnic unity law draws rights criticism over minority culture and overseas reach

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China's new Ethnic Unity and Progress Law, which took effect on Wednesday, is drawing criticism from rights activists who say it gives legal cover to assimilationist policies targeting Tibetans, Uyghurs and other minorities. Kyinzom Dhongdue of Amnesty International Australia said Tuesday that the law promotes a "common consciousness of the Chinese nation" across education, family, religion, culture, media and the internet, expanding state control over identity and expression. She said Article 15 strengthens Mandarin Chinese as the main language of instruction, raising concern for Tibetan children in state-run boarding schools. Article 63 has also alarmed diaspora groups because it threatens legal liability for people outside China accused of undermining ethnic unity abroad.



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A Supreme Court term that reshaped power in America



Dr. Avi Verma

As we close the record on another consequential judicial cycle, our legal editorial desk presents a consolidated analysis of the Supreme Court's recently concluded 2025–26 term. This briefing is intended as both an executive overview and an internal docket reconciliation, reflecting our best-faith verification of the term's publicly reported decisions and their institutional significance. The final weeks of June 2026 produced a series of closely divided and structurally significant opinions touching on executive authority, campaign finance architecture, civil rights doctrine, and Second Amendment jurisprudence. Below is our compiled editorial review of the term's most consequential rulings, organized in a structured reference format and followed by contextual analysis of their broader legal and political implications.

1. Trump v. Barbara: Constitutional Safeguards on Citizenship

The Ruling:
In a closely divided 6–3 decision, the Court struck down Executive Order No. 14160, which sought to deny automatic birthright citizenship to U.S.-born children of undocumented or temporary immigrants. Chief Justice John Roberts authored the majority opinion, joined by Justices Amy Coney Barrett and the Court's three liberal justices. Justice Brett Kavanaugh concurred in the judgment on narrower statutory reasoning, while Justices Alito, Thomas, and Gorsuch dissented.

The Implications:
The ruling reaffirmed a strict reading of the Fourteenth Amendment's Citizenship Clause and preserved longstanding constitutional

interpretations of birthright citizenship. It also avoided a major legal disruption that could have produced significant uncertainty regarding statelessness and administrative enforcement.

2. West Virginia v. B.P.J.: The Title IX Re-anchoring

The Ruling:
In a 6–3 alignment, the Court upheld state-level restrictions limiting participation in school and collegiate sports to biological sex categories.

The Implications:
The decision reinforces a biologically defined framework within Title IX-related athletic regulations. It provides legal validation for state legislatures adopting sex-based eligibility rules in competitive sports, while intensifying ongoing national debate over gender identity in educational settings.

3. NRSC v. FEC: Deregulating the Party Machinery

The Ruling:
The Court struck down statutory limits on coordinated party expenditures, allowing political party committees to engage in unrestricted financial coordination with candidate campaigns.

The Implications:
By removing the legal separation between party committees and candidate financing structures, the ruling significantly reshapes the campaign finance landscape. It strengthens centralized party control over electoral spending while reducing the operational role of independent political action committees in competitive races.

4. Trump v. Slaughter: Executive Consolidation Over Federal Watchdogs

The Ruling:
In a 6–3 decision authored by Chief Justice Roberts, the Court invalidated long-standing precedent limiting presidential removal power over independent agency heads, effectively overturning Humphrey's Executor v. United States. The decision upheld the termination of FTC Commissioner Rebecca Slaughter.

The Implications:
The ruling substantially expands the unitary executive doctrine, reinforcing

presidential authority over federal regulatory leadership. Independent agencies—including those governing consumer protection, trade regulation, and financial oversight—are now more directly subject to executive control, raising structural questions about regulatory continuity across administrations.

5. Woford v. Lopez: The Default Rule on Concealed Carry

The Ruling:
Justice Samuel Alito, writing for a 6–3 majority, struck down state “default prohibition” frameworks governing concealed carry on private property open to the public, absent explicit owner prohibition.

The Implications:
The Court held that states cannot presume firearm exclusion without affirmative notice from property owners. While private entities retain the ability to prohibit firearms through signage or policy, the decision effectively shifts the default legal presumption toward broader lawful carry access in public-facing private spaces.

Political and Global Macro-Impact
Politically, the 2025–26 term operates as a structural accelerant for both major parties heading into the next election cycle. The Democratic response is likely to coalesce around regulatory independence (Slaughter) and campaign finance reform (NRSC), while Republican policymakers gain jurisprudential reinforcement in Second Amendment and Title IX-aligned rulings. Even partial losses, such as Barbara, are likely to be reframed in legislative terms as calls for statutory clarification.

Globally, the term presents a dual message. The preservation of birthright citizenship doctrine in Barbara reinforces continuity with established international human rights norms regarding nationality and statelessness. In contrast, the weakening of independent regulatory insulation in Slaughter introduces greater perceived variability in U.S. regulatory enforcement, potentially affecting international financial forecasting and corporate compliance planning.

The Roberts Legacy: Institutional Balance vs. Structural Transformation
Chief Justice John Roberts's role in this term underscores a defining judicial paradox. On one hand, Trump v. Barbara reflects a commitment to constitutional textual stability and institutional restraint in matters of citizenship and executive overreach. On the other, Trump v. Slaughter marks a profound doctrinal expansion of presidential control over the administrative state, effectively reshaping nearly a century of regulatory precedent.

Taken together, the term reinforces Roberts's dual identity: an institutional stabilizer in high-visibility constitutional disputes, and simultaneously a central architect in the recalibration of executive power within the federal bureaucracy. The long-term legacy of this balance—between restraint and expansion—will likely define scholarly debate on the Roberts Court for years to come.

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

CASE ANALYSES & STRUCTURAL LEGACY			
No.	CASE NAME & CITATION	VOTE	AUTHOR OF MAJORITY OPINION
1	Trump v. Barbara (No. 25-365)	6–3	Chief Justice John Roberts
2	West Virginia v. B.P.J. (No. 24-1046 consolidated)	6–3	Conservative Majority (per curiam / joint)
3	NRSC v. FEC (Campaign Finance)	6–3	Conservative Majority
4	Trump v. Slaughter (No. 25-332)	6–3	Chief Justice John Roberts
5	Woford v. Lopez (No. 24-1046)	6–3	Justice Samuel Alito

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World Cup police hub tracks drone threats and security tips across three host nations



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Law enforcement agencies from dozens of countries are sharing real-time intelligence through an International Police Cooperation Centre in Virginia during the expanded World Cup, United States officials said Monday. The hub brings together representatives from host cities in the United States, Canada and Mexico, along with liaison officers from participating countries, to review threats ranging from fireworks and human trafficking to terrorism. Federal Bureau of Investigation official Doug Olson said the center handles hundreds of intelligence leads daily and sends information quickly to agencies able to act. Officials said unauthorized drones have become a major challenge, with more than 1,100 detections, hundreds of mitigations and more than 500 drone seizures during the tournament so far.

Trump warns against Chinese influence over Panama Canal during Roosevelt library speech

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump renewed criticism Wednesday of the decision to transfer the Panama Canal to Panama, warning that China was seeking influence over the strategic waterway. Speaking at the dedication of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library in North Dakota, Trump praised Roosevelt's role in building the canal and called it one of the most important engineering projects in United States history. He said the United States would not allow China to take over the canal, but he announced no new policy. The canal was built by the United States and transferred to Panama under treaties signed in 1977, with full handover completed in 1999. It remains a vital route for global maritime trade.

Southern France wildfires force evacuations after heat and drought dry out Mediterranean regions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Wildfires swept across southern France on Thursday after weeks of dry weather and record heat left vegetation under severe stress. The largest fire burned through parts of the Aude and Hérault regions, where up to 800 firefighters, 150 vehicles and water-bomber aircraft were deployed to contain flames that crossed more than 900 hectares. Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu said nearly 7,000 fires had broken out since the start of the summer season and about 8,700 hectares had already burned. Further south, fires near the seaside resort of Canet-en-Roussillon forced 1,500 people to evacuate from three campsites and destroyed hundreds of mobile homes. Officials warned that rising temperatures and strong winds could worsen conditions.

China and European Union to hold regular trade talks as Brussels seeks deficit relief

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China and the European Union will hold ministerial-level trade talks once or twice a year under a new consultation mechanism aimed at easing a widening trade imbalance, Beijing said Thursday. China's Commerce Ministry said it has invited European Union trade commissioner Maroš Šefčovič to visit China this fall after he met Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao in Brussels on Monday. The talks are expected to focus on expanding cooperation in areas such as artificial intelligence and renewable energy while addressing Europe's concerns over market access and surging Chinese exports, including cars and batteries.

The European Union's trade deficit with China reached about 360 billion euros, or \$410 billion, last year. Šefčovič has



said Brussels wants meaningful results by October and must protect its industrial base while pushing for fairer global competition. The announcement came a day after new European measures on steel imports and small e-commerce parcels took effect. Chinese officials have said Beijing is willing to buy more from Europe, but want the bloc to relax high-tech export controls.

India to contest proposed United States tariff over forced labor findings

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India will challenge a proposed United States tariff next week, arguing that Washington's forced labor findings are legally flawed, unsupported by evidence and damaging to supply chains between the two economies. The case will be presented before the Office of the United States Trade Representative's Section 301 committee, with officials from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority joining representatives from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry,

the Confederation of Indian Industry and the Automotive Component Manufacturers Association. The United States has proposed an additional 12.5 percent duty on Indian imports after concluding that several economies do not adequately restrict goods produced with forced labor. India says its Constitution, bonded labor law, child labor law, labor codes and corporate sustainability reporting already provide strong safeguards. Industry groups argue the tariff would raise costs for American manufacturers, especially in agriculture, automotive components and industrial inputs, while India favors compliance-based cooperation through the India-United States Trade Policy Forum.

Chinese tech giant Alibaba to pay \$600 million to settle US probe over illegal drug sales

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group and its United States-based payment processor, AUS Merchant Services, will pay \$600 million to resolve Justice Department allegations that they failed to stop illegal pharmaceuticals and related products from being sold and imported into the United States through Alibaba's online marketplaces. Under separate non-prosecution agreements announced Wednesday, Alibaba will pay a \$125 million criminal penalty and forfeit \$200 million, while AUS will pay an \$85 million criminal penalty and forfeit \$190 million.

The Justice Department said Alibaba admitted that from 2016 through 2024 merchants on Alibaba.com and AliExpress conducted about 80,000 transactions involving pharmaceuticals, listed chemicals and counterfeiting equipment that violated United States law. Federal agents made more than 40 undercover purchases during the investigation. AUS admitted weaknesses in its anti-money laundering monitoring from 2020 through 2023. Prosecutors said both companies earned or processed revenue tied to prohibited merchants. Both companies accepted responsibility, agreed to strengthen compliance systems and pledged continued cooperation with United States law enforcement.

Venezuela mourns quake victims as guard is rescued alive after eight days under rubble

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Venezuela has declared seven days of national mourning as rescue teams continue searching collapsed buildings after twin earthquakes devastated the country's northern coast. Acting President Delcy Rodriguez said Wednesday that the mourning period would honor victims of the disaster, which has killed more than 2,200 people and injured more than 11,000. La Guaira, one of the hardest-hit areas, has been placed under military control to support rescue operations and public

security. Amid the devastation, rescuers pulled 43-year-old security guard Hernán Alberto Gil Flores alive from the basement of the Galerías Playa Grande shopping center in La Guaira on Thursday, eight days after he was trapped. Rescue teams said his small workstation cabin created an air pocket that helped him survive. Specialists from Costa Rica, Chile, the United States, Portugal, Mexico and other countries tunneled through unstable debris, aftershocks and heavy rain, passing him water and liquid nutrients before the rescue. Aid groups warn that shelter, food and water shortages are now becoming urgent concerns.

Merz pushes tax, pension and sick leave reforms to revive Germany's weak economy



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz unveiled a broad reform package Thursday aimed at reviving Europe's largest economy after years of weak growth, high costs and declining confidence in his coalition. The 34 measures include income tax relief for low- and middle-income families, pension changes linked to life expectancy, tougher sick leave rules and reduced bureaucracy. Officials said the tax cuts would eventually provide about 600 euros a year to a typical working family with two children and total annual relief of about 10 billion euros. Employers would also be allowed to request a doctor's certificate from the first day of sick leave. The far-right Alternative for Germany dismissed the package, while Merz urged public support.

Britain apologizes for forced adoptions that separated unmarried mothers from babies

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prime Minister Keir Starmer formally apologized Thursday for the British state's role in separating unmarried mothers from their babies for adoption, calling the practice a stain on the country's history. Speaking in Parliament, Starmer said women were coerced, bullied or misled into believing they had no choice, while children grew up thinking they were unwanted. An estimated 185,000 babies born to unmarried mothers were adopted in England and Wales between 1949 and 1976. Starmer announced support for affected families, including better access to adoption records and mental health services. The apology follows years of campaigning and earlier acknowledgments by Scotland, Wales and the Church of England, which also apologized for its role.

Syria's first post-Assad parliament nears opening after al-Sharaa names final lawmakers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Syria's first parliament since the fall of the Assad dynasty took shape Wednesday after interim President Ahmad al-Sharaa named 70 lawmakers to join 140 members selected in elections over the past eight months. The 210-member legislature is scheduled to hold its first session Monday, when members will be sworn in. The appointments included 15 women, raising the number of female lawmakers to 22. Syria's first phase of parliamentary elections was held in October, but voting initially excluded Sweida and the northeast. A vote in the northeast was held in May after government forces regained control, while no date has been set for Sweida. The parliament will serve a 30-month term and draft a new election law.

India and Thailand focus on trade, connectivity and regional coordination



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Thailand discussed steps to deepen their strategic partnership on Tuesday during a meeting between Indian Ambassador Puneet Agrawal and Thai Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow in Bangkok. The talks focused on expanding bilateral trade and investment in a balanced way, strengthening religious, cultural and people-to-people links, advancing connectivity projects and improving coordination on regional issues, the Indian Embassy said. The meeting follows the elevation of India-Thailand relations to a strategic partnership during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bangkok last year. Modi has also conveyed his willingness to work closely with Thai Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul to strengthen a relationship rooted in shared civilizational ties and close cultural contact. India and Thailand established diplomatic relations in 1947 and now cooperate across trade, defense, tourism, education, science, technology and regional affairs. Thailand's Act West policy also complements India's Act East approach.

India and New Zealand discuss diaspora welfare after landmark trade pact



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's High Commissioner to New Zealand, Muanpui Saiawi, met New Zealand lawmaker Parmjeet Parmar on Tuesday for discussions on bilateral ties, community welfare and issues concerning the Indian diaspora. The meeting came amid renewed momentum in India-New Zealand relations after the two countries signed a free trade agreement earlier this year. Saiawi also recently met New Zealand Foreign Minister Winston Peters, who recalled his visits to India and wished her well for her term. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon have described the trade pact as an important step in the relationship. India and New Zealand established diplomatic relations in 1952 and share links through the Commonwealth, democratic institutions, education, trade, people-to-people exchanges and growing strategic cooperation. Diaspora issues remain central because of the expanding Indian community in New Zealand, including students, professionals, entrepreneurs and long-settled families active in public life.

Modi and Takaichi push India-Japan partnership from personal trust to strategic expansion

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's India visit has highlighted both the strategic depth of India-Japan ties and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's long personal engagement with the country. During talks in New Delhi on Thursday, the two leaders agreed to deepen cooperation in artificial intelligence, defense, energy, critical minerals, economic security and resilient supply chains. Takaichi later said Japan and India would elevate relations to "even greater heights" as the countries prepare to mark 75 years of diplomatic relations next year. For Modi, Japan has long been more than a diplomatic partner. His interest dates back to the 1980s, when he reportedly developed a pen-pal friendship with a visitor from Nagoya. As Gujarat chief minister, he led a delegation to Japan in 2007, meeting major companies



and building ties with Shinzo Abe. Those early engagements later shaped projects such as the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed rail and industrial corridor cooperation. Japan remains one of India's most important infrastructure and technology partners, with a long-term investment target of more than \$61 billion by 2035. The latest summit reinforced a partnership built on personal trust, economic ambition and shared Indo-Pacific priorities.

India and Australia put education and skills at center of strategic partnership

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Australia discussed ways to expand education cooperation, academic partnerships and skills-based people-to-people ties on Wednesday during a meeting between Indian High Commissioner Nagesh Singh and Australian Education Minister Jason Clare. The Indian High Commission said education remains a key pillar of the countries' Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, which has expanded across trade, defense, energy, technology and mobility. The discussion followed Singh's recent meetings with Australian

leaders, including Foreign Affairs Minister Ted O'Brien, Climate Change and Energy Minister Chris Bowen and House of Representatives Speaker Milton Dick. Those meetings covered shared priorities, clean energy, renewable technologies, parliamentary exchanges and democratic values. In May, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong reviewed cooperation in economic issues, energy, maritime security, critical minerals, cyber policy, science, technology, space, sports and regional developments in the Indo-Pacific and West Asia, underlining the breadth of the partnership.

India and Malaysia navies deepen maritime security cooperation in New Delhi talks

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian Navy and Royal Malaysian Navy concluded their 11th staff talks in New Delhi on Wednesday, focusing on deeper bilateral engagement and maritime security cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region. The talks were co-chaired by Rear Admiral Srinivas Maddula of the Indian Navy and Rear Admiral Dato' Pahlawan Mohd Fadzli Kamal bin Mohd Mohaldin of the Royal Malaysian Navy. Discussions covered professional exchanges,

operational coordination and collaborative efforts to strengthen maritime security. The meeting followed the recent visit of India's oceanographic research vessel INS Sagardhwani to Malaysia's Port Klang, where personnel from both navies exchanged expertise on hydrography, oceanographic research, navigation safety and data-based maintenance. India and Malaysia's defense cooperation is anchored in a 1993 memorandum of understanding, which the two sides agreed to update during Defense Minister Rajnath Singh's Malaysia visit in 2023 to widen the scope of cooperation.

LSE dialogue brings Vedanta and science together on animal sentience and climate ethics

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Philosopher Acharya Prashant and Professor Jonathan Birch discussed animal consciousness, climate ethics and the limits of law during a public dialogue at the London School of Economics on Friday. The event, titled "Animal Consciousness and the Environment: Insights from Science and Vedanta," was held during London Climate Action Week and drew students, researchers, faculty and members of the public to the Hong Kong Theatre. Birch, director of LSE's Jeremy Collier Centre for Animal Sentience, spoke about scientific evidence for consciousness beyond vertebrates and the precautionary approach behind animal welfare policy. Acharya Prashant argued that the deeper crisis lies not in the absence of evidence but in human intent,



comparing modern responses to climate and cruelty to improving roads and ambulances while ignoring a drunk driver. The discussion also covered veganism, meat consumption, legislation, artificial intelligence and whether machines could examine their own design. Both speakers agreed that law and technology remain useful safeguards, but Acharya Prashant said lasting change requires confronting the human ego behind exploitation.

Venezuelans praise Indian Army field hospital for quake relief under Operation Amistad



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

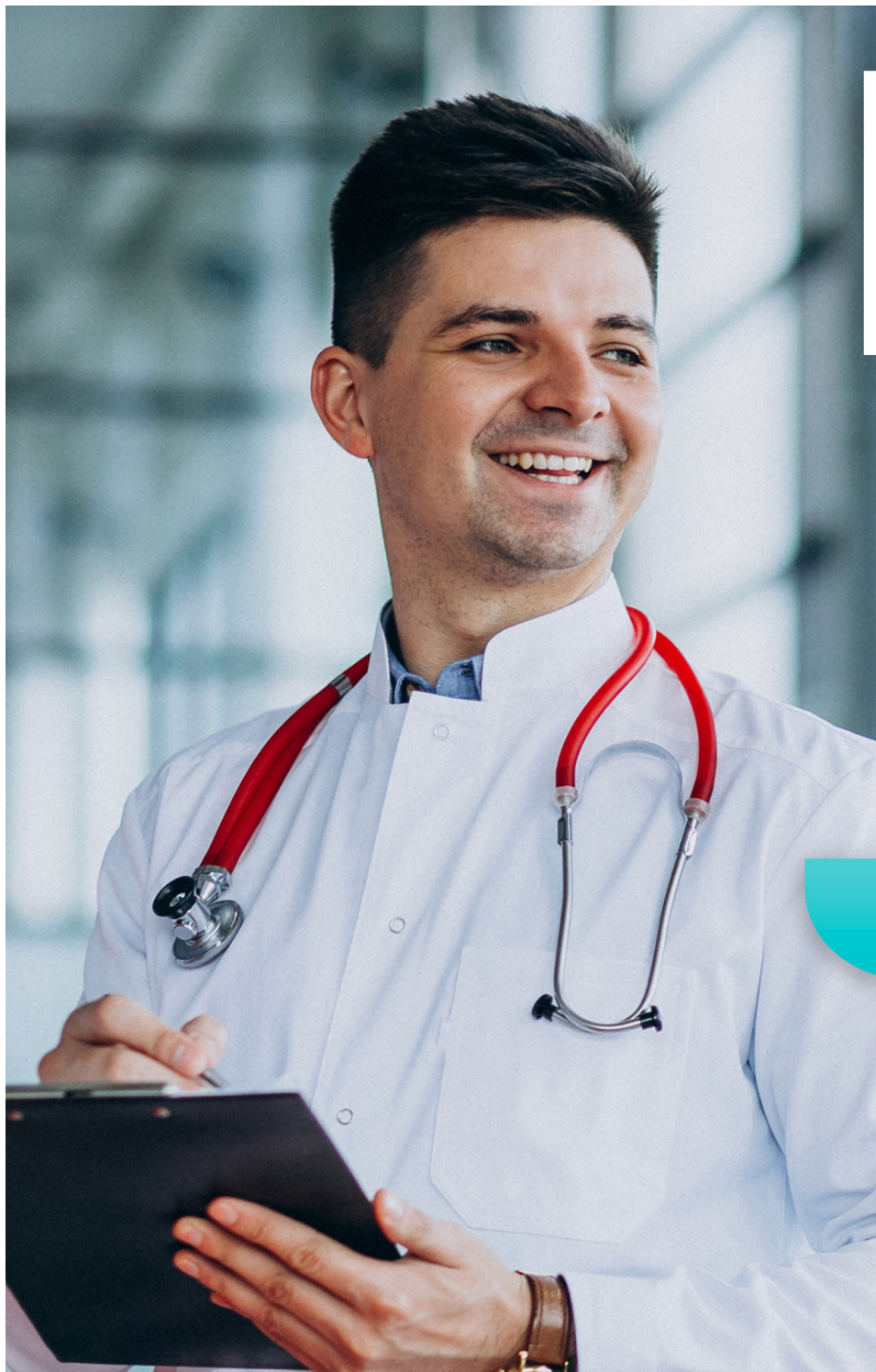
Earthquake-hit Venezuelans have praised the Indian medical team deployed under Operation Amistad, saying the Army field hospital is providing prompt and effective care to injured residents. India's Ministry of External Affairs shared videos and photographs on Wednesday and Thursday showing patients receiving treatment at the hospital. One resident from La Guaira said a woman with a double fibula fracture had received immediate care and described the service as excellent. Another patient said doctors had treated an arm injury that had troubled him for days. India launched Operation Amistad after twin earthquakes struck Venezuela last week, deploying a specialized Indian Army medical contingent, relief supplies, medicines and medical equipment. Indian assistance reached Venezuela on Sunday. Venezuelan officials said the disaster had killed 2,295 people, injured 11,267 and affected 12,841, while more than 6,400 people had been rescued by local and international teams.

India and Slovenia seek to move friendly ties into future-focused partnership



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Slovenia discussed specific steps to turn their warm and friendly ties into a more mutually beneficial partnership during a meeting in Ljubljana on Wednesday. Indian Ambassador Amit Narang called on Slovenian Foreign and European Affairs Minister Tone Kajzer and handed over a personal congratulatory letter from External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar. The Embassy of India said the discussions were wide-ranging and focused on future cooperation. The meeting follows recent diplomatic engagement between the two countries, including India's participation in Slovenia's National Day celebrations in New Delhi last month. India also thanked Slovenia for its support in the fight against cross-border terrorism. Jaishankar had earlier congratulated Kajzer on his appointment, while Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Janez Jansa on becoming Slovenia's prime minister and said he looked forward to strengthening bilateral ties for shared prosperity and mutual benefit between the two peoples.



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Nashville Zoo pushes back against proposed data center



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nashville Zoo is urging city leaders to block a proposed 69,000-square-foot DC Blox data center near its facility, which houses more than 3,000 animals. More than 524,000 people have signed a petition opposing the project. Zoo officials have raised concerns about noise, infrasound, stormwater pressure and possible environmental effects, saying more study is needed. Residents echoed those concerns at a Metropolitan Planning Commission meeting Thursday. DC Blox's attorney said the facility would remain within city noise limits and that generators would be used only occasionally. Nashville's City Council is expected to discuss the project Tuesday.

Amgen recalls more than 900,000 bottles of heart and kidney drugs



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Amgen is recalling more than 900,000 bottles of Corlanor and Sensipar across the United States after regulators flagged concerns involving a foreign substance and current good manufacturing practice deviations. The Food and Drug Administration classified the recall as Class II on Monday, meaning use of the products may cause temporary or medically reversible health effects, while serious harm is considered unlikely. Corlanor, or ivabradine, is used to lower heart rate in certain patients. Sensipar, or cinacalcet, is used to manage calcium and parathyroid hormone levels in patients with kidney disease and related conditions. The recall covers multiple strengths, bottle sizes and lots.

Trump signs regenerative agriculture order to boost food supply

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump signed an executive order Thursday promoting regenerative agriculture to improve soil health, support farmers and strengthen the food supply. The order directs the Department of Agriculture, Department of Health and Human Services and Environmental Protection Agency to study cumulative chemical exposure in the food supply. It also asks Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins to expand the Regenerative Agriculture Pilot Program and build public-private partnerships to help farmers adopt soil-restoring practices. The order was announced the same day Trump hosted farmers at the White House. The Department of Agriculture also finalized a rule connecting regenerative farming practices with biofuel market opportunities.

Trump rides Freedom 250 train to open Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump arrived in Medora, North Dakota, aboard a Freedom 250-themed train on Wednesday as he formally opened the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library ahead of America's 250th Independence Day celebrations. The ceremony featured patriotic pageantry, including riders dressed as Roosevelt's Rough Riders escorting the presidential motorcade.



Trump cut the ribbon at the new 96,000-square-foot library and paid tribute to Roosevelt as a leader who embodied the "heart, soul and fight" of the United States. He also presented the library with Roosevelt's Medal of Honor, which had been displayed in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. The president toured the

museum's exhibits, which include immersive displays and personal artifacts connected to Roosevelt's life, including items tied to the 1912 assassination attempt he survived. The library's design reflects the rugged landscape of the Little Missouri River Badlands, where Roosevelt's time as a rancher helped shape his conservation philosophy. Trump said the library was a fitting tribute in North Dakota, recalling Roosevelt's legacy as a statesman, soldier, frontiersman and conservationist.

Justice Department takes four states to court over food stamp data access

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration has sued Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota and Pennsylvania, accusing them of refusing to provide food stamp applicant data requested by the Department of Agriculture. The Justice Department said Thursday that the information is needed to identify waste, fraud and abuse in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which provides food assistance to low-income Americans. Federal officials are asking courts to order the states to turn over five years of application data. The states previously challenged the demand, arguing that it raises privacy concerns and could expose sensitive



personal information. A federal judge earlier blocked the Agriculture Department from cutting off funding over noncompliance, and that case remains pending. Pennsylvania officials called the new lawsuit a bad-faith move, saying the state is willing to fight fraud if federal officials agree to proper data security protocols.

Supreme Court protects state rules allowing late-arriving mail ballots

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Supreme Court ruled Monday that states may count mailed ballots that arrive after Election Day, provided they are postmarked by Election Day. The 5-4 decision upheld Mississippi's five-day grace period and rejected a Republican challenge backed by President Donald Trump. Justice Amy Coney Barrett wrote the majority opinion, joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and the court's three liberal justices. She said federal law sets when ballots must be cast, but does not require them to be received by election officials that same day. Justice Samuel Alito dissented, warning the ruling could create election-law



confusion and fuel concerns over fraud. The decision preserves similar rules used in many states and the District of Columbia ahead of the midterm elections. Trump criticized the ruling and renewed his call for stricter federal voting rules.

Mullin tells temporary protected status holders to seek legal status or leave

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Homeland Security Secretary Markwayne Mullin said Sunday that foreign nationals living in the United States under Temporary Protected Status should either seek a permanent legal immigration pathway or accept federal help to return home. Speaking on CNN's 'State of the Union,' Mullin said the humanitarian program was never intended to provide permanent residency. He said the administration would

provide a plane ticket and about \$2,100 in assistance to those who voluntarily depart. His comments came after the Supreme Court allowed the Trump administration to move forward with ending Temporary Protected Status protections for Haitian and Syrian nationals while litigation continues. Supporters say many recipients have lived and worked in the United States for years, established families and contributed to local economies. The administration argues that the program has expanded beyond its original temporary purpose.

Trump threatens 100 percent tariff over digital services taxes

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump warned Friday that countries imposing digital services taxes on American technology companies could face an immediate 100 percent tariff on goods sent to the United States. In a Truth Social post, Trump said the tariff would override any existing trade agreement, signed or unsigned. Digital services taxes often affect major United States firms such as Amazon, Alphabet and Meta. Washington has argued that such taxes unfairly target American innovation, while several European governments say they are meant to tax digital revenue generated in their markets. Trump's warning follows earlier pressure on Canada, France and the United Kingdom over similar levies.

Alito responds to Sotomayor's dissent in Supreme Court immigration case



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Justice Samuel Alito made an unusual response from the bench after Justice Sonia Sotomayor read a strong dissent in an immigration case Thursday. In a 6-3 ruling in 'Mullin v. Al Otro Lado,' the Supreme Court said asylum seekers still in Mexico have not legally "arrived in the United States" under the statute at issue. Sotomayor warned that the decision could put vulnerable migrants at greater risk and weaken asylum protections. Alito, who wrote the majority opinion, said the case involved whether border officials could manage entry and processing in an orderly way, noting that similar metering policies had been used under more than one administration.

Missouri State faces questions over China-linked business programs

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Missouri State University is facing scrutiny after a Strategy Risks report alleged that its China-focused business programs trained executives, government officials and state-linked enterprise personnel, including some later associated with China's defense and surveillance sectors. The report, titled 'Heartland for Hire,' said the programs enrolled more than 1,500 Chinese managers over two decades. Missouri State disputed key claims, saying no taxpayer dollars were directed to the program and that students studied a conventional business curriculum. The university also said the report found no evidence of espionage, intellectual property theft or misconduct. Missouri Governor Mike Kehoe's office said it is reviewing the matter.

Utah declares emergency as largest United States wildfire grows

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Utah declared a state of emergency and imposed temporary fireworks restrictions as the Cottonwood Fire grew into the largest active wildfire in the United States. The blaze, burning in southern Utah, spread rapidly through dry forest under strong winds and low humidity, damaging Eagle Point ski resort and forcing evacuations. Governor Spencer Cox said extreme fire conditions required statewide action ahead of Independence Day celebrations. State officials issued fire restrictions as crews battled multiple large wildfires. The National Weather Service issued a rare "particularly dangerous situation" warning for parts of Utah, including the Cottonwood Fire area. Fire officials said dangerous winds hampered air support.

Texas adds Bible stories to required public school reading list

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Texas public school students will be required to read Bible stories under a new statewide reading list approved Friday by the Republican-controlled State Board of Education. The list, which will affect more than 5 million students when it takes effect in 2030, includes nearly 200 texts, ranging from Charles Dickens' 'Great Expectations' and E.B. White's 'Charlotte's Web' to excerpts from the New Testament. Supporters said biblical passages have shaped American culture, history, civic values and literature, and should be part of classroom learning. Critics, including teachers and free-expression advocates, said the mandate reduces local classroom control, favors Christian texts and does not reflect the religious and cultural diversity of Texas students. State law allows parents to remove children from activities that conflict with their religious or moral beliefs.

Judge blocks Philadelphia's 'ICE Out' ban on masked federal officers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge on Thursday blocked Philadelphia from enforcing key parts of its new 'ICE Out' law against federal officers, ruling that the city cannot dictate how federal law enforcement conducts operations. United States District Judge Chad Kenney issued a preliminary injunction before the provisions were set to take effect Tuesday. The measure, passed as part of a broader package targeting Immigration and Customs Enforcement activity, would have barred federal officers from wearing masks or concealing identifying details, required visible badges and marked vehicles, and exposed violators to penalties. The Trump administration argued that forcing officers to disclose identities could endanger agents and compromise investigations. Kenney said direct municipal regulation of federal operations is likely unconstitutional. Similar restrictions on masked federal officers have also faced legal challenges in Virginia, California and New Jersey.

Supreme Court backs state bans on transgender athletes in girls' sports

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld laws in Idaho and West Virginia that bar transgender girls and women from competing on school athletic teams designated for females. In a 6-3 ruling on constitutional claims, the court's conservative majority said the bans do not violate equal-protection principles. The court also unanimously found that the laws do not violate Title IX, the federal law prohibiting sex discrimination in education. Justice Brett Kavanaugh wrote that states may maintain girls' and women's sports for biological females to address concerns over safety and competitive fairness. Justice Sonia Sotomayor dissented on the constitutional issue, saying transgender students should not be automatically excluded while science and legal questions continue to evolve. The ruling is expected to affect similar

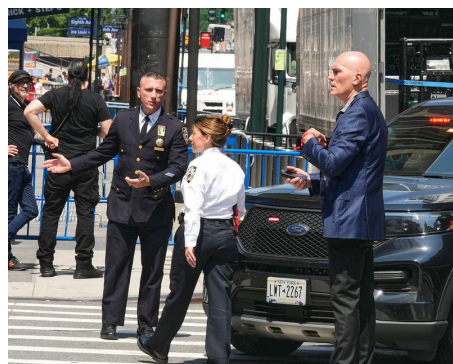


laws in more than two dozen states and marks another major setback for transgender rights.

New York police brace for July 4 celebrations, World Cup traffic and Swift-Kelce wedding buzz

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New York police will deploy thousands of officers for a packed Independence Day weekend that includes sailing ship parades, naval vessels, jet flyovers, fireworks, World Cup crowds and Taylor Swift's reported wedding to Travis Kelce. Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch said Wednesday there were no specific or credible threats, but the city would use uniformed officers, canine units, counterterrorism teams, bomb squad personnel, aviation units, drones and harbor patrols. Sail 250 events are expected to bring around 100 vessels and 27,000 sailors, crew members and dignitaries to the city. Saturday's Macy's fireworks show will launch 85,000 shells from six barges, with drone restrictions



in place. Police will also manage crowds near Madison Square Garden, where Swift and Kelce's wedding is reportedly scheduled for Friday. On Sunday, Penn Station will face special restrictions as fans travel to a World Cup match between Brazil and Norway.

Four adults charged after 16 children found in deplorable Ohio home

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Four adults have been charged in Ohio after authorities found 16 children living in what officials described as deplorable conditions inside a home in Hamden. Gary Siders Sr., Gary Siders Jr., Christina Siders and Elizabeth Siders were arrested Monday after search warrants were served at the property.



the adults, who were charged with felony child endangerment. Prosecutors said the case involved family members and was not linked to human trafficking. State officials are seeking custody of the children.

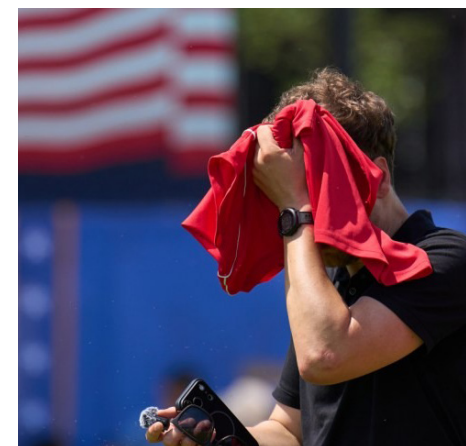
Supreme Court keeps E. Jean Carroll's \$5 million verdict against Trump in place

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Supreme Court on Monday declined to hear President Donald Trump's appeal of a \$5 million civil verdict in favor of writer E. Jean Carroll. A New York jury found in 2023 that Trump sexually abused Carroll at a Manhattan department store in the 1990s and later defamed her when he denied the allegation. The high court issued a brief order

without explanation and noted no public dissents. Trump's lawyers had argued that the trial judge wrongly allowed testimony from two other women who accused him of sexual misconduct. Carroll's lawyers said the evidence was properly admitted and urged the justices to reject the appeal. Trump denied wrongdoing and criticized the decision. His lawyers have said he also plans to appeal a separate \$83.3 million defamation verdict awarded to Carroll by another jury.

Energy secretary orders emergency grid support as heat wave threatens Mid-Atlantic power demand



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Energy Secretary Chris Wright issued two emergency orders Tuesday to help stabilize the Mid-Atlantic power grid as extreme heat threatened to push electricity demand to record levels. The directives apply to PJM Interconnection, the nation's largest grid operator, which serves more than 65 million people across 13 states and the District of Columbia. The orders, requested by PJM, authorize specific power generation units and backup resources to operate as a last resort before a higher-level energy emergency is declared. They will remain in effect through Friday. The move comes as a heat dome spreads across the eastern United States, with dangerous temperatures and high humidity expected. Wright said the administration is using all available tools to maintain affordable, reliable and secure power.

Judge blocks postal ballot rule tied to Trump election order



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge on Wednesday blocked the United States Postal Service from implementing a Trump administration proposal that would have changed how federal mail ballots are processed. United States District Judge Emmet Sullivan said the plan conflicted with a 2021 settlement requiring the agency to prioritize monitoring and timely delivery of election mail through 2028.

The proposed rule, tied to President Donald Trump's March election order, would have required standardized ballot envelopes with trackable barcodes and voter participation lists from states using mail ballots. Ballot mail that failed to meet the requirements could have been rejected.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People argued the rule could confuse election officials and prevent eligible voters from receiving ballots. The administration said the proposal would improve tracking, verification and election integrity.

Punjab-origin man charged in Canada extortion and murder conspiracy case



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A 22-year-old Punjab-origin man has been charged in Canada in connection with two violent incidents in Brampton linked to the organized crime group “For Brothers.” Peel Regional Police said its Extortion Task Force charged Safaldeep Singh after he was arrested by Edmonton Police during a traffic stop on Tuesday. Police said officers found drugs and a loaded illegal firearm, leading to separate firearms and drug charges. Investigators allege a Brampton business was targeted in a shooting in April, with 14 shell casings recovered, and that a man was later threatened outside his home when a firearm allegedly malfunctioned. Singh was transferred to Ontario on Friday, where he faces charges including extortion and conspiracy to commit murder. He was denied bail.

Indra Nooyi reflects on immigrant opportunity behind her PepsiCo rise



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

F ormer PepsiCo Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer Indra Nooyi said she “would never have been” the head of a global company in any country other than the United States, including India. Speaking Wednesday with former United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution, Nooyi said America’s meritocratic system made her rise possible as an immigrant. She said she tells her daughters they are fortunate to be born in the United States because the country allows talent to rise regardless of gender, ethnicity or background. Nooyi, who led PepsiCo for 12 years before stepping down as Chief Executive Officer in 2018, said the United States commercializes innovation better than other countries and gives immigrants unusual opportunities to lead.

Hindu Day of Advocacy brings Indian American concerns to Capitol Hill

● Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

I ndian American community leaders and students used the fifth annual Hindu Day of Advocacy to raise concerns over anti-Hindu hate, temple attacks and online hostility while urging greater civic participation in the United States democratic process. Organized by the Coalition of Hindus of North America, the daylong program at the United States Capitol brought together about 160 participants from 14 states. Organizers said delegates held more than 50 meetings with senators and members of the House of Representatives and visited nearly 170 congressional offices.



Khampa, said the Indian diaspora remains an important partner in strengthening India-United States relations.

Discussions focused on anti-Hindu rhetoric, hostility toward Indian immigrants on social media, attacks on Hindu places of worship and concerns that Hindu Americans are sometimes portrayed as foreign agents simply for speaking about community issues. India’s Deputy Chief of Mission in Washington, Namgya C.

Coalition President Nikunj Trivedi said lawmakers from both major parties attended the event and encouraged the community to speak more confidently. The program also included a youth summit for about 40 young Hindu Americans and the launch of a leadership incubator to prepare the next generation of community advocates.

India demands action after demolition of historic gurdwara in Pakistan

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

I ndia strongly condemned the reported demolition of the 125-year-old Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha Sahib in Farooqabad, Pakistan, calling it a targeted act of vandalism against a revered Sikh shrine. Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said Wednesday that the destruction of the historic gurdwara, along with reports of limited action by local authorities and the Evacuee Trust Property Board, was a matter of grave concern.



New Delhi urged Pakistan to investigate the incident quickly, bring those responsible to justice and restore the demolished portions of the shrine at the earliest. India also said the case was not isolated and reflected a wider pattern of attacks on religious minorities and their places of worship in Pakistan.

recent killing of a Sikh couple reportedly serving as caretakers of a gurdwara in Mardan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Human rights groups in Pakistan had questioned the initial police response and called for a full investigation, stronger protection of religious sites and accountability for attacks on minority communities.

The statement came amid renewed concern over minority safety after the

Gurdaspur fitness influencer receives Indonesian royal title

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

G urdaspur-based fitness enthusiast and Guinness World Record holder Kuwar Amritbir Singh has been conferred a royal title by an Indonesian royal house, according to reports. Singh, a resident of Umarwala village and a student of Khalsa College, Amritsar, received the honor during a ceremony in Indonesia, with visuals of him in traditional attire circulating widely on social media. The 20-year-old first drew attention in 2022 after setting a Guinness World Record for the most clap push-ups on fingertips in one minute. Known for promoting natural fitness, Singh trains with simple materials such as bricks, sandbags and cement-filled plastic bags, while advocating a traditional diet. He has built a large Instagram



following and offers low-cost diet and fitness consultations, reportedly using the proceeds to help underprivileged youth buy sports equipment. His recognition has been celebrated by supporters as a proud Punjabi achievement.

Indian-origin tech professional heads home after failed United States job search



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A senior Indian-origin technology professional has said he is preparing to return to India after failing to secure a suitable role in the United States despite 15 years of industry experience. In a Reddit post titled “End of the road, coming back from United States,” the user said he went through three full hiring loops, each with six interview rounds, but did not receive an offer. He acknowledged that finding a senior role in Delhi National Capital Region could be even tougher, but said he had made peace with the decision. The professional said paying off his Gurgaon apartment would give him two to four years of financial runway. His post triggered wider discussion about hiring pressures, age concerns and uncertainty in the technology job market.

INS Sudarshini showcases India’s maritime heritage at Baltimore sail event



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

I ndian Ambassador to the United States Vinay Kwatra visited Indian Naval Ship Sudarshini at the Port of Baltimore during its participation in the SAIL 250 Maryland event. The ship is part of Lokayan 26, a five-month transoceanic voyage covering about 13,000 nautical miles to promote maritime outreach, international goodwill and India’s seafaring traditions. The commanding officer briefed Kwatra on the voyage and preparations for upcoming SAIL 4th 250 New York and SAIL Boston events. Sudarshini, a three-masted sail training ship, arrived in Baltimore after participating in Sail250 Virginia celebrations at Norfolk. The vessel represents India in tall-ship gatherings linked to America’s 250th anniversary and highlights growing cooperation between the Indian Navy and the United States Navy.

Indian food brands make largest-ever showing at New York trade fair



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

More than 70 Indian exhibitors showcased agricultural and processed food products at the 2026 Summer Fancy Food Show in New York, marking India's largest-ever participation at North America's premier specialty food exhibition. Consul General of India in New York Binaya Srikanta Pradhan and chef Vikas Khanna inaugurated the India Pavilion at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center on Monday. The pavilion featured exporters across basmati rice, spices, ready-to-eat foods, beverages, organic products, frozen foods and snacks. Key attractions included an Indian Mango Showcase and a Basmati Culinary Showcase. The pavilion was led by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, India Trade Promotion Organisation and the All India Rice Exporters Association. Officials said the showcase would strengthen India's food exports and brand presence in the United States.

Indian technology professional dies in Kansas flash floods



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A 33-year-old Indian technology professional, Venkatesh Doppalapudi, died after his vehicle was swept away by flash floodwaters in Kansas. Doppalapudi, an H-1B visa holder living in Omaha, Nebraska, was reportedly driving back from Houston on Saturday when severe storms triggered flooding across south-central Kansas. Authorities said eyewitnesses reported seeing a vehicle submerged near a bridge with someone trapped inside. Strong currents initially prevented rescue teams from entering the water safely. A multi-agency search involving the Kansas Highway Patrol Air Unit and police drones later recovered his body on Sunday. The Consulate General of India in Houston expressed condolences and said it is in touch with the family, local authorities and close contacts to provide assistance, including support for legal formalities and repatriation of remains.

Amit Shah launches FCRA 2.0 Portal and e-OCI Card, advancing India's digital governance

New initiatives aim to simplify compliance, reduce paperwork, and enhance security for institutions and overseas Indians

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

In a significant step toward strengthening India's digital governance infrastructure, Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched the FCRA 2.0 Portal and the country's new e-OCI Card, introducing faster, paperless, and more secure digital services for organizations and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders. The two initiatives are aimed at modernizing government services, improving administrative efficiency, and leveraging technology to enhance transparency and national security. The launch reflects the Government of India's continued focus on digital transformation and citizen-centric governance under the vision of "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance."

FCRA 2.0 Portal to improve transparency and compliance

The newly launched Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) 2.0 Portal is expected to simplify regulatory compliance for thousands of NGOs, trusts, institutions, and organizations receiving foreign contributions in India.

The upgraded digital platform enables organizations to complete key FCRA-related services entirely online, including registration, renewals, and annual filings. Officials say the portal has been designed to reduce processing time, improve efficiency, and provide real-time verification and monitoring of foreign funding.

The government believes the new system



will significantly improve transparency in foreign contribution management while helping authorities detect irregularities and ensure better regulatory oversight. The Ministry of Home Affairs emphasized that stronger digital monitoring of foreign contributions is essential for maintaining accountability and safeguarding national interests.

e-OCI Card to benefit global Indian diaspora

In another major reform, the government launched the new e-OCI Card, a digital initiative expected to benefit more than 5 million OCI cardholders worldwide. The new system will allow applicants to complete the entire OCI process digitally—from application and verification to approval and downloading the card online.

The initiative is expected to be especially beneficial for the global Indian diaspora by reducing paperwork, delays, and repeated documentation requirements.

One of the most significant changes under the new system is the simplification of passport updates. OCI cardholders

will no longer need to apply for a fresh OCI booklet each time they receive a new passport after turning 20 years of age. Instead, they can simply update their passport details online through the portal.

This move is expected to bring major convenience to millions of overseas Indians who previously had to navigate cumbersome documentation procedures. Faster, smarter, and secure governance Speaking at the launch, Home Minister Amit Shah emphasized the importance of integrating technology with governance to deliver better services to citizens and institutions.

The government says these reforms will help:

- ▶ Reduce paperwork and administrative burden
- ▶ Speed up service delivery
- ▶ Improve transparency and accountability
- ▶ Strengthen monitoring and verification systems
- ▶ Enhance national security through technology-driven oversight

The launch of FCRA 2.0 and the e-OCI Card represents another milestone in India's digital governance journey, reinforcing the country's commitment to efficient, transparent, and technology-enabled public service delivery.

As India continues to expand its digital infrastructure, such initiatives are expected to make government services more accessible, secure, and user-friendly for both domestic institutions and the global Indian community

Panchatantra stories become India's cultural bridge with Austrian children

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Indian Ambassador to Austria Shambhu Kumaran read Panchatantra stories to schoolchildren in Vienna, turning ancient Indian storytelling into a soft-power bridge between India and Austria. The Indian Embassy described the initiative as "Gurukul diplomacy" and said it had recently published a German-language edition of selected Panchatantra tales for Austrian students. The edition introduces children to the moral and cultural wisdom of the Panchatantra through colorful illustrations by Austrian cartoonist and illustrator Klaus Pitter. The embassy has also launched a

German video podcast series, 'Geschichten aus dem Panchatantra,' narrated by Austrian podcaster Thomas Brezina, to make the stories accessible through digital storytelling. More than 50 students attended the launch, where the ambassador read selected tales and interacted with children about their favorite characters and lessons. The initiative builds on the embassy's collaboration with Vienna schools and reflects India's effort to deepen cultural outreach in Europe. It also comes amid closer India-Austria engagement, including recent high-level discussions on innovation, infrastructure, sustainability, trade, investment, defense, semiconductors and future technologies.

Indian-origin businessman injured in Portugal shooting, police examine viral threat claim

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian-origin businessman, identified as Kishore Gujarati, was shot and injured in Portugal's Cidada Nova area of Odivelas, prompting a police investigation into the attack.

The motive has not been established, and Portuguese authorities have not confirmed any organized crime link. The case drew wider attention after an unverified Facebook account using

the name "Rahul RK Meena" claimed responsibility and issued threats of further violence. The post also mentioned alleged criminal groups, but officials have not verified its authenticity.

Investigators are examining digital evidence, online posts, surveillance footage and forensic material as part of the probe. Authorities have urged the public not to rely on viral claims while the investigation continues. The incident has raised concern within the Indian diaspora in Europe over safety and possible transnational criminal threats.

Indian-origin barrister allowed to return after Oxford degree lie appeal



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian-origin barrister Anurag Mohindru has won a High Court appeal against his disbarment in Britain after being found to have falsely claimed he studied medicine at the University of Oxford. Mohindru, 51, had been disbarred last year after a tribunal found he misled 23 Essex Street chambers during a 2012 tenancy application. The High Court overturned the ban and replaced it with a suspension, which expired Tuesday, allowing him to resume practice. Justice Johnson said public confidence could still be maintained where dishonesty occurred years earlier, was not repeated and was followed by a sustained record of integrity. Bar Standards Board records now show Mohindru was suspended from practice between October last year and Monday.



South Korea defends delayed disclosure of North Korea weapons tests

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

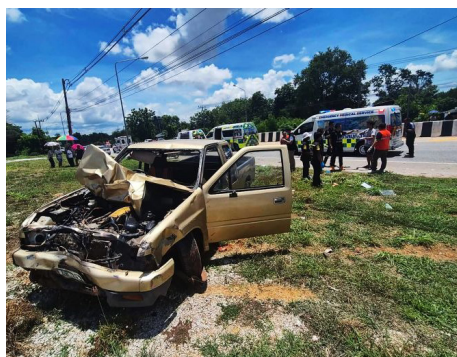
South Korea said Monday that it remains in close coordination with the United States after criticism over its delayed disclosure of North Korea's latest weapons tests. Pyongyang's state media said Friday that leader Kim Jong Un oversaw tests of an upgraded multiple rocket launcher, tactical ballistic missile warheads and extended-range artillery shells the previous day. South Korea's military did not immediately release details, raising questions over whether the launches had been missed or deliberately withheld. Defense officials rejected that suggestion, saying South Korean and United States forces detected and tracked multiple projectiles in real time on Wednesday morning. Seoul said the weapons were classified as tactical systems and that technical specifications would be finalized after a fuller analysis.

Quad foreign ministers likely to meet in Philippines to advance Indo-Pacific security agenda

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States Ambassador to India Sergio Gor said Monday that Quad foreign ministers are expected to meet in the Philippines in about two weeks, keeping the four-country grouping focused on Indo-Pacific security after its recent New Delhi meeting. Speaking at the United States-India Strategic Partnership Forum Leadership Summit, Gor said the meeting would bring together India, the United States, Japan and Australia on the sidelines of wider engagements. He said another ministerial meeting is being discussed for Australia, followed by a leaders' summit that could include President Donald Trump visiting India. Gor identified maritime security as a core priority, including plans to support boat-building capacity in the Pacific, with Fiji specifically mentioned.

Child-driven truck kills nine monks during Buddhist pilgrimage in northeastern Thailand



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An 11-year-old boy drove a pickup truck into a Buddhist pilgrimage procession in northeastern Thailand on Thursday, killing nine monks and injuring 13 others, officials said. The crash occurred in Mukdahan province shortly after a group of monks began a 260-kilometer walk to Ubon Ratchathani. Five monks died at the scene and four later died in hospital. Police said the boy had taken his parents' vehicle without permission and witnesses reported the truck swerving before it struck the procession. Authorities said the child was in custody and would be questioned with child protection officials present. The crash has renewed concern over Thailand's poor road safety record and parental responsibility nationwide.

Australian police review Gaza war crimes complaint against citizen serving in Israeli military

● Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Australian Federal Police investigators are reviewing a 61-page brief alleging that an Australian citizen serving in the Israel Defense Forces committed war crimes in Gaza during operations in 2023 and 2024. The Australian Centre for International Justice submitted the complaint, which accuses an Israel Defense Forces battalion of deliberately targeting and destroying residential buildings without military justification.

The brief draws on witness testimony, forensic material, satellite imagery, social media posts and public statements, and alleges the Australian citizen was involved in the destruction of a Gaza residential building used by the battalion before being



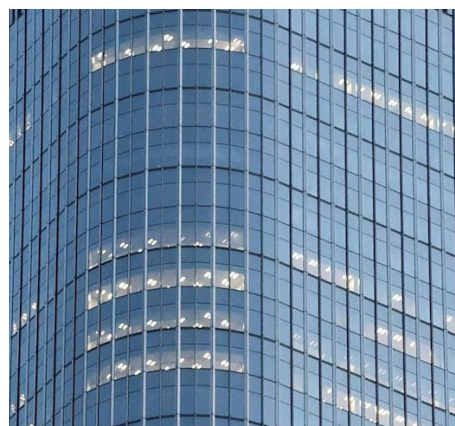
demolished. Police confirmed the material had been referred to investigators for review. The allegations include destruction and appropriation of civilian property, attacks on civilian objects and a crime against humanity. Australian officials say citizens may serve in a foreign military, but they must ensure their conduct does not breach criminal law or Australia's international crimes provisions.

Beijing plane crash raises security questions after officials cite pilot's mental health

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Chinese authorities said Thursday that a 66-year-old private pilot who crashed a small plane into Beijing's tallest skyscraper had mental health problems and appeared to have acted for personal reasons. The Chaoyang district government said the pilot, surnamed Liu, took off from a general aviation airport in Pinggu district before deviating from his approved flight area, losing contact and striking the China Citic Tower in Beijing's central business district.

Liu died at the scene, while 13 people suffered non-life-threatening injuries. Officials said he had chronic insomnia and anxiety and had written about self-harm in a diary. The incident has drawn attention because Beijing has some of the world's strictest airspace controls, and flights over



the capital are tightly restricted.

Online discussion of the crash was quickly limited, while questions remained over how the aircraft reached such a sensitive urban area near major political compounds and commercial aviation routes nearby safely.

Papua rebels kill American pilot and burn aircraft in warning over conflict zones

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Papua separatist fighters claimed Thursday that they shot dead American pilot Nicholas F. Goselin and burned his civilian aircraft after it landed in Balinggama village in Indonesia's Highland Papua province. The West Papua National Liberation Army said the attack was a message to the Indonesian and United States governments, accusing the aircraft of violating its ban on flights in areas it considers rebel-controlled. Indonesia's civil aviation authority said the

plane, operated by PT AMA, was carrying one pilot and seven Indigenous Papuan passengers from Wamena to Yahukimo. The Indonesian military said the passengers were unharmed and denied the aircraft was transporting troops, though officials initially said difficult terrain and poor weather complicated confirmation. The killing follows a pattern of escalating attacks on foreign pilots in Papua, including the 2023 abduction of New Zealand pilot Phillip Mehrrens, who was freed in 2024 after more than 19 months in captivity.

Indian agencies tighten Amarnath Yatra security after warning of Pakistan-backed terror threat

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian intelligence agencies have warned that Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence may try to target the Amarnath Yatra to divert attention from unrest in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan. The pilgrimage began Friday under tight security, with the first batch of devotees flagged off from Jammu. Officials cited intercepted communications

suggesting efforts to contact militants hiding in Jammu and Kashmir's forest areas and activate modules in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab. Security has been strengthened along the pilgrimage routes with anti-terror grids, drones, artificial intelligence-enabled surveillance, closed-circuit television cameras, facial recognition systems and digital scanning measures. Authorities say the focus is on preventing any attack on pilgrims while operations continue in Rajouri's Dorimal forests.

Four die in Mexico City crowd crush after World Cup win sparks mass celebrations

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Four people died in Mexico City after huge crowds filled streets to celebrate Mexico's FIFA World Cup victory over Ecuador, authorities said Wednesday. The deaths occurred near the Angel of Independence and along Paseo de la Reforma, where around one million fans gathered after Mexico's 2-0 win in the last 32, its first knockout-stage victory in four decades. Health officials said three people died from asphyxiation, while a fourth man died in hospital after severe seizures, gastrointestinal bleeding and cardiac arrest. Reuters reported that panic spread after pyrotechnics were set off, contributing to a crowd crush. President Claudia Sheinbaum said prosecutors would investigate the deaths and review future precautions too.

At least 5 people killed in fire in Antwerp apartment tower, Belgian police say



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A fire in a 10-story apartment block in Antwerp's Linkeroever district killed at least five people and injured several others Wednesday, with initial reports of six deaths later corrected by police, Reuters reported. The building housed more than 200 residents in 80 apartments and was evacuated after heavy smoke spread through the tower. Authorities said the cause remained under investigation, while earlier police accounts cited a possible technical failure on the ground floor. Emergency teams used ropes and specialist equipment to rescue trapped residents, and a medical emergency plan was activated to prevent nearby hospitals from being overwhelmed. Evacuated residents were moved to a local shelter for emergency assistance afterward.

Amnesty accuses Sudan paramilitary commanders of atrocities in El-Fasher assault

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Amnesty International accused three senior commanders of Sudan's Rapid Support Forces of overseeing war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing during the siege and capture of El-Fasher in North Darfur. The report, launched Wednesday in Nairobi, said the paramilitary force committed murder, torture, rape, sexual slavery, enslavement, extermination and persecution during the October assault. United Nations experts have said the attack, which killed more than 6,000 people in three days, bore hallmarks of genocide. Amnesty said it analyzed videos showing executions and torture, shared its findings with the force's leader and received no response. It called for an immediate ceasefire, prosecutions and international civilian protection amid continuing attacks today.

Novice climber survives 1,500-foot Mount Shasta fall before difficult rescue



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A 31-year-old novice climber survived a 1,500-foot fall on California's Mount Shasta on Sunday, prompting a difficult rescue in poor weather, United States Forest Service officials said. The woman was climbing with two other beginners on the Left of Heart variation of the Avalanche Gulch route at about 13,000 feet when she fell. She suffered a suspected ankle fracture and other injuries but was found alert and in good spirits. Cloud cover prevented a helicopter from reaching her directly, forcing three rangers to climb to her location. Rescuers lowered her to Lake Helen before a California Highway Patrol helicopter flew her to Mercy Medical Center Mount Shasta for treatment later.

Lahore mourns 14 children killed in tutoring center roof collapse

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Mourners in Lahore buried 14 schoolchildren Wednesday after the roof of a private tutoring center collapsed Tuesday in Kahna, on the city's outskirts. Police said the center was operating in an aging building where construction work was underway, and early findings suggest poor construction or negligence may have caused the unfinished second-floor roof to give way. Several children were injured, with hospital officials saying survivors were in stable condition. At least two people, including the building owner and contractor, were arrested while investigators examined possible negligence. Residents said neighbors dug through the rubble with shovels and bare hands before rescuers arrived. Officials promised strict accountability and broader building safety checks.

South Africa disputes Ghana's xenophobia claim in Cape Town killing

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South African police disputed Ghana's claim that a Ghanaian national was killed during anti-immigrant protests, saying Thursday that the Cape Town shooting is being investigated as an extortion-related murder. Ghana's Foreign Ministry had said a 40-year-old citizen, Bashiru Isak, was killed during anti-immigrant demonstrations and urged South Africa to carry out a full, transparent investigation. Western Cape police said their records instead showed 35-year-old Kwabena Boagen was shot Monday near a hair salon and shoe repair shop at Nyanga Terminus. Police said preliminary evidence pointed to extortion by unidentified gunmen, not xenophobic violence. They also said they had no record of a separate Khayelitsha killing cited by Ghana and asked for details so the matter could be examined.

Africa Centers for Disease Control and World Health Organization launch joint Ebola response platform

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

The Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization and Uganda have launched a Joint Continental Incident Management Support Team to strengthen coordination during the Bundibugyo Ebola outbreak. The platform was launched Saturday at Makerere University in Kampala and is intended to support Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and neighboring at-risk countries. Officials said the team will bring together experts in surveillance, laboratory systems, case management, infection prevention, logistics, risk communication and partner coordination under a "one team, one plan, one budget" approach. The launch builds on a wider continental Ebola response plan running through



November, with agencies seeking stronger cross-border preparedness against a disease that can spread through direct contact with infected bodily fluids.

United States senator calls India vital partner in technology competition with China

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Republican Senator Steve Daines said India, working with the United States, is the only country able to match the size and scale of China's innovation ecosystem, making the bilateral partnership vital for global competition. Speaking Monday at the United States-India Strategic Partnership Forum Leadership Summit in Washington, Daines said Washington needs a trusted

counterweight while it reassesses strategy toward Beijing. He said the United States cannot disengage from China but must de-risk by strengthening reliable partnerships. Daines, who received the forum's Public Service Award, said India and the United States together have the talent and scale needed to compete in technology, supply chains and advanced industries. He also cited Indian Americans' contributions, recalling that an Indian doctor helped save his father's life during cancer treatment.

Vatican excommunicates traditionalist group after unauthorized bishop consecrations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Vatican on Thursday declared the traditionalist Society of St. Pius X to be in schism after it consecrated four bishops without Pope Leo XIV's approval, escalating a decadeslong dispute over church authority and reforms. The Vatican's doctrine office excommunicated the four new bishops, two existing bishops who participated in the ceremony and the society's priests,

while warning lay followers who formally adhere to the group that they also face excommunication. The group, founded by Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre in 1970, celebrates the Latin Mass and rejects key reforms of the Second Vatican Council. The consecrations took place Wednesday at the group's seminary in Écône, Switzerland, despite a last-minute papal appeal to stop. The Vatican said some sacraments administered by the group's priests, including confession and marriage, are invalid.

Indian officials claim softer Khalistan strategy is straining alleged gangster network

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian security officials claim an alleged Inter-Services Intelligence-backed nexus between Khalistan operatives and organized gangsters is showing signs of strain because of tighter scrutiny in Canada and the United Kingdom. Officials say Khalistan-linked groups that previously relied on intimidation, anti-India campaigns and threats against the Indian diaspora are now trying to project a less aggressive image through seminars, community events and public outreach.



That shift has reportedly caused friction with gangster networks, which depend on fear, shootings, extortion, narcotics smuggling and arms trafficking to maintain influence and raise funds. Indian officials say the two sides remain interdependent because gang networks are allegedly useful for weapons and financing, while separatist groups seek broader legitimacy. The challenge for Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence, officials claim, is keeping both networks aligned while global law enforcement pressure increases. The claims remain intelligence-based and have not been independently verified.

Portugal issues nationwide heat alert to curb wildfire risk



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Portugal will enter a nationwide state of alert from Friday through Monday because of extreme heat and rising wildfire danger, the government said Thursday. Interior Minister Luís Neves announced the measure after an emergency coordination meeting in Leiria, warning of a major deterioration in weather conditions. The alert allows exceptional restrictions, including a ban on machinery work in forest areas except for wildfire response, limits on brush-cutting equipment with metal blades or discs in rural zones and a prohibition on fireworks. The Portuguese weather agency placed 12 of the mainland's 18 districts under red alert, the highest level, with the rest also facing elevated warnings. Officials said almost the entire mainland is at maximum or very high fire risk amid heat, drought and dry vegetation.

Heat dome and flooding bring extreme weather strain across Canada

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canada is facing sharply contrasting extreme weather, with a heat dome pushing temperatures and humidity above seasonal norms across large areas while Manitoba deals with severe flooding. Environment and Climate Change Canada has issued heat warnings for parts of Ontario, Quebec, the Prairies and the Northwest Territories, urging residents to stay hydrated, avoid strenuous outdoor activity during peak heat and check on older adults, children and other vulnerable people. Ontario remains among the hardest-hit regions, with hot days and little overnight relief. Storms also disrupted Canada Day events in Ottawa on Wednesday, forcing cancellations including a planned Snowbirds flypast. In Manitoba, torrential rain triggered flooding in the Parkland region, and Dauphin declared a local state of emergency to manage the worsening situation.

Children remain most at risk from Afghanistan's unexploded ordnance, says UN

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

About 50 people are killed or injured each month in Afghanistan by landmines and unexploded ordnance left from decades of conflict, with children making up nearly 80 percent of victims, according to United Nations figures cited by local media Wednesday. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said Afghans should be able to live without the daily threat of hidden explosives, but falling international funding has reduced mine-clearance capacity. Around 3.3 million people live near contaminated areas, limiting safe access to farmland, schools, roads and essential services. Afghanistan remains one of the world's most heavily contaminated countries after more than four decades of war. In Helmand province this month, one child was killed and six others injured when unexploded devices detonated in Sangin district.

Parliament panel calls Boeing, aviation officials over Air India crash



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Parliamentary Committee on Transport has summoned the Civil Aviation Secretary and Boeing officials to discuss aviation safety concerns following the Air India crash in Ahmedabad. The panel, chaired by Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Jha, is expected to examine the incident in detail and hold discussions with key stakeholders, including the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Air India and Boeing.

Sources said the committee may review how the Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner was procured, why it was selected and how it was maintained over the past decade. The panel is also expected to study aircraft safety from the perspective of people, machines, procedures and systems. The crash occurred shortly after takeoff from Ahmedabad on a Thursday in June last year during a flight to London Gatwick.

Kerala High Court refuses federal probe into Enforcement Directorate attack case

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The High Court on Friday declined to transfer to the Central Bureau of Investigation the probe into the alleged attack on Enforcement Directorate officials during a search at the rented residence of former Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and his daughter in Thiruvananthapuram. A division bench led by Chief Justice Soumen Sen said the state police investigation was progressing satisfactorily after reviewing a status report. The report said 25 accused have been identified, arrested and sent to judicial custody, while statements from 44 witnesses have been recorded. Police also collected forensic, photographic and video evidence. The court said there was no reason to order a federal probe at this stage.

Delhi court reserves sentence order for Bihar legislator in firing death case

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Delhi court on Friday reserved its order on the sentence for Bihar Bharatiya Janata Party legislator Raju Kumar Singh, who was convicted in a 2018 celebratory firing case that killed architect Dr. Archana Gupta. The Rouse Avenue Court will pronounce the sentence Saturday after considering submissions and a probation report. Singh was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and violating the Arms Act after a bullet fired during a New Year's Eve party at a farmhouse in Vasant Kunj struck Gupta. His lawyer sought leniency, saying Singh had not been convicted in earlier cases and a sentence above two years could disqualify him as a legislator.

Panel set to keep 30-day custody clause for removing ministers amid misuse concerns

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Joint Parliamentary Committee examining the Constitution 130th Amendment Bill is expected to retain its most contentious provision, which allows the removal of the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and other ministers if they are arrested and detained for 30 consecutive days in cases involving serious offenses. The clause applies to offenses punishable by five years or more in prison.

The committee, chaired by Bharatiya Janata Party lawmaker Aparajita Sarangi, is likely to adopt its report on a Friday later this month before the Bill is taken up during the Monsoon Session, expected to begin the following Monday. The Bill was introduced by Union Home Minister Amit Shah last year.



Opposition members are expected to submit dissent notes, arguing that the proposal is undemocratic, anti-federal and contrary to natural justice because it acts before conviction. Ruling coalition members argue that 30 days give an accused minister enough time to seek bail. The panel may recommend safeguards to prevent political misuse, including clearer limits on the kinds of cases covered.

India-United States trade deal enters final stage, Goyal sees export edge

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said Thursday that India-United States trade agreement talks are in their final stage, with most key issues resolved and both sides working toward a deal that gives India a competitive advantage. Speaking at the NDTV Indo-Japan Strategic Dialogue, Goyal said concessions and other elements had largely been finalized and that he did not expect major hurdles in concluding the agreement. He said India has sought preferential market access over competing countries, a position acknowledged by the United States administration. Goyal also



said India's exports to the United States remain resilient despite higher tariffs, with merchandise exports projected to rise about 15 percent in the April-June quarter. He added that the India-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement will take effect Wednesday.

India dismisses reports of official Track 2 talks with Pakistan

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on Monday dismissed reports of official India-Pakistan Track 2 engagement, saying private events organized by private parties carry no official value for New Delhi. Responding to questions about reported interactions on the sidelines of a security conference in Colombo, Misri said such meetings take place frequently around the world and are neither new nor special.

He stressed that there was no official participation, support or involvement from the Indian government. Any retired



diplomats, retired military officers or civil society members attending such events speak only in their personal capacity, he said. Misri added that India does not take cognizance of these interactions. BJP leader Ram Madhav also rejected reports of a Track 2 dialogue, calling them a distorted portrayal.

Vikram Misri gets one-year extension amid key diplomatic challenges

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The government on Wednesday extended Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri's tenure by one year, allowing him to remain in office until mid-July next year, or until further orders. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the extension beyond his original term, which was due to end later this month. Misri, a 1989-batch Indian Foreign Service officer,

has led India's foreign policy apparatus since 2024. His tenure has coincided with major diplomatic challenges, including tensions in West Asia and Ukraine, evolving Indo-Pacific dynamics, India's Global South outreach and sensitive neighborhood engagements with China, Pakistan and Bangladesh. The extension is seen as a move to ensure continuity as India prepares for major diplomatic engagements, including its current BRICS chairmanship and high-level bilateral meetings.

Bengaluru police makes first arrest in Capgemini daycare toddler abuse case

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bengaluru court on Friday sent caretaker Vijayalakshmi, one of five accused in the daycare abuse case, to 14 days of judicial custody after her arrest based on videos allegedly showing toddlers being assaulted. Police said another accused has been detained and efforts are under way to trace the remaining suspects. The case surfaced after disturbing videos from a daycare facility at a corporate campus in Brookefield were sent to the Child Welfare Committee and circulated on social media. Police have questioned staff members, recorded parents' statements and seized a phone for data recovery. Karnataka Home Minister Priyank Kharge said the government has zero tolerance for crimes involving children.

Monsoon reaches Delhi as weather office issues yellow alert



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The southwest monsoon reached Delhi on Thursday, five days later than its normal onset date, bringing rain and relief from prolonged heat and humidity across the national capital. The India Meteorological Department issued a yellow alert for Friday, forecasting cloudy skies, moderate rain, thunderstorms and gusty winds in adjoining areas. Rain across parts of the National Capital Region pulled the maximum temperature down to 33 degrees Celsius, below the seasonal average, while the minimum settled at 22.8 degrees Celsius. More rain is expected through the weekend, with temperatures likely to fall further. The monsoon has also advanced over parts of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

Photo places accused inside Ram Mandir cash counting center

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Investigators in the Ram Mandir donation theft case have obtained a photograph allegedly showing accused Avinash Shukla and Anukalp Mishra inside the Ayodhya temple's cash counting center. Police see the image as key evidence because it places the accused inside the room where devotees' offerings were processed. Eight people have been arrested so far in the case. Investigators believe the accused exploited weak surveillance, including periods when the closed-circuit television control room was not actively monitored. Footage reportedly shows some accused removing cash from the counting area. The probe is also examining recruitment and security lapses involving staff assigned to handle donations after the rise in devotee footfall.

Assam pushes digital governance through Seva Setu platform



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said Friday that the state is working to bring governance to citizens' fingertips through the Seva Setu digital platform. He said the portal now offers more than 800 government services online and has delivered over 1.5 crore services. The platform integrates 47 government departments and three Autonomous Sixth Schedule Councils, allowing citizens to access services without repeated visits to offices. Sarma said more than 94,000 grievances have been resolved through the portal, with an overall grievance resolution rate of 86 percent. Seva Setu is integrated with DigiLocker and available through the UMANG mobile application, strengthening Assam's Digital India push.

India highlights climate action priorities at United Nations regional meet

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India highlighted its climate action initiatives at the ninth session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific's Committee on Environment and Development in Bangkok. Jagpreet Kaur, First Secretary at the Indian Embassy in Bangkok, delivered India's statement on Thursday. She outlined India's national, regional and global efforts, including the International Solar Alliance, Lifestyle for the Environment movement, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and Global Biofuels Alliance. India also emphasized the need for adequate, timely and predictable finance to help developing countries adapt to climate change. The committee is reviewing regional priorities linked to sustainable development, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

Rural development conclave pushes village-led growth and stronger Centre-State coordination

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Sammelan 2026 concluded with a call to accelerate Viksit Gram, Viksit Bharat through stronger Centre-State coordination, community-led planning and technology-driven governance. Organized by the Ministry of Rural Development, the two-day conclave reviewed flagship rural development programs and shared best practices from states and Union Territories. Discussions focused on the effective implementation of the VB-GRAMG Act, 2025, stronger rural planning, empowered Gram Panchayats, women-led livelihoods, improved housing and connectivity, and climate-resilient income opportunities. Officials said the deliberations reaffirmed the ministry's focus on community institutions, sustainable livelihoods and wider market access to support inclusive, self-reliant rural growth across villages.

BJP rejects dialogue appeal, says Pakistan must end terrorism first

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Bharatiya Janata Party on Thursday said India's position on Pakistan remains unchanged after 117 prominent people from both countries urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to revive dialogue.



BJP leaders said peace and terrorism cannot coexist, and any meaningful engagement requires an atmosphere free from cross-border terrorism and infiltration.

Rajya Sabha member Dinesh Sharma said those making the appeal should also convey the same message in Pakistan. Other party leaders said India has always

supported peace and good relations with neighbors, but Islamabad must honor commitments and create trust.

The joint appeal, issued by the Centre for Peace and Progress, was signed by 61 Indians and 56 Pakistanis and called for sustained steps to restore diplomatic engagement and normal relations.

Joshi demands probe into Ramanagara voter roll revision controversy

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi on Friday alleged political interference by the Karnataka government in the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Ramanagara district and demanded an impartial investigation. Joshi claimed the process was marked by large-scale irregularities and accused the Congress government of attempting to manipulate electoral rolls for political gain. He alleged that Booth Level Officers were misused and that Election Commission procedures were violated. His comments came after Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer V. Anbu Kumar sought a report from the



Ramanagara Deputy Commissioner over allegations that the revision exercise was conducted at a marriage hall in violation of guidelines. The controversy intensified after Union Minister H. D. Kumaraswamy released a purported video alleging a major scam in the revision process.

Maharashtra TET leak probe expands to Bihar with Hajipur cyber cafe raid

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Maharashtra Teacher Eligibility Test paper leak probe has widened to Bihar, with the Maharashtra Special Task Force and Thane Police raiding a cyber cafe in Hajipur late Wednesday. Three people, including cafe operator Sonu Kumar, were detained for questioning with support from Vaishali Police.



Investigators examined documents and digital devices at the Kachhari Road premises and said suspicious materials had been recovered for forensic review.

Officials said the action is linked to the paper leak that forced the Maharashtra State Examination Council to cancel the

test after the question paper was allegedly leaked about 24 hours before Sunday's scheduled examination.

More than 4.28 lakh candidates had registered for the test. Investigators have identified Bihar resident Bijendra Gupta as the alleged mastermind.

Nihang-police standoff ends peacefully at Uttarakhand border

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A standoff between Nihang groups and Uttarakhand authorities ended early Friday after negotiations at the Himachal Pradesh-Uttarakhand border, with the group returning to Paonta Sahib in Himachal Pradesh. Tension had escalated Thursday night at the Kulhal checkpoint in Vikasnagar after Nihangs pushed through police barricades while trying to proceed

toward Hemkund Sahib. Officials said the group later called off its planned protest march linked to the arrest of four Nihangs after a clash in Karnaprayag. Senior police and district officials held talks and escorted the group safely across the state border. Dehradun police said some vehicles had moved ahead, but members agreed to return after discussions. Authorities said the situation was resolved peacefully and thanked Sikh community members for cooperating.

Eurobank's UPI remittance service strengthens India-Greece digital payments link

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Eurobank has launched a Unified Payments Interface-based remittance service for transfers from Greece to India, expanding the global reach of India's digital payments system. The service, developed with National Payments Corporation of India International Payments Limited, will allow eligible customers in Greece to send money to India instantly and securely. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurated the service during his Greece visit and called it a milestone in the internationalization of India's digital payment ecosystem. The initiative is expected to reduce remittance costs, improve transfer speed and support the Indian diaspora and businesses, while strengthening India-Greece economic ties and investment cooperation.

Gadkari links safer roads to better engineering and public discipline

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari called for stronger public participation in improving road safety across India, saying safer roads require both better engineering and responsible driving. Speaking at a road safety event in New Delhi, Gadkari said the government has identified accident-prone black spots and landslide-prone stretches nationwide and is carrying out improvement work worth Rs 50,000 crore. He said efforts are also under way to bring road design closer to international standards through proper signage, lane markings, underpasses and safer engineering. Gadkari urged motorists to follow traffic rules, avoid speeding, wear helmets and seat belts, maintain lane discipline and avoid phone use while driving.

National Gram Sabha study calls for deeper citizen participation in villages



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A national study report on low participation in Gram Sabhas was released Monday in New Delhi by Dr. R. Balasubramaniam, member of NITI Aayog, in the presence of Panchayati Raj Secretary Vivek Bhardwaj and other stakeholders. Prepared by the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj for the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the two-volume report studies barriers to citizen participation in village meetings. It covers nearly 7,800 respondents across about 400 Gram Panchayats in 26 states and Union Territories. The report recommends targeted steps to improve awareness, institutional responsiveness and participation by women, youth and marginalized communities in grassroots governance.

Bangladesh rice import plan faces food safety scrutiny over Pakistan supply concerns

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bangladesh's plan to import 50,000 metric tons of rice from Pakistan through a government-to-government agreement has raised food safety concerns because some Pakistani rice consignments have previously faced European Union rejection. The proposed purchase is intended to build public food stocks and stabilize domestic prices, but food safety experts say price should not be the only factor for a staple consumed daily by millions. Reports have cited previous European Union concerns over pesticide residues above permitted limits, aflatoxin contamination, traceability gaps, documentation failures and labeling issues. The European Union applies strict testing standards and can reject, return or destroy shipments that fail safety requirements. Experts have urged Bangladesh to test every consignment for pesticides, aflatoxins, heavy metals and other contaminants before releasing rice into local markets.

Adani and IHC's \$11.5 billion Odisha aluminum project targets integrated metals supply chain

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Adani Group and Abu Dhabi-based International Holding Company announced Thursday that they will invest \$11.5 billion in an integrated aluminum complex in Odisha, marking one of India's largest metals-sector investment plans. The partners will hold equal stakes in the joint venture, which is expected to include an alumina refinery, aluminum smelter, captive power plant and downstream aluminum manufacturing park. The project is planned to produce 4 million metric tons of alumina, 2 million metric tons of aluminum and 1 million metric tons of downstream products annually. Adani said the investment could create about 35,000 jobs during construction and 18,500 jobs during operations. The project gives Adani a major entry into aluminum manufacturing and could deepen competition in a sector led by established players such as Hindalco and

BrahMos export interest grows across Gulf, Asia and Latin America amid India's defense sales push

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India is seeing wider international interest in the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, with reported inquiries from Gulf, Asian and Latin American markets adding momentum to New Delhi's defense export strategy. The missile, jointly developed by India and Russia, travels at about Mach 2.8 and has become one of India's flagship military export platforms. Reports have named Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Thailand, Brazil and Chile among countries showing interest, while talks with the United Arab Emirates could mark the system's first Gulf sale if finalized. Defense officials have said India has signed a BrahMos agreement with Vietnam and that a deal with Indonesia is nearing completion. Analysts say many potential buyers have maritime or regional security concerns, but India is framing the sales as commercial defense exports. India's defense exports reached about \$4.5 billion in fiscal year 2026.

Gold and silver outlook hinges on Federal Reserve signals and global risk sentiment

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Gold and silver traded mixed on Thursday, with bullion easing on profit booking while silver extended gains for a third straight session amid expectations that the United States Federal Reserve may avoid another immediate rate increase. In global markets, gold slipped slightly to about \$4,076 an ounce, while silver edged higher to \$60.59 an ounce. Market experts said gold came under pressure after a pullback from the previous session's peak, but weaker

United States jobs data, lower crude oil prices and a softer rate outlook helped limit losses. The global outlook for precious metals remains closely tied to Federal Reserve commentary, dollar movement and geopolitical risk. Gold could stay supported if interest-rate expectations soften, central-bank buying continues and investors seek safe-haven assets. Silver may benefit from the same macro cues, along with investment demand, though its industrial outlook remains more uneven because of changing demand from sectors such as solar manufacturing.

Oil edges higher before United States holiday weekend while Hormuz supply recovery steadies market

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Oil prices rose slightly Friday ahead of the long United States Independence Day weekend, with traders balancing cautious optimism over Middle East peace efforts against uncertainty over supply flows. Brent crude gained 17 cents to \$72.10 a barrel, while West Texas Intermediate rose 14 cents to \$68.83. United States markets were set to close Friday before the Independence Day holiday on Saturday.



about one-fifth of global oil and liquefied natural gas supplies, has reopened. Kuwait's production rose sharply to 1.65 million barrels per day in June from 580,000 in May, while trade sources said at least five Saudi supertankers carrying 10 million barrels had exited the strait.

Both benchmarks had touched their lowest levels since before the United States-Israel war with Iran began, reflecting easing fears over disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz. The waterway, which previously carried

India-European Union ship recycling talks move Indian yards closer to regulatory recognition

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and the European Union reviewed progress on sustainable ship recycling cooperation on Wednesday, with three Indian yards now ready to seek inclusion under the European Union Ship Recycling Regulation. Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal discussed the issue with European Commissioner Jessika Roswall, focusing on audits, inspections and compliance standards for Indian facilities. Sonowal said more than 30 Indian yards have applied for European recognition, six are in the approval

process and three have completed required compliance procedures. India says its yards have upgraded environmental and worker-safety systems, including effluent treatment, scientific waste management, health facilities and worker housing. Government inspections include both scheduled and surprise checks. Citing United Nations Conference on Trade and Development estimates, Sonowal said India's global ship recycling share rose to 35.4 percent in 2025 from 30.1 percent in 2024, with 2.99 million gross tons recycled. The European Union is considering a joint working group to support the next phase of approvals.

United States hiring slowdown signals cautious employers and weaker consumer-facing sectors

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States employers added only 57,000 jobs in June, signaling a sharper slowdown in hiring and continued caution among businesses facing high inflation and weak consumer confidence. The Labor Department said Thursday that unemployment fell to 4.2 percent from 4.3 percent, but the decline largely reflected people leaving the labor force rather than stronger employment growth. Job gains for April and May were also revised lower. Restaurants, bars and hotels cut 61,000 jobs despite the FIFA World Cup, while retailers shed positions, pointing to pressure in consumer-facing industries. Construction and professional services added workers, offering some offset. The report reinforced a low-hire, low-layoff labor market in which



employed workers remain relatively secure, but job seekers face tougher conditions. Softer hiring could influence the Federal Reserve's next interest-rate decisions.

Trump's crypto income highlights growing digital asset role in business portfolio

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump's latest annual financial disclosure shows cryptocurrency has become a major source of income for his business empire, with Reuters reporting more than \$1.4 billion in income from crypto-related ventures. The filing lists proceeds tied to World Liberty Financial, token sales, digital wallets, equity transactions and other digital asset holdings. It does not provide one consolidated crypto income figure, instead reporting transactions and holdings across different entities and wallets. The disclosure also includes traditional Trump business interests such as golf resorts, hotels, licensing deals, real estate and intellectual property. The scale of the crypto income has renewed questions from critics about potential conflicts between public policy and private digital asset holdings, especially while the administration pursues a friendlier regulatory approach toward the cryptocurrency industry.

Canada and Philippines pursue trade deal to expand Indo-Pacific business ties

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney and Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. pledged Thursday to expand trade, energy and security cooperation during talks in Vancouver, reinforcing Ottawa's push to diversify beyond the United States market. The two leaders agreed to pursue a Canada-Philippines free trade agreement, deepen defense and maritime cooperation and strengthen commercial ties supported by Canada's large Filipino community. Carney said the countries could work together in energy security and critical minerals, while Marcos said both sides shared similar global aspirations. Canada is also negotiating with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and hopes to advance talks before Carney visits Manila in November, when Marcos chairs the regional summit. Carney has set a goal of doubling Canada's non-United States exports over the next decade.

HCLTech's \$1.14 billion artificial intelligence deal boosts large-contract pipeline

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

HCLTech said Friday that it has signed a \$1.14 billion artificial intelligence-led deal with a Europe-headquartered Fortune Global 50 company to transform and manage the client's global digital workplace and enterprise networks. The agreement runs from July through December 2031 and includes an option to extend for another five years. HCLTech said the engagement is entirely new business and is expected to strengthen its order book ahead of quarterly earnings. The contract comes as the Noida-based technology services company expands its artificial intelligence strategy through partnerships, acquisitions and investments. Recent moves include work in telecom network optimization, operational transformation, the acquisition of business intelligence platform Jaspersoft and an investment in Indian sovereign artificial intelligence startup Sarvam AI. Shares rose after the announcement.

BPCL expands overseas energy portfolio with full control of Brazil oil venture



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has taken full ownership of IBV Brasil Petroleo after acquiring Videocon Energy Brazil's remaining stake through its upstream arm and subsidiaries. The transaction raises BPCL's ownership from 65.4 percent to 100 percent and makes the Brazilian company a wholly owned subsidiary of the group. BPCL said it exercised its right of first refusal under the shareholders' agreement and completed the deal after regulatory approvals in Brazil. IBV holds participating interests in the BM-SEAL-11 and BM-C-30 oil and gas concessions. The company said the acquisition could add about 1 million metric tons of oil equivalent in annual equity production once output starts from the BM-SEAL-11 block. The move supports India's effort to diversify overseas hydrocarbon sources and strengthen long-term energy security.

Microsoft launches \$2.5 billion artificial intelligence venture to help enterprises customize models



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Microsoft said Thursday it will create Microsoft Frontier Company, a new \$2.5 billion operating entity designed to help large corporations adopt artificial intelligence tools that deliver measurable returns. The firm will work with clients including Unilever and Novo Nordisk, helping them choose, customize and integrate artificial intelligence models from Microsoft and outside providers with their own internal data. Microsoft said customers will keep the results of that work, reflecting growing concern among companies that relying on a single frontier lab could expose valuable expertise. The move puts Microsoft in closer competition with Palantir Technologies and Amazon Web Services, which have built businesses around embedded artificial intelligence support. Judson Althoff, chief executive of Microsoft Commercial Business, said Microsoft learned from tying early Copilot systems too closely to OpenAI models. He said enterprise customers need flexibility to switch among models, fine-tune systems and protect proprietary workflows while improving returns on costly technology investments.

India's medical tourism growth draws patients from Western, Gulf and neighboring markets

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India is strengthening its position as a medical tourism destination, drawing patients from North America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, the Gulf and neighboring countries seeking lower-cost and faster treatment. A report cited Wednesday said India's appeal is built on internationally accredited hospitals, globally trained doctors, advanced medical technology and procedure costs that are often far below those in the United States, United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand.

Long waiting times for specialist appointments and elective procedures

in Western health systems are also pushing patients toward India. Major hubs include Chennai, Delhi National Capital Region, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Kerala, where hospitals offer international patient desks, treatment planning, travel support and recovery coordination. Common treatments include cardiac surgery, cancer care, joint replacement, fertility care, eye surgery, dental procedures, organ transplants and robotic surgery. India's government is also promoting medical and wellness tourism through the Heal in India initiative, e-medical visas, quality accreditation systems and integrated recovery options that combine modern care with rehabilitation and wellness support.

BHP secures Pilbara mine labor deal, but Port Hedland strike risk remains

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Workers at BHP's South Flank and Mining Area C iron ore operations in Western Australia voted Friday to approve a new labor agreement, giving the miner a key win in the Pilbara after months of negotiations. Unions said 58 percent of workers backed the agreement, which covers 1,814 employees, with 1,618 participating in the ballot. BHP said the four-year deal includes a guaranteed 16 percent pay rise, higher

site-based allowances and a new payment scheme for delayed flights. The company said the agreement provides certainty for workers and operations, but unions noted that a large minority opposed the deal because of concerns over company policy use, progression and classification structures. The vote does not end labor pressure across BHP's iron ore network. Negotiations continue at Port Hedland, one of the world's largest iron ore export hubs, after workers there voted last month in favor of possible strike action.

Nandy's X exit puts fresh pressure on Musk platform over misinformation and brand safety

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Britain's Culture Secretary Lisa Nandy said Thursday that she and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport will stop using X, arguing that the platform now favors abuse and misinformation over meaningful debate. The decision makes her department one of the most prominent United Kingdom government bodies to leave the Elon Musk-owned platform and adds to concerns over brand safety, public communication and online harm. Nandy said X was no longer healthy for democracy or communities and directed users to Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn instead. The move follows growing criticism in



Britain over far-right content, racist posts and online activity linked to recent unrest. While the department oversees media policy, enforcement against platforms remains with Ofcom.

South Korea defends \$403 million Coupang fine amid United States business discrimination claim

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea rejected a United States congressional report accusing Seoul of discriminating against Coupang, saying Thursday that action against the Seattle-based e-commerce company followed domestic privacy law. The House Judiciary Committee report alleged that South Korean regulators used coercive tactics and unfair enforcement against an American-owned business. South Korea's Foreign Ministry said the report reflected only Coupang's position and ignored the government's consumer-protection mandate. Seoul's privacy regulator fined Coupang 625 billion won, about \$403 million, after personal data



belonging to more than 37 million people was exposed, including about 33 million customers. Officials said the breach involved weak safeguards and delayed reporting. Coupang apologized but said it would challenge the fine in administrative court.

Punjab litchi export to Oman opens new market for Indian horticulture trade

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Fresh litchis from Hoshiarpur in Punjab were exported to Oman for the first time, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said Thursday, marking a new Gulf market entry for Indian horticulture exports. The shipment came from Ummat Agri Allied Cooperative Society and was supported by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority. Goyal said the export would help increase farmers' income, strengthen agricultural exports and build global recognition for Indian produce. The development follows recent first shipments of Dehradun litchi to Italy and Tezpur litchi from Assam to Dubai. Tezpur litchi received a geographical indication tag in 2014 and is known for sweetness, aroma and juicy pulp. The Oman shipment underlines India's push to promote region-specific fruits in premium overseas markets.

Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs match Trump account contributions for employees' children

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs said Thursday they will match \$1,000 contributions to Trump accounts opened for the children of eligible employees, adding Wall Street backing to a savings program scheduled to launch Saturday. The accounts are designed for children born in the United States between 2025 and 2028. Morgan Stanley said its contribution reflects support for long-term saving and financial education, while Goldman Sachs Chief Executive David Solomon said early investing remains one of the most reliable ways families build lasting financial security. The program follows similar pledges earlier this year from other major banks to match the government's initial \$1,000 seed contribution for eligible workers' children. Created under President Donald Trump's domestic policy legislation, Trump accounts are intended to encourage early investment and wealth-building for children, while giving financial firms a new avenue to promote savings products among employees and deepen workplace financial planning benefits for young families.

Google weakens NetNut proxy network linked to malware traffic and botnet operations

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Google said Thursday it had disrupted a residential proxy network used to hide and route malicious online traffic, targeting NetNut operations and infrastructure linked to the Popa botnet. The company acted with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Lumen and other partners, disabling accounts and services used in malware command-and-control activity and sharing technical intelligence with law enforcement and industry groups. Residential proxy networks can have legitimate uses, but they are often exploited by cybercriminals because they route traffic through consumer internet addresses, making malicious activity harder to detect. Google said the coordinated action significantly degraded NetNut's proxy network and reduced the available device pool by millions. NetNut's parent company, Israel-based Alarum Technologies, said it was informed that some domains had been seized by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and would cooperate with law enforcement.

Mariners lose Rodriguez and Robles after rough night for center fielders



Seattle Mariners center fielder Julio Rodriguez left Thursday's game against the Los Angeles Angels after being struck in the back of the helmet by an errant throw. Rodriguez was running from first to second in the first inning when Angels first baseman Nolan Schanuel tried to start a double play and the throw hit him. Rodriguez initially stayed in the game, advanced to third and played briefly in the field before being replaced by Victor Robles in the third inning. The Mariners' injury trouble deepened when Robles was hit by a pitch in the wrist or forearm later in the game and also had to exit. Weston Wilson took over in center field. Rodriguez, a three-time All-Star, had played in 87 of Seattle's first 88 games this season and a career-high 160 games last year.

India's Sri Lanka Test tour puts World Test Championship points in focus



India will tour Sri Lanka in August for a two-match Test series that will count toward the 2025-2027 World Test Championship cycle, Sri Lanka Cricket confirmed Thursday. The first Test will be played at Galle International Cricket Stadium from Saturday to Wednesday, followed by the second Test at Colombo's Sinhalese Sports Club from Sunday to Thursday. Both matches begin at 10 a.m. local time. The series is important for both teams, with India currently fifth in the World Test Championship table and Sri Lanka sixth. It will be India's first Test tour of Sri Lanka since 2017, when Virat Kohli's side swept the series 3-0.

Portugal survives Croatia drama after Ronaldo penalty and Ramos late winner

Portugal reached the World Cup round of 16 on Thursday after a chaotic 2-1 comeback win over Croatia in Toronto. Ivan Perisic put Croatia ahead early in the second half before Cristiano Ronaldo equalized from the penalty spot in the 68th minute, scoring his first World Cup knockout goal in his sixth tournament. Ronaldo, 41, was substituted late, leaving Goncalo Ramos to decide the match with a stoppage-time header. Croatia thought it had forced extra time moments later, but a lengthy Video Assistant Referee review ruled out the goal for offside after ball-chip technology indicated a touch before Mario Pasalic became involved. Portugal will face Spain on Monday. The night also carried emotional weight for Ronaldo and Luka



Modric, two former Real Madrid teammates likely playing their final World Cups.

International Olympic Committee denies Olympic team status to Greenland and Faroe Islands

The International Olympic Committee said Wednesday that Greenland and the Faroe Islands will not be recognized as separate Olympic teams, rejecting a formal request from Denmark's parliament. The Olympic Charter has required for three decades that a country seeking an official national Olympic committee must be an independent state recognized by the international community. Greenland and the Faroe Islands are semi-autonomous territories within the Kingdom of Denmark, so they do not meet that requirement. The committee said its position had been communicated clearly to the parties involved over several years. Athletes from both territories can still compete for Denmark



at the Los Angeles Olympics in 2028. The Danish request came amid renewed political attention on Greenland, including Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen's recent support for the island after President Donald Trump's interest in acquiring it.

Judge allows prosecutors to review Tiger Woods' hospital records in Florida case

Florida judge has allowed prosecutors to obtain Tiger Woods' hospital records tied to his March crash and driving under the influence case. Judge Darren Steele approved an agreement between Woods' defense team and prosecutors, permitting records from Cleveland Clinic Martin South Hospital to be reviewed under a protective order. A similar order in May gave prosecutors access to Woods' prescription records from a Palm Beach pharmacy for the start of the year through March. Woods has pleaded not guilty after deputies said his vehicle clipped a trailer and rolled onto its side on Jupiter Island. Authorities said a breath test showed no alcohol, but Woods refused a urine test and deputies reported signs of impairment. Prosecutors say the medical records could contain substance-use statements or drug-



screening results, while access remains limited to officials, experts and the defense.

Rafael Jodar joins Nadal and Alcaraz in Spanish Wimbledon teenage club



Spanish teenager Rafael Jodar extended his breakthrough Wimbledon debut on Thursday with a five-set win over countryman Pablo Carreno Busta, joining Rafael Nadal and Carlos Alcaraz as the only Spanish teenagers in the Open Era to reach the men's third round at the All England Club. Jodar won 3-6, 6-3, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4 in a match suspended by darkness on Wednesday and completed the next day on No. 2 Court. It was his second consecutive Grand Slam five-set victory over Carreno Busta, having beaten the former world No. 10 at Roland Garros earlier this season. Jodar had never played tour-level grass matches before Wimbledon and had only previously reached the boys' quarterfinals in 2024. He will next face Japanese qualifier Shintaro Mochizuki, with the winner potentially meeting defending champion Jannik Sinner.

Swiatek steadies Wimbledon defense, Bouzkova and Navarro move ahead

Defending champion Iga Swiatek reached the Wimbledon third round on Thursday with a composed 6-1, 6-3 win over 2021 finalist Karolina Pliskova at the All England Club. After a tense opener against Taylor Townsend, the six-time Grand Slam champion looked sharper on Centre Court, saying she felt more stable and focused. She will next face Alexandra Eala of the Philippines.

No. 21 seed Marie Bouzkova also advanced, beating Italian qualifier Tyra Caterina Grant 7-5, 6-3 for her third Wimbledon third-round appearance. Emma Navarro recovered from a set down to defeat Oksana Selekhmeteva 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 and will next face Marta Kostyuk. Former champion Barbora Krejickova completed another key result, rallying past No. 5 seed Mirra Andreeva 4-6, 7-5, 6-4 on Wednesday.



Praggnanandhaa starts strongly, Gukesh steadies at Grand Chess Tour Croatia

Praggnanandhaa made a strong start to the Super Rapid and Blitz Croatia on Wednesday, ending the opening day joint second with 4/6 after three rapid rounds in Zagreb. He beat Vincent Keymer, drew with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave and then split the point with world champion D. Gukesh. Gukesh had a mixed day, losing to Vachier-Lagrave before beating Ivan Saric and drawing with Praggnanandhaa to sit tied sixth on 3/6. Alireza Firouzja leads the event with five points, with six rapid rounds still remaining.



Judge seeks stronger assurances on Trump administration's DC golf course project



A federal judge on Thursday sought firmer assurances from the Trump administration that it will not begin major work at Washington's historic East Potomac Golf Links before a legal challenge is resolved. United States District Judge Ana Reyes cited President Donald Trump's social media claim that renovations would begin in early September and detailed course plans displayed during his Sunday visit. The DC Preservation League is suing to stop the project, arguing that changes to East Potomac Park could violate the 1897 congressional act that created it for public use. The Justice Department said the plans remain conceptual and still require multiple approvals. Reyes gave both sides two weeks to agree on protective language.

Diksha Dagar turns steady form into share of Hulencourt opening lead



Diksha Dagar continued her strong Ladies European Tour form on Thursday, opening the Hulencourt Women's Open in Belgium with a bogey-free four-under 68 to share the first-round lead. The Indian golfer matched Nadia van der Westhuizen, Morgane Metraux and Bronte Law at the top of the leaderboard after 18 holes.

Diksha birdied the first, sixth, 10th and 14th holes while staying composed in testing conditions at Hulencourt Golf Club. Aditi Ashok also kept India in contention with a two-under 70 to sit tied seventh. Avani Prashanth recovered to shoot even par, while Pranavi Urs finished one over after an uneven opening round.

Tour de France weighs extreme heat plans before Barcelona start

The 2026 Tour de France is preparing for possible disruption from a severe European heatwave before the race begins Saturday in Barcelona. Organizers have warned that temperatures forecast near 44 Celsius in parts of Spain and France could force unprecedented decisions, including possible stage alterations or cancellations. Tour technical director Thierry Gouvenou said extreme heat is now a major concern after record conditions in May and June. Sunday's second stage, running along the Mediterranean coast from Tarragona to Barcelona, could be among the first affected. Cycling's extreme weather protocol allows measures such as extra feed zones, cold drinks and extended time limits, but riders and unions have called for earlier starts to avoid peak afternoon heat. Race director Christian Prudhomme said major



schedule changes are difficult because the Tour depends on television timings and coordination with more than 28,000 police, emergency and security personnel.

Jonty Rhodes backs ETPL as a launchpad for Europe's cricket future

Jonty Rhodes believes the European T20 Premier League can become more than a franchise tournament by expanding cricket's talent base across the continent. Speaking after Thursday's inaugural player draft in Dublin, the Rotterdam Dockers co-owner said the league should learn from the Indian Premier League and South Africa's SA20 by investing in grassroots development as well as elite competition. Rotterdam made emerging Ireland player Jai Moondra its first pick, building a multinational squad for the new league. Rhodes, who has coached in Sweden and worked in franchise cricket for years, said cricket in Europe extends beyond Ireland, the Netherlands and Scotland and needs stronger feeder systems.

Srikanth injury deepens India's difficult start at Canada Open

India's Canada Open campaign suffered an early blow in Markham, Ontario, as former world No. 1 Kidambi Srikanth retired injured during his opening-round match against Malaysia's Lee Zii Jia. Srikanth was trailing 10-11 in the first game when he withdrew, a disappointing reversal after beating Lee at the United States Open last week.

India's men's singles challenge weakened further as Saneeth Dayanand and Sankar Muthusamy also exited. The women's singles draw offered brief relief, with Tanya Hemant beating Disha Gupta and Aakarshi Kashyap defeating Anna Tatanova. However, several other Indians lost, leaving India dependent on the two women's singles winners entering the second round.

Nagelsmann exits Germany job after World Cup shootout collapse

Julian Nagelsmann has reportedly left his role as Germany coach after the team's World Cup round-of-32 defeat to Paraguay, with Jurgen Klopp emerging as the leading candidate to replace him. Germany lost a penalty shootout 4-3 on Monday after another disappointing World Cup campaign, following group-stage exits in 2018 and 2022. Reports in Germany said the German Football Association leadership encouraged Nagelsmann to step down after reviewing the tournament failure. His contract had run through the 2028 European Championship and was reportedly worth up to about \$9 million per year. Klopp, the former Liverpool and Borussia Dortmund



manager, is now viewed as the preferred candidate. He currently works with Red Bull but is reported to have a clause allowing him to take the Germany job, though formal talks are still expected.

Unai Simon breaks World Cup clean-sheet record for Spain

Spain goalkeeper Unai Simon set a Guinness World Record on Thursday by extending his World Cup clean-sheet streak to 519 minutes. The record was confirmed after Spain's 3-0 win over Austria, which secured a last-16 meeting with Portugal. Simon surpassed the previous mark of 518 minutes set by Italy's Walter Zenga at the 1990 World Cup. His streak spans two tournaments, beginning after Ao Tanaka's goal for Japan against Spain in 2022. Simon then went 159 minutes without conceding in Qatar before adding four clean sheets at the 2026 World Cup against Cape Verde, Saudi Arabia, Uruguay and Austria. The achievement also



breaks Spain's previous national benchmark, held by Iker Casillas, whose run reached 476 minutes across the 2010 and 2014 tournaments. Simon's record could still grow if Spain shuts out Portugal.

Real Madrid move quickly to shut down Enzo Fernandez transfer speculation

Real Madrid moved to end growing speculation over Chelsea midfielder Enzo Fernandez on Friday, issuing a rare public denial that it is pursuing the Argentina World Cup winner. The club said it had made no direct or indirect effort to sign Fernandez and had no intention of doing so. The statement followed renewed transfer talk after comments from the player's camp again linked him with the Santiago Bernabeu. Real Madrid praised Fernandez as a respected footballer but emphasized its strong relationship with Chelsea and said the rumors were unfounded. The club added that continued speculation was creating confusion among supporters and unnecessarily affecting the people and institutions involved.

Rain wipes out India-England T20I opener after India posts 189/7

The first T20I between India and England was abandoned without a result on Wednesday after rain prevented England from starting its chase at Chester-le-Street. India posted 189/7 in 20 overs after being sent in, recovering from 6/2 through half-centuries from Shreyas Iyer and Abhishek Sharma. Iyer made 68 off 47 balls, while Abhishek smashed 59 off 24, including the fastest T20I fifty by an Indian batter in England. Shivam Dube added 42 not out off 21 balls. Saqib Mahmood took three wickets before heavy rain ended the match.



Chelsea signs Marco Palestra to long-term deal under Xabi Alonso

Chelsea has signed Italian defender Marco Palestra from Atalanta on a long-term contract running until 2033. The 21-year-old becomes an early addition under new head coach Xabi Alonso before the 2026-27 Premier League season. Palestra impressed during a loan spell at Cagliari last season, playing 37 Serie A matches and earning Serie A Defender of the Year honors. Comfortable as a full-back or wing-back on either flank, he also made his senior Italy debut earlier this year. Palestra said Chelsea's stature and Alonso's playing vision convinced him to move to Stamford Bridge.

Kevin Spacey reflects on closeted years and backlash from gay community



Kevin Spacey has said he felt attacked rather than embraced by parts of the gay community before and after he publicly came out in 2017. Speaking on Bill Maher's 'Club Random' podcast, the 'House of Cards' actor said he had been "fiercely closeted" for years and believed he had hidden his sexuality, even though there had long been public speculation. Spacey, 66, also discussed the misconduct allegations that derailed his career, while continuing to deny wrongdoing. He said some accounts were partly true but "redesigned," while others were fabricated. Spacey cited Anthony Rapp's civil case, which he won in federal court in New York, after Rapp accused him of assaulting him as a teenager. Spacey also said he feels less professionally isolated now and believes people are beginning to reassess the court outcomes and allegations.

Tom Hanks' Clint Eastwood story reveals the quiet genius behind the camera



Tom Hanks' old remarks about Clint Eastwood's directing style have resurfaced online, giving fans another glimpse into the veteran filmmaker's famously quiet approach on set. Hanks, who worked with Eastwood on the 2016 drama 'Sully,' once joked that Eastwood "treats actors like horses." He explained that, unlike directors who loudly call "Action" and "Cut," Eastwood quietly says phrases such as "go ahead" and "that's enough of that." Hanks said the habit came from Eastwood's time on the western series 'Rawhide,' where loud commands could startle horses. The story has become a playful shorthand for Eastwood's restrained, efficient filmmaking style. Eastwood's career spans more than seven decades, from acting fame in Sergio Leone westerns and 'Dirty Harry' to acclaimed directing work such as 'Unforgiven,' 'Mystic River,' 'Million Dollar Baby,' 'Letters from Iwo Jima,' 'Gran Torino,' 'American Sniper' and 'Juror No. 2.'

Swift and Kelce turn wedding buzz into a \$26 million charity moment

Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce have turned the frenzy around their reported wedding into a major philanthropic moment, donating \$26 million to 20 charities across the United States. A representative for the couple confirmed the donations on Thursday, though the announcement did not directly mention the wedding, which is widely reported to be taking place at Madison Square Garden in New York.

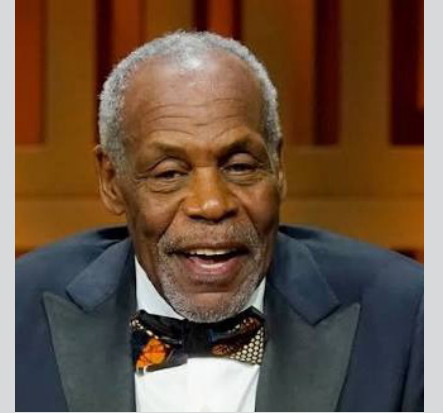


Mentors and Answer The Call.

The donations are focused on cities and causes closely connected to the couple's lives, including New York, Kansas City, Nashville and Rhode Island. Beneficiaries include City Harvest, Food Bank For New York City, New York Cares, Harvesters in Kansas City, The Store in Nashville, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, Feeding America, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Grammy In The Schools, Education Through Music, Musical

The gesture fits Swift's history of large-scale giving, including major donations to food banks and bonuses for her 'Eras Tour' crew. Kelce has also supported youth and community programs through his charitable work. Law enforcement officials told the Associated Press that the couple's wedding is scheduled for Friday, with a smaller rehearsal dinner planned Thursday night.

Danny Glover shares Alzheimer's diagnosis in deeply personal interview



Actor and activist Danny Glover has revealed that he has been living with Alzheimer's disease for several years, choosing to speak publicly about the diagnosis to control his own story. In an interview that aired Wednesday on 'Today,' the 79-year-old said he received the diagnosis after being awarded the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award, an honorary Oscar recognizing his justice and human rights advocacy, in 2022. Glover said he can live with the condition "in a sense," while acknowledging that things will change as it advances. His daughter Mandisa said it was important for him to speak for himself rather than leave others to answer questions about his health. Glover is best known for playing Roger Murtaugh in the 'Lethal Weapon' films and for roles in 'The Color Purple,' 'Places in the Heart,' 'To Sleep With Anger,' 'Predator 2,' 'Saw' and 'Dreamgirls.' His disclosure adds a personal chapter to a career defined by performance and activism.

Millie Bobby Brown reveals the heat behind the mystery of 'Enola Holmes 3'



Millie Bobby Brown says the biggest challenge while filming 'Enola Holmes 3' in Malta was not the mystery but the heat. Speaking on the 'Happy Sad Confused' podcast, the 22-year-old actor said the intense temperatures, combined with period costumes, made the shoot physically difficult and affected focus on set. Brown, who returns as Sherlock Holmes' younger sister, said conditions became so challenging that she spoke with production about adding more fans and air-conditioned tents for the cast and crew. She joked that much of her job during the two-month shoot became keeping everyone cool. Brown compared the experience to filming 'Stranger Things' season four in the New Mexico desert, where heat, sunlight and sand created unexpected challenges. 'Enola Holmes 3' features Louis Partridge, Helena Bonham Carter, Henry Cavill returning as Sherlock Holmes and Himesh Patel as Dr. Watson, with Malta serving as the setting for Enola's latest case.

Eurovision opens its stage to Canada for 2027 song contest debut

Canada will join the 'Eurovision Song Contest' in 2027, becoming the first new participating country since Australia entered in 2015. The European Broadcasting Union and CBC/Radio-Canada announced Wednesday that Canada will compete when the contest is held in Bulgaria next year. CBC/Radio-Canada became a full European Broadcasting Union member last week, making the country eligible to participate. CBC President and Chief Executive Marie-Philippe Bouchard said the move would give Canadian artists access to one of the world's most storied music stages. Details on how Canada's act will be selected will be announced later this year. Canada already has a strong Eurovision



connection. Céline Dion famously won the 1988 contest for Switzerland with 'Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi,' while Natasha St-Pier and La Zarra represented France in later editions. The 2026 contest in Vienna drew more than 130 million viewers.

Blake Lively demands more than \$8M in legal fees from Justin Baldoni and Wayfarer Studios

Blake Lively has asked a federal judge to order Justin Baldoni and Wayfarer Studios to pay about \$8 million in legal fees and costs after she defended herself against their defamation suit. The dispute grew out of the 2024 film 'It Ends With Us,' after Lively accused Baldoni, her co-star and director, of sexual harassment and alleged retaliation. Baldoni and Wayfarer later filed a \$400 million defamation case against Lively and her husband, Ryan Reynolds, claiming false allegations had been used to seize control of the film. That suit was dismissed last year, and Judge Lewis Liman



later allowed Lively to seek fees under a California law protecting sexual harassment accusers from retaliatory lawsuits. Her lawyers said Monday that the request includes \$7.5 million in attorney fees and about \$540,000 in costs.

Tom Holland and Lionel Messi swing into 'Spider-Man' buzz with New York promo

Tom Holland and Lionel Messi have teamed up for a new promotional video ahead of 'Spider-Man: Brand New Day,' blending World Cup fever with Marvel-style spectacle. The clip shows Messi searching for Spider-Man in New York before entering a small coffee shop and meeting Peter Parker. Holland's character then changes into Spider-Man and takes the football legend on a web-slinging ride across the city. The video arrives

as excitement builds for the fourth Marvel Cinematic Universe 'Spider-Man' film led by Holland. 'Spider-Man: Brand New Day' follows the emotional fallout of 'Spider-Man: No Way Home,' with Peter Parker living as a full-time hero after the world forgets his identity. Directed by Destin Daniel Cretton, the film stars Zendaya, Sadie Sink, Jacob Batalon, Jon Bernthal, Michael Mando and Mark Ruffalo. It is set to release in India later this month.

Bruce Lee Day gives California its first annual honor for a Chinese American icon



California will officially mark May 17 as 'Bruce Lee Day,' making the San Francisco-born martial arts legend the first Chinese American in state history to receive an annual namesake day. Governor Gavin Newsom signed the law Tuesday, honoring Lee's impact on cinema, martial arts and Asian American representation. The date marks Lee's return to San Francisco in 1959 at age 18 after spending his childhood in Hong Kong. His daughter Shannon Lee said the honor reflects his role as a bridge between cultures. Schools and community groups are encouraged to hold voluntary exhibits, lessons and public events celebrating Lee, whose screen legacy includes 'The Green Hornet,' 'The Big Boss' and 'Fist of Fury.'

Sachin Tendulkar's Gipsy Kings meeting brings Asha Bhosle memory full circle

Sachin Tendulkar shared a nostalgic music moment Wednesday after meeting Nicolas Reyes of Gipsy Kings, decades after Asha Bhosle first introduced him to the group's songs. Posting photos and videos on Instagram, Tendulkar recalled that Bhosle had gifted him Gipsy Kings CDs in 1990, sparking a lifelong fondness for their music. He said meeting Reyes 36 years later at a summer party felt like life coming full circle. The post also carried emotional weight because Bhosle died earlier this year, leaving behind one of Indian music's most celebrated legacies. Tendulkar wrote that some moments are worth waiting decades for, turning the encounter into a tribute to music, memory and friendship.

Prasoon Joshi to receive first 'NBT Bhushan Samman' for cultural and creative impact

Writer, lyricist and screenwriter Prasoon Joshi will receive the inaugural 'NBT Bhushan Samman' at 'NBT Utsav 2026' in New Delhi on Saturday. The honor, instituted by 'Navbharat Times' Delhi, recognizes lasting contributions to literature, culture, creativity and mass communication. Defense Minister Rajnath Singh is scheduled to present the award. Joshi's work in films such as 'Rang De Basanti,' 'Taare Zameen Par,' 'Bhaag Milkha Bhaag' and 'Neerja' has made him one of India's most influential contemporary voices. Beyond cinema, he has shaped major advertising campaigns and written poetry known for emotional depth. Joshi was also recently appointed to lead a government study group on strengthening India's film industry and theater infrastructure.

Cara Delevingne clarifies Amber Heard timeline during Depp divorce years

Cara Delevingne has clarified the timeline of her relationship with Amber Heard during Heard's divorce from Johnny Depp. Appearing Monday on 'The Louis Theroux Podcast,' Delevingne addressed past speculation that she and Heard were romantically involved while Heard was still married to Depp. Delevingne said she worked with Heard and Depp on 'London Fields,' which was filmed between 2013 and 2015, but insisted nothing was happening between her and Heard at that point. She said they became "entangled" later, after Heard and Depp's relationship had broken down. Heard filed for divorce from Depp in 2016, and the former couple reached a \$7 million settlement that year. Delevingne also referenced Heard's later relationship with Elon Musk. Depp went on to sue Heard for defamation over her 2018



Washington Post op-ed, leading to one of Hollywood's most watched legal battles.

Hugh Jackman wants the next Wolverine to break free from his shadow

Hugh Jackman says he hopes the next actor to play Wolverine brings a completely fresh take to the role instead of following his version. In a new 'Project Big Screen' interview, the 57-year-old joked that he would keep playing the character until he is 90 if Marvel allows it. Jackman said no one gave him instructions when he first took on Wolverine in 2000's 'X-Men,' and he wants his eventual successor to enjoy the same freedom. The actor has reprised the role across several films, including 'X2,' 'The Wolverine,' 'Logan' and 'Deadpool & Wolverine.' His comments come while Marvel prepares its broader mutant future, including an 'X-Men' reboot from director Jake Schreier. Several former 'X-Men' stars, including Patrick Stewart, Ian McKellen, James Marsden, Rebecca Romijn, Alan Cumming and Kelsey Grammer, are also



linked to 'Avengers: Doomsday,' extending the franchise's multiverse bridge.

S. S. Rajamouli earns a place beside cinema legends in France

Filmmaker S. S. Rajamouli has received a permanent plaque on the Mur des Cinéastes, or Wall of Filmmakers, at France's Institut Lumière in Lyon, adding another international honor to the global journey of Indian cinema. The director shared the news Thursday, saying he visited the Lumière Museum and the screening room where 'Eega' and 'RRR' had played to full houses. He said Thierry Frémaux, director of Institut Lumière and the Cannes Film Festival, introduced him before revealing

the surprise plaque on a wall that includes names such as Martin Scorsese, Clint Eastwood, Quentin Tarantino and Francis Ford Coppola. Rajamouli described the moment as deeply humbling and full of gratitude. The recognition follows his earlier honor at the Cinémathèque Française in Paris, where a permanent seat bearing his name was dedicated. The moment reflects the growing international visibility of Rajamouli's work after 'Baahubali' and the Oscar-winning global success of 'RRR.'

Chris Brown ordered to pay nearly \$13 million in dog attack lawsuit

Los Angeles jury has ordered Chris Brown to pay nearly \$13 million to former housekeeper Maria Avila after finding him liable in a 2020 dog attack at his Tarzana, California, home. Avila said she was taking out the trash when Hades, Brown's 200-pound Caucasian shepherd used as a guard dog, attacked her, causing severe injuries to her face and arm. Court reports said she required stitches, skin grafts and later suffered nerve damage and

post-traumatic stress. Brown admitted negligence but argued that he had warned Avila and her sister Patricia not to go near the dogs. The sisters denied that warning took place. The jury awarded Maria Avila \$12.9 million, while Patricia Avila received \$885,000 for emotional distress and Maria's husband, Oscar Olivo, received \$50,000. Brown said during trial testimony that he left the scene because he feared the incident would become a media spectacle.

Ayushmann Khurrana leads Yash Raj Films' 'Mupapa' for 2027 theatrical release

Ayushmann Khurrana will headline Yash Raj Films' upcoming theatrical project 'Mupapa,' set for release on February 19, 2027. The film marks the first big-screen collaboration between Yash Raj Films and Posham Pa Pictures and will be directed by Sameer Saxena. Yash Raj Films Chief Executive Officer Akshaye Widhani is producing the project, which the banner describes as a genre-defying theatrical experience designed for contemporary audiences. The film is expected to combine visual spectacle with edge-of-the-seat storytelling. 'Mupapa' follows Ayushmann's recent appearance in the romantic comedy 'Pati Patni Aur Woh Do,' which starred Wamiqa Gabbi, Sara Ali Khan and Rakul Preet Singh and continued his run of offbeat mainstream roles.

Akshay Kumar thanks Farida Jalal and Kiran Kumar after 'Welcome To The Jungle' success



Akshay Kumar has thanked veteran actors Farida Jalal and Kiran Kumar after the strong response to 'Welcome To The Jungle.' Sharing a picture with them on social media, Akshay said "thank you" felt too small and credited their blessings for the love the film has received. Directed by Ahmed Khan and produced by Firoz A. Nadiadwala, the film is the third installment in the 'Welcome' franchise. The ensemble comedy stars Akshay, Suniel Shetty, Paresh Rawal, Arshad Warsi, Tusshar Kapoor, Shreyas Talpade, Sanjay Dutt, Jacqueline Fernandez, Disha Patani, Raveena Tandon, Lara Dutta, Johnny Lever, Rajpal Yadav, Kiku Sharda, Krushna Abhishek, Farida Jalal and Kiran Kumar.

Katy Perry's Belgium comeback halted by storm warnings

Katy Perry's long-awaited return to Werchter Boutique in Belgium was canceled on Saturday after authorities and the festival's safety committee decided to end the outdoor event early because of severe thunderstorm warnings. Perry said on Instagram that she was backstage in hair and makeup when she was told her set could not go ahead, adding that the decision was beyond her control. The singer apologized to the 55,000 fans at the festival and said crowd safety had to come first. Organizers confirmed the festival would end after Pitbull's performance, following a weather alert from the Flemish Brabant governor. Perry had planned to mark her first appearance at the festival in 17 years by revisiting her 2009 look.

IndoUS Tribune की भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा—छत्तीसगढ़ अध्याय: (दूसरा पड़ाव) भोरमदेव मंदिर



प्रारंभिक परिचय

IndoUS Tribune की विशेष श्रृंखला 'भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा' के अंतर्गत हम आंध्र प्रदेश, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, असम और बिहार के अनेक दिव्य, ऐतिहासिक एवं आध्यात्मिक मंदिरों की सफल यात्रा पूर्ण कर चुके हैं। इन यात्राओं ने हमें भारत की सांस्कृतिक विविधता, प्राचीन परंपराओं, लोक आस्थाओं और सनातन विरासत की गहन एवं जीवंत झलक प्रदान की है।

अब यह पावन श्रृंखला प्रवेश कर रही है छत्तीसगढ़ की धरती पर—एक ऐसा राज्य जो प्राकृतिक सौंदर्य, जनजातीय संस्कृति और प्राचीन आध्यात्मिक परंपराओं का अद्भुत संगम है। छत्तीसगढ़ न केवल अपनी हरियाली और लोक संस्कृति के लिए प्रसिद्ध है, बल्कि यहाँ स्थित प्राचीन मंदिर भारतीय स्थापत्य, शक्ति उपासना और शैव

परंपरा के महत्वपूर्ण केंद्र भी हैं।

इस अध्याय की यात्रा की शुरुआत माँ दत्तेश्वरी मंदिर, दत्तेवाड़ा से हुई, जो 52 शक्तिपीठों में से एक अत्यंत पवित्र तीर्थ माना जाता है। अब हमारी यह आध्यात्मिक यात्रा आगे बढ़ रही है दूसरे महत्वपूर्ण पड़ाव की ओर—भोरमदेव मंदिर, जो कबीरधाम जिले में स्थित है और अपनी अद्भुत नागर शैली की वास्तुकला के कारण 'छत्तीसगढ़ का खजुराहो' कहलाता है।

भोरमदेव मंदिर: इतिहास, आस्था और स्थापत्य की अद्भुत धरोहर

मैकल पर्वत श्रृंखला की हरियाली से घिरे इस प्राचीन मंदिर परिसर का निर्माण 7वीं से 11वीं शताब्दी के बीच माना जाता है, जिसके बाद कुछ संरचनाएँ 14वीं शताब्दी

में भी जोड़ी गईं। यह मंदिर मुख्य रूप से भगवान शिव को समर्पित है और स्थानीय गोंड जनजाति इसे 'भोरम देव' के रूप में पूजती है।

यह मंदिर कलचुरी और नागवंशी राजाओं के काल में विकसित धार्मिक एवं सांस्कृतिक उत्कर्ष का प्रतीक माना जाता है। मंदिर परिसर में शैव और वैष्णव दोनों परंपराओं की झलक मिलती है, जो उस समय की समन्वयात्मक धार्मिक संस्कृति को दर्शाती है।

स्थापत्य कला: नागर शैली की उत्कृष्ट अभिव्यक्ति

भोरमदेव मंदिर भारतीय नागर शैली की वास्तुकला का उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण है। मंदिर के बाहरी भाग पर तीन स्तरों में बारीकी से उकेरी गई मूर्तियाँ इसकी सबसे बड़ी विशेषता हैं।

इन मूर्तियों में देवी-देवताओं के साथ-साथ मानव जीवन, मिथकीय कथाएँ और कामकला से जुड़े दृश्य भी दिखाई देते हैं, जो उस युग की सांस्कृतिक और तांत्रिक परंपराओं का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं।

मंदिर का गर्भगृह भगवान शिव के शिवलिंग को समर्पित है, जबकि मंडप और प्रवेश मार्ग अत्यंत कलात्मक स्तंभों और नक्काशी से सुसज्जित हैं। प्रवेश द्वार पर गंगा और यमुना की मूर्तियाँ पवित्रता और आध्यात्मिक ऊर्जा का प्रतीक हैं।

आस्था और लोक परंपरा

स्थानीय जनजातीय समुदायों के लिए यह मंदिर केवल एक धार्मिक स्थल नहीं, बल्कि सांस्कृतिक पहचान का केंद्र भी है। गोंड समुदाय भगवान शिव को 'भोरम देव' के रूप में पूजता है और यह स्थान सदियों से उनकी आस्था का प्रमुख केंद्र रहा है।

मंदिर परिसर के आसपास स्थित प्राकृतिक झील, साल और बांस के वृक्ष, तथा शांत वातावरण इस स्थान को

आध्यात्मिक ऊर्जा से भर देते हैं।

भोरमदेव परिसर के अन्य महत्वपूर्ण स्थल

मंदिर के निकट स्थित मड़वा महल (दुल्हादेव) एक विशेष संरचना है, जिसे विवाह मंडप शैली में बनाया गया माना जाता है। इसकी दीवारों पर भी अनेक कलात्मक और तांत्रिक मूर्तियाँ अंकित हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त परिसर में एक छोटा प्राचीन ईंटों से निर्मित मंदिर, पुरातात्विक संग्रहालय और अन्य ऐतिहासिक अवशेष भी स्थित हैं, जो इस क्षेत्र की प्राचीन सभ्यता को उजागर करते हैं।

संरक्षण और आधुनिक विकास

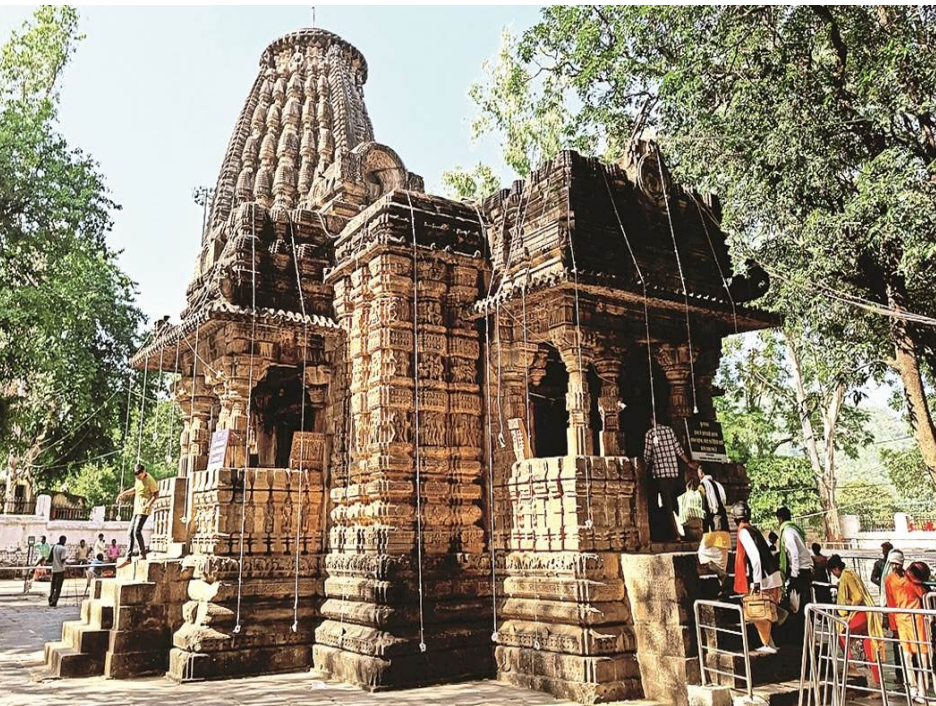
छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार द्वारा भोरमदेव क्षेत्र को एक प्रमुख धार्मिक एवं सांस्कृतिक पर्यटन केंद्र के रूप में विकसित करने के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं। 'भोरमदेव कॉरिडोर' जैसी योजनाएँ इस क्षेत्र की ऐतिहासिक धरोहर को संरक्षित करने और तीर्थाटन को बढ़ावा देने की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण कदम हैं।

समापन

IndoUS Tribune की 'भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा — छत्तीसगढ़ अध्याय' की यह दूसरी कड़ी हमें यह समझने का अवसर देती है कि भारत की आध्यात्मिक विरासत केवल आस्था तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि यह इतिहास, कला, प्रकृति और लोक संस्कृति का अद्भुत संगम भी है।

भोरमदेव मंदिर न केवल शैव परंपरा का प्रतीक है, बल्कि यह भारत की उस प्राचीन स्थापत्य परंपरा का भी साक्ष्य है जिसने समय के साथ संस्कृति को पथरों में अमर कर दिया।

अब हमारी यह पवित्र यात्रा आगे बढ़ेगी अगले पड़ाव की ओर—बम्बलेश्वर मंदिर, डोंगरगढ़, जहाँ माँ बम्बलेश्वरी की दिव्य शक्ति और छत्तीसगढ़ की आस्था की एक और उज्ज्वल झलक हमारा इंतजार कर रही है।



बाल्मीकि रामायण में छुपे कुछ विरले प्रसंग

रामजी को दिव्यास्त्र किसने और क्यों दिए ?



रामजी के धरती पर अवतार लेने के कई कारण हैं। उनमें से एक प्रमुख था, दुष्टों का उपसंहार। एक और प्रमुख कारण, जो वाल्मीकि रामायण में वर्णित है, वह यह कि, प्रभु राम ने, ऋषि दम्पति कश्यप और अदिति को उनकी तपस्या के बाद, एक वरदान दिया था। उस वरदान में दम्पति ने, रामजी से उन्हीं के जैसा पुत्र माँगा था। प्रभु मधुर स्वर में बोले, 'अब मैं अपने जैसा बेटा कहाँ से लाऊँ?' मैं स्वयं आपका पुत्र बन कर आऊँगा। अगले जन्म में आप दशरथ और कौशल्या के रूप में आयेंगे और मैं आपका बेटा राम बन कर जन्म लूँगा। और आगे चल कर ठीक ऐसा ही हुआ।

**कस्यप अदिति महातप कीन्हा,
तिन्ह कहुँ मैं पुरब बर दीन्हा
ते दसरथ कौसल्या रूपा,
कोसलपुरी प्रगट नरभूपा**

दूसरा, जो बड़ा कारण राम जन्म का है, वह है, इस संसार से पापियों और दुष्टों का विनाश। जब धरती पर अत्याचार बढ़ जाता है, तो प्रभु धरती के उस, बोझ को हटाने के लिए भी जन्म लेते हैं। उस समय भी स्थिति कुछ ऐसी ही थी।

**अतिसय देखी धरम की ग्लानि,
परम सभौत धरा अकुलानी
धेनु रूप धरि हृदय बिचारि,
गई तहाँ जहाँ सुर मुनि झारी**

इनके अतिरिक्त और भी बहुत से कारण थे, जिसके लिए प्रभु को, इस धरती पर अवतरित होना पड़ा। भगवद् गीता में भी, भगवान कृष्ण ने उदघोषणा की है कि,

**यदा यदा हि धर्मस्य ग्लानिर्भवति भारत ।
अभ्युत्थानमधर्मस्य तदाऽऽत्मानं सृजाम्यहम् ॥**

मैं दुष्टों के संहार के लिए तथा धर्म की पुनः स्थापना के लिए जन्म लेता हूँ। रामजी को भी इन दुष्ट राक्षसों के संहार के लिए, कुछ विशेष अस्त्र शस्त्र चाहिए थे। और अब प्रश्न यह उठता है कि, उन्हें यह दिव्यास्त्र प्रदान कौन करेगा? उसके लिए एक सुयोग्य गुरुवर की आवश्यकता थी। वाल्मीकि रामायण की इस कथा में, यहाँ प्रगट होते हैं, त्रिकालदर्शी ऋषि

विश्वामित्र। यह ऋषि बड़े दूरदर्शी हुआ करते थे। उन्हें पता होता था कि, कब प्रभु अवतरित होंगे। उन्हें कब और कैसे प्रशिक्षित करना है। उसके लिए वह पहले से ही तैयार रहते थे।

वाल्मीकि रामायण के बालकाण्ड में आता है कि, जब रामजी अपने भाइयों सहित युवा हो गए, तो ऋषि विश्वामित्र राजा दशरथ के दरबार में जा पहुँचे, और महाराज से प्रार्थना करने लगे कि, उन्हें वनों में दुष्टों के संहार के लिए, राम और लखन की सहायता की आवश्यकता है। राजा दशरथ को, ऋषिवर का यह आग्रह अच्छा नहीं लगा।

उन्होंने ऋषि के सम्मुख अपनी सेना अर्पित कर दी, लेकिन ऋषि विश्वामित्र केवल राम लखन की माँग पर टिके रहे। क्योंकि केवल ऋषिवर को पता था कि, रामजी का जन्म एक बड़े उद्देश्य के लिए हुआ है। इसके लिए इन्हें कुछ दिव्यास्त्रों की आवश्यकता पड़ेगी, जिसे केवल मैं ही पूरा कर सकता हूँ। जब राजा दशरथ को कोई और उपाय नहीं सूझा तो, उन्होंने, ऋषि वशिष्ठ से सलाह कर, राम लखन को ऋषि विश्वामित्र के साथ भेज दिया।

रामजी और लखन ऋषि के आश्रम में रह कर नए नए अस्त्र शस्त्र सीखने लगे। एक दिन उस आश्रम के निकट, एक बहुत भयंकर राक्षसी ताड़का आ धमकी।

**तां दृष्ट्वा राघवः क्रां विकृतां विकृताननाम् ।
प्रमाणेनातिहृदां च लक्ष्मणं सोऽभ्यभाषत ॥६॥
पश्य लक्ष्मण यक्षिण्या भैरवं दारुणं वपुः ।
मिथरन्दशनादस्या भीरुणां हृदयानि च ॥१०॥**

उस बड़ी लंबी चौड़ी, घोर विकराल रूप वाली, कुपित राक्षसी को देख, श्री रामचन्द्र जी ने लक्ष्मण जी से कहा, देखो लक्ष्मण, इस यक्षिणी का शरीर कैसा भयङ्कर और विकट है। इसे देखते ही डरपोकों के हृदय तो काँप उठते होंगे।

उस राक्षसी को देख, दोनों भाई सजग हो गए, लेकिन उनके क्षत्रिय मन ने कहा कि, यह तो स्त्री है, इसे मारने में कोई पौरुष नहीं होगा। लेकिन ऋषि विश्वामित्र जानते थे कि, यह एक बड़ी दुष्ट एवं उपद्रवी राक्षसी है।

**विश्वामित्रस्तु ब्रह्मर्षिदुङ्करेणाभिभक्त्ये ताम ।
स्वस्ति राघवयोरस्तु जयं चेवाभ्यभाषत ॥१४॥**
गुरुदेव के आदेश पर दोनों भाइयों ने ताड़का पर आक्रमण कर दिया। राम लखन के तीरों ने ताड़का के हाथ काट डाले, और वह घायल हो कर गिर पड़ी।

**श्रेणोरसि विव्याध सा पपात ममार च ।
तां हतां भीमसंकाशां दृष्ट्वा सुरपतिस्तदा ॥२६॥**

रामजी के वाणों से ताड़का की छाती छलनी हो गई, और वह धरती पर मूर्च्छित हो गिर पड़ी। थोड़ी देर में उसने प्राण त्याग दिये। इस प्रकार ताड़का का अंत हो गया।

अब ऋषि विश्वामित्र को भरोसा हो गया कि, यही समय है जबकि, रामजी जो दिव्यास्त्र प्रदान किए जा सकते हैं। तो एक दिन सुबह ऋषिवर ने दोनों भाइयों को निकट बुलाया, और बड़े मधुर स्वर में बोले,

**अथ तां रजनीपुष्य विश्वामित्रा महायशाः ।
हस्य राघवं वावयमुवाच मधुराक्षरम् ॥१॥
परितुष्टोऽस्मि भद्र ते राजपुत्र महायशः ।
पीत्या परमया युक्तो ददाम्यस्त्राणि सर्वेशः ॥२॥**

मैं तुम्हारे पराक्रम से बहुत खुश हूँ। अब मैं तुम्हें कुछ दिव्यास्त्र देना चाहता हूँ। इनकी सहायता से, तुम लोग, आने वाले दिनों में, बहुत सारे राक्षसों का संहार कर पाओगे। यह दिव्यास्त्र तुम्हारी हर संकट की घड़ी में सहायता करेंगे। तुम्हें तुम्हारे उद्देश्य तक पहुँचने में सहायक होंगे। ऐसा कह कर, ऋषिवर ने रामजी को नन्दन नाम की एक दिव्य खड्ग प्रदान की।

**वायव्यं प्रथमं नाम ददामि च तवानघ ।
अस्त्रं हयशिरो नाम क्रोश्रमस्त्रं तथैव च ॥११॥
शक्तिद्वयं च काङ्कुत्थ ददामि तव राघव ।
कङ्कालं मुसलं घोरं कपालमथ कङ्कणम् ॥१२॥**

उसके बाद उन्होंने कंकाल, मूसल, कपाल, तथा किंकणी आदि दिव्य अस्त्र प्रदान किए, और उन्हें चलाने की विधि भी समझाई। राम लखन यह सब पाकर बड़े प्रसन्न हुए।

**संवर्तं चैव दुर्धर्षं मोसलं च नृपात्मज ।
सत्यमस्त्रं महाबाहो तथा मायाधर परम् ॥१८॥**

**घोरं तेजःप्रभं नाम परतेजोपकवंशम् ।
सोम्यास्त्रं शिशिरं नाम त्वाष्ट्रमस्त्रं सुदामनम् ॥१६॥
दारुणं च भगवत्यपि शीतेभुमथ मानवम् ।
एतान्नाम महाबाहो कामरूपान्माहवलान ॥२॥**

फिर ऋषि ने उन्हें तामस, महाबली सौमन, संवर्त, दुर्जय, मोसल, और सत्य नामक अति प्रभावशाली शस्त्र प्रदान किए। साथ ही दिया, सूर्य देवता का तेजः पुंजअस्त्र। रामजी को सोम देवता का शिशिर नामक अस्त्र भी प्राप्त हुआ। विश्वकर्मा का दारुण 'शीतेशु' नामक शस्त्र भी उन्हें दिया गया।

अगले दिन मुनि देव विश्वामित्र ने, दोनों भाइयों को पास बिठा कर, प्रत्येक अस्त्र और शस्त्र को चलाने की पूर्ण विधि को विस्तार से समझाया। राम और लखन के हर संदेह को दूर किया। उनके हर प्रश्न का धैर्य से उत्तर दिया। गुरु से यह विधिवत शिक्षा पाकर दोनों भाई बड़े अनुगृहीत हुए।

**प्रतिगृह्य ततोऽस्त्राणि प्रहृष्टवदनः शुचिः ।
गच्छन्नेव च काकुत्स्थो विश्वामित्रमथाब्रवीत् ॥१॥
गृहीतोऽस्मि भगवन्दुराधपः सुरासुरैः ।
अखाणां खहमिच्छामि संहारं मुनिपुङ्गव ॥२॥**

और बड़े विनम्र भाव से बोले, 'गुरुवर, हम आपकी कृपा से यह सब प्राप्त कर, बड़े सबल एवं दुर्जय हो गए हैं। हम आपके आभारी हैं। हम आपका यह ऋण कभी नहीं उतार पायेंगे। हम आपको यह आश्वासन देते हैं कि, हम इस शिक्षा एवं अस्त्रों का उपयोग, केवल जन कल्याण के लिए ही करेंगे। हमारा प्रणाम स्वीकार करें। ऐसा कह दोनों भाई गुरु के चरणों में नत मस्तक हो गए। ऐसे महान गुरुओं को हमारा सादर नमन।

जय श्री राम



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Facts versus fabrication

Reassessing the Indus Basin water debate

● **Mr. Atul Jain, Former Chairman, Central Water Commission.**

Pakistan's recent claims projecting an impending water crisis in the Indus Basin and attributing river flow variations to upstream actions fail to withstand scrutiny when examined against Pakistan's own hydrological data, reservoir records, and operational realities. A closer assessment of the evidence reveals a markedly different picture—one defined not by systemic scarcity, but by abundant inflows, significant downstream escapages, and longstanding structural limitations in water management.

The most striking feature of the 2025 hydrological cycle was the substantial surplus in water availability during the Kharif season (April to September). As per Pakistan's Indus River System Authority (IRSA) data, actual inflows reached approximately 122.36 MAF which was almost 18 percent higher than the anticipated inflows of nearly 104 million acre-feet (MAF) for Kharif 2025. Heavy rainfall across the basin further reduced irrigation demand and eased pressure on provincial allocations. Such conditions are fundamentally inconsistent with assertions of acute or engineered water shortages.

An even stronger contradiction to the scarcity narrative lies in the extraordinary quantity of water that ultimately flowed downstream of Kotri into the Arabian Sea. During Kharif 2025, escapages below Kotri amounted to nearly 30,848 MAF—around 71 percent higher than the recent five-year average of 18,034 MAF. Significant downstream escapages to sea (about 3.6 MAF) continued even during the lower-flow Rabi 2025 season (October to March).

If the basin were genuinely facing severe scarcity supposedly due to upstream interference, such large volumes of water would not have remained unutilized and allowed to pass into the sea. The data instead points toward limitations in storage infrastructure, flood management, and distribution efficiency within the lower basin itself.

Reservoir behavior during the same period further undermines claims of sustained hydrological distress. As expected, the Kharif season began with relatively low storage levels, a normal phenomenon unless the Reservoirs are designed for carry-over storages. Subsequently, the combination of higher inflows and flood events rapidly replenished major reservoirs. By September 2025, storage levels had risen to nearly 99 percent of capacity, creating a significantly stronger water availability position for Rabi 2025–26.

The outlook for Kharif 2026 also remains stable. Projected rim-station inflows of approximately 103.3 MAF for Kharif 2026, coupled with carryover storage estimated at around 2.3 MAF—higher than both the previous year and long-term averages—indicate that the basin enters the new cycle from a position of relative hydrological comfort rather than crisis.

At the same time, recent attempts by Pakistan to portray fluctuations in the Chenab River as evidence of upstream manipulation ignore both hydrological realities and established operational practices of run-of-the-river hydropower projects. River flows at downstream locations such as Marala are inherently influenced by seasonal snowmelt patterns in the Himalayas. Variations in winter snowfall, delayed melting, or cooler spring temperatures naturally affect early-season

discharge levels. Such fluctuations are a routine feature of Himalayan river systems and cannot, by themselves, be interpreted as evidence of deliberate interference.

Operational dynamics at hydropower projects such as the Baglihar Hydroelectric Project have also been repeatedly mischaracterized. Reservoir management in run-of-the-river systems necessarily involves variable releases linked to sediment flushing, maintenance requirements, hydropower optimisation, technical safety considerations, and flood management protocols. Sediment management is particularly critical in Himalayan rivers carrying heavy silt loads. Temporary operational adjustments during flushing or maintenance cycles are therefore intrinsic to project functioning.

Importantly, the Baglihar project has already undergone extensive international scrutiny. Pakistan itself invoked the dispute resolution provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty, leading to the appointment of a Neutral Expert under Article IX and Appendix F. The Neutral Expert's 2007 determination upheld the essential design and operational parameters of the project, rejecting most objections related to pondage and freeboard. The project was confirmed to be consistent with treaty provisions governing run-of-the-river hydropower development.

Equally significant is the absence of any demonstration of tangible downstream harm arising from the alleged flow variations. Allegations have relied largely on selective snapshots, isolated observations, and media narratives rather than rigorous hydrological analysis establishing causation, economic damage, or quantifiable agricultural impact. No concrete evidence has been produced linking operational

variations at upstream projects to sustained downstream distress.

Moreover, allegations of politically motivated manipulation overlook an important practical reality: any deliberate meddling in hydropower operations would impose not only direct economic costs on the upstream operator itself through reduced power generation efficiency, it may also cause long term harm to the plant. A single flushing cycle during the monsoon season at the Baglihar Dam may result in an estimated loss of around 150 million units of electricity generation and corresponding revenue. Such flushing operations are undertaken by operator purely on technical and maintenance grounds. It is difficult to reconcile claims of intentional disruption with operational choices that simultaneously reduce energy production and impose financial losses.

Taken together, the evidence presents a clear conclusion. The Indus Basin has recently experienced higher-than-expected inflows, substantial downstream escapages, rapid reservoir recovery, and stable forward projections. Variations in river discharge remain well within the scope of natural hydrological processes and standard reservoir operations.

The larger challenge facing the basin lies not in speculative claims of upstream deprivation, but in unresolved structural issues—limited storage capacity, sedimentation pressures, inefficient utilization, and broader water governance constraints. Externalizing these internal management deficiencies through narratives of manufactured scarcity does little to address the real long-term challenges confronting the basin



Rebuttal to 'sifting IWT truth from lies, myths'

(An Indian perspective - Response to Brig (retd) Dr Raashid Wali Janjua's letter published in Dawn, April 9, 2026)



Brig (retd) Dr Raashid Wali Janjua's letter suffers from the very same selective amnesia he accuses India of. An unbiased examination of the facts reveals that several of his contentions are historically incomplete and legally imprecise.

The author invokes the closure of the Central Bari Doab and Depalpur canals in 1948 as evidence of India's predatory intent. He omits the essential context: these canals drew water from headworks that lay entirely within Indian Territory after Partition, and the supplies were interrupted during an extraordinarily complex process of partition of India. The matter was swiftly resolved through the Inter-Dominion Agreement of May 4, 1948, in which Pakistan itself acknowledged India's sovereign rights over the headworks and agreed to pay seigniorage charges for continued water use. Far from being an act of malice, this is evidence of India's intent to resolve every issue amicably.

The author asserts that IWT has served Pakistan's water interests well, yet simultaneously and paradoxically accuses India of "continual attempts at filching" Pakistan's water. The fact is that the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960, signed after nearly a decade of negotiations, is one of the most

generous trans boundary water treaties in the world from the lower riparian's perspective. India not only relinquished its rights to approximately 80 per cent of the total Indus system waters but also paid an amount of approximately £62 million (approximately Rs.227.5 billion in present value) as compensation for replacement works in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir to secure use of waters which were already hers. No comparable concession by an upper riparian exists in modern water treaty history.

Janjua correctly notes that India is permitted cumulative storage of only 3.6 MAF on the Western Rivers, and that run-of-river hydroelectric projects must not alter the downstream flow regime. This is precisely India's position as well. The dispute fundamentally revolves around Pakistan's interpretation of "alteration of the downstream flow regime". Pakistan has been deploying this as an objection against every hydroelectric project India has sought to construct on the Western Rivers, regardless of project size or design. The pattern is revealing. Uri II, a project with zero pondage, was objected to. Lower Kalnai attracted objections despite the difference between India's designed pondage and Pakistan's computed figure being a matter of decimal fractions. In both

cases, the factual basis for objection was negligible to the point of being technical pretext rather than substantive concern.

Pakistan has further raised objections to the Kishanganga and Ratle hydroelectric projects, both legitimate run-of-river projects fully consistent with the Treaty's provisions, by asking the World Bank to appoint a Court of Arbitration, thereby bypassing the Neutral Expert mechanism provided under the Treaty. India's objection to the Court proceedings is not an attempt to escape accountability; it is a principled position that Treaty-mandated dispute resolution mechanisms must be fully exhausted before resorting to arbitration, as expressly required under Article IX of the IWT itself. Pakistan's unilateral invocation of the Court of Arbitration, bypassing the sequential dispute resolution ladder, is itself a breach of Treaty obligations.

India issued a notice in January 2023 seeking modification of the IWT under Article XII(3), citing Pakistan's persistent obstruction of Treaty mechanisms and unilateral resort to external arbitration as conduct incompatible with the spirit of the Treaty. This is not a unilateral abrogation but a legally available remedy. The Treaty requires renegotiation to reflect six decades of changed circumstances, including

technical advancements, India's own developmental needs on the Western Rivers, and Pakistan's bad-faith use of dispute resolution provisions. India is exercising a Treaty right, not violating one.

The Egypt-Ethiopia and Syria-Iraq comparisons actually undercut Janjua's argument rather than supporting it. In those cases, there are no legally binding bilateral treaties at all, which is precisely why those lower riparians are vulnerable. Pakistan, by contrast, had a detailed, legally binding Treaty with India, which was grossly used as a political tool and not for development.

Responsible commentary on a Treaty of this complexity must rise above the narrative of predators and prey. The Indus Waters Treaty had endured for over six decades because of the generous attitude of India. India's concerns reflect a legitimate recognition of changed circumstances, and that the Treaty cannot indefinitely be wielded as a political instrument to obstruct India's lawful utilisation of its own river waters. Such inflammatory rhetoric by Pakistan clearly brings out its intent and justifies India's stance.

The writer is a former Indian Commissioner for Indus Waters.

Pakistan's fake narrative against India hides its own mismanagement of water resources



● **By: Kushvinder Vohra,**
Former Chairman, Central Water Commission, ex officio Secretary to the Government of India and Former Indian Commissioner

For decades, sections of Pakistan's political and media establishment have portrayed India as the primary cause of Pakistan's water problems. The narrative has intensified after India decided to keep the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance. Yet a closer examination of facts, official data and international studies reveals a very different reality: Pakistan's water stress is driven far more by poor water management than by any reduction in Indus flows from India.

The Indus Waters Treaty, signed in 1960, gave Pakistan rights over the three western rivers, Indus, Jhelum and Chenab, while allowing India limited, specified uses. At the time of the treaty, Pakistan was estimated to receive about 135 million acre feet annually from these rivers. Today, various studies show that Pakistan still receives roughly 140 to 142 million acre feet on average, which is equal to or slightly more than the quantity available when the treaty was signed.

If the inflow has not declined significantly, why does Pakistan repeatedly face water shortages? The answer lies in how the available water is used.

The real problem: waste and inefficiency

Out of roughly 140 million acre feet received annually, Pakistan diverts only about 104 million acre feet for irrigation. Nearly 10 million acre feet is lost within the canal system, and another 28 to 30 million acre feet flows unused into the sea. In other words, more than one-fourth of the available water is either wasted or remains unutilized.

Even the water that reaches farms is used inefficiently. Studies indicate that

crop water productivity in Pakistan is among the lowest in the world. For example, wheat production per unit of water is significantly lower than in India. Despite receiving abundant river flows, Pakistan has not made substantial progress in modern irrigation, micro-irrigation, precision farming or large-scale water conservation.

What international studies say

The World Bank's report 'Pakistan: Getting More from Water' offers a sobering assessment. It concludes that Pakistan is actually well-endowed with water resources and that the country's long-term water insecurity stems primarily from poor governance, weak planning, inadequate data systems, groundwater over-extraction, pollution and low water productivity.

The report also notes that many countries with less water per person than Pakistan have far stronger economies and better living standards. Water scarcity alone does not determine a nation's destiny; management does.

The storage deficit

One of Pakistan's biggest structural weaknesses is inadequate storage capacity. The country can store only a small fraction of its annual river flows, far below many arid nations. Since most Indus water arrives during a few monsoon months, insufficient storage means large volumes simply pass through the system and are lost to the sea.

After the construction of Tarbela Dam decades ago, major storage expansion has remained limited due to political disputes and delayed decision-making. Without adequate reservoirs, achieving reliable year-round irrigation becomes extremely difficult.

Groundwater crisis

Pakistan has also become heavily dependent on groundwater. Millions of private tube wells have been installed, and

extraction in many regions exceeds natural recharge. Falling water tables, salinity and deteriorating groundwater quality now threaten long-term agricultural sustainability.

India faces groundwater challenges as well, but it has increasingly invested in recharge structures, rainwater harvesting, aquifer mapping, crop diversification and community-based groundwater management. These efforts are not perfect, but they represent a serious attempt to address the problem.

India's water reform push

Over the past decade, India has invested heavily in water conservation, watershed development, micro-irrigation, canal modernization, groundwater recharge and programs such as 'Per Drop More Crop.' Thousands of tanks, ponds and recharge structures have been created, and several states have introduced incentives to reduce excessive groundwater pumping and encourage less water-intensive crops.

The contrast is striking: while India is increasingly focusing on efficiency and conservation, Pakistan's public discourse often remains centered on accusations against India rather than reforms within Pakistan.

The political convenience of blame

Blaming India serves a political purpose. It creates a simple external explanation for a complex domestic problem. Yet the numbers do not support the claim that India has deprived Pakistan of the water guaranteed under the treaty. Pakistan continues to receive roughly the same volume of western-river water as envisioned in 1960.

What has changed dramatically is population, demand, urbanization, climate variability and pressure on agriculture. These challenges require modern water governance, not perpetual rhetoric.

Why this matters for India

India should not view this debate merely as a bilateral dispute. The future of South Asia will increasingly depend on how countries manage water under conditions of climate change and population growth. Efficient irrigation, wastewater recycling, groundwater management, river rejuvenation and technology-driven monitoring will become essential across the region.

For India, improving water productivity is also a strategic necessity. Agriculture still consumes the overwhelming share of freshwater, and long-term food security will depend on using every drop more wisely.

The way forward

Pakistan's water crisis is real, but it is not primarily a story of India "turning off the tap." It is a story of inadequate storage, inefficient irrigation, groundwater depletion, weak institutions and unresolved inter-provincial disputes. The water currently being wasted within Pakistan is itself large enough to substantially improve the country's water security if managed effectively.

No amount of blaming India can substitute for integrated water resource management. Sustainable solutions require better storage, modern irrigation, groundwater regulation, crop diversification, institutional reform and the adoption of modern technology.

Public debate in Pakistan would be far more productive if it focused on these reforms rather than on an exaggerated narrative of Indian responsibility. The Indus basin's future will depend less on political slogans and more on whether the region's governments are willing to manage water as a precious and finite resource.

Courtesy: Vandana Jhingan



250 Years of Freedom

Celebrating America's Remarkable Journey

● Dr. Avi Verma

As the United States celebrates the 250th anniversary of its independence, IndoUS Tribune joins millions of Americans in honoring an extraordinary milestone in human history. Two and a half centuries ago, a bold declaration gave birth to a nation founded on the timeless ideals of liberty, equality, opportunity, and self-governance. Today, those ideals continue to inspire not only the American people but countless others around the world who dream of freedom and a better future.

A nation does not become great simply because of its size or wealth. It becomes great because of its ability to dream, innovate, adapt, and welcome generations of people willing to work hard in pursuit of a better life. America's story over the past 250 years is one of resilience, perseverance, and an unwavering belief that tomorrow can be better than today.

From thirteen colonies along the Atlantic coast, the United States has grown into one of the world's foremost leaders in science, technology, education, medicine, business, culture, and humanitarian innovation. American universities have become centers of global excellence, attracting brilliant minds from every continent. Its research institutions have produced breakthroughs that have transformed healthcare, communications, transportation, agriculture, and space exploration. American entrepreneurs have built companies that have changed the way the world lives, works, and connects.

The nation's remarkable economic growth has created opportunities for generations of families seeking prosperity. Millions have arrived on these shores with little more than hope and determination, only to find a society where talent, education, and hard work could open doors to unimaginable possibilities. That promise continues to define the American Dream. America's greatest strength has always been its people.

Across every generation, individuals from diverse backgrounds have contributed their knowledge, skills, traditions, and cultures to build a stronger nation. This rich diversity has become one of America's defining characteristics, creating vibrant communities where different languages, faiths, customs, and perspectives coexist while contributing to a shared national identity.

The story of America is also one of continuous innovation. Whether it was pioneering aviation, landing humans on the Moon, leading the digital revolution, advancing artificial intelligence, or making groundbreaking medical discoveries, the United States has consistently demonstrated an extraordinary capacity to imagine the impossible and transform it into reality. Its spirit of entrepreneurship has inspired innovators across the globe and fueled industries that continue to shape the future.

Equally inspiring is America's enduring commitment to education and the pursuit of knowledge. Its classrooms, laboratories, libraries, and universities have nurtured

generations of thinkers, inventors, artists, physicians, engineers, and leaders whose contributions have extended far beyond its borders. The nation's emphasis on learning and research continues to enrich humanity as a whole.

For the Indian-American community, this anniversary carries special meaning. Over the decades, Indian immigrants have found opportunities to grow, contribute, and thrive while maintaining pride in their heritage. Today, Indian Americans serve with distinction in medicine, technology, academia, entrepreneurship, public service, scientific research, finance, the arts, and countless other fields. Their achievements reflect the opportunities made possible by a nation that rewards dedication, innovation, and excellence.

The relationship between India and the United States has also flourished over the years, built upon shared democratic values, mutual respect, expanding economic cooperation, educational partnerships, scientific collaboration, and strong people-to-people connections. As the world's two largest democracies continue to work together, their partnership contributes to innovation, global prosperity, and a more connected world.

Throughout its history, America has faced challenges that tested its resolve. Yet one of the defining characteristics of the nation has been its ability to learn, adapt, rebuild, and move forward. That resilience has strengthened its institutions and reinforced the enduring values upon which the country was founded.

As fireworks illuminate the skies and communities gather to celebrate this historic anniversary, Americans from every walk of life have reason to reflect with pride on the remarkable journey of the past 250 years. It is a story written not only by famous leaders and historic events but also by ordinary citizens whose daily contributions have built strong families, thriving communities, successful businesses, groundbreaking discoveries, and enduring institutions.

The United States at 250 stands as a testament to the power of vision, determination, and the belief that freedom creates opportunity. Its influence extends across continents, inspiring innovation, encouraging enterprise, and fostering collaboration among nations.

On this historic occasion, IndoUS Tribune extends its heartfelt congratulations to the people of the United States. We celebrate the nation's extraordinary achievements, honor the generations who have helped build it, and recognize the countless individuals whose dreams continue to shape its future.

May the next chapter of America's journey be marked by continued innovation, prosperity, unity, compassion, and opportunity for all. As the nation begins its next 250 years, may it continue to inspire the world with its enduring spirit of freedom, resilience, and hope.

Happy 250th Anniversary, America. May the stars continue to shine brightly, and may the promise of liberty continue to illuminate generations yet to come.

Krishnamoorthi presses federal agencies on baby food safety and election probe resources

Illinois congressman seeks enforceable infant food standards and answers on Federal Bureau of Investigation staffing in Georgia election inquiry

● By IndoUS Tribune
Washington Bureau

Illinois Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi has stepped up oversight of two federal agencies, urging stronger action on toxic heavy metals in baby food and seeking answers over reports that the Federal Bureau of Investigation reassigned hundreds of personnel to a probe involving the 2020 presidential election in Georgia. Krishnamoorthi, a Democrat who serves on the United States House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, said both issues raise serious questions about public safety, government accountability and the proper use of federal authority.

Pressing health officials on baby food safety

In a letter to Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Krishnamoorthi called for comprehensive and enforceable federal limits on toxic heavy metals in infant formula and baby food. The request follows years of congressional scrutiny after Krishnamoorthi's earlier investigation identified elevated levels of arsenic, lead, cadmium and mercury in several commercially available baby food products. Citing recent scientific research, he said researchers can now use children's baby teeth to trace early-life exposure to toxic metals and connect those findings with measurable differences in brain development and later behavioral outcomes.

"Five years after my congressional investigation first exposed dangerous levels of toxic heavy metals in baby food, the scientific case for action has only grown stronger while HHS's failure to act has become increasingly indefensible,"



Krishnamoorthi wrote. He said infants and toddlers are especially vulnerable because their brains and nervous systems are still developing, making even low levels of toxic metal exposure potentially harmful over a lifetime. Krishnamoorthi asked the department to respond by Thursday on steps taken since January last year to reduce contamination, future regulatory plans, scientific and legal reasons for any refusal to set enforceable standards, delays in providing a previous congressional briefing and the studies or risk assessments used by the department.

Questions over Federal Bureau of Investigation resources

In a separate statement, Krishnamoorthi responded to a media report that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had directed more than 200 staff members to

assist an investigation related to the 2020 presidential election in Georgia's Fulton County. He said the report raises important questions about the Bureau's priorities and whether the deployment of personnel affected other public safety responsibilities.

"The FBI exists to protect the American people and uphold the rule of law," Krishnamoorthi said, calling for Congress to receive a full accounting of the legal authority for the investigation, the number of personnel assigned and the impact on other law enforcement work. He urged Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Kash Patel to provide an immediate explanation to Congress.

Continued oversight focus

The two actions reflect Krishnamoorthi's broader focus on

executive branch oversight. His letter to the Department of Health and Human Services seeks stronger food safety protections for infants, while his request to the Federal Bureau of Investigation focuses on transparency in the use of federal investigative resources.

Neither agency had publicly responded to Krishnamoorthi's latest requests at the time of publication.

Editor's note: The statements summarized in this report were issued by Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi's congressional office. IndoUS Tribune has reached out to the relevant federal agencies for comment. Any responses received will be included in future coverage.

FIA New England marks America's 250th Independence Day with veterans' tribute and community celebration

● By: Vandana Jhingan

The Foundation of Indian Americans New England commemorated America's 250th Independence Day with a daylong celebration on Saturday in Norwood, Massachusetts, blending patriotism, community service, environmental stewardship and recognition of military veterans.

The event brought together more than 250 community members, elected officials, veterans and civic leaders to honor the nation's historic milestone while highlighting the shared values of freedom, service and civic engagement.

The celebration began with a Veterans Tribute in Norwood, where attendees gathered to recognize the sacrifices and service of United States military veterans. The program featured the presentation of the Veterans Tribute Tree Planting Legacy, an initiative designed to honor veterans while promoting environmental sustainability.

As part of the tribute, the organization announced the planting of a legacy tree in memory of the late United States national anthem and Pledge of Allegiance leader Raj M. Purohit Chaitanya. Seven additional legacy trees were also dedicated in honor of community members and veterans, reflecting FIA New England's commitment to preserving civic values and the environment for future generations.

The event also recognized the efforts of the organization's Special Committee on Veterans Affairs, which has worked to foster meaningful engagement between the Indian American community and veterans. Organizers said the initiative aims to encourage appreciation for military service while strengthening community ties.

Speaking at the event, FIA New England President Madhavi Jadhav said the organization remains committed to creating opportunities that celebrate patriotism while encouraging service and civic responsibility.

The celebration continued with the "250 Balloons for 250 Years" tribute, during which

participants released 250 biodegradable balloons to symbolize America's quarter-millennium journey of independence.

Cultural performances followed, featuring patriotic songs, traditional Indian dance and musical presentations that reflected the diversity of the Indian American community while celebrating the nation's founding ideals.

The event concluded with the inauguration of the FIA New England Hall of Fame, recognizing distinguished Indian Americans whose contributions have strengthened the community and enriched American society. The inaugural honorees included Dr. Bhupendra Patel, Dr. Satya Jeedigunta, Raj Purohit, Dr. Meena Shah, Dr. Samir Shah and Mary Ash, acknowledging achievements across healthcare, public service and community leadership.

A highlight of the program was the presentation of a Massachusetts Governor's Special Citation recognizing FIA New England's ongoing service to the community.

The organization also received a Certificate of Recognition from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in appreciation of its civic engagement and public service initiatives.

The event featured remarks from elected officials and community leaders, including Massachusetts Governor's Councilor Mara Dolan, Norwood Select Board Vice Chair Michael B. O'Donnell and Norwood Town Moderator Nathaniel I. Matthews, among others.

Founded in 1993, FIA New England has grown into one of the region's leading Indian American community organizations. Through educational, cultural, charitable and civic initiatives, the organization continues to promote volunteerism, community service, youth leadership and stronger ties between the Indian American community and broader American society.

The celebration served as both a tribute to the nation's 250-year journey and a reaffirmation of the values of freedom, unity, service and community engagement that continue to define the American experience.

ICCS seminar in Querétaro explores solar traditions and ancestral wisdom



By: IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The International Center for Cultural Studies organized a reflective seminar on Sunday, June 14, at Karuna Yoga in Querétaro, Mexico, bringing together elders, practitioners and community members for an afternoon of cultural exchange and spiritual dialogue. Titled 'Honoring the Sun: Ancestral Wisdom and Summer Solstice Traditions,' the seminar explored the sacred significance of the Sun across diverse ancestral traditions. The event highlighted shared ideas of reverence for nature, cosmic cycles, spiritual consciousness and humanity's relationship with the natural world. The program opened with welcoming remarks by Sumit Jindal and Larissa, who emphasized the importance of preserving traditional knowledge and passing it on to future generations. They noted that such gatherings serve as a bridge between ancient

wisdom and contemporary life, especially in a fast-paced modern world.

A key highlight was a presentation by Devesh Pandit from Chicagoland, who spoke on the significance of Surya in Sanatana Dharma. He explained the spiritual and cultural importance of honoring the Sun as a source of life, energy and divine consciousness. Pandit also discussed the daily practice of offering Arghya to Surya, the transformative value of Surya Namaskar and the many rituals and observances in Hindu tradition dedicated to the Sun. He said Surya is revered not only as a celestial body, but also as a symbol of vitality, discipline, illumination and spiritual awakening. The discussion then moved to the Summer Solstice, with Abuelo Eduardo reflecting on the importance of natural cycles and seasonal transitions. He spoke about how traditional communities observed the movement of the Sun and integrated those

patterns into agriculture, ceremonies and daily life. His remarks highlighted how ancestral societies maintained a deep awareness of cosmic rhythms and lived in harmony with nature. The final presentation was delivered by Abuela Lucero, who offered insights from the Anáhuac tradition. She explored the relationship between the solar zenith and human consciousness, offering a perspective on how natural energies influence emotional balance, spiritual awareness and overall well-being. Her presentation underscored the connection between nature and human consciousness that remains central to many Indigenous traditions.

The seminar concluded with an open dialogue among participants, who reflected on common themes that emerged during the afternoon, including gratitude toward nature, respect for ancestral knowledge and the importance of living in balance with the

natural world.

Participants described the gathering as meaningful and enriching, noting that many ancestral traditions share striking similarities in their reverence for the Sun despite cultural differences.

Organizers said the event strengthened relationships among elders, practitioners and community members in Querétaro while furthering ICCS' mission of fostering dialogue among ancient traditions and promoting their relevance in contemporary society.

The International Center for Cultural Studies continues to support initiatives worldwide that encourage intercultural dialogue, preserve ancestral wisdom and build greater understanding among communities through shared heritage and spiritual values.



Bharatiya Seniors of Chicago celebrates summer picnic with culture, food and health awareness

By: Jayanti Oza

Bharatiya Seniors of Chicago brought members together for its annual summer picnic on Sunday in Warrenville, Illinois, offering a full day of recreation, fellowship, cultural activities and community service. The event featured a lively mix of entertainment and recreational activities, including music, bingo, musical chairs, traditional indoor games and Garba dancing. Pleasant weather, with occasional light showers, added to the festive atmosphere as members celebrated friendship, community and Indian culture.

A wide selection of traditional Indian food was served throughout the day, including breakfast, lunch, refreshments, desserts and dinner. Participants also enjoyed soft drinks, ice cream, kulfi, fresh fruits and other treats. One of the key highlights was a free health camp, where senior members received heart screenings, electrocardiograms and other basic medical tests. The initiative reflected the organization's focus on health awareness and preventive care for seniors.

Members also received complimentary gifts and wellness items through the support of sponsors and partner organizations. Several community partners participated by setting up information booths and distributing promotional materials and useful household items.

Volunteers played an important role in organizing the picnic, managing food service, games and logistics throughout the day. The organization's leadership expressed appreciation to the volunteers, sponsors, healthcare professionals and participants whose support helped make the event successful. The annual gathering once again gave Bharatiya Seniors of Chicago members an opportunity to strengthen community bonds while enjoying a day filled with cultural activities, entertainment, good food and health awareness. Many participants later attended a Sundar Kand program at the National India Hub, bringing the day of community engagement to a meaningful close.



FIIDS mobilizes 150 delegates from 25 states for Capitol Hill advocacy on immigration, U.S.-India ties



● By: Dr. Avi Verma

The Foundation for India and Indian Diaspora Studies (FIIDS) concluded its fourth annual Indian American Capitol Hill Day on June 23, bringing more than 150 delegates from 25 states to Washington to advocate on key policy issues affecting Indian Americans and U.S.-India relations. The event included over 35 youth delegates and more than 40 women leaders. Delegates met with more than 100 congressional offices, including 16 U.S. Senate offices, in one of the largest coordinated Indian American advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill.

Participants held policy meetings with

members of Congress and senior staff to discuss legislative priorities including immigration reform, Indo-Pacific security, supply chain resilience, combating discrimination, and strengthening the U.S.-India strategic partnership. FIIDS said the policy agenda was developed after reviewing nearly 300 bills introduced in the current and recent sessions of Congress.

“This was not a symbolic visit to Capitol Hill,” said Khanderao Kand, president and chief of policy and strategy at FIIDS. “Indian Americans are committed partners in shaping policies that strengthen America’s competitiveness, security and democratic values.” A major focus of the advocacy effort was legal immigration reform. Delegates raised concerns about green card backlogs

caused by per-country caps, delays in H-1B visa processing, and children aging out of dependent visa status while families wait years for permanent residency.

Deborah Ross emphasized the importance of legal immigrants and their families to America’s future, according to FIIDS. Arizona youth delegate Kopal Sharma underscored the personal impact of immigration reform.

“The America’s CHILDREN Act isn’t just policy — it’s my story,” Sharma said. “Behind every policy are real people, families and futures.” Delegates also raised concerns over growing incidents of discrimination and bias against Indian Americans, while urging lawmakers to

continue supporting inclusion, religious freedom, and anti-hate initiatives.

Lawmakers from both parties expressed broad support for stronger U.S.-India cooperation, describing the relationship as critical to long-term economic and strategic interests.

FIIDS highlighted the growing contributions of Indian Americans in technology, healthcare, entrepreneurship, and public service. The organization noted that the community of more than 5 million continues to play an increasingly influential role in shaping American economic growth and innovation.

Illinois delegates played an active role in this year’s advocacy efforts. The Illinois delegation included community and business leaders Rakesh Malhotra, Deepti Suri, Nirav Patel, and Devesh Pandit, who participated in Congressional meetings and policy discussions.

Chicago-based businessman and community leader Rakesh Malhotra said the future of the U.S.-India partnership remains strong, while Devesh Pandit, Economic Commissioner for Morton Grove, said the event reflected the growing political influence of Indian Americans.

“The success of this event shows that Indian Americans have finally arrived,” Pandit said. Yogi Chugh, FIIDS vice president of political liaison, said the event demonstrated the community’s growing role in shaping public policy.

“The success of Capitol Hill Day reflects the growing civic engagement of Indian Americans and their commitment to contributing constructively to America’s future,” Chugh said.

The Foundation for India and Indian Diaspora Studies (FIIDS) is a nonpartisan public policy institute based in Washington focused on research, policy analysis and civic engagement initiatives related to the Indian American community.



Protect your vision, protect your life – Part 5 (final article)

Comprehensive vision health & preventive ophthalmic care across the lifespan

● By: Dr. Avi Verma

Eye health is not confined to a single stage of life—it is a continuous process of prevention, early detection, and timely treatment. From childhood development to adult vision correction, from sudden injuries to age-related diseases, the eyes remain both vulnerable and highly treatable when care is provided early. This final installment of the Protect Your Vision, Protect Your Life series brings together essential topics in modern eye care, including emergencies, surgical correction, glaucoma, nutrition, contact lens safety, blindness prevention, and the importance of routine eye examinations. Across all conditions, one principle remains constant: most vision loss is preventable if detected early.

1. Eye injuries and emergency care

Eye injuries are true medical emergencies where delay can result in permanent vision loss. Common causes include sports trauma, workplace accidents, chemical burns, blunt force injuries, and flying debris. Warning signs include sudden vision loss, severe pain, blood in the eye, irregular pupils, or visible foreign bodies.

Immediate care is critical:

- ▶ For chemical exposure, flush the eye continuously with clean water or saline for 15–30 minutes before transport.
- ▶ For penetrating injuries, do not remove objects. Cover the eye with a rigid shield and seek emergency care immediately.
- ▶ Never rub or apply pressure to an injured eye.

Protective eyewear meeting industrial safety standards significantly reduces risk in high-exposure environments.

2. LASIK & vision correction surgery

LASIK (Laser-Assisted In Situ Keratomileusis) is a laser procedure that reshapes the cornea to correct myopia, hyperopia, and astigmatism. It is commonly used to reduce dependence on glasses or contact lenses. Post-surgical effects may include temporary dry eyes, glare, halos, and fluctuating vision during healing.

Eligibility requirements typically include stable vision for at least one year, adulthood, and adequate corneal thickness. Recovery involves antibiotic and anti-inflammatory eye drops along with lubricating artificial tears. Most patients experience significant visual improvement within days to weeks.

3. Eye pressure and glaucoma

Glaucoma is a progressive disease that damages the optic nerve, often due to elevated intraocular pressure (IOP). It is one of the leading causes of irreversible blindness worldwide.

Types:

- ▶ Open-angle glaucoma: Slow, silent vision loss without early symptoms.
- ▶ Acute angle-closure glaucoma: Sudden pain, blurred vision, headache, nausea, and visual halos—requires emergency treatment.

Risk factors include age over 40, family history, diabetes, and high myopia. Treatment includes prescription eye drops, laser therapy, and surgical procedures to reduce eye pressure. Early detection through



routine screening is essential, as damage is irreversible once it occurs.

4. Nutrition for healthy eyes

The retina requires high metabolic support and is vulnerable to oxidative damage over time. Poor nutrition increases the risk of cataracts and age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

Key nutrients for eye health include:

- ▶ Lutein and zeaxanthin (spinach, kale)
- ▶ Vitamins C and E
- ▶ Zinc and omega-3 fatty acids

Vitamin A deficiency can cause night blindness, while long-term deficiencies may affect retinal function. Clinical studies show that the AREDS2 formulation can slow progression in intermediate AMD. A balanced diet and UV protection remain essential preventive strategies.

5. Contact lens safety

Improper contact lens use is a major preventable cause of corneal infection. Risk factors include sleeping in lenses, poor hygiene, exposure to water, and improper storage.

Symptoms of infection include: redness, pain, light sensitivity, discharge, and blurred vision.

To reduce risk:

- ▶ Never sleep in lenses unless prescribed
- ▶ Wash and dry hands before handling lenses
- ▶ Avoid swimming or showering while wearing lenses
- ▶ Replace lens cases regularly

Infections such as bacterial keratitis can progress rapidly and require urgent antibiotic treatment.

6. Preventing blindness

Most blindness worldwide is preventable or treatable with timely care.

Leading causes include: cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, uncorrected refractive errors, and macular degeneration. Symptoms may include: gradual vision loss, distorted central vision, or narrowing peripheral vision.

Prevention depends heavily on systemic health control. Diabetes and hypertension are major risk factors for retinal disease and must be carefully managed. Modern treatments include cataract surgery with lens implantation, laser therapy for diabetic retinopathy, and anti-VEGF injections for macular degeneration. Early intervention remains the key to preserving sight.

7. Importance of routine eye exams

Many serious eye diseases develop silently, without early symptoms. A comprehensive eye examination allows early detection of glaucoma, diabetic eye disease, refractive errors, and retinal disorders.

Adults should undergo baseline eye exams by age 40, with earlier screening for high-risk individuals. Children require early vision screening to detect amblyopia and strabismus, which can permanently affect visual development if untreated. Regular eye exams remain the most effective tool for preventing avoidable blindness.

Conclusion: Vision preservation through prevention

Across all stages of life, eye health depends on awareness, prevention, and timely medical care. Whether addressing childhood vision development, managing chronic disease,

or responding to sudden injury, early intervention remains the defining factor between preserved vision and irreversible loss.

This series has highlighted a central truth: most causes of blindness are not inevitable—they are preventable. With routine eye examinations, healthy lifestyle choices, and prompt treatment, individuals can significantly reduce their risk of vision loss.

The goal of this series has been to provide practical, evidence-based knowledge that empowers families to protect one of their most vital senses—sight.

Series Conclusion

This final article concludes the Protect Your Vision, Protect Your Life series. Across five parts, we have explored eye health from childhood development to adult diseases, surgical correction, emergencies, and preventive care.

We thank our readers for following this series and reaffirm our commitment to advancing public awareness on vision health and preventive ophthalmology.

Disclaimer

This article is intended for educational and informational purposes only and should not be considered medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Individuals experiencing eye symptoms or vision changes should consult a qualified ophthalmologist or eye care professional promptly. Early diagnosis and timely intervention remain the most effective ways to prevent avoidable vision loss.

Personal finance insights: News & Features

Mini Feature: BONILLA DAY, JULY 1

● Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAll Bull-Bear Spread +8.8% (above average)
 CNN Fear & Greed Index 25 (extreme fear)
 NYSE %Above 50-dMA 56.04% (positive)
 SP500 %Above 50-dMA 64.60% (positive)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 4/30/26

OEfs & ETFs: Stocks 62.61%, Hybrids 3.96%, Bonds 17.12%, M-Mkt 16.31%

INTEREST RATES

CME FedWatch
 Cycle peak 5.25-5.50%
 Current 3.50-3.75%
 FOMC 7/29/26+ hold
 FOMC 9/16/26+ hike

Treasury

T-Bills 3-mo yield 3.83%, 1-yr 3.94%;
 T-Notes 2-yr 4.07%, 5-yr 4.12%, 10-yr 4.38%;
 T-Bonds 30-yr 4.87%;
 TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 1.91%, 10-yr 2.18%, 30-yr 2.69%
 FRNs Index 3.730%

Bank Rates www.depositaccounts.com/

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 6/1/26
 TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates
 Restricted RC 5.25%, RA 5.00%
 Flexible RCP 4.50%, SRA 4.25%, IRA-101110+ 3.65%
 TIAA MYGA 4.35% (3-yr), 4.50% (5-yr), 4.60% (7-yr)
 TSP G Fund 4.500% (previous 4.500%)

India Fear & Greed MMI 65.47



(greed-high)

Weekly ETFs: INDA -0.04%, INDY +0.51%, EPI -0.26%, INDH +0.27% | SPY -2.38%

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

GEOPOLITICS

US-Iran deal framework was signed at G-7 in France & there were follow up meetings in Switzerland after brief delays. More talks are planned.

Construction has started for the world's biggest dam on Yarlung-Tsangpo-Brahmaputra River by China. This massive hydroelectric project is just 31 miles from Indian border. Yarlung Tsangpo originates in Tibet, it's known as Siang River in Arunachal Pradesh & Brahmaputra River in Assam & beyond. In response, India is also considering a large hydroelectric project downstream

on Brahmaputra River. However, two such massive hydroelectric projects in earthquake prone areas look like a natural disaster waiting to happen.

FINANCIAL

US crypto firm Coinbase/COIN finally has real-time rupee payment (IMPS) connectivity with customers' bank accounts after getting proper registrations & approvals. It overcame obstacles it faced earlier in 2022-23 when it rushed things. Coinbase is a combination crypto exchange, broker-dealer & custodian. Crypto trading is allowed in India but there are steep fees/taxes: 30% tax on gains, 1% transfer tax on amounts exceeding \$10,000 & no loss offsets. Crypto firms hope that these fees/taxes will come down in future. Regular (nontrading) transactions must be in rupees. RBI also has CBDC (central bank digital currency).

IT/TECH

US AI & cybersecurity company Theom (Cofounder & CEO Navindra Yadav) is establishing GCC in Hyderabad, India.

Tata Group TCS & US AI company Anthropic have a partnership for enterprise AI. Anthropic also has partnership with Infosys/INFY. Anthropic has office in Bengaluru to drive its various collaborations & partnerships in India - Air India, EkStep Foundation, OpenAgriNet, Karya, Collective Intelligence Project, Digital Green, Adalat AI, Razorpay, Enterpret, Pratham, etc. US government has restricted foreign access for Anthropic's latest AI models.

SPECIAL TOPIC - BONILLA DAY, JULY 1

Annuities rarely get widespread favorable coverage in the media. But there is Bonilla Day, July 1. Insurers have also latched on to make it a big PR event.

Bobby BONILLA (1963-) was a

famous baseball player, MLB 1986-2001. He played for Chicago White Sox (1986), NY Mets (1992-95, 1999), St Louis Cardinals (2001), etc. He received many awards & was at times the highest-paid player in MLB.

But he is now famous for another reason. When NY Mets released him in 1999, he negotiated a private deferred-income annuity (DIA) contract for the lump-sum settlement of \$5.9 million. The DIA was deferred for 10 years at 8% interest (balance in 2010 was \$13.7 million) & then uniform payouts started for 25 years (2011-35) at 8% assumed interest rate (AIR). His annual payout is amazing \$1.2 million/yr on each July 1 (9 more years to go).

Although this is a simple magic of compound interest, the results achieved were outstanding & July 1 has been designated as BONILLA DAY by NY Mets fans & insurers.

There is a large variety of annuities, from accumulating to decumulating (income), & combinations such as DIAs. Simpler & cheaper are accumulating annuities, MYGA (multiyear guaranteed annuity), SPIA (single premium immediate annuity) & DIA. Bonilla's DIA annuity isn't even a typical DIA that has deferred LIFETIME income feature (not for fixed periods). These are also called longevity annuities. A special DIA is QLAC from T-IRA, 401k/403b with limits (\$210K in 2026, inflation-adjusted); RMDs don't apply to QLAC amounts.

Don't feel sorry for the group backing this private DIA. The assumed 8% interest looks very generous today, but not when this DIA was written & the group likely hedged its liability with a combination of investments (liability matching).

For more information, see

www.ybbpersonalfinance.proboards.com



Everything you need to know about IUHS School of Medicine

● By: Dr. Avi Verma

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

2. Program Structure & Exams:

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

3. Assessments:

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

knowledge gaps.

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

4. Teaching methods:

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

5. Clinical rotations:

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



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

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

Key Features:

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

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

8. Question and Concept Sessions:

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

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

Key Features:

- ▶ Comprehensive Medical Curriculum Support – Covers

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Join IUHS to transform your dream of becoming a medical doctor into reality.
For more information and to apply, visit www.iuhs.edu*



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Wimbledon 2026 turns courtside dressing into polished summer theater

From royal-blue tailoring and tennis whites to polka dots, linen suits and playful accessories, celebrity style at Wimbledon served British summer elegance with a modern twist.

Wimbledon 2026 has delivered more than baseline rallies and Royal Box sightings. This year, the stands have become a style board for summer dressing, where classic tennis codes meet softer tailoring, nostalgic prints and expressive accessories. Vogue's celebrity gallery captured the tournament's early fashion energy, with names including the Princess of Wales, David Beckham, Bad Bunny, Jameela Jamil, Nicky Hilton Rothschild, Joe Jonas, Ellie Goulding and Isla Fisher among the attendees.

The strongest trend was relaxed tailoring. The Princess of Wales made a sharp return in a bright blue



Gabriela Hearst suit, styled with a white tank, proving that Wimbledon polish no longer needs to feel stiff. David Beckham also stayed loyal to the tournament's classic menswear mood, while Romeo Beckham and other male guests leaned into softer suiting and open-neck styling.

Tennis whites remained a natural favorite, but this year they felt less literal and more elevated. Clean dresses, cream separates and soft summer suiting gave the all-white tradition a wearable, off-court update. The look worked especially well when paired with texture, draping or quiet accessories rather than obvious sports references.

Prints brought the fun. Polka dots,



florals and stripes appeared across several looks, from Jameela Jamil's retro-inspired dotted dresses to Nicky Hilton Rothschild's striped summer styling and Lorraine Kelly's floral shirt dress. These pieces kept the mood garden-party ready without losing the refinement expected at the All England Club.

Accessories also had a moment. Sunglasses, structured bags, espadrilles, basket bags and statement heels turned simple outfits into camera-ready looks. The best dressed guests understood the Wimbledon formula: breathable fabrics, sharp lines, one memorable detail and just enough ease to survive a long day courtside.

The takeaway from Wimbledon 2026



is clear: summer occasion dressing is moving toward polish without pressure. The winning look is tailored but comfortable, classic but not predictable, and elegant without feeling overdone.

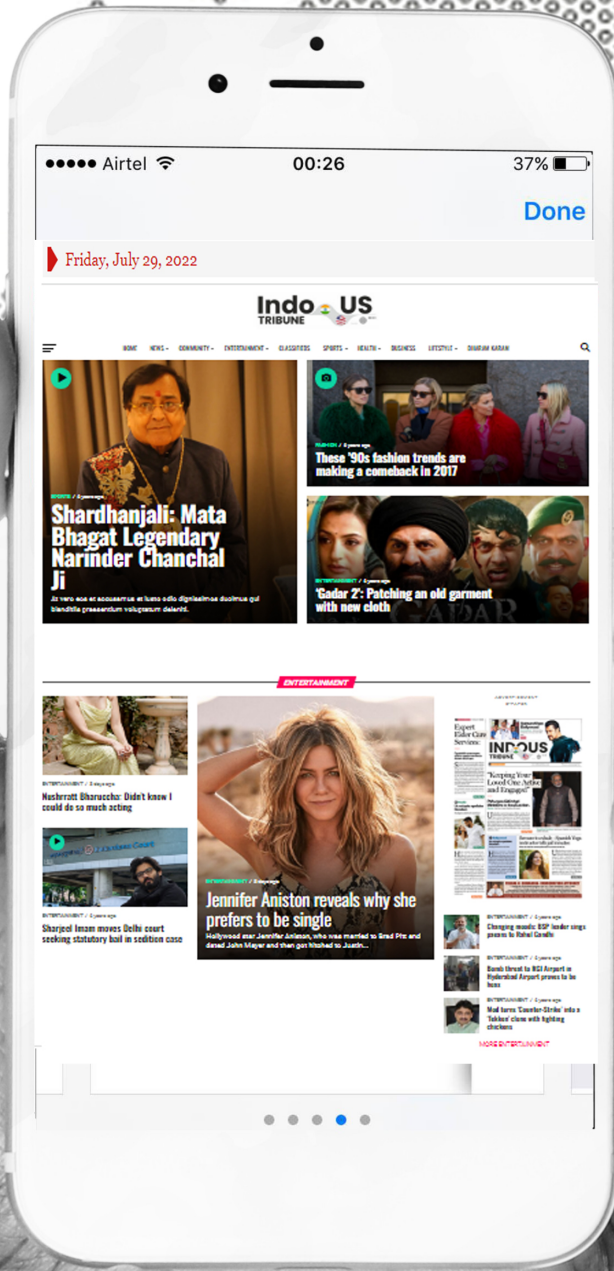


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