

House backs measure to end Iran war as Senate blocks binding resolution



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States House of Representatives on Thursday approved a Democratic-backed resolution calling for an end to the Iran war, while the Senate rejected a separate measure that would have legally required President Donald Trump to halt military operations. The House adopted the nonbinding resolution by a vote of 214-208, with four Republicans joining Democrats in support. Later, the Senate voted 47-49 against advancing a binding joint resolution, with only one Republican siding with most Democrats. Democratic lawmakers said the votes were intended to reaffirm Congress' constitutional authority over war powers and place Republicans on record ahead of the midterm elections. Several Republican senators acknowledged that continued military action beyond the 60-day limit established under the War Powers Resolution would eventually require congressional authorization, but argued that the legal clock began only after the administration formally characterized the conflict as a war. The votes underscored continuing divisions in Washington over the expanding conflict with Iran.

Canada cancels joint bridge celebration with United States as trade dispute escalates



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canada has canceled a planned joint ceremony with the United States to mark the opening of the Gordie Howe International Bridge after President Donald Trump threatened to impose a 50 percent tariff on most Canadian goods. Canadian officials said on Wednesday that proceeding with a shared celebration would be inappropriate while trade tensions continue to escalate. Canada will instead hold its own event on Friday, while the bridge is still expected to open to traffic on Monday, although United States officials have expressed some uncertainty about the timeline. The 1.5-mile bridge connecting Windsor, Ontario, and Detroit, Michigan, was financed by Canada and is expected to become a major trade corridor between the two countries. The dispute follows disagreements over revenue sharing and renewed demands from the Trump administration regarding the bridge agreement. Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney reiterated his government's commitment to free and fair trade and said Ottawa remains open to negotiations, even as officials consider possible retaliatory measures if the proposed tariffs take effect.

United States lawmakers renew support for India's bid for permanent United Nations Security Council seat

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's long-standing campaign for permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council received fresh support in the United States Congress on Wednesday, as lawmakers argued that the body's structure no longer reflects today's geopolitical realities.

During a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on United Nations reform, Congressman Ami Bera said any meaningful expansion should include the G4 nations of India, Brazil, Germany, and Japan.

United States Ambassador to the United Nations Mike Waltz acknowledged that the Security Council's composition, established in 1945, no longer mirrors the modern world but said there remains little international consensus on expanding permanent membership.

India has consistently argued that its



status as the world's largest democracy, most populous nation, major economy, and leading contributor to

United Nations peacekeeping operations justifies a permanent seat on a reformed Security Council.

Rubio reaffirms importance of United States-India ties after meeting with Jaishankar

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Wednesday described Washington's relationship with India as "vitally important" after meeting External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations meetings in Manila.

The leaders discussed trade, tariffs, energy, defense, security, critical minerals, artificial intelligence, and regional and global developments under the India-United States Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership. Rubio also highlighted cooperation through the Quad, while United States Ambassador to India Sergio Gor suggested that Rubio



could visit India later this year. The two ministers subsequently joined their counterparts from Australia and Japan for the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting, where they reaffirmed support for a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific and closer cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Jaishankar says India-China ties are gradually normalizing, urges fair market access and stable border relations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Wednesday that India-China relations have been gradually normalizing since Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping met in Kazan in 2024, while stressing that lasting progress depends on peace and stability along the border.

Speaking after talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations meetings in Manila, Jaishankar said the recent resumption of direct flights, the restart of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, and the revival of border trade were



positive steps toward rebuilding ties. He also called for fair market access, a more balanced trade relationship, predictable supply chains, and stronger people-to-people exchanges. Jaishankar added that both countries must continue managing differences through dialogue and ensure they do not escalate into disputes.

Trump shifts to new tariff framework as broader import duties take effect



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump on Thursday announced a new tariff framework that will impose import duties ranging from 10 percent to 12.5 percent on goods from 60 trading partners, replacing temporary worldwide tariffs that expire on Friday. The administration said the new measures target countries that have failed to adequately prevent goods produced through forced labor from entering international supply chains. Unlike the earlier tariffs that were imposed under emergency powers and later struck down by the Supreme Court, the latest duties rely on Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, a provision that allows the United States to respond to unfair trade practices. The administration said products such as oil, natural gas, fertilizer, and qualifying goods covered under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement will remain exempt. Human rights advocates welcomed stronger action against forced labor but urged transparent enforcement and international cooperation, while economists warned the tariffs could increase costs for importers and eventually push consumer prices higher ahead of the midterm elections.

Mamdani reiterates Netanyahu arrest pledge, acknowledges New York lacks authority

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New York City mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani on Wednesday acknowledged that New York City lacks the legal authority to arrest Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, despite previously pledging to do so if he visited the city.

Mamdani said his administration had reviewed available legal options after the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Netanyahu but found that municipal authorities could not enforce it. He instead urged the federal government to act, although the United States is not a member of the International Criminal Court.

Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Danny Danon, dismissed Mamdani's remarks, while President Donald Trump's administration has continued to reject the court's jurisdiction over Israel and sanctioned several International Criminal Court officials.

India tells Pakistan Indus Waters Treaty will remain suspended until cross-border terrorism ends

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India on Wednesday reaffirmed at the United Nations Security Council that the Indus Waters Treaty will remain in abeyance until Pakistan ends its policy of supporting cross-border terrorism. Responding to Pakistan's remarks during a debate on natural resource governance, India's Permanent Representative P. Harish said cooperation based on mutual trust is impossible while terrorism continues to be used as an instrument of state policy. He also rejected Pakistan's references to Jammu and Kashmir, reiterating that the region is an integral part of India and asserting that the only unresolved issue is Pakistan's illegal occupation of Indian territory. India suspended the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty following the deadly terrorist attack in Pahalgam, after which Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared that "water and blood cannot flow together."

Global hunger monitor warns two-thirds of Gaza could face acute hunger

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

More than two-thirds of Gaza's population could face acute hunger by the end of the year despite improvements following the Israel-Hamas ceasefire, according to a report released on Wednesday by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. The assessment found that increased aid and nutrition programs had reduced child malnutrition, but warned those gains are at risk as humanitarian assistance declines because of funding shortages and access challenges. Israel rejected suggestions that it is restricting food supplies, saying large amounts of aid have entered Gaza, while aid agencies warned that food insecurity and the collapse of water and sanitation systems continue to threaten civilians.

Oil prices climb above \$100 as Red Sea attacks deepen supply concerns

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Global oil prices surged on Thursday, with Brent crude briefly climbing above \$100 a barrel for the first time in nearly two months after attacks on Saudi oil tankers in the Red Sea heightened fears of wider disruptions to energy supplies. Brent crude settled at \$100.69 per barrel, while United States benchmark West Texas Intermediate closed at \$92.19, both recording sharp daily gains. The spike followed claims by Iran-backed Houthi rebels that they had targeted two Saudi tankers after announcing a naval blockade, raising concerns that the conflict had expanded beyond the Strait of Hormuz into another critical shipping route. The Bab el-Mandeb Strait handles roughly 12 to 15 percent of global maritime trade, making any disruption significant for international markets. Rising crude



prices also pushed average gasoline prices higher in the United States, fueling concerns about renewed inflation, while investors reacted cautiously amid fears that prolonged instability in the Middle East could further disrupt global supply chains and economic growth.

Sonam Wangchuk ends 26-day fast after negotiations with Central government

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Environmental activist Sonam Wangchuk ended his 26-day hunger strike on Friday after negotiations with the Central government over demands related to Ladakh's constitutional safeguards, environmental protection, and greater local participation in governance. He broke his fast in the presence of Union ministers Jagat Prakash Nadda and Jitendra Singh, doctors, family members, and representatives of the Apex Body of Ladakh and the Kargil Democratic

Alliance. Medical teams confirmed that Wangchuk's condition was stable. In a message shared on social media, he said the decision followed discussions on several conditions and appeals from more than 60 members of Parliament across party lines who had urged him to end the protest. Wangchuk thanked his supporters and family for standing by him throughout the fast and called for peace, urging people not to resort to violence. He said he would soon release a detailed statement explaining the understandings reached with the government after the prolonged negotiations.

Jaishankar urges safe sea lanes, stronger counterterrorism cooperation at ASEAN forum

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar on Thursday called attacks on merchant shipping and civilian infrastructure "unacceptable," stressing that international waterways must remain safe and open for commerce. Speaking at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum Ministerial Meeting in Manila, he said India supports a free, open, and rules-based Indo-Pacific. Jaishankar highlighted India's role in maritime security through naval deployments, the Information Fusion Centre, and the Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness initiative to combat piracy, trafficking, and narcotics



smuggling. He also reiterated India's zero-tolerance approach to terrorism, urged stronger action against terror financing, backed closer cooperation on cybersecurity and artificial intelligence, and reaffirmed support for a legally binding South China Sea Code of Conduct consistent with international law.

Mexico files complaints in United States over deaths of citizens in immigration custody

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Mexico has filed 20 legal complaints in the United States over the deaths of 17 Mexican nationals during Immigration and Customs Enforcement operations or while in detention since May 2025, the Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday. Mexican Ambassador Roberto Lazzeri submitted complaints to state and county prosecutors across several states and requested investigations into

each case. Mexico has also referred the matter to the United States Department of Justice and asked the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to review the incidents under international human rights standards. The Foreign Ministry said its consular network continues to provide legal assistance to affected families, including support with the repatriation of remains. Officials also raised concerns with United States authorities over conditions at immigration detention facilities.

Judge extends pause on Paramount-Warner Bros. merger until mid-August

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge on Thursday extended a temporary pause on Paramount Skydance's proposed \$110 billion acquisition of Warner Bros. Discovery until August 17, giving the companies additional time to argue against a longer delay. California and several other states have sued to block the merger, alleging it would reduce competition across the film and television industries. The Writers Guild of America has also challenged the deal, arguing it could reduce opportunities for screenwriters. Paramount has warned that an extended delay could jeopardize the transaction and potentially cost the company more than \$1 billion.

Lebanese speaker says Trump-Aoun meeting must produce lasting results

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri said on Wednesday that the recent meeting between President Donald Trump and Lebanese President Joseph Aoun should be judged by concrete outcomes rather than symbolism. While welcoming limited Israeli troop withdrawals from southern Lebanon, Berri said military operations and destruction in border areas continue. During talks at the White House on Tuesday, Aoun urged Trump to help secure a permanent end to hostilities between Lebanon and Israel. Trump pledged continued support for Lebanon and said the United States would assist the Lebanese military as efforts continue to implement a United States-backed security framework.

Gulf oil producers accelerate pipeline projects to reduce reliance on Strait of Hormuz



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Middle Eastern oil producers are accelerating multibillion-dollar pipeline projects to reduce their dependence on the Strait of Hormuz after the recent Iran conflict highlighted the vulnerability of one of the world's busiest oil shipping routes. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq and several other Gulf nations are expanding or planning alternative export corridors to the Red Sea, the Gulf of Oman and the Mediterranean Sea. Existing pipelines have helped ease supply disruptions, but analysts say additional capacity is needed to strengthen long-term energy security. Experts caution, however, that alternative routes also face risks, including attacks by Yemen's Houthi rebels on vessels operating in the Red Sea.

Bulgaria approves United States use of air base for Middle East support missions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bulgaria's Parliament approved a government proposal on Wednesday allowing the United States military to use Bezmer Air Base to support operations in the Middle East, despite concerns from some lawmakers about being drawn into the regional conflict. Legislators authorized the deployment of up to eight United States KC-135 aerial refueling aircraft, 250 personnel, and supporting equipment at the base from Friday through October 1. Under a 2006 defense agreement, parliamentary approval is required whenever the United States seeks to use the jointly operated facility for a new purpose. Prime Minister Rumen Radev and Defense Minister Dimitar Stoyanov stressed that the aircraft would be used only for logistical refueling missions outside Bulgarian airspace and said Washington had provided assurances aimed at protecting Bulgaria's national security.

Ukraine's former defense minister rejects Zelenskyy's offer of new government role

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Ukraine's former Defense Minister Mykhailo Fedorov said on Thursday that he had declined President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's offer to return to the government in a different position after being dismissed last week. Zelenskyy had proposed that Fedorov serve as deputy prime minister for military innovation, but the former minister said only the defense portfolio provided the authority needed to complete military reforms, tackle corruption in defense procurement, and oversee operations against Russia. Fedorov's removal sparked public protests across Ukraine, with supporters crediting him for modernizing the armed forces through technology and reform during the war. He said his work at the ministry remained unfinished.

Dubai offers residents incentives worth more than US\$800 to attract tourists



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Dubai has launched a new tourism campaign offering residents rewards worth more than US\$800 for encouraging friends and family abroad to visit the emirate as tourism continues to slow following the Iran conflict. Under the "Dubai Invite" program, eligible residents can receive hotel stays, dining offers, and attraction tickets valued at more than US\$800 for each successful referral, with benefits available for up to three visiting groups. The initiative follows a sharp decline in international arrivals after regional tensions disrupted air travel. Hotels have reported lower occupancy rates, while some businesses have experienced revenue declines exceeding 50 percent, prompting discounts and promotional offers to attract.

United States court schedules June 2027 trial for Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal court in New York on Wednesday scheduled the trial of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores, to begin in June 2027 on drug trafficking and firearms charges. During a brief hearing, Judge Alvin Hellerstein set the date after consulting lawyers for both sides. Maduro, who has pleaded not guilty, is expected to challenge the indictment by arguing that he is entitled to sovereign immunity as Venezuela's sitting president. The couple has remained in custody in New York since being brought to the United States following a military operation in January.



Maduro has described the operation as a kidnapping and maintains that the prosecution violates his constitutional rights. His legal team is also challenging restrictions on access to Venezuelan government funds for his defense.

Australia warns against Chinese military intimidation as ASEAN confronts regional security challenges

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong urged regional leaders at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Foreign Ministers' Meeting to resist what she called China's increasingly "provocative" military actions, warning that intimidation and coercion threaten stability across the Indo-Pacific.

Wong criticized China's recent missile launch and the rapid expansion of its military and nuclear capabilities, calling for greater transparency and adherence to international law. She also expressed



concern over rising tensions in the South China Sea, saying countries must work together to uphold a rules-based regional order. She further urged all nations to keep key global shipping routes, including the Strait of Hormuz, open as conflict in the Middle East continues to pose risks to energy supplies, trade and food security.

Religious tensions mount after Ben-Gvir joins worshippers at Al-Aqsa

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir joined thousands of Jewish worshippers at Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque compound on Thursday, where participants prayed, waved Israeli flags, and sang the national anthem under heavy police protection. The visit coincided with the Jewish observance of Tisha B'Av and drew strong criticism because the long-standing status quo governing the site bars non-Muslim prayer there. Palestinian officials, Jordan, and Israeli peace groups accused Ben-Gvir of undermining the agreement and risking



wider religious tensions. Ben-Gvir said the visit reflected "enormous progress," while reaffirming his long-standing support for expanding Jewish prayer rights at the highly contested holy site.

Extreme heat fuels wildfires as thousands flee across France and Spain

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Thousands of residents and tourists fled fast-moving wildfires across France and Spain on Thursday as extreme temperatures and dry conditions fueled one of southern Europe's most severe fire seasons in recent years. Spain declared a national emergency in parts of the Madrid region, while authorities evacuated thousands from France's southwestern Atlantic coast as firefighters battled multiple blazes. Temperatures climbed above 44 degrees Celsius in parts of Spain, with officials warning that strong winds and prolonged heat were worsening conditions. Although no fatalities were immediately reported, several homes



were destroyed. Scientists say increasingly frequent heat waves linked to climate change are contributing to larger and more destructive wildfires across Europe.

Brazil investigation finds severe icing contributed to 2024 plane crash that killed 62



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Brazilian investigators said on Thursday that severe icing, mechanical failures, and pilot distraction contributed to the 2024 Voepass plane crash that killed all 62 people on board, making it the country's deadliest aviation accident since 2007. The final investigation found the ATR 72-500 encountered severe icing before losing lift and entering an unrecoverable flat spin. Investigators said repeated faults in the aircraft's de-icing system, along with preexisting mechanical issues, were known before takeoff but were not adequately addressed. They also cited pilot distraction during critical moments of the flight and criticized what they described as a company culture that normalized operational and maintenance deviations.

United Nations calls for probe into reported killing of surrendering Malian soldiers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United Nations human rights office on Thursday called for an independent investigation into reports that surrendering Malian soldiers were tortured and killed following an ambush in northern Mali, warning that such acts could amount to war crimes. The attack took place on Saturday between Anefis and Gao and involved fighters from the Azawad Liberation Front and the Al Qaeda-linked Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimin. Videos circulating online appear to show captured soldiers being shot after surrendering, although their authenticity has not been independently verified. The Azawad Liberation Front said it supports an impartial investigation while maintaining that the footage must first be authenticated.

Russian bomb attacks injure dozens in eastern Ukrainian cities

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian aerial bombardments injured at least 29 people and caused extensive damage to residential areas in eastern Ukraine on Thursday, according to Ukrainian officials. Five guided bombs struck homes and a medical facility in Zaporizhzhia, injuring 15 people, while two bombs hit Sloviansk in the Donetsk region, wounding 14 others and damaging several apartment buildings. Images released by regional authorities showed heavily damaged residential blocks, including one partially collapsed building. Reuters could not independently verify the claims. Both Russia and Ukraine continue to deny deliberately targeting civilians during the more than four-year conflict, despite repeated strikes on populated areas.

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Chicago Office:

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marketing@indoustribune.com

PUBLISHER

Dr. (H) Avi Verma

publisher@indoustribune.com

(773) 866-1222

Editor

Nikita Sharma

editor@indoustribune.com

Graphics & Web Development

Sunil Panchal

graphics@indoustribune.com

Board of Advisors

Rakesh Malhotra

Ramesh Soparwala

Madhu Patel

Vandana Jhingan

Neelam Verma

Legal Advisors

Seth Kebron

Ankush Ansal

Special Contributor

Rajesh Ansal

Special Correspondent

Sunita Verma

Social Media

Pooja Singh

Chicago Office:

Lincolnwood, IL 60712

Surrey Canada Office

surrey@indoustribune.com

San Jose Office

sanjose@indoustribune.com

Delhi Office:

delhi@indoustribune.com

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BOOK

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marketing@indoustribune.com

Here we go again

Tariffs, tough talk, and the future of affordable medicines

Dr. Avi Verma

resident Donald Trump has once again turned to tariffs—this time targeting one of the most critical sectors in U.S.-India trade: generic medicines. Under the President's newly announced plan, imported generic drugs will continue to enter the United States tariff-free for the next two years, beginning August 1, 2026. Thereafter, tariffs are proposed to rise sharply—first to 100 percent and eventually 200 percent. The administration's goal is clear: encourage pharmaceutical companies to manufacture more medicines in America and reduce dependence on foreign suppliers.

While the announcement has sent shockwaves through India's pharmaceutical industry, the issue deserves a balanced analysis rather than an emotional reaction.

India is rightly known as the "Pharmacy of the World." It is one of the largest producers of generic medicines and supplies roughly 40 percent of the generic medicines used in the United States by volume. Nearly 38 percent of India's pharmaceutical exports are shipped to the U.S., making America its largest pharmaceutical market. For decades, this partnership has benefited both countries—Indian manufacturers have supplied affordable medicines, while American patients have gained access to lower-cost treatments.

The first question is simple: Who ultimately pays the tariff?

Although tariffs are imposed on imports, history suggests that much of the added cost eventually works its way through the supply chain. Healthcare experts warn that

significantly higher import costs could result in higher prescription drug prices or increased pressure on insurers and public healthcare programs if domestic production does not expand quickly enough. At the same time, the administration's argument cannot be dismissed.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed America's dependence on overseas manufacturing for essential medicines. Strengthening domestic pharmaceutical production is a legitimate national security objective. Every nation has the right to ensure reliable access to life-saving drugs during global emergencies.

The challenge lies in execution.

Building pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities is a long-term undertaking. It requires billions of dollars in investment, FDA approvals, specialized equipment, and a highly skilled workforce. Industry leaders have repeatedly argued that generic drug manufacturing operates on thin profit margins, making rapid relocation to the United States economically difficult. Even with a two-year transition period, reshoring production will not happen overnight.

Another important factor is the broader U.S.-India relationship.

Today, the partnership extends well beyond trade. The two democracies cooperate closely in defense, technology, healthcare, higher education, semiconductors, and Indo-Pacific security. Neither Washington nor New Delhi benefits from allowing pharmaceutical tariffs to overshadow a relationship that has become increasingly important to global stability.

For Indian pharmaceutical companies, the proposal presents both risk and opportunity. Larger firms may expand manufacturing within the United States to preserve market access, while smaller companies may struggle with the enormous investment required. The coming two years will likely determine which companies adapt successfully.

There is also an irony that deserves attention. The United States has relied on Indian manufacturers precisely because they have consistently supplied safe,

effective, and affordable generic medicines. Policies intended to strengthen domestic manufacturing should avoid unintentionally making healthcare more expensive for American patients.

The larger debate is not whether America should strengthen domestic manufacturing—it should. The real question is whether tariffs alone are enough. History suggests they are only one part of the solution. Expanding pharmaceutical production will also require investment incentives, regulatory efficiency, workforce development, and close collaboration with industry.

This should not become a contest between America First and India First. It should be about patients first. The next two years provide an opportunity—not merely to prepare for higher tariffs, but to negotiate practical solutions that strengthen America's pharmaceutical security while preserving one of the world's most successful healthcare partnerships.

The U.S.-India relationship has grown because both nations recognize their shared democratic values and mutual economic interests. It would be unfortunate if healthcare cooperation became an unintended casualty of trade policy.

Ultimately, this proposal should be judged not by the size of the tariff, but by its results. If it succeeds in rebuilding American pharmaceutical manufacturing without significantly increasing healthcare costs or damaging a vital strategic partnership, it will have achieved its purpose. If, however, it leads to higher drug prices, supply disruptions, or unnecessary friction between trusted allies, both countries—and millions of patients—could pay the price.

The next two years will reveal whether this policy becomes a catalyst for stronger supply chains or another chapter in an increasingly protectionist global economy.

Best regards,

Dr. Avi Verma

Publisher,

IndoUS Tribune

International Criminal Court drops war crimes case against Sudan rebel Abdallah Banda



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The International Criminal Court on Thursday dismissed its long-running war crimes case against Sudanese rebel leader Abdallah Banda after prosecutors concluded they could no longer prove the charges at trial. Banda had been accused of involvement in a deadly 2007 attack on African Union peacekeepers in Darfur. Judges criticized prosecutors for failing to demonstrate that the evidence had deteriorated enough to justify dropping the case, but ruled that a fair trial could not proceed because the prosecution no longer intended to present its case. Prosecutors cited unreliable key witnesses and new evidence that could support Banda's defense, ending a case that had remained before the court for more than 15 years.

Death toll from southwestern China landslide rises to 11, with 50 still missing



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The death toll from last week's landslide in southwestern China's Chongqing municipality has risen to 11, while 50 people remain missing, authorities said on Thursday as rescue teams continued searching through massive debris. Three more bodies were recovered in recent days after the collapse in Pengshui County buried more than 10 residential buildings. Ten people were also injured in the disaster. Officials said the search has become increasingly difficult because of huge volumes of earth and large boulders, requiring the use of heavy machinery, drones, and controlled blasting. Authorities added that there have been no recent signs of survivors since the landslide struck on Friday.

Consulate General of Israel and Global Indian Diaspora Foundation to host inaugural India-Israel Friendship Day in Midwest

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In a significant step toward strengthening people-to-people ties and fostering greater cultural understanding, the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest, in partnership with the Global Indian Diaspora Foundation (GIDF), will host the first-ever India-Israel Friendship Day on Saturday evening, July 26, in Evanston, Illinois. The inaugural event is designed to celebrate the growing friendship between the Indian and Israeli communities in the Midwest while promoting cultural exchange, dialogue, and community engagement.

Organizers say the program aims to bring together members of both communities through shared traditions, arts, cuisine, and personal interaction, reinforcing the values of mutual respect and cooperation. Among the featured guests will be Consul General of Israel to the Midwest Elad Strohmayr, Deputy Consul General of India Shri K. D. Thokchom, and Deputy Consul General of Israel Delphine Gamburg, underscoring the importance both diplomatic missions place on strengthening grassroots connections between their respective communities. The evening will showcase the rich cultural heritage of both nations through Indian and Israeli dance performances, interactive cultural workshops,



live music, and an opportunity for attendees to experience traditional cuisines from both countries. Organizers hope the event will encourage meaningful interaction between families, young professionals, community leaders, and cultural organizations representing both communities.

Over the years, relations between India and Israel have expanded significantly in areas such as technology, agriculture, innovation, education, healthcare, and defense. Community leaders note that this growing partnership is increasingly reflected at the grassroots level, where members of the Indian and Jewish communities are collaborating through educational, cultural, and civic initiatives across the Midwest. The launch of India-Israel Friendship Day is being viewed as another milestone in this evolving relationship, providing a platform for dialogue and greater understanding between two vibrant diaspora communities that have made significant contributions to



the social, economic, and cultural fabric of the region. The initiative also highlights the outreach efforts of the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest, which has actively engaged with diverse ethnic and cultural communities to build stronger relationships and promote intercultural understanding. Community leaders have welcomed the Consulate's collaboration with the Global Indian Diaspora Foundation, noting that such partnerships help create lasting connections beyond official diplomatic relations. Organizers expressed hope that the inaugural celebration will become an annual tradition, further strengthening the bonds of friendship between the Indian and Israeli communities while reflecting the broader and growing partnership between the two nations.

Argentina's Milei throws support behind Flavio Bolsonaro as Brazil election battle heats up

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Argentine President Javier Milei traveled to Brazil on Friday to endorse Senator Flavio Bolsonaro's presidential campaign, offering a rare show of support by a sitting foreign leader as the conservative candidate seeks to revive his bid against President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. The endorsement comes as Flavio Bolsonaro has lost ground in opinion polls following months of internal party divisions, campaign financing scrutiny and political controversies. Analysts said Milei's presence could energize Brazil's conservative base and reinforce a broader right-wing resurgence that has gained momentum across Latin America in recent elections. The son of former President Jair Bolsonaro has pledged tougher crime policies, tax cuts and privatization while attempting to broaden his appeal beyond



his father's loyal supporters ahead of Brazil's presidential election. According to political analysts, the race remains competitive, although Lula currently holds the advantage in national polling.

Czech military helicopter crashes at air force base, killing one soldier

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Czech military helicopter crashed at an air force base on Thursday, killing one soldier and injuring four others, officials said. The United States-made UH-1Y Venom helicopter went down at the Náměšť nad Oslavou Air Base, about 112 miles southeast of Prague, during the afternoon. Emergency responders transported the four injured soldiers to nearby hospitals, while authorities did not immediately disclose the extent of their injuries. The Czech military has grounded its fleet of 12 UH-1Y Venom and AH-1Z Viper helicopters pending an investigation into the cause of the crash. Officials have not released further details about what led to the accident.

European Union fines Google US\$1 billion over Play Store and search practices

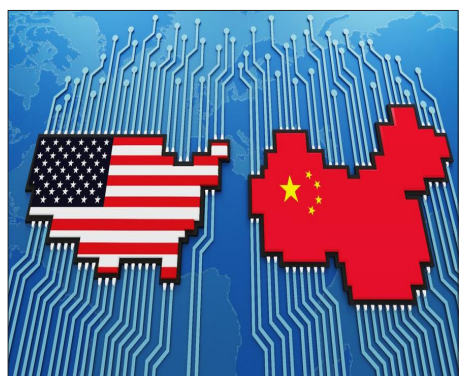
IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The European Union imposed a US\$1 billion antitrust fine on Google on Thursday, accusing the technology giant of using its Play Store and search engine to unfairly favor its own services over rivals. The European Commission said the practices violated the bloc's Digital Markets Act by limiting competition and consumer choice. The penalty marks the latest regulatory action against major technology companies despite criticism from President Donald Trump, who has opposed European penalties on American firms. Google rejected the decision, arguing that the rules would weaken products used by European consumers and businesses. Alphabet, Google's parent company, reported revenue of US\$403 billion in 2025.

China, AI and cyber threats have transformed United States security landscape, experts say

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States now faces a far broader national security challenge than it did after the September 11 attacks, with China, artificial intelligence, cyber warfare, and critical infrastructure threats emerging as the country's top concerns, security experts told a House Intelligence Committee hearing on Tuesday. Former National Security Adviser H. R. McMaster described China and Russia as leading an "axis of hostile aggressor states" seeking to reshape the global order, while national security analyst Seth Jones called China the most significant state-based threat to the United States. Witnesses also warned that artificial intelligence is accelerating cyberattacks, espionage, and the



development of advanced weapons. Experts said hostile nations are increasingly targeting energy, communications, transportation, finance, and other critical infrastructure, making the United States homeland a more contested security environment.

India reaffirms support for Colombo Plan capacity building program



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has reaffirmed its support for the Colombo Plan's capacity building initiatives after High Commissioner Santosh Jha met the organization's new Secretary General, Chulamanee Chartsuwan, in Colombo on Tuesday. The two discussed activities planned for the Colombo Plan's 75th anniversary and exchanged views on the organization's future direction. The Colombo Plan is an intergovernmental organization of 26 member countries that promotes human capital development and South-South cooperation.

Jha also met leaders of Sri Lanka's National Chamber of Exporters to discuss expanding bilateral trade, investment, and business partnerships. Earlier, India signed an agreement to provide a US\$2 million grant to equip Base Hospital in Deniyaya with advanced medical equipment as part of its broader US\$450 million post-disaster rehabilitation assistance package for Sri Lanka.

Panama discusses joining International Big Cat Alliance with India



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Panama and India held discussions on Monday on the possibility of Panama joining the India-headquartered International Big Cat Alliance as a member country. Talks between International Big Cat Alliance Director General S. P. Yadav and Panamanian Foreign Ministry official Andrea Zebede focused on strengthening cooperation in big cat and biodiversity conservation, capacity building, knowledge exchange, and sharing best practices among range countries.

Separately, Panamanian Foreign Minister Javier Eduardo Martinez-Acha Vasquez, who is on an official visit to India, met Indian officials to discuss expanding maritime cooperation. Both sides explored a proposed maritime cooperation agreement covering trade and connectivity, maritime safety and security, capacity building, and measures to improve the welfare and protection of seafarers.

Jaishankar says India-Canada cooperation steadily growing after meeting Canadian counterpart Anita Anand

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said India and Canada are steadily expanding cooperation after holding talks with Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand on Wednesday on the sidelines of Association of Southeast Asian Nations meetings in Manila. Jaishankar said the discussions focused on advancing the goals for bilateral ties set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney.

During his two-day visit to the Philippines, Jaishankar also held separate meetings with United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, and Singaporean Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan. His discussions covered trade, tariffs, defense, energy, critical minerals, artificial intelligence, connectivity, and regional



security. Jaishankar also reiterated India's concern over the safety of Indian seafarers and exchanged views on the Ukraine conflict, the Gulf situation, and broader regional and global developments.

Ajit Doval discusses energy security and maritime corridors during Saudi Arabia visit

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval held a series of high-level meetings in Riyadh on Sunday to strengthen the India-Saudi Arabia strategic partnership, with discussions focusing on energy security, maritime corridors, and regional developments. Doval met Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan, Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman, and National Security Advisor Musaed Al-Aiban. According to Saudi Arabia's Foreign Ministry, both sides reviewed bilateral ties and explored ways to deepen cooperation while discussing the evolving security situation in the region.

Talks also focused on strengthening energy security, ensuring stable energy supplies, and protecting vital maritime trade routes. Saudi officials said the discussions reflected the expanding strategic partnership between the



two countries. Doval's visit follows another official trip to Riyadh in April, underscoring growing cooperation on energy, regional stability, and other issues of mutual interest.

India and Netherlands expand cooperation on water management and Kalpasar project

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and the Netherlands are working to deepen cooperation in water management, with a delegation led by Jal Shakti Secretary K. V. L. Kantha Rao holding technical consultations on Gujarat's Kalpasar Project during a visit to the Netherlands. The delegation met officials from the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency, Delft University of Technology, and Deltares, and also toured the Afsluitdijk flood protection project.

The visit builds on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's trip to the Netherlands in May, when he praised the country's expertise in water management. India is seeking to apply Dutch experience to the Kalpasar Project, which aims to create



a freshwater reservoir near the Gulf of Khambhat while enhancing climate resilience, irrigation, flood control, and inland waterways.

President Murmu's landmark Moldova visit ushers in new phase of India-Europe engagement



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

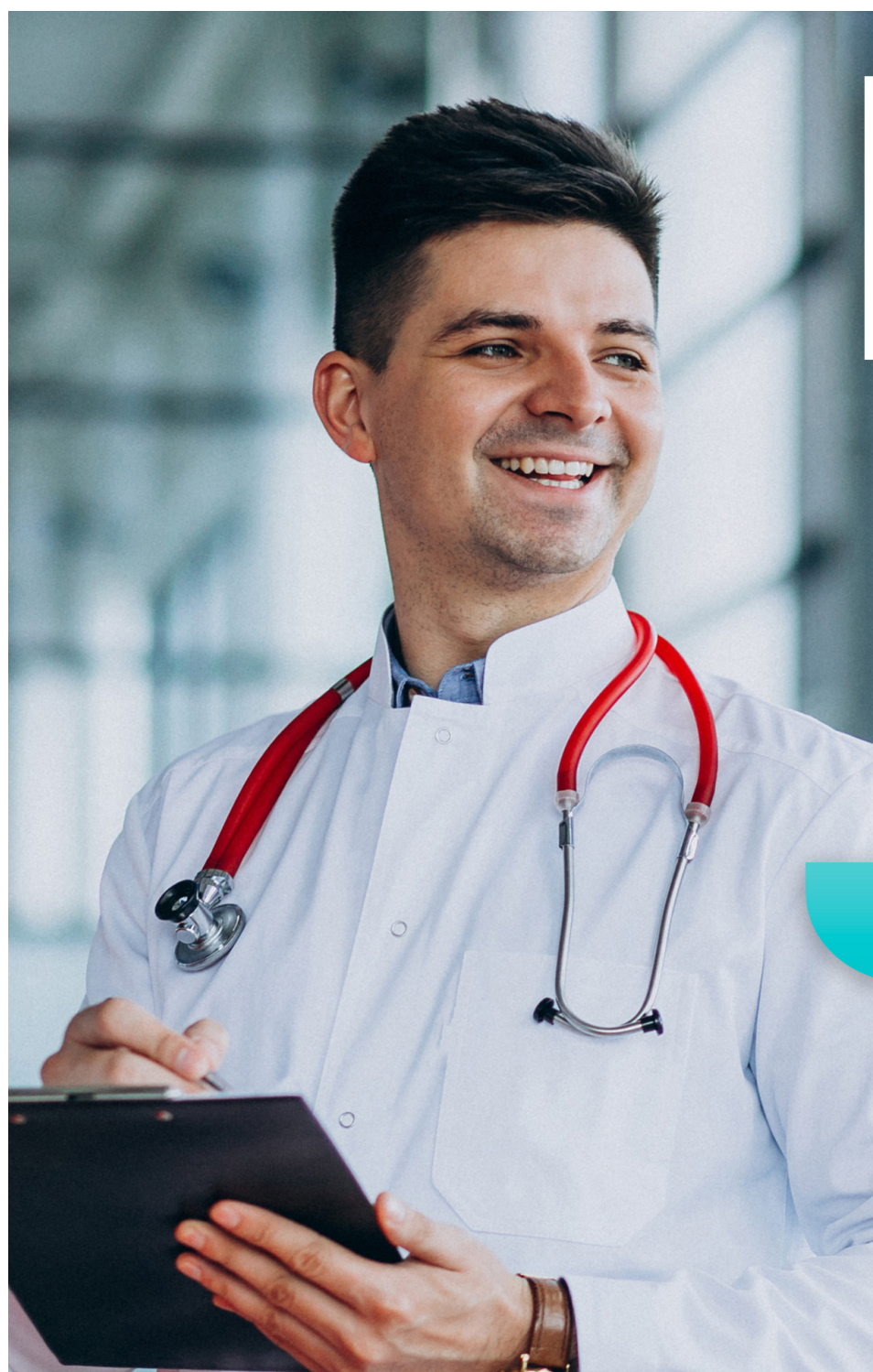
President Droupadi Murmu's first-ever state visit by an Indian head of state to Moldova has laid the foundation for closer India-Moldova ties and strengthened India's engagement with Europe, the Ministry of External Affairs said after the visit concluded. During talks with Moldovan President Maia Sandu, the two leaders agreed to expand cooperation in trade, investment, agriculture, healthcare, renewable energy, digital public infrastructure, artificial intelligence, logistics, and innovation. India also announced that it will double training slots for Moldovan professionals under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation program and invited Moldova to join the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and the Global Biofuels Alliance. President Murmu also addressed the India-Moldova Business Forum and invited President Sandu to visit India, describing the visit as a historic milestone in bilateral relations.

India, Romania set ambitious trade and innovation agenda during President Murmu's landmark state visit



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Romania agreed to significantly expand their strategic partnership during President Droupadi Murmu's state visit to Bucharest on Thursday, with both countries unveiling an ambitious roadmap for closer cooperation in trade, innovation, education, science, and technology. During talks with Romanian President Nicușor Dan, the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening economic ties and set a goal of doubling bilateral trade over the next three years. Three agreements were signed covering cooperation in science and technology, sports, and the establishment of an Indian Studies Chair at the University of Bucharest. The two countries also agreed to celebrate 2028, marking 80 years of diplomatic relations, as the "India-Romania Year of Innovation." The visit, the first by an Indian President to Romania in nearly 30 years, underscores New Delhi's growing engagement with Central and Eastern Europe as it seeks to deepen political, economic, and people-to-people ties.

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Appeals court clears path for release of Biden's ghostwriter interview recordings

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal appeals court ruled on Monday that audio recordings and transcripts of Joe Biden's interviews with his memoir ghostwriter may be released, rejecting the former president's request to block their disclosure. In a 2 to 1 decision, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit said the public interest in the redacted material outweighed Biden's remaining privacy concerns. The ruling is temporarily stayed until Monday, August 3, giving Biden time to pursue another appeal. The recordings were obtained during Special Counsel Robert Hur's investigation into Biden's handling of classified documents. Although Hur declined to bring criminal charges, Republicans later sought access to the interviews, prompting Biden's legal challenge.

New Jersey voter registration error fuels fresh dispute over election integrity claims



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A voter registration error in New Jersey has become the latest flashpoint in the national debate over election security after President Donald Trump and Republican allies cited the incident to support broader claims of noncitizen voting. State officials disclosed that about 6,600 noncitizens were mistakenly registered through an automatic voter registration software error between 2023 and 2024, with fewer than 400 casting ballots. Governor Mikie Sherrill said the registrations resulted from a state administrative mistake and represented a tiny fraction of the state's more than 6.6 million registered voters. Election experts stressed there is no evidence the incident reflects widespread voter fraud and questioned broader federal claims about noncitizen voter registrations, citing a lack of supporting methodology.

Cyclospora outbreak tied to imported lettuce spreads to nine states

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Federal health officials have expanded their investigation into a Cyclospora outbreak after four additional states were linked to infections associated with shredded iceberg lettuce imported from central Mexico. According to reports released on Friday, Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania have joined Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia in the outbreak. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is leading the investigation, although the agency had not formally confirmed the latest additions at the time of publication. Cyclospora is a foodborne parasite that can cause prolonged gastrointestinal illness, including diarrhea, nausea, stomach cramps, and fatigue. Investigators are continuing to trace the contaminated supply chain and monitor for additional cases.

More than two dozen states challenge Trump administration over disaster funding conditions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

More than 24 states filed a lawsuit on Thursday accusing the Trump administration of unlawfully tying billions of dollars in federal disaster and homeland security funding to election and immigration policy requirements. The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Rhode Island, challenges new policies adopted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Homeland Security that require states to comply with federal election security measures and cooperate with immigration enforcement to receive certain grants.

The states argue the conditions violate the Constitution's Spending Clause and the Administrative Procedure Act because Congress did not authorize them. Among the disputed requirements are adopting paper ballot voting systems, conducting manual election audits, reconciling voter



rolls, and verifying the citizenship of registered voters.

States that refuse could lose at least 20 percent of Homeland Security Grant Program funding, which supports cybersecurity and counterterrorism efforts. The Trump administration defended the policy, calling it a necessary step to protect election integrity, while the states described it as an unconstitutional attempt to force compliance with federal priorities through financial pressure.

House Republicans approve \$95 billion package to fund Iran war and advance Trump's agenda

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

House Republicans narrowly approved a \$95 billion budget resolution on Wednesday, advancing President Donald Trump's request for funding for the Iran conflict and several domestic priorities despite unified Democratic opposition and defections within the Republican Party. The measure passed 216 to 214 and includes \$60 billion for the Pentagon, \$13 billion for other national security programs, \$12 billion in aid for farmers affected by tariffs, and \$10 billion for election-related measures aligned with the proposed SAVE America Act, including proof of citizenship requirements for voter registration.

Speaker Mike Johnson relied on the budget reconciliation process, allowing the package to move forward without Democratic support in the closely divided Congress. Democrats criticized the proposal



for prioritizing military spending over domestic needs, while some Republicans objected to the absence of spending cuts or broader congressional oversight of the Iran conflict. The package now heads to the Senate, where Republican leaders remain divided over its prospects and have not committed to bringing it up for a vote.

Opposition to AI data centers goes national with protests across 42 states

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Opponents of artificial intelligence data centers staged 142 coordinated protests across 42 states on Saturday, signaling that resistance to the industry's rapid expansion has evolved into a nationwide movement. Organized by the grassroots group HumansFirst, co-founded by former Tea Party leader Amy Kremer, the demonstrations focused on concerns over rising electricity and water consumption, environmental impacts, property values, and local control over large-scale developments. Texas hosted the highest number of protests, followed by Georgia and California. The Data Center Coalition said developers are working with communities to minimize local impacts while supporting economic growth and the nation's artificial intelligence infrastructure. The



coordinated demonstrations reflect growing public scrutiny of the industry's expansion as communities increasingly question the environmental and infrastructure demands of large data center projects.

Congressional hearing reignites clash over Smithsonian's portrayal of American history

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Republican and Democratic lawmakers clashed during a congressional hearing on Tuesday over the Smithsonian Institution, accusing each other of attempting to reshape how American history is presented. Republicans argued that the National Museum of American History has adopted an ideological approach emphasizing race, gender, and social issues, while Democrats accused the Trump administration of politicizing historical scholarship. Museum Director Anthea Hartig defended the institution's commitment to independent, evidence-based research, saying its mission is to present a broader and more inclusive account of the nation's history. The hearing followed a White House report criticizing several Smithsonian exhibits and comes amid broader debates over history education in the United States.

All 11 survive after seaplane catches fire during emergency landing in Washington

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

All 11 people aboard a Kenmore Air seaplane survived after the aircraft made an emergency landing on the water and caught fire near Sucia Island in Washington state on Thursday. The de Havilland DHC-3 Otter had departed Seattle's Lake Union with 10 passengers and one pilot when it was forced down in Shallow Bay. The United States Coast Guard, assisted by Canadian and local emergency crews, rescued everyone on board. Several passengers were taken to nearby hospitals for medical evaluation, with four requiring additional treatment. Kenmore Air said it is cooperating fully with investigators as authorities work to determine what caused the accident.

United States unveils new visa restrictions targeting cybercrime offenders

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration announced a new visa restriction policy on Thursday aimed at foreign nationals involved in cybercrime or cyber-enabled criminal activity. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the policy would apply to individuals responsible for, or complicit in, activities such as cyberattacks, online fraud, ransomware operations, and other digital crimes that threaten United States interests. The restrictions may also extend to immediate family members of those targeted. The State Department said the measure is intended to strengthen international efforts to combat cybercrime and hold perpetrators accountable by limiting their ability to travel to the United States.

Republicans introduce bill to ease prosecution of Chinese firms in espionage cases

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Senior Republican lawmakers have introduced legislation that would make it easier for federal prosecutors to pursue economic espionage cases involving companies based in China. The proposed 'Stop PRC Economic Espionage Act', introduced on Monday by Senator John Cornyn, Senator Tom Cotton, and Representative John Moolenaar, would classify Chinese companies as instruments of the Chinese state under federal law, removing the requirement to prove they acted on behalf of Beijing in trade secret theft cases. The measure would also apply to organizations from Russia, Iran, and North Korea. Supporters argue the bill reflects the Chinese Communist Party's influence over domestic businesses, while China has repeatedly rejected accusations that its companies function as extensions of the state.

White House report calls reliance on foreign STEM students a national security challenge

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration has described the United States' reliance on foreign students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics programs as a national security concern in a White House report released on Tuesday.

Titled 'Science: A New Golden Age', the report argues that heavy dependence on international researchers has increased the risk of technology transfer to strategic competitors while leaving American talent underdeveloped.

It notes that temporary visa holders accounted for about half of doctoral graduates in computer science and mathematics with confirmed post-graduation plans in 2024. While the report proposes no new visa restrictions, it calls for greater investment in domestic science education, research, and workforce development.

Trump claims United States has secured \$19.2 trillion in global investment commitments

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump claimed on Wednesday that his administration has secured more than \$19.2 trillion in global investment commitments, saying the influx of manufacturing and business projects reflects renewed confidence in the United States economy. Speaking at a rally in Marietta, Georgia, Trump said companies from Asia and Europe were expanding or relocating operations to the United States because of his administration's trade, tax, and industrial policies. He highlighted investments by pharmaceutical company UCB, Yamaha Motor, and other manufacturers while pointing to lower inflation, rising stock markets, and strong job growth. Trump described the investment commitments as evidence that the country had entered what he called a new "Golden Age" of economic growth.

Trump targets withdrawn climate guidance for federal judges with new review

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump has directed federal officials to review climate science guidance that was removed from a reference manual used by federal judges, arguing the material reflected political bias rather than objective scientific evidence. The review follows the federal judiciary's decision in February to withdraw a climate science chapter after objections from 27 Republican attorneys general, who argued it favored one scientific viewpoint. Published by the Federal Judicial Center in cooperation with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, the manual is intended to help judges evaluate complex scientific evidence but is not legally binding. The chapter's authors have defended the guidance, saying it



accurately reflected established climate science while acknowledging scientific uncertainty. Trump's order marks the latest effort by his administration to challenge federal guidance on climate-related issues.

Bertha spares Gulf Coast from major damage after second landfall

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Tropical Storm Bertha weakened into a tropical depression and later dissipated on Thursday after making a second landfall along the Texas Gulf Coast, bringing strong winds, rough surf, and localized coastal flooding to parts of Louisiana and Texas. The National Hurricane Center said the storm was expected to produce 1 to 3 inches of rain, with isolated totals of up to 4 inches that could trigger flash flooding in parts of south Texas. No deaths or major damage were reported. Bertha also forced SpaceX to postpone a planned Starship test flight because of poor weather. Although tropical storm warnings were lifted by Thursday evening, officials continued to

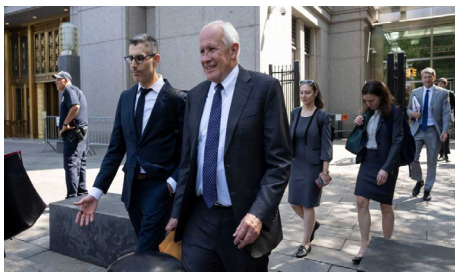


warn of dangerous rip currents, high surf, and localized flooding. Bertha was the Atlantic hurricane season's second named storm.

Judge's rebuke forces Justice Department to withdraw New York Times reporter subpoenas

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Justice Department withdrew subpoenas seeking testimony from three New York Times reporters on Thursday after a federal judge sharply criticized prosecutors for legal errors and their handling of the investigation. The subpoenas were tied to a leak inquiry involving reporting on President Donald Trump's Qatari-gifted Air Force One aircraft. During a tense hearing, U.S. District Judge Arun Subramanian said the government failed to treat subpoenas to journalists as a last resort, as required under Justice Department regulations. Prosecutors acknowledged mistakes, including



subpoenas that mistakenly sought phone records belonging to reporters' relatives. The New York Times welcomed the decision as a victory for press freedom, while the Justice Department said its investigation into classified information leaks will continue.

Trump revives election fraud claims during Georgia rally as Republicans weigh political risks

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump returned to Georgia on Wednesday, renewing his calls for stricter nationwide voting requirements while repeating false claims about election fraud, a strategy that has raised concerns among some Republicans ahead of the state's closely watched Senate race. Speaking at a rally in Marietta, Trump urged supporters to pressure Senate Majority Leader John Thune to advance his administration's election bill, which includes tougher voting requirements nationwide. He also repeated his false

assertion that the 2020 election in Georgia was rigged, despite multiple recounts and investigations confirming Joe Biden's victory. Some Georgia Republicans fear Trump's continued attacks on the state's election system could discourage Republican voters from participating in the midterm elections, when control of Congress is at stake. The issue has become central to the Senate contest between Democratic Senator Jon Ossoff and Republican Representative Mike Collins, who has backed Trump's election security proposals. Georgia already requires voter identification and tightened several voting rules following the 2020 election.

Minnesota gunman sentenced to life for killing Democratic lawmaker and targeting others

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Minnesota man who admitted to assassinating a senior Democratic lawmaker and attempting to kill another was sentenced on Thursday to consecutive life terms plus 40 years in federal prison. Vance Boelter, 59, pleaded guilty in June to six federal charges, avoiding a possible death sentence. Prosecutors said he disguised himself as a police officer before fatally shooting former Minnesota House Democratic leader Melissa Hortman and her husband, Mark, at their home in 2025. He also wounded State Senator John Hoffman and his wife, Yvette. The attack, which followed visits to two other lawmakers' homes, renewed concerns about escalating political violence in the United States.

Federal agency drops subpoena fight in University of Pennsylvania antisemitism probe

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission on Thursday withdrew its effort to compel the University of Pennsylvania to provide the names and contact information of Jewish faculty members, students, and campus groups as part of an antisemitism investigation. The move ends a legal dispute over a subpoena issued last year, though the broader federal investigation remains active. The university said it had already provided hundreds of pages of documents while refusing to disclose personal information because of privacy concerns. The investigation is part of the Trump administration's wider scrutiny of universities over allegations of antisemitism and campus policies related to Israel and other social issues.

Weekly jobless claims fall to lowest level in nearly six decades



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New applications for unemployment benefits in the United States fell unexpectedly to their lowest level since 1969, underscoring the resilience of the labor market despite ongoing concerns about inflation. Labor Department data released on Thursday showed initial jobless claims dropped by 22,000 to a seasonally adjusted 187,000 for the week ending Saturday, well below economists' forecasts. Continuing claims also declined, suggesting hiring remains steady. Economists cautioned that seasonal factors, including temporary shutdowns at automobile plants, may have contributed to the sharp drop. Even so, the data reinforced expectations that the Federal Reserve will remain focused on inflation as the job market continues to show strength.

Israeli police arrest suspect after Indian national found dead in Jerusalem



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Israeli police arrested a 31-year-old Israeli man after a 40-year-old Indian national was found dead in an apartment in Jerusalem's Katamon neighborhood on Thursday. Police said officers responding to the scene discovered the victim lying in a pool of blood and launched a homicide investigation after initial findings suggested the death was criminal in nature. The suspect, a resident of Eilat, was taken into custody for questioning shortly after the discovery. Authorities have not publicly identified either the victim or the suspect. Jerusalem District Commander Avshalom Peled has assigned the investigation to the district's Central Unit, while forensic teams continue examining evidence. Police said additional investigative steps are underway to establish the circumstances surrounding the killing.

Federal Bureau of Investigation arrests Indian national in North America drug trafficking crackdown



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Federal Bureau of Investigation announced on Wednesday the arrest of Indian national Harmanveer Singh in Stockton, California, for his alleged role in a transnational drug trafficking network linked to the Canada-based Ravinder Dhanda Organized Crime Group. Singh was arrested on Tuesday following Operation Hard Ball, a multinational law enforcement operation targeting organized crime groups with roots in India. Prosecutors allege the network smuggled large quantities of cocaine and methamphetamine across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Singh faces federal charges including conspiracy to distribute controlled substances and conspiracy to export narcotics. Authorities said a federal arrest warrant had been issued in California before his arrest. The case forms part of a broader international crackdown that has resulted in dozens of arrests connected to organized crime groups operating across North America.

Indian American physician Amish Shah wins key Arizona primary, setting up high stakes congressional race

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Indian American emergency physician and former Arizona state Representative Dr. Amish Shah has secured the Democratic nomination for Arizona's First Congressional District, setting the stage for one of the most closely watched United States House races in November. Shah, who defeated former television journalist Marlene Galan-Woods in the Democratic primary, will face Republican nominee and former National Football League kicker Jay Feely, who is backed by President Donald Trump.

A three-term member of the Arizona House of Representatives, Shah credited his victory to a grassroots campaign that included extensive door-to-door outreach and pledged to build support among Democrats, independents, and Republicans. He has campaigned on lowering healthcare costs, protecting Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, defending abortion rights, increasing teacher pay, supporting small businesses, and banning congressional stock trading.

Born in Chicago to Gujarati immigrant parents, Shah is fluent in Gujarati and



conversational in Spanish. Before entering politics, he built a career as an emergency medicine physician and also founded the Arizona Vegetarian Food Festival to promote healthy living. The highly competitive district is viewed as one of the Democrats' best opportunities to flip a Republican-held House seat, making the contest a key race in the battle for control of Congress.

United States court orders alleged Punjab gang member transferred to California in major organized crime case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States federal judge ordered on Wednesday that alleged Punjab gang member Nitish Kaushal remain in custody and be transferred to California to face racketeering conspiracy charges linked to the Jaggu Bhagwanpuria Organized Crime Group.

Prosecutors allege the transnational syndicate operates across India, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand, engaging in murder, kidnapping, extortion, drug trafficking, weapons offenses, money laundering, and human smuggling. Court filings also claim the group recruited vulnerable youth and minors in Punjab by promising money and opportunities to migrate abroad.

Kaushal, who was arrested in Vermont after appearing on the Federal Bureau



of Investigation's Most Wanted list, is accused of being a flight risk and a danger to the community. The allegations against him have not been proven in court, and he will remain in federal custody pending trial in California.

Indian diaspora amplifies student movement as solidarity protests spread across major global cities

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's youth-led protest movement over alleged examination irregularities has evolved into an international campaign, with members of the Indian diaspora staging solidarity demonstrations across major cities in Europe, North America, and Oceania. On Thursday, rallies were held in London, Berlin, Dublin, New York, Toronto, Vancouver, and several other cities, where protesters called for greater transparency in public examinations, institutional reforms, and accountability from the Indian government.

Demonstrators also criticized the police response to recent protests in New Delhi and voiced support for students demanding systemic changes to India's education

and recruitment processes. The overseas rallies continued even after activist Sonam Wangchuk ended his 26-day hunger strike following assurances from the central government that peaceful protesters would not face punitive legal action.

Although Wangchuk has suspended his protest, organizers say the broader movement will continue until key demands, including stronger safeguards against examination fraud, fair recruitment practices, and structural reforms in the education system, are addressed. The demonstrations reflect growing concern among overseas Indians that the issues extend beyond examination paper leaks to youth unemployment, governance, and public trust in institutions, giving the movement an increasingly global dimension.

Punjabi migrants in United Kingdom seek help to return home after alleged immigration fraud



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A group of young migrants from Punjab and Haryana met Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Kuldeep Singh Gargaj during his visit to Southall in the United Kingdom, seeking assistance to return to India after allegedly being deceived by immigration agents. During the meeting, facilitated by the United Sikhs organization, the migrants said they had paid large sums to agents who sent them abroad through irregular channels, leaving them without valid immigration status or employment. United Sikhs said it regularly helps individuals voluntarily return to India in coordination with British and Indian authorities. Gargaj urged the youths not to sell their agricultural land and encouraged them to rebuild their lives in Punjab while calling on governments to create more employment opportunities to reduce unsafe migration.

Brampton woman charged after alleged rental scam costs victims more than US\$43,000



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Police in Brampton, Ontario, have arrested 27-year-old Savreet Kaur in connection with an alleged rental fraud scheme that investigators say cost victims more than US\$43,000. Authorities allege that between May 2025 and February 2026, Kaur advertised rental properties on social media, collected deposits for the first and last month's rent, and then failed to provide the promised accommodations. Investigators have identified 17 alleged incidents, leaving many victims without housing or refunds after they had already vacated previous residences. Kaur faces nearly 40 charges and remains in custody pending a bail hearing. Peel Regional Police have urged prospective renters to verify listings carefully and use official fraud prevention resources when searching for housing online.

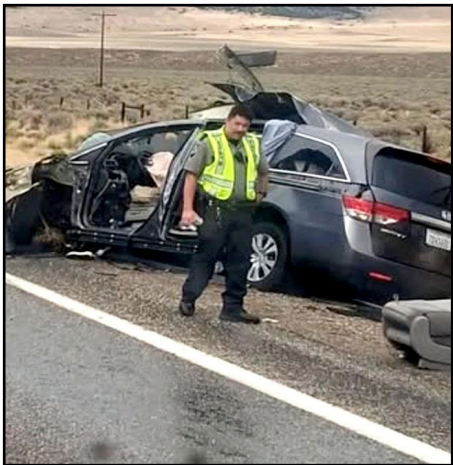
Canadian police investigate death of Punjab truck driver found in Hamilton



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canadian police are investigating the death of 29-year-old Punjab native Taranpreet Singh Sidhu, whose body was discovered in a culvert in Stoney Creek near Hamilton on Wednesday. Sidhu, who moved to Canada in 2022 and worked as a truck driver in Brampton, is believed not to have been killed at the location where his body was found. Hamilton Police, assisted by Peel Regional Police, are reviewing surveillance footage, digital evidence, and witness statements to determine his movements before his death. Authorities have not released the cause of death and are asking the public to provide any dashcam, doorbell camera, or surveillance footage that could assist the homicide investigation.

Hyderabad family seeks emergency visas after California crash kills three relatives



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Three members of a Hyderabad family were killed and two others seriously injured in a road accident in California on Monday, according to relatives in India. The victims were identified as Nazia Salma and two of her children, while her husband, Shaik Naveed, and their younger daughter remain hospitalized with serious injuries. Naveed, who moved to the United States about a decade ago, was traveling with his family when their vehicle collided with another vehicle. The family in Hyderabad has appealed to India's Ministry of External Affairs for emergency visas to travel to the United States, and community leaders have urged the government to expedite the process.

Indian-origin cricketers Jerrssis Wadia and Aryan Sharma earn places in Cricket Australia's elite pathway squads

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Two Indian-origin cricketers have taken another significant step toward the highest level of Australian cricket after being selected for Cricket Australia's elite development pathways. Jerrssis Wadia has been named in the Cricket Australia XI that will face Bangladesh in a three-day match in Darwin from Wednesday through Friday, while Victorian all-rounder Aryan Sharma has been selected for Australia's Men's Development Squad, which will tour India for the MRF Academy Programme in Chennai. The squad is scheduled to play matches on Wednesday and Thursday, followed by another fixture on Monday and Tuesday, as part of its preparation on spin-friendly conditions.

Born in Mumbai, Wadia represented Baroda at the Under-16 and Under-19 levels before moving to Adelaide, where he progressed through South Australia's development system under the guidance of former Australia coach Tim Nielsen. The all-rounder made his Big Bash League debut for the Adelaide Strikers



last season and drew attention by hitting three consecutive sixes in only his second appearance. Sharma has already represented Australia at the International Cricket Council Under-19 World Cup and was a member of the Melbourne Stars squad during the previous Big Bash League season. Their selections reflect the growing influence of Indian-origin talent within Australia's cricket pathway and strengthen their prospects of future national honors.

Indian-origin United States soldier feared killed in Iranian drone attack on Jordan air base

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

An Indian-origin United States Army sergeant is feared to have been killed during an Iranian drone attack on a military base in Jordan, highlighting the growing human toll of the escalating conflict between Washington and Tehran. The United States Department of War said Sergeant Angela Rampersad, 25, is believed to have been killed in action during the attack on Muwaffaq Salti Air Base on Friday, although the incident remains under investigation. Previously listed as missing, her status has since been

updated to "Duty Status, Whereabouts Unknown" and she is believed to be deceased. Rampersad, who was assigned to the 10th Army Air and Missile Defense Command in Germany, hailed from the Indian Guyanese community in the Queens borough of New York City. President Donald Trump has vowed retaliation, warning that Iran would "pay a big price" for attacks on American troops. If her death is confirmed, she would become the fourth United States service member killed in the Jordan attack and one of at least 18 American military personnel reported killed since the latest phase of the conflict began.

Indian-origin couple convicted in multimillion dollar United Kingdom pandemic fraud case

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

An Indian-origin couple has been convicted in the United Kingdom for orchestrating a multimillion dollar personal protective equipment fraud that exploited global shortages during the Covid-19 pandemic. Jogesh Bhandari, 59, and Meenakashi Bhandari, 58, along with associate Craig Morris, were found guilty of deceiving businesses into paying millions of dollars for nitrile gloves that were never delivered. According to the United Kingdom's National Crime Agency, the group used forged financial documents and fraudulent escrow arrangements to secure payments before diverting the funds to finance a lavish lifestyle. Investigators said the proceeds were spent on Rolex watches, jewelry, luxury holidays, home renovations, and high-end vehicles, including a Porsche, Audi, and Land Rover. The agency said the fraud was carried out during 2020



and 2021, when demand for protective equipment surged worldwide. Authorities described the scheme as a deliberate exploitation of the public health crisis that deprived legitimate organizations of essential supplies. The three are scheduled to be sentenced on Thursday, while a United States-based lawyer linked to the scheme has already been convicted in a related case.

Indian origin engineer Uday Ruddaraju named OpenAI's compute chief



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian origin technology executive Uday Ruddaraju has been appointed Chief Technology Officer of Compute at OpenAI, where he will oversee the computing infrastructure used to train the company's frontier artificial intelligence models. Ruddaraju joined OpenAI last year after leaving Elon Musk's artificial intelligence company, xAI, and announced his promotion on Sunday through a LinkedIn post. Originally from Hyderabad, he studied computer science in India before earning a master's degree in the United States. He previously worked at eBay, Robinhood, and xAI. In his new role, Ruddaraju will lead efforts to expand OpenAI's large scale computing capacity, data center infrastructure, networking, and hardware systems as the company develops increasingly advanced artificial intelligence models.

Indian authorities arrest two wanted gangsters in Angola in cross-border operation



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian authorities have arrested two alleged gangsters from Punjab and Haryana in Angola in a rare international law enforcement operation. Officials said Varinder Singh, also known as Joban Saidoke, who is wanted in multiple murder cases in Punjab, and Manjot, who faces several criminal cases in Haryana, were detained following intelligence sharing and coordination between Indian agencies and international partners. Authorities have begun extradition proceedings to bring both men back to India. Officials described the arrests as a significant breakthrough in the ongoing effort to dismantle organized crime networks operating across international borders and said the operation reflects growing cooperation between Indian and foreign law enforcement agencies.

New Zealand city prepares for rare total solar eclipse as hotels fill two years early



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Hotels in Dunedin, New Zealand, are already booking out nearly two years before a rare total solar eclipse expected to draw thousands of visitors in 2028. The eclipse, scheduled for July 22, 2028, will plunge parts of southern New Zealand into nearly three minutes of daytime darkness, with Dunedin expected to be one of the best viewing locations. Local officials estimate about 35,000 visitors will travel to the city for what astronomers say will be New Zealand's first total solar eclipse since 1965 and the first ever witnessed by humans from the Dunedin region. The city has begun planning festivals and astronomy events to coincide with the phenomenon.

Regional mayors to play bigger role in United Kingdom economic policy under Burnham plan

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Regional mayors will take on a greater role in shaping the United Kingdom's economic policy under Prime Minister Andy Burnham's new "No. 10 North" initiative, aimed at shifting decision making beyond London. Burnham is set to chair the first meeting of a revived National Economic Council on Friday, bringing together senior ministers and regional leaders to drive economic growth and devolution. The new office, based in Manchester, is intended to coordinate national and regional economic policy while supporting investment, housing, transportation, and regeneration. Burnham said the initiative represents a major shift in how Britain is governed by giving local leaders a stronger voice in national decision making.

Merz names Germany's first female chief of staff in bid to reset government before key state elections

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz appointed Health Minister Nina Warken as his new chief of staff on Friday, making her the first woman to hold the influential position as he seeks to revive his struggling government ahead of crucial state elections in September. The reshuffle follows the resignation of senior conservative leader Jens Spahn as parliamentary bloc chief amid controversy over his decision to have a child through surrogacy, a practice opposed by his party. Merz said additional cabinet changes are planned as his government pushes economic reforms while facing weak approval ratings and growing support for the far-right Alternative for Germany. Warken's former health portfolio will be taken over by senior conservative leader Carsten Linnemann, while further ministerial changes are expected in the coming weeks.

Germany's Constitutional Court orders case-by-case review of Afghan resettlement promises

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Germany's Constitutional Court ruled on Friday that the government cannot cancel hundreds of resettlement commitments made to vulnerable Afghans through a blanket policy, saying each case must be reviewed individually. The ruling came after an Afghan mother and her two sons challenged the government's decision to terminate a humanitarian admissions program established after the Taliban returned to power in 2021. The court held that canceling previously approved admissions without considering individual circumstances violated the constitutional prohibition on arbitrary state action. While the government retains the authority to deny entry under immigration law, it must justify each decision on a case-by-case basis. The



court also directed Germany to continue supporting the family in Pakistan until a constitutionally compliant decision is made, with similar cases still pending.

United States intensifies Iran campaign as Strait of Hormuz conflict threatens wider regional war

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The conflict between the United States and Iran intensified on Friday as Bahrain activated air raid sirens and urged residents to take shelter after detecting incoming projectiles, just hours after the United States military completed its 13th consecutive night of strikes against Iranian targets. According to United States Central Command, the latest operation lasted more than two hours and targeted Iranian military command centers, drone storage facilities, communication networks, coastal surveillance sites, and maritime capabilities to reduce threats to commercial shipping in the Strait of Hormuz, a strategic waterway that normally carries about one-fifth of global oil and natural gas supplies. On Thursday, explosions were reported on Iran's Qeshm Island and near Ahvaz, Andimeshk, Omidiyeh, and Firuzabad, while Iranian



state media said a United States missile strike near Ahvaz killed four people and injured five others. The confrontation widened after Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi movement claimed attacks on two Saudi oil tankers in the Red Sea, prompting President Donald Trump to warn of "major military punishment" for Iran and its allies. Tehran has threatened to retaliate by targeting regional energy infrastructure, raising fears of a broader Middle East conflict and further disruption to global energy markets.

United States report accuses Cuba of supporting anti-American influence and espionage networks

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States State Department on Monday released a report accusing Cuba of supporting espionage, influence operations, and anti-American activities for more than six decades while assisting adversaries including China, Russia, and Iran. The 70-page report, titled 'Cuba: The Capital of 21st Century Communism', alleges that Havana cultivated

intelligence networks, infiltrated United States institutions, and backed extremist groups and fugitives wanted for violent crimes. It also claims Cuba has expanded cooperation with China and Russia and facilitated their intelligence activities in the Western Hemisphere. The report identifies several organizations it describes as part of a Cuba-aligned network, although it does not include responses from the Cuban government or the organizations named.

Estonian schools strengthen drone defenses after security scare near Russian border

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Schools in the Estonian city of Tartu are reinforcing windows with protective safety film and preparing emergency shelters after a military drone entered the area earlier this year, raising fresh security concerns near the Russian border. On Friday, local officials said all 30 schools and 38 kindergartens in the city are upgrading designated shelters, conducting emergency drills and equipping facilities

with books, games and essential supplies to prepare children for possible future alerts. Tartu, about 28 miles from the Russian border, was forced to place schools on alert in June when a Ukrainian drone, reportedly diverted by Russian electronic jamming, approached the city. Officials said the protective film is intended to reduce injuries from shattered glass, a lesson drawn from Ukraine's wartime experience. The city is also distributing backup generators to residential buildings as part of broader civil defense preparations.

South Korea and Australia agree to expand military cooperation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The top military officers of South Korea and Australia agreed to deepen defense cooperation during their first telephone conversation on Tuesday, according to South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff. General Jin Yong-sung and Admiral Mark Hammond discussed the Indo-Pacific security environment, including North Korea's nuclear and missile programs, and pledged to expand joint military exercises, personnel exchanges, and broader defense cooperation. Jin thanked Australia for its longstanding contributions to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, while Hammond reaffirmed Canberra's commitment to strengthening military ties. The talks build on broader cooperation between the two countries, including recent agreements on energy security, defense industry collaboration, and regional stability.

Families demand answers after Guyana ferry disaster kills about 100 people

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Families of victims are demanding answers after Guyana's worst maritime disaster claimed an estimated 100 lives when a state-run ferry capsized over the weekend. Authorities said 76 of the 179 people believed to have been aboard survived, while search teams had recovered 65 bodies by Wednesday and continued looking for dozens still missing. Survivors alleged the aging ferry was overloaded with passengers and cargo and experienced engine problems before sinking, claims the government says remain under investigation. Prime Minister Mark Phillips promised accountability if negligence or criminal wrongdoing is established, while police have detained the ferry's captain and another crew member as the investigation continues.

Myanmar warns of flood threat as rivers continue to rise



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Myanmar's Department of Meteorology and Hydrology warned on Wednesday that rising water levels in the Chindwin River could trigger flooding in parts of the Sagaing region. Officials said the river had reached the danger level in Paungbyin and exceeded it in Homalin, urging residents in low-lying and riverside communities to take precautions. The agency also forecast widespread rainfall over the next 10 days, warning that several major rivers, including the Ayeyarwady, Chindwin, Sittaung, and Thanlwin, could rise significantly. Meteorologists also cautioned that strengthening El Niño conditions in the Pacific Ocean may bring irregular rainfall, higher temperatures, drought, and other extreme weather events later this year, with forecasts indicating very strong El Niño conditions by year's end.

Friday, 24 July 2026

Five killed after gold mine collapses in southwestern Kenya



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At least five miners were killed after a gold mine collapsed in Kenya's Narok County following heavy rainfall, authorities said on Wednesday. Rescue teams continued searching for additional miners believed to be trapped underground in the Kilimapesa mining area, although operations were slowed by a lack of specialized underground equipment. Several survivors were rescued and taken to nearby hospitals for treatment. The accident has renewed concerns about safety standards in Kenya's mining sector, where fatal collapses are common, particularly at informal mining sites. Kilimapesa is home to Kenya's largest commercial gold mining operation. Authorities have repeatedly faced calls to strengthen safety regulations and improve oversight to prevent similar tragedies.

Rights group accuses Pakistan of failing to prevent misuse of blasphemy laws

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A leading minority rights organization accused Pakistan on Wednesday of failing to prevent the misuse of its blasphemy laws, saying false accusations continue to expose religious minorities to violence, discrimination, and wrongful prosecution. Voice of Pakistan Minority said cases involving Christians, including Rimsha Masih and Nadeem Masih, highlight weaknesses in the country's justice system and the lack of accountability for those making fabricated allegations. The group also cited attacks on Christian communities in Gojra and Joseph Colony as evidence of inadequate protection for minorities. It argued that blasphemy allegations are often linked to personal disputes or property conflicts and urged authorities to ensure religious laws cannot be exploited for revenge or political pressure while safeguarding due process.

Louvre reopens Apollo Gallery after jewel heist with tighter security

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Louvre Museum reopened its historic Apollo Gallery to visitors on Wednesday, nearly nine months after a dramatic daytime robbery in which crown jewels valued at about US\$102 million were stolen. Although the gallery has welcomed the public once again, the priceless jewels have been removed permanently and will be displayed elsewhere in the museum. Louvre Director Christophe Leribault said the space has been restored to its original role as a ceremonial gallery, allowing visitors to appreciate its seventeenth century architecture and artwork. The stolen jewels remain missing despite an ongoing investigation.

Macron persuades environment minister to stay after pesticide dispute

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

French President Emmanuel Macron rejected Environment Minister Monique Barbut's resignation on Wednesday, defusing a political dispute over controversial legislation that temporarily permits the use of two restricted pesticides. Barbut had announced she would step down after lawmakers approved emergency exemptions allowing the use of acetamiprid and flupyradifurone for selected agricultural crops, arguing the

government had sidelined environmental concerns. Following talks with Macron, the French presidency confirmed she would remain in office with the support of both the president and Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu despite their differences over the bill. The pesticides are authorized under European Union regulations but have long been banned in France because of concerns over their harmful effects on bees and other pollinating insects. The legislation has reignited debate over balancing agricultural needs with environmental protection.

United States returns looted Papuan artifacts to Indonesia

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States returned a collection of looted cultural artifacts from Indonesia's Papua region on Wednesday, marking the latest effort by both countries to recover illegally trafficked heritage. Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Kash Patel handed the artifacts to Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto during a meeting in Jakarta after investigators confirmed the objects had been smuggled out of Indonesia.

The collection includes ceremonial stone axes and other culturally significant items belonging to the Dani, Asmat, and Lake Sentani communities. Indonesian Culture Minister Fadli Zon said the artifacts will be preserved at the National Museum, describing their return as an important step toward restoring the country's cultural heritage. The repatriation follows recent United States efforts to recover Southeast Asian antiquities linked to international trafficking networks and return them to their countries of origin.

Canada dismantles cross-border drug trafficking network, seizes narcotics worth nearly US\$102 million

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canadian authorities have dismantled an alleged cross-border drug trafficking network in one of Ontario's largest drug seizures, recovering narcotics worth nearly US\$102 million and charging 21 people. The investigation, known as Project Bay, led to the seizure of about 973 kilograms of suspected cocaine, 660 kilograms of suspected methamphetamine,

and 49 kilograms of suspected opium, along with firearms, cash, luxury jewelry, electronic devices, and a vehicle linked to the operation. Launched by Windsor Police in January 2025, the investigation later involved the Canada Border Services Agency, the Ontario Provincial Police, and United States agencies. Investigators allege the group used commercial trucking networks and recruited drivers to smuggle drugs across the Canada-United States border. The investigation remains ongoing.

Orbán launches resistance campaign against Hungary's new government

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán on Wednesday announced a nationwide "resistance" campaign against Prime Minister Péter Magyar's government, accusing it of undermining democracy through sweeping constitutional changes. The Fidesz leader criticized legislation passed by Parliament that removed Hungary's president and introduced a retroactive 12-year limit on parliamentary service, saying the measure would bar many

veteran lawmakers, including members of his party, from contesting future elections. Orbán described the reforms as an assault on the rule of law and unveiled a "Declaration of Resistance," pledging to oppose the government through peaceful political and legal means. The announcement came a day after authorities searched offices housing Fidesz data servers as part of an embezzlement investigation, which Orbán dismissed as politically motivated. The Magyar government says its reforms are intended to strengthen democratic institutions and tackle corruption.

United States to raise India's proposed soda ash restrictions during trade talks

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration will raise concerns with India over its proposed restrictions on imports of American soda ash as part of ongoing bilateral trade discussions, United States Trade Representative Jamieson Greer told lawmakers on Wednesday. Speaking before the Senate Finance Committee, Greer said Washington wants to ensure India's trade remedy process remains fair for American

producers. The comments came after Senator John Barrasso urged the administration to protect Wyoming's soda ash industry, warning that proposed Indian restrictions could hurt United States exports. The issue emerged during a hearing on President Donald Trump's trade agenda, which also covered negotiations with several major trading partners. India and the United States are currently negotiating a broader bilateral trade agreement aimed at expanding market access and reducing trade barriers.

South Korea urges North Korea to return to dialogue at regional security forum

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea called on North Korea to resume dialogue during the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum in Manila on Thursday, urging Pyongyang to cooperate in promoting peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. Foreign Minister Cho Hyun said Seoul remains committed to peaceful coexistence and emphasized that meaningful progress requires participation from both sides. North Korea did not attend the forum for the second consecutive year despite being a member. According to South Korea's Foreign Ministry, many participating countries expressed concern over North Korea's continued nuclear and missile programs and reaffirmed the need for denuclearization in line with United Nations Security Council resolutions. The forum also adopted the Manila Plan of Action for regional security cooperation through 2036.

Pakistan-born man among 10 targeted in Trump administration's citizenship revocation campaign

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Pakistan-born naturalized United States citizen is among 10 people facing denaturalization as the Trump administration expands what it describes as the country's largest citizenship revocation effort. The Department of Justice announced on Monday that it had filed civil actions against individuals accused of obtaining United States citizenship through fraud or by concealing material facts. Among them is 65-year-old Murtaza Ali, who authorities allege used multiple identities to secure immigration benefits before becoming a citizen in 2009. Officials said Ali later pleaded guilty to making false statements to a federal agency. The remaining cases involve individuals from Cuba, Mexico, Peru, and Poland accused of offenses including health care fraud, child sexual abuse, immigration fraud, and drug trafficking.

Nicaragua moves to abolish elections, drawing international condemnation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nicaragua's government moved closer to eliminating national elections after the country's legislature announced on Tuesday that it would implement President Daniel Ortega's proposal to end electoral voting, drawing strong criticism from the international community. Ortega declared over the weekend that Nicaragua would no longer hold elections, extending his nearly two decades in power and effectively canceling the next presidential vote, which had been scheduled for 2027. The government-controlled Congress said the constitutional changes are intended to preserve peace and stability. On Wednesday, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk condemned the move, saying citizens must be allowed to vote and run for office. United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio also denounced the decision, calling it further evidence of Nicaragua's authoritarian rule and urging international pressure on the Ortega government.

Forty-six Kangleipak Communist Party militants surrender in major Manipur peace breakthrough



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

In a significant boost to the peace process in Manipur, 46 active members of the banned Kangleipak Communist Party (People's War Group) surrendered before Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on Tuesday at the Assam Rifles headquarters in Imphal East. The militants laid down 28 weapons, including assault rifles, pistols, carbines, a rocket propelled grenade launcher, ammunition, and explosives. Defense officials said the cadres were not part of any previous peace agreement, making the mass surrender unprecedented for the group. The Assam Rifles, Manipur Police, and other agencies were credited with persuading the militants to return to civilian life, dealing a major blow to the outfit's operational strength.

West Bengal government orders departments to identify revenue leakages



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The West Bengal government has directed all departments to prepare blueprints identifying revenue leakages and recommending measures to plug them as part of efforts to boost the state's tax collections. Officials said on Friday that departments have also been asked to submit reports comparing revenue targets set during the previous government with actual collections and identify when taxes were last revised. Agriculture, transport, land and land reforms, public works, and health have been identified as priority sectors. The government said recent measures have already generated nearly Rs.1,000 crore in additional revenue in its first two months and that the findings will contribute to a white paper on the state's finances.

Government strengthens cyber safeguards after misuse of e-rickshaw battery apps

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Centre has introduced a coordinated national framework to strengthen cybersecurity after reports that certain Battery Management System mobile applications were being misused to remotely control e-rickshaw batteries without authorization. Responding in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Jitin Prasada said the government had directed app stores to remove the affected applications. He said the new framework brings together agencies including the National Cyber Security Coordinator, the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team, the National Cyber Coordination Centre, and the



National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre to improve cyber resilience. The government is also expanding public awareness initiatives through its Information Security Education and Awareness program.

India becomes world's largest electrified broad gauge railway network, says Ashwini Vaishnaw

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India has emerged as the country with the world's largest electrified broad gauge railway network, with 99.6 percent of its broad gauge routes now electrified, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told the Lok Sabha on Wednesday. He said only Switzerland has achieved full railway electrification, though its network is significantly smaller. Vaishnaw said Indian Railways electrified more than 48,000 route kilometers between 2014 and 2026, more than double the length electrified during the previous six decades. The minister said the expansion has sharply reduced diesel consumption, lowered carbon emissions,



improved train speeds, and strengthened energy security. Indian Railways has also commissioned more than 1,260 megawatts of renewable energy capacity to support low-carbon operations.

Naveen Patnaik accuses Odisha government of taking credit for Biju Janata Dal reforms

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Thursday credited his previous government for the state's fifth-place ranking in NITI Aayog's Investment Friendliness Index while accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party government of claiming achievements built on Biju Janata Dal reforms. Patnaik said Odisha's rise from financial distress to becoming one of India's leading investment destinations was driven by fiscal discipline, governance reforms, and the 5T initiative introduced during his tenure. He highlighted the state's low debt and interest payment levels and said sustained policy measures enabled investments in



welfare, infrastructure, education, and disaster management. Patnaik also warned that the current government's financial management could reverse Odisha's fiscal gains.

Supreme Court seeks detailed reform plan to strengthen National Testing Agency

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Supreme Court on Friday directed the Centre to submit a detailed affidavit outlining institutional reforms for the National Testing Agency and measures to prevent future National Eligibility cum Entrance Test paper leaks, saying it would closely monitor the process. Hearing petitions seeking reforms following the alleged 2026 examination leak, the bench asked the government to explain proposed changes to the agency's governance, examination security, cybersecurity safeguards, and the feasibility of shifting the examination to a computer-based format. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta



told the court that the government had accepted the recommendations of the K. Radhakrishnan committee and was preparing a comprehensive roadmap. The matter will be heard again on Monday.

Railway accidents fall sharply as safety spending triples, Parliament told

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Train accidents on Indian Railways have declined significantly over the past 12 years as spending on safety infrastructure more than tripled, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told the Lok Sabha on Wednesday. He said consequential accidents dropped from 135 in 2014-15 to 16 in 2025-26, with only two reported through June in the current financial year. The minister attributed the improvement to expanded electronic interlocking, track modernization, upgraded coaches, and the deployment of the indigenous Kavach train protection system. Vaishnaw also said recruitment is underway to fill more than 161,000 non-gazetted vacancies, many of them in safety-related positions across Indian Railways.

Delhi High Court seeks data on HPV vaccine safety after petition challenges rollout

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday sought the Centre's response to a petition challenging the rollout of the Human Papillomavirus vaccination program for adolescent girls under the Universal Immunization Programme, directing the government to submit data on adverse events by next week. Calling the issues raised "serious," a bench led by Chief Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya also asked the Additional Solicitor General to assist the court. The petition alleges the vaccine is being administered without informed parental consent and questions its safety, efficacy, and scientific basis. It also seeks safeguards to protect the constitutional rights and bodily autonomy of adolescent girls.

Teachers oppose Bihar plan to shift colleges from universities to state control



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Senior teachers from the Delhi University Teachers Association and the Federation of Central Universities Teachers Associations have urged Bihar Governor Syed Ata Hasnain to retain the state's existing university system, warning that a proposal to move more than 500 undergraduate colleges under a new Higher Education Department could undermine academic autonomy.

In a letter sent on Saturday, the educators argued that universities play a central role in maintaining academic standards, curricula, examinations and faculty development. Their intervention follows opposition from several lawmakers within the ruling National Democratic Alliance, who have also asked the state government to reconsider the proposed legislation expected to be introduced during the Monsoon Session of the Bihar Assembly.

UPI expands globally as digital payments reach 12 countries

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's Unified Payments Interface has recorded rapid growth over the past five years, strengthening its position as the country's leading digital payment platform while expanding its international footprint. During the Monsoon Session of Parliament on Wednesday, the government said the system is now operational in 12 countries through partnerships with local financial institutions, enabling cross border digital transactions. Developed by the National Payments Corporation of India under the Reserve Bank of India's regulatory oversight, Unified Payments Interface was launched in 2016 and is authorized under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007. The government shared the update in response to a question from Member of Parliament Dr. Manna Lal Rawat on user numbers, transaction volumes and international adoption.

Death toll from Jammu and Kashmir floods climbs as rescue efforts continue

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The death toll from flash floods and landslides triggered by days of torrential rain across Jammu and Kashmir has risen to 28, with Rajouri, Poonch and Doda among the worst-hit districts. Rescue teams from the Indian Army, police and civil administration are continuing search and relief operations as damaged roads, bridges and power infrastructure hamper access to affected areas.

The Amarnath Yatra remains suspended from both the Pahalgam and Baltal routes as authorities assess weather conditions and clear debris to ensure the safety of pilgrims. The India Meteorological Department has warned of more heavy rainfall, raising the risk of fresh flash floods, landslides and rising river levels in vulnerable areas.

Allahabad High Court cites Ram temple donation row while criticizing corruption and 'bulldozer justice'

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Allahabad High Court delivered a scathing assessment of corruption and arbitrary demolition drives while hearing a case on so-called "bulldozer justice," saying the alleged embezzlement of donations at the Ram temple in Ayodhya reflected a broader decline in public integrity.

In a split verdict delivered on Tuesday, Justice Atul Sreedharan said society had become so accustomed to corruption that even allegations involving one of Hinduism's holiest shrines failed to provoke outrage.

He remarked that "nothing can shame" people who remain unfazed by the controversy and suggested the government consider amending the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, to introduce the death penalty for those convicted of corruption. The judge also criticized authorities for enabling illegal construction through corruption before later demolishing homes, warning that unchecked dishonesty across public institutions could widen inequality and eventually lead to civil unrest.

Thousands displaced by torrential rain as Gujarat launches large-scale flood rescue and relief operations

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

More than 38,600 people have been evacuated and over 5,500 rescued as heavy rainfall continues to affect several parts of Gujarat, prompting large-scale relief operations across the state. Officials said on Friday that teams from the National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force, the Indian Army, the Indian Air Force, and the Indian Coast Guard remain deployed in the worst-hit districts. Rescue operations continued in Ahmedabad, Navsari, Valsad, and other flood-affected areas, where stranded residents were moved to safety. Heavy rainfall persisted in parts of north and central Gujarat, while Director General of Police Gyanendra



Singh Malik was scheduled to review the ongoing response at the State Emergency Operations Centre in Gandhinagar.

Government moves bill to give 'Vande Mataram' legal protection similar to national anthem

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Centre formally introduced the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, in the Rajya Sabha on Friday, proposing to extend legal protection to the national song 'Vande Mataram' similar to that enjoyed by the national anthem.

Introduced by Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai, the bill seeks to make insulting or obstructing the singing of 'Vande Mataram' a punishable offense under the existing 1971 law. The proposal has triggered political differences, with the Bharatiya Janata



Party describing it as a step to strengthen respect for national symbols, while the Congress has questioned the need for altering a framework settled by the Constituent Assembly.

Madhya Pradesh passes Uniform Civil Code bill amid opposition protests

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly passed the Uniform Civil Code Bill by voice vote on Tuesday despite protests by Congress legislators. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav described the legislation as a historic step, saying it would ensure equal civil laws and strengthen women's rights by banning practices such as polygamy and informal divorces. The bill also mandates registration of marriages and divorces, provides equal legal status to children regardless of birth, and requires registration of live-in relationships. Scheduled Tribes have been kept outside the law's ambit. Opposition members demanded that the bill be referred to a select committee, arguing that it required



wider consultation. The legislation will come into force after receiving the Governor's assent.

Rahul Gandhi demands Education Minister's resignation before talks on examination paper leaks

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi said on Friday that the Opposition would not participate in any discussion on examination paper leaks until Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan resigns and Prime Minister Narendra Modi apologizes to students. Gandhi also claimed his microphone was switched off in the Lok Sabha when he attempted

to respond to Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, who had urged the Opposition to join a debate on the issue. Gandhi said the Opposition's demands include Pradhan's removal, accountability for alleged action against protesting students, and an apology from the Prime Minister. Opposition leaders, including Dimple Yadav and Kumari Selja, backed the demand, while the government accused the Opposition of avoiding a parliamentary discussion.

K.T. Rama Rao serves legal notice to Telangana CM over 'benami' allegations

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bharat Rashtra Samithi working president K.T. Rama Rao has served a legal notice to Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, demanding an unconditional public apology within 48 hours over allegations linking him to Globe Arena Technologies as a purported "benami" company. In a statement issued on Thursday, Rama Rao denied having any ownership, financial or other association with the company, calling the allegations "false, malicious and defamatory." He challenged the chief minister to produce evidence or face civil and criminal defamation proceedings. Rama Rao also questioned why the Congress government had entered into agreements with the company if it believed it was linked to him. He further accused Revanth Reddy of diverting attention from alleged irregularities in national examinations and reiterated his willingness to face any official investigation.

Kolkata Police book Trinamool Congress faction over alleged violations at Martyrs' Day rally

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Kolkata Police have filed a suo motu case against the Mamata Banerjee-led faction of the Trinamool Congress, alleging violations of Calcutta High Court conditions during the party's Martyrs' Day rally on Monday. According to the police complaint, the court had permitted the gathering on Cathedral Road with a maximum of 2,500 participants and directed that one lane remain open to traffic.

Police alleged that attendance exceeded the permitted limit, forcing the closure of both lanes and disrupting traffic, amounting to contempt of court. A separate police case has also been registered over alleged vandalism at the rally venue on Sunday, when a group of motorcycle-borne youths reportedly damaged banners before fleeing the scene.

Pawan Khera appears before Assam Crime Branch in defamation case filed by chief minister's wife

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Senior Congress leader and Rajya Sabha member Pawan Khera appeared before the Assam Police Crime Branch on Thursday in connection with a defamation case filed by Riniki Bhuyan Sharma, the wife of Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. Khera, who had earlier sought exemption from questioning because of health issues and prior political commitments, said he was cooperating fully with the investigation. The case stems from Sharma's complaint alleging that Khera made false and defamatory claims about her citizenship, foreign passports and financial interests during a press conference and on social media. Khera has previously been questioned in the case and is protected from arrest under an interim order of the Supreme Court while the investigation continues.

Former Barclays chief questioned by United States lawmakers over Jeffrey Epstein relationship

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former Barclays Chief Executive Officer Jes Staley appeared before a United States House committee on Thursday as lawmakers intensified their investigation into Jeffrey Epstein's network and associations. The closed-door interview examined Staley's longstanding relationship with Epstein, which ultimately led to his resignation from Barclays and a lifetime ban from the United Kingdom's financial services industry. British regulators previously concluded that Staley had misrepresented the nature of his ties to Epstein. Following the interview, Representative Robert Garcia said Staley denied having a genuine friendship with Epstein, describing the claim as implausible. Congressional investigators are expected to release a transcript of the testimony at a later date.

Qantas advances Project Sunrise with first nonstop Airbus test flight to Australia

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Qantas reached a key milestone in its Project Sunrise program on Friday when its first Airbus A350-1000 Ultra Long Range test aircraft completed a nonstop 19-hour flight from Toulouse, France, to Melbourne. The nearly 17,000-kilometer journey marked the aircraft's first arrival in Australia and is part of the airline's preparations for nonstop Sydney to London services expected to begin in 2027. The flight attracted worldwide attention, becoming the most tracked aircraft on flight monitoring platforms during its journey. Engineers and test pilots will continue evaluating the aircraft's systems before it returns to France. The first production aircraft is scheduled to be delivered to Qantas next year.

Federal judge approves landmark \$1.5 billion Anthropic settlement in artificial intelligence copyright case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge in San Francisco approved a \$1.5 billion copyright settlement on Monday, requiring artificial intelligence company Anthropic to compensate thousands of authors and publishers whose pirated books were used to train its Claude chatbot.

The agreement covers more than 482,000 books, with about 91 percent already claimed by eligible rights holders, who are expected to receive approximately \$3,000 per title. The settlement follows an earlier court ruling that training artificial intelligence models on copyrighted works constitutes fair use, while finding that Anthropic unlawfully obtained millions of books from pirate websites. The agreement is the first major settlement among the growing number of artificial intelligence copyright lawsuits in the United States.

Tesla shares post one of their worst trading days as weak earnings and artificial intelligence spending shake investor confidence

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Tesla shares plunged about 13.5 percent on Thursday, marking one of the company's sharpest single-day declines, after weaker than expected second quarter earnings and mounting concerns over heavy spending on artificial intelligence, robotics, and autonomous driving overshadowed stronger than expected revenue.

The electric vehicle maker reported earnings of 31 cents per share, well below Wall Street's estimate of 51 cents, while capital expenditures reached \$5.8 billion, resulting in negative free cash flow of \$1.1 billion for the first time in more than two years. During the earnings call, Chief Executive Officer Elon Musk defended the company's aggressive investments in its Robotaxi service and Optimus humanoid robot, saying both remain central to Tesla's long-term strategy despite slower than anticipated rollouts.



Investors, however, questioned when those investments would begin generating meaningful returns. The selloff extended Tesla's losses this year to roughly 27 percent, reflecting growing concern that rising costs and delayed commercialization of new technologies are weighing on the company's near-term outlook.

Gold falls as rising oil prices and renewed Middle East tensions fuel expectations of higher United States interest rates

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Gold prices remained under pressure on Friday, holding near a three-week low after a sharp decline in the previous session as rising energy prices and escalating tensions in the Middle East reinforced expectations that the United States Federal Reserve could tighten monetary policy again. Spot gold traded around \$4,050 an ounce after dropping about 2 percent on Thursday, erasing much of the gains made earlier in the week. Brent crude climbed above \$100 a barrel for the first time since May, while Treasury yields continued to rise as investors grew increasingly concerned that higher oil prices could reignite inflation.

Fresh United States tariffs on imports from several major trading partners also added to market uncertainty. Analysts said the combination of elevated energy costs,



resilient economic data, and expectations of higher borrowing costs has reduced demand for non-yielding assets such as gold, prompting investors to shift toward interest-bearing investments despite ongoing geopolitical risks.

Singapore Airlines backs Air India's turnaround despite mounting operational and financial headwinds

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Singapore Airlines said on Tuesday that it remains confident in Air India's long-term recovery, citing steady progress in the Tata Group-owned carrier's transformation despite a series of operational and financial challenges. Ahead of its annual general meeting on Thursday, the airline said it had carried out a formal impairment assessment of its 25.1 percent stake in Air India but concluded that the investment did not require a write-down. Singapore Airlines described Air India as a key pillar of its long-term multi-hub strategy, pointing to India's rapidly expanding aviation market as a major growth opportunity. The carrier acknowledged that Air India continues to face pressure from the weakening Indian rupee, global supply chain disruptions, Pakistan's airspace closure, and the fatal Air India Flight 171 crash in June,



which killed 260 people. However, it said the airline has made tangible gains in fleet modernization, network expansion, operational reliability, customer experience, and ground and in-flight services. Singapore Airlines added that any future capital investment would be considered in line with Air India's strategy and its own financial priorities.

Environmental groups seek halt to orbital data center plans over pollution concerns



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Environmental organizations have urged United States regulators to suspend approvals for proposed orbital data centers, warning the rapidly expanding satellite projects could pose significant risks to the Earth's atmosphere and ecosystems. A petition submitted to the Federal Communications Commission on Thursday argues that large satellite constellations proposed by several companies require comprehensive environmental review before moving forward. Scientists and former government officials cited concerns over pollution from rocket launches, satellite reentry, ozone depletion, light pollution, and the accumulation of metals in the upper atmosphere. The groups said the long-term environmental impact remains poorly understood and called for further scientific assessment before additional licenses are granted.

HDFC Bank shares decline after United States law firms open securities investigations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

HDFC Bank shares fell more than 1 percent in early trading on Friday after three United States law firms announced separate investigations into whether India's largest private lender may have violated federal securities laws. The inquiries follow media allegations that the bank paid approximately Rs.450 million, about \$5.2 million, to attract institutional deposits while recording the payments as marketing expenses. The law firms are examining whether investors received misleading disclosures, although no class action lawsuit has been filed. HDFC Bank had not issued a statement to Indian stock exchanges by late Friday morning. The bank's American Depositary Receipts had fallen more than 4 percent after the allegations first surfaced.

Infosys names Ashiss Kumar Dash as next chief executive as Salil Parekh prepares to step down

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Infosys announced on Thursday that Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director Salil Parekh will step down when his second term ends in 2027, with company veteran Ashiss Kumar Dash named as chief executive designate. Dash, who currently oversees multiple global business divisions and the company's sustainability portfolio, will assume the top role on April 1, 2027, subject to regulatory approvals. Chairman Nandan Nilekani said the board chose an internal leader capable of steering Infosys through a rapidly evolving technology landscape while preserving its long-standing culture and client trust. Parekh will conclude more than nine years as the company's longest-serving non-founder chief executive.

Friday, 24 July 2026

India tells World Trade Organization it remains committed to open and rules-based global trade

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India reaffirmed its commitment to an open, transparent, and rules-based global trading system at the conclusion of its eighth Trade Policy Review at the World Trade Organization in Geneva on Thursday. Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agarwal said the country's trade policies remain aligned with World Trade Organization principles while balancing the development needs of a large emerging economy. He highlighted tariff reforms, customs modernization, digital public infrastructure, and expanding free trade agreements as key drivers of India's economic integration. During the review, India answered more than 1,000 questions from 44 members, while 68 countries participated in discussions, with several praising India's resilience and growing role in global trade.

Union Pacific wins key backing for Norfolk Southern takeover as regulatory review gathers pace

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Union Pacific strengthened its proposed \$85 billion acquisition of Norfolk Southern earlier this week after securing the support of rival Canadian National through a series of competitive concessions. The agreement gives Canadian National expanded access to rail infrastructure and operations in key freight corridors, addressing some concerns that the merger would reduce competition across the United States rail network.

The proposed transaction would create the country's first coast-to-coast freight railroad and reduce the number of major freight rail operators from six to five. While several competing railroads continue to oppose the deal, federal regulators are reviewing whether the merger would serve the public interest under the industry's strictest merger standards.

European Central Bank pauses rate hikes as policymakers assess inflation risks from higher energy prices

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The European Central Bank left its benchmark interest rate unchanged at 2.25 percent on Thursday, opting to pause after its previous increase while assessing the inflationary impact of volatile energy prices. President Christine Lagarde said policymakers remain concerned that persistently high oil prices could spill over into broader consumer inflation, but emphasized that future decisions will be guided by incoming economic data. The decision comes as renewed tensions in the Middle East have pushed energy prices higher, complicating the inflation outlook across the euro area. Economists expect the central bank could resume raising interest rates later this year if price pressures remain elevated.

India and New Zealand aim to double bilateral trade by 2030 as free trade agreement nears completion

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and New Zealand are expected to significantly deepen their economic partnership as negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement move toward completion, with both countries targeting a doubling of bilateral trade by 2030. Speaking on Wednesday, New Zealand's Trade Commissioner and Consul General to India and South Asia, Graham Rouse, said the recently announced Strategic Partnership between the two nations has created a strong platform for expanding trade, investment, and services.

He noted that bilateral trade has already doubled since 2023, making the 2030 target both ambitious and achievable. According to Rouse, the proposed agreement is expected to provide duty-free access for nearly all Indian exports to New Zealand, strengthening the competitiveness of sectors such as electronics, pharmaceuticals, engineering



goods, textiles, apparel, footwear, and leather. He added that services, including information technology, healthcare, and education, are also expected to benefit as the two countries work toward closer economic integration and broader commercial cooperation.

Ford turns to Geely partnership to strengthen its position in Europe's changing electric vehicle market

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Ford announced on Thursday that it will establish a joint venture with Chinese automaker Geely to manufacture low and zero emission vehicles at its Valencia plant in Spain, underscoring its strategy to regain ground in Europe's increasingly competitive automotive market. Subject to regulatory approval, Ford will own two-thirds of the venture and Geely the

remaining one-third. The partnership will produce five models, including Ford's Kuga plug-in hybrid, a new Bronco sport utility vehicle, two Geely electric sport utility vehicles, and a jointly developed crossover, with production beginning in 2028. The agreement allows Ford to share development costs while expanding its European lineup, as Geely strengthens its manufacturing footprint in the region amid growing demand for affordable electric vehicles.

Pakistan's shrinking cotton harvest drives greater reliance on imports for textile industry

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan's textile sector is becoming increasingly dependent on imported cotton as domestic production continues to decline, according to a report released on Thursday. The country has ordered about 206,000 bales of cotton from the United States while increasing purchases from Brazil ahead of the local harvest. The report attributed the production decline to climate stress, poor seed quality, pest attacks, and farmers shifting to more profitable crops such as sugarcane, maize, and rice. Industry groups are urging the government to provide tax relief and lower energy costs as import bills rise. Analysts warn the growing dependence on imported cotton



could widen Pakistan's current account deficit and weaken the competitiveness of its export-oriented textile industry.

Google's Gemini closes in on one billion monthly users as artificial intelligence adoption accelerates

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Google's Gemini application has grown to 950 million monthly active users, highlighting the rapid expansion of the company's artificial intelligence ecosystem, Chief Executive Officer Sundar Pichai said this week. He said daily active users have tripled over the past year as Google introduced new artificial intelligence features

and expanded the platform across consumer and business products. Pichai also revealed that Google's artificial intelligence powered Search experience has surpassed one billion monthly users worldwide, while more than 9 million developers now build applications using the company's artificial intelligence models each month. Strong demand for artificial intelligence services also helped Google Cloud post an 82 percent increase in annual revenue.

European Union hands Ali Express record penalty in crackdown on counterfeit online products

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

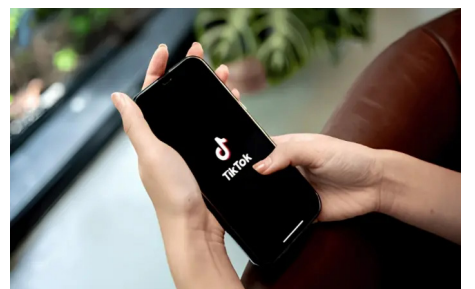
The European Commission imposed a record €550 million, about \$629 million, fine on AliExpress on Monday, accusing the online marketplace of failing to adequately prevent the sale of counterfeit and unsafe products under the European Union's Digital Services Act. It is the largest financial penalty issued under the legislation since it came into force. Regulators said the platform failed to properly assess and mitigate risks to consumers and ordered the company to submit a corrective action plan by October. AliExpress said it disagrees with the decision, arguing it has invested heavily in product safety and compliance, and is reviewing its legal options.

Samsung says years of foldable phone leadership leave it well prepared for Apple's entry

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Samsung said this week that it remains confident of maintaining its leadership in the foldable smartphone market as Apple prepares to launch its first foldable device. Mobile business chief Roh Tae-moon said Samsung's seven years of experience developing foldable technology and understanding consumer preferences provide a significant competitive advantage. His comments came after Samsung unveiled three new Galaxy Z foldable smartphones featuring enhanced artificial intelligence capabilities. Roh described foldable devices as a mature and increasingly mainstream product category, adding that greater competition is likely to accelerate market growth. Samsung also said it has adopted more competitive pricing for its latest foldable models in South Korea despite rising production costs.

South Korea fines TikTok over unlawful collection of user data for targeted advertising



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea's privacy watchdog imposed a fine of 10.3 billion won, about \$7 million, on TikTok on Thursday, finding that the social media platform unlawfully collected and used the behavioral data of millions of users for personalized advertising. The Personal Information Protection Commission said TikTok gathered data from about 9.45 million South Korean users through tracking tools embedded in third-party websites and applications without providing adequate notice. The regulator also ordered corrective measures against two Apple subsidiaries and imposed additional fines for collecting Siri voice recordings and text transcripts without proper user consent. The enforcement action comes amid heightened scrutiny of digital platforms in South Korea following several major privacy investigations, including a record penalty imposed on e-commerce company Coupang last month over data protection violations.

Barcelona confirms knee injury setback for Frenkie de Jong

Barcelona has confirmed that midfielder Frenkie de Jong suffered a tear of the medial collateral ligament in his right knee during the FIFA World Cup, dealing a major blow ahead of the new season. The Spanish club announced on Thursday that the Netherlands international will undergo conservative treatment rather than surgery, with his recovery to be monitored by the club's medical staff. Spanish media reports indicate the injury is expected to sideline De Jong for several months, causing him to miss the start of the new campaign. Barcelona reportedly believes the injury worsened after the midfielder continued playing for the Netherlands during the World Cup. The club could also place De Jong on its long-term injury list, a move that would provide additional salary cap flexibility.

Patrick Kane returns to Chicago Blackhawks on two-year deal

Patrick Kane is returning to the Chicago Blackhawks after agreeing to a two-year, \$16 million contract, the National Hockey League club announced on Thursday. The agreement includes a full no-movement clause and reunites Kane with the franchise where he won three Stanley Cup titles and became one of the greatest players in team history. The 37-year-old spent last season with the Detroit Red Wings, recording 16 goals and 41 assists in 67 games. His return strengthens a rebuilding Chicago team that will begin the season without Connor Bedard, who is recovering from shoulder surgery. Kane ranks among the Blackhawks' all-time leaders with 446 goals, 779 assists, and 1,225 points, and the club hopes his experience will help guide its young roster back into playoff contention.

Rublev cruises into Estoril quarterfinals as Faria delights home fans

Top seed Andrey Rublev extended his winning streak to five matches with a commanding 6-1, 6-1 victory over lucky loser Timofey Skatov at the Estoril Open on Thursday. Fresh off his title run in Bastad, Rublev needed just 59 minutes to secure his seventh ATP Tour quarterfinal of the season, firing 26 winners against the world No. 163. The Russian will next face France's Luca Van Assche, who defeated eighth seed Pablo Carreno Busta 6-3, 4-6, 6-2. Earlier, Portugal's Jaime Faria thrilled the home crowd by beating Peruvian qualifier Gonzalo Bueno 6-2, 6-4 to reach his second ATP Tour quarterfinal of the season. Faria will next face either second seed Luciano Darderi or Spain's Pedro Martinez.

Spain's World Cup triumph marks the end of a landmark tournament

Spain's victory over Argentina in the FIFA World Cup final has brought the curtain down on the biggest tournament in soccer history, ending a month-long competition that reshaped the global game with its expanded 48-team format and record-breaking scale. Spain secured its second World Cup title with a 1-0 extra time victory on Sunday, defeating defending champion Argentina at New York New Jersey Stadium through Ferran Torres' decisive goal.

The triumph ended Spain's 16-year wait for the sport's biggest prize and denied Lionel Messi another World Cup crown in what is widely expected to be his final appearance at the tournament. Argentina reached the final after defeating England, while Spain overcame France in the semifinals. France finished third after defeating England in the playoff. Beyond Spain's success, the tournament



will be remembered for its expanded field of 48 nations, record prize money, and breakthrough performances from emerging teams such as Cape Verde and Norway.

FIFA hailed the competition as a milestone for the sport, while the championship reinforced Spain's return as a dominant force in international soccer and closed one of the most ambitious World Cups ever staged.

Trump honors back to back champion Dodgers at White House, praises team's winning legacy

President Donald Trump welcomed the Los Angeles Dodgers to the White House on Thursday, celebrating the club's second consecutive World Series title and describing it as "one of the great brands anywhere in the world." The ceremony in the Rose Garden marked the Dodgers' second straight White House visit after defeating the Toronto Blue Jays in a seven-game World Series last season. Trump praised stars Shohei Ohtani and Freddie Freeman, comparing Ohtani's two-way abilities to baseball legend Babe Ruth, and joked that he hoped to host the team again after another championship. The Dodgers presented the president with a jersey bearing the number 47 and a commemorative World Series ring, prompting a lighthearted



exchange about reporting the gift. Manager Dave Roberts said the club was aiming for a third straight title. Trump also noted that the Dodgers currently hold the best record in Major League Baseball and recalled staying up late to watch the dramatic deciding game of last year's championship series.

LIV Golf team championship in doubt amid uncertainty over league's future

LIV Golf captain Martin Kaymer said on Thursday that the league's season-ending team championship is "highly unlikely" to take place as organizers continue searching for investors to secure the circuit's future beyond 2026. Kaymer, captain of Cleeks Golf Club, said players remain uncertain about plans for next season after reports that Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund will no longer provide financial backing. The league is reportedly seeking about \$350 million in new investment, with a decision on the team championship expected soon. LIV has already postponed its New Orleans event



indefinitely, while reports suggest some players are exploring opportunities on other tours. Despite the uncertainty, Kaymer said he hopes the season concludes with a clear roadmap for 2027.

Luka Modric extends AC Milan stay for another season



Luka Modric will continue with AC Milan after signing a one-year contract extension, the Italian club announced on Thursday. The new agreement keeps the Croatian midfielder at San Siro through the end of the 2026-27 season. Modric, who will turn 41 in September, joined Milan after ending his celebrated 13-year spell with Real Madrid. Last season, he made 37 appearances and scored two goals as Milan finished fifth in Serie A. The 2018 Ballon d'Or winner had previously indicated he would decide his future after the FIFA World Cup, where Croatia exited in the round of 32. Milan praised Modric's experience, leadership, and professionalism, saying he will continue wearing the No. 14 jersey as the club targets greater success next season under head coach Ruben Amorim.

Viswanathan Anand assumes interim leadership of International Chess Federation



Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand has become interim president of the International Chess Federation after President Arkady Dvorkovich stepped aside following his inclusion in the European Union's latest sanctions package announced on Thursday. Dvorkovich said he would challenge the sanctions but voluntarily suspended his presidential duties to ensure the federation's smooth functioning. Under the federation's charter, Deputy President Anand will lead the governing body until the restrictions are lifted or resolved. The federation's council ratified the decision, while Dvorkovich confirmed he would temporarily relinquish all presidential responsibilities. Anand has served as deputy president since 2022 and remains one of the sport's most respected figures.



Halys, Baez, and Navone reach Kitzbühel quarterfinals after upset wins

Quentin Halys, Sebastian Baez, and Mariano Navone produced notable upsets at the Generali Open in Kitzbühel on Wednesday, defeating seeded opponents to advance to the quarterfinals. Halys beat second seed Valentin Vacherot 6-3, 6-4 for his fifth career victory over a Top 20 player and will face Navone, who routed sixth seed Jan-Lennard Struff 6-0, 6-3. Former champion Baez outlasted third seed Arthur Rinderknech in three sets and next meets Germany's Yannick Hanfmann. Fourth seed Tomas Martin Etcheverry and fifth seed Ignacio Buse also advanced.



Anahat Singh reaches World Junior Squash Championships semifinals



Top seed Anahat Singh moved one step closer to history by reaching the semifinals of the World Junior Squash Championships in Ontario on Thursday. The Indian defeated Egypt's Habiba Rizk 11-7, 11-5, 6-11, 11-9 to become the first Indian player to reach consecutive women's semifinals at the tournament. Ranked No. 20 in the world, Anahat will next face Egypt's Barb Sameh for a place in the final as she bids to become India's first junior world champion. In the men's draw, top seed Mohamad Zakaria, Adam Hawal, Seifeldin Refaay, and Marwan Assal, all from Egypt, advanced to the semifinals, underlining the country's continued dominance in junior squash.

Sooryavanshi's record fifty powers India past Zimbabwe in series opener



Teenager Vaibhav Sooryavanshi smashed the fastest fifty by an Indian on Twenty20 International debut as India defeated Zimbabwe by seven wickets in the opening match of the three-game series in Harare on Wednesday. The 15-year-old blasted an 18-ball half-century, becoming the youngest player to score an international fifty, as India comfortably chased 126 with 40 balls remaining. Earlier, pace bowlers Mayank Yadav and Prince Yadav claimed two wickets each to help restrict Zimbabwe to 125 for seven after the hosts recovered from 32 for four through Wessly Madhevere's 39 and Tadiwanashe Marumani's unbeaten 27. Ishan Kishan added 35 before captain Shreyas Iyer guided India home unbeaten as the visitors took a 1-0 series lead.

Commonwealth Games begin in Glasgow with India targeting another strong showing

The 2026 Commonwealth Games got underway in Glasgow on Thursday, with a colorful opening ceremony marking the return of the multi-sport event to the Scottish city for the first time since 2014. King Charles III officially declared the Games open at the OVO Hydro as athletes from 74 Commonwealth nations and territories gathered for the Parade of Nations. Olympic medalists Mirabai Chanu and Lovlina Borgohain led India's 126-member contingent, with Mirabai carrying the national flag and Lovlina carrying the ceremonial Commonwealth baton. India will compete in 13 sports, including para sports, and is expected to be among the leading medal-winning nations. Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra, Mirabai, Lovlina, and a strong boxing squad headline India's challenge. The country's campaign had



already begun earlier on Thursday, when its lawn bowls team became the first Indian athletes in action. Competition will now shift from the opening ceremony to 11 days of medal events across 10 sports in Glasgow.

Alex Bowman to step away from full-time NASCAR racing after 2027 season

Alex Bowman will retire from full-time NASCAR Cup Series competition at the end of the 2027 season after signing a one-year contract extension with Hendrick Motorsports, the team announced on Thursday. The 33-year-old, who drives the No. 48 Chevrolet, said the decision came after reflecting on his future and listening to his body following several injury setbacks, including vertigo earlier this season, a concussion in 2022, and a back injury in 2023. Bowman has won eight Cup Series races and reached the playoffs seven times since 2018. Team owner Rick Hendrick praised Bowman's resilience and professionalism, saying he was pleased the veteran would be able



to finish his full-time career with the organization on his own terms.

The Oval to host 2027 World Test Championship final

The International Cricket Council confirmed on Thursday that The Oval will host the 2027 World Test Championship final from Wednesday through Sunday, June 9 to 13. It will be the second time the London venue stages the championship decider after hosting the 2023 final, where Australia defeated India. England and Wales Cricket Board officials said the match will be part of celebrations marking 150 years of Test cricket. The governing body awarded England hosting rights for the 2027, 2029, and 2031 finals. Defending champion South Africa and current table leader Australia are among the early contenders in the ongoing World Test Championship cycle, which concludes with the 2027 final.



England unveils 2027 home schedule ahead of Cricket World Cup



England will host Pakistan, Bangladesh, and New Zealand during a packed 2027 home season designed to prepare the men's team for the One-Day International Cricket World Cup. The England and Wales Cricket Board announced on Thursday that England will begin with a five-match One-Day International series against Pakistan before hosting Bangladesh in a one-off Test at Lord's, their first home Test meeting since 2010. New Zealand will then tour for three Twenty20 Internationals and five One-Day Internationals later in the summer. England's women's team will also host Bangladesh in September for three Twenty20 Internationals and three One-Day Internationals. The schedule provides valuable preparation ahead of the 2027 World Cup in southern Africa.

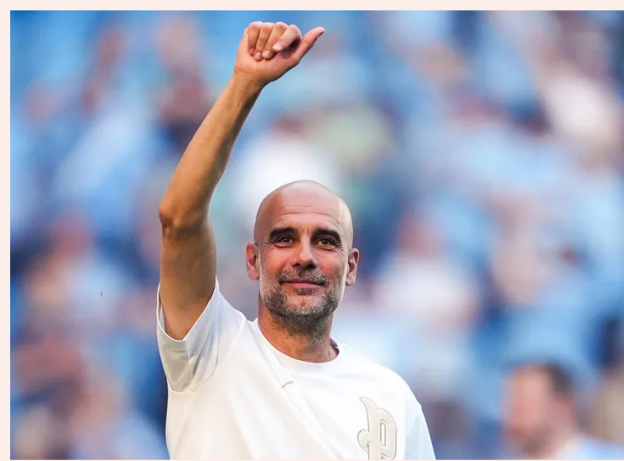
Inter Miami signs Casemiro as Major League Soccer opens investigation



Inter Miami has signed Brazilian midfielder Casemiro after his departure from Manchester United, the Major League Soccer club announced on Wednesday, while the league confirmed it has opened an investigation into the transfer. Casemiro has signed through the 2027 season with an option extending into 2029 and joins a star-studded squad featuring Lionel Messi and Rodrigo De Paul. Miami also acquired the player's discovery rights from the Los Angeles Galaxy, a requirement under Major League Soccer rules before completing the move. The 34-year-old leaves Europe after successful spells with Real Madrid, Porto, and Manchester United, winning 21 major trophies, including five UEFA Champions League titles. The league has not disclosed the nature of the alleged irregularities being investigated.

Ipswich Town signs Morocco defender Issa Diop from Fulham

Ipswich Town completed the signing of Morocco defender Issa Diop from Fulham on Tuesday, with the center back agreeing to a four-year contract. Diop joins after representing Morocco at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, where he played five matches and scored once as his team reached the quarterfinals. The 28-year-old brings extensive Premier League experience, having made 173 appearances for West Ham United and Fulham. Diop said Ipswich was the right place to continue his career and will join the club's preseason training camp in Spain.



Italy targets Pep Guardiola to lead national team rebuild

The Italian Football Federation is prepared to stretch its budget in an effort to appoint Pep Guardiola as the men's national team coach, officials confirmed on Tuesday. Senior representatives recently met Guardiola in Barcelona to outline a long-term plan that includes restructuring Italy's national team program. Federation president Giovanni Malago acknowledged financial constraints but suggested exceptions could be made for a high-profile appointment. Guardiola has been a free agent since leaving Manchester City earlier this year after a trophy-filled decade that included six Premier League titles and one UEFA Champions League crown.

Venice Film Festival unveils star-packed lineup featuring Elon Musk documentary and Oscar hopefuls



The Venice Film Festival unveiled a star-studded lineup on Thursday, setting the stage for one of the most anticipated awards seasons in recent years. Among the biggest attractions is Alex Gibney's four-hour documentary 'Musk', alongside Martin McDonagh's Central Intelligence Agency satire 'Wild Horse Nine', starring John Malkovich and Sam Rockwell. The competition slate also includes Robert Pattinson's 'Primer', Werner Herzog's 'Buckingham Palace', Florian Zeller's 'Bunker', and Hirokazu Kore-eda's 'Look Back'. Danny Boyle's 'Ink' will open the festival, while filmmaker Maggie Gyllenhaal will preside over this year's jury. Veteran actor Ellen Burstyn will receive the festival's Lifetime Achievement Award as Venice once again positions itself as a major launchpad for Oscar contenders and some of the year's most talked-about films.

Rebel Wilson wins defamation case over social media posts linked to 'The Deb' dispute



Actor and filmmaker Rebel Wilson has won a legal battle after Australia's Federal Court ruled on Wednesday that she did not defame actor Charlotte MacInnes through a series of social media posts connected to Wilson's directorial debut, 'The Deb'. MacInnes alleged the posts falsely suggested she had withdrawn a sexual harassment complaint against one of the film's producers to advance her career. Justice Elizabeth Raper found that the posts did not meet the legal threshold for defamation and that MacInnes failed to prove they caused serious harm to her reputation or breached her confidence. The case stemmed from an incident during the film's production in 2023. Following the ruling, Wilson described the decision as a "substantial win" on social media and thanked Australia's legal system. The court also ordered MacInnes to pay Wilson's legal costs.

Indian film industry backs students as NEET protest sparks wave of celebrity support

Actors and filmmakers from across India's film industry have spoken out in support of students protesting alleged irregularities in the NEET examination, with many calling for fairness, transparency, and accountability in the education system.

Salman Khan urged students to return home after Prime Minister Narendra Modi said those responsible for the paper leak would face strict action, while also appealing to activist Sonam Wangchuk to end his hunger strike. Kareena Kapoor Khan said students deserve "a system they can trust," while Varun Dhawan, Alia Bhatt, Ananya Panday, Ibrahim Ali Khan, and Sara Ali Khan called for students' voices to be heard, peaceful dialogue, and a fair resolution to

their concerns.

Support also came from the South Indian film industry. Oscar-winning sound designer Resul Pookutty praised Generation Z protesters, describing the movement as "poetry with pulse." Tamil actor Dushara Vijayan urged society to listen to students instead of responding with fear, while Malayalam actor Nikhila Vimal expressed solidarity, saying young people were standing up to protect the country's future.

The statements come as protests over alleged examination irregularities continue to draw nationwide attention, with students demanding accountability and reforms to restore confidence in India's competitive examination system.



World Cup halftime spectacle sends Madonna, Justin Bieber, BTS, and Shakira soaring on streaming charts

The first-ever FIFA World Cup halftime show proved to be more than a global entertainment spectacle, delivering an immediate surge in music streams for its star-studded lineup. Industry analytics firm Luminate reported that songs performed by Madonna, Justin Bieber, BTS, Shakira, and Burna Boy during the Sunday finale recorded significant streaming gains in the following two days. Justin Bieber's 'Everything Hallelujah' led the pack with a 110 percent increase in global streams, while Madonna's classic hit 'Music' climbed 66 percent. BTS' 'Dynamite' rose 43 percent, and the official World Cup anthem, 'Dai Dai' by Shakira and Burna Boy, gained 24 percent worldwide and 52 percent in the United States. Unlike the broad catalog boosts often seen after the Super



Bowl halftime show, Luminate found that listeners overwhelmingly returned to the songs performed on stage, highlighting the immediate global impact of football's biggest musical showcase.

Christopher Nolan's 'The Odyssey' conquers the global box office with a record-breaking debut

Christopher Nolan has delivered another cinematic phenomenon as 'The Odyssey' stormed theaters with a spectacular \$264.1 million worldwide opening weekend, becoming one of the biggest launches of his career. The epic adaptation of Homer's legendary tale earned \$124.5 million across the United States and Canada and another \$139.6 million internationally, outperforming the opening of Nolan's Oscar-winning 'Oppenheimer'. The film also set new benchmarks for IMAX, generating \$51.8 million globally as sold-out 70 millimeter screenings and around-the-clock showtimes reflected extraordinary audience demand. Featuring an ensemble cast led by Matt Damon, Tom Holland, Zendaya, Anne



Hathaway, Robert Pattinson, Charlize Theron, Lupita Nyong'o, and Elliot Page, the big-budget spectacle has been embraced by critics and moviegoers alike. With little major competition in the coming weeks, industry analysts expect 'The Odyssey' to remain the dominant force at the box office well beyond the summer season.

Hollywood's iconic Cinerama Dome set for long-awaited return after years of closure



One of Hollywood's most beloved movie landmarks is preparing for a comeback, with Sony Pictures Entertainment announcing on Tuesday that the historic Cinerama Dome will reopen in early 2028 after an extensive restoration. The theater, which closed during the coronavirus pandemic, will be operated by Alamo Drafthouse Cinema alongside the neighboring 14-screen former ArcLight Cinemas complex. Opened in 1963, the Cinerama Dome became famous for its distinctive geodesic design and massive curved screen, making it a favorite destination for film premieres and large-format presentations. Sony said the landmark's iconic exterior and signature features will be preserved, while the adjoining theaters will include Alamo Drafthouse's dining experience. The reopening comes as large-format moviegoing enjoys renewed popularity, fueled by the success of films such as Christopher Nolan's 'The Odyssey'.

'Godzilla' actor Kaylee Hottle dies at 18 after Maryland car crash



Actor Kaylee Hottle, who won audiences' hearts as Jia in the 'Godzilla' films, has died following a car crash in Maryland, authorities confirmed on Tuesday. She was 18. According to the Frederick County Sheriff's Office, Hottle was a passenger in a vehicle that left the roadway and struck a culvert. Officials said excessive speed is believed to have been a factor, although the crash remains under investigation. A deaf actor and native user of American Sign Language, Hottle earned widespread praise for her performances in 'Godzilla vs. Kong' and 'Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire', where her character formed a unique bond with Kong. Tributes poured in from across Hollywood, including messages from co-stars Millie Bobby Brown and Alaqua Cox, as well as Academy Award winners Marlee Matlin and Troy Kotsur, who remembered Hottle's talent, warmth, and lasting impact on the deaf community.

Lim Kim turns inward with deeply personal new album 'Exit to Nowhere'



South Korean singer Lim Kim is embracing her most personal chapter yet with the release of her second full-length album, 'Exit to Nowhere'. The seven-track record reflects her journey from the uncertainty of her early 20s to greater self-acceptance in her 30s, marking her first major project since 2019's 'GENERASIAN'. Speaking this week, Kim said the album serves as a musical diary inspired by her own experiences rather than broader cultural themes. Tracks such as 'Never Gonna Be Alone' and 'INSA' explore loneliness, identity, and belonging. The album also draws inspiration from South Korean author Yang Gui-ja, American writer Joan Didion, and Studio Ghibli's 'Spirited Away'. Kim hopes listeners navigating uncertain phases of life will find comfort in her story.

Raj Kundra eyes more Punjab stories after finding success with 'Mehtar'



Actor and entrepreneur Raj Kundra says he wants to champion more Punjab-centric films, believing the region is home to many powerful stories that have yet to reach the big screen. Speaking on Thursday, Kundra said he is focused on meaningful, age-appropriate roles rather than taking on projects simply to stay visible. He revealed that his next release, 'The Great Punjab Robbery', was originally intended to be his acting debut but was delayed because of funding issues before producers came on board following the success of 'Mehtar'. Directed by Saurabh Varma, the film is scheduled for a worldwide theatrical release in August. Kundra also confirmed that his next project after 'The Great Punjab Robbery' will be a pan-India home production.

Tom Holland embraces biggest dance challenge yet with Fred Astaire biopic

Fresh off the release of Christopher Nolan's 'The Odyssey', Tom Holland is preparing for another demanding role, revealing he hopes to perform every dance sequence himself in the upcoming Fred Astaire biopic. Speaking this week on 'Good Morning America', Holland said he has already begun rehearsals but admitted the experience has filled him with both excitement and "absolute dread" because of Astaire's extraordinary legacy. The actor said he wants to avoid using dance doubles and instead film the routines in long, uninterrupted takes, just as Astaire famously did. Directed by Paul King and



written by Steven Levenson, the long-awaited biopic will chronicle the life of one of Hollywood's greatest dancers and entertainers.

Sandeep Reddy Vanga unveils soulful first song from romantic drama 'Romanchakam'

Director Sandeep Reddy Vanga has launched the first single from the upcoming romantic drama 'Romanchakam', offering audiences an emotional glimpse into the film ahead of its theatrical release. Sharing 'Radha Ramana' on Wednesday, Vanga said the melody had stayed with him since the project's early stages and expressed hope it would leave a similar impact on listeners. Composed and sung by Vasuki Vaibhav with lyrics by Chandrabose, the romantic track celebrates enduring love and features lead actors Sumanth Prabhas and Ananthika Sanilkumar. Presented by Bhadrakali Pictures and directed by Venu Gopal Reddy, 'Romanchakam' also stars



Upendra Limaye and is scheduled to arrive in theaters in September.

Kangana Ranaut says Parliament members feared violence during protest outside House

Actor and Member of Parliament Kangana Ranaut has described the tense atmosphere inside Parliament during recent demonstrations linked to alleged examination irregularities, saying lawmakers feared the situation could turn violent. Speaking to reporters on Tuesday, Ranaut claimed Members of Parliament were unable to leave the building after protesters marched toward Parliament and praised Delhi Police for preventing the unrest from escalating. She said officers acted as a shield and protected those inside despite coming under pressure themselves. The demonstrations followed nationwide protests over alleged irregularities in competitive



examinations, with activists and students demanding accountability and reforms to the examination system.

Jennifer Lawrence recalls airport ordeal that landed her in a holding cell

An old interview featuring Jennifer Lawrence has resurfaced online, bringing renewed attention to the Oscar winner's amusing story about being detained by United Kingdom border officials while traveling for an audition. Speaking on 'The Graham Norton Show', Lawrence recalled she was heading to audition for the first 'X-Men' film when she was advised not to reveal she was traveling for work because she lacked the required visa and her passport was close to expiring. After attempting to claim she was visiting for pleasure, she confessed the truth during questioning and was briefly held in a detention cell for around five hours. Lawrence has often shared the



story as one of her most embarrassing travel experiences.

Jennifer Aniston gets emotional as 'The Morning Show' heads toward its final season

Jennifer Aniston is preparing to bid farewell to 'The Morning Show', sharing an emotional behind-the-scenes update as production on the acclaimed series nears its end. On Thursday, the actress posted a collection of photos and videos with co-star Reese Witherspoon, writing that she was both "laughing and crying" as the show's final season approaches. Witherspoon responded by saying there were "so many feels," while Sandra Bullock praised the cast and crew for what they had accomplished. Inspired by Brian Stelter's book 'Top of the Morning', the award-winning series follows the personal and professional turmoil behind a television morning news program and has become one of Apple TV+'s signature dramas since its debut.

Olivia Wilde says Harry Styles breakup overshadowed 'Don't Worry Darling'



Olivia Wilde has reflected on the intense public scrutiny surrounding her breakup with Harry Styles, saying it overshadowed the release of their film 'Don't Worry Darling'. Speaking on 'The Louis Theroux Podcast', the actor and director said the attention shifted focus away from the work of the cast and crew, preventing meaningful conversations about the film itself. Wilde described the online reaction as personally hurtful and admitted she underestimated the impact of internet culture at the time. However, she said promoting her latest film, 'The Invite', has been a healing experience, allowing discussions to center on filmmaking rather than personal headlines.

Assamese drama 'Rador Pakhi' earns special jury honor at Moscow festival

Assamese feature film 'Rador Pakhi' has added another international honor to its growing festival journey after receiving the Jury Special Mention, Super Mama Award, at the International Film Festival Made by Women in Moscow. Directed by Bobby Sarma Baruah, the film was recognized after competing at the festival, which concluded earlier this month. Inspired by the life of writer Sarmistha Pritam, the film follows an aspiring Assamese author living with spinal muscular atrophy as she pursues independence and her literary dreams. Baruah dedicated the award to the cast and crew, saying the recognition would inspire them to continue telling stories that resonate across cultures. The film has previously screened at several prestigious international festivals.

IndoUS Tribune की भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा — छत्तीसगढ़ अध्याय (पाँचवाँ एवं अंतिम पड़ाव)

महादेव मंदिर, देवबलोदा — कलचुरी युग की अनुपम शैव धरोहर और अद्भुत शिल्पकला का जीवंत प्रतीक



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 यात्रा पूर्ण कर चुके हैं। इन यात्राओं ने हमें भारत की अद्भुत सांस्कृतिक विविधता, प्राचीन परंपराओं, लोक आस्थाओं और सनातन विरासत की गहराई को समझने का अवसर प्रदान किया है।

छत्तीसगढ़ अध्याय में हमने पहले पड़ाव पर माँ दंतेश्वरी मंदिर, दंतवाड़ा के दिव्य शक्तिपीठ के दर्शन किए, दूसरे पड़ाव पर भोरमदेव मंदिर, कबीरधाम की अद्वितीय नागर शैली की स्थापत्य कला का अवलोकन किया, तीसरे पड़ाव पर माँ बमलेश्वरी मंदिर, डोंगरगढ़ में शक्ति उपासना और प्रकृति के अनुपम संगम का अनुभव किया तथा चौथे पड़ाव पर राजिम के प्राचीन श्री राजीव लोचन मंदिर में भगवान विष्णु के कमलनयन स्वरूप एवं त्रिवेणी संगम की आध्यात्मिक महिमा का साक्षात्कार किया। अब IndoUS Tribune की यह पावन यात्रा छत्तीसगढ़ के पाँचवें एवं अंतिम पड़ाव पर पहुँच चुकी है—दुर्ग जिले के देवबलोदा स्थित प्राचीन महादेव मंदिर, जहाँ भगवान शिव की आराधना, कलचुरीकालीन स्थापत्य कला और लोककथाओं का अद्भुत संगम आज भी श्रद्धालुओं और इतिहास प्रेमियों को समान रूप से आकर्षित करता है।

कलचुरी युग की गौरवशाली धरोहर

देवबलोदा का महादेव मंदिर छत्तीसगढ़ के दुर्ग जिले में स्थित भगवान शिव का एक अत्यंत प्राचीन मंदिर है। इतिहासकारों के अनुसार इसका निर्माण 12वीं-13वीं शताब्दी में कलचुरी वंश के शासनकाल में हुआ था। उस समय मध्य भारत में कला, स्थापत्य और धार्मिक गतिविधियों का स्वर्णिम युग माना जाता है। अपनी ऐतिहासिक एवं सांस्कृतिक महत्ता के कारण यह मंदिर आज भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण (ASI) द्वारा संरक्षित स्मारक है।

स्थानीय मान्यता के अनुसार इस मंदिर का निर्माण मात्र

छः महीनों में सम्पन्न हुआ था। इसी कारण इसे आज भी अनेक लोग "छः मासी मंदिर" के नाम से जानते हैं। मंदिर परिसर में स्थित प्राचीन कुंड के बारे में यह भी जनश्रुति है कि उसके भीतर एक गुप्त सुरंग छत्तीसगढ़ के प्राचीन नागर आरंग तक जाती थी।

नागर शैली की उत्कृष्ट स्थापत्य कला

पूर्वाभिमुख यह मंदिर लाल बलुआ पत्थरों से निर्मित है और नागर शैली की स्थापत्य परंपरा का सुंदर उदाहरण प्रस्तुत करता है। मंदिर में गर्भगृह तथा स्तंभों पर आधारित नवरेणु मंडप है। यद्यपि इसका मूल शिखर अब विद्यमान नहीं है, फिर भी मंदिर की स्थापत्य योजना आज भी उसकी भव्यता का परिचय देती है।

गर्भगृह में लगभग डेढ़ फुट ऊँचा शिवलिंग स्थापित है। गर्भगृह के प्रवेश द्वार पर अलंकृत शैव द्वारपालों की सुंदर प्रतिमाएँ स्थापित हैं। मंदिर के सामने भगवान शिव के परम भक्त नंदी महाराज विराजमान हैं, मानो वे आज भी मंदिर की रक्षा कर रहे हों।

मंदिर परिसर में स्थित 23 सीढ़ियों वाला प्राचीन कुंड और उसके समीप बने दो कुएँ इस स्थल की विशेष पहचान हैं। स्थानीय लोगों का विश्वास है कि इनमें से एक कुएँ का जल कभी समाप्त नहीं होता।

अद्भुत मूर्तिकला और शिल्प वैभव

देवबलोदा महादेव मंदिर अपनी उत्कृष्ट मूर्तिकला के लिए विशेष रूप से प्रसिद्ध है। मंदिर की दीवारों और स्तंभों पर भगवान शिव के अनेक रूपों के साथ-साथ अन्य देवी-देवताओं की अत्यंत सुंदर प्रतिमाएँ अंकित हैं।

यहाँ त्रिपुरांतक शिव, गजांतक शिव, महिषासुरमर्दिनी, भैरव, नरसिंह, वराह, राधा-कृष्ण, गणेश, लक्ष्मी सहित अनेक दिव्य आकृतियाँ अत्यंत कलात्मक ढंग से उकेरी गई हैं।

केवल धार्मिक चित्रण ही नहीं, बल्कि मंदिर की दीवारों पर तत्कालीन समाज के जीवन की झलक भी दिखाई देती है। शिकार के दृश्य, विशेष रूप से जंगली सुअर के शिकार, बैलों की लड़ाई, नर्तक-नर्तकियों, संगीतकारों तथा जनजीवन के अनेक चित्र इस मंदिर को कला और इतिहास का जीवंत दस्तावेज बनाते हैं।

यही विशेषता इस मंदिर को शैव, वैष्णव और लौकिक विषयों के अद्भुत समन्वय का दुर्लभ उदाहरण बनाती है।

रहस्यमयी लोककथाएँ

देवबलोदा महादेव मंदिर अनेक रोचक लोककथाओं से भी जुड़ा हुआ है। सबसे प्रसिद्ध कथा मंदिर के शिल्पकार की है। कहा जाता है कि मंदिर निर्माण में इतना तल्लीन रहने के कारण वह अपने वस्त्रों तक का ध्यान नहीं रखता था। उसकी पत्नी प्रतिदिन भोजन लेकर आती थी, किंतु एक दिन उसकी बहन वहाँ पहुँच गई। दोनों भाई-बहन एक-दूसरे को उस अवस्था में देखकर अत्यंत लज्जित हुए। शर्म के कारण शिल्पकार मंदिर की छत से परिसर के कुंड में कूद गया और उसकी बहन भी पास के तालाब में कूद गई। जनश्रुति है कि दोनों पत्थर बन गए और आज भी जल कम होने पर उनकी आकृतियाँ दिखाई देती हैं।

एक अन्य कथा के अनुसार, इसी कुंड के भीतर स्थित गुप्त सुरंग के माध्यम से वह शिल्पकार आरंग पहुँच गया था, जहाँ आगे चलकर वह पत्थर बन गया। स्थानीय लोग आज भी इस सुरंग के अस्तित्व पर विश्वास करते हैं।

महाशिवरात्रि का प्रमुख तीर्थ

महादेव मंदिर, देवबलोदा आज भी छत्तीसगढ़ के प्रमुख शैव तीर्थों में गिना जाता है। विशेष रूप से महाशिवरात्रि के अवसर पर यहाँ हजारों श्रद्धालु भगवान शिव के दर्शन एवं पूजा-अर्चना के लिए पहुँचते हैं। इस अवसर पर मंदिर परिसर में भव्य मेले का आयोजन भी होता है, जिसमें

आसपास के गाँवों और नगरों से बड़ी संख्या में श्रद्धालु भाग लेते हैं।

इतिहास और आस्था का अद्वितीय संगम

देवबलोदा का महादेव मंदिर केवल एक प्राचीन धार्मिक स्थल ही नहीं, बल्कि मध्य भारत की समृद्ध सांस्कृतिक, कलात्मक और आध्यात्मिक विरासत का अमूल्य प्रतीक है। इसकी स्थापत्य कला, उत्कृष्ट मूर्तिकला, रहस्यमयी लोककथाएँ और सदियों से चली आ रही धार्मिक परंपराएँ इसे इतिहासकारों, पुरातत्वविदों, कला प्रेमियों और श्रद्धालुओं—सभी के लिए समान रूप से आकर्षण का केंद्र बनाती हैं।

समापन

IndoUS Tribune की "भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा — छत्तीसगढ़ अध्याय" का यह पाँचवाँ एवं अंतिम पड़ाव हमें यह अनुभव कराता है कि छत्तीसगढ़ की आध्यात्मिक विरासत शक्ति, शिव और विष्णु—तीनों उपासना परंपराओं का अद्भुत संगम है। माँ दंतेश्वरी की दिव्य शक्ति, भोरमदेव की अनुपम स्थापत्य कला, माँ बमलेश्वरी की अटूट आस्था, राजिम के भगवान राजीव लोचन की वैष्णव महिमा और अब देवबलोदा के प्राचीन महादेव मंदिर की शैव परंपरा—इन सभी ने मिलकर छत्तीसगढ़ को भारत की आध्यात्मिक धरोहर का एक अनमोल अध्याय बना दिया है।

इसी के साथ IndoUS Tribune की छत्तीसगढ़ यात्रा पूर्ण होती है। अगले सप्ताह हमारी यह पावन यात्रा एक नए अध्याय के साथ गोवा की ओर प्रस्थान करेगी, जहाँ प्राचीन मंदिरों, समृद्ध कोंकणी संस्कृति और सनातन परंपराओं से जुड़ी नई प्रेरणादायक गाथाएँ आपका इंतजार कर रही हैं। इस आध्यात्मिक यात्रा में हमारे साथ जुड़े रहिए।

जय भोलेनाथ! जय श्री राम!

Rare Episodes Hidden in the Valmiki Ramayana

Hanuman Ji's Childhood

In the Ramcharitmanas, there is no description of the birth or childhood of Hanuman Ji. His first appearance comes in the Kishkindha Kand, when Lord Rama and Lakshmana, while searching for Mother Sita, arrive near Rishyamuk Mountain. Seeing the two mighty warriors, Sugriva becomes anxious and sends Hanuman Ji to discover their identity.

Disguised as a Brahmin, Hanuman Ji approaches the two brothers and asks:

को तुम्ह स्यामल गौर सरीरा,
छत्रीरूप फिरहु बन बीरा

Captivated by their divine appearance, he continues:

मृदुल मनोहर सुन्दर गाता,
सहत दुसह बन आतप बाता
कि तुम्ह तीनि देव महँ कोऊ,
नर नारायन की तुम्ह दोऊ

Once Hanuman Ji realizes that they are Lord Rama and Lakshmana, he respectfully escorts them to Sugriva. He helps establish the historic friendship between Lord Rama and Sugriva, after which Sugriva and his entire Vanara army wholeheartedly join Rama's mission to search for Mother Sita.

Unlike the Ramcharitmanas, the Uttara Kanda of the Valmiki Ramayana contains a detailed narration of Hanuman Ji's birth and childhood.

Once, Sage Agastya visited Lord Rama's royal court. During their conversation, Lord Rama expressed deep gratitude for Hanuman Ji's unmatched devotion and invaluable service. Sage Agastya then asked, "Would you like to hear about Hanuman Ji's childhood?" At Lord Rama's request, the sage began narrating the sacred story.

Sage Agastya Begins the Story

The sage said that everyone knows Hanuman Ji was the divine son of Vayu Deva (the Wind God) and Mother Anjana, with Kesari as his earthly father. Because of his divine origin, he is also known as Maruti Nandan, as Maruti is another name for the Wind God. Hence, Hanuman Ji is lovingly called Pawan Putra (Son of the Wind).

Even as a child, Hanuman Ji possessed extraordinary divine powers.

Sage Agastya quoted:

सत्यमेतद्रुपुश्रेष्ठ यद्वर्षीषि हनूमतः ।
न बले विद्यते तुल्या न गता न मता परः ॥ 15॥

He explained that Hanuman Ji possessed incomparable strength, wisdom, and speed. No one among gods or humans could match him in these qualities.

Sage Agastya then described a golden mountain called Sumeru, where King Kesari ruled. His queen, Anjana, performed severe penance before giving birth to a divine child named Hanuman.

One day, while Hanuman Ji was still very young, Mother Anjana went deep into the forest to collect fruits. She did not return for a long time.

शालिथूकनिभाभासं प्रासूतेमं तदाऽञ्जना ।
र फलान्याहतकामा वै निष्क्रान्ता गहनेचरा ॥ 21 ॥

The little child became hungry. Unable to find food, he cried loudly. At that moment, he saw the rising red Sun and mistook it for a ripe fruit.



Believing it to be something delicious to eat, he leaped toward the sky to catch it.

बालाकाभियुखो बालो बालाक इव मूर्तिमान् ।
ग्रहीतुकामो बालाक ध्रुवतेऽम्बरमध्यगः ॥ 24 ॥

The Sun, however, was far away. Hanuman Ji continued flying toward it with astonishing speed. The gods watched this incredible sight with amazement. They wondered how such extraordinary speed could exist in such a young child. If he possessed such power in infancy, what would his abilities become when he reached adulthood?

King Kesari also witnessed the event and became worried for his son's safety. If the child flew too close to the blazing Sun, he might be burned by its intense heat.

Sage Agastya quoted:

तमनुपुवते वायुः पुवन्त पुत्रमात्मानः ।
सर्वदाहभयाद्रक्षस्तुषारचयशी तलः ॥ 28 ॥

To protect his son, Vayu Deva followed closely behind Hanuman Ji while cooling the surrounding air like ice.

Meanwhile, Surya Deva also saw the innocent child approaching. Realizing that the child

knew no danger, the Sun God decided not to harm him. Through his divine vision, Surya Deva also understood that this child would one day perform many indispensable services for Lord Rama. Therefore, Hanuman Ji had to be protected.

Hanuman Ji, Rahu, and Indra

Another episode in the Valmiki Ramayana describes that at the very moment Hanuman Ji rushed toward the Sun, Rahu was also approaching to swallow the Sun during an eclipse.

यमेव दिवसं होष ग्रहीतुं भास्करं प्लुतः ।
तमेव दिवसं राहुर्जिघृक्षति दिवाकरम् ॥ 31॥
अनेन च परामुष्टो राहुः सूर्यथापरि ।
अपक्रान्तस्ततस्ततो राहुथन्द्राकमदनः ॥ 32 ॥

As soon as Hanuman Ji touched the upper part of Surya Deva's chariot, Rahu became frightened and fled. He rushed to Lord Indra, seeking help.

Mounted on his celestial elephant Airavata, Indra came to confront Hanuman Ji. He struck the child with his mighty Vajra (thunderbolt), which hit Hanuman Ji on the chin. It is said that the mark of that blow remained on his chin forever, and from this incident came the name

Hanuman, derived from Hanu (jaw or chin).

Why Hanuman Ji Became Known as Pawan Putra

Just as Indra could withhold rain and disturb the world, Vayu Deva also possessed the power to stop the movement of air.

Angered by Indra's attack on his son, Vayu withdrew the life-giving wind from the universe. Immediately, all living beings began to suffer. The gods became alarmed and approached Vayu Deva, begging forgiveness and requesting him to restore the life-sustaining air for the welfare of all creation.

Sage Agastya quoted:

राहोर्वचनमास्थाय ततः स कुपितोऽनिलः ।
अशरीर! शरीरेषु वायुश्चरति पाळयन् ॥ 60 ॥
शरीरं हि विना वायं समतां याति दारुभिः ।
वायः प्राणः सुखं बायर्वायुः सवेमिदं जगत् ॥ 61॥

Vayu Deva became pleased and restored the flow of air. He declared that from then onward he would exist invisibly within every living being as breath itself. We all know that life cannot exist without air. It is the very foundation of existence.

From that time, Hanuman Ji became renowned as Pawan Putra, the Son of the Wind, and all the worlds acknowledged his unmatched strength and speed.

Hanuman Ji's Divine Powers in Service of Lord Rama

When Hanuman Ji later met Lord Rama, it was this extraordinary speed that enabled him to leap across the mighty ocean in search of Mother Sita.

During the great war between Rama and Ravana, when Lakshmana was rendered unconscious, Hanuman Ji flew to the Himalayas with incredible swiftness and brought back the Sanjivani herb, saving his life.

Hanuman Ji is supreme not only in strength but also in wisdom. There is no task beyond his ability, and there is no sincere prayer of a devotee that he cannot fulfill.

That is why Goswami Tulsidas wrote:

कवन सो काज कठिन जग माहि,
जो नहीं तात होई तुम्ह पाहि

And when it comes to serving Lord Rama, Hanuman Ji never hesitates. At the very mention of Rama's work, he becomes instantly ready:

रामकाज लंगि तव अवतारा,
सुनतहि भयहु परवता कारा

I offer my humble salutations to Lord Hanuman, the eternal devotee of Lord Rama.



Rajendra Kapil
Phone: 847-962-1291

Global Indian Diaspora Foundation to celebrate India's 80th Independence Day with Lt. Gen. K.J.S. 'Tiny' Dhillon in Chicago Area

By: Dr. Avi Verma

The Global Indian Diaspora Foundation (GIDF), a Chicago-based nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting Indian heritage, strengthening community engagement, fostering humanitarian initiatives, and building bridges between the Indian diaspora and the broader American society, will celebrate the 80th Independence Day of India with a special commemorative event on Friday, August 14, at the International University of Vedic Wellness (IUVW) in Streamwood, Illinois.

The celebration will feature Lieutenant General K.J.S. 'Tiny' Dhillon, PVSM, UYSM, YSM, VSM (Retd.), one of India's most distinguished retired military commanders, and will also include the U.S. launch of his latest book, Operation SINDOOR: The Untold Story of India's Deep Strikes. The program will begin at 10:30 a.m. with the Indian National Flag Hoisting Ceremony, followed by a keynote address by Lt. Gen. Dhillon. The day's events will also include a book signing session, recognition of military veterans for their service, a cultural program celebrating the spirit of India, and conclude with lunch.

A major highlight of the celebration will be the launch of Operation SINDOOR: The Untold Story of India's Deep Strikes, a book that offers readers an insider's perspective on India's military operations and strategic decision-making. Attendees will also have the opportunity to meet Lt. Gen. Dhillon during a book signing session, while advance reservations for signed copies have been made available by the organizers. Lt. Gen. Kanwal Jeet Singh 'Tiny' Dhillon is a highly decorated

“

A MAJOR HIGHLIGHT OF THE CELEBRATION WILL BE THE LAUNCH OF OPERATION SINDOOR: THE UNTOLD STORY OF INDIA'S DEEP STRIKES, A BOOK THAT OFFERS READERS AN INSIDER'S PERSPECTIVE ON INDIA'S MILITARY OPERATIONS AND STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING.

played an important role in India's national security.

For his exemplary leadership and service, Lt. Gen. Dhillon has been awarded some of India's highest military honors, including the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM), Uttam Yudh Seva Medal (UYSM), Yudh Seva Medal (YSM), and Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM). Following his retirement, he has remained actively involved in leadership development, strategic affairs, public speaking, and national security discussions.

According to GIDF, the event is intended not only to commemorate India's Independence Day but also to honor the sacrifices of military veterans, inspire younger generations through the experiences of distinguished national leaders, and strengthen the connection between the Indian diaspora and their heritage.

The celebration is expected to attract Indian-American families, veterans, students, professionals, and community leaders from across the Midwest for a day of patriotism, reflection, cultural pride, and community fellowship.



GLOBAL INDIAN DIASPORA FOUNDATION
A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION BASED IN CHICAGO

★★★ USA LAUNCH TOUR ★★★

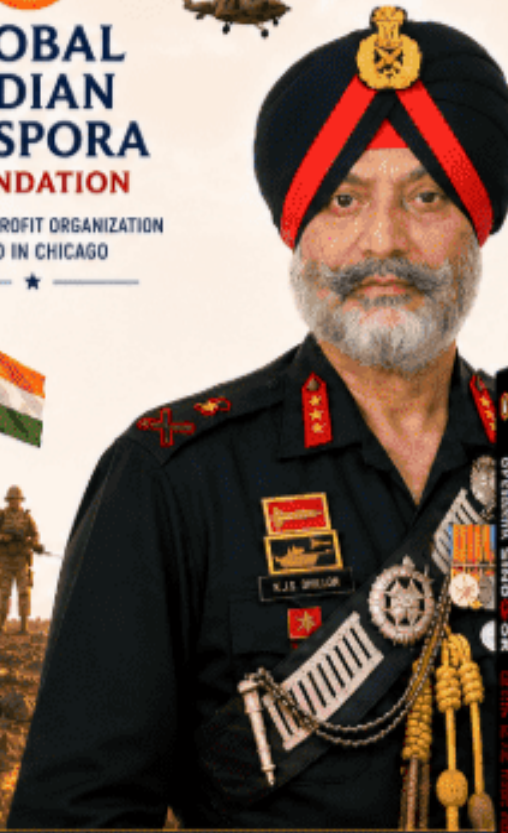
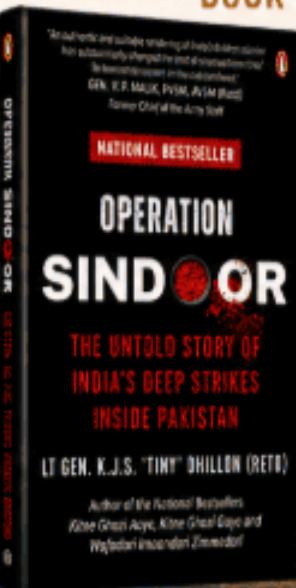
WITH

LT. GEN. K.J.S. "TINY" DHILLON

PVSM, UYSM, YSM, VSM (RETD.)

★

BOOK LAUNCH & AUTHOR MEET

OPERATION SINDOOR

THE UNTOLD STORY OF INDIA'S DEEP STRIKES INSIDE PAKISTAN

LT GEN. K.J.S. "TINY" DHILLON (RETD.)

★★ **CHICAGO** ★★

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2026

10:30 AM – 2:00 PM

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF VEDIC WELLNESS
STREAMWOOD, IL

★★ **WASHINGTON, D.C.** ★★

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2026

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

VENUE DETAILS COMING SOON

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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DANIEL BISS

PLEDGES TO CHAMPION IMMIGRANTS, CIVIL RIGHTS AND DIPLOMACY IF ELECTED TO CONGRESS

In an exclusive interview with IndoUS Tribune Publisher Dr. Avi Verma, Illinois congressional candidate Daniel Biss discusses the Indian American community, civil rights, judicial reform, foreign policy and why he believes diversity remains America's greatest strength.

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

As Illinois prepares for a closely watched congressional election, Daniel Biss says restoring faith in democratic institutions, protecting civil rights and ensuring immigrant communities have a stronger voice in Washington will be among his top priorities if elected to Congress. In an exclusive interview with Dr. Avi Verma, Publisher of IndoUS Tribune, the Democratic nominee for Illinois' Ninth Congressional District and current Mayor of Evanston outlined his vision for one of the nation's most diverse congressional districts.

The wide-ranging conversation covered issues affecting Indian Americans and other immigrant communities, judicial reform, congressional oversight and the conflict involving the United States, Israel and Iran. The Ninth Congressional District, which includes Evanston, Skokie, Niles, Lincolnwood, Des Plaines, Glenview and parts of Chicago, is home to one of the Midwest's largest South Asian populations. Biss said that diversity is not simply a defining characteristic of the district but one of its greatest strengths.

"The Indian community has contributed enormously to this district"

Responding to a question about discrimination, racial profiling and hate crimes affecting Indian Americans and other immigrant communities, Biss said addressing those concerns requires action at multiple levels. "I think you have to address them in every way possible. That means through policy, through constituent service and through leadership."

He said Congress should strengthen and enforce civil rights protections, combat racial profiling and remain uncompromising in confronting hate crimes and politically or racially motivated violence. "We have to fight discrimination. We have to fight hate crimes. We have to be relentless in opposing violence based on race or politics," he said.

Biss also stressed that effective representation extends beyond legislation. He said members of Congress must remain accessible to constituents, help communities navigate government services and ensure those facing discrimination or security concerns receive the support they need. Reflecting on his long association with the district, Biss spoke about his familiarity with its neighborhoods and multicultural character, noting that members of his family continue to live in the area. He praised the Indian American community for its contribution to the local economy and civic life. "The Indian community has contributed a lot to the United States economy and to the stability of this district," he added.

"It is about enthusiasm for diversity"

Biss repeatedly returned to immigration as



one of America's defining strengths.

Speaking about the district's diverse communities, he said immigrants from India, across South Asia and around the world have helped build vibrant neighborhoods and thriving local economies.

"It is not about tolerance," he said. "It is about enthusiasm for diversity."

According to Biss, communities such as Rogers Park demonstrate how immigration enriches American society.

"The best of America is an America that says we thrive as a nation of immigrants, and we thrive together as a diverse community of immigrants," he said.

Calling for judicial reform and stronger congressional oversight

When asked whether political polarization had weakened public confidence in American institutions, particularly the judiciary, Biss argued that the courts have become increasingly politicized.

He said Congress should pursue reforms including fixed terms for United States Supreme Court justices, binding ethics standards and measures to strengthen accountability within the federal judiciary.

Biss also argued that Congress has ceded

too much authority to the executive branch in recent years.

"Congress has kind of retreated in its function from being an equal branch of government," he said, adding that lawmakers must reclaim their constitutional responsibility to provide oversight and shape national policy.

He said restoring Congress as an effective and independent institution is essential to preserving public confidence in American democracy.

Diplomacy over military intervention

Foreign policy emerged as another major theme of the discussion.

Asked about the conflict involving the United States, Israel and Iran, Biss criticized what he described as an overreliance on military solutions and argued that diplomacy remains the more effective path to preventing nuclear proliferation.

Referring to the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement negotiated during President Barack Obama's administration, Biss said he believed the accord had successfully constrained Iran's nuclear program before President Donald Trump withdrew the United States from the agreement during his first term.

According to Biss, abandoning diplomacy in favor of military action has contributed



CONGRESS HAS KIND OF RETREATED IN ITS FUNCTION FROM BEING AN EQUAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT," HE SAID

to instability, humanitarian suffering and economic disruption across the region.

"The war has been a disaster," he said, while adding that preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon remains an essential objective.

"Iran cannot have a nuclear weapon," Biss said. "But this war is a terrible mistake. Both of those things can be true at the same time."

He also called for Congress to exercise its constitutional authority more actively in matters involving the use of military force, arguing that lawmakers should play a greater role in shaping foreign policy.

"You will always have a seat at the table"

Concluding the interview, Dr. Verma asked Biss what message he wanted to share directly with the readers of IndoUS Tribune and the wider Indian American community.

Biss described the community as an integral part of the district's identity and pledged to maintain a close partnership if elected to Congress.

"You are such a fundamental part of what makes this community wonderful," he said.

Calling the district a community built by immigrants, Biss said its religious, cultural and ethnic diversity has made it one of the country's most vibrant regions.

He concluded with a direct assurance to Indian American and South Asian residents.

"If I am fortunate enough to serve in Congress, you will always have a seat at the table," Biss said. "I want to work in partnership with the community to ensure this remains a place where families are safe, businesses thrive and every community has an opportunity to succeed."

As voters prepare to elect a successor to long-serving Representative Jan Schakowsky, Biss is presenting a platform centered on civil rights, institutional reform, diplomacy and inclusive leadership. For the district's large Indian American community, his message was clear: immigrants are not simply participants in America's story, but indispensable partners in shaping its future.

Indian community bids farewell to Consul General Somnath Ghosh following Malaysia appointment

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Members of the Indian-American community across the Midwest have begun hosting farewell gatherings for Consul General of India Somnath Ghosh following his appointment as India's next High Commissioner to Malaysia. The Government of India announced his new diplomatic assignment on July 1. Although his appointment has been confirmed, the official date of his departure from Chicago has not yet been announced.

In recent weeks, several community organizations have organized appreciation and farewell events recognizing Ghosh's tenure as Consul General in Chicago. The gatherings have brought together community leaders, elected officials, and representatives of cultural, business, educational, and nonprofit organizations from across the Midwest.



A career diplomat from the 1997 batch of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS), Ghosh has served in a number of diplomatic assignments in Asia, Europe, North America, and South Asia. During his tenure in Chicago, he headed the Consulate General of India, which serves the Indian diaspora in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

As Consul General, Ghosh represented India at a wide range of official, cultural, business, educational, and community events throughout the Midwest. The Consulate organized and participated in annual celebrations of India's Republic Day, Independence Day, and International Day of Yoga, while also facilitating trade, investment, academic exchanges, and consular outreach programs.

His tenure also saw continued engagement between the Consulate and Indian-American

community organizations representing diverse regional, linguistic, and cultural backgrounds. Among the notable initiatives during his tenure was the installation of a statue of Swami Vivekananda at the Consulate premises in Chicago, highlighting India's cultural and spiritual heritage.

Community organizations hosting recent farewell events have acknowledged Ghosh's outreach efforts and his participation in numerous local programs. Interestingly, while multiple farewell receptions have already taken place, his official departure date from Chicago has yet to be announced.

Ghosh is expected to assume his new responsibilities as High Commissioner of India to Malaysia after completing his tenure in Chicago. The Indian-American community now awaits the announcement of his successor, who will lead one of India's busiest diplomatic missions in the United States.

Kadva Patidar Samaj Chicago hosts successful 5K Walkathon and Annual Picnic

By: Jayanti Oza

Kadva Patidar Samaj (KPS) Chicago successfully organized its 5K Walkathon and Annual Picnic on June 28, 2025, bringing together hundreds of community members for a day dedicated to fitness, philanthropy, fellowship, and family fun at Busse Woods Forest Preserve in Elk Grove Village.

The day began with the 5K Walkathon at Grove 5, where nearly 40 KPS youth enthusiastically participated. The event was organized to raise funds for Param Sukh Jivan Vikas Kendra, an India-based non-profit organization and spiritual wellness platform founded by Param Pujya Gurudev Shree Pankajbhai. For the past 18 years, the organization has worked to transform lives through a unique blend of spirituality and scientific principles that promote holistic well-being.

The Walkathon commenced at 8:30 a.m. and concluded at 9:45 a.m. The first twelve finishers were recognized with prizes for their outstanding performance. Participants expressed great enthusiasm for the event and many of the youth pledged to return next year, not only as runners



but also as volunteers. The organizers also acknowledged the generous financial

support received from the KPS community, whose donations contributed to the success of the fundraising initiative.

Following the Walkathon, the festivities continued with the annual KPS Picnic at Busse Woods Grove 6, where more than 700 KPS members, families, and friends gathered to celebrate community spirit and strengthen social bonds. Guests were treated to a wide variety of traditional breakfast favorites and snacks were served throughout the afternoon.

Children enjoyed an exciting lineup of games and activities, with 25 young participants receiving gift cards as prizes. The event also received generous support from community donors, reflecting the strong tradition of volunteerism and giving within the Kadva Patidar community.

As the day progressed, members gathered for the Aarti of Shree Umiya Mataji, creating a spiritually uplifting atmosphere before concluding the celebration with a traditional Gujarati dinner.

The picnic concluded at 6:30 p.m., leaving participants with cherished memories of a day filled with community service, recreation, delicious food, and cultural fellowship.

The organizers extended their heartfelt appreciation to all KPS members and guests for their enthusiastic participation. Special thanks were also expressed to the KPS Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Trustees, Advisory Committee, and the many volunteers whose dedication and teamwork made the 2025 Walkathon and Picnic a memorable success.



Indian Seniors Chicago enjoy fun-filled Summer picnic at St. James Farm



● By: Jayanti Oza

Indian Seniors Chicago brought together members for a memorable Summer Picnic 2026 on July 12 at St. James Farm in Warrenville, where approximately 380 members gathered for a day filled with fellowship, entertainment, games, and delicious food. The day's activities began with registration from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., followed by a warm welcome for all attendees with refreshing beverages, including lemonade, Pepsi, orange drinks, and other cold refreshments. Members then enjoyed a hearty lunch creating a festive atmosphere as friends and families spent time together. Following lunch, President Kantibhai Patel and Vice President Navinbhai Patel welcomed the members and shared important information regarding the organization's activities and the picnic program. The celebration also included a special birthday recognition for members



born in the month of July and everyone extended warm wishes to the birthday celebrants.

The gathering then observed a devotional moment with the collective recitation of the Hanuman Chalisa, after which Hemant Modi presented the organization's June income and expenditure report, keeping members informed about the association's financial activities. The afternoon was filled with lively entertainment as members enthusiastically participated in Antakshari, enjoying classic Bollywood songs. Recreational activities continued with ball games, bingo, and other fun competitions organized by Jayesh Shah and Daksha Parikh, with prizes awarded to the winners. The picnic concluded with a prayer followed by a delicious dinner, bringing to a close a joyful day of friendship, recreation, and community bonding. Participants appreciated the efforts of the organizers in making the annual summer gathering another successful and memorable event.

HSS Midwest hosts Second Annual Kho Kho Chicago Premier League Championship

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

More than 100 teenagers from Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin gathered in Naperville for the Second Annual Kho Kho Chicago Premier League Championship, organized by the Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS). The event promoted physical fitness, teamwork, leadership, and cultural awareness through one of India's oldest traditional sports.

Kho Kho, a fast-paced game that emphasizes speed, agility, strategy, and teamwork, has been played in India for generations. Through events like this, HSS is introducing the sport to a new generation of Indian-American youth while encouraging them to remain active and connected to their cultural heritage.



The tournament featured 10 teams competing in a series of spirited matches. Many participants first learned the game through local HSS Shakhas, which organize

regular activities focused on physical fitness, character building, leadership development, and community service. Organizers said such programs provide young people with positive recreational opportunities while helping them build friendships and stay connected with Indian traditions and values.

interest in traditional Indian sports among youth in the Midwest.

After a day of competitive play, Team Prahalad, representing Aurora and Naperville, won the championship by defeating Team Ashva from Buffalo Grove in the final.

While the competition recognized athletic excellence, organizers emphasized that its primary goal was to bring young people together, strengthen community bonds, and provide a healthy alternative to excessive screen time. Community leaders noted that initiatives such as the Kho Kho Chicago Premier League not only preserve India's sporting heritage but also help guide youth toward positive activities that foster discipline, teamwork, leadership, and a lifelong connection with their cultural roots.

One of the unique aspects of Kho Kho is its inclusiveness. Boys and girls compete together, and the game requires minimal equipment, making it easy to play in schools, parks, and neighborhoods. Organizers believe these qualities make it an ideal sport for encouraging teamwork and healthy lifestyles.

The championship has grown significantly since its inaugural edition, with participation increasing from about 60 players last year to more than 100 this year, reflecting growing











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Healthy Heart, Healthy Life

Coronary artery disease (CAD): The silent killer you can prevent (Part 2)

A new 10-part educational series by Dr. (H) Avi Verma

By: Dr. Avi Verma

In the first article of this series, we explored how the heart functions as the body's life-sustaining pump. This week, we turn our attention to one of the most common and dangerous diseases affecting this vital organ—coronary artery disease (CAD). Also known as Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) or ischemic heart disease (IHD), CAD is the leading cause of heart attacks and remains the number one cause of death worldwide. The good news is that, in most cases, it is preventable through healthy lifestyle choices, early diagnosis, and timely medical care.

What is coronary artery disease?

The heart is a muscle that requires a continuous supply of oxygen-rich blood to function effectively. This blood is delivered through the coronary arteries. Over time, these arteries can become narrowed due to the buildup of cholesterol, fat, calcium, and inflammatory substances, forming plaques in the artery walls—a process known as atherosclerosis.

As the arteries narrow, less blood reaches the heart muscle. Initially, this may cause no symptoms, but as the blockage worsens, the heart struggles to receive enough oxygen, especially during physical activity or emotional stress. If a plaque ruptures and a blood clot completely blocks the artery, a heart attack occurs. CAD can also lead to heart failure, irregular heart rhythms, and sudden cardiac arrest.

Recognizing the warning signs

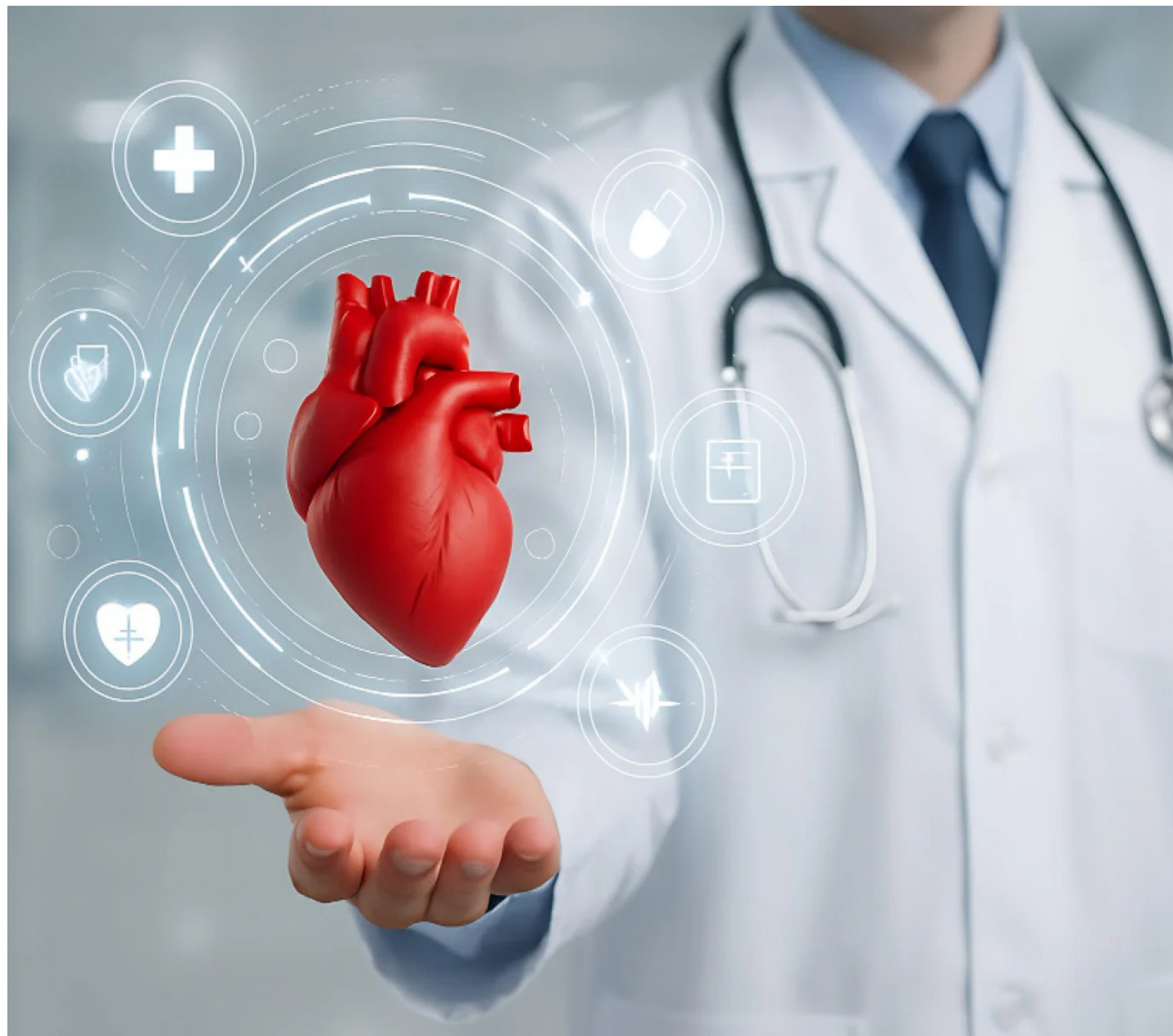
One of the greatest dangers of coronary artery disease is that it often develops silently over many years. When symptoms appear, the most common is angina, a feeling of pressure, tightness, heaviness, squeezing, or burning in the chest. The discomfort may spread to the left or right arm, shoulder, neck, jaw, or upper back and is sometimes mistaken for indigestion.

Other symptoms include shortness of breath while walking or climbing stairs, unusual fatigue, cold sweating, nausea, dizziness, and lightheadedness. Some individuals, however, experience no warning signs until they suffer a heart attack.

Women may experience different symptoms than men. Instead of severe chest pain, they often report extreme fatigue, indigestion, nausea, anxiety, disturbed sleep, jaw pain, upper abdominal discomfort, or pain between the shoulder blades. Because these symptoms are often overlooked, women may delay seeking medical attention.

Who is at risk?

Several factors significantly increase the risk of developing coronary artery disease. High blood pressure damages artery walls, while high LDL ("bad") cholesterol contributes to plaque buildup. Diabetes accelerates damage to blood vessels, and smoking injures artery walls while increasing the likelihood of



blood clots. Obesity, physical inactivity, unhealthy eating habits, excessive alcohol consumption, and chronic stress also contribute to the disease.

Family history is another important risk factor. Individuals whose father developed heart disease before age 55 or whose mother developed it before age 65 should be especially vigilant.

South Asians, including people of Indian origin, have a higher tendency to develop coronary artery disease at a younger age than many other ethnic groups. Increasing rates of diabetes, obesity, sedentary lifestyles, and processed-food consumption have made heart disease a growing concern even among people in their thirties and forties.

Diagnosis and treatment

Modern medical technology allows coronary artery disease to be detected before it causes irreversible damage. Depending on a patient's symptoms and risk factors, physicians may recommend an electrocardiogram (ECG), stress test, echocardiogram, CT coronary angiography, coronary angiogram, and blood tests to assess cholesterol and blood sugar levels.

Treatment depends on the severity of the disease. For many patients, lifestyle changes remain the cornerstone of treatment. Quitting smoking, eating

a balanced diet, exercising regularly, maintaining a healthy weight, controlling blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes, and managing stress can significantly slow disease progression.

Doctors may also prescribe medications such as cholesterol-lowering statins, blood pressure medications, aspirin (when appropriate), beta blockers, or nitroglycerin. In more advanced cases, procedures such as angioplasty with stent placement (PCI) or Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) surgery may be necessary to restore blood flow to the heart.

Prevention is the best medicine

Most cases of coronary artery disease can be prevented. Walking for at least 30 minutes a day, eating more fruits, vegetables, whole grains, legumes, and nuts, limiting saturated fats, reducing salt intake, maintaining a healthy weight, avoiding tobacco, limiting alcohol, and managing stress are among the most effective ways to protect the heart.

Regular health check-ups are equally important. Monitoring blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar levels can help detect problems early, when treatment is most effective. For individuals of Indian and South Asian origin, early screening is particularly important because of their higher risk of developing heart disease at a younger age.

When to seek emergency care

A heart attack is a medical emergency. Seek immediate medical attention if you experience chest pain lasting more than a few minutes, pain spreading to the arm, neck, jaw, shoulder, or back, severe shortness of breath, cold sweating, sudden dizziness, fainting, or persistent nausea accompanied by chest discomfort. Acting quickly can save both heart muscle and life.

Healthy heart message

Coronary artery disease may develop silently, but it does not have to become a life-threatening condition. By recognizing its warning signs, controlling risk factors, adopting healthy habits, and seeking timely medical care, we can dramatically reduce the risk of heart attacks and enjoy longer, healthier lives. Remember, every healthy choice you make today is an investment in your heart and your future.

Disclaimer

The information presented in this Healthy Heart, Healthy Life series is intended solely for educational and public awareness purposes. It is not intended to replace professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment, nor should it be considered a medical consultation. Readers should consult their physician or a qualified healthcare professional regarding any questions or concerns about their heart health or before making decisions related to their medical care.

Personal finance insights: News & Features

Mini Feature: INFLATION

●

Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAII Bull-Bear Spread +12.0% (above average)
CNN Fear & Greed Index 37 (fear)
NYSE %Above 50-dMA 60.04% (positive)
SP500 %Above 50-dMA 64.60% (positive)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 5/31/26
OEFs & ETFs: Stocks 63.26%, Hybrids 3.89%, Bonds 16.80%, M-Mkt 16.05%

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 3.85%, 1-yr 4.01%;
T-Notes 2-yr 4.18%, 5-yr 4.28%, 10-yr 4.55%;
T-Bonds 30-yr 5.06% (normal yield-curve);
TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 2.01%, 10-yr 2.31%, 30-yr 2.87%
FRNs Index 3.796%

Bank Rates www.depositaccounts.com/

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 7/1/26
TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates
Restricted RC 5.25%, RA 5.00%
Flexible RCP 4.50%, SRA 4.25%, IRA-101110+ 4.10%
TIAA MYGA 4.55% (3-yr), 4.70% (5-yr), 4.75% (7-yr)
TSP G Fund 4.500% (previous 4.500%)

India Fear & Greed MMI 49.25 (fear, barely)
Weekly ETFs: INDA -0.79%, INDY -0.16%, EPI -0.70%, INDH +0.42% | SPY -1.54%



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

FINANCIALS

UK insurer Aviva will become the 1st foreign company with 100% ownership of its life insurance unit in India after buying 26% stake from Dabur. New rules now allow up to 100% foreign ownership in insurance.

HEALTHCARE

Sun Pharma is acquiring Innovcare Lifesciences that was backed by Peak XV Partners & IM Financial Private Equity. Innovcare distributes nutraceuticals (food-derived nutritional-pharmaceuticals or nutritional supplements) & also uses contract manufacturers to make its own brands. Peak XV evolved from Sequoia Capital - India (parent US Sequoia Capital).

IT/TECH

Canada Pension Plan (CPP) will invest in CitrlS Datacenters for 8.2% stake. A similar investment will be in a joint

venture for building several additional datacenters. The demand for AI datacenters in India is growing rapidly from hyperscalers, GCCs & companies. Government has incentives for AI infrastructure development.

Datacenters are approved quickly by Indian government (central &/or state). All global AI/tech companies have operations in India, several in collaboration with local multinationals. They are being sold to the public as jobs generators, but beyond their initial construction phases, they won't require many workers to operate. Public concerns also also growing due to their large land, water & electricity usage. It rains only for 2-3 months during the monsoon season (& there may be floods then), but India is dry rest of the year.

TRANSPORTATION

Swiss TIL/MSK is acquiring 49% stake in Adani Ports' (APSEZ) Vizhinjam Port in Kerala. It's a deep-water port on the Southwest coast of India that's used for East-West shipping corridor linking Europe, Middle East & Asia through the Suez Canal & the Strait of Malacca. APSEZ & MSK has 2 other partnerships for ports at Mundra (Gujarat) & Ennore (Tamil Nadu). TIL = Terminal International Limited, 70% owned by MSK; MSK = Mediterranean Shipping Company (Swiss).

SPECIAL TOPIC - INFLATION

Everyone talks about inflation, but measuring it isn't simple.

There is the broad consumer price index (CPI) that has headline & core (ex volatile food & energy) values. Urban CPI-U covers 93% of the US population; US Savings I-Bonds use CPI-U for recent 6 months to set variable rates on May 1 & Nov 1. Chained C-CPI-U accounts for typical consumer substitutions of expensive items with cheaper alternatives. Wage earners/ clerical workers CPI-W

covers 29% of US population & is used by Social Security to compute annual COLA (Q3 vs prior year Q3).

There have been many changes in methodology that have the effect of suppressing the CPI – treatment of housing via owners' equivalent rents (OERs), estimating healthcare costs from industry profits (not the premiums that consumers pay), consumer substitutions of more expensive items with cheaper ones (chain concept), etc.

Personal consumption expenditures index (PCE) is based on consumer spending on goods & services & it has nominal & core (ex food & energy) values. The PCE has lagged CPI for years.

Producer price indexes (PPI) are reported for manufacturing & services & are used by businesses as wholesale price indicators & they lead the CPI.

There is new attention on trimmed inflation indexes. Examples are Cleveland Fed's 16% trimmed CPI (top & bottom 8% removed; symmetric) & Dallas Fed's P24-69 PCE (P is percentile; bottom 23% & top 30% removed; asymmetric/skewed).

Inflation-expectations are the differences between the yields of Treasuries & TIPS.

FRED at St Louis Fed provides lot of related data.

Fed targets +2% inflation & it's favorite has been core PCE for years. The brief experiment with "average" +2% inflation didn't turn out well. The new Fed Chair WARSH favors a trimmed inflation index - it's lower than core PCE & CPI.

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.

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

4. Teaching methods:

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

5. Clinical rotations:

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



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

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

Key Features:

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

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

8. Question and Concept Sessions:

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

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

Key Features:

- ▶ Comprehensive Medical Curriculum Support – Covers

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

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

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

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

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

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

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The Italian approach to healthier, more beautiful hair

When it comes to hair care, Italians have long embraced the belief that beautiful hair begins long before styling. Across generations, hair care has often been treated as a ritual rather than a routine, with an emphasis on nurturing the

scalp as the foundation for strong, healthy strands. The secret is not expensive treatments or complicated techniques. Instead, it lies in washing the hair correctly and giving the scalp the attention it deserves.

Start with even application

One of the simplest ways to improve your wash routine is to apply shampoo evenly across the scalp instead of concentrating it in one area. Divide the scalp into sections, including the hairline, crown, both sides, and the nape of the neck, so every part receives equal cleansing. This helps remove excess oil and buildup more effectively while ensuring the entire scalp is refreshed.

Massage, do not scrub

A proper scalp massage can make a noticeable difference. Rather than using your fingernails, use your fingertips in slow, gentle circular motions. This technique helps stimulate blood circulation, supports



oxygen flow to the scalp, and turns an everyday task into a relaxing moment of self-care. Gentle massage also minimizes unnecessary irritation and protects the scalp's natural barrier.

Consider a second cleanse

If your hair is exposed to pollution, sweat, styling products, or excess oil, washing it twice can be beneficial. The first cleanse helps lift dirt and residue, while the second thoroughly cleanses the scalp and hair. Use a larger amount of shampoo for the first wash and a smaller amount for the second, allowing the product to lather more easily once the initial buildup has been removed.

Do not rush the rinse

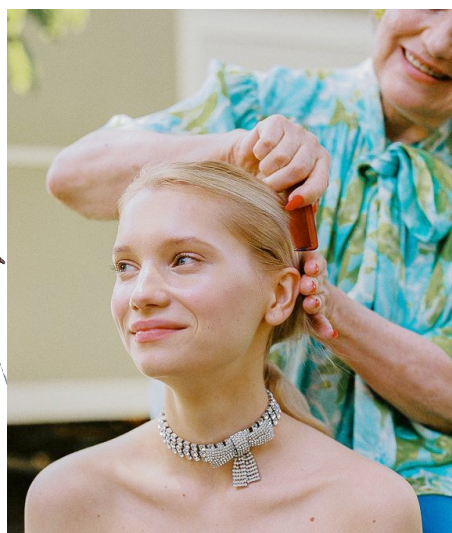
Rinsing thoroughly is just as important as washing. Any shampoo left behind can weigh down the hair or irritate the scalp over time. Take a few

extra minutes to ensure every trace of cleanser has been washed away, leaving the scalp clean and the hair feeling light and refreshed.

Healthy hair begins at the roots

Many people focus on conditioners, masks, and styling products while overlooking scalp care. Yet experts increasingly agree that maintaining a clean, balanced, and healthy scalp creates the ideal environment for stronger, shinier, and more resilient hair. Sometimes, the biggest improvement comes not from adding more products, but from refining the basics of how you wash your hair.

A thoughtful hair-washing routine may seem simple, but done consistently, it can become one of the most effective habits for maintaining healthy hair over the long term.



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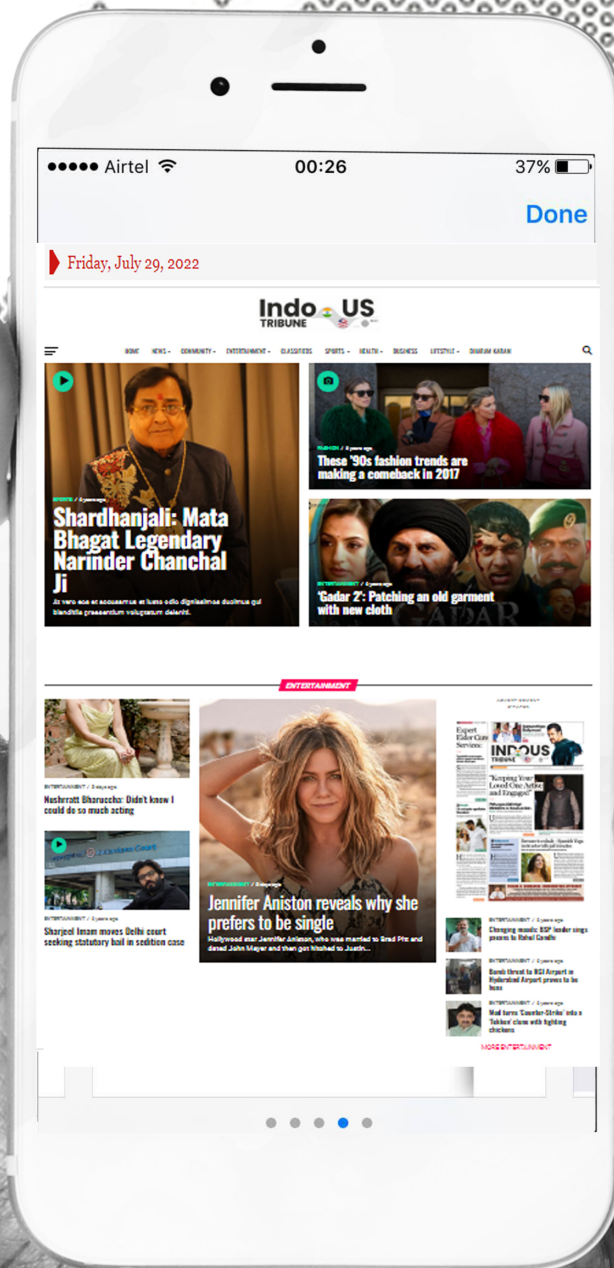


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