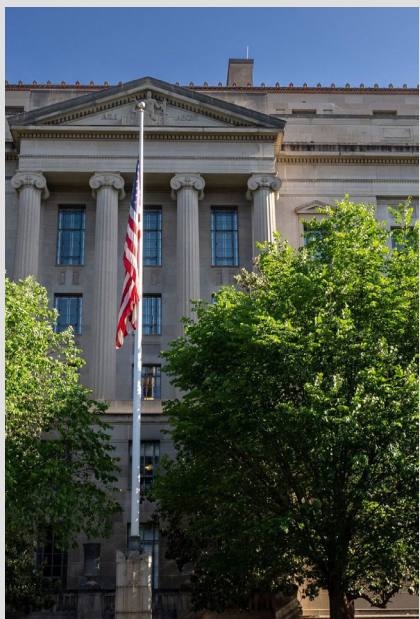


Secretive United States terrorism court hears first deportation case



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A little-used United States court created in 1996 to deport suspected terrorists held its first hearing on Thursday, marking a new step in the Trump administration's immigration agenda. The Alien Terrorist Removal Court heard the case of Nazira Haji Zada, a lawful permanent resident accused of supporting the Islamic State group and helping conceal a failed 2024 Election Day mass shooting plot.

She has not been charged with any crime, although prosecutors said much of the evidence is classified. Defense attorneys argued the court's reliance on secret evidence violates due process protections and sought dismissal of the case. The judge denied the request, and no date was set for the next hearing.

India dismisses Pakistan's cultural claims and rejects elections in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India on Tuesday rejected Pakistan's attempts to associate itself with the Indus Valley Civilization, saying a country that promotes cross-border terrorism and religious extremism cannot claim a pluralistic cultural heritage.

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal also dismissed assembly elections in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir as a "cosmetic electoral exercise" intended to legitimize Pakistan's illegal occupation of the territory.

Reaffirming that the entire regions of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are integral parts of India, Jaiswal said ongoing protests in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir reflected public anger over economic exploitation, administrative oppression, and the denial of fundamental rights. He also criticized Pakistan's record on protecting minorities and preserving cultural diversity.

India aims for 200 warship fleet by 2035 as indigenous naval expansion gathers pace

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India is accelerating efforts to build a 200 warship fleet by 2035 as it seeks to strengthen maritime capabilities in response to China's expanding naval presence and Pakistan's growing submarine fleet. The Indian Navy currently operates more than 140 vessels, including destroyers, frigates and submarines, with nearly 50 additional warships under construction. This year alone, a new Indian warship has entered service roughly every six weeks, reflecting the pace of the country's naval modernization program. Recent additions, including the indigenous stealth frigate INS Mahendragiri and anti submarine warfare vessel INS Malvan, highlight India's growing emphasis on domestic shipbuilding under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. In recent weeks, the Navy has also commissioned INS Dunagiri, INS Sanshodhak and INS Agray, further strengthening its combat, surveillance and mine countermeasure capabilities. Seven next generation Project



17 Bravo frigates are also planned as part of the long term expansion. India has set a broader objective of achieving complete self reliance in naval shipbuilding by 2047 and becoming one of the world's top five

shipbuilding nations. However, defense experts say reducing dependence on imported technologies, specialized steel and modernizing shipyard infrastructure remain critical to achieving those ambitions.

India's 'Cockroach' movement ends nationwide protests after education minister resigns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's 'Cockroach' movement ended weeks of nationwide protests on Saturday after Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan resigned amid allegations of examination paper leaks and irregularities in the country's education system. The youth-led campaign, which began as a demand for education reforms, grew into a broader movement calling for greater government accountability, more employment opportunities, and systemic reforms.

Protest organizers said the government had accepted their remaining demands, including comprehensive education reforms, compensation for families of students who died by suicide following



the alleged exam leaks, and assurances that no legal action would be taken against protesters. Thousands celebrated the resignation in New Delhi, calling it a major victory. Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi described the development as an important step toward overhauling India's education system.

Fauci invokes Fifth Amendment as Senate revives debate over Covid origins

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former United States infectious disease expert Anthony Fauci repeatedly invoked his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination during a contentious Senate hearing on Wednesday, refusing to answer questions about United States-funded coronavirus research at China's Wuhan Institute of Virology and the origins of the Covid-19 pandemic. Appearing under subpoena before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Fauci declined to respond to nearly every question, citing legal advice. Committee Chairman Rand Paul accused Fauci of supporting risky gain-of-function research and said the panel would consider holding him in contempt of



Congress for refusing to testify. Democrats defended Fauci, calling the hearing politically motivated and urging lawmakers to focus on future pandemic preparedness. The hearing highlighted the continuing divide in Washington over the pandemic response and the unresolved debate surrounding the origins of the coronavirus.

Brazil delays approval of Trump's ambassador nominee as diplomatic tensions deepen



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Brazil has delayed granting formal diplomatic approval for President Donald Trump's nominee for United States ambassador, deepening tensions between the two countries ahead of Brazil's presidential election. Reuters reported on Thursday that Daniel Perez, a Florida state representative and ally of Secretary of State Marco Rubio, remains unable to assume the post because Brazil has not issued the required diplomatic approval, known as agrément. Brazilian officials reportedly viewed the nomination, announced before the approval request was made, as a breach of diplomatic protocol.

United States officials have expressed frustration over the delay, and one source said Washington could consider retaliatory measures as early as Friday. Brazil said the nomination is undergoing its standard review and declined to comment publicly. The dispute comes amid broader disagreements over trade, election-related issues, and accusations of political interference, further straining relations between the hemisphere's two largest democracies.



### Trump announces Gaza disarmament agreement under proposed peace plan

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump said on Thursday that his proposed "Board of Peace" had reached an agreement for the phased disarmament of Hamas and other armed groups in Gaza, describing it as a major milestone in his 20-point plan to end the Israel-Hamas war. In a post on Truth Social, Trump said the agreement envisions Israeli forces withdrawing as disarmament progresses, while an international stabilization force and a new Palestinian police force assume responsibility for security in Gaza. He thanked Egypt, Qatar, and Turkey for their mediation efforts. Earlier Thursday, sources said talks in Cairo had made rare progress, although an Israeli official said the proposed terms remained unsatisfactory. Israeli airstrikes in Gaza also killed at least six Palestinians, including two children, according to local medics.

### Regional officials say Houthis launched Saudi attacks from Iraqi territory

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi movement launched attacks on Saudi Arabia from Iraqi territory earlier this week in coordination with Iraqi armed groups, according to assessments by Saudi Arabia and regional officials reported on Thursday. The attacks included strikes on oil facilities in eastern Saudi Arabia and were allegedly carried out under the supervision of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. Saudi Arabia officially blamed Iran-backed Iraqi armed groups and responded with joint airstrikes alongside the United States on targets in Iraq on Wednesday, while Iraq said it is investigating the allegations. Analysts said the reported cooperation highlights growing coordination among Iran-aligned groups and underscores Iraq's increasingly important role as a base for regional militant operations.

### Russian billionaire and drone officials detained in fraud investigation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian billionaire Valery Kustov, founder and chairman of food producer Efko, was detained on Thursday along with three company executives and a government official overseeing drone development, according to Russian media reports. Authorities also confirmed the detention of Alla Polovchenya, a senior Trade and Industry Ministry official responsible for unmanned systems. Media reports said investigators suspect Efko officials of secretly importing drones from China and presenting them as the company's own technology. Efko, which also manufactures drones through its Future Transport venture, expressed support for its employees and urged the public not to speculate. President Vladimir Putin has identified expanding domestic drone production as a strategic priority during Russia's war in Ukraine.

### Japan earthquake kills at least three after powerful tremor strikes Kyushu

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A powerful 7.1 magnitude earthquake struck Japan's southern island of Kyushu on Tuesday, killing at least three people and injuring about 30 others, while leaving several missing. The quake caused part of an Aeon Mall in Kumamoto Prefecture to collapse after a suspected gas explosion, trapping people inside.

A chimney also collapsed at a paper factory, leaving workers trapped. More than 260,000 residents were advised to evacuate before a tsunami advisory was lifted within two hours.

Transportation services, including bullet



trains and flights, were disrupted, while Toyota temporarily suspended operations at three factories. Officials reported no abnormalities at nearby nuclear power plants as rescue efforts continued.

### Spain sends military to Ceuta after mass migrant crossings leave at least nine dead

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Spain deployed military forces to the North African enclave of Ceuta after Thursday's mass border crossings from Morocco left at least nine migrants dead and overwhelmed local authorities. Thousands of migrants crossed into the territory, prompting officials to seek emergency assistance from Madrid.

Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez traveled to Ceuta on Friday alongside Interior Minister Fernando Grande-Marlaska as security forces worked to restore order. Spain said Morocco was cooperating to prevent further crossings and facilitate returns. The cause of



the sudden surge remains unclear, although arrivals had been increasing in recent days. The crisis revived memories of the 2021 influx that strained relations between Spain and Morocco.

### United States and Iran exchange missile strikes as regional tensions intensify

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States and Iran exchanged fresh missile strikes on Thursday, dimming hopes for a quick end to their five-month conflict and raising fears of a broader regional war. The United States launched strikes on dozens of Iranian military targets after Iran targeted a United States base in Jordan. Iran said three people were killed in a strike on Qeshm Island, while Kuwait reported one death after an Iranian missile struck a Chinese company's building. Jordan intercepted additional Iranian missiles, and



drone attacks sparked fires on two gas vessels at Egypt's Damietta port. The escalating conflict continues to disrupt energy supplies and shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, fueling concerns over the global economy.

### Iran objects to use of European bases for United States military operations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi urged Bulgaria and Cyprus on Thursday to prevent their territory from being used to support United States military operations against Iran. During separate phone calls with his Bulgarian and Cypriot counterparts, Araqchi criticized Bulgaria's approval of a temporary deployment of United States tanker aircraft at Bezmer Air Base, calling it inconsistent with the traditionally friendly ties between the two countries.

He also stressed that foreign military facilities in Cyprus should not be used in operations against Iran. Tehran has



repeatedly warned countries that allow their territory to support United States military action that they could face consequences. Bulgaria has said no offensive weapons will be stationed at the base, while Britain has maintained separate defensive arrangements with the United States.

### White House says China obtained voter registration data of millions of Americans

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The White House released a fact sheet on Thursday stating that newly declassified intelligence documents indicate China and its proxies obtained voter registration data belonging to as many as 220 million Americans, including information that was not publicly available. The administration said intelligence agencies approved the factual material used in President Donald Trump's recent speech on foreign election interference. According to the documents, Chinese cyber actors acquired voter data stored on commercial websites and could potentially use the information to alter voter records, disrupt voting, or support broader influence operations. The administration said releasing the intelligence is intended to improve transparency about foreign threats targeting United States elections.

### United Nations begins process to choose next secretary-general

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United Nations Security Council took its first step toward selecting the next secretary-general on Thursday, holding a confidential straw poll to gauge support for seven candidates. Council President Zenon Mukongo Ngay said the results would remain secret and be shared only with the candidates' governments and General Assembly President Annalena Baerbock. The informal ballots allow council members to mark each candidate as "Encourage," "Discourage," or "No Opinion." Additional rounds will continue until one candidate secures broad support, including from the five permanent members with veto power. Several candidates have held senior United Nations leadership roles, while growing international support continues for appointing the organization's first female secretary-general.

### United States military drone prompts evacuation near Korean border

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A United States military drone flying near the inter-Korean border during joint military exercises prompted precautionary evacuations in South Korea on Thursday after it was initially unidentified. The unmanned aircraft was detected near Cheorwon, close to the Demilitarized Zone, before military officials confirmed it belonged to the United States Marine Corps and was participating in a bilateral training exercise with South Korean forces. Authorities issued a temporary shelter alert for nearby residents while the aircraft was identified. United States Forces Korea said it is working with South Korean officials to determine the circumstances surrounding the flight. Military officials said standard operational procedures were followed throughout the incident.



## China protests after New Zealand minister tells Chinese-born lawmaker to 'go back'



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China lodged a formal diplomatic protest on Thursday after New Zealand Foreign Minister Winston Peters told Chinese-born Green Party lawmaker Lawrence Xu-Nan to "go back to your own country" during a parliamentary debate a day earlier. Peters made the remarks while responding to heckling during discussions on the government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic. China's embassy described the comments as negative and urged New Zealand to take steps that strengthen bilateral relations. Prime Minister Christopher Luxon criticized Peters' remarks as inappropriate, while Xu-Nan accused the foreign minister of scapegoating migrant communities. Peters defended his comments, saying they were intended to uphold New Zealand's democratic values. China remains New Zealand's largest trading partner, making the diplomatic dispute particularly sensitive.

## Trump frames midterm elections as fight to preserve Republican agenda



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

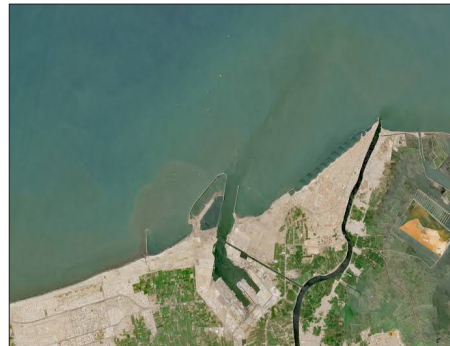
President Donald Trump urged Republican voters on Tuesday to retain control of Congress, portraying next year's midterm elections as an ideological battle during a virtual rally for Representative Andy Ogles in Tennessee. Trump warned that political opponents had "literally" become communists, although he did not identify specific individuals or organizations.

He highlighted tax measures benefiting tipped workers, overtime pay, and Social Security recipients as key accomplishments Republicans should campaign on. Trump also praised Ogles for supporting his administration's policies on border security, energy, the military, and election integrity, including the SAVE America Act. He encouraged Republican voters to back Ogles in the upcoming primary and emphasized proof of citizenship and voter identification as election priorities.

## Drone strike in Egypt raises concerns over Suez energy exports

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A drone strike on Wednesday damaged two natural gas tankers at Egypt's Damietta port, raising fresh concerns about the security of energy shipments through the Suez Canal and the Sumed pipeline, key alternatives to the Strait of Hormuz during the ongoing Iran conflict. No group has claimed responsibility, and no injuries were reported. Analysts said the attack has not yet disrupted shipping or prompted higher war risk premiums, but warned that any threat to the Suez Canal could significantly affect global energy markets. Since hostilities in the region intensified, Saudi Arabia has increasingly relied on the Red Sea, the Suez



Canal, and the Sumed pipeline to export crude oil after disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz and threats in the Bab el-Mandeb Strait. Industry experts said prolonged instability could increase shipping costs and delay deliveries to global markets.

## Apple heads for biggest market value loss in years after weak outlook fuels supply chain concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Apple shares tumbled nearly 10 percent on Friday, putting the company on track to lose almost \$500 billion in market value after issuing a weaker than expected revenue forecast and warning that component shortages are limiting production. The iPhone maker projected revenue growth of 9 percent to 11 percent for the current quarter, below Wall Street expectations of about 12 percent. Chief Executive Officer Tim Cook said the artificial intelligence driven surge in demand for data center chips and memory has created "very significant" supply



constraints, reducing Apple's ability to meet strong demand for iPhones and Macs. Investors were also concerned by slower growth in Apple's high margin services business. If losses hold, Nvidia is expected to regain its position as the world's most valuable company.

## Russian missile barrage kills 10 in Ukraine as NATO responds to airspace breach

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian missile and drone attacks across Ukraine killed at least 10 civilians, including children, and injured more than 50 people on Thursday, Ukrainian officials said. The strikes hit multiple regions, including Kyiv, Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, and Poltava, damaging homes and infrastructure. Ukraine said Russia launched more than 70 missiles and over 280 drones, most of which were intercepted. During the assault, a Russian Kh-101 cruise missile briefly entered Polish airspace before landing in a rural area, prompting NATO to scramble fighter jets and activate air defenses. No injuries or



damage were reported in Poland. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy again appealed for additional Patriot air defense systems, while Russia said it had targeted military facilities, air bases, and defense industries.

## Coal mine explosion in Pakistan kills at least 32 miners

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A methane gas explosion inside a coal mine near Quetta in Pakistan's Baluchistan province killed at least 32 miners on Thursday, while 10 others remained trapped as rescuers continued searching. Officials said emergency crews recovered the bodies in stages and warned the death toll could rise because methane explosions quickly deplete oxygen inside mines.

Provincial authorities pledged compensation of 500,000 Pakistani rupees, about \$1,800, to the family of each victim and announced an investigation into the cause of the blast. Labor unions blamed poor safety standards and urged stricter enforcement of mining regulations. Deadly mining accidents remain common in



Baluchistan, where inadequate ventilation, limited gas monitoring, and insufficient worker protections continue to endanger thousands of miners.

## Uganda declares end of Ebola outbreak after containing imported cases



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Uganda officially declared its 2026 Ebola outbreak over on Tuesday, saying epidemiological investigations confirmed that virus transmission had been halted. Health Minister Chris Baryomunsi said authorities traced the outbreak's source, identified all transmission chains, monitored every known contact, and found no evidence of further community spread through enhanced nationwide surveillance. The declaration came before the World Health Organization's standard 42-day waiting period after the last patient was discharged on Wednesday, with officials citing conclusive scientific evidence that the outbreak had been contained. Uganda recorded 20 confirmed cases, including 18 recoveries and two deaths, after the outbreak began with an imported case from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Health authorities said surveillance and border preparedness would remain in place.

## Canadians cut United States travel spending by \$3.3 billion after Trump returned to office



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canadians spent \$3.3 billion less on travel to the United States in 2025 than the previous year, as many shifted their vacations elsewhere following President Donald Trump's return to office, according to new data released by Statistics Canada on Tuesday.

Spending on United States travel fell to \$18.8 billion from \$22.1 billion in 2024, while spending on other international destinations rose by \$3.6 billion to \$22.8 billion. Visits to Europe increased nearly 14 percent, and travel to Asia rose almost 17 percent. Return trips from the United States by air and road dropped about 25 percent, with July recording the steepest decline. Statistics Canada said the trend has continued into 2026, reflecting a sustained shift in Canadian travel preferences.





Published Weekly by:  
Ansal Media Group  
of USA, LLC

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

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

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

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

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

**Legal Advisors**  
Seth Kebron  
Ankush Ansal

**Special Contributor**  
Rajesh Ansal

**Special Correspondent**  
Sunita Verma

**Social Media**  
Pooja Singh

**Chicago Office:**  
Lincolnwood, IL 60712

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

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

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

Disclaimer

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

BOOK

CLASSIFIED ADS



marketing@indoustribune.com

# Breaking the cycle of Assam’s annual flood tragedy



Dr. Avi Verma

Every monsoon, Assam braces for what has become an almost predictable humanitarian crisis. Yet predictability should never breed complacency. The devastating floods that have swept through the state once again have claimed dozens of lives, displaced hundreds of thousands of people, and submerged thousands of villages, roads, schools, and farmland. As of late July, official reports indicated that more than 600,000 people across multiple districts had been affected, with Upper Assam districts such as Sivasagar, Charaideo, Jorhat, and Golaghat experiencing some of the worst flooding in decades.

The Brahmaputra is one of the world's most dynamic rivers. Fed by Himalayan glaciers and intense monsoon rainfall, it carries enormous volumes of water and sediment into Assam's floodplains. Annual flooding is a natural part of this ecosystem and even replenishes fertile agricultural land. However, changing rainfall patterns, riverbank erosion, heavy siltation, encroachment on wetlands, deforestation in upstream catchments, and expanding human settlements in flood-prone areas have transformed a natural phenomenon into a recurring disaster.

Assam has invested heavily in embankments over the decades, but many of these structures are aging and require continuous maintenance. When embankments fail, floodwaters can remain trapped for days, worsening damage to homes, crops, and infrastructure. Riverbank erosion, another major challenge, continues to displace



thousands of families every year, often permanently.

To its credit, the government has mobilized the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), armed forces, and other agencies for rescue and relief operations. The Ministry of Home Affairs has also deployed central assessment teams and continues to coordinate with the India Meteorological Department and the Central Water Commission for early warnings.

Long-term solutions, however, require far more than emergency relief. The Assam Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program (AIFRERMIP), supported by the Asian Development Bank, seeks to strengthen embankments, improve riverbank protection, and introduce community-based flood management and modern monitoring systems. These initiatives deserve sustained political commitment and adequate funding.

The challenge is not Assam's alone. The Brahmaputra is an international river system flowing through China, India, and Bangladesh. Effective flood forecasting, scientific river management, environmental conservation, and cross-border hydrological data sharing

must become regional priorities. Climate change is expected to intensify extreme rainfall events, making resilient infrastructure and better planning even more urgent.

Meanwhile, organizations such as the Assam Foundation of North America are helping bridge immediate humanitarian needs by raising funds for food, drinking water, medicines, and emergency supplies. Their efforts remind us that compassion knows no borders.

The people of Assam have demonstrated extraordinary resilience for generations. They deserve more than annual sympathy after every flood. They deserve lasting solutions grounded in science, environmental stewardship, and long-term public policy. Breaking the cycle of misery will require sustained investment, better planning, and collective resolve.

Until then, the waters will continue to rise—but so must our commitment to ensuring that the same tragedy does not repeat itself year after year.

Best regards,  
Dr. Avi Verma  
Publisher,  
IndoUS Tribune





## United States to host next Israel-Lebanon peace talks in Rome



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The next round of United States-mediated talks between Israel and Lebanon will be held in Rome from Monday through Wednesday, as negotiators seek to build on last month's framework agreement aimed at easing border tensions. According to the United States State Department, technical teams will discuss expanding a pilot security zone in southern Lebanon, resolving outstanding border disputes, and advancing a broader peace and security agreement. The pilot zone is designed to restore Lebanese state authority through the verified disarmament of armed groups operating in the area. The talks follow the Israeli military's initial withdrawal from part of southern Lebanon and come as Lebanon seeks greater control over the region. Washington described the framework as the best path toward a lasting peace between the two neighboring countries.

## Democratic bill seeks permanent residency pathway for millions of long-term immigrants



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Democratic Senator Alex Padilla renewed efforts on Monday to create a pathway to permanent residency for millions of long-term United States residents, including many H-1B visa holders. His proposed legislation would update the Registry provision of the Immigration and Nationality Act, allowing immigrants who have lived continuously in the country for at least seven years, have no criminal record, and meet existing eligibility requirements to apply for green cards. The bill could benefit more than 8 million people, including Dreamers, Temporary Protected Status holders, essential workers, children of long-term visa holders, and highly skilled workers facing lengthy employment-based green card backlogs. The proposal is particularly significant for Indian professionals, who make up a large share of H-1B visa holders. The measure faces an uncertain future amid deep political divisions over immigration in Congress.

## Argentina expands powers to deny entry or deport foreigners over anti-Argentina hate speech

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Argentine President Javier Milei signed an emergency decree on Thursday allowing authorities to deny entry to, deport, or revoke visas of foreigners accused of promoting hatred, discrimination, or violence against Argentines because of their nationality. The measure follows weeks of criticism directed at Argentina after the country's World Cup campaign and controversial refereeing decisions fueled backlash against the team and its supporters.

The decree adds new provisions to Argentina's immigration law but states that legitimate political, academic, and



civic criticism remains protected under the Constitution. Critics questioned how officials would distinguish protected speech from prohibited hate speech, while supporters said the measure defends the country's citizens and national symbols against discrimination.

## Brazil denies visas to United States officials amid election interference concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Brazil denied visa applications from two United States State Department officials ahead of the country's October presidential election, citing concerns that their visit could fuel challenges to Brazil's electoral system. Local media reported that Riley M. Barnes, Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, and Samuel Samson, Deputy Assistant Secretary in the same bureau, had planned to meet presidential candidate Flavio Bolsonaro, officials from Brazil's Superior Electoral Court, and conservative political figures. Brazil's Foreign Ministry confirmed the officials applied for visas on Sunday and were denied on Friday.

The move comes amid worsening tensions between Brasília and Washington



over trade, election-related issues, and allegations of political interference. President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, who is seeking reelection, has accused the Trump administration of attempting to influence Brazil's political landscape, while former President Jair Bolsonaro has continued to question the country's electronic voting system without presenting evidence.

## Trump administration to phase out Medicare Part D subsidies after 2026

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration announced on Tuesday that it will end the temporary Medicare Part D Premium Stabilization Demonstration program after 2026, arguing that insurers no longer need federal subsidies to accurately price prescription drug plans. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said the program, introduced by the Biden

administration in 2024 to offset premium increases following the Inflation Reduction Act, has achieved its purpose. The agency projects the national base beneficiary premium will increase from \$38.99 in 2026 to \$41.33 in 2027, although officials said most beneficiaries are expected to see increases of less than \$10 per month. The move aligns with President Donald Trump's broader effort to reduce taxpayer funded subsidies while pursuing lower prescription drug prices through market-based reforms.

## Assam shifts to recovery as floods leave 80 dead and thousands displaced

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Assam entered the recovery phase of one of its worst monsoon flood crises during the final week of July, with the death toll rising to 80 and more than 212,000 people still affected across the northeastern Indian state. Although floodwaters receded in many areas, authorities continued relief operations as thousands remained displaced and essential services, including electricity and road connectivity, were gradually restored. The worst damage was reported in Upper Assam, where homes, farmland, roads, and public infrastructure were extensively

affected. A central government assessment team completed its survey of the hardest-hit districts, including Charaideo, Sivasagar, Jorhat, and Golaghat, to determine additional financial assistance for relief and reconstruction. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also reviewed the situation and pledged continued federal support. However, recovery efforts faced fresh challenges after the India Meteorological Department warned of more heavy rainfall, raising concerns about localized flooding. The disaster has once again highlighted Assam's chronic vulnerability to annual monsoon floods and renewed calls for stronger flood management and climate-resilient infrastructure.

## Senator calls for closer scrutiny of Chinese funding at United States universities



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Republican Senator Tom Cotton urged the United States Department of Education on Monday to increase scrutiny of Chinese funding at American universities, warning that undisclosed financial ties with sanctioned Chinese entities could threaten national security and innovation. In a letter to Education Secretary Linda McMahon, Cotton cited Education Department data showing federally funded universities received more than \$6.8 billion from Chinese sources as of January 31, including over \$300 million from sanctioned entities. He said Harvard University alone received more than \$630 million from Chinese organizations, including funding linked to foreign talent programs and entities allegedly supporting military advancements. Cotton argued that the current reporting threshold allows foreign transactions below \$250,000 to go undisclosed, potentially concealing millions in additional funding. He called for greater transparency but did not accuse any university of violating federal law.

## Chad begins withdrawal from International Criminal Court, citing bias against Africa



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Chad announced on Monday that it has begun the process of withdrawing from the International Criminal Court, accusing the Hague-based tribunal of selective justice and a disproportionate focus on African nations. The Chadian Foreign Ministry said it had formally notified United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres of its decision to leave the Rome Statute. According to the government, nine of the ICC's 13 active investigations involve African countries, while six of the seven people currently in the court's custody are linked to African cases. Chad called on the African Union to strengthen regional judicial institutions but emphasized that leaving the ICC does not mean abandoning accountability. The government said it remains committed to prosecuting war crimes and other serious offenses through its own courts and regional African mechanisms. The announcement follows a similar withdrawal decision recently announced by Venezuela.



## India and Hungary reaffirm partnership with focus on trade, culture and parliamentary ties



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Hungary reaffirmed their longstanding partnership during talks on Monday between India's Ambassador to Hungary Anshuman Gaur and Hungarian Parliamentary State Secretary Gyorgy Laszlo Velkey. The two sides reviewed initiatives to expand cooperation in trade, investment and institutional partnerships while highlighting India's growing strategic and economic importance for Hungarian businesses. They also emphasized the deep cultural connections linking the two countries, including the legacy of Rabindranath Tagore, artist Amrita Sher-Gil and scholar Sándor Csoma de Kőrös. The meeting built on recent diplomatic engagements aimed at strengthening bilateral relations. Earlier discussions with Hungarian officials focused on expanding cooperation across multiple sectors, while parliamentary exchanges are also set to increase with plans to establish an India-Hungary Parliamentary Friendship Group. Both countries reaffirmed their commitment to building on shared democratic values and enhancing cooperation in the months ahead.

## India and Canada expand defense ties with focus on maritime cooperation



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Canada have agreed to deepen defense cooperation following talks on Monday between India's High Commissioner to Canada Dinesh K. Patnaik and Canadian Minister of National Defence David McGuinty. Discussions centered on strengthening maritime cooperation, expanding defense training and capacity building, and enhancing broader military engagement. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to promoting regional peace, stability and closer bilateral ties. The meeting follows recent discussions between External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand, who agreed to advance priorities set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney. The renewed engagement also builds on the leaders' meeting during the Group of Seven Summit in France, where they reviewed cooperation in trade, energy, technology and people-to-people exchanges. India and Canada continue to strengthen institutional dialogue despite recent diplomatic challenges, with both governments seeking to rebuild momentum across key sectors.

## India and China step up diplomatic engagement with focus on trade, border stability and people-to-people ties

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and China intensified diplomatic engagement this week as both countries worked to strengthen bilateral relations through discussions on trade, border management, political dialogue and people-to-people exchanges. During his official visit to Beijing, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met several senior Chinese leaders, including Vice Foreign Minister Hua Chunying, Communist Party officials and representatives of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. The two sides reviewed the full spectrum of bilateral ties and reaffirmed that maintaining peace and tranquility along the border remains essential for the continued normalization of relations. Discussions also focused on expanding cooperation in trade, culture, education, academic institutions and think tanks, while encouraging greater political and people-to-people exchanges.

Separately, India's Ambassador to China Vikram Doraiswami met Chinese Vice

Commerce Minister Yan Dong, where both sides agreed to strengthen communication on trade and economic issues, improve market access for Indian products, including pharmaceuticals, and promote more sustainable bilateral commerce. India also confirmed that both countries are moving ahead with the implementation of last year's agreement to resume border trade through the designated crossings at Lipulekh, Shipki La and Nathu La Pass.

The latest engagements build on recent meetings between External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, reflecting continued efforts by both sides to stabilize relations following years of border tensions. The renewed diplomatic momentum signals a shared commitment to restoring trust, expanding economic cooperation and maintaining stability along the Line of Actual Control while gradually broadening bilateral engagement across multiple sectors.

## India and Egypt strengthen strategic partnership with new focus on Africa and industry

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Egypt expanded discussions on strategic cooperation during a series of high-level meetings in Cairo on Thursday, with a renewed focus on industrial collaboration and development initiatives across Africa. India's Ambassador Suresh Reddy met Egypt's Deputy Foreign Minister for African Affairs Mohamed Abu Bakr Saleh, and both sides explored opportunities to jointly support development projects across the continent by combining India's demand-driven partnership model with Egypt's regional leadership. The ambassador also met Egypt's Industry Minister Khaled Hashem to discuss industrial development, investment facilitation, technology partnerships and support for Indian companies operating in Egypt. Separate talks with the chairman of the Suez Canal Economic Zone highlighted growing Indian



investments in manufacturing, while discussions with Egypt's labor minister focused on workforce mobility, skills development and regulatory cooperation. The meetings reflect the expanding India-Egypt Strategic Partnership and growing economic collaboration across manufacturing, investment and regional development.

## India and Scotland explore stronger economic partnership through business forum

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Scotland reaffirmed their commitment to expanding trade and investment during the India-Scotland Business Forum held in Glasgow on Thursday. Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi met Scotland's Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport Stephen Flynn, with discussions focusing on cooperation in renewable energy, life sciences, financial technology and education. The forum, jointly organized by the Consulate General of India in Edinburgh and the Scottish Government, brought together business leaders to examine new opportunities arising from the recently concluded India-United Kingdom Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. Sanghavi also inaugurated the Amdavad Experience Centre Glasgow 2026, showcasing Ahmedabad's vision for



hosting the 2030 Commonwealth Games through interactive exhibits highlighting the city's culture, heritage and sporting ambitions. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening commercial ties and expanding long-term economic cooperation.

## United States and India launch joint artificial intelligence project for precision soybean farming

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Researchers from the United States and India have launched a major collaborative project aimed at transforming soybean cultivation through artificial intelligence and advanced sensing technologies. On Thursday, United States Congressman Steve Cohen announced a \$528,137 National Science Foundation grant awarded to Dr. Xiaolei Huang of the University of Memphis for a three-year research initiative conducted in partnership with India's Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. The project will develop smart sensor networks, artificial intelligence tools, drone-enabled monitoring and next-generation wireless communications to improve soybean breeding, crop monitoring and yield forecasting. Researchers from universities and agricultural institutions in both countries, including the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, will collaborate on the initiative. The project is expected to strengthen scientific cooperation, improve agricultural productivity and support food security through precision farming technologies.

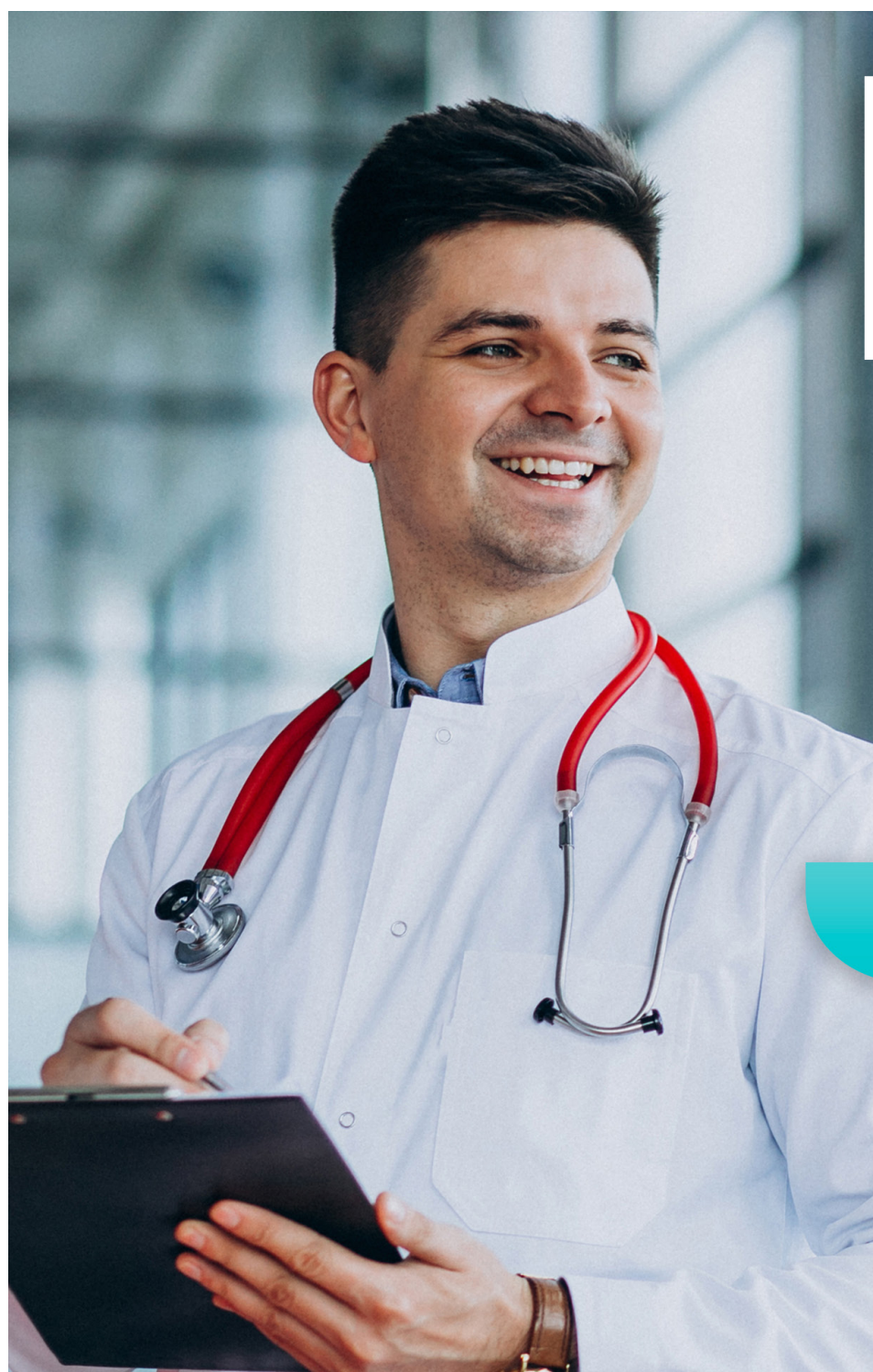
## India thanks outgoing El Salvador envoy for strengthening bilateral ties



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India on Wednesday recognized the contribution of Guillermo Rubio Funes, El Salvador's Ambassador to India, as he concluded his diplomatic tenure. Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita met the ambassador in New Delhi and praised his efforts in strengthening bilateral relations. India and El Salvador have steadily expanded cooperation through regular diplomatic consultations, cultural exchanges and development partnerships. Earlier this year, India's Ambassador to Guatemala, who is concurrently accredited to El Salvador, participated in International Day of Yoga celebrations at the National Palace in San Salvador, highlighting the growing people-to-people relationship. Last year, External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar also reaffirmed India's commitment to deepening ties with El Salvador while extending greetings on the country's Independence Day. Both nations continue to strengthen cooperation through regular diplomatic engagement and expanding cultural exchanges.



**MW MIDWEST**  
CLINICAL & RECRUITMENT CENTER INC

PIONEERS IN QUALITY MEDICAL EDUCATION FOR OFFSHORE MEDICAL STUDENTS

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

### SPECIALIZE IN

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



More information call us

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

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

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





Friday, 31 July 2026

www.indoustribune.com

## Seattle police chief resigns after deadly food festival shooting sparks criticism

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Seattle Police Chief Shon Barnes resigned on Thursday after city officials faced mounting criticism over their handling of the deadly shooting at the Bite of Seattle food festival on Sunday. Mayor Katie Wilson accepted his resignation and appointed Deputy Chief Andre Sayles as interim chief. Three people, including one suspected gunman, were killed and four others were injured, among them a two-year-old boy. Police arrested a 15-year-old suspect at the scene and continue searching for at least one more suspect. The city's response drew criticism after police took nearly five hours to provide a public update following the initial alert. Barnes, who was attending a law enforcement conference when the shooting occurred, had led the department since late 2024.

## Major Oregon interstate shut for 70 miles as wildfire forces evacuations



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A fast-moving wildfire forced authorities to close a 70-mile stretch of Interstate 84 in eastern Oregon on Monday before reopening the highway later in the day. The Fox Fire, burning near the Idaho border, also prompted a Level 3 evacuation order for the town of Huntington, where about 500 residents were told to leave immediately. Officials said the blaze had scorched nearly 72 square miles and remained completely uncontained. Firefighters prevented flames from reaching homes after the fire advanced close to the town. Authorities warned that intermittent highway closures remain possible as crews continue battling multiple wildfires fueled by hot, dry, and windy conditions across the state.

## Trump renews call to end daylight saving time

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump renewed his call to eliminate daylight saving time while speaking in Michigan on Monday, saying Congress should approve pending legislation to end the twice-yearly clock changes. Trump made the remarks during an address at the General Motors Milford Proving Ground, saying Americans should "get rid of daylight saving time." He did not specify whether he supports permanent standard time or permanent daylight saving time. Most of the United States advances clocks in spring and moves them back in fall. Any nationwide change would require approval by both chambers of Congress before reaching the president's desk. Supporters argue ending the practice would reduce disruptions to sleep, travel, and business schedules.

## ICE reviews hiring practices after fatal Maine shooting raises vetting questions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Immigration and Customs Enforcement is reviewing its employee screening procedures after allegations emerged that an officer involved in a fatal shooting in Maine may have had a history of domestic violence and mental health issues, White House border czar Tom Homan said on Sunday. The review follows a July traffic stop in Biddeford during which an ICE officer shot a Colombian national who authorities said attempted to flee in a vehicle. The man later died from his injuries.

Homan said that if reports about the officer's background are accurate, the individual should never have passed the agency's hiring process. He said a separate administrative investigation will determine whether the allegations were known or whether the vetting system failed to identify



them. The Department of Homeland Security has maintained that the officer fired because he believed the fleeing vehicle posed a threat to public safety. The incident came days after another ICE officer shot a Mexican national during an enforcement operation in Houston, prompting a brief suspension of traffic stops that President Donald Trump later reversed, calling them one of the agency's most effective crime-fighting tools.

## Federal judge strikes down Illinois tuition benefits for undocumented immigrants

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge has ruled that Illinois cannot continue offering in-state tuition and certain higher education benefits to undocumented immigrants while denying the same benefits to United States citizens from other states, handing the Trump administration another legal victory in its campaign against state immigration policies. In a decision issued on Thursday, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois found that provisions of the state's Acevedo Bill, Illinois DREAM Act, and Retention of Illinois Students and Equity Act conflict with federal

immigration law and violate the Constitution's Supremacy Clause.

The court said federal law prohibits states from extending postsecondary education benefits to undocumented immigrants unless identical benefits are available to all United States citizens regardless of residency. Illinois argued that the federal law infringed on states' constitutional authority, but the court rejected that claim and permanently barred enforcement of the challenged provisions. The ruling is part of a broader Justice Department effort to challenge similar tuition policies in several states, including Colorado, California, Maryland, New Jersey, Kansas, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Virginia.

## New Jersey blocks federal request for records tied to mistaken noncitizen voter registrations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New Jersey Governor Mikie Sherrill has rejected a Justice Department request seeking personal information on approximately 6,600 people who were mistakenly registered to vote because of a software error at the state's Motor Vehicle Commission. The administration said Thursday that state and federal privacy laws prevent releasing names, birth dates, addresses, and other personal information requested by federal officials. The error

affected applicants between June 2023 and June 2024 who indicated they were not United States citizens but were nevertheless added to the voter rolls. State officials have said fewer than 400 of those individuals ultimately cast ballots and that the software issue has since been corrected. The Justice Department maintains that states have a legal obligation to maintain accurate voter rolls and has pledged to pursue the requested records through legal channels. The dispute reflects continuing national debate over election security and voter registration procedures.

## Jay Clayton confirmed as Director of National Intelligence after partisan Senate vote

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Senate voted Tuesday to confirm Jay Clayton as Director of National Intelligence, giving President Donald Trump a permanent leader for the nation's intelligence agencies after weeks of uncertainty surrounding the position. Clayton, a former Chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission and United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, was confirmed largely along party lines following a contentious confirmation process. Democratic

lawmakers criticized Clayton after he declined during his confirmation hearing to explicitly state that Joe Biden won the 2020 presidential election, although he acknowledged that the election results were certified. Republicans defended his qualifications, citing his legal, regulatory, and national security experience. Clayton succeeds the temporary leadership that followed Tulsi Gabbard's departure earlier this year. His confirmation comes as the administration continues to emphasize election security, intelligence reform, and restructuring within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

## Trump backs Turkey on F-35 fighter jet sale despite Israeli concerns

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump voiced strong support for Turkey on Monday, saying decisions on potential sales of F-35 fighter jets would be based on United States interests rather than objections from other countries. Speaking aboard Air Force One before meeting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Trump described Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan as a friend and praised Turkey as a key American ally with a strong military. Asked about reported Israeli concerns over a possible fighter jet sale, Trump said, "Nobody tells me what we should be selling or not." He also said he and Netanyahu remained largely aligned on Iran despite some differences over regional policy.

## US intelligence chiefs back parts of Trump's China election claims



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Senior United States intelligence and national security officials have backed key elements of President Donald Trump's claim that China targeted American election infrastructure, according to a White House fact sheet released on Thursday. The document states that China and its proxies obtained voter registration data belonging to as many as 220 million Americans and notes that targeting voter registration systems falls within the intelligence community's definition of election interference. The agencies did not conclude that China altered vote totals or changed the outcome of the 2020 presidential election. Trump has directed the Justice Department and intelligence agencies to investigate how information about the alleged cyber activity was handled and why some intelligence remained undisclosed.

## Father of Apalachee High School shooter sentenced to 15 years in prison

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The father of the teenager who carried out the 2024 mass shooting at Apalachee High School in Georgia was sentenced to 15 years in prison on Thursday for his role in the tragedy. Colin Gray was convicted after prosecutors argued he provided his son with the rifle later used to kill two teachers and two students despite earlier warnings about the teenager's violent behavior. The sentencing came two days after his son, Colt Gray, received four consecutive life sentences without parole after pleading guilty to 55 charges. The case marks the first time in Georgia that a parent has been sentenced in connection with a school shooting committed by their child.



## US Marshals arrest 61 fugitives in four-day Iowa operation



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Marshals Service said Monday that Operation Heatwave resulted in the arrest of 61 fugitives and the clearance of 97 felony warrants during a four-day enforcement campaign across central Iowa. Conducted between Monday and Thursday of the previous week, the operation targeted gang members and violent offenders wanted for crimes including homicide, sexual assault, aggravated assault, and weapons offenses. Authorities also recovered illegal firearms and several pounds of narcotics. The operation involved federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. Officials said the initiative reflects ongoing efforts to locate dangerous fugitives and improve public safety through coordinated enforcement actions.

## Trump administration asks Supreme Court to revive mail-in voting order before midterms

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration on Monday asked the Supreme Court to allow President Donald Trump's executive order on mail-in voting to take effect before the November midterm elections after lower courts blocked key provisions. The order directs federal agencies to help create citizenship lists for states to verify voter eligibility and instructs the United States Postal Service to deliver mail ballots only to voters appearing on those lists. It also calls for secure ballot envelopes with unique tracking barcodes and allows federal funding to be withheld from jurisdictions that do not comply. Democratic officials from 23 states and the District of Columbia argue that the Constitution gives states and Congress, not the president, authority over election rules and warn that the order could disrupt voting. The Justice Department told the Supreme Court that the directive provides policy guidance rather than mandates and urged a swift decision so any changes could be implemented before the midterm elections.

## Cyclospora outbreak expands to 45 states, CDC says

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said on Monday that confirmed cases of Cyclospora infection have now been reported in 45 states, with more than 6,700 laboratory-confirmed illnesses recorded since early May. More than 400 people have been hospitalized, though no deaths have been reported. Federal health officials have linked cases in several states to recalled shredded iceberg lettuce, while North Carolina investigators are also examining parsley and cilantro as possible sources. Cyclospora is a parasite that causes prolonged diarrhea and is commonly spread through contaminated fresh produce. The agency expects case numbers to continue rising because of reporting delays.

## Blanche confirmation stalls as Trump refuses Republican demands over controversial tax deal

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump said Thursday that he may withdraw Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche's nomination to become the nation's next attorney general after Senate Republicans delayed a committee vote over concerns about a controversial tax settlement involving the president and his family. Republican Senators John Cornyn and Thom Tillis have demanded written assurances that a proposed settlement, including an abandoned Anti-Weaponization Fund and tax audit protections, will not move forward in its current form. Trump instead suggested he could resubmit Blanche's nomination after the senators leave office. Hours later, Blanche met with Cornyn and Tillis as negotiations resumed. Although the Justice Department has dropped the



proposed compensation fund, lawmakers continue to question provisions that would shield Trump and his family from certain tax audits. Blanche can continue serving as acting attorney general and deputy attorney general even if his Senate confirmation remains stalled.

## Federal Reserve holds interest rates steady despite rare split among policymakers

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Federal Reserve left its benchmark interest rate unchanged on Wednesday, extending its pause for a fifth consecutive meeting even as three policymakers voted in favor of raising borrowing costs. The unusual dissent underscored growing concern within the central bank that inflation remains stubbornly above its two percent target. Federal Reserve Chair Kevin Warsh acknowledged the policy debate during a news conference, describing it as a healthy exchange of views while emphasizing that the fight against inflation is far from over. Officials continue to weigh the impact of higher energy prices, tariffs, and continued spending on artificial intelligence infrastructure, all of which have complicated the inflation outlook.



Financial markets largely expected the decision, though many analysts believe another rate increase remains possible later this year. Elevated mortgage rates and credit card borrowing costs are expected to remain a challenge for consumers in the near term.

## Federal jury convicts Salman Rushdie attacker in terrorism case linked to Iranian fatwa

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal jury on Wednesday convicted Hadi Matar on terrorism charges for the 2022 stabbing of author Salman Rushdie during a literary event in western New York. Prosecutors argued that Matar carried out the attack in support of the 1989 fatwa issued by Iran's then Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini after the publication of Rushdie's novel 'The Satanic Verses.' Rushdie survived the assault but permanently lost sight in one eye after being stabbed multiple times. During the trial, prosecutors presented messages showing Matar praised Hezbollah, discussed the fatwa,



and tracked Rushdie's public appearances before the attack. Matar, who is already serving a 25-year New York prison sentence for attempted murder, now faces a possible life sentence in federal court when he is sentenced later this year. Iran has repeatedly denied any involvement in the attack.

## US changes asylum rules to speed immigration cases

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Trump administration has changed asylum procedures to allow immigration officials to send certain applications directly to immigration judges without first conducting interviews, saying the move will reduce a growing backlog. The Department of Homeland Security announced the rule takes effect immediately while accepting public

comments before issuing a final version. Officials said the existing process often results in duplicate reviews of the same claims, slowing decisions. Immigration advocates criticized the change, arguing it weakens due process by eliminating initial interviews and credibility assessments. The administration says the revised system will allow resources to focus on applicants with legitimate protection claims while discouraging misuse of the asylum process.

## New York City moves ahead with subsidized grocery stores promising staples at 30 percent lower prices



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani has unveiled plans to establish city supported grocery stores that would sell essential food items at prices roughly 30 percent below those offered by private retailers. The city is seeking an operator for the first five stores, one in each borough, while offering free rent, tax incentives, and subsidies to help offset the lower prices. Officials say the stores will focus on staples including fresh produce, dairy products, bread, rice, beans, meat, seafood, and other household essentials.

Mamdani argued the initiative is intended to improve food affordability without competing directly with neighborhood bodegas because the stores will not sell alcohol, cigarettes, lottery tickets, or prepared meals. Grocery industry groups remain skeptical, warning that heavily subsidized pricing could hurt independent supermarkets and immigrant owned businesses despite the mayor's assurances that both models can coexist successfully.

## Trump, world leaders honor Senator Lindsey Graham at Washington funeral



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump joined American lawmakers and international leaders on Monday in honoring Senator Lindsey Graham during a funeral service at Washington National Cathedral, describing the longtime South Carolina Republican as a steadfast public servant and one of the most influential figures in modern American politics. Trump praised Graham's decades of work on national security, military funding, border security, and judicial appointments, while recalling their personal friendship and years of political collaboration. Senate Majority Leader John Thune, Vice President JD Vance, and other dignitaries also paid tribute to Graham's bipartisan relationships and leadership in foreign policy. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy were among the international leaders expected to attend the service. Graham, who died earlier this month at age 71, served in Congress for more than three decades and remained one of President Trump's closest allies during his second administration.





## Three Indians rescued in Thailand kidnapping, five arrested over ransom plot

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Thai police have arrested five suspects, including two Indian nationals from Punjab, after rescuing three Indian tourists who were allegedly kidnapped and held for ransom in Pattaya. During a joint operation on Sunday, officers freed the victims from a townhouse where they were reportedly tied up, assaulted and confined in separate rooms. Investigators said the men, aged between 23 and 26, had been lured to Thailand through a low-cost vacation package before being abducted. Police recovered ropes, tape and spray paint allegedly used to stage photographs that were sent to the victims' families while demanding ransom. Authorities are investigating whether the group targeted other Indian or foreign tourists in similar scams. The Indian Embassy in Bangkok has been informed and is monitoring the case.

## Punjab youth's body returns from Dubai after philanthropist's intervention

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The body of a Punjab youth who died shortly after reaching Dubai for work has finally returned home, ending a painful 24-day wait for his family in Faridkot district. Gurpreet Singh had traveled to the United Arab Emirates hoping to improve his family's financial condition but reportedly suffered a fatal heart attack just two days after arriving. Unable to bear the cost of repatriating his remains, the family sought help from Dubai-based philanthropist Dr. S. P. Singh Oberoi, Managing Trustee of the Sarbat Da Bhala Charitable Trust. The organization completed the required legal formalities and arranged transportation of the body back to India. Villagers and family members expressed gratitude, saying Oberoi's timely assistance allowed them to perform Gurpreet's final rites with dignity.

## Indian-origin individuals among 19 arrested in Ontario's biggest drug crackdown

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Several Indian-origin individuals are among 19 people arrested after Canadian authorities dismantled an alleged cross-border drug trafficking network in what police described as one of the largest drug seizures in Ontario's history. The intelligence-led investigation, known as Project Bay, uncovered an operation that allegedly used commercial trucking routes to move narcotics across the United States-Canada border.

Police seized nearly 1.7 metric tons of cocaine, methamphetamine, opium and other drugs with an estimated street value exceeding \$97 million, along with firearms, cash and luxury items.

Investigators said many of those arrested were truck drivers allegedly recruited to transport concealed drug shipments within legitimate cargo. Authorities believe the operation dealt a significant blow to organized crime, although two suspects remain at large and investigations are continuing.

## Indian American Army doctor develops innovative brain surgery that avoids opening the skull

● Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

An Indian American Army surgeon has helped develop an innovative technique to remove certain brain tumors without opening the skull, offering patients a faster recovery through a minimally invasive procedure.

Major Jagatkumar Patel, working alongside Army neurosurgeon Lieutenant Colonel Charles Miller at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, successfully performed the procedure on Marine Staff Sergeant Andy Archer, who had suffered severe headaches for years before doctors discovered a 4.4-centimeter tumor near his pituitary gland that was affecting his vision.

Instead of traditional open brain surgery, the team removed the tumor entirely through the patient's nose using an endoscopic camera that provided high-



definition views during the operation. Patel designed the surgical pathway through the nasal cavity, while Miller carried out the tumor removal.

Archer was sitting up in intensive care just two days after surgery, with his vision already improving. Patel said the technique is suitable only for tumors of specific sizes and locations but can provide patients with the best chance of complete removal while avoiding the trauma associated with opening the skull.

## NIA closes in on alleged ISI recruiter Shahzad Bhatti as hunt reaches Brazil

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's efforts to track alleged Inter-Services Intelligence recruiter Shahzad Bhatti have expanded to Brazil, where intelligence agencies believe he may have been relocated as pressure mounts on his network. Bhatti, a social media influencer accused of recruiting Indian youth for terror-related activities, is believed to have operated from Dubai before briefly coordinating with handlers in Pakistan.

The National Investigation Agency received a major boost after a Special Court in Mohali issued a non-bailable warrant against him. Officials are now verifying his whereabouts before seeking an Interpol Red Corner Notice, followed by a formal extradition request. India and Brazil have an extradition treaty that came into force in 2012.



Investigators say Bhatti allegedly established multiple recruitment modules across India, several of which have already been dismantled. Security officials believe Pakistan may have shifted him abroad to reduce international scrutiny as it remains under close watch over terrorism financing. Authorities say Bhatti's arrest could help expose the full extent of the alleged network and prevent further recruitment of Indian youth.

## Indian-origin researcher warns of rising diabetes among younger adults in England

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian-origin academic has led a landmark study that found a worrying rise in Type 2 diabetes among younger adults in England, particularly women under the age of 40. The research, led by Dr. Shivani Misra of Imperial College London and published in Lancet Regional Health Europe, analyzed national diabetes data from 2011 through 2024. Researchers found that

while new diagnoses have declined among older adults, they have risen sharply among younger people, driven largely by increasing levels of severe obesity. The increase was especially notable among White, Asian and Black women in their twenties and thirties. Misra said the findings highlight an urgent need for earlier screening, stronger obesity prevention measures and wider access to effective weight management programs to reduce the long-term burden of diabetes and related health complications.

## Fire devastates Adelaide gurdwara, Sikh community awaits answers

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A devastating fire has destroyed Gurdwara Sahib Dashmesh Darbar in Adelaide, leaving the Sikh community in Australia anxiously awaiting confirmation about the condition of the Guru Granth Sahib saroops believed to have been inside the prayer hall. The blaze broke out in the langar hall late on Sunday, about an hour after the evening congregation had ended, before rapidly

engulfing the complex and causing parts of the building to collapse. Firefighters managed to bring the blaze under control, but authorities have launched an investigation into its cause. Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Kuldeep Singh Gargajj expressed deep sorrow over the incident and called for a transparent investigation while urging Sikh institutions worldwide to strengthen fire safety measures. Community members continue to hope the sacred scriptures can be safely recovered from the damaged structure.

## Indian-origin Singapore man banned from driving after dangerous stunt involving sons



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Singapore court has fined an Indian-origin man and banned him from driving for six months after he endangered his two young sons by allowing them to ride on the rear of his moving sports car. On Wednesday, 40-year-old Prem Anan Sugunakumar was fined SGD 5,000 after admitting to the offense, which occurred in October 2025. Prosecutors said he deliberately placed his seven and eight-year-old sons on the boot of his Porsche because he believed they would enjoy the experience. The incident, filmed by his wife and later shared on social media, was reported to police by another motorist. The court noted Sugunakumar's history of traffic violations, while prosecutors said the children avoided serious injury purely by chance.

## Indian-origin immigration lawyer faces \$470,000 U.S. penalty over alleged asylum fraud



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian-origin immigration lawyer is facing a proposed \$470,584 civil penalty after United States authorities accused him of filing fraudulent asylum applications using nearly identical claims for multiple clients. The Department of Homeland Security and Immigration and Customs Enforcement allege that attorney Suraj Raj Singh submitted 118 fraudulent documents across 54 immigration cases, with applications containing repeated narratives of political or religious persecution. The case is part of the Trump administration's broader crackdown on immigration document fraud under Section 274C of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Authorities said the proceedings are ongoing and no final ruling has been issued. If the allegations are upheld, affected applicants could face dismissal of their asylum claims, loss of work authorization, and permanent ineligibility for future United States immigration benefits.



Second suspect arrested in killing of Punjabi delivery driver in Canada



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canadian police have arrested a second suspect in the 2023 killing of Punjabi food delivery driver Gurvinder Nath, bringing fresh progress in a case that shocked the Indian community in the Greater Toronto Area. Peel Regional Police said 26-year-old Devaunte Thompson was arrested in Toronto on Wednesday under a Canada-wide warrant and has been charged with second-degree murder.

Nath, 24, was fatally attacked while making a late-night food delivery in Mississauga after his vehicle was allegedly stolen. Another suspect had been arrested in early 2024. The killing had renewed concerns about the safety of gig economy workers, particularly newcomers and international students who often work overnight delivery shifts. Police continue to seek information from the public.

Punjab woman killed in Canada, partner charged with second-degree murder



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The death of a young Punjab-origin woman in Edmonton has sent shockwaves through the Indo-Canadian community after police charged her live-in partner with second-degree murder. Damanpreet Kaur, 23, was found critically injured at a residence in southeast Edmonton on Wednesday after officers responded to reports of an unresponsive woman. She died in hospital on Saturday, and an autopsy later confirmed she had been strangled. On Tuesday, Edmonton Police arrested and charged 22-year-old Ritish Kumar, describing the case as an intimate partner homicide. Investigators said no additional suspects are being sought. As family members prepare to take Damanpreet home for her final rites, an online fundraising campaign has been launched to help repatriate her body to Punjab. The tragedy has also renewed attention on the growing concern over intimate partner violence across Canada.

HPV vaccine can help eliminate cervical cancer in India, says Indian American oncologist

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Indian American radiation oncologist Dr. Dattatreya Nori says widespread Human Papillomavirus vaccination could transform India's fight against cervical cancer, calling the disease largely preventable, detectable and curable. Speaking to IANS, the 2026 Padma Bhushan awardee said the introduction of free Human Papillomavirus vaccines for girls gives India "the upper hand" in reducing cervical cancer cases and could eventually eliminate the disease.

Nori noted that nearly 200 women die from cervical cancer every day in India, making stronger prevention measures critical. He also praised India's progress in cancer care over the past decade, highlighting the establishment of the National Cancer Institute, expansion of cancer treatment facilities, increased financial support for patients and lower costs for imported chemotherapy drugs.



Expressing optimism about the future, Nori said India is making significant strides in cancer prevention, screening, detection and treatment. Reflecting on his own career, he said his journey from India to leading a department at a major American medical institution demonstrated the opportunities available through dedication and innovation.

Indian student from Canada gets prison term in U.S. senior fraud case

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

An Indian student who had been studying in Canada has been sentenced to four years in a United States prison for his role in a multimillion-dollar fraud scheme that targeted elderly Americans. On Monday, a federal court in Wisconsin sentenced 22-year-old Roshan Shah after he pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit money laundering. Prosecutors said Shah entered the United States on a visitor visa and traveled across several states posing as a federal agent to collect cash and gold from victims. Investigators said accomplices based in India convinced seniors that their identities had been used in criminal activities and that their valuables had to be surrendered for "safekeeping." Authorities said Shah collected more than \$3.7 million from 15 victims before his arrest in 2025, calling



the case a reminder of the growing threat posed by transnational fraud networks targeting older Americans.

Sexual assault case involving Punjab-origin ride-share driver fuels wider debate in Canada

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

The arrest of a Punjab-origin ride-share driver on sexual assault charges has renewed debate in Canada over public safety, immigration and accountability within ride-sharing services. Halton Regional Police charged Mandeep Singh, 25, of Etobicoke with two counts of sexual assault after a woman was allegedly attacked near Burlington GO Station on Monday before being followed and assaulted again as she sought help. Police arrested Singh on Saturday and released his photograph, saying they believe there could be additional victims. The case has also generated social media claims linking the accused to Khalistani extremist networks. However, Canadian authorities have not confirmed those allegations, and reports have cautioned against presenting unverified political affiliations as fact.

The incident has also renewed scrutiny



of safety measures used by ride-share platforms, with questions raised about background checks, complaint handling and passenger protection. Commentators have argued that the focus should remain on supporting victims, ensuring a thorough investigation and examining whether existing safeguards are sufficient to prevent similar incidents in the future.

Punjab Police bring back fugitive gangster Joban Billa from Indonesia



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Punjab Police have secured the deportation of alleged gangster Jobanjit Singh, alias Joban Billa, from Indonesia after a months-long international operation that officials described as a major breakthrough against transnational organized crime. Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said the Anti-Gangster Task Force worked with central agencies and Punjab's Overseas Fugitive Tracking and Extradition Cell under Operation Nomad Hunt to trace and bring him back. Billa, an alleged member of the Bambiha gang, is wanted in several cases involving murder, attempted murder, extortion, narcotics and weapons offenses in Punjab. Police claim he had been operating from countries including the United Arab Emirates while evading arrest. Officials believe his return will strengthen ongoing investigations into cross-border gang operations, extortion rackets and organized criminal networks with links outside India.

Punjabi woman shot dead in targeted Toronto attack



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

26-year-old Punjabi woman was shot dead in what Toronto Police have described as a targeted attack, prompting renewed concerns about violent crime within the Indo-Canadian community. Investigators said Navneet Kaur was approached by a man early on Friday, who briefly spoke to her before allegedly opening fire. Emergency responders attempted life-saving measures, but she died at the scene. Police later arrested 37-year-old Sharnjeet Singh of Brampton, who has been charged with first-degree murder after allegedly fleeing the area. Authorities have not disclosed the nature of the relationship, if any, between the victim and the accused. Witnesses reported hearing a brief conversation before the shooting, while residents expressed concern over the brazen attack. Police continue to seek surveillance footage and information from the public as the investigation progresses.





### Eleven European tourists rescued after speedboat goes missing in Indonesia



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indonesian rescue teams found 11 European tourists and one crew member alive on Saturday after their speedboat disappeared while crossing Tomini Bay in eastern Indonesia. The vessel had departed a dive resort in Central Sulawesi on Friday but failed to arrive at its destination, prompting an extensive search. The survivors were safely evacuated to Central Sulawesi, while rescuers continued searching for the missing captain. In a separate incident, authorities suspended the search for 14 people still missing after the passenger boat KM Nurul Salsa sank off South Sulawesi earlier this month. Officials said rescue efforts would resume if credible new information becomes available.

### Bangladesh tribunal receives complaints against former president after resignation



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal received complaints on Sunday against former President Mohammed Shahabuddin, days after he stepped down from office. Two organizations accused Shahabuddin of remaining silent during the violence linked to the 2024 protests and called for an investigation into his alleged role. One complaint also named former President M. Abdul Hamid. Chief Prosecutor Md. Aminul Islam confirmed the complaints would be forwarded to the investigation agency. Shahabuddin resigned last week, citing health reasons, although local media reported his departure also followed controversy over an alleged telephone conversation with former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The complaints come amid broader investigations targeting leaders associated with the Awami League.

### United States bans new Chinese humanoid robots over national security concerns

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Federal Communications Commission announced on Tuesday that it will ban authorization of new Chinese-made humanoid robots and other advanced robotic devices, citing national security concerns. Officials said the technology could collect sensitive data, support foreign intelligence activities or be remotely manipulated by hostile actors. The restrictions also apply to certain connected power inverters used in energy infrastructure. The Trump administration said the move is intended to strengthen secure domestic supply chains for critical technologies. China criticized the decision, urging Washington to stop targeting Chinese companies and warning it would take measures to protect its interests.

## Record heat and wildfires force more than 300,000 from homes in France and Spain

● Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

More than 300,000 people have been forced to evacuate homes and tourist accommodations as devastating wildfires continue to rage across France and Spain, with authorities warning that the crisis reflects increasingly severe fire conditions across Europe. In southwestern France, more than 1,400 firefighters, military personnel and water-bombing aircraft battled massive blazes near Bordeaux, where flames threatened residential communities and destroyed homes. The fires were so severe that organizers shortened the final stage of the Tour de France to free security personnel for emergency operations. In Spain, wildfires west of Madrid prompted the evacuation of around 70,000 people, while at least one person died in the Valencia region.



The disaster comes amid the most severe fire weather conditions recorded for this point in the year. According to the European Forest Fire Information System, hot, dry and windy conditions across the European Union have been 43 percent more severe than the average over the past two decades. By Thursday, about 435,000 hectares had

burned across the bloc, nearly three times the recent historical average. France has already recorded 91,000 hectares burned, surpassing its previous annual record with weeks of summer still remaining, while Spain has lost more than 207,000 hectares, nearly five times its seasonal average.

Although cooler temperatures and lighter winds allowed thousands of evacuees in France to return home on Thursday, new fires near the Portuguese border forced fresh evacuations in Spain. The European Union has deployed firefighters, aircraft and emergency teams from several countries to assist national authorities. Climate scientists warn that rising temperatures, prolonged drought and repeated heat waves are creating conditions for fewer but far larger and more destructive wildfires, making catastrophic fire seasons increasingly common across southern Europe.

## United Nations expert urges Pakistan to improve Imran Khan's detention conditions

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United Nations human rights expert has called on Pakistan to improve former Prime Minister Imran Khan's detention conditions and allow him access to independent medical treatment. On Wednesday, United Nations Special Rapporteur Alice Jill Edwards expressed concern over reports that Khan has spent nearly 33 months in near-total solitary confinement, often without meaningful human contact or regular exercise. She also cited allegations that he has not received adequate treatment for existing spinal injuries and wounds sustained during a 2022 assassination attempt.

In a separate statement, Edwards raised similar concerns about the health of Khan's



wife, Bushra Bibi, urging Pakistani authorities to ensure appropriate medical care and investigate reports of deteriorating health. Khan has remained imprisoned since August 2023 in multiple cases that his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party maintains are politically motivated. The party plans nationwide protests beginning Tuesday to demand his release.

### India condemns attacks on commercial shipping in talks with Ukraine

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Thursday that India strongly condemned attacks on commercial shipping during a conversation with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha. Jaishankar said attacks endangering civilian seafarers were "absolutely unacceptable" and reiterated India's support for dialogue and diplomacy to resolve the conflict. The discussion followed the death of an Indian sailor aboard the commercial vessel MV OMORFI and concerns over Indian crew members stranded at Ukraine's Chornomorsk port amid ongoing attacks. India has consistently called for the protection of commercial vessels, freedom of navigation and the safety of civilian seafarers operating in conflict zones.

## Trump and Netanyahu discuss diplomacy, sanctions and military options on Iran

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu discussed multiple strategies for addressing Iran's nuclear program during their White House meeting, including diplomacy, economic pressure and potential military action, a senior Israeli official said on Wednesday. The official denied reports that Netanyahu urged Trump to launch further strikes on Iran, saying all options were reviewed and that the final

decision rests with the United States president. Israeli officials also rejected suggestions of tensions between the two leaders, emphasizing continued intelligence cooperation. The discussions came as regional tensions remain high following recent United States and Israeli military operations targeting Iran and Tehran's retaliatory attacks on United States bases and regional targets. Israel maintains that preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons remains its highest security priority, while Tehran continues to insist its nuclear program is intended for peaceful purposes.

## Mongolia confirms suspected bubonic plague case after laboratory testing

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Mongolian health authorities confirmed on Friday that a suspected case of bubonic plague in the western Khovd province tested positive following laboratory analysis. Officials said the patient became infected after consuming marmot meat while visiting neighboring Bayan-Ulgii province. The National Centre for Zoonotic Diseases urged people to avoid hunting marmots or handling wild rodents, warning that such activities significantly increase the risk of infection.



Seventeen of Mongolia's 21 provinces are classified as plague-risk areas. According to the World Health Organization, bubonic plague is spread through infected fleas that live on wild rodents but can be effectively treated with antibiotics if detected early.

## Lebanon seeks international force if United Nations peacekeepers withdraw



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun said on Friday that an international force should be established if the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon cannot continue its mission in southern Lebanon. During talks with European Union Ambassador Sandra De Waele, Aoun said such a force would help the Lebanese army restore state authority, remove unexploded ordnance and implement the United States brokered security framework with Israel. Separately, a cross-party group of 86 lawmakers urged the United Nations to renew UNIFIL's mandate, saying the peacekeeping mission remains essential for maintaining stability and preventing further escalation along the Israel-Lebanon border.



### Turkey detains another opposition mayor in widening corruption probe



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Turkish authorities detained the opposition mayor of Ankara's Etimesgut district and dozens of other suspects on Thursday as part of an expanding corruption investigation. Prosecutors said the probe includes allegations of bribery, embezzlement, fraud, extortion and abuse of office involving municipal officials and company executives.

The arrests followed the detention of another opposition mayor in Istanbul a day earlier. Opposition leaders rejected the allegations as politically motivated, accusing President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government of targeting municipalities controlled by the opposition. The government maintains that Turkey's judiciary is acting independently and that the investigations are based solely on legal evidence.

### China to hold key Communist Party conclave on internal governance

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China's ruling Communist Party announced on Thursday that it will hold a key Central Committee meeting in October focused on strengthening internal governance and party discipline. The fifth plenum will bring together more than 300 senior party members to discuss advancing President Xi Jinping's long-running anti-corruption campaign and improving party oversight. Since Xi took office in 2012, millions of officials have been investigated under sweeping disciplinary efforts. The meeting follows scheduling changes that delayed the previous plenum and comes as China faces mounting domestic and international challenges, with party leaders expected to outline priorities for governance and institutional reforms.

### Australia reports seven new suspected H5N1 bird flu cases

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Australian authorities reported seven new suspected H5N1 bird flu cases on Monday, all involving wild greater crested terns found along South Australia's Limestone Coast. Samples have been sent for confirmatory testing to determine whether local transmission has occurred. If confirmed, Australia's total number of H5N1 cases would rise to 27 since the virus was first detected on the mainland in June. Officials said surveillance would be expanded in areas frequented by high-risk seabirds but stressed there is no evidence that the virus has spread to poultry or commercial farming systems. Authorities also said the current risk to public health remains low.

### Iran and Oman hold talks on safeguarding navigation through Strait of Hormuz

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Iran and Oman held technical talks on Friday and Saturday to discuss measures aimed at ensuring safe navigation through the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most important energy shipping routes. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baqaei described the discussions as constructive and said both sides agreed to continue technical and political consultations. He added that commercial shipping through the strategic waterway remains unchanged despite heightened regional tensions.

The talks came as the United States continues enforcing its naval blockade against



Iran. United States Central Command said American forces have redirected commercial vessels, boarded ships for inspections and disabled tankers that allegedly attempted to violate the blockade. The Strait of Hormuz carries a significant share of global oil and liquefied natural gas exports, making maritime security in the region critical for international energy markets and global trade.

### United Nations warns of escalating settler violence and record settlement expansion in West Bank

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United Nations human rights office warned on Wednesday that violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank has intensified, while the expansion of Israeli settlements has reached unprecedented levels, further undermining prospects for peace. The agency said 18 Palestinians have been killed in incidents linked to settler violence so far this year, exceeding the total recorded during all of 2025. The warning followed a deadly confrontation on Friday near the

village of Tal, southwest of Nablus, where four Palestinians and two Israeli soldiers were killed. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights alleged that settlers, sometimes alongside Israeli security forces, have attacked communities, destroyed homes and property, and damaged mosques. It also criticized Israel's continued settlement expansion despite the 2024 International Court of Justice advisory opinion declaring the occupation and settlements illegal. Israel rejects that opinion, arguing the territories are disputed and citing historical and security claims.

### United States signs multibillion-dollar Patriot missile contract to boost production

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Army awarded Lockheed Martin a contract worth up to \$58.6 billion to expand production of Patriot interceptor missiles, the Pentagon announced on Wednesday, as conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East continue to strain American weapons stockpiles. The agreement converts an earlier one-year contract into a seven-year procurement plan covering fiscal years 2026 through 2032.

The Patriot PAC-3 Missile Segment Enhancement interceptor is designed to defend against ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and aircraft. Lockheed Martin said the funding will help triple annual production by 2030 and expand employment at its Arkansas manufacturing



facility. The contract is part of a broader effort by the Trump administration to accelerate weapons production and strengthen defense manufacturing. Analysts have warned that continued military operations and support for allies have significantly reduced United States inventories of advanced air defense systems.

### Three women injured in Paris knife attack, authorities investigate motive

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Three women were injured, including two critically, in a knife attack in northwestern Paris on Monday, prompting French authorities to investigate the motive. Police arrested the suspect at the scene after an off-duty officer intervened. Interior Minister Laurent Nunez said the suspect made incoherent statements and urged caution against drawing conclusions before the investigation is complete. Videos circulating online appeared to show the man claiming he acted on religious instructions. France's National Anti-Terrorism Prosecutor's Office is monitoring the case but has not



formally taken over the investigation. The attack came a day after German authorities investigated a separate suspected extremist attack in Berlin.

### Former Ukraine defense minister says procurement reforms led to dismissal

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former Ukrainian Defense Minister Mykhailo Fedorov said in an interview published on Wednesday that his dismissal earlier this month resulted from efforts to overhaul the military's procurement system. Fedorov said introducing competitive tenders and restructuring procurement practices faced resistance from officials unhappy with greater transparency.

He denied having a personal conflict with former military commander Oleksandr Syrskyi, saying their disagreements centered on differing approaches to the war. Fedorov served for six months before being replaced during a broader government reshuffle that also removed Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko. His dismissal triggered protests from supporters who called for his reinstatement.

### Amnesty calls for war crimes probe into reported killings of Malian soldiers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Amnesty International called on Wednesday for a war crimes investigation into the reported execution of at least 19 Malian soldiers captured during an ambush in northern Mali earlier this month. The rights group said its analysis of videos circulating online indicated the soldiers had been rendered incapable of fighting before being killed, potentially constituting a war crime under international humanitarian law. The United Nations human rights office has also urged an independent investigation. Mali's military acknowledged that executing captured soldiers would violate international law but disputed social media claims portraying the incident as a military victory for armed groups.

### Putin says emerging global order is taking shape through strategic competition

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Monday that the world is undergoing a historic transformation, with a new global order emerging through heightened geopolitical competition and shifting power dynamics. Addressing members of Russia's outgoing State Duma at the Kremlin, Putin described the past five years as one of the most consequential periods in the nation's history, saying Russia's future and security were at stake.

He reaffirmed Moscow's commitment to achieving its objectives in what it calls its "special military operation" in Ukraine, praising Russian forces and the public's support for the campaign. His remarks echo recent statements by senior Russian officials, including presidential envoy Boris Titov and Federation Council Deputy Chairman Konstantin Kosachev, who have argued that the current international system is giving way to a multipolar order based on greater state equality rather than a unipolar world dominated by a single power.



## Haryana chief minister attacks opposition over silence on Punjab paper leak



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**H**aryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Thursday criticized the Aam Aadmi Party government in Punjab and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over their silence on the alleged paper leak in Punjab. He said the incident had jeopardized the future of thousands of students and exposed the state government's failure to protect their interests. Saini contrasted the situation with the central government's anti-paper leak law, saying it reflected Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to safeguarding students. He also expressed confidence that the Bharatiya Janata Party would form the next government in Punjab.

## Karnataka defers Cauvery water decision as all-party meeting takes center stage

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**K**arnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said on Friday that the state will decide whether to release Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu only after an all-party meeting on Sunday, August 2. The meeting follows the Cauvery Water Management Authority's directive asking Karnataka to release 3,500 cusecs of water daily for 15 days. Shivakumar said the state has challenged the order, citing low reservoir levels and limited inflows. He stressed that protecting Karnataka's interests remains the government's priority while expressing hope that discussions with Tamil Nadu would continue in a cordial manner.

## Kargil Vijay Diwas marks 27 years as India honors heroes of Operation Vijay



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia on Saturday marked the 27th Kargil Vijay Diwas, with President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and top military leaders paying tribute to the soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the 1999 Kargil War. The observance commemorates the successful completion of Operation Vijay, when Indian forces reclaimed strategic peaks in Kargil after nearly three months of fighting. The main ceremony was held at the Kargil War Memorial in Drass, where Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth led tributes. Prime Minister Modi described Sarnath's recognition by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the same day as another proud moment for India, while leaders hailed the bravery and enduring legacy of the Kargil heroes.

## Ram Temple Trust names IIT alumnus as first secretary amid calls for stronger safeguards

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust on Thursday appointed IIT Bombay alumnus Jagdish Aphale as its first secretary and joint signatory for financial transactions, amid an ongoing investigation into the alleged misappropriation of donations at the Ayodhya Ram Temple. The appointment comes as the Supreme Court-directed probe gathers pace under a newly constituted Special Investigation Team. Opposition leaders welcomed tighter oversight but demanded greater accountability. Samajwadi Party spokesperson Ashutosh Verma questioned whether the new appointment would prevent future irregularities and sought clarity on why no First Information Report had been filed



against former Trust general secretary Champat Rai. Uttar Pradesh Congress chief Ajay Rai called for the Trust's reconstitution with greater representation from religious leaders and Ayodhya residents. Bharatiya Janata Party leaders said stronger administrative systems and fixed accountability were essential to ensure transparency and prevent future financial irregularities.

## Delhi government moves to close CJP protest cases, reviews arrests after NEET agitation

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**he Delhi government on Thursday directed authorities to halt further legal action against most people who participated in the Cockroach Janta Party-led protests over the alleged NEET 2026 paper leak, marking another step toward resolving the nationwide student agitation. The order covers the 13 cases registered by Delhi Police but excludes individuals with prior criminal records, whose cases will continue to be reviewed separately.

The government also instructed officials to expedite the review of arrests and facilitate the release of detained protesters where applicable. The decision follows similar relief announced by Bihar, Assam, and West Bengal after the



protests ended following the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. CJP welcomed the move but insisted that the First Information Reports should be formally withdrawn, warning it could resume protests if the assurances are not fully implemented.

## Parliament clears bill making insults to Vande Mataram a criminal offense

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**arliament on Thursday passed the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, making intentional insults to the national song 'Vande Mataram' a criminal offense. The bill, cleared by the Lok Sabha after being passed by the Rajya Sabha, extends protections already available to the national anthem, 'Jana Gana Mana'. Offenses under the law carry a maximum punishment of three years in prison, a fine, or both, with repeat offenders facing a mandatory minimum one-year jail term. The legislation sparked sharp political exchanges, with the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam calling it divisive and the

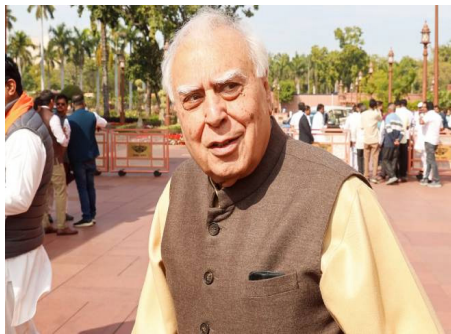


Bharatiya Janata Party describing it as long-overdue recognition for the national song. It became the first bill passed by both Houses during the monsoon session amid repeated disruptions over the NEET paper leak issue.

## Kapil Sibal questions Amit Shah's silence over alleged pellet gun use during student protests

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**R**ajya Sabha member Kapil Sibal on Thursday criticized Union Home Minister Amit Shah for not addressing allegations that pellet guns were used against students during protests in New Delhi over the alleged NEET 2026 paper leak. Speaking on Parliament premises, Sibal said such force could not have been used without approval from senior authorities and questioned why the Home Minister had not made a statement in Parliament. His remarks came a day after Congress leader Rahul Gandhi alleged in the Lok Sabha that police, under the Union Home



Ministry, used pellet guns and batons against protesters. The Bharatiya Janata Party rejected the allegations, demanding an apology from Gandhi and calling his claims baseless.

## UNESCO recognition puts Sarnath on the global heritage map, says Prime Minister Modi

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**rime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday hailed the inclusion of Sarnath in Uttar Pradesh on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage List, calling it a proud moment for every Indian. He said the recognition celebrates India's rich civilizational and spiritual legacy while highlighting Lord Buddha's enduring message of wisdom, compassion and harmony. The inscription was approved during the World Heritage Committee's session in Busan, South Korea. The Ministry of External Affairs said the recognition would encourage more visitors to explore the sacred Buddhist site, where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon after attaining enlightenment.

## Ladakh launches India's first festival dedicated to the Black-Necked Crane



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**L**adakh will host India's first Black-Necked Crane Festival from Tuesday through Friday, August 11 to 14, Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena announced on Friday. The festival will be held in Leh, Tso Kar and Hanle to promote conservation of the rare Black-Necked Crane, India's only alpine crane and Ladakh's state bird. The species breeds exclusively in the high-altitude wetlands of the Changthang region and is considered sacred in local culture. The event will combine birdwatching, conservation awareness, cultural programs and community participation while highlighting the need to protect the birds' fragile breeding habitats.

## Muslim cleric seeks probe into Waqf land deals, alleges threats after raising corruption claims



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**ll India Muslim Jamaat President Maulana Shahabuddin Razvi Bareilvi alleged on Friday that individuals linked to the Samajwadi Party had threatened him after he raised concerns about alleged irregularities involving Waqf properties. Speaking to reporters, he said he had submitted documents to the Bareilly district administration related to two disputed Waqf properties, including land in Baheri and Chandpur Bichpuri. Razvi urged Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to order a thorough investigation, alleging that valuable Waqf assets meant for the welfare of poor, orphaned and widowed Muslims had been misused.



## Rescue teams race against time after deadly Bhiwandi building collapse

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Rescue personnel continued operations on Friday after a residential building collapse in Bhiwandi, Maharashtra, claimed at least nine lives and left several others feared trapped. The incident occurred late on Thursday when part of the four-story Kohinoor Building collapsed despite residents noticing warning signs hours earlier. Survivors said they heard loud cracking noises before the structure gave way, forcing some to jump from the first floor to escape. Authorities said the building had previously been classified as dangerous, and repair work was reportedly in progress. Emergency teams, supported by heavy machinery, continued clearing debris amid fears that more victims could still be buried under the rubble.

## West Bengal launches major Sundarbans restoration after identifying illegal mangrove encroachments

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The West Bengal government has begun restoring more than 1,600 hectares of mangrove forests in the Sundarbans after identifying large stretches of protected land that were allegedly converted into illegal brackish water fish farms. Officials said on Tuesday that the encroachments were created over several years by blocking tidal water flow, eventually destroying mangrove cover and transforming the land into aquaculture ponds. Demolition of the illegal structures has begun, after which large scale mangrove plantation will follow. Police are also investigating the alleged involvement of fish farm operators, local politicians and government officials. Environmental experts welcomed the initiative, noting that healthy mangrove forests play a critical role in protecting the fragile coastal ecosystem from cyclones, storm surges and erosion.

## Priyanka Gandhi's remarks on IIT Madras director ignite row over education reform debate

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A political controversy erupted on Monday after Congress Member of Parliament Priyanka Gandhi Vadra referred to a member of the government's education reform panel as a "Gaumutra expert" during a Lok Sabha debate on examination reforms. Although she did not identify anyone by name, the remarks were widely interpreted as referring to IIT Madras Director Professor V. Kamakoti, who serves on the committee reviewing the National Testing Agency following the examination paper leak controversy. Bharatiya Janata Party members criticized the comment, arguing that it overlooked Kamakoti's distinguished career in computer science, semiconductor research and information security. The debate quickly shifted beyond education reforms, with the ruling party accusing the opposition of targeting an accomplished scientist instead of engaging with the panel's recommendations.

## Modi highlights India's growing defense exports and global confidence in indigenous military technology

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday that the world is placing increasing trust in India's indigenous defense technology, underscoring the country's growing stature as a global defense manufacturer and exporter. Speaking during the 136th edition of 'Mann Ki Baat', Modi cited his recent visit to Indonesia, where the two countries signed agreements for the supply of BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles, Astra beyond-visual-range air-to-air missiles, and expanded maritime security cooperation. He said the agreements reflected rising international confidence in India's defense capabilities.

On Kargil Vijay Diwas, Modi paid tribute to the soldiers who fought in the 1999 Kargil War and said their courage continues to inspire the nation. He also highlighted the 'Saurya Vijay Yatra', a motorcycle expedition from New Delhi's National War Memorial to the Kargil War Memorial in Drass, honoring the sacrifices of India's



armed forces. Emphasizing the government's focus on defense self-reliance, Modi pointed to the induction of the indigenously built INS Mahendragiri, the development of the Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket, and the successful test of the Kusha missile, crediting Indian scientists and engineers for advancing the country's military strength under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

## J&K students seek Rahul Gandhi's intervention over recruitment scams and paper leaks

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Jammu and Kashmir Students' Association on Friday urged Lok Sabha Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi to raise alleged recruitment scams, paper leaks, and examination irregularities in Parliament, saying repeated controversies have shattered the aspirations of thousands of job seekers. In a letter, the association highlighted the cancelled Jammu and Kashmir Police Sub-Inspector recruitment, the Finance Accounts Assistant and Junior Engineer examinations, and alleged irregularities in other recruitment processes. It also questioned delays in the Central Bureau of Investigation probe into the Sub-Inspector case and the non-disclosure of a



committee report on the Aptech recruitment contract. The association called for greater transparency, institutional accountability, and an independent oversight mechanism to restore confidence in public recruitment across the Union Territory.

## Security agencies warn of social media driven terror recruitment targeting Indian youth

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian security agencies have warned that social media has emerged as a key recruitment tool for Pakistan backed terror networks, with investigators urging users to verify unknown online contacts before accepting friend requests. Officials said on Tuesday that operatives linked to Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence allegedly use social media to identify and groom vulnerable individuals before shifting conversations to

encrypted messaging platforms. Investigators said recruits are typically drawn into weeks of casual interactions before being assigned tasks in exchange for money, often without being told they are working for a terror network. Authorities are also tracing financial channels used to fund the operations through intermediaries and hawala networks. Officials said disrupting recruitment during the initial online contact phase remains critical to preventing radicalization and terror related activities.

## India proposes longer pollution certificate validity for newer vehicles, tighter checks for older fleet

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has proposed sweeping changes to India's Pollution Under Control Certificate regime, extending certificate validity for newer BS VI vehicles while requiring more frequent emissions testing for older models. Under draft rules released on Monday, BS VI private vehicles up to six years old would require certification once every three years instead of

annually, while commercial vehicles in the same category would receive two year validity. BS VI vehicles older than six years would face annual or six monthly renewals depending on age. The proposal also tightens norms for older vehicles, requiring BS IV models to undergo testing every six months and BS I, BS II and BS III vehicles every three months. The ministry said the changes are intended to ease compliance for cleaner vehicles while strengthening pollution monitoring for higher emitting fleets.

## Faith and tradition unite Uttar Pradesh as Guru Purnima draws massive gatherings

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Devotees across Uttar Pradesh celebrated Guru Purnima with prayers, holy dips and spiritual ceremonies on Wednesday, as major pilgrimage centers witnessed large crowds honoring the Guru-disciple tradition. Thousands gathered in Ayodhya, where Mahant Kamalnayan Das initiated disciples at Mani Ram Das Chhawani after pilgrims bathed in the Saryu River. In Prayagraj, worshippers offered prayers and donations at the Triveni Sangam while religious leaders highlighted the enduring importance of spiritual guidance. In Varanasi, rising Ganga water levels submerged several smaller ghats and riverside temples following heavy rainfall upstream, creating challenges for pilgrims and authorities. Despite the flooding concerns, devotees continued participating in rituals, reflecting the festival's deep religious significance across the state.

## Rajasthan takes the lead in India's rare earth minerals mission

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Rajasthan has become the first state to execute an exploration license for Rare Earth Elements under India's new auction-based policy, marking a significant milestone in the country's drive to secure critical mineral supplies. The agreement, finalized on Wednesday, covers a 207.63 square kilometer block across Balotra and Jodhpur districts, where surveys have identified deposits of Lanthanum, Cerium, Praseodymium and Neodymium. These minerals are vital for electric vehicles, semiconductors, defense systems and renewable energy technologies. Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited secured the block through a competitive auction. State officials said the project will encourage scientific exploration, attract private investment and strengthen India's efforts to reduce dependence on imported strategic minerals while supporting advanced manufacturing.

## India's first telecom manufacturing zone to anchor electronics push in Madhya Pradesh

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India took a major step toward expanding domestic electronics production on Thursday as the Central and Madhya Pradesh governments signed a memorandum of understanding to establish the country's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone in Gwalior. Spread across nearly 350 acres, the plug and play facility will receive about \$57.3 million (Rs493 crore) in Central funding for first phase infrastructure. The zone will support research, development and manufacturing of mobile phones, telecom equipment, fiber optic products, semiconductors and next generation 5G and 6G technologies. Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said the project aligns with the goals of Make in India, Digital India and Atmanirbhar Bharat, while creating jobs, attracting investment and strengthening India's position as a global telecommunications manufacturing hub.



## Elon Musk rejects report that Tesla is preparing to separate its China business

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**T**esla Chief Executive Officer Elon Musk dismissed as "fake news" a report claiming the company was considering separating its China operations ahead of a possible merger with SpaceX. The report, published on Thursday, said advisers had discussed options including a spin-off, sale, or closure of Tesla's China business because of potential geopolitical and regulatory challenges tied to SpaceX's role as a major United States defense contractor. Musk denied the claim on social media, saying such discussions had "never even come up." Tesla's Shanghai Gigafactory remains the company's largest manufacturing facility, producing more than 950,000 vehicles annually and serving as a major export hub. Analysts note that any merger would face significant regulatory scrutiny, particularly from Chinese authorities.

## United States lawmakers urge Apple to abandon plans for Chinese memory chip suppliers

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**A**bipartisan group of United States senators has urged Apple to abandon reported plans to source memory chips from Chinese manufacturers CXMT and Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, warning that the move could create national security risks. In a letter released on Wednesday, lawmakers led by Senator Jim Banks and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer argued that relying on suppliers identified by the Pentagon as linked to China's military could increase Apple's long-term dependence on companies connected to Beijing. The senators also questioned whether sourcing the chips would provide meaningful cost savings and requested Apple confirm by Thursday, August 21, that it will not use the components, even in products sold only within China. Apple had not publicly responded to the request at the time of publication.

## China declines global fisheries transparency pact despite scrutiny over illegal fishing

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**C**hina declined to join the Mombasa Declaration at the Our Ocean Conference, opting out of a global agreement designed to improve transparency and combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. A report highlighted that Beijing operates the world's largest distant-water fishing fleet and remains one of the countries most frequently accused of illegal fishing activities.

The declaration, signed by several African nations and other participating countries, supports public disclosure of fishing licenses, vessel ownership, and quota allocations while requiring industrial fishing vessels to carry unique identifiers. The report also cited significant economic losses across African coastal nations linked to illegal fishing by Chinese vessels. It further alleged that Chinese diplomatic pressure prevented Taiwanese representatives from participating in discussions surrounding the transparency initiative.

## India's merchandise exports climb 15 percent despite global trade disruptions, says Piyush Goyal

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia's merchandise exports have grown 15 percent so far in the current fiscal year despite escalating geopolitical tensions and disruptions to major global shipping routes, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Wednesday. Speaking at the Late Shri Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy Tata Memorial Lecture 2026, Goyal said the strong export performance reflects the resilience of India's economy even as businesses worldwide face uncertainty from the conflict in West Asia, volatility in energy markets, and continued disruptions in the Red Sea and the Strait of Hormuz. He noted that the first quarter of the fiscal year has been marked by fluctuating crude oil and natural gas prices, yet India's



export momentum has remained intact. Goyal also highlighted India's 7.7 percent economic growth in the previous financial year, describing the country as the world's fastest-growing major economy. He added that global institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, continue to project India as the fastest-growing large economy despite ongoing global uncertainties and trade challenges.

## Paramount delays Warner Bros. Discovery merger as multistate antitrust lawsuit heads to trial

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**P**aramount Skydance has agreed to pause its proposed \$110 billion acquisition of Warner Bros. Discovery while a federal court considers a multistate antitrust challenge, adding fresh uncertainty to one of the largest media deals in recent years. The agreement, announced on Thursday, delays the transaction until a court ruling or, at the latest, next June. Under the merger terms, Paramount could owe Warner Bros. Discovery shareholders up to \$1.7 billion in

ticking fees if the deal remains unfinished beyond September 30, with penalties accruing at \$7 million per day. California and 11 other states filed suit earlier this month, arguing the merger would create an entertainment giant with excessive market power capable of raising prices across the film and television industries. Paramount said it remains confident it will prevail at trial, while New York Attorney General Letitia James called the delay a significant step toward protecting competition. Paramount shares fell following the announcement, extending the company's losses for the year.

## Gold heads for first monthly gain in five months despite stronger dollar and geopolitical uncertainty

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**G**old prices eased on Friday as a stronger United States dollar prompted investors to lock in profits, but the precious metal remained on track for its first monthly gain in five months. Spot gold slipped about 0.7 percent to around \$4,075 an ounce, while United States gold futures also declined modestly. Analysts said gold has found consistent buying support near the \$4,000 level, helping prices recover from recent declines despite expectations that the Federal Reserve could raise interest rates later this year. Following the central bank's decision on Wednesday to leave rates unchanged, markets are increasingly pricing in a possible rate hike



in September, which could reduce the appeal of non-yielding assets such as gold. Meanwhile, escalating tensions in the Middle East, including a drone strike on gas vessels near Egypt's Damietta port, continue to support safe-haven demand. Platinum and palladium also traded lower on Friday but remained on course to post monthly gains.

## NBCUniversal appoints Christopher Halpin as finance chief ahead of Comcast split

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**N**BCUniversal on Thursday named Christopher Halpin as its next chief financial officer as the company prepares to separate from Comcast and begin operating as an independent publicly traded media company. Halpin joins from People Incorporated, formerly IAC, where he served as chief operating officer and chief financial officer. Before that, he spent nearly a decade at the National Football League, leading digital strategy, sports betting, data initiatives, and international expansion. Comcast announced last month that it would spin off NBCUniversal and Sky, unwinding years of integration as traditional media companies respond to intensifying competition from



streaming platforms. Current finance chief Randy Culbertson will transition to a new role within NBCUniversal. Halpin will report to Mike Cavanagh, Comcast's co-chief executive officer, who is expected to become NBCUniversal's chief executive after the separation is completed.

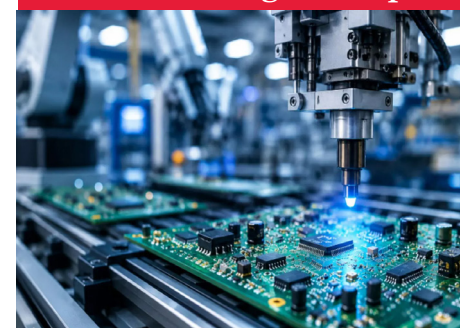
## Marvell to invest \$250 million as India becomes key semiconductor research hub



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**M**arvell Technology announced on Wednesday that it will invest \$250 million in India over the next three years to expand research, engineering talent, and infrastructure as demand for advanced semiconductor technologies accelerates. The investment coincides with the company's 20th anniversary in India and includes plans to double its workforce while expanding operations in Bengaluru and Hyderabad. Marvell said India has grown into its second-largest global research and development center, supporting work on advanced chip design, artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and data infrastructure. The company also operates engineering facilities in Pune and collaborates with universities, startups, and government agencies to strengthen India's semiconductor ecosystem. Company executives said India now plays a central role in developing technologies used by leading global cloud providers and hyperscale computing companies.

## India targets \$500 billion electronics output by 2030 under long-term manufacturing roadmap



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

**I**ndia aims to raise annual electronics and semiconductor production to \$500 billion by 2030 as part of its broader 'Viksit Bharat' strategy to become a developed economy by 2047. Speaking on Thursday at the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce Dialogue 2026, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade Secretary Amardeep Singh Bhatia said the government has translated its long-term vision into sector-specific milestones. He said the electronics industry is expected to expand significantly over the coming decade, creating major manufacturing opportunities. Bhatia also highlighted ongoing regulatory reforms, efforts to improve the ease of doing business, and the role of the Cabinet Secretariat's deregulation cell. He said India's decades-long partnership with Germany and the Indo-German Chamber's extensive membership continue to strengthen bilateral investment and industrial cooperation.



Boeing engineers receive contract proposal as company seeks to avoid another labor disruption

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Boeing delivered a new labor contract proposal to the union representing about 17,000 engineers and technical employees in its commercial airplane business on Thursday, with union negotiators endorsing the tentative agreement ahead of a membership vote. Although the financial terms have not yet been released, the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace said the proposal provides meaningful gains in pay, work-life balance, and other priorities identified by members during negotiations. Union leaders are expected to review the agreement before issuing a formal recommendation next week, while the current contract remains in effect until early October.

A work stoppage could significantly affect Boeing's efforts to secure certification for the 737 MAX 10 and the 777-9, two aircraft programs that have already experienced lengthy delays. The negotiations follow several major labor disputes in recent years, including strikes involving machinists and defense workers, making this contract another important test of Boeing's broader effort to stabilize production and rebuild operations.

Microsoft posts record \$450 billion market value gain as cloud and artificial intelligence outlook lifts shares



● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Microsoft recorded the largest single-day increase in market value by any company on Thursday, adding nearly \$450 billion after reporting stronger-than-expected earnings and an upbeat outlook for its cloud business. The software giant's shares surged more than 15 percent, lifting its market capitalization to about \$3.35 trillion and surpassing the previous record set by Nvidia in 2025. Investors welcomed signs that Microsoft's multibillion-dollar investments in artificial intelligence are translating into stronger revenue growth, particularly through its Azure cloud platform. The company projected Azure revenue growth of 45 percent on a constant-currency basis for the upcoming quarter, exceeding analysts' expectations. Microsoft also reaffirmed its substantial capital spending plans, signaling continued investment in artificial intelligence infrastructure while reassuring markets that those investments are beginning to generate meaningful financial returns.

Meta India executive faces police case over Facebook videos targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Police in Hyderabad registered a case on Friday against the head of Meta's India operations over multiple Facebook videos that allegedly depicted Prime Minister Narendra Modi in an abusive manner, marking the latest dispute between the technology company and the Indian government over online content moderation. Authorities said they are preparing to issue a formal notice to Meta as part of the investigation, although no notice had been served by Friday afternoon. The case follows another recent controversy in which India's Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology summoned Meta executives after Facebook briefly restricted one of Modi's posts. Meta later said the restriction was the result of an inadvertent error. The latest developments come amid heightened political tensions, with Modi facing increased criticism on social media following nationwide student protests that led to the resignation of India's education minister. India is Facebook's largest market by users, making the outcome of the investigation significant for Meta's business and regulatory relationship with the government.

Former Citigroup executive sentenced to 30 years for decade-long sex crimes

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge in New York sentenced former Citigroup managing director Edward Gene Smith to 30 years in prison on Tuesday after he pleaded guilty to multiple sex crimes, receiving child sexual abuse material, and obstructing justice. Prosecutors said Smith carried out the offenses between 2015 and 2024, using his position and promises of financial security to lure vulnerable women before drugging and sexually assaulting them. They also said investigators found tens of thousands of files containing child sexual abuse material. Smith's attorneys argued that autism spectrum disorder contributed to his behavior, but prosecutors rejected that claim, calling it unsupported and offensive. Smith worked at Citigroup from 2021 until his arrest in 2024. Citigroup said it moved to terminate his employment immediately after learning of the criminal investigation and cooperated fully with law enforcement.

EBay agrees to nearly \$50 million settlement over harassment campaign against journalists

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

EBay has agreed to pay nearly \$50 million to resolve a lawsuit brought by Massachusetts journalists David and Ina Steiner, ending more than six years of litigation stemming from a coordinated harassment campaign carried out by former company employees. Announced on Tuesday, the settlement provides \$48.7 million in compensation and an additional \$7 million in charitable donations, including support for First Amendment organizations. The Steiners, founders of the industry newsletter EcommerceBytes, alleged they were targeted with cyberstalking, death threats, anonymous deliveries of live insects, a funeral wreath, and other intimidating acts after publishing critical coverage of the company. Most of the former employees involved have already pleaded guilty to federal charges, while eBay previously paid a \$3 million criminal penalty. The company apologized again, saying the conduct was unacceptable and not representative of its culture.

French regulator fines CNews over broadcasts targeting immigrants and Muslims

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

France's media regulator, Arcom, imposed a 200,000 euro fine on television channel CNews on Wednesday over comments made during two broadcasts that it said violated broadcasting standards on discrimination and responsible journalism. One program linked crime following Paris Saint-Germain's Champions League celebrations to Arab Muslim immigrants, while another promoted the discredited "Great Replacement" conspiracy theory after discussing a Belgian elected official who wore a head covering. Arcom concluded that the remarks encouraged prejudice against Muslims and people of immigrant backgrounds. CNews said it would appeal the ruling. The decision comes weeks after the regulator warned the broadcaster to improve political balance and diversity of viewpoints, placing the network under heightened regulatory scrutiny over its editorial content. The former employees involved have already pleaded guilty to federal charges, while eBay previously paid a \$3 million criminal penalty. The company apologized again, saying the conduct was unacceptable and not representative of its culture.

Johnson & Johnson reaches \$5.5 billion talc settlement to resolve most remaining cancer lawsuits

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Johnson & Johnson announced on Monday that it has agreed to pay an estimated \$5.5 billion to settle approximately 76,000 lawsuits alleging its talc-based products caused ovarian cancer, marking a major step toward ending a decade of litigation. The agreement covers nearly all remaining ovarian cancer claims pending in federal and state courts but does not include future lawsuits. The settlement becomes effective only if 95 percent of eligible claimants approve it. Johnson & Johnson continues to deny that its talc products caused cancer or contained asbestos, saying it chose to settle to bring certainty after years of costly legal battles. The company expects to pay \$3 billion in 2027, with additional payments in 2028. Plaintiff attorneys said the total payout could ultimately exceed \$7 billion, depending on participation and claim values.

Oil prices ease as stronger supply flows offset geopolitical tensions in the Middle East

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Oil prices fell by more than \$1 on Friday, although both major benchmarks remained on track for monthly gains of about 20 percent as improved crude flows through key shipping routes helped ease supply concerns. Brent crude dropped to around \$87.60 a barrel, while West Texas Intermediate fell to about \$82. Analysts said increased tanker movements through the Strait of Hormuz helped offset market anxiety despite the continuing conflict involving the United States and Iran.

Higher freight costs and insurance premiums continue to reflect elevated geopolitical risks, while Saudi Arabia is leading efforts to strengthen maritime security across critical energy corridors, including the Bab el-Mandeb Strait and the Gulf of Aden. Analysts said the market remains supported by persistent supply risks even as prices retreat from recent highs.

Live Nation tops revenue expectations as global concert demand remains strong

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Live Nation Entertainment exceeded Wall Street expectations on Thursday, reporting stronger quarterly revenue as demand for concerts and live events remained resilient despite pressure on discretionary consumer spending. The world's largest concert promoter posted second-quarter revenue of \$7.66 billion, ahead of analysts' estimates, while earnings rose sharply to \$1.05 per share from 41 cents a year earlier. Concert revenue climbed more than 8 percent to \$6.44 billion, supported by packed tours from major international artists across stadiums, arenas, and theaters. The company also said it had sold more than 143 million tickets through mid-July, underscoring continued consumer willingness to spend on live entertainment. The results reinforce expectations that the live events industry remains one of the strongest-performing segments within the broader entertainment sector.

Russia charges Telegram founder Pavel Durov with aiding terrorism as platform pushes back

● IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russian authorities announced on Wednesday that Telegram founder Pavel Durov has been charged with facilitating terrorist activity, alleging that Ukraine used the platform to recruit Russians for sabotage and attacks inside the country. The Federal Security Service said a popular Telegram chatbot was exploited to lure young users into criminal acts, claiming dozens had been arrested over the past year. Telegram responded by posting an image of Durov making an obscene gesture on social media, while Durov has consistently denied wrongdoing and defended the platform's moderation practices. Now based in Dubai, Durov also faces a separate investigation in France over Telegram's handling of criminal content. The latest charges further intensify Russia's long-running campaign to tighten control over digital platforms.



## Italian soccer mourns as AC Milan great Franco Baresi dies at 66

Italian soccer legend and AC Milan icon Franco Baresi died at the age of 66 after battling illness, the Serie A club announced on Friday. Widely regarded as one of the greatest defenders in soccer history, Baresi spent his entire 20-year playing career with AC Milan, winning six Serie A titles, three European Cups and numerous domestic and international trophies. He also captained Italy, earning 81 international appearances and helping the Azzurri win the 1982 FIFA World Cup while leading the team to the 1994 World Cup final. AC Milan retired his iconic No. 6 jersey following his retirement in 1997, and he later served as the club's honorary vice president. Tributes poured in across the soccer world, with the Italian Football Federation describing him as one of the nation's greatest-ever players.

## Swedish club terminates Cal Foote contract after fan backlash

Swedish Hockey League club Färjestad BK terminated defenseman Cal Foote's contract on Thursday, citing objections from fans and discussions with key stakeholders. The 27-year-old Canadian was one of five former Hockey Canada junior players recently acquitted of sexual assault charges stemming from a 2018 incident. Although cleared by the court, Foote's signing sparked criticism among supporters, prompting the club to reverse its decision before he played a game. Foote spent most of last season with the American Hockey League's Chicago Wolves after previously being part of the New Jersey Devils organization. The National Hockey League had suspended the players involved while legal proceedings were ongoing.

## Fractured finger sidelines Shan Masood for second West Indies Test

Pakistan batter Shan Masood has been ruled out of the second Test against the West Indies after suffering a fractured left index finger, the Pakistan Cricket Board confirmed on Thursday. Masood was Pakistan's standout performer in the opening Test, scoring a century despite being struck on the hand by a short ball from fast bowler Jayden Seales. He later batted in visible pain during Pakistan's unsuccessful chase after missing the fielding innings because of the injury. Pakistan lost the first Test by 90 runs, extending its poor run in away Test cricket. Abdullah Shafique, Saud Shakeel and uncapped Awaiz Zafar are among the candidates to replace Masood for the second Test, which begins on Sunday.

## Europe threatens FIFA World Cup boycott over Infantino's private equity push

European soccer has mounted fierce resistance to FIFA President Gianni Infantino's proposal to bring private equity investors into the commercial operations of the FIFA World Cup, with UEFA threatening to boycott all FIFA competitions if the plan moves forward. On Thursday, UEFA and its 55 member associations declared they would withdraw from FIFA tournaments unless the proposal is abandoned, arguing that the World Cup should never be opened to private ownership.

Later the same day, the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football also rejected the proposal, citing concerns over governance, transparency, and the accelerated approval process. FIFA responded on Friday, insisting that "nobody is selling football" and clarifying that the proposed FIFA Forward Enterprise would only proceed with the



approval of its 211 member associations. The backlash has also spread to Asia, where the Asian Football Confederation warned the move could weaken continental competitions. The growing opposition has created the biggest challenge yet to Infantino's leadership ahead of next year's FIFA presidential election.

## Neymar ends iconic Brazil career after 16 years, says 'I gave my blood, my life'

Brazil's all-time leading scorer Neymar has officially announced his retirement from international football, bringing an end to a remarkable 16-year career with the national team. Speaking after Santos' 4-2 Copa Sudamericana victory over Venezuela's Universidad Central on Tuesday, the 34-year-old confirmed he would not return to represent Brazil following the team's Round of 16 exit at the 2026 FIFA World Cup against Norway. Neymar said he leaves with no regrets, insisting he always gave everything for the national team. "My time with the national team is over. I made history, I gave my blood, my life and always fought for the yellow jersey," he said. Neymar retires as Brazil's record goalscorer after featuring in multiple



FIFA World Cups, Copa América tournaments and the Olympics. He also dismissed reports of dressing room tensions at Santos, saying he had merely challenged teammates to raise their standards. Santos' victory secured a place in the Copa Sudamericana Round of 16, where the club will face Ecuador's Macará.

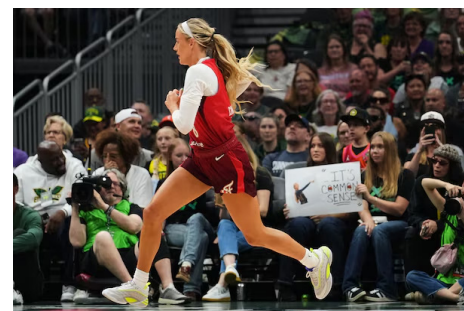
## India's medal momentum builds as Glasgow campaign gathers steam

India's Commonwealth Games campaign continues to gather momentum in Glasgow, with the contingent climbing to 17 medals and sitting 10th in the overall standings after another productive day of competition. The country's tally currently stands at three gold, 10 silver, and four bronze medals, with weightlifting and athletics leading the charge. On Thursday, weightlifter Lovepreet Singh claimed a silver medal after setting a Commonwealth Games snatch record, narrowly missing gold by just one kilogram, while discus thrower Seema Kaliramna added a hard-earned bronze in athletics. Earlier medal-winning performances from Mirabai Chanu, Sharmila Dhankar, and



Dilip Mahadu Gavit accounted for India's three gold medals. India's medal hopes remain strong heading into the final stages of the Games, with Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra leading a full Indian trio into the men's javelin final and decathlete Tejaswin Shankar still firmly in medal contention.

## Storm co-owner suspended after confrontation with fans over Sophie Cunningham signs



Seattle Storm co-owner Celeste Keaton has been fined and suspended from attending the team's next five home games following a confrontation with fans during the Storm's game against the Indiana Fever on Tuesday, the Women's National Basketball Association confirmed on Thursday. According to multiple reports, Keaton directed profanities at two teenage fans carrying signs supporting Fever guard Sophie Cunningham, who recently backed restricting transgender athletes from competing in girls' and women's sports. The Storm accepted the league's disciplinary action and reiterated its commitment to providing a respectful environment for all fans. Cunningham later praised the teenagers on social media, while emphasizing that everyone deserves respect regardless of their views.

## Wimbledon finalists headline star-studded Billie Jean King Cup Finals



Fresh off her Wimbledon triumph, Linda Noskova will lead the Czech Republic's campaign at the Billie Jean King Cup Finals, with Wimbledon runner-up Karolina Muchova also named in the squad. The tournament will be held in Shenzhen, China, from Monday through Saturday, September 22 to 27. Defending champion Italy will rely on world No. 15 Jasmine Paolini as it pursues a third straight title, while host China will pin its hopes on Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen. Other leading players include Kazakhstan's Elena Rybakina and Ukraine's Elina Svitolina and Marta Kostyuk. The quarterfinal lineup features Italy versus China, Kazakhstan versus Spain, Ukraine versus Belgium, and the Czech Republic against Britain, with each tie comprising two singles matches and one doubles match.



## Zimbabwe hails World Cup hosting as landmark moment for cricket

Zimbabwe Cricket chairman Tavengwa Mukuhani said on Friday that hosting matches at the 2027 International Cricket Council Men's Cricket World Cup is a tremendous honor and a vote of confidence in the country's ability to stage global events. Harare, Bulawayo and Victoria Falls have been confirmed as host cities for the tournament, which Zimbabwe will co-host with South Africa and Namibia. Mukuhani said the event will showcase Zimbabwe's cricket, culture and tourism, while Managing Director Givemore Makoni highlighted its long-term benefits for infrastructure, tourism and grassroots cricket.





### Dodgers stay red hot with fourth straight series victory over Mariners



The Los Angeles Dodgers continued their impressive post-All-Star break form with a 6-2 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Thursday, clinching their fourth consecutive series win. Rookie Dalton Rushing powered the offense with a three-run home run, while Mookie Betts contributed a two-run double and Teoscar Hernández added a solo homer in place of resting designated hitter Shohei Ohtani, who sat out with left knee soreness. Rookie pitcher Roki Sasaki struck out seven over 5 1/3 innings to earn his fifth win and lower his earned run average to 1.50 in three starts since the break. Randy Arozarena collected three hits for Seattle, but Bryan Woo surrendered five runs as the Mariners ended their road trip with a disappointing 2-5 record.

### Cole Palmer determined to answer England snub with strong Chelsea season



Chelsea midfielder Cole Palmer says missing England's FIFA World Cup squad has given him extra motivation heading into the new Premier League season. Speaking in Sydney on Friday ahead of Chelsea's preseason clash with Tottenham Hotspur, Palmer admitted being left out by England coach Thomas Tuchel has fueled his desire to prove himself. New Chelsea manager Xabi Alonso praised the 24-year-old's attitude, describing him as a future leader and saying the team will benefit from Palmer returning refreshed after the offseason. Palmer also expressed excitement about linking up with close friend Morgan Rogers, who recently joined Chelsea from Aston Villa in a reported £117 million (\$157.5 million) transfer, saying the pair's contrasting styles could complement each other well on the field.

### From World Cup hero to head coach, Zidane takes charge of France

Zinedine Zidane officially began a new era for French soccer on Tuesday, describing his appointment as France head coach as the realization of a lifelong dream. The former Real Madrid manager signed a four-year contract to replace Didier Deschamps, who stepped down after leading Les Bleus for 14 years. Fighting back emotion during his unveiling, Zidane said he had rejected several club offers over the past five years because coaching France was the only job he wanted after leaving Real Madrid in 2021. The World Cup-winning legend pledged to build an entertaining, attack-minded team while paying tribute to Deschamps for his remarkable achievements, including the 2018 FIFA World Cup title. Zidane, who captained



France to the 1998 World Cup and UEFA Euro 2000 crowns before winning three straight UEFA Champions League titles as Real Madrid coach, will make his managerial debut against Turkey in the UEFA Nations League before leading his first home game against Italy in October.

### Amazon Prime lands exclusive Wednesday NHL package in Canada under new Rogers deal

Amazon Prime Video has significantly expanded its National Hockey League footprint in Canada after securing exclusive rights to broadcast Wednesday night national regular-season games under a new 12-year licensing agreement with Rogers Communications. Announced on Tuesday, the deal also gives Prime Video the rights to stream select Stanley Cup playoff matchups, including two first-round series and one second-round series each season. The agreement aligns with Rogers' 12-year, \$11 billion Canadian media rights partnership with the National Hockey League, which runs through the 2037-38 season. Prime Video will air at least 26 national regular-season games beginning in late September at no additional cost for Canadian Prime members, while Sportsnet will continue to carry most national broadcasts. The agreement comes after Rogers confirmed it would end its long-running



licensing partnership with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, bringing 'Hockey Night in Canada' on the public broadcaster to a close after the 2025-26 season and further accelerating the league's shift toward streaming platforms.

### India secures historic back-to-back bronze at World Junior Squash Championships

India's men's team capped another impressive campaign by winning a second consecutive bronze medal at the World Junior Squash Team Championships after a 2-0 semifinal defeat to the United States in Ontario on Thursday. Gurveer Singh fought hard before losing to Brendan Tagliarini in four games, while top-ranked Aryaveer Dewan went down in straight games to Yaseen Shalaby, sending the United States into the final against defending champion Egypt. Despite the loss, India created history by becoming the first Indian team to claim back-to-back medals at the World Junior Team Championships. The achievement came a day after the



Indian women's team bowed out in the quarterfinals against the United States, underlining India's growing consistency on the global junior squash stage.

### World Boxing restores Russia's full participation ahead of Los Angeles Olympic cycle



World Boxing has lifted all restrictions on Russian athletes, allowing them to compete under the Russian flag instead of as neutral participants. The decision was approved during the governing body's executive committee meeting on Thursday, where officials also discussed hosting rights for major tournaments from 2027 to 2029, including qualification events for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. While Russian boxers will now compete on the same terms as other national teams, World Boxing said it will closely monitor the conduct of Russian delegations and ensure strict compliance with anti-doping rules. The move follows the International Olympic Committee's recent easing of restrictions on Russian sports bodies, signaling a broader push toward Russia's gradual reintegration into international competition.

### Atlanta United transfers Pedro Amador to Hapoel Be'er Sheva



Atlanta United announced on Thursday that Portuguese defender Pedro Amador has completed a permanent transfer to Israeli Premier League club Hapoel Be'er Sheva for an undisclosed fee. The 26-year-old left back joined Atlanta from Portuguese club Moreirense in July 2024 and went on to make 53 appearances across all competitions. During his two seasons with the Major League Soccer club, Amador scored two goals and provided nine assists, becoming a regular presence on the left flank. His departure marks another roster change for Atlanta as the club continues to reshape its squad ahead of the remainder of the Major League Soccer season.

### Geneva picked as neutral venue for Gukesh-Sindarov world title clash

International Chess Federation Interim President Viswanathan Anand said on Monday that Geneva was chosen to host the 2026 World Chess Championship after bids from India, the United States and Cyprus, with the governing body preferring a neutral venue. Reigning champion D. Gukesh will defend his title against Uzbekistan's Javokhir Sindarov from Wednesday, November 25 through Tuesday, December 15. The 14-game match will feature the youngest World Championship finalists in history, with both players aged 20 when the contest begins.



### Pakistan introduces stricter fitness rules for domestic cricketers

The Pakistan Cricket Board has introduced a stricter fitness policy across domestic cricket under sports medicine director Dr. Javed Mughal, according to a report published on Tuesday. The revamped two-tier testing system aims to improve fitness standards and discourage players from skipping domestic matches for franchise leagues. Reports said senior internationals, including Mohammad Rizwan, Saud Shakeel, Fakhar Zaman and Naseem Shah, were also required to complete the new fitness program. All players will undergo mandatory assessments every six months to remain eligible for selection.



## George Clooney vows to help rebuild after wildfire forces family from French home



**G**eorge Clooney and his family were forced to evacuate their home in southeastern France after a wildfire threatened the area, his representatives confirmed on Thursday. In a letter to the mayor of Brignoles, Clooney said he and his wife Amal Clooney did not know whether their home would survive but pledged to help the community recover regardless of the outcome. The wildfire broke out on Wednesday, burning about 100 hectares before firefighters brought it under control. Around 700 residents were temporarily evacuated before being allowed to return home, although helicopters remained on standby as hot, windy conditions persisted. The Clooneys, who received French citizenship last year, have lived primarily at their estate since purchasing the property in 2021 with their twins, Ella and Alexander.

## Recording Academy defends new Grammy category after BTS opts out



**T**he Recording Academy defended its new Best Asian Pop Music Performance category after BTS announced on Wednesday that it would not submit its comeback album 'ARIRANG' for Grammy consideration. In a public statement released on Thursday, Recording Academy Chief Executive Officer Harvey Mason Jr. said he respected the group's decision but rejected suggestions that the new category sidelines Asian artists. He emphasized that the award was created to expand recognition, not limit it, and reminded artists they remain eligible for major honors such as Album, Song, and Record of the Year. BTS said it wanted its music to be judged without being divided by language or region. Despite five previous Grammy nominations, the global K-pop group has never won the award.

## Katy Perry condemns White House for using 'Firework' in Iran strike video

**S**inger Katy Perry has strongly criticized the White House after her hit song 'Firework' was used without permission in a TikTok video featuring footage of United States military strikes on Iran. The video, shared earlier in the week, paired scenes of the military operation with Perry's 2010 anthem, prompting the Grammy-nominated artist to publicly denounce its use. In a post on X, Perry said she was "deeply appalled and angry," stressing that she had neither been consulted nor authorized the use of the song.

She added that 'Firework' was written as an anthem of hope, healing, self-worth, and resilience for people facing personal struggles, making its use alongside images of war and destruction a complete betrayal of the song's message. Perry previously performed the song



during the televised celebrations for President Joe Biden's inauguration in 2021. She joins a growing list of artists objecting to the Trump administration's use of their music in official social media posts. Last month, Ariana Grande also criticized the White House after her song 'Bye' was used in a video promoting immigration enforcement operations.

## Christopher Nolan says romantic comedies are the one genre he fears most

**A**claimed filmmaker Christopher Nolan has revealed that romantic comedies are the one genre he has no plans to tackle because making people laugh is "one of the hardest things in the world." Speaking on 'The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon' on Sunday, the director behind 'The Odyssey', 'Oppenheimer', and 'The Dark Knight' trilogy admitted he would be "terrified" to direct a romantic comedy. Nolan said filmmakers can often explain away dramatic scenes that do not connect with audiences, but comedy offers no such safety net. Interestingly, he expressed interest in making a horror film, saying



his work on 'The Odyssey' convinced him that the genre would be an exciting creative challenge.

## 'Ramayana: Part 1' trailer unveils an epic retelling led by Ranbir Kapoor and Yash

**T**he makers of 'Ramayana: Part 1' unveiled the film's much-awaited trailer on Wednesday, offering the first extended look at one of Indian cinema's most ambitious mythological adaptations. Released in five languages, the trailer follows Lord Ram's journey from Ayodhya to exile, the Surpanakha episode and Sita's abduction by Ravana. Ranbir Kapoor stars as Lord Ram, Sai Pallavi portrays Sita, Yash appears as Ravana, and Ravie Dubey plays Lakshman, while Lara Dutta, Rakul Preet Singh, and Arvind Govil round out the ensemble cast. Directed by Nitesh Tiwari and produced by Namit Malhotra, the film features music



by Hans Zimmer and A.R. Rahman. The project combines Prime Focus Studios, DNEG and Yash's Monster Mind Creations and is scheduled for a worldwide theatrical release during Diwali 2026.

## Sagar Pictures launches seven-film 'Shrimad Bhagavatam' cinematic universe

**S**agar Pictures Entertainment announced 'Shrimad Bhagavatam' on Tuesday, unveiling an ambitious seven-film franchise based on the revered Bhagavata Mahapurana. Developed by Amrit Sagar Chopra and Akash Sagar Chopra, the saga will chronicle the life of Lord Krishna, the avatars of Lord Vishnu, and celebrated devotees including Dhruva and Bharata. Planned as the first complete cinematic adaptation of the scripture, the franchise will also expand through spin-offs and streaming series. Spiritual leader Sri M is overseeing research, while veteran filmmaker Moti Sagar, who co-directed the iconic 1987 television series 'Ramayan', serves as mentor.



Production on the first installment has already begun at Ramoji Film City in Hyderabad, with cinematographer Joel Schaefer and visual effects producer Clwyd Edwards joining the project. More details are expected in the coming months.

## Stephen Colbert honored with free speech award after 'The Late Show' cancellation

**S**tephen Colbert has received an anti-censorship award from the Before Columbus Foundation, just months after CBS canceled 'The Late Show' following an 11-year run. The honor was announced on Wednesday as part of the foundation's 47th American Book Awards, recognizing Colbert's commitment to free expression during a career marked by outspoken political commentary, including frequent criticism of President Donald Trump. CBS has maintained that the show's cancellation was driven by financial considerations, though Colbert and others have questioned that explanation. The foundation also recognized independent bookseller Mitchell Kaplan with the same award and presented honors to several authors and publishers, celebrating literary achievement and diversity across American culture.

## Ram Gopal Varma sparks debate by calling for an end to traditional education



**F**ilmmaker Ram Gopal Varma has stirred fresh controversy after arguing that the current education system should be scrapped in the age of artificial intelligence. In a lengthy post on X shared on Monday, Varma criticized rote learning and questioned whether students should spend years pursuing professional degrees when artificial intelligence can already perform many knowledge-based tasks. Citing artificial intelligence pioneer Geoffrey Hinton, he claimed technology would increasingly replace many conventional roles, particularly in medicine. Varma urged educators and parents to rethink traditional learning models and focus instead on preparing young people for an artificial intelligence-driven future. His comments come amid a broader national debate over education following the NEET-UG 2026 examination controversy.

## Yung Filly convicted on assault charges but cleared of most serious allegations

**A** jury in Western Australia found British entertainer Yung Filly, whose real name is Andres Felipe Valencia Barrientos, guilty on Friday of two assault charges related to biting a woman following a performance in Perth. Jurors acquitted the 30-year-old social media personality and rapper of several rape and choking charges, while failing to reach verdicts on three rape counts that could still be retried. Barrientos broke down in court after the verdicts and remains free on bail until the case returns to court later next month. Prosecutors alleged the woman withdrew consent during the encounter, while Barrientos testified the bites were consensual "love bites." He has denied all allegations since being charged following the 2024 incident.



Friday, 31 July 2026

## Horror master Kiyoshi Kurosawa brings first samurai epic to American audiences

**A**claimed Japanese filmmaker Kiyoshi Kurosawa, best known for atmospheric thrillers such as 'Cure', is bringing his first samurai film, 'The Samurai and the Prisoner', to United States theaters beginning Friday. After earning strong reviews at the Cannes Film Festival and becoming one of his most successful releases in Japan, the film marks a significant departure from the director's signature horror style. Kurosawa said he initially worried about tackling the samurai genre but found inspiration in themes of power, betrayal, and human conflict that remain relevant today. The historical drama blends traditional samurai storytelling with the restrained tension and psychological atmosphere that have defined Kurosawa's celebrated filmmaking career.

## Booker Prize longlist blends literary stars with bold new voices

**T**he Booker Prize announced its 13-book longlist on Tuesday, featuring former winners Marlon James and Douglas Stuart, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Elizabeth Strout, and several emerging writers. Judges selected the semifinalists from 163 novels, with the shortlist spanning historical fiction, science fiction, literary drama, and crime. Three debut novelists also made the cut, including Kenan Orhan, Rebecca Perry, and Djamel White, while veteran author M. John Harrison, 81, became the oldest contender on the list. Judging panel chair Mary Beard described the selection as literary "dynamite" that pushes creative boundaries. Six finalists will be announced later this year before the winner of the prestigious 50,000 pound prize is revealed at a ceremony in London.

## Delhi High Court orders removal of 'Kala Hiran' teaser links in Salman Khan case



**T**he Delhi High Court has directed the removal of social media links promoting the teaser of 'Kala Hiran: The Battle for Legacy' while hearing Salman Khan's personality rights lawsuit against the film's makers. During proceedings on Monday, the court criticized producer Amit Jani, saying he appeared to believe he was "above the law." Jani's legal team argued that the teaser neither mentioned Khan by name nor used artificial intelligence or deepfake technology. Khan's lawyers countered that the film appeared designed to exploit his public image and revive controversy surrounding the 1998 blackbuck poaching case. The movie is reportedly inspired by the case and references the actor's alleged feud with gangster Lawrence Bishnoi.

## Jennifer Aniston and Peter Dinklage headline Olivia Wilde's holiday comedy

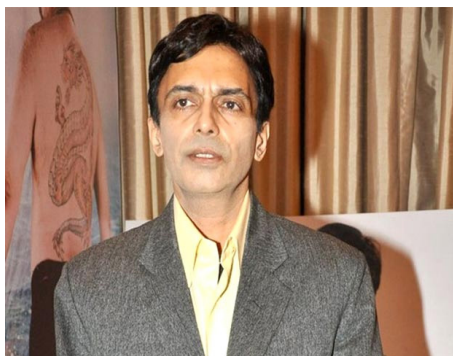
**J**ennifer Aniston and Peter Dinklage have joined forces for Olivia Wilde's upcoming holiday comedy 'Naughty', Universal Pictures confirmed on Tuesday. Aniston will play Mallory, a single mother trying to secure custody of her son, while Dinklage takes on the role of Santa Claus in a story that blends family drama with fantasy. Written by Jimmy Warden, the film follows Mallory's unusual mission to persuade Santa to testify during her divorce proceedings. Originally announced in 2023, the project has been described as 'Bridesmaids' set at the North Pole. Produced by LuckyChap Entertainment, Wilde and Warden, the



film is scheduled to arrive in theaters in November 2027. The casting comes as Aniston prepares for the fifth and final season of 'The Morning Show', while Dinklage continues work on 'Alien: Earth'

## Dev Anand's son Suneil Anand dies at 70 after heart attack in London

**S**uneil Anand, actor and the son of legendary Bollywood icon Dev Anand, has died at the age of 70 after suffering a heart attack in London. He reportedly collapsed while traveling from the United States to India with a stopover in the United Kingdom. Doctors initially planned a stent procedure after evaluating his condition, but he suffered a second cardiac arrest before surgery and could not be revived. In a poignant coincidence, he passed away at the same London hospital where his father died in 2011. Suneil made his acting debut in 'Anand Aur Anand' in 1984, directed by Dev Anand, and later appeared in films including 'Car Thief', 'Main Tere Liye', and



'Master'. Although he stepped away from films early, he remained closely associated with the Anand family's enduring cinematic legacy.

## Kim Kardashian and Kanye West's daughter North West shelves debut tour weeks after EP release

**N**orth West, the 13-year-old daughter of Kim Kardashian and Kanye West, has shelved her first headlining concert tour just weeks after releasing her debut extended play, 'N0rth4evr'. The Kimokawaii Tour was scheduled to begin on Tuesday in Dallas before making stops in Toronto and other cities. Ticketing platforms now list the Dallas and Toronto shows as canceled, while the tour's official website has been taken offline. A San Francisco performance remains listed by the venue, although no official explanation has been provided for the cancellations. North released 'N0rth4evr' in May, marking a major step in her music career after appearing on tracks by her father and FKA Twigs. She



has also voiced a character in 'Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie' and performed at 'The Lion King' 30th anniversary concert at the Hollywood Bowl, continuing to expand her presence in entertainment.

## '60 Minutes' unveils new team as CBS reshapes iconic news program

**C**BS' '60 Minutes' announced a new roster of correspondents and contributors on Tuesday, marking a major step in the program's overhaul ahead of its 59th season. New executive producer Nick Bilton confirmed that former 'CBS Evening News' anchor Norah O'Donnell, The New York Times columnist Ross Douthat, author Sebastian Junger, journalist Gianna Toboni, and London-based broadcaster Trevor Phillips will join the program. They will work alongside longtime correspondents Lesley Stahl, Jon Wertheim, and Bill Whitaker. The appointments follow sweeping leadership changes introduced by CBS editor-in-chief Bari Weiss, including



the departures of executive producer Tanya Simon and correspondents Sharyn Alfonsi, Cecilia Vega, Scott Pelley, and Anderson Cooper. CBS executives described the new lineup as an important step in shaping the program's next chapter after months of newsroom upheaval.

## Film financier Jason Cloth indicted over alleged \$100 million investment fraud

**F**ilm producer and financier Jason Cloth, whose credits include 'Joker' and 'Ghostbusters: Afterlife', was indicted on Tuesday on federal wire fraud charges tied to what prosecutors describe as a \$100 million Ponzi scheme. Authorities allege Cloth raised money from investors by claiming it would finance films and a video game platform but instead diverted funds to unrelated ventures, including Canadian real estate projects and payments to earlier investors. The seven-count indictment, unsealed in Chicago, carries potential prison sentences of up to 20 years on each count. Cloth was arrested in Los Angeles and is also facing civil lawsuits and regulatory proceedings in Canada over similar allegations involving entertainment investment funds.

## Savannah Guthrie issues emotional plea as mother's disappearance nears six months



**S**avannah Guthrie released an emotional video appeal on Monday, urging anyone responsible for her mother Nancy Guthrie's disappearance to reveal where she can be found. The 'Today' show co-anchor said her family continues to live through an "unending nightmare" nearly six months after the 84-year-old vanished from her Arizona home. Investigators believe Nancy Guthrie was abducted after blood was discovered outside her residence, while surveillance footage captured a masked individual near the property. Although several ransom messages have surfaced, the Federal Bureau of Investigation says only some remain under investigation as potentially legitimate. The family has offered a \$1 million reward for information leading to Nancy Guthrie's recovery and says it will never stop searching.

## Judge sends singer D4vd to trial in killing of 14-year-old girl

**A**Los Angeles judge ruled on Monday that there is enough evidence for singer D4vd, whose legal name is David Burke, to stand trial in the killing of 14-year-old Celeste Rivas Hernandez. Burke has pleaded not guilty to charges including murder, continuous sexual abuse of a child under 14, and unlawful mutilation of human remains. Prosecutors allege he killed the teenager after she threatened to expose their relationship, then dismembered her body, which was later discovered in the trunk of his Tesla. During the preliminary hearing, prosecutors presented text messages, forensic evidence, and purchase records for chain saws and body bags. The judge also found probable cause for special circumstances that could make Burke eligible for the death penalty. He remains jailed without bail, with arraignment scheduled for Sunday.



IndoUS Tribune की भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा — गोवा अध्याय (प्रथम पड़ाव)

# श्री मंगेशी मंदिर — आस्था, इतिहास और सनातन संस्कृति का अमर प्रतीक गोवा से विशेष



IndoUS Tribune की विशेष श्रृंखला “भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा” के अंतर्गत हम आंध्र प्रदेश, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, असम, बिहार और छत्तीसगढ़ के अनेक दिव्य, ऐतिहासिक एवं आध्यात्मिक मंदिरों की सफल यात्रा पूर्ण कर चुके हैं। इन यात्राओं ने हमें भारत की सांस्कृतिक विविधता, प्राचीन परंपराओं, लोक आस्थाओं और सनातन विरासत की अद्भुत झलक प्रदान की है। अब हमारी यह पावन यात्रा भारत के पश्चिमी तट पर स्थित प्राकृतिक सौंदर्य, समृद्ध कोंकणी संस्कृति और सनातन आस्था से अनुप्राणित राज्य गोवा में प्रवेश कर रही है। विश्वभर में अपने समुद्र तटों के लिए प्रसिद्ध गोवा केवल पर्यटन का केंद्र ही नहीं, बल्कि सदियों पुरानी हिंदू धार्मिक परंपराओं, भव्य मंदिरों और अटूट सांस्कृतिक विरासत का भी गौरवशाली धाम है।

इस विशेष श्रृंखला में IndoUS Tribune गोवा के प्रमुख और पूजनीय मंदिरों की यात्रा करेगा। हमारी इस नई यात्रा का प्रथम पड़ाव है श्री मंगेशी मंदिर, जो भगवान शिव के मंगेश स्वरूप को समर्पित लगभग 450 वर्ष पुराना एक अत्यंत प्रतिष्ठित तीर्थ है। पुर्तगाली शासनकाल के दौरान अपनी मूल भूमि से सुरक्षित स्थान पर स्थापित किया गया यह मंदिर हिंदू आस्था, सांस्कृतिक संरक्षण, धार्मिक सहनशीलता और सनातन संस्कृति की अदम्य जीवन्तता का जीवंत प्रतीक है। अपनी पौराणिक कथा, ऐतिहासिक महत्व और मनोहारी स्थापत्य के कारण यह मंदिर आज भी गोवा के सबसे अधिक श्रद्धापूर्वक दर्शन किए जाने वाले तीर्थस्थलों में से एक है।

## पौराणिक कथा : “माम गिरीश” से बना “मंगेश”

श्री मंगेशी मंदिर की महिमा केवल उसके इतिहास में ही नहीं, बल्कि उससे जुड़ी पौराणिक कथा में भी निहित है। जनश्रुति के अनुसार एक बार भगवान शिव देवी पार्वती के साथ चौसर का खेल खेल रहे थे। खेल में पराजित होने के बाद भगवान शिव कैलाश छोड़कर गोवा के कुशस्थली क्षेत्र के घने वनों में आ गए। जब माता पार्वती उन्हें खोजते हुए वहाँ पहुँचीं, तब भगवान शिव ने उनकी परीक्षा लेने के लिए स्वयं को एक भयंकर बाघ

के रूप में धारण कर लिया।

अचानक सामने बाघ को देखकर माता पार्वती भयभीत हो उठीं और उनके मुख से निकला— “त्राहि माम गिरीश”, अर्थात् “हे पर्वतराज के स्वामी, मेरी रक्षा कीजिए।” भगवान शिव तत्काल अपने वास्तविक स्वरूप में प्रकट हुए। कालांतर में “माम गिरीश” शब्द लोकभाषा में परिवर्तित होकर “मंगेश” बन गया और भगवान शिव इसी नाम से गोवा में पूजे जाने लगे।

## संघर्ष और संरक्षण का इतिहास

श्री मंगेशी मंदिर का इतिहास हिंदू समाज की आस्था और साहस का प्रेरक उदाहरण है। मूल रूप से यह मंदिर जुआरी नदी के तट पर स्थित कुशस्थली (वर्तमान कोर्टालिम) में स्थापित था। सोलहवीं शताब्दी में गोवा पर पुर्तगाली शासन स्थापित होने के बाद अनेक हिंदू मंदिरों को नष्ट किया गया और जबरन धर्मांतरण की घटनाएँ बढ़ीं।

ऐसी परिस्थितियों में मंदिर के सेवकों और कुलवियों ने भगवान मंगेश के पवित्र शिवलिंग को रात्रि के अंधकार में सुरक्षित निकालकर जुआरी नदी पार पोंडा क्षेत्र के प्रियोल गाँव पहुँचा दिया, जो उस समय आदिलशाही शासन के अधीन था। वर्ष 1560 में भगवान मंगेश की पुनः प्रतिष्ठा यहीं की गई। यह केवल एक प्रतिमा का स्थानांतरण नहीं था, बल्कि सनातन परंपरा, धार्मिक स्वतंत्रता और सांस्कृतिक पहचान को सुरक्षित रखने का ऐतिहासिक संकल्प था।

बाद के वर्षों में मराठा शासकों और उनके सेनानायकों ने मंदिर के पुनर्निर्माण और विस्तार में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया। समय-समय पर मंदिर का जीर्णोद्धार होता रहा तथा वर्ष 1973 में मंदिर के शिखर पर स्वर्ण कलश की स्थापना के साथ इसका एक महत्वपूर्ण पुनरुद्धार पूर्ण हुआ।

## अद्भुत स्थापत्य और आध्यात्मिक वातावरण

गोवा के मंदिरों की स्थापत्य शैली भारत के अन्य भागों

से अलग और विशिष्ट पहचान रखती है। श्री मंगेशी मंदिर इसका उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण है। मंदिर का भव्य श्वेत रंग, सुंदर गुंबद, आकर्षक स्तंभ, विशाल सभा मंडप और शांत वातावरण श्रद्धालुओं को पहली ही दृष्टि में आकर्षित कर लेते हैं।

मंदिर परिसर का सबसे आकर्षक केंद्र सात मंजिला दीपस्तंभ है, जो विशेष अवसरों पर दीपों से आलोकित होकर अद्भुत दृश्य प्रस्तुत करता है। परिसर में स्थित प्राचीन जलकुंड मंदिर की सबसे पुरानी घरोहरों में माना जाता है। विशाल सभा मंडप में एक साथ सैकड़ों श्रद्धालु बैठकर पूजा-अर्चना और धार्मिक कार्यक्रमों में भाग ले सकते हैं। मंदिर परिसर में श्रद्धालुओं के ठहरने की भी व्यवस्था उपलब्ध है।

## कुलदेवता के रूप में विशेष महत्व

भगवान मंगेश केवल गोवा के एक प्रतिष्ठित देवालय के आराध्य नहीं हैं, बल्कि वे विशेष रूप से गौड़ सारस्वत ब्राह्मण समुदाय सहित अनेक हिंदू परिवारों के कुलदेवता के रूप में पूजे जाते हैं। पीढ़ियों से हजारों परिवार अपने शुभ कार्यों, संस्कारों और धार्मिक अनुष्ठानों से पहले भगवान मंगेश का आशीर्वाद प्राप्त करना अपना सौभाग्य मानते हैं।

## पूजा-पद्धति और धार्मिक उत्सव

श्री मंगेशी मंदिर में प्रतिदिन वैदिक परंपरा के अनुसार विभिन्न पूजाएँ सम्पन्न होती हैं। प्रातःकाल अभिषेक, लघुरुद्र और महारुद्र जैसे विशेष अनुष्ठान किए जाते हैं। दोपहर में महाआरती तथा रात्रि में पंचोपचार पूजा संपन्न होती है।

प्रत्येक सोमवार भगवान मंगेश की पालकी शोभायात्रा निकाली जाती है, जिसे शिबिकोत्सव कहा जाता है। यह दृश्य श्रद्धालुओं के लिए अत्यंत भावपूर्ण होता है। इसके अतिरिक्त महाशिवरात्रि, रामनवमी, नवरात्रि, दशहरा, दीपावली, अक्षय तृतीया तथा माघ पूर्णिमा का भव्य जात्रोत्सव मंदिर के प्रमुख धार्मिक उत्सव हैं, जिनमें देश-विदेश से हजारों श्रद्धालु

सम्मिलित होते हैं।

## गोवा की सांस्कृतिक आत्मा

श्री मंगेशी मंदिर केवल पूजा-अर्चना का स्थान नहीं, बल्कि गोवा की जीवंत सांस्कृतिक पहचान का प्रतीक भी है। यह मंदिर उस ऐतिहासिक यात्रा का साक्षी है जिसमें कठिन परिस्थितियों के बावजूद सनातन परंपराओं को सुरक्षित रखा गया। यहाँ धर्म, इतिहास, कला, स्थापत्य और कोंकणी संस्कृति एक साथ मिलकर भारतीय सभ्यता की निरंतरता का संदेश देते हैं।

आज भी मंदिर का शांत वातावरण, नियमित धार्मिक आयोजन और सदियों से चली आ रही परंपराएँ प्रत्येक श्रद्धालु को आध्यात्मिक शांति तथा सांस्कृतिक गौरव का अनुभव कराती हैं।

IndoUS Tribune की “भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा” का गोवा अध्याय यह दर्शाता है कि भारत की आध्यात्मिक विरासत केवल प्राचीन मंदिरों तक सीमित नहीं, बल्कि संघर्ष, संरक्षण और सनातन आस्था का अमर गाथा भी है। श्री मंगेशी मंदिर इस सत्य का सजीव प्रमाण है कि समय, परिस्थितियाँ और आक्रमण बदल सकते हैं, किंतु श्रद्धा, संस्कृति और धार्मिक पहचान की जड़ें कभी समाप्त नहीं होतीं। अपनी अद्भुत स्थापत्य शैली, पौराणिक महिमा और ऐतिहासिक विरासत के साथ यह मंदिर आज भी लाखों श्रद्धालुओं के लिए आस्था, प्रेरणा और सांस्कृतिक गौरव का केंद्र बना हुआ है।

अब हमारी यह पावन यात्रा गोवा के एक और अत्यंत पूजनीय शक्ति पीठ—कवलेम स्थित श्री शांतादुर्गा मंदिर—की ओर आगे बढ़ेगी। वहाँ हम देवी शांतादुर्गा की दिव्य महिमा, गोवा की समृद्ध कोंकणी परंपराओं, अद्वितीय मंदिर वास्तुकला और सदियों से चली आ रही धार्मिक विरासत के एक और प्रेरणादायी अध्याय से अपने पाठकों का परिचय कराएँगे।



# बाल्मीकि रामायण में छिपे कुछ विरले प्रसंग सीता जी के दूसरे वनवास का असली कारण

हम सब जानते हैं कि, सीता जी ने अपने जीवनकाल में दो वनवास भोगे। एक तो रामजी के साथ, चौदह वर्षों का, उनका वचन निभाने के लिए, और दूसरा रामजी के राज्याभिषेक के बाद, जब वह गर्भवती थीं। दूसरे वनवास के बारे में, आम धारणा यह है कि, उस समय समाज में रामजी की निंदा आरम्भ हो गई थी कि, वह एक ऐसी स्त्री को घर ले आए थे, जो बहुत दिनों तक रावण के आधीन थीं। उसके चरित्र को पवित्र नहीं माना गया। इस कथा को तुलसी बाबा ने बिल्कुल नहीं उठाया। लेकिन वाल्मीकि रामायण में जब यह कथा आती है, तो वहाँ एक श्राप का उल्लेख आता है जिसके चलते, प्रभु राम को यह वियोग झेलना पड़ा। इस लेख में हम इसी विषय को विस्तार से परखने का प्रयास करेंगे।

सीता जी की पवित्रता को लेकर तुलसी बाबा बड़े सजग थे। तुलसी के रामचरितमानस में जब अरण्यकाण्ड में रामजी राक्षसों से घिर गए, तो उन्हें यह आभास हो गया था कि, सीता पर कोई महान संकट आने वाला है। इसी लिए उन्होंने एक दिन, जब लक्ष्मण जी फल फूल लेने बाहर गए हुए थे, तो सीता को अग्नि में प्रवेश करने के सलाह दीं। ताकि जो कुछ भी घटित हो, वह सीता की प्रतिष्ठा के साथ ही घटित हो। तुलसी बाबा के अनुसार, जब रावण ने सीता का अपहरण किया, तो केवल छाया का अपहरण किया। रावण युद्ध के बाद जब सीता जी रामजी के निकट लाई गईं, तो उन्हें अग्नि परीक्षा देने को कहा गया, ताकि सब का संदेह दूर हो सके।

सुनहु प्रिया ब्रत रुचिर सुसीला,  
मैं कछु करबि ललित नरलीला  
तुम्ह पावक मूँ करहु निवासा,  
जों लगि करों निसाचर नासा

जबहि राम सब कहा बरवानी,  
प्रभु पद धरि हियँ अनल समानी  
निज प्रतिबिंब राखि तहाँ सीता,  
तैसइ सील रूप सुविनीता

लेकिन जब रामजी वनवास के बाद अयोध्या लौट आए, तो उनका राज्याभिषेक बड़ी धूम धाम के साथ किया गया। पूरी अयोध्या ने दीपावली मनाई। इसके बाद सभी भाई बड़े आनन्द से रहने लगे। जीवन का सुख वैभव भोगने लगे। उसी बीच सीता जी गर्भवती हो गईं। लोकपवाद से जुड़े होने के कारण, तुलसी बाबा ने, इसके बाद की कथा को आगे नहीं बढ़ाया। लेकिन ऋषि वाल्मीकि ने इसका विस्तार से उल्लेख किया। एक दिन जब रामजी अकेले थे, तब उनके सचिव भद्र ने रामजी से, सीता के चरित्र को लेकर, समाज हो रही बहुत सी बातों का जिक्र, उनसे किया। उसमें रामजी की छवि धूमिल पड़ रही थी।

कीदंशं हृदये तस्य सीतासं भोगजं सुखम् ।  
अङ्कमारोप्य तु पुरा रावणेन बलाद्धताम्॥ 17॥  
लङ्कामपि पुरा नीतामशाकवनिनां गताम् । रक्षसां  
वशमापन्नां कथं रामो न कुत्सयति ॥18॥  
अस्माकमपि दारेषु सहनीयं भविष्यति ।  
यथा हि कुरुते राजा प्रजा स्तमनुवर्तते ॥19॥

प्रजा खुले आम सीता के बारे बातें कर रही थीं। पहले तो रावण सीता को बलपूर्वक गोदी में उठा कर लौका ले आया। उसे कुछ दिन अपने अंतःपुर में रखा, फिर उसको, अशोक वन में, बन्दी बनाए रखा, इस सबके बाद भी रामजी सीता को, आदर सहित स्वीकार कर, अयोध्या लावा लाए, और अपनी रानी का सर्वोच्च पद प्रदान किया। इस सबका हमारी स्त्रियों पर बुरा असर पड़ रहा है। हमारे राजा का यह व्यवहार उचित नहीं है।

यह कहानी जगत्प्रसिद्ध है कि, रामजी ने लोकपवाद से बचने के लिए तथा राज्य की मर्यादा को बनाए रखने के लिए, सब परिवारजनों से सलाह के बाद सीता को दूसरी बार वनवास दिया। लेकिन यही एक मात्र कारण? वाल्मीकि ऋषि के अनुसार नहीं है। दूसरी बार भी सीता को वनवास भेजने का दायित्व लक्ष्मण को सौंपा गया।

ऋषीणां चैव सर्वेषामपापां जनकात्मजाम् । एवं शुद्धसमाचारा  
देव गन्धर्व सन्निभो ॥ 9 ॥  
लङ्काद्वीपे महेन्द्रेण मम हस्ते निवेशिता ।  
अन्तरात्मा च मे वेत्ति सीतां शुद्धां यथस्विनीम् ॥10॥



रामजी भली भाँति जानते थे कि, सीता पूरी तरह से पवित्र हैं। पर उनपर मर्यादा की रक्षा का भार था। उन्होंने सीता को अपनी दुविधा बताई। सीता ने पति के कर्तव्य के लिए, एक बार फिर बलिदान दिया। जब रामजी ने सभी भाइयों से सलाह की तो, कोई भी सीता माँ को वनवास भेजने के पक्ष में नहीं था। सभी ने अपवाद को अनदेखा करने की सलाह दी। लेकिन रामजी अपने कर्तव्य पर अडिग टिके रहे।

जब लक्ष्मण थोड़ी आनाकानी करने लगा, रामजी ने उसे एक राजा की भाँति आदेश देकर विवश कर दिया। लक्ष्मण जी माँ सीता के पास जाकर, अपनी विवशता प्रगट करने लगे। सीता जी ने मुस्कुराते हुए, उसे अपने कर्तव्य का पालन करने को प्रोत्साहित किया।

एवमुक्तः सुमन्त्रेण राजवेश्मनि लक्ष्मणः ।  
प्रविश्य सीतामासाद्य व्याजहार नरषभः ॥6॥  
स्वया किलेष नूपतिवर ये वाचितः प्रभुः ।  
नृपेण च प्रतिज्ञातमाजसश्राश्रमं प्रति ॥ 7॥

लक्ष्मण ने अयोध्या के सचिव और सारथी सुमन्त्र जी से रथ तैयार करने का अनुरोध किया। रथ के आते ही, वह माँ सीता के सम्मुख जा खड़े हुए, और प्रार्थना करने लगे। सीता जी के मुख पर तनिक भी रोष या अप्रसन्नता नहीं थी। वह पति की आज्ञा के पालन को सहर्ष तत्पर दिखाई पड़ीं। उन्हें यह विश्वास था कि, यह सब जन कल्याण के लिए किया जा रहा है। और वह इस पुण्य कार्य में सहयोग दे पा रही हैं। लेकिन लक्ष्मण जी इस काम को बड़े उदास मन से कर रहे थे।

जब लक्ष्मण सीता जी को ऋषि वाल्मीकि के आश्रम में छोड़ कर लौट रहा था, तो उसके मन में बहुत ग्लानि थी। उसका उदास मुँह देख सारथी सुमन्त्र उसे समझाने लगे:

दृष्टा तु मेथिलीं सीतामाश्रमे संप्रवेशिताम् ।  
सन्तापमगमदघोरं लक्ष्मणो दीनचेतनः ॥ 1 ॥

सुमन्त्र लक्ष्मण को एक रहस्यमयी कथा सुना कर उसे

सांत्वना देने का प्रयास करने लगे। सुमन्त्र ने बताया कि, उन्हें एक कथा ज्ञात है, जिसे महाराज दशरथ ने गुप्त रखने को कहा था। लेकिन मैं आज तुम्हारा विषाद देख कर उसे तुम पर प्रगट करने को विवश हूँ।

इस कथा में सुमन्त्र ने एक श्राप का उल्लेख किया, जो राम सीता के वियोग का प्रमुख कारण था। आखिर वह श्राप था क्या?

यद्यप्यहं नरेन्द्रेण रहस्यं श्रावितं पुरा ।  
तथाप्युदाहरिष्यामि दैवं हि दुरतिक्रमम् ॥18॥  
येनेदमीदृशं प्राप्त दुःखं शोकसमन्वितम् ।  
न त्वया भरतस्याग्रे शत्रु ध्नस्यापि सन्निधौ ॥19॥

एक बार महाराज दशरथ दुर्वासा आदि ऋषियों के पास बैठे थे और सत्संग चल रहा था। वहाँ गुरुवर वशिष्ठ भी थे। राजा दशरथ ने अपने पुत्र राम के भविष्य के बारे में कुछ प्रश्न पूछे। उसके उत्तर में ऋषि अत्रि पुत्र दुर्वासा बोले।

प्राचीन काल में एक देवासुर संग्राम में देवता और दैत्य भिड़ पड़े। देवताओं से मार खाने पर, दैत्य सेना ऋषि भृगु की पत्नी के पास शरण माँगने आई। दयालु ऋषि पत्नी ने उन्हें शरण देकर, अभय दान दे दिया। जब भगवान विष्णु को, भृगु पत्नी के इस कार्य के बारे में पता चला तो वह कुपित हो गए। उस क्रोध के आवेश में उन्होंने ऋषि पत्नी का सिर अपने सुदर्शन चक्र से काट डाला।

ततस्तां निहतां दृष्टा पत्नी भृगुकुलोद्भूतः ।  
शशाप सहसा क्रुद्धो विष्णो रिपुकुलादेनम् ॥14॥  
यस्मादवध्यां मे पत्नीमवधीः क्रोधमूर्च्छितः तस्मात्वं मानुषे  
लोके जनिष्यसि जनार्दन ॥15॥

जब ऋषि भृगु आश्रम लौटे तो अपनी पत्नी को मृत देख मूर्छित हो गए। जब उन्हें होश आया और विष्णु जी के कृत्य का पूरा पता चला तो वह भी कुपित हो गए। रोते हुए बोले, महाराज विष्णु, मेरी पत्नी वध योग्य नहीं थी। आपने क्रोध वश उसका वध कर दिया। अब मैं भी आपको श्राप देता हूँ

कि, आपको त्रेतायुग में राम अवतार लेना होगा, और वहाँ आपको लम्बे काल तक पत्नी वियोग सहन करना होगा। जैसे मैं पत्नी विरह में तड़प रहा हूँ, एक दिन तुम्हें भी पत्नी वियोग सहना होगा। वोह भी अकारण, तुमसे दूर चली जाएगी।

तब तक भगवान विष्णु का क्रोध शान्त ही चुका था, उन्हें अपनी भूल का अहसास भी हुआ, लेकिन तब तक काफ़ी देर हो चुकी थी। सामने महा तपस्वी ऋषि भृगु थे। उनकी तपस्या को सम्मान देना अति आवश्यक था। और इस प्रकार विष्णु महाराज ने श्राप सहज स्वीकार कर लिया।

लोकानां क्वसंप्रियाथ तु तं शापं ग्रह्यमुक्तवान् ।  
इति शप्तो महातेजा भूयुषा पूर्वजन्मनि ॥18 ॥  
इहागते हि पुत्र त्वं तव पार्थिवसत्तम । राम  
इत्यभिविख्यातसिषु लोकेषु मानद ॥ 19 ॥

इस प्रकार त्रेता युग में महाराज विष्णु राम अवतार में अवतरित हुए और ऋषि भृगु के श्राप का मान रखते हुए, जन कल्याण एवं सामाजिक मर्यादा के लिए तरह तरह के कष्ट झेले। ऐसे प्रभु राम जो अपने भक्तों के लिए कुछ भी कर सकते हैं, हमें अपनी कृपा से, हमेशा सुरक्षा कवच प्रदान करते रहें। प्रभु के श्री चरणों में मेरा सादर प्रणाम!!

“जय श्री राम”



Rajendra Kapil  
Phone: 847-962-1291





# The sky is no longer the limit

AIRBUS' RECORD FLIGHT SIGNALS A NEW ERA OF GLOBAL CONNECTIVITY, AND INDIA'S STRATEGIC MOMENT

By: Dr. Avi Verma

The Airbus A350-1000ULR's record-breaking nonstop flight from Melbourne to Toulouse, completed in 24 hours and 24 minutes, is far more than an engineering achievement. It marks a pivotal moment in global aviation, one that has the potential to reshape diplomacy, commerce, and people-to-people ties across the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

For decades, advances in aviation have brought nations closer, accelerated trade, and strengthened international partnerships. Airbus and Qantas' Project Sunrise represents the next leap in that journey. When Qantas launches nonstop flights from Sydney to London and New York in 2027, it will eliminate one of commercial aviation's last major obstacles: distance. The significance extends well beyond shorter travel times.

It reflects the Indo-Pacific's emergence as the world's new economic and strategic center. Over the past two decades, global influence has steadily shifted toward this region, where India, Australia, Japan, the United States, and other democratic partners are deepening cooperation in trade, technology, security, and investment. Aviation is becoming a critical enabler of that transformation.

Modern diplomacy is driven not only by government agreements but also by the movement of business leaders, researchers, students, entrepreneurs, tourists, and families. Every new nonstop route

“

FOR DECADES, ADVANCES IN AVIATION HAVE BROUGHT NATIONS CLOSER, ACCELERATED TRADE, AND STRENGTHENED INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS. AIRBUS AND QANTAS' PROJECT SUNRISE REPRESENTS THE NEXT LEAP IN THAT JOURNEY.

strengthens these connections and creates new opportunities for collaboration.

For India, the implications are especially significant. India is one of the world's fastest-growing aviation markets. Expanding airport infrastructure, rising incomes, and growing international travel are expected to make Indian passengers among the largest users of long-haul air services over the next decade.

Although Project Sunrise will initially connect Australia directly with Europe and North America, its technological breakthrough has wider implications. As aircraft continue to push the limits of range, nonstop services linking Indian cities with Australia, the eastern United States, and even Latin America become increasingly realistic. Such routes could

strengthen trade, investment, tourism, and reinforce India's position as a bridge between East and West.

The benefits extend across sectors. Faster travel supports global supply chains by enabling quicker executive mobility. Technology partnerships rely on face-to-face collaboration. Universities gain from greater academic exchanges, while medical tourism, international conferences, and cultural diplomacy all become more accessible when travel is simpler and more direct.

The impact will also be felt by India's global diaspora, now numbering more than 35 million people. Shorter journeys mean stronger family connections, easier business travel, and closer cultural ties between communities spread across India, North America, Europe, Australia, and beyond.

Project Sunrise also highlights the value of international collaboration. Combining European aerospace innovation, Australian airline leadership, and global engineering expertise, it reflects the same spirit of cooperation that underpins initiatives such as the Quad and broader Indo-Pacific partnerships.

History has repeatedly shown that connectivity drives progress. Railways transformed economies in the nineteenth century. Commercial aviation connected continents in the twentieth. In the twenty-first century, ultra-long-haul flights are becoming another foundation of globalization, supporting resilient

supply chains, stronger alliances, and deeper international engagement.

Challenges remain. Ultra-long-haul travel must continue improving passenger comfort, operational efficiency, and environmental sustainability. Airbus has addressed many of these concerns through greater fuel efficiency, lighter aircraft systems, improved cabin humidity, circadian lighting, and dedicated wellness spaces designed to reduce fatigue during flights lasting nearly an entire day.

The broader message, however, is clear. The Airbus A350-1000ULR's historic journey demonstrates how technology continues to reshape the world, not by changing geography, but by making it more accessible.

For India, whose economic ambitions are increasingly global, that is an important development. As New Delhi strengthens partnerships with Washington, Canberra, Tokyo, Brussels, and London, direct long-haul air links will become as strategically valuable as digital infrastructure and maritime corridors. They will carry investors, innovators, students, diplomats, and ideas that drive economic growth and international cooperation.

The record-breaking flight from Melbourne to Toulouse is therefore more than an aviation milestone. It is a glimpse of a future where geography matters less, connectivity matters more, and the strength of relationships, rather than the distance between nations, defines global influence.



# INDIAN EXECUTIVE CHEF WINS NATIONAL CULINARY MEDAL, BRINGING HIMALAYAN CUISINE TO THE FOREFRONT

● By: IndoUS Staff Writer

Executive Chef Surendra Rawat of India Palace Restaurant in Wheaton has earned national recognition after winning a Bronze Medal in the Chef's Creation category at the 2026 American Culinary Federation (ACF) National Convention Food Sport Competition, an achievement that highlights the growing presence of Indian cuisine in mainstream American culinary competitions.

Held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the competition is sanctioned by the American Culinary Federation in partnership with the World Food Championships and is regarded as one of the country's leading professional culinary contests. Competitors are required to prepare an original dish within one hour using designated ingredients while demonstrating technical skill, creativity, presentation, and flavor development.

Unlike traditional competitions that rank participants by finishing position, ACF medals are awarded only to chefs who meet predetermined scoring benchmarks. Bronze medals require a score between 70 and 79.99 based on the federation's E.A.T.™ judging methodology, which evaluates taste (50%), execution (35%), and appearance (15%).

Rawat competed against professional chefs from across the United States,



including Certified Executive Chefs and other ACF-certified culinary leaders. His recognition places an Indian chef among the national medalists at a competition where European and American culinary traditions have historically been more prominent.

### From Uttarakhand to national recognition

Originally from Bajarkhora in the Almora district of Uttarakhand, India, Rawat has more than 16 years of culinary experience, including over nine years in

executive leadership roles. He currently serves as Executive Chef at India Palace Restaurant in Wheaton, where he specializes in Indian, Himalayan, North Indian, Indo-Chinese, bakery, and pastry cuisine.

### Preserving Himalayan culinary heritage

Beyond the competition circuit, Rawat has become an advocate for the traditional food culture of Uttarakhand. Through culinary demonstrations, educational programs, and professional presentations, he has introduced American chefs and

“

HELD IN GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, THE COMPETITION IS SANCTIONED BY THE AMERICAN CULINARY FEDERATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WORLD FOOD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND IS REGARDED AS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S LEADING PROFESSIONAL CULINARY CONTESTS.

culinary students to regional ingredients such as finger millet (ragi), barnyard millet (jhangora), black soybean (bhatt), horse gram (gehat), pahadi loon, and Malta, a citrus fruit native to the Himalayan region.

His educational efforts have included presenting Himalayan cuisine at the 2026 ACF National Convention, leading an ACF Chef's Table webinar on Uttarakhand's culinary heritage, conducting demonstrations at the Wheaton Public Library, and serving as a judge for regional and state culinary competitions organized by SkillsUSA and FCCLA. He has also participated in industry discussions through the Illinois Restaurant Association.

### Professional affiliations and honors

Rawat is an active member of the American Culinary Federation, the ACF Chicago Chefs Chapter, the Indian Culinary Forum, and the Chef Guilds of India.

His professional accomplishments have also earned broader recognition. He has been featured in Marquis Who's Who in America and the ACF's National Culinary Review magazine, received India's Most Promising Food Icon Award 2026, and was honored by the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand for promoting the state's culinary heritage.

Earlier this year, Rawat published The Mountain Kitchen: A Journey from the Mountains of Himalayas to American Kitchen, a memoir and cookbook chronicling his journey from rural Uttarakhand to leading professional kitchens in the United States while preserving the traditions of his homeland.

For the growing Indian American culinary community, Rawat's national medal represents more than an individual achievement. It reflects increasing recognition of Indian and Himalayan cuisine within the broader American culinary profession and underscores the expanding role of immigrant chefs in shaping the country's evolving food culture.





# Akshaya Patra Michigan Chapter's Golf Classic drives support for children's school meals

By: Prachi Jaitly

The Michigan Chapter of Akshaya Patra USA successfully hosted its second annual Golf Classic on Saturday, July 19, bringing together community leaders, golfers, sponsors, and philanthropists in support of the organization's mission to provide nutritious school meals for children in India.

Held at Farmington Hills Golf Course, the event built on the momentum of the chapter's successful musical fundraiser earlier this year and reflected its growing commitment to

addressing classroom hunger through Akshaya Patra's Mid-Day Meal Program.

The tournament welcomed golfers of all experience levels, while supporters also participated in a luncheon, awards ceremony, and raffle. Organizers said proceeds from registrations and sponsorships will help provide nutritious meals that improve children's health, encourage school attendance, and support their education.

Speaking during the luncheon, Michigan Chapter Chair Sampat Prahlad thanked sponsors, volunteers, donors,



golfers, and community members for their unwavering support.

"This event demonstrates the impact a caring community can make when it comes together for a meaningful cause," Prahlad said. "We are deeply grateful to everyone whose generosity and dedication helped make this year's Golf Classic a tremendous success."

Prahlad also acknowledged the organizing committee and volunteers for their efforts in making the fundraiser possible.

Now in its second year, the Golf Classic

has become an important fundraising and community engagement event for the Michigan Chapter. Following the success of its earlier musical fundraiser, the tournament further strengthened the chapter's efforts to rally local support for Akshaya Patra's mission of combating classroom hunger and expanding access to education.

The chapter expressed its appreciation to all participants, sponsors, volunteers, and community partners, noting that their collective support will help create brighter futures for children by ensuring they receive nutritious meals at school every day.

# Gujarati Seniors of Chicago expands with new Naperville branch

By: Dr. Avi Verma

Gujarati Seniors of Chicago marked another milestone with the inauguration of its new Naperville branch on Saturday, July 25, expanding its outreach to the growing senior community in the western suburbs of Chicago.

The new branch was launched under the leadership of Praful Shah, president of Gujarati Seniors of Chicago (Schaumburg). Nearly 200 seniors attended the opening celebration, held at the banquet hall of Naperville Covenant Church.

The day-long event featured a variety of cultural and recreational activities designed to promote active and healthy aging. Seniors participated in music, dance, drama, games, and other entertainment programs, creating a lively atmosphere of fellowship and community engagement.

Beyond entertainment, organizers emphasized education and wellness. Informational sessions introduced seniors to emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and ChatGPT, with plans to offer future computer and AI training programs. Presentations also focused on senior healthcare resources, personal safety, and life-protection awareness to help older adults navigate everyday challenges with greater confidence.



Community partners and sponsors supported the event, with several healthcare and senior service organizations sharing information about resources and services available to older adults.

Guests were served breakfast, lunch, and dessert throughout the celebration,

which organizers described as a successful beginning for the new chapter. Participants expressed enthusiasm for the expanded programming and opportunities to connect with fellow seniors.

Organizers said the Naperville branch aims to provide regular social, educational,

and wellness activities for seniors and encouraged older adults from the surrounding communities to become members and participate in future programs.

Photos by: Ramesh Punatar



# Namaste Israel: Shalom India

*Chicago celebration highlights growing India–Israel partnership through diplomacy, shared democratic values, and community engagement.*

● By: Dr. Avi Verma

Community leaders, diplomats, and members of the Indian and Jewish communities gathered in Chicago to celebrate India–Israel Friendship Day, highlighting the growing partnership between the two nations and strengthening ties between their diaspora communities in the Midwest. Organized by the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest and the Global Indian Diaspora Foundation (GIDF), the celebration was held under the newly unveiled slogan, “Namaste Israel: Shalom India,” symbolizing the friendship between two ancient civilizations.

GIDF member Abhinav Raina welcomed guests and opened the festivities. GIDF President Rakesh Malhotra traced the historical journeys of both nations, noting that India gained independence in 1947 and Israel became an independent state in 1948. He emphasized that the two democracies share common values and face common challenges, including terrorism, making their partnership increasingly significant.

Consul General of Israel to the Midwest Elad Strohmayer highlighted the shared democratic values and strong people-to-people ties that define the India–Israel relationship. He reaffirmed his office’s commitment to strengthening cooperation between the Indian and Israeli communities across the Midwest and thanked Deputy Consul General Delphine for her efforts in making the event a success. Strohmayer also formally endorsed the partnership slogan, “Namaste Israel: Shalom India.”

Community leader and social worker Anna Steinberg was recognized for her longstanding efforts to foster closer ties between the Indian and Jewish communities through civic and cultural engagement. Deputy Consul General of India in Chicago Kriti Thokchom underscored the strategic importance of India–Israel relations, including cooperation through the I2U2 initiative



involving India, Israel, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates. He also praised the close relationship between the two communities in the Chicago area.

In a statement, GIDF thanked the

Jewish community and the Indian diaspora for coming together to celebrate the occasion, saying the gathering reaffirmed the enduring friendship between India and Israel, built on shared democratic values, mutual respect,

innovation, and expanding people-to-people connections. The evening also celebrated the rich cultural heritage of both nations. Guests enjoyed Indian and Israeli appetizers and dinner specialties, followed by an Indian dance performance and traditional Israeli folk dancing that drew enthusiastic participation from attendees. The event concluded with a renewed commitment to strengthening the bridge between India and Israel and advancing a partnership rooted in shared values, trust, and cooperation.





# Global Youth Meet in Chandigarh promotes cross-cultural dialogue



By: Vandana Jhingan

**Y**outh delegates from Turkey, Switzerland, Brazil, Italy, the Netherlands, and India gathered in Chandigarh for the Global Youth Meet – Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam 2026, an international forum focused on cultural exchange, youth leadership, and global cooperation. Organized by Sarv Sewa Sashaktikarn Sangthan at the UT Guest House, the event highlighted the Indian philosophy of “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam” (One Earth, One Family, One Future) through discussions on education, environmental sustainability, community service, and the role of young people in addressing global challenges. International participants shared perspectives on youth engagement,

education, and community initiatives in their respective countries, while Indian delegates presented India’s cultural heritage, democratic values, and the contribution of youth to nation-building.

The interactive sessions emphasized the importance of cross-cultural understanding and international collaboration.

Sunil Pal, Founder and National President of Sarv Sewa Sashaktikarn Sangthan, said such exchanges help strengthen global friendships and encourage young leaders to work collectively toward peace, harmony, and sustainable development.

The program concluded with a

recognition ceremony honoring participating delegates. Organizers said they plan to continue hosting

international youth forums to promote dialogue and cooperation among young leaders from around the world.





# IndoUS

## TRIBUNE













**Available Online**

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









# जय माता दी

**JAI JAGDAMBE FOUNDATION**  
Serving the Hindu Community over 2 Decades

**FOR MATA KA**  
**JAGRAN**  
**OR CHOWKI**

Contact us at  
[Jagrantv@gmail.com](mailto:Jagrantv@gmail.com)

**Mata Bhagat: Avi Verma**







# Healthy Heart, Healthy Life

## High blood pressure: The silent killer

### Why knowing your numbers can save your heart, brain, and kidneys

By: Dr. Avi Verma

In the first article of this series, we explored how the heart functions as the body's life-sustaining pump. In Part 2, we discussed Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)—the leading cause of heart attacks—and how healthy lifestyle choices can significantly reduce cardiovascular risk. This week, we focus on another major threat that often develops quietly but can have devastating consequences—high blood pressure, or hypertension. Often called the "Silent Killer," hypertension usually causes no noticeable symptoms while silently damaging the heart, brain, kidneys, eyes, and blood vessels. The good news is that it is largely preventable and highly treatable. Understanding your blood pressure, adopting healthy habits, and seeking timely medical care can greatly reduce the risk of heart attack, stroke, kidney disease, and premature death.

#### Understanding Blood Pressure

Blood pressure is the force of blood pushing against the walls of your arteries as the heart pumps blood throughout the body. It is measured using two numbers: systolic pressure, recorded when the heart contracts, and diastolic pressure, measured when the heart relaxes between beats. Blood pressure is expressed in millimeters of mercury (mm Hg). According to current American Heart Association guidelines, normal blood pressure is less than 120/80 mm Hg. Consistently elevated readings above this range increase the risk of cardiovascular disease. For most adults receiving treatment for hypertension, the long-term goal is to maintain blood pressure below 130/80 mm Hg, although treatment targets should always be individualized.

#### What Is Hypertension?

Hypertension occurs when blood pressure remains consistently higher than normal, forcing the heart to work harder to circulate blood. Over time, this constant pressure damages the inner lining of blood vessels, making them less flexible and more prone to narrowing and blockage. Nearly 90 to 95 percent of patients have primary (essential) hypertension, which results from a combination of genetic, environmental, and lifestyle factors. The remaining cases are caused by underlying medical conditions such as kidney disease or hormonal disorders and are known as secondary hypertension.

#### Risk Factors and Why It Is Called the Silent Killer

Several factors increase the risk of developing hypertension, including a family history of high blood pressure, advancing age, obesity, physical inactivity, excessive salt intake, unhealthy eating habits, smoking, excessive alcohol use, chronic stress, diabetes, high cholesterol, chronic kidney disease, and obstructive sleep apnea. Certain medications, including some pain relievers and steroids, may also contribute.

Hypertension is known as the Silent Killer because most people experience



no symptoms, even when blood pressure is dangerously high. Many individuals discover they have hypertension only after suffering a heart attack, stroke, or other serious complication. Regular blood pressure screening is therefore the only reliable way to detect the condition early.

#### Potential Complications

When left untreated, high blood pressure gradually damages arteries and vital organs throughout the body. It significantly increases the risk of heart attack, heart failure, stroke, kidney disease, vision loss, peripheral artery disease, and certain forms of dementia. These complications usually develop slowly over many years, making early diagnosis and effective treatment essential for protecting long-term health.

#### Lifestyle Management: Your First Line of Defense

Healthy lifestyle choices remain the foundation of hypertension prevention and treatment. A heart-healthy diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, legumes, nuts, lean proteins, and low-fat dairy products helps lower blood pressure naturally. Reducing processed foods and limiting sodium intake are equally important. Maintaining a healthy body weight, exercising for at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity each week, avoiding tobacco, limiting alcohol consumption, and managing stress through meditation, yoga, or other relaxation techniques all contribute to healthier blood pressure. Adequate sleep is equally important, as poor sleep quality and untreated sleep apnea may worsen

hypertension. Even modest improvements in diet, physical activity, and weight can produce meaningful reductions in blood pressure and significantly lower the risk of cardiovascular disease.

#### Medications

While many people can improve their blood pressure through lifestyle changes, others require medication to achieve safe control. Commonly prescribed medications include diuretics, ACE inhibitors, angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), calcium channel blockers, and beta blockers, depending on an individual's overall health and associated medical conditions. Many patients require more than one medication for optimal control. Blood pressure medications should never be discontinued without medical advice, even when readings improve, because hypertension often returns without warning.

#### Home Blood Pressure Monitoring

Checking blood pressure at home is one of the most effective ways to monitor treatment and detect changes early. Use a validated upper-arm blood pressure monitor with the correct cuff size whenever possible. Before taking a reading, sit quietly for at least five minutes, avoid caffeine, smoking, or exercise for thirty minutes, keep both feet flat on the floor, and support your arm at heart level. Take two readings about one minute apart and record the results. A single elevated reading is not usually cause for alarm, but consistently high readings should be discussed with your healthcare provider. Blood pressure readings of

180/120 mm Hg or higher, particularly when accompanied by chest pain, severe headache, shortness of breath, weakness, confusion, or vision changes, require immediate emergency medical attention.

#### The Bottom Line

High blood pressure may not cause pain or obvious symptoms, but its effects can be life-threatening. The encouraging news is that it is one of the most preventable and manageable cardiovascular risk factors. Regular blood pressure checks, healthy eating, physical activity, maintaining a healthy weight, avoiding tobacco, limiting alcohol, managing stress, and taking prescribed medications can dramatically reduce the risk of heart attack, stroke, kidney disease, and premature death. You may not feel your blood pressure—but knowing your numbers today could save your heart, protect your brain, preserve your kidneys, and add healthy years to your life.

#### 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 another 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: REGIONAL FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS

● Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance

### CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAII Bull-Bear Spread -12.17% (low)  
CNN Fear & Greed Index 39 (fear)  
NYSE %Above 50-dMA 57.13% (positive)  
SP500 %Above 50-dMA 65.80% (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 3.96%, 1-yr 4.14%;  
T-Notes 2-yr 4.33%, 5-yr 4.43%, 10-yr 4.69%; T-Bonds 30-yr 5.16% (normal yield-curve);  
TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 2.19%, 10-yr 2.43%, 30-yr 2.95%  
FRNs Index 3.766%

### Bank Rates [www.depositaccounts.com/](http://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 49.42 (fear-low)

Weekly ETFs: INDA -1.82%, INDY



-2.28%, EPI -1.49%, INDH -1.70% | SPY -0.59%

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

### CONSUMERS

India accelerated the use E20 gasohol with the support of automakers. Some automakers didn't notice service issues with the trial use of E20 in older cars designed for E10, but this isn't the normal way to design & test cars. Newer cars are being designed for E20 although Maruti lost an E20 damage lawsuit. However, both automakers & consumers are concerned about an early E25 rollout. Ethanol is corrosive for some types of rubber & plastic materials used for gaskets & hoses for older cars.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

AustralianSupers will make an additional investment in India National Investment & Infrastructure Fund (NIIF), as announced during PM Modi's recent visit to Australia.

Indian government owns 49% of NIIF & Finance Minister serves as Chair. Its other investors include Abu Dhabi ADIA, Asian AIIB & ADB, New Development Bank (BRICS), Temasek (Singapore), Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan (Canada), CPP Investments (Canada), PSP Investments (Canada), US DFC, & several domestic institutions (Axis Bank, ICICI, HDFC, Kotak Mahindra Life).

### SPACE TECHNOLOGY

Indian private company Skyroot Aerospace's Vikram-1 LEO launch on 7/18/26 with a small payload of 772 lb (total; payload put in polar orbit was 570 lb) was successful in its 1st attempt. Skyroot cofounder Pavan Kumar CHANDANA has now joined ISRO; he worked at ISRO previously from 9/2012 – 6/2018, but left to launch startup Skyroot. LEO - low earth orbit.

### SPECIAL TOPIC - REGIONAL FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS

12 Federal Reserve Banks (Fed Banks) look after the economies of their regional districts. They act as bankers for their member banks. They are self-financing corporate entities with government charters in which the government & public have some interests, but they are not government entities. They operate under the general supervision of the Federal Reserve Board (FRB or the Fed) in DC & provide feedback & data from their districts to the FRB.

Each Fed Bank has its own governing board with 9 members in 3 classes representing member banks (3 elected) & public (3 elected by member banks & 3 appointed by the board). These boards select Fed Bank Presidents subject to the approval by FRB - they don't require presidential nominations or Senate confirmations. Several Fed

Bank Presidents have much higher salaries than the FRB Chair (the Fed Chair). Some Fed Bank Presidents have gone on to become Fed Chairs.

The Fed Bank Presidents participate in the monetary policy setting Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meetings but only 5 can vote. The FOMC consists of 12 voting members: 7 Fed Governors that are nominated by the US President & confirmed by the Senate & 5 Fed Bank Presidents. FOMC monetary policy decisions are not subject to further review by the President or Congress. Due to the nature of its makeup, FOMC is a public-private entity.

The NY Fed President is a permanent member of FOMC & also serves as its Vice-Chair. The NY Fed has additional responsibilities for executing the monetary policy set by FOMC - federal fund operations, repos, QE/QT, discount window, special liquidity programs, etc.

The other 4 Fed Presidents are selected on rotating annual basis from 4 groups of 11 Fed districts: (1) Boston, Philadelphia, Richmond, (2) Cleveland, Chicago, (3) Atlanta, St. Louis, Dallas, (4) Minneapolis, Kansas City, San Francisco. When listening to speeches or media interviews by Fed Presidents, pay attention to whether they are voting members. As WARSH-Fed is pulling back on Fed transparency, the FOMC may no longer be the Federal Open "Mouth" Committee.

Note that FRB & FOMC have their own Chairs & Vice-Chairs, but historically, the Fed Chair is also the FOMC Chair.

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





# Everything you need to know about IUHS School of Medicine

By: Dr. Avi Verma

**1. Location:** Our study 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!

*Join IUHS to transform  
your dream of becoming a medical  
doctor into reality.  
For more information and to apply,  
visit [www.iuhs.edu](http://www.iuhs.edu)*



## MEDICAL DOCTOR DEGREE

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

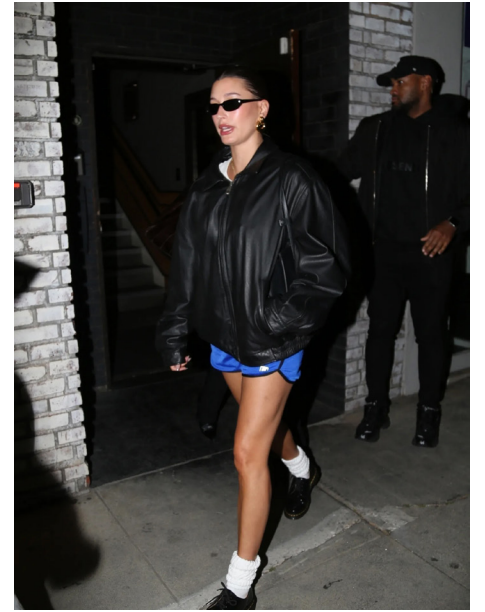
[www.iuhs.edu](http://www.iuhs.edu)



# Tiny shorts are making the biggest statement this summer

**F**ashion has a way of swinging between extremes, and this summer's conversation is no different. For the past few seasons, oversized silhouettes have dominated warm-weather wardrobes. Relaxed bermuda shorts, loose denim cutoffs and roomy athletic styles have defined a laid-back approach to dressing,

proving that comfort and style can easily coexist. Now, the pendulum is swinging in the opposite direction. Tiny shorts, once considered a nostalgic throwback, are stepping back into the spotlight. With hemlines growing shorter and proportions becoming more streamlined, this trend embraces confidence, ease and a touch of playful rebellion. Rather



than relying on excess fabric, the look celebrates clean lines and a lighter, more carefree attitude that feels perfectly suited to long summer days.

The appeal lies in their versatility. Tiny shorts can be styled with oversized shirts for a balanced silhouette, paired with relaxed blazers for a polished contrast, or worn with breezy knitwear when evenings cool down. The secret is proportion. The smaller the shorts, the softer and more relaxed the accompanying pieces should feel, creating an outfit that looks intentional rather than overdone.

Of course, this is not about following trends blindly. Fashion works best when it reflects personal comfort and confidence. For some, longer tailored shorts remain the ideal choice, offering practicality without compromising style. For others, shorter silhouettes provide

the freedom to experiment with bold layering, statement accessories and fresh summer textures. What makes this revival particularly interesting is that it is less about nostalgia and more about attitude. Tiny shorts evoke an effortless sense of optimism, encouraging wearers to embrace individuality instead of dressing according to rigid rules. They fit naturally into today's fashion landscape, where self-expression matters more than trend checklists.

As with every seasonal shift, the real takeaway is not the length of the hemline but the freedom to choose what feels authentic. Whether you prefer relaxed bermudas or daringly short silhouettes, summer fashion is ultimately about dressing for the moment, staying cool and wearing every look with confidence. This season, it seems the smallest garment is making one of the biggest style statements.

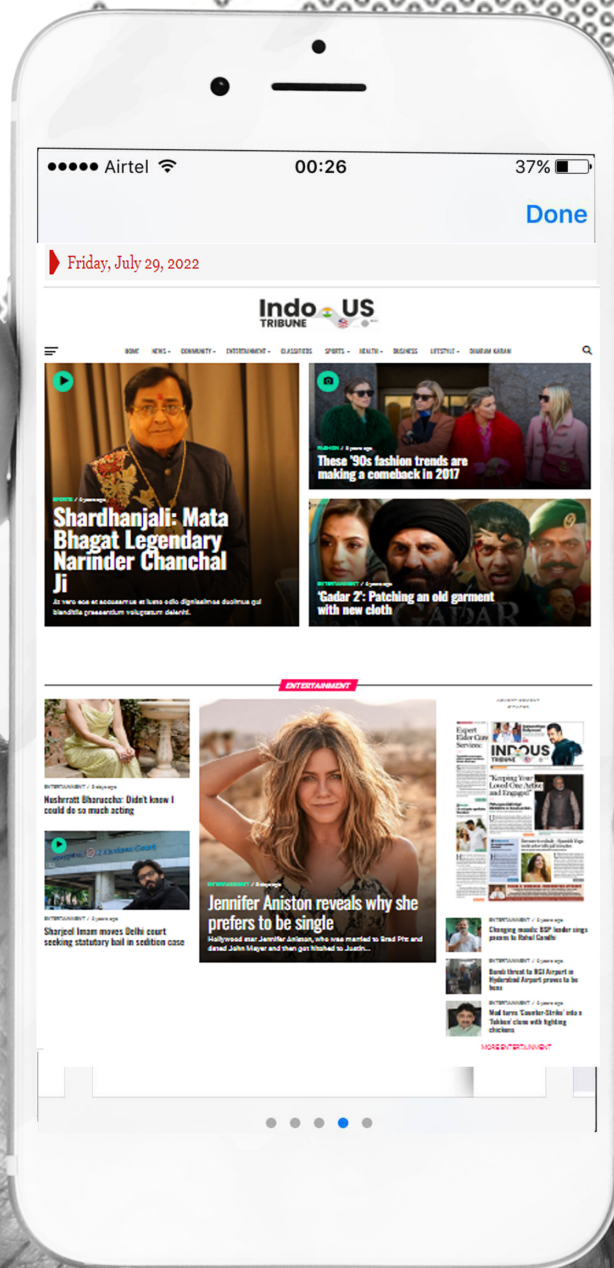
Ashwani Chadha's  
**JALANDHAR**  
JEWELLERS

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

**G.T. Road, Civil Lines, Near Company Bagh Chowk Jalandhar**  
**Mb: 9815192100**  
**www.jalandharjewellers.com | jalandharjewels@gmail.com**



# READ THE WORLD TODAY!



IndoUS  
T R I B U N E



WWW.INDOUSTRIBUNE.COM

