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India urges United Nations to explain Pakistan's response to human rights concerns in Kashmir

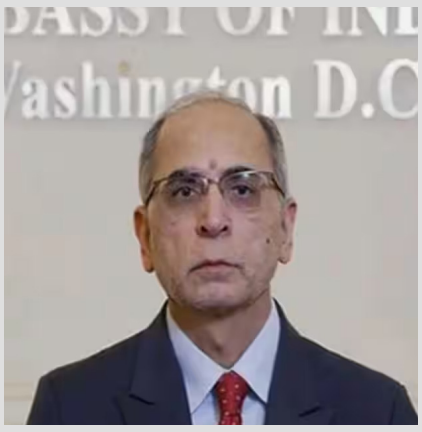
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India challenged the United Nations human rights office over what it described as selective reporting on government responses to public protests, demanding greater scrutiny of Pakistan's actions in Pakistan-administered Kashmir. Speaking at the General Assembly's Third Committee on Wednesday, Indian diplomat Anuj Swarup accused the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of applying double standards by overlooking violent crackdowns in neighboring countries and Western nations.

He called for follow-up on the office's demands for investigations into protest-related deaths, legal access for detained Awami Action Committee leaders, fair trials, political dialogue and restoration of internet access in the region. Swarup also defended constitutional protections in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. He reaffirmed India's commitment to working with High Commissioner Volker Türk while urging the United Nations to apply consistent and impartial human rights standards.

Indian ambassador rejects Jayapal's claim of mass voter removals, defends electoral institutions



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India's ambassador to the United States, Vinay Mohan Kwatra, rejected Democratic Representative Pramila Jayapal's allegations about voter-roll removals on Thursday, calling her remarks interference in India's internal affairs. Jayapal, who represents Washington state, said she was concerned by claims that 130 million people had been removed from India's electoral rolls and compared the alleged action with efforts to undermine voting rights in the United States. Kwatra defended India's democratic institutions, describing them as independent and emphasizing the country's record of conducting elections. India's Election Commission is carrying out a phased revision of electoral rolls and says people whose names are removed can apply for re-enrollment. Jayapal did not identify the source of her 130 million figure, which could not be independently confirmed from official data.

Graham Act deadline nears as India awaits clarity on potential United States tariffs



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The administration of United States President Donald Trump had yet to announce targeted countries, tariff rates or exemptions on Thursday, three days before the October 18 deadline under the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act. The legislation authorizes duties of up to 100 percent on goods from major buyers of Russian oil and gas that continue making new purchases. India, the world's second-largest buyer of Russian crude after China, could be affected, although its inclusion remains unconfirmed.

Any additional duties would increase costs for Indian exporters already facing existing United States tariffs. Secretary of State Marco Rubio is scheduled to visit Mumbai and Jamnagar beginning Monday, including the city housing Reliance Industries' major refinery complex. Meanwhile, officials have offered differing timelines, leaving New Delhi awaiting clarity on potential trade consequences.

Indian intelligence warns of possible winter infiltration push into Jammu and Kashmir

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Indian intelligence agencies estimate that nearly 500 militants are waiting at launch sites in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir for possible infiltration into Jammu and Kashmir, according to an IANS report citing unnamed officials. The report said the militants had been divided into small groups to reduce the likelihood of detection before winter snowfall makes mountain routes more difficult to cross. Officials alleged that the groups had received high-altitude equipment and were being supported by personnel positioned near the launch sites. They also claimed drones were being used to monitor Indian troop movements and assess possible infiltration routes. Indian security forces have reportedly heightened vigilance along the border in response. The allegations, including claims of support from the Pakistani military, were attributed to Indian officials and could not be independently verified from the supplied report.

Denmark insists Greenland's resource laws remain in force after Trump announces exploration plans

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Denmark said Wednesday that any American effort to explore Greenland's oil, gas and mineral resources must comply with the Arctic territory's laws, pushing back against President Donald Trump's announcement that large-scale exploration was about to begin. Trump described Greenland as "our new and beautiful Greenland" in a social media post, presenting the plans as part of the strategic gains secured through a security agreement reached by the United States, Denmark and Greenland in September. Copenhagen emphasized that the agreement does not grant American investors preferential access to natural resources or authorize drilling and mining. The deal instead provides for an expanded United States military presence, including plans for two additional bases and Trump's proposed "Golden Dome" missile defense system, while reaffirming Danish sovereignty and Greenlanders' right to self-determination. Greenland banned new oil exploration and uranium mining in 2021. Its government is reviewing whether Texas-based Greenland Energy can use permits issued before the restrictions. The company has discussed drilling on Greenland's east coast in 2027 but does not have its own permit. A Danish security expert warned that Trump's latest remarks suggest his ambitions for the strategically located, mineral-rich island remain unresolved.

Cockroach party leaders held in custody as India's protest crackdown faces court scrutiny



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Two leaders of India's youth-led Cockroach Janata Party, Ashutosh Ranka and Saurav Das, were placed in five days of judicial custody on Wednesday after allegedly entering Delhi's Jantar Mantar, recently removed as a designated protest site. They had jumped police barricades, waved the national flag and raised slogans demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over a controversial voter-roll revision. The Election Commission says the exercise targets ineligible and duplicate entries, while critics warn eligible voters could be disenfranchised. The Supreme Court agreed on Thursday to examine challenges to the protest-site decision and issued notices to election officials and authorities. Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi condemned the detentions, while the government has rejected international criticism of its handling of the protests.

Maduro denies new torture allegations during New York court appearance

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Former Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro rejected new torture allegations during a court appearance in New York on Thursday, calling the claims in a revised indictment false. The indictment accuses Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores, of participating in a state-backed campaign of repression that allegedly tortured numerous victims, including three Americans. Federal Judge Alvin Hellerstein entered not-guilty pleas for both defendants. Prosecutors allege that Maduro oversaw abuses involving beatings, asphyxiation and electric shocks, while Flores allegedly helped develop the repressive system. The couple, captured by United States forces in Caracas in January, deny wrongdoing. Their lawyers are also challenging the case on grounds of immunity.

Israel blocks construction of planned international security outpost in Gaza



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Israel has not allowed construction to begin on a planned military outpost in Gaza intended to support United States President Donald Trump's Board of Peace, according to a report published Wednesday by The Guardian. Louisiana-based Arkel International received a contract to build a fortified site designed to accommodate 150 international troops as part of a proposed stabilization force. However, contractors and construction vehicles have reportedly been prevented from entering Gaza. The delay could obstruct wider reconstruction plans, which depend on security arrangements and access for equipment and supplies. Israeli authorities and the Board of Peace declined to comment. The reported impasse comes despite the board's recently announced reconstruction ambitions.

More than 320 people reportedly arrested in Senegal's intensified anti-LGBTQ+ crackdown

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More than 320 people have reportedly been arrested in Senegal since February amid an intensifying crackdown on LGBTQ+ people, according to Human Rights Watch and the HIV Justice Network. The arrests follow legislation passed in March that doubled the maximum prison sentence for consensual same-sex relations to 10 years and introduced penalties for promoting or supporting LGBTQ+ people and organizations. Human Rights Watch said at least 84 people had faced charges related to alleged voluntary HIV transmission. Rights advocates warn that fear of arrest is driving people into hiding and discouraging HIV testing and treatment. The organization urged Senegal's government to halt the crackdown, citing concerns over privacy, discrimination and access to legal representation.

Trump urges Republican voters to back congressional candidates, promises extensive midterm tour

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President Donald Trump urged Americans Thursday to treat the November midterm elections as though he were personally on the ballot, arguing that Republican victories are necessary to protect his administration's agenda. Speaking at a rally in Bullhead City, Arizona, and later to reporters, Trump said he expected to hold about 32 or 33 campaign events before Election Day.

He claimed Republican turnout drops sharply when he is not running, but offered no evidence for the figure he cited. Trump framed the contests as a test of his economic, immigration and social policies,



warning that Democratic control of Congress could undermine his priorities. He also floated a $5,000 payment to adult Americans if Republicans retain both chambers, saying tariff revenue and economic growth would fund it without explaining how it would be authorized.

Netanyahu rules out pre-election strike on Iran but warns of forceful response to attacks

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Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Wednesday he did not favor a preemptive strike against Iran before Israel's October 27 election, rejecting allegations by political opponents that he was seeking a military confrontation to improve his electoral prospects. In an interview with Israel's Army Radio, Netanyahu said such an operation would not be beneficial before the vote, but warned that Israel would respond forcefully if Iran or its allies attacked. The comments come amid the wider conflict involving the United States, Israel and Iran, which began in February. Netanyahu declined to discuss whether Israel might consider a strike after the election or provide details of his recent talks with Washington. He also suggested



that Iran-backed groups could target Israel before the vote.

Separately, Defense Minister Israel Katz warned Hezbollah against attacking Israel, threatening further territorial losses in southern Lebanon and saying Israeli forces were prepared to expand operations near the Nabatieh and Litani areas. Katz also warned that Hezbollah's stronghold in Beirut would not be spared.

FBI investigates suspicious powder-filled letters sent to election offices

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The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Postal Inspection Service are investigating suspicious letters containing unidentified substances sent to election offices and government officials nationwide. On Thursday, incidents involving powder-filled envelopes prompted evacuations in Louisiana and Oklahoma, while a similar package addressed to Ohio's secretary of state was intercepted. Federal authorities urged recipients to treat suspicious mail as potentially hazardous while investigators work to identify those responsible. Officials in Oklahoma reported that the substance received there was not dangerous. Election organizations condemned the incidents, warning that threats against election workers undermine democratic processes. The investigation comes weeks before the United States midterm elections and follows similar suspicious mailings during previous election cycles.

British defense chief urges Washington to maintain support for Ukraine after Starlink disruption

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British Defense Secretary Wes Streeting urged the United States to maintain its support for Ukraine during a visit to Washington on Thursday, as tensions grew over a disruption to Ukrainian military access to Starlink satellite communications. Speaking before meeting United States Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, Streeting argued that backing Kyiv served both American security interests and future defense-industry cooperation. He warned that allowing aggression to go unchallenged could threaten international stability beyond Europe. The Starlink interruption had



reportedly disrupted Ukrainian drone operations, raising concerns about battlefield communications. After their meeting, Streeting said he and Hegseth welcomed the restoration of the service, although they did not establish publicly why the interruption had occurred.

Elon Musk unveils flying Tesla prototype powered by SpaceX thrusters

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Elon Musk demonstrated a flying prototype of Tesla's Roadster 2 on Thursday at a SpaceX testing facility in Texas, claiming it could fly using rocket thrusters developed with his aerospace company. A video showed the remotely controlled sports car climbing a curved ramp, flipping through the air and landing, before leaping over other Tesla vehicles.

Musk said the car could accelerate from zero to 60 miles per hour in less than a second, although these performance claims have not been independently verified. The company's reservation website listed different versions, including a rocket variant available by invitation. Production is planned for 2028, with prices exceeding $200,000.

Swedish parliament rejects Magdalena Andersson's bid to become prime minister

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Sweden's parliament rejected Social Democratic leader Magdalena Andersson's bid to become prime minister on Thursday, prolonging political uncertainty following last month's general election. The speaker's proposal received 99 votes in favor and 248 against, with two lawmakers absent. Four center-left opposition parties collectively won a parliamentary majority but remain divided over the composition of a future government. Their disagreement has complicated efforts to replace Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson, whose right-wing bloc finished behind the opposition in the election. The speaker is widely expected to invite Kristersson to attempt to form a government next. However, it remains unclear whether he can secure sufficient parliamentary support, potentially returning the responsibility to Andersson.

Two container ships sink near Strait of Hormuz amid escalating attacks on commercial vessels

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Two container ships sank near the Strait of Hormuz following reported projectile strikes, amid a sharp increase in attacks on commercial shipping, according to maritime monitoring reports. The Singapore-flagged GFS Pride sank Wednesday after an attack the previous day, while the Antigua and Barbuda-flagged Cape Dao also went down after an earlier incident. Iran said the GFS Pride struck a naval mine while using what it called an unauthorized route, but maritime officials reported attacks involving unidentified projectiles. The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations agency recorded at least five incidents in the area over 48 hours. The escalating threat has disrupted commercial shipping and raised concerns about oil supplies, global energy markets and fuel prices.

Albania's Edi Rama rejects resignation calls amid violent student-led protests

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Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama said Thursday he would not resign, despite escalating anti-government demonstrations and clashes with police in the capital, Tirana. Students have joined a protest movement demanding action on corruption, rising education costs and inadequate university facilities. Police used tear gas and water cannon after demonstrators threw objects, while reports described damage to businesses and government buildings. The unrest also reflects anger over a proposed luxury tourism development backed by Jared Kushner, the son-in-law of United States President Donald Trump. The project would transform protected coastal land, including the island of Sazan, into a major resort. Rama defended the investment as an economic opportunity and said governments should change through elections, not street protests. He has pledged to secure European Union membership for Albania by 2030.

Russia and Ukraine resume attacks on energy infrastructure after ceasefire initiative falters

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Fresh Russian and Ukrainian strikes Thursday cast further doubt on United States President Donald Trump's proposed energy ceasefire, which neither side had formally confirmed accepting. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Kyiv would resume attacks on Russian oil refineries after temporarily holding back to demonstrate its readiness for negotiations. Moscow accused Ukraine of striking a refinery in Russia's Ryazan region, while Russian forces launched large numbers of drones against Ukrainian infrastructure. Regional officials reported three deaths and six injuries in the Kirovohrad region. Separately, Romanian authorities said Russian drones struck two commercial vessels in Romanian territorial waters near the Danube, setting them on fire and leaving sailors missing. The developments heightened concerns about civilian infrastructure, Black Sea shipping and worsening tensions between Washington and Kyiv.

Milei adviser invokes Islam in renewed Argentine campaign to reclaim Falkland Islands

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Santiago Caputo, a senior adviser to Argentine President Javier Milei, has drawn criticism after claiming that Britain is being "colonized by Islam" and using the allegation to argue that Argentina should reclaim the Falkland Islands. Milei shared Caputo's social media post, which cited the election of Somali-born lawmaker Sagal Abdi-Wali to the British Parliament. Caputo described the South Atlantic islands as strategically important to Western interests. The remarks come amid renewed tensions between Argentina and the United Kingdom over sovereignty, oil exploration and fishing rights around the islands. Britain maintains that the wishes of Falkland Islanders must be respected. In a 2013 referendum, 99.8 percent of voters supported remaining a British territory, underscoring the strength of local opposition to a change in sovereignty.

EU energy commissioner warns high fuel bills could drive voters toward extremists

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The European Union must act to curb soaring oil and gas prices to prevent mounting household costs from driving voters toward populist and extremist movements, European Commissioner for Energy and Housing Dan Jørgensen warned Wednesday.

Jørgensen said governments could introduce temporary, targeted measures to make fossil fuels more affordable while preserving the bloc's long-term climate goals. He warned that Europe faced a difficult winter, with energy markets under pressure from the conflict involving Iran, the United States and Israel.

According to European Union estimates cited in the report, the bloc had incurred an additional €110 billion in energy costs since the conflict began. Gas prices also reached their highest level since the winter of 2022, while global oil prices climbed to about $92 per barrel. Jørgensen said governments must help people afford essential energy needs, warning that persistent financial pressure could erode public confidence and strengthen extremist politics. European leaders discussed possible short-term measures at their Brussels summit.

Trump cancels plan to livestream convicted Fort Hood shooter's execution

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President Donald Trump said Thursday that the planned execution of former Army psychiatrist Nidal Hasan would not be livestreamed, overruling a proposal by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth. Hasan was convicted by a military jury of killing 13 people and wounding dozens at Fort Hood, Texas, in 2009. His execution by firing squad remains scheduled, although possible legal challenges could affect the timetable. The proposed broadcast drew criticism from Republican lawmakers, religious leaders and members of the public. Vice President JD Vance also expressed reservations. Trump said the livestream might have served as a deterrent but acknowledged objections to broadcasting an execution. Victims' immediate family members may attend in person.

Merz insists frozen Russian assets must remain under European control

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German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said Thursday that Russian central bank assets frozen in Europe must remain under European control, responding to a report that Washington had proposed transferring some funds to a United States-supervised arrangement. The reported proposal, attributed by the Financial Times to people briefed on the matter, was intended to help revive peace negotiations. European Union countries have immobilized about 210 billion euros in Russian central bank assets since Moscow's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, with approximately 185 billion euros held by Euroclear in Brussels.

Some European governments want the funds used to support Ukraine. Russia said it had no information confirming the reported proposal.

United States imposes fresh sanctions targeting 16 individuals and 10 entities linked to Iran

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The Trump administration announced new Iran-related sanctions on Thursday, targeting 16 individuals and 10 entities, according to a notice on the United States Treasury Department's website. The announcement confirmed the latest expansion of Washington's sanctions measures against Iran, but the initial report did not provide further details about those designated or the specific activities involved. The action comes amid continuing United States pressure on Tehran through financial and economic restrictions. Sanctions can limit designated individuals' and organizations' access to assets under United States jurisdiction and restrict transactions with American persons or institutions. Further details about the targets and the legal basis for the measures were not included in the initial Reuters report.

India urges CICA members to strengthen regional cooperation and confront cross-border terrorism

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India called on member states of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia to unite against cross-border terrorism during the grouping's summit in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Thursday. Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh addressed the plenary session, emphasizing India's principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, meaning "the world is one family," as a foundation for peace, friendship and cooperation. Singh said Asian countries should work together to build mutual trust and address shared security challenges. He arrived in Baku on Wednesday and expressed hope for constructive discussions on regional stability. CICA is a multinational forum established to promote peace, security and cooperation across Asia. Its members include India, China, Pakistan, Russia and several other countries across the region.

Sweden rejects proposed European Union budget framework for 2028–2034



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson said Thursday that Sweden would reject a proposal from Ireland's European Union presidency concerning the European Commission's budget plan for 2028 to 2034. The announcement signals opposition to the proposed framework as European Union members negotiate the bloc's long-term spending priorities. The budget will shape funding decisions across the union for the seven-year period, making agreement among member states essential. The report did not specify which provisions Sweden objected to or outline the country's preferred alternative. Further negotiations will determine whether the proposal can be revised to address Sweden's concerns.

China and North Korea open decade-old bridge to revive cross-border trade

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

China and North Korea opened the New Yalu River Bridge on Thursday, creating a major new route for trade between Dandong, China, and Sinuiju, North Korea. Completed in 2014, the three-kilometer bridge had remained unused while North Korea's connecting roads and customs facilities were unfinished. Chinese Premier Li Qiang said the crossing would strengthen economic cooperation and people-to-people exchanges. China's exports to North Korea rose 25 percent to $2.3 billion last year, although they remain below pre-2017 levels, when United Nations sanctions tightened. Analysts cautioned that the opening would not immediately restore trade to its previous scale.

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Midterms 2026: A nation at a political crossroads — Part II



Dr. Avi Verma

As America approaches the November 3, 2026, midterm elections, the battle for control of Congress is intensifying. The central question is whether Republicans can retain their narrow majorities or Democrats can shift the balance of power during the final two years of President Donald Trump's second term. In Part I, we examined the national political landscape and the implications of a possible change in congressional control. This installment focuses on the competitive races, the issues influencing voters and what the election could mean for the country.

The Senate: A battle for every seat

The Senate contest could prove decisive in determining how much room the Trump administration has to advance its legislative agenda. Democrats face the challenge of gaining enough seats to secure a majority, while Republicans must defend vulnerable incumbents and prevent Democratic gains across competitive states. Kansas, New Hampshire and North Carolina have drawn particular attention as potentially important contests. Kansas is significant because it has traditionally leaned Republican, while New Hampshire has a history of competitive statewide elections. North Carolina remains a closely watched battleground where candidate appeal and turnout could prove decisive. The outcome will depend on more than party loyalty. Candidates' records, local economic conditions, campaign organization and the national political climate will all influence voters. Neither party can assume that favorable polling trends will translate automatically into victories.

The House: Small shifts, major consequences

The House of Representatives may offer Democrats their clearest opportunity to gain congressional control. Because House elections are decided district by district, a relatively small number of competitive races could determine the majority. Republicans must persuade voters that the administration's policies are producing meaningful results. Democrats, meanwhile, must demonstrate that they can offer practical alternatives rather than simply oppose the president. A Democratic House majority would provide greater control over committees, investigations and legislative priorities. Republican control would preserve the administration's congressional advantage, although narrow margins could still make legislation difficult to pass.

The economy: The election's defining issue

For many Americans, the most important political question is straightforward: Can their families afford to live comfortably? Grocery bills, housing, health insurance, transportation and education costs continue to shape household decisions. Small-business owners are also watching labor expenses, consumer demand, trade policy and economic uncertainty.

According to Pew Research Center's October 2026 survey, 84% of registered voters considered the economy very important to their midterm vote. The future of democracy, health care and education also ranked highly among voters' concerns. Republicans will emphasize their approach to taxation, energy, regulation and economic growth. Democrats will focus on affordability and the administration's economic record while advancing their own proposals. Ultimately, voters are likely to judge both parties by whether their policies improve everyday life. Economic growth means little to families who feel that rising expenses continue to outpace their incomes.



Immigration and foreign policy matter

Immigration remains an important dividing line. Republicans generally emphasize border security and enforcement, while Democrats often stress due process, enforcement priorities and the effects of immigration policy on families and employers. For Indian Americans, these debates have particular relevance. Employment-based visas, family reunification, skilled-worker recruitment and the treatment of legal immigrants can affect families, businesses and educational institutions. Candidates should address these concerns with practical proposals rather than campaign slogans.

Foreign policy also carries domestic consequences. Tensions involving Iran, uncertainty in energy markets and questions about America's international commitments can affect national security, fuel prices and federal spending. Americans deserve clear explanations of the objectives and costs of overseas military involvement. Equally important is public confidence in democratic institutions. Transparent government, respect for the law, credible elections and the peaceful transfer of power are essential principles that transcend party politics.

What Indian Americans should watch

Indian Americans are a diverse electorate with varied political views and priorities. Economic opportunity, education, health care, public safety, immigration policy, small-business conditions and U.S.-India relations may all influence their choices.

No single party represents every interest within the community. Voters should examine candidates' records, compare policy proposals and consider how decisions in Washington may affect their families and future generations.

At IndoUS Tribune, we believe informed participation matters more than automatic loyalty to any political party. Constructive engagement with elected representatives and careful evaluation of public policy help ensure that community concerns receive attention.

Polls are not the final verdict

National polling can identify broad trends, but individual races often produce unexpected results. Local issues, candidate credibility, turnout and the participation of independent voters can change the outcome. Republicans must convince voters that their policies are delivering results. Democrats must demonstrate that they can translate public dissatisfaction into effective leadership and responsible governance.

A change in congressional control would reshape Washington's political dynamics, but it would not automatically resolve the country's challenges. The ability of elected officials to negotiate, exercise oversight and address public concerns would remain critical.

At IndoUS Tribune, our responsibility is to examine these developments fairly and provide readers with context beyond partisan rhetoric.

In Part III of this series, we will explore what a change in congressional control could mean for the economy, immigration, health care, federal spending and America's foreign policy.

The polls may offer clues, but the voters will decide America's political direction on November 3.

Best regards,
Dr. Avi Verma
Publisher,
IndoUS Tribune

Spain's electoral board investigates Sánchez over government press conference during campaign

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Spain's Central Electoral Board opened disciplinary proceedings against Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez on Thursday over remarks he made at a government press conference announcing housing legislation. The proceedings followed a complaint by the opposition People's Party, which alleged that Sánchez used official government facilities to deliver campaign-style messages.

The board requested that the statements be removed from institutional channels and directed the prime minister to avoid similar conduct during the campaign period. The case comes after Sánchez called an early election for November 29, following the defeat of housing measures in parliament. Spain's electoral board has previously fined Sánchez over campaign-related statements made through official channels.

Seven Justice Department subpoenas put Nevada election chief under pressure before midterms

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Nevada Secretary of State Cisco Aguilar says seven federal grand jury subpoenas seeking voter information have consumed time and resources as he prepares for a closely watched election contest. The subpoenas were issued between June and September, amid President Donald Trump's claims, unsupported by evidence in the report, that large numbers of noncitizens had registered to vote. Aguilar says his office found no evidence that people flagged by the administration were noncitizens. He believes the federal scrutiny is politically motivated, a claim the Justice Department declined to address. Republican challenger Jim Marchant, who has questioned the legitimacy of the 2020 election, welcomed the investigation.

Romania's largest party backs prime minister-designate to help end prolonged political crisis

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Romania's Social Democrats agreed Wednesday to join the government proposed by Prime Minister-designate Luca Niculescu, bringing the country closer to ending months of political uncertainty. The party, parliament's largest, is expected to receive 11 ministerial posts, while technocrats would lead key portfolios including finance, energy and foreign affairs. Other pro-European parties have pledged enough support to help Niculescu secure the 233 votes needed in parliament. The crisis has weakened the Romanian leu and pushed borrowing costs higher, raising concerns about the country's investment-grade credit rating. The Social Democrats have demanded a 2027 budget plan by December 1 without further tax increases and said they will assess the government after six months.

United Kingdom expands sanctions powers to target supporters of illegal Israeli settlements

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United Kingdom introduced expanded sanctions powers on Thursday, enabling action against individuals and organizations linked to serious violations of international humanitarian law, obstruction of humanitarian aid and unlawful detention. The measures extend beyond direct perpetrators to those who finance, facilitate or benefit from qualifying conduct. Possible penalties include asset freezes, travel bans and restrictions on business activities. The government's move could allow action against entities supporting illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank. The new rules also create an urgent process for temporarily matching certain sanctions imposed by allied countries. Parliament must

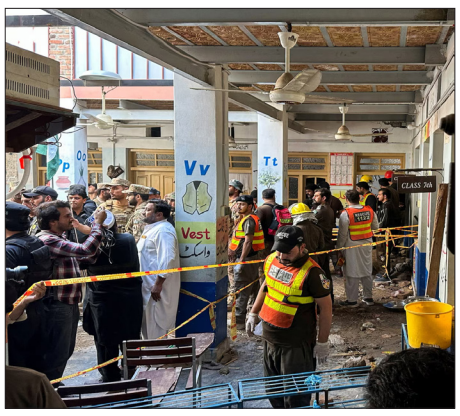


approve the regulations within 28 days. The measures come amid heightened tensions with Israel over settlement expansion and humanitarian concerns.

Peshawar school roof collapse kills 34 children and teacher, prompting safety investigation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

At least 34 children and a female teacher were killed Thursday when the roof of a private school collapsed during morning classes in Peshawar, northwestern Pakistan, according to local emergency officials. Rescue workers spent several hours searching the rubble of Al-Khair school while distraught families gathered outside. At least 45 children were reported injured, including some who required critical care. Police said the building's structure was weak and that construction on an upper floor may have placed excessive weight on the roof. The school's owner was arrested and an investigation launched. Prime Minister



Shehbaz Sharif expressed condolences to the victims' families. The disaster has renewed concerns about building safety and oversight at low-cost private schools operating in poorly maintained premises.

Houthi missile and drone attack on Aden presidential complex kills five, injures 16

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Five people were killed and 16 wounded Thursday in a missile and drone attack on Yemen's presidential palace complex in Aden, according to the country's health minister. The Al-Maashiq palace is the seat of Yemen's internationally recognized, Saudi-backed government. Prime Minister Shaya al-Zindani and cabinet members were reported safe following the strike. Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Saree said the group had targeted what he described as a Saudi military operations headquarters in Aden. The attack came amid intensifying hostilities between the Iran-aligned Houthis and the Saudi-led coalition, with regional tensions also rising



over the wider conflict involving Iran, the United States and Israel. The United Nations Security Council condemned escalating Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia and threats to commercial shipping.

Brazil approves 40-hour workweek reform, handing Lula a boost before presidential runoff

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Brazil's Congress approved a constitutional amendment to shorten the maximum workweek and phase out six-day work schedules, delivering a political victory to President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva ahead of the presidential runoff. The reform, approved by the Senate on Wednesday after passing the lower house in May, would reduce the maximum workweek from 44 hours to 40. The change is expected to affect millions of workers, particularly in retail, restaurants and hospitality, where six-day schedules are common. Senator Flávio Bolsonaro, Lula's rival in the election, backed the measure after previously opposing it. Implementation will be gradual, with the maximum workweek first falling to 42 hours before reaching 40. Supporters say the reform would give workers more time for family, rest and personal needs.

Turkey considers early 2028 election that could give Erdoğan another presidential run

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Turkey may hold its presidential and parliamentary elections in March or April 2028, earlier than the currently scheduled May vote, presidential adviser Mehmet Ucum said Thursday. An early election could allow President Tayyip Erdoğan to seek another term under a constitutional provision permitting re-election if parliament calls a vote before his current term ends. Erdoğan has led Turkey for nearly 23 years, first as prime minister and later as president. His nationalist ally Devlet Bahçeli has backed an early election, but the governing alliance lacks the 360 parliamentary votes required to call one. Opposition leader Özgür Özel has criticized efforts to arrange the election around Erdoğan's political future.

Pakistan suspends Imran Khan's party-led provincial government amid security emergency

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan's federal government has suspended the provincial administration in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a stronghold of jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan, following a state of emergency declared over rising militant attacks. President Asif Ali Zardari's decision removed Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party from provincial governing powers and placed an opponent in charge. The party has challenged the move in court, calling it a political takeover. Khan's sisters and hundreds of supporters were arrested ahead of a planned march to Islamabad demanding his release and medical treatment. His family has raised concerns about his deteriorating health, including vision problems and fluctuating blood pressure. Rights advocates have urged renewed political dialogue.

Ajay Banga to put job creation at the center of World Bank's development agenda



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

World Bank President Ajay Banga is expected to emphasize job creation when he addresses finance ministers and central bank governors at the International Monetary Fund and World Bank annual meetings in Bangkok on Friday. Banga has made employment a central priority, citing the need to prepare for 1.2 billion young people reaching adulthood over the next 15 years. He has said private businesses generate most jobs, while governments create conditions for investment. He has also advocated practical uses of artificial intelligence in schools, health care and agriculture. With public debt rising and aid budgets under pressure, Banga is urging governments to stretch limited development funding further.

India and Greece plan industrial roadmap to deepen defense partnership

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Greece reviewed their defense partnership and explored new cooperation in training, capacity building, regional security, maritime affairs and defense manufacturing at a meeting in Athens on Thursday. The second Joint Working Group on Defense Cooperation was co-chaired by Indian defense official Amit Telang and Greek Ambassador Michel Spinellis at the Hellenic Army Academy. Both sides agreed to develop an industrial roadmap promoting joint ventures, co-production and co-development in areas of mutual interest. On Wednesday, Indian Defense Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh met Greek Deputy Minister of National Defense Athanasios Davakis and foreign affairs official Alexandra Papadopoulu.

India and Georgia seek deeper cooperation in trade, tourism and connectivity

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Georgian Foreign Minister Maka Botchorishvili in Abu Dhabi on Thursday to discuss expanding bilateral cooperation and regional developments. The meeting took place on the sidelines of the Raisina Middle East Dialogue, jointly organized by the Observer Research Foundation and government partners from India and the United Arab Emirates. Both ministers reaffirmed their commitment to stronger political dialogue, closer economic ties and cooperation in business, connectivity, tourism, education and culture. Jaishankar noted that trade, tourism and educational links between the countries had been expanding. During his visit to the United Arab Emirates, he also met the country's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to discuss bilateral relations and global issues.

India and South Korea explore nuclear power and green hydrogen partnerships

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and South Korea are exploring greater cooperation in environmental protection and the energy transition, including nuclear energy, green hydrogen and renewable power. Indian Ambassador Gourangalal Das met Kim Jung-ho, chairman of South Korea's National Assembly Committee on Environment, Climate, Energy and Labour, to discuss potential areas of collaboration, the Indian Embassy said Thursday.

The meeting followed a series of engagements between the ambassador and South Korean lawmakers aimed at strengthening bilateral ties. In September, Das met members of the South Korea-India Parliamentary Friendship Group to discuss parliamentary, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Earlier that month, he also held talks with the chairman of the National Assembly's trade and industry committee on commercial relations, supply chain cooperation, clean energy, and support for small businesses and startups.

Canada and India seek stronger trade and security ties as diplomatic engagement gains momentum

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in New Delhi on Wednesday, reaffirming both countries' interest in expanding economic cooperation amid global uncertainty. Anand said renewed diplomatic engagement, including Prime Minister Mark Carney's visit earlier this year and the ongoing Team Canada Trade Mission, reflected growing ambition in bilateral relations. Discussions covered trade, investment, technology, energy, security, education and people-to-people exchanges. Modi said India remained committed to a constructive strategic partnership, while Jaishankar highlighted progress across key sectors and discussed regional and global developments. Anand also looked forward to Modi's planned visit to Canada in December. The Canadian government said bilateral trade reached $30.4 billion in 2025. Anand's visit, her third to India since June 2025, signals continuing efforts to rebuild ties following diplomatic tensions in 2023 and 2024.

Jaishankar calls for resilient globalization and trusted partnerships amid shifting world order

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said Thursday that India is strengthening its domestic capabilities and building trusted partnerships as global competition intensifies. Speaking at the Raisina Middle East Dialogue in Abu Dhabi, he said globalization could not be reversed but needed to be managed with greater resilience as new strategic chokepoints emerged. He also noted that the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor was already influencing regional connectivity discussions. On Wednesday, Jaishankar met Georgian Foreign Minister Maka Botchorishvili to discuss expanding cooperation in business, connectivity, culture, tourism, education and people-to-people exchanges. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to stronger political dialogue and economic ties. Jaishankar also met United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan to discuss bilateral relations and international developments, underscoring India's efforts to deepen partnerships across regions.

Indian defense delegation explores Brunei's energy security and maritime cooperation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian College of Defence Management delegation visited Brunei Darussalam as part of its International Strategic Management Tour, gaining insights into the country's Vision 2035, energy security and maritime coordination. The delegation visited Brunei's Prime Minister's Office, key government departments, the Defence Academy and Muara Naval Base. Members also met the commander of the Royal Brunei Navy in the presence of India's high commissioner to Brunei. The visit highlighted opportunities for regional security dialogue and defense cooperation. It followed India and Brunei's trade committee meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday, where both sides explored expanded trade, including Indian agricultural and pharmaceutical exports. Healthcare, pharmaceuticals and energy were identified as promising areas for deeper collaboration.

India and Fiji strengthen cooperation in public health and community welfare

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



India and Fiji reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral relations during a meeting between Indian High Commissioner Suneet Mehta and Fiji's Minister for Policing and Communications, Ioane Naivalurua, on Thursday. The discussions focused on deepening cooperation and maintaining the longstanding friendship between the countries. Earlier this week, both nations held their fourth Joint Working Group meeting on health, discussing public health, communicable diseases, human immunodeficiency virus and pharmaceutical products. Separately, Fiji's health minister inaugurated a Jaipur Foot camp at Twomey Hospital on Monday. The initiative, supported by India's High Commission, Fiji's health ministry and Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti, aims to provide artificial limbs to approximately 650 amputees across Suva, Nadi and Labasa.

India and United Kingdom plan December economic dialogue to expand cooperation

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman met United Kingdom Chancellor of the Exchequer John Healey in Bangkok on Thursday on the sidelines of the annual International Monetary Fund and World Bank meetings. They discussed strengthening economic ties and welcomed progress following the fourth India-United Kingdom Financial Markets Dialogue and related financial technology discussions. Sitharaman said India looked forward to the 14th Economic and Financial Dialogue, with proposed cooperation in critical minerals, green technology and city-region partnerships. Both sides agreed to hold the next dialogue in December. They also reaffirmed their commitment to shared priorities and an inclusive Group of Twenty process. Potential areas for deeper collaboration include financial services, clean energy, advanced manufacturing, life sciences and defense industry partnerships.

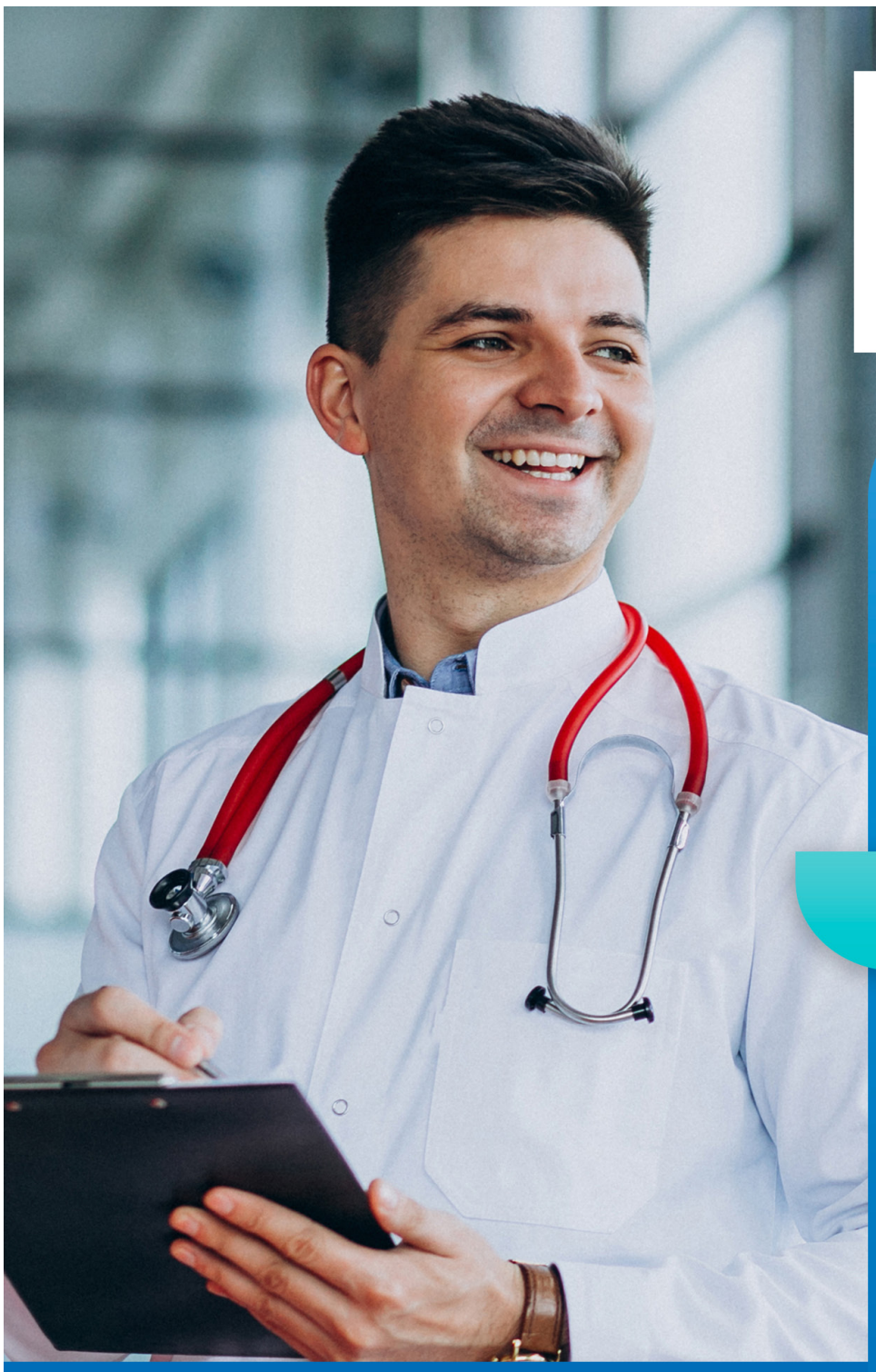
The United Kingdom minister's title and name were cross-checked against contemporary reporting and government information.

India and Japan expand technical cooperation on safer, sustainable road infrastructure



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India and Japan discussed closer cooperation in road infrastructure at the 12th meeting of their Joint Working Group on Roads and Road Transportation in New Delhi on Thursday. Organized by India's Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, the meeting brought together government representatives, technical institutions and industry stakeholders to exchange expertise and best practices. Discussions focused on advanced construction methods, tunnel and bridge engineering, sustainable infrastructure and digital technologies for road management. Representatives also explored collaboration across the planning, construction, operation and maintenance of roads. India's ministries of railways and power participated under a whole-of-government approach. The cooperation supports India's broader development goals by improving connectivity, logistics efficiency, infrastructure quality and access to economic opportunities across regions.



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CDC deploys additional support as Pennsylvania reports more than 1,100 measles cases

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Tuesday it would provide additional assistance to Pennsylvania as health officials investigate a growing measles outbreak. The state had reported 1,136 cases and five associated deaths this year through Thursday, October 9, prompting a formal request for federal support through the agency's emergency response program. The federal agency said it would work with local officials to investigate infections, strengthen containment measures and prevent further spread. The differing state and federal death counts have fueled a dispute between Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro and Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Separately, New York had reported 126 measles cases through Tuesday, while Governor Kathy Hochul had declared a statewide disaster emergency and indicated that federal assistance was being sought.

Massachusetts lawmakers urge aviation regulators to review Amazon's proposed drone delivery hub

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Four Democratic lawmakers from Massachusetts urged the Federal Aviation Administration on Wednesday to conduct a site-specific environmental review before approving Amazon's proposed Prime Air drone delivery hub in Westborough, about 30 miles west of Boston. Senators Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren, along with Representatives Jim McGovern and Lori Trahan, cited residents' concerns about noise pollution, public health, safety, privacy and quality of life. The request follows the agency's broader environmental review, which allows qualifying operators to deploy drone fleets without separate assessments for individual sites. Fifteen states and a Texas county have also challenged that policy in court, arguing that its environmental impacts were inadequately examined. The aviation agency said it would respond directly to the lawmakers. Amazon did not immediately comment.

Supreme Court to decide whether Trump administration must disclose government efficiency records

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Supreme Court agreed Tuesday to consider whether the Trump administration must release records about the Department of Government Efficiency, initially led by Elon Musk. The watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington sued for documents about the initiative's operations, workforce reductions and spending cuts. A federal judge ruled in 2025 that the department likely qualified as a government agency subject to public records laws. The administration argues it was a presidential advisory body exempt from disclosure requirements. Federal auditors have questioned some reported savings and raised concerns about safeguards for sensitive government data. The court is expected to issue a ruling by the end of June.

Rising gasoline prices push United States inflation higher and revive debate over Federal Reserve interest rates

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Consumer prices in the United States rose faster in September as gasoline costs surged, adding pressure to household budgets ahead of the November midterm elections. The Labor Department reported Wednesday that the Consumer Price Index increased 0.6 percent during the month and 3.7 percent from a year earlier, up from 3.4 percent annual inflation in August. Gasoline prices jumped 9.1 percent, accounting for more than half of the monthly increase. Prices excluding food and energy rose 0.3 percent, while annual underlying inflation reached 2.6 percent. Higher shelter costs, airline fares, used vehicles and apparel also contributed to price pressures. Food prices were broadly unchanged, and grocery prices edged down slightly.

The report increased market expectations that the Federal Reserve could raise interest rates at its October 27 and 28 meeting, although most economists still expected



rates to remain unchanged. Markets put the probability of an increase at about 37 percent, compared with 22 percent before the report. A Reuters and Ipsos poll found approximately 78 percent of Americans blamed President Donald Trump's policies, including tariffs and the conflict in the Middle East, for rising prices. Falling inflation-adjusted earnings have also intensified concerns about consumers' purchasing power.

Judge extends White House access for CNN, MS NOW and Politico amid press freedom lawsuit

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge on Tuesday extended White House access for journalists from CNN, MS NOW and Politico, ruling that President Donald Trump likely acted unlawfully when he sought to exclude the outlets over their reporting. United States District Judge Timothy Kelly issued a preliminary injunction maintaining access until a final judgment, unless an appeals court intervenes. The administration appealed on Wednesday.

Kelly said Trump's public statements suggested the ban stemmed from his objections to the outlets' coverage rather than national security concerns, as the Justice Department argued in court. He described the action as unlawful discrimination based on viewpoint, while noting that the president's criticisms of the reporting were not necessarily without merit. The news organizations argued that revoking their press passes violated constitutional protections for free speech and the press, as well as due process rights. The White House maintained that the outlets could cover Trump from outside the grounds. The dispute comes weeks before the November midterm elections.

Cornell faculty challenge president over handling of fraternity sexual assault allegations

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Cornell University President Michael Kotlikoff faced angry faculty members Wednesday over his administration's handling of a woman's allegations of gang rape at a fraternity house in 2024. Kotlikoff acknowledged missteps but defended his leadership, urging time for reforms. The university has banned fraternity parties through the academic year. The woman, identified as Jane Doe in court documents, alleges seven Chi Phi fraternity members sexually assaulted or exploited her. All seven have denied the allegations. Kotlikoff acknowledged he had not read the police report or recently known the woman had withdrawn from Cornell. Faculty members debated a no-confidence resolution, with further discussion expected October 28 before electronic voting.



Tariffs and Middle East conflict drive up United States toy prices before holiday shopping season

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

American families face higher holiday shopping costs as toy prices climb amid import tariffs and rising energy expenses linked to the Iran conflict. United States consumer inflation data showed toy prices rose 6.6 percent over the year through September and 4.2 percent from August after seasonal adjustment, outpacing many other categories. Much of the toy industry relies on Chinese manufacturing, leaving retailers exposed to trade policy changes.

Higher oil prices also raise costs for plastic materials and shipping. Although United States tariffs on Chinese goods eased from their initial 2025 levels, manufacturers say earlier costs are still affecting products reaching stores this fall. A Reuters and Ipsos poll found only 21 percent approved of President Donald Trump's handling of living costs.

Kamala Harris warns governments that time is running out to establish AI safeguards

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former United States Vice President Kamala Harris urged governments and technology companies on Wednesday to establish safeguards for artificial intelligence, warning that the opportunity to control its most serious risks was narrowing. Speaking at South Korea's Asan Institute for Policy Studies, she highlighted cybersecurity threats, artificial intelligence-enabled weapons and systems potentially escaping human control. Harris also called for cooperation between Washington and Beijing on shared risks, despite their strategic rivalry. She criticized President Donald Trump's tariffs and urged stronger United States commitment to South Korea amid growing cooperation among North Korea, Russia, China and Iran. Harris said Democrats had a strong chance of winning both chambers of Congress in November.

Robert Hall and Michael Woodford honored for research helping governments manage economic shocks

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

American economists Robert E. Hall of Stanford University and Michael Woodford of Columbia University won the 2026 economics prize on Monday for research that has strengthened understanding of how governments and central banks can stabilize economies. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced the award in Stockholm, recognizing their work on the microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilization. The academy said their research helps policymakers manage economic fluctuations, including energy crises and sudden changes in household spending. Woodford described the honor as a surprise and a tremendous privilege during a telephone conversation with the committee. The award is formally called the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.

Homeland Security officials defend ICE officers after Dominican man is shot in New York

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Federal Homeland Security officials defended immigration officers after they shot Oscar Bergal, a 28-year-old Dominican man, during an attempted arrest in New York City on Thursday. Officials said Bergal accelerated his car into vehicles blocking his path, prompting officers to fire because they believed lives were in danger. Bergal suffered a superficial neck injury and was hospitalized before being taken into immigration custody. His five-year-old son was in the back seat during the incident. New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani questioned the use of gunfire around a child, while protests followed the shooting. Bergal's attorneys disputed whether officers had a valid arrest warrant. He remained in stable condition, according to police officials.

Federal judge orders Trump administration to stop taxpayer-funded political advertising

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge ordered the Trump administration on Sunday to cancel remaining television advertisements funded with $20 million in taxpayer money and challenged as unlawful political propaganda. United States District Judge Jennifer Rochon in New York granted a temporary restraining order sought by Common Cause and other plaintiffs, prohibiting officials from entering into, renewing or expanding agreements for the advertisements during the order's two-week period.

The Department of Homeland Security said the funding was authorized for activities related to border security. The administration had argued the campaign was ending. President Donald Trump previously said he would use political fundraising to pay for the ads, but the White House had no immediate plans to reimburse taxpayers for money already spent.

Judge challenges Trump administration over tree removal at historic East Potomac Golf Course

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal judge ordered the Trump administration to suspend tree-cutting for 24 hours Monday at East Potomac Golf Course in Washington, following a tense hearing over renovation work. United States District Judge Ana Reyes sharply criticized government officials, accusing them of disregarding her concerns by proceeding with extensive tree removal over the holiday weekend without adequate notice to plaintiffs or the court. The judge said the temporary restriction could be extended to 14 days. The work forms part of President Donald Trump's plans to remake the city. Reyes scheduled another hearing for October 19 and sought testimony from senior Interior Department and National Park Service officials involved in the decision.

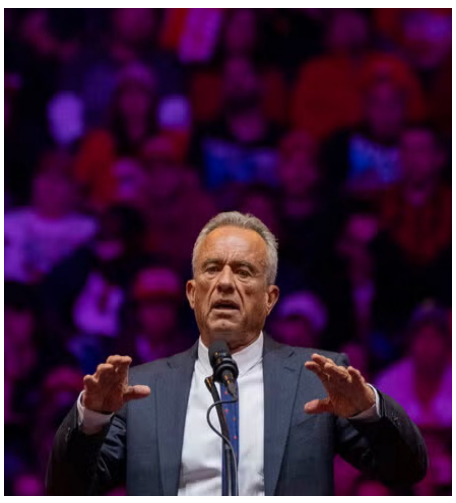
United States penalizes Bank of America over alleged failures to report billions in suspicious transactions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Treasury announced Tuesday that Bank of America faces $1.21 billion in penalties for violations involving anti-money laundering requirements and sanctions. Officials said the bank failed to adequately investigate and report suspicious transactions, including activity linked to Chinese money laundering networks and illicit financing near the southwestern border. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency imposed a $750 million civil penalty, while the Office of Foreign Assets Control separately announced an $11.6 million settlement over sanctions violations. Regulators cited weak internal controls and delayed reporting involving more than $5 billion in suspicious transactions, including over $1 billion tied to priority national security risks.

United States cuts Affordable Care Act subsidies after identifying duplicate coverage and deceased enrollees

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



The Trump administration announced Wednesday that it was ending Affordable Care Act subsidies for approximately 189,000 people identified as having duplicate government health coverage or being deceased. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. said the action was expected to save taxpayers about $738 million this year and more than $1.5 billion annually.

Officials said the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services identified approximately 120,000 people receiving subsidized marketplace coverage while enrolled in Medicaid, 58,000 also covered by Medicare, and thousands of deceased beneficiaries. Those with overlapping coverage would retain their existing insurance through the other government program, officials said.

Affected individuals or their estates will have 30 days to challenge the findings before subsidies stop. The administration said the initiative was separate from an earlier effort to cancel hundreds of thousands of marketplace policies it believed involved fraudulent enrollment. Officials also reported that potentially 1.2 million people were enrolled in Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program across multiple states each month. States must begin verifying enrollee addresses in January 2027.

Trump-backed Caucasus investment fund leader faces scrutiny over Armenian business interests and Russia ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



A Russian-born businessman selected to lead a $201 million United States investment fund faces scrutiny over potential conflicts of interest tied to his Armenian holdings and past Russian business connections. Konstantin Sokolov leads the Trans-Caspian Enterprise Fund, which supports investment across the Caucasus and Central Asia. His interests include Armenia's Viva Armenia telecommunications company and the Teghout copper and molybdenum mine.

Six ethics experts told Reuters his holdings raise concerns because fund decisions could potentially benefit his businesses. Sokolov's representatives said the fund cannot invest in his companies and that he met due diligence requirements. Reuters found no evidence of wrongdoing. The fund's priorities include critical minerals, energy and rail infrastructure.

Federal Reserve chairman faces resistance as officials defend public communication on interest rates

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Federal Reserve Chairman Kevin Warsh's push for a quieter central bank is facing resistance from colleagues who argue that public communication helps households, businesses and investors understand interest rate decisions. Since September's rate increase, Federal Reserve officials have made more than 40 public appearances, helping temper market expectations of further aggressive hikes. Consumer prices rose 3.7 percent year over year in September, adding uncertainty ahead of the next policy meeting. Warsh favors greater reliance on economic data and is considering ending quarterly projections of policymakers' expected interest rate paths. Other officials warn that limited guidance could unsettle markets and create volatility. Warsh is scheduled to speak in Bangkok on Thursday evening, offering a final opportunity to influence expectations before the next rate decision.

Six Flags closes nine roller coasters across North America after fatal Georgia ride accident

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Six Flags has temporarily closed nine roller coasters across six North American parks after a 42-year-old man died Monday while riding Goliath at Six Flags Over Georgia near Atlanta. Hassan Jihad Ibn Kariem was reportedly ejected from his seat and struck other people before falling to the ground.

Several others were injured, although officials have not released further details. Investigators are examining how the accident occurred and whether the ride's restraints functioned properly.

The closures affect attractions in Georgia, California, Illinois, New Jersey, North Carolina and Ontario, Canada. Georgia authorities are conducting a comprehensive review.

The incident has renewed questions about amusement park safety standards and the oversight of major rides in the United States.

Appeals court clears Florida to enforce social media restrictions for children under 16

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Florida won a significant legal victory Wednesday when a federal appeals court allowed enforcement of a state law restricting children's social media use. Signed by Governor Ron DeSantis in 2024, the law prohibits accounts for children under 14 and requires parental consent for users aged 14 and 15. A three-judge panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit ruled unanimously that the law likely protects minors from social media addiction without excessively restricting free speech. Technology industry groups NetChoice and the Computer and Communications Industry Association challenged the measure. NetChoice said it was disappointed and was reviewing its options.

Social Security recipients to receive an average $75 monthly increase as inflation pressures persist

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Social Security Administration announced Wednesday that benefits will increase by 3.6 percent in 2027, providing an average additional $75 per month to millions of Americans. The adjustment will begin in January for nearly 72 million Social Security beneficiaries, while payments for approximately 7.3 million Supplemental Security Income recipients will reflect the increase starting December 31. The rise is the largest annual adjustment in four years, but advocates say it may not keep pace with rising living costs. Consumer prices climbed 3.7 percent year over year in September. Social Security's combined trust funds are projected to be unable to pay full scheduled benefits beginning in 2034.

Federal watchdog urges stronger United States immigration officer body camera rules, but agency rejects automatic recording



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A federal oversight report has urged United States immigration authorities to improve body camera policies following concerns about officer shootings, arrests and accountability. The Government Accountability Office recommended automatic camera activation during unexpected incidents involving the use of force. Immigration and Customs Enforcement rejected the proposal, citing privacy risks, including unauthorized recording of confidential informants and victims. The report found confusion among some officers about when cameras must be activated, with one office reportedly not using them despite staff training. The Department of Homeland Security said cameras had been distributed across all Immigration and Customs Enforcement offices by August, although training remained underway. The findings have intensified debate over transparency as immigration enforcement faces increased scrutiny nationwide.

North American Punjabi Association demands independent inquiry into alleged police misconduct at Delhi's Gurdwara Bangla Sahib



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The North American Punjabi Association has called for an independent, time-bound investigation into alleged police misconduct involving Sikh devotees at Gurdwara Bangla Sahib in New Delhi, expressing concern over the incident's impact on Sikhs in India and abroad. Executive Director Satnam Singh Chahal said allegations of forcibly removing turbans and mishandling women protesters warranted serious scrutiny. He emphasized that the Sikh turban represents religious identity, dignity and faith. The association acknowledged the police responsibility to maintain order but urged authorities to examine complete, unedited video footage and hear witnesses. It has sought accountability for any officers found responsible for unlawful force and appealed to India's president, the Union Home Ministry and human rights authorities to ensure a transparent investigation.

Eleven Indians injured in deadly attack on Riyadh airport as embassy contacts Saudi authorities



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Eleven Indian nationals were among more than 300 people injured in an attack on Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport, prompting the Indian Embassy to contact Saudi authorities and hospitals to check on their condition. The attack on Saturday reportedly killed 12 people, including citizens of Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, the United States and several other countries. Saudi Arabia blamed Houthi militants for the incident. India strongly condemned repeated attacks on the airport and civilian infrastructure, calling for an immediate halt to the violence. The Ministry of External Affairs expressed condolences to the victims' families and wished the injured a speedy recovery. The embassy had advised Indian nationals in Saudi Arabia to remain vigilant, follow local authorities' instructions and stay indoors when necessary amid the deteriorating security situation.

Indian-American Sikh lawmaker Ranjeev Puri seeks historic Michigan House speakership as Democrats target election gains

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune



Indian-American Sikh lawmaker Ranjeev Puri is seeking another term in Michigan as Democrats hope to gain control of the state House and potentially make him the first Indian-American speaker of a state legislative chamber in the United States.

Puri, 42, became the first Sikh American elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 2020. Born to Punjabi immigrant parents, he was appointed Democratic leader in the 110-member chamber in 2025, despite Republican control. He faces Republican challenger Allison Kay Fuller in the November 3 election. Democrats believe winning the chamber could create a path for Puri to become speaker, marking a milestone for Indian-American political representation.

Puri previously worked on Barack Obama's presidential campaigns in 2008 and 2012, earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, and later worked in Michigan's automotive industry.

Three Indians killed in suspected arson at German apartment building, raising concerns for expatriate families

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



Three Indian nationals died and five other people were injured in a fire at a residential building in Bochum, Germany, early Tuesday, leaving the Indian community awaiting answers as investigators examine suspected arson.

The victims were two women, aged 25 and 27, and a 26-year-old man. German authorities arrested a 41-year-old Romanian resident of the building on suspicion of murder after ruling out a technical defect as the cause of the blaze.

Emergency services were alerted at approximately 4:15 a.m. local time. Firefighters found the three victims dead in a second-floor apartment, while the injured suffered smoke inhalation and were taken to hospitals. Authorities are investigating whether the fire was deliberately set. The case has drawn attention to the safety and vulnerability of Indians living and working abroad.

Khalistan referendum event in Edmonton draws attention as India and Canada rebuild ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



A referendum event announced by the banned pro-Khalistan organization Sikhs for Justice in Edmonton, Alberta, for Sunday is drawing attention as India and Canada pursue closer economic and diplomatic relations. The announcement comes as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney seek stronger cooperation in trade, energy, technology and security, areas that could create new opportunities for businesses and diaspora communities.

Canada has dispatched a delegation of more than 300 business representatives to India, led by International Trade Minister Maninder Sidhu, for meetings in Mumbai and Bengaluru through Saturday. Ottawa aims to increase bilateral trade to $70 billion by 2030, while negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement continue. Relations deteriorated after the 2023 killing of Sikh separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada and allegations by then Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Indian involvement, which New Delhi denied.

Haryana youth begin nursing careers in Germany through new institute linking Indian talent with European healthcare



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Eight young people from Haryana have begun nursing training at the newly established Goethe Care Institut in Rüsselsheim, Germany, opening a potential pathway for Indian students into the country's healthcare sector. Founded by Haryana-born German politician and healthcare entrepreneur Rahul Kumar, the institute combines vocational education, German-language instruction and supervised practical training. Chief executive Saurabh Bhagat said students and families would receive information about course requirements, fees, living expenses and qualification options. The program also incorporates technology-assisted learning while emphasizing empathy, communication and patient-centered care. Its founders envision a balanced intake of local and international students. For Haryana's youth, the initiative offers international career possibilities, although its long-term value will depend on recognized qualifications, transparent costs and realistic employment opportunities.

Indian archery coach Jiwanjot Singh Teja returns from Canada after career setback, renews commitment to nurturing talent



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian archery coach Jiwanjot Singh Teja returned from Canada after leaving his coaching position in frustration over a lack of recognition, highlighting the personal sacrifices behind sporting success. Teja moved to Canada with his family after the 2018 Asian Games and drove trucks between Canada and the United States to support them. He later received the Dronacharya Award while abroad, an honor he said he initially thought was a joke. A coach at Punjabi University in Patiala since 2007, Teja said his students had included 35 international archers, with five receiving Arjuna Awards. His trainees eventually persuaded him to return to India. He continues to advocate grassroots participation, arguing that sustained training and enjoyment of sport matter more than chasing quick fame or awards.

Indian-origin candidate Dipika Damerla uses Bollywood song to promote property tax pledge in Mississauga mayoral race



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indian-origin politician Dipika Damerla is using Bollywood nostalgia to connect with voters in her campaign to become mayor of Mississauga, Ontario, promising no property tax increases if elected.

Damerla shared a campaign video on Thursday featuring a reworked version of the Hindi film song 'Kya Hua Tera Wada'. The musical appeal delivers a straightforward message to residents concerned about household expenses, ending with her campaign slogan, 'A city that works'. Born in Andhra Pradesh, Damerla previously represented Mississauga East-Cooksville in Ontario's provincial legislature and served as associate minister of health and long-term care and minister of seniors affairs. She joined Mississauga City Council in 2018.

Her campaign reflects how politicians of Indian origin are using South Asian cultural references to engage diverse Canadian voters, although the electoral impact of the video remains uncertain.

Indian man Rohan Rane sentenced to 20 years in Paris for leading international child exploitation network



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian man who moved to France to study has been sentenced to 20 years in prison for leading an international criminal network that exploited children online, according to French media reports.

Rohan Rane, 29, was convicted by a Paris court on Friday after proceedings that included closed-door hearings. Prosecutors said the group targeted vulnerable children in the United States, Britain and Canada, coercing them into producing violent and sexually abusive material. The network, known as CVLT, operated through Discord and promoted extremist, racist and misogynistic ideology. Investigators identified approximately 20 victims, many of them minors, while prosecutors said additional victims could not be contacted. The case underscores the international reach of online child exploitation and the importance of cross-border law enforcement cooperation to protect vulnerable children and hold perpetrators accountable.

Tighter United Kingdom student visa rules threaten admission prospects for Indian international students

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune



Indian students hoping to study in the United Kingdom face growing uncertainty as universities withdraw admission offers amid tighter student visa rules and concerns about recruitment restrictions. A Financial Times analysis found that universities risk losing permission to recruit international students if more than 5 percent of prospective students whose offers they issue subsequently have visa applications rejected. The previous threshold was 10 percent.

The proportion of Indian study visa applications withdrawn rose to 5.2 percent in the first half of 2026, compared with 1.2 percent during the same period last year. Rates also increased sharply among applicants from Pakistan, Nigeria and Bangladesh. Universities UK International warned that unpredictable visa decisions were forcing institutions to reconsider international recruitment. The Home Office said universities must recruit responsibly while safeguarding the integrity of the immigration system.

Harvard-linked Indian scholars warn against rhetoric undermining constitutional institutions and democratic trust

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

A group of 44 scholars and professionals associated with Harvard-related networks has expressed concern over attacks on India's constitutional institutions, warning that unsupported allegations could weaken public trust in the country's democratic system. In a statement released Wednesday, the signatories criticized rhetoric directed at institutions including the Election Commission, Supreme Court and Parliament. They argued that while dissent is a democratic right, undermining institutional credibility without evidence is not. The signatories included lawyers, policymakers, civil servants, scientists and academics. They also raised concerns about reports that Harvard University's name had been used to lend credibility to a political campaign without proper authorization. For the Indian diaspora, the debate highlights continuing international engagement with India's democratic institutions and public discourse. The group called for respect for constitutional principles, civil liberties, due process and institutional accountability, stressing that criticism should be grounded in evidence rather than abusive rhetoric.

Indian-American oncologist Rachna Shroff dies at 47 after continuing cancer research during her own illness

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Indian-American oncologist Rachna Shroff, an internationally recognized specialist in rare bile duct cancers, has died at 47 after continuing to advance cancer research while living with the disease herself.

The University of Arizona announced her death. She served as associate director of clinical investigations at the university's cancer center and chief of its Division of Hematology and Oncology.

Raised in Tucson, Arizona, in an Indian-origin family, Dr. Shroff earned a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from Brown University and a medical degree from Thomas Jefferson University. She later completed her oncology fellowship at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Her career included more than 80 scientific publications, over 130 professional presentations and clinical trials exploring treatments for difficult-to-treat cancers. In September, she helped establish an endowed award for young researchers studying bile duct cancers, raising more than $1.35 million within weeks. Her legacy extends across the medical and Indian-American communities.

Sikh community and Italian officials honor Indian soldiers in World War II, strengthening shared heritage for younger generations

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Sikh community members and Italian officials gathered in Mercato Saraceno, Italy, for the 15th annual Martyrdom Tribute Ceremony on October 14, honoring Indian soldiers who died fighting Nazi German forces during World War II. Organized by World Sikh Military (Royal) and the local municipality, the ceremony sought to preserve the soldiers' legacy and strengthen historical ties between the Sikh diaspora and Italian communities. Prayers and tributes recognized their sacrifices during the Allied campaign in Italy. An 11-kilometer commemorative march along a historic route reportedly built by Sikh soldiers in 1944 brought together Italian and Indian young people. Participants learned about locations associated with the soldiers and the difficult battles fought across Italy's mountainous terrain. Organizers said the annual observance helps younger generations understand the contribution of Indian troops to Europe's wartime history while reinforcing a shared commitment to remembrance, cultural exchange and friendship between the two communities.

Indian government facilitates Hemkund Sahib pilgrimage for Pakistani Sikhs ahead of shrine's seasonal closure



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Around 40 Pakistani Sikh pilgrims received special travel and security arrangements to visit Gurdwara Sri Hemkund Sahib in Uttarakhand before the revered shrine's seasonal closure, in a gesture welcomed by the Sikh diaspora.

The 49-member delegation arrived in New Delhi on Thursday from Peshawar, Panja Sahib, Lahore and Nankana Sahib. Following a request from the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee, India's Home Ministry facilitated the journey despite difficult weather and limited time.

The pilgrims traveled overnight to Chamoli district, participated in religious rituals and were scheduled to return to New Delhi before continuing their itinerary.

Jatha leader Papinder Singh thanked both the Indian and Pakistani governments for their cooperation. For members of the delegation, the pilgrimage carried special significance, offering an opportunity to visit historic Sikh shrines and reunite with relatives after years apart.

Indian-origin Brampton resident surrenders to Canadian police in attempted murder case after stabbing leaves victim critically injured



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

An Indian-origin man has surrendered to police in Brampton, Ontario, after being sought in connection with a stabbing that left a victim seriously injured and required transfer to a trauma center. Peel Regional Police said officers responded to the incident at approximately 2 p.m. on Wednesday. The victim was initially taken to a local hospital before being transferred for specialized treatment. Investigators identified the suspect as Vimal Mohan, 35, of Brampton, and sought him on suspicion of attempted murder. He turned himself in at a local police division on Sunday and was arrested. Mohan has been charged with attempted murder and aggravated assault and is being held pending a bail hearing. Police have not disclosed a motive or further details about the circumstances of the alleged attack. The case has drawn attention within the local community as the investigation proceeds through Canada's justice system.

Pope Leo walks after lung cancer surgery as Vatican monitors recovery

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pope Leo's recovery from lung cancer surgery is progressing as expected, the Vatican said Wednesday, reporting that the 71-year-old pontiff had begun walking in his hospital room and was eating normally. Doctors removed the lower lobe of his right lung on Tuesday to eliminate cancerous tissue after diagnosing lung adenocarcinoma. Postoperative blood tests and a chest X-ray showed normal results, and the pope began respiratory physiotherapy. He is expected to remain hospitalized for about a week, with public engagements canceled through Tuesday. The Vatican said his planned November visit to Uruguay, Argentina and Peru remained scheduled, although Peru's president suggested the trip could be delayed.

Germany rejects efforts to restore Russia's standing in the G20 as sanctions debate deepens

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Germany warned on Thursday against treating Russia as a normal member of the Group of 20, as disagreements over sanctions and support for Ukraine intensified at a meeting of finance ministers and central bankers in Bangkok. German Finance Minister Lars Klingbeil said he opposed efforts, particularly from the United States, to restore Russia's international standing following its invasion of Ukraine. Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov attended the meeting. Washington defended Russia's participation, arguing that dialogue was necessary to resolve conflicts. Britain, meanwhile, urged countries to tighten restrictions on shipping services used by Russia's so-called shadow fleet to transport oil and evade sanctions. The debate follows



indications that the Trump administration is considering easing some restrictions on Russian oil shipments. German Chancellor Friedrich Merz also rejected proposals to transfer frozen Russian sovereign assets to a United States-supervised arrangement. Klingbeil stressed that negotiations must not come at Ukraine's expense.

South Korea raises concerns over United States military commander's remarks on wartime control

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

South Korea has conveyed concerns to the United States over remarks by General Xavier Brunson, commander of United States Forces Korea, that conditions for transferring wartime operational control to Seoul have changed. Defense Minister Kang Shin-chul said Thursday that the comments had broader implications, although the transfer requirements themselves remained unchanged. Brunson cited North Korea's recent missile launches when discussing new standards for the transition. South Korea hopes to regain wartime command before President Lee Jae Myung's term ends in 2030, potentially as early as next year. Seoul says the decision must rest on mutual trust and the alliance, rather than political considerations.

Italy extends Schengen border controls with Spain amid migrant tensions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Italy has extended its suspension of border-free travel arrangements with Spain by another week amid concerns over migrant arrivals in Ceuta, with both countries preparing talks on lifting the restrictions. Rome introduced the measure on July 31 after more than 72,000 migrants entered Spain's North African enclave from neighboring Morocco. Spain has extended its own suspension with Italy until October 22. The countries' interior ministers will explore ways to lift the controls and strengthen cooperation. Italy cites security risks, while Madrid has condemned the restrictions as unjust and discriminatory.

Canada secures nearly $300 million in partnerships during major India trade mission

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Canada's largest trade mission to India in more than 30 years concluded Friday with over 30 partnerships valued at nearly $300 million, International Trade Minister Maninder Sidhu announced.

The mission brought together nearly 300 delegates representing 150 organizations, with participation from aerospace, energy, clean technology and automotive industries. The initiative aimed to expand commercial ties and create new opportunities for Canadian businesses in the Indian market.

The visit also advanced negotiations for a Canada-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, with both



countries working toward a deal by the end of 2026. The mission signals renewed momentum in bilateral trade relations as Canada seeks to strengthen economic cooperation with one of the world's fastest-growing major economies.

British army chef jailed for nearly four years over weapons linked to far-right extremism

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A British army chef was sentenced Wednesday to three years and 10 months in prison after authorities found homemade weapons and explosives linked to his far-right extremist interests. Mark Broadhurst, 28, was arrested at his barracks in September 2024 after online messages revealed racist views and plans to form an armed militia. Searches of his home uncovered knives, crossbows, ammunition, black powder, air pistols and an improvised cannon. Broadhurst admitted firearm and explosives offenses but denied possessing them for terrorism. A judge ruled that his crimes were connected to terrorism. He had maintained contact with three men previously imprisoned for planning an attack on religious sites.

Hurricane Trudy threatens Mexico's Pacific coast with dangerous flooding and landslides



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Hurricane Trudy moved northwest off Mexico's Pacific coast on Thursday, threatening torrential rain and strong winds in areas already damaged by recent storms. The Category 1 hurricane was about 480 kilometers south-southwest of Acapulco, with sustained winds of 120 kilometers per hour, according to the United States National Hurricane Center. Forecasters expected Trudy to strengthen rapidly into a major hurricane by Friday, raising the risk of life-threatening flooding and landslides in Colima and Jalisco. Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Simon remained nearly stationary farther offshore after bringing heavy rain and was forecast to approach the Baja California peninsula over the weekend.

Pakistan faces scrutiny over media restrictions amid unrest in three regions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Pakistan is facing criticism over restrictions on media coverage as protests and violence continue in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir. According to officials cited by Indo-Asian News Service, authorities have restricted live broadcasts, scrutinized footage and limited internet access, making independent reporting difficult.

The Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority has reportedly directed television channels to avoid live coverage of protests. Human rights groups and foreign journalists also face restrictions on visiting affected areas.



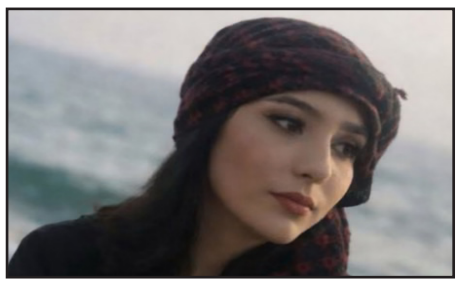
Activists say these measures impede reporting on alleged extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances. The unrest has raised concerns about transparency and accountability, while European Union warnings over human rights could put Pakistan's trade preferences at risk.

Indonesia tests aerial dry ice dispersal as wildfire haze threatens millions across Southeast Asia

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Indonesia planned to disperse 1.5 tons of dry ice over Palembang in South Sumatra on Thursday as an experimental effort to ease toxic haze from widespread wildfires. The government has already tried cloud seeding, water bombing and deploying military personnel, but fires have burned nearly 900,000 hectares nationwide since January. Smoke has worsened air quality across Indonesia and spread to Singapore, Malaysia and other neighboring areas, contributing to respiratory illnesses, school closures and travel disruption. Officials said the dry ice trial would be assessed before any wider rollout. Experts cautioned that the technique might provide only temporary local relief because winds could quickly carry more smoke into affected communities.

Iranian student faces death sentence over social media post as rights groups warn of rising executions



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Iranian student Najmeh Amini, 23, has reportedly been sentenced to death for blasphemy over a social media post, prompting human rights groups to warn about the use of capital punishment to suppress dissent. Amini is being held in Mashhad and has also received a prison sentence of 12 years, six months and one day on separate national security and propaganda charges. Her defense reportedly argued that she made the remarks while hallucinating, but the court rejected the argument. The death sentence remains subject to appeal. Iran Human Rights reported that more than 600 executions had been carried out in the country this year, intensifying concerns over due process and freedom of expression.

Tropical Storm Rachel leaves California coastal homes damaged and raises concerns over winter flooding

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Southern California communities began cleanup operations Monday after powerful waves and flooding linked to the remnants of Tropical Storm Rachel damaged beachfront properties and destroyed part of a Long Beach boardwalk. At least nine homes in Long Beach were initially deemed unsafe to enter, while Newport Beach declared a local emergency and temporarily closed its piers because of unusually high surf. Rachel also brought heavy rain and flooding to Las Vegas, which recorded 1.08 inches of rain by Sunday morning, tying its October daily rainfall record. Forecasters warned that an emerging El Niño could increase the risk of severe winter storms, coastal flooding, landslides and flash floods across California.

Costa Rica opens high-security prison as gang violence fuels tougher crime policies

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Costa Rica inaugurated a maximum-security prison on Wednesday as authorities intensified efforts to combat organized crime following persistently high homicide rates. President Laura Fernández opened the High-Containment Center Against Organized Crime near San José, a facility modeled on El Salvador's prison crackdown and designed to hold 5,100 inmates, approximately one-fifth of Costa Rica's prison population. The country recorded 905 homicides in 2023, followed by 876 in 2024 and 873 in 2025, with many killings linked to disputes over drug trafficking. Fernández said the prison would introduce a tougher security model, while Justice Minister Gabriel Aguilar described it as part of efforts to restore state control over prisons. Initial inmate transfers are expected later this month.

Prince Harry and Meghan return to Nottingham for first joint public appearance in Britain

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Prince Harry and Meghan made their first joint public appearance in Britain since returning from California on Thursday, visiting Nottingham, where they undertook their first official engagement together in 2017. The couple visited community organizations supporting young people and families, including a recording studio backed by a donation from Harry and the Himmah charity, which tackles food poverty. Meghan reunited with contributors to a charity cookbook whose proceeds supported community work following the Grenfell Tower fire. Around 100 supporters and schoolchildren welcomed the couple, whose return has attracted renewed attention amid continuing security concerns and mixed public opinion. Although they have relocated to Britain with their children, Archie and Lilibet, they remain private citizens and are not working members of the royal family.

Arab-led parties could influence Israel's election despite coalition barriers

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



Arab-led political parties could play a decisive role in Israel's election on Tuesday, October 27, although Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and leading opposition figures have ruled out forming coalitions with them. Mansour Abbas, leader of the Islamist Ra'am party, made history in 2021 by bringing an Arab party into an Israeli governing coalition. He has focused on local concerns, including crime, while other Arab politicians take a more confrontational approach toward the government. Palestinian citizens account for about 20 percent of Israel's population but face discrimination, high crime rates and restrictions on political expression, according to rights advocates. The October 7, 2023, Hamas attack and Israel's subsequent war in Gaza have further strained relations. With no party expected to secure a parliamentary majority alone, Arab-led parties could influence government formation. However, continued exclusion could prolong political deadlock and lead to another election.

Russia arrests Japanese journalist on espionage allegations amid worsening bilateral ties

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Russia arrested Japanese journalist Yuki Imai on the far eastern island of Sakhalin, accusing him of gathering information about the country's defense capabilities for Japanese intelligence. The Federal Security Service said the reporter, who works for the Hokkaido Shimbun newspaper, was detained while preparing to return to Japan and later transferred to Moscow, where a court ordered pretrial detention until December 12. The charges carry a possible prison sentence of up to 20 years. Japan summoned the Russian ambassador on Wednesday and urged Moscow to ensure fair treatment and provide information about the detained journalist. The arrest comes amid strained relations over Tokyo's support for Ukraine and a longstanding territorial dispute over the Kuril Islands.

Undercover investigation exposes racist and violent remarks by Reform UK politicians

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



An undercover investigation by British broadcaster ITV has revealed racist, sexually explicit and violent remarks by several members of Nigel Farage's Reform UK party, including elected local councillors. Footage released on Wednesday showed individuals making derogatory comments about Asian people and Muslims, discussing ways to obstruct a mosque and expressing hostility toward immigrants. One councillor advocated using military tactics to round up migrants. Reform UK said investigations had begun, with some members suspended, and defended its vetting procedures while acknowledging that unsuitable individuals had passed through them. The revelations come as the anti-immigration party faces scrutiny over its finances and declining opinion poll support. The full documentary, 'Undercover: A Year in Reform', is scheduled to air on Sunday.

Macron pledges support for Ukraine's defense as Zelensky seeks stronger European assistance

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



French President Emmanuel Macron reaffirmed France's support for Ukraine on Thursday, saying Kyiv must receive the means necessary to protect its civilian population and critical infrastructure against Russian attacks. Macron made the remarks after meeting Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on the sidelines of a European Union summit in Brussels. Zelensky described their discussion as productive and thanked France for helping Ukraine respond to Russia's escalating aggression. He said France would provide additional assistance for Ukrainian aviation in the coming month. Both leaders also expressed interest in accelerating work on the FREYJA project, a proposed European anti-ballistic missile defense system. The meeting underscored Ukraine's continuing efforts to secure military assistance and strengthen European cooperation as Russia's war continues.

North Korea tests two strategic cruise missiles in possible submarine launch

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

North Korea said Thursday it had test-fired two types of strategic cruise missiles into the East Sea on Wednesday, in what may have been the first such launch from its 3,000-ton-class submarine, Hero Kim Kun Ok. State media said the tests assessed underwater combat readiness and strengthened the country's nuclear deterrent. South Korean military officials said they tracked the missiles throughout their flights, adding that one was launched from a vertical launch system and the other from a torpedo launcher. North Korea unveiled the submarine in 2023. The tests mark its first reported submarine-launched cruise missile activity since January 2024, raising concerns about its expanding naval weapons capabilities.

Trump appoints media company commentator Katie Zacharia as next White House press secretary

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump announced Friday that Katie Zacharia, a communications adviser and conservative commentator for Trump Media and Technology Group, will replace Karoline Leavitt as White House press secretary. Trump described Zacharia as a loyal supporter who had backed him from the beginning. Zacharia called the appointment the honor of a lifetime and pledged to communicate the administration's achievements to the American public. She previously worked briefly as a spokesperson for the Department of Homeland Security and appeared as a commentator on Fox News and Newsmax. Leavitt, who became press secretary in January 2025, stepped down in August to spend more time with her young children. She is scheduled to join Fox News Channel as an on-air contributor on November 1.

Senate candidates divided over accepting election results as United States midterms approach

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Major-party candidates in competitive United States Senate races remain divided over whether they will accept November's election results unconditionally, according to a Reuters survey of 26 campaigns across 13 states. Nine Democratic campaigns, one independent and four Republican campaigns said their candidates would accept the outcome regardless of who wins. Several Republicans offered qualified responses, avoided the question or did not respond. The survey comes amid President Donald Trump's efforts to obtain state voter records and his repeated, unsupported claims of election fraud. Republicans currently hold a 53-47 Senate majority, while rising living costs have strengthened Democratic hopes of gaining seats. A September Reuters and Ipsos poll found 76 percent of registered voters were confident their ballots would be counted accurately.

Digvijaya Singh unveils theme song for 930-kilometer Ujjain-Ayodhya pilgrimage



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Veteran Congress leader and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh unveiled the theme song Thursday for his planned 'Satya Sanatan Swabhiman Yatra', a 930-kilometer pilgrimage on foot from Ujjain to Ayodhya beginning Tuesday. The journey aims to promote truth, compassion, service and social harmony while encouraging transparency and accountability in religious institutions. The song invokes Lord Mahakal of Ujjain and Lord Ram of Ayodhya. The route will pass through several towns in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, connecting prominent religious sites, including Orchha's Ramraja Sarkar Temple, before reaching Ayodhya.

Dharmendra Pradhan urges Odisha to curb illegal truck parking on highways

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Former Union minister and Sambalpur lawmaker Dharmendra Pradhan urged Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Thursday to crack down on illegal parking by heavy vehicles along highways in mining and industrial areas. In a letter, Pradhan warned that trucks parked in long queues were increasing accident risks and called for designated parking facilities and stronger enforcement. Citing Supreme Court directions, he called for regular patrols, electronic traffic fines and accountability for district officials. He also highlighted state law provisions allowing penalties, vehicle seizures and prosecution of company officials for violations, urging swift action to protect lives.

Owaisi seeks Supreme Court review of electoral roll revision over alleged Election Commission lapses

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi moved the Supreme Court on Wednesday, challenging the Election Commission of India's handling of the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls and seeking a review of an earlier judgment upholding the exercise. Citing new disclosures, he alleged that some decisions were taken without the required approval of all commissioners, raising questions about compliance with election law. Owaisi also questioned changes to statutory forms and demanded clarity on whether decisions were unanimous or involved dissent. He said AIMIM was pursuing the issue independently to protect democratic rights and electoral accountability.

India's chief justice declines Congress meeting request, directs leaders to seek judicial review of voter roll concerns

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Chief Justice of India Surya Kant declined a meeting request from Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday, advising them to raise their concerns through formal court proceedings. The leaders sought to discuss alleged electoral irregularities, revisions to voter lists and demands for Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar's resignation. The chief justice said related matters were already pending before the Supreme Court and could not be addressed through administrative discussions. He invited the leaders to file a petition, assuring them it would be considered through the judicial process.



The Opposition subsequently moved the Supreme Court on Monday, challenging alleged irregularities in the voter roll revision process.

Delhi BJP workers demand Rahul Gandhi's apology over alleged mistreatment of women activists

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party workers protested outside Congress headquarters on Tuesday, demanding Rahul Gandhi's apology over alleged harassment and physical mistreatment of women party activists during a demonstration on Monday. Led by Delhi BJP General Secretary Mohan Lal Gihara, protesters marched toward the Congress office but were stopped by police barricades, and several were detained. The BJP alleged that Congress workers pushed and verbally abused women activists protesting against Manipur Congress Member of Parliament Angomcha Bimol Akoijam over allegations involving female students at Jawaharlal Nehru University. On Tuesday, five



affected activists submitted a complaint to the Central Delhi deputy commissioner of police, seeking action against the workers allegedly involved.

Uday Kotak says Jio Platforms IPO could push Reliance past Tata in market value

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Reliance Industries could overtake the Tata group to become India's most valuable business conglomerate by combined listed market capitalization following the proposed initial public offering of Jio Platforms, veteran banker Uday Kotak said Thursday. At the upper end of its share price band, Jio Platforms is valued at approximately 10.3 trillion rupees. Adding this to Reliance Industries' and Jio Financial Services' existing market values could lift the group's combined listed valuation to 28.3 trillion rupees, ahead of the Tata group's 25.5 trillion rupees. The offering is expected to raise up to 302.13 billion rupees, with subscriptions opening Wednesday and closing Friday. Reliance Industries will retain a 64.41 percent stake in Jio Platforms after the offering.

Four Dalit organizations accuse Congress of selective social justice in Ankita Bhandari case

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Four Dalit organizations have accused the Congress party of political opportunism over its involvement in the Ankita Bhandari case, questioning whether its commitment to social justice is consistent. In separate open letters released Thursday, the groups criticized senior Congress leaders' participation in a protest at India Gate, arguing that constitutional morality and equality should not be invoked selectively against political opponents. The organizations included



the SC Hakkula Porata Sangham and the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Volleyball Club in Hyderabad, along with two employee welfare groups based in New Delhi. They urged Congress leaders to demonstrate consistent accountability and respect for constitutional values.

Himachal Pradesh announces health center upgrade and $240,000 girls' hostel in Rangrik



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced improved health and education facilities during an overnight visit to Rangrik village in the remote Spiti Valley under the government's 'Sarkar Gaon Ke Dwar' program. He said the village's existing health subcenter would be upgraded to a primary health center. During an inspection of the girls' hostel at Government Senior Secondary School, he also announced 20 million rupees, approximately $240,000, for a new hostel. He promised action on students' concerns, including water shortages, a boundary wall, additional support staff and a female warden.

Green tribunal closes Rajasthan sand mining case but orders continued environmental monitoring



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The National Green Tribunal's Central Zone Bench in Bhopal closed a case concerning alleged irregularities in sand mining along Rajasthan's Khari River after subsequent inspections found no continuing violations. Earlier concerns included excessive mining depth, riverbed obstructions, uncovered sand transport and inadequate plantation and dust controls. Authorities reported that stones obstructing the river's flow had been removed and later inspections found the mining operation compliant. In its Tuesday order, the tribunal directed authorities to follow applicable sand mining guidelines and continue monitoring plantation, including tree survival, with remedial action required wherever deficiencies are identified.

Bengal BJP to finalize civic poll candidates by Diwali after multi-level screening



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Bharatiya Janata Party's West Bengal unit plans to finalize candidates for upcoming civic elections, including those in Kolkata and Howrah, by Diwali on Sunday. The polls are expected in late November, with results likely in early December.

To curb internal dissent, the party will assess nominations from local leaders alongside applications from professionals in medicine, law, engineering, media and social work.

District- and state-level committees will vet the shortlisted candidates before the final list is announced. The party will also develop its campaign strategy and identify key issues to raise during the elections.

AAP seeks CBI probe into Delhi minister's alleged role in $3.5 million rice scam



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Aam Aadmi Party on Thursday urged the Central Bureau of Investigation to investigate Delhi Food and Supplies Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa over alleged irregularities in rice sales by the Food Corporation of India to a government agency in Guwahati.

Delhi AAP chief Saurabh Bharadwaj alleged that Sirsa was improperly excluded from the ongoing investigation and sought the seizure of ministry records and communications. The agency registered a corruption case in August against three corporation officials and five others over alleged irregularities that reportedly caused a loss of 288.7 million rupees to the corporation. Sirsa's alleged role remains an accusation.

Kuki woman killed and two civilians missing after suspected militant ambush in Manipur

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

A Kuki woman, Hatneimkim Haokip, was killed in a suspected militant ambush in Manipur's Kamjong district on Thursday evening. Her husband escaped unharmed, while two other civilians traveling with them went missing.

The four people were riding two motorcycles to buy essential supplies when they were attacked between Phaikoh and Molvailup, officials said. Security personnel and villagers launched a search for the missing civilians. The Kuki Inpi Manipur condemned the killing and accused the National Socialist Council of Nagalim (Isak-Muivah) of carrying out the attack. The allegation had not been independently confirmed.



Delhi traders claim daily losses of 1 billion rupees as protests disrupt festive-season shopping

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Traders in Connaught Place, Khan Market and Shankar Market say protests, police barricades and traffic restrictions are keeping shoppers away during the crucial festive season.

New Delhi Traders' Association president Atul Bhargava estimated daily losses across Connaught Place and nearby markets at 1 billion rupees. Khan Market traders also reported substantial losses. Shopkeepers said unsold merchandise, electricity bills and staff salaries were adding to financial pressure.

Retail employees reported struggling to meet sales targets amid falling customer traffic. Traders urged authorities to restore normal access, warning that continued disruption could threaten businesses that rely heavily on festive-season sales.



Indian airlines extend Saudi flight cancellations as regional security concerns disrupt travel

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Air India and Air India Express suspended flights to Riyadh, Jeddah and Dammam through Tuesday amid security concerns in Saudi Arabia, offering affected passengers refunds or assistance. IndiGo extended cancellations to Riyadh, Jeddah, Dammam and Madinah through Saturday. Akasa Air suspended services to Riyadh through Saturday and Jeddah through Wednesday. The airlines said passenger and crew safety remained their priority and they would review operations as conditions evolved. Travelers were advised to check flight status before leaving for the airport and ensure their contact details were updated with their airlines.



Opposition leaders support CJP founder after police warn against planned Delhi flag march

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Opposition leaders on Friday backed Cockroach Janta Party founder Abhijeet Dipke after Delhi Police served him a notice warning against his planned 'Lehra Do Tiranga' march in central Delhi. Congress leader Udit Raj said protesters must be prepared for detention while defending democratic rights. Communist Party of India (Marxist) lawmaker V. Sivadasan pledged support for demonstrations against government policies and criticized extensive barricading in the capital. Bharatiya Janata Party leader Ram Kadam accused the protest organizers of spreading misleading claims. The planned march followed the detention of two CJP leaders over an earlier demonstration.



Sachin Pilot to meet families of gang violence victims during five-day Punjab tour

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Congress general secretary and Punjab in-charge Sachin Pilot will begin a five-day statewide tour Friday to meet families who have lost relatives to gang violence and alleged law enforcement failures. His itinerary includes Moga, Bathinda, Mansa, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Hoshiarpur, Pathankot, Gurdaspur, Tarn Taran and Amritsar. According to the party, Pilot will offer condolences, hear families' accounts and raise their demands for justice with authorities and, where necessary, in court. The visit comes amid Congress criticism of the Aam Aadmi Party government's handling of law and order. Pargat Singh recently took charge as Punjab Congress president.

JD(S) accuses Karnataka government of prioritizing Telangana amid farmers' water shortages



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Janata Dal (Secular) on Wednesday accused Karnataka's Congress government of releasing Krishna River water from the Almatti and Narayanpur reservoirs to Telangana while farmers in northern Karnataka face drought and drinking water shortages. In a statement on social media, the party alleged that political considerations were being placed above the interests of local farmers and questioned whether the release had been authorized by the chief minister.

The JD(S) demanded an immediate halt to the transfers, priority for drinking water and irrigation needs, and adequate compensation for crop losses. The allegations have not been independently established.

Supreme Court to hear Asaram's appeal against life sentence on November 17

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Supreme Court will resume hearing self-styled spiritual leader Asaram Bapu's appeal against his life sentence in a 2013 minor sexual assault case on Tuesday, November 17. A bench of Justices J. B. Pardiwala and K. Vinod Chandran directed that physical and digital trial records be provided to the parties and the victim. The court indicated it would proceed after Asaram's 20-day parole ends on October 27 and he surrenders. The appeal challenges a Rajasthan High Court ruling that upheld his conviction. Asaram was sentenced in 2018 to imprisonment for the remainder of his life.

Tata Trusts questions Mehli Mistry's legal standing in trustee appointment dispute



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Tata Trusts challenged former trustee Mehli Mistry's right to contest changes in the composition of the Sir Ratan Tata Trust and Sir Dorabji Tata Trust during a hearing before Maharashtra's Charity Commissioner on Thursday. The trusts argued that only serving trustees or beneficiaries can challenge statutory reports recording changes in trusteeship. Mistry's three-year term at Sir Ratan Tata Trust expired in October 2025, and his reappointment reportedly failed to secure the unanimous approval required under the trust deed. His lawyers sought additional time to respond. The dispute also involves other governance matters, including a proposed appointment concerning a separate charitable institution. The next hearing is scheduled for Thursday, November 5.

Bangladesh faces $4.1 billion in extra costs as global energy shock pressures economy

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Bangladesh has incurred nearly $4.1 billion in additional costs amid a global fuel price surge, according to a report by the South China Morning Post. The country, which imported about 65% of its energy needs last year, has experienced power cuts, fuel queues and higher transportation and food costs. Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's government is also confronting slowing growth and rising inflation following the energy shock linked to the United States' attacks on Iran. The International Monetary Fund has lowered Bangladesh's 2027 growth forecast to 3.2% and expects inflation to reach 10.9%. World Bank and Asian Development Bank loans are helping ease energy costs.

United States wholesale inflation accelerates as fuel and shipping costs surge

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States wholesale inflation rose sharply in September, with producer prices increasing 6.3% from a year earlier, the biggest annual rise since December 2022, the Labor Department reported Thursday. Prices climbed 1.3% from August, the largest monthly increase since March 2022, driven largely by higher fuel costs. Wholesale food prices rose 1.2% during the month, while transportation and warehousing costs increased 3.4% and were 16% higher than a year earlier. Diesel averaged $6.32 per gallon nationwide on Thursday, up from $3.66 a year earlier. The figures could intensify pressure on the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates as inflation remains above its 2% target.

Diesel futures surge as Trump's Russian supply deal fails to reassure energy markets

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Diesel futures surged Tuesday, signaling further fuel price increases as traders questioned whether President Donald Trump's efforts to boost supplies would provide meaningful relief. United States diesel futures climbed 5% by midday to their highest level in weeks, while European diesel futures rose 3.8% and natural gas futures reached their highest levels of the year. The national average price of diesel has jumped about 70% since the United States and Israel attacked Iran on February 28, while gasoline prices have risen more than 45%. Energy analysts warned that diesel could approach or surpass the record retail price of $6.53 per gallon before November's midterm elections, increasing pressure on truckers and farmers. The surge came days after Trump announced a



deal with Russian President Vladimir Putin to increase global diesel supplies using previously sanctioned Russian reserves. However, analysts estimated the additional fuel would cover less than two weeks of United States demand. The arrangement also requires a temporary suspension of longstanding sanctions on Russian energy purchases, drawing criticism and leaving markets unconvinced that significant price relief is imminent.

India pushes for competitive advantage as first phase of United States trade deal nears completion

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

India's Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said Thursday that the first phase of a proposed trade agreement with the United States is nearing completion, while emphasizing that New Delhi wants terms that strengthen the competitiveness of Indian exporters. The framework announced in February proposed reducing United States tariffs on most Indian goods to 18 percent, easing some of the pressure on Indian businesses selling into the American market. India is seeking tariff treatment comparable to or more favorable than that offered to competing exporters in countries such as Bangladesh, Vietnam and Indonesia. Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said officials hoped to conclude the agreement soon. Negotiations are focused on improving market access, providing greater



tariff stability and addressing trade barriers that affect exporters. The agreement is significant for Indian industries that depend on the United States as a major export destination. India's goods exports to the United States reached $42.79 billion from April through August, highlighting the importance of securing predictable trading conditions and maintaining a competitive position in the American market.

Netflix plans nearly 1,000 job cuts amid broader organizational changes

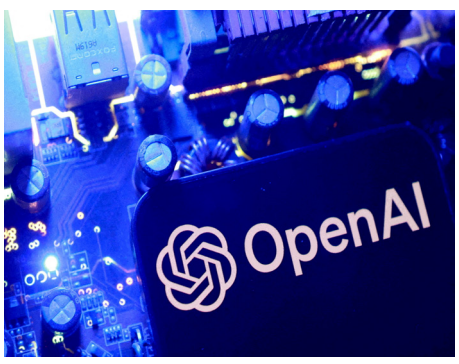
IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Netflix plans to eliminate nearly 1,000 jobs, or about 6% of its workforce, in its largest round of layoffs in years. Co-chief executives Greg Peters and Ted Sarandos announced the cuts in an employee memo on Wednesday, saying product, technology, legal and human resources teams would be most affected. They said the company remained strong but needed to prioritize resources and invest in areas that support future growth. Netflix reported $3.4 billion in profit and $12.56 billion in revenue in the second quarter, increases of 9% and 13%, respectively, from a year earlier. However, its third-quarter forecast fell short of Wall Street expectations. The company had about 16,000 full-time employees worldwide at the end of 2025.

Eight US states sue OpenAI over alleged harm ChatGPT causes young users

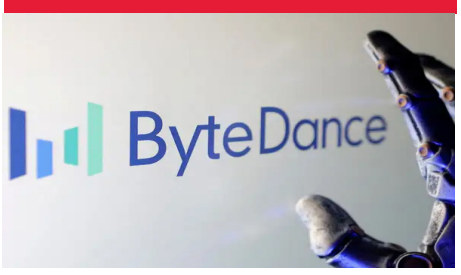
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A bipartisan group of eight states sued OpenAI on Wednesday, alleging ChatGPT has encouraged dangerous behavior and contributed to harm among users, including teenagers. The lawsuits, filed independently in state courts, claim the chatbot can reinforce delusions, encourage self-harm and help users plan violence. The states, including Iowa, Kansas and Arizona, accuse OpenAI of misleading consumers about the chatbot's safety and violating state consumer protection laws. They are seeking changes to the technology, civil penalties and damages. The cases mark a major coordinated state-



level challenge to an artificial intelligence company. OpenAI did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The company is also facing numerous private lawsuits alleging chatbot-related harm.

ByteDance establishes artificial intelligence safety team and recruits researchers worldwide



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Chinese technology company ByteDance has established an Alignment and Preparedness team within its Seed artificial intelligence research unit and launched a global recruitment drive for 10 researchers. Announced Wednesday, the initiative focuses on improving the safety of increasingly capable artificial intelligence models. The team will study safety training, automated vulnerability testing, monitoring and explaining model behavior, and testing autonomous artificial intelligence agents. Its positions are based in Beijing, Shanghai and San Jose, California. Seed said the team would receive computing resources comparable to those available to its advanced model-development groups. The company also plans to pursue independent evaluations and collaborate with universities and research institutions, reflecting growing international scrutiny of artificial intelligence safety and emerging risks.

United States wholesale inflation accelerates as fuel and shipping costs surge

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States wholesale inflation rose sharply in September, with producer prices increasing 6.3% from a year earlier, the biggest annual rise since December 2022, the Labor Department reported Thursday. Prices climbed 1.3% from August, the largest monthly increase since March 2022, driven largely by higher fuel costs. Wholesale food prices rose 1.2% during the month, while transportation and warehousing costs increased 3.4% and were 16% higher than a year earlier. Diesel averaged $6.32 per gallon nationwide on Thursday, up from $3.66 a year earlier. The figures could intensify pressure on the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates as inflation remains above its 2% target.

Kroger plans 3,000 corporate job cuts as grocery chain expands artificial intelligence use

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Kroger plans to eliminate 3,000 corporate positions over the next three years as it expands its use of artificial intelligence to streamline operations. Chief Executive Greg Foran outlined the cuts in an employee memo on Monday, saying technology was changing how work gets done and the company needed to reduce duplication. The Cincinnati-based retailer employs about 409,000 people and operates more than 2,700 stores. It faces growing competition from Walmart, discount grocers and online retailers. Kroger's proposed merger with Albertsons collapsed after regulators and courts challenged it over competition concerns. Albertsons subsequently sued Kroger, seeking a termination fee and other damages.

Piyush Goyal launches trade command center to strengthen data-driven decisions

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal launched the National Strategic Trade Command Centre in New Delhi on Thursday to improve monitoring and management of India's international trade. The platform brings together data on exports, trade promotion schemes, regulatory approvals, applications and processing timelines through interactive dashboards. It will initially cover key trade processes, including import-export registrations, export incentives, certificates of origin and restricted goods. Reviewing the system, Goyal called for regular interministerial meetings to clear pending applications under rules governing sensitive exports. The center is intended to identify administrative bottlenecks, track regional performance and highlight export opportunities, with plans to integrate additional government data and analytical tools.

Taiwan president urges Micron and workers to negotiate amid possible strike

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te urged Micron Technology and its employees to negotiate in good faith on Thursday amid the possibility of strike action over a disputed bonus scheme. Lai made the appeal at the opening of the company's new advanced assembly and testing facility in Taichung. Micron employs about 15,000 people in Taiwan, a key production base for memory chips used in artificial intelligence servers. The company said it values employees and remains committed to constructive dialogue. A union representing Taichung workers called for more substantive negotiations. Micron's chief operating officer said the new facility's entire 2027 production capacity had already been sold.

European court adviser backs TikTok's designation as a major digital gatekeeper

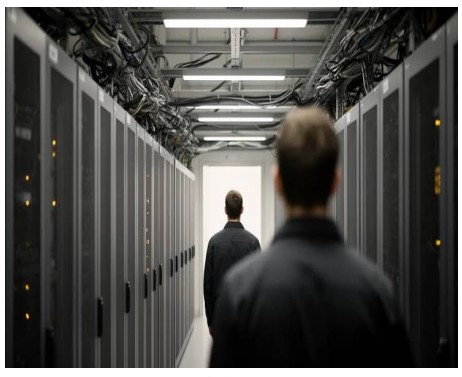


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An adviser to the European Union's highest court recommended Thursday that TikTok lose its legal challenge against being classified as a digital gatekeeper under the bloc's Digital Markets Act. Advocate General Andrea Biondi supported an earlier ruling rejecting the challenge by TikTok parent company ByteDance. The designation subjects major technology platforms to obligations intended to prevent anticompetitive practices and improve consumer choice. Other designated companies include Google, Meta, Apple, Amazon and Microsoft. The court is expected to issue its final ruling in the coming months. Although advisers' opinions are not binding, judges follow them in most cases. Violations of the rules can attract fines of up to 10% of global annual revenue.

Rising artificial intelligence debt fears push technology default insurance to records

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



The cost of insuring against defaults by United States technology companies reached record highs on Thursday, reflecting growing investor concerns about debt-financed artificial intelligence expansion. Credit default swap spreads widened for companies including Oracle, SoftBank and data center operator CoreWeave. CoreWeave's five-year protection costs exceeded 1,000 basis points, signaling sharply elevated perceived default risk. Its bonds also fell, with some 2032 debt trading near 78 cents on the dollar and yielding above 16%. The market anxiety comes amid higher-than-expected United States inflation and expectations of elevated interest rates. Investors are questioning whether massive artificial intelligence investments will generate sufficient profits to cover borrowing costs. Strong reported revenue growth at artificial intelligence developer Anthropic did little to ease concerns.

Microsoft president warns green-card restrictions could weaken United States technology sector

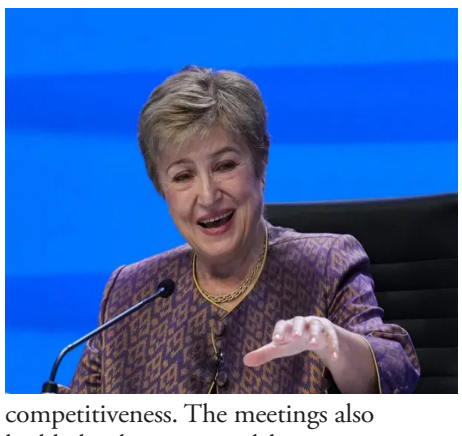
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Microsoft President Brad Smith warned that restrictions on green cards for skilled foreign workers could undermine United States technological competitiveness and push talent overseas, Politico reported Thursday. Smith also rejected Vice President JD Vance's accusations that Microsoft had abused the H-1B visa program, describing them as unfounded. His comments followed the administration's announcement that Microsoft and seven other companies would be barred from seeking green cards for skilled foreign workers. Smith warned that limiting permanent residency pathways could damage the technology sector for more than a generation. He also said Microsoft uses the same compensation system for employees regardless of immigration status and hired more than 9,000 United States-born workers last year.

IMF urges United States to rein in deficits and China to boost domestic spending

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva urged the United States to reduce its budget deficits and China to shift toward domestic consumption during the fund's annual meetings in Bangkok on Wednesday. She said economic growth alone would not reduce American debt quickly enough, making tax or spending adjustments necessary. The fund warned that rising bond yields and borrowing costs were increasing pressure on governments worldwide. Georgieva also urged China to rely less on exports and encourage domestic spending. She said Europe needed greater investment to strengthen competitiveness. The meetings also highlighted mounting debt pressures in developing economies, with Georgieva calling for full funding of financial support programs for vulnerable, low-income countries.

Highway authority of India introduces independent design reviews for major bridges

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The National Highways Authority of India has introduced independent design checks for major bridges and other critical highway structures, with the policy taking effect on Tuesday, December 1, 2026. The initiative aims to improve structural safety, durability and construction quality. Designs will be examined by approved Indian Institutes of Technology, government technical institutions and experienced engineering firms. The policy covers major river bridges with design discharge of at least 3,000 cubic meters per second, structures with individual spans of 40 meters or more, and other complex projects identified by the authority. Reviews will assess structural calculations, drawings and relevant water-flow and foundation-safety studies. Contractors must address observations before the authority reviews or approves designs under applicable contracts.

Chinese startup DexForce uses virtual training to cut humanoid robot development costs

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

Chinese robotics startup DexForce is using simulated environments to train humanoid robots, aiming to reduce the cost and time required to teach machines real-world tasks. The Shenzhen-based company creates virtual workplaces where robots practice tasks before transferring learned skills to physical machines. Chief Executive Jia Kui said collecting vast amounts of real-world training data would be inefficient. Founded in 2021, DexForce employs about 500 people and recently raised 1 billion yuan, approximately $147 million, in a funding round valuing it at more than 10 billion yuan. Its software serves manufacturers including Toyota, Samsung and Foxconn, while its robots are used at commercial venues in more than 15 Chinese cities.

Bessent urges World Bank to reconsider restrictions on oil and gas financing



IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

United States Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent called on the World Bank to change its policies, including ending its prohibition on financing upstream oil and gas projects, in a statement issued Wednesday. He also urged greater support for critical mineral mining, including deep-sea exploration, and reforms to procurement rules to encourage competition. The Treasury announced an initial contribution to a new World Bank-managed fund supporting countries preparing for nuclear energy investments. Bessent also called for wealthier countries, including China and Poland, to graduate more quickly from World Bank borrowing. He urged the International Monetary Fund to strengthen its scrutiny of trade imbalances and policies that distort global competition.

Energy agency accelerates emergency oil releases, including more than 20 million barrels of diesel

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The International Energy Agency agreed Thursday to accelerate the release of remaining emergency oil reserves pledged in March, including more than 20 million barrels of diesel, as fuel prices surge amid supply disruptions. The 32-member organization said about 330 million barrels had already been released under the earlier commitment of more than 400 million barrels. However, the diesel volume is below the 50 million barrels previously discussed, disappointing some market analysts. The decision follows pressure from President Donald Trump to increase fuel supplies ahead of the November midterm elections. Spain separately announced plans to release 4.4 million barrels from strategic reserves during October.

Zheng Qinwen withdraws from Japan Open with shoulder injury

Chinese tennis star Zheng Qinwen has withdrawn from the Japan Open because of a shoulder injury, missing her second consecutive tournament after pulling out of the Wuhan Open. Zheng recently won the China Open, becoming the first Chinese player to claim the title. She defeated Elina Svitolina, Elise Mertens and Mirra Andreeva during her run, spending 15 hours and 16 minutes on court across seven matches.

The demanding schedule followed her return from an earlier injury. Zheng is scheduled to compete at the Hong Kong Tennis Open in November, although her participation will depend on her recovery.

Molineux fit for Australia's opening T20 against New Zealand

Australia captain Sophie Molineux has declared herself fit for Sunday's opening Twenty20 international against New Zealand after recovering from a hip injury. She missed the one-day international series against Bangladesh following her return from The Hundred. Batter Phoebe Litchfield remains doubtful after sustaining a minor hip muscle strain during the second match against Bangladesh, forcing her to miss Wednesday's series finale. Australia will monitor her condition before deciding whether she can play. Fast bowler Lucy Hamilton is also in contention after returning to action on Thursday. Her availability could create selection competition with Megan Schutt, who claimed 10 wickets against Bangladesh.

Ferrer to leave Spain's Davis Cup captaincy after season

David Ferrer will step down as captain of Spain's Davis Cup team at the end of the season for personal reasons. The former world No. 3 announced his decision on Thursday, confirming he would not continue into 2027. Ferrer won the Davis Cup three times as a player, in 2008, 2009 and 2011, but has yet to win the competition as captain. He thanked the Spanish Tennis Federation, players and staff for their support. Ferrer will have one final opportunity to claim the trophy when Spain competes in the Davis Cup Finals in Bologna, Italy, in November.

Netflix secures 2030 World Cup rights in Spain and Andorra, with free-to-air access promised

Netflix has secured exclusive broadcasting rights in Spain and Andorra for the 2030 FIFA World Cup, marking a major expansion of the streaming platform's presence in international men's soccer. The company announced the agreement on Tuesday, saying it would stream all 104 matches of the tournament live.



Spain will co-host the centenary edition with Portugal and Morocco. Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay will stage three special opening matches honoring the competition's first tournament in 1930.

Financial details of the agreement were not disclosed. To maintain public access, Netflix said one match per matchday would be available free in Spain. A national free-to-air broadcaster will also receive a package featuring every Spain match, both semifinals and the final. The deal follows Netflix's acquisition of rights to the 2027 and 2031 Women's World Cups in the United States and Canada. Spain and Morocco remain contenders to host the 2030 final.

Infantino faces renewed leadership calls as England and Germany reject his FIFA apology

FIFA President Gianni Infantino apologized to the organization's council on Thursday over communication failures surrounding an abandoned commercial investment proposal, but senior football officials from England and Germany said his explanation was insufficient. The FIFA Forward Enterprise proposal would have created a company to manage commercial interests in FIFA competitions, including the World Cup, while allowing private investors to acquire a minority stake. Infantino said the plan was only a proposal, not a finalized agreement, and apologized for shortcomings in consultation.



German Football Association president Bernd Neuendorf called for a complete governance overhaul, arguing that meaningful reform was impossible under Infantino's leadership. English Football Association chair Debbie Hewitt demanded answers to outstanding questions and urged FIFA to release relevant documents. The dispute also encompasses concerns about disciplinary decisions and FIFA's Peace Prize for United States President Donald Trump. However, Infantino retains support among some African football leaders, including Mauritania's Ahmed Yahya.

Mbappé breaks Messi's record with 100th Champions League appearance

Kylian Mbappé became the youngest player to reach 100 UEFA Champions League appearances on Wednesday, achieving the milestone at age 27 during Real Madrid's match against Roma. He celebrated by scoring the equalizer in Madrid's 4-3 victory. His goal was his 72nd in the competition, moving him past former Madrid striker Raúl González into fifth place on the all-time scoring list. Lionel Messi previously held the appearance record, reaching 100 games at age 28 in 2015. Mbappé made his Champions League debut with Monaco in 2016 and finished as the competition's leading scorer last season with 15 goals.

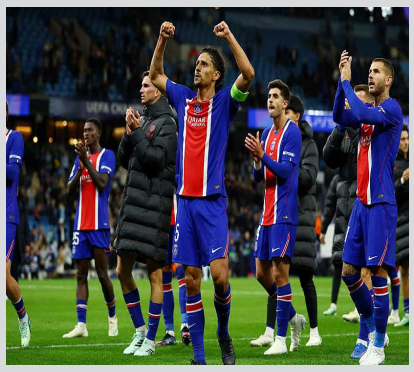


Alcaraz accepts Vienna Open wildcard after exhibition postponement

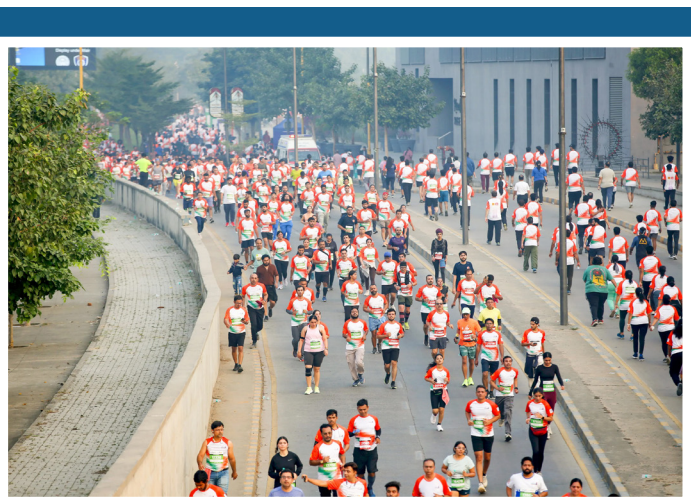


Carlos Alcaraz has accepted a wildcard for the Vienna Open after the Six Kings Slam exhibition tournament in Saudi Arabia was postponed. Organizers of the Austrian indoor event contacted the Spanish star's management following the announcement and secured his participation. Alcaraz last competed in Vienna in 2021, reaching the semifinals on his debut. He joins a strong field featuring Alexander Zverev, Daniil Medvedev and Alex de Minaur. The late addition strengthens the tournament's lineup as Alcaraz looks to recover from a disappointing third-round defeat to Zizou Bergs at the Shanghai Masters.

PSG defeat Manchester City as Haaland reaches scoring milestone

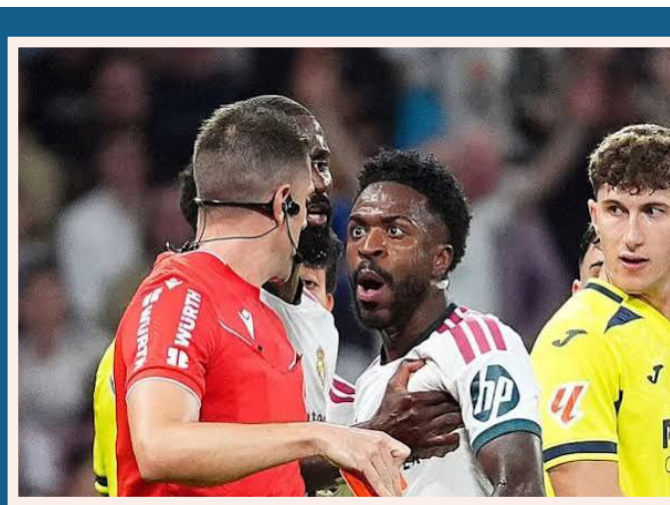


Paris Saint-Germain defeated Manchester City 4-2 on Wednesday after a commanding first-half performance in their Champions League encounter. Desire Doue and Ousmane Dembele scored in quick succession before Vitinha extended the visitors' lead. City responded after halftime, with Erling Haaland scoring twice to become the fastest player to reach 60 Champions League goals, achieving the milestone in 60 appearances. However, PSG held on to secure victory in a match that attracted additional attention because of City's ongoing financial case. The club denies wrongdoing and has appealed a finding that it breached Premier League financial rules.



Twenty-five runners mark a decade of Ahmedabad Marathon memories

Twenty-five runners have participated in every edition of the Adani Ahmedabad Marathon since its launch in 2017. Ahead of the 10th edition on Sunday, organizers will honor their decade-long commitment.Their stories include Shini Nair, who runs in memory of her late son, coach Gopinath Dhandapani, who has completed more than 600 half marathons, and Aan Godiawala, whose yearlong running challenge led to his first full marathon. The event's Run for Our Soldiers initiative also supports India's armed forces.



Mandaviya urges federations to strengthen India's sports talent pipeline

Indian Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya urged national sports federations on Thursday to strengthen talent identification and athlete development following India's fourth-place finish at the 2026 Asian Games. He called for a deeper pool of elite competitors rather than continued reliance on a handful of medal winners, citing weightlifting star Mirabai Chanu as an example. Mandaviya also emphasized sports science, psychology, mental conditioning and more competitions to improve preparation. The review meeting examined preparations for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics and the 2030 Commonwealth and Asian Games. Officials also stressed better coordination among federations, state bodies and the Khelo India program.

Miller-Uibo targets 400-meter world record ahead of Los Angeles Olympics

Two-time Olympic champion Shaunae Miller-Uibo aims to challenge the women's 400-meter world record as she prepares for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. Speaking in New Delhi on Thursday, the Bahamian athlete said she believes she can break the 48-second barrier. She is rebuilding her speed after having two children in 2023 and 2025. Miller-Uibo won Olympic gold in 2016 and 2021 and claimed the world title in 2022. An ambassador for Sunday's Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon, she is considering whether to pursue a third Olympic 400-meter gold or compete in the 200 meters.

FIFA postpones esports finals in Saudi Arabia amid security concerns

FIFA and the Saudi Esports Federation postponed the FIFAe Finals 2026 on Thursday following security concerns and an assessment of regional developments. The tournament was scheduled to take place in Jeddah from Friday through October 25. Organizers said the decision was based on the impact of recent events on the logistics required to stage the competition. No replacement dates were announced, with further updates promised later. The postponement follows disruption to other sporting events in the region, including the Six Kings Slam tennis exhibition in Saudi Arabia, which was also postponed amid logistical challenges.

Lisandro Martinez apologizes to Manchester United after criticizing club leadership

Manchester United defender Lisandro Martinez apologized on Thursday for criticizing the club's leadership following its 2-0 Champions League defeat to Atletico Madrid on Tuesday. The Argentine defender had questioned the club's investment in the squad and called for greater support for head coach Michael Carrick, also urging technical director Jason Wilcox to take further action. Martinez later met with Carrick and senior club officials, describing the discussion as positive. In a social media statement, he acknowledged that frustration had led him to express his views at an inappropriate time and place.

He emphasized the importance of unity as Manchester United seeks to restore its



success. Reports also suggested he had been fined over the remarks, although the club had not publicly confirmed the penalty. Martinez's selection for Sunday's Premier League match against Leeds United remained uncertain.

Modi praises Indian women athletes for winning 38 medals at Asian Games

Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised India's women athletes on Thursday for winning 38 medals, including 11 golds, at the Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, calling their achievements a reflection of a "new India." Speaking at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi, Modi congratulated the Indian contingent, which finished fourth overall with 85 medals, comprising 21 gold, 27 silver and 37 bronze.

He singled out the women's hockey team for winning gold for the first time in 44 years. Both India's men's and women's hockey teams won gold medals at the same edition for the first time in Asian Games history. Seventeen-year-old Kumkum Mohod made history in recurve archery, while Neeru Dhanda won gold in women's trap



shooting and the mixed trap event. Golfer Pranavi Urs became the first Indian woman to win Asian Games gold in the sport and also helped secure team silver. Weightlifter Mirabai Chanu won silver in the women's 49-kilogram category, ending India's 28-year wait for an Asian Games weightlifting medal.

Maresca says Manchester City will learn from Paris Saint-Germain defeat

Manchester City manager Enzo Maresca said the team would learn from Wednesday's 4-2 Champions League defeat to Paris Saint-Germain at the Etihad Stadium.

City trailed 3-0 at halftime after goals from Desire Doue, Ousmane Dembele and Vitinha. Erling Haaland scored twice in the second half, becoming Manchester City's leading Champions League scorer with 38 goals in 41 appearances. Maresca said conceding twice within two minutes disrupted his team's balance. He praised the improved second-half performance but acknowledged that the damage from the opening period proved decisive against the European champions.



UAE Bulls open Abu Dhabi T10 title defense against Yas Lions

Defending champions UAE Bulls, led by West Indies star Kieron Pollard, will begin their Abu Dhabi T10 campaign against Jason Holder's Yas Lions on Saturday, November 7. The tournament features six franchises competing in 32 matches at Zayed Cricket Stadium through November 20. Opening-day fixtures also include Royal Desert Champions against Emirates Eagles and United Tigers against Arabian Aces. The competition begins a new chapter under Abu Dhabi Cricket and Sports Hub, which has taken over ownership and management. The league stage concludes on November 19, followed by the qualifier and final on November 20.

Malaysia considers Formula One return after strong turnout at Sepang

Malaysia is considering bringing Formula One back to Sepang International Circuit after strong spectator interest during the recent Bahrain Grand Prix weekend, which the circuit hosted as a replacement event. Sports Minister Mohammed Taufiq Johari said Wednesday that a government committee was assessing hosting costs and potential economic returns. Its findings are expected to be presented to the Cabinet in November. Malaysia last hosted its own Grand Prix in 2017, ending a run that began in 1999 because of rising hosting fees and declining ticket revenue. Officials say any return must deliver wider benefits for tourism, retail and hospitality.

Shafali Verma promises fearless approach as India prepare for Champions Trophy



India's newly appointed Twenty20 vice-captain Shafali Verma said Thursday that the team aims to combine fearless batting with smart decisions ahead of the inaugural Champions Trophy in 2027. India, led by Smriti Mandhana, begins its Twenty20 international series against Zimbabwe in Raipur on Friday. Shafali said her leadership role includes supporting teammates and maintaining their confidence. She credited former captain Harmanpreet Kaur for advancing women's cricket and said improving consistency, fitness and mental strength helped her return to form after being dropped from the one-day international team in 2025.



Vinicius criticizes timing of four-match suspension

Real Madrid forward Vinicius Junior criticized La Liga on Wednesday after learning of his four-match domestic suspension shortly before the Champions League match against Roma. The Brazilian was sent off during Saturday's 1-0 league victory over Villarreal for pulling opponent Nathan Saliba's hair. The ban rules him out of upcoming league matches, including the El Clasico against Barcelona. Vinicius said players had not been properly informed about the relevant disciplinary rule. Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho also questioned why officials announced the decision so close to kickoff.



Injury-hit Celta Vigo prepare for Juventus challenge

Celta Vigo host Juventus in the Europa League on Thursday hoping to recover from poor domestic form and an opening European defeat to Omonia Nicosia. The Spanish side sit ninth in La Liga, with one win, five draws and two losses from eight matches. Coach Claudio Giraldez confirmed that striker Borja Iglesias would miss Thursday's game and the weekend fixture with a calf injury. Forward Pablo Duran also has a calf problem. Giraldez acknowledged Juventus' quality but insisted Celta have the ability to challenge the Italian club.

Actor Selma Blair pleads not guilty after alleged assaults involving flight attendants and medical staff

Actor Selma Blair was arrested Sunday night after allegedly injuring two flight attendants aboard a Delta Air Lines flight from Los Angeles to New York. Authorities said she was also accused of kicking a police officer transporting her to a hospital and a nurse treating her. Blair pleaded not guilty Monday to two state assault charges involving the officer and nurse. She also faces separate federal allegations arising from the flight. Her attorney said her actions were unintentional and linked to a severe medical emergency, missed medication doses and disorientation. A judge set bail at $20,000 cash or $60,000 bond, with the next state court hearing scheduled for January. The allegations have not been proven in court.

Ella Langley calls off Tulsa concert after threat prompts security concerns



Country singer Ella Langley canceled her sold-out concert in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Friday after receiving what she described as a serious security threat involving fans, venue staff and her team. The 27-year-old announced the decision on Instagram, saying it followed advice from local authorities, venue management and her security team. Tulsa police said they received a threat against people attending the event and searched the venue with bomb technicians, police dogs and patrol officers. A second sweep also found no credible threat. Police said Langley's team was informed of the findings but proceeded with cancellation. The investigation remains ongoing. Langley apologized to fans, emphasizing that their safety came first. Refund information was expected to follow.

Duane Davis receives 40 years to life for orchestrating Tupac Shakur's 1996 murder

Duane 'Keffe D' Davis was sentenced Tuesday to 40 years to life in prison for orchestrating the 1996 drive-by shooting that killed rapper Tupac Shakur in Las Vegas. Davis, 63, was convicted of first-degree murder in August after a case that remained unsolved for decades. Prosecutors relied partly on his interviews and memoir describing his involvement in the shooting. Shakur's sister, Sekyiwa Shakur, told the court the killing devastated their family and robbed her brother of a future in music and activism. Davis's lawyer said he would appeal the conviction. Davis is the only person charged in the killing. Prosecutors have said there is insufficient evidence to charge others.

Imran Khan to challenge immigration notice in Bombay High Court over participation in Mumbai protest

Bollywood actor Imran Khan is preparing to approach the Bombay High Court to challenge a notice directing him to leave India by October 28 over his alleged participation in a protest at Mumbai's August Kranti Maidan. The demonstration on Friday called for the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. Authorities reportedly issued the notice under provisions of the Immigration and Foreigners Act, citing Khan's Overseas Citizenship of India status and alleged violation of restrictions on political participation.



The actor was detained by police in connection with the protest. His legal team at MZM Legal is considering filing a writ petition, although the firm's managing partner, Zulfiqar Memon, declined to comment. Separately, former parliamentarian Kirit Somaiya has urged the Union Home Ministry to issue a Look Out Circular against Khan and restrict his international travel while a related complaint is investigated.

Sona Mohapatra faces online backlash after urging Rahul Gandhi to address Himachal Pradesh's environmental problems

Singer Sona Mohapatra said Wednesday that she had faced an "avalanche of political abuse" after criticizing Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over the condition of Himachal Pradesh. In a post on X, she shared a screenshot of abusive comments and questioned why her remarks had provoked such hostility. Mohapatra had urged Gandhi to focus on improving the Congress-governed state before speaking about restoring democracy nationally. She said returning to Himachal Pradesh after nine years had left her shocked by garbage-strewn hills and polluted rivers. Her comments followed Gandhi's remarks that removing Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and the Bharatiya Janata Party government would allow the process of repairing democracy to begin. Mohapatra also contrasted the online reaction with responses to her criticism of indiscriminate mining in Odisha's hills.



Horror film 'Other Mommy' opens strongly while 'The Social Reckoning' struggles in theaters

Jessica Chastain's supernatural horror film 'Other Mommy' topped the North American box office over the weekend, earning an estimated $27.5 million from 3,365 theaters. Its worldwide opening reached $45.2 million, despite poor reviews and a D-plus CinemaScore from audiences. With a reported production budget of about $19 million, the film delivered a strong opening for horror producer Blumhouse Atomic Monster.



Aaron Sorkin's 'The Social Reckoning', about a Facebook whistleblower who shares documents with a journalist, opened with $5.5 million from 2,606 theaters. Starring Mikey Madison, Jeremy Allen White and Jeremy Strong, it received mixed-to-negative reviews and a B-minus CinemaScore. 'Verity' placed second with $11.5 million, followed by 'Resident Evil' with $8.4 million. The annual domestic box office surpassed $8 billion on Friday, running more than 19 percent ahead of last year's pace.

Sunny Deol's rugged first look teases a mystery-driven crime drama in 'Suryaa'

Actor Sunny Deol appears in a rugged, weathered avatar in the first motion poster for his upcoming film 'Suryaa', unveiled on Monday. The poster hints at a character caught between his past and present while pursuing answers to an unresolved mystery. Shared by Deol on Instagram, the reveal carries the tagline 'From the End to the Beginning' and promises a theatrical release on Friday, November 20, 2026. The crime thriller also stars Ravi Kishan and Pragya Jaiswal. Directed by M. Padmakumar, the film is produced by MM Moviez, with Deepak Mukut, Hemmant Mukut, Lokesh Mukut and Kamal Mukut among the producers. The story appears to combine investigation, emotional conflict and confrontations shaped by a troubled past.



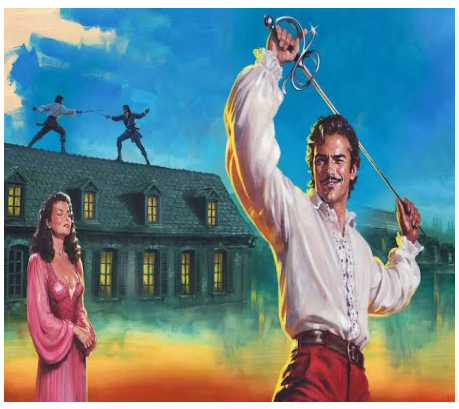
Pitbull's 'Pitcoin' brings star-studded collaborations but lacks a defining hit

Pitbull's 24-track album 'Pitcoin' maintains the rapper's trademark party atmosphere but struggles to deliver the standout singles associated with his biggest hits, according to an Associated Press review. The record features an expansive lineup, including KISS, Bon Jovi, Enrique Iglesias, Lil Jon, Jason Derulo, Akon, Wiz Khalifa and Ne-Yo. Opening track 'Reach for the Stars' draws heavily from KISS's 'Rock and Roll All Nite', while 'Now or Never' samples Bon Jovi's 'It's My Life'. The review highlights 'Me Paraste El Corazón' and 'Gringa Repartera' as stronger tracks, with the latter exploring the Cuban genre reparto. Despite its joyful energy, the album's length and lack of memorable hits limit its impact. It received two and a half stars out of five.

Russell Brand denies rape and sexual assault charges as London trial gets underway

British comedian and actor Russell Brand appeared at Southwark Crown Court in London on Monday as jury selection began in his trial involving allegations by six women. Brand, 51, has pleaded not guilty to three counts of rape, three counts of sexual assault and one count of indecent assault. The alleged offenses reportedly occurred between 1999 and 2009. Proceedings were adjourned until Tuesday, with prosecutors expected to begin presenting their case later in the week. The trial could last up to 10 weeks. Brand, who is on bail, arrived with his wife, Laura Gallacher. He rose to prominence through stand-up comedy, television and films including 'Forgetting Sarah Marshall' and 'Get Him to the Greek'. The allegations remain before the court.

Quentin Tarantino brings 'The Popinjay Cavalier' to London with Sacha Baron Cohen



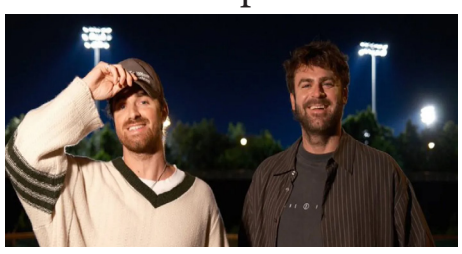
Filmmaker Quentin Tarantino will make his stage-play debut with 'The Popinjay Cavalier', a comedy scheduled to open in London's West End in March. Sony Pictures Entertainment and Sonia Friedman Productions announced the project on Sunday, revealing that actor and comedian Sacha Baron Cohen will star. Set in 1830s Europe, the production is described as a swashbuckling comedy built around deception and disguise. Previews are scheduled to begin February 23, ahead of the March 18 opening at the Phoenix Theatre. Tarantino will direct the play, marking Cohen's West End debut. Known for films such as 'Pulp Fiction', 'Reservoir Dogs' and 'Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood', Tarantino has not directed a feature film since 2019.

Rashmika Mandanna commits to supporting 400 families at a time for one year



Actress Rashmika Mandanna has announced an initiative to support 400 families at a time for three months, helping them save money otherwise spent on groceries. The actress shared the news on social media, explaining that she had previously kept her charitable efforts private but hoped speaking about them would encourage others to help those in need. Mandanna said she plans to continue the initiative over the coming year. She also connected the effort to Jayamma, her character in the upcoming period action drama 'Ranabaali', saying the role reflects aspects of her real-life personality. Directed by Rahul Sankrityan, the film stars Vijay Deverakonda as a warrior fighting British rule.

The Chainsmokers become independent artists after 11 years with Columbia and Disruptor



Electronic music duo The Chainsmokers, comprising Alex Pall and Drew Taggart, have announced that they are moving forward as independent artists after 11 years with Columbia Records and Disruptor Records. In an Instagram post on Tuesday, the pair thanked their teams for more than a decade of work and success, while expressing excitement about experimenting with upcoming releases. The duo rose to prominence with the 2014 hit '#Selfie' and went on to score major successes with 'Roses', 'Don't Let Me Down' and 'Closer', featuring Halsey. Their awards include a Grammy for 'Don't Let Me Down'. Their albums include 'Memories...Do Not Open', 'Sick Boy', 'World War Joy', 'So Far So Good' and 'Summertime Friends'

Marion Cotillard to lead jury at the 23rd Marrakech International Film Festival

French actress and Academy Award winner Marion Cotillard will head the jury at the 23rd Marrakech International Film Festival, organizers announced Tuesday. The jury will select the Étoile d'Or winner from first and second feature films competing in the festival's official competition. Cotillard, known for films including 'Inception', 'Midnight in Paris' and 'The Dark Knight Rises', said she has attended the festival since its early years and has had memorable experiences there. She described supporting emerging filmmakers as an important part of the event and said she was delighted to chair the jury. The festival is scheduled to run from November 20 through November 28, 2026, in Marrakech, Morocco.

Honey Singh summoned for fourth time over controversial remarks during television show



Mumbai rapper and singer Yo Yo Honey Singh has been summoned for the fourth time by the Maharashtra Cyber Cell to appear for questioning on Thursday over allegedly objectionable remarks made during a television show. An official said a complaint was filed after the remarks, but Singh did not respond to three earlier summonses, reportedly saying he was abroad. Authorities may initiate proceedings for a Look Out Circular if he fails to appear again. The controversy follows comments he made during a Delhi concert earlier this year about sex and condom use. Singh later apologized in a social media video, saying his words were not intended to hurt or offend anyone.

'Breaking Bad' actor RJ Mitte dies at 34 as tributes honor his disability advocacy



Actor and disability rights advocate RJ Mitte, best known for playing Walter White Jr. in the television drama 'Breaking Bad', died Monday at age 34. His representatives confirmed Tuesday that his death was by suicide. Authorities said an autopsy would be conducted, but no further details were immediately available. Mitte, who was born with cerebral palsy, drew on his personal experiences to bring authenticity to the role and challenge stereotypes about disability. His co-star Bryan Cranston expressed deep sorrow, remembering Mitte's determination and growth as an actor. Beyond 'Breaking Bad', Mitte appeared in 'Switched at Birth' and 'Guardians of Justice'. He also supported United Cerebral Palsy and Shriners Children's and led the Mitte Foundation.

Madhur Bhandarkar to lead feature film jury for Indian Panorama at IFFI 2026



Filmmaker Madhur Bhandarkar has been appointed chairman of the feature film jury for Indian Panorama at the 57th International Film Festival of India, scheduled to take place in Goa from November 20 to November 28. Known for films including 'Chandni Bar', 'Page 3' and 'Fashion', Bhandarkar will lead the evaluation of eligible entries and recommend 25 feature films for the festival, including five mainstream productions nominated by designated film trade bodies. The jury will also recommend films for the main competition, debut film categories and the International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication and UNESCO-Gandhi Medal. Screening of eligible entries began online on Monday, September 29, with a central panel scheduled to review 60 shortlisted films in Mumbai through Sunday, November 1.

Bipasha Basu begins filming for Hansal Mehta's new series after extended screen break



Actress Bipasha Basu is returning to acting with an untitled streaming series directed by Hansal Mehta, alongside Sunny Kaushal and Vishal Jethwa. Filming has begun, with the project written by Kashyap Kapoor and Raghav Raj Kakker and produced by Prabhleen Sandhu under Almighty Motion Pictures. Set in a small town on the brink of becoming a major heroin hub, the crime drama follows an incorruptible police officer, played by Kaushal, as he confronts powerful forces inside and outside the system. The series is expected to premiere on Prime Video. Basu last appeared in the crime thriller 'Dangerous' with husband Karan Singh Grover. She has largely stepped away from acting since welcoming their daughter, Devi, in November 2022.

Anupam Kher lends his voice to Jatayu in new 'Ramayana' character poster

The makers of the upcoming epic 'Ramayana', starring Ranbir Kapoor, have unveiled the first poster of Jatayu, the revered bird who attempts to rescue Sita from Ravana in the Hindu epic. Titled 'The Wings of Dharma', the poster features Jatayu's intense gaze and a striking image of the bird with his wings spread. Actor Anupam Kher will voice the character. Directed by Nitesh Tiwari, the two-part film stars Kapoor as Lord Rama, Sai Pallavi as Sita, Yash as Ravana, Sunny Deol as Hanuman and Ravi Dubey as Lakshman. The first installment is scheduled for worldwide release on Thursday, November 5, 2026, with the second planned for Diwali 2027.

Madhuri Dixit jokes that she married a heart surgeon to mend her fans' broken hearts



Actress Madhuri Dixit offered a witty explanation for marrying cardiovascular surgeon Dr. Shriram Nene during the premiere episode of the Marathi quiz show 'Kon Honar Crorepati'. Host and guest Sonali Bendre recalled that many fans were heartbroken when Dixit married in 1999. The actress responded humorously that she chose someone whose profession was to mend hearts. Dixit married Nene while he was based in the United States, stepping away from Bollywood at the height of her career. The couple have two sons, Arin and Ryan. She returned to films with 'Aaja Nachle' in 2007 and later appeared in 'Dedh Ishqiya', 'Gulaab Gang', 'Maja Ma' and 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3', alongside television and streaming projects.

Paul McCartney raises concerns over Paul Mescal's portrayal in upcoming Beatles films



Beatles legend Paul McCartney has voiced concerns about actor Paul Mescal playing him in director Sam Mendes' upcoming four-film project about the band. Speaking on Amy Poehler's podcast 'Good Hang', McCartney recalled being unhappy with his portrayal in the 2009 biopic 'Nowhere Boy', which depicted John Lennon's early life. He felt the film made him appear smaller and weaker than Lennon, played by Aaron Taylor-Johnson. McCartney said he contacted Mendes after learning that Mescal was shorter than Harris Dickinson, who plays Lennon. When a filming still showed the actors crossing Abbey Road, McCartney jokingly texted the director to object. Mendes reassured him that the difference was due to their stride patterns.

IndoUS Tribune की भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा — हरियाणा का पहला पड़ाव

माता मनसा देवी मंदिर, पंचकूला

गुजरात से हरियाणा तक—शक्ति उपासना, प्राचीन तीर्थ परंपराओं और धर्म-संस्कृति की विरासत की नई यात्रा

आंध्र प्रदेश, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, असम, बिहार, छत्तीसगढ़, गोवा और गुजरात के प्रमुख मंदिरों की यात्रा के बाद अब IndoUS Tribune की "भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा" हरियाणा में प्रवेश कर रही है। अब तक के प्रत्येक राज्य ने हमें भारत की धार्मिक आस्था, मंदिर स्थापत्य, पौराणिक कथाओं और सांस्कृतिक परंपराओं के अलग-अलग रूपों से परिचित कराया है। हरियाणा की इस नई यात्रा का आरंभ हम पंचकूला स्थित प्रसिद्ध माता मनसा देवी मंदिर से कर रहे हैं। देवी शक्ति को समर्पित यह पवित्र स्थल उत्तर भारत के प्रमुख देवी मंदिरों में गिना जाता है। यहां वर्षभर श्रद्धालु दर्शन और पूजा के लिए आते हैं, जबकि नवरात्र के अवसर पर भक्तों की बड़ी संख्या उमड़ती है। हरियाणा का यह पहला पड़ाव हमें शक्ति उपासना की उस परंपरा से जोड़ता है, जिसमें श्रद्धा, मनोकामना और देवी के प्रति समर्पण का विशेष स्थान है।



माता मनसा देवी मंदिर, पंचकूला — आस्था, इतिहास और शक्ति उपासना का प्रमुख केंद्र

पौराणिक मान्यता और देवी की महिमा

हरियाणा के पंचकूला में शिवालिक पहाड़ियों की तलहटी में स्थित माता मनसा देवी मंदिर देवी शक्ति के प्रमुख उपासना स्थलों में से एक है। यह मंदिर पंचकूला के बिलासपुर गांव के पास स्थित है और चंडीगढ़ क्षेत्र के प्रसिद्ध धार्मिक स्थलों में गिना जाता है। यहां माता मनसा देवी के दर्शन के लिए दूर-दूर से श्रद्धालु आते हैं।

हिंदू धार्मिक परंपरा में माता मनसा देवी को शक्ति का स्वरूप माना जाता है। मंदिर से जुड़ी एक मान्यता के अनुसार, राजा दक्ष के यज्ञ के बाद जब भगवान शिव माता सती के पार्थिव शरीर को लेकर विचरण कर रहे थे, तब भगवान विष्णु ने अपने सुदर्शन चक्र से उनके शरीर को खंडित किया। मान्यता है कि माता सती के मस्तक का एक भाग इस क्षेत्र में गिरा था। इसी कारण इस स्थान को देवी उपासना की पवित्र भूमि माना जाता है। हालांकि, शक्तिपीठों की पारंपरिक सूचियों में अलग-अलग मान्यताएं मिलती हैं। एक स्थानीय कथा के अनुसार, प्राचीन समय में एक गाय प्रतिदिन शिवालिक पहाड़ियों में स्थित तीन पवित्र शिलाओं पर अपना दूध अर्पित करती थी। बाद में इन शिलाओं को देवी की दिव्य उपस्थिति से जोड़कर देखा गया और यहां पूजा-अर्चना की परंपरा विकसित हुई। ऐसी लोककथाएं मंदिर की धार्मिक पहचान और स्थानीय श्रद्धा को और गहरा बनाती हैं।

मंदिर का इतिहास और निर्माण

माता मनसा देवी मंदिर का वर्तमान मुख्य मंदिर 1811 से 1815 के बीच मणिमाजरा के महाराजा गोपाल दास सिंह ने बनवाया था। मंदिर शिवालिक पहाड़ियों की तलहटी में स्थित है और इसका इतिहास क्षेत्र की रियासती परंपराओं से जुड़ा हुआ है।

मुख्य मंदिर से लगभग 200 मीटर की दूरी पर पटियाला शिवालय स्थित है। इसका निर्माण 1840 में पटियाला के महाराजा करम सिंह ने करवाया था। इस प्रकार मंदिर परिसर केवल देवी उपासना का केंद्र ही नहीं, बल्कि क्षेत्र के ऐतिहासिक और स्थापत्य विकास की कहानी भी प्रस्तुत करता है।

मंदिर से जुड़ी एक अन्य स्थानीय परंपरा के अनुसार, मणिमाजरा के राजा ने अपने किले से मंदिर तक आने-जाने के लिए एक गुफानुमा मार्ग बनवाया था और वे नियमित रूप से यहां दर्शन करने आते थे। यह कथा मंदिर और तत्कालीन शाही परिवार के संबंधों को दर्शाती है।



मंदिर परिसर और संरक्षण

भारत की स्वतंत्रता के बाद रियासती व्यवस्थाओं में बदलाव के कारण मंदिर की देखरेख प्रभावित हुई। समय के साथ मंदिर के रखरखाव और श्रद्धालुओं के लिए सुविधाओं की आवश्यकता महसूस की गई।

इस स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए हरियाणा सरकार ने 1991 में कानून बनाकर श्री माता मनसा देवी श्राइन बोर्ड की स्थापना की। हरियाणा अधिनियम संख्या 14, 1991 के अंतर्गत गठित इस बोर्ड को मंदिर के प्रबंधन, विकास और उससे जुड़ी संपत्तियों की देखरेख की जिम्मेदारी दी गई।

आज मंदिर परिसर में श्रद्धालुओं की सुविधा, दर्शन व्यवस्था और धार्मिक आयोजनों के संचालन पर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाता है। मंदिर के आसपास का क्षेत्र भी इसे एक प्रमुख धार्मिक पर्यटन स्थल बनाता है।

नवरात्र में उमड़ती है श्रद्धालुओं की भीड़

माता मनसा देवी मंदिर का सबसे प्रमुख आयोजन वर्ष में दो बार मनाया जाने वाला नवरात्र मेला है। चैत्र नवरात्र और आश्विन यानी शारदीय नवरात्र के दौरान नौ दिनों तक विशेष धार्मिक आयोजन होते हैं। इन अवसरों पर बड़ी संख्या में श्रद्धालु माता के दर्शन करने और पूजा-अर्चना के लिए पहुंचते हैं।

नवरात्र के दिनों में मंदिर परिसर में विशेष व्यवस्थाएं की जाती हैं, ताकि भक्तों को दर्शन करने में सुविधा हो। वातावरण भक्ति, पूजा और धार्मिक उत्साह से भर जाता है। श्रद्धालु माता के प्रति अपनी आस्था व्यक्त करते हैं और परिवार की सुख-समृद्धि तथा कल्याण की कामना करते हैं।

माता मनसा देवी के प्रति भक्तों की श्रद्धा इस विश्वास से भी जुड़ी है कि सच्चे मन से की गई प्रार्थना और पूजा से मनोकामनाएं पूर्ण होती हैं। इस विश्वास ने सदियों से मंदिर को लोगों की धार्मिक और सांस्कृतिक चेतना का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा बनाए रखा है।

हरियाणा की धार्मिक विरासत का पहला पड़ाव

माता मनसा देवी मंदिर हरियाणा की धार्मिक परंपराओं, ऐतिहासिक विरासत और शक्ति उपासना का एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रतीक है। इसकी पौराणिक मान्यताएं, राजाओं से जुड़ा इतिहास और नवरात्र के भव्य आयोजन इसे विशेष पहचान देते हैं।

IndoUS Tribune की "भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा" का हरियाणा अध्याय इस मंदिर से शुरू होकर हमें राज्य की विविध धार्मिक परंपराओं को समझने का अवसर देता है। यहां की यात्रा हमें यह भी याद दिलाती है कि भारत के मंदिर केवल पूजा के स्थान नहीं, बल्कि इतिहास, लोकविश्वास और सांस्कृतिक जीवन के जीवंत केंद्र हैं।

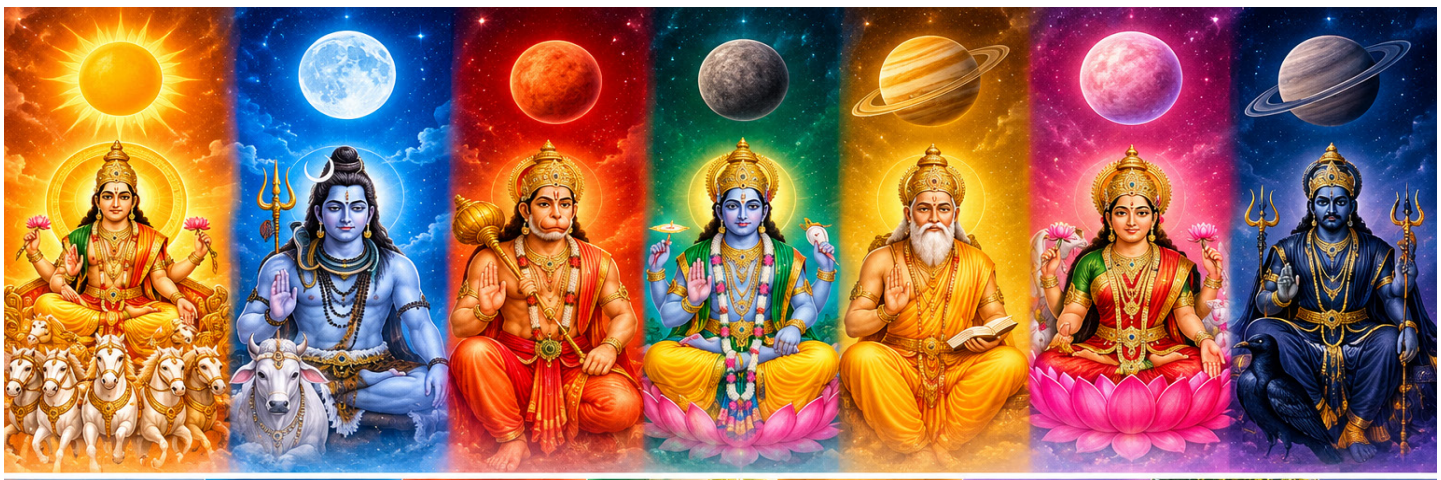
अगला पड़ाव — ब्रह्म सरोवर, कुरुक्षेत्र

हरियाणा में हमारी आध्यात्मिक यात्रा का अगला पड़ाव होगा ब्रह्म सरोवर, कुरुक्षेत्र। प्राचीन धार्मिक मान्यताओं और महाभारत की परंपरा से जुड़ा यह विशाल पवित्र सरोवर हिंदू तीर्थ परंपरा में विशेष स्थान रखता है। अगले पड़ाव में हम इसके धार्मिक महत्व, इतिहास और कुरुक्षेत्र की आध्यात्मिक विरासत को जानेंगे।

IndoUS Tribune की "भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा" में अगले सप्ताह मिलते हैं—हरियाणा के एक और महत्वपूर्ण तीर्थस्थल पर।

The seven days of the week and their ruling planets

Which deity to worship on each day and what good habit to practice



In Indian culture, the seven days of the week are considered more than just dates on a calendar. Each day is traditionally associated with a particular planet, and over time, customs involving the worship of deities, chanting of mantras, charitable giving, service, and self-discipline have developed around these associations. From Sunday to Saturday, the seven days are associated, respectively, with the Sun, Moon, Mars, Mercury, Jupiter, Venus, and Saturn. In Indian astrology and the traditional Panchang calendar, these are regarded as the planetary rulers of the seven days. The Navagraha tradition also includes Rahu and Ketu, but neither governs a separate day of the week.

One of the most meaningful aspects of these traditions is the emphasis they place on different qualities for a balanced life: confidence through the Sun, mental peace through the Moon, courage through Mars, intelligence through Mercury, wisdom through Jupiter, love through Venus, and responsibility and discipline through Saturn. The practices described below are based on religious traditions and cultural beliefs. They may be understood as expressions of faith and as reminders to cultivate a positive lifestyle. For medical conditions, financial difficulties, legal matters, or other serious concerns, appropriate professional advice remains essential.



Sunday — Lord Surya (The Sun God)
Energy, health, and confidence

Sunday is traditionally dedicated to Lord Surya, the Sun God. In Indian tradition, the Sun symbolizes life, energy, inner strength, and light. Astrologically, it is associated with leadership, self-confidence, reputation, and the father. Offering water to the rising Sun, chanting "Om Suryaya Namah," and practicing Surya Namaskar or other forms of exercise are common traditions. Respecting parents and elders and helping those in need are also meaningful ways to reflect the positive message of this day.

Sunday's Message: Begin your day with energy, discipline, and confidence.

Monday — The Moon and Lord Shiva
Mental peace and emotional balance

Monday is associated with the Moon, which traditionally represents the mind, emotions, and sensitivity. Since Lord Shiva is depicted with the Moon adorning his head, worshipping Shiva on Monday is an important religious tradition. Devotees chant "Om Namah Shivaya" and offer water to the Shiva Lingam. Meditation, prayer, peaceful communication with family members, and avoiding unnecessary arguments are also positive habits to cultivate.

Monday's Message: A calm mind helps us make better decisions.

Tuesday — Mars and Lord Hanuman
Courage and self-control

Tuesday is associated with Mars, traditionally regarded as a symbol of energy, strength, courage, and determination. Lord Hanuman represents physical and mental strength, wisdom, devotion, and the ability to face adversity. Reading the Hanuman Chalisa, helping those in need, and learning to control anger are important life lessons associated with this day. Those who observe a religious fast should take their individual health needs into consideration.

Tuesday's Message: True strength lies not in controlling others, but in mastering our own anger and ego.

Wednesday — Mercury and Lord Vishnu
Intelligence, communication, and good Judgment

Wednesday is governed by Mercury, which is traditionally associated with intelligence, speech, writing, business, and communication. Many families worship Lord Vishnu or Lord Krishna on this day.

Chanting "Om Namo Bhagavate Vasudevaya," helping students, donating books, and caring for plants are activities that reflect the positive values associated with Wednesday. Avoiding lies, rumors, and harsh speech is equally important.

Wednesday's Message: Intelligence reveals its true value through sound decisions and kind communication.





Thursday — Jupiter and the Guru
Knowledge, education, and moral values

Thursday is associated with Brihaspati, the Guru of the Devas, or divine teacher. In astrological tradition, Jupiter represents knowledge, education, religion, wisdom, and the guiding role of a teacher. Worshipping Lord Vishnu, respecting teachers and parents, supporting students, and donating yellow-colored items are among the traditional practices associated with this day. More importantly, knowledge should be used for the benefit of others.

Thursday's Message: Knowledge becomes meaningful when accompanied by humility and good character.

Friday — Venus and the Divine Feminine
Love, family, and prosperity

Friday is associated with Venus, traditionally regarded as a symbol of love, beauty, art, music, marital harmony, and material comforts. Worshipping Goddess Lakshmi, Goddess Durga, and other forms of the Divine Mother is common on this day. Keeping the home and prayer area clean, lighting a lamp, donating food or clothing to those in need, and maintaining loving communication within the family are positive practices. Respecting women's dignity, safety, and equality is a social and moral responsibility that goes beyond any religious ritual.

Friday's Message: True prosperity is not measured by wealth alone, but also by love, contentment, and healthy relationships.

Saturday — Lord Shani (Saturn)
Karma, discipline, and justice

Saturday is traditionally dedicated to Lord Shani, who is associated with karma, patience, discipline, responsibility, and justice. In many traditions, devotees worship Lord Hanuman alongside Shani Dev. Helping those in need, respecting hardworking people, paying employees fair wages, being punctual, and avoiding injustice are practical ways to put the values associated with Saturn into action.

Saturday's Message: The lesson of Shani is not fear, but responsibility and honest work.

Is It Necessary to Fast Every Day?

Absolutely not. Fasting is a matter of personal faith and commitment. There is no requirement to observe a fast on all seven days of the week. Children, older adults, pregnant women, and people with medical conditions should exercise caution before undertaking strict fasts. Anyone considering prolonged fasting, particularly abstaining from both food and water, should seek medical advice when appropriate. Similarly, expensive gemstones, elaborate worship ceremonies, or costly rituals are not necessary simply in the name of appeasing the planets.

The greatest remedy Is good Karma

When we look at the traditions associated with the seven days in simple terms, we find important values for everyday life:

- **Sunday:** Energy and self-confidence
- **Monday:** Mental peace and emotional balance
- **Tuesday:** Courage and self-control
- **Wednesday:** Intelligence and kind communication
- **Thursday:** Knowledge and morality
- **Friday:** Love, family, and prosperity
- **Saturday:** Responsibility, discipline, and justice

Making the planets favorable, therefore, need not mean relying only on worship and rituals. Respecting parents, helping those in need, honoring women's dignity, working honestly, paying workers fairly, protecting nature, and controlling our anger are all ways to put into practice the values associated with these seven days.

Faith can give the mind strength, but good deeds give life direction. This is the simplest and most practical message of the Indian traditions associated with the seven days of the week and their ruling planets.

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Rajendra Kapil
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More than 300 receive free medical services at 55th Health Fair in Itasca



By: Jayanti Oza

More than 300 people received free medical screenings and consultations at the 55th Health Fair held October 4, 2026, at Midwest Swaminarayan Temple in Itasca, Illinois. The event brought together more than 20 physicians and 110 health care professionals and volunteers to provide medical services to community members.

The health fair was supported by Midwest Swaminarayan Temple, Lohana Association of Greater Chicago (LAGC), Gujarati Samaj of Chicago (GSC), Kadva Patidar Samaj (KPS) and Sahiyaru Abhiyan Chicago. Its goal was to help people facing financial or insurance-related barriers to medical care.

Comprehensive medical services

Participants received screenings for height, weight, blood pressure, pulse and blood sugar. Nutrition, diet and diabetes education were also provided.

Volunteers collected blood samples from 275 patients and sent them to the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) laboratory for testing. Organizers said doctors would review the results, which were expected to be mailed to patients within three weeks.

Five electrocardiogram (EKG) machines were used to screen men and women over age 55. Cardiologists Dr. Hetal Gandhi, Vijay Patel and Dr. Manish Bhambhatt interpreted the results for participants.





The fair also offered primary care examinations, dental and ear, nose and throat consultations, eye screenings, urine analysis, physical therapy and hearing tests. Additional services included flu vaccinations, Ayurvedic and chiropractic consultations, and gastrointestinal consultations.

Participating physicians included Dr. Jayashree Raju, Dr. Yohesh Parikh, Dr. Manali Patel, Dr. Vilpa Patel, Dr. Ramesh Patel, Dr. Nayan Patel, Dr. Priya Patel, Dr. Jagruti Patel, Dr. Seema Mani and Dr. Hemal Patel. Audiologist Rachel Miller conducted hearing tests. Numerous volunteers supported the various medical services.

Registration was managed by Rajesh Desai, Hemansu Patel, Kadamb Thakkar, Vatsal Shah, Satish Patel and their team. Organizers also introduced computerized consent and medical assessment forms to streamline registration and documentation.

37 years of community service

The event marked the 37th year of Jayantibhai Thakkar's involvement in coordinating health fairs at temples across the Chicago metropolitan area. Beginning in 1989, his efforts have helped make this the 55th health fair he has coordinated.

The program ran smoothly, with medical professionals and volunteers serving participants until 1 p.m. Midwest Swaminarayan Temple provided tea, coffee, gota and light refreshments for patients, along with lunch for volunteers.

Thakkar thanked the participating doctors, health care professionals, volunteers, sponsoring organizations and temple team for their continued support.

The event highlighted the role of community partnerships in improving access to basic health screenings and medical consultations at no cost to participants.

Chicago expands Early Voting to all 50 wards ahead of November 3 Midterm Election

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Chicago Board of Election Commissioners will expand Early Voting to all 50 Chicago wards beginning Monday, October 19, providing voters with additional opportunities to cast their ballots ahead of the November 3, 2026, Midterm General Election. According to Kimico Mehta, South Asian Outreach representative for the Chicago Board of Elections, the expansion will make early voting more accessible to residents across the city, with multilingual voting assistance and services for voters with disabilities. The Board will mark the launch with a press conference at 10 a.m. Monday, October 19, at the Chicago Voting SuperSite, located at 137 S. State Street, at the corner of State and Adams streets. Doors will open for press conference attendees at 8:30 a.m. Chairwoman Marisel A. Hernandez will provide election updates in English and Spanish and discuss accessibility and language services available to voters.

Early Voting in all 50 wards will continue through November 2. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays. The downtown Voting SuperSite will also remain open, with weekday hours extended until 7 p.m. from October 26 through November 2. The Chicago Board of Elections office at 69 W. Washington Street, on the sixth floor, will offer additional Early Voting opportunities during the same period, with weekday hours also extending to 7 p.m. during the final week. University Early Voting locations will operate October 28–30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at selected campuses, including Chicago State University, Northeastern Illinois University and the University of Chicago.

Multilingual Voting Services

The Board of Elections will provide several services to help voters participate in the election. All Early Voting locations are ADA-compliant and accessible to voters with disabilities. Multilingual election officials will be assigned to designated locations. Printed ballots will be available in Spanish, Chinese, Hindi, Polish, Korean and Tagalog. Touchscreen voting equipment and audio ballots will be available at every Early Voting site, Election Day precinct polling place and Vote Center in 12 languages: English, Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin audio), Hindi, Korean, Tagalog, Polish, Gujarati, Urdu, Ukrainian, Arabic and Russian.

Voter registration and updates to existing registration information will also be available during Early Voting and on Election Day. Residents registering or updating their information in person should check the current identification requirements at chicagoelections.gov.

Election day and Vote-by-Mail

On Tuesday, November 3, all 1,291 precinct polling places across Chicago's 50 wards will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Voters wishing to vote by mail must apply for a ballot by October 29. Completed ballot return envelopes must be postmarked by the close of polls on Election Day and received by the Board within 14 days after the election. Voters may also return sealed and certified ballot envelopes through designated drop boxes managed by the Board throughout the city.

The Chicago Board of Elections encourages residents to review their voting options, confirm their polling locations and make a plan to vote.

For complete information about Early Voting, registration, polling locations, sample ballots, Vote By Mail and accessibility services, **visit chicagoelections.gov.**

Kimico Mehta, South Asian Outreach representative, is the contact for South Asian community outreach regarding the election.

Media representatives covering the election must obtain Board-issued media credentials to access polling places. Credential applications should be submitted to cboe@ chicagoelections.gov.

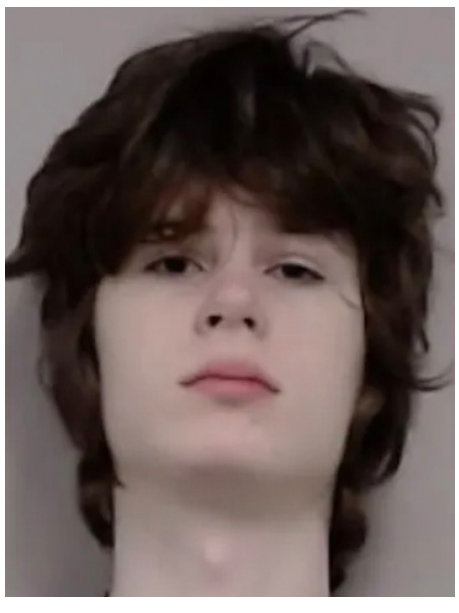
Indian American community condemns alleged plot targeting Aurora-area Hindu temple

IndoUS Tribune and community leaders denounce alleged anti-Indian extremism, calling for accountability, stronger protections for places of worship and unity against hate.

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian American community has expressed shock and outrage following the arrest of a 19-year-old Palatine man in connection with an alleged mass-shooting plot that investigators believe may have targeted a Hindu place of worship in the Aurora area. Community leaders have condemned the alleged plot, describing threats against a religious institution as an attack on the principles of religious freedom, public safety and equal protection. They are urging vigilance, accountability under the law and a united stand against racism, religious hatred and extremism. IndoUS Tribune strongly condemns any attempt to target Hindu temples or intimidate people because of their Indian heritage or religious identity. Places of worship must remain sanctuaries of peace, prayer and community life, not targets of violence or intimidation.

The allegations have deeply unsettled Indian American families across the Chicago metropolitan area. For generations, community members have built businesses, established cultural institutions and contributed to the region's social and civic life. Hindu temples are central to that community, serving as spiritual homes and gathering places for families, children, seniors and volunteers.



The possibility that a temple may have been considered a target has heightened concerns about the safety of worshippers and the need to take threats rooted in racial or religious hatred seriously.

Community leaders call for unity and accountability

Dr. Avi Verma, publisher and chief executive officer of IndoUS Tribune, emphasized the importance of a firm and united response to threats against Hindu institutions and the broader Indian American community.

"Any attempt to terrorize people because of their faith, race or Indian heritage is utterly unacceptable. A Hindu temple is a place of prayer, peace, service and community, not a target for extremist hatred. We strongly condemn this alleged plot and call for a thorough investigation, full accountability under the law and appropriate protection for places of worship," Verma said.

According to accounts attributed to prosecutors and reported by local media, the suspect allegedly told a coworker that his rifle had jammed and that he fled. Authorities have not publicly confirmed the specific temple allegedly targeted, and the investigation remains ongoing.

The allegations must be assessed through the legal process, and the suspect's guilt has not been established.

Community leaders say the case underscores the importance of investigating any potential racial or religious motivations thoroughly. They also stress that families should not allow fear to divide the community or deter them from practicing their faith.

Hindu Americans, like people of every religious background, have the right to worship freely, educate their children, celebrate their traditions and participate fully in American life without fear of violence or intimidation.

A call for vigilance, justice and solidarity

IndoUS Tribune urges law enforcement agencies to pursue the investigation diligently, assess any continuing risks and maintain communication with Hindu temples and community organizations. Religious institutions should review their safety procedures and promptly report credible threats to the appropriate authorities.

The community also stands in solidarity with people of every faith and background who face religious discrimination, racism or threats of violence. Protecting the right of a Hindu congregation to worship safely is part of defending religious freedom for all communities.

As the investigation and legal proceedings continue, community members deserve clear information, responsible reporting and reassurance grounded in verified facts rather than speculation. The message from community leaders is clear: hatred and intimidation must not dictate how people live or practice their faith. The Indian American community remains united in its commitment to religious freedom, dignity, public safety and peaceful coexistence.

Celebrating Indian couture, culture and creativity in Chicago

IndoUS Tribune Newsdesk



Chicago hosted the inaugural Chicago Indian Fashion Week (CIFW) on October 10, bringing together designers, models, artists and community members for an event celebrating Indian fashion, art and cultural heritage.

Founded by Jigar Shah, the event featured six designers and 50 models, attracting more than 300 guests. The program combined runway presentations with cultural performances, Indian-inspired floral art, saree-themed décor, music, dance and Indian cuisine.

The organizers said the initiative aims to create a platform for Indian designers, artisans and creative professionals to reach wider audiences while strengthening cultural connections between India and the United States.

Fashion meets Indian heritage

The runway presentations showcased a range of Indian fashion, highlighting traditional craftsmanship alongside contemporary design. Floral installations and saree-inspired decorations reflected Indian artistic traditions, while live performances added a cultural dimension to the evening. The event also featured international fashion personalities and Bollywood talent, according to the organizers. Participation by Chicago-based and international creatives reflected the event's emphasis on cross-cultural collaboration.

For Shah, the inaugural edition represents the first step toward establishing an annual platform for Indian fashion and the arts in the Midwest.

"Chicago Indian Fashion Week was never envisioned as just another fashion show. It was created to give Indian fashion, art, craftsmanship, and culture the international platform they deserve," Shah said. He said the initiative seeks to create opportunities for designers, artists and entrepreneurs while introducing broader audiences to India's creative traditions.

Sustainability and community engagement

Sustainability was another theme of the inaugural event. Organizers highlighted circular fashion, responsible design and the role of Indian textiles and craftsmanship in promoting more sustainable approaches to the fashion industry.



The event also supported Bookwallah, a charitable organization, incorporating a philanthropic component into the celebration.

The organizers said their broader vision extends beyond runway shows to include creative entrepreneurship, artistic partnerships and community engagement. They aim to develop opportunities for emerging designers and artisans while encouraging collaborations between Indian and American creative professionals.

Building a cultural platform in Chicago

With more than 300 guests attending, the event brought together members of Chicago's Indian-American community and participants from the fashion and arts sectors. Organizers also reported media interest involving international entertainment and lifestyle platforms, including Netflix and Global Billionaire Magazine.

Shah said Chicago's multicultural character makes it a suitable setting for an initiative connecting Indian heritage with contemporary international fashion.

"Indian culture is not simply something we preserve—it is something we continue to create, evolve, and share with the world," he said.

The organizers plan to build on the inaugural event by expanding partnerships with cultural institutions and creative organizations, promoting sustainable fashion and creating additional opportunities for Indian designers and artisans.

While the long-term goal is to establish Chicago Indian Fashion Week as an annual cultural event, its future growth will depend on continued participation from designers, sponsors, artists and the wider community.

The inaugural edition marked the launch of a new initiative seeking to bring Indian fashion and artistic expression greater visibility in Chicago and the Midwest.





Bharatiya Seniors of Chicago organizes five-day pilgrimage to Akshardham, Vraj Mandir and Vrindavan



By: Jayanti Oza

Bharatiya Seniors of Chicago (BSC) organized a five-day religious tour from September 21 to 25, offering senior members an opportunity to visit three prominent spiritual destinations: BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham in Robbinsville, New Jersey; Vraj Mandir in Pennsylvania; and Vrindavan in West Virginia.

The journey brought members together for prayer, fellowship and cultural activities, while providing an opportunity to strengthen friendships and share memories. The group departed early on September 21, with conversations, bhajans, singing and Antakshari helping create a lively atmosphere throughout the bus journey.

Visit to Akshardham

After dinner at Amul India Restaurant and an overnight stay at Hampton Inn in the Washington area, the group arrived at Akshardham in Robbinsville, New Jersey, at approximately 10 a.m. on September 22.

The temple complex was a major highlight of the tour. Members admired its grand architecture, detailed craftsmanship and peaceful spiritual surroundings. The visit also offered an opportunity to appreciate India's cultural traditions and religious heritage.

The group continued its journey to Vraj Mandir in Pennsylvania, where members attended the final Aarti at 8 p.m. before returning to Hampton Inn for the night.

A day of prayer and spiritual exploration in Vraj

The third day was devoted to Vraj Mandir and its surrounding spiritual attractions. Activities began with Mangala Aarti, followed by a visit to Govardhan Hill. Members spent the day participating in religious observances and exploring sites associated with Lord Krishna.

The group later enjoyed dinner and returned to the hotel. Organizers said the accommodation, meals and travel arrangements helped make the tour comfortable for the participants.

Vrindavan: A memorable spiritual experience

On the fifth day, the group departed by bus at 6 a.m. for Vrindavan in West Virginia. After approximately five hours of travel, members visited Vrindavan Palace and other spiritual attractions in the area.

The visit evoked a deep sense of devotion among participants, who reflected on the childhood pastimes of Lord Krishna and the traditions associated with Vraj. At the Vrindavan temple, members joined Hare Krishna devotees in devotional singing and dancing.

Following lunch, the group began its return journey to Chicago, arriving at Rana-Reagan in the Chicago area at approximately 10 p.m.

Fellowship and volunteer support

Beyond the religious visits, the tour provided opportunities for members to enjoy one another's company. Bhajans, kirtans, Antakshari, shared snacks and conversations helped make the long bus journeys enjoyable. Regular rest stops were also scheduled during travel.

Organizers acknowledged the contributions of Haribhai, president of Bharatiya Seniors of Chicago, whose leadership and coordination helped guide the tour. Hirjibhai, committee members and volunteers also assisted with travel, meals, accommodations and other arrangements.

Special appreciation was extended to Sonalben Shah and Dr. Prakashbhai Shah for providing gifts to the participants. BSC members Madarsing Chavda, Indubhai Patel, Chandubhai Dave and Mahendra Mordiya were also acknowledged for their contributions.

Jayanti Oza, BSC's news media photojournalist, documented the journey through photographs that will serve as lasting reminders of the trip.

The organizers thanked all participants for their cooperation and understanding throughout the journey and apologized for any minor inconveniences.

Memories that will last

The five-day tour combined religious observances with friendship, shared experiences and community spirit. From the architectural grandeur of Akshardham to the devotional atmosphere of Vraj Mandir and Vrindavan, the journey offered members an opportunity to connect with their spiritual traditions while spending meaningful time together.

The organizers expressed the hope that Bharatiya Seniors of Chicago families would continue to enjoy unity, friendship, good health and happiness in the years ahead.





Hari Om Mandir raises nearly $170,000 at Annual Fundraising Gala

An evening of faith, cultural performances and community generosity supports temple improvements and future development.



By: Suresh Bodiwala

Hari Om Mandir's Annual Fundraising Dinner, held October 10, 2026, at Pearl Banquets in Roselle, brought together hundreds of devotees and community members for an evening of prayer, cultural performances and philanthropy, raising nearly $170,000 through donations and pledges.

The event highlighted the community's commitment to supporting temple operations, improving facilities and preserving Hindu religious and cultural traditions for future generations.

The program opened with Vedic prayers and blessings, followed by welcoming remarks from the temple's Board of Trustees Chairman, who thanked the Board of Trustees and Executive Board for their year-round service and acknowledged the leadership's contributions.

The chairman highlighted recent accomplishments, including the installation of a Hanuman Murti and construction of a protective covering, completed through community donations without external borrowing. He also outlined two major priorities: installing parking-lot lighting, estimated to cost approximately $100,000, and connecting the temple to the municipal water supply, a project projected to cost $500,000.

The fundraising chairman congratulated the community on its generosity, noting that the previous year's event had raised $150,000. He also praised the collective effort behind the Hanuman Murti project, which cost nearly half a million dollars and was completed under budget.

The temple president subsequently announced contributions from donors at various giving levels. Grand donors contributing $10,000 or more and Platinum donors contributing $5,000 or more were acknowledged, along with numerous other community members whose contributions ranged from smaller donations to substantial pledges.





As the fundraising total approached $170,000, the temple president announced a new target of $200,000, emphasizing that contributions support temple facilities and community services.

The evening featured a diverse cultural program, including a devotional dance dedicated to Lord Ganesha, musical performances, a fashion walk, Bollywood dance, Punjabi folk singing and an energetic qawwali finale. A raffle and award presentations added to the festivities.

Youth participation was another highlight. Hari Om Gurukul students were recognized for memorizing all six stanzas of Vande Mataram in just 15 days and performing at the Consulate General's office. The temple's Youth Night, organized by the younger generation, also demonstrated the community's commitment to engaging youth in cultural and religious activities.

Volunteers and long-serving community members were honored for their contributions to the temple and its programs.

The gathering demonstrated how faith, service and collective generosity strengthen community institutions and preserve cultural traditions.

The gala concluded with a message of unity and shared responsibility.
The funds raised will help advance the temple's planned improvements, while the strong community participation underscored Hari Om Mandir's role as a center of worship, cultural preservation and fellowship.



Kadva Patidar Samaj of Chicago celebrates Navratri with Garba and Raas

By: Jayanti Oza

Approximately 1,000 members of the Kadva Patidar Samaj of Chicago, along with friends and families, gathered at the Jain Temple in Bartlett on Saturday, Oct. 10, for the organization's annual Navratri Garba and Raas celebration. The festivities featured a Shree Umiya Mataji Rath in the temple parking lot, followed by Aartis dedicated to Shree Ambe Maa and Umiyamiya Mataji. Participants took part in traditional Tali Garba and Raas Garba, with the evening concluding on an energetic note with Sanedo.

A live musical ensemble provided accompaniment throughout the program. Lead vocalist Bhargav Upadhyay was joined by Sania Aarzu, who traveled from India for the performance.

The program began at 7 p.m. and paused at 9:15 p.m. for the Aartis. Maha Prasad was served to devotees afterward. Garba resumed at 10 p.m. with Dandiya Raas and continued until 11:30 p.m.

A decorated stage contributed to the festive setting, while Tasty Bites USA offered food for purchase. Organizers expressed appreciation to the sponsors, trustees and volunteers whose contributions helped make the celebration possible. Special thanks were extended to grand sponsors Mithabhai and Jayantibhai's family of Orland Park, along with the young volunteers who assisted with the event.





Healthy Aging, Healthy Living Series

Diabetes and prediabetes: The warning signs we should not ignore (Part 4)

Recognizing the risks, understanding your numbers and taking control early

By: Dr. Avi Verma



What if a routine blood test could reveal a health problem years before you develop serious symptoms? Millions of adults live with prediabetes without knowing it. Blood sugar levels are elevated, yet many feel perfectly healthy. By the time symptoms appear, the condition may have progressed to Type 2 diabetes. In our previous installments, we explored brain health, strong bones and fall prevention. This week, we examine another crucial aspect of healthy aging: understanding blood sugar, recognizing risk factors and taking action early. Prediabetes is a serious warning, but timely lifestyle changes can substantially reduce the risk of developing diabetes.

What is prediabetes—and why does it matter?

Prediabetes occurs when blood glucose levels are higher than normal but not high enough to meet the criteria for Type 2 diabetes. A major contributor is insulin resistance. Insulin helps glucose move from the bloodstream into cells for energy. When cells respond poorly to insulin, the pancreas produces more to compensate. Over time, blood sugar can rise further.

Without intervention, some people with prediabetes develop Type 2 diabetes. Elevated blood sugar and associated metabolic risk factors can also increase the risk of heart disease, stroke and kidney complications. Early detection creates an opportunity to reduce these risks before more serious damage develops.

Prediabetes does not inevitably lead to diabetes, and blood sugar levels can return to the normal range for some people. However, continued monitoring remains important.

Warning signs you should not ignore

Prediabetes often causes no noticeable symptoms, making screening especially important. As blood sugar rises, some people experience increased thirst, frequent urination, fatigue, blurred vision or slow-healing wounds. These symptoms can also indicate diabetes or other conditions and warrant medical evaluation.

Dark, velvety patches of skin around the neck, armpits or groin may indicate insulin resistance. Small skin tags can also occur, although neither finding alone confirms prediabetes.

Do not wait for symptoms to appear before getting tested if you have risk factors.

Who is at greater risk?

Risk factors include:

- Excess weight, particularly abdominal fat.
- Physical inactivity and prolonged sitting.
- A diet high in sugary drinks, refined carbohydrates and heavily processed foods.
- A parent or sibling with Type 2 diabetes.
- Increasing age, especially from 35 onward.
- High blood pressure, abnormal cholesterol or triglyceride levels, and sleep apnea.
- A history of gestational diabetes or polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS).

People from several ethnic backgrounds, including South Asian, Black, Hispanic and Native American communities, may develop Type 2 diabetes at higher rates. South Asian adults can face increased metabolic risk even at lower body weights.

These factors do not guarantee diabetes, but they make appropriate screening and prevention more important.

Unless blood sugar is unequivocally elevated with classic symptoms, an abnormal result generally requires confirmation by repeat testing or another diagnostic test. Your healthcare professional can determine which test is appropriate and how often you should be screened.

Four steps that can make a difference

1. Improve food choices. Build meals around vegetables, beans, lentils, whole grains, nuts and suitable sources of lean protein. Choose high-fiber carbohydrates more often and reduce sugary drinks, sweets and highly refined foods. Portion sizes matter, too; no single food or diet reverses prediabetes for everyone.

2. Aim for modest, sustainable weight loss. For adults who are overweight, losing approximately 5%–7% of body weight can improve insulin sensitivity and reduce diabetes risk. A gradual, realistic approach is more sustainable than crash diets.

3. Move regularly. Aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate activity each week, such as brisk walking, cycling or swimming. Strength training twice weekly can help preserve muscle, which plays an important role in glucose use. Start at a safe level and increase activity gradually.

4. Protect sleep and manage stress. Aim for seven to nine hours of sleep when possible. Address persistent sleep problems, including possible sleep apnea, and develop healthy ways to manage stress. Avoid tobacco and limit alcohol.

For some people at particularly high risk, clinicians may recommend medication such as metformin alongside lifestyle changes. Treatment decisions should be individualized.

Take Action Before Diabetes Takes Hold

Research from the landmark Diabetes Prevention Program found that a structured lifestyle intervention reduced the development of Type 2 diabetes by 58% among high-risk participants during the trial; the reduction was 71% among participants aged 60 and older. These findings demonstrate the potential of lifestyle changes, although individual results vary. Prediabetes is not a reason to panic, but it is a reason to act. Know your numbers, discuss your risk with your healthcare professional and make manageable changes that you can maintain. Small steps taken consistently can protect your heart, blood vessels, kidneys and long-term independence.

Next Week: Part 5 – Kidney health: The silent organ we often forget

In the next installment of Healthy Aging, Healthy Living, we will explore kidney health—how the kidneys work, why high blood pressure and diabetes can damage them, the importance of hydration and medication safety, warning signs of kidney disease, and when screening may be needed.

Know Your Numbers: Blood Sugar Testing

Three tests are commonly used to identify prediabetes and diabetes in nonpregnant adults.

Test	Prediabetes	Diabetes range
A1C (average blood sugar over about 2–3 months)	5.7%–6.4%	6.5% or higher
Fasting blood glucose	100–125 mg/dL	126 mg/dL or higher
Two-hour oral glucose tolerance test	140–199 mg/dL	200 mg/dL or higher

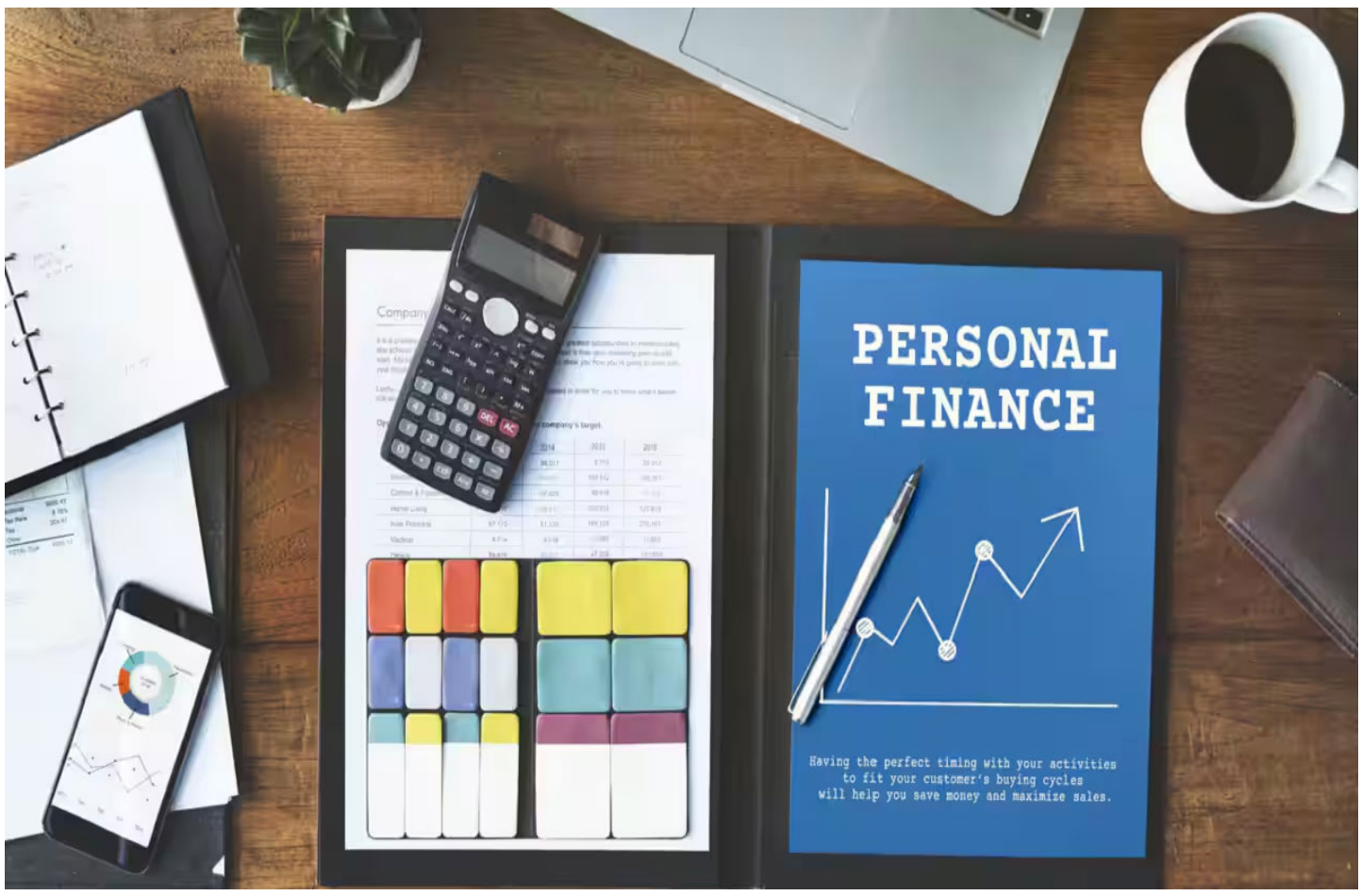
Disclaimer

This article is for general educational and informational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Blood sugar testing, screening schedules, dietary changes, exercise and medication decisions should be tailored to individual health needs. Consult a qualified healthcare professional regarding your personal risk factors or test results. Do not start, stop or change medication without medical guidance. Seek prompt medical attention concerning symptoms and emergency care for a medical emergency.

Personal finance insights: News & Features

Mini Feature: BOND DURATION RULE OF THUMB

Dr. K C Gupta, YBB Personal Finance



CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAII Bull-Bear Spread +1.3% (below average)

CNN Fear & Greed Index 45 (neutral)

NYSE %Above 50-dMA 25.73% (oversold)

SP500 %Above 50-dMA 36.40% (negative)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 8/30/26

OEFs & ETFs: Stocks 63.33%, Hybrids 3.85%, Bonds 16.83%, M-Mkt 15.99%

INTEREST RATES

CME FedWatch

Cycle peak 5.25-5.50%

Current 3.75-4.00%

FOMC 10/28/26+ hold

FOMC 12/9/26+ hike

Treasury

T-Bills 3-mo yield 4.25%, 1-yr 4.47%; T-Notes 2-yr 4.80%, 5-yr 5.02%, 10-yr 5.24%; T-Bonds 30-yr 5.60% (normal yield-curve);

TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 2.68%, 10-yr 2.91%, 30-yr 3.32%

FRNs Index 4.153% (stale)

Bank Rates www.depositaccounts.com/

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 10/1/26

TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates

Restricted RC 5.75%, RA 5.50%

Flexible RCP 5.00%, SRA 4.75%, IRA-101110+ 4.65%

TIAA MYGA 5.30% (3-yr), 5.40% (5-yr), 5.50% (7-yr)

TSP G Fund 5.375% (previous 4.875%)

India Fear & Greed MMI 20.25 (extreme fear)

Weekly ETFs: INDA -1.05%, EPI -1.58%, INDH -0.49%, SMIN -1.90% | SPY +1.16%

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

ECONOMY. RBI raised repo rate to 5.5%.

ENERGY. Power history includes the past (actual generation) & present (installed capacity). For India FY 2026, coal was still the king with 70% generation, solar & wind 15%, & the rest from natural gas, hydro, nuclear. The installed capacity represents the future & that for clean & renewable energy capacity just exceeded that for fossils. This is due to huge growth in demand from the power sector & newer capacities are overwhelmingly for clean & renewable energy - 33% from solar, 7% from wind, & smaller amounts from hydro, wind, nuclear. One problem is the lack of sufficient battery storage capacity & that wastes lot of renewable power generated &/or makes the electricity grid unstable. Government has now mandated the use of sufficient battery capacity for renewable energy installations, but most batteries are imported from China (80%) with the rest (20%) from S Korea, Taiwan, etc; the local battery manufacturing capacity is less than 1%.

IT/TECH. UK consumer-tech phone startup Nothing will spinoff its CMF smartphone brand in India. Nothing makes affordable basic smartphones & it has localized its Indian operations involving design, software, camera processing & supplier co-engineering. Its focus is on smartphones for the Indian market, not for exports that several other global companies are focused on.



SPECIAL TOPIC - BOND DURATION RULE OF THUMB

Bond duration (in years) is the present-value-weighted-average of the timings of cash flows. So, the present-value (PVi) of each cash flow (i th at time Ti) is calculated at prevailing interest rate & the weights are (PVi/PV) at cash flow timings Ti.

For zero-coupon bond, the only cash flow is at maturity, so duration = maturity, but for all other bonds with periodic interest payments, duration < maturity. Mortgage bonds (MBS) have higher cash flows because each payment includes interest & some principal, so duration << maturity.

For example, for a 6% bond, duration is 30.00 for 30-yr zero-coupon bond, 13.85 for 30-yr T-Bond (semiannual interest payments; payment of par on maturity), 11.56 for 30-yr mortgage bond (monthly interest & principal payments; final value $0).

A practical definition of duration is that it's the approximate price-sensitivity of bond to changes in interest rates (note 1% = 100 bps). So, if a bond has duration of 5 years & interest rates increase by +50 bps (+0.50%), then the value of bond will decrease by -5*0.50 = -2.5%. While the reverse will happen for interest rate decrease by -50 bps, the effect isn't symmetrical (bond convexity effect), but may be assumed to be so in the first approximation. This can be applied to bond portfolios or funds too.

Bond portfolio escape velocity is when yield is equal to duration. Beyond that point (yield > duration), 1-yr TR > 0 even with rising rates.

The bond rule of thumb is that approximate total-return (TR) of a bond fund held for its duration is just the initial yield at the time of purchase. Reason is that bond TR includes (i) price change & (ii) reinvestments, & interest rate change affects them in opposite ways. The reinvestments (ii) at lower prices adds up quickly, & by the duration, the value increase from the second effect (reinvestments) approximately neutralizes or immunizes the first effect (value decrease). It isn't a precise rule & exceptions may be found; bond portfolios may change too.

As a practical application, you can buy short/intermediate-term bond funds for various needs (down payments, home improvements, major appliances, vacation, etc).

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

Everything you need to know about

IUHS School of Medicine

By: Dr. Avi Verma

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

2. Program Structure & Exams:

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

3. Assessments:

- End-of-block graded exams
- DxR Clinician virtual patient simulation graded assignments
- Non-graded DAR exams (at the end of Blocks 3, 6, 9) to identify knowledge gaps.
- Lecturio self-assessments which are mandatory but not graded.

4. Teaching methods:

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

5. Clinical rotations:

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

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

Key Features:

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

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

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

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

Key Features:

- Comprehensive Medical Curriculum Support – Covers preclinical and clinical subjects aligned with USMLE, NBME, and other global medical exams.
- High-Quality Video Lectures – Taught by expert professors from leading medical institutions.
- AI-Powered Adaptive Learning – Personalized study recommendations based on student performance.
- Question Banks & Clinical Case Scenarios – USMLE-style questions, explanations, and performance tracking.
- Spaced Repetition & Smart Recall – Helps reinforce learning and improve long term retention.

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

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

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

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

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

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



The new hydration hero for plumper, smoother skin

Polyglutamic acid is gaining attention as a moisture-boosting ingredient, but does it really outperform hyaluronic acid?

In the ever-evolving world of beauty, new ingredients regularly promise to transform our skin. Yet, few trends have generated as much curiosity as polyglutamic acid, a hydration-focused ingredient increasingly being discussed as a potential rival to hyaluronic acid.

While claims about its superior moisture-retaining abilities have captured attention, the real appeal lies in how it helps skin feel softer, look plumper and maintain a smoother appearance. Understanding how it works, how it differs from familiar hydrating ingredients and how to use it can help you decide whether it deserves a place in your daily routine.

What is polyglutamic acid?

Polyglutamic acid, commonly known as PGA, is a chain of glutamic acid molecules derived from fermented soybeans. It works as a humectant, attracting and retaining moisture at the skin's surface. Its relatively large molecular structure allows it to form a light, flexible film that helps reduce water loss.

The result can be skin that feels softer, looks plumper and appears smoother. Fine lines caused by dehydration may also become less noticeable, giving the complexion a fresher, more supple appearance.



Claims that PGA can hold up to 4,000 times its weight in water stem from laboratory research. However, this does not establish that it hydrates human skin four times better than hyaluronic acid. Direct clinical comparisons between the two ingredients remain limited.

Polyglutamic acid versus hyaluronic acid

Both ingredients help attract moisture, but they work somewhat differently. Hyaluronic acid has a stronger body of clinical evidence supporting its hydrating benefits and remains a well-established skin-care ingredient.

PGA, meanwhile, primarily works at the skin's surface, helping lock in moisture and reduce evaporation. Some people may also find its texture less sticky than certain hyaluronic acid formulations.

Rather than choosing one over the other, dermatologists suggest that the ingredients can complement each other. Applying a hyaluronic acid serum first, followed by a PGA product and moisturizer, can help build a hydration-focused routine.

Laboratory research also suggests that PGA may inhibit hyaluronidase, an enzyme responsible for breaking down hyaluronic acid. However, more clinical evidence is needed to establish how significant this effect is in living skin.

How to add it to your routine

PGA is generally considered gentle and can be incorporated into many skin-care routines. It may be particularly useful for dehydrated skin, seasonal dryness or complexions that need a smoother, more hydrated appearance. It can also complement ingredients such as retinoids, vitamin C and exfoliating acids, which may cause dryness or irritation in some people.

There is no strong clinical evidence that a higher concentration automatically produces better results. The overall formulation and consistent use matter more than the percentage printed on the label.

For best results, apply hydrating products according to their instructions and follow with a moisturizer to help reduce moisture loss. If you have sensitive skin, introduce new products gradually and patch-test first.



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