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World leaders and Indian missions celebrate Diwali with diaspora across major global cities

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Indian diplomatic missions and world leaders across several countries celebrated Diwali on Sunday, extending greetings to the Indian diaspora and communities observing the Festival of Lights.

Indian missions in the United Kingdom, the United States, France, Russia and the United Arab Emirates marked the occasion with messages and community celebrations. The Indian Embassy in Paris hosted a reception for the diaspora on Saturday, while the Consulate General in Saint Petersburg organized cultural performances, quizzes and activities highlighting Indian traditions. The Embassy in Abu Dhabi was illuminated for the festival.

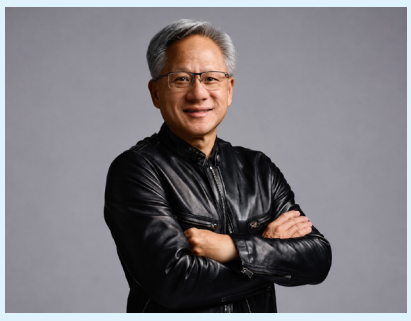


World leaders, including Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, French President Emmanuel Macron, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, Guyana President Irfaan Ali and United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, also extended greetings. Russian Ambassador Denis Alipov and the United States Embassy in India shared messages wishing people peace, hope and prosperity.

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Nvidia chief Jensen Huang resigns amid scandal involving alleged Chinese intelligence links

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Jensen Huang resigned as chief executive of Nvidia on Thursday amid controversy over reported extramarital relationships, including one with a woman suspected by United States intelligence agencies of having links to Chinese espionage. Nvidia's board announced that Chief Financial Officer Colette Kress would serve as interim chief executive while it searches for a permanent successor. The allegations have prompted concerns over corporate security and possible Chinese access to sensitive information. Huang acknowledged an extramarital affair in a message to employees but did not publicly identify the woman. Nvidia said it had no reason to believe company secrets or national security information had been compromised and launched an independent investigation. China has denied the espionage allegations.

Sunita Williams leads New York's 107th Veterans Day Parade as Grand Marshal

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Indian American astronaut and retired Navy captain Sunita Williams served as Grand Marshal of New York City's 107th annual Veterans Day Parade on Wednesday, leading thousands of participants along Manhattan's Fifth Avenue. The parade honored military veterans and featured contingents from the armed services, law enforcement, schools, community organizations and businesses. Williams described the role as an honor and said her Navy service had shaped her career and prepared her for future challenges. Before joining NASA, she worked as a test pilot and completed three space missions, spending 608 days in space. She also holds the record for the most spacewalks by a woman, completing nine totaling 62 hours.

India calls US religious freedom commission biased and questions its silence on attacks against Indian community

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India on Tuesday criticized the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, describing it as a "biased and ill-informed organisation" with a "blatantly political agenda" and questioning its response to attacks on religious places and hate crimes targeting Indians in the United States. Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal made the remarks during a media briefing in New Delhi, responding to questions about the commission's comments on alleged attacks against Sikh places of worship in India.

Jaiswal accused the commission and its members of remaining silent on attacks against religious sites and incidents of racial abuse targeting the Indian community in the United States. He said such selective responses undermined its credibility. The commission is a bipartisan federal body that monitors religious freedom worldwide and makes policy recommendations to the US government.



Congressman-elect Amish Shah makes tariff reform and protection against anti-Indian hate priorities

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Indian American Congressman-elect Amish Shah has pledged to make tariff reform and tackling anti-Indian hostility priorities when he takes office in January. Speaking to Indian reporters in Washington on Wednesday, the Arizona Democrat said Indian American entrepreneurs and small business owners had raised concerns about the impact of frequently changing tariffs.



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Immigration arrests continue across US despite Trump's softer tone after Republican election losses

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Immigration arrests continued across the United States following last week's midterm elections, despite President Donald Trump suggesting his deportation crackdown may have been too harsh. Homeland Security Secretary Markwayne Mullin said enforcement operations would continue, while Trump appointed immigration hard-liner Stephen Miller as his chief of staff. Arrests were reported in California, Alabama, Florida and other states.

Those detained included Venezuelan college students, an Argentine couple with pending asylum claims and an eight-year-old Haitian boy in San Diego. Federal officers also gathered outside a Los Angeles hospital, saying they had brought a detainee for medical treatment. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has not released nationwide arrest figures.

Congressman-elect Amish Shah makes tariff reform and protection against anti-Indian hate priorities

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He called for rolling back the duties and restoring Congress' authority over tariff-setting, which he said should not rest solely with the White House. Shah also pledged to join the India Caucus, saying stronger cooperation could help improve relations between Washington and New Delhi. He expressed concern over rising anti-Indian hostility and urged elected officials to condemn discrimination and protect affected communities. His other priorities include addressing living costs, expanding health care access, improving Arizona's water supply and supporting a public option allowing Americans to buy into Medicare.

Former NFL coach Rex Ryan surrenders after Nashville police accuse him of hitting two pedestrians

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Former National Football League coach and ESPN analyst Rex Ryan surrendered to Nashville police on Wednesday after being accused of striking two pedestrians with his pickup truck and leaving the scene. Police said the incident occurred late Thursday at an intersection in the city's downtown entertainment district. The pedestrians were crossing with a walk signal when Ryan allegedly turned and ran over their feet, also making contact with one person's leg. Both sustained minor injuries. They later confronted the driver at a traffic light and photographed his vehicle. Ryan faces six misdemeanor charges, including leaving the scene and failing to provide information or render aid. His bond was set at $6,000.

Judge allows Trump's $10 billion defamation lawsuit against BBC over edited speech to proceed

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A federal judge in Florida on Tuesday allowed President Donald Trump's $10 billion defamation lawsuit against the British Broadcasting Corporation to proceed, while dismissing his separate claim under the state's unfair business practices law. The lawsuit concerns a documentary that combined separate portions of Trump's January 6, 2021, speech, making it appear that he directly urged supporters to commit violence before the attack on the United States Capitol. The BBC apologized for the misleading edit but denies defamation. Judge Jeffrey Kuntz said the complaint presented a plausible claim, without deciding its merits. Trump is also scheduled to give a deposition by December 11.

Chinese vloggers accused of misrepresenting Dhaka neighborhoods as New Delhi in anti-India broadcasts

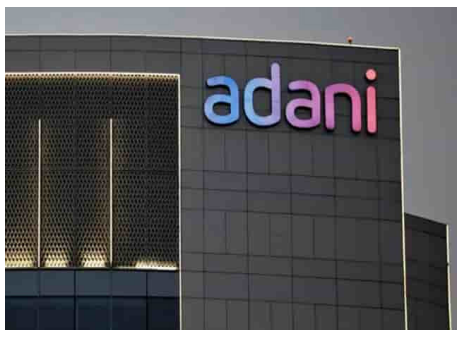
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More than 150 Chinese nationals have reportedly been livestreaming from low-income neighborhoods in Dhaka while falsely presenting the locations as parts of New Delhi, according to Bangladeshi newspaper Prothom Alo. The broadcasts from Uttara and Tekpara feature disparaging remarks about residents' homes, hygiene and food habits. In one video, a Chinese woman identified as Mianmian described a Dhaka neighborhood as New Delhi and criticized its living conditions. Another streamer reportedly called tea consumed by local residents "cow urine tea." The activity has reportedly continued for months, raising concerns about misleading online content. However, evidence of a coordinated campaign has not been established.

Adani's Kutch Copper signs exploration partnership with Chile's Codelco for Kaburkaala project

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Adani Enterprises subsidiary Kutch Copper Limited and Chilean state-owned mining company Codelco have signed a memorandum of understanding to explore the Kaburkaala copper project in northern Chile. Announced on Wednesday, the partnership covers a project in the Calama mining district of the Antofagasta region. Adani will contribute capital, technology-led exploration and project execution capabilities, while Codelco will provide geological expertise and mining experience. The agreement was signed during LME Week in London in the presence of Adani director Jeet Adani and Codelco chairman Bernardo Fontaine. The proposed collaboration is intended to strengthen Adani's access to international copper resources and support its smelting operations in Mundra, Gujarat.

Russia and Ukraine agree in principle to major prisoner swap during US-mediated Abu Dhabi talks

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Russia and Ukraine agreed in principle to a major prisoner-of-war exchange during two days of US-mediated talks in Abu Dhabi that ended on Wednesday without a breakthrough on ending the war. US envoy Jared Kushner said the number of prisoners would be finalized on Thursday, describing the planned release as potentially the largest humanitarian exchange of the conflict. Both delegations confirmed the understanding, although Russia said the agreement remained in principle. Discussions also covered postwar security guarantees, occupied Ukrainian territory and European participation in future negotiations. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Kyiv would not surrender occupied land. US envoys Kushner and Steve Witkoff were scheduled to travel to Moscow on Thursday for talks with President Vladimir Putin.

Xi Jinping calls Taiwan reunification an inevitable mission during speech marking Sun Yat-sen anniversary

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Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday renewed his call for Taiwan's reunification with mainland China, describing it as an unavoidable historical mission. Speaking at a ceremony in Beijing marking the 160th birth anniversary of revolutionary leader Sun Yat-sen, Xi said reunification must be achieved and expressed support for a peaceful approach under Beijing's "one country, two systems" framework. China considers democratically governed Taiwan part of its territory, while Taiwan rejects Beijing's sovereignty claim. Xi urged people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait to oppose what Beijing describes as separatist forces and support peaceful relations. He did not mention the use of military force in his remarks. China continues to conduct regular military operations around Taiwan, keeping tensions across the strait elevated.

Pramila Jayapal vows to pursue Pete Hegseth's impeachment after House delays immediate vote

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Indian American Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal has vowed to pursue the impeachment of Secretary of War Pete Hegseth next year, despite a procedural move delaying immediate consideration of the resolution. The House voted 211-204 on Tuesday to refer the measure to the Judiciary Committee rather than hold an immediate floor vote on its eight articles concerning the Iran war. Jayapal said the resolution would not be abandoned. She also clarified that her call for Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries to have a "short rope" meant he would have limited time to respond to voters' demands. Her priorities include health care, voting rights, immigration reform and campaign finance changes.

Rubio and China's Wang Yi discuss Trump's APEC visit and Xi's planned G20 trip to Florida



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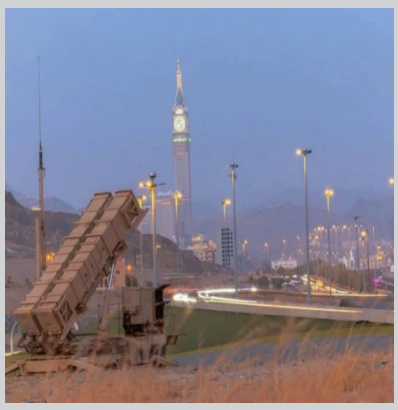
US Secretary of State and National Security Adviser Marco Rubio spoke with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Wednesday at Beijing's request, discussing upcoming visits by the two countries' leaders. The conversation covered President Donald Trump's planned trip to China for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit and Chinese President Xi Jinping's proposed visit to Florida for the Group of 20 summit. The US State Department said the officials reaffirmed their leaders' commitment to a constructive relationship based on respect, fairness and reciprocity. They also discussed the importance of high-level dialogue on peace and denuclearization, including the possibility of a trilateral leaders' meeting involving Russia. China described the call as positive and constructive.

Netanyahu rejects blame for Gaza's worsening conditions as strikes and regional attacks continue

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Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday rejected accusations that Israel was delaying winter supplies to Gaza, where heavy rains have flooded displacement camps and damaged tents. The United Nations said more than 150,000 tents and water pumps were awaiting permission to enter the territory. Israel also carried out two strikes in Gaza that killed three Palestinians, according to hospital officials. Elsewhere, Iran's Revolutionary Guard said a tanker caught fire after striking a naval mine in the Strait of Hormuz, although a British maritime agency did not confirm whether it was the same incident. Saudi Arabia said it intercepted three missiles fired toward Riyadh by Yemen's Houthis.

Saudi Arabia reports debris from intercepted missiles in Mecca region amid renewed Houthi attacks



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Saudi Arabia said on Wednesday that debris from two ballistic missiles intercepted by its air defenses fell at locations in the Mecca region, including Sabuhah village and Wadi al-Maghmas. The sites are approximately 35 kilometers northeast and 21 kilometers east of the Grand Mosque, respectively. Saudi Civil Defense said the missiles had been launched toward the region and destroyed by air defenses. The Houthis have repeatedly denied targeting Mecca and Medina, Islam's holiest cities, saying their operations focus on military and strategic sites elsewhere in Saudi Arabia. The incident comes amid renewed fighting between the kingdom and the Iran-aligned group. A United Nations-brokered truce in 2022 largely halted hostilities, but attacks have resumed this year, threatening shipping through the Bab el-Mandeb Strait.

UN chief presses COP31 hosts Turkey and Australia to turn fossil fuel transition plans into action

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United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres urged Turkey and Australia, co-hosts of the COP31 climate summit, to move beyond discussions and take concrete steps toward ending dependence on fossil fuels. Speaking on Tuesday, the second day of the conference in Antalya, he called for the transition to be organized, financed and delivered. Guterres urged delegates to agree on clear next steps for a roadmap presented by Brazil, which hosted last year's climate summit. Former United States climate envoy John Kerry also stressed that commitments must translate into emissions reductions. The intervention comes amid criticism that successive climate conferences have delivered limited progress. Turkey and Australia are themselves significant fossil fuel exporters, adding pressure on their leadership as countries negotiate measures to accelerate the global energy transition.

Pope Leo receives record crowds in Peru, calling the country his homeland after decades of missionary service

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Pope Leo received an estimated three million people in Lima on Wednesday during an emotional return to Peru, where he spent two decades as a missionary and later served as bishop of Chiclayo. Calling Peru his homeland, the Chicago-born pontiff recalled the friendships he formed and his affection for the country. During a meeting with President Keiko Fujimori, he urged national reconciliation and called for honesty, integrity and respect in addressing Peru's troubled past. His remarks alluded to the legacy of her father, former President Alberto Fujimori, who was convicted of human rights abuses. Peru is the final stop on Leo's 12-day South American tour, following visits to Uruguay and Argentina. The Vatican said the Lima reception surpassed previous crowds during his papacy.

Hoax bomb threats trigger school evacuations across Italy as similar alerts reach Britain and Ireland

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Thousands of schools across Italy received bomb threats on Wednesday, prompting evacuations and disrupting classes, while similar messages were reported in Ireland and parts of Britain. Italian authorities said approximately 6,300 schools received warnings, although an earlier government update reported at least 300 evacuations. The threats were treated as hoaxes, and no immediate evidence of explosives was reported. Schools in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland also received emails, but authorities said the warnings were not considered credible. The messages came amid a wider series of threats and cyberattacks affecting European institutions and businesses. Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni said police and public agencies were monitoring the situation. Authorities have not established who was responsible, while European officials have raised concerns about possible foreign interference.

Malaysia warns Najib Razak could return to prison if he violates house arrest conditions

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Former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak could be returned to prison if he breaches the conditions of his house arrest, Interior Minister Saifuddin Nasution Ismail told Parliament on Thursday. Najib was transferred to his Kuala Lumpur home on Tuesday after spending four years in prison for corruption linked to the 1Malaysia Development Berhad state investment fund. Under the conditions outlined by the minister, Najib may live with immediate family members but cannot make public statements, participate in political activities or attend public gatherings. Use of communication devices and visits will also be restricted. He must take part in a rehabilitation program. The minister said violations could result in his immediate return to Kajang Prison or another designated facility. Najib continues to deny wrongdoing.

World leaders and Indian missions celebrate Diwali with diaspora across major global cities

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New York Governor Kathy Hochul proclaimed Sunday as Diwali in the state, recognizing the contributions of the Indian-American community. In Venezuela, Acting President Delcy Rodriguez attended a Diwali celebration hosted by the government and the Indian Embassy. Embassies of Greece, Ukraine and the European Union also shared greetings, with diplomats participating in festive activities and extending messages of friendship, unity and goodwill. Diwali symbolizes the victory of light over darkness and good over evil. Celebrations traditionally include lighting earthen lamps, decorating homes and temples, exchanging sweets and offering prayers to Lord Ganesha and Goddess Lakshmi.

John Kerry urges countries to follow China's lead in expanding renewable energy and clean technology

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Former United States Secretary of State John Kerry has urged governments, including Washington, to accelerate their shift toward clean energy, pointing to China's rapid expansion of renewable technology. Speaking to The Guardian on Tuesday during the COP31 climate summit in Antalya, Kerry said most countries were moving too slowly while China had significantly accelerated its transition. China has become a leading producer of solar panels, batteries and electric vehicles, with clean technology exports exceeding $220 billion in 2025, according to the report. Kerry said renewable energy combined with storage was increasingly cost-effective compared with fossil fuels. He argued that energy security concerns, including disruptions to oil and gas supplies, were encouraging countries to invest in alternative energy sources.

Rare 24-carat Bulgari Pink diamond ring sells for $14.8 million at Geneva auction

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A rare 24-carat Bulgari pink diamond ring sold for $14.8 million at a Christie's auction in Geneva on Tuesday. The emerald-cut Fancy Intense Pink diamond fetched 12.086 million Swiss francs, within its estimated range of 10 million to 15 million francs. The diamond had remained with the same European family for more than seven decades after being acquired in India in the 1950s. It was later cut and set by Bulgari. Christie's described it as one of the most important pink diamonds to appear at auction.

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India and America at a crossroads

Can a changing Washington reset the relationship?

The Democratic takeover of Congress presents a new political reality for President Trump, but the stakes extend far beyond Washington. Trade, immigration, technology and strategic cooperation will determine the future of the world's two largest democracies.



Dr. Avi Verma

Editor-in-chief

The November 3 midterm elections have fundamentally altered the political landscape in Washington. With Democrats projected by the Associated Press to take control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate, President Donald Trump faces a substantially different political environment for the remainder of his presidency. But the implications extend well beyond American domestic politics. For India, this political shift presents both an opportunity and a challenge at a particularly important moment in the India–United States relationship. The question is not simply what the new Congress will mean for President Trump. It is whether Washington and New Delhi can maintain the momentum of a strategic partnership that has taken decades to build, despite changing political equations, competing economic interests and growing geopolitical uncertainties.

A new Congress, a new equation

The Democratic victory represents a significant political setback for the Republican administration. Control of both chambers gives Democrats greater authority over congressional committees, legislative priorities, investigations, budget negotiations and oversight of the executive branch. President Trump, however, retains his constitutional authority over foreign policy and substantial executive powers over trade and national security. A change in congressional control does not automatically reverse administration policies or existing international commitments. Nevertheless, the political dynamics have changed. The administration will face greater scrutiny, more difficult legislative negotiations and potentially stronger congressional resistance to certain policy decisions.

For India, the challenge will be to maintain bipartisan support in Washington. The India–US relationship should never become identified exclusively with one American president or one political party. Its strength must rest on shared national interests, not electoral fortunes.

Trade: The relationship's biggest immediate test

Trade remains one of the most important and potentially contentious areas. India and the United States announced a framework for an interim trade agreement in February 2026, but negotiations to finalize its first phase are continuing. Recent discussions have included customs procedures and trade facilitation. The stakes are considerable. American businesses want greater access to India's enormous consumer market, while Indian exporters need predictable access to the United States, one of their most important overseas markets. Tariffs and uncertainty have already created difficulties for Indian industries, particularly textiles and garments. Manufacturers are reconsidering their dependence on the American market, while competing economies stand ready to capture business that Indian exporters could lose. For American consumers and companies, excessive trade barriers can also mean higher costs, disrupted supply chains and fewer competitive choices.

India must protect its agricultural sector, domestic manufacturers and strategic economic interests. Equally, the United States must recognize that a durable trade relationship cannot be built through pressure and uncertainty alone. A successful agreement requires reciprocity, predictability and a willingness to recognize the legitimate economic concerns of both countries. Neither side should mistake negotiation for capitulation.

Immigration: The human dimension cannot be ignored

For the Indian-American community, few issues are more personal than immigration. Thousands of Indian professionals, technology specialists, physicians, researchers, students and entrepreneurs have contributed to America's economic growth, innovation and global competitiveness. Yet immigration uncertainty continues to affect families and businesses. A particularly important development is the proposed Department of Homeland Security rule to remove the general deference USCIS gives to previous approvals when considering certain employment and stay-extension petitions. The proposal could result in renewed scrutiny of applications even when an individual's circumstances have not materially changed. Public comments are due November 13. This is a proposed rule, not an implemented change. Nevertheless, it raises legitimate concerns among employers and foreign professionals who depend on predictable immigration procedures.

America has every right to enforce its immigration laws, protect its workers and prevent abuse of visa programs. But enforcement and fairness must go together. A system that creates unnecessary uncertainty for qualified professionals risks weakening the very industries that have made America an innovation leader. The Indian-American community should engage constructively with policymakers in both parties to advocate for a transparent, efficient and fair immigration system.

The larger geopolitical picture

The importance of India to the United States cannot be measured by trade figures alone. As competition with China intensifies and global supply chains are increasingly shaped by geopolitical considerations, India occupies a critical position in the Indo-Pacific region. Defence cooperation, maritime security, advanced technology, artificial intelligence, semiconductors, pharmaceuticals, energy security and critical minerals represent areas where both countries have substantial shared interests. India's growing economic and diplomatic influence also makes it an important partner in addressing regional and international challenges. However, Washington must understand an essential reality: India is a sovereign nation with its own strategic priorities. Its foreign policy is not dictated by Washington, Beijing or any other capital. India's long-standing commitment to strategic autonomy is not an obstacle to partnership; it is an integral part of its national identity. Similarly, New Delhi must recognize that a strong relationship with the United States offers opportunities that cannot easily be replicated elsewhere, particularly in technology, investment, defence and access to global markets. The relationship must be based on mutual respect rather than expectations of automatic alignment.

The Indian-American bridge must become stronger

There is another dimension that deserves greater attention: the role of the Indian-American community. Indian Americans have become influential participants in American business, medicine, technology, academia, public service and politics. Their contributions are visible across the country, and their growing political representation reflects a community that has moved well beyond its traditional role as an immigrant population. This community has a unique responsibility and opportunity to strengthen understanding between the two nations. It should not be divided along partisan lines when the larger interests of India and the United States are at stake. Engagement with both Democrats and Republicans is essential. Community leaders, business organizations, professionals and elected representatives must make their voices heard on trade, immigration, education, technology and bilateral cooperation.

Beyond political cycles

The coming months will test the maturity of the India–US partnership. President Trump must recognize that strategic relationships cannot be sustained through tariffs, public disagreements or transactional expectations alone. India's leadership must remain equally committed to resolving differences through dialogue while firmly protecting its national interests. The incoming Democratic-controlled Congress also has an opportunity to demonstrate that support for a stronger India–US relationship is a bipartisan American priority.

Ultimately, neither country benefits from a relationship defined by mistrust. America needs reliable partners in an increasingly competitive world. India needs strong economic, technological and strategic partnerships to advance its ambitions as a global power. The two democracies may disagree on trade, immigration or international policy. Such disagreements are inevitable. What matters is whether their leadership has the political maturity to manage those differences without sacrificing larger common interests. Washington may have a new political equation, but New Delhi remains an essential strategic partner. The relationship must be bigger than any president, any political party or any election.

The opportunity is before both nations. The responsibility is to ensure that short-term political calculations do not jeopardize a partnership whose importance will only grow in the decades ahead.

Best regards,
Dr. Avi Verma
Publisher,
IndoUS Tribune

South Africa's ANC faces major local election losses as opposition parties gain ground



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

South Africa's African National Congress was heading for a significant setback in Wednesday's local elections, with more than 80 percent of ballots counted showing its national vote share at 31.8 percent. The result was nearly 14 percentage points below its 2021 performance, reflecting voter dissatisfaction over unemployment, crime, corruption and poor municipal services. The Democratic Alliance was polling at 24.1 percent, while former President Jacob Zuma's uMkhonto weSizwe party had 9.3 percent. The ANC was also projected to lose its position as the largest party in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal. In Johannesburg, the Democratic Alliance was leading with 40 percent in the partial count. Final results and coalition negotiations were expected to determine control of several major municipalities.

New Zealand election leaves governing coalition facing uncertain future



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

New Zealand faces weeks of political uncertainty after preliminary results from Saturday's general election gave Prime Minister Christopher Luxon's National-led coalition a narrow parliamentary majority that could disappear when special votes are counted. The National Party secured 42 seats, while its coalition partners, ACT and New Zealand First, won 13 and 12 seats, respectively, giving the bloc 67 seats in the projected 131-member Parliament, just one above the 66-seat majority threshold. The opposition Labour Party won 36 seats, followed by the Greens with 16, the Opportunity Party with seven and Te Pāti Māori with five. Approximately 399,365 special votes, including overseas ballots, remain to be counted. The Electoral Commission is scheduled to announce the official results on November 27.

Earthshot Prize faces criticism over Mumbai venue linked to Reliance Industries' fossil fuel business

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The Earthshot Prize has faced criticism from environmental groups over its decision to hold this year's awards ceremony at Mumbai's Jio World Convention Centre, owned by Reliance Industries. The company, led by billionaire Mukesh Ambani, also operates the Jamnagar oil refinery, described in the report as the world's largest, and supports the Vantara wildlife facility. Conservation groups questioned whether the venue could lend environmental credibility to a conglomerate associated with fossil fuels and a zoo facing scrutiny over its animal acquisitions.

The Earthshot Prize said it was paying the standard commercial rental rate and selected the venue for its facilities and capacity. India's Supreme Court previously cleared Vantara of allegations of illegal animal acquisition and mistreatment, while international wildlife trade concerns remain under review.

Iranian officials warn of possible retaliation as Trump weighs military action or tighter economic pressure

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Senior Iranian officials believe the United States could resume military strikes or intensify economic pressure on Tehran, potentially triggering retaliation, according to a report published Wednesday. Mehdi Mohammadi, an adviser to Iran's chief negotiator Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, said Washington had indicated that President Donald Trump could decide on military action within approximately two weeks. Mohammadi claimed Iran was preparing for a possible limited strike and criticized the United States' response to Tehran's proposals on reopening the Strait of Hormuz. He also said Iran had rejected a request for direct talks with US Vice President JD Vance. Washington has continued sanctions and a naval blockade targeting Iranian oil exports. These assessments reflect Iranian officials' claims and do not establish that a US military decision has been made.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent reportedly relocates to military base following security concerns

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has reportedly moved from his Washington-area residence to a military base amid concerns about threats to his safety linked to Iran. The New York Times reported on Tuesday that Iranian efforts to target current and former US officials had intensified, citing people familiar with the matter. The severity of the alleged threats against Bessent was not immediately clear. He has led the Trump administration's campaign of economic sanctions against Tehran, including measures targeting financial institutions and oil-related transactions. The relocation follows reports that other senior administration officials have also moved into protected housing. A Treasury Department spokesperson said Bessent would not be deterred and remained committed to the sanctions campaign and naval blockade. Iran has previously denied plotting attacks against US officials.

Two Uyghur men in Thailand fear deportation to China amid renewed human rights concerns

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Two Uyghur men detained in Thailand are at risk of deportation to China, where human rights groups warn they could face torture and imprisonment. The men were among more than 200 Uyghurs detained by Thai authorities in 2014 after fleeing China. They were later sentenced to seven years in prison for offenses linked to an attempted escape from immigration detention in 2020 and have since been transferred to an immigration detention center. One man reportedly told his girlfriend he feared being treated like a slave if returned to China. Rights groups have urged Thailand to allow them to travel to a safe third country. The case follows Thailand's deportation of 40 Uyghur men to China in February 2025, despite international appeals.

Lewis Hamilton visits Egypt's Rafah crossing to learn about humanitarian aid efforts for Gaza



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Seven-time Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton visited Egypt's Rafah border crossing with Gaza on Tuesday to learn about efforts to deliver humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian territory. The British driver also toured logistics warehouses operated by the Egyptian Red Crescent in Al-Arish, where aid supplies are coordinated before being sent toward Gaza. North Sinai Governor Khaled Megawer accompanied him and briefed him on Egypt's relief operations. Hamilton greeted aid workers and spoke with officials during the visit. The trip comes amid continuing concerns over limited humanitarian access to Gaza, despite a ceasefire agreement reached last year. Hamilton has previously spoken publicly about conflicts and humanitarian crises, calling for peace and highlighting the impact of violence on children.

Spain's first general strike in 14 years draws millions as housing crisis sparks protests and clashes



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Millions of workers across Spain took part in a general strike on Wednesday to protest soaring housing costs, marking the country's first nationwide walkout in 14 years. Trade unions said around four million people participated, with strong support reported at ports and automobile factories. Large demonstrations took place in Madrid, Barcelona and other cities, although clashes broke out with police in both major cities later in the day. Authorities reported at least 73 arrests nationwide. The strike was backed by Spain's largest labor unions and tenant organizations, which say rising rents and housing shortages have made accommodation increasingly unaffordable. Spain's central bank estimates a housing deficit of approximately 750,000 homes. The protests came ahead of a snap general election scheduled for later this month.

India and France deepen cooperation in space and critical technologies

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



India and France held their third Strategic Space Dialogue and the inaugural Economic Security and Critical Technologies Dialogue in Paris on Tuesday, seeking to expand cooperation in advanced technologies and resilient supply chains. Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri and Martin Briens, secretary-general of France's Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, co-chaired both meetings. The discussions also covered the broader bilateral relationship and regional and international developments. The engagement builds on cooperation in satellite missions, launch technologies and human spaceflight, including French support for India's Gaganyaan program. Both countries are also exploring opportunities involving space startups and commercial collaboration. Misri arrived in Paris on Monday for the meetings.

India and Norway explore joint technologies to convert industrial waste into construction resources

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



India and Norway explored joint research and technology projects to convert industrial and construction waste into useful materials for the building and infrastructure sectors during a dialogue in New Delhi on Tuesday. Organized by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Norway's SINTEF and the Research Council of Norway, the meeting brought together scientists, regulators and industry representatives. Discussions covered the reuse of construction waste, steel slag, fly ash, red mud and plastic waste in roads and building materials. Experts also examined cement-kiln technology for treating suitable hazardous waste, including materials contaminated with DDT and polychlorinated biphenyls. The initiative builds on the countries' Green Strategic Partnership, established in May, and aims to develop practical, scalable solutions.

India and United States strengthen cooperation to disrupt drug networks and illegal chemical supplies

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India and the United States have agreed to strengthen intelligence sharing and coordinated enforcement to disrupt international drug-trafficking networks and prevent chemicals used to manufacture synthetic narcotics from entering illegal supply chains. The commitments were discussed during the second India-US Drug Policy Executive Working Group meeting, hosted by India's Narcotics Control Bureau in New Delhi on Monday and Tuesday. The Indian delegation was led by Bureau Director General Anurag Garg, while Debbie Seguin, Acting Deputy Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, headed the US delegation. Discussions covered precursor control, pharmaceutical supply chain security, emerging trafficking threats and drug demand reduction.

Officials also reviewed India's Operation MedMax and Operation WIPE, alongside a voluntary code to prevent the diversion of precursor chemicals. Garg highlighted India's 2026-2029 anti-drug roadmap, which focuses on dismantling entire criminal networks by targeting financiers, suppliers and logistical networks.

India and European Union review free trade agreement progress as strategic and research ties expand

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India and the European Union reviewed their strategic partnership and progress on trade negotiations during their seventh Strategic Partnership Review Meeting in New Delhi on Monday. The meeting was co-chaired by Ministry of External Affairs Secretary Sibi George and European Union Deputy Secretary-General Matti Maasikas. Discussions covered the proposed free trade agreement, investment, supply chain security, clean energy, critical technologies, research, connectivity and talent mobility. Both sides also reviewed implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Strategic Agenda adopted at their summit in January. Separately, India and the European Union concluded negotiations on India's association with Horizon Europe on Saturday. The agreement, subject to signing and necessary procedures, is expected to expand research funding and collaboration opportunities for Indian institutions from 2027.

India and Canada seek to accelerate negotiations on proposed economic partnership agreement

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India and Canada have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening economic ties, with negotiations on a proposed Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement featuring prominently in discussions between their trade ministers in New Delhi on Wednesday. Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal held a breakfast meeting with Canada's International Trade Minister Maninder Sidhu and the visiting Canadian delegation. The discussions focused on accelerating negotiations and developing a balanced agreement that would provide meaningful market access to businesses in both countries. Goyal said the two sides discussed leveraging the complementary strengths of their economies to expand trade, investment and commercial cooperation. The proposed agreement is intended to create new opportunities for businesses and investors while supporting long-term economic growth. The meeting took place as India and Canada began the sixth round of negotiations for the pact. Both governments have expressed an interest in concluding a mutually beneficial agreement, but negotiations remain ongoing and no final deal was announced.

World Bank reports sharp decline in India's poverty levels over 12 years

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



India's poverty levels declined substantially between 2011-12 and 2023-24, according to the World Bank, offering evidence of improvements in household welfare. Its 2026 poverty estimates show extreme poverty falling from 27.1 percent to 2.6 percent, using the international threshold of $3 per person per day. The share of people below the lower-middle-income poverty line of $4.20 a day also dropped, from 57.7 percent to 16.1 percent. The World Bank estimates that 496 million people moved above this higher poverty threshold during the period. It attributes the progress to stronger consumption, employment gains and social assistance, while noting that about 232 million people remained below the lower-middle-income poverty line in 2023-24.

India offers to share healthcare expertise with BIMSTEC nations to strengthen regional health security

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Union Health and Family Welfare Minister J. P. Nadda reaffirmed India's readiness to share healthcare expertise and best practices with BIMSTEC member nations during the group's first Health Ministers' Meeting in Colombo on Wednesday. He highlighted India's progress toward universal health coverage through Ayushman Bharat, stronger public health infrastructure and digital healthcare initiatives. Nadda called for greater regional cooperation in health security, pandemic preparedness, the One Health approach and traditional medicine. He also highlighted India's commitment to hosting the BIMSTEC Centre of Excellence in Traditional Medicine in Jamnagar, Gujarat, to promote joint research, capacity building and knowledge exchange. Nadda arrived in Colombo on Tuesday for the meeting.

India and Moldova seek stronger cooperation in energy, agriculture and connectivity



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India and Moldova discussed expanding cooperation in energy, agriculture, connectivity and capacity building during their third Foreign Office Consultations in New Delhi on Wednesday. The Indian delegation was led by Sibi George, Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs, while Moldova was represented by State Secretary Corina Calugaru. Discussions covered political, economic, educational, cultural and consular ties, as well as people-to-people exchanges. Both sides also exchanged views on regional and global developments and cooperation in multilateral forums. The meeting followed President Droupadi Murmu's landmark visit to Moldova in July, the first by an Indian head of state. Both countries agreed to hold the next consultations in Chisinau on mutually convenient dates.

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Trump redirects Vance to domestic investigations, says Iran deal unnecessary

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

President Donald Trump said on Thursday that the United States no longer needs a deal with Iran and directed Vice President JD Vance to focus on alleged corruption and crime in Democratic-led states and cities. The announcement followed reports that Vance was considering renewed peace negotiations with Iranian officials after previously leading talks in Pakistan that produced a temporary ceasefire memorandum in June. Trump said American economic pressure and control of the Strait of Hormuz had strengthened Washington's position. Vance had recently blamed the costly Iran conflict partly for Republican losses in the midterm elections. Trump has maintained that the war was necessary to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

White House warns Democrats against using congressional investigations to target administration

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



The White House has warned Democratic lawmakers that investigations into President Donald Trump's administration could violate the law if they lack legitimate legislative purposes.

In a letter sent on Monday to Representative Robert Garcia of California, White House Counsel Will Scharf argued that congressional subpoenas must serve legitimate oversight functions.

He cautioned that subpoenas intended to intimidate officials or deprive individuals of constitutional rights could warrant criminal investigation. Scharf cited statements by Democratic lawmakers discussing investigations following their midterm victories. Garcia rejected the warning on Wednesday, maintaining that Congress derives its investigative authority from the Constitution and does not require White House permission to conduct oversight.

Rubio and Vance emerge as leading Republican choices for 2028 presidential race

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Vice President JD Vance are emerging as leading potential Republican presidential candidates for 2028, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll released on Thursday. Forty-five percent of Republican voters surveyed rated Rubio an excellent candidate, compared with 43 percent for Vance. Among Democrats, Georgia Senator Jon Ossoff and former Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg each received excellent ratings from 29 percent of respondents. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis received 32 percent among Republicans. The nationwide survey questioned 1,705 American adults, including approximately 500 registered voters from each party. Neither leading Republican nor Democratic contender has formally announced a presidential campaign.

Washington prosecutors scale back defense in immigration detention cases over staff shortages

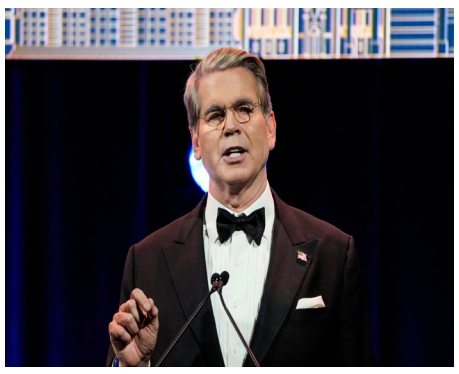
Indous Tribune Newsdesk



Federal prosecutors in Washington state say a surge in immigration detention challenges has overwhelmed their resources, forcing them to reduce their involvement in numerous cases. Acting US Attorney Charles Floyd informed a federal judge in an October letter that his office could no longer defend every habeas corpus petition filed by immigrants challenging their detention. Under the revised approach, prosecutors will review incoming petitions but may decline to enter appearances or submit responses in many cases. Judges could consequently decide matters without government opposition. Floyd said the growing workload was affecting other civil litigation. The office has not specified how many cases will be affected.

Bessent urges balanced US-China trade ahead of Trump-Xi meeting

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent called for a more balanced economic relationship with China during a business gala in New York on Tuesday, ahead of President Donald Trump's expected meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping next week in Shenzhen.

Bessent said the United States should produce more of what it consumes, while China should increase domestic consumption. He emphasized that Washington seeks to reduce economic risks rather than completely sever trade ties. The countries have also established a trade forum addressing tariffs and agricultural barriers. China has agreed to purchase at least 25 million metric tons of American soybeans and 10 million metric tons of coal over two years.

Brooklyn apartment building collapse leaves two dead and at least 17 injured

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Two people were killed and at least 17 others injured when a three-story apartment building collapsed into an adjoining construction site in Brooklyn on Wednesday afternoon. The incident occurred in the Flatbush neighborhood shortly after 4 p.m., while excavation work was underway nearby.

New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani confirmed the casualties on Thursday as emergency crews continued searching the rubble. Seven children were among those affected, while four injured people were initially reported in critical condition. More than 250 emergency personnel responded. Authorities said the search could take several days because additional people might remain trapped beneath the debris. The cause remains under investigation.

Scott Colom wins Mississippi Senate race, making history for Black representation

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Democrat Scott Colom defeated Republican incumbent Cindy Hyde-Smith in Mississippi's Senate election, becoming the state's first Black senator since Reconstruction. The victory was projected on Wednesday after days of vote counting, with Colom leading by approximately 4,600 votes. The 43-year-old district attorney also became the first Democrat to win a Mississippi Senate election since 1982. Hyde-Smith, who was appointed to the Senate in 2018, conceded and congratulated her opponent. Colom's victory gives Democrats a projected 55-44 advantage in the Senate, with Alaska's outstanding race yet to be decided. His campaign focused heavily on rising living costs and economic concerns.

Jim Jordan chosen to lead House Republicans after midterm losses

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

House Republicans elected Representative Jim Jordan of Ohio as their minority leader on Tuesday, while Senate Republicans retained Senator John Thune of South Dakota as their party leader for the next Congress. Jordan defeated House Majority Leader Steve Scalise of Louisiana by 106 votes to 73 in a closed-door election. Currently chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Jordan will lead Republicans as Democrats prepare to assume control of the House in January. He pledged to keep his conference united and coordinate its response to Democratic investigations into President Donald Trump's administration. Representative Tom Emmer was elected minority whip.

Jeffries calls for major shift in US policy towards Israel and Palestinians

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries called for dramatic changes in American policy towards the Middle East on Thursday, reiterating his support for a two-state solution. Speaking in Washington, the New York Democrat said Israel should remain a safe and secure Jewish democratic state alongside an independent Palestinian state guaranteeing dignity and self-determination. His remarks come after Democrats' sweeping midterm victories, with the party preparing to control both chambers of Congress in January. Jeffries also called for changes concerning the West Bank, Gaza and the existing agreement providing Israel $3.8 billion in annual American military assistance, which expires in September 2028.

United States records six CDC-confirmed measles deaths amid major outbreak

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed six measles-related deaths in the United States this year, according to updated figures released on Thursday. The toll is double the number recorded in 2025, as infections have exceeded 5,000 for the first time since 1991. The highly contagious disease was declared eliminated in the country in 2000. Pennsylvania has reported six associated deaths independently, while Wisconsin and New York have also reported fatalities. The federal agency did not identify the locations of its six confirmed deaths. Measles is preventable through vaccination, with two doses of the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine providing approximately 97 percent protection.

Judge schedules 2028 trial for man accused of killing Charlie Kirk

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

A Utah judge on Monday scheduled jury selection to begin on June 21, 2028, in the trial of Tyler Robinson, 23, accused of fatally shooting conservative activist Charlie Kirk in September 2025. Judge Tony Graf set aside 105 court days for the proceedings in Provo, Utah. Robinson faces seven charges, including aggravated murder, which carries a possible death sentence if convicted. Prosecutors had sought an earlier trial, while the defense requested a 2029 start, citing the complexity of the capital case. Kirk's family also sought an earlier date. The judge ordered monthly pretrial conferences, beginning in January 2027.

House Democrats plan investigations into Trump's handling of intelligence agencies

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

House Democrats are preparing investigations into President Donald Trump's handling of American intelligence agencies after taking control of Congress in January. Representative Jim Himes of Connecticut, who is expected to chair the House Intelligence Committee, told Reuters on Tuesday that intelligence analysts have faced political pressure and declining morale. Investigations will examine alleged retaliatory dismissals and whether analysts avoided sensitive subjects to prevent repercussions. The administration has dismissed or



encouraged hundreds of intelligence personnel to leave, while former Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard reduced her agency's workforce by approximately 40 percent. Democrats also plan to examine intelligence contractors and overseas covert operations.

Senate schedules next week's votes on bipartisan energy permitting legislation

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The US Senate is expected to resume voting next week on a sweeping bipartisan energy permitting reform bill, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse said on Wednesday. Whitehouse, a Democratic senator from Rhode Island and one of the bill's four authors, is attending the United Nations climate conference in Turkey and expects to return by Monday. Lawmakers are considering amendments, including proposals by Senator Adam Schiff to remove provisions concerning historic preservation and tribal protections.



Republican Senator Josh Hawley has introduced amendments to protect farmers and landowners from property seizures for transmission lines. The legislation advanced earlier this week with a 75-23 Senate vote.

Postal Service seeks $2 billion in federal assistance to prevent service cuts

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Postal Service has asked Congress for $2 billion in financial assistance, warning that additional cuts to post offices and mail services may become necessary without government intervention. Postmaster General David Steiner issued the warning on Tuesday after the agency reported a $6.5 billion net loss for the financial year ending September 30, an improvement from $9 billion the previous year. First-class mail volume fell 5.1 percent to 39.8 billion pieces, its lowest level since 1965. Steiner said the agency could reduce retail locations and slow deliveries. He expects contingency plans to be ready by March 2027.

Gunman kills one and injures four in shooting near White House

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

One person was killed and four others injured in a shooting at a gym in Washington's Logan Circle neighborhood on Thursday morning. The attack began shortly before 8 a.m., approximately a mile from the White House. Police officers arrived within 30 seconds of the initial emergency call and encountered the gunman, who later barricaded himself inside an apartment on the seventh floor of a nearby residential building. After unsuccessful negotiations, officers entered the apartment and found him dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. One injured victim was in critical condition. Authorities had not identified the suspect or established a motive as investigations continued.

Influential US judge Richard Posner dies at 87 after distinguished legal career

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Former federal appeals court judge Richard Posner, one of America's most influential legal scholars, died on Tuesday at 87, the University of Chicago Law School confirmed on Wednesday. Posner served on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago for 36 years before retiring in 2017. Appointed by President Ronald Reagan in 1981, he authored more than 3,000 judicial opinions and wrote over 50 books. A pioneer of law and economics, he also became a prominent critic of conservative constitutional originalism and Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. His rulings supporting same-sex marriage rights drew widespread attention. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

California voters reject proposed one-time tax on billionaires

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

California voters rejected Proposition 40, a proposed one-time wealth tax targeting the state's billionaires, according to media projections on Monday. The measure sought a 5 percent levy on the assets of approximately 250 billionaires, including stocks, bonds and business holdings. Supporters estimated it could generate $100 billion, with most revenue earmarked for healthcare programs affected by federal funding reductions.

Senator Bernie Sanders supported the proposal, while Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom opposed it, arguing it could drive wealthy entrepreneurs and



businesses out of California. Opposition campaigns received substantial financial backing from billionaires, including Google co-founder Sergey Brin, contributing to more than $269 million in donations.

Ohio State suspends fraternity after video shows two men engulfed in flames

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Ohio State University has suspended its Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity chapter while investigating a suspected hazing incident involving two students who suffered serious burns.

Videos circulating online showed two men catching fire during an incident on Saturday near the university in Columbus. An incident report stated that both sustained second- and third-degree burns.

The university referred the matter to police, who are working with the fire department's arson unit to determine whether criminal activity occurred.



The fraternity's national leadership also launched an investigation. The chapter remains under interim suspension pending the findings.

British Hindu family takes London school to court over dispute involving son's religious marking

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The parents of a nine-year-old British Hindu boy have launched legal proceedings against Vicar's Green Primary School in west London after withdrawing him over a dispute involving his religious marking, known as the Tilak-Chandlo. The child, who follows the Swaminarayan tradition, had worn the marking to school since 2021. His family alleges that staff objected to it in late 2025 and questioned him about his religious practice. The parents are seeking £25,000 in damages, alleging religious discrimination under the Equality Act 2010 and breaches of human rights protections. The school denies discriminating against the child and says it respected the family's beliefs while offering alternative arrangements. The case remains ongoing, and the allegations have not been decided by the court.

Indian students and skilled professionals reshape migration to Britain amid tighter settlement rules

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



Indian nationals have become the largest group of migrants arriving in Britain, with students and skilled professionals increasingly prominent, according to the University of Oxford's Migration Observatory. Around one million Indian nationals arrived between 2021 and 2025, accounting for 24 percent of non-European Union arrivals and 18 percent of arrivals from all nationalities. Home Office figures show that 82,523 study visas were granted to Indian nationals in the year ending June 2026, while 64,495 received extensions under the Graduate route.

The shift comes as the British government tightens its settlement rules. On Monday, November 2, Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood announced that most migrants would face a 10-year qualifying period for permanent settlement, while some higher earners and public service professionals would retain a five-year route. Eligible care workers who entered the route before May 2025 and earned at least £25,000 annually will also retain their existing five-year pathway. Others will be offered another five-year care visa. The changes have raised concerns about Britain's ability to retain international talent.

Historic Lahore gurdwara reopens for Sikh worship after remaining closed since Partition

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Gurdwara Chhevin Patshahi Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib in Lahore, Pakistan, reopened for religious worship on Sunday after restoration work ended a closure of 79 years. Located on Temple Road, the historic shrine is associated with Guru Hargobind, the sixth Sikh Guru, who is believed to have visited Lahore. The reopening ceremony followed Sikh religious traditions and was attended by members of the Sikh community, Punjab's Minister for Minorities Affairs and Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee president Ramesh Singh Arora, and Evacuee Trust Property Board officials. Arora said the restored shrine was now open to worshippers and that renovation work was underway at more than 50 gurdwaras across Pakistan.

Indian-origin mayors expand diaspora's presence in US local government, with New York and Los Angeles among major cities

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Indian-origin leaders are set to lead the United States' two largest cities, with New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani already in office and Nithya Raman preparing to take over in Los Angeles. Together, the cities have approximately 12.5 million residents. Mamdani assumed office on Thursday, January 1, while Raman defeated incumbent Karen Bass in Tuesday's election and is expected to take office in December. Raman was born in Kerala and moved to the United States at age six. Mamdani was born in Kampala, Uganda, to Indian-origin parents, filmmaker Mira Nair and academic Mahmood Mamdani.



Indian-origin representation also extends to Cincinnati Mayor Aftab Pureval, Richmond Mayor Danny Avula and Fremont Mayor Raj Salwan. New Jersey communities led by Indian-origin mayors include Edison, Parsippany-Troy Hills, West Windsor and Montgomery. Other officeholders include Swarnjit Singh in Norwich, Connecticut, Sangeetha Rayapati in Moline, Illinois, and Mihir Pankaj in Paris, Texas

India rejects Gurpatwant Singh Pannun's US lawsuit against Ajit Doval and former intelligence chief

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India on Tuesday rejected allegations against National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and former Research and Analysis Wing chief Samant Goel in a civil lawsuit filed in a United States court by Sikh separatist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. The Indian government described the allegations as "fabricated and malicious" and dismissed the lawsuit as frivolous.

The response followed confirmation from the United States State Department that court-issued summonses had been delivered to the Indian side through diplomatic channels. The department said the diplomatic note was signed on September 30 and delivered to the Indian Embassy in Washington on October 9.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said requests to serve judicial documents in India must be routed through the country's designated central authority, the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Pannun, legal counsel for the banned organization Sikhs for Justice, filed the lawsuit seeking damages over an alleged plot to assassinate him in the United States. He has accused Indian officials of orchestrating the alleged plot. India has rejected the allegations.

Brampton man charged in Canada over three alleged illegal street-racing incidents

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

A 24-year-old Punjabi-origin man from Brampton, Ontario, has been arrested and charged in connection with three alleged street-racing incidents in Mississauga and Toronto, Peel Regional Police said on Sunday. Police identified the accused as Tarman Toor, who allegedly drove a red BMW M3 without license plates and wore a ski mask to conceal his identity. Officers first spotted the vehicle racing near Explorer Drive and Satellite Drive in Mississauga on August 30. On September 26, the same car was allegedly seen racing twice more, including an incident in which it ran a red light near Highway 401. Following a three-month investigation, police identified Toor and arrested him at his Brampton residence on October 28. He faces three counts each of dangerous operation, disguise with intent and racing a motor vehicle.

Mandi-born Abhishek Awasthi becomes first Indian-origin mayor of Australia's Greater Bendigo

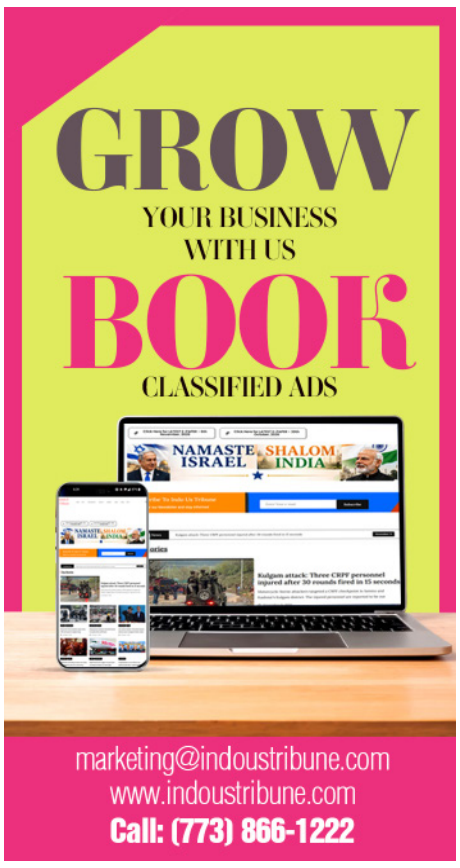
Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Abhishek Awasthi, a 43-year-old originally from Mandi in Himachal Pradesh, has been elected Mayor of Greater Bendigo in the Australian state of Victoria, becoming the first person of Indian origin to hold the position, according to reports. Greater Bendigo City Council elected him for the 2026–2027 term at a meeting on Tuesday at the Capital Theatre. Andrea Metcalf was elected Deputy Mayor.

Awasthi moved to Australia in 2008 to pursue higher education at La Trobe University, where he studied biotechnology and bioinformatics. He became an Australian citizen in 2015 and lives in Greater Bendigo with his wife, Anima, and their daughter.

He entered local government after winning election as a councillor from Kennington Ward in November 2024. He subsequently served as Deputy Mayor for the 2024–2025 term. Following his election as Mayor, Awasthi thanked fellow councillors, his family and supporters in India, particularly in Himachal Pradesh, and pledged to serve Greater Bendigo residents.





Indian diplomat Shivani Gupta elected to United Nations committee overseeing budgetary matters

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Indian diplomat Shivani Gupta has been elected to the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the 2027–2029 term. She is expected to begin her three-year tenure in January 2027. India's Permanent Mission to the United Nations thanked member states for their support and confidence following her election. The committee is a subsidiary body of the General Assembly and has 21 members appointed in their individual capacities for three-year terms. It reviews the United Nations' administrative and budgetary matters, including proposed resource allocations and financial requirements. Its recommendations help the General Assembly assess how contributions from member states are used and promote accountability and efficiency in funding the organization's work.

US authorities detain alleged Lawrence Bishnoi gang operative Harry Boxer in California

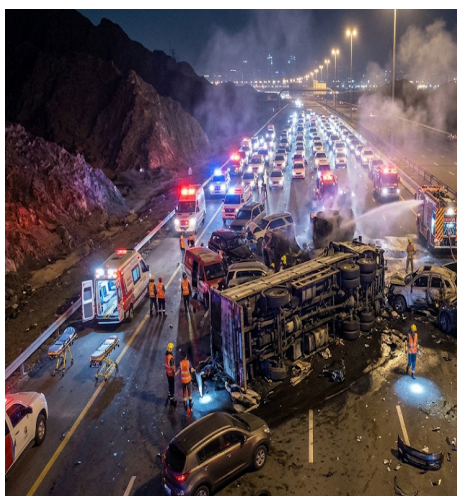


Indous Tribune Newsdesk

United States authorities have detained Harichand Jat, also known as Harry Boxer, in California following information shared by Indian law enforcement agencies, according to reports published on Saturday. Boxer is alleged to be an operative of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang and to have helped run its extortion network from abroad. He is wanted in several criminal cases involving alleged murder, attempted murder, firing incidents and extortion threats across India. His name has also surfaced in investigations into shootings at comedian Kapil Sharma's cafe in Canada and threats against Bollywood personalities. Indian agencies are expected to pursue legal procedures to bring him back to India, with the Central Bureau of Investigation likely to coordinate the process. His detention does not mean he has been convicted of the allegations.

At least 14 killed, including Indian nationals, in massive truck-triggered pile-up in UAE's Fujairah

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



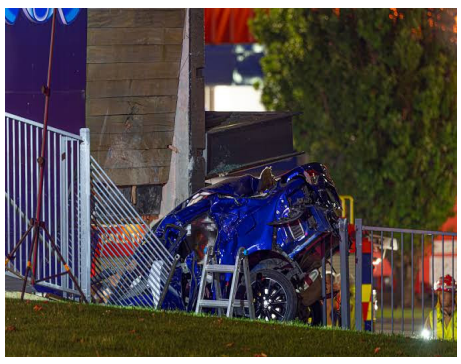
At least 14 people, including Indian nationals, were killed and 30 others injured after a truck overturned and triggered a 23-vehicle pile-up in Fujairah, the United Arab Emirates, on Wednesday night. The accident occurred on Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Road near the entrance to the emirate when the truck driver reportedly lost control, struck another vehicle and crashed into traffic moving slowly ahead.

The collision sparked a fire that engulfed several vehicles, leaving some victims unrecognizable and prompting authorities to use DNA testing for identification. Of the 30 injured, 15 have been discharged from hospitals, while the remaining victims continue to receive treatment.

The Indian Consulate in Dubai has contacted affected families and is coordinating with local authorities to provide assistance. Police are investigating the cause of the crash.

Three Punjabi-origin people killed after car crashes into BurgerFuel restaurant in South Auckland

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



Three Punjabi-origin people were killed on Sunday night when their car crashed into a BurgerFuel restaurant in Takanini, South Auckland, on Diwali night. The vehicle reportedly lost control at a roundabout on Great South Road at about 10:15 p.m., veered off the road, crossed a fence and struck the restaurant. All three occupants died at the scene, police said. No one inside the restaurant was injured.

Daljit Singh, president of the Central Sikh Association and Supreme Sikh Society of New Zealand, confirmed on Tuesday that the victims were young people of Punjabi origin. He said their families wanted the bodies repatriated to India and that community representatives were in contact with them to coordinate arrangements.

New Zealand Police said the Serious Crash Unit was investigating the circumstances. Police also stated that the vehicle had not been reported stolen, officers were not pursuing it and no driving complaints had been received before the crash. The restaurant was closed to customers, but employees were inside.

Diwali celebrations in New Jersey spark concerns over illegal fireworks, littering and public safety

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

A Sikh community leader has apologized to a police officer injured during a disturbance at Diwali and Bandi Chhor Divas celebrations at a gurdwara in Richmond Hill, New York, while incidents of fireworks and littering in parts of the United States have renewed concerns over public safety and civic responsibility.

Jatinder Singh, president of the Sikh Cultural Society Inc., said thousands of devotees had visited the gurdwara, but a few young people disrupted the celebrations by setting off fireworks despite an understanding with local authorities that they would not be used. Several youngsters were reportedly arrested, illegal weapons were allegedly recovered from some of them, and a police officer was injured.

Separately, videos from Jersey City, New Jersey, showed streets in India Square along Newark Avenue littered with firecracker boxes, wrappers and ash following Diwali celebrations. Firefighters used water jets to clear the debris, while police monitored the cleanup. The footage prompted criticism on social media over littering, noise and firework safety.

Singh tendered an unconditional apology to the injured officer and called for strict action against those responsible. He said such incidents damage the reputation of the Punjabi and Indian diaspora and urged community members to respect the laws of the countries in which they live.

Labour Asians Society celebrates Diwali at UK Parliament with Hanuman Chalisa recitation

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

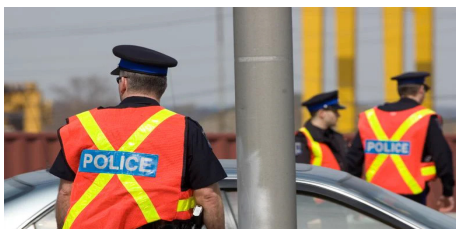
The Labour Asians Society, a network of Indian-origin parliamentarians and community leaders within Britain's governing Labour Party, celebrated Diwali at the Palace of Westminster in London on Monday. Hosted by British Indian peer Lord Uday Nagaraju at the House of Lords complex, the gathering featured a recitation of the 'Hanuman Chalisa', accompanied by live tabla and harmonium performances.

Nagaraju, one of the society's patrons, said he was honoured to host the celebration at the House of Lords and described Diwali as a festival symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil.

The event also coincided with Britain's Remembrance Week and paid tribute to millions of soldiers from the Indian subcontinent who served alongside British forces during the two World Wars.

Manish Tiwari, co-chair of the Labour Asians Society, said Diwali was celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists and had become a festival embraced by people across Britain. He described the recitation at Parliament as a memorable occasion for the community.

Canadian police arrest nine Punjab-origin men in alleged drug network supplying Manitoba from three provinces



Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Winnipeg police have arrested nine men, identified in media reports as being of Punjab origin, in an alleged interprovincial drug trafficking network supplying Manitoba from Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta. The investigation, called Project Pink Panther, began in December 2025. Searches conducted in Winnipeg and the Greater Toronto Area on Wednesday, August 26, involved several law enforcement agencies. Officers seized cocaine, 29 kilograms of methamphetamine, ketamine, prescription pills, MDMA, LSD, heroin and cannabis edibles, with an estimated combined street value of $970,000. Police also recovered $126,000, six firearms, ammunition and four vehicles. The accused face drug and weapons-related charges.

Ireland faces pressure to restrict alumina shipments to Russia over concerns about their use in military production

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

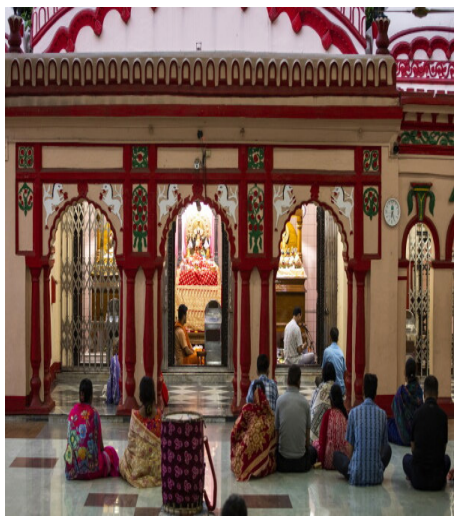
Ireland is facing growing pressure to stop alumina exports to Russia amid concerns that the material could support Moscow's military industry. The shipments come from the Russian-owned Aughinish refinery in County Limerick, which regularly sends alumina to Russian ports.
The substance is used to produce aluminum for products including aircraft, missiles and drones. Ukrainian officials and European sanctions envoy David O'Sullivan have warned that some supplies reach Russia's military-industrial sector. However, Irish government minister Niall Collins said Wednesday there was no evidence of such use, while the refinery denied supplying the Russian military. The issue is being discussed as European leaders meet in Dublin.

Hindu place of worship vandalized and community member found murdered, raising concerns over minority safety in Bangladesh

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

A Durga temple inside Laxminarayan Cotton Mill in Bangladesh's Narayanganj district became the center of a dispute after its committee alleged that access was blocked and decorations were damaged. Police took Knit Concern Group director Monir Hossain Mollah and security official Ibrahim into custody on Wednesday for questioning. The dispute reportedly involves ownership of the temple land. Police said no damage to the idol had been reported, while the removal of decorations and the festival pavilion was under investigation.

Separately, the body of 65-year-old Hindu fish farm owner Ranjan Mondal was recovered from the Mukteshwari River in Jashore district on Saturday,



November 7. His body was found inside a sack, and his wife reported injury marks. Police sent it for an autopsy. Investigators subsequently arrested two suspects in connection with the killing.

Kenyan court sentences doomsday sect leader Paul Mackenzie to 200 years for deaths of 191 followers

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

A Kenyan court sentenced doomsday sect leader Paul Mackenzie to 200 years in prison on Friday for the deaths of 190 children and one adult in the Shakahola forest massacre. The Mombasa High Court imposed consecutive 100-year terms for murder by starvation and direct homicide. Prosecutors said Mackenzie's Good News International Church instructed followers to starve themselves and their children to reach heaven before the world ended. More than 400 bodies have been recovered from the forest since investigations began in 2023. Mackenzie denied the murder charges. He faces separate proceedings over other deaths and terrorism-related allegations connected to the tragedy.

EU prepares new Russia sanctions and Ukraine funding proposal for 2027

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The European Union is preparing its 22nd sanctions package against Russia and a proposal to cover Ukraine's financial needs in 2027, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said Thursday at the European Political Community summit in Dublin.



Speaking ahead of the European Political Community summit in Dublin, von der Leyen said both proposals would be presented before the next European Council meeting. She also welcomed the recent United States-mediated peace talks in Abu Dhabi, stressing that Europe must be represented in negotiations affecting its security and interests.
The talks between Russia, Ukraine and the United States ended Wednesday with an agreement in principle on a large-scale prisoner exchange. Russian delegation head Vladimir Medinsky said discussions covered humanitarian issues and postwar European security, adding that negotiations would continue. Details of the exchange are expected to be announced later.

Israel's Herzog tasks opposition leader Gadi Eisenkot with forming government, dealing blow to Netanyahu

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Israeli President Isaac Herzog on Sunday tasked opposition leader Gadi Eisenkot with forming the next government, dealing a setback to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu after the October 27 general election. Eisenkot, leader of the Yashar party and a former military chief, received recommendations from 67 lawmakers, compared with 46 who backed Netanyahu. Seven lawmakers from United Torah Judaism made no recommendation. Eisenkot has 28 days to form a coalition, with a possible 14-day extension. Although his backing includes Arab-led parties, their support does not guarantee a governing majority. Negotiations could prove difficult because of disagreements over



military conscription, security policy and cooperation with Arab factions.

Iran designates Argentina's navy and air force as terrorist organizations in retaliation for action against its Revolutionary Guard

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Iran on Wednesday designated Argentina's navy and air force as terrorist organizations in retaliation for Buenos Aires' decision to classify Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist entity. Iran's Foreign Ministry said the move was based on reciprocity and accused Argentina of taking a hostile action against Tehran. Argentina announced its designation in March, citing the Revolutionary Guard's alleged support for Hezbollah, which Buenos Aires holds responsible for the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish community center in Buenos Aires. The attack killed 85 people and injured hundreds. Iran warned Argentina would be responsible for consequences arising from its decision, but did not specify any measures.

UK warns Argentina's challenge to Falklands oil project could have devastating economic consequences

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The United Kingdom has warned that blocking the Sea Lion offshore oil project near the Falkland Islands could cost the territory billions of pounds and severely affect its economic future. Attorney General Ellie Reeves made the statement during hearings at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg on Tuesday. Argentina has asked the tribunal to suspend drilling, arguing that the project violates a United Nations resolution and creates environmental risks. Buenos Aires also maintains that the islands, known as the Malvinas in Argentina, and their surrounding resources belong to Argentina. Reeves said the Falkland Islanders have the right to develop their natural resources. The two-day hearings concluded Wednesday, with the tribunal expected to consider Argentina's request before issuing a decision later this month.



Elon Musk says hiring Nvidia chief Jensen Huang would be an 'honor' amid scrutiny of chipmaker's leadership

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Elon Musk said Thursday that hiring Nvidia Chief Executive Jensen Huang would be an honor, responding to a social media user who urged him to recruit the semiconductor executive. The comment came as Nvidia faces scrutiny following reports that Huang was targeted by a foreign intelligence effort. The company's board announced Sunday that it had begun an independent investigation, overseen by independent directors and outside legal counsel. Nvidia said it had no reason to believe its national security or company secrets had been compromised and expressed confidence in Huang's leadership. Musk had also endorsed a post praising Huang's contribution to American artificial intelligence leadership.

Germany to replace Chinese-made military training drones with German and other European models

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Germany's military will stop using Chinese-made drones for training and certain exercises, replacing them with German or other European models, the Defense Ministry said Wednesday. The ministry said commanders may continue buying commercially available drones for training and selected exercises, but only after a risk assessment and when no security-sensitive information is exposed. The decision is intended to strengthen the Bundeswehr's technological independence and reduce reliance on Chinese equipment. The ministry did not disclose how many Chinese-made drones are currently in service or provide a timeline for their replacement.

Israeli airstrike on Nasser Hospital in southern Gaza kills six, including surgeon, and wounds 20

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

An Israeli airstrike struck a building at Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis, southern Gaza, early Thursday, killing at least six people, including a surgeon, and injuring 20, Gaza's civil defense service said. The strike hit the hospital's surgery department and caused extensive damage, according to the agency. The Israeli military said it targeted a senior Hamas militant and other members of the group's armed wing, alleging they were operating inside the hospital complex. Reuters said it could not independently verify the military's claims. Hamas condemned the strike. Gaza health officials say more than 1,600 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli attacks since the ceasefire began.

Brazil fines Meta $1.3 million for failing to comply with election-related court orders

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



Brazil's top electoral court fined Meta's Facebook 7.5 million reais, approximately $1.3 million, for failing to fully comply with judicial orders during last month's presidential runoff campaign.

The unanimous decision was issued Tuesday following complaints from President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's campaign, which alleged that Facebook treated content from his campaign and challenger Flávio Bolsonaro's campaign differently. The court cited delays, incomplete information and difficulties verifying data submitted by the company.

However, the justices said there was no evidence that Meta had deliberately attempted to influence the election outcome. Meta denied political bias, saying it applied the same rules to all candidates and parties. The fine covers penalties imposed between October 17 and 25 for delays and incomplete compliance with court orders.

Dutch coalition faces possible collapse after dispute over tax deal with opposition

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The Netherlands' three-party minority government faced a possible collapse Thursday after the right-wing People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) objected to a tax agreement negotiated by its coalition partners with opposition parties.

Prime Minister Rob Jetten's centrist D66 party and the Christian Democrats reached the agreement Wednesday with center-left opposition parties PRO and Volt to secure parliamentary support for next year's budget. The proposal raises taxes on wealthier people while reducing the burden on low-income earners. VVD leader Dilan Yeşilgöz-Zegerius, who also serves as defense minister, called the agreement a breach of the coalition pact and demanded a fundamental reset.

Kenya discharges final Ebola patient, begins 42-day countdown

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Kenya discharged its last Ebola patient on Wednesday after recording nine cases in an outbreak linked to an infected traveler from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The country's official 42-day countdown toward Ebola-free status began Thursday. If no new cases emerge, Kenya is expected to be declared Ebola-free on December 23, Health Minister Aden Duale said.

The outbreak claimed two lives, while seven patients recovered. All nine cases were linked to the initial patient, and authorities identified 135 contacts. No community transmission was reported. Surveillance and preventive measures will continue during the countdown.

Indonesian police say evidence supports possible treason charges in alleged wiretapping of President Prabowo

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Indonesian police said Thursday they had sufficient preliminary evidence to pursue treason charges against four senior police officers suspected of illegally wiretapping President Prabowo Subianto. National police official Asep Safrudin said investigators would conduct further inquiries. The suspects include former police chief Listyo Sigit Prabowo, who was known as an ally of former president Joko Widodo. At a parliamentary hearing on Thursday, lawmakers urged investigators to establish who ordered and financed the alleged surveillance and whether others were involved. The case has intensified scrutiny of relations between Prabowo and his predecessor. Police have not announced formal treason charges against the suspects.

Rights group urges Pakistan to release jailed Baloch activist Mahrang Baloch

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The Human Rights Foundation has urged Pakistan to release Baloch activist Mahrang Baloch and provide her with medical care, citing concerns over her imprisonment and health.

Baloch, founder of the Baloch Yakjehti Committee, was arrested in March 2025 after protesting alleged enforced disappearances and killings in Balochistan. She was later sentenced to two life terms on terrorism-related charges. United Nations experts have raised concerns about her conviction and the use of counterterrorism laws against peaceful activists. The rights group has called on the international community to press Pakistani authorities for her release.

France blames Iran's Revolutionary Guards for cyberattacks targeting nearly 700 supermarket sites

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

France has accused Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps of carrying out cyberattacks that disrupted refrigeration systems at nearly 700 supermarket sites across the country.

Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot announced the attribution on Monday following a Group of Seven foreign ministers' meeting in Paris. The attacks on October 11 and 12 reportedly involved remotely altering refrigerator settings, causing food losses and fires at several locations.

Barrot said Iran's ambassador had been summoned and France would impose sanctions on those responsible. He also warned that Paris could take additional measures. The French Foreign Ministry described the incidents as a serious threat to national interests and public security.



Lashkar-e-Taiba reportedly prepares Hafiz Saeed's son Talha for leadership succession through political front

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Lashkar-e-Taiba leaders have reportedly positioned Hafiz Saeed's son, Talha Saeed, for a larger leadership role, while retaining the jailed founder as the organization's chief for now, according to Indian security sources.

Talha has reportedly been assigned operational responsibilities and placed second in the hierarchy. He has also increased public appearances through the Pakistan Markazi Muslim League, the group's political front, using rallies to promote national unity and anti-India rhetoric. The party finished second in a recent Gujranwala National Assembly by-election, securing 30,218 votes against the winning Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz candidate's 43,365. Indian security agencies are monitoring the party's political growth and its alleged links to the militant organization.



Electric vehicles become preferred choice for new government staff car purchases

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The central government has made electric vehicles the default choice for new staff car purchases across ministries and departments, under an order issued by the Finance Ministry on Tuesday. The revised rules set a maximum dealer price of 2 million rupees for electric vehicles, compared with 1 million rupees for petrol, diesel and hybrid vehicles. Ministries are expected to choose electric vehicles when replacing existing staff cars. Any request to purchase or hire a conventional vehicle must be justified and approved by the Department of Expenditure on a case-by-case basis. The order also reiterates the existing requirement to prioritize electric vehicles for government car rentals.

Kulgam attack injures three security personnel, triggers political demands for stronger security

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Three Central Reserve Police Force personnel were injured when suspected terrorists opened fire on a security checkpoint at Akhran near Mir Bazar in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district on Wednesday. One of the injured personnel was reported to be in critical condition. Security agencies suspect the involvement of local Lashkar-e-Taiba operative Mohammad Lateef Bhat and have launched operations to identify and apprehend the attackers.

The incident prompted political reactions, with Congress leader Sachin Pilot urging the central government to take additional measures to protect lives and property. Party leader Surendra Rajput criticized the



government's security record and demanded accountability. Bharatiya Janata Party member of Parliament Gulam Ali Khatana blamed Pakistan for continuing hostile activities and warned of a response. West Bengal minister Dilip Ghosh said security forces were working to locate militants hiding in the region.

India prohibits exports of lithium-ion battery black mass to strengthen domestic recycling

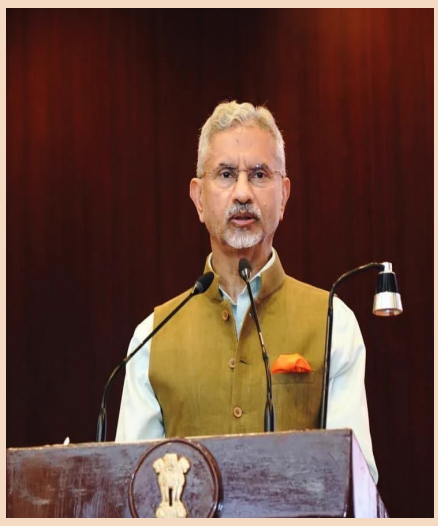
Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India has prohibited exports of lithium-ion battery black mass and specified categories of waste and scrap from batteries, effective immediately, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade announced on Wednesday. The government amended the export policy for the material under the relevant trade classification from 'Free' to 'Prohibited', until further orders. The measure aims to retain valuable battery materials in the country, strengthen domestic recycling and improve access to critical minerals. It forms part of wider efforts to develop local processing capacity and reduce dependence on imports. The restriction covers unsorted battery waste that does not contain lead, cadmium or mercury.

Jaishankar and West Bengal chief minister launch website for 2027 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari jointly launched the website for the 19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in New Delhi on Wednesday. The three-day event will be held in Kolkata from January 7 to 9, 2027, under the theme 'Return to Roots: Reigniting the Diaspora Connect with Bharat'. The convention will bring together overseas Indians to strengthen their connections with India. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the event, while President Droupadi Murmu will attend the closing session and present the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards.



A special Bharat Ko Janiye quiz was also launched, with winners invited for an immersive India tour.

Telangana seeks major automobile and electric vehicle investments ahead of global summit

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Telangana is preparing a strategic plan to attract major investments in automobile, electric vehicle and auto-component manufacturing ahead of the Invest Telangana Global Summit 2026. Transport and Backward Classes Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar chaired the first meeting of the sector's executive council in Hyderabad on Wednesday. Representatives of around 25 companies and industry organizations are expected to contribute to the initiative. Discussions focused on investment proposals, manufacturing expansion, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, battery technology and clean mobility. The government also sought industry



recommendations on policies, infrastructure and support required to strengthen the sector. The summit is scheduled to take place in Hyderabad from December 7 to 9.

Delhi's air quality slips back into very poor category as pollution rises post Diwali

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Delhi's air quality deteriorated on Thursday, with the overall Air Quality Index reaching 319 in the morning and returning to the very poor category after a brief improvement. Several monitoring stations recorded readings above 350, including Pusa, NSIT Dwarka, Chandni Chowk and Jawaharlal Nehru University. Pollution also affected neighboring cities, with Gurugram recording 300, while Noida registered 284. Calm winds and unfavorable weather conditions have limited the dispersal of pollutants, while no significant rainfall was forecast through Saturday. The capital's pollution levels had also risen around Diwali, with experts citing high fine-particle concentrations even before the festival.

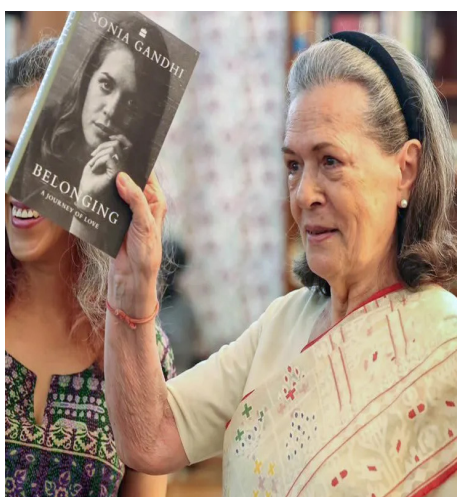
BJP accuses Sonia Gandhi of whitewashing Congress-era controversies in her new political memoir

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The Bharatiya Janata Party on Thursday accused Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi of using her memoir, 'Belonging: A Journey of Love,' to downplay controversies involving the Congress and the Gandhi family.

BJP member of Parliament Tarun Chugh alleged that the book glossed over the Emergency and the 1984 military operation at the Golden Temple.

BJP leader Rajeev Chandrasekhar criticized its account of the 1984 anti-Sikh violence, while Manmeet Singh questioned its omission of controversies linked to the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance government, including the National Herald, Bofors and 2G cases. Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi described the book as political commentary rather than a personal memoir.



More than 400,000 voters prepare for final phase of Jaipur rural elections

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

More than 407,000 voters are eligible to cast ballots in the fourth and final phase of Panchayati Raj elections in Jaipur district on Friday. A total of 241 candidates are contesting 82 Panchayat Samiti wards across Andhi, Bassi, Jamwaramgarh and Tunga. Voting will also take place in 13 Zila Parishad wards across 446 polling stations. The district administration has completed the commissioning of electronic voting machines and reviewed arrangements for polling staff, training and election materials. Polling teams are scheduled to leave for their assigned stations on Thursday after completing final training. Separate elections for village heads and ward representatives will follow on Sunday.

India falls five places to 28th in global climate performance ranking

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India slipped five places to 28th in the 2027 Climate Change Performance Index, released on Thursday during the United Nations climate conference in Antalya, Turkey. The country retained an overall medium rating, with medium assessments for greenhouse gas emissions, energy use and climate policy. Its renewable energy trend received a high rating, reflecting progress in solar and wind deployment. The report noted that non-fossil sources accounted for 50 percent of India's installed electricity capacity in June 2025, ahead of its earlier 2030 target. However, experts highlighted continuing dependence on coal, gaps in transmission and energy storage, and the need to translate renewable capacity into greater clean electricity generation.

Hindu organizations back Kareena Kapoor amid dispute over Quran-inscribed heirloom pendant

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Hindu organizations have voiced support for actor Kareena Kapoor Khan after a Madhya Pradesh Congress spokesperson issued her a legal notice over photographs showing her wearing an emerald pendant inscribed with a Quranic verse. Abbas Hafeez objected to the religious inscription being displayed as part of a fashion look and sought removal of the photographs and a public apology. The pendant was described by stylist Rhea Kapoor as an approximately 200-year-old heirloom linked to the former royal family of Bhopal. Hindu Utsav Samiti president Chandra Shekhar Tiwari said Kareena did not need to apologize, while other groups also supported her. Kareena had not publicly responded to the notice.

Bihar steps up security, accommodation and transport arrangements for millions of Chhath devotees at historic Deo Sun Temple

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



Authorities in Bihar's Aurangabad district are strengthening arrangements at the historic Deo Sun Temple ahead of Chhath, with large numbers of devotees expected to visit the shrine. District Magistrate Abhilasha Sharma said preparations include 10 accommodation facilities, temporary tent cities, drinking water, sanitation, medical services and free transportation. Police personnel, including women officers, will be deployed, while disaster response teams and trained divers will remain on standby at Suryakund. Ambulances, doctors and help desks will also be available. The four-day festival begins Friday with Nahay-Khay, followed by Kharna on Saturday. Devotees will offer prayers to the setting sun on Sunday and the rising sun on Monday. Arrangements are also being made at 305 other Chhath ghats across the district.

Indian Air Force IL-76 sets world record with highest-altitude landing at Ladakh's Nyoma airbase

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The Indian Air Force's IL-76MD heavy-lift transport aircraft made the world's highest-altitude landing by an aircraft of its type at Nyoma airbase in Ladakh on Friday, touching down at 13,629 feet. The air force announced the achievement on Saturday, describing it as a demonstration of the aircraft's capabilities and the crew's precision and professionalism. Located about 25 kilometers from the Line of Actual Control with China, Nyoma is a strategically important military airfield. The successful landing strengthens India's ability to transport troops, equipment and supplies to remote, high-altitude border areas, enhancing its strategic airlift capability.

Madras High Court says Election Commission ban on using children in campaigns is binding on candidates

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The Madras High Court ruled on Thursday that Election Commission instructions prohibiting the use of children in election campaigns are binding on candidates and carry statutory force. Justice K. Kumaresh Babu made the observation while hearing an election petition filed by Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi, challenging the 2026 election of Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam legislator Vijayakumar, also known as Navalpattu Viji, from Thiruverumbur. The court declined to dismiss the petition, stating that the alleged violation and its possible impact on the election result must be examined during trial. The legislator was directed to file his response within four weeks.

India secures quota of 175,025 pilgrims under 2027 Haj agreement signed with Saudi Arabia

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India and Saudi Arabia signed their bilateral Haj agreement for 2027 in Jeddah on Monday, confirming a quota of 175,025 Indian pilgrims. Union Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju held talks with Saudi Minister of Hajj and Umrah Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al-Rabiah before signing the agreement. The ministers reviewed preparations for the annual pilgrimage and discussed improving coordination and logistical support to ensure a safe and comfortable experience for Indian pilgrims. Rijiju was in Saudi Arabia on an official visit from Friday through Monday. He also attended the sixth Hajj Conference and Exhibition in Jeddah on Sunday and reviewed preparations with Indian officials.

Delhi launches first recreational Yamuna cruise service with electric vessel between Sonia Vihar and Jagatpur

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Delhi launched its first recreational cruise service on the Yamuna on Tuesday, introducing a 30-seat electric vessel along the Sonia Vihar-Jagatpur stretch. Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the service in the presence of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta. Developed by the Inland Waterways Authority of India in collaboration with Delhi government agencies, the initiative aims to promote river tourism and sustainable transport. The vessel offers visitors a recreational river journey, with the route covering approximately six kilometers. Officials said the project would encourage public engagement with the Yamuna and support the development of riverfront tourism in the national capital.

Rahul to present alternative foreign policy vision at Hyderabad summit focused on democracy and Global South cooperation

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will present an alternative vision for India's foreign policy at the second Bharat Summit in Hyderabad on Saturday, during its valedictory session. Organized by the Telangana government, the summit runs from Thursday through Saturday and is expected to bring together more than 1,000 delegates from 70 countries, including policymakers, political leaders and thinkers.

Gandhi's proposed approach emphasizes strategic autonomy, principled multilateralism, peaceful coexistence and democratic values, while drawing on the legacy of Afro-Asian solidarity and the Non-Aligned Movement. The agenda includes discussions on global cooperation, climate justice, economic reform, artificial intelligence, media, gender justice and democratic renewal. Organizers also plan to launch the Our World Institute and establish a Global South-Global North platform.

CBI trains 24 officers from 16 countries in advanced techniques for corruption probes and asset recovery

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



The Central Bureau of Investigation concluded a week-long international training program on Tuesday for 24 law enforcement officers from 16 countries, focusing on corruption investigations and asset recovery. Held at the CBI Academy in Ghaziabad under the Ministry of External Affairs' Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation program, the course began last Wednesday.

Participants, including 11 women, received training in digital evidence collection, cryptocurrency investigations, asset tracing, money trails and identifying assets held through shell companies.

The program also covered the recovery and confiscation of criminal proceeds. The officers visited the CBI's evidence analysis laboratory and Global Operations Centre in New Delhi.

India's online festive sales reach Rs. 1.41 lakh crore as quick commerce orders surge

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India's online festive sales grew 17 percent year over year to Rs.1.41 lakh crore across 34 sale days through Sunday, according to a Datum Intelligence report. Sales were Rs.1.2 lakh crore during the 2025 festive period. Orders through quick commerce platforms surged 75 percent, while brand websites recorded growth of 27 to 30 percent.

Marketplace orders increased 8 percent. Smartphone purchases weakened overall growth, with sales volumes declining 25 to 33 percent and sales value falling about 15 percent. Smartphones accounted for 25 percent of festive sales, compared with 35.2 percent last year. Without the smartphone decline, overall growth could have reached 22 percent.

Gold prices hit one-week low as stronger dollar and rate hike expectations pressure bullion

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Gold prices slipped to their lowest level in more than a week on Thursday as a stronger United States dollar and growing expectations of an interest-rate increase by the Federal Reserve weakened demand for the precious metal. Spot gold fell 0.2% to $3,977.99 an ounce after touching its lowest level since November 4.

United States gold futures for December delivery declined 0.4% to $3,983.20. The dollar climbed to a 19-month high after stronger-than-expected inflation data for October and hawkish comments from Federal Reserve officials strengthened expectations of a rate increase next month. Higher interest rates generally reduce gold's appeal because the metal does not offer interest income.

Investors are now awaiting the United States Producer Price Index report due



Friday for further indications about inflation and the central bank's policy outlook.

OCBC analysts said near-term movements could remain sensitive to oil prices, bond yields and the dollar, but maintained a constructive medium-term outlook for gold. Palladium, meanwhile, gained 0.5% after reaching its highest level since October 22 on Wednesday.

United States regulators require new eye-risk warnings on popular diabetes and weight-loss drugs

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The United States Food and Drug Administration announced Monday that manufacturers of glucagon-like peptide-1 medicines must add warnings about a rare eye condition associated with potential vision loss. The condition, called non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy, results from reduced blood flow to the optic nerve and can cause sudden, sometimes permanent, loss of vision. The warning applies to medicines including Ozempic, Wegovy, Mounjaro and Zepbound. The agency reviewed clinical trials and other safety data, finding 6.4 cases per 100,000 person-years among users, compared with 3.8 among comparison groups. Patients experiencing sudden vision changes should seek medical attention immediately.

Oil prices drop more than $1 as easing conflict fears and rising supplies weigh on markets

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Oil prices fell more than $1 a barrel on Thursday as easing fears of a wider Middle East conflict reduced the geopolitical risk premium, while rising production and growing United States inventories heightened concerns about oversupply. Brent crude futures declined $1.47, or 1.58%, to $91.29 a barrel, while United States West Texas Intermediate crude fell $1.24, or 1.43%, to $85.29. The declines reversed gains from Wednesday, when both benchmarks had advanced. Market sentiment also improved after Russian and Ukrainian negotiators agreed to a major prisoner exchange following



peace talks in Abu Dhabi, although disagreements over territorial issues remained. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies increased production in October, led by Saudi Arabia. Separately, industry data showed United States crude inventories had risen by nine million barrels.

Microsoft outage disrupts Outlook, Teams and Copilot worldwide, hitting businesses and government agencies

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Microsoft's Outlook, Teams and Copilot services remained disrupted worldwide on Friday as a major Microsoft 365 outage extended beyond 12 hours, affecting businesses, airlines and government agencies. The company attributed the disruption to server problems involving Exchange Online, its cloud-based email platform, and said it had found no evidence of a cyberattack.

Microsoft reported some improvement in server stability after deploying fixes, although full restoration remained uncertain. Australia's intelligence agency and federal police, government systems in Japan and the United States, and Indian



airlines IndiGo, Air India and Akasa Air were among those affected. European companies reported email delays, while some Taiwanese financial firms resorted to fax communications to confirm trades. OpenAI and Anthropic also reported problems with their Microsoft connectors. The disruption followed earlier Microsoft 365 outages this year and raised concerns about the reliability of cloud-based services.

Amul and Mother Dairy raise milk prices by up to Rs. 4 per liter amid rising production costs

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Amul and Mother Dairy increased liquid milk prices by Rs.2 to Rs.4 per liter from Thursday, citing higher production and distribution expenses. The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, which markets Amul products, raised fresh pouch milk prices by 4 to 5 percent nationwide. Amul Taaza toned milk now costs Rs.2 more per liter, while Amul Gold has become Rs.4 costlier. Mother Dairy announced similar increases across its liquid milk range. It attributed the revision to fodder prices rising by up to 20 percent, cattle feed costs increasing 10 percent and packaging and transportation expenses climbing by as much as 25 percent.

Anthropic launches advanced Claude models as company begins public offering roadshow

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Anthropic introduced Claude Fable 5.2 and Claude Mythos 5.2 on Monday, upgrading its artificial intelligence models for complex coding, scientific research, mathematics and cybersecurity tasks.

Both models share the same underlying technology, but Mythos has tighter access controls for approved cybersecurity and biomedical research organizations. Fable is available to general users. Anthropic said the models helped design three working electronic devices, advance robotics research and formalize a proof of Fermat's Last Theorem.

Standard pricing starts at $8 per million input tokens and $40 per million output tokens. Separately, Anthropic launched its proposed initial public offering roadshow Tuesday, seeking a Nasdaq listing under the symbol ANT.



Qualcomm begins India workforce cuts as global restructuring reaches engineering operations

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Qualcomm has begun laying off employees in India as part of a global workforce reduction announced by Chief Executive Cristiano Amon in October. Reports estimate that around 1,000 Indian positions could be affected, although the company has not officially confirmed the figure. The first reported cuts began in Bengaluru on Monday, with Hyderabad, Delhi National Capital Region and Chennai also potentially affected. Senior engineers and experienced employees are among those reportedly impacted. Amon described the global exercise as performance-focused, citing business priorities and organizational requirements.

Qantas plans 850 job cuts as Accenture partnership shifts corporate work to India

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Australian airline Qantas plans to eliminate about 850 positions and outsource several corporate functions to consulting firm Accenture under a multiyear technology partnership. Announced Tuesday, the restructuring will initially affect finance, procurement, human resources and marketing, with the first changes expected by mid-2027. Some work will move to Accenture teams based mainly in India, while other functions will remain in Australia. Chief Executive Vanessa Hudson said the airline's more than 1,000 legacy applications had become difficult to maintain and the partnership would help modernize operations and expand artificial intelligence use. Qantas said it would consult employees and unions and seek redeployment opportunities.

Australian regulator sues Commonwealth Bank over alleged hidden fees

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Australia's corporate regulator filed civil penalty proceedings against Commonwealth Bank of Australia on Thursday, alleging that the lender charged undisclosed fees to about 42,000 business customers using its CommBiz platform. The Australian Securities and Investments Commission said customers were overcharged approximately A$8.5 million between November 2020 and May 2025 through direct debit and direct credit transactions. The regulator alleged that misleading fee terms had been in place since CommBiz launched in 2006, despite complaints and an internal audit identifying problems.

Piyush Goyal holds talks with Škoda Volkswagen to expand India's auto exports and electric vehicle manufacturing

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal met a delegation led by Piyush Arora, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Škoda Auto Volkswagen India, on Monday to discuss expanding automobile exports, strengthening domestic manufacturing and accelerating electric vehicle production.

The discussions focused on positioning India as a global automotive manufacturing hub through greater localization, innovation and deeper integration into international supply chains. The meeting also explored opportunities to strengthen domestic production capabilities and expand India's participation in global automotive value chains.

The engagement reflects the government's broader efforts to attract investment, boost exports and develop India's manufacturing ecosystem. However, no specific investment commitment, new manufacturing facility or electric vehicle launch timeline was announced following the meeting.

Standard Chartered's retail banking sale raises questions about confidence in Bangladesh

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Standard Chartered Bank's plan to sell its retail banking business in Bangladesh, following HSBC's decision to wind down similar operations, has renewed questions about international banks' confidence in the market. However, the moves do not amount to complete exits from the country.

Bangladesh's banking sector faces serious challenges, including weak governance, capital shortages and rising non-performing loans. Bangladesh Bank data showed that bad loans accounted for 32.78 percent of total loans by the end of June 2026.



The World Bank has also highlighted governance and capital weaknesses. Analysts say restoring confidence will require transparent lending, stronger oversight and improved loan recovery.

JetBlue launches first-class service as it targets profitability in 2027

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

JetBlue Airways unveiled BlueFirst, its new domestic first-class service, at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport on Wednesday as a central part of its plan to return to operating profitability in 2027. Seats are on sale across more than 30 routes, with the first flight scheduled for December. The airline expects the premium cabin to improve seat revenue by nearly five percentage points, particularly in markets such as New York and Boston. JetBlue plans to retrofit its Airbus A320 and A220 aircraft with the product by 2028. The launch comes as the carrier faces high fuel costs, bond-market concerns and a third-quarter net loss of $257 million.

Merchants await NPCI decision on proposed fees for high-value Unified Payments Interface transactions

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Merchants are awaiting a confirmed implementation date for proposed Merchant Discount Rate charges on selected high-value Unified Payments Interface payments following the Diwali festival. The National Payments Corporation of India had postponed the planned rollout beyond October 15 to avoid additional costs during the festive period. Under the proposed structure, eligible person-to-merchant transactions above Rs.2,000 would attract a 0.4 percent fee, capped at Rs.300 for payments of Rs.75,000 or more. Certain sectors, including railways, telecommunications, insurance and fuel, would pay a flat Rs.5 charge on eligible transactions. Customers would not pay the fee, and person-to-person transfers would remain free.

SoftBank Group reports $7.1 billion quarterly loss as artificial intelligence investments face pressure

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Japanese investment company SoftBank Group reported a net loss of approximately 1.12 trillion yen, or $7.1 billion, for the quarter ended in September, reversing a profit a year earlier. The loss reflected falling valuations of major technology holdings, including semiconductor company Arm Holdings and other investments. Its Vision Fund investment division also recorded a loss of 81.6 billion yen. SoftBank's substantial exposure to artificial intelligence companies, including OpenAI, has drawn investor scrutiny amid concerns about valuations, financing costs and future returns. The company's shares have also faced pressure as founder Masayoshi Son expands investments in the sector.

Alphabet attracts $5 billion in orders for debut Asian bond offerings

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Alphabet, Google's parent company, attracted about $5 billion in early orders on Thursday for its first bond offerings denominated in Hong Kong and Singapore dollars. The three-part Hong Kong sale drew orders exceeding HK$24 billion, while the four-part Singapore offering received more than S$2.5 billion. The order totals include substantial commitments from banks arranging the deals. Strong demand could allow Alphabet to increase its planned borrowing as it expands investment in artificial intelligence infrastructure. The company set initial yield guidance between 4.60% and 5.50% for Hong Kong-dollar bonds



and between 2.75% and 4.00% for Singapore-dollar bonds. Final deal sizes and pricing were not yet available.

Samsung's South Korean chip plant to spur $30 billion in equipment investment

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung said on Thursday that Samsung Electronics' 6 trillion won investment in a high-bandwidth memory packaging plant in Asan would be followed by about 40 trillion won in advanced equipment investment. Lee spoke at a groundbreaking ceremony for part of investment plans announced by Samsung affiliates in July. Samsung said the new production line is scheduled to begin operations in June 2028, a year earlier than originally planned, as demand for server memory rises. The plant will have three floors of clean-room space covering about 31,000 square



meters. South Korea is relying on Samsung and other companies to advance semiconductor and artificial intelligence projects.



Mirra Andreeva rallies from 1-4 deficit to stun Aryna Sabalenka and reach WTA Finals semifinals

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

World number three Mirra Andreeva secured a place in the WTA Finals semifinals with a commanding 6-4, 6-0 victory over second-ranked Aryna Sabalenka on Wednesday in Indian Wells, California. The 19-year-old French Open champion recovered from a 1-4 deficit in the opening set, winning 11 consecutive games to complete the 62-minute victory and finish atop Group 2. Andreeva, competing in the tournament for the first time, became the youngest player to reach the semifinals since Caroline Wozniacki in 2009. Earlier on Wednesday, Elina Svitolina rallied from a set down to defeat Karolina Muchova 3-6, 6-2, 6-2, keeping her qualification hopes alive. Muchova was eliminated, while Svitolina will face Sabalenka on Friday for the remaining semifinal place.

Arshdeep Singh announces engagement to actor-model Samreen Kaur after Mumbai Indians move

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

India fast bowler Arshdeep Singh announced his engagement to actor-model Samreen Kaur on Wednesday, sharing photographs of the proposal on social media. Samreen also posted pictures of Arshdeep placing an engagement ring on her finger, writing that she was happiest to have found him and looked forward to a lifetime together. The announcement came a few hours after Arshdeep's move from Punjab Kings to Mumbai Indians was confirmed in a trade involving Hardik Pandya ahead of the 2027 Indian Premier League season. The couple had made their relationship public nearly four months ago, following speculation after Samreen was seen supporting Arshdeep during matches. The couple is currently in New Zealand, where Arshdeep is part of India's squad for the five-match one-day international series.



Alexia Barrier makes sailing history as first woman to finish Route du Rhum in Ultim class

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

French sailor Alexia Barrier became the first woman to complete the Route du Rhum in the Ultim class, finishing fifth on Wednesday after a demanding transatlantic race from Saint-Malo, France, to Guadeloupe. The 46-year-old crossed the finish line in Pointe-à-Pitre aboard IDEC Sport-CIC after 10 days, seven hours and 40 minutes, covering 3,542 nautical miles. Tom Laperche won the class in record time, followed by Thomas Coville and Louis Burton. Three of the eight giant trimarans retired, including boats damaged by a capsize, foil damage and a rudder problem. Barrier also faced difficulties, including a torn mainsail and a winch issue, but completed the race.

Poland rules out visas for Russian ski jumpers at upcoming World Cup events

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Poland will refuse visas to Russian ski jumpers seeking to compete in its World Cup events this season, even if they are approved as neutral athletes by the International Ski and Snowboard Federation, the Foreign Ministry confirmed Wednesday. Polish entry restrictions do not provide an exemption for athletes participating in sporting competitions. The country is scheduled to host men's and women's events in Wisła from December 4 to 6, followed by another men's competition in Zakopane from January 15 to 17. The federation allows approved Russian and Belarusian athletes to compete individually as neutrals but says host countries control visa and entry decisions. Russian ski jumpers Danil Sadreev and Evgenii Klimov are among those cleared to compete. Athletes from both countries have faced international restrictions since Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Former LIV Golf players Ballester, An and Catlin qualify for 2027 DP World Tour season

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Former LIV Golf players Josele Ballester, Byeong Hun An and John Catlin secured playing status for the 2027 DP World Tour season after finishing among the top 15 and ties at qualifying school on Wednesday. Spain's Ballester shared first place at 32 under par after six rounds at Infinitum Golf in Tarragona, Spain. South Korea's An finished tied for eighth at 28 under, while American Catlin tied for 14th at 25 under. Ballester, 23, joined LIV Golf in 2025 and previously won the United States Amateur Championship. An, 35, is a two-time winner on the European circuit, while Catlin has three European tour victories and seven Asian tour wins. Their qualification follows LIV Golf's announcement that it would shut down after failing to secure the financing needed to continue without Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund.

FIFA advances four-nation bid and British proposal for 2031 and 2035 Women's World Cups

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

FIFA announced Wednesday that joint bids to host the 2031 and 2035 Women's World Cups had met its minimum hosting requirements and would be submitted for approval at an extraordinary congress on Monday. The 2031 bid, involving the United States, Mexico, Costa Rica and Jamaica, proposes 20 stadiums across 20 host cities and received an evaluation score of 4.4 out of five. The 2035 proposal from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales includes 19 stadiums in 15 cities and scored 4.3. The 2031 tournament will feature 48 teams for the first time, while the 2035 edition is also expected to follow the expanded format, with 12 groups of four teams and a round of 32 knockout stage.

Cricket Australia backs Pat Cummins amid renewed scrutiny over 2018 ball-tampering scandal

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Cricket Australia chairman David Boon has reaffirmed the organization's confidence in Test captain Pat Cummins, saying his leadership is not under threat following renewed allegations about the 2018 ball-tampering scandal. Former Australian batter Usman Khawaja's new autobiography claims the entire touring team knew about plans to alter the ball during the South Africa tour, including during the second Test. Cummins has said he is reviewing the allegations before responding publicly on Friday. White-ball captain Mitchell Marsh declined to discuss



his account, while former teammate David Warner and retired bowler Chadd Sayers supported Khawaja's claims. Former batting coach Graeme Hick and fast bowler Mitchell Starc have denied prior knowledge. Boon said Cricket Australia saw no compelling reason to reopen the investigation.

Stephen Curry diagnosed with oblique abdominal tear, to miss at least two weeks for Warriors

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

Golden State Warriors star Stephen Curry will miss at least two weeks after an magnetic resonance imaging scan confirmed an oblique abdominal tear, the team announced Thursday. Curry sustained the injury during Wednesday's game against the Houston Rockets, leaving in the first quarter after making a three-pointer and experiencing pain on his right side. Warriors coach Steve Kerr had expressed serious concern following the game, saying Curry had described the injury as something he had never experienced before. The 38-year-old guard will be reevaluated in two weeks.

Kylian Mbappe ruled out of France's Nations League match against Italy with hamstring discomfort

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



France captain Kylian Mbappe will miss the team's Nations League match against Italy on Thursday after experiencing discomfort in his hamstring, coach Zinedine Zidane said on Wednesday. Zidane said the team would not take risks with the forward and hoped he would recover in time for Sunday's match against Turkey. Mbappe has already missed France's previous three matches after injuring his left knee while scoring the winning goal against Turkey in September. French sports publication L'Équipe reported that the Real Madrid forward had also missed Wednesday's training session.

Midfielder Aurelien Tchouameni is also unavailable, and Paris Saint-Germain midfielder Senny Mayulu has received his first senior national team call-up as his replacement.

United States withdraws men's under-17 team from Qatar World Cup over security concerns

Indous Tribune Newsdesk



The United States Soccer Federation has withdrawn its men's under-17 national team from the FIFA Under-17 World Cup in Qatar, citing security concerns, the federation informed players on Wednesday. It also canceled the team's pre-tournament training camp, referring to the United States State Department's Level 3 travel advisory for Qatar and related guidance for embassy employees and their families. The advisory urges Americans to reconsider travel because of the risk of armed conflict. The 48-team tournament is scheduled to run from November 19 to December 13. The United States had been due to open its campaign against Montenegro on November 21, followed by group matches against Chile and Algeria. FIFA had not publicly responded to the withdrawal announcement.

World Championship of Cricket plans eight-team Legends T20 league in Shanghai for 2027

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The World Championship of Cricket is planning to launch an eight-team franchise-based Legends T20 league in Shanghai in May 2027, in partnership with China's Dongyuehui Sports. The competition is expected to feature former international cricket stars and would be the first league of its kind in the country. The organizations signed a memorandum of understanding in October, covering cooperation on the project. Dongyuehui Sports operates the Shaxi Town Cricket Centre in Taicang, Jiangsu province. World Championship of Cricket chairman Praveen Sharma and founder Amandeep Singh said the initiative aims to introduce the sport to more Chinese fans and encourage local participation. The partnership also plans to involve Chinese players and attract franchise investors and commercial partners.

NCAA data links multiple college transfers to lower graduation rates among student-athletes

Indous Tribune Newsdesk

The National Collegiate Athletic Association released data Wednesday showing that student-athletes who transfer multiple times graduate at lower rates than those who remain at one college. Among nearly 36,000 athletes who enrolled in 2018-19, 88 percent of non-transfers graduated within six years, compared with 71 percent of those who transferred more than once. Among Black athletes, the rate fell from 82 percent to 62 percent. NCAA President Charlie Baker called the findings a warning about academic consequences linked to transfer rules and urged Congress to act.

Rahmat Shah breaks into top 10 of ICC Test batting rankings



Afghanistan captain Rahmat Shah became the first player from his country to enter the top 10 of an International Cricket Council player-ranking category, rising six places to seventh among Test batters after scoring 173 against Zimbabwe in Sharjah on Wednesday. The 33-year-old achieved a career-best rating with his fifth Test century. Zimbabwe's Craig Ervine also climbed to 48th after scoring an unbeaten double century. West Indies spinner Jomel Warrican rose to a career-best joint 19th among Test bowlers.

Jacob Bethell ruled out of England's Australia tour after knee injury setback



England batter Jacob Bethell has been ruled out of the white-ball tour of Australia after a setback in his recovery from a right knee injury. The 23-year-old will return to England for specialist assessment, raising doubts over his availability for the Test series against South Africa next month. England have called up James Coles and Eddie Jack to the one-day international squad, replacing Bethell and injured fast bowler Josh Tongue. The Australia series begins Friday.

Paul Reiffel reaches milestone with 100th men's one-day international as umpire



Former Australia fast bowler Paul Reiffel officiated in his 100th men's one-day international as an on-field umpire during the India-New Zealand match in Hamilton on Tuesday. He became the 23rd umpire and sixth Australian to reach the milestone, the International Cricket Council confirmed Wednesday. Reiffel, 60, joined the ICC Elite Panel in 2013 and has officiated at three Cricket World Cups. He represented Australia as a player before beginning his international umpiring career in 2009.



Kangana Ranaut questions Sonia Gandhi in social media posts, targets Rahul Gandhi



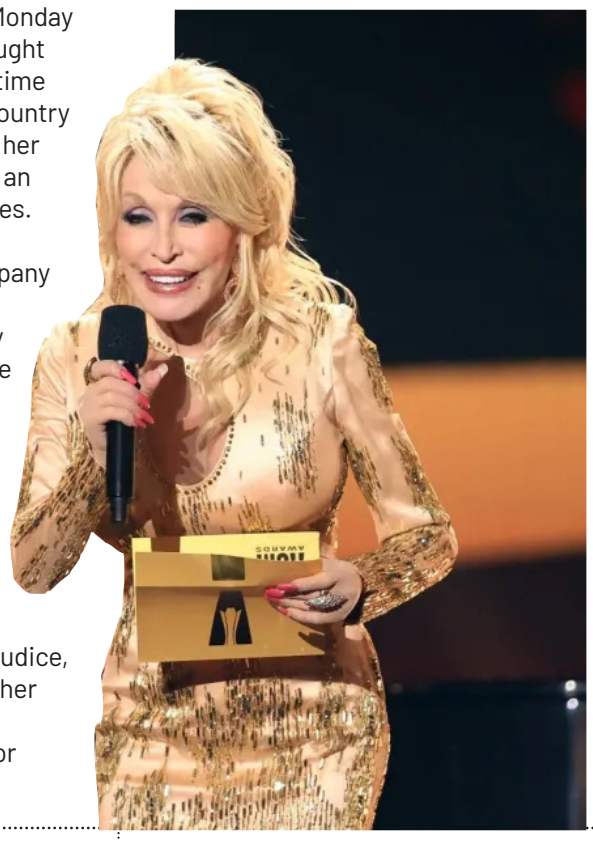
Bharatiya Janata Party Member of Parliament Kangana Ranaut criticized Congress leader Sonia Gandhi over her recently released memoir, 'Belonging: A Journey of Love', and mocked Rahul Gandhi, saying he inherited his "self-goal talent" from his mother. In a series of Instagram Stories on Wednesday, Ranaut questioned Sonia Gandhi's account of events surrounding Rajiv Gandhi's assassination and Maneka Gandhi's departure from the family. She also questioned Sonia Gandhi's citizenship timeline and made allegations about more than $2 billion allegedly held in Swiss bank accounts in her name. The financial claims remain unsubstantiated. Ranaut's remarks followed the memoir's release on Tuesday.

Martin Garrix traces his first 30 years in deeply personal album 'MARTY'

Dutch DJ and producer Martin Garrix has described his upcoming album, 'MARTY', as his most personal project, saying it traces the first 30 years of his life. In an Instagram post, he revealed that he has worked on the 14-track record for more than five years, with some ideas dating back 12 or 13 years. The album's title comes from his former alias, DJ Marty. Garrix said it follows his journey from making music in his bedroom as a child to becoming an internationally recognized performer. The album is scheduled for release on Friday, March 5, 2027.

Dolly Parton estate dispute ends after manager and nephew reach agreement

A Tennessee judge on Monday dismissed a case brought by Danny Nozell, longtime manager of the late country music star Dolly Parton, against her nephew Bryan Seaver, following an agreement between the two sides.



Nozell, who manages the company overseeing Parton's estate, had accused Seaver and his security company of threatening violence and the singer's business interests. He had obtained a temporary restraining order in September and later sought a permanent injunction.

Nozell requested dismissal last Thursday. The judge dismissed the case without prejudice, allowing it to be filed again. Neither side has disclosed the terms of their agreement or the reason for withdrawing the complaint.

Jordan Fisher to play Prince's role in Broadway adaptation of 'Purple Rain'

Actor and singer Jordan Fisher has been cast as The Kid, the lead character originally portrayed by Prince, in the Broadway musical adaptation of 'Purple Rain'.

The production will begin previews at New York's Majestic Theatre on Friday, March 12, 2027, with opening night scheduled for Monday, April 12. The musical is based on Prince's 1984 film and features more than 20 of his songs.

Fisher's Broadway credits include 'Hadestown', 'Dear Evan Hansen', 'Sweeney Todd' and 'Hamilton'. The stage production previously premiered in Prince's hometown of Minneapolis in 2025.

The Broadway version has a story by Peter Duchan and is directed by Saheem Ali.

Oprah Winfrey selects Mary Lawson's 'Solace in Winter' for her book club

Oprah Winfrey has selected Canadian author Mary Lawson's novel 'Solace in Winter' as the latest pick for her book club. The novel, released on Tuesday, follows a small community in the late 1960s whose lives are disrupted when a young American crosses the border to avoid the Vietnam War draft.

Winfrey described the book as beautifully written and deeply moving, saying it explores how unexpected connections can help people heal and change their lives. Her discussion with Lawson is available on her YouTube channel and other video podcast platforms.

Lawson is known for her debut novel 'Crow Lake' and her Booker Prize longlisted works 'The Other Side of the Bridge' and 'A Town Called Solace'.

'Godzilla Minus Zero' sets foreign-language film opening record with $31.6 million

'Godzilla Minus Zero' topped the North American box office over the weekend, earning an estimated $31.6 million and setting a record opening for a live-action foreign-language film in the region. Directed by Takashi Yamazaki, the Japanese sequel is set in postwar Japan and follows the success of 2023's 'Godzilla Minus One'.

Warner Bros.' animated 'The Cat in the Hat' debuted in second place with $20.5 million domestically, while 'Drummer Boy' opened with $9.3 million. India's 'Ramayana: Rise of a Legend' collected $8.7 million in North America and $32 million in India, marking the widest North American release for an Indian film. Overall ticket sales rose 96.8 percent from the previous weekend.





Nick Cannon says Mariah Carey's prenuptial agreement protected them both

Nick Cannon says he had no hesitation about signing a prenuptial agreement before marrying singer Mariah Carey in 2008. Speaking on the 'On Par with Maury Povich' podcast, Cannon said he understood that Carey's business interests needed protection and believed the agreement ultimately protected both of them. The couple separated in 2014, and their divorce was finalized in 2016. They share 15-year-old twins, Moroccan and Monroe. Cannon said ending a marriage can be lengthy and emotionally draining, although their separation remained amicable. He said they continue to speak regularly, have avoided speaking negatively about each other and prioritize their children. He added that he does not intend to marry again.



Sylvester Stallone honors US veterans with his Veterans Day pizza tradition

Hollywood actor Sylvester Stallone marked Veterans Day on Wednesday by continuing his tradition of serving pizza to military veterans at a United States Department of Veterans Affairs facility.

In a video shared on Instagram, Stallone thanked veterans for their service and sacrifices, saying they had risked their lives to protect the country. The actor, who immigrated to the United States, said he particularly valued their contribution and would never take the country or its defenders for granted.

In his accompanying post, Stallone described the visit as an opportunity to share pizza, have conversations and express gratitude. Veterans Day is observed annually in the United States on November 11 to honor those who served in its armed forces.



Mani Ratnam's 'Inji Vellam' set for worldwide release on January 29

Mani Ratnam's upcoming film 'Inji Vellam', starring Vijay Sethupathi and Sai Pallavi, will be released worldwide on Friday, January 29, 2027. The makers announced the release date on Wednesday through the social media accounts of production house Madras Talkies.

The film is jointly produced by Lyca Productions and Madras Talkies, with music composed by A. R. Rahman. Avik Mukhopadhayay is the cinematographer, while Sreekar Prasad is handling the editing. Eka Lakhani has designed the costumes, and Sharmishta Roy is overseeing the art direction.

The film marks another collaboration between Vijay Sethupathi and Ratnam, following their work together on 'Chekka Chivantha Vaanam'.

Ranbir Kapoor reveals Amitabh Bachchan records rap songs and bhajans at home



Actor Ranbir Kapoor has revealed that Amitabh Bachchan records rap songs and devotional bhajans at his private home studio, although he never releases the recordings.

Kapoor shared the detail while appearing on the quiz show 'Kaun Banega Crorepati' and discussing Bachchan's continued interest in music. Bachchan responded humorously, joking that his recordings might need pitch-correction technology to sound musical.

The veteran actor has previously sung several popular film songs, including 'Mere Paas Aao' from 'Mr. Natwarlal', 'Rang Barse' from 'Silsila', 'Mere Angne Mein' from 'Laawaris' and 'Ekla Cholo Re' from 'Kahaani'.

Guru Randhawa looks back on childhood dream ahead of 'Sirra Era' concert

Singer Guru Randhawa has recalled beginning his musical journey in third grade as he prepares for his upcoming concert, 'Sirra Era', in New Delhi. In an Instagram post, he said his childhood ambition was to sing for audiences around the world and expressed gratitude for the journey that led to his success.

Randhawa said he had spent the past few years working in the studio and was now ready to present his biggest musical vision. He described the concert as a celebration shared with his fans. 'Sirra Era' is scheduled for Saturday, December 12, at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

His recent releases include the romantic single '2 Eyes', featuring Nikita Dutta, which came out in September.

Meta removes Russell Brand's Instagram account after sexual assault convictions

Meta has removed British actor and comedian Russell Brand's Instagram account following his conviction for rape and sexual assault in the United Kingdom. A jury at London's Southwark Crown Court found Brand guilty on Thursday, November 5, of one count of rape and three counts of sexual assault involving four women. The offences took place between 2004 and 2009. He was sentenced on Monday to 10 years and six months in prison. Brand denied the charges and pleaded not guilty during the trial. His conviction followed a four-week court proceeding. The Metropolitan Police confirmed the verdict and sentence. Reports said his Instagram account was disabled for violating Meta's policies, while his account on X remained active.



Michael Douglas says family memories inspired his memoir 'One Helluva Ride'

Actor Michael Douglas says concerns about memory and family legacy prompted him to write his memoir, 'One Helluva Ride'. Appearing on 'The Graham Norton Show', he said he began reflecting on his life, his father Kirk Douglas's career and the films they made across more than eight decades.

Douglas said their combined film work amounted to about 135 movies and noted that all three of his children are actors. Researching family history dating back to 1944 helped him recover memories he had forgotten. The actor also reunited with his 'Fatal Attraction' co-star and longtime friend Glenn Close on the show while promoting his book.

Pawan Kalyan and Anna Konidela announce separation after 13 years

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and actor Pawan Kalyan and his wife, Anna Konidela, have announced their separation after 13 years of marriage. In a joint statement on Monday, the couple said they had decided to part ways with mutual understanding and respect. They added that they would remain friends and devoted parents, with their children's happiness and well-being their shared priority. They also requested privacy during the transition. Pawan Kalyan married Anna, a Russian national formerly known as Anna Lezhneva, in September 2013 in Hyderabad. The couple have two children. Their statement did not disclose the reason for their decision.



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

भीमा देवी मंदिर परिसर, पिंजौर

प्राचीन मंदिर स्थापत्य, शक्ति उपासना और इतिहास की अनमोल विरासत—उत्तर भारत का खजुराहो कहलाने वाले इस ऐतिहासिक मंदिर परिसर की यात्रा

आंध्र प्रदेश, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, असम, बिहार, छत्तीसगढ़, गोवा और गुजरात के प्रमुख मंदिरों की यात्रा के बाद **IndoUS Tribune** की "भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा" अब हरियाणा की धार्मिक और ऐतिहासिक विरासत को करीब से समझ रही है। हरियाणा अध्याय के पहले पड़ाव में हमने पंचकूला स्थित माता मनसा देवी मंदिर की शक्ति उपासना, दूसरे पड़ाव में कुरुक्षेत्र के पवित्र ब्रह्म सरोवर की धार्मिक महत्ता, तीसरे पड़ाव में गुरुग्राम के शीतला माता मंदिर की लोक आस्था और चौथे पड़ाव में थानेसर के प्राचीन स्थानेश्वर महादेव मंदिर की शिवभक्ति एवं ऐतिहासिक विरासत को जाना। अब इस यात्रा का पाँचवाँ पड़ाव है पंचकूला जिले के पिंजौर में स्थित प्राचीन भीमा देवी मंदिर परिसर, जो अपनी अद्भुत मूर्तिकला, मंदिर स्थापत्य, शक्ति परंपरा और समृद्ध ऐतिहासिक विरासत के कारण विशेष पहचान रखता है। अपनी उत्कृष्ट शिल्पकला के चलते इसे अक्सर 'उत्तर भारत का खजुराहो' भी कहा जाता है।



प्राचीन इतिहास से जुड़ा मंदिर परिसर

भीमा देवी मंदिर परिसर हरियाणा के पंचकूला जिले के पिंजौर नगर में स्थित एक महत्वपूर्ण पुरातात्विक स्थल है। इतिहासकारों और पुरातत्वविदों के अनुसार, इस मंदिर का निर्माण लगभग आठवीं से ग्यारहवीं शताब्दी ईस्वी के बीच गुर्जर-प्रतिहार काल में हुआ था। गुर्जर-प्रतिहार उत्तर भारत का एक शक्तिशाली राजवंश था, जिसने भारतीय कला, संस्कृति और मंदिर स्थापत्य के विकास में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया।

पुरातात्विक खोजों से इस क्षेत्र की प्राचीन धार्मिक और सांस्कृतिक समृद्धि का पता चलता है। वर्ष 1974 में यहां व्यापक खुदाई की गई, जिसमें मंदिर के अवशेष, स्थापत्य के विभिन्न हिस्से और सौ से अधिक प्राचीन मूर्तियां प्राप्त हुईं। इन खोजों ने इस स्थल को उत्तर भारत की मध्यकालीन मंदिर कला के महत्वपूर्ण केंद्रों में स्थापित किया।

मंदिर के निर्माण का संबंध कुछ ऐतिहासिक विवरणों में राजा रामदेव से भी जोड़ा जाता है, हालांकि इसके बारे में उपलब्ध प्रमाणों को निर्णायक नहीं माना जाता।

पंचायतन शैली की अद्भुत स्थापत्य कला

भीमा देवी मंदिर की सबसे महत्वपूर्ण विशेषताओं में इसकी पंचायतन स्थापत्य शैली शामिल है। इस शैली में मुख्य मंदिर के चारों ओर चार छोटे मंदिर बनाए जाते थे। इस प्रकार पांच मंदिरों का एक समग्र धार्मिक परिसर तैयार होता था।

खुदाई में प्राप्त पांच मंदिरों के आधार और उनके स्थापत्य अवशेष इस संरचना की पुष्टि करते हैं। यह शैली खजुराहो और भुवनेश्वर के कई प्राचीन मंदिरों में भी देखने को मिलती है।

मंदिर की बाहरी दीवारों पर देवी-देवताओं, अप्सराओं, गंधर्वों, पशु-पक्षियों, पुष्पों और सामाजिक जीवन से जुड़े अनेक दृश्य उकेरे गए थे। भगवान शिव, माता पार्वती, भगवान विष्णु, गणेश, कार्तिकेय, सूर्य, अग्नि और वरुण सहित विभिन्न देवी-देवताओं की मूर्तियां यहां से प्राप्त हुई हैं।

भीमा देवी: शक्ति उपासना की परंपरा

इस मंदिर का नाम भीमा देवी से जुड़ा हुआ है, जिन्हें शक्ति परंपरा की एक देवी के रूप में पूजा जाता है। देवी माहात्म्य में भीमादेवी के विशाल और शक्तिशाली स्वरूप का उल्लेख मिलता है। धार्मिक मान्यता के अनुसार, उन्होंने पश्चिमी हिमालय क्षेत्र में अपने विराट भीमरूप में प्रकट होकर ऋषियों और मुनियों की रक्षा की थी।

यह क्षेत्र हिमालय की शिवालिक पर्वत श्रृंखला के निकट स्थित है, इसलिए स्थानीय धार्मिक परंपराओं में भीमा देवी की उपासना का विशेष महत्व रहा है।

हालांकि मंदिर परिसर से भगवान शिव सहित अनेक देवी-देवताओं की मूर्तियां प्राप्त हुई हैं, लेकिन भीमा देवी के नाम से इसकी पहचान क्षेत्र की शक्ति उपासना और धार्मिक परंपराओं को दर्शाती है।



इन मूर्तियों की बारीक नक्काशी, भाव-भंगिमाएं और कलात्मक अभिव्यक्ति तत्कालीन शिल्पकारों की असाधारण प्रतिभा को दर्शाती हैं। कुछ मूर्तियों में तत्कालीन समाज और जीवन से जुड़े दृश्य भी दिखाई देते हैं। मंदिर की कुछ शिल्पाकृतियों में श्रृंगार और कामकला से संबंधित चित्रण मिलता है, जिसके कारण इसे उत्तर भारत का खजुराहो कहा जाता है।

पिंजौर का प्राचीन नाम और पांडवों की मान्यता

पिंजौर का इतिहास स्थानीय किंवदंतियों और प्राचीन परंपराओं से भी जुड़ा हुआ है। इस क्षेत्र का प्राचीन नाम 'पंचपुरा' बताया जाता है। स्थानीय मान्यता के अनुसार, महाभारत काल में पांडवों ने अपने वनवास के दौरान यहां कुछ समय बिताया था। इसी परंपरा से इस स्थान का नाम पिंजौर पड़ने की कथा प्रचलित है।

एक अन्य ऐतिहासिक पहचान के अनुसार, भीमा देवी मंदिर के कारण इस क्षेत्र को कभी 'भीमा नगर' भी कहा जाता था। हालांकि इन नामों और पांडवों से जुड़े प्रसंगों को ऐतिहासिक प्रमाणों की बजाय स्थानीय परंपराओं और मान्यताओं के रूप में देखना उचित है।

आक्रमण, विनाश और पिंजौर गार्डन का निर्माण

मंदिर परिसर का इतिहास केवल निर्माण और कला तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि यह मध्यकालीन राजनीतिक और धार्मिक परिवर्तनों का भी साक्षी रहा है।

ऐतिहासिक विवरणों के अनुसार, तेरहवीं शताब्दी से इस क्षेत्र में हुए आक्रमणों के दौरान प्राचीन मंदिरों को नुकसान पहुंचा। बाद के दौर में तैमूर के आक्रमण और मुगल शासन के समय भी इस क्षेत्र की धार्मिक और स्थापत्य विरासत प्रभावित हुई।

सत्रहवीं शताब्दी में मुगल शासक औरंगजेब के शासनकाल में सरहिंद के गवर्नर फिदाई खान ने यहां प्रसिद्ध पिंजौर गार्डन का निर्माण कराया। माना जाता है कि इसके निर्माण में ध्वस्त मंदिरों के कुछ पत्थरों और स्थापत्य अवशेषों का भी उपयोग किया गया। आज यह उद्यान यादवेंद्र गार्डन के नाम से भी जाना जाता है।

आज का भीमा देवी मंदिर परिसर

आज भीमा देवी मंदिर परिसर हरियाणा पुरातत्व एवं संग्रहालय विभाग द्वारा संरक्षित एक महत्वपूर्ण ऐतिहासिक धरोहर है। इसे एक खुले पुरातात्विक संग्रहालय के रूप में विकसित किया गया है, जहां खुदाई में प्राप्त अनेक मूर्तियों और स्थापत्य अवशेषों को व्यवस्थित ढंग से प्रदर्शित किया गया है।

इस परिसर को निकटवर्ती यादवेंद्र गार्डन के साथ जोड़ा गया है। यहां आने वाले पर्यटक प्राचीन मंदिर स्थापत्य, मूर्तिकला और पिंजौर के ऐतिहासिक उद्यानों को एक साथ देख सकते हैं।

भीमा देवी मंदिर परिसर आज भले ही एक सक्रिय पूजा स्थल की तुलना में अधिक एक संरक्षित पुरातात्विक धरोहर के रूप में जाना जाता हो, लेकिन इसकी ऐतिहासिक और सांस्कृतिक महत्ता अत्यंत विशिष्ट है। यह स्थल हमें याद दिलाता है कि भारत के मंदिर केवल आस्था के केंद्र नहीं, बल्कि हमारी कला, स्थापत्य, इतिहास और सभ्यता के जीवंत दस्तावेज भी हैं।

अगला पड़ाव — सालासर बालाजी मंदिर, चुलकाना धाम

हरियाणा में **IndoUS Tribune** की "भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा" का अगला पड़ाव होगा पानीपत जिले के समालखा के निकट चुलकाना गांव में स्थित प्रसिद्ध चुलकाना धाम का सालासर बालाजी मंदिर।

भगवान हनुमान को समर्पित यह पवित्र धाम श्रद्धालुओं की गहरी आस्था और भक्ति का प्रमुख केंद्र है। यहां हम मंदिर की धार्मिक मान्यताओं, पौराणिक प्रसंगों, ऐतिहासिक महत्व और हनुमान भक्तों के बीच इसकी विशेष पहचान को विस्तार से जानेंगे।

भीमा देवी मंदिर परिसर की प्राचीन स्थापत्य कला और ऐतिहासिक विरासत से आगे बढ़ते हुए अब हमारी यात्रा शक्ति उपासना और प्राचीन मंदिर संस्कृति से भगवान हनुमान की भक्ति और समर्पण की ओर अग्रसर होगी।

IndoUS Tribune की "भारत के मंदिरों की यात्रा" में अगले सप्ताह मिलते हैं—हरियाणा के एक और महत्वपूर्ण धार्मिक स्थल, चुलकाना धाम के सालासर बालाजी मंदिर में।

THE GREAT EPIC OF THE MAHABHARATA

THE STORY OF SHANTANU AND GANGA



Today, we begin our journey through the great epic of the Mahabharata. As its name suggests, the Mahabharata is the story of a great nation, Bharat. It tells the story of the descendants of King Bharata, the son of Dushyanta and Shakuntala, after whom our country came to be known as Bharat. It is the story of a land whose history gave birth to extraordinary personalities like Bhishma. It is also the story of a family in which love existed alongside the conflicts, rivalries and jealousies commonly found in human relationships. It portrays the blind attachment of a blind king and his queen toward their children. It brings together Lord Krishna and the wise, impartial Vidura. It tells us about powerful kings like Krishna, as well as poor Brahmins like Sudama, whose remarkable friendship remains without parallel. The Mahabharata reveals the extreme limits of family rivalry, but it also presents Karna's extraordinary and unconditional loyalty to his friend. It contains the episode of gambling and the deeply shameful incident in which a woman was staked and lost in a game of dice. It introduces us to warriors of unmatched courage, as well as helpless husbands who, despite being powerful and accomplished, find themselves unable to prevent injustice and sit defeated, holding their heads in despair.

It is the story of Arjuna, the world's greatest archer, who hesitates and refuses to fight in the face of war. It is also the story of his remarkable charioteer, Lord Krishna, who not only held the reins of Arjuna's horses but also guided the restless and despairing mind of humanity. The Mahabharata is the story of India, a land with a rich cultural and philosophical heritage that offered the world lessons in living a disciplined and dignified life. Through its account of family conflict, it also presents an enduring example of how balance, duty and responsibility can be maintained even in the most difficult circumstances. But where does this great story begin? It begins with the love story of King Shantanu and Goddess Ganga. One day, King Shantanu of Hastinapur went hunting. While wandering along the banks of the River Ganga, he saw an exceptionally beautiful woman who looked like a celestial nymph. Her name was also Ganga. The king was captivated by her beauty and momentarily lost all awareness of himself. In reality, Ganga was a daughter of the celestial world of Brahmaloka who had come to earth because of a curse. Unable to contain his feelings, Shantanu approached her and expressed his love. Ganga, too, found the king attractive and was pleased with him.

After a brief conversation, Shantanu proposed marriage. Ganga accepted his proposal but placed one condition before him. She told him that after their marriage, he must never question or object to anything she did, whatever it might be. Shantanu considered this a simple condition. Ganga further warned him that the day he stopped her from doing anything or questioned her actions, she would leave him immediately.

Deeply in love, Shantanu agreed to all her conditions without giving them much thought. He brought Ganga to his palace, and they were married according to royal traditions. Their married life was initially filled with happiness. Nearly two years later, a son was born to them, bringing joy throughout the kingdom. A few days after the birth, Ganga quietly took the infant in her arms and walked alone toward the River Ganga. Shantanu saw her leaving but did not ask where she was going or why. He was bound by the promise he had made. Instead, he sent his attendants to follow her and find out what she intended to do. They returned with shocking news: Ganga had immersed their newborn son in the river.

When Shantanu heard what had happened, he was deeply distressed. Yet, he felt helpless because his promise prevented him from questioning his wife. About a year later, Ganga gave birth to another son. A few days afterward, she once again carried the child to the river and immersed him in its waters. This continued over the years. One after another, seven sons were born to Shantanu and Ganga, and Ganga immersed all seven in the river. Shantanu suffered silently. Countless questions troubled his mind, and the pain of losing each child grew unbearable. Yet, he remained bound by the promise he had made. He could neither question Ganga nor stop her. His inner conflict had reached its limit. The following year, Ganga gave birth to their eighth son. When she once again began walking toward the river with the newborn in her arms, Shantanu could no longer restrain himself.

In deep anguish, he confronted her: "What kind of mother are you? How can you silently immerse your newborn children in the river? Does it not cause you any pain? Does your motherly love not question what you are doing?" Ganga stopped. She smiled gently and, remaining calm, said:

"King Shantanu, today you have broken your promise. You have saved this eighth child, but now I will reveal the secret behind these events. "I am Ganga, the daughter of Lord Brahma. Because of a curse, I was sent to live on earth. These eight children were also the celestial Vasus from Brahmaloka, who had been cursed to take birth on earth. I had to free them from this curse. That is why I did what destiny had ordained.

"However, this eighth child has not been freed from the curse. He will live as your son. I grant him the blessing of Ichchha Mrityu—the power to choose the time of his death. He will not die until he himself wishes to do so. "I name him Devavrata. Since he was born from my womb, the world will also know him as Gangaputra, the son of Ganga." After hearing the entire story, Shantanu experienced both happiness and sorrow. He was happy that he had saved at least one of his sons, but deeply saddened that he had broken the promise he had made to Ganga. With a heavy heart, he asked her to forgive him. But Ganga replied: "King Shantanu, I am now free from my curse and must return to Brahmaloka. I can no longer remain with you. I am taking this newborn child with me because he still needs his mother. After a few years, I will return and hand your son back to you."

Having said this, Ganga disappeared with the infant. Shantanu returned to his palace, overwhelmed by sadness. His heart was no longer in the affairs of the kingdom. Memories of Ganga constantly troubled him, and he often thought about the son who had been taken away. In this manner, sixteen years passed. One day, as he stood in his palace looking toward the River Ganga, he suddenly noticed a woman and a young man standing on its banks. Unable to contain his excitement, the king hurried toward them. As he approached, he recognized Ganga. Standing beside her was a handsome and graceful young prince. After greeting Shantanu, Ganga said: "Your Majesty, this is your son, Devavrata. I have raised him with the best care and guidance I could provide. He received his early education at the Gurukul of Sage Vashishtha, who imparted to him a profound knowledge of the scriptures and sacred teachings.

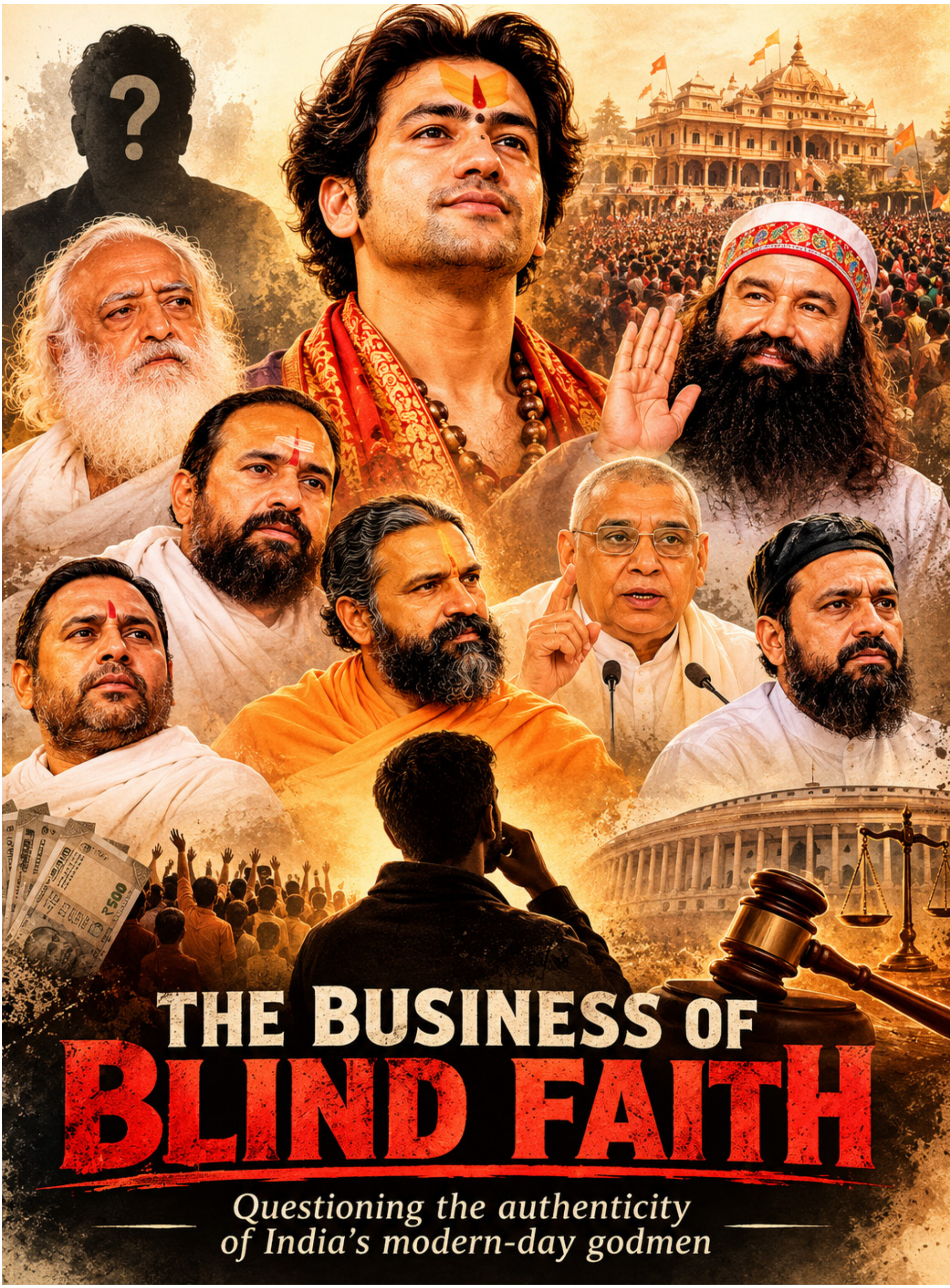
"Later, I sent him to the Ashram of Sage Parashurama to learn the art of warfare and the use of weapons. There, Lord Parashurama trained him to become an accomplished warrior. Today, he is prepared to face every challenge, whether small or great. "His time in Brahmaloka has now come to an end, and he will remain with you from this day forward. I have fulfilled my promise. Please take care of him. He will become a source of pride and glory for your dynasty."

King Shantanu was overwhelmed with joy at seeing his son, now a young and accomplished prince. Ganga, having fulfilled her promise, disappeared from their sight. Thus, Devavrata returned to his father, Shantanu, marking the beginning of a new chapter in the history of the Kuru dynasty. In time, he would become one of the most remarkable and revered figures in the Mahabharata—known to the world as Bhishma.

The story continues in the next episode.



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THE BUSINESS OF
BLIND FAITH
Questioning the authenticity
of India's modern-day godmen

Dr. Avi Verma

When spirituality becomes a business, devotion becomes currency and political patronage becomes protection, it is time for society to ask some uncomfortable questions. India has always been a land of saints, sages, spiritual teachers and profound religious traditions. Its spiritual heritage is one of its greatest treasures. Millions of people find comfort, strength and direction in their faith. But increasingly, a disturbing question deserves public attention: Are some of today's self-proclaimed Babas and miracle-performing godmen genuinely guiding people spiritually, or are they building personal empires by exploiting the faith, emotions and vulnerabilities of ordinary devotees?

The phenomenon is neither new nor confined to one religious organisation or political party. From Swami Dhirendra Brahmachari, who enjoyed extraordinary proximity to the corridors of political power during Indira Gandhi's era, to Asaram Bapu, Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh of Sirsa's Dera Sacha Sauda, and now the enormously popular Dhirendra Krishna Shastri of Bageshwar Dham, India's experience offers important lessons. These personalities have different histories and should not be placed in the same legal category. But their influence raises an important question about the relationship between religious authority, public trust and political power.

The question of manufactured miracles

What should concern society is the growing commercialisation of religious gatherings, where extraordinary claims, dramatic performances and seemingly miraculous predictions attract enormous crowds.

At some of these gatherings, devotees are made to believe that a Baba possesses supernatural knowledge of their personal lives, family problems and future. But how much of this is genuine spiritual insight, and how much could be psychological manipulation, advance information gathering or carefully orchestrated stagecraft?

There have also been allegations and suspicions surrounding the use of selected participants or planted individuals in audiences to create an impression of miraculous powers. These claims require independent investigation rather than blind acceptance or automatic dismissal.

When a spiritual leader claims supernatural abilities, why should independent examination and transparent demonstrations be unwelcome? Faith should never require people to surrender their ability to question.

The political patronage behind the phenomenon

Perhaps the most troubling aspect is the growing relationship between influential godmen and politicians. Political leaders, irrespective of party affiliation, frequently seek the blessings, endorsements and public platforms of popular religious personalities. The reason is hardly difficult to understand: a Baba commanding a massive following can potentially influence the political choices of thousands, sometimes millions, of devotees.

The relationship can become mutually beneficial. Politicians receive visibility and access to a concentrated voter base, while religious leaders gain recognition, privileged access, security and political legitimacy.

The Bageshwar Dham phenomenon illustrates this political attraction. Both Congress and BJP leaders have courted Dhirendra Krishna Shastri. Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath hosted his religious program in Chhindwara, while BJP leaders have also embraced him. The Madhya Pradesh government provided him Y-category security, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the February 2025 foundation-stone ceremony for the Bageshwar Dham Medical Science and Research Institute.

None of these developments, individually, establishes wrongdoing. But they raise a legitimate question: Should religious influence become a political instrument? Should public institutions and political leaders be so eager to endorse personalities whose extraordinary claims have not been independently established?

The troubling reality is that politicians who publicly oppose one another often appear equally willing to seek the blessings and endorsements of influential godmen when elections approach. Is this genuine respect for religion, or simply electoral arithmetic?

History should have taught us something

If history has taught us anything, it is that blind devotion and unquestioned authority can have devastating consequences. India has witnessed one self-proclaimed godman after another rise to extraordinary wealth, influence and political prominence, only to have serious criminal conduct exposed. Consider some of the most prominent examples.

Asaram Bapu: Once one of India's most influential spiritual leaders, with access to senior politicians and government leaders, he was convicted in 2018 of raping a minor girl and sentenced to imprisonment for the remainder of his life. In May 2026, the Rajasthan High Court upheld his life sentence, although it set aside certain other convictions, including gangrape and criminal conspiracy. His case remains a sobering reminder of the dangers of unquestioned religious authority.

Narayan Sai: Asaram's son, who established his own following, was convicted of raping a woman follower and sentenced to life imprisonment in 2019. In August 2026, the Supreme Court refused to suspend his sentence while his appeal remains pending.

Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh: The flamboyant head of Sirsa's Dera Sacha Sauda, who starred in his own films, cultivated a massive following and enjoyed considerable political attention, was convicted in 2017 in two rape cases involving women followers. He received a total sentence of 20 years in prison. His political influence was so significant that leaders from different parties sought his support and blessings before elections. It is important to note that the Punjab and Haryana High Court acquitted him in the journalist murder case in March 2026, overturning his earlier conviction in that case. His rape convictions, however, remain in force.

Sant Rampal: The self-styled spiritual leader from Haryana was convicted in 2018 in two murder cases arising from the 2014 confrontation at his Satlok Ashram. Five women and a child died during the standoff. He received life sentences in both cases. His sentences were subsequently suspended by the Punjab and Haryana High Court pending appeal, a distinction worth noting.

Swami Premananda: The founder of Premananda Ashram in Tamil Nadu was convicted of raping 13 women and murdering a man at his ashram. In 2005, the Supreme Court upheld his life sentences. He died in prison in 2011.

Santosh Madhavan, also known as Swami Amrit Chaitanya: The Kerala-based self-styled godman was convicted in 2009 of raping three minor girls and sentenced to 16 years of rigorous imprisonment. His case exposed the exploitation of vulnerable children under the cover of religious authority.

Mehndi Kasim: A Mumbai-based self-styled godman was convicted in 2016 of raping seven girls from the same family. A special court sentenced him to life imprisonment. He had allegedly promised their families that he could cure their sons' medical conditions and used that trust to exploit the girls.

These are not merely stories of individual misconduct. They raise a much larger question about the unchecked authority, wealth, political patronage and public influence that some religious personalities accumulate.

There is an important distinction between an allegation, an arrest and a conviction. Not every controversial Baba is a criminal, and every case must be judged on its evidence and legal outcome. But the number of convictions involving individuals who once enjoyed extraordinary public reverence should be enough to make society pause and reflect.

And yet, despite these repeated examples, the phenomenon continues.

New Babas emerge, enormous congregations gather, claims of supernatural powers attract millions of viewers, and politicians line up to seek blessings and endorsements. The same cycle of unquestioning devotion, celebrity status, political access and financial empire-building appears to repeat itself.

And what about today's Bageshwar Baba?

Dhirendra Krishna Shastri has acquired enormous popularity through his Divya Darbars, public discourses and claims of extraordinary insight. His growing influence, public pronouncements and political associations deserve scrutiny, particularly because millions of people regard him as a spiritual authority.

His recent controversy over remarks about Lord Krishna, followed by an apology, has also raised questions about the responsibility that comes with occupying such an influential religious platform. The issue is not whether someone should be allowed to preach, organize religious gatherings or promote Hindu traditions. They absolutely should. The issue is whether extraordinary claims, public conduct, financial dealings and the use of religious influence should remain beyond scrutiny.

If a person claims divine powers, why should asking for evidence be considered an attack on religion? And why should questioning an individual Baba be equated with questioning Hinduism itself?

It is time to separate faith from exploitation

The real victims of this growing phenomenon are often innocent, God-fearing people who approach these personalities with genuine problems, desperation and hope. They deserve compassion, not manipulation. Sometimes, people facing illness, financial hardship, family problems or personal crises are particularly vulnerable. When conventional systems fail to provide answers, they turn to spiritual figures for comfort. That trust must never become an opportunity for exploitation.

The government must ensure that religious organizations operate transparently, financial activities are accountable, and no individual enjoys immunity from investigation simply because millions of people consider him a spiritual authority.

Equally, politicians must stop treating godmen as convenient vote banks. A leader's responsibility is to serve citizens, not seek electoral advantages through religious endorsements.

India does not need fewer saints. It needs greater discernment in recognising them. True spirituality is reflected in humility, compassion, knowledge, sacrifice and character. It does not depend on manufactured miracles, elaborate stages, celebrity appearances, political endorsements or unquestioning crowds.

The question every devotee should ask is simple: **Am I following a genuine spiritual guide, or am I becoming part of someone's carefully constructed business empire?**

Faith is a personal strength. Blind faith, when exploited, can become someone else's most profitable business.

ARYA SAMAJ CHICAGO Celebrates Diwali

AND RISHI NIRVAN DIVAS WITH VEDIC TRADITIONS AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

By: Ashwani Mahajan



Arya Samaj Chicago celebrated Diwali, the festival of lights, along with Rishi Nirvan Divas, in a spiritually enriching and festive gathering that highlighted Vedic traditions, the teachings of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati and the importance of community participation. The program began with a traditional Havan conducted by Mukand Ji, creating a peaceful and devotional atmosphere. This was followed by an insightful pravachan by Dr. Anand Kumar Ji, who spoke about Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati Ji's teachings on truth, justice and righteousness. He encouraged attendees to embrace the principles of truth and make them an integral part of their daily lives.

A special highlight of the celebration was the participation of young members, reflecting the growing interest among the next generation in Vedic traditions. Yaji Shastri, one of the youngest members of Arya Samaj Chicago, beautifully chanted Vedic mantras solo during the children's program, earning appreciation from those present. The children's activities added color and enthusiasm to the celebration. Young participants painted diyas and took part in a candle walk, sharing the timeless Vedic message:

"Asato Ma Sadgamaya, Tamaso Ma Jyotirgamaya" — Lead us from untruth to truth and from darkness to light. The activities reinforced the spiritual significance of Diwali while encouraging children to understand and appreciate India's cultural and religious heritage.

The celebration also reflected a strong spirit of teamwork and community service. Sarla Dhaiya appreciated the kitchen team for preparing and serving a delicious Diwali lunch. Special thanks were extended to Suversha Ji and Chander Sehgal Ji for generously sponsoring the meal, which was also arranged in celebration of Chander Sehgal Ji's birthday.

Arya Samaj Chicago President Dr. Ashok Mehta thanked all members, volunteers and participants for making the celebration memorable. He acknowledged the contributions of those who worked behind the scenes, emphasizing that their dedication and collective efforts make such community programs possible.





Brijesh Malhotra, Treasurer of Arya Samaj Chicago, announced the names of the donors and expressed gratitude for their generous contributions and continued support.

The celebration concluded on a warm and joyful note, bringing together spirituality, cultural education and community fellowship. By combining the observance of Diwali with Rishi Nirvan Divas, Arya Samaj Chicago reaffirmed its commitment to promoting Vedic values and passing the teachings of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati to future generations.

UTTARAKHAND ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO CELEBRATES DIWALI WITH A VIBRANT SHOWCASE OF PAHADI HERITAGE

By: Jayanti Oza

The Uttarakhand Association of Chicago (UAC) brought the spirit of Diwali and the rich cultural heritage of Uttarakhand to the Chicago area with a grand celebration at Ashyana Banquets, bringing together families, community members and guests for an evening of traditional music, folk dances, cultural performances and festive camaraderie.

The celebration highlighted the distinctive identity of Uttarakhand through a colorful presentation of Pahadi traditions, including folk dances, a traditional fashion walk, live music, interactive trivia, and community entertainment.

The evening opened with a social gathering, followed by a traditional Doli Yatra of Maa Nanda Devi, reflecting the deep religious faith and spiritual traditions of the Himalayan state. The ceremonial lighting of diyas was performed by UAC President Mohan Rawat, board members and distinguished guests Dr. Ajit Pant and Manesh Shastri.

The American and Indian national anthems, recited by Neha Bhatt, added a meaningful touch to the celebration, reflecting the community's connection to both its adopted homeland and its cultural roots.



The Uttarakhand Association of Chicago (UAC) celebrated Diwali 2026 with great enthusiasm and festive spirit at Ashyana Banquets, Illinois.



Doli Yatra of Maa Nanda Devi, symbolizing faith, devotion, blessings, and spiritual heritage of Uttarakhand.

Promoting cultural heritage and community unity

Welcoming the gathering, UAC President Mohan Rawat, accompanied by his wife, Arti Rawat, extended Diwali greetings and emphasized the importance of community engagement and preserving Uttarakhand's cultural traditions for future generations.

He highlighted the association's commitment to bringing people together and providing younger generations with opportunities to remain connected to their ancestral heritage.

A major attraction was the cultural program featuring traditional Pahadi folk dances, solo and couple performances, and musical presentations by community members. Performers included Chetna Pant, Sonali Kapoor, Arti Rawat, Rajeshwari Rawat, Kiran Rawat, Garima Rawat, Vivek Rawat, Hema Singh, Saurabh Singh, Hema Bora, Tara Bhandari and Neha Bhatt. The performances celebrated Uttarakhand's folk traditions and received enthusiastic applause from the audience.

Pahadi fashion walk highlights regional identity

The traditional Pahadi Fashion Walk was another highlight, showcasing the region's distinctive attire, colorful designs and cultural identity. The presentation offered attendees a glimpse into Uttarakhand's traditional clothing and the diversity of its cultural heritage.

Live singing by Vivek Rawat added to the musical atmosphere, while an interactive Uttarakhand trivia session, hosted by emcee Jassi Parmar, engaged guests with questions about the state's history, geography and traditions.

The celebration also featured raffle prize giveaways hosted by Past President Harish Chauhan and Jiya Chauhan. Participating vendors were recognized for their support and contributions to the event.

An evening of celebration and togetherness

Following dinner, DJ Bharat Ojha brought the evening to life with popular music, drawing families and community members onto the dance floor. The celebration continued with dancing and socializing, creating an atmosphere of joy and togetherness.

The event underscored the important role played by diaspora organizations in preserving regional Indian identities while strengthening community bonds in the United States. For the Uttarakhand community, celebrations such as these provide an opportunity to pass cultural traditions, language, music and values to younger generations growing up away from their ancestral homeland.

Through its annual cultural and community initiatives, the Uttarakhand Association of Chicago continues to promote Pahadi heritage and foster a stronger sense of belonging among Uttarakhand residents and their families in the Chicago area.

The Diwali celebration concluded on a festive note, bringing together the warmth of the festival of lights with the music, traditions and cultural pride of Uttarakhand.



One of the major highlights of the evening was the spectacular cultural program.

HINDU HERITAGE MONTH RECOGNITION ACROSS AMERICA MARKS PROUD MOMENT FOR HINDU COMMUNITY

Illinois communities seek recognition as states and local governments honor Hindu heritage in October 2026

By: Dr. Avi Verma

The growing recognition of Hindu Heritage Month across the United States is a proud moment for Hindu Americans, reflecting increasing public acknowledgment of their ancient spiritual traditions, cultural heritage and contributions to American society.

In Illinois, a proposed Cook County Board resolution sought to recognize October 2026 as Hindu Heritage Month, highlighting the contributions of Hindu Americans to science, medicine, business, politics and industry. However, the county's official legislative record lists the measure as "Agenda Ready," with no final action recorded.

A separate Illinois Senate resolution proposing the observance statewide was referred to the Assignments Committee in January 2026 and was not shown as adopted in the official record.

States and cities issue 2026 proclamations

Elsewhere in the country, several governments have formally recognized the observance.

North Carolina Governor Josh Stein signed a proclamation declaring October 2026 Hindu Heritage Month and November 8 Diwali in the state. The proclamation, dated September 25, recognizes the contributions of Hindu Americans to North Carolina's economy, history and culture.

Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers also included Hindu Heritage Month in the state's official list of October 2026 proclamations.

At the municipal level, Statesville, North Carolina, proclaimed October 2026 Hindu Heritage Month and November 8 Diwali Day. Mayor J. Douglas Hendrix signed the proclamation on October 20, emphasizing the importance of cultural understanding, respect and the contributions of Hindu residents.

The 2026 proclamation archive also lists Georgia and the California cities of Redlands and Lathrop among jurisdictions recognizing Hindu Heritage Month.

Celebrating Hindu heritage and contributions

Hinduism is one of the world's oldest living religious traditions, encompassing a rich legacy of philosophy, literature, spiritual practices and cultural expressions. Its teachings include concepts such as dharma, karma, ahimsa and the interconnectedness of life. Yoga and meditation, rooted in Indian spiritual traditions, have also reached audiences worldwide.

For Hindu Americans, Heritage Month provides an opportunity to educate the wider public, preserve traditions for younger generations and strengthen understanding among communities of different backgrounds.

Hindu Americans have contributed to American life across medicine, technology, education, entrepreneurship, public service, arts and culture. Their achievements reflect the role of immigrant communities in enriching the nation while maintaining their cultural identities.

For the Hindu community, official proclamations offer an opportunity to celebrate its heritage and make its history more visible in public life.

As recognition continues across states and municipalities, Hindu Heritage Month provides a platform for cultural education, community engagement and greater understanding of Hindu traditions across America.



GOVERNORS ACROSS SIX U.S. STATES CELEBRATE DIWALI AND RECOGNIZE INDIAN AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS

By: Vandana Jhingan

Governors across six U.S. states joined Indian American communities in celebrating Diwali in 2026, recognizing the community's contributions to their states and highlighting the festival's message of unity, gratitude, cultural heritage and friendship.

The celebrations took place in Idaho, Nebraska, Montana, North Dakota, Washington and Oregon, with governors hosting events at state capitols and official residences. Organized by the Consulate General of India in Seattle in partnership with Indian American community leaders, the initiative brought together elected officials, diplomats and community representatives.

In Washington, Governor Bob Ferguson hosted a Diwali celebration at the State Capitol Rotunda in Olympia on November 4. He also issued a proclamation designating November 8, 2026, as "Diwali, the Festival of Lights Day." Ferguson highlighted Washington's large Indian American population and praised the community's contributions to the state's development.

Nebraska Governor Jim Pillen welcomed Indian American families to the Governor's Mansion in Lincoln on October 20. He described the community as an important part of Nebraska and connected Diwali's values of family unity, reflection and gratitude with the state's spirit of neighbors helping neighbors. Encouraging families to preserve their traditions, he urged them: "Never, ever, ever let the light go out."

At the North Dakota Governor's Residence in Bismarck on October 29, Governor Kelly Armstrong emphasized the strong people-to-people relationship between India and North Dakota. He highlighted cooperation in international relations, trade, state partnerships and diplomacy, while stressing the importance of human connections.

Idaho Governor Brad Little hosted the celebration at the State Capitol in Boise on October 16. He recognized Indian Americans for strengthening the state's economy and communities through business, professional achievements, public service and civic involvement.



Bob Ferguson, Governor of Washington



Don Bacon, United States Representative

In Montana, Governor Greg Gianforte and the first lady welcomed guests to the Governor's Mansion in Helena on October 26. Gianforte emphasized the importance of bringing people from different cultural backgrounds together and building lasting, mutually beneficial relationships.

The Nebraska celebration also featured remarks by U.S. Representative Don Bacon, who praised Indian Americans for making the country stronger and better, noting America's diversity of more than 200 ethnic backgrounds.

Oregon Governor Tina Kotek hosted the sixth state-level Diwali celebration at the State Capitol in Salem on November 10, completing the series of celebrations across the six states.

The celebrations reflected the growing recognition of Diwali in American public life and the contributions of Indian Americans to business, public service, cultural diversity and community development. They also highlighted the expanding cultural and people-to-people connections between India and the United States.



Greg Gianforte, Governor of Montana



Brad Little, Governor of Idaho



Kelly Armstrong, Governor of North Dakota





BETWEEN CINEMATIC SPECTACLE A
THE DEBATE OVER 'RA

As Nitesh Tiwari's ambitious adaptation reaches global audiences, ques and cultural representation are shaping the conversati

Staff Writer, IndoUS Tribune

Nitesh Tiwari's 'Ramayana: Part One' has brought one of India's most revered epics to cinemas worldwide, combining an ambitious production scale with an international creative team. Released on Thursday, November 5, the film stars Ranbir Kapoor as Rama, Sai Pallavi as Sita and Yash as Ravana. Produced by Namit Malhotra, with visual effects by DNEG and music by Hans Zimmer and A.R. Rahman, the two-part project has reportedly collected approximately Rs. 935 crore worldwide in its opening week. Its reported production budget of Rs.4,000 crore makes it one of the most ambitious undertakings in Indian cinema.

Yet, alongside its commercial success, the film has sparked debate over the responsibilities involved in adapting sacred narratives for contemporary audiences. For millions of Hindus, the Ramayana is not simply an ancient literary epic but a living spiritual and cultural tradition that continues to shape religious beliefs, moral values and family traditions.

The question of scriptural fidelity

Some of the strongest criticism has come from personalities associated with India's earlier television adaptations of its great epics.

Veteran actor Nitish Bharadwaj, remembered for portraying Lord Krishna in B.R. Chopra's 'Mahabharat', withdrew his initial appreciation of the project after watching the film. He questioned its portrayal of Ravana, arguing that presenting him as a liberal and socially just ruler risked altering the epic's moral framework and weakening its central message of dharma triumphing over adharma.

Actor Mukesh Khanna has also questioned the depiction of Sita as a warrior, arguing that it departs from his understanding of the revered character. Sunil Lahri, who played Lakshmana in Ramanand Sagar's 'Ramayan', expressed disappointment over the omission of the Ahalya episode and changes to the Parashurama encounter, while questioning whether the adaptation retained sufficient devotional depth.

Other reviews have raised questions about the treatment of Surpanakha and changes to her interaction with Rama and Lakshmana. Such criticism highlights a larger concern: whether a visually ambitious adaptation can preserve the spiritual and moral foundations that have made the Ramayana meaningful across generations. These are individual interpretations, not a consensus among Hindu scholars or religious communities. Nevertheless, they form an important part of the public debate.

The casting debate and personal faith

The controversy has also extended to Kapoor's casting. An observation he made during a 2011 interview, in which he described himself as a fan of mutton, paya and beef, resurfaced when his selection as Lord Rama became public.

Some critics questioned his suitability to portray a deity revered by millions, while others argued that an actor's personal food preferences should not determine his ability to perform a role. The issue also drew attention in 2022, when protests over his earlier remark reportedly prevented Kapoor from entering the Mahakaleshwar Temple in Ujjain. The debate resurfaced during preparations for the film, with singer Chinmayi Sripaada defending Kapoor's casting and other public figures questioning it.

At San Diego Comic-Con in July 2026, Kapoor acknowledged the responsibility of portraying Lord Rama and said that audiences would inevitably have different expectations of the actor chosen for the role. He emphasized the importance of intention, belief and faith in approaching the character. The disagreement reflects a broader question: should portraying a revered religious figure be judged primarily through an actor's performance and preparation, or should personal conduct and spiritual alignment also influence public acceptance?

Artistic freedom versus religious responsibility

The Ramayana has travelled through centuries of retellings, finding expression in different languages, regional traditions, literature, theater and television. The Valmiki Ramayana, Tulsidas's Ramcharitmanas and numerous regional versions reflect different literary and devotional approaches to the epic.

This diversity gives filmmakers room to interpret familiar episodes and introduce cinematic elements. Tiwari's adaptation, for instance, gives Sita a more active role, including scenes involving weapons and combat. The filmmaker has also referred to the Adbhut Ramayan as an inspiration for aspects of her portrayal.

Similarly, the film explores Ravana's



AND SACRED TRADITION AMAYANA'

tions about artistic freedom, religious sensitivity ion among Hindu communities.

leadership and political outlook, including his vision of an egalitarian society. While some viewers may welcome a more layered antagonist, others fear that such a portrayal could overshadow the consequences of his actions.

An India Today analysis published on Wednesday, November 11, offered a different perspective, arguing that the film should also be considered for the contemporary questions it introduces rather than judged solely by its adherence to familiar adaptations. There is a legitimate place for creative freedom in cinema. However, that freedom also comes with a responsibility to understand the religious and cultural significance of the material being adapted. The issue is not whether every scene must reproduce one particular text word for word, but whether the interpretation respects the epic's central values and character foundations.

Why the debate matters to the diaspora

For Hindu families in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, the discussion carries an additional dimension.

Younger generations often encounter Indian epics through family traditions, temple activities, cultural programs and digital entertainment. Cinema can make these stories accessible to children who may otherwise have limited exposure to traditional texts.

A major international production offers an opportunity to introduce the Ramayana to audiences unfamiliar with its characters and teachings. However, accessibility and accuracy are not necessarily the same.

Parents and educators may need to explain that a film is one interpretation of a much larger literary and spiritual tradition, rather than a definitive account of every scriptural version.

The wider work of Hindu advocacy organizations also provides context for the importance of religious representation in North America. The Hindu American Foundation and the Coalition of Hindus of North America have endorsed the bipartisan Right to Worship Act, introduced in the United States Congress in August 2026.

The proposed legislation seeks to protect access to religious services from intimidation and disruption. Although unrelated to the film controversy, it reflects broader concerns surrounding religious freedom and the ability of Hindu communities to preserve and practise their traditions.

Ahead of the film's release, Nevada-based Hindu community leader Rajan Zed, president of the Universal Society of Hinduism, called for a special screening before an international panel of Hindu scholars and religious experts.

He described the proposed engagement as an opportunity for constructive dialogue rather than censorship. The Shri Ramlila Mahasangh in India also sought a preview, raising concerns about the representation of revered characters.

Beyond box office numbers

The film's commercial performance is significant for Indian cinema, demonstrating the industry's growing ambition to present Indian stories on a global scale. However, commercial success and cultural acceptance are two different measures of achievement.

The debate also recalls Om Raut's 'Adipurush', released in 2023, which faced criticism over its dialogue, characterisation and visual interpretation of the epic.

Ultimately, filmmakers need not choose between artistic ambition and religious sensitivity. Advanced technology, international production standards and contemporary storytelling can coexist with respect for the traditions behind a narrative.

For the global Hindu community, the Ramayana is much more than a story to be retold. It is a living tradition whose lessons about duty, sacrifice, compassion, devotion and the triumph of dharma have endured across generations.

Taking it to a worldwide audience is an opportunity to introduce those values to millions more. The real measure of this cinematic undertaking will therefore extend beyond box office collections and visual achievements to whether it encourages audiences across cultures and generations to engage more deeply with the timeless tradition behind the story.



HEALTHY AGING, HEALTHY LIVING SERIES

PART 8 – THE IMMUNE SYSTEM: HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM INFECTION

UNDERSTANDING AGE-RELATED CHANGES IN IMMUNITY, VACCINATIONS AND EVERYDAY PROTECTION

By Dr. Avi Verma

In the earlier installments of our Healthy Aging, Healthy Living series, we explored the importance of heart health, brain function, physical activity, nutrition and quality sleep in maintaining a longer, healthier and more independent life. Another essential pillar of healthy aging is a properly functioning immune system. Our immune system protects us against infections and diseases, but its effectiveness can change as we grow older. Chronic medical conditions, medications and lifestyle choices can further influence our ability to fight infections. Understanding these changes, practicing preventive habits and staying current with recommended vaccinations can help protect our health and preserve independence.

1. Understanding the immune system

The immune system is a network of cells, tissues and organs that protects the body against harmful viruses, bacteria, fungi and other pathogens. It includes white blood cells, antibodies, bone marrow, lymph nodes and organs such as the spleen and thymus. Together, these components recognize harmful organisms, fight infections and help develop protection against future exposure. However, immunity changes throughout life. As we age, certain immune responses become slower and less effective, increasing vulnerability to infections and complications.

2. How aging changes immunity

The gradual age-related decline in immune function is called immunosenescence.

As we grow older:

- The effectiveness of T-cells and B-cells declines, weakening the body's response to new infections.
- Antibody responses may become less effective, sometimes reducing vaccine protection.
- Wound healing and recovery from illness may take longer.
- Chronic, low-grade inflammation, known as inflammaging, may increase.

These changes help explain why older adults face greater risks of complications from influenza, pneumonia, COVID-19 and other infections. However, serious infections are not an inevitable part of aging. Preventive care can make an important difference.

3. Chronic diseases and immunity

Certain medical conditions can further compromise the body's defenses.

- **Diabetes:** Poorly controlled blood sugar can impair immune responses and increase infection risks.
- **Heart and lung disease:** Conditions such as heart failure, COPD and asthma increase the risk of complications from respiratory infections.



- **Kidney and liver disease:** These conditions can affect immune function and recovery.
- **Cancer and autoimmune disorders:** Certain diseases and their treatments can interfere with normal immune responses.
- **Medications:** Steroids, chemotherapy and some medications used for organ transplants or autoimmune conditions can suppress immunity.

Managing chronic conditions and reviewing medications regularly are important components of infection prevention.

4. Adult Vaccinations: Protection at every age

Healthy habits support general immune health, but they cannot teach the body to recognize specific disease-causing organisms. Vaccines train the immune system to recognize and fight particular infections without requiring exposure to the full disease.

Vaccination needs change with age, medical conditions and previous vaccination history. Important vaccines to discuss with your physician include:

- **Influenza:** Annual seasonal vaccination helps reduce flu complications.
- **COVID-19:** Updated vaccination recommendations depend on age, health status and previous doses.
- **Pneumococcal:** Protects against serious infections, including certain forms of pneumonia and bloodstream infections.
- **Shingles:** The two-dose vaccine is generally recommended for adults aged 50 and older and certain immunocompromised adults.
- **RSV:** Recommended for eligible older adults and certain younger adults at increased risk.
- **Tdap/Td:** Protects against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis.
- **Hepatitis B:** Recommended according to age, medical history and individual risk factors.

Adults with diabetes, heart disease, chronic lung or kidney disease, cancer or weakened immunity may need additional protection or different vaccination timing.

Important: There is no single vaccination schedule suitable for everyone. Ask your physician to review your vaccination history and recommend an individualized schedule based on current CDC guidance.

5. Everyday habits that support immunity

Vaccinations are important, but daily habits also play a significant role in maintaining immune health.

- **Nutrition:** Eat a balanced diet containing vegetables, fruits, whole grains, lean proteins, beans, nuts and healthy fats. Adequate protein and essential nutrients support normal immune function.
- **Sleep:** Most adults need at least seven hours of quality sleep nightly. Consistent sleep supports immune responses.
- **Physical Activity:** Aim for approximately 150 minutes of moderate exercise weekly, adjusted to your age and medical condition.
- **Avoid Smoking and Excessive Alcohol:** Smoking damages respiratory defenses, while excessive alcohol consumption can impair immune function.
- **Manage Stress and Chronic Conditions:** Regular medical care and appropriate treatment of underlying illnesses support overall health.

Avoid unnecessary high-dose vitamin supplements unless medically recommended.

6. Reduce exposure to infection

Simple preventive measures can significantly reduce exposure to infectious organisms:

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol when soap and water are unavailable.
- Cover coughs and sneezes and avoid close contact with sick individuals.
- Improve indoor ventilation, particularly in crowded spaces.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces.
- Stay home when sick and seek medical advice when symptoms develop, particularly if you are at increased risk.

7. Your annual immune health checklist

Make infection prevention part of your regular healthcare routine. At least once a year, discuss these questions with your physician:

1. Are my age-appropriate vaccinations current?
2. Do my medical conditions increase my risk of infection?
3. Could any of my medications weaken my immune system?
4. Am I getting adequate nutrition, sleep and physical activity?
5. Do I need additional preventive measures or early treatment if I develop an infection?

Older adults and individuals with weakened immunity should seek prompt medical advice for fever, breathing difficulties, unusual weakness or other concerning symptoms. Sudden confusion or deterioration can also signal a serious infection.

Conclusion: Prevention Is the best protection

Healthy aging is not simply about living longer; it is about maintaining strength, independence and quality of life. A properly supported immune system plays an essential role in that journey. Good nutrition, regular exercise, adequate sleep, hygiene, management of chronic diseases and appropriate vaccinations work together to reduce the risk of serious infections. Do not assume that frequent illness or slow recovery is simply a normal part of getting older. Prevention, awareness and timely medical care can make a meaningful difference.

In **Part 9 of IndoUS Tribune's Healthy Aging, Healthy Living series**, we will address another important issue: **Medicines After 50: Taking the Right Medicine the Right Way.** We will examine polypharmacy, drug interactions, over-the-counter medications, supplements and the importance of regular medication reviews to ensure that the medicines we take help us stay healthy rather than create additional risks.

***Medical Disclaimer:* This article is intended for general educational and informational purposes only. It is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Readers should consult their physician or another qualified healthcare professional regarding medical conditions, symptoms, medications, exercise programs, dietary changes or screening and vaccination recommendations. Do not begin, stop or change any medication or treatment without professional medical guidance. In case of a medical emergency, seek immediate medical attention.**

PERSONAL FINANCE INSIGHTS: NEWS & FEATURES

MINI FEATURE: INDIAN PHARMA - SUN PHARMA

Dr. K C Gupta,
YBB Personal Finance



WEEKLY DATA
CONTRARIAN INDICATORS

AAII Bull-Bear Spread -14.3% (low)
CNN Fear & Greed Index 22 (extreme fear)
NYSE %Above 50-dMA 44.80% (negative)
SP500 %Above 50-dMA 62.00% (positive)

ICI Fund Allocations (Cumulative), 9/30/26
OEFs & ETFs: Stocks 63.30%, Hybrids 3.81%, Bonds 16.73%, M-Mkt 16.16%

INTEREST RATES

CME FedWatch
Cycle peak 5.25-5.50%
Current 3.75-4.00%
FOMC 12/9/26+ hike
FOMC 1/27/27+ hold

Treasury

T-Bills 3-mo yield 4.19%, 1-yr 4.33%; T-Notes 2-yr 4.51%, 5-yr 4.64%, 10-yr 4.86%; T-Bonds 30-yr 5.26%;
TIPS/Real yields 5-yr 2.35%, 10-yr 2.63%, 30-yr 3.07%
FRNs Index 4.082%

Bank Rates www.depositaccounts.com/

Stable-Value (SV) Rates, 11/1/26
TIAA Traditional Annuity (Accumulation) Rates
Restricted RC 5.75%, RA 5.50%
Flexible RCP 5.00%, SRA 4.75%, IRA-101110+ 4.75%
TIAA MYGA 5.50% (3-yr), 5.65% (5-yr), 5.70% (7-yr)
TSP G Fund 5.00% (previous 5.375%)

India Fear & Greed MMI 77.16 (extreme greed)
Weekly ETFs: INDA +6.64%, EPI +6.03%, INDH +5.34%, SMIN +3.68% | SPY -2.70%

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

NEWS

US midterm elections flipped House & Senate to Democrats. Resulting moderation in US policies should benefit India & its markets had a relief rally.

ENERGY

India is #3 in global oil refining capacity & #2 in refined petroleum product exports after several Russian refineries were damaged. Reliance dual-refinery in Jamnagar is the largest in the world. US Secretary of State RUBIO recently called India a refining superpower. India has been playing an important role in the global oil supply-chain by exporting refined petroleum products. That's one reason why US has taken wait & see approach as India adjusts sources of its crude oil import (Middle East, Russia, Venezuela, etc).

FINANCIALS

Indian Supremes rejected the appeal by YES Bank & RBI on the wipeout of AT-1 bonds because in the specific 2020 legislation used by administrator for rescue, that RBI power was missing in the final version due to industry opposition (it was only in the draft version); Bombay HC previously ruled in favor of bondholders.

Supremes said they can't have it both ways - make industry happy with a final weak version, but use the stronger draft version to wipe out AT-1 bond holders. Now the reinstated AT-1 bonds have to dealt with in a different way - phased write-down or conversion to equity. The new 24.99% owner of Yes Bank, Japanese SMBC (part of Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group), won't be happy. Other global financials jumping into Indian financials (banking, insurance, fintech) will also be watching with interest.

This may lead to confidence issues - if RBI & Gov actions or representations cannot be relied upon, or can be reversed by courts later.

FEATURE: INDIAN PHARMA - SUN PHARMA

Indian pharma has become a big global business. Many drug APIs (advanced pharma ingredients) are made in India or imported from China, generic (mostly) & prescription (some) drugs are produced & shipped globally, directly or through Middle East.

It became clear by news recently when (i) US sanctions mostly exempted pharma, (ii) due to Iran war, many pharma shipments procured by Middle Eastern traders were stuck in ME warehouses when Hormuz shipping was disrupted - & people asked, why sudden pharma shortages?

The argument that US high drug prices support drug R&D doesn't apply to imported drugs & large profits are just pocketed by US middlemen - drug distributors & PBMs (pharmacy benefits managers). India-sourced drugs are much cheaper in Europe & Canada than in US.

India has almost become the world's pharmacy but many of its top 10 pharma companies aren't familiar names (#5 or #6 Dr Reddy's/RDY trades in US). India has 650+ US-FDA approved drug manufacturing facilities. The biggest, SUN PHARMA, is featured here.

Sun Pharma was founded by Dilip SHANGHVI (71) in 1983 & it was listed in 1994. It grew rapidly with domestic & foreign M&A, including several US pharma acquisitions (Caraco, 1997; Taro, controlling stake in 2010, full ownership in 2024; DUSA & URL, 2012; Ocular, 2016; Concert & 60% stake in Vivaldis, 2023; Checkpoint, 2025; Organon, 2026). It has some licensing agreements with US Merck/MRK & others.

It spun off its advanced R&D unit SPARC that's separately listed in India; Shanghvi Finance & Shanghvi family have controlling stakes.

Dilip S avoids limelight & there is a book about him, "reluctant Billionaire". He can probably walk the streets unrecognized. His son Aalok & daughter Vidhi work for Sun Pharma.

Many Indian immigrants in US may have kids older than Sun Pharma & can be excused if they never heard of it - until now.



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





WINTER

SKINCARE SECRETS FOR CALM, HYDRATED AND GLOWING SKIN

Cold winds, indoor heating and hot showers can leave skin feeling tight, irritated and flaky. A few thoughtful skincare swaps can help keep your complexion soft, calm and comfortably hydrated all season.



Winter may bring cozy sweaters and festive celebrations, but it can be particularly harsh on your skin. Cold air, low humidity, chilly winds and indoor heating can weaken the skin's moisture barrier, leaving it red, dry, itchy and uncomfortable. The secret to winter beauty is not an elaborate routine, but one that focuses on replenishing moisture and protecting the skin.

Start with a gentle cleanse. Swap harsh, foaming face washes for a mild, fragrance-free cream or lotion cleanser. Avoid washing your face with hot water, as it can strip away natural oils and worsen dryness. Lukewarm water is a better choice.

Layer on the hydration. Apply a moisturizer while your skin is slightly damp to help seal in moisture. Look for ingredients such as ceramides, hyaluronic acid, glycerin and shea butter. If your skin feels particularly dry, a richer cream can offer extra comfort and protection.

Never skip sunscreen. Winter sunlight can still damage your skin. Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher every morning, including on cloudy days.

Give your lips and hands extra care. Keep a nourishing lip balm handy and apply a thick hand cream after washing your hands. Gloves can also help protect exposed skin from cold winds.

Finally, resist the temptation to take long, steaming showers or over-exfoliate. Choose gentle skincare, stay hydrated and give your skin time to recover. If redness, itching or irritation persists, consult a dermatologist rather than experimenting with multiple products.

This winter, let healthy, comfortable skin be your best beauty accessory.



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