



**We wish our Readers a Happy Diwali**

'I hope the new generation understands the spiritual nature of the Indian classical music and continues to keep the tradition alive: USTAD AMJAD ALI KHAN



Consul General Sandeep Chakravorty(left) in conversation with Ustad Amjad Ali Khan at the Indian Consulate on October 5.

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): Veteran musician and Sarod maestro Ustad Amjad Ali Khan expressed hope that the new generation understands the spiritual nature of Indian classical music and will continue to keep the tradition alive. The maestro was addressing the audience in New York on October 5 at an interactive session moderated by India's

contd on Page 48

**Trump Signs Executive Order to Weaken Obamacare; Says the order is 'only the beginning'**

WASHINGTON (TIP): President Donald Trump on Thursday, October 12, used his presidential powers to weaken Obamacare after fellow Republicans in Congress had failed to repeal the 2010 law which he loathed no end and have been itching to do away with.

Trump signed an executive order aimed at letting small businesses band together across state lines to buy cheaper, less regulated health plans for their employees with fewer benefits.

It is Trump's first definitive step to dismantle Obamacare since taking office in January. He had promised during his election campaign that one of his top priorities will be to dismantle former President Barack Obama's signature domestic policy achievement.

Trump has come under severe criticism at the hands of Democratic leaders for having taken to signing an executive order on the

contd on Page 48



The executive order, says Trump is "only the beginning". Trump, the candidate had vowed to dismantle Obamacare on a priority basis and October 12 executive order is the first step in that direction. File photo

**Diwali at Times Square is now a Festival of New York City**



Diya lighting ceremony on stage.

Photo courtesy Parikh Worldwide Media

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): Mayor Bill de Blasio may please take note that the Indian festival of Diwali has now grown beyond a community festival and has become a festival of New York City. The amazing gathering of thousands of people of various hues at the center of universe-the Times Square-on October 7 is a testimony to this fact.

SANKARA EYE FOUNDATION and EVENGURU INC brought to people a fun-filled day that highlighted cultural dances and musical performances, Diwali Bazaar and mouth-watering Indian cuisine, interactive Diya lighting

contd on Page 6

**A Reprieve for Talwars: Allahabad High Court says the couple did not kill Aarushi**

ALLAHABAD (TIP): In a welcome reprieve to Talwars, the Allahabad High Court, on October 12, reversed a CBI court judgment and acquitted dentist couple Rajesh and Nupur Talwar of the charge of murdering their 14-year-old daughter Aarushi and domestic help Hemraj, 45, in May 2008. The 263-page verdict ends, at least for now, the nine-year ordeal of

contd on page 48

Aarushi's parents Rajesh and Nupur Talwar File photo



**GURVINDER S. SAHNI**  
 ATTORNEY AT LAW



Tel. 718.846.3400  
 Fax. 718-846-2299  
 Email. gs@sahnilaw.com

117-07 101st Avenue, 2nd Fl. Richmond Hill, NY 11419

**OMNI MORTGAGE CORP.**  
 Residential | Commercial | SBA Loans



Andy Singh  
 516-441-7000  
 16 E. Old Country Road  
 Hicksville, NY 11801  
 E-mail: herman@omnimortgage.com



Herman Singh  
 718-441-7000  
 118-18 101 Avenue  
 Richmond Hill, NY 11419  
 Registered Mortgage Broker- NYS Dept of Financial Services  
 Loans arranged thru 3rd party providers

**A SHARMA LAW FIRM**  
 ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

15yrs Experience

**YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR ONLY MISSION**

**Our Specialties**

- ★ Family Immigration
- ★ (H-1B, L-1, PERM, Green Card)
- ★ Board of Immigration Appeals
- ★ Deportation Defense
- ★ Business Laws
- ★ Real Estate Closings
- ★ Criminal law

**FREE CONSULTATION**

Call: 1.855.9.SHARMA (1.855.9.742762)

New Jersey Office  
 525 GREEN STREET  
 ISELIN, NJ 08830

New York Office  
 104-02, 120th Street,  
 S. Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Email: info@asharmalaw.com T: 646.492.9700 Website: www.asharmalaw.com



ANUJ SHARMA, ESQ.  
 ATTORNEY AT LAW

May the warm glow  
of peace and prosperity  
fill your days.

Air India wishes you a  
*Happy Diwali*



***Flying since 1932***

Call Toll Free: 1-800-223-7776  
or Visit [www.airindia.in](http://www.airindia.in)

Stay connected  /airindia  @airindiain

Air India Mobile App  

***Air India... Truly Indian***

The most reputed Indian Aviation Brand



A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

# MYSTIC INDIA



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 AT 7PM**

**Special Buy One Get One Free: USE CODE **PANORAMA****  
**Tillescenter.org or ticketmaster.com | 516.299.3100 (M-Sat) 1-6PM**

**TillesCenter**  
for the Performing Arts **LIU Post**

LIU POST, 720 NORTHERN BLVD, BROOKVILLE, NY 11548

2017-2018 Season Sponsor:



These performances are made possible in part by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. Subject to availability. Non-refundable. Additional phone and Internet fees apply. Not applicable on the A price ticket. This offer may not be combined with another offer. Not applicable on previously purchased tickets.

**Live it. Love it. Share it.**

# Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA) Celebrates Diwali; Honors Four



Honorees. From L to R: Mrs. Chandra Mehta, Mrs. Sangita Sancheti, Dr. Jugal K. Agrawal, Mrs. Sharda Kotahwala

Photos / Suresh Jilla

**MELVILLE, NY (TIP):** Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA) celebrated DIWALI on Sunday October 8 at the Huntington Hilton Hotel. The gathering included about 360 prominent guests of Rajasthani descent. The occasion reflected a festive mood and as a part of the celebrations - four people of Rajasthan descent were honored for their accomplishments. They included Mrs. Chandra Mehta, Dr Jugal K. Agrawal, Mrs. Sangita Sancheti and Mrs. Sharda Kotahwala.

The President of RANA Dr. Ajey Jain in his remarks said that the celebrations reflected RANA's commitment to women's empowerment. Women these days worry less about fitting into glass slippers and more about shattering glass ceilings. The three women honorees exemplified this and have done better than the best. The



Padma Bhushan Manjul Bhargava - Renowned mathematician and Professor of Mathematics at Princeton University and winner of Field's Medal with the office bearers of RANA. L to R: KK Mehta, Manjul Bhargava, Dr. Anil Gupta, Dr. Ajey Jain

RANA celebrations also included women's Karva Chauth Celebrations.

Honorable Congressman Tom Suozzi was the Chief Guest and said in his remarks that the oldest and the biggest democracies are joining hands to bring a new and peaceful world order. Padma Bhushan Manjul Bhargava - the world-renowned Mathematician and youngest ever Professor of Mathematics at Princeton University and winner of Field's Medal in Mathematics (called the Nobel Prize in Mathematics) also graced the occasion.

The evening included a masterpiece performance by Samir and Dipali Music Group from Mumbai, India. The function ended with a multicourse Rajasthani dinner, catered by Mint Restaurant.



L to R: Dr N. Hadpawat, Honorable Congressman Tom Suozzi, Dr. Ajey Jain, Dr Ajay Lodha



Karva Chauth Celebrations

## A Fundraiser for Prevention of Avoidable Blindness

Community appreciates the humanitarian work of Eye Foundation of America



Dr. VK Raju, Founder and President of the Eye Foundation of America, flanked by two of his close associates, speaks about Foundation's projects

**EDISON, NJ (TIP):** The Eye Foundation of America New Jersey Regional Chapter organized a fundraiser to support the Foundation's projects at Royal Albert's Palace here on October 7. Regional Director of the Foundation Chengad Sridhar extended a warm welcome to the guests and spoke about the projects of the Foundation.

Mr. Sridhar said there were three major projects being undertaken by the Foundation.

Cataract, Glaucoma and Retinopathy were the areas the Foundation was working on.

Speaking on the occasion, the Foundation's founder and President, eminent ophthalmologist Dr. VK Raju said that the Foundation has been serving the community for the last 39 years. With its work spread over more than 25 countries, including India and the US, the Foundation has treated more than 2,000,000 outpatients. The doctors associated



Family of Dr. Surya Seshan speaking about the legacy of their father who was a great supporter of E F A. Dr. Raju is seen at extreme right.

with the Foundation have performed more than 300,000 eye surgeries. Some 25000 surgeries have been performed on children. It is a mammoth task, Dr. Raju said.

Video presentations about the eye ailments and treatments offered by the Foundation were made and guests encouraged to take the message round that childhood blindness can be and should be avoided.

The presentation for Cataract was done by

Dr Prema Modak who explained in detail causes of Cataract.

Dr Leela Raju explained about Glaucoma and Retinopathy.

The event was followed by Dr Surya Seshan and children speaking about the legacy of their father who was a great supporter of E F A. Harini Vasudevan and Suresh Ramachandran entertained the visitors with their melodious singing.

# NEW AGE PROPERTIES, INC.

254 South Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801

Ph: 516-827-7600

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

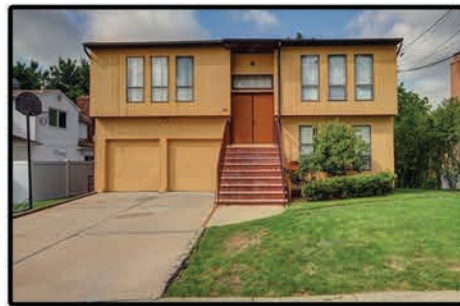
Check out our listings!



14 Tioga Drive  
Jericho, NY 11753



414 Abington Place  
East Meadow, NY 11554



27 Pal Street  
Plainview, NY 11803



8 Clearwater Drive  
Plainview, NY 11803

Our associates are ready to help you find your dream home!



Balbir Singh  
516-513-9535



Daulat Radhu Bathija  
917-861-9008



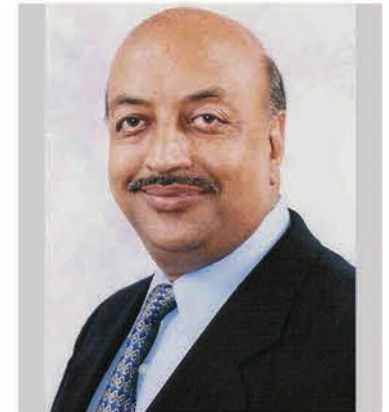
Jay Walia  
917-238-5335



Paramjit K. Singh  
516-996-4447



Pranay Patel  
516-643-8249



K. Singh (Kenny)  
516-359-3649



Suhag Mehta  
347-513-8526



Joshy Abraham  
516-662-4908



H. S. Toor  
516-448-8722



Syed Majid  
516-428-3414



Govind Tiwari  
917-732-3980

**Open 7 Days  
A Week**

**NEW AGE**  
Properties, Inc.

**FREE Property  
Evaluation**

*Simplicity, Honesty and Great Service  
is what we are all about!*

# Diwali at Times Square is now a Festival of New York City

CONTD FROM PAGE 1



Diya lighting with countdown on Express screen



A superb Bharatnatyam performance



Terence Lewis gives a scintillating performance

ceremonies and the world's best digital fireworks display. The vision of the creator of Diwali at Times Square Mrs. Neeta Bhasin was to showcase India's rich culture, art, heritage and diversity became reality on October 7th when performances of various local artists like Avish Jain, Rianjali, Masala Bhangra, Bollywood Axion, NYU Garba group, Columbia Raas Garba and the famed Shiamak Davar Group and many other groups performed on. Diwali Festival started with the Diya Lighting ceremony on stage and followed by the auspicious Ganesh Vandana by the child prodigy Sparsh Shah.



Sanjeeda Sheikh & Aamir Ali cast a spell

"The Light-Up Times Square Concert" that commenced from 6 PM following the Diya Lighting Ceremony on stage and on the tallest screens of Times Square was attended by the glitterati and the dignitaries such as the Consul General of India Mr. Sandeep Chakravorty, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, Borough President Gale A. Brewer, Jennifer from Governor Cuomo Office, representative from NYC Comptroller office, District Leader Ms. Neeta Jain and others.

The Light Up Times Square Concert showcased dazzling performances by some of the biggest names in the entertainment industry! Sanjeeda Sheikh and Aamir Ali, the romantic duo that has swept India away with their performances in Nach Balliye, presented scintillating dance



Hamsika Iyer was simply captivating

routines for the attendees at Times Square. The attendees also enjoyed - Chhammak Chhalo famed, the maverick singer Hamsika Iyer, who made the audience dance to her tune and Hey Baby singer Raman Mahadevan; the crowd was left gasping for more by none other than the master dancer, the "chumeswari" judge and performer Master Terence Lewis. The event was brought to an end by the new-age performer Mickey Singh, who made the young crowd sing along.

This historic event was brought to us with the support of SANKARA EYE FOUNDATION, a not for profit organization that is committed to eradicate curable blindness from India. An event of this stature could not have been possible without the sponsors like Air India, McDonalds, Yupp TV, DirecTV Now, Hotstar and others. Diwali at Times Square 2017 was also immensely supported by the media at large - mainstream media partner Daily News, broadcasting partners TV Asia and Jus Punjabi, radio partner Mera Sangeet and many more.

SANKARA EYE FOUNDATION and EVENTGURU INC is extremely grateful to the sponsors, the media, the celebrities, the volunteers, and the amazing crowd who came and supported this monumental event and help us create history once again in the heart of New York city, Times Square.



Raman Mahadevan regaled

## Hindi Documentary 'Cheer Haran: The Disrobement' premiered in Big Cinemas, New Jersey

**Kajol Bishnoi**

**EDISON, NJ (TIP)-** Edison hosted the first US premier of Cheer Haran, a 90-minute Hindi documentary based on Jaat reservation agitation that claimed many lives, paralyzed Haryana and shamed India across the globe last year.

The title reminds us of the heinous incident from the Mahabharata as Last year around mid-February, Haryana was in a similar situation, unguarded and abandoned, when all of a sudden, the JAAT agitation for OBC reservation flared up into a devastating inferno of sectarian violence. Women were allegedly gang-raped by mobs. The film tries to decipher why turned things turned violent, whether the brutality could

have been averted?"

Produced by Twister Entertainment and directed by Kuldeep Ruhil, who was born and brought up in Dahakora village near Rohtak. Ruhil, an actor and writer, says, "The tagline of the movie is 'February 2016: Haryana lost peace, harmony and 31 kids' and it peeps into the psyche of people, post agitation."

The documentary has been shot in Haryana, Delhi and Gurgaon, and has two songs dedicated to those killed in police firing. "We interviewed the affected families, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Finance Minister Capt Abhimanyu, and officials. We tried to show both sides of this violence," says Ruhil, who is now based in Mumbai.

As a film maker it's my duty to prevent and show the reality of Haryana." On being asked about the reason behind portraying it as a documentary and not a feature film, the director said, "The reason behind the documentary is that a feature could be a statement with conclusion. But that could not be the idea because there would be no exploration otherwise. The documentary serves the reality." He also added, "You will see that the real victims and survivors are still positive but these reservations has kept alive the cast discrimination. Cheer Haran depicts a true picture of Jaat reservation agitation that claimed many lives and soon to be released in India on over 100 screens.



Celebrate **life**  
with New York Life



Let us work together to help you prepare for a successful financial future for you and your family and help keep the lamp of the hopes and aspirations of you and your family burning.

HAPPY  
DIWALI

Proud to serve the South Asian community in The United States

New York Life Insurance Company South Asian Market 51 Madison Ave New York, NY 10010

[www.newyorklife.com/southasia](http://www.newyorklife.com/southasia) | [southasia@newyorklife.com](mailto:southasia@newyorklife.com)

Be good at life.



## INTERVIEW

# Secularism is the character of India and we must nurture the bouquet: Ustad Amjad Ali Khan

**P**adma Vibhushan Ustad Amjad Ali Khan does not need an introduction. The whole world knows him as "Sarod Samrat" Ustad Amjad Ali Khan. All his life, he spread the message of love, peace and harmony globally through his music. For him 'Music is God' that connects people.

In a candid conversation with Bidisha Roy, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan shared his views about unrest in the society. The 'Global Peace Ambassador' started the conversation with a clear message to the world.

**TIP - You always talk about peace and harmony...?**

Ustad Amjad Ali Khan - First of all I would request President Donald Trump to ban the guns and weapons. I am so sad to hear about the Las Vegas incident. Then I realized that having guns is fundamental right of American people but it's very dangerous for the safety of every human being of America and the way people have been killed in Las Vegas is very sad. Even children here carry guns to schools. I am hoping that Mr Trump would immediately ban these weapons. This is very unhealthy for the whole society. People should have them for their safety but not without license. Arms should not be sold like vegetables.

**TIP - Talking about India we say that we belong to a secular country. But in the present situation can we take pride in our secularism?**

Amjad Ali Khan - I grew up in India. The



*The Indian Panorama Assistant Editor Bidisha Roy caught up with the great musician at the Indian Consulate in New York on October 5 where he had come to speak on his recent book "Master on Masters", and asked him a couple of questions*

people of India made me Amjad Ali Khan. I got love and encouragement from every corner of India. Why only me? Bismillha Khan Saab, Vilayat Khan Saab, Bade Ghulam Ali Khan Saab. The interesting thing of our country is - in spite of so many religions we all depend on each other and that is our strength. Only one religion can't take India to moon or sun. Amjad Ali Khan plays sarod. But who

makes the sarod of Ustad Amjad Ali Khan? Mr Hemendra Chandra Sen - a Bengali gentleman from Rashbehari Avenue Kolkata. He makes beautiful instruments and he made my sarod. Without him by sarod could not have been appealing. This way we depend on each other. In every era - no matter which political party is ruling the country - we have seen good people, bad people. Fortunately, we

have more peace loving people. Secularism is the character of our country and because of that the whole world respects India. It's like a bouquet of flowers. We have to maintain this character of our country. This is the duty of every Indian to maintain the beauty of our country. Every religion in India has contributed to the success of our country. We must nurture the bouquet of India.

**TIP - Any form of art - music, can unite people. Do you think all musicians should come together for that?**

Amjad Ali Khan - Music connects the world. In our country we say 'Swar hi Ishwar hai.' There are two kinds of music - one is pure sound and another is based on language. Language is ruling the world. Because of language the politicians are winning the elections and sometimes loosing for the language as well. So, language creates the barrier. Music is gift of god. Every human being is born with sound and rhythm. The heartbeat is an indication of rhythm. The whole world is going through lot of uncertainty. Every country is going through problems. Then what is the role of education? Education can't create compassion and kindness. I can't think a PhD being communal. There is something wrong in our education system right from the very beginning - not only in India but all over the world. My father taught me that all of us have a common god. Sooner we realize this, it would be good for every country.

## Meeting with Romila Thapar

BY DR. VK RAJU



*Author with Romila Thapar at her residence in Delhi earlier this year*

**I**t was a dream come true when I finally go to see the great historian. I recalled the comment of Indira Majumder on Romila.

"It was a breath of fresh air! The tall historian Romila Thapar took an editorial pen, a new orientation to observe the events of history! Here is an author who has penned the book "History of India" 50 years ago with all the young energy and emotions of the newly emancipated India! The author looked at the data on India with lenses powered with contemporary beliefs and ideals. But the same author forty years later took the courage,

kind of cleared her eyes to look at the historical events, facts, people's attitude, philosophy,

values, morals and perspectives of life! Here in the revision of "History of India" she talks about -History is not just the kings and queens, dates when they were born and married and won a war! History is about the people of the land, the way of life and culture!

Romila Thapar understood the essence of the history of a nation, pulse of the land, including people, dynasty, means of production, social mores, and religious practices. Romila Thapar added to the knowledge base of world history through her work -The Penguin History of Early India: From the Origins to AD 1300!"

I was overwhelmed with emotion to see this wonderful lady. The time I spent with her was educative and elevating. I long to look her up again and have a share of her sublime thoughts. Hopefully, soon.

## Chairman Crowley decries President Trump's Threat to Abandon Puerto Rico



**QUEENS, NY (TIP):** House Democratic Caucus Chairman Joe Crowley (D-NY) issued the following statement after President Trump said he plans to abandon the people of Puerto Rico as the island rebuilds following recent hurricanes:

"President Trump's threats are a slap in the face to the people of Puerto Rico. We cannot abandon our brothers and sisters who are simply asking for the same aid and assistance to rebuild their homes, economy, and lives that any U.S. citizen would expect from their government following an unprecedented

natural disaster and humanitarian crisis.

"When 90 percent of the island still lacks electricity and the majority of people lack access to clean drinking water, the Trump administration must intensify its support of Puerto Rico - not issue baseless threats to abandon these Americans.

"Our commitment to helping Puerto Rico rebuild must be measured in months and years - not days and weeks. President Trump's threats to abandon Puerto Rico show a deep disregard for the pain and suffering of our fellow Americans. This is simply wrong."



# DISH Hopper + Amazon Alexa

Control your TV, hands-free

*"Alexa, go to HGTV."*



Hands-free TV for everyone. With Amazon Alexa, you can control your Hopper® Smart DVR with just your voice. It's just another way DISH is Tuned In To You™.

Requires internet-connected Hopper® or Wally™ and Amazon Echo, Echo Dot, or Amazon Tap.

All offers require credit qualification, 2-year commitment with early termination fee and eAutoPay. Hopper upgrade fee may apply. Restrictions apply.

Ask how to get a **FREE Echo Dot** with offer code: **FreeEchoDot**

Free Echo Dot provided by DISH. Amazon is not a sponsor of this promotion.

**SUNWIRELESS**  
**(888) 415-4212**  
[www.sw.getdish.com](http://www.sw.getdish.com)

**dish**  
AUTHORIZED RETAILER

Free Echo Dot requires credit qualification and new DISH activation with Hopper® with Sling® or Hopper 3™.

**Offer for new and qualifying former customers only.**

**Important Terms and Conditions:**

**Qualification:** Advertisized price requires credit qualification and eAutoPay. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. **2-year commitment:** Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. **Other:** All packages, programming, features, and functionality and all prices and fees not included in price guarantee are subject to change without notice. After 6 mos., you will be billed \$8.99/mo. for Protection Plan unless you call to cancel. After 2 years, then-current everyday prices for all services apply. For business customers, additional monthly fees may apply. Free standard professional installation only. Amazon, Alexa, Echo Dot, and all related logos are trademarks of Amazon.com, Inc. or its affiliates.

BDRIVE\_20397



## COMMENT

Prof I.S. Saluja



## Let us Share the Festive Spirit

India is a country of festivals and festivities. Our forefathers made sure that we have occasions to come together and celebrate. I do not think any other country in the world can match India's number and variety of occasions to celebrate. Go to any part of India and you find a fair sprinkling of these occasions across the whole year.

Deepavali is a festival that is celebrated in some form or other in almost every part of the country. The nomenclature may differ but the festive spirit remains the same. The food made may be different but the excitement of cooking and sharing it remains the same.

The two communities—the Hindus and the Sikhs both celebrate Deepavali with much gusto. However, they celebrate this occasion for different reasons. While the Hindus celebrate the occasion of Rama's returning to Ayodhya, after a long period of exile of 14 years during which he experienced terrible struggle and ultimately vanquished evil, the Sikhs celebrate the return to Amritsar of their sixth Master, Guru Hargobind. It is said that Guru Hargobind insisted on Moghul ruler to free the 52 princes of small hill states in Himachal or else he would also stay put with them in the prison at Gwalior. The Moghul emperor who had great regard for the Guru agreed to free them. Thus, Guru Hargobind, too, vanquished evil and came home victorious. See the parallel moral of the two stories.

Here in the US, we see Diwali being celebrated with great enthusiasm in almost every big city. Dallas can boast of the largest Diwali mela where normally 50,000 visitors gather to witness the festivities which include episodes from Ramayana and an entertainment program with the participation of famous singers from India, besides the fireworks.

New York, similarly, has a number of organizations which celebrate Diwali in a big way. We recently witnessed at least two such big events. Both drew large crowds and won applause of visitors. One was the AIA organized Diwali at South Street Seaport. And, the other was Diwali at Times Square organized by Neeta Bhasin of ASB Communications.

The strength of the Indian American community made it possible for a Ranju Batra to have a Diwali Stamp issued by the US postal department. So, let us celebrate our unity and strength.

I would like to congratulate all our readers on this festive occasion and wish the festive spirit is shared. It is by sharing joys that we multiply them. The two words—sharing and caring are magic mantras for happiness, steps ahead of joyousness. These festive occasions provide us an opportunity to show how caring we are. By sharing, we show our care. And in caring for others lies all true happiness. Let us celebrate Deepavali together in a shared manner and enjoy the festive mood that the occasion brings.

Let festive spirit prevail. Happy Diwali.

## THE INDIAN PANORAMA

## PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER:

Prof. Indrajit S. Saluja

VICE PRESIDENT: Chitagam Saluja

CHIEF EDITOR: Prof Indrajit S.

Saluja

ASSISTANT EDITOR: Bidisha Roy

GRAPHICS DIRECTOR:

Om Parkash Malik

DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATION:

Gauri Beri

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Baldev Singh / BJ Videos

Gunjesh Desai / Masala Junction

Jay Mandal,

Mohammad Jaffer/ SnapsIndia

Mohammad Shahzad, Zia Khan

Nisha Rani

Vaaho Photographers

Vijay Shah - Photo Journalist.

DISTRIBUTOR: Sukhwinder Singh

CORRESPONDENTS:

SACRAMENTO: Parminder S. Auja

NEW YORK: Chitagam

FRESNO: Tarlochan Singh

DALLAS: Harjit Dhesi, Amarjit

Dhillon

OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS

DELHI BUREAU CHIEF:

Ashishpal Singh

CHANDIGARH: Manjit Sidhu

LUDHIANA: A.S. Arora, R.P. Sharma

The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South

Richmond Hill, NY 11419,

Tel: 646-247-9458

Email:

editor@theindianpanorama.com

DALLAS EDITION

P.O. BOX 121695,

ARLINGTON, TX 76012

Lovlien Kaurr, VP &amp; Bureau Chief

E-mail tipdallas01@gmail.com

Phone: 646-247-9458

www.theindianpanorama.com

Published by Prof. Indrajit Saluja

## DISCLAIMER

The Indian Panorama assumes no responsibility for the claims made in advertisements. We only sell space. Views published in the newspaper are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper. All rights are reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission in writing from The Indian Panorama is prohibited.

## AS I SEE IT

## Closing up the Gulf: India can be the new market the Arabs are looking for



By KC Singh

Analyzing the Indian foreign policy from the nation's Capital has the virtue of local input, but in the end, it has an echo-chamber effect. A three-day visit to the UAE, at the invitation of the Dubai Department of Civil Aviation to deliver a keynote speech at the AVSEC - a biannual aviation security gathering of global actors - gave one a chance to reassess the Gulf, the West Asian region and India's place in it.

Firstly, the Sunni-Shia divide is now layered with a Sunni-Sunni split, with Turkey aligning with Qatar against Saudi Arabia and the UAE. While Qatari economy is bleeding, the slowing down of the UAE economy is palpable. Property prices have fallen in Dubai after recovery from the 2008 downturn. In Abu Dhabi, despite deeper oil revenue-laden pockets, the excess supply of property is compelling the government to quietly bar display the of 'to-let' signs. Yemeni intervention alongside Saudi Arabia is taking its toll on finances and people. Arabic newspaper Al Khaleej, on October 11, had extensive visual coverage of pictures of children of 'martyrs' being consoled by the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince, Sheikh Mohammad bin Zayed. UAE military planes apparently have been ferrying the injured Yemeni civilians for treatment to Indian hospitals. An Indian Abu Dhabi-based tycoon has combined sycophancy with profit by directing them to his son-in-law's recently acquired chain of Delhi hospitals.

Secondly, the newly elevated Saudi Crown Prince, Mohammed bin Salman, is tightly aligned with and advised by his namesake, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi. This is a far cry from the old narrative of Sheikh Zayed, the creator of modern UAE, having resisted the Saudi annexation of Al Ain. The bonhomie between the two heirs to thrones is a product of shared concerns about Arab Spring uprooting their autocratic regimes. It was enhanced by resentment over President Obama unshackling Iran, by a nuclear deal with it, to facilitate the fight against the IS in Syria-Iraq. Their collective lobbying with the Trump team, even before Trump assumed office, helped draw him to the Riyadh summit, where he reversed Obama's Iran doctrine, treating it as a selective partner rather than a permanent antagonist. The consequences of this flip-flop are still playing out negatively.

Thirdly, the UAE has taken badly Pakistani reluctance to send troops to Yemen as it thought Nawaz Sharif owed it a debt for having intervened with President Musharraf in 1999, in combination with Saudi Arabia, to organize his exile rather than incarceration. The Indian Government and PM Modi are using this disenchantment to cement relations with the Saudis and Emiratis. Incidentally, Musharraf divides his time between a fancy house in the elite Dubai

**“The Saudis and Emiratis are finally seriously looking to invest in India. The Abu Dhabi Investment Authority is the third-biggest sovereign fund in the world, behind the trillion-dollar Norwegian and \$900-billion Chinese funds. It has been wooed for long, but India so far presented investment challenges for sovereign funds”, says the author.**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meeting the King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia, at the Royal Court, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on April 03, 2016.

(Photo courtesy / Flickr)

neighborhood of Emirates Hills, and London. There are whispers that Modi is headed to the UAE again early next year, to further isolate Pakistan from its erstwhile allies and please Malayalis in Kerala where the BJP is desperately seeking a political toehold.

The Saudis and Emiratis are finally seriously looking to invest in India. The Abu Dhabi Investment Authority is the third-biggest sovereign fund in the world, behind the trillion-dollar Norwegian and \$900-billion Chinese funds. It has been wooed for long, but India so far presented investment challenges for sovereign funds. When the UAE did make a significant investment via its telecom giant Etisalat in an Indian partner, the 2G spectrum scam hit the deal. Special purpose vehicles were attempted to channelize incoming funds, but to little avail. Now, it seems an arrangement to the satisfaction of both sides is in the works. Even defense cooperation is possible as India has allowed the private sector to tap technologies, including from the West, narrowing thus the gap between Gulf countries' desire for cutting-edge defense equipment and India marketing largely antiquated stuff.

Saudi Aramco CEO indicated the new approach, saying that they were looking at 'mega investments' as India was now a 'market of investment priority and not a choice anymore'. India, on its part, is diversifying its procurement base with the arrival of the first cargo of US crude. The Gulf oil industry, seeing the US now as a competitor rather than a hungry consumer, is turning to India and China. Saudi Aramco has just opened an India office. Saudi King Salman has visited Russia. The Saudis are trying to have Russia agree to an extension of an earlier deal on production cuts to help oil price recovery. But the split with Qatar and Iran remains at the heart of any

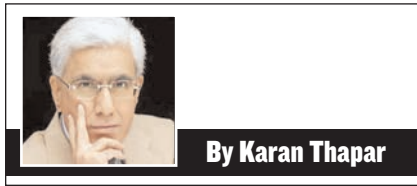
OPEC strategy as, indeed, US shale gas and oil production.

Sheikh Zayed once told a visiting Indian dignitary the story of an Arab shepherd losing a sheep every week to wolves. He was advised to keep dogs. He did, but then discovered he had to slaughter a sheep any way to feed them. The wolf in this case is the US, merrily selling new weapons systems to both sides, while merely rattling its sabre at Iran. India has to realize that excessive bonhomie with the UAE and Saudi Arabia will complicate its ability to engage Iran and Qatar. Euphoria over the allotment of temple land during Modi's last trip to the UAE is mere theatre as Sheikh Zayed had quietly earmarked a huge site for a cremation ground in 2002, which would have had a temple. Sheikh Mohammad is merely continuing his father's tolerant and inclusive policies and not making a special gesture for PM Modi, or India.

The Saudi-Emirati alliance will get tested first in how the Yemen war turns out. Using Trump to bait Iran will only exacerbate matters. The succession in Saudi Arabia may yet be contested, despite UAE support for Prince Mohammed bin Salman. The Dubai ruler, Sheikh Mohammad bin Rashid, is quietly watching the impact on his city's connectivity to the entire region curtailed. He has the maturity and guile of the founders of the UAE - his own father and Sheikh Zayed. The younger power wielders i.e. the two Mohammads in Abu Dhabi and Riyadh have overplayed their hand and the region awaits resolution. The wolf, meanwhile, continues to howl, unconcerned about the uncertainty he causes. PM Modi must study the maze before recommencing his 'huggy-feely' journey through it.

(The author is a former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs)

# Why is Modi silent on the Jay Shah case?



Congress workers protest against BJP president Amit Shah and his son Jay Shah (inset) in Mumbai on Monday, October 9.

Photo courtesy / PTI

“

If the PM raised a finger at Vadra's wealth having increased due to the suspicion that his mother-in-law is Congress President, shouldn't he question if Jay Shah's sudden rise in fortune is connected to his father's position as BJP President?", says the author.

”

One of the themes in the Prime Minister's campaign speeches and rallies during his early years in office that struck an immediate chord with the country was his comments on how the relatives of powerful politicians grow rich after their parents reach high office. This was, of course, something the Indian people knew to be a fact, but Mr Modi was the first senior politician to speak about it, freely, frankly and frequently.

As far back as August 2013, in Bhuj, Mr Modi said: "Bhai-Bhateejavad purane dino ke dharavahikon mien bharastachar ke mool mein hua karta tha. Samay ke saath isme badlav aaya hai. Bharastachar mein ek naya dharavahik mama-bhanja aaya aur ab yeh saas, bahu aur damad ki aur badh gaya hai."

Twenty five months later, speaking in San Jose in September 2015, he was more explicit: "Hamare desh mein rajnetaon par kuch hi samay mein aarop lag jate hain. Usne 50 crore banaya, usne 100 crore banaya. Bete ne 250 crore banaya. Beti ne 500 crore banaya. Damad ne 1000 crore banaya. Chachere bhai ne contract le liya...ye sunne ko milta hai ki nahi milta hai? Mere deshvasiyon, main aaj aapke beech mein khada hoon, hai koi aarop mujh pe?"

At the time the case that seemed to best illustrate Mr Modi's rhetoric was that of Robert Vadra. The Hindu and the Business Standard, in a series of reports, alleged his companies' fortunes had jumped from Rs 50 lakh to over Rs 300 crore in just six years. The issue most referred to was the purchase of 3.5 acres by Vadra's Skylight Hospitality in Manesar in February in 2007. Reports said that 24 hours after Vadra bought the land, it was mutated in his name. Six weeks later, the Haryana government gave permission for commercial use, thus dramatically increasing its value. Sixty-five days later, the land Vadra bought for Rs 7.5 crore was sold to DLF for Rs 50 crore, a profit of 770 per cent.

Yet at the time Skylight Hospitality bought the land, its total assets were Rs 1 lakh and the payment for the land was shown as a book overdraft. The newspapers suspected that the money was advanced by DLF because they knew Vadra would be able to get the land use

**Many people believe that recent reports by NDTV and TheWire.in about Amit Shah's son Jay Shah's companies bear an uncanny resemblance to the Vadra saga. The points made by the two media organizations are claimed to be factually correct and haven't been disputed though, like the Vadra case, the inferences or conclusions are said to be defamatory.**

changed and then they could buy it from him, with both parties benefiting. In other words, it was a sweetheart deal. This impression was apparently corroborated by the fact that when Ashok Khemka, the Inspector-General of Registration, started an inquiry into Vadra's land dealings, he was immediately transferred, even though it was 11 at night.

Many people believe that recent reports by NDTV and TheWire.in about Amit Shah's son Jay Shah's companies bear an uncanny resemblance to the Vadra saga. The points made by the two media organizations are claimed to be factually correct and haven't been disputed though, like the Vadra case, the inferences or conclusions are said to be defamatory.

TheWire.in reports that the turnover of one of Jay Shah's companies "increased 16,000 times over in the year following the election of Narendra Modi as Prime Minister". NDTV adds that in the same year loans to 2 of Jay Shah's companies "rose to 53.4 crore, a jump of 4,000 per cent" compared to a total of 1.3 crore up to 2013-14. Going into further detail, the two media houses say one of the companies, Temple Enterprises, received an unsecured loan of 15.76 crore even though it had a 10 year "unimpressive track record". A second company, Kusum Finserve, incorporated in

2012 and with meagre profits of 1.73 crore after a first year loss, received a line of credit of 25 crore. NDTV even questions if it was entitled to this credit. TheWire adds Kusum Finserve, despite no experience in the energy or infrastructure sectors, received a 10.35 crore loan from a public sector enterprise IREDA to set up "a 2.1 MW wind energy plant".

All of this leads NDTV to comment: "Whether he (Jay Shah) was deserving, or benefited from a famous surname, can only be established by an inquiry". Separately, TheWire has reported that Tushar Mehta, Additional Solicitor-General, secured permission to represent Jay Shah in court, even though government law officers can only represent private parties in exceptional circumstances. The website also claims this was granted on the 6th though its story on Shah, which was the first to appear, was only published on the 8th.

Several questions are now likely to come to the mind of the voter: If the Shah story is reminiscent of the Vadra episode, don't the PM's comments in 2013 and 2015 apply as much to the former as they do to the latter? If one was an example of Bhai-Bhateejavad isn't that also true of the other? If Vadra's good fortune creates suspicion because his mother-in-law is Congress President, are we not entitled to ask whether Shah's luck is connected to his father's position as BJP President? In Vadra's case, nothing criminal has so far been found - and that's also true of Jay Shah - but that didn't stop the Opposition and media raising doubts, so now if the Opposition and media are doing the same to Shah, is it unprecedentedly awful and unwarranted? Indeed, isn't it the duty of the two to raise questions in the interest of democracy even if, occasionally or more often, they turn out to be misplaced?

Both as a candidate and in office, the PM had a lot to say about Robert Vadra. It was, of course, mainly based on suspicion, but the people applauded him for it. Today, he's silent. So, don't we have the right to ask why a man who loves to speak suddenly has nothing to say?

*(The author is a senior journalist and TV commentator)*



## At least 23 dead, hundreds missing, as winds fan California fires

**SONOMA (US) (TIP):** Firefighters struggled overnight to halt the spread of wildfires known to have killed 23 people in North California, preparing for winds to shift after one town threatened by flames evacuated all residents.

The edge of the deadly Tubbs fire was less than two miles (3km) from Calistoga, a Napa Valley community whose 5,000 residents left their homes on Wednesday.

Whether the town burns "is going to depend on the wind," its fire chief Steve Campbell told Reuters early on Thursday. "High winds are predicted, but we have not received them yet."

Tubbs is one of nearly two dozen fires spanning eight counties that, raging largely unchecked since igniting on Sunday, have left hundreds of residents unaccounted for.

They have also charred around 170,000 acres (69,000 hectares) of land and destroyed some 3,500 buildings since.

While their cause has not been conclusively determined, they are thought to have been sparked by power lines toppled by gale force winds, and fanned by hot, dry "Diablo" winds that blew into northern California toward the Pacific.

New advisory evacuations were also issued in Sonoma County late on Wednesday for parts of Santa Rosa, the largest city in the state's world-renowned wine country, and Geyserville, an unincorporated town of 800 people.

"The winds are predicted to be very erratic," said country spokesman Barry Dugan. "There will be burst of high gusts that can be ... very unpredictable and difficult when you are fighting a fire and also for residents who we are trying to keep posted."

Wildfires have damaged or demolished at least 13 Napa Valley wineries, a vintners' trade group said on Tuesday.

Around 25,000 people remained under evacuation on Wednesday as the fires belched smoke that drifted south over the San Francisco Bay area, where some residents donned face masks.

**STILL MISSING:** More than 285 people were still missing in Sonoma County late on Wednesday night, the sheriff said on Twitter. It was unclear how many might be fire victims rather than evacuees who not checked in with authorities.

In Santa Rosa, blocks in some neighborhoods resembled war zones, with little left but charred debris, broken walls, chimneys and the steel frames of burned-out cars. (Reuters)

## North Korea says Trump has 'lit the wick of war'

**MOSCOW (TIP):** US President Donald Trump has "lit the wick of war" with North Korea and his country will be made to pay with "a hail of fire", a Russian news agency quoted North Korea's foreign minister as saying on Wednesday.

Tensions between North Korea and the United States+ have risen in recent weeks over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons and missile programs.

North Korea has test-fired several missiles+ and conducted what it said was a test explosion of a hydrogen bomb as it advances toward its goal of developing a nuclear-tipped missile capable of hitting the US mainland.

Speaking to Russia's state-run TASS news agency, North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho said his country's nuclear program guaranteed peace and safety in the region and would not be a matter of discussion.

"With his bellicose and insane statement at the United Nations, Trump, you can say, has lit the wick of a war against us," TASS quoted Ri as saying. "We need to settle the final score, only with a hail of fire, not words."

Ri has previously called Trump "President Evil" and his comments are likely to fuel an escalating war of words+ between the US President and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. (Reuters)

# 'I'm first lady': Trump's ex-wife's jibe at Melania

**WASHINGTON (TIP)::** US President's Donald Trump's ex-wife Ivana sparked a controversy on Tuesday by jokingly referring to herself as "first lady" - a jest which elicited a sharp response from current First Lady Melania Trump's office.

During an interview with a morning talk show to promote her new memoir, Ivana, mother to Donald Trump's three eldest children, made the tongue-in-cheek comment that her status as the President's first wife effectively made her first lady.

"I'm basically first Trump wife. I'm first lady, okay?" she quipped.

Ivana revealed that she has a direct line to her ex-husband in the White House and speaks to him every two weeks, adding that she keeps their interpersonal communication to a minimum so that Trump's current wife Melania doesn't feel jealous.

"I have the direct number to the White House but I don't really want to call him (Trump) there because Melania is there, and I don't want to cause any kind of jealousy or something like that," she said.

Ivana's provocative remarks have been disparaged by the White House as a publicity stunt to generate buzz about her new book.

"There is clearly no substance to this statement from an ex, this is unfortunately only attention-seeking and self-serving noise," said the statement issued by Stephanie Grisham, the first lady's spokeswoman.



The statement also slammed Ivana's view that living in Washington DC must be "terrible" for Melania and had she been in the latter's shoes, she would have hated it.

"Mrs Trump has made the White House a home for Barron and The President. She loves living in Washington, DC and is honoured by her role as First Lady of the United States. She plans to use her title and role to help children, not sell books," it stated.

This was a pointed reference to Ivana's promotions of her upcoming biography, in which she discusses in detail how she brought up her three

children - Eric, Donald Jr and Ivanka - with her then husband.

The barbed exchange is unusual for the normally reserved Melania, who has mostly remained in her husband shadow, accompanying him on state visits for the better part of his presidency.

Trump had married Ivana, a Czech-born model, in 1977. The couple had a messy and much-publicized divorce in 1992.

He went on to marry Marla Maples, with whom he had been having an affair, but they divorced six years later. Melania is Trump's third wife (PTI)

## Trump administration to terminate Obama's climate plan

**HAZARD (TIP):** The head of the Environmental Protection Agency said Monday that he will sign a new rule overriding the Clean Power Plan, an Obama-era effort to limit carbon emissions from coal-fired power plants.

"The war on coal is over," EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt declared in the coal mining state of Kentucky.

For Pruitt, getting rid of the Clean Power Plan will mark the culmination of a long fight he began as the elected attorney general of Oklahoma. Pruitt was among about two-dozen attorney generals who sued to stop President Barack Obama's push to limit carbon emissions.

Closely tied to the oil and gas industry in his home state, Pruitt rejects the consensus of scientists that man-made emissions from burning fossil fuels are the primary driver of global climate change. President Donald Trump, who appointed Pruitt and shares his skepticism of established climate science, promised to kill the Clean Power Plan during the 2016 campaign as part of his broader pledge to revive the nation's struggling coal mines.

In his order Tuesday, Pruitt is expected to declare that the Obama-era rule exceeded federal law by setting emissions standards that power plants could not reasonably meet. Appearing at an event with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Pruitt said, "The EPA and no



federal agency should ever use its authority to say to you we are going to declare war on any sector of our economy."

Obama's plan was designed to cut US carbon dioxide emissions to 32 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. The rule dictated specific emission targets for states based on power-plant emissions and gave officials broad latitude to decide how to

achieve reductions. The Supreme Court put the plan on hold last year following legal challenges by industry and coal-friendly states. Even so, the plan helped drive a recent wave of retirements of coal-fired plants, which also are being squeezed by lower costs for natural gas and renewable power, as well as state mandates promoting energy conservation. (AP)

# I'm not quitting, I'm not getting fired: White House chief of staff

**WASHINGTON (TIP):** The retired general brought in to instill order at a chaotic White House made a rare public appearance Thursday to declare he's staying in his post — and to insist that the president's volatile Twitter feed wasn't making his job harder.

"Unless things change, I'm not quitting, I'm not getting fired and I don't think I'll fire anyone tomorrow," chief of staff John Kelly told reporters during a surprise showing at the daily White House briefing. "I don't think I'm being fired today, and I'm not so frustrated in this job that I'm thinking of leaving."

The extraordinary statement drew a bit of laughter, but it reflected ongoing turmoil in the top ranks of a White House riven by staff changes, internal feuds and reports that Kelly is growing increasingly frustrated in his position.

Trump, in turn, has at times chafed at Kelly's efforts to reign in the freewheeling, open-door style that marked his business career and early months in the White House. The president has taken to leaving the Oval Office at times to engage aides, solicit opinions and re-create the unfettered feeling he has told allies he misses, according to two people who have spoken recently to the president but were not authorized to discuss private conversations. Kelly pushed back against recent reports that he and Trump were clashing but acknowledged he has organized the White House more tightly and changed how people interact with the president.

"I restrict no one, by the way, from going in to see him," Kelly said. "But when we go in to see him now, rather than the onesies and twosies, we go in and help him collectively understand what — what he needs to understand to make these vital



decisions."

Kelly called his chief of staff position the hardest and the most important job he's ever held — but not the best one. That would be enlisted Marine sergeant infantryman.

Kelly's 23-minute appearance, the latest in a series of public proclamations of loyalty to Trump from his underlings, underscored the challenges he faces working for an ideologically flexible and at times bellicose president.

He said he hoped for a diplomatic solution to the North Korea crisis even though Trump has ridiculed the notion. He insisted that the White House "will stand with those American citizens in Puerto Rico until the job is done" just hours after Trump appeared to threaten to end relief efforts to the hurricane-ravaged island. And he denied that Trump's impulsive and sometimes inflammatory tweets made his job more difficult but insisted he made no effort to curb them.

Kelly said he's read that "I've been a failure at controlling the president, or a

failure at controlling his tweeting, and all that." But he added that he was "not brought to this job to control anything but the flow of information to our president, so that he can make the best decisions."

Despite Kelly's public proclamations, there have been moments of friction between the men.

Trump has grown irritated with some of the restrictions placed on him by Kelly and has vented to friends that he does not like the media depiction of the chief of staff cleaning up a dysfunctional White House, according to the people who have spoken with him.

Kelly, meanwhile, has been dismayed by Trump's sniping at fellow Republicans and his focus on culture war issues, like NFL players kneeling during the national anthem, that distract from his legislative agenda. But the chief of staff insisted that widely-shared photos of him appearing frustrated during Trump's speeches — including one that depicted him with his head in his hands during the president's address to the U.N. (AP)

## Jayapal, Krishnamoorthi Demand President Trump to Stop Surveilling Immigrants and American Citizens



*The new proposal would impact immigrants, as well as all lawful permanent residents and naturalized American citizens including members of Congress like Jayapal, Kihuen, and Krishnamoorthi*

**WASHINGTON (TIP):** In a letter, led by Indian American Representatives Pramila Jayapal (WA-07), and Raja Krishnamoorthi (IL-08) along with Ruben Kihuen (NV-04) members of Congress are demanding that the Trump administration terminate efforts to surveil and collect social media data on immigrants and American citizens.

A new proposal, set to go in effect on October 18, would impact immigrants, as well as all lawful permanent residents and naturalized American citizens including members of Congress like Jayapal, Kihuen, and Krishnamoorthi who were born outside the United States.

"Simply put, this proposal is un-American. It flies in the face of freedom of speech, due process, and freedom of association, all of which are cherished founding values that are meant to protect personal privacy and encourage discourse and dissent in a free society," wrote the representatives.

Last month, the Department of Homeland Security published a new rule in the Federal Register that calls for including "social media handles and aliases, associated identifiable information and search results" in the department's immigration files, also known as the "A-Files."

In the letter signed by nine members of Congress, the representatives said, "This proposal runs counter to American values. The collection of social media data in a dragnet as proposed is unwise and has not been proven effective, particularly when American citizens become targets. We urge you to retract the Federal Register notice immediately."

The letter led by Reps. Pramila Jayapal, Ruben Kihuen and Raja Krishnamoorthi is signed by Frank Pallone (NJ-06), Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), Luis Gutiérrez (IL-04), Nydia Velázquez (NY-07), Lloyd Doggett (TX-35), Sheila Jackson Lee (TX-18), Barbara Lee (CA-13), Raul Grijalva (AZ-03), Albio Sires (NJ-08), Steve Cohen (TN-09), Keith Ellison (MN-05), Grace Meng (NY-06), Norma Torres (CA-35), and Nanette Barragán (CA-44).

## Texas Tech police officer killed, suspect in custody

**LUBBOCK (TIP):** Police apprehended a 19-year-old student accused of fatally shooting a Texas Tech University police officer+ at the campus police station Monday night.

University officials issued an alert saying the suspect was taken into custody and that the campus lockdown order had been lifted.

In an earlier statement, the university identified the suspect as Hollis Daniels.

University spokesman Chris Cook said that campus police made a student welfare check Monday evening and — upon entering the room — found evidence of drugs and drug paraphernalia. Officers then brought the suspect to the police station for standard debriefing.

While at the station, Cook said the suspect pulled out a gun and shot an officer in the head, killing him. The suspect then fled on foot before being apprehended a short time later.

Texas Tech officials initially issued a lockdown alert to students on social media, urging those on campus to take shelter in a safe location.

Additional information was not immediately available. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott issued a statement about the shooting late Monday, saying "hearts go out to the family of the police officer killed." Abbott also said he had mobilized state law enforcement resources to aid in the investigation. (AP)

## Indian American's Endeavor recognized as the 'Most Innovative Small Business of 2017'

**DALLAS (TIP):** The Dallas/Fort Worth South Asian Film Festival (DFW SAFF), created by New York and Dallas-based arts and entertainment company JINGO Media, was honored at the Texas Governor's Small Business Forum with the "Most Innovative Small Business of 2017" Award. Organized and hosted by the US-India Chamber of Commerce (DFW), the Governor's Small Business Forum also recognized three other North Texas small businesses in different categories: TechStar Group, B12 Consulting and NectarOM.

DFW SAFF was created three years ago to promote the perspectives and voices of the South Asian community through cinema. Founder and festival director Jitin Hingorani said: "We are truly honored and humbled to receive this award from Governor Greg Abbott. This is a testament to our strong DFW community, who has embraced our film festival with open arms and fills out theaters to capacity year-after-year. India is known for its Bollywood films, but we want to create an appreciation for the smaller, independent gems that may never see the light of day, if it were not for festivals like ours."

The 4th annual DFW SAFF will take place from February 8 to 11, 2018, at the AMC Village on the Parkway in Addison, Texas, and it will showcase more than 20 shorts, documentaries and feature films from South Asia. In addition to international and Texas premieres, the festival will also host workshops, networking events and a VIP red carpet reception for its invited filmmakers and actors from all over



*(From L to R): Nisha Bhatt, Festival Coordinator; Jitin Hingorani, Founder & Festival Director; Ambica Dev, Artistic Director. Photo Credit: Amrit Kirpalani*

the world. "We had a lot of nominees this year for the 'Most Innovative Business' Award," says NeelGonuguntla, President of the US-India Chamber of Commerce (DFW). "But DFW SAFF has built a truly innovative business model that leads to community integration through the universally-loved art form of cinema."



## RSS RULES OUT WOMEN ENTRY INTO 'SHAKHAS'

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has categorically dismissed reports that it was considering entry of women in "shakhas"—its daily meetings. In a series of tweets from its official handle, the BJP's ideological fountainhead termed reports quoting chief spokesperson Manmohan Vaidya "deliberately concocted" and "baseless".

"Deliberately concocted baseless reports appeared in some media that the RSS will consider entry of women in shakhas."

"What Dr Vaidya said was that the RSS works with only men in shakhas and through them, we connect with their families. Shakha work among women is being conducted by Rashtra Sevika Samiti."

"In all programmes and campaigns in society women are also participating. Women create an atmosphere of cooperation in families to support the RSS," the Hindu organisation said on the issue that became viral after Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi's observations on the presence of women in the sangh

Aiming to target the BJP and the RSS in poll-bound Gujarat, Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi had told a gathering that the saffron party was not interested in women's rights. "How many women are in the RSS? Have you ever seen women in shorts working with the RSS? I have never seen. You see women in the Congress all the time. In the RSS, you will never see women. God knows what mistakes women have committed that they cannot be a part of the RSS," he said.

Rahul's words, specifically those related to shorts, invited severe condemnation from BJP leaders, who asked him to apologise for "indecent and derogatory" remarks.

Specifically on this point, Vaidya was quoted as saying: "It is like going to a men's hockey match and trying to look for women players. If you want to see women players, you have to go to a women's hockey match."

"The RSS only had camps for men, but this did not mean it did not work with women," he added. Notably, the Rashtra Sevika Samiti is its parallel organisation, also referred to as its "women wing".

## MALLYA EXTRADITION: INDIA HAS TO REPLY BY NOV 3

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** India has to reply to the defence evidence before November 3 in the Vijay Mallya extradition case, the hearing for which is scheduled to begin in a UK court on December 4.

MEA spokesperson, Raveesh Kumar, said it has been tentatively decided to hold the extradition hearing in December at the case management review meeting between Indian and UK officials on July 6.

"The extradition request in respect of Vijay Mallya was handed over to UK high commission in New Delhi on February 9, 2017. Mallya was arrested and produced before the Westminster Magistrates' Court in London on April 18, 2017 for extradition hearing and granted conditional bail." India had given in some defence evidence to the UK Crown Prosecution Service at the second review meeting on September 14, the MEA spokesperson said.

Mallya was re-arrested on October 4 after the UK Crown Prosecution Service, on India's behalf, filed a supplementary affidavit, with additional charges of money laundering against the liquor baron. However, since the bail conditions remained the same, Mallya was out by the end of the day. Kumar said a "pre-trial case review" will be held on November 20, while the extradition hearing will be on December 4. Extradition processes can go on for years. The December hearing will only be the first.

# ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IN HIMACHAL ON NOV 9, RESULT ON DEC 18

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** The Himachal Pradesh Assembly elections will be conducted in a single phase on November 9 while the counting of votes will take place on December 18, the Election Commission announced today.

The commission, however, chose to defer the announcement of the poll schedule for Gujarat although the tenure of the state Assembly ends on January 22, just two weeks after that of Himachal.

Chief Election Commissioner AK Joti, though, indicated that Gujarat would go to the polls before December 18. "This is being done to ensure the voting pattern of one state does not affect the other," he said.

Asked why elections in Gujarat were not announced simultaneously, Joti said, "We have received communication from the state government about ongoing relief and rehabilitation operations following the floods. The administration has sought time before being fully prepared for the elections."

Joti said elections to the two states were announced separately in the past too. "The model code of conduct comes into force immediately," said Joti, who was flanked by Election Commissioners OP Rawat and Sunil Arora. As per rules, the code will be applicable for the state government as well as the Centre in matters related to Himachal. The poll notification will be



Chief Election Commissioner A K Joti announcing the schedule for the Himachal Pradesh Assembly elections, at a press conference in New Delhi.

issued on October 16.

For the first time ever, the Election Commission will set up 136 all-woman managed polling booths in Himachal, with each constituency having two of them. Also, Himachal will be the second state after Goa where voting will take place with 100 per cent VVPAT (voter verified paper trail) coverage. The paper

trail machines will be deployed along with EVMs at all 7,521 polling stations, including 42 auxiliary polling stations at remote places.

The Chief Election Commissioner said VVPAT machines from one polling booth in each of the 68 Assembly segments will be tallied with EVM results to check the vote count.

## 'From beti bachao it's now about Amit Shah ka beta bachao'

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** The poll-bound state of Gujarat on Tuesday saw a high-pitched battle as Rahul Gandhi slammed the BJP government in the state and the Centre stating that the saffron party had duped the people of the state by not fulfilling its promises and giving all the money to industrialists.

On a three-day tour of Gujarat, the Congress vice-president stepped up his attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the alleged business dealings of BJP chief Amit Shah's son Jay, asking him if he was a "partner" in the "theft".

He said that the BJP had made tall promises at the time of election but scored a zero when it comes to deliverables. The Gandhi scion sought to play up issues like farmers' crisis, demonetisation, and lack of jobs in the prime minister's home state.

"How much money did you get in your homes out of the so-called Gujarat model of development?" Gandhi asked a cheering crowd in Vadodara. Gandhi also criticised the state government over the issue of high debt.

"The debt of Gujarat has reached Rs 2 lakh crore. Despite taking so much debt for development works, there has been no improvement in the condition of farmers and the poor," Gandhi said.

The Congress leader began day two of



his 'Navsarjan Yatra' in central Gujarat region by addressing students in Vadodara. He made a stop at Padra village in Vadodara after which he interacted with Anganwadi workers and Khadi India showroom workers at Karjan.

Gandhi also visited Dabhoi and then interacted with people displaced due to the Sardar Sarovar Dam in Pansoli. Gandhi also decided to participate in the traditional Timli dance with the locals in Chota Udaipur, his last stop for the day. The Congress vice-president, who was on the second leg of his campaign tour in the poll-bound home state of Modi, frequently raked up the issue of Jay's business dealings to target the

prime minister as well as Shah at about 10 small and big public meetings that he addressed throughout the day.

He also criticised Union ministers and BJP leaders who defended the BJP chief's son, saying that they should change the name of the government's flagship scheme for the girl child—"Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao"—to "Amit Shah ke bete ko bachao (save Amit Shah's son)".

"A theft has taken place in front of the eyes of the chowkidar (watchman), but you are silent. The question is are you a watchman or a partner?" Gandhi questioned, attacking Modi over a report published in news portal The Wire where it claimed that a firm owned by Jay saw a huge rise in turnover after the BJP came to power at the Centre in 2014.

Gandhi's comments were a mockery of Modi's comments made at his public meetings during the 2014 Lok Sabha campaign. Modi used to say that he did not want to become the prime minister but a 'chowkidar' of people's wealth.

"The company was formed six to seven years ago. Modiji came (to power in 2014) and launched 'Start up India', 'Make in India'. He then introduced demonetisation and GST. This destroyed small businesses and farmers," Gandhi told the gathering.

# Sex with minor wife, despite consent, is rape: Apex court

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** The Supreme Court on Oct 11 held that sexual intercourse by a man with his wife, who is below 18 years of age, is rape.

A girl child below the age of 18 cannot be treated as a commodity having no say over her body or someone who has no right to deny sexual intercourse to her husband, the Supreme Court held.

"Human rights of a girl child are very much alive and kicking whether she is married or not and deserve recognition and acceptance," a Bench of Justices Madan B. Lokur and Deepak Gupta observed.

The two judges wrote separate judgments totalling 127 pages. The court read down Exception 2 to Section 375 (rape) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), which allowed the husband of a girl child — between 15 and 18 years of age — blanket liberty and freedom to have non-consensual sexual intercourse with her. Her willingness or consent was of no concern. The husband in such cases was not punished for rape.

The exception had remained an anomaly because Section 375 itself mandated that sex with a girl below 18 years of age, with or without her consent, was statutory rape. An unmarried girl child can prosecute her rapist, but a married girl child aged between 15 and 18 could not even do that, Justice Lokur said, pointing out the injustice.



"A child remains a child whether she is described as a street child or a surrendered child or an abandoned child or an adopted child. Similarly, a child remains a child whether she is a married child or an unmarried child or a divorced child or a separated or widowed child. At this stage we are reminded of Shakespeare's eternal view that a rose by any other name would smell as sweet — so also with the status of a child, despite any prefix," Justice Lokur wrote.

The court, however, refrained from dealing with the issue of marital rape of a woman aged above 18.

With this judgment, considered by experts as trigger to declaring child marriage void ab initio, the court ended

the decades-old disparity between Exception 2 to Section 375 IPC and other child protection laws.

These include the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act of 2006, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act and Juvenile Justice Act, all which define a "child" as someone who is below 18 years of age.

The court held that the exception clause to rape, carved out in the IPC, created an unnecessary and artificial distinction between a married girl child and an unmarried girl child. The clause took away the right of a girl child to bodily integrity and reproductive choice. It had even the effect of turning a blind eye to trafficking of the minor girl children in the guise of marriage.



## KEJRIWAL'S 'AAM AADMI' CAR STOLEN; AAP LEADER ANNOUNCES REWARD

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** A creaky Wagon R, used by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal till the 2015 assembly election and which helped cement his position as the "aam aadmi", was on Thursday stolen from outside the Delhi Secretariat, police said.

A senior police officer said the incident happened just before noon and was reported to the police around 1 pm. The car was parked on the roadside outside the Delhi Secretariat.

The incident has outraged AAP workers, many of whom posted videos of Kejriwal using the car, especially during the 2014 Republic Day, after he became the chief minister of Delhi for the first time.

AAP's Haryana convener Naveen Jaihind has announced an undisclosed amount as reward for whoever finds the vehicle.

Jaihind had sought the "lucky car" for his campaigning when he contested the 2014 Lok Sabha poll from Rohtak.

"I want this car back. There are a lot of emotions, memories attached to it. Whoever returns the car, I will give him a suitable reward, which will be much more than what he will get from selling the car," Jaihind said.

Like Jaihind, many AAP volunteers recollect the "iconic" car for it witnessed the ups and downs of the Aam Aadmi Party.

The car was witness to two assembly election wins in 2013 and 2015 and also to the party's poor performance in the Lok Sabha polls.

It was "donated" to Kejriwal by Kundan Sharma, a software engineer, in January 2013. However, when Kejriwal parted ways with his then party colleagues Prashant Bhushan and Yogendra Yadav, Sharma demanded that the vehicle be returned.

Even after Kejriwal became the chief minister in December 2013, he refused to use an official car and preferred his old Wagon-R.

AAP volunteers recall the blue car which had rust and dents on it, giving refuge to a sick Kejriwal, suffering from severe cough and cold on a nippy January night in 2014, when he staged a 'dharna' outside the Rail Bhawan against the Delhi Police.

The humble hatchback was used by an AAP functionary before it was stolen this afternoon.

## OFFICIAL 'DISRESPECTS' NATIONAL ANTHEM IN J-K; STUDENTS, PROTEST

**JAMMU (TIP):** A student was injured after police allegedly lathi-charged students and staff of a school in Jammu and Kashmir for protesting against a government official, who, they claimed, disrespected the national anthem playing there.

The incident happened at Government Model Boys' Higher Secondary School in Kishtwar town on Thursday where assistant commissioner (revenue) (ACR), Mohammed Syed Khan had come on a raid to check absenteeism.

However, the national anthem was playing when Khan arrived, and showing least respect, he entered the principal's office, took the attendance register and started leaving, when some teachers asked him to show some respect to the anthem in front of the students, especially as he was a public servant.

On hearing this, Khan lost his cool and allegedly abused the teachers, which in turn angered the students, who shouted slogans and staged a protest with the teachers.

One of the students said police later came inside the school and lathi-charged the protesting students and teachers.

# India ranked 100th among 119 as hunger gets worse

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** Grappling with a "serious" hunger problem, India has been ranked 100th among 119 developing countries on the Global Hunger Index (GHI), behind North Korea, Bangladesh and even the besieged Iraq, but ahead of Pakistan, according to a report.

India was ranked 97th last year. The country's hunger problem is driven by high child malnutrition, and underlines the need for stronger commitment to the social sector, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) said in its report.

"India... has the third highest score in all of Asia — only Afghanistan and Pakistan are ranked worse," IFPRI said in a statement.

An increase in GHI indicates the worsening of a country's hunger situation. "At 31.4, India's 2017 GHI score is at the high end of the 'serious' category, and one of the main factors pushing South Asia to the category of worst performing region this year, followed closely by Africa South of the Sahara," it added. Among India's neighbouring countries, China ranks the highest at 29; Nepal has been ranked 72, Myanmar 77, Sri Lanka 84, Bangladesh 88, Pakistan 106 and Afghanistan 107. North Korea ranks 93rd, and Iraq 78th. Now in its 12th year, the GHI ranks countries based on four indicators — undernourishment, child mortality, child wasting and child stunting.

IFPRI said more than a fifth of Indian children aged below five weighed too little for their height and over a third were too



### HIGHLIGHTS

- India was ranked 97th last year.
- China ranks the highest at 29
- Nepal has been ranked 72
- Myanmar 77
- Sri Lanka 84
- Bangladesh 88,
- Pakistan 106
- Afghanistan 107

short for their age. "As of 2015-16, more than a fifth (21%) of children... suffer from wasting (low-weight-for-height) — up from 20% in 2005-2006," IFPRI said. Only three other nations — Djibouti, SL and South Sudan — show child wasting above 20% this year

## GAUTAM BAMBAWALE INDIA'S NEXT AMBASSADOR TO CHINA

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** Seasoned diplomat Gautam Bambawale, India's high commissioner to Pakistan, was on Thursday appointed as the country's next envoy to China.

This was announced tonight by the external affairs ministry.

A 1984 India Foreign Service (IFS) officer, Bambawale is expected to take up the assignment shortly, the ministry said.

He will replace Vijay Gokhale.

A deft hand in Sino-India relations, Bambawale opted to learn Mandarin Chinese as his foreign language and served in Hong Kong and Beijing between 1985 and 1991.

He was first the desk officer for China in the Ministry of External Affairs and served as director in the Americas Division of the ministry, responsible for relations with the US and Canada (1993-94).

Source: PTI

## Indian American Neal Katyal Honored with 'The American Courage Award 2017'



In 2011, Neal received the highest award given to a civilian by the U.S. Department of Justice

**WASHINGTON (TIP):** Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC celebrated its 2017 American Courage Awards to recognize and celebrate individuals, groups, and corporations for their commitment and contributions to civil rights, on October 5, 2017. Prominent Supreme Court attorney Neal K. Katyal is among this year's honorees.

Neal K. Katyal, former Acting Solicitor General of the United States and is the representing attorney for the state of Hawaii in its challenge to the President's Muslim ban, received the American Courage Award. The honor is for an individual who has shown extraordinary courage or commitment to civil rights. Neal's prolific body of work includes defending the constitutionality of the Voting Rights Act and defending the rule of law and due process in *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*.

At the age of 47, Katyal has already argued more Supreme Court cases than any other minority attorney in U.S. history, except for Thurgood Marshall, with whom he is currently tied. Neal is best known for his work as lead counsel for the Guantanamo Bay detainees in the landmark decision *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, and for successfully defending the constitutionality of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. In 2011, Katyal led efforts to issue a confession of error by the Solicitor General's office, formally acknowledging and apologizing for its role in *Korematsu v. United States*. Recently, Katyal served as the lead attorney for the state of Hawaii's challenge to the President's travel ban. It is clear from his work that he has a personal as well as professional commitment to the advancement of civil rights.

Katyal was deemed "one of the finest lawyers who has argued before a court," by Chief Justice John Roberts. In 2011, Neal received the highest award given to a civilian by the U.S. Department of Justice, the Edmund Randolph Award. Neal has also served as a law professor for nearly two decades at Georgetown University Law Center, where he was one of the youngest professors to have received tenure and a chaired professorship in the university's history. He also fought to overturn the patents held by Myriad Genetics that could help diagnose breast cancer winning a unanimous Supreme Court decision,

## Indian American Nisha Desai Biswal Appointed President of U.S.-India Business Council



Biswal will join the U.S. Chamber beginning October 23, 2017

**WASHINGTON (TIP):** The U.S. Chamber of Commerce announced that Nisha Desai Biswal has been appointed President of the U.S.-India Business Council. "We are thrilled to welcome Nisha Biswal to the U.S.-India Business Council and to the U.S. Chamber team," said Myron Brilliant, U.S. Chamber executive vice president and head of International Affairs. "She is a driven, visionary leader who has a strong

contd on Page 48

# Indian American Professor Granted NIH 'New Innovator' Award

**NEW YORK (TIP):** The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has selected the laboratory of Indian American Neville Sanjana, an assistant professor in NYU's Department of Biology and an assistant professor of neuroscience and physiology at NYU School of Medicine, for its "New Innovator" Award. He was granted \$2.9 million to use a series of new technologies - including CRISPR genome editing and single-cell RNA sequencing - to better understand transcriptional regulation;

The grant will enable Sanjana, Core Faculty Member at the New York Genome Center, and his team to interrogate the noncoding regions of the genome, which is 98 percent of the human genome. Utilizing advanced genome engineering and high-throughput sequencing, the Sanjana Lab aims to identify the sequences and proteins that govern gene expression.

The award of nearly \$2.9 million over five years will support the Sanjana Lab's work in deciphering the logic of gene regulation through the development of new tools for targeted, precise modifications to the genome. These new genome engineering methods include techniques for denser coverage of noncoding regions, scaling up genetic screens, building multidimensional readouts of noncoding function, and identifying the DNA-binding proteins that are found near functional elements. Using this gene editing toolbox, the



Professor Neville Sanjana, core faculty member at the New York Genome Center, assistant professor of biology, New York University, and assistant professor of neuroscience and physiology at NYU School of Medicine, with a Sanjana Lab team member. Image courtesy of the New York Genome Center.

Sanjana Lab will test hypotheses that link sequence changes in noncoding regions to relevant biological phenotypes, such as therapeutic resistance in cancer and the development of cortical neurons during early embryogenesis.

In his proposal to the NIH, Sanjana described his long-term goal to construct a catalog of all functional elements in the noncoding genome and to map their interactions in healthy and disease states. His proposal leverages both

established and newly-characterized CRISPR enzymes to build a platform for understanding how noncoding DNA and transcription factors come together in gene regulation. According to Sanjana, "Although our research into the noncoding genome is rooted in basic science questions, the aim is to generate clinically relevant and actionable discoveries regarding cancer evolution and treatment, as we have done previously with functional screens in the coding genome."

## Indian American Announces candidacy for Cambridge City Council

**CAMBRIDGE CITY (TIP):** Hari I. Pillai an Indian American announced his candidacy for the Cambridge City Council's elections on November 7. The engineer lived in Cambridge for the last 5 years, and currently lives at Alewife.

He was born/raised in the Mississippi Delta to Indian immigrants who migrated here during the '60s. After completing his BS in Engineering at Mississippi State University, Hari moved to Troy, New York, for MS in Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in '97. While at RPI, he became a Graduate Student Senator, taught the non-traditional Navy students Differential Equations/Calculus in RPI's Extension Program in Malta, New York, and volunteered at Zoller Elementary School in Schenectady.

Right after completing his Master's Degree in Engineering, Hari worked at GE Power Systems as a Process and Quality Engineer, and eventually moved to the Boston Area. Over the years, his career would meander more or less to other areas, including being a tutor, health and wellness coach at the Oak Square YMCA, and in the last few years, he has been an Account Manager in the Technology Sector.

"Outside my career, I've involved myself in many campaigns for local, state, and federal elections, and did a lot of volunteer work as a Massachusetts Service Alliance grant reviewer, mentoring young kids, and volunteer at Massachusetts Correctional Institution - Shirley to promote mindfulness and to



Hari was born/raised in the Mississippi Delta to Indian immigrants

cultivate spiritual practices using Buddhism as a vehicle. At my work, I'm a member of African American Business Leaders for Excellence (ABLE), Asian American Professional Group, and Pride in addition to mentoring and coaching junior employees", he wrote on his website.

### Hari said his top priorities are:

1. Maintaining Cambridge's uniqueness and not selling-out on our values just for more economic growth. I strongly believe that, holistically, we can have strong economic growth and a healthy budget and still be true to our values

2. The Trump Administration's vision of hate has no place here. I offer my candidacy to be a counterpoint to the values of this administration.
3. Lack of shared parking in Alewife and other parts of Cambridge. Shared parking is a more efficient parking schema, can reduce greenhouse emissions, and optimize the traffic flow through the parking lot.
4. Address our dismal internet services in Cambridge. Why is Cambridge's estimates for community broadband much more expensive than other cities? My experience as an account manager with Project Management and negotiating experiences would ensure that I could add value to the Broadband Commission that we have set up.
5. Volpe Redevelopment Project - I'm against MITIMCO's current proposals of this.
6. Increased Voter Turnout - For Cambridge's municipal elections, like the one we're about to have on November 7th, the turnout is only ~25%. Just a few decades ago, the rate was more than 70% (see chart below). We must do something to increase this. I'd like to see us having municipal elections on even years, and this would increase the number of voters by 40%. Democracy works best when all voices are heard.



# EU says little progress made in Brexit talks with Britain

**BRUSSELS (TIP):** Brexit talks have made little progress, the European Union's negotiator said on Thursday, meaning he cannot yet recommend broadening the negotiations beyond the focus on the terms of Britain's exit to include key issues such as future trade relations.

Michel Barnier said that despite the "constructive spirit" shown in this week's fifth round of talks, "we haven't made any great steps forward." On the question of how much Britain has to pay to settle its financial commitments, he said: "We have reached a state of deadlock, which is disturbing."

Barnier said he would not be able to recommend to EU leaders meeting next week that "sufficient progress" has been made to broaden the talks to future EU-British relations, including trade.

The leaders meet in Brussels on Oct. 19-20, and with time short to seal a deal it had been hoped they would agree to widen the talks.

The EU says this can only happen when there has been progress on the issues of the financial settlement, the rights of citizens affected by Brexit and the status of the Northern Ireland-Ireland border.

But Britain says these issues are closely intertwined with their future relations like trade and must be discussed together.

"I hope the member states will see the progress we have made and take a step forward" next week, British Brexit envoy David Davis told reporters.

"We would like them to give Michel the means to broaden the negotiations. It's up to them whether they do it. Clearly I think it's in the interests of the



United Kingdom and the European Union that they do," Davis said.

Barnier said the two sides would work to achieve "sufficient progress" in time for a subsequent meeting of EU leaders in December.

Britain must leave the EU on March 29, 2019, but the negotiations must be completed within about a year to leave time for EU states' national parliaments to ratify the Brexit agreement.

Many businesses are worried that Britain could leave the EU without a trade deal in place, which would mean tariffs on U.K. goods entering, reams of red tape and chaos at ports. The pound fell Thursday on news of the slow progress, trading 0.6 percent lower at \$1.3145.

European estimates on the size of the divorce bill have varied from around 60 billion euros to 100 billion euros (\$70-120 billion), but Prime Minister Theresa May's government has rejected such numbers without clearly explaining how

the amount should be calculated.

"The UK repeated that it was still not ready to spell out these commitments," Barnier said. "There have therefore been no negotiations on this subject."

With the clock ticking, Barnier reaffirmed that parting with "no deal will be a very bad deal."

"To be clear, on our side, we will be ready to face any eventualities, and all the eventualities," he said.

The British government is under pressure from euroskeptic lawmakers to increase planning for a "no deal" Brexit, in which the U.K. leaves the bloc without a trade agreement.

Pro-Brexit lawmakers are urging May's government to set aside money for new customs posts and other infrastructure that would be needed in the event of no deal. Some even say Britain should walk away from the negotiations if the EU does not agree to start the next phase by the end of the year. (AP)

# UK defence giant BAE Systems to cut almost 2,000 jobs after Typhoon orders slow

**LONDON (TIP):** British defence company BAE Systems announced nearly 2,000 job cuts on Tuesday, mostly at its military aircraft operations after orders for its Typhoon fighter jet slowed.

The job losses are part of a shake up by Charles Woodburn, who took over as chief executive in July and plans to streamline the business and revamp its air and maritime operations.

The Eurofighter Typhoon jet has won fewer orders this year than the rival Rafale built by France's Dassault Aviation, as a major order expected from Saudi Arabia has not materialised, although Qatar agreed to buy 24 Typhoons in September.

Britain's Unite union said it would fight the "devastatingly short sighted" job losses as BAE said it will also cut around 375 jobs at its maritime operations and 150 roles at its Applied Intelligence business, as part of a reorganisation designed to make the business more competitive.

The group, which employs 34,600 people in Britain, has already slowed production at two of its plants in Lancashire, northern England, which are involved in making the Typhoon jet.

Based on current orders for its Typhoon and Hawk aircraft, BAE said it needed to reduce the workforce at the unit by up to 1,400 roles.

BAE's Warton and Samlesbury plants will suffer the brunt of the losses as around 5,000 people there work on the Typhoon programme, which is a joint project between BAE, France's Airbus and Italy's Finmeccanica.

Unite stood ready to fight the job losses.

"These planned job cuts will not only undermine Britain's sovereign defence capability, but devastate communities across the UK who rely on these skilled jobs and the hope of a decent future they give to future generations," Unite's Assistant General Secretary Steve Turner said.

BAE said in August that any new orders were unlikely to impact production delivery rates positively for at least 24 months, and production would be under constant review.

"We obviously have to review our (Typhoon) production demand very carefully," Woodburn said in August.

However, he said he remained confident about future orders for the aircraft. (Reuters)

# Hate crimes targeting mosques, Muslims doubled in UK: Report

**LONDON (TIP):** Violence, assaults, arson and other hate crimes targeting mosques and Muslims more than doubled across the UK this year, a media report said today, quoting latest official figures.

Police forces recorded 110 hate crimes directed at Muslim places of worship between March and July, up from 47 over the same six month period in 2016, the Independent reported.

It said the crimes include racist abuse, threats to bomb mosques, attacks on mosques and worshippers, damage to vehicles outside mosques, graffiti daubed on buildings, arson attacks and physical assaults on Muslims arriving and leaving mosques.

Describing the figures as "deeply troubling", Britain's shadow home secretary Diane Abbott said attacks on any religious group or minority are abominable.

"We have seen a rise in anti-Muslim extremism and far-right activity online, with a very slow, dinosaur approach from social media companies to take off hate, and an utter denial for three or four years that this was their responsibility," said Fiyaz Mughal, Director of Faith Matters which works to increase community cohesion. "They are now taking steps, but they are baby steps." The latest data was obtained through Freedom of Information requests made to 45 UK police forces. The figures, based on 42 responses, showed that 25 forces saw an increase in hate crimes directed at mosques, the paper said.

The biggest increase was reported by Greater Manchester Police and the second largest increase was in London.

Threats, harassment and other intimidating behaviour outside mosques more than tripled across the country, from 14 crimes in 2016 to 49 in 2017, the paper said.

Violent crime against Muslims attending mosques more than doubled from five recorded crimes in 2016 to 11 crimes in 2017. Crimes recorded as vandalism or criminal damage increased from 12 in 2016 to 15 in 2017, it added.

A record number of anti-Semitic crimes were also reported in the UK in the first six months of this year, with 767 incidents recorded, according to the Community Security Trust. (PTI)

# Spanish PM demands clarity from Catalonia on independence

**MADRID (TIP):** Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy demanded on Wednesday that the Catalan leader clarify whether he has declared independence, issuing a veiled threat that the central government could limit or rescind the province's autonomy if he has.

He said the Catalan government's response would be crucial in deciding "events over the coming days."

It is the first time that Rajoy has openly said that Article 155 of the Spanish constitution will be the next step taken by the government if Catalan authorities don't backtrack. He said the government "wants to offer certainty to citizens" and that it is "necessary to return tranquility and calm."

Rajoy issued the demand following a special Cabinet meeting to respond to an announcement from the head of the wealthy Catalonia region, Carles Puigdemont, that he was proceeding with a declaration of independence but was suspending it for several weeks to facilitate negotiations.

In a highly anticipated speech Tuesday night, Puigdemont said the landslide victory in a disputed October 1 referendum gave his government in the regional capital, Barcelona, the grounds



to implement its long-held desire to break century-old ties with Spain.

But he proposed that the regional parliament suspend the effects of the declaration to commence a dialogue and help reduce tension, in what is Spain's worst political crisis in decades. The central government in Madrid has given little indication it is willing to talk, saying it did not accept the declaration and did not consider the referendum or

its results to be valid.

Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Soraya Saenz de Santamaria said the Catalan leader "doesn't know where he is, where he is going and with whom he wants to go."

She said Puigdemont had put Catalonia "in the greatest level of uncertainty seen yet."

Article 155 of the Constitution allows the central government to take some or total control of any of its 17 regions if they don't comply with their legal obligations. This would begin with a Cabinet meeting and a warning to the regional government to fall into line. Then, the Senate could be called to approve the measure.

Some 2.3 million Catalans -- or 43 per cent of the electorate in the northeastern region -- voted in the referendum. Regional authorities say 90 per cent were in favour and declared the results valid. Those who opposed the referendum had said they would boycott the vote.

Rajoy's government had repeatedly refused to grant Catalonia permission to hold a referendum on the grounds that it was unconstitutional, since it would only poll a portion of Spain's 46 million residents. (AP)

## Sushma Swaraj helps citizen of 'time tested friend' Russia

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** Taking note of a news report about a Russian tourist seeking alms at a temple in Tamil Nadu after he reportedly ran out of money, external affairs minister Sushma Swaraj on Tuesday offered him "all help."

"Evangelin - Your country Russia is our time tested friend. My officials in Chennai will provide you all help," tweeted Swaraj.

The 24-year-old tourist, Evangelin, was unable to withdraw money after his ATM PIN got locked. With no other way out, he decided to sit at the entrance of the Kumarakottam Sri Subramanya Swami temple and use his cap to seek alms.

Alerted by locals, the police took him to the police station, where they found his travel documents to be in order. His visa is valid until next month.

The police gave him some money and advised him to go to Chennai and contact officials at the Russian Consulate for help. The minister has long used social media to come to the aid of those in need of help, including those living across the border. (PTI)

## China opposes US move to send its warship in South China Sea

**BEIJING (TIP):** China has lodged a strong protest against the United States over the entry of an American warship in the South China Sea. China regards a major part of the sea as its territory though there are contesting claims by four other countries, including Vietnam and the Philippines.

The US decision to send Chafee, a guided-missile destroyer, is seen as an attempt to counter what Washington regards as Chinese efforts to establish its hegemony over the region and reduce American influence over the strategic waters.

The American vessel conducted normal manoeuvring operations near the Parcel Islands, and a string of islets, reefs and shoals in the sea area.

China immediately dispatched military vessels and tried to challenge the entry of the US destroyer, local reports said.

The US move infringed upon China's sovereignty and security with its "provocation", China's Defense Ministry said. A warship, two fighter jets and a helicopter had scrambled to warn the US ship away, it said. (PTI)

## Saudi woman booked for driving before lifting of ban

**RIYADH (TIP):** Saudi police have penalised a woman filmed driving a car, a spokesman said Monday, warning against violations of a ban on female drivers set to be lifted next June.

Authorities summoned the woman and booked her for flouting traffic regulations after she appeared in a video driving out of a luxury hotel in the capital Riyadh.

"We call on all Saudi citizens to respect the law and wait until the ban on women driving formally ends," the police spokesman told AFP.

He did not specify the nature of the penalty, but added that the woman filmed leaving the Ritz Carlton hotel had not been arrested.

He said the owner of the car was separately booked for violating traffic regulations.

Saudi Arabia last month said it would allow women to obtain driving permits under a royal decree to take effect in June, sparking euphoria and disbelief among activists who long fought the ban. (AP)

## Gunman kills two guards at Saudi royal palace

**RIYADH (TIP):** A gunman shot dead two Saudi guards and wounded three others at the gate of the royal palace in the Red Sea city of Jeddah, the interior ministry said.

Royal guards killed the gunman, identified by the ministry as a 28-year-old Saudi national armed with a Kalashnikov and three grenades.

"An outpost of the royal guard came under fire by a person who got out of a Hyundai car," the ministry said in a statement on Saturday carried by the official Saudi Press Agency.

"He was immediately dealt with and his cowardly act also resulted in the martyrdom" of two royal guards, it added.

The US embassy in Saudi Arabia had earlier cautioned its citizens over reports of the attack. "Due to the possibility of ongoing police activity, American citizens are advised to exercise caution when travelling through the area," the embassy said in a brief statement. (AFP)

# China rejects US criticism of OBOR passing through PoK

**BEIJING (TIP):** Claiming UN support for its controversial One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative, China on Friday rejected US criticism saying the project has not changed its stand that the Kashmir issue should be resolved by India and Pakistan bilaterally.

"We have repeatedly reiterated that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is an economic cooperation initiative that is not directed against third parties and has nothing to do with territorial sovereignty disputes and does not affect China's principled stance on the Kashmir issue," the Chinese foreign ministry told PTI here.

The ministry was responding to comments by US defence secretary Jim Mattis that the Belt and Road Initiative "also goes through disputed territory, and I think, that in itself shows the vulnerability of trying to establish that sort of a dictate".

In a globalised world, there are many belts and many roads, and no one nation should put itself into a position of dictating 'One Belt, One Road', Mattis told a Senate Armed Services Committee during a Congressional hearing on October 4.

Mattis' comments were widely interpreted as the US backing India's stand on OBOR especially related to the \$50 billion CPEC which is being built through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). India has protested to China in this regard.

Rejecting criticism that it is dictating to the world through OBOR, the ministry said it is an "important international public product".

It is an important platform for China to cooperate with relevant countries. It is an open and inclusive development platform and more than 100 countries



and international organisations actively supported and participated in it since it was proposed four years ago, it said.

More than 70 countries and international organisations which have signed cooperation agreements with China on OBOR, including the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council, have incorporated it in their important resolutions, it said.

Over 130 countries and more than 70 international organisations sent representatives to attend the international cooperation summit - 'Belt and Road Forum', organised by China here in May and spoke highly of the initiative, the ministry said.

"This fully explains that the OBOR initiative is in line with the trend of the times and conforms to the rules of

development and is in line with the interests of the people of all countries and has a broad and bright prospects for development," the ministry said.

India skipped the Belt and Road Forum due to its sovereignty concerns over the CPEC, a flagship project of China's prestigious Silk Road project, officially called OBOR.

The 3,000-km CPEC is aimed at connecting China and Pakistan with rail, road, pipelines and optical fibre cable networks. It will connect Xinjiang province with Gwadar port, providing China with access to the Arabian Sea.

The project, when completed, would enable China to route its oil supplies from the Middle East through pipelines to Xinjiang, cutting considerable distance for Chinese ships to travel to China. (PTI)

## First Turkish military convoy enters Syria's Idlib

**BEIRUT (TIP):** A first convoy of the military operation that Turkey is carrying out in Syria's Idlib province crossed into the area late on Thursday, two rebels and a witness said.

The convoy included about 30 military vehicles, said Abu Khairo, a commander in a Free Syrian Army (FSA) rebel group based in the area, and it entered Syria near the Bab al-Hawa border crossing, according to a civilian witness.

It was heading to Sheikh Barakat, a hilltop that overlooks large areas of rebel-held northwestern Syria, but also the Afrin area held by the Kurdish YPG militia.

The convoy was escorted by fighters from Tahrir al-Sham, an alliance of jihadist groups including the former al Qaeda affiliate previously known as the Nusra Front, Abu Khairo said.

"The Turkish army convoy is entering under the protection of Tahrir al-Sham to take positions on the front line with the YPG," another FSA official in the area said.

Turkey said on Saturday it was carrying out a military operation in Idlib and surrounding areas as part of a



deal it reached with Russia and Iran last month to enforce a "de-escalation" zone in northwest Syria.

The zone is one of several set up around Syria to reduce warfare between rebels, including groups backed by Turkey, and the government, which is supported by both Russia and Iran.

Tahrir al-Sham opposes the de-escalation deal with the government, but its role in escorting the Turkish

reconnaissance team on Sunday indicated there might not be any direct military confrontation between its fighters and Turkey.

The Turkish military operation in Idlib will also include Syrian rebel groups involved in the Euphrates Shield operation that Ankara launched in Syria last year further to the east, Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said on Saturday. (Reuters)



2017

# INDIA ASSOCIATION OF LONG ISLAND 22nd Annual Diwali Food Drive

**IN MEMORY OF**

**MR. KARAN BERI, MR. ARVIN BATRA, MR. GIRI CHHABRA  
& OTHER IALI DECEASED MEMBERS**

**Peter Bheddah (Founder, IALI Food Drive) (516) 765-6622**  
**Bina Sabapathy (IALI President) (516) 965-2931**  
**Aruna Saxena, Chairperson, Food Drive (631) 683-4143**  
**Jaya Bahadkar, Co-Chair, Food Drive (516) 216-5220**

## FOOD DRIVE SPONSORS

Indu Chhabra	(516) 482-5676	Suda Sharma	(516) 541-1239
Rekha Chichara	(516) 932-8875	Kishore Kuncham	(516) 849-5330
Damayanti Goklani	(516) 334-8404	Anjana Kashyap	(516) 902-9561
Anu Gulati	(516) 795-1588	Veena Lamba	(516) 395-1468
Seema Khanna	(631) 486-2783	Dr. Bhavani Srinivasan	(516) 349-7119
Sunita Prasad	(516) 626-3373	Pinki Jaggi	(516) 470-0310
Gunjan Rastogi	(718) 490-0736	Naginder Singh	(516) 766-5196
Geeta Sood	(631) 940-1704	Vim K. Goyal	(516) 978-7125
Lalit Aery	(917) 750-2473	Anu Dua	(516) 650-3066

## PARTNERS

### TLCA-

Srinivasa Guduru (917) 547-5844

### ARYA SAMAJ

Veer Mukhi (917) 715-1974

### SAI MANDIR BALDWIN

Geeta Paranandi (516) 565-9846

### Jericho Sunrise Rotary

Dr. Isha Mehta (516) 528-4757

### SAAWA

Dr. Anila Midha (516) 569-6261

## AND OTHER PROJECTS

### IALI WISH LIST:

Canned Soup  
Canned Meats  
Canned Fish  
Canned Vegetables  
Canned Fruits  
Canned Tomato Sauce  
Fruit Drinks  
Breakfast Cereals & Cookies  
Peanut Butter & Jelly  
Packets of Beans, Rice &  
Pasta  
Paper Goods - 9 ounce hot &  
cold cups, 9" Styrofoam  
plates

### YOUTH PROJECT:

Youth volunteers will collect change from their own piggy banks & jars placed in different store locations, to benefit children living in foster care.

### Youth Committee:

Shalini Pawa (516) 603-6063  
Samaira Pawa (516) 603-6063  
Manpreet Singh (646) 764-4441  
Rishi Nangia (631) 486-2783  
Keshav Khanna  
Aman Khanna

**Please join for**

**Food Drive**

**Celebration/Reception at**

**Mary Brennan INN**

**Soup Kitchen**

**100 Madison Avenue**

**Hempstead NY 11550**

**November 11th, 2017**

**Saturday at 12:30pm**

# ATLAS ROLL OFF CORP. DISPOSAL SITE

OPEN Monday - Friday 6.30 A.M. to 4 P.M.  
Saturday 6.30 A.M. to 1.30 P.M



For construction Debris, Demolition & Cleanouts

Located at 895 Essex Street,  
Brooklyn, NY 11208

\* Just 5 minutes from JFK

## Roll off Container Service 10-40 yards

Serving all the five boroughs of New York Since 1983  
NYC BIC LIC # 711

Reasonable low rates \*\* All major credit cards accepted

# 718-345-6451

# SONU INSURANCE AGENCY INC.

Insurance, Money Transfer, Tax Preparation

**Specializing in:** ● Auto ● Home ● Business  
● Construction  
● Workers Compensation

TAX PREPARES- PERSONAL RETURNS (1040)  
MONEY TRANSFER: Send money to India, Pakistan, Bangladesh



**MASTER MOHINDER SINGH**  
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson  
Licensed Mortgage Loan Originator  
Cell: 646-523-5092

**CALL TODAY**  
**OPEN 9 AM to 6 PM**

**113-09 101st Avenue (Opposite Gurdwara),  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419**  
Phone: 718-847-1878/ 1885 Fax: 718-847-1879  
Email: sonuinsurance@yahoo.com



77 North Broadway Hicksville, NY 11801  
38 West 32<sup>nd</sup> Street New York, NY 10001  
(516) 932-3400  
www.hprealty1.com

*We are the one-stop shop for all of your real estate needs.  
With over 20 years of experience in the local market, we  
can help you with the Buying and Selling process.*

- Residential & Commercial Real Estate
  - Single Family, Multi-family, Investment properties
  - Hotels/Motels, Gas Stations, Restaurants
- Short Sale Specialists, Foreclosures, HUD/REO
- Insurance Services (Home, Life)
- Mortgages\*: New Purchase, Refinance, Hard Money Loan, Business/SBA Loan  
\*(provided by affiliate lenders)

**Hempstead**  
3BR, 1.5 Baths  
Newly Renovated  
\$349,000

**East Meadow**  
5BR, 2 Baths, Hi-Ranch  
Mother/Daughter  
\$549,000

**Staten Island**  
2 BR, 1 Bath, Condo  
Short Sale Approved  
\$193,000

**Franklin Square**  
Commercial Property  
3 Units  
Huge Upside Potential  
\$2.3 million

**Levittown**  
4BR, 2 Baths, Expanded Cape  
Updated, 1,750 sq ft home, 1 Car Garage  
\$459,000

**Hicksville**  
4 BR, 2.5 Baths, Hi-Ranch Built in 2002  
2,250 sq ft home, 80 x 100 lot size  
\$679,900

**South Ozone Park**  
2 family, 4 BR, 3 Baths  
20 x 100 corner lot, 1 Car Garage  
\$449,900

**Hicksville**  
Commercial Property  
16,000 sq ft lot with 2,000 sq ft building  
Private Parking, Development Potential  
\$799,000

**FEATURED LISTING:**

Restaurant For Sale in New Hyde Park  
1,100 sq ft, Newly Renovated, Private Parking, Seating for 50+  
Monthly Rent ONLY \$2,750, Prime Location with heavy traffic  
Gross Monthly Income = \$35k  
\$169,900



**Pal Singh Dhillon**  
Licensed Real Estate Broker, CBR  
QA Software Engineer, E-Pro Certified  
Notary Public

**CALL NOW (516) 304-2630 or (516) 830-0352**

**Jeet Dhillon**  
Licensed Real Estate Broker  
HP Realty Advisors





**Eye Foundation  
of America  
3140 Collins  
Ferry Road  
Morgantown  
WV, 26505**



**HELP  
MAKE  
A  
DIFFERENCE**

Dedicated to the elimination of avoidable  
blindness in children worldwide

**DONATE NOW**

[www.eyefoundationofamerica.org](http://www.eyefoundationofamerica.org)

**Call (304) 598-0055**

**Tax Exempt #: 55-0621735**



**LAW OFFICES OF NEIL KALRA P.C.**



**INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT OR HURT ON THE JOB?  
CHOOSE THE KALRA LAW FIRM**



**CALL FOR A  
FREE CONSULTATION  
(718) 897-2211**

**A LAW FIRM YOU CAN TRUST**

**CAR/TRUCK ACCIDENTS**

**CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENTS**

**PERSONAL INJURY CASES ONLY**



**NEIL KALRA**

*17 years of  
practice  
with a  
tradition of  
excellence.*



100-15 QUEENS BOULEVARD, SUITE 203, FOREST HILLS, NY 11375  
[WWW.LEGALNYS.COM](http://WWW.LEGALNYS.COM)

*The* **INDIAN PANORAMA**  
EVER TRUTHFUL

NEW YORK- DALLAS

# MARKETING STAFF REQUIRED

We are looking for marketing persons for The Indian Panorama print editions and the web portal at a couple of locations which include Long Island, Queens, Manhattan and Buffalo in New York, Jersey City and Edison in New Jersey, Stamford in Connecticut, Atlanta in Georgia, Houston and Dallas in Texas, and Chicago in Illinois.

Persons with experience in newspaper reporting will be preferred.

The individual must be a person with experience in marketing and public relations, confident, independent and able to handle marketing on his/her own with minimum support from the management.

Compensation will be based on experience with up to 40% revenue created by the individual.

Anyone who would like to work with us part time and on the basis of revenue sharing may email to [salujindra@gmail.com](mailto:salujindra@gmail.com) or contact at 646-247-9458.



## ANUPAM KHER NAMED FTII NEW CHAIRMAN

Bringing to an end the controversial tenure of Gajendra Chauhan as the chief of India's premier film and television school, the ministry of information and broadcasting appointed acclaimed actor Anupam Kher chairman of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) on Wednesday.

Kher replaced Chauhan, whose selection in 2014 ran into rough weather almost immediately with students and illustrious alumni of the Pune-based institute attacking his poor track record in filmmaking and acting, besides his alleged inadequacy to handle the affairs of FTII.

Kher's appointment was widely welcomed by the film and theatre fraternity. His wife and Chandigarh BJP MP, Kirron Kher, tweeted, "Congratulations my dear @AnupamPkher for becoming FTII Chairman! Know you will do a great job!" Adman-filmmaker Prakash Nandi, director Prakash Jha, actor-turned-MP Paresh Rawal and Madhur Bhandarkar were among those who welcomed Kher's appointment.

Born in 1955 in Shimla, and a graduate of Delhi's National School of Drama, Kher is considered one of the most prolific and versatile actors in the Hindi film industry. His acting career spans over 35 years, with critically acclaimed performances in Saaranish (1984), Daddy and Khosla Ka Ghosla! (2006), among others. He was also conferred the Padma Bhushan for his contribution to stage and cinema.

# PLAGIARISM ROW: ANUSHKA GOES BACK ON HER CLAIMS OF 'DESIGNING' CLOTHES

Actress-producer Anushka Sharma, whose newly launched clothing line NUSH has been accused of plagiarism, along with her business partner Suditi Industries has said that "specific designs" will be discarded.

Anushka launched her signature apparel line NUSH last week, and according to a statement issued then, she had been involved in choosing the styles, colours and fabrics for over a year.

According to reports, some of the brand's pieces have been lifted from Chinese websites.

Pawan Agarwal, CMD Suditi Industries, explained in a statement on Tuesday: "We have just got to know about the discrepancies in some designs of our brand NUSH and we are taking strict action about the same.

"Our process at Suditi industries was that the entire responsibility of designing and procuring samples was at our end and we have recently realised that some of our procured designs from the Chinese manufacturer were being available elsewhere too."

Agarwal admitted this was not only a "serious design and procurement process lapse from our design and procurement team, but also a breach of trust by the manufacturing company in China with us".

They have realised that a few of the designs that the company bought from the manufacturer were further produced and sold on a Chinese website.

He has said serious actions will be taken against this "breach of faith".

"We would also like to mention that some of the designs highlighted just have commonalities with prevalent fashion trends and are not copies as mentioned," he said.

"So we along with our partner Anushka Sharma are also ensuring that these specific designs are not put on floor and will discard this from our range," he added.

He also clarified that their business partner Anushka was "never part of our designing and procuring process".

"She was only involved in advising us on the styles that could go on the floor based on her personal style and sensibility for which she had dedicated a lot of her time and effort," said Agarwal.

In the statement issued when NUSH was launched, Anushka had said: "I have personally taken interest in the styles of NUSH, so there's a bit of myself in all the outfits."



## MOVIE REVIEW



### CALL FOR FUN

**CAST:** Zaan Khan, Shubhangi Mehrotra, Charu Arora, Prasad Sikhre, Parmeet Sethi

**DIRECTION:** Janak Toprani

**GENRE:** Comedy

**DURATION:** 2 hours 6 minutes

#### STORY

Yash incurs heavy losses in the business that his father left him to oversee. Now, with the help of his friends, the young entrepreneur uses unorthodox means to make all that lost money back.

#### REVIEW

A prankster and popular college student, Yash is the apple of his father's eye. When his dad chooses to go on a well-deserved break to the United States, he leaves Yash in charge of his call centre business, something that the senior has built up from scratch. While his father chose a conservative way of running things, Yash believes in being the first one to get the job done.

Within the first 20 minutes of the film, Yash manages to scare away all his father's clients and ends up bankrupting the call centre. But he has a way out. He starts a raunchy, adult hotline where men call-in and talk dirty. His friends Anu (Shubhangi Mehrotra) and Sush (Charu Asopa) pool in with the dirty talk business and he almost makes up all the money as another tragedy strikes. Now the youngster has to make twice the amount and pay back the dreaded gangster Daabla Supari (Linesh Fanse).

A coming-of-age comedy, 'Call For Fun' tries to be 'cool' and with the times, but it doesn't succeed on account of its wavering plot and weak performances. The fact that Yash's father can leave an entire business to him, knowing his son is a temperamental and impulsive boy, doesn't quite make sense.

Even before the third act, the movie loses the plot when Yash makes a truckload of money helped by only his friends and with marginal staff. The only interesting and funny bits are when we see their romance hotline function and that's a very short part of the movie's run-time. The preachy angle it dips in at the end, where a premium-rate romance hotline transforms into a service that helps the elderly, is quite unpalatable.

The only plus is that you now know who is at the end of that expensive adult hotline!



## JENNIFER GARNER ADMITS SHE 'STALKS' PEOPLE ON INSTAGRAM

After creating her account on the photo-sharing app Instagram, Jennifer Garner has now revealed the reason behind it.

The 45-year-old actress revealed that she decided to create an account on the social media platform because she became obsessed with 'insta-stalking' ballerinas. In a recent interview, the actress shared, "First of all I started Insta-stalking people, mostly ballerinas. But I've so enjoyed watching dancers that I admire from afar and feeling like I get a little insight into their lives and so it just seemed like, OK that makes more sense to me."

Adding, "I don't have to go any deeper than I wanna go, I can kind of be in charge of it. So we're having fun with it. It's just my house!" The 'Dallas Buyers Club' star's first post on the site was a time-lapse video of herself writing the words "I am officially on Instagram. So please follow me because isn't that how this works."

# MANDY MOORE WANTS A SMALL AND QUIET WEDDING



Actor Mandy Moore said she wants to keep her wedding to Taylor Goldsmith low-key. Reportedly, the 33-year-old actor said she attends a lot of lavish celebrations due to her work and hence she has decided to go private with her wedding. "My job allows me to get dressed up, and take pictures, and be the centre of

attention in a way that makes me slightly uncomfortable. I've never dreamed of emulating that in my real life."

"So I think I'll probably take the opposite route when it comes to getting married. I don't think I'm going to have a big, old affair. I think it will be small, and quiet, and private," said Moore.

However, wanting a contrast from her work life is not the only reason the 'This Is Us' star wants a toned-down day when she said 'I do'. "I've never dreamed about a wedding, or a dress, or any of those details, and no judgement on women that do. I get it! I kind of feel like I was always just who I was."

## MOVIE REVIEW



# VICTORIA & ABDUL

**CAST:** Judi Dench, Ali Fazal, Eddie Izzard, Adeel Akhtar, Paul Higgins, Olivia Williams

**DIRECTION:** Stephen Frears

**GENRE:** Biography

**DURATION:** 1 hour 52 minutes

### STORY

In her latter years, Victoria, the Queen of England and Empress of India (Judi Dench), found solace in the company of an Indian clerk Abdul Karim (Ali Fazal), who went on to become her Urdu teacher, spiritual adviser and closest confidant. Based on Shrabani Basu's book on this extraordinary true story, the film takes a bittersweet look at this little-known friendship that caused a furore within the royal household.

### REVIEW

Stephen Frears begins his film by taking us through the

monotonous routine of Queen Victoria as she goes around meeting her social obligations during her Golden Jubilee year (1887). During one such royal gatherings, she glances upon Abdul, a wide-eyed Indian boy, who presents her the ceremonial coin (mohur). Despite being warned against looking at her, Abdul's childish intrigue makes him stare back at her and flash a nervous smile when their eyes meet, amidst a sea of exasperated privileged people. Abdul's accidental defiance and indifference to protocol, liberates the queen emotionally, who is a prisoner by her own means. Evidently, a 'Hindoo' attendant's rising influence on the queen, rattles members and servants of the royal family, who later discover that he's Muslim.

At 82, Judi Dench arrests your attention with her unwavering screen presence and eyes that exude a myriad of emotions - mischief, melancholy, loneliness and longing. She humanises her character effortlessly. Your heart goes out to the ageing monarch as she engages in introspection on a quiet, windy day and tells Abdul, "Everyone I've loved has died, and I just go on and on." Dench is the reason why this fascinating story refuses to seem like a 'scandal'.

Making the most of this incredible opportunity, Ali Fazal holds his own in front of a legend (Dench). Frears smartly uses Ali's raw, nervous energy and enthusiasm and infuses it in Abdul, organically. However, his one-dimensional portrayal of the munshi, leaves a lot to imagination and thus unexplained. Why was an Indian so devoted to the Queen of England, who ruled his country? Was he naive or just an opportunist? What was he like as a person? The narrative reduces Abdul to being a mere spectator and that's its biggest flaw.

# SHRI KRISHNA JEWELERS



**A perfect Setting for A perfect Woman**  
House of Gold, Diamond, Silver Jewelry & Gemstones

Specialists in Traditional, Modern, Trendy Jewelry for all occasions



email: [sonal221@aol.com](mailto:sonal221@aol.com)

37-18, 74th Street, Jackson Height, NY 11372  
Phone: 718-651-8825 Fax: 718-651-8897

# PREET JEWELERS

House of 22 Ct. Gold Jewelry, Diamonds and Gemstones  
After 22 years of service to our customers at Jackson Heights, New York we have moved to Iselin, NJ.



Find us at  
**1319 Oaktree Road, Iselin, NJ 08830**

email: [preet3711@gmail.com](mailto:preet3711@gmail.com)

## 732-379-4929

## Dr. Frederick M. Ruffen Audiologist

Restoring your ear power

CELEBRATE THE **SOUNDS** OF YOUR LIFE



**\*Hearing Aid Evaluation \* Hearing Aid Repair**  
**\*Tympanometry \* Ear Wax Removal**

- Complete Audiological Evaluations
- Tympanometry and Acoustic Reflex Testing
- Hearing Aid Evaluations
- Advanced Ear Mold Selection Skills
- Swim Plugs, Musician Plugs, etc.
- Wide Selection of Hearing Aids
- Hearing Aid Accessories
- Assistive Listening Devices
- Amplified Telephones
- Complete Hearing Help Care for Hearing Aids
- Quarterly Cleanings and Hearing Aid Checks
- Hearing Aid Repair, Loss/Damage and Loaner Services
- Yearly Evaluations
- Computerized Expert Fitting of Hearing Aids

If you are missing the sounds of your life call to schedule a **FREE** hearing screening.  
**TOLL FREE: 1-800-924-7413**

**LOCATIONS**

<b>Nassau University Medical Center</b> 2201 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow, NY 11554 Phone: 516-296-2704 Fax: 516-572-8885	<b>30 Roosevelt Street, Glen Cove, NY 11542</b> Phone: 516-759-0008 Fax: 516-759-0013	<b>680 Broadway, Massapequa, NY 11758</b> Phone: 516-541-4353
---	---	--

**OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT / WALK INS WELCOME**

Arya Samaj of Long Island Inc. Presents

# SUR SANGAM

Evening of Melodious Hindi Songs & Deepavali Gala Dinner



Dedicated to

- Vedas
- Ramayana
- Deepavali

Sunday November 5, 2017 - 6:30pm

at  
**Akbar Restaurant**  
2 South Street, Garden City, NY 11530

In benefit of:  
**ARYA SAMAJ of Long Island Inc. - VED PARCHAR**

Contributions:

- Adults - \$75 • Children Below 12 Yrs - \$40 • Corporate Table For Ten - \$700

For tickets & more information, please contact:

Dr. Yashpal Arya (516) 997-7220	Veer S. Mukhi (917) 715-1974
Dr. Vijaypal Arya (516) 656-0340	Vijay Goswamy (516) 731-5250
Sudesh Mukhi (631) 499-4097	Dr. Anila Midha (516) 569-6261
Dr. Anurab Talwar (516) 385-2820	Anupam Goenka (516) 624-2460
Rajesh Goyal (516) 643-8162	Ashutosh Gupta (516) 359-1013

**"Arya Samaj Bhavan"**  
319 Jerusalem Ave., Hicksville, NY 11801  
Web: [www.aryasamajoflongisland.org](http://www.aryasamajoflongisland.org) Email: [aryasamajoflongisland@yahoo.com](mailto:aryasamajoflongisland@yahoo.com)



# The smart and secure way for Rupee Remittances to India

## Bank of Baroda's Online Rupee Remittance Portal



- Free Rupee Remittance to India
- Syndicated / Bilateral loans
- Corporate Finance
- Certificates of Deposits
- Trade Finance
- Correspondent Banking Business

Bank of Baroda. Serving Indians not just in India, but also in the USA. Our customers can now benefit from the launch of our ONLINE RUPEE REMITTANCE PORTAL.

BANK OF BARODA, ONE PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10016, USA | Tel - 212-578-4550 | Fax 212-578-4565  
Email : [newyor@bankofbaroda.com](mailto:newyor@bankofbaroda.com)

Member FDIC

[www.bankofbaroda-usa.com](http://www.bankofbaroda-usa.com)

Follow us on   



बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा  
**Bank of Baroda**

India's International Bank

# HEARTIEST DIWALI GREETINGS



MALINI SHAH  
Community Cultural  
Liaison NYC  
(Council Member  
Paul Vallone)  
19th District Queens



# HEARTIEST DIWALI AND NEW YEAR GREETINGS

**FROM  
PETER & DOROTHY BHEDDAH**



# **K. K. MEHTA CPA ASSOCIATES PLLC**

## **CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

*Serving the accounting & tax needs of hundreds of Physicians,  
Professionals & Businesses ...  
FOR OVER 30 YEARS.*

*K.K.Mehta, CPA Associates PLLC is one of the finest Accounting and Tax consulting practices specializing in the healthcare industry in the Tri-State area. Ours is a dynamic team of Certified Public Accountants providing value added services to our clients for over 30 years. We are committed to providing highest level of professional & personalized services in a cost-effective manner.*

### *Our Services ...*

*Income Tax ..... Corporate, Partnership & Individual  
Accounting & Auditing  
Pension & Retirement Planning  
Financial & Estate Planning  
Representation ..... Tax Audits  
Practices / Businesses — Buy & Sell  
Business & Management Advisory Services*

**CALL US FOR FREE REVIEW & CONSULTATION.**

### *Partners*

*K. K. Mehta  
Nuruddin Pethani  
Ravi Badlani  
Praveen Gajaria  
Manish Majithia  
Brian Dhungana*

254 Brick Boulevard, Suite 2  
Brick, NJ 08724  
Tel: (732) 930-0272  
Fax: (516) 663-5996  
[www.kkmehtacpa.com](http://www.kkmehtacpa.com)

100 Ring Road, Suite 300  
Garden City, NY 11530  
Tel: (516) 663-5990  
Fax: (516) 663-5996  
[info@kkmehtacpa.com](mailto:info@kkmehtacpa.com)



Fireworks at South  
Street Seaport Diwali in  
New York



**D**iwali, the festival of lights, is the best known of Hindu festivals in the United States. The legends connected to the festival are different for different religions. According to Ramayana, one of the most important epics of the Hindu religion, Diwali commemorates the return of Lord Rama with his wife Sita and brother Lakshman, from his 14-year exile after killing the demon king Ravana. Thus, it symbolizes the victory of good over evil and is celebrated with great fervor by one and all. The celebration includes visiting temples, performing Lakshmi puja, exchanging greetings, sharing sweets with loved ones, attending cultural and talent shows, musical concerts and social parties, besides lighting candles, earthen lamps and firecrackers where permissible. The annual observance demonstrates the rich history and traditions of the Hindu faith and provides an occasion for the followers to remember their many blessings and celebrate their hope for a brighter future.

*Shri Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple), Amritsar is lit on Diwali. Sikhs celebrate Diwali to welcome the return of their Sixth Master, Shri Hargobind to Amritsar after securing freedom from Gwalior prison of 52 Princes of Hill States*

#### Diwali Celebration by Sikhs and Jains

**S**ikhs celebrate Diwali as it marks the return of the sixth Guru, Hargobind Rai to Amritsar after he was freed from the fort of Gwalior by Emperor Jahangir in October 1619,



where he was imprisoned along with 52 Hindu Kings who were incarcerated as political prisoners. When the emperor decided to release the Guru, the latter managed to get all the Hindu kings freed at the same time. Guru Hargobind became known as the "Bandi Chhor" (Deliverer from prison) and the event is celebrated as the Bandi Chhor Divas. The Guru arrived at Amritsar on the Diwali day and the Harmandir (Golden Temple) was lit with hundreds of lamps to celebrate his return. Every year, the Golden Temple is illuminated in a spectacular display and fireworks are displayed to commemorate the memory of Guru's return. Sikh temples across America hold religious gatherings to remember the legacy of their Guru who fought for social justice and got freedom for people who belonged to a different faith.



In Jainism, the occasion celebrates the attainment of Nirvana by Lord Mahavir, the last of the Jain Tirthankaras, on this day at Pavapuri on Oct. 15, 527 BC, on Chaturdashi of Kartika.

*In Jainism, Diwali is the occasion to celebrate the attainment of Nirvana by Lord Mahavir*

According to a Swetambara legend Mahavira took his seat on a diamond throne in the center of a magnificent hall on the seventh day of his stay. The seat was specially built for him on the borders of a lake. There were many devotees who came to hear him. According to their rank they arranged themselves into twelve grades. The devotees belonged to different sect, class and order. They ranged from king to beggar. On the dark night of the seventh day of his stay the hall was illumined by the supernatural glow of the Gods who came to listen to him. That day the Lord preached the whole night. He was aware by his sukladhayana that his end was drawing near. He thus sat with his hands clasped knees crossed. At dawn he attained nirvana on the day of Kartika Krishna. Mahavira is said to have delivered the fifty-five lectures explaining the results of Karma and also recited the thirty-six unasked questions at the night of his nirvana.

In cities with significant Indian American population, Diwali Melas have become very popular and attract large gatherings of young and old. The organizers arrange for many fun-filled activities such as magic and puppet shows, henna painting on palms, stalls of Indian sweets and other eatables, handicrafts and other trinkets besides showcasing the best of Indian culture. If legally allowed, the effigies of Ravana, etc. are burnt to give historical perspective to the event and customary fireworks are displayed to add splendor to the festivities and increase public participation.

#### Diwali Celebration in New York and Dallas

New York chapter of Association of Indians in America (AIA) organizes probably the largest Diwali Mela outside India





Music and Masti at AIA South Street Seaport Diwali in New York on October 1, 2017



Diwali at Times Square, October 7, 2017 drew huge crowds and earned great applause

with an estimated attendance of over 100,000 people during the daylong event at the South Street Sea Port, Manhattan. The association also arranges extravagant display of live fireworks illuminating the east river and New York city skyline.

Times Square, New York is a popular tourist destination. In 2013, Diwali was celebrated there for the first time. Indian Americans from the tri-state area flocked in thousands to see the day-long extravaganza, showcasing Indian culture, cuisine, music and fashion. Last year (2016), for about 8 hours, live performances, fashion shows, dance & music competitions, photography exhibition and other creative programs like rangoli painting provided huge attraction. At night, the skyline dazzled with fireworks. Nita Bhasin, president of ASB Communications, who has been organizing the event, also provided entertainment with live Indian dances and music.



Dallas Fort Worth Diwali draws around 50,000 visitors and is the largest Diwali celebration, outside India

Dallas Indian Cultural Society, in 2007, organized Diwali Mela celebration of epic proportion at Dallas Cowboys Stadium in Texas. The founder, Satish Gupta, prefers to call the celebration, "spirit of India" which attracts 40,000 to 50,000 people who get glimpses of the rich Indian culture at play, including the traditional staging of Ram Lila and burning of Ravana's effigy. It was a mammoth event, unique with no parallel to it in the United States. The society has been organizing the Mela annually sometimes excelling their prior year performance by attracting more people and adding more attractions.

### Diwali Celebration in American Universities



Diwali celebration at the Rutgers University is a great attraction

There are about 100,000 Indian students from India in various universities in America. A large number of Indian

American students are also enrolled in American universities. Diwali celebration in Duke, Princeton, Howard, Rutgers, Carnegie Mellon and several other university campuses brings Indian student groups together and helps them stay connected with their culture and tradition.

### Diwali at the White House



Michelle and Barack Obama celebrating Diwali at the White House

In 2003, the President George W. Bush agreed to the long-standing demand of the Indian community and celebrated Diwali at the White House in the presence of several invited Indian community leaders. Although the president never participated in the Diwali festivities, yet it became an annual tradition at the White House. The celebration of Diwali at the White House also shows the growing clout of the Indian American community in the United States. In 2009, Barack Obama became the first US president to light a "diya" oil lamp, in the presence of a Hindu priest, in a White House ceremony for the festival of lights. In communicating his warm greetings at the occasion, he remarked that Diwali marked the return of the Lord Ram from exile when small lamps lit his way home. In 2010, the Vice President led the commemoration. In 2011, President Obama again lit the White House Diya while a Hindu priest chanted Slokas, or prayers. In 2016, lighting diya in the Oval Office of the White House, President Obama said, "On behalf of the entire Obama family, I wish you and your loved ones peace and happiness on this Diwali."

### Diwali Celebration by US Congress

The US Senate and the House of Representatives in October 2007 unanimously passed Resolutions 299 and 747 respectively, recognizing the "religious and historical significance of the festival of Diwali." The passage of the resolutions may be symbolic, but it is a testament to the increased awareness of the Indian community in America. The U.S. Congress celebrated Diwali, for the first time, on October 29, 2013, amidst chanting of Vedic mantras by a Hindu priest. Over two dozen influential lawmakers along with eminent Indian-Americans gathered at the Capitol Hill to lit the traditional "dijas". The event was organized by the two Co-Chairs of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans, Congressmen Joe Crowley and Peter Roskam in recognition of increasing presence of the Indian-American community.



US Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard lights the lamp at the first Diwali on Capitol Hill. Photo courtesy Rediff.com

### US Postal Service Issues Diwali Postage Stamp

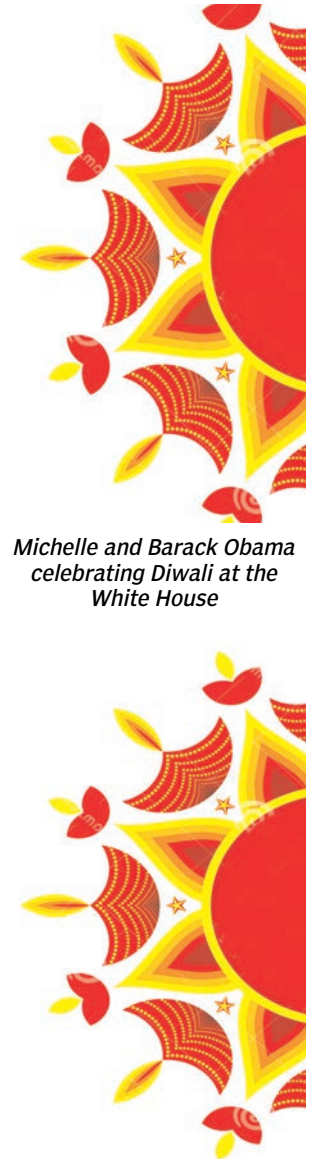
On October 5, 2016, the US Postal Service fulfilled the long standing demand of Indian Americans, and released Diwali Postage stamp commemorating the festival of Diwali. The dedication ceremony took place at the Consulate General of India, New York, in the presence of Consul General Ambassador Riva Ganguly Das, Representative Carolyn Maloney, Diwali Stamp Project Chair Ranju Batra, US Postal Service Vice President for Mail Entry and Payment Technology Pritha Mehra, India's former Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Hardeep Singh Puri, now a minister in Modi cabinet and many members of the local Indian American community.



Diwali Stamp is unveiled at the UN. Seen from left to right: Ravi Batra, Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin, Diwali Stamp Project Chair Ranju Batra, Acting President of UN General Assembly Mwaba Patricia Kasese-Bota, and Ambassador Andrei Dapkiunas of Belarus

(The author regularly writes on Indian Diaspora. He is the author of The Gadar Heroics - life sketches of over 50 Gadar heroes. He is Executive Trustee of Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) Foundation. He was chairman of GOPIO from 2009-2016, president from 2004-2009, president of National Federation of Indian American Associations (NFIA) from 1988-92 and chairman from 1992-96. He was founding president of Federation of Indian Associations in Southern California. He can be reached at indersingh-usa@hotmail.com)

Photo/ Mohammed Jaffer-SnapsIndia



# HISTORY, SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE OF DIWALI

The sacred and brilliantly lit festival of Diwali is an integral part of the ancient Indian civilization and its history is magnificently intertwined with origins and evolution of Hindu religion.

Today, this festival has become epitome of enjoyment and is celebrated with great exuberance across the country. The mere mention of Diwali conjures up images of diyas, firecrackers and gifts; however, Diwali is not just about these things, there is a much deeper significance to it. Tracing the roots of this festival and understanding its history may help one actually fathom the real meaning of Diwali. This article is an endeavor to shed light on the history behind the origins and grand celebrations of this vivacious festival.

The traces and clues to the history of Diwali are embedded in different interesting and fascinating legends of Hindu mythology that are corroborated by various ancient religious scriptures, such as the Puranas. The festival of Diwali is celebrated for five days in India and each day holds its own importance. The first day of Diwali festivities is known as Dhanteras or Dhantryaodashi, which is celebrated on the 13th day of the month of Ashwin. As per the legend, it is believed that on this day, Dhanvantari - the physician of the gods came out of the ocean with a pot of amrit, while it was being churned by the gods and the demons. This is believed to be a momentous day for the mankind. It is also believed that Goddess Lakshmi also originated from the ocean on this day. Hence, the day is considered very auspicious for financial investments.

The mystical history behind the second day of Diwali festivities is also quite interesting. It is said that on this day, Lord Krishna along with his wife Satyabhama, vanquished a demon named Narakasura. This demon after attaining a boon from the gods had become so powerful that both heaven and earth had become defenseless against him. He not only defeated Lord Indra but also stole the priceless earrings of Mother Goddess Aditi. His atrocities did not stop at this; he also abducted 16,000 daughters of saints and deities. To end his torturous reign, Lord Krishna killed him a day before Diwali and the day came to be celebrated as Narak Chaturdashi.

The third day of the festivities, known as Deepavali, is the most important day of Diwali celebrations as it involves grand revelry. Hindu mythology traces historic origins of Deepavali back to the great epic Ramayana that narrates the life saga of Lord Rama, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu. As per this epic, the first Deepavali was celebrated by the people of Ayodhya to commemorate the return of Lord Rama along with his wife Sita and brother Laxman from a 14 year long exile. The fourth day has its own mythological history and commemorates the act of Lord Krishna, in which he picked up a hillock named Govardhan situated near Mathura to protect the villagers from insistent rain.

The last and final day of Diwali festivities is known as Bhai Dooj. It is believed that on this day, Lord Yama visited his sister Yamuna and was so happy to spend time with her that he declared that whosoever brother shall visit his sister on this day will be blessed with health and wealth. Thus, the day is dedicated to the pious relationship between a brother and sister. Apart from Hindu mythology, the history of Diwali is also closely related with



histories of Sikh and Jain communities. The Sikhs celebrate the day as it was on this day that their sixth Guru, Guru Har Govind attained freedom from Mughal captivity, whereas the Jains celebrate Diwali as they believe that Lord Mahavira, the founder of Jainism, attained 'Nirvana' on this day.



# CELEBRATIONS ACROSS INDIA

**D**iwali, the festival of lights, illuminates the darkness of the New Year's moon, and strengthens our close friendships and knowledge, with a self-realization!

Diwali is celebrated on a nation-wide scale on Amavasya - the 15th day of the dark fortnight of the Hindu month of Ashwin, (October/November) every year. It symbolizes that age-old culture of India which teaches to vanquish ignorance that subdues humanity and to drive away darkness that engulfs the light of knowledge. Diwali, the festival of lights even to-day in this modern world projects the rich and glorious past of India.

## Assam

The largest of the states in the northeast of India is Assam whose capital, Guwahati, has an inspired location on the banks of the River Brahmaputra. Amidst Assam's verdant lushness and wild sanctuaries, much of the rest of the state is devoted to tea plantation which yield the strong Assam leaf popular all over the world.

The celebration of Diwali in Assam ranges from the diyas and mithai to singing the aarti with the whole family and then celebrating with firecrackers the epic moment that symbolizes the victory of good over evil. People also pull out the little electric lights to substitute for diyas and light up the house early.

Countless flickering oil lamps and lights are lit in houses all over Assam, making it a night of enchantment. Worship of Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, and fireworks and festivities are an essential part of the celebrations. Beautiful lamps are hung outside homes that are symbolic of the spiritual light dispelling evil and the darkness of ignorance.

Doorways are decorated with torans or flower garlands with mango leaves and marigolds. Rangolis are drawn with colored powders to welcome guests. Business establishments and families perform, chopda puja or veneration of their business books. Everyone feasts and shops and starts new projects or ventures.

## Punjab

A state, whose name is synonymous with exuberance, prosperity and an intense passion for life, Punjab or 'Panj Aab' literally meaning five rivers, is, as it were, the very heart of the country. The lightening of lamps on festival of Diwali is a way of paying obeisance to god for attainment of peace, love, wealth, health and knowledge. And on Diwali festival night people worship God and Goddesses and place Diyas (earthen lamps) in the home, in verandahs, courtyards, and gardens, as well on outer walls and on rooftops. It is time for Pooja and tradition and also time for fun and revelry.

In Punjab, Diwali Festival is the time for everyone to rejoice, looking forward to a bright future. Enthusiastically enjoyed by people of every religion, it's magical and radiant touch creates an atmosphere of joy and festivity. Diwali, festival of lights, symbolizes the victory of righteousness and lifting of spiritual darkness. The preparations of Diwali begin well in advance. People start decorating their homes, preparing sweets, thousand of lamps are lit to create a world of fantasy. Each house entrance is made colorful with lovely traditional motifs of "Rangoli" designs to welcome Laxmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity.

In villages cattle are adorned and worshiped by farmers as they form the main source of their income. In the south, cows are offered special veneration as they supposed to be the incarnation of goddess Laxmi and



therefore, they are adorned and worshiped on this day. In Punjab, winter crops are sown and the day following Diwali is celebrated as Tikka. On Tikka day, with saffron paste and rice, sisters place an auspicious mark on their brother's forehead, gesturing to ward off all harms from her brother.

Diwali is also the anniversary of Guru Hargobind ji being released from the prison at Gwalior Fort. In was on this day in 1619 A D. Diwali of Amritsar was out-of-the-world. Today, the entire Golden Temple is illuminated with traditional lamps of different colors during Diwali. The reflection of the temple in the shimmering water of the holy pool binds the eye, to the many- splendored pageant. Fire works display by the traditional professionals recreates the glory of the times gone past.

## Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh - one of the most populous states of India is also one of the most ancient cradle of Indian culture. Two great Rivers along with one mythological river that of Saraswati flow through this state. The Hindu Festival of Diwali is celebrated with great vigor over here. The state wears a vibrant color throughout the Diwali festival.

The beautiful Kartik Purnima festival or the Dev Deepawali celebrated in Varanasi or Benaras, is a visual delight. Varanasi is the land of festivals. The full moon night after Diwali falling in November - December is the sacred day for all the people. The ghats of Varanasi come alive with thousands of brightly lit earthen lamps. The lamps then are gently left on the River. Visitors throng in large numbers to watch this spectacular event.

The festival Diwali celebrates the homecoming of Rama with firecrackers and the lighting of earthen lamps. Ramlila performances during Dussehra commemorate this joyous event as well. Traditionally the



characters of Rama, Sita, Lakshmana, Shatrughan and Bharat are played by Brahmin boys who are trained by the liladhari, the leader of the troupe. These are zestfully celebrated with song, dance, and merriment; others with solemnity, fervor, fast, or feast. These fairs and festivals help the people keep the culture vibrant and promote artistic activities.

## West Bengal

In West Bengal, Lakshmi puja is celebrated five days after Dussehra, on the full moon day (Purnima). On the following new moon day (Amavasya), coinciding with Diwali, goddess Kali is worshiped. Kali, the more aggressive form or the destructive incarnation of Goddess Durga, has a terrifying look. She destroys all evils. Lamps are lit in her honor; and in return, she promises a renewal of life and justice on earth.

In West Bengal, it is not Lakshmi puja but

Kali Puja which makes the festival unique. Kali is generally a goddess to be feared rather than venerated. But, Diwali is also celebrated with great enthusiasm and it is a time for gaiety and feasting. The houses are decorated and lit with diyas. Two or even four plantain leaves decorate the entry to the house or property, with a row of diyas at the doorstep. The entire family gathers around for Lakshmi puja in the evening.

Diwali Festival stretches over three days, but on Amavasya the final day, the celebrations and lights are less. The first two festival days are important, with feasting, drinking, gambling, family gatherings, lights and fire crackers occupying time from dusk to dawn. In West Bengal, the pious festive air and not the material goods, mainly marks the occasion. No new clothes, no new utensils, no new gold. In fact nothing new at all on Diwali day, as all the shops are shut tight except those selling sweets and fire crackers. Gifts are limited to sweets and dry fruits.

# Heartiest Diwali Greetings



For decades Shiv Dass has been a voice for the South Asian business community in Jackson Heights, Queens, New York. He is a business leader, a community organizer, and member of the local community board and has worked tirelessly to establish a positive and open relationship between the community and the elected officials, and in turn, he is often sought out by politicians seeking to get their message out.



Shiv Dass, President, Jackson Heights Indian Merchants' Association, New York  
Recipient of Ellis Island Medal of Honor

## HEARTIEST DIWALI GREETINGS



VINOD AND SUSHMA KOTAHWALA  
New York





XAVIER UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
ARUBA

**Choose the right Medical School for your future.**



Accreditations & Recognition



\*CAAM-HP Accreditation Provisional \*\*ACCM Accreditation Provisional

5.5 Year Pre-Med to MD Program  
4 year MD program  
Clinical rotations in the United States  
A 94% USMLE Pass Rate on Step 1

**Scholarship of Excellence Available for Well Qualified Students**

**MD Students - Presidential Excellence Scholarship**  
Scholarship up to \$65,040 for MD Program

**Pre-Med Students - Accelerate Excellence Scholarship**  
Scholarship up to \$75,040 for Pre-Med & MD Program

**New Student Loans Available!**  
Loan Amounts Up To \$60,000 Per Year!

Accepting Applications  
Three Intakes Per Year  
January | May | September  
No MCAT Required

**CALL OR VISIT US TODAY TO LEARN MORE!**

866-XUSOM-1 | WWW.XUSOM.COM | ADMISSIONS@XUSOM.COM

eCommerce Website

ALL INCLUSIVE @ \$399/YEAR

Call us now @ 646 902 4064

**Everything you need at every step to run a thriving online store**

THINK. PLAN. LAUNCH. GROW.

opiniomedia.com just great, simple tech!

**OPINIO**

# BANDI CHHOR DIVAS

**B**andi Chhor Divas, or Prisoner Liberation Day, when the sixth Guru, Guru Hargobind, was liberated from Gwalior Fort and took 52 prisoners to freedom along with him.

It coincides with Hindu festival of Diwali. This coincidence has resulted in similarity of celebration amongst Sikhs and Hindus.

The Sikhs celebrate this day as Bandi Chhor Divas i.e., "the day of release of detainees", because the sixth Nanak had agreed to his release on the condition that the other fifty-two detainees would also be released. These other fifty-two detainees were the vassal kings who had done something to annoy the emperor.

Emperor Jahangir had imprisoned the sixth Nanak because he was afraid of the Guru's growing following and power. The Sikhs on this day, which generally falls in October-November, hold a one-day celebrations in the Gurdwaras. So in the evening, illuminations are done with Deewé (earthen oil lamps) or candles and fireworks. The celebrations are held both in the Gurdwaras and in homes.

The story of Diwali for the Sikhs is a story of the Sikh struggle for freedom. From the time of Guru Nanak (1469 – 1539), the founder of Sikhism, popular seasonal or folk festivals like the harvest festival of Vaisakhi, or ancient mythological festivals like Holi and Diwali, or worship rituals like Aarti, began to take on a new significance for the Guru's students, the Sikhs. The Guru used these festivals and special days e.g. first day of each lunar month, as symbols or pegs for his teaching themes. And so the Sikhs were slowly diverted from darkness of superstitious ritualism based on fear and ignorance to an enlightened ideology based on reason and belief in One Creator. The enlightened ideology of Guru Nanak gave new significance to ancient festivals like Diwali and Vaisakhi

So what about Diwali, the festival of lights when, according to Indian lore, Lord Rama returned home after destroying the demon god Ravana who had taken away Rama's wife, Sita? The story, of course, has no significance in the Sikh tradition. However, in the Sikh struggle for freedom from the oppressive Mughal regime, the festival of Diwali did become the second most important day after the Vaisakhi festival in April.

The Sixth Guru Hargobind, was freed from imprisonment in the famous fort of Gwalior by Emperor Jahangir in October, 1619. The reason for the young Guru's imprisonment was no more than religious bigotry. The Guru's father, Guru Arjan, had been martyred for the same reason. According to Sikh tradition, the Guru agreed to be freed only if the other Indian chiefs (rajahs) imprisoned with him were



freed. Jahangir was under pressure from moderate but influential Muslim religious leaders like Hajrat Mian Mir, a friend of the Guru. So he relented grudgingly and ordained, Let those rajahs be freed who can hold on to the Guru's coat tails and walk out of prison. He had in mind no more than four or five being freed with the Guru. However, the Guru was not to be outmanoeuvred in this way. He asked for a special coat to be made with 52 coat tails - same number as the rajahs in prison with him! And so the rajahs were freed and the Guru became known popularly as the Bandi Chhor (Deliverer from prison). He arrived at Amritsar on the Diwali day and the Har Mandir (now known as the Golden Temple) was lit with hundreds of lamps i.e. he was received in the same way as the Lord Rama and the day came to be known as the Bandi Chhor Divas (the day of freedom).

Guru Hargobind reached Amritsar on the eve of Diwali, after his release from Gwalior fort, during the reign of Jahangir. The People illuminated the Golden Temple and the city splendidly to celebrate the return of their Guru to the city. Thereafter, Diwali is being celebrated at Amritsar with great pomp and show, and also with a lot of religious fervour.

During the fair, religious congregations are held at Manji Sahib, Akal Takhat and Baba Atal which continue for three days. A large number of poets and singers also participate. Recitation of Granth Sahib is done at Darbar Sahib, Akal Takhat and various gurudwaras in the vicinity of Golden Temple. Early in the morning, pilgrims take a holy dip in the sacred tank, while reciting Japji Sahib and thereafter, they go to the Golden Temple for paying their obeisance. They make offerings of various kinds both in cash and kind, such as flowers, candy-drops and parched-rice grains, but mostly the offerings are of karah parshad, which is prepared and sold to the pilgrims by the management.



Circumambulation of the tank is considered sacred by the pilgrims.

Illuminations and pyrotechnic display are the unique features of the Diwali celebrations. A mammoth gathering in the parikarma and on the adjoining buildings witness to their great delight the multicolored lights thrown up in the sky and their reflections in the water of the tank. Chain of the electric lights hang along the causeway and on the Darshani Deorhi. Small earthen lamps lighted and fed with sarson oil are arranged in lines all around the tank. All buildings in the compound are bedecked with coloured lights. Candles and small earthen lamps fed with pure ghee are floated in the tank.

This fair is attended by people in the large numbers who come from far and near. A large number of visitors take shelter in the verandahs of the various buildings in the premises. All local inns, rest houses and other common places are packed to capacity. The free mess, called Guru Ram Dass Langar, remains open for all. The whole function is organised by Shiromani Gurudwara Parbhandhak Committee. During the fair, qualified doctors render free medical service to the pilgrims.

Thenceforth, the Sikh struggle for

freedom, which intensified in the 18th Century, came to be centred around this day. In addition to the Vaisakhi day (now in April), when Khalsa, the Sikh nation was formally established by the Tenth Guru Gobind Singh, Diwali became the second day in the years when the Khalsa met and planned their freedom strategy.

Celebration Of Bandi Chhor Divas

On the occasion of Bandi Chhor Divas, Sikhs observe a one-day celebrations in the Gurdwaras. In the evening, illuminations are lighted with Deewé (earthen oil lamps) or candles and fireworks are also bursted. Such celebrations are held both in the Gurdwaras and in homes.

Sacrifice of Bhai Mani Singh

Another important Sikh event associated with Diwali is the martyrdom in 1734 of the elderly Sikh scholar and strategist Bhai Mani Singh, the Granthi (priest) of Harmandar Sahib (Golden Temple). He had refused to pay a special tax on a religious meeting of the Khalsa on the Diwali day. This and other Sikh martyrdoms gave further momentum to the Khalsa struggle for freedom and eventually success in establishing the Khalsa rule north of Delhi

Bhai Mani Singh was a great

scholar and he transcribed the final version of Guru Granth Sahib upon dictation from Guru Govind Singh Ji in 1704. He took charge of Harmandir Sahib's management on 1708. Diwali was not celebrated in Golden Temple at that time. In 1737, he received permission from Mogul emperor of Punjab, Zakaria Khan for celebrating Diwali at Golden Temple for a massive tax of Rs. 5,000 (some authors say it was Rs10,000). Invitations were sent to the Sikhs all over India to join Bandi Chhor Divas celebrations at Harmandir Sahib. Bhai Singh thought he would collect the tax-money from the Sikhs as subscriptions who would assemble for the purpose of Diwali Celebrations. But Bhai Mani Singh Ji later discovered the secret plan of Zakariya Khan to kill the Sikhs during the gathering. Bhai Mani Singh Ji immediately sent message to all the Sikhs not to turn up for celebrations. Bhai Mani Singh could not manage to arrange the money to be paid for tax. Zakariya Khan was not happy about the situation and he ordered Bhai Mani Singh's assassination at Lahore by ruthlessly cutting him limb-by-limb to death. Ever since, the great sacrifice & devotion of martyr Bhai Mani Singh Ji is remembered on the Bandi Chhor Divas (Diwali) celebration.

# NAVIKA GROUP OF COMPANIES CELEBRATES DIWALI



Conventional Wisdom. **Forward Thinking**

1274-W RXR Plaza, Uniondale, NY-11556, Ph.- 516-400-5000



12125 High Tech Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32817

Double Tree By Hilton  
Orlando East-UCF Area FL

Embassy Suites  
by Hilton, Ontario, CA



3663 EAST GUASTI ROAD  
ONTARIO, CA 91761

बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया  
Bank of India **BOI**



\*\*\*\*\*

### **Services Provided**

**Acceptance of CD**  
**Remittances**  
**International Wire Transfers**  
**Opening, Advising & Negotiating LCs**  
**Issuing Bank Guarantees**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Bank of India**

**New York:**  
New York Branch (Member FDIC)  
277, Park Avenue, New York  
NY 10172  
Tel: (646) 720-0398  
E-mail: [boi.ny@bankofindia.co.in](mailto:boi.ny@bankofindia.co.in)  
Web: [www.boiusa.com](http://www.boiusa.com)

**San Francisco Agency:**  
555, California Street  
Suite 4646,  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
Tel: (415)956-6326  
E-mail: [boisfa@aol.com](mailto:boisfa@aol.com)

*Relationship beyond banking*

# BHAI DOOJ: THE BOND OF BROTHERLY-SISTERLY LOVE

Nowhere is the bond of brotherly-sisterly love glorified with such grandeur as in India. Hindus celebrate this special relationship twice every year, with the festivals of Raksha Bandhan and Bhai Dooj.

After the high voltage celebrations of Diwali, the festival of lights and firecrackers, sisters all over India get ready for 'Bhai Dooj' - when sisters ceremonize their love by putting an auspicious tilak or a vermilion mark on the forehead of their brothers and perform an aarti of him by showing him the light of the holy flame as a mark of love and protection from evil forces. Sisters are lavished with gifts, goodies and blessings from their brothers. Bhai Dooj comes every year on the fifth and last day of Diwali, which falls on a new moon night. The name 'Dooj' means the second day after the new moon, the day of the festival, and 'Bhai' means brother.

## Legends

Bhai Dooj is also called 'Yama Dwiteeya' as it's believed that on this day, Yamaraj, the Lord of Death and the Custodian of Hell, visits his sister Yami, who puts the auspicious mark on his forehead and prays for his well being. So it's held that anyone who receives a tilak from his sister on this day would never be hurled into hell. According to one legend, on this day, Lord Krishna, after slaying the Narakasura demon, goes to his sister Subhadra who welcomes him the lamp, flowers and sweets, and puts the holy protective spot on her brother's forehead. Yet another story behind the origin of Bhai Dooj says that when Mahavir, the founder of Jainism, attained nirvana, his brother King Nandivardhan was distressed because he missed him and was comforted by his sister Sudarshana. Since then, women have been revered during Bhai Dooj.

In Bengal this event is called 'Bhai Phota', which is performed by the sister who religiously fasts until she applies a 'phota' or mark with sandal wood paste on her brother's forehead, offers him sweets and gifts and prays for his long and healthy life. Every brother eagerly awaits this occasion that reinforces the bond between brothers and sisters and their affectionate relationship. It's an opportunity for a good feast at the sister's place, coupled with an enthusiastic exchange of gifts, and merriment amid the resounding of conch shells in every Bengali household.

## Significance

Like all other Hindu festivals, Bhai Dooj too has got a lot to do with family ties and social attachments. It serves as a good time, especially for a married girl, to get together with her own family, and share the post-Diwali glee. Nowadays, sisters who are unable to meet their brothers send their tika - the spot of protection - in an envelope by post. Virtual tilaks and Bhai Dooj e-cards have made it even easier for brothers and sisters, who're far away from each other, specially remember their siblings on this propitious occasion.

## Uttar Pradesh

In Uttar Pradesh, at first, sisters give a piece of cloth, knotted into a circular shape, full of batashas (sugar balls) to their brothers. This piece of cloth is called as 'aabf'. For each brother, there are two aabf. After all the rituals, sisters apply a tika of roli and rice on the forehead of the brothers and then perform



aarti, praying for the long and happy life of their brothers. At last, they offer sweets to them and then the story of Bhai Dooj is narrated.

## Bengal

In Bengal this festival is called Bhai Phota. On this day, sisters observe fast till the time all the traditional customs have been performed. After this, they apply tika made of sandalwood paste, ghee and kohl (kajal) on their brothers' forehead. Then the aarti is performed and sisters give sweets to their brothers to eat. Kheer and coconut laddus are the traditional sweets which are prepared on this day.

## Bihar

In the Bihar, the festival of Bhai Dooj is celebrated in the most unique way. The sisters curse their brothers in order to keep the evil spirits and dangers away from them. At first, they say very bad things to their brothers and then prick their own tongue with a wild prickly fruit as a punishment. By doing this, they ask their brothers to forgive them for the

ill behaviour and mistakes which they have done till the date. Besides this, there is a unique custom in which brothers eat grains of bajri with water, from the hands of their sisters.

## Punjab

In Punjab, the day after Diwali is celebrated as tika and on this day, sisters make a paste with saffron and rice and apply tika on their brothers' forehead to keep away all the difficulties and dangers from them. After this, they exchange gifts and sweets among each other.

## Gujarat

Bhai Dooj in Gujarat is known as Bhai Beej and on this auspicious occasion, sisters get up early in the morning and then the traditional tilak ceremony is held. After this, they perform aarti of their brothers and pray for their good fortune and life. Then they offer sweets to their brothers and in return the brothers bless them and exchange gifts.

## Maharashtra & Goa

Marathi communities in Maharashtra and Goa called this festival as Bhav Bij. On this day, sisters draw a square on the floor in within the boundaries of which the brothers have to sit. After they are seated, it is a custom for to have a bitter fruit named Karith. After this, the rituals and applying the Tilak, traditional sweets such as Shrikhand Puri and Basundi Puri are served.

PAGE SPONSORED BY

**ARISH K. SAHANI**

Serving Since 1972

Please Call or Write for Your Insurance Needs

**Arish K Sahani (Father)**

**Shiv Sahani (Son)**

**Priya Sahani Sood (Daughter)**

**718 - 271 - 1906**

*arish.sahani@gmail.com*



'If Hindus don't maintain Hinduism, who shall save it? If India's own children don't cling to their faith, who shall guard it? Indian alone can save India, and India and Hinduism are one.'

# SKINCARE STEPS FOR FLAWLESS SKIN

Who doesn't like the idea of clear, soft and glowing skin? In the quest for good skin, we women have done everything from buying expensive products to parlour sessions. But, are you treating your skin right? Here are 6 tips that you must follow to get that good skin:

## Morning water

Forget your morning cup of tea or coffee, the first thing you need to do is drink water. When we wake up, our body is dehydrated and that's why you should drink water first.

## Double Cleansing

Korean women known for their flawless skin swear by this technique. Double Cleansing is a way of cleansing your face twice. First, it is advised to clean your face using an oil cleanser sans water. Next, wash it off with a warm cloth, this helps to remove all the grime and make-up. The second step involves using a regular cleanser to remove all the dirt and sweat.

## Use a toner

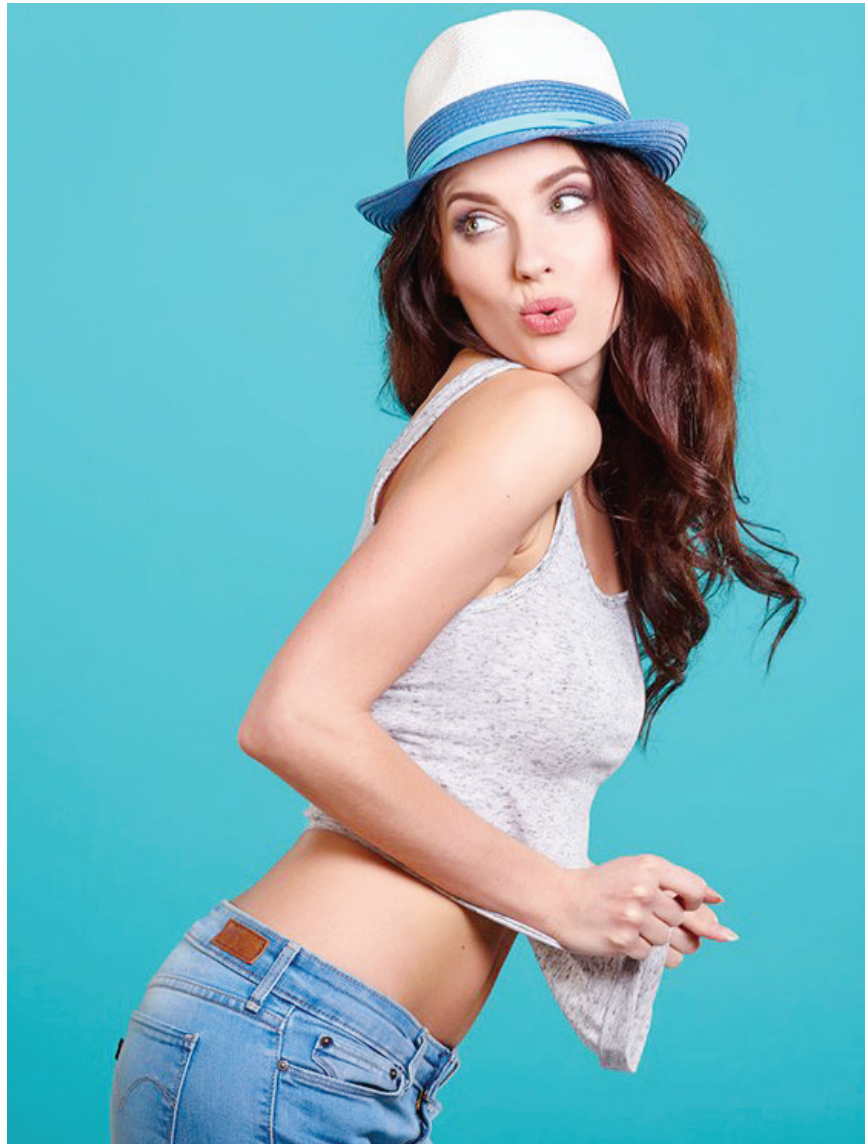
If you're skipping the toner, then you're missing a big skincare step. Toners help to maintain the pH level of the skin and even shrink the pores. You should stay away from alcohol-based toner and look for natural ingredients. You can also use gulab jal (rose water) as a toner.

## Always moisturise

The key to healthy skin is moisturising. Even if you have an oily skin texture, you must moisturise using a gel-based cream. By keeping your skin hydrated, you will fight away the signs of ageing.

## Use a serum

Growing up comes with a lot of responsibilities and skin issues. That's

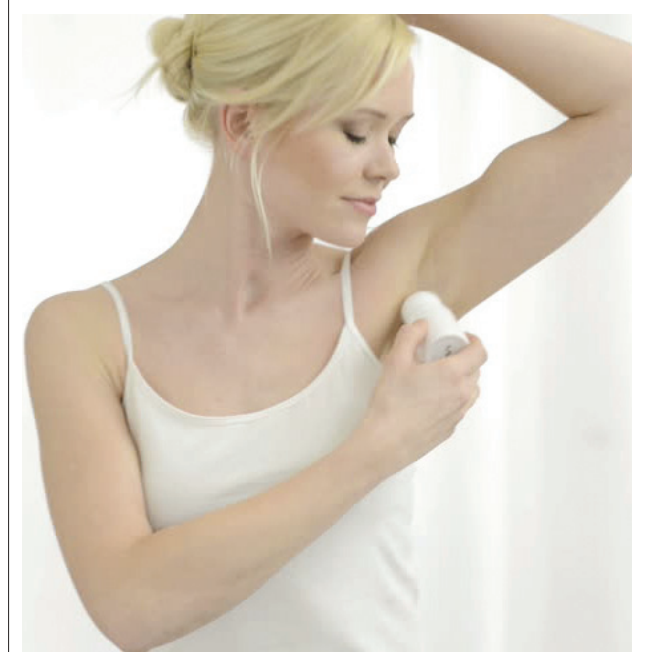


one of the reasons, you should invest in a specific serum for your skin issues. Be it dark spots, dry skin or pigmentation, a specific serum at night will give your skin all the pampering it needs.

## Don't forget to scrub

With time our skin tends to get dull.

That's why you must maintain your skin by weekly sessions. Depending on your skin type, you can exfoliate 2-3 times a week. This will buff away the dead skin cells and give your skin that extra glow. Never exfoliate your skin at night, as this can make your skin extra prone to tanning the next day.



## WAYS TO GET RID OF SMELLY ARMPITS

Body odour is normal, but smelly armpits can sometimes get out of hands. Even regular baths, good amount of perfumes can't seem to solve this issue. We all know that that the underarm odour can be embarrassing. To solve this discomforting issue, we have listed 6 ways you can get rid of smelly armpits.

### Anti-bacteria body wash

It's the bacteria that smells and not the perspiration. Look for body washes with Benzoyl Peroxide, which can help to reduce bacteria and prevent the body odour.

### Apple cider vinegar

You can also apply some apple cider vinegar to fight off the bacteria. It will help to reduce the odour by balancing the pH level of the skin. Don't worry about the smell of apple cider vinegar, as it fades out when dry. Avoid this hack on days you have recently shaved or waxed.

### Always dry before applying anything

Not drying properly before applying antiperspirant or deodorant can also trigger the bad odour. Make sure you dry yourself properly before applying the stick.

### Try a different brand

A lot of times, a specific deodorant or antiperspirant doesn't blend with our skin. If you feel that your stick or spray is not making the cut, then you must change your brand or product. Sometimes the chemistry of your skin and fragrance doesn't work and makes you smell bad instead.

## FOOD CORNER

### MUTTON KOFTA

#### INGREDIENTS

500 gm minced mutton, 1 teaspoon ginger powder, 2 pinches asafoetida, 6 tablespoon vegetable oil, 2 tablespoon gram flour (besan), 1 cup water, 4 clove, 1 1/2 teaspoon red chilli powder, 3 teaspoon aniseed, 3 tablespoon yoghurt (curd), 3 crushed black cardamom, 3 pinches salt, 1/2 teaspoon garam masala powder, 2 bay leaf

#### Method

- For preparing this yummy mutton recipe, take a large bowl and add minced mutton in it along with the spices - red chilli powder, ginger powder (1/4 teaspoon), aniseed powder (1 teaspoon), asafoetida (1 pinch), yoghurt (1 tablespoon), oil (2 tablespoons), black cardamom seeds, gram flour or besan and half of the salt. Knead well with your hand till the spices are well blended and the mixture starts to grease your hands.
- Make 15 equal portions of the mixture. On a flat greased surface, roll each portion



gently into round ball. Put these aside.

- Next, put a kadhai on medium flame and heat 4 tablespoons of oil in it. On the other hand, mix red chilli powder and yoghurt together and make a paste of it. When the oil is hot enough, add the yoghurt paste and stir briskly. When the oil separates, add the water and stir again.
- Add the remaining ginger powder, aniseed powder and garam masala powder, asafoetida, cloves, bay leaves, black cardamom skins and the remaining salt into the pan. Cook till the gravy comes to a boil.
- Carefully slide in the koftas, one at a time and cook on high flame till the gravy starts to thicken. Lower the flame and cook, stirring gently till the oil separates. When the mutton kofta is cooked completely, serve it hot with rice or butter naan.

### BHARUCHI DAL

#### INGREDIENTS

250 gm urad dal, 1/2 teaspoon turmeric, 2 medium tomato, 2 medium onion, 1/2 tablespoon dried ginger powder, 1/2 tablespoon chilli powder, 1/2 teaspoon garam masala powder, 1/2 teaspoon cumin seeds, 1/2 teaspoon red chilli powder, salt as required, 1/2 tablespoon garlic powder

#### Method

- Take a chopping board and chop one onion in cubes and chop tomatoes. Cut the other onion into thin slices.
- Now take a pressure cooker and add cleaned dal and cubed onions into it. Cook until the dal and onions become soft and tender.
- Now, put a saucepan on medium flame and add ghee in it. When the ghee is hot enough, add the sliced onion pieces into it and saute until light brown. Next add all the spices: green cardamom, cinnamon, jeera, cloves, mace powder, and fry until the jeera turns a little



brown and the essence starts coming. Once the spices leave their aroma, add the fresh methi leaves in the pan.

- Then add the chopped tomatoes in the saucepan along with turmeric, chilli powder, red chilli powder, dried ginger powder along with garlic powder. Let the tomato absorb all the spices and saute for a minute or two until the oil begins to separate.
- Now add the dal and onions mixture into the pan and mix well. Cover with a lid and let them cook for about 7-8 minutes. Once the dal is cooked, stir nicely and add the garam masala and salt as required.
- You can serve this delicious dal with hot chapati or steamed rice. Garnish with freshly chopped coriander leaves.

# EATING WALNUTS, SOYBEAN CAN WARD OFF DIABETES RISK

Eating a diet rich in omega-6 polyunsaturated fats, particularly found in walnuts, fish, soybean and sunflower oils, can significantly reduce a person's risk of developing Type-2 diabetes, suggests a recent study.

These findings shed a new light on the potential health benefits of omega-6, which is found in bean and seed oils such as soybean and sunflower oils and in nuts, and support clinical recommendations to increase dietary intake of omega-6 rich foods.

The results indicate that the individuals, who had the highest blood level of linoleic acid, the major omega-6 fat, were 35 per cent less likely to develop Type-2 diabetes in the future than those who had the least amount.

Lead author Dr. Jason Wu from The George Institute for Global Health in Sydney said that a simple change in diet might protect people from developing Type-2 diabetes, which has reached alarming levels around the world.

Senior study author Dariush Mozaffarian from the Tufts University in Massachusetts stated that the people involved in the study were generally healthy and were not given specific guidance on what to eat. Yet those who had the highest levels of blood omega-6 markers had a much lower chance of developing Type-2 diabetes.

The team analysed data from 20



studies involving 39,740 adults from 10 countries, in whom 4,347 new cases of diabetes occurred over time.

They tested the participants for two key omega-6 markers - linoleic acid and arachidonic acid.

Linoleic acid was associated with lower risk, while levels of arachidonic acid were not significantly associated with either higher or lower risk of diabetes.

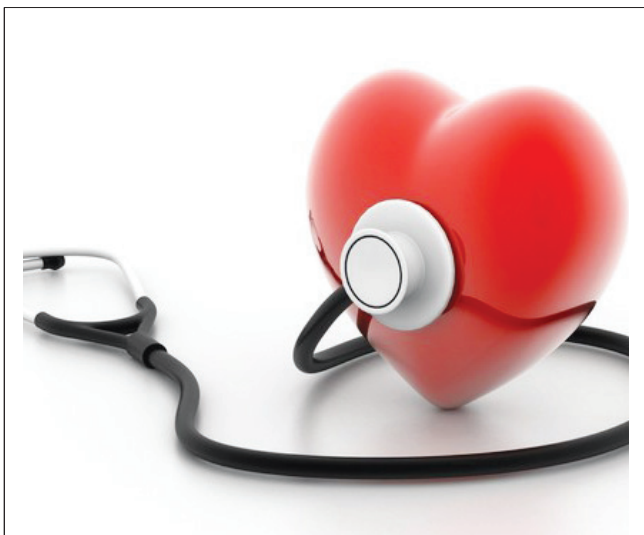
Dr. Wu noted that they the major omega-6 fat is linked to lower risk of Type-2 diabetes.

Linoleic acid is not formed in the body and can only be obtained from the diet.

The results suggest that eating foods rich in linoleic acid may lower risk of Type-2 diabetes.

The research appeared in the Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology journal.

Source: ANI



## Traumatic experiences up heart disease risk

According to a recent study, traumatic events take a toll on the heart, especially after the menopause transition.

Heart disease is a leading cause of death in women. To date, little research has been done to study the impact of traumatic experiences on vascular health as a precursor to heart disease.

Even less work has focused on this relationship during the menopause transition when the risk of heart disease is naturally increasing, along with deteriorating endothelial function. (The endothelium is the inner lining of the heart and blood vessels.) In this study of 272 pre — and postmenopausal nonsmoking women, researchers tested whether a greater number of lifetime traumatic experiences was related to poorer endothelial function, independent of demographic characteristics, other heart disease risk factors, estradiol, and childhood abuse history.

The result was that women reporting a higher number of traumatic experiences three or more had poorer endothelial function which can make them more susceptible to a cardiac incident.

Source: ANI

## EBOLA VACCINE FOUND SAFE

The worst Ebola outbreak ended in 2016 after infecting more than 28,000 people and killing about 11,300 people worldwide. This outbreak forced the medical experts to take some serious action to combat the disease, which included setting up of trial vaccines to stop the disease.

Now it seems that those vaccines are managing to show some promising data as a group of researchers have found an Ebola vaccine is safe for children as well as adults and produces an immune response.

Talking about the vaccine, Professor Sanjeev Krishna, of St George's University of London's Institute for Infection and Immunity, said, "An unprecedented Ebola outbreak showed how it is possible for academics, non-governmental organisations, industry and funders to work effectively together very quickly in times of medical crisis.

The results of the trial show how a vaccine could best be used to tackle this terrible disease effectively." Adding, "We need a system of specialists, medical experts and organisers that maintains vigilance against outbreak diseases like Ebola. We should continue to improve ways to make, evaluate and deliver vaccines when they are needed, often in parts of the world lacking in infrastructure for diagnosing infections and providing treatments."

# AFTER GREEN TEA, NOW BLACK TEA MAY HELP YOU SHED EXTRA KILOS

Everybody is aware about the benefits of green tea, but a recent study has suggested that black tea also may promote weight loss and other health benefits by changing bacteria in the gut.

According to the University of California — Los Angeles Health Sciences researchers, a study on mice showed that black tea alters energy metabolism in the liver by changing the gut metabolites.

The study found that both black and green tea changed the ratio of intestinal bacteria in the animals: The percentage of bacteria associated with obesity decreased, while bacteria associated with lean body mass increased.

The new findings showed that black tea polyphenols, which are too large to be absorbed in the small intestine, stimulate the growth of gut bacterium and the formation of short-chain fatty acids, a type of bacterial metabolites that has been shown to alter the energy metabolism in the liver.

Lead author Susanne Henning said that it was known that green tea polyphenols are more effective and offer more health benefits than black tea polyphenols since green tea chemicals are absorbed into the blood and tissue.

Henning added that black tea, through a specific mechanism of the gut microbiome, may also contribute to good health and weight loss in humans.

The results suggested that both green and black teas are prebiotics, substances that induce the growth of good microorganisms that contribute to a person's well-being.

In the study, four groups of mice received different diets -- two of which were supplemented with green tea or black tea extracts: Low-fat, high-sugar

High-fat, high-sugar and green tea extract High-fat, high-



sugar and black tea extract After four weeks, the weights of the mice that were given green or black tea extracts, dropped to the same levels as those of the mice that received the low-fat diet throughout the study.

The researchers also collected samples from the mice's large intestines (to measure bacteria content) and liver tissues (to measure fat deposits).

However, only the mice that consumed black tea extract had an increase in a type of bacteria called Pseudobutyrvibrio, which could help explain the difference between how black tea and green tea change energy metabolism.

The research is published in the European Journal of Nutrition. —ANI

PAGE SPONSORED BY

### DR. SATISH AND GITANJLI ANAND



**DR. SATISH ANAND**  
Former Chairman, Board of Trustees, AAPI National  
E-Mail: sanandmd@gmail.com

**GITANJLI ANAND**  
Former President, India Association of Long Island (IALI)  
E-mail: gitanjianand@gmail.com

## FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM BACK AFTER BRIEF GLOBAL OUTAGE



**LONDON (TIP):** The services of Facebook and Instagram were restored after the social media platforms went down reportedly due to a global connection problem with Europe and North America, the worst affected by the fault.

As per a report in The Guardian, users of both social media sites began reporting problems late Wednesday afternoon. By evening, the number of reported problems had dropped to normal levels.

"Earlier today, a networking issue caused some people to have trouble accessing Facebook services.

"We quickly investigated and started restoring access within about an hour and we have nearly fixed the issue for everyone. We're sorry for the inconvenience," a Facebook spokesperson was quoted as saying.

The report said the services on both website and apps were affected. Some users were able to access their accounts, with others suggesting only certain parts of the websites were functioning.

However, Facebook's instant messaging service Messenger was unaffected.

The social media giant said it was "aware that some people are currently having trouble accessing Facebook and Instagram". The problems led to the hashtag #FacebookDown trending globally on Twitter.

Some users were greeted by a message when they tried to log into their accounts.

"Facebook is down for required maintenance right now, but you should be able to get back on within a few minutes. In the meantime, read more about why you're seeing this message. Thanks for your patience..." the message read.

Facebook, which acquired Instagram for \$1 billion in 2012, has over two billion monthly active users. Instagram, meanwhile, has 800 million monthly and 500 million daily active users — 200 million of whom use 'Stories' feature.

Source: IANS



## Apple teams up with LG display for future foldable iPhone

**A**pple has partnered with LG Display to develop a foldable OLED display. Apple is likely to use the foldable display panel in one of its future iPhones.

According to a report in the Korean website The Investor, Apple has decided to go with LG and not Samsung (Samsung OLED displays are the best in the industry) owing to the fear that specifications could be leaked as Samsung is its arch rival.

"According to The Bell, LG Display recently created a task force to develop a foldable OLED screen for the new iPhone model," the report said on Thursday.

The foldable iPhone panel production could start from 2020. LG has reportedly completed its own foldable OLED panel prototype and has been upgrading the durability and the yield rate. The company recently started its first OLED production for phones at its E5 plant in Gumi, North Gyeongsang Province.

Apple is also considering investing in LG to speed up OLED production. Meanwhile, Samsung is exclusively supplying panels for the latest iPhone X -- the first OLED iPhone.

# NASA PROBE SPOTS POSSIBLE SOURCE OF SAND ON MARS

**WASHINGTON (TIP):** NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) has beamed back an image showing one possible place where sand grains are being produced on the red planet today.

The region exhibits dark material that is being eroded from dark layers in the bedrock of a semicircular depression near the boundary of the Southern highlands and the Northern lowlands, NASA researchers said.

Downslope lineations support the notion that these dark sediments are derived locally, and did not accumulate here by coincidence because of the winds.

The grains of sand that make up sand dunes on Earth and Mars have a hazardous existence because of the way that they travel.

Wind-blown sand is lifted above the surface of each planet before crashing onto the ground and bouncing in a sequence of repeated hops, a process called saltation.

Sand grains can also roll along the ground as they are blown by the wind, and they are also jostled by other sand



gains that are similarly flying across the surface.

All of these repeated impacts tend to wear down the sand grains, smoothening them into a more spherical shape and breaking off small fragments that supply the vast dust deposits of Mars.

This process, known as comminution,

ultimately destroys sand grains and limits the length of time that the particles exist.

The fact that we see active sand dunes on Mars today requires that sand particles must be resupplied to replace the grains that are lost over time. However, modern day sources of sand on Mars were not known. Source: PTI

## HP PAVILION POWER NOTEBOOK LAUNCHED IN INDIA

**H**P Inc on Monday launched 'Pavilion Power' notebook in India. Aimed at creative professionals, the notebook is available at a starting price of Rs 77,999.

The Pavilion Power notebook is equipped with NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1050 graphics card and latest 7th-generation quad-core Intel processors.

"With HP 'Pavilion Power', we are reaching out to the creative professionals seeking to fulfill their passions by turning visions into reality. Being a leader in the consumer PC segment, HP has strived to bring the best value to its customers -- from design, form-factor to engineering and performance," said Anurag Arora, Head-Consumer Personal Systems, HP Inc India, in a statement.

The device has full-HD IPS display along with audio by "B&O Play" and HP "Audio Boost". The notebook features hybrid storage of 128GB Peripheral Component Interconnect Express (PCIe) solid-state storage device (SSD) and 1TB hard disc drive (HDD) storage.

The HP fast-charge technology enables 90 per cent charging in 90 minutes. 'Pavilion Power' comes pre-installed with MS Office Home and Student 2016 Edition. The device will be available in three variants at leading retail stores.

# Universe's missing matter discovered

**LONDON (TIP):** Scientists have for the first time detected the missing matter in our universe - present in the form of strings of hot gas linking galaxies — that was unaccounted for by previous space observations.

Apart from the mysterious and elusive dark matter — that is thought to permeate the majority of the universe — models of the universe predict that there should be about twice as much ordinary matter than what has been observed so far.

Researchers from Institute of Space Astrophysics in France and University of Edinburgh in the UK found the missing matter — made of particles called baryons — linking galaxies together through filaments of hot, diffuse gas.

"There is no instrument that we have invented yet that can directly observe this gas. It has been purely speculation until now," said Richard Ellis at University College London.

The researchers instead took advantage of a phenomenon called the Sunyaev-Zel'dovich effect that occurs when light left over from the big bang passes through hot gas, 'New Scientist' reported.

As the light travels, some of it scatters off the electrons in the gas, leaving a dim patch in the cosmic microwave background — remnants from the birth of the cosmos.

In 2015, the Planck satellite created a map of this effect throughout the observable universe. Since the tendrils of gas between galaxies are so diffuse, the dim blotches they cause are far too slight to be seen directly on Planck's map.

Researchers selected pairs of galaxies from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey that were expected to be connected by a strand of baryons.

They stacked the Planck signals for the areas between the galaxies, making the individually faint strands detectable en masse. Source: PTI

## Microsoft Edge coming soon to Android and iOS

**M**icrosoft on Thursday announced expanding its Edge browser to the mobile platform. The company has rolled out a preview version of the browser for iOS and Android, but the access is currently reserved for Windows Insiders, a program for early testers. Microsoft Edge had debuted with Windows 10 in 2015 and existed alongside Microsoft's default Internet Explorer on newer PCs and laptops.

The mobile version of the Edge focuses on a seamless switch between PC to mobile phones. "From PC to mobile, you can browse seamlessly across your devices, while your information syncs in the background. Go anywhere and pick up where you left off by easily moving content between your mobile device and your Windows 10 PC. Your passwords and favourites are synced across your devices so your browser is always

personalized to you," says Microsoft on its website.

It comes with a Hub View that allows you to easily find and manage content such as reading list, history, and favourites, among others. It also has a Reading View that lets you customise the content layout on a web page for better reading. Other key features of the browser include a built-in QR Code Reader, voice search and InPrivate mode for private browsing.



# TATAS EXIT MOBILE BIZ, MERGE LOSS-MAKING UNIT WITH AIRTEL

**NEW DELHI/MUMBAI (TIP):** The shakeout in mobile telecom continued as the Tata Group quit the highly-competitive sector after nearly 15 years, merging its loss-making consumer mobile business, consisting of Tata Teleservices Ltd and Tata Teleservices Maharashtra Ltd, with Bharti Airtel.

The struggling venture is saddled with debt of over Rs 40,000 crore, but the Tatas will clear past liabilities and dues as part of the deal. It highlights the rapid consolidation in the sector after the aggressive launch of services by Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio in September last year.

It follows on the heels of Vodafone and Idea - the second and third largest telecom companies respectively - agreeing to merge to become No 1 with a combined subscriber base of over 400 million, overtaking Airtel. Airtel, for which this is the seventh acquisition in five years, will gain access to around 180 MHz of spectrum spread across 850 MHz, 1800 MHz, and 2100 MHz bands. Importantly, it will add Tata's nearly 40 million mobile subscribers to its own base of 280 million customers, taking it comfortably past the 300-million mark.

"The merger is on a debt-free and cash-free basis," the companies said in a statement. In effect, Bharti will get the Tata consumer mobile business virtually for free.

Airtel, however, will have to assume a portion of Tata's unpaid spectrum payment liability, which is estimated to be Rs 2,000 crore, but has to be paid on a deferred basis.

"We believe today's agreement is the best and most optimal solution for the Tata Group and its stakeholders. Finding the right home for our longstanding customers and our employees has been the priority for us," Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran said.



**HIGHLIGHTS**

- The merger is on a debt-free and cash-free basis
- Bharti will get the Tata consumer mobile business virtually for free
- The deal marks the beginning of a growing relationship between the two corporates which could span businesses such as DTH, enterprise and undersea cable

"We have evaluated multiple options and are pleased to have this agreement with Bharti." Bharti Airtel chairman Sunil Mittal said the deal marks further consolidation in the Indian mobile industry.

"On completion, the proposed acquisition will undergo seamless integration, both on the customer as well as the network side, and further strengthen our market position in several key circles," he said, adding that addition of Tata's spectrum makes "an attractive business proposition."

Tata Group is now in the initial stages of exploring a combination of its enterprise business with Tata Communications and its retail fixed line and broadband business with Tata Sky.

It is, however, believed that the deal marks the beginning of a growing relationship between the two corporates

which could span businesses such as DTH, enterprise and undersea cable. The joint statement from the companies made a reference to this, "Tata and Airtel will work together to further explore other areas of cooperation, that will be value accretive for both groups."

The sale of the ailing consumer mobile services is the second major transaction during Chandrasekaran's leadership of Tata Sons. Last month Tata Steel agreed to merge its struggling European business with Germany's Thyssenkrupp. Since taking charge at the helm of the conglomerate in February, Chandrasekaran's immediate priorities have been finding solutions for problematic businesses such as Tata Teleservices, Tata Steel Europe, and Tata Motors India. Cutting down group's over \$26 billion debt is another key focus area.

Source: TOI

## Working on plan to rebuild capacity of banks: Jaitley

**WASHINGTON (TIP):** Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has said the government, faced with a "catch-22 situation" over the issue of non-performing assets, is working on a plan to rebuild the capacity of India's banking sector so as to support growth.



Jaitley, who is on a week-long visit to the US to attend the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, also said reforming the banking system is the top agenda of the government.

"Today, with global growth turning around, we are working to put up an actual plan in play to deal with the banking situation, which is top of our agenda. We need to rebuild the capacity (of the banking sector)," Jaitley told students of Harvard University in Boston.

"I inherited a banking system whose monies were lying in non-performing assets...are unable to service the debt. We are faced with a catch-22 situation as to how do we improve the capacity of the banks so that they can support growth," he said.

So, all these factors together adversely impacted the private sector, the minister said. Jaitley, however, also noted that bigger enterprises did not suffer, because they approached the bond market and foreign funding which were available at much cheaper rates.

Source: PTI

## Industrial output rises to 4.3%

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** Industrial production grew at a nine-month high of 4.3% in August, mainly on account of robust performance of mining and power sectors coupled with higher capital goods output, official data showed today.

IIP growth during April-August period of this fiscal stood at 2.2%, down from 5.9% in same period in 2016-17.

## Inflation unchanged at 3.28%

Retail inflation came in at 3.28% in September, unchanged from August, despite softening of vegetable and cereal prices, according to government data. The retail inflation stood at 4.39% in September 2016.

Source: PTI



## Alibaba launches \$15 billion overseas R&D drive

**BEIJING (TIP):** China's top e-commerce firm, Alibaba Group Holding Ltd, is launching a \$15 billion drive to build overseas research hubs as the deep-pocketed firm looks to compete with global leaders in e-commerce, logistics and cloud technology.

The Alibaba 'Damo' academy would launch eight research bases in China, Israel, the United States, Russia and Singapore and was hiring 100 researchers to work on artificial intelligence (AI), quantum computing and fintech, the company said in a statement on Wednesday.

"The Alibaba DAMO Academy will be at the forefront of developing next-generation technology that will spur the growth of Alibaba and our partners", chief technology officer Jeff Zhang said.

The Chinese giant and its affiliates have undergone a rapid expansion in the past year, bringing it into direct competition with US e-retailer Amazon.com Inc, as well as global payments, cloud and logistics firms.

# Lufthansa to buy over half of bankrupt Air Berlin's planes

**BERLIN (TIP):** Years of struggle for Germany's second-ranked airline Air Berlin appeared close to an end Thursday, as airborne behemoth Lufthansa announced plans to buy more than half the bankrupt carrier's planes.

The deal has sparked controversy in the European aviation sector, with the German government facing accusations it helped steer the process under a plan to build the Frankfurt-based carrier into an all-conquering juggernaut.

Germany's largest airline will snap up some 81 of Air Berlin's 144 aircraft and take on 3,000 of its 8,500 staff, Lufthansa chief executive Carsten Spohr said in Berlin, hailing it as a "great day" for his company.

Lufthansa is set to sign its deal with Air Berlin at noon local time (1000 GMT). Air Berlin is "continuing to negotiate today" with Easyjet, the other bidder chosen for exclusive takeover talks with a Thursday deadline, a spokesman told news agency DPA. Spohr said that Easyjet was interested in between 20 and 30 of Air Berlin's medium-range aircraft.

Lufthansa has yet to say how much it will pay under the deal, but Spohr told newspaper Rheinische Post Thursday that the



group would invest 1.5 billion (\$1.8 billion) related to the takeover. He added that 80 aircraft was the largest addition to Lufthansa's fleet that competition authorities would accept.

European authorities must now decide whether to give Thursday's deal a green light, in a process that could take "several weeks or months," Air Berlin chief executive Thomas Winkelmann said last week.

In the meantime, the carrier will operate flights as a subcontractor for the buyers, as insolvency rules forbid it from operating flights on its own account after October 28.



## BEJAN DARUWALLA

Email- [info@bejandaruwalla.com](mailto:info@bejandaruwalla.com) | Phone : +91-9825470377 | [www.bejandaruwalla.com](http://www.bejandaruwalla.com)

# Horoscope Forecast for OCTOBER 2017

Today there is computerized voice type analysis. My observation is you, Scorpio, Taurus and Libra are blessed with the baritone which persuades people to do your bidding. This is certainly yoga time or yoke time or partnerships of all possible sorts. I suggest yoga and partnership with God will be exceptionally fruitful. Enjoy it. Life is sweet but short.

Ganesha says cross over time, Olympian hop-step-jump time as Jupiter the protector of the cosmos steps into Scorpio from October 11 this year. It means big push to designer babies, all chemicals and genes, buying and selling, magic, mystery and mastery of the flesh and the spirit. This awesome period will last till November 8, 2018. Genes, chemicals, climate changes, bio-pharmaceuticals show the way to a brighter future. Not to worry. It is absolutely certain that there will be the mighty marriage of technology and humanity beyond all that you can even imagine. Take heart, and march onwards spiritual warrior!

### Aries

Buying - selling investment, be it of any sort should be mighty exciting and tempting. Material goods are certainly fine and desirable. Agreed. But matters of the spirit are even more so. Tantra and mantra, religious ceremonies for the dead and the living should give you sweet satisfaction and the courage to go onwards.

### Taurus

Loans and funds will have a special significance for you. You should take all possible precautions about your health by Yoga, allopathy, homeopathy, ayurvedic. Each of us are different and react differently to these mighty systems of healing. Be kind to servants, colleagues and pets. Hobbies and romance favored the first 13 days.

### Gemini

The feeding frenzy of the fish Piranha could seize you and your desires could very well overwhelm you. That is only human. But the real secret is to diversify your desires and distinguish between what is great and what is horrible. Be tolerant of others and learn the mighty lesson of forgiving your own self let not your attachments run away with you.

### Cancer

Creative juices, children and hobbies will go very well with the domestic scene, property and a possible change of place. In other words, a full plate. Magic and mystery and the secrets of nature could be revealed to you through a dream or even worshipful actions and decent behavior. The trick and the ticket is to be bold and fearless.

### Leo

The focus will surely shift to house, home, renovation, decoration, alteration specially from the next month. Trips and ties were meant just for you. Vastu ceremony, prayers and pilgrimages are more than possible. In fact, for one year the domestic scene and foreign lands will have your attention.

### Virgo

Harvest time. All that you have waited for and worked for, should come true between October 11, 2017 to November 8, 2018. Have courage, trust in God, serve the world faithfully and you will be rewarded a thousand times over. We all have a right to rewards. Complete detachment is only for spiritual masters and sages.

### Libra

You are right at the very center of the turning cosmic will. That means you have the power to improve your own self and thereby change for the better the lives of others. Your relationships will be dynamic, magnetic and help you to help others. Right on Amitabh Bachchan's October 11, Jupiter changes signs. A happy augury.

### Scorpio

Genetics, chemicals, heavy investments and surprisingly enough improvement of memory itself will be possible because the enzyme, known as HDAC2 will be stopped from blocking synaptic genes. Within the next 12 months the birth of creation, improvement of the cellular system, circuits of the brain, mighty investment in philanthropy and climate change could well kindle in all of us the hope of a bright and happier future.

### Sagittarius

You will progress enormously and rapidly if you do your work in absolute secrecy. Technology and chemicals and anything to do with fuels, aviation, racing, speculation, CID and espionage should be right up your street. Hospitals, asylums, social welfare centers will need your help and guidance. Prayers will be granted.

### Capricorn

Socialize, be friendly and affable, circulate, joint clubs if you do so within the next 11 months you will be the favorite of Dame fortune. The rare combination of spirituality and conviviality is most certainly foretold. Alliances, marriage, partnerships, contacts and contracts are all meant just for you. Also trips and ties.

### Aquarius

A chance to be the top gun and show your power and might. That is okay. But with it if you are reasonable, humble and if common sense is not uncommon to you, you will be doubly great. A little control will lead to great good. Yes, I agree fully that you are a born humanitarian. That's your true identity.

### Pisces

The whole world can be a ball whirling between your eyebrows. One eye will be the illusion. The other eye will be the reality. It means you will be living on many levels and different plains of reality, humanity and spirituality. For once even my intuition fails me and I cannot describe fully the immense possibilities which will absolutely open out for you in the next 11 months.

Bejan Daruwalla is world's most famous astrologer today. He appears regularly on world wide TV shows. Bejan who has been a professor in English, has authored a number of books on astrology. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on March 29, 2012, lunched one of Bejan's books, '2012-End of the World? Bejan contributes to a number of

journals and newspapers in many parts of the world which include Berkley Communications (London) Times of India (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai) and The Indian Panorama (New York and Texas). Bejan's predictions have mostly been correct and people the world over rely on his predictions.

Bejan Daruwalla is available for astrological consultations. He can be reached at [info@bejandaruwalla.com](mailto:info@bejandaruwalla.com) and on phone 011-91-9825470377 [www.bejandaruwalla.com](http://www.bejandaruwalla.com)

**ACCOUNTING**

**NEW JERSEY**  
INCOME TAX:  
INDIVIDUAL/BUSINESS/NON-PROFIT  
New Company setup -Accounting-Payroll  
Foreign Assets Reporting (FBAR) & Tax matters

**NAILESH T BHAVSAR CPA**  
(Chartered Accountant-INDIA)  
100 Plainfield Ave, Suite 6 A  
EDISON, NJ 08817  
**TEL: (732) 317 3696**

**EATS**

**NEW JERSEY**  
**SRI GANESH'S DOSA HOUSE**  
Exceptional Indian Cuisine  
809 Newark Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ 07306  
Gopal/Madhavi  
**PH# 201-222-3883**

**LOANS FOR  
BUSINESS  
REAL ESTATE  
IT INDUSTRY**

*ALL Forms of Hospitality  
Healthcare & Pharmaceutical  
Manufacturing & Industrial  
Mix Used Buildings  
SBA & Conventional  
Asset Base & Factoring  
Debt Renegotiations  
PRIVATE INVESTORS  
AVAILABLE  
LOANS IN ALL 50 STATES  
Call Today*

**845-735-0183**  
*JaniRealty.com*

**EATS**

**LONG ISLAND**  
**CHENNAI DOSAS**  
Kosher  
South Indian Vegetarian Restaurant  
Dine In - Take Out - Catering  
128 Broadway  
Hicksville, NY 11801  
**Tel: 516-681-5151 Fax: 516-681-5151**  
**Email: Chennaidosasny@gmail.com**

**ELECTRICIAN**

**LICENSED AND INSURED**  
**JAG ELECTRICAL  
SYSTEMS, CORP**  
**NO JOB TOO SMALL**  
\*Ceiling Fans-A/C Outlets  
\*Appliance Lines 100-200 AMP Service  
\*Lighting Fixtures, Maintenance  
\*Timers, Intercom, Outlets, Bell  
Specialty: VIOLATIONS REMOVAL



**CALL JAG**  
**718-347-4540**  
**917-734-8252**  
266-10 Union Turnpike,  
Floral Park, NY 11004  
**E-mail: jagelectricalsystems@gmail.com**

**EATS**

**RAJBHOG FOODS INC.**  
Sweets & Snacks  
351 S. Broadway  
Hicksville, NY 11801  
**PH# 516-513-0939**

**SAKOON  
INDIAN RESTAURANT**

Vegetarian & Non-Vegetarian  
Fine Dine In & Pick up  
275 W. Old Country Road  
Hicksville, NY 11801  
**PH# 516-935-3846**  
**PH# 516-935-0190**  
**FAX# 516-935-1213**

**A.A. BEDDING**

**The Mattress People**  
Wholesale & Retail

143-02 94th Ave.  
Jamaica NY 11435

**Tel. 718-291-8101**  
Ask for Julio Caraballo  
Salesman

**EATS**

**PUNJABI  
KITCHEN**

1691 Oak Tree Road  
Edison, NJ 08820

www.punjabikitchenrestaurant.com  
Email contact@punjabikitchenrestaurant.com  
**PH# 732-596-7907**

**GROCERY**

**NEW JERSEY  
SUBZI MANDI**

Cash & Carry  
A House of Fresh Fruits, Vegetable and INDO-PAK  
& B-DESH Grocery  
**815 Newark Avenue**  
**Jersey City, NJ 07306**  
**PH# 201-222-9442 FAX# 201-222-9432**

**Indian Visa Center**

VISA / OCI PIO / PASSPORT  
APPLICATION ASSISTANCE CENTER  
349 S. Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801

**DEEPAK BANSAL**  
Email: deepakbansalny@gmail.com  
**Cell: 516.304.8808 Fax: 516.218.8009**

**ASTROLOGY**

**Astrologer Kunjihari Pathak**

Get Astrological Guidance and Remedies for  
● Education ● Job ● Business ● Marriage  
● Health ● Prosperity ● Protection  
Contact Internationally well - known  
**Astrologer Kunjihari Pathak**  
Tel. (732) 500-7453  
Email: kunjpathak@yahoo.com

**GROCERY**

**NEW YORK**  
**J & P GUYANA W.I. GROCERY INC.**

We carry a wide range of West Indian  
Grocery at low prices  
113-17 Liberty Avenue  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419  
President: David Ramsawmy (Elvis)  
**PH# 718-925-0100**

# DIWALI CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

The growing ethnic and cultural diversity of Hindu religion throughout the world provides the opportunity to participate in the celebrations and rituals of Diwali festival that enhances the feelings of being part of a close-knit group of Indians. Most Diwali celebrations around the world focus on family and friends and it is a time to reflect on the past and envision for a future, perhaps, in a world where people live together in harmony.

Outside India also, as Diwali approaches, people clean their home to escape bad luck in the upcoming year and families gather for a feast and stay up late, celebrating with the help of crackers and sweets. They believe that the Hindu goddess of good luck visits homes that are brightly lit. Children make "diyas" which are small clay lamps to light and bring the good luck goddess to their home so they can receive new clothes and toys. One family may have many thousand of these little diyas decorating their home.

## Mauritius

Diwali is celebrated with great enthusiasm at Mauritius as this country has a great Indian crowd. The Diwali celebrations at Mauritius are as good as in India. The festival of lights-Diwali is celebrated in October/November. Diwali marks the victory of Rama over Ravana and also commemorates Krishna's destruction of the demon Narakasuran. Earthen oil lamps are placed in front of every home turning the island into a fairyland of flickering lights.

Mauritius is a beautiful landmass full of picturesque landscapes and enchanting spots. Mauritius accounts for 63% of the Indian majority of which 80% follow Hinduism. Hence, celebration of almost all the Hindu festivals in this island is a common phenomenon. In Mauritius, Diwali celebration is an age-old tradition. Beautiful rows of twinkling candles and lamps of all sorts are lit all over the island to celebrate the return of the hero of the Ramayana, Rama, from his 14 years of exile.

Besides celebrating the victory of good over evil and light over darkness, the little flickering lights also symbolize the beginning of summer. The main day of the festivities is seen as a particularly auspicious day for merchants to make up their accounts and balances for the previous year, to go unburdened into the next. After the morning prayers, Hindus share sweets prepared specially for the occasion with family members, neighbors and friends of any faith, in accordance with the multicultural spirit of Mauritius.

## Nepal

Surrounded by majestic Himalayas, Nepal, is a multi-ethnic and multi-lingual society and the only Hindu Kingdom of the world. Hindus in Nepal celebrate the Diwali festival with bright lights, gift exchanges, fireworks, and elaborate feasts to welcome Lakshmi, the goddess of light and wealth. Various houses and shop fronts in Katmandu, Nepal, display the bright lights typical of Hindu communities during Diwali. Diwali is celebrated here with the usual Hindu festivities and rituals. Diwali in Nepal is known as Tihar. Just like most places in India Diwali is celebrated here to honor the goddess of wealth and god of prosperity-Lakshmi and Ganesh respectively. The festival here continues for five days. Every day has its special significance. The first day is dedicated to cows as they cook rice and feed the cows believing that goddess Lakshmi comes on cows. The second day is for Dogs as the Vahana



Diwali fireworks in Melbourne.

of Bhairava. Preparation of delicious food especially meant for the dog is a typical characteristic of the day. Lights and lamps are lit to illuminate the entire surrounding and some of the specialty items are prepared to mark the third day of the festival. Fireworks, Lamps and crackers are widely used. The fourth day is dedicated to Yama, the Hindu God of Death. He is prayed for long life. The fifth final day is Bhhaya Dooj dedicated for the brothers who are wished long life and prosperity by their sisters.

## Indonesia

The name Indonesia came from two Greek words: "Indos" meaning Indian and "Nesos" meaning islands. The majority of the population in Indonesia follows Islam. Hindus constitute about 2% of Indonesia's total population. However, the Indonesian island of Bali is famous for celebrating the festival of Diwali, as a majority of the population here are Indians. It is one of the most revered festivals of the locals here. The celebration and rituals of the festival are mostly similar to that celebrated by their counterparts in India.

## Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is on the extreme southeastern point of India. Related to the epic of Ramayana, Diwali holds a special importance for the people here. The festival is marked by illumination, making of toys of enamel and making of figures out of crystal sugar popularly known as Misiri. The sugar crystals take the place of sweets. Hindus light oil lamps to invite the blessings of Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. Burning of crackers in the evening of the festival is a common practice of this festival. Sri Lanka's celebration may lack many of the traditional aspects of Diwali such as games, fireworks, singing and dancing, but the tradition of a large meal is admirably preserved.



Fireworks explode near the Wheel of Light during Diwali celebrations in Leicester.

## Britain

The Indians are the second largest ethnic minority in Britain. To get rid of the feeling of missing their homeland, especially during festival times, the Indians here celebrate most of the festivals. In Britain, as in India, the Diwali festival is a time for thoroughly spring-cleaning the home and for wearing new clothes and most importantly, decorating buildings with fancy lights. The British city of Leicester is noted for its Diwali Festival celebrations.

The occasion of Diwali is marked by visit to the local temple to worship the shrine of goddess Lakshmi. The festival here is celebrated according to the Hindu solar calendar, in one of the cold, damp and windy months in Britain. But still the enthusiasm of the festival celebration makes the task of leaving small lamps on windowsills or by open doorways possible ignoring the chill. The

Lamps and Diyas play their part in maintaining the atmosphere of Diwali in the home.

## Australia

Australia the wonderful island country on Indian Ocean has an estimated 100,000 Indians as settled in Australia. Most of them are the followers of the Hindu religion. Though, some of the Indians here are recent arrivals that belong to the affluent sections of the Indian society. Due to the large number of Hindus here, Diwali is one of the major festivals that is celebrated with great enthusiasm. The lighting of lamps and diyas on Diwali is a common practice. However, the non-availability of the appropriate material or some other reason have influenced the celebrations and has given in the touch of modernity in the celebration of the festival of light.

# Pakistan senators reject raising marriage age as 'un-Islamic'

**ISLAMABAD (TIP):** Pakistani senators have rejected a bid to raise the legal age of marriage for women from 16 to 18, a senator told AFP, declaring it "un-Islamic" in a decision condemned by human rights activists.

The senate body tasked with examining the amendment decided against it unanimously earlier this week, government senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi told AFP on Thursday.

"According to Islamic traditions, it's understood that a girl becomes adult in between 12 to 16 years of age, so how can we define an age for marriage," Abbasi said.

Child marriage remains common in some areas of deeply conservative Pakistan, where women have sought their rights for decades.

A previous attempt to amend the marriage bill last year was scuttled by a religious body which branded it "blasphemous" and against Islam.

The Council of Islamic Ideology said there was no specific age limit for marriage in sharia law as an individual can marry when he or she reaches



puberty and puberty cannot be defined by age.

Human rights activists today slammed the latest decision.

"Those who blocked this amendment should be ashamed of themselves," said activist Hina Jilani.

"Their interpretation is wrong," she said, adding that doctors clearly advise against the marriage of young girls for health reasons.

"We will confront this extremist and fundamentalist ideology and will launch protest," she said. (AFP)

# Army in 'systematic' campaign to drive Rohingya from Myanmar: UN

**GENEVA (TIP):** Myanmar's "systematic" crackdown on the Rohingya is aimed at permanently expelling the minority Muslim community from their home in Rakhine state, the United Nations said Wednesday.

The UN report, which is based on interviews with refugees who have fled to Bangladesh, details a campaign by Myanmar's military to terrorise the Rohingya through atrocities that range from indiscriminate killings to rape.

"Brutal attacks against Rohingya in northern Rakhine State have been well-organised, coordinated and systematic, with the intent of not only driving the population out of Myanmar but preventing them from returning to their homes," the UN said.

UN researchers spoke to people who arrived in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar area since August 25, when militant attacks on Myanmar's security forces in Rakhine sparked a major military backlash. More than half a million people have fled, UN figures show.

But the probe found that the latest wave of military "clearance operations" in Rakhine actually began before that date, possibly in early August, contradicting government claims that the crackdown was a response to militant strikes.

The investigation outlines an army-led campaign to erase the Rohingya's connection to their homeland in the majority Buddhist nation, where they have suffered persecution for decades.

Myanmar's troops also often operate "in concert with armed Rakhine Buddhist individuals," the UN said.

"In some cases, before and during the attacks, megaphones were used to announce: 'You do not belong here -- go to Bangladesh. If you do not leave, we will torch your houses and kill you,'" it said.



The findings were based on interviews conducted in Bangladesh between September 14 and 24, with researchers finding evidence of abuses designed to "instil deep and widespread fear" among the Rohingya population.

This included accounts of soldiers surrounding homes and firing indiscriminately as residents ran for their lives as well as uniformed men gang-raping women and girls, some as young as five.

One statement, "received by an extremely credible source, referred to a (pregnant) woman whose stomach was slit open after she was raped", the report said.

Speaking to reporters in Geneva, researcher Thomas Hunecke also said the UN had "very credible information" that Myanmar's military had planted landmines along the Bangladesh border.

"It is highly likely that these mines

have been planted in order to prevent the Rohingya population from returning", he said. Teachers, as well as cultural, religious and community leaders have also been targeted in the latest crackdown "in an effort to diminish Rohingya history, culture and knowledge", the report said.

"Efforts were taken to effectively erase signs of memorable landmarks in the geography of the Rohingya landscape and memory in such a way that a return to their lands would yield nothing but a desolate and unrecognisable terrain," it added.

The UN team said it spoke to hundreds of people in a series of 65 interviews, some with individuals and some with groups of up to 40 people.

UN human rights chief Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, has previously described the crackdown as "a textbook example of ethnic cleansing." (AFP)

# Election Commission of Pakistan issues non-bailable arrest warrants for Imran Khan

**ISLAMABAD (TIP):** The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Thursday issued non-bailable arrest warrants for Imran Khan, chairman of the opposition party Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI), in the contempt of court case against him for repeatedly failing to appear before it for the hearing and for failing to send a written apology to the ECP for his absence from court.

Akbar S Babar, a former PTI leader, had filed the case with the ECP seeking Imran Khan's disqualification over allegations that his party was receiving funds from foreign sources.

ECP chairman Sardar Muhammad Raza Khan ordered on Thursday that the PTI chairman be arrested and brought to the next hearing of the case on October 26. Naeemul Haq, PTI spokesperson, said the party would challenge the warrants in Islamabad High Court (IHC).

The ECP had issued bailable arrest warrants for Khan on September 14 for failing to appear for the contempt of court proceedings. On the PTI's petition, the Islamabad High Court (IHC) had later suspended the arrest warrants.

"The ECP has issued a new warrant in the same case where a bailable warrant was already suspended. We will challenge the decision in court and will also look into the matter whether this is contempt of the IHC's decision or not," Babar Awan, PTI's member and lawyer said. (PTI)

# 3 members of Ahmadiyya community sentenced to death in Pakistan

**LAHORE:** Three members of the persecuted Ahmadiyya community have been sentenced to death in Pakistan's Punjab province for committing blasphemy by tearing up posters that demanded boycott of the minority sect.

They have also been fined Rs 200,000 each and in case they don't pay the fine, they would undergo six months of rigorous punishment.

Additional District and Sessions Judge of Sheikhpura district of Punjab province Mian Javed Akram announced the verdict yesterday after the prosecution submitted evidence and presented all witnesses in the case.

A blasphemy case registered against them in May in 2014 for tearing religious posters.

According to Sharqpur police station official Muhammad Ashar, the people had displayed posters in the village urging social boycott of the Ahmadiyya community. "The posters carried Islamic verses," he said.

On removing the posters, a complaint was filed against the three men that led to their subsequent arrest.

The convicts admitted before the court that they had removed the posters for demanding social boycott of Ahmadiyya community but not to commit blasphemy.

Their counsel will challenge the verdict in the higher court.

Yesterday, ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif's son-in-law Mohammad Safdar launched a tirade against the Ahmadiyya community, demanding their exclusion from the government and military service.

The Ahmadiyya community was declared non-Muslims in Pakistan through a constitutional amendment in 1974 during the tenure of former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

This measure was later followed with former president Gen Ziaul Haq, making it a punishable offence for Ahmadiyyas to call themselves Muslim or to refer to their faith as Islam.

The community is also banned from preaching as well as from travelling to Saudi Arabia for pilgrimage. They are also not allowed to publish any material propagating their faith.

Members of the community in Pakistan have often been targeted. (PTI)

# Rajapaksa's son arrested for protesting outside Indian consulate

**COLOMBO (TIP):** The elder son of former Sri Lankan president Mahinda Rajapaksa has been arrested along with two other parliamentarians for protesting outside the Indian consulate in Hambantota over the proposed lease of an airport to an Indian company.

The members of the Joint Opposition backing ex-president Mahinda Rajapaksa staged the demonstration to protest the Sri Lankan government's deal with India to handover the Mattala Mahinda Rajapaksa International Airport (MRIA) in Hambantota in the country's Southern Province. (PTI)

# QATAR - US TIES WITNESS A SURGE: SEETHARAMAN

**PRAKASH M SWAMY**

**NEW YORK (TIP):** Doha Bank hosted a knowledge sharing session on "Qatar- US Bilateral Opportunities" at Hotel Metropolitan, New York on Oct.10. The event was well attended by leading Corporates who were keen to hear more about US - Qatar bilateral relationships and to explore further business opportunities with Doha Bank.

Dr. R. Seetharaman, CEO, Doha Bank gave insight on global economies. He said "According to IMF July 2017 Outlook, economic activity in both advanced economies and emerging and developing economies is forecast to accelerate in 2017, to 2 percent and 4.6 percent respectively, with global growth projected to be 3.5 percent. Current global growth prospects are encouraging, though the pace of growth is still weaker than desirable."

Dr. R. Seetharaman highlighted on US economy and Qatar - US Bilateral relationships. He said "US economy had expanded at an annual rate of 3 percent in the second quarter of the year. U.S. economic growth will take a mild hit in the third quarter from Hurricane Harvey and Irma. The U.S. economy lost 33,000 jobs in September even as the unemployment rate fell to 4.2 percent. Despite this Federal Reserve policymakers have recently signaled they continue to see gradual U.S. interest-rate hikes ahead. Qatar's trade with US was close to \$6Bn in 2016.

The US is the sixth largest trading partner of Qatar. US exports to Qatar mainly consisted of Aircraft, Vehicles, Electrical Machinery and Optical Medical Instruments. U.S. imports from Qatar mainly fuel and fertilizers. In Oct 2015 Qatar and the US have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to establish economic and investment



*Dr. R. Seetharaman, CEO, Doha Bank giving insight on global economies*

dialogue. In August 2016 Qatar's sovereign wealth fund made a \$622-million purchase, a stake in the company that owns New York's Empire State Building.

In June 2017 the United States and Qatar have signed a deal for the purchase of F-15 fighter jets with an initial cost of \$12bn. In August 2017 Qatar's National Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing Committee (NAMLC) has engaged the US-based Financial Integrity Network (FIN) as its principal strategic adviser for enhancing the country's anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing (AML/CFT) system.

Building on the nearly \$26bn invested in the US since 2015, Qatar Investment Authority has committed to investing another \$10bn and

expanding the portfolio to include infrastructure projects. Qatar- US Bilateral relationships witness a surge."

Dr. R. Seetharaman gave insight on the recent developments in Qatar. He said "Qatar will raise LNG production by 30% to 100mtpa within five to seven years after lifting a moratorium on gas development earlier this year. Qatar ranked 18th in 'the Global Competitiveness Report 2016-17' and stands second in the region. A new law for Public Private Partnership (PPP) businesses in Qatar should provide an additional level of comfort to the private sector and foreign investors.

Qatar Lending growth till August 2017 was more than 6% YTD and deposit growth was more than 9% YTD in 2017. In Feb 2017, Qatar

issued a new law on arbitration inspired by the UNCITRAL Model Law, an international template for law on arbitration. In terms of food security, Qatar now have many local companies that are supporting the country and it can develop these businesses further and boost its food production to provide both locally and internationally.

Qatar Budget 2017 has allocated for key sectors such as health, education and infrastructure QR87.1bn (US\$23.9bn) which is made up made up of nearly 44% of the total expenditure in the 2017. Transportation and infrastructure projects, which represented a main pillar of enhancing sustainable development, have been allocated QR42bn. (US\$11.51bn). The accomplishment of the New Orbit Highway will facilitate the world cup infrastructure works as per schedule.

Qatar's landmark residency plan is a welcoming social and economic reform. It will attract skilled expats to have a career in Qatar. It will also encourage investors as they would be able to launch business ventures. It will help migrants to further integrate with Qatar's society. The landmark residency plan will enhance expatriates' participation in Qatar's economy and society in various forms and thereby contribute to sustainable growth of Qatar. Qatar has also waived entry visa requirements for citizens of 80 countries."

Convening all these global business leaders in New York, was a powerful reminder of the invaluable role that accurate information, communication and reporting plays in the business community. The presentation was inspiring and useful. It restored trust and fertile ground.

The business audience was able to see the opportunities that Qatar is offering. Qatar's core value and hard work were highlighted as they lead to a peaceful and resilient society.

## An Open Letter to President Trump

### STOP USING AMERICA'S CHILDREN AS PAWNS: EXTEND DACA

I received a letter just before I left office from a man. I don't know why he chose to write it, but I'm glad he did. He wrote that you can go to live in France, but you can't become a Frenchman. You can go to live in Germany or Italy, but you can't become a German, an Italian. He went through Turkey, Greece, Japan and other countries. But he said anyone, from any corner of the world, can come to live in the United States and become an American."

**-President Ronald Reagan**

The Trump

administration is again using America's children as pawns, unfairly pushing harsh policies to push his own agenda. Proposals last Sunday threaten to derail efforts to protect the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) applicants from deportation. 800,000 of young immigrants, many of whom were brought into the U.S. illegally as children, are being exploited in a deadly game of cat and mouse.

It is un-American to link the fate of Dreamers to an unreasonable anti-immigrant wish list. Congress must immediately pass the bipartisan Dream Act independently, and on its own merits. With Democrats threatening gridlock in Congress, it is the American people who suffer most when this impasse happens. Playing the Trump card has taken on a mean-spirited meaning.

The President's unreasonable demands include overhauling the country's green-card system, hiring 10,000 more immigration officers and building the quixotic wall along the southern border. Trump administration officials said the president will insist on their passage in exchange for supporting legislation that would extend the DACA program. **contd on Page 48**



*The future of America's continued success rests on its young people, many of whom are DACA recipients. As an immigration lawyer, immigrant and community advocate, Albert Baldeo knows firsthand that Dreamers deserve a better chance to succeed and help build America.*

## Rubin Museum New York hosting 24-hour ragas festival where one can bring bedding to sleep

**NEW YORK CITY (TIP):** Rubin Museum of Art (RMA) in New York is hosting "Ragas Live Festival-24 hours of sacred sound" on October 21-22, where guests with a \$280 ticket get handpicked gallery sleeping spot under an artwork and may bring bedding.

Starting 10 am on October 21 and ending at 10 am on October 22, this overnight Indian classical music concert, whose tagline is "Color your mind at Ragas Live Festival", includes performances by over 50 master musicians and is a first for RMA. Museum will also provide lounge areas in the lobby for naps and spaces where guests can make themselves cozy.

A worldwide audience will share this "immersive 24-hour global listening experience" in real time via a live radio broadcast. Museum Café will serve "mango lassis", and the event includes meditation and traditional Hindu sunrise puja (prayer).

Musical instruments to be used during the festival include sitar, kanjira, tabla, bansuri, sarod, sarangi, harmonium, mridangam, santoor, etc. It would showcase some hundreds of years old compositions and includes many artists from India.

Welcoming RMA for hosting festival of ragas, which were historically integral to Hinduism with roots going back to ancient



Vedas, Hindu statesman Rajan Zed, in a statement in Nevada, said that art had a long and rich tradition in Hinduism and the elements of musical theory were first found in Sama-Veda.

Rajan Zed, who is President of Universal Society of Hinduism, urged major art museums of the world, including Musee du Louvre and Musee d'Orsay of Paris, Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, Los Angeles Getty Center, Uffizi Gallery of Florence (Italy), Art Institute of Chicago, Tate Modern of London, Prado Museum of Madrid, National Gallery of Art in Washington DC, etc., to frequently organize Hindu art/culture focused exhibitions/shows/concerts, thus sharing the rich Hindu art heritage with the rest of the world.

Ragas are stated to be melodies with highest expression of Indian classical music and envisioned as manifestation of the divine. Some are

associated with various Hindu deities like Lord Shiva, Lord Vishnu, etc. Sage Narada is said to have played some ragas. Many ragas produce feeling of reverence, hope, passion, love, joy, devotion, peace, etc. Effects of ragas have been described as bringing dead back to life, curing madness, causing rain, starting fire, etc.

RMA claims to "spark new ways of seeing the world", hosts "out-of-the-ordinary experiences" and has welcomed over 1.4 million visitors. With five gallery floors, it describes itself as "space to contemplate ideas that extend across history and span human cultures". Robert M. Baylis and Patrick Sears are Trustees President and Executive Director respectively.

Hinduism, oldest and third largest religion of the world, has about 1.1 billion adherents and moksh (liberation) is its goal. There are about three million Hindus in USA.

Kerala's backwaters—a network of natural waterways, lagoons and lakes—run parallel to its coast. The rich vegetation, biological diversity and gentle pace of village life in the backwaters leave an indelible impression on visitors. The Alappuzha-Kumarakom stretch is the most popular, but there are several other routes which offer quieter yet equally scenic experiences. The backwaters are synonymous with 'kettuvallams'—houseboats designed like rice barges—but country canoes and public ferries are interesting options for those looking for some local flavour.

### Alappuzha

Often likened to Venice, Alappuzha, also known as Alleppey, in central Kerala, is the most popular entry point into the backwaters around Vembanad Lake. There's a pretty beach with an old pier and lighthouse, but the real draw is the network of canals which can be explored on luxury houseboats, speedboats and ferries.

The Alappuzha District Tourism Promotion Council offers the cheapest cruises, including the popular one between Alappuzha and Kollam which operates every day, from August to January (Rs 300 including lunch for 8 hours). There's also a daily three-hour-long sunset cruise (Rs 200), canoe rides (Rs 200 per hour) and overnight stays in houseboats (Rs 4,000 for non-AC and Rs 4,500 for AC, all-inclusive).

Alappuzha is at its festive best during the Nehru Boat Snake Boat Race, generally held on the second Saturday of August every year. The regatta takes place on the Punnamada Lake, and also features ceremonial processions and magnificent floats. The highlight of the event is the synchronised rowing of traditional 30-metre-long snake-boats or 'chudan valloms', which have a raised prow resembling a snake.

### Kumarakom

Part of the Kuttanad region, picturesque Kumarakom is an archipelago scattered on the eastern edge of the Vembanad Lake. This area's natural splendour and way of life were vividly described in Arundhati Roy's Man Booker Prize-winning, 'The God of Small Things'. Kumarakom has a string of luxury resorts including the Coconut Lagoon, Kumarakom Lake Resort and Vivanta by Taj - Kumarakom, located right on the backwaters and guests can rove about the canals on boating and fishing trips. The 14-acre Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary is an ornithologist's paradise and home to egrets, darters, herons, herons, waterfowls and kingfishers. The sanctuary also welcomes seasonal guests including the elusive Siberian stork, between the months of November and May.

### Kollam

The backwaters around Kozhikode are also not as touristy and consequently much less crowded. Houseboats can be hired at the pier near the Purrakkattiri Bridge on the Ullery-Perambra road, 10 kilometres outside Kozhikode. The prettiest routes wind along the Canoly Canal, Kallai River and Elathur. An excursion to the scenic Kadalundi Bird Sanctuary, set amidst hillocks and by an estuary, is highly recommended. The sanctuary comprises of a group of small isles where the Kadalundi River meets the Arabian Sea, and is home to over 100 species of native birds and 60 kinds of migratory birds.

### Kozhikode

Less-known than the backwaters of central Kerala, the backwaters around Kozhikode are also not as touristy and consequently much less crowded. Houseboats can be hired at the pier near the Purrakkattiri Bridge on the Ullery-Perambra road, 10 kilometres outside Kozhikode. The prettiest routes wind along the Canoly Canal, Kallai River and Elathur. An excursion to the scenic Kadalundi Bird Sanctuary, set amidst hillocks and by an estuary, is highly recommended. The sanctuary

# EXPLORING KERALA'S BACKWATERS



comprises of a group of small isles where the Kadalundi River meets the Arabian Sea, and is home to over 100 species of native birds and 60 kinds of migratory birds.

### Valiyaparamba

The northern backwaters in Valiyaparamba are the quietest of the lot. Around 30 kilometres away from Bekal, Valiyaparamba is located in the Kasaragod district of north Kerala. Fed by four rivers, this sprawling backwater has several small and scenic islands. For a short visit, take a Kerala State Water Transport Development ferry from Kotti near the town of Payyannur, towards Ayitti Jetty.

The comfortably furnished Bekal Boat Stay offers one of the few overnight houseboat trips to the area.

You can also stay at the Valiyaparamba Retreat, which has two rooms and two bungalows sandwiched between a pristine beach and the backwaters. It is located 15 kilometres north of the town of Payyannur, and also organises excursions on motor boats and country canoes.



contd from page 1

## Trump Signs Executive Order...

issue where Republicans had earlier failed in their repeated attempts to bring down Obamacare.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer accused Trump of "using a wrecking ball to single-handedly rip apart our healthcare system."

"Having failed to repeal the law in Congress, the president is sabotaging the system", Schumer said.

The House of Representatives in May passed Republican legislation to gut Obamacare. But attempts by Senate Republicans to repeal and replace Obamacare failed in July and September, in part because the proposed legislation would have caused millions of Americans to lose healthcare coverage.

Republicans call Obamacare, which extended health insurance to 20 million people, a government intrusion into Americans' healthcare, and have been promising for seven years to scrap it.

Trump's order weakens Obamacare in part by giving people more access to plans that do not cover essential health benefits such as maternity and newborn care, prescription drugs, and mental health and addiction treatment.

Obamacare, known formally as the Affordable Care Act, requires most small business and individual health plans to cover those benefits.

The order also sought to change an Obama-era limit on the time span people can use short-term health insurance plans, which are cheaper but cover few medical benefits. Those plans are currently limited to three months.

Trump said the order was "only the beginning" and that his administration would take additional actions. He said he would "pressure Congress very strongly to finish the repeal and the replace of Obamacare once and for all."

The action could open Mr. Trump to legal challenges from Democratic state attorneys general, who have said they will sue Mr. Trump if he tries to destroy Obamacare.

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra, a Democrat, said Trump's executive order is just another step toward imploding the Affordable Care Act. "It should come as no surprise that California is prepared to fight in court to protect affordable healthcare for its people," Becerra said. "We're heading in a different direction."

Trump has taken a number of other steps since January to weaken or undermine Obamacare. He has not committed to making billions of dollars of payments to insurers guaranteed under Obamacare, prompting many to exit the individual market or hike premiums for 2018.

The administration also halved the open enrolment period, which begins Nov. 1, and slashed the Obamacare advertising and outreach budget.

## 'I hope the new generation...

Consul General Sandeep Chakravorty, on his new book 'Master on Masters', which released in March this year in India.

'Master on Masters' is a 'deeply personal book' about the lives and times of some of the greatest icons of Indian classical music. Having known these stalwarts personally, Maestro recalls anecdotes and details about their individual musical styles, bringing them alive.

Twelve eminent musicians of the twentieth century appear in the book - Bade Ghulam Ali Khan, Amir Khan, Begum

Akhtar, Alla Rakha, Kesarbai Kerkar, Kumar Gandharva, M.S. Subbulakshmi, Bhimsen Joshi, Bismillah Khan, Ravi Shankar, Vilayat Khan and Kishan Maharaj.

In writing about them, Amjad Ali Khan transcends the Gharana and north-south divide, and presents portraits of these great artists that are drawn with affection, humor and warmth. Through pictures, anecdotes and personal experiences the book provides interesting insights into lives of the stalwarts who contributed to the glory of the Indian classical musical tradition in India.

Talking about the inspiration behind writing this book, he said, "My father (Haafiz Ali Khan) used to say, always find out quality of other musicians. That is what I have done. We had difference of opinions and fought with each other for our different gharanas. But I had great personal bond with them (the 12 maestros). I miss their presence. This is my humble homage to the greats."

Ustad Amjas Ali Khan also spoke about the individual musical styles of the twelve musicians featured in his book. Highlighting the spirituality of Indian classical music, he said, "I hope the new generation understands the spiritual nature of the Indian classical music and continues to keep the tradition alive." His two sons Amaan Ali Bangash and Ayaan Ali Bangash were also present at the event. Ustad Amjad Ali Khan will perform in New York on Saturday, November 4, 2017 at the Carnegie Hall.

## A Reprieve for Talwars...

the Noida couple, who were sentenced to life by a Ghaziabad CBI court in November 2013 for the double murder that not only transfigured but also shook the nation with its element of filicide. But the central question remains - who killed Aarushi and Hemraj?

The Division Bench of Justices BK Narayana and AK Mishra read out the operative part of the judgment in a jam-packed courtroom and acquitted the couple, saying neither the circumstances nor the evidence was enough to hold them guilty.

Ending the Talwars' nine-year ordeal, the court said the Central Bureau of Investigation had based its case purely on circumstantial evidence that did not quite add up. Finding no direct evidence, the court gave the benefit of doubt to the couple and quashed the CBI court's sentence of life imprisonment.

On November 25, 2013, the CBI trial court had held them guilty of the double murder. Since then, the Talwars have been imprisoned in Dasna jail, Ghaziabad. They challenged the CBI verdict in the Allahabad High Court in January 2014. Their repeated pleas for bail were turned down. After daily hearings, the High Court concluded the arguments and reserved its judgment on September 7 this year.

According to the counsel for the Talwars, the court said there was a "strong alternative theory" in the case. He said the court refuted the CBI theory that there was no third person in the house when the murders took place.

CBI counsels said they would first study the entire judgment and then decide if the verdict was to be challenged in the Supreme Court or not.

Dasna prison jailer Dadhiraam Maurya said the Talwars felt they had got justice and were praying. "After having breakfast, they had been praying. Their schedule was normal. She (Nupur Talwar) said they got justice today and had tears of joy."

Aarushi was found dead inside her room in the Talwars' Noida residence with her throat slit in May 2008. The suspicion initially fell on 45-year-old Hemraj, who was missing at that time. But his body was recovered from the terrace of the house a day later. As the Uttar Pradesh Police drew flak over shoddy investigation into the case, the then Chief Minister Mayawati recommended a probe by the CBI.

Group Captain BG Chitnis (retd), Nupur Talwar's father, said, "I am grateful to the judiciary for the verdict. They have really suffered. They are emotionally drained. At my age, it was very trying to see my daughter behind bars."

Lawyer Rebecca John, who was part of the Talwars' legal team, claimed the whole case was based on "innuendos".

(Source: PTI)

contd from Page 16

## Indian American Nisha Desai...

record of advancing United States business across the growth markets of Asia and throughout India. Under her strong leadership, we're confident the U.S.-India Business Council will play a critical role growing commercial partnership, investment, and innovation across the world's oldest and largest democracies."

Biswal served as Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs in the U.S. Department of State from 2013 to 2017,

where she oversaw the U.S.-India strategic partnership during a period of unprecedented cooperation, including launching the U.S.-India Strategic and Commercial Dialogue. In recognition of her efforts, Biswal was awarded the prestigious Samman Award by the President of India in January 2017. She previously served as Assistant Administrator for Asia at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Biswal also spent over ten years on Capitol Hill, serving as staff director on the State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee and the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives. ? Most recently, she was a senior advisor with the Albright Stonebridge Group, where she helped expand the firm's India and South Asia practice.

"I am honored and excited by the opportunity to lead the U.S.-India Business Council and to join the leadership of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce during a period of historic opportunity for both countries," said Biswal. "As one of the most significant and fastest growing markets, India is an important economic partner for the United States. Likewise, Indian companies are investing in ever greater numbers here in the United States. I am proud to be part of an organization which will play such a critical role shaping U.S.-India relations, and I am thrilled at the chance to help our companies deliver a brighter, more prosperous future for the citizens of the United States and India." Biswal has served on the board of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, and is a current member of the U.S. Institute of Peace International Advisory Council and the Institute for Sustainable Communities Board of Directors.

"UPS applauds Nisha being named as the new president of the U.S.-India Business Council," said Jim Barber, president of UPS International. "At this critical time, she will bring dynamic leadership and well-established economic expertise to the mission of improving the U.S.-India relationship." Biswal will join the U.S. Chamber beginning October 23, 2017.

contd from Page 46

## STOP USING AMERICA'S...

The specific list includes limiting family-based green cards to spouses and the minor children of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents and creating a point-based system, boosting fees at border crossings, make it easier to deport gang members and unaccompanied children, and overhaul the asylum system.

It also includes new measures to crack down on "sanctuary cities," which don't share information with federal immigration authorities, among other proposals-like New York City. The ability of federal, state and local authorities to detain illegal immigrants would be fully enshrined in law. Visitors who come legally but overstay their visas, would now face a misdemeanor penalty.

"These priorities are essential to mitigate the legal and economic consequences of any grants or status to DACA recipients," White House legislative affairs director Marc Short, unashamedly and inhumanely, told reporters. "We're asking that these reforms be included in any legislation concerning the status of DACA recipients."

Initiated under President Barack Obama, DACA protected and helped 800,000 young Americans, helped them to emerge from the shadows, and shielded them from deportation. It allowed them to continue working legally in the U.S. Trump announced a phase-out of the program last month, but he has given Congress six months to come up with a legislative fix, but it is an inhumane proposal that makes these innocent lives unwilling pawns in the vicious game of politics.

In a joint statement, House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said the list "goes so far beyond what is reasonable" and "fails to represent any attempt at compromise. The Administration can't be serious about compromise or helping the Dreamers if they begin with a list that is anathema to the Dreamers, to the immigrant community and to the vast majority of Americans. If the President was serious about protecting the Dreamers, his staff has not made a good faith effort to do so," they said.

Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-Texas, is justified in accusing the administration of trying to "use Dreamers as bargaining chips to achieve the administration's deportation and detention goals. Congress should reject this warped, anti-immigrant policy wish list. Immigrants are humans; we should craft policies that treat them as such."

Mr. President, you can, and must do, better!

**Albert Baldeo**  
New York

(Albert Baldeo is a civil rights activist and community advocate. As President of the Baldeo Foundation and Queens Justice Center, he has continued to fight for equal rights, dignity and inclusion in the decision making process. He can be contacted at the Baldeo Foundation: (718) 529-2300.)



**We the caretaker**

**GOOD NEWS FOR NRI'S**

Takecare of your old / vacant / ruin property in  
**CHANDIGARH / PANCHKULA / MOHALI**

Also specialize in :-  
**Toilet / Construction / Renovation / Landscaping**  
**Electrical Fitting and many more...**

Call +91-98158-99108, +91-99150-00439  
or email [xclusivegroup@gmail.com](mailto:xclusivegroup@gmail.com)



The EXPERIENCE

Bespoke CONTENT

# The INDIAN PANORAMA

EVER TRUTHFUL

The Indian Panorama brilliantly fuses content and commerce with unrivaled world-class editorial. Anytime, anywhere, any platform...



PRINT



DIGITAL

To Advertise  
Call +1 646 247 9458



Your access to high-value engaged & focused customers



Harness the power of people

Advertise for as low as\*  
**\$50\***  
Talk to us today.  
\*Call us at 646 247 9458

# 900k+

ASIAN INDIANS in NEW YORK-  
NEW JERSEY - DALLAS (DFW)



Average Household  
Income

The Indian Panorama is a South-Asian English newspaper with print editions in New York City, the Tristate area and now also as the first English Asian Newspaper from Dallas, printed weekly every Friday.



# ASA MAI HINDU TEMPLE

Proudly Presents

13th

# DIWALI MELA

Festival of Lights

**SUNDAY OCT 15, 2017**  
**12 - 8PM**

80E Barclay Street, Hicksville NY  
Across from temple



**RAFFLES-**  
**WIN TV, IPAD, DINNERS, AND MORE**  
**ATTRACTIONS-**  
**DJ/MUSIC & DANCE DJ Kucha**  
**CARNIVAL RIDES GAMES/HANDCRAFTS**

**FREE PARKING**  
**FREE ENTRANCE**

**SPONSORS**

**MEDIA SPONSORS**

For Info

Sena P. Lund (516) 567-2561  
 Vinny Shikapuri (516) 375-7969  
 Sunder Luthra (917) 603-8950  
 Temple (516) 433-4388



# The Future of India Gala

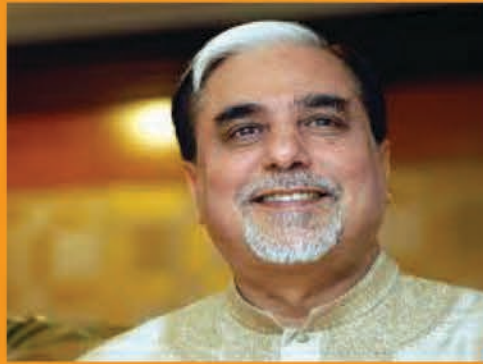
Hosted by  
*Ekal Vidyalaya*



## Celebrate Diwali With A Purpose

Join us in changing the future of India at the  
First Annual Future of India Gala  
Hosted by Ekal Vidyalaya at

**Cipriani, 55 Wall Street**  
New York, NY  
on  
**Saturday, November 4th, 2017**  
6:30 - 10:30 pm



**Dr. Subhash Chandra**  
Founder ZEE TV,  
Chairman Essel Group



*Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation is a leading non-profit service organization dedicated to bringing education & village development in rural and tribal villages of India. Today, Ekal operates 56,000 one-teacher schools that provide free education to 1.5 million children all over India. There are still 13.5 million children needed to be reached.*

**Lifetime opportunity to meet and greet influential leaders**

**Fabulous entertainment! Great food! Cocktails and fun!**

**A 3 hour extravaganza to help raise money to eradicate illiteracy and empower women and youth in rural India!**



**Mitzi Perdue**  
Heiress to Sheraton Hotels and Perdue Farms



**To learn more about The Future of India Gala, visit [ekal.org/nyc-gala](http://ekal.org/nyc-gala) or contact Ranjani Saigal at [ranjani.saigal@ekal.org](mailto:ranjani.saigal@ekal.org) or 1-855-EKAL-USA**



**This festive season you can help light the lamp of education in Tribal India**



## SHIKSHAYATAN CULTURAL CENTER

EST. 1988

FOR EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING  
INDIAN ART & CULTURE

149-50 NORTHERN BOULEVARD 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, FLUSHING, N.Y. 11354

CONTACT: 646-472-9255

E-MAIL: [Shikshayatanculturalcenter@gmail.com](mailto:Shikshayatanculturalcenter@gmail.com)

REGISTRATION BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

### INDIAN PHILOSOPHY

SRIMAD BHAGVAD GITA

RAMAYAN

MAHABHARAT

### INDIAN LANGUAGE

HINDI

SANSKRIT

### INDIAN MUSIC

VOCAL:  
CLASSICAL  
SUGAM SANGEET  
BHAJANS  
GAZALS  
FOLK  
FILM

### INDIAN MUSIC

INSTRUMENTAL:  
HARMONIUM  
KEYBOARD  
TABLA  
VIOLIN  
SITAR  
GUITAR  
VEENA  
FLUTE

### SPECIAL EVENTS

MONTHLY CULTURAL  
PROGRAMS  
ANNUAL FUNCTIONS  
WORKSHOPS  
DISCOURSES  
COMPETITIONS  
EXHIBITIONS  
SEMINARS  
CLASSICAL CONCERTS

### INDIAN DANCES

CLASSICAL:  
BHARATNATYAM  
KATHAK  
KUCCHIPUDI  
ORISSA  
SEMI CLASSICAL:  
FOLK  
FILM  
DEVOTIONAL



REGISTER FOR COURSES:  
INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP

REGULAR AND ORGANIZED COURSES OFFERED  
AFTER SCHOOL EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

OUR DISTINCTNESS IS TO PRESERVE THE VEDIC HERITAGE OF INDIA  
LONG LIVE HUMANITY LONG LIVE WORLD PEACE

# Introducing "Your Choice" CD!

## Limited Time Offer

**12- Month CD** **1.75%** APY\*

**18-Month CD** **1.90%** APY\*



**421 South Broadway, Hicksville, New York 11801**  
**516-681-5200**

\*CD & Money Market Account offers require a qualifying consumer or business checking account and a minimum deposit of \$5,000. No Brokered Deposits will be accepted. Penalty for early withdrawal. The annual Percentage Yield (APY) shown is effective as of 10/15/2017 and is available at HAB 's Hicksville Branch only. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Other terms and conditions apply. Available For Consumers and Small Business Customers  
HAB BANK is a Service Mark of Habib American Bank



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



# INDIA END U-17 WORLD CUP CAMPAIGN IN AGONY, SUFFER 0-4 LOSS TO GHANA

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** Rank outsiders India ended their maiden FIFA U-17 World Cup campaign in a cry of pain and agony as they were handed a 0-4 thrashing by two-time champions Ghana in their final group match on Oct 12.

The Indians played their hearts out in the final Group A game but that was not enough as formidable Ghana outplayed them in all departments.

The scoreline, though, would not tell the exact story.

Captain Eric Ayiah scored twice -- in the 43rd and 52nd minutes -- while second half substitutes Richard Danso (86th) and Emmanuel Toku (87th) struck once each to break the hearts of the 52,614 home supporters at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

The fans had turned up in large numbers, hoping that their players would come up with another inspiring show, like they had done against Colombia in the previous match.

With Colombia beating the USA 3-1 in the other Group A game in Mumbai, Ghana topped the group. Colombia also qualified in the round of 16 as they finished second. USA had to be content with the third place.

All the three - Ghana, Colombia and USA - ended with three points each. But Ghana had the best goal difference of plus four while Colombia and USA had plus two each. As the number of goals scored between USA and Colombia were also the same - 5 - the ranking was decided on head to head record.

To be fair to the Indians, they had not done



too badly in the tournament against the best in the world. Built into a team in around two years through scouting from across the country and being trained together by head coach Luis Norton de Matos for just seven months, it was not expected to even perform like this.

They were also unlucky not to have added at least a goal each in the match against USA (which they lost 0-3) and against Colombia (which they narrowly lost 1-2).

Vastly superior in physique, speed and skill, the Ghanians totally dominated the match as far as both possession and shots were concerned. Ghana also needed a win to be sure

of a top two finish in the group and hence an automatic knock-out berth, prompting them to keep the Indian citadel under siege throughout the match. It was desperate defending for most part of the match with nine outfield players behind the ball in their own half with only Aniket Jadhav lurking upfront. Even Aniket had to run deep down and help his team-mates in the wake of Ghana offensive.

The crowd cheered lustily to spur the home players but it was too much for the Indians to keep on defending all the time against the rampaging Ghana attackers and they wilted under the enormous pressure.

As de Matos had picked his two key players

for Ghana, Sadiq Ibrahim and Bismark Owusu -- the left and right wingers respectively -- tormented the Indians time and again with their speed and deft manoeuvres.

In the first 45 minutes, all that India could manage was a 16th minute free-kick at the edge of the box, which Sanjeev Stalin took, only for the Ghanaian goalkeeper Danlad Ibrahim to clear without a fuss.

To be fair to India, Ghana also did not have too many strikes on target. Ghana captain Eric Ayiah had a fierce right-footer in the 35th minute tipped over by goalkeeper Dheeraj Singh. A short while later, Ibrahim Sulley had a shot at the Indian goal, which was again saved by Dheeraj. It was a matter of time the Ghana goal came and it all started from the right flank. Sadiq Ibrahim cut through the right, sent a low cross, which Dheeraj tried to collect with a dive but spilled over and Ayiah was there to fire home with a bullet right-footed shot.

The second half was not much different as India defended grimly but Ghana ended the hosts' flickering hopes of getting any point from the tournament with Ayiah finding the target once again, in the 52nd minute, for his second goal of the night.

De Matos pulled out captain Amarjit Singh and replaced him with striker Rahim Ali to try and look for at least a goal.

India had two shots at the opposition goal late in the match through Rahim Ali and Lalengmawia, another second half substitute, but they did not trouble the Ghana keeper much.

## ASHISH NEHRA DECIDES TO HANG UP HIS BOOTS

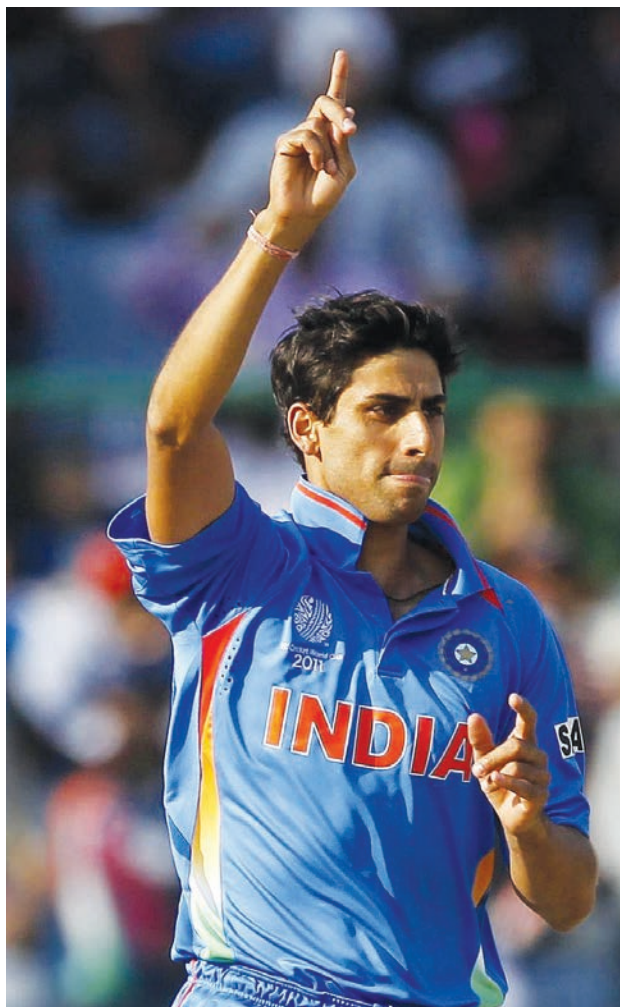
**HYDERABAD (TIP):** Veteran Indian pacer Ashish Nehra today decided to call time on his injury-ravaged career after next month's opening T20 against New Zealand at his home ground in New Delhi, saying "it is always good to retire when people are asking why rather than why not". "I have spoken to the team management as well as the chairman of selection committee that the game against New Zealand has come in Delhi. So it can't get bigger than retiring in front of your home fans where I played my first Ranji Trophy game 20 years ago," said Nehra.

The 38-year-old seamer made the announcement on the eve of the third and final T20I against Australia here. Nehra confirmed that he won't be playing IPL as well.

Having made his India debut back in 1999, Nehra has played 17 Tests, 120 ODIs and 26 T20 Internationals. He has picked 44 Test wickets, besides 157 ODI and 34 T20 scalps. He could have played a lot more but for regular injuries. Nehra made his latest India comeback for the ongoing T20 series but did not get a look-in in the first two games. He came into the series hoping to play all matches but soon realised that the younger bowler were the first choice. "When I came into the series, I came prepared to play all games. I spoke to the captain and the coach straightaway," Nehra said. "My thinking is that I should be in the XI if I am available. If you see, I've played in all the T20 games in the past two years."

Nehra said it was not a decision he made overnight and reached the conclusion after seeing the young pacers do well. "Bhuvi is ready with the way he is bowling. Earlier, Bumrah and I were playing but now Bhuvi is doing well. And there is also no big event lined up in the next 5-6 months," said Nehra.

He said he could have easily played international cricket for another year and also the next IPL. "It is very important for me to know what people think about me in the dressing room. So now, they all are saying I can easily play for another one to one-and-a-half years. My thinking has always been that it is good to retire when people are asking why than why not. I always wanted to retire on a high."



## Messi waves his magic wand

**QUITO (TIP):** A magical Lionel Messi hat-trick carried Argentina to a 3-1 win over Ecuador on Tuesday and booked their place at next year's World Cup finals in Russia.

With Argentina facing the dire possibility of missing out on a World Cup for the first time since 1970, their brilliant captain delivered when it matter most with three goals in the rarefied air of Quito.

The twice World Cup winners finished third in the 10-team South American group, going through with Brazil, Uruguay and Colombia as the automatic qualifiers. Peru grabbed a playoff place against Oceania champions New Zealand at the expense of Chile, who were beaten 3-0 by Brazil on Tuesday.

"Today Argentina took a great step forward," said coach Jorge Sampaoli. "I hope that with the time to prepare that we'll have, we can be competitive (in Russia) like we were today." While Sampaoli was delighted with his captain's performance, he said the side had to stop relying on him so much. "We've got to fix it so not everything depends on Messi," he added.

Messi had not been at his best in Argentina's stuttering campaign and failed to score in their previous three drawn qualifiers, which had left them in sixth place and out of the qualifying berths for Russia heading into Tuesday's game. A World Cup without Argentina seemed an even bigger possibility when Romario Ibarra put Ecuador ahead in the opening minute after he got the better of Javier Mascherano and beat Sergio Romero with a low shot.

But Argentina, who had managed only one previous win in Quito, in 2001, equalised 11 minutes later when Messi tapped home after a one-two with Angel Di Maria. Messi then put Argentina ahead in the 20th minute, firing a superb shot past Maximo Banguera into the top corner, and completed his hat-trick just past the hour, shaking off three tired Ecuador defenders before lifting the ball over the advancing goalkeeper and into the net. Messi, enjoying a little bit of extra space seldom afforded against rival South American defences, joined Uruguay's Luis Suarez as the all-time joint top scorers in CONMEBOL qualifiers with 21 goals.

# ROBERT

## BUILT ON TRUST SINCE '57

# ROBERT CHEVROLET



*Buy the Best Car at the Best Price.*

**Visit/ Call Today**

**236 South Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801**

**Toll free: 1.888.841.3180**

**Tel: 516.931.1145**

**Fax: 516-931-1231**

[www.robertchevrolet.com/MeetOurDepartments](http://www.robertchevrolet.com/MeetOurDepartments)



**"Combating childhood blindness is the most cost-effective health intervention in the world". - World Bank.**

**Eye Foundation of America has been serving the communities to prevent and cure blindness since 1977.**

- Foundation's work spreads across more than 25 countries, including India and the US
- 2 Million Plus Patients Treated
- 300,000 Plus Surgeries Performed
- 25000 Plus Surgeries on Children Performed

Visit [www.eyefoundationofamerica.org](http://www.eyefoundationofamerica.org) to know about our work.

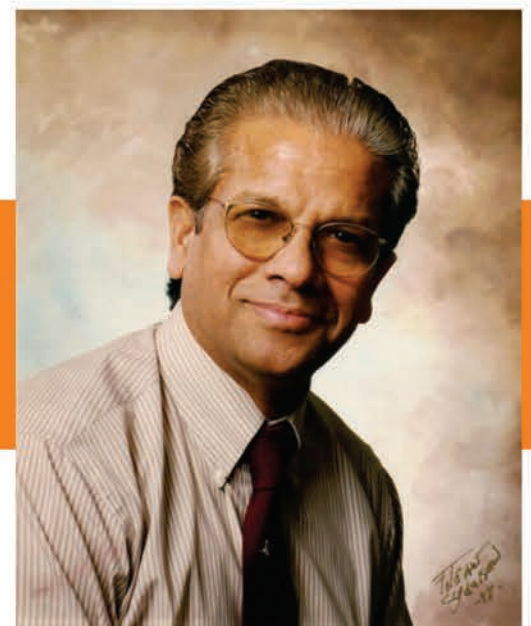
Also visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B23VvUaloN4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0Ab3RC229o&index=4&list=PLoxZXXPtP8dCz005By4MxWAh9hNDnyOXi>



Make the celebration of Diwali a more pleasant experience with your support to the initiative of preventing avoidable blindness among children. Lend your hand of support to Eye Foundation of America, a Not for Profit. All donations are tax-exempt (Tax exemption no. 55-0621735) To donate, please pay on line [www.eyefoundationofamerica.org](http://www.eyefoundationofamerica.org). Or, mail check favoring Eye Foundation of America to 695 Westview Ave., Morgantown, WV 26505.

**VK Raju, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S.**  
 Founder and President, Eye Foundation of America  
 3140 Collins Ferry Rd, Morgantown, WV 26505  
[www.eyefoundationofamerica.org](http://www.eyefoundationofamerica.org)  
 Phone: (304) 598-0055



**"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children". – Nelson Mandela**