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EVER TRUTHFUL

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8 Time to Review Gun Policy

9 Is Trump a Game-Changer?

16 Nobel Laureates of 2017

22 Netherlands Rocked by 'Gujarati Garba-Dandia'; Hindi & Hindustan Kept Alive by Arya Samaj

148th Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi Celebrated

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): The Consulate General of India in collaboration with Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, and the Manhattan Borough President's Office celebrated 148th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the International Day of Non-Violence on Monday, October 2, 2017 at Union Square Park, near Gandhiji's Statue. The occasion was graced by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, Manhattan Borough President Ms. Gale Brewer, Deputy Borough President.



Statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Union Square Park in Manhattan, New York

contd on Page 6

Las Vegas Massacre: No Clue yet to Motive behind Shooting

Can Shooter's girlfriend help Investigators in establishing the Motive?

LAS VEGAS (TIP): Six days on to the worst massacre in the history of modern America which claimed the lives of 59 and injured more than 520, some quite seriously, the police are still groping for the shooter's motive.

They seem to have hope from the girlfriend of Las Vegas gunman Stephen Paddock, who told investigators Wednesday, October 4 that she was concerned about Paddock's mental stability, a law enforcement source said to CBS.

contd on page 32



Undated photos of Stephen Paddock (left), identified by police as the Las Vegas gunman; and his girlfriend Marilou Danley(right)

AIA Diwali Mela at South Street Seaport draws Thousands

Musical Bonanza and Spectacular Fireworks Enthrall Visitors



NEW YORK CITY (TIP): The Association of Indians in America, NY Chapter (AIA-NY) hosted its 30th Annual Deepavali Festival at the South Street Seaport on Sunday October 1st from 12 noon till 7pm, culminating in a spectacular display of Fireworks sponsored by Cheapoair and Qatar Airways.

A beautiful day attracted large number of visitors to the Diwali fair which has earned the reputation of being one of the most anticipated events of the Indian American community's annual list of attractions.

"The turnout was phenomenal", said Gobind Munjal, President of AIA. The organizers quoted the police to claim that an estimated 100,000 people visited the event

contd on page 3

Spectacular Fireworks on East River

Photo/ TIP

Nassau County Human Rights Commission Holds Vigil for Victims in Las Vegas



"My thoughts and prayers are with the victims and the families of those who were killed or wounded in Sunday's attack," said Nassau County Executive Mangano

Photo/ TIP

MINEOLA, NY (TIP): Nassau County Human Rights Commission Chairman Bobby Kalotee organized a vigil for victims of Las Vegas shooting, on the front steps of the Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building on Wednesday, October 4. The mad and evil design of one man claimed the lives of 59 individuals and injured over 520 others, Nassau County Executive Edward P. Mangano, several

contd on Page 32

Trump likely to decertify Iran Nuclear Deal

WASHINGTON (TIP): As the deadline for President Trump to re-certify the Iran nuclear deal comes up in just over a week, the White House appears to be laying the groundwork for an announcement, expected Oct. 12th or Oct. 13th, that the deal will be decertified, according to media reports.

"You'll be hearing about Iran very shortly," President Trump told reporters during a meeting with military leaders Thursday, October 5 night. President told reporters last month that he had "decided" on the Iran

contd on Page 32

DIWALI SPECIAL EDITION

The Indian Panorama invites articles and advertisements for the Diwali special edition being brought out on October 13, 2017.

Articles and advertisements may please be emailed to salujaindra@gmail.com by October 10, 2017.

For any queries, please email to editor@theindianpanorama.com or call 646-247-9458

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Xavier University School of Medicine held its first Annual Alumni Global Meet at Aruba

NEW YORK (TIP): On September 29th, the Xavier University School of Medicine held its first Annual Alumni Global Meet at its campus in Aruba. This collaborative event brought together the Xavier University School of Medicine's President, Chairman, Chancellor, Board of Trustees, Alumni, Clinical Chairs, Special Guests, Basic Science and Clinical Faculty, Clinical Students, and Basic Science Students.

President Ravishankar Bhooplapur initiated the event with remarks on Xavier's past achievements, tremendous progress, and its bright future. He discussed the importance of quality education and the current management and ownership of the school. President Bhooplapur shared memories of visiting Aruba with Chancellor Dr. JG Bhat ten years ago and falling in love with the beautiful island and all that it had to offer. President Bhooplapur also spoke about the vision he saw for the school and what he did to make that vision become a reality. Xavier currently holds a double accreditation from CAAM-HP and ACCM. President Bhooplapur spoke highly about Xavier's graduates and their prestigious medical positions, many of whom were also at the event. He thanked them for taking time to share their journey and advice for current students to hear. President Bhooplapur announced that Xavier will be seeking state approvals/accreditations from New York and California in addition to others in the coming years. Xavier has obtained approval from the Government of Jordan and currently runs its Pre-Med programs in Jordan, Ghana, and India.

With pride, President Bhooplapur also spoke about Xavier's 94% passing rate on the USMLE Step 1 and its Match rate that is approaching 70% with a goal of 100% to be attained within the next three years. President Bhooplapur welcomed everyone and thanked them for participating and aiding to the event's success.

Chairman Edwin Casey addressed the gathering and spoke about the tremendous pride he takes in being part of the Xavier community. In his remarks, he stated that he recognizes the potential in each student and is certain that they will make an impact to the field with their advanced knowledge base of modern medicine. He told the students and guests that they are the future doctors of this world and that he is here to support them every step of the way. In his closing statements he said, "Together, we all succeed."

Mr. Casey was pleased to announce that Xavier will be starting a 501c foundation where alumni can donate to and support potential incoming students and other academic activities. 100% of the proceeds will go to scholarships and other academic activities including research for students with strong academic and social backgrounds.

Chancellor Dr. JG Bhat discussed the tremendous growth of Xavier students along with their commendable skills. He also spoke about the need for doctors and the positive impact they have on all communities. He emphasized to students that even as doctors, you never stop learning.

Acting Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Arun Dubey, introduced the new Dean of Clinical Science, Dr. Joseph Balsamo. Dr. Balsamo, a practicing clinician, has been active in the field of medical education for over 20 years. Dr. Balsamo had been a visiting faculty member at Xavier for several years while vacationing on the island. He addressed the crowd to let them know he is available to assist all students in helping them achieve their dream of becoming a doctor. He is excited to help in the advancement of Xavier's admission and thanked President Bhooplapur and Dr. Dubey for the opportunity.

Dr. Rachel Karmally, Alumni Chair and a 2012 Graduate of Xavier, concluded the first session by explaining how excited she was to return to the island of Aruba and to Xavier. She shared memories about traveling to Aruba and how she entered the pre-med program at 18 years old. She thanked all the professors and administrators who helped her along the way in accomplishing her dream. Dr. Karmally has a passion for medical education and, after completing her chief residency year in Internal Medicine, she is now an Associate Professor of Internal Medicine as well as having her own patients. As part of one of Xavier's first classes, she also emphasized to current students that they have a wealth of resources in the alumni and they should take full advantage of that. She stated that Xavier alumni are always available to help and answer questions and be mentors for them. They will always be open to giving each student honest and accurate information to help them achieve their goals and succeed.

After the first sessions concluded, the rest of the day's events began. Distinguished doctors spoke during the next session. They addressed the students and spoke to them about



President Ravishankar Bhooplapur addressing the audience



From Left to Right: Special Guest Dr. Peter Urazov, Acting Chief Academic Officer Dr. Arun Dubey, President Ravi Bhooplapur, Special Guest Dr. Ravi Gupta, Special Guest Dr. Shawn Cannon



Xavier's Alumni, Board of Trustees, Administration, Clinical Chairs & Faculty, and special guests



Xavier Students before attending Alumni Global Meet

what to expect when starting their clinical rotations, the process of residency, and how to always be prepared to attain your goals. Dr. Ravi Gupta, a Medical Teacher and Director of Residency Operations, Dr. Shawn Cannon, a Specialist in Osteopathic Medicine with over 20 years of experience as a Medical Educator, and Dr. Peter Urazov, a Medical Director and the Director of Medical Education, were among those who presented. Students were eager to ask questions following their presentations. We are very thankful that these prestigious doctors and program directors were able to join our event.

A panel discussion and presentation by Xavier alumni took place during the afternoon session. In a joint presentation, they spoke about a variety of topics including how to study and learn in basic sciences, preparation for USMLE, how students should choose their rotations, and most importantly, how to decide what type of residency they want to go for. Students expressed that they were thankful to hear first-hand from alumni. The Q&A segment was the highlight of all the sessions as it gave students the opportunity to ask anything they wanted, which left students filled with eagerness and desire.

Along with the notable presentations and speeches, Xavier's Administration and faculty also held strategic development sessions to plan the continued success and growth of Xavier.

President Bhooplapur and the rest of Xavier look forward to the second Annual Global Alumni Meet next year.

Ravishankar Bhooplapur, President, Edwin Case, Chairman, Dr. JG Bhat, Chancellor, Trustees Dr. Ravindra Kota, Dr. PK Prahalad, Dr. Anthony Shallash,, Frank Croes, Dr. Arun Dubey, Acting Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Burton

Herz, Associate Provost, Dr. Joseph Balsamo, Dean of Clinical Science, Dr. Richard Pomerantz, Director of Medical Education - Baltimore Dr. Lakshmi Dodda, Director of Medical Education - Chicago' Dr. Paul Liu, Chair of OBGYN, Dr. Madhu Rangraj, Chair of Surgery, Dr. Sanjivan Patel, Chair of Pediatrics, Dr. Parvez Mir, Chair of Internal Medicine, Dr. Cheryl Carrao, Chair of Family Medicine, Dr. Ramesh Naik, Faculty - Internal Medicine, Dr. Rachel Karmally, Alumni Chair - Class of 2012, Senior Staff Physician and professor at Henry Ford Hospital, Dr. Abdulrahman Aboud, Alumni - Class of 2016, Family Medicine Resident at Michigan State University Hospital, Dr. Lee Berman, Alumni - Class of 2011, Chief Psychiatry Resident at Delaware Psychiatry Center, Dr. Hassan Al-Khalisy, Class of 2013, Fellowship in Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine at Upstate Medical University - SUNY, Dr. John Samaan, Alumni - Class of 2010, Psychiatry Resident at Larkin Community Hospital, FL, Dr. Amanda Wolf, Class of 2015, Family Medicine at East Peirce (affiliated with MultiCare Good Samaritan Hospital, WA), Dr. Adrienne Hicks, Alumni - Class of 2007, Psychiatry Resident at Harlem Hospital, NY, Dr. Sumeet Singh, Alumni - Class of 2013, Psychiatry Resident at Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington DC, and Dr. Asaad Wahid, Alumni - Class of 2015 were among the attendees.

Special Guest Presenters included Dr. Ravi Gupta, Internal Medicine Residency Program Director at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital, Dr. Shawn Cannon, Social Medicine Residency Program Director at Southampton Hospital, and Dr. Peter Urazov, Family Medicine Residency Program Director at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital

AIA Diwali Mela at South Street Seaport draws Thousands



An American Tadka to a Desi Event. Cake cutting

CONTD FROM PAGE 1

and enjoyed the festivities. The event was attended by a wide array of people from different walks of life, age groups and backgrounds and coming from various parts of the Tri-States of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Arish Sahani, a former President of AIA NY Chapter praised the organizers for an imaginative allocation of booths. He said the segregation of food court resulted in a lot of convenience to visitors and led to decongestion of the main mela area. Similarly, segregating the Corporate and the retail business booths and setting up of 2 stages for performers made it very convenient for visitors to move around with ease and do the shopping.

Deepavali, meaning 'A row of lamps' is also popularly known as Diwali, or 'Festival of Lights'. It signifies the triumph of 'Good over Evil'. The AIA-NY attempts to bridge the gap in the community with events as Deepavali and brings the community together. The festival was a full day celebration with numerous corporate booths, food & clothing vendors,

said Munjal.

Munjal went ecstatic over the authentic Indian cuisine, a holistic Health Fair, unforgettable performances by local performing arts schools, in addition to a splendor showcase of Indian culture, arts, crafts, jewelry, traditional clothes.

Speaking about the cooperation AIA received from corporate and non-corporate sectors, Munjal said, "Corporate Sponsors such as Cheapoair, Qatar Airways, Toyota, PepsiCo, New York Life, Kotak Mahindra Bank and many more were present. Television partners that showcased the festival included Star Bharat, Sony TV, TV Asia, ITV, and Jus Punjabi. Jus Punjabi and 8K Radio did the live broadcast of the entire program. Print media, too, was extremely helpful in projecting the memorable event. The Indian Panorama, The Indian Express, India Abroad, Divya Bhaskar, The Indian Eye, Parikh Worldwide Media, The South Asian Times, The South Asian Insider and Bollywood Insider were particularly supportive.

The evening was indeed a memorable one for all. The grand finale of the festival was the display of live Fireworks dazzling the NY skyline over the East River, entralling thousands of



The organizers who put up the grand show

performances and activities for the entire family including a live grand and spectacular display of fireworks.

Gobind Munjal said, "This was a special year, as it was the 30th anniversary of the Deepavali Festival and 50th anniversary of AIA. Although the Festival caters to all ages; children, youth, middle aged and the seniors, the emphasis has been shifted more towards youth, as their involvement is considered essential for the longevity of the association. With that objective in mind, AIA-NY launched a youth wing earlier this year called "Desi Next" geared towards younger generation".

"Towards that goal, a famous British Celebrity singer / songwriter "Jay Sean" of Bollywood fame sponsored by our long-term media partners "Hot Star" was brought in, who rocked the stage with his performance and attracted a lot of young crowd and thrilled them. Also, a famous Canadian born Singer / Songwriter "The PropheC" sponsored by Sony TV was an added attraction for them. This was, in addition to the "Naach Inferno" sponsored by Star Bharat, which has been an attraction for the past couple of years.

Bollywood Dance moves as the dancers of Shiamak USA involved everyone in a participatory dance at the end of the Festival. "AIA" goal to incorporate more young adults into the mainstream activities of the community was accomplished,

New Yorkers.

The Indian Panorama asked another former President of AIA -NY Chapter, Sushma Kotahwala about the arrangements at the Diwali Mela. She said she was happy that all arrangements were meticulously planned and visitors turned up in large numbers.

The Association of Indians in America (AIA) is the oldest not-for-profit organization of Asian Indians in America founded on August 20, 1967. It is the grassroots national organization of Asian immigrants in the United States. With chapters and membership spread across the United States of America, AIA represents the hopes and aspirations of those immigrants who are united by their common bond of Indian Heritage and American Community.

A view of the gathering at the performances



Enthralling performances and performers



Indian Origin Sikh man becomes first minority politician to lead major party in Canada



Elected Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada, Jagmeet Singh was born to immigrant parents from Punjab, India

TORONTO, CANADA (TIP): A 38-year-old Sikh lawyer was elected the leader of Canada's New Democratic Party, becoming the first non-white politician to head a major political party in the country. He assumed office on October 1, 2017. Jagmeet Singh, the Ontario provincial lawmaker, was elected on the first ballot to lead the party into the 2019 election against Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberals.

He won the decisive first-ballot victory over three other candidates by receiving 53.6 per cent of the vote. "Thank you, New Democrats. The run for Prime Minister begins now," he tweeted after the victory.

"That's why today, I'm officially launching my campaign to be the next Prime Minister of Canada," he added. Singh, who has a penchant for colorful turbans, is the first member of a minority community to lead a major federal political party.

He now has the difficult task of rebuilding the party that lost 59 seats in the 2015 election. "This race has renewed excitement in our party," Singh said, calling the win an "incredibly profound honor".

The New Democratic Party is currently at the third place in Canada's Parliament, with 44 of 338 seats. The party has never held power. In the 2011 general election, the party made historic gains only to lose almost a million votes - mostly to Trudeau's Liberals - four years later.

Singh said he would focus on issues of climate change, reconciliation with indigenous peoples, and electoral reform, *The Globe and Mail* reported. He has received attention for his sharp style.

Earlier this year, he told the American magazine how his personal style, which includes brightly colored turbans and well-cut suits, became part of his political brand. During the leadership campaign, he raised far more money than his competitors did and he said he believes he can continue that success as Leader. Born in 1979 in Scarborough, Ontario, to immigrant parents from Punjab, Singh grew up in St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador and Windsor, Ontario. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of Western Ontario in 2001 and a Bachelor of Laws degree from York University's Osgoode Hall Law School in 2005. He worked as a criminal defense lawyer in the Greater Toronto Area before entering politics. Sikhs account for roughly 1.4 per cent of Canada's population. The country's defense minister is also from the Sikh community.

Indian American Defense Contractors Face Lawsuit over alleged False Claim

MOORESTOWN, NJ (TIP): The United States filed a civil fraud lawsuit on Sept 28 against Babu (Bob) Metgud and Shubhada (Sue) Kalyani, of Moorestown, New Jersey, and four companies, Shubhada Industries, d/b/a Shubhada, Inc., Metcon Aerospace & Defense, d/b/a Metcon Industries, NRI Capital Corporation, and The Innovation Technology & Enterprise Development Center, Inc. The complaint, announced by Acting United States Attorney Louis D. Lappen, alleges that the defendants engaged in a scheme to overcharge the military for spare vehicle parts.

According to the complaint, Shubhada Industries described itself as a manufacturer to the Defense Logistics Agency and agreed to manufacture two light assemblies, a type of turn signal for munitions vehicles. But instead of manufacturing these assemblies, Shubhada Industries allegedly purchased them from someone else for \$1,351.62, charged the military \$73,842.00 for the same items—a 5400 percent markup—and pocketed the difference. The complaint alleges that when the government asked Metgud about the price, he made false statements describing Shubhada Industries' non-existent manufacturing process and encouraged the military to buy more of the items. Kalyani likewise allegedly made false statements to conceal the company's actual role as a dealer instead of a manufacturer.

The complaint additionally names as defendants Metcon Industries, the entity through which Metgud purchased the light assemblies, and two other alleged alter egos of Shubhada Industries.

(Read full story www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian-origin scientist gets \$8.1 million grant for cancer research

WASHINGTON (TIP): An Indian-origin scientist in the US has been awarded a USD 8.1 million grant to support her research on lethal head and neck cancer, which could help improve the survival rates of patients.

Nisha D'Silva received the prestigious Sustaining Outstanding Achievement in Research award, or SOAR, for her continuing research into the molecular pathways that control the spread and recurrence of head and neck cancer.

Her findings may enable clinicians to identify patients who will best respond to existing treatments, and might lead to new treatment strategies.

D'Silva's grant from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) will be disbursed over eight years.

"It is truly exciting news that a clinician and scientist as accomplished as Dr D'Silva will now have extended funding to allow her to focus on finding answers to some of the toughest cancer questions we have," said Laurie McCauley, dean of the School of Dentistry at U-M.

"The prestigious SOAR grant speaks volumes about how the NIDCR views Dr D'Silva's research track record and her



D'Silva is one of four researchers across the US whose research is being funded by 2017 SOAR grants.

potential moving forward," said McCauley.

D'Silva noted that head and neck cancer is the sixth-most common cancer in the world with about 600,000 new cases per year.

Nearly half of all patients die within five years of diagnosis, she said.

"The focus of our research program is invasion because this is a defining feature

of head and neck cancer," said D'Silva, also a professor of pathology at the U-M Medical School.

"Invasion is important for spread of head and neck cancer, but unfortunately there are no strategies that effectively target invasion. This knowledge gap is due to limited progress in identifying and understanding the underlying mechanisms that control invasion," she said.

D'Silva is one of four researchers across the US whose research is being funded by 2017 SOAR grants, according to information NIDCR.

SOAR provides long-term support for NIDCR-funded investigators who are in mid-career and have outstanding records of research productivity, mentorship and professional service to the research community.

"This award provides a longer base of grant support, allowing investigators to have more freedom to perform high-risk, high-reward research that has the potential to break new ground or expand previous discoveries in new directions," according to NIDCR.

Dr. D'Silva can be reached at njsilva@umich.edu.

Indian American Ajit Pai confirmed as FCC Chairman for Second Term

WASHINGTON (TIP): Indian American Ajit Pai has been confirmed by the Senate as the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission in a 52-41 vote. Pai, whose term was supposed to end later this year, was reappointed for another term. He was designated Chairman by President Donald J. Trump in January 2017. He had previously served as Commissioner at the FCC, appointed by then-President Barack Obama and confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate in May 2012. "I am deeply grateful to the U.S. Senate for confirming my nomination to serve a second term at the FCC and to President Trump for submitting that nomination to the Senate. Since January, the Commission has focused on bridging the digital divide, promoting innovation, protecting consumers and public safety, and making the FCC more open and transparent. With today's vote, I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to advance these critical priorities in the time to come", Pai said in a statement.

Pai was the first member of the FCC in over two decades to call for revitalizing the AM radio band; the basic reforms he proposed were adopted in 2015. He also urged the FCC to create a



Pai was designated Chairman by President Donald J. Trump in January 2017

task force to study the "Internet Protocol Transition" and report on obsolete rules that could be repealed; that task force was created. He proposed a way for the FCC to address petitions filed by the public much more quickly; that "rocket docket" is now in place and has dramatically sped up the agency's decision-making. With respect to outside review and oversight, in at least half a dozen high-profile cases in which he dissented, federal courts of appeals have upheld his position. And in other such cases, one or both Houses of Congress has passed legislation consistent with his position.

Pai graduated with honors from Harvard University in 1994 and from the University of Chicago Law School in 1997, where he was an editor of the *University of Chicago Law Review* and won the Thomas R. Mulroy Prize. In 2010, Pai was one of 55 individuals nationwide chosen for the 2011 Marshall Memorial Fellowship, a leadership development initiative of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

The son of immigrants from India, Chairman Pai grew up in Parsons, Kansas. He now lives in Arlington, Virginia.

INDIAN AMERICANS DINESH PATEL, DAXA PATEL, SATISH MEHTANI AGREE TO \$2.72 MILLION SETTLEMENT TO RESOLVE ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATING FALSE CLAIMS ACT

EDISON, NJ (TIP): Edison Adult Medical Daycare (Edison), its former owner, Dinesh Patel, and current owners, Daxa Patel and Satish Mehtani, have agreed to pay the United States and the State of New Jersey \$2.72 million to resolve allegations that Edison improperly billed and received payments from Medicaid despite Dinesh Patel having been excluded from participating in Medicaid following his 2012 conviction for accepting kickbacks, Acting U.S. Attorney William E. Fitzpatrick announced.

On Sept. 19, 2012, Dinesh Patel pleaded guilty to accepting cash kickback payments from Orange Community MRI LLC in exchange for patient referrals. He was later sentenced to three months in jail and two years of supervised

release.

On March 17, 2012, Dinesh Patel was excluded by the State of New Jersey from participating in any capacity in the Medicaid program. Later, on Feb. 20, 2014, Dinesh Patel was excluded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from participating in Medicare, Medicaid, and all federal health care programs for a period of five years. Five days after Dinesh Patel's Medicaid exclusion in 2012, he transferred his 50 percent ownership interest in Edison to his wife, Daxa Patel.

The settlement resolves federal and state government allegations that from March 17, 2012, through Aug. 4, 2015, Dinesh Patel violated his exclusion by not ceasing his involvement in the adult daycare facility, and that Edison violated

the False Claims Act by submitting claims to and receiving payments from Medicaid while Dinesh Patel directed, managed and supervised activities at Edison. The settlement also resolves allegations that owners Daxa Patel and Satish Mehtani had full knowledge that Dinesh Patel was managing Edison while he was an excluded Medicaid provider.

Dinesh Patel, Daxa Patel, Satish Mehtani, and Edison have agreed to pay \$2.72 million plus interest to be split equally between United States and State of New Jersey. Dinesh Patel has also agreed to another five-year exclusion precluding him from participating in all federal health care programs, including Medicaid and Medicare, until 2022.

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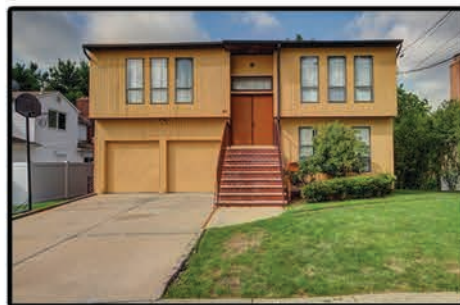
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NYC delivers first ever City Plan to meet the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement

Plan identifies actions NYC will take in the next three years to accelerate emissions reductions in support of the global 1.5° Celsius warming target

NEW YORK (TIP): In the first ever Paris Agreement-compliant plan from any city in the world, New York City has launched a program in support of the global 1.5 Celsius warming target.

"Big problems require big solutions - and New Yorkers are already hard at work to meet the most ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement," said Mayor de Blasio. "In the Trump era, cities have to lead the way when it comes to fighting climate change. Hotter summers and powerful storms made worse by climate change are an existential threat to a coastal city like ours, which is why we need to act now."

The 1.5°C plan aligns local climate actions with a goal to limit global warming to 1.5°C degrees. A 1.5°C degree outcome was agreed to in the Paris Agreement in order to limit the worst impacts of climate change. By implementing the identified prioritized set of actions across energy, transportation, building, and waste sectors by 2020, NYC will enable faster reductions of GHG over the following 30 years than even the already aggressive goals in the City's 80 x 50 plan - a plan to reduce GHG emissions 80% by 2050. The potential for GHG reduction of all the quantified actions in the report is 10 million metric tons of CO_{2e} - or the equivalent of taking more than 2 million cars off the road by 2030.



The release of the citywide action plan, builds on announcements made earlier this month to mandate cuts in greenhouse gas emissions from large buildings, and expands access to electric vehicle fast chargers in all five boroughs. Both of these actions are included in the 1.5°C plan.

Other key actions detailed in the plan include:

- **RECYCLING:** Roll out city-wide single stream recycling by 2020; New Yorkers

will no longer need to sort their recyclables, dramatically increasing the City's recycling rate.

- **WASTE:** Accelerate the diversion of tons of organics from landfills by expanding the organics program to serve all New Yorkers with curbside or a convenient drop off location by 2018.
- **BUILDINGS:** In addition to creating new fossil-fuel targets for existing buildings to meet in 2030, NYC will work to implement advanced energy codes for

new buildings in 2019, and very low energy design targets in all new buildings in subsequent energy code cycles.

- **ENERGY:** NYC will use its purchasing power to procure 100% renewable electricity for municipal operations as soon as sufficient supply can be brought online. This Fall, the City will be breaking ground on 50 new solar projects on public buildings, which will put the city a quarter of the way to the goal of 100MW of solar on public property by 2025.
- **TRANSPORTATION:** NYC will continue the accelerated pace of Select Bus Service implementation, fight for a tax on millionaires to modernize the subway system, and double the number of active cyclists by 2020 through the annual development of at least 50 new miles of bike network (including 10 miles of protected bike lanes). By expanding electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure, the City will meet a goal for 20% of new car registrations to be EVs by 2025.
- **CARBON NEUTRALITY:** NYC will lead in the development of a global protocol for cities to attain carbon neutrality by 2050 in collaboration with other vanguard cities and partners.

Chairman Crowley decries Trump Administration's Decision to Rescind Protections for Transgender Workers

QUEENS, NEW YORK (TIP): House Democratic Caucus Chairman Joe Crowley (D-NY) has criticized the U.S. Department of Justice decision to reverse a federal government anti-discrimination policy protecting transgender workers

"The Trump administration's hostile and discriminatory attacks against the LGBT community must stop. All Americans deserve the same rights, privileges, and protections offered under the law. Indeed, the Department of Justice should be the very agency ensuring the rights of transgender individuals", he said.

Congressman further said, "In a country founded on the premise that all individuals are created equal, sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination have absolutely no place in our workplace, our communities, and our country. I urge Republicans to join Democrats to pass the Equality Act to permanently protect our fellow Americans from harassment and discrimination."

CONTD FROM PAGE 1

148th Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi Celebrated

Mathew Washington and Dr. Navin Mehta, Chairman of Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan.

The program began with offering of floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi by Consul General Sandeep Chakravorty, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney and other dignitaries. In their remarks, the speakers were united in conveying the relevance of Gandhian principle in today's world. Some remarked that even though we might think that Gandhism is too idealistic to be practiced in today's world, these principles resonated with Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela, two great leaders who followed them successfully. His principles could be solution for religious extremism and terrorism being witnessed today.

The event concluded with Ram Dhun followed by floral tributes to Gandhiji the gathering.

(Based on a press release)

Stony Brook University Dedicates Arya India Studies Library

NEW YORK (TIP): The Yashpal and Urmilesh Arya India Studies Library was recently dedicated at Stony Brook University. The library is located in the Bishembarnath and Sheela Mattoo Center for India Studies. Its naming recognizes the gift of \$250,000 by Drs. Yashpal and Urmilesh Arya to the Center's endowment campaign, which has been matched by the Simons Match Fund. The Aryas' donation will allow for the expansion of the library's services and initiatives, including special collections and online courses, to make the library's resources more widely available.

The dedication ceremony drew a large gathering of Stony Brook faculty, staff, students and administrators, and members of the Indian American community. Dr. Yashpal Arya, flanked by Dr. Urmilesh Arya, described the library's dedication as "one of the happiest days of our lives." He told the audience of his family's history of philanthropy, both in India and in the United States. "I am proud to stand here today to continue this family tradition of perpetuating further education with the help of Stony Brook University through its forward thinking, visionary policy making, and the Mattoo Center for India Studies for its strong resolve and relentless pursuit that led to the creation of this library." Dr. Arya thanked the Stony Brook administration for their "enlightened support" for the Center. He also thanked Professors S.N. and Kamal K. Sridhar, whom he described as the



Yashpal (center) and Urmilesh Arya (right) with Dr. Nirmal K. Mattoo, Chair of the Center's executive committee at the library

Center's "Pitamaha" and "Matamaha" (grandparents).

"You make your living by earning. You make your life by giving," Dr. Arya told the audience.

Dr. Nirmal K. Mattoo, Chair of the Center's executive committee, praised the Aryas for their involvement "in philanthropy on a large scale." He noted their long-time "commitment to the Center's vision."

Dean Sacha Kopp dedicated the library, and thanked attendees for their "participation in the decades-long effort to create the Center for India Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences." "A public university" Dean Kopp explained, "has the responsibility not only to serve the public through education but to give back to the public in the form of knowledge and sharing and fostering

community and culture." A library is a "gathering of community" and the "lifeblood" of a campus. "As I reflect on 'community,' I see it here today."

Professor S.N. Sridhar, founding Director of the Mattoo Center, described the vital functions of the India Studies library. It features a collection of more than 13,000 works, including major reference works, such as the Critical Edition of the Mahabharata and the Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi, and special collections on Indian languages donated by noted research scholars. The library's resources are used by Stony Brook students, faculty, and visiting scholars and researchers from around the world. The Mattoo Center is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a Gala on October 29th at Leonard's in Great Neck.

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COMMENT

Prof I.S.Saluja



Time to Review Gun Policy

We are in to the sixth day since Sunday's shooting at a country music festival in Las Vegas, and still at a loss to know why Paddock took to massacre of people who had come to celebrate the harvest festival and life's goodness. Whatever, the motive of the shooter, one cannot escape the stark reality that it was a horrific human tragedy and, probably the worst shooting in the history of modern America which snuffed out 59 lives, injured more than 520, some quite seriously and shattered a whole lot of people. The Las Vegas shooting has shattered the nerves of Americans everywhere, not just who were present on the fateful day at the scene; not only the people in Las Vegas but the entire populace of America. The gory incident surpasses all dozens of the worst shootings and killings in the last few decades.

The question is how recurrence of such shootings can be stopped. Mass deaths caused by guns have long been a part of American history. But describing those events and recent ones accurately is more complicated than simply drawing a chronological line between them. There have been times when the shootings and killings were related to the economic status -the haves and the havenots. Racially motivated shootings also have been a part of history of violence in America.

But the present shooting does not qualify for either description. It is a mass shooting of mostly whites by a white. Indubitably, there are no racial overtones to this shooting. And, it will not be proper to dismiss the incident as the vile, vicious, heinous act of "pure evil" and forget about it, as we have forgotten dozens of such tragedies in yesteryears.

A little soul searching is necessary. Americans have a love of guns, in particular, a particular class. As long as these are used for hunting and as status symbols, there is hardly anything wrong. But when these guns fall in to hands of hot headed and wicked people we can expect gory shootings like the one we witnessed last Sunday in Las Vegas.

It is time the administration seriously revised gun policy and prevented deadly weapons from being acquired by anybody. Some kind of a check will surely help in preventing the recurrence of loss of life at the hands of people in possession of deadly guns. Let lawmakers value human lives more than their brand of politics.

God Bless America!

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AS I SEE IT

Put three heads together: India, Bangladesh and Myanmar must find a way out of the Rohingya crisis



By G Parthasarathy

As Myanmar, Bangladesh and India face the Rohingya challenge, 'Rohingya' has become a household word in India, more so after Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju proclaimed on September 5 that the Rohingya were "illegal" immigrants in India "who stand to be deported". The outrage that accompanied the plight of the Rohingya was not only in sections of people in India, but also across the Western and Islamic world.

India has stood its ground, maintaining that recent events were triggered by cross-border attacks across the Bangladesh-Myanmar border by radical Islamic groups. But a number of questions remain on how we are going to deal with an estimated 45,000 Rohingya refugees from Myanmar who have entered India since 2012. Moreover, the massacre of Hindu Rohingya by Islamic Rohingya terrorists has further outraged and polarized Indian public opinion.

The Rohingya maintain they are an indigenous community of western Myanmar, bordering Bangladesh. They largely immigrated from what is now Bangladesh, during British rule. They are predominantly Muslim, with an estimated population of 1.2-1.3 million in the north of Myanmar's Rakhine province, bordering Bangladesh. The southern part of Rakhine, bordering Mizoram, is predominantly Buddhist, with a Hindu minority. Ever since independence, and more so after U Ne Win dictatorship, the Rohingya are not considered as Myanmar citizens. They have been subject to discrimination on issues of health, education and employment. The animosity of the army, which dominates national life in Myanmar, toward the Rohingya has increased ever since sections of Rohingya formed armed groups to wage an ill-advised armed struggle after indoctrination in Pakistan. The Myanmar army has continuously battled 22 ethnic insurgencies in the country on its borders with China and Thailand. But seldom, if ever, has the army undertaken the sort of scorched earth policy it has adopted against the Rohingya. And never has the Buddhist clergy reacted so strongly, as in what has transpired in Rakhine, after recent coordinated cross-border attacks on police posts and the army by the Rohingya Solidarity Army. Myanmar has legitimate concerns about the radicalization of its Muslim population in Rakhine.

The army action has resulted in over 4 lakh Rohingya - men, women and children - fleeing to Bangladesh. India now houses an estimated 45,000 Rohingya refugees. While India initially focused largely on Rohingya terrorist attacks in Myanmar, it has now realized

“ In a larger perspective, it would only be natural if diplomatic efforts to stabilize our Northeastern borders with Myanmar and Bangladesh were undertaken with cooperation with powers which share our interests. Most importantly, India, Myanmar and Bangladesh share a common interest in combating radical Islamic groups, whose primary aim is to destabilize all three neighbors”, says the author.



Rohingyas are under siege. A solution to their problem needs to be found, sooner than later. Photo courtesy Open Doors

the extent of burdens, damage and difficulties imposed on the friendly government of Sheikh Hasina by the huge inflow of refugees. While New Delhi has commenced airlifting relief supplies to Bangladesh, India should join Bangladesh and Myanmar bilaterally, and even through tripartite meetings, to seek a coordinated effort to obtain international financial and diplomatic support, which would facilitate an early and time-bound process of repatriation of the refugees, with their safety and security guaranteed, on their return to their homes.

India-Myanmar relations have been looking upwards in recent years, even though much improvement is needed in the implementation of Indian-aided projects there, if we are to make any impression of our relevance, in the face of some aggressive Chinese involvement. Myanmar has a crucial role in supplementing our efforts to deal with insurgencies backed by Pakistan and China in our landlocked Northeastern states, notably Manipur and Nagaland. India is currently building the Kaladan corridor, linking Northeastern states across the Rakhine state with the Bay of Bengal, through the deep-water Sittwe Port in Myanmar. New Delhi has just completed the construction of the port. India has also pledged resources for the development of Rakhine, in an effort that will be helpful in addressing Rohingya grievances. These are crucial projects strategically as they are located alongside a massive Chinese transportation/energy corridor, linking China's Yunnan province with Myanmar's Bay of Bengal Port of Kyaukpyu.

As global television networks and UN relief organizations focused on the miseries of the Rohingya in Bangladesh, the issue became center-stage. The UN Secretary-General bluntly labelled Myanmar government actions as "ethnic cleansing". India has made it clear that Islamic terror groups triggered the violence. China, while expressing

support for Myanmar's moves, was more nuanced in the UN Security Council. While backing Myanmar's moves to protect its security in Rakhine, China also backed a Security Council resolution expressing concern at reports of Myanmar resorting to excessive violence and calling on Myanmar to take corrective action. Russia, while welcoming some steps taken by Myanmar, also took note of reports of violence. Not surprisingly, it was Myanmar's former colonial rulers, the British, who took the lead in condemning Suu Kyi. Whitehall was quite obviously taken aback by Suu Kyi placing her country's interests first, and not behaving, as it expected, like a pet poodle. American policy as enunciated by Secretary of State Tillerson was mercifully more balanced and rational.

In these circumstances, New Delhi should develop a more comprehensive approach, which would enable the safe return of Rohingya, from both Bangladesh and India. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj assured Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina of India's support, even as Myanmar military actions have led to a continuing influx of refugees. At the same time, it is essential that India, Myanmar and Bangladesh join hands to see that radical Islamic groups are prevented from infiltrating through Bangladesh to Rakhine. It would also be useful if India joined hands with donors like Japan, Germany and the US to ensure coordinated flow of economic assistance to ensure that the Rohingya receive better education, health and other facilities on their return. In a larger perspective, it would only be natural if diplomatic efforts to stabilize our Northeastern borders with Myanmar and Bangladesh were undertaken with cooperation with powers which share our interests. Most importantly, India, Myanmar and Bangladesh share a common interest in combating radical Islamic groups, whose primary aim is to destabilize all three neighbors.

One of the success stories of Indian diplomacy has been that regionally we have been able to isolate an obdurate and obstructive Pakistan by imaginative regional initiatives across our eastern land and maritime frontiers through organizations like BIMSTEC. Addressing the Rohingya crisis imaginatively and successfully will give a boost to our "Act East" policy. Even as SAARC languishes, BIMSTEC should remain the focus of India's efforts for regional economic integration.

(The author is a career diplomat)

Is Trump a Game-Changer?



By Virendra Pandit

“

Mr Trump's attempts to clean up the Augean Stables of Washington DC, as in his tax reforms, and the Pentagon have just begun. His clear warning to Pakistan, in particular, and the Islamic world, in general, may fall in the same category.

..... The world is still threatened by ISIS; but we should also know that the Statue of Liberty, built in 1886, was actually inspired by the Queen of Heaven, the pre-Islamic Egyptian-Syrian goddess, also named ISIS.

”

“If Jesus Christ were to come today, people would not even crucify him. They would ask him to dinner, and hear what he has to say, and make fun of it,” said Thomas Carlyle in the 19th century. So, making fun of any leader and his efforts has turned into an industry; it provides jobs to idlers, 'visions' to 'visionaries' and messianic dreams to the media!

President Donald Trump is no exception. We must not forget that he has been democratically elected by the Americans and could lose his current job in 2021 if they found him wanting. Simple. But to create an-obstacle-for-the-day and deny him the opportunity to focus on work or fire those he sees as non-performers is not what his critics' mission should be. Being a journalist myself for 35 years-and watching my tribespersons doing much the same everyday in India-I can only say: our job is to educate the people and let them decide what to do and when. We are part of the society, not above it; it is not the media's job to don the role of the accuser-prosecutor-defender-judge and even the judgment-all rolled into one.

The problem is that the media, in most democratic nations, is rather comfortable with glib-talking 'liberal' leaders who quench their daily thirst for headlines in fluent, flowery language. Reporters always look for proof-readers who can correct their grammatical mistakes! In the US, for instance, the Clintons and Barak Obama were such sweet-talking, headline-making and politically-correct lawyers-turned-leaders. Once the media won over by such leaders, their political misconduct would often be glossed over: for instance, few noticed the contradiction in Obama's war efforts and his getting the Nobel Peace Prize! The media is not the Masters of the Democratic Universe. If we lose our most valued asset, objectivity, and allow our personal likes and dislikes and brainwaves to guide us, we turn partisans. But this is exactly what is happening in many democracies where journalists have turned into cynics and activists. No wonder, many leaders now shun the conventional media they suspect as 'anti-social' and connect directly with their supporters via social media.

From the very beginning, Mr Trump has been projected and pilloried as a coarse, unconventional, media-unfriendly leader. Ironically, these are exactly the qualities of a game-changer! A game-changer is one carrying no baggage from the past and is rather impervious to criticism; s/he not only takes her/his supporters along, but also creates and leads the circumstances that force the



reluctant opponents to follow or disappear. From Moses to Gandhi to Mao, we have had such game-changing leaders in many nations. Despite advice to the contrary, Gandhi once agreed to be interviewed by a known critic British journalist; after publication, when the interviewee sought his reaction, the Mahatma simply said the interview appeared to be a sanitary inspector's report! 'If you look for dirt, you end up digging it'. We must remember that even the media has feet of clay and skeletons to hide as do other pillars of democracy, which is imperfect but the only option we have so far.

So, let us not waste any more space on Trump's unending media trial and, probably, wait for the same media to turn into embedded one as it did during the Gulf War! Let us focus on the larger issues, wider horizons, macro-politics and restructuring of the world order.

Is Trump, then, a game-changer America was waiting for long? He may turn out to be the best thing to have happened to the USA after Ronald Reagan. During the Reagan Presidency (1981-89), the world saw the then dysfunctional Soviet Union turn into a fossilized basket case-the stagnant behemoth called the USSR finally crumbled in 1991-and the subsequent emergence of some rudimentary democratic nations in Central Asia. In other words, Reagan's strong-arm policies, that came as catalysts and stimuli, actually forced a reluctant Moscow to conceive

democracies! An end to the bipolar world power game made the world safer for democracy and dismantled, to some extent, war machines.

Mr Trump's attempts to clean up the Augean Stables of Washington DC, as in his tax reforms, and the Pentagon have just begun. His clear warning to Pakistan, in particular, and the Islamic world, in general, may fall in the same category: the Islamic world currently has some 1,500 militant groups, all anti-democratic, and their dismantling could pave way for democracies across the Muslim world, beginning with terror nursery of Islamabad. While the two Bush Presidencies 'softened' the Middle East for democracy-the Arab Spring of 2011 was its trial balloon-the Trump era could well see the democratic aspirations of the Muslim world evolve into a Renaissance. Already, the Kurds are crying for democracy and independence denied to them since the seventh century BC. If Mr Trump supports them, Kurdistan could emerge as a democratic island in the Middle East and inspire other nations nearby. The world is still threatened by ISIS; but we should also know that the Statue of Liberty, built in 1886, was actually inspired by the Queen of Heaven, the pre-Islamic Egyptian-Syrian goddess, also named Isis!

The second game Mr Trump could change is in respect of the United Nations. The UN has gradually fossilized over the last seven decades and has virtually

turned into the political version of World Wrestling Federation (WWF). Lacking in fresh ideas and innovations, the UN needs to be overhauled and revived. Mr Trump could force the UN to adopt a 'doctrine of coercive course correction', envisaging forcible delivery of democracy in an unwilling nation that tries to push the baby back into the womb. And these unwilling nations include 'rogue' ones, too, irrespective of their religious, ideological or other affiliations. In other words, Mr Trump should promote democracy as the New Religion across the world.

The third game the 45th US President could change in the 21st century is in respect of creating level-playing fields for emerging economies like the BRICS nations by democratic dissemination of technology, itself a great game-changer, leveler and enabler. This could free the nations of their irrelevant past and make them ready for the irreverent future.

We are now well into not only a post-ideology era but also entering a post-Christian, post-Islam and post-Hinduism world. The media has, for long, been parroting half-truths; condemning Mr Trump's universe as a post-truth world won't cut any ice. The media should not try to be an emperor, or it could lose its clothes.

Mr Trump could actually turn out as a trump card for the New World. This could be his lasting legacy to a better world.

(The author is a senior journalist)

18 killed in suicide blast at Sufi shrine in Balochistan

ISLAMABAD (TIP): At least 18 people, including a police constable, were killed and more than 30 injured in a suicide attack on a Sufi shrine while a 'dhamaal', a form of devotional dance, was in progress in Pakistan's southwestern Balochistan province on Thursday.

The bombing took place at the entrance of the shrine, Dargah Fatehpur, in the Jhal Magsi district of the volatile province, as scores of people had gathered for Thursday's prayers that were to follow the 'dhamaal'.

"A suicide bomber blew himself up after he was intercepted by police guards on duty outside the shrine, killing 18 people including three children under the age of 12 and two policemen, and wounding at least 27 others, 14 of them seriously," provincial home secretary Akbar Harifal told a news agency.

Provincial home minister Sarfaraz Bugti confirmed the toll. This was the second deadly attack on a Sufi shrine in Pakistan this year. In February, a suicide bomber had killed more than 80 people and injured 250 others in an attack on the shrine of Lal Shahbaz Qalandar in Sehwan Sharif in Sindh.

Thursdays are considered days of spiritual significance by followers of Sufi saints and the presence of devotees, including women and children, is far greater in shrines than on other days of the week. Majority of the dead and injured were members of the Shia community.

"It was a suicide blast. The bomber had tried to enter the shrine but a police constable stopped him at the gate, after which he detonated his explosives," Mohammad Iqbal, the district's top police official, said. (PTI)

Myanmar beauty queen dethroned 'after posting Rohingya video'

YANGON (TIP): A Myanmar beauty queen says she was stripped of her pageant title after posting a graphic video accusing Muslim Rohingya militants of driving communal violence in Rakhine state, a conflict fraught with controversy in the mainly Buddhist country.

Myanmar's army is accused of waging an ethnic cleansing campaign against the Rohingya in the far west, where more than half a million of the Muslim minority have fled across the border to Bangladesh since August 25.

In the face of intense global condemnation, Myanmar authorities have staunchly defended the security operation as a legitimate crackdown on Rohingya militants who attacked police posts last month.

The conflict has curdled religious tensions inside Myanmar, fanning Buddhist nationalism and a hatred against the Rohingya that has been steeping for years.

In a video posted on her Facebook last week, Miss Grand Myanmar Shwe Eain Si accused the Rohingya militants of leading a "media campaign" to trick the world into thinking "they are the oppressed".

Shots of Shwe Eain Si speaking to the camera were interspersed with graphic images of people with bloody gashes across their faces, nude babies and screenshots from videos posted by the militant group, known as ARSA (Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army).

On Sunday the firm behind the beauty pageant announced Shwe Eain Si had been stripped of her title for breaching contract rules, in a statement that did not mention the video on Rakhine. (AFP)

Explosion outside Shia mosque in Kabul; several casualties feared

KABUL (TIP): A suicide bomber blew himself up outside a Shia mosque in the Afghan capital Kabul on Friday, killing four people and wounding 20 others, authorities said. Hospital program coordinator Dejan Panic confirmed the fatalities from the attack, which happened as worshippers were leaving the mosque following Friday prayers.

Police officer Abdul Rahman said the attacker blew himself up on the street about 1,000 meters (1,094 yards) from the Hussainia Mosque. Mir Hussain Nasiri, a member of the Shia clerics council of Kabul, told The Associated Press that the attacker was disguised as a shepherd.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, which took place two days before the Muslim holy day of Ashura. (AP)

PAKISTAN MILITARY ADMITS ISI HAS LINKS TO MILITANTS

ISLAMABAD (TIP): Pakistan's military on Oct 5 admitted that its Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) has links to "militants", saying this does not mean it supports terrorist organisations, while also asserting that Milli Muslim League — the political wing of banned Jamaat-ud Dawa — is free to contest elections.

Milli Muslim League, which draws support from Mumbai attack mastermind Hafiz Saeed's JUD, was denied permission months ago from contesting bypolls by the Election Commission, which has so far refused to recognize it as a political party.

Answering a question about US claims of links between the ISI and militants, Maj Gen Asif Ghafoor, director general Inter-Services Public Relations, said, "There's a difference between support and having links. Name any intelligence agency which does not have links. Links can be positive, and the US defence secretary James Mattis did not say there was support. The narrative that I talked about is relevant here as well. We should not be a part of it. We have our own narrative."

Mattis had said on Tuesday that the US would try "one more time" to work



with Pakistan in Afghanistan before President Donald Trump would turn to options to address Islamabad's alleged support for militant groups.

His comments likely caused concern in Islamabad, especially in light of General Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, telling the Senate Armed Services Committee, that he believed ISI directorate, had ties to militant groups. "It's clear to me that the ISI has connections with terrorist groups," General Dunford said.

Addressing a press conference in Rawalpindi, Ghafoor said Pakistan's

eastern border is unsafe because of India's "inappropriate reactions". He said 222 Pakistani civilians were killed along the line of control this year in ceasefire violations, more than any other year before.

"But India has also paid a price with our response and we will continue to respond if it does not act with restraint," Ghafoor said, describing the threats from India as perpetual. "We are a peaceful country and we do not want war with them, but we will defend ourselves and have the capability to do so..."

War is not the solution, so we are talking to them at all levels to stop this," he said. Ghafoor said Pakistan was facing a strategic threat on the western border as well, forcing the country to keep the Army on the border. "Our western border also meets Iran.

Our deployment is not against Iran or Afghanistan but against the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan and other such non-state actors," he said. When asked why a press release was not issued after Wednesday's special corps commanders conference at Army's General Headquarters (GHQ), he said, "Silence is also an expression." (PTI)

Bangladesh scuttles boats, jails captains to curb Rohingya influx

COX'S BAZAR, (BANGLADESH) (TIP): Bangladesh has destroyed at least 30 wooden fishing boats to deter local captains from smuggling Rohingya refugees and illegal drugs across the border from strife-torn Myanmar, officials said on Oct 5.

Border guards seized the vessels and arrested the captains after they were intercepted Tuesday evening bringing more than 700 Rohingya Muslims across the river from Myanmar's westernmost Rakhine state.

The boatmen were also caught in possession of about 100,000 "yaba" pills, an illegal stimulant popular in Bangladesh, said a border guard official.

More than half a million Rohingya have fled ethnic bloodshed in Rakhine since late August, many by boat across the Naf River which divides Myanmar and Bangladesh.

"These brokers (boatmen) were smuggling people," one border guard told AFP on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to media.

"We were asked to destroy the 30 boats. These are hand-pulled vessels, not run by engines", he added, saying non-motorised boats were used to avoid detection.

A government official confirmed 39 people, mostly Rohingya living in Bangladesh, were jailed for six months for "excessively charging" refugees for passage across the Naf.

"The BGB (Border Guard Bangladesh) has done an appropriate job," Zahid Siddique, a local magistrate and government administrator, told AFP.

Gangs of boat owners, crew and fishermen have been charging the fleeing Rohingya upwards of \$250 for the



More than half a million Rohingya have fled ethnic bloodshed in Rakhine since late August, many by boat across the Naf River which divides Myanmar and Bangladesh.

"These brokers (boatmen) were smuggling people," one border guard told AFP on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to media.

two-hour journey that normally costs no more than \$5.

Bangladesh's elite Rapid Action

Battalion this week rescued 20 Rohingya being held hostage by local gangs demanding huge fares from the refugees.

Some arriving in Shah Porir Dwp told AFP that boatmen had demanded they hand over gold, jewels and cash before taking them across.

The boatmen are accused of not just trafficking people but drugs from Myanmar, with border guards discovering 100,000 "yaba" pills inside the seized vessels.

The BGB officer said the drugs— a blend of methamphetamine and caffeine popular among Bangladeshi youth— were concealed inside the boats.

Bangladeshi security forces have seized millions of yaba pills in recent years from traffickers attempting to smuggle the drugs through the border district of Cox's Bazar by land and sea from Myanmar.

In the past fortnight at least five Rohingya men have been arrested on the Naf river in possession of 1.23 million yaba pills. (AFP)

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Congresswoman Grace Meng introduces resolution to commemorate International Day of Non-Violence

WASHINGTON (TIP): U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY) has introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives which seeks to commemorate International Day of Non-Violence, the annual observance that takes place every October 2nd on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.

The measure expresses support for the goals and ideals of the International Day of Non-Violence, and encourages the people of the United States to observe the celebration with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

"This resolution is a fitting way to pay tribute to Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence, and remember the legacy of peace that he left behind," said Meng. "It is also a way to make more Americans understand, support, and appreciate the significance of International Day of Non-Violence. I urge my colleagues in the House to support this important measure." Meng's resolution is expected to be referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. International Day of Non-Violence was established by the United Nations General Assembly on June 15, 2007 to bring attention to the message of non-violence.

Trump asked to host Diwali Celebration at White House

WASHINGTON (TIP): Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, has reportedly sent a letter to White House Chief of Staff John Kelly on Sept. 26, urging the Trump administration to continue the tradition of celebrating Diwali at the White House.

In 2009, former President Barack Obama became the first president to participate in Diwali celebrations at the White House. The following year, the Obamas celebrated Diwali in India during the president's first official visit to the country. Diwali celebrations at the White House continued throughout Obama's tenure. Indian American businessman and political activist Shalabh 'Shalli' Kumar - founder of the Republican Hindu Coalition - has informed the media that Hatch signed the letter to Kelly with the support of several Senate members and former White House Chief Strategist Steve Bannon. Kumar said Bannon was "a great supporter of the Hindu community." The request by the Senator has been made at the behest of the Republican Hindu Coalition, which itself sent a formal invitation to Trump Sept. 1, requesting a Diwali celebration on Oct. 18 or 19 at the White House, followed by a rally in Chicago Oct. 21 or 22.

Kumar envisioned the White House festooned in traditional Diwali decorations, and a celebration with about 200 people present. Plans for a larger celebration - with 10,000 people and Trump in tow - at the Sears Center near Chicago, Illinois, are also being formulated, said Kumar.

"Trump declared very loudly during his campaign that Indians would have a best friend in the White House if he was elected. We want our best friend to celebrate this holiday with us," Kumar told the media. In his letter to Kelly - a copy of which was obtained by India-West - Hatch said: "I am eager to help my Hindu and Indian American friends because they are among the most supportive groups in my ongoing effort to reform the tax code and restructure the H-1B program." In a sweeping overstatement, Hatch said: "In the recent election, with the support of the Republican Hindu Coalition - and thanks to the leadership of Shalbi Kumar - the Hindu American community voted Republican for the first time in history."

In fact, Indian Americans overwhelmingly voted Democrat this year. During the 1980s and 1990s, newly-enfranchised Indian American voters tended to vote for conservative candidates who supported traditional family values. "The Hindu and Indian American community is not only critical to the future of the Republican Party, it is also representative of all that is right and good in the American immigrant experience," wrote Hatch in the letter, adding: "This emerging minority group continues to distinguish itself by embracing the best of our nation's values."

"I believe our friends in the Hindu American community should be celebrated for their many contributions to our society," wrote the senator.



Meng's resolution is expected to be referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

'SUCCEED Act' by GOP to protect undocumented kids in US

WASHINGTON (TIP): Three Republican senators introduced the 'SUCCEED Act' Sept. 25, designed to protect undocumented children, including over 7,000 Indian Americans, who currently face the threat of deportation following President Donald Trump's repeal of DACA.

Sens. Thom Tillis of North Carolina, James Lankford of Oklahoma and Orrin Hatch of Utah introduced the proposed legislation at a news conference on Capitol Hill. The bill offers a pathway to citizenship to recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. Dreamers - as DACA children are known - will be offered conditional status and work permits for the first 10 years after they are approved for the program, and will then be eligible for a green card. After 15 years, the youths would be eligible for citizenship.

Unlike other green cards, DACA youth with green cards would not be allowed to sponsor family members for immigration purposes. "This is a merit-based solution that should unite members of both parties, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on the path forward," said Tillis in a press statement after the bill was introduced.

Earlier in the month, Trump met for dinner with Senate Minority leader Chuck Schumer, D-New York, and House Minority leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., in an attempt to hammer out legislation that would protect Dreamers, while also increasing enforcement at the nation's borders. "Does anyone really want to throw out good, accomplished, educated people, some of them serving in the military? Really?" tweeted the president after the meeting.

A coalition of several Indian American civil rights organizations, including South Asian Americans Leading Together and Desis Rising Up and Moving, issued a statement after the meeting, soundly rejecting the tentative agreement between Trump, Pelosi, and Schumer, and demanding a "clean DREAM Act."

"DACAmented youth should not be used as bargaining chips to further destroy immigrant families and to



Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., (left) standing with Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, (right) talk about the SUCCEED Act during a Monday, October 2 news conference on Capitol Hill. Their proposal is aimed at protecting the legal status of hundreds of thousands of immigrants brought to the country illegally as children.

militarize our borders and neighborhoods," stated the coalition of organizations. Hatch, who co-authored the DREAM Act with Sen. Dick Durbin, a Democrat from Illinois, stated in a press release: "I've said all along that we need a workable, permanent solution for the Dreamer population."

"Immigration is a difficult issue, but I'm convinced there's a path forward on this, and I'm committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to find that path and to enact meaningful reform, which must also include increased border security," he said.

Durbin, however, did not state his support for the SUCCEED Act. "I appreciate that my colleagues recognize the need to pass legislation giving a path to citizenship to Dreamers, young immigrants who were brought here as children and grew up in this country - so do 75 percent of the American people. Unfortunately, the Republican bill falls short," he said in an interview with The New York Times.

More than 7,000 Indian American children currently benefit from DACA, an Obama-era executive order launched in 2012 which offered relief from deportation to undocumented youth, along with work permits and drivers' licenses. Trump rescinded the initiative Sept. 5, saying Obama had overstepped

the boundaries of executive power.

The 'SUCCEED Act' - Solution for Undocumented Children through Careers Employment Education and Defending our nation - would require children to obtain their high school diploma, and then either gain full-time employment, enroll in college, or sign up for the military. Applicants would have to maintain their good standing for five years in order to renew their status. Applicants cannot be affiliated with a gang, and must pass a background security check. They also cannot receive any federal public benefits.

"It is right for there to be consequences for those who intentionally entered this country illegally," said Lankford, in a press statement, following the bill's introduction. "However, we as Americans do not hold children legally accountable for the actions of their parents," he said, while also praising Trump for rescinding DACA with the proviso of urging Congress to step up and create legislation which would permanently protect Dreamers.

"To address the uncertainty facing children who were brought to America, the SUCCEED Act is a fair solution that gives them a place to call home, but it also discourages future illegal immigration," said Lankford.

In meeting with military, Trump talks of 'calm before the storm'

WASHINGTON (TIP): After discussing Iran and North Korea with US military leaders on Thursday, President Donald Trump posed for a photo with them before dinner and declared the moment "the calm before the storm."

"You guys know what this represents?" Trump said after journalists gathered in the White House state dining room to photograph him and first lady Melania Trump with the uniformed military leaders and their spouses.

"Maybe it's the calm before the storm," he said.

What storm?

"You'll find out," Trump told questioning reporters.

Classical music played in the background and tables were set in the nearby Blue Room for a fancy meal.

The White House did not immediately reply to a request to clarify Trump's remark. Earlier in the evening, while seated with the top defense officials in the cabinet room, Trump talked about the threat from North Korea and preventing Iran from getting a nuclear weapon. "In North Korea, our goal is denuclearization," he said. "We cannot allow this dictatorship to threaten our nation or our allies with unimaginable loss of life. We will do what we must do to prevent that from happening. And it will be done, if necessary, believe me."

During his speech to the United Nations General Assembly last month,

Trump said the United States would "totally destroy" North Korea if needed to defend itself or US allies.

The president on Thursday also had tough words for Iran, saying the country had not lived up to the spirit of an agreement forged with world powers to curb its nuclear program.

A senior administration official said on Thursday that Trump was expected to announce soon he would decertify the landmark agreement.

Trump has filled top posts within his administration with military generals, including his chief of staff, retired General John Kelly, and national security adviser, Lieutenant General HR McMaster.

(Reuters)

Indo American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston Celebrates 18th Annual Gala



The event coincided with the 4th Annual US-India Partnership day

HOUSTON (TIP): Indo American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston held its 18th Annual Gala on September 30th, 2017, at Hilton Americas Downtown. The event coincided with the 4th Annual US-India Partnership day. The chamber has been recognizing this partnership since 1999 when India was yet to become the flavor of the future. The theme for this year's Gala was "Partners in Progress", which was coined before the havoc caused by Hurricane Harvey, yet very apt to depict how community partnerships have worked in the relief and recovery

operations. The chief guest of the evening was India's Consul General Dr. Anupam Ray.

Chamber's Executive Director, Jagdip Ahluwalia highlighted this year's economic development through bilateral ties. The new board was introduced next, led by President-Elect Swapna Dhairyawan. A video depicting the history of the chamber helped the audience appreciate this amazing journey. They were encouraged to go through the Gala magazine to get a full picture of the Chamber's history, work and accomplishments over the 18 years.

IACCGH current President Allen Richards described the 18th year of the Chamber as the start of "a new direction". He highlighted the collaboration with other ethnically diverse organizations and the "NexGen" initiative, providing opportunities to the younger demographic. The Gala also had amazing entertainment provided by singers Skylar Beamon, Sparsh Shah and a flash mob.

Bob Patel, CEO and Chairman of Lyondell Basell delivered the keynote. His keynote started off with his inspirational life story. He appreciated the work the Chamber is doing in creating connections, bringing the two countries closer together and advancing knowledge to create opportunity.

IACCGH also recognized the professional and public service achievements of members of the Indo American community. Port Houston Chairman Janiece Longoria received the award for the tremendous impact on the economy, Dr. Marie Goradia received "Impact on Humanity" award for her efforts through Pratham USA; Bal Sareen, CEO of Brask Inc. received the "Entrepreneur of the Year" award and Swapnil Agarwal of Karya Management received the "Young Entrepreneur of the Year" award. President-Elect, Swapna Dhairyawan, delivered the vote of thanks and outlined his plans for the coming year.

Indian Embassy celebrates 148th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi



Ambassador Navtej Serna paying floral tributes to the Mahatma Gandhi Statue in front of the Embassy on Monday, October 2, 2017

WASHINGTON (TIP): Indian Embassy in the US celebrated the 148th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on Monday, October 2, with Ambassador Navtej Serna doing the floral tribute in front of the Gandhi Statue outside the embassy. After lighting the ceremonial lamp, Deputy Chief of Mission Santosh Jha addressed the gathering, which was followed by a rendition of patriotic songs.

Jayapal, Smith Introduce Legislation to Reform Immigration Detention System

WASHINGTON (TIP): Congressman Adam Smith (WA-09) and Indian American Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal (WA-07) introduced, on Oct 3, the Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act, legislation to reform the systemic problems in immigration detention system. This bill will end the use of private facilities and repeal mandatory detention, while restoring due process, oversight, accountability, and transparency to the immigration detention system.



We need an overhaul, said Congresswoman Jayapal

"The high moral cost of our inhumane immigration detention system is reprehensible. Large, private corporations operating detention centers are profiting off the suffering of men, women and children. We need an overhaul," said Congresswoman Jayapal. "It's clear that the Trump administration is dismantling the few protections in place for detained immigrants even as he ramps up enforcement against parents and vulnerable populations. This bill addresses the most egregious problems with our immigration detention system. It's Congress' responsibility to step up and pass this bill." "We must fix the injustices in our broken immigration detention system," said Congressman Adam Smith. "As the Trump administration continues to push a misguided and dangerous immigration agenda, we need to ensure fair treatment and due process for immigrants and refugees faced with detention. This legislation will address some of the worst failings of our immigration policy, and restore integrity and humanity to immigration proceedings."

In addition to repealing mandatory detention, a policy that often results in arbitrary and indefinite detention, the legislation creates a meaningful inspection process at detention facilities to ensure they meet the government's own standards. The bill requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to establish legally enforceable civil detention standards in line with those adopted by the American Bar Association. With disturbing track records of abuse and neglect, DHS has a responsibility to ensure that facilities are held accountable for the humane treatment of those awaiting immigration proceedings.

Individuals held in immigration detention system are subject to civil law, but are often held in conditions identical to prisons. In many cases, detained people are simply awaiting their day in court. To correct the persistent failures of due process, the legislation requires the government to show probable cause to detain people, and implements a special rule for primary caregivers and vulnerable populations, including pregnant women and people with serious medical and mental health issues.

Premium Processing now available for all Petitioners Seeking H-1B Visas

WASHINGTON (TIP): U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) resumed premium processing on Oct 3 for all H-1B visa extension of stay petitions. Premium processing is now available for all types of H-1B petitions.

H-1B visas provide skilled workers for a wide range of specialty occupations, including information technology, engineering, and mathematics. When a petitioner requests the agency's premium processing service, USCIS guarantees a 15-calendar day processing time. If that time is not met, the agency will refund the petitioner's premium processing service fee and continue with expedited processing of the application.

In addition to resumption of premium processing for H-1B visa extension of stay petitions, USCIS had previously resumed premium processing for H-1B petitions subject to the annual cap, petitions filed on behalf of physicians under the Conrad 30 waiver program, as well as interested government agency waivers and certain H-1B petitions that are not subject to the cap.

3 US Army special operations commandos killed in Niger

WASHINGTON (TIP): US officials said three US Army special operations commandos were killed on Wednesday and two others were wounded when they came under fire in southwest Niger.

The officials said the two wounded were taken to Niamey, the capital, and are in stable condition. The officials were not authorized to discuss the incident publicly so spoke on condition of anonymity.

The officials said the commandos, who were Green Berets, were likely attacked by al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb militants. (AP)

All 3 billion a/cs hacked in 2013 data theft: Yahoo

WASHINGTON (TIP): Yahoo said on Tuesday that all 3 billion of its accounts were hacked in a 2013 data theft, tripling its earlier estimate of the size of the largest breach in history, in a disclosure that attorneys said sharply increased the legal exposure of its new owner, Verizon Communications.

The news expands the likely number and claims of class action lawsuits by shareholders and Yahoo account holders, they said. Yahoo, the early face of the internet for many in the world, already faced at least 41 consumer class-action lawsuits in US federal and state courts, according to company securities filing in May. John Yanchunis, a lawyer representing some of the affected Yahoo users, said a federal judge who allowed the case to go forward still had asked for more information to justify his clients' claims. "I think we have those facts now," he said. "It's really mind-numbing when you think about it." Yahoo said last December that data from more than 1 billion accounts was compromised in 2013, the largest of a series of thefts that forced Yahoo to cut the price of its assets in a sale to Verizon. (Reuters)

US tells Pakistan to deliver regional peace for its own good

WASHINGTON (TIP): Talks between the United States and Pakistan on Islamabad's role in fomenting terrorism and instability in Afghanistan and the sub-continent have yielded little, with principals on both sides distracted by domestic developments. Embroiled in a messy controversy at home over his purported rift with the US President and whether he called Trump a moron, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson engaged his Pakistani counterpart Khwaja Asif with little enthusiasm. Pakistan's foreign minister, on his part, brought nothing to the table, at least publicly, other than the familiar laundry list of complaints and disclaimers, despite warnings from the Trump administration that it was running out of time before Washington initiating punitive action. (AP)

Hacker puts info of over 6,000 Indian businesses up for sale in massive data breach

PUNE (TIP): In what could be the biggest breach affecting Indian organizations, Seqrite Cyber Intelligence Labs along with its partner Qtree InfoServices has tracked an advertisement on DarkNet announcing secret access to the servers and database dump of over 6000 Indian businesses - ISPs, Government and private organizations.

It has identified the affected organization as India's National Internet Registry: IRINN (Indian Registry for Internet Names and Numbers) which comes under National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI).

As a precautionary measure, Seqrite Cyber Intelligence Labs has reached out to Government authorities and Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC) with a strong recommendation to alert all potentially affected organizations and urge them to change passwords and get their servers and systems patched with latest updates.

The hacker has priced the information at 15 Bitcoins and is offering network takedown of affected organizations for an unspecified amount.

According to the researchers, the seller claims to have the ability to tamper the IP allocation pool, which could result in a serious outage or Denial of Service (DoS) like condition. This could impact various CDN and hosting providers as well. If the hacker gets an interested buyer, then an attack on the system could disrupt Internet IP allocation and affect Internet services in India. Along with the access, the hacker is also selling credentials, PII and various contractual business documents and claims to have access to a large database of Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC).

Seqrite Cyber Intelligence Labs is the DarkNet monitoring division of Seqrite, the enterprise security solutions brand of cyber security firm Quick Heal Technologies.

The company said that on noticing the broadcast advertisement, the team realized that the persona was created recently - an ongoing trend seen with other recent data breaches. They then contacted the actor for further details, posing as an interested buyer, and were finally able to get a sample of the email list.

The sample shared included the email address of a prominent Indian technology firm and another from the Indian government; eventually, a list of about 6000 emails was shared which led them to believe that the compromised database was from IRINN. Seqrite said that if the database was sold, then an attack on the system could disrupt Internet IP allocation and in-turn affect Internet services in India.

Source: PTI

Akhilesh is SP chief for 5 years

LUCKNOW (TIP): Akhilesh Yadav was on Oct 5 unanimously re-elected as the Samajwadi Party's national president for a five-year term at the national convention in Agra, further consolidating his grip over the party.

Interestingly, the party's constitution has been amended to extend the tenure of the national president from the exiting three years to five years.

Clearly this has been done to ensure that Akhilesh remains at the helm of affairs not only during the general elections of 2019, but also in the next Vidhan Sabha elections in 2022.

While Akhilesh's grip over the party has firmed up, the same cannot be said about his succeeding to iron out differences within the family.

By choosing to stay away from the national convention, father and chief patron Mulayam Singh Yadav as well as uncle Shivpal Singh Yadav have reiterated that all is still not well within the family.

Putting up a façade, Akhilesh, however, said his father had blessed him through a telephonic call.

The announcement of Akhilesh's re-election was made by senior party leader Ram Gopal Yadav.

Most of the leaders who had come out in support of Akhilesh during the January 1 coup in the party replacing Akhilesh with Mulayam were in attendance at the national convention. Mohd Azam Khan who had attempted to bring the feuding father and son together was also on the dais.

Kannauj MP and wife Dimple Yadav was spotted in the first row along with Rajya Sabha MP Jaya Bachchan.



Indian Air Force capable of striking nuke, other targets in Pakistan: IAF Chief

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Indian Air Force is capable of effectively countering any threat from China while engaging in a two-front war that also involves Pakistan, Air Chief Marshal B.S. Dhanoa said today and indicated that tension still prevailed between Chinese and Indian troops in Doklam.

He also said India was ready to disarm Pakistan of its nuclear arsenals, if necessary.

The IAF chief said Chinese troops were currently present in Chumbi Valley in the Doklam plateau, and added that a peaceful resolution of border issues would be in the interest of both countries.

"The two sides are not in a physical face-off as we speak. However, their forces in Chumbi Valley are still deployed and I expect them to withdraw as their exercise in the area gets over," Dhanoa told reporters ahead of IAF Day, marked on October 8.

Indian and Chinese troops were locked in an over two-month-long stand-off after India stopped the construction of a road by Chinese soldiers in Doklam, which both China and Bhutan claim as their own.

Asserting that the IAF was capable of a two-front war to counter China and Pakistan, Dhanoa, however, added that the possibility of such a scenario was "low".

At the same time he said India's response had to be based on the enemy's capabilities as intentions could change overnight.

"We need a strength of 42 squadrons to carry out full spectrum operations in

Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa said his force is capable of countering China; any decision on surgical strike involving the IAF has to be taken by the government.



a two-front (war) scenario. It does not mean that we are not capable of fighting a two-front (war) as we speak. We have a Plan B," Dhanoa said.

Asked about concerns over Pakistan's nuclear weapons and whether the IAF would be able to disarm Islamabad of its nuclear arsenals if necessary, Dhanoa said his force had the capability of locating, fixing and striking across the border.

The army chief, General Bipin Rawat, had said last month that India should be prepared for a two-front war, insisting that China had started "flexing its muscles", while there seemed to be no scope for a reconciliation with Pakistan.

The IAF has 33 fighter squadrons and Dhanoa said the force would get the authorised strength of 42 by 2032.

Asked whether the IAF was ready for a surgical strike across the border, he said it could deal with any challenge and a call on such an operation would have to be taken by the government.

"A surgical strike is a decision that has to be taken by the government. The IAF has the capability to carry out the full spectrum of air operations," Dhanoa said.

He said a war-like situation might arise if the IAF crossed the border.

On whether the IAF provided support to the army for the surgical strike last year and during the Doklam face-off, Dhanoa said: "Whatever was asked from the air force was provided".

The IAF chief, however, said no air force assets were involved during the Myanmar operation and the surgical strike across the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir last year.

"The IAF is prepared to fight at a short notice in full synergy with the other two sister services, should the need arise," Dhanoa said, adding that the force was in a high state of readiness to fight a war.

About a possible confrontation with China, he said India's air power was "adequate".

Source: PTI

Gujarat riots: HC rejects Zakia's plea against Modi

AHMEDABAD (TIP): The Gujarat High Court on October 5 rejected a plea by Zakia Jafri challenging a lower court's order that accepted a report of the Supreme Court-constituted SIT giving a clean chit to Narendra Modi, the then Chief Minister, and 62 others refuting the "larger conspiracy" theory behind the 2002 communal riots in the state.

A single-judge Bench constituted by Justice Sonia Gokani said the HC did not see any error in the SIT's report as its investigation was closely monitored by the SC.

Zakia, the wife of slain former Congress MP Ehsan Jafri, who was among the 69 killed in the Gulberg Society massacre, had challenged the SIT's closure report on her earlier petition requesting the apex court to arraign Modi and 62 bureaucrats and senior police officers of the state in 2002, alleging a "larger conspiracy" by the then state administration behind the riots.

The hearing on her Zakia's petition, which was supported by the Mumbai-



Zakia Jafri

based Citizens for Justice and Peace and its general secretary Teesta Setalvad, had concluded on July 3, but the final judgment was deferred till today.

The HC, however, rejected the lower court's earlier conclusion that it had no jurisdiction in ordering further investigation in the case and permitted the petitioner either to approach the lower court, a Division Bench of the

High Court or the Supreme Court for a fresh investigation into the allegations levelled by her accusing Modi and other officers of involvement in the riots.

Setalvad said Zakia would continue her legal fight and would go back either to the lower court or the apex court for a fresh investigation. "Zakia Jafri will now again begin her struggle for justice. In the Babri case, it took 25 years. How long will this take us now?" she said.

Zakia along with Setalvad had moved a review petition in the HC, alleging a "larger criminal conspiracy" behind the riots after a magisterial court accepted the SIT's report that there was no "prosecutable evidences" against Modi and others named in her petition before the apex court for arraigning them with the 2002 riot cases. It also sought HC's direction for a fresh investigation into the matter.

The Gulberg Society massacre was among the nine most "gruesome incidents" during the 2002 communal riots which were investigated by the SIT. A special court in Ahmedabad had convicted 24 of the massacre.

RAPE CASE

Akal Takht excommunicates ex-Akali minister Langah

AMRITSAR (TIP): Akal Takht on October 5 excommunicated former Akali minister Sucha Singh Langah from the community for hurting Sikh sentiments after his arrest in a rape case. The decision was taken at a meeting of the five High Priests in the light of complaints to Akal Takht.

Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Gurbachan Singh pronounced the 'hukumnama' (edict) from the podium of the highest temporal seat of Sikhs. "Langah has brought disrepute to the Sikhs with such immoral, disgraceful and blasphemous acts. Akal Takht has taken cognisance of the news reports and a number of complaints received against him from the Sikh Sangat after his video went viral and he was booked. An expert panel's suggestion was sought and after deliberations, the five High Priests unanimously decided to excommunicate him," he said.

The Jathedar cautioned that anyone who has been involved in such immoral activities must not be



included in any religious organisation in future. He announced that though Langah had been discharged from all positions, be it with the SGPC or SAD, if he was still associated with any Sikh organisation, he should be immediately removed and no "ardas" should be performed in his name.

PPCC general secretary Amarjit Singh Tikka had forwarded the video

clip to the Jathedar, seeking strict action against the senior Akali leader. Various Sikh organisations had also called for strict action.

Langah, a baptised Sikh, was in the race to become the SGPC president when Kirpal Singh Badungar occupied the coveted seat. He was a member of SAD's core committee and district unit president of Gurdaspur until a case was registered against him by a lady police constable, who alleged that she was exploited for over eight years. He was arrested yesterday.

Meanwhile, the Akal Takht Jathedar, when asked if there was any provision under which the disgraced Akali leader could be brought back to the religious fold, said, "The tenets dictate that any Sikh who has been excommunicated could appear before Akal Takht and submit his apology, but ultimately it would be the sole discretion of the five High Priests to consider it or not."

Source: The Tribune

INDIANS SPENT \$112 MILLION IN BUYING PROPERTY OVERSEAS

NEW DELHI (TIP): Indians invested USD 112 million last fiscal to buy immovable properties abroad, up nearly 60 times from 2005-06, says a report.

It said property overseas became affordable in 2016-17 due to strengthening of the rupee compared to the previous fiscal, when buyers had invested USD 88.4 million.

"The quantum of money sent through LRS (Liberated Remittances Scheme) for acquisition of property has increased almost 59 times, from USD 1.9 million in 2005-06 to USD 111.9 million in 2016-17," said the report by Knight Frank India and the International Real Estate Expo (IREX) released today.

However, the share of funds spent on buying homes abroad through the LRS fell from 8 per cent in 2005-06 to 1 per cent in 2016-17, it added.

The report 'Looking beyond Borders' aimed at studying buying behavior, investment returns, preferences and key drivers pushing resident Indians to acquire residential property on foreign soil.

"Strengthening of the Indian rupee against several global currencies has made investments in overseas homes more affordable than a year ago," it said.

Buying a house in Malaysia is the cheapest followed by Dubai, it added.

Resident Indian buying homes in United Kingdom, Cyprus, Malaysia and Dubai would find cheaper as compared to a year ago but acquiring a residential property in Australia would be 11 per cent costlier.

The findings in this report are based on 10 countries: Australia, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Cyprus, Mauritius, Thailand, USA, Philippines and United Kingdom.

Approximately 77 per cent of the Indian buyers prefer a property that is less than USD 1 million.

"Resident Indians buying overseas homes at the end of Q2 2012 and selling the property five years later gained from the investments in 4 out of the 5 most preferred international markets," the consultant said.

Residential property buyers in Dubai have benefited the highest with an overall return of 49.3 per cent followed by Australia at 38.7 per cent. UK and Malaysia gave return of 20 per cent and 15 per cent respectively.

However, the returns were negative from Cyprus due to decline in property prices and rupee appreciation.

As per the report, most Indians buy homes abroad for investment purposes followed by the aspiration of having a second home.

Sixty-three percent of the resident Indian buyers preferred compact apartments of less than 1,500 sq. ft.

About one-fifth of the resident Indians showed a preference for a villa since countries such as Cyprus and Sri Lanka are perceived as second home options and holiday destinations.

Source: PTI

HOTEL SCAM: LALU YADAV APPEARS BEFORE CBI

NEW DELHI (TIP):

Rashtriya Janta Dal leader and former Railway Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav on Oct 5 reached the CBI headquarters after a number of summons for questioning in connection with the alleged corruption in awarding the maintenance contract of two IRCTC hotels to a private firm.

Yadav, who arrived at the headquarters at 11 am, was accompanied by his daughter Misa and did not speak to the media. He was taken to the investigation officer, while Misa was asked to wait in the lobby, CBI sources said.

The CBI also summoned his son Tejashwi Yadav, former deputy chief minister of Bihar, who is scheduled to appear before the agency tomorrow.

It is alleged that Yadav, as Railway Minister in 2006, handed over maintenance of two Railway hotels — BNR Ranchi and Puri — to Sujata Hotel (a company owned by Vinay and Vijay Kochhar) after receiving a bribe in the form of three acres of prime land through a "benami" (shell) company.



Focus on problems and deliver, Rahul tells Modi

LUCKNOW (TIP): Instead of urging not to be pessimistic about the economy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi should focus on the two major challenges before the country — joblessness among the youth and predicament of farmers, said Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi in Amethi on Thursday.

Speaking to mediapersons, Gandhi said, "Like a true leader the Prime Minister should say that we have one more year to go and we will deliver. As an Opposition leader I am advising him that he needs to focus on two main problems concerning unemployment and farmers".

Meanwhile, hundreds of people from across his constituency queued up for their turn to meet the Congress vice-president with their grievances and complaints at the 'Janata Darshan' held Munshiganj guest house in Amethi. Most of the complaints related to the delay in developmental work due to apathy of the local administration.



Panchkula police take Honeypreet to Bathinda

BATHINDA (TIP): A police team from Panchkula on Oct 5y brought Honeypreet, the adopted daughter of Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, to the city for an investigation regarding her stay while in hiding.

Sukhdeep Kaur, who was also arrested along with Honeypreet, was part of the investigation as she is the owner of the house which the Haryana police visited and searched for more than an hour.

The police team reached the house at Nayi Basti, Street 2, at 1.05 pm. They entered the house after breaking open the lock of the gate.

They stayed there for around one-and-a-half hours.

Sources said the Haryana police seized some documents and made a video and clicked some pictures.

While no official of the Bathinda police accompanied them inside the house, they made security arrangement outside to maintain law and order. The team wrapped up its investigation at 2.50 pm and left the spot without talking to anyone.



Honeypreet, the adopted daughter' of Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim.

Mukesh Ambani remains India's richest man on Forbes' list

NEW DELHI (TIP): Reliance Industries Ltd chief Mukesh Ambani on Thursday emerged as India's wealthiest for the 10th straight year as his net worth swelled to \$38 billion (nearly Rs2.5 trillion) while the wealth of 100 richest rose by 26% despite economic hiccups.

Wipro's Azim Premji was the distant second with a net worth of \$19 billion, moving up two places from last year, while Sun Pharma's Dilip Shanghvi slipped from his earlier second place to the ninth now (\$12.1 billion) on Forbes magazine's annual India Rich List 2017.



Forbes said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "economic experiments" barely affected India's billionaires while none gained more than oil and gas tycoon Mukesh Ambani, who cemented his

decade-long hold on the top slot by adding a staggering \$15.3 billion (67%) to his last year's wealth to become one of Asia's top five richest.

Anil Ambani, Mukesh's younger brother, was ranked much lower at 45th place with \$3.15 billion. He was ranked 32nd in 2016 (\$3.4 billion) and 29th a year before that. Patanjali Ayurved's Acharya Balkrishna, known as a close associate of yoga guru Ramdev, made a big jump from 48th place last year to 19th now with a net worth of \$6.55 billion (about Rs43,000 crore).

NOBEL LAUREATES 2017

The Nobel Prize is a set of annual international awards bestowed in several categories by Swedish and Norwegian institutions in recognition of academic, cultural or scientific advances.

The will of the Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel established the prizes in 1895. The prizes in Chemistry, Literature, Peace, Physics and Physiology or Medicine were first awarded in 1901. Medals made before 1980 were struck in 23 carat gold, and later from 18 carat green gold plated with a 24 carat gold coating. Between 1901 and 2016, the Nobel Prizes and the Prize in Economic Sciences were awarded 579 times to 911 people and organizations. With some receiving the Nobel Prize more than once, this makes a total of 23 organizations, and 881 individuals.

The prize ceremonies take place annually in Stockholm, Sweden (with the exception of the peace prize, which is held in Oslo, Norway). Each recipient, or laureate, receives a gold medal, a diploma, and a sum of money that has been decided by the Nobel Foundation. (As of 2017, each prize is worth SEK 9,000,000 or about US\$1,110,000, 944,000, £836,000, or CNY 7,376,000.) The Nobel Prize is widely regarded as the most prestigious award available in the fields of literature, medicine, physics, chemistry, peace, as is the Prize in Economic Sciences.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awards the Nobel Prize in Physics, the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, and the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel; the Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet awards the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine; the Swedish Academy grants the Nobel Prize in Literature; and the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded not by a Swedish organization but by the Norwegian Nobel Committee.

The prize is not awarded posthumously; however, if a person is awarded a prize and dies before receiving it, the prize may still be presented. Though the average number of laureates per prize increased substantially during the 20th century, a prize may not be shared among more than three people, although the Nobel Peace Prize can be awarded to organizations of more than three people.

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2017

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2017 is divided, one half awarded to Rainer Weiss, the other half jointly to Barry C. Barish and Kip S. Thorne "for decisive contributions to the LIGO detector and the observation of gravitational waves".

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2017 was awarded to Jacques Dubochet, Joachim Frank and Richard Henderson "for developing cryo-electron microscopy for the high-resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution".

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2017 was awarded jointly to Jeffrey C. Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michael W. Young "for their discoveries of molecular mechanisms controlling the circadian rhythm".

The Nobel Prize in Literature

Kazuo Ishiguro is the winner of the Nobel Prize in literature, the awarding Swedish Academy said Thursday. Born in Japan and raised in Britain, Ishiguro is best known for the novels "The Remains of the Day" and "Never Let Me Go."

Rainer Weiss

Born: 1932, Berlin, Germany

Affiliation at the time of the award: LIGO/VIRGO Collaboration, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA

Prize motivation: "for decisive contributions to the LIGO detector and the observation of gravitational waves"

Prize share: 1/2



Kip S. Thorne

Born: 1940, Logan, UT, USA

Affiliation at the time of the award: LIGO/VIRGO Collaboration, California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Pasadena, CA, USA

Prize motivation: "for decisive contributions to the LIGO detector and the observation of gravitational waves"

Prize share: 1/4



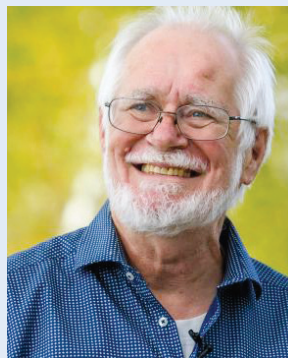
Jacques Dubochet

Born: 1942, Aigle, Switzerland

Affiliation at the time of the award: University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

Prize motivation: "for developing cryo-electron microscopy for the high-resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution"

Prize share: 1/3



Richard Henderson

Born: 1945, Edinburgh, Scotland

Affiliation at the time of the award: MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, United Kingdom

Prize motivation: "for developing cryo-electron microscopy for the high-resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution"

Prize share: 1/3



Michael Rosbash

Born: 1944, Kansas City, MO, USA

Affiliation at the time of the award: Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, USA, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Prize motivation: "for their discoveries of molecular mechanisms controlling the circadian rhythm"

Prize share: 1/3



Kazuo Ishiguro

Born: 1954, Nagasaki, Japan

Prize motivation: "who, in novels of great emotional force, has uncovered the abyss beneath our illusory sense of connection with the world"

Prize share: 1/1



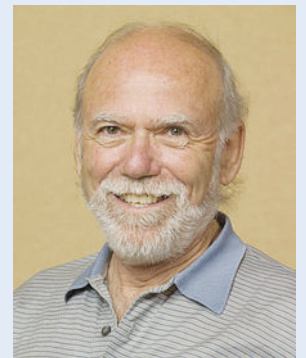
Barry C. Barish

Born: 1936, Omaha, NE, USA

Affiliation at the time of the award: LIGO/VIRGO Collaboration, California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Pasadena, CA, USA

Prize motivation: "for decisive contributions to the LIGO detector and the observation of gravitational waves"

Prize share: 1/4



Gravitational waves finally captured

On 14 September 2015, the universe's gravitational waves were observed for the very first time. The waves, which were predicted by Albert Einstein a hundred years ago, came from a collision between two black holes. It took 1.3 billion years for the waves to arrive at the LIGO detector in the USA. The signal was extremely weak when it reached Earth, but is already promising a revolution in astrophysics. Gravitational waves are an entirely new way of observing the most violent events in space and testing the limits of our knowledge. LIGO is a collaborative project with over one thousand researchers from more than twenty countries. Together, they have realised a vision that is almost fifty years old. The 2017 Nobel Laureates have each been invaluable to the success of LIGO. Pioneers Rainer Weiss and Kip S. Thorne, together with Barry C. Barish, the scientist and leader who brought the project to completion, ensured that four decades of effort led to gravitational waves finally being observed.

Joachim Frank

Born: 1940, Siegen, Germany

Affiliation at the time of the award: Columbia University, New York, NY, USA

Prize motivation: "for developing cryo-electron microscopy for the high-resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution"

Prize share: 1/3



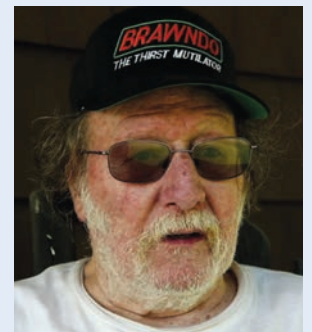
Jeffrey C. Hall

Born: 1945, New York, NY, USA

Affiliation at the time of the award: University of Maine, Maine, ME, USA

Prize motivation: "for their discoveries of molecular mechanisms controlling the circadian rhythm"

Prize share: 1/3



Michael W. Young

Born: 1949, Miami, FL, USA

Affiliation at the time of the award: Rockefeller University, New York, NY, USA

Prize motivation: "for their discoveries of molecular mechanisms controlling the circadian rhythm"

Prize share: 1/3



Ishiguro, the first writer of Japanese birth to win the Nobel since Kenzaburo Oe in 1994, is an artist of restraint and equipoise. None of his novels is the same as the last, yet he has achieved over the course of his career a remarkable consistency of affect.

He creates worlds that are clear in a sentence-by-sentence way, but in which the big picture recedes against the horizon. His novels are about discovery and revelation, and how slowly they arrive even for the most meticulous observer.

Ishiguro is best known for his third novel, "The Remains of the Day" (1989), which is related from the perspective of Stevens, a punctilious English butler. A teacup of strong Earl Grey, it won the Booker Prize and was made into an indelible film with Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson.



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EVELYN SHARMA AWARDED FOR HER SOCIAL CAUSE IN AMERICA

After toiling for her dream project, Seams For Dreams, actress Evelyn Sharma is celebrating her success. Her initiative aims to provide clothing to the needy across India. The Indo-German beauty, recalled for her comic presence in 'Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani', was acknowledged for her contributions towards charitable causes in India while using her celebrity status to encourage others to do their bit for the society. At a fundraiser in Los Angeles, the actress was felicitated for her philanthropic work as the Pride Of India amidst the Indian community in the city. Evelyn even raised a large sum for an education development project. Talking about professional commitments, Evelyn says, "I'm currently reading a few fun scripts and I am in the midst of figuring my next outings. I'm excited for my upcoming release 'Jack & Dil' with Amit Sadh."

TAMANNAAH BHATIA: WE CAN RECREATE THE MAGIC OF 'QUEEN'

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia is confident that the magic of Kangana Ranaut-starrer 'Queen' will be recreated in its Telugu version which was officially launched on Sunday. The remake, to be directed by Neelakanta Reddy, has been titled 'Queen Once Again'. "It's an exciting project and I love doing roles that talk about women empowerment. I'm confident we can recreate the magic of the original. At the same time, not make our film look like a frame-to-frame remake. We'll adapt it to suit Telugu sensibilities," Tamannaah said in an interview.

Ever since she saw the Vikas Bahl-directed 'Queen', she wanted to be a part of its remake. "I wasn't even sure if it was going to be remade. What makes 'Queen' special is that it's one of those rare women-centric films which succeeded in reaching out to everybody, across all sections of the audience," she said.

Tamannaah starts shooting for the project from October 25. 'Queen' is the story of the self-exploration of a young Punjabi girl, played by Kangana, who embarks on her honeymoon to Paris alone after her fiance calls off the wedding. Last week, the Tamil and Telugu versions of 'Queen' were launched. The Tamil version, which has been titled 'Paris Paris', stars Kajal Aggarwal in the lead.

The Kannada version, which has been titled 'Butterfly' and stars Parul Yadav, has already gone on the floors. Actor-filmmaker Ramesh Aravind is directing the Tamil as well as Kannada versions of the remake. *Source: IANS*



MOVIE REVIEW

JUDWAA 2

CAST: Varun Dhawan, Jacqueline Fernandez, Taapsee Pannu

DIRECTION: David Dhawan

GENRE: Comedy

DURATION: 2 hours 30 minutes

STORY

Raja (Varun) and Prem (Varun, again) are conjoined twins, who have similar reflexes. They are separated at birth by a smuggler, Charles (Zakir Hussain), who kidnaps Raja. The geek Prem grows up in the lap of luxury in London with his parents, the Malhotras; loud Raja finds shelter in a Mumbai's fisherman's colony. Of course when the twins' paths cross, there's too much fun.

REVIEW

When you enter the movie hall for this outing, remember to let your hair down and guffaw because from the opening scene itself you're familiar with the tropes. David Dhawan who has made three dozen vacuous comedies, with an enviable success ratio. He was even crowned the undisputed king of comedy once. Here, he gives you a rebooted version of

his 1997 comic-caper of the same name. The earlier one had Salman Khan, this one has Varun. It helps that the leading man has a mammoth following with today's kids. And, he is viewed by those clued into Hindi mainstream cinema as a combination of Govinda and Salman, both of who carried off their kitsch routine with a certain flair. Varun doesn't let you down either. Whether he is playing a geek or a goon, he is absolutely endearing and delivers, exactly what his daddy orders him to.

The script (if you can call it that) is a combination of familiar gags borrowed from Manmohan Desai films. The sidekick stammers, the hero repeats dialogue from various masala movies, the villain develops amnesia when hit by a coconut, a football butt allows his memory to return, etc. There's nothing intelligible here so please stop searching.

It's basically innocent fun meant to pander to the child in you. The only 'wicked' thing here are the heroines' skimpy costumes (just kidding). The girls, Samara (Taapsee) and Alishka (Jacqueline) are brought out for chartbusters - Chalti Hai Kya 9 Se 12 and Oonchi Hai Building. They sportingly kiss, cuddle and are happy horsing around doing precious little.

Lame lyrics, loud gags and leggy lasses never really hurt anyone. Believe me, at one point, you're tempted to join Varun when he is doing those perfect pelvic thrusts. Judwaa 2 could be a substitute for your Dussehra party. Consult Salman, even he sportingly shows up in a cameo in the end.





JULIA ROBERTS WAS A 'SELFISH LITTLE BRAT' AS A YOUNG ACTOR

Hollywood star Julia Roberts said in the beginning of her career she was singularly focused and making it big in movies was her only priority.

In an interview, Roberts said, "I was my priority, a selfish little brat running around making films."

The 49-year-old actor said she changed after meeting her husband of 15 years, Danny Moder, and experiencing motherhood.

"It was meeting Danny... Finding my person. When I think about what makes my life my life, and makes sense and just shine inside of me, it's him. Everything has come from that for me."

When Roberts is not busy on the set of her film, the mother of three is fulfilling typical responsibilities for her 12-year-old twins, Hazel and Finn, and 10-year-old son, Henry.

"If I wasn't here today, I'd be in the carpool lane ferrying my kids to school," she said.

MONICA BELLUCCI TO STAR IN SCI-FI HORROR 'NEKROMANCER'

Monica Bellucci is set to star in sci-fi horror *Nekromancer*, the latest film from brothers Kiah and Tristan Roache-Turner (*Wyrnwood*).

The Italian actress, who has starred in *The Passion of the Christ*, *Spectre* and *Irréversible*, will join Ben O'Toole (*Detroit*, *Horse Soldiers*, *Hacksaw Ridge*) and Tess Haubrich (*Alien: Covenant*, *Bleeding Steel*, *Wolf Creek*) for the film, set to shoot at Fox Studios later this year.

Nekromancer, described as a "mix of gore and comedy", will be directed by Kiah, while Tristan will produce for Guerilla Films with Andrew Mason and Troy Lum for Hopscotch Features.

The plot of the film has previously been described as following a man who discovers that he is part of a secret sect of magical beings who hunt down and destroy demons in the internet.

"Monica Bellucci brings her wonderful talents and considerable glamour to our production and we are thrilled to have her on board working alongside this group of exciting up-and-coming actors," said the producers in a joint statement.

Mason and Lum described the Roache-Turner brothers as among the most exciting new talents in the genre.



MOVIE REVIEW



BIRTH OF THE DRAGON

CAST: Philip Ng a, Xia Yu, Billy Magnussen, Qu Jingjing

DIRECTION: George Nolfi

GENRE: Drama

STORY

A story about the legendary showdown between Bruce Lee and his nemesis, the martial artist Wong Jack Man.

REVIEW

Bruce Lee's life is fascinating. To pack it all in a ninety minute film is a challenge for any filmmaker. That's why George Nolfi chose to focus on one legendary fight that may or may not have happened in Bruce Lee's life. Also, the movie is a work of fiction, so don't expect to see the trivia that you may know about one of the greatest fighters of all time.

Lee, an arrogant a fight instructor in San Francisco

believes that kung fu should be taught to whoever wants to learn it. His adversary is the Shaolin monk Wong Jack Man, who has to leave his country and work in America for some reason. Man believes kung fu should only be taught to Asians, as it's a cultural heritage which may be hijacked (which eventually happened). Lee's student Steve (Billy Magnussen) manages to arrange a fight between the two. How that showdown turns out is what the movie is all about.

What's evident at the start is that the film doesn't focus on Bruce Lee as it should. It instead focuses more on Steve's character as a wandering sixties flower child and his love interest Xiulan (Qu Jingjing) who is being groomed to work at a brothel. Fans of Lee would of course want to see their icon recreated and actually fight. But that is not what makes up the film. Majorly, everything works to make possible the epic showdown between Man and Lee. However, they payback in that scene ends up disappointing you. Also, the film is more about Man trying to tame Lee and how the latter learns things about himself. That knowledge changes Lee for good which is how the 'Dragon' we see in films is born.

Philip Ng as Bruce Lee is well cast. The early swagger and the transformation later are portrayed quite well. Xia Yu as the disgraced Shaolin monk is top form, both acting and fighting wise. One can't say that he is not a trained fighter like Philip. Billy Magnussen as Steve gets a lot of screen time and plays his part well, although he is the weakest link in the chain because his character is written that way.

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Global leaders address C3 U.S.-Arab Business & Healthcare Summit on 'Creating Bilateral Partnerships Through Innovation, New Technologies and Public-Private Partnerships'



Mr. Ransel N. Potter, Founder & Managing Partner, C3 Summit International, USA addresses the delegates



Experts at a session



Harinder S Panaser, CEO HWP Inc, Mr. Anurag Jain, Adviser, C3 Summit, Dr V.K Raju, Founder and President, Eye Foundation of America discuss an issue

NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK (TIP): More than 60 global leaders addressed an international delegation of 500 attendees, including 14 Arab nations, from 44 countries, at the 2017 C3 U.S.- Arab Business & Healthcare Summit held on September 25 at the Union League Club in New York City. The summit, organized by C3 Summit International, USA was supported by the U.S. State Department, the United Nations and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The theme of the summit was "Creating Bilateral Partnerships Through Innovation, New Technologies and Public-Private Partnerships."

A key goal of the Summit was to bring together commercial ventures and healthcare systems in order to explore potential solutions needed for continued innovation and

knowledge transfer in both business and healthcare. The 2017 C3 U.S.- Arab Business & Healthcare Summit was an annual 'must-attend' meeting for anyone looking to better understand and advance global integration to create exceptional consumer/patient healthcare value.

The 2017 C3 U.S.- Arab Business & Healthcare Summit assembled business leaders, policy makers, educators and healthcare professionals from around the globe to bolster and promote U.S. and Arab world initiatives that are focused on the most up-to-date healthcare topics including:

selecting/managing local partners; big data; technological innovations; the role of collaborative networks; preparing tenders for public-private partnerships; the role women play in shaping U.S.- Arab global business relations; viral diseases; and the future of primary healthcare.

The 2017 C3 U.S.- Arab Business & Healthcare Summit also addressed resources, research and access to the best healthcare services in order to improve survival from disease and better the quality of life based on the exchange of knowledge and employment opportunities between the two regions.

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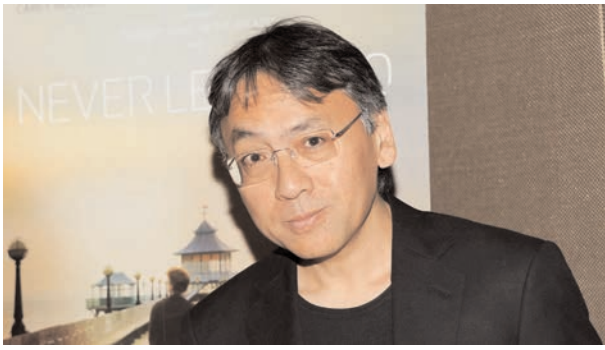
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Kazuo Ishiguro wins 2017 Nobel Prize for Literature

STOCKHOLM (TIP): Kazuo Ishiguro, the British author of "Remains of the Day", has won the Nobel Prize for Literature, the Swedish Academy said on Thursday, honouring an "exquisite novelist" a year after giving it to singer-songwriter Bob Dylan.

Born in Japan and raised in Britain, Ishiguro, 62, won the Man Booker Prize for the 1989 novel that was made into an Oscar-nominated movie starring Anthony Hopkins as a fastidious and repressed butler in postwar Britain.

"He is an exquisite novelist. I would say if you mix Jane Austen and Franz Kafka you get Ishiguro in a nutshell, Sara Danius, permanent secretary of the Swedish Academy, told Reuters.

The award of the 9 million crown (\$1.1 million) prize marks a return to a more mainstream interpretation of literature after it went to the American troubadour Dylan, a decision that critics said snubbed more deserving writers.

The Academy hailed Ishiguro's ability to reveal "the abyss beneath our illusory sense of connection with the world ... in novels of great emotional force" that touch on memory, time and self-delusion.

"What I'm interested in is not the actual fact that my characters have done things they later regret. I'm interested in how they come to terms with it," told the New York Times after "The Remains of the Day" was published.

Ishiguro has also waded into politics, calling a rise in hostility towards immigrants after the British voted to leave the European Union as "a fight over the very soul of Britain".

Never has there been a better opportunity, at least not since the 1930s, of pushing ... xenophobia into neo-Nazi racism," he wrote in the Financial Times last year, urging "a sharply divided, bewildered, anxious, leaderless nation" to unite around its "essentially decent heart".

Ishiguro's latest novel, "The Buried Giant", in which an elderly couple go on a road trip through an Arthurian England populated by ogres and dragons, "explores ... how memory relates to oblivion, history to the present, and fantasy to reality", the Academy said. (Reuters)

Iraqi forces capture Hawija from Islamic State

BAGHDAD (TIP): Iraqi forces have captured the town of Hawija and the surrounding area from Islamic State, the military said in a statement on Oct 6.

With the capture of Hawija, the militants' last stronghold in northern Iraq, the only area that remains under control of Islamic State in Iraq is a stretch alongside the western border with Syria. Hawija is close to the oil-city of Kirkuk. The offensive on Hawija was carried out by US-backed Iraqi government troops and Iranian-trained and armed Shi'ite paramilitary groups known as Popular Mobilisation. "The army's 9th armoured division, the Federal Police, the Emergency Response division and Popular Mobilisation liberated Hawija," said a statement from the joint operations commander, Lieutenant-General Abdul Ameer Rasheed Yarallah.

Iraq launched an offensive on September 21 to dislodge Islamic State from the area north of Baghdad where up to 78,000 people were estimated to be trapped, according to the United Nations. The militants continue to control the border town of al-Qaim and the region surrounding it. They also hold parts of Syrian side of the border, but the area under their control is shrinking as they retreat in the face of two different sets of hostile forces - a US-backed, Kurdish-led coalition and Syrian government troops with foreign Shi'ite militias backed by Iran and Russia. Islamic State's cross-border "caliphate" effectively collapsed in July, when US-backed Iraqi forces captured Mosul, the group's de facto capital in Iraq, in a grueling battle which lasted nine months. (Reuters)

Netherlands Rocked by 'Gujarati Garba-Dandia'; Hindi & Hindustan Kept Alive by Arya Samaj

AMSTERDAM (TIP): Recently Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Amsterdam. There he met Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, King Willem Alexander & Queen Maxima. Mr. Modi was presented bicycle by Dutch PM as a gift.

To celebrate 70 years of Indo-Dutch Diplomatic Relations, Indian BJP leader Vijay Jolly along with prominent UK Sikh leader Sardar S.S. Ahluwalia recently visited Netherlands. This visit was undertaken to Promote People to People Friendship between India & Netherlands.

A massive Gujarati Garba-Dandia evening was organized by local Indian community where performers from UK participated along with local youngsters in large numbers. Indian Embassy in Netherlands was represented by Director Indian Cultural Centre Mr. D.V.N. Rao and colleagues.

During visit to Arya Samaj temple, Mr. Jolly was blessed & also participated in religious hawan ceremony for purification, where Sanskrit shlokas were chanted by local citizens. President Arya Samaj Netherlands Dr. Surya Prasad Biere presided while certificates were distributed to the best students excelling in Hindi language courses by Mr. Jolly. He was surprised to find "Hindi & Hindustan" alive in the hearts & minds of PIO's & NRIs hailing from Surinam.

During visit to local Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurudwara in Hague, Mr. Jolly & Ahluwalia were welcomed by President Sardar Harjeet Singh. Guru's blessings were bestowed & overseas visitors performed Guru Ki Seva and had langar.

A memorable visit to International Court of Justice in Hague along with visit to a remote village where they were warmly welcomed by Senior Dutch citizens Mrs. Heny & Mr. Jan, who live in a make shift windmill. Famous NRI Vijay Sharma & wife Seema Sharma organized a fabulous luncheon for the duo. This visit helped in fostering new lively friendships & evergreen memories.

(As related by Vijay Jolly)



Promoting People to People Friendship in Netherlands
Indian BJP Leader Vijay Jolly with Gujarati Garba Performers at Indian Community program in Netherlands



Promoting People to People Friendship in Netherlands
Indian BJP Leader Vijay Jolly addressing Arya Samaj Netherlands with Pandit Dr. Surya Prasad Biere - President Arya Samaj Mandir

Tropical Storm Nate blamed for 22 deaths; threatens US coast

MANAGUA, NICARAGUA (TIP): Newly formed Tropical Storm Nate was blamed on Thursday for at least 22 deaths in Central America as it dumped rain across the region on a path that would carry it toward a potential landfall on the US Gulf Coast as a hurricane over the weekend.

Louisiana officials declared a state of emergency and ordered some people to evacuate coastal areas and barrier islands, and evacuations began at some offshore oil platforms in the Gulf.

The US National Hurricane Center said the storm could cause dangerous flooding by dumping as much as 15 to 20 inches (38 to 50 centimeters) of rain as it

moved over Honduras, with higher accumulations in a few places.

It had maximum sustained winds of 40 mph (65 kph) by Thursday evening and was likely to strengthen over the northwestern Caribbean Sea Thursday night and Friday before a possible strike on the Cancun region at the tip of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula at near-hurricane strength. It could hit the US Gulf coast near New Orleans over the weekend at hurricane strength.

In Nicaragua, Nate's arrival followed two weeks of near-constant rain that had left the ground saturated and rivers swollen. Authorities placed the whole country on alert and warned of flooding

and landslides.

Nicaragua's vice president and spokeswoman, Rosario Murillo, said that at least 15 people had died in that country due to the storm. She didn't give details on all the deaths, but said two women and a man who worked for the Health Ministry were swept away by a flooded canal in the central municipality of Juigalpa.

The government closed schools nationwide.

Costa Rica's Judicial Investigation Organism blamed seven deaths in that country on the storm and said 15 people were missing. Flooding drove 5,000 residents into emergency shelters. (AP)

Divisions over UK PM May's future burst into open with plot to topple her

LONDON (TIP): Divisions over the future of British Prime Minister Theresa May burst into the open on Oct 6 with allies saying she should carry on and a former Conservative Party chairman claiming the support of 30 lawmakers for a plot to topple her.

In one of the most bizarre British political speeches in a generation, May's address on Wednesday to her annual conference was ruined by a comedian handing her a bogus employment termination letter, repeated coughing fits and even by letters falling off the slogans on the set behind her.

May's authority was already diminished by her botched bet on a June snap election that lost her party its majority in parliament just days before the opening of formal Brexit talks with the European Union.

Under the headline: "Theresa May will stay as Prime Minister and get the job done," Interior Minister Amber Rudd wrote in The Telegraph newspaper that "she should stay". May's de facto deputy, Damian Green, also said she would carry on.

But the former party chairman, Grant Shapps, said May should call a leadership contest.

"I think she should call a leadership election," Shapps told BBC Radio 5 live on Friday. He said that after May's bungled election, her failure to unite the Cabinet and a poor party conference, "the writing is on the wall."

Shapps, who chaired the party between 2012 and 2015, said up to 30 Conservative lawmakers backed the bid



to informally tell May to go, including five former Cabinet ministers. He said it was unclear if there would be enough support to topple May.

To trigger a formal leadership challenge, 48 Conservative lawmakers need to write to the chairman of the party's so-called 1922 Committee.

May made no public appearances on Thursday.

Her survival has so far been dependent on the absence of an obvious successor who could unite the split party around Brexit and fear of an election that many Conservatives think would let opposition Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn into power.

"I know that she is as determined as ever to get on with the job, she sees it as her duty to do so and she will carry on and she will make a success of this government," Green, the first secretary

of state, told BBC television.

The Sun, Britain's most popular newspaper, said that a bid to topple May since the speech had failed after rebel Conservative lawmakers admitted they did not yet have the numbers to oust her.

A spokesman for the Conservative Party did not respond to requests for comment.

Many Conservative activists fear another leadership contest will exacerbate the divide in the party over Europe, an issue that helped sink the previous three Conservative prime ministers - David Cameron, John Major and Margaret Thatcher.

A leadership contest could also pave the way for an election that some Conservatives worry could be won by Corbyn, whom they cast as a Marxist seeking to impose a socialist fantasy on Britain. (Reuters)

Russian military accuses US of 'supporting' IS group

MOSCOW (TIP): The Russian defence ministry on Wednesday suggested the United States was supporting Islamic State jihadists, enabling them to mount counter-offensive attacks in eastern Syria.

"The main thing preventing the final defeat of ISIL in Syria is not the terrorists' military capability but support and pandering to them by American colleagues," military spokesman Igor Konashenkov said in a statement, using an alternative term for IS.

He said recent attacks on Syrian regime forces were all made "from a 50-kilometre zone around At-Tanf on the Syrian- Jordan border" where the US-led coalition is operating a garrison.

Over the past month Moscow has repeatedly accused the US of hindering the offensive in the east of the country against IS jihadists mounted by Syrian regime forces with the support of Russian airstrikes and special forces on the ground.

The military said the regime forces "neutralised mobile IS groups on the road from Palmyra to Deir-Ezzor" and freed the captured villages.

"If the US side views such operations as unforeseen 'accidents', Russian aviation in Syria is ready to begin complete eradication of all such 'accidents' in the zone they control," Konashenkov said.

Russia has been flying a bombing campaign in Syria since 2015, when it stepped in to support the regime of President Bashar al-Assad and tipped the conflict in his favour. (AP)

China opens new highway in Tibet close to Arunachal border

BEIJING (TIP): China on Oct 2 opened a 409-km new expressway costing about \$5.8 billion linking Tibet's provincial capital Lhasa with Nyingchi, which is close to Arunachal Pradesh border.

The 409-km toll-free expressway has linked the two major cities which are also tourist attractions in Tibet, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

The expressway cuts Lhasa-Nyingchi travel time from eight to five hours at a speed limit of 80 km per hour.

The construction cost 38 billion yuan (\$ 5.8 billion), according to the local government.

Most of the expressways in Tibet are also compatible for military equipment, providing advantage for the Chinese military to move its troops and weaponry faster.

The massive infrastructure development in Tibet also prompted India to ramp up infrastructure on its side.

Heavy trucks are temporarily banned from using the Lhasa- Nyingchi expressway, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

The India-China border dispute+ covers the 3,488 km-long Line of Actual Control (LAC). While China claims Arunachal Pradesh as South Tibet, India asserts that the dispute covers the Aksai Chin area, which was occupied by China during the 1962 war. (TIP)

Fifteen people dead after attack on Damascus police station

MOSCOW (TIP): Fifteen people were killed in an attack on a police station in the Syrian capital of Damascus on Monday, Russia's RIA news agency cited its correspondent as reporting from the scene.

The dead included five policemen and 10 civilians the agency reported. Citing a source in the Syrian security services, RIA said the attack had been carried out by four suicide bombers. The pro-Damascus al-Mayadeen TV channel said four militants carried out the attack, killing more than 10 people. (Reuters)

Historic India Club in London may come down

LONDON (TIP): A crucial piece of British-Indian heritage could be obliterated if plans to refurbish a club where figures in India's independence movement gathered go through. Marston Properties, a property management company, has submitted plans to partially demolish and remodel the eight-storey Edwardian building, which houses the India Club on London's Strand, to make way for a 30-bedroom modern hotel. (PTI)

Saudi king, Putin clinch billion-dollar energy, arms deals on landmark Russia visit

MOSCOW (TIP): Saudi Arabia's King Salman, on a landmark visit to Russia, and President Vladimir Putin on Thursday signed a slew of arms and energy deals as the key US ally seeks to deepen cooperation with Moscow.

The leaders of the world's largest energy exporters discussed an extension of an OPEC agreement to cap oil output and oversaw the signing of deals which officials said were worth billions of dollars. Saudi Arabia signed preliminary agreements to buy Russia's S-400 air defence systems and anti-tank guided missile systems and receive "cutting edge technologies," said the Sunni state's military firm, Saudi Arabian Military Industries.

The two countries also signed a series of multi-billion dollar investment deals including one to create a USD 1 billion fund to pursue energy projects. "This is the first visit by a Saudi Arabian monarch in the history of our relations and that in itself is a landmark event," Putin said as he welcomed 81-year-old King Salman to Moscow in an ornate gilded Kremlin hall.

"I'm sure your visit will boost the ties between our countries," Putin added. "We aim to strengthen our relations in the interests of peace and security, in the



interests of developing the world economy," the Saudi king responded.

Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir told journalists that "relations between Russia and Saudi Arabia have reached a historic moment." "Today we alone as the Russian Direct Investment Fund announced deals worth USD 2.1 billion," said Kirill Dmitriyev, the head of the fund set up to attract investment.

Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said agreements came in the fields of "energy - not only traditional but also nuclear power -- and also in cooperation in space exploration (and) agroindustry and infrastructure projects." Saudi Arabia is the country that buys the most US arms and Washington and Riyadh in May announced a USD 110 billion deal to sell weapons to Saudi Arabia. (AFP)

SIGNS THAT YOU HAVE FOUND 'THE ONE'

Every successful relationship, which has passed the test of time, has one thing in common—both the partners know they have found the person they want to spend the rest of their lives with. In case you are confused about your relationship with your significant other, here are signs to look for...

You can be yourself with him/her

You know you have found the one when you are comfortable being 'you' in front of your partner and they love you despite all your imperfections.

Your life goals are similar

If you both have the same line of thought when it comes to marriage, children and other major life decisions, you both are meant for each other.

You fight in a healthy way

Every couple fights. But you know you have met your match when you both make efforts to resolve it and come out all victorious.

You both want relationship to work

Commitment from both partners is essential to keep a relationship working. If your partner is constantly making efforts to keep it happy and healthy, you have probably met your soul mate.

It's no longer just about the place

You no longer need to go to fancy restaurants, parks or malls for a memorable date. In fact, your best time with them is in a room, drinking wine, and discussing love and life. Isn't that beautiful?

They complete you

A true partner will always make you feel complete and bring out the better person in you. It's time to halt your search if he or she supports (no matter what), understands, respects and cares for you.

Trust your gut feeling



This feeling cannot be described in words. When your heart says he/she is the one, trust your intuition and just go with the flow.

Families and friends

It's always a nice feeling to know that your near and dear ones approve your

choice, and want to see you together always.

You are not just partners

If your partner is also a good friend who has always been there to listen to your problems and stand by you, you have surely found the special person in your life.



HOW TO GET THICKER EYEBROWS NATURALLY

Over the last few years, big and bushy brows have become a rage. The latest brow trend has replaced skinny or pencil-thin brows, which was a big beauty trend in the 90's. Eyebrows define your face and thicker brows add a youthful touch to your face. If you're not blessed with a thicker pair of brows, you can always fill in the sparse areas or make them look thicker using brow gels. But if you're looking for something natural and long-lasting, then we've got the right tips for you.

Here are 4 ways to get thicker brows naturally:

1. Don't pluck

First things first, don't over pluck your eyebrows. Excessive plucking and even waxing will prevent the hair from growing back. Eyebrows grow in 2-3 months cycle, so not tweezing for a few months can actually show a lot of difference.

2. Moisturise

Your brow area needs to stay hydrated and nourished. Use some petroleum jelly to lock the moisture. You can apply this 2-3 times a day to promote hair growth.

3. Oil massage

The way oil works for your hair, it will do the same for your eyebrows. You can use castor, olive or coconut oil to promote hair growth. Dip a cotton swab in oil and gently massage before you sleep.

4. Egg whites

Egg contains protein, which helps to promote hair growth and nourishes hair follicles. Beat white egg and apply this solution for 20 minutes.

Castor Oil

- Soak a cotton swab in pure castor oil and apply it on each eyebrow.
- Massage gently with your fingertips for 2 to 3 minutes.
- Leave it on for at least 30 minutes or overnight.
- Wash it off with lukewarm water and a mild cleanser.
- Repeat once daily for a few weeks until you notice improvement.

FOOD CORNER

ADRARI PANEER

INGREDIENTS

100 gm ginger, 1 pinch salt, 1 teaspoon cumin seeds, 1 teaspoon refined oil, 1 cup tomato puree, 2 green chillies, 2 onion, 1 teaspoon turmeric, 2 tablespoon tomato ketchup, 1/4 teaspoon mustard seeds, 1/2 teaspoon fennel seeds, 1/4 teaspoon red chilli powder, 300 gm paneer, 1/4 cup lemon juice, 5 cloves garlic, 1 teaspoon coriander powder, 1 teaspoon garam masala powder, 1 tablespoon fenugreek leaves (methi)

Method

Put a pan on medium flame and heat some oil in it. When the oil is hot enough, add the mustard seeds, cumin seeds along with fennel seeds and temper for a few seconds. When it crackles, switch off the flame and add salt along with red chilli powder. Now let it cool by itself and grind it by adding lemon juice to make fine paste. Take chopped ginger and ground paste in a bowl and mix it well. Refrigerate it for 8-10 hours for marinate. Now prepare the curry! Heat a kadhai on medium flame and heat oil in it. Add chopped garlic and onion in the kadhai and saute them until onions are translucent. Then, add coriander powder and cook for another 30 seconds. Add tomato ketchup, tomato puree, green chilli, coriander leaves, red chilli powder, turmeric powder, garam masala powder and salt. Cook the spices on medium flame till oil shows separately. Now, add marinated ginger along with leftover lemon juice and fenugreek leaves. Cook the spices on medium flame for 5 minutes. Add paneer cubes along with cream in the kadhai and cook for another 2-3 minutes. Switch off the flame, Adrari paneer is ready to serve.

PANEER TIKKA MASALA

INGREDIENTS

250 gm paneer, 2 medium onion, 50 gm chana dal, ginger paste, lemon juice, 1 large capsicum, 1 teaspoon cumin seeds, 1/2 teaspoon coriander powder, 1/2 teaspoon chaat masala powder, 1 pinch asafoetida, 200 ml full cream milk, 1 tablespoon garlic paste, 2 medium tomato, 20 gm coriander leaves, 2 tablespoon yoghurt (curd), 1 teaspoon powdered turmeric, 1/2 tablespoon cumin powder, fenugreek seeds, 1/2 teaspoon red chilli powder, 1/2 teaspoon kasoori methi powder

Method

Cut paneer, tomato, onion and capsicum in 1.5 cm approximately. Take a large bowl and add yoghurt into it, and add fried gram powder in the bowl. Add one tablespoon of ginger-garlic paste, turmeric, red chill powder, coriander powder, salt, along with kasoori methi powder, chaat masala powder, and refined oil. Mix all the ingredients and then add cubed capsicum, onion, and tomatoes into it. Add paneer cubes in the mixture and let the veggies marinate for about 30 minutes in the refrigerator. Put a frying pan on medium flame and add 2 to 3 tablespoons of refined oil. Add all the marinated veggies and saute over these marinated stuffs until they turn light brown in colour. Turn them upside down after paneer pieces turn brownish. Put a deep frying pan on medium flame and heat 4 to 5 tablespoons of refined oil into it. Add cumin seeds, asafoetida, let them splutter and then add the fried paneer pieces in the pan. Fry till the paneer pieces are little brown in colour. Add the blended tomatoes into the pan along with the rest of garam masala powder, kasoori methi powder, cumin seeds powder, coriander powder, red chilli powder, chaat masala powder and salt. Cook for about 10 minutes. Add rest of the fried gram powder into the pan and add water to it. Afterwards, add milk into the pan and turn the flame to high. Mix everything and cover the pan and cook for about 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, uncover the pan and keep the flame medium now. (The reason for keeping the flame low and high is the content of milk added to the gravy). Stir in between occasionally and after 5 minutes, add the prepared paneer tikka in the gravy. Stir well and bring it to a boil over medium flame for about 2 to 3 minutes. Paneer Tikka Masala is ready.



SKIPPING BREAKFAST TIED TO NARROWING ARTERIES

People who skip breakfast may be more likely to develop atherosclerosis, or hardening of the arteries, than individuals who start each day with a hearty meal, a new study suggests.

Even after researchers accounted for diet and other risk factors for heart disease, people who routinely skipped breakfast were significantly more likely to develop atherosclerosis compared to those who normally had a morning meal, the study found. "A greater percentage of energy consumed earlier in the day may favour cardiovascular health," lead study author Dr Valentin Fuster of the CNIC, Madrid, and Mount Sinai Heart, New York City, said.

Previous research has linked skipping breakfast to a higher risk of problems that can lead to heart disease such as obesity, diabetes and high cholesterol, researchers noted in the 'Journal of the American College of Cardiology'.

For the current study, researchers examined data from dietary questionnaires completed by 4,052 adults who didn't have a history of heart problems.

Overall, just 3% of the participants reported skipping breakfast, while 69% typically consumed a light morning meal (accounting for 5-20% of total calories for the day) and 28% had a hearty breakfast (accounting for more than 20% of the day's intake).

Those who skipped breakfast were more likely to be male, smokers and dieters who consumed the bulk of their daily calories around lunchtime. When they ate, breakfast skippers tended to



spend no more than five minutes on their morning meal and consume mostly coffee or orange juice.

Compared to people who had a hearty breakfast, individuals who had a light breakfast were still 21% more likely to have damage in a major artery in the neck and 17% more likely to have damage in a major blood vessel in the abdominal area.

In addition to having the greatest risk of atherosclerosis, people who skipped breakfast also had the greatest waist circumference, body mass index, blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar levels. The study wasn't a controlled experiment designed to prove that skipping breakfast directly causes heart problems or hardening of the arteries.

Another limitation of the study is that some people may have been skipping breakfast because they were obese and trying to lose weight or improve other risk factors for heart disease.

"Many overweight people who might be skipping breakfast or other meals in the hope of losing weight should keep in mind that studies have repeatedly shown that contrary to the commonly held belief, such habits can be associated with (weight gain) and might lead to significant metabolic abnormalities including the increased risk of metabolic syndrome and diabetes," said Dr Prakash Deedwania, author of an accompanying editorial and researcher at the University of California, San Francisco.

Source: Reuters



Dos and don'ts of eating papaya

We all love papayas. Many love to have it empty stomach, add it to their salad or have detox papaya juice. It has medicinal properties and acts as an antibacterial, antifungal and antifungal. Its leaves are also commonly used to fight dengue fever.

Well, there is a not-so-good side to this beautiful fruit too. We all know how pregnant women are asked to refrain from eating papaya and pineapple. And without questioning, every one follows. Here we tell you why this may not be the best fruit for men and women alike.

Abortion risk

Papaya as a fruit has umpteen benefits but its seeds and root can cause abortion. Moreover, unripe papaya can lead to uterine contractions. It may not be in high concentration in ripe papaya, but it is best to avoid this fruit during pregnancy.

Hamper food pipe

You are convinced papaya is the best fruit for you but that does not mean you will indulge in it a bit too much. Overeating papaya can hurt your esophagus. Avoid having more than a cup of papaya in a day.

Birth defects

Papaya leaves have the popular component, Papain. It can be toxic for the baby and even lead to birth defects. Not much is known about its safety during breastfeeding so it's best to avoid eating this fruit before and some time after birth.

Allergic reaction

The latex in papaya can cause allergic reactions in some. It is again a risk in unripe papaya.

Brings down blood sugar

Papaya can cause blood sugar to drop and if you are taking medication to control BP, it can be dangerous.

Affects fertility

Extracts from papaya seed can lower male fertility. It is said to lower sperm count and even impact sperm mobility.

Toxicity

Papaya has various health benefits but it can turn toxic if had excessively. It is because of the compound benzyl isothiocyanate present in it.

People with a latex allergy may also be allergic to papaya because papayas contain enzymes called chitinases. They can cause a cross-reaction between latex and the foods that contain them. To some, ripe papaya can have an off-putting odor. You can minimize this smell by mixing the cut fruit with lime juice. The seeds of the papaya, though unpleasant tasting to some, are perfectly safe to consume.

PRODUCE INSULIN, NATURALLY

We hardly think of pancreas as an important endocrine organ unless it starts to create a problem. Pancreas has two important roles to play:

- Make insulin for blood sugar control.
- Create enzymes for the metabolism of fats and proteins.

Malfunction of pancreas could result in a variety of problems - the most common being diabetes. Fortunately, nature has given us some foods that boost the beta cells of pancreas to produce insulin and help alleviate diabetes, of course, coupled with right lifestyle changes.

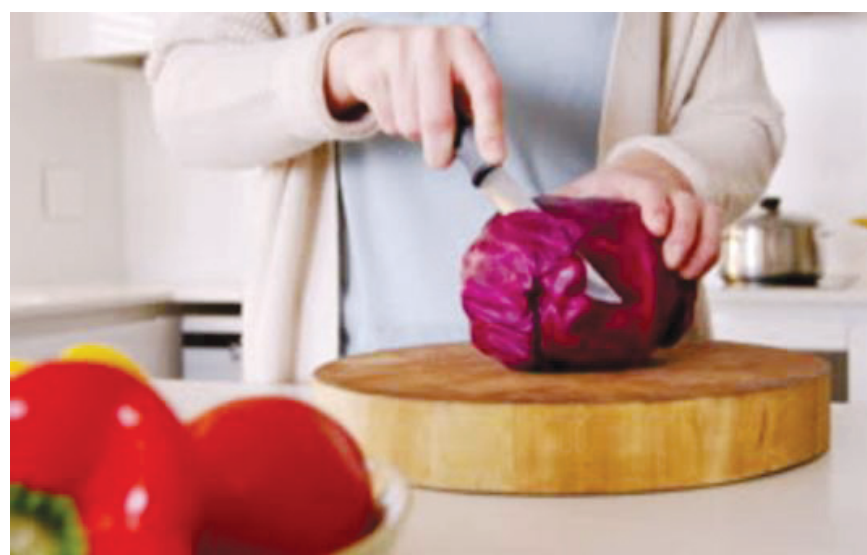
Red cabbage

Cabbage, especially red, is a boon for cancer and diabetes patients. The natural red pigments of red cabbage, betalains, helps lower blood sugar levels and boosts insulin production.

Lady's finger/okra

Packed with dietary fibre, it helps in stabilising blood sugar levels, and aids in enhancing production of insulin as well as its increased secretion. Also, their seeds are full of alpha-glucosidase inhibitors that prevent starches from converting to glucose. One can slice okra pods, soak in water overnight and can consume the water next day.

Bittergourd/Bitter melon



Also known as karela, it may taste quite bitter but has the capacity to stimulate pancreas (an action perhaps similar to that of sulfonylurea drugs). This property can be attributed to the three substances these veggies contain: charantin, vicine and a polypeptide-p. Bittermelon tea, juice or a curry preparation are some ways to consume it. A cup of fresh bitter melon juice mixed with 1 tbsp amla juice (gooseberry) can enable natural insulin secretion.

Fenugreek seeds

Fenugreek is widely known and used,

but it's the seeds that contain trigonelline, a plant alkaloid known to reduce blood sugar levels. They can be used in various forms - like a powder of fenugreek seeds soaked in hot water to reduce your rising blood sugar levels, overnight soaked and sprouted seeds can be added to salads or idli/dosa batter.

Curcumin

Turmeric extracts are known to act directly on pancreatic beta cells to help produce insulin normally, by inhibiting phosphodiesterase activity.

Source: TOI

NEW TECH TURNS ANY OBJECT INTO TV REMOTE



LONDON (TIP): Can't find your TV remote again?

Scientists have developed a technology that can turn everyday objects — such as teacups or toy cars — into remote controls for televisions.

Researchers from Lancaster University in the UK show a novel technique that allows body movement, or movement of objects, to be used to interact with screens.

The 'Matchpoint' technology, which only requires a simple webcam, works by displaying moving targets that orbit a small circular widget in the corner of the screen.

These targets correspond to different functions - such as volume, changing channel or viewing a menu. The user synchronises the direction of movement of the target, with their hand, head or an object, to achieve what researchers call 'spontaneous spatial coupling', which activates the desired function.

Unlike existing gesture control technology, the software does not look for a specific body part it has been trained to identify - such as a hand.

The technology looks for rotating movement so it does not require calibration, or the software to have prior knowledge of objects.

This provides much more flexibility and ease for the user as it works even while hands are full, and while stood or slouching on the sofa.

Users also do not need to learn specific commands to activate different functions, as is the case with some gesture controlled televisions on the market, and the user is able to decouple at will.

When selecting volume adjustment or channel selection, sliders appear. The user moves their hand, head, or object, in the required direction indicated by the slider to change the volume or to find the desired channel.

As well as televisions, the technology can also be used with other screens. For example, YouTube tutorials, such as mending bikes or baking cakes, could be easily paused and rewound on tablet computers without users having to put down tools or mixing bowls.

Multiple pointers can be created to allow more than one user to point at drawings or pictures on interactive whiteboards simultaneously.

Matchpoint also allows users to manipulate images on whiteboards by using two hands to zoom in and out, and rotate images.

In addition to short-term couplings, users can also link stationary objects to controls, which even when left for prolonged periods will retain their control function.

For example, a mug sat on a table could change a track on a music player when moved left or right, and a rolling toy car could be used to adjust volume.

Objects can lose their coupling with controls simply by removing them from the camera's field of view.

"Spontaneous spatial coupling is a new approach to gesture control that works by matching movement instead of asking the computer to recognise a specific object," said Christopher Clarke, PhD student at Lancaster University.

"Everyday objects in the house can now easily become remote controls so there are no more frantic searches for remote controls when your favourite programme is about to start on another channel, and now everyone in the room has the 'remote'," Clarke said.

Researchers believe Matchpoint is also suitable to be used as an accessibility tool for people who are unable to use traditional pointers, such as remote controls and a mouse and keyboard.

Source: PTI

CHEMICAL FOUND AROUND STAR DEALS BLOW TO SEARCH FOR ALIENS

BOSTON (TIP): Scientists have found traces of methyl chloride around an infant star system and a comet, disproving astrobiologists who previously suggested that searching for the chemical in the atmospheres of alien worlds is indicator of life.

Using the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) telescope in Chile, researchers detected faint molecular fingerprint of methyl chloride - a chemical commonly produced by industrial and biological processes here on Earth - around an infant star system known as IRAS 16293-2422.

Traces of this organic compound were also discovered in the thin atmosphere of comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko (67P/C-G) by the Rosetta space probe.

Methyl chloride (CH₃Cl), also known as Freon-40, is one of a class of molecules known as organohalogens. This new ALMA observation is the first detection ever of a stable organohalogen in interstellar space.

The cosmic discovery of this organic compound, however, is disappointing news for astrobiologists, who previously suggested searching for methyl chloride in the atmospheres of alien worlds as a possible indicator of life.

The recent ALMA and Rosetta detections raise doubts about that proposal, however. They indicate that methyl chloride forms naturally in interstellar clouds and endures long enough to become part of a forming solar system.

IRAS 16293-2422 is a collection of several infant stars, or protostars, each about the same mass as our Sun. It is



located about 400 light-years from Earth and is still surrounded by its natal cocoon of dust and gas.

"Finding organohalogens near these young, Sun-like stars was surprising," said Edith Fayolle, a researcher at Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) in the US.

"We simply didn't predict its formation and were surprised to find it in such significant concentrations," said Fayolle.

"It's clear now that these molecules form readily in stellar nurseries, providing insights into the chemical evolution of solar systems, including our own," she said.

"ALMA's discovery of organohalogens in the interstellar medium also tells us something about the starting conditions for organic chemistry on planets," said Karin Oberg, an astrochemist at CfA.

"Such chemistry is an important step toward the origins of life," said

Oberg, co-author of the study.

"Based on our discovery, organohalogens are likely to be a constituent of the so-called 'primordial soup', both on the young Earth and on newly formed rocky exoplanets," she said.

The researchers also note that abundant organohalogens around a young Sun-like analogue demonstrates that the organic chemistry present in the interstellar medium involves halogens, which was previously not known.

In addition, both ALMA and Rosetta detected this molecule in similar abundance ratios. Since comets are a remnant of the formation of our solar system and retain a chemical fingerprint of that era, the new observations support the idea that a young solar system can inherit the chemical make-up of its parent star-forming cloud.

Source: PTI

Google Pixel 2, Pixel 2 XL smartphones and PixelBook laptop launched

SAN FRANCISCO (TIP): Alphabet Inc.'s Google on Wednesday unveiled the second generation of its Pixel smartphone along with new voice-enabled home speakers, redoubling its commitment to the hardware business as it competes with a surge of devices from Apple Inc and Amazon.com Inc.

Google's new products, including a Pixelbook laptop, wireless earbuds and a small GoPro-like camera, showcase Google-developed operating systems and services, notably the voice assistant. That means usage of those devices should stoke the company's core ad sales business as buyers of the hardware use Google services like search and maps.

Speaking at the launch in San Francisco, Google hardware chief Rick Osterloh said the new products "perfectly demonstrate our strategy of re-imagining hardware from the inside out".

The Google Pixel 2 smartphone comes in two sizes, with comparable features, including aluminium bodies and no



traditional jacks for headphones. Prices for the base model start at \$649, while the high-end version starts at \$849. The phones will be available 19 October.

The Pixel phones lack the brand lustre and market share of similarly priced smartphones such as the Apple iPhone

or Samsung Electronics Co's Galaxy S and Galaxy Note smartphones. Still, the original Pixel's camera and software drew acclaim from reviewers, many of whom expect the line to become a robust competitor at the high end of the Android smartphone market.

Spicejet signs pact with Japanese firm to operate planes on water, land

NEW DELHI (TIP): Soon you can land on water or small piece of land. Low-cost carrier Spicejet had signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Japan's Setouchi Holdings for 10 and 14-seater amphibious plane operations.

In the next year, the airline will study the commercial viability of using amphibious planes that can take-off and land from short, unimproved strips of land as well as water bodies.

If approved by authorities, Spicejet may order over 100 such planes by October 2018.

"...the ground reality remains that only about 3% Indians travel by air. Infrastructural challenges have been a key deterrent for providing air connectivity to smaller towns and cities..." Spicejet CMD Ajay Singh said.

"Spicejet has been a big supporter of the government's UDAN scheme. With the ability to land in a small or confined space, smaller fixed-wing aircrafts are



The airline will study the commercial viability of using amphibious planes that can take-off and land from short, unimproved strips of land as well as water bodies

the perfect flying machines that can effectively connect the country's remote cities and airstrips which can in turn revolutionise the regional connectivity scheme," he added.

These aircraft can land on water bodies, gravel and grass.

The planes have been demonstrated in flight in Nagpur and Guwahati.

Source: HT

RAJNISH KUMAR NEW SBI CHAIRMAN AS ARUNDHATI BHATTACHARYA RETIRES

NEW DELHI (TIP): Rajnish Kumar, 59, the senior most of the managing directors at State Bank of India (SBI), will become the 25th chairman of the country's largest lender, succeeding Arundhati Bhattacharya, who is set to retire on 6 October.



Rajnish Kumar

The government on Oct 4 announced his appointment for three years. Kumar currently is in charge of retail banking at SBI.

Kumar's appointment comes at a time when SBI's profitability is under strain because of ballooning bad loans and sluggish credit growth. At the end of June, the bank was weighed down by gross non-performing loans of Rs1.88 trillion. Gross bad loans account for almost one-tenth of its total advances. SBI is also the lead bank in a majority of the 40 cases referred for bankruptcy proceedings at the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).

"Asset quality is a challenge. So that will definitely receive priority," Kumar told CNBC TV-18 in an interview. "We are undergoing a major transformation in terms of adoption of new technology and digitisation. So these two things are on the top of my mind."

Kumar's predecessor, Bhattacharya, who was the first woman chairperson of the 200-year-old state-owned bank, was instrumental in the merger of SBI's associate banks and Bharatiya Mahila Bank with SBI. In her tenure, the bank saw the listing of its life insurance subsidiary, the first among public sector banks.

She also steered the bank through the demonetization process that resulted in a cash crunch, making currency available to customers across its 16,000 branches and automated teller machines (ATMs).

"NPA recovery especially in the case of big corporate loans and a smooth merger should be Kumar's priorities. Investors got a shock from the associate banks's losses," said Hemindra Hazari, an independent banking analyst. "Secondly, Kumar should be outspoken in defending the autonomy of public sector banks."



FLIPKART TO INVEST RS 255 CRORE MORE IN PHONEPE

BENGALURU (TIP): PhonePe, Flipkart's payments platform, has received a capital infusion of about Rs 255 crore, as per filings with the Registrar of Companies (RoC). The development comes after Flipkart's closure of the blockbuster funding of \$4 billion led by SoftBank. PhonePe has received the funding from Singapore-based Flipkart Payments Pvt Ltd. Prior to this, the company has seen capital infusion of about Rs 186 crore, as per the RoC documents.

The company confirmed the development. "This capital infusion will be used to grow our business, build our team and scale our marketing efforts. We are growing exponentially right now at nearly 100% every two months. 45% of all UPI transactions in August were driven by us, resulting in a phenomenal 66% growth in volume of transactions over July," said Sameer Nigam, CEO, PhonePe.

RBI LOWERS GROWTH FORECAST TO 6.7%, HOLDS REPO RATE CITING RISK TO INFLATION

NEW DELHI (TIP): Home and auto loan rates are unlikely to change, after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) left its key policy rate unchanged on Wednesday, citing higher risks to inflation.

The central bank slashed its growth forecast and raised its inflation forecast. Economists said rate cuts in the near term are unlikely as RBI waits for the growth and inflation situation to evolve.

On Wednesday, the six-member monetary policy committee left the repurchase (repo) rate – the rate at which RBI lends money to banks against bonds – unchanged at 6%. The decision was not unanimous. Ravindra Dholakia, one of the three external members of the panel, pressed for lowering rates by at least 25 basis points. One basis point is one-hundredth of a percentage point.

India's economic growth decelerated to 5.7% in the quarter ended June, the slowest pace in three years, as it felt the lingering impact of the November invalidation of high-value banknotes. Production cuts and destocking ahead of the 1 July implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) also contributed to the slowdown.



Consumer price inflation quickened in August to 3.36% from 2.36% a month ago. The RBI cut the repo rate in its August policy by 25 basis points.

"From the borrowers' standpoint, there is not going to be any change in the interest rates. Interest rates will largely remain where they are right now," said Dharma Kirti Joshi, chief economist at rating company Crisil Ltd. "RBI is assessing if the slowdown in growth is a temporary or a long-lasting one. If there is more bad news on the growth front and RBI's inflation estimate is undershot, doors for a rate cut could open up."

The central bank cut its growth projections for gross value added, a measure of economic output, to 6.7% from 7.3% for the current financial year. It said that the implementation of the goods and services tax has had an adverse impact on economic growth.

RCom shares drop 7.8% to record low

MUMBAI (TIP): Shares of India's Reliance Communications tumbled as much as 7.8% in early trade on Tuesday to an all-time low after the company scrapped a proposed merger of its wireless arm with rival Aircel, raising doubts about a debt-reduction plan.

Shares in RCom were trading at Rs 17.90, down 6.77%, at 0400 GMT, after dropping to a low of Rs 17.70. Indian markets were closed on Monday for a public holiday.

Reliance Communications said on Sunday it is reassessing debt repayment options after calling off the merger deal, citing regulatory delays and legal uncertainties.

The company is saddled with net debt of about \$6.8 billion. It has earned a temporary reprieve from its banks, who have agreed to a standstill on its debt obligations as part of a planned debt restructuring.

The reprieve was largely predicated upon RCom reducing debt by Rs 250 billion by merging its wireless unit with Aircel, a subsidiary of Malaysia's Maxis Communications, and selling a stake in its mobile masts arm to a unit of Canada's Brookfield Asset Management.

EU orders Amazon to pay 250 mn euros in taxes to Luxembourg

The EU turned the screw on US tech giants Wednesday, ordering Amazon to repay Luxembourg 250 million euros in back taxes and referring Ireland to the top EU court for failing to collect billions from Apple.

Europe's competition chief Margrethe Vestager accused tiny Luxembourg of an illegal deal with internet shopping giant Amazon to pay less tax than other businesses.

The two cases are part of a wider offensive by the EU on Silicon Valley behemoths as Europe seeks ways to regulate them more tightly on issues ranging from privacy to taxation.

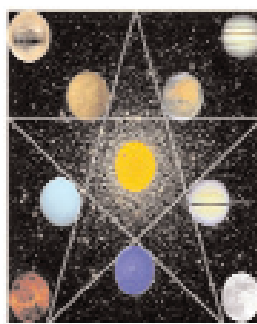
"Luxembourg gave illegal tax benefits to Amazon. As a result, almost three quarters of Amazon's profits were not taxed," Vestager said in a statement.

The tax demand comes a year after the hard-charging Vestager ordered tech icon

Apple to repay 13 billion euros (\$14.5 billion) in back-taxes to Ireland in a decision that shocked the world.

In a sign that it was not letting up, the EU on Wednesday referred Ireland to the EU's highest court for failing to collect the bill. "The European Commission has decided to refer Ireland to the European Court of Justice for failing to recover from Apple illegal state aid," the EU's anti-trust regulator said in a statement.

"|| SHRI GANESHAYA NAMAHA ||"



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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 and on phone 011-91-9825470377 www.bejandaruwalla.com

KARWA CHAETH: A FAST FOR MARRIED HINDU WOMEN

Karwa Chauth is a unique fasting festival witnessed only in India. This one-day festival is celebrated once a year, on the fourth day of the 'Karthik' month according to the Hindu calendar. The term 'Karwa' means earthen pot, which symbolizes peace and prosperity and 'Chauth' refers to 'fourth day'. This festival is one of the many beloved occasions in India, where families and friends get together and enjoy. Many pooja rituals are performed on this day and several delicious dishes are prepared too. However, the ritual that forms a significant part of this festival is the fasting ceremony observed by married Hindu women. This sacrifice is performed for the well-being of their husbands and it takes place from sunrise to sunset. The aim behind the celebration of Karwa Chauth is an honorable one, and this has added interesting aspect to Indian culture. Love between the husband and wife and respect among their families, is what Karwa Chauth aims to achieve by the performance of these rituals. The origin of Karwa Chauth is explained in the following lines.

History and Origin

For the married Hindu women in northern and western regions in India, this festival is not just another festive occasion, but has a symbolical value to their lives. They believe that their fasting throughout the day will secure fortune, prosperity and long lives for their husbands. This fasting festival is based on an ancient story.

During the ancient times in India, girls were married off at young ages and according to tradition, they had to leave their own houses and stay with their in-laws. These girls had no one but their god-sisters, with whom they could speak to. On the bride's wedding day, a small Hindu ceremony would take place, where one woman became their god-sister for eternity. These other women became their sisters for life and they shared a pure and sanctified bond of friendship. Each bride had her own god-sister and they would help each other in times of hardship, sharing their thoughts and problems with one another. Thus, the festival of Karwa Chauth was originally created for those reasons, to celebrate the bond of friendship and sisterhood.

As years passed, the Karwa Chauth festival evolved and the fasting ritual for the longevity and wealth of husbands became the main part of this festival. However, the husband is always linked to this festival for the reason that, the bride would develop a sisterly bond with the woman who will become their god-sister, only on the day of her marriage. It makes sense that today all the married women, fast and pray together, during the celebration of this festival, as this also symbolizes friendship and sisterhood.

With the addition of mythical stories soon after, Karwa Chauth became a very religious one, which enriched the significance of this festival. The narration of many tales representing the importance festival also became a long-standing custom, followed even today. Various pooja rituals and traditions formed integral features of this festival over the passage of time.

Today, Karwa Chauth festival is celebrated as a special day of love between husband and wife. The rituals and tales made this festival all the more interesting and widespread, which encouraged many communities in India to celebrate this special fasting festival. The festival was also popularized through Bollywood films, which made a great impact on the Indian people.

The Legend of Karwa

There was a woman named Karwa who deeply loved her husband. One day, as her husband was bathing, a crocodile caught hold of him. Hearing the screams of her husband, Karwa rushed towards her husband and bound the crocodile with a cotton yarn. In her anger, Karwa went to Yama, the Lord of Death and requested him to send the crocodile to hell. Yama refused her and the wife threatened to curse him. Yama accepted her request and sent the creature to hell and blessed Karwa's husband with a long life.

The Legend of Queen Veeravati

Long ago, there lived a beautiful Queen named Veeravati. She had seven wonderful brothers and she was married to a king. On the occasion of her first Karwa Chauth, Veeravati went to her parent's house and observed a fast the following day, as per the tradition. She desperately waited for the moon to appear as she was could not endure the severities of fasting. Her seven brothers, who could not bear to see their sister in distress, thought of a plan to trick her by reflecting a mirror through 'peepal' tree leaves.



Veeravati, who believed that the moon had risen, broke her fast by taking food.

Soon after that, she received news that her husband was ill. Veeravati rushed to the king's palace and on her way, she met Lord 'Shiva' and Goddess 'Parvati'. Goddess Parvati informed Veeravati that her husband, the king, passed away as she broke her fast after sighting a false moon. The queen asked the Goddess for forgiveness and she was blessed with a boon that her king will be alive, under one condition. The condition required the queen to undertake Karwa Chauth fast again by strictly following the rituals. Veeravati followed Goddess Parvati's orders and revived her husband.

Legend of Satyavan and Savitri

One day, Lord Yama came to procure Satyavan's soul. At that time, Satyavan's wife, Savitri begged Lord Yama to spare his life, but he refused her request. Savitri then gave up food and water, and for this reason, Lord Yama granted her any wish, except the life of her husband. She then asked the Lord of Death, to bless her with children. As she was so virtuous and devoted to her husband, Lord Yama was forced to bring Satyavan back to life so that her wish would be fulfilled.

Karwa Chauth is a very sacred occasion for all married Hindu women as this day celebrates the bond of marriage. These many legends of Karwa Chauth signifies the undying devotion and love shown by the wives towards their husbands.

Rituals and Festivities

On this day the women get up before sunrise. They worship Shiva, Parvati, Ganesh, Kartikeya and the moon. The blessings of the Gods are invoked for longevity and prosperity of their husbands and children. Mothers-in-law give their daughters-in-law sumptuous food called 'Sargi' to eat before sunrise, as the fast starts before sunrise and ends only after worshiping the moon at night. It is a tough fast, as the women do not take any food or water.

Dressing Up

In the evening, the women to cherish the joy of adorning bridal finery. Many times, the newly wed wear their wedding dress on this auspicious occasion, usually the ghagra-choli or Banarsi saris, embellished with the old-new shimmer of gold, diamonds and rubies. After dressing up, she receives gifts from the mother-in-law.

Evening Puja

Before evening, the married woman receives the baya or a basket full of goodies from her mother, which is meant for the mother-in-law. The basket contains sweets, mathadi, fruits and a

sari. Before the sun sets, most of the women in a locality gather in one house and prepare a corner for the puja. This puja chowk is beautifully decorated and a small platform is prepared against a wall. On this, the image of Gauri Mata or Goddess Parvati is placed. In the olden days, this image was made of cow-dung.

The Process Of Puja

The women sit around this image with their bayas. Each woman also places a karwa or a pitcher full of water and seven pieces of pua in front of her. It is adorned with kharia, aipun and a little roli. A red thread is tied around the karwa. At the beginning of the puja, women apply the roli teeka to Goddess Gauri and also to themselves. With the thumb and the third finger of the right hand, water is sprinkled on the image of the goddess. The same procedure is repeated with aipun and roli. Lastly, rice is showered on the image.

Narration of Vrata Katha

An elderly woman of the family narrates the legend of Karwa Chauth. Even a widow can narrate this story. The women then pray for the long life and welfare of their husbands. While chanting the prayers, they pass their bayas from one to another. The wait for the moon rise begins after sunset, and as soon as the moon is sighted, prayers are offered to the moon. The fasting women first observe the moon through a sieve and then break their fast.

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PLACES TO VISIT IN OCTOBER

The sprightly wind and a spring in your step, this month can do that to you. And if you have travelling high on your mind and are searching for the best of places to visit in October, this guide is just what you need. From deserts, salt marshes, hill town and lake cities to wildlife destinations, city ruins, yoga retreats and, of course, the Himalayan escapes—we have you covered. Celebrate October with a trip or two; did somebody just say long weekends!

Bandhavgarh

Located between the Vindhya and Satpura mountain ranges, Bandhavgarh National Park has always been associated with its tiger population, even long before it was turned into a tiger reserve. One of the most unique elements of the reserve is the abundance of historical attributes scattered across its expanse. The Bandhavgarh Fort is one of the most prominent landmarks in the area, with a story of its own. Bandhav translate to mean brother, and legend has it that the fort was given to Lakshman by his brother Lord Ram, hence the name Bandhavgarh. Once the hunting preserve of the erstwhile rulers of Rewa State, this tiger's playground encompasses three major points of interest including wildlife, archaeology and a breathtaking landscape, of which the wildlife is the star attraction. Those who come to observe the wild cat in its natural habitat can easily make sightings of the animal and its habitat and behavioural patterns. Aside from the tiger, one can easily spot sambar, spotted deer, chowsingha, nilgai, chinkara, sloth bear, jackal, hyena, langur, a large number of reptiles and over 240 species of avifauna. Bandhavgarh National Park was the former hunting ground of the Maharaja of Rewa and at present is a famous natural hub for white tigers. White tigers, now a major attraction around the world's zoos, were first discovered in Rewa, not far from here.

Jodhpur

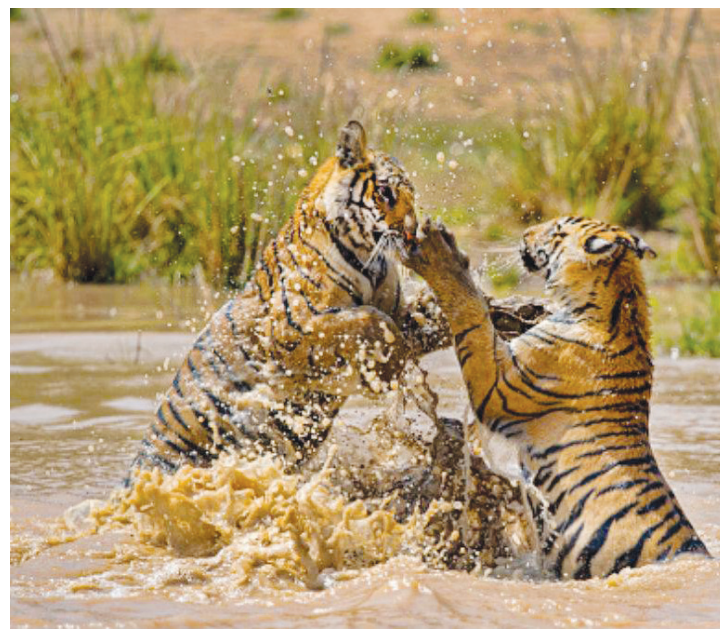
From architectural marvels such as the Umaid Bhawan Palace and Mehrangarh Fort to scenic wonders like the Kaylana Lake and Mandore Gardens, there are numerous places to visit in Jodhpur that are immersed in Rajasthan's royal history and culture. Jodhpur unfolds into a jumble of blue-hued houses, medieval buildings and winding streets around the feet of the majestic Mehrangarh Fort. This magical and historically rich city shines in the compelling beauty of the Rao Jodha Desert Rock Park and through an array of illuminated royal buildings. From grand palaces to medieval forts—these landmarks in Jodhpur are a must for anyone looking to discover the region's rich past.

Nainital

A beautiful emerald lake surrounded by green hills, quaint old cottages and markets, and a web of walking tracks—there are plenty of picturesque places to visit in Nainital. One of the most popular hill destinations in India, Nainital is also a part of the 'lake district' of the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand, with lakes such as Bhimtal, Sattal and Naukuchial in the vicinity. Nainital's charms include everything from boating and sailing to old temples and heritage buildings, and of course, scenic views at every other step. Here's your guide to the hill town's most captivating spots.

Darjeeling

From verdant tea plantations to enchanting Buddhist fortifications—these places to visit



in Darjeeling offer the perfect getaway. Surrounded by infinite slopes of bright green tea plantations and set against a backdrop of jagged white Himalayan peaks, Darjeeling is nestled in the northern regions of West Bengal. Here, you can gaze open-mouthed at the mighty Kanchenjunga, take a ride aboard the charming Darjeeling toy train, scuttle around numerous tea gardens or drive up to Tiger Hill to catch a breathtaking sunrise.

Varkala

With a medley of steep red cliffs, swaying palm trees and the deep blue Arabian Sea, it isn't hard to imagine why Varkala is described as one of the most beautiful beaches in India. A more laid-back alternative to Kovalam, Varkala is fast catching up to its more popular cousin, thanks to its stunning beaches and an assortment of restaurants and hotels clustered around the North Cliff.

Wayanad

Wayanad, hidden within the dense Western

Ghats, is one of Kerala's best kept secrets. The name 'Wayanad' comes from 'Vayal Nadu', or land of paddy fields. It conjures up images of wide open spaces, covered with rice fields, but Wayanad is anything but that. Paddy fields are, of course, predominantly visible, but massive boulders rise intermittently between them, making the landscape a lot more interesting. Then there are mountains, tea estates, and coffee plantations, and enclosing all of them, a dense jungle! From these hills flow two perennial rivers?Vythiri and the Kabini, both of which merge further downstream with Kaveri, but here, they not only make the land extremely fertile, but also provide us lots of opportunities for adventure! Natural beauty is what makes Wayanad remarkable, but also interesting is its cultural and historical heritage. From prehistoric cave drawings to medieval temples, stories of war and the freedom struggle, there is much to explore and enjoy in Wayanad.

Hampi

Situated on the banks of the Tungabhadra River, the heritage village of Hampi is located about 353 km from Bangalore. It is a sacred land associated with numerous mythological stories. Hampi, the capital of the erstwhile Vijayanagara Empire, is now a huge open museum of culture, architecture and history. A part of the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the ruins of Hampi include temples, palaces and market places all of which are spread across an area of 25 sq km. It is not only a perfect tourist spot where one can delve into the past and soak into the culture of this lost city of Asia but also an important destination for study and research. Hospet, around 13 km away, is the nearest railway station and the closest domestic airport is Bellary, about 60 km away. While the summer months can get quite hot, Hampi is best visited during September to February. One needs at least a couple of days to experience and explore the splendour of this world class heritage site.

Source: Happytrips

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Indian Americans honored with Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes

NEW YORK (TIP): Two Indian American teens have been named winners of the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, an award that celebrates inspiring, public-spirited young people from diverse backgrounds all across North America. Established in 2001 by author T.A. Barron, the Barron Prize annually honors 25 outstanding young leaders ages 8 to 18 who have made a

significant positive difference to people and the environment. Up to 20 top winners each receive \$5,000 to support their service work or higher education.

"These amazing young people see a need and use heroic qualities like compassion, perseverance and courage to find a solution," says Barron. "Their message is clear: Find your passion and take action. Start

small but dream big and you can truly make a difference -- no matter how old you are."

This year's winning projects address a wide range of today's important issues, including pollution, protecting wildlife, literacy, STEM, the homeless, cancer research and more.

Aryaman Khandelwal, age 17, of Pennsylvania, who founded Get2Greater, which uses local health

workers, electronic tablets, and an app he created to provide people in developing countries with better access to medical care.

Nitish Sood, age 17, of Georgia, who co-founded Working Together for Change (WTFC), a non-profit that has mobilized more than 600 volunteers to help 3,000 homeless people through free medical fairs, supplies distribution, and job training.



Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes celebrates inspiring, public-spirited young people from diverse backgrounds

contd from page 1

Las Vegas Massacre...

Danley was interviewed by investigators for four hours on Wednesday after she returned from the Philippines, where she was during the shooting. Her attorney, Matt Lombard, said after the interview that she had no

knowledge of Paddock's plans. Lombard said that Danley thought the large amount of money Paddock wired her was to buy a home - - and that he was going to break up with her.

Investigators believe Danley is key in understanding what motivated Paddock to open fire on the Route 91 Harvest Festival, killing 58 people and wounding more than 450 others. Law enforcement found Paddock dead in the hotel room on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay, where he fired down on the crowd of over 20,000.

Paddock and Danley bought a Hyundai Tucson from a dealership in Reno, Nevada on Aug. 1, CBS News has confirmed.

Employees at the car dealership tell CBS News Danley was "extremely complimentary" of her boyfriend, adding that he "saved her" from an abusive relationship with her former husband. One employee at the car dealership called Danley kind and caring, an "extremely nice customer."

The car was undoubtedly for Danley, the employee said. Danley test drove the vehicle with a female car dealer.

The employee called the transaction

"innocuous" and "ho-hum" with no red flags, but added he got the impression that Mary Lou may have been a "bit of a kept woman."

The employee called Paddock an "educated consumer" who clearly "knew his facts" and "knew what he wanted" from the dealership, adding that he was not going to settle for more than a car's worth. Clark County Sheriff Joseph Lombardo said Wednesday that Paddock had an escape plan and did not leave a suicide note. His brother, Eric Paddock, told reporters earlier this week that his brother did not have mental health issues, and described Paddock as a "highly intelligent" person. "My heart is destroyed, for all these people, but I can't tell you why Steve did what he did," Eric Paddock said.

Nassau County Human...

legislators, police commissioner, DA Madeline Singas, some County officials and members of community joined the Nassau County Commission on Human Rights to honor and pray for the victims of this unprecedented act of violence, the worst in

modern American history.

"My thoughts and prayers are with the victims and the families of those who were killed or wounded in Sunday's attack," County Executive Mangano said. "Nassau Police closely monitored the situation and remains on heightened alert."

Trump likely to...

deal, though he did not announce his decision. The president still has a few options on how he might proceed before the announcement, however.

The internal friction within the Trump administration over how to handle Iran is evident. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Defense Secretary James Mattis, and Joint Chiefs Chairman Joseph Dunford have all recently publicly stated that it is in the U.S. national security interest not to endanger the deal. Ambassador to the U.N., Nikki Haley, however, has become one of the loudest voices arguing for a more complicated scenario which would have the president decertify it without immediately withdrawing from it.

NOTICE NAME CHANGE

I Asha Rani, daughter of Rattan Lall, holder of Indian passport No. H5671817 issued at Jalandhar on Nov. 30, 2009, permanent resident of 37, Mohalla Arun Singh Nagar near Lahorian di chakki Distt. Jalandhar Punjab, India have changed my name from Ahsa Rani to Asha Rani with immediate effect.

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U-17 WORLD CUP

INDIA'S BABY STEPS
BEGIN AGAINST USA

NEW DELHI (TIP): On the eve of his coaching career's biggest assignment, India coach Luis Norton de Matos was asked about his last-minute message to his team. The 63-year-old Portuguese coach turned towards India captain Amarjit Singh Kiyam, sitting next to him, and uttered just four words: "Enjoy the World Cup."

Matos and Kiyam looked in complete control of their emotions. Their poise, given the magnitude of the occasion, seemed quite incredible. After all, it's the first time India is hosting a FIFA tournament — the Under-17 World Cup — and it's the first time an Indian team is participating in a football World Cup, never mind the fact that they made the cut by virtue of being the hosts.

"My advice to the boys is to make sure that they enjoy every moment. It's a moment they should never forget in their lifetime," said Matos on the eve of India's tournament opener against the formidable USA at the JLN Stadium.

"The team must enjoy every tackle, every pass, the feel of the stadium and the crowd support. My advice would be to come and enjoy playing football. Don't lose your head thinking too much. We must continue to be organised.

"At the end of the day, we must be proud of our will to win. The team must execute the beautiful things they learnt during training. The boys should treat each game as a story — goals scored and missed, penalties, red and yellow cards. Try to be intelligent and concentrate. If we keep ourselves disciplined, we can dish out a good game tomorrow and beyond," the coach added.

Both Matos and Kiyam know India are placed in a tough group alongside the experienced USA, Colombia and Ghana. While the USA have been a four-time quarterfinalist and one-time semifinalist, Ghana are undoubtedly the most competitive side, with two crowns and four runners-up finishes. Colombia, too, aren't far behind, having appeared in six editions of the tournament. The tag of the 'dark horse' suits them well.

On the other hand, this 21-member Indian team came into existence less than three years ago and started globe-trotting for exposure and friendlies only since July 2015. The combined experience of this team is only 109 matches. Teams like Ghana and the USA have been featuring in this age-group competition for decades.

"These three teams are big. But my job as a coach is to prepare this team well for the games ahead. The players know what they will be facing tomorrow against the USA," said the coach.



The U-17 Indian football team.

"But in football anything can happen. You know the strong points of the USA and their little weaknesses. We are going to exploit those weaknesses and fight for those little possibilities to make something happen... to rewrite the history of Indian football. This WC is the first step towards building a strong future for Indian football. This is just the start of the process. I am hoping that tomorrow we can play with 12 players — 11 plus the huge crowd support. We are banking on our fans," Matos added. USA coach John Hackworth said India were one of the most hard-working teams he had ever seen. "We will be coming into this match with a lot of respect for the Indian team. We know that the Indians are going to challenge us. We will also have to compete against the crowd who would be cheering for the hosts," he said.

Top five contenders

BRAZIL: The South American nation is a three-time champion (1997, 1999 and 2003) and a hot-favourite this time as well. Such has been their dominance that they have missed reaching the final only once. Only Nigeria, with five titles, have been more successful. Brazil qualified for the tournament after winning the 2017 South American U-17 trophy.

GHANA: Ghana have won the U-17 WC twice, in 1991 and 1995. During the 1990s, they made the final four times. Post their semifinal finish in 2007, Ghana have not been at their best and have qualified only twice in their last seven attempts. They qualified for the India WC after reaching the final of the 2017 CAF Africa Cup of Nations.

SPAIN: Spain have never won the U-17

World Cup, yet they have always been among the favourites. They have been the runners-up on three occasions — 1991, 2003 and 2007. Quite curiously, after finishing third in 2009, they failed to qualify until this edition. They qualified this time by clinching the European title in Croatia earlier this year.

GERMANY: Like Spain, Germans have also failed to lay their hands on the trophy. They were sent packing by the eventual winners in three of their last four appearances - by Nigeria in 2007, Switzerland in 2009 and Mexico in 2011. They lost to Croatia in the Round of 16 in 2015. They qualified after reaching the semifinals of the 2017 European Championships.

MEXICO: The two-time champions won in 2005 and 2011, and lost the 2013 final to Nigeria 3-0. In 2015, they made the semis. Mexico qualified by winning the 2017 CONCACAF U-17 championships.

Nehra makes comeback; Ashwin, Jadeja ignored for T20s



NEW DELHI (TIP): Veteran left-arm pacer Ashish Nehra has made a comeback in the 15-member Indian team while selectors once again ignored senior spinners Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja for the three-match T20 series against Australia, starting October 7.

The selectors decided to drop Ajinkya Rahane, who struck four back-to-back half centuries, in the just concluded ODI series as his game is not considered to be suitable for the shortest format.

Shikhar Dhawan made a comeback to the side after missing out on the ODI series due to his wife's health issues.

Test specialists Umesh Yadav and Mohammed Shami have also been dropped from the T20 squad.

Seasoned Dinesh Karthik pipped

young Rishabh Pant, primarily due to his current form as well as wealth of experience.

"The All-India Senior Selection Committee has named the teams for India 'A' and Board President's XI. The India 'A' side will play five One-Day games at Vizag against New Zealand 'A' after the completion of the ongoing four-day game," a BCCI release said. "The Board President's XI will play two warm-up matches in Mumbai against New Zealand ahead of their ODI series." The first warm-up game between Board President's XI and New Zealand will be held on October 17th at Mumbai. The opening match of the ODI series between India and New Zealand starts at Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on October 22. Pant is expected to play for India

A in the five match List A series against the New Zealand A. Shreyas Iyer will lead the India A team in the first three One-Day games against New Zealand 'A' before captaining the Board President's XI in the two warm-up matches against New Zealand.

The 38-year-old Nehra's comeback may have surprised a few but the kind of faith and respect he enjoys in the Indian dressing room is second to none. He has so far played 25 T20 Internationals taking 34 wickets in them.

"Ashish Nehra played the last full T20 series against England earlier this year. He was in contention to play Champions Trophy but an injury during IPL put paid to his hopes. India's last two T20s were one off games

against West Indies and Sri Lanka, so Ashish wasn't picked," a BCCI official privy to selection matters told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

"Ashish if fit was due for a comeback as and when there would have been a three match T20 series. There isn't anyone craftier than Ashish and when it comes to his selection, it's about fitness and not form. Check records, Ashish has never been dropped because of poor form," the official added.

The other significant development is Ashwin and Jadeja being ignored once again.

With Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel giving a good account of themselves, it was going to be very difficult for Ashwin and Jadeja to make a comeback.



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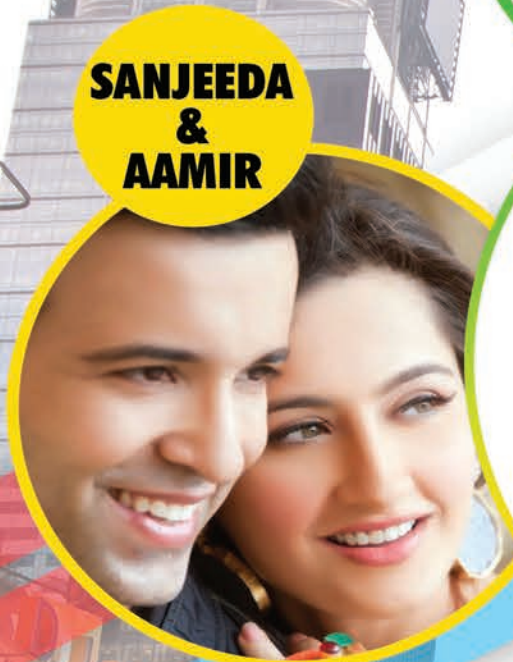
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