

US House passes Bill to protect 'Dreamers'
Republican-controlled Senate unlikely to consider it



Speaker Nancy Pelosi participates in a rally with House Democrats on the American Dream and Promise Act on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., June 4, 2019
 Screenshot CNN

WASHINGTON (TIP): : The US House of Representatives has voted to protect so-called "Dreamers" and establish a path to citizenship for more than 2 million immigrants who
contd on page 32

No Narendra Modi-Imran Khan Meeting Planned on the Sidelines of SCO, says MEA

Modi will be attending the summit in Kyrgyzstan capital Bishkek on June 13-14

NEW DELHI (TIP): There is no confirmation of a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Pakistan counterpart Imran Khan on the sidelines of the summit meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), the Ministry of External Affairs declared on Thursday, June 6. The clarification comes just a day before Mr. Modi begins his first round of foreign trips with stops in Maldives and Sri Lanka where sports diplomacy and counter-terror will be on the agenda. "To the best of my knowledge I am not aware of any bilateral meeting being set
contd on Page 32



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Pakistani counterpart Imran Khan

Dr. VK Raju honored with Lifetime achievement Award for medical service par excellence



Dr. VK Raju, well known Ophthalmologist from Morgan Town, VW (third from left) was honored with Lifetime Achievement Award for medical service par excellence by North America Telugu Society (NATS) at their 6th Convention at Irving Convention Center, Dallas, TX May 25. To Dr. Raju's left is Sam Maddali, a Director of the Eye Foundation of America.

DALLAS, TX (TIP): Founder and President of The Eye Foundation of America and a renowned Ophthalmologist Dr V K Raju was honored by North America Telugu Society (NATS) at their 6th Convention at Irving Convention Center, Dallas, TX May 25.

In more than 3 decades of service to humanity across the globe, Dr. Raju harbors the vision of having a world free

from childhood blindness. In realization of his dream, Dr. Raju has set up hospitals in India to treat eye ailments and provided his services in many parts of the world, with African nations and India being major beneficiaries. Dr. Raju who is a Rotarian, has always received support from the global humanitarian organization in his initiatives.
contd on Page 32

Sudan on the Brink: death toll rises to 100 as bodies found in Nile, say doctors



A Sudanese protester stands on a barricade in Khartoum on Wednesday, June 5
 CNN Screenshot

NEW YORK (TIP): The death toll from June 3 attack on the sit-in of Sudan's pro-democracy protesters has risen to 100, after 40 bodies were recovered from the River Nile, according to the Central Committee of Sudan Doctors (CCSD), says a CNN report.

Sixty people were reported to have been killed in the military crackdown in

the capital Khartoum, before scores of bodies were found dumped in the river by the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), said the CCSD, which is close to the protesters.

The head of Sudan's ruling military council, Lt. Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, has ordered an investigation into the deaths.
contd on Page 32



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Indian American Forum Presents Indian American Night



Honorees with Nassau County Executive Laura Curran and organizers

EAST MEADOW, NY (TIP): The Indian American Forum presented the annual Indian American Night on Monday June 3, at Harry Chapin lakeside Theatre, Eisenhower Park here.

This program is part of 2019 summer concert series sponsored by Nassau county Department of Parks, Recreation and Museums.

Indian American Night is a showcase of Classical Indian music and folk dances from all regions of India. Nassau county Executive Laura Curran and Deputy Parks Commissioner Shawn McBride and several other elected officials and community leaders graced the event. Several community leaders and representatives of various associations were present.

Nassau County Executive Laura Curran welcomed everyone and commended the Indian American

Community for their outstanding achievements. A couple of persons were presented with Nassau County citations. They included Dr Parvin Pandhi, Past President FIA; Dr Sohita Mehra, Director of Breast Imaging Jamaica Hospital; Dr Usha Bansal, Executive Member National AIA; Lalit Aery, President India Association of Long Island; Mrs. Neepa Shah Redito, Assistant Principle at Lakeville Elementary School in Great Neck; and Sudesh Mukhi, Founder Member of Arya Samaj of Long Island.

Jaya Bahadkar, Cultural chairperson presented beautiful cultural program reflecting dances from different parts of India. Students from local dance schools - Aarti Datta, Jyotika Patel, Satya Pradeep, Archana Dave, Sangeeta Pandit, Sadhna Pranji and Monica Bajwa, Shilpa Jhurani, Shilpa Mithaiwala and



Nassau County Executive with a group of children who made the evening perfectly enjoyable with their great performance

Desi Next presented an attractive and enjoyable program. Fun filled day of festivities, cultural program, dances and vocal performances by local talents were enjoyed by all.

Indu Jaiswal, chairperson of IAFIndu Jaiswal welcomed everyone and introduced Emcee of the evening Roopam Maini, Branch Manager BCB Bank, Hicksville. She thanked sponsors and volunteers - event co-chairperson, Mohinder Singh Taneja, Vijay Goswamy, Bina Sabapathy, Roopam Maini, Shilpa Jhurani, Jyoti Gupta, Beena Kothari, Anu Gulati, Dr Urmilesh Arya, Dr Anuj Goenka, Mrs. Saroj Aery and volunteers for their help in making the evening extremely successful.

(Based on a press release issued by Indu Jaiswal)

Featured Guests/Speakers

Gaur Gopal Das
Personal Coach, Monk,
Motivational Strategist



Vikas Khanna
Celebrity Masterchef/
Filmmaker



Tao Porchon Lynch
Oldest Yoga
Instructor and Padma
Shree Awardee



Nassau County Executive Curran Hosts Office of Asian American Affairs Inauguration Ceremony

Office will serve as a bridge between county government and the growing Asian-American community in Nassau

MINEOLA, NY (TIP): Nassau County Executive Laura Curran hosted the Asian-American community for a ceremony to officially inaugurate the Advisory Council members of the new Office of Asian American Affairs, including Executive Director Farrah Mozawalla at the Ceremonial Chambers, Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building on June 6

Curran recently signed into law the historic formation of the Office, which will serve as a bridge between county government and the growing Asian-American community in Nassau.

Dr. Isma Chaudhry was voted Chairperson of the Board.



Nassau County Executive Laura Curran with the inaugurated advisory members of Office of Asian American Affairs

The Council members inaugurated are:

Farrah Mozawalla (Executive Director), Ammad Sheikh, Christine Liu, Isma Chaudhry, Rajiv Jadhav, Rocky Singson, Sadia Chaudhry, Abdul Aziz Bhuiyan, Sunita Manjrekar, Tessa Ma, Satnum Parhar, Vanna Ye, Bhavani Srinivasan, Jamilah Abdul-Kareem, Nisha Bhalla, Jensen Ambachen, Esq, Abraham Thomas, Bryant Lew, Jasbir Singh, Dr. Guodong Zhang, Naeem Bawla, Esq, Juleigh Chin

Indian Music Wonder Boy in the US



Abhivandan Vij, 12 took to playing Tabla at the age of 3. In 9 years he is a celebrity

He can be contacted at 916-883-9338.

NEW YORK (TIP): 12-year-old Abhivandan Vij, the little Tabla Maestro from India took to playing Tabla at the age of 3. He gave his first presentation at the age of 5 at All India Radio and Delhi Doordarshan.

Abhivandan has performed in Taj Mahotsav (Four Times), Lucknow Mahotsav (twice), International Gita Mahotsav (twice), BBC Hindi, BBC Punjabi, Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (twice), and Harivallabh Sangeet Sammelan, to name a few.

Abhivandan's program aired in 108 Countries. A documentary has been made on the music maestro. He plays "Rela, Baat, Auchar, Tukda, Kayeda, Parn, etc. He is here to perform in a few TV and radio shows.

Recipient of many awards, honors and cash prizes, he has been published extensively in India's leading newspapers and magazines.

Sikh Community on Long Island donates generously for Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Documentary



Dr. Rajwant Singh, Chair, Sikh Council on Religion & Education (SCORE) and the driving force behind National Sikh Campaign speaking about the project of a documentary on Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, in Jericho, Sunday, June 2

JERICHO, NY (TIP): Dr. Rajwant Singh who is making a documentary on Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji to mark the 550th birth anniversary of the founder of Sikhism, the newest and the fifth largest religion of the world, with a following of more than 25 million the world over, was in town to mobilize resources for his project.

On Sunday, June 2, Dr. Rajwant met with the Sikh community leaders on Long Island and spoke about the documentary and appealed for financial support for the project. The ever generous and philanthropic community did not disappoint him.

At the fundraising for Dr. Rajwant Singh's National Sikh Campaign, organized by Gurinderpal Singh Josan, Founder-President of Sikhs in America, *contd on Page 30*

A Splendid Fashion Show hosted by India Heritage Center



EDISON, NJ (TIP): India Heritage Center (IHC) hosted A Royal Evening in the Pink City Gala on May 17th, 2019. The opulent venue, Legacy Castle, NJ, was reflective of the royal culture of Jaipur. The Fashion Show lineup included some of the most coveted Jewelry by Amrapali Jewels, Modern Maharaja inspired bespoke collection of menswear by Designer, Rohit Kamra, an exquisite collection of blended Indian textiles into one of a kind architectural pieces by Designer, Vaishali Shadangule and House of Chic, a multi-designer, pop up store with beautiful outfits fit for any occasion.

contd on Page 30



India Heritage Center Team

UN Secretary-General Appoints Anita Bhatia of India Deputy Executive Director, UN-Women



Ms. Bhatia has had a distinguished career at the World Bank Group, serving in various senior leadership and management positions

NEW YORK (TIP) : United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres announced May 30 the appointment of Anita Bhatia of India as Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for Resource Management, Sustainability and Partnerships.

Ms. Bhatia has had a distinguished career at the World Bank Group, serving in various senior leadership and management positions, both at headquarters and in the field. She brings extensive experience in the area of strategic partnerships, resource mobilization and management.

She served for several years as Director of Global Partnerships for the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the World Bank Group's private sector arm. She developed and expanded innovative partnerships with public and private sector partners to support IFC strategy in key areas, including fragile and conflict-affected States, gender equality, financial inclusion, support to women-owned businesses and other priorities critical to attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, Ms. Bhatia has served as Director of Development Partner Relations for the World Bank, leading efforts to ensure strategic alignment between institutional priorities and resource mobilization across the Group.

In various positions, she focused on enhancing sustainability, institutional effectiveness and impact through strategic partnerships. As Head of IFC's Latin America Advisory Operations, based in Lima and La Paz, she successfully grew the Corporation's reach and impact in the region. As Director of Partnerships and Advisory Oper, she oversaw financial mgmt, risk mgmt, portfolio mgmt, knowledge mgmt and learning for Advisory Services across the globe. She has led diverse teams, including as Global Head of Knowledge Mgmt, Head of Business Process Improvement and Head of Change Mgmt. In addition to Latin America, she has worked in Africa, Europe, Central Asia and South and East Asia.

Ms. Bhatia holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Calcutta University, a Master of Arts in Political Sci. from Yale University and a Juris Doctor in Law from Georgetown University.

Indian American students Create History in Scripps National Spelling Bee Championship

NEW YORK (TIP): In an unprecedented display of academic achievement, seven Indian American students and one American have become co-champions of the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee, making history as the first group to share the coveted title in the 92 years of the storied event.

The 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee co-champions are:

Erin Howard, 14, from Huntsville, Alabama. She is an eighth grader at Mountain Gap P-8 School. Howard competed in 2016 (tied for 22nd place), 2017 (tied for 7th place) and 2018 (9th place). Her winning word: erysipelas.

Rishik Gandhasri 13, from San Jose, California. He is a seventh-grader at Chaboya Middle School. Gandhasri competed in 2018 (tied for 25th place). His winning word: auslaut.

Abhijay Kodali 12, from Flower Mound, Texas. He is a sixth-grader from McKamy Middle School. Kodali competed in 2018 (tied for 3rd place). His winning word: palama.

Shruthika Padhy, 13, from Cherry Hill, New Jersey. She is an eighth grader at Rosa International Middle School. Padhy competed in 2016 (tied for 22nd place), 2017 (tied for 7th place) and 2018 (tied for 10th place). Her winning word: aiguillette.

Rohan Raja, 13, from Dallas, Texas. He is a seventh grader at Coppell Middle School West. Raja competed in 2018 (tied for 10th place). His winning word: odylic.

Saketh Sundar, 13, from Clarksville, Maryland. He is an eighth-grader from Clarksville Middle School. Sundar competed in 2016 (tied for 46th place), 2017 (tied for 12th place) and 2018 (tied for 19th



Seven of the eight winners this year are of Indian descent

Photo/ Courtesy Scripps National Spelling Bee Twitter

place). His winning word: bougainvillea.

Sohum Sukhatankar 13, from Dallas, Texas. He is a seventh grader at St. Mark's School of Texas. Sukhatankar competed in 2017 (tied for 23rd place) and 2018 (tied for 25th place). His winning word: pendeloque.

Christopher Serrao, 13, from Whitehouse Station, New Jersey. He is a seventh grader at Readington Middle School. Serrao competed in 2017 (tied for 41st place) and 2018 (tied for 34th place). His winning word: cernuous.

The eight spellers competed during a suspenseful 20 rounds of head-to-head competition Thursday May 30 evening.

"This is a night to celebrate the remarkable academic achievement of a group of the world's most talented

spellers," said Paige Kimble, executive director of the Scripps National Spelling Bee. "These spellers have conquered the dictionary unequivocally with their ability, skill and command of the English language. It's an incredible achievement, and we salute all the years of hard work and dedicated study that brought these intelligent young people to the world stage. We congratulate them all."

Adam Symson, president and CEO of The E.W. Scripps Company awarded all the winners a championship trophy moments before ESPN signed off from its national broadcast of the 92nd Scripps National Spelling Bee. The eight champions each will receive a cash prize of \$50,000 as well as their own Scripps Cup.

Indian origin jeweler awarded for bravery during robbery in UK



Chouhan Pal being presented with the West Midlands Police Chief Constable's Good Citizen's Award. Photo / Twitter

LONDON (TIP): An Indian origin jeweler who helped police arrest robbers who bound and gagged him at his jewelry store in Birmingham has been honored with a bravery award.

Chouhan Pal was presented with the West Midlands Police Chief Constable's Good Citizen's Award last week for his handling of the attack on his Dubai Jewelers shop, during which he was assaulted, bound with ties and had tape

put over his mouth.

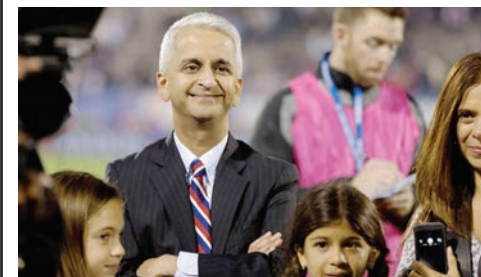
"Despite being assaulted, you displayed courage and took the risk to set the alarm off and trap the offenders inside the building with you," Chief Constable Dave Thompson told Pal, in his 50s. "Your quick-thinking actions and bravery allowed three offenders who had committed a robbery in the jeweler's shop you own to be detained and arrested," he said.

During the raid in April last year, three robbers had tricked their way into the shop using fake security industry ID badges and claiming they needed to carry out CCTV checks.

Chouhan managed to hit an alarm with his shoulder, trapping the gang in the shop and setting off a smoke cloak.

When they demanded the keys to the front door, he gave them the keys to a holding area by the front door and then used the automatic release to trap them there. A passer-by heard their cries for help and let the men out, thinking there was a fire. But police arrived and the passers-by and Chouhan helped them detain the gang. **(Read full story on www.theindianpanorama.news)**

Indian American Sunil Gulati Elected to U.S. National Soccer Hall of Fame



Gulati will be officially recognized during the National Soccer Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Sept. 21 in Frisco, Texas.

NEW YORK (TIP): Former U.S. Soccer Federation president Sunil Gulati along with Retired forward Abby Wambach have been chosen for the U.S. National Soccer Hall of Fame. They will be inducted Sept. 21 at the new hall building in Frisco, Texas. The National Soccer Hall of Fame voting committee determined the 2019 class from a list of 44 finalists on the Hall of Fame player ballots, 14 finalists on the Hall of Fame veteran ballots and nine finalists in the Hall of Fame builder category.

(Read full story on www.theindianpanorama.news)



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Vaisakhi Celebrations Galore in Nassau County

I.S. SALUJA

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP): Indian Festivals in the US have a long life. Diwali is celebrated over a period of two months- before and after the actual Diwali day. Ditto with Vaisakhi. It may fall on 13th or 14th April, but it gets celebrated before and after the appointed date, well over two months. Indian American community seems to be enamored of the festival which is

colorful and full of life. Vaisakhi is celebrated both as a fun filled socio-cultural event in the form of a festival, and also as a solemn celebration of the day as the birthday of Khalsa. While the Sikhs take out parades and celebrate the birthday of Khalsa in Gurdwaras with solemn prayers, the Vaisakhi as a traditional harvest festivalis celebrated widely as a funfilled, joyous event.

So, it was this year with a number of

Vaisakhi celebrations in New York. The more notable ones happened in Hicksville on Long Island, where the Punjabi community, in particular, has been growing in numbers as also in prosperity and influence. Which does not mean the Vaisakhi celebrations remain confined to the Punjabi community. In fact, the entire South Asian communities are so well-knit on Long Island, particularly in Nassau County that every

festival attracts all communities in a spirit of brotherhood. . It is a powerful indicator of the South Asian community's strength and influence.

We received information on a number of Vaisakhi celebrations on Long Island which we have clubbed together for our readers. The following report is based on Press releases received from various organizations which organized the celebrations.

The First Ever Vaisakhi Mela in Hicksville

The mammoth crowd



The First ever Vaisakhi Mela on Long Island this year stole the limelight. Hicksville. Held on May 19th. Onkar Singh's dream came true to hold Vaisakhi Mela in Hicksville. Under the leadership of Rajiv Maini, Jay Singh (Hum Hindustani) and Bobby Sidana, and with cooperation from Mela team who worked hard, the mela became a roaring success. Jay Sharma, Gobind Bathija, Mukesh Modi, Mohinder Miglani, Deepak Bansal, Prince Bagga, Kawal Sahni, Jyoti Gupta, Pinki Jaggi, Jasbir Bawa, Pupal Chopra, Neetu Chhabra, Arti Majithia, Shikha Sehgal, Gurbhinder Brar, Taranbir Kaur, and others executed Mela well.

People got the feel of authentic Mela Serving trays of curried vegetables, samosas and naan were replenished as quickly as hungry celebrants could eat. Everything was vegetarian .More than 10,000 people came to the Mela and did not want to leave Jazzy B free concert for more than 2 hours. Raffle draws for Brand New car, laptops, flat screen TVs, ipad/tablet, smart watches, and much more. Car was won by 14-year-old boy Prabhjot.

This successful event had more than 50 vendors specializing ethnic crafts, toys, jewelry, accessories and loads of other unique offerings. corporate booths helped team raise money. On this occasion few community leaders were honored Indu Jaiswal, Lalit Aery, Suhag Mehta, Pinky Jaggi, Jyoti Gupta and many more.

Gatka was admirable, brought sensation in public. Weather was good very sunny day.

County officials included Oyster Bay town supervisor Joseph Saladino, Kate Murry(Deputy Nassau County town clerk), Human Rights Commissioner Zahid Syed, Legislator Laura Schaefer, Presiding Officer Richard Nicoello, Senator Kevin Thomas, Legislator Arnold Drucker, Nassau County Police Chief was represented by Inspector Vitello, Suffolk County Police Department was represented by Commissioner Luis.

On this occasion some community leaders were honored. Indu Jaiswal, Lalit Aery, Suhag Mehta, Onkar Singh, Mukesh Modi, Mr Harry Singh Bolla, Jay Singh, Deepak Bansal, Bobby Sidana, Nitu Singh



The joyous spirit of Vaisakhi. Onkar Singh could not hold himself back and performed Bhangra at the mela



Officials and organizers at the Mela

of Antuns, Rajiv Maini, Jay Sharma, Mohinder Miglani, Penny Sandhu from Jus Punjabi, Mr Paramjit Bedi, Mr Balwinder Bajwa ,Bhavna Sharma (Hum Hindustani), Satnam Singh Parhar, Herman Singh got citation from Joseph Saladino, Supervisor of Town of Oyster Bay which is among the 5 largest Towns in the US.

Patel Brothers and others were kind and generous sponsors who helped team in financing the cost of organizing this momentous event.

All the promoters, the community leaders/institutions, the government agencies, and the media helped in securing all the necessary resources to make this dream a reality.

Entertainment for kids including bounce structures, pony rides, and lots of games made more than 300 kids happy . It was hard work of Kawal Sahni, Amita Karwal, Ekta Singh, Babli Lamba, Sweeti Bawa,

Sweetie Gambhir, Rupinder Kaur and volunteers Eesha Butani & Prisha Singh. Everything was free including booty bags.

Mela had Harman Chahalas singer. The Bhangra and Gidha team of Soormaycaptivated the audience.

Shilpa Mithaiwala Dance Academy kids gave a memorable performance.

The ever -generous DP Singh of Mitu Magic who has for years been donating a car at the Vaisakhi Mela in Glen Cove Gurdwara, sponsored a car for raffle draw.

Funds were contributed for cause and shared with NCPD, SCPD and also with one family in need, which was selected by common consent of the organizers.

DJ Kuccha, Sherry Dutta and Pradeep Gill did marvelous job as Master of Ceremonies.

The organizers have plans to organize the Vaisakhi mela year after years.

(Based on a Report by Jyoti Gupta)

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Nassau County Vaisakhi Celebration



Honorees



A view of the gathering



Children give a scintillating dance performance



Organizers with officials

The 3rd annual Nassau County Vaisakhi Celebration took place on Friday, May 31, at the Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Chamber.

Present on the occasion were Nassau County Presiding Officer Rich Nicoletto, Nassau County Legislator Josh Lafazan and Nassau County Comptroller Jack Schinermsn.

Zahid Syed, Human Rights Commissioner who took the lead to organize the event said: "We received overwhelming support from community

leaders and community organizations with over 250 guests in attendance".

Prof. Indrajit S Saluja, Chief Editor of The Indian Panorama delivered the keynote address. He spoke at length on the origin and manner of celebration of Vaisakhi which is both a socio-cultural event, being a harvest festival, and a solemn religious occasion of the birth of a faith when on April 13 in 1699 Guru Gobind Singh created Khalsa.

On the occasion, 7 members of community were honored. They included Anju Sharma, Mrs. Anupam

Goenka, Hardev Singh, Mohinder Singh Taneja, Narinder Mani Kapoor Raja Singh and Saroj Gupta.

Zahid thanked Jasbir Jay Singh, Lalit Aery, Pinky Jaggi, Jyoti Gupta, Deepak Bansal, Indu Jaiswal and members of the host Committee for their support and contribution in making the event a great success. He also thanked Nassau County officials, in particular, Presiding Officer of Legislature Rich Nicoletto, Nassau County Legislator Josh Lafazan and Nassau County Comptroller Jack Schinermsn for their

support, always. All who performed and all who graced the event were also profusely thanked, as also the media which covered the event.

(Based on a report by Zahid Syed)

NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL PUNJABI SOCIETY also organized a Vaisakhi Gala on May 18th at Antun's by Minar in Hicksville, New York. Mr. CJ Arneja sad in a message that the event, attended by a large number of members and guests, was a huge success.

Ekal Abhiyan Receives Overwhelming Community Support

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP): The evening of Saturday May 18th, 2019, brought together a vibrant and supportive community at the Sterling on Hicksville

Road in Bethpage. They came together, for the annual musical evening in support of the Ekal Abhiyan, a worthy and noble movement aimed at empowering

rural and tribal communities across India and Nepal.

After an hour of social networking around enjoyable bites and cocktails, the evening kicked off with a wonderful rendition of the national anthems of the United States and India by Ms. Gita Sethia. Thereafter, Mr. Mohan Wanchoo, the President of Ekal's Long Island chapter presented a summary of Ekal's workings and achievements. In the financial year 2016-2017 Ekal had established schools in 55,646 villages across India and Nepal. A year later, that number has grown to 85,100 schools, educating 2,316,114 young minds, bringing the organization closer to attaining its goal set by Prime Minister Modi ji of covering 100,000 villages by the year 2022.

In this context, Dr. Pradeep Bansal and Ms. Nilima Madan talked about the transformative effect education has on vulnerable livelihoods. Empowered by exceptional accountability, Ekal's philosophy is to keep the cost of its operations to a minimum, to ensure maximum impact. To this end, the funds raised are invested in teacher salaries, teacher training and teaching aids in the schools, rather than building structures.



Dipayan Banerjee and Madhuraa Bhattacharya of Sa Re Ga Ma Pa fame enthrall with their mellifluous singing



Mr. Mohan Wanchoo, Dr. Yashpal Arya, Pradeep Bansal and Rakesh Shreedhar addressed the gathering.

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GUEST COMMENT

*Sudan on the brink***The military rulers must climb down and transfer power to a civilian government**

When Sudanese dictator Omar al-Bashir was toppled on April 11 after a months-long popular uprising, the generals had two options before them. One was the Tunisian model in which the army allowed a smooth transition of power to a civilian government after Zine El Abidine Ben Ali was removed from power in 2011. The other was the Egyptian model in which the army, after losing power to a civilian ruler following Hosni Mubarak's ouster as President in 2011, staged a coup in 2013 and reinstalled itself at the helm.

Unfortunately, the Sudanese generals chose the latter, setting the stage for a prolonged showdown. The protesters had demanded a transfer of power to a transitional civilian government, followed by free and fair elections. But the generals used the crisis to concentrate more powers in their own hands. They established a military council which took over governance, while angry protesters continued a sit-in in front of the Defense Ministry in Khartoum. As talks between pro-democracy activists and the military rulers collapsed, paramilitary groups unleashed deadly violence this week to break the sit-in, killing at least 100 people and injuring hundreds. The Rapid Support Forces, the paramilitary troops

notorious for atrocities committed in the impoverished western province of Darfur in the early 2000s, reportedly threw the dead into the Nile.

It is evident that the military will not easily give up power. After the crackdown, Lt. General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, the military ruler, has offered to hold elections in nine months, upturning an earlier plan of a two-year transition. But there is no immediate plan to transfer power to a civilian transitional government, a key demand of the protesters. Unsurprisingly, they have rejected the military's offer. At present, Sudan's generals enjoy regional and international support. The UN Security Council couldn't even condemn the violence as China, backed by Russia, blocked the move. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, which offered financial aid to the junta as soon as Mr.

Bashir was removed from power, also support the generals. This gives the military rulers a sense of impunity even when they unleash murderous paramilitaries on peaceful protesters. This has to change. Arab countries as well as the UN should put meaningful pressure on the military council to pay heed to popular demands and hold those responsible for the June 3 massacre accountable. There is no easy solution to the crisis. If the military wants to keep its grip on power, there could be more bloodshed as the protesters are defiant. It will have to necessarily build a more oppressive regime, as in Egypt after the 2013 coup. The other, wiser option is to compromise, resume talks with the protesters and facilitate a quick and orderly transition to civilian rule. The choice the generals make will determine the future of Sudan. *(The Hindu)*

AS I SEE IT



By Mohammed Ayoob

A rocky road for strategic partners

With decisions that adversely affect India, the Trump administration fails to distinguish friend from foe

The Donald Trump administration's recent actions threaten the foundation of trust and flexibility on which India-U.S. relations are premised. However, they seem to be part of a pattern progressively visible in American foreign policy in which bullying friends has become the name of the game. The Trump administration's insensitive approach towards its allies in Western Europe by denigrating the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union (EU), threatening to impose tariffs on EU goods in connection with trade disputes and Europe's relations with Russia, and Washington's unilateral withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal that roiled its European partners are all evidence of this policy.

Bookends of stability?

The same paradigm explains Washington's recent moves vis-à-vis India. These stand in sharp contrast to the first year of the Trump administration when the U.S. was actively wooing India as a strategic counterweight to China and because of its rapidly expanding market that was seen as providing great opportunities for American business. In a major foreign policy speech in October 2017, then U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson declared that India and America were "two bookends of stability - on either side of the globe" and that the "emerging Delhi-Washington strategic partnership" was essential to anchor the rules-based world order for the next hundred years.

Even before Mr. Tillerson's speech India had come to be seen as a pillar of American policy in Asia. The term 'Indo-Pacific region' appeared prominently in the joint statement issued by Mr. Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the end of the latter's visit to the U.S. in June 2017. Since then, it has come to replace the term 'Asia-Pacific region' in American foreign policy jargon. In May 2018, the Pentagon changed the name of the U.S. Pacific Command to U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, emphasizing not only the strategic linkage between the Indian and Pacific Oceans but also the geo-political prominence of India in the U.S.'s Asian strategy.

However, the Trump administration seems to have reversed course in recent months. U.S. unilateral actions on three fronts have simultaneously demonstrated what amounts to downgrading India in American strategy. The announcement on April 22 by U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo that Washington would not renew after May 2 the exemption that it had granted India and seven other countries regarding import of Iranian oil was one sign that American

unilateralism had trumped coherent strategic thinking.

The Iranian share of Indian oil imports stood at 10%. While it would not be impossible for India to replace Iranian oil, the American announcement failed to consider the strategic importance of Iran in Indian foreign policy and the damage it could do to India-Iran relations. Iran's strategic location and the common concerns of both countries regarding the future of Afghanistan and the threat of terrorism emanating from Pakistan make Tehran an ideal geopolitical ally of New Delhi. India is also engaged in building the Chabahar port in southeastern Iran, which could act as the gateway for India to Central Asia, bypassing a hostile Pakistan. Moreover, by forcing India to tamely accept the American diktat on Iranian oil, it has torn off the veneer of "strategic autonomy" that Indian policymakers had long touted as the fundamental creed of Indian foreign policy.

The second leg of this tripod is the U.S. threat to impose sanctions on India if it buys the S-400 missile defense system from Russia for which a deal had been signed in October 2018 by Russian President Vladimir Putin and Mr. Modi. The U.S. has argued that India's purchase of the S-400 systems will violate the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA), a U.S. federal law that requires the country to impose sanctions on states entering into major military deals with Russia.

This puts India in a Catch-22 position. If it defies U.S. threats and goes ahead with the purchase, it would subject India to economic sanctions and curtailment of defense and high-tech cooperation with the U.S. If it buckles under American pressure and cancels the S-400 deal, it will have major negative implications for India's relations with Russia, its largest arms supplier and a time-tested friend. Furthermore, it will make it clear that India is for all practical purposes a "lackey" of the U.S., thus once again severely damaging its standing and credibility in international circles.

Trade hurdles

The third and latest instance of unwelcome U.S. pressure was the announcement on May 31 that, beginning June 5, India will be removed from the preferential trade program, known as the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), which gives developing countries easier access to the U.S. market and lowers U.S. duties on their exports. Mr. Trump signed off on a presidential decree to that effect alleging, "India has not assured the United States that India will provide

equitable and reasonable access to its markets."

India is the largest beneficiary nation under the GSP scheme and exported goods worth \$6.35 billion to the U.S. under the preferential regime last year. This is close to 10% of the goods exported by India to the U.S. While the Indian reaction to the American decision has been mild so far - the Commerce Ministry termed it "unfortunate" - it is bound to cause resentment in New Delhi, especially since U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross had assured the government that benefits would not be cut off until after India's elections, thus allowing the new government time to reflect on the issue.

Taken together, these three decisions indicate that Washington is impervious to Indian strategic concerns and economic interests despite its earlier pronouncements that it considers India a valued "strategic partner". These decisions are part of a unilateralist syndrome that currently afflicts American foreign policy. Mr. Trump and his advisers, principally National Security Adviser John Bolton and Mr. Pompeo, no longer seem to discriminate between friend and foe when making important policy decisions. Such an attitude does not bode well for the future of America's relations with its friends and allies. Washington appears to have overlooked the fact that even the "indispensable nation" needs reliable friends and allies.

Other options

S. Jaishankar, India's new Minister of External Affairs and an outstanding diplomat with a wealth of experience in dealing with Washington, will have to convince American policy-makers that this maxim is relevant to the U.S.'s relations with India. Mr. Jaishankar should subtly communicate to his interlocutors that this is especially true now that the international system is becoming progressively multipolar, thus increasing foreign policy options available to Indian policymakers.

(The author is University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of International Relations, Michigan State University and Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Center for Global Policy, Washington DC)



INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVES IN MODI 2.0



By Asoke Mukerji

The resounding democratic mandate by India's 900 million voters for continuing with the ambitious transformation of India undertaken by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi since 2014 provides several opportunities for India's foreign policy initiatives during the next five years.

The Prime Minister has announced that inclusive governance under the motto Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas will be the leitmotif of his governance policies. The focus of India's foreign policy will be to maximize her international engagements to provide the necessary catalysts for inclusive governance to transform India.

Calibrating her relations with the major powers, especially China, the United States and Russia, at a time of increasing international disruptions will be a major objective of India's foreign policy. Each of these relationships plays a crucial role in the flow of investments, equipment and technologies that are required to secure, empower and transform India. They are also critical for India's increased interaction with major world economies, including the United States, China, the European Union, Japan, the ASEAN and Russia.

A secure and predictable neighbourhood is essential for India to continue to be the fastest growing major emerging economy in the world. India's growth has shown that without peace and security, there can be no sustainable development. Ensuring a supportive environment around India, along her land and maritime borders, will be a significant priority of India's foreign policy. This will require an integrated approach with India's neighbours, including in countering terrorism and implementing confidence-building measures for rapid and sustainable socio-economic development.

In Asia, the next five years provide India with the opportunity to orient the strategic framework of the Indo-Pacific from the shores of Africa to the Americas towards India's core interests. These were outlined in Prime Minister Modi's statement of March 2015 on Security and Growth for All in the Region, or SAGAR, and of June 2018 at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore. A special priority for India's foreign policy would be on developing a roadmap for the substance and security of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean, which will directly impact on the transformation of India.

In the western Indo-Pacific, India's foreign policy can be expected to build on the historic initiatives taken during the past five years, including in the Gulf and



“Ensuring a supportive environment around India, along her land and maritime borders, will be a significant priority of India's foreign policy. This will require an integrated approach with India's neighbors, including in countering terrorism and implementing confidence-building measures for rapid and sustainable socio-economic development”

West Asia, where 8 million Indians live and work. India's economic and energy needs require robust diplomatic engagement to ensure that crucial sea lanes of communication through the Gulf of Aden and Straits of Hormuz remain open for India's trade and digital connectivity. Her strategic needs require prioritizing completion of connectivity projects like Chabahar, which will provide land-locked Asian countries like Afghanistan and the Central Asian states access to global investments and markets. These initiatives will augment India's role as a net security provider in the western Indo-Pacific.

Indian foreign policy initiatives must focus on implementing proposals made at the India-Africa Forum Summit, the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation, and in the India-Community of Latin American and Caribbean States meetings during the past five years. This will significantly enhance India's global profile, including that of the vibrant Indian diaspora.

The rapid emergence of new technologies driving the Fourth

Industrial Revolution provide an opportunity for Indian foreign policy to shape the world of the 21st century. In her international engagements, India should participate pro-actively in setting the norms for the application of new technologies, including for global electronic commerce, which will directly impact on Digital India and the empowerment of India's huge demographic dividend.

In June 2020 India will be elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for a two-year period ending in 2022. In 2021, India will be due for re-election to the UN Human Rights Council for a three-year term ending in 2024. In 2022, India will become the Chair of the G-20. These prominent multilateral leadership roles provide an opportunity for India to position herself as a "thought-leader" in international relations for upholding the principle of international cooperation, which is critical for the transformation of India.

(The author is a former Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations)

Sentiments of a Hindu in New York



Arish Sahani is a staunch Hindu and a votary of India as a Hindu Nation

I, born as Hindu in India, today feel great. This is not the victory of PM Modi or BJP alone. This is my victory. I have been part of this movement since last 30 plus years. As a young Hindu I was a sleeping Hindu, when I was in India. I feel sad after 1000 years of slavery India is still not a Hindu nation.

2019 elections should awaken all Hindus of the world and not only Hindus but all who deserted Hinduism. Today, we all Hindus should be proud of our forefathers who kept fighting to keep Hinduism alive. I feel sad for all who deserted Hinduism for some monetary gains but lost their roots.

But DNA never lies and hope one day we will get a leader to bring all who converted, back to Hindu fold. I am sure this will happen soon, too.

Look at middle east, all converts in middle east with great past history after converting destroyed not only their past but their present and future. Soon we will see Pakistan will be on deathbed, now a sick nation." --Arish Sahani

Arish Sahani is President of Indian American Intellectuals' Forum. A staunch Hindu, Arish believes Hindus have not been assertive enough for which reason they have always been at the receiving end. He has been campaigning hard and long to energize the Hindu community in this part of the US. Every year, Sahani's Intellectual Forum organizes the Hindu Solidarity Day to which Hindu intellectuals and leaders are invited to address the gathering of Hindus.

Sahani has faith in Narendra Modi and believes Modi will restore the lost glory of Hindus. He very proudly refers to the popularity of Modi with the masses in India and feels confident Modi will do enough for the nation to earn any number of future tenures. He says he is a proud Hindu and will like all Hindus to say with pride they are Hindus.

Arish Sahani can be reached at arish.sahani@gmail.com

Thai Parliament votes for coup leader Prayuth to stay on as PM

BANGKOK (TIP): Thailand's Parliament has elected 2014 coup leader Prayuth Chan-ocha as Prime Minister in a vote that helps ensure the military's sustained dominance of politics since the country became a constitutional monarchy nearly nine decades ago. The military-backed party that nominated Prayuth won the second-highest number of seats in the House of Representatives in the General Election in March.

But his selection was virtually assured on Wednesday because the prime minister is chosen in a joint vote of the 500-seat House and the 250-seat Senate, whose members were appointed by the junta Prayuth leads. Two House seats were vacant due to a suspension and resignation.

Prayuth was elected to serve a second term by a vote of 500 to 244 for his opponent, Future Forward party leader Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit. Prayuth, a former army commander, was the candidate of the military-backed Palang Pracharath party, which holds 116 House seats, as well as lawmakers from smaller parties. Prayuth's appointment becomes official when it is endorsed by King Maha Vajiralongkorn. Prayuth did not run for office in the March election - the constitution enacted under the junta he headed does not require that the PM come from Parliament. — AP

10 killed in Pakistan during armed clash on Eid

LAHORE (TIP): Two rival groups opened indiscriminate fire at each other after Eid prayers in Pakistan's Punjab province, killing at least 10 people and injuring 17 others. The incident took place on Wednesday in Jalalpur Pirwala Tehsil of Multan district. The two groups resorted to indiscriminate firing after a dispute, Geo News reported. According to sources, the members of one group were returning to their homes after offering Eid prayers when assailants from another group attacked them. Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar sought a detailed report from the regional police officer (RPO) of Multan on the incident. He directed the RPO to arrest the culprits without delay. PTI

Thai junta leader voted in as prime minister after election

BANGKOK (TIP): Thailand's new parliament voted in ruling military junta chief General Prayuth Chan-ocha as prime minister on Wednesday, five years after he overthrew an elected government. The former army chief secured the 375 votes needed to secure the post in a vote by both houses of parliament, one of which was entirely appointed by the junta. (PTI)

Pak military plans budget cuts

ISLAMABAD (TIP): In an unprecedented voluntary move, Pakistan's military has decided to cut the defence budget for the next fiscal year amid an austerity drive launched by the government to solve the cash-strapped nation's economic woes.

Major General Asif Ghafoor, Director General (DG) Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), the media wing of the military, in his Twitter message on Tuesday said voluntary cuts in the defence budget for next fiscal year would not be at the cost of defence and security.

However, Ghafoor did not mention how much budget cut would be undertaken.

Prime Minister Imran Khan said on Tuesday that he was very appreciative of the Pakistan military's "unprecedented voluntary initiative of stringent cuts in their defence expenditures" especially in light of the country's financial situation.

Khan said he was grateful for the move that came "despite multiple security challenges" that Pakistan faces. Khan said the funds saved would be used for the development of the newly-merged tribal areas as well as in Balochistan.

Science and Technology Minister Fawad Chaudhry said this was "not a small step at all". "Only a strong civilian-military coordination can rescue Pakistan from the deep problems of Governance and economy," Chaudhry said. Prime Minister Khan, after assuming office last year, launched several austerity measures. He moved



into a modest three-bed room house of his military secretary along with two servants.

On May 28, the Prime Minister's Special Assistant on Information, Firdous Ashiq Awan, had announced that the federal budget will be presented on June 11.

Last month, the government announced that all civil and military institutions would contribute to the austerity-oriented federal budget for 2019-20. "There will be austerity in the coming budget. We will try to keep government expenditures to the

minimum possible level," Prime Minister's Adviser on Finance and Economic Affairs Hafeez Shaikh had said.

Unlike some other civilian leaders in Pakistan's fragile democracy, Khan appears to have good relations with the generals who have ruled the nuclear-armed nation for nearly half its history since independence in 1947.

Pakistan has one of the world's largest armies but critics say the military's spending is unnecessary and holds the country back in key areas such as health and education. — Agencies

Hafiz Saeed not allowed to lead Eid prayers at his 'favourite' venue in Lahore

LAHORE (TIP): For the first time in years, Mumbai attack mastermind and Jammah-ud-Dawa (JuD) chief Hafiz Saeed was not allowed by the government on Wednesday to lead Eid-ul-Fitr prayers at his favourite venue Qaddafi Stadium here, an official said.

Instead, Saeed, chief of UN-designated terrorist organisation JuD, offered prayers at a local mosque adjacent to his Jauhar Town residence here.

"JuD chief Saeed wanted to lead the Eid prayers at the Qaddafi Stadium but he was conveyed by an official of the Punjab government a day before (Tuesday) that he could not do so. In case he goes ahead with his plan (to lead the Eid prayers) the government may arrest him," the official privy to the development told PTI.

He said Saeed having no other option "followed the government direction" and dropped the idea of leading the prayers at the Qaddafi Stadium.

Saeed had been leading the prayers on both Eid-ul Fitr and Eid-ul Azha at the Qaddafi Stadium for last many years without any hindrance. Rather the government used to provide him foolproof security.

In the past Saeed not only led the prayers but also propagated his views especially on Kashmir before a large gathering of people assembled on such religious festivals.

Saeed, who was banned on December

10, 2008 by the UN Security Council after the horrific Mumbai attacks in which 166 people were killed, is keeping a low profile since the Imran Khan government launched a crackdown on proscribed organisations some three months ago to fulfil its obligations regarding international terror financing watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

In February, Paris-based international terror financing watchdog FATF decided to continue the 'grey' listing of Pakistan for its failure to stop funding of terrorist groups such as the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and the JuD.

In March, Saeed was barred by the government from delivering weekly Friday sermon at Jamia Masjid Qadsia, the JuD headquarters in Lahore.

Saeed was never stopped from delivering Friday sermons even during the years when Masjid Qadsia's control was under the Punjab government.

The JuD is believed to be the front organisation for the LeT which is responsible for carrying out the Mumbai attacks. It had been declared as a foreign terrorist organisation by the US in June 2014. The US Department of the Treasury has designated Saeed as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist, and the US, since 2012, has offered a USD 10 million reward for information that brings him to justice. — PTI

Nepal looks to limit Everest access after deaths, but doubts linger

KATHMANDU (TIP): Under pressure after a deadly season on traffic-clogged Mount Everest, Nepal is considering tightening access to the world's highest peak, but mountaineering experts fear the proposed changes could amount to little more than lip service. Eleven people died during the climbing season that ended this week, as record numbers lined the route to the summit. Although overcrowding was blamed for at least four deaths, many say inexperience is a bigger killer. "People who know nothing of climbing, never been on a mountain, came and tried to climb Everest," Chilean mountaineer Juan Pablo Mohr told AFP after returning to Kathmandu.

"A lot of people didn't know how to put (on) crampons or (use) the fixed ropes," he said, adding they relied on an army of sherpas or Nepali guides to help them accomplish such basic tasks.

For years, Kathmandu has issued permits to anyone willing to pay \$11,000, regardless of whether they are rookie climbers or skilled mountaineers.

For years after Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay made the first ascent of Everest in 1953, access to the world's most famous peak was a rare prize, offered only to solo mountaineers charting new routes or to climbers belonging to national teams or boasting major sponsorship deals. AFP

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India-US-Australia-Japan Reaffirm Commitment for Development of Indo-Pacific Region

WASHINGTON (TIP): Senior officials from the United States, Australia, India, and Japan met in Bangkok on May 31, 2019 for consultations on their collective efforts to advance a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific. The four nations reaffirmed their shared commitment to preserving and promoting the rules-based order in the region. They underscored their intent to continue close coordination and collaboration in support of sustainable, private sector led development, maritime security, and good governance. Meeting participants discussed initiatives undertaken by each country to encourage transparent, principles-based investment in quality infrastructure in accordance with international standards and leverage the potential of the private sector.

They highlighted their efforts to maintain universal respect for international law and freedom of navigation and over flight.

(Read full story on
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American Congressman Votes to Protect Dreamers through American Dream and Promise Act

WASHINGTON (TIP): Indian American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi recently voted to pass H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act, legislation which provides permanent protections to our nation's Dreamers, as well as to Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) holders, allowing them to contribute fully to Illinois communities and our country while providing a pathway to citizenship.

"I'm proud to stand with Representatives from both parties in voting for the American Dream and Promise Act which would protect Dreamers and other qualifying immigrants while also providing and earned path to permanent residency and even citizenship," said Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi. "These individuals have demonstrated themselves to be Americans in every way but on paper and this legislation will address that for those ready to continue contributing to our country while meeting educational,



Raja Krishnamoorthi recently voted to pass H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act

military service, or work requirements." The American Dream and Promise Act, which Congressman Krishnamoorthi also cosponsored,

would establish a pathway for qualifying Dreamers to gain conditional lawful permanent resident (LPR) status for 10 years, and then, after meeting additional educational, military service or work requirements, to obtain full lawful permanent resident (LPR) status, five years after which they would be eligible to apply for citizenship. The bill would establish a similar process for qualifying Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) holders. Without such protections, the future of these individuals and their contributions to our economies remains imperiled.

Once obtaining full LPR status, Dreamers can then apply for citizenship after an additional five years. Similarly, the bill establishes a process for TPS and DED holders meeting certain criteria to also obtain lawful permanent resident status (and eventual citizenship). Without these permanent protections, the future of our Dreamers and TPS and DED holders - and their contributions to our economy - remain at risk.

IRS reminder: Tax scams continue year-round

WASHINGTON (TIP): Although the April filing deadline has passed, scam artists remain hard at work, and the IRS today urged taxpayers to be on the lookout for a spring surge of evolving phishing emails and telephone scams.

The IRS is seeing signs of two new variations of tax-related scams. One involves Social Security numbers related to tax issues and another threatens people with a tax bill from a fictional government agency. Here are some details:

The SSN hustles

The latest twist includes scammers claiming to be able to suspend or cancel the victim's Social Security number. In this variation, the Social Security cancellation threat scam is similar to and often associated with the IRS impersonation scam. It is yet another attempt by con artists to frighten people into returning 'robocall' voicemails. Scammers may mention overdue taxes in addition to threatening to cancel the person's SSN.

Fake tax agency. This scheme involves the mailing of a letter threatening an IRS lien or levy. The lien or levy is based on bogus delinquent taxes owed to a non-existent agency, "Bureau of Tax Enforcement." There is no such agency. The lien notification scam also likely references the IRS to confuse potential victims into thinking the letter is from a legitimate organization.

Both display classic signs of being scams. The IRS and its Security Summit partners - the state tax agencies and the

tax industry - remind everyone to stay alert to scams that use the IRS or reference taxes, especially in late spring and early summer as tax bills and refunds arrive.

Phone scams

The IRS does not leave pre-recorded, urgent or threatening messages. In many variations of the phone scam, victims are told if they do not call back, a warrant will be issued for their arrest. Other verbal threats include law-enforcement agency intervention, deportation or revocation of licenses.

Criminals can fake or "spoof" caller ID numbers to appear to be anywhere in the country, including from an IRS office. This prevents taxpayers from being able to verify the true call number. Fraudsters also have spoofed local sheriff's offices, state departments of motor vehicles, federal agencies and others to convince taxpayers the call is legitimate.

Email phishing scams

The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information. The IRS initiates most contacts through regular mail delivered by the United States Postal Service. However, there are special circumstances when the IRS will call or come to a home or business. These visits include times when a taxpayer has an overdue tax bill, a delinquent tax return or a delinquent employment tax payment, or the IRS needs to tour a business as part of a civil investigation (such as an audit or collection case) or

during criminal investigation.

If a taxpayer receives an unsolicited email that appears to be from either the IRS or a program closely linked to the IRS that is fraudulent, report it by sending it to phishing@irs.gov. The Report Phishing and Online Scams page provides complete details.

Telltale signs of a scam

The IRS (and its authorized private collection agencies) will never:

Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. The IRS does not use these methods for tax payments. Generally, the IRS will first mail a bill to any taxpayer who owes taxes. All tax payments should only be made payable to the U.S. Treasury and checks should never be made payable to third parties.

Threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have the taxpayer arrested for not paying. Demand that taxes be paid without giving the taxpayer the opportunity to question or appeal the amount owed.

Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

For anyone who doesn't owe taxes and has no reason to think they do:

Do not give out any information. Hang up immediately.

Contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration to report the call. Use their IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting web page.

Report the caller ID and/or callback



number to the IRS by sending it to phishing@irs.gov (Subject: IRS Phone Scam).

Report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Use the FTC Complaint Assistant on FTC.gov. Add "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

For anyone who owes tax or thinks they do:

View tax account information online at IRS.gov to see the actual amount owed. Taxpayers can then also review their payment options.

Call the number on the billing notice, or Call the IRS at 800-829-1040. IRS workers can help.

The IRS does not use text messages or social media to discuss personal tax issues, such as those involving bills or refunds. For more information, visit the Tax Scams and Consumer Alerts page on IRS.gov. Additional information about tax scams is also available on IRS social media sites, including YouTube videos.

Indian Envoy speaks on world's largest democratic exercise

WASHINGTON (TIP): The Asia Group, a Washington based leading strategic and business consultancy foundation to the world's most impactful and innovative companies operating across Asia, recently hosted an event where India's Ambassador to the US Harsh Vardhan Shringla was the keynote speaker.

The Ambassador spoke on "India's Elections: Understanding the results and implications" at the event, moderated by former US Ambassador to India Richard Verma, Vice Chairman and Partner at The Asia Group, where he leads the firm's growth in South Asia.

Characterizing the Indian elections as the world's largest democratic exercise, Ambassador Shringla referred to the historic voter turnout; record participation of women; aspiration of young voters; and the significance of a clear and unambiguous mandate for the growth and economic development of India. Ambassador also responded to queries from the audience comprising of representatives of US government agencies, think tanks, and corporate houses.



India's Ambassador to the US Harsh V Shringla spoke on "India's Elections: Understanding the results and implications" at the event, moderated by former US Ambassador to India Richard Verma (Right) photo / Courtesy Indian Embassy

Statue of Peace Leader Sri Chinmoy Dedicated at Toronto's Vishnu Mandir

BY ASHOK PARULEKAR

TORONTO (TIP): Leaders of Toronto's Vishnu Mandir dedicated a bronze statue of Dreamer of World-Peace Sri Chinmoy holding aloft the Peace Torch on Sunday, May 26 afternoon in their Peace Park dedicated to interfaith harmony.

The life-sized likeness of the peace leader recognises a lifetime of his devoted service to fostering peace through music, art, writings, sports and silent all-faith meditation. Sri Chinmoy's message is that each and every human being can be a peace-builder-and starting first within himself or herself. The spiritual leader led the interfaith silent Peace Meditation at the United Nations at the invitation of UN Secretary-General U Thant for 37 years. As well, he founded the global Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run which includes millions running for the cause of world peace.

After showing a video on Sri Chinmoy's life and contributions, the ceremony moved outdoors to the Peace Park where the statue is located, beginning with the ceremonial blowing of conches. Arriving Peace Runners passed the lighted Peace Torch to Dr. Budhendranauth Doobay, Chairman of the Board and Religious Advisor of the Vishnu Mandir. "Sri Chinmoy was a great soul...Sri Chinmoy was a man of peace who has been recognized by so many people from around the world," stated Dr. Doobay. "It is a great honour for us to welcome Sri Chinmoy in the form of this statue which will be here for all times to come."

Ms. Ranjana Ghose, President of the Sri Chinmoy Centres, spoke with deep insight about

Sri Chinmoy's peace activities and offered heartfelt gratitude to the Vishnu Mandir for this 38th peace statue dedication saying, "Sri Chinmoy's life was an amazing success story of bringing the peace of the soul to the fore, within himself and in those with whom he interacted. He was greatly respected by many dignitaries around the world, who cherished Sri Chinmoy for his compassionate manner of thinking and peaceful way of addressing a dynamic life."

Dr. Doobay then received the Torch Bearer medallion for his tireless devotion in fostering living spirituality and oneness



Dr. Doobay and Ranjana Ghose dedicate the statue of Sri Chinmoy

amongst the faiths. Mr. Salil Wilson, Executive Director of the global Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run, presented the award. In 1987, Sri Chinmoy founded the Peace Run and, for the first time ever, the run will be covering every country in the world in the coming two years.

Col. Gerry Nudds of the Mandir then invited illustrious representatives of many faiths to each lead participants in a prayer from their own faith. Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Buddhist, Jain and Jewish prayers added greatly to the spirit of interfaith harmony. As Sri Chinmoy wrote, "Spirituality is not merely tolerance. It is not even acceptance. It is the feeling of universal oneness...Spirituality is not mere hospitality to others' faith in God. It is the absolute recognition and acceptance of their faith in God as one's own."

A few other homes of Sri Chinmoy's statues include the Kala Academy in Goa, India; ARMA museum in Ubud and Ngurah Rai International Airport, both in Bali, Indonesia; and Seattle's Burke Gilman Trail.

First South Asian American woman chairs US House



In a first, Indian American Pramila Jayapal has become the first South Asian woman ever to preside over the US House of Representatives

WASHINGTON (TIP): Pramila Jayapal, a Democrat from Washington DC, has become the first South Asian American woman to preside over the US House of Representatives.

Jayapal, who was first elected to the Congress in 2016, tweeted she was "beyond proud" to preside over the House and serve in the most diverse Congress in the nation's history. The Indian American Congresswoman also shared a clip of Tuesday's session where she was seen presiding over the House as a temporary Speaker. House Democrats rotate for the ceremonial position of presiding over the chamber. (Source: IANS)

Indian American receives Department of Defense's Most Prestigious Single-Investigator Award



Dr. Siddharth Ramachandran, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Materials Science Engineering, Boston University College of Engineering

WASHINGTON (TIP): Dr. Siddharth Ramachandran, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Materials Science Engineering, Boston University College of Engineering, is among 10 scientists and engineers recently announced as members of the 2019 Class of Vannevar Bush Faculty Fellows (VBFF).

The VBFF is the Department of Defense's most prestigious single investigator award and supports basic research with the potential for transformative impact. (Read full story on www.theindianpanorama.news)

As PM Modi rejigs cabinet committees, Amit Shah gets seat in all 8, Rajnath Singh in 6

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Modi government on Thursday announced constitution of eight Cabinet committees. Home Minister Amit Shah has been made a part of all the panels including one that clears all appointments.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi head the committees except the one on Parliamentary Affairs, which will be led by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

Rajnath Singh's name did not figure in some of the committees earlier. The government later amended the list and put up it on the Cabinet Secretariat website.

While the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has only Prime Minister Modi and Amit Shah in it, the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) has PM Narendra Modi, Amit Shah and Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, besides Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar.

Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan, Food Processing Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Health Minister Harsh Vardhan, Railways Minister Piyush Goyal, and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi, besides Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises Arvind Ganpat Sawant are also part of the panel, that takes all key decisions.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), headed by PM Narendra Modi, has Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Nirmala Sitharaman as its members. The panel looks after issues related to national security and foreign affairs.

Amit Shah will head the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation. Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, Nirmala Sitharaman and Piyush Goyal are



its members.

Minister of State in PMO Jitendra Singh and Housing and Urban Affairs and Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Puri are special invitees of the accommodation committee.

The key Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) will have Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nitin Gadkari, Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister DV Sadananda Gowda, Nirmala Sitharaman, Narendra Singh Tomar, Ravi Shankar Prasad and Harsimrat Kaur Badal among its members.

The others in the CCEA include S Jaishankar, Piyush Goyal and Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

The Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs, which recommends dates for holding parliament sessions, will be headed by Rajnath Singh and will have Amit Shah, Nirmala Sitharaman, Ram Vilas Paswan, Narendra Singh Tomar, Ravi Shankar Prasad, Social Justice Minister Thawar Chand Gehlot, Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi as its members.

Ministers of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram

Meghwal and V Muraleedharan are special invitees.

Amit Shah was to head the committee according to a government order earlier, which has since been amended.

The cabinet committees are constituted or reconstituted when a new government takes over or the cabinet undergoes a reshuffle.

On Wednesday, the government had constituted committees on investment and growth to spur the economic growth, and on employment and skill development to deal with the issues of unemployment.

It was perhaps for the first time that the cabinet committees on the two issues were set up.

The previous UPA Government had 12 Cabinet Committees, including one on investment. The Prime Minister used to head 10, while two Committees the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation and Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs had the Defense Minister as the Chairperson.

When Modi government had come to power in 2014, it had discontinued four Cabinet Committees, including the one on prices, UIDAI and WTO and clubbed them with Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs.

Not satisfied with treatment, Indore man kills doctor's wife

INDORE (TIP): A man, who was apparently unhappy with the medical treatment he was receiving, allegedly killed the wife of his doctor during a tiff here Thursday, police said.

The doctor's son was also injured in the attack. Rafiq Rasheed (45), the accused, was arrested, said an officer of Tukoganj police station.

Rasheed, suffering from a skin disease, was seeing Dr Ramkrishna Verma and was said to be dissatisfied with the treatment he was prescribed.

He went to Dr Verma's clinic in Malwa Mill area here Thursday to meet him but the doctor was out of town.

Verma's wife Lata Verma (50), who helped her husband at the clinic, asked Rasheed to come later.

It led to a heated argument, during which Rasheed allegedly stabbed her with a knife, the police officer said.

Her son Abhishek (19) rushed to her help and Rasheed knifed him too, he said.

The badly injured mother and son were taken to a nearby hospital where the doctors declared Lata brought dead.

Abhishek was said to be out of danger.

Rasheed was being questioned, the officer said, adding that it was not yet clear what exactly led him to attack Lata Verma. *Source: PTI*

Jolt to Cong, 12 MLAs join TRS



HYDERABAD (TIP): Denting the Congress badly in Telangana, 12 MLAs of the party have joined the ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS), brining the strength of the Congress in the Assembly to six. The 12 MLAs met Speaker P Srinivas Reddy and gave him a representation to merge them with the TRS.

Confirming the development, senior Congress legislator Gandra Venkata Ramana Reddy said: "The 12 MLAs had decided to work with the Chief Minister for the development of the state". The Congress' strength in the 119-member House had dropped to 18 after state Congress president Uttam Kumar Reddy resigned following his victory in the Parliamentary segment from Nalgonda.

Reddy and other MLAs today sat in dharna, with their mouths covered with black cloth alleging "gagging of democracy by the ruling party by poaching on Opposition MLAs". Uttam Kumar said the entire planning had been done secretly by the Chief Minister as the Speaker who was available to the 12 MLAs was not available to him and his other party colleagues. "We are protesting the breach of trust of the people by these MLAs and urge the Speaker not to merge these MLAs with the TRS", he said.

With only six MLAs, one less than the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), the Congress has lost its position as the largest Opposition party. Though the request for merger did not come as a surprise to many, the move had been on for some time. Early today the Tandoor Congress MLA Rohith Reddy met TRS Working President and Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao's son KT Rama Rao and pledged his loyalty to the ruling outfit. Eleven Congress MLAs made it obvious as early as March that they would eventually cross over.

Senior Congress legislator Gandra Venkata Ramana Reddy said, "We held a special meeting of the Congress Legislature Party. The 12 members supported the leadership of Chief Minister KCR and wanted to work with him. We gave a representation to the Speaker and requested him to merge us with the TRS."

ED seeks info on Vadra's UK assets

NEW DELHI (TIP): The ED has widened its probe against Robert Vadra and requested its UK counterparts to share details of ownership and related financial transactions of over half-a-dozen assets there that the agency claimed were acquired using laundered money and belonged to him, officials said.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has also sought help from financial intelligence units of some countries to unravel the flow of funds used to buy these assets.

The agency is preparing a blueprint to provisionally attach these immovable assets in London and nearby areas under the PMLA.

The 50-year-old businessman, who



is the brother-in-law of Congress president Rahul Gandhi, has been grilled multiple times by the ED with regard to a London-based property located at 12, Bryanston Square worth 1.9 million GBP (British pounds), which it claims is

allegedly owned by him.

Sources said the agency has evidence that some more assets in the UK are "linked" to Vadra. These include two houses — one worth 5 million GBP and the other valued at 4 million GBP, and six flats.

The federal anti-money laundering agency, sources said, has detected some alleged undisclosed transactions being made from Cyprus and Dubai for the purchase of these assets by people linked to Vadra.

Questioning of Vadra on his links to these assets has not got the agency much leads. It now wants to put Vadra through sustained interrogation and has moved court to cancel his anticipatory bail.

Amid rift with Punjab CM, Sidhu loses local bodies ministry, gets power

CHANDIGARH (TIP): Hours after Navjot Singh Sidhu slammed Amarinder Singh for singling him out for the Congress's "poor performance" in urban areas in the Lok Sabha polls, the Chief Minister divested him of his Local Bodies, Tourism and Culture portfolios.

The portfolio reshuffle took place hours after the first state Cabinet meeting following the Lok Sabha elections. With the Congress government in the state nearing the mid-term mark, Captain Amarinder hoped the exercise would also re-energise his team and bring freshness into the working of the major departments.

Amarinder has changed portfolios of all minister except four. They include Sadhu Singh Dharamsot (Forests, Printing & Stationery, SC/BC Welfare), Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa (Cooperation, Jails), Sunder Sham Arora (Industries & Commerce), and Bharat Bhushan Ashu (Food & Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs).

Sidhu has instead been given the departments of Power and New and Renewable Energy Sources. His Local Bodies department has been handed to Brahm Mohindra, who was earlier holding the Health and Family Welfare portfolio.

Sidhu's other portfolio of Tourism and Cultural Affairs went to Charanjit Singh Channi, who retains Technical Education, Industrial Training and Employment General.

Balbir Sidhu has been handed



over the Health Department and his portfolio of Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Dairy has been entrusted to Tript Rajinder Singh Bajwa, along with Higher Education. Bajwa also retained Rural Development and Panchayats. Bajwa has been given Higher Education and Animal Husbandry because the government intends to give greater priority to these sectors, said a government statement.

However, Bajwa has been divested of Housing and Urban Development. Bajwa is considered close to the Chief Minister and changing his portfolio may cast a reflection on him. Housing and Urban Development has been handed over to Sukhbinder Singh Sarkaria, in place of Revenue, which goes to Gurpreet Singh Kangar, who is also handling Rehabilitation and Disaster Management.

Manpreet Singh Badal, who continues to take care of Finance, Planning and Programme Implementation but the Chief Minister has decided to take Governance Reforms into his own fold. School Education has been shifted from Om Prakash Soni to Vijay Inder Singla, who retains Public Works but hands over Information Technology to Amarinder.

Soni will now take care of Medical Education & Research, Freedom Fighters and Food Processing departments.

In addition to Sports & Youth Affairs, Rana Gurmeet Sodhi will now also be in charge of NRI Affairs, which was under the Chief Minister's purview earlier. Transport has been moved from Aruna Chowdhary's basket and handed over to Razia Sultana, who retains Water Supply but has been divested of Higher Education.

Connection between D-Company and Pak embassy emerges in fake currency racket



NEW DELHI (TIP): The role of a key Pakistan official has surfaced in the smuggling of fake Indian currency notes (FICN). Highly placed sources revealed to IANS that India's most wanted fugitive Dawood Ibrahim's aides were in contact with a senior official of Pakistan's embassy in Kathmandu. One of the aides, Yunus Ansari, recently arrested by Nepal police in an FICN case was operating from a small hotel located in Chakrapath area, Kathmandu, close to the Pakistan Embassy.

Sources said Ansari brothers, Yunus and Naseem, were frequent visitors to the Pakistan Embassy in Kathmandu and had been reportedly in touch with the defence attache.

Acting on a tip-off from Indian intelligence agencies, a special squad of Kathmandu police arrested Yunus Ansari and three Pakistani nationals from Tribhuvan International Airport on May 24.

Ansari who flew in from Karachi had Qatar stamps on his passport to conceal the original destination from where four suitcases were loaded with fake Indian currency notes amounting to Rs 7.67 crore. The D-Company carriers had taken the Qatar Airways flight from Doha to Kathmandu to camouflage the original route of Karachi.

Sources said that Rs 2,000 Indian currency notes are being printed by Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) of Pakistan at a high-security printing press in Karachi. While D-Company is one of the distributors for FICN, a major bulk of fake notes are being smuggled into Bangladesh through the sea route.

In the past few months, a series of seizures have been made by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) ranging from West Bengal border to Gurugram in Haryana. Sources in the Intelligence Bureau said that though the quality of FICN, recovered in recent seizures, is not good, they can find a place in the market if not detected by UV counterfeit detection devices. *Source: IANS*

Four terrorists killed in Pulwama encounter, one among them a former policeman

SRINAGAR (TIP): Security forces in South Kashmir gunned down four terrorists, including a former Special Police Officer (SPO) who turned towards extremism, in an encounter on Friday morning.

All the four bodies, along with two AK 47 rifles, one AKM (Modernized Kalashnikov Automatic Rifle) and one self-loading rifle (SLR) have been recovered by the troops.

The encounter took place in Lassipora in Pulwama district and has been underway since Thursday evening.

A search operation was launched following the information about the presence of militants in the area.

The identification of the four terrorists is yet to be ascertained.

The policeman, who was among the terrorists killed during the gunfight, had decamped with a service rifle in Pulwama and allegedly joined a militant group.

OPERATION BLUESTAR 35TH ANNIVERSARY

Swords brandished at Akal Takht as radicals clash with SGPC men, cops

AMRITSAR (TIP): There was a clash between pro-Khalistan groups and the SGPC task force, that was assisted by police personnel in mufti, during a ceremony to mark the 35th anniversary of Operation Bluestar at the Golden Temple complex today. Markets in the vicinity remained closed for several hours.

After Akal Takht acting chief Giani Harpreet Singh ended his brief public address from the Akal Takht podium, kirtan was played on speakers even as Sarbat Khalsa-appointed 'parallel' jathedar Dhian Singh Mand tried to make a speech. Mand's aide Jarnail Singh Sakhira claimed he was manhandled by SGPC task force. SAD (Amritsar) president Simranjit Singh Mann too arrived there with his supporters.

Incensed, separatist groups tried to breach the barricades raised in front of Akal Takht and a clash



ensued, barely 100 feet from the sanctum sanctorum even as ADCP JS Walia and his men pleaded with Sikh activists to maintain peace. Some in the gathering were seen brandishing swords, wearing T-shirts and carrying banners with pictures of Bhindranwale. After the radicals broke the police cordon, it

was free for all.

Giani Harpreet Singh, calling it "violation of maryada", appealed to Sikh MPs to bring in a 'resolution in Parliament' against the then Union Government for the "attack" on the Golden Temple, Akal Takht and 37 other gurdwaras, leading to the death of innocent pilgrims.

HRW30 Film Festival

By Mabel Pais

The Human Rights Watch Film Festival (HRWFF), co-presented by Film at Lincoln Center and the IFC Center, presents 13 timely and provocative films, from June 13-20, 2019, that shine a bright light on bravery and resilience in challenging times, with incisive perspectives on human rights issues affecting people around the world. As racism and xenophobia continue to rise within the highest echelons of power, this year's festival presents cinematic works that expose and humanize cases of legalized and legitimized oppression of the disenfranchised that demand the world's attention.

Now celebrating its 30th year, the HRWFF truly reflects its ethos of celebrating diversity of content and perspective, providing a public cinematic forum for voices that are either silenced or marginalized in the media. Half of the films in this year's edition are by filmmakers with roots in the region they are covering, half were directed or co-directed by women, and the majority of this year's selection were directed by filmmakers of color.

The Human Rights Watch Film Festival is co-presented by Film at Lincoln Center and the IFC Center. All screenings will be followed by in-depth panels with filmmakers, film subjects, Human Rights Watch researchers and special guests.

"People's ability to show resilience and courage in the face of fear, oppression, and even violence is sometimes overshadowed by the regimes and prejudice they are fighting against," said John Biaggi, Director of the Human Rights Watch Film Festival. "This year's film festival shines a light on people around the world who continue to resist both extreme political movements and individual cases of discrimination. They stand against world leaders stoking fear and hatred, and they stand against people in their own communities who balk at the notion of diversity. We should not only celebrate the voices of these brave individuals, but also recognize their courage and dignity."

"Together we're celebrating the 50th anniversary of Film at Lincoln Center and 30 years of the Human Rights Watch Film Festival in 2019," said Lesli Klainberg, Executive Director of FLC. "We're so proud to continue partnering on this essential showcase of human rights films, which have been such an integral part of our organization's history and mission, and give a platform to spread the word about these important issues."

"IFC Center is honored to continue working with HRWFF to bring this important and inspiring group of films to New Yorkers," said John Vanco, Senior Vice President and General Manager of IFC Center.

With intense focus on the rise of tyranny and oppression, often politically sanctioned, around the world, the HRWFF presents stories from the frontlines of human rights battles in Venezuela, China, the Philippines,



A scene from "Advocate"

Photo/ HRWFF



A scene from "Bellingcat"

Photo/ HRWFF

Palestine, South Africa, the United States and elsewhere.

Opening Night features Rachel Leah Jones and Philippe Bellaïche's "Advocate," which documents the challenges faced by Jewish Israeli lawyer Lea Tsemel and her colleagues in their efforts to represent Palestinian clients - from non-violent demonstrators to armed militants - in an increasingly conservative Israel where the government, courts and media seem stacked against them.

This year's edition also features Eunice Lau's "Accept the Call," James Jones and Olivier Sarbil's "On the President's Orders," and Bassam Jarbawi's "Screwdriver (Mafak)."

With over half the films in 2019's program directed or co-directed by women, this year's festival highlights the female directorial voice. The program intimately explores the personal experiences of women filmmakers who confront human rights issues that affect women.

Nanfu Wang and Jialing Zhang's "One Child Nation," "Born in Evin," by Maryam Zaree, Beryl Magoko's "In Search...", winner of the festival's Nestor Almendros Award. Other works by women filmmakers include "Accept the Call," "Advocate," "No Box for Me" and "The Sweet Requiem."

Extending the festival's broad span of global films made by filmmakers with roots in the regions they are focusing on, South Africa's Rehad Desai's "Everything

Must Fall" and Venezuela's Tuki Jencquel's "Está Todo Bien."

The festival closes with Hans Pool's explosive and riveting "Bellingcat - Truth in a Post-Truth World," which follows the rise of the controversial "citizen investigative journalist" collective known as Bellingcat, dedicated to redefining breaking news by exploiting open-source investigation to expose the truth behind global news stories.

The HRWFF is proud to continue its exciting partnership with MUBI, a curated online cinema streaming the best films from around the globe. MUBI presents a new hand-picked film every day - whether its an acclaimed masterpiece, a cult classic or a festival-fresh gem. MUBI will be streaming select films from Human Rights Watch Film Festival during the New York 2019 event. Learn more at <https://mubi.com>.

Public screenings and special programs will take place at Film at Lincoln Center's Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center, (144 W. 65th St) (FLC) and at the IFC Center, 323 Avenue of the Americas (IFC). All screenings will be followed by a Q&A session.

The opening night film, "Advocate," will screen at Film at Lincoln Center's Walter Reade Theater, 165 W. 65th St. (WRT) (between Amsterdam and Broadway).

For more information, visit ff.hrw.org.

For more information on the HRWFF

“People’s ability to show resilience and courage in the face of fear, oppression, and even violence is sometimes overshadowed by the regimes and prejudice they are fighting against” We should not only celebrate the voices of these brave individuals, but also recognize their courage and dignity”

**- John Biaggi,
Director, HRWFF**

“The Human Rights Watch 30th Anniversary Film Festival (HRW30FF) Presents Brave Cinematic Works that Challenge the Rise of Authoritarianism and Oppression.

film program and screening schedule or to purchase tickets, visit ff.hrw.org/new-york and filmlinc.org for Film at Lincoln Center screenings and ifccenter.com for IFC Center screenings.

For discounted tickets and festival updates, sign up for the mailing list at hrw.org/filmconnect. A 3+ film discount package is also available for Film at Lincoln Center screenings. Tickets can also be purchased in-person at the venue box offices.

Follow the festival on Twitter and Instagram @hrwfilmfestival. Human Rights Watch

Human Rights Watch is one of the world's leading independent organizations dedicated to defending and protecting human rights. Its members work tenaciously to lay the legal and moral groundwork for deep-rooted change and fight to bring greater justice and security to people around the world. Through the HRWFF, the organization bears witness to human rights violations and creates a forum for courageous individuals on both sides of the lens to empower audiences with the knowledge that personal commitment can make a difference. The film festival brings to life human rights abuses through storytelling in a way that challenges each individual to empathize and demand justice for all people. To learn more about the organization's work or to make a donation, visit hrw.org

Film at Lincoln Center

For information on Film at Lincoln Center, visit filmlinc.org and follow @filmlinc on Twitter and Instagram.

IFC Center

For information on IFC Center, current and upcoming program details and more, visit ifccenter.com

(Mabel Pais writes on Social Issues, the Arts and Entertainment, Spirituality, and Health & Wellness)

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TAAPSEE PANNU REACTS TO VIKAS BAHL GETTING A CLEAN CHIT

Actor Taapsee Pannu says people must not stop raising their voice against sexual harassment at workplace and continue the #MeToo movement.

Her comment comes just two days after director Vikas Bahl was given a clean chit after an allegation of sexual misconduct made against him by a former employee of the now disbanded Phantom Films, was probed, and his credit as director of "Super 30" was restored.

Even actor Alok Nath, who was accused of rape by a writer-director, has appeared in the film "De De Pyaar De".

Asked how she looks at the situation, Taapsee told IANS: "Look, if the person who is accused of sexual harassment, doesn't get punished, of course the spirit of the movement, the spirit of a woman who comes out with the story of abuse in public, gets shattered.

"However, that should not stop other girls from raising their voices if they are abused...because girls have stayed silent for ages.

KATRINA HAD ONE CONDITION BEFORE SIGNING BHARAT

Actor Katrina Kaif has said Bharat is "the best role" of her career, adding that her onscreen character, Kumud Raina, is a strong woman. She also revealed that when director Ali Abbas Zafar told her about the film after Priyanka Chopra walked out, she had only one condition.

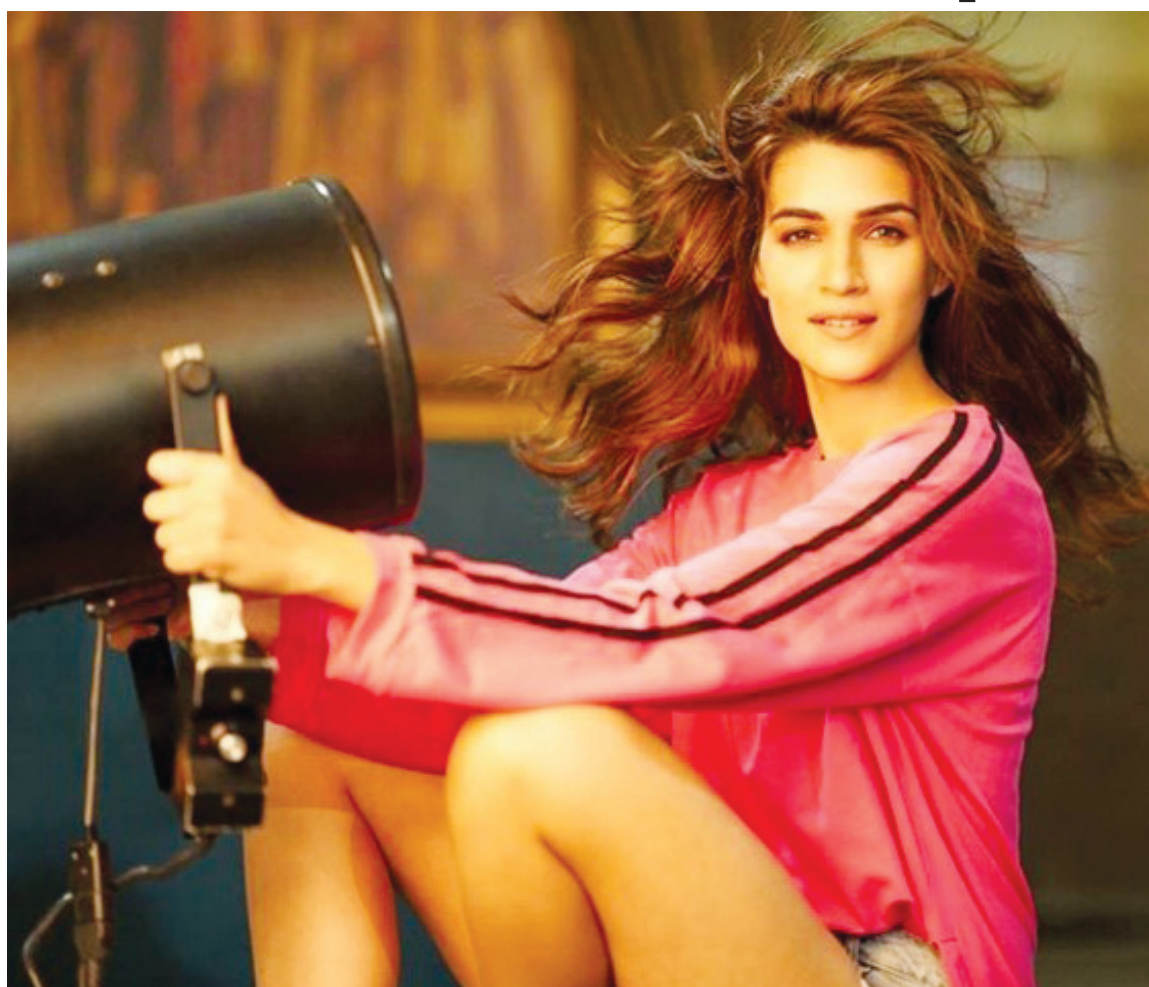
Speaking to Mid Day in an interview, Katrina revealed how she one condition for accepting the film. "I told Ali that I'd join the cast only if the character is strong enough. Kumud is that character. I went through a lot of prep work and attended workshops, because this role was challenging. The character spans 40 years in the film. Also, it's a big-budget holiday release, so it will reach a wide audience."

"I could be wrong, but Bharat is the best role of my career, on paper. There are instances when [an actor] doesn't get too much screen time in a Salman Khan-movie. But, I have been fortunate to get films with strong roles," she continued.

She also talked about her next Sooryavanshi with Akshay Kumar and director Rohit Shetty. She said, "I desire to play interesting characters, but, at the same time, I can balance [that] with films that are simply about having fun. Rohit and I have been planning to work together for nine years. We felt this film could be one that we could collaborate on. I like [the message] he is trying to portray in it. It's not just another glamorous role." Akshay, who plays a cop in the film, will star opposite Katrina.



Kriti Sanon: I don't compare myself with star kids



Actor Kriti Sanon said that she never compared herself with star kids as she was treated "equally" in her debut Heropanti opposite Tiger Shroff.

"I don't think I compared myself with star kids. I was launched with one. There was no point where I felt I needed to compare myself," Kriti told PTI.

The actress also said that both of them were not only treated like equals but also promoted like one.

"Both Tiger and I were equally new. We were learning like little babies. Fortunately, my producer and director always treated the film as the launch of two newcomers, not one. That never made me feel like there was a difference. The way we were treated, how we were promoted, it was so equal," said the Heropanti actress.

Kriti, who made her Bollywood debut with Heropanti in 2014, found success in two consecutive hits Bareilly Ki Barfi and Luka Chuppi.

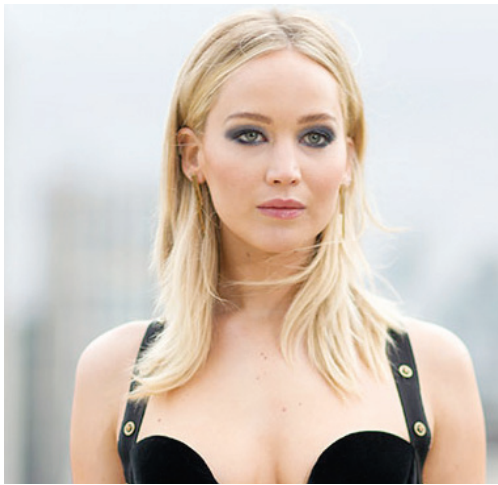
"You need to have a balance to do something for personal satisfaction and also to reach out to maximum number of people to entertain. It's important to have this balance," she said.

"I would never do something which I wouldn't want to go and watch in theatres. I am also an audience, so if I feel like this is something I would watch in theatre, I'll do the film. The length of the role or other things don't matter then," Kriti, who was last seen in Luka Chuppi, added.

This year, Kriti Sanon has Arjun Patiala, Housefull 4 and Panipat in her kitty. The actress said that all the upcoming films will show a different aspect of her personality.

"Arjun Patiala is a spoofy north Indian comedy. Spoof comedy hasn't been attempted so much in Bollywood. It is going to be something different. While Housefull 4 is completely crazy. It's the first comedy in a reincarnation zone," Kriti said.

"Panipat is my first proper period film and I'm really fortunate that I got to work with Ashutosh Gowariker. For the first time, I'm playing a Marathi character. I am happy that these three films are different from each other," the actress added.



Jennifer Lawrence all set for silver screen return post engagement

Actress Jennifer Lawrence is making her come back with the upcoming 'X-Men' movie 'Dark Phoenix.'

This will be her first movie since her announcement of taking a year off from the Hollywood industry.

The 28-year-old, who had won four Oscars, including a Best Actress award for 'Silver Linings Playbook' back in 2012, gave everyone a shock with her unconventional move.

"No one would say that when you're as big a star as Jennifer that you should take a year off, it's not that sensible. But she has all of that 'Hunger Games' money and she can afford to sit back," one Hollywood insider told.

FURIOUS MILEY CYRUS PENS POST AFTER BEING GROPED AND KISSED BY FAN

Just a day after getting groped by a fan, actress Miley Cyrus said no one can grab anyone without consent.

Cyrus on Tuesday took to social media and wrote: "She can be wearing what she wants. She can be a virgin. She can be sleeping with 5 different people. She can be with her husband. She can be with her girlfriend. She can be naked. She can't be grabbed without her consent."

The 'Adore you' hitmaker was groped while leaving a hotel here. A video of the incident, which was captured by one of her fans, became viral on social media.

In the video, Cyrus and her husband Liam Hemsworth are seen leaving their hotel here on Sunday when the singer is groped in a throng of fans, reported dailymail.co.uk.

Miley Cyrus became quite the sensation after her popular Disney show Hannah Montana, which ran for four seasons. After that, she created a stir with her risqué outfits and dance performances at shows like the VMAS. After a series of solo hits, the pop-star will be next seen in an episode of Black Mirror.



Charlize Theron to be honoured with 2019 American Cinematheque award



Hollywood star Charlize Theron will receive the 2019 American Cinematheque Award. According to a website, the award is bestowed annually by the nonprofit arts organisation to honour an "extraordinary filmmaker in the entertainment industry who is fully engaged in his or her work and is committed to making a significant contribution to the art of the motion picture."

The South African actor, will be presented with the award in a ceremony set to take place on November 8 at the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, California.

"The American Cinematheque is extremely pleased to honour Charlize Theron as the 33rd recipient of the American Cinematheque Award at our celebration this year.

"Charlize Theron is making a significant contribution to the art of motion pictures while breaking through outmoded limitations on what an actress and producer can do," said American Cinematheque chairman Rick Nicita.

Previous American Cinematheque Award honourees include Eddie Murphy, Bette Midler, Robin Williams, Steven Spielberg, Martin Scorsese, Sean Connery, Michael Douglas.



REESE WITHERSPOON: HAVING GREAT TIME WORKING ON 'LEGALLY BLONDE 3'

Actor Reese Witherspoon said she is having a great time working on the third part of her 'Legally Blonde' franchise.

The actor kick-started the series with 2001's 'Legally Blonde', where she played the idealistic Elle Woods who follows her boyfriend to a law school in order to win him back.

Witherspoon said the script was in place but the team is yet to start filming. "(We have) a script, but we haven't shot

anything. (Elle's) a very beloved character. You just want her to go on a hero's journey like she does in the first movie, and I'm having a great time working on it," she told a magazine.

Witherspoon reprised her role in the 2003 sequel, titled 'Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde'.

In June last year, the actor announced she will be reprising her role in a threequel, which is slated to hit the theatres on Valentine's Day in 2020.

Xavier University School of Medicine Aruba holds Foundation



Xavier President Ravishankar Bhooplapur, The Honorable Mr. Danguillaume Oduber Minister of Health, Tourism & Sports and The Honorable Dr. Armando Lampe The Education, Science, & Sustainable Development Minister with members of the Xavier Board of Trustees perform the laying of the first stones for the new campus!

ARUBA (TIP): Xavier University School of Medicine, on Monday May 27th, held its Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony for the new campus. Xavier's new campus will sit on over 15 acres of land. Construction started in April of 2019 and phase one will open July of 2020. Once completed the entire campus will feature a housing complex, dining facilities, sport courts and a full state of the art academic block and research facilities.



Xavier Board of Trustees. Left to Right; Dr. P.K. Prahalad, Dr. Ravindra Kota, President Ravishankar Bhooplapur, Mr. Edwin Casey (Chairman), Dr. J.G. Bhat (Chancellor), Mr. Frank Croes

President Ravishankar Bhooplapur was joined by The Honorable Danguillaume Oduber, Aruba Minister of Education, Science, & Sustainable Development for the performing of the foundation stone



President Bhooplapur, The Honorable Mr. Danguillaume Oduber and Aruba Parliament President Juan E. Thijsen walk to the ceremony



Xavier President Ravishankar Bhooplapur addresses the audience at the ceremony

of Health, Tourism, and Sports and The Honorable Dr. Armando R. Lampe, laying. President Bhooplapur and board of trustee members, Dr. J.G. Bhat, Mr.



The Xavier Board of Trustees presents The Honorable Mr. Danguillaume Oduber Minister of Health, Tourism & Sports with his award



Members of the Aruba Parliament in attendance at the ceremony

CONTD ON PAGE 21

Stone Laying Ceremony for new \$60 Million campus

CONTD FROM PAGE 20



President Bhooplapur shows off the plans for the new campus to The Honorable Mr. Danguillaume Oduber and The Honorable Dr. Armando Lampe

Edwin Casey, Mr. Frank Croes, Dr. P. K. Prahalad and Dr. Ravindra Kota were honored to be joined by; Mr. Juan E. Thijsen, President of the Aruba Parliament and Mr. Alan Howell, Vice President of the Aruba Parliament, as well as many other Members of the Aruba Parliament and other distinguished guests.



President Bhooplapur and The Honorable Mr. Danguillaume Oduber with Xavier students

Xavier Chancellor Dr. J.G. Bhat addressed the audience during the ceremony and spoke about the growth and development of the University over the past decade. Xavier President Ravishankar Bhooplapur spoke about the growing need for quality physicians and thanked the Government of Aruba for their



Members of the Aruba Parliament stand for the Aruba National Anthem

continued support and hospitality, and Aruba Investment Bank (AIB) for their efforts in helping to finance this project. This was a historic moment as it signified Xavier's commitment to the island of Aruba as an excellent location for students to receive a high quality medical education. It also helped to strengthen the relationship between the University and the Island of Aruba!

Mr. Edwin Casey and the Xavier Board of Trustees presented awards to The Honorable Danguillaume Oduber and The Honorable Dr. Armando R. Lampe for their outstanding leadership, dedication and continued support of medical education. Once they received their awards they went on to address the audience and spoke

about the positive impact that Xavier has had on the island of Aruba, and how they are excited to see the continued future progress that Xavier University School of Medicine will have. The Honorable Dr. Armando Lampe spoke on behalf of the Aruban people and thanked Xavier for putting their trust in the island.

About the New Campus

Xavier University School of Medicine's new campus will be a multiphase project. Construction started in April of 2019 and Phase 1 will open in July of 2020, comprising a 3-story student housing complex, dining facilities, sport courts, and site infrastructure. Phase 2, expected to begin in the next 6 months consists of a full state of the art academic block including lecture halls, labs, modern auditorium, computer labs and conference rooms and research facilities. Additional housing will be added in future years. Phase 1 will consist of over a 20 million USD investment. The entire New Campus will see an investment of over approximately 60 million USD to complete and is expected to be completed in January of 2022.

Owner:

Rovik Aruba Real Estate N.V.

Architect:

Gayathri & Namith Architects

Project Management:

MER-CANN



Ms. Jurina Lanoy- Maduro sings the Aruba National Anthem



Plans for the new Xavier Campus



Left to Right: Mr. Edwin Casey (Chairman), Dr. P.K. Prahalad, Dr. Ravindra Kota, Dr. J.G. Bhat, Dr. Richard Pestell, Dr. Sanjivan Patel and Dr. Arun Dubey (Chief Academic Officer)



Xavier Board of Trustee members and their wives at the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony with The Honorable Mr. Danguillaume Oduber

Structural Design:

HJC Engineering N.V.

M.E.P. & Fire Safety Design:

Timeline Services N.V.

Building Permits:

Dept of Public Works Aruba (DOW)

Contractor:

Coburg Construction & Consulting N.V.

Financing Arranged by

Aruba Investment Bank (AIB)

On Stage Dignitaries

The Honorable Danguillaume P. Oduber- Minister of Health, Tourism & Sports

The Honorable Dr. Armando R. Lampe- Minister of Education, Science & Durable

Development

Mr. Juan E. Thijsen- Aruba Parliament President

Mr. Alan Howell- Aruba Parliament Vice President

Mr. Ravishankar Bhooplapur, President - Xavier University School of Medicine Aruba

Mr. Edwin Casey, Chairman - Xavier University School of Medicine Aruba

Dr. J.G. Bhat, Chancellor - Xavier University School of Medicine Aruba

Mr. Frank H. Croes, Trustee - Xavier University School of Medicine Aruba

Dr. P.K. Prahalad, Trustee - Xavier University School of Medicine Aruba

Dr. Ravindra Kota, Trustee - Xavier University School of Medicine Aruba

Mr. Lionel Mercalina, Project Manager -MER-CANN

Mr. Frensel Giel, Managing Director - AIB Bank

GURU ARJAN DEV, THE FIFTH MASTER OF THE SIKHS

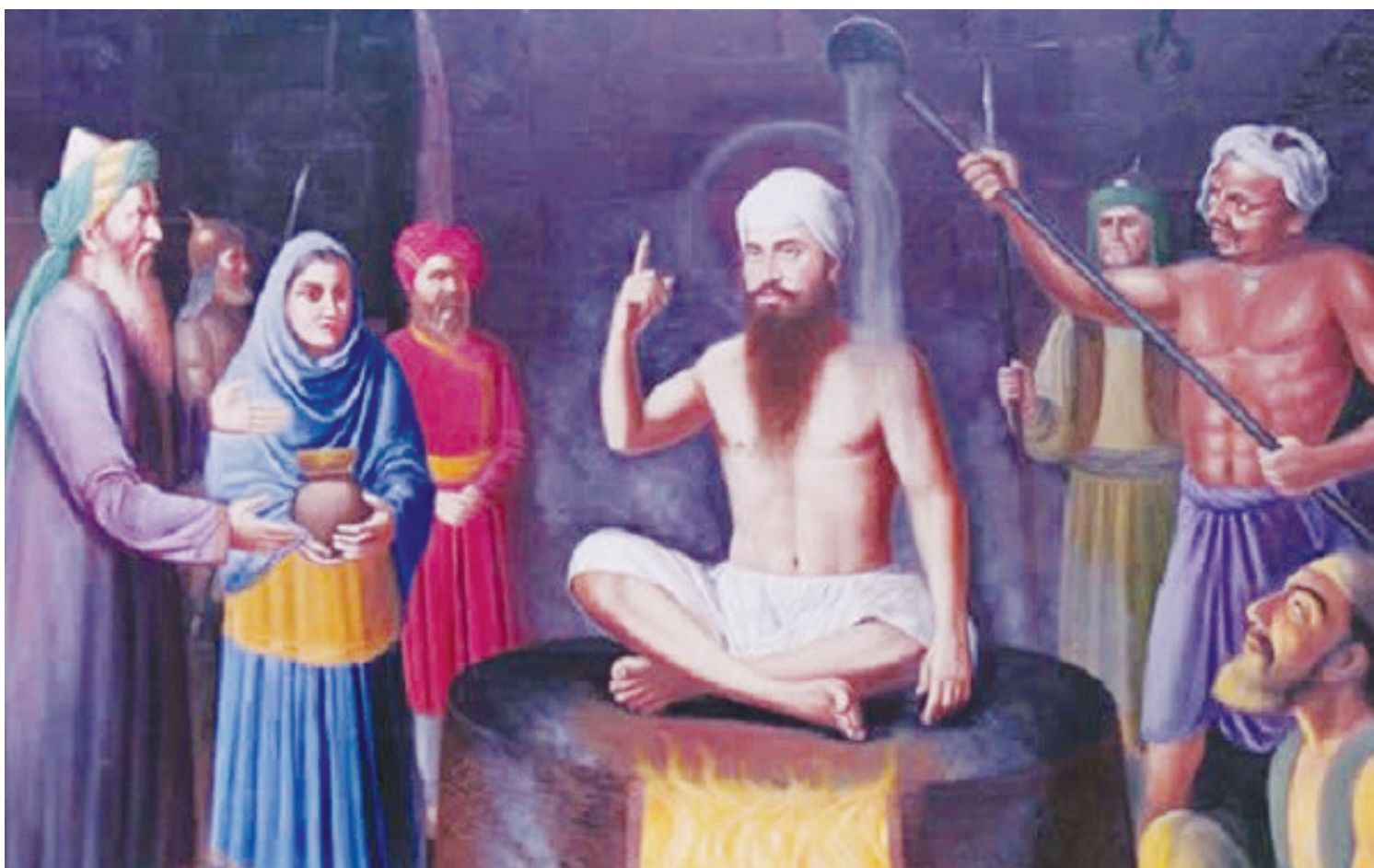
Guru Arjan Dev was born in 1563 at Goindval, and was the youngest of the sons of Guru Ram Das and Bibi Bhani, the daughter of Guru Amar Das. Before his death, Guru Ram Das nominated his son Har Gobind (who became Guru Arjan Dev) as the next Guru. Thus Guru Arjan Dev became the 5th Sikh Guru on 1 September 1581 in the footsteps of his father Guru Ram Das. Guru Arjan Dev was the founder-builder of the golden temple at Amritsar.

The personal relations between the Mughal Emperor Akbar (1542-1605 AD) and Guru Arjan Dev were quite cordial. But things changed for the worse after the accession of Jahangir (1605-1627 AD) as Mughal Emperor in 1605. It was Jahangir who inaugurated the era of inhuman and brutal suppression of Sikhism and extermination of the Sikhs and Hindus.

According to the traditional accounts of the Sikhs, Jahangir ordered the inhuman torture and execution of Guru Arjan Dev in Lahore in 1606. Jahangir was annoyed with Guru Arjan Dev because he had given an amount of Rs.5000/- to Prince Khushru, the rebel son of Jahangir, when he needed it. When Jahangir questioned Guru Arjan Dev, the Guru justified it on the grounds of his Dharma and gratitude for past kindness received from Emperor Akbar, and not because of his opposition to Jahangir. Still Jahangir fined him Rs. 2 lakhs and also ordered Guru Arjan Dev to expunge from the Granth Sahib (then known as the Adi Granth) certain passages opposed to the Mussalmans. Guru stated that his money was meant for the welfare of the poor and so he could not pay even a pie towards the fine imposed in a dictatorial manner by Jahangir. Further Guru Arjan Dev also made it clear that it was not possible to expunge the passages from the Granth Sahib, as the passages he had included in it were not offensive to the sentiments of the Mussalmans. In spite of this reasonable explanation, Jahangir sentenced Guru Arjan Dev to death.

Guru Arjan Dev was made to sit on a hot iron plate and hot sand was showered over his body, and he was boiled in a cauldron. Dabistan-i-Mazhaid, a contemporary Persian Work, mentions of Guru Arjan Dev being deprived of food and water and put into the hot blazing sand and stoned in a savage manner, which caused blood to ooze out of his head. He was thus tortured for five days. With wounds blistering on his body, tied hand and foot, he was thrown into the River Ravi on May 30, 1606. Guru Arjan Dev was barely 43 years old at the time of his martyrdom.

This is what Emperor Jahangir himself wrote in his diary called the Tuzk-e-Jahangiri ('Memoirs of Jahangir'): 'In Goindval, which is on the river Biyāh (Beas), there was a Hindu named Arjan Dev, in the garments of sainthood and sanctity, so much so that he had captured many of the simple-hearted of the Hindus, and even of the ignorant and foolish followers of Islam, by his ways and manners, and they had loudly sounded the drum of his holiness.



They called him Guru, and from all sides stupid people crowded to worship and manifest complete faith in him. Many times it occurred to me to put a stop to this vain affair or to bring him into the assembly of the people of Islam. At last when Prince Khusrau passed along this road this insignificant fellow proposed to wait upon him. Khusrau happened to halt at the place where he was, and he came out and did homage to him. Arjan Dev behaved to Khusrau in certain special ways, and made on his forehead a finger-mark in saffron, which the Indians (Hinduwan) call qashqa, (Tilak) and is considered propitious. When this came to my ears and I clearly understood his folly, I ordered them to produce him and handed over his houses, dwelling-places, and children to Murtaza Khan, and having confiscated his property commanded that he should be put to death.'

Guru Arjan Dev served as the supreme head of Sikhism for a quarter of a century and accomplished great and heroic things for Sikhism during his time. He expanded the city of Amritsar and completed the construction of the Golden Temple at Amritsar. He also founded cities such as Taran Taran and Kartarpur. He constructed a Baoli at Lahore.

The most important work of Guru Arjan Dev was the compilation of Adi Granth. The Adi Granth is regarded as the greatest work of sacred Punjabi literature. He brought together the writings of the first four Gurus and those of the Hindu Saints from different parts of India.

Adi Granth was composed by Guru Arjan Dev in the form of sacred, soulful verses in 1604. It is, perhaps, the only book of a scriptural nature which still



exists in the form first published (a handwritten manuscript) by Guru Arjan Dev. He said that the Book is the abode of God: 'Pothi Parameswar ka sthan'. His hymns were set to divine music. We find in Adi Granth a wide range of mystical emotion, intimate expressions of the personal realization of the rapturous hymns of divine love.

Guru Arjan Dev's successors made a few additions and the tenth Guru, Gobind Singh, said that there would be no more Gurus and the Granth should be regarded as the living voice of all the prophets: Guru-Vani Sukhmani, one the most popular banis (sacred hymns) revered by all the Sikhs, was composed

by Guru Arjan Dev.

In order to promote the feelings of universal brotherhood among the Sikhs and others, Guru Arjan Dev organized the Masand system, a group of representatives who taught and propagated the teachings of the Sikh Gurus and also collected the Dasvand, one-tenth of a Sikh's income (in money, goods or service) that Sikhs paid to support the building of Gurdwaras, the all important Guru Ka Langars (free communal kitchens) which were designed and intended to share with all a sense of love, respect and equality-still the most important and vital element in any Gurdwara even today.

Sikhs in London Protest the Blue Star Operation of 1984



Nirpal Shergill at Trafalgar Square, London

LONDON (TIP): A demonstration and protest march, organized by Federation of Sikh Organisation UK, was held by thousands of the Sikhs in London Hyde Park and Trafalgar Square on Sunday, June 2, 2019, to protest against the Blue Star Operation of 1984 by the then Indira Gandhi government.

Beside Sikhs belonging to the London areas and Gurdwaras, Sikhs from 100-miles away cities like Birmingham, West Midlands, Southampton, Gravesend, Bedford, Leicester reached there in trains, cars and in the buses arranged by the Gurdwaras and Sikh organizations for their members. The speakers from the stage were seen shouting slogans "Khalistan- Zindabad", and the demonstrators were seen supporting and demanding "Khalistan", by wearing T-Shirts with "Khalistan" printed on the front and back.

The Sikhs have been protesting in



Sikh Demonstration, Trafalgar Square, London, June 2, 2019 Photo / Courtesy Ravi Bolina

India and abroad against this Indian government army action for the last 35 years, since 10th June 1984, when there were protests and demonstrations all over the world e.g. Hyde Park corner London, Madison Square, New York., Canberra, Toronto, Frankfurt etc.

The first Sikh demonstration, outside India, against the Blue Star Operation at Golden Temple Amritsar, I attended, and reported worldwide, was at Robson Square Vancouver Canada on 10th June 1984, and this London Trafalgar Square

protest was 36th demonstration I attended since 1984.

Southampton-based Amrik Singh Gill, President of the Federation of Sikh Organisation, Gurmail Singh Malh, i President of Sri Guru Singh Sabha gurdwaras Southall and a lot of Sikh community leaders, namely Lavshinder Singh Dallewal, Devinderjit Singh, Mangal Singh, Inder Singh Jammu Ex-Mayor, Gurdip Singh Sandhu, Balwinder Singh and many others addressed the gathering.

UK-India Awards 2019 Nominations Shortlist Announced

Picture caption -The winners of the UK-India Awards will be announced at a glittering ceremony in London taking place on 28th June 2019

LONDON (TIP): India Inc. a London-based media house that produces incisive content and events on investment, trade and policy matters relating to India's increasingly globalised economic and strategic agenda, announced May 30 the shortlist for this year's UK-India Awards.

A key highlight of UK-India Week (24 - 28 June 2019), the UK-India Awards brings together and celebrates the innovative and trailblazing individuals and organisations that are making a significant contribution to the strong global partnership between the UK and India.

The Awards announcement comes at a time when there are 842 Indian companies operating in the UK, with combined revenues of over £48 billion - an increase from £46.4 billion in 2018 [source: Grant Thornton India Meets Britain Tracker 2019]. Last year investment from India increased an incredible 321% over the previous year [source: ONS] and London sits at the very epicentre of this prosperity, attracting more investment projects from India than any other major European city [source: London & Partners].

This year's UK-India Awards will be judged by an all-women panel of leading figures in business, technology, media, and politics:

● Ruth Davidson MP, Leader of the Scottish Conservative Party



The winners of the UK-India Awards will be announced at a glittering ceremony in London taking place on 28th June 2019

- Shalni Arora, CEO, Savannah Wisdom
 - Deborah D'Aubney, Director, General Counsel, Rolls Royce
 - Hon. Patricia Hewitt, Former UK Cabinet Minister
 - Gina Miller, Founder of True and Fair Foundation
 - Falguni Nayar, Founder of Nykaa.com
 - Buffalo Grid, for Start-up of the Year
 - Baker McKenzie, for Law Firm of the Year
 - The Softbank Vision Fund for Fund of the Year
 - PwC for Consultancy of the Year
- The winners of the UK-India Awards will be announced at a glittering ceremony in London taking place on 28th June 2019.
- In its third year, the Awards ceremony takes place during the inaugural UK-India Week, running 24th-28th June. UK-India Week celebrates the strong partnership between the UK and India and is a catalyst for promoting opportunities for future collaboration.
- (Source - India Inc)

World leaders mark 75 years since D-Day on Normandy's beaches in France

CAEN(FRANCE) (TIP): : US

President Donald Trump landed in France on June 7 to join other world leaders on the beaches of Normandy in a tribute to the veterans and dead heroes of the D-Day landings that shaped the outcome of World War II.

Despite being largely blamed for growing international discord, Trump headed to join in the attempted show of transatlantic harmony on the 75th anniversary of the assault. "Heading over to Normandy to celebrate some of the bravest that ever lived," the US leader tweeted on arrival in France.

"We are eternally grateful!" French President Emmanuel Macron and British Prime Minister Theresa May earlier paid tribute to D-Day veterans at the start of Thursday's commemorations for the soldiers who surged onto the Normandy beaches on June 6, 1944.

On an occasion mixing high politics with poignant historical remembrance, Macron met first with May at Ver-sur-Mer, where they laid the first stone for a new British memorial to fallen soldiers. "Standing here as the waves wash quietly onto the shore below us, it's almost impossible to grasp the raw courage it must have taken that day to leap from landing craft and into the surf, despite the fury of battle," May said.

Under a bright blue sky, she finished her speech by addressing the assembled veterans, whose numbers dwindle with each major anniversary. "I want to say the only words we can: thank you," she said in her final international appearance before she steps down as leader of the Conservative party on Friday.

Britain's delayed departure from the European Union, which has cost May her job as prime minister, is just one of many rifts that has opened recently among Western allies, whose alliance forged in World War II is under unprecedented strain.

The man blamed for most of the discord, Trump, was set to arrive in northern France for a ceremony at the US military cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer overlooking Omaha Beach where 9,400 US servicemen are buried.

Both leaders will give speeches, while the French president will also bestow the Legion d'Honneur, France's highest honour, on five American veterans. Macron and Trump - whose once warm relations have chilled due to mounting public disagreements on Iran, climate change and trade - will then meet for private talks followed by a working lunch. Macron will end the day with an homage at Colleville Montgomery for the Kieffer Commando, the only French soldiers to storm a Normandy beach on D-Day which opened a new front against the Nazis and led to the liberation of France and much of western Europe. (AFP)

WALNUTS MAY HELP FIGHT AGEING EFFECTS

Eating an overall healthy diet, including certain foods such as walnuts and other whole foods, may reduce the risk of physical function impairments throughout the ageing process in women, a new study has found.

Women who consumed 1-2 servings of walnuts per week (1/4 cup per serving) showed reduced risk of developing impairments in physical functions, the study said. Walnuts are unique among nuts in that they are primarily composed of polyunsaturated fat (13 grams per ounce), which includes alpha-linolenic acid (ALA), the plant-based omega-3 fatty acid.

They are the only nut to contain a significant amount of ALA with 2.5 grams per one ounce serving, the study noted.

"There is a lot of research that looks at specific health conditions in ageing, such as diabetes and heart disease, but less attention to research on quality of life and ability to maintain independence with ageing," said Francine Grodstein, Professor at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School in the US.

Further, a higher intake of fruits and vegetables, lower intake of sugar-sweetened beverages, trans fat and sodium and moderate alcohol intake were diets most associated with reduced rates of incident physical impairment.

Among food components, the strongest relations were found for increased intakes of oranges, orange juice, apples, pears, romaine or leaf lettuce and walnuts.

Overall diet quality, rather than individual foods, may have a greater impact on reducing risk of physical function impairments, emphasised the paper published in the Journal of Nutrition.

For the study, the team looked at data from 54,762 women in the Nurses' Health Study, which tracked women for over 30 years.

Between 1992 and 2008, the team examined these participants' association between the dietary habits of the participants and subsequent impairment in physical



function.

Helps weight loss

Contrary to what people believe, walnuts can form a part of weight management diet. Several studies have suggested that regular consumption of walnuts is unlikely to cause weight gain or obesity. In fact, an ounce of walnuts contains 2.5g of omega 3 fats, 4g of protein and 2g of fibre that help provide satiety. Any successful weight management plan must include satiety factor; so walnut is undoubtedly the right food to consider if you are into a weight management programme. Despite being 'dense in calories, walnuts can be an important tool in helping you lose weight.

Induces sleep

Walnuts contain a compound called melatonin, responsible for conveying messages regarding the cycle of light and dark to the body. Since melatonin is already synthesised by the body, consumption of walnuts increases the blood levels of melatonin, thereby inducing sleep. That's why eating walnuts can be a great way to improve sleep.

Great for your hair

Walnut is a good 'hair food' too.

This is because walnuts contain biotin (vitamin B7) that helps strengthen hair, reduce hair fall and improve hair growth to certain extent. In addition to walnuts, you can try these foods to prevent hair loss.

Prevents heart disease

Among all the dietary plants and nuts, walnuts contain the highest amount of antioxidants. Around 100 g of walnuts will give more than 20 mmol antioxidants, which makes them extremely effective in combating heart disease by their ability to destroy free radicals. They are also loaded with omega-3 fatty acids that lowers bad cholesterol and increases the production of good cholesterol making it a great snack to keep your heart in great health.

Prevents diabetes

All types of nuts are associated with a lowered risk of diabetes and walnuts are no exception. According to a study, women who consumed 28 grams of walnuts twice a week were 24% less likely to develop type 2 diabetes. The study was published in the Journal of Nutrition, and even though it was conducted on women, experts believe that the benefits would be similar for men too.

FOOD CORNER



Nawabi Pulao

Ingredients

1/2 kg chicken
1/4 kg mutton
1/2 kg rice
1 cup curd, well beaten
1 cup milk
3 onions
2 eggs
1/2 cup green peas, shelled
1 pod arlic
1 big piece of ginger
1 tsp rose water
Ghee or oil for frying
Salt to taste

Method

- Clean and wash rice and soak it in water for 15 minutes.
- Cook the rice till half done. Keep aside. 3. Clean and cut the mutton into cubes. Joint the chicken. Boil the eggs and keep aside.
- Slice the onions. Grind ginger and garlic to a paste.
- Heat ghee in a frying pan, add onions, ginger-garlic paste and fry well.
- Add the jointed chicken and fry. Add 3 cups of water and salt to taste and cook on slow fire till the meat is tender and only 1/3 of the gravy is left.
- Add some more ghee and the well beaten curd. Cook on a slow fire until the curd gets absorbed.
- Add 1 tsp of rose water after the meat has cooled.
- Take a heavy bottomed pan and arrange alternate layers of rice and cooked meat taking care that the first and last layers are that of rice.
- Place in an oven and cook for about 15-20 minutes on low heat.
- Garnish with fried onions, quartered boiled eggs and boiled green peas.

Hydrate, exfoliate, moisturize to avoid dry skin

Save your skin from dryness and dehydration. Increase water intake and exfoliate the dead skin cells to achieve smooth skin, says an expert.

An expert from Advanced Beauty and Cosmetic Clinic has shared a few tips to get spotless skin:

- Hydrate: Hydrating yourself is absolutely essential to keep your skin healthy. A lot of water content from the body is lost while you sweat during summer season. Therefore, it is essential to increase water intake by a couple of glasses every day.
- Avoid caffeinated drinks and keep away from aerated drinks too as they further dehydrate the skin. Instead, opt for freshly squeezed lime juice or go for coconut water and other fresh juices.
- Exfoliate: Exfoliation helps in the removal of dead skin cells and in achieving smooth skin. You can



do it yourself at home with the right mix.

- Oatmeal, honey, lemon, curd, cucumber are some of the ingredients that can work wonders on your skin. In summer season, exfoliate at least thrice a week to remove dead skin and improve blood

- circulation.
- Moisturize: It is necessary to moisturise your skin before you step out in the searing sun. This will keep your skin hydrated and prevent it from becoming dry and scaly.

Apply a light and non-greasy moisturiser after you step out from a shower and before applying sunscreen. Follow this procedure in the night.

- Balanced diet: It is not just water that helps you to stay hydrated; indulging in fresh fruits, leafy vegetables and salads help as well. Eat the right food to nourish your skin and stay fit during summer. Avoid boiling or steaming vegetables for too long, as this will reduce their water content. Junk food, beverages, non-vegetarian and spicy preparations are a strict no-no as well during summer.

HIV PATIENTS AT RISK OF HEART DISEASE, STROKE

Patients with HIV are at a significantly higher risk of suffering from heart and blood vessel diseases as compared to those without the infection, scientists say.

According to a new scientific statement published in the journal *Circulation*, effective antiretroviral therapy has changed HIV from a progressive, fatal disease to a chronic, manageable condition that increases the risk of heart attacks and strokes.

Interactions between traditional risk factors, such as diet, lifestyle and tobacco use, and HIV-specific risk factors, such as a chronically activated immune system and inflammation characteristic of chronic HIV contribute to the increased risk of heart and blood vessel diseases in HIV patients.

Tobacco use, a major risk factor for cardiovascular diseases, is common among people living with HIV.

Heavy alcohol use, substance abuse, mood and anxiety disorders, low levels of physical activity and poor cardio-respiratory fitness are also common among people living with HIV and may contribute to elevated risk for diseases of the heart and blood vessels, according to the statement.

"Considerable gaps exist in our knowledge about HIV-associated



diseases of the heart and blood vessels, in part because HIV's transition from a fatal disease to a chronic condition is relatively recent, so long-term data on heart disease risks are limited," said Matthew J Feinstein, from Northwestern University in the US.

In addition, people living with HIV are often stigmatised and face significant barriers to optimal health care, such as education level, where they live, healthcare literacy, cognitive impairment, internalised and anticipated stigma, gait and

mobility impairment, frailty, depression and social isolation.

There are also disparities in care based on age, race, ethnicity and gender.

Another area of concern is the ageing population of people living with HIV — 75 per cent of people living with HIV are over age 45.

"Ageing with HIV differs greatly from the aging issues facing the general population," said Jules Levin, in an accompanying patient perspective.

Source: PTI



AFTERNOON NAPS CAN BOOST KID'S HAPPINESS, IQ

An afternoon nap can boost happiness as well as improve behaviour and academic performance of children, a study has found.

Researchers from the University of California (UC) Irvine in the US conducted a study of nearly 3,000 fourth, fifth, and sixth graders aged 10-12.

The study, published in the journal *SLEEP*, showed a connection between midday napping and greater happiness, self-control, and grit; fewer behavioral problems; and higher IQ.

"Children who napped three or more times per week benefit from a 7.6 per cent increase in academic performance in Grade 6," said Adrian Raine, from University of Pennsylvania.

"How many kids at school would not want their scores to go up by 7.6 points out of 100?" Raine said.

Sleep deficiency and daytime drowsiness are surprisingly widespread, with drowsiness affecting up to 20 per cent of all children, said Jianghong Liu, an associate professor at University of Pennsylvania.

While the negative cognitive, emotional, and physical effects of poor sleep habits are well-established, and most previous research has focused on preschool age and younger.

Researchers used data from a study in China, where the practice of afternoon napping is embedded into daily life, continuing through elementary and middle school, even into adulthood.

From each of 2,928 children, the researchers collected data about napping frequency and duration once the children hit Grades 4 through 6, as well as outcome data when they reached Grade 6, including psychological measures like grit and happiness and physical measures such as body mass index and glucose levels.

They also asked teachers to provide behavioral and academic information about each student.

The researchers then analysed associations between each outcome and napping, adjusting for sex, grade, school location, parental education, and nightly time in bed.

"Many lab studies across all ages have demonstrated that naps can show the same magnitude of improvement as a full night of sleep on discrete cognitive tasks," said Sara Mednick, from UC Irvine.

"Here, we had the chance to ask real-world, adolescent schoolchildren questions across a wide range of behavioural, academic, social, and physiological measures," said Mednick.

"The more students sleep during the day, the greater the benefit of naps on many of these measures," she said.

Source: PTI

ENERGY DRINKS MAY HARM YOUR HEART: STUDY

Consuming too many energy drinks in a short timespan may increase blood pressure and disrupt heart rhythm, a study has found.

For the study, published in the *Journal of the American Heart Association*, enrolled 34 healthy volunteers between the ages of 18 and 40 years.

Participants were randomly assigned to drink 32 ounces of one of two commercially available caffeinated energy drinks or a placebo drink on three separate days.

The drinks were consumed within a 60-minute period but no faster than one 16-ounce bottle in 30 minutes.

Researchers at the University of the Pacific in the US measured the electrical activity of the volunteers' hearts by electrocardiogram, which records the way a heart is beating. They also recorded participant's blood pressure.

All measurements were taken at the study's start and every 30 minutes for four hours after drink consumption.

Both energy beverages tested contained 304 to 320 milligrams of caffeine per 32 fluid ounces. Caffeine at doses under 400



milligrams is not expected to induce any electrocardiographic changes.

Other common ingredients in the energy drinks in the study included taurine (an amino acid), glucuronolactone (found in plants and connective tissues) and B-vitamins.

The placebo drink contained carbonated water, lime juice and cherry flavouring.

In participants who consumed either type of energy drink, researchers found that the QT interval was six milliseconds or 7.7 milliseconds higher at four hours compared to placebo drinkers.

The QT interval is a measurement of the time it takes ventricles in the heart (the lower chambers) to prepare to generate a beat again.

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DR. SATISH AND GITANJLI ANAND



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

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



ASIA'S GLACIERS PREVENT WATER SHORTAGE DURING DROUGHTS

Glaciers become the largest supplier of water to some of Asia's major river basins during droughts, fulfilling the basic needs of 221 million people when water shortages are at their worst, a study has found.

The study, published in journal *Nature*, has important economic and social implications for a region that is vulnerable to drought. Climate change is causing most of the region's glaciers to shrink.

Hamish Pritchard, a glaciologist at the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) in the UK, said that the melt-water is important for the people living downstream when the rains fail and water shortages are at their worst.

According to researchers, each summer, glaciers release 36 cubic kilometres of water—equivalent to 14 million Olympic swimming pools—to these rivers. This is enough water to cater to the needs of 221 million people.

The high-mountain region of Asia, known as the Third Pole, including the Himalayas, has 95,000 glaciers in total. About 800 million people are partly dependent on their melt-water.

Brain zapping can help retrieve forgotten memories

Forgotten memories can be retrieved by stimulating a specific brain region using electrical currents, scientists have found for the first time.

The research, published in the *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, shows that the left rostrolateral prefrontal cortex plays a critical role in memory recall.

"We found dramatically improved memory performance when we increased the excitability of this region," said Jesse Rissman, an assistant professor at University of California, Los Angeles in the US.

The left rostrolateral prefrontal cortex is important for high-level thought, including monitoring and integrating information processed in other areas of the brain, Rissman said.

This area is located behind the left side of the forehead, between the eyebrow and the hairline.

"We think this brain area is particularly important in accessing knowledge that you formed in the past and in making decisions about it," said Rissman.

The psychologists conducted experiments with three groups of people whose average age was 20. Each group contained 13 women and 11 men.

Participants were shown a series of 80 words on a computer screen. For each word, participants were instructed to imagine either themselves or another person interacting with the word, depending on whether the words "self" or "other" also appeared on the screen.

The following day, the participants returned to the laboratory for three tests -- one of their memory, one of their reasoning ability and one of their visual perception.

Each participant wore a device that sent a weak electrical current through an electrode on the scalp to decrease or increase the excitability of neurons in the left rostrolateral prefrontal cortex.

Increasing their excitability makes neurons more likely to fire, which enhances the connections between neurons, Rissman said.

'FORBIDDEN' PLANET DISCOVERED IN NEPTUNIAN DESERT

Astronomers say they have discovered a rogue exoplanet with its own atmosphere in the Neptunian Desert.

NGTS-4b, nick-named 'The Forbidden Planet' is smaller than Neptune but three times the size of Earth, said researchers led by the University of Warwick in the UK.

The exoplanet, described in the journal *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, has a mass of 20 Earth masses, a radius 20 per cent smaller than Neptune, and temperature of 1000 degrees Celsius.

It orbits around the star in only 1.3 days—the equivalent of Earth's orbit around the Sun of one year.

It is the first exoplanet of its kind to have been found in the Neptunian Desert, researchers said.

The Neptunian Desert is the region close to stars where no Neptune-sized planets are found, they said.

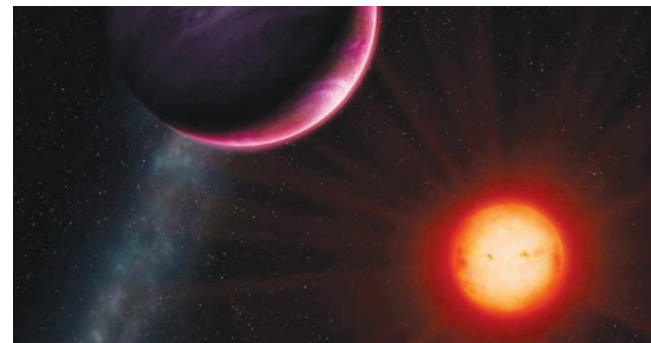
This area receives strong irradiation from the star, meaning the planets do not retain their gaseous atmosphere as they evaporate leaving just a rocky core.

However NGTS-4b still has its atmosphere of gas.

When looking for new planets, astronomers look for a dip in the light of a star—with the planet orbiting it and blocking the light.

Usually only dips of one per cent and more are picked up by ground-based searches.

However, the NGTS telescopes, situated in the Atacama Desert, Chile, can pick up a dip of just 0.2 per cent.



Researchers believe the planet may have moved into the Neptunian Desert recently, in the last one million years, or it was very big and the atmosphere is still evaporating.

"This planet must be tough—it is right in the zone where we expected Neptune-sized planets could not survive," said Richard West, from the University of Warwick.

"It is truly remarkable that we found a transiting planet via a star dimming by less than 0.2 per cent—this has never been done before by telescopes on the ground, and it was great to find after working on this project for a year," West said.

"We are now scouring out data to see if we can see any more planets in the Neptune Desert—perhaps the desert is greener than was once thought," he said.

NASA's first SpaceX astronauts ready for 'messy camping trip' to space

The first US astronauts chosen to fly aboard a SpaceX capsule built for NASA shrugged off a spate of design and test mishaps, saying such setbacks were "part of the process" and the new technology was far more advanced than the space shuttle program that ended eight years ago.

Space shuttle veterans Bob Behnken, 48, and Doug Hurley, 52 are slated for blastoff later this year from Cape Canaveral, Florida, in the debut manned flight of the Crew Dragon capsule to the International Space Station and back.

Two fellow astronauts, Mike Hopkins, 50, and Victor Glover, 43, are designated for launch aboard the vehicle's first official operational mission at a later date, possibly with two more crew members from other countries.

While a series of design hitches and test accidents may end up pushing back this year's maiden launch to 2020, the astronauts voiced trust in the capabilities and safety of the space vehicles being developed through NASA's new commercial partnerships. They also said the business of space flight was not always neat and clean.

"People to a degree think it's pretty glamorous to be able to go into space, but it's actually like a messy camping trip," Hurley told Reuters in recent interviews with the astronauts conducted at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

California-based SpaceX, the privately owned venture owned by billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk, successfully launched an unpiloted Crew Dragon to the space station in March on a test mission known as Demo 1.

The capsule safely splashed down in the Atlantic and was recovered several days later.



YOUTUBE BRINGS BACK NEXTUP FOR CONTENT CREATORS

To support upcoming content creators on its platform, Google-owned messaging app YouTube on Tuesday opened entries for NextUp 2019 with three new editions -- NextUp for Artists, Women To Watch and Gamers.

YouTube's NextUp, which was launched in India last year, provides creators with an opportunity to be mentored by production and channel development experts in new production techniques to further enhance their content.

"It's our mission to help creators be discovered, build a business and succeed on our platform. We are excited to bring three new special editions of NextUp, and can't wait to see the fantastic entries this year," said Marc Lefkowitz, Head of YouTube creator and artist development, APAC.

While NextUp for Artists will feature music videos by creators, NextUp Women To Watch is a first-ever initiative that aims to empower women content creators and their audiences.

YouTube NextUp for Gamers will support Gaming journeys on YouTube for the very first time in India.



World Bank keeps growth forecast for India at 7.5%

WASHINGTON (TIP): The World Bank has retained its forecast for growth in India at 7.5% in the 2019-20 fiscal and the succeeding years, but warned that re-escalation of India-Pakistan tensions arising from “military skirmishes” such as the one in February could increase uncertainty and impact investments in the region.

Continued GDP projection of 7.5% should be reason for some relief and celebration coming as it does amid ongoing efforts to fix the way India measures growth, which has come under intense scrutiny, and some distrust, after a government agency discovered serious gaps in a key government database.

In its “Global Economic Prospects: Heightened Tensions, Subdued Investment” released Tuesday, the World Bank downgraded global growth prospects by 0.3% to 2.6% for the 2019-20 fiscal “reflecting weaker-than-expected international trade and investment at the start of the year”. This will begin improving here after and growth might touch 2.8% in 2021.

India, on the other hand, will not only grow by 7.5%, but as the largest economy in South Asia, help the region post a “solid” growth. Pakistan, on the other hand, will continue the downslide and decelerate to 3.4% from 5.8% in the previous fiscal. Its economic woes have forced it to seek yet another bailout package from the International Monetary Fund, and consultations are underway on terms and conditions.

Military tensions broke out between the two South Asian neighbors in February after a terrorist attack in Pulwama by the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad. India struck the outfit’s training



facilities in Balakot in Pakistan. And Pakistan retaliated with an air raid that led to the downing of an Indian air force fighter jet.

The World Bank noted that the “military skirmishes between major South Asian countries in mid-February remained contained, and economic repercussions were minor”. But, it warned that, “a re-escalation of tensions between the two countries could increase uncertainty, depress confidence, and weigh on investment in the region”.

The Bank also cited the February “skirmishes between India and Pakistan” as a “reminder that latent geopolitical tensions can flare up at any time”, in reference to risks to regional and global economies.

“Uncertainty” about Brexit, Britain leaving the European Union, was cited among other key challenges and risks confronting India and other South Asian

countries. “Uncertainty about the Brexit process poses a risk to some South Asian economies which have preferential trade agreements or generalized system of preferences with the European Union and significant exports to United Kingdom (Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka),” the Bank said.

“A no-deal Brexit could have a significant impact on exports of those countries to the UK in the absence of new trade agreements,” it added.

British Prime Minister Teresa May is leaving office after failing to present a Brexit deal acceptable to the Parliament, and it’s up to her successor to find a way out of the current impasse. Another referendum to certain if Britain really wants to leave the European Union was among May’s last suggestions.

Source: HT

WIPRO TO BUY US FIRM FOR RS 312 CRORE



NEW DELHI (TIP): Information technology major Wipro said it will acquire US-based International TechneGroup Incorporated for \$45 million (around Rs 312 crore).

International TechneGroup Incorporated (ITI) provides computer aided design and product lifecycle management interoperability software services.

Founded in 1983 and headquartered in Ohio, USA, ITI has offices in the UK, Italy, Israel and Germany. ITI is privately held and has 130 employees as of March 2019. Its revenue stood at \$23.2 million in FY’18 (year ending June 30).

“The acquisition complements Wipro’s core strengths in Industry 4.0 and will allow Wipro to offer end-to-end solutions in digital engineering and manufacturing,” said Harmeet Chauhan, senior vice-president, Industrial and Engineering Services, Wipro. ITI’s offerings and solutions will be consolidated as a part of Wipro’s industrial and engineering services business and will function as a wholly-owned US subsidiary of the company, it added.

JLR inks pact with BMW for electric vehicles

NEW DELHI (TIP): Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover on Wednesday said it has joined hands with BMW to develop next generation electric drive systems. The collaboration seeks to advance development of electrification technology to support transition autonomous, connected, electric, shared (ACES) future, Jaguar Land Rover said. The two partners will invest jointly in research and development, engineering and procurement with an aim to provide the necessary economies of scale to support increased consumer adoption of electric vehicles, it added.

The strategic collaboration will build on the considerable knowledge and expertise in electrification at both the companies.

Google CEO Sundar Pichai bags Global Leadership Award 2019

WASHINGTON (TIP): Google’s India-born CEO Sundar Pichai and Nasdaq president Adena Friedman have been chosen for the prestigious Global Leadership Awards 2019 by business advocacy group USIBC in recognition of the two companies’ contribution as the leading technology-driven platforms.

The award by Washington-based US-India Business Council (USIBC) would be conferred upon Indian-American Pichai, 46, and Friedman, 50, during the next week’s ‘India Ideas Summit’.

Given annually since 2007, the USIBC Global Leadership Awards recognise top corporate executives from the United States and India whose companies play a major role in catalysing growth in the US-India commercial corridor.

With companies like Google and Nasdaq at the forefront, bilateral



trade in goods and services has grown by nearly 150% over the past five years to reach \$142.1 billion in 2018, the USIBC said.

“Growing up in India, I saw the profound impact technology has on improving people’s lives, and I am proud that Google has been able to contribute to India’s exciting growth story,” Pichai said.

RBI LIKELY TO SLASH INTEREST RATES IN THIRD STRAIGHT CUT

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Reserve Bank of India is likely to cement its position as Asia’s most dovish central bank with a third straight interest-rate cut Thursday.

The six-member monetary policy committee led by Governor Shaktikanta Das will reduce the repurchase rate by 25 basis points to 5.75% on Thursday, say 31 of 43 economists surveyed by Bloomberg, while three are penciling in a 50 basis points cut. The RBI may also switch its stance to accommodative from neutral, given that expectations are growing for the Federal Reserve to slash rates this year.

Inflation that’s stayed close to the lower end of RBI’s 2-6% band for six months has given policy makers room to support economic growth. India is among central banks across Asia shifting to looser monetary policy to boost their economies amid risks from the U.S.-China trade war. Philippines, Malaysia and New Zealand eased last month, while Australia cut



interest rates this week for the first time in almost three years.

The policy decision will be announced at 11:45 a.m. in Mumbai, followed by a press conference 15 minutes later by Das.



Shree Ganeshaya Namah

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@bejandaruwala.com and on phone **011-91-8141234275** www.bejandaruwala.com

The Indian Panorama brings you Weekly and Birthday Horoscope from the World's most trusted astrologer Bejan Daruwalla. Latest correct prediction: Modi's historic victory

Weekly Horoscope - June 10 - June 16, 2019

ARIES:

Ganesha says you look at new horizons and new targets and set very high goals for yourself. You also get indulgent and, if not careful, this could lead to medical problems. You will have to exert strong discipline over yourself. Get to a gym or hire a personal trainer. Watch your intake of food and drink too. You can gain weight easily and this is the cause of most of their health issues.

TAURUS:

You need to take special care of yourself. You could also visit spas, go for healing massages, and look at preventive alternative treatments. Hard work and no play can be disastrous. There are also several new expenses on both, the work and personal fronts. The family needs more attention and children, in particular, may need medical help. Elders in the family may need hospitalisation too.

GEMINI:

There is rapid recovery from the troubling issues of the last period. But this is also an intense phase with more work and more demands on your time. You look closely at more opportunities to make money and also find them. You have a lucky streak, maybe even the Midas touch. There is love, or may I say, more accurately, a lot of lust in the air.

CANCER:

You lose yourself in the arms of a new partner. Passion overwhelms you. You neglect work and family duties in this moment of madness. To err is human, what more can I say? Ganesha asks you to be careful while playing with fire. Put a cap on your famed passion and temper as they are both very inflammable and could only get you into trouble.

LEO:

You will also have to pay off loans, possibly take new loans, and strengthen your monetary base. It is a mixed bag with many things happening all at once and Ganesha wants you to slow down and take stock of the situation. You are at the crossroads; please look at both sides and drive carefully. Ganesha urges you to make the most of it.

VIRGO:

The period favours travels / meetings / conferences / interviews / trips / more brain power / contacts / communication / correspondence / contracts. The period has a special connection with the circuits of the brain. Chess, crossword and other such games belong to you. Your sustained hard work over the last period provides results. You haven't buckled down to pressures and you get your due.

LIBRA:

There is tremendous appreciation for your work and loyalty and your image catapults into the stratosphere. You are basking in the spotlight. The 3 P's - power, pelf and privileges - are yours. It is time for you to have your feet on the ground now as fame can be heady and life has a way of imparting valuable lessons. Is it any wonder that the University of Life is the greatest teacher of all!

SCORPIO:

There is a good chance that you could indulge in philanthropy. You may visit homes for the destitute and institutions for the challenged and help out. This is a good sign, says Ganesha as it will keep you grounded and prepare you for more important tests in the days to come. You are reaching out to all corners now. You cast your net wide. You meet with friends and extended family and take a break from the mundane and the humdrum.

SAGITTARIUS:

You look at new machinery for business expansion. Technology and its uses seem to excite you and you look at new ways of streamlining your work. This is also party time and you seem to be overdoing the bubbly. You will make inroads into many new areas of your life and there will be rapid business expansion. Ganesha blesses you in each and every way.

CAPRICORN:

The work area intensifies. You slog away and burn the midnight oil. There is a lot of paperwork and accounts to attend to, and you count the pennies despite making huge profits. It may be wise to loosen the purse strings a bit. You are in expansion mode and are making new contacts and connections. There could be a rich haul if all the new contacts are optimised. You see many opportunities and go all out to seize them.

AQUARIUS:

You are now in travel mode and renewing old contacts and making new ones. There are journeys of all kinds ahead. You go full steam to achieve your goals. You are a great hit with people. Though normally reticent and retiring by nature, you make waves in group activities. This surprises everyone and you are the toast of the party. This is a lucky phase and you seem to make one conquest after another.

PISCES:

This period makes you sensitive and emotional. You get moody and may brood. You think about the past and the mistakes you have committed. This maudlin note is not in your temperament which is normally sunny, and the sooner you snap out of it the better. You are not the party animal and prefer the comfort and sanctuary of the indoors of a romp in the outdoors. But now you spend more and more time alone and with your innermost thoughts.

Birthday Horoscope June 10 - June 16, 2019

JUNE 10TH: Ganesha says imagination and practical know-how are an unbeatable pair for acquiring what you need, achieving a success in work or business.

JUNE 11TH: Something nice that happens could be the sort of event you'll want to keep under your hat for a while. A limiting situation eases.

JUNE 12TH: Calls, invitations, and meet-ups would be fun, except for the possibility that they could be excessive in some way or someone pressures you.

JUNE 13TH: The Moon focuses your attention on talking and running around with others. Interchanges are engaging, lively, friendly, and fun.

JUNE 14TH: The day starts off on an exciting note. But to make it last, you'll have to say yes to adventure and be willing to take a surprising turn.

JUNE 15TH: Minor distractions could be upsetting. It's okay to tolerate a little rebelliousness and independence, but you have to know where to draw a line.

JUNE 16TH: "Give someone an inch and they'll take a yard" could apply. Home, family, travel problems could multiply; you'll need a strategy for managing worries.

MAA KALI: THE BLACK GODDESS OF DAKSHINESWAR

The love between the Divine Mother and her human children is a unique relationship. Kali, the Dark Mother is one such deity with whom devotees have a very loving and intimate bond, in spite of her fearful appearance. In this relationship, the worshipper becomes a child and Kali assumes the form of the ever-caring mother.

Who is Kali?

Kali is the fearful and ferocious form of the mother goddess. She assumed the form of a powerful goddess and became popular with the composition of the Devi Mahatmya, a text of the 5th - 6th century AD. Here she is depicted as having born from the brow of Goddess Durga during one of her battles with the evil forces. As the legend goes, in the battle, Kali was so much involved in the killing spree that she got carried away and began destroying everything in sight. To stop her, Lord Shiva threw himself under her feet. Shocked at this sight, Kali stuck out her tongue in astonishment and put an end to her homicidal rampage. Hence the common image of Kali shows her in her m el e mood, standing with one foot on Shiva's chest, with her enormous tongue stuck out.

The Fearful Symmetry

Kali is represented with perhaps the fiercest features amongst all the world's deities. She has four arms, with a sword in one hand and the head of a demon in another. The other two hands bless her worshippers, and say, "fear not"! She has two dead heads for her earrings, a string of skulls as a necklace, and a girdle made of human hands as her clothing. Her tongue protrudes from her mouth, her eyes are red, and her face and breasts are sullied with blood. She stands with one foot on the thigh, and another on the chest of her husband, Shiva.

Awesome Symbols

Kali's fierce form is strewn with awesome symbols. Her black complexion symbolizes her all-embracing and transcendental nature. Says the Mahanirvana Tantra: "Just as all colors disappear in black, so all names and forms disappear in her". Her nudity is primeval, fundamental, and transparent like Nature — the earth, sea, and sky. Kali is free from the illusory covering, for she is beyond all maya or "false consciousness." Kali's garland of fifty human heads that stands for the fifty letters of the Sanskrit alphabet, symbolizes infinite knowledge.

Her girdle of severed human hands signifies work and liberation from the cycle of karma. Her white teeth show her inner purity, and her red lolling tongue indicates her omnivorous nature — "her indiscriminate enjoyment of all the world's 'flavors'." Her sword is the destroyer of false consciousness and the eight bonds that bind us.

Her three eyes represent past, present, and future, — the three modes of time — an attribute that lies in the very name Kali ('Kala' in Sanskrit means time). The eminent translator of Tantrik texts, Sir



John Woodroffe in Garland of Letters, writes, "Kali is so called because She devours Kala (Time) and then resumes Her own dark formlessness."

Kali's proximity to cremation grounds where the five elements or "Pancha Mahabhuta" come together and all worldly attachments are absolved, again point to the cycle of birth and death. The reclined Shiva lying prostrate under the feet of Kali suggests that without the power of Kali (Shakti), Shiva is inert.

Forms, Temples, and Devotees

Kali's guises and names are diverse. Shyama, Adya Ma, Tara Ma, and Dakshina Kalika, Chamundi are popular forms. Then there is Bhadra Kali, who is gentle, Shyamashana Kali, who lives only in the cremation ground, and so on. The most notable Kali temples are in Eastern India — Dakshineswar and Kalighat in Kolkata (Calcutta) and Kamakhya in Assam, a seat of tantric practices. Ramakrishna Paramahansa, Swami Vivekananda, Vamakhya, and Ramprasad are some of the legendary devotees of Kali. One thing was common to these saints — all of them loved the goddess as intimately as they loved their own mother.

Description

NAME: Kali is so called because She devours Kala (time) and then resumes Her own dark formlessness. She is the

embodiment of three gunas (qualities of nature): She creates with Her sattva guna (quality of goodness and purity), preserves with rajas (passion and activity), and destroys with tamas (ignorance and inertia).

SMILING face: She is ever-blissful.

TONGUE: Kali's white teeth symbolize sattva or serenity; Her red tongue, rajas, or activity; and Her drunkenness: tamas or inertia. The meaning: tamas can be conquered by rajas, and rajas by sattva.

FULL BREAST: She is the nourisher of all beings.

TERRIBLE FORM: She is the mother of the universe as well as the destroyer. When a mother spans her child, it does not mean that she is cruel; she disciplines her child for its own good.

NECKLACE: It consists of fifty skulls that represent the fifty letters of the Sanskrit alphabet, the origin of sound. She is Shabda Brahman (Sound-Brahman), or Logos—the source of creation.

TWO RIGHT ARMS: The upper right arm grants fearlessness, and the lower right arm offers boons. She protects Her children from danger, and She fulfills their desires.

TWO LEFT ARMS: She holds a sword with the upper left arm and a severed head with the lower. She can cut human bondage with the sword of knowledge, and She imparts wisdom to the head, the receptacle of supreme wisdom.

NAKED FORM: She is called digambari, "clad in space." She is infinite, so no finite dress can cover Her.

WAIST: Kali's waist is encircled with a girdle of severed human arms that represent action. All human actions and their results go to the Divine Mother. At the end of a cycle all souls merge with Kali; during creation they again evolve with their respective karmas.

SHIVA IS UNDER HER FEET: Shiva and Shakti are always together. He is the changeless aspect of the Supreme, and She the apparently changing aspect of the same. Shiva is pure cosmic consciousness, and Kali is cosmic energy. No creation is possible without their union. Shiva cannot manifest without the power of Kali, and Kali cannot function without the consciousness of Shiva.

DAKSHINA KALI AND VAMA KALI: If Her right foot is forward, She is Dakshina Kali (benign form); and if Her left foot is forward, Vama Kali (terrible form).

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"If Hindus don't maintain Hinduism, who shall save it?"

"If India's own children don't cling to their faith, who shall guard it?"

"Indians alone can save India, and India and Hinduism are one."

AIA Undertakes Renovation of a Higher Secondary School Building in Kerala

NEW YORK (TIP): Association of Indians in America is the grassroots organization established in 1967. It is well known for its social, cultural and educational activities. AIA has been serving India by sending funds from time to time, like during Earthquake, Flooding Disasters etc.

This is the first time AIA has undertaken to do complete renovation of a school destroyed by flooding in Kerala.

AIA is renovating a school in Ayoorvillage in Kerala. This school was totally submerged and destroyed by floods in Aug. 2018. Funds were raised in Oct. 2018 and again on May 5th 2019. The school was up to 4th grade but on request of villagers, AIA will sponsor for school to be a Higher Secondary School. This School will benefit several villages. School will be run by Vidya Bharati Shiksha Sansthan.

Vidya Bharati gives both education and Sanskaras to its students. Children learn Yoga, Meditation, Martial Arts etc. Most of children from this school go for higher education and become professionals. PM



School building submerged in water during Flood Disaster



AIA leadership is committed to the task

Narendra Modi praised the education at Vidya Bharati Schools. He said students at these schools are usually patriotic, and come out as great citizens. AIA national

president Urmillesh Arya said, "Education is the best gift we can give to children back home, and good patriotic citizens are the best gift to our Motherland".

Sikh Community on Long Island donates generously for Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Documentary

CONTD FROM PAGE 3

Chairman Paramjit Singh Bedi, Vice Chairman Mohinder Singh Taneja, Vice President Brij Mohan Singh Nanda, and with the support of Surinder Singh Chawla, Dr. Avtar Singh Tinna, Satnam Singh Parhar, Zinda Singh, SBJ Singh and Virender Singh Sikka, among others, nearly \$70,000 was raised, with commitment for more from some. Well known numerologist and astrologer Prem Jyotish pledged to meet the entire cost of post-production promotion of documentary.

Dr. Rajwant Singh is also a passionate environmentalist who has brought about a paradigm shift in the attitude of people of PUNJAB in India towards protection



A view of the gathering

of Environment by involving thousands of volunteers to plant hundreds and thousands of trees.

Ekal Abhiyan Receives Overwhelming Community Support

CONTD FROM PAGE 7

Most of the schools operate under trees or residential courtyards in rudimentary conditions. As long-standing supporters of Ekal, Dr. Yashpal Arya and his family were inspired to break the mould and actually build a school in Udhampur in Jammu & Kashmir which upon completion, they donated to Ekal to run and manage. Dr. Arya shared his family's inspired journey in this quest. Ms. Lynette Iglesias, representing Perfection of Man Foundation, and

speaking on behalf of Mr. Satish Mallick talked about sponsoring the establishment of tailoring centers at Ekal Gramothan centers. Each Center serves men and women from a community of approximately 100 villages, and is targeted at building skills to increase and diversify income for each household in every participating village. This year, The Perfection of Man Foundation pledged to support 300 schools (valued at \$109,500). The Past President of Ekal's Westchester Chapter, Dr. Rakesh

Shreedhar recognized the substantive contribution that the Long Island community has made towards Ekal's remarkable progress and commended all present for their continued enthusiastic support.

The successful evening was hosted by Mr. Mohan Wanchoo, supported by a strong team made up of Ms. Nilima Madan, Dr. Rajendra Modi, Mr. Veer Mukhi, Dr. Yashpal Arya, Ms. Anu Gulati, Dr. Pradeep Bansal, Ms. Sunita Sadhnani, Ms. Anu Jain, Ms. Simrranjit Kaur and Ms. Nishu Aggarwal.

The accomplished singers, Dipayan Banerjee and Madhuraa Bhattacharya of Sa Re Ga Ma Pa fame gave an enrapturing performance that ensured that all present had a great time. The supporting musicians also did not miss a beat!

The Ekal team thanked all who supported the cause and expressed the hope that they will receive even greater support from the wonderful Long Island community.

Visit www.ekal.org for more information.
(Based on a press release)

A Splendid Fashion Show hosted by India Heritage Center

CONTD FROM PAGE 3

Moghul Catering curated a special menu for the evening, bringing the most delicious recipes from Rajasthan.

IHC is committed to capturing, promoting and preserving the individual and collective experience of the Indian diaspora to the United States. The Red

Carpet included all four designers, Neel Sethi, star of the Disney movie The Jungle Book, its honorees Dr. Samin Sharma and Ms. Aron Shivdasani, versatile celebrity, Madhur Jaffrey, the IHC Board, Models and Sponsors. The purpose of the annual gala was not only to spread awareness of the work that has been done at IHC and apprise

supporters of its future goals and direction, but also serves as IHC's largest fundraiser of the year, so that the India Heritage Center is able to continue to record the community's stories to better understand the Indian American journey and history. The evening was attended by prominent members of the community.

The gala was very well received and IHC continues its mission forward by launching a new social media chapter, Indians in America, a social media chapter consisting of beautiful, heartfelt, funny, and inspiring collection of photographs and stories that provide a glimpse into our community stories.

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Sikh denied entry to restaurant in US for wearing turban, says 'hurt'

NEW YORK (TIP): A Sikh youth was recently denied entry to a restaurant in the US for wearing a turban when he went there to meet his friends post-midnight, leaving him 'hurt and embarrassed', said a media report.

The incident took place in Port Jefferson. The 23-year-old, Gurvinder Grewal, went to Harbor Grill, but the security guard did not let him enter because of his headwear, citing new policy at the eatery.

Grewal, a graduate from the Stony Brook University, said: "I felt shocked, embarrassed and hurt. I never encountered a situation where I was refused a service or entry into an establishment for wearing a turban".

He said that he tried to explain to the manager that he wore the turban to practise his religion and wanted to spend time with friends for the night.

However, the manager at the Grill did not let him in.

The policy was introduced at the bar, which enforces a dress code after 10 pm on Fridays and Saturdays, restricting all head-wears.

In a Facebook post, the restaurant wrote: "[He was] wearing what would be more widely perceived as the slang term 'dew rag or a stocking cap' and not a traditional turban". "We do not allow hats or headwear in order to more capably identify people inside the establishment, the restaurant said.

Clarifying their stand, the restaurant said that Harbor Grill embraced people



Harbor Grill in Port Jefferson on left. On right: Gurvinder Grewal at his Stony Brook graduation wearing the turban he wore to Harbor Grill. Photo of Harbor Grill / Facebook

of all races and religions and did not discriminate against anyone for their creed or color.

"We sincerely apologize for any distress that this incident may have caused. Please know that our weekend dress code policy is in place for the safety of all of our patrons," the restaurant said. "Anyone wearing any type of hat is welcome during normal restaurant hours, it said.

Grewal said Port Jefferson Mayor Margot Garant apologized to him for the incident and advised him on actions to take on the issue. "Throughout my life, I've faced verbal abuse and bullying about my appearance, mostly throughout school. However, my basic freedom of entering public accommodations was never infringed upon," he said.

However, the restaurant changed its policy after the incident.

Indian American Professor Rochona Majumdar Honored with UChicago Teaching Award

CHICAGO (TIP): Rochona Majumdar, Associate Professor in the Department of Cinema and Media Studies, South Asian Languages and Civilizations at University of Chicago has been named recipient of Faculty Awards for Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring.

The University of Chicago annually recognizes faculty for exceptional teaching and mentoring with the Faculty Awards for Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring, which honor faculty for their work with graduate students.

South Asia is central to Majumdar's academic universe. She supervises students working on different aspects of South Asian history, politics and culture in the 19th and 20th centuries. All her students work with at least one South Asian language and undertake archival and fieldwork in the subcontinent.

Rochona Majumdar is a historian of modern India. Her interests span histories of Indian cinema, gender and marriage in colonial India, and Indian intellectual thought in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Currently, Majumdar is engaged in two projects. The first is a history of the film society movement in India from 1947, the year of India's independence from British rule and partition to 1977 the year that the emergency declared by Mrs. Gandhi ended. The project analyzes



Rochona Majumdar is a historian of modern India

the interface between civil social organizations like cine clubs to a mass medium-cinema--and relates film society practices to the rise of new kinds of filmmaking in India.

The second project is an intellectual history of key concepts such as society, civility, and civilization in the Hindu and Muslim Bengali contexts during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

contd from page 1

No Narendra Modi-Imran Khan...

up or organized, between PM Modi and Prime Minister Imran Khan at Bishkek," said Official Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar here. Both the leaders are scheduled to travel to Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic for the SCO summit of 13-14 June.

There has been a series of developments that indicate ongoing efforts to continue with de-escalation of the tension that erupted after the terror attack at Pulwama and the Balakot counter-terror strike.

Despite the lack of confirmation on a meeting with Pakistan, Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said India will emphasize on the importance of the "Neighbourhood first" policy as PM Modi will travel to Maldives and Sri Lanka during 8-9 June. **(Source: Agencies)**

US House passes Bill to protect...

entered the country without authorization or with only temporary status. The House on Tuesday, June 4 voted 237-187 in favor of the Dream and Promise Act of 2019, as seven Republicans joined the Democrats in supporting the measure, the Hill magazine reported. The largest contingent of potential beneficiaries comprises the more than 7,00,000 undocumented youth

who enjoy protection from deportation under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) initiative, known as Dreamers.

The proposal would grant young undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as children, including those shielded from deportation by the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, an opportunity to acquire permanent lawful status if they meet certain requirements. The bill would also allow hundreds of thousands of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) recipients - as well as Liberian immigrants covered by Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) - to gain permanent residency.

(Source: Agencies)

Dr. VK Raju honored with...

The organization is all set to honor Dr. Raju at the celebration of 100 years of Rotary in Kolkata, India in the first week of Jan 2020.

Recipient of many more honors and awards, Dr. Raju is a humble person who is passionately involved in the task of preventing blindness, particularly, among children.

Sudan on the Brink: death toll...

The demonstrators have demanded that the Transitional Military Council, which has ruled the

country since troops ousted longtime President Omar al-Bashir in April, make way for a civilian-led interim body.

Eyewitnesses said that the police and RSF shot at protesters on Monday, June 3. Several videos showed security forces beating people with sticks. The internet has been blocked in places across the country by major providers.

Monday's attack has drawn international condemnation, including from United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres.

After April's coup, the military council and opposition groups agreed on a three-year transition to democracy. But on Tuesday, al-Burhan called for national elections within nine months.

The only way to rule Sudan is through "the ballot box," the council leader said in an address on state TV.

In a speech broadcast on Sudan state-run TV on Wednesday, al-Burhan apologized to Sudanese people and said that "all involved in the events that lead to the disruption of the protests site will be held accountable and brought to justice."

He called on all people of Sudan "to turn the page of the past and reopen a new page to reach a better future of our country," adding that the ruling council is willing to start fresh negotiations with opposition groups.

(Source: CNN and agencies)

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CHIEF EDITOR: Prof Indrajit S. Saluja
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Bidisha Roy
GRAPHICS DIRECTOR: Om Parkash Malik
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CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:
Baldev Singh / BJ Videos
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Jay Mandal,
Mohammad Jaffer/ SnapIndia

Mohammad Shahzad, Zia Khan
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Vaaho Photographers
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The Indian Panorama
P.O. Box No. 190067, South Richmond Hill, NY 11419,
Tel: 646-247-9458
Email: editor@theindianpanorama.com
DALLAS EDITION
P.O. BOX 121695, ARLINGTON, TX 76012
Lovlien Kaurr, VP & Bureau Chief

Bureau Chief Phone: 972-330-3139
E-mail tipdallas01@gmail.com; Phone: 646-247-9458
www.theindianpanorama.news
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Curtain Raiser for the India Day Parade in Hicksville holds out the Promise of a Great Parade

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP): IDP USA (India Day Parade) Long Island, New York, first time ever arranged curtain raiser for parade on Thursday May 23rd, 2019 Curtain Raiser of Parade which will be held on August 4th, 2019. And the route of Parade is from Patel Brothers to Town Parking opposite Asa Main Mandir in Hicksville.

The celebration was held at Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building, 1550 Franklin Ave., Mineola. Guest of Honor was Ms. Shamita Shetty, a Bollywood Star.

Human Rights Commissioner Mr. Zahid Syed did the opening and introduced the Advisor of Parade Mr. Mukesh Modi, who partnered with Vice President of IDP, Mrs. Bina Sabapathy for Masters of Ceremony. The Parade's Curtain Raiser ceremonies were done by the TEAM IDP USA under the leadership of President Mr. Jasbir Jay Singh.

Honorary guest Presiding Officer, Nassau County Legislator Mr. Richard Nicollelo spoke about the Indian American community. Nassau County Legislators Laura Scheffer and Joshua Lafazan gave proclamations to Ms. Shamita Shetty as she was Celebrity guest of Honor from Bollywood. Dr. Urmillesh Arya, Mr. Naveen Shah of Navika, Mr. Harry Bolla of Bolla Oil, Mr. Amandeep Singh (Tony) of Food Universe and Mr. Sanjay Patel of Patel Brothers were also honored with Citation by the Government Officials both from Nassau County Executive Laura Curran and Legislative Chambers. Mr. Kamlesh Mehta, founder IDP and other IDP Past Presidents Mrs.



Nassau County Legislators Joshua Lafazan and Laura Scheffe present a proclamation to Dr. Urmillesh Arya. Seen in the picture, from L to R: Shashi Malik, Ms. Shamita Shetty, celebrity guest of honor from Bollywood, IDP USA President Jasbir Jay Singh, Joshua Lafazan, Dr. Urmillesh Arya, Laura Scheffe, Zahid Syed, Indu Jaiswal and Pinki Jaggi.

Indu Jaiswal, Mr. Mohinder Taneja, Mr. Peter Bhedda, Mrs. Beena Kothari shared the golden unforgettable memories of past years of Parade and blessed Jay Singh with good wishes and promised their support for ever to IDP.

Founder Bobby K Kalotee was on live call from out of town, welcoming all team and assuring his support. Other prominent speakers were IALI President Mr. Lalit Aery, LILC President Pinki Jaggi and Jyoti Gupta, Suhag Mehta of Ganesh Utsav, Ashmita Yogiraj, Sadhvi ji from Maharaj Ashutosh Sansthan and few more from community.

Program started with delicious snacks and tea from Mint Restaurant. It was attended by more than 250 attendees and

all the community leaders along with the Presidents of All Local Organization and Committee Members. It was covered by TV and News Paper Media including ITV Gold, Radio Mirchi, PTC, Jus Broadcasting, The South Asian Insider, The India Republic, Global Punjabi, Diss Dash, Hum Hindustani. The Indian Panorama, TV Asia and Parekh Worldwide Media and representatives. After the program delicious dinner was served by Mint Restaurant Mr. Gary Sikka and homemade sweets by Mrs. Goel. Bindu Kohli was acknowledged for her celebrity arrangement. The Media was arranged by the Media Chair Indu Gajwani.

(Based on a press release)

2nd Anniversary of the India-UN Development Partnership Fund observed at the UN



Releasing the brochure. India's PR to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin is second from the right.

UNITED NATIONS (TIP): The 2nd Anniversary of the India-UN Development Partnership Fund was commemorated, June 7, at the UN in an event organized by the Permanent Mission of India to the UN together with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.

The President of the Economic and Social Council and Permanent Representative of the Saint Vincent and

the Grenadines to the United Nations, H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King; the Administrator of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Mr. Achim Steiner; the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) Ms. Grete Faremo; and the Secretary-General's Envoy on South-South Cooperation Mr Jorge Chediek took part along with Ambassadors, Stakeholders and

prominent United Nations officials. The event highlighted the positive role of India-UN Development Partnership Fund in promoting sustainable development projects in partner countries in the spirit of South-South cooperation.

The Report of the India-UN Development Partnership Fund was also launched during the commemoration.

Senate Majority Protects New Yorkers' Private Data



Indian American Senator Kevin Thomas sponsored the bill

NEW YORK (TIP): The Senate Democratic Majority June 5 passed the Stop Hacks and Improve Electronic Data Security Act (SHIELD Act). This bill, S.5575-A, sponsored by Indian American Senator Kevin Thomas, Chair of the Consumer Protection Committee, will return control of personal data back to New Yorkers and require businesses to put customers' privacy over profits. Specifically, the SHIELD Act will broaden the definition of a data breach, expand the scope of information subject to current data breach notification laws, and empower the Attorney General to bring action over privacy violations.

Bill Sponsor, Senator Kevin Thomas said, "It is critical that our laws keep pace with the rapidly changing world of technology. The SHIELD Act raises security standards so that no more New Yorkers are needlessly victimized by data breaches and cyber-attacks. This legislation serves as a collaborative approach to privacy and consumer protection that will set the standard for New York and the rest of the nation."

The SHIELD Act, S.5575-A, will:

- Expands the scope of information subject to the current data breach notification law to include biometric information, email addresses and their corresponding passwords or security questions and answers, and protected health information as defined under HIPAA.
- Broadens the definition of a data breach to include unauthorized access to private information. It applies the notification requirement to any person or entity with the private information of a New York resident, not just to those that conduct business in New York State.
- Updates the notification procedures companies and state entities must follow when there has been a breach of private information.
- Creates reasonable data security requirements tailored to the size of a business and provides protection from liability for certain entities that take steps to verify their safeguarding of private information.

Rohit Sharma, Yuzvendra Chahal power India to opening win over South Africa



Rohit Sharma hit a determined hundred while Yuzvendra Chahal picked 4 for 51 as India registered a 6-wicket win over South Africa in their first match of the tournament in Southampton on July 5

surprised everyone by deciding to bat first and then dropped Rohit in the slips when he had barely got off the mark.

Once du Plessis dropped Rohit, he played a ramp shot to add salt to the wounds. In all, he hit 13 fours and two sixes. The Indian opener was given a second life towards the end of the chase with David Miller dropping a regulation catch.

The bowler on both occasions was Rabada, whom the Indians played cautiously. With no Dale Steyn and Lungi Ngidi, it would have been difficult for a second-string attack to contain the Indian batsmen.

The weak link were the two spinners, Tabraiz Shamsi and Imran Tahir, who were attacked by the Indian batsmen. With the scoreboard pressure not being there, Rohit and KL Rahul shared an 85-run partnership and later Rohit and Dhoni, who added 74, could afford to wait for the loose balls.

Earlier, Chahal grabbed four wickets to help India restrict South Africa to a sub-par score in testing conditions. Du Plessis' decision to bat under overcast conditions backfired with Bumrah setting the tone with twin blows in his opening spell. Chahal then tightened the noose on the South African batsmen as they could never really force the pace during the middle overs. Incidentally, this was the best 10-over single spell (in terms of wickets taken) by any bowler in a World Cup game.

South Africa's total got some semblance of respectability courtesy Chris Morris (42 off 34)

and Rabada (31 not out off 35), who shared a much needed 66-run stand for the eighth wicket. Bhuvneshwar Kumar, coming in place of Mohammed Shami, was impressive in his second spell.

Under a thick cloud cover and a pitch that offered bounce, Bumrah was unplayable in his initial five-over spell where he pitched on good length or back of it, getting the deliveries to rear up awkwardly and shape away from openers Quinton de Kock and Hashim Amla.

Bumrah dismissed Amla (6) with a beautiful delivery that rose from length outside the off-stump and the outside edge was taken low in the slips by Rohit. De Kock (10) was out in Bumrah's next over when his back-of-length delivery was angled across and the left-hander's slash was pouched by skipper Virat Kohli at third slip. Skipper du Plessis (38 off 54 balls) and Rassie van der Dussen (22 off 37 balls) added 44 runs for the third wicket but it was more of a consolidation job as they found scoring difficult.

The Powerplay yielded only 34 runs and even though the Proteas skipper hit four boundaries, he never looked comfortable.

Third seamer Hardik Pandya also hit the hard lengths and one of his deliveries, a nasty snorter, hit du Plessis flush on the gloves, leaving him in pain. Along with Kedar Jadhav, they shared the fifth bowler's duties admirably giving away only 45 runs. Once Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav (10-0-46-1) started operating in tandem, something was always waiting to happen.

Source: PTI

COULTER-NILE, STARC STAR AS AUSTRALIA BEAT WINDIES BY 15 RUNS

NOTTINGHAM (TIP): Mitchell Starc grabbed five wickets for 46 runs in a brilliant show of fast bowling as defending champions Australia pulled off a 15-run win against West Indies in a tense World Cup match to notch up their second win.

Sent in to bat, Nathan Coulter-Nile (92) played a blinder of an innings, taking cue from a dogged fightback by Steve Smith (73), as Australia recovered from 38/4 to post a competitive 288 all out in 49 overs.

Chasing 289 for a win, the West Indies were in the hunt for most part of their innings but they crumbled towards the end to score 273/9 from 50 overs.

Starc turned the match on its head by claiming three wickets in two overs towards the end after dismissing dangerous batsmen Chris Gayle (21) and Andre Russell (15) earlier. West Indies needed 38 from the last five with four wickets in hand but Starc removed Carlos Brathwaite (16) and captain Jason Holder (51) in the space of four balls in the 46th over before returning to dismiss Sheldon Cottrell (1) in the 48th to grab his fifth wicket and end the Caribbean side's run chase. Hope top-scored for West Indies with a 68 from 105 balls while Nicholas Pooran made 40, besides Holder's 51. For Australia, Pat Cummins took two wickets while Adam Zampa got one.

The match also saw umpiring howlers with Gayle apparently at the receiving end. Television replays showed that the delivery before his dismissal in the fifth should have been a no-ball as Starc overstepped his crease. That would have meant that the delivery which removed Gayle should have been a free hit.

Earlier, West Indies fast bowlers ripped through the Australian top-order in a brilliant spell before Smith and the record-breaking Coulter-Nile led a stunning fightback to power the defending champions to 288 all out.

Source: Reuters



BUMRAH, RABADA WORLD'S BEST RIGHT NOW: AMLA

SOUTHAMPTON (TIP): Jasprit Bumrah and Kagiso Rabada are the two premier fast bowlers in the world because of their skill level and ability to bowl in any situation, said veteran South Africa opener Hashim Amla.

"Bumrah and KG are the two best bowlers in world right now. They have pace, accuracy and can bowl at any stage of the game. Both South Africa and India are fortunate to have them," Amla said after his team lost to India. Amla has been dismissed a few times by Bumrah, but he said it didn't play on his mind. "Bumrah is a helluva bowler and that's what good bowlers do but I don't think they play on your mind as such as you need to assess the pitch and play accordingly. If you can't then you watch the game from the change room," the veteran batsman said.

Amla admitted that South Africa didn't expect the conditions to be so seamer-friendly in the game against India. "I don't think anyone anticipated the wicket to be what it was. We expected it to be a bit more high-scoring. That's why we included an attacking option in left-arm wrist-spinner Tabraiz Shamsi but it turned out to be more seamer-friendly which we hadn't anticipated," he said.

Three back-to-back defeats demand introspection in the camp, and that's what they are trying to do right now.

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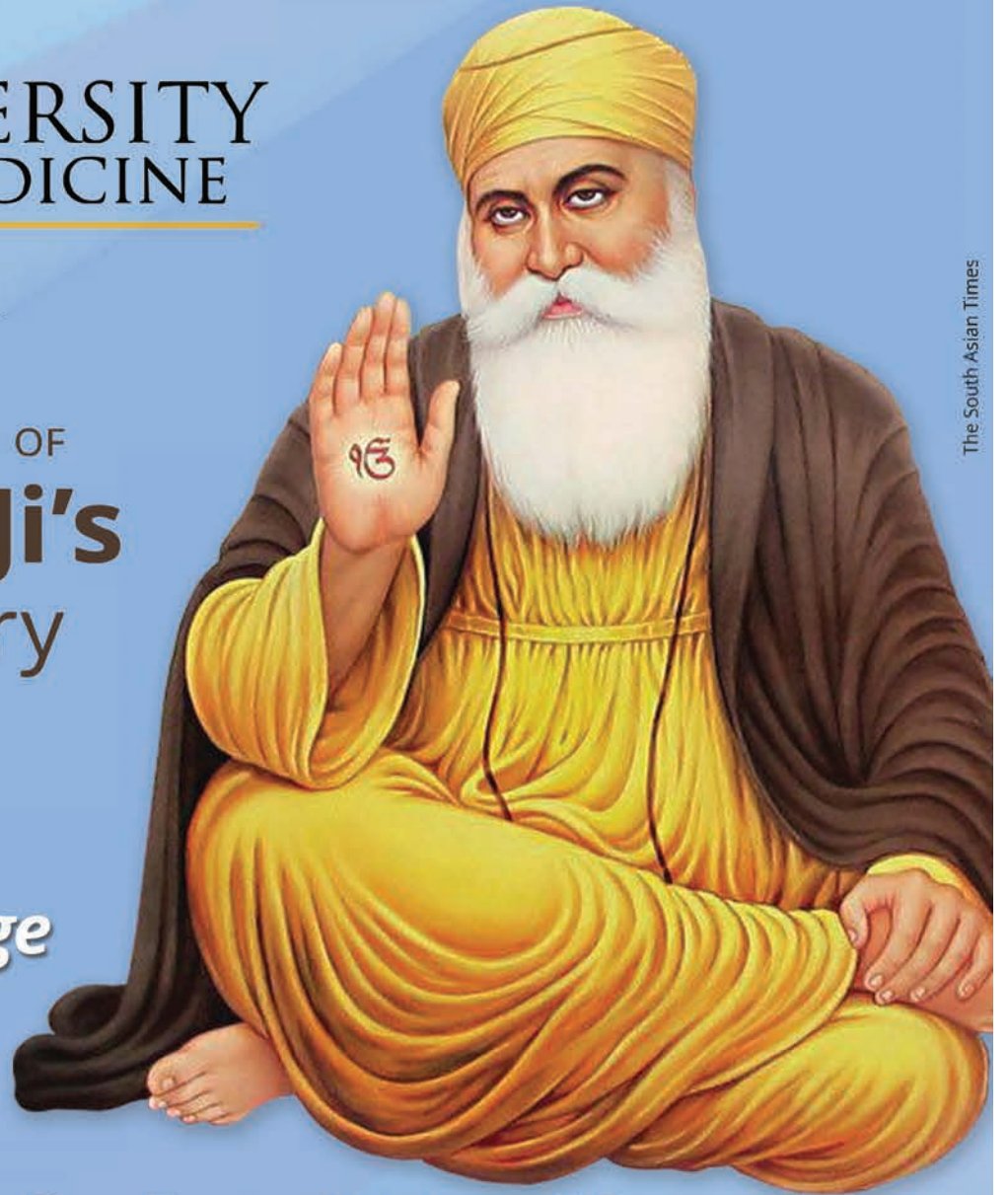


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