



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001



Remembering 9/11
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NEXT WEEK
INTERVIEW: DR. T.V. NAGENDRA PRASAD
Consul General of India at San Francisco

BIDEN TO COMMEMORATE ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11 ATTACKS AT PENTAGON



The White House says President Joe Biden will mark the 21st anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on Sunday by delivering remarks and laying a wreath at the Pentagon

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): President Joe Biden will mark the 21st anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on Sunday, September 11 by delivering remarks and laying a wreath at the Pentagon, the White House said Tuesday, September 6.

The day will commemorate the 2001 terrorist attacks when hijackers took control of commercial planes in order

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End of an Era: Queen Elizabeth II dies at 96 after 70 years on the throne: Prince Charles is the new Monarch

WORLD LEADERS PAY TRIBUTES; "SHE DEFINED AN ERA", SAYS BIDEN



Queen Elizabeth II and her successor to the British throne Prince Charles.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 I.S. SALUJA LONDON (TIP): Queen Elizabeth II, Britain's longest-reigning monarch and a symbol of stability in a turbulent era that

saw the decline of the British empire and embarrassing dysfunction in her own family, died Thursday, September after 70 years on the throne. She was 96, an AP report said. The palace announced she died at

Balmoral Castle, her summer residence in Scotland, where members of the royal family had rushed to her side after her health took a turn for the worse.

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Liz Truss takes over as British Prime Minister; to focus on economy, energy and healthcare

Inducts 2 Indian-origin ministers in her Cabinet



British Prime Minister Liz Truss holds her first Cabinet meeting in London, September 7, 2022.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 LONDON (TIP): In her maiden speech as PM, Liz Truss said that she was honored to take on the responsibility at a vital time for the country. Former U.K. Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, who was declared the winner of the Conservative Party leadership contest on Monday, September 5, defeating

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Indian Embassy in Guatemala organizes grand celebrations of the 75th Anniversary of Independence with Har Ghar Tiranga campaign



India's Ambassador to Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador Manoj Mohapatra addresses the gathering on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of India's Independence at the premises of the Embassy on August 15

GUATEMALA CITY (TIP): In response to the call of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for Har Ghar Tiranga campaign and as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, Embassy of India in Guatemala organized grand celebrations of Har Ghar Tiranga with the Indian Community and different local governments, institutes, and municipalities.

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US issues record 82,000 visas to Indian students; Comprise 20% of all international students studying in US



Photo for representation only

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 NEW DELHI / NEW YORK (TIP): The US Mission in India on Thursday, September 8, said it has issued record-breaking 82,000 student visas this year so far, higher than any other country. Though the processing of H-1B and some other visas was a time-consuming affair, sources in the embassy said student visas were processed quickly.

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GUEST COMMENT

End of an era: On Queen Elizabeth II

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN COULD HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE MISSION AND PROSPECTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH

The passing of Queen Elizabeth II, the United Kingdom's longest serving monarch who reigned for over 70 years, marks the end of an era for British monarchy. Her tenure as Head of State began during the early post-War years and witnessed a paradigm-changing shift in the balance of political power from the British empire to the Commonwealth, and the emergence of free, post-colonial nations. During her time on the throne the Cold War came to an end and so too did the U.K.'s 47-year experiment as a member of the European Union. No fewer than 15 U.K. Prime Ministers came and went while she reigned, from Winston Churchill to Liz Truss. Her rule was not without controversy. On the personal front she suffered an "annus horribilis" in 1992, when the marriages of three of her children broke down and Windsor Castle was damaged by fire. In the aftermath of the death of King Charles' former wife, Diana, in a car accident in Paris in 1997,

criticism was levelled at the monarchy for shying away from public response. Despite these occasional setbacks, Queen Elizabeth has consistently enjoyed a high favorability rating among the British public, 75% according to a recent poll. Observers attribute this to her stubborn silence on political issues, a "closed book" approach that allowed subjects, critics, and outsiders to project onto her and the royal family, whatever they wished to.

Her passing however raises complex questions regarding the state of the monarchy vis-à-vis the Commonwealth realms and the prognosis for the latter's continuing evolution in a vastly different socioeconomic milieu compared to the Elizabethan era. Consider, for example, the debate in Australia, where there is a popular movement to reposition the country as a Republic, particularly in the context of the administration of Prime Minister Anthony Albanese being keen to set up a treaty with the Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander communities. In 2021, Barbados became the 18th country to remove the British monarch from the role of head of state. Other than these two nations and the U.K., the British monarch remains the head of the state in Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Canada, Grenada, Jamaica, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Solomon Islands, The Bahamas, and Tuvalu. At least six Caribbean nations have hinted at following the Barbados example. However, the broader Commonwealth group of 56 nations, of which India and other South Asian countries are members, remains intact, thanks in large part to the critical role that the Queen played in championing the organization and maintaining its relevance. As epochal was her rule, so too could the impact of her passing be on the mission and prospects of the Commonwealth. (The Hindu)

F-16 package

AMERICA'S PAK OUTREACH AN OMINOUS SIGN FOR INDIA

The Biden administration's approval of a \$450-million F-16 fighter jet fleet sustainment programme for Pakistan heralds the resumption of major security assistance by Washington to Islamabad. Calling Pakistan an important counterterrorism partner, the US State Department has said that the programme will 'sustain Islamabad's capability to meet current and future counterterrorism threats by maintaining its F-16 fleet'. It was in 2018 that the then US President Donald Trump had suspended about \$2 billion in security aid to Islamabad for not taking adequate action against the Afghan Taliban and the Haqqani Network terror groups.

Pakistan has done precious little in the past four years to convince the international community of its commitment to counter terrorism. Islamabad needs to explain how it has been using its existing F-16 fighters, if at all, to break the back of terrorists operating from its territory. The undeniable ground reality is that Pak-based terror groups such as Jaish-e-Mohammad and Lashkar-e-Taiba are targeting India as well as Afghanistan and posing a threat to peace and stability in the region. Considering Islamabad's lack of credibility on cross-border terrorism, Washington's decision to bolster Pakistan Air Force's F-16 prowess reeks of a sinister design to provoke India. America's double standards are obvious: on the one hand, it sees a key role for India in strengthening the anti-China coalition in the Indo-Pacific region; on the other, it has no qualms about encouraging military muscle-flexing by China's all-weather ally and India's arch-enemy Pakistan.

Pakistan's F16s had taken on India's fighter aircraft after the 2019 Balakot strike, which was carried out to avenge the Jaish-plotted Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF soldiers had lost their lives. The upswing in America-Pakistan defense ties during Biden's rule is an ominous sign for India, which should first safeguard its strategic interests and be wary of America's ploy to use it as a pawn against China. New Delhi must call out Washington for its dubious policy of running with the hare and hunting with the hounds. (Tribune, India)

TRIAL BY FIRE: ON IMPORTANCE OF LIZ TRUSS DELIVERING RESULTS FOR U.K.

Liz Truss will have to deliver results quickly as the U.K. faces crises on different fronts

The United Kingdom's Conservative Party has elected Liz Truss, earlier the country's Foreign Secretary, as its next Prime Minister, making her the third woman to hold the top role in the country's political executive. She ascends to the post at a difficult time for the U.K., economically and politically - the government is challenged by soaring energy costs and recessionary headwinds; and the war in Ukraine has left the country scrambling to find alternatives to Russian fuel while standing up to Moscow's belligerence. Making matters harder, her path to the top has not inspired confidence in terms of her standing within the party. While she secured her victory with the backing of 81,326 of her party's members, her rival and former Chancellor, Rishi Sunak garnered 60,399 votes in the final contest, a much narrower margin than expected and the narrowest margin of any election for party leadership held in the past two decades. It is also concerning that Ms. Truss won the support of less than 50% of Conservative Party members, as nearly 20% of them did not vote. In terms of policy implications this poses a challenge: in the coming months Ms. Truss will have to win over a Conservative Party cohort that prefers fundamentally different approaches to hers in tackling the most serious crises that the U.K. faces. For example, with her plan to introduce £30 billion in tax cuts including reversing the rise in National Insurance, temporarily dropping green levies on energy bills, and scrapping a planned rise in corporation tax, there are likely to be party members who will oppose her proposals.

Nevertheless, if there is one strength that Ms. Truss has demonstrated in the past, it is her adaptable politics, especially at times when this trait could improve her prospects in the big picture. Indeed, she has moved far from her political origins as a Liberal Democrat and also from her former position on Brexit as a Remainer. It was considered a politically astute move by her to steer clear of the Conservative coup that ended her predecessor Boris Johnson's tenure in office, yet she managed simultaneously to avoid being seen as a staunch insider of Mr. Johnson's political circle. She will need a strong measure of these skills to accomplish the mammoth tasks of lifting up the enervated reputation of the Conservative Party among the British public, carrying it past the sleaze scandals that plagued the Johnson government and, importantly, bringing down the soaring cost of living by tackling the energy crises and reinvigorating the sluggish U.K. economy with the right macroeconomic policy mix. Towards achieving this, Ms. Truss may do well to tap into her recent experience crafting post-Brexit deals with the European Union - and even extending that model to trading partners across the world. One thing is clear: she will have to hit the ground running and deliver positive results soon, else face harsh judgement by her constituents. (The Hindu)

End of an Era: Queen Elizabeth II dies at 96 after 70 years on the throne: Prince Charles is the new Monarch

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A link to the almost-vanished generation that fought World War II, she was the only monarch most Britons have ever known.

Her 73-year-old son Prince Charles automatically became king and will be known as King Charles III, it was announced. British monarchs in the past have selected new names upon taking the throne. Charles' second wife, Camilla, will be known as the Queen Consort.

The BBC played the national anthem, "God Save the Queen," over a portrait of Elizabeth in full regalia as her death was announced, and the flag over Buckingham Palace was lowered to half-staff as the second Elizabethan age came to a close.

The impact of her loss will be huge and unpredictable, both for the nation and for the monarchy, an institution she helped stabilize and modernize across decades of enormous social change and family scandals, but whose relevance in the 21st century has often been called into question.

The public's abiding affection for the queen has helped sustain support for the monarchy during the scandals. Charles is nowhere near as popular.

Since Feb. 6, 1952, Elizabeth reigned over a Britain that rebuilt from a destructive and financially exhausting war and lost its empire; joined the European Union and then left it; and made the painful transition into the 21st century.

She endured through 15 prime ministers, from Winston Churchill to Truss, becoming an institution and an icon -- a reassuring presence even for those who ignored or loathed the monarchy.

She became less visible in her final years as age and frailty curtailed many public appearances. But she remained firmly in control of the monarchy and at the center of national life as Britain celebrated her Platinum Jubilee with days of parties and pageants in June.

That same month she became the second longest-reigning monarch in history, behind 17th-century French King Louis XIV, who took the throne at age 4. On Tuesday, she presided at a ceremony at Balmoral Castle to accept the resignation of Boris Johnson as prime minister and appoint Truss as his successor.

When Elizabeth was 21, almost five years before she became queen, she promised the people of Britain and the Commonwealth that "my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service."

It was a promise she kept across more than seven decades.

Despite Britain's complex and often fraught ties with its former colonies, Elizabeth was widely respected and remained head of state of more than a dozen countries, from Canada to Tuvalu. She headed the 54-nation Commonwealth, built around Britain and its former colonies.

Married for more than 73 years to Prince Philip, who died in 2021 at age 99, Elizabeth was matriarch to a royal family whose troubles were a subject of global fascination -- amplified by fictionalized accounts such as the TV series "The Crown." She is survived by four children, eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Through countless public events, she probably met more people than anyone in history. Her image, which adorned stamps, coins and banknotes, was among the most reproduced in the world.

But her inner life and opinions remained mostly an enigma. Of her personality, the public saw relatively little. A horse owner, she rarely seemed happier than during the Royal Ascot racing week. She never tired of the companionship of her beloved Welsh corgi dogs.

Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor was born in London on April 21, 1926, the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York. She was not born to be queen -- her father's elder brother, Prince Edward, was destined for the crown, to be followed by any children he had.

But in 1936, when she was 10, Edward VIII abdicated to marry twice-divorced American Wallis Simpson, and Elizabeth's father became King George VI.

Princess Margaret recalled asking her sister whether this meant that Elizabeth would one day be queen. "Yes, I suppose it does," Margaret quoted Elizabeth as saying. "She didn't mention it again."

Elizabeth was barely in her teens when Britain went to war with Germany in 1939. While the king and queen stayed at Buckingham Palace during the Blitz and toured the bombed-out neighborhoods of London, Elizabeth and Margaret spent most of the war at Windsor Castle, west of the capital. Even there, 300 bombs fell in an adjacent park, and the princesses spent many nights in an underground shelter.

She made her first public broadcast in 1940 when she was 14, sending a wartime message to children evacuated to the countryside or overseas.

"We children at home are full of cheerfulness and courage," she said with a blend of stoicism and hope that would echo throughout her reign. "We are trying to do all we can to help out gallant soldiers, sailors and airmen. And we are trying, too, to bear our own share of the danger and sadness of war. We know, every one of us, that in the end all will be well."

In 1945, after months of campaigning for her parents' permission to do something for the war effort, the heir to the throne became Second Subaltern Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor in the Auxiliary Territorial Service. She enthusiastically

learned to drive and service heavy vehicles.

On the night the war ended in Europe, May 8, 1945, she and Margaret managed to mingle, unrecognized, with celebrating crowds in London - "swept along on a tide of happiness and relief," as she told the BBC decades later, describing it as "one of the most memorable nights of my life."



Queen Elizabeth II and husband Prince Philip at their wedding.

File photo

At Westminster Abbey in November 1947 she married Royal Navy officer Philip Mountbatten, a prince of Greece and Denmark whom she had first met in 1939 when she was 13 and he 18. Postwar Britain was experiencing austerity and rationing, and so street decorations were limited, and no public holiday was declared. But the bride was allowed 100 extra ration coupons for her trousseau.

The couple lived for a time in Malta, where Philip was stationed, and Elizabeth enjoyed an almost-normal life as a navy wife. The first of their four children, Prince Charles, was born in 1948. He was followed by Princess Anne in 1950, Prince Andrew in 1960, and Prince Edward in 1964.

In 1952, George VI died at 56 after years of ill health. Elizabeth, on a visit to Kenya, was told that she was now queen.

Her private secretary, Martin Charteris, later recalled finding the new monarch at her desk, "sitting erect, no tears, color up a little, fully accepting her destiny."

"In a way, I didn't have an apprenticeship," Elizabeth reflected in a BBC documentary in 1992 that opened a rare view into her emotions. "My father died much too young, and so it was all a very sudden kind of taking on and making the best job you can."



The young Queen Elizabeth II wearing a Tiara in this 1960 picture

File photo

Her coronation took place more than a year later, a grand spectacle at Westminster Abbey viewed by millions through the still-new medium of television.

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End of an Era: Queen Elizabeth II dies at 96 after 70 years on the throne: Prince Charles is the new Monarch

Prime Minister Winston Churchill's first reaction to the king's death was to complain that the new queen was "only a child," but he was won over within days and eventually became an ardent admirer.

In Britain's constitutional monarchy, the queen is head of state but has little direct power; in her official actions she does what the government orders. However, she was not without influence. The queen, officially the head of the Church of England, once reportedly commented that there was nothing she could do legally to block the appointment of a bishop, "but I can always say that I should like more information. That is an indication that the prime minister will not miss."

The extent of the monarch's political influence occasionally sparked speculation -- but not much criticism while Elizabeth was alive. The views of Charles, who has expressed strong opinions on everything from architecture to the environment, might prove more contentious.

She was obliged to meet weekly with the prime minister, and they generally found her well-informed, inquisitive and up to date. The one possible exception was Margaret Thatcher, with whom her relations were said to be cool, if not frosty, though neither woman ever commented.

The queen's views in those private meetings became a subject of intense speculation and fertile ground for dramatists like Peter Morgan, author of the play "The Audience" and the hit TV series "The Crown." Those semi-fictionalized accounts were the product of an era of declining deference and rising celebrity, when the royal family's troubles became public property.

And there were plenty of troubles within the family, an institution known as "The Firm." In Elizabeth's first years on the throne, Princess Margaret provoked a national controversy through her romance with a divorced man.

In what the queen called the "annus horribilis" of 1992, her daughter, Princess Anne, was divorced, Prince Charles and Princess Diana separated, and so did her son Prince Andrew and his wife, Sarah. That was also the year Windsor Castle, a residence she far preferred to Buckingham Palace, was seriously damaged by fire.

The public split of Charles and Diana -- "There were three of us in that marriage," Diana said of her husband's relationship with Camilla Parker Bowles -- was followed by the shock of Diana's death in a Paris car crash in 1997. For once, the queen appeared out of step with her people.

Amid unprecedented public mourning, Elizabeth's failure to make a public show of grief appeared to many to be unfeeling. After several days, she finally made a televised address to the nation.

The dent in her popularity was brief. She was by now a sort of national grandmother, with a stern gaze and a twinkling smile.

Despite being one of the world's wealthiest people, Elizabeth had a reputation for frugality and common sense. She turned off lights in empty rooms, and didn't flinch from strangling pheasants.

A newspaper reporter who went undercover to work as a palace footman reinforced that down-to-earth image, capturing pictures of the royal Tupperware on the breakfast table and a rubber duck in the bath.

Her sangfroid was not dented when a young man aimed a pistol at her and fired six blanks as she rode by on a horse in 1981, nor when she discovered a disturbed intruder sitting on her bed in Buckingham Palace in 1982.

The image of the queen as an exemplar of ordinary British decency was satirized by the magazine Private Eye, which called her Brenda, apparently because it sounded working-class. Anti-monarchists dubbed her "Mrs. Windsor." But the republican cause gained limited traction while the queen was alive.

On her Golden Jubilee in 2002, she said the country could "look back with measured pride on the history of the last 50 years."

"It has been a pretty remarkable 50 years by any standards," she said in a speech. "There have been ups and downs, but anyone who can remember what things were like after those six long years of war appreciates what immense changes have been achieved since then."

A reassuring presence at home, she was also an emblem of Britain abroad - a form of soft power, consistently respected whatever the vagaries of the country's political leaders on the world stage. It felt only fitting that she attended the opening of the 2012 London Olympics alongside another icon, James Bond. Through some movie magic, she appeared to parachute into the Olympic Stadium.

In 2015, she overtook her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria's reign of 63 years, seven months and two days to become the longest-serving monarch in British history. She kept working into her 10th decade, though Prince Charles and his elder son, Prince William, increasingly took over the visits, ribbon-cuttings and investitures that form the bulk of royal duties.

The loss of Philip in 2021 was a heavy blow, as she poignantly sat alone at his funeral in the chapel at Windsor Castle because of coronavirus restrictions.

And the family troubles continued. Her son Prince Andrew was entangled in the sordid tale of sex offender businessman Jeffrey Epstein, an American businessman who had been a friend. Andrew denied accusations that he had sex with one of the women who said she was trafficked by Epstein.

The queen's grandson Prince Harry walked away from Britain and his royal duties after marrying American TV actress Meghan Markle, who is biracial, in 2018. He

alleged in an interview that some in the family -- but pointedly not the queen -- had been less than welcoming to his wife.

She enjoyed robust health well into her 90s, although she used a cane in an appearance after Philip's death. Months ago, she told guests at a reception "as you can see, I can't move." The palace, tight-lipped about details, said the queen was experiencing "episodic mobility issues."

She held virtual meetings with diplomats and politicians from Windsor Castle, but public appearances grew rarer.

Meanwhile, she took steps to prepare for the transition to come. In February, the queen announced that she wanted Camilla to be known as "Queen Consort" when "in the fullness of time" her son became king. It removed a question mark over the role of the woman some blamed for the breakup of Charles' marriage to Princess Diana in the 1990s.

May brought another symbolic moment, when she asked Charles to stand in for her and read the Queen's Speech at the State Opening of Parliament, one of the monarch's most central constitutional duties.

Seven decades after World War II, Elizabeth was again at the center of the national mood amid the uncertainty and loss of COVID 19 -- a disease she came through herself in February.

In April 2020 -- with the country in lockdown and Prime Minister Boris Johnson



Queen Elizabeth II, smiles as she leaves a service of Thanksgiving to mark the Centenary of the Royal British Legion at Westminster Abbey, in London, Oct. 12, 2021
File photo

hospitalized with the virus -- she made a rare video address, urging people to stick together.

She summoned the spirit of World War II, that vital time in her life, and the nation's, by echoing Vera Lynn's wartime anthem "We'll Meet Again."

"We should take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return. We will be with our friends again. We will be with our families again. We will meet again," she said.

World mourns Britain's Queen Elizabeth II

Condolences poured in from around the world Thursday, September 8, after the death of Queen Elizabeth II, who became a global icon of calmness and fortitude through decades of political upheaval and social changes at home and abroad.

Elizabeth had been on the throne since 1952, when the nation was still rebuilding from the destruction of World War II.



Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau saluted the Queen's "wisdom, compassion and warmth." File photo

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In Canada, where the British monarch is the country's head of state, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau saluted her "wisdom, compassion and warmth." Elizabeth, who is Canada's head of state, visited the country 22 times as monarch.

U.S. President Joe Biden called her a "stateswoman of unmatched dignity and constancy who deepened the bedrock alliance between the United Kingdom and the United States."

In India, once a British colony, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called her "a stalwart of our times."

"She personified dignity and decency in public life," Modi tweeted.

"She lived history, she made history. And with her passing, she leaves a magnificent, inspirational legacy," Israeli President Isaac Herzog said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin sent a telegram to Elizabeth's eldest son, now known as King Charles III.

"For many decades, Elizabeth II rightfully enjoyed the love and respect of her subjects, as well as authority on the world stage. I wish you courage and perseverance in the face of this heavy, irreparable loss."

At the United Nations, the Security Council stood in silent tribute at the start of a meeting on Ukraine. France's U.N. Ambassador Nicolas De Riviere, the council president, sent condolences on behalf of its 15 members.

Queen Elizabeth II presided "over a period of historic changes both for her country and the world," he said. "Her life was devoted to the service of her country."

Caribbean leaders from Bermuda to Dominica and beyond mourned her death.

"Her passing ends an iconic 70-year reign and is a profound loss for the commonwealth of nations and the world," tweeted Roosevelt Skerrit, Dominica's prime minister.

Bermuda Premier David Burt noted that her reign "has spanned decades of such immense change for the United Kingdom and the world."

Former U.S. President Donald Trump said on his social media platform that Elizabeth "will always be remembered for her faithfulness to her country and her unwavering devotion to her fellow countrymen and women."

"Melania and I will always cherish our time together with the queen, and never forget Her Majesty's generous friendship, great wisdom, and wonderful sense of humor. What a grand and beautiful lady she was - there was nobody like her!"

In Washington, U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine recalled how Elizabeth had joked with him when she visited Virginia in 2007 while he was governor.

He asked the queen's security detail whether he should offer the queen his arm while going up a steep set of Capitol steps. They assured him she'd be fine. But when she arrived a few weeks later, she looked at him and deadpanned, "they expect me to go up this?"

The remark momentarily flustered Kaine.

"She was just pulling my leg. She just walked up just as fast as can be," Kaine said.

The queen's visit came not long after a gunman at a Virginia university, Virginia Tech, killed dozens of people. The queen asked to meet with people from the university and well as grieving family members.

"That really meant a lot," Kaine said.

Elton John said in a tweet that she was "an inspiring presence to be around, and lead the country through some of our greatest, and darkest, moments."

The acclaimed musician reworked his hit "Candle in the Wind" as a tribute to Princess Diana when she died unexpectedly in 1997.

In the UK, politicians united in tribute to queen as Britain mourned her death.

British politicians across the political spectrum united in sorrow Thursday, September 8, at the death of Queen Elizabeth II, a passing that brought the country's usually fractious politics to a halt.

The queen's death at age 96 will be marked with 10 days of national mourning, culminating in a state funeral for the monarch.

Essential government functions will continue, but much of the routine business of politics will be put on pause. Parliamentary business will give way to two days of tributes from lawmakers in the House of Commons on Friday and Saturday.

New Prime Minister Liz Truss, who was told of the news about 90 minutes before it was made public, said the country was "devastated" by the death of the monarch on Thursday, calling her "the rock on which modern Britain was built."

"We are now a modern, thriving, dynamic nation," Truss said outside her 10 Downing St. residence in London. "Through thick and thin, Queen Elizabeth II provided us with the stability and the strength that we needed."

"She was the very spirit of Great Britain - and that spirit will endure," Truss said.

She ended her statement with words that no British leader has said for 70 years: "God save the king."

In a statement, Charles called his mother's death "a moment of the greatest sadness for me and all members of my family," adding: "I know her loss will be deeply felt throughout the country, the Realms and the Commonwealth, and by countless people around the world."

The changing of the guard comes at a fraught moment for Britain, which has a brand-new prime minister and is grappling with an energy crisis, double-digit inflation, the war in Ukraine and the fallout from Brexit.

Prime Minister Liz Truss, appointed by the queen just 48 hours earlier, pronounced



British Prime Minister Liz Truss in her statement regarding the death of Queen Elizabeth II outside Downing Street in London, Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, said, "She was the very spirit of Great Britain - and that spirit will endure".

the country "devastated" and called Elizabeth "the rock on which modern Britain was built."

British subjects outside Buckingham Palace wept when officials carried a notice confirming the queen's death to the wrought-iron gates of the queen's London home. Hundreds soon gathered in the rain, and mourners laid dozens of colorful bouquets at the gates.

"As a young person, this is a really huge moment," said Romy McCarthy, 20. "It marks the end of an era, particularly as a woman. We had a woman who was in power as someone to look up to."

(With inputs from Agencies)

INDIAN-ORIGIN PRITI PATEL RESIGNS AS UK HOME SECRETARY



UK Home Secretary Priti Patel on Monday, September 5, resigned from the Cabinet

SEPTEMBER 5, 2022

LONDON (TIP): UK Home Secretary Priti Patel on Monday, September 5, resigned from the Cabinet in a letter to the outgoing Prime Minister Boris Johnson and said she plans to support his successor Liz Truss from the backbenches of Parliament.

The Indian-origin senior minister, a close ally of Johnson, was widely expected not to be included in the top line-up of Prime Minister elect Truss' top team. In her resignation letter addressed to Johnson, 50-year-old Patel highlighted her many achievements in the post, including a Migration and Mobility Partnership signed with India, among other countries, to tackle illegal migration.

"I congratulate Liz Truss on being elected our new leader and will give her my support as our new Prime Minister," she wrote in her resignation letter. "It is my choice to continue my public service to the country and the Witham constituency from the backbenches once Liz formally assumes office and a new Home Secretary is appointed. From the backbenches, I will champion many of the policies and causes that I have stood for both inside and outside of government," she said.

"I have signed new international returns agreements with India, Albania, Serbia, Nigeria, and Pakistan, with work underway to negotiate more agreements and to remove more people who should not be in this country and who have abused our hospitality," she wrote, with reference to some of her work as the head of the Home Office.

Gujarati-origin Patel, who was appointed Home Secretary by Boris Johnson in July 2019, described it as "the honor of my life" to deliver reforms for the country's police and immigration system and fighting terrorism. Her letter also references a controversial Rwanda asylum policy to deport illegal migrants to the African nation as part of a wider strategy to crack down on illegal migration.

"It is vital that your successor backs all aspects of these policies on illegal migration to ensure full implementation and delivery of the New Plan for Immigration and Nationality and Borders Act," she writes.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Indian-origin Suella Braverman is Home Secretary in UK PM Liz Truss's Cabinet

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

LONDON (TIP): Prime Minister Liz Truss has unveiled one of the UK's most diverse Cabinets, with key frontline posts going to ethnic minority members of Parliament, including Indian-origin Suella Braverman as the Home Secretary.

The senior Conservative MPs who had come out in support of former chancellor Rishi Sunak in the Tory leadership election are conspicuous by their absence in Truss's top team, which she has packed with close allies, such as Therese Coffey as Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and Wendy Morton as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and the first Tory female Chief Whip in charge of party discipline.

Another Indian-origin minister in the Cabinet is the 55-year-old Alok Sharma, who retains his climate action job as COP26 President, as does Defense Secretary Ben Wallace.

Iraqi-origin Nadhim Zahawi, 55, has been appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister of Equalities, Brandon Lewis is the new Justice Secretary, and Penny Mordaunt is the Leader of the Commons.

"We have huge reserves of talent, of energy, and determination," Truss, 47, said in her inaugural address outside 10



British Prime Minister Liz Truss has inducted Indian-origin Suella Braverman as the Home Secretary.

Downing Street earlier on Tuesday.

"I am confident that together we can ride out the storm, we can rebuild our economy, and we can become the modern brilliant Britain that I know we can be. This is our vital mission to ensure opportunity and prosperity for all people and future generations. I am determined to deliver," she.

Truss travelled to Queen Elizabeth II's Balmoral Castle residence in Aberdeenshire, Scotland on Tuesday,

September 6, to meet the 96-year-old monarch, who asked her to form a new government.

Truss has said that she is honored to take on the responsibility at a vital time for the country.

The new prime minister said her government will "transform Britain into an aspiration nation with high paying jobs, safe streets and where everyone everywhere has the opportunities they deserve."

INDIAN-ORIGIN SANJAY KUMAR VERMA APPOINTED INDIA'S HIGH COMMISSIONER TO CANADA



Sanjay Kumar Verma was on Tuesday, September 6, appointed as India's next High Commissioner to Canada

SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

NEW DELHI (TIP): Seasoned diplomat Sanjay Kumar Verma was on Tuesday, September 6, appointed as India's next High Commissioner to Canada, while Amit Kumar, currently Consulate General of India in Chicago, has been named as the next ambassador to the Republic of Korea.

Verma, a 1988-batch IFS officer and presently India's Ambassador to Japan, is expected to take up the assignment shortly, the MEA said. Verma, 57, succeeds Acting High Commissioner Anshuman Gaur.

TWO INDIAN-ORIGIN BOYS LIVING IN UK DROWN IN IRELAND LAKE



Reuven Simon and Joseph Sebastian have "tragically drowned" in a lake in Northern Ireland

AUGUST 31, 2022

DUBLIN (TIP): Two 16-year-old Kerala-origin Indian boys living in the UK, have "tragically drowned" in a lake in Northern Ireland, local media reported.

The deceased teenagers identified as Reuven Simon and Joseph Sebastian, were among a group of six friends who had cycled to Enagh Lough outside Derry, for a swim on Monday evening, Ireland's media reported.

It is believed the incident occurred after some of them went swimming, the media outlet said. According to a statement by the Police Service of Northern Ireland, after complaints by a number of people of difficulty in the water an alarm was raised at around 6:30 am, triggering a rescue and recovery effort.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

INDIAN- ORIGIN YOUTH DIES IN CANADA AFTER TRUCK CAUGHT FIRE



Jagsir Singh Gill who lived in Calgary died in a road accident in British Columbia

AUGUST 29, 2022

VANCOUVER, BC (TIP): A pall of gloom descended at Gholia Khurd village in Moga after the news of death of Jagsir Singh Gill, who lived in Canada, reached his family.

On Sunday, Gill died in a road accident in Golden town of British Columbia. Gill was driving a truck on National Highway-1 when another trailer transporting animals collided with his vehicle and both the trucks caught fire.

Kulwant Singh, father of the victim, said his son died of burns. Driver of the other vehicle also died of burn injuries. Gill used to live in Calgary along with his wife and two children.

Indian American attorney Arun Subramanian nominated by Joe Biden to US District Judge in New York

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): US President Joe Biden has nominated Indian-American attorney Arun Subramanian to be US District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

A communication in this regard was sent to the Senate by the White House along with other judicial nominations.

If confirmed by the Senate, Subramanian would be the first South Asian judge to serve on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

Currently a partner at Susman Godfrey LLP in New York, where he has worked since 2007, Subramanian served as a law clerk for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the Supreme Court of the United States from 2006 to 2007 and Judge Gerard E. Lynch on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York from 2005 to 2006.

He also worked as a law clerk for Judge Dennis Jacobs on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 2004 to 2005.

Subramanian received his J.D. from Columbia Law School in 2004 and his B.A. from Case Western Reserve University in 2001.

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) congratulated Subramanian on his nomination.

AB Cruz III, acting president of NAPABA



Joe Biden nominated Indian American attorney Arun Subramanian to be US District Judge in New York

said Subramanian is an experienced trial and appellate attorney with a strong track record of pro bono service.

"A child of immigrants, he became the first lawyer in his family, and we are proud to see him represent our community. We urge the Senate to swiftly confirm him," he said. Indian-American Impact has welcomed the nomination by describing it as a notable nomination.

"South Asians and Asian Americans have long been underrepresented in the

federal judiciary - with less than five per cent of Article III district judges being of AAPI descent - but in the past year we have made historic strides," said Neil Makhija, Indian-American Impact executive-director.

"We look forward to celebrating the ultimate confirmation of Subramanian and the ripple effect his presence will undoubtedly have on young South Asian Americans across the country who aspire to public service," Makhija said.

INDIAN AMERICAN CARDIOLOGIST DR. TARA NARULA JOINS CNN AS THE MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT



Dr. Tara Narula has joined CNN as a medical correspondent within CNN's award-winning Health, Medical and Wellness team

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

NEW YORK (TIP): Indian American cardiologist Dr. Tara Narula has joined CNN as a medical correspondent within CNN's award-winning Health, Medical and Wellness team. She will report across CNN platforms and is based in New York, the news channel announced.

Currently a fellow of the American College of Cardiology (FACC), she joins CNN from CBS News where she was the senior medical correspondent reporting for all CBS News broadcasts and platforms, including CBS Mornings, the CBS Evening News with Norah O'Donnell, CBS Saturday Morning, CBS Sunday Morning and CBS Streaming Network.

Dr. Narula also serves as a national spokesperson for the American Heart Association and the AHA's Go Red for Women initiative. She is a recipient of the 2019 WomenHeart Nanette Wenger Award for Media and the Super Doctors Award for NYC 2014-2022.

A board-certified cardiologist at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City and an associate professor of cardiovascular medicine at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, she also serves as the associate director of the Women's Heart Program at Lenox Hill Hospital.

She joined Lenox Hill Heart & Vascular Institute of New York in 2010 and provides outpatient consultative care. Additionally, she is board-certified in nuclear cardiology, echocardiography and internal medicine.

After graduating from Stanford University with degrees in economics and biology, she was founder and CEO of her own small business, Sun Juice Inc. Subsequently, she obtained her medical degree at USC Keck School of Medicine where she graduated with Alpha Omega Alpha Society Honors.

Dr. Narula completed her residency in internal medicine at Harvard University/Brigham and Women's Hospital and her fellowship training in cardiology at New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

INDIAN-ORIGIN LAXMAN NARASIMHAN IS THE NEW CEO OF STARBUCKS



Starbucks has appointed Laxman Narasimhan as the next CEO and a member of the Starbucks Board of Directors.

SEPTEMBER 2, 2022

NEW YORK (TIP): Laxman Narasimhan is the latest in a long line of Indian-origin CEOs of global companies with Starbucks announcing his appointment as the company's next chief executive officer and a member of the Starbucks Board of Directors. Narasimhan will join Starbucks as incoming CEO on October 1 after relocating from London. He will work closely with Interim CEO Howard Schultz, before assuming the CEO role and joining the Board on April 1, 2023, said a company announcement.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

VEDANT PATEL BECOMES THE FIRST INDIAN AMERICAN TO HOLD DAILY US STATE DEPT PRESS BRIEFINGS



Vedant Patel has become the first Indian-American to hold the daily State Department news conference

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): Vedant Patel, the Principal Deputy Spokesperson for the US Department of State, has created history by becoming the first Indian-American to hold the daily State Department news conference that his fellow colleagues said he did with the utmost professionalism and clear communication.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Indian American Congressman Ro Khanna introduces standalone bill in US House of Representatives for CAATSA waiver to India



Congressman Ro Khanna has introduced a standalone bill in the US House of Representatives seeking a waiver to India against the punitive CAATSA sanctions

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C (TIP): Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna has introduced a standalone bill in the US House of Representatives seeking a waiver to India against the punitive CAATSA sanctions, asserting that it is in the best interests of both countries to deter "aggressors" in light of Russia and China's close ties.

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

GUILTY WITHOUT EVIDENCE

BY JULIO
RIBEIRO



"Not every policy is well thought out. Many policies may be well intentioned but will fail. The PM's demonetization decision, for instance, was a great disaster. But no politician or bureaucrat was taken to task for that colossal blunder. It was soon forgotten as a mistake. But the intention of the accusers in Sisodia's case is not to mourn the loss to the public but to remove a star performer of a small but upcoming opposition party from the political firmament."

"The campaign to shatter the opposition parties by picking on their weak links with the help of the Enforcement Directorate had been conceived! Every political party, including the BJP, needs money to operate. The army of workers employed full-time keeps expanding with electoral successes. If success is elusive, inducements are offered to cross over. Inducements require money."

What is the truth behind the hype about a 'corrupt' AAP leader, Manish Sisodia? I am as blank as any other thinking Indian. Only diehard BJP supporters and gullible members of the public will swallow the propaganda that is being proliferated to condemn the man. But where is the evidence?

The intention of the accusers is not to mourn the loss to the public due to his policy, but to remove a star performer of a small but upcoming opposition party.

Unlike the Bengal minister from whom crores were recovered, nothing was found in the CBI searches on Sisodia's offices, home and bank locker. The charge against him seems to be that the



Under lens: It appears there is a political move to condemn the Delhi Deputy CM.

Photo / PTI

policy adopted by him and his party on the sale of liquor had caused huge loss to the exchequer. This is a charge that can be made against governments and corporates in India and all parts of the world at various times.

Not every policy is well thought out. Many policies may be well intentioned but will fail. The PM's demonetization decision, for instance, was a great disaster. But no politician or bureaucrat was taken to task for that colossal blunder. It was soon forgotten as a mistake. But the intention of the accusers in Sisodia's case is not to mourn the loss to the public but to remove a star performer of a small but upcoming opposition party from the political firmament.

When the BJP succeeded in winning the UP Assembly elections and forming the governments in three other states, besides UP, Modi held a victory rally of his party's committed workers outside the party office in Delhi. He voiced his intention of booking the corrupt as the next important mission of his regime. His supporters roared their approval. Little did they know what he meant. Even informed observers did not read his real intent.

The campaign to shatter the opposition parties by picking on their weak links with the help of the Enforcement Directorate had been conceived! Every political party, including the BJP, needs money to operate. The army of workers employed full-time keeps expanding with electoral successes. If success is elusive, inducements are offered to cross over. Inducements require money.

When the party has not succeeded at the ballot box and not succeeded in enticing greedy legislators of other parties in sufficient numbers, this novel use of Central agencies to 'coax' reluctant MLAs to join the bandwagon is activated. The ploy works in most places. It worked in Maharashtra. But where

nuts are hard to crack, like in the case of AAP legislators, new ways have to be found.

Is the alleged liquor scam in Delhi one such experimentation? At the moment, nothing is clear. It is true that the adage 'there is no smoke without fire' has a lot going for it, but we have not seen any sign of that smoke from all the Goebbels-like propaganda that has been dished out. A slight connection could be discerned in the purported association of the Telangana CM's daughter in the raids carried out all over India in connection with the 'scam'.

This piece of possible evidence was not pursued, it seems. The conclusion independent observers will draw is that since the Telangana CM is another thorn to be tackled later, it could be that his daughter's explanation published in the media was accepted by the CBI, which was the agency entrusted with this inquiry. Surprisingly, the ED was left out at the beginning, though the allegations involved skimming off vast amounts of money.

On September 5, for the first time, it was announced that in the sting operation carried out on one of the many accused in the case, a beneficiary of the new policy had hinted that Kejriwal and Sisodia were given their share of the spoils. It is something like Rahul Gandhi calling Modi a chor in the Rafale matter. Nobody believed him. I do not know much about Sisodia but I refuse to believe that Kejriwal will accept tainted money for personal use. As for party funds, most politicians are complicit.

Another thought that entered my police officer's mind on reading about the Sisodia case is that no details of recoveries, if any, from the IAS and other officials of Delhi's excise department were leaked to the media. This is quite unusual. If monies had been found in the searches, the propaganda could have acquired greater authenticity. It appears

that the CBI drew a blank there, too!

The effect of accusing IAS and assorted excise department officials in a case that has not been proved so far will not wear off easily. I learn that IAS officers are not readily available for deputation to the Centre these days. With the Sisodia case fresh in the mind's eye, postings to the Delhi state administration also will be avoided. Officers will not like to get involved in the running spat between the BJP and the AAP. Any officer earmarked to serve the AAP government will be sure of being marked. Too many are the risks involved in associating even officially with a party that Modi and Shah want to dethrone by any means, fair or foul!

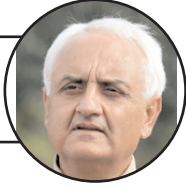
Another game is being played by the BJP in Jharkhand. Hemant Soren, the CM of the tribal-dominated state, is said to have been found guilty by the Election Commission of awarding a mining contract to himself. The Governor has not disclosed the contents of the EC's findings to the public. He has not moved against the CM, though a week has passed since he received the report. He has kept everyone guessing of his intentions, prompting the CM and his alliance partner, the Congress, to resort to 'resort' politics to safeguard their flock! Last Monday, Soren got his MLAs and those of the Congress to pass a vote of confidence in him in the Assembly. He must have got that idea from Kejriwal.

It is reported in the print media that the Jharkhand Governor has dashed off to Delhi for 'guidance and directions'. If this is how governance is going to be administered in the states, we as a people are condemned to non-existence. The government will not function till this matter is resolved. But the party at the Centre that pulls all the strings is keeping all parties guessing, awaiting a suitable time to strike.

(The author is a retired IPS Officer)

Gujral doctrine for Modi darbar

By Kanak Mani Dixit



"However, India under Modi seems to want to go it alone, preferring standalone bilateral relationships with its neighbors to a South Asian regionalism - a concept which is still in its infancy. The 'Akhand Bharat' idea does not jive with the concept of independent countries in cooperation, envisaged by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Neither is it in consonance with the sub-regionalism promoted by the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). The idea may be good for a centralized Indian polity run from New Delhi, but not for an India that seeks a federal devolution of powers."

Narendra Modi's personalized, authoritarian conduct of foreign affairs leaves both India and its neighbors short-changed

India is a humongous economic and geopolitical presence in South Asia. Yet, since Independence, it has maintained certain humility, in the knowledge that it houses some of the world's largest pockets of poverty. It has been well-aware of its weaknesses in governance, and also that its smaller neighbors are ahead in of it many human development indices, including infant and maternal mortality rates.

However, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, there has been an abrupt shift towards adventurism. True, Mr. Modi had invited leaders from India's South Asian neighbors to his inauguration in May 2014. However, in retrospect, that looks more like the darbar (court) of George V, with local potentates having been brought together to applaud the King Emperor.

As India becomes insular vis-à-vis its neighbors, it seems to forget that its neighbors are not going to compromise on their sovereignty. If ultra-nationalism gains ground in New Delhi, it will only escalate further in the neighboring capitals - where the easy path to ultra-nationalism has always been through opportunistic anti-Indianism.

It is India that should be showing the self-confident path of soft nationalism, leading towards open borders and symbiotic economic growth. Before all else, this would benefit the densely peopled peripheral States in the country, in the arc from Rajasthan to Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Assam.

However, India under Modi seems to want to go it alone, preferring standalone bilateral relationships with its neighbors to a South Asian regionalism - a concept which is still in its infancy. The 'Akhand Bharat' idea does not jive with the concept of independent countries in cooperation, envisaged by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Neither is it in consonance with the sub-regionalism promoted by the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). The idea may be good for a centralized Indian polity run from New Delhi, but not for an India that seeks a federal devolution of powers.

It increasingly looks like India's foreign policy is being run as a personal 'public relations crusade' by Narendra Modi. As he clocks his frequent flyer miles between Madison Square Garden, Wembley Stadium and other venues, basking in the adulation of some applauding Indian nationals, Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Western leaders keen to rope in India as a counterweight to China's power, does Mr. Modi realize that the South

Asian neighborhood is getting increasingly dangerous?

In this regard, one person whose thinking was far ahead of his times was ex-Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral, who in 1997, had propounded a policy to manage relationships with India's neighbors. What came to be known as the 'Gujral Doctrine' was a policy which sought friendship on the basis of sovereign equality and non-interference, with 'non-reciprocal magnanimity' towards the smaller countries such as Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

The doctrine drew ab initio skepticism from New Delhi's national security establishment and today lies in the geopolitical dump. And yet, it was an earnest attempt to extricate India from ultra-nationalism and make regionalism work for peace and economic upliftment of people in the entire subcontinent. Indeed, the doctrine sought to reconcile our present reality of 'nation states' to the fluid and syncretic history of 'South Asia'.

A newfound nationalism But Gujral's plan is anathema to the capital elites of the brand new nation-state, the kind of mandarins who revel in the newfound nationalism now being recharged in New Delhi. The think tanks, strategists and analysts, cheerleaders of the state when it comes to international affairs and unwilling to distinguish between next-door neighbors and the rest of the world, are more than willing to set the Gujral Doctrine adrift.

While the 'Gujral doctrine' was empathetic, the 'Modi Doctrine' is a mix of political calculations, a complete control over diplomacy by the Prime Minister, and an enthusiastic willingness to 'front' for the Western world. It is totally uncaring towards the sovereignties and sensibilities of the neighboring countries and marked by a complete lack of historicity and economic foresight. Some of this may have to do with Mr. Modi's previous tenures in State politics, which perhaps make him oblivious to what makes sovereign entities different, whatever their size.

Mr. Modi seems in a rush to fit South Asia into the narrative of the great destiny of 'Akhand Bharat', thought to have been truncated by the rise of nation-states. As I write this, Nepal is facing the brunt of Mr. Modi's ire and being made a testing ground for the new doctrine.

There are also disturbing similarities between Mr. Modi's personal style and that of Indira Gandhi, who too eschewed the collegial leadership of the party and the administration, and was not averse to adventurism, if it served to buttress her political career. This was reflected in the appropriation of Sikkim in 1975 and her repeated use of the self-serving 'foreign hand' trope. One wonders what would happen for South Asia policy if Mr. Modi's losing streak continues in State elections beyond Delhi and Bihar.

Mr. Modi's record thus far belies the thinking that autocrats, like Richard Nixon and Pervez Musharraf, tend to be more likely to reach out to adversaries than liberals. He mouths platitudes on 'a common destiny', but reneges on his cooperation the moment it seems to go against his personal agenda. It is true that Pakistan has been a recalcitrant member of the SAARC, but Mr. Modi's response has been to disengage with it altogether. The relationship between the two nuclear weapon powers has seen a freeze, with no constructive engagement, not even Track Two dialogues.

The West, meanwhile, is cozying up to Mr. Modi in a bid to tap into India's market and to prop up New Delhi as a bulwark against Beijing's ambitions. A part and parcel of this is what looks suspiciously like an outsourcing of its South Asia policy to New Delhi - evident in the agreement between David Cameron and Mr. Modi last week that senior officials will hold annual dialogues to discuss South Asia, as if the region were functioning under the guardianship of India.

The lack of cross-border empathy seems to epitomize Mr. Modi's mindset. He talks about connectivity among South Asian countries in highways, energy and telecom. He even wants to launch a SAARC satellite, a welcome



Prime Minister Narendra Modi is addressing the inaugural session of 18th SAARC Summit.

idea, yet thinks nothing about blockading a country which is, by far, the friendliest of India's neighbors and with which India has had an open border for decades. The entire machinery of India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has been activated to convince the world that this is not 'a blockade'. To be unhappy with Kathmandu is one thing, to do something this drastic about it is quite another.

An exclusivist, know-it-all attitude Just as Mr. Modi seems not to recognize the cross-cutting demography and complex history of India and 'Indians', there is an exclusionary, know-it-all attitude he displays towards India's neighbors. Mr. Modi thought that a rousing speech in the Nepali Parliament and summons to a couple of former Nepal Prime Ministers to his Delhi darbar for private talks were enough for New Delhi to get what it wanted in the Constitution - a 'Hindu Rashtra' in the text of the Constitution and plains-only province(s) in the federal set-up. That was naive.

Nothing explains the demeanor and activism of Indian diplomats - acting like angry viceregal envoys to browbeat Kathmandu's political leadership - than the fact that they have orders that cannot be second-guessed.

How does this evident desire to evolve as a patron rather than as a member of the South Asian comity sit in with New Delhi's great power ambitions? Surely, New Delhi's intelligentsia realizes that a permanent seat in the Security Council cannot happen in this particular South Asian context, in the absence of a steady and optimal amity between the regional countries. The diplomats and academics at the think tanks surely realize this, but the Modi blunderbuss seems to have them cowed and cowering.

In contrast, Narendra Modi's trajectory seems one with the intent to foist a patron-client relationship on India's smaller neighbors, and if that requires misinformation and a challenge to international law and basic decency, so be it.

Meanwhile, India's lack of empathy keeps it away from learning from the success stories of its smaller neighbors: like Bangladesh's examples of service delivery and cyclone preparedness; Pakistan's show resilience against sectarianism, political violence and impossible geopolitical odds; Sri Lanka's fight against autocracy and its development indicators; and Nepal's experiments with FM radio, local government and community forestry.

The ultra-nationalism within the small neighboring countries tends to coagulate into anti-Indianism, but the civil society in each country tries constantly to shed this particular image. It does not help when New Delhi's establishment speaks the language of jingoism and xenophobia; it is self-defeating and makes the region as a whole brittle and destruction-prone.

Foreign policy should not in this day and age be a foil for the political ambitions of individuals. More importantly, the goal of regional and international policies has to involve promotion of economic growth and prosperity for one's own citizens. For this reason alone, Narendra Modi must adjust the sails of his policy on South Asia. Had he been with us, Gujral the sage would undoubtedly have suggested a pullback.

(Kanak Mani Dixit, a writer and journalist based in Kathmandu, is founding editor of the magazine Himal Southasian.)

Migrants in Canadian Politics: Naranjan Grewal was the trend setter

BY PRABHJOT SINGH



Naranjan Grewal

Seventy-two years ago, a young man from Punjab set a new trend in Canadian politics. He became the first ever South Asian to get elected to a public office. Now more than a hundred migrants of Punjabi descent are in the fray for Municipal elections in five Canadian provinces in October/November this year.

Municipal elections are due in British Columbia (October 15), Northwest Territories (October 17), Ontario (October 24), Manitoba (October 26) and Prince Edward Island (November 7).

Municipalities in these provinces will not only elect Mayors and Councillors but also Regional Councillors and School Board Trustees.

Those in the run now include Canada born young professionals who have now

opted for life in the public domain.

The municipal elections are for a term for four years.

"Thank you all citizens of Mission City. It is a credit to this community to elect the first East Indian to public office in the history of our great dominion. It shows your broad-mindedness, tolerance and consideration," read a public notice (advertisement) given by Naranjan Grewal in a local newspaper in Mission in British Columbia in 1950.

Known in his friends circle as "Giani", Naranjan Grewal was the first Indian ever elected to any political office in North America.

Born in Dhudike, "Giani" moved to British Columbia in 1925. In 1941, he made Mission City in Fraser Valley as his hometown.

Grewal worked as a millwright at Fraser Mills and was elected a union official.

He owned and operated six sawmill companies to emerge as one of the largest employers and most influential business leaders in British Columbia.

In 1950, he decided to run for a political office in his home city. He entered into an electoral battle against six other contestants in the board of commissioners election in Mission city.

Popular as he was, "Giani" finished at the top. Two years later, he was elected for his second successive term during which he was unanimously chosen chairman of the board by his fellow

commissioners for the year 1954.

When Mission City went to polls in 2018, it elected two Councillors - Ken Herar and Jag Gill. Now when it goes to polls again in October this year, there will be no candidate of Punjabi origin in the line to become Mayor of the City of Naranjan Grewal.

Though Mission may not have a Punjabi Mayor in 2022, many other municipalities in British Columbia, Ontario and Manitoba will witness candidates of Punjabi origin running for Mayoral posts.

Trend set in motion by Naranjan Grewal in British Columbia has been carried forward by Jyoti Gondek (Calgary) and Amarjeet Sohi (Edmonton) who both were elected Mayors in October last year.

Jyoti holds Doctorate in Urban Sociology while Amarjeet Sohi had an interesting political journey starting his career as a Bus Driver. He remained a Councillor as well as MP. He served as Federal Minister, both for Infrastructure and Communities as well as Minister of Natural Resources.

Jyoti Gondek also happens to be the first woman Mayor of Calgary and first woman of Indian origin to hold this position.

The growing enthusiasm of the Indo-Canadian community in municipal politics is reflected by the number of community candidates in the Mayoral run.

In Toronto, there are three candidates of Indian origin in the fray. They are Sandeep Srivastava, Knia Singh and Arjuna Gupta.

In Brampton, the Canadian Punjab, there are four candidates of Indian origin in the fray for Mayor's post. Vidya Sagar Gautam, Nikki Kaur, Prabh Kaur Mand and Bob Singh will oppose the incumbent Patrick Brown in the October 24 election. Bob Singh who had earlier filed his nomination as a Councillor in Mississauga is now a Mayoral candidate.

In Mississauga, another city with a substantial South Asian migrant population, there are at least two candidates of Indian origin in the Mayoral run. They are Derek Ramkissoon and Jayesh Trivedi.

In Vaughan, it is Parveen Bola, a trained Nurse, who will be opposing former Ontario Liberal leader, Stephen Del Luca. Also in the fray is Robert Gulassorian, a real estate agent.

Besides Param Singh in Ottawa, another Indian migrant contesting as Mayor is Rajiv Dhawan from Milton.

(Prabhjot Singh is a veteran journalist with over three decades of experience covering a wide spectrum of subjects and stories. He has covered Punjab and Sikh affairs for more than three decades besides covering seven Olympics and several major sporting events and hosting TV shows. For more in-depth analysis please visit probingeye.com or follow him on [Twitter.com/probingeye](https://twitter.com/probingeye))

Punjab Then and Now

Change is the only thing that is permanent. This has been my philosophy throughout. The other day Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann launched with great fanfare the Aam Aadmi Clinic.

It leaves me wondering if it is all we have achieved in 75 years of Independence. Vivid are memories when as a child, 60 years ago, I occasionally visited the local dispensary primarily for medical attention.

I am not sure whether it was a Municipal Dispensary or a Primary Health Centre run by the State Health department. It had all the facilities that the Aam Aadmi Party Clinics are promising to have.

Besides a Doctor, the Dispensary had a nurse, a midwife, a pharmacist and an attendant besides a safai karamchhari.

All basic needs of people of our locality - Model Town - were met by the Dispensary.

As I grew older, the Dispensary started losing its usefulness. Sometimes it was either without a doctor or a nurse or both. Drugs were either scarce or there were no replenishments. Routine tests, including the Malaria test, too were discontinued.

As the country started enjoying fruits of independence, services became the first casualty. For people belonging to my generation, "services", including health care, education, streetlights, garbage collection and disposal, local transportation and maintenance of parks and open spaces were all "Sarkari".

It sounds amazing to hear the State Chief Minister talking of making primary health centers and



government schools as prime institutions to meet growing needs of the people.

I went to a Government Model School in my area. Teaching of English with Punjabi or Hindi started from Lower Kindergarten (LKG) class.

In 1968 when I sat in the Middle Standard Examination conducted by the District Education Office, my school had the district topper while I also figured among top 50 students of the district.

BY PRABHJOT SINGH



Even after securing high first division - 484 marks out of 700 - it was a tough competition to get into another "Sarkari" school, Government Model High School, Cemetery Road.

Two years later when the Matriculation Examination was conducted by the Punjab School Education Board for the first time, my school had the State topper. Incidentally, he was the same boy who had topped the Middle standard exam. I was once again among the top 100 students of the State.

Those were the days when Government schools produced the toppers. The "sarkari" dispensaries sans picture of the Chief Minister provided free basic treatment. Now after 60 years, the Chief Minister's assertion that the government was committed to rejuvenate the health care and education system in the state left me wondering whether we were moving forward or going back.

Who has been at fault for the present plight of basic services that the State was mandated to provide?

Of course, people have been electing their governments!

(Prabhjot Singh is a veteran journalist with over three decades of experience covering a wide spectrum of subjects and stories. He has covered Punjab and Sikh affairs for more than three decades besides covering seven Olympics and several major sporting events and hosting TV shows. For more in-depth analysis please visit probingeye.com or follow him on [Twitter.com/probingeye](https://twitter.com/probingeye))



INDIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY GANDHI APOSTLE OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE



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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

11 AM to 12 PM

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DRESS CODE: WHITE CLOTHING



INDIA CULTURAL SOCIETY, NJ USA
MAHATMA GANDHI CENTER & HINDU TEMPLE



THIS IS NON-RELIGIOUS, NON-POLITICAL EVENT

On September 11, 2001, 2,977 people were killed in the deadliest terrorist attacks in American history. The moment shocked the nation. Two planes, hijacked by Islamic jihadists vowing death to all Americans, plowed into both towers at the World Trade Center in New York. Another plane was flown into the Pentagon in Washington, DC. A fourth plane, presumably headed for the White House or the U.S. Capitol, was heroically diverted by passengers and ended up crashing in an empty field in Pennsylvania. After reports of the first plane hitting the North Tower, millions watched the second plane hit the South Tower on live television.

It was a terrifying, startling, and humbling event for the country. The 9/11 attacks were the deadliest on American soil since the shock attack at Pearl Harbor 60 years before, and the sense of outrage was reminiscent of that moment. The attacks in New York occurred in the country's busiest city on a busy workday. And the staggered nature of the attacks meant that news footage captured almost everything as it happened, ensuring that millions of Americans saw the events precisely as they unfolded.

The plot

The September 11 attacks were precipitated in large part because Osama bin Laden, the leader of the militant Islamic organization al-Qaeda, held naive beliefs about the United States in the run-up to the attacks. Abu Walid al-Masri, an Egyptian who was a bin Laden associate in Afghanistan in the 1980s and '90s, explained that, in the years prior to the attacks, bin Laden became increasingly convinced that America was weak. "He believed that the United States was much weaker than some of those around him thought," Masri remembered, and "as evidence he referred to what happened to the United States in Beirut when the bombing of the Marines base led them to flee from Lebanon," referring to the destruction of the marine barracks there in 1983 (see 1983 Beirut barracks bombings), which killed 241 American servicemen. Bin Laden believed that the United States was a "paper tiger," a belief shaped not just by America's departure from Lebanon following the marine barracks bombing but also by the withdrawal of American forces from Somalia in 1993, following the deaths of 18 U.S. servicemen in Mogadishu, and the American pullout from Vietnam in the 1970s.

The key operational planner of the September 11 attacks was Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (often referred to simply as "KSM" in the later 9/11 Commission Report and in the media), who had spent his youth in Kuwait. Khalid Sheikh Mohammed became active in the Muslim Brotherhood, which he joined at age 16, and then he went to the United States to attend college, receiving a degree from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 1986. Afterward he traveled to Pakistan and then Afghanistan to wage jihad against the Soviet Union, which had launched an invasion against Afghanistan in 1979.

According to Yosri Fouda, a journalist at the Arabic-language cable television channel Al Jazeera who interviewed him in 2002, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed planned to blow up some dozen American planes in Asia during the mid-1990s, a plot (known as "Bojinka") that failed, "but the dream of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed never faded. And I think by putting his hand in the hands of bin Laden, he realized that now he stood a chance of bringing about his long awaited dream."

In 1996 Khalid Sheikh Mohammed met bin Laden in Tora Bora, Afghanistan. The 9-11 Commission (formally the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States), set up in 2002 by Pres. George W. Bush and the U.S. Congress to investigate the attacks of 2001, explained that it was then that Khalid Sheikh Mohammed "presented a proposal for an operation that would involve training pilots who would crash planes into buildings in the United States." Khalid Sheikh Mohammed dreamed up the tactical innovation of using hijacked planes to attack the United States, al-Qaeda provided the personnel, money, and logistical support to execute the operation, and bin Laden wove the attacks on New York and Washington into a larger strategic framework of attacking the "far enemy"—the United States—in order to bring about regime change across the Middle East.

9/11 - the deadliest attack on US soil



An explosion rips through the south tower of the World Trade Center as smoke billows from the north tower. (Pic credit: AP)

The September 11 plot demonstrated that al-Qaeda was an organization of global reach. The plot played out across the globe with planning meetings in Malaysia, operatives taking flight lessons in the United States, coordination by plot leaders based in Hamburg, Germany, money transfers from Dubai, and recruitment of suicide operatives from countries around the Middle East—all activities that were ultimately overseen by al-Qaeda's leaders in Afghanistan.

Key parts of the September 11 plot took shape in Hamburg. Four of the key pilots and planners in the "Hamburg cell" who would take operational control of the September 11 attacks, including the lead hijacker Mohammed Atta, had a chance meeting on a train in Germany in 1999 with an Islamist militant who struck up a conversation with them about fighting jihad in the Russian republic of Chechnya. The militant put the Hamburg cell in touch with an al-Qaeda operative living in Germany who explained that it was difficult to get to Chechnya at that time because many travelers were being detained in Georgia. He recommended they go to Afghanistan instead.

Although Afghanistan was critical to the rise of al-Qaeda, it was the experience that some of the plotters acquired in the West that made them simultaneously more zealous and better equipped to carry out the attacks. Three of the four plotters who would pilot the hijacked planes on September 11 and one of the key planners, Ramzi Binalshibh, became more radical while living in Hamburg. Some combination of perceived or real discrimination, alienation, and homesickness seems to have turned them all in a more militant direction. Increasingly cutting themselves off from the outside world, they gradually radicalized each other, and eventually the friends decided to wage battle in bin Laden's global jihad, setting off for Afghanistan in 1999 in search of al-Qaeda.

Atta and the other members of the Hamburg group arrived in Afghanistan in 1999 right at the moment that the September 11 plot was beginning to take shape. Bin



The National September 11 Memorial & Museum.

Laden and his military commander Muhammad Atef realized that Atta and his fellow Western-educated jihadists were far better suited to lead the attacks on Washington and New York than the men they had already recruited, leading bin Laden to appoint Atta to head the operation.

The hijackers, most of whom were from Saudi Arabia, established themselves in the United States, many well in advance of the attacks. They traveled in small groups, and some of them received commercial flight training.

Throughout his stay in the United States, Atta kept Binalshibh updated on the plot's progress via e-mail. To cloak his activities, Atta wrote the messages as if he were writing to his girlfriend "Jenny," using innocuous code to inform Binalshibh that they were almost complete in their training and readiness for the attacks. Atta wrote in one message, "The first semester commences in three weeks...Nineteen certificates for private education and four exams." The referenced 19 "certificates" were code that identified the 19 al-Qaeda hijackers, while the four "exams" identified the targets of the attacks.

From Page 12

In the early morning of August 29, 2001, Atta called Binalshibh and said he had a riddle that he was trying to solve: “Two sticks, a dash and a cake with a stick down—what is it?” After considering the question, Binalshibh realized that Atta was telling him that the attacks would occur in two weeks—the two sticks being the number 11 and the cake with a stick down a 9. Putting it together, it meant that the attacks would occur on 11-9, or 11 September (in most countries the day precedes the month in numeric dates, but in the United States the month precedes the day; hence, it was 9-11 in the United States). On September 5 Binalshibh left Germany for Pakistan. Once there he sent a messenger to Afghanistan to inform bin Laden about both the day of the attack and its scope.

The attacks

On September 11, 2001, groups of attackers boarded four domestic aircraft at three East Coast airports, and soon after takeoff they disabled the crews, some of whom may have been stabbed with box cutters the hijackers were secreting. The hijackers then took control of the aircraft, all large and bound for the West Coast with full loads of fuel. At 8:46 AM the first plane, American Airlines flight 11, which had originated from Boston, was piloted into the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. Most observers construed this initially to be an accident involving a small commuter plane. The second plane, United Airlines flight 175, also from Boston, struck the south tower 17 minutes later. At this point there was no doubt that the United States was under attack. Each structure was badly damaged by the impact and erupted into flames. Office workers who were trapped above the points of impact in some cases leapt to their deaths rather than face the infernos now raging inside the towers. The third plane, American Airlines flight 77, taking off from Dulles Airport near Washington, D.C., struck the southwest side of the Pentagon (just outside the city) at 9:37 AM, touching off a fire in that section of the structure. Minutes later the Federal Aviation Authority ordered a nationwide ground stop, and within the next hour (at 10:03 AM) the fourth aircraft, United Airlines flight 93 from Newark, New Jersey, crashed near Shanksville in the Pennsylvania countryside after its passengers—informed of events via cellular phone—attempted to overpower their assailants.

At 9:59 AM the World Trade Center’s heavily damaged south tower collapsed, and the north tower fell 29 minutes later. Clouds of smoke and debris quickly filled the streets of Lower Manhattan. Office workers and residents ran in panic as they tried to outpace the billowing debris clouds. A number of other buildings adjacent to the twin towers suffered serious damage, and several subsequently fell. Fires at the World Trade Center site smoldered for more than three months.

Rescue operations began almost immediately as the country and the world sought to come to grips with the enormity of the losses. Nearly 3,000 people had perished: some 2,750 people in New York, 184 at the Pentagon, and 40 in Pennsylvania; all 19 terrorists also died. Included in the total in New York City were more than 400 police officers and firefighters, who had lost their lives after rushing to the scene and into the towers.



Man, covered in ash, assisting a woman holding a particle mask to her face as they walk in the wake of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Pic credit: Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.



Firefighter calling for 10 additional rescue workers to make their way into the rubble of the World Trade Center in New York City following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Pic credit: U.S. Navy



Rescue workers near the site of the World Trade Center searching for victims in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, attacks.

Courtesy: Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress

On the morning of September 11, President Bush had been visiting a second-grade classroom in Sarasota, Florida, when he was informed that a plane had flown into the World Trade Center. A little later Andrew Card, his chief of staff, whispered in the president’s right ear: “A

second plane hit the second tower. America is under attack.” To keep the president out of harm’s way, Bush subsequently hopped across the country on Air Force One, landing in Washington, D.C., the evening of the attacks. At 8:30 PM Bush addressed the

nation from the Oval Office in a speech that laid out a key doctrine of his administration’s future foreign policy: “We will make no distinction between the terrorists who committed these acts and those who harbor them.”

On September 14 Bush visited “Ground Zero,” the smoking pile of debris of what remained of the World Trade Center and the thousands who had perished there. Standing on top of a wrecked fire truck, Bush grabbed a bullhorn to address the rescue workers working feverishly to find any survivors. When one of the workers said that he could not hear what the president was saying, Bush made one of the most memorable remarks of his presidency:

I can hear you. The rest of the world hears you. And the people who knocked these buildings down will hear from all of us soon.

Bush’s robust response to the attacks drove his poll ratings from 55 percent favourable before September 11 to 90 percent in the days after, the highest ever recorded for a president.

The aftermath

The emotional distress caused by the attacks—particularly the collapse of the twin towers, New York City’s most visible landmark—was overwhelming. Unlike the relatively isolated site of the Pearl Harbor attack of 1941, to which the September 11 events were soon compared, the World Trade Center lay at the heart of one of the world’s largest cities. Hundreds of thousands of people witnessed the attacks firsthand (many onlookers photographed events or recorded them with video cameras), and millions watched the tragedy unfold live on television. In the days that followed September 11, the footage of the attacks was replayed in the media countless times, as were the scenes of throngs of people, stricken with grief, gathering at “Ground Zero”—as the site where the towers once stood came to be commonly known—some with photos of missing loved ones, seeking some hint of their fate.

Moreover, world markets were badly shaken. The towers were at the heart of New York’s financial district, and damage to Lower Manhattan’s infrastructure, combined with fears of stock market panic, kept New York markets closed for four trading days. Markets afterward suffered record losses. The attacks also stranded tens of thousands of people throughout the United States, as U.S. airspace remained closed for commercial aviation until September 13, and normal service, with more rigid security measures, did not resume for several days.

The hunt for bin Laden

In September 2001 President Bush announced that he wanted Osama bin Laden captured—dead or alive—and a \$25 million bounty was eventually issued for information leading to the killing or capture of bin Laden. Bin Laden evaded capture, however, including in December 2001, when he was tracked by U.S. forces to the mountains of Tora Bora in eastern Afghanistan. Bin Laden’s trail subsequently went cold, and he was thought to be living somewhere in the Afghanistan-Pakistan tribal regions.

U.S. intelligence eventually located him in Pakistan, living in the garrison city of Abbottabad, and in the early morning hours of May 2, 2011, on orders from U.S. Pres. Barack Obama, a small team of U.S. Navy SEALs assaulted his compound and shot and killed the al-Qaeda leader.

INDIA RANKS 132 OUT OF 191 IN UNDP'S HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

India ranked 132 out of 191 countries in the 2021 human development index, according to a report released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

India's HDI value of 0.633 places the country in the medium human development category, lower than its value of 0.645 in the 2020 report. India ranked 131 among 189 countries in the 2020 human development index.

"Like global trends, in India's case, the drop in HDI from 0.645 in 2019 to 0.633 in 2021 can be attributed to falling life expectancy - 69.7 to 67.2 years. India's expected years of schooling stand at 11.9 years, and the mean years of schooling are at 6.7 years," the report said.

Human Development - a measure of a nation's health, education, and average income - has declined for two years in a row - 2020 and 2021, reversing five years of progress, the report said.

This is in line with the global decline, indicating that human development across the world has stalled for the first time in 32 years, the report said.

The report said a large contributor to the Human Development Index's recent decline is a global drop in life expectancy, down from 72.8 years in 2019 to 71.4 years in 2021.

The latest Human Development Report - Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives: Shaping our Future in a Transforming World - launched by UNDP - argues that layers of uncertainty are stacking up and interacting to unsettle life in unprecedented ways.

"The world is scrambling to respond to back-to-back crises. We have seen with the cost of living and energy crises that, while it is tempting to focus on quick-fixes like subsidising fossil fuels, immediate relief tactics are delaying the long-term systemic changes we must make," said Achim Steiner, administrator, UNDP.

"We are collectively paralysed in making these changes. In a world defined by uncertainty, we need a renewed sense of global solidarity to tackle our interconnected, common challenges," Steiner said.

These intersecting crises have impacted India's development trajectory just as they have in much of the world.

The HDI measures progress on three key dimensions of human development - a long and healthy life, access to education, and a decent standard of living. It is calculated using four indicators - life expectancy at birth, mean years of schooling, expected years of schooling, and the Gross National Income (GNI) per capita.

"The Human Development Report shows that progress globally is in reverse. India's decline in human development mirrors this trend - impacted by intersecting crises. But there is good news. Compared to 2019, the impact of inequality on human development is lower," said Shoko Noda, UNDP Resident Representative in India.

Source: PTI

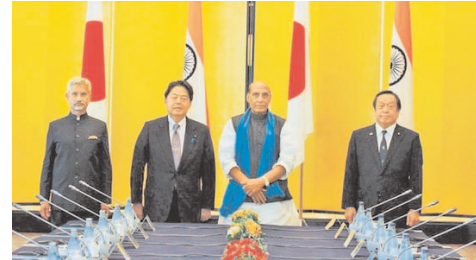
India, Japan unveil plans for first air force exercise

NEW DELHI (TIP)

India and Japan on Thursday, September 8, unveiled plans for their first air force exercise as New Delhi backed Tokyo's efforts to reinforce its defence capabilities over the next five years, reflecting the growing security cooperation between the two sides.

Against the backdrop of China's aggressive actions on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and in the East China Sea, India and Japan emphasised the need for all countries to peacefully resolve disputes without using force or any unilateral change of the status quo during their second 2+2 meeting of defence and foreign ministers in Tokyo.

Defence and security cooperation between the two sides has grown rapidly in recent years, and they also operationalised an agreement between their armed forces on reciprocal provision of supplies and services in March this year. The Indian side also sought investments from Japanese companies for manufacturing military



India and Japan on Thursday unveiled plans for their first air force exercise as New Delhi backed Tokyo's efforts. (Dr. S. Jaishankar Twitter)

hardware. Defence minister Rajnath Singh held talks with his Japanese counterpart Yasukazu Hamada ahead of the 2+2 meeting, for which they were joined by external affairs minister S Jaishankar and his Japanese counterpart, Yoshimasa Hayashi. The air services of the two countries are "working closely for the early conduct of (the) inaugural India-Japan fighter exercise", said a joint statement issued after the 2+2 meeting.

The Japanese side "expressed its

determination to fundamentally reinforce Japan's defence capabilities within the next five years", including a substantial increase of the defence budget, as part of the country's "resolve to examine all options necessary for national defence, including so called 'counterstrike capabilities', the statement added.

"Acknowledging Japan's determination to reinforce its defence capabilities, Indian side expressed its support to work towards enhanced security and defence cooperation," it said. The two sides emphasised the need for global cooperation to address security challenges that have become "more acute" and "reaffirmed their commitment to a rules-based global order that respects sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations, and emphasised the need for all countries to seek peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law without resorting to threat or use of force or any attempt to unilaterally change the status quo", the joint statement said.

Source: HT

Lancet study: 47% antibiotics in India unapproved

NEW DELHI (TIP)

A significant new Lancet study has revealed that unapproved antibiotic formulations constituted 47.1 per cent of all antibiotics consumed in the private sector in 2019 signalling the need for stricter regulations.

The study said that although the per capita private-sector consumption rate of antibiotics in India is relatively low compared with many countries (including Sri Lanka and Pakistan), India consumed a large volume of broad-spectrum antibiotics that should ideally be used sparingly.

"This, together with a significant share of fixed dose combinations (FDCs) from formulations outside the National List of Essential Medicines and a large volume of antibiotics not approved by the central drug regulators, call for significant policy and regulatory reform," the authors said.

They examined the private sector antibiotic use, which contributes to 85-90 per cent of the total consumption in India and measured the use in daily defined doses (DDDs).

The study found total DDDs consumed in 2019 in India was 5,071 million (10.4 DDD per 1,000 per day).

Formulations listed in the NLEM contributed 49.0 per cent (2,486 million DDDs); FDCs contributed 34 per cent (1,722 million), and unapproved formulations contributed 47.1 per cent (2,408 million DDDs).

This is the first published study analysing private sector consumption of systemic antibiotics in India using the DDD metrics. Per capita consumption rate of 10.4 DDDs in India was found lower compared to 2015 (13.6 DDDs). In the Asian context, Sri Lanka registered a higher DDD of 16.3, China and Pakistan reported 8.4 and 19.6, respectively.

Azithromycin 500mg tablet was the most consumed antibiotic formulation (7.6%) followed by cefixime 200 mg tablet (6.5%). Cephalosporin was the most used antibiotic class (29.5%) followed by penicillin (17%) and macrolide (16.5%).



India test-fires Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile

BALASORE (TIP)

India has successfully completed six flight-tests of the Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) system from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur off the Odisha coast, as part of evaluation trials by the Army, the DRDO said on Thursday, September 8.

The flight-tests were carried out against high-speed aerial targets mimicking various types of threats to evaluate the capability of the weapon systems under different scenarios, it said.

"During these tests, all the mission objectives were met establishing pin-point accuracy of the weapon system with state-of-the-art guidance and control algorithms, including warhead chain," the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) said in a statement.

The performance of the system has been confirmed from the data captured by a number of range instruments like telemetry and Radar and Electro Optical Tracking Systems (EOTS) deployed by ITR, it said.

The tests were conducted in the final deployment configuration consisting of all indigenously-developed sub-systems, including the missile with indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) seeker, mobile launcher, fully automated command and control system, surveillance and multi-function radars, the statement said.

The uniqueness of the QRSAM weapon system is that it can operate on the move with search and track capability, and fire on short halt, the DRDO said.



**KARNATAKA HIJAB BAN:
NOT VERY FAIR TO
COMPARE WITH PRACTICES
IN SIKHISM, SAYS SC**

It is “not very fair” to compare the practices in Sikhism as they are well engrained in the culture of the country, the Supreme Court said on Thursday while asking the petitioners in the Karnataka Hijab ban matter not to draw a parallel between Muslim and Sikh religious practices.

Hearing arguments on a batch of pleas challenging the Karnataka High Court verdict refusing to lift the ban on hijab in educational institutions of the state, the apex court observed the five Ks in Sikhism—Kesh, Kara, Kanga, Kaccha and Kirpan—are well established.

A bench of Justices Hemant Gupta and Sudhanshu Dhulia observed this after an advocate, appearing for one of the petitioners in the case, gave an example of Sikhism and turban.

“It is not very fair to compare the rights or the practices in Sikhism. The five Ks are well established,” the bench observed. The top court referred to Article 25 of the Constitution and said it provides for carrying of Kirpan by Sikhs. Article 25 of the Constitution deals with freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion.

“Don’t compare these practices because they have been recognised for over 100 years,” the bench said.

Advocate Nizam Pasha, arguing for one of the petitioners, said Article 25 mentions only Kirpan and not the other Ks. “What we are saying is, please do not draw any parity with Sikhism. That is all. That is what we are saying,” the bench said.

Observing that arguments were advanced about Kara and turban, the bench said the practices in Sikhism are well established and well engrained in the culture of the country.

**India, China begin disengagement
in Gogra-Hotsprings PP 15 in
eastern Ladakh: Joint statement**

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Marking a significant forward movement, the Indian and Chinese armies on Thursday, September 9, announced that they have begun to disengage from the Patrolling Point 15 in the Gogra-Hotsprings area of eastern Ladakh where the two sides have been locked in a standoff for over two years.

The announcement came around a week ahead of the annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in Uzbekistan which is expected to be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping among other leaders of the grouping.

There is speculation about a possible meeting between Modi and Xi on the sidelines of the summit though there is no official word on it from either side.

The beginning of the disengagement process in the Gogra-Hotsprings area is an outcome of the 16th round of high-level military talks in July, the two armies said in a statement.

“On September 8, 2022, according to the consensus reached in the 16th round of India China Corps Commander level meeting, the Indian and Chinese troops in the area of Gogra-Hotsprings (PP-15) have begun to disengage in a coordinated and planned way, which is conducive to the peace and tranquility in the border areas,” the brief statement said.

Official sources told PTI that the withdrawal of troops from Patrolling Point 15 (PP-15) began this morning and the local commanders from both sides are working out the modalities for the subsequent measures.

There is a possibility of both sides



creating a “buffer zone” or “no-patrolling” area, a mechanism that was created following disengagement in other friction points.

A thorough verification process to examine the implementation of the disengagement process will be carried out by the Indian Army at PP-15, according to a source.

It is learnt the high-powered China Study Group, comprising NSA Ajit Doval, the three service chiefs and a number of other top national security planners, is expected to meet in the next few days to review the overall situation in eastern Ladakh. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar attended some of the previous meetings on the eastern Ladakh row.

Following the 16th round of Corps Commander-level talks, ground commanders of both sides held a series of

negotiations on the nitty-gritty of the disengagement process.

Initially, around 30 soldiers from each side were in a face-off position in PP-15 but the number of troops kept changing depending on the overall situation in the region, people familiar with the development said. “It is an important forward movement towards bringing down the tension in the region,” said an official on condition of anonymity.

The sources said India will keep pressing for the resolution of pending issues in the remaining friction points of Depsang and Demchok. India has been consistently maintaining that peace and tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) were important for the overall development of bilateral ties. The two militaries held 16 rounds of Corps Commander-level talks to resolve the standoff. *Source: PTI*

‘Netaji’ sits in India Gate canopy vacated by King George V in 1968

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The famed canopy of India Gate where a grand statue of freedom fighter Subhas Chandra Bose was on Thursday, September 8, unveiled marked a milestone transition in the history of India, as ‘Netaji’ was accorded a place that was once occupied by an imposing marble statue of British monarch King George V.

The canopy, standing on four columns of the Delhi Order devised by Sir Edwin Lutyens, had been lying empty since the statue of the king was removed in 1968.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday unveiled the 28-ft-tall statue of Bose, and also inaugurated the newly christened ‘Kartavya Path’, the stretch of road from Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate, earlier known as Rajpath.

Kingsway or Rajpath, was a “symbol of slavery”, and it has now been consigned to history, Modi said after inaugurating the Kartavya Path, and also mentioned the king’s statue that had occupied the canopy.

Official sources had earlier said that the installation of the statue would be a case of India “reclaiming” its history and shedding a part of its colonial past.

Before the ‘monarch’ was relegated to the grounds of the Coronation Park in northwest Delhi—the site of the 1911 coronation durbar, till 1968, he stood under the canopy watching the India Gate, Kingsway—the ceremonial boulevard that ran up to the Raisina Hill on which the president’s house is built.

Soon after Independence, Kingsway was renamed Rajpath and Queensway running perpendicular to it was rechristened Janpath. Rajpath on Wednesday was officially renamed Kartavya Path.

The statue of George V was unveiled in 1939 by the then Viceroy Lord Linlithgow as a memorial to the British monarch under whose reign ‘New Delhi’ was built as the British Raj’s capital, according to archival records.

Born in 1865 in London, George V was crowned as king in 1910, and the next year, he travelled along with his consort Queen Mary to India to attend the famous 1911 Delhi Durbar, where he had also announced the shifting of the capital to Delhi from Calcutta.

King George ruled until his death in January 1936, after which memorials were

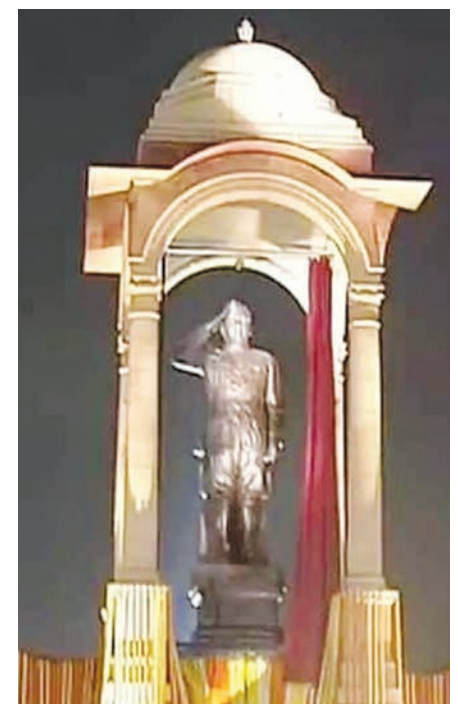
built and statues erected in various cities under the British Empire, the most notable among them being New Delhi—the administrative seat of a country, which was held as the ‘Jewel in the Crown’.

The statue, crafted out of white marble, was designed by famous British sculptor Charles Sargeant Jagger, and its models were exhibited in 1933 and 1935 at the Royal Academy, according to victorianweb.org, a scholarly resource.

Jagger died in 1934 before he could complete his work, which was then completed by other artists, it says.

According to the archives, the statue of George V beneath the canopy, endowed with royal motifs and surrounded by a pool of water, was unveiled by the then viceroy on November 14, 1939.

“The King was everybody’s King. More particularly can we who are gathered here be sensible of this personal relationship with the Sovereign, who 28 years ago announced his decision to restore Delhi to its ancient birthright and who laid the first stones of his Imperial Capital,” Viceroy had said in his speech, according to the Indian Information published in 1939.



PM Modi unveils the statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose near India Gate and pays floral tributes to him on September 8. (Image: Twitter @BJP4India)

India in history this Week

SEPTEMBER 9, 2022, TO SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

09 SEPTEMBER

2012 The Indian Space Agency placed the heaviest foreign satellite in orbit.



1974 Captain Vikram Batra, who was martyred in Kargil war, was born on 9 September. He was posthumously awarded the Param Vir Chakra.

1949 Hindi was adopted as the national language in India.

1915 The struggle between the famous Indian revolutionary Jatindranath Sanyal and the British at Kaptewara in Orissa.

1920 Aligarh's Oriental College was converted into Aligarh Muslim University.

1999 Mahesh Bhupathi of India and Arch Sugiyama of Japan won the mixed doubles title of US Open.

2009 Ministry of Railways announced to introduce biometric identification system for its employees on the lines of Ministry of Home Affairs

1907 Director Mahbub Khan, the leading producer of Indian cinema history, was born.

10 September

1966 Indian Parliament approved the creation of the state of Punjab and Haryana.



1887 Govind Vallabh Pant, the famous freedom fighter of India and the first Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, was born at a place called Khot in Almora district.

1915 Revolutionary Jatindra Nath Mukherjee alias Bagha Jatin died in a hospital in Balasore.

1976 Indian Airlines Boeing 737 aircraft hijacked from Lahore.

1923 Popular Bengal novelist Sukumar Rai died.

1935 Establishment of Doon School.

1966 The Parliament approved the formation of Punjab and Haryana.

1996 Approved by 158 votes in the United Nations General Assembly Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty 3, three countries including India opposed the treaty.

2009 Jet Airways management and its pilots agreed to a comprehensive agreement.

1892 Nationalist, Hindi Savvy and Aryasamaji Bhavani Dayal Sanyasi was born on 10 September.

1915 Indian revolutionary Jatindranath Mukherjee died on 10 September

11 SEPTEMBER

1895 Birth of freedom fighter, social activist



and famous Gandhian leader Vinoba Bhave.

1906 Mahatma Gandhi named the first non-violence movement in South Africa as 'Satyagraha'.

1961 World Wildlife Fund was established.

1965 During the Indo-Pakistan War, the Indian Army captured the city of Burki near South East Lahore.

1996 First time elected a female president in Commonwealth Parliamentary Union

2006 Eminent Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasreen demanded Indian citizenship.

1911 Birth of cricketer Lala Amarnath, who scored India's first century in international cricket.

2009 Moninder Singh Pandher, an accused in the Nithari case, was acquitted by the High Court of Allahabad in one of the 19 cases in the Ripa Haldar case. The Supreme Court stayed the construction of the Kanshi Ram memorial site.

1906 Mahatma Gandhi started the coinage Satyagraha to mark the non-violence movement in South Africa.

12 SEPTEMBER

1931 Mahatma Gandhi arrived in London to attend the Round Table Conference.

1966 Indian swimmer Mihir Sen swam across the Dardanelles Strait.

2008 Sahara India Investment Corporation closed its non-banking financial business.

1912 The birth of Feroze Gandhi, a famous freedom fighter and influential member of the Lok Sabha.

1922 Renowned litterateur Chandradhar Sharma Guleri passed away.

2009 The Indian women's team defeated America 3-1 in the final round at the World Chess Championship, finishing seventh.

13 SEPTEMBER

1947 Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru suggested mutual transfer of 40 lakh Hindus and Muslims.

1929 Jatin Das died after 63 days of hunger strike in Lahore jail.

1971 The World Hockey Association was formed.

1977 The first diesel automobile was introduced by General Motors.

2000 India's top chess player Vishwanathan Anand won the first FIDE Chess World Cup in Shenyang.

2008 Four bomb blasts occurred one after another at three places in Delhi, killing 30 people and injuring more than 130.

1948 Deputy Prime Minister Vallabhbhai Patel ordered the army to enter Hyderabad and take action and integrate it with the Indian Union.

2006 The first summit of IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa Trilateral Organization) begins in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil.

2009 ISRO-NASA's campaign to find ice on the moon failed.

2009 Charles Dias of Kochi was nominated as the representative of the Anglo Indian community in the Lok Sabha.

1845 Indian Cotton Congress President Henry Cotton was born.

1926 India's revolutionary woman Nagendra Bala was born.

1929 India's famous revolutionary Jatindranath Das died.

14 SEPTEMBER

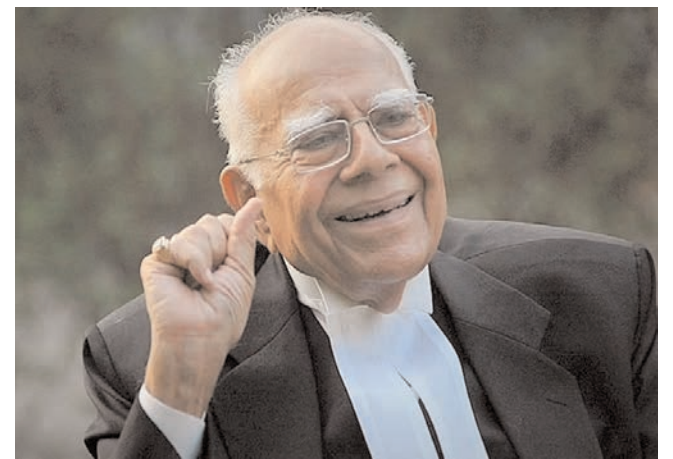
1949 The Legislative Assembly gave Hindi the status of the official language of India.

1803 British general Lord Lake captured Delhi during the Second Anglo-Maratha War.

1949 The Constituent Assembly adopted Hindi as the official language of India. Since 1953, 14 September is celebrated every year throughout India as Hindi Day.

1947 The famous poet Chandra Kunwar Bertwal died as Kalidas of Hindi.

2009 India won the Compaq Cup of the tri-series by defeating Sri Lanka by 46 runs.



1923 Birth of eminent serialist and former Union Law Minister Ram Jethmalani.

1985 Renowned composer of Hindi cinema, Ramakrishna Shinde, passed away.

15 SEPTEMBER

1860 M Visvesvaraya, considered India's greatest engineer, was born. It is celebrated as Engineers Day in the country.

1948 The first flag of independent India INS-Delhi reached the port of Bombay (now Mumbai).

1958 The deadly disease trachoma virus was first discovered in medical science.



1959 India's national broadcasting service Doordarshan started in Delhi for the first time.

2004 'Woman of the Year' award to British citizen Gurinder Chadha.

1931 Gandhi-Irwin Pact.

1909 Famous Tamil Nadu leader and former Chief Minister C.N. Birth of Annadurai.

1939 Birth of Subramanian Swamy for Indian Economist, Educational, and Politician, Law Minister and Justice India.

1946 Jokin Arputham, a man who struggled for the slums of Mumbai, was born.

Pak court to indict Imran Khan in contempt case

SEPTEMBER 8

ISLAMABAD (TIP): A Pakistani court on September 8 decided to indict former prime minister Imran Khan in contempt of court case against him for making controversial remarks against a female judge, calling his response "unsatisfactory".

During a rally here earlier this month, 69-year-old Khan had threatened to file cases against top police officials, election commission and political opponents over the treatment meted out to his aide Shahbaz Gill, who was arrested on charges of sedition.

He had also taken exception to Additional District and Sessions Judge Zeba Chaudhry, who had approved Gill's two-day physical remand at the request of the police, and said she should "prepare herself as action would be taken against her".

Hours after the speech, Khan was booked under the Anti-Terrorism Act for threatening police, judiciary and other state institutions at his rally.

Justice Aamer Farooq decided to initiate contempt proceedings against Khan while hearing a petition challenging Gill's police remand.

A five-member bench of Islamabad High Court headed by Chief Justice Athar Minallah and comprising Justices Mohsin Akhtar Kayani, Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb, Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri and Babar Sattar took up the contempt case.

After going through the response and hearing arguments by lawyers on Thursday, the court reserved its judgment whether to proceed with the contempt case or drop it.

After a brief break during which the judges discussed the matter, the court



reconvened to announce that Khan would be formally indicted after two weeks.

The Express Tribune reported that the charges would be framed and the former premier would be indicted on September 22.

During its first hearing on August 31, Khan personally appeared before the court which expressed dissatisfaction over his written response to the show-cause notice issued by the bench. However, the court had offered him a second opportunity to file a proper response in writing.

However, the supplementary response submitted on Wednesday apparently failed to win the approval of the bench as Khan had regretted his remarks but didn't tender an apology.

Chief Justice Minallah observed during the hearing that the reply to the

show-cause notice appeared to be "justifying" contempt of judiciary and showed "no remorse or regret".

"Would you have submitted the same reply if these words were used for a SC or a high court judge?" Justice Minallah said when Khan's lawyer Hamid Khan stated that his client was giving a clarification and not justifying it.

Hamid Khan said that the former premier wanted the contempt case to be wrapped up as hurling a threat at the female judge was not his objective.

Earlier, the former premier who arrived at the court in tight security told the media outside the courtroom that the security arrangements made him feel like Kulbhushan Jadhav, an Indian prisoner who was sentenced to death by a military court for alleged subversive activities against Pakistan.

(PTI)

MONEY LAUNDERING: PAKISTAN PM SHEHBAZ SHARIF, SON FILE ACQUITTAL PLEAS

SEPTEMBER 7

LAHORE (TIP): The indictment of Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his son and former Punjab Chief Minister Hamza Shehbaz was delayed on September 5 in a multi-million dollars money laundering case after they filed fresh petitions, seeking their acquittal. As the special court of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) was to indict the father and son in PKR 14 billion money laundering case, their counsel told the court that their clients had filed a petition for their acquittal.

Talking to reporters after the hearing, the counsel said since the 70-year-old Premier and his 48-year-old son had filed for their acquittal, the court proceedings for their indictment couldn't be held. (PTI)

BLAST AT RUSSIAN EMBASSY IN KABUL LEAVES SIX DEAD

SEPTEMBER 5

KABUL (TIP): A suicide bombing outside the Russian Embassy in Kabul killed two members of the embassy staff and four others in a rare attack on a foreign diplomatic mission in Afghanistan on Sept 4.

The blast went off at the entrance to the embassy's consular section, where Afghans were waiting for news about their visas, according to the Russian Foreign Ministry and the state news agency.

A Russian diplomat had emerged from the building to call out the names of candidates for visas, when the explosion occurred, it said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the blast, the latest in a series of bombings and other attacks since the Taliban seized power a year ago, deposing a Western-backed government and capping their 20-year insurgency.

Monday's bombing, however, appeared to be the first to target a foreign diplomatic mission in Kabul since the Taliban takeover.

It was not immediately clear why militants targeted the Russian Embassy in particular. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov called the explosion "a terrorist act, absolutely unacceptable".— Agencies

BENTLEY CAR WORTH CRORES STOLEN FROM LONDON FOUND PARKED IN A HOUSE IN PAKISTAN

SEPTEMBER 5

KARACHI (TIP): A luxury vehicle 'Bentley Mulsanne' stolen from London, United Kingdom was recovered from Karachi during a raid on September 4, local media reported. (ANI)

Nepal's President confers honorary title to Indian Army chief Gen Manoj Pande

SEPTEMBER 5

KATHMANDU (TIP) : Nepal's President Bidya Devi Bhandari conferred the title of Honorary General of the Nepali Army to Indian Army chief General Manoj Pande at a special ceremony here on September 4, continuing the seven-decade-old tradition reflecting the close ties between the two countries.

Gen Pande was also presented a sword and scroll during the ceremony held at the President's official residence 'Shital Niwas' in Kathmandu.

"The practice follows a seven-decade-old tradition of decorating army chiefs of each other's country with the honorary title. Commander-in-Chief General KM Cariappa was the first Indian Army chief to be decorated with the title in 1950," the Indian embassy in Kathmandu said in a statement.

In November last year, Chief of Nepali Army, General Prabhu Ram Sharma was also made the Honorary General of the Indian Army by ex-President Ram Nath Kovind at a ceremony in New Delhi.

Earlier, in a solemn ceremony, Gen Pande laid a wreath and paid homage at Bir Smarak (Martyr's Memorial) at Army Pavilion in Tundikhel, Kathmandu. Thereafter, he visited the Nepali Army headquarters where he was accorded a ceremonial Guard of Honour.

"General Manoj Pande, Chief of the Army Staff, Indian Army handed over various non-lethal military items to General Prabhu Ram Sharma, Chief of the Army Staff, Nepali Army," the Nepal Army said in a tweet.

This was followed by meeting with his Nepali counterpart General Sharma, during which both delegations discussed

strengthening longstanding army-army relations. He was also given a comprehensive briefing by senior officers of the Nepali Army, the Indian embassy said in a statement.

On behalf of the Government of India, Gen Manoj Pande presented training equipment to Nepali Army along with Light Vehicles which would augment capabilities of Nepali Army personnel.

"General Manoj Pande, Chief of Army Staff, presented equipment along with light vehicles to the Nepali Army for augmenting their technical capabilities," Indian embassy in Nepal said in a tweet.

The total amount of assistance is equivalent to NRs. 223.8 million (USD 1.7 million). This is a special subsidy provided by the Indian Army, which includes 60 per cent grant assistance, said Nepali Army sources. (PTI)

Library of Congress Announces Winners of 2022 Literacy Awards on International Literacy Day

RECIPIENTS INCLUDE STREET CHILD, MAKE WAY FOR BOOKS AND YOUNG AFRICAN REFUGEES FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): Three organizations working to expand literacy and promote reading will be awarded the 2022 Library of Congress Literacy Awards, Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden announced today. Top prizes are being awarded to Street Child, Make Way for Books and Young African Refugees for Integral Development.

The Literacy Awards Program, originated by philanthropist David M. Rubenstein in 2013, honors organizations that provide exemplary, innovative and replicable strategies to combat illiteracy. For 10 years, the Library of Congress has recognized the urgent need to achieve universal literacy through the Literacy Awards Program.

"Literacy means you can absorb information yourself and make your own decision, and that is freedom," said Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden. "Through the generosity of David M. Rubenstein, the Library of Congress is proud to honor and celebrate the achievements of these extraordinary organizations in their efforts to advance literacy across the globe."

Prizes and Recipients

2022 David M. Rubenstein Prize (\$150,000): Street Child, London, United Kingdom (operating internationally in Africa and Asia)

Founded in 2008, Street Child is a UK-based international charity currently operating in 20 of the world's most vulnerable countries. Its programs have meaningfully transformed educational opportunities for over half a million children, often through the help of local partnerships and within



the context of post-emergency response. Street Child uses evidence-based pedagogical methods while keeping costs low. The organization believes that all children should be in school, safe and learning.

Street Child works closely with its partners to bring literacy to the forefront of governmental and community discussions. They have established over 400 local Girls' Assemblies that advocate for increased attention and accountability for girls' education in Nepal. The Girls' Assemblies are part of a larger network that includes representatives from local communities, school committees, child welfare councils and municipal leaders, demonstrating Street Child's ongoing commitment to addressing gender discrimination and disparities in education. Incorporating local feedback into the design of their programs helps Street Child ensure community buy-in, therefore improving their sustainability. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Street Child pivoted to a distance teaching and learning curriculum through a low-cost combination of



phone help, audio-assisted sessions, and self-learning print packs, increasing the program's longer-term replicability. Independent control trials have confirmed that Street Child's efforts resulted in measurable literacy and numeracy gains in its program participants.

2022 American Prize (\$50,000): Make Way for Books, Tucson, Arizona

Established in 1998, Make Way for Books provides early literacy programming to young children and their families who may not otherwise have access to books or quality early education. Make Way for Books provides a two-generation approach that builds skills in both young children (ages birth to 5 years) and their caregivers. The program is well-established, highly regarded and growing. It serves 25 school districts and close to 18,000 young children in southern and central Arizona.

Make Way for Books is bilingual in content, culturally sensitive in methodology and representatively diverse in staffing. The organization



uses externally validated evaluation tools to demonstrate effectiveness. It is sustained by a strong, predictable budget and supported by local, state and national foundations, founders and donors.

2022 International Prize (\$50,000): Young African Refugees for Integral Development, Kampala, Uganda

Founded in 2007, Young African Refugees for Integral Development is an educational nonprofit based in Kampala, Uganda. The organization is unique in that it was established by young Congolese refugees who formed connections with fellow local refugees through hosting football games. Using sports as an initial and strategic unifier, the participating refugees soon realized they needed a common language in order to communicate with one another on the field; as a result, the organization began offering English literacy classes. This initiative subsequently encouraged participants to seek and gain employment opportunities.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

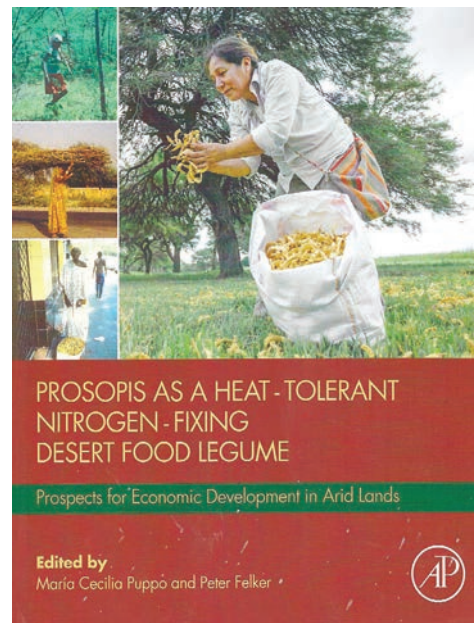
Need to develop Indian Prosopis species for arid lands, Incorporate Prosopis into climate change programs: USA's Mesquite-Man Peter Felker recommends

BY DR YASH GOYAL
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

JAIPUR (TIP): As world's arid lands occupy 3400 million hectares, there is a pressing need for applied research to create technological packages for Indian Prosopis species, mainly Khejari in sandy desert with the aim of genetic improvement of thornless, erect fast-growing, insect/disease resistance and high production of palatable pods. Incorporation of Prosopis into carbon sequestration/global climate change programs is a must.

"Prosopis is an empowering forest resource in the service of science for humanity as it is a heat tolerant nitrogen fixing desert food legume", claims Dr Peter Felker, a world-renowned veteran scientist known as "Mesquite Man" in USA, while interacting virtually with TIP Correspondent.

Mesquite is a common name for



Book carrying world's prosopis research including US and Indian scientists.
Photo / Peter Felker



Dr Felker (in blue jeans) examining a tree growth at Karnal's GSFRED institute along with Dr Gurbachan Singh recently
Photo / Peter Felker

several plant species in the genus Prosopis, which contains over 40 species of small leguminous trees.

The world's arid lands occupy 3400 million hectares, are home of 800 million people, possess the countries with the lowest per capita income, education, health standards and have the only countries with mass starvation and animal mortality due to low rainfall, said Dr Felker who is now President of Casa de Mesquite and is building a factory in Argentina to produce international food quality flour from the pulp of Prosopis pods.

Not only is the rainfall low, but the soils are 10 times lower in soil carbon, nitrogen, and inherent fertility, than temperate farmlands. Unlike potassium, calcium, or phosphorus, nitrogen does not exist as a mineral in the soil but is the indispensable element for protein and the growth of living matter. Prosopis is a leguminous plant capable of regenerating soils by nitrogen fixation.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian Embassy in Guatemala organizes grand celebrations of the 75th Anniversary of Independence with Har Ghar Tiranga campaign

India's Ambassador to Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador Manoj Mohapatra unfurls the Indian National Flag (TIRANGA) on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of India's Independence at the premises of the Embassy on August 15.



CONTD FROM PAGE 1

The Prime Minister's call got amazing response and enthusiasm in the Central American region, particularly in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. National flags were spotted at homes of the local Indian Community, business houses, yoga centers & Brahma Kumaris Centers and people from all walks of life, from young children to the elderly, were seen attending the 76th Independence Day evoking feelings of patriotism.



Inauguration

On the occasion of 76th Independence Day, the Embassy organized the flag hoisting and a grand cultural programme at the premises of the Embassy in



Raksha Bandhan with Brahma Kumaris



Brahma Kumaris attend the flag hoisting ceremony with Ambassador Mohapatra



the presence of more than 160 people, the highest ever participation seen by the embassy for a National Day event. Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Guatemala, Mr. Daniel Cruz, participated in the event along with the community, yoga lovers, artists, influencers, friends of India and representatives of prominent media outlets. The Families and children of local Indian community



A section of the gathering



Dignitaries



Time for patriotic songs

and Embassy officials participated in the cultural performance recalling India's struggle for independence and freedom. The Embassy also celebrated Raksha Bandhan with Brahma Kumaris.

Besides, the Embassy in association with Mr. Obispo Puac, Hon'ble Mayor of Tecpan (First Capital of Guatemala) and Mr. Juan Fernando López, Hon'ble Mayor of Quetzaltenango (the second largest city of the country), organized flag hoisting ceremonies that were attended by the Members of the Municipal Councils, businessmen, and members of their local communities.

As Indian tech industry makes significant contributions to the Guatemalan economy through local investments and enabling skill developments for the local labor force, the Embassy in association with the Indian company [24]7.ai. and the Office of Mayor of Quetzaltenango organized a job fair which was attended by hundreds of local youth. Indian companies have created around 8500 direct jobs in Guatemala in the recent months.

CIFF MARKS 18TH EDITION

By Mabel Pais



All That Breathes.

Photo / pointsnorthinstitute.org

FEATURING

- SHAUNAK SEN'S ALL THAT BREATHES
- GEETA GANDBHIR & SAM POLLARD'S LOWNDES COUNTY AND THE ROAD TO BLACK POWER
- NEHAL VYAS'S DAPAAN
- SOHIL VAIDYA'S MURMURS OF THE JUNGLE
- SHRUTIMAN DEORI'S MY COURTYARD (NE SOTAL)
- KAVITA PILLAI'S WECKUWAPOK (THE APPROACHING DAWN)

The Camden International Film Festival (CIFF) for its 18th edition presents feature and short films and documentaries. The festival takes place in person from September 15-18 at venues in Camden and Rockland, Maine, and online from September 15-25 for audiences across North America.

A program of the Points North Institute, CIFF remains widely recognized as a major platform championing the next generation of nonfiction storytellers and one of the hottest documentary and industry festivals on the festival and awards calendars. This year's edition is the most international and formally adventurous to date and includes 34 features and 37 short films from over 41 countries. Over 60% of the entire program is directed or co-directed by BIPOC filmmakers and this is the 6th consecutive program the festival has reached gender parity within the program and across all competitions.

Nearly half of the feature program will be US or North American premieres, including several new titles fresh from Venice, Locarno, and TIFF premieres, alongside award-winning films from Sundance, Rotterdam, Cannes, and Visions du Reel.

This year's program celebrates the diversity of voices and forms in documentary and cinematic nonfiction," says Ben Fowlie, Executive and Artistic Director of the Points North Institute, and Founder of the Camden International Film Festival. "These films help us make sense of an ever-changing world, and do everything we expect from great art - they ask provocative questions and interrogate the form. This year's program emphasizes the international that represents the 'I' in CIFF, and reminds us time and again of the limitless creative potential and potency of the documentary form. Just as we have been for each of the past seventeen years, we are grateful to the filmmakers who have made these works of art and shared these stories."

CIFF 2022 FEATURES

5 DREAMERS AND THE HORSE

Dir: Aren Malakyan & Vahagn Khachatryan | Armenia, Georgia, Germany | US Premiere

A COMPASSIONATE SPY

Dir: Steve James | USA, United Kingdom

AFTER SHERMAN

Dir: Jon-Sesrie Goff | USA

ALL OF OUR HEARTBEATS ARE CONNECTED THROUGH EXPLODING

STARS

Dir: Jennifer Rainsford | US Premiere

ALL THAT BREATHES

Dir: Shaunak Sen | India, USA, UK

BURIAL

Dir: Emilija Škarnulytė | Lithuania, Norway | US Premiere

COWBOY POETS

Dir: Mike Day | UK, Scotland, US | World Premiere

CROWS ARE WHITE

Dir: Ahsen Nadeem | Japan, Ireland, USA

DAY AFTER...

Dir: Kamar Ahmad Simon | Bangladesh, France, Norway

DESCENDANT

Dir: Margaret Brown | USA

DETOURS

Dir: Ekaterina Selenkina | Russia, Netherlands | US Premiere



Dapaan.

Photo / pointsnorthinstitute.org

DOS ESTACIONES

Dir: Juan Pablo González | México, with France, USA

EAMI

Dir: Paz Encina | Paraguay, Argentina, Mexico, USA, Germany, France, The Netherlands | North American Premiere

FORAGERS

Dir: Jumana Manna | Palestine | North American Premiere

GEOGRAPHIES OF SOLITUDE

Dir: Jacquelyn Mills | Canada

H

Dir: Carlos Pardo Ros | Spain | North American Premiere

HERBARIA

Dir: Leandro Listorti | Argentina, Germany | North American Premiere

I DIDN'T SEE YOU THERE

Dir: Reid Davenport | USA

IN HER HANDS

Dir: Tamana Ayazi, Marcel Mettelsiefen | USA, Afghanistan | US Premiere

IT IS NIGHT IN AMERICA (É NOITE NA AMÉRICA)

Dir: Ana Vaz | Italy, Brazil, France | North American Premiere

LOWNDES COUNTY AND THE ROAD TO BLACK POWER



Weckuwapok (The Approaching Dawn)

Photo / pointsnorthinstitute.org

Dir: Geeta Gandbhir, Sam Pollard | USA

MATTER OUT OF PLACE

Dir: Nikolaus Geyrhalter | Austria | North American Premiere

MY IMAGINARY COUNTRY (MI PAÍS IMAGINARIO)

Dir: Patricio Gúzman | Chile, France | Sneak Preview

NOTHING LASTS FOREVER

Dir: Jason Kohn | USA

POLARIS

Dir: Ainara Vera | Greenland, France | North American Premiere

REWIND & PLAY

Alain Gomis | France, Germany

SR.

Dir: Chris Smith | USA

SUBJECT

Dir: Jennifer Tiexiera, Camilla Hall | USA

TERRANOVA

Dir: Alejandro Alonso & Alejandro Pérez | Cuba | North American Premiere

THE AFTERLIGHT

Dir: Charlie Shackleton | UK

THE TERRITORY

Dir: Alex Pritz | Brazil, Denmark, USA

THIS MUCH WE KNOW

Dir: Lily Frances Henderson | USA | World Premiere

WHAT WE LEAVE BEHIND (LO QUE DEJAMOS ATRÁS)

Dir: Iliana Sosa | USA, Mexico

CIFF 2022 SHORTS

ARALKUM

Dir: Daniel Asadi Faezi, Mila Zhluktenko | Germany, Uzbekistan |

North American Premiere

THE ARK

Dir: Amira Louadah | Algeria, France THE ARTISTS
Dir: Noah David Smith, Elizabeth L. Smith | USA | World Premiere

BELONGINGS

Dir: Alex Coppola | USA

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LAKE TRAVIS FILM FEST BRINGS THIRD EDITION

By Mabel Pais

The Ugly Truth

Director: Krishna Ashu Bhati

The Lake Travis Film Festival's 3rd edition returns September 15-18 in beautiful Hill Country, just west of Austin. The film festival, whose independent personality and approach to the celebration of independent filmmaking is accentuated by its location in Lakeway and Bee Cave, just outside of the city known for independent film and music.

The four-day in-person film festival will once again present a film lineup showcasing films featuring a wide assortment of genres, styles, and topics from the indie film community, both stateside and international. The festival will screen 92 films (8 Narrative Features, 11 Documentary Features, 45 narrative short films, 6 short documentaries, 9 music videos, and 13 student shorts).

LTFFF also will feature a pre-festival masterclass with screenwriter Owen Egerton (Mercy Black, Blood Fest), which requires a separate registration. Special events include a pitch party, live script readings, after parties and an awards brunch. Additional opportunities for film enthusiasts to meet and interact with the filmmakers will be announced daily. Screenings and events occur at various pop-up locations throughout the cities of Bee Cave and Lakeway, Texas. Some of the venues include Hill Country Galleria, High5, ContraCommon, La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Lakeway, Star Hill Ranch, Goga Yoga, and Bee Cave City Hall.

Lake Travis Film Festival Founder and Executive Director, Kat Albert, shares, "The third year brings an opportunity to hone into what we do best...curating an overall cinematic experience. We do not sell individual tickets. The suburbs don't have a traditional downtown, so we've worked to make our pop-up style festival work with three walkable hubs. Thursday and Friday are in the Oaks at Lakeway. Saturday is in the Hill Country Galleria and Sunday is Texas Film Industry Day at Star Hill Ranch. The festival is young but garnering a reputation as a unique experience for filmmakers, screenwriters, and the local community."

TICKETS

For more information, Festival Passes or Individual Tickets, visit laketravisfestival.com

FILM FESTIVAL 2022 LINEUP

OPENING NIGHT

Sweet Disaster



Sweet Disaster, Opening Night, LAFF 2022. Photo / laketravisfilmfestival.com

Dir: Laura Lehmus | Germany | 1h 30m

When a 40-year-old art therapist finds herself unexpectedly pregnant, the father of her child, breaks up with her to reunite with his ex.

CLOSING NIGHT

FABLETOWN

Dir: Jordan O'Neal | USA | 1h 22m

A community of fairy tale characters live in hiding from the mundane, human world in New York City. But when one Fable's true identity is exposed, a long-lost ally must return to face the community's greatest threat, or their way of life will be forever lost.

RANCH WATER

Dir: Sophie Miller | USA | 1h 20m

Before their family ranch in Texas is sold, the Sterling sisters reunite with their once close-knit group of friends for a weekend where long simmering conflicts come to a head.

ADDITIONAL NARRATIVE FEATURES

LUCKY DOUG

Dir: Eric Alan Rousseau | USA | 1h 22m

NEVER ALONE

Dirs: Paul Francis Bunch, Albert Soratorio | USA | 1h 23m

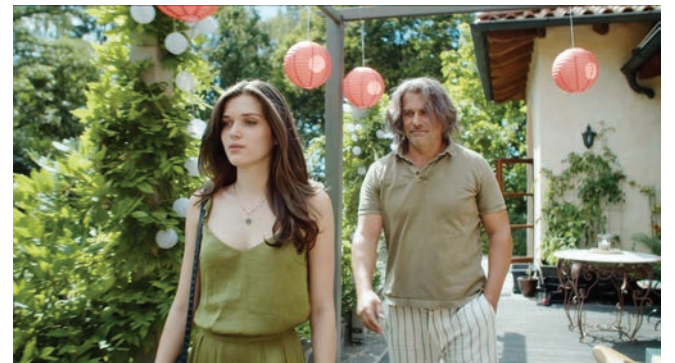
ROUTE ONE NORTH

Dir: Isabelle R Farrell | USA | 1h 12m

THE GOOD HEARTS CLUB

Dir: William F. Reed | USA | 1h 41m

THE UGLY TRUTH



The Ugly Truth, LAFF 2022. Photo / laketravisfilmfestival.com

Dir: Krishna Ashu Bhati | Germany | 1h 36m

DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

DELIVERING HOPE

Dir: Jordan Orsak | USA | 1h 29m

EXIT

Dir: Alison Jayne Wilson | Spain | 1h 7m

FIRESTORM '77 THE TRUE STORY OF THE HONDA CANYON FIRE

Dirs: Chris Hite, Dennis Ford | USA | 54m

FOREVER MAJESTIC

Dir: Michael Stephen Schwarz | USA | 1h 26m

KATIA AND RIMMA

Dir: Gulya Mirzoeva | France | 1h 30m

ME TO PLAY

Dir: Jim Bernfield | USA | 1h 12m

NEVER HAD A BAD DAY

Dir: Matt Richmond | USA | 1h 6m

THE BIRTH & HISTORY OF WESTERN SWING

Dir: Mike Markwardt | USA | 1h 14m

THE GRADUATES

Dir: Dusan Gajic | Serbia | 1h 26m

THE INNOCENTS

Dir: Wojciech Lorenc | USA | 1h 2m

In addition, there are 44 Narrative Shorts, 6 Documentary Shorts, 9 Music Videos, 12 Student Shorts.

DOCUMENTARY FILMS

By Mabel Pais



Riotville, USA. Photo / magpictures.com

RIOTVILLE, USA

Dir: Sierra Pettengill | 2022 | USA | 1h 31m

NEXT Innovator Award, Finalist, Sundance Film Festival

RIOTVILLE, USA is a poetic and furious reflection on the rebellions of the

1960s - and the machine that worked to destroy them. Riotville, USA addresses the inequality and institutional racism perpetrated by the nation's rulers - politicians, bureaucrats, police - revealed in the wake of the mid-1960s urban riots, LBJ tasked the Kerner Commission to study their causes, and among their findings: "Our nation is moving toward two societies, one Black, one white. Separate and unequal." The Commission recommended that the US aggressively address income inequality and institutional racism. The government instead used federal funds to militarize local police forces. "Riotvilles" were ersatz "towns" constructed by the military to train police in riot control tactics. Director Sierra Pettengill reveals stupefying archival footage featuring soldiers playing both the rioters and police. With trenchant narration written by Tobi Haslett, the film suggests that the opportunity to redress historic grievances was tragically and

summarily abandoned, and that the blueprint for escalating police and community tensions was established more than 50 years ago. RIOTVILLE, USA had its world premiere at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival where it was nominated for the NEXT Innovator Award. Pettengill's work focuses on the warped narratives of the American past. OPENING - Friday, September 16 at The Film Forum (filmforum.org), New York.

FOR TOMORROW

Dir: An Tran | 2022 | Eng | Doc | 1h 12m (Photo D 4 here)

Featuring grassroots innovators from around the globe and celebrated voices, such as TIME Magazine "KID OF THE YEAR" GITANJALI RAO

For Tomorrow, the documentary tells the story of grassroots innovators who are fighting sustainability problems through real solutions. From climate change to social inequality, they are

tackling these challenges on the ground while helping their community. Follow their inspiring journey on September 16th and discover the power of grassroots innovations.

For Tomorrow. Photo / fortomorrow.org
 Filmed by and enlisted local crews in more than a dozen countries: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Guatemala, Guinea, India, South Korea, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Sierra Leone, the US (Colorado, Illinois, NY), Vietnam and Wales. OPENING: September 16 to VOD on Amazon.

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





Katrina has a suggestion for couples who are too tired for 'sahaag raat'

Actress Katrina Kaif, who will be seen on 'Koffee With Karan' with her 'Phone Bhoot' co-stars Ishaan Khatter and Siddharth Chaturvedi, has spoken about the concept of "sahaag raat" in the tenth episode of the chat show.

While Alia Bhatt dismissed the concept of sahaag raat as a myth, recently married Katrina, who is the wife of actor Vicky Kushal, shared a smarter solution for tired couples to follow.

"It does not always have to be a sahaag raat. It can also be a sahaag din," the actress said.

Made under the production of Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar's Excel Entertainment, the upcoming adventure comedy 'Phone Bhoot', is a horror comedy.

Ranbir as DJ Shiva, Alia Bhatt as Isha in Brahmastra

The countdown has begun! In a span of just three days, Brahmastra will hit the big screen on September 9. Starring Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt, the film is directed by Ayan Mukerji. The filmmaker is currently nervous and emotional as there are only a few days left for Brahmastra's release. Brahmastra is one of the most expensive films in recent times and it is touted to be a visual spectacle.

Ahead of the much-awaited movie's release, let's discuss more about the characters played by Ranbir, Alia and the rest of the star cast.

Ranbir Kapoor will be seen playing the role of DJ Shiva in Brahmastra. Besides playing Alia Bhatt's love interest in the film, Ranbir aka Shiva possesses the power of Agyastra, astra of the fire element. A glimpse of Ranbir's character is visible in the trailer of the Ayan Mukerji directorial.

Alia Bhatt will be seen essaying the role of Isha in the movie. The actress has been cast opposite Ranbir in the film, directed by Ayan. Not much is revealed about Alia's character in the trailer of Brahmastra. And that has left everyone curious to know more about her crucial part in the film.

Amitabh Bachchan plays the role of Guru in Brahmastra. He is the leader of Brahmansh and wields the Prabhastra. In the trailer of the film, it is Amitabh Bachchan who makes Ranbir Kapoor aka Shiva aware of his power to possess



Agyastra, astra of the fire element.

South superstar Nagarjuna essays the role of an artist, Anish. A member of the Brahmansh, Nagarjuna's character wields the Nandi Astra. The trailer of Brahmastra showcases a glimpse of the actor's pivotal part in the movie.

By the looks of Brahmastra's trailer, it seems Mouni Roy plays the antagonist in the film. She essays the role of Junoon, who is the queen of

darkness. A glimpse of her character is highlighted in the trailer.

Shah Rukh Khan is rumoured to be a part of Ayan Mukerji's high-budget movie, Brahmastra. As per media reports and fan speculations, SRK might be seen playing the role of Vayu or Vanar Astra in the film. On the other hand, it is being speculated that Deepika Padukone is likely play the role of Jal Devi in the film.

Source: India Today

Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal to get married by September-end

The buzz around Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal's wedding has been going around since the couple started dating. As per the sources, the two are now all set to tie the knot in September end. The celebrations will begin in Delhi and then move and conclude in Mumbai in the first week of October. Reportedly, the D-day will be held at a South Mumbai hotel.

Richa and Ali first met on the sets of Fukrey in 2012 and soon fell in love. After dating for seven years, Ali proposed to Richa in 2019, and the couple was to get married in 2020. However, it got postponed due to the pandemic and the couple was planning to tie the knot in March 2022. Also, the two are also set to reunite onscreen for the third instalment in the franchise - Fukrey 3. The new film is also directed by Mrigdeep Singh Lamba and is produced by Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar's Excel Entertainment.

Last month, Richa told News18, "I think shaadi, shaadi ho jaegi iss saal. Kar lenge kisi tarah se (We



will get married this year, we will marry somehow). We're very excited to get married but are worried about Covid-19 and also want to be responsible. (We) do not want to be in the news for the wrong reasons. Plus, we've both

gotten really, really busy when stuff opened up, and work resumed at full pace. So I'm saying we have to like do a live production job of taking combination dates and making this happen this year."

Source: HT

Pankaj Tripathi doesn't like being called a 'character actor'

Actor Pankaj Tripathi has said in a new interview that earlier no one used to invite him to Bollywood parties and now when he gets the invites, he doesn't feel like attending. He also said that he doesn't like being called a 'supporting actor' or 'character actor'.

Pankaj debuted in 2004 with a brief role in Run and then in Omkara (2006). He has featured in several films and television shows. However, he rose to fame with his role in the film series Gangs of Wasseypur (2012). He has since featured in films like Fukrey, Bareilly Ki Barfi, Newton, Stree, Ludo, and Mimi. He is best known for his lead role in the web series Mirzapur (he played the character of Akhandanand Tripathi) and has also worked in Criminal Justice, Yours Truly and Criminal Justice: Behind Closed Doors.

Source: HTC





Chris Rock calls Will Smith's online apology 'hostage video'

Comedian Chris Rock has tagged Hollywood star Will Smith's online apology for slapping him at the Oscars as 'hostage video'.

The 57-year-old comic made the statement during another of his stand-up sets alongside Dave Chappelle, as part of the pair's new joint comedy tour.

The comic used the set to refer to Will as 'Suge Smith', in reference to the thuggish and imprisoned Death Row Records executive Suge Knight.

Rock told fans, who attended his and Dave's performance at Liverpool's M and S Arena, Will had managed to do an impersonation of a 'perfect man for 30 years' before showing he is 'just as ugly as the rest of us'.

This is the first time the comic had extensively shared his feelings about being slapped by Will at this year's Oscars.

Spencer Pratt thinks Lisa Kudrow is 'one of the worst humans'

Actress Lisa Kudrow has been labelled 'one of the worst humans' on Earth by "The Hills" star Spencer Pratt. Blasting the 'Friends' actress, 59, on TikTok, the 39-year-old was joined by TV personality Bethenny Frankel, 51, who also commented she had a "crazy experience" with Lisa when she appeared on her talk show, reports aceshowbiz.com.

Initially slamming Kudrow last week, Spencer then took to the social platform again to explain his remark. Kudrow approached him and his wife Heidi Montag, 35, at a party in 2009, and the actress claimed he had the "eyes of a serial killer" and would murder his partner, so the dad-of-one alleged.

He said: "It was almost like we were filming for 'Punk'd' and a camera was going to pop up, but Heidi and I didn't care as there was delicious food and an open bar. As we were sitting there consuming a little caviar, Phoebe (Lisa) approaches, which was a little shocking as no-one had spoken to us at all at the party." "Right in front of me, she tells Heidi that she needs to get away from me as fast as possible because I'm going to murder Heidi and that I have the eyes of a serial killer. Heidi waits to see if this a joke, maybe this is a hidden camera party. But no laughs, she just walks away. That right there as the rudest moment I've ever encountered with a human being." Spencer had claimed Kudrow was "one of the worst humans I've come in contact with" in a video on his TikTok account. He called her 'Phoebe from Friends' in the footage, and alleged she was one of the 'worst' people he had ever encountered "by far." Bethenny weighed in online at the time with the comment, "That's crazy. She was on my talk show and I had a crazy experience also" - but did not provide any more details.



Tom Cruise performs death-defying mid-air stunt for Mission Impossible 7

Tom Cruise is currently working on Mission Impossible 7, also known as Dead Reckoning Part 1, which has created a great deal of buzz among fans. Now, he is in the limelight for a shocking yet impressive reason. In a leaked video from the film's shoot, he is seen performing a deadly mid-air stunt without any safety harness. Mission Impossible 7 is a spy-thriller, written and directed by Christopher McQuarrie.

Tom Cruise, who recently scored a big hit with Top Gun Maverick, is working on Mission Impossible 7. The spy-thriller has garnered a fair deal of attention as it is the latest instalment of the franchise that established him as a household name. Now, in an exciting development, a leaked video from its shoot location is going viral. In it, Cruise is seen performing a dangerous stunt on a plane, without any safety harness. Moreover, he appears to be enjoying himself while doing the same.

Mission Impossible 7 is a spy-thriller that features Tom Cruise as the iconic secret agent Ethan Hunt. It is written and directed by Christopher McQuarrie, who had previously wielded the microphone for Rogue Nation and Fallout. The cast includes Simon Pegg, Rebecca Ferguson, Hayley Atwell, and Shea Whigham, among others. It was previously reported that Prabhas would be seen in a key role in the biggie but the director dismissed the rumours. Mission Impossible 7 is



produced by Tom Cruise and Christopher McQuarrie. The movie is slated to open in theatres on July 14, 2023. It will be followed by a sequel, slated to hit the screens in 2024.

Euphoria, Stranger Things, win big at 2022 Creative Arts Emmys

Netflix's Stranger Things and HBO's Euphoria and The White Lotus led the field with five wins apiece on the second night of the 2022 Creative Arts Emmy Awards, handed out on Sunday at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles. Squid Game took home four trophies, including the win for guest actress in a drama series for Lee You-mi.

HBO had the largest haul of the night among platforms with 17, followed by Netflix (11), Hulu (7) and Apple (4) including two wins for the series Severance. Overall, winners were announced in 48 categories. The Creative Arts Emmys precede next week's 74th annual Primetime Emmy Awards ceremony, which will air live on September 12 on NBC.

Source: IANS



14 DIE, 26 MISSING AFTER BOAT SINKS OFF NORTHERN BRAZIL

SEPTEMBER 9

RIO DE JANEIRO (TIP): At least 14 people died and 26 were missing after a boat sank on September 8 morning near the Brazilian city of Belem, capital of northern Para state, official sources reported.

The boat was travelling between Camara, on the island of Marajo, and Belem when it sank near Saudade Beach on the island of Cotijuba, Xinhua news agency reported.

The cause of the accident is yet to be determined.

According to the Public Security Secretariat (Segup), the vessel was not authorised to carry passengers and had headed out to sea from a clandestine port.

Firefighters launched a search-and-rescue operation with the help of divers, nine boats and a helicopter to retrieve the bodies and locate the missing victims. IANS

BLINKEN VISITS KYIV; MORE AID FOR UKRAINE

SEPTEMBER 8

KYIV (TIP): The Biden administration announced major new military aid worth more than \$2 billion for Ukraine and other European countries threatened by Russia. In meetings with senior Ukrainian officials, Blinken said the Biden administration would provide \$2 billion in long-term foreign military financing to Ukraine and 18 of its neighbours, including NATO members and regional security partners "most potentially at risk for future Russian aggression".

That's on top of a \$675 million package of heavy weaponry, ammunition and armoured vehicles for Ukraine alone that Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin announced earlier on September 8 at a conference in Ramstein, Germany. That package includes howitzers, artillery ammunitions, Humvees, armoured ambulances, anti-tank systems and more. — AP

14 KILLED IN FIRE AT KARAOKE PARLOUR IN VIETNAM

SEPTEMBER 7

HANOI (TIP): At least 14 people died in a fire that broke out at a karaoke parlour in southern Vietnam, local media reported on September 7. At least 40 other people were injured in the fire at the four-storey venue in Thuan, a city in the province of Binh Duong that began at about 9pm on Tuesday, trapping staff and customers inside, according to reports on the websites of Tuoi Tre newspaper and other Vietnamese media. They said the fire was brought under control within an hour but was still smouldering on Wednesday, more than 12 hours later. (AP)

Russian President Vladimir Putin is 'weaponising' energy

SEPTEMBER 8

WASHINGTON (TIP): Russian President Vladimir Putin is "weaponising" its energy resources, the White House has alleged, a day after he threatened to cut off all energy exports to the West if the US proceeded with its oil price cap.

Putin on Wednesday threatened to completely cut energy supplies to the West if it tries to cap prices of Russian exports.

He also vowed to press on with Moscow's military action in Ukraine until it achieves its goals.

"This shows that Putin is, again, weaponising energy, by his very words, also by his actions. But the President (Joe Biden) and our partners in Europe predicted this playbook. We saw this coming, and we have been preparing for months. We have talked through the different processes of how this price cap could look," White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said on Wednesday during her daily news conference.

Finance ministers from the G7 last week pledged to put in place a system designed to cap Russia's income from oil sales that it could use to further its war in Ukraine.

The move by the seven most industrialised nations also aimed at limiting the impact of the Ukraine war



on soaring global energy prices.

The US and European Union, she said, have set up a task force to work on ways to increase alternate sources of natural gas to Europe and help reduce Europe's demand for Russian energy through increased efficiency and clean energy deployment.

"That is something that we're going to continue to do to be helpful to Europe as they head into the winter months. But this process of the task force already has had a positive effect as we've seen. Europe's gas shortage will be full by the critical winter heating season. Germany will reach their target gas storage, despite the Russian cuts, ahead of

schedule. And Europe as a whole will reach a significantly higher level than last year," she said.

"We prepared for this. We knew this was going to be part of the playbook, in Russia weaponising energy as they have been for the past several months, and so we will be prepared for this move," said the press secretary.

Meanwhile, at a different press briefing, State Department's Deputy Press Secretary Vedant Patel told reporters that the Black Sea Grain Initiative is a humanitarian arrangement to bring desperately needed food to the world's hungry populations.

"The US did not offer nor did it provide any sanctions relief in exchange for Russia's participation in the Black Sea Grain Initiative. As a matter of fact, US sanctions have always had clear exemptions for food and fertiliser, and our sanctions have never targeted humanitarian assistance," he clarified.

"We want to see food and fertiliser reach global markets. And Russia must continue to live up to its commitments through the Black Grain Sea Initiative. And some of these other allegations that we've seen that, one, global food prices are rising, just aren't the case. In fact, global food prices have fallen as a result of the Black Sea Port arrangement," he said. (PTI)

Suspect in deadly Canada stabbings has long criminal record

SEPTEMBER 7

JAMES SMITH CREE NATION (TIP): As a Canadian indigenous community comes to grips with a deadly stabbing rampage by two of its own, many blamed rampant drug and alcohol use on the reserve that they linked to repeated failures by the government over many years.

One of the alleged attackers, Myles Sanderson, has 59 criminal convictions, according to parole documents.

He'd been serving a sentence of four years and four months on charges that included assault with a weapon, assault on a peace officer and robbery when he was released.

Public Safety Minister Mendicino said he's been told by the parole board there will be an investigation into its assessment of Myles Sanderson.

"I want to know the reasons behind the decision" to release him, he said. "I'm extremely concerned with what occurred here."

Many of his past crimes happened when he was intoxicated, and he told parole officials that substance use made him out of his mind.

He had been sought for a parole violation since May.

"The drug problem and the alcohol problem on these reserves are way out of hand," said Ivor Wayne Burns, whose sister was killed in the weekend attacks.

"We have dead people and we have asked before for something to be done."

Sanderson, 32, and his brother Damien, are accused of killing 10 people and wounding 18 others in the attacks that spread across the rural reserve and into the nearby town of Regina.

Damien's body was found on Monday near the attacks, and police were investigating whether his brother killed him.

"This is the destruction we face when harmful illegal drugs invade our communities, and we demand all authorities to take direction from the chiefs and councils and their membership to create safer and healthier communities for our people," said Chief Bobby Cameron of the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations. Myles Sanderson had a long criminal history.

His childhood was marked by violence, neglect and substance abuse and led to a "cycle of substance abuse,

seeking out negative peers and violent behaviour," the parole documents said.

He lived between his father's home in a city and grandparents' house on a reserve.

There was violence and abuse in both households, it said.

Sanderson started drinking and smoking marijuana at around the age of 12 to cope with problems, the document said.

Cocaine followed soon after.

Sanderson received statutory release from prison in the summer of last year. It was revoked after he failed to communicate with his parole supervisor, but the board decided only to reprimand him.

"It is the Board's opinion that you will not present an undue risk to society if released on statutory release," it says.

In May, a Crime Stoppers bulletin was issued for Sanderson, warning he was unlawfully at large.

Sharna Sugarman, who was organising a GoFundMe for the victims, questioned the parole board for releasing him and why Myles Sanderson was still on the loose so many months after he was deemed "unlawfully at large." (AP)

Suspected jihadi bomb hits convoy in Burkina Faso; 35 dead

SEPTEMBER 6

OUAGADOUGOU (BURKINA FASO), (TIP): A suspected jihadi roadside bomb has hit a convoy in northern Burkina Faso, killing at least 35 people and injuring dozens more.

The supply convoy escorted by the army was hit Monday while driving between Bourzanga and Djibo towns with one of the vehicles carrying civilians, the governor of Sahel region, Lt Col Rodolphe Sorgho, said in a statement.

The wounded have been evacuated and the area of the explosion has been secured, he said.

Although no group immediately claimed responsibility for the bomb, it is suspected to be by Islamic extremist rebels. Burkina Faso has been ravaged by violence linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State group in which thousands have been killed.

This is the fifth explosion in Soum province since August, particularly around Djibo, which has been under siege by jihadis for months, according to an internal security report for aid workers seen by The Associated Press.

A double explosion last month between Djibo and Namssiguia killed at least 15 people, said the report.



A military coup in January ousted the country's democratically elected government claiming they could better secure the country from the extremists. Monday's attack comes one day after interim President Lt. Col. Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba spoke to the nation saying the junta had achieved some progress in pushing back the jihadis.

"We have made many efforts since we came to power ... Our efforts have begun to bear fruit at the military operational level," he said.

This latest attack, however, damages

the credibility of Damiba's claim, say analysts.

"Aside from the staggering casualty toll, the timing of the incident is unfortunate, given that only two days ago President Damiba made a speech in an attempt to convince the public that the country was making progress," said Heni Nsaibia, senior researcher at the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project.

"While his speech was praised, many commentators criticized the lack of a balance sheet detailing the progress he

claimed to have made," he said.

While Burkina Faso's military struggles to stem the extremist violence, the humanitarian crisis is escalating. Nearly 2 million people have been displaced — making it one of the fastest growing displacement crises in the world alongside Ukraine and Mozambique. More than 600,000 people are facing emergency hunger, creating the country's worst food crisis in a decade, according to a statement this week by 28 international aid groups in Burkina Faso.

"Too often, displacement and hunger come as a one-two punch," said Hassane Hamadou, country director of the Norwegian Refugee Council. "People forced to move have left behind their fields and livestock. Many displaced families report being down to one meal a day in order to allow children to eat twice." Residents say even if the junta has made gains, the country has a long road ahead to return to peace and stability.

"I am very sad," Ousmane Amirou Dicko, the Emir of Liptako told The Associated Press. "Even if advances have been made in the past seven months, we do not yet have security." AP

TYPHOON BATTERS S KOREA, 3 DEAD

SEPTEMBER 6

SEOUL (TIP): The most powerful typhoon to hit South Korea in years on September 4 dumped 3-foot rain, destroyed roads and fell power lines, but the toll of three could have been higher if not for proactive evacuations and closures of schools, officials said.

Typhoon Hinnamnor made impact just weeks after heavy rains around the capital Seoul caused flooding that killed at least 14 people.

Government officials had put the nation on high alert, warning of potentially historic destruction and putting in motion life-saving measures. After grazing the resort island of Jeju and hitting the mainland near the port city of Busan, Hinnamnor weakened as it blew into waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

S Korea's weather agency said Hinnamnor was over the open sea 280 km northeast of Ulleung island with winds weakened to 115 km per hour on Tuesday. The damage was severe in Pohang, where two persons were found dead and at least seven others missing after the storm submerged roads and buildings, triggered landslides. Cars with smashed windows and trunks open lay scattered on roads. An entire two-story pool villa was uprooted from the ground and swept away in flash floods. — AP

Russia buying rockets, artillery shells from N Korea: US intel

SEPTEMBER 6

WASHINGTON (TIP): The Russian Ministry of Defence is in the process of purchasing millions of rockets and artillery shells from North Korea for its ongoing fight in Ukraine, according to a newly downgraded US intelligence finding.

Biden admn 'concerned'

The provocative move by North Korea comes as the Biden administration has become increasingly concerned about stepped-up activity by North Korea in pursuit of nuclear weapons

North Korea test-fired over 30 ballistic missiles this year, including its first flights of intercontinental ballistic missiles since 2017, as leader Kim Jong Un pushes to advance his nuclear arsenal despite US-led pressure

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Kim have recently exchanged letters in which they both called for "comprehensive" and "strategic and tactical" cooperation between the countries

Putin attends joint military exercise with China, others

Putin attended war games in his country's far east involving troops from China and other nations, in a show of military muscle amid tensions with the West over Moscow's action in Ukraine

The Russian Defence Ministry said the Vostok 2022 (East 2022) exercise, that runs until September 5 at seven firing ranges in Russia's far east and the Sea of Japan, involves over 50,000 troops and over 5,000 weapons units, including 140 aircraft and 60 warships.

It engages troops from several ex-Soviet nations, China, India, Laos, Mongolia, Nicaragua and Syria

Beijing sent over 2,000 troops along with over 300 military vehicles, 21 combat aircraft and three warships to take part in the drills. AP

A US official said the fact Russia was turning to the isolated state of North Korea demonstrates that "the Russian military continues to suffer from severe supply shortages in Ukraine."

US intel officials believe that the Russians could look to purchase additional North Korean military equipment in future. The US official did not detail how much weaponry Russia intends to purchase from North Korea. (AP)

33 cities in China under lockdown

SEPTEMBER 5

BEIJING (TIP): China locked down 65 million citizens under tough Covid-19 restrictions and is discouraging domestic travel during upcoming national holidays. As many as 33 cities, including seven provincial capitals, are under full or partial lockdown covering more than 65 million people, according to a tally published late on September 3 by a Chinese business magazine. It said outbreaks have been reported in 103 cities, the highest since the early days of the pandemic in early 2020. Authorities have adhered to a "zero-Covid" policy requiring lockdowns, quarantines and confining of people suspected of being in close contact with any confirmed case. China recorded 1,552 new cases in past 24-hours, the National Health Commission said. — AP

Neither threats nor coercion will shake us: Taiwan

SEPTEMBER 4

BERLIN (TIP): Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen pledged Taiwan's resolve to engage with the world to counter "a resurgence of authoritarianism," despite Beijing's threats. "Neither threats nor coercion will shake Taiwan's resolve to engage with the world," Tsai said in her video speech delivered at the closing of the 26th Forum 2000 Conference, an annual event held in a hybrid format in Prague from August 31-September 2. (AP)

Applying hair conditioners daily? Keep these points in mind

People usually use a variety of products to take special care of their hair. At the same time, putting conditioner after shampoo is regarded as a basic hair care routine. Conditioner helps in keeping the hair healthy by giving it a smooth touch.

However, before applying conditioner, it is better to know some important things. Usually, our hair becomes clean only after washing it with shampoo. However, if no conditioner is applied after shampooing, hair becomes dry, frizzy, and lifeless. Here are some of the things that you should know.

Benefits of applying conditioner

- Reduces dryness and keep it nourished.
- In addition, by using a conditioner, the oil and silicone can help balance of the hair is maintained.
- It help keep the hair silky and lustrous.

Reasons to apply conditioners

For those of you who don't know natural conditioner is already present in the hair. However, frequent hair washing depletes it. As a result, the hair gets dry and tough. In this case, the conditioner used after shampooing locks in the moisture of the hair and prevents the natural conditioner from wearing off.

How to apply conditioners

- Step 1: Take a certain amount of it as per your hair volume onto your palms.
- Step 2: Apply it to the tip of the hair
- Step 3: Rinse with fresh water after 3 minutes.

Go for the right kind of conditioners

- Select a conditioner based on



your hair type. However, it is better to use a live-in conditioner before styling your hair.

lifeless, a hydrating conditioner may be a wonderful alternative for you.

For oily hair, however, use a light conditioner, and for thin hair, apply a volumising conditioner.

Here's how you can choose

If your hair is extremely dry and

Source: News18

FOOD

Jackfruit Payasam

INGREDIENTS

500 gm pureed jackfruit, 2 teaspoon cashews, 1 cup grated coconut, 2 cup coconut milk, 2 cup powdered jaggery, 1/2 teaspoon green cardamom, 2 teaspoon ghee



Method

- To prepare this delicious payasam recipe, put a deep-bottomed pan on medium flame and melt ghee in it. When the ghee is hot enough, add the cashew nuts and roast them. Once done, transfer to a bowl and keep aside. Add the grated coconut in the same pan and lower the flame, dry roast till golden brown in colour.
- Now, add the pureed jackfruit in the pan along with jaggery powder and roasted cashews, and cook for about 10 minutes. Make sure that the mixture is thickened. (Note: You can also use the pulp of the jackfruit.)
- When the jackfruit mixture is thickened, add the coconut milk along with cardamom powder and stir continuously. Stop in between and bring the milk to a boil. Let the milk and jackfruit mixture simmer for another 10 minutes.
- Once cooked, turn off the flame and garnish with mixed dry fruits.

Tomato Rice

INGREDIENTS

1 cup soaked basmati rice, 2 medium chopped onion, 2 teaspoon sambhar powder, 1 handful chopped, coriander leaves, 2 tablespoon refined oil, 1/2 teaspoon garlic paste, 4 large chopped tomato, 3 medium green chilli, 1/4 teaspoon powdered turmeric, 3 pinches salt, 1/2 teaspoon ginger paste, 2 pinches red chilli powder



Method

- Wash and dry the basmati rice and soak for about 20 minutes. Take a deep pan, put it on medium flame and pour water in it. Bring it to a boil, and then add the soaked rice. Cover the pan with a lid and cook on medium flame till the rice becomes soft, but not mushy. Now remove from fire and keep it aside. Now put the chopped tomatoes in a blender and blend it properly. Transfer the puree in a bowl and keep it aside. Now heat 2 tbsp of oil in a pan and add the ingredients for seasoning (mustard, asafoetida, curry leaves, dried red chillis). Add onions and saute. Then add green chillies and ginger-garlic paste. Saute these ingredients for a minute.
- Now add the tomato puree, turmeric powder, red chilli powder, sambar powder and salt. Cook until the oil separates. Add the cooked rice to the tomato gravy and mix well. Once done, transfer the tomato rice in a serving bowl and garnish with coriander leaves. Serve hot with papads, potato chips or raita.

Tips to get rid of dark underarms



Dark under arms can restrain you from wearing sleeveless tops and blouses. Here are a few tips that will help you get lighter underarms.

SAFFRON

Add a pinch of saffron in two tablespoons of mild lotion. Mix it well and apply on your underarms. Not only will it lighten your skin, but it can also rid you of the odour.

APPLES

If you scrub mashed apple

into your armpits daily, it can free you from dark spots and odour. Apple contains AHA, which is capable of killing germs and bacteria that cause the darkening of underarms.

ORANGE PEEL

Orange peels contain citric acid which is also used in skin bleach. Dry some orange peels until the it's completely moisture free. Take about two tablespoons of it and mix with some rose water and apply on the affected area.

Leave it for 10 minutes and wash it off with cold water.

COCONUT OIL

Coconut oil is a universal therapy for beauty. This remedy involves a slow whitening process. Massage coconut oil on your underarms for about 10 to 15 minutes before taking a bath.

LEMONS

It is known to be a natural bleaching agent; if you rub lemon over your underarms, it helps whiten your skin. Do

not forget to apply moisturiser or body lotion to the armpits after rinsing it off. They are also good antiseptic agents, which helps rid you of underarm odour.

MILK

Milk is equally effective for skin lightening. Milk contains some vitamins and fatty acids that make the skin bright and healthy. Simply apply some milk on your underarms once a day and leave it on for about 15 minutes.

Compromised insulin production can lead to obesity

Obesity increases the chance of a sugar metabolism imbalance and potentially diabetes. A study group at the University of Basel has recently demonstrated that the contrary is also true: inadequacies in the body's insulin production contribute to obesity. Poor nutrition, too little movement and too many pounds on the scale -- lifestyle influences the risk of metabolic diseases like diabetes.

But the relationship works the other way round as well, as a research group led by Dr Daniel Zeman-Meier of the university's Department of Biomedicine and the University Hospital of Basel reports. If insulin production is compromised, as is the case in the early stages of type 2 diabetes, this can contribute to overweight.

The findings of the study were published in the journal Nature Communications.

When hormone activation goes awry

The research team focused on protease PC1/3, a key enzyme in the body that transforms various inactive hormone precursors into the final, active forms. If this enzyme isn't functioning properly in a person, the result can be severe endocrine disorders. The consequences include a feeling of uncontrollable hunger and severe overweight.

"Until now, it was assumed that this dysregulation is caused by a lack of activation of satiety hormones," explains the study's leader, Dr. Zeman-Meier. "But when we turned off PC1/3 in the brains of mice, the animals' body weight did not change significantly." The researchers concluded from this that something other than a brain malfunction must be responsible.

Incorrect activation of insulin leads to hunger and overweight

In their next step, they tested whether overweight could be caused by incorrect activation of other hormones. PC1/3 activates insulin, among other things. Insulin plays a key role in the regulation of blood sugar and fat metabolism. "Investigating the role of insulin production as a cause of overweight was obvious," says Dr. Zeman-Meier. The researchers shut off PC1/3 specifically in the insulin-producing beta



cells of the pancreas in mice. The animals consumed significantly more calories and soon became overweight and diabetic.

An important mechanism in humans

"These results are also interesting because PC1/3 is reduced in the pancreas of patients with prediabetes," says Professor Marc Donath, the research group leader and final author of the study. This indicates that incorrect insulin activation could be not only a consequence, but also a cause of overweight.

But PC1/3 is also important in the weight regulation of healthy individuals, Donath emphasizes. The researchers were able to show that the gene expression of PC1/3 in the pancreas is negatively correlated with body weight in the general population -- meaning that sufficient PC1/3 promotes a healthy body weight.

The finding that a defect in the insulin-producing beta cells is a trigger of overweight opens up new therapeutic possibilities. For example, it is conceivable that medications could be used to reduce the production of immature insulin precursors, creating a new tool in the fight against overweight and diabetes.

Source: ANI



New strain of monkeypox identified in UK

A new strain of monkeypox linked to an individual diagnosed with the virus after recent travel to West Africa has been identified in the UK, health officials have said.

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) said preliminary genomic sequencing indicates that this new case does not have the current outbreak strain circulating in the UK. The individual in question has been admitted to the High Consequence Infectious Disease (HCID) unit at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital in line with standing advice from the Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens (ACDP).

"We are working to contact the individuals who have had close contact with the case prior to confirmation of their infection, to assess them as necessary and provide advice," said Dr Sophia Maki, Incident Director at UKHSA.

"UKHSA and the NHS [National Health Service] have well established and robust infection control procedures for dealing with cases of imported infectious disease and these will be strictly followed and the risk to the general public is very low," she said.

"We remind everyone who is planning to travel to West and Central Africa to be alert for the symptoms of monkeypox and to call 111 if you have symptoms on your return," she added.

While contact tracing of close contacts of the individual is under way, no further linked cases have been identified so far. The ACDP advice states that importations of monkeypox directly from West Africa as well as cases caused by Clade I of the virus should still be classified as HCIDs as their characteristics cannot be predicted.

Single genital lesions and sores on the mouth or anus have also been identified as symptoms of the virus by an international collaboration of clinicians across 16 countries. Some of the symptoms are considered severe enough for patients to be admitted to hospital.

According to expert reports, gay and bisexual men are disproportionately affected by the spread of the disease, with sexual closeness the most likely route of transmission.

Source: PTI

How artificial intelligence can be trained to detect tumour: Research

Artificial intelligence (AI) can be trained to detect whether or not a tissue picture contains a tumour. However, until recently, it has remained a mystery as to how it makes its judgement. A team from Ruhr-Universität Bochum's Research Center for Protein Diagnostics (PRODI) is working on a new approach that will make an AI's judgement clear and hence trustworthy.

The researchers led by Professor Axel Mosig describe the approach in the journal Medical Image Analysis.

For the study, bioinformatics scientist Axel Mosig cooperated with Professor Andrea Tannapfel, head of the Institute of Pathology, oncologist Professor Anke Reinacher-Schick from the Ruhr-Universität's St. Josef Hospital, and biophysicist and PRODI founding director Professor Klaus Gerwert. The

group developed a neural network, i.e. an AI, that can classify whether a tissue sample contains tumour or not. To this end, they fed the AI a large number of microscopic tissue images, some of which contained tumours, while others were tumour-free.

"Neural networks are initially a black box: it's unclear which identifying features a network learns from the training data," explains Axel Mosig. Unlike human experts, they lack the ability to explain their decisions. "However, for medical applications in particular, it's important that the AI is capable of explanation and thus trustworthy," adds bioinformatics scientist David Schuhmacher, who collaborated on the study.

The Bochum team's explainable AI is therefore based on the only kind of meaningful statements known to science: on falsifiable

hypotheses. If a hypothesis is false, this fact must be demonstrable through an experiment.

Artificial intelligence usually follows the principle of inductive reasoning: using concrete observations, i.e. the training data, the AI creates a general model on the basis of which it evaluates all further observations.

The underlying problem had been described by philosopher David Hume 250 years ago and can be easily illustrated: No matter how many white swans we observe, we could never conclude from this data that all swans are white and that no black swans exist whatsoever. Science therefore makes use of so-called deductive logic. In this approach, a general hypothesis is the starting point. For example, the hypothesis that all swans are white is falsified when a black swan is spotted.

Source: ANI

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Apple Watch saves UK man whose heart stopped 138 times in 48 hours

Apple Watch's ECG heart sensor has once again saved a man's life by sending him alerts for a low resting heart rate on almost 3,000 occasions.

David Last, 54, from the UK credited Apple Watch for saving his life after his heart stopped an astonishing 138 times in a 48-hour testing period at the hospital, reports the Independent.

His heart resting rate was found to have dropped as low as 30 beats per minute (it is normally between 60-100bpm).

After tests like a 48-hour ECG and MRI, his cardiologist told him that he had a massive heart blockage.

His heart stopped 138 times in 10-second intervals over a 48-hour ECG period.

Last was operated this month, and a pacemaker was installed to detect abnormal heart rhythms.

His wife gave him Apple Watch as a gift on his birthday in April this year.

"If she hadn't bought me my Apple watch for my birthday, I wouldn't be here. I will always be eternally grateful to her for it. Apart from charging it, it's always staying on me now," he was quoted as saying.

The Apple Watch has saved several lives in the past across the world.

With iOS 16 and watchOS 9 this fall, Apple Watch and iPhone will offer features that focus on 17 areas of health and fitness, from heart health to sleep, women's health, mobility and more, according to the tech giant.

Apple recently collaborated with Stanford University in the US to build the Apple Heart Study, which was a first of its kind in the medical community and the largest virtual cardiac clinical study during its time. *Source: IANS*

Fuel leak disrupts NASA's 2nd shot at launching moon rocket

NASA's new moon rocket sprang another hazardous leak Saturday, as the launch team began fuelling it for liftoff on a test flight that must go well before astronauts climb aboard.

For the second time this week, the launch team began loading nearly 1 million gallons of fuel into the 322-foot rocket, the most powerful ever built by NASA.

Monday's attempt was halted by a bad engine sensor and leaking fuel.

As the sun rose, an over-pressure alarm sounded and the tanking operation was briefly halted, but no damage occurred and the effort resumed, NASA's Launch Control reported.

But minutes later, hydrogen fuel began leaking from the engine section at the bottom of the rocket.

NASA halted the operation, while engineers scrambled to plug what was believed to be a gap around a seal.

The countdown clocks continued ticking toward an afternoon liftoff; NASA had two hours Saturday to get the rocket off.

NASA wants to send the crew capsule atop the rocket around the moon, pushing it to the limit before astronauts get on the next flight.

These iPhone models will no longer support WhatsApp from Oct 24

Ahead of Apple's upcoming launch event where the new iPhone 14 lineup will be unveiled, a recent update from the company suggests that the instant messaging platform, WhatsApp, will no longer function on some older iPhone devices.

Mashable India has reported that from October 24 onwards, the messaging app will reportedly discontinue supporting iOS 10 and iOS 11 devices, according to one of WABetaInfo's earlier sources.

In fact, some reports suggest that WhatsApp has already started alerting iPhone users who are using iOS 10 or iOS 11 versions of the program about the end of support. Hence, those who want to continue using the messaging app in this situation will need to upgrade their iPhones.

Previously WhatsApp announced on its Help Center website that iOS 12 or a newer version would be necessary for iPhone users to continue using the service.

Similarly, Android 4.1 or a later version is required for users of Android devices to continue utilizing the instant messaging software, reported Mashable India.

As iOS 10 and iOS 11 versions are outdated operating systems, and most Apple phones may already have the most recent upgrade installed, it would be best to update your iPhone if you haven't already.

Notably, both software versions are not widely used on iPhones. The iPhone 5 and iPhone 5c are the only



two iPhone models that will be impacted by this change, as per Mashable India.

Meanwhile, Apple is all geared up for its upcoming launch event which will take place in Cupertino on September 7 and four phones - iPhone 14, iPhone 14 Max, iPhone 14 Pro, and iPhone 14 Pro Max - are expected to be announced.

It will also be interesting to see the new A16 chipset that will power only the Pro versions and the new smartwatches.

Stem cell biologists create new human cell types for research

Scientists have managed to generate a new type of human cell in the lab using stem cells. The new cells closely resemble their natural counterparts in early human embryos. As a result, researchers can now better study what happens just after an embryo implants in the womb.

When all goes well, a human embryo implants in the womb about seven days after fertilisation. At that point, the embryo becomes inaccessible for research due to technical and ethical limitations. That is why scientists have already developed stem cell models for various types of embryonic and extraembryonic cells to study human development in a dish.

Vincent Pasque's team at KU Leuven has developed the first model for a specific type of human embryo cells, extraembryonic mesoderm cells. Professor Pasque: "These cells generate the first blood in an embryo, help to attach the embryo to the future placenta, and play a role in forming the primitive umbilical cord. In humans, this type of cell appears at an earlier developmental stage than in mouse embryos, and there might be other important differences between species. That makes our model especially important: research in mice may not give us answers that also apply to humans." The researchers made their model cells from human stem cells that can still develop into all cell types of an embryo. The new cells closely resemble their natural counterparts in human embryos and are therefore a good model for that specific cell type.

"You don't make a new human cell type every day," Pasque continues. "We are very excited because now we can study processes that normally remain inaccessible during development. In fact, the model has already enabled us to find out where



extraembryonic mesoderm cells come from. In the longer term, our model will hopefully also shed more light on medical challenges such as fertility problems, miscarriages, and developmental disorders."

ADANI GROUP TO BUILD THREE GIGA FACTORIES AS PART OF \$70 BN GREEN INVESTMENT

Billionaire businessman Gautam Adani today sought more collaboration between India and the US on healthcare, defence and cyber technologies while announcing that his group will build three giga factories for manufacturing solar modules, wind turbines and hydrogen electrolyzers by 2030 as part of a \$70-billion investment plan in clean energy.

These giga factories will generate an additional 45 GW of renewable energy to add to Adani group's existing 20 GW capacity, as well as three million tons of hydrogen by 2030. The announcement comes weeks after Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani announced a fifth giga factory as part of investment in low carbon energy.

Speaking at the US-India Business Council here on Wednesday, he also sounded a note of caution about India's dependence on global supply chains, as chips are required by everyone.

EURO FALLS TO NEW 20-YEAR LOW VS DOLLAR

Europe's currency slumped to a 20-year low against the dollar as regional energy prices surged after Russia's Gazprom halted its key gas pipeline indefinitely. Gold remained steady even as the crisis in Europe drove investors to the American currency.

Germany - the nation most affected by the Nord Stream pipeline cutoff - unveiled a \$65-billion package to protect consumers.

Central banks globally are set to keep raising interest rates to fight inflation, weighing on non-yielding assets like gold. There are growing expectations for the European Central Bank to hike by 75 basis points (100bps = 1 percentage point) as soon as Thursday, but the decision remains a challenging one as chief Christine Lagarde and her colleagues manage the twin problems of high price pressures and an impending recession.

US BARS 'ADVANCED TECH' FIRMS FROM BUILDING CHINA FACTORIES FOR 10 YEARS

US tech companies that receive federal funding will be barred from building "advanced technology" facilities in China for 10 years, the Biden administration has said.

The guidelines were unveiled as part of a \$50bn (£43bn) plan aimed at building up the local semiconductor industry. It comes as business groups have pushed for more government support in an effort to reduce reliance on China.

They are faced with a global microchip shortage which has slowed production.

"We're going to be implementing the guardrails to ensure those who receive CHIPS funds cannot compromise national security... they're not allowed to use this money to invest in China, they can't develop leading-edge technologies in China.... for a period of ten years," according to US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo., explaining the US Chips and Science Act.

iPhone 14, iPhone 14 Plus, iPhone 14 Pro, iPhone 14 Pro Max launched

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Apple's latest line-up of iPhones will boast better cameras, faster processors, and a longer lasting battery — all at the same prices as last year's models, despite inflationary pressure that has driven up the cost of many other everyday items.

That pricing decision, revealed Wednesday, September 7, during Apple's first in-person product event in three years, came as a mild surprise. Many analysts predicted Apple would ask its devout fans to pay as much as 15% more to help offset rising costs for many components.

The hoopla surrounding Apple's new iPhone 14 models is part of a post-Labor Day ritual the company has staged annually for more than a decade. Wednesday's event was held on the company's Cupertino, California, campus at a theater named after company co-founder Steve Jobs. After Apple CEO Tim Cook strolled out on stage, most of the event consisted of pre-recorded video presentation that the company honed during previous events staged during the pandemic.

For several years, Apple's new iPhones have mostly featured incremental upgrades to cameras and battery life, and this year's models were no exception. Pricing for the standard iPhone 14 will start at \$799; the deluxe iPhone 14 Pro Max will start at \$1099.

Among the latest improvements is a 48-megapixel camera in the Pro and Pro Max models that the company said will produce especially crisp pictures. The iPhone 13 versions of the Pro and Pro Max have 12-megapixel cameras. This year's high-end models will also have always-on displays that stay lit even when the device is locked, a feature that has long been available on many smartphones powered by Google's Android software.

Beginning in November, all the iPhone 14 models will be able to send SOS messages via a new satellite feature — a safety measure intended to let users request help when in remote areas without a wireless connection.

All the iPhone 14 models also will include a motion sensor capable of detecting serious car crashes and automatically connecting to emergency services.

With inflation still hovering at its highest level in 40 years, consumers have curbed their spending on many discretionary items. That's likely contributing to a recent decline in smartphone sales, although the iPhone has fared



far better than competing Android devices .

The dimming sales outlook prompted the research firm International Data Corp. to predict a worldwide decline in 2022 smartphone shipments of 6.5%, almost double the 3.5% decline it had estimated a few months ago. Despite that anticipated drop in sales, the average price for new smartphones is expected to finish this year about 6% higher than last year, IDC estimated.

By keeping iPhones prices the same, Apple faces the potential risk of undermining its profits if inflation drives up its own costs. It's a hit that the company could easily afford, given it has reaped \$44 billion in profits through the first half of this year.

Apple could also end up fatten its bottom line if more consumers looking upgrade their mobile devices gravitate to the high-end Pro and Pro Max models, which generate bigger profit margins than the cheaper models. And it appears Apple is anticipating a growing number of consumers will be prepared to pay an additional \$200 to \$300 for deluxe versions of the iPhone 14, said Wedbush Securities analyst Daniel Ives.

Apple's stock price gained 1% Wednesday to close at \$155.96. *Source: AP*

Elon Musk's 20 Million Tesla Sales Goal By 2030 Driven By Battery Technology

The secret behind Elon Musk's goal of selling 20 million Tesla's a year by 2030 lies in its pioneering battery technology.

The good news is that by using bigger cells and a new process to dry-coat electrodes, Tesla could halve the cost of a Model Y battery, saving more than 8% of the car's U.S. starting price, battery experts with ties to the company said.

The bad news is that it's only halfway there, according to 12 experts close to Tesla or familiar with its new technology.

That's because the dry-coating technique used to produce the bigger cells in Tesla's 4680 battery is so new and unproven the company is having trouble scaling up manufacturing to the point where the big cost savings kick in, the experts told Reuters.

"They just aren't ready for mass



production," said one of the experts close to Tesla. Still, the gains Tesla has already made in cutting battery production costs in the past two years could help boost profits and extend its lead over most electric vehicle (EV) rivals.

Musk's promised improvements in battery cost and performance are seen by investors as critical to Tesla's quest to usher in an era where it can sell a \$25,000

EV for a profit - and stand a better chance of hitting its 2030 targets.

Battery systems are the most expensive single element in most EVs, so making lower-cost, high-performance packs is key to producing affordable electric cars that can go toe to toe with combustion-engine rivals on sticker prices.

Tesla is one of only a handful of major automakers that produce their own EV batteries and by manufacturing Model Y cells at U.S. plants, the SUV will remain eligible for U.S. tax credits when many rival EVs may no longer qualify.

Among the 12 battery experts Reuters spoke with, nine have close ties to Tesla and three of the nine have examined Tesla's new and old battery technology inside and out through teardowns.

Source: Reuters

Shree Ganeshaya Namah



VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA

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The Indian Panorama brings you Weekly and Birthday Horoscope by Nastur Bejan Daruwalla

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - SEPTEMBER 12 TO SEPTEMBER 18



Aries

Ganesha says, this week's events will be very dramatic since they will take unanticipated turns. This week individuals will attempt to leave you, so don't stress over it and just roll with it. Your burden in your work career will lessen this week due to a number of causes, allowing you to focus fully on the tasks that remain. If you're in company, stay away from dealing with persons who have a bad image within your contacts. You and your partner will disclose that you are related to one of your parents in regards of your romantic relationship, but everything will not work out. Aim to take your leisure and give anything a chance to sink in. The situation will be all in control in regard of your health and your family's health.

roster, which will work to your advantage Dear Cancer. You are free to add fresh material and start over. Getting advice on work-related issues from family and friends will protect you from awful workplace occurrences. This week, you might have to put in some extra if you work in medical. You might not be satisfied with the way everything is progressing in your current relationship this week. A third party's intervention will make matters difficult for you and your buddy. You will be able to successfully manage your workout different level of your wellness. Regardless of if you have a bad cold, by the end of the week you will feel considerably better.

Your adversaries will try all in their power to harm you, and they have a reasonable shot of doing so. Somebody could be harmed by inaccurate beliefs you may have about them. This week is a great time to start contemplating about establishing a family since your sixth sector is powerful. You could find a new revenue stream this week. Given that your financial situation will strengthen, this week is a fantastic week to engage. Performers bred under this sign should start anything fresh this week. This week, one of your close relatives could get sick, making the purchase necessary.



Taurus

Ganesha says, this week, you'll be lucky in many different ways. Your attitude will draw good fortune and make you wealthy. Your challenges will be reduced in quarter this week. You observe that some of your prior career endeavors are beginning to bear fruit. You will effortlessly advance in your growth. It's a smart idea to take strong chances this week. If you're engaged, you're probably going to have a great week because you and your partner will pick up a conversation you've fallen out of contact with. You will be able to increase your athleticism while also improving your health. You will benefit from this week's improvement in your bodily knowledge.



Leo

Ganesha says, you'll build the required defenses this week to protect your power. You'll put your psychological well-being first, above everything else. You will develop new, advantageous traits in your temperament. This week, you'll have more survey work on your company fronts, and if you operate for the administration, you'll have a busy week. You'll be smothered in a pile of papers this week. If you're in commerce, make absolutely sure you don't interact with any borrowed additional finances this week. This week, you'll ought to invest some time apart from your partner in regards of your connection. You'll have to exercise more kilometers to make them feeling great. You will want to modify your everyday practice in order to keep your wellness.



Scorpio

Ganesha says, your personal views will be euphoric this week Dear Scorpio. Your kids will let you know great information. It won't work out for you to purchase any business or acreage this week. Do not engage in lawsuits. Some of your partner's words may make you break your composure. You will have to exert unnecessary effort to satisfy the individual needs. Your plans will be totally derailed by this. People who are fortunate are becoming more prevalent. The present initiatives in the job and economic sectors will be a massive achievement. The sixth house indicates favorable employment prospects. Your epidermis will show the effects of sensitivities, and you might develop hives. There's a chance you'll be injured or experience a minor accident.

Gemini



Ganesha says, this week, something will happen to change your attitude from what it usually is Dear Gemini. There are many things that you may learn from others around you. Even if your career route could seem regular right now, a major occurrence will change it. This week, you'll look for advice because you might not be feeling particularly comfortable. This week, if you deal with banking organizations, exercise extra caution to avoid getting involved in anything you don't need to. Your love life will continue as normal this week without anything particularly noteworthy happening. You won't take the necessary safety procedures to keep your wellness in check when it comes to this.



Virgo

Ganesha says, this week, you'll be able to handle things quite easily Dear Virgo. You will also be immune from the negative effects of people having bad intentions. In regards of your professional life, you will dedicate every bit of your effort to the duties you are assigned, and the excellent results will still get you much acclaim. If you do business this week with economic firms and medical organizations, you should do well financially. The dealers this week will also profit substantially. In your personal connection, you'll be able to boost your partner's self-esteem. They will recognize your value when they observe how you address their difficulties. You may improve your wellbeing by resting and doing Pilates.



Sagittarius

Ganesha says, everyone in the household will be happy this week. Any significant deal problem lasting longer than a few weeks will be resolved. They will be worried if you don't dedicate as much attention with them as you would wish. You'll experience anxiety and stress all throughout the week. Your amorous relations could intensify, and you and your partner might grow comparable. Don't consider taking any opportunities when doing enterprise. Joy will therefore last the entire week. Keep to your limit to prevent a monetary catastrophe. Your gorging this week could be causing you some issues. Consume sparingly when you are actually famished.



Cancer

Ganesha says, this week, your ideas will be like a clean and sharp



Libra

Ganesha says, you will get esteem for your sweetness of speech. You'll experience a number of things this week that will boost your confidence.



Capricorn

Ganesha says, you'll enjoy the expressive benefits of living this week. You'll focus on your existing abilities. You will also need to practice

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**BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : SEPTEMBER 12 TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2022
BY ASTRO FRIEND CHIRAG - SON OF ASTROLOGER BEJAN DARUWALLA**

SEPTEMBER 12 : Ganesha says if you put your best effort forward, you can turn sand into gold. Your international business activities will be very profitable and prosperous for you. Your financial situation will improve, and your confidence level will be at its highest if you find new sources of income. Professional modifications that are made in the middle of the year will be advantageous. People at home will become more demanding, and family responsibilities will increase. Toward the end of the year, real estate deals should result in financial advantages.

SEPTEMBER 13 : Ganesha says your lovely nature and self-assurance are your greatest strengths, but you need to rein in your tendency to act impatiently and outspokenly at times. Try to avoid new joint ventures or corporate alliances this year. Although they will be highly attractive, partnerships are not advised for the first six months. You need to be extremely cautious before making any financial commitments or signing any contracts. Later in the year, benefits in cash and kind will start to accrue. Through social interactions, a new romance will emerge. Your partner and you will have a happy, healthy relationship.

SEPTEMBER 14 : Ganesha says you have a million-dollar smile on your face all the time, which makes it very simple for you to earn friends and favors. You have

intelligence and talent, but you need to learn to control your occasionally stubborn, haughty, and extravagant behavior. Your financial situation will improve this year thanks to new endeavors and goals. Matrimonial alliance for some people later in the year, whereas romance will keep others going. Children will succeed and inspire pride in you. Sportspeople, artists, and academics will reach unprecedented heights in their professions.

SEPTEMBER 15 : Ganesha says you make firm decisions, and once you've made one, it's final. Although you are a powerful and skilled diplomat, you need to curb your occasionally impulsive and vengeful behavior. This year offers several excellent investing prospects, so proceed with extreme caution. Withhold your thoughts and plans from those you don't trust. Entrepreneurs will diversify into new, lucrative endeavors. A very fruitful time for journalists, physicians, and marketers. Your spouse and kids will be understanding yet need your extra attention.

SEPTEMBER 16 : Ganesha says you have excellent manners and decency; you need to rein in your occasionally thoughtless and extravagant behavior. You should focus on your priorities this year, and your efforts will undoubtedly produce the necessary outcomes. An amicable resolution to long-standing property conflicts will result from previous investments. You'll stay happy

if loved ones and friends surprise you with gifts and presents. New endeavors and goals will get off to a good start.

SEPTEMBER 17 : Ganesha says you have a highly bright mind, remarkable grasping ability, and the outlook that learning can never be too late. Although you are pleasant to be around and have good manners, you need to curb your occasionally excessive and temperamental behavior. Your methodical approach will result in the completion of new jobs and assignments. You'll be open to new concepts and improvements in your work, which will ultimately result in significant profits for you. Investments will pay off, but shady operations won't be as profitable as you would think.

SEPTEMBER 18 : Ganesha says you have a fantastic personality and the capacity to make plenty of friends. Although we usually respect your honesty and dedication, you need to check your tendency to occasionally act overly ambitious and autocratic. Your energy level will be high this year, and you'll feel ready to take on any task. For those wishing to shift careers, the middle of the year appears to be very favorable since they will obtain a top-notch job offer. There will be frequent, successful travel. During this time, you will also strengthen your connections with significant individuals.

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a lot of personality in your daily life this week. Your experienced fronts seem to be in the center of the field this week. You'll be equipped to work toward the right goals. Your superiors will pay attention to your problems and offer additional straightforward solutions. You'll see the fruits of your prior expenditures. You and your partner are likely to schedule hours off from business to spend meaningful time jointly and in regards of your personal relationship. You'll have to be mindful of your wellness because you could be dealing with shoulder or spinal problems. You must thus exercise cautious.



Aquarius

Ganesha says, this week, your anxiety about unimportant issues will have a detrimental effect on your psychological well-being and calmness Dear Aquarius. Ensure sure you take in enough so that you can fight off anything comes your way. If you operate in the financial markets, you will be capable of making wise judgments regarding your professional life. The planets aren't on your favor this week, so if you operate in construction, you'll need to be a little more circumspect in whatever you do. This week, communication with your partner will be challenging due to sluggish Venus, and all of your thoughts will conflict. Be silent this week and allow one another space. Your wellbeing will benefit if you refrain from consuming bad food.



Pisces

Ganesha says, this week, you will get distorted, dear Pisces. This has to do

with how the moon phases. Do not even consider things too literally this week. Even if you might not have the opportunity to embark on your dream assignment in your working life, what is

in store for you is far greater. How swiftly your business develops this week will astound you. Your parents will be encouraging if you wish to begin something by yourself. This week, you

could be extremely emotional in your romantic relationships. If this is the case, be careful not to rush matters. You'll start a new habit in regards of your wellness, but you'll doubt it.

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMAH ||



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Rites of Shradh - Pitru Paksha

Pitru Paksha has a special significance in Hinduism. On the days of Shradh, in Hinduism, our ancestors are remembered and their gratitude is expressed. In Hindu religion, if the Pitrus is satisfied, then he blesses his family, due to which happiness, opulence and peace remain in the family.

In Hindu religion, one must do Shradh rites and Pind Daan of one's ancestors. There is a tradition of performing Shradh and tarpan of loved ones on Pitru Paksha. There is also a tradition of performing Shradh on Pitru Paksha. Shradh means reverence. When the Pitru Paksha begins, reverence for the ancestors is expressed. Blessings of ancestors are obtained in Pitru Paksha.

Recognition

According to Hinduism, the souls of three preceding generations of one's ancestors reside in Pitru-loka, the region between heaven and earth. The region is governed by Yama, the god of death, who carries the soul of a dying person from the earth to Pitru-loka. When the person of the next generation dies, the first generation goes to heaven and is reunited with the Lord, so the offering of Shradh is not given. Thus, only three generations in Pitru-loka are given the shraadh rites, in which Yama plays an important role. According to the sacred Hindu epics, at the beginning of Pitru Paksha, the Sun enters Virgo. With this moment, it is believed that the souls leave Pitru-loka and stay in the homes of their descendants for a month until the Sun enters the next zodiac sign - Scorpio - and there is a full moon. Hindus are expected to appease the ancestors in the first half of the dark fortnight.

Story Related to Shradh

When the great donor Karna died in the epic Mahabharata war, his soul went to heaven, where he was offered gold and gems as food. However, Karna needed real food to eat and asked Indra, the lord of heaven, the reason for serving gold as food. Indra told Karna that he had donated gold throughout his life, but had never donated food to his ancestors in Shradh. Karna said that since he was unaware of his ancestors, he never donated anything in his memory. To make amends, Karna was allowed to return to Earth for a period of 15 days, so that he could perform Shradh and donate food and water in his memory. This period is now known as Pitru Paksha.

Rites of Shradh

The man who performs the Shradh should have done the purification beforehand and is expected to wear a dhoti. He wears a ring of Darbha grass. The ancestors are then invited to reside in the ring. Shradh is usually performed with bare chest, as the position of the sacred thread worn by them has to be changed several times during the ceremony. The Shradh includes Pind Daan, an offering to the ancestors of the Pindas (balls of cooked rice and barley flour mixed with ghee and black sesame seeds). In which water is thrown around the food by hand. This is followed by the worship of Vishnu (in the form of Darbha grass, a gold idol, or Shaligram stone) and Yama. The food is divided into several parts, a portion of which is given to the crow. The crow is believed to be the messenger of Yama or the soul of the ancestors. A cow and a dog are also fed, and Brahmin priests are also fed. After all this the family members can have food.

History

As per ancient folklore, when Karna, Kunti's first son from Mahabharata died, he went to heaven and was offered gold and precious jewels, to which Karna asked Indra that he wish to have food and water, and not these precious jewels. Hearing that Indra replied to Karna that he only donated gold and jewels to people all his life and never offered food and water in the name of his



ancestors. To this, Karna told Indra that he didn't know about his ancestors because he was blessed by Surya deva, the lord of light and day, to his mother, and he has no clue of his ancestors. After this Karna was sent to earth for a period of 15 days so that he could perform shradh for his ancestors and donate food and water. Since then, this period of 15 days is regarded as pitru paksha. As documented in the Garuda Purana Shradh holds major significance in the first year of death. As per the ancient scriptures, it is believed that the soul starts traveling to Yamapuri on the 14th day after death and reaches there in 17 days. They again travel for 11 months to reach the court of Yamaraj. It is said that till the time the soul reaches the court, it has no access to food, water, and clothes. The daan, tarpan, and offerings that we perform during Pitru paksha reach these souls and satisfy their hunger and thirst.

How Shradh Is Performed?

The shradh puja is performed by a male member, mostly the eldest male member of the family, or the eldest son. The shradh requires the participation of a Karta (the doer) and a pandit (the priest). The puja begins when a pandit comes home to perform a havan, after the havan, rice is offered to the departed souls, which is followed by offering food to the pandit.

The puja concludes with Dakshina and Daan to the pandit and the needy people. A part of the food that is prepared is also offered to crows, dogs, and cows. In case the date or the tithi of the deceased is not known to anyone then the Shradh ceremonies are performed on Amavasya, the last day of shradh.

What Is Pind Daan

Pind Daan is a duty that every child needs to perform for his deceased parents. Pind Daan is performed by a priest and a food ball made of rice and wheat flour is offered to the departed souls. Offering this special food is considered as Pind Daan. It is believed that after performing the Pind Daan our ancestors achieve moksha.

Dates of Shradh 2022 in Pitru Paksha

- Saturday, 10 September 2022 - Purnima Shraddha, Bhadrapada, Shukla Purnima
- Saturday, 10 September 2022 - Pratipada Shraddha, Ashwina, Krishna Pratipada
- Sunday, 11 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Dwitiya
- Monday, 12 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna

- Tritoaya
- Tuesday, 13 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Chaturthi
- Wednesday, 14 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Panchami
- Thursday 15 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Shashthi
- Friday , 16 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Saptami
- Sunday , 18 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Ashtami
- Monday, 19 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Navami
- Tuesday, 20 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Dashami
- Wednesday, 21 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Ekadashi
- Thursday, 22 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Dwadashi
- Friday , 23 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Trayodashi
- Saturday, 24 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Chaturdashi
- Sunday, 25 September 2022 - Ashwina, Krishna Amavasya

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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."

Highly Acclaimed Violinist Pandit Dr. L Subramaniam Performs a Traditional Indian Concert at Sri Chinmoy Centre, New York



Dr. L. Subramaniam performs at the Sri Chinmoy Tribute Concert to India's 75th Anniversary of Independence, held on August 28th. The renowned Indian classical violinist is accompanied by Pandit Anindo Chatterjee, award winning tabla player, and Mahesh Krishnamurthy on mridangam



At the Sri Chinmoy Aspiration-Ground Temple Gardens in Queens, New York, an international choir led by British musician Sahadeva Torpy performs his arrangement of songs composed by Sri Chinmoy to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence, including the famed Indian independence cry, Vande Mataram!



Mr. Randhir Jaiswal, Consul General of India in NY, Ms. Ranjana Ghose, and guest Mrs. Nilanjana Kaviraj in front of paintings by Sri Chinmoy.

AUGUST 29, 2022

QUEENS, NY (TIP): India's foremost virtuoso violinist and composer, Dr. L. Subramaniam, dazzled a capacity audience in a performance by invitation only assembled at the Sri Chinmoy Centre's beatific gardens in Queens, New York last night as he performed most beautiful traditional ragas.

The Indian Consul General in New York Randhir Jaiswal offered a thought-provoking introduction to the programme, surrounded by elaborate decorations highlighting the Sri Chinmoy Centre's dedication to India's 75th year of Independence. The programme was hosted by the Sri Chinmoy Centre.

As a prelude to Dr. Subramaniam's stellar performance, an international choir of 35 singers performed under the direction of British musician Sahadeva Torpy. The arrangements were of several of Sri Chinmoy's compositions devoted to the revered and

respected freedom-fighters of India's past. The pieces included "Vande Mataram, Mother I Bow to Thee", "Bharat Mata" and a Krishna bhajan.

The spectacular event welcomed friends of the Sri Chinmoy Centre as well as invited guests and was introduced by Ms. Ranjana Ghose, President of the Board of Directors of the Sri Chinmoy Centre and a long-time friend of Dr. L. Subramaniam and Smt. Kavita Krishnamurthy Subramaniam.

The beautiful venue of the Aspiration-Ground Temple Gardens was exquisitely decorated in tribute to Mother India. During his lifetime (1931-2007), Sri Chinmoy had always observed the August 15th anniversary of Mother India's independence in some significant way. In 1997, Sri Chinmoy had performed 50 peace concerts in various places around the world honoring Mother India. As well, he had written books of poetry in dedication to India and painted paintings

dedicated to the soul of India. About his beloved Mother India, Sri Chinmoy had written:

*"The sons and daughters of India are arising again
With incantation-fire.*

*The deep and sonorous notes are being played
To invoke Mother India.*

To India the world shall offer its salutation.

Once again India's Victory shall be proclaimed.

We are the soldiers of light

And the worshippers of the Fire-God.

Away we shall chase world-fear.

*India, India, in this great land of Mother India,
Before long the Peace of the Beyond shall reign
supreme.*

Falsehood and emptiness forever shall end.

*Beauty's light and delight shall blossom, grow and
sport*

In the love of India's heart."

(Sri Chinmoy, India, My India, Mother India's Summit-Prides, Agni Press, 1997)

Liu Hails signing of bill to finally reduce class sizes in NYC Public Schools



NY State Senator John Liu has applauded Governor Kathy Hochul's signing of the bill to reduce class sizes over a five-year period in New York City public schools.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

BAYSIDE, NY (TIP): NYS Senator John Liu, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on NYC Education and sponsor of S9460, has applauded Governor Kathy Hochul's signing of the bill to reduce class sizes over a five-year period in New York City public schools. Class sizes in all New York City public schools would be capped at 20 students in kindergarten through third grade; 23 students in fourth through eighth grade; and 25 students in high school. The five-year phase-in requires 20% of NYC classes to comply with the limitations by school year 2023-2024, with additional 20% each year until 100% of NYC classes are in compliance by school year 2027-2028.

This legislation addresses the continued failure of the NYC Department of Education to reduce class sizes that are significantly larger than the rest of the state and nation. State courts have long ruled that NYC kids had been denied the sound basic education guaranteed by the State

Constitution in large part because of excessive class sizes. The State Budget beginning in April 2023 provides NYC with an additional \$1.6 billion in annual school funding that must be used to provide the constitutionally required sound basic education, which necessarily includes reducing class sizes down to thresholds set by the NYC Department of Education themselves.

Senator Liu said "New York City school kids have been denied a sound basic education for too long. This legislation forces the Department of Education to at long last develop a 5-year plan to bring class sizes down to levels originally established by the DOE itself instead of merely paying lip service to the problem. Moreover, the City is receiving \$1.6 billion more state funding annually toward this purpose, and must stop with nonsensical rhetoric claiming 'unfunded mandate' and just get stuff done! Thanks to Governor Hochul, NYC school kids will now get what they are entitled to."

ECHO: Letting frontline heroes know they are not alone

BY PRIYANKA KHANNA

NEW YORK (TIP): Medicine and teaching are both referred to as noble professions. But a mental health professional or a clinician or a teacher in a remote and nondescript part of expansive countries like India or Nigeria may often find themselves alone, possibly defeated, when faced with a challenge of saving a life or shaping a mind.

That is where Project ECHO®, which was created to meet the needs of New Mexico, US, but is today tackling some of the world's greatest challenges, comes in. By making knowledge accessible at the right time in more than 9,000 cities and 180 countries, Project ECHO is on track to meet the goal of touching a billion lives by 2025.

Dr. Sanjeev Arora, a hepatologist at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque who founded Project ECHO over 20 years ago, says: "ECHO helps clinicians, mental health professionals and now even educators to do justice to their chosen profession."

"All teach, all learn" is the approach of this tele-mentoring model that is enabling knowledge-sharing in rural and underserved communities around the world. "We started in the medical field, but we now find that this tele-mentoring model is enhancing knowledge and developing professionals to solve a range of major problems in the society, including climate change," he adds.

Dr. Arora was speaking at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan in New York recently and sat down with our reporter for an interview after the event. Elaborating on the genesis of Project ECHO, he detailed how his mission began when he found out that his patient, a 43-year-old widow and mother of two, knew she was infected with the life-threatening hepatitis C but did not seek treatment for eight years.

When questioned why she delayed treatment, she said she could not afford to take the time off of work to make the five-hour trip to Albuquerque, the only and nearest clinic that offered treatment for hepatitis C. Also, she was a single mom with two children to care for. She finally sought help when her abdominal pain became unbearable.



Manoj Vyas presenting to Dr. Sanjeev Arora a sketch he made of him. Seen in the picture, from L to R: Sudhir Vyas, Dr. Praveen Chopra, Dr. Navin Mehta, Manoj Vyas, Dr. Sanjeev Arora, HR Shah

Photo / Jay Mandal-on assignment

But it was too late. Hepatitis C had caused advanced liver cancer that was not suited for surgery or liver transplantation. She died six months later. "I asked myself, why did this mother have to die? The medicine and expertise needed to treat this patient's illness were available. But she died because the doctor in her community did not have the expertise required to treat her disease."

This mother's story was one of many Dr. Arora witnessed in his Albuquerque clinic. At the time, there were 28,000 patients with hepatitis C in New Mexico and only 1,500 had been treated. People were dying of a treatable and curable disease because they could not access timely treatment.

He decided to take action. First, he sent out his protocol for treating hepatitis C to primary care physicians across the state. But he soon realized that simply providing the right information was not enough. To master the complexity of treating hepatitis C, providers needed something more.

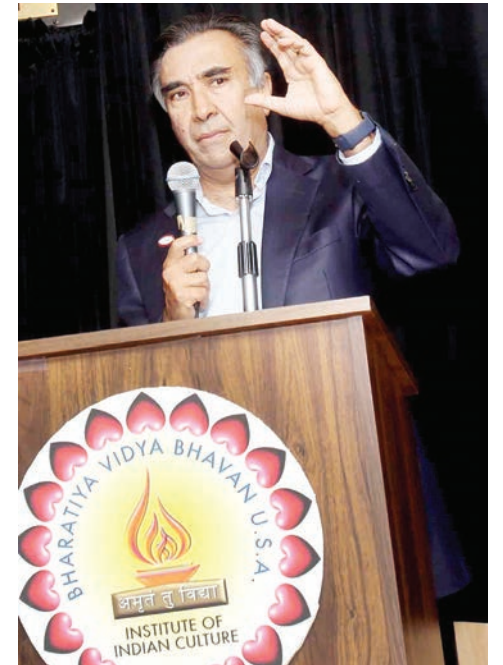
Dr. Arora recruited primary care clinicians throughout the state to create a virtual "community of practice" or a space where doctors could learn from experts and each other; where they could discuss real-life case examples that offered insight on New Mexico's unique patients and systems. In one year, these clinicians became experts in the treatment of hepatitis C - the first success story of the global organization now known as "Project ECHO."

In 2011, a rigorous evaluation published in the New England Journal of Medicine showed that the care delivered to hepatitis C patients by ECHO-trained providers was equal to that of University of New Mexico specialists. This cemented Dr. Arora's belief that large scale change is possible.

The ECHO Model does not just apply to improving hepatitis C treatment. Today, it is being used in the field of clinical and mental health, education and even climate change. Most recently, the model was put to test during the COVID-19 pandemic and applied in the field of mental health in India. In partnership with India's National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), the ECHO Model was used to train frontline healthcare workers to identify and support mental illnesses.

"COVID-19 and associated lockdowns caused a severe shortage of psychiatrists and an increase in issues like domestic abuse, insomnia and anxiety across India," says Dr. Arora. "Our partnership with NIMHANS led to 29X increase in patients - more than 50% of whom were women - accessing mental health treatment. If not for the ECHO-enabled trainings, 90% of the cases being treated would have remained undiagnosed or untreated," he adds.

In fact, the ECHO Project has the most numbers of "ECHO Hubs" among all the 180 countries that it is operating from globally. Beginning its India operations in 2008, Project ECHO has grown to over 130



Dr. Sanjeev Arora, a hepatologist at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, speaking at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan in New York on August 4, 2022

Photo / Jay Mandal-on assignment

ECHO Hubs, offering over 250 programs and reaching over 525,000 people as of March 2022. In fact, India is home to 25 percent of all ECHO Hubs in the world. No other country has these many ECHO Hubs.

It is not surprising then that Project ECHO has received glowing reviews from Indian health authorities. ECHO Project quoted Dr. Rathi Balachandran, Assistant Director General, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, as saying: "The project of building the capacity of nurses through the ECHO Model was a great success and the sessions transformed the nurses from confused team members to confident leaders in terms of managing COVID-19 cases."

Similarly, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist at WHO, reportedly said: "I am delighted to see that Project ECHO India has really taken off. I recognize that it has a huge potential in a country like India. We know how many issues arise when you're sitting in a remote district somewhere and you have a difficult-to-manage patient condition; this type of platform really helps."

Speaking about future plans, Dr. Arora said that he is hopeful of finding support from among the Indian diaspora to continue their work towards empowering people in India to make a difference in their communities with the right knowledge, at the right time.

(The author can be reached at priyanka@gmail.com)

Remembering 9/11

SUNDAY, SEPT. 11TH, TIMES SQUARE, NYC - 11 AM-12 PM

NEW YORK (TIP): Indian American community organizations in association with the Federation of Indian Associations have organized a peaceful prayer gathering at Times Square. This is to pay respect to the men and women who lost their lives and to those who made the ultimate sacrifice to keep us all safe and to serve our homeland - the USA. The gathering will also express the community's concerns with the recent attacks including the vandalizing of Mahatma Gandhi's Statue and hate crimes against Indian Americans.

RANA President Prem Bhandari FIA Chairman



Ankur Vaidya, FIA President Kenny Desai and FIA Past President and Chairman of Bihar Foundation Alok Kumar collectively stated that the non-political and non-religious prayer gathering will include chanting of Mahatma Gandhi's teaching and prayers which are more relevant now than they were ever before.

The team is inviting and trying to compile a diverse group of community organizations which will include inviting Mahatma Gandhi's grandson and Martin Luther King Jr.'s family members.

CONTD FROM PAGE 1

Biden to commemorate anniversary of 9/11 attacks at Pentagon

to use them as missiles, crashing into New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a Pennsylvania field. Nearly 3,000 people died in the attacks by al-Qaida. The U.S. and its allies responded by launching the Afghanistan war.

Jill Biden, the first lady, will speak Sunday at the Flight 93 National Memorial Observance in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Vice President Kamala Harris and her husband will go to New York City for a commemoration ceremony at the National September 11th Memorial

(Based on a White House press release).

Liz Truss takes over as British Prime Minister; to focus on economy, energy and healthcare

former Chancellor Rishi Sunak, was appointed Prime Minister of the United Kingdom on Tuesday, September 7, by Queen Elizabeth II.

The new Prime Minister said she would focus on three priorities: the economy, the energy crisis facing the country and improving the National Health Service (NHS).

Ms Truss faces enormous economic challenges domestically - starting with combatting burgeoning energy prices and a cost of living crisis. She also faces political challenges, such as resolving a messy consequence of Brexit involving Northern Ireland's customs borders. She will also have to navigate another call for Scottish independence. Ms. Truss had vehemently opposed a call for a second referendum.

Speaking outside Downing Street after her arrival from Scotland, where she was appointed by the Queen, the new prime minister said she would transform Britain into an "aspiration nation", cutting taxes and pushing reforms to grow the economy.

"I will deal hands-on with the energy crisis caused by Putin's war," Ms. Truss said, having promised over the weekend that she would announce a plan within a week of assuming office to tackle short-term energy price challenges and longer-term supply issues. The Financial Times reported that she was working on a GBP 100 billion plan to protect households and businesses from soaring energy bills this winter.

She will also attempt to unite her party while putting together a cabinet to deliver her program. For the first time in history, the 'four great offices of state' - the posts of Prime Minister, Chancellor, Home Secretary and Foreign Secretary are likely to be held by people who are not white males, as widely noted by the British press.

U.S. President Joe Biden called Liz Truss to congratulate her on becoming Britain's new PM.

Prime Minister Liz Truss held her first Cabinet meeting at 10 Downing Street in London on Wednesday, September 7, after announcing one of the UK's most diverse Cabinets, with key frontline posts going to ethnic minority members of Parliament, including Indian-origin Suella Braverman as the Home Secretary.

Another Indian-origin minister in the Cabinet, Agra-born Alok Sharma, retains his climate action job as the COP26 President, as does Defense Secretary Ben Wallace in a new top team that is otherwise a complete shake-up of the old guard.

London-born junior minister Ranil Jayawardena, of mixed Sri Lankan and Indian heritage, has been promoted as the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Many senior Tories, who had backed Truss' rival, British Indian former finance minister Rishi Sunak, find themselves without a job - including former justice secretary Dominic Raab, transport secretary Grant Shapps and health secretary Steve Barclay.

(With inputs from PTI and other agencies)

US issues record 82,000 visas to Indian students; Comprise 20% of all

international students studying in US

The US Embassy in New Delhi and its four consulates prioritized the processing of student visa applications from May to August to ensure as qualified students made it to their study programs, said Charge d'Affaires Patricia Lacina in a statement.

"We are happy to see so many students were able to receive visas and reach their universities after the delays caused in previous years by the pandemic. This shows that the US remains the most sought-after country for higher education for most Indian families," she said. Minister Counselor for Consular Affairs Don Heflin said, "Hopefully, there are a lot of happy students and parents out there."

CONTD FROM PAGE 20

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For Tickets and Passes, visit pointsnorthinstitute.org/ciff/box-office

Online registration for pass holders began on September 1. General tickets for screenings will open on September 8.

POINTS NORTH INSTITUTE

To learn about the Points North Institute, visit pointsnorthinstitute.org.

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

Must-visit destinations in Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand is one of the most beautiful northern states of India located on the southern slope of the Himalayan range. Mighty Himalayan peaks and glaciers are on its north where it borders Tibet. Nepal is on its east, Indian state of Uttar Pradesh is on south and Himachal Pradesh lies on its west and northwest. 65% of its area is covered by dense forests that are home to Royal Bengal tiger, leopards and many other endangered animal and plant species. The glaciers of two of the most important rivers—Ganga and Yamuna—are located here.

It has something to offer to every kind of traveller. For wildlife lovers, Jim Corbett National Park—the oldest national park of the Indian subcontinent is a must visit. Many rare Himalayan birds can also be spotted here besides Pangot and Sattal. For adventure seekers there are some of India's best trekking trails like Valley Of Flowers, Roopkund, and Chopta-Chandrashila. It also provides immense opportunities for adventure sports, such as skiing at Auli and white water rafting at Shivpuri. Popularly known as the 'Land of Gods', it is home to numerous holy places like Gangotri, Yamnotri, Kedarnath, Badrinath, Rishkesh and Haridwar. Therefore, thousands of pilgrims throng the state every year. Amazing hill stations like Chakrata, Mukteshwar, Dhanaulti and Munsiyari make Uttarakhand a sought after tourist destination for leisure trips. Here's a list of destinations in Uttarakhand that every nature lover would love to visit.

CHAKRATA

Having breakfast with the view of snow-covered Himalayan peaks on a lazy morning while soft rays of winter sun embrace your body and soul while cool breeze kisses you is something city people always crave for. Chakrata located at a distance of 330 km from Delhi, is a tiny hamlet which is a perfect place to do so. There are two routes to drive from Delhi to Chakrata, one is via Panipat and Kurukshetra and the second one is via Loni and Saharanpur, which supposedly is more beautiful and has less traffic.

Chakrata is a small cantonment town in Dehradun district resting at an elevation of about 7500 ft. The town gets a magnificent view of the snow covered Himalayas and is covered in deodar, Himalayan oak and rhododendron forest. Many day trips to places like Deoban, Koti, Kanasar can be done with Chakrata as base. There are some easy treks also around Chakrata that your hotel guys can arrange for you. There are not many hotels in the area so make sure to book your accommodation in advance. Chakrata is a year round destination; the winter season is perfect to experience snow, greenery is at its best during the monsoon season and the summer season too is quite pleasant.

AULI

Auli is one of the most beautiful



places of Uttarakhand. Bordered by snow-covered Himalayan peaks, Auli is enveloped in dense golden oak and pine forest with green meadows and slopes ranging from a height of 2519 m to 3049 m. It is considered to be a world-class spot for skiing. GMVN winter resort here provides skiing facility, besides ski training for aspirants. Almost from everywhere in Auli, you can enjoy stunning views of the lofty mountain ranges—Nanda Devi, Mana Paravat and Kamat. The golden rays of sun on the snow-laden peaks fill the atmosphere with a divine glow. The 3rd highest peak of the world—Nanda Devi gleams like the crown of the region. There is an open cable-car to go up to the spot where skiing is done. Even if you do not want to ski, you have plenty of things to do. Climb up the slopes, play with snow, ride a sledge and who knows you might feel like trying skiing too. The best time to visit Auli is in between December and

March.

CORBETT

Spread across an area of 520.8 sq km, Jim Corbett National Park is located in Nainital district of Uttarakhand. It is the oldest national park, and is named after Jim Corbett who was the main person behind this establishment. The park is divided in 5 zones—Bijrani, Jhirna, Durgadevi, Dhikala, Sitavani—and is inhabited by royal Bengal tiger, leopard, jungle cat, barking deer, hog deer, cheetal, sloth bears, otters, Himalayan goral, Indian pangolins, langur and many other wild animals. Many rare birds can also be spotted in the region.

Gorgeous Corbett National Park is one of the favourite destinations equally for wildlife lovers and weekenders. It is just 235 km away from capital city and can be reached in couple of hours. It features splendid

landscapes and offers a good amalgam of hills, rivers, forests, marshlands and grasslands. The park is open from the months of November through June. The park is kept closed in the monsoon season as the roads inside the park get washed away due to rain. After the monsoon season, repair work starts and ends only by November.

MUKTESHWAR

Staying in middle of fruit orchards in tents and eating garden fresh meals while looking at the Himalayan peaks covered in fresh snow are a few of the many beautiful memories I have of Mukteshwar. You can walk through the dense pine forest and enjoy stunning views of the mighty mountains. Situated at an altitude of 7500 ft in the lap of Kumaon hills, Mukteshwar is an ideal nature get away from Delhi. It just takes 7 hrs from Delhi to reach Mukteshwar via Gajraula, Rampur, Haldwani and Bhowali. Summer months (March to July) are the best months to visit Mukteshwar. If you want to experience snow, visit during Jan or Feb when the whole area is covered in snow and looks stunningly beautiful. If you happen to visit this place around the month of June, the harvesting season, you'd find many fruits like peaches, plum and apricot. And if you still did not have your fill, Mukteshwar has many fruit orchards and you might get lucky to get offered the fruits just plucked from the trees by villagers. The taste of crunchy fresh peaches plucked from a road side tree of an orchard that belonged to a generous local who gladly offered us to pluck as many as we want, is still fresh in my mouth. Mukteshwar has recently got very popular among those looking for holidays in offbeat destinations and hence there is a wide range of options to stay starting from camps to budget hotels to boutique hotels.

KAUSANI

Kausani is a quiet little town in the Kumaon region of Uttaranchal, 420 km away from Delhi. It offers breathtaking panoramic views of the snow-capped peaks of Panchchuli, Nandakot, Nanda Devi, Trishul, Nanda Gunti and Chaukhamba. If weather is favorable you might witness the best sunrise of your life here with soft golden light of morning sun creating magic over the peaks. This can be best witnessed from the GMVN guesthouse some 2 km away from the main town. There are many attractions close by of which Anasakti Ashram, Tea Estate and factory, Rudhradhari Falls and caves, and Burha Pinnath are the prominent ones.

Gandhiji stayed at Anasakti Ashram for 2 weeks. It is also known by the name Gandhi Ashram and is just 1 km away from the main town. It is basically a simple cottage engrossed with the teachings of the Mahatma. A part of this ashram offers accommodation too. The Tea Estate and factory is only 3 km away from Kausani towards Baijnath.



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FRANCES TIAFOE ENDS RAFAEL NADAL'S 22-MATCH GRAND SLAM STREAK

Frances Tiafoe's vision was blurry from the tears. He was thrilled — overwhelmed, even — when the last point was over and it hit him that, yes, he had ended Rafael Nadal's 22-match Grand Slam winning streak and reached the US Open quarterfinals for the first time.

"I felt like the world stopped," Tiafoe said. "I couldn't hear anything for a minute." Then Tiafoe found himself "losing it in the locker room" when he saw that NBA superstar LeBron James gave him a Twitter shout-out.

What meant the most to Tiafoe about his 6-4 4-6 6-4 6-3 victory over 22-time Major champion Nadal in the fourth round at Flushing Meadows, though, was looking up in his Arthur Ashe Stadium guest box and knowing his parents, Constant and Alphina, were there. "To see them experience me beat Rafa Nadal — they've seen me have big wins, but to beat those Mount Rushmore' guys? For them, I can't imagine what was going through their heads," said Tiafoe, a 24-year-old American. "I mean, they're going to remember this the rest of their lives."

Source: Agencies

India knocked out of Asia Cup after Pakistan beat Afghanistan in Super 4 thriller

SARJAH (TIP)

Team India's campaign at the Asia Cup 2022 came to an end as Pakistan defeated Afghanistan by 1 wicket in a last-over low-scoring thriller in the Super 4 match at Sharjah on Wednesday. The fate of the Men In Blue, who endured consecutive defeats in the Super 4 stage, were completely dependent on the outcome of the clash between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Only an Afghanistan win would have kept India in the contention for the final, but that was not to be. With the win, Pakistan have qualified for the final and will battle Sri Lanka in the summit clash on Sunday.

Afghanistan, like India, are out of the tournament even though the two teams will now engage in a dead rubber on Thursday. A win for any of the team will only give them 2 points while Pakistan and Sri Lanka have already secured four and cleared the path for the final. Ahead of the summit clash though, Pakistan and Sri Lanka will get one more chance to have a crack at each other and an opportunity to fine tune their team combinations in the last Super 4 match of the Asia Cup 2022 on Friday.

Batting first, Afghanistan's innings could never quite get going as barring Ibrahim Zadran, who contributed with 35 - no batter managed to put up a significant contribution, and they ended up with a lowly 129/6. All five Pakistan bowlers got among the wickets with Haris Rauf being the standout performer with 2/26. Defending a low total, Afghanistan got off to a dream start when Fazalhaq Farooqi dismissed captain Babar Azam second ball of the innings for a golden duck. Three overs later, Fakhar Zaman was run out and Pakistan were 18/2 in quick time.

Mohammad Rizwan, who earlier in the



Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, R Ashwin and Deepak Hooda leave the field after the Asia Cup encounter against Sri Lanka. (Pic credit: ANI)

day became the No. 1 ranked T20I batter continued his fine run in the Asia Cup, and along with Iftikhar Ahmed's 30 and Shadab Khan's 36 kept Pakistan in the hunt.

However, drama unfolded when Rashid dismissed Shadab and then Farooqi followed with a brilliant two wicket over. With 21 needed off 12, Asif Ali smacked a six to settle some Pakistan nerves, but the next ball Fared Malik foxed him with a slower bouncer.

A heated exchange between the two did not take focus away from either team, and with nine wickets down and 11 to win off the last over, Afghanistan were favourites to pull off an upset, but it was not to be. Naseem Shah took two balls, smacking two back-to-back full tosses off Farooqi and dispatched the ball over the ropes to trigger euphoria in the Pakistan camp and heartbreak in the Afghan unit.

India started their campaign in the continental tournament on a stellar note, beating Pakistan by five wickets in the Group A encounter. They then went to secure a 40-run victory over minnows Hong Kong to become the first team from their group to advance to the Super 4. However, they suffered two nail-biting defeats in the next round, as both games against Pakistan and Sri Lanka were decided in the final over.

It all started with the contest against Pakistan, which India lost by five wickets as Babar Azam and Co. chased down the 182-run target with two balls to spare. Sri Lanka then stunned India in the following game, defeating them by six wickets in another humdinger. Chasing 174 to win, the Lankan outfit completed the run chase with one ball to spare.

Source: HT

Messi ends 8-year streak at PSG; Mbappe achieves spectacular feat in Juve tie

One of the most prolific goal-scorers in the UEFA Champions League (UCL), Lionel Messi failed to play the full 90 minutes of Paris Saint Germain's (PSG) campaign opener against former champions Juventus on Tuesday at the Le Parc des Princes. Goal machine Messi was replaced by Carlos Soler in the 84th minute of PSG's Group H clash with Juventus at Paris. For the first time in eight years, the former FC Barcelona captain was substituted off after starting a match in Europe's biggest competition at the club level - the UEFA Champions League.

The late substitution in the Champions League clash has ended Messi's eight-year streak of completing all games in which he received starts by the club. Earlier, Messi had played the full 90 minutes of every game he started in the UEFA Champions League. Messi played 62 matches without being substituted off after starting a match in the Champions



League. Messi kickstarted his lesser-known streak when the Argentine

stalwart used to lead the attack of La Liga giants FC Barcelona back in

October 2014.

While Messi ended his unique streak in PSG's Champions League opener, star forward Kylian Mbappe smashed another goal-scoring record in the elite tournament. Interestingly, Mbappe has surpassed Messi by becoming the youngest player to score 35 goals in the Champions League. At 23 years and 260 days, Mbappe has eclipsed Messi by becoming the fastest player to smash 35 goals in the Champions League.

Mbappe managed to find the back of the net twice in the first half against Juventus. Making sure that Christophe Galtier's men take an early lead, the French forward netted the opener for PSG in the 5th minute. Mbappe doubled his tally in the 22nd minute of the game. The first-half brace from the former AS Monaco star guided PSG to a 2-1 win over Juventus on matchday 1 of the Champions League.

Source: HT

History This Week Sept 9 to Sept 15

"HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF, BUT IN SUCH CUNNING DISGUISE THAT WE NEVER DETECT THE RESEMBLANCE UNTIL THE DAMAGE IS DONE." - SYDNEY J. HARRIS

SEPTEMBER 9

September 9, 1776 - The United States came into existence as the Continental Congress changed the name of the new American nation from the United Colonies.

September 9, 1943 - The invasion of Salerno began during World War II in Europe as Allied forces under General Mark Clark made amphibious landings along the western coast of Italy near Naples. Initial gains by the Allies met strong resistance from German forces.

September 9, 1948 - Following the withdrawal of Soviet forces from North Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was proclaimed with Pyongyang as its capital.



Mao Zedong

September 9, 1976 - Longtime leader of Communist China, Chairman Mao Zedong, died. As a Chinese revolutionary soldier and statesman, he had proclaimed the People's Republic of China in 1949 in Beijing.

September 9, 1993 - Israel and the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) agreed to recognize each other, paving the way for a possible peaceful end to the hundred-year-old conflict between Arabs and Jews in the Mideast.

SEPTEMBER 10

September 10, 1898 - Elizabeth, Empress of Austria-Hungary, was assassinated in Geneva by an anarchist.

September 10, 1919 - Following the defeat of Germany in World War I, the victorious Allies signed the Treaty of Saint-Germain ceding parts of pre-war German-Austria to Italy and Czechoslovakia. Austria was also forbidden to unite with Germany.

September 10, 1943 - Hitler's troops occupied Rome and took over the protection of Vatican City.

SEPTEMBER 11



The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history

September 11, 2001 - The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history occurred as four large passenger jets were hijacked then crashed, killing nearly 3,000 persons. Four separate teams of Mideast terrorists, operating from inside the U.S., boarded the morning flights posing as passengers, then forcibly commandeered the aircraft. Two fully fueled jumbo jets, American Airlines Flight 11 carrying 92 people and United Airlines Flight 175 carrying 65 people, had departed Boston for Los Angeles. Both jets were diverted by the hijackers to New York City where they were piloted into the twin towers of the World Trade Center. The impact and subsequent fire caused both 110-story towers to collapse, killing 2,752 persons including hundreds of rescue workers and people employed in the towers. In addition, United Airlines Flight 93, which had departed Newark for San Francisco, and American Airlines Flight 77, which had departed Dulles (Virginia) for Los Angeles, were hijacked. Flight 77 with 64 people on board was diverted to Washington, D.C., then piloted into the Pentagon building, killing everyone on board and 125 military personnel inside the building. Flight 93 with 44 people on board was also diverted toward Washington but crashed into a field in Pennsylvania after passengers attempted to overpower the terrorists on board.



Ferdinand Marcos

September 11, 1917 - Birthday - Ferdinand Marcos (1917-1989)

was born in Sarrat, Philippines. He ruled the Philippines from 1966, imposing an authoritarian regime until he was ousted in 1986.

SEPTEMBER 12

September 12, 1943 - Former Italian Dictator Benito Mussolini was rescued by German paratroopers on orders from Adolf Hitler. Mussolini was being held prisoner by Italian authorities following the collapse of his Fascist regime.

September 12, 1953 - John F. Kennedy, 36, married Jacqueline Bouvier, 24, in a ceremony before 750 invited guests at St. Mary's Church in Newport, Rhode Island, conducted by Archbishop Richard Cushing of Boston.

September 12, 1953 - Nikita Khrushchev was elected First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR.

September 12, 1974 - Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, was deposed by an army coup after 44 years as ruler.

September 12, 1977 - Steve Biko, the South African black civil rights leader, died while he was in police detention.

September 12, 1990 - A treaty was signed by East and West Germany and the Allies of World War II allowing for the restoration of sovereignty to a re-unified Germany.



Jesse Owens

Birthday - African American Olympic athlete Jesse Owens (1913-1980) was born in Oakville, Alabama (as James Cleveland Owens). He won four medals in track and field at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, defeating Nazi athletes and disappointing Nazi leader Adolf Hitler.

SEPTEMBER 13

September 13, 1788 - The U.S. Congress chose New York as the Federal capital of the new American government.

September 13, 1814 - The

Battle of Fort Henry in Baltimore Harbor occurred, observed by Francis Scott Key aboard a ship. He watched the British attack overnight and at dawn saw the American flag still flying over the fort, inspiring him to write the verses which were later coupled with the tune of a popular drinking song and became the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.

September 13, 1971 - State police and National Guardsmen stormed Attica prison in New York State ending a five-day prisoners' revolt. Thirty-one prisoners and 11 guards were killed.



Walter Reed

Birthday - American Army physician Walter Reed (1851-1902) was born in Gloucester County, Virginia. Best known for his Yellow Fever research, he served as an army surgeon for more than 20 years. The U.S. Army's general hospital in Washington, D.C., is named in his honor.

Birthday - Army General John J. Pershing (1860-1948) was born in Laclede, Missouri. He commanded the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) during World War I and oversaw the Meuse-Argonne operation that helped bring about the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

SEPTEMBER 14

September 14, 1741 - Composer George Frederick Handel finished Messiah after working on it nonstop for 23 days.



Napoleon

September 14, 1812 - Napoleon

and his troops first entered Moscow as the retreating Russians set the city on fire. Napoleon found it was impossible to stay through the winter in the ruined city. He then began a retreat from Moscow which became one of the great disasters of military history. Fewer than 20,000 of the original 500,000 men with him survived the Russian campaign.

September 14, 1901 - Eight days after being shot, President William McKinley died from wounds suffered during an assassination attempt in Buffalo, New York. He was succeeded by Theodore Roosevelt.

September 14, 1927 - In Nice, France, famed ballet dancer Isadora Duncan was killed in a freak accident as the long scarf she was wearing became caught in the moving wheel of the car in which she was riding, strangling her.

September 14, 1930 - The Nazi Party became the second largest party in Germany following a stunning election triumph by Adolf Hitler.

September 14, 1960 - The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was formed by representatives of oil-producing countries meeting in Baghdad.



Elizabeth Ann Seton

September 14, 1975 - Elizabeth Ann Seton became the first American saint.

September 14, 1982 - Princess Grace of Monaco died following an accident in which her car plunged off a mountain road in Monte Carlo. Her daughter Stephanie, also in the car, survived and was treated for shock and bruises. Princess Grace (Grace Kelly) was a Hollywood actress who met Prince Rainier III of Monaco during filming of the Hitchcock film To Catch a Thief. She then gave up a successful acting career and married him in 1956.

(read more on

www.theindianpanorama.news)

Connecticut Gets More Go as Spirit Launches the State's Only Nonstop Service to Jamaica

YEAR-ROUND SERVICE FROM HARTFORD TO MONTEGO BAY STARTS DECEMBER 2022

SEPT. 1, 2022

MIRAMAR, FLA. (TIP): Spirit Airlines (NYSE: SAVE) is making it easier to visit family and friends or vacation in Montego Bay, with the announcement of the only nonstop service between Connecticut and Jamaica. The new route connecting Bradley International Airport (BDL) to Sangster International Airport (MBJ) will offer a convenient, affordable option for tourists and the state's large Jamaican community.

"Spirit Airlines is excited to launch our first ever international flight from Bradley International Airport. We sincerely appreciate our partnership with the airport and the opportunities to grow since launching service in 2017," said John Kirby, Spirit Airlines Vice President of Network Planning. "We have tremendous teams both here in Connecticut and in Montego Bay and have proudly served Jamaica since 2005. We can't wait to provide our Guests with More Go."

The year-round service to Montego Bay will operate four times per week, beginning December 15, 2022. The new route highlights Spirit's commitment to Connecticut and growth at BDL. In addition to existing flights to Orlando (MCO), Miami (MIA) and Myrtle Beach (MYR), Spirit will also offer nonstop service to Tampa (TPA) and Fort Myers (RSW) for the winter travel season.

Partner Quotes

"We have pursued nonstop Jamaica service at Bradley International Airport for years now in an effort to meet our community's needs, and we are proud to finally make it a reality with Spirit's partnership," said Kevin A. Dillon, A.A.E., Executive Director of the Connecticut Airport Authority. "I have no doubt that this service will be successful, and I am proud that Bradley Airport will finally be able to offer this convenient connectivity for the state's strong Jamaican population, their friends, and their relatives."

"MBJ Airports Limited is elated to have a direct service from BDL," said Shane Munroe, CEO of MJB Airports Limited, the operator of Sangster International Airport. "We welcome this service which is a great addition for Jamaican students studying in Connecticut and the Jamaican diaspora. We thank Spirit Airlines for filling this need with direct connectivity between Connecticut and Montego Bay. We anticipate that this will also increase tourist traffic directly from Connecticut to Montego Bay and Jamaica."

"We welcome Spirit Airline's new service from Connecticut to Montego Bay, which will commence just



Spirit Airlines aircraft

in time for the start of the 2022/23 Winter Tourist Season," said Hon. Edmund Bartlett, CD, MP, Minister of Tourism. "This is a welcome addition to our airlift arrangements as we continue our drive to further boost the flow of US visitors to Jamaica through the addition of new gateways and greater seat support. Our tourism sector is rebounding at a very brisk pace, with record arrivals and greater visitor spend. So, this new service will also help to enhance these numbers and will increase arrivals into our tourism Mecca, Montego Bay. Furthermore, Connecticut has a vibrant Jamaican diaspora and on the flip side many Jamaicans trek to Connecticut for business and family engagements, they will all no doubt fully utilize this convenient service."

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Atul Kumria giving remarks at BDL Press conference



BDL Press Conference. Atul Kumria is 8th from the left

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Spirit also recently received the FAA's "Aviation Maintenance Technician Diamond Award of Excellence" for the fourth consecutive year.

* Based on points earned on published fares (excluding sale fares) and optional services using the Free Spirit Credit Card (the "Card"), and includes status qualifying points earned by spending on Spirit and everyday purchases using the Card.

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Atul Kumria with BDL team members



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Elderly Sikh man attacked and robbed in Queens

SIKH COMMUNITY IS ANGUISHED AND ANGRY



Onkar Singh, an 82-year-old Sikh man was assaulted and robbed in Richmond Hill on September 5, 2022

Photo / Japneet Singh

RICHMOND HILL, QUEENS, NY (TIP): An 82-year-old Sikh man was assaulted during a robbery in Richmond Hill in Queens on Monday, September 5 night.

Onkar Singh, was walking around 9 p.m. at the corner of 112th Street and Liberty Avenue in Richmond Hill, when two unknown suspects approached him from behind and punched him multiple times.

"I said, 'Don't hit me, don't beat me. Take whatever I have. Take my money, whatever I have,'" Singh said. "Don't beat me, don't kill me. Whatever I have, you can take my money."

He fell to the sidewalk, suffering lacerations and swelling to the right side of his face and chest.

"They hit me in the chest; I fell down," he said. "I tried to jump to the middle of

the street...I had my phone in my pocket. I don't know if it slipped out, but they took it and ran."

Police say the suspects took the victim's cell phone and fled in an unknown direction.

Singh was taken to Jamaica Hospital for treatment and is now recovering at home.

He said he still has swelling in his jaw, and he will no longer walk alone, even in the daytime.

"It's very sad," he said. "They are spoiled street boys. They don't know anything about the value of life."

The incident sent shockwaves in the neighborhood, and the Sikh community members were fear stricken, as the attack on Onkar Singh is the 4th such incident in the neighborhood during as many months.

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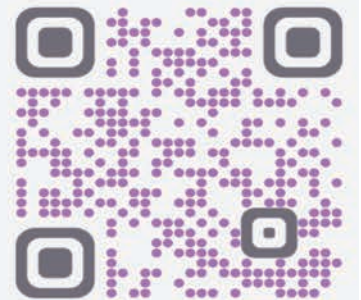


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Message from Peter J. McDonnell, M.D. Director Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University, USA on the occasion of laying the foundation stone on December 10, 2020



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