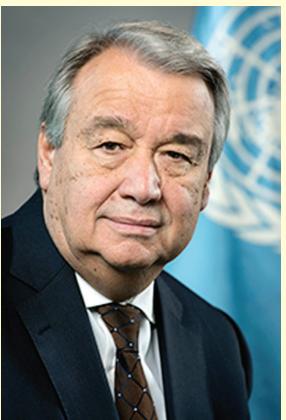




AHEAD OF G20 SUMMIT, U.N. CHIEF GUTERRES CALLS FOR REFORM OF GLOBAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, CLIMATE ACTION



Mr. Guterres said his message to G20 - the world's biggest economies, which are also the biggest emitters - is that as climate chaos gathers pace, the world is looking to them.

UN Photo/Mark Garten

and the Summit of the G77 and China in Havana, Cuba, on September 14-15.

CONT'D ON PAGE 40

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023
UNITED NATIONS (TIP): As U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres arrives in India next week for the G20 Summit, the message he will take to the grouping of the world's biggest economies will be a strong call for reform of global financial institutions and action to combat climate change.

Mr. Guterres has a busy travel schedule lined up as he heads to the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, on September 4-5; the ASEAN-UN Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia, on September 6-8; the G20 Summit in New Delhi, India

INDIA bloc leaders hold talks to chart out roadmap for Lok Sabha poll

AROUND 63 REPRESENTATIVES FROM 28 POLITICAL PARTIES TO ATTEND THE MEET, SAYS SHARAD PAWAR

AUGUST 31, 2023

MUMBAI (TIP): The first leg of the India National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) coalition's third meeting kicked off on August 31 with an informal meeting in Mumbai.

What may appear to be the largest single gathering of political leaders from many political parties, several leaders, including Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Mamata Banerjee, Lalu Prasad Yadav, MK Stalin, Sitaram Yechury, D Raja, Akhilesh Yadav, Ram Gopal Yadav, Mehbooba Mufti, Manoj Jha and Raghav Chadha, arrived in Mumbai on Thursday, August 31.

Around 63 representatives from 28 political parties will be attending the meet, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) supremo Sharad Pawar had said at a press conference earlier.

CONT'D ON PAGE 40



Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and KC Venugopal in Mumbai on Thursday, August 31.

Photo credit / ANI

Dell, HP among 40 companies looking to set up plants in India



AUGUST 31, 2023

NEW DELHI (TIP): A total of 40 companies, including established players like Dell and Hewlett Packard (HP), are participating directly under a scheme to manufacture laptops, tablets and servers in India. Other major players such as Foxconn, Lenovo, Acer and ASUS are participating through their partner subsidiaries.

These companies have applied for incentives under the Centre's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for IT hardware. The scheme, application window for which ended on August 30, aims to promote the manufacturing of laptops, personal computers (PCs), servers and related devices.

Adani group used 'opaque' funds in stocks: Report

RAHUL GANDHI ASKS MODI TO COME CLEAN ON THE ACCUSATIONS



Adani and Modi.
File photo

AUGUST 31, 2023

NEW DELHI / MUMBAI (TIP): The Adani group on Thursday, August 31, battled accusations about the use of "opaque funds from tax havens in its publicly trading companies in order to shield the identity of its business partners".

The allegations were made by the Organized Crime and Corruption

Reporting Project (OCCRP), said to be a global network of investigative journalists focused on exposing graft and funded, among others, by George Soros and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

The charges came just two days after a preliminary probe by the Enforcement Directorate claimed that dozen

CONT'D ON PAGE 40

U.S. to send \$250 million in weapons to Ukraine



Photo / Freepik

AUGUST 30, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): The Biden administration announced on August 29 that it will send an additional \$250 million in weapons and ammunition to Ukraine as part of its ongoing support of Kyiv's counteroffensive.

The weapons will be drawn from existing U.S. stockpiles and will include mine-clearing equipment, artillery and rocket rounds, ambulances and medical gear, among other items and spare parts, according to the State Department.

CONT'D ON PAGE 40

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GUEST COMMENT

After moon, the sun

ISRO EYES ANOTHER MILESTONE MISSION

When the unmanned Chandrayaan-3's lander Vikram touched down on the unexplored south pole of the moon last week, it marked a milestone in India's ambitious but low-budget space programme. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is in a mission mode as it eyes another watershed feat. The launch of the country's first space-based observatory to study the sun is scheduled for September 2. Aditya-L1 is set to lift off aboard ISRO's heavy-duty rocket, the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle or PSLV. It will be placed in a halo orbit around Lagrange Point 1 (L1) of the sun-earth system. The solar probe

vehicle would take about four months to travel to its observation point, a distance of about 1.5 million km from earth.

A Lagrange Point is a spot in space where the nearest celestial entities' gravitational forces cancel each other out. This helps an object remain in equilibrium. A spacecraft put in orbit around the L1 point gets a continuous clear view of the sun. NASA and the European Space Agency have previously placed probe vehicles into the solar orbit to study the sun. This would be the first such mission for India. Aditya-L1 will study the solar characteristics and their impact on earth as well as the overall space weather conditions. Studies will be

undertaken to observe solar flares as well. The observatory will carry seven payloads.

A succession of successful missions is expected to bolster India's reputation, providing a certification of space readiness that could prove to be transformational for ISRO and associated firms. The low-cost model and an abundance of highly skilled engineers are also likely to work to India's advantage. A joint mission with Japan is planned to send another probe to the moon by 2025 and an orbital mission to Venus within the next two years. ISRO is on a roll.

(Tribune, India)

Playing out a farce: On government and legislature functioning in Manipur

THE MANIPUR ASSEMBLY DISREGARDS DUTY BY ADJOURNING SINE DIE AT A TIME OF CRISIS

Given what transpired on Tuesday, it is difficult not to term the functioning of the government and the legislature in conflict-ridden Manipur a farce being played out in the State. The Assembly met just before the stipulated six months after the last session on March 3. Article 174(1) of the Constitution mandates that sittings have to take place within six months of the end of the previous session. Incomprehensibly, the session was adjourned sine die just 48 minutes after it began; there was barely 11 minutes of business with 10 MLAs of the Kuki-Zo community also absent. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh had reportedly invited the absentee Kuki MLAs to the House, by guaranteeing their security, but they denied having spoken to him and refused to buy the guarantee by pointing to the law and order situation in the Imphal valley. This reiterates the breakdown of trust between legislators of one community and the

government's leadership despite a sharing of party affiliations. The session was originally set to convene on August 21, but the Governor, Anusuiya Uikey, had, inexplicably, not issued the notification summoning the House, despite the Cabinet's advice to her on August 4. That legislative functions have been so poorly conducted when there are pressing issues related to the rehabilitation of displaced residents, the recovery of looted weapons, the persisting ethnic divide leading up to "economic blockades" and the sporadic violence, indicate the failure of a government that commands an electoral majority in the House.

The Manipur Assembly is no stranger to controversy. In its previous iteration, little heed was paid to parliamentary conventions, as it was marked by rampant defections, exemplified by the case of Congress MLA T. Shyamkumar, who became a Minister in the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government and later

stripped of his office by the Supreme Court which had lost patience with the Speaker's inaction after his blatant violation of the anti-defection law. This time around, the BJP regime suffers a severe legitimacy deficit - in its inability to bring about a turnaround in the deterioration of ethnic relations following the May 3 violence and to conduct proper legislative sessions to at least discuss a way out. Ethnic conflicts present complex problems, but the use of constitutional means is a must to enable workable solutions. As things stand, the two sparring communities in the State are veering towards positions that are becoming even more intractable as the government continues to flounder. The BJP is mistaken if it continues to believe that its ham-handed approach to retain the status quo in leadership will yield a breakthrough in the State.

(The Hindu)

J&K poll process

With the Centre telling the Supreme Court that elections can be held in Jammu and Kashmir 'anytime now', there is reason enough to hope that the state-turned-UT will finally witness the restoration of electoral democracy. Asserting that it is ready to conduct the elections, the Central Government has put the onus on the Election Commission of India and the UT election panel to decide which poll will take place first. In the Centre's scheme of things, J&K elections will have three tiers - panchayats, municipal bodies and the legislative Assembly.

Since the revision of the voters' list is

set to be completed in a month or so, it is expected that at least one election would be held before the year-end - if all goes well. Going by the Centre's contention that terror-related incidents have gone down by 45 per cent since 2018 and instances of infiltration have dropped by 90 per cent, expediting the poll process is the need of the hour. At the same time, the Central Government and the UT administration need to pre-empt attempts to disrupt the electoral exercise. Forces inimical to peace and stability in J&K will inevitably resort to violence and propaganda in the coming months. Security and surveillance must

be beefed up in order to instill confidence in the voters.

Once the elections are held in a free, fair and peaceful manner, the restoration of statehood ought to be the next logical step. Though the Centre has repeatedly stated that J&K's UT status is a temporary measure, it has stopped short of specifying a time frame for undoing the downgrading that was done four years ago. J&K last witnessed Assembly elections in 2014. Now, a golden opportunity has arrived to begin a new chapter in the troubled region. It should not be frittered away.

(Tribune, India)

IDPUSA 12th India Day Parade in Hicksville witnessed enthusiastic participation of the community

MALLIKA SHERAWAT AND KHUDA BAKSH WERE THE MAIN ATTRACTIONS

AUGUST 28, 2023

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP): The 12th IDP USA India Day Parade on August 27, with a record number of floats and booths, clearly indicated the efforts of the organizers and the participation of the community.

As before, the Grand Marshals and sponsors extended greetings on the

occasion before the parade started. Those who addressed the gathering included Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Joseph S. Saladino, Grand Marshals Naveen Shah, Harry Singh Bolla, Harshad Shiv Bhai Patel, and the celebrity Grand Marshal Mallika Sherawat.

The Consulate General of India was represented by Consul Community Affairs Mr. Achanthodiyal Kesavan Vijayakrishnan.

Co-Presidents Deepak Bansal and Vimal Goyal also spoke on the occasion.

IDP Founder Bobby Kalotee welcomed and thanked the dignitaries and celebrities for their presence.

The parade started from Patel Brothers and ended at LIRR Parking lot on West John Street in Hicksville where around 35 booths and an entertainment stage were set up.

Well known singer Khuda Baksh regaled the visitors with his melodious singing.

GLIMPSE OF THE EVENT



Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman addresses the gathering. L to R: Co-President Vimal Goyal, Grand Marshal Harry Singh Bolla, Celebrity Grand Marshal Mallika Sherawat, Bruce Blakeman, Grand Marshal Naveen Shah, Co-President Deepak Bansal



Grand Marshal Naveen Shah speaking. L to R: Harry Singh Bolla, Mallika Sherawat, Kanak Golia, Ravi Chopra, Naveen Shah, Deepak Bansal



Harry Singh Bolla addressing the gathering. L to R: Vimal Goyal, Mallika Sherawat, Kanak Golia, Ravi Chopra, Harry Singh Bolla, Deepak Bansal, and IDPUSA Founder Bobby Kalotee



L to R: Beena Kothari, Consul Community Affairs Achanthodiyal Kesavan Vijayakrishnan (3rd from the left), and Nassau County Legislator Rose Marie Walker



The gathered crowd at Patel Brothers listening to the speakers

More photos on page 7

Two Indian origin singers make it to contestants list for Hybe and Geffen Records new global girl group

AUGUST 29, 2023

LOS ANGELES (TIP): Two Indian-origin singers Lara Raj and Ezrela are among the 20 contestants vying for a shot at stardom as they compete to become a part of a new global girl group, South Korea music giant HYBE and American record label Geffen Records have announced.

Hybe, which manages the global K-pop group BTS through Big Hit Music, and Geffen Records, a subsidiary of Universal Music Group, had announced their joint venture in November 2021.

More than 120,000 submissions were received before a list of 20 contestants were finalized for an audition program, called The Debut: Dream Academy, the two companies announced on Monday during a livestream event aired from IGA Studios in Santa Monica.

The new global group, whose name will be unveiled later, will be created and modelled based on the world-renowned K-pop training and development system, under which the contestants have been quietly training over the last year in Los Angeles.

Introducing herself at the press event, Lara said, "Hi, I am Lara Raj. I'm 17 and I'm Indian from LA."

In 2019, Raj was also part of former first lady Michelle Obama's campaign Global Girls Alliance "Day of the Girl".

Ezrela, 20, introduced herself as an Indian from Australia.



Lara Raj and Ezrela are among the 20 contestants vying for a shot at stardom

The contestants will be trained for a year and the whole process will be the subject of an upcoming untitled Netflix documentary series.

It will be directed by award-winning filmmaker, Nadia Hallgren, who was at the helm of Netflix documentary, "Becoming".

The series produced by Hybe, Interscope Films and Boardwalk Pictures, is set to premiere in 2024.

The audition program will begin

airing on YouTube from September 1, and run for nearly three months before the final group is decided during the audition's finale on November 17.

The global girl group will also be integrated into the South Korean social media platform Weverse, allowing fans to closely follow the transformative journey of the 20 contestants in the audition program.

"I have wanted to form an international group based on K-pop

methodology for a while. To do this I believed we needed a capable partner. When I met John (Janick), from the first moment, we both felt instantly that we had a connection, musically and creatively.

"I am very proud of the rich history we have made and the tremendous talent we have found. I am proud of the opportunities we have created within the K-Pop universe," Hybe Chairman Bang Si Hyuk said in a statement.

John Janick, the chairman and CEO of Interscope Geffen A&M, said he is hopeful the competition will bring to life a first-of-its-kind experience in music.

"Since we began our partnership two years ago, Bang and I have often spoken about our shared beliefs in artist development, music and creativity. To develop a global group with Bang, with the best of K-Pop methodology, and our Geffen team, is truly special and will bring to life a first-of-its kind experience in music.

"Each candidate is incredibly talented, dedicated, and driven, making this an exciting moment for music fans around the world," he said.

Alongside fan voting, a panel of experienced evaluators will offer valuable feedback and guidance to the contestants, playing an essential role in shaping the growth and development of these talented young women, a release said.

Indian-origin town council Sarika Bansal's campaign sign defaced



Sarika Bansal, the only person of color running for the Cary Town Council this year, found a campaign sign of hers defaced.

August 27, 2023

CHARLOTTE, NC (TIP): The campaign sign of an Indian-origin woman running for a town council in the US state of North Carolina was vandalized, with a photo of a Black person's face superimposed over her face, according to a media report.

Sarika Bansal, the only person of color running for the Cary Town Council this year, found a campaign sign of hers defaced on Thursday, a report said.

Bansal was attending the town council's regular meeting when she was informed that her campaign sign was found vandalized in the Highcroft Village neighborhood in West Cary, where she is contesting for the seat.

Bansal's head was seemingly scratched off, and a photo of a Black person's face was superimposed over her

face on the sign, the newspaper reported on Friday.

She termed the incident "shocking" and said she was "truly saddened by the act of vandalism and racism" against her campaign.

"We must embrace diversity as a means of building strength and unity in our town. There is no place for bigotry and racism against people of color, brown or Black, in the Town of Cary," she was quoted as saying.

In North Carolina, it is a class 3 misdemeanor for a person to steal, deface, vandalize or remove a political sign that is lawfully placed.

In a statement, Mayor Harold Weinbrecht said the town will do "everything we can to get to the bottom of this". "This racist, despicable act stands in stark opposition to the values we hold dear in Cary and will only serve to bring our community closer," Weinbrecht said. According to the report, Asian Americans make up 20 per cent of the 180,000-resident population in Cary. "West Cary needs sustainable leadership," Bansal said. "Having diversity on the Town Council is going to help bring the change that we need today," she added.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American CEO Kishore Kethineni gets two-year jail for bank fraud

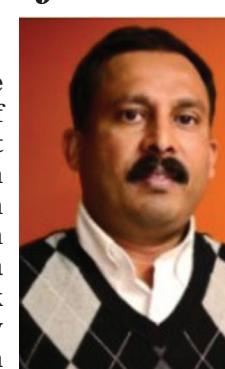
AUGUST 29, 2023
PARMINDER AUJLA

SACRAMENTO (TIP): The Indian American CEO of multiple software development and IT services companies in the Bay Area has been sentenced to two years in prison for his role in a conspiracy to commit bank fraud and for his failure to pay over more than \$2 million in employment taxes.

Kishore Kethineni, was sentenced by Edward J. Davila, United States District Judge, on Friday, according to a press release from US Attorney's Office, Northern District of California.

Kethineni, of Dublin, California, pleaded guilty to the charges on Feb 21, 2023. In pleading guilty, Kethineni admitted that he conspired with his two brothers to engage in a scheme in which they fraudulently obtained over \$3.1 million in loans under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

The PPP is a Covid-19 pandemic relief program administered by the Small Business Administration (SBA) that provided forgivable loans through third-party lenders to small businesses for



Kishore Kethineni has been sentenced to two years in prison for his role in a conspiracy to commit bank fraud and for his failure to pay over more than \$2 million in employment taxes

payroll and certain other expenses.

Kethineni was the sole owner and CEO of four of the companies involved in the scheme: BiteGate, Inc., Dinenamics, Inc., Neelinfo, Inc., and TechPMC, Inc.

His brothers were the owners of the three other companies involved: Boxstertech, Inc., Hiretechforce, Inc., and TechGlobalSystems, Inc.

From April 2020 through May 2021, Kethineni and his brothers submitted multiple PPP loan applications on behalf of their various respective companies, in which they made fraudulent representations and provided falsified payroll data and records to obtain loans and loan forgiveness under the program, according to the release.

Collectively, Kethineni and his brothers submitted at least 12 PPP loan applications on behalf of their seven companies. The applications sometimes were virtually identical.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Four Indian-origin graduates among eight named for 2023 Chevron Graduate Energy Fellows at University of Houston

AUGUST 30, 2023

HOUSTON (TIP): Four Indian-origin students at the University of Houston have been named among eight who received the inaugural 2023 Chevron Graduate Energy Fellowship for actively being involved in innovative energy-related research.

Funded by Chevron, the program supports graduate students' research efforts through a one-year USD 12,000 fellowship which includes mentoring by faculty experts and the opportunity to engage with subject matter experts at Chevron, according to a press release.

Chevron is an American multinational energy corporation predominantly in oil and gas. The UH-Chevron Energy Graduate Fellows have showcased a broad range of energy-related research at the University of Houston (UH) and their work focuses on scalable innovations for transformational impact on the energy industry, it said.

"The motivation for my research focus came from my past work evaluating the impact of state climate policies on household energy burden across socioeconomic groups," said Aparajita Datta, one of the fellows and a political science PhD candidate whose research focuses on the intersection of energy, climate and redistributive policies in the US.

Another fellow, Chirag Goel's research proposal stems from his passion for nuclear fusion reactions that power the sun and stars and has been driven to



Eight University of Houston graduate students were selected as 2023-24 UH Chevron Graduate Energy Fellows (L to R): Kripa Adhikari, Aparajita Datta, Chirag Goel, Meghana Idamakanti (top row), Erin Picton, Mohamad Sarhan, Swapnil Sharma, and Larkin Spires (bottom row).

Photo / Courtesy University of Houston

replicate a similar process on Earth.

"High-temperature superconductors (HTS) present the opportunity to achieve carbon-free economies by 2050," Goel said.

The potential impact of this research extends to renewable energy generation, electric power transmission and advanced scientific applications, all of which contribute to a sustainable clean energy future.

Meghana Idamakanti, a third-year PhD student hopes to contribute to sustainable energy initiatives, focusing on the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions.

Swapnil Sharma, a PhD student and an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi graduate co-founded CovRelief to track the availability of hospital beds that helped many people during the COVID-19 pandemic in India. Creating a

positive social impact through his work has been a core motivator for Sharma.

"We love that Chevron is sponsoring this group of fellows because it's a fantastic way for us to get involved with the students who are working on some of the biggest problems we'll face in society," Chevron Technology Ventures President Jim Gable was quoted as saying.

"The UH-Chevron Energy Fellowship program is an exciting opportunity for our graduate students to research the many critical areas that impact the energy industry, our communities and our global competitiveness," said Vice President for Energy and Innovation Ramanan Krishnamoorti.

"Today's students not only recognize the importance of energy, but they are actively driving the push for affordable, reliable, sustainable and secure energy and making choices that clearly indicate that they are meaningfully contributing to the change," Krishnamoorti said.

Others who received the Fellowship include Kripa Adhikari, Erin Picton, Mohamad Sarhan, and Larkin Spires.

The selected fellows will engage with Chevron subject matter experts on a quarterly basis and participate in educational and research engagements organized by UH Energy throughout the year.

They will submit quarterly progress reports and may have opportunities to contribute to energy-related blogs and thought leadership pieces, the release said.

Indian Americans applaud film 'The Vaccine War' and call it a true tribute to Indian scientists



The film Vaccine War is about the accomplishments of Indian scientists, in particular women, for helping a country of 1.4 billion people successfully combat covid-19 under extreme circumstances.

AUGUST 28, 2023

MARYLAND (TIP): Indian Americans have applauded the movie 'The Vaccine War' by award-winning film director Vivek Agnihotri and described it as an eye-opener to the accomplishments of Indian scientists, in particular women, for helping a country of 1.4 billion people successfully combat covid-19 under extreme circumstances.

Agnihotri, who is currently on an 'India for Humanity Tour, USA' and

screening his latest movie before a select audience in various cities received a standing ovation from Indian Americans in a Maryland suburb of Washington DC.

He was joined by popular actress and movie producer Pallavi Joshi. The movie is about Indian scientists successfully developing a vaccine for covid-19 under extreme circumstances and obstructions posed by certain foreign players.

"It (the movie) kind of brought back everything. I really appreciate how it focused on the underdogs of the Indian scientists and women. We (women scientists) go unappreciated. Scientists are the backbones of health care, and they go unappreciated because we start working in the basement of the hospital or on the back end of the hospital and people don't really know what we are doing," Jyoti, an Indian American scientist who works in Quest Diagnostics lab here said after watching the movie.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American 'Living legend' of statistics, CR Rao, passes at 102

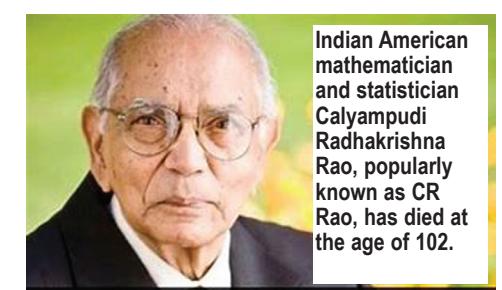
AUGUST 24, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP): Named 'a living legend' of statistics, Indian American mathematician and statistician Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao, popularly known as CR Rao, has died at the age of 102.

The man with many titles, from 'Legendary Mathematician' and 'Statistics Professor' to a 'Rockstar' in the field of statistics, CR breathed his last in Buffalo, New York on August 22, just 18 days before his 103rd birthday.

Tributes and condolences poured in from peers, friends, and family at his passing on social media commemorating his monumental achievements in the field of statistics.

In May, Rao, a research professor in the Department of Biostatistics, School of Public Health and Health Professions at the University of Buffalo since 2010, added another accolade to his long list of awards as the winner of the 2023 International Prize in Statistics, considered the Nobel Prize for the field.



Indian American mathematician and statistician Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao, popularly known as CR Rao, has died at the age of 102.

In announcing the award, the International Prize in Statistics noted Rao's "work more than 75 years ago continues to exert a profound influence on science." It added.

"In his remarkable 1945 paper published in the Bulletin of the Calcutta Mathematical Society, Calyampudi Radhakrishna (C.R.) Rao demonstrated three fundamental results that paved the way for the modern field of statistics and provided statistical tools heavily used in science today," it added.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Acclaimed Filmmaker Neha Lohia, Author Kelly Tallaksen, and Neurologist Specialist Dr. Candice J. Perkins Unite for 'The Voice of Spirit' - An Extraordinary Cinematic Voyage into Inner Dimensions

August 30, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP): In an unprecedented collaboration and an extraordinary convergence of talent, acclaimed filmmaker Neha Lohia, renowned author Kelly Tallaksen, and esteemed vascular neurology specialist Dr. Candice J. Perkins have united to create an animated film titled "The Voice of Spirit." This visionary project is poised to revolutionize the cinematic landscape by exploring terrain within the human psyche where science is only just now beginning to venture.

"The Voice of Spirit" is an ambitious extension of Kelly Tallaksen's critically acclaimed book, "The Voiceless Soul," brought to life under the masterful direction and creative guidance of filmmaker Neha Lohia and medically informed scientific inputs by Dr. Perkins. This groundbreaking cinematic endeavor fuses spirituality, science, and personal growth, offering viewers an unparalleled journey of self-discovery and transformation. With its rich insights and the power to challenge preconceived notions, the film dares to unlock the hidden potential within each of us, seamlessly bridging the literary and cinematic worlds.

This unique execution will be a collaborative effort between American and Indian talent. Animation teams from India will be working on the film, bringing their expertise to life, while the creative teams from the USA will be responsible for designing characters and storyboards. This harmonious collaboration reflects Neha's background, originating from India and now residing in the USA, creating a fusion of artistic perspectives that promises to elevate the cinematic experience.

Neha Lohia, an award-winning filmmaker with a remarkable track record spanning over two decades, leads this project as the director, co-producer, and project head. With her visionary approach and commitment to pushing the boundaries of storytelling, Neha ensures that "The Voice of Spirit" will transport audiences to unexplored realms and leave an indelible mark on the cinematic landscape.

Speaking about the profound collaboration, Neha Lohia expressed her unwavering passion, stating, "I am humbled and exhilarated to embark on this extraordinary journey alongside Kelly Tallaksen and Dr. Candice J. Perkins. Our collective vision is to craft a film that transcends the limits of imagination, much like mega films such as 'Star Wars'



Neha Lohia (center) with Kelly Tallaksen and Dr. Candice J. Perkins

and 'Avatar' transported us into their mesmerizing depictions of fantastical worlds outside. Our aim, however, is to delve deeper within ourselves into the inner worlds, peering into the multidimensional inner realms that exist within us. 'The Voice of Spirit' is a humble effort towards an exploration of the boundless human potential and potent healing waiting to be discovered."

Dr. Candice J. Perkins, a pioneering vascular neurology specialist and co-producer of the film, brings her scientific expertise and profound understanding of the mind-body-spirit connection to the project. Collaborating with Neha and Kelly, Dr. Perkins aims to bridge the gap between science and spirituality, unraveling the mysteries of consciousness and unveiling the uncharted dimensions of human existence.

Dr. Candice J. Perkins enthusiastically shares her vision, stating, "Through 'The Voice of Spirit,' we aim to merge the wisdom of science and spirituality, inviting audiences to embark on an extraordinary odyssey within their own consciousness. We seek to unlock the potential for healing, growth, and self-realization that lies dormant

within each individual. This collaboration between three visionary artists promises to deliver a profound cinematic experience that will captivate and inspire audiences on a cosmic scale."

Kelly Tallaksen's professional education includes transpersonal hypnosis, holistic psychology, metaphysics, and spiritual healing. She is a guest author for several digital magazines and has been a guest speaker on several podcasts. She is also a public speaker and educator in metaphysical hypnosis and healing at a soul level. Kelly is a member of the National Guild of Hypnotists, one of their instructors, and the President of the Long Island Chapter. The exceptional author of "The Voiceless Soul" not only serves as a co-producer but also lends her voice talent to breathe life into one of the main characters. With her gift for poetic storytelling and unique healing perspective, Kelly's involvement adds authenticity and depth to the film, guiding audiences on a transformative journey to reconnect with their inner voice.

Kelly Tallaksen expresses her excitement, saying, "Working on 'The Voice of Spirit' has been an extraordinary odyssey of creativity and exploration. This collaborative effort unites visionaries from diverse disciplines, enabling us to create something truly transformative. We are thrilled to embark on this cinematic adventure, one that will transport audiences to unimaginable depths and ignite the flames of self-discovery within their souls to bring about the healing that we all as humans deserve to experience and live with that inner knowing that we are all here by a greater design and that we are always taken care of only if we dare to listen to that voice of our spirit."

As "The Voice of Spirit" enters the pre-production stage, it carries with it the anticipation of a profound and enlightening cinematic experience. Rooted in unity, healing, and self-discovery, this joint endeavor of talents from east and west seeks to holistically empower individuals, transcending boundaries and ushering in a new era of introspection and enlightenment.

To know more about Kelly Tallaksen and her work:
<https://heartsinharmonyhypnosis.com/>

To know more about Neha Lohia and her work:
<https://nehalohia.com/> | <https://consciouscontentcompany.com/>

For press inquiries, please contact: info@thevoiceofspirit.com | filmwithher@gmail.com

Indian-American arrested in New Jersey in USD 13 million tech fraud

KICKERLINE: THE COUNT OF CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT WIRE FRAUD CARRIES A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF 20 YEARS IN PRISON



Manoj Yadav has been arrested in New Jersey on charge of being part of a technical support scam that targeted more than 7,000 victims defrauding them of more than USD 13 million.

Photo for representation only

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

NEWARK, NJ (TIP): An Indian American has been arrested in New Jersey

on charge of being part of a technical support scam that targeted more than 7,000 victims defrauding them of more than USD 13 million, a US Attorney announced Thursday, August 31.

Charged with one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, Manoj Yadav appeared before US Magistrate Judge José R. Almonte in Newark federal court.

"The defendant and his conspirators are alleged to have misled their numerous victims into thinking that they were a legitimate technology support company affiliated with a major software company," US Attorney Philip R. Sellinger said.

After claiming to provide technical support for issues involving the software company's popular accounting software, they allegedly charged the victims exorbitant fees for purported support

services that were not authorized by the software company, he alleged.

"We allege Yadav lied to software users and forced them to pay for services that would usually come free with their initial purchase," FBI Special Agent in Charge James E. Dennehy said.

The count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a fine of USD 2,50,000 or twice the gross profit or loss caused by the offense, whichever is greatest.

"The amount he's accused of stealing from his victims and the number of victims seem shocking; however, we are seeing an incredible increase in all types of tech support scams. The fraudsters are pretty savvy in how they con money out of people, even those of us who think we're smart enough to not fall for it. If you think

you're a victim, please reach out to the FBI," Dennehy said.

According to federal prosecutors, from 2017 through 2023, Yadav and his conspirators, many of whom were in India, fraudulently held themselves out as a technology support company affiliated with a major US business and accounting software company that developed and sold a widely used accounting software product.

They operated under multiple fraudulent business names, including "Phebs Software Services, LLC," "Phebs Software Services," "PN Bookkeeping Services," "Phebs Consulting," "Quickbooks Tech Assist," "Quickbook US," "Quickbooks Accounting," and "Quickbooks Support Team."

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

IDPUSA 12th India Day Parade in Hicksville witnessed enthusiastic participation of the community

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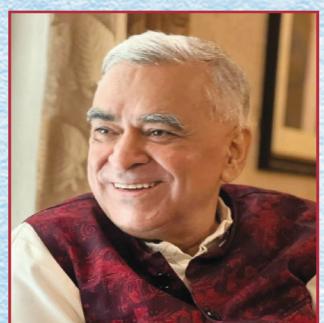
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So what can we offer You?"
--Shaiv mystic Lalleshwari

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ISRO's achievement is India's too

CHANDRAYAAN-3'S SUCCESS WILL MOTIVATE MANY YOUNG BOYS AND GIRLS TO BECOME SPACE SCIENTISTS



BY JULIO RIBEIRO

"**MOST PEOPLE I SPOKE TO, EVEN THOSE BELONGING TO WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE WORKING CLASS, SEEM TO BE AWARE THAT OUR SPACE PROGRAMME BEGAN SOON AFTER INDEPENDENCE. HOMI BHABHA AND VIKRAM SARABHAI, BOTH PIONEERS IN THE FIELD, HAD SET UP A ROCKET LAUNCHING STATION AT THUMBA IN KERALA IN 1963. THE LAND BELONGED TO LATIN CATHOLICS OF KERALA. PRIEST FR FERNANDES TOOK THE PERMISSION OF HIS PARISHIONERS TO GIVE UP THE LAND FOR A NATIONAL CAUSE IN A MARKEDLY PATRIOTIC GESTURE. AS A CO-RELIGIONIST, I AM PROUD OF THEM. THE THUMBA STATION WAS THUS BORN. INDIA'S FIRST ROCKETS WERE LAUNCHED FROM THERE.**"

The brilliant Chandrayaan-3 feat of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) scientists was reflected in the joy on the faces of Indians in the country and abroad. Having served briefly as India's Ambassador to the former Eastern Bloc country of Romania, I know that my country's men and women were suspected of illegal migration not to Romania, but through that poor country to the UK, Germany, France or any other developed nation of Europe. The moon landing will change this perception, at least temporarily.

Many Indians would attribute the feat to PM Modi and he was certainly aware of what that would mean for a third term in office.

India and Indians will now be more respected abroad. An Indian passport used to arouse the suspicion of immigration officers who manned the desks at airports abroad. After twiddling



The success of Chandrayaan-3 has gladdened the hearts of Indians in the country and abroad.

Photo credit / PTI

their thumbs, consulting their seniors and generally conveying the message that you were an unwelcome guest, they finally and reluctantly let you in. That, too, I hope will change, though in view of some of our compatriots trying desperately for a better life in western Europe, North America or Australia, I have my doubts if the Indian passport will finally spell 'welcome'.

But whatever this superb scientific feat means for Indians going abroad, its effect on fellow Indians based in their own country has been electrifying. Like most proud Indians, I watched the Chandrayaan-3 lander make a soft landing on the moon. I heard the thunderous clapping of thousands of pairs of hands at the ISRO headquarters in Bengaluru and, of course, I saw images of our omnipresent Prime Minister being relayed from Johannesburg, where he was attending the BRICS summit.

PM Modi spoke to the ISRO fraternity and to the nation on this happy occasion. The sense of achievement and triumph that coursed through every Indian's veins at the moment of landing would have been felt by him to a much higher degree because many Indians would attribute the feat to him and he was certainly aware of what that would mean for a third term in office.

Most people I spoke to, even those belonging to what is known as the working class, seem to be aware that our space programme began soon after Independence. Homi Bhabha and Vikram Sarabhai, both pioneers in the field, had set up a rocket launching station at Thumba in Kerala in 1963. The land belonged to Latin Catholics of Kerala. Priest Fr Fernandes took the permission of his parishioners to give up the land for a national cause in a markedly patriotic gesture. As a co-religionist, I am proud of them. The Thumba station was thus born. India's

first rockets were launched from there.

Thumba was located relatively close to the line that marks the Equator. It was ideal for the experiments and research needed to be carried out by ISRO. It was only later that the launching pad in Sriharikota, which is in Andhra Pradesh, was established. Chandrayaan-3 was launched from Sriharikota, but some of ISRO's earlier launches were from Thumba.

Narendra Modi is a natural-born leader. Blessed with good health, defined by a spartan lifestyle and the practice of yoga, he works 16 to 18 hours a day. He is accustomed to being fresh and alert with only four hours of sleep and a frugal diet. He is constantly on the move, addressing friendly gatherings which lap up every word of his. He is in the peak election mode. That mode will continue till April-May when the Lok Sabha polls are likely to be held.

Talking of next year's General Election and the Assembly elections in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Mizoram later this year, let's turn our attention to the Election Commission. That institution had been held in very high regard and esteem both in India and abroad, right from the days of the martinet TN Seshan to SY Quraishi. Alas, in the past few years, the commission has lost its foothold on that high pedestal and has been accused of favoring the party in power in a myriad of small ways.

Its aura of impartiality and its image of a neutral umpire have been battered - and this is an unmitigated disaster. The commission is a statutory body which cannot be influenced by any party, including the one in power. Even if Modi or Amit Shah cross the lines laid down by the commission itself, it is incumbent on the commission to act against the offender. Even a caution or a warning, publicly issued, would serve the purpose.

Surendra Nath, a retired IAS officer,

had reminded the commission in a letter that the EVM count had to be reconciled with the VVPAT count. In case of any discrepancy, the results had to be decided as per the paper slip count. Such discrepancies were noted during the 2019 Lok Sabha vote counting. Despite undertaking to give an explanation for the discrepancies, the ECI has not replied to letters of the Law Ministry. This important matter that pertains to the people's confidence in the commission's neutrality and impartiality has been kept dangling midair.

Any Prime Minister on whose watch the ISRO pulled off a Herculean task would take vicarious credit for the achievement. Modi cannot be faulted for doing so. In fact, he does motivate persons who work for the government or for him in his immediate circle, the PMO, to excel. But it is also incumbent on him as a leader to ensure that the Election Commission (and also other government entities such as the Enforcement Directorate, the CBI and NIA) do their allotted tasks impartially and honestly. For, finally, the buck stops at his desk.

Coming back to the moon mission, I would have thought that ISRO's Director and Project Director would find their pictures on the front pages of newspapers on August 25. They deserved the limelight that as scientists they had shunned or were just not bothered about. But I also got to read about Kalpana K, the Associate Project Director, and the 100-odd women who contributed to the success of the project. We are proud of our women and of our scientists.

Many young boys and girls in schools and colleges across the country will be motivated to become space scientists and join ISRO in its journey to gain international recognition and respect.

(The author is a former governor, and a highly decorated retired Indian Police Service (IPS) officer)

Global AI development needs robust guard rails



BY SUSHMA RAMACHANDRAN

Amid fears of unregulated growth of cutting-edge technology, there are concerns that innovation could be the end of civilization

"IT WAS THE LAUNCH OF CHATGPT BY OPEN AI WITH THE SUPPORT OF MICROSOFT EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT MADE THE WORLD RECOGNIZE THE POTENTIAL OF AI. IT HERALDED THE AVAILABILITY OF GENERATIVE AI FOR USE BY EVERYONE. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NORMAL AND GENERATIVE AI IS THAT THE FORMER CAN ANALYZE DATA, WHILE THE LATTER CAN USE DATA TO CREATE SOMETHING NEW. MUCH HAS BEEN DISCUSSED ABOUT THE WAY IN WHICH THIS FRONTIER TECHNOLOGY CAN HIT JOBS IN NUMEROUS ECONOMIC SECTORS, BUT THE ETHICAL ASPECTS OF ITS MANIFOLD APPLICATIONS ARE OF EVEN GREATER CONCERN. LEADERS IN THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY HAVE VARYING VIEWS ON THE ISSUE. TESLA AND X OWNER ELON MUSK HAS BEEN WARNING ABOUT THE NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF ALLOWING UNREGULATED GROWTH OF AI FOR QUITE SOME TIME. OTHERS ARE MUCH MORE SANGUINE ABOUT THE ISSUE, SUCH AS META CHIEF MARK ZUCKERBERG AND GOOGLE FOUNDER LARRY PAGE AND SERGEY BRIN. THEY AGREE THAT REGULATION IS NEEDED, BUT DO NOT FEAR THAT IT COULD BE THE END OF CIVILIZATION, AS MUSK ONCE DECLARED."

The buzz around artificial intelligence (AI) is becoming louder by the day. The prospect that this technology may take over our lives in the coming decades is a very real possibility. In many ways, it has already done so. As I write this article on a tablet, prompts are repeatedly given, suggesting which words should follow in the sentence. Reminders to leave for the airport at a particular time pop up on the phone simply because an air ticket has been sent by email. Advertisements about a particular product - say, a handbag - surface on one's electronic devices after the purchase of such an item. And the whole world knows about the various disembodied voices that do our work via audio commands. The names are varied - Siri, Alexa or Google. These are all AI-driven applications. But much more lies ahead. As they say in this country, picture abhi baaki hai.

It was the launch of ChatGPT by Open AI with the support of Microsoft earlier this year that made the world recognize the potential of AI. It heralded the availability of generative AI for use by everyone. The difference between normal and generative AI is that the former can analyze data, while the latter can use data to create something new. Much has been discussed about the way in which this frontier technology can hit jobs in numerous economic sectors, but the ethical aspects of its manifold applications are of even greater concern. Leaders in the information technology industry have varying views on the issue. Tesla and X owner Elon Musk has been warning about the negative aspects of allowing unregulated growth of AI for quite some time. Others are much more sanguine about the issue, such as Meta chief Mark Zuckerberg and Google founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin. They agree that regulation is needed, but do not fear that it could be the end of civilization, as Musk once declared.

It is in this backdrop that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for a global framework to ensure the ethical use of AI needs to be considered carefully. He is not the first to suggest that there must be convergence among countries on AI regulation. But so far, this has only been talked about while differing routes are simultaneously being taken on regulation. The European Union (EU) has raced ahead and is already talking about an AI legislation. It is also the EU which has been taking the toughest stance against the tendency of Big Tech to improve profitability at any cost. Its new Digital Services Act will come into force shortly, imposing rules regarding content moderation, user privacy and



The launch of ChatGPT made the world recognize the potential of AI

transparency on Internet giants.

It also has other measures in the pipeline, including stricter enforcement of the new Digital Markets Act and formulating an AI Act.

As for the US, it is negotiating the issue carefully. So far, it has proposed an AI Bill of Rights aimed at protecting citizens from the use of discriminatory algorithms by corporates. It is worried about the disruptive effect of 'algorithmic bias'. For instance, companies can use algorithms with inherent biases while carrying out recruitment. The pitfalls of using facial recognition algorithms are similarly well known. The idea of adopting non-mandatory guidelines for regulation is clearly not considered the right way forward for India despite the two countries' avowed interest in cooperating in the AI regulation arena.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recently presented a paper recommending the establishment of a statutory regulatory authority for AI. It has outlined a risk-based framework with legally binding obligations, in cases that directly impact humans.

From this cursory outline of different approaches by various countries, it is clear that global convergence on AI regulation will not be an easy task. Amid the fears of an unregulated growth of such cutting-edge technology, there are concerns that innovation could be stifled by excessive rule-making. On the one hand, there is the Musk-led 'doomsday group', which submitted a petition by over 1,000 tech leaders and researchers to the US Government in March, seeking a pause on all AI development. The petition, also signed by Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak, has said the pause would enable the creation of 'shared safety protocols'. It should be lifted only when there is confidence that the effects of AI systems will be positive and their risks will be manageable, the petition says.

On the other hand, there is another segment of the tech fraternity which dismisses such concerns as being overblown. These include Meta that feels the industry does not need a license-based regime. Google, which has already launched Bard as a competitor to ChatGPT, is more amenable to a risk-based approach to the regulatory process. None of the Big Tech firms, however, agree with the concept of a pause on development. Seven of these giants in the race to provide more powerful generative AI recently agreed to the US administration's proposal for voluntary curbs on technology development, pledging to manage the risks of the new tools.

In other words, there are sharp divisions in the tech fraternity over the pace of AI regulation. Ensuring that these are bridged, should become the role of a global regulator that takes into account the profound possibilities of misuse by individuals, corporations or countries.

For the layman, this may sound like a high-tech issue. It is no longer at that esoteric level. It is this technology that is helping students write their academic essays. It is drafting mundane emails for executives at the workplace. And for journalists, it's actually churning out articles for potential publication. Imagine my dismay when ChatGPT zipped out a 1,000 word article on the state of the economy within seconds. Luckily such essays tend to have fake data and misleading comments, termed as hallucinations. These are the flaws that still make the human element indispensable. But this is a rapidly advancing technology and these flaws could be ironed out soon. It is thus time to quickly place some guard rails on AI to control unrestricted growth and potential malpractices.

(The author is a Senior Financial Journalist)

Punjabi is the second largest Mother Tongue of Canadian Farm Immigrant Population

Punjabi is the second largest mother tongue of Canada's immigrant farm population, says the latest report of the Statistic Canada released on Friday. According to the report 18.5 percent of total immigrant farm population has Punjabi as its mother tongue. German tops the list with 23 percent while Dutch comes a close third with 18.2 percent.

The Report has listed five top mother tongues of the Canadian immigrant farm population. They are German (23 percent), Punjabi (18.5 percent), Dutch (18.2 percent), Mandarin (4.5 percent) and Italian (2.9 percent).

It further says that the share of the immigrants in the total farm population of Canada in 2021 was 6.9 percent. Incidentally, 23.1 percent of total population of Canada was of immigrants.

As of 2021, the total farm population was 5,90,710. It comes to 1.6 percent of the total population of Canada.

In 2001, immigrant farm population was 6.8 percent of the total farm population.

The report further says that Canada's farm population comprises farm operators (people responsible for the management decisions in operating a farm) and the individuals in their households. In 2021, the farm population (590,710 people) represented 1.6% of the total population in Canada.

Results from the "Agriculture-Population Linkage" show that the face of Canada's farm population is changing. Farm households are becoming more diverse and becoming smaller. Additionally, greater percentages of farm households are living in urban areas, while their income continues to outpace that of the total population. The immigrant farm population plays a role in shaping Canadian agriculture.

Immigrants contribute to the ethnocultural diversity of the farm population. This is important because a diversified farm population provides a broad range of skills, experiences, perspectives and cultural influences that can boost the potential for increased productivity within the agricultural sector.

In 2021, immigrants made up 6.9% of Canada's total farm population, up slightly from 6.8% in 2001. By comparison, the proportion of immigrants in Canada's total population increased from 18.7% in 2001 to 23.1% in 2021.

Another revelation of the Statistics Canada report is that under 4% of people in the farm population are part of a racialized group. In 2021, individuals from racialized groups accounted for 3.7% of the total farm population in Canada. Meanwhile, individuals from racialized groups made up more than one-quarter (26.6%) of Canada's total population.

Among the 21,910 people in the farm population who self-identified as being

IMMIGRANTS CONTRIBUTE TO THE ETHNOCULTURAL DIVERSITY OF THE FARM POPULATION. THIS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE A DIVERSIFIED FARM POPULATION PROVIDES A BROAD RANGE OF SKILLS, EXPERIENCES, PERSPECTIVES AND CULTURAL INFLUENCES THAT CAN BOOST THE POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY WITHIN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR.

from a racialized group, over half (53.0%) were South Asian, followed by Chinese (15.8%). Black (5.9%) and Latin American (5.9%) were tied as the third-largest racialized group.

Another important aspect of the report has been about the increasing percentage of the Indigenous farm population. In 2021, 2.8% (16,705 people) of the farm population self-identified as Indigenous. This was slightly higher than the percentage reported in 2001 (2.3%). Meanwhile, 4.8% of Canada's total population self-identified as Indigenous in 2021.

Métis (11,225) remained the largest group among the Indigenous farm population in 2021, accounting for over two-thirds (67.2%) of the total. The second-highest group was First Nations people (4,825), who made up 28.9% of the Indigenous farm population in 2021.

Incidentally, the farm population has a higher percentage of men and older people than the total population. In 2021, over half (52.5%) of the farm population were men, whereas just under half (49.4%) of the total population were men.

The farm population also has a higher percentage of older people. In 2021, over 4 in 10 men (40.3%) in the farm population were 55 years and over, compared with 31.2% in the total population. Meanwhile, 41.0% of women in the farm population were 55 years and over, compared with 33.5% for the total population.

Conversely, the farm population had smaller proportions of men and women under 35 years when compared with the total population. In 2021, 38.2% of men in the farm population were under 35 years, compared with 42.8% for the total population. Meanwhile, 34.4% of women in the farm population were under 35 years, compared with 40.1% for the total population.

Another finding of the report has been that the farm population is more likely to report a religious affiliation than the total population. In 2021, nearly three-quarters (72.5%) of the farm population reported a religious affiliation, whereas 65.4% of the total population reported a religious affiliation.

Among the farm population that reported religious affiliations, the most frequently reported religion in 2021 was Catholic (39.3%), followed by Christian, Not Otherwise Specified (NOS) (14.6%) and the United Church (13.8%). This differs from the total population, where Catholic (45.8%), Christian, NOS (11.6%) and Muslim (7.5%) were the three most frequently reported religions among those who reported religious affiliations.

Farm population and farm household trends reflect decreasing farm numbers,

the report said. Farms have become increasingly sophisticated operations that harmonize automation and modernization advancements. This has corresponded with declines in the number of farms and the farm population in Canada. In 1971, 1 in 14 Canadians was a member of the farm population. By 2021, that number decreased to 1 in 61 Canadians. Overall, from 1971 to 2021, the farm population declined by 62.2% to 590,710 people.

The decrease in the size of households in Canada is a widespread societal trend, and farm households are no exception. In 1971, the average size of a farm household was 4.3 people. By 2021, it decreased to 2.8 people. By comparison, the average household size of the total population in 1971 was 3.5 people. By 2021, it fell to 2.4 people.

Total income of a farm household includes income from all of its members, regardless of whether their income sources are related to farming or not. In 1970, the median income of farm households was \$36,511 (in constant 2020 dollars). This was 34.0% lower than the median income of households within the total population.

In the past two census periods, the median income for farm households has been higher than that of households within the total population. In 2015, the median income of farm households was \$89,230, 17.3% higher than the median household income of \$76,048 in the total population. By 2020, the median income of farm households was \$95,142, 14.6% higher than the median household income of \$83,000 in the total population.

The diversification of income sources within the farm population, says the report, has evolved over time. In 1970, within the farm population, the average annual self-employed person's non-farm income was \$845 (in 2020 constant dollars). By 2020, it had increased 71.4% to \$1,448. This increase in non-farm income suggests that the farm is not the sole contributor to farm household income.

Against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, the proportion of farm households reporting other sources of income as their major source of income increased from 23.7% in 2015 to 29.0% in 2020. This percentage increase may have been impacted by other income from government sources, such as federal government emergency benefits received during the pandemic, which is included as other sources of income.

Private retirement income is also a component of other sources of income that increased. In 2020, private retirement income made up 7.4% of farm



BY PRABHJOT SINGH



household income, up from 6.0% in 2015. This reflects an aging farm population where more members of the farm household are reaching retirement age.

As was also the case in 2015, wages, salaries and commissions were the most frequently reported major source of farm household income in 2020, with 45.9% of farm households reporting this as their major source of income. However, this was lower than what was reported in 2015 (48.9%).

The report also established that a greater percentage of the farm population is living in urban areas. More of the total population is living in urban areas, and the same is true for the farm population. In 1971, 7.5% of the farm population resided in urban areas. By 2021, that figure grew to nearly one-quarter (24.5%), up from 16.1% in 2016.

The proportion of the farm population living in urban areas differs widely by province, with the highest proportion reported in Newfoundland and Labrador (42.2%), followed by British Columbia (37.8%) and Alberta (28.3%).

In 2021, just over 4 in 10 people (40.8%) in the farm population connected to farm operators working on fruit and tree nut farms and vegetable and melon farms resided in urban areas.

The farms primarily situated in rural areas have a demand for large areas of agricultural land for growing field crops and grazing livestock. In 2021, almost three-quarters (72.2%) of the farm population that comprises farm operators working on oilseed and grain farms lived in rural areas.

In 2021, the vast majority (93.6%) of farms classified as dairy cattle and milk were reported in rural areas. On average, these farms reported the third-largest acreage in Canada compared with other types of farms. Dairy cattle and milk farms require frequent supervision and intervention (e.g., milking twice per day), implying that farm operators, and consequently their household members, would likely live close to the farm.

(Prabhjot Singh is a veteran journalist with over three decades of experience of 14 years with Reuters News and 30 years with The Tribune Group, 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.)



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VIDUSHI
PURNIMA
DESAI



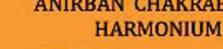
SANJIB BHATTACHARYA DANCE



JAGANNATH & JOLLY LAIRENJAM DANCE



ANIRBAN CHAKRABORTY HARMONIUM



KASTURI BANDOPADHYAY VOCAL



ERIC FRASER FLUTE



ANIRBAN R. CHOWDHURY TABLA



AMIT CHATTERJEE TABLA

PART II (2 PM – 5 PM) \$50



CHANDRIKA & LAKSHMI KURUP DANCE GROUP



PALLAB BANDOPADHYAY VIOLIN



ANIRBAN CHAKRABORTY VIDUSHI KANKANA BANERJEE HARMONIUM



SANDIP GHOSH TABLA



APRATIM MAJUMDAR SAROD



AMIT CHATTERJEE TABLA



PART III (6 PM – 10 PM) \$50



PT. SATYA NARAYANA CHARKA DANCE GROUP



POOJA BHARADWAJ DANCER



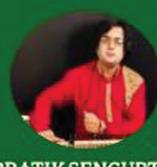
NISHTHA SOBRIN DANCER



NAREN BUDHAKAR TABLA



ROHAN MISHRA SARANGI



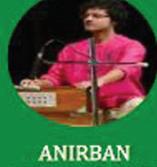
SUPRATIK SENGUPTA SITAR



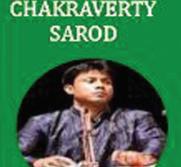
SOUMYA CHAKRAVERTY SAROD



RUCHIRA PANDA VOCAL



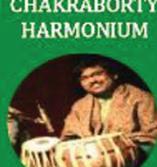
ANIRBAN CHAKRABORTY HARMONIUM



ANIRBAN R. CHOWDHURY - TABLA



SANDIP GHOSH TABLA



AMIT CHATTERJEE TABLA

SANDIP BHATTACHARJEE - VOCAL

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Naturopathy – Homeopathy- Basic Yoga - Mantra Therapy Music Therapy - Laughing Therapy - Kriya Yog

Ayurveda – Meditation – Reflexology - Reiki Therapy - Listening Therapy

FOR CHAITANYA – JAGRUTI (AWARENESS & PURE CONSCIOUSNESS)

US-India Chamber of Commerce, Dallas/ Fort Worth organized a Wellness & Workplace Conference



AUGUST 26, 2023

DALLAS (TIP): On Thursday, August 24, we heard from an all-star lineup of DFW's healthcare industry leaders at our second annual Wellness and Workplace Conference. State Senator Nathan Johnson reported on healthcare legislation that passed in the last legislative session. Keynote speaker Dr. Fred Cerise, President and Chief Executive Officer of Parkland Health, shared about the latest efforts to improve health outcomes and

bridge the gap in access to healthcare in DFW.

Our Incorporating Technology in Healthcare panelists Vince Doyle, Chief Information Officer, Medical City Healthcare, Andrew Olowu, Chief Technology Officer, Axxess, Dr. Hiren Patel, Chief Medical Officer, UnitedHealthcare Texas & Oklahoma Markets, and Badruddin Pitter, Founder and CEO, Callcare24, discussed how technology is changing the practice of medicine and gave tips on how to protect patient privacy.

Our Mental Health in Adults and Children panelists Sue Schell, VP and Clinical Director of Behavioral Health, Children's Health, Dr. Hicham Ibrahim, Associate V.P. and Chief Medical Officer of Ambulatory Service, UT Southwestern Medical Center, and Dr. John Bennett, Psychiatrist, Metrocare, shared information about resources that are available to improve mental health and also discussed the new psychiatric hospital coming to Dallas in 2025.

California Assembly passes anti-caste discrimination bill

AUGUST 29, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP) An anti-caste discrimination bill has been passed by the California State Assembly that seeks to combat caste discrimination and strengthen protections for marginalized communities across the state.

The bill was passed by the Assembly on Monday, August 28. It now heads to Governor Gavin Newsom for his signature to make it into law, making California the first US state to add caste as a protected category in its anti-discrimination laws.

The bill passed by the California Assembly seeks to combat caste discrimination and strengthen protections for marginalized communities across the state. It was first introduced by State Senator Aisha Wahab and was supported by several caste equity civil rights activists and organizations from across the country.

Thank you to all the Assembly members who voted in support of SB 403 today. We are protecting people from a



long-standing form of discrimination with SB 403, Wahab said in a tweet.

A coalition of Hindus of North America (CoHNA) described it as a black day in California history.

The legislation will revise California's Unruh Civil Rights Act, Education, and

Housing codes by adding caste as a protected category under ancestry.

Since its introduction earlier this year, the bill has flown through the different steps in the legislature, achieving a largely bipartisan consensus across multiple labor and civil rights entities.

The Assembly Vote is a win for the ages. After conducting over 700 advocacy meetings across the entire state of California the people have spoken resoundingly for caste equity protections.

As a Californian who has endured caste my whole life I know the struggles and adversity caste-oppressed Californians have unjustly faced firsthand, said Thenmozhi Soundararajan, executive director of Equality Labs.

US Congress asked to update 'woefully outdated' immigration system

"This is an outdated immigration system": White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre

White House photo



AUGUST 29, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): The Biden administration has asked the Congress to update the woefully outdated immigration system, the White House said Monday, August 28.

"As we have said many times before, this is an outdated immigration system. We've asked the Congress to update our woefully outdated immigration system. We've been very clear on that, including the temporary visa programs that haven't been updated in more than two decades," White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre told reporters at her daily news conference.

Under the current regulations, workers on certain temporary visas usually have 60 days to secure new

employment, pursue a different visa classification or make preparations to depart the United States.

"So, the Congress needs to do their job and pass legislation, updating our immigration laws to reflect the needs of where we are, where we are currently in this 21st century economy," she said.

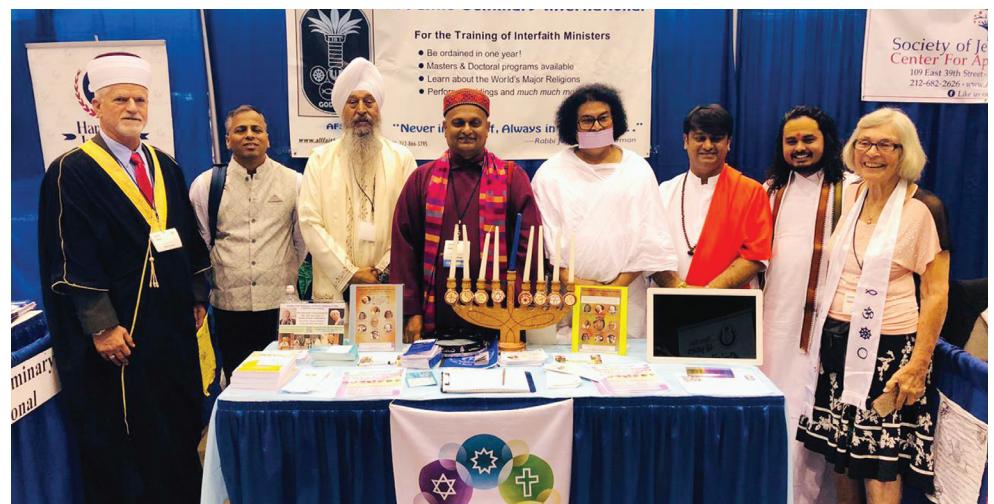
On the first day of his administration, President Joe Biden put forth an immigration reform legislation because he took this very seriously, the White House Press Secretary said.

He wanted to make sure that was the first piece of legislation that he put forward on Day One because "this is such a broken system", Jean-Pierre said in response to a question.

The message of Interfaith Actions comes loud and clear from the Parliament of World Religions



Opening Plenary: Interfaith leaders, faith actors and cultural representatives gathered for the opening of Parliament of World Religions in Chicago



Islam, Sikh, Hindu, Jain and Christian faith leaders at the All-Faith Seminary International booth of Parliament of World Religions Expo

AUGUST 29, 2023
CHICAGO, IL (TIP): The message resonates with clarity and conviction: We must join hands, unite, and safeguard the religious rights of all faiths. The Parliament of World Religions (PoWR) has traversed a remarkable journey since 1893. The 1893 Parliament of the World's Religions brought together 400 men and women, representing 41 diverse religious traditions. It was during this momentous gathering that Catholicism and Judaism gained recognition as significant American religions, and the luminous traditions of Hinduism and Buddhism were unveiled to the Western world.

In the contemporary landscape, where the specters of religious fanaticism and state-sanctioned alienation loom large, the initial tableau of the plenary challenges our reality. The camaraderie among individuals from Mexico, China, and India on the dais extends a warm invitation to stakeholders of faith, beckoning them towards a realm of peace, harmony, and genuine discourse on pressing matters. Chicago's atmosphere was electric, and Mayor Brandon Johnson astutely proclaimed, "In this moment, seeking refuge solely within scriptures and holy texts falls short; it is essential to exhibit the most magnificent creation and power of humanity - the act of love."

PoWR 2023 resounded as a summons to conscience. The central theme was the defense of freedom and Human Rights. A sojourn through the exhibition hall became a journey into one's moral compass. Here, spiritual traditions, religious collectives, faith-based seminaries, modern mantras for bonding, ancient sutras for equilibrium, poignant reflections on religious animosity, organizations dedicated to social progress, and revitalizing yoga meditations converged. One stall orchestrated interfaith harmonies through melodious songs, while another presented sobering data on minorities targeted by right-wing regimes. Tokens of memory took the form of pens, badges, shirts, chocolates, pins, and meticulously annotated leaflets and brochures. The Boston School of



Packed Hall for the Closing Plenary or Parliament of World Religions in McCormick Place of Chicago



Expo area of Parliament of World Religions. More than 100 stalls from various Faith traditions.

Theology extended courses to fathom the nuances of various religions, while the Divine Life Society resonated with masses, nurturing understanding through the prism of yoga. The panorama was a tapestry woven with the threads of diversity.

The PoWR embodies an idea. Over 250 breakout sessions grappled with diverse subjects. The inner dialogues, cast as a broad mandate, often witnessed some gems eclipsed in the shadows. The spectrum of topics, spanning the gamut from deconstructing religious patriarchy to serendipitous revelations in the realm of anti-nuclear activism, enticed discerning minds. Yet, amidst the symphony of simultaneous sessions, flowing with the current was akin to chasing ephemeral wisps. The plenary sessions, a harmonious ensemble of thought, struck deep chords. The

Women's Assembly held profound significance, addressing the very core of female participation within faith-infused societies. Amidst this resplendence, the assembly advocating climate action, the council amplifying indigenous voices, and the solemn rite of climate repentance shone a luminous light on faith's role.

Within the tapestry of aspirations, it was religious fanaticism that garnered the earnest ears of all. Rev. Jen Butler, the visionary founder of Faith in Public Life, lamented, "Religion, once the sanctuary of moral teachings, now stands manipulated, its moral fabric corroded by heinous acts of violence. Autocratic forces wield religion as an instrument for amassing power and maintaining control, from the prism of Russian Orthodox nationalism to the fervor of Catholic nationalism in

Hungary and Poland, from India's Hindutva to Israel's nascent ruling coalition's Jewish nationalism, and further to the evangelical and Pentecostal strains of religious nationalism in the U.S. and Brazil." The expo center echoed this sentiment with a clamor of urgency.

The Langar, an enchanting ritual embedded in past PoWR gatherings, enchanted thousands. Orchestrated by the Birmingham-based Nishkam Seva Jatha, this Sikh tradition was brought to life under the guidance of Bhai Sahab Mohinder Singh, who joyously proclaimed adherence to Sikh guru teachings through service to the world, transcending all biases. Faith leaders, adorned with white scarves, formed orderly queues, savoring Indian delicacies with hearts full of contentment. Within the tent, a grand theater of interfaith harmony and service unfolded. Nishkam Seva Jatha's legacy of offering free langar since the 2004 PoWR was radiant.

A poignant tribute unfolded for the 30,000 children lost to gun violence. Scraps of orange fabric coalesced into labyrinthine patterns or transformed into raw tools by the skilled hands of Shane Claiborne's blacksmith forge. His declaration reverberated, "When we mold that metal, it resounds with the proclamation that the world can be reshaped."

The Parliament of World Religions 2023 encapsulates the elements required for reimagining our perceptions of faith. It beckoned forth distinguished faith leaders, entwining them in conversations that bear rich fruit. Concealed within closed chambers, the International Religious Freedom Roundtable murmured profound secrets, reminiscent of the hallowed halls of Washington. The Indian delegation of interfaith leaders radiated with fervor. The quest for a better world necessitates the exchange of ideas. PoWR has evolved into a pertinent platform for intricate discussions, where faith assumes a fresh and actionable agenda.

(Photographs and Press release by Bhavya Srivastava)

Chinese President Xi may skip G20 meet, Beijing mum

Chinese President Xi Jinping is likely to skip the G20 summit to be held here on September 9 and 10, according to reports from Beijing and here even as preparations are on in Nuh, Haryana, to hold the last G20 Sherpas' meeting before finalising the documents.

India has not yet received any confirmation from China in this regard, and there is no official word from New Delhi on the subject either. People familiar with the matter, however, say the chances of Xi's in-person attendance at the conclave are "very low".

Asked whether Xi was likely to skip the summit, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin at a media briefing in Beijing said he had "nothing to offer at the moment". Among those who have confirmed their attendance are the leaders of the US, UK, Japan, Canada, Australia, Indonesia, Turkey, Germany and France. Though top leaders of both Russia and China may skip the event, there is daylight in their respective approaches. Putin called up PM Modi and explained that he would like to concentrate on the special military operation in Ukraine. The Kremlin followed up by wishing India success in hosting G20. China and India, on the other hand, have contested each other's versions of the Modi-Xi August 23 meeting.

Parliament special session from September 18 to 22

The government on Thursday announced its decision to hold a special session of Parliament from September 18 to 22, catching the Opposition unawares.

"The special session of Parliament — the 13th session of the 17th Lok Sabha and the 261st session of the Rajya Sabha — is being called from September 18 to 22 and will have five sittings. Amid Amrit Kaal, looking forward to fruitful discussions and debate in Parliament," Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi announced on X, formerly Twitter, prompting the Opposition to question the timing of the announcement — on the same day as 28 INDIA grouping parties commenced their two-day meeting in Mumbai. "This is all about managing the news cycle, Modi style. News today has been dominated by the latest revelations on the 'Modi' scam. Tomorrow the ever-growing INDIA parties meet in Mumbai. How to counter? So announce a five-day special session of Parliament when the monsoon session has just ended three weeks ago. Regardless, the demand for a JPC probe into Adani issue will continue to resonate inside and outside Parliament," Congress chief whip in the RS Jairam Ramesh said.

IAF to conduct mega drills amid LAC row with China

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to conduct a training exercise, involving its fighter planes, transport aircraft, helicopters and other assets, in the country's northern and western sectors to test its combat readiness at a time when India and China are locked in a lingering military standoff in the Ladakh sector, officials aware of the matter said on Thursday, August 31.

The exercise, Trishul, will be conducted by the air force's Western Air Command (WAC) from September 4 to 14, the officials said, asking not to be named. The WAC, headquartered at Subroto Park in Delhi, is the IAF's largest operational command, with its bases scattered across Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, and Haryana.

The command has played a critical role in strengthening India's military posture to deter the Chinese forces amid the row along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). The exercise will take place at a time when India is hosting the G20 Summit in Delhi on September 9-10.

The fighter aircraft that are expected to take part in the 10-day exercise include the Rafales, Sukhoi-30s and MiG-29s, the officials said.

C-17 heavy-lifters, IL-76 transport planes, C-130J special operations aircraft, An-32s, Apache attack helicopters, Chinook multi-mission choppers, and remotely piloted aircraft systems – platforms that have operated extensively in the Ladakh sector – will



also feature in the exercise. The IAF's Garud commandos will also be involved.

The WAC has airlifted tens of thousands of troops and a large quantity of military equipment, including infantry combat vehicles, tanks, artillery guns, surface-to-air guided weapons and radars, to forward areas in eastern Ladakh to strengthen the country's military posture after the border row began in May 2020.

The Indian military is prepared for any eventuality in the Ladakh sector even as talks are on to defuse border tensions, the officials said. At the 19th round of talks between corps commanders of the two armies on August 13 and 14, both sides agreed to resolve the remaining issues along the LAC in Ladakh sector in a speedy manner through continued dialogue. That was the first time military talks were held over two days.

Despite four rounds of disengagement from Galwan Valley, Pangong Tso, Gogra (PP-17A) and Hot Springs (PP-15), the

Indian and Chinese armies still have tens of thousands of troops each and advanced weaponry deployed in the Ladakh theatre.

The Indian and Chinese armies have held multiple rounds of talks on the border issue, but problems at Depsang in Daulet Beg Oldi sector and Charding Nullah Junction (CNJ) in Demchok sector are still on the negotiating table.

The IAF is also preparing to host a mega exercise early next year that is expected to bring together 12 global air forces, with a focus on improving interoperability, imbibing best practices from one another and boosting military cooperation among the participating countries.

The exercise, named Tarang Shakti, will be the biggest multi-nation air exercise to be conducted on Indian soil and will involve fighter jets, military transport aircraft, mid-air refuellers and airborne warning and control system (AWACS) aircraft.

Source: HT

MEA introduces changes in delivery of passports, visas, consular services

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The Ministry of External Affairs, in a move to mitigate predatory pricing, has tightened the rules for the selection of partner visas and consular service to the Indian diaspora and foreign visitors.

The MEA is committed to serving Indians migrating and foreigners visiting India with an overarching vision to strengthen India's Image and reputation, to make the service more robust, seamless and reliable.

Notably, the Indian Missions of the MEA are the first touch points for any international traveller coming into India - the Indian Citizen or Person of Indian Origin (PIO) and Foreigners (travelling to India) residing overseas.

Jyoti Mayal, President, of the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) stated, "The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has embarked on a transformational program to reform and strengthen its tendering and evaluation process in a holistic manner to select the right outsourced service providers. While the focus lies on L1 pricing, there is a strong emphasis on the four pillars of Quality Services, Sustainable and Viable Price, Data



Protection and Security, and Ethical Practices and Integrity."

She said that since the first impression of any individual travelling to India, the MEA must focus on offering superior, efficient, and cost-effective services.

Commenting on the endeavour she also added, "It is important that the first impression of any individual travelling to India or having to work with any Indian Mission anywhere in the world needs to be impeccable, as the government is determined to work towards delivering the promise of New

India. Therefore, the MEA and its Missions as true representatives of the Indian government to the world must focus on offering superior, efficient, and cost-effective services as perhaps the first step in that direction."

The president concluded by stating that India is positioning itself as a global leader in several sectors such as trade, cross-border services, citizen services, etc.

"As India marches towards a high momentum growth period, it will be critical to plan for factors that can impede progress and mitigate reputational and image risks for the Indian Government. Hence it became imperative for the government to focus on the quality, reliability, and credibility of the service providers it engages with, to ensure services are delivered effectively, efficiently, and in line with established standards, else failure in service levels can erode confidence and trust in the government's capabilities, leading to public dissatisfaction. The focus on quality also indicates that public resources are utilised wisely and that citizens receive the best possible value for money," she added.

Source: ANI

*'One-nation,
one-election':
Centre forms panel*

The Centre has reportedly constituted a committee headed by former president Ram Nath Kovind to explore the possibility of much-talked-about "one nation, one election".

The development comes a day after the government called a special session of Parliament between September 18 and 22, the agenda for which is under wraps.

Over the years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has pushed strongly for the idea of simultaneous Lok Sabha and state assembly polls, and the decision to task Kovind to look into it underscores the government's seriousness as a host of elections approach.

Assembly polls are due in five states in November-December and they will be followed by the Lok Sabha elections in May-June next year.

However, the recent moves by the government have thrown open the possibility of advancing the general elections and some state polls, which are scheduled after and with the Lok Sabha contest.

President's nod to renaming of Nehru Memorial as Prime Minister's Museum

President Droupadi Murmu has approved the renaming of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML) in Delhi. It will now officially be called the Prime Ministers' Museum and Library Society, the government said in a gazette notification.

In mid-June, during a special meeting of the NMML Society, it was resolved to change the institution's name to Prime Ministers' Museum and Library Society. The meeting was presided over by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, vice president of the Society.

Sources told news agency Press Trust of India that some administrative processes were needed to finally put an official stamp on the new name. The name was formalised on India's 77th Independence Day.

The vice-chairman of the Prime Ministers' Museum and Library's executive council had posted the update on 'X', formerly Twitter.

"Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML) is now Prime Ministers' Museum and Library (PMML) Society w.e.f August 14, 2023-in tune with the democratisation and diversification of the remit of the society," the post read.

The decision to rename the library, located in Teen Murti House – the official residence of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru – had evoked sharp reactions from the Congress, which called it a deliberate move to erase Nehru's legacy.

'Situation critical': Manipur tense again as 8 killed, explosives recovered

IMPHAL (TIP)

Violence continued in the foothills of Manipur on Thursday, August 31, officials told news agency PTI, adding, that at least eight people were killed, while 18 others were injured in Bishnupur and Churachandpur districts following continuous gunbattle between Kukis and Meiteis, since August 29. Chief Minister N Biren Singh termed the situation as "critical" and asked the general public to maintain calm.

Meanwhile, fresh firing was also reported from adjoining Chingphei and Khousabung areas in the Churachandpur district.

According to the details, on August 29 erupted after a 30-year-old village volunteer was killed following heavy firing in the Khoirentak area.

Another person died when a country-made gun he was using misfired and hit him on his face near Narainsena village in Bishnupur on the same day, officials said.

On August 31, a series of search operations by security personnel in vulnerable areas of Churachandpur and Imphal West districts led to the recovery of a cache of 20 explosive devices (commonly known as pipe bombs), 3 firearms, 20 rounds of ammunition and approximately 30 grams of gunpowder.

The security situation prompted the installation of 130 checkpoints and Nakas across various districts of Manipur, encompassing both hill and valley areas. As a result, law enforcement apprehended more than 1,900 individuals in connection with violations across different districts within the state.

To keep the law and order in place, the police appealed to the general public to



remain cautious and not believe any rumours being circulated on social media. Police also said the citizens can verify the authenticity of any suspicious content by reaching out to the Central Control Room at 9233522822.

In the wake of continuous violence, a total shutdown, effective August 31, was called by the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) in Lonphai, Khousabung, Kangvai and Sugnu areas in Churachandpur. However, emergency services like medical, police, water, electricity and the press were exempted from the shutdown.

Chief Minister N Biren Singh, who

expressed deep concern over the present situation in the state, termed it "critical" and said that demographic imbalance due to the influx of illegal immigrants and deforestation were some of the root causes of the present crisis. He also said the state was in a critical stage and the prevailing situation compelled him to take every step in a very cautious manner.

More than 160 people have been killed and several hundreds injured since ethnic violence broke out in Manipur on May 3, when a "Tribal Solidarity March" was organised in the hill districts to protest against the majority Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe status.

Art 370 hearing: Ready for J&K poll anytime, it's for EC to decide, Centre tells Supreme Court

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The Centre on Thursday, August 31, told the Supreme Court that it's ready for elections in Jammu and Kashmir anytime and now it's for the Election Commission to take a call.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, however, told a five-judge Constitution Bench led by CJI DY Chandrachud that the Centre couldn't give an exact timeframe for restoration of statehood.

"We are dealing with an extremely extraordinary situation. The Central Government is ready for elections anytime now. To date, updating of the voters' list was going on... which is substantially over. Some part is remaining, which the EC is doing," Mehta told the Bench. He said three types of elections were due. "For the first time, the three-tier panchayati raj system has been introduced. First, elections will be held for panchayats. Then there will be municipality elections and then Assembly elections," said Mehta. He said it was for the EC and the Election Commission of J&K to take a call on which election to be conducted first and how.

Later, during the hearing, the CJI said, "The existence of a state is a very vital element of federalism." Terming the restoration of democracy in J&K as important, the Supreme Court had on Tuesday asked the Centre to spell out the roadmap and timeframe for restoring its statehood and holding elections.



On the 13th day of hearing on petitions challenging nullification of Article 370 and bifurcation of J&K into two union territories (J&K and Ladakh), the Solicitor General gave details of the improvements made since August 5-6, 2019, when the special status of the erstwhile state was scrapped.

Source: TNS

India in history this Week

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023, TO SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

01 SEPTEMBER

1956 India's largest life insurance company "Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)" was established.
 2008 Thomas J. Bata passed away as CEO of Bata Shoe Company
 1947 Indian Standard Time was adopted.
 1956 Tripura was made a union territory after the reorganization of Indian states.



1964 Indian Petroleum Company Indian Oil Refinery and Indian Oil Company were merged to form Indian Oil Corporation.
 2000 India's neighboring country China had closed its only route to Nepal via Tibet.
 2008 Former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram announced the appointment of D. Subbarao as the 22nd Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

02 SEPTEMBER

1969 The ATM machine came in the banking world for the first time today.
 1573 Akbar, the third ruler of the Mughal dynasty, won the decisive battle near Ahmedabad and captured Gujarat.
 1946 Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India, was sworn in as Prime Minister of the Interim Government of undivided India.
 2009 Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and National Congress Party leader Dr. Yeduguri Suspicuous Rajasekhara Reddy died in an air crash.
 1956 125 people died after a bridge collapsed between Jadcherala and Mehboob Nagar, 100 km from Hyderabad.
 1970 Vivekananda memorial was inaugurated at Kanyakumari in 1970.
 1999 Indian swimmer Bula Chaudhary became the first Asian woman to cross the English Channel twice.
 2008 In 2008, the former vice chancellor of Kanpur University, Prof. B.N.Asthana was announced by the Uttar Pradesh Higher Education Department for the Saraswati Samman.



1941 Famous Indian actress Sadhana was born.

03 SEPTEMBER

1923 Country's tabla player Pandit Kishan Maharaj was born.
 1906 India's famous film actor Prithviraj Kapoor was born in Peshawar (now Pakistan).
 1940 Famous composer of Hindi cinema Pyarelal was born.
 2014 More than 200 people died due to floods in India and neighboring Pakistan.
 2008 In 2008, Rajendra Kumar Pachauri was re-elected head of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a United Nations organization.

04 SEPTEMBER

1825 India's great freedom fighter Dada Bhai Naoroji was born in Mumbai. He is also called the "Grandfather of Indian Politics".



1952 India's famous actor Rishi Kapoor was born.
 1665 Purandar was signed between the Maratha ruler Shivaji and the Mughals.

1927 The riots in Nagpur killed 22 people and injured over 100.
 1946 In Bombay, street violence erupted between Muslims and Hindus.

1967 More than 200 people died as the 6.5-magnitude earthquake hit the Kayna Dam in Maharashtra.

2009 Gujarat High Court lifts ban on Aswant Singh's book written on Muhammad Ali Jinnah in Gujarat.

1888 Mahatma Gandhi embarked on a voyage to England.

2008 The Mayawati government decided to withdraw the Uttar Pradesh Organized Crime Act (UPCOCA) Bill-2007 with immediate effect.

2009 Coal Company SCCL was awarded the Autonomy of Mini Ratna Company.

2012 Girish Hosangara Nagaraje Gowda gave India the first medal at the Paralympic Games.

05 SEPTEMBER



1888 Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was born.
 1997 Founder of Missionary of Charity and Nobel Prize winner Mother Teresa died in Kolkata.
 2009 The National Stock Exchange banned ten companies from trading in the stock market.
 2011 The technical system of clearing checks through ATMs prepared by the Indian Banks'

Association and the National Payments Corporation of India was finalized.

1872 Chidambaram Pillai, a Tamil-language scholar and noted social reformer, was born.

1905 The famous novelist Vachaspati Pathak was born.

2008 A delegation of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) led by Ratan Tata called on Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

06 SEPTEMBER

1929 Birth of filmmaker Yash Johar.
 1965 The Indian Army crossed the border from three places and attacked West Pakistan.
 1972 Ustad Alauddin Khan, a veteran of Hindustani



classical music, was born.

2018 The Supreme Court declared that homosexuality is no longer a crime.

2008 D. Subbarao took over as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

1838 Dalip Singh, the youngest son of Maharaj Ranjit Singh of Punjab, was born.

1889 Freedom fighter Sharat Chandra Bose was born.

07 SEPTEMBER

1882 Bankim Chandra Chatterjee composed the national anthem "Vande Mataram" in Kantal Pada village in Bengal. Vande Mataram became the national slogan in the Bang Bhag movement.

1963 Ashok Chakra winner Indian Airhostess (Air Hostess) Neerja Bhanot was born.

1906 Bank of India was established.

1965 China announced that it would strengthen its troops stationed on the Indian border.

2008 NSG under Indo-US nuclear agreement 45 members of the India gave exemption from the international fraternity to nuclear trade.

2009 Pankaj Advani of India won the World Professional Billiards Championship.

2011 A 4.2 magnitude earthquake lasting 6.2 seconds on the Richter scale occurred at 11:24 pm in Delhi, whose center was located in Sonipat, Haryana.

2011 11 people were killed and 74 were injured when a bomb exploded in a suitcase near Gate No-5 of Delhi High Court premises.

1887 Sanskrit scholar and great philosopher Gopinath Kaviraj was born on 7 September

1917 Indian medical scientist and family planning specialist Bano Jahangir Koyaji was born on 7 September.

2055 An investigation report of the Oil-for-Food Program was presented.

2008 Astronomers were able to see clearly inside the giant blackhole in the middle of our sky Ganges.

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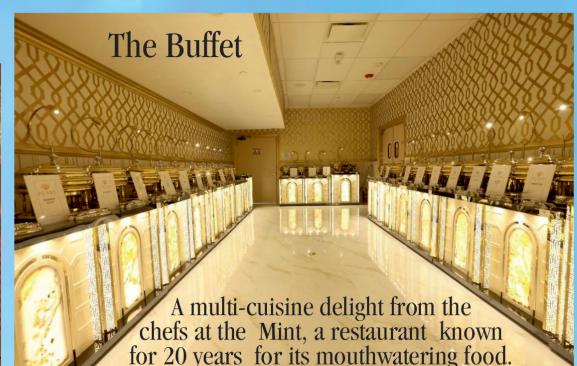
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United States will celebrate Labor Day 2023 on Monday, September 4. Always observed on the first Monday of September, the federal holiday celebrates the immense contribution of workers in the US who help in the nation's progress and development. The day also commemorates the labor movement in the late 19th century which led to laws for the betterment of workers.

Americans will be enjoying, picnicking and travelling to tourist destinations during the three-day off from September 2(Saturday) to September 4(Monday). They will be seen enjoying family feasts, drinking parties and sing and dance in joy. On Monday, some people will participate in parades and athletic events.

Labor Day, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages.

People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and breaks.

As manufacturing increasingly supplanted agriculture as the wellspring of American employment, labor unions, which had first appeared in the late 18th century, grew more prominent and vocal. They began organizing strikes and rallies to protest poor conditions and compel employers to renegotiate hours and pay.

Many of these events turned violent during this period, including the infamous Haymarket Riot of 1886, in which several Chicago policemen and workers were killed. Others gave rise to longstanding traditions: On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade in U.S. history.

The idea of a "workingmen's holiday," celebrated on the first Monday in September, caught on in other industrial centers across the country, and many states passed legislation recognizing it. Congress would not legalize the holiday until 12 years later, when a watershed moment in American labor history brought workers' rights squarely into the public's view. On May 11, 1894, employees of the Pullman Palace Car Company in Chicago went on strike to protest wage cuts and the firing of union representatives.

On June 26, the American Railroad Union, led by Eugene V. Debs, called for a boycott of all Pullman railway cars, crippling railroad traffic nationwide. To break the Pullman strike, the federal government dispatched troops to Chicago, unleashing a wave of riots that resulted in the deaths of more than a dozen workers.

Who Created Labor Day?

In the wake of this massive unrest and in an attempt to repair ties with American workers, Congress passed an act making Labor Day a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories. On June 28, 1894, President

Labor Day

Observed the first Monday in September, Labor Day is an annual celebration of the social and economic achievements of American workers. The holiday is rooted in the late nineteenth century, when labor activists pushed for a federal holiday to recognize the many contributions workers have made to America's strength, prosperity, and well-being.



Grover Cleveland signed it into law. More than a century later, the true founder of Labor Day has yet to be identified.

Many credit Peter J. McGuire, cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, while others have suggested that Matthew Maguire, a secretary of the Central Labor Union, first proposed the holiday.

Labor Day Celebrations

Labor Day is still celebrated in cities and towns across the United States with parades, picnics, barbecues, fireworks displays and other public gatherings, especially over the long Labor Day weekend. For many Americans, particularly children and young adults, it represents the end of the summer and the start of the back-to-school season.

Legal recognition

The popularity of the event spread across the country. In 1887, Oregon became the first state of the United States to make Labor Day an official public holiday. By 1894, thirty U.S. states were already officially celebrating Labor Day. In that year, Congress passed a bill recognizing the first Monday of September as Labor Day and making it an official federal holiday. President Grover Cleveland signed the bill into law on June 28. The federal law, however, only made it a holiday for federal workers. As late as the 1930s, unions were encouraging workers to strike to make sure they got the day off. All U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories have subsequently made Labor Day a statutory holiday. Labor Day became a federal holiday shortly after the Pullman Strike.

Labor Day versus May Day

The date of May 1 (an ancient European folk holiday known as May Day) emerged in 1886 as an alternative holiday for the celebration of labor, later becoming known as International Workers' Day. The date had its origins at



the 1885 convention of the American Federation of Labor, which passed a resolution calling for adoption of the eight-hour day effective May 1, 1886. While negotiation was envisioned for achievement of the shortened work day, use of the strike to enforce this demand was recognized, with May 1 advocated as a date for coordinated strike action. The proximity of the date to the bloody Haymarket affair of May 4, 1886, further accentuated May First's radical reputation.

There was disagreement among labor unions at this time about when a holiday celebrating workers should be, with some advocating for continued emphasis of the September march-and-picnic date while others sought the designation of the more politically charged date of May 1. Conservative Democratic President Grover Cleveland was one of those concerned that a labor holiday on May 1 would tend to become a commemoration of the Haymarket affair and would strengthen socialist and anarchist movements that backed the May 1 commemoration around the globe. In 1887, he publicly supported the September Labor Day holiday as a less



inflammatory alternative, formally adopting the date as a United States federal holiday through a law that he signed in 1894.

Since the mid-1950s, the United States has celebrated Loyalty Day and Law Day on May 1. Unlike Labor Day, neither are legal public holidays (in that government agencies and most businesses do not shut down to celebrate them) and therefore have remained relatively obscure. Loyalty Day is formally celebrated in a few cities, while some bar associations hold Law Day events to celebrate the rule of law.



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Baba Makhan Shah Lobana who discovered Guru Tegh Bahadur

Baba Makhan Shah Lobana was born on July 7, 1619, at village Tanda in Jhelum district of West Punjab. He rose to become a big businessman who carried out his trade through land and sea coast but moved mainly through river routes. One day, one of his ships carrying his goods was caught in a storm and struck underwater rocks. His life, the safety of the crew and goods were in great danger. He knelt down and prayed to the Guru to help him, his crew and consignment to safety and he would donate five hundred mohars to the Guru's inventory for charitable purposes.

The ship steered safely out of the storm. Makhan Shah immediately left for Delhi to fulfill his vow. On arrival in Delhi, he found that Guru Har Krishan had passed away. While breathing his last, he had said "Baba Bakale". The ninth Master was to reveal himself at Bakala. He immediately moved his caravan to Bakala. He reached there in the first week of August 1664. On arrival there, he found that as many as 22 persons were posing as the ninth Guru. He saw that it was difficult to identify the real Guru whom he should offer 500 mohars. He decided to offer only five mohars to each one of them and gauge their reaction. The true Guru will be the one who shall know his secret wish.

One by one he visited all of them and offered five mohars each. None reacted. Finally, he enquired if there was any other Sodhi Baba. On August 10, 1664, he was guided by a local boy to Guru Tegh Bahadur, popularly called Baba Tegha, where he was meditating. Makhan Shah bowed before him and offered five mohars. Baba then opened his eyes and said: "God bless you my man, but why only five mohars after having pledged five hundred".

Makhan Shah was so overwhelmed by this chance discovery of the Guru that he was unable to speak for some time. He came out of the Guruji's room and climbed on to the roof. He waived his chadar over his head and started shouted; "Guru Ladho Re! Guru Ladho Re!" (I have found the guru! I have found the guru!).

The announcement was greeted by thousands of people who had gathered there. Makhan Shah asked his attendants to bring all the gifts respectfully to the Guru's house while he himself carried a robe of honour, specially prepared for the Guru. On an appeal by Makhan Shah, the Guru then came out of his house and blessed the gathering.

Attack by Dhir Mall

After finding the Guru there was a pandemonium and all 22 fake manjis start running like bulls running during a stampede and all of them ran away. Only Dhir Mall stayed there and he said who is Makhan Shah to put himself in charge of case involving us sodhis? He also said bad things about Guru Tegh Bahadur ji, and his assistants were refusing to relinquish their right to the Guruship. Dhir Mall felt so jealous that he was



ready to fight to the death if required.

As soon as Baba Makhan Shah left the darbar for meals and Sri Guru Tegh bahadur was left only with few personal attendants and members of household with about hundred fully armed men Shihan rushed out of the house commanding all other men of his gang to follow him. Dhir mal followed him from the rear to watch and direct the operations, if possible. The raiders powered upon everyone they met to join them.

Kirpal Chand, Bhai Jetha, Bhai Dayala put up a stout defence with whatever stick or staff they could get hold of. In next movement Shihan aimed bullet at Guru Tegh Bahadur and fired point blank. The Guru has a minor bullet injury on his shoulder. Kirpal Chand and Bhai Jetha asked all the men to hold there arms and be prepared to punish the bandits and redeem the stolen goods. A messenger was immediately sent to Makhan Shah. Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur urged everyone not to upset by material loses. Soon, Makhan Shah arrived with his men armed to their teeth. Makhan Shah was shocked at damage done to darbar and injuries sustained to by the Guru.

Baba Makhan Shah and Dhir Mall

Makhan Shah marched with his men to Dhir Mall's house. Dhir Mall bolted the door from inside and Shihan took the responsibility to defend the house. The next moment Makhan Shah was at door loudly asking Dhir Mall to surrender all stolen property immediately or prepared for dire consequences. Shihan and Dhirmall hurled abuses at Makhan Shah and Kirpal Chand and their men. The next moment Makhan Shah and Kirpal Chand ordered their men to storm Dhir Mall's house and punish everyone who resisted but avoid killing anyone.

After a tough fight, everyone of Dhir

Mall's masands and hired bandits were arrested and dragged to the presence of Guru Tegh Bahadur. Addressing Dhir Mal, Makhan Shah said, "I have spared your life just because you are the Guru's nephew, otherwise I would not have hesitated to destroy a cowardly killer like you." Dhir Mall and his masands were down on there knees begging the Guru to pardon their offences. Deeply moved by their tears of repentance, Guru Tegh Bahadur not only ordered their immediate release, but even resented harsh treatment accord to them. Explaining his action, Makhan Shah said, "Gurudeva, if we allowed ourselves to be robbed and plundered the way Dhir Mall and his masands have done, we might be completely annihilated. How could we tolerate their attempt to murder thee, Master?" All the items brought from Dhir Mall's camp were returned as per the Guru's directive. Dhir Mall then reprimanded Shihan for all these happenings and next day left for kartarpur.

Accompanied Guru to Amritsar

On Nov. 22 1664 AD Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur left for Amritsar in response to invitation of Dwarka Dass and Bhai Garhia. Makhan Shah's convoy carried provisions. There are two different versions what happened to Guru Tegh Bahadur ji at Amritsar.

According to evidence of Bhatt Vahi in "Tumar Bijlautan ki" and "Guru Kian Sakhian" by Sarup Singh Kaushish, no untoward event came to pass on this occasion and Hariji, son and successor of Baba Meharban and then custodian of Harimandir Sahib, Amritsar, along with his son Kanwal Nainand, local sangat came round and made obeisance before Guru Tegh Bahadur and personally took him inside the premises of temple.

According to Dr. Trilochan Singh, as soon as Guru ji and others reached

Harmandir sahib to pay homage to sacred place, they found that the door to the entrance were closed to them. The whole of Amritsar was now under the control of Hariji Mina (son of Meharbaan). The Mina's had full control of Harimandir sahib and they were afraid that they could be thrown out of the panth in same manner as Dhir Mall had been thrown out of Bakala.

Makhan Shah said to the Guru, "I will not let them treat you like that. Permit me master, to compel them to open the doors". Guru Sahib said, "No Makhan Shah, we will never use force." Just then, a peasant women named Hariyan of nearby village Walla stepped forward and begged and pleaded to the Guru to spend the night in her humble dwelling. The Guru at once agreed to spend the night at Walla as guest.

Makhan Shah now found the opportunity to enter the temple and pay his homage to sacred shrine. He then denounced and admonished the priests in presence of women who had come there to question them. When the priests came to know that the man addressing them was Makhan Shah, who severely punished Dhir Mall, they became cautious not to annoy or contradict him. They start making the lame excuses to defend their action. Makhan Shah explained to them how he had tested all the imposters and Guru Tegh Bahadur had been acknowledged as rightful successor to Guru Har Krishan. Makhan Shah told them, "I would handle you all, teach you a lesson here and now, but Gurudev has ordered me to be tolerant towards even notorious people like you."

The next day Guru Sahib thanked Mata Harian and came to the temple where priests tendered their formal apology to the Guru. After paying homage at the sacred shrine, Guru Tegh Bahadur went to Goindwal. From Goindwal, Guru ji, Makhan Shah, Mati Das and Dyal Das rode on horse backs ahead of everybody and under supervision of Kirpal Chand followed a large convoy.

At Kiratpur

Now Guru Tegh Bahadur and his followers reached at Kiratpur in March 1665; a number of distinguished visitors came to pay homage to the master. Rani Jalal Devi, wife of Raja Dip Chand of Bilaspur offered substantial amount of money and land to build a new city for Guru's residence. Guru ji refused to accept the land as gift but agrees to buy it on reasonable payment in vicinity of Kiratpur. Makhan Shah had made considerable contribution in the payment. An old village Makhowal 8 km. away from Kiratpur was selected as the site for new city, which was first called Nanki Chak and after its extension with villages Mathaur and Lodhipur it is named as Anandpur.

Makhan Shah & Kirpal Chand contribution in processing the present site of Anandpur sahib is worth mentioning. Kirpal chand and Makhan shah had the active participation during the course of land.

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Janhvi sparks 'secret engagement' rumors after being spotted wearing huge diamond ring

Recently, Janhvi Kapoor became the talk of the town after reports suggested that she had secretly got engaged to her rumoured boyfriend, Shikhar Pahariya.

The news spread like wildfire after Janhvi, accompanied by Pahariya, went to offer prayers at the Tirumala temple in Andhra Pradesh.

The actor, dressed in a purple-gold sari, was spotted wearing a huge diamond ring. Following this, speculation was rife that the 'Dhadak' actor had been engaged.

However, quashing the rumours, a source close to the actor told Siasat.com that the rumours are "completely rubbish".

Reportedly, the actor went to the Tirumala temple for her late mother's birth anniversary. The diamond ring is actually her mother's ring, which Janhvi chose to wear in her remembrance.

Speaking of Janhvi and Shikhar's relationship, both have been tight-lipped about it.

Case against producer, actor of 'Yaariyan-2' for hurting Sikh sentiments

The Punjab police have registered a case against director Bhushan Kumar, producers Radhika Rao and Vinay Sapru and actor Meezaan Jafri on the charges of hurting religious sentiments after a song in the upcoming movie 'Yaariyan-2' allegedly shows the actor wearing a 'kirpan'.

The FIR was registered in Jalandhar district on the complaint of a member of the Sikh Talmel Committee, Sub-Inspector Ashok Kumar said on Thursday, August 31. The case was registered on August 30 night.

Police said the FIR had been registered under Section 295-A (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) of the IPC.

According to a complaint lodged by Harpreet Singh, a member of the committee, the actor was seen allegedly wearing a 'kirpan' -- a symbol of Sikh faith -- in a song in the movie.

The complainant said this had hurt the religious sentiments of the Sikh community as only a baptised Sikh can wear the 'kirpan' as per the Sikh Code of Conduct.

The SGPC, the apex religious body of the Sikhs, has already taken strong objection to the actor allegedly wearing the 'kirpan' in the song -- 'Saure ghar' -- from the film.

The SGPC has also filed a complaint with the Amritsar Police Commissioner.

Though the film's directors had claimed that the actor was wearing a 'khukri' (a curved knife) and not a 'kirpan' and that they have no intention to offend or

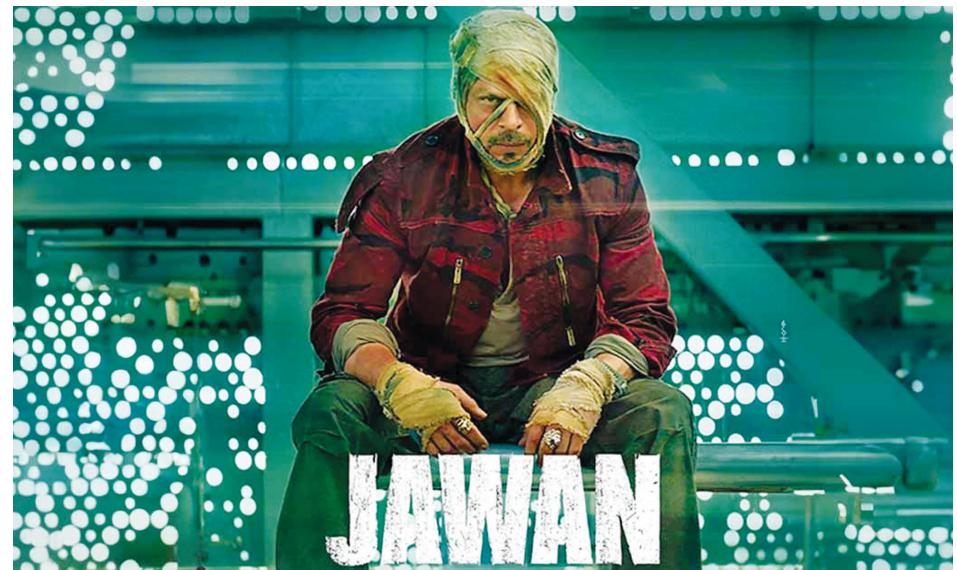
Jawan trailer: Shah Rukh Khan hijacks trains, fights for the country, wants 'Alia Bhatt'

Jawan trailer is out. Trailer for Shah Rukh Khan's eagerly-awaited film dropped days before its release. The video shared by the cast and crew gives the best look yet at the action film, which marks the first collaboration between Shah Rukh and Nayanthara. The film, which has been directed by filmmaker Atlee Kumar, is Shah Rukh's second release of the year after the blockbuster hit Pathaan, which was released in January.

Shah Rukh Khan plays a former soldier in the movie and operates a team of six women as they pull off different heists around the country. They hijack a metro and Nayanthara's police officer is put in charge of the case. She asks him what he wants when he names 'Alia Bhatt'.

However, it looks like Shah Rukh was also married to Nayanthara in the past as they share some romantic moments in a couple of scenes. Deepika Padukone makes a fierce special appearance and beats Shah Rukh in a wrestling match. Vijay Sethupathi is seen in different avatars but appears to play the 'fourth largest arms dealer in the world.'

Alongside Shah Rukh and Nayanthara, Jawan features Vijay Sethupathi, Sanya Malhotra, Priyamani, Girija Oak, Sanjeeta Bhattacharya, Ridhi Dogra and Sunil Grover, among others. Directed by Atlee and produced by Shah Rukh and



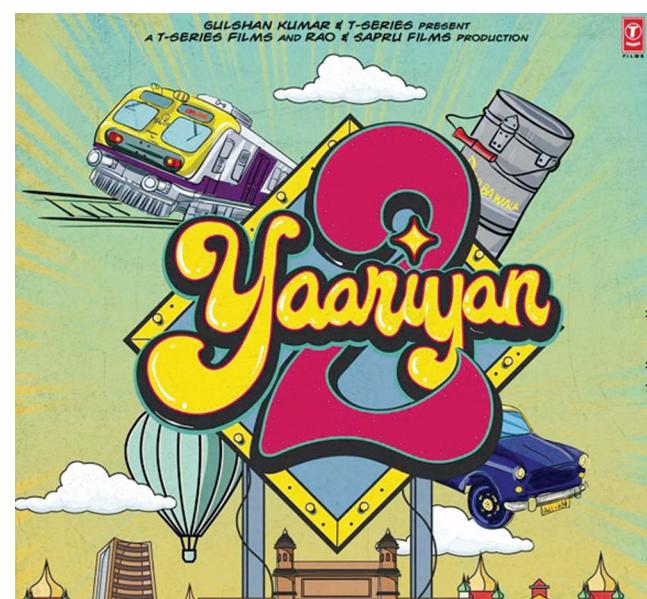
Gauri Khan's Red Chillies Entertainment, Jawan also features Deepika Padukone's cameo appearance.

Jawan releases in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu languages on September 7, 2023. Advance bookings for the film in various parts of the world promise a huge opening for the Shah Rukh Khan film. Recently, Shah Rukh had shared a motion poster of himself, in which he was seen in his different Jawan looks. In one look, he was bespectacled, in another he was bald. The actor was partially masked in one of the looks, and he looked intensely into the camera in another.

Ever since the film's prevue, and its songs such as Zinda Banda and Chaleya were released, fans have been trending Jawan on social media. Recently, during an #AskSRK session on Twitter ox X, Shah Rukh was asked about Jawan's trailer.

A fan had asked him when Jawan's trailer would be released, writing, "Wanted to know when the trailer of Jawan will launch sir? We fans have been waiting patiently for this. Shah Rukh had replied, "Have it ready now... can't decide should I put a new song or the trailer....????"

Source: HT



disrespect any religious beliefs, the SGPC had said "we are not satisfied with your illogical clarification".

Reacting to the clarification of the film directors, the SGPC had said, "The Sikhs very well know the shape of a 'kirpan' and a 'khukri', and the way both are worn on one's body. We are not satisfied with your illogical clarification. Therefore, we are initiating the process of legal action in this case, as the concerned video song is still in public view and continuously hurting religious sentiments of Sikh community."

Dream Girl 2 earns almost Rs 60 crore in 6 days

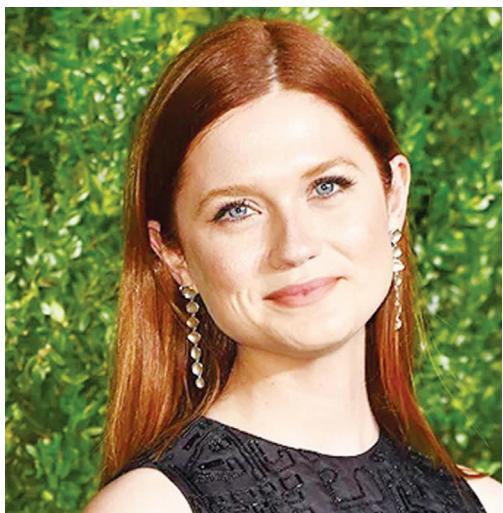
Dream Girl 2 box office: The Ayushmann Khurrana film had a great start at the box office and continues to hold well during the weekdays. The film also starring Ananya Panday collected Rs 7.75 crore on Raksha Bandhan as per early estimates reported by Sacnilk.com. It stands at Rs 59.75 crore after six days of its release.

Dream Girl 2 had opened at Rs 10.7 crore and went up to collect Rs 16 crore on its first Sunday. It fell to Rs 5.42 crore on Monday but showed a little improvement on Wednesday with collection of Rs 7.75 crore.

Directed by Raaj Shaandilyaa, the film is a spiritual sequel to the 2019 film starring Ayushmann as a call centre guy who can talk like a woman. In Dream Girl 2, he plays Pooja as he dresses up like a woman for money.

Talking about the wonderful performance of his film in the first week, Ayushmann told ANI, "In the last 3 months, mid-budget and small-budget films are also running successfully. Earlier people used to feel that only big-budget movies would run. So, the timing of the movie is correct and it came in between Jawan and Gadar 2 but still made its own space and this will be the biggest victory of Dream Girl 2."





Bonnie Wright says she was 'disappointed' by Ginny Weasley's screentime

How many of you could see Ginny Weasley was going on to marry Harry Potter? Those of you who've not read the books, and only watched the movies, may have had a tough time. Bonnie Wright, who played Ginny, would agree. On the podcast Inside of You, the actor has revealed that her screentime in the eight movies of the franchise left her feeling "a little disappointed."

"So that (doing justice to the character) was always hard to do, especially when, inevitably, a lot of the scenes of every character were chopped down from the book to the film. So you didn't really have as much to show in the film," Bonnie said on the podcast.

"Sometimes that was a little disappointing because there were parts of the character that just didn't get to come through because there weren't the scenes to do that. That made me feel a bit anxious or just frustrated, I guess," she added.

Dakota Johnson says bye-bye to her brunette locks

Dakota Johnson is one of the most gorgeous celebrities in Hollywood who is known for her role as Anastasia Steele in the erotic Fifty Shades franchise. The actress is known for her iconic bangs and blonde hair colour, but she has said goodbye to them for her latest film, Daddio. Pictures of the actress from the sets of her film have been going viral on social media, and it looks pretty interesting; keep scrolling to get a peek at her look.

Johnson's fashion has always been very chic and feminine, and the actress has always kept her hairstyle the same along with the colour, so this new look is surely intriguing. The upcoming film is being directed by Christy Hall, who also stars Sean Penn; as per reports, the film revolves around a conversation between two strangers during a taxi ride, with Sean reportedly being the taxi driver.

According to E! News, the picture of Dakota Johnson sporting her new hairstyle was taken by Jessica Kourkounis and was posted on Instagram by the actress' entertainment company Tea Time Production a few days back. As per that, Johnson sported a sunny blonde-coloured blunt bob cut, which was messy and pinned in a half bun kind of hairstyle.

The picture of Dakota Johnson featured her in a black leather jacket and brown attire underneath. She sported full-coverage makeup with rust-shaded lip colour.

Apart from Dakota Johnson and her new hair colour, there was another pic which was of Sean Penn in which only his side profile was visible, and he looked very engrossed in his role as the taxi driver. As per Deadline, the film will see Dakota in a new avatar and no kidding, not just her look; she is also taking a dive in a different genre. The report explaining the plot of Daddio mentioned, "The cabbie, Clark, throws the vehicle into drive, and the two head out into the night...striking up the most unexpected conversation."

Dakota Johnson and Sean Penn's Daddio will be premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in September this year.



Anne Hathaway says her style is inspired by Gen Z

Actor Anne Hathaway has a lot to teach the current generation about fashion. But, have you ever wondered who is the inspiration behind her sartorial choices? The actor recently told Vogue that her fashion game is influenced by Gen Z. She said, "I know this sounds like I'm super-pandering, but I'm really switched on by Gen Z. It's a fun generation when it comes to fashion." Here's a list of her latest looks which proves her love for Gen Z-inspired fashion.

Anne Hathaway turned heads at Valentino's Haute Couture Spring-Summer 2023 show in a leopard statement outfit. It came with a mini printed dress with matching stockings, heels and a bag. She paired her look with minimal jewellery and left her hair untied for a Catwoman look. She remained the talk of the Pierpaolo Piccioli show in Paris. Celebs like BTS' Suga, Sam Smith and Charli XCX among others were seen at the event as well.

At the Valentino Haute Couture Fall/Winter 22-23 fashion show, Anne channelled her inner barbie with her all-pink statement outfit, even before Margot Robbie's film. Last year, the Devil Wears Prada actor slipped into a hot pink mini dress with matching pumps. She took over



to the streets in Italy with mini accessories, such as diamonds and her signature pared-down makeup look.

Apart from fashion shows and red carpet events, Anna's everyday style also comes with Gen Z's influence. She was once snapped rocking baggy black cargo pants with a striped blue top and a leather bomber jacket for an effortless look. Her off-duty look was further elevated by a pair of black boots and a matching sling bag.



Anne hopped on the oversized blazer trend and pulled off monochrome co-ord sets with colourful handbags. A few months ago, she took to her Instagram handle and posted a bunch of photos in association with Bulgari. Her post read, "Grazie mille to my @bulgari family and @chriscolls for the joyful collaboration on the new accessories campaign!"

Anne Hathaway proved her love for chic fashion statements at the Berlin Film



Festival. She opted for a sheer Valentino Couture gown and paired it with a sheer polka dot underlay. She finished off with a pair of leather opera gloves and tied her hair into a chic bun. She came accessorised with Bulgaria jewellery.

Anne will be next seen in the upcoming film She Came to Me, alongside Peter Dinklage, Marisa Tomei, Joanna Kulig, Brian d'Arcy James, Harlow Jane and Evan Ellison. It will release in cinemas on September 29.

AT LEAST 48 PEOPLE KILLED IN CRACKDOWN ON ANTI-UN PROTEST IN EASTERN DR CONGO

DR CONGO (TIP): At least 48 people have been killed in a crackdown on an anti-UN protest in eastern DR Congo, according to local sources and official documentation seen by AFP on August 31.

On August 30, Congolese soldiers cracked down on a religious sect planning a demonstration against United Nations peacekeepers in the city of Goma.

Some ten people were initially reported killed, including a police officer who was lynched by sect members.

But an internal army document consulted by AFP, and verified by security officials, gave a toll of 48 people killed in the crackdown -- in addition to the killed policeman -- and 75 people wounded.

The document also says that soldiers seized a number of bladed weapons and arrested 168 people, including the sect's leader.

Congolese pro-democracy activist group LUCHA also stated on Thursday that the number of protesters killed was "close to 50".

Two unverified video clips circulating on social media on Thursday appeared to show Congolese soldiers throwing lifeless bodies -- some drenched in blood -- into the back of a military vehicle.

The UN peacekeeping mission in the region is one of the largest and costliest in the world, with an annual budget of about \$1 billion (915,000,000 euros). But the UN comes in for sharp criticism in the central African nation, where many people perceive the peacekeepers as failing to prevent conflict (AFP).

Rights Court agrees to hear French prostitution law appeal

STRASBOURG (TIP): The European rights court said on August 31 it would hear an appeal by sex workers against a French anti-prostitution law which they say has shattered their livelihoods and driven them underground.

Sex workers technically operate legally in France, but the country in 2016 moved against their clients by outlawing the purchase of sexual acts in the hope of curbing the sex trade.

Arguing that their livelihood is unjustly threatened by the law, 260 sex workers backed by several groups filed an appeal with the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in 2019 after exhausting all legal recourse in France.

Sex workers and their associations regularly protest against the law with action days and street marches.

The Strasbourg-based court said it agreed to rule on the matter after hearing several statements from sex workers -- French and foreign -- about how precarious their lives had become

Claire Coutinho: Newest Indian-origin minister in Rishi Sunak Cabinet

LONDON (TIP): Claire Coutinho, a close aide of British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, got a big promotion as his new Energy Security and Net Zero Secretary in a mini reshuffle on August 31.

Coutinho, 38, becomes the second Goan-origin minister after Home Secretary Suella Braverman in the Sunak Cabinet and has a tough brief ahead of her as energy costs have been soaring in the wake of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

She has committed herself to work on safeguarding energy security and reducing bills for families struggling with a cost-of-living crisis.

In her first Cabinet role, Coutinho replaced Grant Shapps after he was promoted to the post of Defence Secretary following the resignation of Ben Wallace.

"I am delighted to have been appointed Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. I will work with the Prime Minister to safeguard our energy security, reduce bills for families, and build cleaner, cheaper, homegrown energy," she tweeted.

Like Sunak, UK-born Coutinho grew up in a family connected with the National Health Service (NHS) and was in the field of investment banking before joining politics.

The pro-Brexit with a Master's degree in Maths and Philosophy from Oxford University was elected member of Parliament for East Surrey, south-east England, in 2019 with a promise to serve people.

"I was elected the Member of Parliament for East Surrey in 2019. Growing up, I watched my parents



work as GPs (general practitioners) in the NHS, listening to people's problems and solving them as best they could. It is in that spirit that I hope to serve the people of East Surrey," reads the London-born politician's mission statement as a Tory MP.

Sunak's decision to catapult her into the cabinet - as its youngest member in fact - marks her out instantly as a major figure in Conservative politics, present and future, the BBC reported.

She says she started her career at Merrill Lynch, before leaving the City of London firm for a career in social justice policy.

"I focused on a wide range of issues from education to financial inclusion, to the regeneration of deprived communities including at the Centre for Social Justice. I then spent two years within government as a Special Adviser, including at HM Treasury. My local priorities include fixing our roads, supporting the local economy, and protecting our environment," she adds in her mission statement.

Having worked as a special adviser in the UK Treasury department, Coutinho went on to become an aide to Sunak in his role as Chief Secretary to the Treasury and later Chancellor of the Exchequer.

She backed the British Indian candidate for Prime Minister in his leadership bid last year and was later rewarded with a junior ministerial post in the Department for Education.

"Big thank you to my stellar team who supported me as Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing. I know my successor, David Johnston, will be champing at the bit to improve the lives of children and families up and down the country," she tweeted after her promotion.

"From the largest expansion of childcare in history to our new Freedom of Speech Act to driving forward reforms in SEND, for foster carers, in children's social care and for childminders. It has been a privilege to work with so many talented people," she said. (PTI)

SEX WORKERS TECHNICALLY OPERATE LEGALLY IN FRANCE, BUT THE COUNTRY IN 2016 MOVED AGAINST THEIR CLIENTS BY OUTLAWING THE PURCHASE OF SEXUAL ACTS IN THE HOPE OF CURBING THE SEX TRADE.



since clients stayed away because of fear of the law.

"According to the claimants who legally work as prostitutes, the criminalisation of prostitution clients

has pushed prostitutes into clandestinity and isolation, has exposed them to a heightened risk to their physical integrity and their lives, and impacts their freedom to decide on how to lead

their private lives," the court said in a statement.

"They condemn the criminalisation of the purchase of sexual acts which targets even consenting adults," it said.

The sex workers say the French law contravenes several articles of the European Convention on Human Rights, including on the protection of life and against inhumane treatment.

The court's agreement to hear the case is in itself already a victory, given that it usually throws out more than 90 per cent of all applications.

The 2016 French law aimed to curb prostitution by penalising clients rather than sex workers, who are categorised as victims of the sex trade in need of protection.

Clients risk a fine of 1,500 euros (\$1,600) when caught, rising to up to 3,750 euros for repeat offenders with a possible obligation to attend sensitivity training.

The court will make its ruling in the coming months. (AFP)

Death toll rises to 73 in Johannesburg building fire, many of them homeless, authorities say

JOHANNESBURG (TIP): A nighttime fire ripped through a rundown five-story building in Johannesburg that was occupied by homeless people and squatters, killing at least 73 people early on August 31, emergency services in South Africa's biggest city said.

Some of the people living in a maze of shacks and other makeshift structures inside the building threw themselves out of windows to escape the fire and might have died then, a local government official said. Seven of the victims were children, the youngest a 1-year-old, according to an emergency services spokesperson.

As many as 200 people may have been living in the building, witnesses said.

Emergency crews expected to find more victims as they worked their way through the building, a process slowed by the conditions inside. Dozens of bodies were lined up on a nearby side road, some in body bags, and others covered with silver sheets and blankets.

Another 52 people were injured in the blaze, which broke out at about 1 a.m. in the heart of Johannesburg's central business district, Johannesburg Emergency Services Management spokesman Robert Mulaudzi said.

Abandoned and broken-down buildings in the area are common and often taken over by people desperately seeking some form of accommodation. City authorities refer to them as "hijacked buildings."

Mulaudzi said the death toll was likely to increase and more bodies were likely trapped inside the building. The fire took three hours to contain, he said, and



firefighters had only worked their way through three of the building's five floors by mid-morning.

"This is a tragedy for Johannesburg. Over 20 years in the service, I've never come across something like this," Mulaudzi said.

The building's interior was effectively "an informal settlement" where shacks and other structures had been thrown up and people were crammed into rooms, he said. There were "obstructions" everywhere that would have made it very difficult for residents to escape the deadly blaze and which hindered emergency crews trying to work through the site, according to Mulaudzi.

Search teams found 73 bodies. The chance of anyone being found alive hours after the fire broke out was "very slim," he said.

City officials said 141 families were affected by the tragedy, although they were not able to immediately say how

many people were in the building at the time of the blaze. Many of them were believed to be foreign nationals, officials said.

A witness who didn't give his name told television news channel eNCA that he lived in a building next door and heard people screaming for help and shouting "We're dying in here" when the fire started.

Mgcini Tshwaku, a local government official, said there were indications that people lit fires inside the building to keep warm in the winter cold. Officials are looking into the cause of the blaze.

After the fire was extinguished, smoke still seeped out of the windows of the blackened building as daylight broke. Strings of sheets and other material hung out of some of the broken windows. It was not clear if people used those items to try and escape the fire or if they were trying to save their possessions. (AP)

NIGER MILITARY REGIME ORDERS EXPULSION OF FRENCH ENVOY

NIAMEY (TIP): Niger's new military rulers have withdrawn the French ambassador's diplomatic immunity and ordered police to expel him, according to a letter seen on August 31 by AFP.

The envoy "no longer enjoys the privileges and immunities attached to his status as a member of the diplomatic personnel in the French embassy," according to their letter, dated Tuesday, to the foreign ministry in Paris.

"(His) diplomatic cards and visas and those of the members of his family have been cancelled. The police have been instructed to proceed to his expulsion," it said.

The move follows a coup in the troubled Sahel state on July 26 that toppled a close French ally, President Mohamed Bazoum.

Relations with France spiralled downwards after Paris stood by Bazoum and refused to recognise Niger's new rulers.

On Friday, the authorities gave French envoy Sylvain Itte 48 hours to leave the country.

France refused the demand, saying that the government had no legal right to make such an order.

On Tuesday, French President Emmanuel Macron singled out Itte for praise after he remained at his post.

French military spokesman Colonel Pierre Gaudilliere on Thursday warned that "the French military forces are ready to respond to any upturn in tension that could harm French diplomatic and military premises in Niger". "Measures have been taken to protect these premises," he said. (AFP)

Azerbaijan slams French 'interference' on Nagorno-Karabakh

Azerbaijan has been accused of blocking the Lachin corridor -- the only road link between the enclave and Armenia -- since December, cutting off Armenian-populated settlements in the disputed region.



BAKU (TIP): Azerbaijan summoned France's ambassador on August 31 and condemned its "direct interference" in Nagorno-Karabakh after several French councils sent a humanitarian aid convoy to blockaded Armenians in the enclave.

Baku has been accused of blocking the Lachin corridor -- the only road link between the enclave and Armenia -- since December, cutting off Armenian-populated settlements in the disputed breakaway region.

Azerbaijan said it had set up checkpoints on the short mountainous road for "security reasons", while Yerevan has demanded that the UN intervene to prevent a "humanitarian catastrophe".

On Wednesday, several French politicians, including Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo, joined a 10-lorry humanitarian convoy financed by French local councils, which was stopped from entering the enclave.

Hidalgo wrote on X (formerly Twitter)

that "no humanitarian aid can get into" Nagorno-Karabakh "in total violation of

human rights". "This is a humanitarian crisis," she insisted.

The stand-off has riled Azerbaijan, which summoned the French ambassador on Thursday.

"The ambassador received a note of protest over vehicles being sent to the Lachin border post... under the cover of a humanitarian convoy," Baku said in a statement.

It also condemned the "provocative declarations (of French politicians) against Azerbaijan", which they said were stirred up by a "campaign of lies and manipulation by Armenia", a historic French ally.

"This constitutes direct French interference in Azerbaijan's internal affairs," it added.

The Caucasus neighbours have been locked in a deadly dispute over the enclave -- internationally recognised as part of Azerbaijan -- since the 1980s and fought two wars over the territory. (AFP)

FORMER THAI PM THAKSIN SHINAWATRA JAILED AFTER RETURNING FROM EXILE, REQUESTS A ROYAL PARDON

BANGKOK (TIP): Former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who recently returned from exile and began serving an eight-year prison term, has requested a royal pardon, a senior member of the outgoing Cabinet said on August 31. Thaksin was moved from prison to a state hospital soon after his return last week for reported ill health.

Wissanu Krea-ngam, who is acting justice minister as well as a deputy prime minister, said he has received a letter from Thaksin requesting a pardon, but declined to say how long it would take to be approved.

"The process of approval entirely depends on his royal grace," he said. Thailand is a constitutional monarchy, giving King Maha Vajiralongkorn the final word on pardons of convicted criminals.

Thaksin, by promoting populist policies and using the fortune he made in telecommunications to build his own political party, was elected prime minister in 2001 and easily reelected in 2005. He was ousted in a military coup in 2006 and accused of corruption, abuse of power and disrespecting the monarchy.

He returned last week after 15 years of self-imposed exile and was immediately sent to Bangkok's main prison because of several criminal convictions he has decried as politically motivated.

Hours after Thaksin's return, Srettha Thavisin of the Pheu Thai party won enough votes in Parliament to become prime minister, ending more than three months of uncertainty after May's general election. Pheu Thai is the latest in a string of parties affiliated with Thaksin.

To achieve a parliamentary majority, Srettha formed a coalition with pro-military parties linked to a 2014 coup that ousted a Pheu Thai government formed by Thaksin's sister, Yingluck Shinawatra. Pheu Thai had vowed during the May election campaign that it would not join with any pro-military party in forming a government. It also excluded the progressive Move Forward Party, which won the most seats and votes in the polls.

It is widely believed that Thaksin returned out of hope that a new government friendly to him would reduce his sentence and that he may have made a deal with authorities, although he has said his decision had nothing to do with the Pheu Thai party's bid for power.

Srettha told reporters on Thursday that he expects to submit a list of his new Cabinet ministers for royal endorsement on Friday.

Wissanu said Thaksin's health condition could support his case for a pardon. (AP)

Suicide bomber attacks security convoy in NW Pakistan killing 9 soldiers, says military

PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN (TIP): A suicide bomber riding on a motorcycle targeted a security convoy in northwest Pakistan on August 31, killing at least nine soldiers and wounding 20 others, the military and three security officials said, a sign of increasing militant violence.

The attack happened in Bannu, a district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province bordering Afghanistan, the military said in a statement. It said five soldiers were wounded in the attack.

However, security officials put the number of wounded persons at 20. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media on the record.

There was no immediate claim from any group, but the suspicion is likely to fall on the Pakistani Taliban, who have stepped up attacks on security forces since 2022. Authorities say the insurgents have found sanctuaries and have even been living openly in



Afghanistan since the Taliban takeover, which also emboldened them,

Bannu is located near the former militant stronghold of North Waziristan, which served as a base for insurgents until the army years ago announced that it had cleared the region of local and foreign militants. Occasional attacks have continued,

however, raising concerns that the local Taliban, known as Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, are regrouping in the area.

The Pakistani Taliban are a separate group but allies of the Afghan Taliban, who seized power in Afghanistan in 2021 as the US and NATO troops were in the final stages of their pullout. (AP)

Taliban say security forces will stop women from visiting Afghan national park

ISLAMABAD (TIP): The Taliban will use security forces to stop women from visiting one of Afghanistan's most popular national parks, according to information shared by a spokesman for the Vice and Virtue Ministry.

The ministry alleges that women have not been observing the proper way to wear the hijab, or Islamic headscarf when going to Band-e-Amir in the central Bamiyan province.

THIS COMES A WEEK AFTER THE MINISTER, MOHAMMAD KHALID HANAFI, VISITED THE PROVINCE AND TOLD OFFICIALS AND RELIGIOUS CLERICS THAT WOMEN HAVEN'T BEEN ADHERING TO THE CORRECT WAY OF WEARING THE HIJAB, ASKING SECURITY PERSONNEL TO STOP WOMEN FROM VISITING THE TOURIST HOTSPOT.

"Going sightseeing is not a must for women," Hanafi said.

Ministry spokesman Molvi Mohammad Sadiq Akif shared a report of Hanafi's remarks late Saturday night, including the use of security forces, clerics, and elders to carry out Hanafi's order. A recording of the minister's speech in Bamiyan, aligning with Akif's



report, was shared on social media.

Akif was not immediately available for comment on Sunday.

"Not content with depriving girls and women of education, employment, and free movement, the Taliban also want to take from them parks and sport and now even nature, as we see from this latest ban on women visiting Band-e-Amir," said Heather Barr, the associate women's rights director at Human Rights Watch in an emailed statement. "Step by step, the walls are closing in on women as every home becomes a prison."

Last November, the Taliban-led government barred women from using public spaces, including parks, saying that they were not wearing the hijab correctly or following gender segregation rules.

Since taking over the country on August 15, 2021, after the withdrawal of U.S. and NATO forces, they have imposed several restrictions targeting Afghan girls and women, including stopping girls from going to school beyond the sixth grade, and prohibiting Afghan women from jobs at local and non-governmental organizations while cracking down on media.

These harsh measures triggered a fierce international outrage, including from Muslim-majority countries.

Band-e-Amir is a major tourist attraction in Bamiyan. It became the country's first national park in 2009 and pulls in thousands of visitors every year.

It is a major source of income for locals and their sightseeing, restaurant, hotel, and handicraft businesses. (AP)



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Natural remedies to remove makeup

Baking Soda and Honey

This remedy is good for any skin type. Grab some honey lying in your kitchen and put it on a piece of cotton or a clean cloth. Sprinkle some baking soda on the honey and watch it act as great cleanser as well as exfoliator. Just rub the cloth or cotton gently on your face to wipe off the makeup and rinse it off. You can use a face wash but it can take away the after effect of honey on your skin, so it is better if you just rinse with lukewarm water and let the effect of honey repair your skin cells all night long.

Coconut oil

Coconut oil is a natural ingredient which the skin absorbs like magic. With a low molecular weight and beneficial fatty acids, coconut oil repairs the skin.

If you have coconut oil at home, there is literally nothing better to remove all the makeup on your face. This is particularly useful for heavy make-up and even waterproof make-up.

Simply rub some coconut oil all over your face and neck, and wipe it off with cotton pads. You can even make natural wipes, by putting lots of cotton balls soaked in a small jar full of coconut oil.

It is a natural moisturiser and is great for the winter season. It repairs and moisturises your skin well while restoring the natural oils on our face.

Milk

Remember stories where everyone from Cleopatra to Mughal princesses took milk baths?

Milk is known for its health benefits and for being a wonderful ingredient for your skin. The essential fats and protein found in whole milk allow our skin to retain moisture and repair damaged cells. Milk has strong bleaching properties and is a natural ingredient for skin lightening, in case you're interested.

Simply soak your cotton pads in a small bowl of milk and use them to wipe off your makeup. You can even mix a tablespoon of almond oil in it for heavier makeup. This remedy will refresh your face and will keep your skin hydrated. If you have excessively oily skin, it is better to use a face wash followed by a night cream after washing off the milk.

Cucumber juice

Many commercial beauty products including face washes and cleaners have cucumber as an ingredient. That's because this common kitchen ingredient is a no-fuss healer. It has anti-inflammatory properties and can soothe irritated or acne-prone skin. It is a water-based vegetable and is an excellent makeup remover



particularly for oily skin.

So the next time you face a beauty woe, or want to remove all that makeup without hassle, look no further from your own refrigerator. Use a blender to mash cucumber until it becomes like a paste, add some olive oil to this paste and watch your home-made cleanser change your life. The natural mixture will tackle your makeup troubles and will soothe your skin. Rinse your face with lukewarm water and try to avoid any other product afterwards to let the facial moisture repair your skin.

Steam

Steaming is also a natural way to remove your makeup. It is also one of the most soothing cleansers that replenishes the skin from within. You can use steam and wipe your face with a cotton pad and rinse off. If you are wearing heavy or waterproof makeup, it is best to use any of the treatments above and then use steam to remove any leftover impurity. Steam is the secret skincare for many celebrities as well; it is simple, hassle-free and helps unclog pores to remove dirt and impurities.

You can invest in a steamer which is available at most departmental stores, or simply fill a bowl with piping hot water with a few drops of oil, cover your face with a towel and let the steam clear your skin and calm your senses.

These natural makeup removal remedies are simple yet effective. They repair the skin, which can keep your skin glowing and prevent any damage from makeup products, so that you can continue glowing and looking great.



Exercise in pregnancy may help obese women avoid complications

Exercise may be an efficient way for obese pregnant women to lower their risk of diabetes, dangerously high blood pressure and other complications, research suggests.

"The study suggests that a prenatal exercise-based intervention leads to both decreased costs and improved outcomes in obese women," said Leah Savitsky, a medical student at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland who led the study.

Savitsky and her team analyzed previously published research on the effect of exercise on pregnant women with a body mass index (BMI) of at least 30.

The normal range for BMI - a ratio of weight to height - is 18.5 to 24.9; a BMI of 30 or more indicates obesity. (A BMI calculator is here, on the website of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Based on their analyses of those earlier studies, the researchers estimated the benefit of exercise for women who are obese at the start of their pregnancy.

They calculated that for every one million such women, there would be 38,176 cases of a dangerous pregnancy-related blood pressure problem known as preeclampsia among those who exercised, compared to 113,000 cases among those who didn't exercise.

Exercise would also be linked to a decrease in so-called gestational diabetes, with a rate of 195,520 per million among exercisers compared to 305,500 among non-exercisers, according to their calculations.

Likewise, they estimated, for every million obese pregnant women the preterm birth rate would drop from 105,059 to 90,923 with exercise, the maternal death rate would fall from 90 to 70 and the neonatal death rate would drop from 1,932 to 1,795.

Based on a cost-effectiveness threshold of \$100,000 per quality-adjusted life year, an exercise intervention could save money as long as expenses are held to just under \$3,000. The effects of exercise may be even more beneficial than the study suggests, Savitsky said. "This study did not consider additional downstream benefits on control of weight beyond pregnancy as well as the downstream potential benefits on hypertension and diabetes," she told Reuters Health by email.

Women who are not obese may benefit as well. The researchers applied their model to women with a normal BMI of 18.5 - 24.9 and found similar improvements in outcomes among those who exercise, although the cost-effectiveness thresholds were lower.

"With the obesity epidemic looming in our society, perhaps we should be turning our attention to prevention of disease. It does not seem to be too late even for obese pregnant women to engage in lifestyle change that may substantially reduce health care costs," Mottola said.

FOOD CORNER

Chilli Garlic Noodles

Ingredients:

- Noodles - 1/2 cup, cooked
- Onions - 1/2 cup, chopped
- Carrot - 1/2 cup, grated
- Ginger Garlic Paste - 1tblsp
- Chilli Paste - 1/2tblsp
- Coriander Leaves - handful, chopped
- Oil - 2tblsp
- Salt - as per taste

Method:

- Heat oil in a pan over moderate flame.
- Add the onions, carrot, ginger garlic paste, salt and chilli paste.



- Stir to mix well.
- Add the noodles and mix well to combine all ingredients.
- Garnish with coriander leaves.
- Serve warm.

Tips to manage post-meal blood sugar

Postprandial blood sugar, also known as post-meal blood sugar, refers to the level of glucose in the blood after consuming a meal so monitoring postprandial blood sugar is essential for individuals with diabetes, as it provides valuable information about how the body responds to different foods and helps in managing blood sugar levels effectively. Read on as we delve into postprandial blood sugar levels, tests used to measure it, what the results reveal and expert tips to manage it.

Postprandial Blood Sugar Levels:

In an interview with HT Lifestyle, Dr Vigyan Mishra, Chief of Lab at Neuberg Diagnostics, said, "Normally, blood sugar levels rise after eating and then gradually decline as the body uses the glucose for energy or stores it for future use. For healthy individuals, postprandial blood sugar levels should typically stay below 140 mg/dL (milligrams per deciliter) two hours after a meal. However, for individuals with diabetes, these levels can be higher, indicating difficulties in regulating blood sugar."

Postprandial Blood Sugar Tests:

According to Dr Vigyan Mishra, there are two primary methods to measure postprandial blood sugar levels -

Fingerstick Blood Sugar Test: This is a simple and common test that can be performed at home. A person pricks their finger using a lancet to obtain a small blood sample and then uses a glucose meter to measure their blood sugar level. The test is usually done before eating (fasting blood sugar) and again one to two hours after the start of a meal to measure postprandial blood sugar.

Oral Glucose Tolerance Test (OGTT): This test is often conducted in a medical setting. The person fasts overnight, and their fasting blood sugar level is measured. Then, they consume a specific amount of glucose solution, and blood sugar levels are monitored



at regular intervals, usually at one hour and two hours after consuming the glucose solution. This test is more comprehensive and can help diagnose diabetes or prediabetes.

Managing Postprandial Blood Sugar:

Bringing his expertise to the same, Dr Shrey Srivastav, Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine at Sharda Hospital in Greater Noida, insisted that for individuals with diabetes, managing postprandial blood sugar is essential to prevent complications and maintain overall health. He recommended some strategies -

Balanced Diet: Consuming a balanced diet with appropriate portions of carbohydrates, proteins, and fats can help stabilize blood sugar levels after meals.

Regular Exercise: Physical activity can improve insulin sensitivity and aid in regulating blood sugar levels.

Medication: Some individuals may require diabetes medications or insulin therapy to control postprandial blood sugar effectively.

Stress Management: Stress can influence blood sugar levels, so practicing stress-reduction techniques can be beneficial.

Source: HT

Cinnamon may prevent prostate cancer, finds ICMR-NIN study

Cinnamon, one of the most widely consumed spices around the world, and its active components may prevent prostate cancer, a latest study has found.

Research conducted by Hyderabad-based ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) demonstrated that cinnamon and its active components -- cinnamaldehyde and procyanidin B2-- administered orally to rats had an inhibitory effect on early-stage prostate cancer.

The study titled "Chemopreventive effect of cinnamon and its bioactive compounds in a rat model of premalignant prostate carcinogenesis" was published in the international peer reviewed journal 'Cancer Prevention Research'.

It aimed to assess the chemopreventive efficacy of cinnamon (CN) and its bioactive compounds (cinnamaldehyde or procyanidin B2) in vivo in male rats, the NIN has said in a release.

As part of this study, adult rats were given cinnamon or its bioactive compounds through the diet before induction of cancer and the rats were fed for 16 weeks.

It was observed that feeding cinnamon or its active compounds resulted in 60-70 per cent of rats showing normal prostate histologically.

"We tried to decipher the probable mechanism(s) for the chemopreventive effect and observed that cinnamon and its active components could mitigate oxidative stress, decrease spread of cancer cells in the prostate gland," said Ayesha Ismail, Head of



Endocrinology Division, who led the study.

"Interestingly, we also observed beneficial effect on bone mineral content and decrease in bone degeneration in these rats," she said.

Director of ICMR-NIN, Hemalatha R noted that it was encouraging to see these results about cinnamon, the humble Indian spice, which is commonly used in our cuisine.

"However, these outcomes warrant more detailed studies before any dietary recommendation can be made," she said.

Source: PTI



England to roll out world's first 7-minute cancer treatment jab

Britain's state-run national health service will be the first in the world to offer an injection that treats cancer to hundreds of patients in England, which could cut treatment times by up to three quarters.

Following approval from the Medicines and Health Care Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), NHS England said on Tuesday hundreds of eligible patients treated with the immunotherapy, atezolizumab, were set to have "under the skin" injection, which will free up more time for cancer teams.

"This approval will not only allow us to deliver convenient and faster care for our patients, but will enable our teams to treat more patients throughout the day," Dr Alexander Martin, a consultant oncologist at West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust said.

NHS England said atezolizumab, also known as Tecentriq, is usually given to patients intravenously, directly into their veins via a drip, which could often take around 30 minutes or up to an hour for some patients when it can be difficult to access a vein.

"It takes approximately seven minutes, compared with 30 to 60 minutes for the current method of an intravenous infusion," Marius Scholtz, Medical Director at Roche Products Limited said.

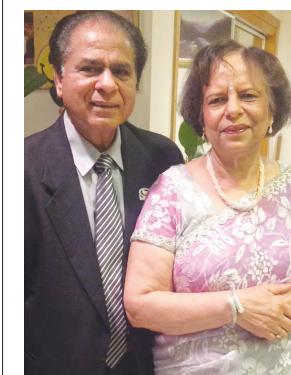
Atezolizumab - made by Genentech, a Roche company - is an immunotherapy drug that empowers a patient's own immune system to seek and destroy cancerous cells. The treatment is currently offered by transfusion to NHS patients with a range of cancers, including lung, breast, liver and bladder.

NHS England said it expected the majority of around 3,600 patients starting the treatment of atezolizumab every year in England to switch onto the time-saving injection.

But it added that patients receiving intravenous chemotherapy in combination with atezolizumab may remain on the transfusion. Source: Reuters

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Musk's X to soon let you make video, audio calls

Elon Musk, the owner of X (formerly Twitter), on Thursday, August 31, announced that the micro-blogging platform will soon add video and audio call feature, which will be supported on iOS, Android, Mac, and PC.

He also said that no phone numbers would be needed to make the call.

"Video & audio calls coming to X - Works on iOS, Android, Mac & PC - No phone number needed - X is the effective global address book," Musk posted on X.

"That set of factors is unique," he added.

Several users expressed their thoughts on this new development.

"Now I can call more people and tell them to buy #Dogecoin directly from X," a user wrote.

"Please make sure there are privacy options to stop randoms from calling us. Even if I follow someone it doesn't mean I want them to be able to call me," another user said.

One more user mentioned, "Absolutely groundbreaking! Your team never fails to spearhead innovation! Can't wait to enjoy seamless video & audio calls on X across multiple platforms without the fuss of phone numbers. Truly visionary, setting a new benchmark in user experience. Bravo".

Meanwhile, X has announced that it will allow US political candidates and parties advertise on the platform ahead of the 2024 presidential election.

Aditya L1 solar mission's 1.5 million km journey over 4 months

Aditya L1, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s first-ever solar mission, is set to be launched from Andhra Pradesh's Sriharikota on Friday. ISRO will launch the spacecraft at 11.50 am, days after Chandrayaan-3's historic success, which landed on the Moon's south pole last Wednesday.

Through Aditya L1, ISRO aims to place the craft in a "halo orbit around the Lagrange point 1 (L1) of the Sun-Earth system, which is about 1.5 million km from the Earth." Through the mission, ISRO will study the impact of solar activities on space weather in real-time. The other key objectives of the unmanned mission also include understanding "coronal heating, coronal mass ejection, pre-flare and flare activities and their characteristics, dynamics of space weather, propagation of particles and fields, etc," the space agency explained. The journey to the designated mission site is a staggering 1.5 million km from the Earth and will take about four months to cover, ISRO said.

Aditya L1's four-month long journey

The ISRO explained on its website that the spacecraft will be initially placed in a low earth orbit.

"Subsequently, the orbit will be made more elliptical and later the spacecraft will be launched towards the Lagrange point L1 by using on-board propulsion," it said. While travelling towards L1, Aditya L1 will exit the earth's gravitational Sphere of Influence. Once out of it, its "cruise phase" will begin and the craft will be

Another rover instrument confirms presence of sulphur in lunar region: ISRO

Another instrument onboard the Chandrayaan-3 mission's rover 'Pragyan' has confirmed the presence of sulphur in the lunar region by deploying a different technique, ISRO said on Thursday, August 31.

The Alpha Particle X-ray Spectroscopy (APXS) has detected sulphur, as well as other minor elements on the Moon, the Bengaluru-headquartered national space agency said in a social media post.

"This finding by Ch-3 compels scientists to develop fresh explanations for the source of Sulphur (S) in the area: intrinsic?, volcanic?, meteoritic?.....?" read the post.

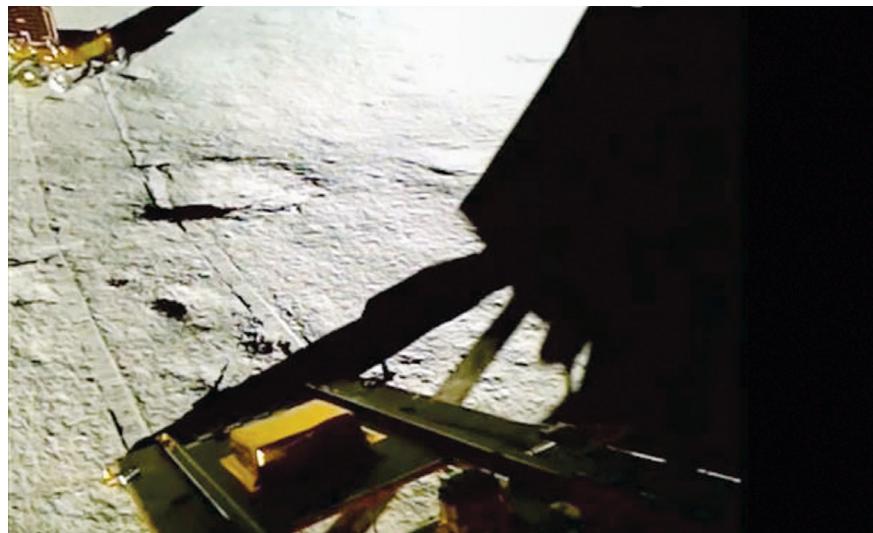
ISRO also released a video of the rover rotating in search of a safe route. The rotation was captured by a lander imager camera.

"It feels as though a child is playfully frolicking in the yards of Chandamama, while the mother watches affectionately."

"Isn't it?" ISRO quipped in the social media post.

The space agency released a video showing an automated hinge mechanism rotating the 18-cm-tall APXS, aligning the detector head to be approximately five centimetres in proximity to the lunar surface.

The 26 kg, six-wheeled, solar-powered Pragyan rover is equipped to use its scientific instruments to record what the lunar soil and rocks are made of in the south polar region where Chandrayaan-3 landed and it



The Chandrayaan-3 Pragyan rover roams around the Shiv Shakti Point, Vikram lander's touchdown spot, on the Moon at the South Pole. A video grab@isro/PTI

would also show how the readings contrast with that of the highland regions.

APXS instrument is best suited for in-situ analysis of the elemental composition of soil and rocks on the surface of planetary bodies having little atmosphere, such as the Moon, an ISRO statement said. It carries radioactive sources that emit alpha particles and X-rays onto the surface sample. The atoms present in the sample in turn emit characteristic X-ray lines corresponding to the elements present. By measuring the energies and intensities of these characteristic X-rays, researchers can find the elements present and their abundances.

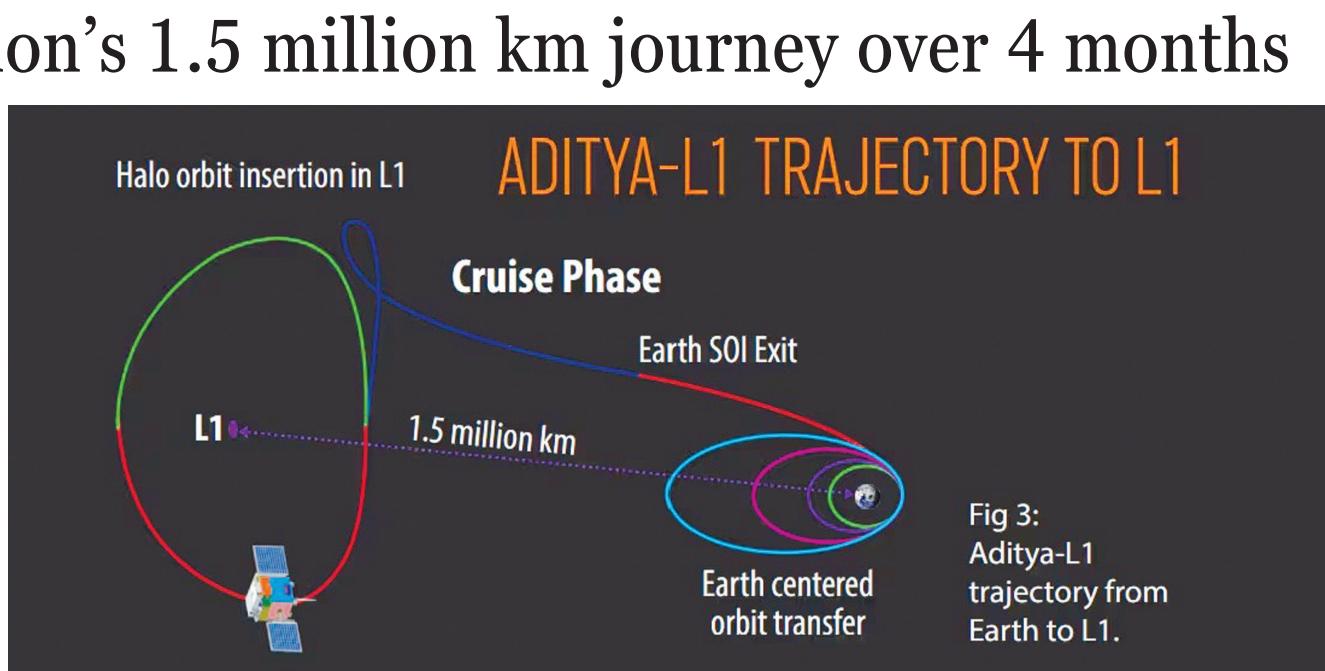
APXS observations have

discovered the presence of interesting minor elements, including sulphur, apart from the major expected elements such as aluminum, silicon, calcium and iron.

The Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) instrument onboard the rover has already confirmed the presence of sulphur. Detailed scientific analysis of these observations are in progress.

APXS has been developed by the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad, with support from the Space Application Centre (SAC) Ahmedabad, whereas UR Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), Bengaluru has built the deployment mechanism, it was stated.

Source: PTI



injected into a large halo orbit around L1. "The total travel time from launch to L1 would take about four months for Aditya-L1," the ISRO said.

What are Lagrange points?

Lagrange points are positions in space, where the gravitational force of two celestial bodies (like the Sun-Earth) create pockets of gravitational equilibrium. This

allows the spacecraft to remain in one position without having to burn fuel.

There are five Lagrange points in a system like the Earth-Sun system – L1 to L5. The L1 and L2 points, closest to the planet, serve as good spots for observational studies. NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the famous Hubble telescope, is stationed in L2.

Source: HT

UBS begins \$10 billion cuts, axing 3,000 jobs after Credit Suisse deal

UBS Group embarked on a sweeping plan to cut more than \$10 billion in costs, saying on Thursday it will axe 3,000 jobs in Switzerland alone after it took over its stricken rival Credit Suisse.

The plan to cut roughly one in 12 Swiss jobs gives a glimpse of the scale of shake-up at the newly forged banking giant, as it grapples with the task of swallowing a competitor that unravelled after panicked customers withdrew tens of billions.

The initial round of job cuts follows a decision by the globe's biggest wealth manager to absorb Credit Suisse's local arm - a solid profit-maker that last year was the only Credit Suisse division in the black - rather than spin it off, which UBS had also considered.

"Our analysis clearly shows that a full integration is the best outcome for UBS ... and the Swiss economy," Chief Executive Sergio Ermotti said.

He wrote in a memo to staff that 3,000 Swiss jobs would go, while more people would leave of their own accord, for example, through retirement. Globally, 8,000 Credit Suisse have already left over the first half of the year.

The prediction of over \$10 billion in cost-savings by end 2026 compares with an earlier estimate of \$8 billion by 2027.

The news lifted UBS shares, which were up more than 5% in early afternoon trade, hitting highs not seen since 2008, after the cuts were announced alongside the first financial results UBS published since the takeover, hastily arranged over one March weekend.

Softbank sells 1.16% stake in Zomato for Rs 947 crore

Japanese conglomerate Softbank on Wednesday, August 30, divested a 1.16% stake in online food ordering company Zomato for Rs 947 crore through an open market transaction.

Softbank through its affiliate SVF Growth (Singapore) Pte offloaded the shares of Zomato on the National Stock Exchange.

Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund (MF), Axis MF, Franklin Templeton MF, Kotak Mahindra MF, Societe Generale, Morgan Stanley Asia Singapore, Nomura Singapore, Goldman Sachs and Ghisallo Master Fund LP were among the buyers of shares of Zomato.



SoftBank

1.16% stake in Zomato for Rs 947 crore

China decried US tariffs, requested equal treatment for its firms in Raimondo meet

NEW YORK (TIP)

China's commerce minister urged Chinese companies investing in the US to be given "equal treatment" and called US tariffs on Chinese imports "discriminatory", when he met US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo this week, his ministry said on Thursday, August 31.

Wrapping up her four-day visit to Beijing on Tuesday, August 29, Raimondo said she had not expected any breakthroughs but was "leaving with some optimism," after engaging with top Chinese leaders, including with commerce minister Wang Wentao.

The world's two biggest economies used to be each other's largest trade partners, and while both governments publicly oppose decoupling, China is now trading more with Southeast Asia and the US with neighbouring Canada and Mexico.

A tariff war erupted between Beijing and Washington under the previous Trump administration. Since then, US President Joe Biden and some US allies have restricted exports to China of advanced semiconductors and the equipment to make them, citing security concerns.

"China demands the US give equal treatment to Chinese enterprises investing in the US in terms of market access, regulatory enforcement, public procurement and policy support," Shu Jueting, a commerce ministry spokesperson, said.

"China expressed serious concerns concerning the US' discriminatory (Section) 301 tariffs," she added.

The commerce secretary was the latest Biden administration official to visit China in a bid to strengthen communications, particularly on economics and defence, amid concern that friction between the superpowers could spiral out of control.

"We believe that a better way to de-risk is to bring China-US economic and trade relations back to a stage of sound and steady development," Shu said.

Wang and Raimondo have agreed to meet at least once a year.

Oil prices rise on supply picture, weak Chinese data weighs

Oil prices rose on Thursday, August 31, boosted by a large drawdown in US crude inventories and production cuts by OPEC+, but a slowdown in China's manufacturing activity



US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo (right) speaks during a meeting with her Chinese counterpart Wang Wentao (left) at the Ministry of Commerce in Beijing August 28, 2023. — Andy Wong/Pool/Reuters pic

limited gains.

Brent crude futures for October, expiring on Thursday, rose 45 cents, or 0.5%, to \$86.31 a barrel by 1004 GMT. The more active November contract was up 25 cents, or 0.3%, at \$85.49.

US West Texas Intermediate crude futures for October rose 29 cents, or 0.4%, to \$81.29.

US government data on Wednesday showed the country's crude inventories fell by a larger than expected 10.6 million barrels last week, depleted by high exports and refinery runs.

Meanwhile, analysts expect Saudi Arabia to extend a voluntary oil production cut of 1 million barrels per day (bpd) into October, adding to cuts put in place by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and allies led by Russia, a combination known as OPEC+.

"With Brent prices having stalled in the mid-\$80s ... the prospect of those Saudi barrels returning to the market any time soon looks slim and the impact is increasingly being felt across the world as commercial stock levels of crude and fuel products continue to drop," said Saxo Bank analyst Ole Hansen.

India's GDP grows by 7.8% in first quarter; remains 'fastest-growing' major economy

NEW DELHI (TIP)

India remained fastest growing major economy of the world in first quarter of the current financial year. India's gross domestic product (GDP) rose at 7.8 per cent in first quarter of current financial year compared with growth of 13.1 per cent during the same period last year. Sequentially, India's GDP rose sharply from 6.1 per cent in the previous quarter.

"Real GDP or GDP at Constant (2011-12) Prices in Q1 2023-24 is estimated to attain a level of Rs 40.37 lakh crore, as against Rs 37.44 lakh crore in Q1 2022-23, showing a growth of 7.8 percent as compared to 13.1 percent in Q1 2022-23," Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation said in a press release.

India's economic growth was however lower than Reserve Bank of India's GDP growth estimate of 8 per cent for first



quarter of current financial year.

India's nominal GDP that is GDP at current prices in the first quarter of current financial year rose at 8 per cent compared to growth of 27.7 per cent in the same period last year.

"Nominal GDP or GDP at Current Prices in Q1 2023-24 is estimated at Rs 70.67 lakh crore, as against Rs 65.42 lakh crore in Q1 2022-23, showing a growth of 8 per cent as compared to 27.7 percent in

Q1 2022-23", ministry added.

Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF), which indicates how much of the new value was added in an economy, rose 7.95 per cent to Rs 1,400,832 crore from Rs 1,297,588 crore.

"Economic activity in Q1 FY-2024 was boosted by a continued catch-up in services demand and improved investment activity, particularly a welcome front-loading in government capital expenditure," noted Aditi Nayar, chief economist at ICRA.

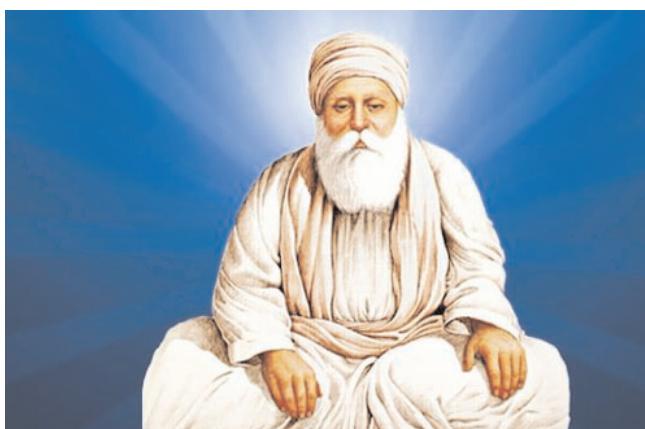
Growth in the service sector, the main engine of Asia's third-largest economy, hit a 13-year high in July, a private survey showed.

Capital expenditure increased to around Rs 2,78,500 crore during April-June 2023 from Rs 1,75,000 crore spent during the same period last fiscal year.

Sikh History This Week

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023, TO SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

1st September



1574 Joti Jot, Patshahi Third, Guru Amardas Ji. Guru Amardas Ji, left this world for heavenly abode from Goindwal Sahib. Guru Amar Das served the house of Guru Nanak for about twelve years with unbounded devotion, impeccable obedience and impeccant love. Today is the actual date of third Patshahi's Joti Jot, though it is observed on a different day by Guru Khalsa Panth. Guru Amar Das (1479-1574), the seventy-three years old disciple who had distinguished himself for his humility and simplicity in Guru Angad's holy company was nominated Guru in 1552. Born of orthodox Hindu parents in Baserke, a Punjab village, in Vaisakh Sudhi 14th sunmat 1536 (May 5, 1479) to father TaejBhan and mother Sulakhani, Guru Amar Das married Srimati Mansa Devi Ji on Magh 11th sunmat 1559. The marriage resulted in two daughters, Bibi Dani and Bhani, and two sons, Baba Mohan and Mohari.

Guru Amar Das was a great pilgrim. Once he happened to listen to a rapturous chanting of Guru Nanak's Japji by Bibi Amro, Guru Angad's daughter and his nephew's wife. He was so much enthralled by its supernal note that he repaired instantly to Guru Angad, the Second Master. He spent about 12 years, from 1540 to 1552 in selfless service and deep meditation, amidst an aura of holiness and splendor radiating from his beloved Guru. Amar Dass became a sikh of Guru Angad Patshah in sunmat 1597 and ascended to Guru Gadi on Vaisakh 3rd sunmat 1609.

While expounding the gospel of Guru Nanak, the Third Master laid special stress on the service of the Guru and contemplation of the Lord's Name. He asserted that man could attain Sahaj (tranquility) through the path of the holy name. All doubts disappear and he attains Ananda (bliss) a stage achieved by the Bhakts through God-realization. He also held that these values could be acquired only through the Guru's grace.

During the 22 years of his ministry, Guru Amar Das took quite a few significant measures to consolidate the Sikh religion, as also to endear it to the masses of men. To widen the scope of the movement, he made Goindwal his missionary centre. Here he caused a big bavalli (a sort of well) dug and organized festivals on the occasion of Deepavali and Baisakhi. A large number of Sikhs from far-flung places flocked to Goindwal. Indeed it became the first place of pilgrimage.

Besides, the Guru set up twenty-two manjis, or dioceses in different parts of the country where Sikhism had taken roots. Each Manji was placed under the charge of a pious Sikh with whose effort the Sikh Sangats (congregations) met daily and chanted the Guru's hymns. The Third Master invested the institution of langar with a kind of inviolable sanctity. Thus, no one could have darshan of the Guru without first partaking of food in the langar. This had the desired effect of proclaiming and establishing the essential equality of all mankind. In the Guru's Temple of Bread, the rich and the poor, the high-born and the untouchable, ate together as members of an integrated human family. The Guru also fought other rampant social evils like Sati, drink and Purdah. With a view to

marking out the Sikhs as a distinct people, Guru Amar Das prescribed a set of rites to be followed on occasions such as birth and death. The Guru also visited Hindu cities of pilgrimage and there, too, he propagated the gospel of Guru Nanak.

2nd September

1922 Pandit Madam Mohan Malviya, a great National Leader, arrived in Amritsar to witness the brutal Lathi Charge of police on the non-violent Akali Satyagrahis in Guru-Ka-Bagh Morcha.

1926 Hira Singh, an accomplished Panthic ragi passed away.



1953 Sirdar Kapur Singh, a Sikh Philosopher and an ICS officer, was dismissed from service on flimsy grounds.

1984 Sarbat Khalsa convened as Sarab Sansar Sikh Smmelan that confirmed the excommunication of Giani Zail Singh, Buta Singh, and others from Guru Khasla Panth for their part in the operation Bluestar.

3rd September

1708 Madho Dass Baeragi was baptised and became Banda Singh Bahadur.

Madho Dass Baeragi was administered baptism by Guru Gobind Singh himself to the accompaniment of Bhai Daya Singh and three other Sikhs. He was renamed Gurbakhash Singh. Madho Das was an Udasi Sikh, and he submitted to the protection of the Guru, saying he was his "banda," devotee. Keeping in view the susceptibilities of Bairagi followers of Gurbakhash Singh, Guru Gobind ordained that henceforth Guru Ka Langar would cater to the people of all faith; only vegetarian food shall be served in Langar. Subsequently, he was sent to Punjab to punish the cruel Mughal Nawabs and came to be known as Banda Bahadur.

1922 Sardar Bhagat Singh of village Todha Khurad and his two sons, Sardar Tara Singh and Sardar Asa Singh, were badly tortured for suspicion of their sympathetic views regarding Guru-Ka-Bagh Morcha. As a result, Sardar Bhagat Singh died on Sep. 4 and Sardar Tara Singh died on Sep. 6, 1922.

1965 Fateh Singh declared that Punjabi Suba was more dear to him than India.

4th September

Gur Gadi, Fourth Patshah, Guru Ram Das Ji. Guru Amar Das the Fourth Master, ascended the holy gaddi (throne) of Guru Nanak in 1574 and continued to adorn the exalted office till 1581. Though he was the son-in-law of Guru Amar Das, being married to his daughter Bibi Bhani, yet he revered the Third Master as a Guru with an unwavering fervor. Inebriated with the nectar of the divine Nam, he spurned delights, and spent all his time in an ecstatic communion with the Lord through moments of deep meditation.

1838 Maharaja Dalip Singh, the youngest son of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, was born at Raj Mahals to Mother Jinda.

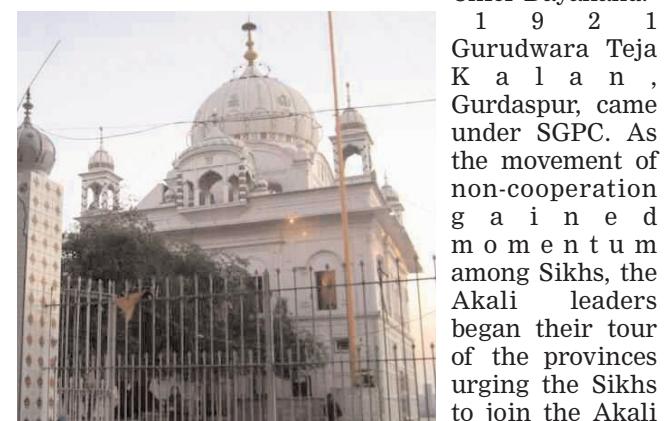


5th September

1922 Sardar Pritpal Singh Ji received 100 lathi charges from the police in Guru-Ka-Bagh morcha but refused to depart with his Sikh faith.

6th September

1901 Giani Dit Singh passed away. He was the chief organiser and a prominent intellect of the Singh Sabha Movement. Giani Dit Singh was a resident of village Nandpur Kalodh, Patiala. Born in 1850, he was initially a Gulabdassi and was later influenced by the sangat of Jawahar Singh Kapur and Professor Bhani Gurmukh Singh. As a result he became a Sikh and joined the Singh Sabha movement. He was such an intellect that he won debates with the Arya Samaji Chief Dayanand.



1921 Gurudwara Teja Kalaan, Gurdaspur, came under SGPC. As the movement of non-cooperation gained momentum among Sikhs, the Akali leaders began their tour of the provinces urging the Sikhs to join the Akali Dal and rise as

one man to liberate their Gurudwaras. On this day a large number of Akalis suddenly appeared at Gurudwara Teja kalan and captured it.

1966 Punjab Reorganization Bill presented in the Indian Lower House. Sirdar Kapur Singh rejected it on behalf of the Sikh nation in his famous address, the betrayal of the Sikh faith, to the Indian Parliament.

7th September

1936 Gandhi asserts that Sikhism is part of Hinduism and stated that if becoming a Sikh is conversion then this kind of conversion on the part of Harijans is dangerous.

1981 Sikh protest procession taken out in Delhi to seek Sikh demands. 4 GurSikhs killed by Haryana Police on their way to join the procession.



TRI-STATE

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Saturday, October 7, 5:30PM

Special Guest



Desh Deshpande
Philanthropist, Entrepreneur,
APUSA Board Member

Gala Chair



Kushal Sacheti
Akshaya Patra NY
Advisory Board member

Emcee



Devika Bhise
American Actress

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

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - SEPTEMBER 4 TO SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

ARIES



Ganesha says this week is bringing you a lot of better things. As you foresee the upcoming seven days, the losses incurred in the last few weeks will be revived. You will earn the trust of everyone in your life. The monotonous nature of your job will make you feel dull but this feeling is temporary. The last three days of the week will be a little bit challenging but this adventure of hardship will bring you growth. Income is going to increase and your family will support you in whatever you do. Your love life is expecting some challenges as there will be some misunderstandings between your partner and you.

TAURUS



Ganesha says a lot of travelling, most likely to be solo trips is in your cards this week. Though it may initially seem like a bad thing, stepping beyond the usual boundaries of your life, it could be a real adventure and you'll realize in the end how far you've come. This week is all about being street smart for you. You have been quite delusional when it comes to knowing yourself and your capabilities of managing unexpected situations; this week is all about learning about yourself. As you navigate through unexplored terrains you will realize the true nature of your existence. The beginning of the week will have you perplexed and upset but as the days go by, you will adjust to the new routine and by the end of this week, learn to love it.

GEMINI



Ganesha says, you will have a lot of free time on your hands and pretty much nothing to do as your business is flourishing by the work of outsources hence you will only need to dedicate a little amount of time and attention to your business. Plan fresh activities and avoid discussions that have the possibility of turning into fights and arguments. You should take the time you have this week to build stronger connections with existing relationships, instead of ruining connections by getting into petty fights and arguments.

CANCER



Ganesha says, you will feel extremely loved and appreciated this week, which will boost your confidence. Your partner will make you feel like you're worth a lot more than you have been given till date. Hence you will walk through every place as if it's the most beautiful thing you have ever seen. You need to care for your partner as much as they care for you. Be careful of letting yourself come across as rude and snobby to your partner, and seek out new ways to delight your partner. Singles should seek our intellectual stimulation when searching for their special someone. When looking for a connection seeks out people who hold a zest for life and a search for deeper meaning. As you notice that your well-being improves over this week, you will have a lot of energy to go on fun adventures with your partner.

LEO



Ganesha says this week is going to be fabulous for you. Positive news at the beginning of the week itself will boost your confidence to a whole another level. This week is going to be full of excitement and unique experiences for you. You will go through a positive shift when it comes to your mental and physical health. This positive shift will help you to participate and indulge more in social events. You will have an overall very positive week. Your competitors will think twice before facing you! People will not dare to pick fights with you this week. You need to use this opportunity starting early this week itself to build better relationships.

VIRGO



Ganesha says your social prestige is likely to increase based on the decisions you have taken in the past few days. You will make new plans to start some new project; your patience will help you throughout this week be it your relationships or your work. You will spend a huge amount of money which might be necessary for your business. Singles will be blessed by the moon. If you're single you might find your soul mate this week if they focus on socializing and meeting new people every day. To those who are already in a relationship, you are likely to take the next step this week. Your health will bother you on and off throughout the week, as it is nothing major relying on home remedies will help you recover.

LIBRA



Ganesha says, you will have to go through a difficult phase when it comes to your health this week. Your stomach and digestion area seem to be troublesome this week hence you will need to take care and focus on the good things as well as becoming as better as you can. Consulting a specialist in the area that you're facing trouble in will give you a great start when it comes to improving your health. You will have to stay disciplined when it comes to avoiding certain foods and maintaining a very strict eating schedule. You might want to focus on becoming the healthiest version of yourself this week.

SCORPIO



Ganesha says your inner strength will be on a high level and you will perform well at your work. You will get good results for your hard work. Disputes with your colleagues will be resolved now. There is likely to be an increase in your network. You will plan for a short work-related trip, which will give you benefits in the near future. Your team members and friends will help you in the completion of some important projects. Job seekers will find good jobs with the help of a network. You will receive a lot of help from your partner, family as well as friends consistently this week. Make sure to take the help as well as appreciation each and every person, every time they help you.

SAGITTARIUS



Ganesha says you will keep busy at work, your focus towards your goal as well as your patience will be tested. With the help of patience, you might be able to achieve your goals on time. Your dedication to work will be tested many times. Expect some rewards as a result of hard work at the end of the week. You are likely to make investments in fixed assets as well. Expect to hear good news in terms of parent's health. Your losses will convert into gains by the end of this week. Your past dead investments might become profitable as well.

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : SEPTEMBER 4 TO SEPTEMBER BY ASTRO FRIEND CHIRAG - SON OF ASTROLOGER BEJAN DARUWALLA

SEPTEMBER 4

Ganesha says you enjoy living alone and freely, which enables you to take small steps toward your goals, but you need to manage your propensity for being occasionally wasteful, domineering, and restless. There will be enough energy available to you, and if you use it well, it can yield impressive results. Friends and family won't be very helpful, so don't rely on them. In terms of money, it will be an excellent moment to buy stocks and real estate, but all purchases should be made with the long term in mind.

SEPTEMBER 5

Ganesha says you will make new connections and sign new collaborations this year that will help your career greatly. Past investments will result in financial gains. Family members and friends will offer encouragement and assistance. You'll experience some minor tensions and stress, particularly in relation to your parents' health and the rise in household costs. Trips for fun or get-

togethers with friends will be interesting and intellectually stimulating.

SEPTEMBER 6

Ganesha says you will get profit from the contacts you made recently this year. You can enter attractive industries thanks to your extensive business expertise, which will also help you become more visible on the market. Gains in money are certain, but unforeseen losses are also anticipated. More attention must be paid to health, particularly for people with chronic illnesses. Yoga and meditation should be practiced for both spiritual and physical benefits.

SEPTEMBER 7

Ganesha says the time is now to make crucial business decisions. During this era, investments will yield good returns. The home's renovation and other construction-related tasks will likewise be high on your priority list. Gains will come from property-

related issues. Traveling far away, even to another country, is enjoyable and can result in a probable reunion with old friends. Patients with chronic conditions need to pay closer attention to their health.

SEPTEMBER 8

Ganesha says if you pay attention to what your family members have to say this year, you will gain a lot. Your financial situation will improve and your confidence level will be at its highest if you find new sources of income. The wife and other female family members will make every effort to keep you content. If there are any career changes, they will be advantageous. Your outspoken personality will be advantageous to you. Avoid being a standing surety or guarantee for others since this could cause awkward situations and legal issues.

SEPTEMBER 9

Ganesha says you love someone with all of your heart, but you need to learn

to control your occasionally erratic and rebellious behavior. You are constantly looking for a committed romantic connection, and the idea of being alone can make you unhappy. Yoga and meditation should be practiced for both spiritual and physical benefits. You must amass knowledge, information, and enduring connections. Entrepreneurs will diversify their businesses into new and lucrative fields.

SEPTEMBER 10

Ganesha says you enjoy reading to expand your knowledge and learn about new and undiscovered things, and you constantly welcome new ideas, but you need to learn to control your urge to act in times when you are bashful, conceited, or moody. You will receive honors and accolades in the upcoming year. Financial advantages will come from a variety of sources. Your way of life will improve as you find new sources of income. Significant gains will come from real estate matters.

CONTD FROM PAGE 34

CAPRICORN



Capricorn
Ganesha says although not every aspect of your life will work out as you would have liked it to be, you'll come through struggles stronger and smarter. You're likely to feel slightly nervous and excited about how things will work out financially for you this week, as you have already made investments based on estimation of an income that's yet to come. Mid-week you'll realize that you have been blessed in all aspects of life; you will enjoy your personal as well as work life.

AQUARIUS



Aquarius
Ganesha says you are blessed with the moon this week which will give you inner strength and confidence. Self-respect will stop you from taking some negative decisions, specifically in regards to your relationships. Your social prestige is likely to increase based on the decisions you have taken in the past few days. You will make new plans to start some new project; your patience will help you throughout this week be it your relationships or your work. Singles will be blessed by Venus.

PISCES



Ganesha says you will gain a lot of profit in your business this week which will set a positive tone for the entire week. You won't need to do

things that you hate in terms of work anymore. You will have the time, space and affordability to follow your passion. Financial abundance is in your cards this week, which will keep you satisfied and happy throughout the week. You need to be more

analytical about making investments now as managing the funds that you receive this week and in the future will make a significant difference in your life.

॥ SHREE GANESHAY NAMAH ॥



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Bahula Chaturthi Vrat

Bahula Chauth is fasted on the Chaturthi of Krishna Paksha of Bhadrapada. This fast is observed by mothers to protect their sons. Items made of wheat and rice are prohibited on this day. The law of worshiping a clay statue of cow and lion is prevalent. This fast is also called Gau Pooja Vrat. Consumption of cow products is considered prohibited. It is believed that only the calves have the right over the milk of this cow. Fasting on this day gives the child of a child a child.

Law of worship

Bathing in the morning at the base of Bahula Chaturthi Vrat and wearing clean clothes should be done. If there is a cow in your house, then its place should be cleaned and its calf should be left with the cow. Ganesh, Gauri Mata, Shri Krishna and Gau Mata should be duly worshiped in the evening after fasting for the whole day. During the fast, the mantra of 'Om Namoh Bhagwate Vasudevaya Namah' should be chanted.

The story

There was a cow named Bahula coming back home to feed her calf. On the way home, he encountered a lion. Bahula is afraid of death but with enough courage she tells the lion that she has to feed her calf. Bahula tells the lion that once she lets him go, she will feed the calf and then come back, after which the lion can eat it. The lion freed him and waited for him to return.

Bahula returned after feeding his calf, which surprised the lion. He was greatly shocked and impressed by the cow's commitment to his child, so he freed her and let her return.

It shows that the physical strength, anger and passion of the lion also had to be bowed down to the care and love of the cow towards its calf. From that particular day, devotees sacrifice cow's milk and save it only for calves and celebrate Bahula Chaturthi. It is a symbol of worship that is performed to get blessings from the gods.

Bahula Chaturthi Rituals

Just like the unique significance of Bahula Chauth, there are unique rituals that people follow on this day. These rituals and celebrations are mostly centred around cattle, as they are the most important part of the Bol Chauth festival.

Preparing yourself

On this day, farmers and devotees wake up early in the morning to begin the preparations for this auspicious festival. They take a bath in the Brahma Muhurat, as it is the best time to begin with festivities. Then they remember lord Krishna to begin this festival on an auspicious note with his divine blessings. Afterwards, they begin with the rest of the festivities with a pure body and a religious spirit.

Cleaning Cattle and their sheds

This is one of the most important rituals of the Bol Choth festival. People of the agricultural community give a bath to their cattle with deep devotion and appreciation. They also clean the sheds of their cattle as a token of gratitude and respect. This day is all about having genuine thankfulness for cattle in your heart. Therefore, cleaning the cow shed is a gesture of gratitude towards these wonderful creatures.

Praying to Lord Vishnu or Krishna

Another significant ritual of the Bahula Chauth festival is offering prayers to Lord Vishnu and Lord Krishna. People put photos of the deities in their homes and apply kumkum and chandan to offer prayers. They also light incense sticks and offer fruits and flowers to the gods. Additionally, people visit the temples of Lord Vishnu and Lord Krishna to seek their blessings.

Chanting Mantras and Aarti

Mantras and hymns are a great way to energise



Important information

Bahula Chaturthi Vrat 2023

Sunday, 03 September 2023

Chaturthi Tithi Start : 02 September 2023 at 08:50 pm

Chaturthi Tithi Ends : 03 September 2023 at 06:25 pm

your soul and connect with the divine. These melodious tunes bring immense peace to our minds as well as divine blessings. Therefore, reciting the mantra: 'Om Namoh Bhagwatey Vasudevaye' with your family members becomes a fun and interesting ritual of the Bahula Chaturthi. People read the Bahula Chauth Aarti and chant the Vishnu Mantra and Krishna mantras to bring positivity to their life.

Godhuli Puja

Godhuli Puja, or Gau pooja, is the sacred worship of cows or calves, which gives immense benefits to devotees. In this pooja, people decorate their cows with flowers and garlands. Afterwards, they put a tilak on the cows using kumkum and offer prayers to them. People wish for harmony in their families and a good upcoming agricultural year.

Bahula Chauth Vrat

Fasting is an integral part of any Hindu festival in India. Therefore, the celebrations of Bahula Chauth remain incomplete without the auspicious fast on this day. Farmers and devotees observe a fast on this day. Moreover, this fast begins in the morning and continues until the day's end. People break the fast after the Godhuli Puja at night and offer Arghya to the moon.

Special food items

Bol Chauth's unique rituals include the fantastic food that devotees prepare. On this day, people do not consume milk or any dairy products. It is due to the respect of calves who have the most right over a cow's milk. Therefore, people prepare and eat food made of millet and other non-dairy products. They also prepare various rice dishes and feed them to their cattle.



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Khajuraho, a UNESCO World Heritage Site located in Madhya Pradesh, is known around the world for its stunning temples adorned by erotic and sensuous carvings. A small town located in the Bundelkhand region, Khajuraho is a brilliant example of Indian architecture and its culture back in the medieval period. The architecture of these Hindu and Jain temples depict the erotic forms of love, the carvings on the walls display passion in the most sensuous yet aesthetic ways. Built between 950 to 1050 AD the sheer confrontational nature of these carvings shows a stark paradox with the conventional Indian ideals about eroticism, leaving everybody spellbound.

Art in this small town is engrained in all of its structures and are a classic example of the finesse of India's cultural and artistic heritage. The best part about Khajuraho is that although scores of plunderers tried to destroy the whole complex, they could never succeed, even though they managed to reduce the number of temples and caves to 25 from a staggering 85 at the time it was created.

Dulhadev Temple

Built in the year 1130 the Dulhadev Temple enshrines a beautiful shivalingam and striking sculptures of Apsaras and other ornamented figures. The temple also has a stunning sculpture of Lord Shiva with his wife Parvati, the intricate details of the carvings adding to the charm of the overall architecture.

Kandariya Mahadev Temple

Built around 1025-1050 AD, this temple exudes grandeur and finesse in its architecture. With beautiful frescos of women in various postures adorning the walls of this temple, this place is one of the most stunning tourists sites in Khajuraho.

Kandariya Mahadev Temple has an artistically engraved shrine with over 800 images of women, most of which are more than 3 feet high. The temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and has a shivalingam at the centre of Garba Griha. Made of a typical sandstone structure, the artisitic representation of eroticism on the walls of this temple are bound to give a new perspective on India's cultural heritage.

Lakshman Temple

The oldest and most aesthetically pleasing temples among the Western group of Temples, the Lakshman temple is named after the ruler of that time. The trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva is depicted in the horizontal beam over the

Khajuraho: The Architectural Masterpiece



entrance of the temple.

Parsvanath temple

This temple is the largest among the Eastern group of temples and has intricately detailed carvings on its walls. The most intriguing side of the architecture of this temple is the aesthetic blend of Hindu, muslim and Buddhist styles.

The highlights of the temple are the sculptures on the northern outer walls.

Vishwanath Temple

Dedicated to Lord Shiva, this temple is one among the western group of temples. It has a beautiful marble shivalinga as the main deity. An imposing image of Brahma is also housed in this temple. A massive sculpture of Nandi the Bull is also enshrined alongside the Shivalingam.

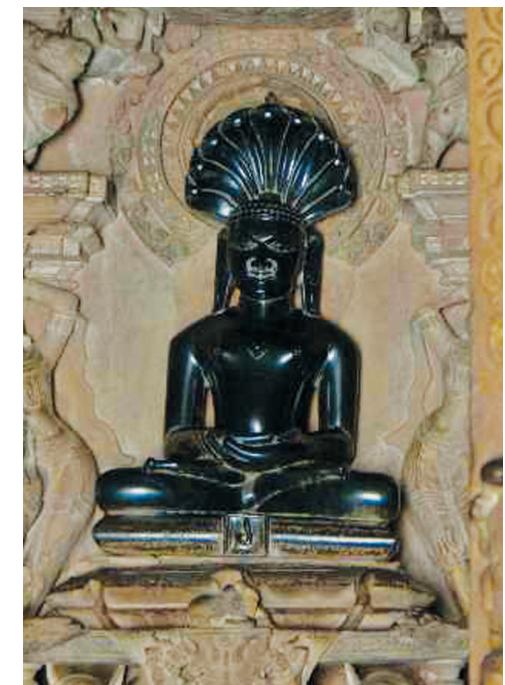
HOW TO REACH KHAJURAHO?

By Train: Khajuraho railway

station is five km away from the main town and is linked to a few cities of Madhya Pradesh. Mahoba is the closest major railhead from Khajuraho which is around 78 km away. Trains from Mathura, Varanasi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Allahabad, Jabalpur, Gwalior, etc. run regularly from Mahoba.

By Air: Khajuraho has its own domestic airport at a distance of two km from the temple sites. It has flights connected to Delhi, Mumbai, Bhopal, Varanasi etc. You can hire local cabs to reach the nearest hotel or the temple.

By Road: With a decent transport network, roads to Khajuraho are well linked to all the major National and State Highways. From Khajuraho, many public and private buses travel to nearby cities like Jhansi. Standard buses, non AC and AC buses run regularly. Also, you have the option to hire private cabs to reach your destination.



contd from page 1

INDIA bloc leaders hold talks to chart out roadmap for Lok Sabha poll

The multi-party group is expected to take various steps, including deciding on a coordination committee and unveiling a logo on Friday, September 1.

"The meeting was good. You will know the details tomorrow," Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray told reporters. Thackeray hosted a dinner for the leaders after the meeting.

The run-up to the meeting saw the Adani issue take center stage with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi holding a press conference on the premises of the hotel where the INDIA leaders had gathered.

Before the start of the meeting in the evening, Rahul was seen chatting with Shiv Sena (UBT) leaders Aaditya Thackeray and Sanjay Raut and NCP's Supriya Sule and Jayant Patil.

Uddhav Thackeray and NCP supremo Sharad Pawar were also seen sharing light moments ahead of the meeting. Ahead of the crucial third round of discussions, the alliance on Wednesday, August 30, exuded confidence that it would provide a formidable alternative to the BJP.

Sources said three north-eastern parties wished to join the alliance and this too would be discussed at the meeting. Alliance leaders had earlier met in Patna and Bengaluru. At the Mumbai meeting, they are expected to chalk out a common campaign strategy to take on the BJP-led NDA in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Earlier in the day, several leaders of the alliance said they had come together to "save the Constitution and democracy" in the country.

Ahead of G20 Summit, U.N. chief Guterres calls for reform of global financial institutions, climate action

India, president of the G20, will host global leaders, including U.S. President Joe Biden, for the Summit scheduled to take place on September 9 and 10 in New Delhi.

Speaking to UN reporters here on Thursday, August 31, Mr. Guterres said his message to G20 - the world's biggest economies, which are also the biggest emitters - is that as climate chaos gathers pace, the world is looking to them.

"They need to step up, accelerating their reduction of emissions - they account for 80% of them - and supporting countries that are already paying the price for decades of heating caused by fossil fuels," he said.

Mr. Guterres added that G20 countries also need to look seriously into reform of global financial institutions, rules and frameworks to adapt them to today's realities and more effectively enable developing countries to access the resources they need to invest in the Sustainable Development Goals.

"We must overcome the inequalities and divisions that blight our world today, including here, at the United Nations. Unless we act now, the Sustainable Development Goals could become an epitaph for a world that might have been," he said.

Mr. Guterres noted that the Africa Climate Summit, the UN-ASEAN Summit, the G20 Summit and the G77 Summit together "demonstrate the vitality of our multipolar international community."

"And multipolarity in itself does not guarantee peace and stability. On the contrary, without strong multilateral institutions, multipolarity could be a

factor for escalating geostrategic tensions, with tragic consequences," Mr. Guterres said.

He noted that unless the international community strengthens and reforms global multilateral frameworks, fragmentation is all but inevitable. "And with fragmentation, confrontation can come. Multilateral institutions will only survive if they are truly universal," he said.

"And I will therefore be carrying the same message to all these meetings - the strong call for reforms to bring our outdated multilateral institutions and frameworks into line with the economic and political realities of today's world based on equity and solidarity," Mr. Guterres said. (Source: PTI)

Adani group used 'opaque' funds in stocks: Report

Companies, including foreign portfolio investors and foreign institutions, had taken up positions just two-three days before the first adverse report on the Adani group was published by Hindenburg Research on January 24. Some of these were taking short positions for the first time ever and were major beneficiaries from the crash in stock prices of Adani companies that followed the report's publication.

The release of "Hindenburg 2.0", however, has led to only ripples in the shares of Adani group companies as compared to the meltdown that occurred in January. Following the report's release, the flagship Adani Enterprises fell by 3 per cent and the other group companies slid by one to five per cent.

The OCCRP said the Adani Group routed investments in its publicly traded stocks through "opaque" Mauritius funds. OCCRP claimed these funds obscured the involvement of alleged Adani family business partners. It was indicating that these were 'benami' funds routed from India via tax havens into Adani group companies to inflate their stock prices. Soros had earlier spoken on the Hindenburg report and had questioned PM Narendra Modi's ties with Gautam Adani.

The Adani Group did not think the report was "Hindenburg 2.0". Rather it felt these were "recycled" allegations backed by interests associated with George Soros and a section of the foreign media to resuscitate the "meritless" Hindenburg report. The group also claimed that the OCCRP's claims were based on investigations from a decade ago by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) with the matter resolved by the Supreme Court ruling in March 2023.

Meanwhile, the opposition saw its opportunity to attack Modi whose close relationship with Adani is no secret.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday, August 31, demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should come clean on the Adani issue before world leaders start arriving in Delhi for attending the G20 summit.

He also reiterated the demand for a joint parliamentary committee (JPC) to look into the charges against the Adani Group.

Citing recent reports published in two British dailies (Financial Times and The Guardian) about alleged stock manipulation by the Adani Group, Rahul said even the headline in one of the papers mentioned PM Narendra Modi's close links with the Adani Group.

"These are raising very serious questions about the Indian Prime Minister just before the leaders of G20 are coming here to be our guests. They are going to be asking the question what is this special company? Why is it that in an economy like India the gentleman has been given a free ride? They are going to ask this question and I think it is very important that this matter is made clear before they arrive," the Congress leader said while addressing a press conference in Mumbai.

"I don't understand why the Prime Minister is not forcing an investigation (into the charges against the Adani Group). Why is he quiet? Why doesn't he say that he is going to make sure that this issue is investigated and people who are responsible are put behind the



bars?" he said. Describing the two London papers as "prominent global financial newspapers", Rahul said the news would hurt India's image globally.

He said it had been alleged in the media reports that a billion dollars were circulated through a network of the group's companies before being brought back to India to invest in the group's shares to inflate their prices. "The charge has been proved with the help of documentation," Rahul said.

(With inputs from TNS)

U.S. to send \$250 million in weapons to Ukraine

"The package will help Ukrainian forces on the battlefield and support its air defenses as Russia continues to launch brutal, brutal strikes against the people of Ukraine, including attacks this past week," White House spokeswoman Karine Jean-Pierre said Tuesday.

The State Department said the package contained AIM-9M missiles for air defense, High Mobility Artillery Rocket System munitions, 155mm and 105mm artillery ammunition and more than 3 million rounds of small arms ammunition.

The U.S. would have already run out of funding for the year to provide additional stockpile equipment to Ukraine but earlier this year realized the Pentagon had overvalued the equipment it had already sent, which freed up an additional \$6.2 billion in funding.

Ukraine has already received more than \$43 billion from the U.S. since Russia invaded last year. Those funds have provided weapons systems like howitzers and millions of rounds of ammunition to fight back against the much larger Russian military. Due to the intense and bloody land war, now in its 18th month, much of the ammunition and weaponry has already been used up.

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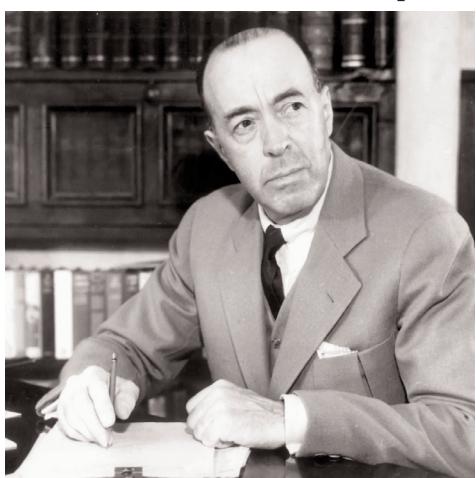
History This Week

SEP 01 TO SEP 07

SEPTEMBER 1

September 1, 1969 - Military officers overthrew the Libyan government. The Libyan Arab Republic was then proclaimed under Colonel Muammar Gaddafi.

September 1, 1983 - Korean Air Lines Flight 007 was shot down by a Russian fighter jet while on route from New York to Seoul, killing all 269 persons on board. The Boeing 747 reportedly strayed 100 miles off course over secret Soviet Russian military installations on the Kamchatka Peninsula and Sakhalin Island. It crashed in the Sea of Japan.



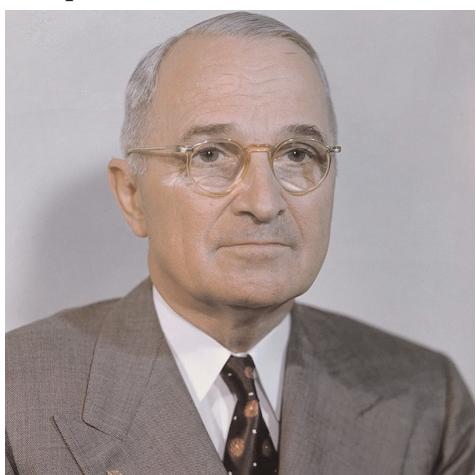
Birthday - Tarzan of the Apes creator Edgar Rice Burroughs (1875-1950) was born in Chicago. Before becoming a novelist, he was as a correspondent for the Los Angeles Times.

Birthday - Boxing champ Rocky Marciano (1923-1969) was born in Brockton, Massachusetts (as Rocco Francis Marchegiano). He fought Jersey Joe Walcott for the heavyweight title on September 23, 1952, and knocked him out. In 1956, he retired as the only undefeated heavyweight champion. He died in a plane crash in 1969.

SEPTEMBER 2

September 2, 1923 - The first elections were held in the Irish Free State after achieving independence from Britain.

September 2, 1930 - French aviators Dieudonne Coste and Maurice Bellonte made the first non-stop flight from Europe to the USA.



September 2, 1945 - President Harry Truman declared V-J Day (Victory over Japan Day) commemorating the formal Japanese surrender to the Allies aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

September 2, 1945 - Ho Chi Minh proclaimed the independence of

Vietnam and the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

September 2, 1962 - Soviet Russia agreed to send arms to Cuba, leading to the October Missile Crisis after the shipments were discovered by the U.S.

September 2, 1963 - Alabama Governor George Wallace forcibly halted public school integration by encircling Tuskegee High School with state troopers.

Birthday - Christa McAuliffe (1948-1986) was born in Boston (as Sharon Christa Corrigan). On January 28, 1986, the 37-year-old high-school teacher, the first "ordinary citizen" in space, died with six crew members in the Space Shuttle Challenger explosion.

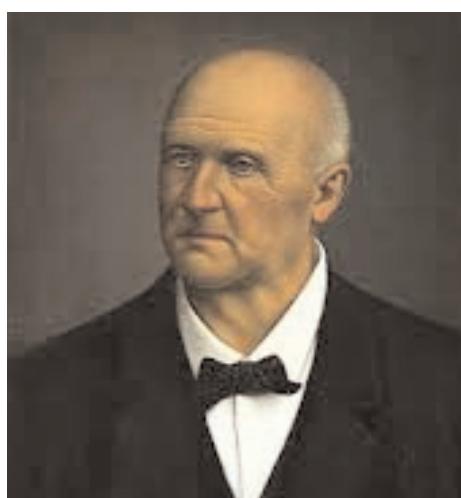
SEPTEMBER 3

September 3, 1939 - Great Britain and France declared war on Nazi Germany after its invasion of Poland two days earlier.

September 3, 1943 - Italy signed an armistice with the Allies during World War II in Europe as the British Eighth Army, commanded by General Bernard Montgomery, invaded the Italian mainland from Sicily.

SEPTEMBER 4

September 4, 1886 - The last major U.S.-Indian war came to an end as Geronimo was captured. He died of natural causes in 1909 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.



Birthday - Austrian composer Anton Bruckner (1824-1896) was born in Ansfelden, Austria. Best known for his monumental ten symphonies.

SEPTEMBER 5

September 5-6, 1972 - Eleven members of the Israeli Olympic Team were killed during an attack on the Olympic Village in Munich by members of the Black September faction of the Palestinian Liberation Army. Israeli jets then bombed Palestinian positions in Lebanon and Syria in retaliation on September 8, 1972.

September 5, 1975 - The first of two September assassination attempts on President Gerald Ford occurred as a woman pointed a gun at the President in Sacramento, California. Two weeks later, a second attempt occurred as another woman fired a shot at Ford in San Francisco. Ford was not harmed in either incident.



September 5, 1997 - Mother Teresa died in Calcutta at age 87, after a life of good works spent aiding the sick and poor in India through her Missionaries of Charity order.

Birthday - Wild West legend Jesse James (1847-1882) was born in Centerville, Missouri. Following the American Civil War, Jesse and his brother Frank formed a group of outlaws, robbing banks, trains, stagecoaches and stores. In 1882, after the governor of Missouri offered a \$10,000 reward for their capture dead or alive, a member of the gang shot 34-year-old Jesse in the back of the head and claimed the reward.

Birthday - Film producer Darryl F. Zanuck (1902-1979) was born in Wahoo, Nebraska. He co-founded 20th Century Studios, which later merged with Fox. His films included the first sound picture The Jazz Singer, and also The Snake Pit and The Grapes of Wrath.

SEPTEMBER 6

September 6, 1991 - Leningrad was renamed Saint Petersburg by Russian legislators following the collapse of the Soviet Union. Russia's second largest city had been known as Leningrad for 67 years in honor of Vladimir Lenin, founder of the Soviet Union.



Birthday - Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834) was born in Chavaniac, France (as Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert du Motier). He came to America in 1777 to volunteer in the American Revolution, beginning a long friendship with George Washington. He later persuaded Louis XVI of France to send a 6,000-man force to assist the Americans. Lafayette was given command of an army in Virginia and was instrumental in forcing Cornwallis to surrender at Yorktown,

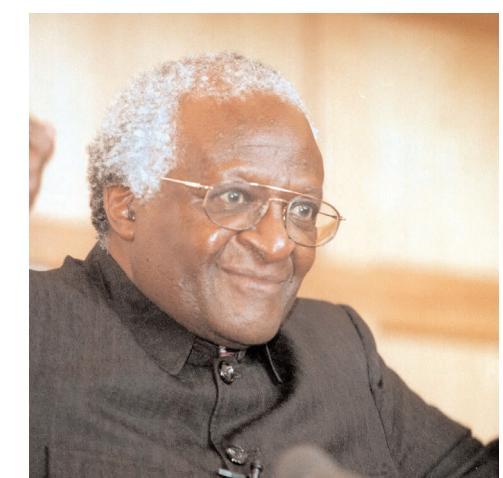
leading to the American victory.

Birthday - Pioneering American social worker Jane Addams (1860-1935) was born in Cedarville, Illinois. In 1883, she toured the great European cities to study famous historic sites but was deeply moved by the hunger and misery she found among the common people. She then founded Hull House in Chicago to serve the sick and poor and managed the settlement for the next 46 years.

SEPTEMBER 7

September 7, 1822 - Brazil declared its independence from Portugal after 322 years as a colony.

September 7, 1940 - The German Luftwaffe began its Blitz bombing campaign against London during World War II.



September 7, 1986 - Bishop Desmond Tutu became Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, the first black head of South Africa's Anglicans.

September 7, 1994 - The U.S. Army closed its headquarters in Berlin, ending the American military presence in the once-divided city after nearly half a century.

September 7, 1999 - For the first time since World War II, Germany's parliament, the Bundestag, returned to Berlin, former capital of Imperial Germany as well as Hitler's Reich. The Bundestag held its first session in the fully restored Reichstag building, attended by parliamentarians from around the world. The session also marked the 50th anniversary of the Bundestag's first post-war session, held in Bonn, the former capital of West Germany.



Birthday - Queen Elizabeth I (1533-1603) was born in Greenwich Palace. She was the daughter of King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. She ascended the throne in 1558 at age 25. During her reign, Britain became a world power by defeating the Spanish Armada. The Anglican Church was also fully established.



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FIFA chief's statement on Rubiales' forceful kiss could mean curtains for Spain football boss

1 day after Spanish football federation head Luis Rubiales kissed footballer Jenni Hermoso on the lips during the post-match victory celebrations of Spain's World Cup-winning women's football team, FIFA president Gianni Infantino has ended his silence with a hard-hitting statement. Though FIFA launched disciplinary proceedings against Rubiales on August 24 -- four days after the FIFA World Cup final in Sydney - Infantino had not made any official comment on the incident that shook the sporting world, sending more than 80 Spain footballers on an indefinite strike and sparked a nation-wide protest.

Infantino said Rubiales' act "spoiled" the night of the FIFA Women's World Cup final and what followed should "never have happened". "The well-deserved celebrations for these magnificent champions were spoiled by what happened after the final whistle," Infantino wrote on Instagram. "And what continued to happen in the following days. This should never have happened."

Rubiales, who was a part of the presentation party in the FIFA Women's World Cup final, was seen grabbing Hermoso's face and kissing her on the lips before patting her on the back. While Rubiales kissed almost every Spanish female footballer on the cheek as they came for their medals that day, for Hermoso he went a too far.

FIFA provisionally suspended Rubiales from all football activities at the national and international level for 90 days, while the investigation continues.

"FIFA's disciplinary bodies immediately assumed their responsibility and took the necessary actions. The disciplinary proceedings will continue their legitimate course," added Infantino who was at the trophy presentation after the final.

"On our side, we should continue to focus on how to further support women and women's football in future, both on and off the pitch. Upholding true values and respecting the players as persons as well as for their fantastic performances."

Hermoso, on her part, denied that it consensual and slammed Rubiales for making her feel molested. "I want to clarify that at no time did I consent to the kiss that he gave me and in no case did I seek to lift up the president," Hermoso said in the Futpro statement.

Neeraj Chopra's stunning comeback in last throw, finishes second in Zurich Diamond League

ZURICH (TIP)

World champion Neeraj Chopra found enough reserves to unleash an 85.71m throw on his final attempt to finish second at the Zurich Diamond League on Thursday, August 31. This is the first time the 25-year-old came second in any competition this season.

It was an uncharacteristic event for the newly-crowned world champion Chopra -- used to imposing himself on the field with big early throws -- who began with a modest 80.79m on the chilly night. As Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch and Germany's Julian Weber zoomed to the top, Chopra stormed into the top three from the fifth spot, avoiding a maiden finish outside the top three since May 2018.

The result though ends Chopra's winning streak this season -- he won Doha and Lausanne legs of the Diamond League before scooping gold in Budapest. Chopra began the competition with a modest 80.79m throw. Former world champion Anderson Peters threw 78.78m while Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch, who took bronze in Budapest, and Germany's Julian Weber fouled their opening attempts. At the end of the first series, Lithuania's Edis Matusevicius took the lead with 81.62m.

Chopra fouled his next two attempts and slipped to the fifth spot but found his groove in the fourth series when he got his first decent throw in, an 85.22m effort that placed him second, leapfrogging Weber and Finland's Oliver Helander and only behind Vadlejch's 85.86m. In fact, the fourth



series had Vadlejch, Chopra and Weber all recording their best throws of the night till that point.

Chopra fouled in his penultimate attempt. With Chopra, Vadlejch and Webber still in the hunt for a top finish, the Indian came up with an 85.71m throw on the last try to ensure he ended second. His effort was just 0.15m short of Vadlejch's leading mark.

After the event, Neeraj said his aim was to respect his body, stay healthy and give his best.

"I feel very good now, because everyone is a little tired after the World Championships - we gave our

100 percent there, but for this competition here my focus was to just stay healthy, and we have to focus now for Eugene (Diamond League Final) and then the Asian Games," Neeraj Chopra said.

"For me, the focus was just to stay healthy and to give my 100 percent in my next competitions," the Indian ace added. "Sometimes we need to read our body. Today, I feel OK, I am 100 percent OK, but I did not push too much. Sometimes, our No. 1 goal is to stay healthy. Today I gave it my best, but still with the focus to stay healthy." Source: HT

Asia Cup: Bowlers help SL seal five-wicket win over Bangladesh

PALLEKELE (TIP)

After a one-sided victory for Pakistan against Nepal in the tournament opener, the second match of the 2023 Asia Cup, between Sri Lanka and Bangladesh in Pallekele on Thursday, August 31, was a more competitive affair as the hosts completed a five-wicket win.

Having made it to the upcoming ODI World Cup through the qualifiers, Sri Lanka, the defending champions at the Asia Cup, went into their encounter against Bangladesh without star all-rounder Wanindu Hasaranga and a couple of their first-choice fast bowlers, who have been sidelined due to injuries.

However, Dasun Shanaka and Co put in an impressive performance with the ball to bowl out Bangladesh for just 164 runs before finishing with 165/5 in 39 overs to bag the two points.

Opting to bat first in sultry conditions, Bangladesh struggled to stitch together partnerships throughout. Najmul Hossain Shanto came to the crease at



No.3 and held fort to score 89 runs off 122 balls, but the rest of the batting order crumbled. Towhid Hridoy, in at No.5, was the second-highest scorer with 20 runs, in what was a forgettable performance with the bat by the visitors who lost their

last six wickets for a mere 37 runs.

Right-arm pacer Matheesha Pathirana, who has impressed in the IPL for Chennai Super Kings, was the pick of the bowlers and returned with figures of 4/32 from 7.4 overs. The 20-year-old

became the youngest Sri Lankan to take a four-wicket haul in ODI cricket.

In reply, Sri Lanka found themselves in trouble at 15/2 and then 43/3 as Shoriful Islam, Taskin Ahmed and Shakib Al Hasan dismissed Pathum Nissanka, Dimuth Karunaratne and Kusal Mendis respectively. But there was no real trouble from there on as Sadeera Samarawickrama (54 off 77) and Charith Asalanka (62* off 92) put on a partnership of 78 runs for the fourth wicket to all but kill the contest.

It was a fourth ODI half-century for Samarawickrama, who hit six boundaries in his knock. Mahedi Hasan got the right-hander stumped in the 30th over before Shakib cleaned up Dhananjaya de Silva 11 balls later. But it remained a mini fightback by Bangladesh.

Asalanka showed composure and went on to register his ninth ODI fifty, with five fours and a six, while skipper Shanaka was not-out on 14 off 21 as Sri Lanka closed out the win.



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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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