



The INDIAN PANORAMA

EVER TRUTHFUL

will bring out a profusely illustrated special edition on the occasion of Diwali on November 10, 2023.

Articles and advertisements may please be emailed to Salujandra@gmail.com by Tuesday, November 02, 2023.



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Federal Judge Again Declares DACA Program Unlawful

A TEXAS JUDGE HAS STRUCK DOWN THE REVISED DACA PROGRAM, REIGNITING THE DEBATE OVER ITS LEGALITY AND LEAVING HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF "DREAMERS" IN LIMBO.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023
AUSTIN, TX (TIP): A federal judge in Texas on Wednesday, September 13, declared the revised version of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program illegal, The Epoch Times reported.

U.S. District Judge Andrew Hanen's ruling reiterated that the Obama-era federal policy is unlawful and should have come from Congress. DACA provides hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants brought to the United States as children with a two-year renewable shield from deportation.

"The remaining provisions of the original injunction are to remain in place and are to be applicable to Final Rule DACA," Judge Hanen wrote.

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Immigration activists chain themselves together as they protest on March 5, 2018, on Capitol Hill

File Photo

Supreme Court of India amicus curiae supports banning for life convicted politicians from elections



SC amicus curiae Vijay Hansaria supports banning convicted politicians from elections

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

NEW DELHI (TIP): Noting that parliamentarians and legislators represent the sovereign will of the people, a Supreme Court-appointed amicus curiae has suggested that those convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude should be permanently disqualified from contesting elections. Senior counsel and amicus curiae Vijay Hansaria has suggested that limiting

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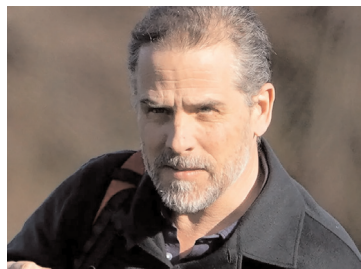
US President Biden's son Hunter indicted on gun charges in US special counsel probe

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): US President Joe Biden's son Hunter Biden was criminally charged on Thursday, September 14, after efforts to reach a plea deal failed, leading to the first ever prosecution of a sitting president's child, says a Reuter report.

The indictment filed on Thursday, September 14, in US District Court in Delaware with three criminal counts related to gun possession.

The indictment brought by recently elevated US Special Counsel David Weiss comes after a deal for Hunter Biden, 53, to plead guilty to two misdemeanor tax



Hunter Biden is the first child of a sitting president to be indicted

Credit / CNN

charges and enroll in a programme to avoid prosecution on a gun-related charge collapsed in a stunning turn in a July hearing.

The charges ensure that courtroom drama will play an outsized role in the 2024 US presidential campaign as Biden, 80, seeks reelection in a likely rematch with his Republican predecessor Donald Trump, 77, who faces four upcoming criminal trials.

Weiss was elevated to special counsel status in August after investigating Hunter Biden's business dealings for years as the US attorney in the Democratic president's home state of Delaware.

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India seeks prompt action as outrage over student's death in US grows



Jaahnavi Kandula was hit by a speeding police patrol car on 911 duty being driven by officer Kevin Dave on January 23, 2023

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

NEW DELHI / NEW YORK (TIP): India on Thursday, September 14, sought prompt action against American cops responsible for the death of Jaahnavi Kandula in Seattle in January as outrage grew over her demise and the subsequent shocking camera footage showing a cop laughing at the tragedy.

The Biden administration on Thursday, September 14, assured speedy investigation after India's Ambassador to the US,

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GUEST COMMENT

Limits of identity: On facilitating peace in Manipur

CIVIL SOCIETY SHOULD STRIVE TO BE NON-PARTISAN TO AID PEACE IN MANIPUR

One of the most disconcerting features of the ongoing ethnic strife in Manipur remains the inability of civil society representatives to rise above their "ethnic" affiliations and work towards peace. This is exemplified by the acts of the Meira Paibi, an amorphous organization of Meitei women, who have in the past mobilized against armed forces and police excesses, alcoholism, drug addiction and sexual violence in the State. During the conflict that has raged on since early May, however, the Meira Paibi has been working towards disrupting the operations of the Assam Rifles in their attempt to maintain peace, especially in the foothills. These areas, called "buffer zones", were created to ensure that there is no further escalation of violence between arms-wielding people of the two ethnic communities, but there have been violent attacks with the armed forces unable to act on time because of disruptions, allegedly, by the

Meira Paibi, among others. Clearly, the situation has been brought to a boil by the looting of weapons by both Kuki-Zo and Meitei groups and their use in the strife. But the inability of the State government and its police and the Union government-deployed armed forces in maintaining peace has also been due to civil society groups supporting those engaging in violence.

Some Meira Paibi representatives had, in a press conference in New Delhi on Wednesday, claimed that they do not recognize the buffer zones, calling them "unconstitutional". The presence of armed forces in peacekeeping is not an ideal solution in most circumstances. But with the ethnicization of law enforcement, aided by a State government that seems to have lost its legitimacy of power across ethnic divides, leading to demands for a separate administration by Kuki-Zo representatives, the armed forces' presence and the need for buffer zones to

maintain a semblance of peace have become essential in Manipur. Civil society groups such as the Meira Paibi can rise above their narrow ethnic identities to press for justice for women affected in the conflict and thus build solidarity networks that will aid the process of reconciliation and peace-building. Sadly, that does not seem to be the case today. Civil society organizations have whipped up the frenzy of ethnic hatred, partially due to the recurring trauma from the violence, as much as cynical political representatives have. And this has meant that the cycle of violence has endured. History suggests that a breakthrough can only be achieved through non-partisan leadership and civic dialogue among civil society and political representatives. As things stand, for that to happen there needs to be a credible alternative to the current leadership in the State.

(The Hindu)

OPED

Leadership Void Hobbles School Bus Safety Program Rollout

**BY ARNOLD W. DRUCKER**

As our children continue their 2023-24 studies, so too does the daily jockeying to make sure they have a safe and reliable way to get to school every day. Many are driven to school; others walk; and the remainder rely upon school bus transportation. Regrettably, as it pertains to that latter form of transportation, many school buses serving our County currently lack a major safety tool - stop-arm cameras that ensure motorists who illegally pass buses are held accountable.

As a cosponsor of the 2019 legislation that cleared the way for a stop-arm camera program here in Nassau County, I am frustrated by the laissez-faire approach the Blakeman administration has taken to getting school districts to sign up for a program that is expressly designed to promote public safety and protect our children. What makes it especially disappointing is that school districts like Jericho - which have cameras installed on all its buses - can't use this potentially life-saving technology until the Town and the vendor sign a contract.

After the administration of former County Executive Laura Curran correctly spearheaded the program - the rollout of which was complicated by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 - County Executive Blakeman has seen fit to punt the project to the towns and cities. In recent remarks to the Newsday editorial board, his spokesman cited "pluses and minuses" to the initiative as the rationale.

What downsides could there possibly be? Irritating a motorist with a hefty ticket for making a selfish and unlawful decision to pass a school bus filled with potentially dozens of youngsters? That's the point of threatening a \$250 fine - it deters unacceptable behavior and makes our roads safer for all of us. In the interest of fairness, rigorous safeguards must be in place to prevent and correct erroneous tickets.

Data from neighboring Suffolk's countywide stop-arm camera program show that this uniform, countywide approach is working. In its first year of full implementation in 2021, Suffolk County's program issued more than 118,000 tickets. The next year, the number of tickets dropped by 40 percent, according to data. Experts say that's because the vast number of first-time offenders learn their lesson and don't do it again.

That's exactly what we want to have happen here in Nassau County. However, because of the disjointed approach the Blakeman administration has settled upon, it's every town for themselves. As programs like Jericho's remain in limbo, the patchwork quilt of enforcement diminishes the deterrence effect. If the Blakeman administration continued with a unified, countywide approach like Suffolk's, perhaps we would have had more leverage with the vendor to get this done more expeditiously. Nevertheless, the Town of Oyster Bay says it is hoping for a January 2024 launch, and I will be closely monitoring this situation to make sure that happens.

While we wait for this crucial program to shift out of neutral in several key communities within our County, the onus is upon all of us to make the best of this flawed landscape. We can accomplish that by ensuring that every Nassau County school district is equipped and ready to flip the switch to turn on their cameras as soon as the necessary approvals are secured. If your school district remains on the fence, I encourage you to engage with your local leaders and urge them to take this common-sense step to protect our children.

(Arnold W. Drucker, of Plainview, has represented Nassau County's 16th Legislative District since 2016)

Lotus webmag holds event on Kashmir Shaivism with Virendra Qazi



Shri Virendra Qazi made the audience drink from a firehose of his pearls of wisdom, said Mohan Wanchoo.
Photo / Courtesy The Indian Panorama



While introducing Virendra Qazi, Dr Nirmal Mattoo also spoke eruditely about Kashmir Shaivism.
Photo / Courtesy The Indian Panorama



Mrs Hema Qazi's devotional songs acted as a prelude to Virendra Qazi's discourse.
Photo / Courtesy The Indian Panorama

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

BY TEAM@LOTUS

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP): ALotusInTheMud.com organized its first public event on September 10 where Shri Virendra Qazi expounded on Kashmir Shaivism. About 70 prominent people from Long Island were edified at the session held at the Arya Samaj of Long Island arranged by Parveen Chopra, founder editor of the Lotus webmag.

Qazi ji is a top expert and practitioner of Kashmir Shaivism, which has been garnering attention even from global spiritual gurus. He said its central teaching is, 'I am Shiva'. "So, know that God resides in all of you and you can realize the Divine in this very life."

He defined Kashmir Shaivism as a universal spiritual philosophy that accepts all elements of life in totality and teaches a path of realization through divine grace. The grace or shaktipat is in us all to a lesser or greater degree. He advised people to make humility, love, and compassion their second nature. "That will give you tremendous blessings." He concluded with a brief meditation to give a taste of the follow-up experience sessions he conducts over two days.

In his introduction, Dr Nirmal Mattoo said Qazi ji has been explaining Kashmir Shaivism to laypeople for three decades and had served in leadership roles in the Steel Authority of India.



Prof Indrajit Singh Saluja introduced Parveen Chopra (seated on the left) and extended a word of welcome
Photo / Courtesy The Indian Panorama

Dr Mattoo, the force behind the Center for India Studies at Stony Brook University, chairman of Indo-American Arts Council, and co-founder of Atlantic Dialysis Management Services, also gave an erudite introduction to Kashmir Shaivism.

Mohan Wanchoo, Chairman & CEO at EC Infosystems



(Clockwise from bottom left) Parveen Chopra, Renu Chopra, Hema Qazi, Virendra Qazi, Mohan Wanchoo, a guest, and Ashok Vyas.
Photo / Courtesy The Indian Panorama

and philanthropist, thanked Qazi ji for "enlightening us about Kashmir Shaivism and I am sure all in the audience here benefitted as we were almost like drinking from a firehose of his pearls of wisdom."

Qazi's discourse was preceded by Mrs Hema Qazi rendering devotional songs in Kashmiri and Hindi. She was greeted by Kavita Wanchoo.

Prof Indrajit Singh Saluja, editor-publisher of The Indian Panorama, introduced Parveen Chopra as an editor whose passion for spiritual journalism inspired him to start Lotus magazine.

Parveen Chopra reported that ALotusInTheMud.com, launched in January, has been growing its audience at a fast clip. He added that Lotus was at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago in August to cover it.

Prominent attendees at the event included Dr Buddhadev Manvar, Sunil Hali, Arvind Vora, Arish Sahani, Nilima Madan, and Atul Kumria. Refreshments were arranged by Renu Chopra.

The event was supported by Dr Mattoo and Mohan Wanchoo and promoted by The South Asian Times as well as other media outlets.

Based in New Delhi, Qazi ji has been holding similar events in many cities in the USA and Canada during his current tour.

Ashok Vyas, program director for ITV Gold, produced the video recording of the event for his Heramba Studio. Here is the link to watch the video on the YouTube channel of Lotus: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCqXZtrBtrM>



The event drew a full hall at Arya Samaj temple in Hicksville.
Photo / Courtesy The Indian Panorama

INDIAN AMERICAN REPUBLICAN ACTIVIST C B YADAV'S NAME IN TRUMP ELECTION RACKETEERING PROBE LIST



C. B. Yadav is facing serious allegations of election interference in Georgia.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

ATLANTA (TIP): C. B. Yadav, a South Georgia-based Indian American Republican activist and hotelier is facing serious allegations of election interference in Georgia.

A special grand jury in Fulton County earlier this year had recommended his indictment along with 38 other Trump allies, for their alleged involvement in election interference in Georgia.

Ultimately, only 19 people were charged in the probe including former President Trump and former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

A judge on Friday unsealed the final report of the grand jury in which it recommended indicting Yadav along with other prominent names like Senator Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, former senators David Perdue and Kelly Loeffler, Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones, and others.

The special grand jury, which was set up to help with the investigations, met at an Atlanta courthouse from June to December of 2022, during which it heard testimonies from 75 witnesses on the question of whether Trump or any of his allies had sought to illegally overturn his 2020 election loss in the state.

According to a reliable source, Yadav came under FBI investigation in February this year.

American Oversight, a political transparency non-profit, has obtained copies of alleged phony electoral vote certificates from Georgia and six other states that were submitted to Congress as part of the failed attempt to overturn the results of the 2020 election.

The fake electoral certificates were allegedly assembled to replace the valid presidential electors from their state, who had been chosen by voters in free and fair elections.

Yadav's signature appears on the fraudulent electoral vote certificate from Georgia.

Yadav is on the Georgians First Commission set up by Governor Brian Kemp in 2019 to consider ways to streamline government regulations to promote small business growth.

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American Sayak Mukhopadhyay glues feet to stadium floor in climate protest at US Open

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP): An Indian-origin man, who glued his feet to the stadium floor in a dramatic climate protest at the US Open, has said that it was a way of conveying the message directly to the people as other methods have been ineffective.

Sayak Mukhopadhyay was arrested at the Arthur Ashe Stadium after disrupting for about 50 minutes the US Open tennis match between American Coco Gauff and Czech Karolina Muchova on September 7.

He and two others from the group Extinction Rebellion NYC stood up shouting "No tennis on a dead planet", and "End fossil fuels" before he removed his shoes and glued his feet to the floor making it difficult for police to remove him.

He told the New York Post: "The climate change movement has tried everything from writing and lobbying for legislation to demonstrating and blockading banks, but none of that has been as effective as communicating directly to the public by going to public institutions like museums and sporting arenas."

Gauff, who defeated Muchova in that game and went on to win the US Open, said at a news conference that she couldn't get "too mad" at the antic because



Sayak Mukhopadhyay was arrested at the Arthur Ashe Stadium after disrupting for about 50 minutes the US Open tennis match

"it was done in a peaceful way".

"I believe in climate change," she said.

Mukhopadhyay was charged with trespassing, according to the New York Police Department.

It said in a statement that the department's Emergency Service Unit personnel were able to "safely free him" and arrest him.

He was released with a notice to appear in court.

According to an Extinction Rebellion NYC post on X social media, 50-year-old Mukhopadhyay moved to New York from his native Kolkata 25 years ago.

It quoted him as saying that he was horrified by the climate injustice faced by people in India who have to pay the price

for the climate change caused by emissions produced by developed countries.

"India is something I constantly think about because I grew up there and I am keenly aware of how low the level of resource consumption and energy consumption is there," he said.

But the people of the Gangetic Delta are the ones "going to pay the price for this huge amount of resources and energy consumption in the global north", he added.

The group organizes sensational protests about climate change.

It announced that it is holding on Sunday a naked bicycle procession "to end fossil fuels".

Indian American Ranjith Varma dies while attempting to hike from rim to rim of the Grand Canyon



Ranjith Varma from Manassas, Virginia was killed while attempting to hike from the South Rim of the Grand Canyon to the North Rim in a single day.

Photo for representation only

spokesperson on Monday, September 11.

Varma had become unresponsive and members of the hiking group and bystanders-initiated CPR, according to the report.

The Grand Canyon Regional Communications Center received an emergency call at around 1.55 p.m. of a hiker in distress on the North Kaibab Trail.

Park spokesperson Joelle Baird said rescue personnel had to use specialized helicopter maneuvers to reach the terrain, which was steep and rocky.

Attempts to resuscitate Varma were unsuccessful and he was transported to the Coconino County Medical Examiner's Office in Flagstaff. Although the precise cause of death is not yet known, Baird said it is likely that heat was a factor as temperatures on exposed parts of the trail can reach over 49 degrees Celsius in the shade during summers.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American protesters seek Newsom veto on anti-caste discrimination bill



Members of the Hindu American Foundation protesting against the proposed anti-caste discrimination bill.

Photo: X/@HinduAmerican

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

SACRAMENTO (TIP): A group of Indian Americans want California Governor Gavin Newsom to veto the state's anti-caste discrimination bill arguing it could lead to discrimination against Hindus in particular and amount to racial profiling.

At a protest rally in Sacramento on Saturday, September 9, opposers of Senate Bill 403 (SB403), which was recently passed by the State Assembly, asserted it is discriminatory and unfairly targets Indians.

"We ask Governor Newsom to Veto SB403 so history remembers that you said no to discrimination against Indian Americans and said no to racially profiling our community!" Samir Kalra of the Hindu American Foundation said during the rally over the weekend, according to media reports.

The Hindu American Foundation is reportedly considering legal action to protect the rights of Hindu Californians.

"Silent march urging @GavinNewsom to veto the racist bill SB403. will our "silence" be heard. @CoHNAOfficial @mairal @ashajadeja325," Harsh Singh wrote on X.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Two Indian-origin authors shortlisted for British Academy Book Prize

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

LONDON (TIP): Two authors of Indian heritage, UK-based Nandini Das and US-based Kris Manjapra, are among six worldwide writers on the shortlist unveiled here on Tuesday, September 12, for the 2023 British Academy Book Prize for Global Cultural Understanding, a leading international non-fiction prize worth GBP 25,000.

India-born Nandini Das is in the running for 'Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire' and Caribbean-born Manjapra of mixed African and Indian parentage has been shortlisted for 'Black Ghost of Empire: The Long Death of Slavery and the Failure of Emancipation'.

The prize, now in its 11th year, is open to authors of any nationality based anywhere in the world and working in any language provided the nominated work is available in English and published in the UK. It celebrates research-based works of non-fiction that have made an outstanding contribution to the public understanding of world cultures and the ways in which they interconnect.

"We were greatly impressed by the exceptional quality of writing in this year's shortlist and the ability of the authors to unearth extraordinary new discoveries and to find new perspectives on old perceptions," said Professor Charles Tripp,



UK-based Nandini Das and US-based Kris Manjapra, are among six worldwide writers shortlisted for British Academy Book Prize

Fellow of the British Academy and chair of the 2023 jury.

Das, in her 40s, is Professor of Early Modern Literature and Culture in the English faculty at the University of Oxford. She was brought up in India and studied at Jadavpur University in Kolkata before moving to England for further study. Her shortlisted work has been praised by the judges as a "ground-breaking" debut.

"This beautifully written book tells the story of England's first diplomatic mission to India in the early 1600s, through a combination of biography and historical narrative, alternating microscopic details with broader panoramas," the judges note.

"As we learn how the Mughals and English understood and misunderstood each other, we appreciate how Das's shifting perspective reveals important insights into global connections and changing power dynamics in this pivotal period of world history," they said.

Manjapra, also in his 40s, grew up in Canada and is now Stearns Trustee Professor of History and Global Studies at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. His shortlisted work examines the slow, drawn-out death of slavery and the failure of emancipation.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American CEO Raj Subramaniam wins top Asian Americans in Business Award



Raj Subramaniam has won The Asian American Business Development Center's (AABDC) Pinnacle Award for 2023

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): Raj Subramaniam, President and Chief Executive Officer and a member of the Board of Directors of FedEx Corporation, has won The Asian American Business Development Center's (AABDC) Pinnacle Award for 2023. He will be honored at the 2023 Outstanding 50 Asian Americans in Business black-tie dinner gala, which is marking its 22nd. year of recognizing excellence in corporate professionals and entrepreneurs, at Cipriani Wall Street on Sep 21.

AABDC has to date conferred the premier award to over 1,000 Asian Americans corporate executives and entrepreneurs, representing scores of industries nationwide. (Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American Staffer Asha Armstrong becomes aide to House Minority Leader

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023
WASHINGTON, D.C.

(TIP): Asha Armstrong, a young Indian American, has been hired as a cloakroom assistant, who among other things alerts lawmakers when votes are coming up, for Democratic House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries.

"I am happy to share that I am the new House Democratic Cloakroom Assistant for the Office of the Democratic Leader," she wrote in a LinkedIn post.

Armstrong, who previously was a scheduler and legislative aide for Rep Jerry Nadler (D-NY), then chairman, House Judiciary Committee added that she's "grateful" for her time in Nadler's office and is "looking forward to taking this next step."

The cloakrooms are off the House and Senate chambers' floor, providing members "the ability to converse, relax, discuss legislative strategy, or prepare for Floor business," according to the House Democratic Cloakroom website.

Each party has its own cloakroom. The duties of cloakroom attendants include "alerting lawmakers when votes are coming up, telling them whether the



Asha Armstrong has been hired as a cloakroom assistant, who among other things alerts lawmakers when votes are coming up, for Democratic House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries.

chamber will be open on a snow day and working with pages to deliver messages," according to a media report.

According to her LinkedIn profile, Armstrong began her Washington career as an intern in the Washington, DC office of Indian American Rep Ami Bera (D-CA).

Before working for Rep. Naddler, she also interned with Rep John Garamendi (D-CA). Prior to that, she worked as an intern in California with the state's Democratic Party and the state Senate, as well as with the legal department of Molina Healthcare.

A Political Science and Government student at American University, she was a member of Alpha Chi Omega and Member of Pi Sigma Alpha, National Political Science Honor Society.

A Minor in Communications + Concentration in American Government, Armstrong also studied abroad in Madrid, Spain from August 2019 - December 2019, focusing on the history and current climate of Mediterranean politics.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

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Indian American legislator Jenifer Rajkumar pushes for work permits to asylum seekers in NY



Indian American legislator Jenifer Rajkumar has introduced a bill in the New York assembly to permit asylum seekers to work in the State.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

NEW YORK (TIP) : In another bid to address New York City's migrant crisis, Indian American legislator Jenifer Rajkumar has introduced a bill in the New York assembly to permit asylum seekers to work in the State.

Her bill will allow asylum seekers to be self-sufficient, lift the financial and

logistical burden facing New York City, and bring much-needed talent to the workforce, she stated in a press release.

Rajkumar's bill ensures New York State does everything in its power to help New York City manage one of the greatest humanitarian crises it has ever faced, it said.

Over 110,000 asylum seekers have arrived in New York City eager to work, but cannot for at least six months under federal law, the release stated noting, "Unable to earn a living, asylum seekers turn to New York City for shelter, at a cost projected to be \$12 billion by 2025."

Rajkumar's bill also addresses the labor shortage in New York State. There are 460,000 job openings in New York State, and over 120,000 fewer people in the labor force since 2019, according to the release.

Noting that businesses throughout New York State report difficulty finding employees and an eagerness to hire asylum seekers, the release stated Rajkumar's bill will add all working age asylum seekers to the talent pool.

"In the absence of Federal action to issue work permits, the State must lead and issue the work permits on its own. It is time for the State to take ownership over the migrant crisis," Rajkumar said.

"There are tens of thousands of asylum seekers asking to work, employers eager to hire them, and a wall of red tape coming between them. The time has come to tear down this wall of red tape and issue work permits to the asylum seekers," she said.

"In so doing, we can end the migrant crisis," Rajkumar said. "My bill is common sense: people legally allowed to live in our country should be able to work."

Granting work authorization holds widespread support from people across the political spectrum, the release said citing a Siena poll that found that 59 percent of New Yorkers support expedited work authorization.

A bipartisan group in Congress has introduced a bill granting work authorization for asylum seekers after 30 days. Over 100 business leaders in New York released an open letter to President Joe Biden urging him to expedite work authorization.

There is historical and legal precedent for local action in the absence of Federal leadership, Rajkumar said, noting a panel of legal scholars convened by UCLA concluded that states can hire undocumented immigrants.


As Mayor of San Francisco, Gavin Newsom issued same-sex marriage licenses before its legalization at the Federal level, the release noted.

New York State also waived certification requirements for employing healthcare workers at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, it said. "Moreover, granting work authorization at the State level will drive the Federal government to do the same."

Rajkumar, the release stated, has been leading a call for State and Federal leadership to address New York City's migrant crisis. She unveiled a package of bills last week creating a Statewide Coordinator of Asylum Seeker Services to implement a Statewide response to the crisis, and prohibiting counties from issuing unconstitutional bans on admitting migrants.

Governor Kathy Hochul thereafter said she would consider calling a special session of the State Legislature.

Rajkumar also led a Citywide coalition of 54 elected officials from all five boroughs that called on Biden to declare a State of Emergency for New York State, expedite work authorization, increase funding for New York City, and implement a decompression strategy at the border.



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Indian American community supports Sadhvi Ritambhara Devi ji's 'Vatsalyagram' project



Organizer Mohan Wanchoo greeting Sadhvi Sattypriya Didi



Organizer Dr Urmilesh Arya addressing the gathering



Sadhvi Sattypriya Didi enthralled the audience with her discourse

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP): Indian American community members got together for an annual fund raiser Satsang event organized to support Sadhvi Ritambhara Devi ji's 'Vatsalyagram' at Asa Mai temple in Hicksville, Long Island on Saturday. Didimaa (as she is lovingly known to her followers) could not attend due to a last minute illness, and sent her main disciple Sadhvi Sattypriya Didi to address her followers.

The 'Jyoti' or 'flame of selfless service' also gets reignited in the compassionate hearts by Sadhvi Ritambhara Devi ji through her words and deeds. Vatsalyagram in Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh is the only one-of-a-kind community project in the whole world that brings together abandoned / orphan children. Destitute women and widows who are otherwise not biologically related raise them as families in a community environment.

Mohan Wanchoo shared details about this project to



A view of the gathering

start off the evening with a short video. Dr Urmilesh Arya moderated the evening filled with an inspiring speech, Many members in the audience praised the concept of Sadhvi Ritambhara Devi ji. It has also found

a mention in the 'Golden Book of World Records'.

Sadhvi Sattypriya ji inspired and enlightened everyone with her address. She made a distinction between information and knowledge and emphasized the importance of thirst for knowledge. Sadhvi Ritambhara Devi ji's love for Bharat, that reverential feeling for the mother land was also coming across in the expressions of her main disciple, Sadhvi Sattypriya ji.

The key idea of not restricting one's evolution to sensual pleasures and seeking the ultimate gift available for human beings and practicing human values was conveyed by her with the example of family structure created at 'Vatsalyagram'. Sadhvi ji also talked about the importance of Guru's grace in a seeker's spiritual growth. Devotees enjoyed melodious devotional and patriotic songs and the Mahaprasad at the end of the program. (Press release)

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The G-20 should abolish itself

Eliminating G-20 meetings would free up the leaders' time to focus on real issues, not diplomatic niceties



BY JOHN R. BOLTON

"CONSIDER WHAT GAVE REAL IMPETUS TO THE ANNUAL G-20 PROCESS, THE 2008 FINANCIAL CRISIS. IN NOVEMBER 2009, WITH HIS HISTORY A LITTLE SHAKY, INCOMING EUROPEAN COUNCIL PRESIDENT HERMAN VAN ROMPUY (A FORMER BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER) PROCLAIMED 2009 TO BE "THE FIRST YEAR OF GLOBAL GOVERNANCE, WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE G-20 IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FINANCIAL CRISIS. THE CLIMATE CONFERENCE IN COPENHAGEN IS ANOTHER STEP TOWARD THE GLOBAL MANAGEMENT OF OUR PLANET." ONE CAN ONLY IMAGINE HOW MANY AMERICANS REMAIN UNAWARE OF THE G-20'S ROLE IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE, MUCH LESS AGREE THAT THERE SHOULD BE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE OR A G-20 ROLE IN IT."

The annual Group of 20 festivities, this year in India, are now concluded. It is appropriate to ask exactly what these gatherings accomplish. For the process-obsessed, every international meeting among heads of state or diplomats is positive, regardless of whether anything concrete is achieved. The G-20 exemplifies this misconception. Mountains of final communiqués, joint statements and outcome documents have contributed to global deforestation but little else.

Moreover, leaders' summits are preceded by endless cabinet-level



Signage for the Group of 20 summit in New Delhi on September 3, 2023

Credit / Prakash Singh/Bloomberg News

meetings: foreign ministers, treasury ministers and environmental ministers, all producing rivers of deathless prose. Who remembers, though, the ringing declarations of last year's G-20 gathering in Bali, much less those of previous years?

Consider what gave real impetus to the annual G-20 process, the 2008 financial crisis. In November 2009, with his history a little shaky, incoming European Council President Herman Van Rompuy (a former Belgian prime minister) proclaimed 2009 to be "the first year of global governance, with the establishment of the G-20 in the middle of the financial crisis. The climate conference in Copenhagen is another step toward the global management of our planet." One can only imagine how many Americans remain unaware of the G-20's role in global governance, much less agree that there should be global governance or a G-20 role in it.

Van Rompuy's job helps explain the global-governance mind-set, which infects the G-20 and other international "institutions." The European Council consists of European Union heads of state or government. Its presidency once rotated every six months among the members, until the Treaty of Lisbon created a 30-month presidential term, renewable once. Van Rompuy was the first president so elected, making him in E.U. eyes equivalent to the president of the United States. Fancy that. No wonder he was qualified to speak of global governance.

Many originally saw the G-20 as a broader alternative to the global West's Group of Seven, comprising the world's

largest industrial democracies. The G-7 itself has had its ups and downs. For example, it became a G-8 by adding Russia, but Moscow's inconvenient 2014 Ukraine invasion resulted in its expulsion. It was the G-7's weak response in 2014 and later, reflecting the West's collective failure to punish Russia, that undoubtedly emboldened Moscow to invade Ukraine even further last year. The attack galvanized the G-7, surprisingly, more than anything in several decades.

By contrast even to the G-7 herd of cats, the G-20 has been feckless. Because the group includes Russia and China, its final joint statement in India contained only an anodyne comment on Russia's unprovoked aggression against Ukraine, even weaker than its 2022 statement. Every G-20 member holds veto power over a consensus leaders' statement, so it should be no surprise that nothing much happened this weekend in New Delhi, as in the United Nations Security Council, where Russia and China also hold veto power.

When asked to justify the G-20, supporters invariably say it provides a useful platform for members to confer bilaterally outside the larger meeting. It is true the G-20 enables this diplomatic version of speed dating, but so do any number of other forums, not least the U.N. General Assembly's opening next week in New York. The real question is whether endless rounds of brief encounters have any measurable utility.

President Biden's Friday meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi derived nothing from being attached to a G-20 gathering. The meeting could have

important consequences, as could Biden's announcement of new rail and shipping connections among India, the Middle East and Europe. But it could just as easily have taken place, and perhaps with even greater media coverage, during a stand-alone visit by the U.S. president. Biden's second stop on this trip, Vietnam, was also strategically correct - and was enhanced by his not being surrounded in Hanoi by a small mob of other world leaders.

Many observers correctly noted that the absences in India of Russia's Vladimir Putin and China's Xi Jinping gave Biden a solo opportunity to make America's case on key issues. But there is substantial reason to think China and Russia simply don't value the G-20 as much as other forums. Putin hasn't attended since the 2019 G-20 in Japan (2020 being a virtual summit for all because of the pandemic). Xi skipped 2021 (beaming in only by video) as well as this year. If the G-20 were so important, it is inexplicable that Xi chose not to make even a brief appearance, especially in India, where his absence is being taken as a slap in the face.

It takes nothing away from India, and its extensive preparations for this G-20, to emphasize how evanescent these meetings are. In international affairs, pretending is not a sound basis for policy. Eliminating G-20 meetings would free up the leaders' time to focus on real issues, not diplomatic niceties.

(John R. Bolton served as national security adviser under President Donald Trump and is the author of "The Room Where It Happened: A White House Memoir.")

(First published in Washington Post)

India-led G20 makes headway on sustainable development



BY MANJEEV PURI

DEMONSTRATING CONCRETE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE, A GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR BIOFUELS WAS ANNOUNCED BY INDIA.

"FOR INDIA, THE WORDING ON GLOBAL NET ZERO IS A RECLAMATION OF SIGNIFICANT POLICY SPACE IN THE CLIMATE DOMAIN ALONG WITH A CLEAR RECOGNITION OF ITS VIEW THAT NOT JUST COUNTRIES BUT THE PEOPLE - THE POOREST AND MOST VULNERABLE - SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN IN MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR ACTION ON FOSSIL FUELS, THE DECLARATION UNDERLINED ACTION ON INEFFICIENT FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES THAT ENCOURAGE WASTEFUL CONSUMPTION AND THE NEED TO EXPAND CLEANER TECHNOLOGIES, INCLUDING SMALL MODULAR NUCLEAR REACTORS, TRIPLE RENEWAL ENERGY CAPACITY GLOBALLY AND GREEN HYDROGEN. FURTHERMORE, DEMONSTRATING CONCRETE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE, A GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR BIOFUELS WAS ANNOUNCED BY INDIA."



The Delhi Declaration underlines action on inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption. Credit / PTI

India has emerged as a shining star in the global firmament with the success of the G20 summit, demonstrating its ability to become a bridge between the developed and the developing worlds and also a voice of the Global South. The leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the deft diplomacy of India's Sherpa Amitabh Kant as well as the External Affairs Ministry team have earned high praise, and rightly so.

For many, the big achievement was bringing the G20 to a consensus on the Delhi Declaration, especially on the contentious matter of the Ukraine war on which the group faltered in Bali last year. India began by suggesting a completely new text that recalled the Bali Declaration but dropped condemnation of Russia. In a smart move, India co-opted other emerging powers - Brazil, South Africa and Indonesia - and their combined efforts forged a 'deal' that Russia could live with and the West found expedient to accept.

True, the Ukrainians have aired their disappointment, but that is really addressed to their Western supporters, who will have to explain their G20 stance to their people and opposition parties. Basically, though, for them (the West), the continued relevance of the G20 was an imperative, more so as the Chinese gave an impression of undermining the grouping by the absence of their President. Moreover, the West, and indeed most of the world, clearly recognizes India by itself as very important - both as a huge and growing market, including for defense equipment, and as a bulwark against Chinese hegemony, especially in the Indo-Pacific.

With the 'resolution' on Ukraine in place, it was prudent for the Chinese to lift reservations on India-suggested ideas such as LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), women-led development, digital public infrastructure, etc., given that the Delhi Declaration sought to push the agenda of the Global South. The inclusion of the African Union as a member of the G20, at India's instance, led to a changed approach, along with the fact that accelerating progress on Sustainable Development Goals, where the world is well behind the target, was a major objective of the declaration.

While focusing on the Delhi Declaration's pronouncements on sustainable development, climate change and energy, it needs to be highlighted that the G20 is about impacting rule-making by the relevant de jure body, be it the UN, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), WTO or the IMF/World Bank. And this has been done in a major manner in Delhi and should raise optimism among activists who point to the fact that no large-scale funds have been specifically committed for climate action, including the loss and damage fund, or even resolving debt issues.

Monies, obviously, are the key resource. Therefore, perhaps, most important is the commitment to reorient multilateral development banks (MDBs) to poverty eradication and prosperity in a sustainable world. Actions as per this template should tackle capital adequacy at the MDBs and help them move private flows in a significantly enhanced manner to developing countries through de-risking. Indeed, a major outcome of the proposal by Prime Minister Modi of a virtual G20 event in November-end could be a report on MDB reforms by a

high-level expert group co-led by Prof Larry Summers of the US and NK Singh of India. All of this was also underscored in a declaration involving India, the US, Brazil and South Africa - along with World Bank President Ajay Banga - issued on the sidelines of the G20 summit.

The declaration itself center-staged the huge sums required for climate action, moving the needle from billions to trillions of dollars. Specifically, it noted "the need for \$5.8-5.9 trillion in the pre-2030 period required for developing countries as well as the need for \$4 trillion per year for clean energy technologies by 2030" for net-zero emissions by 2050.

Secondly, it has forced the developed world to set a New Collective Quantified Goal, which is ambitious, transparent and trackable, for its assistance to developing countries (recall \$100 billion a year pledged in Copenhagen, 2009, which is still to be realized) and double the collective provision for adaptation finance. Of course, it would have been good had a push been given in Delhi for the setting of a global goal for adaptation at COP28 in Dubai in November-December this year.

Net zero (GHG emissions) has been an objective of the global community since the UNFCCC meeting in Glasgow in 2021. Interestingly, the Delhi Declaration is unambiguous that this is a global goal and that the mid-century global goal does not imply peaking in all countries within a similar timeframe. Hopefully, this will push the developed countries to recognize that they need to achieve this milestone well before 2050 as a show of intent and their commitment towards the Paris Agreement's principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) and respective capabilities.

For India, the wording on global net zero is a reclamation of significant policy space in the climate domain along with a clear recognition of its view that not just countries but the people - the poorest and most vulnerable - should not be forgotten in multilateral negotiations. Recognizing the need for action on fossil fuels, the declaration underlined action on inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption and the need to expand cleaner technologies, including small modular nuclear reactors, triple renewal energy capacity globally and green hydrogen. Furthermore, demonstrating concrete action on climate change, a Global Alliance for Biofuels was announced by India.

(The author is a former Ambassador and Distinguished Fellow, TERI)

Challenge for INDIA to craft a narrative



BY RADHIKA
RAMASESHAN

PARTIES WELL AWARE THAT A THIRD TERM FOR MODI COULD WIPE THEM OFF THE NATIONAL POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

"HOWEVER, THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE FOR INDIA IS TO CRAFT A NARRATIVE. AT EVERY STEP IN THE MARCH TOWARDS ELECTIONEERING, THE BJP HAS STUMPED THE OPPOSITION BY DRAWING UPON VARIOUS MANIFESTATIONS OF THE HINDUTVA DISCOURSE THAT ARE LOADED WITH THE POTENTIAL TO POLARIZE THE POLITY. IF RAHUL GANDHI STROVE TO ANSWER THE BJP'S PROVOCATION BY DRAWING A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE HINDU RELIGION AND THE POLITICAL HINDUTVA ESPOUSED BY THE SANGH, THE CONGRESS'S ALLY, THE DMK - A VALUABLE INDIA CONSTITUENT - TOOK THE DEBATE TO ANOTHER LEVEL, QUESTIONING THE BASIC TENETS OF HINDUISM. ON HIS ONGOING EUROPEAN TOUR, WHERE HE HAS MET PARLIAMENTARIANS AND ACADEMICS, RAHUL DESCRIBED THE OPPOSITION'S BATTLE AGAINST THE BJP AS A "FIGHT FOR THE SOUL OF INDIA" AND MAINTAINED THAT BASED ON HIS READING AND UNDERSTANDING OF HINDU RELIGIOUS TEXTS, NOWHERE DID THE FAITH ADVOCATE TERRORIZING AND HARMING PEOPLE WEAKER THAN THE OPPRESSOR. "SO, THIS IDEA, THE WORD HINDU NATIONALISM, THIS IS A WRONG WORD," HE STATED."



INDIA constituents recently won four of the seven Assembly seats in the byelections. Credit / PTI

The Union Government's grandiose mission to reaffirm India's primacy in the global order gained momentum with Chandrayaan-3's insertion into the lunar orbit and successfully culminated in the G20 summit last week in New Delhi before Prime Minister Narendra Modi handed over the presidency baton to Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

This year's Assembly polls will shed light on where INDIA stands vis-a-vis the BJP on a host of issues.

The overwhelming 'Vishwaguru' honorific was affixed to Modi in 2022 itself, before the Uttar Pradesh elections. Among the themes then running through the BJP's campaign was a depiction of the PM as a world leader whose 'strong' mediation in the Russia-Ukraine conflict thwarted the outbreak of the third World War. The claim gained currency in the political chatter heard even in UP's boondocks. The success of the G20 summit - with its key takeaways being the please-all New Delhi Declaration which refused to condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the announcement of an ambitious economic corridor connecting Europe, West Asia and India, and the induction of the African Union - is bound to enhance Modi's larger-than-life persona in the run-up to this year's state polls and the 2024 Lok Sabha battle.

Where does the build-up leave the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), encompassing as it does a wide swath of the Opposition, the Congress included, that has banded together for sheer survival? The parties in the alliance are cognizant of the possibility that a third term for a Modi-led BJP could wipe them off the national political landscape.

Hope, even in slivers, sometimes comes from unexpected quarters. On the day the summit began with the expected

fanfare and extravaganza, the results of seven bypolls across six states were announced. These were the first to be held after INDIA's formation. While the bloc's leaders did not go as far as to claim that the outcome would be a referendum on the coalition, INDIA constituents won four seats, including Ghosi (Uttar Pradesh) and Dumri (Jharkhand). Ghosi was held by the Samajwadi Party since 2022, but a by-election was necessitated when its legislator Dara Singh Chauhan resigned and joined the BJP. The SP retained the seat with a huge margin (for an Assembly byelection) of over 40,000 that was brought about not by a carefully wrought caste equation but by the pooling of votes of all representative castes and Muslims. Even Dalits voted for the SP possibly because the BSP had not put up a candidate. BSP chief Mayawati's directive to her voters was to go for NOTA but few, if any, heeded her order.

What did the bypolls portend for the Opposition bloc? Akhilesh Yadav, the SP president, who lost the 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha polls, apparently realized the criticality of putting up a joint front against the BJP because he did not appropriate the credit for the Ghosi victory. "It is a victory for positive politics and a defeat for negative communal politics. It is Bharat starting towards INDIA's victory," he said. This despite the marginal role the Congress played in the by-election. INDIA stands as a durable coalition in Jharkhand, helmed by the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, unlike its neighbor Bihar, where Chief Minister and JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar's subjective reactions to events and developments cause unwanted conjectures about his intent. In Maharashtra, NCP chief Sharad Pawar's periodic meetings with his supposedly estranged nephew Ajit Pawar (now the

INDEED, THIS YEAR'S ASSEMBLY POLLS WILL SHED LIGHT ON WHERE INDIA STANDS VIS-A-VIS THE BJP ON A HOST OF ISSUES.

deputy CM in a BJP-forged coalition government) prompted the Congress and the Uddhav Thackeray-helmed Shiv Sena faction to pencil a 'Plan-BJP' without the NCP.

The existing political dynamics rule out a non-BJP alliance in West Bengal and Kerala, while the Left Front might be forced to seek the Congress's hand in Tripura, where it has been steadily marginalized by the BJP.

However, the biggest challenge for INDIA is to craft a narrative. At every step in the march towards electioneering, the BJP has stumped the Opposition by drawing upon various manifestations of the Hindutva discourse that are loaded with the potential to polarize the polity. If Rahul Gandhi strove to answer the BJP's provocation by drawing a distinction between the Hindu religion and the political Hindutva espoused by the Sangh, the Congress's ally, the DMK - a valuable INDIA constituent - took the debate to another level, questioning the basic tenets of Hinduism. On his ongoing European tour, where he has met parliamentarians and academics, Rahul described the Opposition's battle against the BJP as a "fight for the soul of India" and maintained that based on his reading and understanding of Hindu religious texts, nowhere did the faith advocate terrorizing and harming people weaker than the oppressor. "So, this idea, the word Hindu nationalism, this is a wrong word," he stated.

DMK scion Udhayanidhi Stalin's remarks against Sanatan Dharma were rooted in the Dravidian ideology, which was founded on the premise of weeding out Brahminism that was equated with Hinduism and Sanatan Dharma. While Stalin junior's speech, delivered at a 'Sanatan abolition' conclave in Chennai, served the DMK's political intent, it put the Congress in a quandary after the BJP demanded answers and clarifications from its leaders. Some took a safe middle path and steered clear of giving a straight reply, while former CM Kamal Nath, who unabashedly advocates Hindutva in his fight to wrest Madhya Pradesh from the BJP, repudiated Udhayanidhi.

Indeed, this year's Assembly polls will shed light on where INDIA stands vis-a-vis the BJP on a host of issues.

(The author is a senior journalist)



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AAPI's 17th Annual Global Healthcare Summit 2023 In New Delhi & Manipal

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

CHICAGO, IL (TIP): "The registration for AAPI's 17th annual Global Healthcare Summit 2024 at the prestigious Taj Palace Hotel from January 1-3rd and at the Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, Mahe in Karnataka from January 4th to 6th, 2023 is filling up fast," Dr. Anjana Samadder, President of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) announced here today.

While elaborating on the themes and areas that are going to be covered during the Summit, Dr. Sampat Shivangi, Chair of GHS 2024 said, "Future of Healthcare and Artificial Intelligence" will be the theme for the GHS 2024, which is organized by AAPI in collaboration with Kasturba Medical College in Manipal, the Indian Medical Association, and the Government of the State of Karnataka."

Several prominent physicians and academicians have been invited and have been accepted to be the keynote speakers and chairs of various academic sessions planned and organized during the summit. Latest Advances, CME, ELS, Discussions on Research Methodology, and Scientific Writing by Academic Experts will be part of the summit.

Dr. Lokesh Edara, Chair of AAPI BOT said, "AAPI's GHS is yet another way of continuing with our constant commitment towards making quality healthcare affordable and accessible to all the people of India. In addition, GHS 2024 will also focus on promoting Healthcare Technology including Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare."

The focus this year will be on Mental Health, Infant and Maternal Mortality as well as Medical Jeopardy and Research Poster presentations by medical students. In addition, there will be panel discussions by International Medical Education experts and National Medical Council Board officials and mentoring of Young Professionals.

Advocacy to dismantle the stigma of mental illness and Suicide Prevention will be the highlight of the program. Chronic Disease Reversal and Prevention, Rural Health Initiatives will continue to be promoted and other Global Health Issues including Climate Change and its impact on health will be discussed.

The CEO forum will focus on Equity, Ethics, and Physician Burnout issues. The Women's Forum will deliberate on Gender Bias and Leadership. Dr. Manoj Jain, Chair of CETI - Collaboration to Eliminate TB in India supported by CDC and USAID will discuss their ongoing long-term TB Elimination Projects in India. Comprehensive details and outcomes of TB Elimination Projects in India will be presented to the GHS delegates.

Other activities will include CPR



AAPI President Dr. Anjana Samadder speaking at the Constitution Club in New Delhi

File photo

Training for Police personnel; a Walkathon on combating mental health stigma and prevention of Childhood Obesity and several other initiatives will be announced, including treatment modalities for non-communicable medical diseases.

Dr. Anupam Seibel, GHS Chair - New Delhi says, "With hundreds of physicians from the United States, the Summit is expected to be attended by nearly 400 delegates from around the world. AAPI Global Healthcare Summit (GHS) will have many new initiatives and also will be carrying the torch of ongoing projects undertaken by AAPI's past leaders."

Lt. Gen. Dr. M.D. Venkatesh, Co-Chair of GHS - India says, "Many of the physicians who will attend this convention have excelled in different specialties and subspecialties and occupy high positions as faculty members of medical schools, heads of departments, and executives of hospitals and pharma companies.

"AAPI GHS offers an opportunity to meet directly with these physicians who are leaders in their fields and play an integral part in the decision-making process regarding new products and services," Dr. Satheesh Kathula, President-Elect of AAPI said.

According to GHS Convenor - USA, Dr. Subramanya Bhatt, "The preliminary program is in place, the major attractions include cutting-edge CMEs with renowned speakers, CEO Forum, Innovation Forum, an Entrepreneur Forum, Women's Forum, and Product Theaters to highlight the newest advances in patient care and medical technology."

"Alumni meetings for networking, an AAPI-India Strategic Engagement Forum to showcase the AAPI initiatives

in India, TB Eradication in India, and recognition of AAPI Award winners will make this Summit unique," added Dr. Rohit Singh, GHS Convenor - India.

According to CME Chair - USA Dr. Banbwal Suresh Balinga and CME Chair -India, Dr. Dr. Padmaraj Hegde, while the focus of GHS 2024 will be on Mental health, Infant and Maternal Mortality, Medical Jeopardy, and Research Poster presentations by medical students with panel discussions by International Medical Education experts and National Medical Council Board officials will help mentoring of young professionals.

GHS Scientific Chair Dr. Rajendran Alappan said, "In our efforts to realize the core mission of AAPI, which is to share the best from leading experts from around the world, to collaborate on clinical challenges, the GHS in Delhi and Manipal will have clinical tracks that are of vital to healthcare in India."

Dr. Amit Chakrabarty, Vice President of AAPI, says, "It is these learning opportunities and collaborative relationships that have now enabled AAPI and participating organizations to plan and prepare for an outstanding event that is expected to have over 300 prominent and experienced physicians and surgeons of Indian origin from around the world, who are very passionate about serving their homeland, Mother India."

Dr. Sumul Raval, Secretary of AAPI says, "GHS 2024 is aimed at exploring possibilities for greater collaboration and cooperation between the physicians and health care providers in India with those of Indian origin and major health-care providers abroad."

Dr. Sreeni Gangasani, Treasurer of AAPI, "Harnessing the power of Indian Doctors worldwide, the AAPI Global

Healthcare Summit platform has evolved with the support of prominent global and Indian medical associations. AAPI's mission is to make a positive and meaningful impact on the healthcare delivery system both in the US and in India."

Healthcare in India is one of the largest sectors, in terms of revenue and employment. India is making significant improvements in its healthcare infrastructure and is building modern medical facilities throughout India. Doctors of Indian origin have made tremendous progress in the 21st century and India is now being touted as a medical tourism hub. With hundreds of physicians joining from the United States, the summit is expected to be attended by three hundred delegates from around the world. AAPI Global Healthcare Summit (GHS) will have many new initiatives and will be carrying the torch of ongoing projects undertaken by AAPI's past leaders.

Dr. Sampath Shivangi said, "We are collaborating with senior leaders from leading healthcare organizations including pharmaceuticals, device and medical equipment manufacturers and major medical teaching institutions, hospitals and the Ministries of Health, External/Overseas Affairs and regulatory bodies to attend and coordinate with AAPI with an ultimate goal to providing accessible and affordable high-quality healthcare to all people of India."

The Global Healthcare Summit has come a long way from the first Indo-US Healthcare Summit launched by AAPI USA in 2007. Since then, AAPI has organized 16 Indo - US/Global Healthcare Summits and developed strategic alliances with various organizations.

Dr. Samadder said, AAPI is hopeful that several international healthcare industry partners are looking for opportunities to participate at this event for greater collaboration on Research & Development and philanthropic engagements.

Dr. Samadder expressed gratitude to all the Chairs and members of various Committees who are working hard to put together a great Summit and to enable members to return home with memories that will last a lifetime.

"Physicians and healthcare professionals from across the country and internationally will meet and participate in the scholarly exchange of medical advances, to develop health policy agendas, and to encourage legislative priorities in the coming year. We look forward to seeing you in New Delhi and Manipal!" said Dr. Samadder. For more details, please visit: www.aapiusa.org/ To register for the Global Healthcare Summit 2023, please visit: <https://summit.aapiusa.org>

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to visit Washington

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): Ukraine's president, Volodymyr Zelensky, will visit Washington next week following his appearance at the United Nations General Assembly, according to three U.S. officials, says a Washington Post report.

MR. ZELENSKY'S PLAN TO APPEAR IN PERSON BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON WEDNESDAY, AS PART OF THE U.N.'S ANNUAL GATHERING IN NEW YORK CITY, WAS PREVIOUSLY KNOWN. BUT HIS FOLLOW-ON TRIP TO WASHINGTON - WHERE HE IS EXPECTED TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT BIDEN AT THE WHITE HOUSE AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ON CAPITOL HILL - HAS NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY.

It comes as the Biden administration works to shore up support in Congress for an additional \$24 billion in military and humanitarian aid for Ukraine amid a grinding Ukrainian counteroffensive that has so far yielded disappointing



Volodymyr Zelensky addressing the Ukrainian World Congress on September 11

results. Mr. Zelensky insists that Ukraine can still make major gains.

Mr. Zelensky last visited Washington in December, where he addressed Congress and urged the continued supply of American weapons for his country's battle against Russia, which is about to enter its 19th month. Since then, anxiety has grown among Ukraine's supporters as they have watched a decline in U.S. public support for continuing aid to the country.

Mr. Zelensky is not expected to make a formal public speech to Congress this time but is expected to hold meetings at the Capitol, including with congressional leaders, according to aides familiar with the plans. Although most lawmakers still support aid for Ukraine, a growing chorus of right-wing Republicans, most of them in the House, has been trying to curtail assistance, and even threatening to block measures to fund the federal

government if they include what they call a "blank check" for Ukraine.

Speaker Kevin McCarthy, who faces a rebellious far-right flank of his party that could cost him his job, has appeared to wobble under the pressure not to replenish the funds, despite previously saying that he backed continued aid for Ukraine. He is considering pushing ahead with a supplemental funding bill that would focus exclusively on domestic matters such as emergency disaster assistance and border security, putting additional funding for Ukraine at risk.

The Biden administration has remained resolute. During a visit to Kyiv, the Ukrainian capital, last week, Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken vowed that the United States would continue to support Ukraine.

Mr. Zelensky's planned visits come amid reports that the Biden administration may be nearing a decision on sending Ukraine long-range Army Tactical Missile Systems known as ATACMS, which Ukrainian officials say they need to make major advances against Russia. Ukrainian officials have said in recent weeks that they are hopeful that Mr. Biden will approve the weapons.

Employee Retention Credit: IRS reminds businesses to watch out for warning signs of aggressive promotion that can mislead people into making improper ERC claims

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): The Internal Revenue Service continues to warn businesses to watch out for aggressive marketing by nefarious actors involving the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) and urged people to watch out for red flags that can signal trouble.

The credit, also called the Employee Retention Tax Credit or ERTC, is a legitimate pandemic-era tax credit but as time passes the credit has been increasingly the target of aggressive marketing to businesses that may not qualify for the credit.

Although promoters advertise that ERC submissions are "risk free," there are actually huge risks facing businesses as the IRS increases its audit and criminal investigation work. Hundreds of criminal cases are being worked, and thousands of ERC claims have been referred for audit.

The IRS reminds anyone who improperly claims the ERC that they must pay it back, possibly with penalties and interest. A business or tax-exempt



group could find itself in a much worse cash position if it has to pay back the credit than if the credit was never claimed in the first place. This underscores the importance of taxpayers taking precautionary

steps and avoiding being pushed by a promoter, including instances where a promoter can collect contingency fees as much as 25%.

PROPERLY CLAIMING THE ERC : There are very specific eligibility requirements for claiming the ERC. Employers can claim the ERC on an original or amended employment tax return for qualified wages paid between March 13, 2020, and Dec. 31, 2021. However, to be eligible, employers must have:

Sustained a full or partial suspension of operations due to orders from an appropriate governmental authority limiting commerce, travel or group meetings because of COVID-19 during 2020 or the first three quarters of 2021,

(Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news)

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Nipah: Kerala tests hundreds after fifth case

The southern Indian state of Kerala shut some schools, offices and public transport on Wednesday in a race to stop the spread of the rare and deadly Nipah virus, which has killed two people.

Two adults and a child were still infected in hospital, and more than 700 people were being tested for the virus, spread via contact with the bodily fluids of infected bats, pigs or people, a state health official said. The state government on Wednesday, Sept 13, evening said at least 706 people, including 153 health workers, were undergoing tests to check the spread of the virus. Results were awaited. "More people could be tested... Isolation facilities will be provided," Pinarayi Vijayan, chief minister of Kerala, said in a statement. He asked people to avoid public gatherings in the Kozhikode district for the next 10 days.

Two infected people have died since Aug. 30 in Kerala's fourth outbreak of the virus since 2018, forcing authorities to declare containment zones in at least eight Kozhikode villages. "We are focusing on tracing contacts of infected persons early and isolating anyone with symptoms," state Health Minister Veena George told reporters. She said the virus detected in Kerala was the same as one found earlier in Bangladesh, a strain that spreads from human to human with a high mortality rate but has a history of being less infectious.

SC upholds omission of meat from midday meals in Lakshadweep

The Supreme Court (SC) on Thursday, Sept 14, upheld Lakshadweep administration's decision to exclude meat products from the midday meal menu for schoolchildren, saying courts can't decide on what food should be consumed. "It's not the court's domain as to what food should be eaten by children of a particular region. There is no scope of interference by courts of law on that count. Policy decisions would not come within the purview of judicial review," a Bench led by Justice Aniruddha Bose said, dismissing a petition challenging the Lakshadweep administration's decision. The Kerala High Court had on June 22, 2021, stayed the operation of two orders of the Lakshadweep administration to close down dairy farms and remove meat products from the menu for midday meals. A Division Bench of the high court had in September 2021 dismissed the PIL filed by advocate Ajmal Ahmed, who alleged that when Praful Khoda Patel took charge as the island's administrator his top priority was to close down the farms run by the animal husbandry department and to "attack" the food habits of the islanders.

2 army officers, DSP killed in encounter in J&K

SRINAGAR (TIP)

Two decorated army officers — a colonel and a major — and a deputy superintendent of police were killed on Wednesday, September 13, in an encounter with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district, with a burst of gunfire ending the relative calm in the valley where terror attacks had significantly declined and were at their lowest during the last five years, officials aware of the matter said.

The officers killed in action were identified as Colonel Manpreet Singh, the commanding officer of 19 Rashtriya Rifles, Major Aashish Dhonchak, also from the same battalion, and DSP Humayun Muzamil Bhat, who was recently posted to the area, the officials said, asking not to be named.

The last time a commanding officer was killed in action in Jammu and Kashmir was three years ago when Colonel Ashutosh Sharma (along with Major Anuj Sood, two army jawans and a sub inspector) fell to terrorists' bullets in Kashmir's Handwara area.

The army and the police launched a joint operation on Tuesday night after receiving intelligence about terrorist movement and their likely hideout in Anantnag's Garol, a forested area, Hindustan Times has learnt. The combat-ready teams, consisting of counterterror specialists, came under heavy automatic fire when they were closing in on the unspecified number of well-trained terrorists, resulting in serious injuries to the officers, said one of the officials cited above.

The three men later succumbed to their injuries at the army's base hospital in Srinagar.

The possibility of the anti-terror squads being lured into the area has not been ruled out, the officials said, adding that a group of up to four terrorists were involved in the attack.

There was no official update on the operation from the army except a post on X (formerly Twitter) on Wednesday afternoon.

"Op Garol, #Anantnag. Based on specific intelligence on presence of



Colonel Manpreet Singh, the commanding officer of 19 Rashtriya Rifles, DSP Humayun Muzamil Bhat and Major Aashish Dhonchak, who were killed in the encounter with terrorists.

terrorists a Joint Operation was launched by #IndianArmy & @JmuKmrPolice on the intervening night of 12-13 Sep in Area Garol, Anantnag. Contact established and firefight ensued. Two Army personnel and one J&K Police personnel injured. Operation in progress," the Srinagar-based Chinar Corps wrote on X.

Both Singh and Dhonchak were from the Sikh Light Infantry, had earned their spurs in the valley and were decorated with Sena Medal for their heroism in counterterror operations. While Singh, then a lieutenant colonel with the same battalion, was awarded the medal on Independence Day 2021, Dhonchak's bravery was acknowledged with a Sena Medal only a few weeks ago, on August 15.

It is not uncommon for commanding officers of counterterrorism units to direct operations from the ground. Several of them have been killed in action in Jammu and Kashmir while leading their men from the front and keeping them out of harm's way.

After the three officers were injured, the army and police rushed reinforcements to the encounter site located in the forest belt of Kokernag in Anantnag and the entire area was sealed off, said a second official.

Lieutenant General Rajiv Ghai, General Officer Commanding, HQs 15 Corps (Chinar Corps), J&K director general of police Dilbag Singh and additional director general of police Vijay Kumar also rushed to the encounter site.

The incident comes at a time when calm was steadily returning to the valley, according to data tabled by the government in Parliament.

Jammu and Kashmir recorded only 30 "terrorist-initiated incidents" till July 31 this year, compared to 125 last year, 129 in 2021, 126 in 2020, 153 in 2019 and 228 in 2018, the data shows. Similarly, there were 24 encounters/counterterror operations till July 31 this year, compared to 117 last year, 100 in 2021, 118 in 2020, 102 in 2019 and 189 in 2018. While 11 security personnel were killed till July 31 this year, the figure stood at 32, 42, 63,80 and 91 in the previous five years.

The attack comes a month after three soldiers — Havildar Babulal Haritwal, Signalman Vala Mahipalsinh Pravinsinh and Rifleman Waseem Sarwar were killed in an encounter in Kulgam's Halan forest. That operation was also launched after specific inputs were received about the presence of terrorists in the area. The terrorists, believed to be foreigners, are still at large. *Source: HT*

Bilkis Bano case: Some convicts more privileged: SC

NEW DELHI (TIP)

There are some convicts who are "more privileged", the Supreme Court (SC) said on Thursday while hearing Bilkis Bano's petition challenging the premature release of 11 men convicted of raping her and killing seven of her family members during the 2002 post-Godhra Gujarat riots.

"There are some convicts who are more privileged in getting these benefits," a Bench of Justice BV Nagarathna and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan told senior counsel Siddharth Luthra, who represented convict Ramesh Rupabhai Chandana.

The court's comments came after Luthra submitted that the grant of



remission for reformation and rehabilitation of the convicts was a "settled position internationally" and the argument of Bilkis Bano and others that the convict cannot be granted remission due to heinous nature of the crime can't be invoked now after the state government has already taken the

decision regarding him, who has spent 15 years in jail. "We understand the concept of remission. This is well-accepted. But here, they (victim and others) are questioning this in the present case," the Bench told Luthra. It asked him to assist it by providing judgements delivered on petitions challenging remission as usually cases were filed against denial of such relief.

"The other side says retribution or deterrence and nothing less. That, in my opinion, is not an argument that can be made at this stage... the grant of remission cannot be approached through a punitive attitude. This is not in line with the policy of Indian law," Luthra told the Bench which will resume hearing on September 20. *Source: TNS*

Opposition's INDIA bloc to shun 14 news anchors

The Opposition's INDIA bloc on Thursday, September 14, announced a boycott of 14 anchors from eight mainstream news channels — News18, Bharat Express, Aaj Tak, Times Now, Republic Bharat, India Today, Bharat24 and India TV — and made the list public.

The decision to shun certain news anchors was taken at the first meeting of the coordination committee of the India National Democratic Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) bloc held in New Delhi. In a post on X today, Congress leader Pawan Khera, a member of the INDIA sub-committee on media, said 14 anchors had been identified in whose shows INDIA parties would not send their representatives.

Hitting back, BJP president JP Nadda said the Emergency-era mindset was still alive among these parties. "These days, the INDI Alliance is doing only two things: bashing Sanatan Sanskriti and bullying the media by filing FIRs, threatening individual journalists, making lists in true Nazi style of whom to target.

Mobile internet suspended in Nuh after MLA's arrest fearing tension

Mobile internet has been suspended in Haryana's Nuh district from Friday, Sept 15, 10am to Saturday 11.59pm apprehending tension in the district. The district administration imposed Section 144 in Nuh and requested people to offer their Friday prayers at their homes. The suspension of the mobile internet comes because of the emergent situation, the order said. Hours before, Congress MLA Mamman Khan was arrested by the Haryana police for his alleged involvement in Nuh violence that took place on July 31.

The internet suspension order said there is an apprehension of tension, annoyance, agitation, damage of public and private property and disturbance of public peace and tranquillity in the district. Misusing the internet services, there could be a disruption of public utilities and law and order, the order said. "In order to stop the spread of misinformation and rumours through various social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter etc, on mobile phones and SMA, for facilitation and mobilisation of mobs or agitators and demonstrators who can cause serious loss of life and damage to public and private properties by indulging in arson, vandalism and other type of violent activities," the order read.

Late on Sept 14 night, the SIT of Nuh Police arrested Mamman Kgan in connection with the July 31 violence that affected several districts of Haryana including Gurugram, after a VHP procession was attacked by Muslims.

INDIA out to destroy Sanatan, push us back into slavery: PM Modi

JAKARTA (TIP)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday, September 14, waded into the Sanatan Dharma row, slamming the opposition "INDIA" bloc for what he described as "their pledge to destroy the Sanatan faith that has united Indians through centuries".

At two separate events in election-bound Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, the PM, in a blistering attack on the Opposition, urged people to unite and defeat their "nefarious designs", saying: "Ghamandia (arrogant) alliance wants to push us back into slavery."

This is the first time the PM has spoken on the issue that has snowballed into a major controversy ever since Udhayanidhi Stalin of the DMK, an INDIA bloc party, compared Sanatan Dharma with "HIV, Covid and malaria" a few days ago.

"Today, Bharat is displaying its capacity to unite the world, but some parties are busy dividing the society. They have formed an INDI Alliance, which some also call Ghamandia. Their leader is unknown but at a recent meeting in Mumbai they have finalised the strategy and hidden agenda, which is to attack the culture of India, the



PM Narendra Modi waves at supporters in Bina, Madhya Pradesh. (ANI/PIB)

faith of its people, to destroy ideas, ideals and traditions that have bound us together for thousands of years," said the PM.

Citing Sanatan ideology as the inspiration behind Ahilya Bai Holkar's social work and warrior queen Rani Lakshmbai's courage in the face of British assaults, the PM said even Mahatma Gandhi considered Sanatan ideology eternal and his last words were Hey Ram. "But this Ghamandia alliance wants to finish Sanatan ideology... shatter Sanatan faith which inspired Lokmanya Tilak to link Ganesh puja with the freedom struggle," the PM said

days after he signalled Union Cabinet and BJP colleagues to go out all guns blazing against the INDIA bloc on the issue.

The PM was speaking first at Madhya Pradesh's Bina, where he launched development projects worth Rs 50,700 crore, and later at Raigarh's Kondatarai in Chhattisgarh, where he dedicated Rs 6,350 worth of rail projects to the state.

The PM, while tearing into the Opposition, cautioned people, saying: "They want to demolish your faith... the very ideology that kept us together for thousands of years. Every Sanatani, every Indian will have to stay alert. Ghamandia

alliance wants to push India back into a thousand year slavery but we have to defeat their designs with our unity."

The PM also took the occasion to stress the successful conduct of G20 and asked people whether or not they felt proud at India's rising global stature after the event.

Underlining what he called "Modi ki guarantee", the PM sought to contrast the Congress as a "corrupt party" vis-à-vis the BJP, which, he said, "was devoted to politics of national and public service".

The PM listed a range of government schemes even as he cautioned people about "the conspiracy against their faith" and spoke of how the country was moving forward, "casting away the last vestiges of slavery". The searing attack comes at a time when the BJP is directly pitted against the grand old party in poll-bound Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan (Congress ruled) and MP (BJP ruled). While the BJP had lost Chhattisgarh to the Congress after 15 years in 2018, in MP, it faces anti-incumbency this year due to Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan being in the chair since 2005. In Rajasthan, governments mostly alternate.

Source: TNS

4 bills in government's 'tentative list' for Parliament's special session

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The Centre on Wednesday, Sept 13, released a 'tentative list' of the agenda for Parliament's special session from September 18 to 22. The tentative agenda included two bills -The Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2023, The Press and Registration of Periodicals Bill, 2023 - to be taken up in the Lok Sabha.

They were passed in the Rajya Sabha on August 3.

On the other hand, Rajya Sabha MPs are set to discuss The Post Office Bill, 2023 and The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023. These two bills were introduced in the Rajya Sabha on August 10.

Although there were speculations about the government proposing a 'One Nation, One Election' bill, there was no mention of it in the tentative list shared



by the Centre.

Ahead of the special session, there was also speculation about the government bringing a resolution to rename India as Bharat.

Apart from formal parliamentary business, a discussion will be held on the subject 'Parliamentary Journey of 75 years starting from Samvidhan Sabha - Achievements, Experiences, Memories and Learnings', as per the government's notice.

ALL-PARTY MEETING BEFORE SPECIAL SESSION

The government has called an all-party meeting on September 17, a day before the special session of Parliament begins.

Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said that invitations had been sent through e-mail to all leaders of opposition parties to attend the meeting.

The special session of Parliament, from September 18 to 22, was announced by the Pralhad Joshi on August 31.

At the time, the agenda for it was under wraps, triggering speculation and criticism from the Opposition.

According to officials, the session will begin in the old Parliament building and shift to the new structure the next day. The shift to the new Parliament building will coincide with Ganesh Chaturthi on September 19, considered auspicious to make new beginnings.

Source: India Today

India in history this Week

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023, TO SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

15 SEPTEMBER

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

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

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

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



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

1931 Gandhi-Irwin Pact.

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

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

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

16 SEPTEMBER



1916 Classical singer and actress MS Subbulakshmi was born.

1932 Nobel laureate Dr. Ronald Ross, who discovered malaria, a deadly disease spread by mosquitoes, was born.

2008 The employees of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) were awarded the Vishwakarma Award.

2009 The Incredible Bharat Vigyan Abhiyan, presenting India as an outstanding tourist destination to the world, received the British Award.

1882 Freedom fighter Balwant Singh was born.

2017 The most senior of the Indian Air Force and the only Marshal to reach the five-star rank, Arjan Singh died.

1965 Lieutenant Colonel A. B. Tarapore, PVC, died.

17 SEPTEMBER

1915 Popular painter of India Maqbool Fida Hussain was born.

1867 Birth of Indian artist Gaganendranath Tagore.

1876 Birth of great Bengali novelist Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay.

1948 The princely state of Hyderabad merged with India.

1950 Birth of Indian politician and current Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

1956 Constitution of Indian Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

1982 The first cricket Test match was played between India and Ceylon (present-day Sri Lanka).

1778 The first treaty (Fort Pitt) was signed between the US and Indian tribes.

18 SEPTEMBER

1947 National Security Act passed.

1803 The British captured Puri in Odisha.

1931 The birth of Shrikant Verma, the famous Hindi writer, lyricist, critic and politician.

1967 Nagaland adopted English as the official language.

2003 Dhaka-Agartala bus service started.



1906 Kaka Hathrasi, the great poet of comic compositions, was born on this day.

2008 Shobhana Bhartiawas appointed the chairman of HT media.

2009 Information technology sector company HCL Shiva Nair, the founding president of the UK, was awarded the UK's Trade and Investment Business Person of the Year Award.

2009 India opened another airstrip in Ladakh region.

19 SEPTEMBER

1965 Sunita Williams, woman of Indian origin who went into space was born .

1581 Sikh Guru Ram Das died. Guru Ram Das was the fourth Guru of the Sikhs.

2007 Yuvraj Singh of India set the record for the fastest half-century off 12 balls by hitting six sixes in an over off Broad in a T20 match against England in Durban.



2014 Apple iPhone 6 started selling.

2000 Karnam Malleswari won a bronze medal in the weightlifting event at the Olympics.

1936 Hindustani classical musician Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande died.

20 SEPTEMBER

1338 Sultan of Delhi Feroz Tughlaq Shah III passed away.

1933 Social activist and British woman Annie Besant, who fought for the independence of Hindustan, died.

1819 Death of Goa scientist-revolutionary Jose Custodio Faria.

1856 Birth of Shri Narayana Guru, the great saint and reformer of India.

1857 British troops liberated Delhi from the rebels and captured it.



1878 The famous Madras newspaper The Hindu was first published as a weekly in the editing of GSS Iyer.

2009 Marathi film Harishchandrachhi Factory selected in Oscar Awards foreign film category

21 SEPTEMBER

2000 The Liberal Democratic Friends India Society was established for better relations between India and Britain.

1857 Bahadur Shah II surrendered to the British.

1966 Mihir Sen floated and crossed the Bosphorus Channel.

2008 Oil products started in Reliance's Krishna Godavari basin.

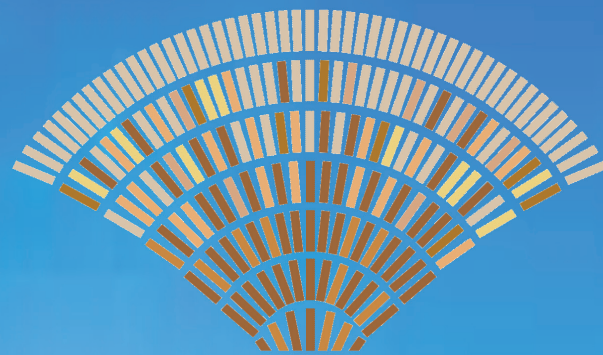


1926 Birth of famous actress and singer Nur Jahan.

1743 The death of King Sawai Jai Singh of Amer.

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United Nations: Committed to maintaining international peace

The 78th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 78) opened on Tuesday, 5 September 2023. The high-level General Debate will be held from 19 September 2023 to 29 September.

United Nations (UN), international organization established on October 24, 1945. The United Nations (UN) was the second multipurpose international organization established in the 20th century that was worldwide in scope and membership. Its predecessor, the League of Nations, was created by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919 and disbanded in 1946. Headquartered in New York City, the UN also has regional offices in Geneva, Vienna, and Nairobi. Its official languages are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

According to its Charter, the UN aims to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,...to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights,...to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.

In addition to maintaining peace and security, other important objectives include developing friendly relations among countries based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples; achieving worldwide cooperation to solve international economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian problems; respecting and promoting human rights; and serving as a centre where countries can coordinate their actions and activities toward these various ends.

The UN formed a continuum with the League of Nations in general purpose, structure, and functions; many of the UN's principal organs and related agencies were adopted from similar structures established earlier in the century. In some respects, however, the UN constituted a very different organization, especially with regard to its objective of maintaining international peace and security and its commitment to economic and social development.

Changes in the nature of international relations resulted in modifications in the responsibilities of the UN and its decision-making apparatus. Cold War tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union deeply affected the UN's security functions during its first 45 years. Extensive post-World War II decolonization in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East increased the volume and nature of political, economic, and social issues that confronted the organization. The Cold War's end in 1991 brought renewed attention and appeals to the UN. Amid an increasingly volatile geopolitical climate, there were new challenges to established practices and functions, especially in the areas of conflict resolution and humanitarian assistance. At the beginning of the 21st century, the UN and its programs and affiliated agencies struggled to address humanitarian crises and civil wars, unprecedented refugee flows, the



devastation caused by the spread of AIDS, global financial disruptions, international terrorism, and the disparities in wealth between the world's richest and poorest peoples.

History and development

Despite the problems encountered by the League of Nations in arbitrating conflict and ensuring international peace and security prior to World War II, the major Allied powers agreed during the war to establish a new global organization to help manage international affairs. This agreement was first articulated when U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill signed the Atlantic Charter in August 1941. The name United Nations was originally used to denote the countries allied against Germany, Italy, and Japan. On January 1, 1942, 26 countries signed the Declaration by United Nations, which set forth the war aims of the Allied powers.

The United States, the United Kingdom, and the Soviet Union took the lead in designing the new organization and determining its decision-making structure and functions. Initially, the "Big Three" states and their respective leaders (Roosevelt, Churchill, and Soviet premier Joseph Stalin) were hindered by disagreements on issues that foreshadowed the Cold War. The Soviet Union demanded individual membership and voting rights for its constituent republics, and Britain wanted assurances that its colonies would not be placed under UN control. There also was disagreement over the voting system to be adopted in the Security Council, an issue that became famous as the "veto problem."

The first major step toward the formation of the United Nations was taken August 21–October 7, 1944, at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, a meeting of the diplomatic experts of the Big Three powers plus China (a group often designated the "Big Four") held at Dumbarton Oaks, an estate in Washington, D.C. Although the four countries agreed on the general purpose,

structure, and function of a new world organization, the conference ended amid continuing disagreement over membership and voting. At the Yalta Conference, a meeting of the Big Three in a Crimean resort city in February 1945, Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin laid the basis for charter provisions delimiting the authority of the Security Council. Moreover, they reached a tentative accord on the number of Soviet republics to be granted independent memberships in the UN. Finally, the three leaders agreed that the new organization would include a trusteeship system to succeed the League of Nations mandate system.

The Dumbarton Oaks proposals, with modifications from the Yalta Conference, formed the basis of negotiations at the United Nations Conference on International Organization (UNCIO), which convened in San Francisco on April 25, 1945, and produced the final Charter of the United Nations. The San Francisco conference was attended by representatives of 50 countries from all geographic areas of the world: 9 from Europe, 21 from the Americas, 7 from the Middle East, 2 from East Asia, and 3 from Africa, as well as 1 each from the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic (in addition to the Soviet Union itself) and 5 from British Commonwealth countries. Poland, which was not present at the conference, was permitted to become an original member of the UN. Security Council veto power (among the permanent members) was affirmed, though any member of the General Assembly was able to raise issues for discussion. Other political issues resolved by compromise were the role of the organization in the promotion of economic and social welfare; the status of colonial areas and the distribution of trusteeships; the status of regional and defense arrangements; and Great Power dominance versus the equality of states. The UN Charter was unanimously adopted and signed on June 26 and promulgated on October 24, 1945.

Organization and administration

Principles and membership

The purposes, principles, and organization of the United Nations are outlined in the Charter. The essential principles underlying the purposes and functions of the organization are listed in Article 2 and include the following: the UN is based on the sovereign equality of its members; disputes are to be settled by peaceful means; members are to refrain from the threat or use of force in contravention of the purposes of the UN; each member must assist the organization in any enforcement actions it takes under the Charter; and states that are not members of the organization are required to act in accordance with these principles insofar as it is necessary to maintain international peace and security. Article 2 also stipulates a basic long-standing norm that the organization shall not intervene in matters considered within the domestic jurisdiction of any state. Although this was a major limitation on UN action, over time the line between international and domestic jurisdiction has become blurred.

New members are admitted to the UN on the recommendation of the Security Council and by a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly. Often, however, the admittance of new members has engendered controversy. Given Cold War divisions between East and West, the requirement that the Security Council's five permanent members (sometimes known collectively as the P-5)—China, France, the Soviet Union (whose seat and membership were assumed by Russia in 1991), the United Kingdom, and the United States—concur on the admission of new members at times posed serious obstacles. By 1950 only 9 of 31 applicants had been admitted to the organization. In 1955 the 10th Assembly proposed a package deal that, after modification by the Security Council, resulted in the admission of 16 new states (4 eastern European communist states and 12 noncommunist countries). The most contentious application for membership was that of the communist People's Republic of China, which was placed before the General Assembly and blocked by the United States at every session from 1950 to 1971. Finally, in 1971, in an effort to improve its relationship with mainland China, the United States refrained from blocking the Assembly's vote to admit the People's Republic and to expel the Republic of China (Taiwan); there were 76 votes in favour of expulsion, 35 votes opposed, and 17 abstentions. As a result, the Republic of China's membership and permanent Security Council seat were given to the People's Republic.

Controversy also arose over the issue of "divided" states, including the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) and the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), North and South Korea, and North and South Vietnam. The two German states were admitted as members

in 1973; these two seats were reduced to one after the country's reunification in October 1990. Vietnam was admitted in 1977, after the defeat of South Vietnam and the reunification of the country in 1975. The two Koreas were admitted separately in 1991.

Following worldwide decolonization from 1955 to 1960, 40 new members were admitted, and by the end of the 1970s there were about 150 members of the UN. Another significant increase occurred after 1989–90, when many former Soviet republics gained their independence. By the early 21st century the UN comprised nearly 190 member states.

Principal organs

The United Nations has six principal organs: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.

General Assembly

The only body in which all UN members are represented, the General Assembly exercises deliberative, supervisory, financial, and elective functions relating to any matter within the scope of the UN Charter. Its primary role, however, is to discuss issues and make recommendations, though it has no power to enforce its resolutions or to compel state action. Other functions include admitting new members; selecting members of the Economic and Social Council, the nonpermanent members of the Security Council, and the Trusteeship Council; supervising the activities of the other UN organs, from which the Assembly receives reports; and participating in the election of judges to the International Court of Justice and the selection of the secretary-general. Decisions usually are reached by a simple majority vote. On important questions, however—such as the admission of new members, budgetary matters, and peace and security issues—a two-thirds majority is required.

The Assembly convenes annually and in special sessions, electing a new president each year from among five regional groups of states. At the beginning of each regular session, the Assembly also holds a general debate, in which all members may participate and raise any issue of international concern. Most work, however, is delegated to six main committees: (1) Disarmament and International Security, (2) Economic and Financial, (3) Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural, (4) Special Political and Decolonization, (5) Administrative and Budgetary, and (6) Legal.

The General Assembly has debated issues that other organs of the UN have either overlooked or avoided, including decolonization, the independence of Namibia, apartheid in South Africa, terrorism, and the AIDS epidemic. The number of resolutions passed by the Assembly each year has climbed to more than 350, and many resolutions are adopted without opposition. Nevertheless, there have been sharp disagreements among members on several issues, such as those relating to the Cold War, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and human rights. The General Assembly has drawn public attention to major issues, thereby forcing member governments to develop positions on them, and it has helped to organize ad hoc bodies and conferences to deal with important global problems.

Security Council

Opening of the 78th Session of the UN General Assembly



The 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly commenced with Dennis Francis taking on the role of General Assembly President. In his opening remarks, he emphasized the importance of addressing the numerous global challenges currently confronting the world.

Key Themes and Initiatives for UNGA 78

The 78th session of the General Assembly, themed 'Rebuilding trust and reigniting global solidarity: Accelerating action on the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals towards peace, prosperity, progress, and sustainability for all,' focuses on several critical areas.

Challenges to Peace

The session acknowledges the challenges posed by climate change, conflict, and poverty to achieving global peace.

Geopolitical Divides

Geopolitical divisions have made it challenging for many countries to pursue positive societal changes. The session welcomes initiatives aimed at greater transparency and accountability, including the UNGA's Security Council veto initiative.

Prosperity and Development

Ensuring prosperity, particularly in regions with development deficits, is a priority. This involves enhanced financing, technology, debt sustainability, and capacity building.

Key Workstreams

The session identifies critical workstreams, including the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) and the Doha Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries (LDCs). It also highlights forthcoming events like the SIDS4 conference in 2024 and the Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) in Rwanda in 2024.

Secretary-General's Call to Action

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, represented by his deputy, Amina Mohammed, delivered a message emphasizing the critical juncture the world finds itself in. He acknowledged the existence of profound global challenges but urged a proactive approach rather than succumbing to pessimism.

Key points from Guterres's message

- Action for Peace and Human Rights: Guterres stressed the necessity of taking action to promote peace and protect human rights worldwide.
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Climate Change: He highlighted the imperative of rescuing the SDGs and addressing the existential threat posed by climate change.
- Economic Opportunity: Guterres emphasized the need to create jobs and economic opportunities, particularly for women and young people.
- Technology and Artificial Intelligence: He called for responsible use of evolving technologies, such as artificial intelligence, to benefit humanity rather than harm it.
- Inclusivity: Guterres stressed the importance of leaving no one behind and creating a world of hope and promise for all.

The UN Charter assigns to the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. The Security Council originally consisted of 11 members—five permanent and six nonpermanent—elected by the

General Assembly for two-year terms. From the beginning, nonpermanent members of the Security Council were elected to give representation to certain regions or groups of states. As membership increased, however, this

practice ran into difficulty. An amendment to the UN Charter in 1965 increased the council's membership to 15, including the original five permanent members plus 10 nonpermanent members. Among the permanent members, the People's Republic of China replaced the Republic of China (Taiwan) in 1971, and the Russian Federation succeeded the Soviet Union in 1991. After the unification of Germany, debate over the council's composition again arose, and Germany, India, and Japan each applied for permanent council seats.

The nonpermanent members are chosen to achieve equitable regional representation, five members coming from Africa or Asia, one from eastern Europe, two from Latin America, and two from western Europe or other areas. Five of the 10 nonpermanent members are elected each year by the General Assembly for two-year terms, and five retire each year. The presidency is held by each member in rotation for a period of one month. Each Security Council member is entitled to one vote. On all "procedural" matters—the definition of which is sometimes in dispute—decisions by the council are made by an affirmative vote of any nine of its members. Substantive matters, such as the investigation of a dispute or the application of sanctions, also require nine affirmative votes, including those of the five permanent members holding veto power. In practice, however, a permanent member may abstain without impairing the validity of the decision. A vote on whether a matter is procedural or substantive is itself a substantive question. Because the Security Council is required to function continuously, each member is represented at all times at the UN's headquarters in New York City. Any country—even if it is not a member of the UN—may bring a dispute to which it is a party to the attention of the Security Council. When there is a complaint, the council first explores the possibility of a peaceful resolution. International peacekeeping forces may be authorized to keep warring parties apart pending further negotiations. If the council finds that there is a real threat to the peace, a breach of the peace, or an act of aggression (as defined by Article 39 of the UN Charter), it may call upon UN members to apply diplomatic or economic sanctions. If these methods prove inadequate, the UN Charter allows the Security Council to take military action against the offending country.

Headquarters

The General Assembly decided during the second part of its first session in London to locate its permanent headquarters in New York. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., donated land for a building site in Manhattan. Temporary headquarters were established at Lake Success on Long Island, New York. The permanent Secretariat building was completed and occupied in 1951–52. The building providing accommodations for the General Assembly and the councils was completed and occupied in 1952.

The UN flag, adopted in 1947, consists of the official emblem of the organization (a circular world map, as seen from the North Pole, surrounded by a wreath of olive branches) in white centred on a light blue background. The Assembly designated October 24 as United Nations Day.

CAN DANCE ERASE BORDERS?

By Mabel Pais

The Indo-American Arts Council (IAAC) presents the 2023 Erasing Borders Dance Festival (EBDF), September 23-24 in person and September 25 in person and online.

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, SEPT 23, 2023 | 6 PM, AILEY CITIGROUP THEATER

Ganesh Stuti dance by Jiva Performing Arts school



Vivek, Aarthy, Surya



Prarthana and Amuktha.

Photos / Courtesy, iaac.us

Amuktha Samudrala and Prarthana Prashanth/choreographed by Hema Rajagopalan: Bharatanatyam
Vivek Ramanan, Aarthy Sundar, Surya Ravi: Bharatanatyam
Malavika Sarukkai in Bharatanatyam

Ganesh Stuti: Jiva Performing Arts
JIVA PERFORMING ARTS was created in 2007 by the celebrated artistic couple, Bharatanatyam dancer/choreographer, Sonali Skandan and Carnatic musician/composer, Bala Skandan. Jiva's mission is to develop and present new voices in the classical arts of India and increase appreciation and accessibility of these timeless arts for all communities.

Amuktha Samudrala and Prarthana Prashanth/Choreographed by Hema Rajagopalan: Bharatanatyam

SEARCH WITHIN

For centuries, ancient texts and great sages have expressed that divine spirit exists in sentient and non-sentient

beings. As we expand our knowledge and realize the beauty of form - the inherent rhythms of nature resonating around us - our minds turn inwards experiencing bliss. Inspired by the interconnectedness of this macrocosm, this Bharatanatyam duet blends traditional adavus (basic dance steps) with abstract new movements, interpolating rhythmic passages with intentional moments of silence... telling the story of a soul's search within.

VIVEK RAMANAN, AARTHY SUNDAR, SURYA RAVI: BHARATANATYAM

VAZHI - ON DIFFERENT PATHS.

Some of the most important catalysts of the Ramayana epic are the siblings of Ravana: Shoorpanaka, Vibhishana, and Kumbakarna. We explore the lives of these 3 siblings in the context of one another, as a family, as a set of children in the shadow of Ravana, as three individuals struggling not only over their own lives, but in their shared moments and impact on one another.

MALAVIKA SARUKKAI IN BHARATANATYAM

KALA - TIME

Concept & Choreography | Malavika Sarukkai

Music Production & Sound Design | Sai Shruvanam

Technical Director & Light Design | Niranjan Gokhale

"In order to understand the dance - one must be still, And in order to truly understand stillness - one must dance." Rumi, 13th Century CE

Kala - Time is fundamental to our lives. In the cyclical play of seasons, time is seen as a recurring motif of life and rejuvenation. In the performing arts from the Indian subcontinent, time is seen as measured in metrical cycles.

SUNDAY, SEPT 24, 2023 | 2 PM

DANCE WORKSHOP BY MALAVIKA SARUKKAI



Vivarta Arts



Project Convergence



Shivani Badgi group.

Photos / Courtesy, iaac.us



Malavika Sarukkai.

Photo / Courtesy, iaac.us

SUNDAY, SEPT 24, 2023 | 6 PM, AILEY CITIGROUP THEATER

Vivarta Arts Welcome Dance
Navia Natarajan: Bharatanatyam
Shivani Badgi and Group: Lavani
Sonali Loomba and Nidhika Loomba: Kathak

Manish Chauhan: Contemporary
Project Convergence/Vikas Arun and Group

VIVARTA ARTS, NYC-based, promotes Indian classical dance and music through innovative productions. Its aim is to democratize these art forms while honoring their traditions. Artistic Director Preya Patel, a Kathak dancer mentored by Gurus Jamuna Mitcham and Vaishali Trivedi, brings rich experience.

NAVIA NATARAJAN: BHARATANATYAM

विरोधाभास | Virodhbhasa: (Investigating the Profound Nature of Paradox)

"Form is Emptiness. Emptiness is Form," says the Buddhist Heart Sutra speaking of the paradox that lies at the core of all phenomena. Indeed, the world we inhabit is itself a paradox for it is both real and an appearance: Maya. And so, to better appreciate this world, one needs to look more deeply at what seems like opposites or contradictions.

SHIVANI BADGI AND GROUP: LAVANI

Shringarik Lavani - Love through the art of Lavani

Shringarik Lavani takes a traditional Indian folk style from the state of Maharashtra into a wonderful harmony of music, poetry, rhythm, and love. Enjoy the beats of the Dholak matched with the sound of ghungroo as you are serenaded in songs and poems of love. Dressed in Nauvari sarees (9-yard saree), Lavani will entice you back to the rule of Shivaji

Maharaj. Through Baithakichi Lavani (sitting dance) and Tamasha (grand show), listen to her regale stories of lovers' past, in joy and sadness.

SONALI LOOMBA AND NIDHIKA LOOMBA: KATHAK

ANHAD - LIMITLESS LOVE

Love, the voice says -total and pure love is the only path to divine power.

Anhad - Limitless love is her desire, and with that, she takes her first step forward into a journey new and unknown. Through poems of Rumi, mysticism of Sufi traditions along with classical Indian dance (Kathak), the artists explore this soul-searching journey that knows no boundaries. The music and choreography are conceptualized keeping in mind the traditions of Kathak and Sufism.

MANISH CHAUHAN: CONTEMPORARY

MEDITATIONS ON AN OPEN ROAD

The dance, which is choreographed in a contemporary style with hints of Indian traditional movements, was inspired by the song 'Mera Joota Hai Japani' (from the film 'Shree 420'). The title depicts the idea behind the piece, which is a journey of a lone traveler, real, symbolic or abstract as it may be.

PROJECT CONVERGENCE

Project Convergence is a dance company that is home to the union of Bharatanatyam and Tap Dance. The purpose of the company is to create a polyrhythm of cultures, thereby showing that two cultures can be united without having to erase the distinct identity of either. Conceived in 2019 by Vikas Arun and Ramita Ravi, and co-directed by Apoorva Natarajan, the vocabulary draws on their unusually extensive training in both classic and modern Indian and Western dance.

MONDAY, SEPT 25, 2023

11 AM - 12:25 PM

Prof Uttara Coorlawala and dance artists Panel Discussion at Barnard College/Columbia University

Walk-in event, open to the public at Barnard College. 11:00AM-12:55PM, 409 Barnard Hall

6 - 8 PM

Dr. Sunil Kothari Memorial Lecture with Padma Shri Malavika Sarukkai organized by IAAC and New York Public Library (Live)

Location: The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, 40 Lincoln Centre Plaza, New York, NY 10023

Online Virtual performance on IAAC Youtube and Facebook

MONDAY, SEPT 25, 2023 | 7 PM

ONLINE VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE ON IAAC YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK

Prachi Saathi: Bharatanatyam
Pritam Das: Bharatanatyam
Hridya Haridas: Mohiniyattam
Krishnakshi Kashyap and Group: Sattriya

Read full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news

HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY DCTV! HAPPY 1ST ANNIVERSARY FIREHOUSE CINEMA!

BY MABEL PAIS

Happy 50th Birthday DCTV!
Happy 1st Birthday Firehouse Cinema!
The DCTV's (Downtown Community Television Center) 50th anniversary coincides with the first birthday of the new Firehouse Cinema.

To celebrate these twin milestones, Firehouse Cinema is thrilled to present "DCTV @ 50," which unearths its archives to connect past and present. Spanning five decades and traversing landscapes from Canal Street to Cuba, this series spotlights the work of DCTV's co-founders: the pioneering video journalist Keiko Tsuno and Academy Award-nominee Jon Alpert.

Together and independently they have documented everything from addiction struggles to the casualties of war to the triumphs and tribulations of college basketball.

DCTV has produced countless award-winning documentaries and hosted community screenings that have brought about both local change here in New York and awareness of global issues. A lot has changed in 50 years, as Alpert remembers: "We used to show our documentaries on the corner of Canal Street from an old mail truck we bought for \$5. It took 50 years to build the DCTV Firehouse Cinema, this beautiful palace for documentary films."

Join Firehouse Cinema for screenings and conversations with special guests that honor DCTV's storied history within the documentary film community and the extended family who have made its work possible.

THIRD AVENUE: ONLY THE STRONG SURVIVE

THU SEP 21, 6:00PM

Q&A with Jon Alpert and Keiko Tsuno, Moderated by Nathan Silver

Dir. Jon Alpert and Keiko Tsuno | 1980 | 58 min

This Emmy Award-winning documentary tells the stories of six "ordinary" people who live or work along New York City's Third Avenue, which runs for sixteen miles through Manhattan, Brooklyn, and the Bronx, cutting through the complex social strata of the city to reveal wildly different economic and ethnic subcultures.

PRECEDED BY:

VIDEO TELEVISION REVIEW: DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY TELEVISION CENTER

VTR | 1975 | 29 min

As an introduction to the series, this interview is a window into the early days of DCTV. Produced as part of the Video Tape Review series of New York public television station WNET/Thirteen, it features interviews with Jon Alpert and Keiko Tsuno interspersed with excerpts from their extensive body of work documenting everyday life in Chinatown and Lower East Side of New York City, from vibrant performances by neighboring arts organizations to a rowdy school board meeting, into Cuba.

LIFE OF CRIME: 1985-2020

FRI SEP 22, 6:30PM

Q&A with Jon Alpert

Dir. Jon Alpert | 2021 | 121 min

Life of Crime: 1984-2020, is the culmination of 36 years of work from multiple Emmy Award-winning producer/director Jon Alpert. The third and final part of an epic documentary trilogy tells the full story of three friends from Newark, New Jersey whose lives have been defined by and torn apart by their addictions.

CANAL STREET: FIRST STOP IN AMERICA

SAT SEP 23, 1:00PM

Dir. Keiko Tsuno and Peter Kwong | 1998 | 50 min



Canal Street: First Stop in America

Credit / DCTVny.org.

Less than a mile long, Canal Street is the dirtiest and noisiest, but also the most vibrant and dynamic street in New York City. For over a century, new immigrants have expected Canal Street to furnish the American Dream, to provide an opportunity to work hard and build a future. Emmy award-winning producer Keiko Tsuno and Professor Peter Kwong take us on an insider's tour of this bustling street, where immigrant businesspeople are caught between the forces of the Law and a street with a law of its own.

CUBA AND THE CAMERAMAN

SAT SEP 23, 2:30PM

Q&A with Jon Alpert

Dir. Jon Alpert | 2017 | 113 min

Emmy-winning filmmaker Jon Alpert chronicles the fortunes of three Cuban families over the course of four tumultuous decades in the nation's history. This multigenerational portrait of Cuba earned an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Historical Documentary.

BAGHDAD ER AND REDEMPTION

SUN SEP 24, 1:00PM

Q&A with Jon Alpert

Dir. Jon Alpert and Matthew O'Neill | 2006 | 64 min

The 86th Combat Support Hospital (CSH)--the U.S. Army's premier medical facility in Iraq--is the setting for this unforgettable documentary. In addition to profiling the doctors and nurses at the 86th who fight to save wounded soldiers, the film provides vivid frontline rescue footage along with tension-filled scenes of soldiers patrolling one deadly stretch of highway. Winner of four Emmy Awards.

PRECEDED BY:

REDEMPTION

Dir. Jon Alpert and Matthew O'Neil | 2013 | 35 min

Redemption is a documentary about New York City's canners - the men and women who survive by redeeming bottles and cans they collect from curbs, garbage cans and apartment complexes. You've seen them combing through the trash, but never got to meet them. The film is an unexpected and intimate look at post-industrial gleaners, struggling at the edge of our society.

JAMES GANDOLFINI'S DOCUMENTARY LEGACY

TUE SEP 26, 7:00PM

Q&A with Jon Alpert, Michael Gandolfini, and Tom Richardson

Moderated by Steve Buscemi

While many knew James Gandolfini for his portrayal of Tony Soprano, DCTV knew James Gandolfini as a committed advocate for the rights and welfare of America's war veterans. Firehouse Cinema proudly worked with him on several documentaries, including ALIVE DAY MEMORIES: HOME FROM IRAQ and WARTORN: 1861-2010. He believed in documentary film as one of the best tools to shift cultural perspectives, and created some very powerful projects in the course of his lifetime.

THIS PROGRAM WILL SCREEN A SELECTION OF THE FOLLOWING FILMS:

ALIVE DAY MEMORIES: HOME FROM IRAQ

DIR. JON ALPERT AND ELLEN GOOSEBERG KENT | 2007

A new generation of veterans is returning from Iraq. For these survivors, two days will forever memorialize their lives: their birthday and their Alive Day--the day they narrowly escaped death. This HBO Documentary Films production presents the first-person stories of ten Alive Day heroes as told to Emmy(R)-winning actor James Gandolfini.

WARTORN: 1861-2010

DIR. JON ALPERT, ELLEN GOOSEBERG KENT, MATTHEW O'NEILL | 2010

Executive produced by James Gandolfini (HBO's Alive Day Memories: Home From Iraq) and produced by award-winning filmmakers Jon Alpert, Ellen Goosenberg Kent and Matt O'Neill, this 75-minute HBO Documentary Films presentation explores combat stress and posttraumatic stress on military personnel and their families throughout recorded American military history.

THE LAST COWBOY

WED SEP 27, 6:00PM

Dir. Jon Alpert | 2005 | 84 min

The Last Cowboy follows 23 years in the life of Vern Sager, a real American cowboy in one of the most isolated places in America - the Badlands of South Dakota. Out on the range with temperatures so extreme a herd can freeze overnight, Vern faces an army of adversaries: cattle rustlers, international agribusiness, old age, the weather, and the wanderlust of his own family.

A CINDERELLA SEASON: THE LADY VOLS FIGHT BACK

WED SEP 27, 8:00PM

Dir. Jon Alpert | 1998 | 77 min

Winners of the 1996 NCAA Women's Basketball Championship, the University of Tennessee's Lady Volunteers seemed poised to contend for the trophy again. But halfway through the 1997 season, the team was not living up to their promise. Could this team really win again?

THE REEL CHANGE: DCTV YOUTH MEDIA

THU SEP 28, 7:00PM

Q&A with filmmakers

At the heart of DCTV is its Youth Media programs. The Reel Change features a selection of impactful youth-made films throughout the decades. Through the lens of our young filmmakers, witness the evolution of social consciousness and activism, and experience the collective voice of young people striving for a better world.

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



Parineeti promotes 'Mission Raniganj'

Akshay Kumar recently released the teaser of his upcoming film, 'Mission Raniganj: The Great Bharat Rescue.' The movie which will be released in theatres on October 6, is inspired by a real-life incident at Raniganj Coalfield and from the heroic act of Late Shri Jaswant Singh Gill who led Bharat's coal mine rescue mission.

Akshay Kumar has reunited with 'Kesari' co-star Parineeti Chopra for 'Mission Raniganj.' On September 13, the two stars were clicked at the Pooja Entertainment office in Juhu. They were clicked while promoting the film. As per various reports, they present for the special screening of 'Mission Raniganj.'

Parineeti Chopra who is all set to tie the knot with AAP MP Raghav Chadha soon, was clicked wearing a black kurta with golden embroidery and white pants. Akshay Kumar on the other hand, was spotted donning a black shirt with cargo pants.

The two stars are busy promoting the film before Parineeti Chopra leaves for Udaipur for her wedding festivities with Raghav Chadha. IndiaToday exclusively learned the details of Parineeti Chopra and Raghav Chadha's wedding. The couple will be getting married on September 24.

Shahid Kapoor to reunite with Sanjay Leela Bhansali

Shahid Kapoor is riding high on his successful career. From Farzi to his recently released Bloody Daddy, he's been garnering accolades for his acting chops in different projects. While he continues to make headlines for different reasons, here's an interesting update about his professional life. If the latest reports are anything to go by, then Shahid is all set to reunite with his Padmaavat director, Sanjay Leela Bhansali. Yes, you heard that right!

The Kabir Singh actor has often spoken about not liking himself and being cornered in the multi-starrer film headlined by Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh. It was just recently he spoke about his role of Maharawal Ratan Singh and revealed that at times he feels why did he do that film. Now years later, he's all set to lead a SLB film.

According to a latest media report, Shahid Kapoor and ace director Sanjay Leela Bhansali are likely to team up once again for a project which is expected to be a full on masala entertainer. A source close to the development revealed to Pinkvilla, "Shahid and SLB have mutual respect for each other and are discussing the idea of collaborating on a special project. It's an out and out masala entertainer, and the script has been completely developed by Bhansali's team of writers. The filmmaker has been actively working towards casting



the film over the last few months, and is having detailed conversations with Shahid on the permutation and combinations with regards to film.

The source further reveals, "It's in very early stages of discussion at the moment and there is no director associated to the script. Once Shahid agrees in principle on the script, Bhansali will scout for a director, as he wishes to get a top director on board the project. It's a very commercial script, on the lines of two

other films produced by SLB, Rowdy Rathore and Gabbar Is Back. SLB and team are hopeful on Shahid to come on board the film."

Point to be noted is that Sanjay Leela Bhansali is likely to get a top director on-board to helm the film and the actor is yet to give his nod to the film.

Well, there's no official confirmation on the same. We shall wait for the makers to make an official announcement soon.

SRK's 'Jawan' continues its dream run at global box office, crosses Rs 600 cr mark

Superstar Shah Rukh Khan's action thriller "Jawan" has gone past Rs 600 crore mark at the worldwide box office, the makers said on September 13.

Directed by Tamil filmmaker Atlee, the pan-India film also stars Nayanthara and Vijay Sethupathi as well as Deepika Padukone in a special appearance. It hit the screens worldwide on September 7 in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.

"Jawan' becomes the first film to collect Rs 300 crore in six days, making it the fastest film to cross this milestone! Collects Rs 621.12 crore globally," a note from the makers stated.

"In the Hindi market, 'Jawan' collected Rs 24 crore nett, and with other languages included, the film's sixth-day earnings totalled Rs 26.52 crore. This brings 'Jawan's' Hindi total to Rs 306.58 crore nett. When you consider the combined earnings of Hindi and other languages in India, the six-day total stands at Rs 345.60 crore," it added.

"Jawan", a father-son story at its core, highlights various social and political issues through its hero,



essayed by Shah Rukh.

The film also stars Sanya Malhotra, Priyamani, Girija Oak, Sanjeeta Bhattacharya, Lehar Khan, Aaliyah Qureshi, Ridhi Dogra, Sunil Grover and Mukesh

Chhabra as well as Sanjay Dutt in a cameo appearance.

A Red Chillies Entertainment presentation, "Jawan" is produced by Gauri Khan and co-produced by Gaurav Verma. *Source: PTI*

Shilpa Shetty makes shocking revelation of not getting tag of 'actor'

Shilpa Shetty is currently busy with the promotions of her upcoming film 'Sukhee', and she's one of the most successful mothers in Bollywood. On to the series of new events, Shilpa recently appeared on a podcast show and spoke about never getting an actor's tag in Bollywood and how none of the bigger banners offered her films.

Shilpa enjoys a huge fan following on social media, with over 30 million followers on Instagram. The actress is married to businessman Raj Kundra and often gives a sneak peek into her luxurious lifestyle on the platform while giving a glimpse of her cute kids – Viaan and Samisha.

In an interview, Shilpa spoke about never getting an actor's tag in the industry and said, "I never got the tag of an actor. I always got relegated or rather typecast into being just a glamorous actor, which is also a great niche to have because today I can proudly say that I can do this (pointing towards the poster of her upcoming film Sukhee), but can you become glamorous? Being glamorous is aspirational and it's ok as long as you can carve your niche. I can say proudly that I picked from whatever was offered to me and I survived."





Taylor Swift wins top honours at MTV's Video Music Awards

Pop star Taylor Swift has tied the record for most wins in a single night at MTV Music Video Awards (VMAs). The other stars who attended the ceremony included band Tomorrow X Together and Selena Gomez.

Nicki Minaj also stole the spotlight at the awards nite.

The annual awards ceremony that celebrates artists and performance in the music industry was held on Tuesday.

Taylor Swift received the most nominations and wins at this year's event. The pop star was the biggest winner at VMAs. She went into the night with most nominations and left with four wins for 'Best Pop', 'Song of the year', 'Best direction' and 'Video of the year'.

Prior to September 12 show, Swift held 14 VMAs to her name, placing her closely behind Beyonce's 16 and Maddona's 20. She ended the broadcast with 18 total Moon Person's trophies. "This is unbelievable. The fact that this is a fan-voted award means so much to me," Swift said in her acceptance speech.

Chris Evans ties the knot to Alba Baptista in an intimate Massachusetts ceremony

Hollywood star Chris Evans is married. The actor, 42, wed Alba Baptista during a ceremony at a private estate in Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Many of the couple's famous friends were spotted in nearby Boston for the wedding, including Evans' Marvel costars Robert Downey Jr and his wife Susan Downey, Chris Hemsworth and his wife Elsa Pataky, Jeremy Renner, John Krasinski and Emily Blunt.

Page Six was first to report the news. Hemsworth, Downey, their wives and Renner were photographed dining and chatting at the Contessa restaurant in the five-star Newbury Boston hotel.

As per People, Krasinski and Blunt were seen returning from the festivities soon after midnight. A source said: "They were very happy, joking and smiling."

Evans and the Portuguese actress, 26, had been dating "for over a year and it's serious", People earlier reported.

A source added at the time: "They are in love and Chris has never been happier. His family and friends all adore her." Baptista — who speaks five languages and is the daughter of an engineer and a translator — starred in 2022's 'Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris' and is also known for her role on Netflix's 'Warrior Nun'. In 2018, she did an extensive amount of humanitarian work at an orphanage in Cambodia, focusing on education. She also won the Shooting Star award at the Berlin Film Festival in 2021.



Earlier this year, on Valentine's Day, Evans shared a photo montage of himself and his then-girlfriend in honour of the annual holiday. The

'Captain America' star included shots of the couple hiking and travelling together and hanging out with his dog Dodger.

Source: IANS

Joe Jonas was 'sensitive' about Sophie Turner months before divorce



Joe Jonas and Sophie Turner officially announced their separation on Instagram a few days ago. Now a source has told Page Six that Joe was 'very sensitive' whenever he was asked anything related to Sophie in the past few months. The singer broke his silence on the media speculation surrounding his divorce and thanked fans for support at the LA concert.

In a report by Page Six, a source said that Joe was 'incredibly checked out and detached' in the past few months whenever the topic of Sophie came up. The source further added, "Joe seemed very sensitive, almost touchy, when asked anything about his wife or family-related, so I'm guessing things were on the rocks with them before that."

Earlier at their Los Angeles concert at Dodger Stadium on Saturday night, Joe said, "It's been a crazy week. I just wanna say, look – if you don't hear it from these lips, don't believe it. OK? Thank you everyone for your love and support. Me and my family love you guys." There were several media reports that came up which said that

Joe was not supportive when Sophie was struggling through the birth of their second child.

Their official statement came as a shock to many fans. It read, "Statement from the two of us: After four wonderful years of marriage we have mutually decided to amicably end our marriage. There are many speculative narratives as to why but, truly this is a united decision and we sincerely hope that everyone can respect our wishes for privacy for us and our children."

Joe and Sophie tied the knot in 2019 after nearly three years of dating. The couple welcomed their daughter Willa in 2020, and had another daughter in 2022. The name of their second child hasn't been made public.

According to the divorce settlements, Joe is seeking joint custody of the girls. The documents stated, "It is in the best interests of the minor children that the parties have shared parental responsibility. A parenting plan should be established, which addresses all parenting issues and contains a timesharing schedule providing for frequent and continuing contact with both parties." Source: HT

Behind bars in Iran, leading activist insists change 'irreversible'

PARIS (TIP): She has not seen her children for eight years, has spent most of her recent life in prison and acknowledges there is no immediate prospect of release.

But Iranian rights campaigner Narges Mohammadi insists her struggle is worthwhile, saying the protest movement that erupted one year ago in Iran against the Islamic republic is still alive.

First arrested 22 years ago, Mohammadi, 51, has spent much of the past two decades in and out of jail over her unrelenting campaigning for human rights in Iran. She has most recently been incarcerated since November 2021.

While she could only witness from behind bars the protests that broke out following the death on September 16 of Mahsa Amini -- who had been arrested for violating Iran's strict dress rules for women -- she says the movement made clear the levels of dissatisfaction in society.

"The government was not able to break the protests of the people of Iran and I believe that society has achieved things that have weakened the foundations of religious-authoritarian rule," she told AFP in written answers from Tehran's Evin prison where she is held.

Noting that Iran had even before September 2022 seen repeated protest outbreaks, she added: "We have seen cycles of protests in recent years and this shows the irreversible nature of the situation and the scope for the expansion



of the protests."

'REALISING DEMOCRACY'

She said that after "44 years of oppression, discrimination and continuous repression of the government against women in public and personal life" the protests had "accelerated the process of realising democracy, freedom and equality in Iran".

Mohammadi, who observers tip as a Nobel Peace Prize candidate, said the protests opposing the Islamic republic had involved people "beyond urban areas and educated classes" at a time when religious authority was "losing its place" in society.

"The weakening of the religious element has created a vacuum that the government has not been able to fill with

other economic and social factors, as the government is essentially ineffective and corrupt."

But she was bitterly critical of what she described as the "appeasement" by the West of Iran's leaders, saying foreign governments "have not recognised the progressive forces and leaders in Iran and pursued policies aimed at perpetuating the religious-authoritarian system in Iran."

Mohammadi said she was currently serving a combined sentence of 10 years and nine months in prison, had also been sentenced to 154 lashes and had five cases against her linked to her activities in jail alone.

"I have almost no prospect of freedom," she said.

'INDESCRIBABLE SUFFERING'

But she said she "kept the hope of seeing the light of freedom and hearing its voice" and in prison organised discussions in the women's wing of Evin as well as singing and even dancing.

"Prison has always been at the core of opposition, resistance and struggle in my country and for me it also embodies the essence of life in all its beauty."

"The Evin women's wing is one of the most active, resistant and joyful quarters of political prisoners in Iran. During my years in prison, on three occasions, I shared detention with at least 600 women, and I am proud of each of them."

But for Mohammadi, the cost of her activism has also been immense, meaning she has missed much of the childhood of her twin children Kiana and Ali who now live, along with her husband Taghi Rahmani, in France.

As well as not seeing them for eight years, restrictions placed by the prison on her telephone calls means she has not even heard their voices for more than a year and a half.

"My most incurable and indescribable suffering is the longing to be with my children from whose lives I departed when they were eight."

"The price of the struggle is not only torture and prison, it is a heart that breaks with every regret and a pain that strikes to the marrow of your bones."

But she added: "I believe that as long as democracy, equality and freedom have not been achieved, we must continue to fight and sacrifice." (AFP)

SPAIN RECORDS ITS THIRD HOTTEST SUMMER SINCE RECORDS BEGAN AS A DROUGHT DRAGS ON

MADRID (TIP): Spain this year recorded its third hottest summer since official records began 62 years ago, authorities said on September 14, with temperatures peaking at 46.8 C (116 F) as the country's severe drought dragged on.

The average summer temperature was 1.3 degrees Celsius (2.34 degrees Fahrenheit) above normal, the Spanish weather agency AEMET said.

The World Meteorological Organization said last week that last month wasn't only the world's hottest August scientists ever recorded by far. It was also the second hottest month measured after July 2023.

Since 1961, mainland Spain's average temperature has risen 1.6 degrees C (2.88 degrees F), according to AEMET.

Spain's two hottest summers were in 2022 and 2003.

This year's January-August period in Spain equaled the same periods in 2022 and 2020 as the country's hottest ever recorded over those months, AEMET said. (AP)

France probes deaths of Champagne workers in heatwave

LILLE (TIP): French authorities were on September 14 investigating the deaths of four people who were harvesting grapes in the famed Champagne region, as locals suspected they suffered sunstroke in unusually high outdoor temperatures.

Prosecutors in the cities of Reims and Chalons-en-Champagne said two men died in recent days while picking grapes, one woman died at home a few days after feeling faint during her vineyard work, while a fourth died in hospital after falling from a straddle tractor without showing any physical injuries from the fall.

None of the deaths was being considered suspicious and no autopsies ordered, prosecutors said.

They declined to comment on any possible link to high temperatures, reported at up to 34 Celsius (93F) in the region at the end of last week.

But winegrowers said the heat might be to blame.

"Maybe it will turn out that the sun had something to do with this," said Maxime Toubart, head of the



Champagne growers' association.

"I am very sad," he told AFP. "People don't join the harvest to lose their lives."

Some 120,000 people were helping with the two-week harvest every year and "obviously you're going to have some accidents", he said. Every year, "one or two people" died from heart failure or aneurysms, he said.

One risk factor was the lack of physical preparedness for what was a demanding job, he said.

"More and more people come here without

being in the physical shape needed for outdoor work. Some young people don't have breakfast, don't hydrate, are on medication or working shirtless," he said.

Grapes for champagne are grown on 34 hectares in eastern France, where over 16,000 growers produce over 300 million bottles of champagne each year.

The United States are the main export market for champagne, followed by the United Kingdom, Japan and Germany. (AFP)

Bulgaria lifts ban on Ukraine grain imports

BULGARIA'S PARLIAMENT VOTED 124-69 ON THURSDAY FOR A RESOLUTION TO END THE BAN, CITING "SOLIDARITY WITH UKRAINE" AND THE NEED TO "GUARANTEE FOOD SECURITY ON A GLOBAL SCALE".



SOFIA (TIP): Bulgaria decided on September 14 not to extend a ban on Ukrainian grain imports in five eastern EU nations that are set to expire this week.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has closed off Black Sea shipping routes used before the war, resulting in the EU becoming a major transit route and export destination for Ukrainian grain.

But in June, the EU agreed to restrict Ukrainian grain imports to five member states, seeking to protect their farmers who blamed the imports for a slump in prices on local markets.

The five member states are Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia.

Bulgaria's parliament voted 124-69 on Thursday for a resolution to end the ban,

citing "solidarity with Ukraine" and the need to "guarantee food security on a global scale".

Ukrainian officials welcomed the decision.

"Bulgaria sets an example of true solidarity," President Volodymyr Zelensky wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

The Polish government decided Tuesday to extend the ban, which expires on Friday.

Hungary and Slovakia have both said they would do the same if Brussels decided not to extend the restrictions.

Romania indicated it would follow Brussels' decision.

Bulgaria stands out from its regional neighbours because it has many sunflower oil producers who have

complained of a serious shortage of seeds and high prices since the embargo was put in place.

PRO-EU PRIME MINISTER NIKOLAY DENKOV SAID WEDNESDAY THAT LIFTING THE BAN WAS NECESSARY TO "STIMULATE COMPETITION IN THE MARKET" IN ORDER TO STEM INFLATION.

Sofia will also ask Brussels for aid "to improve its road and rail infrastructure with a view to the faster transport of Ukrainian goods to third countries". (AFP)

IRAQ SENTENCES IS MEMBER TO DEATH OVER PILGRIM BOMBING

BAGHDAD (TIP): An Iraqi court on September 14 sentenced an Islamic State group member to death after convicting him of involvement in a 2014 suicide bombing that killed 17 pilgrims, the judiciary said.

The attack in the Taji district north of Baghdad targeted a "mawkeb", one of the many stalls providing free food and drinks to pilgrims during Shiite Muslim festivals.

The pilgrims had been heading on foot to Samarra, about 100 kilometres (60 miles) north of Baghdad, to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Hassan al-Askari, one of 12 imams revered by Iraq's Shiite majority.

A criminal court in Baghdad on Thursday sentenced "a terrorist to death for the explosion of a mawkeb in 2014" during the pilgrimage in Samarra, the judiciary said on its website. The statement did not name the convict but said he had "filmed the tragedy because he was a member of the terrorist groups of Daesh," using the Arabic acronym for IS.

The convict has the right to appeal the verdict.

After rapidly taking over large swathes of territory in Iraq and neighbouring Syria, IS saw its self-proclaimed "caliphate" collapse under successive offensives in both countries. (AFP)

Taiwan says 68 Chinese warplanes, 10 vessels detected near island

TAIPEI (TIP): Dozens of Chinese warplanes and 10 navy ships were detected around Taiwan, authorities in Taipei said on September 14 after warning that Beijing was conducting air and sea drills in the Western Pacific.

China claims self-ruled Taiwan as its territory and relations have soured since the island's independence-leaning President Tsai Ing-wen came to power in 2016.

Beijing has in recent years ratcheted up diplomatic and military pressure on Taiwan and the number of warplane flights around the island increased dramatically following last August's visit by Nancy Pelosi, then-speaker of the US House of Representatives.

Taiwan's defence ministry said in a statement that 68 Chinese aircraft and 10 naval vessels were detected near the island between Wednesday morning and Thursday morning.

Taipei had already said some of those planes and warships were heading to an unspecified area of the Western Pacific to "conduct joint sea and air training" with China's Shandong aircraft carrier.

The Shandong, one of two operational aircraft carriers in the Chinese fleet, was detected Monday around 60 nautical miles



(110 kilometres) southeast of Taiwan heading into the Western Pacific, Taipei authorities said.

Japan's defence ministry also said Wednesday its navy had detected six ships -- including frigates, destroyers, one fast combat support ship and the Shandong -- sailing through waters some 650 kilometres (400 miles) south of Miyakojima island, east of Taiwan.

It also confirmed that jets and helicopters had been detected taking off and landing

from the Shandong.

'GREY ZONE'

China's military "has been tasked to develop capabilities to take over Taiwan", one expert said.

"Those military exercises are aimed at developing and practising those capabilities," said Bonnie Glaser, a China expert at Washington DC's German Marshall Fund.

"We should expect its trend to continue,

with growing pressure on Taiwan."

James Char, a research fellow at Singapore's Nanyang Technological University, said China's military activities around Taiwan -- particularly aerial incursions into the island's air defence identification zone -- had become a "regular occurrence".

But the activities were "all, without exception, operations below the threshold of war and occurring outside Taiwanese territorial airspace", he told AFP.

China has not commented officially on any drills being conducted in the Western Pacific.

'EQUAL TREATMENT FOR TAIWAN'

And in contrast with the sabre-rattling, Beijing this week dangled the prospect of preferential treatment for people from Taiwan seeking to live, work, study and do business in mainland China.

The series of "opinions" announced by two top Communist Party bodies on Tuesday also urged the coastal city of Xiamen to "speed up" its integration with the Taiwan-administered Kinmen and Matsu islands located a few miles offshore. (AFP)

AUNG SANG SUU KYI'S SON IS WORRIED ABOUT HER HEALTH IN DETENTION & MYANMAR'S VIOLENT CRISIS

BANGKOK (TIP): The younger son of ousted Myanmar leader Aung Sang Suu Kyi says he has always avoided talking to the media, but this time is different. He's increasingly worried about his imprisoned 78-year-old mother's health and about Myanmar's violent political crisis, which he calls desperate.

"I'd just really like to have some form of contact with her so that I know that she's OK, because at the moment she has no access to her legal counsel," Kim Aris said on September 13 in a video interview with The Associated Press from his home in London.

"She has no access to her personal doctors. She's not allowed any visitors, as far as I'm aware. She's not even allowed to mingle with the other prisoners, which means she's basically under a form of solitary confinement."

Suu Kyi was arrested in 2021 when the army seized power from her democratically elected government. She has since been prosecuted and convicted on more than a dozen charges for offenses her supporters say were concocted to keep her out of politics. She is serving a prison term of 27 years.

The military takeover triggered massive public resistance that was brutally suppressed, triggering a bloody civil war that has killed thousands of people.

Aris, 46, said he has tried to keep out of the spotlight for decades, seeking to avoid any political activism and "just trying to keep my head down and get on with my family life."

"I've always tried to avoid speaking to the media and (have been) avoiding social media all my life. But the situation in Burma at the moment is absolutely desperate," he said, referring to Myanmar by its former name. "The fact that I've not been allowed to communicate with my mother at all for over two and a half years now" is another reason he is speaking out, he said.

"So now I'm doing all I can to try and help the situation and bring awareness of this situation to the wider world," he said. He is getting active on social media and said he plans a campaign to "bring awareness and funding for humanitarian purposes."

Aris said he has heard that his mother has been extremely ill and has been suffering from gum problems and was unable to eat. "She was suffering from bouts of dizziness and vomiting and couldn't walk at one stage."

Aris said his information comes from independent Myanmar media and social media. Britain's Foreign Office and the International Red Cross have tried and failed to learn more on his behalf, he said. He has tried reaching out to Myanmar's military government, including its embassy in London, "but I don't get any response from them. (AP)

Pakistan court extends judicial remand of Imran Khan in cipher case till Sep 26

ISLAMABAD (TIP): A special court in Pakistan on September 13 extended judicial remand of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan in the cipher case till September 26.

The special court – newly formed to hear cases related to the Official Secrets Act, 1923 – Judge Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain conducted the hearing of the cipher case inside the Attock Jail where the former prime minister is currently lodged.

Former Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi was also produced in court on Wednesday following the completion of his 14-day judicial remand.

The 70-year-old chairman of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party has been kept in jail since August 5 after his conviction in the Toshakhana corruption case. His sentence was suspended by the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on August 29, but he continues to remain in Attock prison in the cipher case. His remand has been extended till September 13 by a special court in the case.

The cricketer-turned-politician is charged with the violation of the Official Secrets Act in connection with the leakage of a confidential diplomatic cable from Pakistan's embassy in Washington.

The special court hearing the case extended Khan's remand till September



26.

"Judicial remand of Chairman PTI Imran Khan extended till September 26," Khan's PTI party said in a brief message on WhatsApp.

The court also extended Qureshi's judicial remand till September 26.

Earlier, the law ministry issued a notification on Tuesday, expressing no objections to conducting the trial in jail, saying that special court judge Abul requested that proceedings be held in Attock jail "due to security reasons".

The hearing comes at the end of a 14-day judicial remand which was ordered by the court on the last hearing conducted in the same jail.

The ministry in its notification cited

unspecified security issues for allowing hearing in the jail premises. However, Khan's spokesman Zulfiqar Bukhari rejected the plea and demanded a trial in a normal court environment.

"Hearing continues citing security concerns, a preposterous excuse saturated with malice when there can be video link appearance if not in person," he said in a statement.

Bukhari also said that the authorities had not waited for the outcome of the case heard by the Islamabad High Court (IHC) against Khan's trial in jail.

The IHC on Tuesday reserved its order on a petition against the conduct of Khan's trial in prison, rather than Islamabad. (Reuters)

Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam joins growing list of Indian-origin global leaders

SINGAPORE (TIP): With Tharman Shanmugaratnam taking oath as Singapore's ninth president on September 14, he joins a long list of Indian-origin leaders who are dominating politics at important world capitals.

Shanmugaratnam, 66, was declared the winner of the September 1 election after he received 70.4 per cent of the votes polled in the predominantly Chinese and economically prosperous country.

His victory signifies the rising influence of Indians across the globe.

In the US, the growing influence of the Indian-American community can be seen in the success of Kamala Harris, who became the first woman and the first coloured Vice President of the country.

She was a senator for California from 2017 to 2021.

Harris, a Democrat, also served as the attorney general of California from 2011 to 2017.

She was born to Indian and Jamaican parents in California.

In the crucial midterm elections in November, a record five Indian-American lawmakers from the ruling Democrat Party – Raja Krishnamoorthi, Ro Khanna, Pramila Jayapal, Ami Bera and Shri



Thanedar -- were elected to the US House of Representatives.

Harmeet Dhillon, a prominent politician in California, recently contested the election for the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee (RNC).

Indian-origin leaders like Nikki Haley and Vivek Ramaswamy have launched their bid for the White House in 2024.

Rishi Sunak became Britain's first Indian-origin Prime Minister last year.

He is the youngest British prime minister in 210 years.

He is also Britain's first Hindu Prime

Minister.

Goan-origin Suella Braverman is serving as his Home Secretary.

Claire Coutinho is the second Goan-origin minister after Braverman in the Sunak Cabinet.

She recently got a big promotion as his new Energy Security and Net Zero Secretary.

Under Sunak's predecessor, Boris Johnson's Cabinet, Priti Patel was the Home Secretary.

Alok Sharma was the International Development Secretary in the Johnson Cabinet.

Ireland's Prime Minister (Taoiseach) Leo Varadkar is also of Indian origin.

Varadkar is the third child and only son of Ashok and Miriam Varadkar.

His father, a doctor, was born in Mumbai and moved to the United Kingdom in the 1960s.

Antonio Costa has been the Prime Minister of Portugal since 2015.

He is half Indian and half Portuguese.

Anita Anand is the first Hindu to become a federal minister in Canada.

Anand assumed the role of President of the Treasury Board on July 26, 2023, as part of a major cabinet shuffle. (PTI)

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From cosy to spacious: Ways to open up your living room

Your small living room doesn't need to feel cramped and claustrophobic. With a few clever decorating tricks you can optimise every square inch to make your snug scheme feel open, airy and organised. Click or scroll through and take a look at these ingenious living room ideas that prove that small can feel stylish and spacious too.

Small box-like living rooms have plenty of right angles so put those corners to work by filling the void with attractive artwork and practical storage. Optimise wall space by adding low-level storage that frees up a backdrop above for mirrors, photos and paintings; keeping other surfaces free for other purposes.

Choose wall-mounted lights

Free up as much floor and surface space by choosing mounted wall lighting over floor lamps. And, don't think the alternative choice will compromise the cosy atmosphere as most sconces are dimmable. This allows you to easily adjust the lighting according to the occasion or mood.

Follow a theme

Just because your living room is small doesn't mean it can't be on-trend. To avoid overcrowding choose only one or two elements that tell the story like this opulent tropical living room with monkey print curtains and palm tree motif cushions.

Make the look mid-century

Clean lines, minimal embellishment and practical use mean furniture from the 1940s era is practically made for tiny living. A compact sofa, wood-framed armchair and basket-style coffee



table all fit into this small living room without it looking cluttered thanks to the right-angles and narrow leg design.

Hide clutter behind a screen

Make your space clutter-free and contemporary with one fell swoop by hiding mismatched but necessary objects behind a luxe screen. Guests would never know this refined yet inviting small living room is also used as a family playroom filled with toys or a home office space with hot desk once everything is safely concealed and out of sight.

Create a cosy nook

Make your small living room feel larger by creating a separate seating area for reading or quiet reflection. Turn a small armchair away from the rest of the living area perhaps towards a window, then add a small side table, table lamp and creature comforts.

Curate a display cabinet

Glass display cabinets will keep

your small living room organised and orderly with accessories safe and dust-free inside. This metal olive coloured cabinet melts seamlessly into its the green backdrop and light reflects off the glazed doors to increase the sense of space.

Camouflage the TV

A large television can dominate small living rooms so think of genius ways to integrate the TV into your living room by blending it in with wall storage. The box-like design of these wall shelves echo the shape of the TV screen and so you have to look twice before you even notice it is there.

Carve out wall storage

Look for the stud wall in your small living room and hire a contractor to cut out custom-made shelves behind the sofa. The interesting alcoves make a great solution to creating flush storage without shelves protruding from walls at a hazardous level.

Source: Lovemoney



Chop To chic: Trendy hairstyles to upgrade your look

Staying updated with the changing fashion trends might not be everyone's cup of tea but once in 6 months getting a trendy haircut can be. If you are someone who depends on hairstylists when you visit a salon then you have to look at this list of trendy hairstyles.

Edgy Tousled Lob Haircut

If you want a hairstyle that goes with your crazy mindset then get this edgy tousled lob haircut. It's the longer version of the bob haircut but with layers that add volume to the hair. This hairstyle can be done in varied lengths such as neck, shoulders, or collarbone. You can choose as per your desire.

Wavy Cut With Curtain Bangs

If you are restricting yourself from getting a haircut because of age then go with a wavy haircut with curtain bangs. This trending haircut suits every age group of women. The bangs elongate your face and make your cheekbones more prominent. The shoulder length creates a statement look with every outfit you carry.

Long Brunette Shag

If you want to keep your long hair intact then you can consider going with this Brunette shag haircut with long side bangs. This low-maintenance hairstyle will add extra volume to your hair and look glamorous.

Collarbone Razored Bob Cut

This medium-long bob cut is for girls who want to slay all day long without putting effort into styling their hair. The curtain bangs are enough to make you look chic and classy.

Straight Blunt Haircut With Long Curtain Bangs

Women with straight hair can opt for this minimalistic haircut. The blunt cuts ensure it reflects the light clearly and feels smooth as silk. This is the classiest haircut you can opt for. Source: Her Zindagi



FOOD CORNER

Banana Burfi

INGREDIENTS

5 banana, 100 gm sugar, 1/4 cup butter, 1 teaspoon pistachios, 1/4 cup milk powder, 1 tablespoon cocoa powder, 1 teaspoon crushed lightly cashews, 50 gm ghee

METHOD

- To make this delicious Navratri special recipe, heat 1 tsp ghee in a pan over moderate flame. Add crushed pistachios and cashews to the pan. Lightly fry them till they turn golden in colour.
- Now take another heavy bottomed pan and heat it over medium flame. Add the remaining ghee and the bananas in it. Mix well. Add sugar and stir well. After a minute, add cocoa powder, milk powder and butter. Reduce the flame and gently stir till all ingredients are evenly combined.
- When the mixture starts to leave the sides of the pan and the



bananas are well mashed, remove and transfer to a greased plate. Allow it cool. Before the mixture hardens completely, cut it into desired shapes and garnish with cashewnuts and pistachios.

Having too much protein? You may invite these health troubles

Protein is an important nutrient in our diet and its deficiency can lower your immunity, damage your hair and skin, loss of muscle mass and cause fatigue. However, too much of protein is as dangerous as too little of it. When you are adding a lot of protein to your diet but fail to balance it with other essential nutrients like carbs, vitamins, minerals, and fibre, you may be inviting a range of complications. High protein diets can cause dehydration and it's important to add fibre and adequate water intake. Many people may experience digestive issues if the diet is high on protein but low on fibre. Also, people could lose a lot of calcium in their urine on a high protein diet.

While high-protein diets can have benefits, they also come with some potential disadvantage.

Kidney strain

Excessive protein intake may put extra strain on the kidneys, potentially leading to kidney problems in individuals with pre-existing kidney issues.

Dehydration

High-protein diets can increase water loss through urine, potentially leading to dehydration if you don't increase your water intake.

Nutrient imbalance

Focusing too much on protein may lead to neglecting other essential nutrients like carbohydrates, fibre, vitamins, and minerals.

Digestive issues

Some people may experience digestive discomfort, including constipation, when consuming very high levels of protein.

Bone health

Excessive protein intake can result in calcium loss through urine, potentially impacting bone health over time.



Potential for weight gain

Consuming too many calories, even from protein sources, can lead to weight gain, especially if you're not mindful of overall calorie intake.

How much protein do you need?

Anywhere from 10% to 35% of your calories should come from protein. So if your needs are 2,000 calories, that's 200-700 calories from protein, or 50-175 grams. The recommended dietary allowance to prevent deficiency for an average sedentary adult is 0.8 grams per kilogram of body weight. For example, a person who weighs 165 pounds, or 75 kilograms, should consume 60 grams of protein per day.

Once you reach ages 40-50, sarcopenia, or losing muscle mass as you age, begins to set in. To prevent this and to maintain independence and quality of life, your protein needs increase to about 1-1.2 grams per kilogram or 75-90 grams per day for a 75-kilogram person.

People who exercise regularly also have higher needs, about 1.1-1.5 grams per kilogram. People who regularly lift weights, or are training for a running or cycling event need 1.2-1.7 grams per kilogram. Excessive protein intake would be more than 2 grams per kilogram of body weight each day.



Pig kidney works a record 2 months in donated body

Dozens of doctors and nurses silently lined the hospital hallway in tribute: For a history-making two months, a pig's kidney worked normally inside the brain-dead man on the gurney rolling past them.

The dramatic experiment came to an end on Wednesday as surgeons at NYU Langone Health removed the pig kidney and returned the donated body of Maurice "Mo" Miller to his family for cremation.

It marked the longest a genetically modified pig kidney has ever functioned inside a human, albeit a deceased one.

And by pushing the boundaries of research with the dead, the scientists learned critical lessons they're preparing to share with the Food and Drug Administration—in hopes of eventually testing pig kidneys in the living.

"It's a combination of excitement and relief," Dr. Robert Montgomery, the transplant surgeon who led the experiment, told The Associated Press. "Two months is a lot to have a pig kidney in this good a condition. That gives you a lot of confidence" for next attempts.

Montgomery, himself a recipient of a heart transplant, sees animal-to-human transplants as crucial to ease the nation's organ shortage. More than 100,000 people are on the national waiting list, most who need a kidney, and thousands will die waiting. So-called xenotransplantation attempts have failed for decades — the human immune system immediately destroyed foreign animal tissue. What's new: Trying pigs genetically modified so their organs are more humanlike.

Some short experiments in deceased bodies avoided an immediate immune attack but shed no light on a more common form of rejection that can take a month to form.

Last year, University of Maryland surgeons tried to save a dying man with a pig heart—but he survived only two months as the organ failed for reasons that aren't completely clear.

IISc scientists develop new approach to potentially detect and kill cancer cells

Scientists at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have developed a new approach to potentially detect and kill cancer cells, especially those which form a solid tumour mass.

They have created hybrid nanoparticles made of gold and copper sulphide, which can kill cancer cells using heat, and enable their detection using sound waves, according to a study published in 'ACS Applied Nano Materials'.

Early detection and treatment are key in the battle against cancer, noted the Bengaluru-based IISc in a statement. Copper sulphide nanoparticles have previously received attention for their application in cancer diagnosis, while gold nanoparticles, which can be chemically modified to target cancer cells, have shown anti-cancer effects.

In the current study, the IISc team decided to combine these two into hybrid nanoparticles.

"These particles have photothermal, oxidative stress, and photoacoustic properties," says Jaya Prakash, Assistant Professor at the Department of Instrumentation and Applied Physics, IISc, and one of the corresponding authors of the paper. PhD students Madhavi Tripathi and Swathi Padmanabhan are co-first authors.



When light is shone on these hybrid nanoparticles, they absorb the light and generate heat, which can kill cancer cells. These nanoparticles also produce singlet oxygen atoms that are toxic for the cells, the release pointed out. "We want both these mechanisms to kill the cancer cell," Jaya Prakash explains.

The researchers say the nanoparticles can also help diagnose certain cancers. *Source: PTI*

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India: Inflation declines to 6.83% in Aug on softening food prices

Retail inflation declined to 6.83% in August after touching a 15-month high of 7.44% in July, mainly due to softening prices of vegetables, but still remains above the Reserve Bank's comfort zone. The overall inflation in the food basket stood at 9.94% in August as against 11.51% in July, according to data released by the National Statistical Office on Sept 12. Retail inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was at 7% in August 2022.

While the retail inflation declined to 6.83% in August, it still remains above the comfort level of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which has the mandate to ensure inflation remains at 4% with a margin of 2% on either side.

As per the data, inflation in the vegetable basket eased to 26.14% in August as against 37.4% in July.

The prices of 'oil and fats' products declined to 15.28% in August while there was low inflation in 'meat and fish', 'eggs', 'sugar and confectionary', 'non-alcoholic beverages', 'fruits' and 'prepared meals and snacks' on an annual basis.

The data also showed that inflation in the 'housing' was at 4.38% and 'fuel and light' at 4.31%.

Aditi Nayar, chief economist, ICRA, said within food items, inflation in vegetables fell to 26.1% in August from 37.4% in the previous month, contributing as much as 28 basis points of the 61 basis points decline in the inflation print between these months.

Pull iPhone 12 off shelves: French agency to Apple

A French government watchdog agency ordered Apple to withdraw the iPhone 12 from the market, saying it emits levels of electromagnetic radiation that are too high.

The National Frequency Agency, which oversees radio-electric frequencies as well as public exposure electromagnetic radiation, called on Apple in a statement on Tuesday to "implement all available means to rapidly fix this malfunction".

The order was issued after the iPhone 12 recently failed one of the two types of tests for electromagnetic waves.

SoftBank-backed Arm raises \$4.87 billion in biggest IPO of the year

NEW YORK (TIP)

Shares in SoftBank's Arm Holdings soared almost 25% above their Nasdaq debut price on Thursday, rekindling investor hopes for a turnaround in the moribund market for initial public offerings (IPO).

The chip designer, which is owned by SoftBank Group Corp., sold 95.5 million American depository shares for \$51 apiece, according to a statement Wednesday confirming an earlier Bloomberg News report. Arm had marketed the shares for \$47 to \$51 each.

At the IPO price, Arm is valued at about \$54.5 billion, according to Bloomberg News calculations. Underwriters have the option of buying as many as 7 million additional shares.

While Arm had previously aimed to raise \$8 billion to \$10 billion, that target was lowered at least in part because SoftBank decided to buy the roughly 25% stake held by its Vision Fund and then hold onto a larger portion of the shares in the company. After the IPO, SoftBank will still control about 90% of the company's shares, Arm said in its filings with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

Arm was setting aside more than \$700 million of the stock in the IPO to be bought by some of its biggest customers, including Intel Corp., Apple Inc., Nvidia Corp., Samsung Electronics Co. and Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co.

The offering is being led by Barclays Plc, Goldman Sachs Group Inc., JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Mizuho Financial Group Inc. Raine Securities LLC is also acting as financial adviser in connection with the IPO.

The shares are expected to begin trading Thursday on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol ARM.

The IPO is the world's biggest this year, surpassing the \$4.37 billion listing by Johnson & Johnson consumer health spinoff Kenvue Inc. Arm's IPO could also be a



catalyst for IPOs from dozens of tech startups and other companies whose plans to go public in the US have been stuck during the deepest, longest listing trough since the financial crisis in 2009.

Online grocery-delivery firm Instacart Inc., marketing and data automation provider Klaviyo, Vietnam-based internet startup VNG Ltd. and footwear maker Birkenstock Holding Ltd. have all filed to go public.

SoftBank, which acquired Arm seven years ago for \$32 billion, has helped grow the chip designer and change its business model.

Arm — which is a key part of the chip supply chain, designing semiconductors found in most of the world's smartphones — earlier had sought to be valued at \$60 billion to \$70 billion in the IPO. SoftBank's Vision Fund transaction valued Arm at more than \$64 billion, based on Arm's filings.

A successful debut by Arm would provide a windfall for SoftBank founder Masayoshi Son, whose Vision Fund lost a record \$30 billion last year.

Return property papers within 30 days of loan repayment: RBI to banks

NEW DELHI (TIP)

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday, September 13, said regulated entities have to release original property documents to retail loan borrowers within 30 days of full repayment, and any delay would attract a penalty.

This would include consumer credit, education loans, loans given to create or enhance immovable assets and loans for investment in financial assets like shares, debentures and others. RBI has set a penalty of Rs 5,000 per day that banks must pay the borrower for each day of delay in returning the original documents.

The new directive is applicable to regulated entities, including banks, non-banking financial companies (including housing finance companies), asset reconstruction companies, local area banks and cooperative banks.

In its press release, RBI noted that these regulated entities have been seen to follow divergent practices in the release of such movable and immovable property documents, leading to customer grievances and disputes.



"These directions shall be applicable to all cases where release of original movable/immovable property documents falls due on or after 1 December," RBI said.

The new regulations come after following recommendations by a central bank committee headed by former deputy governor B.P. Kanungo last year, which had proposed lenders who offer home loans should compensate borrowers and pay a monetary fine if they lose property

documents.

"Suppose borrowers want to transfer the loan to another bank, either for interest reduction or an additional loan, the transferee lender only releases the outstanding amount once it receives the original document from the original bank. With delays, the additional amount will be held up," said D.S. Tripathi, executive vice-chairman of Aadhar Housing Finance.

Original property documents help in establishing ownership and facilitate future transactions. Typically, banks ask customers to deposit ownership documents as security against the loan. When there is a default, banks use such documents to transfer ownership and recover their dues.

Bankers said there are several instances when the property documents get held up.

For instance, banks have some other liability of the borrower and do not hand over the document, or the bank stores these documents in some other place. The delay is also caused when the discharge is required from several parties.

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

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - SEPTEMBER 18 TO SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

ARIES



Ganesha says, this week, each of the key contributors to your stress will stop weighing you down. This week, Moon is in a lucky position, which will boost your chances of getting a promotion. This week, accomplish anything noteworthy. This week, more income will be needed to resolve conflicts brought on by your parents or kids. This week will also be incredibly hectic for you. You'll have to be especially thoughtful and mindful of what your spouse is going through this week. They won't be able to articulate their emotions very well, but you can still help them out. This week, your health only requires a little maintenance.

TAURUS



Ganesha says, putting in a little effort on the little things that bring you happiness might keep you at ease this week. This next week, you will work together to achieve success. You're in for a far better week than you thought. This week, somebody will annoy you by getting your emotions to go in the wrong direction. It will cause issues for you if you let other people force you to overstate the situation. Your partnership will be successful this week. Your spouse will work more to maintain your union. This week, your wellness won't experience the any problems.

GEMINI



Ganesha says, your kind disposition and bravery will open up new prospects for you this week and offer you fulfillment. Wednesday you will be earning good profits. Your temple of thought will receive all of your power, leaving you more robust than ever. You'll have just a few uncomfortable interactions with someone you had great expectations for this week. Over-traveling will wear you out. Your companion will prevent you from making a bad decision this week. They will direct you toward the best course of action. Due to joint discomfort this week, your wellbeing will only require a little maintenance.

CANCER



Ganesha says, your children might do things that will make you immensely delighted. This week, they'll start using their own financial assets. Ensure they have you on

hand. This week, decisions made after consulting others will result in more benefits. The issues from your history that you believed were closed off forever will be brought up by anyone. Beware of falling victim to emotional pressure this week from anybody. Connections will experience a setback this week. It will be challenging for your spouse to manage with your psychological illness concerns, and a quarrel will result. Do not be concerned; your overall fitness will be OK this week.

LEO



Ganesha says, this week will be a joyful one for you. By ignoring individuals this week who are not helpful and suitable for your advancement, you will conserve energy and energy. Your ejection will help you get moving again. You won't be able to finish the vacation schedule this week due to a vital task; as a consequence, some disputes may occur; be considerate when handling them. Your spouse won't be able to offer you sufficient attention this week since they will be too busy traveling for work. Economic mishandling will have a negative impact on marital fronts. Regarding your wellness, you'll see progress in your ability to recuperate from cramps and strokes.

VIRGO



Ganesha says, It may be a great week to trade this week. You won't experience something that may have gotten catastrophically awry if you did it alone due to additional social aid. Your children will be happy to have concord. Your week will be filled with conflicting emotions that will startle and annoy you. This week, be cautious to keep your composure. You will be certain of your sentiments this week, and he or she will also speak matters out. This week, love will undoubtedly offer you bliss. This week, your emotional wellness will both increase. However, your general condition will only require limited maintenance.

LIBRA



Ganesha says, this week, you'll be capable of spending money wisely and on worthwhile goods. In addition to paying all the fees, you will improve your economic status. As your aspirations come reality this week, you will feel a new degree of fulfillment. This week, one of your relatives will be uneasy and unwilling to communicate their emotions, so if you

detect anything out of the ordinary regarding people, try to persuade them to communicate. This week, your feelings for that one special individual will remain strong, and you'll communicate them in very clear ways. You won't have any medical problems this week, at least maybe not as much as your fitness is involved.

SCORPIO



Ganesha says, this week if you've been thinking about switching professions, you'll find something. You will break out of your worry and tension-filled shell this week. Instead of doing nothing, you should do something. Ultimately, after a lengthy amount of time, you will feel much healthier. You'll maintain your real troubles and your difficulties in cyberspace apart. You'll think a lot regarding things this week, which will make choosing tough. Be cautious to maintain your composure. This week, your romantic relationship will be OK since your spouse will remain in your cozy surroundings. You will experience mild healthcare issues when you experience back ache in the second half of the week.

SAGITTARIUS



Ganesha says, this week, you won't avoid the issue; alternatively, you'll approach it head-on. This week, you won't move past any good windows of opportunity, and your extroverted nature will help you seize them. This week, you'll believe unappreciative because you won't be aware of the abundance of life that is already at your disposal. As your lover tries to shift the dynamics of your connection, your emotional factions will undergo a lot of upheaval this week. Regarding your wellness, this week will see an end to your migraines and you will be completely OK.

CAPRICORN



Ganesha says, this week, you will have the power to influence events and mold them anyway you see fit. Your week will be pleasant and balanced. You'll have time this week to explore your hobbies as well. Somebody you trusted will disappoint you this week. Take care since this will also lower your consciousness. This week, your spouse will encourage you to pursue your passions outside of work and pastimes, which will provide you more

CONTD ON PAGE 33

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : SEPTEMBER 18 TO SEPTEMBER 24 BY ASTRO FRIEND CHIRAG - SON OF ASTROLOGER BEJAN DARUWALLA

SEPTEMBER 18

Ganesha says as the day unfolds, a cosmic alignment brings forth a wave of introspection. Today is a day to embrace self-awareness and to delve deep into your innermost feelings. The universe is urging you to take a moment to reflect on your journey and the choices you've made. Are they in alignment with your true self? If you've been feeling out of sync lately, this is the perfect time to recalibrate. Seek solace in nature, perhaps a walk in the park or by the beach, and let the natural world guide your thoughts.

SEPTEMBER 19

Ganesha says the planets and stars have come together in a way that makes communication a priority now. Get in touch with someone you haven't talked to in a while or address any confusion that has been lingering between the two of you. Words are powerful, and in today's world, they have the ability to heal. Be forthright and truthful, and make

an effort to listen more than you speak. Make the most of the fact that the universe is fostering connection; do not waste this opportunity. Today, prioritize self-care and self-love, for in understanding and loving oneself, we find the strength to face any challenge that comes our way.

SEPTEMBER 20

Ganesha says you are currently experiencing a surge of creative energy within you. Take it in stride. Let your imagination run free while you're creating works of art or literature, or even when you're just coming up with ideas. Do not let your uncertainties restrict you. Your unique perspective has been afforded to you by the cosmos; please share it with the rest of the planet. Remember, every challenge you face is an opportunity for growth. Embrace it, learn from it, and let it shape you into a stronger, more resilient version of yourself.

SEPTEMBER 21

Ganesha says today, striking a balance is essential. If you've been pushing yourself too hard, it's time to take a break and give yourself permission to unwind a little bit. On the other hand, if you have been overly relaxed, it is time to start moving again. You are being prompted by the cosmos to locate equilibrium in all facets of your existence. Be receptive to what others have to say, and you might discover insights that were previously hidden from you. The energy today is all about connections, understanding, and mutual respect. Embrace it fully.

SEPTEMBER 22

Ganesha says the forces of the heavens are concentrating on interpersonal connections today. It is a day to appreciate the connections you already have and to put effort into strengthening the relationships that are broken. There is a feeling of love in the air, whether it be platonic

or romantic. Accept it, treasure it, and above all else, make an effort to communicate it.

SEPTEMBER 23

Ganesha says the planets align in a way that highlights the importance of personal development today. Today is your day to learn more about yourself. Explore your anxieties, your passions, and your dreams to the fullest extent. Learn to identify the things that motivate you and those that hold you back. On this day in your journey to discover who you are, the cosmos will be your guide.

SEPTEMBER 24

Ganesha says a sentiment of thankfulness permeates the atmosphere as the week draws to a conclusion. Think back on the days that have passed, both the good and the bad, and try to find something to be grateful for in each category. The universe serves as a constant reminder that every event, positive or negative, contributes to who you are today. Gratitude should be extended to everyone.

CONTD FROM PAGE 32

freedom to pursue pleasure. This week will be quite difficult for your wellness, so be careful to look after oneself.

AQUARIUS



Aquarius

Ganesha says the money you spend on an expert's advice this week will have unexpectedly beneficial results.

Everything you complete this week will be sent to you in its entirety. You'll stop holding oneself accountable for the actions of others. This week, it will be difficult for you to make multiple adjustments at once. This won't last, so don't reflect back. Your connection facades will benefit from Venus' favorable placement this week. If you've been experiencing lonesome for a while, you're more likely to discover love this week. Mild migraines may cause you discomfort throughout the first part of the week in terms of your wellness.

PISCES



Pisces

Ganesha says, this week, you'll progressively but definitely get fully on track. Because the psychological struggle will end this week, you

would also sense very calm. Additionally, you'll establish a stronger connection with yourself and grow more assured of your uniqueness. In your continuous efforts, you will come across a number of difficulties. There will be some challenges in the classroom as well. Your connection facades will

remain quite solid this week. Your prospective companion will make an effort to further comprehend you both.

Minor troubles on the marriage aspect will arise as a result of disruption in your zodiac's second Mansion. This

week, you'll simply need to pay a little bit of care to your wellness.

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMA ||



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Sikh History This Week

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023, TO SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

15th September



1539 Jotti Jot, First Patshah, Guru Nanak Dev Ji. GURU NANAK (1469-1539): In a world rife with falsehood, sunk in superstitions and plagued by all kinds of inequities and inequalities, Guru Nanak rang in the gospel of truth, universal love and brotherhood. The Founder Guru of the Sikhs and one of the greatest and saintliest of saviours, he redeemed the soul of a moribund society that had experienced a total eclipse, if not annihilation, of all abiding human values. The condition of the contemporary society has been vividly described by the First Master in the well-known words

Guru Nanak was born in a Bedi family at Talwandi (Nankana Sahib), near Lahore, in 1469. At an early age he learnt Sanskrit, Persian and the prevalent form of Gurmukhi. He was a precocious child with a pronounced penchant for religion. His father, Mehta Kalu, made vain efforts to woo him to a mundane mode of life. Accordingly, he was got employed in a Government store of the Nawab of Sultanpur where he served for 13 years.

It was in 1499 that the day of destiny of ecstatic communion with God came. While taking his daily bath in the rivulet Bain that flows near Sultanpur, Nanak had his illumination through a soul-stirring vision of Almighty God. It was here that the Guru delivered his great sermon in the memorable words: There is no Hindu, there is no Musalman. The spiritual enlightenment enjoined on him a mission to the propagation of which he consecrated his entire life. He set out on his great Udasi's (Missionary journeys) to deliver God's message to sinning and suffering humanity.

He toured the whole of India and many foreign countries, preaching the gospel of true religion and rooting out ignorance and evil. The great Guru undertook five major missionary journeys in this behalf.

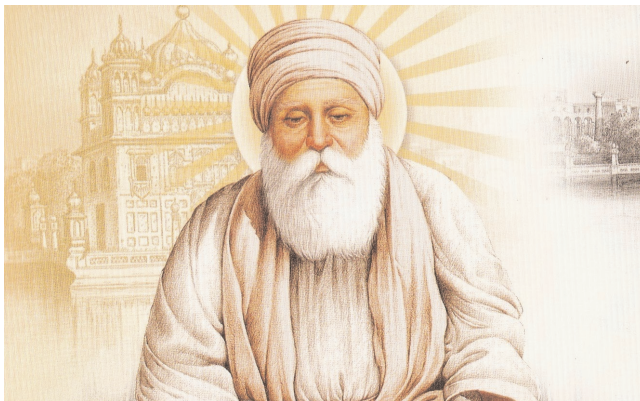
In the course of his first long travel, Guru Nanak visited celebrated Hindu places of pilgrimage like Kurukshetra, Banaras and Jagnath Puri. He taught people how to distinguish Dharma from Adharma and abandon such pretentious rituals and prayers as constituted the accepted religious practice of the times. During his second journey the Guru went as far as Sangla Deep and having done his ministry returned to the Punjab.

1843 Maharaja Sher Singh shot dead by Ajit Singh Sandalwallia while inspecting troops.

1993 Punjab Police forces interrupted Akhand Path at Gurudwara Gurusar, Patshahi Sixth, at Gujrawal, Ludhiana. This event took place under Beant Singh's government.

16th September

1581 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.

1631 Baba Buddha Ji passed away.

BABA BUDHA JI: born on 7 katak sanmat 1563 at Kathunangal (Dist. Amritsar) to father Sudhae and mother Gora. Parents named the child as Buddha. In sanmat 1574, Guru Nanak Dev Ji visited Kathunangal village. While grazing cattle, Buddha met Guru Nanak and served milk in sewa. During their conversation, Guru Nanak declared that though young in age, he was "Budha" in terms of understanding and wisdom. Since then he came to known as Budha.



1843 Dalip Singh was enthroned as the Maharaja of Punjab. This only happened after some serious internal fighting for succession, upon the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh on June 22, 1839.



17th September

1922 The working committee of the Indian National Congress set up an inquiry committee to report on the brutal treatment meted out to the Akal Satyagrahies by the Govt. forces in Guru-Ka-Bagh.

18th September

1708 Guru Gobind Singh Ji Patshah was attacked by two Pathans in Nanded. These Pathans were commissioned by Governor of Sarhind or the Mughal emperor.



1924 13th Jatha of 500 Akalis, under the leadership of Shaheed Lakha Singh Jahan Shah (Gujara Wala), departed from Amritsar for Jaito.

19th September

1922 Sri Madan Mohan Malvia visited the injured GurSikhs in Guru Ka Bagh incident and organized a huge procession to pay homage to the Shaheeds.

1923 Harbans Singh of Sirhala Khurad arrested.

20th September

1843 Raja Hira Singh Dogra murdered Ajit Singh and Lehna Singh Sandhawalia to avenge his father's death.

1981 Jarnail Singh Bhindrawalae courted arrest at Mehta Chowk.



Jarnail Singh Bhindrawalae offered himself for arrest by police in public presence at Mehta Chowk. Before his arrest, Jarnail Singh addressed the public gathering and appealed for peace. On this occasion, Chowk Mehta had 10,000-strong police force, including members of the Border Security Force. Jarnail Singh's arrest was followed by police harrasment, arson, cane-charges, and even shooting ar random. 12 Sikhs (according to some sources. 22 Sikhs) were killed and several others injured. Police fired 800 rounds from 60 guns.

21st September

1845 Raja Gulab Singh Dogra got Jawahar Singh killed by Mia Prithi Singh Dogra. Jawahar Singh was brother of Rani Jindan Kaur. Jawahar Singh had become very unpopular. So Rani Jindan had abandoned Jawahar Singh. As a result Jawahar Singh and some of his followers were murdered.

1922 Babbars appeal to Sikhs in British forces to join the Babbar Akali ranks. This appeal was delivered through Babbar Akali Doaba newspaper.1923 Udham Singh of Jandoo Singha, a member of the SGPC was arrested.

1960 Kaka Inderjeet Singh killed by forcibly dropping him in a well at Karnal.

contd from page 1

Federal Judge Again Declares DACA...

The ruling blocks the federal government from accepting new DACA applications but maintains the program for existing recipients during the appeals process. The ruling does not mandate immediate action against current DACA beneficiaries.

Texas and eight other states have been actively opposing DACA. Their central argument is that the Obama administration exceeded its authority by creating DACA in 2012, bypassing Congress. They have contended that President Joe Biden also overstepped his authority when he renewed it in 2022, bypassing Congress.

The nine Republican-led states also asked the court to phase out the program over two years, calling the Biden administration's revised version "substantively unlawful" for the same reasons as the original Obama-era DACA Memorandum.

"The Court should declare it unlawful and unconstitutional, vacate it in its entirety, and permanently enjoin its implementation (with a prudent transition for existing DACA recipients)," their lawsuit, filed earlier this year, stated.

Around 800,000 individuals are believed to be recipients of DACA, with two-thirds of those enrolled in the program thought to be aged between 21 to 30, having lived and worked in the United States for most of their lives after illegally entering as young children.

The plaintiff states in the case also contend that they bear substantial costs, including hundreds of millions of dollars for health care and education, when immigrants are allowed to remain in the country without legal status.

In 2021, Judge Hanen, an appointee of President George W. Bush, declared the program illegal, citing its lack of compliance with required public notice and comment periods. This decision was upheld by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in 2022.

Attempting to address the judge's concerns, President Biden announced the renewal of the DACA program in August 2022, making it a federal regulation. It came into effect in October, subject to public comments in a formal rule-making process, replacing former President Barack Obama's 2012 memo that initially established DACA.

At the time, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas said the administration was "taking another step to do everything in our power to preserve and fortify DACA."

Mr. Mayorkas said that the United States has "been enriched" by the young people on the DACA program, referred to as "Dreamers," contending that they "have known no country other than the United States as their own."

The plaintiff states, meanwhile, argued that President Biden overstepped his constitutional authority by renewing DACA without getting approval from Congress.

Judge Hanen agreed, maintaining in his ruling on Wednesday that the revised version of DACA is unconstitutional and that the policy should come from Congress. The judge's ruling is expected to be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The DACA program has been overseen for the last decade by a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) memorandum that established it under President Obama who described the action as a "temporary, stopgap, measure."

The Trump administration's attempts to terminate DACA in 2017 were thwarted by the courts.

The nine states that filed the lawsuit are Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, South Carolina, Texas, and West Virginia.

US President Biden's son Hunter...

Weiss was originally nominated by Trump.

The younger Biden for years has been the focus of unrelenting attacks by Trump and his Republican allies who have accused him of wrongdoing relating to

Ukraine and China, among other matters. Hunter Biden has worked as a lobbyist, lawyer, investment banker and artist, and has publicly detailed his struggles with substance abuse.

Committees in the Republican-led US House of Representatives for months have been probing the Hunter Biden's foreign business dealings. Some party hardliners are pushing for an impeachment inquiry into President Biden.

While Republican lawmakers have collected testimony that Joe Biden at times joined calls with his son's business associates, they have yet to produce evidence that the president personally benefited.

Hunter Biden disclosed in December 2020 that Weiss's office was investigating his tax affairs. He has denied wrongdoing.

While most U.S. attorneys appointed by Trump were asked to step down when Biden took office in January 2021, as is routine, the Justice Department asked Weiss to stay on.

The Justice Department's inquiry has itself come under scrutiny from Republicans after whistle-blowers from the Internal Revenue Service assigned to the investigation told Congress that the department slow-walked the probe and limited Weiss' ability to bring charges. Weiss has denied the claims.

Hunter Biden never held a position in the White House or on his father's campaign. The president has said he has not discussed foreign business dealings with his son and has said his Justice Department would have independence in any investigation of a member of his family. Trump and other Republicans have alleged what they called conflicts of interest from Hunter Biden's position on the board of the Ukrainian energy company Burisma at the time his father was vice president to Democratic President Barack Obama. Trump in a July 2020 phone call with Ukraine's president asked him to have his government open an investigation into Joe and Hunter Biden in the lead-up to that year's US presidential election.

The Democratic-led House of Representatives later voted to impeach Trump on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress stemming from these efforts, though the Senate ultimately voted to keep Trump in office.

Trump during the 2020 election campaign called for China to investigate Hunter Biden's involvement in a fund that sought to raise Chinese capital. Trump accused Hunter Biden of using his position of influence to secure China's financial backing for his investments, though never provided evidence to support this claim. Hunter Biden has denied wrongdoing.

Hunter Biden described in a 2021 memoir dealing with substance abuse issues in his life including crack cocaine use and alcoholism. He was discharged from the US Navy reserve in 2014 after, sources said at the time, testing positive for cocaine.

The Weiss inquiry initially examined potential violations of tax and money laundering laws in foreign business dealings, principally in China, sources told Reuters. The investigation headed by Weiss began as early as 2018, according to US media reports.

Hunter Biden initially agreed to plead guilty to charges that he failed to pay more than \$100,000 in income taxes in 2017 and 2018. The deal collapsed after a federal judge questioned whether the agreement would bar prosecutors from bringing charges on other issues.

The president has two surviving children, Hunter Biden and daughter Ashley Biden. His son Beau Biden died in 2015 of cancer and his daughter Naomi Biden died as an infant after a car accident that also killed Joe Biden's first wife.

Hunter Biden appears to be the first child of a sitting president to be indicted, according to Aaron Crawford, who specializes in presidential history at the University of Tennessee.

Crawford said the family of several presidents were ensnared in scandals, including George H.W. Bush's son Neil, who directed a failed savings and loan, and Richard Nixon's brother Don, who was rescued from business failures by wealthy businessman Howard

Hughes.

Supreme Court of India amicus...

the period of disqualification to contest elections after conviction to six years is manifestly arbitrary and violates Article 14 of the Constitution. He has suggested permanent disqualification of such convicts instead of a six-year ban.

In his 19th report submitted to the top court, senior counsel and amicus curiae Vijay Hansaria said the present law which limited the disqualification of convicted lawmakers to only six years was "manifestly arbitrary".

Hansaria is assisting the top court in deciding a PIL filed by Delhi BJP leader Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay in 2016 seeking setting up of special courts to expeditiously decide criminal cases against lawmakers and to debar convicted persons from the legislature, executive and judiciary for life.

"There is no nexus that a person can make law to disqualify another person from holding a statutory office, but the person making the law would incur the disqualification only for a limited period. The lawmakers are required to be much more sacrosanct and inviolable than the persons holding office under such law. "Parliamentarians and legislators represent the sovereign will of the people and once found to have committed an offence involving moral turpitude, (they) are liable to be permanently disqualified from holding the office. Limiting the period of disqualification is a flagrant violation of the equality clause enriched in Article 14 of the Constitution," the amicus curiae submitted.

Under the existing election law in Section 8(3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a person convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two years (other than those referred to in sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) of Section 8) gets disqualified from the date of such conviction and continued to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his/her release.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

India seeks prompt action as outrage over student's death in US grows

Taranjit Singh Sandhu, strongly raised the issue at the highest level in Washington.

Kandula, 23, was hit by a speeding police patrol car on 911 duty being driven by officer Kevin Dave on January 23. The Seattle media have reported that Dave was driving at over 119 kph when he caused the accident that flung Kandula 100 feet, injuring her fatally. She was rushed to the hospital but succumbed to injuries.

The offensive video that has sparked outrage records another cop Daniel Auderer tasked to investigate the accident spot laughing about the fatal crash and saying there was no need for a probe as the deceased was a "regular person whose life had limited value".

Auderer is further heard saying "just write a check".

Back in India, Kandula's family released a statement saying, "It is truly disturbing and saddening to hear insensitive comments made by a Seattle police department officer regarding Jaahnavi's death. Jaahnavi is a beloved daughter and beyond any dollar value for her mother and family. We firmly believe every human life is invaluable and should not be belittled especially during a tragic loss." Kandula's family also questioned the delayed release of body camera footage. The Seattle police department released the footage on Monday citing recognition for public concern and need for transparency. Kandula was a student at Northeastern University and was to graduate this December. She was hit while crossing a street.

The Indian Consulate in San Francisco had on Wednesday, September 13, termed as "deeply troubling" the reports on the handling of Kandula's death. "We have taken up the matter strongly with local authorities in Seattle and Washington state as well as senior officials in Washington DC," the Consulate said. (With inputs from TNS)



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Ganesh Chaturthi

The festival of Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated to honor the Hindu god Ganesh. The festival, also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi is observed in the Hindu calendar month of Bhaadrapada, starting on the shukla chaturthi (fourth day of the waxing moon period) and lasts for 10 days, ending on Anant Chaturdashi (fourteenth day of the waxing moon period). People start celebrations by preparing months in advance by making eco-friendly idols, artistic clay models of Lord Ganesha and decorating the idols. The size of these idols vary from inches to feet. Ganesh Chaturthi starts with the installation of these Ganesh statues in colorfully decorated homes and specially erected temporary structures mandapas (pandals) in many localities. The pandals are decorated using decorative items like flower garlands, lights, etc.. Some pandals are made theme based which depict religious themes, events related to Lord Ganesha or sometimes current events. The collective celebrations of Ganesh Chaturthi dates back to early 1890. At that time the society was divided on the basis of caste and religious beliefs. LokManya Bal GangaDhar Tilak decided to bring the divided society into one thread and asked the people to come together and celebrate the festival in collective manners.

During the celebrations, the chanting of mantras invokes the presence of Ganesha. This ritual is the Pranapratishttha. After this, the ritual called as Shhodashopachara (16 ways of paying tribute) follows during which Coconut, jaggery, modaks, durva blades of grass and red flowers are offered. The statue of Lord Ganesha is anointed with red unguent, made of kumkum and sandalwood paste. The festival ends with Ganesh visarjana during which these installed statues of Lord Ganesha are immersed into the water bodies sea and river.

The Legend of Lord Ganesha

To understand the essence of Ganesh Chaturthi, it's important to know the legend behind Lord Ganesha's birth. According to Hindu mythology, Lord Ganesha is the son of Lord Shiva, the destroyer, and Goddess Parvati. The story goes that Parvati created Ganesha from the clay of her body and breathed life into him, thus making him her son and a guardian of her privacy.

One day, when Parvati was taking a bath, she asked Ganesha to stand guard outside her chamber. When Lord Shiva returned home and attempted to enter, Ganesha, unaware of his divine lineage, stopped him as per his mother's instructions. This led to a fierce battle between the two, resulting in Lord Shiva beheading Ganesha.

Upon realizing the mistake, Lord Shiva and Parvati were grief-stricken. To make amends, Lord Shiva promised to bring Ganesha back to life by replacing his head with that of the first living being he encountered. This happened to be an elephant, thus giving Ganesha his iconic elephant-headed form. Lord Shiva also declared Ganesha as the "Lord of Beginnings" and "Remover of Obstacles," making him a revered deity in Hinduism.

The Significance of Ganesh Chaturthi

Ganesh Chaturthi, which falls on the fourth day of the bright half of the Hindu lunar month of Bhadrapada (usually in August or September), is celebrated to commemorate the birth of Lord Ganesha. This festival holds immense significance for several reasons:

Remover of Obstacles

Lord Ganesha is worshipped as the deity who removes obstacles and grants success and prosperity. People seek his blessings before starting new ventures, weddings, or any significant life event.

Symbol of Wisdom

Ganesha is also revered as the God of wisdom and intellect. Devotees pray to him for guidance and knowledge, especially students seeking success in their studies.

Unity and Harmony

Ganesh Chaturthi transcends caste, creed, and social boundaries. It brings people from diverse backgrounds together in celebration, fostering unity and communal harmony.

Cultural Celebration



Important information

Ganesh Chaturthi 2023

Tuesday, 19 September 2023

Chaturthi Tithi Begins : 18 September 2023 at 12:39 AM

Chaturthi Tithi Ends : 19 September 2023 at 01:43 PM

Ganesh Visarjan Time in 2022 : Friday, 09 September 2022

Ganesh Visarjan : Thursday, 28 September 2023

Observances: Prayer, celebrations and the immersion of deities.

Type of holiday: Folk, Religious

Featured in religions: Hinduism

Begins: Bhadrapada Shukla

Also called: Chavath, Ganeshotsav, Vinayaka Chaturthi

Ends: 11 day after start

Beyond its religious significance, Ganesh Chaturthi is a cultural extravaganza, featuring music, dance, processions, and elaborate decorations.

Ganesh Chaturthi Celebrations

Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations typically span ten days, with the most elaborate festivities occurring on the first and last days. The festival begins with the installation of clay idols of Lord Ganesha in homes and public places. These idols are beautifully decorated with flowers, jewelry, and colorful clothing.

Devotees offer prayers, perform aarti (rituals involving the waving of lamps), and sing bhajans (devotional songs) to seek Lord Ganesha's blessings. Modak, a sweet dumpling, is a favorite offering to the deity, symbolizing the sweet rewards of life. On the final day of the festival, the idols are immersed in water bodies, symbolizing the departure of Lord Ganesha back to his abode while cleansing the surroundings of negativity.

Ganesh Chaturthi is not merely a religious festival;

it's a celebration of faith, culture, and unity. It reminds us of the importance of seeking wisdom and guidance, overcoming obstacles, and fostering communal harmony. As the vibrant celebrations unfold each year, Ganesh Chaturthi continues to be a source of joy, hope, and renewal for millions of people, making it one of India's most cherished festivals.

Important events

- Prana Pratishtha: This ceremony installs the Ganesha idol in the home or temple. It is performed on the Chaturthi Tithi.
- Aarti: This prayer ritual is performed on Lord Ganesha daily during the festival.
- Hawan: This is a fire ritual that is performed to invoke the blessings of Lord Ganesha. It is usually performed on the first and last day of the festival.
- Visarjan is the ceremony of immersing the Ganesha idol in a river or ocean. It is performed on the Dashami Tithi.

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

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

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

Agra: The land of Taj Mahal

A walk through history, Agra is the mystical abode of all things past. Though magnificence of the Taj Mahal attracts tourists to Agra from all over the world, this city is also peppered with forts, tombs and mausoleums that make for an attractive itinerary. Nicknamed Baby Taj, the tomb of Itimad-ud-Daulah is worth a visit. A visit to the ruined city of Fatehpur Sikri, Agra Fort, and Akbar's Tomb also deserve a place in your itinerary. Fatehpur Sikri built by Emperor Akbar requires you to keep aside a day for visit. The Agra Fort should be explored for its antiquity and display of architectural finesse. A city of dualities, Agra has also been quietly undergoing a metamorphosis of its own as new hipster neighbourhoods are cropping up throughout its length and breadth. Besides the Taj Mahal, tourists also flock to the Mehtab Bagh, which is neatly aligned with the Taj, for an enchanting view of the iconic monument on full moon nights.

TAJ MAHAL

The Taj Mahal is considered by many, to possess architectural beauty unsurpassed by any other structure in the world. Constructed over a period of 22 years, employing twenty thousand workers, it was completed in 1648 C.E. and costed a whopping 32 million Rupees. Built entirely of white marble, it almost seems to glow in the moonlight, with the shimmering Jamuna river situated just across. The Muslim emperor Shah Jahan built this monument in the memory of his wife Mumtaz, whose grave is housed within the premises at the lower chamber. The grave of Shah Jahan was added to it later. The Taj stands tall and regal on a raised, square platform, forming an unequal octagon with its four truncated corners. The architecture uses the interlocking arabesque concept, where each element is singular in its entirety, but integrates seamlessly with the whole. The central dome spans 58 feet in diameter and soars to a height of 213 feet. It is flanked on four sides by smaller domed chambers, and four slender minarets rising to a lower height of 162.5 feet. The entire mausoleum is decorated with an inlaid design of flowers and calligraphy using precious gems like agate and jasper, and the main archways are carved with passages from the Holy Qur'an.

MEHTAB BAGH

Originally built by Emperor Babur as the last in a series of 11 parks bordering the Yamuna's east bank, this Mughal garden was conceived before even the Taj Mahal. Although it fell into disrepair owing to a flood in 1652 AD, it was reconstructed and restored to its former glory in 1996, and is now one of the best spots to take in stunning views of the Taj Mahal. The gardens surrounding the Taj Mahal are perfectly aligned with Mehtab Bagh, and a large octagonal pool at the heart of the garden offers a perfect reflection of the Taj in the moonlight. Translating to mean 'Moonlight Garden', this is where Mehtab Bagh gets its name from.

FATEHPUR SIKRI

Fatehpur Sikri is a town located about 40 kilometres from Agra, and has been



given the status of a World Heritage site by UNESCO. Founded in 1569 by the Mughal emperor Akbar, this was the Mughal capital from 1571 to 1585, during which the empire reached its pinnacle of success. The site was chosen to honour the Sufi saint Salim Chishti and the city within was built to honour the birth of his child, Salim. The construction of this walled city took almost 15 years to complete, and the complex included several royal palaces, a harem, courts and a mosque. The buildings have been made from red sandstone and have been designed in keeping with Persian architectural concepts, although the overall style is Mughal.

AKBAR'S TOMB

Sikandra Complex containing Akbar's tomb is one of Agra's architectural marvels. Work on it was started by Akbar in 1605, and was completed by his son Jahangir after his death. Using various different styles of architecture, this beautiful and imposing tomb is located amidst a gorgeous garden, and has been

constructed using red sandstones and glossy white marble inlaid in geometric patterns. The huge courtyard is entered through a stunning gateway, and features three-storey minarets in each. The tomb of Mariam Zamani, Akbar's Christian Wife from Goa and King Jahangir's mother, is placed nearby.

AGRA FORT

Aside from the Taj Mahal, Agra has one of the finest Mughal forts in India, the Agra Fort. A massive red sandstone structure located on the banks of the Yamuna River, construction on the fort was started in 1565 by the Mughal Emperor Akbar, and further additions in white marble were subsequently made up till the reign of his grandson Shah Jahan. Originally built for military purposes, it was later used as a palace, and eventually even served as a prison where Shah Jahan was confined for 8 years by his son Aurangzeb, who seized power in 1658. The fort runs along a length of 2.5 kilometres within enclosed walls, it encompasses several exquisite

palaces such as the Shah Jahani Mahal, Jahangiri Mahal, Khas Mahal, audience halls named Diwan-i-Am and the Diwan-i-Khas, a Fish Pavilion, the Nagina Masjid, Garden of Grapes and the Pearl Mosque. A world heritage site, it is a testament to architecture which deserves a visit.

ITIMAD-UD-DAULA'S TOMB

Nicknamed the Baby Taj, the exquisite tomb of Mizra Ghiyas Beg was the precursor to the Taj Mahal. Built between 1622 and 1628, it is located along the banks of the Yamuna and was built by the Mughal queen Noor Jahan, wife of Emperor Jahangir, to commemorate her parents. It is an architectural marvel located at the heart of the well known and scenic Persian Garden. The tomb has been elegantly designed and finished in the most beautiful architectural style laid in yellow marble with black and white marble inlay. A similar tomb was later built by Noor Jahan for her husband near Lahore in Pakistan.

History This Week

SEP 15 TO SEP 21

SEPTEMBER 15



September 15, 1776 - British forces under General William Howe captured New York during the American Revolution.

September 15, 1916 - Tanks were first used in combat, during the Allied offensive at the Battle of the Somme, in World War I.

September 15, 1935 - Nazis enacted the Nuremberg Laws depriving German Jews of their rights of citizenship.

September 15, 1940 - The height of the Battle of Britain occurred as massive German air raids took place against London, Southampton, Bristol, Cardiff, Liverpool and Manchester. The British claimed 185 German planes were shot down.

September 15, 1944 - The first entry of American troops into Hitler's Germany occurred as elements of the U.S. 7th and 5th Corps reached the southwestern frontier of Germany.



Birthday - American novelist, historian and social critic, James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851) was born in Burlington, New Jersey. Best known for *The Last of the Mohicans*.

Birthday - William Howard Taft (1857-1930) the 27th U.S. President was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He served as President from 1909-1913, then became a law professor at Yale University until his appointment as Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1921.

Birthday - British mystery author Agatha Christie (1890-1976) was born in Torquay, England. She wrote nearly a hundred books including mysteries, dramas, poetry and nonfiction.

SEPTEMBER 16

September 16, 1620 - The Mayflower ship departed from England, bound for

America with 102 passengers and a small crew. The ship weathered dangerous Atlantic storms and reached Provincetown, Massachusetts on November 21st. The Pilgrims disembarked at Plymouth on December 26th.

September 16, 1810 - Mexico's break from Spain began in the town of Dolores Hidalgo as Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla rang his church's bells and exhorted local Indians to "recover from the hated Spaniards the land stolen from your forefathers..."



September 16, 1908 - General Motors was founded by entrepreneur William Crapo "Billy" Durant in Flint, Michigan.

September 16, 1976 - The Episcopal Church in the U.S. approved the ordination of women priests and bishops.

September 16, 1982 - Beginning of a two day massacre in Palestinian refugee camps in West Beirut as Christian militiamen (the Phalangists) entered Sabra and Shatila and began shooting hundreds of Palestinians, including elderly men, women and children.

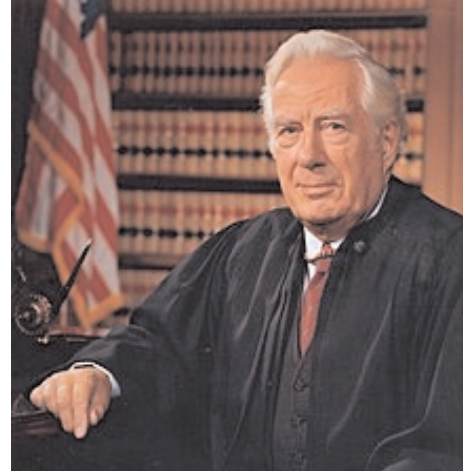
SEPTEMBER 17

September 17, 1787 - At the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, delegates from twelve states voted unanimously to approve the proposed U.S. Constitution.

September 17, 1862 - The bloodiest day in U.S. military history occurred as General Robert E. Lee and the Confederate armies were stopped at Antietam in Maryland by General George B. McClellan and numerically superior Union forces. By nightfall 26,000 men were dead, wounded, or missing.

September 17, 1908 - The first fatality involving powered flight occurred as a biplane piloted by Orville Wright fell from a height of 75 feet, killing Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, his 26-year-old passenger. A crowd of nearly 2,000 spectators at Fort Myer, Virginia, observed the crash of the plane which was being tested for possible military use. Wright himself was seriously injured.

September 17, 1939 - Soviet Russians invaded Eastern Poland, meeting little resistance and taking over 200,000 Poles prisoner. This was done in accordance with the Nazi-Soviet Pact in which the Nazis and Soviets had predetermined how they would divide Poland.



Birthday - Supreme Court Justice Warren E. Burger (1907-1995) was born in St. Paul, Minnesota. Appointed by President Nixon, he had the longest tenure (1969-86) of any Chief Justice in the 20th Century. In 1973, he voted in the majority on *Roe vs. Wade* which upheld a woman's right to an abortion. In 1974, he voted to force Nixon to surrender White House audio tapes to the Watergate special prosecutor.

SEPTEMBER 18

September 18, 1810 - Chile declared its independence from Spain after 269 years as a colony.

September 18, 1947 - The U.S. Air Force was established as a separate military service.



Birthday - Movie actress Greta Garbo (1905-1990) was born in Stockholm, Sweden (as Greta Lovisa Gustafsson). She retired and became a recluse after making 27 films, spanning the silent era through the beginning of sound movies.

SEPTEMBER 19

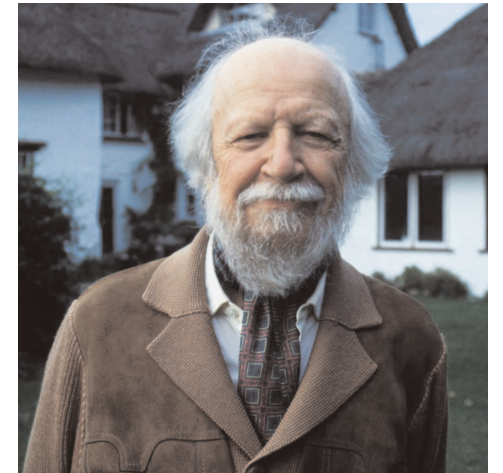
September 19, 1676 - Jamestown, Virginia, was attacked and burned during a rebellion led by Nathaniel Bacon against the Royal Governor, Sir William Berkeley.

September 19, 1893 - New Zealand became the first country to grant women the right to vote.

September 19-20, 1985 - Earthquakes in Mexico City killed an estimated 5,000 to 20,000 persons and left more than 100,000 homeless, causing \$4 billion in damage. The quakes registered 8.1 and 7.5 on the

Richter scale.

September 19, 1994 - U.S. troops invaded Haiti, with the stated goal of restoring democracy.



Birthday - British author William Golding (1911-1993) was born in Cornwall, England. Best known for *Lord of the Flies*, he received a Nobel Prize in 1983.

SEPTEMBER 20

September 20, 1873 - The New York Stock Exchange was forced to close for the first time in its history as a result of a banking crisis during the financial Panic of 1873.

September 20, 1973 - The much-hyped "Battle of the Sexes" took place in the Houston Astrodome as tennis player and women's rights activist, Billie Jean King, defeated self-styled male chauvinist Bobby Riggs in three straight sets. Riggs, a retired tennis champion, had been critical of the quality of women's tennis.



September 20, 1989 - F.W. de Klerk was sworn in as president of South Africa. He began an era of reform aimed at ending apartheid and was succeeded by Nelson Mandela.

SEPTEMBER 21



September 21, 1949 - The People's Republic of China was proclaimed by its Communist leaders.

Australia mandates neck protectors for batters facing pace

Australian cricketers will have to wear neck protectors on helmets when facing fast or medium pace bowling from October as part of changes to playing conditions for the 2023/24 domestic and international seasons.

Governing body Cricket Australia had recommended the use of neck protectors since the death of Phillip Hughes in 2014 but a number of top batsmen, including David Warner and Steve Smith, have resisted wearing them.

They will now have to wear them from October 1 when playing at home or in international cricket overseas or face sanctions under rules to be introduced by CA.

"Protecting the head and neck is extremely important in our sport," CA's Head of Cricket Operations & Scheduling Peter Roach said in a statement.

"The neck protector product has come a long way in recent years and the decision to make them mandatory comes off the back of a lot of advice and consultation with a wide range of experts and stakeholders." The mandate comes a week after Australia all-rounder Cameron Green was struck by a Kagiso Rabada bouncer on the neck guard fixed to his helmet and was substituted out of the first ODI against South Africa with concussion.

It was one of a raft of changes to playing conditions, which include scrapping the automatic six runs given to batters who hit the roof of Melbourne's Docklands Stadium during Big Bash League matches.

Umpires will now decide to award a six if they judge the ball would have cleared the boundary.

The use of COVID substitutes, who replaced players testing positive for the coronavirus, has also been scrapped.



Asia Cup: It's Sri Lanka vs India in final

COLOMBO (TIP)

In a game of multiple compelling storylines, it was Charith Asalanka who stood tall in the end as Sri Lanka edged Pakistan out by two wickets in a final-ball thriller in Colombo. With it, Sri Lanka made it to their 11th Asia Cup final (for ODIs), where they will face India on Sunday, September 17.

Asalanka remained unbeaten on 49 off 47 balls to see home a nervy chase, but it was a win built on Kusal Mendis' 91 from 87 deliveries and Sadeera Samarawickrama's 48 off 51. Pakistan will look back at what might've been, as their injury-hit attack fought tooth and nail, and almost secured an unlikely come-from-behind win.

Set a DLS-adjusted target of 252 in a rain-shortened 42-over game, Sri Lanka needed six an over from the get-go, but in Mendis and Samarawickrama, they had two in-form batters of the tournament at their disposal. During their 100-run third-wicket stand, the game seemed Sri Lanka's to lose, as they knocked over the singles while also finding boundaries when required.

Indeed, one of the features of the chase was that Sri Lanka never ran away with it, while at the same time keeping the required rate always at six or below. While this exuded a sense of control, it also allowed Pakistan the opening late in the game.

Both Samarawickrama and Mendis fell against the run of play, each dismissed by Iftikhar Ahmed, who finished with 3 for 50 in eight overs. Samarawickrama came down the track and missed an arm ball to be stumped, while Mendis chipped a leading edge for Mohammad Harris to take a blinder at short extra cover, diving full length in front and grasping it centimetres off the ground.

Sri Lanka needed 42 off 41 balls at this point with six wickets in hand, and while Dasun Shanaka fell



Sadeera Samarawickrama and Kusal Mendis added 100 for the third wicket

AFP/Getty Images

shortly after, Dhananjaya de Silva kept Asalanka company as the requirement was whittled down to 12 from 12 deliveries with five wickets in hand.

Enter Shaheen Shah Afridi, who had had an absolutely mediocre game up until then by his standards - eight overs bowled, 48 runs conceded, and no wickets taken. Six balls later, Sri Lanka were seven down, and another eight away with six balls remaining as Afridi first had Dhananjaya caught at long-on off a low full toss, and then Dunith Wellalage nick behind looking to heave one across the line.

Then enter Zaman Khan, the slinger who had had a forgettable debut until then. His five overs had gone for 32, and Babar Azam had resisted the urge to bring him on earlier, instead opting to save him for just such a moment. Zaman had given eight runs in his last over, and needed to save eight in the final over of the chase.

He allowed tailender Pramod Madushan off strike first ball, but then Asalanka incredibly took a single off the third after a dot, leaving Madushan on strike with six needed from three. Pakistan had found a way into the game, and then

an attempt to run a bye as the ball rolled away to the wicketkeeper saw a chaotic mix-up between Madushan and Asalanka. Thus, Madushan was run-out at the non-striker's end. Sri Lanka, who were also a batter short after Maheesh Theekshana had suffered a hamstring injury in the field, then needed six from the two deliveries, and Pakistan were suddenly ahead.

But then Asalanka edged a swipe between the wicketkeeper and short third for four. Two from one left - with a Super Over on the cards - but Asalanka turned an attempted yorker behind square leg, as Sri Lanka and a packed Premadasa Stadium breathed a heaving sigh of relief.

It was hardly the expected finish when the day had started with whether there would be any play at all. Heavy rain had seen the start delayed by nearly two hours, with Pakistan particularly dreading further interventions as only a win would suffice for them to qualify for the final. And when the rain inevitably arrived again, midway through their innings, it proved to be the catalyst for a nearly match-winning resurgence.

Source: Cricinfo

Messi, Mbappe & Haaland to fight for FIFA award

BUDAPEST (TIP)

Lionel Messi, Kylian Mbappe and Erling Haaland are on the shortlist for the Best FIFA Men's Player award, while Spain's Aitana Bonmati is among the nominees for the Best Women's Player on the back of winning the Golden Ball at the World Cup.

Half of the dozen nominees in the men's category were part of Manchester City's 2022-23 treble-winning squad, while City's Spanish manager Pep Guardiola is nominated for Best Men's Coach.

Spain's World Cup win sees four of their players among the 16 nominees for the women's award. World Cup runners-

up England have four players on the list, with Sarina Wiegman up for the women's coaching award, while Australia have three players.

World Cup winners Messi of Argentina and Spain's Alexia Putellas are the current holders of the top player awards.

Spain's Women's World Cup winning coach Jorge Vilda was left off the shortlist of nominees, a week after he was fired following an international uproar in the wake of the final.

The nominees were shortlisted by a panel of football experts that included retired players Mia Hamm and Didier Drogba.

Source: Agencies





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New COVID-19 vaccine available in New York starting September 15 : Hochul

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

ALBANY, NY (TIP): The newest COVID-19 vaccine will be made available in New York starting Friday, September 15, as the state sees a slight increase in case numbers and hospitalizations now three-and-a-half years after the pandemic began, Gov. Kathy Hochul announced Wednesday, September 13.

"I know everyone wants to be done with COVID, but COVID is not done with us," Hochul said at a briefing in New York City.

Advisers to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Tuesday endorsed the new shots for everyone 6 months of age and older. These newest shots replace combination vaccines that mixed protection against the original coronavirus strain and even older omicron variants. Like earlier versions, they're expected to be most protective against severe illness, hospitalization and death, rather than mild infection.

"It is literally a new vaccine. It is not a booster shot. It is not an enhancer. It is a new vaccine designed to attack the new



New York State Governor Kathy Hochul announced Wednesday, September 13 availability of new Covid-19 vaccine from September 15 in the wake of a slight increase in case numbers and hospitalizations.

File photo / Facebook

variants," Hochul said.

The new vaccine will be available at doctors' offices, pharmacies and other health care providers on Friday.

"I'm calling on New Yorkers once again as we have many many times to take the right precautions and we can handle this. There's no need to be careless. We have the tools we need," Hochul said.

The governor said she is also reinforcing that nursing homes are required to make the new vaccine available for their residents and are responsible for stockpiling

COVID-19 test kits, masks and PPE.

"The whole idea of dealing with this is to be pre-emptive," Hochul said.

The state last week said it is also making rapid test kits and masks available to school districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) if they request them as the new academic year gets underway.

"It's our job to make sure that every school district has what they need to continue safe in-person learning," she said.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Ex-NYC Buildings chief Eric Ulrich Took \$150K In Bribes, Faces 5 Indictments: DA

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): New York City's former buildings boss faces five separate indictments that accuse him of taking more than \$150,000 in bribes, including a painting by Salvador Dali's last living apprentice.

Eric Ulrich, 38, abused his power in every public service position he held - from City Council member to Mayor Eric Adams' senior adviser and, finally, to Department of Buildings Commissioner - to "line his pockets," said Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg.

Ulrich surrendered to Manhattan prosecutors Wednesday, September 13, with a copy of Bill O'Reilly's book, "Killing Jesus: A History," in tow, the New York Times reported. "We allege that Eric Ulrich accepted or solicited more than \$150,000 worth of bribes in less than two years by monetizing each elected and appointed role he held in New York City government," Bragg said in a statement.

The quintet of indictments against Ulrich and six of his alleged associates is notable not just for its sweeping accusations of public corruption, but also



Eric Ulrich faces five separate indictments that accuse him of taking more than \$150,000 in bribes. Photo / Flickr

because many of those charged have alleged ties to the mayor or to organized crime.

A mayor's office spokesperson said City Hall will continue to let the investigation run its course and to assist the district attorney.

"And, while we do not discuss private conversations, to avoid speculation, the mayor has not received any requests from the Manhattan DA

surrounding this matter and has never spoken to Mr. Ulrich about this investigation," the spokesperson said in a statement. Ulrich and his co-defendants, Joseph Livreri, 55, Anthony Livreri, 51, and Michael Mazzio, 54, all hosted a 2021 fundraiser for Adams, the Times reported.

And the Livreri brothers and Mazzio have suspected connections to organized crime, according to the Times report.

Prosecutors said Ulrich, who resigned his buildings commissioner role in November amid a criminal gambling probe, used his government positions to benefit the Livreri brothers and Mazzio by, among other actions.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)



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Janmashtami celebrated with great joy and devotion at BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham, Robbinsville, NJ, USA



Children joyfully display placards representing the diverse values celebrated by the BAPS "Festival of Inspirations"



The young perform a captivating traditional dance at the "Festival of Inspirations".

September 14, 2023

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ (TIP): With great devotion, the Hindu community came together to celebrate Janmashtami, honoring the birth of Bhagwan Shri Krishna, on September 7, 2023. This auspicious event took place amidst the three-month-long 'Festival of Inspirations', marking the inauguration of the BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham, a beacon of ancient Hindu values set against the backdrop of the contemporary world, which stands as an inspiration of ancient Hindu values.

The program consisted of incidents capturing Bhagwan Shri Krishna's life, enriched with profound wisdom, playful innocence, and divine deeds, enlightened attendees, guiding them through His revered teachings.

The evening was graced with profound spiritual discourses. Pujya

Shrutiprakashdas Swami delved into the Shrimad Bhagvad Gita, highlighting the transformative power of seeking refuge in God. Drawing parallels from the epic Mahabharat, he emphasized the unwavering protection bestowed by God upon those who surrender to Him, emphasizing the importance of trust in divine wisdom during moral dilemmas.

Renowned scholar, Mahamahapadhyaya Pujya Bhadreshdas Swami cited another verse from the Shrimad Bhagvad Gita - Esha Brahmi Sthiti in contemplation of how transcendence of material desires, embracing equanimity and aligning oneself with Aksharbraman, results in the attainment of brahmi stiti, the state of utmost equilibrium and oneness with God. Using the analogy of the ocean's calm surface amidst the deep, tumultuous waters, he imparted the significance of achieving inner peace and balance, citing

His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj as a living testament.

Sadguru Pujya Ishwarcharandas Swami, referencing the Vachnamrut, shed light on the unparalleled devotion the gopis held for Bhagwan Shri Krishna, illustrating how Bhagwan Swaminarayan's teachings can be incorporated into our daily lives. He illustrated the deep affection and devotion that the gopis, female devotees of Bhagwan Shri Krishna, had for him. He spoke on how we can all imbibe lessons from these incidents to strengthen our devotion to God.

The epic tale of the Mahabharat was dramatically re-enacted, emphasizing Arjun's choice of Bhagwan Shri Krishna's divine strength over sheer military might, symbolizing that true victory lies in unwavering faith in God. Following a dance depicting Bhagwan

Shri Krishna's childhood story, the celebration concluded with various Janmashtami traditions. His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj swinging a beautifully adorned hindolo, with the murtis of Bhagwan Shri Krishna. The night was crowned with devotional songs celebrating Bhagwan Shri Krishna's boundless love and compassion. Finally, youths formed a human pyramid recreating Bhagwan Krishna's playful act of breaking pots to get butter in his childhood.

The event welcomed esteemed guests, including New Jersey Assemblyman Wayne P. DeAngelo, who expressed heartfelt appreciation for the warmth and outreach of the community. Dr. Hari Eppanapally of Elysium Ventures and Andrew Dinsmore from U.S. Senator Chris Coons' office in Delaware were also honored at the celebration.

IRS orders immediate stop to new Employee Retention Credit processing amid surge of questionable claims



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP): To protect taxpayers from scams, IRS orders immediate stop to new Employee Retention Credit processing amid surge of questionable claims; concerns from tax pros, aggressive marketing to ineligible applicants highlights

unacceptable risk to businesses and the tax system

Moratorium on processing of new claims through year's end will allow IRS to add more safeguards to prevent future abuse, protect businesses from predatory tactics; IRS working with Justice Department to pursue fraud fueled by aggressive marketing

IRS Commissioner Danny Werfel ordered the immediate moratorium, beginning today, to run through at least Dec. 31 following growing concerns inside the tax agency, from tax professionals as well as media reports that a substantial share of new claims from the aging program are ineligible

and increasingly putting businesses at financial risk by being pressured and scammed by aggressive promoters and marketing.

The IRS continues to work previously filed Employee Retention Credit (ERC) claims received prior to the moratorium but renewed a reminder that increased fraud concerns means processing times will be longer. On July 26, the agency announced it was increasingly shifting its focus to review these claims for compliance concerns, including intensifying audit work and criminal investigations on promoters and businesses filing dubious claims. The IRS announced today that hundreds of

criminal cases are being worked, and thousands of ERC claims have been referred for audit.

The IRS emphasizes that payouts for these claims will continue during the moratorium period but at a slower pace due to the detailed compliance reviews. With the stricter compliance reviews in place during this period, existing ERC claims will go from a standard processing goal of 90 days to 180 days - and much longer if the claim faces further review or audit. The IRS may also seek additional documentation from the taxpayer to ensure it is a legitimate claim.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)



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**Message from
Peter J. McDonnell,
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occasion of laying the
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