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PANORAMA

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# 1 INDIAN AMERICAN WEEKLY : SINCE 2006

VOL 18 ISSUE 41 • NEW YORK / DALLAS • OCT 11 - 17, 2024

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The INDIAN PANORAMA

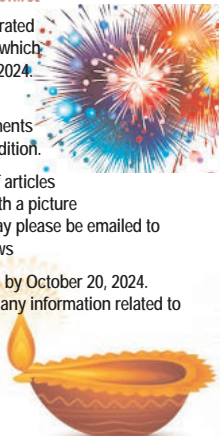
will bring out a profusely illustrated edition in celebration of Diwali which falls on Thursday, October 31, 2024.

We invite from our patrons and readers articles and advertisements for publication in this special edition.

The last date for submission of articles is October 18, 2024. Articles with a picture and a brief bio of the author may please be emailed to editor@theindianpanorama.news

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# Thousands Pay Tribute As Indian Industrialist Ratan Tata Laid To Rest In Mumbai




Ratan Tata's body was brought to the crematorium in a van decorated with white flowers, while his coffin was draped in the Indian flag

OCTOBER 11, 2024

**MUMBAI (TIP):** The funeral of Ratan Tata, the former chairman of Tata Group, took place in Mumbai, marking the end of an era for one of India's most influential business leaders. Thousands gathered at the National Centre for Performing Arts to pay their final respects.

Union Ministers Amit Shah, and Piyush Goyal; Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and his deputies Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar; Opposition leaders Sharad Pawar, Supriya Sule, Uddhav Thackeray, and Raj Thackeray; industrialists Mukesh Ambani, Kumaramangalam Birla, and Harsh Goenka; Tata Group chairperson N. Chandrasekaran, and

CONTD ON PAGE 42



**We wish readers a Happy Vijayadashami**

## Florida limping back after Milton: 11 dead, 3M in dark



A family surveys the destruction of their home

OCTOBER 11, 2024

**SIESTA KEY, FLA. (TIP):**

Hurricane Milton plowed into the Atlantic Ocean on Thursday, October 10, after tearing a path of destruction across Florida, killing at least 14 people and knocking out power to millions, yet averting the "worst-case scenario" meteorologists, officials and residents had feared.

Milton did not go quietly, though, flooding neighborhoods, destroying homes, ripping the roof off a major sports venue, and toppling a massive crane into an office building. Two deaths were confirmed in St. Petersburg, four in Volusia County, and one each in Polk and Citrus counties, as well as six in St. Lucie County on Florida's east coast following tornadoes there. Power outages inched higher during the day as the storm exited off the eastern coast of the state, and more than 2.6 million homes and businesses remained in the dark by late Thursday, according to poweroutage.us.

## PM Modi calls for peace in Eurasia, West Asia; says solutions to problems cannot come from battlefield



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with other leaders at the 19th East Asia Summit in Vientiane, Laos, on Friday, Oct. 11, 2024. -Photo Credit: PTI

OCTOBER 11, 2024

**VIENTIANE, LAOS (TIP):** Noting that conflicts in different parts of the world are having the most negative impact on the countries of the Global South, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 11 called for the restoration of peace and stability in Eurasia and West Asia.

Addressing the 19th East Asia Summit, Mr. Modi also asserted that solutions to problems cannot come from the battlefield.

CONTD ON PAGE 42

## Democracy back on rails in J&K: Omar Abdullah to be the Chief Minister



National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah is seen with supporters in Srinagar.

OCTOBER 11, 2024

**SRINAGAR (TIP):** Paving the way for National Conference (NC) vice-president Omar Abdullah to take charge as the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, his party's legislators on Thursday, October 10, unanimously approved his name for the top post.

NC president Farooq Abdullah announced that his son had been unanimously chosen as the chairman of the legislature party. This clears the way for the younger Abdullah to stake his claim, with the Congress's support, to form the government in J&K after a gap of 10 years. The new government's formation is likely to be finalized in the next two days.

CONTD ON PAGE 42

### INSIDE

**RATAN TATA: A MAN OF STEEL WITH A HEART OF GOLD P-02**

**RATAN NAVAL TATA: INDIAN INDUSTRIALIST AND HUMANITARIAN LEAVES LASTING LEGACY. P-16**

**NOBEL PRIZE 2024 FOR PHYSICS, MEDICINE, CHEMISTRY AND LITERATURE ANNOUNCED P-21**

**PANDIT RAMESH NARAYAN: THE ULTIMATE TORCH BEARER OF 'GURU-SHISHYA PARAMPARA' PAGE 25**



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# Ratan Tata: A Man of Steel with a Heart of Gold

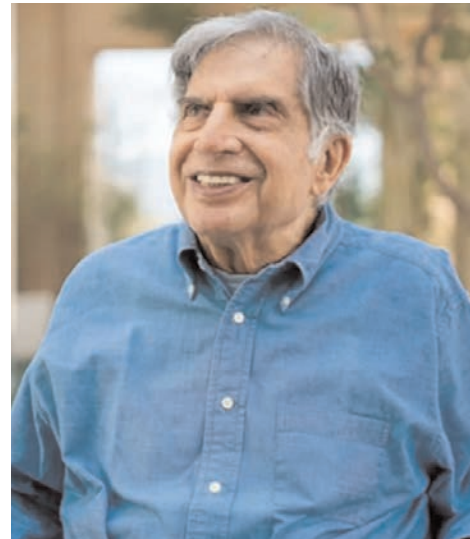
Ratan Naval Tata, one of India's most cherished industrialists and philanthropists, passed away on October 9 at the age of 86, leaving behind a legacy that will be remembered for generations. Ratan Tata was not only a visionary leader who shaped modern India's industrial landscape, but he was also a man with a golden heart, known for his deep-rooted values of integrity, humility, and compassion. As India mourns his loss, the world reflects on the profound impact of a life dedicated not just to business but to humanity at large.

Ratan Tata came from the illustrious Tata family, a lineage synonymous with the development of India's industrial sector. His great-grandfather, Jamshedji Tata, laid the foundation of Tata Sons in 1868, and his granduncle, J.R.D. Tata, was instrumental in steering the group to new heights. The Tata family has always been a beacon of progress for India, pioneering several key industries, and Ratan Tata was a worthy torchbearer of this legacy.

The Tata story began in the late 19th century when Jamshedji Tata, with a vision of an industrialized and self-reliant India, established the first steel plant in Jamshedpur, then a remote area of Bengal (now Jharkhand). The Tata Steel plant, set up in 1907, was not just a milestone in India's industrial history but a symbol of the country's emergence on the global industrial map. The town of Jamshedpur, named after Jamshedji Tata, became a thriving industrial hub, a testament to the foresight of the Tata family. This commitment to nation-building continued through the generations, with each leader of the Tata Group contributing to India's growth and modernization.

One of the significant milestones in India's industrial history was the Tata family's entry into the automobile sector. The Tata Motors division was set up with a vision to create vehicles made in India, for India. Under Ratan Tata's leadership, this vision was realized with the launch of the Tata Indica, India's first indigenously developed car, and the Tata Nano, the world's most affordable car. His dream was to make car ownership accessible to millions of Indian families, and in doing so, Ratan Tata laid the groundwork for India to become a global hub for automobile manufacturing. Tata Motors grew to become not just a domestic leader but also a global player, acquiring prestigious brands like Jaguar Land Rover under Ratan Tata's stewardship.

In the same pioneering spirit that drove the Tata family to set up India's first steel plant, J.R.D. Tata ventured into the skies with the establishment of Air India, India's first commercial airline. Founded in 1932 as Tata Airlines, it was J.R.D. Tata's passion for aviation that led to the airline's inception. Air India became the face of Indian civil aviation and a symbol of national pride. Though



Ratan Tata became chairman of the autos to steel conglomerate in 1991.

the Tata Group had to relinquish control of Air India after nationalization in the 1950s, Ratan Tata continued to hold a deep connection to the airline. His heart must have swelled with pride when, in 2021, Tata Sons successfully reacquired Air India, bringing the airline back into the Tata fold, a fitting tribute to the family's enduring legacy in aviation.

But Ratan Tata was more than just an industrial titan. His leadership was characterized by a deep commitment to ethics, social responsibility, and philanthropy. A true heir to the Tata family's philanthropic ethos, Ratan Tata was as passionate about giving back to society as he was about business success. Through the various charitable arms of the Tata Group, including the Tata Trusts, he worked tirelessly to uplift underprivileged communities, support education and healthcare initiatives, and fund scientific research. His focus on corporate social responsibility set new standards in the Indian business community, reminding the world that businesses are not just profit-driven entities but also instruments of social change.

One of the most defining moments in Ratan Tata's career came in 2008 when India faced one of its darkest hours. On November 26, 2008, the iconic Taj Mahal Palace Hotel in Mumbai, owned by the Tata Group, was one of the prime targets of a series of devastating terrorist attacks. The image of the burning hotel became symbolic of the attack on Mumbai's soul. Ratan Tata's response to the crisis earned him widespread admiration. His first priority was not the losses incurred by the company but the well-being of his employees and the guests who had suffered during the attack. He personally reached out to each of the victims' families and provided financial and emotional support to help them recover. Under his guidance, the Taj Hotel was restored to its former glory, standing as a symbol of resilience and hope in the face of adversity.

Even as he steered the Tata Group to unprecedented heights, Ratan Tata was



BY  
INDRAJIT SALUJA

always known for his humility. He was a man who led by example, never seeking the limelight but always ready to step up when the occasion demanded. Despite the many accolades he received over the years, including India's highest civilian honors, the Padma Bhushan and the Padma Vibhushan, he remained grounded, always emphasizing that his achievements were the result of the collective efforts of the Tata family and the Tata Group.

One of the many remarkable aspects of Ratan Tata's personality was his empathy and kindness. Known for his soft-spoken demeanor and unassuming nature, he always put people before profits. Whether it was standing by his employees during crises or funding critical healthcare projects, his focus was on improving the quality of life for those around him. He was also a staunch advocate for innovation and entrepreneurship, often personally mentoring young entrepreneurs and investing in startups. His vision for India was one where technology and innovation would drive progress, but not at the cost of human welfare.

Ratan Tata's passing is a monumental loss, not just for the Tata Group or the Indian industrial sector, but for the entire nation. His departure marks the end of an era in Indian business—a time when industrialists were seen not just as captains of industry but as builders of the nation. The Tata Group under Ratan Tata's leadership became a symbol of India's industrial strength and global competitiveness. From steel to automobiles, from airlines to hospitality, his influence spanned across sectors, and his vision laid the foundation for India's future as a global economic powerhouse.

However, it is perhaps his heart of gold that will be remembered the most. His quiet acts of charity, his deep empathy for those in need, and his unwavering commitment to ethical business practices set him apart in a world often dominated by cutthroat competition and corporate greed. Ratan Tata's life was a testament to the idea that success is not measured by the wealth one accumulates but by the impact one has on others. His legacy will continue to inspire generations of leaders who will look up to him not just for his business acumen but for his kindness, compassion, and humility.

As we bid farewell to this titan of industry, we also celebrate a life well-lived. Ratan Tata's contributions to India are immeasurable, and his memory will forever be etched in the hearts of millions. His leadership, his vision, and his commitment to the greater good will continue to inspire and guide India's journey toward a brighter future.

Rest in peace, Ratan Naval Tata. You will always be remembered as one of India's finest gems—a man of steel, with a heart of gold.

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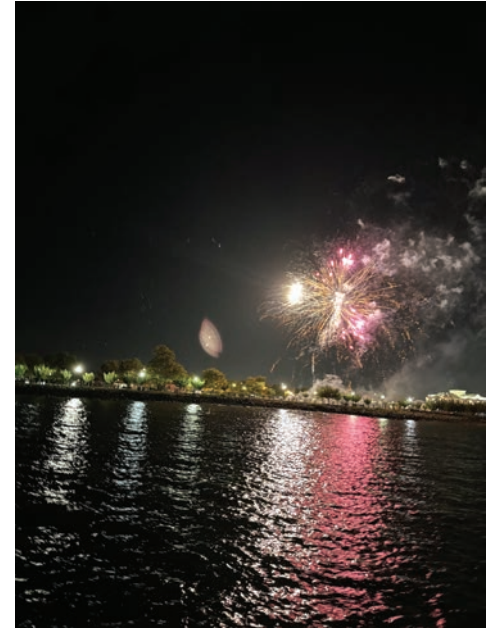
# Dr. Manish Veera honored at the AIA Diwali Celebration



Dr. Manish Veera being honored by the AIA New York Chapter President Dr. Jagdish Gupta and his executive committee.



Spectacular fireworks



**OCTOBER 8, 2024**

**FLUSHING, NY (TIP):** AIA New York chapter at its Diwali celebration, on October 6, honored Dr. Manish Veera, an

eminent Urologist. While Dr. Shashi Shah presented a shawl to Dr. Veera, AIA president Dr. Jagdish Gupta presented him a plaque.

Prof. Indrajit Saluja, editor of The Indian Panorama presented to Dr. Veera a replica of the Golden Temple.

More than 300 guests enjoyed the cruise

and the fireworks. This is the first time that the organizers of the iconic South Street Seaport Diwali abandoned the street fair and opted for a cruise.

## Suozi Visits India Home; Receives Update on Funding He Secured for South Asian Colon Cancer Health Initiative Project



Congressman Tom Suozzi visited India Home to receive an update on the South Asian Colon Cancer Health Initiative (SACCHI) project, funding for which he secured in 2022.

**OCTOBER 10, 2024**

**GLEN COVE, NY (TIP):** Congressman Tom Suozzi (D - Nassau, Queens), on Wednesday, October 9, visited India Home in Jamaica to receive an update on the South Asian Colon Cancer Health Initiative (SACCHI) project, funding for which he secured in 2022.

Suozi was instrumental in securing \$500,000 in grant funding for the SACCHI project, which India Home led. This initiative aims to address health disparities and reduce cancer cases among South Asian seniors in NY-03.

"South Asians are disproportionately affected by higher rates of colon cancer, especially among seniors in our community," said Suozzi. "The educational and outreach efforts of India Home to bridge these disparities, facilitate screening, and ultimately reduce colon cancer rates among South Asian seniors are unparalleled."

The SACCHI project highlights the significance of preventive measures for colon cancer. Suozzi's grant funding has enabled the creation of educational videos and brochures in South Asian languages, interviews with healthcare experts, physician engagement events, peer support, facilitation of testing and screening procedures, as well as pre- and post-intervention evaluations.

The India Home funding for the SACCHI project, which operated from July 2023 to July 2024, was one of 15 community-funded projects totaling nearly \$14 million that Suozzi championed and helped secure in late 2022 for Fiscal Year 2023.

In July, Suozzi announced that congressional appropriators had included language for 15 local projects in NY-03, totaling more than \$15 million, in their first draft of the 2025 spending bills. The funding would cover new equipment for the Glen Cove Police Department, new systems for clean drinking water, new pump stations to improve sewage infrastructure, and more.

"One of my top priorities in Congress has been to advocate for New York and make sure that my constituents in Long Island and Queens receive their fair share," said Suozzi. "This summer, I announced that as part of Congress's bipartisan funding process, over \$15 million was preliminarily allocated to return to New York's Third Congressional District. I will keep working to bring back these and other tax dollars to our community."

Congress continues to consider FY25 appropriations legislation after extending the expiration of current funding levels last month until December 20, 2024.

## Legislator Solages Joins Protestors Demanding Safe Return of Sacred Sikh Religious Text



Nassau County Legislator Carrié Solages (D - Valley Stream) joined with protestors demanding safe return of sacred Sikh religious text  
Photo credit / Office of Legislator Carrié Solages

**October 9, 2024**

**GARDEN CITY, NY (TIP):** Nassau County Legislator Carrié Solages (D - Valley Stream) joined with hundreds of peaceful protestors on Wednesday, Oct. 2 to urge for the safe return of a sacred Sikh religious text following its alleged theft.

The suspect is alleged to have taken the Guru Granth Sahib Ji from the Gurudwara Giansar in Holliswood. After weeks passed and the suspect steadily refused to return it, the Sikh community and allies, including Legislator Solages and New York State Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages, gathered outside the suspect's Garden City Park home to demand its return, which occurred after that evening to a jubilant response from protestors. The suspected accused of its theft has since been charged with fourth-degree grand larceny.

"I truly admire the faith, determination and patience of the Sikh community - virtues which have been on display for all to see during this ordeal," Legislator Solages said. "We are appreciative of the professionalism of the Nassau County Police Department for overseeing the protest and bringing a very difficult situation to a peaceful conclusion."

# Indian American enforcement director Gurbir Grewal quits as SEC Enforcement Director



Gurbir S. Grewal is quitting the US Securities and Exchange Commission Director on October 11

**OCTOBER 9, 2024**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP):** The US Securities and Exchange Commission's Indian American enforcement director, Gurbir S. Grewal is leaving the agency after a three-year tenure marked by stepped up enforcement against Wall Street and cryptocurrency firms.

On Grewal's departure on October 11, another Indian American, Sanjay Wadhwa, a 21-year agency veteran, will take over as Acting Director, SEC announced Oct 2.

Leading SEC's 1,500-person enforcement unit since July 2021, after serving as New Jersey attorney general, Grewal pursued big cases in the crypto sector, including suing exchanges Binance and Coinbase for facilitating illicit offerings to retail investors. It also charged FTX as part of a larger government action against the exchange's multibillion-dollar fraud and sued the firm's auditor for negligence.

Under his leadership, SEC embarked on

a sprawling, multi-year investigative initiative focused on Wall Street's use of personal devices and apps such as WhatsApp to discuss business, levying over \$2 billion in civil fines against dozens of firms including JP Morgan Chase, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley.

Under Grewal, SEC enforcement has also fought Elon Musk in court over the billionaire's failure to show up to testify for the agency's investigation into his takeover of Twitter, now known as X, and brought settled charges against billionaire investor Carl Icahn for disclosure failures.

During Grewal's tenure, more than 2,400 enforcement matters resulted in orders for more than \$20 billion in disgorgement, prejudgment interest, and civil penalties, more than 340 industry bars against individuals, more than \$1 billion in awards to whistleblowers, and the return of billions of dollars to harmed investors, the regulator stated in a press release.

"We have been incredibly fortunate that such an accomplished public servant, Gurbir Grewal, came to the SEC to lead the Division of Enforcement for the last three years," Chair Gary Gensler said. "Every day, he has thought about how to best protect investors and help ensure market participants comply with our time-tested securities laws. He has led a Division that has acted without fear or favor, following the facts and the law wherever they may lead. I greatly enjoyed working with him and wish him well."

"I'm pleased that Sanjay Wadhwa has said yes to taking on the Acting Director role," Gensler said. "He has served as part of a remarkable leadership team, along

with Gurbir, as Deputy Director and has been with the agency for more than two decades. He has shown strong leadership, is widely respected among his colleagues, and has provided invaluable counsel to the Commission."

"While we have faced and overcome many challenges over the last three plus years, there has been one constant throughout: the public servants of the Enforcement Division stand ready to do everything they can to protect investors and market integrity," Grewal said. "Their expertise, professionalism, and dedication are, indeed, unparalleled, and it has been the privilege of a lifetime to have been able to call them colleagues."

"From recalibrating penalties and remedies to confronting emerging risks to holding issuers, insiders, and gatekeepers accountable, I am incredibly proud of all that we've accomplished as a Division during my tenure. I am grateful to Chair Gensler not just for the opportunity to lead the Division, but also for his unwavering commitment to investor protection and support of a robust enforcement program."

As Enforcement Director, Grewal prioritized restoring investor trust and confidence in the financial markets by emphasizing proactive enforcement initiatives and working to create a culture of compliance among market participants, the regulator stated.

Under Grewal's leadership, the Division also prioritized holding insiders, industry professionals, and gatekeepers accountable for their securities law violations, rooting out fraudulent conduct, enforcing disclosure and recordkeeping requirements, and enforcing whistleblower protections, it

stated.

Immediately before joining the SEC, Grewal was the Attorney General for the State of New Jersey from Jan 2018 through June 2021. Prior to that, he served as the Bergen County Prosecutor, the chief law enforcement officer for New Jersey's most populous county.

Earlier in his career, Grewal served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey, where he was Chief of the Economic Crimes Unit, and an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, where he was assigned to the Business and Securities Fraud Unit.

He was also an attorney in private practice. Grewal holds a JD from the College of William & Mary, Marshall-Wythe School of Law, and a BS in Foreign Service from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service.

Wadhwa has served as Deputy Director of the Enforcement Division since Aug 2021 working closely alongside Grewal to execute the SEC's Enforcement agenda and to further the agency's mission to protect investors.

Before becoming Deputy Director, Wadhwa was the Senior Associate Director of the Division of Enforcement in the New York Regional Office (NYRO), Deputy Chief of the Market Abuse Unit, and Assistant Director in NYRO.

Prior to joining the SEC as a staff attorney in Enforcement in 2003, Wadhwa served as a tax associate at Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP and Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Wadhwa has a BBA from Florida Atlantic University, a J.D. from South Texas College of Law Houston, and an LL.M. in taxation from New York University School of Law.

## Indian American Maryland Lt. Gov. Aruna Miller talks AI vision for state at UPenn

**OCTOBER 8, 2024**

**PHILADELPHIA, PA (TIP):** Maryland's Lieutenant Governor Aruna K. Miller delivered opening remarks at University of Pennsylvania during its sixth PRECISE Industry Day on October 4, 2024.

The event hosted leaders in academia, public service, and the tech industry with the aim to build partnerships across state lines and further the conversation on artificial intelligence and engineering.

"AI is reshaping the world as we know it. Not just our economies, but society, democracy, and geopolitics as well," said keynote speaker Dragos Tudorache, member of the European parliament and Chief Negotiator of the EU AI Act.

Lt. Gov. Miller, who serves as the 10th



Maryland's Lt. Gov. Aruna Miller in her opening remarks at University of Pennsylvania spoke about AI reshaping the world.

Lieutenant Governor of the state of Maryland, is the second woman and the first woman of color and immigrant to be elected to statewide office. In her statement, she said "artificial intelligence is not just the future; it's the present, and Maryland is committed to leading the charge."

As a civil and transportation engineer, Miller, who has actively advocated for STEM during her time in the office, noted that "balancing innovation with ethical considerations, Maryland can lead in the responsible use of AI while improving public services and enhancing the quality of life for all its residents."

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

## Indian American dean Ramayya Krishnan to lead new AI cooperative research center at Carnegie Mellon

**OCTOBER 10, 2024**

**PITTSBURGH, PA (TIP):** Ramayya Krishnan, Indian American dean of the Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University, will be the lead research coordinator for a new artificial intelligence cooperative research center.

Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has awarded \$6 million to the University to establish a joint center to support cooperative research and experimentation for the test and evaluation of modern AI capabilities and tools.

The CMU/NIST AI Measurement Science & Engineering Cooperative Research Center (AIMSEC) will seek to



Ramayya Krishnan will be the lead research coordinator for a new artificial intelligence cooperative research center at Carnegie Mellon University

advance measurement science for modern AI systems, using stakeholder partnerships in a wide range of application domains - including human services, education, finance, transportation, energy and more - to test approaches and translate assessment capabilities and methodologies into practice, according to a media release.

Krishnan, William W. and Ruth F. Cooper Professor of Management Science and Information Systems, was appointed to the Department of

Commerce's National Artificial Intelligence Advisory Committee (NAIAC) in 2022.

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

# New York Times rates Indian American chef Vikas Khanna's Bungalow among America's top 50

OCTOBER 7, 2024

**NEW YORK (TIP):** The New York Times has rated Indian American chef Vikas Khanna's New York restaurant, Bungalow, "offering a nostalgic journey into India's vintage clubhouses," among America's 50 best restaurants.

The leading US daily describes Bungalow as "a for-us-by-us restaurant," where Khanna showcases bold, unapologetic flavors that cater to a more diverse audience, moving away from the traditional practice of tailoring Indian food to Western tastes.

It's called "an invitation to experience history, culture, and exceptional cuisine inspired by these opulent clubs that help shape Indian social life and camaraderie."

The list, which highlights some of the most innovative dining establishments across the country, emphasized Bungalow's unique take on Indian cuisine, blending lesser-known regional flavors with personal creative spins

The restaurant, which opened its doors this year in March, has quickly garnered attention for pushing the boundaries of



Indian American chef Vikas Khanna at his New York restaurant, Bungalow which the New York Times has rated as among America's top 50 restaurants.

traditional Indian food, offering dishes that break away from conventional expectations.

The menu features a reimaged Lucknowi galouti kebab, made with kidney beans and lotus root, and a ghee

roast that substitutes plantains for meat, intensifying the richness of the dish. Another standout is the lamb chops, which are elevated with tangy notes from sour mango powder, adding an earthy, primal flavor.

Thanking NYT for the recognition, Khanna posted on X, "Bungalow makes it to the TOP 50 Restaurants 2024 by The New York Times. It is believed that it takes 3 generations of hard-work, perseverance & devotion for an artist to make it on a global stage. Thank youuuuu."

He also thanked his mentors, his dedicated team, and the patrons who have supported the restaurant since its opening.

Born in Amritsar, India, in 1971, Khanna overcame a childhood leg deformity that delayed his ability to walk until he was 13. He graduated from the Manipal Academy of Higher Education with a degree in hotel management in 1991, followed by studies at the Culinary Institute of America and New York University.

His culinary career has spanned decades, and he has earned a reputation not only as a chef but also as a restaurateur, cookbook author, filmmaker, and humanitarian. Khanna is also known for his role as a judge on MasterChef India since its inception.

## Indian-origin actress Madhura Naik Recalls Her Family's Encounter with Hamas Group

OCTOBER 8, 2024

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** Television actor Madhura Naik, on the occasion of Israel marking the one-year anniversary of the October 7 attacks, recalled her family's harrowing encounter with terrorists last year in Israel and termed it as "the darkest day."

The actress, who is a Jew of Indian origin said that she lost her first cousin and her brother-in-law in a crossfire in Sderot during the attacks on Israel last year.

Speaking at an event in New Delhi organized by the Israeli

Embassy, Naik said, "We follow Judaism but along with that we also have adapted to Hindu traditions, thus proving that the Jews were always open to cross-cultures and adapted very well to new environments. My grandmother being the 14th child, 13 of her brothers and sisters moved back to Israel in the 70s. where they flourished back in their homeland along with their fellow Jews. It was more than just a sense of belonging. It was home for them. But unfortunately, on October 7, it was the darkest day for my family."

"They were the victims of October 7. I lost my first cousin and her husband in a crossfire in Sderot, Israel. They were brutally murdered in front of their two daughters, six and three years old. The six-year-old, the last words before getting rescued by the Israeli police were, she said, Are you the Israeli police? Please



Indian origin Television actor Madhura Naik recalled her family's harrowing encounter with terrorists last year in Israel and termed it as "the darkest day." File Photo: Instagram

save the kid next to me," she added.

The actress said that hatred breeds terrorism and it knows no religion, race or gender.

"Imagine a six-year-old having to experience the murder of her very own mother and her father and still being aware that she had to save the three-year-old baby next to her. They were rescued by the Israeli police amidst a brutal crossfire that went on for a couple of hours. An Israeli policeman was brutally injured during this rescue. The children were drenched in the blood of their own parents.

This incident tore my family apart. And there are things that we could never change and things that we'll never be able to replace. Also, during this crossfire, an Arab Muslim man tried to save my sister and the kids to drive them out of the crossfire. But to his fate, they killed him too, regardless of his religion, his race, and that he was very much one of them, an Arab Muslim man. So, their terror knows no religion, or race, or gender, nor age," Naik said, recounting the agony faced by her family.

"They now live under constant fear and threat of losing their lives, and we are under constant pressure to protect them. As far as I have seen in this long one year of struggle and war, hate breeds hatred. And hate breeds enmity.

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

## Indian-origin billionaire Robinhood co-founder Baiju Bhatt backs space-based solar startup

OCTOBER 9, 2024

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (TIP):** Harvesting solar power from space - that's what the new startup Aetherflux claims it can achieve.

Aetherflux, the space-based solar startup founded by the billionaire co-founder of stock trading juggernaut Robinhood, Baiju Bhatt, is targeting outer space to explore and unlock solar power in new ways.

The news of Aetherflux's launch comes on Wednesday, October 9, as Bhatt plans to build a network of solar power stations in orbit to transmit energy to Earth.

"What we're doing at Aetherflux is a different approach of space solar power," Bhatt said in a recent interview. "As we like to say, it is not your grandpa's space solar power approach."

Bhatt founded Aetherflux late last year after his Robinhood exit, shifting his focus from the trading platform to the space industry. The Stanford graduate told TechCrunch that he was always interested in space; along with his advanced STEM degrees, Bhatt's father worked for NASA at Langley Air Force Base, all of which has led to his brewing interest in space ventures.

Aetherflux is working towards its first mission now, with the aim of sending up a demonstration spacecraft in late 2025 or early 2026. The spacecraft is being built by the satellite bus manufacturer Apex, a Los Angeles-based startup, where Bhatt serves as an investor himself.

Bhatt, who has a net worth of \$1.7



Baiju Bhatt is targeting outer space to explore and unlock solar power in new ways.

billion according to Forbes, is self-funding Aetherflux. He has already invested "millions" of his own capital into the venture and is committed to funding through the first demonstration mission, according to a spokesperson.

This is not the first time Bhatt has invested in a space startup - last month, the billionaire took part in a \$6.5 million seed round for space-based solar startup Reflect Orbital, along with investors that included Sequoia Capital and Starship Venture. So far, Aetherflux's foundational concept of space-based solar power remains theoretical but "as we make it a reality, that's when the comparisons [to terrestrial solar] are going to be a lot more real," the billionaire CEO said. In a LinkedIn post titled "Allow me to re-introduce myself..." and posted on Wednesday, Bhatt said he had been "passionate about space since childhood, inspired by" his dad's "career as a scientist at NASA's Langley Research Center."

(Read full story at [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))

# Long Island's Parker Jewish Institute for seniors dedicates Indian Cultural Unit to Dr. Saroj Shah



Lamp lighting ceremony at the renaming of Indian Cultural Unit at Parker Jewish Institute in Long Island, NY, recently. From left, Dr. Saroj Shah after whom the Unit was named, her husband Dr. Indravadan Shah, Dr. Sudha Parikh, Padma Shri recipient Dr. Sudhir Parikh, chairman and CEO of Parikh Worldwide Media, and Rekha Tolat. -Photo / ITV Gold



Dr. Saroj Shah and Dr. Indravadan Shah, after being garlanded, at the ceremony to rename the Indian Cultural Unit at Parker Jewish Institute after Dr. Saroj Shah.

Photo / ITV Gold



A section of the audience listens to speakers at the unveiling of the plaque naming the Indian Cultural Unit after Dr. Saroj Shah, at Parker Jewish Institute in Long Island, NY.

Photo / ITV Gold

OCTOBER 8, 2024

**LONG ISLAND, NY (TIP):** The highly respected Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation, located in Long Island, NY, recently held a plaque-unveiling ceremony to name its Indian Cultural Unit after Dr. Saroj Shah, a retired gynecologist who worked tirelessly for

many years to make the Unit a reality.

Scores of well-wishers and supporters came together on September 12, 2024, to celebrate the unveiling of the plaque at Parker's Indian Cultural Unit, starting the event with lamp lighting and prayers for its success.

Dr. Saroj Shah, speaking to ITV Gold,

gave the history of her efforts along with her husband Dr. Indravadan Shah, a surgeon, to work with Parker to establish the Unit targeted to meet the needs of Indian seniors. Starting with just 20 beds, the Unit now has 60 and will soon house 80 Indian seniors. The care is culturally specific and residents are served Indian cuisines, have television and other entertainment that is Indian, observe religious and cultural events, and have a staff that can speak several Indian languages while it takes care of their needs.

"I had a dream of making a place where all Asians can retire and have in their old

dedication. He promised the support of his media company in the endeavors of the Parker center's Indian unit.

Mukund and Padma Mehta who are part of the Indian Cultural Unit said Parker provides "a very good facility with our Indian Unit," noting, "Half the pain will go



Dr. Saroj Shah, right, and her daughter Dr. Shefali Shah, left, as the plaque naming the Indian Cultural Unit after Dr. Saroj Shah is unveiled at the Indian Cultural Unit of the Parker Jewish Institute. Photo / ITV Gold

away" because residents are surrounded by other Indians and Indian culture. They congratulated the Shahs, as did a number of other attendees, including community leader Indu Jaiswal; Rekha Tolat, a committee member at the Indian Cultural Unit and "buddy" of Dr. Saroj Shah; Mohan Ramaswamy from the Ganesh Temple; Chandrakant Shah of the Vishnu Temple.

Jaiswal called it a "very, very special day" and "a very proud moment for our Indian community" and described Dr. Saroj Shah as a "trailblazer."

Tolat said, "It is unbelievable what they have achieved," and that she is very proud of her friends. Tolat and other volunteers visit the Indian unit at least once a month to help with any issues that may occur.

Ramaswamy said, "Dr. Saroj Shah does not take no for an answer," and that he was proud to be part of the group that "wanted to get it completely right." Chandrakant Shah thanked Parker Jewish Institute for embracing the idea of the Indian Cultural Unit, and its vision for the future.

Sujata Seth, senior manager at the Indian Cultural Unit said she was "very proud that after 6 to 7 years, we have this plaque being put," to honor the Shahs.

Dr. Shefali Shah, daughter of Drs. Saroj and Indravadan Shah, said, "My parents have worked tirelessly to make this dream come true," when the Indian community can have a place of its own.

Mukta Kohli, cultural liaison at Parker, said the staff is dedicated to the Indian Unit, and "we give our love and care" to senior Indian residents.



President and CEO of Parker Jewish Institute Michael N. Rosenblut, speaking at the unveiling of plaque renaming the Indian Cultural Unit after Dr. Saroj Shah. -Photo / ITV Gold

age, a comfortable place to go. That place should be like our home, attuned to our customs, religion, and traditions," she said. "My next dream is to make this unit a model for culturally sensitive health care and that can be exported regionally and nationally, so that other people can get the inspiration to start something like that."

Padma Shri recipient Dr. Sudhir Parikh, an allergist and immunologist and chairman of Parikh Worldwide Media, said he was there to celebrate the success of his friends and to honor them for the plaque



Mukund and Padma Mehta, members of the Indian Cultural Unit at Parker Jewish Institute, speaking about the hard work done by Dr. Saroj Shah. -Photo / ITV Gold



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# Mahatma Gandhi's 155th Birth Anniversary Celebrated By World Vegan Vision & Golden Era with Success in Edison, NJ

NITIN VYAS  
OCTOBER 3, 2024

**EDISON, NJ (TIP):** The World Vegan Vision of USA and the Golden Era Health Care Center, collaborating with the Consulate General of India in New York, celebrated Mahatma Gandhi's 155th birth anniversary on October 2nd, 2024. The event occurred at Golden Era in Edison, NJ, attracting a vibrant audience.



The celebration encompassed a variety of activities that embodied the teachings and ideals of Mahatma Gandhi. Attendees were engaged in enlightening lectures about Gandhi, enjoyed cultural performances, and participated in spiritual bhajan sessions. A standout feature of the event was the vegan food tasting, showcasing a delightful selection of dishes inspired by Gandhi.

Notable speakers Dr. Shrenik Shah and Anil Narang of World Vegan Vision emphasized Gandhi's contributions to peace, truth, and non-violence.



Performances of devotional songs by Asif and Kadar Khan from KALAVANT Center highlighted the rich heritage and traditions associated with Gandhian values.

Bimal Joshi, owner of Golden Era, shared his insights on Gandhian philosophy.

Attendees participated in discussions reflecting on Gandhi's teachings, fostering community and unity.

The event received support from prominent organizations and community leaders, including the Senior Citizens of Edison led by President Pravin Patel,



the Indo-American Senior Citizens Association of Hudson County chaired by Jatinder Bakshi, founder H K./ Malti Shah, President Kalindi Bakshi, Treasurer Mike( Minesh) Desai of World Vegan Vision and Ajay Gandhi of Gandhi SAMAJ of South Gujarat, India, all of whom were instrumental in the event's success.

We sincerely thank all participants, volunteers, and supporting organizations, including the Golden Era staff and owner Bimal Joshi, for making this tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's legacy memorable.



The event was coordinated and scripted by Nitin Vyas, Global Public Relations Director of World Vegan Vision.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EVENT OR UPCOMING CELEBRATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Nitin Vyas  
Global Public Relations Director of World  
Vegan Vision  
732-470-5598 Email:  
nitin.worldveganvision@gmail.com



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# A year of war on Gaza

**A YEAR LATER, THE HAMAS ATTACK AND THE ISRAELI INVASION OF GAZA HAVE TAKEN WEST ASIA TO A WIDER, DEEPER AND DEADLIER REGIONAL CONFLICT WITH MORE ACTORS.**



BY STANLY JOHNY

**"The war has changed the region in many ways. It ended the regional status quo where the Palestine question was pushed to a corner. World powers had given up on finding a solution to the Palestine question. Israel continued its violent military occupation of the West Bank and the blockade of Gaza. The attack brought the Palestine issue to the fore of West Asia's geopolitics. The violence that followed the Hamas attack emboldened the old argument that peace and stability could not be established in West Asia as long as the Palestine question remains unresolved."**

A year ago, this day (October 8) Hamas launched an unprecedented cross border attack in Israel from Gaza. At least 1,200 people were killed and 250 taken hostage. Israel immediately launched a retaliatory war. A year later, the Hamas attack and the Israeli invasion of Gaza have taken West Asia to a wider, deeper and deadlier regional conflict with more actors. Before the Hamas attack, the region appeared to be on a different course. In 2020, four Arab countries reached normalization agreements with Israel. Saudi Arabia and Israel were in an advanced stage of normalizing ties. The U.S., which was brokering the Saudi-Israeli talks, proposed an ambitious infrastructure project aimed at connecting India with Europe through the Persian Gulf, Jordan and Israel. This led to Jake Sullivan, the U.S. National Security Adviser, saying that "the Middle East is quieter than it has been in decades". But now, as I write in this oped in today's (October 08, 2024) *The Hindu*, West Asia (Middle East) is deadlier than it has been for decades.

The war has changed the region in many ways. It ended the regional status quo where the Palestine question was



A picture of destruction in Gaza.

Credit: AP

pushed to a corner. World powers had given up on finding a solution to the Palestine question. Israel continued its violent military occupation of the West Bank and the blockade of Gaza. The attack brought the Palestine issue to the fore of West Asia's geopolitics. The violence that followed the Hamas attack emboldened the old argument that peace and stability could not be established in West Asia as long as the Palestine question remains unresolved.

The war has also put a brake on the Israel-Arab normalization process. If Saudi Arabia was in an advanced stage of normalizing ties with Israel in September 2023, today, the Kingdom says normalization is not possible without a clear path towards the creation of a Palestinian state "based on the 1967 border and East Jerusalem as its capital". This doesn't mean that Arab-Israeli ties would move to enmity. Arab countries have voiced concerns and criticisms about Israel's war on Gaza, but have stopped short of taking any hard policy decisions that would antagonize Israel. For example, all Arab-Israeli peace agreements, except the normalization deal with Sudan, a country which is at war with itself, are still standing. But there are impediments in taking the relationship to the next level or formalizing ties between Saudi Arabia and Israel, given the anger towards Israel on the Arab street.

While Hamas re-regionalized the

Palestine issue and scuttled the Saudi-Israeli normalization, it had to pay a heavy price for its murderous attack in Israel. The retaliatory war Israel launched on Gaza has turned the enclave, sandwiched between the Mediterranean Sea and Israel proper, more or less uninhabitable. Israeli troops have killed nearly 42,000 Palestinians in 12 months, a vast majority of them women and children. Nearly 100,000 Palestinians were wounded, while almost the entire population of Gaza (2.3 million) have been displaced. Israel has also stepped up its attacks in the West Bank. It carried out multiple raids in Jenin and launched an airstrike in Tulkaram. Global calls for a ceasefire were ignored. Palestinians see no end to the war and continue to pay a heavy price.

But the war also exposed the security vulnerabilities of the state of Israel, despite the aggressive face it is putting up in the region. The Hamas attack itself was a huge intelligence and security failure. Israel was caught off guard when Hamas militants strode into the border and started attacking communes and security sites. And when Israel went into Gaza, it said it wanted to destroy Hamas and secure the release of the hostages. Gaza laid to siege by Israeli troops, which controls even the flow of food aid trucks into the enclave. But a year later, Israel is yet to defeat Hamas, let alone destroying it. More than 100 hostages are still in Hamas's captivity.

The war on Gaza led to Hezbollah opening "a support front", firing rockets into northern Israel, "in solidarity with the Palestinians". Both Hamas and Hezbollah are backed by Iran. Israel took the war to Iran by bombing the Iranian embassy in Damascus. Iran retaliated with ballistic and cruise missiles.

Today, Israel is fighting a multi-front war. It continues to fight in Gaza where Hamas is resurfacing in areas which Israel once said were cleared of the militants. In Lebanon, it dramatically escalated the war on Hezbollah, by killing its leader, Hassan Nasrallah, and launching an invasion-its fourth invasion of the country. And Israel is preparing to hit Iran in retaliation for the October 1 Iranian ballistic missiles attack on Israel. West Asia is at an inflection point. Israel is fighting a multi-layered conflict. It is yet to win the war in Gaza. It has launched an invasion of Lebanon. And a regional crisis is unfolding with Iran. What Israel is trying to do is to establish escalation dominance, like it did in 1967, and neutralize its enemies using great fire power. However, unlike in 1967, Israel's enemies include a host of non-state actors. It is to be seen whether Israel's scorched earth tactics and its escalation strategy would provide the Jewish country the long-term security it seeks or trap it in a conflict loop.

*(Stanley Johny is opinion writer with The Hindu. Source: The Hindu)*



# Eric Adams Was Never the Future of the Democratic Party



BY DAVID WALLACE-  
WELLS

Eric Adams was never popular. Even before his indictment for penny-ante corruption last month. Even before federal raids targeted his top aides and investigations so circled City Hall that his second police commissioner and even the schools chancellor resigned. Even before Adams registered the lowest approval rating for any New York City mayor in Quinipiac polling history, last December, or saw support for his re-election fall to 16 percent in one poll this spring. Even before all of that, Adams only just squeaked into office, indeed with the help of publicly matched campaign funds investigators now allege were illegally obtained. But he did so amid a curious chorus of national praise that treated him like the new face of the Democratic Party and made him seem, as a result, like a much more consequential political figure than he ever really was.

In the first round of the 2021 primary, Adams won just over 30 percent of the vote, against roughly 20 percent each for Kathryn Garcia and Maya Wiley, his two main Democratic challengers. In the runoff, he beat Garcia 50.4 percent to 49.6 percent - a margin of just over 7,000 New Yorkers, in a city of more than eight million. Close observers of New York's local politics could tell themselves just-so stories about the robust-seeming Adams coalition - the city's Black middle class and its homeowners, the police and business and labor - but his victory was the kind of wafer-thin win that might've dissolved with the arrival of a light drizzle.

Adams performed better in the general election over the stunt candidate Curtis Sliwa, but his margins of victory weren't more impressive than those secured by his predecessor Bill de Blasio in either of his campaigns, each against more formidable opposition. As you may remember, de Blasio was treated right from the start as a joke mayor and a politically incompetent interloper, though in retrospect he is remembered somewhat more fondly and cuts a more impressive figure: He anticipated the emphasis on income inequality that would dominate the next decade of American politics, engineered a large social-welfare expansion in the form of universal prekindergarten and began the rollout of public "3-K for All" programs, and was, by some measures, no less popular even at the laughingstock end of his second term than Adams was in the flush period of his post-inauguration "honeymoon."

New York City is hardly representative of national politics. And yet, the ascension of Adams was seen, by many inside the party and by commentators nominally outside it, as a sort of flare sent up from the Democratic future, a sign of some seismic backlash to the leftward drift of the party in the late Obama and Trump years - and a call for the party to follow Adams rightward, toward a "common sense" center defined in part by hostility toward strident progressivism.

Screenshots from those days have become a snarky left-wing social-media catnip lately, as first it became clear that the Adams administration was hardly thriving and more recently that Adams would become the first sitting mayor in New York history to face a federal indictment. The most infamous is a prediction by Nate Silver that Adams would be a serious candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination at the next available opening, but Silver's read of the political moment was actually not at all exceptional. The Bulwark proposed that Adams could be the party's "next national star"; he even won the endorsement of Rupert Murdoch's New York Post.

Adams himself warned that the party needed to heed the message of his election or face electoral consequences. (He gave the warning at a news conference where he declared himself the "future of the



"Eric Adams was never popular. ... Adams only just squeaked into office, indeed with the help of publicly matched campaign funds investigators now allege were illegally obtained".

Photo credit: Office of the Mayor

Democratic Party.") Representative James Clyburn, the House majority whip at the time, struck a similar note, as did Joe Biden, in forging a high-profile alliance with Adams. (For a while, Adams took to referring to himself as the "Biden of Brooklyn," though perhaps that was just a verbal tic.) Adams's believers argued he would "save" New York and in doing so, show us how to save the rest of the party.

Three years later, that flurry of enthusiasm looks more like an expression of intraparty ideological conflict, with Adams celebrated less because he could bring about genuine policy progress than because he seemed well suited - and outwardly committed - to disarming and disowning the party's activist flank.

Judged by many measures of civic health, the Adams era has been far from a catastrophe. At the time of his ascension, the city was still mired in familiar pandemic-era struggles, and in the years that followed, most improved, many of them significantly, as the city escaped the "doom loop" plenty of people believed was inevitable. There is promise in his "City of Yes" effort to clear obstacles to new housing, too, though even if realized, the program probably wouldn't be all that transformative. But the ritualistic cuts to social spending and other progressive priorities have been painful: trying to undermine universal prekindergarten and public libraries, refusing to close Rikers Island and choosing to fearmonger about crime and immigration pressures more often than bragging about how well the city was handling them. The "quality of life" and "urban disorder" issues that would seem natural causes for a mayor of Adams's ideological makeup are improving more slowly than harder problems like murder and subway ridership. And as a pure political experiment, Adams's mayoralty has been an abject disaster - there is really no other word for it when a city in the midst of a meaningful recovery has a leader notching all-time-worst approval ratings.

By the time Adams stepped in front of reporters last month to defend the police who'd opened fire on a subway turnstile jumper, it seemed inevitable that footage would emerge to undermine his defense, as it quickly did. And when Devon Walker impersonated the mayor on "Saturday Night Live" on Sept. 28, it was a kind of confirmation that Adams had become, in the public eye, almost a cartoon - that he was not a promising ideological entrepreneur, tugging his party toward a more expansive national majority, but something like the opposite, a stock-character

throwback, the pettily corrupt local politician imported from the machine era and melting under the glare of the stage lights.

Sixty-nine percent of New Yorkers now want Adams to resign, and his biggest defenders now seem to be right-wing grifters, their reflexive support suggesting the possibility of a Trumpward turn for the mayor. What happened to the swaggering superhero loaded with ideological kryptonite to ward off the toxic left? And why had so many people been so wrong about Adams in the first place?

The simplest answer is that they looked past the man himself, with all his obvious red flags - as far back as 2010 he was named in an inspector-general's report on a casino bid-rigging scandal - forgetting that personality, strategic instinct and talent really matter in politics, out of excitement about the coming of what they believed to be a necessary ideological correction. Sometimes, they talked themselves into thinking that ideological correction was coming wrapped in human charisma, too, not just human weirdness. (It was taken as an amusing curiosity back then that Adams was a faltering vegan with a strain of Marianne Williamson in his plan to treat dyslexia and lower crime rates with a "plant-based approach," and it was seen as a sign of some inherent star power that he seemed to spend every night at the Zero Bond private club.)

But as important as the blindness to Adams's personal shortcomings was the blind excitement at the ideological turn he represented. You could tell this as a story about a particular place in time, with crime genuinely spiking from prepandemic lows and calls to defund the police echoing more loudly in the memories of many voters than they ever sounded from the lips of actual politicians - an environment you might expect to benefit a figure like Adams, who looked tough on crime but also boasted a history as a police reformer.

You could also tell it as a story of a time in a particular place, with New York City politics looking somewhat shapeless in the long wake of Michael Bloomberg's exceptional mayoralty and the arrival of a new machine-politics power-broker seeming, as a result, like a potential break in that factional stalemate. Perhaps, if the Adams mayoralty yields to a snap election for a successor, it will be Andrew Cuomo's lamentable return to office that breaks that stalemate. In the meantime, the Adams era looks less like the future of the Democratic Party than a reminder of the sad smallness of the city's politics - three years of political struggle and minor or unfortunate policy shifts, ending perhaps prematurely in a scandal over airline tickets. His mayoralty hasn't restored New York's local politics to national importance; if anything, the city feels, for now, even more adrift.

And if there are national lessons to be drawn from the Adams era, they are not exactly the ones that seemed obvious at the outset. Immediately after the primary runoff, my colleague Nate Cohn emphasized that "The Democratic Electorate on Twitter Is Not the Actual Democratic Electorate." Three years later, it seems just as important to emphasize that the Democratic electorate isn't made up of those people yelling at leftists on social media, either. Perhaps it's hard to build a national majority around "the Maya Wiley brand of politics," as Matthew Yglesias argued during the mayoral election. But the Eric Adams brand looks even more like a dead end. And it looked that way well before mocking magazine covers and gleeful tabulations of scandal.

CONTD ON PAGE 42

# Why Pennsylvania could hold the keys to the White House



BY ANTHONY  
ZURCHER

**ACCORDING TO CALCULATIONS BY ELECTIONS ANALYST NATE SILVER, THE CANDIDATE WHO WINS PENNSYLVANIA HAS MORE THAN A 90% OF WINNING THE WHITE HOUSE**

The White House's address may be 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, but the real road to the presidency runs through the state of Pennsylvania, the biggest prize among the electoral battleground map.

According to calculations by elections analyst Nate Silver, the candidate who wins Pennsylvania has more than a 90% of winning the White House.

"It's the granddaddy of all the swing states," said former congressman Patrick Murphy, who represented north-eastern Pennsylvania as a Democrat from 2007-11.

With its 19 electoral votes, Pennsylvania - the fifth most populous US state - is the lynchpin of the swing-state electoral firewalls for both Kamala Harris and Donald Trump.

If the Democrats win Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Michigan, along with one congressional district in Nebraska, she's the next president. If the Republicans carry Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Georgia, Trump is back in the White House next year.

Without Pennsylvania, there is no way Trump can win without flipping at least three of the states Joe Biden won in 2020.

Nicknamed the Keystone State, Pennsylvania could in fact be the key to the White House.

## A BATTLEGROUND THAT LOOKS LIKE AMERICA

Pennsylvania is not only the most valuable swing state, it also can be seen as a microcosm of the US as a whole - demographically, economically and politically.

It is a former manufacturing state that has been transitioning to newer industries and businesses, but it has a large energy sector because of its abundant oil shale deposits. Agriculture is still the second-largest industry in the state.

The majority of the population is white, but there are growing immigrant communities. Some areas, like Allentown - the working-class factory city made famous by a Billy Joel song - are now majority Hispanic. The state's black population, at 12%, is just under the US total of 13%.

As for the politics, the state's two large urban areas, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, heavily favour the Democrats. Between the two are vast stretches of rural territory where Republicans dominate. And the suburbs that once were reliably conservative are now tilting to the left.

That gives rise to the old quip that Pennsylvania is Philadelphia and Pittsburgh with (deeply Republican) Alabama in the middle.

Somehow, all these political cross-currents and shifting dynamics have kept Pennsylvania at a near dead-even balance when it comes to presidential elections. President Joe Biden won the state by about 80,000 votes in 2020. Donald Trump carried it by about 40,000 in his surprise 2016 win over Hillary Clinton.

Only once in the last 40 years has a candidate won Pennsylvania by double-

was in Biden's hometown of Scranton and Reading.

And when the principals aren't around, both campaigns have other politicians and officials to drum up support.

"A candidate can't go into a county to talk to 1,200 people," says former Democratic Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell. "The state is too big. There's just not time. That's what surrogates are for."

former Republican Senate staffer who is running Pennsylvania's "Haley Voters for Harris" effort.

He added that the Harris campaign is making the most extensive effort to reach Republican voters that he's seen in a generation.

Trump's strategy is to squeeze all the support he can out of the conservative parts of the state, including by registering and mobilizing those who



The Liberty Bell in Pennsylvania - Photo: NPS

digits - Barack Obama in his 2008 electoral landslide.

Current polling puts the race between Harris and Trump in the state at a virtual dead heat. According to the 538/ABC News poll tracker, Harris holds a lead by less than a percent - a margin that has hardly shifted over the course of this tumultuous political year.

## THE KEYS TO A WHITE HOUSE VICTORY

Both the Harris and Trump campaigns have been pouring enormous resources into Pennsylvania. They are spending more on television advertising there than any other swing state. Both candidates make regular visits.

Harris introduced her running mate pick, Tim Walz, at a rally in Philadelphia. She spent days preparing for her presidential debate in Pittsburgh. She made a tentpole economic speech there two weeks ago.

Last Saturday, Trump held a massive rally in Butler, where in July he was nearly assassinated. On Wednesday he

Rendell notes that the current governor, Democrat Josh Shapiro, is a big help for Democrats here, as he is very popular in the state and a dynamic speaker - qualities that had made him the odds-on favorite to be Harris's vice-presidential pick.

For Harris, her keys to victory are to post dominating numbers in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and win the suburbs by enough to offset Trump's margins in the rest of the state.

An essential part of this strategy is to win over moderate voters and some Republicans - including the more than 160,000 who turned out to vote for former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley in the state's Republican primary, held earlier this year, well after Trump had already locked up the party's nomination.

"What these people need to hear is ways in which both the past record of Kamala Harris and the future plans of Kamala Harris are basically centrist positions - that she is not this crazy, wild-eyed radical leftist," said Craig Snyder,

may not have participated in past elections - a move Trump's campaign officials say is a central focus of their grass-roots effort.

There are signs their work may be paying off, too. Registered Democrats still outnumber Republicans in the state, but the margin is just a few hundred thousand - the smallest it's been since the state first began releasing figures in 1998.

While the college-educated voters in the suburbs may be difficult to convince, the Trump team thinks it can also chip away at traditionally Democratic support among blue-collar union voters and young black men.

"We've seen nationally that Trump has made some real inroads with African American men," said Farah Jimenez, a conservative education activist. "They're here in Philadelphia, and if you can convince them that he speaks more clearly to the things that concern them, it can at least start to provide a base for Republicans in Philadelphia."

(Source: BBC/ Anthony Zurcher, North America Correspondent@awzurcher)

# Sriniketan presents yet again a classical music and dance extravaganza

BY ROHIT PANDYA  
OCTOBER 8, 2024

**FLUSHING, NY (TIP):** On September 29, 2024, Sriniketan Foundation transformed the Community Center in Flushing, New York into a mesmerizing realm of classical vocal, instrumental and dance with its grand event Sangeet Mahotsav 2024 from 10.00 A.M. to 10.00 PM

The air was alive with the enchanting melodies of vocal performances that stirred the heart. Adding to this rich tapestry were the sounds of Flute's airy, ethereal melody evoked feelings of tranquility and joy, each note resonating

with depth and emotion. Sitar and Sarod delivered intricate ragas, their strings weaving together the stories of the soul. The rhythmic beats of the Tabla created a heartbeat for the event, guiding each performer and captivating the audience. The lush tones of the Saxophone added a contemporary flair, while the harmonious notes of the Harmonium grounded the performance in classical tradition. The Santoor, with its delicate notes, created an engrossing rhythm that flowed like water, enhancing the overall experience and drawing everyone deeper into the musical journey.

Dance segments were nothing short of

divine. Dancers adorned in stunning Apsara costumes graced the stage, their movements embodying the very essence of the ragas performed. Each wave told a story, drawing the audience into a world of grace and beauty. The vibrant colors and intricate patterns of their attire sparkled under the lights, making every performance a visual masterpiece.

Each word, each act, each note was a masterclass in artistry. Performers who were top-notch artists in their selected fields were not from this world. They poured their souls and the atmosphere felt like a Darbar of Indra.

The Founder President of Sriniketan

Foundation Purnima Desai provided a vital platform for Artists to shine and for the community to engage with India's rich culture and heritage. Attendees experienced the therapeutic power of music and dance for Body, Mind and Soul.

As the day unfolded, it was evident that Sangeet Mahotsav 2024 was more than just a series of performances, it was a healing journey for the soul. The event served as a proof to the enduring spirit of classical music and dance, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.

**ALSO SEE GLIMPSES OF THE EVENT ON PAGES 46, 47, 48 AND 49**



MANIPURI DANCE GROUP



PANDIT RAMESH NARAYAN HONORED WITH SHAWL



AMIT CHATERJEE ON TABLA, ANJAN SAHA ON STAR, PHIL SCARF ON SAXOPHONE, INDRO ROY CHOWDURY ON SITAR



STEVE GORN ON FLUTE, ANUBRATA CHATERJEE ON TABLA, VINAY DESAI ON SANTOOR



AMIT CHATTERJEE ON TABLA VIDUSHI KANKANA BANERJEE ON VOCAL & ANIRBAN CHAKRABORTY ON HARMONIUM



AMIT CHATTERJEE ON TABLA, SUPRIYO DUTTA, A HINDUSTANI CLASSICAL VOCALIST, & ANIRBAN CHAKRABARTY ON HARMONIUM

# Haryana shocks Cong, JJP bites dust as BJP returns for 3rd term

**BJP WINS THE HARYANA ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, SURPASSING THE MAJORITY MARK AND IMPROVING ITS PREVIOUS TALLY. BJP SCORES 48 SEATS, CONGRESS HAS WON 37 SEATS.**

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party on Tuesday (October 8, 2024) retained its decade-long power in Haryana with a third straight win in the 2024 Assembly election, giving a jolt to the Congress, which was its key challenger, fighting to wrest power from the BJP.

By securing victory in 48 constituencies, the BJP got a clear majority in the 90-member Haryana Assembly. However, eight of its Ministers and the Speaker have faced a defeat. With 48 seats in its kitty, the BJP has given its best electoral performance in the Haryana Assembly polls, the last best was 47 seats in 2014. The Congress was able to win only 37 seats, resulting in a setback to the party, which has been riddled with 'internal factionalism' in the State.

In Haryana, 46 seats are required to form the government. According to the results declared by the Election Commission, the BJP has won 48 seats and the Congress 37. Interestingly, the difference between the vote share of the BJP and the Congress is less than 1%. The BJP got 39.94% votes while the Congress secured 39.09% vote share.

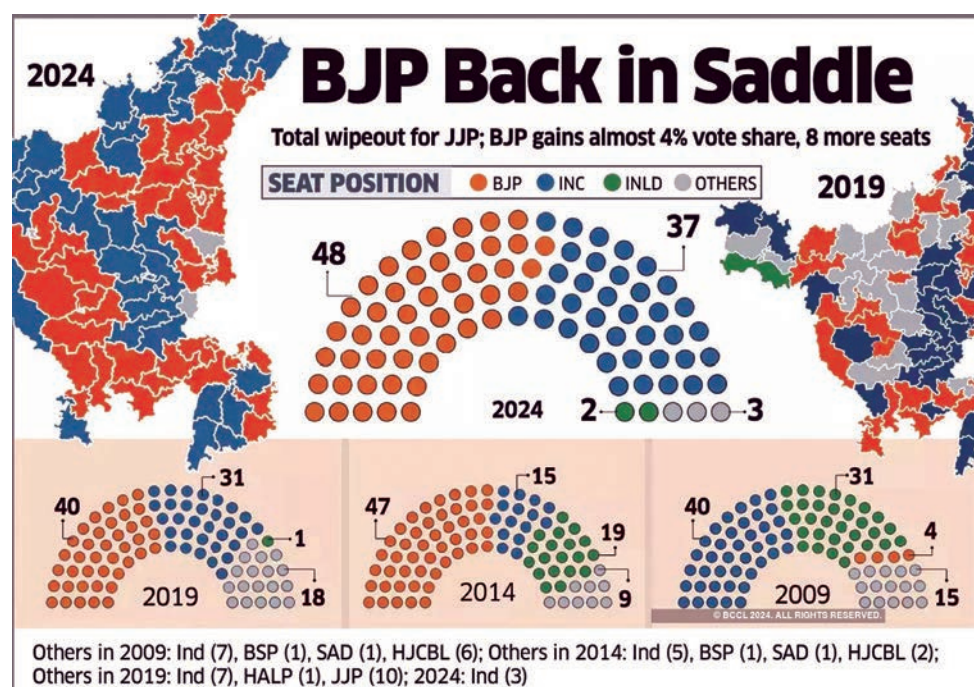
## JJP's drubbing

The Jannayak Janata Party (JJP), the former coalition partner of the BJP, which in 2019 sprung a surprise by winning 10 seats, failed to open its electoral account in this election, facing a complete drubbing. The Indian National Lok Dal (INLD), which fought the election in alliance with the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), won only two seats. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which was seeking a 'chance' to form the next government to let it replicate the 'Delhi and Punjab model of governance', drew a blank. Three Independents have registered wins in the polls held on October 5.

As the BJP is all set to form the next government, Nayab Singh Saini, the incumbent Chief Minister, who has won from the Ladwa seat by securing 16,054 votes, is likely to be the party's choice as Chief Minister.

The eight Ministers who have lost are — Subhash Sudha (Thanesar), Kanwarpal Gurjar (Jagadhari), Abhay Singh Yadav (Nangal Chaudhary), Asem Goyal (Ambala City), Jai Prakash Dalal (Loharu), Kamal Gupta (Hisar), Sanjay Singh (Nuh) and Ranjit Chautala (Rania). Mr. Chautala contested as an Independent after he left the BJP. The outgoing Speaker Gian Chand Gupta lost in Panchkula where he was defeated by Congress candidate Chander Mohan.

Saini said the people had expressed



their faith in the policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the government's policies. "We have formed a full majority government for the third time, and I give full credit to Modi ji. With his blessings, under his guidance, the people of Haryana have put a stamp on the government's policies," said Mr. Saini.

## Hooda expresses surprise

Congress's Bhupinder Hooda expressed surprise over the results, saying "The election result was opposite to the prevailing atmosphere across the State. I am sure the BJP would also be surprised at the result. We lost many seats with narrow margins." He was responding to a question on the poll outcome.

The key winning candidates of the Congress include — former Chief Minister Mr. Bhupinder Hooda (Garhi Sampla-Kiloi), Vinesh Phogat (Julana), Aditya Surjewala (Kaithal), Geeta Bhukkal (Jhajjar). The prominent BJP

candidates who won include — Anil Vij (Ambala Cantt), Shruti Choudhry (Tosham) and Arti Singh Rao (Ateli). The winning INLD candidates were Arjun Chautala (Rania) and Aditya Devi Lal (Dabwali).

The prominent candidates who lost include — INLD's Abhay Singh Chautala (Ellenabad), JJP's Dushyant Chautala and Digvijay Chautala (Dabwali). Also, the Congress' Brijendra Singh, the BJP's O.P. Dhankar (Badli), Capt. Abhimanyu (Narnaund) and Haryana Lokhit Party's Gopal Kanda (Sirsa) also lost.

The ruling BJP fought the election focusing on its "effective fight against corruption and nepotism", and "ensuring transparency" during its governance while the Congress was harping upon the anti-incumbency factor against the BJP and attempted to corner the BJP on adopting policies that have been against all sections of society — be it farmers, workers, traders, youth, women, and government employees. The key issues raised by the Congress to

target the BJP included — the danger to the Constitution, the Agnipath scheme, unemployment, price rise, sidelining of Scheduled Castes, OBCs, adopting anti-farmer stance and making policies to assist 'big corporates' and industrialists.

## Anti-Jat consolidation, aggressive campaign, ticket strategy: how BJP bounced back in Haryana

With a historic third win in Haryana, the BJP has got just the boost it needed after finishing short of a majority in the Lok Sabha polls — and ahead of the coming Assembly elections.

Facing huge anti-incumbency in Haryana, farmer and wrestler anger over long-lasting protests and discontent over the Agniveer scheme, the BJP spread out its bets in the state. While Prime Minister Narendra Modi pitched in with big rallies, though he addressed just four against 10 in 2019, there was equal emphasis on local leaders and the consolidation of anti-Jat votes.

The Congress's overarching emphasis on Jat vote appears to have rallied the other communities against the party. Even the Dalit vote, which the Congress had been banking on after its success in wooing them in the Lok Sabha polls, appears to have returned to some extent to the BJP.

In its campaign narrative too, the BJP scored by putting Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini at the centre, even declaring him as the CM face in a break from convention. The BJP banked on the fact that Saini had been in power for less than six months, and thus could dodge the 10-year hangover of party rule.

After dropping many senior leaders for new faces — a strategy that seems to have clicked, as against the Congress move of repeating all its sitting MLAs — the BJP weaved its narrative around what the Saini government had done in terms of jobs and the backward classes, particularly in raising the annual income limit of creamy layer for employment in the OBC category from Rs 6 lakh to Rs 8 lakh.

The limelight on Saini supplemented the party's focus on OBCs, who make up about 40% of the population. In a state where the CM is typically from the upper-caste Jat community, who form 25% of the population, the BJP had already sent a message by picking M L Khattar after the 2014 win.

The outreach towards Scheduled Caste (SC) voters included women's self-help groups in villages. The 'Lakhpati Drone Didis,' often from Dalit families, became symbols of this outreach. Prime Minister Narendra Modi personally invited many of them.

# NC-Cong alliance marks historic win in J&K; BJP puts best-ever show

**INDIA BLOC IS SET TO FORM THE FIRST ELECTED GOVERNMENT IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR, HAVING SECURED A VICTORY IN THE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS BY SECURING 49 OUT OF 90 SEATS.**



The National Conference (NC) emerged as the single largest party in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday (October 8, 2024) and won 42 seats in the 90-member Assembly of the union territory, while the Bharatiya Janata Party retained its stronghold Jammu by winning 29 seats.

However, the NC ally Congress' performance was dismal and it only won six seats, five from the Kashmir valley and only one from the Jammu province. It had fielded candidates from 32 seats as part of a seat-sharing arrangement with the NC.

"People have given NC a decisive mandate. This mandate is a rejection of the steps taken by the BJP on August 5, 2019 in Jammu and Kashmir [by abrogating Article 370]. We have done far better than we expected. The BJP is far off from the half mark even. People resoundingly came out and voted for the NC," National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah, who won from twin seats of Ganderbal and Budgam, told *The Hindu*.

Mr. Abdullah is fast emerging as the consensus candidate for the post of Chief Minister. The final decision will be made public in the next two days after the allies, the NC and the Congress, meet in Srinagar, party sources said. Meanwhile, NC president Farooq Abdullah said his son would be the next Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

## Improves performance

In its first such performance since 1996 when the NC won 57 seats, the party managed to sweep all seats in Kashmir's valley's Srinagar district (eight seats), Budgam district (five seats) and Ganderbal district (two seats). In south Kashmir, once a bastion of the PDP, the NC managed to win 10 out of 16 seats. The NC improved its performance in the Jammu province's Pir Panjal valley and the Chenab valley, where it won six out of 16 seats.

Besides the NC and the BJP, Mehbooba

Mufti's Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), which won 28 seats in 2014, was reduced to just three seats. Sajad Lone's J&K Peoples Conference, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), Engineer Rashid's Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) and CPI(M) managed to win one seat each. Besides, six independents, including four former NC leaders, also won. Meanwhile, the BJP failed to win a single seat from the Kashmir valley.

In the Jammu region, the BJP swept Jammu district (with 11 seats), Samba district (three seats), Udhampur district (four seats) and Kathua district (six seats). The party upped its figures of 25 in 2014 to 29 this time. Unlike the Pir Panjal valley, it did well in the Chenab valley and managed to win four out of eight seats.

"The vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi garnered more votes than the NC. People have favoured the BJP's development-oriented policies. Around 1.4 million people rejected the NC and instead voted for the vision of Prime Minister Modi. People trusted the BJP's vision of unity and progress," senior BJP leader Tarun Chugh, election in-charge of Jammu and Kashmir, said.

BJP leader G. Kishan Reddy said his party "fought well". "We have a 98% success rate in Jammu. We got votes in Kashmir for the first time," Mr. Reddy said. The results have paved the way for Jammu and Kashmir to see its first elected government as a union territory and also first in 10 years. Ms. Mufti too praised the voters of Jammu and Kashmir.

"New Delhi should take the verdict as a lesson. People have given a clear verdict in favour of the NC-Congress coalition. They [the BJP] should not meddle anymore," Ms. Mufti said. On the PDP's poor performance, she said, "Ups and downs are part of politics. We will work as a constructive opposition in Jammu and Kashmir." Ms. Mufti's daughter Iltija Mufti too lost from the Bijbehara constituency.

Source: *The Hindu*

## THE BIG WINNERS AND LOSERS IN KASHMIR

With the National Conference-Congress combine crossing the majority mark, the PDP getting just three seats, and smaller parties and Independents failing to live up to the hype, here is a look at the prominent winners and losers in the Valley after Tuesday's results in the J&K Assembly elections.

### Winners

**Omar Abdullah:** The National Conference vice president and former J&K chief minister won from both Budgam and Ganderbal Assembly seats, defeating PDP candidates in both constituencies by 18,000 and 10,000 votes respectively.

**Tariq Hameed Karra:** The Pradesh Congress Committee president won from the Central Shalteng seat in Srinagar, where he was up against national Conference rebel Mohammad Irfan Shah, who contested as an Independent candidate. Karra secured 18,933 votes as against Shah's 4,538 votes.

**Waheed Parra:** The PDP youth president was one of just three candidates from the party to win Tuesday. Parra defeated National Conference candidate and former party colleague Mohammad Khalil Bandh by over 8,000 votes in Pulwama. Bandh had won the Pulwama seat for three consecutive terms in 2002, 2008 and 2014.

**Ghulam Ahmad Mir:** The former Pradesh Congress Committee chief won by the largest margin in the Valley. He defeated PDP's Mohammad Ashraf Malik by close to 30,000 votes from the Dooru Assembly segment.

**M Y Tarigami:** A joint candidate of the alliance including NC and Congress, the Communist leader secured his fifth consecutive win from Kulgam Assembly constituency. Tarigami defeated Jamaat-e-Islami backed Independent candidate Sayar Ahmad Reshi by around 8,000 votes.

**Javid Reyaz Bedar:** The former police officer defeated prominent Shia cleric and People's Conference leader Imran Reza Ansari by 600 votes. Bedar's win is significant as he dislodged Ansari from his family bastion. Imran Reza Ansari and his father Iftikhar Hussain Ansari had won the seat for five terms in the past.

**Farooq Ahmad Shah:** A bureaucrat-turned-politician, Shah defeated senior leader Ghulam Hassan Mir from the Gulmarg Assembly seat by over 4,000 votes. A debutant, Shah was fielded by the National Conference against Apni Party stalwart Mir and came out top after a stiff contest.

### Big losers

**Iltija Mufti:** The daughter of former chief minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti, Iltija lost to the National Conference's Bashir Ahmad Veeri from the Bijbehara constituency – a family bastion of the Muftis. While Veeri won over 32,000 votes, Iltija could manage only around 23,000.

**Altaf Bukhari:** The Apni Party president lost to National Conference's Mushtaq Ahmad Guroo by over 5,500 votes from Srinagar's Channapora – an Assembly segment that he had won in 2014. Bukhari was one of the two Apni Party candidates widely expected to win this time, but despite aggressive campaigning, he and his party failed to make a mark.

**Sartaj Madni:** The uncle of PDP president Mehbooba Mufti, Madni lost to National Conference's Peerzada Feroze Ahmad by a close margin from the Devsar Assembly segment in south Kashmir's Kulgam. Madni secured 17,390 votes while his rival got 18,230.

**Junaid Mattu:** The former mayor of Srinagar lost to National Conference's Tanvir Sadiq by over 16,000 votes. Sadiq secured 22,189 votes as opposed to the just 2,700 received by Mattu, who was contesting as an Independent candidate.

**Abdul Rehman Veeri:** The senior PDP leader, who earlier represented the Bijbehara seat, was moved to Anantnag East by the party this time. There, he lost to NC's Reyaz Ahmad Khan by over 14,000 votes.

# Mayor of Brampton in an emotional tribute recalls his meetings with Ratan Tata



Ratan Tata was a lion of business, but more than that, he was a leader for the ages", says Patrick Brown, Mayor of Brampton.

**BY PRABHJOT SINGH  
OCTOBER 10, 2024**

**BRAMPTON (TIP):** In an emotional and rich tribute to Ratan Tata, Patrick Brown, Mayor of Brampton, has described him as a lion of business and a leader of the ages.

Brampton has not only the largest population of Indian migrants in Canada but also sends the maximum number of Punjabis as Members of the House of Commons (Parliament). Many employees of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), on overseas assignments in Canada, live in Brampton.

Recalling his association with Ratan Tata, Patrick Brown says: "I had the honor of meeting Ratan Tata on several occasions when we were both speakers at the Vibrant Gujarat summits in 2009, 2011, 2013, and 2015. These gatherings, which brought together global leaders in

business and government, were platforms for discussions on economic growth and investment. But what remains with me most are the brief personal moments I was able to share with Mr Tata, where his insights on leadership, business, and the future of economies left a lasting impression.

"During one of those events, at a lunch where we sat next to each other, he shared advice that has stuck with me to this day. He explained how his decision to move his car manufacturing business to Gujarat from another state was not simply about finding a location-it was about choosing a place that created a competitive advantage. Gujarat, he noted, offered lower taxes, faster approvals, and affordable electricity, making it the ideal place to foster business growth. "Business and investment will always go where the conditions are best," he said, "and those conditions come from making it easier for businesses to succeed."

"That message resonated with me as a public servant. It underscored the importance of creating an environment where innovation and investment can thrive. Tata's wisdom was rooted in experience and a deep understanding of global business, and his ability to distil such complex ideas into simple truths made him an extraordinary leader," he said in his tribute.

In his death, says Patrick Brown, the world has lost a giant of a man whose impact on business and humanity cannot be overstated. Tata was not only a visionary who led one of India's largest and most successful conglomerates but also a humble and thoughtful leader

whose wisdom extended far beyond the boardroom. His life's work exemplifies the power of principled leadership, and those who had the privilege of knowing him, even briefly, were fortunate to witness the depth of his character.

"It is worth noting that Tata's influence also reached Canada, where Tata Consulting Services has a significant presence. His commitment to fostering global connections and creating growth opportunities was not limited by geography. Here in Canada, we are fortunate to have seen the positive impact of Tata's leadership first-hand.

"In reflecting on Ratan Tata's life, it is clear that he was more than just a business leader-he was a visionary whose work demonstrated that business success can go hand in hand with making the world a better place. His legacy is one of integrity, humility, and a commitment to improving lives. In an age where leaders are often defined by their power or wealth, Tata stood out for his grace and his dedication to humanity.

"The passing of Ratan Tata is a profound loss, but it is also an opportunity for us to reflect on the lessons he taught us. He showed us that leadership is about more than financial success-it is about vision, integrity, and the drive to create conditions where others can thrive. Tata understood that the best environments for business growth are those where governments create opportunity, aligning their policies with fostering innovation and investment. His insight into how businesses flourish where conditions are optimized for success remains as

relevant today as ever.

"Ratan Tata was a lion of business, but more than that, he was a leader for the ages. His life and legacy will continue to inspire, and his contributions to both business and society will be remembered for generations to come. In remembering Ratan Tata, we celebrate a life lived with purpose and a leadership style defined by wisdom and compassion. He was, indeed, a gift to humanity.

Eulogizing his contributions to the business and industry, Patrick Brown said: "Ratan Tata's business achievements speak for themselves. Under his leadership, Tata Group expanded from a respected Indian company into a global powerhouse, acquiring iconic brands such as Land Rover and Jaguar. His success was not merely in the acquisitions themselves but in how he navigated the integration of these global brands into the fabric of Tata's ethos-one that valued integrity, sustainability, and long-term thinking. Tata's leadership helped position India's modern economy on the world stage, showcasing how businesses can succeed by combining tradition with forward-thinking strategies.

"His legacy extends far beyond the boardroom. Tata was known for his philanthropic work, investing in healthcare, education, and rural development. His vision of business was never just about profit-it was about creating positive change and lifting people up. In many ways, Ratan Tata was a gift to humanity, and his loss will be felt deeply not only by those who knew him but by all who benefited from his life's work," he concluded.

## Nobel Peace Prize Is Awarded to Japanese Group of Atomic Bomb Survivors

**OCTOBER 11, 2024**

**OSLO (TIP):** The 2024 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded on Friday, October 11, to the Japanese organization Nihon Hidankyo, a grass-roots movement of atomic bomb survivors, "for its efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons."

The New York Times reports that Nihon Hidankyo has for decades represented hundreds of thousands of survivors of the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. These survivors, known as the hibakusha, are living memorials to the horror of the attacks and have used their testimony to raise awareness of the human consequences of nuclear warfare.

The Nobel - one of the world's most prestigious honors - recognizes the group at a time when survivors of the attacks, which killed an estimated 200,000 people, are mostly in their 80s and are dying by the hundreds each month.

And it comes as the world confronts increasing worries about Russia's veiled threats that it could use its arsenal as the war in Ukraine continues and about the nuclear programs of Iran and North Korea.

"The hibakusha help us to describe the indescribable, to think the unthinkable, and to somehow grasp the incomprehensible pain and suffering caused by nuclear weapons," Jorgen Watne Frydnes, the chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, said during his announcement on Friday.

Mr. Frydnes added that "extraordinary efforts" by survivors of the U.S. nuclear bombings, including those who are part of Nihon Hidankyo, "have contributed greatly to the establishment of the nuclear taboo." That, he said, had led to a world in which no weapons of that type had been used in war in 80 years.

He added that it was alarming to see that taboo fading in recent years.

Mr. Frydnes said that the Nobel committee, in honoring Nihon Hidankyo, wished "to honor all survivors who despite physical suffering and painful memories have chosen to use their painful experience to cultivate hope."

The Peace Prize is arguably the most distinguished of the Nobels, and its recipients have often been celebrated global figures, such as Nelson Mandela, Malala Yousafzai, President Barack Obama and the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso.

The 2023 prize was awarded to Narges Mohammadi, an imprisoned Iranian human rights activist.

The prize, first awarded in 1901, has also been given to 30 organizations, including twice to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and three times to the International Committee of the Red Cross. The World Food Program, a U.N.



The recipient of the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize, Nihon Hidankyo, is a grass-roots movement of survivors from Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The group's efforts have helped establish a "nuclear taboo," the Nobel committee said.

agency, received the award in 2020.

This year, the Norwegian Nobel Committee, which administers the prize, registered 286 candidates, including 197 individuals and 89 organizations.

Read full story at  
[www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news)

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(1937-2024) INDIA LOSES ITS CROWN JEWEL

# Ratan Naval Tata: Indian industrialist and humanitarian leaves lasting legacy

Ratan Tata, chairman emeritus of one of India's biggest conglomerates, Tata Sons, died aged 86 on October 19 night. He had been undergoing treatment for prolonged illness at Mumbai's Breach Candy Hospital for the last few days. Apart from business, Ratan Tata was also committed to philanthropy, which was evident in his leadership of the Tata Trusts, which focus on community development and social initiatives in India. He was dedicated to improving education, healthcare, and rural development, leaving a lasting impact on countless lives



He was one of the world's most influential industrialists yet he never appeared on any list of billionaires. He controlled over 30 companies that operated in over 100 countries across six continents yet lived an unpretentious life.

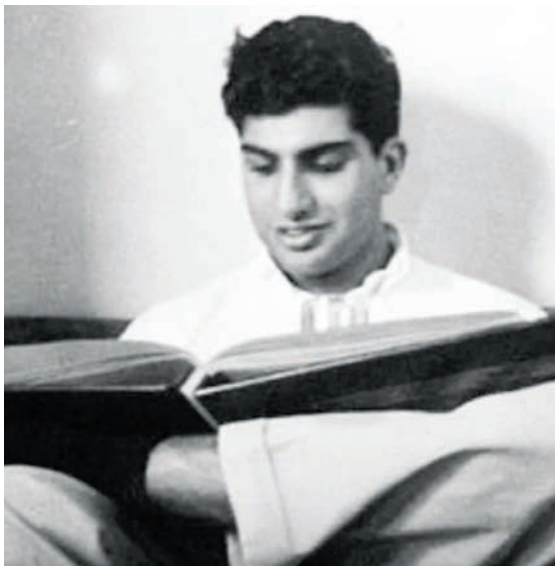
Ratan Naval Tata, who died at a Mumbai hospital on Wednesday, October 19, night at the age of 86 years, enjoyed a perhaps unique status -- a corporate titan who was considered a 'secular living saint' with a reputation for decency and integrity.

Tata joined the family firm after acquiring a B.S. in architecture from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, in 1962. He initially worked on the shop floor, gaining experience in a number of Tata Group businesses before being named director in charge of one of them, the National Radio and Electronics Co in 1971.

He became chairman of Tata Industries a decade later and in 1991, took over as the chairman of the Tata Group from his uncle, JRD, who had been in charge for more than half a century.

This was the year when India opened its economy and Tata soon turned the group, which began as a small textile and trading firm in 1868, into a global powerhouse with operations stretching from salt to steel, cars to software, power plants and airlines.

He was the chairman of Tata Sons, the group's main holding company, for more than two decades during which the conglomerate aggressively sought to expand, acquiring London-based Tetley Tea in 2000 for USD 431.3 million, buying truck-manufacturing operations of South Korea's Daewoo Motors for USD 102 million in 2004, paying USD 11.3 billion to take over Anglo-Dutch steel manufacturer Corus Group and spending USD 2.3 billion to purchase elite British car brands Jaguar and



## MAJOR MOMENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE BUSINESS LEADER

**December 28, 1937:** Born in Mumbai (then Bombay) to Naval and Soonni Tata. Naval Tata had been adopted by Ratanji Tata, the son of Jamsetji Tata, founder of the Tata Group

**1955:** Completes schooling from the Cathedral and John Connon School in Mumbai, followed by Bishop Cotton School in Shimla

**1962:** Graduates with a degree in architecture from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

**1962:** Joins the Tata group as an assistant in Tata Industries; spends six months training at the Jamshedpur plant of Tata Engineering and Locomotive Company, or Telco (now called Tata Motors)

**1963:** Joins Tata Iron and Steel Company, or Tisco (now called Tata Steel) at its Jamshedpur facility

**1969:** Works as Tata Group's resident representative in Australia

**1970:** Returns to India to briefly join Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), which had been launched as Tata Computer Systems in 1968

**1971:** Is named director-in-charge of the struggling National Radio and Electronics (Nelco)

**1974:** Joins the board of Tata Sons as a director

**1975:** Completes the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School

**1981:** Is appointed chairman of Tata Industries. Two years later, drafts the Tata strategic plan; transforms the company into a strategic think tank and promoter of high-technology ventures

**1986-1989:** Serves as chairman of national carrier Air India

**March 25, 1991:** Takes over from JRD Tata as chairman of Tata Sons and Tata Trusts

**2000:** Enters the new millennium by acquiring British brand Tetley

**2000:** Receives the Padma Bhushan, India's-third highest civilian honor

**2004:** TCS gets listed

**2005:** Tata Chemicals acquires British company Brunner Mond

**2007:** Acquires European steel giant Corus

**2008:** Acquires Jaguar Land Rover

**2008:** Launches the Tata Nano, India's most affordable car

**2008:** Is awarded the Padma Vibhushan, the country's second-highest civilian honor

**December 2012:** Steps down as chairman of Tata Sons after five decades with the Tata group, making way for Cyrus Mistry; is appointed Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons

**2013:** Goes to Supreme Court on Niira Radia tape leak incident; argues that people's right to privacy has to be protected; says tapped conversations were leaked to the media because of corporate rivalry

**2016:** Mistry is removed as chairman after a legal battle; in March 2021, the Supreme Court rules in favor of Ratan Tata and Tata Sons, says there was no case of oppression and mismanagement against Cyrus Mistry at Tata Sons

**October 2016-February 2017:** Serves as interim chairman of Tata Group

**2017 onwards:** Continue investing in startups



Land Rover from the Ford Motor Company.

Along with being one of India's most successful business tycoons, he is also known for his philanthropic activities. His personal involvement in philanthropy began early. In the 1970s, he initiated The Aga Khan Hospital and Medical College project, laying the foundation of one of India's premier healthcare institutions.

After his appointment as the chairman of Tata Sons in 1991, Tata's philanthropic efforts gained new momentum. He actively steered the Tata Trusts, established by his great-grandfather Jamsetji, towards addressing vital social needs and set up institutes of excellence like the Tata Institute of Social Sciences and funded educational initiatives across India.

Despite being the embodiment of class and elegance, Tata was not untouched by controversies. Though the group was not implicated directly in the 2008 scam in the allocation of second-generation telecom licences, he was drawn through the leaked recordings of purported



Ratan Tata was awarded Padma Vibhushan by President Pratibha Patil in 2008. (Photo: PIB)

phone calls he made to lobbyist Nira Radia. He was not implicated in any wrongdoing.

In December 2012, he ceded control of Tata Sons to Cyrus Mistry, who was his deputy then. But the owners had

problems with the functioning of the first non-Tata family member, leading to the ouster of Mistry in October 2016.

Ratan Tata was said to be one of the shareholders who disagreed with Mistry on several projects. This included

Mistry's decision to stop loss-making small car Nano, a pet project of Ratan Tata.

Following Mistry's ouster, Tata briefly served as the interim chairman beginning in October 2016 and returned to retirement in January 2017 when Natarajan Chandrasekaran was appointed the chairman of the Tata Group.

He has since been the emeritus chairman of Tata Sons. During this time, he donned a new hat, helping young entrepreneurs of the 21st century, investing in new age tech-driven start-ups which will play a significant role in shaping the future of the country.

In his personal capacity and some through his investment company RNT Capital Advisors, Tata invested in over 30 start-ups, including Ola Electric, Paytm, Snapdeal, Lenskart and Zivame.

One wet monsoon evening not many moons ago, dog-lover Tata had decreed that any strays outside the conglomerate's HQ in downtown Mumbai be allowed shelter. Some never left but their benefactor is no more.

## Ratan Tata: Remembered by nation as a visionary and compassionate pioneer

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday, October 19, led the nation in paying tributes to veteran industrialist and Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata, who died at 86 of age-related ailments.

Describing Tata as a "visionary business leader, a compassionate soul and an extraordinary human being", Modi said on X: "He provided stable leadership to one of India's oldest and most prestigious business houses. At the same time, his contribution went far beyond the boardroom. He endeared himself to several people thanks to his humility, kindness and an unwavering commitment to making our society better."

He also noted Tata's unique "passion towards dreaming big and giving back".

"He was at the forefront of championing causes like education, healthcare, sanitation, animal welfare to name a few," Modi said.

"I would meet him frequently in Gujarat when I was the CM. We would exchange views on diverse issues. I found his perspectives very enriching," he added.

President Droupadi Murmu also offered tributes and said: "India has lost an icon who blended corporate growth with nation building, and excellence with ethics." "A recipient of Padma Vibhushan and Padma Bhushan, he took forward the great Tata legacy and gave it a more impressive global presence. He inspired seasoned professionals and young students alike. His contribution to philanthropy and charity is invaluable," she said.

Union home minister Amit Shah said Tata "selflessly dedicated his life to the development" of the country. "Every time I met him, his zeal and commitment to the betterment of Bharat and its people amazed me. His commitment to the welfare of our country and its people led to the blooming of millions of dreams," he wrote on X. "Time cannot take Ratan Tata Ji away from his beloved nation. He will live on in our hearts," he added.

Defence minister Rajnath Singh lauded Tata's "monumental contributions to our economy, trade and industry".



Ratan Tata sits in the cockpit of an F16 fighter plane during the Aero India 2011, India's biggest air show, at Yelahanka Air base in Bangalore. (Photo: PTI)

"Saddened by the passing away of Shri Ratan Tata. He was a Titan of the Indian industry known for his monumental contributions to our economy, trade and industry. My deepest condolences to his family, friends and admirers. May his soul rest in peace," he said on X.

Congress lawmaker and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi remembered Tata as a "man with a vision". "He has left a lasting mark on both business and philanthropy. My condolences to his

family and the Tata community," he said.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla also remembered the "great industrialist and philanthropist". "Shri Ratan Tata's simplicity, foresight and spirit of service will remain a source of inspiration for ages. His departure is an irreparable loss for the country," he said.

Maharashtra deputy chief minister and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Ajit Pawar said: "Apart from his (Tata's) invaluable contribution as an industrialist, he leaves behind a legacy of benevolence and compassion, underlined by his immense love for his country."

West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee said the Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus "had been a foremost leader of Indian industries and a public-spirited philanthropist". "His demise will be an irreparable loss for Indian business world and society," he said.

Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu said: "Few men have left such an enduring imprint on this world with their vision and integrity as Ratan Tata."

"Today, we have lost not just a business titan, but a true humanitarian... As I mourn his passing today, I also reflect on his remarkable contributions to industry, philanthropy, and nation-building that will forever inspire generations. A life well-lived. An iconic legacy to cherish," he said.

Several industrialists also paid homage to Tata, citing him as an inspiration.

"I am unable to accept the absence of Ratan Tata. India's economy stands on the cusp of a historic leap forward. And Ratan's life and work have had much to do with our being in this position. Hence, his mentorship and guidance at this point in time would have been invaluable," Mahindra Group chairman Anand Mahindra said on X.

Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani said, "India has lost a giant, a visionary who redefined modern India's path.... Ratan Tata wasn't just a business leader – he embodied the spirit of India with integrity, compassion and an unwavering commitment to the greater good. Legends like him never fade away. Om Shanti."

## Swearing-in ceremony of new BJP govt in Panchkula on Oct 15

The swearing-in ceremony of the new BJP government in Haryana is likely to be held in Panchkula on October 15.

Preparations are underway for the event in Panchkula, a senior official said on Friday.

The official said a tentative date for the oath taking is October 15.

"We are preparing the venue for the event," Panchkula's Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr Yash Garg told PTI over phone.

A district level committee has also been formed under the DC's chairmanship for making necessary arrangements for the oath ceremony.

The BJP had indicated during the elections that Nayab Singh Saini, who replaced Manohar Lal Khattar as chief minister in March and hails from the Other Backward Classes, will be its choice for the top post if it wins.

Sources said the event is likely to be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and top BJP leaders, including many chief ministers, of the party-ruled states.

The party ended up with its best-ever haul of 48 seats, 11 more than the Congress. The JJP and the AAP were decimated and the INLD managed to win just two seats.

# Noel Tata appointed Chairman of Tata Trusts

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Noel Tata was appointed on Friday, Oct 11, as chairman of Indian conglomerate Tata group's philanthropic arm Tata Trusts, the CNBC TV18 channel reported, succeeding his half-brother Ratan who died this week aged 86.

Noel's appointment is of significance as Tata Trusts owns 66% of Tata Sons, the holding company of various firms under the Tata brand which is more than 150 years old.

Ratan, one of India's most respected corporate leaders, built the Tata empire into a global conglomerate that spanned across industries.

Tata Trusts was setup by Noel and Ratan's great grandfather Jamsetji Tata in 1892, years after he founded the Tata group.

Tata Trusts has since diversified into various sectors such as education, healthcare and housing.

Noel Naval Tata already serves as a trustee on the board of Sir Ratan Tata Trust and Sir Dorabji Tata Trust. He is also the chairman of Tata Trent and vice chairman of Tata Steel.

Ratan, who never married, was known for his exemplary business acumen and philanthropic.

He was chairman of the autos to steel conglomerate for over 20 years, and was responsible for acquisitions of foreign companies during his tenure.

Noel previously helmed Tata International Ltd. from 2010 to 2021, during which the commodity trading firm's revenue jumped from \$500 million to over \$3 billion.

He's also on the boards of several listed Tata firms, including Tata Steel Ltd. and Voltas Ltd. His children — Maya, Neville and Leah — are also trustees of some of the family-linked charities, according to the Tata Trusts website.



The business of Tata Group's retail play, Trent, under Noel Tata has achieved heights while being very quiet, which also reflects on the style of Noel's leadership, said Vallabh Bhanshali of Enam Holding. Now, he said, the canvas for Noel Tata is very large.

The Tata group is now well-aligned to the trends that are visible today, said Bhanshali, adding that the strong forays into emerging businesses gives them the advantage, thanks to a solid foundation.

67-year-old Noel Tata is the son of Naval Tata, who was also Ratan's father, and Simone Tata. Already on the boards of the key Sir Ratan Tata Trust and Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Ratan Tata's half-brother was the frontrunner to succeed him.

The true sway of a Tata Trusts chair became apparent for the first time in 2016 when Ratan Tata led the shock ouster of Mistry as Tata Sons chairman, triggering one of India's biggest corporate battles.

## Mahadev betting app promoter Chandrakar may be extradited to India soon

NEW DELHI (TIP)

Sourabh Chandrakar, one of the main promoters of the Mahadev betting app, is expected to be brought to India soon following his recent formal arrest in Dubai on the basis of an Interpol issued arrest warrant in a money-laundering and fraud case, official sources said on Friday, October 11.

Chandrakar, along with another promoter of the app, Ravi Uppal, was detained in that country late last year following the ED's request for issuance of a Red Notice (RN) against them.

Sources said Chandrakar is expected to be either extradited or deported to India over the next few days after he was formally placed under arrest in Dubai recently.

The ED has alleged that its probe in the Mahadev Online Book (MOB) gaming and betting app has shown involvement of various high-ranking politicians and bureaucrats from Chhattisgarh, the state where Chandrakar and Uppal hail from.

MOB app, as per the federal agency, is an umbrella syndicate arranging online platforms for enabling illegal betting websites to enrol new users, create user IDs and laundering of money through a layered web of benami bank accounts.

The ED has arrested a total of 11 people in this case till now. Two chargesheets have also been filed by the agency till now, including against the two promoters.

The projected proceeds of crime in this case are about Rs 6,000 crore, according to the agency.

The ED has alleged in its chargesheet that



Sourabh Chandrakar

Chandrakar got married at Ras Al Khaimah, UAE, in February 2023 and about Rs 200 crore "in cash" was spent for this event.

Private jets were hired to ferry Chandrakar's relatives from India to the UAE and celebrities were paid to perform at the wedding, the agency alleged.

It had claimed that the alleged illegal funds generated by the app were shared as bribes to politicians and bureaucrats in the state even as it has summoned many celebrities and Bollywood actors for questioning on the mode of payment and their links with the online betting platform.

Source: PTI

## RG Kar case: 40 docs of Kolkata hospital resign

Forty doctors of state-run SSKM Hospital in Kolkata resigned en masse on Thursday to show solidarity with the medics who have been on hunger strike to press for their demands since October 5.

The development came days after a number of senior doctors from various hospitals have signed a resignation letter, clarifying that it was "symbolic".

Nine junior doctors - seven in Kolkata and two in North Bengal - are on fast unto death.

"We are deeply concerned for the health of the protesting doctors," SSKM Hospital Dr Gautam Das said.

He highlighted the lack of progress in resolving the impasse despite the doctors' unwavering commitment to their demands.

The doctors' decision to resign is out of frustration with the state government's perceived indifference to their legitimate concerns, he said.

Senior doctors have also joined the demonstration at the protest site on Thursday.

A total of 54 senior doctors of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on Tuesday resigned on Tuesday.

Around 35 doctors of North Bengal Medical College and Hospital in Siliguri also gave mass resignation in support of the junior doctors' protest in Kolkata, the doctors' forum of the medical establishment said.

Dr Sunit Hazra, an orthopaedic surgeon at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, on Wednesday explained that the resignations were intended to exert pressure on the state government, which has remained silent during the ongoing hunger strike by junior doctors.

## 2 days after she moved in, Delhi CM Atishi asked to vacate Civil Lines residence, premises sealed

**The house was occupied by Arvind Kejriwal until last week, PWD says he didn't officially hand over the property; CMO claims L-G behind eviction**

**NEW DELHI (TIP)**

Two days after she moved into the Civil Lines bungalow earlier occupied by her predecessor Arvind Kejriwal, Delhi Chief Minister Atishi was asked to vacate the premises by officials of the Public Works Department – the department she heads.

The episode marks a sharp escalation in the row around the CM's residence – while the Aam Aadmi Party claims Atishi moved in after taking care of formalities, the PWD says an official "handover" of the property from Kejriwal to the department is yet to take place. It is also the latest in a series of confrontations between the elected government and the bureaucracy.

PWD officials said the house has been sealed.

Calling the move unprecedented, the CM's Office said, "For the first time in the history of the country, the Chief Minister has been asked to vacate her house. The L-G has forcibly removed CM Atishi's belongings at the behest of the BJP. Preparations are underway on behalf of the L-G to allot the CM's



Delhi CM Atishi at work at her new residence in New Delhi, Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024. (PTI Photo)

residence to a big BJP leader. The BJP, which has been in exile in Delhi for 27 years, now wants to capture the CM's residence."

In the afternoon, a cycle-rickshaw and a mini truck were seen leaving the CM's residence with a cupboard and some cardboard boxes. The baggage scanner near the entry gate was covered with a white cloth. Officials also said the CM Camp office was shut down and the staff were asked to leave the premises.

Kejriwal, who resigned on September 17, shortly after his release on bail from prison, had vacated the house last Friday.

Atishi, according to PWD officials, is in possession of the keys, but not an official allotment letter. Sources said a team of PWD officials visited the 6, Flagstaff Road bungalow around 11-11.30 am on Wednesday, and got the keys to the house from her by afternoon.

This is not the first time the bungalow has been in the news – last year, Kejriwal

and his party had faced criticism from the BJP and Congress over alleged irregularities in the reconstruction of the building. While Kejriwal was allotted the house in 2015, it was rebuilt in 2020-21.

After allegations emerged of irregularities and cost escalation in its construction and renovation, the Vigilance department initiated an inquiry and 10 PWD officials faced disciplinary proceedings and suspension. The Central Bureau of Investigation is also probing the matter.

Meanwhile, the Directorate of Vigilance on Tuesday issued a show-cause notice to three officials – including the special secretary to the CM – for not handing over keys to the house "despite directions" from the PWD. The other two served notice are section officers who were posted in the CM's Camp Office during Kejriwal's tenure. The officials have been directed to submit their replies within seven days.

The show-cause notice states, "The said structure/building at 6 Flag Staff Road has never been earmarked as the official residence of the Chief Minister of Delhi... The matter is under examination by the CPWD, CBI as well as Directorate of Vigilance, and the matter has not attained finality due to various aspects of irregularities allegedly committed in the demolition/alteration, addition/construction of a new bungalow..."

## Cocaine worth Rs 2,000 crore seized in Delhi

In the second big drug haul in a week, Delhi Police have seized 208 kg of cocaine worth Rs 2,080 crore from a rented shop in west Delhi, an official said on Thursday, October 10, evening.

The drugs were hidden in plastic packets of snacks with 'Tasty Treat' and 'Chatpata Mixture' written on them. About 20-25 such packets kept in cartons were recovered from a small narrow shop in west Delhi's Ramesh Nagar, the official said.

The seizure is linked to an earlier recovery of 562 kg of drugs worth over Rs 5,000 crore from southwest Delhi's Mahipalpur, he said.

He said the recovered seizure weighs around 208 kg, which is worth Rs 2,080 crore in international market.

Official sources said the consignment was kept there by an Indian-origin UK citizen who is now on the run.

"We got a tip-off during investigations of our previous seizure and arrest. On Thursday evening, a team of the Special Cell was sent to the shop and recovered the consignment," a police officer said.

The UK citizen, who was identified by the police, managed to escape before the arrival of the team. He had taken the shop on rent a few days ago, the officer said, adding two people including the owner of the shop have been detained and questioned.

The owner told the police that the shop was taken on rent for business related to garments, the officer said. It is suspected that the UK citizen wanted to transport the drug consignment to other parts of the country but he fled after the police's previous seizure, he said.

## Crown of Goddess Kali gifted by PM Modi stolen from Bangladesh temple

**NEW DELHI (TIP)**

The Indian Embassy on Friday raised deep concern over reports of theft of a crown gifted by Prime Minister Modi to Bangladesh's Jeshoreshwari Kali Temple in 2021, and urged government of Bangladesh to conduct an investigation into the matter.

In a post on X, the Indian embassy stated, "We express deep concern & urge Govt of Bangladesh to investigate theft, recover the crown & take action against the perpetrators."

Goddess Kali's crown was stolen on Thursday afternoon between 2:00 pm to 2:30 pm, Bangladeshi newspaper The Daily Star reported.

According to The Daily Star, the crown was stolen soon after temple priest Dilip Mukharjee left after the day's worship and a cleaning staff discovered the crown missing from the idol's head.

The crown holds deep cultural and religious importance, being part of a temple revered as one of the 51 Shakti Peethas in Hindu mythology.

During his visit to Bangladesh in March 2021, PM Modi presented the



During his visit to Bangladesh in March 2021, PM Modi presented the silver and gold-plated crown to the goddess Kali at the Jeshoreshwari Temple as a gesture of goodwill. (@narendramodi/X)

silver and gold-plated crown to the goddess Kali at the Jeshoreshwari Temple as a gesture of goodwill. This visit marked a significant occasion as it coincided with the celebrations of Bangladesh's Golden Jubilee of Independence and the birth centenary of its founding leader, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The Jeshoreshwari Kali Temple is located in Satkhira and is historically significant, believed to have been constructed in the late 12th century. It is associated with various legends in Hindu mythology, particularly that it is one of the sites where parts of Goddess Sati are said to have fallen.

# India in history this Week

## OCTOBER 11 TO OCTOBER 17

### 11 OCTOBER

1902 The veteran socialist leader Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan was born.

1916 Social worker Chandika Amritrao Deshmukh was born.



1942 Bollywood emperor and century great Amitabh Bachchan was born in Allahabad district of Uttar Pradesh.

1987 India's Peace Army launched Operation Pawan in Sri Lanka. The campaign was waged to liberate Jaffna by destroying the LTTE's occupation.

1737 An earthquake in Calcutta (now Kolkata) killed 3 lakh people, half the city was devastated by this natural disaster.

2001 Trinidad-born Indian-born British writer Vidyadhar Suraj Prasad Noyyal was announced to be awarded the 2001 Nobel Literature Prize.

1930 Jawaharlal Nehru was released from Naini Central Jail.

2008 Prime Minister Manmohan Singh flagged off from Naogaon station and flagged off the first train to run in the valley of Kashmir.

### 12 OCTOBER

1967 Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, a fighter, fierce thinker and socialist politician of India's freedom struggle died.

1968 Equatorial Guinea, a country located in Central Africa, gained independence from Spain and this day was declared the national day of this country.

2008 Sister Alphonsa of Kerala became the first female saint of India.

1888 First revolutionary and later Gandhiji's follower Perrin Ben was born.

### 13 OCTOBER



1987 Evergreen actor, singer Kishore Kumar, died.

1895 The first Test captain of India's cricket team, C.K. Naidu was born.

1999 Atal Bihari Vajpayee became the Prime Minister of India for the third time.

2013 A stampede in Datia district of Madhya Pradesh killed 109 people.

2011 Instructions have been given to use the words of Urdu, Persian, general Hindi and English instead of the difficult words of Hindi used in offices.

### 14 OCTOBER

1882 The University of Punjab was established in modern Pakistan.

1956 Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar accepted Buddhism in Nagpur with 3,85,000 followers.

1240 Razia Sultan, the first female ruler of India, died.



1643 Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah I of Delhi (India) was born.

1953 The Estate Duty Act came into effect in India.

2008 The Reserve Bank of India announced the release of an additional 200 billion rupees to meet the needs of mutual funds.

2010 The 19th Commonwealth Games in the capital Delhi ended.

### 15 OCTOBER



1931 11th President of India A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was born.

1932 The Tata Company airplane took its first flight. After the acquisition by the Government of India, this company was called Air India.

1997 Arundhati Roy was selected for Britain's most prestigious Booker Prize for her novel 'The God of Small Things'.



1949 The state of Tripura was included in India.

1988 Ujwala Patil became the first Asian woman to travel the world through the sea.

1998 India's Fatima B was awarded the United Nations Award for the Eradication of Poverty.

1686 The Mughal ruler Aurangzeb signed a peace deal with Bijapur.

### 16 OCTOBER

1861 The sale of federal postage stamps began.



1948 India's famous actress and Bharatanatyam dancer Hema Malini was born.

1968 Bharatvanshi Hargovind Khurana was awarded the Nobel Prize in medicine for medicine and physiology.

1959 National Women's Education Council established.

1978 Indian cricketer Kapil Dev made his Test debut against Faisalabad against Pakistan.

2002 A gold and a bronze medalist at the 14th Asian Games took Sunita Rani of India to a medal after failing in the dopint test.

2005 G-20 countries agree to reform the World Bank and IMF.

### 17 OCTOBER

1979 Mother Teresa was given the Nobel Peace Prize.

1605 Mughal ruler Akbar died.

1817 Syed Ahmed Khan, founder of Aligarh Muslim University, was born in Delhi.

1870 The Port of Calcutta was brought under the management of a constitutional body.

1940 Mahatma Gandhi declared private Satyagraha.

## 'Godfather of AI' shares Nobel Physics Prize

The Nobel Prize in Physics has been awarded to two scientists, Geoffrey Hinton and John Hopfield, for their work on machine learning. British-Canadian Professor Hinton is sometimes referred to as the "Godfather of AI" and said he was flabbergasted.

He resigned from Google in 2023, and has warned about the dangers of machines that could outsmart humans.

The announcement was made by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences at a press conference in Stockholm, Sweden.

American Professor John Hopfield, 91, is a professor at Princeton University in the US, and Prof Hinton, 76, is a professor at University of Toronto in Canada.

Machine learning is key to artificial intelligence as it develops how a computer can train itself to generate information.

It drives a vast range of technology that we use today from how we search the internet to editing photographs on our phones.

"I had no idea this would happen. I'm very surprised," said Prof Hinton, speaking on the phone to the Academy minutes after the announcement.

He said he was in a hotel with bad internet in California and thought he might need to cancel the rest of his day's plans.

The Academy listed some of the crucial applications of the two scientists' work, including improving climate modelling, development of solar cells, and analysis of medical images.

Prof Hinton's pioneering research on neural networks paved the way for current AI systems like ChatGPT.

In artificial intelligence, neural networks are systems that are similar to the human brain in the way they learn and process information. They enable AIs to learn from experience, as a person would. This is called deep learning.



John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton

## Nobel Prize for Medicine goes to US scientists for gene discovery

Two US scientists whose pioneering work helped discover genetic codes that could unlock early tests for killer cancer, were today awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine.

Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun were credited with finding microRNA, tiny genetic codes that controls raft of bodily functions.

One application could eventually be tests to diagnose certain cancers because microRNA becomes altered with certain diseases.

Every cell in the human body contains the same raw genetic information, locked in our DNA. But the pair discovered that despite starting with identical genetic information, cells in the human body use this code in wildly different ways.

The electrical impulses of nerve cells for instance distinct from white blood cells that produce antibodies to fight infection.

The duo's 'ground-breaking discovery' has revolutionised medicine's understanding of how our genes work inside the human body, the Nobel Assembly said. 'If gene regulation goes awry, it can lead to serious diseases such as cancer, diabetes, or autoimmunity.'

'Their groundbreaking discovery revealed a completely new principle of gene regulation that turned out to be essential for multicellular organisms, including humans,' the Assembly added.

'It is now known that the human genome codes for over one thousand microRNAs.' Thomas Perlmann, secretary of the Nobel Committee, announced this year's winner at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden.

He told the ceremony he had not yet reached Professor Ambros but had spoken to Professor Ruvkun by phone, waking him up early in the morning in the US.

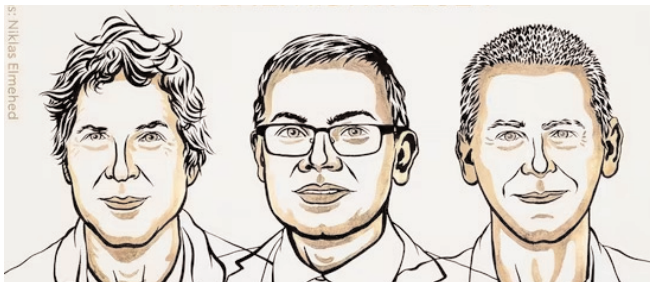
'His wife answered. It took a long time till he came to the phone and he was very tired,' he said, adding the molecular biologist was 'very enthusiastic'.



Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun

## David Baker, Demis Hassabis, John Jumper share Nobel Prize in Chemistry

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences on Wednesday, Oct 9, announced that the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry will be awarded with one half going to David Baker, and the other half jointly to Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper, for their groundbreaking contributions to protein science.



David Baker, Demis Hassabis, and John Jumper.

David Baker of the University of Washington, Seattle, USA, was awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize in Chemistry "for computational protein design," while Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper of Google DeepMind, London, UK, were awarded "for protein structure prediction."

"One of the discoveries being recognised this year concerns the construction of spectacular proteins. The other is about fulfilling a 50-year-old dream: predicting protein structures from their amino acid sequences. Both of these discoveries open up vast possibilities," said Heiner Linke, chair of the Nobel Committee for Chemistry.

David Baker has achieved the extraordinary feat of designing entirely new proteins, while Demis Hassabis and John Jumper have developed an artificial intelligence (AI) model to solve a 50-year-old challenge: predicting the complex three-dimensional structures of proteins.

In 2003, Baker successfully designed a new protein from scratch. His research group has since created a range of innovative proteins that have applications in pharmaceuticals, vaccines, nanomaterials, and sensors.

Meanwhile, the AI-based breakthrough from Hassabis and Jumper came in 2020 with the introduction of AlphaFold2. Their model can predict the structure of nearly all 200 million proteins identified by researchers, a feat previously thought impossible.

AlphaFold2 has been used by millions of scientists globally to address issues such as antibiotic resistance and plastic degradation.

"Life could not exist without proteins. That we can now predict protein structures and design our own proteins confers the greatest benefit to humankind," The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said in a statement.

## South Korean author Han Kang awarded Nobel Prize in Literature

The 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature was awarded to South Korean author Han Kang on October 10 "for her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life."

The Nobel Prize on its X handle said that Kang's work is "characterised by this double exposure of pain, a correspondence between mental and physical torment with close connections to Eastern thinking."

"In Han Kang's short story (2012; 'Europa', 2019), the male narrator, himself masked as a woman, is drawn to an enigmatic woman who has broken away from an impossible marriage. The narrative self remains silent when asked by his beloved: "If you were able to live as you desire, what would you do with your life?" There is no room here for either fulfillment or atonement," the Nobel Prize committee added.

Kang, 53, won the International Booker Prize in 2016 for "The Vegetarian," an unsettling novel in which a woman's decision to stop eating meat has devastating consequences.

Since 1901, a total of 116 Nobel Prizes in Literature have been awarded. Of these, four have been shared between multiple laureates. So far, 17 women have received this prestigious literature prize.

The prize carries a cash award of 11 million Swedish kronor (\$1 million) from a bequest left by the award's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel. The laureates are invited to receive their awards at ceremonies on Dec. 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death.

Last year, Norwegian author Jon Fosse was awarded the Nobel Literature Prize "for his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable."



Han Kang

# FORMER CONGRESSWOMAN TACKLES PIVOTAL QUESTIONS ON CURRENT EVENTS

BY MABEL PAIS

Former Congresswoman Liz Cheney (Elizabeth Lynne Cheney) will engage in a timely thought-provoking discussion at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) on Sunday, October 27, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. The event will be skillfully moderated by attorney and political commentator George Conway.

During her appearance at NJPAC, Cheney will delve into the complexities of navigating a politically divided country and tackle pivotal questions about democracy, politics, and bipartisanship. With the election mere days away, she will also offer her perspectives on current events and any late-breaking news.

**LIZ CHENEY**

Cheney has had a distinguished career



Liz Cheney



George Conway

Photos : Courtesy NJPAC

which includes serving as the U.S. representative for Wyoming's at-large congressional district from 2017 to 2023. She chaired the House Republican

Conference, the third-highest position in the House Republican leadership, from 2019 to 2021, and served as the Vice Chair of the Select Committee to Investigate

the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol. She was also a member of the House Armed Services Committee, China Task Force, Natural Resources Committee, and the House Committee on Rules.

**GEORGE CONWAY**

George Conway, an esteemed attorney, political activist, and legal and political commentator, will bring his wealth of experience to the event as the moderator. His involvement in various political organizations and extensive background in law and politics will undoubtedly add depth to the discussion.

**TICKETS**

To purchase tickets for A Conversation with Liz Cheney, visit [NJPAC.org](http://NJPAC.org) or the NJPAC Box Office at 1 Center Street, Newark, New Jersey or call 888.GO.NJPAC (888.466.5722).

# WORLD'S FOREMOST FADO SINGER, MARIZA STIRS DEEPEST EMOTIONS

BY MABEL PAIS

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Mariza for a night of exhilarating fado, Portugal's most distinctive music that has been described as "dramatic, melancholy, full of longing." The performance takes place on Friday, October 25, 2024, at 8:00 p.m.

There's no singer who embodies the sound of fado more completely than Mariza. The Portuguese musician was born in the same neighborhood that, 150 years prior, gave birth to the dramatic, expressive, and intensely melancholy music that's now synonymous with the Iberian country. Mariza's ability to draw the deepest emotions from a song made her an instant star in Portugal, where she's beloved as an icon. Across her three-decade career, she has stretched fado's limits, combining it with jazz, flamenco, Latin jazz, and influences from her mother's home country of Mozambique. Her "dark, rich, commanding contralto" (Washington Post) has led to collaborations with everyone from Lenny Kravitz to Gilberto Gil.

Described as "A dazzling, captivating force to behold" by The Telegraph, the Portuguese artist will mesmerize the audience with her vocal prowess, performing favorite songs from her GRAMMY®-nominated career and 30+ platinum albums.

Mariza has been praised by Rolling Stone as Fado's "biggest star," with a majestic modern sound that



Mariza

Photo : Courtesy NJPAC

reimagines the genre's ancient sadness. Mariza has performed on prestigious stages worldwide including the Paris Olympia, the Frankfurt Opera, the London Royal Festival Hall, the Amsterdam Le Carré, the Barcelona Palau de la Música, the Sydney Opera House, the New York Carnegie Hall, and the Los Angeles Walt Disney Concert Hall, where a stage was specifically designed for her by the renowned architect, Frank Gehry.

**FADO**

The word 'Fado' means fate or destiny and the music is inextricably linked to the streets of Lisbon. Portugal's most distinctive music that has been described as dramatic, melancholy, full of longing. Fado speaks of love and

longing. It's like a soundtrack to the city. The story of Fado began in the early 19th century. The first gramophone recording of Fado was made in 1902. Fado developed in the working class quarters in the early 20th century until it was banned by the fascist regime that came to power in 1926, and other captivating tales of the path and influence of fado in Portugal.

**TICKETS**

To see MARIZA perform, visit [NJPAC.org](http://NJPAC.org) or the NJPAC Box Office or call 888. GO.NJPAC (888.466.5722).

**THE NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (NJPAC)**

NJPAC located in downtown Newark, N.J., is America's most diverse

performing arts center, and the artistic, cultural, educational and civic center of New Jersey - where great performances and events enhance and transform lives every day. NJPAC brings diverse communities together, providing access to all and showcasing the state's and the world's best artists while acting as a leading catalyst in the revitalization of its home city. Through its extensive Arts Education programs, which have reached almost 2 million children, NJPAC is shaping the next generation of artists and arts enthusiasts. NJPAC has attracted more than 10 million visitors since opening its doors in 1997, and nurtures meaningful and lasting relationships with each of its constituents.

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Hashtag: #NJPACTakeAStand  
Youtube: Standing in Solidarity playlist

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

# HOT SPRINGS FILM FEST OF ARKANSAS RETURNS

BY MABEL PAIS



Rooted



I Am Ready, Warden. -Credit: hsdfi.org

## Screening

Co-Director PAR PAREKH's 'Rooted'  
Director SMRITI MUNDHRA's 'I Am Ready, Warden'  
Director ANDREW NADKARNI's 'Sarah Thankam Mathews: After All This'  
Director KHAULA MALIK's 'There Was Nobody Here We Knew'  
Co-Director ARUN BHATTARAI's 'Agent of Happiness'  
**and Many More**

The critically acclaimed Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival (HSDFFF - hsdfi.org) presented by Oaklawn, has the lineup of films and honorees for its 33rd edition, taking place October 18-26. Screenings will start at Oaklawn's Event Center, Hot Springs, Arkansas. Following Opening Night at Oaklawn, all screenings will take place at The Arlington Resort Hotel & Spa before returning to Oaklawn for Closing Night.

## HSDFFF HONOREES

Steve James will receive the HSDFFF Brent Renaud Career Achievement Award, and Maisie Crow and Abbie Perrault will be the recipients of this year's Impact Award.

## FILMMAKER FORUM

In addition, the festival is following up on the successful launch last year of the HSDFFF Filmmaker Forum, a filmmaker / industry conference and convening, sponsored by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, with an expanded edition to be held Oct. 20 - 22. The Forum, a major new annual convening of filmmakers and industry leaders from throughout the South and mid-South regions and from across the U.S., offers dynamic programming focused on the business, art, and craft of documentary storytelling with a focus on public media, and a wider lens on the nonfiction ecosystem as a whole.

## NEW PARTNERSHIPS

A new festival partnership with Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and the National Park Service will bring CB's Mobile Art Lab to Hot Springs on October 26 for a free, interactive art event. Another free HSDFFF event is a special presentation by researcher Hollis Duncan on "The Arlington Hotel: Birth and Rebirth, 1864 - 1924," presented with the Garland County Historical Society and Garland County Library.

In addition, the festival is partnering with Low Key Arts, a Hot Springs-based arts organization, on its highly successful Inception to Projection (I2P) program, a hands-on filmmaking program. HSDFFF is excited to host the world premieres of six new films recently completed as part of I2P's 8-week summer documentary filmmaking workshop.

## THE 2024 HOT SPRINGS DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL LINEUP

### GALA SELECTIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

#### OPENING NIGHT GALA SELECTION

Space Cowboy

Directors: Marah Strauch, Bryce Leavitt; USA; 98m

*In this exhilarating and emotional documentary, legendary skydiver and cinematographer Joe Jennings reflects on his life creating art in the air. With dazzling stunts and intimate interviews, Space Cowboy takes audiences on the journey of a lifetime.*

#### CENTERPIECE GALA SELECTION

Louder Than Guns - WORLD PREMIERE

Director: Doug Pray; USA; 90m

*A 2023 mass shooting at a Nashville school took the lives of six children and adults, devastating the community. In response, Nashville parent Ketch Secor, founding member of the bluegrass band Old Crow Medicine Show, partnered with radio journalist David Greene to bring people together to have an open conversation about gun violence in America. Through music and conversation, a new path forward emerged.*

#### CLOSING NIGHT GALA SELECTION

Luther: Never Too Much

Director: Dawn Porter; USA; 101m

Luther Vandross left an indelible mark on the music world with his unforgettable voice and his prolific skills as a songwriter. Venture behind the scenes as Vandross rises from backing vocalist to Grammy-winning superstar.

#### SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Bring Them Home

Directors: Ivan MacDonald, Ivy MacDonald, Daniel Glick; USA; 85m

*The Blackfeet Nation prepares to reintroduce bison to their ancestral lands for the first time in a century, embarking on a healing journey that restores balance between people, land, and animals.*

Crisis: Behind A Presidential Commitment

Executive Producer: Robert Drew; USA; 53m

*Released in 1963, Crisis, which helped launch the cinema verité movement in documentary, focuses on President Kennedy's tactical response, unfolding in real time, to Alabama Gov. George Wallace's opposition in the summer of '63 to the court-ordered integration of the University of Alabama, his so-called "stand in the schoolhouse door". Presented with the Clinton Presidential Center.*

The Legend of Boggy Creek

Director: Charles B. Pierce; USA; 87m

*"Here in this primitive river bottom wilderness in southern Arkansas... lurks a creature that walks upright..." In celebration of our new ongoing series, "It's All Real: A Salute to Mockumentaries, Docudramas and Other Not Quite Documentaries", join us for a special retrospective screening of Arkansas indie filmmaker Charles B. Pierce's classic 1972 horror docudrama The Legend of Boggy Creek. A massive success at the time, the movie still retains its haunting grip on our collective imagination: "Is the Fouke monster real? Is it still out there?"*

#### ADDITIONAL FEATURES

*There are 34 additional Feature Selections.*

#### SERIES SELECTION

*There's one Series Selection.*

#### SHORT FILMS

*There are 51 short films.*

*For more information on the Festival, visit hsdfi.org*

#### TICKETS

For Tickets to individual films or a Festival Pass, visit hsdfi.org.

#### HOT SPRINGS DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL (HSDFFF)

Each year, with the help of a small staff and over 100 dedicated volunteers, HSDFFF attracts thousands of visitors to the 9-day multicultural and intergenerational event. Now approaching its 33rd year as the oldest all-documentary festival in North America and one of the longest running non-fiction festivals in the world, the Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival remains a prominent champion and protector of the documentary film genre.

# PROOF OF CONCEPT FESTIVAL RETURNS FOR SECOND TIME

BY MABEL PAIS

## Screening

Director NEAL SURESH MULANI's 'Rat!'

Director RITVIK DHAVALÉ's 'Hema'

Director ADI KALIDINDI's 'Ronnie California: The King of Artesia' and Many More

The American Cinematheque presents the lineup of panels and special events for the 2nd Annual PROOF Film Festival ([americancinematheque.com](http://americancinematheque.com)), taking place October 18-20. The innovative film festival will present thematically curated programs featuring 46 official selections, as well industry panels, special screenings, centerpiece conversations, and the PROOF Pitch Deck Show & Tell - all taking place at the Culver Theater ([web.theculvertheater.com](http://web.theculvertheater.com) - 9500 Culver Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA).

PROOF is also teaming up with Callo, a new platform that matches experienced, above-the-line professionals in film, television, and audio for effective project collaboration, to schedule meetings between selected festival filmmakers and industry partners in the film festival's Callo Lounge. Additionally, Callo will provide exclusive access to badge holders of the festival to the Callo platform.

The American Cinematheque, PROOF is dedicated solely to the presentation of proof-of-concept short films, looking to be expanded into feature-length productions or series, and empowering the next generation of cinematic storytellers.

## PANELS

The in-person panel lineup this year presents a variety of topics aimed at providing education on timely film industry topics. For updates visit [americancinematheque.com](http://americancinematheque.com).

## PROOF PITCH DESK - SHOW & TELL

This year, PROOF Film Festival opened submissions for the PROOF Pitch Deck Show & Tell to the general public. Receiving over 100 submissions for feature film and series pitches, the festival has chosen eight participants to present their pitch decks live in front of a panel of industry professionals at the festival. Learn more at [americancinematheque.com](http://americancinematheque.com).

## THE 2024 PROOF FILM FESTIVAL LINEUP (BY BLOCK):

### THERE ARE FILMS IN 12 BLOCKS.

Opening Night has 5 films in Block #1.

Block #2 has 4 films.

Block #3 has 5 films.

Block #4 has 3 films.

Block #5 has 4 films.

Block #6 has 3 films.

Block #7 has 3 films.

Block #8 has 4 films.

Block #9 has 4 films.



Block 11: 'Ronnie California: The King of Artesia'

Credit: [americancinematheque.com](http://americancinematheque.com)

Block #10 has 3 films.

Block #11 has 3 films.

Block #12 has 5 films.

Learn more about the Festival and films in each Block at [americancinematheque.com/series/proof-proof-of-concept-film-festival](http://americancinematheque.com/series/proof-proof-of-concept-film-festival)

## TICKETS

For tickets to the Festival, visit [americancinematheque.com/series/proof-proof-of-concept-film-festival](http://americancinematheque.com/series/proof-proof-of-concept-film-festival).

## PROOF FILM FESTIVAL

PROOF is a short film festival in Los Angeles dedicated to showcasing the best in proof-of-concepts. Providing a highly competitive and unique festival experience, as well as opening the door for fruitful future filmmaking opportunities, PROOF is a one-stop-shop for the newest emerging talent.

## AMERICAN CINEMATHEQUE

The American Cinematheque believes that cinema is a communal experience with the power to entertain, enlighten and inspire. The organization builds a diverse and engaged film community through immersive film curation, conversation, and presentation. The American Cinematheque works to bridge the filmmaker to the audience and film history to its future. Since it began screening films to the public in 1985, the American Cinematheque has provided diverse film programming and immersive in-person discussions and events with thousands of filmmakers and luminaries, presenting new and repertory cinema to Los Angeles.

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



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# Pandit Ramesh Narayan: The Ultimate Torch Bearer of 'Guru-Shishya Parampara'



BY BIDISHA ROY

A 22-year-old trained Carnatic musician, who aspires to be a Hindustani vocalist, leaves his North Kerala home and goes to Pune to search for his Guru. He finds him (The Guru) and follows him to Mumbai. After initial hesitation, the Guru accepts him after his would-be disciple (The Shishya) convinces him by saying "It's your music that I want to learn." Neither the Guru nor the Shishya knew that it's going to create a saga of the classic 'Guru-Shishya Parampara.' It's the story of the shishya - Pandit Ramesh Narayan, and the Guru - no other than Padma Vibhushan, Sangeeth Martand, Late Pandit Jasraj.

Born in a family of Carnatic music, Pandit Ramesh Narayan has the unique distinctions of being one of the few vocalists from Kerala who is a torch bearer of Mewati gharana Hindustani classical music. Born on 3rd November, 1959, Ramesh Narayan hails from a family

of Carnatic musicians settled at Kuthuparambu near Kannur, North Kerala. He had his early lessons in Carnatic music from his parents - father Narayana Bhagvathar and mother Narayani Amma - up to the age of 20. While he was a student at the Music College, Chittoor, he was deeply drawn to Hindustani music and decided to dedicate himself to mastering it. Moving to Pune, he learnt Sitar under the tutelage of Shri. Satchidananda Phadke, a renowned disciple of the Sitar Maestro Pandit Ravi Shankar. Becoming a competent Sitarist in no time, Shri. Ramesh Narayan found himself captivated by Hindustani vocal. He joined the Akhil Bharatiya Gandharva Mahavidyalaya and earned his "Visharad" (exponent) with high distinction. He felt entranced by the passionately evocative style of Pandit Jasraj and resolved to hone his talent and technique in the Mewati Gharana. Pandit Jasraj trained him rigorously in the subtler aspects of music in the traditional Gurukula style.

Ramesh became popular by performing a 36-hour vocal recital as part of celebrating the 100 years of Indian Cinema at the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. This performance got him an entry to the Limca Book of Records 2013 for completing the 24 hour raga cycle.

Few years back, Pandit Jasraj said in an interview, "I am really proud of Ramesh ji that he has established himself and he has not only established himself, he established me also."



Pandit Ramesh Narayan has the unique distinctions of being one of the few vocalists from Kerala who is a torch bearer of Mewati gharana Hindustani classical music



Guru-Shishya Jugabandi - Pandit Ramesh Narayan sharing the stage with his Guru Padma Vibhushan Pandit Jasraj

And for Ramesh ji, who is now an institution himself, having Pandit Jasraj as his Guru is the 'Biggest achievement' of his life. "I don't think I have achieved anything so far as an artist. I am still trying to achieve. But the biggest achievement of my life is my Guru ji."

Also, he does not have any regrets in life except that he does not have time to play sitar anymore.

Ramesh began his career composing music for documentaries, films and television programs in Hindi, Malayalam and Tamil. Ramesh's film-scoring career began in the early 1990s with the Malayalam film Magrib. His notable works include Garshom, Meghmalhar, Saira, Makalkku, Rathri Mazha, Pardesi (2007 film), Manjadikuru Adaminte Makan Abu Veettilekkulla Vazhi, Makaramanju, Edavappathy, Ennu Ninte Moideen, Suryakantha etc. He also started working for a Bengali movie in 2012 which never saw daylight because of financial issues.

"Music composing is the toughest thing", said Ramesh ji when asked by the TIP on his call on a classical artist's association with film music composition. "You cannot learn composing - for that you need talent which comes from within from your childhood. I am talking about real talent actually. I started composing when I was just ten. It's gifted. Actually, I don't even remember how I came to films. I never approached anybody. People wanted me to compose music for their films. Guru ji (Pandit Jasraj) was so happy with my performance as a composer, he told me several times that among his disciples, I am doing a unique job as a classical singer and film music composer", he further added.

Ramesh Narayan has earned National Film Awards, four Kerala State Film Awards, two Kerala Film Critics Association Awards. He has received the Indian Music Academy Award for popularizing Hindustani classical music in Kerala from the then President of India Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam. In 2023, he was honored with Kerala Sree Award, the prestigious civilian award given by the Government of Kerala.

Pandit Ramesh Narayan who recently performed in different cities in the USA, finds a big difference between the audience here and back in India. "You get good audience in both countries but there is a huge difference. Here (In America) listeners are more attentive towards the performance and you get more love, in India you get less attention and more criticism." It does not mean that he is afraid of criticism. As he still considers himself as a learner, Ramesh ji is open to criticism from people who really understand music. "There was a time when the music critics were connoisseurs. But now every other person becomes a critic without knowing anything. Especially with the buzz of social media, criticism lost its glory", he explains.

Other than music, his only hobby is watching football and news. He is extremely unhappy with the current political situation in India as he feels that now 'bad' politics prevails over 'good' politics which is only harming the country.



Family Time: Pandit Ramesh Narayan with his wife Hema Narayan, daughters Madhuvanti and Madhushree Narayan, son in law Rakesh Raghunath and mother-in-law Bhavani



A complete family man, Pandit Ramesh Narayan's wife Hema Ji is also a renowned classical singer. Following their footprints, daughters Madhuvanti and Madhushree are also trained classical singers and perform nationally as well as internationally.

The values he emphasizes on his family and students are simple - "Self-realization is the most important thing in life. It's not easy but keep on trying. Respect others first if you want to get it back and finally, never forget your Guru."

Having Pandit Jasraj as his Guru is the 'Biggest achievement' of his life, says Pandit Ramesh Narayan



## Alaya F to star in Kho Gaye Hum Kahan 2

Actor Alaya F has been roped in to play a pivotal part in Netflix's Kho Gaye Hum Kahan sequel, a source said. The original starred Ananya Panday, Siddhant Chaturvedi and Adarsh Gourav in the lead.

An industry source told India Today Digital, "Alaya F is said to be seen playing a part in the sequel of Kho Gaye Hum Kahan. The actress is said to join the trio of Siddhant Chaturvedi, Ananya Panday, and Adarsh Gourav in the sequel. However, not much has been revealed about this yet."

Alaya F had made her Hindi film debut with Jawaani Jaaneman, where she was seen sharing screen space with Tabu and Saif Ali Khan. She has also starred in projects such as Freddy, Bade Miyan Chote Miyan, and Srikanth, among more.

In an earlier interview, the actor had reflected on her career so far and said, "Firstly, taking opinions from people who won't just sweet talk you but also guide you is really important to me. We all need that support system of people who we really trust. Unbiased, clear opinions that are given to you in productive ways and not destructive ways are always helpful. But, more than that, professionally, for me, it's just about instinct. Overthinking or analysing the choices way too much has never worked out for me or I haven't felt really great about them."

Alaya was last seen in Akshay Kumar and Tiger Shroff's Bade Miyan Chote Miyan and Rajkumar Rao's Srikanth.

# Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 trailer: Kartik Aaryan befuddled about who is Manjulika

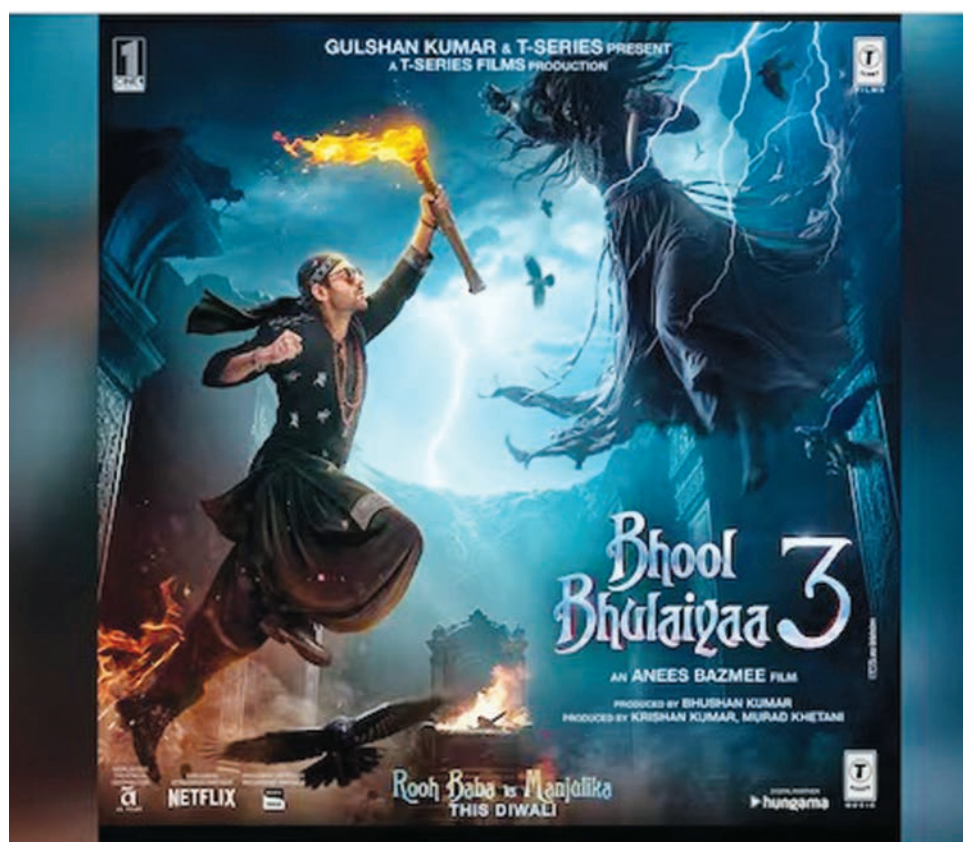
The much-awaited trailer of Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3, helmed by filmmaker Anees Bazmee, was unveiled on Wednesday. Taking to its YouTube channel, T-Series posted the nearly four minute long video. Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 is a blend of psychological horror and comedy. The film's trailer was launched at an event in Jaipur.

The video began with a brief about Manjulika and how she has been wreaking havoc for centuries. Vidya Balan's character screams, as she returns, "I'm Manjulika". Kartik Aaryan's character, Rooh Baba, talks about how people should take advantage of ghosts instead of getting scared. The trailer also gives glimpses of some humorous moments featuring Kartik, Sanjay Mishra, Rajpal Yadav, and Ashwini Kalsekar.

The situation soon turns grim as Manjulika returns. However, she is seen taking Madhuri Dixit's body as hostage to create chaos. Madhuri's character then screams, "I'm Manjulika." Between romance and comedy, Rooh Baba tries to deal with Manjulika. However, he faces another challenge as both Vidya and Madhuri's characters are seen as Manjulika.

The trailer ends with Triptii Dimri's character telling Rooh Baba that they will soon be married. However, after smiling briefly, he shouts and walks away. Triptii is seemingly playing a character who is dead. Rajesh Sharma is also part of the trailer.

The film is produced by Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar, and Murad Khetani. Scheduled for a Diwali 2024 release, the film marks Vidya's return to the franchise. She essayed the iconic role of Manjulika in the 2007 blockbuster. It also starred Akshay



Kumar and Ameesha Patel. The second instalment, which released in 2022, featured Tabu and Kiara Advani along with Kartik.

Directed by Priyadarshan in its first iteration and later by Anees for the sequels, Bhool Bhulaiyaa has been a favourite among audiences for its blend of psychological horror and comedy.

Recently, Anees spoke about the film with news agency ANI. "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 is a project very close to my heart. We have pushed the boundaries of the horror-comedy genre to bring something fresh and entertaining. Working with such a talented cast and the entire team, from crew members to

technicians, has been an absolute pleasure, and I'm confident the audience will enjoy the journey we've crafted for them," he told ANI.

The trailer began with Kartik Aaryan's character, Rooh Baba, who claims how people should take advantage of ghosts instead of getting scared. He flirts with Triptii Dimri's character as he is pointed towards solving a new mystery. There on, the legend of the devil begins with Vidya Balan introducing herself as Manjulika. What's more? Madhuri Dixit's character also seems to be hiding a dark secret, as both of these women have a face-off.

## Hrithik holds girlfriend Saba close as they wade through paps



Hrithik Roshan recently celebrated an anniversary with his girlfriend Saba Azad. On Thursday, October 10, night, the couple was spotted exiting filmmaker Siddharth Anand's wife birthday bash. And like a good, 'protective' boyfriend, Hrithik was seen guiding Saba through the waiting paparazzi around them.

On October 10, Fighter and Pathaan director Siddharth Anand's wife Mamta hosted her birthday bash at a restaurant in Mumbai. Several Bollywood celebs attended. Hrithik, who worked with Siddharth in Fighter, also arrived with Saba. In videos shared by paparazzi on social media, Hrithik and Saba were spotted leaving the venue late at night. Siddharth Anand even came to the gate to see them off. In the video, Hrithik bids farewell to Siddharth as the shutterbugs stationed outside the restaurant request them to pose for the camera.

The actor then takes Saba by her hand, guiding her through the waiting paparazzi. Hrithik's gesture impressed the fans with many of them praising him on social media. "We love a protective king," wrote one. Another added, "Look at how caring he is."

On October 1, Hrithik and Saba celebrated their third anniversary together. The couple has been dating since 2021. Hrithik and Saba shared a picture from one of their vacation. Hrithik captioned his post as, "Happy anniversary partner (heart emoji) 1.10.2024 @sabazad." Saba shared the same photo on her Instagram handle and wrote, "Happy 3 years partner (heart emoji) 1.10.2024." Hrithik and Saba were spotted together for the first time in February 2022 on a dinner date. The duo was then seen arriving at Karan Johar's 50th birthday celebrations in 2022, entering the party hand-in-hand. Saba was recently seen at the Ganesh Chaturthi 2024 celebrations at Hrithik's father Rakesh Roshan's house.



## Angelina Jolie 'finally gives in' as Brad Pitt scores 'victory'

Brad Pitt has scored a major legal victory against ex-wife Angelina Jolie, who seems to have finally waved the white flag in their years-long divorce battle saga. Insider, close to the former couple reveals Jolie is now more focused on moving forward and enjoying life, imitating a sense of happiness and relaxation, these days.

She recently dropped a lawsuit against the FBI and the Department of Justice related to their rocky marriage and a 2016 private jet incident and Pitt can finally breathe as the file remains sealed.

Earlier Jolie was seen hosting two gatherings at her Atelier Jolie studio and walked the red carpet at the New York Film Festival with her children, Pax, Zahara, and Maddox. The Maleficent star, appeared, "really relaxed and happy," the insider claimed, adding, "It's like she turned over a new leaf."

While Pitt's team insists they've already received all the details from the reports, they always suspected Jolie's legal antics were just her way of throwing a wrench in his reputation. However, as the source suggests, Jolie's decision to drop the lawsuit signals a potential end to the legal wrangling between the former couple for over 8 years now, since their split.

Angelina Jolie, using the pseudonym "Jane Doe," officially dropped her 2022 lawsuit against the FBI and Department of Justice on September 25, though their separate legal battle over the French winery Château Miraval remains in court.

However, the recent move has brought relief to Brad Pitt, as the FBI file will remain sealed despite previous leaks. A source told InTouch it seems Jolie has "finally given in."

# Kanye West sued after 'spying' on wife Bianca Censori and Kardashians; 'not divorcing her'

Kanye West has again landed into legal trouble this time he is facing a lawsuit alleging he hired a private investigator to spy on his wife, Bianca Censori, and his former in-laws, the Kardashians. The anonymous plaintiff, a former "Director of Intelligence" for West, claims the rapper ordered him to conduct investigations into both women.

The lawsuit also details the man's allegations of unpaid wages and emotional distress caused by his work for West. Meanwhile, amid the ongoing drama, there are reports of Ye and Bianca 'divorcing' fueled by their social media activities.

On October 10, new court documents obtained by TMZ revealed that Kanye West failed to pay the "fixer" he initially hired as a campaign manager for his presidential run back in 2020. However, over time, this individual's responsibilities transformed into managing investigations into Bianca Censori and her family.

He claims he was directed to hire private investigators to monitor Bianca's movements without her knowledge in the days leading up to their wedding. She was likely 'tailed' during her solo trips, including those to Australia.

Referred to as "John Doe," the Michigan man was brought on board by West shortly after his private wedding to Censori. In his lawsuit, John Doe accuses West of "retaliation, both negligent and intentional infliction of emotional distress, and several violations of labor codes."

Not only did Ye spy on his wife, but



according to the anonymous, he also asked him to investigate his former wife, Kim Kardashian, and her family regarding "supposed various criminal links Ye believed they had with criminal enterprises, including alleged sex trafficking," reports TMZ.

Doe says that back in May 2024, Kanye West started acting weird, and he thinks it might be because West was using nitrous oxide after he got titanium grills on his teeth. The papers also mention that around that same time, West started

letting go of people from the Yeezy brand's top crew. Plus, Doe claims he's not been paid for times when he worked full-time but didn't get his paycheck.

Rumors are rife that Ye and Censori are heading for divorce after their short-lived wedding, which has been plagued by Censori's outrageous clothing and Ye's 'controlling' behavior. A report from TMZ stated that the rapper previously informed his friends that he was done with Bianca and wanted to spend time alone in Japan.

## Anne Hathaway apologises for 'rude' interview after comparisons drawn to Blake Lively

Anne Hathaway had recently apologised to Norwegian entertainment journalist Kjersti Flaa over her 2012 interview for *Les Misérables*. The actor had reached out to Kjersti, after the latter shared the clip on TikTok. As Anne got to know about the viral clip, she reached out to the journalist to extend her apology. However, since the video resurfaced online, social media is divided and users are comparing Anne to Blake Lively.

In the 2012 interview, Anne had declined Kjersti's singing request and said, "Well, I won't be doing that, but you're more than welcome to sing." As the journalist once again asked her, "No?" The actor replied, "No." When Anne was again asked if she remembers her first crush, she said, "No." The interview then concluded as both shook hands and said, "Thank you very much," to each other.

Earlier, during Kjersti's interview with Blake, the latter was criticised for making a snide remark about Kjersti's supposed "bump," even though the journalist wasn't pregnant. A user pointed out, "This poor lady gets the worst celebrities and she seems so nice! First, Blake Lively, then Anne Hathaway (congrats on your little bump)." A user also commented, "We got to stop idolizing these celebrities." Another user wrote, "Don't go on an interview if you're going to give one worded responses."



## JAPAN PM DISSOLVES PARLIAMENT AHEAD OF OCT 27 ELECTIONS

**TOKYO (TIP):** Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba dissolved parliament on October 9 ahead of October 27 snap elections, banking on his honeymoon popularity and a fragmented opposition to lead his scandal-tainted party to victory.

Ishiba's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has governed Japan almost uninterrupted for decades -- albeit with frequent leader changes -- and is almost certain to be re-elected.

But Ishiba, named prime minister just last week, wants to shore up his mandate to push through policies that include beefing up spending on defence as well as on poorer regions hit by Japan's demographic crisis.

"We want to face this election fairly and sincerely, so as for this government to obtain (public) trust," Ishiba told reporters on Wednesday.

Later the speaker of parliament read out a letter from the prime minister with the emperor's seal, formally dissolving parliament as lawmakers shouted the traditional rallying cry of "banzai".

The three-year government of Ishiba's predecessor Fumio Kishida suffered record-low approval ratings due to a slush fund scandal and voter discontent over rising prices.

Polls last week gave Ishiba's cabinet approval ratings of 45-50 per cent, compared with 20-30 percent for the Kishida administration's final month.

Ishiba's backers hope the self-confessed defence "geek" and outspoken critic of the LDP establishment will boost the party's popularity, including by persuading disillusioned young people to vote.

By dissolving parliament now, the 67-year-old wants to put his party to the test before his "honeymoon" period ends, said Yu Uchiyama, a political science professor at the University of Tokyo.

"It makes sense that he wanted to call a snap election as soon as the 'face' of the party changed, while the momentum is still there", he told AFP.

Uchiyama added that Ishiba also wanted to catch opposition forces flat-footed, as the LDP's foes remain undecided about how to coordinate with each other in the election.

But the prime minister's decision to call a snap election this early was also criticised for contradicting his previous vows to prioritise facing the opposition in parliament.

Yoshihiko Noda, head of the Constitutional Democratic Party (CDP), said Ishiba's "hastened" decision was to avoid being grilled over the slush fund scandal.

"This made me realise once again that even with the new prime minister, our politics will neither change nor be rectified," Noda told broadcaster NHK.

Over the weekend, Ishiba announced that the LDP would not endorse some disgraced party members implicated in the scandal in the election. (AFP)

# An 'appalled' New Zealand official says a navy ship didn't sink because its captain was a woman

**WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND**

**(TIP):** New Zealand's defense minister issued stinging rebukes of what she said were "vile" and "misogynistic" online remarks by "armchair admirals" about the woman captain of a navy ship that ran aground, caught fire and sank off the coast of Samoa.

"Seriously, it's 2024," Judith Collins told reporters on October 10. "What the hell's going on here?"

After days of comments on social media directed at the gender of Commander Yvonne Gray, Collins urged the public to "be better." Women members of the military had also faced verbal abuse in the street in New Zealand since the ship — one of nine in the country's navy — was lost on Sunday, Collins said.

All 75 people on board evacuated to safety with only minor injuries after the vessel ran aground on the reef it was surveying about a mile off the coast of Upolu, Samoa's most populous island. The cause of the disaster is not known.

"The one thing that we already know did not cause it is the gender of the ship's captain, a woman with 30 years' naval experience who on the night made the call to get her people to safety," Collins said.

One of the posters was a truck driver from Melbourne, Australia, she added.

"I think that he should keep his comments to people who drive trucks rather than people who drive ships," Collins said. "These are the sorts of people I'm calling out and I'm happy to keep calling them out for as long as it takes to stop this behavior."



About 20% of New Zealand's uniformed military members are women. Collins is New Zealand's first woman defence minister and said she stood alongside Gray and Maj. Gen. Rose King, the country's first woman army chief, who assumed her role in June.

"We are all appointed on merit, not gender," said Collins.

The sinking prompted fears of a major fuel spill. On Thursday, officials in Samoa said while the vessel was leaking oil from three places, the amount was reducing each day and was dissipating quickly due to strong winds in the area.

Most of the ship's fuel appeared to have burned out in the fire, according to a statement by the Marine Pollution Advisory Committee. Officials were due to meet with locals Thursday to discuss how to remove the vessel's anchor and three shipping containers from the reef without further damaging the fragile

marine ecosystem.

New Zealand's government has ordered a military court of inquiry into the episode, which will be led by senior military officers. It will assemble for the first time on Friday.

Passengers, including civilian scientists and foreign military personnel, left the vessel on life boats in "challenging conditions" and darkness, New Zealand's Chief of Navy Rear Admiral Garin Golding told reporters after the sinking.

Those on board have since returned to New Zealand by plane.

The specialist dive and hydrographic vessel had been in service for New Zealand since 2019, but was 20 years old and had previously belonged to Norway. The military said the ship, purchased for \$100 million NZ dollars (\$61 million), was not covered by replacement insurance. (AP)

## UK doctor pleads guilty to attempted murder of mother's partner with fake COVID jab

**SUNDERLAND UK (TIP):** Thomas Kwan, a 53-year-old doctor, has admitted to attempting to murder his mother's long-term partner by posing as a community nurse and injecting him with a toxic substance disguised as a COVID vaccine.

According to The Guardian, Kwan injected Patrick O'Hara, 72, with a life-threatening chemical in what prosecutors have called "one of the most elaborate criminal plots in recent memory." His motive was to inherit his mother's estate upon her death, as revealed in Newcastle Crown Court.

Initially denying the charges, Kwan changed his plea on October 8 as the prosecution presented its case. Once a respected doctor in Sunderland, Kwan devised a complex plan to murder O'Hara at his mother's home on January 22.

Over several months, he used shell companies, counterfeit documents, and elaborate disguises to gain access to O'Hara. The prosecutor, Peter Makepeace KC, stated that Kwan had an "encyclopaedic knowledge" of poisons and had researched ways to evade detection.

Kwan's scheme began when he contacted O'Hara last November, claiming he was eligible for a home-visit COVID booster jab due to his age. Makepeace noted that O'Hara, unaware of the ruse, welcomed the initiative. Reported The Guardian

On the day of the incident, Kwan arrived at his mother's house dressed in a long coat, flat cap, surgical gloves, and a medical mask. He conducted a 45-minute examination of O'Hara, even checking his mother's blood pressure when asked. Using broken English with

an Asian accent, Kwan insisted O'Hara needed a booster, despite him having received one just three months prior.

After administering the injection, O'Hara experienced immediate pain, prompting Kwan to reassure him that a reaction was common before hastily leaving. The next day, O'Hara's arm had blistered and was severely discolored. Hospital staff were baffled, eventually diagnosing him with necrotizing fasciitis, a flesh-eating disease. He required surgery to remove part of his arm and spent weeks in intensive care.

CCTV footage helped trace Kwan's movements, leading police to identify him as a suspect. Further investigation revealed lethal chemicals, including arsenic and liquid mercury, stored in his detached garage. Among the items found were castor beans, which can be used to produce the chemical weapon ricin.

# At least 22 killed in airstrikes in central Beirut, with Israel also firing on UN peacekeepers

**BEIRUT (TIP):** Israeli airstrikes on central Beirut October 10 left two neighborhoods smoldering, killing 22 people and wounding dozens, Lebanon's health ministry said, as well as further escalating Israel's bloody conflict with Iran-backed Hezbollah militants in Lebanon.

The air raid on central Beirut — the deadliest in over a year of war — apparently targeted two residential buildings in separate neighborhoods simultaneously, according to an AP photographer at the scene. It brought down one eight-story building and wiped out the lower floors of the other.

The Israeli military said it was looking into the reported strikes. Israeli airstrikes have been far more common in Beirut's tightly packed southern suburbs, where Hezbollah bases many of its operations.

After the strikes, Hezbollah's Al Manar TV reported that an attempt to kill Wafiq Safa, a top security official with the group, had failed. It said that Safa had not been inside of either of the targeted buildings.

Thursday's strikes followed a year of tit-for-tat exchanges between Hezbollah and Israel that boiled over into all-out war in recent weeks, with Israel carrying out waves of heavy strikes across Lebanon and launching a ground invasion. Hezbollah has expanded its rocket fire to more populated areas deeper inside Israel, causing few casualties but disrupting daily life.

The attack came the same day as Israeli forces fired on United Nations peacekeepers in southern Lebanon and wounded two of them, drawing widespread condemnation and prompting



Italy's Defense Ministry to summon Israel's ambassador in protest.

Witnesses reported a large number of ambulances and people gathering in the rubble of two Beirut sites that were hit, in the Ras al-Nabaa neighborhood and Burj Abi Haidar area.

The Lebanese Health Ministry said 22 people were killed and 117 others wounded, without elaborating on their identities. Recent Israeli airstrikes in neighborhoods adjoining Beirut, in particular the densely populated southern suburbs, have killed Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, and other senior commanders.

Hezbollah began firing rockets into Israel on Oct. 8, 2023, in support of Hamas and the Palestinians, drawing Israeli

airstrikes in retaliation.

Hezbollah kept up rocket fire into Israel on Thursday, setting off air raid sirens in parts of northern Israel. Several drones heading toward Israel were intercepted, the military said.

Iran — which supports Hamas, Hezbollah and other armed groups across the region — launched some 180 ballistic missiles at Israel last week in retaliation for the killing of top Hamas and Hezbollah militants.

Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said Wednesday that its response to the Iranian missile attack will be "lethal" and "surprising," without providing further details, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke with President Joe Biden. (AP)

## ISRAEL 'DELIBERATELY SEEKING TO DESTROY' GAZA'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM: UN PROBE

**GENEVA (TIP):** Israel is deliberately targeting health facilities and killing and torturing medical personnel in Gaza, UN investigators said on October 10, accusing the country of "crimes against humanity."

"Israel has perpetrated a concerted policy to destroy Gaza's healthcare system as part of a broader assault on Gaza," the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry said in a statement.

The country is "committing war crimes and the crime against humanity of extermination with relentless and deliberate attacks on medical personnel and facilities", it added.

The three-person commission, established by the UN Human Rights Council in May 2021 to investigate alleged international law violations in Israel and the Palestinian territories, was publishing its second report since Hamas's October 7 attack a year ago, which sparked the ongoing war.

The report also highlighted abuse of Palestinian detainees in Israel and of hostages in Gaza, accusing both Israel and Palestinian armed groups of "torture" and sexual and gender-based violence.

Israel has accused the commission of "systematic anti-Israeli discrimination" and flatly rejected the findings of its June report, which also accused Israel of committing crimes against humanity, including of "extermination" in Gaza.

'Wanton destruction of healthcare'

"Israel must immediately stop its unprecedented wanton destruction of healthcare facilities in Gaza," commission chair Navi Pillay, a former UN rights chief, said in the statement.

By doing so, "Israel is targeting the right to health itself with significant long-term detrimental effects on the civilian population," she said.

The report found that Israeli security forces had "deliberately killed, detained, and tortured medical personnel and targeted medical vehicles" in Gaza and restricted permits to leave the territory for medical treatment.

Such actions constitute numerous war crimes and "the crime against humanity of extermination," the commission said.

Israel's actions had caused "incalculable suffering" among child patients and were "resulting in the destruction of generations of Palestinian children and, potentially, the Palestinian people as a group," it said.

The report highlighted the death of Hind Rajab in January as "one of the most egregious cases."

The young girl called the Palestinian Red Crescent, pleading to be rescued, after her family's car came under fire in Gaza City. (AFP)

## German government sees economy shrinking again in 2024

**BERLIN (TIP):** The German government slashed its 2024 forecast on October 9 for Europe's largest economy, saying it will contract for a second straight year before a recovery gets underway in 2025.

Output is expected to shrink by 0.2 per cent in 2024, the economy ministry said in a statement, a sharp downgrade from the 0.3-percent expansion previously forecast. Germany's economy stalled in the first half of the year and a slew of disappointing indicators recently suggest "the economic weakness will persist into the second half of the year", it said.

Germany was already the only major advanced economy to fall into recession last year when it contracted by 0.3 percent, acting as a drag on the wider eurozone.

Stubbornly weak domestic and foreign

demand, high interest rates and costly energy in the wake of Russia's war in Ukraine have all weighed heavily on the German economy -- particularly its crucial manufacturing sector.

At the same time, the country faces structural challenges including an ageing population, increased competition from China, burdensome bureaucracy and a complex green transition.

"Germany's structural problems are now taking their toll," Economy Minister Robert Habeck said.

"And this is happening amid major geo-economic challenges. Germany and Europe are caught in the middle of crises between China and the United States and must learn to assert themselves," he added.

Germany's woes were highlighted by a spate of bad news from the country's

carmakers recently, as the flagship industry struggles with rising production costs and fierce competition from Chinese manufacturers on electric vehicles.

Volkswagen, Europe's biggest auto manufacturer, last month cut its annual outlook and said it would for the first time have to consider closing factories in Germany.

Rivals BMW and Mercedes-Benz have also lowered their outlook, citing falling Chinese demand.

The economy ministry nevertheless expressed confidence that a rebound was just around the corner. Higher wages, easing inflation and lower interest rates are expected to encourage domestic consumption next year, the ministry said, while an improved global outlook should boost exports and industrial investments. (AFP)

## SRI LANKAN FOREIGN MINISTER DEFENDS DECISION TO ALLOW PLA TRAINING SHIP

**COLOMBO (TIP):** Sri Lanka's newly-appointed Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath on October 8 defended the government's move to allow a Chinese military training ship to arrive in Colombo, saying the decision falls within the framework of the country's diplomatic engagements and such visits 'pose no threat'.

He was responding to a question on the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy training warship 'Po Lang' which arrived at the port of Colombo on Tuesday "as part of a voyage aimed at enhancing the professional capabilities of midshipmen and conducting naval exchanges," said a statement. (PTI)

## PAKISTAN'S PUNJAB GOVERNMENT BANS IMRAN KHAN FROM MEETING WIFE, LAWYERS, PARTY MEMBERS

**ISLAMABAD (TIP):** Pakistan's Punjab government on October 7 banned jailed former PM, Imran Khan, from meeting his family members, lawyers and party leaders till October 18 due to "security concerns", amidst the anti-government protests staged by his party in several cities. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder, Khan, has been lodged in Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail in multiple cases since August 2023. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has accused PTI of trying to disrupt the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit scheduled to be held on Oct 15 and 16 in Islamabad and has emphasised that the government will ensure that these plans do not succeed.

"Incarcerated PTI founder Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi have been banned from meeting their family, lawyers, and party leaders at Adiala Jail, Rawalpindi, till Oct 18," a Punjab government official said.

The government has taken the decision in view of "security concerns", he said. According to sources, the government has taken the decision in anticipation of the upcoming SCO summit. The coalition government led by PML-N's Shehbaz Sharif has alleged that PTI has been staging protests in Islamabad to sabotage the summit. The Pakistan Army has been called in to provide security for the SCO summit. Earlier, security agencies had arrested six Adiala jail staff for aiding the PTI founder. Meanwhile, a PTI spokesperson said Khan's legal team would file a petition in court, requesting the lift of the ban on meetings with Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi." (PTI)

# Gunmen kill 20 miners, wound many in southwest Pakistan

**BALUCHISTAN (TIP):** Gunmen killed 20 miners and wounded another seven in Pakistan's southwest, a police official said on October 11, drawing condemnation from authorities who have ordered police to trace and arrest those who are behind the killings.

It's the latest attack in restive Balochistan province and comes days ahead of a major security summit being hosted in the capital.

Police official Hamayun Khan Nasir said the gunmen stormed the accommodations at the coal mine in Duki district late October 10 night, rounded up the men and opened fire.

Most of the men were from Pashtun-speaking areas of Balochistan. Three of the dead and four of the wounded were Afghan.

No group claimed immediate responsibility for the attack, but the suspicion is likely to fall on the outlawed Baloch Liberation Army, which often targets civilians and security forces.

The group committed multiple attacks in August that killed more than 50 people, while authorities responded by killing 21 insurgents in the province. Those killed included 23 passengers, mostly from eastern



Punjab province, who were fatally shot after being taken from buses, vehicles and trucks in Musakhail district in Baluchistan.

The latest attack drew a strong condemnation from Sarfraz Bugti, the chief minister in Balochistan, who said the "terrorists have once again targeted poor laborers."

He said the attackers were cruel and had an agenda to destabilize Pakistan. "The killing of these innocent laborers would be avenged," he said in a statement.

The province is home to several separatist groups who want

independence. They accuse the federal government in Islamabad of unfairly exploiting oil- and mineral-rich Balochistan at the expense of locals.

On Monday, a group called the Baloch Liberation Army said it carried out an attack on Chinese nationals outside Pakistan's biggest airport. There are thousands of Chinese working in the country, most of them involved in Beijing's multibillion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative.

The explosion, which the BLA said was the work of a suicide bomber, also raised questions about the ability of Pakistani forces to protect high-profile events or foreigners in the country.

Islamabad is hosting a summit next week of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, a grouping founded by China and Russia to counter Western alliances.

Authorities have beefed up security in the capital by deploying troops to prevent any acts of terrorism.

The Ministry of Interior this week had alerted the country's four provinces to take additional measures to enhance security as the separatist groups and Pakistani Taliban could launch attacks at public places and government installation. (AP)

## First same-sex marriage between Nepali and US national takes place in Kathmandu

**KATHMANDU (TIP):** Two young men, a Nepali and a US citizen, married here on October 10, a first such instance involving a foreigner in the Himalayan nation after its Supreme Court allowed same-sex marriage.

The organisation that facilitated the marriage said Nepal can be a hub for same-sex marriage, which can help promote tourism.

The apex court in June 2023 issued an interim order to legalise same-sex marriages in Nepal after a writ petition.

Following the interim order, Nepal's Surendra Pandey and Maya Gurung had registered same-sex marriage in November 2023, a first time for South Asia. On Thursday, the marriage between Nepal's Prajeet Budhathoki, 27, and US citizen Joseph Foster Elis, 30, was solemnised in a hotel here as per the Hindu rituals amid the chanting of Vedic mantras.

The ceremony was attended by around 50 people, including those from the sexual minority community, diplomats, family members and media persons.

The couple later exchanged rings as per the Christian tradition in the presence of a Christian priest.

The same-sex marriage was facilitated by Maya Ko Pahichan, the organisation working for the welfare of



LGBT community headed by LGBT activist Sunil Babu Panta, who is the first gay Member of Parliament of Nepal. "This is the first marriage between a Nepali gay man and a foreign gay man. This is a historic moment for us," Panta said.

Nepal can be a hub for destination weddings for same-sex marriage, which will ultimately help promote tourism, he added.

On Monday, Prajeet and Joseph legally registered their marriage at Dharan Sub-Metropolitan City in Sunsari district of Eastern Nepal as

same-sex marriage and received a marriage certificate from the local body.

New Yorker Joseph, who is pursuing a PhD in Sanskrit language at the Tribhuvan University here, and Prajeet, who runs a queer travel company in Nepal, met in Kathmandu two years ago.

"This is so amazing that our love is being recognised," Joseph said shortly after the wedding ceremony. "To be able to marry as a gay is a privilege and we are very happy for this."

Joseph has now decided to live in Nepal with his partner Prajeet. (PTI)



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# Skincare tips for busy women

Skincare routines can be anything between one to 15 steps, depending on how invested you are in yours. There are a multitude of factors that contribute to the length and breath of a person's skincare routine—you could be someone with very problematic skin that you believe needs a heap of products to be fixed, or just someone who enjoys indulging in skincare and practising elaborate routines. Or maybe, you're simply not invested enough to put work and time into a regimen with more than three steps, but would still like to see the brilliant results. As beauty writers and editors, we're constantly testing new beauty products, combinations and routines to find what works and what doesn't. Here is guide to getting more out of your skincare routine, by reducing it to the bare minimum you need.

## Get your nighttime routine right

Downsizing your skincare routine to avoid a large number of products and steps is the dream, and it only gets easier to do when you take proper care of your skin in the first place. Think about it like this, if you go to bed with leftover makeup, assuming you'll just wash it off in the morning, you're more likely to wake up with dull skin and new breakouts in the AM. Thanks to this, you'll feel the need for a brightening serum or mask and a spot treatment for your acne too. On the other hand, if you effectively clean your skin at night, you'll wake up with fresh skin, so your morning



routine can start off with a simple cleanser suited to your skin type, followed by a moisturiser and sun protection.

## Combine your skin treatments

It's fairly easy to follow a cleanse, tone, moisturise and sun protection routine, but if you're also adding serums and boosters, it can feel like too much. The best way to reduce the number of steps here is to maximise what you're getting from your products. The combinations and possibilities are endless, and it's all

about being smart with your skincare. If you have dry and dull skin, tackle your dryness with a hyaluronic acid serum and use a moisturiser with Vitamin C to brighten your skin. If you feel like your skin isn't getting as much Vitamin C as you'd like, incorporate a face cleanser that is rich in it. Often, your sunscreen can offer additional skincare benefits too.

## Combine your SPF and base makeup

Let's clear the air on one thing first: using any makeup product that comes with added SPF is good for you, but it

does not mean you can skip sunscreen. However, using a tinted sunscreen is a great option if you want to blend the two steps. The difference here is that with a tinted sunscreen, the product's primary focus is to protect your skin from the sun (which is the most important), with an added benefit of providing a hint of coverage.

## Buy less

In a world where offers and deals are doled out by brands and e-commerce websites on the daily, it's hard to keep yourself from giving in. While we're all for playing around with new beauty products, it can confuse your skin and overcomplicate your routine if you've still got jars and tubes that are more than half full. In light of over-purchasing, a #ShopYourStash movement was initiated on Instagram that asks you to finish using the beauty products you own before diving into a new purchase. This way, you're using a new formula from your current beauty arsenal without spending additional money, and also minimising waste in turn.

## Follow the skincare routine you set

Four steps or 10, if you don't follow your skincare routine, your skin won't cooperate with you. It is unreasonable to hope that concerns like acne and dullness will go away if you leave them alone. Even a simple regimen, customised to your skin type, will show results when followed regularly.

# Get thicker eyebrows naturally

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

## Here are 4 ways to get thicker brows naturally:

### Don't pluck

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

### Moisturise

Your brow area needs to stay



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

### Oil massage

The way oil works for your hair, it will do the same for your eyebrows. You can use castor, olive or coconut oil to promote hair

growth. Dip a cotton swab in oil and gently massage before you sleep.

### Egg whites

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

## FOOD CORNER

# Adraki Paneer

## INGREDIENTS

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



## Method

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



# Korean scientists develop a potential anti-ageing drug

Ageing is a natural process, but it comes with various health challenges, including the deterioration of essential body systems.

One key contributor to ageing-related diseases is the decline in "proteostasis," or the body's ability to maintain the balance of healthy proteins.

As we age, our cells lose the efficiency of their protein quality control mechanisms, leading to the build-up of damaged or misfolded proteins, which can result in cellular stress and degenerative diseases.

Research into preserving proteostasis has become central to efforts aimed at extending lifespan and improving the quality of life for older adults.

A research team from Chung-Ang University in Korea, led by Professor Seogang Hyun, recently made significant strides in understanding how to maintain proteostasis.

Their study, published in the journal *Autophagy*, investigated the relationship between two key protein quality control systems, proteasomes and autophagy, and identified a drug with promising anti-ageing effects.

Proteasomes are protein complexes responsible for breaking down damaged proteins into smaller peptides, while autophagy is a cellular process that recycles larger structures, including protein aggregates.

Both systems play a vital role in maintaining proteostasis, yet their combined activation in the fight against ageing had not been fully understood. The research team's discovery centres on a drug called IU1, which enhances proteasome activity and, as they found, also stimulates autophagy.

The study used fruit flies (genus *Drosophila*) as a model organism to test the effects of IU1.

Fruit flies share many similarities with humans in terms of ageing, including age-related muscle



deterioration, making them valuable subjects for such research. The team observed that IU1 inhibited a specific enzyme (USP14) that regulates the proteasome complex, leading to enhanced proteasome and autophagy activities.

This synergistic effect resulted in improved muscle function and extended lifespan in the fruit flies.

Even more exciting is that similar results were observed in human cells, suggesting the potential for IU1 to benefit human ageing as well.

Professor Hyun emphasised the broader implications, noting that reduced proteostasis is a hallmark of degenerative diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. The findings could lay the groundwork for new therapies targeting age-related conditions.

The study marks an important step toward developing treatments that could slow the ageing process, improve health in older adults, and extend lifespans.

Source: *India Today*



## Fear about eggs spiking cholesterol levels 'unwarranted', say experts

Consuming an egg every day is safe and good for your heart, and it will not increase your blood cholesterol levels, said experts noting that the fear is unwarranted. Given the rise in cholesterol and poor heart health, the number of eggs a person can consume per day has been long debated.

Dr Rajeev Jayadevan, Kerala State IMA Research Cell Chairman said that eggs are an important source of all-round nutrition.

"Eggs are perhaps the best source of protein in the world, it also contains other nutrients, including vitamins and minerals. Importantly, they are easily available and relatively economical.

"There is a lot of unnecessary anxiety about the consumption of eggs, to the extent that people are fearful of consuming it. This is unwarranted because various studies have shown that increasing the number of eggs taken daily, does not necessarily lead to a rise in blood cholesterol," said Jayadevan, also a gastroenterologist.

He explained that the cholesterol circulating in the blood is primarily made in the liver in response to the body's various nutritional and metabolic requirements.

It is not significantly impacted by the amount of cholesterol consumed in our diet, for instance, by consuming eggs. "Unfortunately, people believe that cholesterol in blood is directly linked with cholesterol in the diet," Jayadevan said.

While high cholesterol levels are to be avoided, specifically, especially high LDL levels (bad cholesterol), it is important to consider all the risk factors while assessing the risk for cardiovascular disease.

"These risk factors include cigarette smoking, alcohol use, family history of heart disease, obesity, sedentary life, lack of exercise, diabetes, and hypertension. Elevated LDL and decreased HDL (good cholesterol)," the expert said.

Source: *IANS*

## Do you place your hand on lap while measuring blood pressure? Here's what you're doing wrong

The way we place our hands when we get our blood pressure checked is crucial in determining the accurate results – a recent study led by Dr. Tammy Brady, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine stated that the position of hands can show vast differences in the results.

The study demonstrated differences in results when the arm is placed on the lap or placed on the side without support – the differences in blood pressure readings can be as big as 10 points. According to the calculations of the study, at least 54 million of people can be misdiagnosed with hypertension when they might not have it.

According to the study, the ideal way to place the hand is to rest it on a table with the middle of the cuff placed at the heart level. However, in many hospitals, clinics and doctor's offices, this ideal setup may not be present, making it difficult for the patient to place the hand.

The study was conducted on 133 adults between the ages of 18 and 80 in Baltimore. The participants were asked to place their hands in multiple positions and their blood pressure readings were checked. It was observed that when the patient rested their hand on their lap, their systolic and diastolic blood pressure readings were overestimated by four points each.

When the patient placed their hand unsupported on their side, the systolic blood pressure reading was overestimated by about seven points and diastolic blood pressure reading by 4.4 points. For people dealing with



high blood pressure, when their readings were taken with their hands unsupported in their side, a whopping nine-point overestimation in systolic blood pressure was measured.

The scientists explained that when the hand drops below the level of the heart – resting on lap or hanging on a side – the gravity increases the pressure in the arteries leading to muscle tension and changes in blood flow. This can temporarily enhance blood pressure in the body. The study further highlights the need of standardised blood pressure measurement techniques to determine accurate blood pressure readings for proper medical decisions.

Source: *HT*

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## 1 in 2 smartphones globally now have cameras with 50MP resolution: Report

More than 50 per cent of the smartphones shipped during the second quarter this year had cameras with 50MP resolution, as average primary camera resolution of smartphones doubled from 27MP in Q2 2020 to reach the highest-ever level of 54MP, according to a report.

The gradual growth can be attributed to persistent consumer preference for improved cameras.

Over the years, there has been a shift in the number of rear cameras as well, according to Counterpoint Research. To meet these expectations, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) have continued to focus on camera innovation and adoption of higher resolutions.

While the quad camera setup captured 32 per cent of the shipments at its peak in Q3 2020, the triple camera setup dominated the market in Q2 2024 with a 45 per cent share.

According to the report, the shift can be attributed to OEMs integrating macro camera capabilities into ultrawide and telephoto lenses, while increasing the sensor size for better light intake.

While lower-resolution cameras will continue to move upwards, the higher-resolution ones are expected to stabilise in the coming years.

The report further mentioned that OEMs will focus more on other aspects to further improve quality.

The telephoto lens is likely to be emphasised to provide better optical zoom capabilities and better light intake, along with more focus on on-device processing to deliver realistic skin tones and scenes, and incorporation of GenAI features as newer use cases emerge.

In the premium smartphone segment, the shift was driven by Apple switching to 48MP from 12MP with the iPhone 15 series.

The report stated that in the entry-to-mid-price segment, the trend was driven by Android OEMs, especially Chinese, adopting higher-resolution cameras as a differentiating factor.

"There has been consistent growth in the adoption of high-resolution cameras like 108MP and 100MP across mid-price segments," the report mentioned. *Source: IANS*

# Antarctica turning green 'dramatically', trend accelerated over years: Study

Antarctica is turning green "dramatically", with the trend accelerated by more than 30 per cent in recent years, compared to the past three decades, a new study has found.

Researchers found that vegetation cover across the Antarctic Peninsula increased more than tenfold — from less than 1 sq km to almost 12 sq km — between 1986 and 2021.

The researchers, including those at the University of Exeter, UK, used satellite data to estimate the "greening" rate of the Antarctic Peninsula in response to the climate change.

"This recent acceleration in the rate of change in vegetation cover (2016-2021) coincides with a marked decrease in sea-ice extent in Antarctica over the same period," the authors wrote in the study published in the journal, *Nature Geoscience*.

The study provided evidence that a widespread greening trend, across the Antarctic Peninsula, was underway and accelerating, they said.

Antarctica has been shown to be warming faster than the global average, with extreme heat events becoming more common.

"The plants we find on the Antarctic Peninsula, mostly mosses, grow in perhaps the harshest conditions on earth," corresponding author Thomas Roland, University of Exeter, said.

While only a tiny fraction of the landscape — still largely dominated by snow, ice and rock — was colonised by plant life that tiny fraction has grown "dramatically", showing that even this vast and isolated 'wilderness' was affected by human-caused climate change, Roland said.

Corresponding author Oliver Bartlett, University of Hertfordshire, UK, said as the climate warmed and these plant ecosystems established themselves more, it was likely that the greening would increase.



"Soil in Antarctica is mostly poor or non-existent, but this increase in plant life will add organic matter and facilitate soil formation — potentially paving the way for other plants to grow," Bartlett said.

Calling for further research to look into the processes that are driving the greening trend, the researchers said the study raised serious concerns about the future of Antarctica. "The sensitivity of the Antarctic Peninsula's vegetation to climate change is now clear and, under future (human-caused) warming, we could see fundamental changes to the biology and landscape of this iconic and vulnerable region," Roland said.

"In order to protect Antarctica, we must understand these changes and identify precisely what is causing them," he added. *Source: PTI*

## Is Google's Play Store monopoly over? US court orders tech giant to carry rival app stores

While Google has said that it will be seeking a stay, Monday's ruling marks the culmination of a four year-long antitrust fight between the Fortnite maker and the big tech company. It also means that Google could face genuine competition in the Android app marketplace for the first time, at least in the US.

### What does Google have to do now?

From November 1, 2024 to November 1, 2027, Google has been ordered to let apps use their own billing systems for in-app payment purchases instead of being forced to use only Google Play Billing. Previously, the jury had found that Google had violated the law by tying its payment system to the app store.

The court also ordered Google to remove the anti-steering provisions in its policy, which restricts app developers from linking to external payment options as well as informing users about it. Additionally, Google has to let app developers inform users about the availability and pricing of their apps outside the Play Store, and the company



cannot stop them from providing users with a link to download the app outside the Play Store (also known as sideloading).

### What is Google not allowed to do anymore?

To stop Google from maintaining its dominance in the app distribution market, the court has prohibited the company from offering app developers money or perks to exclusively launch their apps on the Play Store.

It is also not allowed to share app revenue "with any person or entity that distributes Android apps" or plans to launch an app store or app platform.

Notably, Google is no longer allowed to

link deals with smartphone manufacturers like Samsung for the Play Store app to be pre-installed on Android devices. Furthermore, the company cannot offer money to device makers or carriers so that they don't pre-install third-party app stores on their devices.

During the hearings, Epic Games had argued that Google entered into agreements with various app developers, smartphone manufacturers, and carriers that made it impossible for rival app stores to compete. The jury was also convinced that "Google entered into one or more agreements that unreasonably restrained trade in a relevant antitrust market" including "agreements with OEMs [original equipment manufacturers] that sell mobile devices."

The pro-competition changes to the Play Store have to be in place for three years, though Epic had initially sought a six-year period. Dismissing Epic's argument, the judge said, "The provisions are designed to level the playing field for the entry and growth of rivals, without burdening Google excessively." *Source: The Indian Express*



## World Bank raises India's growth outlook for FY25 to 7% from 6.6 %

The World Bank has raised India's economic growth forecast from 6.6 per cent to 7 per cent for the financial year 2024-25 citing the growth of agriculture output and policies as a major factor contributing to the employment growth in the economy.

"Growth in India is projected to reach 7.0 per cent in FY24/25 with larger-than-expected agricultural output and policies to foster employment growth contributing to strong private consumption growth," the World Bank added in its South Asia's Growth forecast report released on October 10.

Many global rating agencies and multilateral organisations have also revised their growth forecasts for India upward.

In July, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has raised India's growth projections for 2024 from 6.8 per cent to 7 per cent, reinforcing the country's status as the fastest-growing economy among emerging markets and developing economies.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) in September last month forecasted India's economic growth at 7 per cent for the financial year FY2024 and 7.2 per cent for FY2025. ADB reiterated that India's economic growth will remain robust.

ADB, in its September edition of Asian Development Outlook (ADO), highlighted that an above-average monsoon in most parts of the country will lead to strong agricultural growth, enhancing the rural economy in FY2024.

In its earlier revision, the world financing body had attributed robustness and strength in domestic demand and a rising working-age population behind its growth projections.

Going further, the global body added that the growth in South Asia is expected to increase to 6.4 percent this year, exceeding earlier projections and keeping the region on track to be the fastest-growing in the world.

Separately, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in its monetary policy on October 9, reiterated and projected India's GDP growth rate for FY25 at 7.2 per cent.

# US inflation reaches lowest point since Feb 2021, consumer prices rise slightly above expectations in September

NEW YORK (TIP)

US consumer prices rose slightly more than expected in September, but the annual increase in inflation was the smallest in more than 3-1/2 years, potentially keeping the Federal Reserve on track to cut interest rates again next month.

The consumer price index increased 0.2% last month after gaining 0.2% in August, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said on Thursday. In the 12 months through September, the CPI climbed 2.4%. That was the smallest year-on-year rise since February 2021 and followed a 2.5% advance in August.

Economists polled by Reuters had forecast the CPI edging up 0.1% and rising 2.3% year-on-year. The annual increase in inflation has slowed from a peak of 9.1% in June 2022.

Together with a significant moderation in the inflation measures tracked by the U.S. central bank for its 2% target, that allowed the Fed to shift focus to the labor market and deliver an unusually large 50 basis points rate cut in September.

### Monetary Policy

Minutes of that meeting published on Wednesday showed a "substantial majority" of policymakers supported beginning an era of easier monetary policy, but there appeared even broader agreement that the initial move would not commit the Fed to any particular pace of rate reductions in the future.

The first rate reduction since 2020 lowered the central bank's policy rate to the 4.75%-5.00% range. The Fed hiked rates by 525 basis points in 2022 and 2023.

Labor market resilience and solid consumer spending have, however, forced investors to abandon hopes for another half-percentage point rate reduction next month.

The economy added the most jobs in six months in September and the unemployment rate fell to 4.1% from 4.2% in August. Revisions to national accounts data last month from 2019 through the second quarter of this year also showed that the economy was in much better shape than previously estimated.

There are also some pockets of stickiness, especially rents, which are slowing the pace of cooling in underlying inflation.

Excluding the volatile food and energy components, the CPI increased 0.3% in September after rising 0.3% in August. In the 12 months through September, the so-called core CPI advanced 3.3%. That followed a 3.2% gain in August.

Early on Thursday, financial markets saw a roughly 76%



probability of a 25 basis points rate cut at the Fed's Nov. 6-7 policy meeting, according to CME Group's FedWatch Tool. The odds of rates being unchanged were at about 24%.

### US dollar rises to two-month high

The U.S. dollar edged higher on October 9, taking in stride the release of minutes from the Federal Reserve's September meeting that showed a substantial majority of policymakers backed its outsized 50-basis point rate cut.

Traders also digested comments from Fed officials and kept their powder dry for Thursday's release of September's consumer price index.

Investors were confident that the central bank will not continue easing so aggressively, and minutes from the Federal Open Market Committee were out of date after last Friday's robust nonfarm payroll data caused markets to reprice near-term Fed rate cut expectations.

"The market has been building up to the minutes for a couple of days now, both the minutes and the inflation report. So, the dollar index has been moving up higher and clearly the tipping point was the strong U.S. jobs report," said Amo Sahota, executive director at Klarify FX in San Francisco.

Sahota said it looked like Fed Chair Jerome Powell had to convince more participants than originally thought who had supported only a quarter-point cut. The minutes said "a few others indicated they could have supported such a decision."

Source: Reuters

# Mukesh Ambani at top spot on Forbes India's rich list again with \$108 billion net worth

MUMBAI (TIP)

Mukesh Ambani, the chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries, retained the top spot on 2024 Forbes' list of 100 richest Indian tycoons. This year India's top 100 wealthiest cross a trillion dollar in collective net worth for the first time ever, Forbes noted.

This comes as Mukesh Ambani announced bonus shares as Diwali gift for Reliance investors. As per Forbes, Mukesh Ambani was the second-biggest gainer in dollar terms, with wealth rising \$27.5 billion in the past one year to \$119.5 billion. His current net worth stands at \$108.3 billion, making him the 13th richest person in the



world. Moreover the magazine's report noted that the combined wealth of the top 100 on the Forbes rich list for 2024 crossed an historic milestone of a trillion dollar and the total wealth jumped 40 percent to \$1.1 trillion in 2024, rising from \$799 billion reported in 2023.

The magazine said that strong stock market, IPOs and mutual funds has resulted in the rich getting richer in India. The market frenzy has reached an all-time high as BSE Sensex gained 30 percent since last year, Forbes said, adding, "As a result, more than 80 percent of those on the list are wealthier, with 58 adding \$1 billion or more to their respective net worths."



**BEJAN DARUWALLA AND CHIRAG DARUWALLA**



**ARIES** : Ganesha says this week you may face some challenges and unexpected events. Normal days will not be favorable, so you will need to be extra cautious. You may face pressure and stress at the workplace, which may make you feel a little uneasy. It will be important to maintain coordination with your colleagues and superiors. Be cautious in financial matters. Avoid unnecessary expenses and make a thoughtful decision in terms of investment. It would not be advisable to take any major financial decision at this time. You may also have to face some stressful situations in your family and personal life. Maintain clarity and patience in communication with your loved ones. In terms of health, this week you have to take special care of your health. Maintain balance in diet and exercise regularly. To avoid mental stress, resort to meditation and yoga. The most important thing for you this week is to maintain patience and restraint. Adopt a positive attitude to face challenges and move forward with confidence. Remember, this time will also pass and better days will come soon.



**TAURUS** : Ganesha says this week everything will be great for you. Positive energy will flow in your life, due to which you will be successful in every task. Your efforts will be appreciated in the workplace and you may get new responsibilities. This is the time to take your career to a new height. There will be an atmosphere of happiness and peace in your family as well. You will get the blessings of the elders of the house and sweetness will remain in mutual relations. You may meet an old friend, which will make you feel happy. This week will be beneficial for you from the financial point of view. This time is good for investment and you can get a good profit from it. If you are thinking of starting a new business, then this time is auspicious for you. You will also feel energetic in terms of health. You will remain healthy by following regular exercise and a balanced diet. Yoga and meditation will prove to help reduce your mental stress. This week you will try to increase your knowledge even more. You will get an opportunity to learn new things and you will share your experiences with others. This time will be especially fruitful for students, they will get the fruits of their hard work. In conclusion, this week will be great for you from every point of view. With the power of your positive thinking and hard work, you will be able to overcome every challenge.



**GEMINI** : Ganesha says this week will be full of wonderful opportunities for you. Positive changes are likely to come in your life. You will get praise and recognition due to your hard work and dedication in the workplace. Your colleagues and superiors will recognize your ability and appreciate your work. In your personal life, you can spend some special time with your family and friends. This is the time to strengthen your relationships. You may meet an old friend, which will refresh old memories and the mind will be happy. The financial situation will improve and you can earn good profits from your investments. However, it will be necessary to control expenses so that there is no problem in the future. Spend only keeping your budget in mind. In terms of health, this week will be good for you. Nevertheless, focus on regular exercise and a balanced diet so that you can stay energetic and healthy. Resort to meditation and yoga for mental peace. Overall, this week will be full of success and happiness for you. Maintain your confidence and move forward with positive thinking.



**CANCER** : Ganesha says this week, the time can be somewhat challenging for Cancerians. You may face some obstacles in the workplace, which can increase stress. There may be difficulty in coordinating with the team, so work with patience and understanding. There may be a sudden problem in business, which can make the financial situation a little shaky. Think well before investing. Some stressful situations may also arise in the family. There may be a dispute over an old issue, so stay calm and restrained. Talk openly with family members and try to understand their feelings. There is also a need to be cautious in terms of health. Resort to yoga and meditation to avoid mental stress and physical fatigue. Take special care of your diet and exercise regularly. There can be some ups and downs in love relationships. There can be a rift between you and your partner over something, so maintain communication and respect each other's feelings. Be patient and wise this week. Move forward while facing challenges and maintain a positive attitude. Remember, there is a new dawn after every difficulty.



**LEO** : Ganesha says this week brings many wonderful opportunities for you. Your hard work and dedication in the workplace will pay off. Your colleagues and superiors will appreciate your work, which will further increase your confidence. This week will also be full of happiness for you in your personal life. You will get a chance to spend time with family and friends,

which will strengthen your relationship even more. If you are attracted to someone special, then this is the right time to speak your heart out. This week will be beneficial for you from an economic point of view. New investment opportunities can be obtained, which will improve your financial condition. There is also a possibility of profit from new contracts and partnerships in business. This week will be good for you in terms of health. You will feel energetic with regular exercise and a balanced diet. Take the help of meditation and yoga for mental peace. Overall, this week will be extremely positive and encouraging for you. This time is very favorable to make your dreams come true. Go ahead and be ready to touch new heights of success.



**VIRGO** : Ganesha says this week the horoscope for Virgo people may be full of some challenges. At this time you need to maintain patience and restraint. You may face some obstacles in the workplace, but do not let your confidence decrease. Think well before taking any important decision and do not take any hasty steps. There is a need to be a little cautious in business, as there may be some loss in financial matters. It would be better to take advice from experts before investing. Some stressful situations may arise in family life as well, but maintain communication with your close ones and find solutions to problems together. You also have to be cautious in terms of health. Pay special attention to diet and include regular exercise in your routine. Take the help of yoga and meditation to reduce mental stress. This week there may be some ups and downs in your love life as well. Talk openly with your partner and respect their views. Do not let any dispute escalate and try to understand each other. Overall, this week may be full of some difficulties for you, but if you work with patience and wisdom, you will be able to face these challenges successfully. Maintain your confidence and move forward with positive thinking.



**LIBRA** : Ganesha says this week will be a great day for Libra natives. This time is full of unique opportunities and new possibilities for you. There will be a balance in your personal and professional life, which will enable you to face any challenge easily. Your hard work and dedication will be appreciated at your workplace. Your superiors and colleagues will be impressed by your work, which can open new avenues of advancement in your career. If you are working on a new project, you will be successful in completing it this week. There will be happiness in personal life as well. You will get an opportunity to spend time with family, which will strengthen mutual relations. You may meet an old

friend, which will refresh old memories. Financial condition will also remain strong this week. This time is favorable for investment and you are likely to get good profits. Think well before making any major financial decision. In terms of health, you will feel energetic and full of freshness. Regular exercise and adopting a balanced diet will improve your health even more. Overall, this week will be auspicious and favorable for you from every point of view. Maintain your confidence and positive attitude, and keep moving forward.



**SCORPIO** : Ganesha says this week you may face some challenges and difficulties. Mental stress and anxiety may persist, which may make you feel a little unstable. Family issues will need attention; try to resolve any dispute through conversation. This time can be a bit difficult for employed people, work pressure may increase and there may be trouble in getting along with colleagues. It will be important to maintain patience and restraint at this time. Financially, this week can be full of some uncertainties for you. Control expenses and avoid unnecessary expenses. Think well before investing. You need to pay special attention to health. To avoid mental stress, resort to yoga and meditation. Regular exercise and a balanced diet will be beneficial for you. There may be some challenges in social life as well. Try to spend time with friends and family, this will give you mental peace. The main mantra of this week is: to maintain patience, restraint, and positivity. Maintain confidence while facing difficulties and solve any problem calmly and wisely. At the end of the week, you may feel a little relieved and things will slowly start improving. Stay focused on your goals and move forward with positive thinking.



**SAGITTARIUS** : Ganesha says this week you may face some challenges and difficulties. You may face dissatisfaction and obstacles at work. There is a possibility of disputes with colleagues at work, which may increase stress. At this time you need to maintain restraint and patience. Be careful in money matters. Avoid unnecessary expenses and take care of your budget. Hard work and wise decision-making will be necessary to improve the financial situation. Be cautious in terms of health as well. Resort to regular exercise and yoga to avoid mental stress and fatigue. Pay special attention to food and avoid eating outside. Some stressful situations may arise in family life. Maintain clarity and understanding in communication with family members. Try to find a solution peacefully to prevent any dispute from escalating. There may be some dissatisfaction in your personal life as

## BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : OCTOBER 14 TO 20 BY VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA



VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR  
BEJAN DARUWALLA

### OCTOBER 14

Ganesha says don't chase a career because of fame or money. Doing what you love can help you achieve success. You may be in a positive frame of mind, which may help you identify opportunities for proper growth coming your way. You can commit to working on multiple tasks at the same time, which is likely to improve your productivity in all aspects of life. The day may bring important events for you.

### OCTOBER 15

Ganesha says today can be your best day. Your boss can be cooperative today. You are likely to get a promotion for your continuous hard work. You can plan for a family trip. Today your enthusiasm can be at its peak and you can try something new at work. Your communication with your colleague can be good, due to which you can get to learn new things. You can see a lot of changes today, which can give you more time to relax and channel your positive energy. This is the right time to plan for the future.

### OCTOBER 16

Ganesha says may this day be very auspicious for you. You may be in a good place as far as professional and personal success is concerned. May peace and harmony bring good progress in all areas of your life. Your happiness level can make solid progress in areas of concern today. Today you can enter a new phase of life. This phase can motivate you to work hard and make you competitive. Today you can get a lot of success. Your hard work can impress your boss. Today you can show interest in spiritual activities.

### OCTOBER 17

Ganesha says today can be a very promising day for you. Your communication skills may be able to impress everyone around you. You may be in a sociable mood today, ready to network with people who can help, both professionally and personally. Today you can lead the project at work. You can start new tasks and show great ease in executing them. Plan an outing with your friends today.

### OCTOBER 18

Ganesha says today can be your best day. This day can bring a lot of opportunities at the workplace which can lead you towards a good plan. Your energy level may be at an all-time high today, which is likely to help you move ahead. May today bring lots of happiness and joy to your life. May your day start with lots of positivity. You can dedicate the day to yourself and your interests. A changed approach towards work is likely to keep you ahead of your competitors.

### OCTOBER 19

Ganesha says today can be your best day. You may be able to solve a problem at the workplace, which may make your boss happy. You may plan a business trip with your colleague. Today can be a good day, you can meet some new people in the office. You can learn something new from them and share different stories related to work. You can travel to a destination in a completely different climate zone.

### OCTOBER 20

Ganesha says today you can get good mental strength. You can enjoy working in the office. You are likely to implement new ideas in the family business. Today your hard work can help you to implement the plan successfully. You may choose to work hard today, and the financial gains you make today may stay with you for a long time. Your love life can be as wonderful as your professional life today.

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### CONTD FROM PAGE 36

well. To maintain sweetness in relationships, spend time with your partner and try to understand their feelings. This week, focus on your goals and continue your efforts patiently. Be mentally prepared to face difficulties and maintain a positive attitude. With time, circumstances may change in your favor.

**CAPRICORN** : Ganesha says this week will be extremely auspicious and excellent for you. You can touch new heights in your field of work. You will get the fruits of your hard work and dedication.

There is also a possibility of profit in business and you can start working on new plans. You will get an opportunity to spend time with family and mutual relations will become sweeter. You may meet an old friend, which will be a pleasant experience for you. You will also feel refreshed and energetic in terms of health. Mental peace will be achieved through yoga and meditation. Financial condition will improve and any stuck money can be received. This time is also good for investment, but make decisions only after thinking carefully. This week will be good for students as well, they will concentrate on their studies and will get success in the exam. Sweetness will also remain in love relationships. You will get an opportunity to spend time with your partner and mutual understanding will increase. A new relationship may also begin. This week you will be successful in achieving your goals and progress in every field of life. Move forward with positive thinking and confidence, success will kiss your feet.

**AQUARIUS** : Ganesha says this week will be excellent for you. You will



complete your plans and your efforts will be successful. Your hard work and dedication will be appreciated in the workplace, which will increase your confidence. In personal life, spending time with family and friends will be pleasant. Sweetness will remain in your relationships and mutual understanding will increase. If you are working on a new project, then this time is very auspicious for you. In terms of health, you will be full of energy. However, it is necessary to pay attention to your diet and routine so that you can maintain your health. Regular exercise and a balanced diet will be beneficial for you. Financial conditions will improve and there are chances of monetary gains. Take thoughtful steps in terms of investment, so that you can get benefits in the future. This week the advice for you is to keep your thoughts positive and move forward with confidence. All your work will be successful and you will progress in every field of life. Make good use of time and keep working continuously to achieve your goals. Your hard work and dedication will take you to the heights of success.



**PISCES** : Ganesha says this week you may face some challenges and difficulties. You may have to work extra hard in the workplace, which may cause stress. There may be difficulty in coordinating with colleagues, so maintain patience and restraint. Some ups and downs can also be seen in your personal life. There may be differences with family members, but try to resolve them with dialogue and understanding. It would be better to postpone any major decision at this time. There is a need to

be careful in terms of health. Take adequate rest and a balanced diet to avoid mental and physical fatigue. Take the help of yoga and meditation, this will give mental peace. There may be some ups and downs in financial condition this week. Avoid unnecessary expenses and take care of the budget. Take steps wisely in matters of investment. Some problems may also come in your love life

this week. There may be misunderstandings and disputes in relationships, so talk openly with your partner and respect their feelings. Overall, this week may be challenging for you, but with patience, restraint, and understanding you can find solutions to these problems. Maintain your confidence and move forward with positive thinking.

### AUTHOR BIO

Chirag Daruwalla is the best astrologer and one of the most famous names in the astrology world. He has more than 18 years of experience. Readers may seek his advice related to career, health, finance, business, money, love and marriage. He has complete knowledge, solutions, and guidance to all the problems related to life. Visit his website [chiragdaruwalla.com](http://chiragdaruwalla.com). He is available for consultations on WhatsApp number +91 8141566266 or by email: [info@chiragdaruwalla.com](mailto:info@chiragdaruwalla.com)

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMAH ||



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Nastur Bejan Daruwalla

# Sikh History This Week

OCTOBER 11 TO OCTOBER 17

## 11th October

1710 Khalsa army fought a pitched battle and captured Rahon.

## 12th October

1920 So called Low Caste Sikhs were denied entry into Harmandir Sahib.



1920 Sri Akal Takhat came under Panthic control of Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee. Bhai Teja Singh of Bhuchar made a sudden sloop on the Akal Takhat and took possession of the shrine.

## 13th October



1973 Sirdar Kapur Singh bestowed the honor, "National Professor of Sikhism" by Sri Akal Takht.

1979 President of Pakistan confers certain rights on Sikhs as a distinct entity, by signing a historical document on the occasion of official visit to Pakistan by an International Sikh Delegation.

## 14th October

1664 Guru Tegh Bahadur took formal possession of Guru's property.

1745 Sarbat Khalsa met at Sri Akal Takhat Sahib, Amritsar. Dal Khalsa was organized and distributed into 25 Jathas.

1944 Pritam Singh Gojran seeks a state for Sikhs in

his Presidential address.

1983 Four Sikhs martyred in fake police encounters at Khadur Sahib.



1981 Giani Zail Singh declares the innocence of Bhindrawale.

## 15th October



1708 Bhog ceremony for Guru Gobind Singh.



1981 Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale released

unconditionally.

## 16th October



1670 Birth anniversary Baba Gurbakhash Singh (Banda Bahadur).

1814 Diwan Mohkam Chand, of Maharaja Ranjitt Singh's darbar passed away.



1945 Saint Amir Singh of Gurbani Exposition School, passed away.

1955 All Party Convention at Amritsar demanded Punjabi Suba.

1981 Negotiations among Akali Dal and Indian Central Government were initiated.

## 17th October

1605 Mughal emperor, Akbar, died in Agra.

1762 Sikhs pray at Akal Takhat before attacking and successfully defeating Ahmad Shah.

1973 Akali Dal Executive passed the Anandpur Sahib resolution asking for autonomy for the Sikh nation.

1977 The reconstruction work for "Guru-Kae-Mehal," Amritsar was initiated.



# Valmiki Jayanti

Valmiki Jayanti is celebrated as the birth anniversary of Maharshi Valmiki, writers of one of the most important and popular epics of all time Ramayana. Revered as Adi Kavi or the first poet of Sanskrit language, he underwent a huge transformation, after meeting sage Narada Muni and chanting of the word 'Mara' (die) which on repeating several times became 'Rama', a word with great spiritual significance and name of one of the avatars of Lord Vishnu. The birth anniversary of Maharshi Valmiki is celebrated every year on Ashwin Purnima as per Hindu lunar calendar. This year Valmiki Jayanti is being celebrated on 17th October 2024

Valmiki was born as Ratnakar and was a dacoit who used to rob people and kill them. His encounter with Narada Muni transformed his life as he advised him to chant the word Rama. However, Ratnakar could not get himself to chant the word even after several attempts, so Narada asked him to say 'Mara' instead, which is Rama spelled backwards in Hindi. The Mara turned Rama eventually and as his penance continued for several years as anthills formed around him. Lord Brahma happy with Ratnakar's penance blessed him and named him Valmiki.

Along with penance spanning several years, he acquired learning of scriptures from Narada and went on to be rechristened as Maharshi Valmiki. As his new life started, Valmiki touched by the sorrow of a female bird upon the death of her partner uttered his first shloka and that's how his writing journey began. However, it was only after Lord Brahma tasked him with writing Ramayana that the real purpose of his life began.

As per Ramayana, Lord Rama met Valmiki during Vanvasa or his period of exile and later he gave shelter to Sita Mata in his hermitage when Rama banished her. Kusha and Lava, the twin sons of Lord Rama were born in his hermitage where he taught Ramayana to both of them.

According to legend, Maharishi Valmiki met Lord Rama during his exile. After Lord Rama asked Sita to leave the kingdom of Ayodhya, he rescued her and provided her with shelter. She gave birth to the twins, Luv and Kush, in his ashram. The great sage became their teacher when they were young, teaching them the Ramayana, which contains 24,000 verses (shlokas) and seven cantos (kandas).

Another popular belief is that in his early years, Valmiki was a highway dacoit named Ratnakar. He was born to a sage named Prachetasa on the banks of the Ganges in ancient India. Ratnakara was his birth name. As a child, he got lost in the jungles and was found by a hunter, who raised him as his own son. He grew up to be a hunter like his foster father, but he also supplemented his livelihood by being a bandit. He eventually met Maharishi Narada and attempted to rob him. He used to rob and murder people until he met Narad Muni, who converted him into a devout follower of Lord Rama.

After years of meditation, a divine voice declared his penance successful and bestowed the name Valmiki, the one who was born out of ant-hills. For being the first poet of Sanskrit literature, he was later known as Adi Kavi. Since then, Hindu devotees continue to recite his works, particularly the great epic - Ramayana. The birth date and birth time of Maharishi Valmiki are unknown, but as per the beliefs, he lived around 500 BC.

## Rituals

People pay their respects to this renowned saint and poet Valmiki Jayanti. Several processions carrying Valmiki's portrait are held in various towns and villages. On this day, Hindu devotees worship him fervently. Prayers are offered to his portrait in many places.

On this day, recitations of the Ramayana are held in Lord Ram temples across India. In India, there are a number of temples dedicated to Maharishi Valmiki. These temples are lavishly decorated with



**Valmiki Jayanti on Thursday, October 17, 2024**

**Purnima Tithi Begins - 08:40 PM on Oct 16, 2024**

**Purnima Tithi Ends - 04:55 PM on Oct 17, 2024**

flowers on the occasion of Valmiki Jayanti. Several incense sticks are lit, creating a pure and blissful atmosphere. In these temples, kirtans and bhajan programmes are held. On this day, many devotees visit Lord Rama temples and recite a few verses from the Ramayana in remembrance of Maharishi Valmiki. On Valmiki Jayanti, free food is distributed to the poor and needy. On this day, doing charity is thought to be extremely rewarding. Hanuman Puja is also performed in many parts of the region. You too can perform Hanuman Puja along with the recitation of Sunderkand at the comforts of your home.

## Valmiki Jayanti Celebrations Across India

In the northern parts of India, especially among Hindu devotees, Valmiki Jayanti is celebrated with great zeal. On this day, people participate in large processions known as Shobha Yatras, in which they parade representations of a priest dressed in saffron robes, holding a plume and paper, through the streets of Valmiki territory, accompanied by reverent

**“Everyone thinks how to become a better son or daughter, mother or father, brother or sister, husband or wife, and man or woman. But no one puts actual thoughts on that they are all HUMAN and how to become a better HUMAN. What can we do to learn how to be a better humanRs ”**

**-- Arish K Sahani**

singing. Devotees offer free food and recite prayers at the sage's temples, which are decorated with flowers and lights. Members of the Balmiki sect worship Maharishi Valmiki as an avatar of God on this day and all temples dedicated to the Valmiki are honourably decorated with flowers across India. The most famous temple that is said to be 1,300 years old is located in Thiruvanniyur, Chennai. This temple holds greater significance because Valmiki rested here after finishing the Ramayana, and the temple was built later. The temple is now located on Valmiki Nagar, an East Coast road. Many devotees also use Rudraksha and wear pearls for spiritual benefits as sages used in the earlier ages for spiritual and physical benefits. It is considered an auspicious day to wear Rudraksha.

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# Varkala: The paradisiacal destination of Kerala

Varkala is a coastal town in the southern part of Kerala known for the unique 15m high 'Northern Cliff' adjacent to the Arabian Sea. It is popular for its hippie culture, shacks on the cliff serving great seafood and playing global music and the samadhi of Kerala's saint Sree Narayana Guru. Varkala is also known for Jardana Swami Temple, also known as Dakshin Kashi. Varkala has some of the best pristine beaches, hills, lakes, forts, lighthouses, natural fisheries and springs - all of this together makes this town a little paradise. You will also find a lot of shops with signboards in Hebrew selling Yoga mats, oxidised silver jewellery and harem pants made of cotton. Ayurvedic spas, affordable resorts, hostels, clean beaches make it a must-visit city of Kerala.

## Varkala Beach

Set amid a beautiful setting about 10 km away from the calm and quiet hamlet of Varkala, Varkala Beach, also known as Papanasam Beach, is a beautiful stretch of sand renowned for its solitude unlike other commercial beaches of Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Also known as the Papanasam Beach meaning 'Destroyer of Sins', is unlike any other beach in the area with impeccable beauty. The water of Varkala Beach is regarded to own medicinal and curative properties. A dip in the holy water is said to cleanse the body of impurities and all sins and thus the name Papanasam Beach meaning 'Destroyer of Sins'. The beach itself is divided into two parts, the southern area of the beach lying at the end of the road leading from Janardhana Swamy Temple regarded as sacred by Hindus. However, if you are a tourist, the north part of the beach right at the bottom of the cliff is worth going renowned for its natural mineral spring.

The sublime beauty of Varkala beach is one of a kind. The backdrop of crystal blue waters against the cliffs of Kerala is a unique one since these sedimentary formation peaks are not found anywhere in the otherwise flat coastline of Kerala. These cliffs are the venue for spas, spouts, sunbathing and relaxing swims which are quite popular among visitors and if you're lucky you might also spot a few dolphins frolicking around. Sunsets at the Varkala Beach are especially pristine and call for a serene walk along the beach. Also if you are a seafood lover, then the place is a paradise for you. The eating joints nearby offer some of the India's best moth watering and affordable food.

## Edava Beach

Untouched and unspoilt by tourist activities, the Edava beaches are the virgin stretches circling a blue lagoon where sea and backwaters run parallel divided by a more-than-one km of



straight road. There is also an estuary that connects the sea with the backwaters here.

## Thiruvambadi Beach

Lying 1 km off Thiruvambadi road, this black sand beach adjacent to the North cliff is an ideal picnic spot amidst lush coconut groves to relax and unwind.

## Anjengo Fort

Anjengo Fort, situated 12 km off Varkala at Anjengo, is believed to have been built in 17th century. Presently the fort is protected by the National Heritage monuments. The cemetery in the fort shelters the deceased occupants of the

fort. The popular Muthalapuzhi Lake is situated very close to the Fort. Autos or cabs can be taken to reach the fort.

## Sivagiri Mutt

Located at Varkala in Thiruvananthapuram district of Kerala is the one of the popular ashrams of Shri Narayana Guru, Sivagiri Mutt. This ashram celebrates Guru Deva Jayanti (in August) and the Guru Deva Samadhi (in September) every year.

Janardhana Swami Temple and Varkala Beach are some nearby attractions which one should never miss during their visit to Sivagiri Mutt. Sree Narayana Guru (1855-1928), a saint,

social reformer, philosopher and a leader of Ezhava community, made Varkala his headquarters. Sivagiri mutt, instituted by Sree Narayana Guru, is another major pilgrim centre here. The 'Sivagiri Pilgrimage' is usually conducted between 30th December and 1st January every year. Even decades after the Guru breathed his last breathe here in 1928; his Samadhi (resting place) continues to be thronged by thousands of pilgrims. The Sivagiri Mutt is also the headquarters of the Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Sangham, a religious organization established by the Guru to propagate his concept of 'One Caste, One Religion, One God'.

CONTD FROM PAGE 1

## Thousands Pay Tribute As Indian Industrialist Ratan Tata Laid To Rest In Mumbai

Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das were among those who paid tributes at the Worli crematorium and the National Centre for Performing Arts where his body was kept earlier in the day.

Maharashtra state declared a day of mourning, with a military salute accompanying the procession of his coffin to the cremation site. Ratan Tata, who passed away at the age of 86, is remembered for his philanthropic work in health, education, and animal welfare, as well as for transforming the Tata Group into a global powerhouse during his tenure as chairman from 1991 to 2012.

Under Tata's leadership, the conglomerate expanded its reach with high-profile acquisitions such as Jaguar Land Rover, Tetley Tea, and Corus Steel, positioning the company as a major player in industries from automotive to steel and telecommunications. While some ventures, like the Tata Nano car, faced challenges, Tata's visionary leadership secured the company's prominence on the world stage.

Born into a traditional Parsi family in 1937, Tata studied in the United States and joined the family business in 1962. He was mentored by JRD Tata, who saw in him the potential to lead the conglomerate. Tata's contributions to Indian business were recognized with the prestigious Padma Vibhushan in 2008. Tributes poured in following his death, with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi describing him as "a visionary business leader, a compassionate soul, and an extraordinary human being."

Tata's legacy will live on, not only through the vast business empire he shaped but also through his lasting impact on India's social and economic fabric.

## PM Modi calls for peace in Eurasia, West Asia; says solutions to problems cannot come from battlefield

He also said a free, open, inclusive, prosperous and rule-based Indo-Pacific is important for the peace and progress of the entire region.

Peace, security and stability of the South China Sea is in the interest of the entire Indo-Pacific region, he said.

"We believe that maritime activities should be conducted under the UN Convention on the Law of the Seas (UNCLOS). It is necessary to ensure freedom of navigation and air space. A strong and effective Code of Conduct should be created. And it should not curb the foreign policy of regional countries," Mr. Modi said.

"Our approach should be one of developmentalism and not expansionism," he said.

Noting that the conflicts going on in different parts of the world are having the most negative impact on the countries of the Global South, Mr. Modi said everyone wants whether it is Eurasia or West Asia, peace and stability should be restored as soon as possible.

"I come from the land of Buddha, and I have repeatedly said that this is not the era of war. Solutions to problems cannot come from the battlefield," he said.

"It is necessary to respect sovereignty, territorial integrity and international laws. Keeping a humanitarian approach, dialogue and diplomacy will have to be given priority," the prime minister asserted.

Fulfilling the responsibility of 'Vishwabandhu', India will continue to contribute in every possible way in this direction, he added.

His remarks came amidst conflicts between Ukraine and Russia in Eurasia and the Israel-Hamas war in West Asia.

"Terrorism is also a serious challenge to global peace and security. To face it, forces believing in humanity will have to work together," Mr. Modi said.

At the start of his address, he also expressed his deepest condolences to the people affected by "Typhoon Yagi", a destructive tropical cyclone which impacted

Southeast Asia and South China in September this year.

"In this difficult time, we have provided humanitarian assistance through Operation Sadbhav," Mr. Modi said.

Mr. Modi also said India has always supported ASEAN Unity and Centrality and pointed out that ASEAN is also at the center of India's Indo-Pacific vision and Quad cooperation.

"There are deep similarities between India's 'Indo-Pacific Oceans' Initiative' and 'ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific'," he said.

"We support the ASEAN approach to the situation in Myanmar. We also support the Five-point Consensus. At the same time, we believe that it is important to maintain humanitarian assistance," Mr. Modi said.

He called for appropriate steps for the restoration of democracy there.

"We believe that, for this, Myanmar should be engaged, not isolated," he said.

As a neighboring country, India will continue to fulfil its responsibility, he added.

The East Asia Summit is an important pillar of India's Act East Policy, he said. (Source: PTI)

## Democracy back on rails in J&K: Omar Abdullah to be the Chief Minister

"Talks are ongoing with the Congress party. Once the Congress provides its letter of support, the NC will approach the Raj Bhavan to formally stake its claim to form the government," Mr. Abdullah said. Representatives of the Congress, which managed to win only six of the 32 seats it contested, are likely to meet NC leaders in Srinagar on Friday, October 11. Party sources said the two parties were discussing the modalities and composition of the government "for a smooth transition". The NC received a shot in the arm as four Independent legislators, all from the Jammu region, announced their support: Pyare Lal Sharma (Inderwal), Satish Sharma (Chhamb), Choudhary Mohammed Akram (Surankote), and Rameshwar Singh (Bani). These four will add to the NC's own tally of 42 seats in the 90-member Assembly. The new government will also have the support of the Communist Party of India (Marxist)'s lone MLA Mohamad Yousaf Tarigami and the six Congress legislators.

Top NC leaders have been promising to include leaders from Jammu in the government to ensure representation from the region. The BJP swept most of the seats in the plains of Jammu, in the Samba, Kathua, and Reasi districts, winning 29 seats. In the Valley, the INDIA bloc was chosen decisively over rivals who included independents fielded by the banned Jamaat-e-Islami. A CSDS-Lokniti survey report showed that in Jammu and Kashmir, it was a vote for strengthening the democratic process, but that while statehood seems to be the main ground of convergence, party choices sharply bring to the fore the divergences between the Jammu region and Kashmir Valley.

The Hindu, in an editorial pointed out that the Chief Minister-designate's work is cut out as he embarks upon the tough path of fulfilling promises made to the electorate in the Union Territory. "The NC must now live up to this mandate but the task is not easy." But it pointed out that with the electorate ensuring that the INDIA bloc got the reins to power, it would be best if the Centre respected the mandate, accelerated the process of restoring statehood and allowed the newly elected government to fulfil its promises. (With input from The Hindu)

CONTD FROM PAGE 9

## Eric Adams Was Never the Future of the Democratic Party

On the national stage, eyeing a tight and enormously consequential race for the presidency, Democrats have spent the past year tacking to the center, stiff-arming the left and accepting much of the policy framing provided by the right - on immigration and on Israel, on cost of living and climate and energy, on permitting and



regulation, on crypto and Covid and crime. This is all predictably "strategic," in the frantic sprint of a general election campaign. But it also reflects a party reflexively comfortable in a defensive crouch, or operating in backlash mode, which you could also call Eric Adams mode.

There are other modes. The same year Adams took the mayoralty of New York, Michelle Wu was elected mayor of Boston, young at age 36 as well as the first woman and first nonwhite politician to hold the office. A protégé of Elizabeth Warren, Wu has in office embraced a local version of the Green New Deal and committed \$2 billion to carry it out in the city schools; cut parking requirements and expedited permitting for new housing development and expanded public housing, and initiated a pilot program for free public transportation. Her mayoralty hasn't been perfect or without its setbacks. But Boston's murder rate has fallen by 78 percent just this year, after last year's rate set a record low for the city. At 57 percent, her approval rating is more than twice as high as Adams's. Boston isn't exactly representative of the country, of course. But you get a very different lineup of political talent when you don't require from rising stars, first, a happy-warrior hostility for the left. A different sense of the landscape of possibility, too.

(David Wallace-Wells is an opinion writer. Source: David Wallace-Wells Newsletter/ NYT)

## ICC WOMEN'S T20 WORLD CUP

India skims past Sri Lanka to stay  
in the hunt for a last 4 berth

BY  
PRABHJOT SINGH

A strokeful unbeaten 52 off 27 balls by skipper Harmanpreet and a 98-run opening wicket partnership between Shafali Verma and Smriti Madhana helped India to defeat Sri Lanka by 82 runs for its biggest ever win the women's T20 World Cup. India's previous best win was against Bangladesh in the 2014 T20 World Cup, winning by 79 runs.

It was India's second win in three games, putting it in the number two spot in the pool behind the defending champions Australia. With this loss, Sri Lanka has gone out of contention for a place in the knockout round with three defeats in as many matches.

After suffering a humiliating loss in its opener against New Zealand, India had to record a win by a minimum of 45 runs to stay in the run for a semi-final berth from its pool. India did it by dominating its continental rivals in all departments - batting, bowling, and fielding.

"It was a total team effort. We batted well, bowled well, and fielded well. This is a great morale-boosting win for us ahead of our crucial game against the defending champions Australia," said Indian



skipper Harmanpreet Kaur who also got the Player of the Match award.

After winning the toss, India elected to bat first. The opening pair of Shafali Verma and Smriti Madhana started well maintaining a good average of six runs an over before escalating the run rate after the eighth over. Smriti, who was a little slow in the beginning opened up and smashed six and four boundaries while completing her first 50 of the tournament. She faced 38 balls and was unluckily run

out while trying to steal a single in the 13th over. On the very next ball, her partner, Shafali, who also batted well for her score of 43 made from 40 balls with four hits to the fence, departed on the next ball making India 98 for two.

This brought skipper Harmanpreet and Jemnich Rodrigues together. They continued their offensive against the Sri Lankan bowlers. Rodrigues left after contributing 16 from 10 balls. It was at this stage that skipper Harmanpreet went all

out as she smashed Sri Lankan bowlers for eight boundaries and a towering six to complete her fifty from 27 balls. Her unbeaten knock helped India to amass its biggest total of the tournament. India put up a huge challenge to Sri Lanka of scoring 173 runs for a win.

Indian bowlers were quick to strike back as Renuka Singh and S. Patel brought initial luck to the team. Except for a 34-run stand between Kavisha Dilhari (21) and Anushka Sanjeevani (20) and some lusty hitting by Ama Kanchana, the Sri Lankans could manage to each 90 before being bowled out in 19.5 overs thus giving full two points. Arundhati Reddy and Asha Sobhana were the main wreckers of the Sri Lankan innings with three wickets apiece, each conceding 19 runs in four overs each bowled by them. Renuka Singh ended with two for 16 while S. Patil (1 for 15) and Deepti Sharma (1 for 16) were the other successful bowlers for India.

*(Prabhjot Singh is a senior journalist. He writes with equal aplomb on sports and politics. He can be reached at Prabhjot416@gmail.com)*

## US Cricket targets a million players by 2028 Olympic Games

By Prabhjot Singh

Imagine one million cricket players in the US by the time Los Angeles hosts its third summer Olympic Games in 2028! This is a target the US cricket has set for itself to mark 100 days of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 legacy since the final of the mega event that the US and West Indies jointly organized early this year.

Captivating the glory of the revival of cricket in the Americas, the US cricket has initiated a strong "Playground to Podium" programme to get one million school children playing the bat and ball game in the country by the time the summer Olympic Games return to Los Angeles for the third time in the history.

The ambitious programme opens numerous avenues for budding cricket players and those who have expertise in training and coaching new inductions with basic skills of the game.

Cricket took not only the US but also Canada by storm early this year when the World's top teams, including the new champions India, Australia, England, Pakistan, New Zealand, West Indies, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, and South Africa, descended on the US soil to showcase some of the top batters, including Rohit Sharma, Jos Butler and Babar Azam, and the bowlers like Jaspreet Bumrah and Arshdeep Singh.

Till then, the Americans had New York Yankers slogger Aaron Judge as a hero batter in baseball. Now focus has started moving from baseball to cricket, especially in the younger generation of the South

Asian migrant community.

It was not only a first-time host of the mega event of the latest and shortest version of cricket, but also the stunning display of its team that shocked the likes of Pakistan in the tournament that captivated the nation.

Just as important was the impact off the field in engaging the next generation and the legacy of the competition would continue to be rolled out in the coming months and years.

In a recent Press communique, the ICC held that the Playground to Podium initiative aims to ensure one million school children are playing cricket by the time the sport returns to the Olympic programme at LA 2028, and over 4500 youngsters are already participating following various activations across the summer, showcasing the importance of this year's World Cup.

The ICC's entry-level programme, criiio has partnered with over 200 elementary, middle and high schools to target over 4000 students and educators across Men's T20 World Cup host locations, Dallas, New York, and Florida. Schools have incorporated criiio into their Physical Education sessions, fostering a new generation of cricket enthusiasts and integrating the sport into the youth's sporting experience. Criiio cricket festivals have also been delivered throughout summer camps in Dallas and Florida, giving a fun, first experience to more than 500 youngsters, including participants working on their throwing, catching and ball striking skills.

Upskilling teachers to provide essential

knowledge and skills to introduce and sustain cricket activities within their schools has been identified as a key area of legacy in the USA. Over 260 teachers participated in ICC criiio teacher training days where they were equipped with a comprehensive criiio curriculum and toolkits, ensuring effective delivery of cricket sessions.

The development of coaches and umpires is important to the sustainability of the game and the introduction of ICC Training and Education programmes, resulting in an increase in over 100 qualified coaches and umpires through various Level 1 and Tutor Level certification programmes.

There has also been a focus on supporting an equipment drive by DP World where cricket kits have been delivered to hundreds of aspiring cricketers, resulting in breaking down barriers to participation and ensuring all children have access to the sport.

The World Cup has also boosted the sport further across the Americas region with a series of High-Performance and Development workshops attended by representatives from the USA, Bermuda, Mexico, Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, and Belize. The workshops focused on key topics like high-performance ecosystems, talent identification, and team culture. Workshops were conducted by ex-cricketers Lisa Sthalekar and Robin Singh.

ICC General Manager, Development, William Glenwright said: "The success of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup legacy

project in the first 100 days has exceeded our expectations, as we continue to use the event as a catalyst to deliver transformative growth in the USA - with our eyes now firmly on maintaining this momentum in partnership with USA Cricket as we head towards cricket's Olympic return at LA 2028.

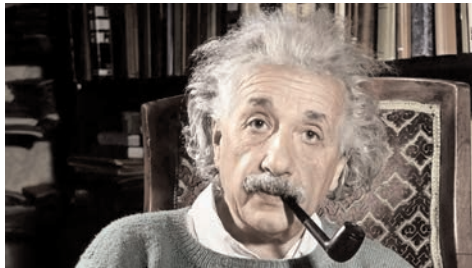
"The launch of the criiio programme in the USA has got off to a strong start with cricket rolled out in over 200 schools with more than 260 teachers trained and over 4,000 students participating in cricket for the first time. Further online and face-to-face training is being delivered to 1,700 additional teachers between now and the end of the year. Together with the hosting of various coach and umpire education courses, our focus on cricket in schools is not only introducing thousands of new kids in the USA to cricket but also improving the playing experience by enhancing the standard of coaching and umpiring in the USA and the wider Americas Region.

"We are excited to see how this progresses in collaboration with USA Cricket in making our game more accessible and encouraging more people to pick up a bat and ball and enjoy the game of cricket."

The ambitious programme of a million cricket players also offers numerous opportunities for those who can impart training to budding players. The programme would boost the Indian sports goods industry by supplying cricket playing equipment to the Americas.

# History This Week OCT 11 - OCT 17

## OCTOBER 11



October 11, 1939 - Albert Einstein warned President Franklin D. Roosevelt that his theories could lead to Nazi Germany's development of an atomic bomb. Einstein suggested the U.S. develop its own bomb. This resulted in the top secret "Manhattan Project."

October 11, 1962 - The Second Vatican Council was opened in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome by Pope John XXIII. Sessions were held in four successive autumns from 1962-65. Vatican II resulted in sweeping changes to the Catholic Church including the use of English and local native languages in the Mass instead of Latin, and openness and cooperation with other religions and denominations.

October 11, 1976 - The "Gang of Four," including the widow of Mao Zedong, was arrested in China, charged with plotting a coup. They were subsequently tried and convicted of various crimes against the state.

Birthday - Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962) was born in New York City. She was the wife of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd U.S. President. As First Lady, she led an unprecedented independent life, striving to improve the lives of people all over the world. In 1933, she became the first wife of a president to give her own news conference in the White House. She traveled extensively on her own and was affectionately called "First Lady of the world." She served as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations for many years and helped write the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

## OCTOBER 12

October 12, 1960 - During a debate over colonialism in the United Nations, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev took off his shoe and pounded his desk repeatedly.



Birthday - British composer and conductor Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) was born in Down Ampney, Gloucestershire, England. He combined modern composition techniques with traditional English folk and Tudor music to create a uniquely British style. His major compositions include; Mass in G Minor, Fantasia on a Theme of Tallis and the opera The Pilgrim's Progress. He also composed nine symphonies, church and choral music, film and stage music and several operas.

## OCTOBER 13

October 13, 1943 - Italy declared war on its former Axis partner Germany after the downfall of Mussolini and collapse of his Fascist government.

October 13, 1990 - The first Russian Orthodox service in over 70 years was held in St. Basil's Cathedral, next to the Kremlin, in Red Square, Moscow.



Birthday - Molly Pitcher (1754-1832) was born near Trenton, New Jersey (as Mary Ludwig). She was a water carrier at the Battle of Monmouth in 1778 during the American Revolution. After her husband, artilleryman John Hays, collapsed, she took his place at his cannon.

## OCTOBER 14



October 14, 1912 - Former President Theodore Roosevelt was shot by a fanatic while campaigning in Milwaukee. Roosevelt was saved by his thick overcoat, a glasses case and a folded speech in his breast pocket, all of which slowed the bullet. Although wounded, he insisted on making the speech with the bullet lodged in his chest and did not go to the hospital until the meeting ended. Roosevelt, a rugged outdoorsman, fully recovered in two weeks.

October 14, 1933 - Nazi Germany announced its withdrawal from the League of Nations and stated it would take no further part in the Geneva Disarmament Conference.

October 14, 1947 - U.S. Air Force Captain Chuck Yeager became the first man to break the sound barrier, flying in a rocket-powered research aircraft.

October 14, 1964 - Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., became the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. He donated the \$54,000 in prize money to the Civil Rights movement.

Birthday - Pennsylvania founder William Penn (1644-1718) was born in London. In 1681, he received a Royal charter with a large land grant in America from King Charles II. Penn, a Quaker, welcomed members of all religious faiths and established a democratic form of government in his province which measured over 50,000 square miles.

Birthday - Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969) the 34th U.S. President was born in Denison, Texas. He served two terms as President, from January 20, 1953 to January 20, 1961. Nicknamed "Ike," he was a West Point graduate and career Army officer who became Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe during World War II. He held the rank of Five-star General of the Army.

## OCTOBER 15

October 15, 1917 - World War I spy Mata Hari was executed by a French firing squad at Vincennes Barracks, outside Paris.



October 15, 1945 - Pierre Laval, the former premier of Vichy France, was executed for collaborating with Nazi Germany during World War II.

October 15, 1946 - Nazi leader Hermann Goering committed suicide by swallowing poison in his Nuremberg prison cell just hours before his scheduled hanging for war crimes.

October 15, 1964 - Soviet Russia's leader Nikita Khrushchev was deposed as First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, and replaced by Leonid Brezhnev.

October 15, 1991 - The U.S. Senate confirmed Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court by a 52-48 vote following several days of tumultuous hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee concerning sexual harassment charges made by a former aide. Thomas became the second African American to sit on the Court, replacing retired Justice Thurgood Marshall, an African American.

Birthday - German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche (1844-1900) was born in the Province of Saxony. Best known for stating, "God is dead," and for his prediction in the late 1800s, "There will be wars such as there have never been on Earth before." He eventually succumbed to mental illness.

## OCTOBER 16

October 16, 1916 - The first birth control clinic in America was opened in Brooklyn, New York, by Margaret Sanger, a nurse who worked among the poor on the Lower East Side of New York City.

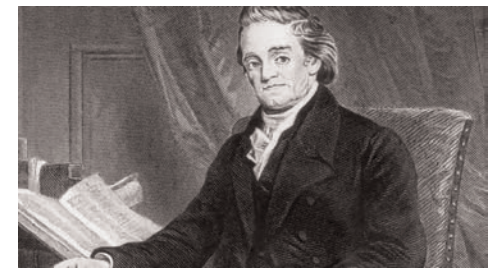
October 16, 1946 - Ten former Nazi leaders were hanged by the Allies following their conviction for war crimes at Nuremberg, Germany.

October 16, 1964 - China detonated its first nuclear bomb at the Lop Nor test site in Sinkiang.

October 16, 1978 - Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Poland was elected Pope. He was the first non-Italian Pope chosen in 456 years and took the name John Paul II.

October 16, 1995 - The Million Man

March took place in Washington, D.C., under the direction of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, who delivered the main address to the gathering of African American males.



Birthday - American teacher and journalist Noah Webster (1758-1843) was born in West Hartford, Connecticut. His name became synonymous with "dictionary" after he compiled the first American dictionaries of the English language.

Birthday - Irish poet and playwright Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) was born in Dublin, Ireland. Best known for his comedies including; The Importance of Being Earnest. And his novel The Picture of Dorian Gray in which he wrote, "There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about and that is not being talked about."

Birthday - American playwright Eugene O'Neill (1888-1953) was born in New York City. He wrote more than 35 plays and was the first American dramatist awarded a Nobel Prize for literature. He also received four Pulitzers. His dramas, which dealt realistically with psychological and social problems, included; Beyond the Horizon, The Iceman Cometh, The Emperor Jones and Long Day's Journey into Night.

Birthday - American jurist William O. Douglas (1898-1980) was born in Maine, Minnesota. He served as an associate justice on the Supreme Court for 36 years and was also a world traveler, conservationist, outdoorsman and author.

## OCTOBER 17

October 17-25, 1944 - The Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest naval battle in history, took place off the Philippine Islands, during World War II in the Pacific. The battle involved 216 U.S. warships and 64 Japanese ships and resulted in the destruction of the Japanese Navy including the Japanese Battleship Musashi, one of the largest ever built.



Birthday - Pope John Paul I (1912-1978) was born in Forno di Canale, Italy (as Albino Luciani). He was elected the 263rd Pope of the Roman Catholic Church on September 28, 1978, but died in Rome just 34 days later.

# 22 Slams later, Rafa, who never gave up, bids adieu



Months before the world was introduced to Rafael Nadal the professional tennis player, Rafael Nadal the fighter was already on show. Wimbledon champion Pat Cash was to play Boris Becker for an exhibition match in the Spanish island of Mallorca in 2001. Becker had to withdraw, and a 14-year-old local player was summoned as a last-minute scramble.

Let's not bulldoze the kid, Cash thought. The kid beat the 36-year-old Aussie.

The only way Nadal knew to play tennis — no matter as a 14-year-old turning up for an exhibition — was to fight for every point, sprint from side to side, hustle from the baseline to the net and back. The only way Nadal knew to play tennis was to not give up at any point and for any point — not at 40-0 in the first game of the first set, not at 0-40 in the last game of the final set; not as a rising teen taking his first steps to greatness, not as a greying great well into his late-thirties.

But on Thursday, October 10, at age 38, Nadal, one of the greatest players to have graced the sport, decided that he no longer has it in him to play professional tennis.

In a video message posted on his social media, the Spaniard announced that he will retire after turning up one last time for his country at the Davis Cup Finals next month.

Yes, the King of Clay has called it a day, after all. The raging bull has decided to halt.

"It's obviously a difficult decision, which has taken me a long time to make," Nadal said in the video, speaking in Spanish. "I think it's the appropriate time to put an end to what has been a long and much more successful career than I could have ever imagined."

Playing a physically brutal style that made many wonder about his sustainability, Nadal will sign off with 22 Grand Slams, second only to Novak Djokovic's 24, in the all-time list. He pocketed 92 ATP titles, spent 209 weeks as the world No.1, and is a two-time Olympic gold medallist. His record 14 French Open titles are certain to stand the test of time, and a 112-4 win-loss record on the clay courts of Roland Garros a jaw-dropping testament to his unmatched superiority on a surface that is most demanding on the body.

It's almost fitting that his last Grand Slam triumph would be at the French Open in 2022, yet perhaps not that his final French Open outing would be a first-round defeat (to Alexander Zverev this year). Nadal's recent physical troubles, though, overpowered his seemingly undying mental resolve to play on. Hampered by multiple injuries over the last couple of years, he spent a large part of his time away from the sport — Nadal competed in only seven tournaments this year — and admitted last year that 2024 could possibly be his final sighting on the tour.

## RAFAEL NADAL: TIMELINE OF A LEGENDARY TENNIS CAREER

It's inevitable, a crude truth of life. All good things come to an end, as has the highly entertaining tennis career of Rafael Nadal. The Spaniard on Thursday announced he will retire after the end of Davis Cup finals in November and thus draw curtains on a career that brought him 22 Grand Slam titles, global stardom, epic rivalries with Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic, some painful injuries and a treasure trove of memories he can fondly look back on.

Here's a look at Nadal's storied career

- 2002: At 15 years and 10 months old, Nadal recorded his first ATP match win in hometown of Mallorca.
- 2003: Reached third round in Wimbledon debut at 17, youngest man to get that far at the All England Club since Boris Becker was 16 in 1984.
- 2004: Beat then-No. 1 Roger Federer in Miami. Won first ATP title in Sopot, Poland, on clay. Defeated Andy Roddick to help Spain top the United States and win the Davis Cup.
- 2005: Won title in French Open debut; 11 trophies for the year were most in a season for a teenager in ATP history. Moved into top 10 in April; remained there until 2023. Finished the year ranked No. 2.
- 2006: Earned second French Open title, beating Federer in the final, before losing rematch in Wimbledon final. Stretched clay winning streak to record 62 matches.
- 2007: Third consecutive French Open title came via another victory over Federer — and, once more, Federer beat him in the Wimbledon final. Clay winning streak reached 81 matches before loss to Federer at Hamburg, Germany.
- 2008: Topped Federer in Roland Garros final for fourth straight trophy there; first man since Bjorn Borg in 1978-81 with that long a streak in Paris — and first since Borg to win the title without dropping a set. Met Federer in the final at the All England Club, but this time won 9-7 in the fifth set in fading light. Won Beijing Olympics gold; reached Australian Open and U.S. Open semifinals. Ended the year ranked No. 1. Dealt with tendinitis in right knee.
- 2009: Won first Australian Open title, defeating Federer in a five-set final, after edging Fernando Verdasco in a five-set semifinal. His 31-match unbeaten run at the French Open ended with a fourth-round loss to Robin Soderling. Nadal was troubled by knee tendinitis and sat out Wimbledon. Dealing with an abdominal issue, reached the U.S. Open semifinals before losing to champion Juan Martin del Potro.
- 2010: Stopped during Australian Open quarterfinal because of an injured right knee, but returned to top form at the French Open: He won his fifth title in Paris and didn't drop a set, beating Soderling in the final. Won Wimbledon for the second time, then completed career Grand Slam by beating Novak Djokovic in the U.S. Open final. Finished the year ranked No. 1.
- 2011: Hurt left leg muscle at the Australian Open, but was fine by the French Open and tied Borg's career mark for men with a sixth championship, beating Federer in the final. Nadal lost seven of 10 finals that season, with six of those setbacks against Djokovic, including at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.
- 2012: Beat Djokovic for seventh French Open title. At Wimbledon, lost to Lukas Rosol in the second round while hampered by a left knee problem that kept him out for the rest of the season.
- 2013: After seven months off the tour because of his left knee and a stomach virus, put together a 10-title season that put him back at No. 1. Won eighth French Open and second U.S. Open, raising Grand Slam total to 13
- 2014: Pulled even with Sampras by adding French Open title No. 9, beating Djokovic in the final. Lost to 144th-ranked Nick Kyrgios in the fourth round at Wimbledon, then missed three months with a bad right wrist. After returning, sat out two events because of an appendicitis.
- 2015: Lost to Djokovic in French Open quarterfinals; bowed out at that stage or earlier at other three majors, ending 10-year run with at least one Grand Slam trophy.
- 2017: After losing Australian Open final in five sets to Federer, returned to dominance at the French Open, dropping 35 games through seven matches en route to his 10th title, beating Stan Wawrinka in the final. Added third U.S. Open trophy — his 16th major moved him within one of Federer — and finished at No. 1 in the rankings for the fourth time.
- 2018: Won 11th championship at Roland Garros. Stopped playing two Grand Slam matches elsewhere because of injuries and skipped other tournaments with knee, hip and abdomen issues.
- 2019: French Open title No. 12 and U.S. Open title No. 4 arrived, as did a return to No. 1 at age 33. Lost to Djokovic in the Australian Open final, to Federer in the Wimbledon semifinals. Was troubled by thigh, knee, left hand and abdominal problems at various points.
- 2020: Pulled even with Federer with 20 Slam trophies with a 13th title at the French Open, defeating Djokovic in the final. Won multiple titles in a season for 16th consecutive year.
- 2022: Moved into sole possession of the record for most Grand Slam singles titles, one ahead of Federer, by claiming No. 21 at the Australian Open, coming back to beat Daniil Medvedev after dropping the first two sets. Got No. 22 at the French Open, where he overcame what he said was debilitating pain in his left foot to lift the trophy for the 14th time by beating Casper Ruud in the final.
- 2024: Finally makes his on-court return at the Brisbane International where he didn't make it past the quarters. Sustained another injury during the competition which forced him to miss the Australian Open. He recovered in time for the French Open but made his first ever opening round exit at the year's second Grand Slam tournament. He skipped the Wimbledon before flying to Paris for the Olympics where he lost in the second round of men's singles. He teamed up with Carlos Alcaraz for the men's doubles event too and ended his Olympic career with a quarterfinal exit.



PURNIMAJI HONORING VOCALIST SUPRIYO DUTTA WITH AMIT CHATTERJEE, DR. BIJOY MEHTA, ANIRBAN CHAKRABARTY ON STAGE



CERTIFICATES PRESENTED ON STAGE TO STEVE GORN, ANUBRATA CHATTERJEE & VINAY DESAI. GUESTS ON STAGE DIVYESH TRIPATHI, BHAVESH PATEL, NEELA PANDYA WITH PURNIMAJI



CHANDRIKA & LAKSHMI KURUP'S DANCERS- FOLK & CLASSICAL DANCE TROUPE



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION PRESENTED BY PURNIMA A. DESAI TO TABLA PLAYER AMIT CHATTERJEE WITH INDRAJIT SALUJA AND JYOTI GUPTA



Purnima A. Desai - FOUNDER/PRESIDENT



ARCHANA JOGLEKAR KATHAK DANCE GURU



ARCHANA JOGLEKAR'S KATHAK DISCIPLES IN PART III



AMIT CHATTERJEE, HINDOLE MAJUMDAR, NEELA PANDYA, VIRENDRA BANKER, PURNIMA A. DESAI, ANJAN SAHA, DEVENDRA VORA, SUHAG MEHTA, PHIL SCARF & INDRO ROY CHOWDURY



AMIT CHATERJEE ON TABLA ROSY DUTTA ON VOCALS ANIRBAN CHAKRABARTY ON HARMONIUM



SANJIB BHATTACHARYA'S MANIPURI YOUTH DANCE GROUP



HINDOLE MAJUMDAR ON TABLA ACCOMPANYING RUPAK KULKARNI ON FLUTE



RUPAK KULKARNI ON FLUTE



PANDIT RAMESH NARAYAN ON SWAR MANDAL WTH DAUGHTER MADHUSHREE, ADITYA NARAYAN BANERJEE ON TABLA & ANIRBAN CHAKRABARTY ON HARMONIUM



ARCHANA JOGLEKAR & ALL DISCIPLES ON STAGE AFTER PERFORMANCE



PROFESSOR INDRAJIT SALUJA PUTS SHAWL ON VOCALIST ROSY DUTTA WITH ALL PRESENT ON STAGE



Purnima A. Desai & Jyoti Gupta on mike presenting Certificate of Recognition from Town Clerk of N. Hempstead County of Nassau- State of New York Hon. Ragini Srivastava to harmonium player Anirban Chakraborty. Also on occasion of Sangeet Mahotsav 2024 certificates of recognition were presented to flutist Rupak Kulkarni, table player Amit Chatterjee, sitar player Anjan Saha, flutist Steve Gorn, vocalist Madhushree Narayan, & last but not least Founder/President Purnima A. Desai.



CHANDRIKA & LAKSHMI KURUP'S DANCE TROUPE- MOHINIYATTAM

AMIT CHATTERJEE ON TABLA BISHNUPRIYA CHAKRABARTY ON VOCAL & ANIRBAN CHAKRABORTY ON HARMONIUM



FOLK DANCE BY CHANDRIKA & LAKSHMI KURUP'S TROUPE

AMIT CHATTERJEE ON TABLA, APRATIM MAJUDAR ON SAROD& SHOUVIK MUKHERJEE ON SITAR



PURNIMA A. DESAI FOUNDER/ PRESIDENT SRINIKETAN FOUNDATION



(Top From Left to right) Narender M. Kapoor, Jyoti Gupta, Amit Chatterjee, Indrajit Saluja, Purnima A. Desai, Mathy Pillai, Rosy Dutta, Basanti Mitra





Indro Roy Chowdhury, Phil Scarf, Anjan Saha, Amit Chatterjee



Mukund Mehta, Devendra Vora, Padma Mehta, Purnima A. Desai, with Narendra Kapoor & Anand Marg Swamiji



KABERI SEN ODISSI DANCER



RUPAK KULKARNI ON FLUTE



PURNIMA A. DESAI WITH MATHY PILLAI SINGING BOTH AMERICAN & INDIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM



PURNIMA DESAI PRESENTS ANJAN SAHA WITH CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FROM RAGINI SRIVASTAVA



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