

# INDIA WEST

Vol. I, No.06 • October 14, 2022

JOURNAL

www.indiawest.com

## SLEW OF CRIME HITS COMMUNITY

### Merced Family Slain For Money



MERCED, CA (IANS) - "American dream gone wrong", said the family of the Indian American Sikh family of four, including an eight-month-old infant, who were murdered here. Their immigrant dream ended when eight-month-old Aroohi Dheri, her parents Jasleen Kaur, 27, and Jasdeep Singh, 36, and her uncle Aman-

Contd. on P14

### Traumatized Woman Sues Racial Abuser



#### India-West News Desk

PLANO, TX - "I hate you fucking Indians," Esmeralda Upton yelled at Bipisha Rudra and her three friends. "If things are so great in your country, then stay there," and then physically attacked them in her rage. The Indian American women

Contd. on P14

### Man Targets Bay Area Hindu Women



#### India-West News Desk

PALO ALTO, CA - A California man with a rap sheet has been charged with hate crime and robbery after he attacked and robbed 14 South Asian women, mostly wearing sarees and bindis, the Santa Clara County District Attorney's office said. Lathan Johnson,

Contd. on P16

### Purdue Student Killed by Roommate

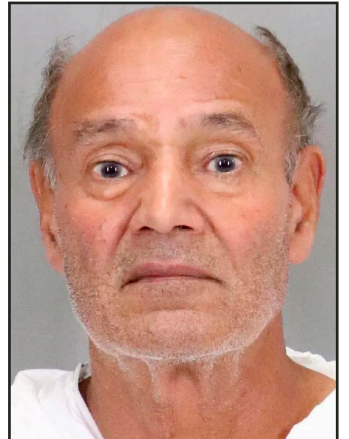


#### India-West News Desk

PURDUE, IN - As students gathered on the campus of Purdue University here, to hold a candlelight vigil in the memory of slain Indian American student Varun Manish Chheda, on October 5, his friends, shocked and shattered, remembered him as a "good and humble person".

Contd. on P16

### Fresno Man Kills Daughter-in-Law



FRESNO, CA (IANS) - A 74-year-old man has been arrested here, for fatally shooting his daughter-in-law last week at a parking lot of a Walmart in San Jose where she worked. Sital Singh Dosanjh killed Gurpreet Kaur Dosanjh "possibly out of anger over her plans to divorce his son", the East Bay Times reported

Contd. on P16

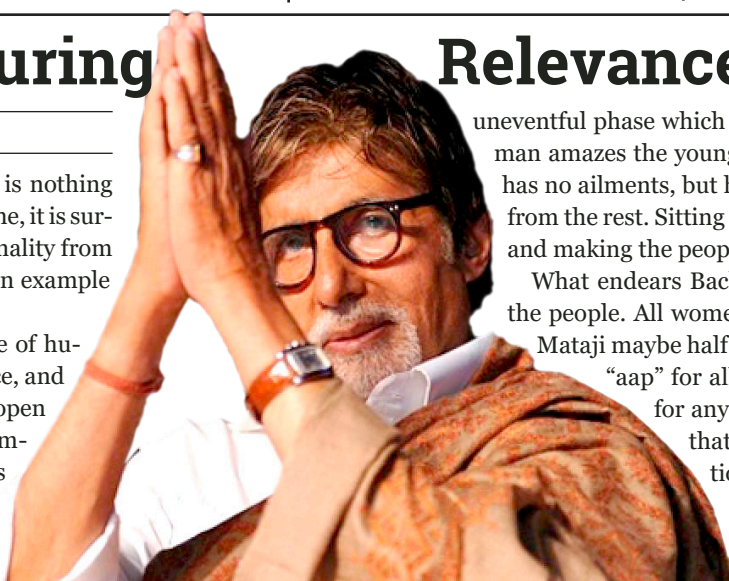
## At 80, The Enduring Relevance of Amitabh Bachchan

By DEEPIKA BHAN

MUMBAI - Copying film actors and stars is nothing new, but when parents tell you to learn from one, it is surprising. Rarely does one come across a personality from the film industry whom families present as an example to youngsters. Amitabh Bachchan does.

Big B, for millions in India, is the epitome of humanity, simplicity and is full of grace, patience, and above all even while being rooted to culture open to change. This is best manifested by the immense popularity of his KBC show. He pulls the audience in with his modesty, both in words and deeds.

At an age when most retire to a quiet and



uneventful phase which is mostly spent in and out of hospitals and doctor's advice, this tall man amazes the young and old with his energy, dedication, and passion. It is not that he has no ailments, but his strength and never-diminishing will to do is what sets him apart from the rest. Sitting in the KBC chair, he is a friend to all contestants, humbly treating all and making the people around him feel that they are king-like.

What endears Bachchan to all, especially the middle class is the way he approaches the people. All women are addressed as Devis and their mothers Mataji, no matter the Mataji maybe half his age. Similarly with men, who are 'sajano (gentlemen)'. He uses "aap" for all even though the person may be like his grandson, it is never "tu" for anyone. It is "aabhar (thankful)", "abhinandan (greetings)", etc. words that parents and elders want the children to learn. Whenever he mentions his parents, there is a kind of reverence that his expressions and words manifest. This is something which touches the people's hearts making them feel that he is real and not just a makeup-laden ac-

Contd. on P38

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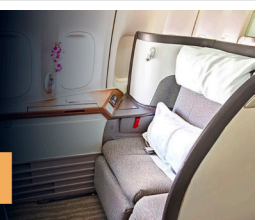
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## On The Record:

# Saving Water and Building a More Resilient Future

By Governor GAVIN NEWSOM

California's climate has changed. We are experiencing more extreme weather – hotter temperatures, longer and more severe droughts, worsening wildfires and dangerous flash flooding. We're seeing this not just in California, but across the entire American West.

These changes mean we must continue adapting to a hotter, drier future. Without action, state officials believe extreme weather could diminish California's water supply by up to 10 percent by 2040.

The state has implemented unprecedented measures to cut water use, build storage capacity and increase supply. And it's also up to all of us to keep doing our part to curb our water use.

California is investing billions of dollars into concrete actions that will secure the future of our state's water supply. These key actions are part of a comprehensive water resilience plan, "California's Water Supply Strategy, adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future," which my administration released in August to highlight how we can stretch existing supplies and develop new sources to replace the water we will lose in this new era of warming temperatures.

The plan outlines our aggressive, science-led approach to addressing California's



water future by reimagining the way we source, store, and deliver water statewide for future generations. To match the pace of climate change, we know we must move smarter and faster – and we're doing that.

Californians have repeatedly answered the call to use less water in past droughts. As the state prepares for the possibility of a fourth dry year and potential weather extremes, it's more important than ever that all of us adopt water conservation as a way of life. For many homeowners, most water use, and waste happens in our yards – in some areas, up to 75 percent of residential water use comes from sprinklers and other

outdoor irrigation.

The good news is there are simple actions we can take right now to help save water in a big way. Simply watering your lawn less and fixing leaks inside and outside the house can save thousands of gallons of water each year.

If you're ready to make bigger changes outside, updating yards with native landscaping that includes water-wise plants and hardscaping elements, like pavers, granite, or bark, can create year-round outdoor living spaces that eliminate the need to weed, mow and water regularly.

The state is working closely with local

water agencies and other partners to ensure that Californians have access to the resources you need to help. Check with your local water agency for rebates to help cover some of these costs and to find out about community resources that can help you replace grass with water-smart landscaping that you, your family, and your pets can all enjoy.

Californians know how to meet the moment, and together, we can create necessary change for a water-smart future. The recently enacted state budget includes \$3.6 billion over four years for immediate drought support and long-term water resilience. Including allocations in the 2021 state budget, a total of \$8.7 billion has been dedicated to support drought resilience and response. This includes \$175 million for lawn replacement and other water conservation strategies.

By making saving water a way of life, we can adapt and thrive. And if we each do our part, we can make our water last for generations to come. Together we can save water and save California.

*(Gavin Newsom is the Governor of California, formerly Lieutenant Governor of California and Mayor of San Francisco. His "On the Record" column covers timely public policy issues impacting Californians across the state and is available to media outlets through the Governor's website and in multiple languages at Ethnic Media Services.)*

## LETTERS

### Gen. Z Protest Against Their Geriatric Male Leaders

A local Iranian activist is urging millions of female Iranians and women throughout the Muslim world to oppose the compulsory hijab laws following the murder of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurd by the "morality police," - gangs of males who terrify, vulnerable women, beating them if they fail to follow ancient, archaic dress codes, the hijab or full 'head to toe' burkas.

Masih Alinejad opposed "the hijab-burka" as a gross symbol of oppression, an attempt to make women invisible."

Kudos to the courageous Iranian men and women, including the large Iranian diaspora who denounced Iranian leaders who continue to subject women to such cruelty. Even Iranian soccer superstars acted in solidarity with the protestors, several sacrificing their professional careers by urging FIFA to ban Iran from the World

Cup. Afghan women demonstrated in the streets in support of their Iranian sisters.

Let us hope the courageous efforts by Iranian women will not be in vain. It is a pity Iran's earlier efforts creating a functioning democracy were torpedoed by a UK-US orchestrated coup and the imposition of the UK-US tyrant, the Shah of Iran in 1953 in a blatant theft of its oil. President Biden's economic sanctions have only intensified the economic hardships of ordinary Iranians. The nuclear accord which the Trump administration arbitrarily revoked, in complete violation of Article 54 of the UN Convention on international treaties, should be immediately resurrected and the crippling economic sanctions lifted. Iranians should not be punished for Donald Trump's capricious actions. Finally, God did not create women to be subservient to men. Women must be accorded the same rights as men to function as equal members of society. They are a huge untapped resource.

- Jagjit Singh, Los Altos, CA

### Returning The Crown Jewels

With the death of Queen Elizabeth II after a 70-year reign, many believe this is the time for change. Some are seeking an end to the monarchy, while others have their sights on something more tangible: the crown jewels. There are many who see these priceless artifacts as symbols of an imperialist past and believe they should be returned to their places of origin, including South Africa and India. The crown jewels are made up of more than 100 objects and over 23,000 gemstones, acquired over centuries by kings and queens. The crown is used just for crowning during a coronation. This crown dates to 1661, with a solid gold frame that weighs almost 5 pounds.

The Imperial State Crown is worn by the monarch during state occasions, making it much more visible. It sparkles thanks to its 2,868 diamonds, 269 pearls, 17 sapphires, 11 emeralds, and four rubies. Some of these jewels are famous, like the Cullinan II Diamond, Stuart Sapphire, and Black Prince's Ruby, which is actu-

ally a semi-precious stone called a balas. The Cullinan II Diamond is 317.4 carats, and the second-largest stone cut from the 3,106-carat Cullinan Diamond.

Some of the jewels were gifts. The uncut Cullinan Diamond was presented to King Edward VII on his 66th birthday by the Transvaal government, which was under British rule. The Cullinan I, or the Great Star of Africa, was cut from the Cullinan Diamond and is mounted on the top of the Sovereign's Scepter. Because the diamond was given to Edward VII by colonial authorities, many South Africans demand reparations for all the harm done by Britain and the return of all the gold, and diamonds stolen by Britain. Today, the Kohinoor is the biggest jewel on the Queen Mother's Crown and remains one of the world's largest cut diamonds.

The diamond has a history of being part of war booty or trophies taken as the result of war in South Asia. So, in a lot of ways, it is a symbol of plunder and represents the long history of plunder imperialism.

- Girish Modi, Decatur, GA

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Publisher  
**Navneet Chugh**

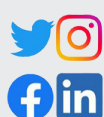
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# Community Peace Rally Shines Light on Need for Non-Violence



Organizers and volunteers were recognized and honored.



Engaged and interested members of the community gathered to point out the need for world peace in an increasingly conflict ridden world.

By KEWAL KANDA

NORWALK, CA – The Indian American community along with the Cerritos College Foundation and other local associations marked the International Day of Non-Violence on October 1 with a peace rally and speeches that exhorted eschewing violence in favor of dialog.

The event began with a Peace Parade at the Cerritos College campus with participants crying out slogans like, “What we need – Peace” “When we need it – Now” and humming “Raghu Pati Raghav Raja Ram.” The 30-minute-long parade saw the participation of members of all faiths, college students, as well as members of the Cerritos College Foundation.

The rally culminated at the ‘Peace Center of Los Angeles’ established in the college here by the foundation with a partial endowment from the Indian community. Ila Mehta is Chair and Ashok Madan Co-chair of the board. The peace event, chaired by Vijay Patil, founder president of Shivaji Maharaj American Parivar (SMAP) began in the theater with soothing instrumental music and was followed by cultural presentations. A slew of speeches were given by Dr. Mohammed Yakub ( Indian Muslim Association); Sylvester Ani (Director of ‘The Love We Don’t See’); Jason Barquero, Martha Pelayo, and Nazih Yehya, all of the Cerritos College Foundation; Yogi Patel and Parimal Shah Committee Members of the Peace Center. Nitish Patel, Ali Sajjad Taj, and Naresh Solanki council members from the cities of La Palma, Artesia and Cerritos handed over certificates of appreciation to the organizers.



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# Sardar Patel Assoc Awards Two Scholars, Honors Philanthropists Navin and Pratima Doshi



Navin and Pratima Doshi were recognized for their support and contributions to education & various other organizations.



The cultural entertainment was provided by the team of Reena Mehta from the Leela Academy of Arts



FSPA Pres. Hark Vasa with award winners Ahona Panda and Sahana Ghosh and Anna Morcom, Dir. UCLA Center for India & South Asia.

## India-West Staff Reporter

LOS ANGELES, CA – The Friends of Sardar Patel Association (FSPA), on October 1, held a glittering ceremony at the University of California, Los Angeles campus awarding two researchers the \$10,000 annual prize.

Interrupted by the pandemic, the organization nevertheless, recognized Sahana Ghosh as the winner of the 2019 Sardar Patel Dissertation Award for 'Borderland orders: Gendered economies of mobility and security across the India-Bangladesh border,' which she completed at Yale University in May 2018. She is now an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the National University of Singapore.

The winner for 2020 was Ahona Panda for her dissertation entitled 'Philology and the Politics of Language: The Case of Bengali, 1893-1955', completed at the University of Chicago in August 2019. She is now Assistant Professor of History at Claremont McKenna College.

FSPA, at the event, also felicitated Navin and Pratima Doshi for their multi-million dollar donations to various educational institutions over the years.

As UCLA Sardar Patel Award endowment embarks on its 23rd year of existence, founding charter member and current President of FSPA Harkishan Vasa delved into its history. The endowment is unique, he said, in that FSPA is a private non-profit entity but the "active private right hand of

the UCLA Sardar Patel Award endowment in assisting UCLA to ensure the continued success of the endowment." The original intent of the award continues to draw the best minds to study India and its place and impact on the world.

Vasa also paid tribute and remembered the late FSPA supporters Anil Mehta, Uka Solanki, Shyamal Leonard, Prof Damodar SarDesai, Lalchand Gaglani and Naresh Patel. The evening's honorees, the Doshis, the 125 strong audience was informed, are also founding members and major donors of FSPA. A list of the plethora of donations they have made was announced which includes UCLA, Loyola Marymount University, and the Indian Institute of Technology, among others. Their most

recent donation is a \$5 million building to the Maharishi International University for the establishment of the Navin and Pratima Doshi Center for Integrative Medicine in West Los Angeles, CA.

A video on the life of the Doshis was presented along with a poem 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram' written by Navin Doshi and performed and presented by musician Vijay Bhatt. Several members of the community spoke and lauded the contributions made by the Doshi family. Doshi graciously acknowledged everyone for their words and support over the years. The audience was treated to a vegetarian dinner and entertained with Kathak performances by Rina Mehta's team from the Leela Academy of Arts.

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# Raj Kahlon Agriculture Complex Opens in Merced College



Raj Kahlon, in his aim to support agriculture in the region, has given \$5 million to Merced College. Seen here with Indian Consul General Dr. T.V. Nagendra Prasad.



An invited crowd of researchers, agriculturists and academicians attended the official opening ceremony.

College is the foundation of the Merced community," Kahlon said. "They've had strong ties to local agriculture since the school opened and continue to educate the area's future agriculturists and leaders. It is the reason I entered this partnership. Helping to grow the workforce of Merced County is important to everyone. I want to be a part of that growth."

The partnership agreement, between Kahlon and the Merced College

Foundation will include developing approximately 100-acres of pistachios, which will generate additional funds for the College as well as provide an agricultural land lab for students to learn production and harvesting practices, the college said.

College President Chris Vitelli expressing his gratitude to Kahlon said, "Throughout this process, Raj has expressed his desire to give back to the community who has given him so much. I couldn't be more appreciative of his incredible generosity and the long-term impact of this donation."

who are equipped to use that technology," Kahlon said. "Merced College plays an integral role in educating and preparing our workforce, and this new building will help ensure a successful future for local students and our entire region."

Raj Kahlon has quietly become a pillar in the Merced community, the college said.

The owner of RHM Farms has steadily grown his family business and reputation over the last 20 years. During that time, Kahlon has earned praise from his peers for his business savvy and integrity. Generosity can be added to his list of attributes, it said.

Khalon has thrived as a pistachio and almond farmer. "I believe that Merced

## India-West News Desk

MERCED, CA - Merced College on September 15 formally inaugurated the 29,000-square-foot Raj Kahlon Agriculture and Industrial Technology Complex, here. The \$25-million complex will house several academic programs, the college said, allowing them to train students for jobs in agriculture, industrial technology, and other related workforce programs.

Among those who attended the event

were California Attorney General Rob Bonta, Assemblymember Adam Gray and Dr. T.V. Nagendra Prasad, Consul General of India.

Indian American farmer Raj Kahlon, after whom the complex is named, has committed \$5 million to support the programs within the complex—the largest donation in Merced College history.

"For our agriculture industry to continue to thrive in an uncertain future, we need advanced technology, and we need students



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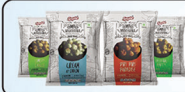
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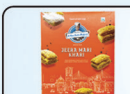
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## Endangered Indian Turtles Hatch in San Diego Zoo



process as the turtles can take close to 10 years to even reach sexual maturity. It makes the zoo the first accredited organization



SAN DIEGO, CA (IANS) - Officials at the San Diego Zoo announced the arrival of 41 tiny Indian narrow-headed softshell turtles - a rare and endangered turtle species - after two decades.

The Indian narrow-headed soft-shell turtle is mainly found in South Asia, especially in the Indus, Ganga, Godavari, Coleroon, Mahanadi and Padma rivers. In India, the species has largely been spotted in the states of West Bengal, Meghalaya, and Goa.

The conservationists at the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance had closely monitored three adult turtles for any indications of breeding. After 20 years, they found two nests containing 41 eggs - all survived.

This is an extremely prolonged

in North America to hatch and raise the rare species.

When emerging from their shell, hatchlings can be as small as about 4 cm. They can grow to as long as 3.6 feet.

The species requires a highly specialized habitat. A female turtle, at a time, can lay about 65-193 eggs. It is believed to be an ambush feeder and spends most of its time concealed below the sand, with only the tip of the snout exposed.

Some of the major threats to their population include exploitation for medicine and meat.

## Air India Announces Six Additional Flights to San Francisco



NEW DELHI, (IANS) - Aiming to bolster its international footprint, Air India has announced six additional flights to San Francisco. The additional flights will be introduced in a phased manner from October to December.

Flights from India to the US will increase from 34 to 40 per week.

Air India will now connect Mumbai with San Francisco with thrice-weekly service and reinstate a three-times-weekly Bengaluru operation.

This takes Air India's San Francisco offering from 10 to 16 weekly, with non-stop service from Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru.

On September 30, other than SFO, the airline announced additional flights every week to Birmingham and London in the UK. With this, Air India said, it will be able to offer over 5,000 additional seats every week.

Birmingham will receive an extra five flights per week, three from Delhi and two additional from Amritsar. London will receive nine additional weekly flights, of which, five are from Mumbai, three from Delhi and one from Ahmedabad.

Campbell Wilson, CEO & MD, Air India, said: "This sizeable frequency increase to the US and the

UK, as well as the addition of new city pairs and improved aircraft cabin interiors, comes just 10 months after Air India's acquisition by the Tata Group. It is a clear signal of our intent, and an early step towards a much bigger aspiration."

In addition to leasing new aircraft, Air India has been working to restore existing narrow-body and wide-body aircraft to the operating fleet. Prior to the expansion described above, the airline has already enabled frequency increases between Delhi and Vancouver, as well as the addition of numerous domestic services.



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South Africa, 10 Days:	May 20, Jun. 24, Jul. 22, Aug. 19, Sep. 2	From \$2,242* + air
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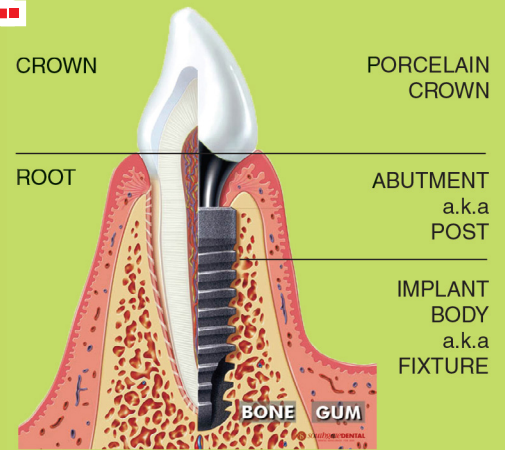
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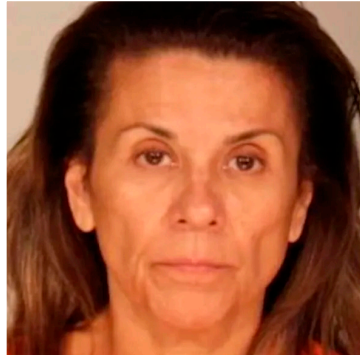
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## Woman Sues Racial Abuser

Contd. from P1  
had all just had dinner in a restaurant here, and were in the parking lot on August 24, when they were approached by the Mexican lady who proclaimed her eth-



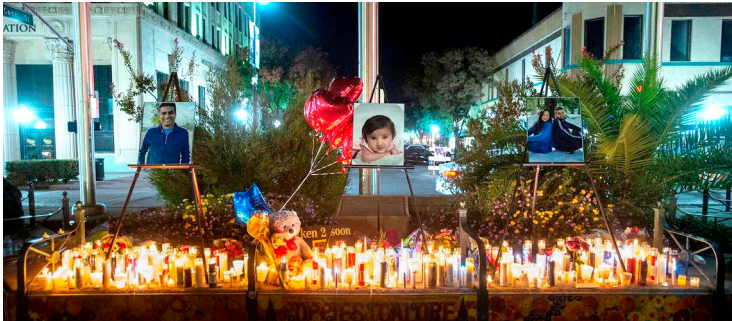
nicity and launched into her tirade. The video that they captured and posted on social media went viral and had the community, its leaders, and elected officials mad. Rudra has said sued Upton now saying that the whole incident has left her traumatized. She has developed high blood pressure and symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, has trouble sleeping, and lacks an appetite. She is also harboring feelings of shame, humiliation, deep anxiety and embarrassment, the suit said. “I have cold sweats when I am in the restaurant or grocery shopping. I

can feel my heart pounding heavily when I am outside,” Rudra said. Upton, it must be pointed out, had even threaten to shoot them. The Indian American has said in the lawsuit that she fears for the safety of her family. Rudra is seeking damages, but the lawsuit does not seek a specific amount. It asks for a jury trial so that Upton can be held accountable and to send a message that racist and bigoted attacks will not be tolerated. The law firm Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP has taken on the case after it was referred to them by the Alliance for Asian American Justice. Veronica Smith Moyé is the lead attorney in the suit. She told the media, “The point really is to send a message that this kind of behavior has real-world consequences and won’t be tolerated. This kind of behavior has no place in a civilized society and people need to understand that.” Plano police had arrested Upton who posted a \$10,000 bond.

## CRIME

## Merced Family Slain for Money

Contd. from P1  
deep Singh, 39, were violently kidnapped from their trucking business on October 3 and found murdered two days later. The family said on gofundme.com: “As immigrants to America, they worked tirelessly for 18 years to achieve safety, security, and community for themselves and their families.” The Merced County Sheriff’s Office verified that the fundraiser was indeed the family’s and the only one authorized by them after it had issued an alert about the possibility of unauthorized appeals. The family’s GoFundMe page said that they all lived under one roof with Randhir Singh and Kirpal Kaur, who were the parents of Amandeep Singh, and Jasdeep Singh, Jaspreet Kaur and their children, six-year-old Ekam and nine-year-old Seerat. The two brothers were “the primary bread earners for the family (and) supported their elderly parents”, the appeal said. The appeal has a goal of \$250,000 to support the education of Ekam and Seerat and “provide financial relief” to Jaspreet Kaur and the elderly parents. The GoFundMe page gave a picture of a tight-knit, happy family now shattered by the tragedy. The family said on the GoFund-



Me page that Amandeep Singh “routinely donated food to the local food bank and found comfort in his faith, never missing Sunday service in the temple”. Jasdeep Singh and Jasleen Kaur married three years ago in India and were re-united two years ago in the US after her immigration came through. “They were barely starting to make memories together as a family with their baby,” the family said. “Aroohi loved to run around the house in her walker and was a joyous child” much loved by her grandparents and cousins, they

added. Randhir Singh and Kirpal Kaur were “overjoyed” by the birth of their granddaughter and “recently traveled to India to plan a Lohri celebrating Aroohi’s arrival in the family”, they said. Jesus Manuel Salgado, a former convict who had worked for the family’s trucking business, has been arrested formally and charged with four murders and kidnappings, according to the Sheriff’s office. His brother, Alberto Salgado, was arrested “for criminal conspiracy, accessory, and destroying evidence”, the office added.



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## CRIME

## Man Targets Hindu Women

Contd. from P1

37, from Palo Alto, took necklaces off his victims and sped away in a getaway car. In the process, he also injured the women, mostly in the 50-73 age group and in some cases beat their husbands. The estimated worth of all the stolen necklaces is about \$35,000.

“Almost all the victims wore a saree, bindi, or other types of ethnic attire when they were attacked,” the District Attorney’s office said, and added that the spree of attacks, which started in June, mostly took place in San Jose, Milpitas, Sunnyvale, and Santa Clara.

Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen vowed to pursue convictions for anyone who attacked others due to their race or ethnicity. “I say to our South Asian community that anyone who

targets and attacks you will be arrested and treated with the utmost severity under our law. Santa Clara County’s precious diversity is our strength, our superpower - not a criminal opportunity,” Rosen said.

Johnson reminds in custody with no bail. He faces a maximum penalty of 63 years behind bars. His next court date is set for Nov. 4.

The Santa Clara Police Department and the US Marshal’s Office apprehended Johnson, but the first agency to tie him to the crimes was the Milpitas Police Department. They were able to connect him to a getaway car.

Late last year, the Santa Clara District Attorney’s Office charged a group of men with hate crimes and robbery for targeting Asian women during a spree of purse snatching. Those cases are still pending.

## Purdue Student Killed by Roommate

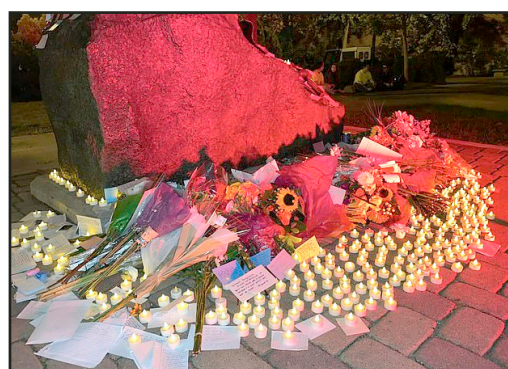
Contd. from P1

Just 10 days shy of his 21st birthday, Varun Manish Chheda, a senior majoring in data science



22-year-old Ji Min Sha

from Purdue University, was killed in an attack with “multiple sharp force traumatic injuries” by his roommate Ji Min Sha, a 22-year-old junior cybersecurity



A vigil was held at Purdue campus for Chheda

selling and Psychological Services are providing support and are available to anyone who needs or wants their care.” Sumeeth Guda, a mathematics and science student, who worked with Chheda on group projects, described him as a hardworking and diligent person.

major from Seoul.

The death of Chheda has left several questions unanswered behind as the preliminary autopsy results say that the manner of death was a homicide, while a section of the people called it a murder. Sha is now in police custody and is the prime suspect in the case.

At 12:45 am on October 5, Sha called 911 to alert police about the death, Purdue University Police Chief Lesley Wiete said during a news conference. However, no further details of the call and how the victim died in his room on the first floor of McCutcheon Hall were disclosed. The police are treating the death as a homicide case. Police said that at the time of 911 call, only Chheda and Sha were in the room at the time and said that the attack looked, “unprovoked and senseless.”

Purdue President Mitch Daniels said, “As is always the case, staff from our Office of the Dean of Students, our Residence Halls, and clinicians at Purdue’s Coun-

Arunabh Sinha, who went to school with Chheda for 12 years, remembered him as smart and humble. “A really smart guy, always top of his class, top of the chess club, science bowl team. He was humble about it,” Sinha told NBC News.

Chheda graduated from Park Tudor High School in 2020 and was a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program the year he graduated. He was also a candidate in the 2020 US Presidential Scholars Program and ran cross country in 2019.

“The entire Park Tudor community is incredibly saddened by the tragic loss of Varun Chheda, Park Tudor class of 2020. Our prayers are with his family at this difficult time,” Dennis Bisgaard, the interim head of Park Tudor, told Fox News Digital in a statement.

Purdue University said that it is currently home to 2,300 Indian students-793 undergraduates and 1,507 graduate and professional program students.

## Man Kills Daughter-in-Law

Contd. from P1

citing authorities. According to the police, just before her murder, a “frightened” Gurpreet Kaur was on the phone with her uncle, telling him that her father-in-law was looking for her.

The victim said she saw him “driving in the lot” in his black Silverado pickup truck, and that he “traveled 150 miles to find her”.

Five hours later after the call, a Walmart co-worker discovered Gurpreet Kaur’s body in the same parking lot, in the same car, suffering from at least two gunshot wounds. She was pronounced dead on the spot. The police said the uncle, who was the last person to hear his niece alive, helped in-

vestigators formally identify Sital Dosanjh as the likely suspect.

He told the police that his niece “was in the process of divorcing Sital Dosanjh’s son”, adding that the husband and his father lived in Fresno, while Gurpreet Kaur lived in San Jose, a Mercury News report said.

Sital Dosanjh was arrested at his home in Fresno, the next morning, and a .22-caliber Beretta pistol was seized from his home, according to a police investigative summary accompanying a murder charge filed by Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Office.

Sital did not enter a plea and was ordered to return to court on November 14.

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 Dhana Trayodashi: Dhanvantari Homa 6:00 PM, \$54  
 Shani Pradosham: Pradosha Siva Puja 7:00 PM, \$54

### October 23rd - Sunday

Naraka Chaturdashi: Mahalakshmi Abhishekam 6:15 PM, \$54

### October 24th - Monday

Deepavali (Diwali): Lakshmi Puja 7:00 PM, \$54

### October 25th - Tuesday, Karteeka Masam Starts:

Govardhana Puja & Chappan Bhog 7:00 PM, \$54

### October 26th - Wednesday

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### October 28th - Friday

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November 4th - Friday	Ksheerabdi Dwadasi - Tulasi Vavaha (Kalyanam), followed by dinner prashad	Puja	7:30 PM - 8:45 PM	\$54
November 5th - Saturday	Shani Trayodashi: Navagraha Abhishekam and Homa	Abhishekam/Homa	11:45 AM	\$75
November 6th - Sunday	Laghu Rudram	Puja	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	\$125
	Laksha Bilwarchana	Puja	3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	
	Maha Jyotirlinga Archana, Aarati, Dinner Prasad	Puja	6:30 PM	
November 11th - Friday	Sankatahara Chaturthi	Abhishekam	6:15 PM - 7:00 PM	\$54
November 12th - Saturday	Ayyappa Padi Puja	Puja	6:15 PM - 7:30 PM	\$54

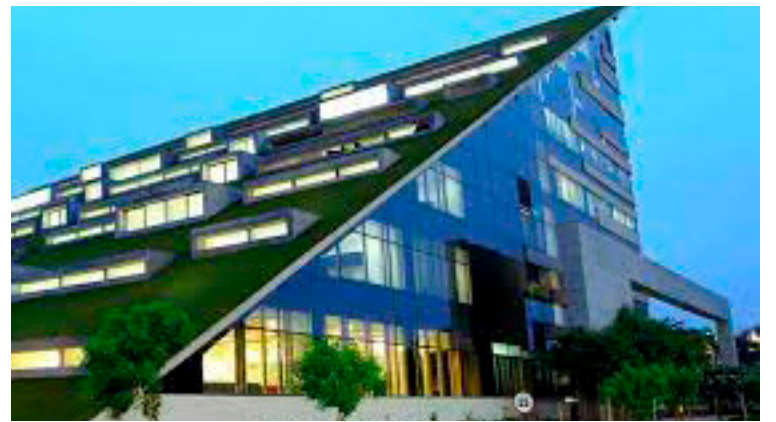


# NY Court Orders Case Against Infosys to Proceed

NEW YORK, NY (IANS) - A case against Infosys by a former recruiter alleging that “to her shock” the tech giant discriminated against Indians, can proceed, a federal judge in New York has ordered.

Judge J. Paul Oetken, hearing the case in New York, threw out late last month requests by Infosys and its executives to dismiss the case. The former recruiter, Jill Prejean, said in court papers that

at Infosys she “consistently heard from at least a dozen partners to her shock, that they preferred not to hire additional consultants of Indian national origin”. She has also alleged that she



personally faced discrimination as a woman and because of her age when she was dismissed from her New York-based job.

Oetken said that Prejean had shown that there were sufficient grounds for the case alleging “unequal treatment based on her age and gender” by Infosys’ three senior executives.

Prejean, who was hired in 2018 to help recruit “high-level executives and/or partners for Infosys”, was “dismissed” the next year and it is believed she was “replaced by a younger, less qualified person”, the complaint said. The complaint said that although she worked for Infosys, she had been hired by a company called IT Associates Inc and was paid through them.

Her original complaint in 2020 only said that she was instructed to exclude women with children at home and people near or over

the age of 50 from consideration for hiring. But it was amended last year to include people of “Indian national origin” among victims of alleged discrimination.

It said that Prejean “consistently heard from at least a dozen partners and to her shock, that they preferred not to hire additional consultants of Indian national origin, that they wanted women without children at home, and candidates not approaching 50”.

In their meetings, she “apprised the partners that they were advancing illegal criteria and that she would not act on them”, the complaint said.

The amended complaint also included as defendants Mark Livingston, the CEO of the consulting division, and vice presidents Dan Albright and Jerry Kurtz, while IT Associates appeared to have been dropped.

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## HAF Sues CA For ‘Misrepresenting’ Hindu Practices

India-West Staff Reporter

WASHINGTON, DC - The Hindu American Foundation (HAF) has sued the California Department of Civil Rights in the US for alleged misrepresentation of Hindu beliefs and practices by saying that the caste system and caste-based discrimination are integral parts of Hindu teachings.

The advocacy group says by doing so, the California Department of Civil Rights violated the First Amendment rights of Hindus living in CA.

The Foundation said the department had acted “unconstitutionally” alleging caste discrimination occurring at Cisco Systems by “seeking to define what Hindus believe and decide how they practice their religion”.

“HAF’s lawsuit states that the Department of Civil Rights (formerly known as Department of



Fair Employment and Housing) wrongly asserts that a caste system and caste-based discrimination are integral parts of Hindu teaching and practices by declaring the caste system to be a ‘strict Hindu social and religious hierarchy, which requires discrimination by ‘social custom and legal mandate,’ said the press release.

The HAF’s legal intervention is regarding an ongoing case since June 2020 where the Department had sued Cisco Systems in response to allegations by a Hindu employee who had alleged harassment at the hands of two Indian American managers because he was from a lower caste than them.



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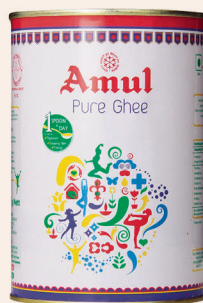


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# EEOC Sues Healthcare Companies For Firing Sikh Paramedic

DENVER, CO (IANS) - The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has filed a nationwide lawsuit against healthcare service providers for wrongfully terminating Sikh paramedic Ravinder Singh.

The lawsuit has been filed against CO-based Global Medical Response (GMR), and companies under it, American Medical Response (AMR) and its subsidiaries, for turning away a qualified paramedic in the midst of a pandemic.

In November 2020, AMR dismissed Singh after he requested

and was denied personal protective equipment (PPE) that would accommodate his Sikh articles of faith, including his turban and beard.

The denial came even after Singh satisfied his training requirements, was hired to work for AMR and provided them with documentation about the Sikh articles of faith. But AMR still insisted upon Singh using an N95 mask as opposed to any other kind of PPE.

"It was extremely difficult to be turned away from that urgent work because of my faith, but now,

I am able to be of service with appropriate and effective PPE in my new position. Ultimately, I'm supporting this legal action because no qualified professional should ever be forced to sit at home when they could be out saving lives," Singh said.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, many Sikhs in the US were initially asked or ordered to shave their facial hair to use N95 masks. Singh successfully used a Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR) during his paramedic training under AMR. PAPRs are used by



paramedics to accommodate Pseudofolliculitis Barbae - a skin condition that does not allow for shaving and thus prohibits the use of an N95.

On behalf of Singh, the Sikh Coalition, a Sikh-American advocacy group, filed a discrimination complaint with the EEOC in May 2021.

The EEOC offered to mediate the case in February 2022, but after GMR and AMR declined, the employment rights panel subsequently voted to file the lawsuit against them.

## SEC Fines Oracle \$23 Mln For Bribing Officials



WASHINGTON, DC (IANS) - Cloud major Oracle will pay the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) more than \$23 million to settle charges for bribing officials in India, Turkey, and the UAE.

The SEC said Oracle violated the law "when subsidiaries in Turkey, the UAE and India created and used slush funds to bribe foreign officials in return for business between 2016 and 2019". The SEC had previously sanctioned Oracle in connection with the creation of slush funds.

In 2012, Oracle resolved charges relating to the creation of millions of dollars of "side funds by Oracle India, which created the risk that those funds could be used for illicit purposes", the US regulator said.

In India, the SEC's investigation was done with assistance from the Securities and Exchange Board of India.

"The creation of off-book slush funds inherently gives rise to the risk those funds will be used improperly, which is exactly what happened here at Oracle's Turkey, UAE, and India subsidiaries," said Charles Cain of the SEC.



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# FSPA Sardar Patel Awards and Navin Doshi Felicitation at UCLA on October 1, 2022



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FSPA Pres. Hark Vasa with Award winner Ahona Panda



Dr. Vikram and Dr. Anjana Kamdar with Vijay Bhatt



Professor Monica Smith, UCLA



President Harkishan Vasa Presenting to Anna Morcom, CISA Director



FSPA Charter member Dinker Shah speaking about Doshi family



Pratima Doshi, Navin Doshi and Professor Shimkhada



Audience at the Doshi Felicitation



CISA Director, UCLA Anna Morkom



Suru Manek



Anna Morkom with Navin and Pratima Doshi



FSPA audience listening to Sahana Ghosh



Dr. Vikram and Dr. Anjana Kamdar



FSPA team Vijay Bhatt, Arvind Patel and Kaushal Pandya



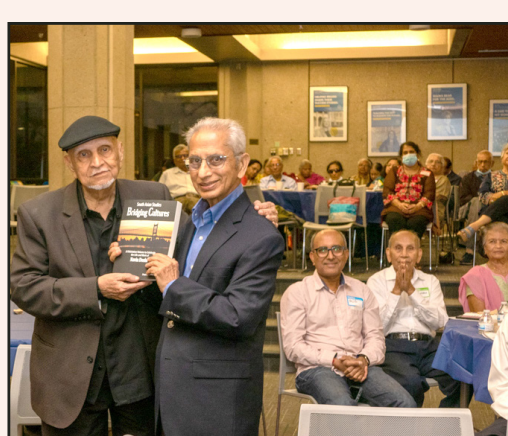
Award Winner Ahona Panda



Leela Chairman Hark Vasa with Rina Mehta and Team



Audience with Hark Vasa, President FSPA



Navin Doshi with Prof Deepak Shimkhada



# Sundar Pichai Tells Staffers: Don't Equate Fun With Money

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA (IANS) - Alphabet and Google CEO, Sundar Pichai, has advised employees not to mix fun with earning more money, as little things in life can bring more joy than what money can buy.

In a recent interaction with employees, Pichai was bombarded with questions from employees related to travel and entertainment budget cuts, productivity, hybrid work, and potential layoffs.

"I remember when Google was small and scrappy. We shouldn't always equate fun with money. I think you can walk into a hard-working startup and people may be having fun and it shouldn't always equate to money," he told employees.

Pichai responded to a question about why the company has shifted from "rapidly hiring and spending to equally aggressive cost saving."

"I'm a bit concerned that you think what we've done is what you would define as aggressive cost saving. I think it's important we don't get disconnected. You need to take a long-term view through conditions like this," Pichai elaborated.

Pichai aims to make the company 20 percent more efficient, hinting at job cuts.

Reports have surfaced that Alphabet is giving some workers 60 days to apply for a new role at the company if their jobs



are set to be cut.

Last month, Google fired more than 50 workers at its incubator Area 120 and gave them extra 30 days to find another job at the company.

A Google spokesman was quoted as saying that nearly 95 percent of employees found new roles within the notice period.

Pichai said the company is "still investing in long-term projects like quantum computing. But it's important 'to be smart, to be frugal, to be scrappy, to be more efficient.'"

"We're committed to taking care of our employees. I think we're just working through a

tough moment macroeconomically, and I think it's important we as a company align and work together," said Pichai.

Earlier, addressing the gathering at the Code Conference in the US, Pichai said that the more the company tries to understand the macroeconomic conditions, it feels very uncertain about it.

"The macroeconomic performance is correlated to ad spend, consumer spends and so on," he told the audience.

Google has suspended hiring new employees and reportedly told some existing employees to "shape up or ship out" if expectations are not met.



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# Four Indian Americans on Forbes 400 Wealthiest

NEW YORK, NY (IANS) - Indian Americans Vinod Khosla, Romesh Wadhvani and Rakesh Gangwal made it to the Forbes 2022 list of 400 wealthiest Americans with Zscaler CEO Jay Chaudhry leading the pack with a net worth of \$8.2 billion.

Overall, Tesla's Elon Musk earned the top spot for the first time, unseating former Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos, who had held the top spot for four consecutive years.

As a group, the 400 wealthiest Americans are worth \$4 trillion, \$500 billion less than last year, Forbes noted.

Chaudhry, 63, who founded the cybersecurity firm Zscaler in 2008, is ranked 79. He and his family members own 42 percent of the Nasdaq-listed firm which went public in March 2018. Before Zscaler, Chaudhry had founded four other tech companies that were all acquired -- SecureIT, CoreHarbor, CipherTrust, and Air Defense. In 1996, Chaudhry and his wife quit their jobs and used their life savings to launch SecureIT, their first startup. Chaudhry lives in Reno, NV.

With a net worth of \$5.2 billion, Vinod Khosla was ranked 181. His firm, Khosla Ventures, invests in experimental technologies such as biomedicine and robotics. Khosla co-founded the computer hardware firm Sun Microsystems in 1982 with Andy Bechtolsheim, Bill Joy, and Scott McNealy.

Romesh T. Wadhvani, founder and chairman of Symphony Technology Group, was ranked 196 with a net worth of \$5.1 billion. He stepped down as CEO of SymphonyAI at the start of 2022 in a move to ready the

firm for a potential public offering. He is also the chairman of ConcertAI, an AI company focused on healthcare and life sciences that was valued at \$1.9 billion by venture capital investors in March 2022.

With a net worth of \$3.7 billion, airline veteran Rakesh Gangwal made his fortune from InterGlobe Aviation, the parent outfit of budget airline IndiGo, India's largest by market share. He started his airline career with United Airlines in 1984 and went on to run US Airways Group as its chief executive and chairman. Gangwal had cofounded IndiGo with Rahul Bhatia in 2006 with one aircraft. The Miami resident, who is ranked 261 on the list, owns close to 37 percent of the company.



## World Bank Cuts India's GDP Growth Outlook

NEW DELHI, (IANS) - Citing the deteriorating global scenario, the World Bank on October 6 downgraded India's GDP forecast for the current fiscal to 6.5 percent.

In June 2022, it had projected that the Indian economy will grow at a rate of 7.5 percent.

In April also, the World Bank had cut India's GDP forecast from 8.7 percent to 8 percent.

At the same time though, it noted that India's economic recovery is faster than the rest of the world.

The forecast has come just days before its annual meeting.

The Reserve Bank of India had also cut the economic growth projection for 2022-23 from 7.2 percent to 7 percent, citing the tightening of rates by the US Federal Reserve and the prevailing geopolitical scenario.

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# Seven Indian American Women in Forbes '50 Over 50' List

NEW YORK, NY (IANS) - Seven Indian American women have made it to the Forbes' '50 over 50' list of 200 entrepreneurs, investors, creators, and entertainers.

While Manjusha Kulkarni, co-founder of Stop AAPI Hate, is listed in the 'Impact' section, the remaining

six women are included in the 'Entrepreneurs' category of the coveted list.

Kulkarni's Stop AAPI Hate is America's leading aggregator of Covid-19-related hate incidents against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. She is also the Executive Director of AAPI Equity Alliance, a coal-



Manjusha Kulkarni, co-founder of Stop AAPI Hate, the only non-entrepreneur among the seven Indian American women listed, has also been recognized by the White House. Seen here (c) in a twitter image with other activists



Jayshree Ullal of Arista Networks

tion of community-based organizations that advocate for the rights and needs of the Asian American community in Southern California. In 2014, Kulkarni received the White House Champions of Change award for her dedication to improving healthcare access for South Asian Americans.

Revathi Advaiti took over as the CEO of the global manufacturing and supply-chain company, Flex in 2019. At Flex, Advaiti oversees 200,000 employees and sets the strategic direction

for a company earning \$26 billion in annual revenue.

Padmasree Warrior has served as CTO of Cisco and Motorola and is currently the founder-CEO of Fable, a platform for social reading and book clubs. It raised over \$28 million in 2021. A Cornell-trained engineer, she believes a STEM education informs creativity: "Increasingly it's not about knowing all the answers but asking the right questions and figuring out how to get the right answer".

Poornima DeBolle is the co-founder and chief product officer at Menlo Security, a leading cloud and network security company. In 2020, Menlo Security announced it raised \$100 million in Series E funding, with a company valuation of \$800 million.

Ann Mukherjee became the first woman of color to assume the position of chair and CEO at wine and spirits company Pernod Ricard North America in 2019. Inspired by her own experiences, she launched Absolut's #SexResponsibly campaign to raise awareness of the connection between responsible drinking and consent and to take a stand against perpetrators who use alcohol as a tool or excuse to commit crimes.

Anita Gupta is a founder and chief portfolio officer at Kiwitech, a company that helps early to growth-stage startups build viable products, raise capital, and scale their businesses. She has dedicated her fifth decade to creating disruptive innovation through her company KiwiTech's investment in over 500 startups.

Jayshree Ullal has been president and CEO of Arista Networks, a computer networking firm, since 2008. Born in London and raised in India, she is one of America's wealthiest female executives. She joined the board of directors of Snowflake, a cloud computing company that went public in September 2020. Ullal owns about 5% of Arista's stock, some of which is earmarked for her two children, niece, and nephew.

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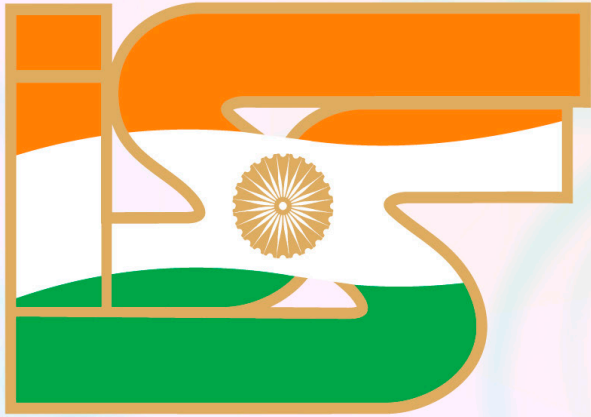
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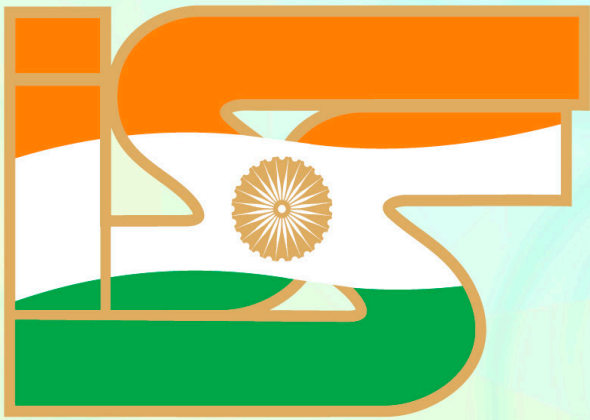
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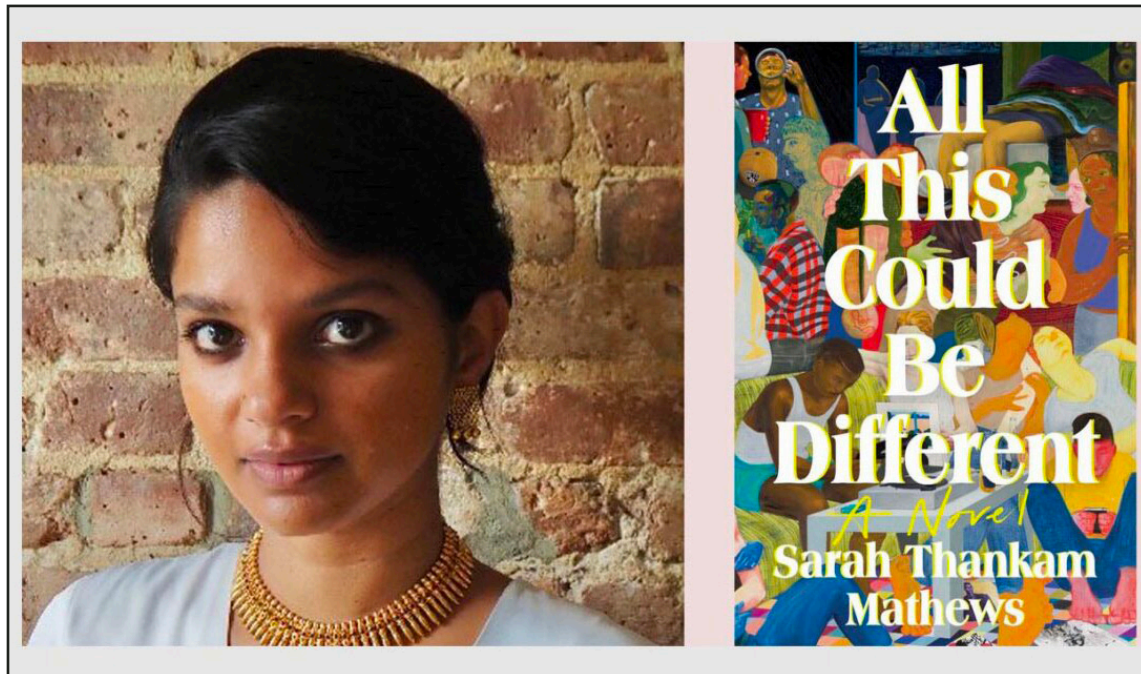


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## Sarah Thankam Mathews Shortlisted For National Book Award



### India-West News Desk

NEW YORK, NY – Indian American Sarah Thankam Mathews, has been named among the five National Book Award fiction finalists. The National Book Foundation said in a release that the winner will be announced on November 16.

‘All This Could Be Different,’ for which she has been nominated, is the author’s debut novel

and is the story of a young, queer Indian immigrant.

“I’m bursting with joy”, she tweeted on hearing that she had been shortlisted and also retweeted the New York Times story making the announcement.

Mathews, who was born in India, grew up in Oman before migrating to the US at 17. A former Rona Jaffe Fellow in fiction at the Iowa Writer’s Workshop and

a Margins Fellow at The Asian American Writers workshop, she is a recipient of the Best American Short Stories 2020 award.

The other finalists are Tess Gunty (The Rabbit Hutch), Gayl Jones (The Birdcatcher), Jamil Jan Kochai (The Haunting of Hajji Hotak and Other Stories) and Alejandro Varela (The Town of Babylon) are the other fiction nominees.

## 4 Teens Win Barron Prize For Young Heroes

NEW YORK, NY (IANS) - Four Indian American teenagers have received the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes for making a positive difference in people’s lives, communities, and the environment.

The winners include Karina Samuel, 17, from FL; Karun Kaushik, 17, from CA; Laalitya Acharya, 18, from OH; and Sri Nihal Tammana, 13, from NJ.

Established in 2001 by author T.A. Barron, the Barron Prize is a non-profit organization annually honoring 25 outstanding young leaders from ages 8 to 18. The award celebrates inspiring, public-spirited young people from diverse backgrounds across North America.

Every year, 15 winners are awarded \$10,000 each to support their service work or higher education. Samuel was honored for founding the FLchapter of Bye Plastic Bags, a student-led non-profit committed to reducing the amount of plastic on the planet. In the past three years, she has mobilized more than 1,000 volunteers to join over 175 coastal



Californian Karun Kaushik

cleanups across the state. Karun Kaushik has created X-Check-MD, an Artificial Intelligence software that can diagnose Covid-19 and pneumonia with 99 percent accuracy in under one minute. Laalitya Acharya has invented Nereid - a low-cost, globally applicable device that can detect water contamination within seconds. Her system uses Artificial Intelligence and can be placed directly into water pipes to detect microbial water contamination at low concentrations before it spreads.

Nihal Tammana’s non-profit, Recycle My Battery, installs free battery recycling bins and educates young people and adults about battery recycling. In just three years he has built a team of 220 student volunteers across the globe who have recycled nearly 200,000 batteries and educated millions of people.

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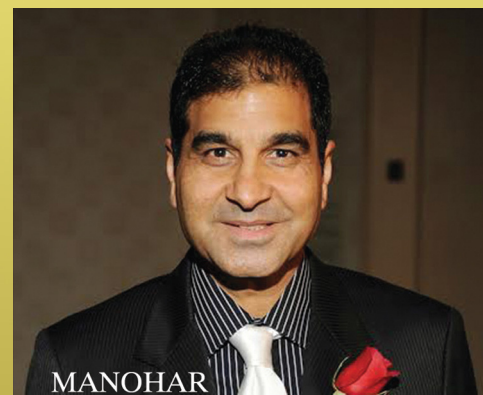
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## Dr Kumar at Congressional Hearing Bashes Texas Abortion Laws

WASHINGTON, DC (IANS) - Dr. Bhavi Kumar, a prominent family physician in Houston, warned a US house panel of the repercussions of the Texas abortion laws as being the most restrictive in the country and denounced a recent push to scale back access to the procedure nationwide.

In congressional testimony, on September 29, the Houston doctor bashed the TXabortion ban as a 'white supremacist agenda'.

"Abortion bans are inherently racist, inherently classist, and fundamentally part of the white supremacist agenda," said Dr. Bhavi Kumar, medical director for primary and transgender care at Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast in Houston. "We don't have to imagine a world where people face the deadly consequences of being denied essential medical care. It's here." TX abortion laws led to a 3-day delay for Houston woman's pregnancy loss treatment, he said.

The three-hour hearing, held by the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, followed recent efforts from several prominent Republicans to implement nationwide bans, expanding on the Supreme

Court's decision in June to give states the power to restrict the procedure, according to a report in the Houston Chronicle.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, (R-SC) said he introduced legislation that would ban abortion after 15 weeks gestation, "when unborn children can feel pain" -- a claim disputed by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

If passed, those laws could prevent Texas patients from accessing abortions in states like New Mexico or Colorado, both of which have be-

come go-to destinations for Texans looking to terminate a pregnancy. Texas is one of 14 states to have banned the procedure.

At one heated moment during the hearing, Rep. Andrew Clyde, (R-GA) questioned Kumar's credibility by denying that transgender men can become pregnant. Kumar repeatedly pushed back.

"This is not complicated," Clyde said. "This is medicine," Kumar replied.

Kumar, who has worked at Planned Parenthood in Houston

for four years, spoke to the impact of three overlapping abortion bans in Texas, which threaten health care providers with civil lawsuits and criminal penalties for performing the procedure.

Planned Parenthood has since stopped providing abortions but continues to offer other reproductive health care services.

Texas abortion law uncertainty is making doctors lose confidence and needs clarity

He said the laws have affected many people seeking abortions in Texas: Survivors of rape and incest, young girls still learning about their bodies, mothers struggling with multiple jobs and children, and people with wanted pregnancies who experience grave complications.

Echoing sentiments from several reproductive health care experts in recent months, he told the committee people who lack the resources to seek care elsewhere -- typically low-income patients and people of color -- will bear the brunt of

abortion bans.

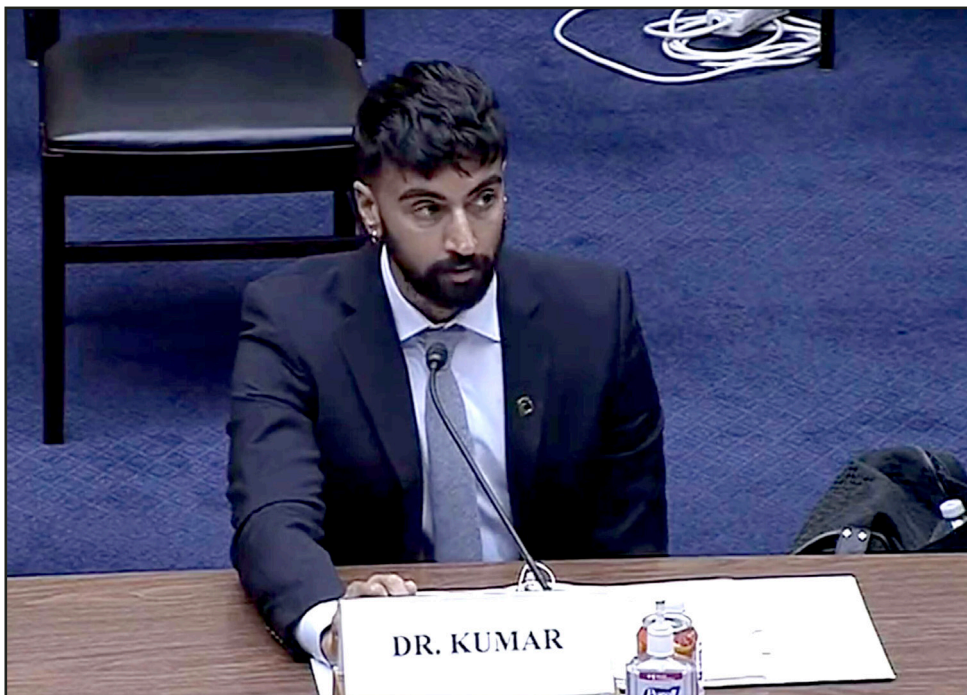
"Over and over again, we are forced to violate our conscience and our training to turn away patients who need us," said Kumar, who estimates he has over the years performed thousands of abortions.

Kumar recalled one woman who sought a termination at Planned Parenthood after the implementation last year of Senate Bill 8, which allows private citizens to sue providers who terminate pregnancies after about six weeks before most people know they are pregnant.

The woman worried her abusive partner would find out about the pregnancy, Kumar said. When she was told that doctors could no longer offer the procedure, "she sobbed so loudly people could hear her in the waiting room," Kumar told committee members. She barely made it to the clinic without her partner finding out, Kumar said. "Going out of state was unthinkable," he said.

A national abortion ban would put patients at an increased risk of death and other poor health outcomes, he said. It also would not stop pregnancy terminations.

"Patients don't care whether they're 6 weeks or 15 weeks," he said. "They know they can't be pregnant. They need care, and they'll go to whatever lengths they can to get that care."



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# India Will Buy Oil From Wherever it Wants: Puri

WASHINGTON, DC (IANS) – India's Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has said that India will buy crude oil from whichever country it wanted regarding questions being raised about purchases from Russia, whose western buyers have either stopped buying from it or are reducing their orders as punishment for invading Ukraine.

On the 2-million barrel a day production cut announced by OPEC+ countries (which include most of India's top sellers), the Minister on October 9 added that he would wait for effective the cut

to assess the impact on India; the real reduction is by 900,000 barrels a day, according to oil analysts. But he said generally, global supply falling short of the demand would fuel recession.

Puri, who also holds the portfolio of Housing and Urban Development, arrived in Washington DC on Oct 6 and held a wide of range of meetings with his counterpart in the Biden cabinet, Jennifer Granholm -- their first in-person meeting -- and other officials such as the US special envoy on Energy Amos Hochstein. He is scheduled to meet energy business leaders in Houston, where

he is reaching on Oct. 15.

India has been under pressure from the US-led West to cut its energy buys from Russia. It has stepped up its purchases, instead, to take advantage of the heavy discounts offered by Moscow.

"Look, let me make it very clear. India will buy oil from wherever it must for the simple reason that this kind of a discussion cannot be taken to the consuming population of India," Puri said, addressing a news briefing with reporters of Indian media outlets.

He added, "Have I been told by anyone to stop buying Russian oil,



the answer to the categorical No." But he conceded such discussions can take place in a geopolitical context. On OPEC cuts, the Minister sounded circumspect, saying he would wait before offering any assessment of the impact on India. He was also cautious as the OPEC+ group included countries that are India's top suppliers such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and the United Arab Emirates. But he did offer criticism in a general sense. "I think everybody has to realize that the producer has the sovereign right to decide how much quantity they want to release. They say that doesn't affect the price. It is their judgment. I would respectfully submit that I have a different view. If you release quantities which are much shorter

it will result in you know driving up prices which in turn exacerbates the inflationary situation and which will make the result in deepening the recessionary condition and make no mistake large parts of Europe today," he said.

But he sounded confident India will be able to deal with it as it has in similar situations before. Asked about the possibility of the US cutting exports to India -- as part of an all-around ban on exports reportedly being considered by the Biden administration as a response to the OPEC+ cuts, the Minister sounded confident it may not play out that way. "Today we are buying \$20 billion of energy products from them," he said, adding the US would "want to sell more to India".

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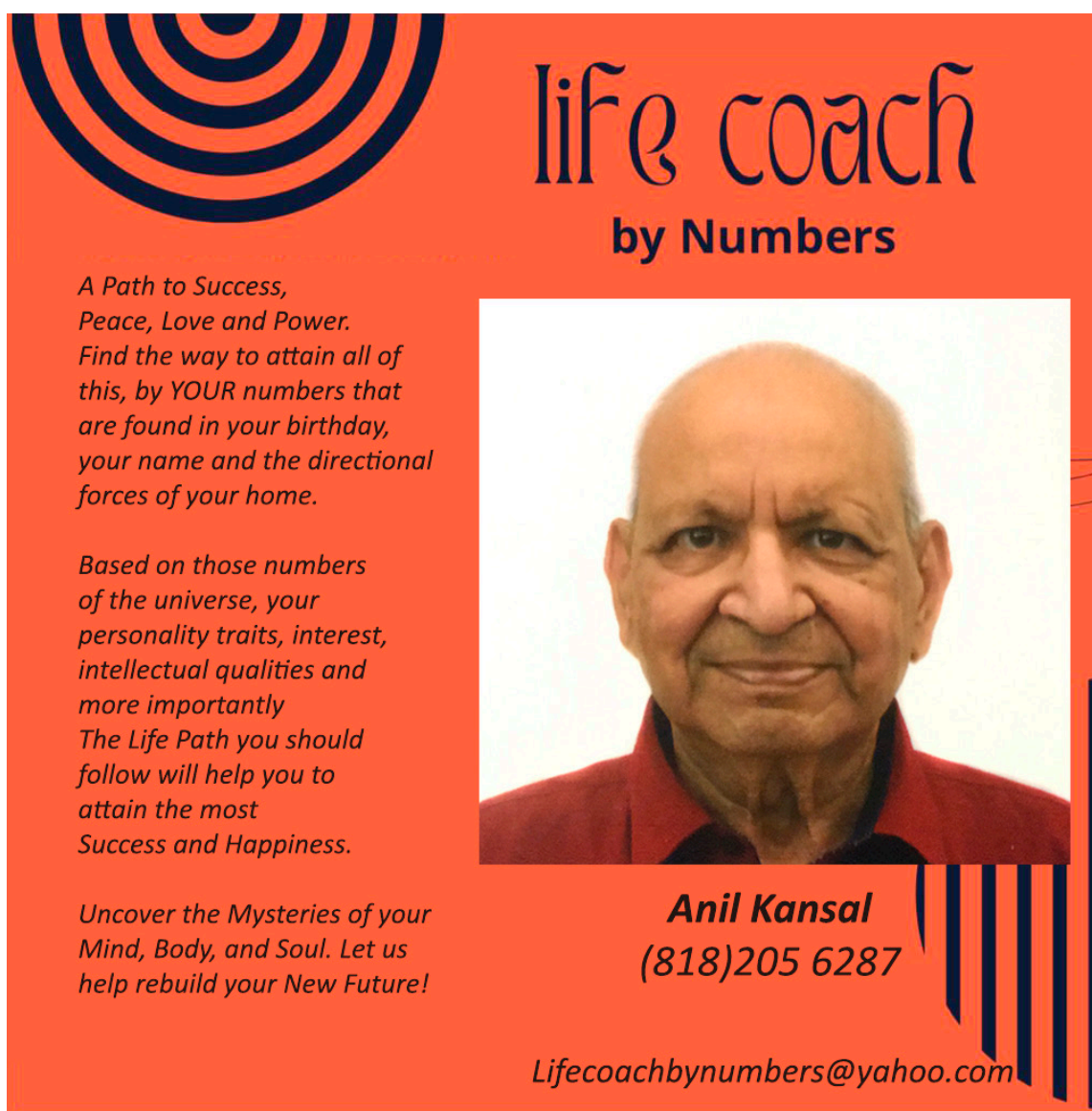
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## US Advisory: Exercise 'Increased Caution' While Visiting India



WASHINGTON, DC (IANS) - In its latest India Travel Advisory, the United States has asked its citizens to "exercise increased caution in India due to crime and terrorism".

The US State Department in the travel advisory issued on October 5 has put India at Level 2, which denotes "Exercise Increased Caution".

The advisory asked its citizens not to travel to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir (except the eastern Ladakh region and its capital, Leh) due to terrorism and civil unrest, and within 10 km of the India-Pakistan border due to potential armed conflicts.

"Indian authorities report that rape is one of the fastest growing

crimes in India. Violent crime, such as sexual assault, has occurred at tourist sites and in other locations," the advisory added.

"Terrorists may attack with little or no warning, targeting tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, and government facilities," the US State Department said.

The US government has limited ability to provide emergency services to its citizens in rural areas from eastern Maharashtra and northern Telangana through western West Bengal as the US government employees must obtain special authorization to travel to these areas.

Quote of the day: "Be ready when opportunity comes. Luck is the time when preparation and opportunities meet." - Roy D Chplin.

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## Priyanka Chats With Veep Harris, Meets Top S.Asian White House Staffers



WASHINGTON, DC (ANI) - Actress Priyanka Chopra during a discussion with Vice President Kamala Harris said, "It's so baffling to me, that in this country (US) the great land of so much opportunity, so much revolution we have not seen that final glass ceiling shattered."

Chopra drew parallels between her and Harris by adding, "I think we're both daughters of India in a way. You're a proud American-born daughter of an Indian mom, I am an Indian born of two physicians, as parents and a recent immigrant to this country who totally still believes in the wholehearted you know, American dream."

Vice President Harris on September 30, in her talk at the Democratic National Committee Women's Leadership Forum in Washington DC, talked about various issues including reproductive rights, gun violence, pay disparity, and equal opportunities.

In her visit to Washington DC, Chopra also made a stop at the White House where she had tea with some South Asian officials and met top South Asian staffers including Surgeon General Vivek Murthy and President Joe Biden's speechwriter Vinay Reddy.



## Trevor Noah Leaving 'The Daily Show' Recalls Love From Indians



NEW YORK, NY (ANI) - Comedian Trevon Noah's journey on 'The Daily Show' is coming to an end after seven years.

During a taping of the Comedy Central satirical news program, Noah, announced that he is leaving the show. "I remember when we first started... so many people didn't believe in us. It was a crazy bet to make. I still think it was a crazy choice, this random African," said Noah, who is from South Africa.

Recalling how the show has been loved across different countries including India, he added, "What a journey it's been... The show has grown around the world. I recently went to India for the first time and people there supported

everything that we have done on the show. I found myself filled with gratitude for the journey. It's been amazing. It's something that I never expected."

"After the seven years, my time is up, but in the most beautiful way, honestly. I've loved hosting this show. It's been one of my greatest challenges. I have learned how to make people laugh even when the stories are particularly sh\*\*\*y on many days. We laughed together and cried together ... But after seven years I feel like it's time," he said. Noah's announcement earned a standing ovation from the studio audience. After watching his video statement, netizens thanked him for making them laugh over the years.

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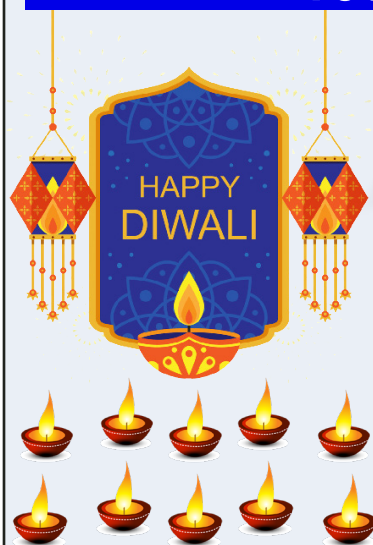
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# At 80, The Enduring Relevance of Amitabh Bachchan

Contd. from P1

tor. Big B has seen his popularity soar with the TV show at an age when most of his counterparts have very little work on hand or the common 80-year-old crowd has almost no dreams to pursue.

stage, first through KBC and then a series of movies where his performances were too remarkable to go unnoticed. Amitabh Bachchan was back in the new Avatar, the Big B of Bollywood.

A child in 'Paa', the nagging



He had his share of initial ups and downs, but 'Zanjeer' in 1973 catapulted him out of nowhere to the big league and the youth discovered their agitative emotions in him. The 'Angry Man' became the symbol of the then restless youth. The 1970's, '80's and a bit of 1990's were his, but it was the 2000s that saw him again come up after a series of failed ventures and miserably flopped movies.

When all had written him off, he was again catapulted from the depths of failures to the national

father in 'Piku', stubborn teacher in 'Black', the 102-year-old father of 75-year-old Rishi Kapoor in comic '102 Not Out', or the striking role of a retired lawyer in 'Pink'. These are just a few, there are so many others like the 'Sarkar', etc.

Each of these roles is a masterpiece, with a certain message. 'Pink' gave voice to millions of women, who got the phenomenal statement in that conspicuous word "No", which the retired lawyer so effectively

uttered during the courtroom scene. "No means no" -- the three words struck a chord with young women who want to enjoy life as individuals with liberty. The courtroom drama was well appreciated and Amitabh Bachchan as lawyer Deepak, forces one to face up to some uncomfortable truths of society.

Before 'Pink', 'Baghban' touched the raw nerve of the

people which showed how elders are treated as a burden by their children. Many related themselves to the movie characters.

If the '70's and the 80's movies of the Big B were mostly about anger, action, and show, the 2000s has seen his superb acting skills in movies, and remarkable and unparalleled hosting for the TV program.

At an age when memory for

most is failing and bone and muscle health is declining, Big B presents an example that proves it's all about attitude and will power.

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# Ranveer Singh Gets NBA's Shaq, Trae Young Dance to His Music

MUMBAI, (IANS) - Bollywood livewire star Ranveer Singh danced with NBA star Shaq, also known as Shaquille O'Neal, on his popular number 'Khalibali' from the film 'Padmaavat'.

Ranveer, who is appointed as the NBA brand ambassador for India, took to Instagram where he shared a video with the NBA legend. The two are seen doing the hook step of the number.

"Big Man x Bad Man! The collab

you didn't know you needed! Here's Shaq doing Khalibali! Yes. You read that right! Shaq-a-bibi! Y @shaq," Ranveer wrote for the caption.

Ranveer's friends such as Varun Dhawan, Dino Morea, and singer Tesherr couldn't stop commenting on the video.

Varun wrote: "Shaq attack."

"He's huge," wrote Dino.

The "Jalebi Baby" hitmaker said: "cultural ambassador #1"

"Shaqaal," wrote rapper Bad-



shah. After making Shaquille O'Neal dance to the number 'Khalibali', Ranveer Singh went on to make another basketball star dance to his number in Abu Dhabi.

Ranveer set the basketball court on fire as he made NBA star Trae Young do bhangra on the number 'Gallan Goodiyaan' from his film 'Dil Dhadakne Do'.

"Trae Paaji naal Bhangra!!! Here's Ice Trae celebrating his awesome performance with some Gallan Goodiyaan! @nba @nbaindia @nbastyle\_in @nbaarabic@nbaeurope#NBAINAbuDhabi," Ranveer captioned the clip.

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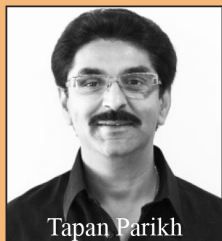
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## Amit Sadh Meets Jeremy Piven in LA

LOS ANGELES, CA (IANS)

- Actor Amit Sadh, who is known for his work in 'Kai Po Che! Brothers...For Life' and the streaming series 'Breathe', recently met Golden Globe Award-winning actor Jeremy Piven while holidaying in the US. Amit is quite inspired and influenced by the American actor-comedian-producer.

Amit wrote : "Jeremy Piven's portrayal of Ari Gold (Entourage) is one of the first few performances that inspired me when I started my acting career. It continues even today after meeting him, I find him



bold, and he has the fortitude and courage to push through life's ordeals. He has greatly influenced me so much that it helped me to understand that there is a great message under the mess we come across in our life (sic)."

Jeremy is best known for his role as Ari Gold in the popular comedy series 'Entourage', for which he won a Golden Globe Award and three consecutive Emmy Awards.

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# DDLJ Musical: Indian American Cast Say They Have Made History

MUMBAI, (IANS) - Filmmaker Aditya Chopra's Broadway musical 'Come Fall in Love', which has 30 cast members, including 17 Indian Americans, has spoken about creating history with representation.

The musical has actors Amita Batra, Neha Dharmapuram, Rohit Gijare, Irvine Iqbal, Usman Ali Ishaq, Nika Lindsay, Caleb Mathura, Kinshuk Sen, Meher Mistry, Shoba Narayan, Shahil Patel, Rupal Pujara, Geatali Tamy, Vishal Vaidya, Sonya Venugopal, Bhumi Patel, and Zain Patel.

Irvine Iqbal, who plays Simran's father the turbaned Baldev on stage, says: "When the South Asian community is one of the largest ethnic minority groups in the US, why would we not ensure that our theatres reflect this demographic and see that musicals proportionately cast South Asian actors? Isn't this the world we live in today? It's increasingly clear that audiences are becoming more diverse and expect to see themselves reflected on our stages.

"If we don't see ourselves represented on the stage how can there be any representation? The collective frustration of the American South Asian talent out there comes from not being able to have a meeting or audition to showcase their talents. We are either overlooked, ignored or simply invisible to many with the ability to affect change."



Rupal Pujara, who plays Simran's mother Lajjo, says: "'Come Fall in Love' is updating the beloved classic, DDLJ, by expanding the narrative of its female characters. In this version, Lajjo is not only a devoted wife and mother, but also strong, soulful and fiercely witty."

Kinshuk Sen, who plays Kuljit, Simran's to be husband in the musical, says the show has one of the largest South Asian casts he has ever seen on a western stage, that too being guided by a creative team that is also predominantly South Asian.

"Being from Delhi but having lived and worked in the US now for almost a decade,

I have almost always been the lone person of color, let alone the only Indian person, in every circle I have been a part of."

Vishal Vaidya, who plays another principal character called Ajit, Kuljit's father, says: "As a Gujarati American who grew up dancing Garba, Raas, and Bhangra, I felt I had to leave that part of my identity behind when I pursued musical theatre.

"I'm so excited about what this show will do for representation on stage. South Asian Americans have never really had a show that can also be a training ground for new talent, and I find great hope in the idea younger artists will see this show

and feel that, finally, they belong in this industry."

Neha Dharmapuram, again part of the ensemble, adds: "I go into work every day telling myself that by simply showing up for myself and my passions, I might be giving another South Asian creative the courage to pursue their dreams. Not only that, I hope that watching so many South Asians pursue a career in the arts on one stage will give parents the confidence to support their children in pursuing non-traditional careers."

Caleb Mathura, also a part of the ensemble, adds: "Representation always matters, but its effect is so evident within the Arts. I have met people who have travelled across the country to see this show.

"The show also champions diversity and every department from cast to technicians is a beautiful confluence of East and West as Indian and South Asian representation is at the heart of this show."

The musical also has 18 original English songs to treat audiences with and the makers reveal that they also have a beautiful song 'Love in Every Color' that celebrates the theme of inclusivity in the show.

Meanwhile, The Old Globe, one of the most respected theatres in the US, has announced an extension of the World Premiere of 'Come Fall in Love - The DDLJ Musical'.

The Broadway-bound production will now play through October 23.

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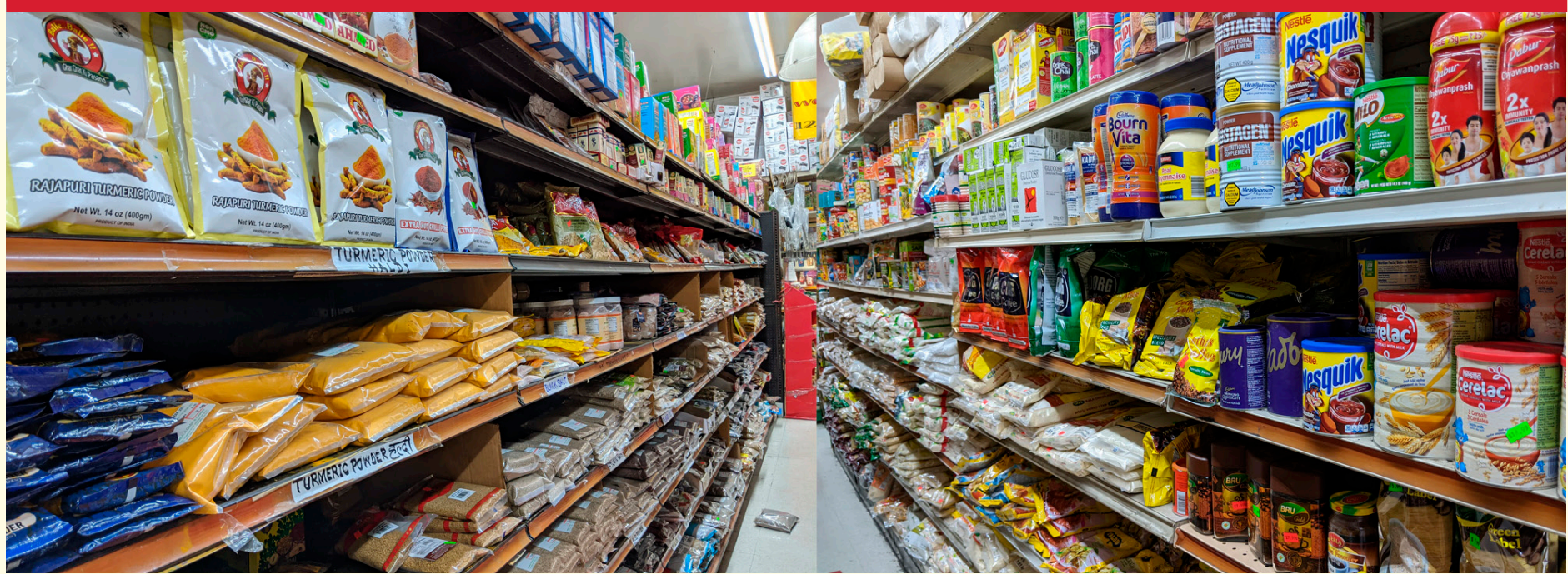


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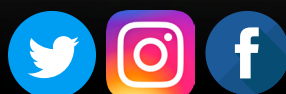


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