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IN CHICAGO



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Rajarshi Bhupendra Modi hosts ceremony at Nobel Peace Center in Oslo honoring "Global Hindu Leadership"



PHOTOS: COURTESY RAJARSHI BHUPENDRA MODI



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Canada and India begin reset of troubled bilateral relations

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For over two decades, Desi Talk Chicago has proudly served the community through our print edition, bringing you news, views, and stories that matter. We are deeply grateful for your continued support over the years.

As technology rapidly evolves, the way people consume news has also changed. Today, most of us rely on our phones and digital devices to stay informed. With the rise of instant news delivery, the print media industry—both mainstream and ethnic—has undergone a major transformation. News now travels faster than ever, and waiting for a printed newspaper no longer meets the pace of modern information needs.

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To preserve our legacy, we will continue to offer our e-paper—a digital replica of the print version—so the spirit and format of Desi Talk Chicago remain with you. In addition, our interactive website and newsletter will provide affordable advertising opportunities with impressive reach and visibility.

Our final print edition will be published on June 27, 2025, and we are thrilled to announce that Desi Talk Chicago will begin its all-digital chapter starting July 4, 2025, as we proudly celebrate Independence Day—marking a new era of freedom and innovation in how we deliver news to you.

Thank you for being part of our journey. We look forward to continuing to inform, entertain, and engage with you in the digital era.

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Ilayas Quraishi

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Ceremony At Nobel Peace Center In Oslo Honors “Global Hindu Leadership”

By A Staff Writer

Rajarshi Bhupendra Modi, entrepreneur, peace-maker, and leader of a movement that aims to revive Sanatana Dharma, cultural unity, and global peace through dharmic leadership, organized an event in Oslo honoring four individuals for working toward attaining those goals.

On June 20, 2025, a high-profile ceremony was held at the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo, where the honorary title of “Hindu King” was conferred upon four individuals by Rajarshi Modi, founder of the Adi Shankara Math in Rampur, India.

The awardees included:

Dr. Sudhir Parikh – Padma Shri recipient, U.S.-based physician, philanthropist, and founder of Parikh World-wide Media, a voice of the global Indian diaspora.

Dr. Deepak Chopra – Internationally acclaimed author and spiritual leader known for integrating Vedanta and Ayurveda into global wellness discourse.

Dr. Romesh Japra – Prominent community leader and interfaith bridge-builder across the United States.

Princess Aswathi Thirunal Gouri Lakshmi Bayi – Member of the Travancore royal family and celebrated author, preserving India's temple traditions and royal legacy.

This event was seen by organizers as a “symbolic moment”



PHOTOS: COURTESY RAJARSHI BHUPENDRA MODI

Organizers and awardees pose for a photo at the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo June 20, 2025, for the award ceremony.



Padma Shri recipient Dr. Sudhir Parikh, center, receiving the recognition at the Nobel Peace Center, Oslo, June 20, 2025. On right is Rajarshi Bhupendra Modi, founder of Adi Shankara Math in Rampur, India.



Princess Aswathi Thirunal Gouri Lakshmi Bayi at the June 20, 2025, Nobel Peace Center, Oslo, ceremony.



Dr. Deepak Chopra, renowned author and health and wellness guru, at the June 20, Nobel Peace Center recognition ceremony.



Romesh Japra, community leader and interfaith bridge-builder, at the Nobel Peace Center, Oslo, ceremony for recognition, on June 20, 2025.

meant to reaffirm the global relevance of Sanatan Dharma, “positioning these leaders as spiritual trustees of global harmony, dharma, and peace.”

“This is a call for dharmic action,” Rajarshi Modi is quoted saying in the press release. “A moment for global Hindu leaders to step forward—not to rule, but to serve. Not to divide, but to unite. The age of spiritual statecraft has returned—and with it, a vision of peace that the world deeply needs.”

Rajarshi Bhupendra Modi has been spearheading a movement to revive Hindu culture, dharmic leadership, and the global relevance of Hindu Dharma, the press release said.

On January 2, 2024, during his 75th birthday celebrations, Dr. Modi was conferred the title of “Rajarshi” by all four Shankaracharyas who are regarded as India’s “highest spiritual authorities.”

This recognition of Rajarshi Modi was reaffirmed a year later at the Maha Kumbh 2025, where he was also presented with the Dharma Dand—a sacred staff symbolizing his spiritual duty to unite Hindus across the world.

To mark this milestone, Rajarshi Modi attended the Kumbh for the first time as a Rajarshi, establishing the Rajarshi Palace, described as “a first-of-its-kind spiritual hospitality hub” where he hosted 7,200 guests from across the world, entirely free of charge. The event



Some of the guest attendees at the June 20, 2025, honors ceremony for “Global Hindu Leadership” held at Nobel Peace Center, Oslo.

embodied the spirit of “Atithi Devo Bhava” representing Hinduism’s “openness, grace, and grandeur.”

“The palace was not just a structure,” said a spokesperson. “It was a spiritual statement—showcasing Hinduism not as rigid or regional, but as global, inclusive, and elevated.”

Following the Kumbh, Rajarshi Modi founded the Jagadguru Adi Sankara Math in Rampur, a spiritual and educational institution dedicated to unifying Hindus globally and spreading the teachings of Advaita Vedanta—a timeless philosophy of oneness, peace, and inner

awakening, the press release said.

LAUNCHING THE GLOBAL HINDU KINGS MOVEMENT

Rajarshi Modi then launched a global initiative to nominate 500 “New Age Hindu Kings and Queens”—distinguished individuals above the age of 75, who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to dharma, peace, and cultural leadership. These leaders, drawn from business, philanthropy, medicine, media, and spirituality, are being recognized as flagbearers of Hindu values in the modern world, organizers said.

“New Age Hindu Kings and Queens are not rulers of land but stewards of consciousness,” said Rajarshi Modi. “They lead global businesses, generate wealth with purpose, and promote peace through dharmic leadership. They are guardians of tradition, carriers of wisdom, and ambassadors of harmony—entrusted with carrying Adi Sankara’s legacy into the 21st century.”

Dr. Modi says this movement affirms the core Hindu worldview that transcends all boundaries:

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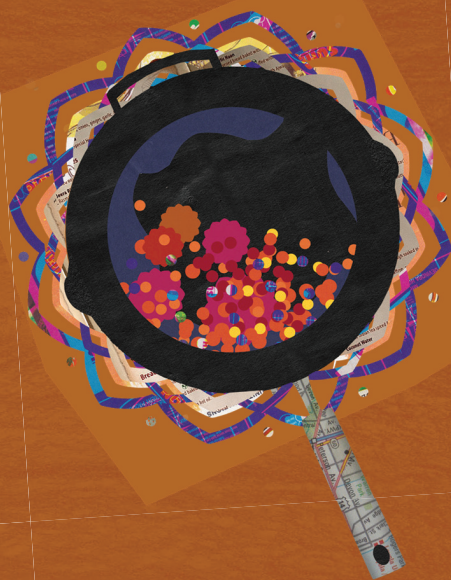
The Sun is the only visible God, symbolizing life, light, and universal consciousness.

Hindus are global citizens, defined not by geography but by consciousness—rooted in dharma, yet open to the world.

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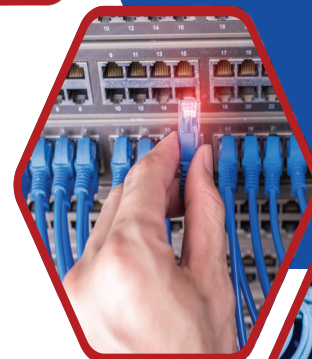
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Canada, India Agree To Resume Diplomatic Services, Strengthen Trade Ties, Cooperate On Global Priorities

By News India Times and ANI

At the G7 Summit held in Kananaskis, Alberta, India and Canada agreed to resume full diplomatic ties, bringing an end to the icy relations triggered by Canadian allegations that Indian agents were involved in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a Canadian citizen designated as a terrorist by India, outside a gurdwara in Canada in 2023.

This was the first in-person interaction between Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney and India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, since Carney assumed office following Canada's recent general elections. The meeting provided an opportunity for both sides to hold "frank and forward-looking discussions" on the state of India-Canada relations and the way ahead, noted a press release from the Indian government.

The leaders reaffirmed the importance of India-Canada ties, based on shared democratic values, respect for the rule of law, and commitment to upholding the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. They underlined the need to pursue a constructive and balanced partnership grounded in mutual respect for concerns and sensitivities, strong people-to-people ties, and growing economic complementarities. In this regard, "both sides agreed to take calibrated and constructive steps to restore stability in the relationship, beginning with the early return of High Commissioners to each other's capitals," the press release said.

Carney and Modi underscored the importance of restarting senior ministerial as well as working-level engagements



PHOTO: FACEBOOK / PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU - PIB, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Indian PM Narendra Modi with Canadian PM Mark Carney during G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta.

across various domains to rebuild trust and bring momentum to the relationship.

They discussed opportunities for future collaboration in areas such as clean

energy, digital transformation, artificial intelligence, LNG, food security, critical minerals, higher education, mobility, and supply chain resilience.

They also reaffirmed their shared

interest in promoting a free and open Indo-Pacific. The leaders also discussed the importance of restarting the stalled negotiations on the Early Progress Trade Agreement (EPTA), with a view to paving the way for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). They agreed to task their respective officials to engage further in this regard, the press release said.

Both leaders acknowledged the important progress made at the G7 Summit and the shared willingness to work constructively together on global priorities such as climate action, inclusive growth, and sustainable development. They also recognized the deep people-to-people connections between the two countries and agreed to leverage this to the benefit of both countries. They dwelt on the strong and historic ties between their peoples, partnerships in the Indo-Pacific, and significant commercial links between Canada and India — including partnerships in economic growth, supply chains, and the energy transformation.

Prime Minister Carney also raised priorities on the G7 agenda, including transnational crime and repression, security, and the rules-based order.

The discussions took place even as India-Canada ties remain strained due to ongoing political tensions. India has repeatedly voiced concern over extremism and anti-India activities in Canada, urging Canadian authorities to act against such elements.

The meeting between Carney and Modi could jumpstart a return to normalization of bilateral relations.

Modi also met with each of the G7 leaders at the Summit, well as the invited guest countries like Brazil and South Africa, and leaders of the European Commission and the European Council.

Both Committed Towards Realising Potential Of India-Canada Relationship: Canadian PM Carney On Meet With PM Modi

By ANI

-KANANASKIS, CANADA

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney held a press conference as the G7 Summit came to its conclusion, where he answered several pressing questions, including those on his meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Answering a question on the India-Canada ties, PM Carney said, "In terms of the bilateral relationship, I think the meeting today was important. I would describe it as foundational, as a necessary first step, an exchange of views, a frank, open exchange of views around law enforcement, transnational repression as two examples, an agreement to provide the necessary foundations to begin to rebuild a relationship based on mutual respect, sovereignty, trust."

In his remarks, he noted that the two countries would work on appointing their High Commissioners again. Carney told the media, "We will move to appoint high



Canadian PM Mark Carney.

commissioners again, and let me just finish by putting that in context, which is that there are very deep ties of people and businesses between Canada and India. It's well known, it's part of your point about where the relationship could go. And they are not served at present by consular services in effect—certainly by high commissioners, and it's necessary to have that level of service as a basis on which to build out again in the context of respect for sovereignty and to begin to realise the potential of the relationship, and we will. We're both committed to working towards that, but there's a lot of work that will need to be done."

When asked about the case of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, the Canadian Prime Minister said, "We have had a discussion, Prime Minister (Modi) and I, about the importance of having the law enforcement to law enforcement dialogue, which is cooperation directly; the importance of addressing transnational repression as I noted, when we met, and obviously there is a judicial process that's underway and I need to be careful about further commentary."

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G7 Canada: Pahalgam Terror Attack Assault On Entire Humanity, Says PM Modi

By ANI

-KANANASKIS, CANADA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a G7 Outreach Session where he called upon countries to strengthen the fight against terrorism and called Pahalgam terror attack not just an assault on India but also on the entire humanity, the Ministry of External Affairs noted in an official statement.

He made the remarks while addressing the G7 Outreach session on the theme 'Energy Security: diversification, technology and infrastructure to ensure access and affordability in a changing world'.

As per the MEA, PM Modi, emphasizing security challenges, called upon countries to strengthen the global fight against terrorism. Thanking the global community for their strong support to India in its fight against terrorism, he expressed that the Pahalgam terror attack was not just an assault on India but on the entire humanity.

"Terrorism is an enemy of humanity. It is against all countries that uphold democratic values", he said.

He called for strict action against countries that support and promote terrorism and noted

that there should be no double standards in dealing with terrorism and those who

support terrorism should never be rewarded.

"On one hand, we are quick to impose all kinds of sanctions based on our own preferences. On the other hand, countries that openly support terrorism are rewarded," said PM Modi.

Calling terrorism a grave threat to humanity, PM Modi put forth three pressing



PM Modi participates in the 51st G7 Summit at Kananaskis, Canada June 17-18.



Indian PM Narendra Modi speaking at the G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada, held June 17 and 18, 2025.



Prime Minister Modi in a group photo with world leaders of G7 countries.

questions for the international community to ponder over—

-Will countries understand the grave threat posed by terrorism only when they become a target?

-How can perpetrators of terror and their victims be equated?

-Will global institutions be mute spectators to terrorism?

As per the statement by the MEA, PM Modi expressed that uncertainty and conflicts in various parts of the world have had a debilitating impact on the countries of the Global South, and India took it as its responsibility to make the voice of the Global South heard on the world stage. He underlined that it was important for the world to understand the priorities and concerns of the Global South if the international community was serious about a sustainable future.

Indo-Canadians Welcome PM Modi's Visit To Canada For G7 Summit

ROUNDUP FROM ANI

-BRAMPTON, CANADA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's arrival in Canada for the G7 Summit was warmly welcomed by members of the Indo-Canadian community, who hope the visit will mark a turning point in strained India-Canada relations.

Sumit Singh, a Brampton-based Indo-Canadian businessman and immigration consultant, expressed optimism about the visit. "I wholeheartedly welcome Prime Minister Modi to Canada," he said. "I appreciate Prime Minister Mark Carney's invitation to Mr. Modi. This is a positive step and I hope it leads to the restoration of normalcy in India-Canada relations."

Singh also voiced concern over the impact of diplomatic tensions on the Indian diaspora.

"More than 1.5 million people of Indian origin live in Canada. The deterioration of ties over the past two years has been disheartening for them," he said, adding, "This visit is a sign of hope."

Canadian broadcaster Haleema Sadia also hailed the visit as a diplomatic breakthrough.

"To attend the G7 Summit, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has arrived in Canada. Our Prime Minister, Mark Carney, has done a tremendous job by extending the invitation and easing tensions," she said.



Businessman Sumit Singh, left, broadcaster Haleema Sadia, center, Hindu Forum Canada Director Vishal Saini.

"There has been a prolonged period of discomfort and concern among Canadians. This invitation, and PM Modi's acceptance, will make a significant difference in improving India-Canada relations," Sadia said.

Vishal Saini, Director of Hindu Forum Canada, also welcomed the visit and emphasised the contribution of Indo-Canadians.

"There are approximately 1.5 million Indo-Canadians who are contributing significantly to both the Indian and Canadian economies," he said. "Prime Minister Modi's visit will further strengthen the cultural and economic

ties between the two countries."

Modi's brief visit to Canada excited the diaspora in Calgary and Alberta, who hoped the trip marks the beginning of a stronger partnership between India and Canada.

Nidhi Lodha shared her delight and said the community was thrilled about the visit. "Indian diaspora in Calgary and Alberta is so happy that PM Narendra Modi is visiting us. The only caviar is that it is a last-minute short visit, so we could not organise a town hall where lots of people could meet him. His visit will start a new era of the Canada-India relationship and partnership, which will grow... With the change of government and stance in Ottawa, and the current reality that Canada needs to diversify economically, this relationship will improve..."

Sunny Sharma, a businessman, noted that Prime Minister Modi had come at the invitation of the Canadian Prime Minister. "In other words, the G7 needs India... Carney knows how to do business and not just politics..."

Anil Mehrotra, another member of the diaspora, said, "... I am very happy that he (PM Modi) is visiting Canada and our current Prime Minister had the courage, despite all the negative pressure on him, to invite Modi Ji. He has done a superb job in India, which is now the fourth-largest economy in the world. It would be a grave mistake for Canada not to have invited India. This visit will hopefully only strengthen the good relations we had, which have soured in the last 3-4 years..."

Indian Consulate And Chicagoland Residents Celebrate 11th International Day Of Yoga

By BHAILAL M. PATEL

CHICAGO, IL – The Consulate General of India in Chicago led the vibrant celebration of the 11th International Day of Yoga (IDY 2025) with a landmark event at Navy Pier's Polk Bros Park on Saturday, June 21, drawing over 400 yoga enthusiasts from across the region. Themed "Yoga for One Earth, One Health," this year's celebration reaffirmed yoga's role as a unifying global practice for individual and planetary wellness.

Consul General Somnath Ghosh inaugurated the flagship event with inspiring opening remarks, calling yoga "India's timeless gift to the world," and emphasizing its spiritual and ecological relevance in today's global landscape. "Yoga transcends borders and faiths—it is a holistic way of living that fosters inner balance and universal harmony," said the Consul General.

Set against the iconic backdrop of Lake Michigan, participants performed the Common Yoga Protocol, guided by acclaimed instructors Ms. Anu Malhotra, Ms. Vimi Shukla, Ms. Parna Mazumdar, Ms. Pam Brockman, and Ms. Saba Haider. The event was energized by clear blue skies, lush lawns, and the vibrant rhythm of breath and movement.

Supported by State Bank of India, Chicago, and in partnership with over 20 community organizations, the event underscored Chicago's deep-rooted ties to India's spiritual traditions. Key collabo-

rators included Art of Living – Chicago, Sewa International USA, Isha Foundation, Brahma Kumaris, Heartfulness, Sahaja Yoga, Yogapathic, FIA-Chicago, Indian Community Niles Township, United Senior Pariwar, and TV Asia, among many others.

Community Yoga Celebrations Across Chicagoland

In addition to the Navy Pier gathering, the celebrations continued on Sunday, June 22, at Gurukul Swaminarayan Temple in Arlington Heights. The session—led by yoga instructors Jignesh and Hina Dixit—was co-organized by FIA-Chicago, ICNT, USPC, and Gurukul Swaminarayan, with the support of the Consulate General. The temple's serene ambiance provided a perfect setting for practicing asanas and fostering community connection.

The event also featured a powerful gesture of unity when both FIA groups came together to receive a certificate of appreciation from the Consulate General—a symbolic moment that celebrated collaboration and cultural solidarity.

A dedicated team from Hindu Swam-sevak Sangh (HSS) led the yoga session with focused discipline and devotion, enhancing the spiritual depth of the day's practice.

Yoga's Reach Expands Across the Midwest

Beyond the central Chicago events, IDY 2025 celebrations rippled across the Midwest. With active support from the Consulate, additional yoga sessions were



FIA Chicago (estd 1980) groups came together to receive a certificate of appreciation from the Consul General of India in Chicago Somnath Ghosh, at the IDY celebrations held in the Windy City.

organized in: Niles Township, IL – Led by Mindful Meditation and United Senior Pariwar; University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, IL – Yoga on the historic Main Quad; St. Louis, MO – Hosted by the St. Louis Indian Cultural Association; Indiana – Organized by Chinmaya Mission, Pewaukee, WI – Sanskriti's regional celebration; Michigan – Multiple cities including Troy, Novi, Canton, and Farmington Hills; Iowa – Indo American Association of Iowa in Johnston

These diverse events—held in temples, universities, parks, and wellness centers—reflected yoga's universal appeal

and its growing integration into American mainstream culture.

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Modi Disputes Trump's Version Of India-Pakistan Ceasefire

By Swati Gupta, Prateek Mazumdar & Sudhi Ranjan Sen

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi disputed President Donald Trump's claims that trade deals were used to clinch a recent ceasefire with Pakistan, the latest sign of possible strain in the relationship between New Delhi and Washington.

Modi held a 35-minute call with Trump on (June 17) Tuesday night in the US after the two leaders failed to meet in person at the Group of Seven meeting in Canada, India's Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said in a video statement. It was their first conversation since the four-day military strikes between India and Pakistan last month that brought the two neighbors close to war. Trump has consistently said the US helped broker a ceasefire and that he used trade deals as a negotiating tool, comments that Indian officials have disputed.

Modi clarified India's position to Trump during the leaders' call, Misri said Wednesday (June 18).

"PM Modi clearly told President Trump that during this entire incident, at no time, at any level, were there any talks on issues like India-US trade deal or mediation between India and Pakistan through America," he said. "PM Modi stressed that India has never accepted mediation, does not accept it, and will never accept it."

The Indian leader's forthright comments come amid growing frustration in New Delhi over Trump's repeated claims of defusing tensions between the nuclear-armed South Asian rivals. Modi's rebuttal coincides with a tougher Indian stance in trade talks with the US, though analysts say the sharper tone is unlikely to affect negotiations or long-term ties with Washington.

"By outlining the events and India's position, Prime Minister Modi was setting the record straight with President Trump," Harsh Vardhan Shringla, former Indian foreign secretary and envoy to the US said. "The India-US relationship is very comprehensive and will continue to grow."

While speaking to reporters at the White House on



PHOTO: STEFANI REYNOLDS

Indian PM Narendra Modi.

Wednesday, Trump referenced his phone call with the Indian prime minister, saying, "we're going to make a trade deal with Modi of India." However, he also reiterated his version of events: "I stopped the war between Pakistan and India," he said.

PAKISTAN ARMY CHIEF

The underlying discontent in New Delhi over what it sees as Trump's attempts to place India and Pakistan on equal footing – and undermine its long-standing foreign policy – is far from resolved. Modi echoed that frustration in a speech at the G-7 summit on Tuesday, where he criticized inconsistent global standards on terrorism, without naming any country specifically.

"On the one hand, we are quick to impose various sanctions based on our own preferences and interests," he said during a session held after Trump had left Canada. "On the other hand, nations that openly support terrorism continue to be rewarded. I have some serious

questions for those present in this room."

New Delhi has said it won't hold talks with Pakistan unless that country takes action to prevent terrorist attacks. The recent military conflict between the two countries was triggered by an April 22 deadly attack on mainly Indian tourists in the Indian-controlled part of Kashmir. India called it a terrorist attack and blamed Pakistan, accusations that Islamabad have denied.

In contrast to India, Pakistan has credited Trump's role in helping negotiate a peace deal and is open to mediation. In an unusual move, Trump is expected to meet with Pakistan's army chief, Asim Munir, at the White House on Wednesday.

Modi's remarks during the phone call may also have been intended to clear up some of the domestic confusion. "The PM needed to clarify this because the confusion that was caused by President Trump," said Indrani Bagchi, chief executive officer at Ananta Centre, a Delhi-based think tank. "It was good that the prime minister made that clear to President Trump at his level."

India's opposition groups said additional measures may be needed to address the diplomatic fallout from Trump's version of the truce. Modi remained "silent" for too long, and the US president's assertions went unchallenged, Congress spokesperson Jairam Ramesh told ANI on Wednesday. He asked the prime minister to "say the same things that you have supposedly told President Trump on the phone" at a special session of the parliament.

Trump asked Modi to visit him in the US following his trip to Canada, but "due to prior engagements, Prime Minister Modi expressed his inability to do so," said Misri. Modi had a scheduled stop in Croatia for a state visit before he returned to India from the G-7.

Misri said Trump accepted Modi's invitation to visit India for the annual Quad meet scheduled for later in the year.

-BLOOMBERG

US President Trump Accepts PM Modi's Invite To Next Quad Meeting, Leaders Discuss Israel-Iran Conflict

US President Donald Trump has accepted India's invitation to attend the QUAD Summit, which will take place in New Delhi later this year, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said on Wednesday, June 18, 2025.

The telephone conversation with President Trump took place on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Canada.

"For the next meeting of Quad, PM Modi invited President Trump to India. While accepting the invitation, President Trump said that he is excited to come to India,"

Misri said in a video message.

The Quad is a diplomatic partnership between Australia, India, Japan, and the United States committed to supporting an open, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific that is inclusive and resilient. The Quad's origins date back to our collaboration in response to the December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

Trump and Modi also discussed the ongoing Israel-Iran conflict. On the Russia-Ukraine conflict, both agreed that direct dialogue between the two sides is essential for an early peace, and efforts should continue. The two leaders shared their perspectives on the Indo-Pacific region and expressed support for the important role of QUAD in the region, Misri said



PHOTO: REUTERS/KEVIN LAMARQUE/FILE PHOTO

U.S. President Donald Trump meets with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the White House in Washington, D.C., U.S., February 13, 2025.

The call comes as Israel and Iran trade drone and missile strikes for a sixth day, with civilians in flashpoint areas facing waves of attacks.

During the call, Modi briefed Trump on Operation Sindoor and "firmly" conveyed the message that India has not and will not accept any mediation when it comes

to issues with Pakistan.

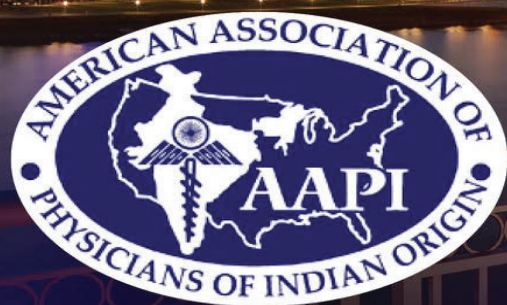
Misri also recounted the trajectory of the latest India-Pakistan conflict, saying, "On the night of May 9, Vice President Vance called Prime Minister Modi. Vice President Vance had said that Pakistan could launch a major attack on India. Prime Minister Modi had told him in clear words that if this happens, India will give an even bigger response to Pakistan. India gave a very strong response to Pakistan's attack on the night of 9-10 May and caused a lot of damage to Pakistan's army. Its military airbases were made inoperable. India's strong response forced Pakistan to urge India to halt military action."

Misri, in his remarks, also highlighted that PM Modi made it clear to President Trump that during this entire episode, at no time, at any level, were issues such as the India-US trade deal or mediation by the US between India and Pakistan discussed. The halt to military action was discussed directly between India and

Pakistan, through existing channels of the two armies, and was at the request of Pakistan.

Misri emphasized that US President Trump understood the points made in detail by the Prime Minister and expressed support for India's fight against terrorism.

-ANI



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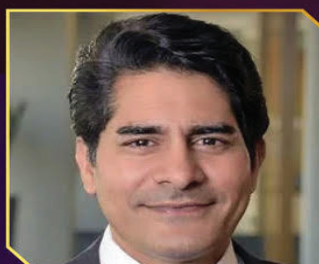


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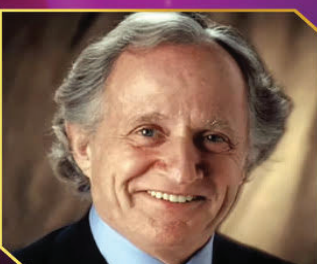
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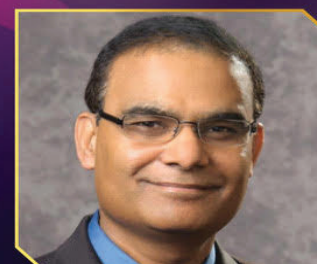


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Indian American Lawmakers' Names Were On Minnesota Killer's List

By A Staff Writer

Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, D-Illinois, one of several Indian Americans in Congress, was on the list of the Minnesota killer who targeted and shot to death the State Speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband Mark recently, and injured two others. Another Indian American lawmaker, Shri Thanedar, D-Michigan, was also on Vance Boelter's list of individuals he intended to kill, news reports said.

"I have been informed that my name was included in the notes of the Minnesota suspect accused of assassinating an elected official,

murdering her husband, and targeting others," Krishnamoorthi said in a statement responding to the news.

"This brutal attack was devastating and terrifying on many levels. Priya and I have spent much of the last few days thinking about Rep. Hortman and her husband Mark, as well as Sen. Hoffman and his wife Yvette," Krishnamoorthi said, adding, "Political violence has no place in America — full stop. Even in this time of great division, we should all agree on that."

Senator Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisconsin, Rep. Debbie Dingell, D-Michigan, and some other Democrats were also on Boelter's list, news reports said.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

VANCE L. BOELTER

Murder



PHOTO: FBI/HANDOUT VIA REUTERS

An FBI poster shows images of 57-year-old Vance Luther, the primary suspect involved in the shooting deaths of senior Democratic state assemblywoman Melissa Hortman and her husband, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, U.S., released on June 14, 2025.

American Multi Ethnic Commission Holds 14th Annual Congressional Global Champions Gala

By A Staff Writer

The American Multi Ethnic Commission (AMEC) held its 14th Annual Congressional Global Champions Gala on June 14, 2025, evening, attended by 38 ethnic communities, all of whom celebrated unity, culture, and shared dreams. According to an Asian Media USA press release, the event was guided by Dr. V J Prabhakar, and envisioned 15 years ago by Congressman Danny K. Davis, D-Illinois.

The evening jumpstarted with "Around the World in 60 Minutes," a whirlwind of performances that took the audience across continents, from Korean American percussionist Chansoo Lee, through Polish culture, India's Bollywood, Philippines, Russian, Chinese, and Indonesian cultures, to name a few.

The highlight of the gala was the awards honoring those who embody AMEC's mission to elevate communities through social justice, education, and cultural diplomacy. Each recipient was draped with a Royal Tanish Silk Scarf or a token from gold sponsors Alok and Krisha Dalal of Tanish Midwest Business Partners. Arman Yousefzai, a kindergarten dynamo, earned Outstanding Child of the Year, saying, "Thank you, Dr. VJ, for supporting me." Several other children were also recognized.

Sunil Shah, recipient of the Golden Eagle Award, rallied support for Neil Khot's congressional bid, saying, "I'm proud of my team." Sirmukh Singh Manku, Photo



A section of the audience, participants, sponsors, etc. singing the national anthem at the 14th AMEC gala.



One of several performances at the AMEC gala.

Journalist of the Year, credited Congressman Davis for Capitol Hill access, while Steven C. Hugh, honored with the President John F. Kennedy Award, championed Asian American unity and announced a fundraiser for Murthy's Senate campaign. Shanthi Vijay Rajan, awarded the Lily Prabhakar Changemaker Award, reflected, "This honor inspires us to serve our community." Renato Mariotti, Attorney of the Year, praised the gala for "bringing people together instead of tearing them apart." Janadhan Rajagopal, Agri Vision Leadership Award winner, empowered women through seaweed farming, and Delorse C. Morrison, Outstanding Senior Citizen at nearly 90, earned a standing ovation, simply saying, "We love you."

Manish Gandhi, Business Leadership Award recipient, advised, "Stay focused,

work hard, and give back to society," dedicating his honor to Air India crash victims. Jeff Wang, Outstanding Community Activist, transformed law into access, noting, "Small actions make a huge impact." Nagarjuna Malempati, Innovator of the Year, shared his fintech vision: "A global platform with no borders." Lufti Syed Hassan, Lifetime Achievement Award winner, urged AMEC to expand, saying, "Houston will follow through." Pastor Steve Munsey, Man of the Year, called Dr. VJ "the greatest showman," adding, "Thank God for our freedom." Elizabeth Ru Jia, Woman of the Year, declared, "Diversity transforms, like art turns ordinary into extraordinary." Rohini Singh, Young Woman of the Year, quipped, "My daughter thought they made a mistake calling me young!" Yesoe Yoon, Mir Ali Ethnic Singer of the Year was

thrilled to be recognized, Naveenchandra Karna, Volunteer of the Year, honored all the volunteers, and Paul H Luu, Civic Leadership Award winner, accepted on behalf of 600 employees. The Bharatiya Senior Citizens of Chicago, Organization of the Year, united 1,600 members under Haribhai Patel's leadership.

A fashion show by the Prosthetic Foundation of America, led by Vikram Choudhary, showcased resilience through models like Ali and Jerry Herardo. Chris noted, "This is a tribute to strength and confidence." The grand finale dance competition saw nine teams vie for glory, with Sridevi Pandalai's Ghunguru team winning for its "total package performance," as judge Hardik Rawat from India praised their "dance concept, formations, and tricks."



A highlight of the AMEC gala was the awards ceremony.

This week for you

By DR. PREM KUMAR SHARMA

E-mail: psharma@premaastrologer.com Contact No - 01147033152/40532026



ARIES: Taking on new responsibilities will require focus and dedication, but the rewards are promising. Your career prospects seem bright, with progress in ongoing projects expected. Academic opportunities align with your ambitions, offering satisfaction and growth. Romance may blossom in the workplace, adding excitement to your daily life. Health remains stable, especially if you continue to prioritize wellness. If you are searching for a new residence, favorable options may emerge.

TAURUS: Meeting your goals may demand extra effort and persistence this week. Investments might take longer to yield returns, so patience will be crucial. Staying committed to your fitness routine will benefit your health. A well-organized work approach will help manage additional responsibilities effectively. Academic clarity will come through focused study, helping you understand your strengths better. An unexpected admirer could express their feelings, sparking curiosity.

GEMINI: You may find it necessary to address an issue, but choose your words carefully. A short getaway could provide the relaxation you've been craving. Enhancing your living space might bring joy to homemakers. Minor challenges at work may require thoughtful handling. On the academic front, persistence and concentration will be essential to meet your goals.

CANCER: Taking on tasks with determination may lead others to depend on you more frequently. You might find yourself finalizing a property deal that brings you closer to your dreams. A shift towards healthier food habits could improve your well-being. Academic hurdles may arise, but your dedication can overcome them. Travel plans are likely to be successful, bringing unexpected delights.

LEO: Timing is crucial for business ventures if you want to maximize your gains. Your hard work at the office is likely to be noticed and appreciated. Academic efforts are set to bring positive outcomes, boosting your confidence. Love may find its way effortlessly into your life. Personal travel is expected to be joyful, and pending financial matters may finally find resolution. Health remains steady and strong.

VIRGO: This is an ideal time to plan that much-awaited event or trip. Romantic moments are likely to blossom, adding joy to your week. Long-distance travel arrangements seem to be smooth and well-organized. Acquiring property or celebrating at home is on the cards. Clear communication will help avoid misunderstandings in

the workplace.

LIBRA: Your resolve will be your biggest asset this week. Wise financial management will help you save for future needs. Good health is achievable through consistent habits. Romantic pursuits might take a backseat as you focus on more pressing commitments. At work, understanding broader perspectives will assist you in making smart decisions.

SCORPIO: You may face professional challenges, but your resilience will help you succeed. Academic goals are attainable with the right mindset and effort. Financial stability is indicated, promising growth and security. Someone special may express interest, bringing a positive shift to your love life. Social interactions are likely to be pleasant and well-received. Keeping up with regular exercise will support your energy levels.

SAGITTARIUS: Your professional responsibilities may require extra focus this week. Pursuing additional learning opportunities will help clear academic hurdles. Committing to a fitness routine promises long-term health benefits. Thoughtful gestures in love can lead to happy moments. Discussions related to property are likely to move forward smoothly. Financial caution is recommended for stability.

CAPRICORN: Taking charge of your tasks is essential as relying on others may not bring the desired outcome. Your superiors might expect top performance at work. Academic plans may require some adjustments to match competition. A social event is likely to bring joy and relaxation. A new romantic connection may take shape, adding excitement.

AQUARIUS: You might consider changing your living space for added comfort. Positive developments at work are likely, boosting confidence and morale. Staying focused on academics will help you achieve desired results. Social interactions may elevate your reputation. Nurturing a romantic bond brings joy and contentment. Make sure to conserve your energy for important tasks, and drive carefully in crowded areas.

PISCES: Now is the right time to pursue long-held desires. An old romantic interest might resurface, bringing back fond memories. Your contributions at work are set to be acknowledged. Keeping up with academic responsibilities will keep you ahead. Reconnecting with friends or family is likely to bring happiness. Financial stability remains strong, and your health continues to be satisfactory.



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Community Gathers In Greater Chicago To Mourn Deaths From Air India Plane Crash

BY A STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of Indian Americans gathered on June 17 evening at the Indian Cultural Center in Schaumburg, IL., to mourn the loss of more than 250 people including former Chief Minister of Gujarat Vijay Rupani, in the recent Ahmedabad plane crash. The memorial was organized by Overseas Friends of BJP (OFBJP) and supported by several prominent organizations, a press release from organizers said.

Community leaders, families, youth, and seniors from across the region paid their respects through floral tributes, candlelight vigils, and moments of collective silence. Speakers at the memorial remembered Rupani as a humble and dedicated statesman whose legacy of public service left a lasting impact on Gujarat and India.

The evening began with a two-minute silence observed in memory of those who lost their lives. The Mahamrityunjaya Mantra was recited, led by Pandit Rohit Joshi, invoking prayers for peace and spiritual transcendence. Candles were lit,



Condolence Meeting for all the victims of Ahmedabad crash and demise of former chief minister of Gujarat shri Vijay Rupani.

flowers offered, and prayers shared.

"The soul is eternal, unbreakable, and beyond destruction," said Rakesh Malhotra, quoting the Bhagavad Gita. "But today, our hearts are broken. We find strength in unity, prayer, and love for those no longer with us."

Others who shared memories and prayers included Amar Upadhayay, Hemant Patel, Shailesh Rajput, Viren Patel, Hasmukh Patel, Neil Khot, Nirav Patel, Vinesh Virani, Arvind Ankleswaria, and Rajender Thakker, dwelling on their experiences with Rupani and his transformative leadership.

The memorial served as a unifying moment for the diaspora, with expressions of sorrow and solidarity echoing across faiths and communities, organizers said. Leaders announced a week-long period of remembrance, during which prayer meets and community support efforts would continue.

Organizations supporting the memorial event included the Federation of Indian Associations, Indian Council of Niles Township, National India Hub, United Senior Pariwar, Bhartiya Senior Citizen, and the Senior Citizen Group.



Nirav Patel, Rakesh Malhotra, Amar Upadhayay, Hemant Patel, Shailesh Rajput and Vinesh Virani offering prayer for all the victims of Ahmedabad Plane crash and remembering Contributions of Vijay Rupani former Chief Minister of Gujarat.



Amar Upadhayay, Chicago Coordinator of OFBJP, Rohit Joshi of ICNT, Rakesh Malhotra, President Global Indian Diaspora Foundation, Joy Shah, Vice President of FIA, Offering Prayers.

Reps. Krishnamoorthi And Jackson Demand Access To South Loop ICE Facility To Perform Oversight After Being Turned Away

BY A STAFF WRITER

Just days after their attempt to conduct oversight at an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility in the South Loop of Chicago was denied, Congressmen Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL) and Jonathan Jackson (D-IL) sent a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem demanding immediate access to the facility and full transparency around recent detentions and conditions inside.

"We were denied the ability to perform congressional oversight – as is our duty as members of the United States



Prepping lemongrass for mincing.

House of Representatives," the lawmakers wrote, adding, "During the visit to this facility, the ICE officer who refused to identify himself called the Chicago Police Department to evict us for 'trespassing.'"

The visit by Congressmen Krishnamoorthi and Jackson came after what they describe as disturbing reports that on June 4, ICE officials detained at least 10 individuals after sending them text messages instructing them to appear at the facility for a "routine appointment."

"It is unclear exactly how many people were taken, where they were taken to, and if they were given access to counsel," the lawmakers wrote of the incident. "We were denied those answers," they said, quoting from the letter in a press release

June 23.

The two lawmakers called the targeting of Chicago and other "Democratic cities" by ICE as "politically motivated" and "deeply troubling."

"Given the serious and potentially illegal nature of the activity in these reports, we request that the Department of Homeland Security allow Members of Congress to access the South Loop facility for the purpose of investigating their activity further. Please issue a response by Friday, June 27," the letter to Noem concludes.

Link to the letter: <https://krishnamoorthi.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/krishnamoorthi.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2025.06.23-dhs-letter-final%29.pdf>

India Will Ensure Domestic Fuel Supply Despite Middle East Tension

By NIDHI VERMA

India will take measures to safeguard domestic fuel supplies, oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Sunday, after U.S. attacks on Iran's nuclear sites raised the risk of disruption of Middle Eastern oil and gas and soaring energy prices.

Energy markets and investors were already on high alert since Israel launched airstrikes across Iran on June 13, fearing disruption particularly through the Strait of Hormuz.

Around 20% of global oil and gas demand flows through the Strait that Iran has long threatened to close it to exert pressure on the West.

"We have been closely monitoring the evolving geopolitical situation in the Middle East since the past two weeks... we have diversified our supplies in the past few years and a large volume of our supplies do not come through the Strait of Hormuz now," Puri said on social media platform X.



Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas of India Hardeep Singh Puri speaks during the 54th annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, January 16, 2024.

"Our Oil Marketing Companies have supplies of several weeks and continue to receive energy supplies from several routes. We will take all necessary steps to ensure stability of supplies of fuel to our citizens," he said.

India, the world's third biggest oil importer and consumer, gets less than half of its average 4.8 million barrels per day of oil imports from the Middle East.

Separately Puri told local news agency ANI that India would increase crude supplies from other sources if required. "We are in touch with all possible actors... It is our hope, and we all expect that the situation will result in calm and de-escalation rather than further escalation," he said.

Earlier in the day Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a phone call from Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, in which he was briefed about the conflict between Iran and Israel, India's foreign ministry said.

-REUTERS

Indian Pilgrims Cross Chinese Border Into Tibet As Relations Thaw

By JOSHUA YANG

A religious pilgrimage from India into China facilitated by both governments has resumed for the first time in five years – the latest sign of a cautious thaw in the contentious relationship between the world's two most populous nations.

The first batch of Indian pilgrims taking part in the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra – named for the two Tibetan sacred sites the route traverses – left New Delhi on Sunday morning and crossed the mountainous border into China's Tibet Autonomous Region on Friday.

The group of roughly 40 pilgrims acclimatized to the high Himalayan altitudes in the northern Indian state of Sikkim before setting off for a cross-border mountain pass 14,000 feet above sea level. The pilgrimage is set to conclude June 27 at Tibet's Manasarovar Lake, in the shadow of Mount Kailash, a site Hindus believe to be the dwelling of the deity Lord Shiva. The sites are also sacred to adherents of other religions, including Buddhism and Jainism.

Upender Rao, 64, a lawyer from Hyderabad in southern India, considers himself "most fortunate" to be one of 750 pilgrims chosen by lottery to take part in the trip, which India's Foreign Ministry planned meticulously. "I am a devotee of Lord Shiva," so "I want to see the world of Lord Shiva," he said in a phone interview. "That's my dream."

It is a dream that Rao has had to put on hold for the past five years. The 2020 pilgrimage was canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic, and subsequent pilgrimages were halted after June 2020, when Chinese and Indian soldiers clashed over disputed territory high in the Himalayas. At least four Chinese and 20 Indian soldiers died in the conflicts, which both sides fought without modern weapons in an apparent effort to avoid escalation.

The Kailash Manasarovar pilgrimage has long served as a bellwether for the state of relations between India and China, which have clashed sporadically for six decades along a disputed, 2,100-mile-long (3,400-kilometer-long) land border stretching from central Asia to the edges of Southeast Asia.

The border is not the only politically fraught area the pilgrims traverse: Beijing imposes tight restrictions on religious freedom in Tibet, which China annexed in 1951 over the objections of India. Since 1959, India has hosted the Dalai Lama, the Tibetan Buddhist religious leader, and the Tibetan government in exile.

The pilgrimage, which crosses into Tibet, could inflame those sensitivities. According to Rao, the Indian Foreign Ministry's predeparture briefing warned the pilgrims not to praise or talk about the Dalai Lama.

Cooperation to facilitate the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra



India's Border Security Force (BSF) soldiers stand guard at a checkpoint along a highway leading to Ladakh, at Gagangar in Kashmir's Ganderbal district June 17, 2020.

dates to the mid-20th century, when the pilgrimage was brought up during talks to settle a boundary line between the two countries.

In the resulting 1954 Sino-Indian agreement, the logistics of the pilgrimage were settled – but the location of the border was not. As tensions mounted over disputed territory, China invaded India in 1962. China's decisive victory in the subsequent war brought China-India relations, and the pilgrimage, to a halt.

Nearly two decades later in 1981, a new generation of Chinese and Indian leaders negotiated to reopen the pilgrimage, talks that served as a precursor to negotiating a full renormalization of ties in 1988. Still, the countries failed to agree on a boundary line, and tense border standoffs – in 1987, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2017 – remained a mainstay of India-China relations.

After the clashes of 2020, which brought the bilateral relationship to its lowest point in four decades, China sealed the Tibetan border with India, while India banned 59 Chinese-made apps – including TikTok – and vowed to become self-reliant and separate itself from Chinese imports. India also increased its security engagement with the Quad, the informal diplomatic grouping of the United States, India, Japan and Australia, in a move toward countering Chinese power and influence.

At the same time, India and China have both backed away from further aggression. "There's always a risk of unintended clashes" at the border, said Ashok Kantha, the Indian ambassador to China from 2014 to 2016. "I don't think either side would like that to happen. Finding a modus vivendi, even though we may have our different interests that are not always convergent, is most desir-

able."

Since the nadir of June 2020 – and minor clashes in 2021 and 2022 – the India-China relationship has shown signs of a slow recovery. Last October, the two sides announced an agreement to resume regular border patrols and committed "to bring the relationship back to sound and steady development at an early date," the Chinese Foreign Ministry said in a statement. Visits between top officials, including Chinese leader Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, followed.

Beijing and New Delhi both have touted the restoration of the Kailash Manasarovar pilgrimage as one of the chief diplomatic breakthroughs to emerge from the rapprochement. China hopes the pilgrims will not only be "spiritually enriched but also enjoy hospitality of Chinese people," Yu Jing, the spokeswoman of the Chinese Embassy in Delhi, said in a social media post.

"From our side, there was interest" in resuming the pilgrimage, "because this resonates quite strongly at the popular level," said Kantha, who worked on expanding pilgrimage routes during his tenure as ambassador. "The number of pilgrims is relatively small, but there is sentimental value attached to" the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra.

Yet an agreement such as this is "low-hanging fruit," Kantha cautioned. The major geopolitical questions in the India-China relationship remain unresolved: Although last October's agreement re-established buffer zones along the border, no progress has been made on demarcating the boundary line between the two countries, and there has yet to be a drawdown from the high number of soldiers deployed to the border region by both sides since 2020.

The India-China relationship was further strained during last month's India-Pakistan clashes, which saw Pakistan using Chinese-made jets to shoot down Indian warplanes. Beijing's implicit support for its longtime ally during the conflict "was not very helpful," Kantha said. "The level of deference between China-Pakistan came to the fore and created serious misgivings in India. I don't think that has helped us rebuild relations."

Normalizing relations "will be easier said than done," said Chietig Bajpae, a senior research fellow at Chatham House who specializes in Asian affairs. "The resumption of the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra is more symbolism than substance given the bad blood in the bilateral relationship."

For all the high-level geopolitics at play, though, Rao was pleasantly surprised to encounter a more personal reality on the ground. The pilgrims spent their first night in China at Kangma, a village some 100 miles (about 161 kilometers) behind the border, and met Tibetans for the first time. "Their hospitality is very good," Rao said.

-THE WASHINGTON POST



All Photos: Canva

What If I Don't Finish My Studies?

Business Immigration Options for F-1 Students

By David H. Nachman, Esq

IN MEMORIAM



Michael Phulwani



David Nachman



Ludka Zimovcak



Snehal Batra

Many international students enter the United States on an F-1 visa with hopes of completing their degree and launching a career. But what happens if things change — you pause your studies or decide that the academic path isn't right for you?

If you're an F-1 student who is not graduating, but want to stay in the U.S. legally and pursue a future in business or entrepreneurship, there are several immigration options that may be worth exploring — including business-based visas and the EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program.

Can I Stay in the U.S. Without Finishing My Degree?

If you're not completing your program, your F-1 status is at risk. Generally, F-1 students must maintain full-time enrollment to stay in status. Dropping out or falling below the required course load without authorization may lead to termination of your SEVIS record.

That said, you may still have options. But it's important to take action before falling out of status.

1. Business Immigration: L-1, E-2, or H-1B (If You Qualify)

Depending on your background and resources, a shift into a business-related nonimmigrant visa might work. Here are a few possibilities:

L-1 Intracompany Transfer

If you previously worked for a business abroad for at least one year in the past three years, and that business plans to expand into the U.S., you may qualify for the L-1 visa. This is commonly used for startup founders launching a U.S. branch of their foreign company.

- L-1A is for executives and managers
- L-1B is for employees with specialized knowledge
- Can lead to a green card under the EB-1C category

E-2 Treaty Investor Visa

If you are from a country with a qualifying treaty with the U.S. (such as Canada, Japan, or the U.K.), and you have the ability to make a substantial investment in a U.S. business, the E-2 visa may be an option.

- Requires at least 50% ownership in the U.S. company
- You must be actively involved in managing the business
- With strategic planning, E-2 investors may transition to permanent residence through other eligible categories.

Note: Students from India, China, or Brazil are not eligible for the E-2 due to treaty limitations.

H-1B for Specialty Occupations

If you leave school but already hold a bachelor's degree (from your home country or from partial U.S. studies), you may be eligible for H-1B sponsorship from a U.S. employer. However, this route is limited due to the annual H-1B cap and lottery system.

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2. EB-5 Immigrant Investor Green Card

If you have access to significant funds and want a direct path to permanent residence, the EB-5 program might be worth considering.

Key Requirements:

- Invest \$800,000 (or \$1,050,000 depending on location) in a new commercial enterprise
- Create at least 10 full-time jobs for U.S. workers
- The investment must be at risk, meaning you cannot be guaranteed a return
- You can invest directly or through a Regional Center project

EB-5 is a green card option designed for investors seeking long-term stability in the U.S.

Final Thoughts

Leaving your F-1 program doesn't mean giving up your U.S. goals — but it does mean you must act quickly to avoid falling out of status. Business immigration and investment-based options like L-1, E-2, or EB-5 can offer new pathways, especially for those with entrepreneurial ambition or financial means.

NPZ Law Group regularly assists students, investors, and founders in navigating these transitions. If you're considering a change of status or want to stay in the U.S. legally while pursuing business goals, we can help you understand your next steps.

Contact Information

If you or your family members have any questions about how immigration and nationality laws in the United States may affect you, or if you want to access additional information about immigration and nationality laws in the United States or Canada, please do not hesitate to contact the immigration and nationality lawyers at NPZ Law Group. You can reach us by emailing info@visaserve.com or by calling us at 201-670-0006 extension 104. We also invite you to visit our website at www.visaserve.com for more information. Contact us today.

Indian Delegation In Ireland To Attend 40th Anniversary Memorial Of Kanishka Bombing

-DUBLIN

A high-level Indian delegation led by Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri along with BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, and representatives from five states, arrived in Ireland, to participate in the 40th anniversary memorial of the Air India Kanishka bombing, which killed 329 people in the 1985 terror attack.

The commemoration was scheduled to take place at the Ahakista Memorial in Cork on Sunday, June 22.

The delegation includes prominent elected representatives, including Arvinder Singh Lovely (Delhi MLA), Baldev Singh Aulakh (Minister from Uttar Pradesh), Gurveer Singh Brar (MLA from Rajasthan), Trilok Singh Cheema (MLA from Uttarakhand), and Narinder Singh Raina (MLA from Jammu and Kashmir).

The solemn memorial service was attended by Ireland's Prime Minister, Micheal Martin, Canada's Minister of Public Safety, Gary Anandasangaree, and several other



PHOTO: X @HARDEEPSURI VIA ANI

Indian delegation paying homage to those killed in the terrorist bombing of Air India Flight 182, in 1985.

international dignitaries.

In a post on X, Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said, "On the way from Heathrow to Cork... The dastardly mid air bombing of Air India Kanishka Flight 182 in 1985 which claimed 329 innocent lives off the Irish Coast remains one of the most inhuman acts of terror in aviation history. I was able to pay tribute to the victims at the Kanishka Memorial at Humber Bay Park in Toronto in September 2019 where I also met family members of several victims who had shared their pain and suffering."

Speaking ahead of the ceremony, BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh said, "The Kanishka bombing was a painful reminder of the brutal face of terrorism, which claimed innocent lives across nations. As I stand on Irish soil, I pay my heartfelt tribute to those who perished, and reaffirm our resolve to unite against terror in all its forms."

-ANI

Operation Sindhu: India To Operate 3 More Evacuation Flights From Iran; 162 Indians In Jordan To Return Soon

The Indian government has scheduled three additional evacuation flights from Iran over the next two to three days as part of its ongoing Operation Sindhu, Union Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita said on Sunday June 22, 2025.

Speaking to reporters after receiving a new batch of 285 Indian nationals evacuated from the conflict-hit Iran at the Delhi Airport, Margherita said that 162 Indian nationals who had crossed into Jordan from Israel would be repatriated "within a day or two."

"We have scheduled to have three more flights from Iran in the next two to three days. In the same way, we are in constant contact with Indian nations in Iran as well as Israel... 162 Indian nationals have crossed the border to Jordan, and within a day or two, they will be brought back

to India," the minister said.

The group of 285 evacuees, who arrived on a special flight from Mashhad, included people from several states such as Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Maharashtra.

"Special evacuation flight has arrived in New Delhi Airport... carrying 285 Indian nationals... Mainly from 10 states... Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra... The total number now stands at 1713," Margherita added.

The evacuees were welcomed by the Union Minister of State for External Affairs, Pabitra Margherita, after they landed at the Delhi Airport, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated.

In a post on X, the MEA stated, "India's evacuation ef-

orts continue under Operation Sindhu. MoS Shri Pabitra Margherita received 285 Indian nationals evacuated on a special flight from Mashhad that landed in New Delhi at 2330 hrs on 22 June."

"With this, 1,713 Indian nationals have now been brought home from Iran," it added. Meanwhile, MoS Margherita, in a post on X, expressed his satisfaction with the ongoing operation, stating, "Warmly welcomed 285 Indian nationals at the Delhi airport who were evacuated from Iran under Operation Sindhu. With this, 1,713 Indian nationals have been brought home safely from Iran."

-ANI

HEALTH

Organizers Say AAPI's 43rd Convention Offers Enriching Experience, Networking, Learning, And Celebrating

BY A STAFF WRITER

Dr. Satheesh Kathula, president of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, formally invited physicians and families to the 43rd Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly scheduled to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, from July 24-27, 2025.

The Convention expects nearly 1,000 delegates including physicians, academicians, researchers and medical students, along with guests from across the country.

The Convention will offer 10-12 hours of Continuing Medical Education (CME) sessions delivered by world-renowned speakers, a CEO Forum, Women's Forum, and specialized tracks on Medical Education and Medical Licensing.

In addition, attendees will enjoy three nights of entertainment, featuring notable artists.

"Whether you are a physician, a healthcare professional, or an industry partner, this convention presents a valuable opportunity to showcase your business and connect with influential leaders in the medical field," Dr. Sunil Kaza, Chair of AAPI Board of Trustees, is quoted saying in the press release.

Dr. Mario Capecchi, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Medicine/Physiology in 2007, for his contributions to the development of "Mouse knockout technology" will deliver the keynote address.

Other confirmed speakers include: Dr. Bobby Mukkamala, president-elect of the American Medical Association; Dr. Lyuba Konopasek, MD, Senior Vice President, Intelth/ECFMG, Executive Director, FAIMER; Michael Suk, MD, BOT Chair, AMA; George Abraham, MD, Chair, Federation of State Medical Boards; and Dr. D Nageshwar Reddy, a Padma Vibhushan awardee.

"We have convened a dedicated group of people to meet the needs of the 2025 convention and are very

excited about this year," Dr. Amit Chakrabarty, president-elect of AAPI said.

Dr. Meher Medavaram, vice president of AAPI, expressed pride over how far AAPI had evolved. "Today, AAPI is strong representing over 120,000 Indian American physicians, 130 local Chapters, who make up 10% of total physicians in the US and nearly 50% of International Medical Graduates, rooted in every corner of the nation, who serve every 7th patient in the US."

"The annual convention offers extensive academic presentations, recognition of achievements and achievers, and professional networking at the alumni and evening social events. We invite you to be an active participant in this transformative journey and be part of the Convention," said Dr. Kathula. For more details on AAPI and the convention, please visit: www.aapiconvention.org and www.aapiusa.org

The Washington Post

Why some destinations are ditching fireworks for July Fourth

By Andrea Sachs

For the second year in a row, Honey and Leo Foster-Ezring will celebrate Independence Day at a resort on Maryland’s Tilghman Island. The pair will swim in the Chesapeake Bay, dine at Tickler’s Crab Shack and laze in a hammock. Best of all, they won’t spend the holiday hiding in the bathroom shower because Tilghman Island does not hold an official fireworks display.

Honey and Leo, both rescue dogs residing in Northeast Washington, are part of a wider population sensitive to loud noises, crowds and other sensory disruptions often associated with firework displays. Every July Fourth, animal care advocates warn owners about the adverse effects the explosions can have on pets, such as stress or anxiety and the urge to cower or bolt.

“Animal shelters around the country report a huge increase in the number of dogs and cats who are taken in around the Fourth of July because the animals are terrified by these loud explosions,” said Jakob Shaw, manager of strategic initiatives for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). *“They’ll run away from backyards; they’ll jump through windows. So in addition to the trauma of fireworks, there’s so much injury and loss.”*

The star-spangled spectacles can also distress neurodivergent people and other vulnerable individuals, such as war veterans who might suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder and senior citizens. In addition to the booms of fireworks and congested viewing spots, the flashing or shimmering lights, pungent food smells and change in routine can be a source of discomfort.

“July Fourth doesn’t just hit one sensory system. It hits a lot,” said Rebecca Landa, founder and executive director of the Center for Autism Services, Science and Innovation at Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore. *“Multiple sensory systems are being challenged, and that can be a trigger for behavioral and emotional dysregulation.”*

To ensure a happy and healthy holiday, people and pets can find a getaway that meets their specific needs: no fireworks or alternative displays, open spaces, few crowds. Destinations such as Aspen, Colorado; San Diego’s La Jolla neighborhood; and Lincoln City, Oregon, have ditched their fireworks for more benevolent light shows. For Honey and Leo, that place is Tilghman Island.

“I’d much rather see Honey rolling in the grass or swimming in the bay than shaking in the shower,” said Adam Ezring, 47, a deputy director of an education nonprofit. He will spend the once-anxiety-ridden day chilling at the Wylder Hotel with his wife and two pups.

Sporting events and theme parks go fireworks-free

Fireworks, an innovation credited to ancient China, have been a Fourth of July tradition in the United States since 1777, according to the American Pyrotechnics Association. In more recent times, many communities, theme parks and high-profile events have been introducing gentler alternatives, such as light shows produced by drones and lasers.

Both creative formats are much quieter than pyrotechnics. The volume level of drones is around 60 to 65 decibels, said Hayes Walsh, creative content director of Sky Elements Drones, a drone show provider. By comparison, fireworks can be as ear-shattering as the blast of a jet engine taking off, which registers at about 140 decibels.

“If you were to stand at the takeoff point, you would definitely hear a buzz,” said travel reporter Sally French, a drone enthusiast who founded the Drone Girl blog in 2013. *“But if you were in an audience, you would never hear it. I do hear from dog owners who say this is so much better.”*

Since the world’s first commercial drone light show in 2012, at an Austrian music festival, French has seen an increase in the frequency and profile of this type of choreographed performance.

Unmanned aerial vehicles shared the stage with Lady Gaga at the 2017 Super Bowl in Houston and with Olympians in the 2020 Opening Ceremonies in Tokyo, held in 2021 because of the pandemic. Both also featured fireworks. In January last year, Disneyland Paris unveiled an evening parade with more than 500 drones, lasers, video projections, lights and fountains. Grant’s Farm in St. Louis runs a “drone show spectacular” on summer weekends. And they have started appearing on the biggest fireworks day of the year.

Drone shows from Colorado to Michigan

For the holiday, Sky Elements Drones will perform more than 40 shows in 10 states. Though some of the displays will incorporate fireworks, the event in Lincoln City, Oregon, which prohibits fireworks on private and public property, will be drones-only.

BringFido, a pet travel site, has nearly 20 dog-friendly shindigs, several of which are fireworks-free, such as a bash at Cannon Beach, Oregon. PETA compiles an annual list of fireworks-free destinations. So far for this year, the count is up to 15. *“Cities, resorts and parade festivals around the country that switch to fireworks-free celebrations are better for animals, people with PTSD and neurodivergent people, and are just more in keeping with the more sustainable way that many of us want to live these days,”* Shaw said.

Since at least 2018, Aspen had been reconsidering its use of fireworks because of wildfire threats to drought-stricken Colorado. In 2021, the town ditched them for eco-friendly, nonflammable lasers. A spark can be devastating: According to the National Fire Protection Association, fireworks caused an estimated 31,302 conflagrations in 2022. This July Fourth, Aspen will entertain the crowds with the 15-minute Symphony of Freedom, wholly performed by drones.

“Aspen is very much concerned about the natural environment and the impact that loud noises and vibrations have on the ecosystem,” said Mike Harrington, executive director of the Wheeler Opera House in Aspen. *“So this is certainly a step in a positive direction.”*

In Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, Susan Estler, chief executive at Travel Marquette, said she worked with local groups, including seniors and veterans, on the town’s festivities. Since 2023, Marquette has held separate events, with fireworks and a laser show on July 3 and the Sensory Friendly Laser Show, the largest architectural laser show in North America, on the Fourth.

“We had feedback from the veterans home about how much the veterans appreciated the fact it was just the sensory show on the Fourth of July,” Estler said. *“Sustainability is important. Accessibility is important, as well as being inclusive.”*



How to manage sensory triggers

Cities and event spaces can reduce the sensory overload but not eliminate it. Most illumination shows are set to music. Spectators amass in viewing areas. Food trucks and cookouts emit strong odors. Even in communities without a sanctioned fireworks show, visitors may see and hear sparklers ignited by residents or neighboring towns.

Neurodivergent professionals encourage celebrants to take precautionary steps to mitigate any potentially stressful situations. Families should look for “sensory-friendly designations, calm areas, and staff trained to better support autism and neurodiverse populations,” said Kristyn Roth, chief marketing officer for the Autism Society of America. The organization’s national helpline has specialists who can assist with summer travel planning, including holiday trips.

Sam Brandsen, a member of its council of autistic advisers and the autistic parent of an autistic child, prepares his son by “coming up with little stories that help him know what to expect - that there’s going to be unexpected noises or fireworks.” He said libraries are a comforting option for his 7-year-old. In addition to arranging holiday-themed events or displays, Brandsen said, “they are a lot more sensory- and kid-friendly.”

For the Fourth, Maureen Dunne, a cognitive scientist and neurodiversity specialist, recommends packing a kit with such essentials as noise-canceling headphones and sunglasses to temper the lights display. A fragrant spray can help mask strong smells.

To insulate yourself from external triggers, Landa suggests booking a hotel room with a stellar view of the festivities, or ask the hotel whether it has an enclosed observation deck. If the host destination is streaming or recording the event, you can watch the show in your room and control the audio settings.

“I was with a friend once who, instead of going to the fireworks, really liked to watch them on TV and turn the volume off,” said Dunne, who will attend Aspen’s festivities with her husband and triplets.

If the most comforting option is to skip the spectacle all together, spend the holiday in a national park or national forest, both of which prohibit fireworks. Most public lands allow dogs, with some restrictions.

Sholay Celebrates 50 Years With World Premiere Of Restored Version At Il Cinema Ritrovato Festival

By RAJIV VIJAYAKAR

The Il Cinema Ritrovato Festival in Bologna, Italy, is set to host a landmark event in cinematic history: the world premiere of the fully restored, uncut version of G.P. Sippy's landmark epic, *Sholay*. This special screening, commemorating the film's 50th anniversary, will take place on June 27, 2025, on the breathtakingly large open-air screen in Piazza Maggiore, providing a magnificent backdrop for this beloved classic.

Originally released on August 15, 1975, the multi-starrer cult film captivated audiences worldwide with its compelling narrative, memorable characters and groundbreaking action sequences. Directed by Ramesh Sippy, the film serves as a cornerstone of Indian cinema and continues to be celebrated for its enduring impact.

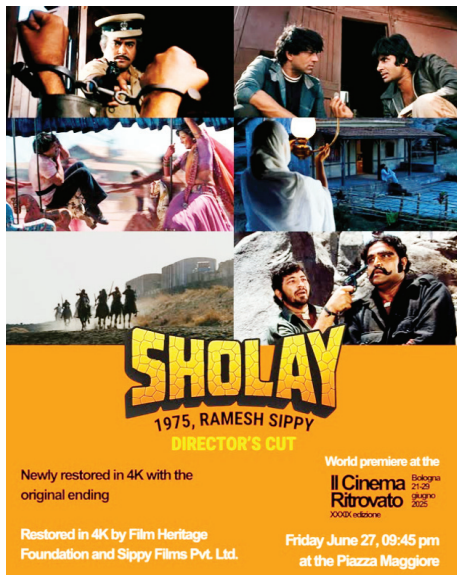
This meticulously-restored version, a collaborative effort by Film Heritage Foundation and Sippy Films Pvt. Ltd., brings back the film as it was originally intended. Audiences will have the unique opportunity to see the original ending and previously deleted scenes that were not part of the widely-distributed theatrical cut, offering a fresh perspective on a cinematic masterpiece.

Dharmendra states, "Sholay is the eighth wonder of the world! I am thrilled to hear that the film is being restored and I am sure it will have the same success as it had 50 years ago. Who can forget the dialogues of Salim-Javed and the direction of Ramesh Sippy? So many scenes have gone down in the history of Indian cinema and every character became a star. But the real hero was the coin. Few people know that I was offered the role of Gabbar and Thakur, but I was clear that I wanted to play the role of Veeru, as he is so much like me. I had so much fun on the shoot. My favorite scenes were the tanki (water tank) scene, the scene in the temple, and so many others, but the most powerful scene I feel was the death of Jai, which is still etched in my mind."

Amitabh Bachchan states, "Some things in life remain permanently etched in your mind. *Sholay* is one such film. Shooting for the film was an unforgettable experience, but at the time I had no idea that it would be a watershed for Indian cinema. Its dramatic change in fortunes from being declared an unsuccessful venture to its record-breaking box-office run was an emotional rollercoaster for all of us. It's wonderful that the Film Heritage Foundation has restored *Sholay* and that they



The before restoration and after restoration visuals of *Sholay*.



The poster of the restored *Sholay*.

have managed to locate and include the original ending as well as some deleted scenes in the restoration. I hope that even 50 years later, the film will capture the imagination of new audiences across the world."

Sanjeev Kumar, Hema Malini, Jaya Bachchan and Amjad Khan played other pivotal roles in the film.

Shivendra Singh Dungarpur, Director, Film Heritage Foundation states, "My first memory of *Sholay* dates back to the time when I was six years old and I remember lamenting because my mother refused to allow me to go to the cinema to watch the film. I would never have imagined that 50 years later, I would have the opportunity to work on the restoration of the film – often described as the greatest Indian film ever made – with Shehzad Sippy of Sippy Films. I know every frame and every dialogue of the film by heart. *Sholay* was a masterpiece of passion that generations of Indians have loved and seen time and time again. Despite the fact that we could not use the original camera negative and

that not a single 70mm print survives, we have left no stone unturned to ensure that this historic film has not only been beautifully restored, but that the restored version that will premiere in Bologna will have the original ending and some never-before-seen deleted scenes. I can't wait to watch the film in the open air in the Piazza in Bologna along with thousands of cinephiles from around the world."

Shehzad Sippy, producer, Sippy Films, adds, "Our film is the cornerstone of our family heritage and I am so proud that Sippy Films has been able to do a world-class restoration of the film with Film Heritage Foundation. It has taken us three years, but we were able to find the original ending and some deleted scenes that the world will see for the first time at the grand premiere at the Il Cinema Ritrovato Festival in Bologna. It's been a labor of love to resurrect the film and this is a tribute to the vision and the legacy of my grandfather, G.P. Sippy. I can't wait for the film to begin its new lease of life."

The screening in Piazza Maggiore is expected to draw a large crowd of film enthusiasts, critics and the general public, all eager to experience this legendary film in a truly exceptional setting. The Il Cinema Ritrovato Festival is renowned for its dedication to showcasing restored and classic films, making it the ideal venue for this significant premiere.

The restoration ensures that future generations can appreciate the film's artistic and cultural significance in its most authentic form. This world premiere marks not just a celebration of a film, but a recognition of its enduring power and its place in global cinematic history.

ABOUT THE RESTORATION PROCESS

In 2022, Shehzad Sippy of Sippy Films initiated discussions with the Film Heritage Foundation regarding the restoration of *Sholay*. He indicated that the film elements were housed in a Mumbai warehouse and expressed his desire to entrust them to the care of Film Heritage Foundation for preservation. Upon exam-

ining the contents of the film cans, which lacked labels, Film Heritage Foundation made the remarkable discovery that they contained the original 35mm camera and sound negatives of the film. Ramesh Sippy visited the archival office to witness this extraordinary find, visibly moved by the survival of these original film components. Shehzad Sippy further informed the Film Heritage Foundation of additional film elements stored at Iron Mountain in the UK. With invaluable assistance from the esteemed British Film Institute, Film Heritage Foundation were granted access to these materials. Subsequently, the reels from both London and Mumbai were transported to L'Immagine Ritrovata in Bologna to commence the intricate restoration process.

The restoration proved to be a complex endeavor, spanning nearly three years. The primary challenge lay in the condition of the original camera negative, which was severely deteriorated and thus unsuitable for the restoration. Consequently, the restoration predominantly utilized the inter-positives located in London and Mumbai. Fortunately, the color reversal intermediate discovered in London remarkably contained the original ending and two previously deleted scenes. Film Heritage Foundation had also successfully acquired the original Arri 2C camera instrumental in the filming of *Sholay*.

Given the absence of 70mm prints, Film Heritage Foundation consulted with veteran cinematographer Kamlakar Rao (Karz, Hero, Karma), who had collaborated on *Sholay* with the film's cinematographer, Dwarka Divecha. "Rao recounted Divecha's technique of employing a ground glass in front of the camera lens, upon which Rao made markings to delineate the margins of the 70mm frame. This invaluable insight guided our decision to adopt a 2.2:1 Aspect Ratio for the restored film. Adding to Film Heritage Foundation's good fortune, the original magnetic sound elements were located at the Sippy Films office. The sound restoration was meticulously conducted utilizing both the original sound negative and these magnetic elements."

The final restored version is a culmination of efforts based on two inter-positives and two color reversal intermediates, incorporating the original ending and the deleted scenes, thereby reviving the director's authentic vision for the film.

Interestingly, the content of the film, originally released in 70mm and as India's first film in Stereophonic Sound, was so strong that audiences rejected the conversion of the film into a 3D version released in 2014.

With 4 Hindi Films, Sonam Bajwa Is Rewriting The New Heroine Story

By A STAFF WRITER

After ruling the Punjabi film industry with back-to-back blockbuster hits and award worthy performances over the last 12 years, Sonam Bajwa is taking the Hindi film industry route with triumph. She is cast now in diverse roles because her

glam quotient mixed with her acting chops make for a complete package.

In *Housefull 5*, she was seen stealing the show where she was shown easily switching from speaking in Urdu to Hindi and Punjabi.

She will be seen with Tiger Shroff in *Baaghi 4* in a sultry on-screen avatar, and she follows that with an author-backed role in *Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat*, a new-age love story, opposite Harshvardhan Rane. She also is cast

as a Punjabi girl spreading nationalism in *Border 2* opposite Diljit Dosanjh.

It is rare for a new (for Hindi films) actress to have such diverse films released or signed in her debut year as lead actress, and this speaks for the range that Sonam Bajwa brings to the table as a leading lady. Earlier, she has acted in small roles in *Bala* and *Street Dancer 3D*. Sonam has also done two Tamil films and a Telugu movie.

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Email : binaa@cox.net

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इस तरह की सूचना को सीधे अपने ईमेल पर प्राप्त करने के लिए काउंटी ईमेल सूची सर्वर के लिए साइन अप करें <https://nydecprod.prod.acquia-sites.com/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/environmental-cleanup-email-newsletters>.

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05/30-06/27 SL

ARIZONA

Single / Couple Manager for 66 Rooms Upscale Franchise Motel in Page, AZ 86040 with minimum 3 years experience, fluent English, Computer literate and legal must. Free accommodation, Yearly salary 60K to 70K. Call (435) 229 9421.

06/13-06/27 SL

AKRON,OH

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06/13-07/04 SD

VIRGINIA- MARYLAND & NORTH CAROLINA

Hotels are looking for skilled Front Desk, Housekeeping & Laundry attendants. If you are experienced & ready to contribute, Pls call/text: 540-324-8786

11/15/24 - 12/19/25 -SH

NEW JERSEY

Franchise Hotel in NJ is looking for Single/Couple for: Housekeeping, Front Desk, Maintenance. Good salary and accommodation will be provided. Also looking for Hotel Sales Associate. (Experience and good communication skills required) Call: Nick 201-637-5062 (Contact between 9 AM to 7 PM.) • Vivian (757) 620-9207 • Hina (201) 936-8762

08/02-TFN-SD

ILLINOIS/IOWA

Need Single/Couple for Housekeeping and Frontdesk help for Franchise hotels in Illinois and Iowa. Accommodation Provided. Legal must. Call (973) 722-6238

06/13-06/27 JG

NEWARK, DELAWARE

Need General Manager, Front Desk Clerks and Housekeeping Couples for Franchise Hotel / Motel in Newark, DE. Accommodation provided. Legal status must. Call / text (732) 423-1725 / email resume: joinmyhotel@gmail.com

06/20-07/18 SL

IOWA

Franchise hotel in Iowa looking for front desk help. Single or couple with laundry. Legal status must and fluent in English. Accommodations provided. Call 864-201-9706.

06/20-06/27 SH

NEW YORK / NEW JERSEY

FRANCHISE HOTEL NEED Couple for Housekeeping and Single for Front Desk Help (English must). Good pay with free accommodation. Legal must. Call Nishith: 5163739274 / Nick (201) 637 5062

04/18/25 - 04/17/26 -SL

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

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05/23/25- 05/15/26 - SL

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06/20-07/11 SH

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06/27-07/18 SL

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05/23/25 - 11/18/25 -SH

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09/27/2024 - 09/19/2025-SL

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06/27-07/25-SL

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06/06-07/11 MS

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Email: ujm03477@gmail.com

06/06-06/27 SD

Punjabi Sharma female 32 years, 5' 6", Fair, MBBS practicing in Punjab (India) looking for USA based Citizen Doctor / Medical professional Male. Email biodata and recent Photo to wadhwa140@gmail.com

06/20-07/11 SL

Looking for a match for my daughter, 37, born and educated in the US, never married, working in Health Care. Please contact avsharma@msn.com

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