Since March 2002

Paris Jackson reacts to 'Leaving' Neverland' accusations

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Yes, There's a Crisis at the Border





Justin Trudeau tries to save face

(News Agencies) Toronto-Prime Minister Justin Trudeau insisted Thursday that there was nothing sinister about his role in a scandal swamping his government and threatening his reelection prospects. At a formal press conference, he spoke in detail for the first time about **Continued on Page 19**

Rahul leads Opposition in backing expose on Rafale deal

(News Agencies) New Delhi- on these files, including by The

Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Thursday said The Hindu was being targeted for having been "brave" enough expose government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the Rafale

deal. His comment



Hindu, was violation of the Official Secrets Act (OSA). Other Opposition leaders, including West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu

came in the wake of the Centre's Naidu, also expressed disquiet over contention that the Rafale files the government's threat to invoke had been "stolen" from the the OSA, condemning it as a move Defence Ministry and that to muzzle the media. publication of news reports based

Continued on Page 19

Dilip Chauhan introduces Indian Heritage at US basketball game



During Diya Lightting Ceremony, Left: Co-Chair, Raj Shah, Ruchika Chauhan, Anil Shah, Dy.CG Shatrugna Sinha, Organizer Dilip Chauhan and Roopa Sridhar.

Ex-Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano

and wife Linda found guilty in bribery case

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Edward Mangano and his wife, Linda, have been found guilty at their seven-week corruption retrial on Long Island — and each now faces as much as

20 years prison.



In a late-morning split verdict guilty of accepting hundreds

of thousands of dollars in bribes from ex-restaurant owner Harendra Singh in exchange for the once powerful pol's help in securing more than \$20 million in loans.

Ed was cleared of a single count of extortion. He was also Friday, a jury found Mangano cleared of charges

Continued on Page 19

Insurance

(See Full Page Advt. on Page 32)

Business, Liability, Disability, Workers Comp., E & O, Auto, Home



Bollyball Diplomacy Dilip Chauhan introduces Indian Heritage at US basketball game

Community leaders and Indian Dy CG attend Nassau Veterans Coliseum game as Indian groups perform before the game – Prime Time and at half-time, it's such a great occasion for Indian Community to be a part of major basketball game at Nassau Coliseum



Indian American Community In Joyous Mood during Indian Heritage Night at NYCB LIVE's Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum



The game ball deliver ceremony was performed by the Winner of 2018 Miss een Bharat New York, Kahini Chauhan.



Kids Enjoying High5 Time with Player



Students of Navatman Art Institute **Performing during Half Time**



Students of Arya Dance Academy Performing during Prime Time.



Students of Arya Dance Academy Performing during Prime Time.

diplomacy", Dilip Chauhan, Veterans

Deputy Coliseum on Long Island, event. Comptroller of Nassau where -- for the first time -- Indians are rare as an Chauhan, the President of chanting of mantra, the County, and Co-Chair Raj Indian community was audience at the Coliseum. New York South Asian Emcee called on the Shah created history invited to jointly participate But on this day large Chamber of Commerce, audience to observe 30recently by organizing an at a major basketball game number of community He has in a very unique seconds silence in the event where India's cultural between two big teams -- members people turned and sophisticated way memory of the martyrs of prowess, especially the Long Island Nets and out to watch the game and weaved this program to a the recent terror attack cultural Delaware Blue Coats.

Night, was held on Nassau Veterans Coliseum The evening began with an lit the traditional lamp. greet you at the First

(By our staff reporter)-In a Wednesday, February 27, at gave a special permission announcement by the After the Indian diplomat unique display of "Bollyball NYCB LIVE's Nassau to the media to cover the Emcee. Memorial Indian segments of the memorable event is a prominent Indians in the

It was the first time as colorful clothes made inviting Dilip Chauhan, Kashmir. Then community showed their in Nassau Coliseum that like cultural ambassadors Indian a Indian groups performed at of India while a massive Shatrughna

brainchild

"Today's was joined by the of Dilip lighting of lamp amid celebrate Indian culture grand success," he said, atPulwama in Jammu & display and the Indian in the history of basketball the young children look along with Raj Shah, Chauhan was invited by Deputy CG the officials to address Sinha, the august gathering in the mainstream game. The the Prime Time as well as audience applaudedtheir Ruchika Chauhan, Roopa arena. "It is an honor and event, Indian Heritage during the half-time as performance at the arena. Sridhar and Anil Shah to privilege to welcome and

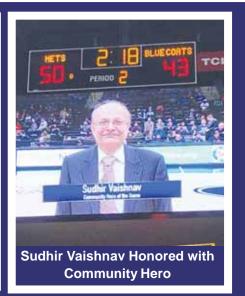


tudents of Nartan Dance Academy Performing Folk Dance during Prime Time





Indian Kids with Players during American National Anthem





Students of Navatman Art Institute Performing During Half Time.



Students of Nartan Dance Academy Performing Folk Dance



RoopaJi, Ruchikaji, RashmiJi, Winner of 2018 Miss Teen Bharat New York, Kahini Chauhan, Dy.CG Shatrugna Sinha, Dr. Himanshu Pandya, Honoree Sudhir Vaishnav Dilip Chauhan President of New York South Asian American Chamber of Commerce.



Indian Heritage Night in Indian Heritage Night. Nassau County. India's Please welcome my coculture is rich, colorful chair Raj Shah and the celebrating the India registered to vote, please the Prime Time, regional and vibrant. We are Indian delighted this evening to Advisory Committee for Prestigious offer a taste of our putting this event heritage, our dance, together. Thanks to more Dilip Chauhan also used his cast your vote. Please were performed. The first costumes, traditions, than 20 Indian American speech as an opportunity to remember 'If you don't performance was done by Arya purely to share with you Organizations for your make an important appeal vote you lose a right to Dance Academy. It was and enjoy. It is my support, honored guests as he asked people to complain'," he said. "God followed by a performance by privilege to introduce and media," Dilip Chauhan register themselves to bless America and India." theNartan Rang Dance you to the Organizer of said in his opening vote. "I also wish to appeal In his address to the Academy.



Sunil Hali Indian Express, Jai Singh Hum Hindustani, Dr. Himanshu Pandya President AAPI QLI, Sharanjit **Singh Thind Former Human Rights Commissioner** Nassau County, Balwant Hothi PTC Punjabi

Coliseum," he added.

remarks. "Today is indeed to each of you. This is such a large number of very special and something very personal to children and inspiring day for Indians my heart. Each and participation in Long Island as we are everyone, if you are not Shatrughna Sinha. During American Heritage Night at the register to Vote. And if you folk dances of India and Nassau are already registered, Bollywood by young children please make sure you as well as women groups



Winner of 2018 Miss Teen Bharat New York, Kahini Chauhan at the Center Stage.

gathering, the Deputy Consul General of India said that it was a great venue to showcase rich heritage ofIndia. "This kind of activities makes our relationship stronger. "The beauty of this event is youth

AIA New York's Desi Next Valentine Dinner & Dance



conversation between them and Intercollegiate

(By a staff reporter)-The games, couples photo booth, sit like Jay Sean of Bollywood fame, Association of Indians in down dinner and dancing on the and bringing Neel Sethi, the America, NY Chapter (AIA-NY) vibrant tunes of renowned Hollywood child star of the organized their first Valentine DJ.Everybody enjoyed a lot and Disney movie "The Jungle Book", Dinner & Dance Event under its complimented the organization Ronald Mcdonaldof Mcdonald'sfame recently launched "Desi Next" at and the young team of Anuj, and above all launching of "Desi beautiful venue Leonard's Atul & Rajeev for arranging Next" for the youngergeneration. We Palazzoin Long Island on Friday such fun filled event, which have been trying to continue to March 1st, 2019to promote was a huge success. AIA NY expand and streng then youth networking within young adults Chapter has been striving development programs and while having fun filled evening. hard to bring programs activities and have been working Over 50 young couples attended focused on young families towards energizing our youths, the event and had a great time. and their children with a view while understanding their Everybody was introduced with to attract younger generation. To concerns, said Gobind Munjal, each other to encourage name a few, Activities like the the president of AIA NY Chapter. Dance We try to give the young adults get to know each other while Competition called "Naach the autonomy to build their enjoying the funnyvalentine Inferno", young singer artists programs that suits and attracts

the younger generation. Keeping young adults, where they can launched "Desi Next" in January issues and concerns and develop

that in mind, AIA NY Chapter socialize, interact, address their 2017 to provide a platform for the programs to suit their need.

Veteran Indian American Journalist gets State Award



(By a staff reporter)-Dr Prakash M Swamy, a veteran journalist of 40 years and currently a

diplomatic correspondent at Rotary International scholarship United Nations headquarters in New York, who gave a media scoop on Rajiv Gandhi assassination that he was killed by a human bomb, has been chosen for the Tamil Nadu Government's highest state award - Kalai Mamani (meaning connoisseur of arts)

Dr Swamy started his career at The Hindu as a staff reporter in the year 1978 and was sent to University of Florida, Gainesville, for master's degree in journalism under

and subsequently was made principal correspondent and in charge of the international edition. He later joined India Today as bureau chief in 1991 and moved to Ananda Vikatan Group as executive editor in 1993. He took the circulation of Junior Vikatan to new heights and was praised by The New York Times for his fearless writings.""Swamy moved to the US in 1997 and worked in senior editorial positions in several Indian-American publications

such as India Abroad, The News Jersey State Assemblies for his

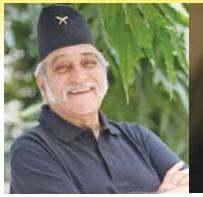
India Times. The South Asian achievements. In India, he won Insider, The Urban Indian and The "For The Sake of" and "Lifetime Indian Express North American Achievement" awards of the edition. He also served as New Rotary International. "Recently York and UN Correspondent for America Tamil Sangam and his Press Trust of India. He was nonprofit organization Shri Vari made a judge of Emmy Awards Foundation Trust adopted two in New York and also serves as corporation schools in Mylapore, President of America Tamil Chennai and built ten toilets for Sangam. ""He was recognized by girl students besides improving the US Congress with special the environment of the school proclamations for his contribution premises. Other awardees to Indian-American ties and include actors Prabhu Deva, understanding. He was also Vijay Sethupathi, Santhanam, honored in the New York and New Karthik, Suri and Priya Mani.

Natya Darpan: A NJ-based annual short play festival to showcase social issues

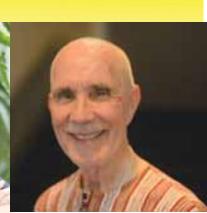
(By a staff reporter)-Indian 'Natya-Darpan'literally mean "the response in the years 2016, 2017 Philadelphia area through including and theater. Since the last 4 Issues,

Cultural mirror of Society through with a 'SOLD OUT' show in 2018. Association (IHCA-NJ) is a performing arts". Each year, 6 to That program was partially volunteer based non-profit 8 highly acclaimed and award- funded by Middlesex County organization, winning US-based theater Board of Chosen Freeholders for dedicated to promoting local groups have been performing last 4 years. talent and preserving the rich high-quality short plays in Hindi, IHCA-NJ was founded by Dr heritage of India in New Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali and in Ashok Chaudhary in the year Jersey, New York and English on social issues, 2013. The main goal of the showcasing of performing arts Empowerment, Immigration, of highly talented professional like classical music, dance, Human Trafficking, LGBTQ local talent and communities years, IHCA-NJ has organized Relationships, Mental illness and performing arts through different 'Natya-Darpan' a multi-lingual others. 'Natya-Darpan'has languages. IHCA-NJ membership is short play festival in New Jersey. received an overwhelming open to people of all ages, races,

Women association is to bring a variety Community together with the common bond of



Manager with more than 25 years & Siemens USA.



religions and nationalities. A of experience overseeing Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the research & development in IICT, India, Dr Chaudhary is an Fortune 500 pharmaceutical accomplished Scientist & Sr companies including Pfizer, Merck

NSIDER COMMUNITY Friday 8 March to 15 March 2019

City Hosts immigrant worker convening in the Bronx



Immigrant Affairs (MOIA), and to raise workplace standards.

partner organizations hosted The event featured three panels— NYC Immigrant Workers last DCA, CCHR, and MOIA; a worksite

YORK, NY Department of November, this important event York Committee for Occupational Consumer Affairs (DCA, a.k.a. brought together immigrant Safety and Health, and Urban we are committed to advocating "While the statements of federal the Department of Consumer and workers and workers' rights Health Plan's Project HOPE; and on their behalf," said DCA officials have sought to sow fear Protection), in organizations to discuss the finally, a panel with immigrant partnership with New York City issues workers face at work, workers including day laborers, Commission on Human Rights efforts to transform working construction workers, and home (CCHR), the Mayor's Office of conditions, and other strategies health aides, among others. Panelists engaged with the 100 attendees on topics such as including Building Bridges: A Convening for one with the commissioners from wage theft, issues related to immigration night at Lincoln Hospital in the second with representatives from enforcement, employment here and that NYC's workplace NYC Human Rights Law,

(OSHA) certification issues, and City has been - and always will worker discrimination.

"With the federal government protects its diverse workforce, shifting away from protecting including immigrant New Yorkers vulnerable workforces and and their communities," said creating anti-immigrant policies Carmelyn P. Malalis, Chair and work environment for immigrants, Commission on Human Rights. Commissioner Lorelei Salas. and bigotry directed at "It's vital that we hear from immigrants and their families, the immigrant workers across the Commission is using every city about the unique challenges resource to protect their vulnerable that they face in the workplace, communities. Tonight's event is discrimination, and wage theft. We of immigrant workers – all of whom want all immigrants to know that we are entitled to justice under the

Safety and Health Administration immigration status." "New York be - a city that supports and harassment, crucial for the continued protection Bronx. Following a successful Catholic Charities, Cooperative agency fraud, Occupational rights apply regardless of regardless of immigration status."

Protest at the United Nations

A global coalition of concerned citizens led by Indian American Community protest at the United Nations, New York on March 3rd to stop Global Terrorism sponsored by Pakistan



(By our staff reporter)- New York- allowed to get away with a Hindu American activist nurtured, protected and funded e-Mohammed, Haqqani network, headed by Masood Azhar.

been a cancer on the scourge

About 400 people from different sponsored attacks on India for said, condemned the dastardly attack unanswered no longer. While it by any foreign power'. on CRPF personnel in Pulwama, oppresses its own minorities, it Protesters included young and later'.

People from different nationalities A Bangladeshi American from Mumbai 26/11 attacks, including India, Caribbean BHBCU (Bangladesh Hindu Pulwama and URI attacks, countries, Bangladesh, Sri Buddhist Christian unity 2001 Indian Parliament attack, Lanka, Israel, Balochistan (part Council) commented that half 9/11 US attacks, Kabul US of Pakistan) expressed their million Bangladeshi women Embassy attacks, London bus solidarity to the protest. Richard were raped as war booty during and subway bombings, Germany Benkin, a Jewish American Pakistan 1971 war and the embassy attack, extra-judicial commented, 'Pakistan long has world need to understand the killings of activists from of international body politic. It was establishment. Vincent Bruno, perpetrated by those who are

ʻIndia has nationalities protested against decades, but that time has responsibility to her citizens. Slogans and posters threw. Sipah-e-Sahaba, JKLF and their Pakistan outside the United passed. A new and strong Indian and the world to end the state light on the many terrorist associated terrorists such as Nations, New York for its cross resolve defends the nation. We bred Islamic terrorism within Organizations that grew out of Osama Bin Laden, Masood border terrorism in India and all must stand with India and let Pakistani borders. My advice Pakistan soil such as AI- Azhar, Rashid Rauf, Hafiz Saeed, Afghanistan and sponsorship of Pakistan know that its cowardice is India take her own in this Qaeda, Lakshar-e-Taiba, Jaish- Jalaluddin Haggani. Terrorism. They and support for terror will go and not be overly influenced

Jammu & Kashmir state on Feb lashes out against other, peace-old from across different 14th, 2018. Forty lives were lost loving nations. Failure to stop Organizations in NY/NJ area, in the cowardly act by Pakistan Pakistan now only means greater raised slogans about all major based Jaish-e-Mohammad problems and more deaths terrorist attacks originating from Pakistan such as Pakistan Balochistan province of Pakistan

a by Pakistani establishment. Taliban, Laskshar-e-Omar,



Sai Baba Temple of North Brunswick Cultural association organized Maha Shivarathri special puja, archana & abhishekam on March 4th

Friday 8 March to 15 March 2019 INSIDER EDITORIAL 6

Absent US diplomacy, India and Pakistan stand at the precipice of war

We will surprise you. Wait for that surprise" was the message Maj. Gen. Asif Ghafoor, the director general of Pakistan Inter-Services Public Relations, had for his neighbors in India on Tuesday evening. It was a testy moment after an even testier day, one that served only to heighten existing tensions between nuclear-armed India and Pakistan. Even as President Donald Trump landed in Hanoi, Vietnam, for a landmark summit intended to tame nuclear-armed North Korea, the other side of Asia seemed poised for its own potential war -- and without an intervening power, such as the United States, interested in calming things down. Pakistan and India's most recent squabble began February 14 when an armed militant in the disputed territory of Kashmir (claimed by both countries) drove an explosive-laden vehicle into an Indian paramilitary convoy and killed at least 40 soldiers. India immediately blamed Pakistan for the attack. "We will give a befitting reply. Our neighbor will not be allowed to destabilize us," irate Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared as his government, which is up for re-election in May, asked the international community to isolate Pakistan. Despite these menacing moves, there were few significant statements from the international community -- except for the UN Security Council, which issued a rather weak condemnation of the violence. And while the European Union did urge the two countries to de-escalate tensions, it offered no diplomatic efforts to do just that. Not surprisingly, tensions escalated even further. In the early morning hours of Tuesday, the Indian air force entered into Pakistani airspace and dropped a payload of bombs. India claimed it had attacked a terrorist training camp and killed "a large number" of militants. For its part, Pakistan insisted the attack had hit an uninhabited forest, damaging only trees. Then, on Wednesday, Pakistan said it shot down two Indian fighter jets and arrested one pilot. India claimed Pakistan had only shot down one plane and that one pilot was missing. This escalation is reminiscent of the press conference in which Ghafoor, the major general, promised a surprise, telling Pakistanis to "get ready for every eventuality." Surprises promised by nuclear-armed nations bode poorly not only for their own populations but for the larger world. While India and Pakistan have been on the brink of nuclear battle before, other powers, notably the United States, have been engaged and present to serve as voices of calm and reason against the warmongering rhetoric emerging from the countries themselves. In May 1999, during the Kargil conflict, which (like this one) traces back to the two countries' dispute over Kashmir, Pakistani commandos entered Indian territory in an attempt to

reclaim parts of the valley that Pakistan wanted at the time of partition in 1947. India promised dire consequences. Then, just like now, war seemed possible, and the United Nations, which has long urged a plebiscite in Kashmir, seemed unable to stop it. Thankfully, President Bill Clinton used his diplomatic skills to talk both countries off the ledge of nuclear oblivion. Then-Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif was summoned to Washington. In a meeting recounted in riveting detail in the memoirs of then-Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, Clinton sat Sharif down and invoked the Cuban missile crisis as an analogy to the situation in the Indian subcontinent. In the words of Talbott, "unlike Kennedy and Khrushchev in 1962. (Atal Bihari) Vajpayee (then the Indian Prime Minister) and Sharif did not realize how close they were to the brink, so there was an even greater risk that they would blindly stumble across it." It took Clinton's direct intervention for Sharif to admit that unless he withdrew his commandos, "it would be catastrophe." The blind stumbling into war seems entirely within the realm of possibility in this moment, too. Even though the United States is present in the region, negotiating peace with the Taliban in Doha, Qatar, there have been only two top-level forays into the conflict that we know of. On Tuesday, Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, spoke to Pakistan Chief. of Defense Gen. Zubair Mahmood Hayat and discussed the current tensions. And Secretary of State Mike Pompeo spoke with his counterparts in India and Pakistan, urging them to "prioritize direct communication and avoid further military activity." And while Dunford and Pompeo appear to have at least entered the fray -- at least in words, President Donald Trump has remained largely silent. Following the attack on Indian paramilitary personnel earlier this month, he said it was a "horrible situation" but that his administration would have a comment when "it was appropriate." "It would be wonderful," the President added, if "India and Pakistan were to get along." Indeed, it would be wonderful, but it seems unlikely, especially with the United States uninterested or unaware that it needs to play a key mediating role. Trump, likely diverted by his ambitions in North Korea and by the continuing accusations of obstruction of justice and corruption against members of his campaign and administration, seems unlikely to arrange a Clinton-esque meeting in which he insists that the parties involved recognize the scale of devastation at play.

Islamabad must now act decisively on terror

Widening the lens beyond Pulwama and Balakot reveals a broad coincidence with Prime Minister Imran Khan completing six months in power. Regionally, Pakistan found itself in the not unfamiliar position that the three neighbours with whom it has most in common - Afghanistan, Iran and India - all accusing it with the same charge: allowing terrorists to use territory it controls. A wide angle would also show a definite lowering of threshold by India when faced with the question of responding to terrorist attacks.

The aftermath of major terrorist strikes has always been revealing of the state of India-Pakistan relations as a whole. Mumbai in November 2008 and Pathankot in January 2016 took place during a relative upswing in the relationship. Uri in September 2016 and Pulwama in February 2019 happened when things were at a low plateau. Both after Mumbai and Pathankot, a real effort was made by India to meet the Pakistan demand for "evidence". The term itself merits a pause. In Mumbai, there was a huge volume of information available confirming the complicity of Pakistan-based groups in the attack and in the conspiracy that planned it. This information was shared with Pakistan both in the immediate aftermath of the attack and in the months that followed. The expectation was that authorities in Pakistan would act on this information and convert it into evidence for presenting in their courts and securing convictions against the conspirators. What happened instead was perverse as every lacuna of the Pakistan criminal justice system was used to defeat the

object of the exercise. Defending these lacuna became upholding the sovereignty of Pakistan. Former PM Nawaz Sharif's complaint in the famous Dawn leaks case in October 2016 against the subversion of the Mumbai trail and on the free pass given to terrorist groups was precisely this and it led inevitably to his own downfall.

After Pathankot, the process was taken further. Inviting a Pakistan team to the site of the attack was to facilitate the process of conversion of information into evidence. It met a longstanding Pakistan demand that terrorist attacks should be investigated by it too. This was in many ways both a calling of the Pakistan bluff but would have also acted to safeguard the gains of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Lahore visit in the previous month. A return visit by an Indian team could have signalled the beginning of a bilateral counter terrorism process. This was, however, subverted largely through an attempted change of narrative and the production of Kulbhushan Jhadhav amid shrill charges of spying and India terrorism.

In this background, the response to the Uri terrorist attack and, even more emphatically, post-Pulwama represents a lowering of the Indian threshold and is recognised so internationally. It is accompanied by a growing concern about the possibilities of escalation. At the same time, there is an acute sense of frustration with Pakistani complicity, denial and recklessness when it comes to the protection extended to terrorist groups on grounds of sovereignty and self respect.



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Disclainter

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Friday 8 March to 15 March 2019

With polls round the corner, a new trade deal with the US is unlikely

On the investment front, India's recent rules on ecommerce have inconvenienced Walmart and Amazon, both US companies, and which run India's top two ecommerce market places. The change was made to placate India's small retailers.

India had adequate warning around 2,000 products, Wadhawan is right in terms that the United States (US) could terminate important trade preferences to the haven't engaged in a trade to US government data, in country's overall exports. and it has always been clear that President Donald Trump is a hawk when it many of today's strongminded and domesticallyis the benefit of the generalised system of preferences (GSP), which Mr Trump, in a letter to day notice period? GSP

preferential system.

access to the markets of companies India". secretary allows duty-free imports of work out a trade deal. Mr change its position on

including textiles and auto of arithmetic - in 2017, parts. India is the biggest India's exports to the US beneficiary of the that came under GSP country. The two countries programme and according accounted for 1.9% of the war (yet), but there have 2017, \$5.7 billion of India's It is also not clear whether been several skirmishes, exports were under this the two countries will be able to address the two In his letter to Congress, trade-related issues (and, in Mr Trump said the Indian the background, an comes to trade (as indeed. government "has not investment-related one) assured the United States that prompted the US that it will provide action. American dairy focused leaders are). What equitable and reasonable and medical devices Commerce complained to their Anup government about India Wadhawan told Reuters not giving them access Congress on Monday said the move would not have (in the case of the first) he intended to terminate for much of an impact and and capping prices (in India and Turkey after a 60- added that India and the the case of the second). US have been trying to India is unlikely to

medical

fed a diet that includes this. US dairy products are commerce

manufacturers in the US corner in India, it is unlikely takes office in late May.

and not prices, but clearly, small retailers.

have too much interest in animal products and New On the investment front, hammering out a trade Delhi is of the opinion that India's recent rules on e-deal with the US have especially since the therefore "non-vegetarian". inconvenienced Walmart messaging from such a In the case of medical and Amazon, both US deal could hurt it politically devices, the two countries companies, and which run - before the 50-day window, seemed to have hammered India's top two e-commerce after which Mr Trump can out a deal with New Delhi market places. The change end India's preferential agreeing to cap margins, was made to placate India's treatment. This could perhaps be a task for the devices With elections around the new government once it



Time now for diplomacy to take over

It is necessary that India, along with the rest of the world, frees Islamabad from the clutches of Rawalpindi.

"Namaskar, I read your dialogue doesn't succeed airstrikes on February 26, will give immediate than 50 permanent solution, sentiment. extent. If the terror attacks equations have changed wounded was sent to me by a friend after reading my quick of this article in which I had follow old dictums?

right and that when be denied that with the large emerging markets

article, felt a little then there is nothing wrong and the way Pakistan's disappointed. The idea of in taking up the arms. In planes were forced to revenge in the frenzy of war fact, leaders from more withdraw, India made it countries clear that we will not back satisfaction but not a expressed the same off. India now is not going to stop. The Pakistani Manmohan Singh did not The world has changed regime committed another take revenge but Kashmir rapidly in last few years. mistake by making viral became peaceful to a large The new emerging the photos of bloodied and did not stop even after that, the old limitations of Commander Abhinandan then will Islamabad be diplomatic courtesy. Varthaman. The whole attacked? The surgical Twenty five years ago, who country was consumed by strike is not the solution, would have thought that a strong wave of anger and it is the problem. But in China will be looking the the ruling regime was also this age, it's blasphemous US in the eye, that the not left untouched by this to say so."This message North Korean leader Kim sentiment.India made it Jong-un will be shaking clear that Varthaman hands with the US should be returned comment on the recent President, and that the immediately. Clearly, the airstrike by the Indian Air Russian army will be backdoor efforts for peace Force. "Finally we have conducting joint drills with were in full swing. Be it learnt to avenge the death the Pakistanis? Why Pakistan's ally China or the of our sons" was the title should India continue to self-declared custodian of the world the US, the supported the airstrikes. I No matter what claims conflict between two feel that self-defence is our Pakistan makes, it cannot nuclear states that are



best interests of the world economy. To defuse the about to come from India and Pakistan. He also said that there is hope of countries.

talks did announce the India will have to increase Punjab and Kashmir.

was not considered in the release of Varthaman. But we need to remember that in the excitement of his said that the pilot project tension, the US President coming back we should not was completed. It is quite Donald Trump announced stray from our original goal. clear that New Delhi is that some good news was All of this started with the ready to take this conflict Pulwama terror attack. to its conclusion. Past Masood Azhar, the architect of Pulwama massacre, is still resolving the decades-old safe under the protection of dispute between the two the Pakistani army. The US has declared a huge reward Pakistan was divided into Prime minister Imran Khan on Hafiz Saeed, but he is two, it did not stop who was already offering roaming free in Pakistan. spreading terrorism in

pressure on Pakistan to hand over Dawood Ibrahim, Saeed, Azhar and other anti-India elements.

History is witness to the fact that incomplete battles have proved fatal to the winners.

Indian Prime Minister

Narendra Modi and his government have definitely considered this fact. That is after PM announcement, PM Modi experience shows that Pakistan does not change its colours, even in defeat. Even after 1971 war, when

Friday 8 March to 15 March 2019 **OPINION**

China and India align in the monetary cosmos

China and India are leading the rhetorically, without seeing their see imminent steps elsewhere. growth slowing, and there's that slackening expansion is the world. Kind of.

there's more to come.

backed by large populations, see. monetary policy.

actually loosened monetary steps. Europe is prevaricating.

geopolitics, or the often- glasses that were once half-full nudge lower.

The Federal Reserve's pause China and India by doing Thailand is perplexing to me.

currencies crumble. In one case, That's despite China's slowdown decline in consumer prices I primary global headwind.) In the dovish tilt that's defined Japan, major easing remains in reverberating through the region, wrote about. The government They are also big enough to interest rates lately, only two place. But the Bank of Japan tech industry woes hitting exports says the economy doesn't look take a degree of unilateral noteworthy central banks have hasn't undertaken fresh easing and a very pronounced bout of anything like it did in 2009, when action, though the Fed's lean disinflation.

policy: the People's Bank of These other central banks aren't Take Malaysia, which sets it doesn't translate into an Questions about independence China and the Reserve Bank exactly vacant space. There's interest rates this week. Of the argument for doing nothing. It's are worth airing: The PBOC isn't of India. Both have indicated been lots of talk about the more than 20 economists entirely possible Malaysia's autonomous and India is on its slowing world economy and surveyed by Bloomberg News central bank will lay the ground third central banker during When people talk about Asia's acknowledgment that inflation ahead of Bank Negara Malaysia's for a move later in the year. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two giants moving out front, isn't firing, to put it mildly. Risk monthly decision Tuesday, a Caution only makes India and five-year term. That doesn't they tend to be thinking about management is on officials' lips, grand total of zero predict a China stand out more.

pre-eminence. They may also predilections to raise rates have just that this projection of stasis grand plans to become the US, China and India? There's be talking about how the sheer been replaced by an is emblematic of how benchmark for interest-rate been plenty of scepticism, size of these economies, overwhelming rush to ... wait and conservative forecasting and setting. policy feels. Why there isn't a They must wish they didn't have two are ready to lead on multiple has grown. Few mention It's remarkable given the lead clamour for a rate reduction in to take these steps. The PBOC fronts. major economies have taken - Indonesia, the Philippines or and RBI are responding to In the monetary cosmos, at

made it much easier for other something, and the US by What is the case for Malaysia to global headwinds that have local alignment. We may have central banks to follow, mostly holding off - how few economists trim borrowing costs? Export ramifications. (Arguably, China's stumbled into the future.

CPI last dropped. That's true. Yet away from tighter policy helped.

asserted retreat of American have become half-empty and I'm not picking on Malaysia; it's Beijing and New Delhi hatched a global order dominated by the

domestic circumstances, and least, it feels like there's

mean policy is wrong.

Not that monetary boffins in How often have we heard about rightly, about whether the last

preserve life in Haryana, re-notify Aravallis as forests

But blockbuster movies such as children. pollute our skies, our oceans are called the healing forests.

stop damaging the environment. hopeless future for us and our degrading environment.

climate change around us, and forests are the most vital life- developers are vying to grab every calling this amendment nothing forest in Gurugram and 10,000 green awareness campaigns sustaining systems. They do any inch of land for construction short of an "ecological disaster". plus acres of forest in have still not made us realise much more than provide a green and profiteering. This mountain The Act protects areas 'not Faridabad, as well as 10,000 that we cannot any longer mess canopy. They purify the air, bind range of India that majestically notified under the Indian Forest acres of Shivalik hills around with our environment and that the soil, prevent floods, help in the human race must formulate water recharge, and are home to been under a constant threat. A in Punjab and Haryana. In effect, such as the Aravallis and the strong policies to protect the some rare species of flora and few activists have been trying to the PLPA in Haryana extends Shivaliks, environment. But we continue to fauna. Perhaps that is why they save this precious cover through protection to forests and trees on permanently protected for all and rivers, denude our forests. For a city like Gurugram, where they find themselves up against panchayat and municipal lands. land cannot simply be treated as

and exhaust our natural air pollution is high, porous a powerful lobby. resources in the name of ground surface is negligible and Recently, in a blatantly Haryana and the Shivaliks in for expanding cities, mining or

the globally acclaimed film get choked, who will be left to Aravallis is the lifeline for the (PLPA), which legally protects the government to classify land Avatar, once said that his film enjoy the fruits of this so-called city's residents and the last and preserves the Aravallis, was as it pleases. This will legalise was a lesson for humankind to development? It will be a vestige of hope for the city's fast-amended in the Haryana Vidhan all the illegal transactions,

Avatar, the stark evidence of For landlocked areas especially, where hungry real-estate Aravallis. Environmentalists are risk are 16,000 plus acres of lines the skyline of the city has

development. If the life- green belts are few and far irresponsible move, the 118-year- North Haryana. The amendment being cut up to build roads.

James Cameron, the director of sustaining systems of our planet between, the presence of the old Punjab Land Preservation Act accords unlimited powers to Gurugram sadly is also a city uninhibited construction in the undertaken on these lands. At Act as reserve or protected forest Chandigarh. Natural forests, petitions and court orders. But private lands, community lands, times to come. After all, forest

Sabha, opening room for mining and construction in both the Aravallis in South surplus land available to be utilised

Get used to a thousand mini climate cuts

The northern part of India is The IMD said the frequency of weather is going to rise in the coldest December in 50 years. the IMD said that such freak including severe heat stress in large, expect a thousand more agriculture.

experiencing an unusually long WDs this season was high coming two decades and there winter this year. On Sunday, the because of the weakening of the will be a cataclysmic fallout India Meteorological Department polar vortex and it is more by 2040 if emissions are not (IMD) said two more western intense this time because of the contained. The report linked disturbances (WDs), the 16th higher temperature gradient, this trend to climate change and 17th of this season, may which is a result of the weakening because India's warming bring rainfall and chilly winds to of the polar vortex. The WD trends are very similar to the the northern plains and snowfall system develops due to a pattern of global warming. in western Himalayas on March temperature difference between These findings are also in 6 and 11. Delhi experienced its northern and southern latitudes. sync with last year's critical second coldest March day in 27 The number and intensity of Intergovernmental Panel on big cities, high air pollution levels, mini climate cuts along the way. years on March 2, almost the weather phenomena have Climate Change's (IPCC) breaching yet another decades- surprised scientists, and "Global Warming of 1.5 old record after March 1 saw the many believe that such freak degrees" report, whose cooverall March weather is the new normal in author, Joyashree Roy, told to disasters in high mountain emission, temperature since 1979. In 2018, an age of climate change. In a Hindustan Times: "India may ecosystems." While the threat of sustainability in whatever we do Delhi had witnessed the third report released on January 21, face serious consequences a "cataclysmic fallout' looms and climate-proof cities and



salt-water intrusion in coastal The policy prescription to avoid areas triggered by rise in sea such recurring damages has levels, and increased vulnerability been clear for a long time: lower

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Grand ball room was full of so the community cause was the honorees and praised their efforts emphasizing

(By a staff reporter)- As Town of many accomplished and elite, organizing force behind the gala. in achieving such success. accomplishments. Mr Sant Hempstead Supervisor Laura who's who of the society This year well known Community American National Anthem sung Singh and Mrs. Daman Chatwal Gillen, Town of North Hempstead gathered for one singular Leader Shammi Singh was the by Gurbani Kaur Sethi and Indian congratulated all honorees and Supervisor Judi Bosworth purpose, to be the part of Chairperson of the Gala. And of National Anthem sung by acknowledged the efforts of IAF Nassau County Legislator and to celebrate 8 the course the hall was beautifully Roopam Maini. Master of Team. Women's decorated with spring flowers Ceremonies Mr Anuj Rihal and Assembly woman Judy Griffin Achievements Gala, part of theme courtesy Sunita Sadhnani Chanbir Kaur Sethi made the women Sonia k Bain, Sylinthia I (Among many other VIP's) Women's History Month and of Glamorous Event Planners. evening enjoyable. Chanbir Burges, Dr Subhadra Nori, walked into Akbar's Ballroom International Women's Day Evening started with lighting of Kaur, Roopam Maini, Rohini Manu Saluja, Stephanie in Garden City, on Friday Celebrations IAF (Indian the lamp. Shammi Singh Singh, Isha Rihal and Inesha Benedictus who had excelled in March 1,2019,, they all very American Forum) led by Indu Chairperson, of Gala in her Singh coordinated a brief their profession and community well felt the pride and Jaiswal, known for her strong remarks welcomed all the Q&A; A session with the services were presented with achievement in the air. The commitment and dedication to guests congratulated all the honorees discussing and Outstanding

Five distinguished Women's their achievements Awards.



Indian Army warns Pakistan against targeting civilians along LoC

Indian posts and civilians in select areas of Krishna Ghati and Sunderbani along the LoC were targeted in "intense and unprovoked" firing by mortars and heavy artillery guns since Tuesday, an Indian defence ministry statement said.



(Agencies)- The Indian Army on escalation on New Delhi. troops targeted Indian posts and and Sunderbani along the LoC civilian areas along the Line of were targeted in "intense and as Islamabad's chief military and heavy artillery guns since

ministry statement said. The Wednesday warned Pakistan of Indian posts and civilians in Indian Army retaliated effectively "dire consequences" after its select areas of Krishna Ghati and there were no casualties on the Indian side, it added.

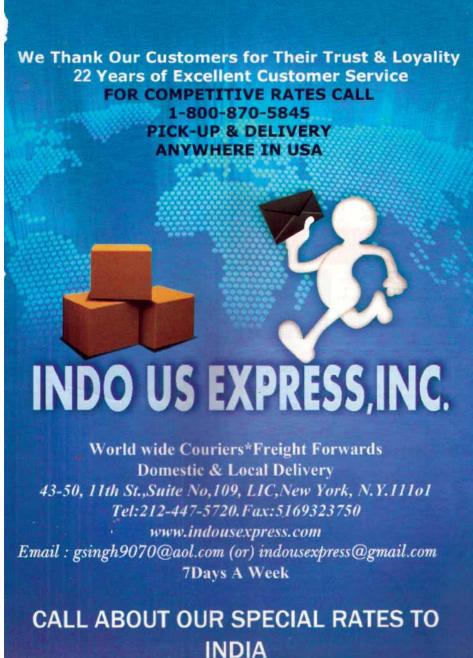
Control (LoC) with heavy artillery unprovoked" firing by mortars situation along the LoC was take up Pakistan's "peace He said it is in Pakistan's "relatively calm" after India gesture and move forward interest to crack down on

to target civilian areas". A said."We feel the ball is in the spokesperson said, "All actions Indian court. Should they taken by our defence forces are decide to escalate more, the targeted towards counter- situation will go bad," Ghafoor terrorism infrastructure, away from civilian countries were "eyeball to areas...to avoid civilian eyeball" on the LoC, though casualties. "We are maintaining both sides had put in place strict vigil along the LoC and safeguards, he added. international border. Any further Pakistan's foreign minister provocation or misadventure by Shah Mahmood Qureshi had Pakistan will be responded in a said last week the government befitting manner with dire was in touch with the Jaish-econsequences," spokesperson added.

spokesman put the onus for de- Tuesday, an Indian defence warned the Pakistan Army "not towards de-escalation", he terrorists.

and terrorist said. Troops from the two

the Mohammed, the terror group which claimed the February Pakistan's chief military suicide attack at Pulwama spokesman Maj Gen Asif that triggered the latest stand-Ghafoor told CNN the two off, but Ghafoor said this sides "came close" to war and "claim has not been made the release of captured Indian from within Pakistan because pilot, Wing commander JeM does not exist in Abhinandan Varthaman, had Pakistan". Ghafoor said action brought them back from the is not being taken against JeM The statement said the overall brink. It is now "up to India" to "under anybody's pressure".







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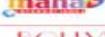






























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Parliamentary panel asks Facebook to curb divisive posts on platforms

The panel, citing tensions between India and Pakistan following the February 14 Pulwama attack in Jammu and Kashmir that left at least 40 paramilitary troopers dead, is learnt to have asked Facebook to ensure there is no threat of information leakage though social media.



(By Our Staff Reporter)-A objectives. parliamentary panel on According to a person 40 paramilitary troopers information technology on aware of the development, dead, is learnt to have Wednesday asked social Kaplan accepted that a asked Facebook to ensure media giant Facebook to need existed for corrective there is no threat of ensure that its platform and measures, which he said information leakage though those of its photo-sharing the company was ready to social media. site Instagram and put in place. Kaplan, who It is learnt that Facebook messaging app WhatsApp was accompanied by Ajit executives told the panel are not misused to create Mohan, managing director that it was a hybrid divisions, incite violence, of Facebook India, is leant company, but could not pose a threat to India's to have said the company give details about which security, or let foreign would be in touch with the regulatory framework could powers meddle in the Election Commission and apply to its content, upcoming general election, government ministries on advertising and marketing people aware of the information related to the operations in India. developments said.

The panel also told advertisers. The company person, a few members Facebook, whose vice said all information related referred to a president for global public to political advertisements parliamentary report on policy Joel Kaplan will be put out on a special disinformation and fake appeared before it on web page for users, the news, which said the Wednesday, protecting citizens' data condition of anonymity. Facebook was opaque to was as much a priority as The panel, citing tensions those outside the business national security and asked between India and and seemed designed to the company to spell out in Pakistan following the conceal knowledge of and 10 days the steps it will February 14 Pulwama responsibility for specific

Realty Inc.

identity and location of According to a second

Kashmir that left at least

that person said on the management structure of to meet the attack in Jammu and decisions. A few members

subsequent

also raised concerns posts had the potential to name. over "speculative posts" politicise a critical issue, Kaplan said: "We are put out by Facebook Kaplan is learnt to have grateful to the honourable employees following the apologised. Panel members parliamentary committee Pulwama attack and the also raised the issue of for giving us the opportunity strike pending complaints with the to show how we are carried out by the Indian company. One member air force. When members complained of having elections and helping keep pointed out that these multiple accounts in his people safe."

preparing for the Indian





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Prince Charles charity strikes new pact for girls' education in India

(Insider Bureau)- A charity people. "The world of work has of these girls have little control over explore the different ways this programme," he said. technology can be used to Working with innovators and

founded by Britain's Prince changed enormously during the Charles on Wednesday 30 years BT has been in India. announced a new partnership We recognise that digital with British Telecom (BT) to technologies have the potential launch a three-year programme to transform opportunities for this to use digital technology to help and future generations of girls," improve education and life said BT Group Chief Executive school; furthermore, 27 per cent of skills for adolescent girls in Philip Jansen."We're delighted to India.British Asian Trust, be partnering with the British founded by the royal in 2007 to Asian Trust to deliver sustainable fight poverty in South Asia, said social impacts, and hope to of the British Asian Trust, said: the pact with one of the UK's galvanise our team of 10,500 BT leading telecom companies will people based in India to support pride ourselves on taking an with partners on the ground to girls.IT for Change will work with

break down social barriers and sector leaders, the new help enhance employability, partnership hopes to create a health choices and autonomy sustainable movement for for the target group of largely change that will increase the young girls in India. The opportunities available to girls programme will work in and between the ages of 10 and 19. around BT's India operations in According to official estimates, Delhi, Gurugram, Bengaluru, India's population includes 120 and Kolkata, with the aim to million adolescent girls, which is help improve the education about 10 percent of the population.

their own futures and face multiple barriers to fulfilling their potential.

The data indicates that India has the highest rate of teen pregnancy globally and 18 per cent of girls drop out before they finish secondary women aged between 20 and 24 are married before the age of 18.

Richard Hawkes, Chief Executive "At the British Asian Trust, we Asian Trust partnership will work workers to improve services for development challenges. Brokering partnerships and promoting economic development through scalable solutions is at the heart of what we do. "We're delighted young women and men adopt literacy. This will include to find a partner in BT who positive gender norms to tackle creating digital labs in schools shares this vision and excited to gender-based discrimination. It to train girls as well as teachers, be working together with them on will use digital media and tech and video clubs that enable girls a programme that will directly to sensitise communities and to create digital learning improve the lives of hundreds of girls about gender roles and materials that will be used for opportunities, health and skills The British Asian Trust notes from thousands of adolescent girls health and hygiene services, and peer learning among other girls of around 500,000 young its work with local partners that many across India." The BT-British train teachers and frontline health in Bengaluru.



innovative approach to tackling deliver the programme. Some of girls in schools through the organisations chosen include workshops and classroom-Breakthrough, which will work based training in rights-based through schools as well as the perspectives on gender government health system and equality. communities to ensure that reproductive health, and digital

Government's counter to Rafale plea: Papers were stolen

Arguing for the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government, attorney general KK Venugopal said at an open court hearing that the "documents relied on by the petitioners in their review petitions were stolen from the ministry and should not be relied on".

ministry.

petitions were stolen from the corruption?" ministry and should not be relied Justice SK Kaul, too, deflected

security. They have been correct submission in law."

(Insider Bureau)- Brandishing is not disclosed by the "We can understand the the British-era Official Secrets petitioners. It's a privileged December verdict rejecting a the attorney general's proposition probe of the Rafale jet fighter on stolen documents. Justice deal, saying the petitioners' KM Jospeh, part of the bench Democratic Alliance (NDA) should not look into any such government, attorney general document in the case? Here we KK Venugopal said at an open have an open system. Are you court hearing that the going to take shelter under "documents relied on by the national security when the petitioners in their review allegation is of grave crime or

the attorney's argument, saying "It's a criminal act on the part if the document had been stolen of petitioners to bring these the government should put its documents with them. They house in order. "It is one thing to have come with unclean say that these documents must hands," Venugopal said. be looked at with suspicion. But bench that the government may "Defence is the most important to say that we cannot even look invoke the Official Secrets Act, matter of state and national at those documents may not be

illegally obtained and the source Chief Justice of India Gogoi said:

government saying that the Act, the government's top legal document. These documents petitioners have come with Wednesday have made the cost of weapons unclean hands and that they demanded that the Supreme public and has been taken from have got the documents through Court turn down petitions notes and has been put in the doubtful sources. But it is seeking a review of its own petition."The court questioned another thing to say that the court cannot consider them at all and that they are untouchable." Former Union ministers case rested on stolen papers hearing the case, said, "There Yashwant Sinha and Arun acquired from "present or former were allegations of corruption in Shourie, and lawyer Prashant employees" of the defence the Bofors [gun deal of 1986] Bhushan have filed a petition case. Now will you say the same seeking a review of the Supreme to 14 years of imprisonment. He of former Central Bureau of Arguing for the National thing that the criminal court Court's December verdict, which found that there was "no occasion to doubt" the decision -making process behind the 2016 purchase of 36 jet fighters from Dassault Aviation of France in a ?59,000 crore deal.

> The petition says that the information that came into the public domain after the court's judgment proved that the government had "misled" the court on various counts.

Venugopal told the three-judge a colonial era law that makes documents punishable with three the entry register at the residence the attorney general said.



said it also plans to prosecute Investigation director Ranjit the newspapers that published Sinha, and the court had relied the documents along with on these documents. The Centre Bhushan, who has relied on also urged the Supreme Court to them. One document is an eight- "exercise restraint" in its page dissent note written by observations on the procurement three domain experts in the of Rafale fighter jets, underlining Indian negotiating team that has that every statement by the top already been published by The court will be used to target either Hindu newspaper. Advocate the government or the Bhushan countered the attorney Opposition."Would it be general's argument, saying that appropriate for the court to decide in past he had relied on an issue which will be used for documents given to him by political purpose? Any single whistle-blowers in the case sentence that falls from the court related to alleged irregularities in will destabilise either the the 2008 allocation of 2G telecom government or the Opposition. All possession of secret official spectrum and licences and also I am saying is exercise restraint,"



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Pak intel used JeM for attacks in India during my tenure: Musharraf

(Insider Bureau)- Former taking a tough stand against "Those were interview said that the Masood had Azhar-led Jaish-e-Mohammad assassination attempts. the state.

In a telephonic interview given Chichi in Rawalpindi. bomb blasts in to Pakistan-based journalist Recalling the incident, Pakistan and we Nadeem Malik, Musharraf Musharraf said that it was were getting it welcomed the action being fortunate that he wasn't killed done there (in taken against the Jaish-e- in the attempt. Mohammad and said that it "The attacker pressed the continuing at was the same organisation button a few seconds too late that time and that had carried out two and I had crossed the bridge amid all of this, assassination attempts on by that time." Musharraf said, no major action was taken him when he was president of adding that the action against against the Jaish. And I also Pakistan. A 2-minute clip of the JeM was a right action and did not insist," Musharraf said. the interview was put out on that it should have been done On Tuesday, the Imran Khan-Twitter on Malik's handle on earlier. March 5, 2019.

"This is a good move. I have to why he himself had not terrorist Masood Azhar's always said that the JeM is a taken any action against the brother Abdul Rauf Asghar terrorist organisation and they Jaish leadership and the and 43 others linked to only had carried out a suicide organisation when he was in banned outfits in the attack in an attempt to power, Musharraf suggested country. assassinate me. Action that Pakistan's intelligence The order for their detention should be taken against them. agencies were using the Jaish was issued on Tuesday after I am happy the government is to carry out bombings in India. a high-level meeting to review

Pakistan president General them," he said. During his different times. Pervez Musharraf has in an tenure as president, Musharraf Our intelligence survived

was instrumental in carrying A suicide bomber had for-tat between out attacks on Indian soil attempted to assassinate India during his tenure as head of General Pervez Musharraf in Pakistan. They December 2003 at Jhanda were conducting

involved in a tit-India). This was

led Pakistan government Responding to a question as ordered the detention of

the National Action Plan on its soil. In case Pakistan

training facility at Balakot in get Pakistan is on a tight such as the World Bank. deadline with the Financial terror organisations operating killed 40 CRPF jawans.

fails to keep its promises, it The Pakistan government's might find itself being moved move comes barely 10 days from the 'grey' list to the after an Indian air force strike 'black' list, making it even on a Jaish-e-Mohammad more difficult for Pakistan to funding Pakistan on February 26. international organisations

The Indian Air Force Action Task Force (FATF) strike at Balakot had come nudging it to stop terror barely 13 days after a suicide funding and to act against the bombing at Pulwama had





1 suspected Maoist killed in gun battle with police in Kerala

Police said the exchange of fire continued till early hours of Thursday and they recovered the body of a suspected Maoist leader. who was later identified as CP Jaleel.

A suspected Maoist was killed rushed to the spot. and two others were injured in When police reached the forested area in Vythiri of firing from the rebels. Kerala's Wayanad district late Police said the death toll is on Thursday.

Maoists, who was injured in forest. people. When they threatened movement of some of their informed the police who ambush in the district.

a gun battle with police in a report, they came under heavy

on Wednesday, officials said likely to go up as many rebels were wounded in the firing and Police said the exchange of that they will search the forest fire continued till early hours areas for them. Senior officers of Thursday and they have directed commandos of recovered the body of a Thunderbolt, the special force suspected Maoist leader, who to deal with Maoists, to was later identified as CP proceed cautiously to avoid Jaleel. One of the suspected booby traps or mines in the

the firing, is in police custody. According to officials, some Police said members of the 'dalams' of the Western Ghats rebel group came to a resort Zonal Committee of the on Wednesday night to extort Maoists have been active in money and sought food for ten the area and they noticed the to take the resort's guests as senior leaders. Two years ago, employees two Maoists were killed in an





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- · Up to three (3) paid personal days first year of service, increasing to five (5) days after three (3) years of service.
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Enough proof to prosecute PM' Rahul Gandhi renews attack over Rafale row

Leading the party's charge, Rahul Gandhi alleged "the trail of corruption" in the Rafale fighter jet deal "begins and ends with" Modi.

(By a Staff Reporter) - The Congress threatened The Hindu newspaper with murky dealings and blatant corruption. FIR against Prime Minister Narendra Act for publishing articles based on security interests". Modi for "corruption" in the Rafale fighter jet deal, with party president Rahul Gandhi claiming that there "is now enough evidence" to prosecute

Leading the party's charge, Gandhi alleged "the trail of corruption" in the Rafale fighter jet deal "begins and ends with" Modi.

He also alleged "destruction of evidence" and "obvious cover-up" after the government told the Supreme Court on Wednesday that crucial files pertaining to the fighter jet deal with French firm Dassault Aviation were "stolen" from the Defence Ministry.

"There is now enough evidence to prosecute the PM in the Rafale Scam. The trail of corruption begins & ends with him. That crucial Rafale files incriminating him are now reported 'stolen' by the Govt, is destruction of evidence & an obvious coverup," he said on Twitter, using the hashtag "FIRagainstCorruptModi".

The Congress chief's attack came on a day the government said in the

Wednesday sought registration of an action under the the Official Secrets besides, squandering away national them.

> "The corruption and malfeasance in Rafale deal is out in the open. PM Modi misused his office to give benefits to Dassault Aviation and caused loss to the public exchequer," Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala told reporters.

> "It is now crystal clear that blatant and massive corruption has taken place in the Rafale deal. It is undoubtedly established that Modi misused his office as Prime Minister to grant undue benefit to Dassault Aviation and caused a loss to public exchequer.

"This is a clear cut case under Section 13 (1) (d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and different provisions of Indian Penal Code. Time has now come to register an FIR against PM Modi and every other individual so that a time-bound investigation takes place in this entire Party regime, the cost of Indiasage of Rafale corruption reaching the highest echelons of power," he said. Citing a report of the Indian Negotiation Team (INT), now in the public domain, Supreme Court that documents related Surjewala said it was now crystal clear specific enhancements...when Modi to the Rafale fighter jet deal have been that Modi "misled Parliament and Ji buys 36 aircraft, it goes up 350 per stolen from the Defence Ministry and duped the country to cover up the cent to Rs 271 crore per aircraft.

"This conspiracy has now been uncovered," he said, alleging that Modi did away with the 'bank guarantee' condition to cause a loss to the public exchequer and neither was the cost of India-specific enhancements included and nor was the cost of transfer of technology added.

The Congress has claimed that the cost of 36 Rafale aircraft finalised by the Modi dispensation was higher than that negotiated by the previous UPA government.

He said while calculating the price of 36 Rafale aircraft, the cost of Indiaspecific enhancement, which is 1,300 Million Euros or Rs 9.750 crore, was not included."Almost Rs 10,000 crore have to be paid and look at the angle of corruption further. When we were buying with the same specifications 126 Rafale aircraft during Congress specific enhancements with same specification was 11.11 Million Euros or around Rs 82-83 crore. It has suddenly gone up...same India-



US says it played 'essential role' in de-escalating India-Pakistan tensions

The United States said Tuesday it had played an "essential role" in deescalating tensions between India and Pakistan.

States said Tuesday it had played an "essential role" in deescalating tensions on the subcontinent and that it continues to follow "very closely" reports that Pakistan used Americanmade military hardware - F-16s and missiles - in a retaliatory strike against India.

Phone calls by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to Indian and Pakistani leaders last week "played an essential role in deescalating tensions between two sides", state department spokesperson Robert Palladino told reporters in response to a question at the daily briefing.

While in Hanoi, Vietnam for the second US-North Korean summit, Pompeo had spoken to after the Indian airstrike against forced him to it. air force pilot Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman.

It was on the morning after Korea's Kim Jong-un, a key Pompeo's calls that President foreign policy initiative of the Donald Trump had said at a Trump administration. But it news conference in Hanoi that was unequivocal of its support he had some "reasonably for India from the start and decent" news from India and Pakistan's role in the attack Pakistan.

later, Prime Minister Imran Khan its responsibilities as a member announced that Pakistan would of the UN in multiple statements release Varthaman as a "gesture" thereafter.

(By a Staff Reporter) - The United India's external affairs minister of peace" to India. Supporters of Sushma Swaraj and NSA Ajit the prime minister have since Doval and Pakistan's foreign said he deserves the Nobel minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi. Peace prize for it, unmindful of These conversations took place the international pressure that

> a Jaish-e-Mohammad camp in The United States was slow to Balakot, Pakistan, and after the respond to the Pulwama attack Pakistani retaliatory action which - as was widely noted among resulted in the capture of Indian experts and observers here - as its top officials reached Hanoi for the summit with North calling upon it to deny safe He didn't elaborate, but hours haven to terrorists in line with

And as India weighed options on three were all foiled by China, among them, American NSA this move as well. John Bolton announced publicly Palladino said "high-level contact counterpart

right to self-defense.

a French-led initiative at the contents

who to respond to the terrorists batting for Pakistan. There is talk attack, with a military strike of a "Plan B" if Beijing blocked

he had conveyed to his Indian has continued" both in New Delhi US and Washington and "there's a acknowledgment of India's lot of private diplomacy that's going on right now".

The United States, along with The spokesperson also said, other P-5 members France in response to a question, the and Britain, pushed the UN United States continues to Security Council to condemn follow "very closely" issues the Pulwama attack in a linked to Pakistan's use of F-"pathbreaking" statement that 16 and AMRAAMs (Advanced named Jaish-e-Mohammad Medium-Range Air-to-Air and scored several firsts, Missiles). But he refused to despite stiff resistance from elaborate saying that as a "matter of policy, we don't Washington has since joined publicly comment on the UNSC, along with the United agreements that we have in Kingdom, to designate JeM this regard involving US founder and leader Masood defense technologies nor the Azhar as a terrorist. This is the communications that we have fourth such attempt, the previous with other countries about that."

Friday 8 March to 15 March 2019

Yes, There's a Crisis at the Border

president "manufacturing" a locked the border.

border apprehensions from U.S. outraged that "the president of the number of apprehensions tops Customs and Border Protection United States would manufacture any month during the 2014 checks about there being no multiple times and were should puncture the lazy out of whole cloth this crisis." President Donald Trump.

and progressives commentators border crisis. But it should.

down raising report about the crisis at highs in the 2000s. Along with highest February in more than almost every other critic of the 10 years and the highest month Alarming new numbers about president, Steve Schmidt was of the Trump administration. The

conventional wisdom about the Being anti-Trump means never Barack Obama, which no one deliberately ignored, the they were caught. Now, we are border being under control, having to say you are sorry or you had a problem calling a crisis at except in the lurid imagination of were wrong, so the latest the time. evidence won't make an Every indication is that the

because apprehended crossing the most open-handed, even though, apprehensions in the 2000s. crisis at the border with this hair- apprehensions are down from southern border last month, the in immigration terms, Viktor But it was a different Orbán-the Hungarian prime population, minister who favors tough border overwhelmingly of adult males enforcement-is president.

The commentary and fact- apprehended trying to cross border surge under President crisis have missed, or reliably returned home when changing nature of border apprehending people but not

We interrupt the talk of the that the border is practically Morethan 76,000 migrants were worthy of Angela Merkel at her Yes, there were more overall made from Mexico who might be returning them.

Ex-Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano All during the fight over a border impression on anyone who situation is going to get worse. and wife Linda found guilty in bribery case wall, we were told by the media blithely dismissed the idea of We could be about to experience a migrant surge that alleged he swung appeal the verdicts in the

innocence, and said they will bribed.

to Singh a lucrative contract case, which proved an to provide bread and rolls to embarrassment for Mayor de the county jail, and a second Blasio. At both this trial and contract to feed the county's last year's mistrial, Singh emergency workers after testified under a cooperation Hurricane Sandy. But he could agreement that he was a big still go to prison for two donor and had the mayor at his decades under the one top- beck-and-call. Outside the count conviction. The same courthouse with his sobbing jury found Linda guilty of four wife by his side, a seemingly of the five counts against her: shaken Ed told reporters Linda two for obstructing justice and should never have been two for making false charged, and denied ever statements, all to cover up the illegally taking money from bribe scheme. Ed was also anyone. "That is very hurtful to convicted of a single us, right through the heart. obstruction charge. She, too, Hurtful that Linda has to go faces a potential two-decade through any of this," he said. prison term. Their sentencing "I'm very proud of my service date has not yet been set. The as county executive and I two are maintaining their would not, and could not, be

Justin Trudeau tries to save face

He admitted to urging his former resignation of a top aide and to discuss the matter throughout

attorney general to reach an out- friend, and sent his personal poll the fall, Trudeau said. "She did of-court settlement with a numbers plummeting with an not."While Trudeau largely stuck company from his home turf election months away. "This has to the points he wanted to make, facing corruption charges. But he been a tough few weeks," Trudeau he appeared less stiff than in repeatedly said it was all in the said. Trudeau's version of events is recent public appearances name of protecting jobs and that he simply stated to his former where he was repeatedly pensioners."I continue to say Attorney General Jody Wilson- peppered with questions about there was no inappropriate Raybould the fact that the Quebec- his handling of the affair. Trudeau pressure," he said. "There was based construction company, SNC- repeatedly evaded stating no breakdown of our system, of Lavalin, is a major employer. He also the rule of law, of the integrity of noted at the press conference that our institutions."The damage from a leading public pension fund owns Liberals' electoral prospects his former attorney general's part of the company that is in during conversations with Wilsonaccusations has been swift and legal jeopardy."I wish she had Raybould, saying "there were significant. The fallout has divided come forward to me in the fall detailed conversations on a broad Trudeau's party, cost him two subsequent to that meeting to range of things that were cabinet members, prompted two highlight that" she felt it was discussed" and "laid bare" in the parliamentary probes, forced the inappropriate that we continued testimonies of the last few days.

whether he or his staff brought up both his and Quebec

Rahul leads Opposition in backing expose on Rafale deal

Climate of fear: Naidu

"Instead of coming clean on the former employees. Mr. Naidu tweeted.

India's most senior & respected been stolen. convenience."

jets were "stolen" from the price.

Ministry of Defence, probably by alleged irregularities of the Rafale government was thinking of taking deal brought out by The Hindu "criminal action" under the OSA and Mr. N. Ram, the Modigovt. as the publication of the is trying to silence the press documents had put national through unconstitutional means security at risk, he contended. by creating a climate of fear. It BSP chief Mayawati said the signals an imminent possibility Rafale issue had now become of the breakdown of democracy," more than just an issue of corruption and instead a matter Ms. Banerjee said in a post on of national security following the Twitter, "I strongly condemn government's "sensational threats by BJP govt. to one of disclosure" that documents had

editors, N. Ram. Invoking Official "Very strange & irresponsible Secrets Act to threaten chowkidari. Is national security & journalists is a shame. They interest in safe hands? Think long cannot curb freedom & rights of & loud," Ms. Mayawati tweeted. the press as per their Addressing a press conference at the Congress headquarters, On Wednesday, Attorney- Mr. Gandhi said parallel General K.K. Venugopal told the negotiations by the Prime Supreme Court that the "secret" Minister's Office (PMO) had not documents published by The only delayed the delivery of the Hindu on the purchase of Rafale combat jets but also inflated the

'It gets real personal, real fast': Dems fear targeting Trump kids could backfire

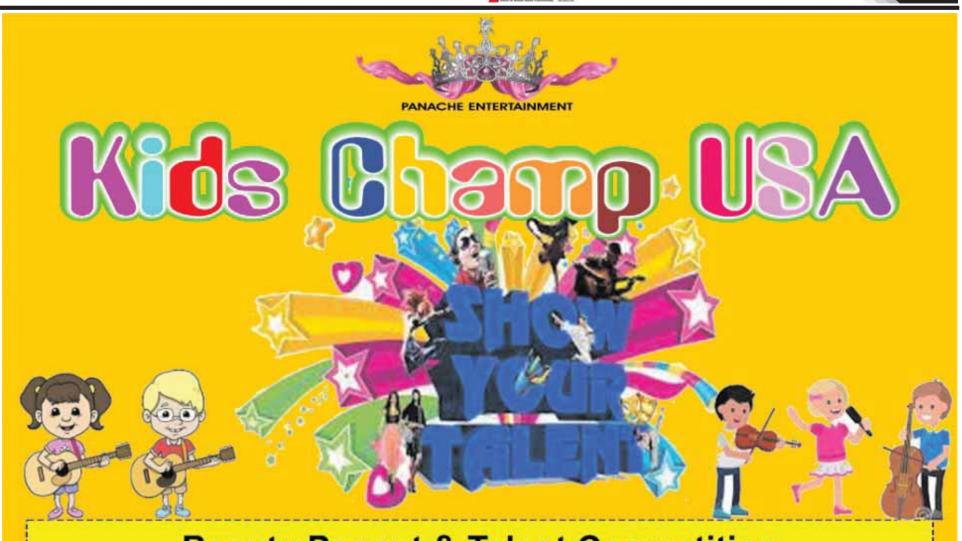
Democrats, in fact, would prefer Trump's children is the one thing that intervened in getting the clearance Ivanka and son-in-law Jared harassment." that it likely would be impossible to take a completely hands-off approach."Getting to family members I think is dangerous," Oversight and Reform Committee. 'Only because it gets real personal, fast. And it risks backfiring."Maybe at some point we have to call them in," Connolly added, "but I'd rather let in Cohen's testimony. prosecutors look at that."Those Cummings declined to comment. necessities: Democrats fear that

Trump's family members - expedition desperately in search of

Kushner-are so deeply involved A Democratic source said sources. Ivanka Trump could soon in his business and presidency Oversight Committee Chairman Elijah Cummings (D-Md.) has privately expressed reservations about directly investigating Trump's adult children. Last said Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-Va.), week, Cummings said the Trump and dozens of others as a senior member of the House committee would follow up on all potential leads from former Trump attorney Michael Cohen's bombshell testimony before the panel. Cummings is expected to seek interviews with individuals implicated investigations into Trump and his

concerns have more to do with The Oversight panel is battling with have knowledge of crimes Cohen political optics than investigative the White House over the process has pleaded guilty to and crimes for approving Kushner's security the appearance of going after clearance, including whether Trump committed.

to let federal prosecutors handle could elicit sympathy for a president approved. The White House has the family while they take on the who has attacked Democratic refused to turn over documents president themselves. Yet investigations as "a big, fat, fishing related to Kushner's clearance, and the committee is likely to including Donald Jr., Eric, a crime" and "presidential issue a subpoena as early as next week, according to Democratic find herself ensnared in that probe, the Oversight chief said. Moreover, the House Judiciary Committee has demanded documents from Kushner, Donald Trump Jr., Eric part of a sweeping probe into allegations of obstruction of justice, corruption and abuses of power. Cohen gave lawmakers a road map for their myriad inner circle. He name-dropped several individuals who purportedly that he said the president



Beauty Pagent & Talent Competition
Beauty Pageant Pre Teen Prince & Princess





Hicksville MY 244 W Old Contry Road Long Island, MY 11801 April 6th, 2019











Democrats on Wednesday

sparred with Homeland

Security Secretary Kirstjen

Nielsen over whether illegal

immigration at the U.S.-Mexico

border justifies the national

emergency declared last month

During a three-hour hearing

before the House Homeland

Democratic lawmakers also

pressed Nielsen over the

administration's practice of

separating families. Thousands

of migrant families were split

enforcement strategy.

Security

Committee,

by President Donald Trump.

Democrats blast Nielsen over border policies

documents related to family have taken that step yet. separation and the treatment of to obtain funds for a border wall outside the will of Congress. 'The president wants to build a drugs and human trafficking. (Insider Bureau)- House

wall so there is something to point to," he said.

The hearing comes amid a Trump's decision to declare a used to estimate crossings. national emergency after Border Patrol arrested 66,450 emergency will veto the bill, and neither the 1990s and early 2000s.

Trump's "zero tolerance" Chairman Bennie Thompson (D-Miss.) slammed Nielsen for

not providing the committee with Trump's declaration, no courts have "never [been] so many generalist

In opening remarks at the hearing children in custody. He also Wednesday, Nielsen said that the asserted that Trump used "an situation along the southern emergency that does not exist" border is a "humanitarian catastrophe," and described the area as a conduit for criminals,

"This chain of human misery is getting worse," she said, citing recent statistics that show a pitched political battle over spike in border arrests, a metric

Congress declined to provide migrants at the southwest border \$5.7 billion to build a border wall. in February, the highest single-The House voted last week to month total since March 2009. Since October, monthly arrests declaration, and the Senate is have averaged 53,600, the expected to do the same later highest rate since 2008 but still this month. Trump has said he far below arrest rates in the

apart from April to June under A spate of lawsuits have argued that the current level of arrests the administration. that Trump exceeded his remains far below historic highs "She held her own," one former an "all of the above" approach

apprehensions ever in our committees deal in specifics." history."

Langevin cited Customs and from House Republicans, Border Protection statistics that several of whom praised show 1.6 million border arrests Trump's in fiscal year 2000 - far above the declaration. 397,000 arrests recorded last "I think it is a crisis," said Rep. vear.

Nielsen said she did not "know the full context" of Trump's statement, and emphasized instead that arrests of family members have reached the that we need dire action now." highest level on record. CBP has McCaul added that Nielsen been tracking such records only shouldn't shoulder responsibility since fiscal 2012.

said, "we have had recordbreaking apprehensions."

Langevin, though, slammed Trump's claims as "deceitful."

White House officials watched House nor the Senate appears In one exchange Wednesday, Nielsen's appearance closely to have sufficient votes to Rep. Jim Langevin (D-R.I.) and were pleased with it, saying pressed Nielsen to acknowledge she did a stellar job representing

authority by declaring the - and that Trump spoke falsely DHS official who served under to border security that includes emergency. While plaintiffs in when he said during a January Trump toldPOLITICO. "It's tough manpower, technology and those cases have sought to block visit to South Texas that there [because] Trump speaks in barriers.

Nielsen also won accolades emergency

Michael McCaul (R-Texas), who chaired the committee in the last session of Congress. "I think the president's correct in saying it's an emergency and for the continued arrival of "In some categories," Nielsen migrants at the border because U.S. asylum laws serve as a "magnet" for people trekking to the U.S.

> "It's not your fault," he told Nielsen. "It's Congress that's failed to act to solve this problem."Rep. Mike Rogers (R-Ala.), ranking member of the committee, said be supported

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg outlines new 'privacy-focused vision'

(Insider Bureau)- Embroiled in fundamentally more private consent. too many data scandals to count, experience.' Instagram messaging services - stick around forever,' the firm planned to stitch the 6 post. three together.

Facebook principle of privacy.

you later in life.

across Facebook

'This is the future I hope we forward. boss will help bring about.'

acknowledged the site's The Facebook CEO's post Zuckerberg says Facebook reputation, which has been detailing his 'privacy-focused will merge its messaging tarnished in recent years as a vision' comes just days after services result of its lax-approach to the a tweet from Emojipedia Instagram Direct, and protection of its users' founder Jeremy Burge Facebook Messenger - in a information, and promised to revealed the site allows users way that allows users to Facebook's other messaging for building privacy protective rebuild its services on the to search for specific profiles communicate across all three platforms do not. using phone numbers provided apps. Zuckerberg also said he's for two-factor authentication. working to ensure your online And, just a week prior, a Wall end encryption to keep out of a town square, allowing users said. activity won't come back to haunt Street Journal investigation anyone who isn't the intended to openly share content as they revealed Facebook has been reader, including 'hackers, choose, the CEO said. Ultimately, the CEO says the firm collecting 'highly sensitive criminals, 'a dozen apps without users' operating the services they're would even want to build this kind messaging and stories.

In perhaps its best-known Facebook now says it's shifting I believe the future of privacy scandal, Facebook toward a 'privacy-focused' future. communication will increasingly came under fire in 2018 when In lengthy blog post on shift to private, encrypted it was revealed political CEO Mark services where people can be consultancy firm Cambridge Zuckerberg detailed a plan to confident what they say to each Analytica was given access to bring end-to-end encryption to other stays secure and their the data of 87 million users. Messenger, WhatsApp, and messages and content won't Zuckerberg is now promising to apply the same privacy confirming previous reports that Zuckerberg wrote in the March principles it used in WhatsApp to all of its services moving

In a multi-year plan,

All will be equipped with end-to-



using,' Zuckerberg said.

While WhatsApp already has because frankly we don't end-to-end

Facebook and Instagram will still focused on tools for more operate like 'the digital equivalent open sharing,' Zuckerberg

of privacy-focused platform -encryption, currently have a strong reputation services, and we've historically

'But we've repeatedly shown that we can evolve to build the over-reaching 'I understand that many people services that people really is striving to make interactions information' from at least a governments, or even the people don't think Facebook can or want, including in private

Getting the chop! Dollar Tree to close nearly 400 Family Dollar stores and rebrand 200 more after reporting losses of \$2.3 BILLION

(Insider Bureau)- Dollar billion.

losses of \$2.3 billion.

struggling discount chain it year ending February 2. years ago.

It also announced 200 Tree name.

Though Family Dollar has Family Dollar brand for The range, same-store sales growth has been nearly flat fiscal 2019.' on average in the past two The rebranded locations will chain's value in the fourth distraction.' 12 months.

unadjusted basis the section.

Tree Inc has announced The company said it would was expected to bolster its plans to close 390 Family shut 390 Family Dollar business and better Dollar stores after reporting stores, besides planned compete with chains like remodeling of 1,000 stores Walmart and rival Dollar The company announced this year to add \$1-only General Corp. the plans as it wrote off items. Dollar Tree had Hedge fund investor \$2.7 billion, or nearly a third already closed 122 Family Starboard Value LP in of the value of the Dollar stores in the fiscal January urged Dollar Tree bought for \$9 billion four Chief Executive Officer for its Family Dollar

Gary Philbin said in business, including a sale, Wednesday's statement: after years of weakness other stores will be 'We are confident we are that has rebranded under the Dollar taking the appropriate company's steps to reposition our profitability.

years, pushing down the reportedly get expanded quarter, also said it would Shares of the company overall numbers up 2.4 \$1.15 per share, below parent company's shares freezer sections and even explore pricing some rose two per cent as it percent, above an analysts' expectation of seven per cent in the last sell alcohol. They will also goods above the \$1- reported better-than- average analyst estimate \$1.29 per share. It said reportedly include a \$1 mark, as Starboard has expected fourth-quarter of 1.5 percent rise, its forecast takes into CNBC reports that on an Dollar Tree merchandise demanded.

quarter loss of \$2.31 Family Dollar in 2015 for the company in January, the

almost \$9 billion. The move

to explore all alternatives overall

for the decline in the a



Chesapeake, saying: 'Dollar Tree business. remodeled some stores increasing profitability as Virginia-based company, significantly overpaid for Same-store sales rose it said, but lead to material and expanded its product business initiatives gain which took a \$2.73 Family Dollar, and this 1.4 percent at the smaller improvement in the second traction in the back half of billion one-time charge business is proving to be chain in the fourth half.

same-store sales, along according to IBES data account a possible rise Jeffrey Smith, CEO of with the results of its full from Refinitiv. company had a fourth- Dollar Tree Inc. acquired Starboard Value, wrote to strategic assessment of The restructuring will weigh products to 25 percent in Family

meaningful quarter, the strongest in The company forecast first

Dollar on operating income in the 2019.

a year and pushing quarter earnings of \$1.05in U.S. tariff on Chinese

U.S. trade deficit in goods hits record high of \$891 billion in 2018 despite Trump's pledge to reduce the gap

(Insider Bureau)-The U.S. deficit in December had \$2.6 trillion in 2018. administration's 'America since 2008. the trade gap.

foreign competition.

goods trade deficit surged contributed to the record. The United States last year imports from 60 countries. Stocks on Wall Street were. When adjusted for to a record high in 2018 \$891.3 billion goods trade imposed tariffs on \$250 in 2018, led by China, trading lower as investors inflation, the goods trade as strong domestic shortfall last year. The billion worth of goods Mexico and Germany. demand fueled by lower overall trade deficit surged imported from China, with 'Perhaps Donald Trump will developments on the trade to a record \$91.6 billion in taxes pulled in imports, 12.5 per cent to \$621.0 Beijing hitting back with now discover that tweets negotiations. despite the Trump billion in 2018, the largest duties on \$110 billion worth and bluster alone won't Economists

President Donald Trump efforts to make America billion worth of Chinese Manufacturing is pursuing a protectionist great again, and the trend imports as negotiations to Washington. U.S. manufacturing from in 2019,' said Chris trade war continue. MUFG in New York.

president to reduce the its goal of 3 percent on a trade deficit last year.

what he says is unfair Rupkey chief economist at Businesses likely stocked boost the trade deficit.' Trump, who has dubbed The White House has anticipation of further record \$1.7 trillion in 2018, Joel Naroff, chief economist government will revise himself 'the tariff man,' argued that reducing the duties on Chinese goods, they declined in the last at Naroff Economic down fourth-quarter GDP pledged on both the trade deficit would boost which ironically contributed three months of the year, Advisors in Holland, growth to a 2.3 percent campaign trail and as annual economic growth to to the deterioration in the weighed by the U.S.-China Pennsylvania.

machines, had record Treasury prices rose. December.

on imports in While goods exports hit a very much this year,' said Economists expect the deficit by shutting out sustainable basis. The The goods trade deficit with global demand and a exports of goods and Thursday. more unfairly traded governmentalso sought to China increased 11.6 strong dollar, which is services drove the trade Other data on Wednesday imports and renegotiating stimulate the economy percent to an all-time high making American-made deficit in December to suggested some slowing with a \$1.5 trillion tax cut of \$419.2 billion in 2018. goods less competitive on \$59.8 billion, the largest in the labor market, Commerce package, which jolted both The United States, which the international market. since October 2008, though the pace of job Department said on consumer and business also slapped duties on The dollar was little Imports of goods and gains remains more than

awaited

of American products, dramatically shrink the exports to remain weak real goods trade deficit First' policies, including 'The trade deficit exploded including soybeans and trade deficit,' said Scott even if Washington and suggests that the drag tariffs, aimed at shrinking last year despite the other commodities. Trump Paul, president of the Beijing strike a trade deal. from trade on fourth-Trump administration has delayed tariffs on \$200 Alliance for American 'That will take time and if quarter gross domestic in the Chinese growth is as product growth was 'The soft as most economists probably bigger than the trade agenda to shield is unlikely to get any better resolve the eight-month administration's fiscal believe, it is hard to see 0.22 percentage point policies have helped to how they can ramp up estimated demand for U.S. products government last week.

trade dispute, slowing A 1.9 percent drop in 2.6 percent it reported last Wednesday that a 12.4 spending, helping to lift imported steel, aluminum, changed against a basket services increased 2.1 enough to drive the per cent jump in the goods imported goods to a record solar panels and washing of currencies, while U.S. percent to \$264.9 billion in unemployment rate down.

fresh deficit surged \$10.0 billion December.

expect The jump in the so-called annualized rate from the



He was an unapologetic imperialist, who believed that India could never become a nation, that Indians should remain forever under the British yoke.

where candidates are trumpeting donations fall into two categories: their distance from the president. contributions to local pols and Kamala Harris received money from Donald Trump as recently as six years ago. Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner hosted a Park Avenue fundraiser for Cory times across a seven-year period after the president mocked her

As the president gears up for his contributions he made to state re-election fight, donor records attorneys general who were show that six of the declared or investigating or had previously potential Democrats itching to investigated Trump University. take him on have themselves Harris also landed \$2,000 from been the beneficiaries of his - or his daughter's - largesse.

Harris, Booker and Gillibrand along with Joe Biden, John Kerry Steven Mnuchin when she ran for and Terry McAuliffe - all share a Senate in 2016. common bond of receiving Trump family donations, adding another wrinkle to a crowded primary to trumpet their distance from the president.

have spanned stints as a course. Republican, Democrat, Reform candidate independent, Trump has donated political perspectives," said across the spectrum from the Gwenda Blair, a Columbia The recipients include both who wrote "The Trumps: Three

officials with whom he wanted to curry favor, or one-offs to prominent players on the national

But he strayed outside his usual Booker. Kirsten Gillibrand took in New York and New Jersey turf to Trump family donations three give Harris two donations totaling \$6,000 in 2011 and 2013, when - and then gave a similar amount she was already considered a of money to a nonprofit years later rising Democratic star as California attorney general.

> Those were two of several Ivanka Trump for her re-election campaign, and another \$2,000 from future Treasury Secretary

Trump historians who have studied his family and real estate career said he learned his where candidates are expected political worldview from his father - and in a New York City industry where greasing politicians for fact, Trump touted his donations An ideological shapeshifter favorable zoning exemptions or to opponents. "It's interesting: I whose decades in the public eye tax abatements was par for the

"This was completely irrespective and of anything to do with principles, establishment left to the far right. University journalism professor Senate Minority Leader Chuck Generations That Built an

(Insider Bureau)- Donations from Schumer (D-N.Y.) and politically Empire." "It was about levers of Trump and his family add another exiled Rep. Steve King (R-lowa). power, period. And this has not wrinkle to a Democratic primary Many of Donald Trump's changed. This has never changed."

> Spokespeople for the Trump reelection campaign, Biden and McAuliffe declined to comment on the record. Other campaigns did not respond to multiple requests for comment. The Harris campaign told The Sacramento Bee that Harris gave away the \$6,000 from Donald Trump to a nonprofit in 2015 - and that she never met with him or gave him special treatment.

> Whether their prior financial entanglements could surface as attack lines against Trump or any of these Democrats remains to be seen. In 2016, Trump won over crowds by insisting that his wealth inoculated him from undue external pressures. Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) tried to turn Trump's contributions to Harris and other California Democrats into a cudgel, but Trump was already cruising to the nomination by the state's late primary

> During the primary campaign, in was looking at the ones I'm running against. I've contributed to most of them. Can you believe it?" he said in an Iowa stop. "I've given to Democrats. I've given to Hillary. I've given to everybody! Because that was my job. I gotta give to them. Because when I want something, I get it. When I

call, they kiss my ass." tremendous flak for her sources years later.) - and a long list of contenders year. for the nomination - financial Kushner hails from a prominent come into play.

Harris, for one - among the early front-runners and a lightning rod for some Twitter backers of donations from Trump and runs.) Mnuchin. The Black Socialists But in the wake of Trump's 2016 America disapprovingly; a meme popped up last month.

landed \$25,000 from Trump in podcast. The headline:

his failed Virginia gubernatorial Clinton, on the other hand, took primary bid in 2009. (He won four

of money, and Sen. Bernie Ivanka Trump and Jared Sanders (I-Vt.) bashed her Kushner, now top advisers to the repeatedly for giving paid president, each sent Booker speeches to Wall Street firms. \$10,400 in 2013. They bundled And with the Democratic Party's \$41,000 and hosted a fundraiser insurgency on the left this year for his Senate campaign that

litmus tests could once again New Jersey Democratic family; his brother, Joshua, made identical donations to Booker. (Joshua Kushner has also given to former Rep. Beto O'Rourke Sanders - has attracted some and Rep. Seth Moulton, who are negative liberal attention for her both considering White House

tweeted election, some Democrats began to look askance at the money they once took from his family. Nobody in the burgeoning In 2017, Booker reflected on the Democratic 2020 field has taken support from Ivanka Trump and as much from the Trumps as Kushner in an interview with McAuliffe and Booker. McAuliffe BuzzFeed's "Another Round"

Paris Jackson reacts to 'Leaving Neverland' accusations, urges calm: 'Chillax my dudes'



(Insider Bureau)- Michael MOLESTATION CLAIMS Jackson's daughter, Paris, weighed in Thursday on the allegations made against her father in the Leaving Neverland father's legacy ruined and his documentary.

the HBO documentary, which details allegations of child molestation against the "King of Pop" by Wade Robson and James "Jimmy" Safechuck during their childhood. The late singer's family has vehemently denied the allegations. The 20vear-old's response came in a thread on Twitter, which began when she wrote that "injustices are frustrating," but encouraged others to instead try reacting calmly. In a follow-up tweet, she "think about the bigger picture." COREY FELDMAN DENIES **MICHAEL** JACKSON **TOUCHED** 'LEAVING **NEVERLAND**'

But someone responded to the model's comment, telling her that "The bigger picture is your name smeared forever but Jackson has been fairly mum on whatever though." Jackson countered, posing whether "love and peace and trying to carry that message out" should be what they focused on instead.

"tabloids and lies are the bigger picture? i'll pray for you," she wrote."No, they want to tear his name down and stop playing his music but it's cool like who cares that he died for this," the individual replied. Appearing to stick up for her father, Jackson wrote that "they do that to everyone with a good heart and suggested that people should tries to make a difference but do you really think that it's possible to tear his name down?

"like do you truly believe they HIM stand a chance ?" INAPPROPRIATELY AMID continued. "relax and have

White Supremacists Have a New Strategy

Extremist groups, fearing a crackdown, have launched a stealthy propaganda offensive.

hateful ideology, but they don't propaganda efforts on record. want to face the consequences. And the messages are They want to find an audience for everywhere: Hanging from their racism and anti-Semitism, freeway overpasses, stuck to but they don't want to get caught. utility poles, plastered to shop law enforcement and the media, windshields of parked cars. and of doxing, firing and ostracism stores. that comes with public In 2018, white supremacist

public events.

Extremism shows a staggering Florida and Virginia. 182 percent increase of If you know what you're looking propaganda incidents in 2018, at, the white supremacists'

supremacists are facing a compared with 421 in 2017. This clearly convey racism, antidilemma: They want to share their is the highest number of reported

groups - most notably alt-right Within the past few months, they mainstays Identity Evropa and seem to have landed on an Patriot Front - continued to post answer that keeps their groups propaganda on college and in the spotlight while shielding university campuses. These the individual identities of their efforts, which were not members: far more propaganda insignificant, were overshadowed efforts and fewer pre-announced by the dramatic increase of their off-campus propaganda. Joined There's a very good chance by the Loyal White Knights, a you've seen a white supremacist Nazified Klan group, they leveled flyer or banner in the past year. their attention on urban areas, Defamation League's Center on Colorado, New York, Illinois,

(Agencies)- American white with 1,187 cases reported, banners, stickers and flyers Semitism and Islamophobia. But the messaging is not always overtly hateful. Identity Evropa often posts flyers that appear to be innocuous paeans to Western European art. Patriot Under increased scrutiny from windows or left on the Front leans heavily on red, white blue signage with how do they disseminate their They're even found tucked into mainstream conservative racist ideas and recruit new books inside neighborhood book messaging, including "America members, but also limit the risk swap boxes, libraries and book First" and "Fake news - don't buy it." When they gather for events, Patriot Front members are far less circumspect about their California synagogue was Under-the-radar events and racism, frequently shouting threatened with flyers from the stealth propaganda efforts alike "Blood and Soil!" - a callback to neo-Nazi Atomwaffen Division shield white supremacists from a Nazi slogan.

> The placement of propaganda is often calibrated to elicit a response from a specific by the Daily Stormer Book conspiracy theorist Alex Jones newspaper In another case, a Northern with Teeth."



that warned, "There is no public exposure and, notably, escaping the day of the rope," and "The kikes are all done!" And Jews aren't the only group invaluable marketing materials. community. One flyer campaign that has been targeted. Non-public situations are easily Throughout 2018, Patriot Front controlled, Clubs, launched after right-wing targeted LGBT resource centers, manipulated after the fact. The was de-platformed by social journalists, a human rights law and events are largely shared Data collected by the Anti- especially in California, Texas, media sites, targeted Jewish office and a gay political online, particularly by the alt-right institutions in multiple states candidate with propaganda groups, which make up the with anti-Semitic flyers accusing messages including, "Better youngest and most tech-savvy Jews of censoring free speech. Dead Than Red" and "Patriotism" subset of the white supremacist

public displays of opposition. They also provide the groups with publishers, photos and videos from flyering

Tensions flare as Dems struggle to calm furor over Omar

Lawmakers clashed behind closed doors, with some complaining that Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her leadership team had failed to handle the escalating political crisis.

(Agencies)- House Democratic Democratic measure to condemn A senior Democratic aide closed doors over whether - and postponed amid a last-minute over the past few days. how - to respond.

Tensions ran high at a caucus caucus. little outreach to their own rank language." and file. Freshman Rep. Jahana Pelosi also said Democratic Democratic Caucus response East Africa over the weekend. according to five sources.

backlash from progressives in the

meeting Wednesday as some House Majority Leader Steny Democrats privately vented that Hoyer (D-Md.) later told reporters already started to walk out of the Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her that leadership hadn't decided leadership team had failed to whether a vote on the resolution adequately respond to the would take place this week, escalating political crisis, with too adding, "We're working on

Hayes of Connecticut stood up leaders were forced to respond and confronted Pelosi directly, quickly over the weekend - a task arguing that she shouldn't have made trickier with Omar on a to learn about the official congressional delegation trip to

from MSNBC. Hayes said she As Hayes was then talking to now has to vote on a resolution another member, Pelosi said, that she's barely read, without a "Well if you're not going to listen

leaders are struggling to contain anti-Semitism is not final, though disputed that it was a tense the controversy over Rep. Ilhan text had been circulating and a exchange, saying Pelosi was Omar's comments about Israel, vote had been tentatively planned merely trying to explain why with the caucus fighting behind for Wednesday. That vote was things unfolded the way they did

Haves later said in an interview that she didn't hear Pelosi responding to her and had

"I'm not interested in legislating through the media and social media," Hayes said, noting when she received a copy of the draft resolution it wasn't even clear which lawmakers were the lead authors. "I know that leadership has the ability to tighten up the process and do something about it."That moment of frustration reflects widespread anxiety in the caucus over how to handle the latest bout of remarks from Omar private briefing from leadership, to me, I'm done talking," then set - one of the first Muslim women down the microphone and walked to serve in Congress - after she Pelosi countered that the out of the room, the sources said. suggested that pro-Israel



advocates had "allegiance" to offensive.

multiple top Democrats, who meeting, multiple sources said, said it alluded to painful, although she was spotted decades-old stereotypes that chatting with some Democrats Jews had "dual loyalties."

Multiple Jewish lawmakers, from others. other Democrats - including a Semitism, see the remarks as deeply Omar.

Israel. The remarks offended Omar did not speak in the one-on-one and received hugs

including Rep. Ted Deutch (D- Democratic leaders, including Fla.) stood up in the caucus Pelosi, are attempting to soothe meeting to explain why Omar's relations within the caucus after latest remarks were so offensive abruptly halting plans to vote on and potentially dangerous. But a measure condemning anti-Jewish lawmaker - stood up to lawmakers complained would defend Omar and say they didn't had gone too far in targeting

BUSINESS Friday 8 March to 15 March 2019

Tokyo court grants ex-Nissan chief Carlos Ghosn bail



(Agencies)- A Tokyo court on previously said Tuesday granted ex-Nissan chief continued detention was justified Carlos Ghosn bail in a shock because he posed a flight risk decision that could see the auto and could seek to tamper with tycoon freed after more than three evidence. Ghosn and his lawyers months of detention. The court set have argued that neither of those the bail at one billion yen (USD 9 is the case, and he even million), but prosecutors are likely offered to wear a tracking to appeal the decision and could bracelet and hire guards to complex scheme in which even file additional allegations monitor his whereabouts, Ghosn allegedly sought to against Ghosn to keep him from pledging to stay in Japan. The leaving detention. It was the latest surprise decision came after twist in a case that has kept Ghosn's new lead defence Japan and the business world lawyer, Junichiro Hironaka, told gripped since the tycoon's shock reporters he had filed a against the prosecutors when arrest on November 19 over "convincing" application for bail they sought to extend Ghosn's suspicions of financial that

contained misconduct. The court has elements. Hironaka, who has a him were being investigated.

reputation for securing acquittals for high-profile clients in a country where almost all court cases end in conviction, offered greater surveillance of Ghosn and a limit on his electronic communications to win bail.

But the court had previously shown no inclination to end the lengthy pre-trial detention, which has drawn some criticism internationally and from rights groups.Prosecutors defended his detention while they investigate three charges of financial misconduct, two involving alleged under-reporting of his salary and a third over a transfer his losses to Nissan's books. And they are likely to appeal the bail decision, though the courts have previously ruled fresh detention as allegations against

Asia still leads the world when it comes to minting billionaires

(Agencies)- Asia will see the in Asia plan to keep more of their fastest billionaire population wealth in cash and less in assets growth in the world over the next exposed to market cycles such four years, despite economic as gold or bonds. Property uncertainties in the region remains a mainstay of their triggered by the China-US trade portfolios, the Knight Frank report

The number of Asian billionaires around 23 percent, slightly higher will rise by 27 percent to 1,003 between 2018 and 2023, making up more than a third of the away from equities toward more world's total billionaire population defensive asset classes," said of 2,696, according to a report Nicholas Holt, Knight Frank Asia released Wednesday by Knight Pacific's head of research. Frank LLP. The billionaire population growth rates for North America and Europe are 17 percent and 18 percent investment-grade property with respectively.

increase in ultra-high net worth next 12 months." individuals (people with net Investors in the Philippines were assets of \$30 million or more). most likely to put more money India leads the world with an into real estate, the survey found, China. But while the rich may be property-market downturn, increasing number of individuals coming 12 months.

found: real estate comprises than the global average. "We are seeing a re-balancing of portfolios "While cash, gold and private equity are likely to be increasingly targeted. strong tenant covenants will also Asia will also see the biggest see significant interest over the

expected 39 percent surge, while 40 percent of respondents followed by the Philippines and in Australia, in the midst of a getting richer, they're also expected allocations to real becoming more cautious. An estate to decrease over the

Vijay Mallya's defiance prompts Sebi to seek amendments to Companies Act

In a proposal, Sebi has now proposed that the Companies Act should also clearly mention that a person should vacate the office of a director if it orders his or her disqualification.

is no explicit mention of an order at United Spirits Ltd, an erstwhile mandated with regulation of to global liquor giant Diageo. thousands of listed firms in India. Mallya and others were also In a proposal, Sebi has now barred from the securities proposed that the Companies markets in the same order. Act should also clearly mention However, Mallya did not comply that a person should vacate the with the order by not stepping office of a director if it orders his down as a director of United or her disqualification. Officials Breweries Ltd, another listed said the finance ministry is in company of his group, for agreement with Sebi on the months. Soon after the Sebi Act, Sebi has said the fact that

(Agencies)- Capital markets proposed amendment and has order, Mallya had also criticised regulator Sebi has asked the asked the regulator to get it Sebi in a series of tweets and government to amend the approved by its board and had said the allegations of fund Companies Act to ensure that a subsequently forward it to the diversion were baseless and had director declared by it as a corporate affairs ministry, which disqualified person should is the nodal ministry for the immediately vacate the position, Companies Act.In its proposal, a plea triggered by defaulter Sebi has referred to its interim businessman Vijay Mallya's order dated January 25, 2017, reluctance to do so. Under the through which the regulator had Companies Act, the office of a barred Mallya and six others from director becomes vacant in case holding directorship in any listed of he or she being disqualified by company till further directions. an order of a court or a tribunal, The Sebi order followed a probe among other reasons, but there into alleged illegal fund diversions by the Securities and Exchange firm of business group headed by Board of India (Sebi), which is Mallya which he had later sold

alleged that he was a target of "witch hunt". After refusing to quit the United Breweries Board for months, Mallya finally ceased to be its director in August 2017, presumably after pressure from other directors. In case of United Spirits, he was asked by the new owner Diageo in April 2015 itself to quit the board for alleged fund diversion. Mallya is facing a number of cases against him, including of loan default, and a court in the UK has already ordered his extradition back to India and the same was also approved by the British government last month. Subsequently, 63-yearold Mallya, who had left India in March 2016 for the UK, has also filed an application for permission to appeal against the extradition order. Explaining its rationale for seeking changes in the Companies



Mallya failed to comply with its direction has brought forward a "legal conundrum" in respect of whether Sebi has the power to enforce its direction when a director refuses to comply with the same.At present, Sebi's direction restraining a person from acting as a director is not a ground for vacation of his or her directorship under the existing provisions of Section 167 of the Companies Act, 2013. Further, Sections 164, 167 and 169 of the Companies Act, dealing with appointment, vacancy and removal of directors, are administered only by the central government through the Corporate Affairs Ministry. "These provisions have

not been delegated to Sebi for administering them in respect of the listed companies," the official said, citing the regulator's proposal for the amendment in the law. While Sebi is empowered adjudication initiate proceedings under the Sebi Act for non-compliance of its directions in such cases, it can only be a penal proceeding for non-compliance and not for enforcement of the direction. In view of these concerns, Sebi has proposed that the issue can be resolved by amending the Section 167 of the Companies Act to include "order of Sebi" as one of the grounds for vacation of office of a director.





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BUSINESS OF THE WEEK

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Friday 8 March to 15 March 2019

Futuristic lab at National Cancer Institute in Haryana can test 60,000 samples 24x7

The centralised lab at the National Cancer Institute in Jhajjar has a capacity to test 60,000 samples a day and run 24x7.

hospital.

a day and run 24x7. It has an hours of sample collection," said to learn how stuff works in expanded menu of tests, Dr G K Rath, head, NCI. including genetic screening for mutations and molecular manpower requirement and frees source by the nurse who collects diagnostic for personalised up technicians to work in shifts them and the diagnostic results medicine, which does away with around the clock. the need to send samples to peripheral labs.

automation track, stand-alone the huge patient load and run the compressed air. "The Core Lab instrumentation, integrated lab 24x7 rather than just during is station 101 and 102, so people workflow, and chrome and white the daytime. Patients can get the just need to punch in station interiors, the Robotic Core tests done anytime of the day number and the ampule reaches Laboratory at National Cancer and night. Standardised testing Institute (NCI) at Haryana's protocols, workflow management 30 seconds. One of the chutes Jhajjar looks more like the deck and automated calibration has an auto-unloader, so I don't of the Starship Enterprise than a reduces manual errors and has even have to physically take out clinical laboratory at a cancer a shorter, consistent and the ampoule from the chute," said predictable turnaround time, Jasbir Bhardwaj, a lab technician The centralised lab has a which means most diagnostics capacity to test 60,000 samples results are available within two

The automation also lowers

allows us to run a large number testing between stations through no need to send reports. It's

With its fully robotic of patient samples to deal with networks of tubes using us from different departments in who has asked for a transfer to NCI Jhajjar from AIIMS New Delhi futuristic labs.

The samples are barcoded at are directly uploaded on lab Pneumatic chutes are used informatics system, which can to propel containers with be accessed by clinicians The advantage is twofold. "It ampoules containing samples for across the hospitals. "There is



super simplified and completely paperless," said Dr Rath.

processes, digitisation and automation. "The machine diagnostics faster, simpler and here to run quality-control more accurate, lowering the need checks and validate samples. for collecting multiple samples We don't have to waste time from patients," said Dr Rath. "It on sample transport, capping, saves 48,000 man hours of work sorting, sending reports and per year, which can be up to 80% making registry entries," said less effort than what is required Dinesh Kumar, another lab in a traditional lab of a 700-plus technician.

bed hospital."

The lab technicians on the "The lab focuses on shift are not threatened by the intelligent software that make runs 24x7 but we have to be

Large study again confirms MMR vaccine doesn't cause autism

The authors, from the Statens Serum Institut, the University of Copenhagen and Stand University School of Medicine, point out that their study comes to the same conclusion as a 2002 study that followed 537,000 Danish children.



650,000 Danish children for a nationwide unselected also found no links between over a decade has led population of Danish children," researchers to the same researchers wrote in the US conclusion as previous efforts: the measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine does not increase a child's risk of autism. Statens Serum Institut, the

Danish children born between Stand University School of 1999 and 2010 until 2013, Medicine, point out that their to claim a link included only 12 compared the number of study comes to the same vaccinated and unvaccinated conclusion as a 2002 study that kids who were diagnosed with followed 537,000 Danish autism, and found no difference

We found no support for the

journal Annals of Internal Medicine.

The authors, from the The study, which followed all University of Copenhagen and

hypothesis of increased risk for on childhood vaccines, including medical license.

A study following more than autism after MMR vaccination in six on the MMR vaccine, which vaccination and autism.

> In comparison to the hundreds of thousands of children studied for years whose data researchers say shows no link between the MMR vaccine and autism, the 1998 study that antivaccine proponents still often cite

That study was retracted by the medical journal that published it and the author, who had And they cite 10 other studies falsified the results, lost his

Poor cognition raises bad oral health in elderly

The study included 4,416 adults aged 50 years and above. According to previous studies, older adults with just 10-19 teeth are at a higher risk of malnutrition in addition to higher rates of weight loss and lower appetite.



Older adults with poor function and oral health in says a study. According to the study, there was a clear an improvement in cognitive association between cognitive function could potentially function and tooth loss when improve oral health and reduce cognitive function score was the risk of tooth loss in the categorised into quintiles.

The study, published in the in the lowest quintile reflecting poorer cognitive function had quintile.

close link between cognitive or depression.

cognitive function are found to older adults," said Jianhua have impaired oral health and Wu, Researcher at the higher risk of tooth loss later, University of Leeds in Britain.

"The findings indicate that ageing population," said Wu.

The study included 4,416 Community Dentistry & Oral adults aged 50 years and Epidemiology, showed people above. According to previous studies, older adults with just 10-19 teeth are at a higher risk 39% higher odds of tooth loss of malnutrition in addition to than those in the highest higher rates of weight loss and lower appetite. They are also at "Our study suggested a increased risk for dementia and/

Louis Vuitton ends Paris fashion week with night in two museums

Despite all the talk of innovation, there was lots of the classic luxury casual looks -- and classics with a casual luxury touch.

Designer Nicolas Ghesquiere had teased could be accused of. that his Louis Vuitton Paris fashion week show late Tuesday would be a "shock". He wasn't kidding. While guests had been invited to the Louvre Museum in the centre of the French capital, when they took their seats they actually found themselves in the Pompidou Centre, a kilometre away to the east. This wasn't some sort teleporter trick from "Star Trek". Ghesquiere had recreated the groundbreaking architecture of the Pompidou's modern art galleries inside the Louvre -- "a museum inside a museum" -to demonstrate the shock of the new.

And his clothes for autumn/winter where just as tricksy, mixing stripes, checks, floral and all sorts of prints and patterns in what the New York Times's Vanessa Friedman quickly called a "good taste, bad taste mash up". On the last of nine packed days of shows, it was hard for some exhausted fashionistas to get their heads round, particularly as many had shed a silent tear earlier in the day as the late Karl Lagerfeld's final collection was shown at Chanel.

But Ghesquiere had warned that change was a-coming in a tongue-in-check social media teaser video from his "muse", American actress and model Indya Moore, the transgender star of the US television series "Pose". "I was busy admiring myself being admired by myself," Moore drawled archly in what may have been a swipe at the latest trendy modern tribe, the autosexuals.

No need to panic

fashion designers as smart as Ghesquiere

Before the shareholders of the world's richest fashion brand start panicking, there was method to this.

In fact, the pick 'n' mix pattern palate was an hommage to what Ghesquiere called the "sartorial melting pot" of the still rather roughedged shopping district near the Pompidou Centre, where the timelessly tasteful wardrobe codes of upper class Parisians rub up uneasily against the more eclectic street style of the youthful multicultural suburbs.

"It's an incredible mix which converges towards this epicentre" near the Chatelet transport hub, Ghesquiere said.

"That is where I am taking Louis Vuitton today: a house of multiple expressions," he

The supernova of Hollywood stars on the show's front row who have hitched themselves to the Vuitton wagon -- Emma Stone, Jennifer Connolly, Lea Seydoux and Swedish Oscar winner Alicia Vikander -- definitely dug it.

Supermodel Karlie Kloss also seemed to lap up the mash-up mix of inspirations from Mondrian to Cubism to futuristic street. typified by the black leather swimming

A big shouldered floral kaftan coat with a stripey interior somehow worked, and there was plenty of expensively sleek black leather also in the mix for the woman who likes to keep it rock 'n' roll. Despite all the talk of innovation, there was lots of the classic luxury casual looks -- and classics with a casual luxury touch that has won Ghesquiere such a fan club, Excessive self-regard is not something one that extends to the nearby Elysee Palace and France's first lady Brigitte Macron.





Leaving Neverland movie review

HBO destroys Michael Jackson's legacy with unforgettable bravery

HBO crucifies Michael Jackson's legacy with brave first-person account of two men, who allege that the King of Pop abused them when they were children. Rating: 4/5.

Leaving Neverland Director - Dan Reed Rating - 4/5

It's astonishing that Leaving Neverland got made, especially since similarly risky films have historically had a rather difficult director Amy Berg's An Open Secret, which claimed to have Oscar-winning box office smash, Bohemian Rhapsody.

of noise in its festival run as promised unquestionable new first-person testimony, and were brave men who only recently heaved along by solid buzz.

I have not seen An Open Secret, but I can imagine the sort of impact it could have had if it not been blacklisted. Perhaps Singer would not have been allowed to cash in the reported \$40 million paycheque he received for it.

resounding new information. It remains to be seen what sort about filmmaker Bryan Singer's of impact Leaving Neverland will history of child abuse, was have on Michael Jackson's buried by Hollywood. It remains legacy. MJ certainly has more has since directed his fourth X- remains the world's highest Men movie and the multiple earning dead celebrity - and his fans' dedication towards him has historically been proven during I remember An Open Secret the well-publicised trials he has making exactly the same kind been through. Leaving Neverland, which was aired on HBO in two Leaving Neverland did at 2-hour parts over the weekend, Sundance this year. Both films is neither an indictment nor is it particularly journalistic. It is a proof that would end all debate staunchly one-sided account of

decided to step forward with their stories. To make matters more complicated, one of them - the famed choreographer Wade Robson - had testified in defence of Jackson at both his previous time. Only a few years ago, direct Rhapsody, and thereby not trials. Robson first became acquainted with Jackson as a seven-year-old. Like so many children his age at the time, he worshipped the King of Pop - he'd plastered his walls with Jackson's posters and taught unreleased. Singer, meanwhile, defenders than Singer - he himself all his signature dance moves. The film's other subject is Jimmy Savechuck, who was in many ways inspired to come forward with his own story after watching Robson go public with his. Like most accusers, both men have been pilloried by the public, who have questioned everything from their intentions to their reasons for not having said anything earlier.Leaving about their subjects' innocence; Jackson's alleged history of child Neverland isn't an easy watch,



it to be. For four unrelenting befall a human being, based hours, it forces you to confront on whether or not I found its your emotions as Robson and subjects compelling or Savechuck - framed mostly in believable enough? Would a close-ups - go into deeply star rating suffice? While the agonising details about what filmmaking in Leaving Jackson allegedly did to them. I Neverland is always rather see no point in repeating their rudimentary - talking heads allegations here. It is not my are intercut with (frequently story to tell, and nor does it repeated) archive footage - it have any place in a review of is impossible to look away. this film. In fact, reviewing Regardless of how well-versed Finding Neverland feels just as you are with Jackson's history, uncomfortable. Am I supposed the level-headed manner in which to tell you whether or not you the film conducts itself adds to should watch this film, a its credibility, as does Robson horrific story about the most and Savechuck's inherent both films boasted shocking sexual abuse, as told by two but no sane person would expect terrible tragedy that could forthrightness.

Luka Chuppi review:

Pankaj Tripathi is the unlikely victim of this Kartik Aaryan, Kriti Sanon comedy

The Kartik Aaryan, Kriti Sanon film takes an important topic and squanders it away. The film has its moments but you have to wait for them. Rating: 2.5/5.

Luka Chuppi Director - Laxman Utekar Pankaj Tripathi

Rating - 2.5

There is something about Pankaj Tripathi. His presence in a film/ web series/advertisement/music video/on a juice stall poster makes you believe that whatever that glass of mix juice because you believe it will be a more honest glass of mix juice. You superpower of Pankaj Tripathi's are high and my patience thin. will use it.

him up in red trousers, a yellow sexual agency to the youth over news channel. The two soon

shirt and green sunglasses; their own lives. Film actor saddles him with a clichéd role Nazeem Khan (Abhinav Shukla) Cast - Kartik Aaryan, Kriti and worse dialogues, that you becomes the enemy number one Sanon, Aparshakti Khurana, want to give up. Tripathi still of the Sanskriti Raksha Manchmanages to carry it off - with great the name is self explanatory power comes great responsibility, and our actor knows it - but just about.

In the above two paragraphs lies the inherent problem with Luka Chuppi - it takes good material he is a part of will be wholesome and excellent performers and and fulsome. You want to order turns them into caricatures. Sure, it has its moments and the second half is largely enjoyable, but you have to wait for the fun. hope that the political parties After a slew of excellent smalldon't find out about this town dramas, my expectations because who knows how they At the heart of the story is the moral policing in India and the And it is when Luka Chuppi refusal of our self-appointed moral takes Pankaj Tripathi, dresses guardians to allow any kind of

after he accepts that he is in a live-in relationship. They can't beat up Khan for destroying our sanskriti, so they do the next best thing - attack defenceless lovers in the by-lanes of Mathura. Heading this organization is Vinay Pathak's Vishnu Trivedi, whose religious grandstanding is in the hope of winning the upcoming election. Rashmi (Kriti Sanon) is his daughter, who has returned home to Mathura after finishing her journalism course in Delhi. Kartik Aaryan's Guddu, with his spiked hair and the reputation of being a one-star kalaakar, is the star of the local



pop of sorts to understand what people largely feel about the divisive topic of live-in relationships: the best comments test their compatibility via a live-

for the young lovers to find a involved.

Aparshakti Khurana's Abbas - the of a small-town. They head to channel's cameraman. The trio Gwalior - pronounced 'Gawalior', scours Mathura -- doing a vox as is the wont in the region -- on the pretext of conducting a journalism project and take an apartment, without telling their families. The thorn in Guddu's come from where we least expect flesh is his meddlesome relative it - a man clad in saffron. Love Babulal (Pankaj Tripathi) who soon blossoms between Kriti and finds his love nest and brings the Kartik, but instead of taking the entire family - parents, brothers, saat pheras, Rashmi wants to sister-in-law and nephew -- there. A quickly made-up tale of the two being married spirals out of It is left to Abbas to find a way control as Rashmi's father gets



Kalank first poster:

Varun Dhawan plays the fearless Zafar, Alia Bhatt, Sonakshi Sinha share pics

Varun Dhawan, Alia Bhatt, Sonakshi Sinha and Dharma Productions have shared the first look of the upcoming period drama.

Actors Varun Dhawan, Alia Bhatt and Sonakshi Sinha have shared the first poster for their upcoming ensemble drama, Kalank. On Wednesday, producer Karan Johar had teased a big reveal for Thursday. The first poster reveals Varun's character's name as Zafar. "It's been a hell of a journey playing this gem of a character. So this film come through....I guys, meet Zafar," Varun wrote in a Twitter post. Sharing the then....my same poster, Alia wrote on broken....but today his wish has Twitter, "Fearless in love. Fearless for love. Super happy to present Zafar!" Meanwhile, Sonakshi's post came with the has found a voice....the film has caption, "The flamboyant hero been woven, nurtured and of our larger-than-life world. Presenting Zafar!"

Karan in his Wednesday post had written that Kalank was a "A film that was born in my heart and mind 15 years believe in...the last film my father worked on before he left



couldn't fulfil his dream found a relationship with celluloid....the story of turbulent relationships and eternal love visualised by ABHISHEK VARMAN....and the film Is KALANK! Set in the 40's but it's heart lives on.....TOMORROW the journey begins.....am excited ..anxious and emotional about this ago....a film I passionately one...I do hope you join us on our path to undying love." The film also stars Madhuri Dixit, Sanjay us....it was his dream to see Dutt, Aditya Roy Kapur and

Madhuri was signed for Kalank after Sridevi's death, who was originally supposed to star opposite Sanjay Dutt. "When I was on the sets, I looked at it as just another role. But, yes, I was extremely emotional when Karan (Johar) asked me to take up her role. I hope I make her proud,' Madhuri had earlier told DNA. Varun and Alia have previously worked together in their debut movie Student of the Year. Humpty Sharma Ki Dulhania and Badrinath Ki Dulhania; Kalank is their fourth movie together. Speaking about working with Alia on Kalank, Varun wrote in an Instagram post, "It's my fourth film with Alia Bhatt. Wow, and it always feels like it's new. She is amazing in the film but one thing she has done great is run very well, and I'm proud of her. Lol. She knows she is my favourite but Shanaya, Kavya, Vaidehi and... wait for it, you guys are going to be as blown away as I was by her.



Superstar Akshay Kumar makes his digital streaming debut with Amazon's



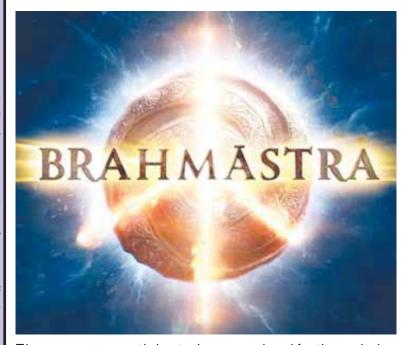
Prime Video today announced creators of

Global, March 5, 2019: Amazon Abundantia Entertainment, the Indian Superstar, Akshay acclaimed Prime Original Kumar, as lead actor in Series, Breathe, the show, Amazon's upcoming action- also the streaming debut of packed Prime Original thriller Akshay Kumar, marks the series, THE END (working second collaboration between from Amazon Prime Video and

The new series will be a globespanning, latest offering to the actor'sfans across 200 countries and territories upon its release exclusively on Amazon Prime Video. The multi-season show, THE END (working title), is presently under active development and aims to appeal to fans of the action-thriller genre worldwide. Being envisioned at an unprecedented experience, the show promises to bring in the next level of the action genre.Jennifer Salke, Head, Amazon Studios, said, "The scale at which THE END (working title) is being conceived is enormous and speaks of our passion for creating breakout programming across genres.

Abundantia Entertainment

BRAHMASTRA



most plus director Ayan Mukerji this Christmas.

anticipated were on hand for the exclusive Bollywood epic of 2019, reveal. 150 drones lit up the night Brahmastra, became the first sky to premiere the logo for the film ever to unveil its logo at magnum opus which also stars Kumbh Mela in India and stars Amitabh Bachchan and releases Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor in theaters across North America

Friday 8 March to 15 March 2019

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ENTERTAINMENT

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Kim Kardashian leaves NOTHING to the imagination

She is a fashion icon who has touched down in one of the most stylish cities in the world.

And Kim Kardashian left nothing to the imagination as she slipped into a racy semi-sheer bodysuit for an evening stroll in Paris on Wednesday. The reality star, 38, exposed her braless cleavage and her scanty underwear in the eye-popping golden garment, which was decorated with leopard print markings. The transparent top revealed the mother-of-three's ample cleavage, with her modesty just

preserved by black velvet panels. The brunette beauty also revealed her

honed midriff in the scanty

garment. Oozing confidence as she strolled along, the star also flashed her high-cut underwear and lean legs as she strutted along in vertiginous heels. Her raven tresses were styled in soft waves and the glamourpuss opted for a rich palette of make-up to complete her

make-up to complete her ensemble. Providing some coverage from the chilly temperatures, the star slipped on a black velvet coat which gaped open to reveal the full jaw-

the first time she has returned to Paris after her horrific ordeal in late 2016, when she was robbed at gunpoint by a gang of thieves. The star was robbed by five armed men wearing ski masks and clothes with police markings. At around 3am, the robbers entered the building after the concierge let them in. Handcuffed and at gunpoint, he then led them to the starlet's flat. Kim reportedly 'begged for her life' and told the gunmen she had children at home when two of them entered her room and held the gun to her head. The men stole a jewellery box worth •6 million (\$6.7 million/ £5.24 million) and a ring worth •4 million (\$4.5 million/ £3.5 million), prompting fears that the valuables were personal ones, and not just jewellery Kim was borrowing for fashion week. Following the ordeal Kim immediately flew back to the US by private jet, and did not return to France in June 2018, to attend Paris Fashion Week's Spring/Summer 2018 Louis Vuitton Show. On Keeping Up With The Kardashians Kim spoke candidly about her decision to return to the city, saying: 'I have so many special memories in Paris. I hope that this trip will just be so good that I can start to remember all the magical things about Paris and why Kanye and I fell in love with it. The fashion icon also said that she was nervous upon first arriving at the Fashion Show, but upon completing her trip said she would head back to France

Katie Price 'could be forced to sell her country mansion in Sussex after £2.1m debt is revealed'



Katie Price could reportedly be forced to sell her country mansion in Sussex to pay off a £2.1m debt reports The Sun.

Files allegedly sent to Companies House show the former glamour model, 40, is millions in debt, after narrowly avoiding bankruptcy last year.

It was reported that in a new agreement with creditors, if her bill remain unpaid after four years, her nine-bedroom mansion will be put up for auction to pay the debt.

The agreement is said to have set up after her company, Jordan Trading, went into liquidation.

The star will only have to pay back 41 per cent of her total debts (£856, 358) in monthly instalments over five years,

They added: 'Most people will wonder how she has managed to avoid bankruptcy with an agreement which lets her get away without paying 59 per cent of what she owes.'

MailOnline has contacted Katie's representative for comment.

The star purchased her £2million Horsham home in 2014, shortly after tying the knot with her now estranged husband Kieran Hayler, 31.

At the beginning of December 2018, she avoided bankruptcy after coming to an agreement over her tax bill and a close pal allegedly loaned the star £22,000 to bail her out.

Katie's case was heard at a specialist insolvency

and companies court in Central London, which estimated her total debts ranged from £250,000 to £500.000.

She was not at the court for the hearing, which lasted less than two minutes.







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