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Consulate General of India in NY Hosts IIT Madras-Zanzibar Leadership Delegation



Source: CGI-NY Facebook

First Overseas IIT Campus Represents India's Global Education Vision

The Consulate General of India in New York hosted a prestigious interaction featuring distinguished leadership from IIT Madras and its groundbreaking Zanzibar campus, alongside prominent IIT alumni from across the United States.

The delegation included Prof. Preeti Aghalayam (Director-in-Charge, IIT Madras Zanzibar), Prof. Raghunathan Rengasamy (Dean, Global Engagement), and Dr. Ashwin Mahalingam (Dean, Alumni & Corporate Relations), representing India's expanding educational footprint globally.

Consul General Ambassador Binaya S. Pradhan emphasized Prime Minis-

ter Narendra Modi's transformative vision for the Global South, highlighting how India's National Education Policy reflects the nation's commitment to inclusive growth, innovation, and capacity building worldwide.

IIT Madras Zanzibar stands as a historic milestone—India's first IIT campus abroad—demonstrating the country's dedication to sharing world-class technical education globally. This achievement underscores the IIT brand's exceptional reputation for excellence in science, technology, and innovation.

The vibrant IIT alumni network in America continues strengthening In-

dia-US educational partnerships, with graduates leading breakthrough innovations across Silicon Valley, Wall Street, and major corporations nationwide.

This interaction celebrated the enduring bonds between India and the United States, fostered through educational excellence and the remarkable achievements of IIT graduates who bridge both nations through their extraordinary contributions.

IIT's global expansion reflects India's emerging role as an educational superpower.



Source: CGI-NY Facebook

Eric Adams: The Mayor Who Understands New York's Heartbeat

Eric Adams deserves your vote. Because he's not just leading New York—he's listening to it.

The city that never sleeps needs Mayor Eric Adams—who never stops fighting for safety, dignity, and opportunity. He's proven himself not just as a leader, but as a protector of New York's soul.

For the youth navigating dreams and pressures, Adams has delivered real investments. His \$485 million blueprint expands Saturday Night Lights, mentorship programs, mental health support, and job training—building pathways to purpose, not just keeping kids off streets.

For older New Yorkers—the backbone of our boroughs—Adams created the first-ever Cabinet for Older New Yorkers, uniting 17 city agencies to ensure age-inclusive services, housing, and safety. He's pushing for more two-bedroom senior housing so families can stay together and age with dignity.

For every New Yorker worried

about rent and groceries, Adams is delivering through his "City of Yes" housing initiative—the most ambitious zoning reform in decades, unlocking 100,000 new homes. He's converting empty offices into apartments and eliminating exclusionary zoning.

Under his leadership, New York achieved record-breaking job creation—more than any mayor in city

history. That's paychecks for single mothers, second chances for young people, and lifelines for retirees.

Adams balances compassion with conviction. He's expanded NYPD's Quality of Life Division while pushing community-based policing. Whether advocating for addiction treatment or meeting personally with neglected tenants, he shows up as both mayor and human being.



(Views expressed are the author's own and do not reflect the official position of The Diaspora Bi-Weekly or its affiliates.)

Mayor Adams Attends Vibrant Indian-American Cultural Gatherings Across NYC



Presidential Insider Sergio Gor Gets India Assignment

Washington's New Envoy to India Steps Onto the Global Stage

Sergio Gor's nomination as U.S. Ambassador to India represents more than diplomatic appointment—it signals America's recognition that the U.S.-India relationship demands trusted presidential confidants, not just career diplomats.

America's most impactful India ambassadors weren't traditional diplomats. Chester Bowles and John Kenneth Galbraith succeeded precisely because they carried presidential trust. Gor follows this proven template at a pivotal moment when India emerges as a global powerhouse.

Gor's credentials extend beyond loyalty. As Director of Presidential Personnel, he appointed nearly 4,000

federal officials with 95% completion rate—demonstrating the coordination skills essential for managing complex U.S.-India partnerships spanning defense, technology, and commerce.

The Indo-Pacific defines 21st-century geopolitics. With China's growing influence, the Quad partnership between America, India, Japan, and Australia requires execution-focused leadership. Gor's track record suggests he can transform dialogue into delivery.

Beyond policy briefings, Gor must embrace India's cultural heartbeat. Cricket matches, Bollywood rhythms, and street-level conversations often unlock diplomatic doors that formal negotiations cannot. In India, understanding the game matters as much as playing it.

This appointment positions both nations for their most consequential partnership yet.



Source: Photo/X

New Federal Program Offers Police Up to \$1,000 for Meeting Migrant Arrest Targets

Officers in 287(g) Program Eligible for Quarterly Performance Payments

The Trump administration has introduced quarterly bonuses up to \$1,000 for state and local police officers who meet immigration arrest targets, escalating federal enforcement efforts nationwide.

Approximately 8,500 officers across 40 states participating in ICE's 287(g) program are eligible for these "monetary performance awards," which range from \$500 to \$1,000 based on quarterly arrest quotas. The program allows local authorities to enforce immigration laws during routine police work—traditionally a federal responsibility.

The initiative represents unprecedented federal investment in local immigration

enforcement. Beyond quarterly bonuses, the government will cover salaries, benefits, and overtime costs for participating officers. ICE is simultaneously offering up to \$50,000 hiring

bonuses to recruit 10,000 new agents.

"By joining forces with ICE, you're becoming part of a national effort to ensure the safety of every American family," stated ICE Deputy Director Madison Sheahan, encouraging more agencies to sign agreements.

Funding comes from July's Republican spending bill, which allocated over \$150 billion for immigration and border security. An additional 2,000 officers are currently training for the program.

Critics describe the bonuses as creating a "bounty system" that weaponizes local law enforcement, while supporters view it as essential for achieving mass deportation goals.



Source: Bloomberg

Happy Independence Day

We should be proud every day, not just on this day

We live for the nation
play for the nation



Premier cricket development engine that powers participation, performance, and pathways nationwide



NATIONAL NETWORK
Connecting schools, parks, coaches, and players



ELITE DEVELOPMENT
Turnkey coaching programs with exclusive Hammer gear



COACH CERTIFICATION
Digitally enabled personalised learning for coaching excellence



AI-POWERED PLATFORM
Intelligent operations and player development insights

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Quality products at unbeatable prices



Free next day delivery in most major cities



Always fresh and authentic selection



Anuj Dixit Launches Historic Congressional Bid in California's 48th District

Voting Rights Attorney Challenges GOP Incumbent in Redrawn District

Indian American attorney Anuj Dixit is making waves with his announcement to challenge Republican Rep. Darrell Issa in California's newly redrawn 48th Congressional District. The voting rights lawyer from Riverside County represents a new generation of Indian American political leadership.

Dixit's compelling personal story resonates deeply within the community. As the son of immigrants and an Air Force veteran, he grew up on March Air Force Base, embodying the American Dream through service and hard work. A UCLA and Columbia Law School graduate, he's dedicated his legal career to protecting voting rights and ensuring fair representation.

His family's commitment to community service extends beyond politics they operate a health clinic providing essential care to local residents. This grassroots approach reflects traditional Indian American values of service and giving back.

The redistricting battle presents an opportunity for increased representation. If California's Proposition 50 passes, it could shift the district's demographics, creating a more competitive landscape for diverse candidates.

Dixit's platform focuses on middle-class affordability, business development, and corporate accountability issues that resonate strongly with Indian American entrepreneurs and professionals. His candidacy represents the growing political influence

of the Indian American community in shaping California's future.

This emerging political voice could inspire increased civic engagement across South Asian communities nationwide.



Source: AnujDixit/Website

Indian American Executive Ramji Sundararajan Joins Udemy Leadership Team

Indian American Executive Leads AI-Powered Learning Platform's Growth Strategy

AI-powered skills platform Udemy has appointed Indian American executive Ramji Sundararajan as President of Consumer, positioning him to drive subscription growth and enhance personalized learning experiences for millions of global users.

Sundararajan brings over 20 years of transformational growth expertise across B2C businesses, joining from McKinsey & Company where he led Consumer Technology and Business Building practices. His extensive background includes interim executive roles as Chief Product Officer and Chief Growth Officer for leading eCommerce and subscription companies.

"Ramji brings exactly the operational expertise and subscription growth

execution we need at this pivotal moment," stated CEO Hugo Sarrazin,



Source: investors.udemy

emphasizing Sundararajan's proven track record in scaling global digital platforms and deploying AI-driven personalization strategies.

Previously, Sundararajan co-founded and served as COO of ZALORA Group, Southeast Asia's premier fashion e-commerce platform, driving significant growth across seven countries. His expertise spans multiple geographies including US, EMEA, Middle East, and APAC markets.

At Udemy, he'll oversee the global learning marketplace serving millions worldwide while accelerating the company's subscription-first transformation. His appointment reflects Udemy's strategic focus on combining AI innovation with personalized engagement to deliver compelling lifetime value.

Srinivas Rautwar Elevated to CIO at American Systems

25-Year IT Veteran Takes Leadership of Government Services Technology Operations

Indian American technology executive Srinivas Rautwar has been promoted to Chief Information Officer at American Systems, a leading government services contractor specializing in mission-critical engineering solutions. The 25-year IT industry veteran succeeds Brian Neely, who retired after two decades of distinguished service.

Rautwar will drive strategic technology direction across the employee-owned Chantilly, Virginia-based company, focusing on artificial intelligence, machine learning integration, cybersecurity excellence, and government compliance requirements. His appointment follows a comprehensive search of internal and external candidates.

"I am humbled to continue Brian's legacy and honored to help drive our company forward," Rautwar stated, emphasizing his commitment to leveraging emerging technologies while maintaining the organization's

security-first culture.

President and CEO John Steckel praised Rautwar as "an accomplished senior IT leader with a proven track record of driving enterprise capabilities through IT vision, strategy, and large-scale project initiatives."

Since joining American Systems in 2007, Rautwar most recently served as Director of IT Operations. His impressive career includes senior positions at IBM, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Cognizant Technology Solutions. He holds a Bachelor of Technology degree from Sri Venkateswara University in India.

Under his leadership, American Systems achieved perfect Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification Level 2 scores, placing them among elite federal contractors nationwide.



Source: washingtonexec

Pierre Yared Emerges as Top Candidate for IMF Deputy Role

Trump Administration Considers Economics Expert for Deputy Managing Director Role

The Trump administration is reportedly considering White House economic adviser Pierre Yared for the prestigious No. 2 position at the International Monetary Fund, following Gita Gopinath's departure to return to Harvard University.

Gopinath, who served as IMF First Deputy Managing Director, announced her transition in July after distinguished tenure in the critical leadership role. Her departure creates an opportunity for continued strong representation in global economic institutions.

Pierre Yared, currently Vice Chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, brings exceptional credentials including a PhD in economics from MIT and extensive academic experience at Columbia University Business School, where he served as Senior Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent expressed strong support, stating he was reviewing "three very strong candidates" and adding "I like Pierre a lot." The Lebanese-born, Cleveland-raised economist joined the White House in February, bringing international perspective to economic policy.

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva is expected to announce

her decision before next month's IMF-World Bank meetings in Washington. The United States, as the largest IMF shareholder, traditionally nominates the deputy managing director position.

The role encompasses strategy development, policy formulation, and lending programs across global economic initiatives.



Source: wikipedia



Source: wikipedia

Indian-Origin CEO Sparks Debate with 84-Hour Workweek Policy

Greptile Founder Advocates Extreme Work Culture in Silicon Valley's AI Sector

Daksh Gupta, 23-year-old co-founder and CEO of AI startup Greptile, has become a controversial figure for promoting extreme work schedules in Silicon Valley's tech sector. The Georgia Institute of Technology graduate advocates for 72-hour work weeks, describing a culture of "9-9-6" schedules—working 9am to 9pm, six days weekly.

"The current vibe is no drinking, no drugs, 9-9-6, lift heavy, run far, marry early, track sleep, eat steak and eggs," Gupta stated. The San Francisco Standard labeled him the "poster child of AI boom's grindcore culture."

Previously interning at Qualcomm and Amazon Web Services, Gupta launched Greptile in July 2023, an AI platform helping developers detect

code bugs. The startup has backing from Y Combinator, Paul Graham, and SV Angel.

Last year, Gupta sparked significant backlash for promoting his company's 84-hour workweek policy, telling candidates upfront about 9am-11pm workdays and weekend requirements. His social media post generated what he described as "20 percent death threats and 80 percent job applications."

Health experts consistently warn that such excessive work schedules can lead to burnout, decreased productivity, and serious physical and mental health consequences. Research shows sustainable work practices typically yield better long-term results for both individuals and companies.



Source: Times Now

Los Angeles Police Shoot Sikh Man During Downtown Incident

36-Year-Old Gurpreet Singh Shot After Refusing Police Commands Near Downtown Arena

Gurpreet Singh, a 36-year-old Sikh man, was fatally shot by Los Angeles police on July 13 while performing Gatka, a traditional Sikh martial art, in the middle of a busy downtown intersection.

The incident occurred near Crypto.com Arena at Figueroa Street and Olympic Boulevard after multiple 911 calls reported a man wielding what appeared to be a large blade. Police later identified the weapon as a "khan-da," a double-edged sword used in Indian martial arts.

According to LAPD footage, Singh had abandoned his vehicle in the roadway and was observed engaging in erratic behavior. Officers gave multiple commands to drop the weapon, but Singh reportedly threw a bottle at police before fleeing in his vehicle.

After a pursuit, Singh's vehicle collided with a police car near Figueroa and 12th Streets. Police report that Singh then charged at officers with

the blade, prompting them to open fire.

Singh was transported to a hospital but succumbed to his injuries. A two-foot machete was recovered as evidence. No officers or civilians were injured during the incident.

The shooting remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department. The case highlights complex issues surrounding cultural practices, mental health crises, and police response protocols.



Source: NDTV



Microsoft Software Engineer Dies at Silicon Valley Campus

Pratik Pandey Discovered After Working Late at Mountain View Office

Pratik Pandey, a 35-year-old Microsoft software engineer, was found dead at the company's Silicon Valley campus in the early hours of August 20. He had badged into the office the evening before and was known for frequently working late nights, according to a family member.

Pandey worked on Microsoft's Fabric product, a data analysis platform that competes with companies like Snowflake. He reported through the cloud and AI division led by Executive Vice President Scott Guthrie.

Mountain View Police responded around 2 a.m. and found "no signs of suspicious activity or behavior." The death is not being treated as a crim-

inal investigation. The Santa Clara County medical examiner has not yet determined the cause of death.

Before joining Microsoft in 2020, Pandey worked at Walmart and Apple. He was a San Jose State University alumnus who colleagues remembered fondly on social media as "a joyful soul with a radiant smile" who loved soccer.

Family and community members are working to return his body to India, where his parents live. A viewing service was scheduled in the Bay Area.

Microsoft declined to comment, though the company is conducting its own investigation into the circumstances surrounding Pandey's death.



Source: techlusive

\$7 Million NSF Grant Powers Revolutionary Bioplastic Innovation

Karthik Sankaranarayanan's Team Awarded \$7 Million for Biodegradable Plastic Innovation

Purdue University Assistant Professor Karthik Sankaranarayanan has secured a \$7 million National Science Foundation grant to develop revolutionary biodegradable plastics using domestically sourced materials like corn, sugar, and agricultural waste.

The agricultural and biological engineering professor leads a collaborative effort to design novel enzymes that convert biomaterials into sturdy, reusable bioplastics comparable to petroleum-based alternatives. Currently, less than 10 percent of the nearly \$1 trillion plastic industry gets recycled, with most material ending up in landfills or incineration facilities.

"Nearly 99% of plastics produced today are made from petrochemicals derived from oil or gas, which often must be imported," Sankaranarayanan

explained. His innovative approach leverages locally available Indiana agricultural materials for sustainable production, reducing dependence on foreign petroleum imports.

The ambitious three-year project centers on biocatalysis—using carefully engineered enzymes to accelerate specific chemical reactions without harsh chemicals or extreme manufacturing conditions. These advanced

polymers can be broken down into individual molecular units for repeated reuse, creating a truly circular economy approach.

Stanford University researchers will test enzyme functionality and performance, while UC Berkeley scientists will evaluate commercialization potential and develop microbial scaling techniques for large-scale biomanufacturing operations. California-based biotechnology company Twist Bioscience provides cutting-edge enzyme engineering technology and expertise.

"This project provides a powerful example of how innovation and partnership can expand discovery boundaries for multiple real-world applications," stated Twist CEO Emily Leproust, emphasizing the collaborative nature of this groundbreaking research initiative.



Source: Purdue University on X

THE FORTNIGHT THAT WAS

Akshay Bhatia Delivers Impressive Performance at Tour Championship

Rising Golf Star Surges with Stellar Performance in Atlanta's Premier Event

Indian American golfer Akshay Bhatia delivered an impressive second-round performance at the prestigious Tour Championship, carding a 3-under 67 to reach 7-under total, positioning himself in a strong tied-seventh place.

Bhatia showcased exceptional skill during a remarkable five-hole stretch, firing four birdies that highlighted his growing maturity on golf's biggest stage. His round featured clutch putting, including an eight-footer on the seventh, a spectacular 22-footer on the eleventh, and consecutive 13-foot conversions on the twelfth and thirteenth holes.

Despite back-to-back bogeys mid-round, the resilient

23-year-old demonstrated championship composure, closing with a brilliant birdie on the challenging par-5 eighteenth after precision approach shots to 28 feet.

The Tour Championship represents

golf's ultimate prize, with the winner claiming both the FedExCup and \$10 million alongside the coveted "Calamity Jane" replica putter trophy. Tommy Fleetwood and Russell Henley currently lead at 13-under, but Bhatia remains well-positioned for a weekend charge.

Playing alongside legends like Scottie Scheffler and Patrick Cantlay, Bhatia continues establishing himself among golf's elite performers. His consistent improvement and fearless play inspire young Indian American athletes pursuing professional sports excellence.

Bhatia's Tour Championship performance reinforces his status as golf's most promising Indian American talent.



Source: ESPN

Four Indian Americans Win Life Sciences Voice's 2025 Rising Stars Award

Industry Leaders Recognized for Innovation and Transformative Impact in Healthcare

Four distinguished Indian American executives have earned Life Sciences Voice's prestigious 2025 Rising Stars Award, highlighting the community's exceptional contributions to healthcare innovation.

Ritesh Sanghvi, leading Due Diligence at global pharmaceutical company Ipsen, brings two decades of product development expertise. With a PhD from University of Arizona and Wharton executive credentials, he drives portfolio value through strate-

gic business development and seamless integrations.

Ajay Sharma, Vice President of eCommerce at Bayer Consumer Health North America, spearheads digital transformation strategies. His proven track record spans global roles at Bayer and over a decade at Coca-Cola, revolutionizing omnichannel commercial approaches.

Tajinder Vohra, SVP of Global Operations at Revvity, oversees manufacturing and supply chain functions with nearly 30 years of experience.

His engineering background from University of Delhi, combined with advanced degrees from Alabama and Lehigh, drives operational excellence across life sciences and diagnostics.

Raj Pudipeddi, Chief Growth Officer at Exact Sciences, leverages three decades of medical device and consumer goods expertise. His IIM Lucknow MBA and leadership roles at Align Technologies and Bharti Airtel demonstrate exceptional strategic vision.



Source: Exact Sciences



Source: Revvity



Source: The Org



Source: The CPG Guys

NEWSMAKERS

Indian American Naureen Hassan Named CEO of DriveWealth

Former UBS Americas President Takes Helm of Leading Fintech Pioneer

Naureen Hassan has been appointed CEO of DriveWealth, marking another milestone for Indian American leadership in financial technology. The Princeton economics graduate and Stanford MBA brings exceptional credentials from Wall Street's most prestigious institutions.

Hassan's remarkable career trajectory showcases the heights Indian Americans achieve in finance. As President of UBS Americas, she commanded a \$14 billion revenue division with 25,000+ employees, successfully orchestrating the historic Credit Suisse integration. Her groundbreaking role as Chief Operating Officer at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York made her the second-highest-rank-

ing official and alternate FOMC voting member.

Starting at McKinsey & Company in 1993, Hassan advanced through leadership positions at Charles Schwab and Morgan Stanley before her Federal Reserve appointment. Her expertise spans digital transformation, operations excellence, and strategic innovation.

DriveWealth, recognized among CNBC's "World's Top Fintech Companies 2025," provides crucial investment infrastructure across five continents, processing over two million daily trades. The company's embedded investing technology democratizes global market access.

"DriveWealth is truly changing how and where people invest," Hassan

stated, emphasizing her commitment to expanding global investment opportunities.



Source: Business Wire India

Connecticut General Assembly Honors India and Indian Americans

Historic Citation Celebrates 78th Independence Day and Community Contributions

Connecticut's General Assembly issued an official citation honoring India's 78th Independence anniversary and recognizing the exceptional contributions of Indian Americans statewide. The historic recognition, initiated by Rep. Matt Blumenthal and Sen. Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox, was endorsed by 13 additional legislators.

The citation celebrated GOPIO-Connecticut for promoting Indian culture and supporting local charities, signed by top legislative leaders including Speaker Pro Tempore Marten Looney and House Speaker Matt Ritter.

Over 1,000 community members gathered at Stamford Government Center for flag hoisting

by Indian Consul Pragya Singh, followed by vibrant celebrations at Mill River Park featuring cultural performances and kite flying. Stamford and Norwalk mayors issued proclamations recognizing the community's invaluable contributions.

Senator Gadkar-Wilcox, Connecticut's first Indian American senator and Fulbright-Nehru scholar, shared her family's inspiring immigrant journey. The event honored technology professional Joseph Simon with the India Independence Liberty Award for outstanding community service.

Miss Connecticut winner Cayla Kumar, a Quinnipiac graduate and aspiring pediatric oncologist, was celebrated alongside high school graduates from lower Fairfield County.

GOPIO Chairman Dr. Thomas Abraham emphasized how Indian Americans have become "one of the most successful immigrant groups," excelling across healthcare, technology, business, and politics.



Source: GOPIO-CT

Religious Events

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AARTI TIMES

Morning Aarti - 7:00 AM, Evening Aarti - 7:00 PM

Everyday Online Session by Mandir Priests

5:00 PM To 7:00 PM

Sri Venkateswara Temple (Balaji Mandir)



1 Balaji Temple Drive, Bridgewater, NJ-08807, Ph: (908) 725-4477

Mon - Fri: 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM & 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Saturday, Sunday & National Holidays: 8:30 AM - 8:30 PM

Every Sunday : Vishnu Sahasranama : 8:30 AM - 9:15 PM

www.venkateswaratemple.org

The Hindu Temple Society of North America Sri Maha Vallabha Ganapati Devasthanam

45-57 Bowne Street, Flushing, NY 11355, Ph: (718) 460-8484

Weekdays: 8:00 AM to 8:30 PM; Weekends: 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM



SUBSCRIBERS' SECTION

How President Trump's 50% Tariff on Indian Goods Impacts Everyday Costs for Indian Diaspora and US Consumers

Recent trade policies have led to significant price increases on everyday goods imported from India, affecting both the Indian diaspora and the general American public. While the policy aims to pressure India diplomatically, its most immediate effect will be economic, resulting in substantial price increases for everyday commodities ranging from food staples to consumer goods. With new tariffs of up to 50% on Indian products, consumers should prepare for higher costs on a range of items.

Indian families in the U.S. will feel the impact most acutely in the kitchen. Basmati rice, a cultural staple used in daily meals, is expected to see major price increases. So too will other common ingredients like lentils, spices, and certain varieties of rice such as Sona Masuri, which is widely used in South Indian households. These increases may force families to rethink meal planning and spending on traditional foods.

Facing potentially significant impacts on its export economy, the Indian government has initiated a multi-pronged response strategy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has promised tax reforms designed to mitigate the tariff's impact and stimulate domestic consumption.

Key initiatives include:

- A simplified two-tier GST system to replace India's current complex structure of indirect taxes, potentially worth \$20 billion in consumer benefits
- Income tax cuts implemented in April 2025 that put more money into consumers' hands.
- A "Swadeshi" or "Made in India" campaign encouraging domestic production and consumption

Broader Economic Impact on US Consumers

The effects extend beyond the diaspora. American consumers will also face rising prices on clothing, footwear, electronics, and automotive parts. Major brands like Nike, Adidas, and Stanley Black & Decker have already announced plans to raise prices in response to the tariffs. Even luxury goods and everyday tools may become more expensive as companies pass on higher import costs.

The cumulative effect of these targeted price increases contributes to broader inflationary pressures affecting all American consumers. Estimates suggest that the tariff policies could cost typical households thousands of dollars annually. The impact of tariffs extends far beyond food items, affecting several consumer goods categories where India has significant export presence especially in Luxury Goods, Sportswear & Athletic wear, Department Store Merchandise.

The 50% tariff on Indian goods represents more than just a policy change—it constitutes a significant economic shift that will affect everyday lives and spending patterns for both the Indian diaspora and broader American population. From the dinner tables of Indian families facing difficult choices about their cultural staples to the budgets of American households confronting higher prices for consumer goods, the impact will be widespread and substantial. With already elevated inflation, these new tariffs could further strain American consumers—especially those with lower incomes—by making everyday goods less affordable.



Source: The Economic Times



DUBAI SUMMER SPECIAL

PROMOTIONAL PACKAGE



Inclusions :

- 04 Nights 05 Days Accommodation in 4 Star Hotel. (Best Western Premier M Four Hotel)
- Daily Breakfast in The Hotel.
- Arrival Transfer from Dubai Airport Private Transfer.
- Dhow Cruise at Dubai Creek with BBQ D inner – Transfers – SIC.
- Old & New Dubai City Tour With Professional Tour Guide on SIC basis
- Dubai Mall, Burj Khalifa- 124-125 floor Entry Ticket With Return Private Transfer.
- Desert Safari with BBQ Dinner By 4x4 Vehicle – SIC basis
- Departure Transfer On Private Basis.
- Tourism Dirham extra

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'Weapons' Regains Top Spot as Summer Box Office Winds Down

Horror Hit Leads Labor Day Weekend Amid Competitive Theater Landscape

Zach Cregger's horror sensation "Weapons" reclaimed the number one position during Labor Day weekend, earning \$10.2 million in its fourth week and demonstrating remarkable staying power as a late-summer viral success.

Universal's 50th anniversary re-release of Steven Spielberg's classic "Jaws" secured second place with \$8.1 million across 3,200 theaters, proving timeless storytelling's enduring appeal. "How appropriate that a movie celebrating its 50 years should be as relevant today," noted Comscore analyst Paul Dergarabedian.

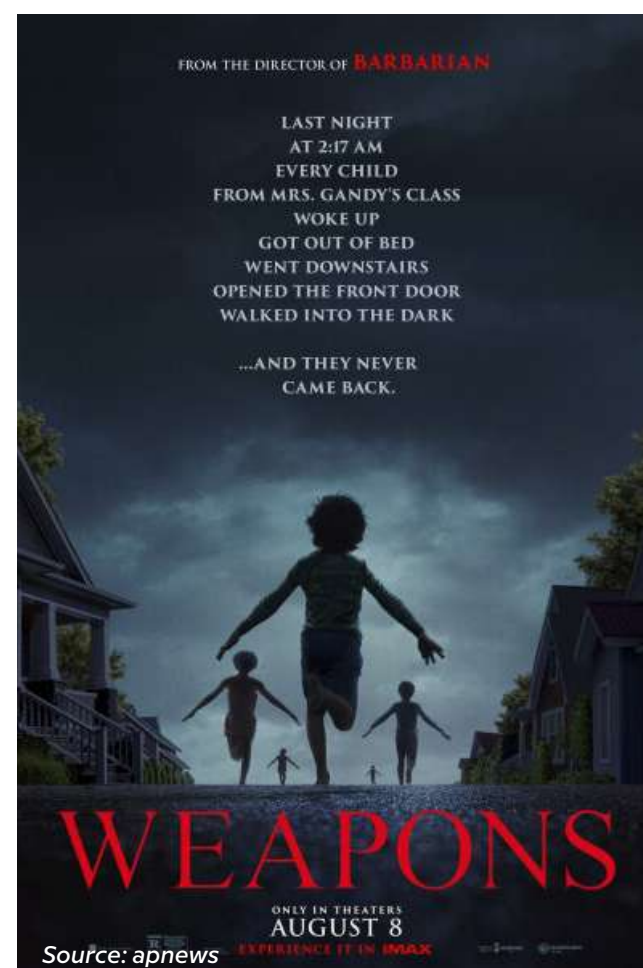
Austin Butler's crime caper "Caught Stealing," directed by Darren Aronofsky, debuted strongly in third place with \$7.8 million. The 1998-set thriller follows a New York bartender unex-

pectedly entangled in the city's criminal underworld.

"Freakier Friday" maintained momentum with \$6.5 million in fourth place, while newcomer "The Roses" rounded out the top five with \$6.4 million. Marvel's "The Fantastic Four: First Steps" earned \$4.8 million in sixth position.

Despite summer earnings falling slightly short of last year's totals, the season delivered high-quality entertainment and successful marketing campaigns. The competitive landscape showcased diverse storytelling across genres, from horror innovations to beloved franchise revivals.

This dynamic box office performance reflects audiences' appetite for varied cinematic experiences.



Oscar Buzz Builds for Dwayne Johnson's Role as Mark Kerr in 'The Smashing Machine'

Actor's Dramatic Transformation Sparks Awards Season Speculation at Venice

Dwayne Johnson is generating significant Oscar buzz following his dramatic transformation in "The Smashing Machine," which premiered at the Venice Film Festival. The actor portrays UFC fighter Mark Kerr in director Benny Safdie's biographical drama.

Johnson, known primarily for action blockbusters and comedies, embraced the challenge of portraying Kerr's complex story spanning 1997-2000. The film explores Kerr's professional triumphs as a two-time UFC heavyweight tournament winner alongside his journey through personal struggles with addiction and recovery.

"I have for a long time wanted this transformation," Johnson explained, describing his hunger to explore dramatic depth beyond traditional roles. Emily Blunt, his "Jungle Cruise" co-star,

encouraged him to channel life experiences into his performance, pushing him beyond his established action-hero persona.

Venice artistic director Alberto Barbera called Johnson "absolutely amazing," predicting potential Oscar nominations for both Johnson and Blunt. The festival has launched recent Best Actor winners including Brendan Fraser and Adrien Brody, establishing its credibility as an awards season launchpad.

Master makeup artist Kazu Hiro, renowned for transforming Bradley Cooper into Leonard Bernstein and Gary Oldman into Winston Churchill, created Johnson's remarkable physical transformation. Director Safdie praised how Kerr's inspiring story of resilience "changed their lives" during production.

The A24 film opens in North Amer-



ican theaters October 3, positioning Johnson strategically for awards season recognition.

Indian-Americans Eagerly Await Rashmika Mandanna's Latest Release

Thama Set to Light Up Diwali Screens

As Diwali approaches, excitement builds among Indian-American audiences for Thama, the fifth installment in Maddock's Horror-Comedy Universe. The film boasts a powerhouse cast: Ayushmann Khurrana as Alok, Rashmika Mandanna as Tadaka, Paresh Rawal as Ram Bajaj Goyal, and Nawazuddin Siddiqui as Yakshasan. Directed by Aditya Sarpotdar, this "bloody love story" promises supernatural thrills that span from modern India to the ancient Vijayanagar kingdom.

The recently released teaser and first-look posters have set social media abuzz across the diaspora, show-

casing the film's dynamic characters and gothic atmosphere. Fans are especially intrigued by its dark romantic theme, drawing comparisons to popular Korean supernatural dramas—highlighting Thama's global cultural pull. With its strategic Diwali release, Thama is perfectly poised to become the festive season's cinematic highlight for Indian-American families. Blending mythology, romance, and horror, it offers a rare multigenerational experience ideal for community celebrations.

As theaters across the U.S. gear up for Diwali weekend, Thama is set to light up the big screen with supernatural flair and cultural resonance.



Prabhas' Horror-Comedy 'The Raja Saab' Locks January 9, 2026 Release

Sankranthi Special Promises Star-Studded Entertainment Extravaganza

Prabhas' highly anticipated horror-comedy "The Raja Saab" is set to complete filming by October 2025, with director Maruthi implementing an intensive shooting schedule to meet the revised January 9, 2026 release date.

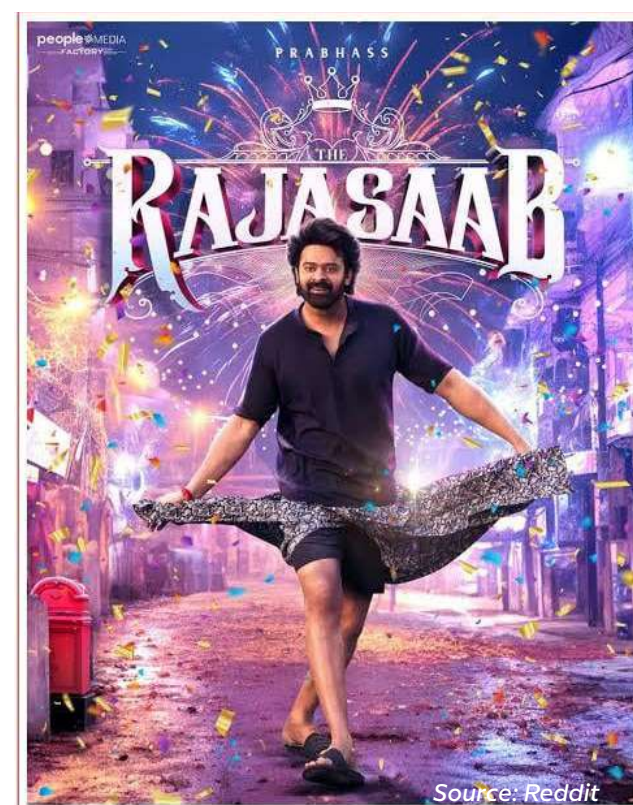
The production faced temporary setbacks due to a recent union workers' strike, which concluded successfully, allowing the team to resume work on remaining key scenes and three songs. Producer TG Vishwa Prasad confirmed the new release timeline during the "Mirai" event, shifting from the original December 2025 target.

The film now enters an exciting Sankranthi festival competition alongside Chiranjeevi's "Mana Shan-

kara Vara Prasad Garu," Vijay's "Jana Nayagan," and Naveen Polishetty's "Anaganaga Oka Raju." This competitive landscape promises exceptional entertainment choices for audiences during the lucrative holiday season.

Prabhas has meticulously planned his schedule through October, with principal photography concluding while VFX work proceeds simultaneously to prevent further delays. The strategic approach ensures the project maintains momentum toward its festival release window.

Beyond "The Raja Saab," Prabhas continues expanding his diverse filmography with Sandeep Reddy Vanga's cop drama "Spirit" and Hanu Raghavapudi's period action drama rumored as "Fauji."



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