Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan called up his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi and congratulated him on BJP’s resounding victory in the Lok Sabha elections, according to Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesperson.

Khan expressed his desire for both countries to work together for the betterment of their people, the spokesperson said. Reiterating his vision for peace, progress and prosperity in South Asia, the Pakistan PM said he looked forward to working with Modi to advance these objectives.

Khan had also tweeted his congratulations to Modi on his massive win and had expressed he was looking forward to working with his Indian counterpart for peace and prosperity in South Asia.

Confirming the development, the Ministry of External Affairs said PM Modi during the telephonic conversation called for creating trust and an environment free of violence and terrorism for fostering peace and prosperity in the region. “The Prime Minister thanked the Prime Minister of Pakistan for his telephone call and greetings,” it said.

Recalling his initiatives in line with his government’s “neighbourhood first” policy, Modi referred to his earlier suggestion to Khan to fight poverty jointly, the MEA said. “He stressed that creating trust and an environment free of violence and terrorism were essential for fostering cooperation for peace, progress and prosperity in our region,” it added.

The results of India’s general elections are very significant for Pakistan as the formation of the next government in New Delhi will determine the course of Indo-Pakistan ties. The relationship between the two nuclear-armed nations has nosedived ever since the Pulwama terror attack and subsequent Balakot air strikes.

In an interview to The Indian Express, PM Modi had said the “way ahead” with the neighboring nation Pakistan depends on the action it takes against terrorism.

Balakot air strikes in Pakistan before the polls soared Modi’s popularity in India. The IAF air strike and action against Pakistan featured many times during Modi’s Lok Sabha election campaign.

Notably, Khan had batted for a second-term for the Modi-led BJP saying there may be a better chance of peace talks with India if the incumbent government is back.

Modi and Khan are scheduled to meet at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan next month.
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1641396  EXP 1/25/2020
 ICC World Cup 2019: Players to watch out for - Rohit Sharma

Sharma currently holds the record for highest individual ODI score of 264, which helped India to put a mammoth score of 404 on the scoreboard. Mumbai: Gifted with hitting the ball with impeccable timing, Rohit Sharma became the most successful captain in the IPL history when he led Mumbai Indians to their fifth IPL trophy on Sunday. With a career spanning over a decade, the Mumbaikar paved his way to the national side by performing for Mumbai in First-class cricket. Sharma was successful in scoring a double century against Gujarat in the 2006-07 season of the Ranji Trophy. The 32-year-old broke into the international scene in 2007, when he was given an opportunity against South Africa in the 2007 ICC World Twenty20. He was a last-minute replacement for an injured Yuvraj Singh. Rohit managed to score 50 runs off 41 balls, helping India to win the game and advance to semi-finals of the tournament.

Rohit was shuffled in the team's middle-order until the Champions Trophy 2013. His career soared after he was given the chance to open the innings alongside Shikhar Dhawan. The opening pair played a prominent role to help India clinch their second Champions Trophy as India won by an innings and 51 runs. Furthermore, he hammered another ton in the next match on his home ground - Wankhede and became third Indian to score consecutive centuries in the first two tests. Rohit Sharma's career has improved drastically since he was given the responsibility of opening the innings. Rohit's biggest forte is his ability to integrate his effortless playing style while playing an aggressive knock. One of the memorable knocks of the right-hander was against England in 2018. Chasing a target of 268, Rohit steered the team's way by smashing 137 off 114 balls, with 15 fours and 4 sixes. He managed to score two tons in the five-match ODI series.

Rohit is expected to replicate such stellar performances in the World Cup 2019. Batting traditionally has been India's strength and fans are anticipating that the opening pair of Rohit and Dhawan will work wonders on England's pitches. Having an experience of 206 ODIs, Rohit has amassed 8,010 runs in his career at an impressive average of 47.39. His illustrious ODI career also consists of 41 half-centuries and 22 centuries.

Inform About Beggars, Get Rs. 1,000 From Police

The Hyderabad police are putting beggars in rehabilitations centres in the central prisons at Chanchalguda and Cherlapally. The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services V K Singh has announced that if any beggar is found in any part of Hyderabad, citizens can call the control room numbers 040-24511791 / 040-24527846 or the Anandashram, Chanchalguda, number 040-24414940 and report them, and get an award of Rs 1,000 from the Telangana Prisons Department. This step was part of the initiatives being taken to eradicate begging in the city, Singh said.

He said that the department had taken up the responsibility of rehabilitating the beggars. The department had two facilities, both named Anand Ashram, at the Central Prison in Chanchalguda and the Central Prison in Cherlapally for the rehabilitation of male and female beggars respectively. So far, it had picked up 8,438 male beggars and 4,977 female beggars. 

“Our proposals to extend the facilities of Anand Ashram elsewhere are pending with the government. Once we get the necessary approvals, we will start Anand Ashrams in all the districts of Telangana,” he added.

The saga did not end there. Sharma hammered his second double century against Sri Lanka in 2014. He achieved the feat of scoring 264 runs in 173 balls, comprising 33 fours and 9 sixes.

Sharma currently holds the record for the highest individual ODI score, which helped India to put a mammoth score of 404 on the scoreboard at Eden Gardens. Rohit was snapped up by Deccan Chargers in the first edition of the IPL, but his path shifted towards Mumbai Indians when they acquired him for 2 million dollars in 2011.

Rohit made his presence felt in the Indians’ dugout by scoring his first IPL century in 2012. He thrashed 109 runs off just 60 balls against Kolkata Knight Riders and was also awarded Man of the Match trophy. Rohit's test career started much later than his ODI career. He made his Test debut in 2013, five years after playing white ball cricket. Sharma made an immediate impact by scoring 177 runs at Eden Gardens on his debut against West Indies.

He played a crucial role in retrieving the scoreboard as half of the Indian batting line-up had collapsed at the score of 83. Rohit's performance earned him the Man of the Match trophy as India won by an innings and 51 runs. Furthermore, he hammered another ton in the next match on his home ground – Wankhede and became third Indian to score consecutive centuries in the first two tests. Rohit Sharma's career has improved drastically since he was given the responsibility of opening the innings. Rohit's biggest forte is his ability to integrate his effortless playing style while playing an aggressive knock.

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Rising Event Management

Chand Raat HUNGAMA

Monday, June 3rd
2:00 pm to 1:00 am

Miss South Asia 2019
Hosting Noreena Khan

Hosting Wajhat Abbasi

Arshad Mahmood
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Shawkat Mohammed of New York Life with Mike Ghouse and Dr Basheer Ahmed at MCCHS iftar party

Rao Kamran Ali:
Third Congressional PAKPAC IFTAR; another huge success of Pakistani American community; revealing increasing political activism, desire to be heard and becoming part of political process!

Thanks to PAKPAC Board and members for nonstop work 365 days a week! Thanks to great media friends who provided great coverage of the event and always support the cause!

It's just the beginning; a lot more to do and a lot more to come!
A Pakistani computer scientist Asma Zaheer has been honored with IBM's highest esteemed award "Best of IBM 2019", and it makes her the first Pakistani Computer Scientist ever to receive this prestigious award from an American multinational information technology company.

The award ceremony was held at Indonesian province Bali, where all the Big Blue's senior leaders arrived. The winners for the Best of IBM 2019 were chosen from among those IBM employees who work tirelessly to increase the success of the company, clients and the world at large. Those 1000 honorees made a gift from Nature "Cavity Crusher" that uses artificial intelligence to monitor a child's brushing habits. They were daughter of the distinguished student and recipient of a fully funded scholarship for her studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Akhtar's 15-year-old sister was also traveling with her, and Akhtar's oncoming Toyota, who was a distinguished student and recipient of a fully funded scholarship for her studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, plunged the family into grief and shocked the large community in New Jersey and New York. Members of the community expressed their heartfelt condolences over death of the bright student, who was just beginning to carve out a great future for herself.

A Pakistani computer scientist receives IBM’s highest award

Asma graduated in Computer Science from University of the Punjab (PU) and did Masters from National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (FAST), Lahore. She has been working with IBM Pakistan since 2013 and her title is Client Innovation Center (CIC). Ms Virginia Marrie, “Ginni” Rometty, who is the current chairman, president and CEO of IBM chaired the event and hailed the efforts of key performers.

WITHDRAWAL OF INDIA’S GSP BENEFITS BY USA

The United States of America (USA) has w.e.f. 5 June 2019 withdrawn India’s GSP benefits. These are unilateral, non-reciprocal and non-discriminatory benefits extended by some developed countries to developing countries. India as part of our ongoing issues which get resolved mutually from time to time. We view this issue as a part of this regular process and will continue to build on our strong ties with the US, both economic and people-to-people. We are confident that the two Nations will continue to work together intensively for further growing these ties in a mutually beneficial manner.
Success International School Riyadh conducted the informative Islamic lecture by an eminent scholar Mr. Nayeem Javed on the topic “Prophet Mohammed in the Shadow of Swords - Battle of Badr” on 22nd May at Mumtaz Family Restaurant, Riyadh. Founder and Director of Success International School Dr. Syed N Masood presided over the event.

Islamic preacher Mr. Salem Zubedi was the special guest who asked the questions to the audience at the end of the session and the audience replied to all the questions related to the topic. Floral bouquets were presented to those who answered the questions. Eminent journalist Mr. K N Wasif conducted the proceedings. Osama Massoud and Omar Massoud presented floral bouquets to the guests. Mohammed Safiuddin introduced the guest to audience. Hafiz o Qari Amjad Hussami recited the verses of Holy Quran.

Kareemullah Hussaini Biyabani, a student of Islamic Knowledge and comparative religions, social worker, poet (Urdu/Eng), writer and can be seen with His Excellency Dr. Ausaf Sayeed Sabah (Honorable Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) during the welcome reception on Friday the 3RD of May’2019 at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Hai Al-Wazirat, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. (Organized by the Indian Community of Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).

Kareemullah Hussaini Biyabani with young and dynamic GCC Director of Sales of AGRITECH Group Eng. Jihad Khallouf and had great discussions regarding launching of new agriculture products in the whole GCC markets as Organic Products based on SILICA.
Iftekhar Shareef with Shri Surender Dalela Ji, the new Consul General of India in Chicago.

Met Nizamabad leaders Birthday party at Mallika Garden in Shamshabad, with Bajireddy Goverdhan Reddy MLA Nizamabad, Rajeshwar Rao MLC Nizamabad and Madhu Goud Yaskhi former Member of Parliament Nizamabad and present General Secretary AICC... See off at Hyderabad Airport

CONGRATS TO ALL GRADS
Eid Mubarak
Celebrating with you the joy and warmth of Eid

From
Nawab Mir Hamid Ali Khan
Advisor Asia Times
President (IAA) IL.
Indian American Association, USA

From Waliuuddin & Roshan Waliuuddin

Eid Mubarak to you and your family..
Hope your home is filled with good cheer
On Eid ul-Fitr and always

Happy Eid
Saudi Arabia allows Umrah Pilgrims to visit any city during Umrah Visit

We know that Umrah Pilgrims were not allowed to visit any city other than Jeddah, Makkah, and Madina. We had been recommending since long that allowing Umrah pilgrims to visit the entire Kingdom would improve domestic tourism.

Umrah Pilgrims are allowed to visit any city in Saudi Arabia: In an earlier post, we have discussed that there are many benefits of converting Umrah Visa into Tourist Visa. Finally, it seems that authorities have given an ear to these statements as Saudi authorities have confirmed that Umrah visitors can travel to any city in Saudi Arabia.

What are the conditions? The pilgrims, however, shall stay at the Two Holy Mosques for at least 15 days. This means that they shall spend half of their stay at the Holy Mosques and a half according to their own wish.

Abdulaziz Wazzan who is the current undersecretary of the Hajj Ministry for Umrah Affairs disclosed that more than 19 million pilgrims perform Umrah every year. This year the Umrah pilgrims will be facilitated with an ease of moving to different cities of Saudi Arabia.

Umrah Pilgrims with 15 days' visa are not allowed: Those pilgrims who come to Saudi Arabia with an intention of Umrah on Umrah visa of 30 days, can move around the country yet they will have to spend 15 days visiting the Two Holy Mosques.

It also means that the pilgrims who come on an Umrah visa of 15 days would not be allowed to visit other cities as 15 days stay in Makkah and Madina is mandatory on every Umrah trip.

Religious Tourism: There are so many religious places in Saudi Arabia which everyone would like to visit. For example, people like to go to Taif to see the place where Hazrat Muhammad S.A.W. was tortured.

They want to go to Madain Saleh to see the place where Hazrat Saleh A.S. used to live. They want to go to Tabuk to see the places where Hazrat Hud A.S. and the people of Aad used to live.

Moreover, wells of Hazrat Musa A.S. are also in Saudi Arabia where he spent around 10 years of his life. By allowing Umrah pilgrims to visit any city around the country, people would be able to travel each and every city in Saudi Arabia wherever they want.

Economic Benefits to the Country: It will also benefit the Saudi economy as they will spend more money in Saudi Arabia. Many new tourism companies will start operations in Saudi Arabia which would ultimately result in more employment opportunities for Saudi people. All in all, it is a good move by the Saudi authorities.

Source: Al Arabiya
Zakat: Its Impact on Social Order

Mohammed Kaiseruddin

Zakat is a charity – a very special kind of it. It is designed to help the poor and needy members of the society, and more importantly, to do it in a way that influences positively the social order. The Zakat system reflects Allah’s (swt) wisdom.

Let’s be clear – the primary reason Muslims give Zakat is to comply with Allah’s (swt) ordinance. It is similar to other ordinances of performing the prayers, fasting or performing the Hajj, which have all been designated by the Prophet (S) as the Pillars of Islam. Zakat’s importance is evident also because it is mentioned more than thirty times in the Quran. Allah (swt) describes great rewards for those who give Zakat in many places in the Quran, such as [2:261], and warns of consequences for those who ‘niggardly cling on’ to the wealth [3:180].

Zakat seeks to establish a positive relationship between the giver and receiver of charity. It applies to the wealth of the giver, not to his/her income. After the wealth has been with a Muslim for one full year, he/she removes a small part of it as Zakat/charity. This is required of a Muslim without even knowing who needs the charity. The receiver of charity accepts it as his/her right under the circumstances. There is no sense of favor generated in the giver nor a sense of obligation in the receiver.

Zakat is a centrally organized activity in an Islamic state. Even Muslims living in a non-Islamic state are urged to organize Zakat centrally. It is amazing and noteworthy that, to make central administration possible, Allah (swt) Himself has spelled out that the administrators of Zakat can be paid from the Zakat funds [9:60]. The central administration also enables anonymity between the giver and the receiver. Central Zakat systems are established in many of the Muslim states such as Pakistan, Malaysia and several Middle Eastern states. In non-Muslim states, such as England, South Africa and Australia Muslim communities have also established central zakat systems, as has the Chicago Muslim community under the name “Zakat Chicago”.

One might ask, is Zakat effective in resolving the needs of the poor and unfortunate? Historical accounts suggest that it did in peaceful times. Today’s data is not available from Muslim countries to answer the question. Wealth distribution and poverty data, however, is available from many developed countries. Let’s see how our country America, for example, would fare if all Americans gave charity in the amount of 2.5% of their wealth. Below is a simplified calculation.

America’s privately held wealth was estimated in 2018 to be $98.15 Trillion.

Wealth distribution data shows that the wealthiest 20% of Americans, 56 million of them (with America’s population at 330 million), possess 85% of the wealth, or $83.4T.

Let’s assume that the wealthiest Americans have had their wealth for one full year, which is generally valid with some exceptions. If the wealthiest 20% were to pay 2.5% of their wealth in charity (similar to Zakat), they would be paying an amount of $2.09T.

The poorest 20% of Americans, 66 million of them, live under the poverty line and have net negative wealth because of debt. They need assistance.

The $2.09T of charity paid by the wealthy, distributed equally among the 66 million of poorest Americans, would provide each of them with $31,700! That would not just be of some help to them, but would lift a vast majority of them out of poverty.

Dr. Mohammed Kaiseruddin is the current Chairman of Zakat Chicago, a Committee of CIOGC. Zakat Chicago’s mission is to establish Zakat as a living institution in the metropolitan Chicago.
Catholic and Muslims gathered in the Islamic Foundation Villa Park, for an iftar, the fast-breaking meal after sunset during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. Ramadan is observed during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar to mark the first revelation of the Quran to the Prophet Muhammad. During Ramadan, Muslims refrain from eating and drinking from dawn till dusk.

The annual after has been held since 1983 like 22 years to promote positive dialogue between Chicago’s diverse faith traditions. At a time when misunderstandings and stereotypes continue to influence public perceptions of religious communities, the city’s religious leadership plans to send a strong message of solidarity. The Catholics and Muslims are organizing the event on a year to year basis.

Around 350 Muslims, Catholics and other faiths came together to meet each other in the Islamic Foundation Villa Park and discover the meaning of the tenets of each other’s faiths. The 22nd Annual Muslim-Catholic Iftar Dinner was on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The program was emceed by Aliya Husain. The theme of the program was “Spirituality as a Path to our Common Humanity,” Susan Pudelek, coordinator of Interreligious Relations for the Archdiocese of Chicago, and Dr. Yousef Casewit, Assistant Professor of Qur’anic Studies at the University of Chicago Divinity School, addressed at the event and highlighted the topic.

Both esteemed speakers shared their faith experience and perspective in Obligations common values with respective religions values.

CIOGC Current Chairman Irshad Khan said, “Recent attacks on people of faith and houses of worship. These attacks are a chilling reminder that intolerance continues to spread in the United States and around the world. We should reflect on how to address our collective vulnerability to hate-inspired violence. We must not, I repeat must not, permit such acts to immobilize us. In fact, we should use these healing opportunities to stand shoulder to shoulder in combating all forms of hate.

Intolerance to those different from us must be rejected and our will to fight against such intolerance must remain steadfast. In today’s divisive times, we must have more concrete programs where Muslim and Christian and faith-based communities engage in practical programs on a common platform to counter hate. I look forward to continue our dia-

logues with the Archdiocese of Chicago.”

Susan Pudelek spoke about the ways that both Catholicism and Islam need to establish the necessary foundations to start an Interfaith spiritual community. She further said, “Today we are here building bridges of communication and of understanding.”

Dr. Yousef Casewit spoke about the Quran and Bible. He said, “If you need to learn Quran in Depth. You need to read Bible themes.”

The program was very well organized, prestigious and enjoyed by the attendees and will be remembered. A sumptuous dinner was served for all after Maghreb Prayer.

**Chicagoland Catholics and Muslims share their perspective in Ramadan dinner**

**Report & Pictures Syed Khalil Ullah**

**Mother’s Day celebrated In Chicagoland with great Respect, Honors and acknowledge**

**Report Syed Khalil Ullah, Pictures: Manjeet Bhalla.**

Mother’s Day is always celebrated on the second Sunday in the month of May. Several Attendees who attending the event Demanding It should be a federal holiday in the USA. In Chicago Land widely celebrated as a special day to honor all mothers. Several events held in Chicago, but One was Unique which was hosted by World well known Mona Bhalla Productions and Farhana Altaf Bukhari with support from Altaf Bukhari. They invited mothers and families to attend. More than 400 women of all backgrounds and ages gathered for a special Mother’s Day celebration, Mostly Attendees belongs from South Asian Countries Like Pakistan, Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh etc. The celebration Include included delicious food, live music dancing and Awards Recognition Ceremony. The celebration was held on May 11, 2019 at Atlantis Banquets in Arlington Heights, IL. More than 20 local businesses sponsored the event.

“We are Celebrating Mother’s Day for our mothers. Mothers are very special in Our life. We are impossible without Mothers are the foundation of our families. Today is one of the biggest days of the year.” Said Mona Bhalla.

Ms. Mona Bhalla further said, “Celebrating Mother’s Day in Chicagoland with South Asian Community. I was thrilled experience for me for the first time as we were planning this event since last year. I had been contacted by several women and Families over the past 6 months that were asking if I can somehow help them with their startup businesses as they were single moms trying to make ends meet. I thought this would be a great opportunity to give them a jump start and more exposure for their businesses by providing them free of charge.”

Over 150 beautiful trophies and plaques were awarded to South Asian Mothers including senior moms, single moms. Several Songs were Sung, and several com-

munity leaders conducted Speech. Several gifts were given to attendees.
JUNE BIRTHDAYS - CONGRATS

Dr Basheer Ahmed 6/7
Iftekhar Shareef 6/2
Shawkath Mohammed 6/16
Syed Hussaini 6/20
Azeem Quadeer 6/12

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JUNE BIRTHDAYS-CONGRATS

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During his time as a renowned professor and researcher in academia, Dr. Mohammed T. AliNiazee recognized the increasing tuition rates, increasing student loans and debts, and increasing time periods required for acquiring a college degree. Confronting this imbalance, NWSC is here to make a difference by offering more student guidance, smaller classes, and three full terms per year (rather than two). A culmination of his longtime dream of establishing a world class center of education founded on the principles of service, compassion, and quality, Professor AliNiazee took early retirement after nearly 40 years of a successful career in academia to establish NWSC. Dr. AliNiazee and the NWSC team are dedicated to building a private, non-profit school of higher education that provides affordable and quality education dedicated to science, medicine, and the humanities.

A cultural hub with numerous advanced centers for healthcare and medicine, Chicago was selected as the city to establish NWSC. In 2008, President AliNiazee acquired the property in Rolling Meadows, IL that is now NWSC. After establishing the Corporate Board and the Board of Regents, M.A.Q. Khan (late), a retired professor of biology for the University of Illinois at Chicago joined NWSC as the Chairman of the Board of Regents, and was appointed as the college’s Vice President. Dr. Khan was instrumental in this formative period at NWSC. Additional faculty and staff were hired by Dr. AliNiazee as the school started to grow.

Since its founding in 2008, NWSC has made great progress and continues to diligently work toward providing the very best educational environment. Currently, NWSC is an accredited institution offering accelerated degree seeking and healthcare certification programs. Since NWSC’s first two students in 2009, nearly 500 students have graduated over the past six years. Recent highlights of NWSC’s journey include attaining Title IV funding approval in May 2016 and initial institutional accreditation by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) in August 2014. If past performance is any indicator, NWSC has a bright future ahead.
Delhi polls: Kejriwal to AAP workers

Kejriwal, addressing party workers in west Delhi's Punjabi Bagh, said anti-corruption crusader Anna Hazare told him that "when one comes into politics or public life, one should have the ability to endure humiliation".

Motivating disheartened AAP workers after the party's crushing defeat in the Lok Sabha polls, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Sunday asked them to humbly accept people's verdict and concentrate on the assembly elections slated for next year.

Kejriwal, addressing party workers in west Delhi's Punjabi Bagh, said anti-corruption crusader Anna Hazare told him that "when one comes into politics or public life, one should have the ability to endure humiliation". "We have to bear humiliation at times and I am proud of my workers for humbly accepting that insult," he said.

"Now, you go to the people of Delhi and tell them that the big election has ended and small elections are going to come, and in these elections, cast your vote on the basis of 'kaam' (work) and not 'naam' (name)," he said.

The chief minister asserted that all the work done by the AAP in Delhi has been due to the support of party workers and they should take pride in it.

"I can say with confidence that we got 54 per cent votes in the last assembly elections and this time we would win by more votes," he said.

Sisodia also asked AAP workers to start preparing for the 2020 assembly elections.

"The assembly elections next year will not be fought by any individual MLA or councillor. It will be contested by Team Kejriwal and our slogan will be 'ladenge, jeetenge' (we will fight and win)," he said.

Mamata Banerjee
I Do Not Agree

The colour of communalism
I do not believe in,
There is aggression and tolerance
in every religion.
I am a humble servant of the gentle Renaissance
raised in Bengal.

I don’t believe in selling religious aggression,
I believe in a religion that draws light from humanism.
Those who expediently use religion as a trump card
and reside on mountains of riches.

I keep myself engrossed in my numerous duties
while you appear to have no such qualms.
Is that why you resort to selling aggression in religion?
Those who believe in tolerance,
let us come together and awaken all.
When the whole world is but one country
why this arithmetic that seeks to make aggression a virtue.
Leaders from across the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) met in Saudi Arabia early Saturday for the 14th session of the Islamic Summit, which follows two emergency Arab meetings the night before in Makkah criticising Iran's behaviour and influence in countries like Syria, Iraq and Lebanon.

The Muslim leaders discussed a breadth of critical issues, ranging from a spike in tensions in the Persian Gulf, to Palestinian statehood, the plight of Rohingya refugees and the growing threat of Islamophobia.

Prime Minister Imran Khan was among the leaders who spoke at the summit. The premier started his maiden speech at the OIC by raising the issue of Islamophobia: “When someone from the West blasphemed our Holy Prophet (PBUH), I always felt the response from the Muslim Ummah and OIC was lacking."

"The OIC — us heads of states — owes a responsibility to the Muslim world [...] when somebody blasphemous our Prophet (PBUH), it is a failure of the OIC that we have not been able to explain to the other countries the love and affection we feel for our Holy Prophet,” said Prime Minister Imran.

"Some western countries are suffering from Islamophobia. The West should differentiate between moderate Muslim and extremist Muslim."

"The international community has to respect the feelings of more than 1 billion Muslims," he added.

"I also want to bring up the point that the Muslim world must pay more attention to science and technology," the premier urged. "We must pay more attention to quality education and universities; an area in which the Muslim world lags. I fear the Muslim world may be left behind again and this is the best forum to raise this concern in."

He also touched upon the plight of the people of Kashmir as well as Palestine, saying Pakistan supports the two-states solution and recognising East Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine.

"The people of Kashmir must also have their right to self determination; us as a body must stand against the oppression happening with the Muslim world."

At the summit, the premier met Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

The conference welcomed Pakistan's offer to host the 48th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Islamabad in 2021.

It commended Pakistan for its “generosity and hospitality for hosting Afghan Refugees in the past 40 years”, said a statement released by the Foreign Office.
Dynasties lost: Rahul Gandhi lost Amethi and his party lost 2019 elections badly, again. So did Milind Deora, Jyotiraditya Scindia, Deepinder Singh Hooda of the Congress. The common thread is that they are all part of famous political dynasties. Telangana chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao’s daughter, Karnataka CM HD Kumaraswamy’s son and Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot’s son also lost from the seats they contested from. Akhilesh Yadav won from Azamgarh in UP, but his wife Dimple lost from a stronghold; his party didn’t fare well, either.

Dynasts won:
However, Stalin, DMK founder M Karunanidhi’s son, led his party to a landslide win in Tamil Nadu. BJP’s Poonam Mahajan (Pranod Mahajan’s daughter) won against Priya Dutt (Sunil Dutt’s daughter). BJP ally and Ram Vilas Paswan’s son, Chirag Paswan won from Jamui in Bihar. Both Varun Gandhi and Maneka Gandhi of the BJP won their respective seats and so did Vasundhara Raje’s son Dushyant Singh from Jalalawar in Rajasthan.

For the second successive Lok Sabha polls, the BJP has managed to cross the halfway mark of 272 seats — where it had won 282 seats in 2014, this time, it won 21 more seats to finish with 303 seats. So why does the single largest party with a majority still need to humour its smaller allies?

Beyond the Centre: There’s life outside the Parliament, especially in the states where the BJP has a coalition government with one or the other ally — such as in a Sikh-dominated state. It’s in alliance with the SAD, the BJP can win a wafer thin majority in Goa, where it’s in alliance with the GPP, has now managed a majority after winning three assembly bypolls on Thursday. Even in states where it is not in power, such as in Punjab, where it’s in alliance with the SAD, the BJP can ill-afford to antagonise a party that has a strong hold in a Sikh-dominated state.

Beyond the Lok Sabha: The Parliament has two houses — and while the BJP can afford to ride roughshod over its allies in the lower house, the Lok Sabha, it needs them in the Rajya Sabha to push through important legislative business such as bills, amendments and new laws. That’s because the BJP has only 73 members in the 245-member upper house — the halfway mark being 123, which even after adding the allies seats, it is unable to achieve as the NDA total comes to 102 members. Given the paucity of friends, it would make little sense to antagonise the allies.

Why the BJP still can’t do without NDA

The new MPs who came to the YSRC Parliamentary Party meeting were shocked when Mr Reddy hinted at resignation in the first meeting

Vijayawada: YSRC president and Chief Minister-elect Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has reportedly indicated to newly-elected party MPs to be ready to resign to press the party’s demand for special status for Andhra Pradesh.

The new MPs who came to the YSRC Parliamentary Party meeting were shocked when Mr Reddy hinted at resignation in the first meeting.

The YSRC has 22 of the 25 Lok Sabha seats in the state. Five YSRCP MPs have resigned in the previous Lok Sabha for special status.

Mr Reddy was elected leader of the YSRC Legislature Party at a meeting held at his residence. The YSRC MPs meeting happened later during which Mr Reddy asked the MPs to fight for special category status in Parliament.

He said the YSRC will not give up its fight. It would first try to persuade the Centre. If the efforts fail, the party would resort to all types of strategies including resignation of MPs to pressurise the Centre.

While the reference to their resignation appears to have shocked them, the MPs vowed to work to get special status.

The Parliamentary Party meeting ended without electing a leader, and the MPs asked Mr Reddy to select one among them.

Newly elected MPs thanked Mr Reddy for giving them a chance. Bapati MP-elect Nandigam Suresh said that he was an activist but Mr Reddy had reposed faith in him. The YSRCLP meeting was held in Jagan’s house.
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It was a gloomy morning World War II was on the horizon, the combined leadership of congress under Mahatma Gandhi had declared their opposition to the war and as had become the habit of Muslim League to go against congress under the leadership of Mohammed Ali Jinnah, they decided to support the war effort in order to get a sweeter distance with the British, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) decided to keep a silence on this regards, since they adored the leadership in Germany but did not want to get on the bad side of the British. These days were the ones that laid the foundations of political placements and desires. There was always an uneasiness in the Muslim outfits and Hindu outfits about Congress & Muslim Leagues demand of Independence. There was this sense that what would happen to the British, who will rule and what kind of situation would exist within India. On the side of British, after the revolt of 1857 they matured the Indian colony to a good working system, they had realized that one of the main pain points of the Sepoy Mutiny or the First Indian Freedom Struggle was the lack of participation of Indians into governance. Towards this they started placing wealthy educated Hindus and a few educated Muslims in positions of limited authority. These positions extended from being Collector of a village, to being Judges with limited civil powers etc. Hindus in specific started getting educated more to fulfill the machine that was being developed by the British. Muslims got their first university Mohammedan Anglo-Vernacular University under the efforts of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan in 1875. The general Muslims still did not support the cause of an English education, thought of as almost a Blasphemy, but it did provide a venue for the Muslims in the North of India to proceed to a degree education locally. Until now only the interested upper class Nawabs alone could afford the study in England, even they were who due to the backward thinking of the Muslims in the era and the stigma towards a western education. It was very easy for Hindus to adjust to British rule compared to Muslims, since the Hindus had essentially stayed off the peak of pyramid for approximately 300 years, while the Muslims had just lost control over to the British. In many terms to the British Hindus were better subjects compared to the Muslims, who still had their false perceptions of superiority of power. At the same time for British it was a religious heartache with the Muslims, as the closer the differences are the harder the drifts are between people. With the beginning of Muslim education that started late, almost 40 years after the Hindus were well educated this barrier between Muslims & British started coming down gradually at least in the upper channels of society. Both Muslims & Hindus had got accustomed to the thought of British as their ruler by the 1900s. While the opportunity that British gave to the Indians did really help strengthen the country of India with courts, police and other systems of Governance, it also gave thoughts in the minds of educated Indians that had activist mentalities. These Indians caused the creation of parties the Congress Party established in 1885 and the Muslim League came to existence in 1906. The Original demand of Congress was limited to “Self-Governance” under the British mandate, and which was essentially answered with the Government of India Act for allowing Limited “Self-Governance” within India. As with Human aspirations that are never confined to a limit scope of control, with the advent of Mahatma Gandhi in 1915, it became more evident that even with the “Self-Governance” in place the lives of common Indians were not getting better. Mahatma Gandhi felt that the British needed to leave the destiny of India in the hands of Indians. The aspired path of Mahatma was in direct conflict of the Mohammed Ali Jinnah who regarded the path of “Satiyagraha” as a path of Anarchy, he left Congress and joined Muslim League in 1920. At that time Muslims went to the Lahore resolution and demanded for a separate nation. Mahatma Gandhi’s path was very much closer to reality, a path of Human need and the ability of Humans to come together to achieve a common goal of independence and self determination of destiny. Mahatma had roamed across India and understood the pulse and the pains of Indians, many like Mohammed Ali Jinnah speak Santhi founded by Kesawan Baidam Hedgewar with the interest in building a Hindu Nation a desire to bring back the glory to India as a Hindu state and there was a fourth leg a small but very activist leg the Communist Party of India established in 1925. The problem with Muslim League, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh were their high-flying desires, it was more like the seed was not laid in the field, but they were talking about what type of bread would be baked from the wheat that comes from the ground. The Communist Party of India had the most valiant of activist, their ideologies rang bells only in the hearts of the most Human among the Indians at that time. This gave Indian National Congress the upper hand towards being the most realistic approach to the conversations of India’s future. People were more impressed by the approach of Mahatma of demanding independence via non-violence because a working Indian with family to take care of could demand but did not have that strength of going completely against the powerful British by violent means. People had lives to live and Mahatma gave them the path where they could keep demanding. The other angle of Mahatma’s non-violence was the inaccuracy of the ruling British to suppress with violence a non-violent demand. They did use in certain case undue violence to suppress these non-violent meetings but the British officers that committed those oppressive tactics were quickly slapped on the wrist by the upper administrations of the British like the case Jallianwala Bagh massacre made clear. While Muslim League was patronizing the Nawabs towards the partition of country to retain their lifestyle and power, there was Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad an ardent supporter of Mahatma Gandhi’s style of outreach brotherhood. As his name reflected he was an Azad of thought right from his teenage years. Gone through his trials in spirituality he had become a far more Human than anyone else and understood that the Human brotherhood of Muslims and Hindus could alone salvage and help this great nation of India. Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad walked besides Mahatma Gandhi taking with him many common Muslims that were more interested in their daily lives and their economical problems due to the British rule. All these reasonable attitudes to nation building and independence gave the center stage to Indian National Congress when the British finally decided to leave India. From 1929 to 1947 British used to the fullest both Muslim League and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh to inlay the ideals of a Muslim/Hindu state and hate, there was deep desire to cause the failure of the approach of Mahatma Gandhi of a united struggle with the British. At the night of independence, Indian National Congress tried hard to convince Muslim League of the fallacy of the partition, the unreasonable demand that would cause millions of Muslims and their Hindu brothers into a disarray. The minds of Muslim League were so engraved into the partition that no reason- ing of the pain that Muslim population would have to endure could convince the Muslim League otherwise. Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh on their side felt that giving the Muslim League what they wanted would allow the path of a Hindu nation. Sadly, for them this was not a picture that took shape because of their lack in participation in the political process and because they remained on the sidelines of activism in the Indian Freedom Struggle. They the RSS had support amongst certain segments of Hindus religious right, but they did not have that level of connection to claim a hand at Governance. The pain that India had to go through during the partition can never be realized by people of today. Thanks to the blind ambitions and impractical demand of Muslim League and Jinnah, Muslims of India were left Leaderless because all the leadership of the Muslims left the people they used to guide from the Mughal nukkar and the great gatherings for the separate nation. Riots ensued, due to many misunderstanding and the pain of partition, helplessness the leader- less Muslims clashed with the Hindus in vain. Streets burnt, cities burnt, this was not the picture the Great Mahatma Gandhi with all his flaws had envisioned, he wanted a Hindu brother to live with his Muslim brother peacefully. Mahatma Gandhi with Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad on his side started travelling around the country trying to establish peace and talk to communities. These efforts of Mahatma and Maulana Azad helped, and peace eventually returned to the streets. While Nehru and Sardar were establishing governance using the stolen structures left by the British, Baha dehambekar started working the Constitution committee. On the fateful day of January 30th, 1948, Mahatma was shot by Nathuram Godse. The whole country fell into a shock. How could this happen? Yes, when the reli- gion over rides a person’s humanity no Mahatma can survive those flames of hatred that religion can aspire among certain people. The country had lost its father, a father that dreamed of peaceful co-existence. The dream that the wall of Partition breaking down died with Mahatma Gandhi.
Abdullah to Haridas...cont'd

Congress under the able leadership of Motilal Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel United the rest of India. India after independence still had princely states like the Jaipur Riyasat, Hyderabad State and Madras State, three large kingdoms that the British had favored to stay in power as these kingdoms had developed a shared power structure with the British. Getting the Rajas into the Indian Union was not easy, the credit goes to Sardar the Iron man of India. His intelligence and prowess got him the title of Iron man of India.

India was united under the leadership of Indian National Congress. Sardar Patel as home minister of India put a ban on Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh activities in February of 1948, which was lifted in July after Gowalkar’s leadership, it was promised that RSS would undertake its loyalties to the Indian Constitution.

In 1966 due to the untimely death of Lal Bahadur Shastri while in Tashkent the coming of Indira Gandhi to power.

The era of Indira was not the era that Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri entertained. Indira tried on being an Iron Lady. She believed in having followers and not a participatory democratic style government, her style of governance and policies to gain her power the discontent spread around the governance structures. She then landed into a rift with the judiciary over the powers of parliament, and the ability of parliament and her to make sweeping rulings of fundamental rights of people. When discontent grows and when participation is not the norm, the first thing that suffers is the economy. Between 1975-77 Indira put an emergency in the country, this is most surprising considering that she grew up in the British era, saw her father and Mahatma Gandhi get arrested by the British. Sometimes people tend to absorb and appreciate the capacities of the oppressors and become oppressors themselves.

Her leadership brought forth the atmosphere of discontent and within this era came the joining of Bharatiya Jana Sangh (1951-1977) a silent political wing of the erstwhile Sangh Parivar the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh into Janata Party, RSS had been all these years working relationship. The other reason for the coalition was that now religion was going to be the dice in the game. The downfall of the Congress ideology and loss of heads of the three Gandhi’s Indira, Sanjay and Rajiv. This was followed by a brief stint by Prime minister PV Narasimha Rao from 1991-95, his years saw a revolution in Indian economy by opening the doors to foreign investment, but also marred by his ineffectiveness in stopping the destruction of Babri Masjid in 1992. PV Narasimha Rao sealed the deal that the Gandhis started and laid the ideal that it was OK for Indians to destroy and take law in their own hands. Slowly and steadily Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, headed by its political wing Bharatiya Janata Party started laying out the political gains with the very nationalist credentials of “Nation First” from the pan-chayats to the localities, to the Lok Sabha. Day by day the dream of Hindu Rashtra seemed nearer. Atal Bihari Vajpayee ruled effectively from 1996 through 2004. There were many credits to Atal Bihari Vajpayee’s rule. Towards the end of his rule in 2002 the unfortunate Godhra incident, communal mourning and an accident at a train station between religious groups created riots and thousands died. A fate similar to 1984 after the death of Indira came upon Muslims within Gujarat. The then Chief Minister of Gujarat Narendra Modi who is the first prime minister from BJP to win a second term is credited with the inability to handle the situation and control the riots of 2002. Everyone can remember the words of Shri Late Atal Bihari Vajpayee reminding the Gujarat state government of their Raj Dharma.

From 2004-2014 the Congress Party under Manmohan Singh ruled for two terms. Manmohan Singh an able person without ego and need of praise for himself led a coalition government successfully for 2 terms. He is probably the first noble prime minister from the Congress party after Lal Bahadur Shastri. Sadly, the party and the coalition were mired with puppeteering by Sonia Gandhi and the party leaders that wanted to continue the family legacy, there were scams and scandals involving different coalition partners.

In 2014 the party anointed Rahul Gandhi as the party prime minister candidate, a person who at the time could not provide straight interviews or answers. The party and the coalition received massive defeat.

The Sangh Parivar decided to field Narendra Damodardas Modi as the real unapologetic Sanghi Prime Minister, skipping Advani the second in command to Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Truth or perception the years since 2014 has seen many vigilantism-based incidents within India in which the Minorities including Muslims and Lower caste people being man handled, some died going through the actions of the Hindu Vigilante groups.

Vigilantism though a common attribute among the Indian persons of taking law in their own hands, on the other hand it now seemed to have an official face and power. It seemed legitimized. The parties like Congress and others did not leave any opportunity to reflect this to be an official command of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his own ideology. Though no proof exists to directly blame Narendra Modi, but the flexibility of Bharatiya Janata Party to allow the extremist ideologue people in the party keeps bringing the question to the front. What does the Prime Minister think of this? And How does he plan to stop this Vigilantism?

Muslims on their part are challenged day and night along the idea that they are being led by a person who did not effectively react to the killing of thousands of Muslims in Gujarat, but then Sikhs on their end went through the same during the very egoistic era of the Gandhis.

Its been a long journey for the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh from being held responsible to the killing of Mahatma Gandhi to winning a second term to rule the Great Country India.

A dream RSS saw in 1925 fulfilled with hard work, activism, from 2014 onwards they sit on a comfortable and defined seat with a proper majority within the Parliament. We all hope that the power they have got with so much hard work and sincerity be used to establish the motto of the Prime Party “Sakha Saath, Sabka Vikas” with an add-on from yours sincerely “Sabko Niyay, Sabki Raksha” through proper implementation of the idealized Rama Rajyam within this great country.

Abdullah or Hari Das both are same; the difference is in the language. But let’s keep the Human dignity alive that is so enshrined in the ideals of Hinduism so well portrayed by Rajam.

Shri Narendra Damodardas Modi, India has elected you the second time with full valor and hope, we will together Hindus, Sikhs, Muslims, Christians and many others bring the true Ram Rajayam lost for over half a century in the egos of politicians, ambitions of political parties and misunderstandings of History.

Best of Luck India. It’s your destiny live it responsibly like Rajam.
Rich Muslims’ expense on Umrah, marriage can teach 3 lakh poor Muslim kids for 18 yrs

With 120 million Indian Muslims living on Rs 67 a day, scholars want rich community members to spend less on lavish weddings, multiple pilgrimages. Fazur Rahman, an Urdu-spoken, an executive committee member of Harmony India, an organisation to promote secularism and communal harmony which is headed by N. Ram, the Editor-in-Chief of The Hindu. He is also the founding secretary of Forum for the Promotion of Moderate Thought in India. Sharing his experiences with this writer, Rahman says, he has lost count of the number of public forums (and private discussions) he has used in the last two decades to speak out against baseless ritualism and extravagance (israfil) in Islam. Dr M. Aslam Parvaiz, author and scholar, is the Vice Chancellor of the Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad. Both Rahman and Parvaiz have been travelling all round the country, interacting with Muslim community leaders with a plea to cut down spending on lavish marriages and Umrah. Umrah is a “minor pilgrimage” undertaken by Muslims whenever they enter the holy city of Makkah in Islam. It is optional for Muslims to perform Umrah. Its similarity to the major and obligatory Islamic pilgrimage “Haj” has made some fusion of the two natural, though pilgrims have the choice of performing the Umrah separately or in combination with the haj. These scholars are self-confessed practising Muslims and not against Umrah per se. They say they only wish to create awareness among Muslims that Umrah not being an obligatory ritual in Islam one need not perform it every year. Instead that money may be used for the socio-economic development of our community at a time when it desperately needs it.

As per the National Commission for Enterprises in Unorganised Sector (NCUS) report of 2007, 84% of the Muslim population of India lives on a daily income of less than Rs 20. Now, 12 years later, this figure may have gone above Rs 20. According to the Socio Economic Caste Census 2011, there are 24.39 crore households in India, and 17.91 crore of them are in rural areas where the main earning member makes less than Rs 5,000 a month. Only 8% of the rural households have a member earning more than Rs 10,000 a month. Put differently, if a household has four members the amount available for each member (at an average of Rs 8,000 per month) is just about Rs 67!

For the Muslims in India, this would mean that more than 120 million of them are forced to live on less than Rs 70 a day! Therefore, is it not the duty of wealthy Muslims to embark on such a mission. Let us now see how much it costs to educate a child. Science, for the last over 25 years, has been relentlessly speaking at various forums requesting the Muslims to concentrate on Huqooqul ibaad for the moment as the condition of Muslim community is very bad. Allah is not in need of our Umrah or multiple Haj. But our Umrah (community) is in desperate need of humanitarian help. Dr Parvaiz argues. He quotes that one who does not take care of orphans and does not arrange and motivates others also to feed displaced people has belied his Deen Islam (Quran 107:2-3). Any contribution towards this would be worth several hundred times the sawaab of an Umrah or a second Haj. In this context, Dr Parvaiz draws attention of Muslims towards a hadith in Bukhari in which the Prophet said; “One who strives for the widows and the poor is like the one who strives in the way of Allah. I shall regard him as one who stands up for prayer without rest and as one who fasts without break.”

For ages Muslims have been shielded from new ideas in the name of taqleed (sectarian conformism), and ijtihad (liberal interpretation of Islam) is discouraged,” argues Rahman adding. “In my view, Muslims will be certainly open to religious liberalism if they are not burdened with poverty and illiteracy. They do, and also have the money to embark on such a mission.”

Going by this school of thought, it is not because of lack of viable models of philanthropy among Muslims that money is not reaching the genuinely deprived. Rahman states: “It is the lack of a philanthropic mind-set which is the cause. If anything can change this mind-set it is the widespread dissemination of a counter-narrative that can challenge and neutralise the anachronistic sermons emanating from most Muslim pulpits.”
Trolled for decrying attack on Muslim, Gautam Gambhir stands firm:
I live in black & white

A senior leader also said Gambhir should have refrained from the tweet given that "investigation is still underway and facts are being ascertained".

Facing a backlash on Twitter after describing the alleged attack on a Muslim man in Gurgaon as "deplorable" and urging authorities to act, newly elected BJP MP Gautam Gambhir told The Indian Express that "trolls and critics are not a problem" and he will "continue to live in black and white", and that "it is easier to say the truth rather than hide behind the froth of falsehood".

Reacting to the alleged attack on 25-year-old Mohammad Barkat Aalam, who said his skull cap was thrown on the ground while he was returning from a mosque Saturday, Gambhir, elected MP from East Delhi, first tweeted: "In Gurugram Muslim man told to remove skullcap, chant Jai Shri Ram. It is deplorable. Exemplary action needed by Gurugram authorities. We are a secular nation where Javed Akhtar writes 'O Palan hare, nirgun aur nyare' and Rakesh Om Prakash Mehra gave us the song 'Arziyan' in Delhi 6."

The tweet generated over 4,500 comments, with several people asking why he was "being selective" by responding to an attack on a minority community member.

Three hours after his initial tweet, Gambhir posted another: "My thoughts on secularism emanate from honourable PM Narendra Modi's mantra 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas'. I am not limiting myself to Gurugram incident alone, any oppression based on caste/religion is deplorable. Tolerance and inclusive growth is what idea of India is based on."

Speaking to The Indian Express, Gambhir said: "Having been a cricketer, criticism is not new for me. I am used to it. So trollers and critics are not a problem. Having played sports which is governed by definite rules, I will continue to live in black and a white. Somehow have never liked greys, in fact you won't find a grey in my wardrobe too. It is easier to say the truth rather than hide behind the froth of falsehood." "By inclusiveness, I mean a growth that takes everyone along. Like our PM, Mr Modi said, 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas'. How will you win the trust of everyone if they don't feel safe? And that too just for practising one's preferred religion. And like I also said, my views are not restricted to Gurgaon incident but it is a blanket point of view on lynchings, hatred and any kind of oppression."

Senior leaders in the party acknowledged that Gambhir's comments did not go down well with a section of his partymen in Delhi, who felt he "spoke out of turn, especially given that Haryana is a BJP-ruled state and assembly elections are just months away". A senior leader also said Gambhir should have refrained from the tweet given that "investigation is still underway and facts are being ascertained". He said such remarks give ammunition to the Opposition to target the state government.

Officially, too, the BJP took a different stand than Gambhir, with party spokesperson Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga tweeting: "Some people are trying to give a communal colour to the internal argument in Gurgaon. Giving every fight between two groups a Hindu-Muslim angle is politics of dividing the nation. In the call that was made to the police by the Muslim party, there was no reference of Hindu-Muslim. Later on it has been given a Hindu-Muslim colour. When contacted, Bagga maintained that the incident was being given a communal colour.

Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari said Gambhir had reacted with "innocence" on the matter. "We believe in our PM's motto of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas. In this matter, all I can say is that police should investigate and find the truth," he said. "However, I would like to caution people of our country that now that our party has come to power, a section of people will try to paint things with a communal angle. People should be alert, and not fall for such things."

Delhi BJP vice-president Rajiv Babbar, who was also looking after Gambhir's campaign, said people were reading too much into the tweet. "It is a simple tweet asking for action from the authorities," he said.

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NOTE: THIS MEDICINE CAN ALSO BE USED DURING AND AFTER PREGNANCY.
ED grills Nowhera Shaikh, 2 others for Rs 3,000 crores fraud

Hyderabad: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) grilled Nowhera Shaikh, Molly Thomas and Biju Thomas in connection with the 24 entities and 182 bank accounts through which the Rs 3,000 crores that they had collected from 1,72,114 investors was diverted. The ED sleuths had arrested the trio under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, in a fraudulent money circulation scheme of the Heera Group, Hyderabad.

During the course of the ED investigation, so far, it has been revealed that the accused persons and their group companies had collected the money from investors across India on the pretext of investment. The accused were produced before the Metropolitan Session Judge, Hyderabad which sent them to seven days of enforcement custody.

The ED has initiated investigation under the PMLA on the basis of FIRs registered by the Telangana Police against Nowhera Shaikh, Molly Thomas and Biju Thomas and Heera Group of companies. Deposits were collected from victims in Hyderabad, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and other states in India and also from NRIs in UAE, Saudi Arabia etc.

Preneet Kaur defeated her Shiromani Akali Dal-BJP competitor in the parliamentary elections in north India, with two-party vote share of 53% and 47%.

The ED is questioning the accused in connections with their different companies, bank accounts and multiple properties identified across the country.

Nowhera claimed that she was being harassed and that the cases booked against her and the group were false.

How Amarinder Singh held his fort against Modi wave

Punjab proved to be the only face-saver for the Congress in the parliamentary elections in north India, with two-time Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh securing victory for his party in eight out of the state's 13 Lok Sabha seats.

Defying the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) anti-dynasty tirade, the Punjab Chief Minister managed to secure a fourth term for his wife Preneet Kaur from Patiala. Preneet Kaur defeated her Shiromani Akali Dal-BJP combine's Surjit Singh Rahalka by record margin of 162,718 votes.

However, Amarinder Singh has let it be known that he is not satisfied with his party performance in state's urban pockets. Without mincing words, he even recommended a change in the portfolio of Local Bodies Minister Navjot Singh Sidhu to ensure speedy compliance of development projects.

The Chief Minister said the urban vote bank had been the backbone of the Congress in Punjab but Sidhu's failure to do any development work had impacted the party, which had performed well in the rural areas this time.

Ahead of the elections, he had categorically told his ministers and legislators to work for party candidates, failing which there may be repercussions on the composition of the Cabinet.

Political observers believe Amarinder Singh used his former Army background to effectively counter Prime Minister Modi's nationalism and national security agenda and it worked in his favour because fellow 'faujis' (army-men) associated with his message. His promise of a memorial in Bargari for the 2013 Behbal Kalan and Kotkapura firing victims also put the former SAD-BJP combine government in a spot. And shrewd Amarinder Singh time and again raked up the sacrilege incidents during the elections.

The ED is questioning the accused in connections with their different companies, bank accounts and multiple properties identified across the country.

Nowhera claimed that she was being harassed and that the cases booked against her and the group were false.

Mumbai: The makers of Bharat recently shared the insights of filming in the middle of the ocean with Salman Khan on real ships. The actors were in Malta for the thrilling experience.

‘The BTS with his dashing naval look on social media, the superstar shared; ‘When Bharat & crew went aboard on an actual ship! #BharatInMalta’ Salman Khan and the makers have left no stones unturned in making the humongous project a reality. The makers have taken inspiration from real life captains for the 80’s phase in the movie.

This year's Eid release, Bharat has Salman Khan’s six different looks ranging from a young circus champion to a 60-year-old man who still has all the rage and energy of a young individual.

The film, Bharat stars Salman Khan, Katrina Kaif, Tabu, Disha Patani, Sunil Grover and Jackie Shroff. It traces India's post-independence history from the perspective of a common man and follows his life from the range of 18 to 70 years of age, as a journey.

Bharat is produced by Atul Agnihotri, Alvira Agnihotri, Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar under the banner of Reel Life Production Pvt Ltd. and Salman Khan Films, presented by T-Series.

The film is an upcoming Indian Hindi-language historical period drama film written and directed by Ali Abbas Zafar which is set to release on June 5 this year.
Azim Premji Pledges Donations Worth Rs. 53,000 Crore, People Call Him ‘Corporate Robin Hood’

India’s second-richest man, Azim Premji, on Wednesday gave away 34 per cent of his shares in Wipro Ltd to charitable causes, cementing his status as the most philanthropic Indian. He has earmarked economic benefits of shares worth Rs 52,750 crore, for his foundation involved in philanthropy, according to a statement. With this, the total value of the endowment corpus, which supports Azim Premji Foundation’s philanthropic activities, contributed by Premji has swelled to a staggering Rs 1.45 lakh crore, which includes 67 per cent of economic ownership of Wipro Ltd, it said.

“He has done this (contribution) by additionally earmarking all economic benefits for philanthropic purposes, in approximately 34 per cent of the shares in Wipro Limited (current market value Rs 52,750 crore), held by certain entities controlled by him,” according to the statement by the Azim Premji Foundation.

Social media was abuzz with praises for the philanthropist with some calling him ‘corporate robinhood’. This is in addition to his earlier donations to philanthropy, which included Wipro’s shares, as well as other assets owned by him.

The promoter holding in Bengaluru-based IT services giant Wipro Ltd stood at 74.3 per cent as on December 2018.

Over the next few years, the activities of the Foundation are expected to ramp up significantly, the statement said adding that a university in the northern part of India may be set up by the Foundation at some point.
Aaron leontine dating back to Ice Age discovered in Indian Ocean

In a first, scientists have discovered the remnants of seawater dating back to the Ice Age, tucke inside rock formations in the middle of the Indian Ocean. In a first, scientists have discovered the remnants of seawater dating back to the Ice Age, tucked inside rock formations in the middle of the Indian Ocean.

Researchers from the University of Chicago in the US made the discovery on a months-long scientific mission exploring the limestone deposits that form the Maldives.

The ship, the JOIDES Resolution, is specifically built for ocean science and is equipped with a drill that can extract cores of rock over a mile long from up to three miles beneath the seafloor.

Then scientists either vacuum out the water or use a hydraulic press to squeeze the water out of the sediments. “Previously, all we had to go on to reconstruct seawater from the last Ice Age were indirect clues, like fossil corals and chemical signatures from sediments on the seafloor,” said Clara Blattler, an assistant professor of geophysical sciences at the University of Chicago.

“All of their data showed that the water was not from today’s ocean, but the last remnants of a previous era that had migrated slowly through the rock.”

Scientists are interested in reconstructing the last Ice Age because the patterns that drove its circulation, climate and weather were very different from today’s. Understanding these patterns could shed light on how the planet’s climate will react in the future.

“Any model you build of the climate has to be able to accurately predict the past,” Blattler said.

For example, she said, ocean circulation is a primary player in climate, and scientists have a lot of questions about how that looked during an Ice Age.

“Since so much fresh water was pulled into glaciers, the oceans would have been significantly saltier — which is what we saw,” Blattler said.

The properties of the seawater we found in the Maldives suggests that salinity in the Southern Ocean may have been more important in driving circulation than it is today.

Muslim representation increases to 27 from its lowest margin in previous Lok Sabha

Muslim representation in 17th Lok Sabha has increased by five taking the community’s tally to 27 from 22 in the outgoing Lok Sabha with the BJP getting its lone Muslim face as Saumitra Khan, who won from West Bengal against Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee’s Trinamool Congress. Most of the winning candidates are from opposition parties while only one candidate of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) which won 303 out of 542 seats across the country, could make it to the Lower House.

Saumitra Khan is the lone BJP MP in the current Lok Sabha while Mahbub Ali Kaiser is the Lok Janshakti Party’s (LJP) winning candidate from Khagaria in Bihar. Both will be representing the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in the Lok Sabha.

Muslim representation in the 16th Lok Sabha had dipped to its lowest so far at 22. In 15th Lok Sabha, 33 members of the community were elected. The highest number of Muslim MPs in the Lok Sabha was in 1980 when 49 members of the community were elected.

The BJP had fielded six Muslim candidates. Khan, a former Trinamool Congress member who switched to the BJP ahead of the polls, won from Bishnupur in West Bengal against Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee’s Trinamool Congress. Both will be representing the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in the Lok Sabha.

The party had fielded six Muslim candidates. Khan, a former Trinamool Congress member who switched to the BJP ahead of the polls, won from Bishnupur in West Bengal, where the lotus bloomed and the BJP won 18 of the total 42 seats.

Khan defeated Trinamool’s Shyamalal Santra by a margin of 78,047 votes. Khan got 6,57,019 votes in his favour.

The BJP had fielded Mafuja Khatun from Jangipur, a constituency where 61.79 per cent of the population is Muslim. She was third while the winner was Trinamool’s Khalilur Rahaman. The seat was earlier represented by Congress’s Abhijit Mukherjee, son of former President Pranab Mukherjee. Abhijit was second garnering 2,55,836 votes.

Humayun Kabir was another BJP candidate who contested from Murshidabad, where the community comprises 66 per cent of the population. Kabir got 2,47,809 votes but remained third.

Other Muslim candidates of the party failed to save their deposits. The party had fielded three Muslim candidates in Kashmir. Sofi Youosuf contested from Anantnag and garnered only 10,225 votes. Mohammad Maqbool Warr got 7,894 votes in Baramula while Sheikh Khalid Jahangir got 4,631 votes in Srinagar.

Most of the elected Muslim candidates belong to the Congress (5) and Trinamool Congress (5), followed by the Samajwadi Party (3), Bahujan Samaj Party (3) and the Janmu and Kashmir National Conference (3).

Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, which have a considerable Muslim population, are sending six MPs each from the community. In the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, no Muslim candidate had won from Uttar Pradesh as the BJP had won 71 of the 80 Lok Sabha seats.

Baahujan Samaj Party candidates Afzal Ansari from Ghazipur, Fazalur Rahman from Saharanpur and Danish Ali in Amroha, and Samajwadi Party’s Azam Khan from Rampur, Sadique Rehman Bajr from Sambhal and S.T. Hasan from Moradabad made their way to the Lok Sabha.

The Congress had fielded six Muslim candidates in Uttar Pradesh, but none of them won a seat.

Jammu and Kashmir, a Muslim-majority state, has elected three MPs, all from the National Conference. Bhair, which had sent four Muslim MPs to the Lok Sabha in 2014, will only have two MPs from the community this year. Besides Kaisar while another is Mohammad Jawed of the Congress, who won from Kishanganj.

Three Muslim candidates won from Kerala, while two from Assam will also be in the 17th Lok Sabha. Mohammed Faizal of the Nationalist Congress Party won the lone seat in Lakshadweep. The Congress’ Mohammad Sadique also won the Faridkot seat from Punjab. Indian Union Muslim League candidate K. Navas Kani won from Ramanathapuram in Tamil Nadu.

The All India Majlis-e-tIthhadi Muslimeen will have two candidates in Parliament - party chief Asaduddin Owaisi from Hyderabad and Imtiaz Jaleel from Aurangabad in Maharashtra. Jaleel’s victory gains significance as Aurangabad is not a Muslim majority constituency.

The party in Maharashtra had formed an alliance with Prakash Ambdekar’s Vanchit Bahugan Aghadi.
Controlling Your Blood Pressure is a powerful presentation that reveals how — no matter what your age — you can gain and maintain the protective benefits of lower blood pressure. High blood pressure can jeopardize your health and rob you of your independence. Hypertension increases your risk of heart attack and stroke and increases your risk of vision loss, kidney failure, and dementia.

Discover the steps and secrets to lowering your blood pressure now!

New from Harvard Health Publishing, this course gives you the tools to build cardiovascular wellness by lowering your blood pressure and adopting strategies to keep it low. The course is impactful, engaging, and effective.

You’ll find even small changes can pay big and lasting dividends. Did you know there is a remarkably easy diet plan that can lower systolic blood pressure 11 points in just 8 weeks? Or that just moderate exercise can end the need for blood pressure medication? Or that one simple change can halt dangerous “part-time” hypertension for good?

In Controlling Your Blood Pressure, you’ll learn how to bring your blood pressure into a normal range by adopting basic lifestyle changes — from eating smart to easing stress. You’ll get tips for weight loss, for choosing a blood pressure monitor, and for finding the best and safest medications.

Guidance you can trust. Changes you can make. Success you can measure.

More than ever, you need to know where information is needed for blood pressure medication? Or that one simple change can halt dangerous “part-time” hypertension for good?

You can’t reverse the years or change your family history, but there are many other stroke risk factors that you can control — provided that you’re aware of them. “Knowledge is power,” says Dr. Natalia Rost, associate professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School and associate director of the Acute Stroke Service at Massachusetts General Hospital. “If you know that a particular risk factor is sabotaging your health and predisposing you to a higher risk of stroke, you can take steps to alleviate the effects of that risk.”

How to prevent stroke

Here are seven ways to start reining in your risks today to avoid stroke, before a stroke has the chance to strike.

1. Lower blood pressure

High blood pressure is a huge factor, doubling or even quadrupling your stroke risk if it is not controlled. “High blood pressure is the biggest contributor to the risk of stroke in both men and women,” Dr. Rost says. “Monitoring blood pressure and, if it is elevated, treating it, is probably the biggest difference people can make to their vascular health.”

Your ideal goal: Maintain a blood pressure of less than 135/85. But for some, a less aggressive goal (such as 140/90) may be more appropriate.

How to achieve it:

Reduce the salt in your diet to no more than 1,500 milligrams a day (about half teaspoon).

Avoid high-cholesterol foods, such as burgers, cheese, and ice cream.

Eat 4 to 5 cups of fruits and vegetables every day, one serving of fish two to three times a week, and several daily servings of whole grains and low-fat dairy.

Get more exercise — at least 30 minutes of activity a day, and more, if possible.

Quit smoking, if you smoke.

If needed, take blood pressure medications.

2. Lose weight

Obesity, as well as the complications linked to it (including high blood pressure and diabetes), raises your odds of having a stroke. If you’re overweight, losing as little as 10 pounds can have a real impact on your stroke risk.

Your goal: While an ideal body mass index (BMI) is 25 or less, that may not be realistic for you. Work with your doctor to create a personal weight loss strategy.

How to achieve it:

Try to eat no more than 1,500 to 2,000 calories a day (depending on your activity level and your current BMI).

Increase the amount of exercise you do with activities like walking, golfing, or playing tennis, and by making activity part of every single day.

3. Exercise more

Exercise contributes to losing weight and lowering blood pressure, but it also stands on its own as an independent stroke reducer.

Your goal: Exercise at a moderate intensity at least five days a week.

How to achieve it:

Take a walk around your neighborhood every morning after breakfast.

Start a fitness club with friends.

When you exercise, reach the level at which you’re breathing hard, but you can still talk.

Take the stairs instead of an elevator when you can.

If you don’t have 30 consecutive minutes to exercise, break it up into 10- to 15-minute sessions a few times each day.

4. If you drink — do it in moderation

Drinking a little alcohol may decrease your risk of stroke.

“Studies show that if you have about one drink per day, your risk may be lower,” says Dr. Rost. “Once you start drinking more than two drinks per day, your risk goes up very sharply.”

Your goal: Don’t drink alcohol or do it in moderation.

How to achieve it:

Have no more than one glass of alcohol a day.

Make red wine your first choice, because it contains resveratrol, which is thought to protect the heart and brain.

Watch your portion sizes. A standard-sized drink is a 5-ounce glass of wine, 12-ounce beer, or 1.5-ounce glass of hard liquor.

5. Treat atrial fibrillation

Atrial fibrillation is a form of irregular heartbeat that causes clots to form in the heart. Those clots can then travel to the brain, producing a stroke. “Atrial fibrillation carries almost a fivefold risk of stroke, and should be taken seriously,” Dr. Rost says.

Your goal: If you have atrial fibrillation, get it treated.

How to achieve it:

If you have symptoms such as heart palpitations or shortness of breath, see your doctor for an exam.

You may need to take an anticoagulant drug (blood thinner) such as warfarin (Coumadin) or one of the newer direct-acting anticoagulant drugs to reduce your stroke risk from atrial fibrillation. Your doctors can guide you through this treatment.

6. Treat diabetes

Having high blood sugar damages blood vessels over time, making clots more likely to form inside them.

Your goal: Keep your blood sugar under control.

How to achieve it:

Monitor your blood sugar as directed by your doctor.

Use diet, exercise, and medications to keep your blood sugar within the recommended range.

7. Quit smoking

Smoking accelerates clot formation in a couple of different ways. It thickens your blood, and it increases the amount of plaque buildup in the arteries. “Along with a healthy diet and regular exercise, smoking cessation is one of the most powerful lifestyle changes that will help you reduce your stroke risk significantly,” Dr. Rost says.

Your goal: Quit smoking.

Ask your doctor for advice on the most appropriate way for you to quit.

Use quit-smoking aids, such as nicotine pills or patches, counseling, or medicine.

Don’t give up. Most smokers need several tries to quit. See each attempt as bringing you one step closer to successfully beating the habit.
IS YOUR AIRBAG DEFECTIVE?

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The doctor said Prasad's health parameters are normal. The jovial RJD supremo, known for his earthy humourns, apparently could not digest that his party drew a blank in its stronghold Bihar and also in the neighbouring Jharkhand.

This is the first instance after its inception in 1997, that the RJD could not win a parliamentary seat in Bihar but it's the second time in a row that it failed to open an account in Jharkhand.

Heading the 'mahagathbandhan' in Bihar, the RJD had fought on 19 seats and shared Arrah constituency with CPI(M); it got a drubbing at the hands of NDA on all the seats. Prasad's eldest daughter Misa Bharti was defeated for a second time by Union minister Ramkripal Yadav, her father's former close associate, on Pataliputra constituency. On Saran seat, held by the RJD president for several times in the past, Chandrika Rai, father-in-law of his elder son Tej Pratap Yadav, tasted defeat at the hands of BJP's Rajiv Pratap Rudy.

Of the 40 Lok Sabha seats in Bihar, only Kishanganj was won by Congress, a grand alliance ally. This was the first occasion that RJD went into an election without its popular leader Lalu Prasad. His wife Rabri Devi and son and heir apparent Tejashwi Yadav could do little to perk party's poll performance.

Even during the "Modi wave" of 2014, RJD had managed to win four Lok Sabha seats in Bihar. Later, in the Bihar election, Prasad's party in alliance with JD(U) and Congress emerged as the single largest party with 80 MLAs. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar left the grand alliance in July 2017 and joined hands with BJP again.

RJD spokesmen Mritunjay Tiwari told PTI over phone from Patna, that the party would discuss in detail what went wrong for it in the election. But he said Prasad's absence was a big reason for the drubbing.

Despite bitter poll campaign, Mamata to attend PM Modi's swearing-in event

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New Lok Sabha has 475 ‘crorepati’ MPs: ADR

The ADR arrived at the figure of ‘crorepati’ MPs after analysing the affidavits on assets and liabilities of 539 new MPs. A total of 475 members of the new Lok Sabha are ‘crorepati’ with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath's son Nakul Nath topping the list, the Association of Democratic Reforms said Sunday. The ADR arrived at the figure of 'crorepati' MPs after analysing the affidavits on assets and liabilities of 539 new MPs.

The ADR said it was unable to access affidavits of three of the 542 new MPs — two of the BJP and one of the Congress. The BJP won 303 seats in the 17th Lok Sabha and the Congress 52. Elections were held for 542 of the 543 Lok Sabha seats. The election for Vellore Lok Sabha seat had been cancelled by the Election Commission of India, citing abuse of money power. A fresh date is yet to be announced. Two members of the 454-strong House are nominated.

Out of the 301 new BJP MPs, whose affidavits were examined, 265 (88 per cent) were found crorepati, while all 18 winners of its NDA partner Shiv Sena had assets exceeding Rs one crore. In the Congress, 43 out of its 51 MPs (totalling 96 per cent) were found to be ‘crorepati’.

Similarly, 22 (96 per cent) out of 23 DMK MPs, 20 (91 per cent) out of 22 of the Trinamool Congress MPs and 19 (86 per cent) out of 22 YSR Congress MPs had assets exceeding Rs one crore. The top three crorepati MPs are from the Congress, the ADR said.

Nath, who won from Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh, has declared assets worth Rs 660 crore, followed by Vasantha Kumar H from Kanniyakumari, Tamil Nadu (Rs 417 crore) and D K Suresh from Bengaluru Rural, Karnataka (Rs 338 crore).

The average of assets per winner in the Lok Sabha elections is Rs 20.93 crore. There are 266 members in the new Lok Sabha whose assets are Rs 5 core or above.

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The average of assets per winner in the Lok Sabha elections is Rs 20.93 crore. There are 266 members in the new Lok Sabha whose assets are Rs 5 core or above.
Back in those days, when people didn’t get access to basic medical facilities, problems haunted them like hell. Even if there were medical centres to address health problems, some people didn’t have enough money to pay for the expensive treatment and hence living became tougher for them.

Subhasini Mistry was one among the people in her village didn’t have the money to pay the medical expenses of her husband. She couldn’t afford treatment in the critical situation and as a result, her husband passed away and she was widowed at the age of 23.

Her husband’s name is Sadhan Chandra Mistry. He plied his trade as an agricultural worker and one day, he fell sick while working on the paddy farm. He suffered from diarrhea and was immediately rushed to the hospital. Sadly the doctors and nurses paid no attention to the patient as his family was penniless.

The heartbroken Subhasini might have lost her husband but she made sure that this same situation shouldn’t repeat to others. It was when she decided to build a charity hospital so that even the economically backward sections of the society wouldn’t have to worry about the medical expenses and hospital charges.

Mistry tells IANS, “When my husband passed away, I was in shock initially. ‘Then I realised I had four hungry mouths to feed… I had no education and couldn’t even tell the time. So I decided I would do whatever work that was available.”

Subhasini had to take care of her four children all by herself. The one-woman army worked hard day in day out as a housemaid, labourer, and then sold vegetables to make a living. Subhasini tells IANS, that she had put two of her own children in an orphanage because she couldn’t afford to educate them.

As per India Today, she saved as much as money to buy one-bigha (which is one-third of an acre) plot. However, in 1993, the Humanity Trust came into existence and the temporary clinic was set up with the help of the local residents.

Slowly, a permanent building of Humanity Hospital came to Hanspukur village near Kolkata in 1996. The hospital was inaugurated by the then-West Bengal governor, K.V. Raghunath Reddy.

Apart from building a hospital which runs on charity, her dream was to see one of her children to become a doctor in her hospital. Now, her son is one among the 12 doctors at the hospital. His name is Ajoy who is her younger son. He fulfilled his mother’s dream.

She told United Nations in India, adding that ‘no one should be denied medical attention’. While other hospital charges lakhs of rupees for surgeries, her hospital charges just Rs.10 for registration fee and gives treatments for free. She has also launched another hospital at Sundarban.

Subhasini’s family had incredible support from people who came forward to make the hospital a success. She started a school, where the children’s education is free.

Rema Rajeshwari, a 2009-batch IPS officer, is currently posted as the SP of Telanganas Mahabubnagar.

Some of her initiatives include “Gender Peace Program” for sensitivity training of police officers, setting up “She Teams” in Hyderabad to control eve-teasers, launching “Balyaniki Raksha” for child safety and fighting child sexual abuse.

She also launched an anti-fake news initiative and helped in transforming a dilapidated rural school.

#3: IPS officer Santosh Kumar Mishra educated poor children for free

Santosh Kumar Mishra, a 2012-batch IPS officer, used to educate poor children for free when he was posted in Uttar Pradeshi’s Ambedkar Nagar.

Apart from fulfilling his primary duty of maintaining law and order, he educated underprivileged children to improve the state of education during his time off duty.

He was recently appointed as the Senior Superintendent of Police in Uttar Pradeshi’s Etawah.

#4: Atul Kulkarni launched initiatives to improve women safety, tackle drug abuse

Atul Kulkarni, a 2015-batch IPS officer, is currently the ASP of Bhayandar, Thane in Maharashtra.

He launched initiatives to bridge the gap between the public and the police by setting up a women’s cell called “Bharosa Cell” and a Drug Cell. These initiatives helped change the face of women safety in Thane and also tackled the problem of drug abuse in the area.

#5: IAS Officer Ashish Tiwari transformed lives in Naxal-affected Bahuaar

Ashish Tiwari, a 2012-batch Uttar Pradesh-cadre IPS officer, launched several initiatives for the betterment of people in the state’s Naxal-affected Bahuaar village when he was the SP of Mirzapur.

He adopted smart policing strategies, transformed a village school, and introduced “green brigades” of women to combat gambling, domestic abuse, and keeping a check on Naxal activities.

He is currently the SP of UP’s Jaunpur.
Bharat Movie - Review

'Bharat' is a journey of a man and a nation together. At the cusp of India's birth as an Independent nation, a family makes an arduous journey to freedom at a cost. A young boy Bharat, makes a promise to his Father that he will keep his family together no matter what -- a promise that he keeps over the next 60 years of his life, despite each decade throwing a new set of challenges at him -- some humorous, some thrilling, some romantic while some life-threatening. His resilience, loyalty and a never dying spirit, mirrors the fundamental qualities of India -- Bharat!

With the release of filmmaker Ali Abbas Zafar's upcoming film, 'Bharat' nearing, the team is all geared up and is excited at the same time. Anticipation levels amongst the fans are rising with every picture and BTS videos that the makers have been sharing with them.

Ali recently took to his Instagram handle to share a glimpse of their shooting days in Abu Dhabi. He posted a series of pictures where they are seen shooting different scenes and song sequences of the film. While in one Salman and Sunil Grover can be seen shooting together, in another one Katrina can be seen posing in front of a jeep. Another one shows Salman and Katrina posing in the windy desert as they shot for a song sequence.

'Bharat' also features Disha Patani, Jackie Shroff, Tabu and others in pivotal roles. It is slated to hit the theatres on June 5, 2019 on the auspicious occasion of Eid.

Sunil Grover, who is already a popular name in every household, is all geared up for his upcoming film, 'Bharat' starring Salman Khan. Sunil will be seen portraying the role of Salman's best friend in the movie.

Recently, Grover opened up about his experience of working with the superstar and he had all good things to say about Salman. According to reports, Sunil Grover revealed that he learned to be regular with working out and exercise from Salman. He also added that he also got to know how to work on different things as Salman Khan paints and also sings.

The comedian and actor also stated that they used to discuss new stories as Salman is very fond of watching movies. According to Grover, Salman is a superstar not only because he is blessed but because he worked very hard to reach there. Ali Abbas Zafar directorial, 'Bharat' also stars Katrina Kaif in the lead role. It also features Sunil Grover, Jackie Shroff, Disha Patani, Tabu and others in pivotal roles. It is slated to hit the theatres on June 5, 2019.

The makers of the film 'Bharat' yesterday unveiled the latest track from the film titled 'Zinda.' The song gave a whole sneak peek into the film and the journey of Salman's character 'Bharat'. At the song launch event, Salman Khan and Katrina Kaif shared their experience of working together in the film which also marks their second collaboration with Ali after the film 'Tiger Zinda Hai'. The stars are currently on a promotion spree.

Director Ali Abbas Zafar took to his Instagram handle to share a picture from song launch event. The picture has all the three - Salman, Katrina, and Ali sharing laughs while Salman speaks on the microphone. The highlight of yesterday's event was Salman and Katrina's funny banter. Salman also suggested that Katrina should be awarded a national award for her role in the film and he would want her to call him 'meri jaan' instead of 'bhai jaan'.

When asked about his reaction on Katrina being roped in after Priyanka Chopra, who was earlier cast in the, left before the shoot started, Salman hilariously thanked Priyanka for doing so. 'Bharat' also stars Tabu, Jackie Shroff, Disha Patani, Sunil Grover and Nora Fatehi. The film is all set to hit the screens on June 5.
An article by the BBC has questioned the organizers of India's famous Miss India show, a contest that has, over the past 56 years, put India on the World Map by winning quite a few international crowns. We have won 2 Miss Universe Crowns and 6 Miss World Crowns. For a nation that prides itself in its beauties, several of whom are dark-coloured/wheatish and have gone on to win laurels internationally, the article suggests that the “organizers are obsessed with fair skin.” Isn’t it surprising that a media house with the credibility of BBC has jumped the gun with such a flimsy attempt at not just disparaging India's premium beauty contest, but showing the entire country in a poor light? Seems the entire article was done without an iota of research or the intent to be honest. The BBC chose to write the article which only presented their side of the story claiming: “...many of their biggest successes have been women who are light-skinned.” However, if you go through some of the names of the winners, it clearly paints a radically different picture. Here, have a look. Priyanka Chopra - Miss World 2000, Lara Dutta - Miss Universe 2000, Diana Hayden - Miss World 1997, Nicole Faria - Miss Earth 2010, Sushri Shreya Mishra, Miss United Continents 2015 3rd runner up, Noyonita Lodh Miss Diva Universe 2014, Priyanka Kumari - fbb Colors Femina Miss India Intercontinental 2017, Shreya Rao Kamaravarapu - fbb Colors Femina Miss India 2018 2nd runner up, Shraddha Shashidhar - Miss Diva Universe 2017 and Anukreethy Vas - fbb Colors Femina Miss India 2018. The common thread among all these names, other than that they are all celebrities in their fashion & film fraternity and have made our country proud by representing India at the international platforms is that they are not fair skinned. In their article, BBC said that we as pageant organizers, were obsessed with fair skin but the names of our winners quoted above, clearly nullifies this baseless claim. Little wonder that so many are asking how BBC, which prides itself for the quality of journalism, could do such a biased article basing its entire research on the basis of a tweet alone. The beauty pageant winners are not decided based on their pictures and how they appear in Print & Digital Platforms. Therefore to ascribe that the organizers are obsessed with fair skin is incorrect as all the above mentioned names of the winners are not fair skinned. India is a multi-culture, multi-racial nation whose constitution does not differentiate between anyone on the basis of colour, caste or creed. The beauty contest is no different. If anything, the contest is actually as inclusive as it can get and the selection process is diversified to include people from all parts of the country, including the North East, who generally feel slightly ignored by the mainstream. In fact, participants from this part of the country, such as Priyadarshini Chatterjee, Aradhana Buragohain and Peden Ongmu have not only won the Miss India/ Miss Diva pageant but gone on to successfully represent India internationally. The pageant empowers the participants and provides holistic training & grooming from the best in the business & further enhances and develops their personalities & confidence levels. The platform of beauty pageants gives the contestants fame, recognition & popularity that translates into better opportunities in life & higher financial remuneration in their areas of interest such as modeling, anchoring, acting, television, web series & movies. She not only becomes the face of many high end brands but also lends her voice to various causes to build our society & country at large. They go on to become inspiration for their communities & gain higher respect & positioning among their families, friends, communities & relatives.

We are not fair skinned and we’re proud of it!

Riding high on the success of her recent projects namely ‘Andhadhun’ and an acclaimed web series, the Indie star of Bollywood, Radhika Apte shared insights from her personal and professional life at a recent event. The actress also revealed why her characters are unconventional and how they are different from one another. Talking about her professional life, the actress shared that it's her fans who think that her roles are unconventional, bold and messy. The actress further said, “The roles that I have done are very normal, I had people around me like my roles.” Talking about her unconventional portrayals, the actress shared, “My roles are apart from the mainstream cinema, where actors are dancing around and are way too sweet.” The actress further added, “I am associated with the word bold for one reason as you earlier mentioned, choice. You are right they are unconventional in the Bollywood sense.”

The actress emerged as an impactful actress at the event with her opinions which made the audience love her even more in the unplugged way. Radhika Apte’s acting has spoken louder than her words ever since she made her debut. Radhika’s two movies ‘Andhadhun’ and ‘Padmaavat’ are on the top rated Bollywood movies list and her “omnipresence” is much talked about with the screen presence she possesses. Radhika Apte will be next seen in a film alongside Nawazuddin Siddiqui for which the actress has already finished the first schedule shoot in Lucknow.

‘Street Dancer 3D’: Varun Dhawan is ready for 'Mukkala Muqabala'

With the makers of Varun Dhawan and Shraddha Kapoor film ‘Street Dancer 3D’ revealing that Tanishk Bagchi will be reworking on AR Rahman original track ‘Mukkala Muqabala’ and Prabhudheva will be showing off his dancing skills on the song after 25 years, has got the fans going gaga over it. Not only has it piqued the interest of the fans but has made the film one of the most interesting films to look forward to.

Taking to Instagram, Varun shared a still of Prabhudheva from the song ‘Mukkala Muqabala’ along with the poster of ‘Street Dancer 3D’ alongside Nawazuddin Siddiqui for which the actress has already finished the first schedule shoot in Lucknow.

Radhika Apte

Radhika Apte was born in India on 21 April 1985, as the younger daughter of actors Kulbhushan Apte and Smita Pande. She is an Indian actress and has been in the film industry since 1995.
AIMIM's Jaleel wins Aurangabad seat, beats Khaire

The All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) candidate, Imtiaz Jaleel has won from the Aurangabad seat with a margin of 4,492 votes, which was also the lowest margin of victory in Maharashtra, becoming the first Lok Sabha MP of the party from the state. He defeated Shiv Sena's Chandrakant Khaire.

Mr Khaire, during campaigning, had alleged that BJP state president Rao Saheb Danve had helped his son-in-law Harshwardhan Jadhav who was contesting against him. Mr Jadhav polled more than 2.75 lakh votes and was even leading in Aurangabad LS seat during initial rounds of counting.

Mr Khaire also complained about Mr Danve to Amit Shah and Devendra Fadnavis. Mr Jadhav had refuted Mr Khaire’s allegations and said that the fear of losing elections was forcing him to make such comments.

Another Shiv Sena heavyweight Anandrao Adsul suffered shock defeat in Amravati Lok Sabha constituency where independent candidate Navneet Kaur Rana won by a margin of 36,951 votes.

Ms Rana was backed by the Nationalist Congress Party. She secured more than five lakh votes while Mr Adsul got 4.70 lakh votes.

In the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, Mr Adsul had won from Amravati by defeating the NCP candidate by a margin of 1,37,932 votes.

However, Raju Shetti, founder of Swabhimani Shetkari Sanghatana, who was the only Lok Sabha MP from Maharashtra who did not any of the mainstream parties, lost from Hatkanagle Lok Sabha seat. He lost to Shiv Sena’s Dhairyasheel Mane by a margin of over 97,000 votes, in a bitterly fought contest after he exited National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and joined Congress, Nationalist Congress Party combine.

Muslims are shareholders, not tenants in India: Owaisi

Stating that Muslims are shareholders and not tenants in India, AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi said their fight to get the rights guaranteed by the country’s Constitution will continue.

The Hyderabad MP also said there was no need for Muslims to be scared over BJP retaining power at the Centre with over 300 seats in Lok Sabha.

Owaisi was addressing ‘Jalsa Youmul Quran’ at the historic Mecca Masjid here on the occasion of Jumatul Vida’ or last Friday of holy month of Ramadan.

The All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief said winning over 300 seats did not mean Prime Minister Narendra Modi can do whatever he likes or snatch the Constitutional rights of the minorities.

“Muslims are hissedaar (shareholder) and not kirayedaar (tenants) in India. They are equal citizens of this country and they can’t be denied the rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution,” he said.

Owaisi, who was re-elected from Hyderabad for a fourth consecutive term, said his party would continue to fight for the due share and rights of Muslims, Dalits and other oppressed people.

Stressing the need for unity among Muslims and the need to carry Dalits along, Owaisi pointed out that by joining hands with his “elder brother” Prakash Ambedkar in Maharashtra, the AIMIM won the Aurangabad Lok Sabha seat.

Owaisi said Muslims need not get scared by the victory of BJP as the Constitution of India remained supreme and it made no difference who was in power.

The AIMIM leader said the series of incidents of beating up of Muslims in the name of cow or wearing skull cap during last few were aimed to creating fear among Muslims. He said that the history shows Muslims never gave up their belief and identity even in the face of worst excesses.
On the lighter side....

Teacher: “Which is the best month to study?”
Student: “Octembruary.”
Teacher: “Don’t be silly. There’s no month like that.”
Student: “Exactly....”

The warehouse foreman walked up on a worker and caught him napping.

“Hey!” the foreman shouted. “Why aren’t you working?”

“Because I didn’t see you coming.”

A city slicker goes to visit his cousin who owns an apple orchard. The cousin takes him out to show him the bountiful crop on the trees.

The city slicker sees all the apples and asks, “How many apples grow on trees?”

His cousin smiles and says, “All of them.”

A squirrel was sitting in an apple tree. All of a sudden a cow started climbing up the tree. Surprised to see a climbing cow the squirrel asked the newcomer, “What the heck are you doing here?”

The cow replied, “I thought I’d eat some oranges.”

“But this is an apple tree.”

“I know. I brought my own.”

One night, a lady stumbled into the police station with a black eye. She claimed she heard a noise in her backyard and went to investigate. The next thing she knew she was hit in the eye and knocked out cold.

An officer was sent to her house to investigate and he returned 1-1/2 hours later with a black eye.

“Did you get hit by the same person?” his captain asked.

“No,” he replied. “I stepped on the same rake.”

Little Anne came running into the house after the school one day, shouting, “Daddy! Daddy! I got 100 in school today!”

“That’s great sweetheart!” said her daddy.

“Come into the living room and tell me about it,” daddy continued.

Little Anne said, “Well, I got 50 in spelling, 30 in math and 20 in science.”

I accompanied my husband when he went to get a haircut. Reading a magazine, I found a hairstyle I liked for myself. I asked the receptionist if I could take the magazine next door to make a copy of the photo.

“Leave some ID, a driver’s license or a credit card,” she said.

“But my husband is here getting a haircut,” I explained.

“Yes,” she replied. “But I need something you’ll come back for.”

“You see, doctor, I’m always dizzy for half an hour after I get up in the morning,” said Carla.

“Well, try getting up half an hour later,” said the doctor.

A teacher called upon the classroom to make sentences with words previously chosen. The teacher smiled when Pete, a slow learner, raised his hand to participate during the challenge of making a sentence with the words: Defeat, Defense, Deduct, and Detail.

Pete stood thinking for a while, all eyes focused on him while his classmates awaited his reply. Smiling, he the proudly said, “Defeat of deduct went over defense before deta

My girlfriend isn’t talking to me because apparently I ruined her birthday.

Not sure how I did that...

I didn’t even know it was her birthday!

“What’s your father’s occupation?” asked the school secretary on the first day of the new academic year.

“He’s a magician, ma’am” said Little Johnny.

“How interesting. What’s his favorite trick?”

“He saws people in half.”

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