

# India Bulletin

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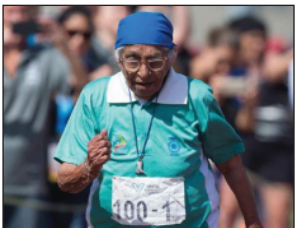
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## Pakistan needs to join others in fighting terrorism, Kerry says

By Lesley Wroughton

NEW DELHI - Pakistan needs to join other nations in fighting terrorists within its borders, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry urged on Tuesday, saying Islamabad should not feel isolated by talks between the United States, India and Afghanistan next month in New York.

Kerry announced the Afghanistan initiative on a visit to New Delhi for the annual U.S.-India strategic dialogue. His show of support for his Indian hosts marked a change from Washington's usual neutrality regarding India and Pakistan, South Asia's two nuclear-armed antagonists.

Tensions between Pakistan and India have spiked of late, as an uprising in Indian-administered Kashmir killed more than 60 people and injured thousands. Pakistan and India each claim the disputed territory in full but rule it only in part.

Washington has long urged India and Pakistan to reopen talks to resolve the tensions.

Addressing a news conference, Kerry denounced terrorism in all its forms. He said the perpetrators of attacks on Indian soil - in Mumbai in 2008 and at an airbase in Punjab last January - should be brought to justice.

"We cannot and will not make distinctions between good and bad terrorists," Kerry said. "Terror is terror no matter where it comes from, (or) who carries it out."

India accuses Pakistan of responsibility for both attacks. Pakistan is trying suspects in the Mumbai attacks, in which 166 people died. Investigations into this year's airbase attack have so far been inconclusive.

India's minister for external affairs, Sushma Swaraj, struck a similar note, saying there was a



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry (R) gestures as India's External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj looks on during their joint news conference in New Delhi, India on August 30, 2016.

"meeting of minds" between her and Kerry on terrorism, which she described as the foremost threat to international peace and security.

Kerry said the United States would open the trilateral talks on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly in New York next month. Its goal is to stabilize Afghanistan, whose U.S.-backed government is struggling to contain Taliban rebels.

India has provided a little over \$2 billion in economic assistance to Afghanistan in the last 15 years and said recently it would deliver more arms to Afghanistan.

Kerry said the United States was working to address tensions in Afghanistan's fragile coalition of President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah. India's participation in the talks could only help strengthen those efforts and underscore to the Afghan leaders the importance of a stable and unified

Afghanistan, he added.

"My hope is that Pakistan as a country is not isolated by this but is encouraged by this," Kerry said. He said had spoken to Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif about the need for his country to deprive any group of "sanctuary."

"It is vital that Pakistan join with other nations in tackling this challenge, and in fairness in recent weeks and months they have been moving more authoritatively in the western part of the country," Kerry added.

Asked what it will take to re-open talks with Pakistan, Swaraj said India was not the one creating tensions with Pakistan.

"We told them we want to solve our problems through talks," she said, "But they did things that forced us to suspend the dialogue. The least we expect is there should be action against the perpetrators. Talks can only happen if there is action on their side."

### STRONGER TIES

Kerry described the talks with India as "constructive" and said the sides had made headway on a variety of issues, including cybersecurity and expanded cooperation on terrorist screening. He said the United States would do more to help upgrade India's power grid and work to provide financing for clean energy projects.

"We are witnessing a moment that defines for certain a very different and renewed relationship between the United States and India," Kerry said.

Earlier, Swaraj said she hoped the next U.S. president would continue the dialogue that also seeks input from companies, which this year included e-commerce giant Amazon and wireless technology firm Qualcomm.

India is keen to attract foreign investment to back Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Make in India" initiative.

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## ANALYSIS

# Modi incites Pakistan in deliberate yet risky move



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the nation from the historic Red Fort during Independence Day celebrations in Delhi, India on August 15, 2016.

By Rupam Jain  
and Tommy Wilkes

**NEW DELHI/ISLAMABAD** When Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi met top aides to prepare last week's annual Independence Day address, some senior bureaucrats warned him against mentioning Baluchistan, arch-rival Pakistan's restive southwestern province.

Referring to Baluchistan in such a prominent speech would be a highly unusual move bound to ratchet up tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbours more used to trading barbs over

Kashmir, the cause of two of their three wars.

According to a senior official at the meeting in early August, the more hawkish politicians in the room, angered by what they saw as Pakistan's recent trouble-making in Kashmir, thought differently, and so did Modi.

By siding with the hawks, and including Baluchistan in his address, Modi signalled a more muscular approach towards Pakistan.

That dims prospects of bringing the bitter rivals closer together to reduce economic pain and the risk of more violence, an issue that

will be high on U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry's agenda when he lands in New Delhi on Monday for a three-day visit.

"The bureaucrats suggested that talking about Baluchistan is a good idea but may be the Independence Day speech was not a good platform for it," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the meeting's sensitivity.

Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar "rejected these ideas", while Home Minister Rajnath Singh "supported him (Parrikar) by saying we should do everything to silence Pakistan", this official said.

India's Ministry for External Affairs declined to comment on the debate about Modi's speech. His office, and the defence and home ministries, did not respond to requests for comment.

Speaking from the ramparts of the 17th-century Red Fort in Old Delhi on Aug. 15, Modi thanked the Baluch people for their support after a number of separatist leaders published videos praising him for acknowledging their cause previously.

He also lashed out at supporters of "terrorism", in a more familiar broadside against India's old foe.

## CROSSING THE RED LINE

Pakistan has seized on Modi's speech as evidence that India has a hand in a decades-long Baluch separatist campaign, in which insurgents in the resource-rich yet impoverished region have launched sporadic attacks and demanded independence. India denies the charge.

A senior foreign ministry official in Islamabad said Modi had "crossed the red line".

Indian officials said Modi's speech was designed to remind the world about alleged human rights abuses by Pakistani forces in Baluchistan, just as Pakistan accuses India of abusing civilians in the disputed region of Kashmir during recent unrest.

But outside Modi's entourage, questions are being asked about what strategic reward, if any, India can hope to gain by raising the geopolitical stakes.

"Politically, it's much less useful in terms of Pakistan using this as evidence of Indian meddling. It gives them ammunition," said Daniel Markey, a South Asia expert at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, referring to Modi's mention of Baluchistan.

But he added: "There is a strategic utility in looking a little unhinged,

in sending that message."

A New Delhi-based diplomat from a major power with traditionally close ties to India said it will only escalate tension.

## DETERIORATING RELATIONS

Relations between India and Pakistan have deteriorated since the killing of a separatist leader in Indian-ruled Kashmir on July 8 sparked the worst violence in the disputed territory in six years.

At least 66 protesters and two security personnel have been killed and thousands wounded on both sides, according to official state figures.

India blames Pakistan for failing to stop militants crossing the heavily militarised de facto border between them and attacking Indian security forces. Pakistan denies this.

Two senior Indian officials said Modi had become frustrated with Pakistan's latest attempt to draw wide international attention to the Kashmir question and the current clampdown, and to take the matter to the United Nations.

"Dealing with militancy is our internal issue and we will not tolerate any other country's interference," said one of the officials.

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## NATIONAL NEWS

# Kansas motel owner gets probation for trying to kill wife

LAWRENCE, KS (AP) - A Hindu man was sentenced to probation in Kansas for trying to kill his wife with a pocketknife after his attorney argued sending him to prison could cause the man's family to be ostracized as part of their culture.

Douglas County District Judge Robert Fairchild last Thursday said the cultural considerations weighed into his sentencing decision for Navinkumar Patel.

The 46-year-old Shawnee man pleaded no contest in March to felony charges of attempted second-degree murder and criminal threat for the June 2015 attack on his wife at the Super 8 Motel in Lawrence, which he owns.

His lawyer, John Kerns, told the judge that in the Hindu culture of Patel's family, his wife and children would suffer if he were sentenced to prison.

"The cultural part of it is very significant in this case," Judge Fairchild said last Thursday. He sentenced Patel to probation

but won't announce the terms until next month.

Patel's wife had sat down to eat a bowl of cereal in the motel on June 24, 2015, when her husband began yelling that she was fat and he was going to kill her, police said in a probable cause affidavit.

The wife retreated to an office area, where Patel stabbed her twice in the abdomen before she broke away and ran for help.

When officers arrived, Patel directed them to the office, handed an officer the pocketknife he was holding and stated that he had stabbed his wife, police said. The wife was treated at a hospital.

Last Thursday, a doctor testified that Patel suffers from bipolar disorder, which was made worse by his alcohol addiction, the Lawrence Journal-World reported.

If Patel stops drinking and continues to take his medication, he is at a low risk for a repeat offense, Dr. Bradley

Grinage said.

More than a dozen of Patel's family members, including his wife, showed up

in court to support him.

Prosecutors argued that Patel's conviction carries a presumptive

## Man accused of wife's stabbing death granted public defender

SALEM, NJ (AP) - A New Jersey man accused of stabbing his wife more than 30 times in their apartment while their three children slept nearby has been granted a public defender.

NJ.com reports Nitin Singh had his first appearance in Central Judicial Processing Court in Salem last Thursday, where he asked the judge for a lawyer and his cellphone.

Judge Guy Killen noted 46-year-old Singh had been denied a public defender

but he was going to "respectfully override" that decision because of the seriousness of the charges.

Singh appeared via video from the Salem County Correctional Facility.

He's charged with first-degree murder and related offenses in the July slaying of his 42-year-old wife, Seema.

Authorities have not offered a motive.

The couple has been longtime owners of the Quick Stop Deli in Collingswood.

## \$1M bond set for suspect in fatal shooting at Phoenix store

PHOENIX (AP) - Bond has been set at \$1 million for a man accused of fatally shooting a Phoenix convenience store employee earlier this month.

Phoenix police say 23-year-old Joseph Eric Fatigoni has been booked into jail on suspicion of one count of murder, two counts of kidnapping and three counts of armed robbery.

Police say 36-year-old Amanjeet Singh "Sonny" Toor died in the Aug. 8 shooting.

They say Toor was shot by a masked man during an armed robbery at the convenience store.

After moving Toor and another employee into a backroom, police say the robber shot Toor after a struggle for the gun.

Fatigoni didn't have an attorney at his initial court appearance last Monday.

His next scheduled court appearances are an Aug. 26 status conference and an Aug. 30 preliminary hearing.

## Police: Cellphone repair tech sent woman's photos to himself

ATLANTA (AP) - An Atlanta-area cellphone repair technician is accused of hacking into a female customer's phone and sending himself pictures of the woman.

Milton police tell WSB-TV that Harmeet Singh was arrested last week and charged with felony computer invasion of privacy.

Police spokesman Lt. Charles Barstow says the customer brought her broken cellphone to a store in June.

When she got it back, Barstow says the woman noticed personal pictures from her phone had been messaged to a number she didn't recognize.

Barstow says the victim questioned Singh, who told her it was his number on the phone.

Barstow says detectives are looking to see if the suspect hacked any other customers' phones.

It's unclear if Singh has an attorney.

## No appeal in Indiana woman's overturned feticide conviction

By Rick Callahan

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - The attorney for an Indiana woman whose feticide conviction for a self-induced abortion was overturned said Tuesday he's pleased the state's attorney general decided not to appeal that ruling and hopes she's freed soon from prison.

A deadline for the attorney general's office to ask the Indiana Supreme Court to take up the state Court of Appeals ruling that reversed Purvi Patel's feticide conviction passed Monday without such a request. Patel's attorneys also did not ask the court to weigh in on the July ruling.

Patel appealed her 2015 feticide and child

neglect convictions that resulted in a 20-year prison sentence. In its ruling, the appeals court vacated both of those convictions. But it found that Patel, 35, should be resentenced on a lower-level child neglect charge that carries a maximum three-year sentence.

Patel's attorney, Larry Marshall, said the reasoning laid out in the appeals court's unanimous ruling "was really unassailable, so I'm very pleased the state didn't drag things out just for the sake of dragging things out."

"I hope now that we'll get to a point where Purvi will be able to put this nightmare behind her and hopefully get on with her life," Marshall, a Stanford University law professor, said Tuesday.

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## California congressman Ami Bera's father, 83, sentenced to prison



Babulal Bera, the father of Democratic Congressman Ami Bera, walks to the federal courthouse for sentencing for election fraud, Thursday, Aug. 18, 2016, in Sacramento, Calif. Babulal Bera, 83, who had pleaded guilty to illegally funneling nearly \$270,000 in contributions to his son's campaigns, was sentenced to a year in prison and fined \$100,000 for violating general election laws.

By Don Thompson

SACRAMENTO, CA (AP) The father of a California congressman was sentenced last month to a year and a day in federal prison after prosecutors said he illegally funneled nearly \$270,000 in contributions to his son's campaigns.

A federal judge also fined Babulal Bera, 83, \$100,000 for violating federal election laws, according to the U.S. Attorney's

Office in Sacramento.

Democratic U.S. Rep. Ami Bera of Elk Grove was not charged and has denied knowing about his father's activities. Prosecutors said they have found no evidence that he was involved.

Bera is running for a third two-year term against Republican Sacramento County Sheriff Scott Jones, who has suggested his rival must have known about the scheme.

Babulal Bera of La Palma

pleaded guilty in May to making excessive campaign contributions and making contributions in someone else's name.

He acknowledged that he arranged for friends, relatives and acquaintances to contribute more than \$225,000 to his son's failed 2010 campaign for a House seat and then illegally reimbursing the donors.

He did it again with more than \$43,000 for his son's successful 2012 campaign, when Ami Bera defeated Republican Congressman Dan Lungren on the second try.

"This is one of the most difficult moments my family has ever experienced," Ami Bera said in a statement. "Of course I'm absolutely devastated and heartbroken for how today's decision will impact our entire family. But my father's accepted what he did was wrong, he's taken responsibility, and I love him more than words can express."

Investigators found more than 130 improper campaign contributions involving about 90 contributors, according to a plea agreement in the case. Campaign officials said they reimbursed the

U.S. Treasury for the amount of the illegal donations, as required by law.

Prosecutors sought the one-year prison term, while probation officers and defense attorneys said the 83-year-old Bera should be spared incarceration because of his age, poor health and because his 82-year-old wife could not live without him.

"That sentence, which is significant given this defendant's age, sends a clear message that campaign finance crimes are serious offenses that will result in real consequences," Acting U.S. Attorney Phillip Talbert said in a statement.

Prosecutors said a prison

sentence was needed because of the seriousness of the crime and noted they sought a shorter sentence than the maximum 2 1/2 years allowed under Bera's plea agreement in May. The maximum prison sentence on each of his two felony counts is five years.

As part of the plea deal, the U.S. Attorney's Office agreed not to charge his wife.

Jones called it "a very serious crime committed to further Ami Bera's political ambitions. I am sorry to hear that at 83 years old, Mr. Bera will be going to prison for a crime I do not believe he alone is responsible for."

Babulal Bera's attorney, Edward Loya, declined comment.

### Public health officials investigating after water park death

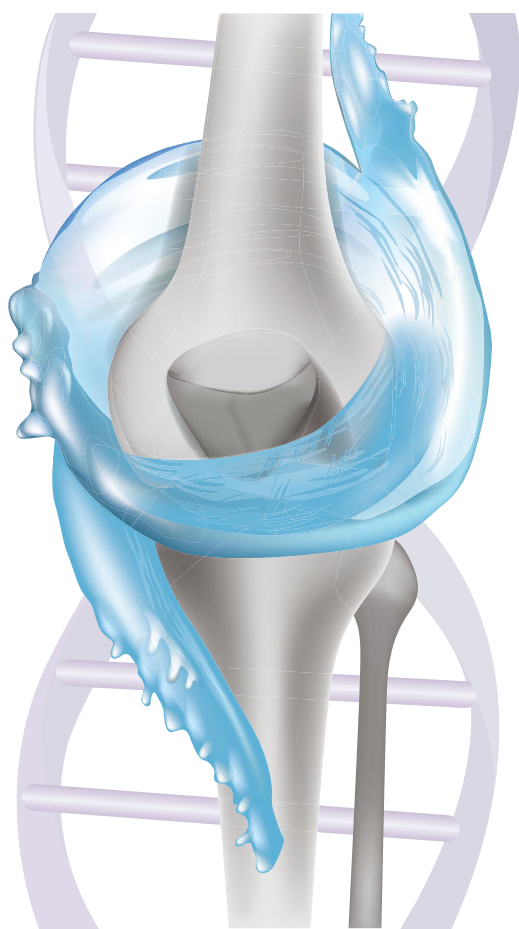
SEATTLE (AP) - Public health officials have launched an investigation into a water park in Washington state after a man drowned there over the weekend.

The Seattle Times reports that Wild Waves Theme Park lifeguards pulled 32-year-old

Vijayarengan Srinivasan out of one of the activity pools last Saturday, but lifesaving efforts were unsuccessful.

Police say Srinivasan was originally from India and had moved to Washington about two weeks ago. He had a wife and 3-year-old child.

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# Over 300 dead in India as floods force villagers into relief camps

By Jatindra Dash

**BHUBANESWAR** - Authorities in eastern India are struggling to evacuate more than 100,000 people stranded in villages after floods intensified, killing more than 300 and driving hundreds of thousands from their homes, officials said last Thursday.

The heavy monsoon rains have caused rivers including the Ganges and its tributaries to burst their banks forcing over 200,000 people into relief camps in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.

The deluge has submerged thousands of villages, washed

away crops, destroyed homes and roads and disrupted power and phone lines, affecting millions of people across the five states.

In India's eastern Bihar state, one of the worst-hit regions, disaster management officials said villagers in some areas were not willing to be evacuated, reluctant to leave their homes, possessions and livestock for fear of looting.

"We are asking them with folded hands, please come to the relief centres. Those who do not want to leave homes, their number is very large, probably more than 100,000 people," said Bihar's Principal Secretary for Disaster Management Vyas Ji.

"The water is rising down-

stream and we do not want people in those areas to stay in their houses," he told Reuters.

Since the monsoons began in June, more than five million people across 26 out of Bihar's 38 districts have been affected and at least 127 people have died, mostly due to drowning.

In the past week, 2.3 million people have had their lives disrupted and the death toll has reached 28. At least 107,000 people have taken refuge in government relief camps.

News reports said one person died and nine others were missing in Aurangabad district after a boat carrying 18 people who were trying to flee the disaster sank in the Pupun river, a tributary of the Ganges, on Tuesday.

In neighbouring Uttar Pradesh state, at least 53 people have died and more than 1.8 million people across 29 out of total of 75 districts have been hit by the disaster.

Television pictures showed people wading neck-high in water in Ballia district, while others took shelter on roof tops of multi-storey buildings.

Uttar Pradesh's Relief Commissioner Dinesh Kumar Singh said rescue and relief teams from the National Disaster Response



A man wades through a street flooded by water from the banks of the river Ganga, in Allahabad, India on August 26, 2016.

REUTERS/Jitendra Prakash

Forces had evacuated thousands of people in boats and the Indian Air Force was airdropping food packets from helicopters.

"More than 90,000 people have been displaced from their homes and about 60,000 of them have taken shelter in relief camps," Singh told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

"The good thing is there has been no rain over the last three days."

India usually experiences monsoon rains from June to September, which are vital for its agriculture - making up 18 percent of its gross domestic product and providing employment

for almost half of its 1.3 billion population.

But in many states the rains frequently cause landslides and flooding that devastate crops, destroy homes and expose people to diseases such as diarrhea.

Authorities said there was no problem in reaching flood-hit areas, but television pictures on Wednesday showed crowds of people in Bihar's Patna district blocking roads and complaining of a lack of aid.

"We are in difficulty. We are not getting food," a middle-aged woman standing on an embankment told Kashish News, a local Hindi station.

## U.S. says will look into India's visa concerns

**NEW DELHI** - U.S. Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker said on Tuesday she would look into India's concerns over a hike in visa fee for professionals.

New Delhi has protested against the hike, which it says is a barrier to the movement of workers.

"It is imperative that we look into that issue," Pritzker told a

news conference in New Delhi at the end of a strategic and commercial dialogue between the two countries.

In March, India filed a complaint with the World Trade Organization, protesting against the doubling of the fees for H-1B and L-1 work visas and limits on their numbers.



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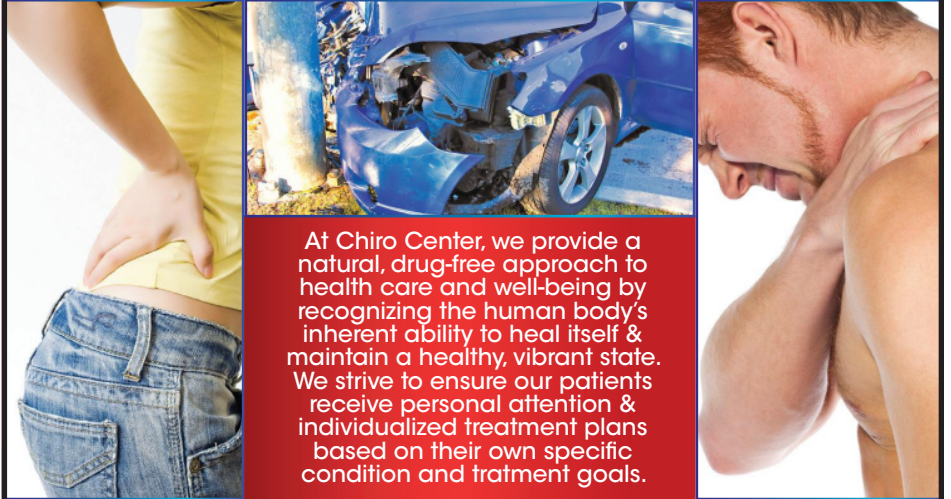
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# Illicit gold: India's smugglers shut out refiners, banks

By Rajendra Jadhav

MUMBAI - Indian gold refiners just months ago were ramping up capacity and struggling to secure enough ore from miners. Now, they are suspending operations as a surge in smuggled bullion wipes out wafer thin margins.

Gold importing banks and big jewellers have also been hit by the growing entry of illicit gold, which avoids import duties and makes its way on to the so-called "grey market" where it is sold to end-users at a discount.

Smuggled gold could account for more than a third of demand this year in India - the world's second-biggest buyer of the metal after China - potentially costing the government over \$1 billion in lost revenue.

The upsurge will lead to pressure for a reduction in the 10% import duty and a rethink on recently introduced levies on gold jewellery, which critics say are boosting the unofficial trade the government has been trying to curb.

"Gold refiners have less than a 1% margin. If smugglers offer 4 or 5% discounts, then we have no choice but to close our operations," James Jose, secretary of

the Association of Gold Refineries and Mints told Reuters.

All 32 refineries in the country have stopped buying dore - a semi-pure alloy made by miners - in the past few months and are relying on treating scrap gold until market conditions normalise, he said.

"Last fiscal year we refined 120 tonnes of gold. With local scrap supplies we can produce 20 tonnes of refined gold in the current year," said Rajesh Khosla, managing director of MMTC-PAMP India, the country's biggest refinery.

### SMUGGLING GROWS

India raised the duty on gold imports to 10% three years ago, aiming to dampen buying and narrow the current account deficit in a country where gold is seen as a store of wealth for rich and poor alike.

Smugglers evade the duty and offer cheap gold to buyers such as bullion dealers and small jewellers, who can pay up to \$100 an ounce below official domestic prices, currently around \$1,340 an ounce.

Falling gold prices deterred the illicit trade last year but smuggling has surged in recent months amid rising prices and the reintroduction in March of a 1%

local sales tax on gold jewellery.

Smuggled gold into India could double to as much as 300 tonnes in 2016, said Bachhraj Bamalwa, director at All India Gems and Jewellery Trade Federation, although the World Gold Council (WGC) has put the figure at 160 tonnes. At 300 tonnes, the government would forego about \$1.3 billion at current gold prices.

The new sales tax has encouraged smaller jewellers in particular to buy on the grey market, said Somasundaram PR, managing director of the WGC's Indian operations. The jewellery must be sold without receipts, but goes to customers looking to hide funds from the authorities.

The finance ministry did not respond to requests for comment on gold smuggling.

### BANKS HIT

The legal trade is also facing headwinds from a 26% rise in the gold price this year which has discouraged overall buying and made smuggled gold available at deep discounts.

India's official gold imports fell 57% in the first seven months of 2016 to 215 tonnes, and could fall more than 60% for the year to 350 tonnes to 400 tonnes, the



Smuggled gold could account for more than a third of demand this year in India - the world's second-biggest buyer of the metal after China - potentially costing the government over \$1 billion in lost revenue.

lowest level in two decades, said Sunil Kashyap, managing director, Global Banking and Markets at Scotiabank.

Banks, which until last year were the main source of gold supply, are losing their market share quickly.

"Since there were hefty discounts in the grey market, consumers shifted from banks to grey markets," Arindam Sarkar, senior vice president at Axis Bank, the biggest bullion importing bank in the country, told Reuters.

"So far in 2016 our bullion business is down nearly 75%," he said.

Bigger, more reputable jewellers

are also suffering.

"Small jewellers buy gold at 4 or 5% discount and then sell jewellery at 1 or 2% discount," said Aditya Pethe, a director at Waman Hari Pethe Jewellers in Mumbai.

"The business of big jewellers like us is getting affected.

But jewellers buying from the grey market say they have little choice.

"I wasn't buying gold from grey market for months, but others were buying and doing business," said a Mumbai-based jeweller, who declined to be identified.

"In the last two months I've also started buying as I have to survive. I have to pay employees."



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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## France, India play down security risk of leaked submarine data



File photo of Indian Navy's Scorpene submarine INS Kalvari being escorted by tugboats as it arrives at Mazagon Docks Ltd, a naval vessel ship building yard, in Mumbai, India on October 29, 2015.

By Cyril Altmeyer  
and Douglas Busvine

PARIS/FRANCE - France and India last Thursday played down the security risk posed by leaked data on French-designed submarines that a source told Reuters was probably stolen by a French former employee and that has raised concerns over a \$38 billion contract with Australia.

More than 22,000 pages of data about six submarines that France's DCNS is building for India's navy looked to have been stolen in 2011 by a subcontractor who was fired while providing training in India, the source said.

India's defence ministry said last Thursday that it saw no immediate security risk and the French government said the information in the documents only showed how the submarines operate and did not compromise their security.

India and France are investigating after The Australian newspaper published on Wednesday details about its Scorpene submarines being built in India by contractor DCNS - 35 percent owned by Thales and 65 percent by the French state.

"It is not a leak, it is theft," the source said. "We have not found any DCNS negligence, but we have identified some dishonesty

by an individual."

The French government source said security procedures would be strengthened for all employees going to work in Australia to ensure one person did not have access to so many documents.

The documents were not classified and at this stage appeared to only focus on how the submarines are operated not how they are built and whether they can be detected, the source said.

"The Indians can object to the fact that these documents show the Pakistanis how to maintain their submarines and that's annoying, but it doesn't tell the Pakistanis how to detect an Indian ship, or how we build a submarine in France. Not at all," the source said.

The newspaper published only a fraction of the documents, and these had been redacted, meaning that sensitive details relating to the Scorpene's design and stealth capabilities did not enter the public domain.

"The documents that have been posted... have been examined and do not pose any security compromise as the vital parameters have been blacked out," an Indian defence ministry statement said.

The submarines are being built at a state-run shipyard in

Mumbai. The first is expected to enter service by the end of the year as India seeks to rebuild its dwindling fleet and assert its dominance in the strategic waters of the Indian Ocean.

The leak has raised doubts about the security of a separate DCNS submarine project in Australia where it is locked in exclusive negotiations after seeing off rivals on a contract to build the Barracuda next generation of submarines.

DCNS said it was working to determine if any harm had been caused to clients and whether commercial espionage was to blame.

DCNS is also pitching for submarine contracts in Norway and Poland and beat Germany's ThyssenKrupp AG and a Japanese-government backed bid by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Kawasaki Heavy Industries in Australia.

French officials have sought to play down the impact on the Australia contract.

"The dialogue with Australia has not been cut at all. There is mutual confidence and I don't believe at all that this contract will be put into question," Patricia Adam, the head of France's parliamentary defence committee.

## India's top court calls land deal for Tata Motors factory a 'farce'

MUMBAI - India's Supreme Court said on Wednesday that land acquired by West Bengal state for a Tata Motors factory must be returned to farmers, the latest twist in a decade-long battle that came to symbolise conflict over land in the country.

The process by which 1,000 acres (400 hectares) of land in Singur was acquired in 2006 was "shocking" and "a farce", the top court said, quashing an

earlier order by a Kolkata court that upheld the acquisition.

The land could not be deemed to have been acquired for a "public purpose" and must be returned to the farmers within 12 weeks, the Supreme Court ruled.

"We are very happy with the verdict," Kalyan Banerjee, lead counsel for the state, told reporters in New Delhi.

"People had suffered a lot," he said.

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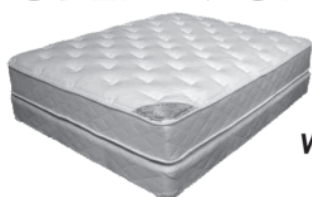
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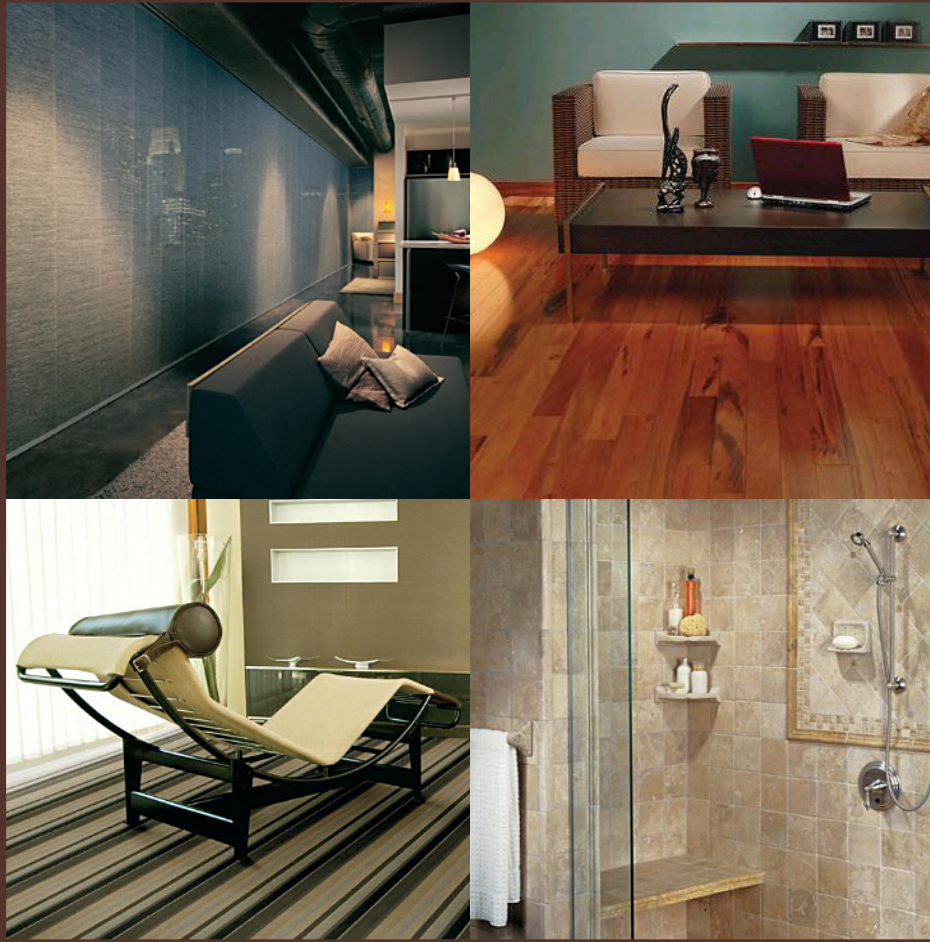


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# Hundreds challenge human pyramid limits at Indian Hindu festival

MUMBAI - Hundreds of people attending a Hindu festival in India's western Maharashtra state last Thursday defied India's Supreme Court order limiting the

height of human pyramids due to safety concerns.

Members of the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) regional party wearing T-shirts reading

"I will break the law" formed a human pyramid 49 feet (15 m) tall in Thane district at a Janmashtami celebration marking the birth of Hindu deity Lord Krishna.

India's Supreme Court on Aug. 17 upheld a lower court's decision banning youths under 18 from participating in the ritual and restricting the height of the human pyramid to 20 feet (6 m).

The pyramids invoke Krishna who, according to tradition, formed human pyramids with friends to break pots of butter or curd hung from the ceilings of houses so that they could steal the contents.

Maharashtra's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said that it would ask the court to reconsider its order.

"Government has taken note of all the feelings. We will once again approach the court but this time we have to respect the



A devotee breaks a clay pot containing curd as others form a human pyramid during celebrations to mark the Hindu festival of Janmashtami in Mumbai, India on August 25, 2016.

## Watchdog calls out India for failing to protect journalists

By Ashok Sharma

NEW DELHI (AP) - India is failing to help and protect journalists who are facing violent threats or attacks for their work, an international watchdog agency said Monday, noting a pattern of resistance in investigating crimes targeting reporters.

The Committee to Protect Journalists counted 27 journalists killed for their work since 1992, and noted that it was still investigating more than two dozen cases to determine whether those journalists' deaths were also work-related. Most at risk are small-town journalists investigating corruption, rather than journalists in big cities like New Delhi or Mumbai.

The New York-based watchdog said in a report released Monday that it could find only one case in 10 years in India in which a suspect was prosecuted and convicted for killing a journalist, but that the suspect was later released on appeal.

"Perpetrators are seldom arrested," said Sujata Madhok of the Delhi Union of Journalists, according to the report. "The torturously slow Indian judicial system, together with corruption in the police force and the criminalization of politics, makes it possible to literally get away with murder."

The watchdog's findings are supported by another report, released in 2015 by India's own media watchdog, the Press Council of India. That report found that even though the country's democratic institutions and independent judiciary were strong, people who killed journalists were getting

away with impunity.

"The situation is truly alarming," the Press Council said, warning that the trend could hurt India's democracy, and pressing Parliament to pass a nationwide law ensuring journalists' safety.

The Committee to Protect Journalists blamed successive Indian governments and local officials for doing little to address a problem that has existed for decades.

It noted that while newspaper reports on corruption scandals made for attention-grabbing headlines, those same corruption investigations tended to end abruptly if an involved journalist was killed.

"No government in India has been an ardent champion of press freedom," the report said. "Small-town journalists, even if a handful work for big media, will often find themselves alone and abandoned when trouble strikes."

The report focused on three cases of journalist killings in India, including the death in July 2015 of investigative reporter Akshay Singh, who was working on a story linked to an alleged \$1 billion racket for providing jobs and college admissions in the central state of Madhya Pradesh.

A month before that, freelance reporter Jagendra Singh died after being set on fire while reporting on allegations of rape and land fraud leveled against a local minister in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh.

And in 2011 in the eastern state of Chattisgarh, journalist Umesh Rajput was shot dead while investigating alleged medical negligence as well as separate claims that a politician's son was involved in an illegal gambling business.

## Doctors in India remove 40 knives from man's stomach

By Nirmala George

NEW DELHI (AP) - Doctors in northern India have surgically removed 40 knives from the stomach of a man who had swallowed them over the past two months, one of the physicians said Tuesday.

The 42-year-old man is recovering in a hospital in Punjab state after undergoing surgery last Friday in which doctors removed the knives - some folded and some with exposed blades up to 18 centimeters (7 inches) long.

Dr. Jatinder Malhotra, who assisted during the five-hour operation, said the man, who works as a police constable, was apparently suffering from a psychiatric disorder and is now being counseled.

Malhotra said he had never

before heard of a case of a person swallowing knives.

"In my 20-year career, and in all the medical literature that we checked, there has never been a case like this one, where a person has swallowed not one, but 40 knives," said Malhotra, a critical care doctor at the Corporate Hospital in the city of Amritsar.

The man told doctors that he could not explain his urge to swallow knives. "He told us he would swallow the knives along with a glass of water," Malhotra said. "He had no explanation for why he did it. Just an urge."

The man, who has not been identified, had come to the hospital two weeks ago complaining of severe pain in his abdomen.

"In an endoscopy, we saw a big mass in his abdominal area,"

Malhotra said by phone. "We initially thought it was a tumor or some cancerous growth. But it was like nothing we doctors had seen before."

A team of two surgeons, two critical care physicians and an anesthetist conducted the surgery, during which they initially removed 28 knives. But further investigation revealed 12 more, the hospital said.

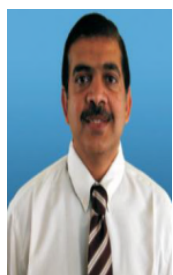
There was massive internal bleeding during the surgery because the knives, which were all made of iron, had lacerated the man's stomach walls, Malhotra said.

Since the surgery, the man has told doctors that he can't bear to look at another knife. "He even asked his wife to get out of the room when she was cutting some fruit for him," Malhotra said.

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# Thirteen Indians among Zika infected people in Singapore



REUTERS/Edgar Su/FILE PHOTO

A worker cleans out the drains outside a construction site where locally transmitted Zika cases were first discovered in Singapore on August 31, 2016.

By Raju Gopalakrishnan and Marius Zaharia

SINGAPORE - Thirteen Indian citizens are among those infected in an outbreak of the Zika virus in Singapore, according to a person at the Indian High Commission in the city-state.

Foreign construction workers have been hit hardest in the first days of the mosquito-borne disease's outbreak. Singapore announced the first locally contracted case of Zika late last Saturday.

Of the first 56 cases of Zika identified by late Monday, three dozen were foreign workers on a property development site where they worked and lived with more than 450 others.

Total Zika infections had increased to 82 by late Tuesday, but the Singapore government has not disclosed whether any of the more recent cases involved foreign workers. It did not respond to Reuters questions about the nationality of those infected.

The person at the Indian High Commission did not know if the Indian citizens affected were in the construction industry.

India's Ministry of External Affairs said it had asked the Singapore government if any of its nationals were among those

diagnosed with the Zika virus, but had yet to hear back.

Many of the 360,000 or so foreign workers in Singapore's building industry are from the Indian sub-continent, including India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. While many are paid as little as S\$2 an hour (\$1.47), work 12-14 hour days and rarely take days off, they can still potentially earn significantly more in Singapore than at home.

### "MOST SUSCEPTIBLE"

Some dormitory rooms where workers live can house more than a dozen people and have no working fans, increasing their potential exposure to mosquitoes as windows are often left open, rights groups and some foreign workers told Reuters.

Government regulations already require employers and dormitory operators to take efforts to avoid mosquito breeding habitats as part of a long-standing battle with dengue, another mosquito-borne virus, but rights groups say they are concerned that these rules are not always followed.

Heena Kanwar, executive director of the Humanitarian Organisation for Migration Economics, says foreign workers are "the most susceptible group" for

infections "because of their living conditions."

Reuters was unable to gain access to workers at the construction site which was the focal point of the initial Zika infections. A spokesperson for Woh Hup, the main contractor at the site - which is under a "stop work" order - directed queries to the authorities "as the case is still under investigation."

A spokeswoman for the site's owner, Guocoland, said the company was unable to comment "beyond what has been released by the authorities."

Only local media were invited to a site visit by Minister of State for Manpower Teo Ser Luck on Tuesday, reporting that those diagnosed with the Zika virus were still living on site, but were separated from other workers, in rooms with internet access and delivered meals.

Debbie Fordyce, member of

the executive committee of the group Transient Workers Count Too, noted that Singapore doesn't release a nationality breakdown of foreign workers in its construction industry, so it's not surprising it has not disclosed where workers with the Zika virus are from.

"It could either be for the protection of the foreign workers, so that certain groups are not ostracised and identified as carriers of the virus, or to avoid drawing further attention to the poor living conditions," she said.

Dormitory operators, who spoke to Reuters on condition of anonymity, said government agencies carry out regular site inspections, and this week sprayed insecticide and looked for potential mosquito breeding habitats.

They say the government acts quickly if conditions are sub-standard, and operators are required to have at least one sick bay available

or contingency plans for infectious diseases.

One dorm operator said it was hard to monitor the spread of infectious diseases, noting there were as many as 240 workers on just one level of his premises.

Manpower Minister Teo told local media on Tuesday that action would be taken against operators who don't take preventive measures "because this is a very serious issue."

It's still not known where the other foreign workers with Zika are from.

The High Commission of Bangladesh and the Thai embassy said they did not have any workers among those who tested positive. A Sri Lankan foreign ministry official said it had not been informed of any infections, and the Chinese foreign ministry said in Beijing it had no information about any of its nationals in Singapore having Zika.

## India plans surrogacy ban for foreigners, unmarried couples

By Nirmala George

NEW DELHI (AP) - The Indian government plans to ban foreigners, single parents and gay couples from using India's surrogacy services under a proposed law intended to protect poor women from exploitation.

Only infertile couples who have been married for at least five years could seek a surrogate, who must be a close relative, Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj said last Wednesday.

"There will be a complete ban on commercial surrogacy. Childless couples, who are medically unfit to have children, can take help from a close relative, in what is an altruistic surrogacy," Swaraj said at a news conference in New Delhi.

The bill does not say which relatives are close enough to be considered as potential surrogates.

The proposed law will soon be introduced in Parliament, where the governing Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party commands a majority in the lower house.

Gay couples, single parents and foreigners would not be allowed to hire Indian women as surrogates under the proposed law, which would have to be passed by both houses of parliament to become law.

Over the past few years, India has become a popular destination for people wanting to have children using surrogate mothers, partly because its doctors and clinics broker the service at relatively low cost.

But many of the women are paid a pittance of the money that is paid to clinics by anxious couples yearning to have a child.

Swaraj cited past cases where a couple took home one child from a twin birth or a couple left a disabled baby with the surro-

gate. "The law would stop such unethical practices," Swaraj said.

In 2001, India legalized commercial surrogacy, in which a surrogate mother can carry another's genetic child through a process of in-vitro fertilization (IVF) and embryo transfer for a payment. Although there are no official figures available, a 2012 U.N. report counted around 3,000 fertility clinics in India.

India's surrogacy business was estimated at around \$1 billion a year and growing, but it had few regulations governing it.

In November, the government had instructed Indian embassies not to grant visas to foreigners who planned to come to India to engage a surrogate mother. The home ministry said a child born through surrogacy to foreigners would not be allowed to leave the country.

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# Indian police arrest orphanage owner forcing children to beg



Children play on an improvised swing in Allahabad, India, August 3, 2016.

By Anuradha Nagaraj

CHENNAI - Indian police have arrested the owner of an orphanage for forcing children in his care to beg on the streets, busting another organised begging ring in an industry controlled by human traffickers, an officer aid last Friday.

Fourteen children were rescued following the arrest of Mallipreddi James last Thursday as he dropped off children to beg at a traffic junction in the southern city of Hyderabad.

The children had been left in his care at the Brahmaputra Orphanage in Ameenpur village in southern state of Telangana.

## Indian climbers banned from Nepal over fake Everest photos

KATHMANDU - Nepal on Tuesday banned an Indian couple from mountain climbing in the country for 10 years after they tried to fake a successful ascent of Mount Everest with digitally altered photographs, officials said.

Police constables Tarakeshwari and Dinesh Rathod were among hundreds of climbers who attempted the 8,850 metre summit this climbing season, a year after the peak was closed following the death of 18 climbers in an avalanche triggered by an earthquake.

Tourism Department official Gyanendra Shrestha said a government investigation had confirmed complaints by other climbers that the Indian couple had doctored photographs to show themselves at the top of the world's highest mountain.

"We have revoked their climbing

certificate," Shrestha told Reuters. "They will not be allowed to do any climbing activity in Nepal for 10 years."

Tourism officials said that analysis of photos submitted by the couple showed they had superimposed their faces and the Indian flag on pictures taken by another climber who had climbed Everest a few days earlier than they claimed to have done so.

They held a news conference in the capital, Kathmandu, on June 5 to say they had reached the peak of Everest on May 23.

The Rathods, who serve in the police force in the city of Pune, could not immediately be reached for comment. The city's commissioner of police, Rashmi Shukla, said an inquiry had been opened into apparent discrepancies in their Everest account.

"We caught him red handed, after he had dropped off four children at a traffic signal near the Gachibowli IT hub," said sub-inspector Chinthakayala Venkatesh.

"The children, aged between 7 and 14 years, had three money collection boxes and told us that they were being asked to beg everyday in different parts of the city. He was supposed to care for them and educate them."

Experts estimate that at least 300,000 children across India are drugged, beaten and forced to beg every day, in what has become a multi million rupee industry run by human trafficking cartels.

Rights groups have long com-

plained that children's homes in India are poorly regulated, not inspected often enough, and that many privately-run institutions are able to operate without a licence leaving thousands of children vulnerable to abuse.

Many children in these homes are not orphans but placed in institutional care by parents too poor to feed, clothe and shelter them.

"The orphanage was illegal and had no licence to run," S.B. Balaraju of the State Commission for protection of child rights told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

"We are very concerned about such homes, which are often hubs for children being trafficked

and abused."

In the neighbouring state of Tamil Nadu, a crackdown by authorities against mismanaged homes has seen the closure of over 500 in the last five years.

"The begging is a manifestation of all that is wrong in these homes. I am convinced that over 85 per cent of the homes don't need to exist and are just fronts for other activities," said Vidya Reddy of non-profit TULIR-Centre for the Prevention and Healing Child Sexual Abuse.

"Not all children need to be in these homes. Instead more community based initiatives need to be looked at."

## Justice, recovery eludes thousands of India's trafficked children

By Nita Bhalla

NEW DELHI - Thousands of children in India go missing every year yet few are traced and given adequate support to rebuild their lives, partly due to the under-utilisation of funds by states and a slow judicial system, government officials and judges said Tuesday.

Data from the National Crime Records Bureau shows that 60,000 children went missing in India in 2011, out of which 22,000 remain untraced, according to government officials.

Activists say many are trafficked and sold into bonded labour as servants in middle-class homes or in small shops and hotels where they serve, clean and cook. Girls often end up in brothels where they are repeatedly raped and abused.

Speaking at an event organised by Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi on the rehabilitation of missing and trafficked children, government officials and senior judges admitted more efforts were needed to protect and support children.

"Slow trials and low rate of convictions are an institutional failure. The lack of child-friendly courts might be a reason behind low conviction rate," said Supreme Court Judge Madan Bhimrao Lokur.

Leena Nair, secretary at the ministry of women and child development, told participants - which included police officers, judges, lawyers, government officials and activists - that many states were not using budgets allocated for children.

"States are not utilising the funds, policies and resources available for the purpose of children," said Nair.

"We'll ensure strengthening of government institutional mechanisms and schemes so that effective measures are taken towards rehabilitation and repatriation of children."

South Asia, with India at its centre, is the fastest-growing and second-largest region for human trafficking in the world after East Asia, according to the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime.

There are no accurate figures

on the number of people being trafficked within South Asia, but activists say thousands of mostly women and children are trafficked to India annually from its poorer neighbours Nepal and Bangladesh.

Child rights activists focusing on the recovery of victims say repatriation is often one of their biggest challenges and can, in some cases, take years.

There is a lack of effective international coordination between states to verify victims' identities and trace their places of origin - often remote, impoverished regions with poor telecommunications and infrastructure.

"I urge the judiciary to create strong guidelines and directions to establish and ensure - child-friendly court procedures, speedy punishment to offenders and time-bound rehabilitation," Satyarthi said at the start of two-day workshop on Monday.

"Let's ACT together. That is bring Accountability, Coordination between agencies and optimal use of Technology in to our rehabilitation measures."

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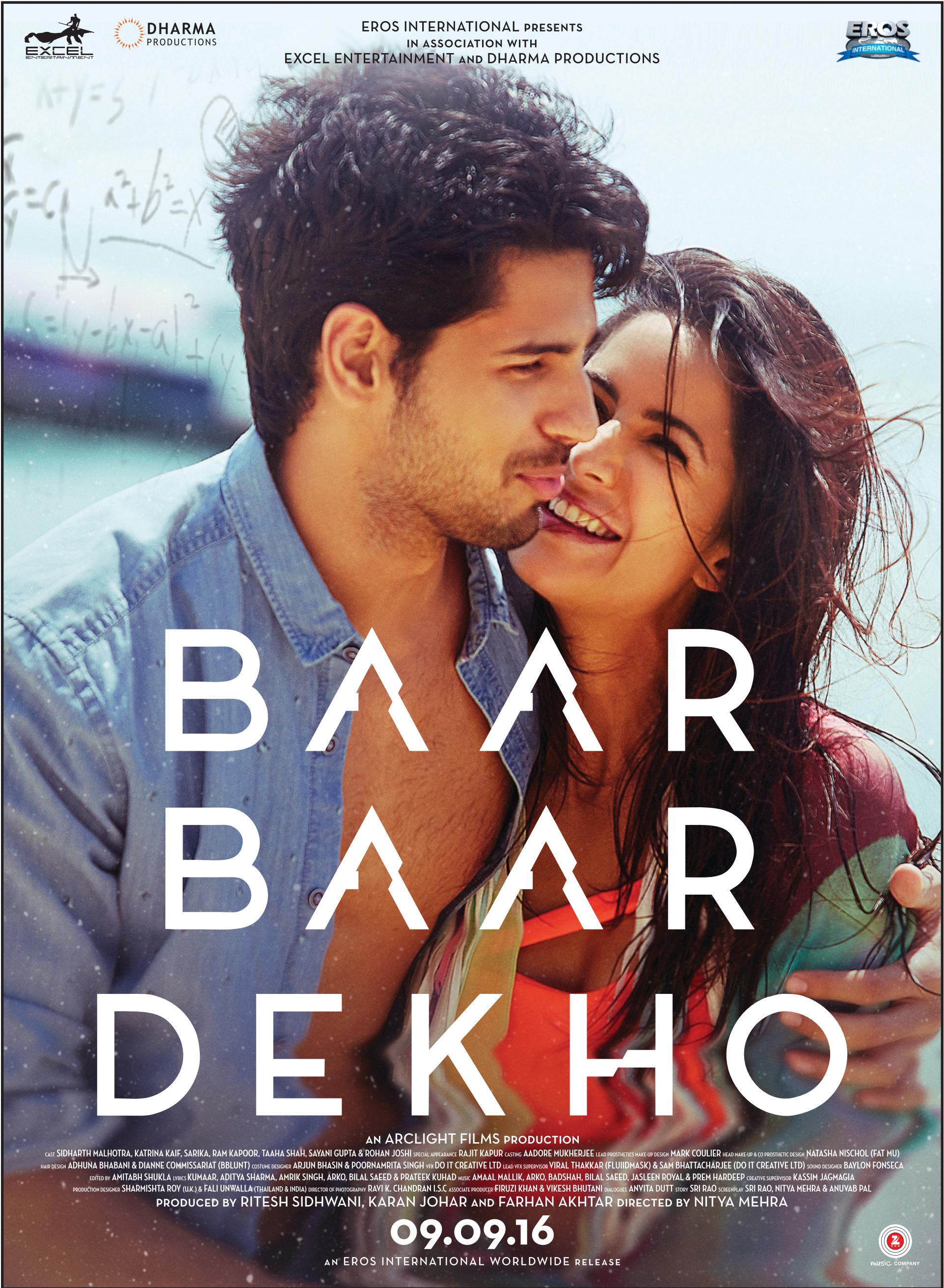
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HAIR DESIGN ADHUNA BHABANI & DIANNE COMMISSARIAT (BBLUNT) COSTUME DESIGNER ARJUN BHASIN & POORNAMRITA SINGH VFX DO IT CREATIVE LTD LEAD VFX SUPERVISOR VIRAL THAKKAR (FLUIDMASK) & SAM BHATTACHARJEE (DO IT CREATIVE LTD) SOUND DESIGNER BAYLON FONSECA  
EDITED BY AMITABH SHUKLA LYRICS KUMAAR, ADITYA SHARMA, AMRIK SINGH, ARKO, BILAL SAEED & PRATEEK KUHAD MUSIC AMAAL MALLIK, ARKO, BADSHAH, BILAL SAEED, JASLEEN ROYAL & PREM HARDEEP CREATIVE SUPERVISOR KASSIM JAGMAGIA  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER SHARMISHTA ROY (U.K.) & FALI UNWALLA (THAILAND & INDIA) DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY RAVI K. CHANDRAN I.S.C. ASSOCIATE PRODUCER FIRUZI KHAN & VIKESH BHUTANI DIALOGUES ANVITA DUTT STORY SRI RAO SCREENPLAY SRI RAO, NITYA MEHRA & ANUVAB PAL  
PRODUCED BY RITESH SIDHWANI, KARAN JOHAR AND FARHAN AKHTAR DIRECTED BY NITYA MEHRA

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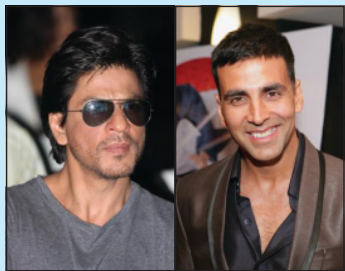


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# BOLLYWOOD Insider™

## Bollywood Beat

### SRK and Akshay on Forbes top-paid actors list



Wrestler-turned-actor Dwayne Johnson topped a Forbes magazine list of the world's highest paid actors last Thursday with an estimated 2016 payday of \$64.5 million.

Johnson, 44, knocked Robert Downey Jr. off the top spot and more than doubled his 2015 earnings, largely thanks to his action comedy "Central Intelligence." Johnson, known as "The Rock" during his wrestling career, also collected advance fees from the eighth installment of the popular "Fast and Furious" racing movie franchise.

Jackie Chan, who has not had a big U.S. box office hit for years but is a prolific actor and producer in the burgeoning Chinese entertainment market, was second on the list with \$61 million. Matt Damon came in third with \$55 million, largely due to the success of his 2015 space film "The Martian."

"Iron Man" Downey fell from top spot, despite reprising his comic book hero role in "Captain America: Civil War." He ranked eighth, tied with Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan, with \$33 million.

Forbes estimates earnings, before taxes and management fees, from movies, TV and commercial endorsements.

The rest of the Top 10 were:

4. Tom Cruise \$53 mln
5. Johnny Depp \$48 mln
6. Ben Affleck \$43 mln
7. Vin Diesel \$35 mln
8. Shah Rukh Khan \$33 mln
8. Robert Downey Jr. \$33 mln
10. Akshay Kumar \$31 mln

## Baar Baar Dekho

**Banner:**  
Excel Entertainment  
Dharma Productions  
Eros International

**Producer:**  
Farhan Akhtar  
Ritesh Sidhwani  
Karan Johar  
Sunil A Lulla

**Director:**  
Nitya Mehra

**Starring:**  
Katrina Kaif  
Sidharth Malhotra  
Sarika  
Ram Kapoor  
Taaha Shah  
Sayani Gupta  
Rajit Kapur

**Music By:**  
Amaal Mallik  
Arko  
Badshah

**Release Date:**  
September 9, 2016

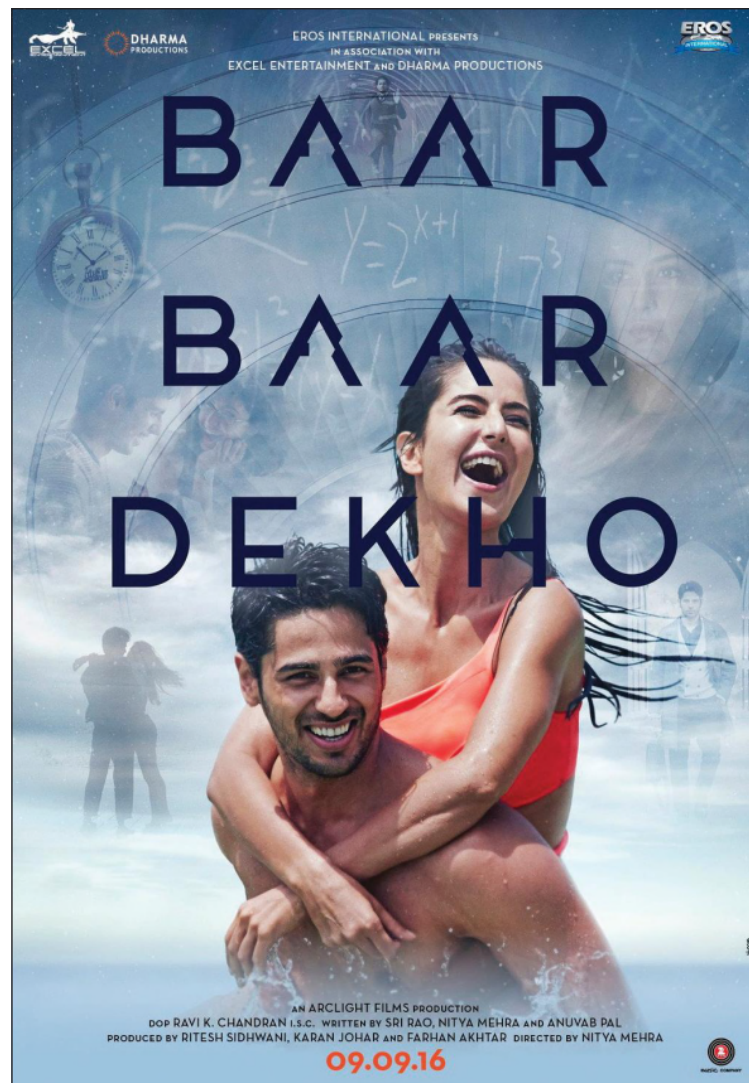
Katrina Kaif and Sidharth Malhotra are gearing up for the release of *Baar Baar Dekho* directed by Nitya Mehra. The film is carrying a positive vibe amongst the audience and the music has been topping the charts since its release.

In an interview during the film's promotions, Katrina Kaif revealed that she was moved by the script of *Baar Baar Dekho*.

"I think *Baar Baar Dekho* is one of the best scripts I have read in my career. It is something that completely moved me and I could connect to what the characters are going through. I believe if I connect to a script, maximum audiences would do as well," said Katrina.

Katrina Kaif revealed that despite the positive buzz and team being confident about the film, one can't anticipate the success. She said,

"I don't think there is anything called as a safe film. If a film connects to the audience, it does well and if it does not connect, the result will be clearly visible. If we could know what would connect to the



audience, we would do only hit films. I have been pretty fortunate because audiences have supported most of the film I have been a part of. Yes, there have been instances where things didn't work out for whatever reasons, but that's a part of your career.

"Every film since my first one is important to me, no matter how big or small in scale. The fact that it has not done well probably puts extra attention on me. At this point, it would be great to get some positive feedback.

"Of course, it bothers me. No one wants to make movies for empty cinema halls. I am fortunate that majority of my films have been successful.

"I took up *Baar Baar Dekho* at a time when I was getting my focus back. In life, you go through different phases when your prior-

ities keep varying. I was not sure if I gave my 100 percent to my previous two films (*Fitoor* and *Phantom*). I went to *Baar Baar Dekho* sets with a certain kind of determination, conviction and passion. I am happy that my focus came back for the right film and character, with the backing of a good director (Nitya Mehra)."

*Baar Baar Dekho* is being backed by three production houses - Karan Johar's Dharma Productions, Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani's Excel Entertainment and Eros Entertainment.

The film will hit the screens across the country on September 9 alongside Nawazuddin Siddiqui's *Freaky Ali*, directed by Sohail Khan and produced by Salman Khan Pictures. It will be interesting to see which one wins the box office battle.

### Top 3 Bollywood Films

- 1) **A Flying Jatt** - Directed by Remo D'Souza  
Starring: Tiger Shroff, Jacqueline Fernandez, Nathan Jones, Amrita Singh and Kay Kay Menon
- 2) **Rustom** - Directed by Tinu Suresh Desai  
Starring: Akshay Kumar, Ileana D'Cruz, Esha Gupta, Arjan Bajwa, Sachin Khedekar and Pawan Malhotra
- 3) **Happy Bhag Jayegi** - Directed by Mudassar Aziz  
Starring: Abhay Deol, Diana Penty, Momal Sheikh, Ali Fazal, Jimmy Sheirgill and Javed Sheikh

### Top 10 Bollywood Film Songs

- 10) "Baby Ko Bass Pasand Hai" - *Sultan*
- 9) "Ae Dil Hai Mushkil" - *Ae Dil Hai Mushkil*
- 8) "The Sound of Raaz" - *Raaz Reboot*
- 7) "Mirzya" - *Mirzya - Dare To Love*
- 6) "Beat Pe Booty" - *A Flying Jatt*
- 5) "Tujhse Hi Hai Roshni" - *Pink*
- 4) "Rajj Rajj Ke" - *Akira*
- 3) "Tu Hai" - *Mohenjo Daro*
- 2) "Tere Sang Yaara" - *Rustom*
- 1) "Kala Chashma" - *Baar Baar Dekho*

### Bollywood Trivia

**How many siblings does Katrina Kaif have?**

- 1) Three
- 2) Four
- 3) Five
- 4) Seven

**Sidharth Malhotra worked as an assistant director to?**

- 1) Vishal Bhardwaj
- 2) Karan Johar
- 3) Rohit Shetty
- 4) Mohit Suri

# BOLLYWOOD Insider™

## MOVIE REVIEW

### A Flying Jatt

**Banner:**  
Balaji Motion Pictures

**Producer:**  
Ekta Kapoor  
Shobha Kapoor

**Director:**  
Remo D'Souza

**Starring:**  
Tiger Shroff  
Jacqueline Fernandez  
Nathan Jones  
Amrita Singh  
Kay Kay Menon  
Shraddha Kapoor  
Amrita Puri

**Music By:**  
Sachin  
Jigar

Balaji Motion Pictures' *A Flying Jatt* is essentially of the origin and inception of a reluctant superhero, who is afraid of heights. The film starts off with the introduction of the filthy rich and extremely money-minded Malhotra (Kay Kay Menon) and his expansion plans for his construction company. Amidst his plans of expansion, Mrs. Kartar Singh aka Bebe (Amrita Singh) acts as a barrier as it's her (late) husband's land that Malhotra wants to usurp for his project. Even when Malhotra offers double the value of the land to Bebe, she just does not budge to his offer, as she reasons that Malhotra's companies are the root cause of pollution in the city. That's when Malhotra summons the deadly and towering Rakka (Nathan Jones) so that he could throw Bebe and the other residents out of the 'Kartar Singh Colony', which is also home to an extremely pious and wish fulfilling tree. When Rakka is just about to cut down the tree, opposition comes in the form of Aman (Tiger Shroff), a normal martial arts teacher in a school. Just as when Rakka is about to chop the tree, a certain miracle takes place and, while Aman is blessed with

superlative superpowers, Rakka on the other hand, gets the evil powers. Rakka's powers become deadlier whenever he inhales the polluted air. Seeing Aman with superpowers, his mother nicknames him as 'Flying Jatt', after his late father. What happens after that are a series of fights between Flying Jatt and Rakka, rescue missions galore and many such events. Amidst all this, there also exists Aman's unspoken love for Kirti (Jacqueline Fernandez), who is unaware of the fact that everyone's angel saviour 'Flying Jatt' is Aman himself. Does Aman ever muster the courage to confess his love to Kirti, does Kirti ever get to know that Aman and Flying Jatt are one and the same, does the Flying Jatt manage to beat Rakka's... is what forms the rest of the story.

*A Flying Jatt* has a weak screenplay, which acts as a major spoilsport that runs across the film, which has a fragile storyline. Even though the film does offer entertainment in tangible proportion, there are places where the film starts looking lost.

Director Remo D'Souza, whose last film *ABCD 2* proved to be a Box-Office winner, does a decent job with *A Flying Jatt*, but the tacky VFX and weak screenplay overpowers the film's direction. Despite Remo D'Souza's past laurels, one really wonders as to how he zeroed down and agreed upon the film's illogical climax. While the drama in the film's first half is pretty interesting, humorous and gripping, the film's second half loses track, and turns too preachy regarding environment and religion.

As for the performances, with a title like *A FLYING JATT*, the film definitely belongs to Tiger Shroff. The film is all about the antics of Tiger Shroff, whose martial skills are in full display in the film. Tiger Shroff, remains sincere and true to his character, even though this film may not qualify as his career best. Jacqueline Fernandez, on the other



hand, does not do anything exceptional, besides looking pretty and providing the glam quotient to the film. The sad part about Jacqueline Fernandez's role in the film is that, despite being the film's heroine, her role is smaller in length as compared to even Amrita Singh and Gaurav Pandey. Gaurav does an extremely decent and convincing job as Tiger Shroff's brother. The wrestler turned actor Nathan Jones makes his debut in Bollywood with *A FLYING JATT*. Rakka, his character in the film, rides entirely on his towering personality and his muscle power. In the bargain, Nathan Jones does manage to instill fear in the minds of the audiences, which was expected of his character. Amrita Singh as the typical Punjabi mother delivers a decent performance and is extremely lovable in her character. Kay Kay Menon, on the other hand, does a decent job in the negative role.

Besides the chartbuster track

'Beat Pe Booty, the film's music (Sachin-Jigar) is just about passable and has limited scope in the film. On the other hand, the film's background score (Sachin-Jigar) is impressive and enhances the film's narrative very effectively. With the film's choreography resting on the shoulders of the talented Remo D'Souza, it's no wonder that the film's choreography is bang on and extremely impressive.

While the film's cinematographer Vijay Kumar Arora lands up doing a shoddy job, the film's editing (Nitin FCP) comes across as pretty average.

On the whole, *A Flying Jatt* has the ingredients that make an interesting superhero film. A section of the audience might find the film's proceedings to be corny; however, the mass audiences and kids might take a liking for the film.

**Rating:** ★★☆☆

### Bollywood Beat

**Deepika Padukone is world's 10th highest paid actress**



"Hunger Games" star Jennifer Lawrence last Tuesday topped a Forbes magazine list of the world's highest-paid actress for the second straight year, earning some \$46 million, followed by Melissa McCarthy.

Lawrence, 26, took the top spot largely through a slice of the profits from the final movie in the "Hunger Games" franchise, as well as a big upfront fee for her forthcoming space adventure movie "Passengers," Forbes said.

Neither however came close to pop star Taylor Swift, who was named the top earning celebrity of 2016 earlier this year, pulling in an estimated \$170 million from record sales and her world tour.

McCarthy took home \$33 million in earnings, up \$10 million from 2015 in part from her payday for the controversial female reboot of "Ghostbusters."

Scarlett Johansson of "Captain America: Civil War" was third at \$25 million, down nearly 30 percent from 2015.

The estimates include earnings from movies, TV and endorsements from cosmetic and other companies. Bollywood star Deepika Padukone is the only newcomer on the list.

The rest of the Top 10 were:  
4. Jennifer Aniston - \$21 mln  
5. Fan Bingbing - \$17 mln  
6. Charlize Theron - \$16.5 mln  
7. Amy Adams - \$13.5 mln  
8. Julia Roberts - \$12 mln  
9. Mila Kunis - \$11 mln  
10. Deepika Padukone - \$10 mln

### Celebrity Birthdays

September 3rd Shakti Kapoor (1958) Vivek Oberoi (1976)	September 8th Asha Bhosle (1933)	September 13th Mahima Chaudhry (1973)
September 4th Rishi Kapoor (1952)	September 9th Akshay Kumar (1967)	September 14th Ayushmann Khurrana (1984)
September 5th Vidhu Vinod Chopra (1952)	September 10th Anurag Kashyap (1972)	
September 6th Rakesh Roshan (1949)	September 11th Shriya Saran (1982)	
	September 12th Prachi Desai (1988)	

### Upcoming Films

<b>Rock On 2</b> Farhan Akhtar, Arjun Rampal, Purab Kohli, Shraddha Kapoor	<b>Shivaay</b> Ajay Devgan Sayyeshaa Saigal	<b>Pink</b> Amitabh Bachchan, Tapsee Pannu, Andrea Tariang, Kirti Kulhari, Angad Bedi
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## Naming of new RBI chief shows Modi government regains composure after Rajan shock



REUTERS/Danish Siddiqui/Photo

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor Urjit Patel attends a news conference after the bi-monthly monetary policy review in Mumbai, India, on August 9, 2016.

By Rupam Jain  
and Rajesh Kumar Singh

NEW DELHI - Raghuram Rajan's abrupt announcement of his departure as governor of the Reserve Bank of India came as a nasty surprise to many, especially his fans in the investment community, but the way Urjit Patel was chosen as his successor has been anything but.

Aides to Prime Minister Narendra Modi have sought to show that the search and selection process has been deliberate and controlled, that the nation's leader and the Finance Minister Arun Jaitley were closely involved, and that the government is fully behind the RBI's battle to control inflation.

Critically for the stability of financial markets, Patel lent his name to the panel that drew up the blueprint for formally adopting a consumer inflation target of 4 percent, as well as creating a new Monetary Policy Committee to steer interest rates and help India hit that goal.

At the same time, the officials have stressed that no single individual should again dominate

the central bank in the way that Rajan did over his three-year term. Where Rajan is known for pithy one-liners at news conferences and speeches larded with social criticism, Patel is seen as more of a backroom technocrat who avoids the limelight.

Rajan's shock announcement on the afternoon of June 18, a Saturday, caught the government off-guard - Jaitley was watching a movie at home with his family and took more than two hours to issue a public statement.

The recovery of composure was quick, though. A shortlist of potential successors was floated before the evening was out. Patel, the 52-year-old deputy governor who takes over from Rajan on Sept. 4, was on it, along with a clutch of other contenders that included veterans of the RBI.

Last Saturday evening, exactly nine weeks later, the choice was made public. And it was done without Modi holding meetings about the job with any of the candidates, according to sources with direct knowledge of the process.

While Modi may have been involved in the final decision on Patel, he wanted to "keep his

distance" in the weeks before as the appointment committee ran the process, one aide told Reuters.

"Lobbying does not get you such a job - but Modi ji's confidence in Patel was a big factor," the official told Reuters, using the honorific Indian suffix.

Patel has wide international policy experience. He worked at the IMF as an economist from 1990 to 1995, and for Boston Consulting Group and Indian conglomerate Reliance Industries.

Sources said Patel had been vetted and his candidacy blessed by the Hindu-nationalist umbrella group, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), that backs Modi's nationalist party.

That marks a big change from its attitude to Rajan, who came under fire from the RSS camp and in particular from lawmaker Subramanian Swamy who demanded he be fired for being "mentally not fully Indian". Rajan this month denounced the personal attacks he had faced as "abominable".

Patel is looked on favourably as dependable and low-key, with no ambition to upstage the government. Rajan, by contrast, drew RSS ire by straying into politically sensitive territory in high-profile speeches in which he said social tolerance was vital to a country's economic development. That was perceived as an implied attack on the Hindu-nationalist agenda of the RSS and other supporters of Modi. Rajan has denied criticising the government.

### GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Modi warmed to Patel at a face-to-face meeting earlier this year, when the central banker was given an extension to his term as deputy governor in charge of monetary policy, said a second Modi aide.

"Patel has a direct working equation with the Prime Minister," this aide said, using an Indian-English expression for a

personal relationship, adding the prime minister valued Patel as a "clear thinker" and appreciated his "direct approach".

The only sign of nervousness senior officials betrayed was in their initial suggestion that the next governor would be named by the time of Rajan's final policy meeting on Aug. 9.

But, after financial markets remained calm despite Rajan's announcement that he would not seek a second term, they reverted to a timeline that would allow just enough time for an orderly handover - as was the case with Rajan's own appointment three years ago.

Throughout, the Prime Minister's Office has owned the process - reflecting Modi's determination to centralise decision making in India's sprawling and often recalcitrant bureaucracy - with Cabinet Secretary PK Sinha heading the selection committee.

In its initial recommendations in July, the panel called for the next RBI governor to be a technocrat, and not a bureaucrat; a macro-economist; and team player.

The successful candidate needed to be an individual of stature who could also ensure continuity at the RBI, one of the panel's members told Reuters after Patel's appointment.

Jaitley met Modi to discuss the RBI succession last Thursday. A five-strong candidate list was then submitted to the selection panel, with the field led by Patel and also featuring contenders such as India's IMF Executive Director Subir Gokarn and World Bank Chief Economist Kaushik Basu.

The selection committee provided its feedback after a lengthy session last Friday. It did not recommend any name; nor did it formally interview candidates, the member said, adding the final decision to pick Patel was made by Modi and Jaitley.

## BIZ BRIEFS

### India accords residency status to foreign investors

NEW DELHI - India approved a plan on Wednesday to allow foreign investors to settle, emulating a policy in countries such as the United States and Singapore to woo investment from abroad.

The proposal, aimed at giving a fillip to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Make in India" programme, was first announced in February's federal budget.

Foreigners need to invest 100 million rupees (\$1.49 million) over 18 months, or 250 million rupees over three years, resulting in jobs for at least 20 resident Indians every fiscal year to be allowed to settle, the government said in a statement.

Those who meet the criteria would be eligible to stay for 10 years. The residency permit can be extended by a decade.

Up to now, such investors have been eligible for business visas lasting up to five years.

### Sony Pictures to buy sports channels from Zee for \$385 mln

MUMBAI - India's Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd said on Wednesday it has agreed to sell its sports broadcasting business to Sony Pictures Networks for \$385 million, as it rejigs its media content delivery businesses.

TEN Sports holds broadcast rights to major cricket boards in South Africa, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and West Indies. It also holds rights for football's UEFA Champions League, Europa League, French League and English Football Cup among other sports.

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## Welspun India faces new probe from Bed Bath & Beyond after Target severs ties, shares slump



Welspun corporate office building is pictured in Mumbai, India on August 26, 2016.

By Nandita Bose  
and Douglas Busvine

CHICAGO/NEW DELHI - U.S. retailer Bed Bath & Beyond said it ordered an external audit of textiles from Welspun India, putting more pressure on the embattled Indian bedding and towel maker that has seen nearly half its market value wiped out this week.

Welspun has been caught in a maelstrom after U.S. retailing giant Target last week accused the Indian manufacturer of

passing off cheap sheets as premium Egyptian cotton for two years.

Target has said it is severing ties with the company, prompting other Welspun clients including Wal-Mart Stores and JC Penney to also probe the manufacturer.

Welspun shares fell 10 percent at the open last Thursday, and hit the daily lower limit for a fourth day. Last Thursday's low, Welspun had a market value of 53.55 billion rupees (\$798 million), nearly half the market value it had last Friday.

The stock recovered to trade largely flat by midday last Thursday after Welspun sent a clarification to exchanges reiterating that an external audit of the supply chain has been sought and would be completed in 6-8 weeks.

### BED BATH PROBE

Bed Bath & Beyond spokeswoman Leah Drill said the retailer will pursue an investigation and take appropriate action.

The company's announcement came after Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, said it is reviewing Welspun's cotton certification records. Department store JC Penney is also

conducting an investigation "to ensure the integrity of Welspun's product claims." Macy's said on Wednesday it is also monitoring the situation.

Target on Wednesday said it is in the process of taking out all products made by Welspun under the 'Fieldcrest' label, and has already removed 750,000 Fieldcrest bedding products from stores and its website. Those were sold between 2014 and 2016, and Welspun claimed they were made from Egyptian cotton, spokeswoman Molly Snyder said.

The investigation at Target, which routinely audits its products, finished at the end of July, Snyder said. She declined to

provide details about what triggered the probe. Target declined to comment on how this product quality issue was not caught by its internal buying team for two years.

Target is offering a refund, in the form of a gift card, to affected customers, who either have a loyalty card or bought the products online.

On Monday, Welspun said it would hire a major accounting firm to review its supply processes.

Some retailers such as Swedish home furnishing giant IKEA AB said they would continue doing business with Welspun while awaiting the outcome of the firm's probe.

## Tata Consultancy pays \$26M to settle contract lawsuit

SANTA ANA, CA (AP) - A software company has paid Orange County \$26 million to settle a lawsuit over an automated property tax system that was promised six years ago and never delivered.

The county says it was notified last week that Tata Consultancy Services had wired the money.

The county will now dismiss a lawsuit it filed against the India firm and its U.S. affiliate, while Tata will dismiss a countersuit.

The company didn't acknowledge any wrongdoing.

Tata was hired to develop a replacement system for generating annual property tax bills.

The project was supposed to be finished in 2010 but the company received several costly extensions before Orange County supervisors terminated the contract in 2013.

The county sued, alleging Tata fraudulently tried to stretch out the contract to make more money.

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# Not all mortgages are created equal: Which is the right one for you?



You've imagined a house with a big back yard. You've dreamed of a two-car garage. You may have pictured the house you'd buy one day, but how do you make that dream a reality? With a mortgage! Now which one do you choose?

Fixed or Adjustable? That is the question. The first thing to consider is whether a fixed-rate or adjustable-rate mortgage is for you. So what's the difference? A fixed-rate mortgage will always have the same interest rate. This means that month after month, you'll always have the same monthly payment.

Adjustable-rate mortgage loans (ARMs), just as the name suggests, have an interest rate that adjusts over time. Sometimes, these loans will start with a fixed rate for a certain period of time, and then adjust year-to-year. For that reason, they can also be referred to as "hybrid." Common examples of hybrid loans are the 3/1 ARM and the 5/1 ARM, meaning the rate is fixed for the first three or five years and then gets adjusted year-to-year.

So, which one is better? That depends on what you're looking for. Both loan types have some positives and some negatives. A fixed-rate loan is a sure thing; you know right up front what you'll be paying because the interest rate stays consistent for the life of the loan. The most common fixed-rate loan is a 30-year, which locks in your monthly payment for that time period. This is the ideal mortgage type for homeowners who plan on staying put for some time.

ARMs are less predictable as they adjust at predetermined intervals, and you never know what the rate will change to, only

when it will change, but they usually start with a lower interest rate than a fixed-rate mortgage. ARM loans have interest rate caps that limit the amount the rate can change month-to-month and for the life of the loan. These mortgages are best suited for homeowners who plan to stay for only a few years.

Go big or go home. Jumbo loans are an option for high-priced or luxury homes. These are appropriate for loans that exceed the conforming mortgage amount of \$417,000. Jumbo loans are ideal for people with a lower debt-to-income ratio, a high credit score, and who can afford a larger down payment.

Do you think you're special? Well, you might be. There are some other categories that open the door for other mortgage types. FHA loans are government insured and are ideal for

first-time homebuyers. These loans require minimal down payments and are flexible with FICO scores.

VA loans are government loans available to veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Services. Some advantages to these loans are that, in most cases, they don't require a down payment, and parameters for attaining them are less stringent. The loan is guaranteed by the Department of Veteran Affairs, but funded by outside lenders.

It's easier than it seems. If you do the research ahead of time to find the right mortgage for you, this whole process isn't as scary as it seems. There are plenty of solutions to choose from and you don't have to do it alone. With the right guidance from a knowledgeable mortgage lender, you'll be in your dream home in no time.



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**WEEKLY HOROSCOPE**

(September 11-17, 2016)

**Aries (March 21 - April 19)**

You are centered and focused on the path you have thought of. It may not be a smooth ride, but you are brimming with self-confidence and determination. People around you are impressed with your leadership and tenacity. An offer of partnership could come your way.

**Taurus (April 20 - May 20)**

You may be quiet and introverted. You are bored with the routine and seek out creative pursuits. You feel disenchanting with the old people around you who seem to be eating into precious resources. You may start a new project or collaborate with new people.

**Gemini (May 21 - June 21)**

This is likely to be a great week. You enjoy success at work, good profits and great company. You are in your element, and make a great impression on your superiors. You enjoy the grind as you have long-term goals in sight. Health and sleep will need attention.

**Cancer (June 22 - July 22)**

You are on an emotional roller coaster. You become aware of your reactions and consider doing something about restoring balance. You may get involved in a new spiritual activity, a charitable cause or social work. Maintain personal boundaries while helping others.

**Leo (July 23 - August 22)**

You want to change your approach to work situations. You may face some cooperation issues with colleagues. You try to be more flexible and allow larger roles for subordinates. Personal life may be challenging, as you avoid complicated issues.

**Virgo (August 23 - September 22)**

You have great ideas and a tremendous drive to create something of great value. You may initiate work on new ideas, for which there may be very few takers. You remain unperturbed by the lack of support. You get some new connections as well as profits.

**Libra (September 23 - October 22)**

You have some personal targets on your mind. Some financial issues also need to be addressed urgently. You are wasting your time looking at minor details, and not delegating work. You resist change in your method of working. You may plan a family get-together.

**Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)**

Remain cautious about interpersonal relationships — at home and at work. Your mood could end up dictating the tone of your interactions. You may be temperamental. Defer important decisions if you can. Avoid confrontations of any kind. Things become better as the week comes to a close.

**Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)**

You get a breather this week as you have been on your toes trying to get several things done. Although the financial pressure continues, you are more determined to resolve these matters. A family function or a short trip affords you the time to reflect.

**Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)**

You may have to watch your temper. A short fuse is the fastest way to increasing your problems. Ensure that you uphold your dignity, especially while dealing with subordinates. Release all the excess energy through exercise. Interesting collaborations may come your way.

**Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)**

You are ambitious and may take up a new hobby or contemplate a new project. You need to be patient and put in sustained effort if you want to see things through. You could get distracted easily and this could cause volatile situations at home.

**Pisces (February 19 - March 20)**

The coming week could be an unusual time. You may be easily influenced by the opinion of others and go overboard in trying to project an image to their liking. Have faith in your own ability and hold on to your finances. Respiratory problems could bring discomfort.

## Britannia announces grand of launch Premium Cake Rusk

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NEW YORK - Britannia International is pleased to announce the launch of their latest delicious delight - the new Britannia Premium Cake Rusk. The product will be a new addition to an already hugely successful range of Rusks, currently comprised of Wheat and Milk Rusk variants. Cake Rusk, for the unaware, is a twice baked cake - thus allowing one to savor the scrumptious indulgence of cakes as well as the delicious crunch of rusks at the same time.

Britannia Premium Cake Rusk is a delicious medley of the finest wheat baked with the richness of fresh milk and eggs, providing the ultimate, tantalizing oven-fresh experience of authentic Cake Rusk in convenient, premium packaging.

With humble beginnings over a century ago, from a small house in central Calcutta and an intrepid baker meeting the exacting standards of English tea-time snacking for officers of the British Raj and their families, Britannia has grown

to become the proud custodian of a long tradition of delectable baking that delights millions of consumers around the world. Brand Britannia is recognized as one of the most trusted, valuable and popular brands among consumers in several reputed surveys. Their relentless focus on quality and freshness has been endorsed by several prestigious accolades and won the unwavering favor of consumers through their extensive range of fresh, nutritious and flavor-rich products that assure a superlative sensory experience with every product, every time.

“Britannia Premium Cake Rusk will be widely available across Indian groceries and promises to be yet another dearly loved, unforgettable product for South Asian customers across the USA, from the house of Britannia” said a spokesperson for Britannia.

## Arijit Singh, Monali Thakur, Anuradha Paudwal, Kumar Sanu, Palak Mucchal and Anu Malik come together for Mahesh Bhatt's “Naamkarann”



MUMBAI - Mahesh Bhatt introduces his leading lady of Star Plus' Naamkarann, a 10-year-old tough, gritty and spunky Avni, with a musical journey at an event in Mumbai. The showman behind musical extravaganzas like Hum Hai Rahe Pyar Ke, Ashiqui, Dil

Hai Ki Manta Nahin, Mahesh Bhatt's music has struck a chord with audience's hearts to create blockbuster melodies.

Creator of Naamkarann, Mahesh Bhatt says, “Naamkarann is my most thought provoking project and Avni is my strongest

character. Music sensations like Arijit Singh, Monali Thakur, Anuradha Paudwal, Kumar Sanu, Pala, Jeet Ganguli and Anu Malik have come together to create the music for the show bringing alive the lyrical moments in Avni's world.”

Monali Thakur who is the voice behind the title track of Naamkarann says, “The lyrics of the title song, Naamkarann, will connect with any woman instantly. Naamkarann is going to compel people to rethink the social structures and norms with Avni's identity quest.”

Mahesh Bhatt's Naamkarann starts 12th September 9 pm from Monday to Saturday on STAR Plus!



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SPORTS

Track

# 100-year-old runner from India inspires at Masters Games

VANCOUVER - Man Kaur from India needed almost a minute-and-a-half to cross the finish line in the 100-meter dash,

but she still picked up a gold medal Monday at the American Masters Games. That's because the 100-year-old

Kaur was the only female competitor in her age category at the competition for older athletes. When she crossed the finish



100-year-old Man Kaur was the only female competitor in her age category at the competition for older athletes.

## Complete medals table for Rio Olympics

Rank	Country	G	S	B	Total	Rank	Country	G	S	B	Total
1.	U.S.	46	37	38	121	47.	Romania	1	1	3	5
2.	Britain	27	23	17	67	48.	Bahrain	1	1	0	2
3.	China	26	18	26	70	48.	Vietnam	1	1	0	2
4.	Russia	19	18	19	56	50.	Taiwan	1	0	2	3
5.	Germany	17	10	15	42	51.	Bahamas	1	0	1	2
6.	Japan	12	8	21	41	51.	Independent Olympic Athlete	1	0	1	2
7.	France	10	18	14	42	51.	Cote D'Ivoire	1	0	1	2
8.	South Korea	9	3	9	21	54.	Tajikistan	1	0	0	1
9.	Italy	8	12	8	28	54.	Jordan	1	0	0	1
10.	Australia	8	11	10	29	54.	Fiji	1	0	0	1
11.	Netherlands	8	7	4	19	54.	Singapore	1	0	0	1
12.	Hungary	8	3	4	15	54.	Puerto Rico	1	0	0	1
13.	Brazil	7	6	6	19	54.	Kosovo	1	0	0	1
14.	Spain	7	4	6	17	60.	Malaysia	0	4	1	5
15.	Kenya	6	6	1	13	61.	Mexico	0	3	2	5
16.	Jamaica	6	3	2	11	62.	Ireland	0	2	0	2
17.	Croatia	5	3	2	10	62.	Algeria	0	2	0	2
18.	Cuba	5	2	4	11	64.	Lithuania	0	1	3	4
19.	New Zealand	4	9	5	18	65.	Venezuela	0	1	2	3
20.	Canada	4	3	15	22	65.	Bulgaria	0	1	2	3
21.	Uzbekistan	4	2	7	13	67.	<b>INDIA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
22.	Kazakhstan	3	5	9	17	67.	Mongolia	0	1	1	2
23.	Colombia	3	2	3	8	69.	Philippines	0	1	0	1
24.	Switzerland	3	2	2	7	69.	Grenada	0	1	0	1
25.	Iran	3	1	4	8	69.	Qatar	0	1	0	1
26.	Greece	3	1	2	6	69.	Burundi	0	1	0	1
27.	Argentina	3	1	0	4	69.	Niger	0	1	0	1
28.	Denmark	2	6	7	15	74.	Norway	0	0	4	4
29.	Sweden	2	6	3	11	75.	Egypt	0	0	3	3
30.	South Africa	2	6	2	10	75.	Tunisia	0	0	3	3
31.	Ukraine	2	5	4	11	77.	Israel	0	0	2	2
32.	Serbia	2	4	2	8	78.	UAE	0	0	1	1
33.	Poland	2	3	6	11	78.	Estonia	0	0	1	1
34.	North Korea	2	3	2	7	78.	Morocco	0	0	1	1
35.	Thailand	2	2	2	6	78.	Austria	0	0	1	1
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39.	Azerbaijan	1	7	10	18	78.	Finland	0	0	1	1
40.	Belarus	1	4	4	9	78.	Dominican Republic	0	0	1	1
41.	Turkey	1	3	4	8	78.	Moldova	0	0	1	1
42.	Armenia	1	3	0	4						
43.	Czech Republic	1	2	7	10						
44.	Ethiopia	1	2	5	8	<b>Total</b>		<b>307</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>974</b>
45.	Slovenia	1	2	1	4						
46.	Indonesia	1	2	0	3						

G = Gold S = Silver B = Bronze

line in Vancouver, her competitors - many of them in their 70s and 80s - were there to cheer her on.

Kaur's energy and drive to compete have become an inspiration to participants in the unique international event for athletes over 30.

"When she wins, she goes back to India, and she's excited to tell others, 'I have won so many medals from this country,'" said her son Gurdev Singh, 78, translating for his mother. "Winning makes her happy."

After Kaur finished the sprint in one minute and 21 seconds, she stood smiling with her hands raised in the air. Asked how she felt, she breathed heavily and clutched a bottle of water, unable to speak. Earlier, she won gold medals in the javelin and shot put.

Singh, 78, who also is competing in the Games, said he encouraged his mother to start running at age 93 because he knew she could become a star.

"I asked her. 'You have no problem, no knee problem, no heart problem, you should start running,'" he recalled.

Kaur has now won more than 20 medals in Masters Games across the globe. While practic-

ing in her home of Chandigarh, she goes out every evening to run five or 10 short distances, said Singh.

Singh said his mother believes in promoting running to other older women.

"She encourages them, old ladies, that they should run, they should not eat wrong foods, and they should encourage their children also to take part in the Games."

Charmaine Crooks, a five-time Olympian who won a silver medal for Canada in the women's 4x400-meter relay in 1984, serves as an athlete ambassador for the Masters Games. She praised Kaur's "dynamic spirit."

"I know that it's inspired me. Hey, I've got almost 50 more years to go, right?" Crooks said. "She's inspiring everyone, young and old."

The World Masters Games take place every four years, with regional games in between. The Americas Masters Games in Vancouver is the first summer regional games in North America, Crooks said.

The average age of the athletes is 49, and there's one man who is even older than Kaur - 101-year-old Nihal Gill of Richmond, British Columbia.

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# Hair transplants make men look more attractive, youthful



People shown before-and-after pictures of hair transplant recipients rated men with more locks as looking more attractive and younger, researchers found. People also thought the men looked more successful and approachable after the procedure.

By Andrew M. Seaman

BALTIMORE - Balding men who seek to look better or younger by undergoing hair transplants are on the right course, a small new study suggests.

People shown before-and-after pictures of hair transplant recipients rated men with more locks as looking more attractive and younger, researchers

found. People also thought the men looked more successful and approachable after the procedure.

"It was satisfying to us," said senior author Dr. Lisa Ishii, of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore. "I definitely don't want to be doing a procedure on people that doesn't make a difference."

Hair transplant procedures

vary by doctor, Ishii told Reuters Health. Generally, individual hairs are taken from the back of the head to fill out areas of the scalp with hair loss.

"We've been doing these procedures for years and everyone assumes it does something for your appearance, but we never measured that," she said.

The lack of data on how much hair transplants may improve a person's image was bothersome to Ishii, because patients would ask for specific estimates.

In an attempt to get objective opinions on men's appearances before and after the procedure, she and her colleagues asked 122 volunteers - 58 men and 64 women - to view 13 pairs of images. Seven pairs showed men before and after having had a hair transplant; the other six pairs were of men who didn't have a hair

transplant or any other significant cosmetic procedures between the two photographs.

The participants were asked to rate each image on age, attractiveness, successfulness and approachability.

The reviewers thought the men who'd had hair transplants looked about four years younger in their "after" photos. They also thought the men looked more attractive, successful and approachable after their procedures.

"It showed there were measurable improvements on measures that are meaningful to the patients," she said.

Armed with the data, Ishii said it's easier to answer her patients' questions.

"I find I'm able to make much more scientific and objective conversation with them with regard to what their expectations should

be," she said.

It shouldn't be surprising that having hair is tied to professional accomplishment and trustworthiness, wrote Dr. Jeffrey Epstein of the University of Miami and the Foundation for Hair Restoration, in an editorial published with the study in *JAMA Facial and Plastic Surgery*.

Still, he wrote, "Crowd theory is clearly limited in establishing the level of attractiveness for an individual, for all that really matters is how one person (the patient) - not a crowd - views one's attractiveness in terms of personal satisfaction."

Ishii cautioned that the results are based on a small number of participants, but there are plans to conduct the experiment again among a larger number of people.

## Heavy lifting by young workers linked to low back pain in midlife

By Linda Thrasybule

PITTSBURGH - Young adults with jobs that involve heavy lifting and forceful movements might be at higher risk for back pain later in life, a study from Finland suggests.

"When you're young, you do things your own way, you muscle your way through it, but sooner or later, that behavior can cause problems," said Michael Timko, a physical therapist and instructor at the University of Pittsburgh who was not involved with the study.

"If we're going to put a dent on the back pain issue, we should consider training younger people about basic body mechanics like how to lift and load and how to sit properly," he told Reuters Health by phone.

To examine whether heavy physical work in young adulthood increases the risk of low back pain in midlife, Tea Lallukka from the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health and colleagues surveyed 738 Finnish men and women in 1986, when they were between 18 and 24 years old, and again 20 years later.

The responses indicated whether participants had done heavy, medium or little to no "heavy" physical work as young adults and whether, in middle age, they'd had localized or radiating low back pain lasting more than seven days during the previous year.

Overall, at the second survey, up to 36 percent of men and women reported localized lower back pain, and about 20 percent



Young adults with jobs that involve heavy lifting and forceful movements might be at higher risk for back pain later in life, a study from Finland suggests.

reported radiating lower back pain.

Heavy physical work was not significantly linked to localized low back pain.

But the likelihood of radiating back pain in middle age more than doubled for men who reported heavy physical work as young adults, compared to men whose jobs had involved little to no physical work, the research team reported in *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, August 11.

And for women, the risk of radiating low back pain 20 years later was doubled in those who reported at least medium physical work and quadrupled in those who had done heavy work, compared to those who did little to no physical work.

About 80 percent of adults experience low back pain at some point in their lifetime, according to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and

Stroke. It is the most common cause of job-related disability and a leading contributor to missed workdays.

"Younger people should be aware that physical work could have long lasting adverse consequences," Lallukka told Reuters Health.

"But employers should also consider the potential risks involved, when they place young people in jobs that require repetitive movements, heavy workload and difficult positions," she said.

Timko advises people with physically demanding jobs to maintain physical fitness outside the workplace.

"Think of an athlete, they have a training regimen so when it's time to perform, they're ready to perform," Timko said.

"The same should be applied when you have a physically demanding job-people should see themselves as occupational athletes."

## Two children per hour seen at U.S. ERs for stroller, carrier injuries



About 361,000 children were seen in U.S. emergency departments between 1990 and 2010 for injuries sustained while riding in a stroller or carrier, according to a new study.

By Andrew M. Seaman

COLUMBUS - About 361,000 children were seen in U.S. emergency departments between 1990 and 2010 for injuries sustained while riding in a stroller or carrier, according to a new study.

"It's over 17,000 injuries per year, which is equivalent to about 50 children every day or two injuries every hour," said study author Kristin Roberts, of The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

Strollers and carriers can include a range of products from portable cribs on wheels to backpack-like devices.

"I use them to transport my children for daily activities but we wanted to see what types of injuries are occurring," Roberts told Reuters Health.

For the new study, the researchers used data on stroller- or carrier-related injuries among children 5 years old or younger recorded in the

National Electronic Injury Surveillance System between 1990 and 2010.

"It's injuries serious enough to require trips to the emergency department," Roberts said.

The researchers found data on 360,937 children treated in U.S. emergency departments for stroller- or carrier-related injuries during that time period.

While the average annual rate of injuries was high, the researchers note in *Academic Pediatrics* that injury rates did decline during the study period.

For both stroller- and carrier-related emergency department visits, injuries were most likely to occur among male children under 1 year old. Heads and faces were the most likely places to be injured.

About 40 percent of children in stroller accidents were diagnosed with soft-tissues injuries like bruising when they were brought to the emergency department followed by traumatic brain injuries.

# Helmets prevent severe head injuries in bike accidents

By Linda Thrasybule

CLEVELAND - Despite some criticism of bike helmets for not being protective enough, they do cut the risk of severe traumatic brain injury (TBI) by half when riders suffer a head injury, a U.S. study suggests.

Riders with helmets were also less likely to die from their injuries, and less likely to break facial bones, than those not wearing a helmet, researchers report in American Journal of Surgery.

"It's similar to wearing a seat belt, said Dr. Jerri Rose, a pediatric emergency physician at University Hospitals' Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio, who was not involved in the study. "Wearing

one doesn't ensure that you're not going to get in a car accident, but it lowers the risk of injury and of dying in a car accident."

Millions of Americans ride bicycles, but less than half wear bicycle helmets, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In the U.S., there were 900 deaths and an estimated 494,000 emergency room visits due to bicycle-related injuries in 2013, the study authors write.

Using the American College of Surgeons' National Trauma Data Bank, the researchers analyzed records of 6,267 people treated in 2012 for bleeding inside the skull after a bicycle accident.

One quarter of patients had been wearing a bicycle helmet at the time

of their accident. Just over half of the patients had severe traumatic brain injuries and 3% died.

Researchers found that people wearing helmets had 52 percent lower risk of severe TBI, compared to unhelmeted riders, and a 44 percent lower risk of death.

Riders with helmets also had 31 percent lower odds of facial fractures. The upper part of the face, particularly around the eyes, was most protected. Helmets offered less protection against fractures to the lower part of the face, such as the nose and jaw.

Moreover, people who wore helmets reduced their likelihood of having brain surgery, further confirming a certain level of protection with helmet use, the study team writes.



Despite some criticism of bike helmets for not being protective enough, they do cut the risk of severe traumatic brain injury (TBI) by half when riders suffer a head injury, a U.S. study suggests.

"Using helmets has always been controversial," said study coauthor Dr. Asad Azim, a research fellow in the department of Surgery at the University of Arizona in Tucson. "Critics argue that due to its incomplete design bicycle helmets are of no use and do not protect riders when it comes to severe injuries."

But "the results of the study say different," he told Reuters Health by email.

Helmeted riders were more likely to be white, female and insured compared to non-helmeted riders. Riders aged 10 to 20 were

among the least likely to wear a helmet, while those aged 60 to 70 were most likely to wear one.

"About 75 percent of people in this study weren't wearing helmets so we have a long way to go in terms of making sure that people wear helmets when cycling," Rose said.

"Especially teens," she added, "they perceive it as not cool."

The key is to start them early, Rose said. "Starting early is really important. As soon as they start riding their bikes, they should be taught to wear a helmet. It has to become a routine."

## Aetna warned it would cut Obamacare if Humana deal was blocked

NEW YORK - Aetna Inc warned in July that it would exit much of the individual Obamacare health insurance market if the government challenged its deal to buy rival Humana Inc, according to a letter it sent to the U.S. Department of Justice.

The public release of the letter came after Aetna said on

Monday that it would pull out of selling individual insurance on the government-run websites in 11 states, citing financial losses on the business.

The company's withdrawal followed similar moves by UnitedHealth Group Inc and Humana, representing a blow to the marketplace for the government-subsidized insurance plans

created under President Barack Obama's signature healthcare reform law.

In the July 5 letter, Aetna Chief Executive Officer Mark Bertolini said it would have to cut back because it would be some time before the company recouped the investment it had made in this market over the past 2-1/2 years.

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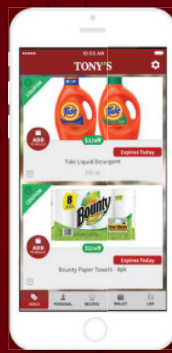

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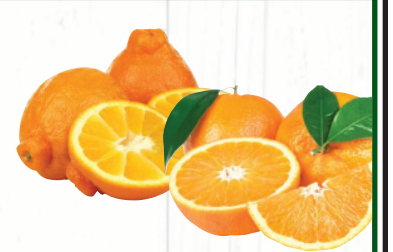
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# Regular nibbling on nuts linked to low inflammation

By Madeline Kennedy

BOSTON - Eating a handful of nuts five times per week may reduce inflammation, a condition that contributes to heart disease, diabetes and many other chronic illnesses, say the authors of a recent U.S. study.

This inflammation-dampening effect might be the secret to the health benefits of nuts, the study team writes in American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.

Past research has linked eating nuts to lower rates of heart disease and diabetes, but the exact reason was unknown, senior study author Dr. Ying Bao, an assistant professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School in Boston, told Reuters Health.

"We hypothesized that nuts may exert these health benefits by

reducing inflammation," Bao said by email.

Nuts may lower inflammation because they contain fiber, magnesium, antioxidants and other health-boosting ingredients, the researchers write.

To explore the connection between nuts and inflammation, the researchers analyzed data from two different long-term studies of health professionals, the Nurses' Health Study (NHS) and the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study (HPFS).

The participants filled out questionnaires every four years documenting what they ate between 1986 and 1990 in the NHS and between 1990 and 1994 in the HPFS. The 5,013 people included in the new analysis were free of heart disease and diabetes at the beginning of the study period.

During the last two to three years of each study, blood samples were collected from subjects to look at the presence of three different biomarkers, or characteristic indicators, of inflammation.

People who ate nuts at least five times per week had 20 percent lower levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) compared to people who never or rarely ate nuts. They also had 16 percent lower levels of interleukin-6 (IL-6), another inflammatory marker.

The results held after researchers accounted for other aspects of diet, as well as exercise, body weight, smoking and other factors that could influence inflammation.

Eating plenty of nuts had no effect on the third inflammatory biomarker the researchers looked at, known as TNFR2, however.

For the study, one serving of nuts was defined as one ounce, or about a handful of peanuts or tree nuts, or one tablespoon of peanut butter.

The apparent benefits of nuts were similar regardless of the type of nuts people ate, though there was no benefit seen for peanut butter.

Researchers also calculated the effects of substituting three servings of nuts per week for three servings of red meat, processed



Eating a handful of nuts five times per week may reduce inflammation, a condition that contributes to heart disease, diabetes and many other chronic illnesses, say the authors of a recent U.S. study.

meat, eggs or refined grains. The swap was associated with substantially lower levels of CRP and IL-6. Trading nuts for potatoes or potato chips was only linked to lower CRP.

"Inflammation is the basis of most age-related disorders," said Dr. Emilio Ros, director of the Lipid Clinic at Hospital Clinic in Barcelona, Spain, by email.

Inflammation can reduce blood flow to the heart and brain and cause heart attacks and strokes, said Ros, who was not involved in the study. He added that inflammation is also linked to dementia, kidney disease, bowel problems and other common diseases.

"Reducing inflammation will

prevent or delay the onset of all these conditions," Ros said.

Less-processed nuts may be more effective, noted Ros, who studies nuts and inflammation. "Importantly, when possible, nuts should be consumed as the raw and unpeeled product, as the skin, which is lost in roasting, is very rich in antioxidants," he said.

"There may be a concern that frequent nut consumption can result in weight gain," Bao said, however, eating nuts is actually linked to lower weight gain and less risk of obesity.

"A handful of nuts a day or substituting nuts for meat or refined grains is associated with less inflammation," Bao said.

## Gum disease linked to heart disease

AMSTERDAM - A report from The Netherlands adds to the evidence tying chronic gum disease to heart disease and stroke.

In a study of more than 60,000 dental patients, those with gum disease were twice as likely to have had a heart attack, stroke or severe chest pain.

Previous studies have linked periodontitis and clogged arteries, but this is the first to investigate the link in a group of people this large, the researchers say. About 4% of patients with periodontitis had atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, compared to 2% without periodontitis, the researchers found.

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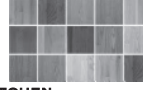
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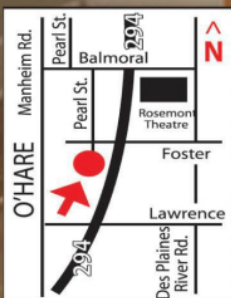
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