



Happy Navratri

6 अप्रैल से 14 अप्रैल 2019



Happy Baisakhi

Sunday, 14 April



INDIA REPUBLIC NEWS

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News and Views for Indian Americans

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'MODI VS WHO QUESTION could arise in 2024':

PM predicts easy win in Lok Sabha polls

HOW WAS JUDICIARY

How a the judiciary was compromised since 1973 by INC a process which still is on ..1.) 1973. Indira Gandhi appoints Justice AN Ray as CJI superceding three senior judges of the Supreme Court. Justices JM Shelat, KS Hegde and AN Grover resign in protest. And the Congress gives a statement in the parliament " It's a duty of the Govt to appoint as CJI one who is close to our philosophy and point of view". And today they talk of judicial independence!!!!!!!

2. 1975. Justice Jagmohan Sinha was to deliver the Judgement in the Rajnarayan Vs Indira Gandhi electoral malpractice case. He gets a call " If you indict Indira Gandhi- tell your wife not to fast this Karva Chauth." To which Justice Sinha calmly replied " fortunately my wife expired just two months back". And he went on to deliver the historic judgment that became a leading light for those seeking judicial independence and the harbinger of the biggest abrogation and insult to the constitution by the Congress, the declaration of Emergency; at his peril of course!

Cont...Page 12



BJP's insecurity about winning in Maharashtra allows Shiv Sena to throw around its weight; imperils alliance



Happy Seniors Home



South Asian Women Honored During Prestigious South Asian Women Gala



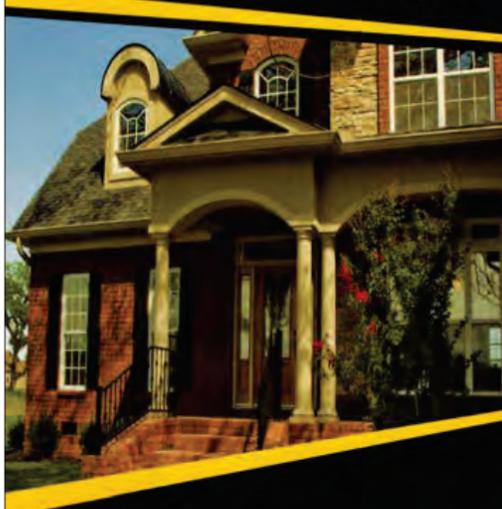
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Monday
 April 01, 2019
 8:00 PM – 9:30 PM



Phoebe Robinson and Friends

Union Hall, 702 Union St., Brooklyn, NY 11215

Wednesday
 April 03, 2019
 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM



New York South Asian Chamber Of Commerce

70, Broadway Hicksville, NY 11801

Friday
 April 05, 2019
 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM



Gnocchi Making Class

7 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011

Saturday
 April 06, 2019
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Oddities Flea Market's Rites of Spring

Brooklyn Bazaar, 150 Greenpoint Avenue, Brooklyn, NY

Saturday
 April 06, 2019
 1:45 PM - 3:30 PM



Voice Cult Singing Party

House of Yes, 2 Wyckoff Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237

Sunday
 April 07, 2019
 10:30 AM - 6:00 PM



The Bloody Mary Festival

The Grand Prospect Hall, 263 Prospect Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11215

Tuesday
 April 09, 2019
 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM



Abby Wambach: WOLFPACK Book Event

Plymouth Church, 57 Orange St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Wednesday
 April 10, 2019
 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM



Brisket King

At north 8th st. WILLIAMSBURG, Brooklyn, NY 11249

Thursday
 April 11, 2019
 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM



When We Lead: Women's Voices Reshaping Our Media

The New School, Tishman Auditorium, 63 5th Avenue New York, NY 10003

Friday
 April 12, 2019
 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM



Make Pizza & Drink Wine

Kesté Fulton, 77 Fulton Street, New York, NY 10038

Saturday
 April 13, 2019



Sakaar Entertainment Launch Arijit Singh

The Lotus Restuarant in Hicks Ville, Long Island Nassa Country, New York

Sunday
 April 14, 2019
 12:00PM - 4:30 PM



India Association of Long Island

Antun's, 244 W Old Country Road, Hicksville, NY 11801

To announce your Events here,
 email event details at
 Editorial@IndiaRepublicNews.com

SAKAAR ENTERTAINMENT LAUNCH ARIJIT SINGH AND KARAOKE NIGHT IN LONG ISLAND NEW YORK

at The LOTUS Restuarant in Hicks Vile, Long Island Nassa Country, New York, USA



ARIJIT SINGH KARAOKE in Hicksville, NY. Journey to the big day continues April 13, Prudential center, NJ March 20, 2019 Arijit Karaoke Competition was organised March 20 in Lotus hicksville. More then 150 music lovers came and 30 singers sang Arijit and few non arijit songs. This competition was to promote Arijit Singh Show on April 13 at NJ by Sakaar Entertainment. Sunil Hali, Kulbhushan, Jay Singh (Hum Hindustani) & Jyoti Gupta organized the event and Jyoti Gupta was MC and hosted the event well. Amita Karwal & Sanan Ahmad were two best singers chosen by public for meet & greet arijit singh on April 13. Dr Gopal Kishore was selected in non Arijit Singers. Two lucky draw meet & greet from public were Vikas Anand & Anju Sharma. One surprise winner was Puneet Kalra. Presence of community leaders Dilip Chauhan, Zahid Syed, Sharanjit Singh, Lalit Aery & Bindu Kohli was admirable and all did prize distribution. Competition Singers were Raj Dhingra, Kiran Arora, Priyanka Sharma, Kulbhushan Sharma, Amita Karwal, Sansn Ahmad, Jay Sharma, Jay Shah, Nipun Marwaha, Nayeem Mohd, Narinder Sarna, Dr. Gopal Kishore, Sonia Anand, Seema Khurana, Mohinder Singh, Vimi Singh, Manjit Anand, Deepak Arora, Dr Raj Chopra, Dr Sanjay Sahay, Kulwant Chohan, Kapil & Sangeeta Gargi, Jyotsna Jezriwal, Ranjeet Bhatia, Kusum Bhatia, Surin Manaktala, Sharat and Jyoti Gupta rocked the event with Mehboob Mere where all danced.



Amita karwal, Sansn Ahmad



Jyoti Gupta and Amita Karwal



Priyanka Sharma



Dilip Chauhan (Fmr. Comptroller)
Sunil Hali (Sakaar Entertainment Orgnizer)
Raj Dhingra (India Republic News)
-- from right to left --



Jyotsna Kegrival

Jyoti Gupta her self is a good singer and she success fully conduct the whole show with wonder ful singers like... Priyanka Sharma, Jyotsana Kejrival, Jay Sharma, Kiran Arora and many more.

India Association of Long Island

Ticket: Adult \$35
Children 5-11, \$15

Sunday, April 14
12- 4:30 pm
Lunch, Cash Bar

Antun's
244 W Old Country Rd,
Hicksville, NY 11801

Women's Forum of IALI

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South Asian Women Honored During Prestigious South Asian Women Gala

On March 14th 2019 In an exclusive ceremony held at Leonard's Palazzo, New York, where prominent South Asian Women and main stream women Honored by Former Miss Universe . Also New York's Nassau County Legislator Joshua Lafazan has recognized individuals with Citation to honor individuals and was presented by Dilip Chauhan, the former Deputy Comptroller of Nassau County in New York to all the honorees. This South Asian Women Empowerment Event organized by Ms. Bindu Kohli, a well-known promoter and TV host from New York. Guest of Honor during this event was Former Miss Universe Sushmita Sen. During the event

Former Deputy Comptroller Dilip Chauhan has honored Former Miss Universe Sushmita Sen with New York -Nassau County Legislator Citation one of the highest honor, for her outstanding works for Women Empowerment. Mr. Chauhan said - Its such a proud moment to welcomed Former Miss Universe Sushmita Sen in Nassau County New York, this kind of event is much needed in current environment, Also he congratulated Bindu Kohli for organizing such an event.

Photo Cation :

New York's Nassau County Legislator Joshua A Lafazan recognized Honorees with Nassau County Citation to all the Honorees which was Presented by Hon. Dilip Chauhan, the former Deputy Comptroller of Nassau County in New York.



Name of The Honorees Are Below:

Which Include Former Miss Universe Susmita Sen and Bindu Kohil - Organizer of Women Empowerment Award.

Bhavana Anand, Chandradai Sugrim, Fizzah Adnan Munawar, MeghnaBallabh Joshi, Naila Amin, Piyali Biswas De Ruchika Arora, Sangeeta Mudnal, Shree Saini, Urmil Tracy Marshall, Dr. Uzma Syed, Vartika Mittal



‘Modi vs who question could arise in 2024’: PM predicts easy win in Lok Sabha polls

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed confidence that the Bharatiya Janat Party (BJP) and the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) will win more seats in the April-May general election than they did in 2014, and will improve their performance in areas where they have been traditionally weak.

“Earlier, people asked who Modi is. Now they know what I have done for national security. They know my intent for welfare of poor. They are aware of all these. I believe the BJP will not only get full majority, but will get a greater majority than last time,” Modi told Republic TV news channel in an interview broadcast on Friday.

“Our allies (in the NDA) will also win more seats. People will also give us greater strength in areas where we have been weak.”

In 2014, the BJP became the first party in 30 years to win an absolute majority in the 543-member Lok Sabha with 282 seats, riding a wave in favour of Modi that swept away the opposition including the Congress, which was beset by corruption scandals in the second term of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) that it led.

This time around, some pollsters have predicted that the BJP and the NDA may win fewer seats, but Modi claimed that the 2019 election would be a no-contest (between the BJP and the opposition), and that people have already made

up their minds that they would hand the next government a full majority.

“India has seen 30 years of instability. People now want a stable government. They want that the major partner of any coalition should get full majority, and other allies also (to) get (a) good number of seats,” Modi said.

Modi dismissed criticism over the February 26 strike conducted by the Indian Air Force (IAF) on a terrorist camp in Balakot, deep inside Pakistan, in reprisal for the February 14 suicide car bombing in Jammu and Kashmir’s Pulwama that left at least 40 paramilitary troopers dead. Some opposition parties have raised questions about the death toll in the strike.

“These people see statesmanship in the statement of Pakistan Prime Minister (Imran Khan) and they doubt their own Prime Minister. People will have to identify these people,” Modi said.

It was a reference to the praise won by Khan from some quarters for releasing a captured Indian pilot, Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman, and his offer of talks to India. Varthaman was captured on February 27 following a dogfight along the Line of Control in Kashmir.

“When Abhinandan incident happened, all opposition parties should have spoken in own voice expressing honour that we had shot down a F-16,” Modi said.

Modi noted that he had publicly announced after the Pulwama attack that he had given a free hand to all security-related institutions to respond to the attack. Modi defended his government’s track record on economic offenders, and said the Centre has enacted laws to deal with the fugitives among such offenders. “Wherever in the world they hide, their money can be confiscated,” he said.

He attacked the Congress, saying previous governments led by the party had been mired in corruption in defence deals. “In our country, defence deals have been like an ATM for previous governments. All previous Congress government have used these ATMs,” said Modi, who has been attacked by the Congress and its president Rahul Gandhi for alleged wrongdoing in the Rafale jet fighter deal. The Prime Minister also criticised the Congress’ new income scheme. Congress president Rahul Gandhi has just unveiled a minimum income guarantee scheme, promising the poorest of poor households at least Rs.12,000 a month. Modi said generations of the same family had spoken about eradicating poverty. “Dynasty is dangerous for a democracy,” he said.

Hitting back, Congress spokesperson Priyanka Chaturvedi said, “We have seen how Mr. Narendra has catered to the whims and fancies of his suited-booted friends and totally ignored the demand and the hopes that the rural villagers and people living in rural areas have had of him.”

Source: hindustantimes.com

Florida Home Sales, Prices Uptick in February



According to the Florida Realtors, Florida's housing market reported higher median prices and increased inventory (active listings) in February 2019 compared to a year ago. Sales of single-family homes statewide totaled 18,966 last month, up 1.9 percent compared to February 2018.

"Homebuyers in Florida have grown accustomed to dealing with a shortage of for-sale inventory, especially when it comes to first-time buyers trying to enter the market," said 2019 Florida Realtors President Eric Sain. "A slower pace of sales and increased inventory will enable potential buyers to find more housing opportunities and could help ease affordability constraints in some areas.

"Statewide, inventory or active listings in February for existing single-family homes increased 11.8 percent year-over-year, while inventory for condo-townhouse properties rose 8.5 percent."

In February, statewide median sales prices for both single-family homes and condo-townhouse properties increased year-over-year for the 86th consecutive month. The statewide median sales price for single-family existing homes was \$250,000, up 1.3 percent from the previous year, according to data from Florida Realtors Research Department in partnership with local Realtor

boards/associations. Last month's statewide median price for condo-townhouse units was \$187,500, up 4.7 percent over the year-ago figure. The median is the midpoint; half the homes sold for more, half for less.

According to the National Association of Realtors (NAR), the national median sales price for existing single-family homes in January 2019 was \$249,400, up 3.1 percent from the previous year; the national median existing condo price was \$233,000. In California, the statewide median sales price for single-family existing homes in January was \$538,690; in Massachusetts, it was \$379,900; in New York, it was \$278,000; and in Maryland, it was \$275,000.

Looking at Florida's condo-townhouse market in February, statewide closed sales totaled 7,981,

down 5.7 percent compared to a year ago. Closed sales may occur from 30- to 90-plus days after sales contracts are written.

According to Florida Realtors Chief Economist Dr. Brad O'Connor, one statistic to note in the February data is the median time to contract for closed sales.

Half of the single-family homes selling in February were on the market for at least 54 days before going under contract - this compared to a median of 48 days last year," he said. "In the condo and townhouse category, there's a similar trend: The median time to contract was 58 days, up from 51 days last year. At a more local level, this median varies widely from market to market, but the upward trend is prevalent throughout the state. Competition between buyers is clearly not as fierce as it was even a year ago. However, that doesn't mean we're quite in buyer's market territory yet. Home sale activity in January and February is usually lighter than other months and not always representative of what's to come."

Source: worldpropertyjournal.com



According to the National Association of Realtors, existing-home sales in the U.S. rebounded strongly in February 2019, experiencing the largest month-over-month gain since December 2015. Three of the four major U.S. regions saw sales gains, while the Northeast remained unchanged from last month.

Total existing-home sales completed transactions that include single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops, shot up 11.8 percent from January to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.51 million in February. However, sales are down 1.8 percent from a year ago (5.61 million in February 2018).

Lawrence Yun, NAR's chief economist, credited a number of aspects to the jump in February sales. "A powerful combination of lower mortgage rates, more inventory, rising income and higher consumer confidence is driving the sales rebound." The median existing-home price for all housing types in February was \$249,500, up 3.6 percent from February 2018 (\$240,800). February's price increase marks the 84th straight month of year-over-year gains.

U.S. HOME SALES ROAR BACK IN FEBRUARY, UP 11.8 PERCENT

Total housing inventory at the end of February increased to 1.63 million, up from 1.59 million existing homes available for sale in January, a 3.2 percent increase from 1.58 million a year ago. Unsold inventory is at a 3.5-month supply at the current sales pace, down from 3.9 months in January but up from 3.4 months in February 2018.

Properties remained on the market for an average of 44 days in February, down from 49 days in January but up from 37 days a year ago. Forty-one percent of homes sold in February were on the market for less than a month.

Yun, who has called for more inventory over the course of 2018, says the market would benefit greatly in 2019 with additional new housing.

"For sustained growth, significant construction of moderately priced-homes is still needed. More construction will help boost local economies and more home sales will help lessen wealth inequality as more households can enjoy in housing wealth gains." A typical homeowner accumulated an estimated \$8,700 in housing equity over the past 12 months and \$21,300 over the past 24 months.

Realtor.com's Market Hotness Index, measuring time-on-the-market data and listing views per property, revealed that the hottest metro areas in January were Midland, Texas; Chico, California; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Spokane-Spokane Valley, Washington; and San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, California.

According to Freddie Mac, the average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage decreased to 4.37 percent in February from 4.46 percent in January. The average commitment rate across all of 2018 was 4.54 percent.

Source: worldpropertyjournal.com

Ranveer Singh imitates Kapil Dev's bowling action onstage at HT India's Most Stylish Awards.

Actor Ranveer Singh was in the Kapil Dev mode from his upcoming film '83 at Friday's HT India's Most Stylish Awards in Mumbai. The actor, who won the HT India's Most Stylish (Male) Readers' Choice Award 2019, received his award from former cricketer Kapil Dev. He walked up to the stage and imitated the cricketer's bowling action.

Dressed in a neon yellow suit, paired with white-framed glasses, Ranveer looked excited as ever. He hugged Kapil before accepting his award and said, "Abhi to party shuru hui hai, Mic mere haath mei aaya hai. I feel amazing accepting award from the legend, Kapil Dev. How am I going to look this handsome, he is the next character I am playing. I am hoping to make him proud."

HT India's Most Stylish awards were a star-studded affair with Bollywood marking its presence in a major way. Present at the function were stars such as Shah Rukh Khan, his wife Gauri Khan, Kareena Kapoor, Akshay Kumar, Twinkle Khanna, Katrina Kaif, Vicky Kaushal, Ayushmann Khurrana, Taapsee Pannu among many others.



On Friday, Ranveer also launched his independent music record label named IncInk. He has collaborated with filmmaker Navzar Eranee and DJ Cheetah for the project. Ranveer is also busy preparing for '83 on India's cricket World Cup win in 1983. The film also stars



Pankaj Tripathi, Punjabi singer Harrdy Sandhu, Saqib Saleem, Tahir Bhasin among others.

Ranveer has been enjoying a golden run at the box office. His last two films, Rohit Shetty's Simmba and Zoya Akhtar's Gully Boy were major hits.

Source: hindustantimes.com

On Batman's 80th anniversary, a fan's love letter to the Dark Knight



It feels odd to write a romantic piece about Batman, days after director Zack Snyder launched into a profane tirade about how the Dark Knight is hardly someone we should be looking up to.

Snyder was in extreme defensive mode at a recent screening event when he told fans - some of whom have worshipped Batman for decades - to 'wake the f**k up'. He was 'reacting' to criticism that his take on the Dark Knight in Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice, which depicted him as a mass-murdering psychopath launching scud missiles into consumer SUVs, was simply a reflection of the times we live in, where heroes can 'embezzle money from corporations' and 'lie to America'.

Reaction to his comments was, as expected, quite harsh. He was directly insulting fans, after all, many of whom - including me, by the way - have been on his side for years, supporting his heavy metal interpretation of beloved characters and defending him when he was let go from running the DC Extended Universe of films.

Snyder in his rant falsely claimed that it was only a 'vocal minority' of fans who'd criticised BvS. This is simply not true. The theatrical version of the film was thoroughly compromised; it received a terrible 27% score on review aggregator Rotten Tomatoes - the negative (293) far outweighing the positive (111) - and a crummy 63% audience score, based on more than 200,000 votes. Not only was it broken critically, almost as if a hulking Bane had come along and smashed its spine in two, it failed to deliver commercially as well. Expected to do Avengers business at the box office - which made \$1.5 billion worldwide - BvS couldn't even crack the \$900 million mark.

JANHVI KAPOOR AND ISHAAN KHATTER recreate the Zingaati magic in Oman



Actors Janhvi Kapoor and Ishaan Khatter danced to the beats of their hit song Zingaati from their film, Dhadak at the first anniversary celebrations of Filmfare's Middle East edition in Oman on Friday. Videos of the two dancing are online and show them having fun as they dance to the peppy number.

While Janhvi wore a dull brown gown, Ishaan was seen in a dark blue traditional Indian jacket and a pair of white trousers. The chemistry between the two was obvious as they recreated the famous song. The function also saw a number of other Bollywood celebrities attend the function. Rajkummar Rao, Nora Fatehi, Jim Sarbh, Jacqueline Fernandez and Bollywood veterans Jackie Shroff and Shatrughan Sinha attended the event.

Source: hindustantimes.com

Kalank title track: Varun Dhawan professes his love for Alia Bhatt in Arijit Singh's Sufi ballad



A day late but the much anticipated title track of Kalank has dropped. Titled Kalank Nahi Ishq Hai, the song has been written by Amitabh Bhattacharya and Arijit Singh has lent his mellifluous voice to the track. The song is a Pritam composition.

Visually stunning, the song is picturised on actors Alia Bhatt and Varun Dhawan. With poignant lyrics, this melodious track underlines the feelings of love and longing intently. Talking about the song, Pritam told Bombay Times, "The song describes the emotional space of the characters. I would give a lot of credit to Amitabh for writing a song with a word like kalank; it's not easy and he wrote multiple versions of the song of which one made the cut. It's in the Indian spiritual space, something bordering on Sufi."

The period drama, set in the 1940s, will see has an ensemble cast including Alia Bhatt, Varun Dhawan, Madhuri Dixit, Sanjay Dutt, Sonakshi Sinha and Aditya Roy Kapoor in prominent roles. Directed by Abhishek Varman, Kalank was originally conceptualised about 15 years ago by the late Yash Johar. The film has been produced by Karan Johar's Dharma Productions. Johar had called the film a 'story of turbulent relationships and eternal love.'

Co-produced by Fox Star Studios, Sajid Nadiadwala, Hiroo Yash Johar and Apoorva Mehta, Kalank is slated to release on 17 April.

Source : firstpost.com

Tumbbad actor-producer Sohum Shah on film's multiple Filmfare wins and plans for sequel



Shah even added that the tiring journey of filming had frustrated him, but he was always confident that the movie will have a big-screen release, "While making the film, I never had any doubts about its release, but yes I was frustrated about the time of its release. When will it release? Will the film release this year?" says Shah and further explains, "The film's release [date] jumped from 2013 to 2014 and then from 2014 to 2015, but I always had in my mind that the film has to be released in the big screen anyhow. After a film is shot, getting it released is like fighting a war, but fortunately, within seven days of completion, Colour Yellow Production (Anand L Rai's production house) came on board. So, making the film was tough, getting it to release was comparatively easy".

Tumbbad was like a fresh breath in horror genre and Shah agrees that as compared to Hollywood, the genre is still unexplored in the Indian film industry. "It's a very interesting genre that needs to be explored. It has a great following in the West; here it is still not taken so seriously. With Tumbbad and other upcoming horror films and horror-comedies, I think we can also match up to their level". Discussing the horror genre and its various prospects, he adds, "Horror gives the writer a bigger ground to play and it can to great heights, there are unlimited possibilities for the writer, this creates something new and it should be encouraged".

Source : firstpost.com

Bejoy Nambiar on foraying into digital space with Flip and the future of mid-budget movies in India

Bejoy Nambiar, who has cemented his position as an experimental filmmaker with films like Shaitaan, David and Wazir, is excited to have entered the digital space with his original series, Flip. A drama-thriller anthology of four short stories based on the occurrences that cause a 180-degree turn in certain people's lives. The episodes are titled Bully, Happy Birthday, Massage and The Hunt. The cast of the series includes Ranvir Shorey, Arjun Mathur, Shweta Basu Prasad, Jim Sarbh, Viraf Patel, Sandeepa Dhar, Sheetal Menon and Naman Shaw among others.



(Shorey) whose problem stems from the bullying he faced in early life that completely changed his personality making him socially awkward. The story is inspired from Nambiar's initial days in college when he was pursuing engineering and became a victim of a severe ragging incident. Years later, the filmmaker is showcasing the life incident on screen. "Ragging had a big impact on my life. I had started writing stories to avoid those unfortunate thoughts," he said.

"The film was very relatable to me because I feel very strongly about it. I view ragging as a bane of college life. It has got no positive outcome whatsoever. It is said that bullying started because people considered it a great bonding exercise

between seniors and juniors, but I feel it is a terrible idea to have one individual exert power over another. It leaves you traumatised for life and changes personalities. It may be inspired from Bejoy's life but even I have faced it in college. These are very basic human emotions that many of us experience," adds Shorey.

Sandeepa Dhar, who usually gets to play a goody two-shoes, is happy to bag a character with a grey shade of that of a manipulative girl, in Massage. "On the one hand, playing a negative 50-year-old was challenging, and on the other hand, it was crazy to have a co-star like Jim (Sarbh) who plays a Parsi lover-boy and whose take on romantic scenes is very different. Also, the suspense part and that whodunit feel was quite interesting," says Dhar. She is part of two more web series this year, including Zee5's Abhay and Alt Balaji's Cartel (with Vivek Oberoi).

Sarbh says that his character Keki has a similar experience to the lady Sarah Scantlin from the Netflix documentary The Real Sleeping Beauty. Keki plays a Parsi on the verge of marriage and a promotion, and his life is flipped upside down when he slips into a coma. To prep for the part, Sarbh said, "I watched The Real Sleeping Beauty and Michael Hanneke's beautiful film Amour to try to understand the way my character might speak and move."

Source : firstpost.com

The Avocado Recall for Listeria Reveals a Major Mistake You're Making With Your Avocados

Henry Avocado Corporation issued a statement over the weekend announcing the recall of two types of avocados that were sold to stores in Arizona, California, Florida, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and Wisconsin.

No illnesses associated with the recall have been reported. "Henry Avocado is issuing this voluntary recall out of an abundance of caution due to positive test results on environmental samples taken during a routine government inspection at its California packing facility," according to a statement from the company.

Henry Avocado said both organic and nonorganic avocados have been recalled and taken off store shelves. The recalled conventional avocados sold at retail stores were labeled with a sticker that said "Bravocado." The organic recalled avocados were labeled as organic and featured a sticker that said "California."

The statement warns that shoppers in the affected states should toss any recalled avocados they haven't eaten. Alternatively, they can return them to the store where they purchased them for a refund.

Typically, listeria symptoms include fever, headache, muscle aches, vomiting, and diarrhea. The symptoms usually resolve within a few days. If listeriosis—the technical term for a listeria infection—spreads to the nervous system, though, the consequences can be more dire, leading to a months-long illness and even meningitis or sepsis.

Listeria bacteria usually reach food products via contaminated water and soil,



but contamination can also occur after a product—like an avocado—has been harvested if it comes in contact with a surface the bacteria are living on.

There's a pretty simple way to avoid picking up listeria bacteria from avocados that you might not already be doing: Wash them. It might seem unnecessary since you aren't eating avocado peels. But when you slice an avocado, bacteria that live on the skin can be transferred to the part of the fruit you do plan to eat.

In fact, it's a smart move to wash all produce before eating it, even foods like avocados and melons that have a protective peel. "Even if you plan to cut the rind or peel off the produce before eating, it is still important to wash it first so dirt and bacteria aren't transferred from the knife onto the fruit or vegetable," according to FoodSafety.gov.

Whether or not this avocado recall affects you, it's probably worth the extra five seconds it adds to your guacamole prep time to wash and dry those avocados.

Source : health.com

Grilled Shrimp with Black Beans, Jicama, and Avocado

Active Time : 20 Mins

Total Time : 20 Mins

Yield : 4

Lime vinaigrette and roasted pepitas-pumpkin seeds-add south-of-the-border flavor to this substantial salad. In addition to being a fiber-rich prebiotic, jicama is also an excellent source of vitamin C.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound large peeled, deveined raw shrimp
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt, divided
- Olive oil cooking spray
- 5 tablespoons avocado oil or olive oil
- 1/4 cup fresh lime juice (from 3 limes)
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 3 ounces baby arugula (5 cups)
- 3 cups matchstick-cut jicama
- 1/2 cup loosely packed fresh cilantro leaves
- 1 15-oz. can no-salt-added black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 ripe avocado, peeled, pitted, and cut into 12 wedges
- 1/4 cup roasted pepitas (pumpkin seeds)
- Tajín seasoning or smoked paprika (optional)
- Lime wedges, for serving



How to Make It

Step 1 : Heat a grill pan over high. Sprinkle shrimp with pepper and 1/4 teaspoon of the salt. Coat grill pan with cooking spray. Cook shrimp until opaque, about 2 minutes per side.

Step 2 : Whisk together avocado oil, lime juice, honey, and remaining 1/2 teaspoon salt in a small bowl; set aside. Combine arugula, jicama, cilantro, beans, and avocado in a large bowl. Add half of the dressing, and toss very gently to coat. Serve topped with shrimp and pepitas. If desired, sprinkle with Tajín or smoked paprika. Serve with additional dressing and lime wedges.

Source : health.com

10 Exfoliating Lip Scrubs That Will Give You a Softer, Smoother Pout

Whether it's Friday night date, a special occasion, or you're just tired of cracked lips, whip your pout into tip-top shape with these affordable scrubs.

Cracked, peeling, flaky? Chapped lips—whether from cold weather or compulsive lip licking—are the worst. Sometimes, no amount of lip balm is enough to soften a super dry pout. You've probably been told that regular exfoliation of your face is key to maintaining a healthy glow. But did you know that exfoliation can also give you smoother lips? Using a physical scrub to remove dead, dull skin is important for lip health. Plus, lip scrubs help transform a dry, chapped pout into a perfectly smooth canvas for flawless balm, gloss, or lipstick application.

Even the roughest, driest lips are no match for these exfoliating and conditioning scrubs. Ready, set, pucker up.



Winky Lux Sugared Matcha Lip Scrub

With a blend of sugar and green tea extract, matcha fans will love this exfoliating and moisturizing lip scrub that heals even the most chapped lips. To use, apply a dime-sized amount to lips with your fingertips, rub in a circular motion, and remove with a damp cloth



French Girl Organics Rose Lip Polish

This rose- and mint-infused sugar scrub is packed with nourishing ingredients like organic shea butter and coconut oil to smooth, hydrate, and plump your pout.



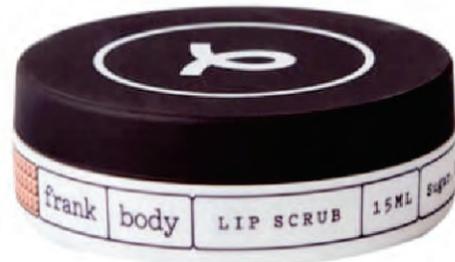
L'Oréal Paris Skincare Pure Sugar Lip Scrub

Made with three types of sugar and grapeseed oil, this exfoliating lip scrub works to polish away dead skin on your lips, leaving them smooth and lipstick-ready. Also great? You can actually use this scrub all over your face to swap dull skin for a glowing complexion.



Hanalei Company Sugar Lip Scrub

Boasting pure kukui nut oil - which has fatty acids and vitamins A, C, and E—to soothe lips and shea butter to lock in moisture, this sugar scrub makes maintaining soft, supple lips easy.



Frank Body Lip Scrub

Get your caffeine fix and a smoother pout with this coffee-based lip scrub. Made with ground robusta coffee, coffee seed oil, raw sugar, and cold-pressed macadamia oil, this delicious exfoliant plumps, conditions, and eliminates flakes.



Tarte Lip Facial Lip Scrub

This hypoallergenic twist-up lip scrub gently exfoliates with superfine sugar granules. Plus, it nourishes and softens lips with shea butter and antioxidant-rich algae.



Fresh Sugar Lip Polish Exfoliator

Loaded with brown sugar crystals that buff away flakes, as well as shea butter and jojoba oil to nourish skin, this hydrating lip scrub is a great addition to your morning or nighttime routine.



ChapStick Total Hydration Natural Conditioning Lip Scrub

More affordable and as effective as any high-end lip product, this refreshing peppermint scrub is formulated with naturally sourced ingredients, including sugar crystals, maracuja and coconut oils, shea butter, and vitamin E.



E.L.F. Lip Exfoliator

Infused with vitamin E and shea butter, this sugar exfoliator conditions, smooths, and protects lips. Bonus: It uses a fingerless application, so your hands won't get sticky.



Source : health.com

BJP's insecurity about winning in Maharashtra allows Shiv Sena to throw around its weight; imperils alliance

Running a coalition government, either in the states or at the Centre is not easy. There are many an example of how they collapsed at the whim of a party. Over time, we are seeing how challenging it is for even larger nationwide parties to sew up alliances, especially when the smaller parties at the states try, and succeed, in calling the shots. In Maharashtra, where the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Shiv Sena have tied up with a 25-23 Lok Sabha seat-sharing arrangement, the alliance is not out of the woods yet. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis — the key point man for the BJP in the state — has now been forced to officially ask his cadre to help the ally Shiv Sena wherever BJP is not contesting.



The directive is more towards ensuring that the Shiv Sena softens up sufficiently to allow the BJP to field Kirit Somaiya from a Mumbai seat. The Sena is not only averse, but has set its face against his candidature because it nurses a grievance: Somaiya has been a battering ram against the Sena, especially in its handling of the Mumbai civic body. One does not yet know what the final choice of the BJP would be for the Mumbai North East seat, but it has been warned explicitly enough that the Sena would not countenance such a nomination. There are sufficient indications that the Sena may encourage a rebel from

within its party should Kirit Somaiya be put on the ballot. BJP apparently sees a real risk if, somehow, Sena's concurrence was obtained.

To massage the Sena into agreeing, the BJP even loaned a candidate of its own to the Sena for the Palghar seat which it was assigned to it, but had no candidate who could get past the post in polling. Yet, the matter has not been resolved to the liking of the BJP. Frankly, it is not the business of the Sena to pressurise an ally about its choice. A national party is being held hostage by a regional party.

This is an unusual situation. In coalition governments, the choice of who the minister should be is of the partner, not of the coalition.

Sena withdrew Suresh Prabhu from the Union Cabinet for undisclosed reasons and the prime minister of the time, Atal Bihari Vajpayee had no choice. When Chhagan Bhuwal, deputy chief minister in the Sushilkumar Shinde cabinet had been asked to resign by the NCP, Shinde had to wait for the NCP's nominee — whoever it was — to fill the vacancy.

Source: firstpost.com

HOW WAS JUDICIARY

3. 1976. Justice AN Ray pays back partially the favours done in appointing him as CJI in the case Shivkant Shukla Vs ADM Jabalpur. The bench headed by him declares the abrogation of fundamental rights during Emergency as just and rightful by a majority decision. The only dissenting judge was Justice HR Khanna, who told his colleagues on the bench " Can you look yourself in the eye?" The bench comprised of Justices AN Ray, HR Khanna, MH Beg, YV Chandrachud, and PN Bhagwati. All except Justice HR Khanna became CJI subsequently. Justice Khanna was punished by Indira Gandhi and Congress for his dissent and upholding of the fundamental rights granted by the constitution, by superseding him and making Justice MH Beg the CJI!! Justice MH Beg on retirement was made a director of the NATIONAL HERALD, a news paper wholly owned by the Congress party, and regarding fraudulent acquisition of its property both the present and past president of the Congress party are out on bail from the court. And Justice Beg accepted the appointment!!!! So much for the 'independence of judiciary' that RAGA and his coterie are spewing slogans about!!! This doesn't end here. In 1980 when Indira Gandhi came back to power Justice MH Beg was made Chairman of the minorities commission. A chair that he warned till 1988 and was awarded by

'Padma Vibhushan' by Rajiv Gandhi for services rendered. 4. 1962. Even more intriguing is the case of Justice Bahrul Islam!! Mr Islam was a Congress MP of the Rajya Sabha in 1962. He tried his hand at popular politics and fought, on Congress ticket, the Lok Sabha Elections. And lost. He again was made a Rajya Sabha MP in 1968. On Congress benches of course! He resigned from the Rajya Sabha in 1972 and was appointed to and behold, a judge of the Guwahati High Court!! He retired from there in 1980, probably honourably. But after Indira Gandhi came back to power in 1980, Mr Bahrul Islam was again elevated to Justice Bahrul Islam, this time of the Supreme Court!!!! Nine months after his retirement from the Guwahati High Court!!!! Indira Gandhi desperately needed to control benches as there were a number of cases running in the Supreme Court regarding atrocities during Emergency. He proved very useful in saving the skins of Congress people. Justice Islam resigned about a month and a half before his superannuation from the Supreme Court and contested for Lok Sabha from Barpeta in Assam. As the elections could not be held, he was once again made Rajya Sabha MP by Congress. So much for the cause of judicial probity and independence and constitutional propriety that the Congress purports to be espousing today!!!!!!

-Deepak Arora

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing a public rally in Assam's Moran on Saturday. (Photo: Twitter/@BJP4India)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday blamed the Congress for keeping the country backward and presenting image of an impoverished nation to the world. PM Modi said the Congress serves “only one family” and is not concerned about the progress of the country.

“The Congress has run such governments that gave a great country like India an identity of a weak nation,” said Modi at a public rally in Assam’s Moran. This was his second rally of the day in the Northeast and first of the two rallies in Assam.

He also referred to surgical strike by the India in 2016 after Uri terror attack and recent Balakot operation by the Indian Air Force in the aftermath of Pulwama suicide bombing in his speech to target the Congress party. PM Modi said it was the first time that India “entered the homes of terrorists and killed them”.

“Hindustan is happy but people at two places are not. One is the Congress’s family and the other is the homes of terrorists...The entire world stands solid behind India but the Congress has lost its sleep,” PM Modi said.

he prime minister said the Congress had “tears in its eyes” when scientists shot down a live satellite in space three days ago.

‘Hindustan is happy but Congress, terrorists are not’: PM Modi in Northeast

‘Those on bail abuse chowkidar’

Earlier PM Modi renewed his attack on the Congress leadership at an election rally in Arunachal Pradesh’s Aalo. Indirectly referring to cases against Congress leaders including party president Rahul Gandhi and UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Modi said they “abuse chowkidar despite being out on bail”.

“There are leaders, who sit in Delhi and evade tax, take away farmers’ land, earn lakhs of rupees as rent from government land given for a newspaper and get commission in defence deals. They are out on bail granted by court... They have barely escaped (jail). They are on bail themselves but abuse chowkidar,” said Modi at ITBP Ground, Aalo in West Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh.

This was PM Modi’s first election rally in Arunachal Pradesh since the dates for the Lok Sabha polls were announced earlier this month. The prime minister attacked the Congress accusing it of neglecting Arunachal Pradesh and the rest of the Northeast.

“Experts for decades kept saying that Arunachal needs modern infrastructure but the naamdar parivar (a phrase often used by PM Modi to refer to Nehru-Gandhi family) and their courtiers here were busy building their own sultanate. They didn’t care about you. They cared more for ‘malai’ (cream) for themselves than ‘bhalai’ (welfare) of people,” Modi said.

PM Modi also took a dig at the Opposition leaders for criticising the government over the recent Balakot strike and announcement of the success of Mission Shakti.

Under Mission Shakti, India shot down a defunct satellite using anti-satellite missile (A-SAT). This showcased India’s capability to hit a target in space becoming only the fourth country after the US, Russia and China to possess such power.

“When scientists achieved success, they mocked them. The achievements which make the entire nation proud, they get rattled. They speak the same language as terrorists,” PM Modi said adding, “No one is bothered about them in the country, they are being hailed in Pakistan. Their photographs are published in the newspapers there.”

He said, “They (Opposition) have developed so much of love for the neighbouring country that they don’t even cherish India.” The Bharatiya Janata Party planned three rallies of PM Modi in the Northeast for the day, one in Arunachal Pradesh and two in Assam. The BJP is eyeing to maximise its prospects in the Lok Sabha elections in the Northeast.

The party has set a target of winning 25 seats from the region. In 2014 Lok Sabha polls, the BJP had won eight seats, seven in Assam and one in Arunachal Pradesh, which will vote in simultaneous parliamentary and assembly elections on April 11.

Source: hindustantimes.com

Amit Shah files nomination in Gandhinagar in presence of top NDA leaders

Bharatiya Janata Party president Amit Shah on Saturday filed his nomination for the Lok Sabha polls from Gandhinagar seat in presence of NDA leaders including Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray and Union ministers Arun Jaitley and Rajnath Singh. Shah has replaced BJP veteran L K Advani as party candidate from Gandhinagar. Advani had won the Gandhinagar Lok Sabha seat uninterrupted between 1998 and 2014. “Amit Shah is inheriting the political legacy of Lal Krishna Advani, who represented the Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency for long,” said Rajnath Singh. Advani, 91, is the founder member of BJP. He is credited with making the BJP a national party which saw its phenomenal rise after the former deputy prime minister led a campaign for construction of Ram



temple at Ayodhya in 1990. The BJP veteran won this seat six times, winning it first in 1991. He vacated the seat for former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in 1996 national election. Advani returned to Gandhinagar in 1998 and retained it till the last election. In 2014, Advani won by over four lakh votes. Shah held a mega public rally and a massive road show before filing his nomination for the Lok Sabha polls.

Besides Thackeray, other NDA leaders who addressed the public rally were Shiromani Akali Dal supremo Parkash Singh Badal and Lok Janshakti Party president and Union minister Ram Vilas Paswan.

The presence of the top BJP-led NDA brass at the event is being seen by observers as a show of support for Shah and an acknowledgement of him being

the second most powerful leader in the alliance after PM Narendra Modi.

Addressing the rally, Thackeray took a potshot at the Opposition saying that they are surprised to see him accompanying Shah in Gandhinagar. He, in his speech, hit out at the Opposition for “relishing” the differences between the Shiv Sena and the BJP. He said after Shah visited him in February, the differences were sorted out. He said, “Today, we have one idea, one leader. Here, people raise ‘Modi Modi’ slogan. Who is there in the Opposition as prime ministerial candidate? Can they hold a rally like this and ask their supporters to shout a slogan for one common leader?”

Polling for all the 26 Lok Sabha seats in Gujarat will take place on April 23.

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