

# THE DIASPORA BI-WEEKLY



An initiative by FIA | 100% VOLUNTEER RUN ORGANIZATION EST. 1970

Federation of Indian Associations NY-NJ-CT. 501(C)3. The Largest Non-Profit Grassroot Umbrella Organization in the Tri-state of NY-NJ-CT



## Striking the perfect pose

Enthusiasts gathered at Liberty State Park on Sunday morning for FIA's International Yoga Day event

There are few actions as exhilarating as stretching yourself and breathing in the high-on-freshness morning air by the Hudson as the majestic Lady Liberty watches over you, with the Manhattan skyline in the backdrop.

That was Sunday morning for those who had gathered at Liberty State Park for the group yoga event organized by FIA in partnership with the Consulate General of India-New York, to mark the seventh International Day of Yoga. This was FIA's first public event in a year.

Consul General of

India NY Randhir Jaiswal briefly attended the event, accompanied by DCG NY Shatrughan Sinha. The compere was the gorgeous Nina Davuluri, former Miss America, actress, public speaker and regular yoga practitioner. Soon enough, celebrity yoga instructor Thara Natalie took charge and began giving out yoga lessons to an eager class. Singer and song writer Jay Sean, the guest of honour, lifted the mood further.

Lauding the efforts of event chair Parveen Bansal and his team in putting together the event, FIA president Anil Bansal said, "I hope everyone here continues to find time to invest in their health and well-being."

"Last year was tough for everyone. We hope this event can give a positive push to our attempts to get back to the pre-pandemic days," said FIA chairman Ankur Vaidya.

**2** | Morning full of poses

**3** | Twitter loses legal protection in India

Puri Rath Yatra to be taken out sans public

Shares plummet; Gautam Adani slips to No. 3

**4** | Ronaldo's snub costs Coca Cola \$4 billion

Satya Nadella named Microsoft board chairman

Tokyo Olympics to allow up to 10k spectators

**5** | The Flying Sikh finishes Race of Life

Replica of Mona Lisa fetches \$3.4 million at auction



## Morning full of poses



Event host and Former Miss America Nina Davuluri joins the group



Consul General Randhir Jaiswal addresses the gathering



Celebrity yoga instructor Thara Natalie, singer-song writer Jay Sean and host Nina Davuluri pose for a pic with the little 'yogis'



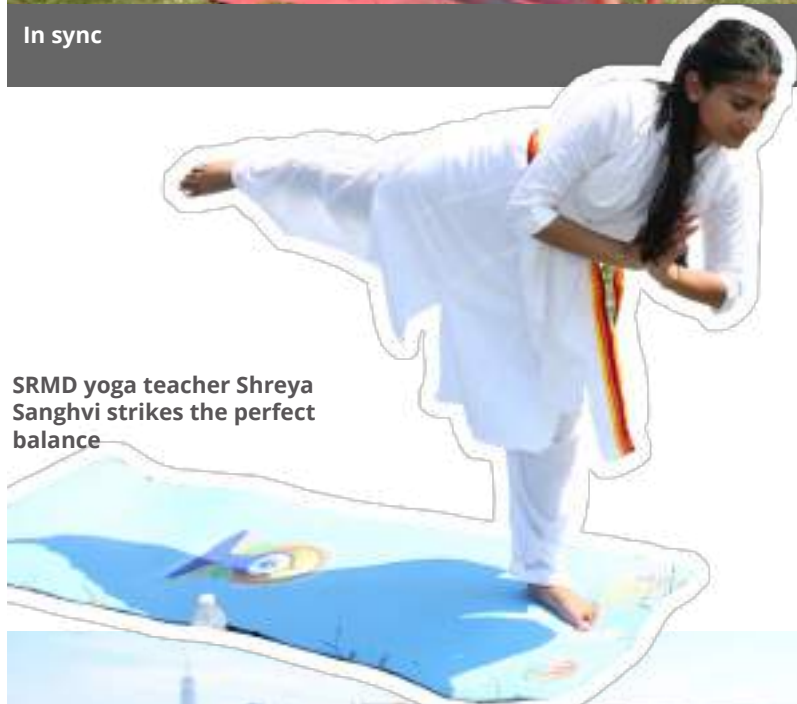
Thara Natalie



In sync



Colour-coordinated



SRMD yoga teacher Shreya Sanghvi strikes the perfect balance



Feel that stretch



Namaste!



Team FIA



(R-L) FIA treasurer Amit Ringasia, chairman Ankur Vaidya and president Anil Bansal greeting DCG Shatrughan Sinha



# Twitter loses legal protection in India

Will now be liable for action for third party content after failing to comply with new IT rules

## #New Delhi

Twitter has been making headlines in India for quite some time now. Last week, the micro-blogging site lost the legal protection that it enjoyed as an "intermediary" under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act. The move comes as a consequence of Twitter failing to comply with the country's new IT rules laid down for social media platforms.

The revised rules came into effect on May 25 this year, after which the Indian government even sent a "final notice" to Twitter, asking that it either comply with the rules or face the consequences. As per the new rules, the company was obliged to appoint resident nodal officer and chief compliance officer to look into grievances related to content posted



on the platform.

## Under new rules, first case filed against Twitter in UP

The Uttar Pradesh government became the first to lodge a case against Twitter after the implementation of the new IT rules. The case was related to an assault video that had gone viral on the platform. A man, reportedly from

the minority community, was thrashed by a group of men in Ghaziabad. The government alleged that the video was presented in a manner indicating that it was a case of communal attack, which it was not. The police claimed that the man was attacked because he was selling fake amulets.

The FIR also named others along with Twitter.

Government sources said that since Twitter no longer enjoys any protection under the IT Act and did not flag the video as manipulated, it is now liable for legal action.

Last week, Twitter India managing director Manish Maheshwari was sent a notice, asking him to report to a police station and get his statement recorded within seven days of receipt of the notice.

# Puri Rath Yatra to be taken out sans public

Decision taken by temple admin in wake of ongoing pandemic



## #Puri

The famous Jagannath Rath Yatra in Puri will be taken out on July 12, but without devotees. The decision was taken by the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration.

Servitors and temple officials will be the only ones to be allowed to participate in the rituals. All of them should have either got

both doses of the vaccine against Covid-19 or a negative RT-PCR test report. Public will not be allowed to gather on the Grand Road near the temple.

Section 144 of the IPC, prohibiting gathering of more than four persons at one place, will be imposed around the temple on Snan Yatra.

# Shares plummet; Gautam Adani slips to No. 3

The Adani Group promoter had been named the second richest Asian earlier this month.

## #Mumbai

Last time, we told you about Adani Group promoter Gautam Adani's ascent to the position of the second richest Asian. Now, he no longer holds that position. Losses to the tune of \$12 billion in the stock market in just four days have cost the Indian businessman the place.

Adani net worth now stands at \$62.3 billion, according to Forbes realtime billionaires' list. It was over \$74 billion just a week earlier. As a result, Chinese businessman Zhong Shanshan, whom Adani had replaced, is back to the Number 2 position.

Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani continues to hold the top place with net worth of over \$85 billion.



# Ronaldo's snub costs Coca Cola \$4 billion

Portugal football captain pushed away two Coca Cola bottles at press conference, picked water instead

#Budapest

At a press conference last week, star football player and captain of Portugal team Cristiano Ronaldo made it clear that carbonated drinks were not for him. He pushed away two bottles of the beverage kept in front of him and picked up a bottle of water instead. That was a loud and clear message.

Call it a coincidence or the impact of



Christiano Ronaldo

that gesture on Coca Cola. The company lost \$4 billion in market value after that.

Ronaldo (36) is known to be a health aficionado. At a press conference in Budapest ahead of Portugal's match against Hungary, he spotted two bottles of Coca Cola placed in front of him on the table. The beverage giant is one of the official sponsors of Euro 2020. Ronaldo pushed away the bottles and picked up a bottle of water, as if urging people to choose water over carbonated drinks.

Shortly thereafter, share prices of Coca Cola dropped 1.6 per cent, from \$56.10 to \$55.22, bringing its market value from \$242 billion to \$238 billion.

**No alcohol please: Paul Pogba removes beer bottle**

Following in his footsteps was France

midfielder Paul Pogba. He removed a bottle of Heineken beer placed in front of him at a post-match press conference on Wednesday. Pogba, who follows Islam, has publicly stated that he does not consume alcohol in any form.



Paul Pogba

# Satya Nadella named Microsoft board chairman

Becomes the third person in the history of the company to be named chairman after Bill Gates and John Thompson

#Washington DC

Tech giant Microsoft announced last week that its CEO Satya Nadella would be taking over as the next board chairman of the company. Nadella (53) succeeds John Thompson (73) to become only the third person in the history of Microsoft Corp to hold the position.

According to a statement by the company, Thompson will be back to being the

lead independent director, the post that he had held before becoming the chairman in 2014 when Bill Gates stepped down.

Indian-American Nadella was made the CEO of Microsoft in February 2014. He is credited with Microsoft's rebirth after failure in the mobile phone and internet search market and reducing importance of its Windows operating system. He refocused it around cloud computing, mobile applications

and artificial intelligence and resurrected the Office software franchise by shifting it more to the cloud and to other operating systems.

According to

Microsoft's statement, Thompson will remain active as lead independent director and oversee Nadella's compensation, succession planning, governance and board operations.



# Tokyo Olympics to allow up to 10k spectators

Only domestic spectators will be allowed at venues of Games scheduled to begin from July 23

#Tokyo

Those living in Japan will be allowed to attend the upcoming Olympics Games in Tokyo, as per a decision taken on Monday. The Olympics are scheduled to begin on July 23, and the Paralympics from August 24.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC), the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Tokyo 2020, Tokyo Metropolitan

Government and the Government of Japan agreed at the meeting that the spectator limit for the Games would be 50 per cent of the venue capacity, not exceeding 10,000.

Only domestic spectators will be allowed to attend.

In case of emergency or any other measures to prevent transmission of the virus, the spectator limit will be based on the rules in force then.

According to the Olympics website, the authorities may cancel or reduce the scale of events depending on the Covid-19 situation.

Wearing mask at the venue at all times will be mandatory. Speaking loudly or shouting will be prohibited. After the match, the visitors must leave in a staggered manner and congestion must be avoided.

Equivalent policies governing the Paralympic Games will be decided on July 16.



# The Flying Sikh finishes Race of Life

## India's iconic sportsperson Milkha Singh succumbs to post-Covid complications

### #Chandigarh

India lost one of its most iconic sportspersons last weekend—Milkha Singh. The Flying Sikh, as he was also known, succumbed to post-Covid complications on June 19, just five days after his wife Nirmal died. He was given state funeral by the Punjab government.

Singh (91) had tested negative for Covid on June 13, but had to be shifted to the ICU because of post-Covid complications.

### The life of a legend

Milkha Singh was born in Kot Addu in Muzaffargarh district, now in Pakistan. His



The heart-breaking race during Rome Olympics

birthdate was recorded as November 20, 1932, though he clarified that he did not remember the date.

In his autobiography 'The Race of My Life', coauthored by his daughter Sonia, he described his life quite vividly. He had seen it all... his parents killed during Partition, homelessness, indulging in petty crime, working hard for victories, grappling with the pain of loss... He also spoke about how his passion for running dominated his life.

Milkha's sprinting talent was recognized and nurtured by the Indian Army. Encouraged, he went on to win several races, each time winning laurels for himself, the Indian Army and the country.

The year 1958 was a year of major achievements for Singh. He set a national record in the 200 m and 400 m races. The same year, he became the 200 m and 400 m champion during the Asian Games in Tokyo. He also won the gold medal at the 1958 Commonwealth Games in Cardiff. It made him the first Indian athlete to win an individual gold at the Commonwealth Games

Despite all his victories, the loss in the 400-metre final race at the 1960 Rome Olympics left an everlasting mark on Singh. He said that the massacre of his family during the Partition and his defeat in Rome were the only two incidents that haunted him.

In 1960, after much persuasion by then PM Jawaharlal Nehru, he went to Pakistan for a race. He won that race. Impressed, then Pakistan President Ayub Khan nicknamed him 'The Flying Sikh'.



# Replica of Mona Lisa fetches \$3.4 million at auction

## The Hekking Mona Lisa is said to be so close to Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece that even its buyer believed it was the original one

### #Paris

Even fakes come for a price. The replica of Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece 'Mona Lisa' was recently put for auction. It fetched a whopping \$3.4 million, over 10 times the appraised value! The auction took place at Christie's in Paris last Friday.



The replica is titled Hekking Mona Lisa after its European buyer Raymond Hekking. He had procured

it from an antique dealer in the 1950s. It is believed to have been made sometime in the 1600s by an unknown Italian artist. According to Christie's, Raymond advocated the replica as the original one and claimed that the one hanging in the Louvre museum of Paris was a copy. He even challenged the museum to prove the authenticity of his version. In fact, it is said that a few experts, too, had questioned the original one in the Louvre.

Christie's added that the columns on each side of the painting are missing in Hekking Mona Lisa and it is similar to the group of paintings produced in the 17th century in terms of fracture and material.

The selling price of the replica was the highest ever paid to a fake Mona Lisa painting.

### Write to us!

Got feedback for us? We would love to hear about it. Have an event you want others to know about? Tell us. Clicked a pic worth sharing? Send it across. Your inputs are invaluable. You can mail your comments to [editor@fianynjct.org](mailto:editor@fianynjct.org)

You can also follow us on

- @fianynjct.org
- federationofindianassociations
- @FIANYNJCTorg

Voluntary Content  
Compilation  
FIA NY-NJ-CT and  
Community Volunteers

Voluntary Graphics  
Compilation  
Gracia Marcom