

Destination USA: 2024 EducationUSA Fair in India

These fairs provide a unique platform for students and their families to explore higher education opportunities in the United States, learn about the application process, and gather information directly from their representatives on various institutions. EducationUSA Fairs in India are significant events organized to connect prospective students with representatives from U.S. colleges and universities. These fairs provide a unique platform for students and their families to explore higher education opportunities in the United States, learn about the application process, and gather information directly from their representatives on various institutions.

Highlights of EducationUSA Fairs in India:

- Extensive Participation from over 80 universities offers students a wide array of choices for their higher education. Representatives from the higher education institutes are available to answer questions, provide detailed information about programs, and offer insights into campus life.

- The fairs often feature workshops and seminars on crucial topics such as the U.S. college application process, visa procedures, financial aid opportunities, internships and other work opportunities and standardized testing. These sessions are designed to equip students and parents

with the knowledge needed to navigate the complexities of applying to U.S. institutions.

- Students can interact directly with admissions officers, alums, and current students from various universities, gaining firsthand knowledge about their experiences and advice. These interactions help students make informed decisions about their education and career paths.

- EducationUSA advisors are at the fairs to provide free, personalized guidance and support throughout college applications. Advisors offer unbiased information about studying in the United States, ensuring that students receive accurate and reliable advice.

- These fairs attract participants from all over India, including major cities and smaller towns, making higher education opportunities in the United States accessible to a broad audience. The diversity of attendees fosters a rich exchange of ideas and perspectives, enhancing the overall experience for everyone involved. Benefits for students and parents:

- Students can gather comprehensive information about various institutions, compare programs, and make informed decisions.

- The presence of EducationUSA advisors ensures that students receive expert



guidance tailored to their specific needs.

- Workshops and seminars provide valuable insights into the U.S. education system, application procedures, and cultural aspects of studying abroad.

- Students and parents can ask questions and clarify any doubts they have about studying in the U.S., ensuring a clear understanding of the process. EducationUSA Fairs in India are a trusted, valuable, and

free resource for students aspiring to pursue higher education in the United States.

By providing access to a wealth of information, personalized guidance, and opportunities to interact with representatives from diverse institutions, these fairs play a crucial role in helping students achieve their academic and career goals. Here are the dates for the upcoming 2024 EducationUSA fairs across India.

New cutting-edge drugs from US, UK to now be quickly available to Indian patients

Hyderabad: In a groundbreaking development, Indian patients suffering from genetic disorders, cancer and rare or orphan diseases will have expedited access to cutting-edge drugs, including gene therapies and immunotherapy treatments, which are currently available in US and Europe, as the Indian drug regulatory authorities have waived-off the requirement to hold local clinical trials of such drugs in India. The waiver means that innovative treatments, including mRNA-based drugs and vaccines developed in the United States, European Union, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, and Japan, can be directly made available to Indian patients. This decision is expected to significantly improve treatment outcomes and reduce financial burdens for patients with these debilitating conditions. The Drugs and Controller General of India (DCGI) in a very recent order said 'As per the rule 101 of New Drugs and Clinical Trial Rules, 2019, the Central Licensing Authority, with the approval of the Central Government, may specify the name of the countries, for considering waiver of local clinical trial for approval of new drugs under Chapter X and

for grant of permission for conduct of clinical trial under Chapter V'. The countries from where such drugs can be made available directly in India include USA, UK, Japan, Canada and the European Union. The categories of the new drug that will be made available in India including orphan drugs of rare disease, gene and cellular therapy products, new drugs used in pandemic situations, new drugs used in special defense purposes and those drugs having significant therapeutic advancement over the current standard care in India, the notice from the DCGI said. The local clinical trial waiver for approval of a new drug, which is already approved in the five countries, can be considered if the drug is already approved and marketed in those countries. They also should not have major unexpected serious adverse events in their respective countries, the notice from the DCGI said. The five countries including USA, UK, Canada and EU from where the newly developed drugs can be made available to Indian patients without local clinical trials are well known for their meticulous drug testing and tough regulations.



Why NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams may be stuck in space until next year

This is Boeing's first time launching astronauts, after flying a pair of empty Starliners that suffered software and other issues. Even before Wilmore and Williams blasted off June 5, their capsule sprang a leak in propulsion-related plumbing. Boeing and NASA judged the small helium leak to be stable and isolated, and proceeded with the test flight. But as Starliner approached the space station the next day, four more leaks erupted. Five thrusters also failed.

(Unravel the complexities of our digital world on The Interface podcast, where business leaders and scientists share insights that shape tomorrow's innovation. The Interface is also available on YouTube, Apple Podcasts and Spotify.) The capsule managed to dock safely, and four of the thrusters ultimately worked. But engineers scrambled, conducting thruster test-firings on the ground and in space. After two months, there's still no root cause for the thruster malfunctions. All but one of the 28 thrusters seem OK, but the fear is that if too many conk out again, the crew's safety could be jeopardised. The thrusters are needed at flight's end to keep the capsule in the right position for the critical deorbit burn.

NASA bristles at suggestions that Wilmore and Williams are stranded or stuck. NASA has stressed from the get-go that in an emergency at the space station — like a fire or decompression — Starliner could still be used by the pair as a lifeboat to leave. A former NASA executive said Thursday the astronauts are “kind of stuck,” although certainly not stranded. They're safe aboard the space station with plenty of supplies and work to do, said Scott Hubbard.

If NASA decides to go with a SpaceX return, Starliner would be cut loose first to open up one of two parking spots for U.S. capsules. Before that happens Wilmore and Williams would fashion seats for themselves in the SpaceX Dragon capsule currently docked at the space station. That's because every station occupant needs a lifeboat at all times. Once Starliner's docking port is empty, then SpaceX could launch another Dragon to fill that slot — the one that Wilmore and Williams would ride. Like Boeing's Starliner, SpaceX's Dragon is meant to carry four astronauts. To make room for Wilmore and Williams, NASA said Wednesday it could bump two of the four astronauts due to launch to the space station next month with SpaceX. The empty seats would be reserved for Wilmore and Williams, but they would have to remain up there until February. That's because station missions are supposed to last at least six months. Some have lasted a year. Two Russians up there right now will close out a yearlong stint when they return in a three-seat Soyuz capsule in September alongside a NASA crewmate. There's no thought given to ordering up a special SpaceX express, and the Dragon at the station now is the ride home next month for four residents.

This isn't the first time a U.S. astronaut has had their stay extended. NASA astronaut Frank Rubio and his two Russian



crewmates ended up spending just over a year in space after their docked Soyuz capsule was hit by space junk and leaked all its coolant. An empty Russian capsule was sent up to bring them back last September. Wilmore and Williams are both retired Navy captains and longtime NASA astronauts who already have long space station missions behind them. Wilmore, 61, and Williams, 58, said going into this test flight that they expected to learn a lot about Starliner and how it operates. At their only news conference from space in July, they assured reporters they were keeping busy, helping with repairs and research, and expressed confidence in all the Starliner testing going on behind the scenes. There's been no public word from them yet on the prospects of an eight-month stay.

Wilmore and Williams' suitcases were removed from Starliner before liftoff to make room for equipment urgently needed for the space station's urine-into-drinking-water recycling system. So they made do with spare clothes already up there. A supply ship finally arrived this week with their clothes, along with extra food and science experiments for the entire nine-person crew. More supplies are due in a few more months. As for air, the space station has its own oxygen-generating systems. Despite the fat reserves, NASA would like to get back to normal as soon as possible. Besides Wilmore and Williams, there are four other Americans and three Russians on board. NASA deliberately hired two companies to get its crews to and from the space station, just as it did for delivering cargo. The space agency considered it an insurance policy of sorts: If one crew or cargo provider was grounded, the other could carry the load. “You want to have another alternative both for cost reasons and for safety reasons and options. So NASA needs Boeing to be successful,” said Hubbard, who served on the Columbia Accident Investigation Board in 2003. Even

with the latest setbacks, NASA insists it wants to keep using Boeing Starliners for astronaut rides. The goal is to send up one Dragon and one Starliner every year with crews, six months apart, until the station is retired in 2030. SpaceX has been at it since 2020. Boeing insists its capsule could still safely bring the astronauts home. But the company said Wednesday it would take the steps necessary to bring the capsule back empty if that's NASA's decision. Last week, the company posted a list of all the tests that have been done on the thrusters since liftoff.

“We still believe in Starliner's capability and its flight rationale,” the company

said. A longtime space contractor, Boeing has had to overcome multiple Starliner problems over the years. The company had to launch an empty Starliner twice before committing to a crew, repeating the initial flight test because of bad software and other issues. The delays have cost the company more than \$1 billion. Hubbard questions whether NASA and Boeing should have launched the crew with the original helium leak, which cascaded into more. “Whatever happens with the Starliner, they need to find out what the problem was and fix it,” he said, “And give everybody confidence they are still in the aerospace business in a major way.”

China's rocket breaks into 300 pieces of space junk after satellite launch

New Delhi: China's Long March 6A rocket broke apart creating over 300 pieces of trackable debris in low Earth orbit, after achieving a significant milestone of launching 18 Qianfan satellites, the US Space Command (USSPACECOM) said on Friday. The 18 satellites were part of the first batch aimed to establish China's “own version of Elon Musk's Starlink”, called the Qianfan (“Thousand Sails”) broadband network.

The satellites were launched on Tuesday on the Long March 6A rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in North China's Shanxi Province. The satellites were designed and built by the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Innovation Academy for Microsatellites in Shanghai. While the rocket successfully delivered the satellites at an altitude of about 800 kilometres, soon after its upper stage broke apart. The breakup generated a cloud of debris that

is trackable around Earth, the USSPACECOM said. “USSPACECOM can confirm the breakup of a Long March 6A rocket launched on Aug. 6, 2024, resulting in over 300 pieces of trackable debris in low Earth orbit,” the organisation said in a statement, posted on social media platform X.com on Friday. “USSPACECOM has observed no immediate threats and continues to conduct routine conjunction assessments to support the safety and sustainability of the space domain,” it added. China launched the Qianfan mega constellation project in 2023 to provide more extensive and high-quality communication services for domestic users. Developed by the Shanghai-based company SpaceSail, the Qianfan network is reported to establish a network of over 15,000 low earth orbit (LEO) wide-screen multimedia satellites in the long run, of which 108 satellites will be launched this year and 648 satellites by 2025 end.

Dr. Ajai Kumar Agarwal Appointed as Chairman Public Relations Committee of The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI)

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) has announced the appointment of Dr. Ajai Kumar Agarwal as the Chairman of its Public Relations Committee. The invitation to Dr. Agarwal was extended by FTCCI President Suresh Kumar Singhal, who highlighted the organization's vital role in shaping Telangana's industrial and commercial landscape over the past 107 years. FTCCI has been instrumental in advocating for the interests of industry and commerce, significantly contributing to the rapid industrial growth in the state.

"Our organization has consistently strived for excellence, and effective public relations are essential to furthering our mission and expanding our impact," stated Suresh Singhal. "Given your exemplary achievements and esteemed reputation in public relations, we are honored to have you serve as Chairman of our Public Relations Committee." As Chairman, Dr. Agarwal will be responsible for leading the development and implementation of comprehensive public relations strategies, overseeing the creation and dissemination of press releases and other communication materials, and advising on media relations to facilitate positive coverage of FTCCI's events and initiatives. He will also mentor and guide the PR committee members to ensure the highest standards of public relations practices.

"I am honored to accept the invitation from the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry to serve as the Chairman of their Public Relations Committee," said Dr. Ajai Kumar Agarwal. "I look forward to work with the FTCCI team to enhance the image of the organization & public relations efforts and further strengthen its position as a leading advocate for industry and commerce in

Telangana." **Dr. Ajai Kumar Agarwal - Public Relations Veteran and Acclaimed Author***

He has been conferred with most prestigious & coveted International Bharat Gaurav Award in the British Parliament and his name has also appeared in the Guinness Book of World Records as one of the "23 Positive Changemakers in the World." Dr. Ajai Kumar Agarwal is a renowned public relations expert with over four decades of experience in the field. He currently serves as the National President of the International Chamber of Public Relations and the Vice Chairman & Administrative Head of the World Communicators Council.

Dr. Agarwal is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Indira Gandhi National Integration Award, the Unity Award by Dr. Balram Jakhar, the Lok Sabha Speaker, and the Kamal Patra Award from Junior Chambers International. Born in Tilhar, Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Agarwal holds degrees in B.Sc, LLB, PG Diploma in PR, MS-PR, and Ph.D. from various universities. He is a prolific writer and a regular contributor to newspapers and magazines. Dr. Agarwal has also delivered numerous radio talks, appeared as a panelist on national TV channels, and has been interviewed by leading media outlets. Prior to his current roles, Dr. Agarwal served as the former national president of the Public Relations Council of India (PRCI) and held senior positions in corporate communications at the Central Bank of India and the CBSL group of companies. He is currently an Advisor to the SME Chamber of India for the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, the Dakshin Bhartiya Agarwal Samaj for South India, the Jan Urja Manch Hyderabad, and the Eco Bharat Foundation.



OPPO F27 Pro+ 5G to Receive GenAI Features Soon

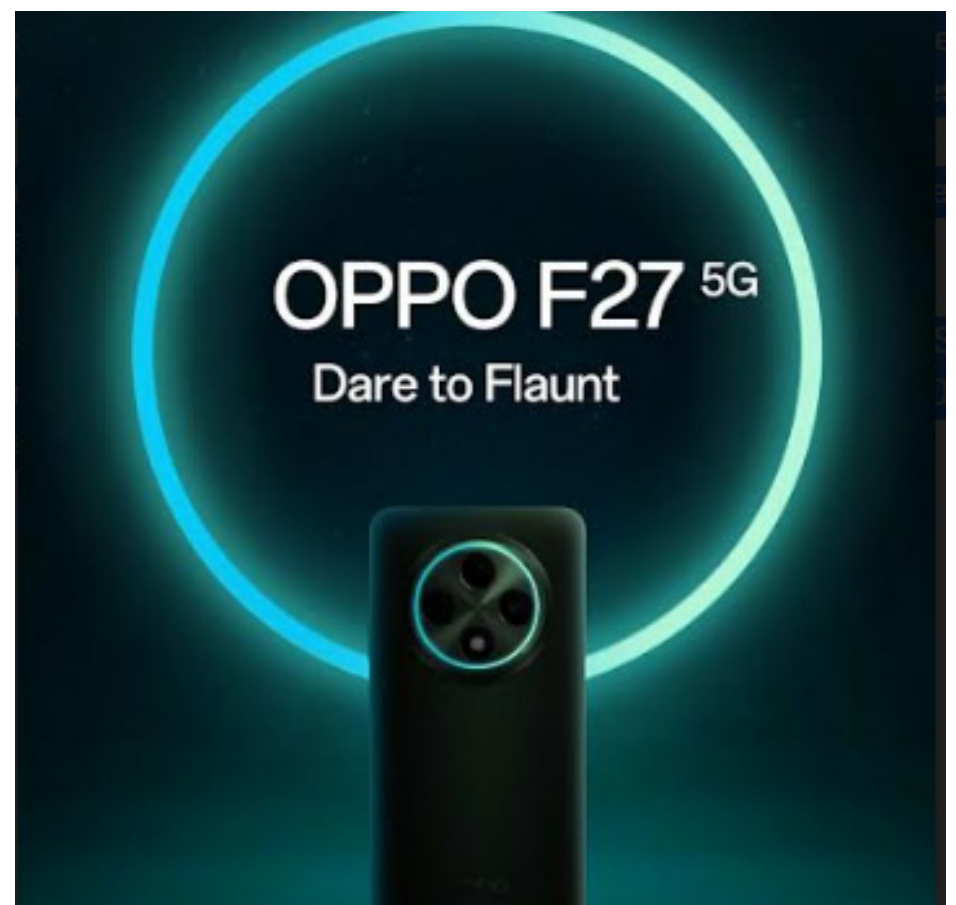
OPPO India's rugged and durable F27 Pro+ 5G- designed to survive Indian monsoons with its IP66, IP68, and IP69 rating- will now get advanced Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) features in an OS update on August 22. This aligns with OPPO India's commitment to bringing AI to all users, irrespective of price points.

The OPPO F27 Pro+ 5G's suite of GenAI features will provide added value to consumers by boosting user creativity and productivity. AI Eraser 2.0 allows users to remove unwanted objects and photobombers from snapshots with just a few taps and 98% image-recognition accuracy. AI Smart Image Matting 2.0 lets users crop multiple subjects or objects from a single picture. These cutouts can be saved as stickers and added to photos to create fun memes. AI Studio allows the creation of AI-generated images based on aesthetically designed templates that range from cowboys, astronauts to

cyberpunk heroes.

The device will also feature AI LinkBoost which enhances call quality and optimizes network usage by intelligently detecting when you enter or exit an elevator, ensuring swift reconnection to the network. With AI LinkBoost, network switching is seamless, minimizing delays and interruptions for a smoother experience.

The F27 Pro+ 5G- launched on June 13, 2024- boasts a specially engineered 360-degree Armour Body with MIL-STD-810H Method 516.8 and Swiss SGS Premium Performance 5 Stars Drop Resistant certification. In the first month after its launch, it smashed all existing records to post a 65% increase in sales over the previous-generation OPPO F25 Pro. Following its success OPPO India will introduce its F27 5G soon at an even more attractive price point with the latest GenAI features, furthering the brand's commitment to democratizing AI for all.



BJP alleges man accused of rape attempt an ex-aide of Dimple Yadav, SP reacts

A war of words has erupted between the Bharatiya Janata Party and Samajwadi Party after a former 'block pramukh' was arrested for allegedly trying to rape a 15-year-old girl in Kannauj district of Uttar Pradesh. Kannauj superintendent of police (SP) Amit Kumar Anand said that around 1:30 am, the UP 112 service received a call in which a girl alleged being undressed and a rape attempt was made on her. Anand was quoted as saying that the girl along with her aunt had gone to meet accused Nawab Singh Yadav, who had called the duo on pretext of a job offer. According to the complaint, the girl alleged that Yadav tried to force himself on her when her aunt had gone to the bathroom. "But once she came back and saw Yadav in his inner-wears, they immediately called 112," police said. "Taking cognisance of the call, the local police and PRV teams immediately reached the spot. The girl was rescued and the accused, who was in an objectionable condition, was taken into custody," the city top cop added. "On the basis of the complaint, an FIR has been lodged under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and the POCSO Act. The accused has been arrested and further legal proceedings are underway," he told reporters. The BJP alleged that Nawab Singh Yadav has also been the representative of Dimple Yadav, Lok Sabha MP and SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's wife. "Nawab Singh Yadav is not only a small leader of



SP, but he has also been (former) MP Dimple Yadav's representative. Samajwadi Party has always covered up such crimes under the policy that boys are boys and they make mistakes ('ladke hai, ladko se

galti ho jaati hai). First, it was Moid Khan of Ayodhya and Nawab Yadav of Kannauj. This is the real character of the SP," UP BJP spokesperson Rakesh Tripathi told PTI. SP responds to allegations When asked about the accused, the Samajwadi

Party claimed that Nawab Singh Yadav is no longer associated with the party. SP's Kannauj unit president Kaleem Khan told PTI, "It's his individual matter and the Samajwadi Party has nothing to do with it."

'I respect you, I admire you': Bangladesh interim head Muhammad Yunus to students who led anti-Hasina protests



Several high-ranking allies of Hasina including the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Central Bank Governor resigned following her sudden departure to India a week ago.

Student leaders behind the protests that toppled Sheikh Hasina's government called Muhammad Yunus back from Europe to steer the nation's democratic reforms. Nobel laureate and Bangladesh's interim leader Muhammad Yunus described the country as undergoing a student-led revolution following the ouster of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. "This is a revolution, a student-led revolution and there is no doubt that the entire government collapsed as a result," Yunus said during a news briefing.

The student leaders behind the protests that toppled Hasina called the leader of Bangladesh's caretaker government back from Europe, urging him to steer the nation's democratic reforms. "I said, I respect you, I admire you. What you have done is absolutely unparalleled... Because you ordered me to do this, I take your order," said Yunus. Several high-ranking allies of Hasina including the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Central Bank Governor resigned following her sudden departure to India a week ago. The resignations came after students issued ultimatums demanding their exit from office. Yunus confirmed that these resignations were executed in accordance with legal procedures. "I am sure they will find the legal way to justify all of this, because

legally... all the steps were followed," Muhammad Yunus added. Yunus made these remarks during an off-the-record media briefing on Sunday night at a state building serving as a temporary seat of government. His office permitted their publication on Monday evening, reported AFP. Muhammad Yunus was sworn in on August 9 evening by President Mohammed Shahabuddin, three days after the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led Awami League government by student-led anti-quota protests that turned into a mass movement against her, and forced her to leave the country. In the caretaker administration, Yunus is assisted by a 16-member advisory council. Asif Mahmud and Nahid Islam, two key organisers of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement are among its members. Protests in Bangladesh began last month after the Bangladesh high court reinstated a quota system for government jobs, including a 30 per cent reservation for families of veterans from the 1971 war of independence from Pakistan, overturning a 2018 decision by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government to scrap it. However, the Supreme Court suspended the high court's order after the government's appeal, setting a date of August 7 to hear the government's challenge.

The people's poet who bridged divides through lyrical simplicity

Certain lines of great poets become noteworthy quotes, which even those who are not followers of poetry, know well. One such couplet, which falls in this category is: "Kabhi kisi ko muqammal jahan nahin milta, kabhi zameen tau kabhi aasman nahin milta" (No one always gets a world that lacks nothing; sometimes the ground is with you, sometimes the sky is missing). The author of these lines is one of modern India's most accomplished and loved poets: Nida Fazli.

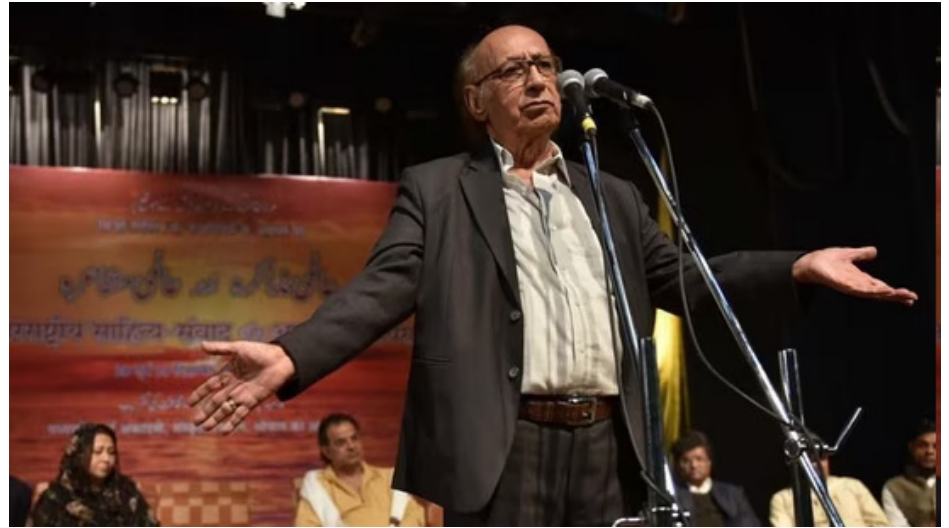
Fazli was born in 1938 in New Delhi. Hailing from a Kashmiri Muslim family, he grew up and studied in Gwalior. In 1965, eighteen years after Partition, his family migrated to Pakistan. He was the only one among them who decided not to go. At that time, he had just moved to Mumbai to pursue his career as a poet. It is interesting, and also perhaps revealing of why he chose to stay in India, that Fazli's first inspiration to write poetry came from none other than Surdas. As a young lad, he was passing a temple where a Surdas bhajan was being sung. The lines of the composition described the agony of Radha on being separated from Lord Krishna. Viraha geet, which reflects the mood of being parted from a loved one, forms an entire genre of bhakti poetry, sung by Radha and the gopis after Krishna leaves Vrindavan. The sheer poetic genius and pathos of the bhajan had a deep impact on the impressionable mind of Fazli, and he resolved to start writing poetry.

It is perhaps for this reason that Fazli's poetry has a lyrical simplicity that is easily comprehensible, even to an audience not well-versed in Urdu. Sample, for instance, this well-known couplet by Fazli, sung by Jagjit Singh: "Duniya jise kehte hain jadoo ka khilona hai, mil jaaye tau mitti hai kho jaaye tau sona hai" (What you call this world is like a magical toy; like mud when you have it, but like gold if lost). He also wrote lyrics for several films, and they too had this immediate resonance with people. Among his most popular compositions is for the film *Aap To Aise Na The* (1980): "Tu is tarah se mere zindagi mein shaamil hai: jahaan bhi jaon ye lagta hai teri mehfil hai" (You are part of my life is such a way, that wherever I go it seems you are not away). Another very popular lyric was from the film *Sarfaroosh* (1999): "Hosh walon ko khabar kya be-khudi kya chiiz hai, ishq kiije phir samajhiye zindagi kya chiiz hai" (How can those always sober know what oblivion is; fall in love and understand what living is). This too was sung by Jagjit Singh.

Nida Fazli, in fact, dared to question the need for the highly Persianised Urdu of some popular and talented poets, such as Sahir Ludhianvi, Ali Sardar Jafri and Kaifi Azmi. Frankly, I greatly admire all three, but that is beside the point. The important thing is that as a relative newcomer to the established hierarchy of Urdu poetry, and films, he was unafraid to voice his point of view, and was prepared to suffer the consequences, which did, indeed, follow, when he was more or less boycotted from prominent mushairas. It was only when noted film director, Kamal Amrohi, approached him to write the last two songs for the film *Razia Sultan* (1983), that he got

some rehabilitation.

Fazli was, like many great Urdu-Hindustani poets, a Sufi by temperament and choice. He was firmly against religious fundamentalism, and religious divisiveness. On issues of religion, he wrote with conviction but also with his direct and characteristic simplicity. In compositional structure, many of these were in the format of the doha. Among my favourites are: "Wo sufi ka qual ho ya pandit ka gyaan, jitni biite aap par utna hi sach maan" (Be it the Sufi's promise, or knowledge the pandit flaunts, what you actually went through is the only truth that counts). Or this one: "Baccha bola dekh kar masjid aali-shaan, Allah tere ek ko itna bada makaan" (Seeing the moques's grandeur the child spontaneously said, for just one Allah what a palatial home). The influence of Kabir is obvious. Fazli was the recipient of numerous awards, including the Padma Shri in 2013. He died of a heart attack on February 8, 2016, at the age of 77. That day also would have been the 75th birthday of Jagjit Singh (who passed away in October 2011) with whom he had frequently — and very successfully — collaborated. Fazli will always be remembered as a people's poet, who stood for peace, coexistence, and



mutual respect among all religions, for which he was awarded the National Harmony Award.

An India torn by religious strife was anathema to him. We need to remember this doha-couplet of his, of what would happen to India if this was ever to happen: "Naqsha le kar haath mein baccha hai hairaan, kaise deemak kha gai uska

Hindustan" (Holding the map of India the child wonders, how could termites eat away her Hindustan?) Pavan K Varma is author, diplomat, and former Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha). Just Like That is a weekly column where Varma shares nuggets from the world of history, culture, literature, and personal reminiscences. The views expressed are personal

A master of the fractured narrative: Poonam Saxena on Bhisham Sahni

He saw a long-cherished dream come true across the new border, as the Indian flag was finally unfurled over Red Fort. But amid the continued rioting and violence of Partition, trains to his hometown were abruptly stopped. His family was scattered across the subcontinent at this point. His father was alone in Rawalpindi. His brother, the actor Balraj Sahni, was in Bombay. His wife, daughter, nephews and nieces were in Srinagar. It would be months before the family was eventually reunited, in Bombay, in November.

Sahni was 31 at this time. He had been part of the fight for freedom, and was witnessing the horrors of Partition. He often wrote about the latter in later years and is acknowledged, in fact, as one of the most compassionate and powerful chroniclers of that divide. Sahni's parents had not been involved in the freedom movement. His father, who ran a textile-commission agency, defined "manliness" as rising at dawn, cold water baths, brisk early-morning walks, simple vegetarian food, and evening prayers before dinner. He often declared that the British were robbing the country blind, but also expressed doubt as to how Gandhi's spinning wheel could solve the problem.

Even as a child, Sahni felt differently. In his memoir, *Aaj Ke Ateez* (Today's Pasts; 2003), he wrote of quietly attending bonfires of foreign cloth in the neighbourhood, and watching demonstrations and early-morning processions led by the Congress. At one such gathering, a man

was arrested for saying he had in his hand salt he had made by breaking the government Salt Law. As he was taken away, he chanted: "Gandhiji ki jai ho (Long live Gandhi)!" At Government College, Lahore, Sahni saw a fellow student expelled for wearing a Gandhi cap.

He was once at the receiving end of racist violence himself. At Kanpur railway station, he was talking to the clerk at the enquiry counter when a British officer pushed him out of the way. Sahni protested that he had been there first, at which the officer caught him by the throat and threw him to the ground. "I felt extremely insulted... I went and sat in my compartment for a while and regretted not doing or saying anything," he wrote in his memoir. At the age of 27, just after Gandhi gave the call for the Quit India movement in 1942, Sahni joined the Congress party. There, he met workers who left a deep impression on him. He was struck by "a special kind of patriot who was neither a leader or a professional party worker and who was only drawn to the national movement as a result of the feeling that welled up from within him". In a film on his life made by the Sahitya Akademi, he remembered a carpenter whose job it was to play the harmonium and sing songs to draw audiences, whenever a Congress event was to be held. "He had been to jail several times, he was poor, ill, yet there was a certain commitment in him," Sahni wrote. He saw how the British exacerbated communal tension in response to the freedom move-

ment. As the struggle intensified, "one of the most potent weapons in their hands was communal riots." After Independence, Sahni would spend years teaching, acting, and wandering.

He taught at colleges in Ambala, Amritsar and Delhi; spent seven years in Moscow translating Russian classics into Hindi; acted in films (including a small role in Govind Nihalani's 1988 TV series *Tamas*, based on his own novel). Through it all, he wrote. When he died in 2003, he left behind seven novels, six plays and more than 100 short stories. *Tamas*, the Partition novel he finally wrote in 1973, remains his best-known work. Asked why he waited so long, he said the impulse to write it came from the 1970 riots in Bhiwandi, Maharashtra. He visited that town after the riots and wrote that "walking through the streets you felt you were walking through the ruins of an ancient city". It was all eerily familiar. He felt he had experienced this uneasy quiet before. For me, his most unforgettable Partition-themed story is *Pali*, a tender tale about a lost child. Four-year-old *Pali* is separated from his parents as they are crossing over to India, and adopted by a loving, childless Muslim couple. His parents never stop looking for him, and eventually track him down. But it has now been seven years. Religious zealots on both sides of the border claim him as theirs. But who is *Pali* really, but the beloved child of two caring sets of parents? Sahni was such a towering figure that the writer Krishna Sobti called him the *Bhishma Pitamah* of Hindi literature.

How South India's earliest cement company was formed

Aditya Birla Group's flagship UltraTech Cement Limited recently buying 32.72% from promoters, including N. Srinivasan, and their associates in India Cements Ltd. for ₹3,954 crore, thereby acquiring a controlling stake (over 51%) in the 78-year-old company, has been a major development in an otherwise quite corporate world of Tamil Nadu. India Cements was one of south India's earliest cement companies to be formed in 1946, a year before India's Independence, when S.N.N. Sankaralinga Iyer, an indigenous banker from Kallidaikurichi in Tirunelveli, and his young partner from Thanjavur T.S. Narayanaswami (N. Srinivasan's father) got their act together. Vast tracts of limestone

Sankaralinga Iyer was certain that there was a tremendous potential for industrial development in Tirunelveli district. In 1942, on a visit to the hamlet of Talaiyuthu, he "stumbled" upon something that was to change the face of the village forever — beneath the barren landscape lay vast tracts of limestone, according to a coffee-table book on the company. The book, released in 2018 by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami, chronicled the journey of India Cements over the last seven decades and also its vice-chairman and managing director N. Srinivasan's 50 years of association with the company (1968-2018).

"Soon after, in a hotel in Ramanathapuram, he saw a local staff member drop a stone into some water to purify it. Excited about what this could mean, he got the stone tested, and it was confirmed that the stone was, indeed, gypsum. Tirunelveli had enough supplies of both limestone and gypsum, the raw materials required for the manufacture of cement," the book said. At the same time, T.S. Narayanaswami was honing his business skills in Madras as a junior officer in the Indo Commercial Bank. The year 1945 marked the end of the Second World War, and with India's Independence in sight, there was a call for nation-builders to grow the nascent economy, which also led to the birth of India Cements.

Sankaralinga Iyer did the ground research and drew up the plan and T.S. Narayanaswami liaised with the government and removed the hurdles to the proposal. And thus, in 1946, in the dawn of a soon-to-be-independent nation, was born one of south India's earliest cement companies, with its very first factory in the little-known village of Talaiyuthu. Soon, the area would come to be known as the township of Sankarnagar, after the India Cements flagship plant, according to the book. India Cements was incorporated on February 21, 1946, in technical collaboration with FLSmidth and Co. of Denmark. Under the agreement, the Danish company would provide technical know-how, design and engineering of the plant, and machinery. In the era before Independence, the company also offered its shares to investors in an initial public offering of ₹1 crore, becoming the first Indian company to offer a public issue. The issue was oversubscribed. Machinery came all the way from Denmark in 1947 and the production commenced at Talaiyuthu in August 1949 with



an initial capacity of one lakh tonnes a year.

In 1956, T.S. Narayanaswami was made an ex-officio director on the board of India Cements, while in 1962 Sankaralinga Iyer's son, K.S. Narayanan was also made an ex-officio director on the board. India Cements was one of the six cement companies to be granted licences across India to meet the increasing demand for cement as part of the Indian government's planned industrial expansion. By 1959, the capacity at the Sankarnagar plant expanded almost five-fold. That year, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, accompanied by Chief Minister K. Kamaraj, visited the plant. In 1963, India Cements established its second plant at Sankaridurg in Salem, with a capacity of two lakh tonnes a year. Five years later, due to the unexpected demise of his father T.S. Narayanaswami, N. Srinivasan had to cut short his post-graduate studies in the U.S. and assume a role at India Cements. Four years later, Sankaralinga Iyer passed away. India Cements' promoters also averted a takeover attempt by ITC, of which details are not known. Removed from board

Meanwhile, differences of opinion cropped up between K. S. Narayanan and N. Srinivasan. In 1979, Srinivasan was removed from the board. In September 1989, he made a comeback and became the face of the company. In mid-2000, N. Srinivasan and his brother N. Ramachandran bought out the stake of N. Sankar (son of K.S. Narayanan) of Sanmar Group in India Cements. In 2009, Srinivasan bought out Ramachandran's entire stake in India Cements to become the sole promoter. Srinivasan took the company to newer heights with his aggressive acquisition strategies, key among them include Raasi Cements, and the Chilamkur plant of Coromandel Fertilisers (now known as Coromandel International Ltd.) India Cements' current capacity is 14.45 million tonnes per

annum of grey cement, with 12.95 million tonnes being made in Tamil Nadu and the rest in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. In his message to employees, N. Srinivasan said that due to the financial woes and unsuccessful efforts at monetising some of the company's landholdings, selling to UltraTech was the only viable

option. UltraTech inherits a company with over seven decades of history and strong cement brands such as Sankar Super Power, Coromandel Super Power, Coromandel King, and Raasi Gold, which have found their use in landmark projects, monuments, architectural masterpieces, and a range of houses.

Indian wearable market declines 10% for the first time; ASP continues to fall



India's wearable device market declined for the first time ever, by 10% year-over-year (yoy) to 29.5 million units, noted International Data Corporation's (IDC). The first half of 2024 declined by 4.7%, shipping 55.1 million units. Cautious inventory stocking by the vendors with a focus on clearing the old stock before the festive season begins and fewer new launches were the key reasons for this decline, the research firm said.

The average selling price (ASP) for the overall wearables also hit a record low, declining by 10.3% from \$21 (₹1,761) to \$18.8 (₹1,577) in 2Q24.

Smartwatches struggled declining by 27.4% yoy to 9.3 million units. The share of smartwatches within wearables dropped to 31.5% from 39.0% in 2Q23. Smartwatch

ASP dropped to \$20.6 (₹1,728) from \$25.6 (₹2,147) a year ago due to price cuts to clear inventory and discounts/offers by brands. Advanced smartwatches grew by 21.9%, with market share increasing from 1.5% to 2.5%.

Earwear category remained flat, growing by 0.7% yoy with 20.1 million units. Within earwear, the share of Truly Wireless Stereo (TWS) segment reached a record 71% from 65.5% a year ago, growing by 9.1% yoy. Earwear others (which includes Tethered and Over Ear) shipments declined by 16.1% with 5.8 million units. Earwear ASP declined by 4.2% to \$17.2 (₹1,443).

Smart ring category continues to grow, with more than 72 thousand smart rings shipment in 2Q24 at an ASP of \$204.6 (₹17,166). Ultrahuman led with a 48.4% share, followed by Pi Ring at 27.5% and Aabo at third with a 10.5% share. IDC expects the launch of more affordable smart rings by incumbent wearable brands during the upcoming festive season in the next few months. Share of the online channel increased to 63.4% from 62.0% in 1Q24, growing by 17.6% QoQ. While offline channel shipments witnessed 11.1% growth QoQ.

Ayurveda, Siddha: Can Indian Knowledge Systems be evidence-based?

Can Indian Systems of Medicine, such as Ayurveda, Siddha, and tribal medicines, be evidence-based? These questions have come to the fore in the Ramdev Baba Coronil dispute, in which an herbal product was claimed to be a cure for COVID-19 without sufficient scientific evidence. Many decades ago, in Vietnam, during the war, more soldiers fighting the American army were dying from chloroquine-resistant malaria than American bullets. At the request of Ho Chi Min, China's Mao Zedong initiated Project 523, sending researchers to scour traditional Chinese medicinal literature to identify herbs for malaria-like symptoms. The most remarkable outcome was the discovery of artemisinin, a life-saving anti-malarial drug. Tu Youyou and her team, inspired by a 1,700-year-old treatise, discovered artemisinin using modern scientific methods. This breakthrough saved millions of lives and earned her a Nobel Prize in 2015. Despite initial scepticism, clinical trials and pathophysiological studies confirmed the efficacy of artemisinin in controlling malaria. This robust evidence convinced the global health community and led the World Health Organization to endorse artemisinin. Today, academia worldwide investigates traditional Chinese medicine using modern science tools.

In the past, Indian systems were evidence-based. In ancient Indian philosophy and scientific texts, rationalistic epistemological keywords such as pariksha, anumana, ganita, yukti, nyaya, siddhanta, tarka, and anvesana share space with some form of mythology. According to Narasimha (dated 7th-8th century), the commentator of the Rasavaisesika-sutra, attributed to Bhadanta Nagarjuna in the 5th-6th century, only two types of evidence count in Ayurveda: pratyaksha (directly observed) and anumana (conjectured/inferred), with no role for 'belief' in the sense of blind faith. (Na hy ayurvede pratyak? arthanumeyarthabhyam agamabhyam anyacchraddeharthatvam asti, d???aphalatvad iti. -RVSBh 3.45). Caraka distinguished between Yuktivyapashraya bhesaja (reason-based) and Daivavyapashraya bhesaja (faith-based) therapies, emphasising the process of investigation, 'pariksha', as critical for arriving at scientific truth. He stated that a claim becomes generally acceptable only after it has been thoroughly investigated by several investigators and is supported by robust and rational evidence. Then why has Ayurveda fallen on the way?

From the sixth to tenth century CE, Ayurveda was a thriving and active field. New medicinal formulas were discovered and added to its extensive corpus. For example, Vagbhata (6th century CE) emphasised the importance of updating medical literature, 'yuga anurupa,' and authored new commentaries on Charaka Samhita and Sushruta Samhita. Dalhana (11th century CE) did not deter to amend and add two new iron formulations for anaemia treatment in his commentary on Sushruta Samhita. "Ayurveda does not derive its authority because it is divined by Brahma; its merit comes simply from the

verifiable truths it contains", according to Vagbhata. However, numerous practitioners of Ayurveda believed that it was attained by ancient 'rishis' through their divine 'yogic' powers rather than as an experimental and experience-based scientific therapeutic system subject to critique. "Subservience to the written word and textual authority, reinforced by the societal effects of caste hierarchy and mystical philosophies, gradually replaced the spirit of scientific adventurism and enquiry that characterised the work of Ayurvedic pioneers," says MS Valiathan, a noted cardiologist and author of the book series Legacy of Charaka, Sushruta, and Vagbhata.

In recent history, conservatism and mysticism were reinforced and promoted by the trope formulated by Captain G Srinivasa Murti, a practising medical doctor, to the committee constituted by the Government of the Madras presidency in 1921 under the chairmanship of Muhammad Usman on the question of recognising and encouraging indigenous medical systems. While modern Western science used external aids such as the microscope, telescope, spectroscope, and so on to comprehend things beyond the range of the senses, he asserted that the Hindu sages "sought to effect the same results, not by providing their senses with external aids, but by improving their own internal organs of sense". "The general unwillingness of contemporary practitioners of Ayurveda to question the wisdom enunciated in the classical Samhitas is contrary to the teachings of the sages in ancient India who preferred pratyaksha (direct evidence), anumana (inferential evidence), and yukti (logic) over shabda pramana (textual narrations)" says Subhash C Lakhota, professor of cytogenetics at the Banaras Hindu University and a pioneer in using the drosophila model to study Ayurvedic biology. Western and Eastern

Not all invoke the divine to refuse scientific scrutiny; some hide behind cultural relativism. They argue that 'allopathy' is based on Western science and that Ayurveda is an epistemologically different yet valid knowledge system, which can be validated only using Ayurvedic logic and methods. According to Ayurvedic physiology and anatomy, shukra (semen) is formed in majja (bone marrow), and urine is formed without the involvement of the kidneys. The text further states that the combination of semen and menstrual blood results in the creation of an embryo. All of these contradict 'pratyaksha', and can these be accepted as alternative 'ways of seeing'?

Kishor Patwardhan, a Kriya Sharir Ayurveda professor at Banaras Hindu University, explains that Ayurveda's epistemology aligns with Nyaya Vaisheshika schools of thought, similar to modern science but using simple tools. "In ancient times, pratyaksha meant employing the sense organs to acquire knowledge; today, we use tools like microscopes for the same purpose", he says. Clinical



trials Randomised control trials (RCTs) are the gold standard for clinical trials assessing medication efficacy. Allopathy prescribes the same therapy for two people with identical diagnostic assessments.

However, Ayurvedic treatment is individualised based on the constitution (prakriti, agni, samhanana, etc). Due to its complexities, including multiple medications, mid-course correction, therapies, diet restrictions, and lifestyle modifications, the RCT appears to be not feasible for Ayurvedic clinical trials. Some argue that only case studies from the personal experience of Ayurvedic medical professionals are viable. The situation is not hopeless, however. Recently, methotrexate-based treatment was compared to Ayurvedic intervention in patients with radiological indications of rheumatoid arthritis, proving the viability of double-blind, placebo-controlled trials even for individualised treatments. If there is a will, there is a way. The elephant in the room is frequently argued that modern science gives stepmotherly treatment to studying old medical systems. But this is not the case. Prompted by a fortuitous talk by former President of the Indian National Science Academy, M S Valiathan, on Ayurveda and modern medicine, Naveen Khanna and his team at the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) discovered a potent antiviral against all four dengue strains, after reviewing Ayurvedic literature. After years of research, they found that a botanical extract of Cissampelos pareira Linn (Cipa) was beneficial against dengue

in both in vitro and animal models. Human clinical trials are currently underway. Similarly, researchers at the CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine in Jammu isolated Sinococuline, a bioactive constituent of Coccus hirsutus, which has a powerful anti-dengue action, and discovered IIM-290, a botanical medicine with anti-cancer characteristics. China is investing massive amounts of government funds to revalidate ancient medicine using current evidence standards, by accepting therapies that work while rejecting those that do not. In India, we lack both funding and an unflinching commitment to evidence. Aura of mystical, the critical hurdle Sushruta maintains that medical interventions are trustworthy not just because they are effective in his own experience (pratyaksha / phaladarshana) but only because they have been rationally vetted by the community of specialists. He is seeking what is now known as a rigorous peer assessment before the claims are accepted. It is obvious that case studies cannot replace well-designed clinical trials in evaluating efficacy and assessing the underlying pathophysiology of disorders. Naturally, classical medical texts from centuries ago contain imprecise anatomy and physiology, with outdated theories of pathophysiology and aetiology. Yet, practitioners often claim divine revelation and do nothing to update or change this knowledge. Unearthing the biological basis of this knowledge trove can benefit both the Indian System of Medicine and biology.

Aim is to promote Indian Cacao, says founder of Hyderabad-based Manam Chocolate

Hyderabad: The aroma of cacao effortlessly entices, as one enters through the chocolate bar-like door of Manam Chocolate Kharkhana. Meticulously planned and crafted to provide an immersive experience to a chocolate enthusiast, the store provides every detail of a customer's indulgence right from the percentage of chocolate flavours included on the wrappers to the names of the farmers who cultivated the cacao and their place of

origin.

Founder of Manam Chocolate, Chaitanya Muppala, says his aim is to give his customers a wholesome experience. Recently featured as one of the most exciting new places to visit in the TIME annual list of the World's Greatest places, Manam Chocolate is less than a year old. However, Chaitanya says, the initiative was a five year exploration, before it was opened in August last year.

What happens to Olympic villages after the Games are over?

The Olympic Games as we know it today, dates back to Athens 1896. However, ancient Greece had its own set of religious festivals held in honour of Zeus, the Greek god, where athletes competed for their respective city-state. These ancient Olympic Games go back 2,800 years. The first ancient Olympics took place in 776 BC. These games took place once every four years, and the Olympiad, or these four years, became a unit of measuring time in ancient Greece.

The Olympic Games owe their name to Mount Olympus, where the Greek gods resided. The ancient Games took place for about four hundred years before coming to a halt, possibly due to the fire that burnt down the Temple of Olympian Zeus. In 1896, Athens played host to the first modern Olympic Games. In 1924, the Olympics came to Paris. It was also the first time that an Olympic village came into existence, albeit a temporary one. Now, a hundred years later, Olympic villages have become an inseparable part of the Games. Host countries leave no stone unturned in creating state-of-the-art villages for competing athletes. But have you ever wondered what happens to these villages once the Games come to an end? We take a look at the hundred-year history of the Olympic Games villages and their fate thereafter. Pierre de Coubertin, co-founder of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), conceptualised the inaugural Olympic Village for the 1924 Summer Games in Paris. This was the first time purpose-built dwellings were designed to accommodate athletes, offering them a place to stay and providing bedding and meals. Before this facility was available (between 1896 and 1920), athletes had to find lodging in hotels, hostels, schools, barracks, and sometimes even the boats that they travelled in to reach the host country.

The Olympic Village is a specially designed accommodation complex for athletes, coaches, and officials participating in the Olympic Games. This is typically constructed near the Olympic Stadium within an Olympic Park. The Olympic Village provides a variety of amenities, including housing, dining, medical services, and recreational facilities. These villages have witnessed an evolution from when they started building them, so that they can be repurposed after the two-week event. These buildings started being transformed into apartments or housing complexes. They are also repurposed as dormitories for universities or student housing and sometimes converted into hotels or holiday rentals. Paris 1924: For the Paris Summer Olympics in 1924, several cabins were built near the stadium (Stade de Colombes) to house visiting athletes; the complex was called 'Olympic Village'. The furnished wooden huts in the Village were designed to accommodate three people. Shared amenities included a post office, currency exchange, luggage office, telegraph and telephone services, a laundry, a newspaper kiosk, and a hairdresser. The Village also featured running water and dining halls that provided three meals a day. Teams could reserve accommodations

by making a minimum-guarantee payment, with standard daily rates for bed and board.

After the Games: The original Olympic Village was a temporary structure. Though the Stade de Colombes stadium still stands today, now known as Yves-du-Manoir (a rugby, track and association football stadium named after French rugby player Yves du Manoir), the adjacent site where the Village once stood has since been developed. Over the past century, it has hosted around 250 national and international competitions, featuring a variety of sports such as athletics, rugby, football, and even boxing. The venue held the World Championship in boxing in 1972, drawing a crowd of 40,000 spectators. Amsterdam 1928: The organisers of Amsterdam 1928 aimed to replicate the concept of an Olympic Village, inspired by the previous Paris Games. However, they found it impractical to construct suitable accommodations that met the athletes' needs at a reasonable cost, according to Olympic news website Inside the Games. As a result, no Olympic Village was built. Instead, many competitors were housed in schools, while others stayed in hotels. The American team, in particular, stayed on the President Roosevelt, which was anchored at the Amsterdam harbour. However, the Indian hockey team dominated the 1928 Olympics, scoring 29 goals without conceding any in five matches, to clinch their first Olympic gold medal. The legendary Dhyan Chand was a standout, netting 14 goals, including a hat-trick in the final against the Netherlands. This victory marked India's first Olympic medal in hockey and the start of a remarkable run of six consecutive Olympic medals over 44 years. Los Angeles 1932: For the first time, an Olympic Village was constructed in Baldwin Hills specifically for male athletes. This Village included several hundred buildings, such as post and telegraph offices, an amphitheatre, a hospital, a fire department, and a bank. Female athletes, however, stayed at the Chapman Park Hotel on Wilshire Boulevard. There were about 500 houses and each could accommodate four people. After the Games: The village was dismantled and the materials were sold. During those challenging economic times, most of the structures were demolished and some of the materials were repurposed. However, some buyers took them away piece by piece to reuse them, often transforming the material into stores, holiday homes, and even mountain huts. Berlin 1936: The Village was located at Elstal in Wustermark, on the western edge of Berlin in Germany. It was built between 1934 and 1936. This became the first permanent Olympic Village and included 140 houses, administrative and technical buildings, 40 dining halls, a sauna, a post office, a bank, a medical centre, a restaurant, shops, and a laundry. The Village also featured training facilities like a swimming pool, sports hall, and a 400-m running track. A communal building offered religious service rooms and an event space for up to 1,000 people, where nightly entertainment was provided during the Games. A bus service connected



the Village and transported athletes when needed.

After the Games: According to Martin Kaule's 2014 book, *Peenemünde: Vom Raketenzentrum zur Denkmal-Landschaft*, the Village served the German army from 1936 to 1945, then housed German refugees until 1949. The Soviet army used it from 1947 to 1991. It was designated a historic monument in 1993 and became an open-air museum in 2004. The eventful history has led to some modifications to the original plan. A lot of the buildings used to house the athletes lay abandoned. However, the site has finally become interesting to investors due to the rapid rise in value of the Berlin real estate market over the last decade, according to Getty. London 1948: Following a 12-year hiatus due to World War II, the Olympic Games were held in London in 1948. It was dubbed as "Austerity Games". Due to post-World War II economic hardship and rationing, no new venues were built. Events were primarily held at Wembley Stadium and the Empire Pool. Athletes were accommodated in existing housing near the Wembley area, rather than in a dedicated Olympic Village. Helsinki 1952: The main Village, constructed in the Käpylä district 2.5 km from the Olympic Stadium, included temporary facilities like extra bathrooms and a restaurant for the Games. Nearby, athletes had access to both outdoor and indoor training facilities, a 30-bed hospital, and a cinema. Construction of the Village began in October 1950. After the Games: As was planned before the Games, the Village became a residential area, which still stands there today.

Melbourne 1956: The Australian government, through the Housing Commission of Victoria, funded the Village construction, intending to rent or sell the accommodation after the Games. The organising committee, using public funds, built temporary annexes like dining rooms, kitchens, and storage facilities. The Village included 365 buildings, comprising 841 housing units, for teams and staff. Construction began in June 1954 and concluded in August 1956. The Heidelberg West area in Victoria,

where athletes stayed, is still known as the "Olympic Village". After the Games: The Village was transformed into a residential area and underwent a renewal program from 2005 to 2013, supported by local authorities. A nearby training ground became the stadium for local football club Heidelberg United FC. Rome 1960: The organisers used the Games to redo a dilapidated Campo Parioli area, north of the city by the River Tiber. They aimed to create a modern, permanent neighbourhood that could be converted into residential housing after the Games, addressing Rome's housing shortage at that time. Construction began on May 10, 1958, and was completed in less than two years. Tokyo 1964: The main Olympic Village was located in Shibuya, Tokyo, which was then known as Washington Heights. The site, previously housing American military personnel and their families, was returned to Japan at the end of 1963. To create the Olympic Village, existing buildings were repurposed and modified, with additional facilities constructed. Initially, organisers planned for two additional accommodation sites in Karuizawa and Oiso. However, long travel times between these venues and the main Village at Yoyogi (Shibuya) led to the creation of two more villages at Hachioji and Lake Sagami. Members of the Tokyo Olympic Committee make a final inspection of the Olympic Village at Yoyogi in Tokyo. (Photo: Getty Images) After the Games: The main Village was demolished to create Yoyogi Park. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association, only one house remains for commemorative purposes, the one which likely housed the Dutch athletes. Mexico 1968: The Miguel Hidalgo Olympic Village was built on the rural southern edge of Mexico City, around four kilometres from the Olympic Stadium. Construction began in May 1967 and was completed by September 1968. The Village was officially opened on September 17, shortly after the first occupants arrived, in a ceremony attended by the then-Mexican President Gustavo D-az Ordaz. After the Games: The Village was converted into a residential area, and its sports centre has grown into one of the largest in the southern part of the city.