

AUSTIN South Asian

Monthly Community Paper | www.austinsouthasian.com | 512-828-6709 | Vol. 17 No. 06

June 2024

KKR's IPL Final Win



By HT Sports Desk
Sachin Tendulkar heaped praise on

KKR for their all-round show as he mentioned Gautam Gambhir and Shah Rukh Khan in his congratulatory post. Kolkata Knight Riders clinched their third IPL title on Sunday after winning the battle of supremacy against Sunrisers Hyderabad in the final at MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai. (Continued On Page 19)

PM Modi Likely To Win 3rd Term



Millions of Indians voted Saturday in the next-to-last round of a grueling national election with a combined opposition trying to rattle Prime Minister Narendra Modi's

campaign for a third-consecutive term for himself and his Hindu nationalist party.

Many people lined polling stations before the start of voting at 7 a.m. to avoid the blazing sun at the peak of Indian summer. The temperature soared to 43 degrees Celsius (109 degrees Fahrenheit) in the afternoon in the Indian capital. (Continued On Page 18)

The Austin Asian American Film Festival

(AUSTIN, TEXAS – May 14, 2024; source: Juice Consulting) – The Austin Asian American Film Festival (AAAFF) returns to the AFS Cinema (located at 6259 Middle Fiskville Rd, Austin, TX



78752) this June 26 - 30, celebrating their 16th year of presenting films by Asian and American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) filmmakers. (Continued On Page 16)

inside

- Common Myths.....02
- Big Flavor.....03
- College-Bound Students Need To Know.....04
- Help Entrepreneurs.....04
- Brands You Shop.....05
- Bathroom Routine.....05
- Anxiety, Dishonesty And

Women Business Owners



Passion, collaboration and community are keys to running a successful business. That's according to a recent survey of women business leaders as part of PNC's bi-annual Economic Outlook Survey.

Passion and personal satisfaction for their business or industry is a top factor women business leaders cited for starting and staying in business, with 43% of respondents choosing that over financial success (35%) – the next most common factor. (Continued On Page 08)

\$111 Billion In Remittances

India received over USD 111 billion in remittances in 2022, marking a significant milestone as the first country to surpass the USD

Top countries receiving remittances					
2020	2021		2022		
India	51.46	India	68.91	India	111.22
China	51.46	China	63.94	China	61.10
Mexico	22.08	Philippines (Phe)	29.80	Mexico	42.88
Philippines (Phe)	21.56	Mexico	26.23	Philippines (Phe)	34.88
France	19.90	France	24.07	Egypt	29.60
Nigeria	19.70	Nigeria	20.63	France	28.82
Germany	12.78	Pakistan	19.31	Pakistan	26.09
Egypt	12.45	Egypt	18.33	Bangladesh	21.75
Belgium	10.99	Germany	15.57	Germany	19.22
Bangladesh	10.85	Bangladesh	15.30	Nigeria	18.13
				Germany	19.29

100 billion threshold, according to the United Nations migration agency, the International Organization for Migration (IOM). (Continued On Page 03)

AUSTIN ISD

AUSTIN, TEXAS (May 22, 2024) — Austin ISD held five groundbreaking and construction kick-off ceremonies in May for 2022 Bond projects: Williams Elementary (May 2), Cook Elementary (May 4), Wooten Elementary (May 9), Harris Elementary (May 14) and Sadler Means Young Women's Leadership Academy (May 21).

The events formally marked the start of construction for these projects funded through the district's historic \$2.44 billion program, which will improve safety and security at schools across the district, upgrade technology, make critical repairs to building systems, enhance athletic fields at every high school and modernize 25 campuses through full or phased renovations. (Continued On Page 03)

July 2024
Travel Agents
Special
512-828-6709

- Evasion A.....06
- Scribblings By Arun.....06
- t Asthma And Summer..07
- COPD Risk.....09
- Firearm Safety.....10
- Buying A Home.....11
- Pediatricians Can Help..12
- Negative Self-Talk13
- Home Renovation.....14
- Basava Jayanthi.....15
- SWNB Celebrates.....15
- ACF Celebrates.....16
- Mani Mahal Morbi.....17
- Signs Of Stroke.....19
- Right Tire For Your.....20
- Kids Corner.....22,23
- 5 Indian Languages.....25
- Entertainment.....26,27

Mani Mahal Morbi: Exploring The Fascinating Palace Of Gujarat

Nestled in the heart of Gujarat, the city of Morbi is a land of rich heritage, historical significance, and architectural marvels.

The city is dotted with numerous palaces and mansions that date back to the 18th and 19th centuries, showcasing the grandeur and opulence of the erstwhile rulers of the region.

One such architectural masterpiece is the Mani Mahal, which is a prominent landmark in the city and a testament to the rich cultural heritage of Gujarat.

In this travel feature, we will delve deep into the history and legacy of this fascinating palace and explore its stunning architecture and intricate craftsmanship.

Mani Mahal was built in the early 19th century by Waghji Thakor, the then ruler of Morbi. The palace was constructed for his queen, Rani Biniya, and was named after a precious diamond that was believed to have been embedded in the palace walls.

The diamond was later lost, but the name Mani Mahal continued to be used for the palace.

The palace was designed by a team of skilled architects and craftsmen who brought to life the vision of Waghji Thakor.

The palace was built in the traditional Rajput architectural style and was adorned with intricate carvings, frescoes, and ornate designs.

The palace served as the royal residence of the Thakors of Morbi for many years until it was converted into a museum in 1947.

Today, Mani Mahal is a popular tourist attraction that draws visitors from all over the world to witness the grandeur and beauty of the palace.

Mani Mahal is a stunning example of Rajput architecture, which is characterized by its ornate de-



signs, intricate carvings, and grand facades. The palace is built on a raised platform and is surrounded by a large courtyard that is adorned with fountains and gardens. The main entrance to the palace is through a large gateway that leads to a spacious hall.

The hall is adorned with colorful frescoes, intricate carvings, and paintings that depict the life and times of the Thakors of Morbi.

The hall leads to a central courtyard that is surrounded by various chambers and rooms.

The palace is spread over three floors and is connected by a series of staircases and corridors.

The upper floors of the palace are adorned with intricate jharokhas (overhanging balconies), which offer stunning views of the cityscape.

The palace is built using local materials such as sandstone, marble, and wood, and the craftsmen have utilized various techniques such as carving, inlay work, and frescoes to create stunning designs and patterns.

Mani Mahal is not just a palace but also a museum that houses a vast collection of artifacts, paintings, and sculptures.

The museum showcases the rich cultural heritage of Gujarat and offers visitors a glimpse into the life and times of the Thakors of Morbi. The main attractions of the museum include the paintings and sculptures that adorn the walls of the palace. The paintings depict various scenes from the Hindu mythology, while the sculptures showcase the various styles and techniques of the local craftsmen.

Another attraction of the palace is the Darbar Hall, which was used for royal gatherings and meetings.

The hall is adorned with intricate carvings and paintings that showcase the grandeur and opulence of the Thakors of Morbi.

Visitors can also explore the various chambers and rooms of the palace, which offer a glimpse into the lifestyle and customs of the royal family. The palace also houses a collection of antique furniture, textiles, and ceramics.

Where to eat?

Lots of vegetarian restaurants offering Gujarati, Kutchi and Kathiawadi cuisine are found in Morbi. Vegans can get fruits, tender coconuts and fruit juices near Morbi Bus Station

Other Things to Do:

Visit the Mani Mandir Temple: This temple is one of the most famous attractions in Morbi and is dedicated to Lord Swaminarayan.

Explore the Morbi Palace: This palace was once the residence of the rulers of Morbi and is now a museum that showcases the history and culture of the region.

Take a stroll around the Darbar-gadh: This area is known for its beautiful architecture and is a great place to take a leisurely walk.

How to get there?

By Air: The nearest airport is in Rajkot, which is around 65 km away from Morbi. From Rajkot, you can take a taxi or a bus to Morbi.

By Train: Morbi has its own railway station, which is well-connected to major cities in India like Mumbai, Delhi, Ahmedabad, and Kolkata.

By Road: Morbi is well-connected by road to major cities in Gujarat and other neighboring states. Morbi is well connected to Ahmedabad, Bhuj and Rajkot by bus.

Where to stay?

Lots of budget hotels offering clean and comfortable rooms at affordable prices are found in Morbi.

Murli Menon is the bestselling author of ZeNLP-the power to succeed(2004), ZeNLP-the power to relax (2005) and ZeNLP-learning through stories (2014) besides 30 ZeNLP books (amazon kindle books) on destinations for ZeNLP meditation titled "ZeNLP Travel-Guide Series"(2020) and "ZeNLP-Learning through Stories series (2021)".

Murli conducts Travel Storytelling Workshops based on his books worldwide, bestselling zen meditation, Neurolinguistic Programming and Fun at Work Workshops for corporates and education sectors. Murli Menon can be reached at ceo@tips4ceos.com

Austin South Asian Invites
Contributions From Readers
And Community