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Sanjiv Puri,
Roshni Nadar Malhotra,
K.V. Kamath,
T.V. Mohandas Pai,
Pawan Goenka,
Pranav Adani,
Zarin Daruwala,
Harsh Goenka,
Adar Poonawalla
...and many more

INDIA 2029

THE FIVE-YEAR AGENDA

A GLITTERING LINE-UP OF INDIA'S TOP POLICYMAKERS AND BUSINESS LEADERS TALK ABOUT THEIR VISION FOR THE COUNTRY FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS AND BEYOND

+ Exclusive interview with Snap Inc. Co-founder & CEO Evan Spiegel

DL (DS)-04/MP/2022-23-24 RNI No. 53481/92 ■ FARIDABAD/MS/2023-25 BPE Faridabad ■ Date of posting - Tue, Wed & Thursday

CONTENTS

February 18, 2024 | Volume 33 | Number 4



OPENING ESSAY 40

ILLUSTRATION BY **RAJ VERMA**

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INDIA 2029: THE FIVE-YEAR AGENDA

A GLITTERING LINE-UP OF INDIA'S TOP POLICYMAKERS AND BUSINESS LEADERS TALK ABOUT THEIR VISION FOR THE COUNTRY FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS AND BEYOND

COVER 1: NILANJAN DAS; **COVER 2**: PHOTO BY BANDEEP SINGH; **COVER 3**: ANIRBAN GHOSH; **COVER 4**: RAJ VERMA

22 | PHOTOGRA

Cruise Co

In 2023, auto sold more ve the domestic than in 2022

24 | POINT

A Decade Growth

In 2024, the complete a in power; its have priorit and defence



28 | THE BUZZ

After th Break-u

The Sony- was called it may have industry-w consolidat



282 | THE GOO TRENDS

Fermen Elixir

Ever tried It is a sour effervesc with supp benefits

286 | TECH TO

All Dre

Are deskt Driven by makers a them sna for heavy

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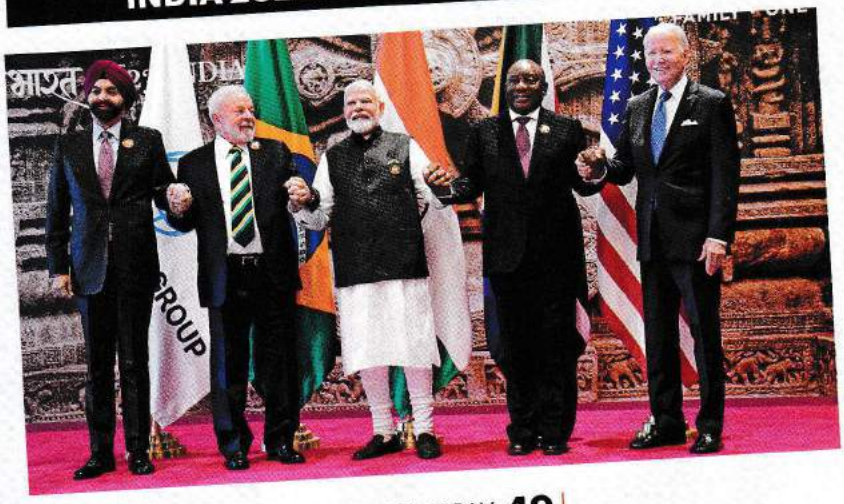
INDIA 2029: THE FIVE-YEAR AGENDA



OPENING ESSAY **40**

Mission New India

As India strives to become a $5-trillion economy by 2030, more inclusive reforms will be necessary for faster growth. The next five years are exciting for the economy—providing both fresh possibilities and new challenges



BFSI **116**

The Unfinished Agenda

The ₹177-lakh crore Indian financial services sector is poised for yet another round of reforms to align it with global trends



INFRA **124**

The Infra Road Map

India's aspiration to become an economic superpower will need the support of physical infrastructure



MANUFACTURING **150**

PLI's Long March

The production-linked incentive scheme has faced major challenges. But it has come out unscathed and is changing India's manufacturing space for the better

ANNIVERSA COLUMN

Rajeev Chandrasekhar | 46
India is unstoppable

Bibek Debroy | 50
The year 2024 will set the agenda for 2047

K.V. Kamath | 56
India is firing on all cylinde

Harsh Goenka | 60
India is rediscovering its

Adar Poonawalla
Crafting tomorrow, toda

T.V. Mohandas Pa
India @2029: A Leading Global Power

Neelkanth Mishr
India is navigating the great global reset

Zarin Daruwala
India's rise today resem China's path

Prathap C. Redd
India needs to embrac holistic well-being of

Sanjiv Puri | 8
This is India's momen

Dilip Shanghvi
India should leverag tion, innovation and

Roshni Nadar Malhotra | 98
India is laying a stro as it strives for sust

Pranav Adani
Paving the way for and eco-friendly fu

INTERVIEW WITH ACE INVESTOR MARK MOBIUS

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+ INTERIM BUDGET 2024: A TIGHTROPE WALK



MODI'S GIFT

GIFT CITY, INDIA'S INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTRE, IS SEEING GROWING INTEREST FROM INVESTORS AS THE PIECES ARE FALLING INTO PLACE WITH FOCUSSED POLICIES AND REGULATORY CLARITY

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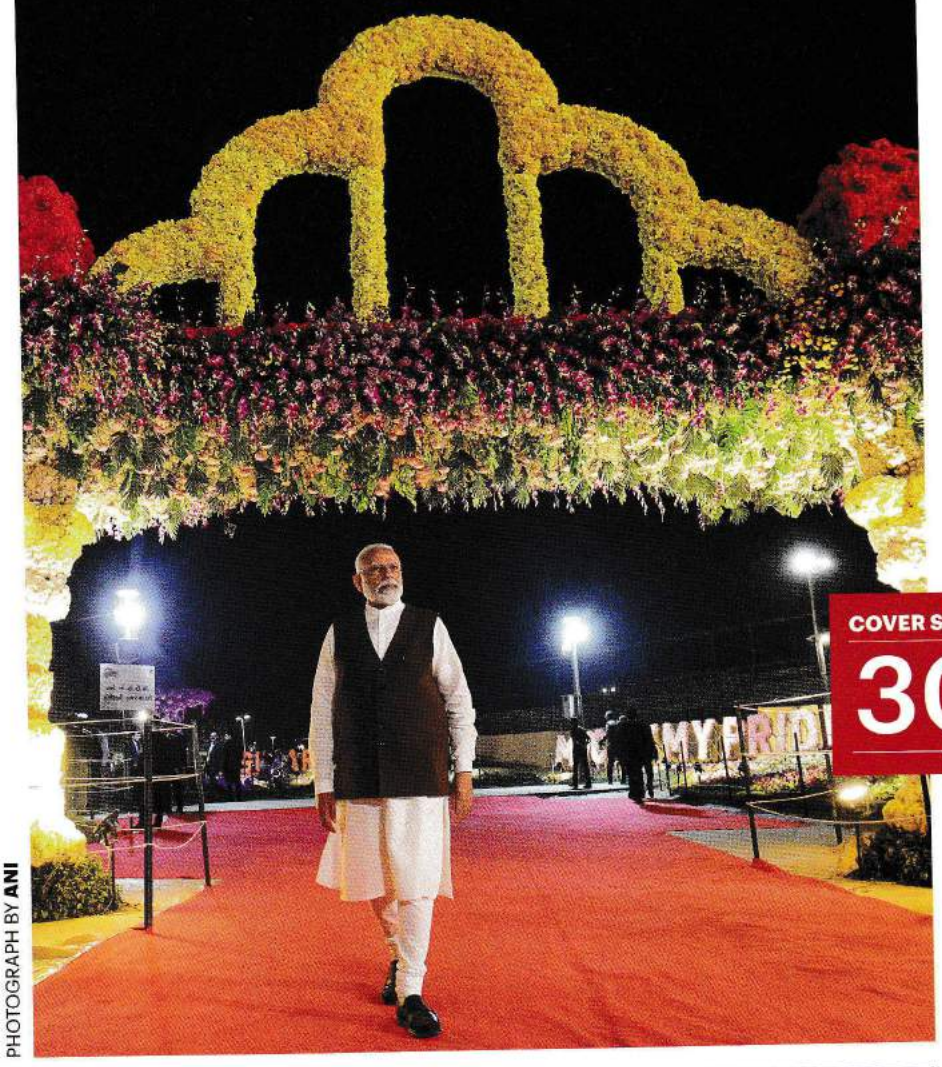
CONTENTS

February 4, 2024 | Volume 33 | Number 3

MODI'S GIFT

GIFT CITY, INDIA'S INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTRE, IS SEEING GROWING INTEREST FROM INVESTORS AS THE PIECES ARE FALLING INTO PLACE WITH FOCUSSED POLICIES AND REGULATORY CLARITY



PHOTOGRAPH BY **ANI**

COVER STORY 30

COVER BY **BANDEEP SINGH**; DIGITAL IMAGING BY **AMARJIT SINGH NAGI**; GIFT CITY PHOTO BY **CHANDRADEEP KUMAR**

8 | PHOTOGRAPHIK

Foreign Returns

Improved infra and the government's efforts led to a jump in foreign tourist arrivals in 2023

10 | POINT

Fiscally Fit

Macroeconomic parameters and high-frequency indicators show the economy's strength as we enter 2024



14 | THE BUZZ

Temple Boom

Hotels, residential real estate, airlines and trains are bustling in Ayodhya before the Ram Temple's inauguratio

22 | THE BUZZ

Choppy Waters

Derogatory remarks of now-suspended Maldivian ministers have sparked calls f a boycott of the nati

48 | BT INTERVIEW

"India needs t free up the ma kets for money to come in"

Legendary investo and fund manager Mark Mobius on India, emerging markets, and wom on boards

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GranTorino
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Intelli
True beauty
we have alw
single step o
is our way of
Mumbai
Surat
New Delhi
Bangalore



ECONOMY **52**

Balancing the Budget

The Interim Budget may remain fiscally conservative, but it is expected to include some popular announcements before the General Elections



CORPORATE **58**

Rejuvenating Dabur

The original Ayurveda major is aiming for immunity from dips with a basket of ₹1,000-crore power brands



INDUSTRY **66**

Captives Take Centre Stage

Global capability centres in India are transforming from back-end offices providing round-the-clock technical support into innovation hubs for MNCs



AUTO **74**

Burning Rubber

Two-wheeler tyre market leader CEAT is betting on electrification and premiumisation as it targets a top line of ₹17,000 crore in three years



TECH **88**

Playing the Long Game

India has not approved a chip fab application two years after launching a scheme for semiconductor manufacturing. But, there's a solid base



INVESTING **94**

The Alternative Universe

Exotic alternative investment options like asset leasing and invoice discounting represent the next frontier for those chasing high returns

FOCUS / AnIMPACTFeature

From time to time, you will see pages titled "Focus", "An Impact Feature", or "Advertorial" in *Business Today*. These are no different from an advertisement and the magazine's editorial staff is not involved in their creation in any way.

98
MONEY TODAY

Zero-cost at What Cost?

Zero-cost term plans promised complete premium refunds upon retirement. But experts aren't convinced



102
THE GOOD LIFE: TRENDS

Love Art, Will Travel

Whether you are an ar collector or enthusias here are six art fairs globally worth visiting



106
BEST ADVICE

"Hunker down and play for the long term"

Trivikraman Thampy Games24x7 discusses the words of wisdom that got him through his darkest hours

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THE WEEK

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KIRAN RAO ON HER SECOND FILM
'I REJECTED AAMIR FOR A ROLE'

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR
PEACE IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT PALESTINIANS



THE MAN WHO IS CHANGING ITC

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CHAIRMAN

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VOL. 42 | NO. 06 | THE WEEK | FEBRUARY 11 | 2024

contents

FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 5 - FEBRUARY 11

CURRENT EVENTS 16



AP

ICJ lacks the power to compel Israel to obey its directives

—**Venu Rajamony,** former Indian ambassador to the Netherlands

Interview

"All nations should utilise every available measure, be it legal or political, to deter further violence by the Zionists"

—**Iraj Elahi,** Iranian ambassador to India

COLUMNS

14 **POWERDRIVE** R. Prasannan

66 **CHIC MAGNET** Namrata Zakaria

74 **LAST WORD** Shashi Tharoor



22 **SOUND BITE** Anita Pratap

"Void caused by ageing and unborn Japanese is filled by AI, robots.... Japan has robots, androids and humanoids in hospitals, factories, schools... and outer space"



42 **COVER STORY**

EXPAND WITH CARE

ITC has moved beyond cigarettes to become the most valuable Indian consumer company. Even as it sets out on a growth journey under chairman Sanjiv Puri, there are challenges galore

INTERVIEW: **Sanjiv Puri,** chairman & managing director, ITC Ltd



COURTESY ITC



"Today, 80% of my capital employed is in non-cigarette businesses. So, those businesses are growing faster"

ACHIEVER 24

"President Emmanuel Macron offered to introduce me to Prime Minister Modi during the state dinner, **and then proceeded to take my photo with Modi. It is a much-treasured possession now."**

—Priyanka Das Rajkakati, artist-cum-space scientist



POLITICS 27



Nitish's return to NDA will cause a serious dent in the INDIA plans to fight the BJP

"Differences can be ironed out. I am sure that there is nothing that we cannot work out."

—Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, DMK leader

SPECIAL REPORT 60

Inside Ookhu, the pencil village of India in south Kashmir's Pulwama district, 26km from Srinagar

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COVER DESIGN **BINESH SREEDHARAN**

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Editor **Philip Mathew**
• **Focus/Infocus features are paid marketing/PR initiatives**

LEISURE 67

"Aamir [Khan] and I didn't have an acrimonious divorce, we may have parted as a couple but we are very much a family. Even at the end of a marriage, you've put so many years in a relationship and that should count for something."

—Kiran Rao, filmmaker



AFP

BOOK REVIEW 70



Talat Mahmood: The Definitive Biography **is a befitting introduction to a singing genius**

2023 At A Glance

National • International • Economy • Sports

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- IMF reclassifies India's Exchange Rate Regime
- Djokovic and Sabalenka clinch 2023 ITF World Champion Titles

An Overview of PGDM Courses

New CM of 5 Indian States Elected

Sure Shot Exam Special

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1968 to 2023

CONTENTS

Vol. XLIII No. 02 FEBRUARY 2024 PAGES 108 ₹ 100

Calendar 2024 ...04

Lead Feature: PM Modi dedicates multiple development projects in Ayodhya ...05

PGDM Courses in India ...07

India ...11

Latest General Knowledge ...22

2023 At A Glance ...33

World ...77

Economy & Finance ...87

Sports ...95

PRACTICE PAPERS

SSC Constable GD Exam ...99

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CONTENTS

VOLUME 43, ISSUE 07 ■ 27 JANUARY 2024



Photograph by Colorful Geometric Illustrative Hiring Talent Social Media Post

14 Jottings
The fiscal deficit & some anomalies; Battle of beaches; Investment buzz; Not Apple's year? and much more

18 Columns
Minhaz Merchant (p. 18); Vikas Singh (p. 20); Srinath Sridharan & Shailesh Haribhakti (p. 22); Amit Kapoor & Amitabh Kant (p. 24); Krishan Kalra (p. 26); Srinath Sridharan & Steve Correa (p. 28); Prakash Iyer (p. 30)

32 Rice King
The story behind LT Foods' continued dominance in the domestic market, its leadership in specialty rice and the competitive Basmati segment, and expanding presence in more than 60 overseas markets

THE BUDGET BUZZ

40 Srinath Sridharan, Columnist

42 Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, Head - Research & Outreach, ICRA

44 Dipti Deshpande, Principal Economist & Bhavi Shah, Economic Analyst, CRISIL

46 S.P. Sharma, Chief Economist, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry

48

The Disruptors
India's most imaginative entrepreneurs under 40 years of age, who are disrupting the business landscape with their innovative startups

Cover design by **DINESH S. BANDUNI**



Photograph courtesy: PIB

36

WHAT WILL FM DO?

As the government gears up to present an Interim Budget later this year, a peek into what the industry and the salaried class are expecting

40 UNDER 40 WINNERS

50 Abhishek Deshpande, Recykal

51 Abhishek Dua, Showroom B2B

52 Akash Agrawal, ZOFF Foods

53 Akshay Verma, FITPASS

54 Anant Tanted, The Indian Garage Company

55 Arjun P Gupta, Smart Joules

56 Arush Chopra, Just Herbs

57 Ashish Sharma, ZIEL Financial Technologies

58 Atul Monga, Basic Enterprises

59 Bharat Bhut, Goldi Solar

60 Bhavik Vasa, GetVantage

61 Chirag Gupta, 4700BC

62 Devesh Bansal, Skipper

63 Dinesh Kumar Kotha, Confirm Ticket Online Solution

64 Gaurav Tripathi, Innoplexus

65 Gurmeet Singh Arora, Flax - Healthy Living

66 Harsh Binani, Smartworks Co-working Spaces

67 Himanshu Adlakha, Winston Electronics

68 Kanika Dewan, Shikhar Dhawan Foundation & Good Deed Relief Foundation

69 Kaushik Srinivasan, eMudhra

70 Krishna Dushyant Rana, Platinum Industries

71 Kunj Yadav, Yadu Corporation

72 Laurent Samandari, L'Opéra

73 Malini Adapureddy, The Deconstruct

74 Mayank Goyal, moneyHOP

75 Mayank Gupta, Zopper

76 Mihir Gadani, OZiva

77 Nalin Saluja, Virohan

78 Nilesh Vishnu Ghule, LoadNow - Forza Logistics Techlabs

79 Nipun Marya, iQOO India

80 Nitin Vijay, Motion Education

81 Pawan Gupta, Betterhalf

82 Sangram Simha Datla, Incnut Lifestyle Retail

83 Sathvik Vishwanath, Unocoin

84 Shashank Sharma, Sunsure Energy

85 Sourabh Bansal, Magicrete Building Solutions

86 Subramanian Viswanathan, Disprz

87 Sukriti Sharrma, Plüsch

88 Udita Bansal, Truebrowns Lifestyle

89 Vinit Garg, Mylo

90 Vishal Pandya, REConnect Energy



Photograph by Naval Kishor

107 Last Word

Harit Nagpal, MD & CEO, Tata Play on his latest book, *Adapt: To Thrive, Not Just Survive*, and the future of the OTT industry

98 Online Love

A click through some of the popular dating apps to understand the trends in the world of online love and whether adequate security measures are being taken to ensure safety of users

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER 110

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Nitish Kumar and the battle for Bihar

POLITICS ▸ PAGE 42

Fence on Myanmar border raises ethnic hackles

WORLD AFFAIRS ▸ PAGE 68

Hinduism at a crossroads

RELIGION ▸ PAGE 79

SOUTHERN RESISTANCE

South India continues to elude the BJP despite the relentless onslaught of Hindutva. Will this Lok Sabha election prove any different?

FRONTLINE

Volume 41 – Number 3 – February 10-23, 2024 – ISSN 0970-1710 – **www.frontline.thehindu.com** – 116 pages



COVER STORY

On a propaganda blitz in Tamil Nadu

16/ Unable to crack the code to conquer Tamil Nadu, the BJP's immediate objective is to unseat the AIADMK and emerge as the main rival to the ruling DMK, for which it is deploying a mix of fake news, shrill propaganda, and big money.

RELATED STORIES

20/ Puducherry, the port of entry

22/ Saffron strides in Kerala

26/ Inching ahead in Telangana

30/ Plodding along in Andhra Pradesh

32/ Karnataka, the southern outlier

36/ How the south endures

POLITICS

42/ Bihar's revolving door

46/ West Bengal: Mamata goes solo

49/ Yatras that made history

54/ AAP: Fighting and firefighting

CONTROVERSY

58/ FCRA heat on NGOs

UNION BUDGET

62/ Economy growing, but not inclusive

WORLD AFFAIRS

68/ India-Myanmar: Tension over border fencing

74/ Iran's IRGC and a Quds force to reckon with

RELIGION

79/ Hinduism at a crossroads

CAMPAIGNS

85/ Lessons from the "rolling pin" campaigns

BOOKS

96/ Essay: Late efflorescence

100/ In review

▼

08/ The Fortnight

SHORT STORY

109/ The Verdict

COLUMN

40/ Saba Naqvi

66/ C.P. Chandrasekhar

94/ Prathyush Parasuraman

06/ Letters

108/ On our bookshelf

112/ Staying in

113/ Stepping out

114/ Back Page

Cover Design: R. Inbaraj
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CONTENTS

56TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION
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SINCE JANUARY 1969

TECHNOLOGY

22 INTERVIEW: "We Refer To The 28-Nanometre Node As The 'Goldilocks' Node" — Sharan Srinivas J. And Shashwath T.R., Co-Founders, Mindgrove Technologies

MOVES

30 TECHNOLOGY: What On Earth Is A Software Defined Car?

34 INTERVIEW: "We Have Maintained A Net NPA Rate Below 1%!" — Sameer Aggarwal, Founder And CEO, RevFin

36 EVERYONE: Electric 2-Wheelers Priced Under ₹100,000

42 BUSINESS: With Electric Vehicles, The Vehicle Service Industry Will Undergo The Biggest Disruption



STRATEGY

54 MY STORY: "Challenges Are The Biggest 'Change And Improve' Points In Life" — Vineet Sahni, FIEM Industries



60 TECH: Application Of Artificial Intelligence In The Manufacturing Sector



64 POLICY: India's Semiconductor Manufacturing Ambition Needs A Decadal Plan

68 GROWTH: Six Steps To Building Better Business Assets



DESIGN

72 INTERVIEW: "Our Approach Involves Not Only Designing The System But Also Creating Test Setups For Various Scenarios" — Rijin John And Dr Arun Ashok, Co-Founders, Silizium Circuits

74 SECURITY: Safeguarding Chip Security: Challenges And Countermeasures

80 CIRCUIT: Interesting Reference Designs Of Compressors

DO-IT-YOURSELF

82 CIRCUIT IDEA: Musical Rain Alarm

85 PROJECT: Smart Home Automation System Using ESP8266 NodeMCU

90 CIRCUIT IDEA: Light-Activated Robot

92 PROJECT: Design Your Own Low Cost RISC-V System

95 PROJECT: Counting Small Items Using Edge Impulse

98 CIRCUIT IDEA: An Electronics Kaleidoscope

REGULARS

7 **Research & Innovation Updates**

11 **Truly Innovative Electronics**

14 **New Products**

28 **Electroons 2.0**

44 **Dashboard:** Key Industry Trends That Can Shape The Future Of Your Business

46 **Startups & Innovators**

50 **Industry News:** Industry Updates

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Volume 47 Number 4 ISSN 0971 359x 92 Pages



THE JURY MEMBERS HAVE THEIR SAY ON THE SPORTSTAR ACES AWARDS SELECTION

Cricket

26 **Photoline**
England shocks India in the Hyderabad Test

32 **Through the lens**
India-Afghanistan T20Is

36 **Big Interview**
Naveen-ul-Haq believes ODI World Cup performance altered Afghanistan's T20-centric reputation



10
Cover Story
Australian Open

Jannik Sinner rises like a phoenix from the ashes to clinch maiden Grand Slam title.

Cover: Jannik Sinner (Getty Images)

Read more...

52 **Hockey**
Indian men's head coach Craig Fulton is optimistic about the team's prospects in Paris

62 **Asian Cup Football**
India's pointless run ends with three losses and no goals, raising concerns about coach Igor Stimac's leadership and the team's future

74 **Sportstar Sports Conclave**
Focus Goa — delving into diverse sports disciplines and exploring avenues for enhancing playing conditions

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10 FEBRUARY 2024



Contents

TRUSTED BRANDS & LEADERS


PG 02
Vivek Saxena
Founder
Kasstech Aerospace Pvt. Ltd.


PG 05
Vikas Jha
CEO and Director of
Aspirare Communications
Pvt. Ltd.


PG 06
Dr. Anil Kumar
CEO and Chairman
of Ankita Group of
Companies


PG 08
Sardar Simarpreet Singh
Director, JIS Group
Educational Initiatives


PG 10
Vijay Kumar Yerram
Chairman and Managing
Director, Vasavi Group


PG 12
Prasenjit Acharya
MD & Chairman
Swarnika Healthcare
Services


PG 14
Ar. Achal K. Choudhary
President
IPS Group


PG 16
Krishnadas R Varier
Executive Director
Arya Vaidya Pharmacy (AVP)


PG 18
Roger Kumar
Founder and Managing
Director
CASE Group


PG 20
Devyani Jaiswal
DJ Associates


PG 22
Dr. Avanish Jain
Vastu Expert
Param Genex Pvt Ltd


PG 24
Dr. Unmesh Takalkar
Managing Director,
Aurangabad based Care
Ciigma Hospitals


PG 26
Satish Raghav &
Karan Singh Tomar
Founder & Director
Rattan Organic Foods Pvt. Ltd.


PG 27
Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth
Vishwavidyalaya (SVVV)

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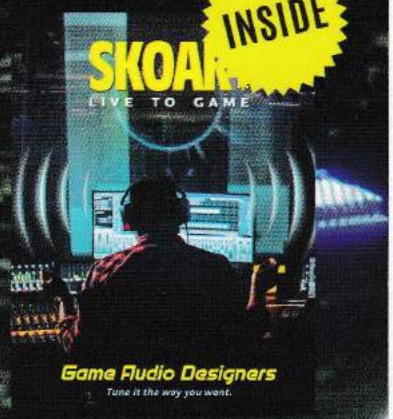
INSIDE



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THE RISE OF AI

0 74470 25140 8

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Sony Float Run Headphones

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VOLUME 24 ▪ ISSUE 02

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Acer Nitro 5 AN515-58 (2023)
Redmi 13C 5G | iQOO 12 5G | OnePlus 12R

ADVERTISER INDEX

Brand	Page No.
TP-Link	Inside front cover
ASUS	Back cover
Micron	Inside back cover
ASUS	15



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A 'Vyapam' in Maharashtra

CORRUPTION ▸ PAGE 54

Season of coups in Africa's Sahel

WORLD AFFAIRS ▸ PAGE 72

From the heart: Ustad Rashid Khan

TRIBUTE ▸ PAGE 86

Reimagining Ram

Both Ram and Ayodhya are centuries old, each with strong sagas of faith and fraternity, but both have been given a brash new coat of political paint ahead of the general election

FRONTLINE

Volume 41 – Number 2 – January 27–February 09, 2024 – ISSN 0970-1710 – **www.frontline.thehindu.com** – 116 pages



COVER STORY

The idea of Ram, the idea of India

18/ Those who have made Ram a mascot for a certain kind of politics would do well to reflect what their acts do to the *maryada* of an inclusive, democratic republic and the compassionate, just society that India aspires to be.

RELATED STORIES

26/ New avatar for an ancient city

32/ Gods of a single shade

34/ Temple in numbers

36/ Project Temple

42/ The infantilisation of Hinduism

44/ Why the centre cannot hold

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Cover photo: PTI
Caricatures: Satish Acharya

CORRUPTION

51/ PDS scam in West Bengal

54/ A 'Vyapam' in Maharashtra

ECONOMY

58/ Trade standstill in Kashmir

LEGAL ISSUES

62/ Maharashtra Speaker decision on thin ice

65/ Course correction in Bilkis Bano case

WORLD AFFAIRS

70/ Maldives: More twists in the tale

72/ Africa: Second scramble for independence

ENVIRONMENT

82/ My uncle, the tiger

TRIBUTE

86/ Remembering Ustad Rashid Khan

PHOTO ESSAY

89/ Journey of love

BOOKS

96/ Essay: Revisiting *Sivakamiyin Sabatham*

100/ In review

▼

08/ The Fortnight

COLUMN

49/ Saba Naqvi

68/ C.P. Chandrasekhar

94/ Prathyush Parasuraman

06/ Letters

111/ On our bookshelf

112/ Staying in

113/ Stepping out

114/ Back Page

The **Special Focus** article on pages 10 to 17 is a sponsored feature by the Andhra Pradesh government and is not a part of *Frontline's* regular editorial content.

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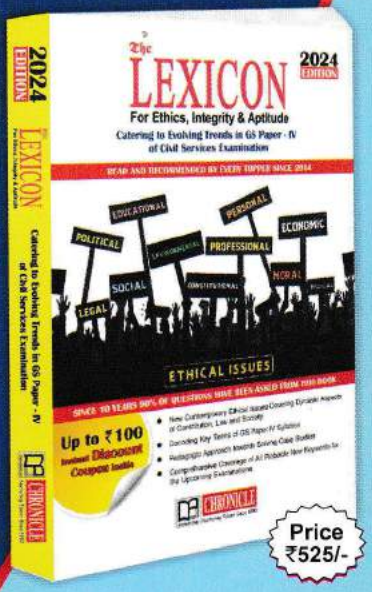


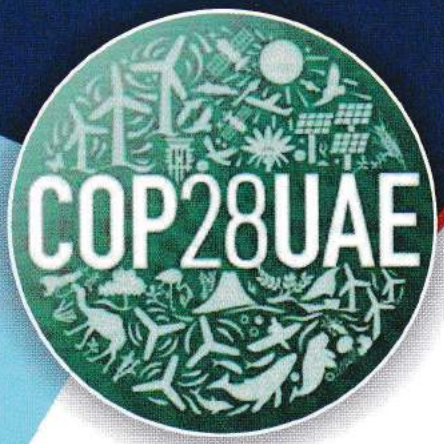
Prelims GS Roundup-5

Ecology & Environment
Science & Technology

47 Topics from which Questions are Frequently Asked in the Preliminary Examination

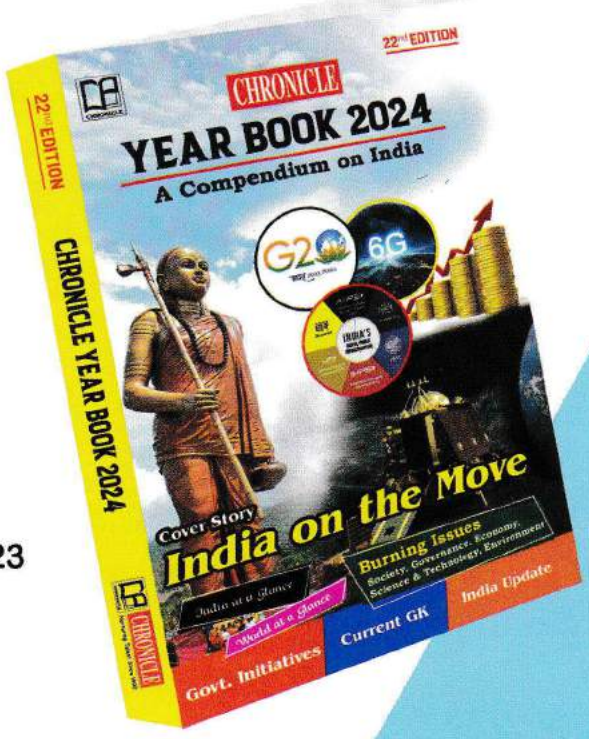
Competitive Exams Special

News Snippets
Terms in Vogue
State Watch
News Notes, Model MCQs
Parliament Q&A, Fact Sheet
PIB/AIR/PTI Info Bytes
MPPSC Prelims 2023: GS PT Pointers
Exam Pointers: Yojana/ Kurukshetra/Science Reporter



ARTICLES

- COP28: Key Outcomes and the Way Ahead
- Reforming India's Criminal Justice System
- International Financial Architecture
- SC Verdict on Abrogation of Article 370
- Logistics Ease Across Different States, 2023
- Red Sea Crises: Impact on Global Trade
- Struggles of Illegal Indian Migrants



CHRONICLE Civil Services
ISSN No.-0971-4073 VOL XXXV NO.7
February 2024
INSIDE
www.chronicleindia.in/

Prelims GS Roundup-5

Ecology & Environment Science & Technology

67

47 Topics from which Questions are Frequently Asked in the Preliminary Examination

Articles

Big Issue
- Reforming India's Criminal Justice System.....9

Spotlight
- COP28: Key Outcomes and the Way Ahead 12

Issue Analysis
- International Financial Architecture.....15

In Focus

- SC Verdict on Abrogation of Article 370.....18
- Logistics Ease Across Different States 2023.....19
- Red Sea Crises: Impact on Global Trade.....20
- Struggles of Illegal Indian Migrants 21

REGULAR COLUMNS

India Watch
- Constitutional Validity of Section 6A of the Citizenship Act, 1955 23
- The Press and Registration of Periodicals Act, 2023.....23
- The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023.....24
- The Post Office Act, 2023.....25
- The Central Universities Act, 2023.....26
- The Advocates (Amendment) Act, 2023 27
- President Advocates All India Judicial Service....28
- Centre, Assam & ULFA Sign Tripartite Peace Accord 29
- Achieving Localized SDGs through PDI 29
- 20 Years of Know India Programme.....30
- Project PRAYAS 30

Society Watch
- ECI Issues Guidelines to Move towards Respec Discourse for PwDs.....
- Enhancing Outreach of Self-Help Groups .....
- Assessment of National Policy on Child Labour .....
- Supreme Court's Verdict on Section 498A of IPC
- Centre Urges Odisha to Implement PM-US Scheme .....
- Achievements of Ayushman Bharat Scheme ....
- Global Study on Homicide, 2023 .....
- WHO declares 'Noma' as Neglected Trop Disease (NTD).....

Art & Culture
- Garba Dance Included in UNESCO's Intang Cultural Heritage List.....
- Srimukhalingam Temple.....
- Channapatna Toys Inducted in Childr Academic Activities in Afghanistan.....
- Warli Paintings Showcased by Inherited Forum .....
- Kolattam Dance of South India .....
- Buddhist Teaching on Bodhichitta .....
- Bahmani Kingdom .....
- New Additions to Swadesh Darshan Scheme 2.0

Economy Watch
- Electronic Soil.....
- RBI Issues Norms on Dividend Declaration Banks .....
- SEBI Proposes T+0 and Instant Settlement Cycle
- RBI expands the Scope of COFT.....
- RBI's Clarifications on Green Deposits .....
- Surrender Value in Insurance.....
- Securities Appellate Tribunal .....

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- Accelerating Climate Action : Key Outcomes of COP28
- LEADS 5·0 2023
- Sahitya Akademi Awards 2023
- National Sports Awards 2023
- Haryana Wins Vijay Hazare Trophy 2023

Solved Model Papers
- Chhattisgarh P.S.C. (Pre.)
- Haryana P.S.C. (Pre.)



Solved Paper
- UGC-NET/JRF, 23

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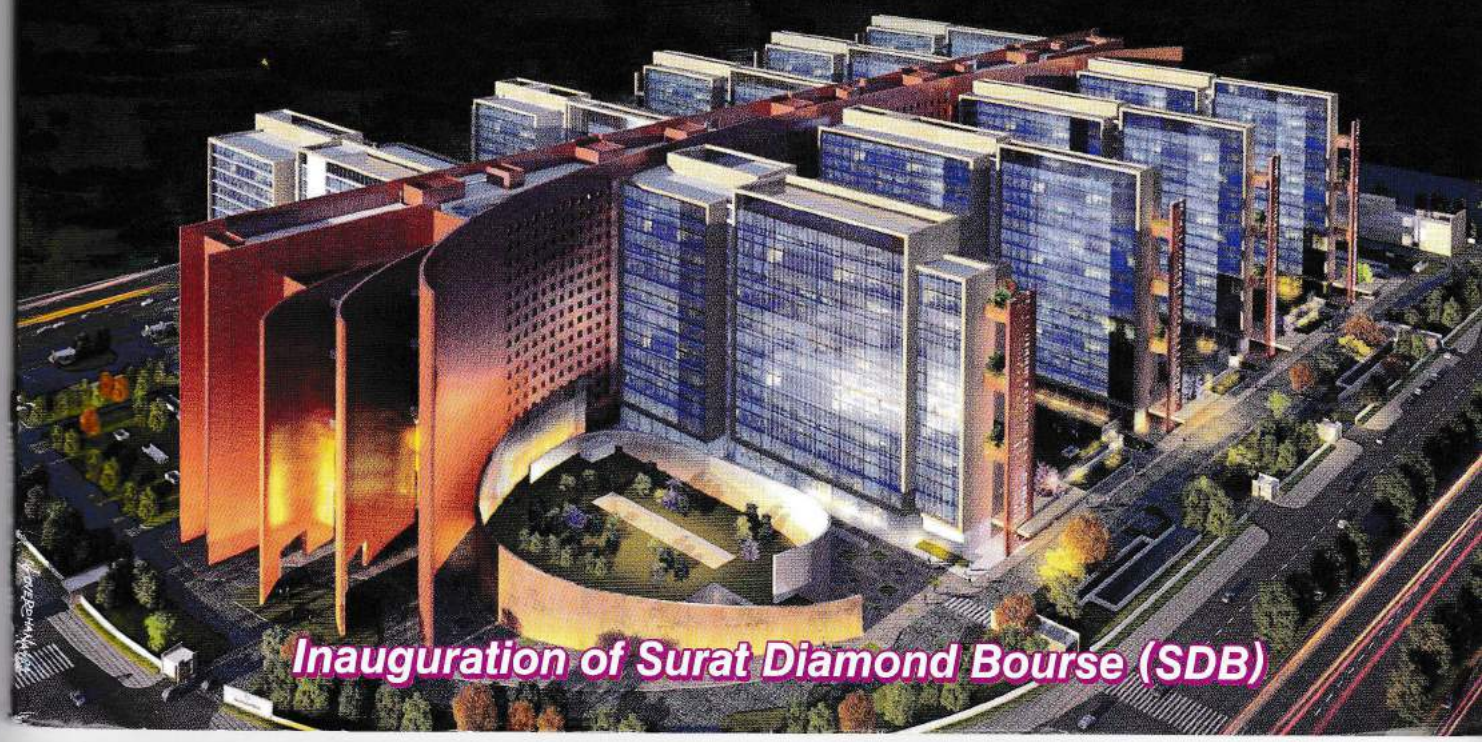

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FEBRUARY 2024 YEAR 18 ISSUE 209

Contents

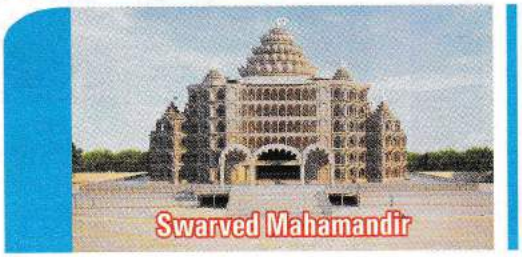
Regulars

5 Editorial

6 To Our Readers

News and Events

7 Nation this Month



13 World this Month



23 National and International Updates

31 Regional News

Career News

35 Employment and Career News

35 Forthcoming Competitive Examinations

37 Sport World

Current Affairs

39 Memorable Points

41 Economic Scenario

48 Environment, Ecology, Biodiversity and Climate Change Round-up

52 UPSC CSE Personality Test 2023 has the Power to Transform Your Fortunes

55 **DIVYA DARPAN**



INSPIRING YOUTH : INTERVIEWS

60 **Anup Das**
Topper—Civil Services Exam., 2022 (38th Rank)



62 **Jyoti Bhagchendani**
Topper—Himachal Pradesh Judicial Services Exam., 2023 (1st Rank)

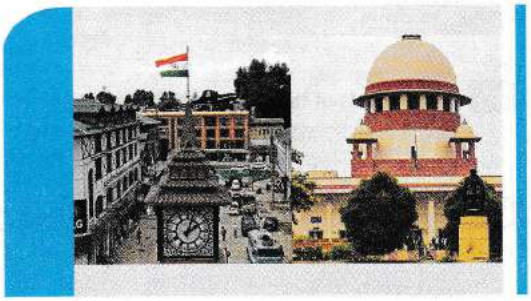


64 **Kushagra Mishra**
Topper—Uttar Pradesh Judicial Services Exam., 2022 (94th Rank)



FOCUS

66 (1) Supreme Court's Judgement on the Abrogation of Article 370 and 35(A) in Jammu and Kashmir : A Right Move Towards Constitutional Integration



69 (2) Accelerating Climate Action : Key Outcomes of COP 28

72 (3) WTO's Trade Policy Toolkit for Climate Action

World Panorama

75 (i) India and Maldives : New Challenges

77 (ii) Gaza Conflict and India's Policy Dilemma

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September 21, 2023 Rs 100

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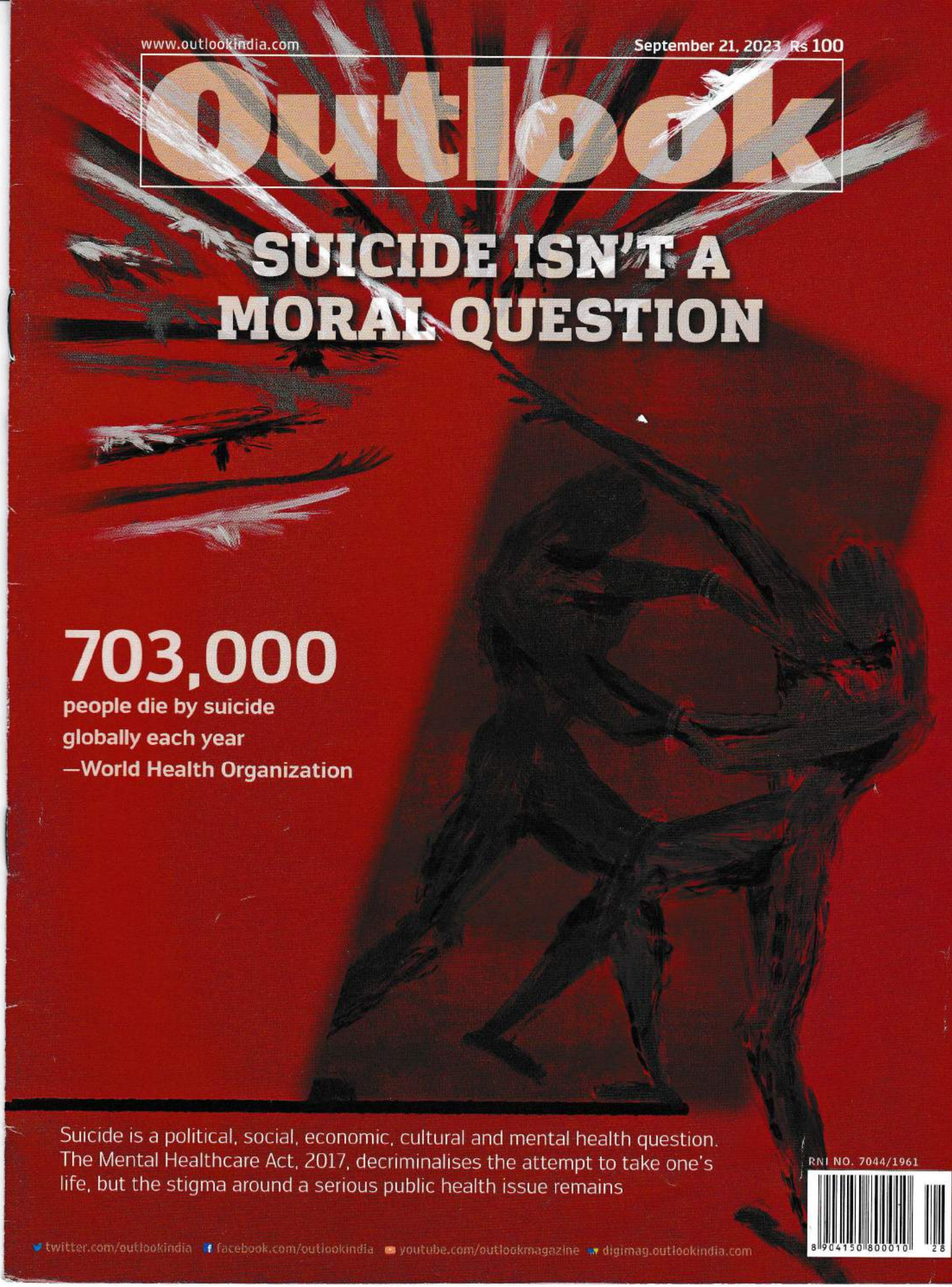
SUICIDE ISN'T A MORAL QUESTION



703,000

people die by suicide globally each year
—World Health Organization

Suicide is a political, social, economic, cultural and mental health question. The Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, decriminalises the attempt to take one's life, but the stigma around a serious public health issue remains

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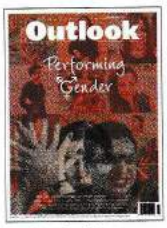

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TRIGGER WARNING

1,64,033

people died by suicide in India in 2021

- India has the **41st highest suicide rate** in the world
- There was a jump in suicide cases during the pandemic
- **1.5 lakh** suicide deaths were reported in 2020, against 1.39 lakh in 2019
- India reported the highest suicide rate in its history in 2021, with 12 suicides for every 1 lakh people
- In 2021, **1.64 lakh** people took their own lives
- The rate of deaths by suicide were highest in developed states like Kerala and Telangana (27 suicides per 1 lakh population)
- **72.5%** of those who died by suicide were men
- **45,026 females** died by suicide; most of them were housewives
- **66%** of suicides occurred among younger people (18-45 age group)
- Over **13,000** students died in 2021 at the rate of more than 35 every day
- Kota recorded an average of three suicide incidents monthly in the first eight months of 2023
- **5,563** agricultural labourers died by suicide in 2021 (5,121 male, 442 females)
- The most suicides were reported from Maharashtra (1,424), followed by Karnataka (999) and Andhra Pradesh (584)
- The number of suicides went up from **9.9 per 100,000** in 2017 to 12 in 2021 when the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, was introduced

(Sources: WHO, NCRB 2021)

Cover Story: September 10 is observed as World Suicide Prevention Day. From farmers and students to film personalities and first-person accounts, this issue focusses on the various aspects of this malaise that is afflicting the whole world.

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8 | BREAK THE SILENCE
How women can openly discuss their mental health struggles

24 | ANATOMY OF A DEATH
Sushant Singh Rajput's suicide was too complex for many to process

31 | THE KOTA LIFE
Why young students who come to Kota to study end up dying by suicide

36 | SEEDS OF DISTRESS
Why farmers in Maharashtra and Karnataka are dying



58 | REINVENTING G20
Will decisions taken at the summit be translated meaningfully on the ground?

64 | YOUR LEGEND, MY JM
A tribute to poet Jayanta Mahapatra



74 DIARY

Cover Illustration: Chaitanya Rukumpur. It depicts a fight with one's own reflection, a mental chaos, a final release, a cry for help

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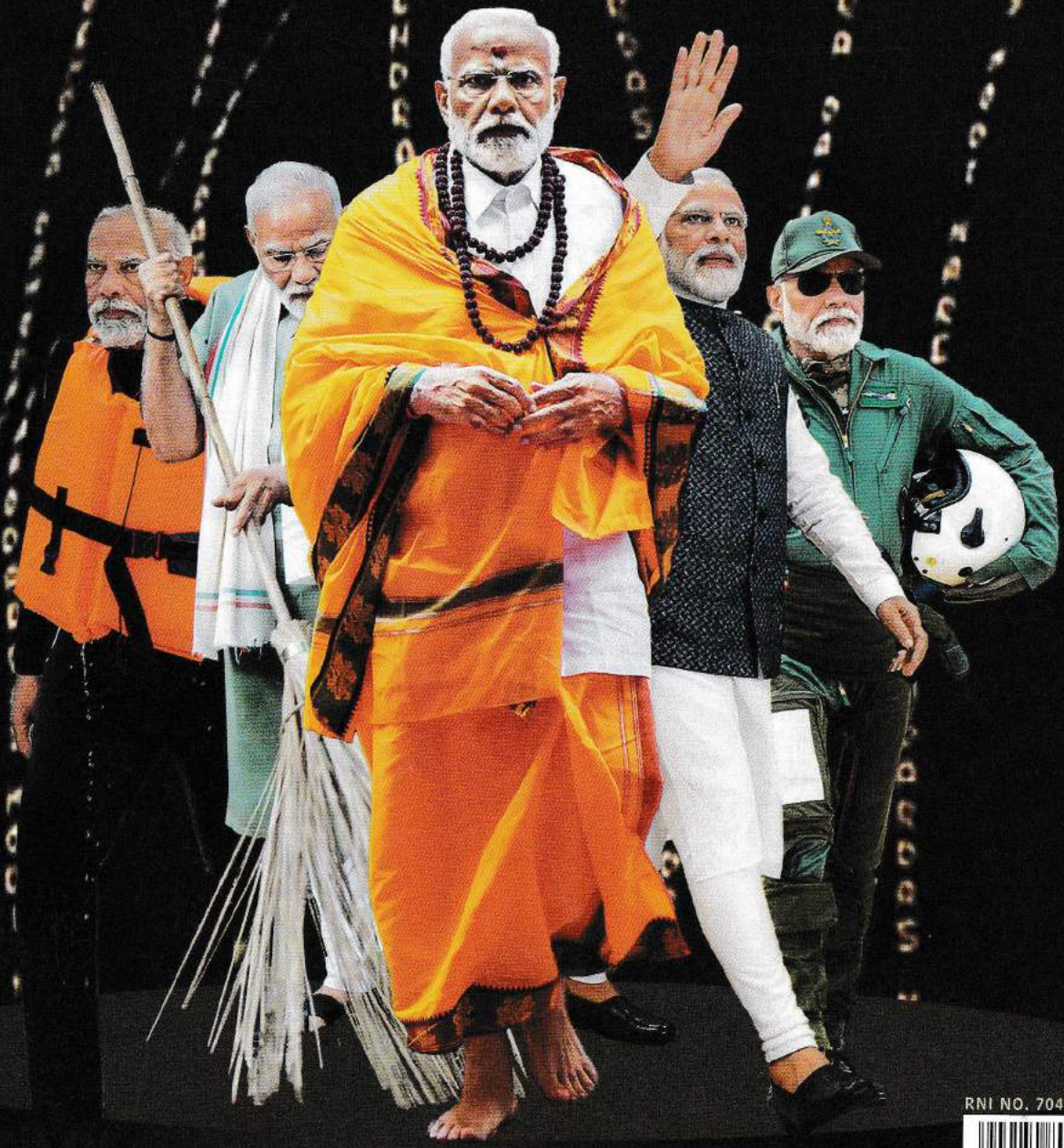

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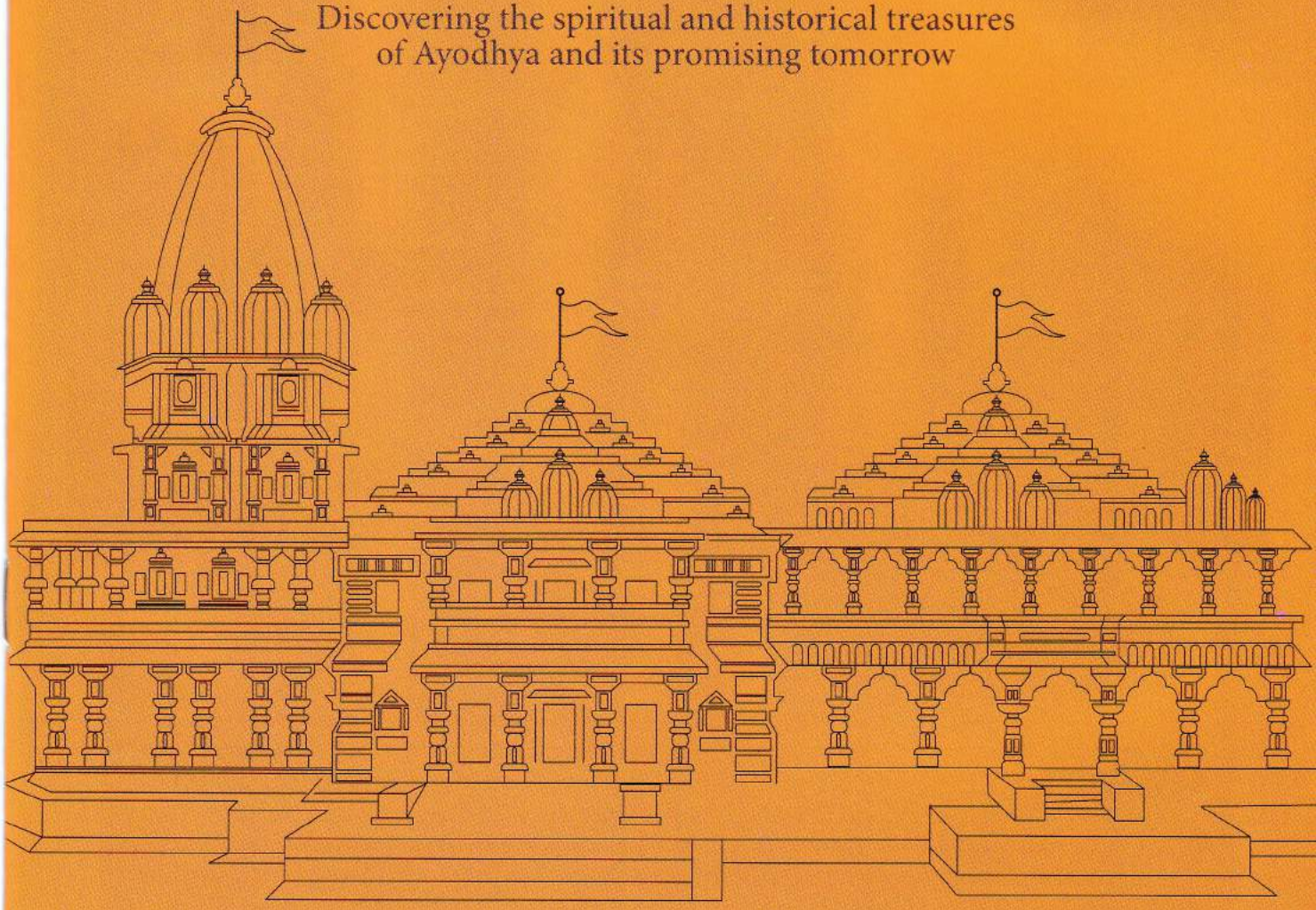

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On A Spiritual Sojourn

In the heart of India, where ancient tales intertwine with the present, lies Ayodhya, where the timelessness of the Ramayana still echoes. As you explore this holy destination, immerse yourself in the incredible sights, such as the Ram Mandir and its *mandapas*, *garbhagriha* and *shikhara*.

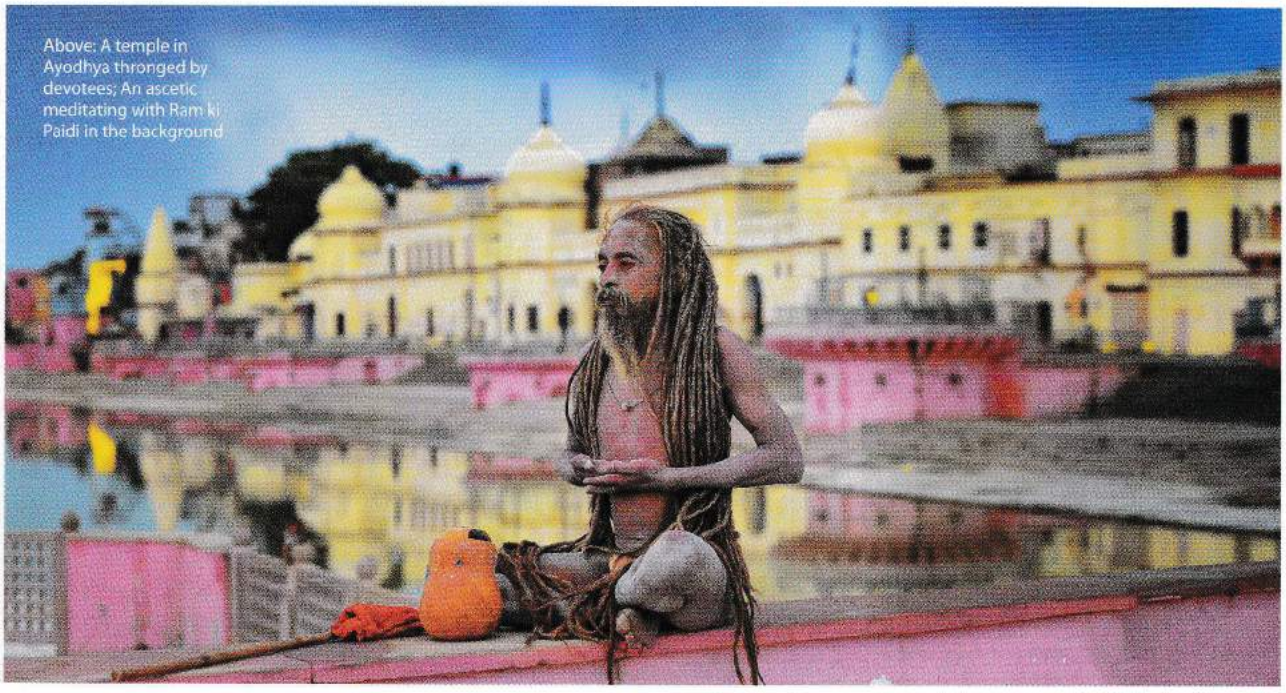
Descend Ram Ki Paidi's ancient steps to Saryu's embrace and feel the blessings of Nageshwar Nath Temple. Climb Hanuman Garhi's stairs for panoramic vistas, then lose yourself in Kanak Bhawan's royal heritage.

Let your soul be your compass, guided by the winds of ancient wisdom, as you embark on a pilgrimage that transcends mere travel.



CONTENTS

- A NEW DAWN
  Ayodhya's bright future
- "AYODHYA JI"
  A global religious and cultural tourism hub



Above: A temple in Ayodhya thronged by devotees; An ascetic meditating with Ram ki Paidi in the background

INSIDE: BW Supply Chain Competitiveness Summit & Awards

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THE Rs 2.3 LAKH CRORE SME IPO PLAY

Indian SMEs give bumper returns to investors as BSE & NSE Emerge listed companies top Rs 2.3 lakh crore in market capitalisation. Will 2024 see SMEs cross the Rs 3 lakh crore in mCap?

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CONTENTS

VOLUME 43, ISSUE 08 ■ 10 FEBRUARY 2024



Photograph by: Ann-isme

12 Jottings
Surge in exports shrink trade deficit by 36 per cent; Neuralink's mind games; Just how desperate are Indianjob seekers? Purple revolution, and more

16 Columns
Minhaz Merchant (p. 16); Vikas Singh (p. 18); Srinath Sridharan (p. 20); Amit Kapoor & Jessica Duggal (p. 22); Srinath Sridharan & Steve Correa (p. 26); Krishan Kalra (p. 30); Prakash Iyer (p. 32); Kiran Karnik (p. 33)

34 Impromptu
Aditya Kanthy, CEO, Omnicom Advertising Services (OAS) in India on how individual brand ethos will be invested in and nurtured for BBDO India, DDB Mudra and TBWA\India despite the formation of an umbrella OAS framework

36 Glass Story
An in depth story on India's glass industry and how it is getting ready to cash in on the huge spurt in demand generated by the booming construction sector

40 India At Davos
A wrap on WEF 2014 and how India's positioning for global investors was taken to a new height by showcasing the country's capabilities in a range of activities at the national and state levels as well as through demos by domain experts and entrepreneurs

48

Boom Time For SME Listings
A deep dive into how 2023 turned out to be an exceptional year for SMEs not just in terms of record number of IPOs but also the outperformance of the SME Index vis-a-vis the mainboard index

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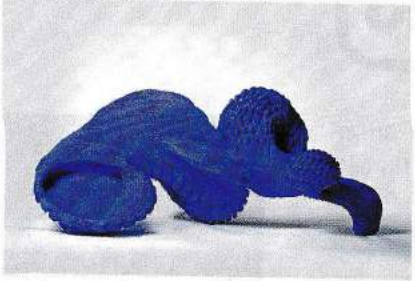



Photograph courtesy: Indigomadder



Photograph courtesy: Akara-Art

88
ART FAIR
India Art Fair Director, Jaya Asokan, Director, India Art Fair on the scope and coverage of the fairthis year

44 In Conversation
Ashish Chand, President and CEO, Belden Inc, a leading global provider of network infrastructure and digitisation solutions, on the company's Indian business, the thrust on infrastructure in India, the outlook for future growth and much more

TOP SME IPOs
53 Exhicon Events Media Solutions
54 Bondala Engineering
55 Goyal Salt
56 Crayons
57 Bright Outdoor
59 Graphis

62 Supply Chain Excellence
BW Supply Chain Competitiveness Summit & Awards 2023 recently felicitated Individuals and organisations who have stood out for their innovation and best practices in their supply chain operations

WINNERS: INDIVIDUALS
65 Swapn Malpani & Bhumika Patel, Cipla
66 Ashish Kumar Jha, Electrolux
66 Ashish Kumar, TCS
67 Ashish Pathak, BCG
67 Hanuman Prasad Swami, ABB
68 Jaydeep Mukherjee, JK Tyres
68 Rajeev Gupta, Texmaco Rail & Engineering
69 Sandeep Shukla, Schindler India
69 Sanjeev Garg, Altruist Technologies
70 Suman Purohit, Aragen
70 Suzan Priyanka, JCube Logistics



98 Last Word
Daikin India CMD K.J. Jawa on the role of Daikin's new plant in fostering long-term partnerships, and more

71 Varun Kakkar, Grasim Industries
WINNERS: ORGANISATIONS
72 Alkem Laboratories
72 Allcargo Supply Chain
73 Atul
73 Barbeque Nation
74 Centre for Logistics & Supply Chain Management, NIT Calicut
74 Century Plyboards India
75 Deepak Fertilisers & Petrochemicals
75 East West Seed India
76 IndusInd Bank
76 Kama Ayurveda
77 Lupin
77 Pidge
78 SeedWorks International
78 V-Guard Industries

86 In Conversation
Chris Miller, author of *Chip War: The Fight for the World's Most Critical Technology*, on why India should target specific markets and competitors for chip manufacturing and stay clear of the China route

96 Bookmark
Former RBI governor Raghuram Rajan and Rohit Lamba on their latest book, *Breaking The Mould: Reimagining India's Economic Future*, and much else

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China	RMB90	Japan	¥1,363+Tax	Nepal	NRB50	Singapore	S$15.50 (Inc. GST)	Vietnam	US$10.00

Europe



41 Ukraine's army chief faces the sack
42 Putin's challenger
43 Meet the Knights of Malta
43 F-16s for Turkey
44 Ukraine's Black Sea victory
45 **Charlemagne** Pitchfork protests

Britain



46 The armed forces
48 Europe's view of Labour
49 **Bagehot** Tory unity

International



50 War in space looms

Business



53 After the iPhone
54 Can AMD beat Nvidia?
56 Heirless family firms
57 Rolls-Royce goes electric
57 Biden's gas gaffe
58 **Bartleby** CEOs' superpower
60 **Schumpeter** Trump v TikTok

Finance & economics



61 Bidenomics round two
63 **Buttonwood** Bitcoin ETFs
64 China's policy muddle
64 Evergrande's liquidation
65 Fighting inflation
66 **Free exchange** Biden's electoral chances

Science & technology



67 Prosthetic tentacles
68 Is Alzheimer's catching?
69 The risks of AI in science
70 How whales smell

Culture



71 Collaborative writing
72 A museum in Hong Kong
73 Slap fighting
73 Art buying, exposed
74 Modern dance
75 **Back Story** "Mr & Mrs Smith" returns

Economic & financial indicators

77 Statistics on 42 economies

Obituary

78 Peter Schickele and P.D.Q. Bach, two sides of the same coin

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Volume 450 Number 9382

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to take part in *"a severe contest between intelligence, which presses forward, and an unworthy, timid ignorance obstructing our progress."*

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AMIT SHAH
UNION HOME MINISTER

OUR NEW LAWS MEAN CITIZENS FIRST

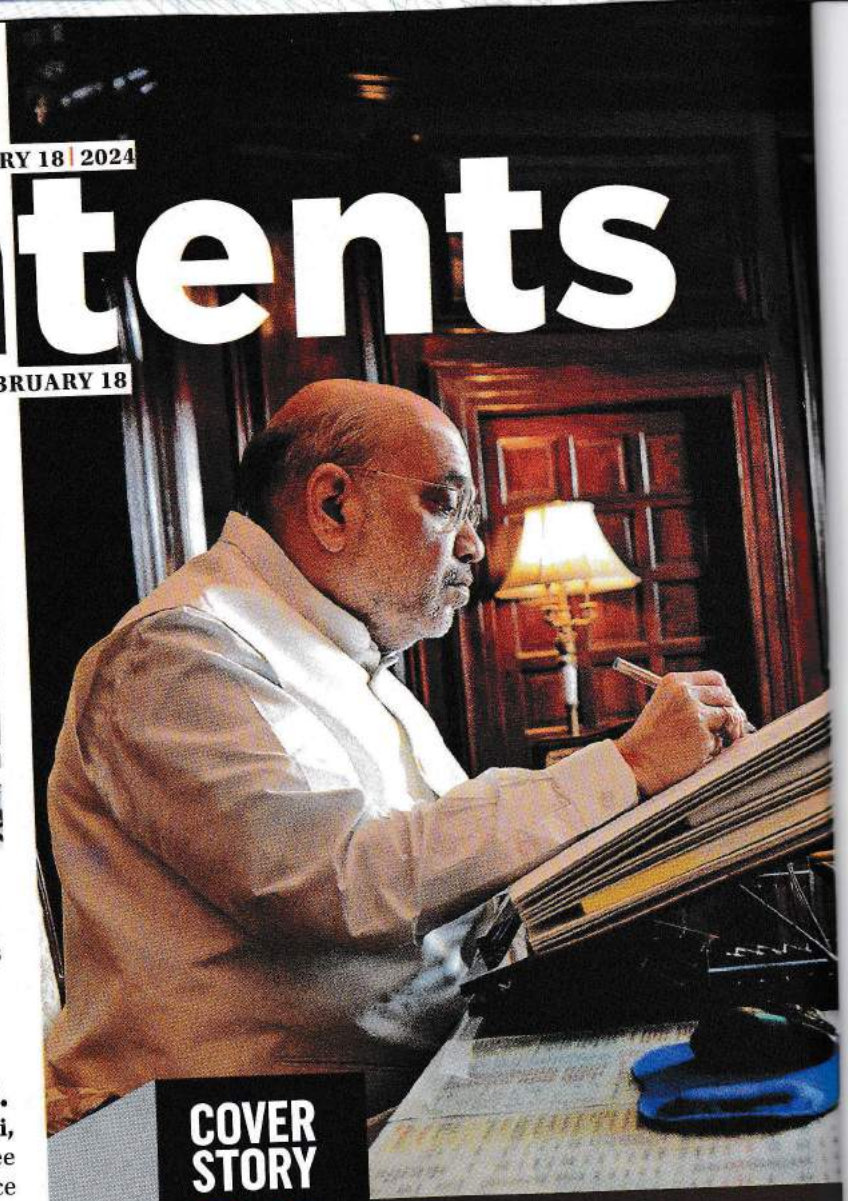
No one can be booked for speaking against govt

Modi will form next govt with more seats

VOL. 42 | NO. 07 | THE WEEK | FEBRUARY 18 | 2024

contents

FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 12 - FEBRUARY 18



20 CURRENT EVENTS



With Uttarakhand all set to enact the Uniform Civil Code, the BJP is reasserting its intent to make family laws uniform for all citizens

Tribal communities should be kept out of UCC.
—Sushil Kumar Modi, chairman, Parliamentary Committee on Law and Justice

UCC will make laws more gender equal.
—Iqbal Singh Lalpura, chairperson, National Commission for Minorities

COVER STORY 26

AT HOME WITH THE HOME MINISTER

Amit Shah has many avatars—home minister, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's most trusted lieutenant, the BJP's master strategist and more. But he does not carry the weight of these titles as he sits down for an exclusive interview with THE WEEK. He answers our questions with patience, candour and warmth on a variety of issues, from the three laws replacing the British-era criminal laws to the 2024 elections

COLUMNS

13 **POWER DRIVE** R. Prasannan

17 **MANI-FESTO** Mani Shankar Aiyar

70 **CHIC MAGNET** Namrata Zakaria

74 **LAST WORD** Barkha Dutt



62 DETOUR

Munawar Faruqui's personal life is as interesting as his dazzling rise to fame. But fans are not judgmental at all.
—Shobhaa De



You are calling a photo an alliance. In which state have they been able to form an alliance before or after INDIA alliance came into being?

PLUS

The BJP's Lok Sabha campaign is right on track, thanks to its robust organisational structure, effective messaging and strategic planning under Modi, Shah and J.P. Nadda

The legacy of Amit Shah, the home minister

50 JHARKHAND

Jharkhand politics is in a state of chaos, and it could have serious repercussions for Hemant Soren and his party



PTI

52 UKRAINE

Decoding the tussle between President Volodymyr Zelensky and his army chief



REUTERS

General Zaluzhnyi's popularity has not waned, although Ukraine's much promised anti-Russia counteroffensive in 2023 did not yield the desired results.

56 SPECIAL REPORT

The unique skilling mission for neurodivergent individuals is getting them employed in the IT sector

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Editor **Philip Mathew**
• **Focus/Infocus features are paid marketing/PR initiatives**

63 LEISURE

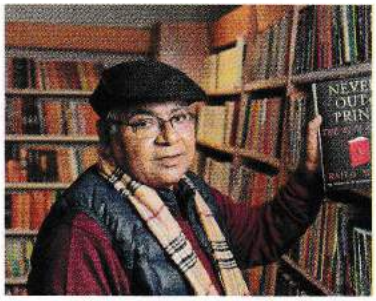
War writers at the Jaipur Literature Festival speak about finding hope amid hopelessness



KRITAJNA NAIK

There is no point in hiding that there is fear. The anticipation is the worst.
Roger Cohen (centre), Pulitzer prize-winning war reporter

68 BOOKS



SANJAY AHLAWAT

Rajen Mehra's *Never Out Of Print* is a memoir of not just a man but also Rupa Publications and the growth of Indian publishing

Publishing takes years to build. It is very difficult to destroy, because if you have good literature, you cannot destroy it."

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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL **V.R. CHAUDHARI**

Space is the ultimate high ground for all operations

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VOL. 42 | NO. 05 | THE WEEK | FEBRUARY 4 | 2024

contents

FOR THE WEEK JANUARY 29 - FEBRUARY 4

32

CANTONMENTS

The Modi government's decision to disband cantonments will mark the end an institution that took birth with British rule in India, and lasted more than 250 years



48

AYODHYA

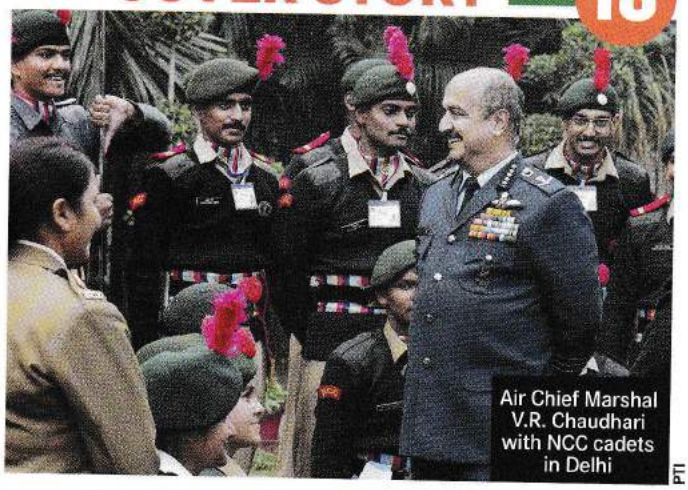
Political implications of the new Ram Temple—the 2024 election will show what connects with people

56

PAKISTAN

Narendra Modi and Nawaz Sharif might prefer to leave a legacy of peace, says Ajay Bisaria, former high commissioner to Pakistan

COVER STORY 18



Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari with NCC cadets in Delhi

PTI

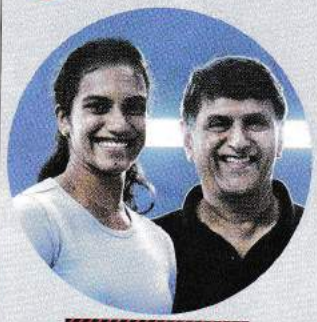
ABOVE AND BEYOND

In THE WEEK's Republic Day special issue, Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari talks about several important issues related to aerospace power by responding to questions curated by Air Vice Marshal Arjun Subramaniam (retd). He says the IAF has recognised space as the ultimate high ground for all operations

India is playing catchup in the military exploitation of space in a fragile global security environment

An area the IAF must concentrate on is acquiring offensive capability speedily

60 BADMINTON



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

"Eager to win Olympic gold."

—P.V. Sindhu

"We think we are on the right track."

—Prakash Padukone

68

HEALTH CARE

For us, a 350-bed hospital is ideal, says Dilip Jose, managing director and CEO, Manipal Hospitals

73

LEISURE

Adman Prahlad Kakar's memoir is no malicious but delicious read



COLUMNS

12 **POWERDRIVE** R. Prasannan

16 **MANI-FESTO** Mani Shankar Aiyar

72 **DETOUR** Shobhaa De

78 **CHIC MAGNET** Namrata Zakaria

82 LAST WORD



"Electrification of two- and three-wheelers has been a remarkable achievement, but achieving 100 per cent electrification by 2030 is critical to becoming the world's automobile champion."

—Amitabh Kant

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PM Narendra Modi at the consecration of the Balak Ram idol in Ayodhya, Jan. 22

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INSIDE



SIDELIGHTS

44 INSIDE RAM RAJYA

Executive Editor-in-Chief Kalli Purie shares her impressions of the Pran Pratishtha ceremony



ANI

THE OPPOSITION

48 SEARCHING FOR A NARRATIVE

The Opposition is desperately seeking a counter to the BJP, now surging with the power of Ram

VOX POP

52 THE FAITH DEBATE

Politicians, academics, authors and commentators weigh in on the significance of the new Ram temple



MANEESH AGNIHOTRI

NEW AYODHYA

64 THE HINDU VATICAN

It is not just a city that is being rebuilt, but a whole mental universe. Around the singularity of Ram

JAGANNATH TEMPLE

78 THE PURI MAKEOVER

In another temple town, the ancient Jagannath shrine complex undergoes a radiant revamp



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THE BIG STORY

Why another Chinese 'research' ship in India's backyard, courtesy Maldives, is cause for alarm

By Pradip R. Sagar

The docking of vessel 'Xiang Yang Hong 03' in the Maldvies only increases India's apprehensions about China snoopin on its military assets under the guise of maritime researc the Indian Ocean Region https://shorturl.at/bcdfS

STORY OF THE DAY

Why Chhagan Bhujbal is belligerent over move to give Marathas OBC status

By Dhaval S. Kulkarni

Bhujbal may be attempting a pan-Maharashtra solidarity of OBCs, and in turn challenging the hegemony of Maratha over the state's political economy
https://shorturl.at/cjEZ8

GROUND REPORT: BATTLING MAOISTS

How Operation Surya Shakti made inroads into Maoist no-go areas in Chhattisgarh

By Rahul Noronha

Security forces focused on opening up 'administrative and security vacuum' areas, taking the battle into the enemy camp https://shorturl.at/ciIKT

SPOTLIGHT

Subhas Chandra Bose: The Supreme Soldier



By Sugata Bose

On his 127th birth anniversary, we remember Netaji, the most resolute opponent of the British who stirred a new political consciousness among Indians
https://shorturl.at/auzA0

SOCIETY & TRENDS: RELATIONSHIPS

Do you often end up in toxic relationships? How to break free

By Ridhi Kale

A life coach shares six reasons why we may attract toxic relationships and advises on how to discover a healthy an happy bond https://shorturl.at/vyEZ9

FROM THE INDIA TODAY ARCHIVES (1998)

Indus civilisation: When new discoveries questioned old notions

By Raj Chengappa

Twenty-five years ago, a flurry of excavations uncovered startling evidence that seemed to present a radically different picture of the Indus Valley civilisation
https://shorturl.at/cBFKU

The Economist

How the border could make Biden lose

Saving coffee from climate change

Vietnam's golden opportunity

Why you shouldn't retire

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WILL AI TRANSFORM THE EMERGING WORLD?



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Europe



43 Meloni's report card
44 German citizenship
45 Dutch cabinet-making
45 Happy Austrians, glum Germans
46 EU economic security
47 **Charlemagne** Arguing over Ukraine

Britain



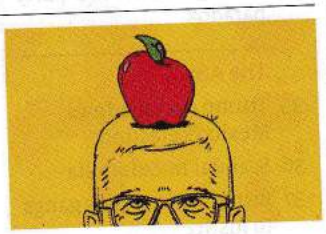
48 A nuclear renaissance?
49 Heathrow's menagerie
50 **Bagehot** Labour's pro-growth coalition

International



51 Trump and the world

Business



53 Can Apple fall?
55 **Bartleby** Why not to retire
56 Can export controls work?
57 India Inc's Modi paradox
59 **Schumpeter** MSCI goes private

Finance & economics



60 Wall Street's gamble
62 China alternatives
63 **Buttonwood** What will the Fed do next?
64 The Big Mac index
64 Gourmet commodities
65 Jock taxes
66 **Free exchange** The false promise of friendshoring

Science & technology



67 Coffee and the climate
69 Making AI multilingual
69 An ecological fable
70 A new kind of magnetism

Culture



71 Rebuilding Notre Dame
72 Musical films
73 Chrome's resurgence
73 Mormonism's history
74 Hannah Arendt's power
75 Sculptures in Mumbai

Economic & financial indicators

77 Statistics on 42 economies

Obituary

78 Zvi Zamir, former director of Mossad

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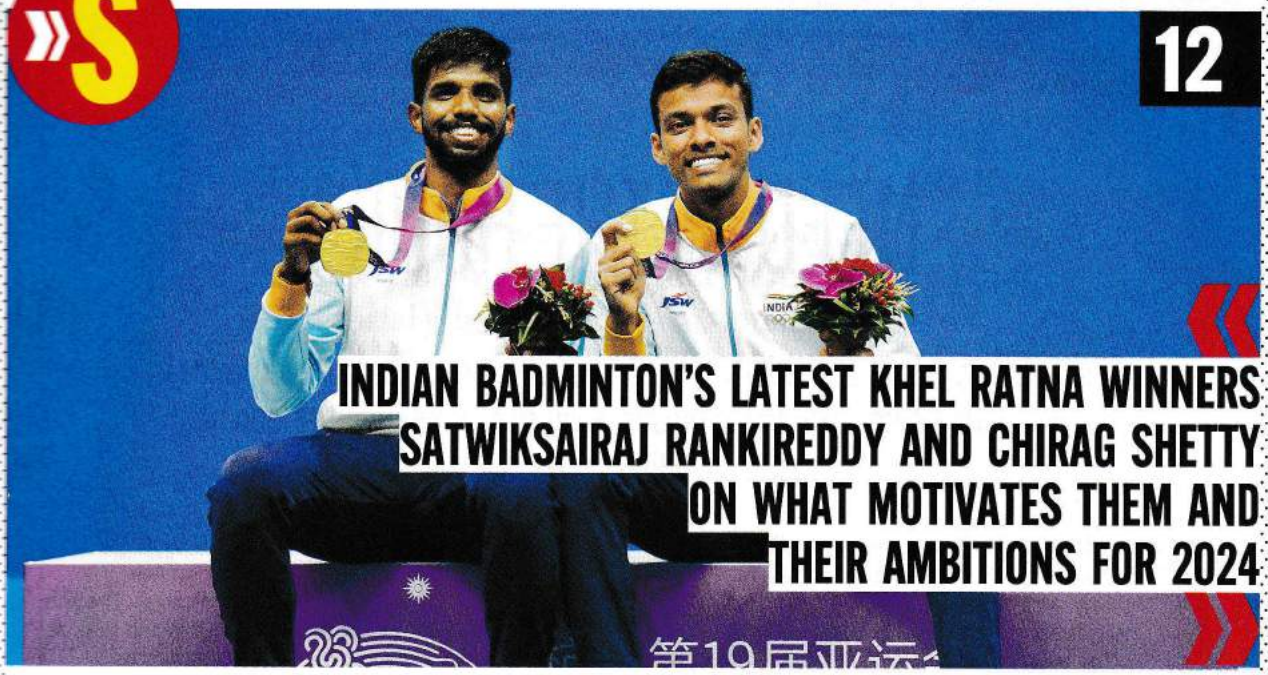

12

INDIAN BADMINTON'S LATEST KHEL RATNA WINNERS SATWIKSAIRAJ RANKIREDDY AND CHIRAG SHETTY ON WHAT MOTIVATES THEM AND THEIR AMBITIONS FOR 2024

Experts write

21 **Badminton** Aparna Popat

25 **Shooting** Anjali Bhagwat

29 **Hockey** M. M. Somaya

33 **Football** Bhaichung Bhutia

37 **Athletics** Anju Bobby George

41 **Chess** Viswanathan Anand

71 **Cricket** Harbhajan Singh

SPORTSTAR ACES 2024 INDIA TRIUMPHS #Aces2024

88

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72 **Photoline** India crushes South Africa in Cape Town

86 **Tribute** Franz Beckenbauer

94 **Pro Kabaddi League Diary** Madness on the Marina

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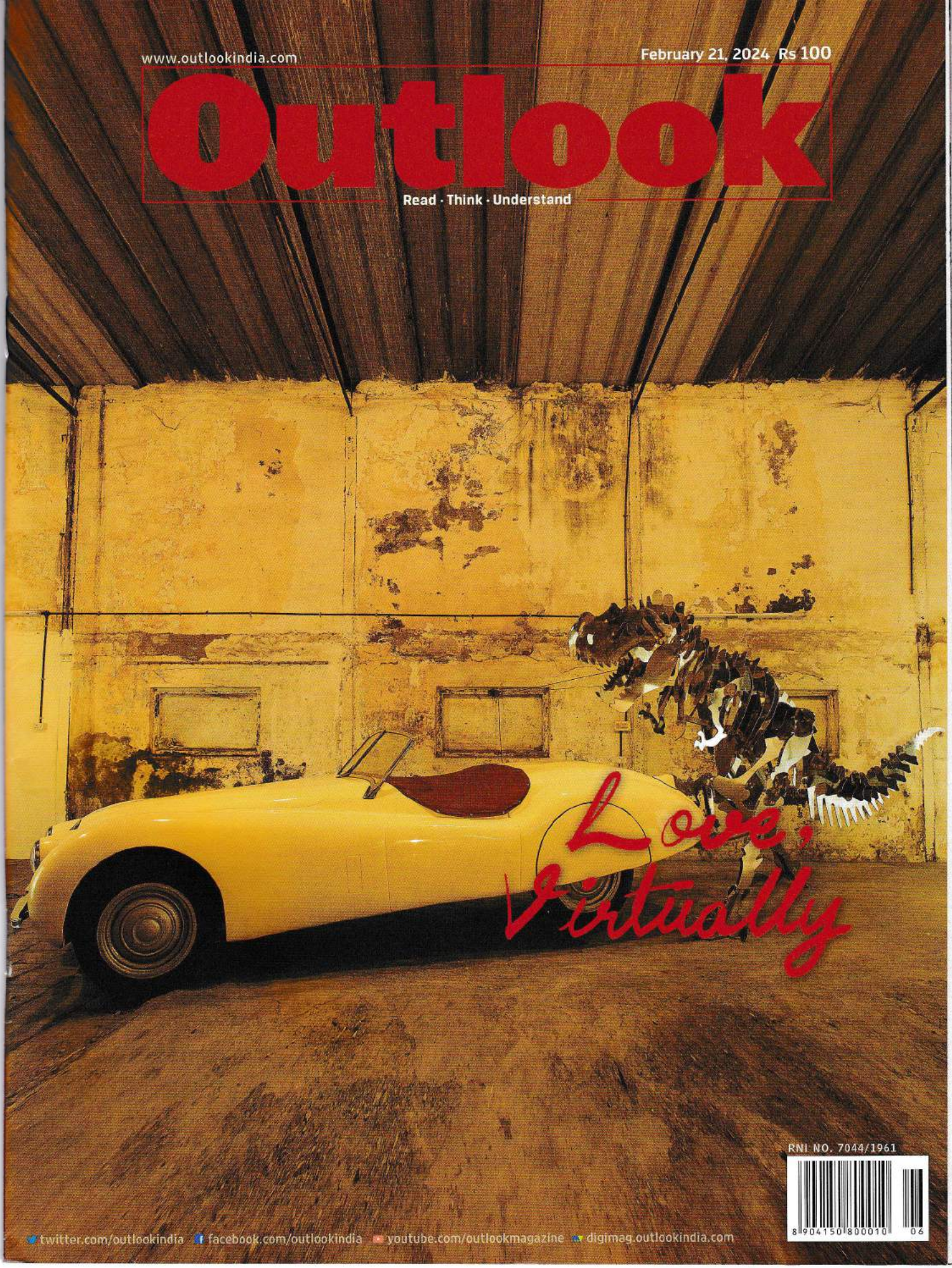

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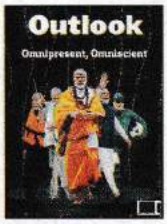

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ON COVER PAGE:
Artwork by
Sudarshan Shetty

"The strange and hilarious coupling of two giant toys evokes the marriage of desire to a system of fetishism—of obsession with things as substitutes for a system of affects connected to love, to childhood games and adult assessments of value. With objects 'surinvested' with desire, the spectator's laughter over this couple recognises a familiar struggle between desire and its extinction, in the comedy of complicity that unites the viewer with these fetish objects."
—Excerpts from the text written by Vyjayanthi Rao for Sudarshan Shetty's show, *Love*, in 2006. (Photograph of artwork by Vinay Mahidhar)



6 | OF ROMANCE AND REVOLUTION
Communists initially created hopes of revolutionising romantic relations, but ended up controlling them



12 | SCORCHING SACRED LOVE
Bhakti is not bedtime prayer in some safe enclave of the heart. Love of the divine isn't ornamental. It certainly isn't tame. And it most definitely isn't for the faint of heart



32 | OF WILLS AND WISHES
I wonder what will become of my beloved books and driftwood art after me: Ashutosh Salil



56 | THE MASTERSTROKE
Hemant Soren's strategy has stumped the BJP in Jharkhand

62 | THE GRAND TATYA
Raghunath Khanolkar's rare photographs of his friends, family and famous personalties



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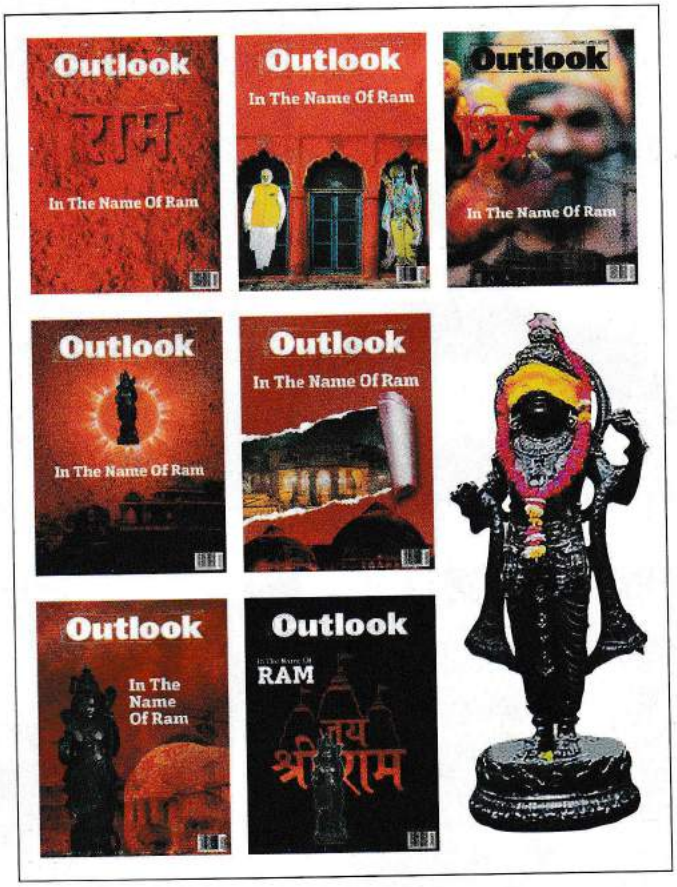

6 | THE NEW AYODHYA
The city will become more majestic, more developed, but will its residents survive?

16 | THE OTHER VOICES
Muslims in Ayodhya only wish to live in peace

34 | POLITICS OF DIVINITY
The Pran Pratishtha ceremony of Ram's idol in Ayodhya has transformed the political landscape

40 | THE VERSATILE HISTORIES OF AYODHYA...
...sustain the famed Ganga-Jamuni syncretic culture of Awadh



62 | REKINDLING HOPE
The apex court's verdict in the Bilkis Bano case raises hope for a democratic India

64 | A SLICE OF JAPAN
The solid bedrock of a civilisation that is deeply reflective



74 DIARY

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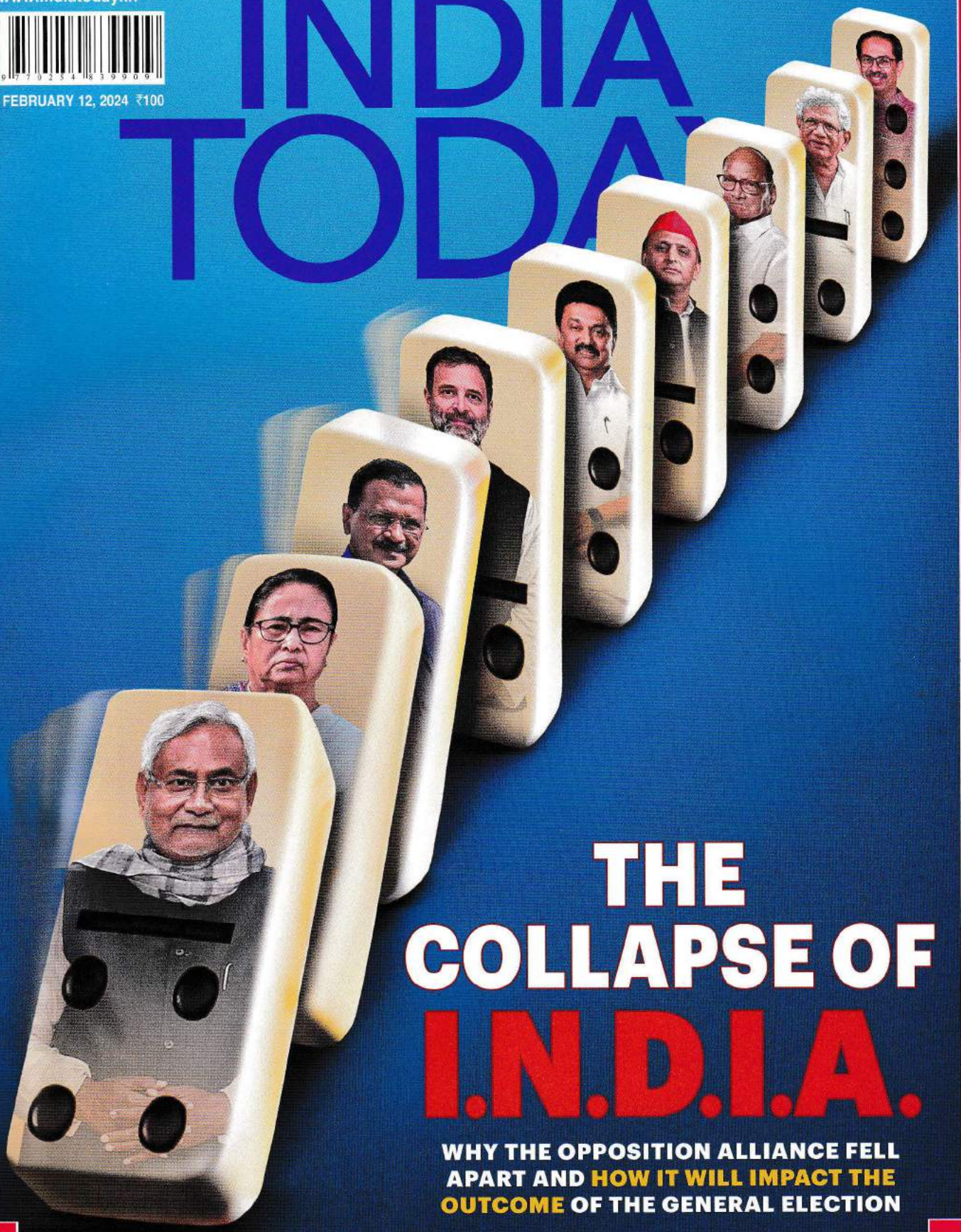

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30th JAN 2024
CLOUD DINING
Chandra Shekhar Azad Park



15th FEB 2024
HOT AIR BALLOON
Near Agra Fort



14th MAY 2024
Thematic Transformation of
SUBHASH PARK
M.G. Road



30th JUL 2024
GOVIND VATIKA
Thematic Transformation of Zonal Park Taj Nagari II, Agra



03rd SEP 2024
LIGHT & SOUND SHOW
Fatehpur Sikri



30th NOV 2024
LOGISTIC HUB
Kuthawali



31st MAR 2024
ENTRY GATE
for AGRA, Near ADA, Toll Plaza



30th JUN 2024
LIGHT & SOUND SHOW
Shaheed Smarak



31st AUG 2024
TOWNSHIP
Gwalior Road



30th OCT 2024
SANSKRITI VAN
Shahjahan Park



05th FEB 2024
INTEGRATED PROPERTY
Management System Software



25th MAR 2024
GO KARTING



05th JUN 2024
EVENTS
11, Sidi, Near Taj View Point



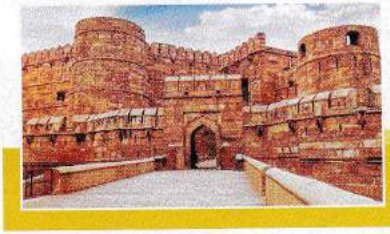
15th AUG 2024
GHATS
Bank of River Yamuna



03rd SEP 2024
FACADE LIGHTING
Fatehpursikri & Agra Fort



15th MAR 2025
CONVENTION CENTER





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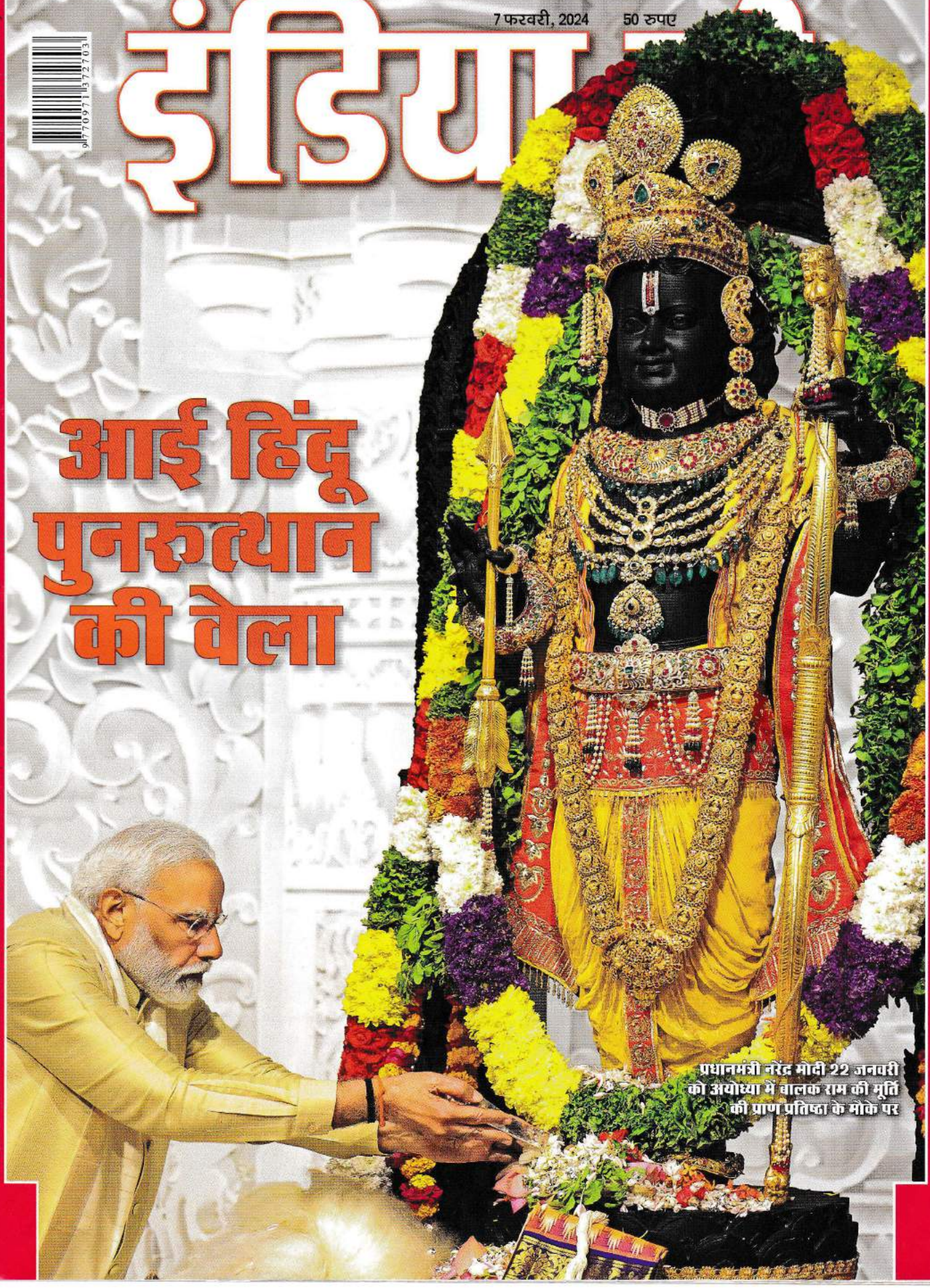

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सवाल-जवाब/श्रीराम राघवन: 'साम्राज्य खड़ा करने नहीं आया' पेज 102

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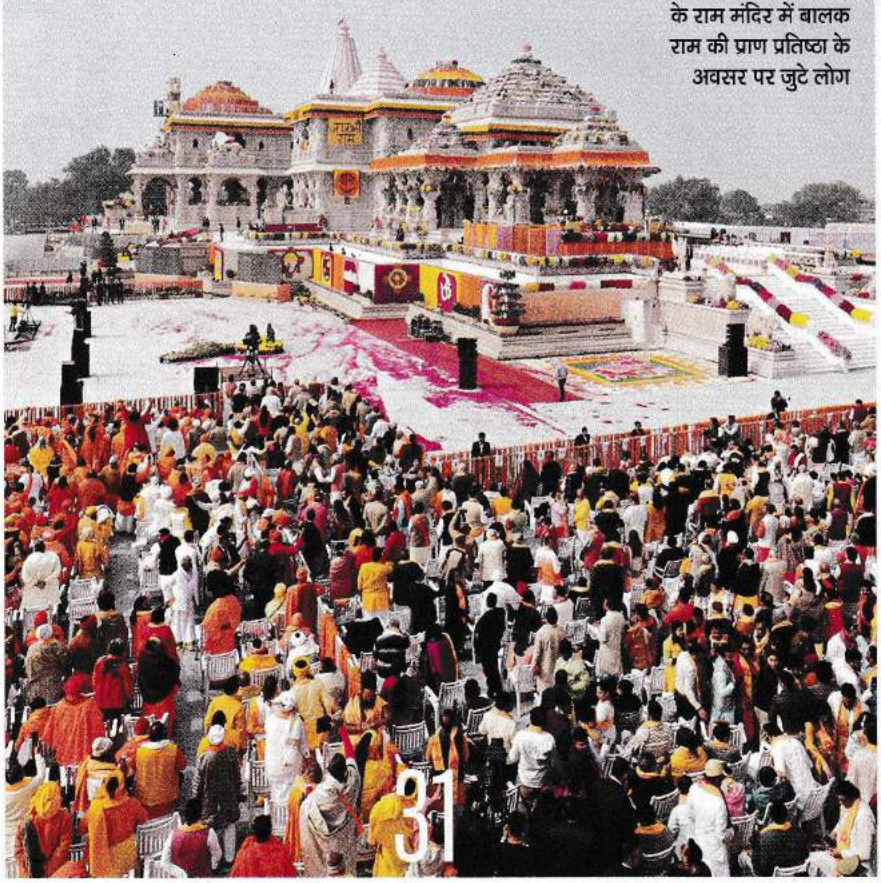

भक्तों की भीड़
22 जनवरी को अयोध्या के राम मंदिर में बालक राम की प्राण प्रतिष्ठा के अवसर पर जुटे लोग

आवरण कथा

आई वेला हिंदू पुनरुत्थान की

आखिर किस तरह से यह भारत को बदलने वाला है? और क्या यह राम राज्य के मार्ग को प्रशस्त करेगा?

पाठकों के लिए सूचना: कभी-कभी आपको इंडिया टुडे पत्रिका में 'इम्पैक्ट फीचर' या 'एडवरटोरियल' या 'फोकस' के पन्ने नजर आते होंगे. ये विज्ञापन हैं और इन्हें बनाने में पत्रिका का संपादकीय स्टाफ शामिल नहीं होता.

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पाठकों को सलाह दी जाती है कि पत्रिका में प्रकाशित किसी भी सेवा या व्यक्ति के विज्ञापन और प्रचार से संबंधित सामग्री से वचनबद्धता कायम करने, पैसा भेजने या खर्च करने से पहले उचित जांच-पड़ताल कर लें. विज्ञापनदाताओं के किसी भी दावे का उत्तरदायित्व इंडिया टुडे ग्रुप का नहीं है. ऐसे किसी भी तरह के दावों के विज्ञापनदाता अगर नहीं पूरा करता है तो इंडिया टुडे ग्रुप के प्रकाशनों के मुद्रक, प्रकाशक, एडिटर-इन-चीफ और एडिटर इसके लिए जिम्मेदार नहीं होंगे.

भारतीय सेना: एक अदद राइफल की दरकार

मणिपुर: लौट आया उग्रवाद

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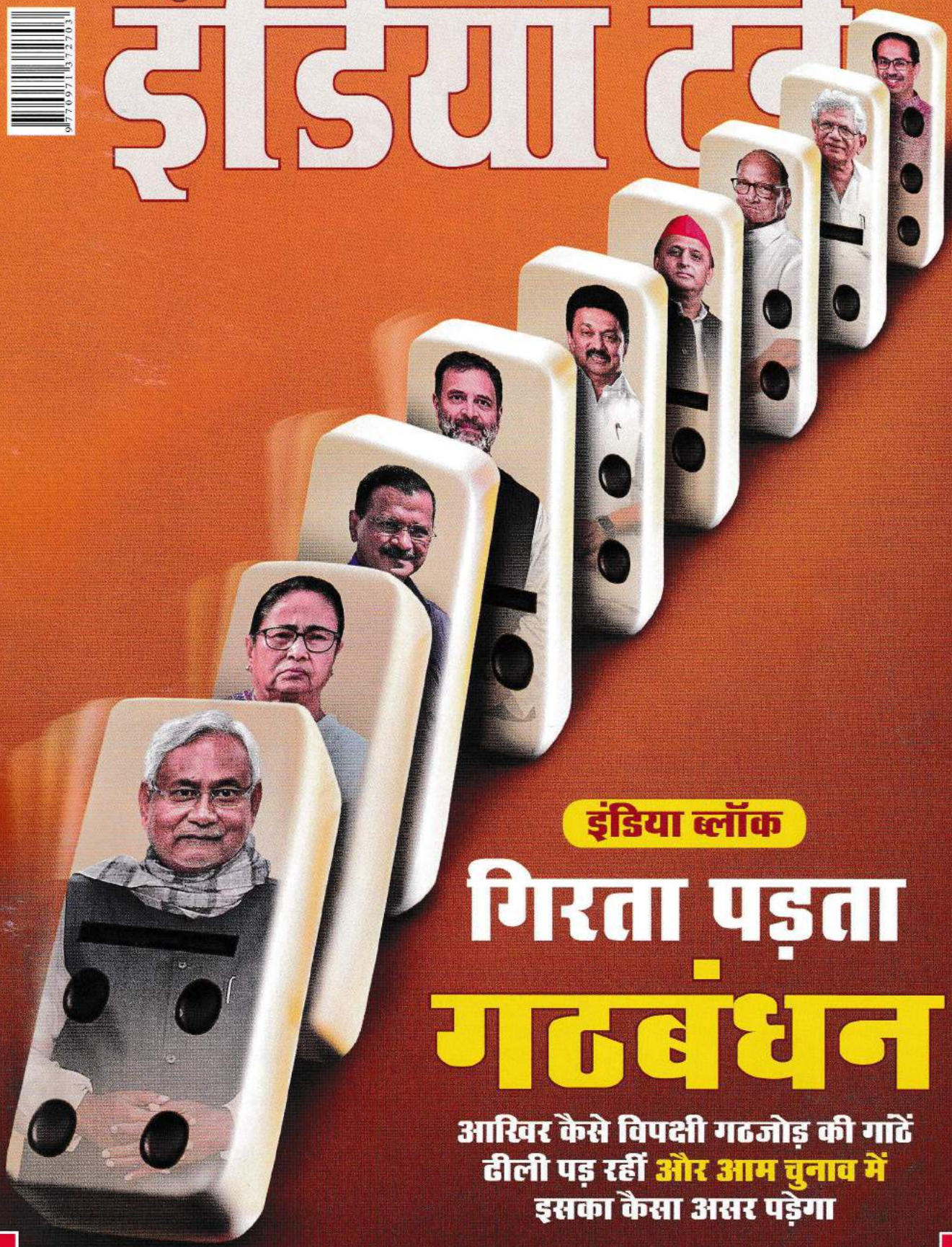
14 फरवरी, 2024 50 रुपए

इंडिया टुडे



इंडिया ब्लॉक

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आखिर कैसे विपक्षी गठजोड़ की गांठें ढीली पड़ रहीं और आम चुनाव में इसका कैसा असर पड़ेगा

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एसोसिएट एडिटर: पवन वर्मा
असिस्टेंट एडिटर: मनीष दीक्षित, सुमित सिंह
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- लिविंग मीडिया इंडिया लि. विश्व भर में सर्वाधिकार सुरक्षित. किसी भी रूप में सामग्री की नकल प्रतिबंधित. इंडिया टुडे अनिमंत्रित प्रकाशन सामग्री को लौटाने की जिम्मेदारी स्वीकार नहीं करता.
- सभी विवादों का निबटारा दिल्ली/नई दिल्ली की सीमा में आने वाली सक्षम अदालतों और फोरमों में किया जाएगा.

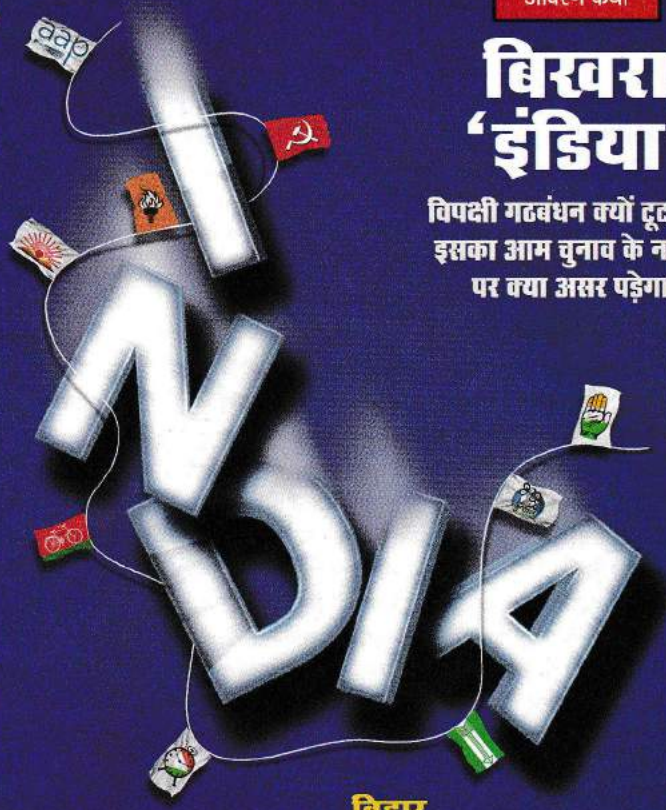
- **लिविंग मीडिया इंडिया लि. के लिए मुद्रक एवं प्रकाशक मनोज शर्मा द्वारा एफ-26, फर्स्ट फ्लोर, कनॉट प्लेस, नई दिल्ली-110001 से प्रकाशित और थॉमसन प्रेस इंडिया लि., 18-35, माइलस्टोन, दिल्ली-मथुरा रोड, फरीदाबाद-121 007 (हरियाणा) में मुद्रित. संपादक: राज चेंगप्पा**

16

आवरण कथा

बिखरा 'इंडिया'

विपक्षी गठबंधन क्यों टूटा और इसका आम चुनाव के नतीजों पर क्या असर पड़ेगा?



बिहार

नौवीं बार नीतीश कुमार | 26 |

बिहार के मुख्यमंत्री ने 'इंडिया' को छोड़ भाजपा का हाथ थामा. क्या यह एक और मास्टरस्ट्रोक है या यू-टर्न का बादशाह अपना रास्ता भटक गया है?

इलस्ट्रेशन: नीलांजन दास

सुर्खियां

मणिपुर: उग्रवाद की वापसी **पेज 5**

बजट: नीतियों में निरंतरता बरकरार **पेज 10**

भीतर

फुरसत

थिएटर: भारंगम के 25 साल **पेज 69**

सवाल-जवाब: रोहन बोपन्ना/अभी तो मैं जवान हूं **पेज 74**

उत्तर प्रदेश
55 सजने लगा चुनावी जंग का मैदान — पीएम मोदी ने बुलंदशहर से चुनावी अभियान का आगाज कर पश्चिमी यूपी को साधने की कोशिश की

प्रतिरक्षा
64 असॉल्ट राइफल: अंधेरे में तीर — भारत की अपने जवानों के लिए भरोसेमंद असॉल्ट राइफल की खोज अब भी जारी

चुनाव 2024
60 चुनाव से पहले चिह्न की लड़ाई — बीते सालों में टूटी पार्टियों के अलग-अलग धड़े मूल पार्टी होने का दावा कर रहे हैं

ओटीटी
70 रियलिटी का बढ़ता बोलबाला — नॉन-फिक्शन शो बटोर रहे ज्यादा दर्शक, स्ट्रीमिंग प्लेटफॉर्म बदल रहे प्रोग्रामिंग

आवरण : नीलांजन दास, डिजिटल इमेजिंग : अमरजीत सिंह नागी

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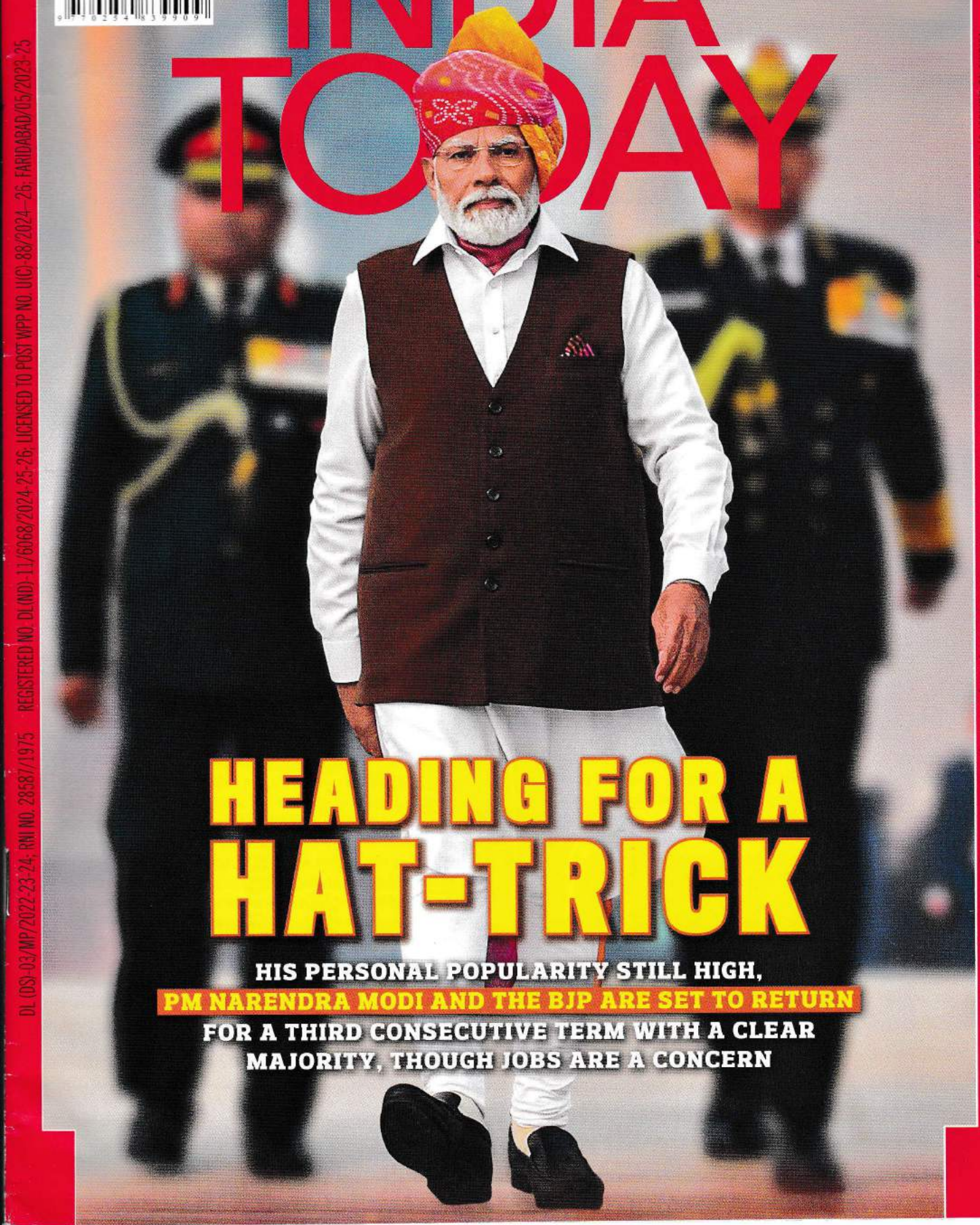

HEADING FOR A HAT-TRICK

HIS PERSONAL POPULARITY STILL HIGH, PM NARENDRA MODI AND THE BJP ARE SET TO RETURN FOR A THIRD CONSECUTIVE TERM WITH A CLEAR MAJORITY, THOUGH JOBS ARE A CONCERN

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ANI

UPFRONT
UCC: THE CODE IN UNIFORM PG 5

TROUBLE@PAYTM PG 12

INSIDE

LEISURE
GRAMMY: STRENGTH OF SHAKTI PG 59

Q&A WITH NICK JONAS PG 66

MOOD OF THE NATION | 14 | LEAD ESSAY

HEADING FOR A HAT-TRICK

His personal popularity still high, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to return for a third consecutive term with a clear majority, though jobs are a concern

26 **Economy**
A THUMBS UP FOR RECOVERY
The government's managing of economy wins approval, but stagnant incomes are a worry

32 **The Opposition**
FEELING LOST IN I.N.D.I.A.
The implosion in the alliance sparks cynicism among voters, who are also wary of BJP tactics

38 **Best CMs**
REIGNING SUPREME
Yogi Adityanath remains popular across India; Naveen Patnaik cements his position in home state

40 **Foreign Policy**
A FIRM PRESENCE
Most respondents approve of the overall foreign policy and handling of the row with Canada and Maldives

44 **Socio-Political**
WINDS OF CHANGE
New political initiatives like women's reservation find wider acceptance even as social mores change gradually

50 **Sports**
OLDEN GOLDIES
Neeraj Chopra and P.V. Sindhu are best sportspersons; Virat Kohli and Smriti Mandhana grab the honours in cricket

54 **Entertainment**
ALL HAIL KING KHAN
Riding on a stupendous year, Shah Rukh Khan has emerged as the No. 1 hero in the country after 12 years. Deepika Padukone remains the nation's leading lady

58 **Best Singer**
SINGING ROYALS
Arijit Singh is the undisputed king of male playback singing; Shreya Ghoshal retains melody queen status among women artists

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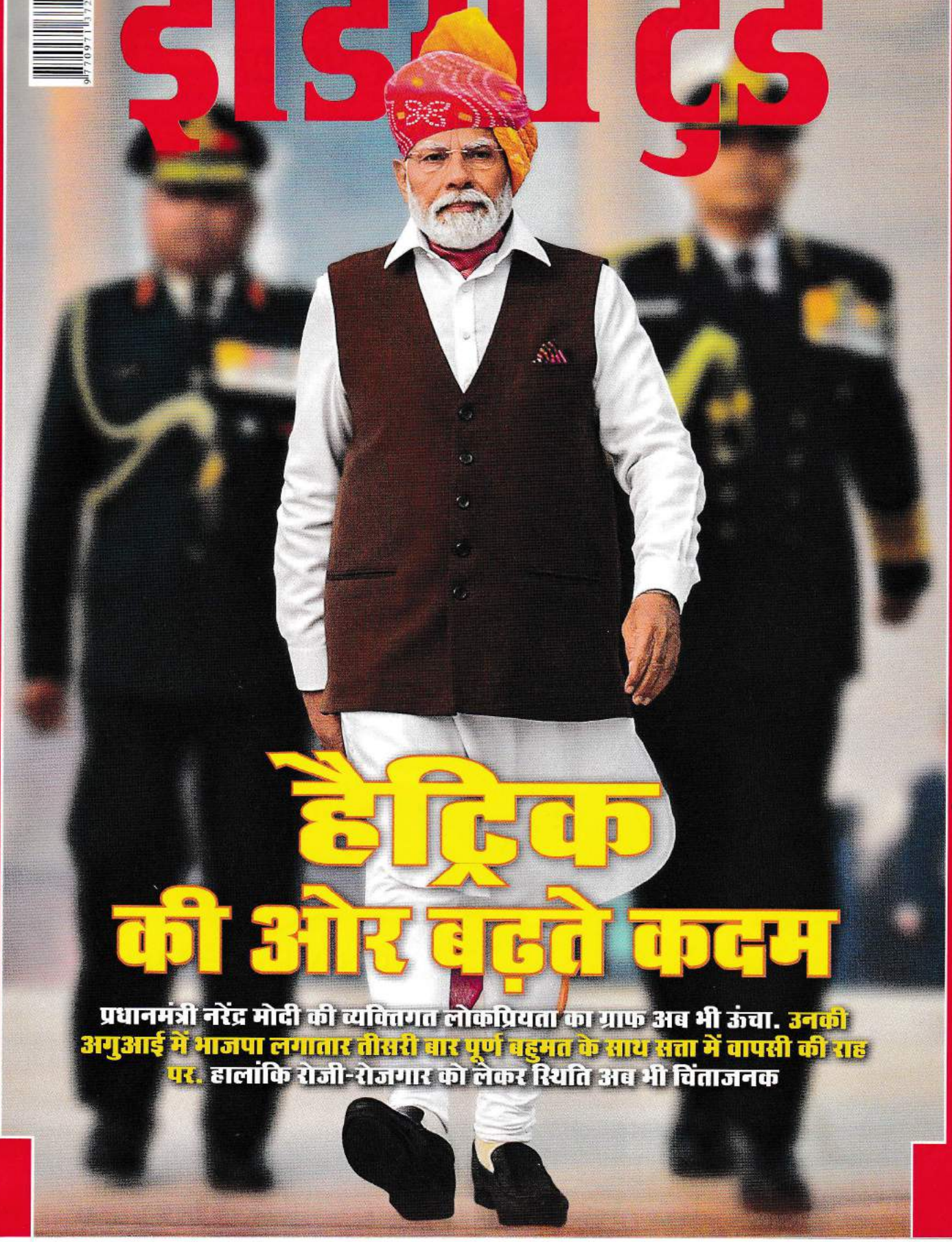
एक्सक्लूसिव: देश का मिज़ाज सर्वेक्षण

इंडिया टुडे

21 फरवरी, 2024 50 रुपए



हैट्रिक की ओर बढ़ते कदम

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की व्यक्तिगत लोकप्रियता का ग्राफ अब भी ऊंचा. उनकी अगुआई में भाजपा लगातार तीसरी बार पूर्ण बहुमत के साथ सत्ता में वापसी की राह पर. हालांकि रोजी-रोजगार को लेकर स्थिति अब भी चिंताजनक

अंग्रेजी सप्ताह के लिए प्रत्येक शनिवार को प्रकाशित; एबीपीसी दिल्ली-आरएमएस-दिल्ली-110006 से प्रत्येक शनिवार और सोमवार को प्रेषित; कुल पन्नों की संख्या 80 (आवरण सहित) वर्ष 38, अंक: 12

इंडिया टुडे

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चेयरमैन और प्रधान संपादक: अरुण पुरी
वाइस चेयरपर्सन और कार्यकारी प्रधान संपादक: कली पुरी
ग्रुप चीफ एग्जीक्यूटिव ऑफिसर: दिनेश भाटिया
ग्रुप एडिटोरियल डायरेक्टर: राज चेंगप्पा
चीफ एग्जीक्यूटिव ऑफिसर: मनोज शर्मा
एडिटर: सौरभ द्विवेदी
डिप्टी एडिटर: मोहम्मद वक़ास
सीनियर एसोसिएट एडिटर: शिवकेश मिश्र, प्रतीक्षा
एसोसिएट एडिटर: पवन वर्मा
असिस्टेंट एडिटर: मनीष दीक्षित, सुमित सिंह
वरिष्ठ विशेष संवाददाता: हिमांशु शेखर
राज्य ब्यूरो: आशीष मिश्र (लखनऊ), पुष्यमित्र (पटना), आनंद चौधरी (जयपुर), एम.जी. अरुण (मुंबई), राहुल नरोन्हा (भोपाल), अमरनाथ के. मेनन (हैदराबाद)
ग्रुप क्रिएटिव एडिटर: नीलांजन दास
एसोसिएट आर्ट डायरेक्टर: चंद्रमोहन ज्योति
असिस्टेंट आर्ट डायरेक्टर: असित रॉय
ग्रुप फोटो एडिटर: बंदीप सिंह
फोटो डिपार्टमेंट: चंद्रदीप कुमार, राजवंत रावत
मंदार सुरेश देवधर (मुंबई)
डिप्टी विजुअल रिसर्च एडिटर: प्रभाकर तिवारी
प्रिंसिपल फोटो रिसर्चर: सलोनी वैद
प्रोडक्शन चीफ: अभिनव पुगला
सीनियर एसोसिएट पब्लिशर (इंपैक्ट):
सुपर्णा कुमार
इंपैक्ट टीम
सीनियर जनरल मैनेजर: नयूर रस्तोगी (नॉर्थ ऐंड ईस्ट), जीतेंद्र लाड (वेस्ट)
जनरल मैनेजर: सैयद नवीद (चेन्नै), अरुप चौधरी (बेंगलूरु)
ग्रुप चीफ मार्केटिंग ऑफिसर: विवेक मल्होत्रा
सेल्स एवं ऑपरेशन
सीनियर जनरल मैनेजर: दीपक भट्ट (नेशनल सेल्स)
जनरल मैनेजर: विपिन बग्गा (ऑपरेशंस)
डिप्टी जनरल मैनेजर: राजीव गांधी (नॉर्थ)
डिप्टी रीजनल सेल्स मैनेजर: योगेश गोधनलाल गौतम (वेस्ट)
डिप्टी रीजनल सेल्स मैनेजर: एस. परमशिवम (साउथ)

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- लिविंग मीडिया इंडिया लि. विश्व भर में सर्वाधिकार सुरक्षित. किसी भी रूप में सामग्री की नकल प्रतिबंधित. इंडिया टुडे अनिमंत्रित प्रकाशन सामग्री को लौटाने की जिम्मेदारी स्वीकार नहीं करता.
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एएनआइ

भीतर

सुर्खियां
यूसीसी: सबके लिए समान कानून पेज 6
डिजिटल पेमेंट्स: संकट में पेटीएम पेज 11

फुरसत
ग्रैमी अवॉर्ड: संगीत की 'शक्ति' पेज 56
सवाल-जवाब: भूमि पेडणेकर/ बरदाश्त नहीं गैर-बराबरी पेज 58

देश का मिज़ाज | 16 | आलेख

हैट्रिक की ओर बढ़ते कदम

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की व्यक्तिगत लोकप्रियता अब भी ऊंचाई पर और भाजपा स्पष्ट बहुमत के साथ लगातार तीसरी बार सता में वापसी की तैयारी में

28 **अर्थव्यवस्था**
नौकरियों का संकट
अर्थव्यवस्था की सार-संभाल में मोदी सरकार की तारीफ, पर नौकरियों की कमी बड़ी समस्या.

33 **विपक्ष**
इंडिया ब्लॉक पर उलझन
विपक्षी गठबंधन में बिखराव से मतदाता संशय में. भाजपा की युक्तियां भी वे समझ रहे.

38 **श्रेष्ठ मुख्यमंत्री**
चोटी पर बरकरार योगी
यूपी के सीएम देश में सबसे लोकप्रिय. गृह राज्य में यह सम्मान नवीन पटनायक के नाम.

40 **विदेश नीति**
विदेशी मोर्चे पर मजबूत
कनाडा संग राजनयिक विवाद से निबटना हो या मालदीव का बहिष्कार, सरकार को पूर्ण समर्थन.

44 **सामाजिक-राजनैतिक**
बदलाव की बयार
चाहे वह 'एक राष्ट्र एक चुनाव' हो या विधायिका में महिला आरक्षण, नई सियासी पहलकदमियों को स्वीकृति.

50 **खेलकूद**
आजमाए चेहरों पर भरोसा
क्रिकेट में कोहली, स्मृति मंधाना सबसे आगे. ओलंपिक में नीरज चोपड़ा, अंशु मलिक से उम्मीदें.

52 **मनोरंजन**
कायम हैं किंग खान
बीता साल शाहरुख खान की सफलता के नाम. 12 साल बाद लौटे शीर्ष पर. दीपिका पसंदीदा अभिनेत्री की पीठ पर कायम.

54 **श्रेष्ठ गायक**
सुरीले स्वर
पार्श्व गायकों में अरिजित सिंह और महिला स्वरों में श्रेया घोषाल का अरसे बाद भी कोई सानी नजर नहीं आता.

पाठकों के लिए सूचना: कभी-कभी आपको इंडिया टुडे पत्रिका में 'इम्पैक्ट फीचर' या 'एडवरटोरियल' या 'फोकस' के पन्ने नजर आते होंगे. ये विज्ञापन हैं और इन्हें बनाने में पत्रिका का संपादकीय स्टाफ शामिल नहीं होता.

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पाठकों को सलाह दी जाती है कि पत्रिका में प्रकाशित किसी भी सेवा या व्यक्ति के विज्ञापन और प्रचार से संबंधित सामग्री से वचनबद्धता कायम करने, पैसा भेजने या खर्च करने से पहले उचित जांच-पड़ताल कर लें. विज्ञापनदाताओं के किसी भी दावे का उत्तरदायित्व इंडिया टुडे ग्रुप का नहीं है. ऐसे किसी भी तरह के दावों के विज्ञापनदाता अगर नहीं पूरा करता है तो इंडिया टुडे ग्रुप के प्रकाशनों के मुद्रक, प्रकाशक, एडिटर-इन-चीफ और एडिटर इसके लिए जिम्मेदार नहीं होंगे.