

UPDATE LRC TOC VOLUME



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LRC TOC VOLUME UPDATE

February 2024 | Issue - 2

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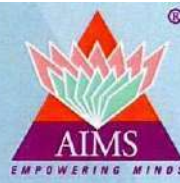
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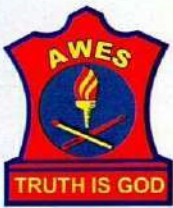
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Ajay Kumar Srivastava
Managing Director & CEO
Indian Overseas Bank



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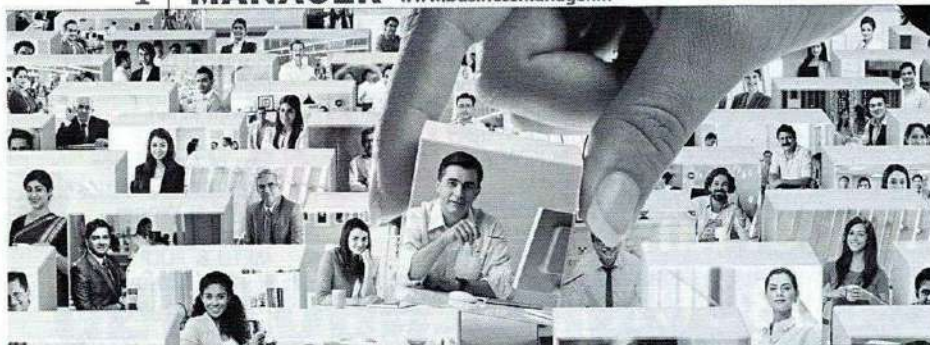
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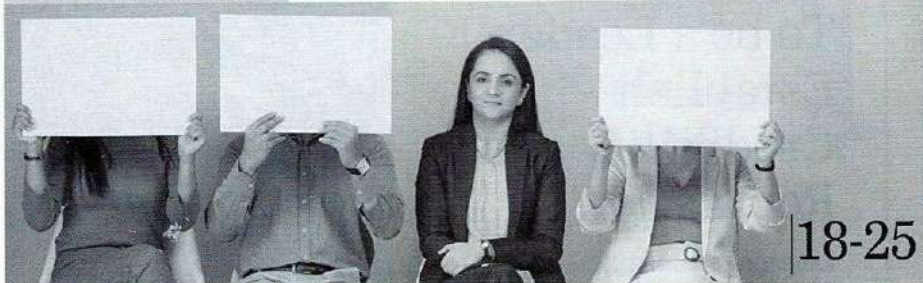
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ZOMATO'S FIERY RUN

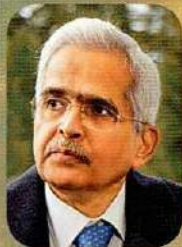
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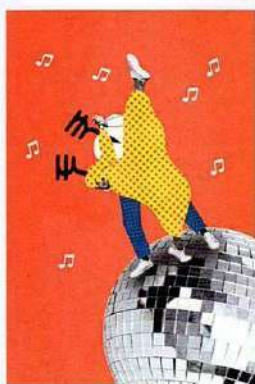
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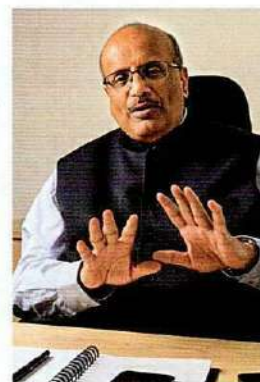


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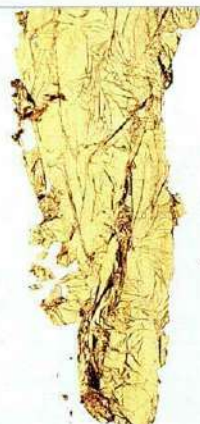
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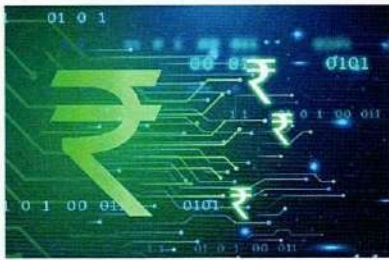


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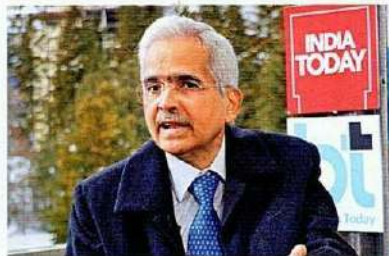
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Exclusive interview with Snap Inc. Co-founder & CEO Evan Spiegel

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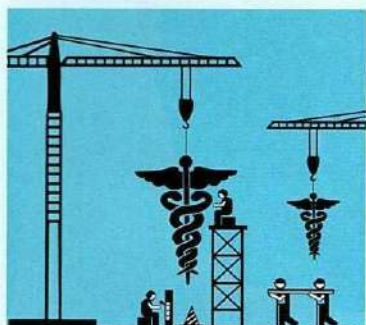
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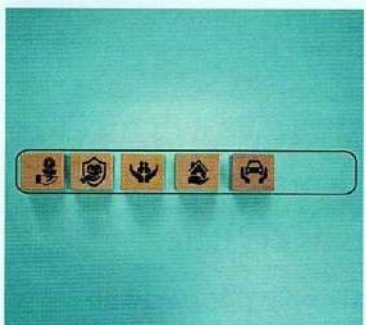
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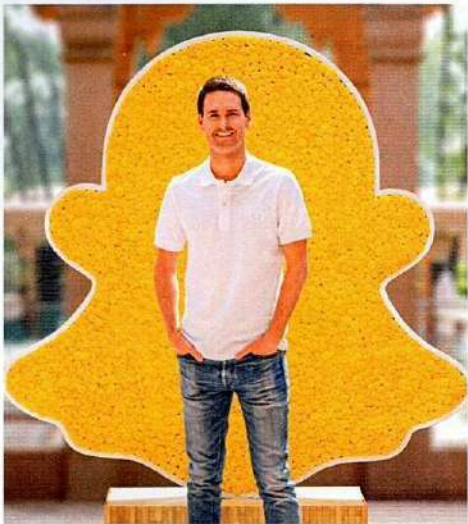
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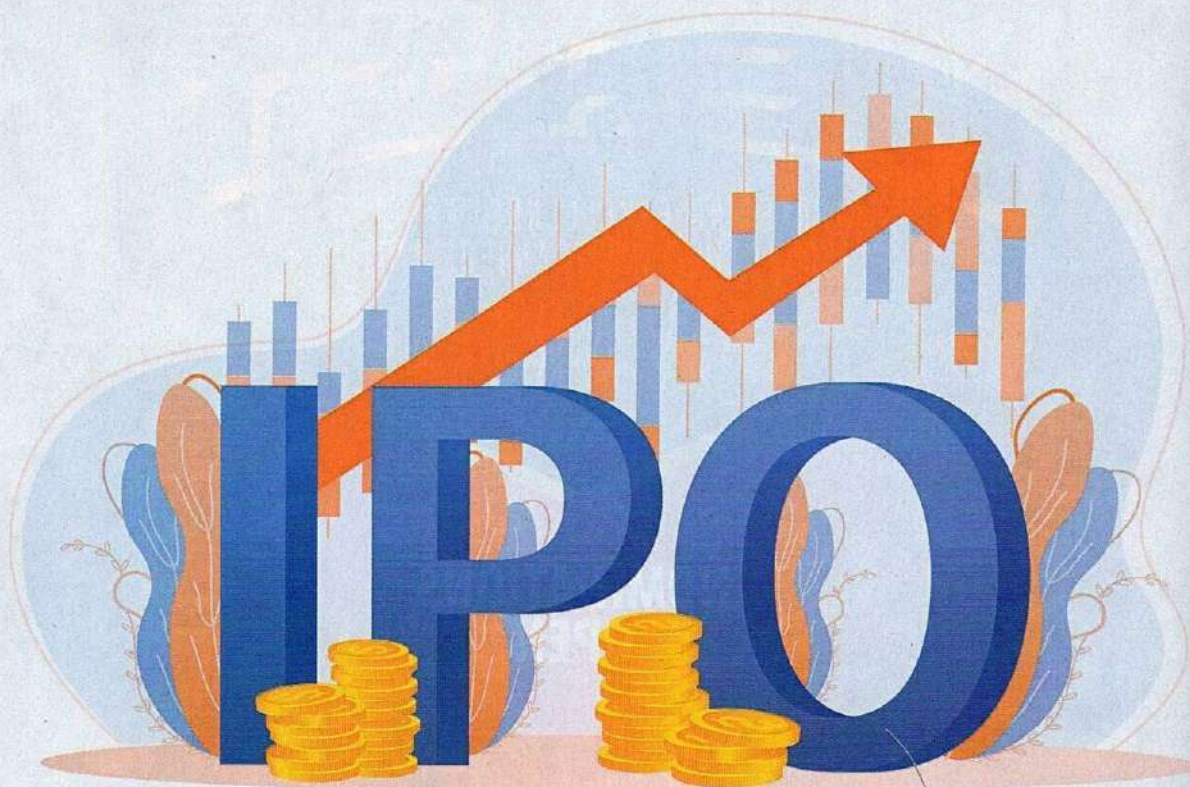
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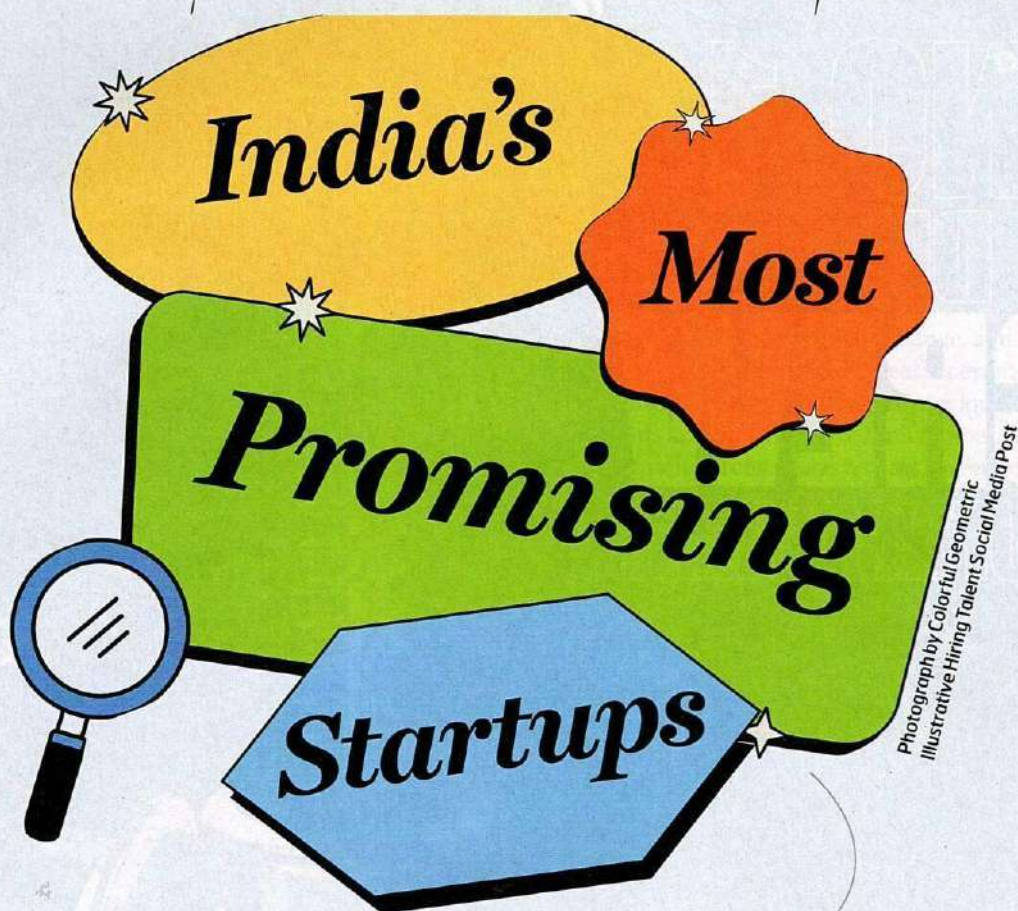
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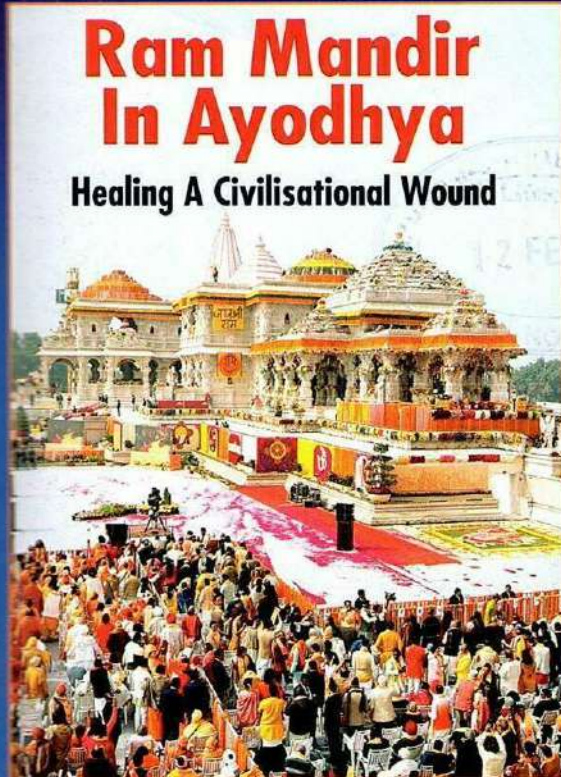
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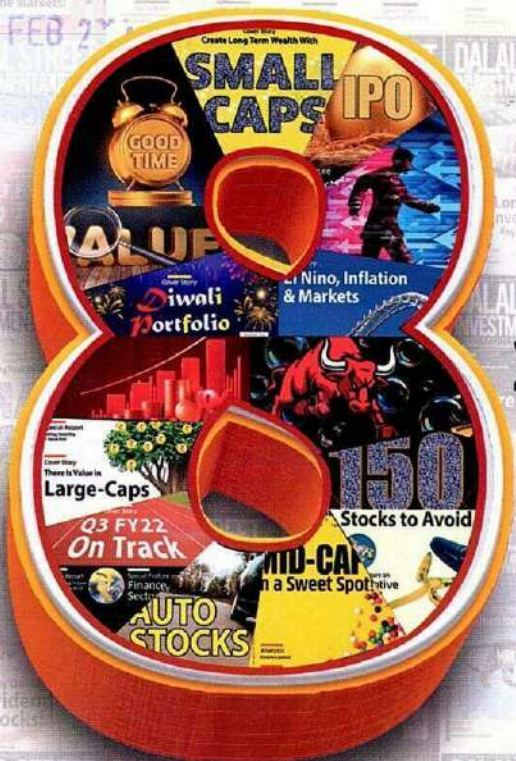
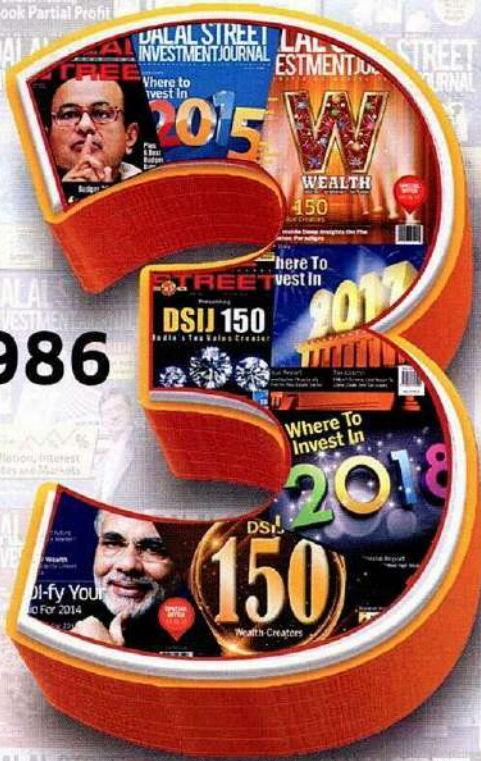
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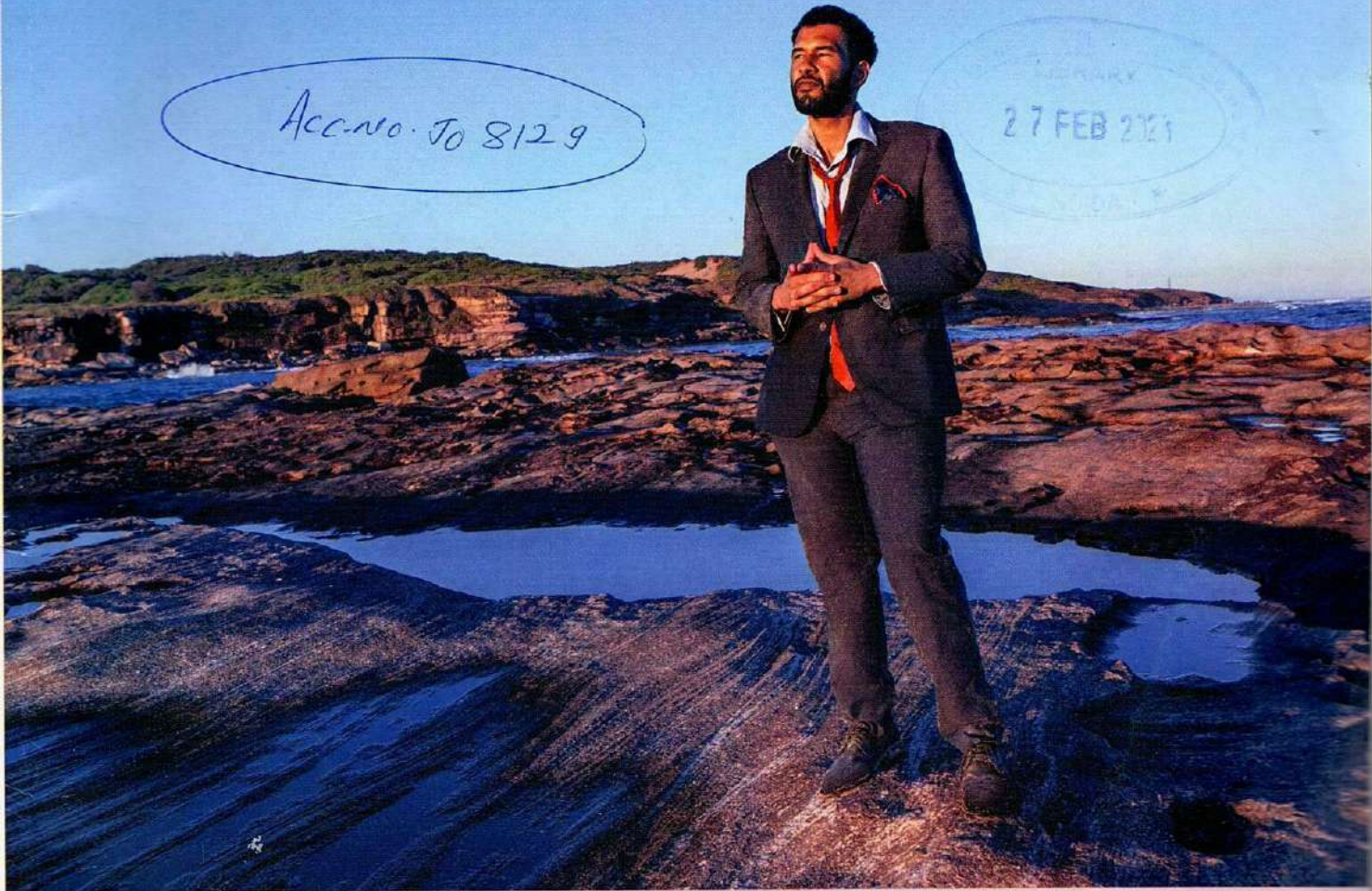
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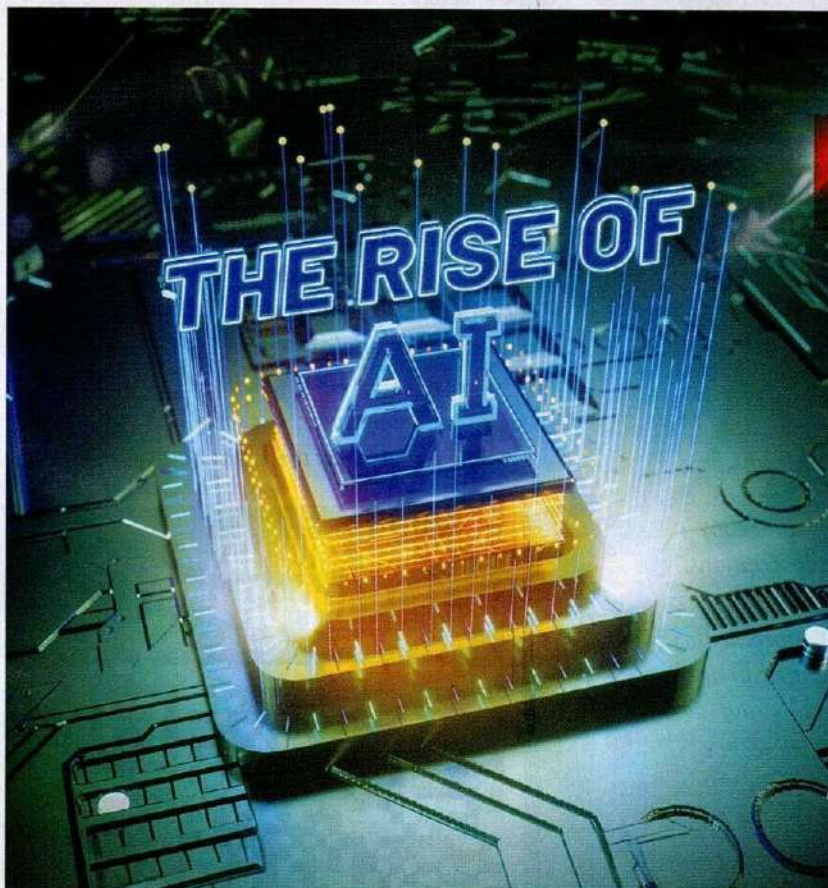
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FORTNIGHTLY ON POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

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RANDOM SPRAWL

In absence of carrying capacity assessments, the unplanned growth of Himalayan towns is only making them more vulnerable to disasters



GROUNDWATER

Haryana's scheme to dissuade paddy cultivation

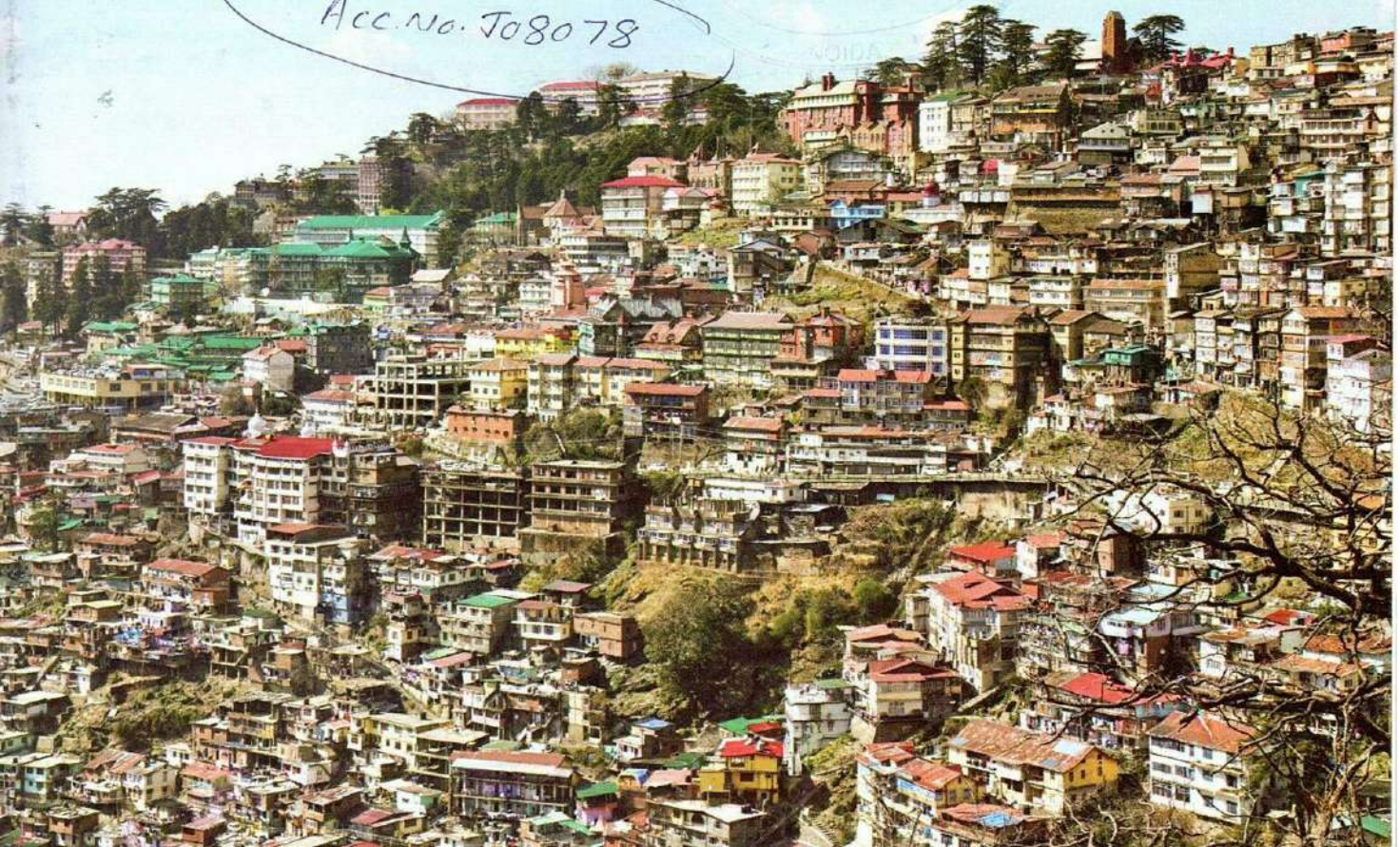
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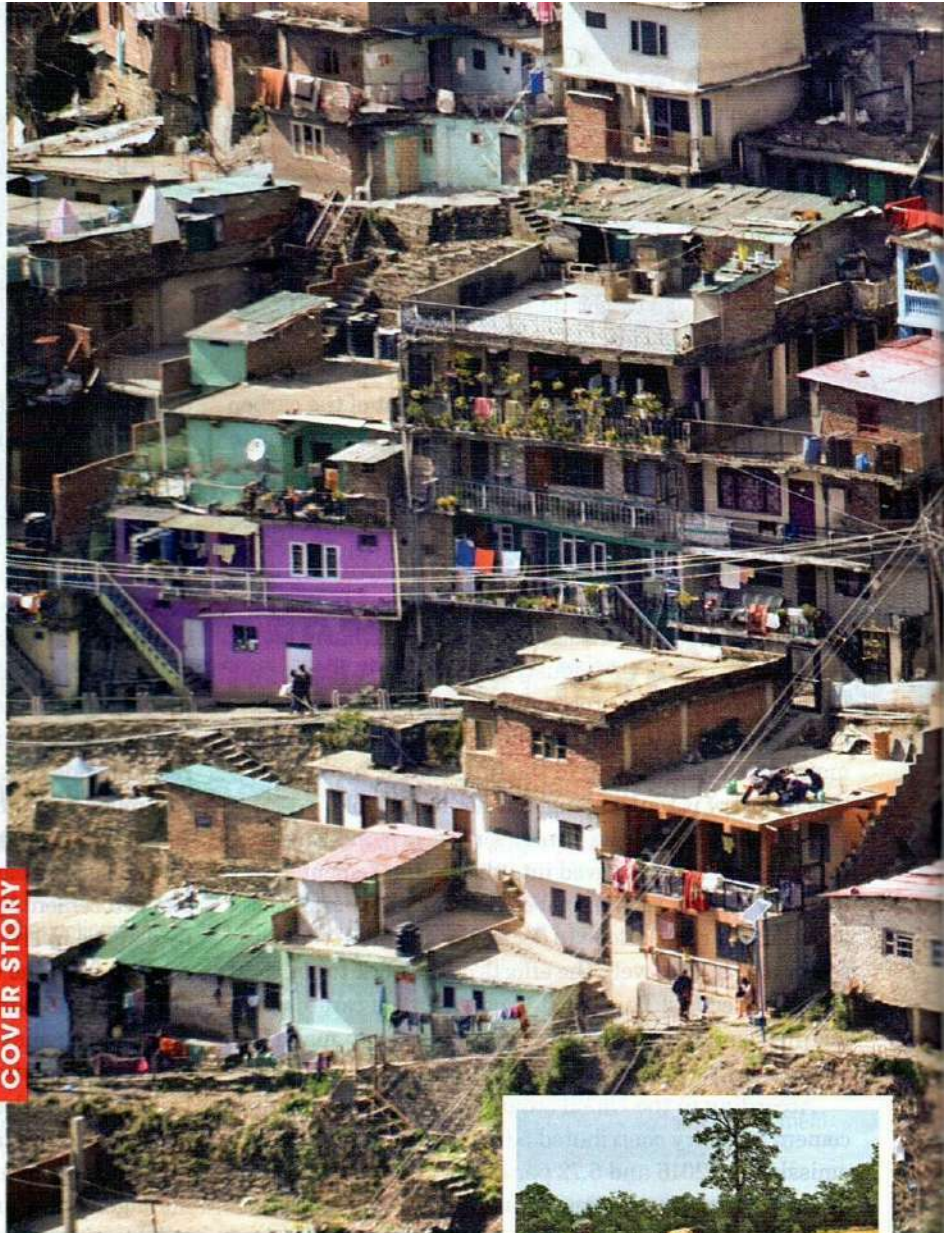
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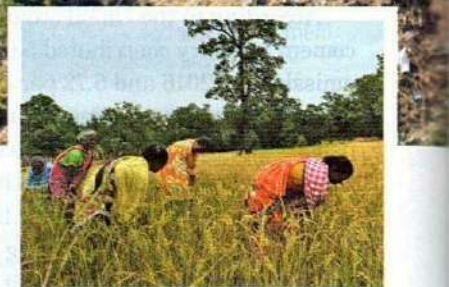
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Development in the absence of master plans makes the already fragile Himalayan towns more vulnerable to disasters



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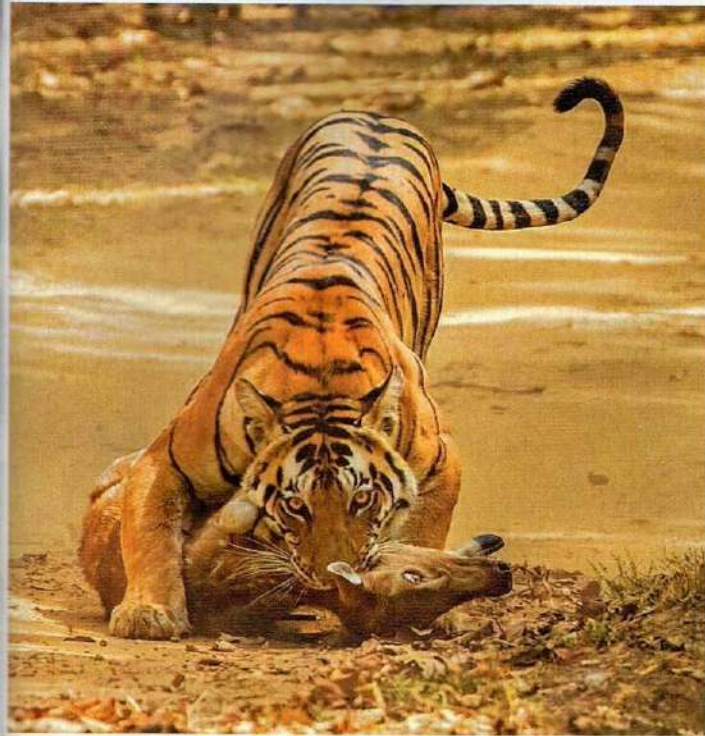
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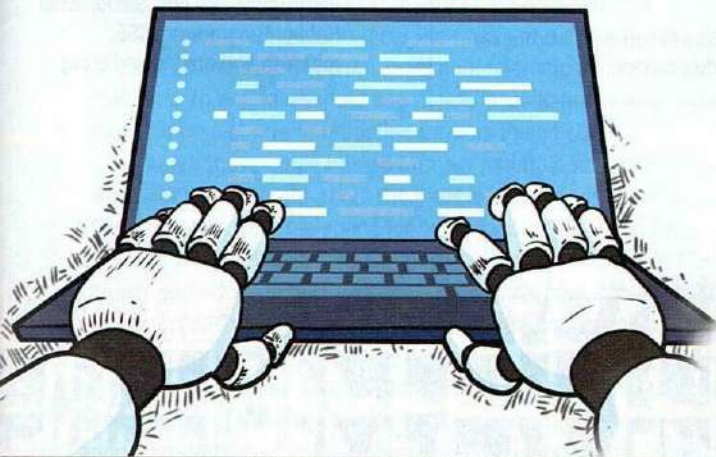
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systematic problem
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success or impacts
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Versatile,
protein-packed
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- Victims and Vehicles of Patronage: The Struggles of Government Schools in Dewas, MP

CURRENT STATISTICS**State of the Indian Economy**

An economy driven by the consumption of the rich cannot endure for long as income per capita in India is among the lowest in the G20 countries and the levels of per capita consumption, private investment, and government expenditure are low. [page 14](#)

Caste and Urban Transformation

Upper castes are advantaged in urbanisation processes through the refashioning of caste as networks, relations and knowledge operating in seemingly secular and democratic institutions and through legitimised practices of state and civil society. [page 41](#)

Government Schools in MP

The dereliction of duty by the government triggered a regressive chain reaction with teachers blaming students from marginalised sections and the administration blaming teachers, sidelining systemic issues. [page 57](#)

Student Movement in Barak Valley

The inception of the ACKHSA was primarily prompted by the challenges encountered by the students of Barak Valley in their pursuit of higher studies in the universities of Brahmaputra Valley. [page 36](#)

Algorithmic Bias

It is important to increase the diversity of AI researchers and practitioners as well as the data sources used to train machine-learning algorithms. [page 17](#)

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Economic History and Myths

Angus Maddison's work does not support the narrative that India was a golden bird of prosperity in the "Hindu period," it went downhill during the "Muslim period," and was gravely impoverished during the British period. [page 34](#)

Age of Consent

Despite showing awareness of contestations and complications surrounding the issue of the age of consent for sexual relations, the Law Commission's recommendations do not adequately address those problems. [page 21](#)

Structural Causes of Recession

The recession in 2020 cannot be attributed to the pandemic as the underlying weakness of the global economy was built over the years, making it vulnerable to any shock to trigger a downturn. [page 15](#)

Edible Oil Economy

The disruption of global supply chains due to the pandemic followed by the Russia–Ukraine war exposed the oilseed sector's vulnerabilities, highlighting the need for self-sufficiency in edible oils. [page 53](#)

A Feminist Retelling of *Ramayan*

Adding to other feminist retellings of *Ramayan*, the novel, *Trin Dhari Ot*, envisages a peaceful and harmonious society based on mutual understanding, respect, and compassion. [page 65](#)

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- Promotion of Traditional Weaving Craft of Mau Region: A Critical Report

CURRENT STATISTICS**Undernutrition and the Pandemic**

The quantifiable outcomes related to child anthropometric outcomes underscore the severity of the impact of the pandemic on child health and emphasise the urgency of addressing child undernutrition post-pandemic. [page 48](#)

A Critique of Indian Sociology

The unstated servitude to the supposedly global, to gain recognition on terms in whose setting one has had no say in the first place, damages the organic growth of a discipline like sociology. [page 14](#)

M Kunhaman (1949–2023)

Engaging afresh with existing theories and weaving them out from a subaltern context, Kunhaman demonstrated the weakness of existing developmental models to academics and policymakers. [page 22](#)

Commercialisation of Hysterectomy

Unwarranted hysterectomies are caused by the increasing commercialisation of healthcare, absence of regulation, and poor public healthcare facilities, which deprive poor and lower-middle-class women of proper gynaecological healthcare. [page 18](#)

GST Council Meetings

Infrequent meetings, a large number of agendas, minimum state participation, and other stakeholder absences will slow down the expected benefits of GST implementation in India. [page 31](#)

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- Plastic Pollution, Public Framings, and Plastic Burning Insights from Three Indian Towns

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POSTSCRIPT

Geopolitical Transitions

The transition away from unipolarity has been hastened by theatres of conflict in West Asia, Russia–Ukraine, and Asia-Pacific and their impacts, indicating significant changes in the international power structures constructed after World War II. [page 10](#)

Plastic Waste Management

Framings that highlight plastic pollution only along visible and aesthetic dimensions can lead to unanticipated and perverse consequences, such as the toxic and highly polluting practice of the open burning of mixed wastes containing plastics. [page 54](#)

Caste Atrocities in Tamil Nadu

The Justice Chandru Commission should go beyond the mere legal angle so that its findings may help remove the stranglehold of caste on everyday social life in the southern districts of Tamil Nadu. [page 18](#)

A Novel Methodology

Phanishwar Nath Renu's *Parti Parikatha* may indicate the ways in which social scientists may transcend the orthodox anthropological distinction of the social from the cultural. [page 47](#)

Dynamics of Poverty Reduction

Any attempt to explain poverty reduction in a year in terms of developments or programmatic interventions in that year is unlikely to go unchallenged. [page 21](#)

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- Woes of Research Scholars in India

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- Gandhi as an Exemplar?

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- India's Youth: Not in Education, Employment, or Training

CURRENT STATISTICS**Swaraj and Exemplarity**

Reading Gandhi as an exemplar is inconsistent with his view of swaraj and it does not explain how satyagraha as a political strategy could be both exemplary and political. [page 51](#)

Arab States and Palestinian Cause

Arab states' response to Israeli aggression hints at a departure from the passivity vis-à-vis Palestine to a stance marked by accommodation of popular will expressed in protest mobilisations. [page 21](#)

Social Determinants of Indebtedness

It is not only Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe households that face higher interest rates and a higher debt burden but also those belonging to the Other Backward Classes. [page 13](#)

Internal Critique of Judiciary

The judgment in Bilkis case is a welcome development not only for what it does in the context of the convicts released unlawfully but also for what it seems to be saying about the court's credibility crisis. [page 10](#)

Agricultural Export Policy

It is crucial for India to carefully balance the need for domestic supply with the benefits of exporting agricultural products and avoid ambiguity in its AEP. [page 26](#)

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Economic Affairs

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and Ethics

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Attending Business School
will Greatly Benefit
Younger Engineers

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is now crucial

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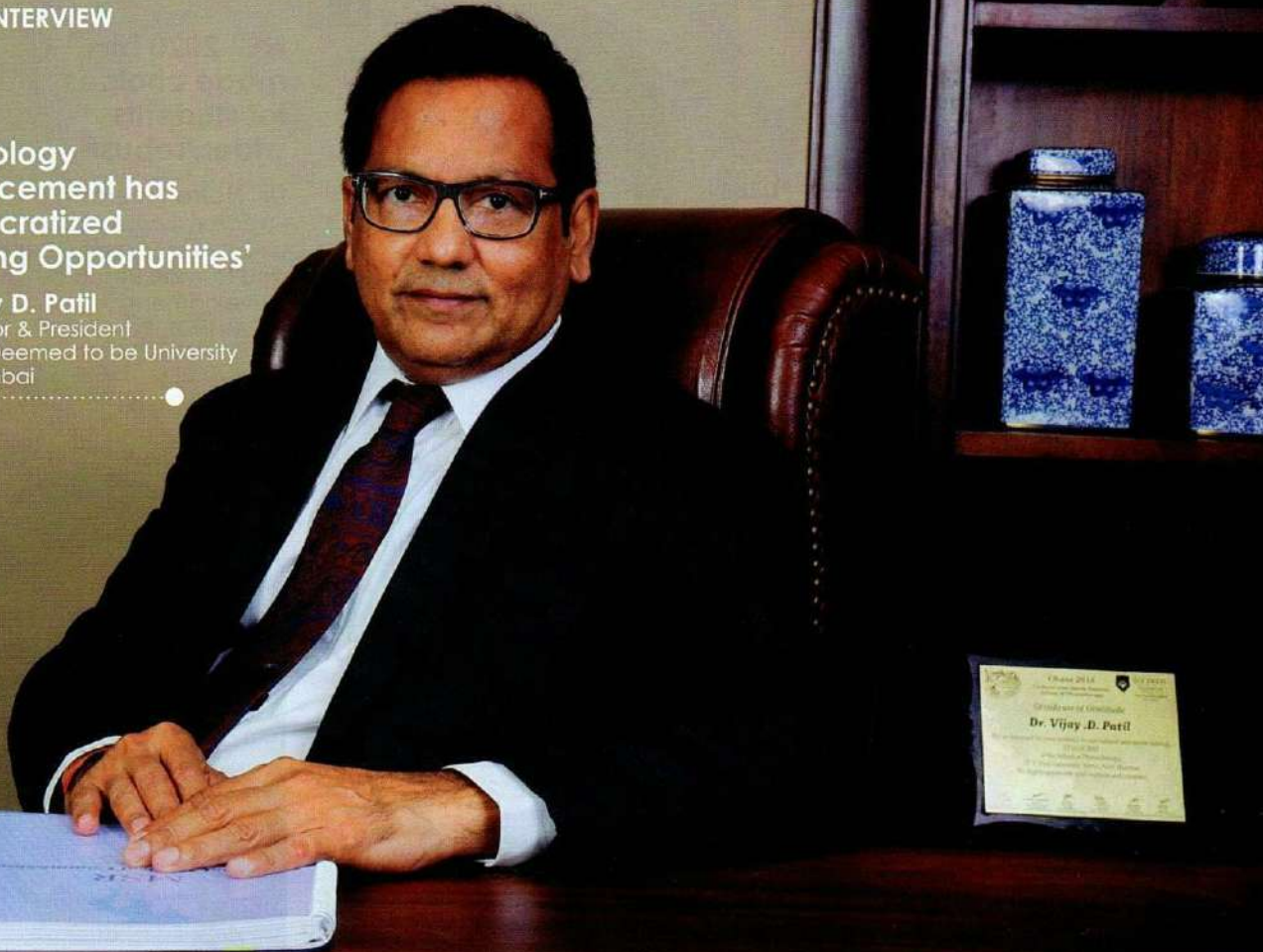
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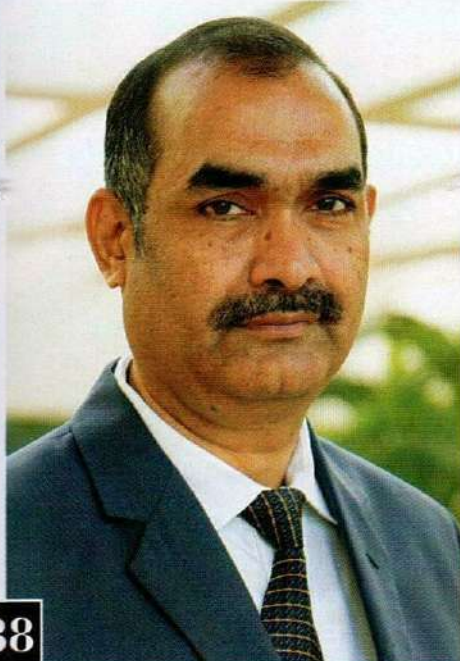




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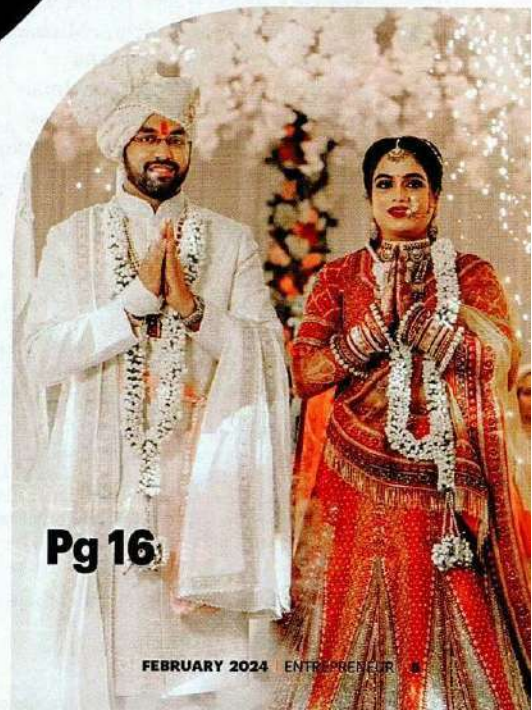
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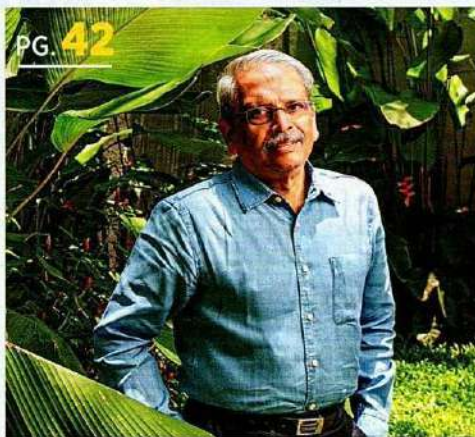
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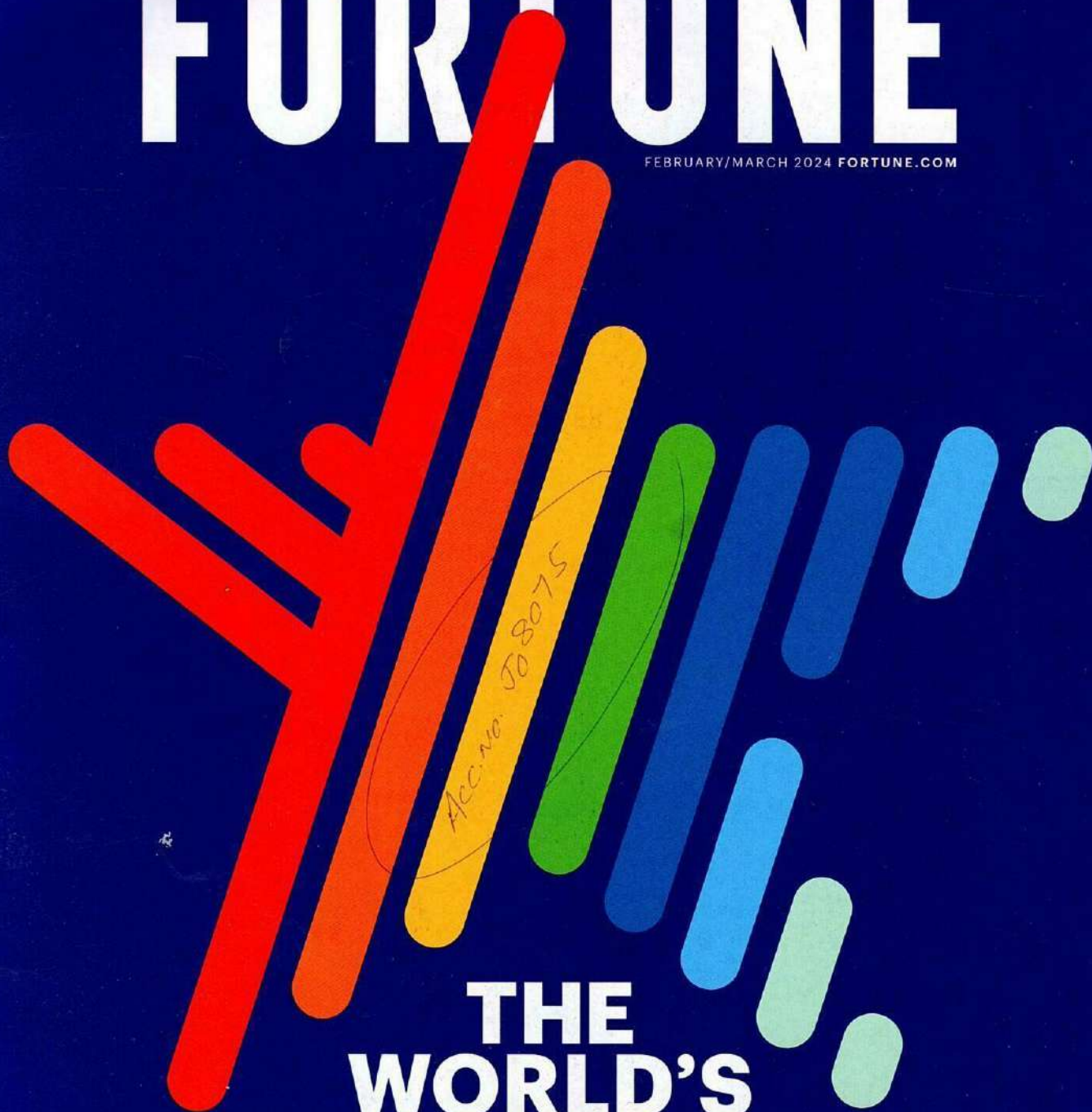
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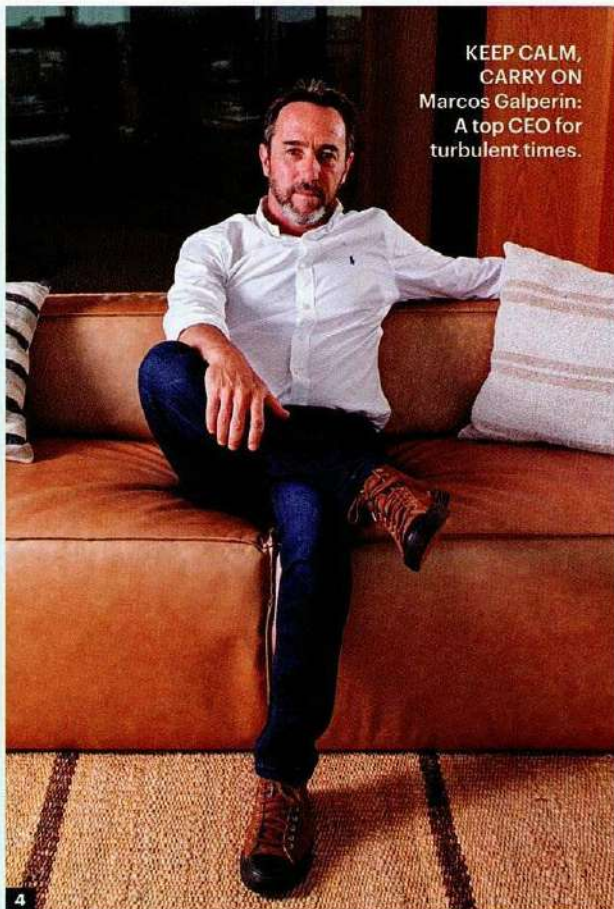
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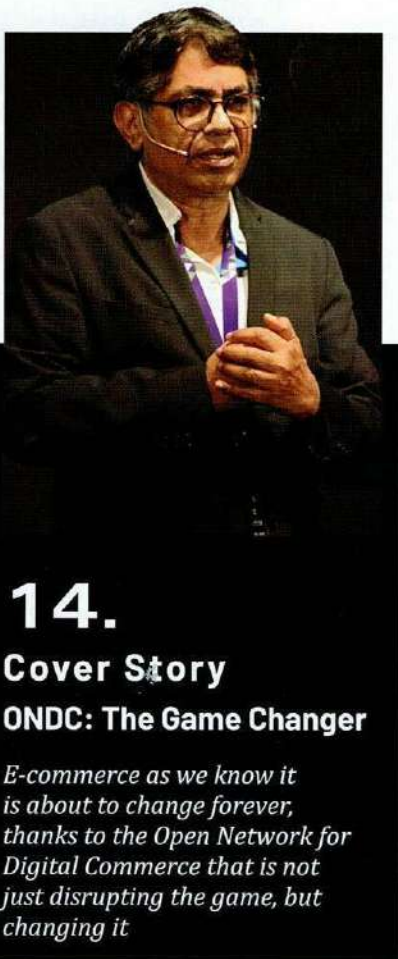
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ED, Omaxe Ltd.



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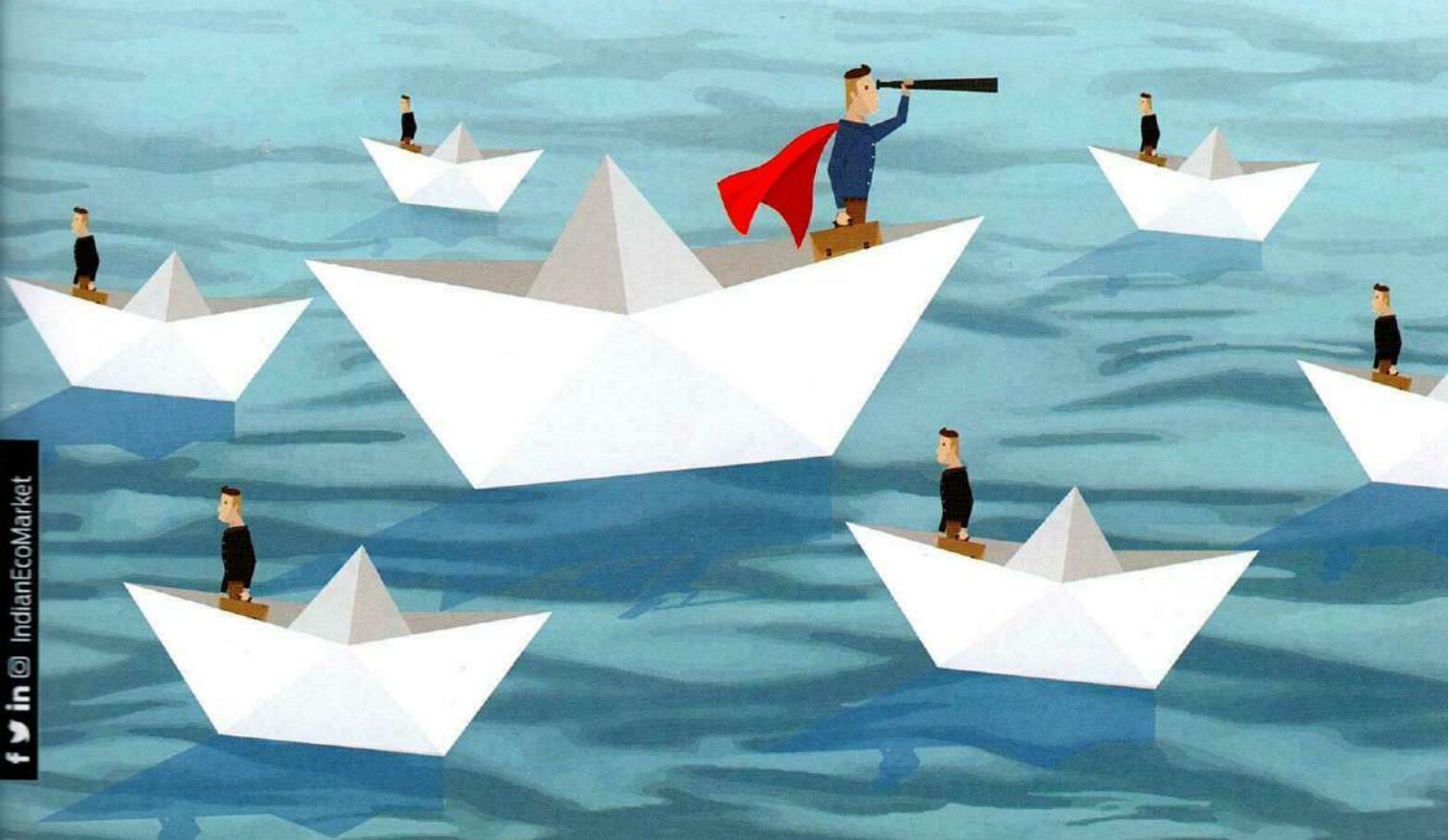
AI's Transformative Journey in Financial Advisory

Seeking Meaning in the Meaningless World

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SWIMMING UPSTREAM WITH VALUE

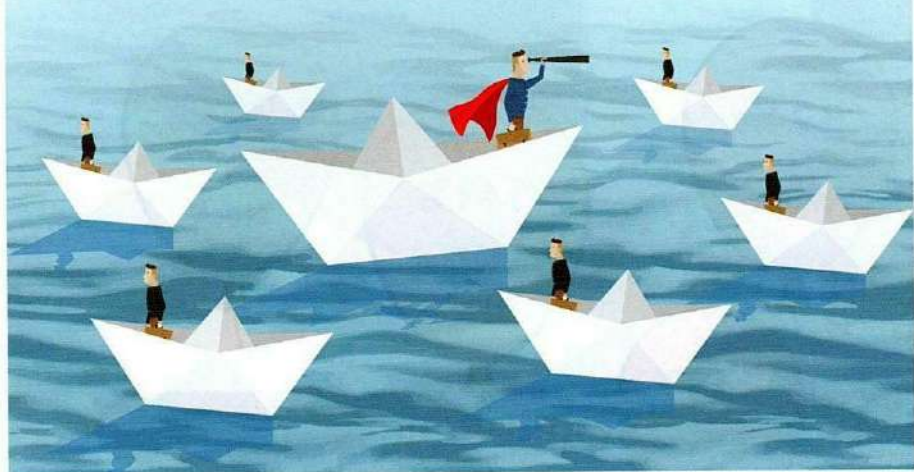
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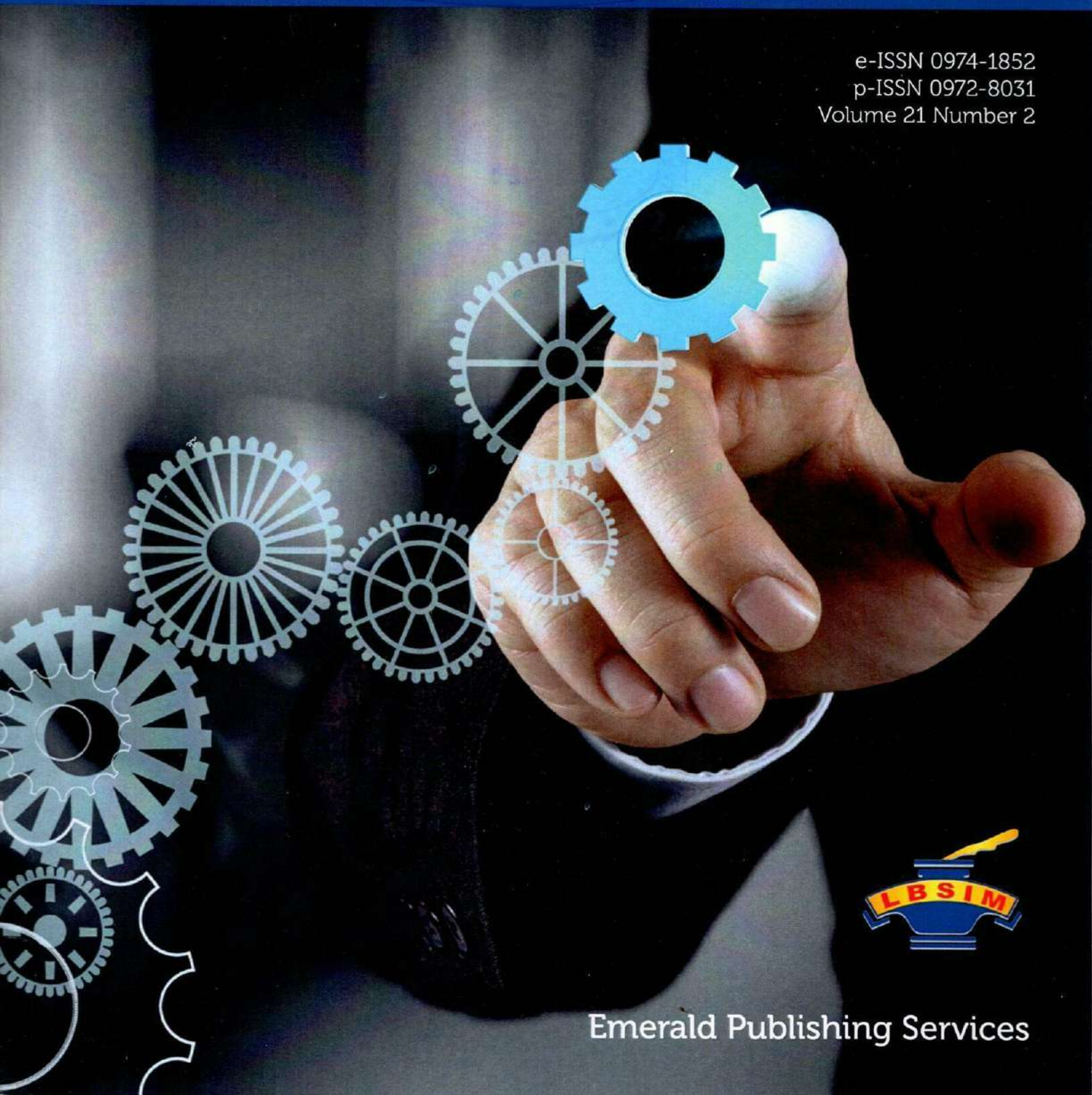


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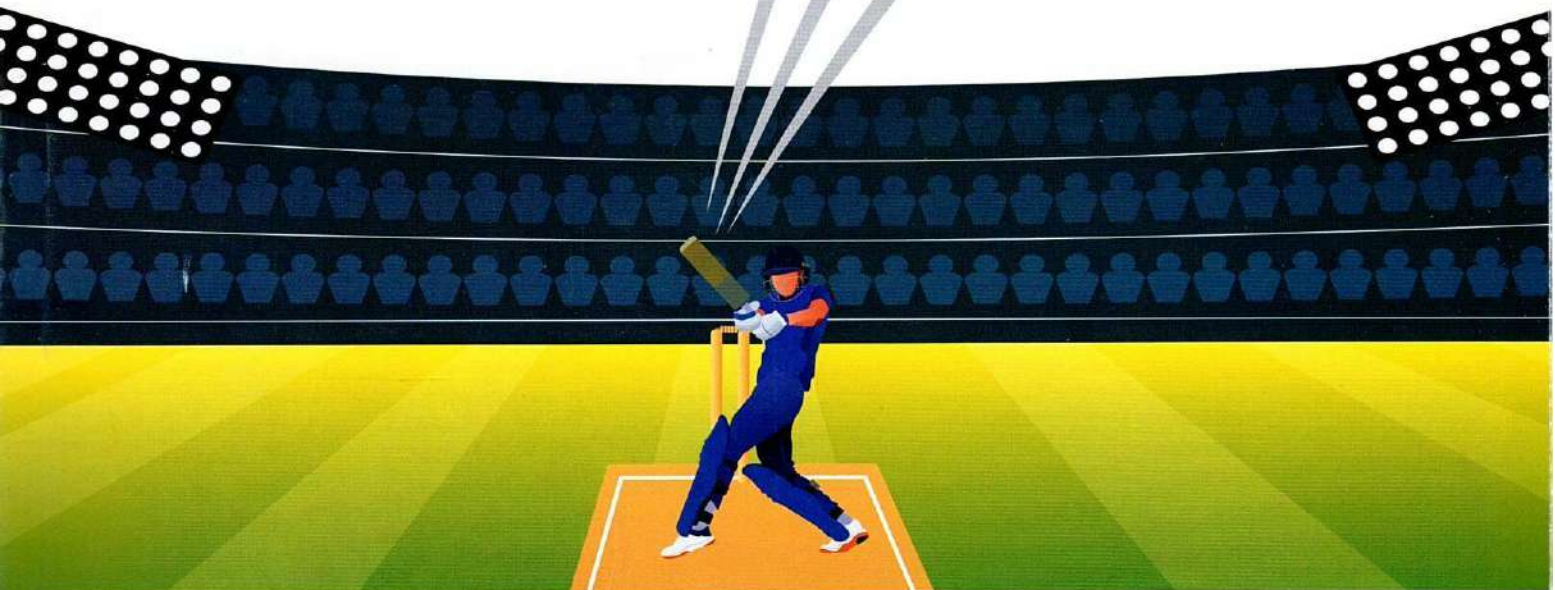
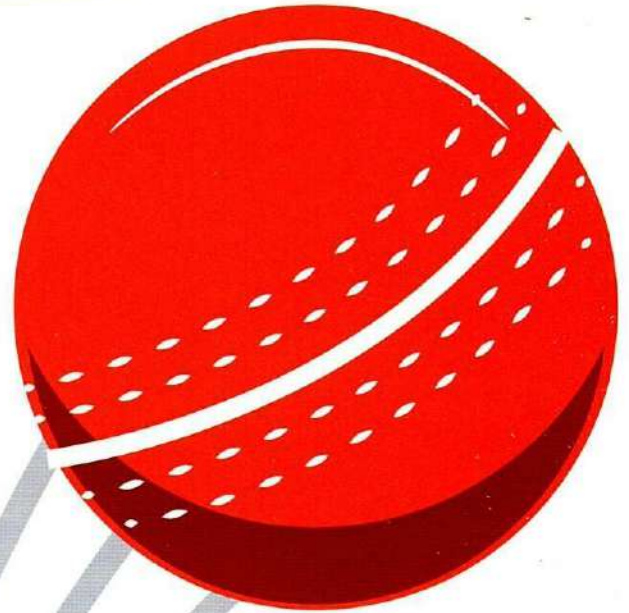
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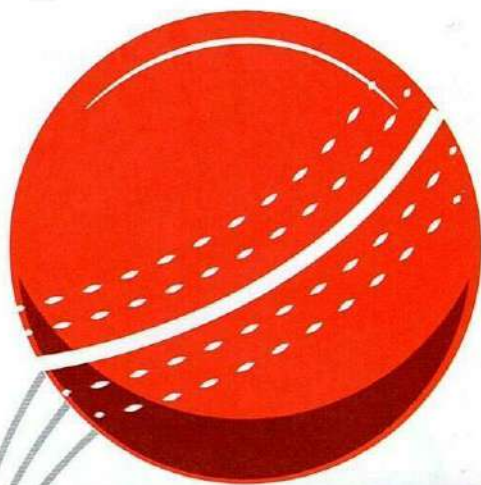
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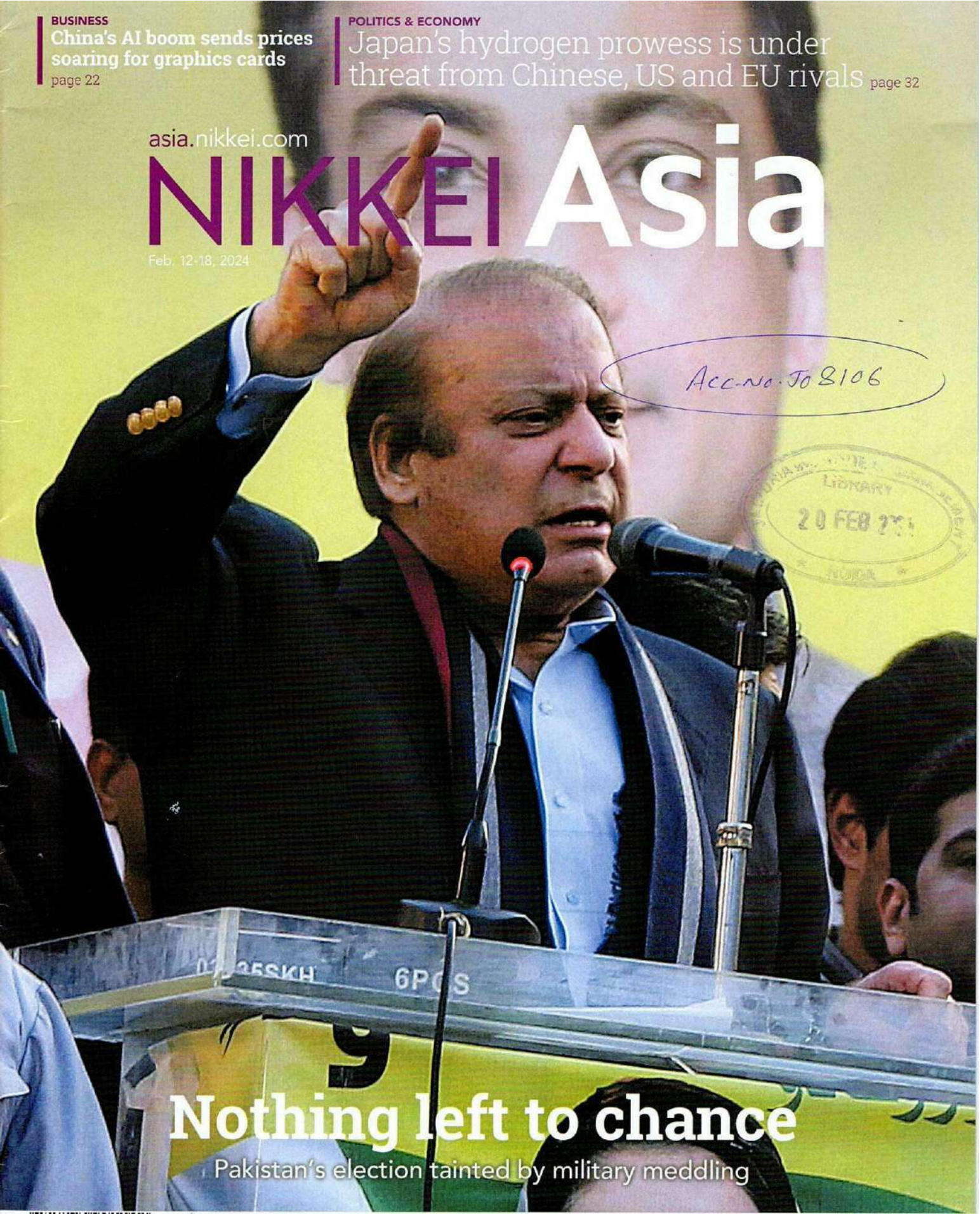
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Cover photo: With the help of Pakistan's military, former three-time Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif was expected to win the country's election on Feb. 8, amid a media blackout surrounding his main rival, PTI party leader Imran Khan.
(Photo by EPA/Jiji)

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Photos by Reuters

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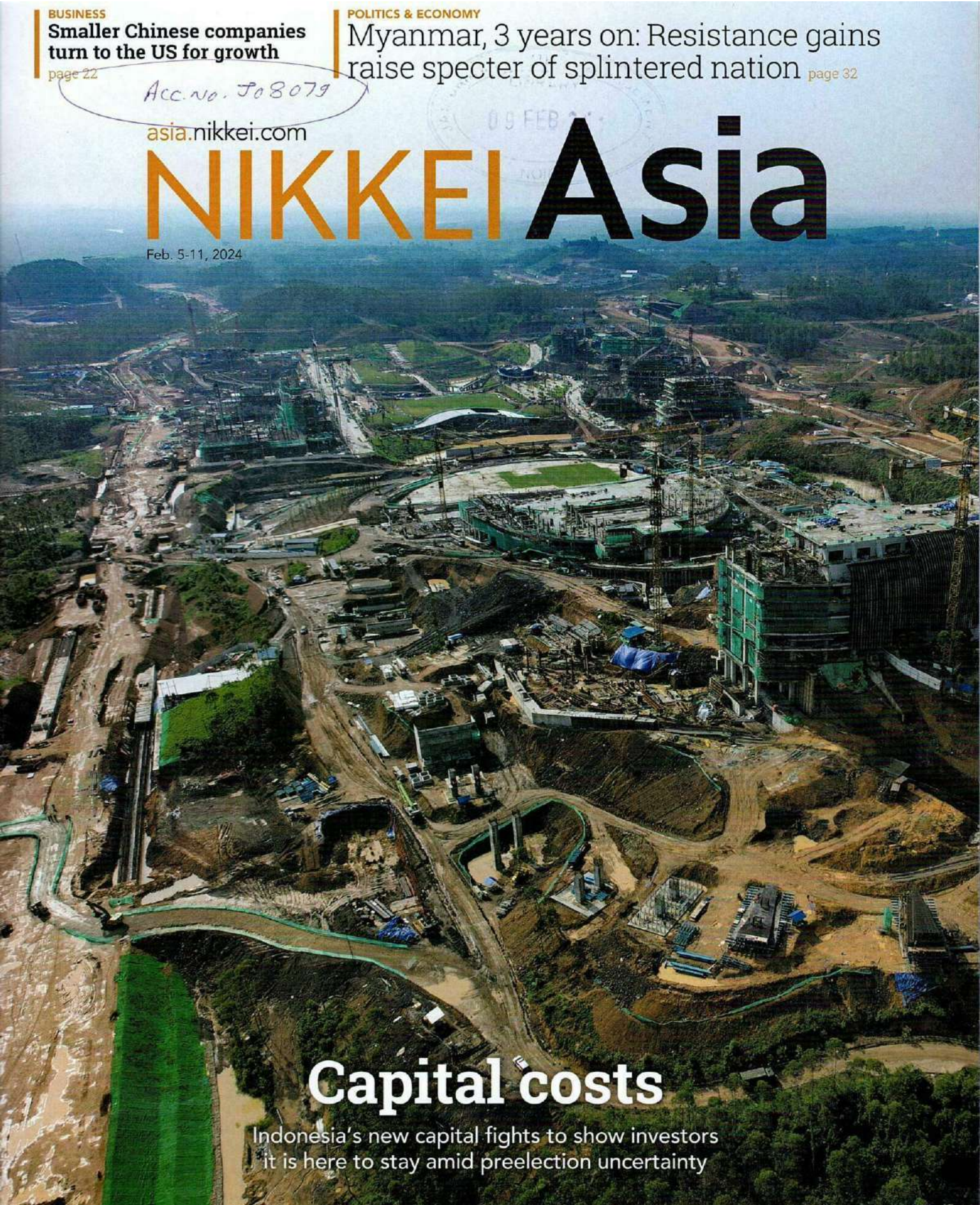
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Cover photo: An aerial view of the construction of Nusantara, Indonesia's new capital on the island of Borneo, in December 2023. The large building in the foreground will be the presidential palace.
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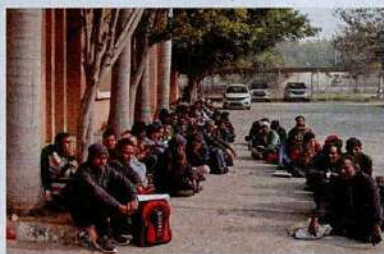
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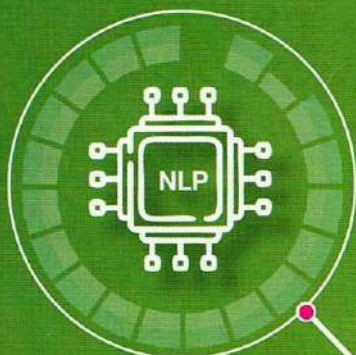
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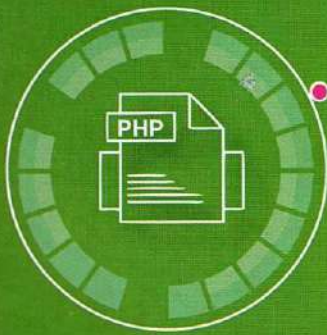


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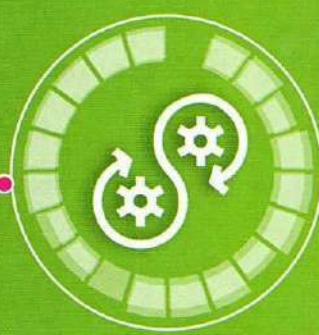
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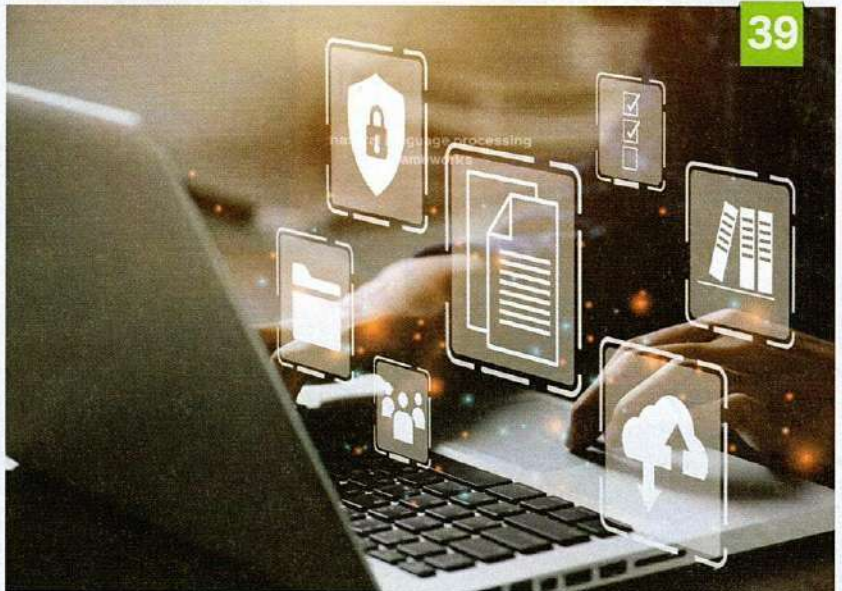
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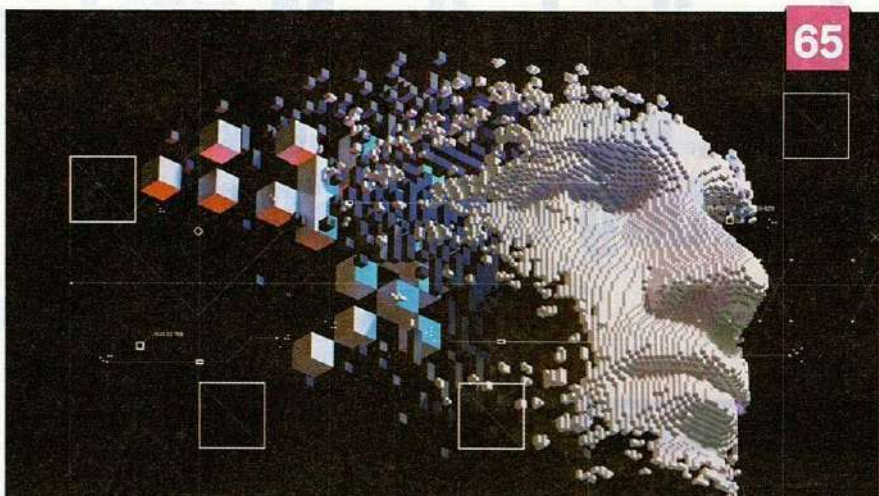
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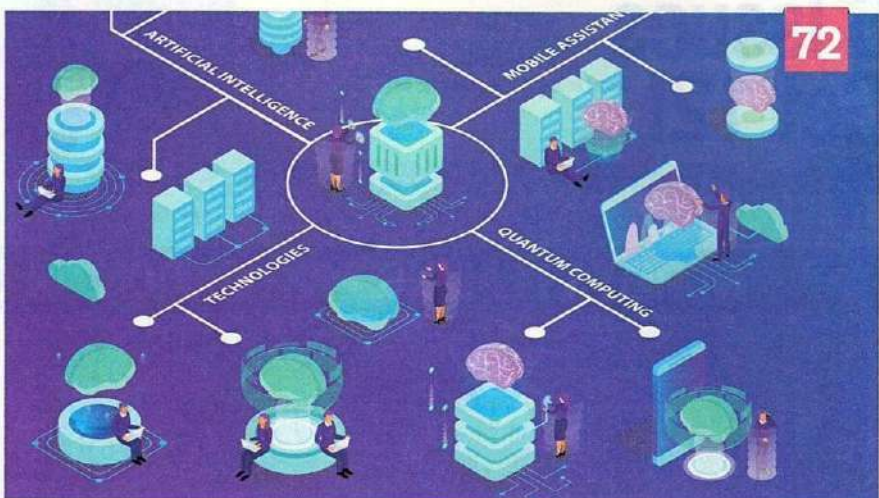
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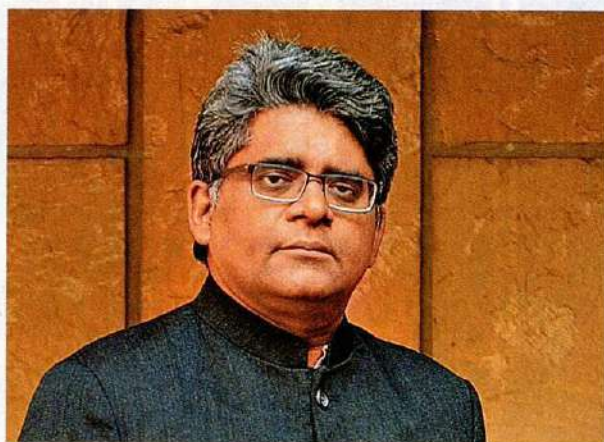
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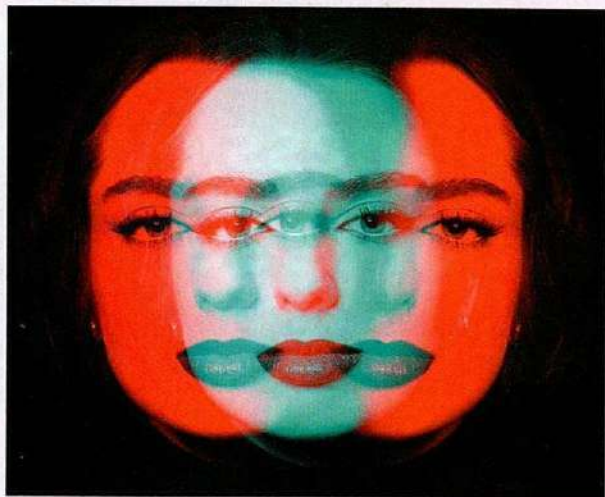
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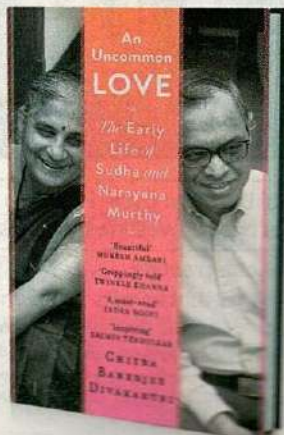
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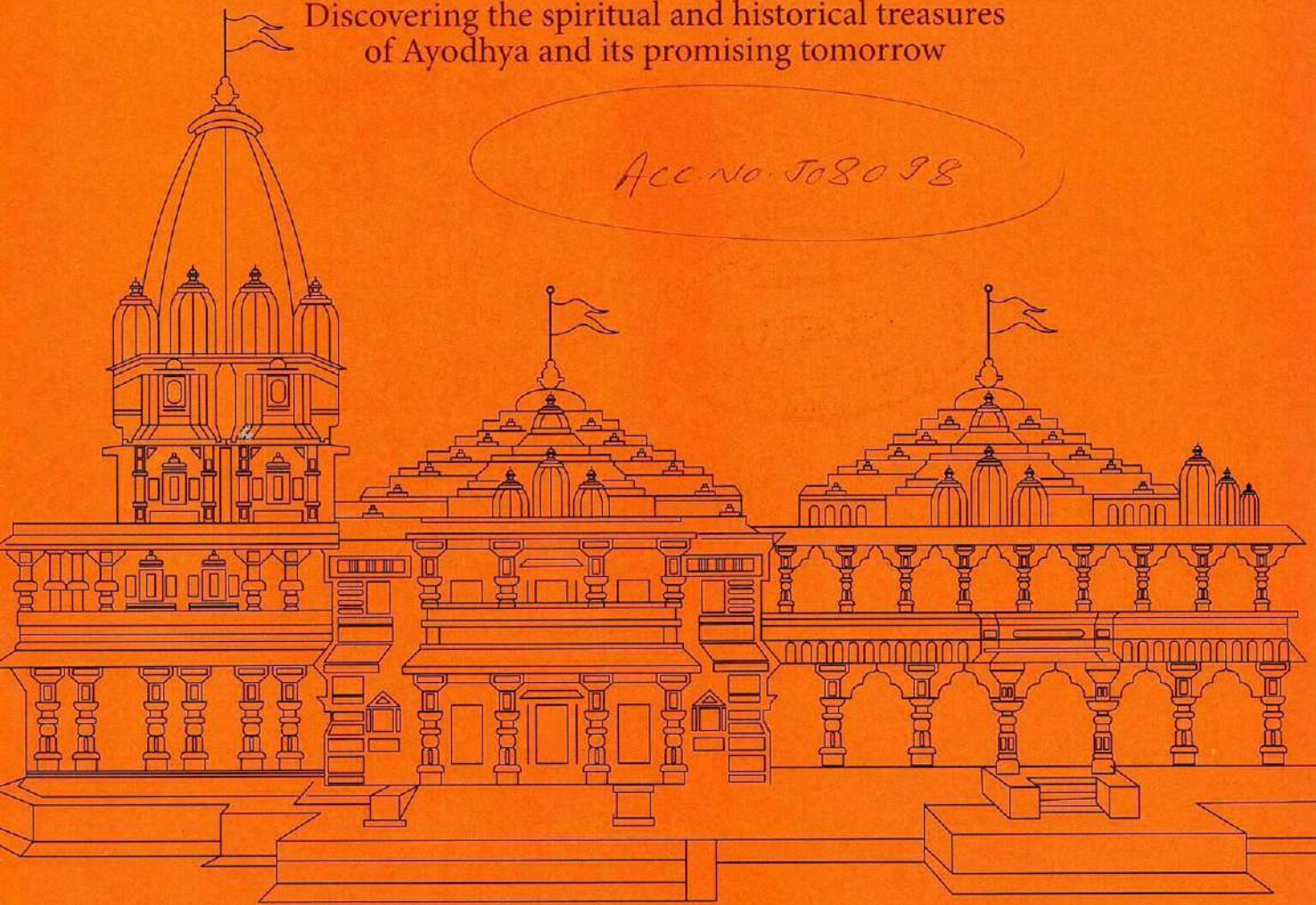
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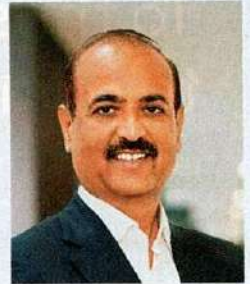
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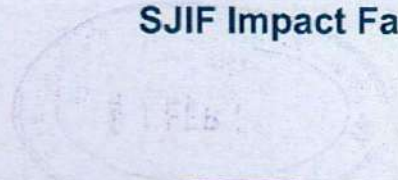
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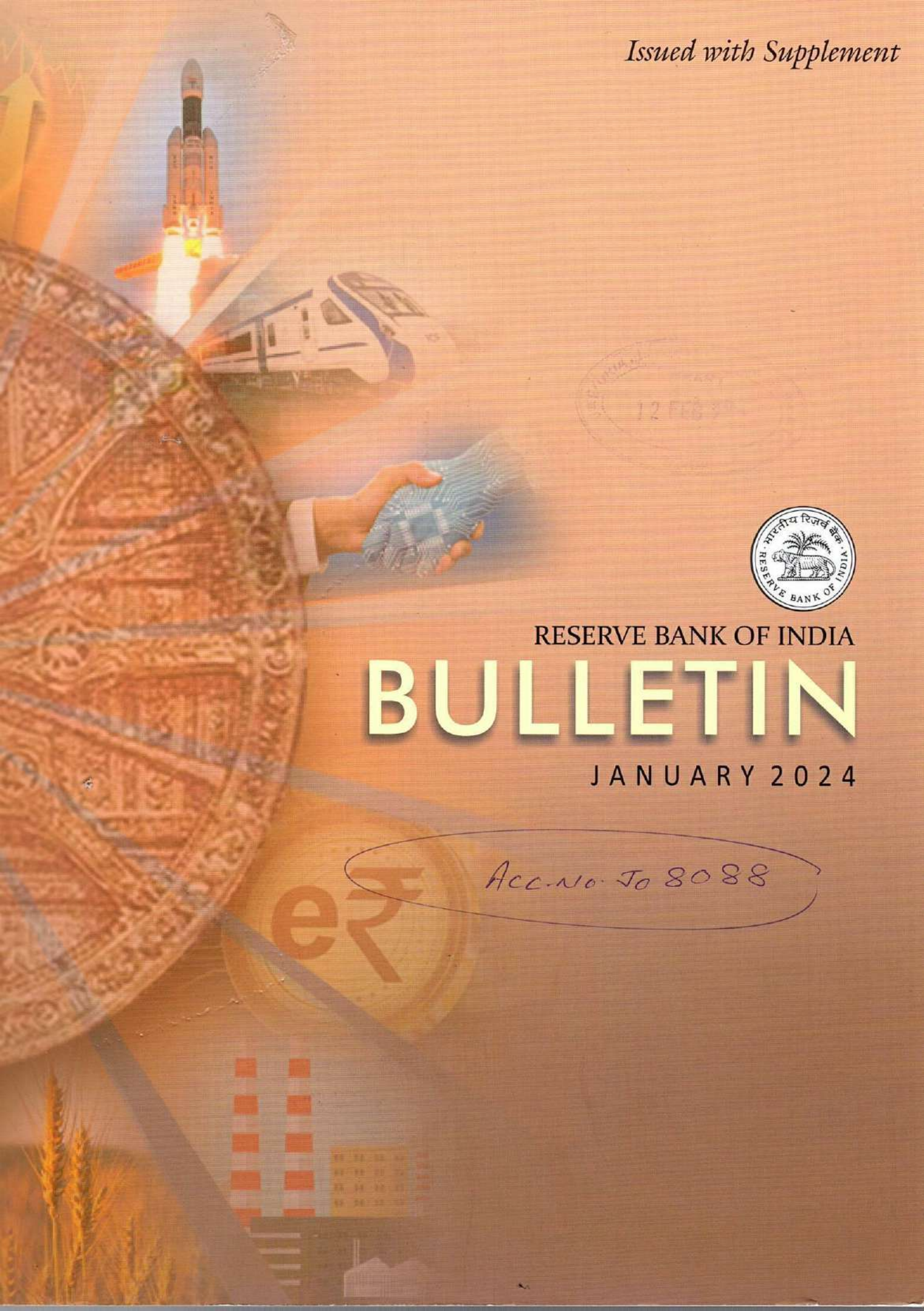
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Role of Assurance Functions

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Building Resilient Brand India amidst Global Uncertainty

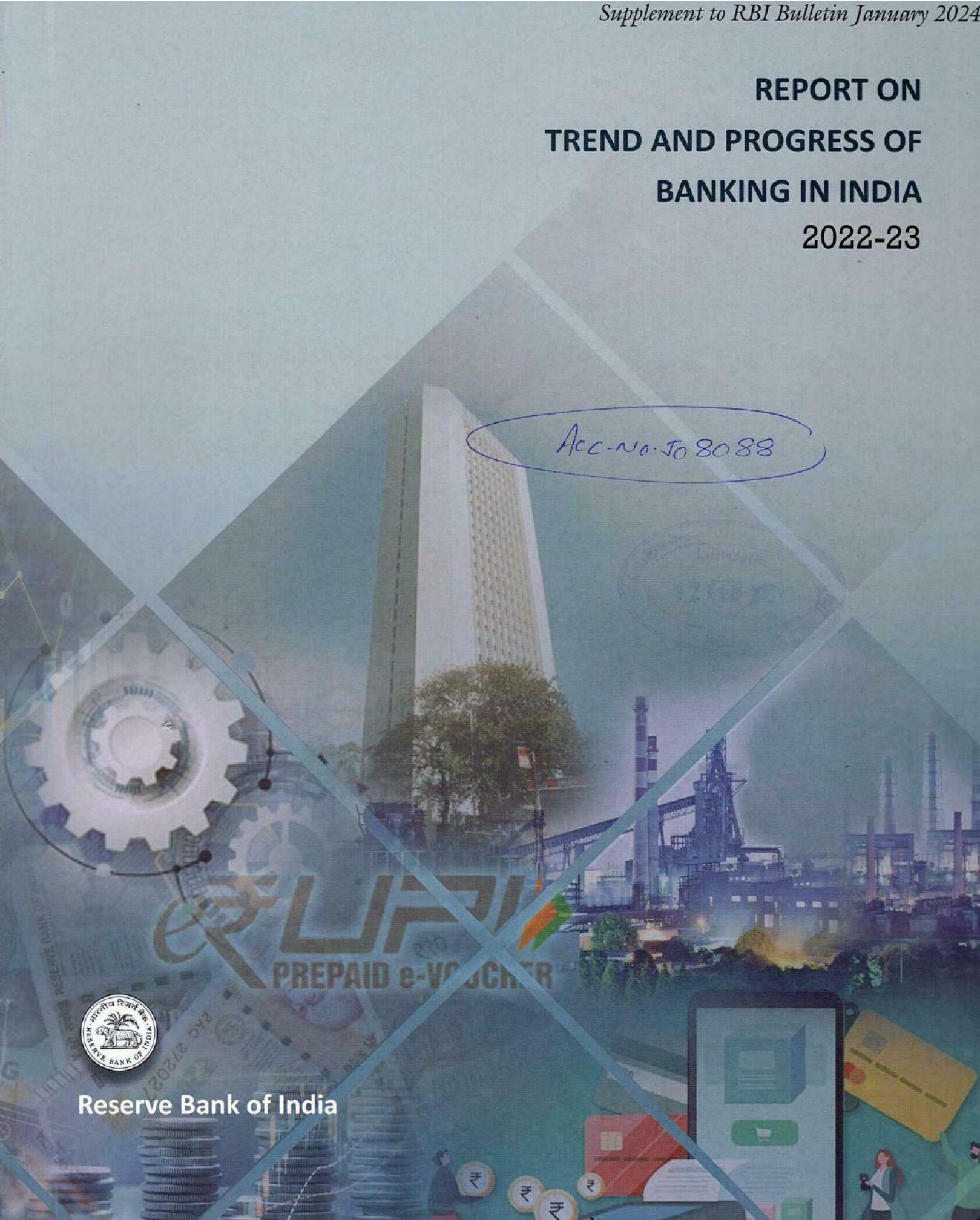
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REPORT ON TREND AND PROGRESS OF BANKING IN INDIA 2022-23

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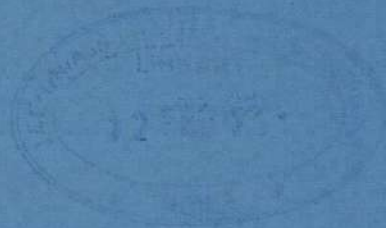
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Financial Stability Report

Issue No. 28

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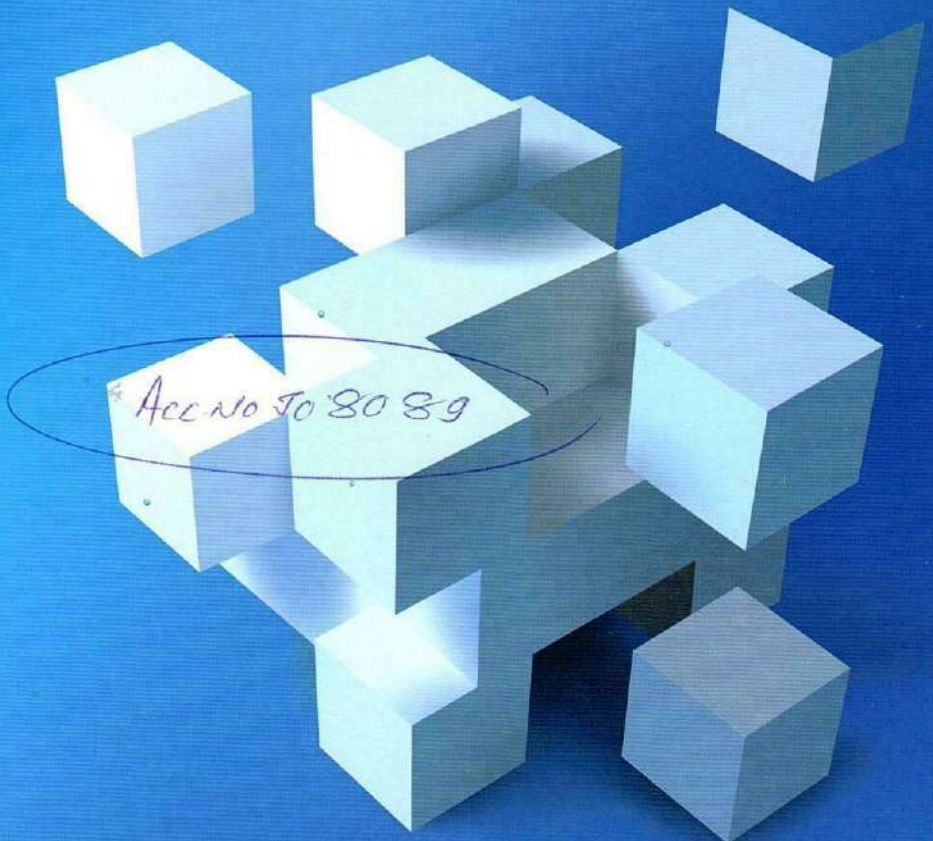
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A Journal of Management



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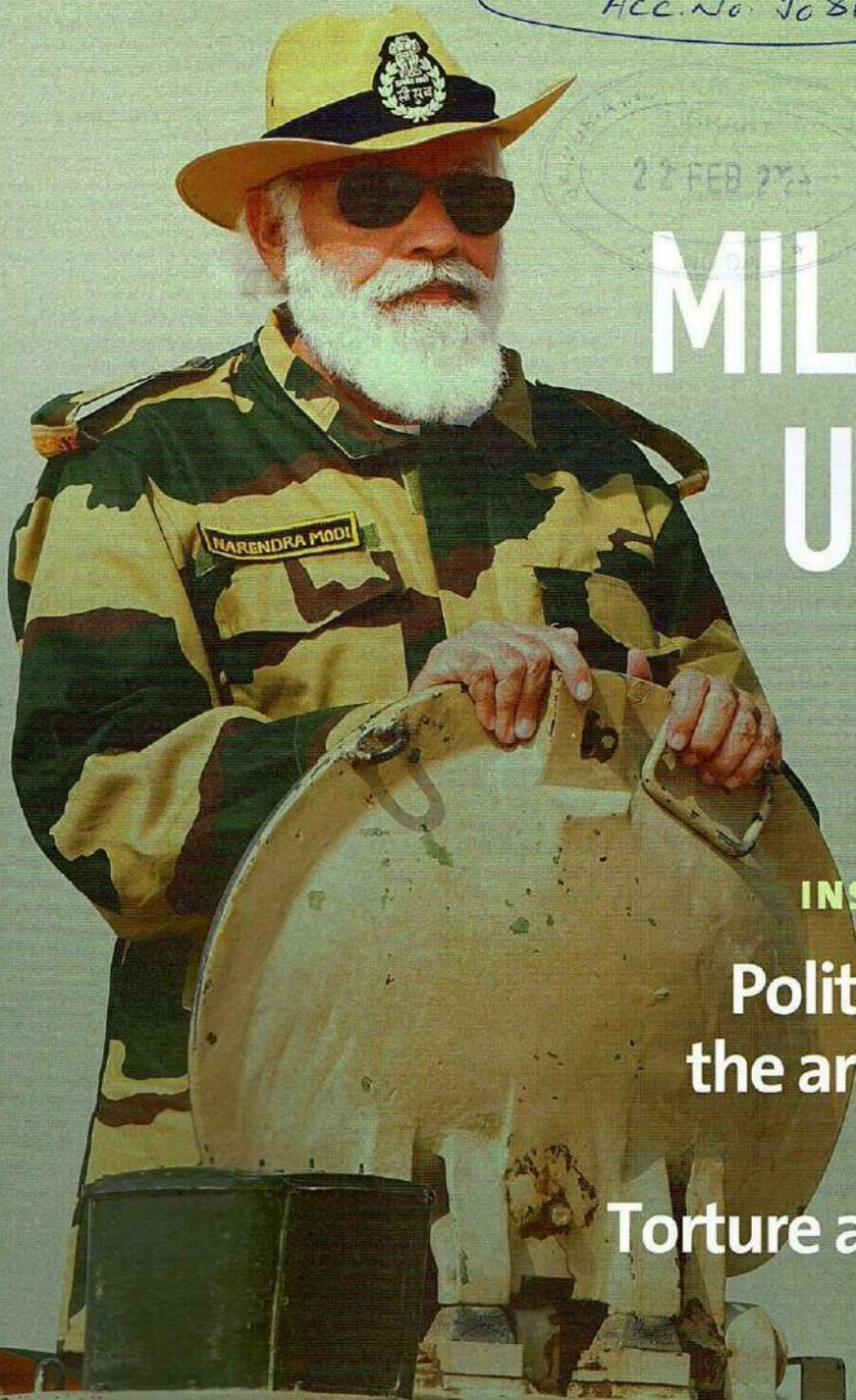
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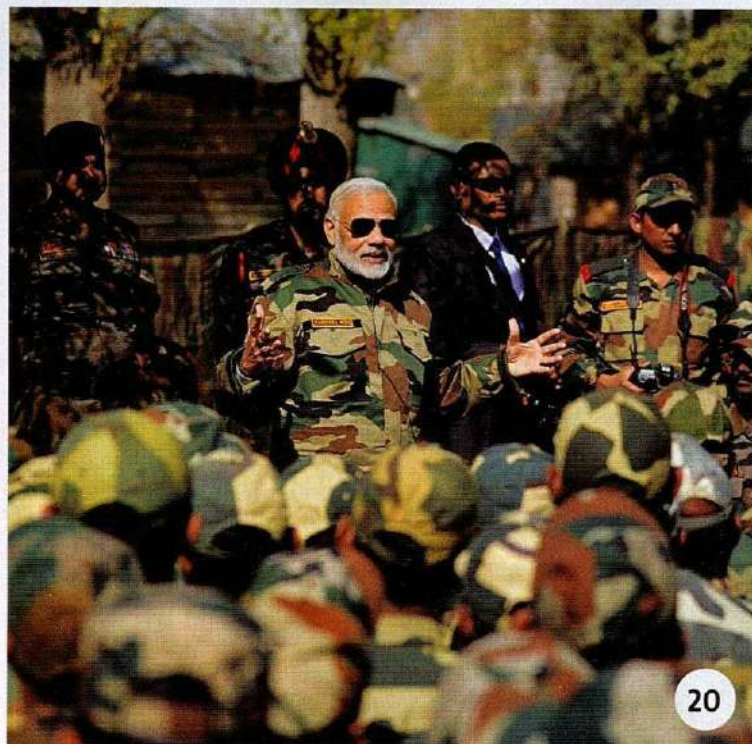
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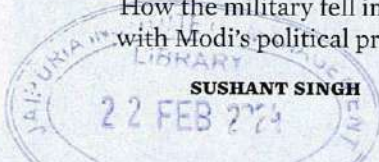
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How the military fell in line with Modi's political project

SUSHANT SINGH



Overwhelmingly, Indians trust the armed forces and believe that respect for the military is a sign of their Indianness. In the Modi years, there has been a great politicisation of the armed forces, and the BJP's even more hawkish line has found resonance among India's citizens. Operational failure, human-rights violations, sexual abuse and corruption continue to be overlooked or blamed on a few rotten apples, absolving the institution of any systemic responsibility—even when the violations are plain to see. In December last year, the army tortured 25 men from the Gujjar and Bakkerwal communities in Jammu and Kashmir's restive Poonch region. Three men died—including an informer for the Intelligence Bureau—in what seemed to be a coordinated operation by the army to hide its failures in a recent militant attack. The Caravan found glaring irregularities in the first-information report and post-mortems in the case, and that the army had given the aggrieved families blood money in a bid to avoid prosecution.

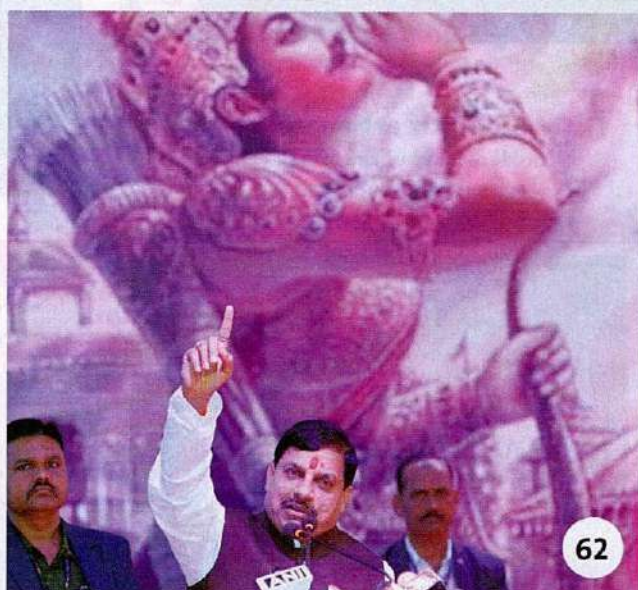


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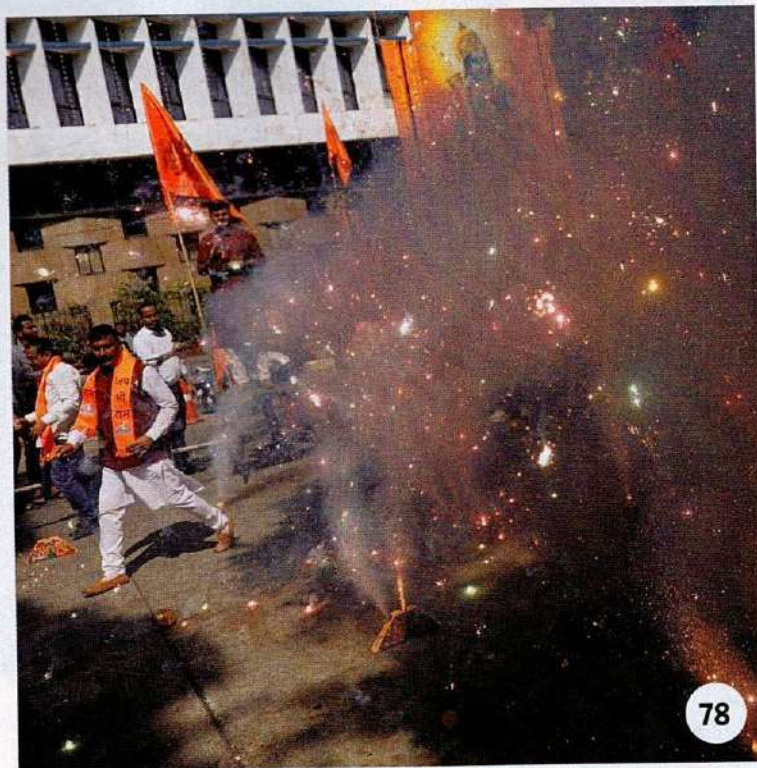
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Navigating the Landscape of Startup

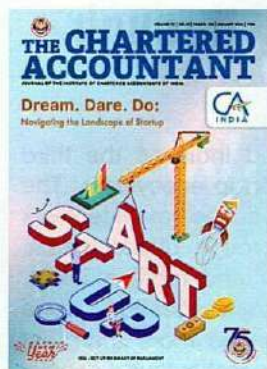
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HAPPY
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ICAI - SET UP BY AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT





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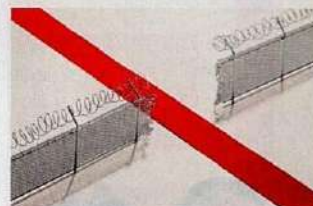
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Meet the Global Anti-Globalist Alliance



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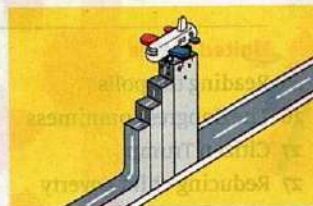
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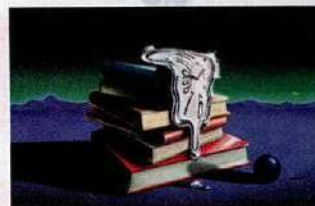
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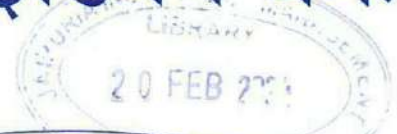
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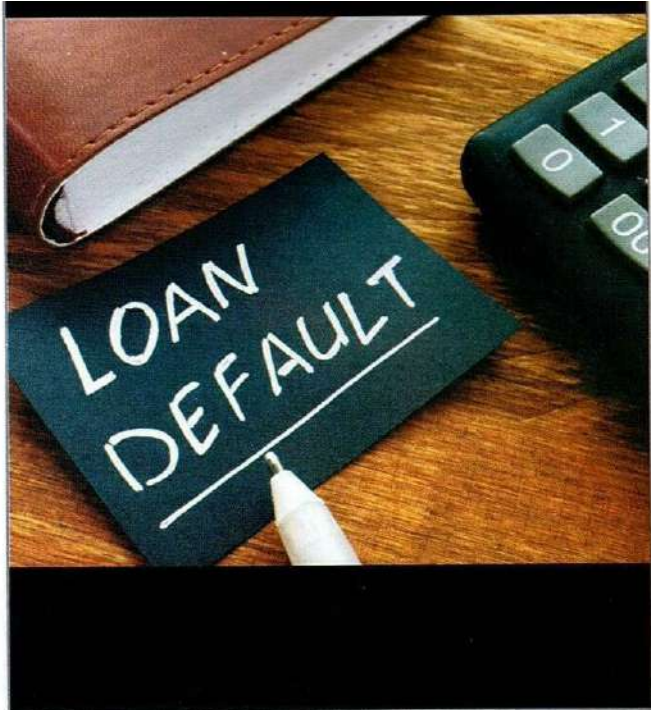
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Wilful Defaulters in Banks in India Suggested Monitoring Strategies





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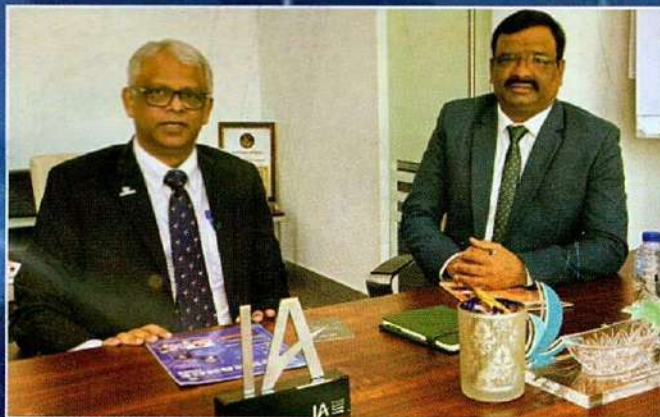
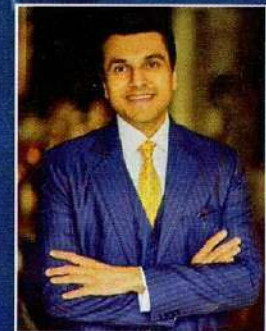


"National Insurance Academy is undoubtedly the most renowned institution not just in India, but internationally. We are an apex institution in the field of education, training, research and consultancy in insurance, pension and allied areas."

Dr Tarun Agarwal
Director
National Insurance Academy

"As climate change, social inequality, and governance issues become increasingly prominent, insurers are recognizing the need to integrate Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) factors into their underwriting processes."

Rohit Boda
Group Managing Director
J. B. Boda Group



Interview with Johnson Varughese, Chief Executive Officer
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WHY SUPREME COURT DECIDED AGAINST ELECTORAL BONDS SCHEME

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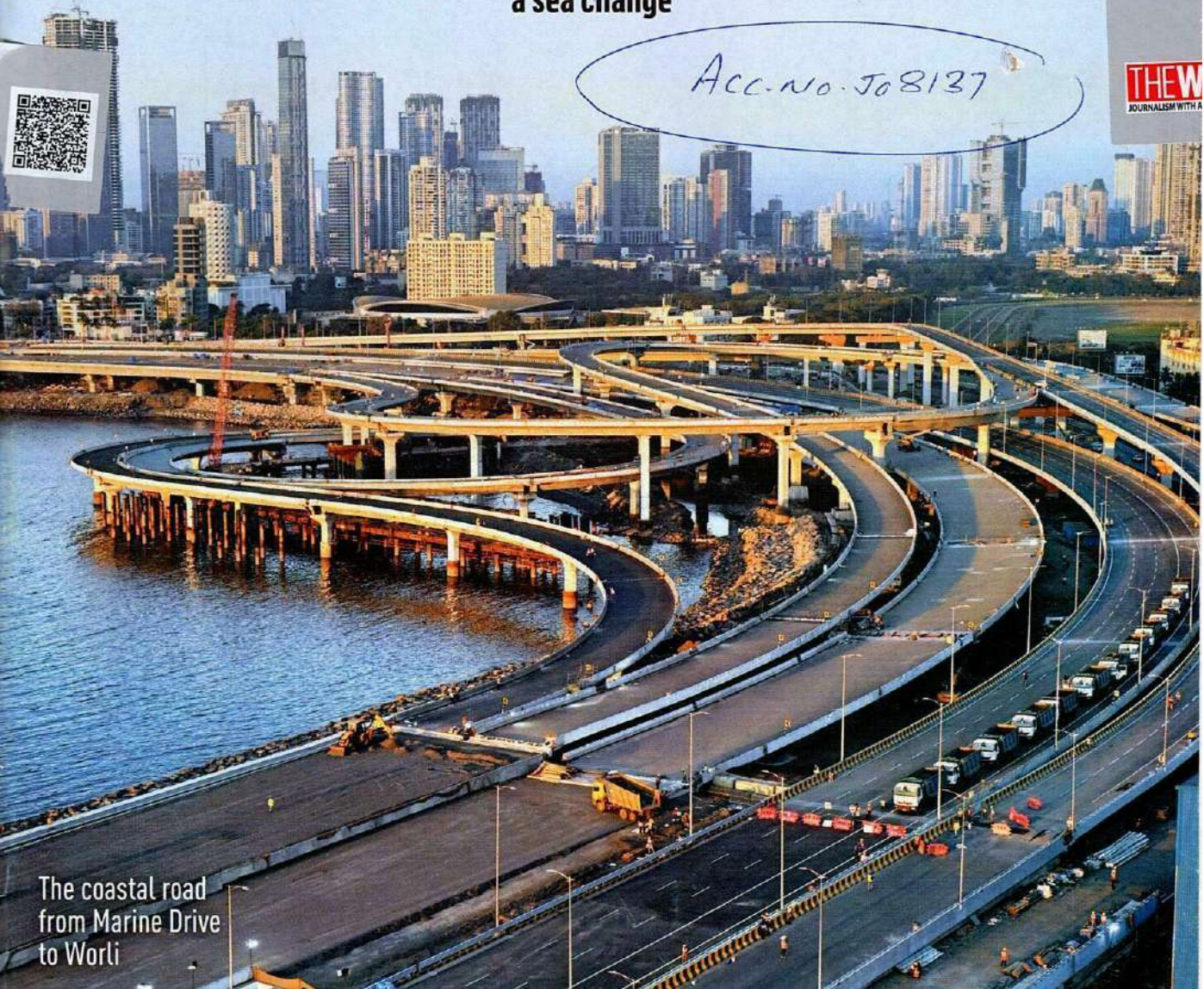
JANHVI KAPOOR
DAZZLING BOLLYWOOD
WITH SASS & SKILL

REMAKING MAXIMUM CITY

Mumbai's infrastructure is undergoing
a sea change

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The coastal road
from Marine Drive to
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Security forces are planning an intense crackdown

on the new challenge in Jammu and Kashmir: narco-terrorism, mostly originating in Pakistan.



ELECTORAL BONDS

20

In his last article in a news publication, eminent jurist, the late **Fali S. Nariman**, explains the Supreme Court's verdict on the Electoral Bonds Scheme. He shared his views with THE WEEK on February 15, the day the court gave its verdict.

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"February 8, 2024, will be chalked up as the historic day on which the people of Pakistan defeated their army."

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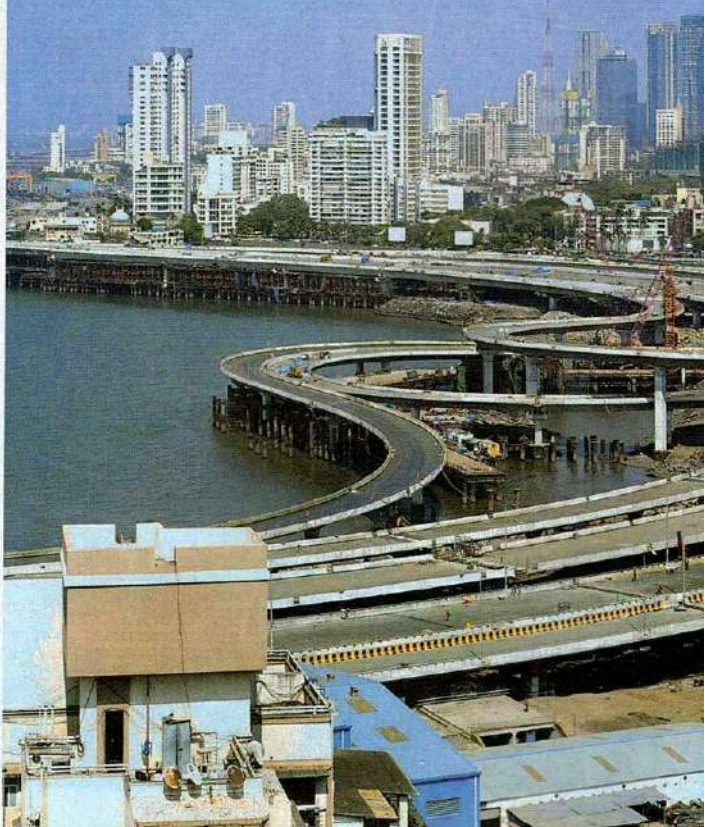
TRANSFORMING MUMBAI

Once a city ahead of its times, the infrastructure in the commercial capital of India failed to keep pace with its quick growth. Now that is history.

The maximum city is getting a grand makeover with some mega projects

PLUS

Article from a Mumbaikar who is caught between a city that she knew and grew up in, and one that is constantly changing



INTERVIEWS



—Dr Sanjay Mukherjee, metropolitan commissioner, MMRDA



“Metro-3 will reduce 2.61 lakh tonne of CO2 emissions per annum.

—Ashwini Bhide, additional municipal commissioner and managing director, Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation



AMEY MANSABDAR

63 LEISURE

“I think a box office success would have made a difference to me and to my producers to get bigger budgets for their films. But I am fortunate they signed me for my talent. That said, nothing feels as good as people filling the theatres.”

—Janhvi Kapoor, actor

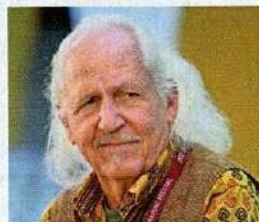


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Trump's anti-NA-TO stand may force Europe to set up its military-industrial complex, and allow the US to take on China.

Alexei Navalny was admired in the west, but seen with suspicion in Russia.

67 BOOKS



Herpetologist Rom Whitaker's new memoir is a rollicking ride through his early adventures.

UAE 54

UAE continues to inspire the world with its commitment to religious freedom and pluralism.

—Venu Rajamony, former diplomat

SANCTUARY 56



Dr Rani Maria Thomas's hospital in south Kerala is giving a healing touch to exotic birds and pets.

COVER PHOTO AMEY MANSABDAR
COVER DESIGN BINESH SREEDHARAN

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THE MANY BENEFITS

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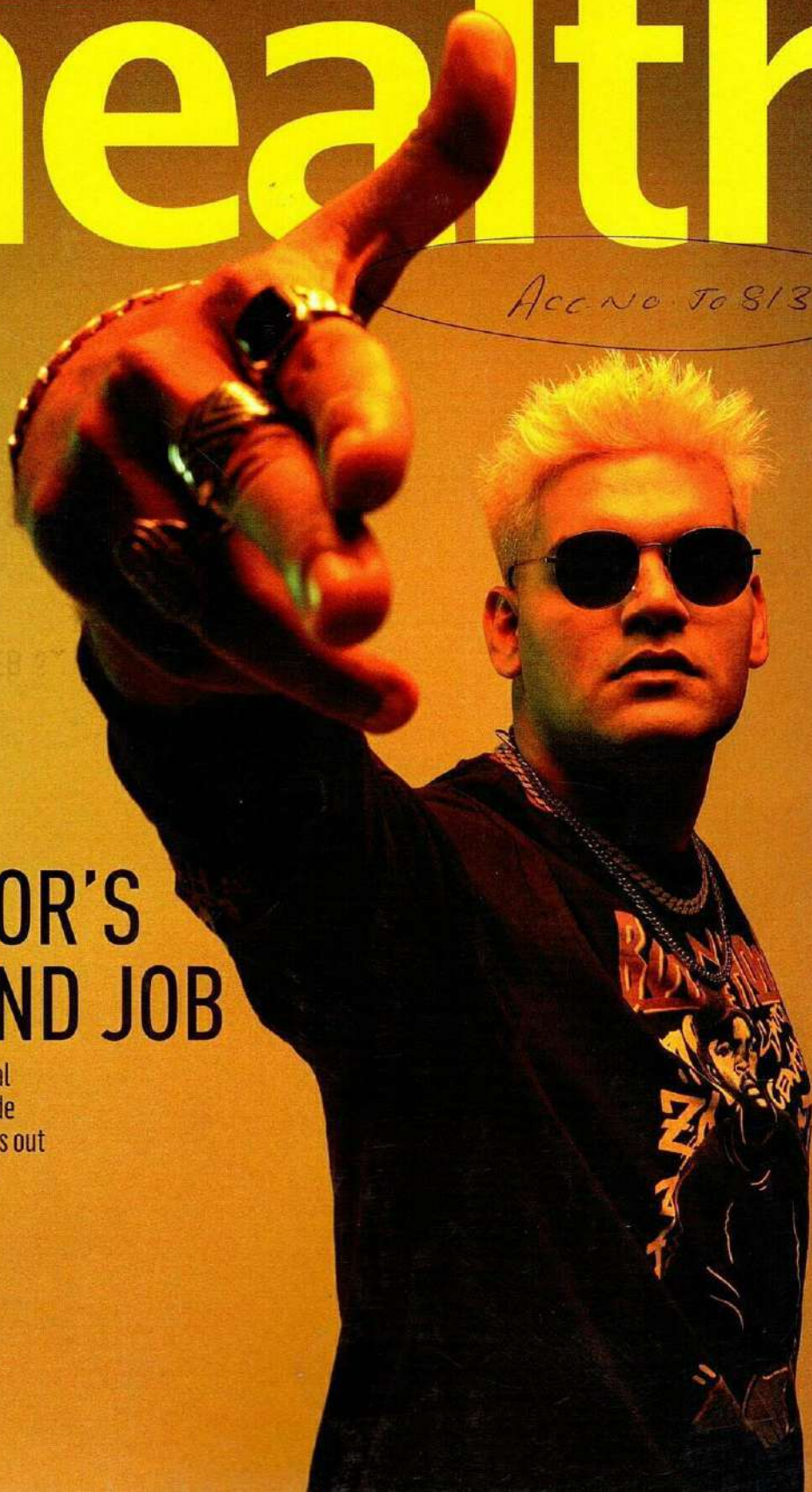
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IN TOUCH

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JOURNALISM WITH A HUMAN TOUCH

THE DOCTOR'S SECOND JOB

How seven medical professionals made alternative careers out of their passions

Dr Sanjay Meriya is a hip-hop artiste



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**PAKISTAN ELECTIONS
IMRAN WINS, BUT RIVAL
GETS PM'S CHAIR**

**GUIDE FOR FOODIES
MOVE OVER MICHELIN,
HERE'S AN INDIAN RATING
FOR RESTAURANTS**

TEMPLE IN ABU DHABI

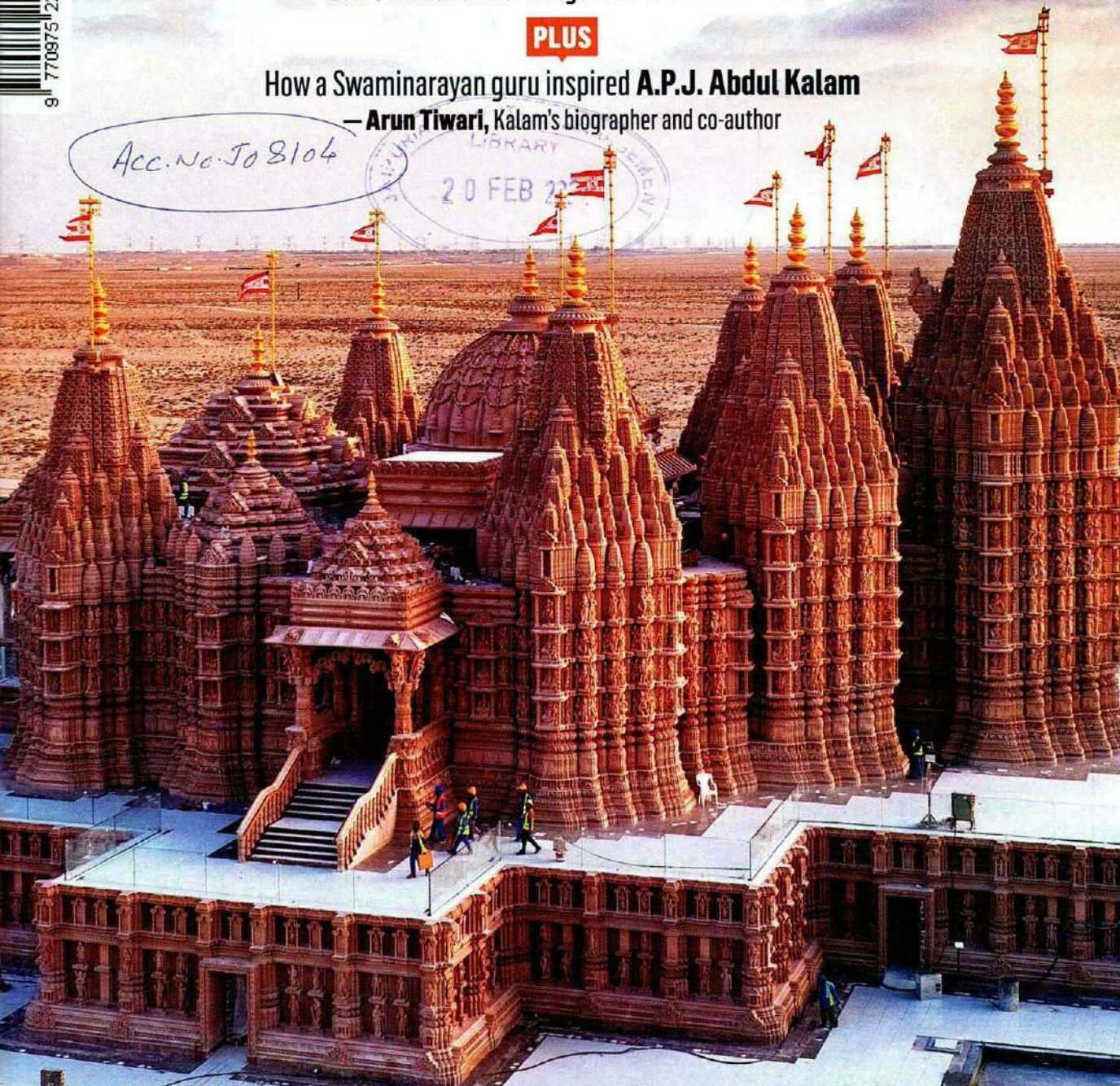
BAPS Hindu Mandir brings India and UAE closer

PLUS

How a Swaminarayan guru inspired **A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**

— **Arun Tiwari**, Kalam's biographer and co-author

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A series of violent crimes has the opposition gunning for the government and alleging that the state is in the grip of a politician-gangster nexus.

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Election results reinforce **Imran Khan's** popularity and it might force the establishment and the judiciary to consider some space for his party.

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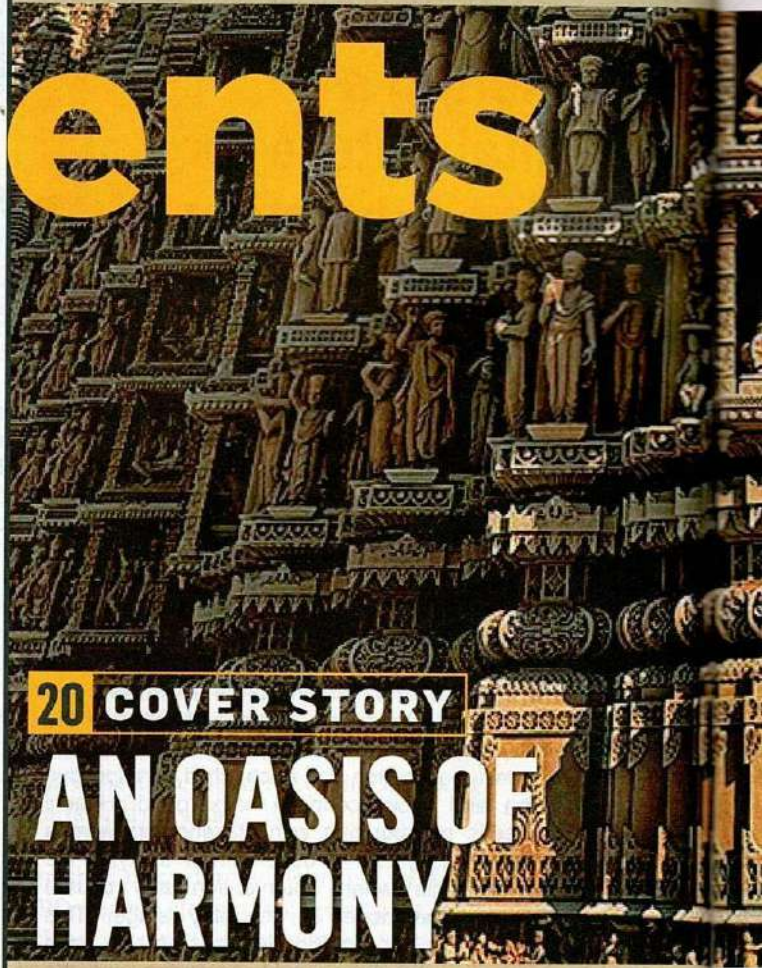
Namrata Zakaria

74 **LAST WORD**

Navtej Sarna



"The dilapidated condition of Mirza Ghalib's haveli offers only heartbreak.... This is no way to treat a national treasure, a poet who, according to the scholar Ralph Russell, would have been the greatest had he written in English."



20 COVER STORY

AN OASIS OF HARMONY

The BAPS Hindu Mandir in the UAE could well be an initiative that brings countries, cultures and religions closer.

THE WEEK brings you a ground report on how the hugely influential Swaminarayan sect and the generosity of the UAE helped build it.

EXCLUSIVE

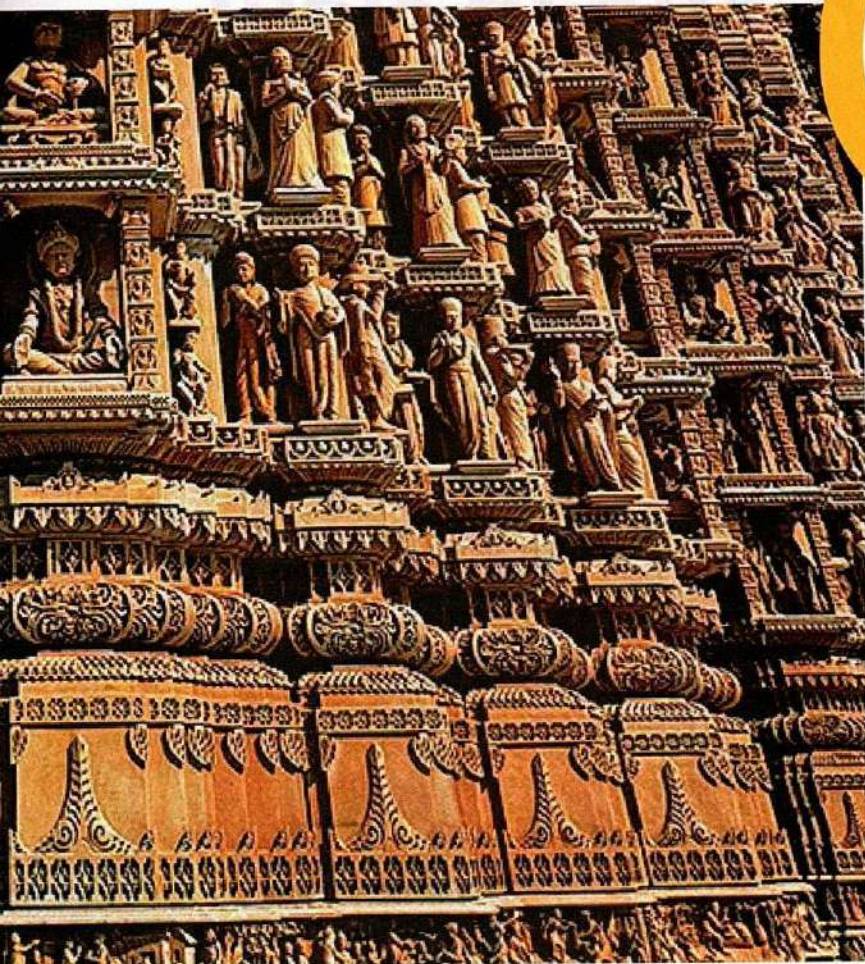
GUEST COLUMN The mandir is truly a miracle, writes **Mahant Swami**, spiritual leader, BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha

INTERVIEW Protecting religious freedom at the core of the UAE's values, says **Ahmed bin Ali Al Sayegh**, minister of state, UAE ministry of foreign affairs

INTERVIEW Generosity of UAE rulers a message to the world, says **Brahmavihari Swami**, in-charge (international relations), BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha

GUEST COLUMN India-UAE relationship strengthening, driven by the bond between the leaders and the people, writes **Sunjay Sudhir**, Indian ambassador to the UAE

GUEST COLUMN Association of Pramukh Swami and Kalam signalled new age of spirituality, writes **Arun Tiwari**, scientist and author



COURTESY BAPS



LEISURE **65**



The Ultimate Restaurant Ratings, helmed by author and award-winning journalist **Vir Sanghvi**, might be India's answer to Michelin. The awards—where over 50 restaurants were given three, four or five stars—were announced this month. The process began in 2020.

PLUS

Meet the chefs behind all three five-star restaurants in the country

BUSINESS

48

ITC hit the ground running when the government's millets initiative took off. The consumer foods division unleashed a campaign to raise awareness.

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FOCUS

From soaring bridges to underground tunnels, Mumbai undergoes an overhaul, promising smoother commutes, cleaner water, and a sustainable future

SPECIAL REPORT

58



The adventures of an intrepid space scientist who wanted to experience all that he had learnt.

T.N. Suresh Kumar, who retired from ISRO six years ago, has been to 167 countries, all seven continents, the edge of space and the bottom of the ocean.



COVER PHOTO BAPS
COVER DESIGN BINESH SREEDHARAN

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**UNIFORM CIVIL CODE
BJP MAKES CLEAR ITS INTENT**

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AMIT SHAH
UNION HOME MINISTER

OUR NEW LAWS MEAN CITIZEN FIRST

No one can
be booked
for speaking
against govt

Modi will form
next govt with
more seats



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20 CURRENT EVENTS



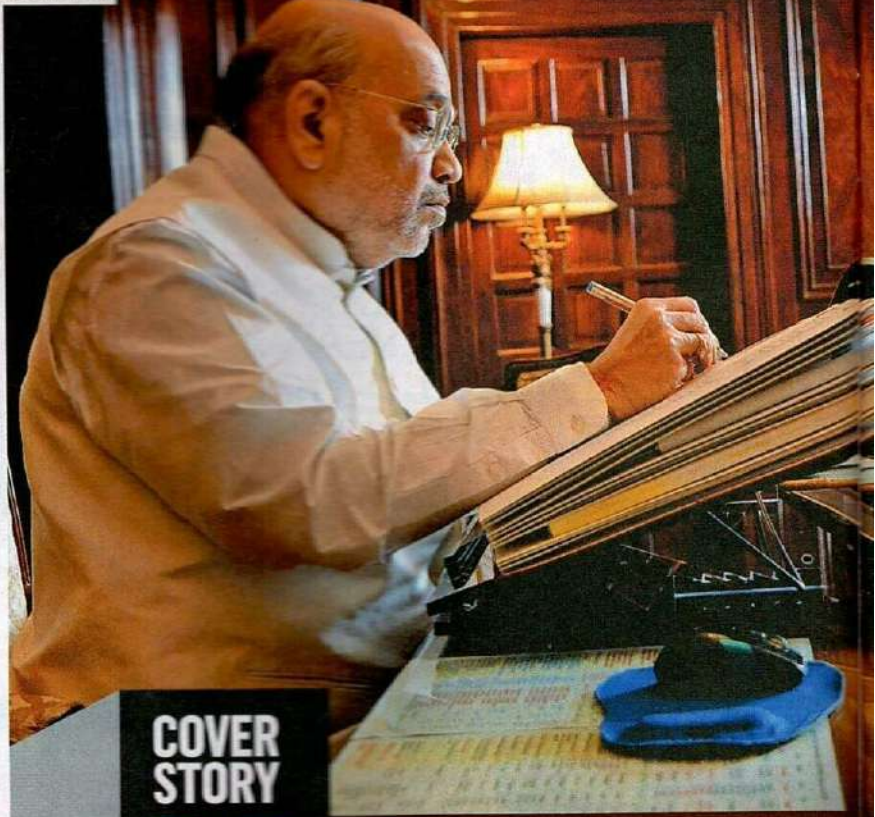
With Uttarakhand all set to enact the Uniform Civil Code, the BJP is reasserting its intent to make family laws uniform for all citizens

+ 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

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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

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Mani Shankar Aiyar

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Barkha Dutt



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

—Shobha De

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50 JHARKHAND

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



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REUTERS

Decoding the tussle between President Volodymyr Zelensky and his army chief

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

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

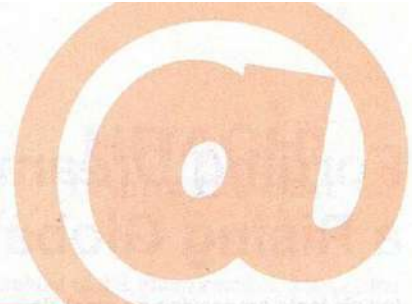
COVER PHOTO SANJAY AHLAWAT
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PLUS

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



63 LEISURE

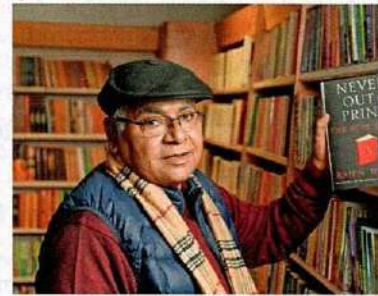
War writers at the Jaipur Literature Festival speak about finding hope amid hopelessness



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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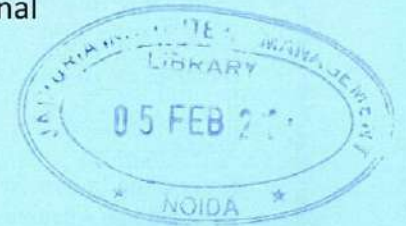
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on

NURTURING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

on the occasion of

AIU CENTRAL ZONE VICE CHANCELLORS' MEET-2023-24

hosted by

Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur

on

JANUARY 18-19, 2024

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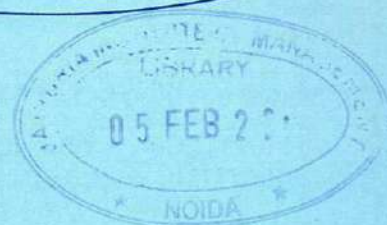
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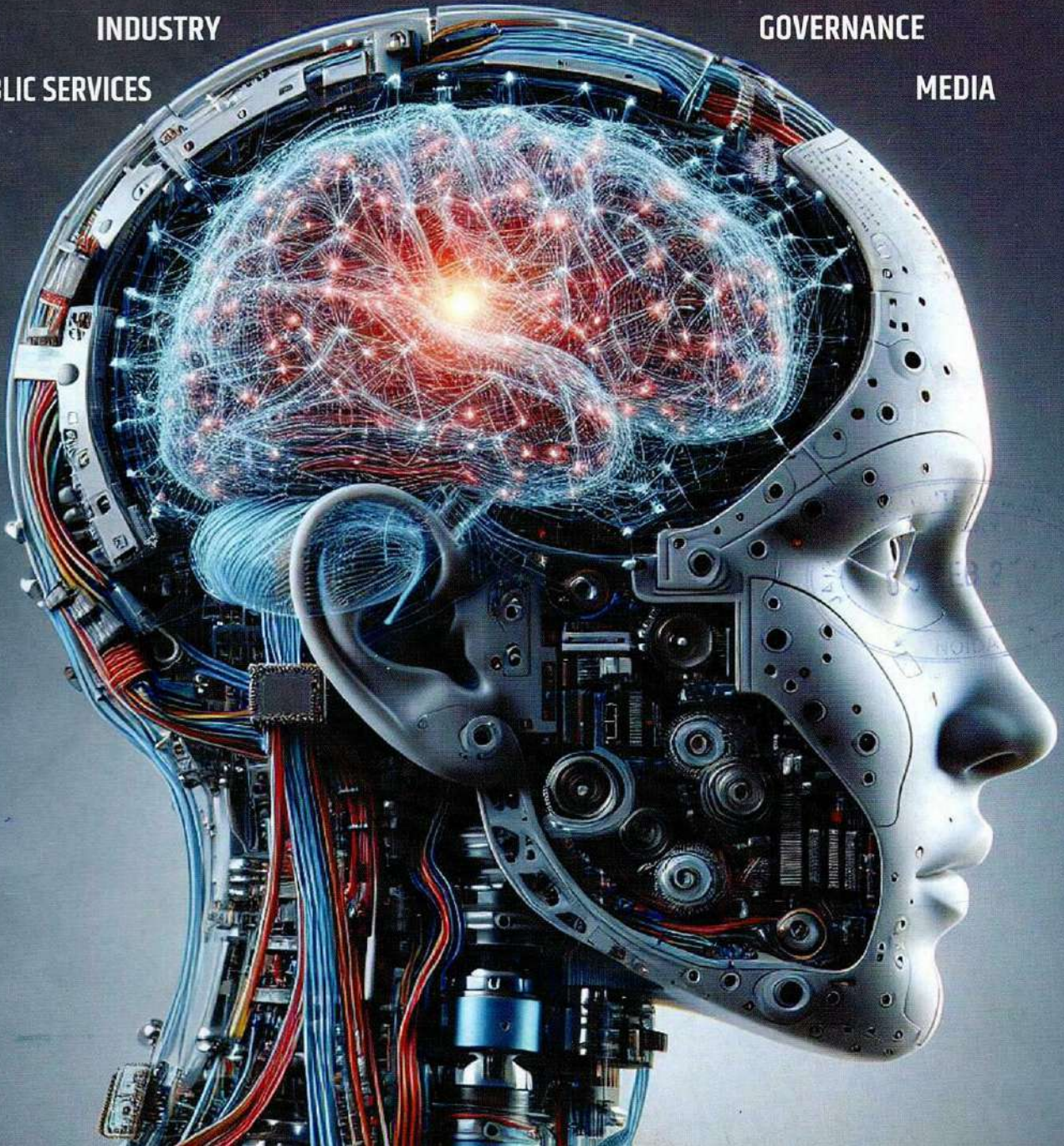
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