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JANUARY 2024

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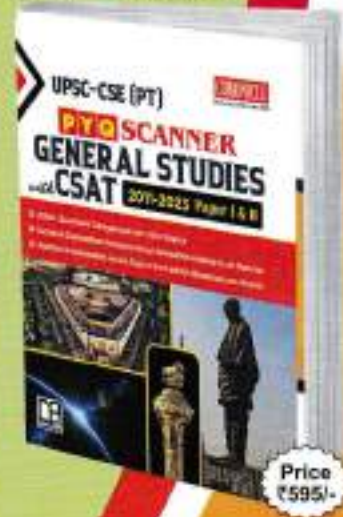
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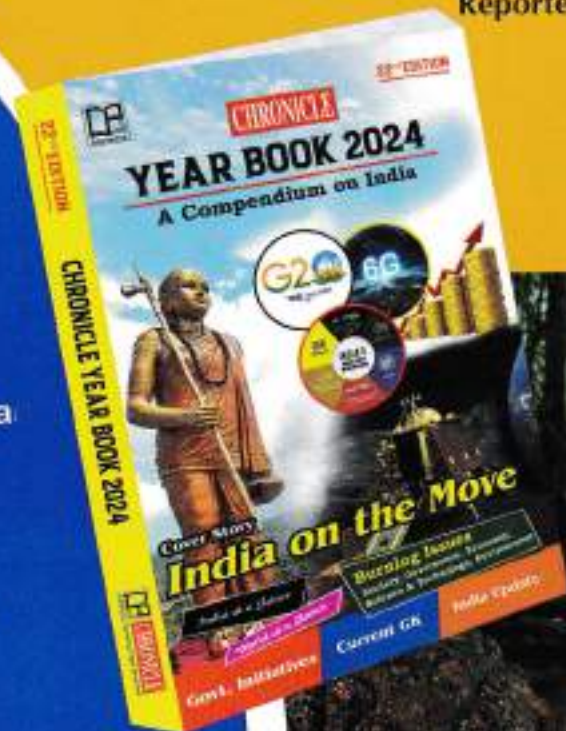
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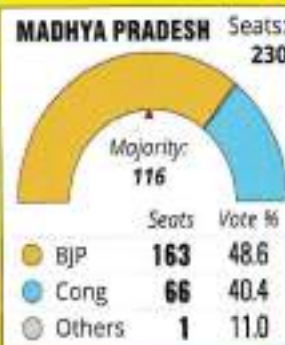
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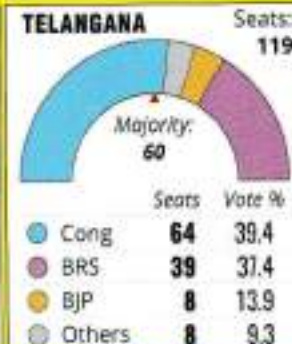
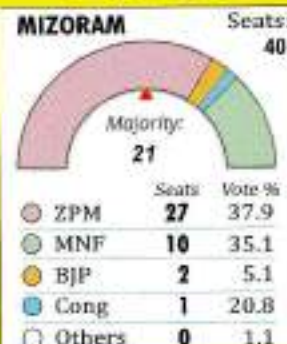
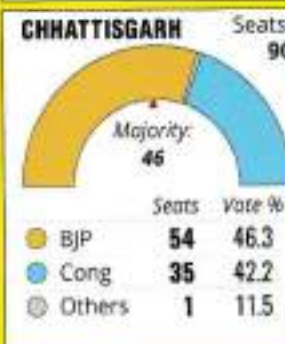
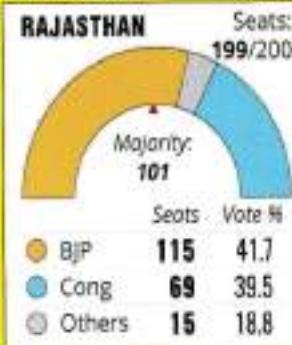
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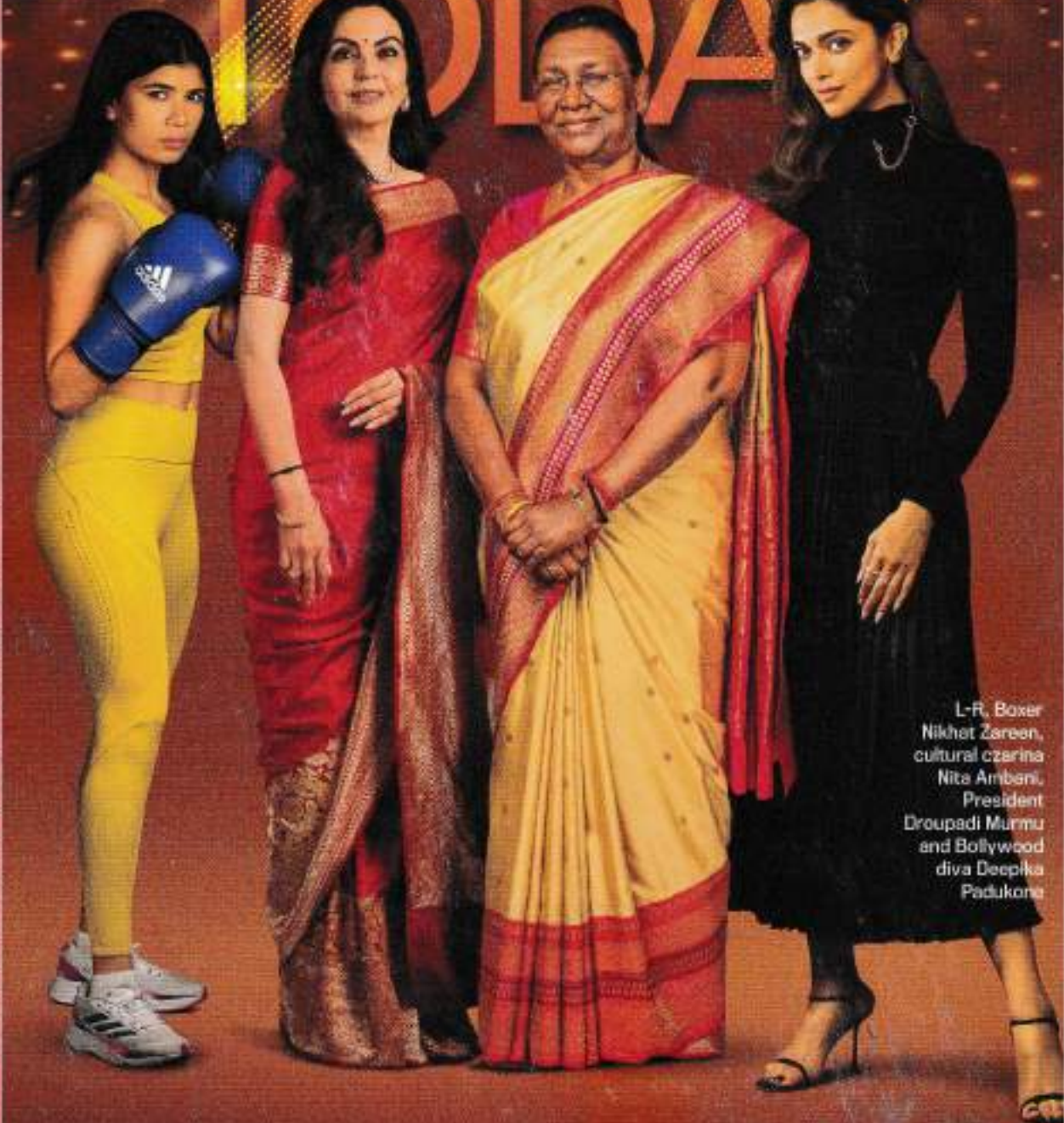
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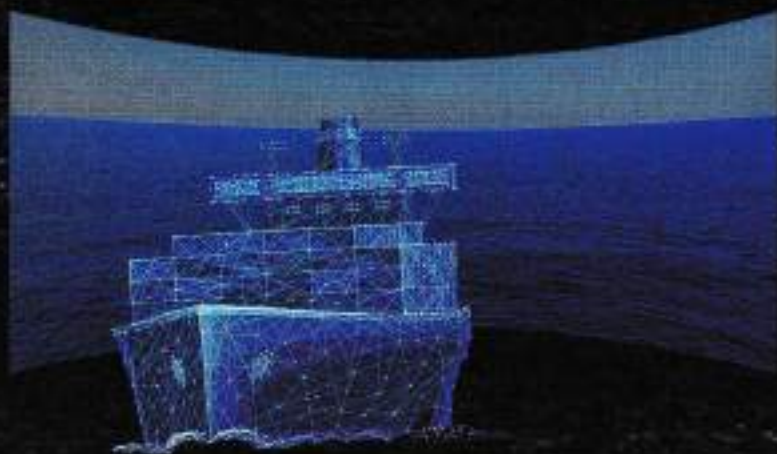


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Aimost real, but not quite

Virtual Production can make filmmaking much cheaper and convenient. But will the AI-powered tech also forever alter the essence of cinema itself?



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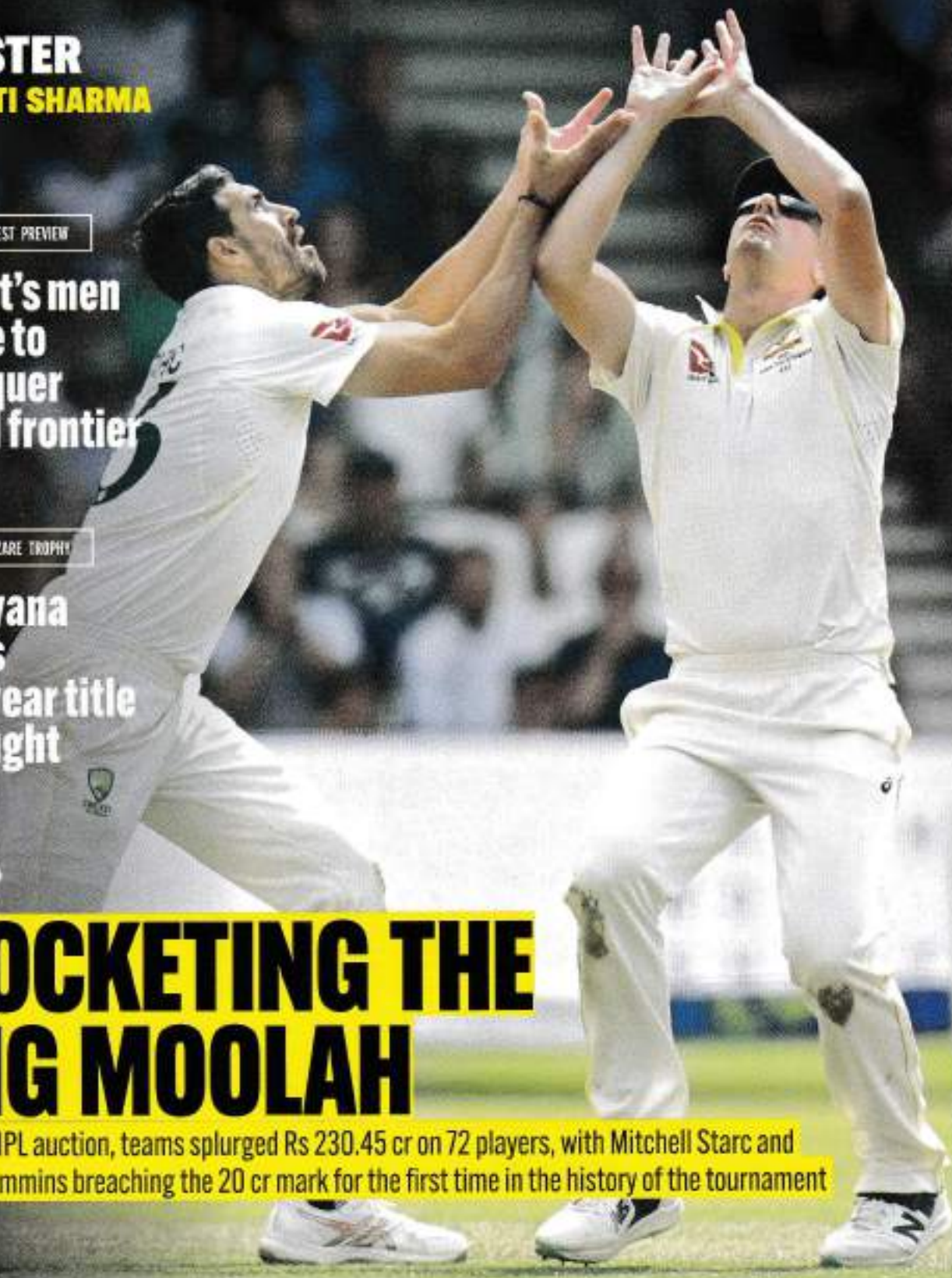
VUWI HAZARE TROPHY

**Haryana
ends
32-year title
drought**



POCKETING THE BIG MOOLAH

At the IPL auction, teams splurged Rs 230.45 cr on 72 players, with Mitchell Starc and Pat Cummins breaching the 20 cr mark for the first time in the history of the tournament





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Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who enjoys India's backing, is looking at a comfortable victory in the parliamentary elections. But there are challenges aplenty, like a crisis of legitimacy, an ailing economy and the threat of US interference, which is not impressed with Dhaka's record on democracy.



Legacy and pragmatism drive India-Bangladesh relations, despite the looming Chinese presence

REUTERS

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The elections will be completely free, fair and transparent, says Muhammad Hasan Mahmud, minister of information, Bangladesh

Present population in Bangladesh don't trust the election system, says Shamsheer Momin Chowdhury, chairperson, Trinamool Bangladesh National Party

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"When the walls of the temple of democracy are breached, the *pujaris* and the *archakas* inside, and the billion believers outside, have a right to know."

—R. Prasanna

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COVER DESIGN BINESH SREEDHARAN

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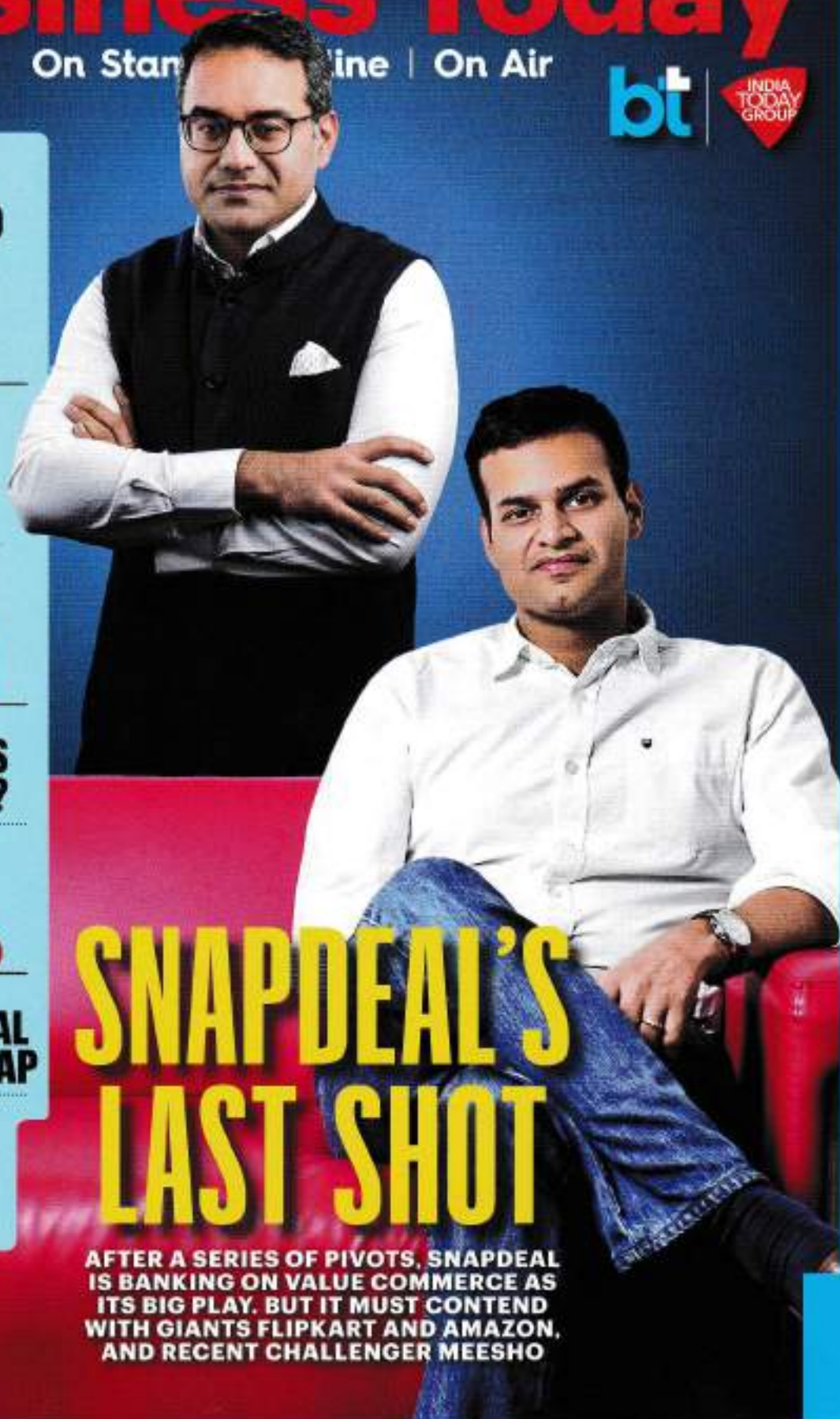
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KUNAL BAHL AND
ROHIT BANSAL
CO-FOUNDERS,
SNAPDEAL

SNAPDEAL'S LAST SHOT

AFTER A SERIES OF PIVOTS, SNAPDEAL IS BANKING ON VALUE COMMERCE AS ITS BIG PLAY. BUT IT MUST CONTEND WITH GIANTS FLIPKART AND AMAZON, AND RECENT CHALLENGER MEESHO



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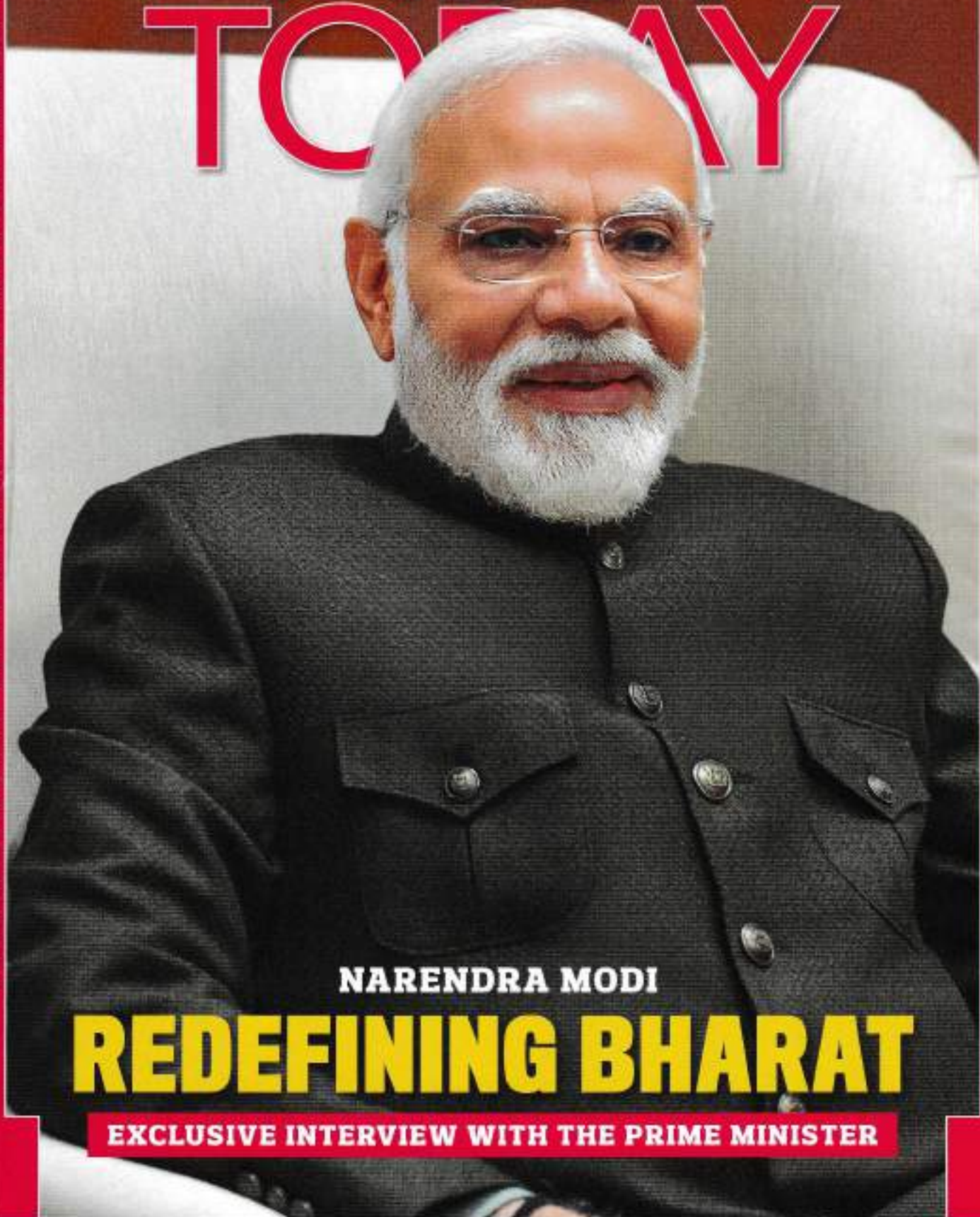
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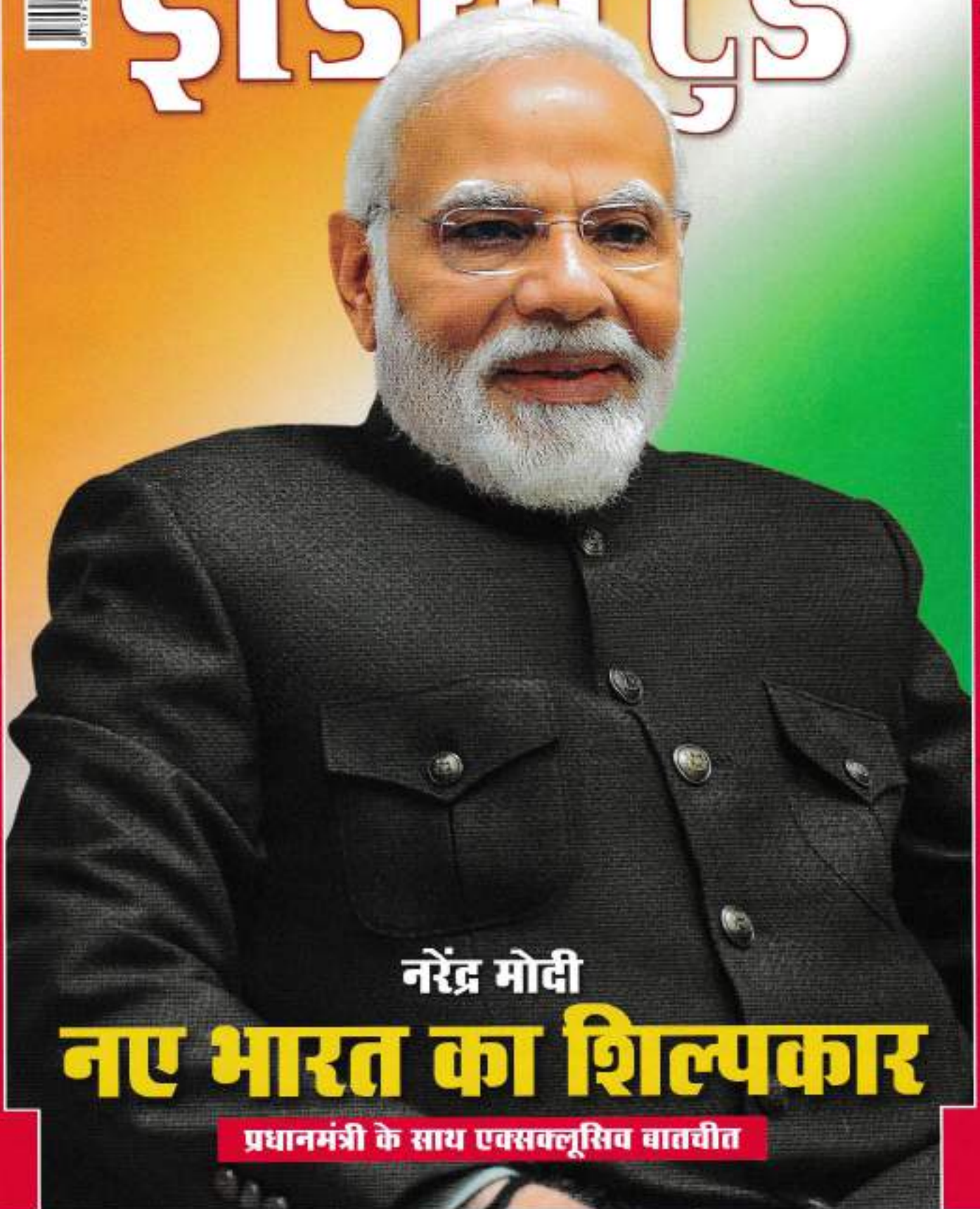
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We look back at 2023, at the challenges the year threw up
and at the challengers who emerged every now and then



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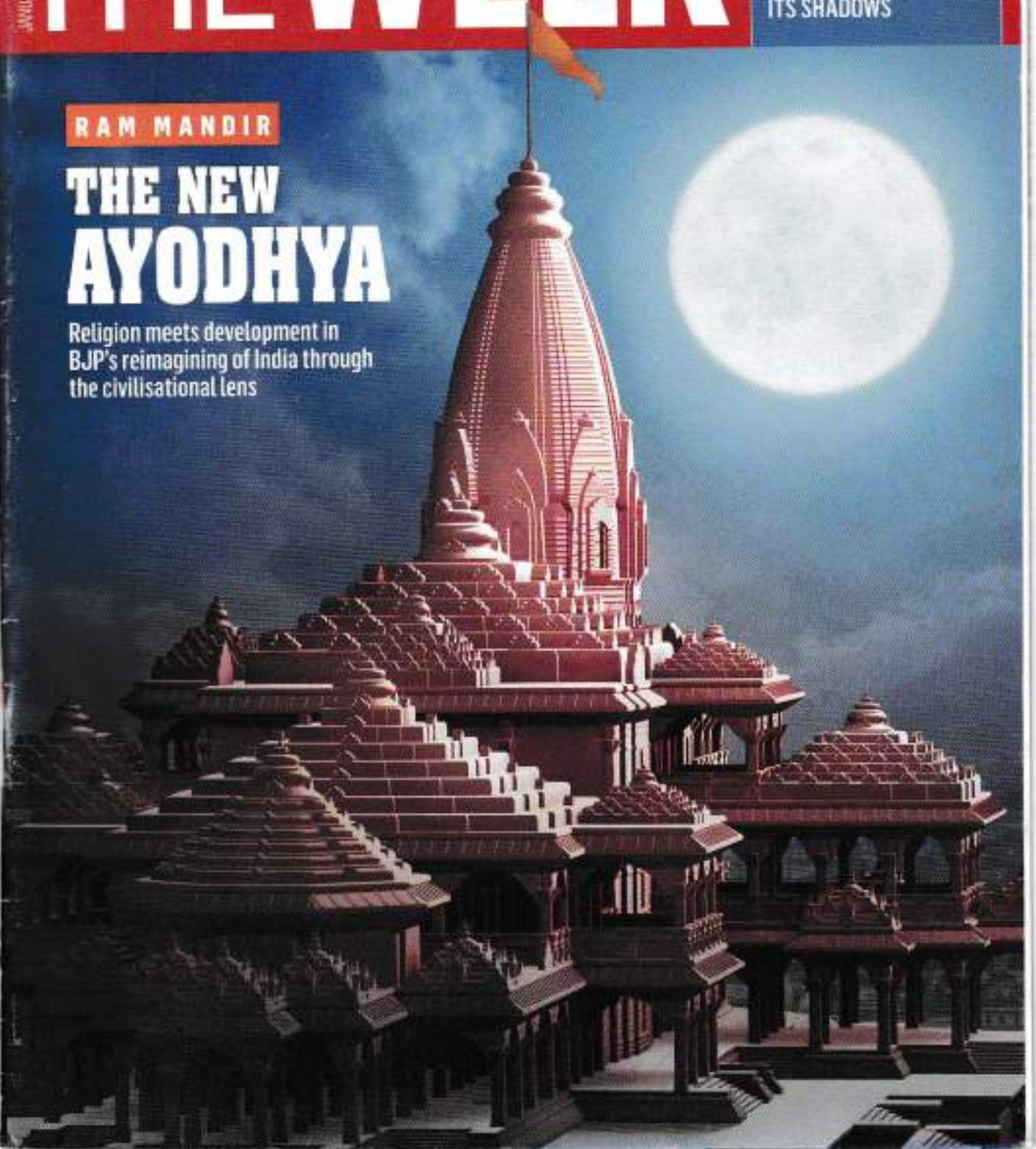
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—Anita Pratap

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Why India is treading cautiously on the US-led naval coalition in Red Sea

By Pradip R. Sagar

The Indian Navy has beefed up maritime surveillance to thwart potential attacks on India-bound merchant vessels even as New Delhi maintains a strategic distance from the US-led naval operations against Houthi rebels in the Red Sea

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How Bhubaneswar's Kalinga Stadium is setting the gold standard in sports infra

By Arkamoy Datta Majumdar

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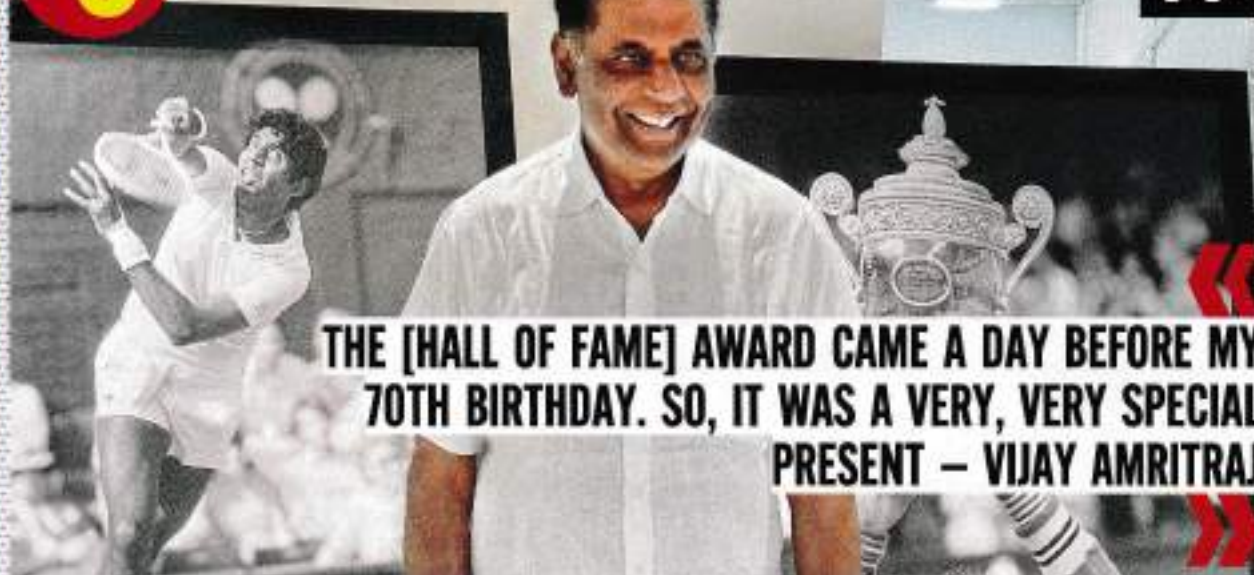
PEOPLE'S CHAMPION

Olympic medallist and multiple Grand Slam champion Leander Paes reflects on his testing but gratifying journey to the Hall of Fame





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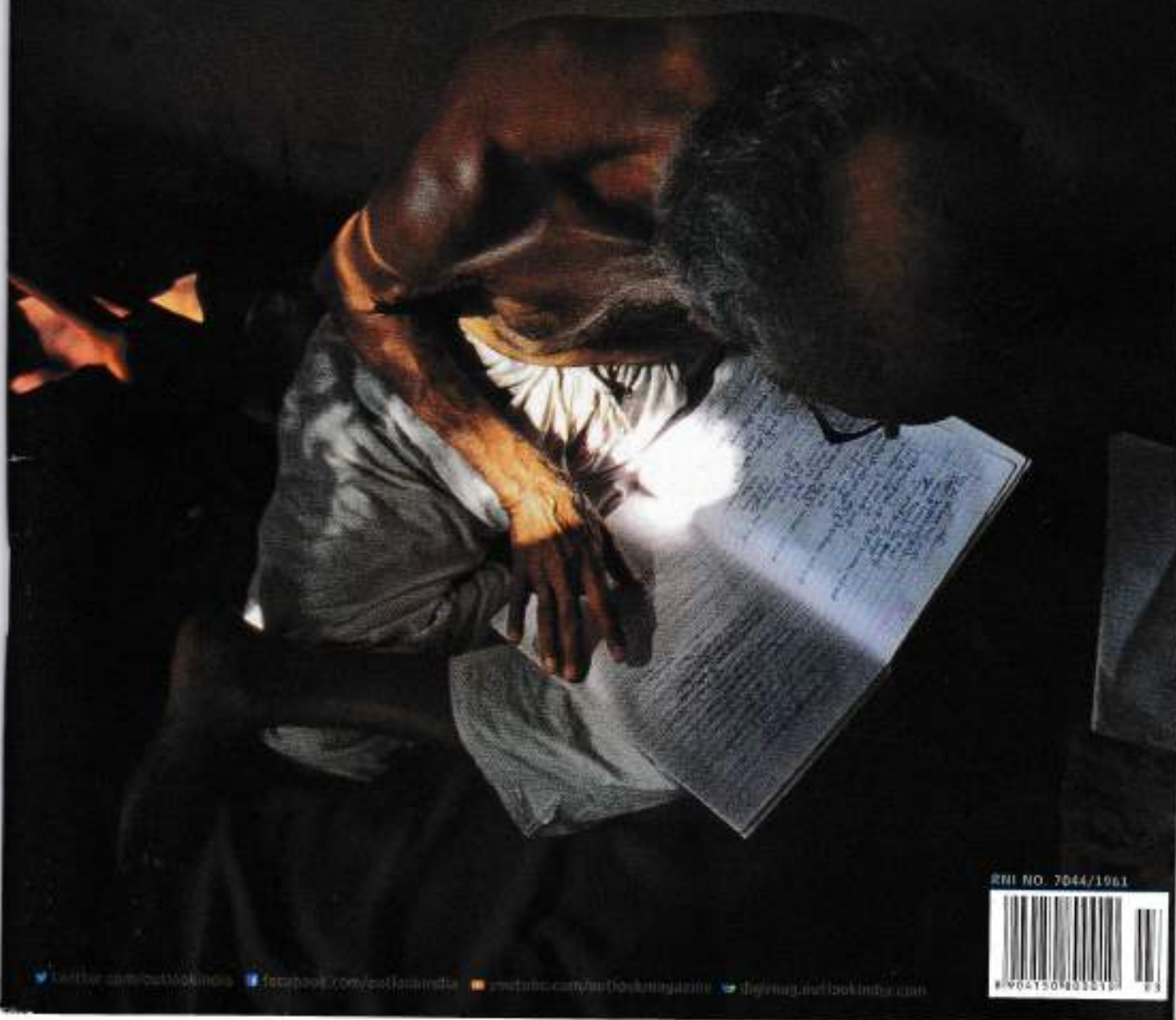
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After 50 films in 25 years, **Karan Johar** taps new talent and opportunities with the same pizzazz

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Alia Bhatt
What it means
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COFFEE WITH KARAN JOHAR

THE WEEK revisits the glory of Karan Johar, one of Bollywood's most powerful filmmakers, as he completes 25 years in the industry. He took his father's medium-sized business and turned it into the Bollywood behemoth that is Dharma Productions

Exclusive interaction:

My parents were vehemently against me being part of the film business.... You are relevant when you can cater to every generation, says Johar

PLUS

- Whenever I am torn, I always go to Karan. And he just reinforces what my heart says: Alia Bhatt

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—Barkha Dutt



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THE PREMIUM PHENOMENON

RISING INCOMES ARE
PUSHING **MIDDLE-CLASS**
INDIANS TO CHOOSE
FANCIER, PRICIER
PRODUCTS ACROSS
SECTORS TO REALISE
THEIR ASPIRATIONS FOR
A BETTER LIFESTYLE

↑ **45%**

High-capacity
washing machines



↑ **22%**

Deluxe
residences
(Rs 1 crore+)



↑ **35%**

Frost-free
refrigerators



† All figures are growth in sales

