

DEFENDERS OF THE SOUTH: SIDDARAMAIAH, PINARAYI VIJAYAN, REVANTH REDDY SPEAK TO **THE WEEK** ON TACKLING BJP

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THE WEEK

APRIL 28, 2024

ANUJA CHAUHAN
BRAND MODI SHINING
IN KARNATAKA

**ANDHRA AND
TELANGANA**
TDP WAKES UP,
BRS CRUMBLES

BATTLEGROUND SOUTH

THE FIGHT GETS TIGHT

Modi bets on Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka to offset INDIA bloc advantage in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Telangana



PM Modi and challengers (from left) Siddaramaiah, Revanth Reddy, Pinarayi Vijayan, M.K. Stalin

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ELECTIONS
2024



**SAFFRON
MEETS
THE
SOUTH**

Modi during
a road show
in Chennai
on April 9

AFP



SIDDARAMAIAH,
Karnataka chief
minister: I don't
see Modi wave
anywhere in
Karnataka or
south India



**PINARAYI
VIJAYAN**, Kerala
chief minister:
RSS wants Hindu
Rashtra; to prevent
it, BJP has to be
kept out of power

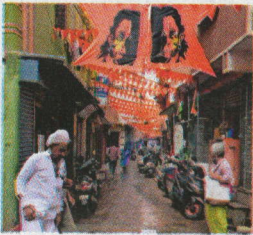


**A. REVANTH
REDDY**, Andhra
Pradesh chief
minister:
Winning 14 of
17 seats is my
target

THE BIG PUSH

Unlike in 2014 and 2019, the focus of the BJP's blistering poll campaign has shifted from north India to the southern states. The party's no-holds-barred battle against opposition parties in the south is being framed as a fierce contest of competing ideas of India. **Will an aggressive campaign led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi help the BJP clinch its target of winning 50 of 130 seats in the region?**

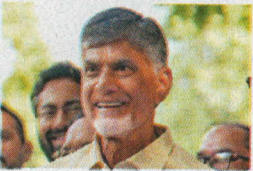
PLUS



▶ In the murky, shifting, swirly landscape of Karnataka politics, the only thing that seems to look dependably solid is Modi, writes **Anuja Chauhan**

▶ Factors favour an increase in the BJP's vote share in Kerala

▶ The BJP seems to be slowly finding acceptance in Tamil Nadu



▶ The Congress may have an edge in Telangana, while Chandrababu Naidu and Jagan Mohan Reddy are locked in a bitter battle in Andhra Pradesh, writes senior journalist **M. Somasekhar**

MANIPUR 20 ELECTIONS 2024

With ethnic conflict flaring up again, **Manipur is witnessing a subdued election season**

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Shobhaa De

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Mani Shankar Aiyar

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Namrata Zakaria

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Amitabh Kant



Manifestos ought to be taken seriously. Ask the CIA. They looked foolish when A.B. Vajpayee made the bomb.

They wouldn't have, if they had read the BJP's 1998 manifesto where the bomb option was mentioned in plain English.

COVER ILLUSTRATION **BINESH SREEDHARAN**

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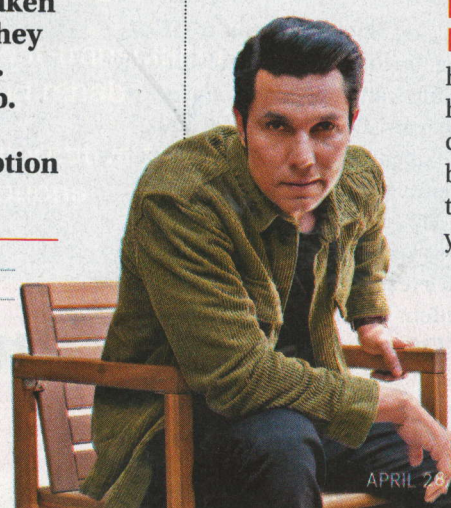
SANJAY AHLAWAT

62 LEISURE

Peter Smetacek's Butterfly Research Centre at Bhimtal, Uttarakhand, **boasts 3,500 butterfly and moth specimens**

68 CINEMA

Randeep Hooda may have proved his acting credentials with biopics, but typecast him at your own peril



AMEY MANSABDAR