

**ELECTIONS**  
BATTLEGROUND  
STATE 2024

**WEST BENGAL: CAN BJP OUTSMART MAMATA?**  
**PLUS MAHUA MOITRA: MY FIGHT IS AGAINST MODI**

JOURNALISM WITH A HUMAN TOUCH | www.theweek.in | f TheWeekMag | x TheWeekLive | ₹ 80

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MAY 12, 2024

# THEWEEK

**UNIQUE NAMES**  
I AM DR LOOSAMMA.  
AND I AM COLONEL  
ISENHOWER

**UNTOLD STORIES**  
TEJAS THACKERAY  
GOES WILD!

## MANIPUR ONE YEAR AFTER

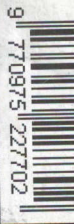
**The implosion within**

Ground report from  
India-Myanmar border

**PLUS**

**CHIEF MINISTER  
BIREN SINGH**

**Assam Rifles  
not guarding  
the border**



**THEW**  
JOURNALISM WITH A



A child at a refugee camp  
on the border

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FOR THE WEEK MAY 6 - MAY 12

  
**ELECTIONS 2024**  
**BATTLEGROUND**

**WEST BENGAL** 18

A range of contentious issues has raised the ideological and political stakes of the Trinamool-BJP battle to the highest level



My fight is with Narendra Modi: **Mahua Moitra**, Trinamool Congress candidate, Krishnanagar



Trinamool must study history before questioning my ancestors: BJP's **Amrita Roy**

**DELHI** 28



AAP-Congress alliance not a challenge for us: **Bansuri Swaraj**, BJP candidate, New Delhi



If BJP gets a third term, there will be no democracy left: **Somnath Bharti**, AAP candidate, New Delhi

**KARNATAKA** 32



Congress's north-south game can divide the country: **Basavaraj Bommai**, former Karnataka chief minister

**TELANGANA** 34



Plagued by corruption allegations and desertions, **K. Chandrashekar Rao's** Bharat Rashtra Samithi seems to be on the verge of collapse



36 **COVER STORY**

## LIFE BETWEEN DIVIDES

May 3 marks a year of ethnic clashes in Manipur. People are now living in islands of peace that exist between the valley-based Meiteis and the hill-based Kukis. But it is not just the violence that is worrying. An unfenced border, rising influx of illegal immigrants and the war in Myanmar are adding to India's security nightmares



**INTERVIEW**

Assam Rifles not trained to guard borders; need separate force for Manipur border: **N. Biren Singh**, chief minister, Manipur

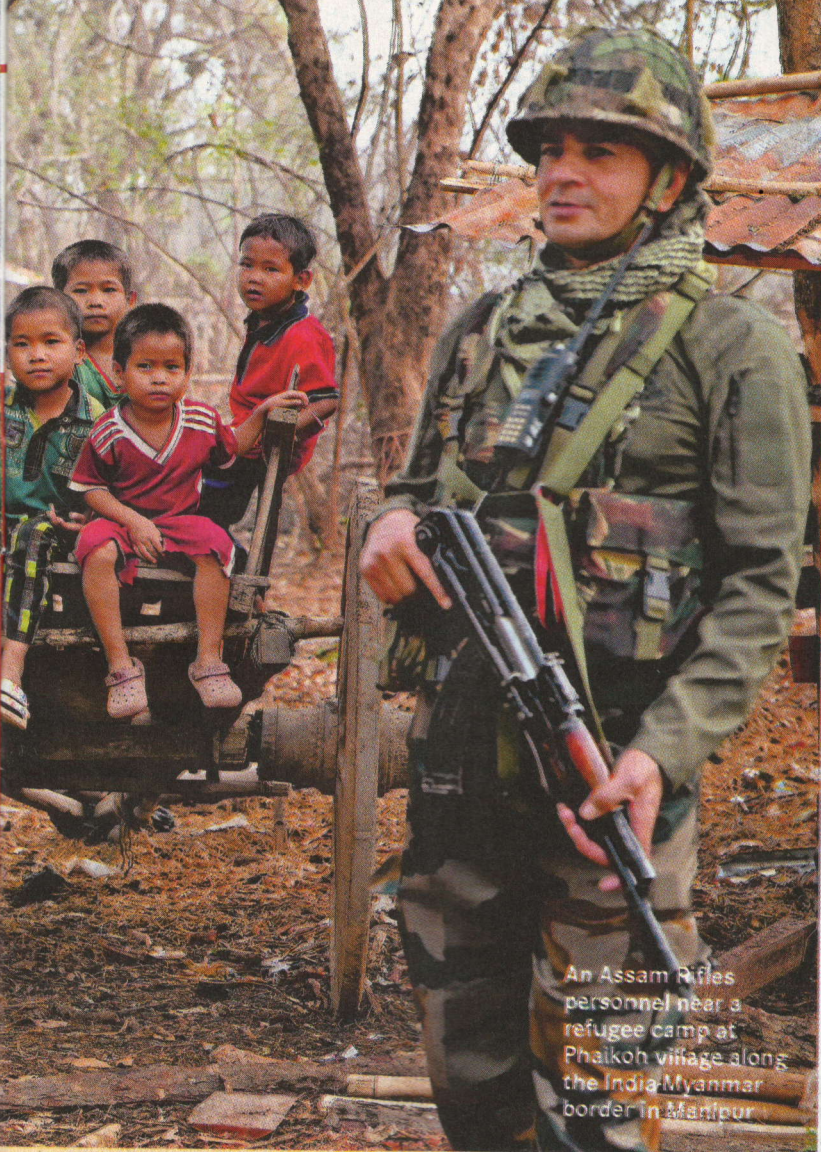
The Union home ministry is looking at a holistic approach to enhance security, both along the border and internally

In many parts of the world, unique names are becoming popular. So, what's really in a name?



Kim Kardashian with daughter North West

GETTY IMAGES

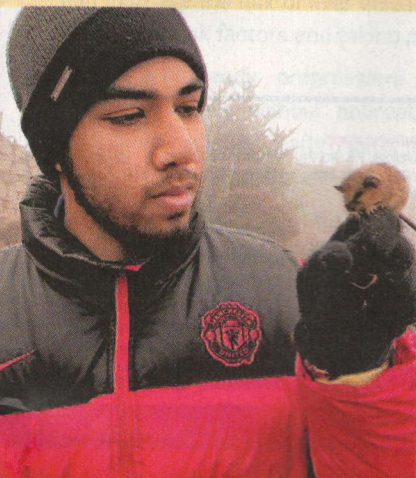


An Assam Rifles personnel near a refugee camp at Phalkoh village along the India-Myanmar border in Manipur.

SALIL BERA

UNTOLD STORY **60**

Tejas Thackeray, younger son of former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray, on his passion for wildlife conservation and photography



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Barkha Dutt

**"In the southern states, there is no political surge around the temple despite religion being a more entrenched part of daily life than in the north."**



GUEST COLUMN **58**



Bilateral trade between the UAE and India has grown almost 16 per cent year-on-year, touching

**\$84.5 billion: UAE ambassador to India Abdunnasser Alshaali**

COVER PHOTO SALIL BERA  
COVER DESIGN BINESH SREEDHARAN

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