

**DIPLOMACY**  
INDIA'S STRATEGIC AUTONOMY

**UKRAINE PRESIDENT ZELENSKY**  
ASKED MODI FOR GLOBAL PEACE SUMMIT IN INDIA

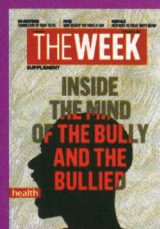
JOURNALISM WITH A HUMAN TOUCH | www.theweek.in |  TheWeekMag |  TheWeekLive | ₹ 80

SUBSCRIBER COPY NOT FOR SALE

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024



# THE WEEK



**FREE**  
44-PAGE  
SUPPLEMENT

**THE BULLY.  
AND THE  
VICTIM. BOTH  
NEED HELP**

**PRAKASH PADUKONE**  
LAKSHYA SEN SHOULD  
TRAIN HIS MIND

## SEX, LIES & MALAYALAM CINEMA

Creative women's heroic  
struggle against predators  
unleashes a revolution

### VOICES

**PARVATHY**

We had to beg and  
grovel for justice

**SREELEKHA MITRA**

Why I complained

**TANUSHREE DUTTA**

Targeted and stalked

**CHINMAYI SRIPADA**

A long fight in Kollywood

**SHAJI N. KARUN**

Revelations will help  
create new policy





# contents

VOL. 42 | NO. 36 | THE WEEK | SEPTEMBER 8 | 2024 | FOR THE WEEK SEPTEMBER 2 - SEPTEMBER 8

## THE MOLLYWOOD BLUES

ILLUSTRATION BINESH SREEDHARAN



COVER STORY

32

The Malayalam film industry is rocked by sexual harassment allegations, with several actors speaking out about their bitter experiences. Did the Kerala government mishandle the situation? The questions raised extend beyond Mollywood, resonating across all sectors where men and women work together.

### PLUS

★ Next step should be a thorough study of the recommendations of the Hema committee  
**Parvathy Thiruvothu**, actor

★ These things are not limited to Malayalam cinema  
**Shaji N. Karun**, filmmaker

★ People wear masks and you don't know who is the psychopathic molester  
**Tanushree Dutta**, actor

★ This isn't about one person; it's about a broader issue  
**Sreelekha Mitra**, actor

INTERVIEW

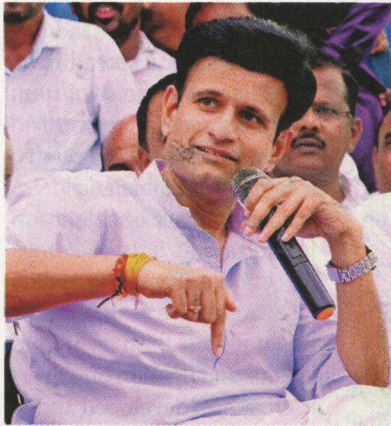
60

"There is absolutely no dearth of talent in the country, especially in tier 2 and tier 3 cities."—**Prakash Padukone**, coach and former All-England champion



BHANU PRAKASH CHANDRA

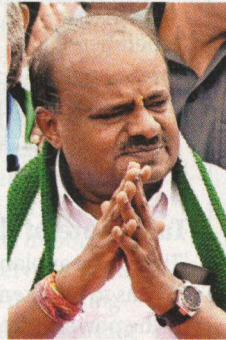




KUMAR MORE

# KARNATAKA 30

Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy cries foul as the illegal mining-related case against him gathers pace



BHANU PRAKASH CHANDRA

# MAHARASHTRA 24

Ambitious second-rung leaders could switch parties or contest as independents, upsetting calculations of major alliances



REUTERS

# UKRAINE 50

**Modi-Zelensky meet**—what really transpired? Our report from Kyiv

## COLUMNS

**16 POWERDRIVE**  
R. Prasanna

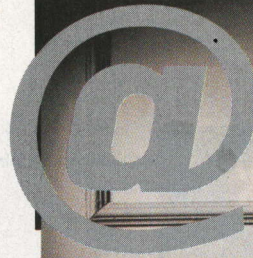
**62 RIGHT ANGLE**  
Bansuri Swaraj

**49 SOUNDBITE**  
Anita Pratap

**74 LAST WORD**  
Navtej Sarna

**29 SCHIZO-NATION** Anuja Chauhan

**“The ‘rapist vote bank’ actively fosters rape culture—that is a society that normalises, condones and even admires as hyper-masculine, the act of degrading and dehumanising women.”**



# LEISURE 63

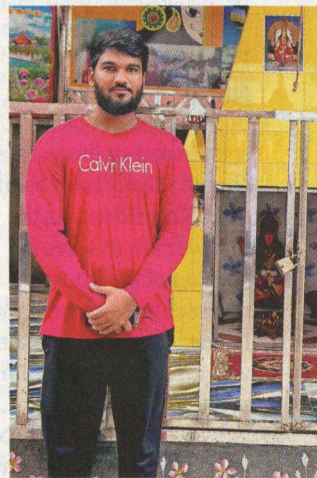
National award-winning cinematographer Ravi Varman loves to experiment with techniques. **“My idea is to never go for the best. Because the best is what is obvious and comes easy for everyone. It is tougher to go for the least.”**

—Ravi Varman



# UNTOLD STORIES 56

A Telugu community in Bangladesh with a history spanning over 150 years is facing multiple challenges. Will the new government listen to their concerns?



COVER IMAGING **BINESH SREEDHARAN**

Printed at Manorama Building, K.K. Road, Kottayam - 686 001, Kerala, and M P Printers, Noida, and published from Manorama Building, K.K. Road, Kottayam - 686 001, Kerala, by **Jacob Mathew**, on behalf of the Malayala Manorama Company Private Ltd., Manorama Building, K.K. Road, Kottayam - 686 001, Kerala. Editor **Philip Mathew**, Manorama Buildings, Panampilly Nagar, Kochi - 682 036, Kerala. Place of Publication: Manorama Buildings, Panampilly Nagar, Kochi - 682036, Kerala.

• Focus/Infocus features are paid marketing/PR initiatives