

# FRONTLINE

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**Fresh bout of  
violence erupts in  
Manipur**

CONFLICT ► PAGE 33

**Secular socialists and  
Hindu nationalists... Israel's  
all-weather friends**

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A close-up photograph of a cannabis plant with a gloved hand touching the buds. The hand is wearing a blue nitrile glove and is positioned at the top of the frame, with the index finger pointing towards the central bud. The cannabis plant is green and has serrated leaves. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

## POISON OR PANACEA?

The chorus demanding decriminalisation of cannabis grows louder, with Himachal Pradesh passing a resolution to legalise its cultivation for medicinal use





## COVER STORY

# It's high time

10/ Despite its religious and cultural significance, and a tradition dating back to ancient times, cannabis continues to be vilified. In step with many other nations, perhaps we should revisit the taboos around the plant, recast its role as an intoxicant, healer, sacred offering, and many more, and present it as one of our cultural gifts to the world.

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