

WE WILL LEARN A LOT FROM SUNITA WILLIAMS
FORMER NASA ASTRONAUT AND FRIEND NICOLE STOTT

MUSHROOMING
LIT FESTS
JAIPUR TO KOKRAJHAR,
EVERYONE'S LOVING IT

CRYPTO CRIME
HOW A LITHUANIAN
FRAUDSTER WAS
NABBED IN KERALA

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

SUBSCRIBER COPY NOT FOR SALE

MARCH 30, 2025

THE WEEK

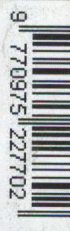
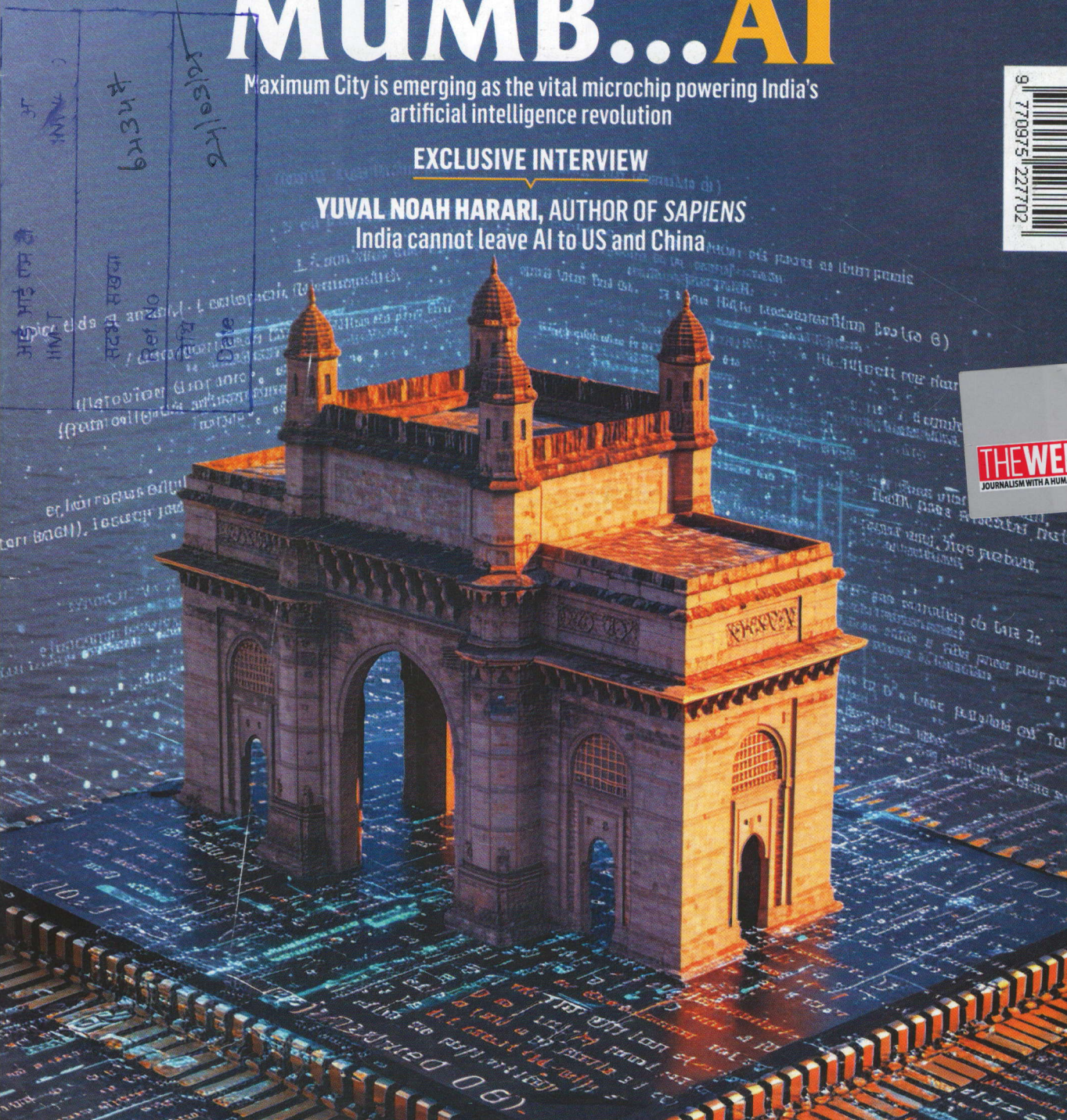
MUMB...AI

Maximum City is emerging as the vital microchip powering India's artificial intelligence revolution

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

YUVAL NOAH HARARI, AUTHOR OF SAPIENS

India cannot leave AI to US and China



THE WEEK
JOURNALISM WITH A HUMAN TOUCH

contents

VOL. 43 | NO. 13 | THE WEEK | MARCH 30 | 2025 | FOR THE WEEK - MARCH 24 - MARCH 30



AMEY MANSABDAR

LEARNING CURVE

Students learn from an AI device called 'Guruji' at Universal AI University at Karjat, near Mumbai. The university offers "AI-embedded" courses across disciplines

PUTTING AI IN MUMBAI

Artificial intelligence is advancing faster than expected, reshaping not just technology and economy, but also society, politics and global power dynamics. **Recognising AI's strategic importance, India is implementing an ambitious plan to create its own AI ecosystem of homegrown models and computing infrastructure.** With its financial resources and vibrant tech-academia scene, Mumbai is emerging as the AI powerhouse driving India's technological transformation

If we are not careful, we may lose control over AI in five to ten years: **Yuval Noah Harari**, historian and philosopher

20

UTTAR PRADESH

The Bahujan Samaj Party's support on the ground remains intact, **but it does not translate to votes because of the uncertainty in the party**



COVER
STORY
30

24

BIHAR

Prolonged dependence on the RJD has rendered the Congress electorally fragile and organisationally weak

◆ If we are not building up the cadre, the problem lies with us: Shakeel Ahmed Khan, Congress legislature party leader, Bihar



48

SPACE

I am confident that both Suni (Sunita Williams) and Butch (Wilmore) will do great and we will learn a lot from them: **Nicole Stott**, former NASA astronaut

28

CRIME



How the Kerala Police nabbed Lithuanian national **Aleksej Besciokov**, accused of operating a multibillion-dollar crypto money laundering service

51

WEALTH WATCH



Volatile times are an opportunity for investors to review their financial goals and risk tolerance

COLUMNS

14 POWERDRIVE
R. Prasanna

27 SCALPEN
Dr Mazda Turel

56 OTHERWISE CRACKED
K.C. Verma

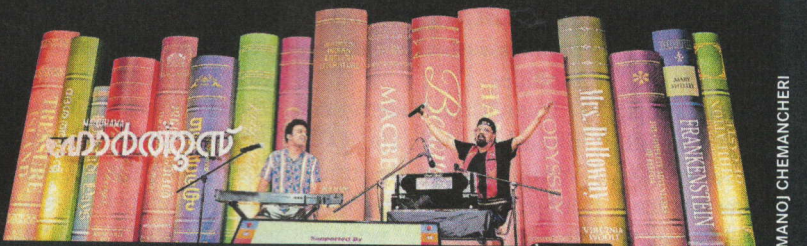
58 DETOUR
Shobhaa De

74 LAST WORD
Bajjayant Panda



India's hefty influence in international cricket has been hard-earned and is a key component of our soft power. The few who decry this, such as old hands from the days when England dominated the sport, are being both unrealistic as well as hypocritical.

COVER IMAGE SHUTTERSTOCK AI
COVER DESIGN BINESH SREEDHARAN



MANOJ CHEMANCHERI

59

@ LEISURE

Decoding the incredible rise in lit fests across cities and towns in India

◆ Proud we kickstarted this lit fest culture: **William Dalrymple**, author and co-director of Jaipur Literature Festival

68

DESTINATIONS

From beautiful beaches to majestic mountains, varied architecture and cuisine, **Montenegro** is a traveller's delight

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**