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THE WAKE-UP CALL

WEST BENGAL WORRY
OVER THE WAQF DIVIDE

HEALTH A JUNK
FOOD EPIDEMIC

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APRIL 28, 2025 ₹100



INDIA TODAY

COMPLIANCE RAJ

ENDING THE RED TAPE

**INDIA MUST URGENTLY EXCISE THE REGULATORY
CHOLESTEROL CHOKING ITS ECONOMIC GROWTH TO ENABLE
INDUSTRY TO CASH IN ON THE GLOBAL TRADE WAR**

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COVER STORY

COMPLIANCE RAJ

ENDING THE RED TAPE

India must urgently excise the regulatory cholesterol choking its economic growth to enable industry to cash in on the global trade war



Illustration by NILANJAN DAS

Cover by NILANJAN DAS

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THE STORY OF THE DAY

How Tejashwi gave Rahul, Kharge a Bihar poll reality check

By Amitabh Srivastava

In 2020, the Congress contested a disproportionate number of seats, winning under a third of them and denying the RJD-led alliance a shot at power. Will 2025 be different?

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SPOTLIGHT: DELHI AIRPORT

How Delhi's global aviation hub dreams can take wing

By Avishek G. Dastidar

In a world where airlines choose hub airports not just for their size but also their speed, seamlessness and security, the IGI airport still has some proving to do

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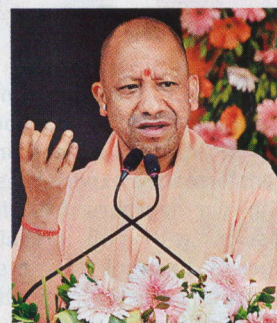
SPECIAL REPORT: INVEST UP

How Yogi govt is giving business investment more than a policy push

By Avaneesh Mishra

The Invest UP initiative is being restructured to cut red tape, fast-track approvals and improve ease of doing business by ensuring that policies work on the ground

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ANI

BUSINESS: JOBS AT STAKE

Will Trump tariffs dry up jobs in export-led Indian sectors?

By Sonal Khetarpal

A recruitment slowdown, even if in the short term, is already visible. Experts say export-oriented firms are likely to delay investments and capacity expansion

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THE ARTS: LEGACY OF KUMIDINI LAKHIA

Kumudini Lakhia: The kathak visionary who danced beyond tradition

By Jumana Shah

Kumudini Lakhia, India's beacon of innovation in dance, left behind a legacy that transformed Kathak into a vibrant, contemporary art form

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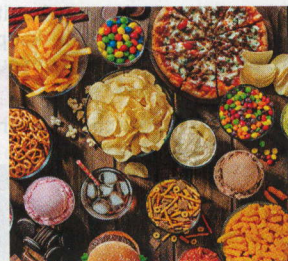
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The politics of faith the BJP and the TMC are practising in Bengal in the run-up to the 2026 polls bodes ill for its communal fabric. The violence in Murshidabad over the Waqf law is just a trailer

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Ultra-processed foods are now a daily staple, yet their serious health consequences remain overlooked. Regulators and the government have to take immediate action to curb this growing menace

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Soha Ali Khan tests her mettle as an actor in her role as Daasi Maa in Prime Video's horror flick *Chhorii 2*



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Dancer Aditi Mangaldas's production *WITHIN*, inspired by the Nirbhaya incident, returns to the stage



ARUN KUMAR

AKALI DAL: BACK
TO SQUARE ONE
PG 13

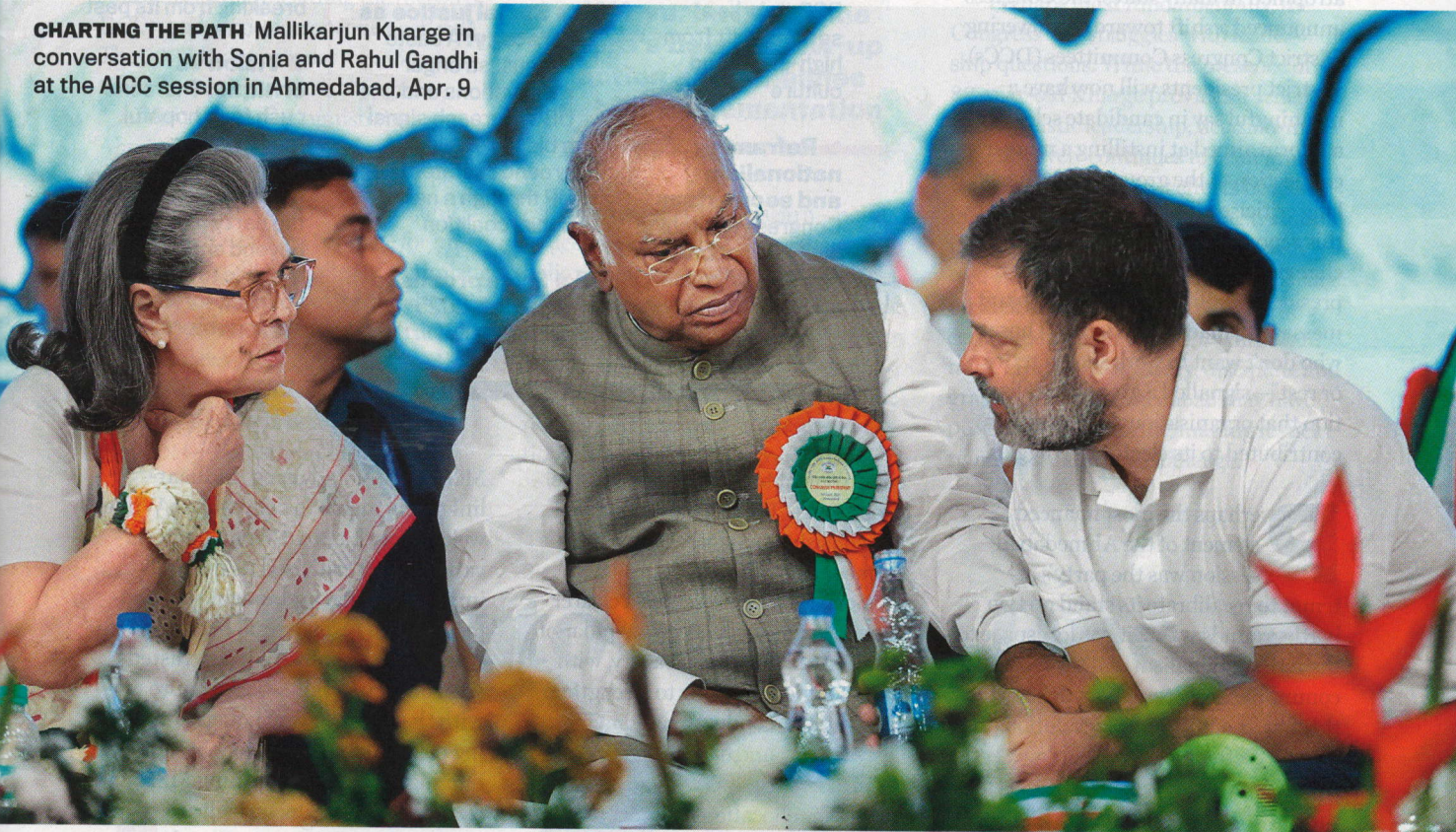
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UPFRONT

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PG 14

ANDHRA: NAIDU'S
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CHARTING THE PATH Mallikarjun Kharge in conversation with Sonia and Rahul Gandhi at the AICC session in Ahmedabad, Apr. 9



ANI

CONGRESS/AICC MEET

A CLARION CALL FOR CHANGE

By Kaushik Deka

It was on the banks of the Sabarmati that Gandhi once shaped India's freedom struggle. In returning here for the 86th All India Congress Committee session, its first in Gujarat in 64 years, the Grand Old Party must surely have wished for liberation from some of its own karma. The high-stakes show was also its first big foray onto Prime Minister

Narendra Modi's home turf since the 2024 Lok Sabha election. Eclipsed from Gujarat's power scoreboard for three decades, it was a purely symbolic reclaiming of territory, of course. But that purpose was earnestly attended to, with tactical adjustments intended to retrieve icons expropriated by the BJP. Sardar Patel's 150th birth anniversary came in handy here, with his memorial

figuring on the itinerary as prominently as Sabarmati Ashram. Every move evoked a composite legacy rooted in Gujarat, even as every line of its political resolution echoed the party's struggle to re-anchor itself in history while projecting a renewed fight for justice, constitutional values and, last but not least, national relevance.

Symbolism apart, the Ahmedabad