

ARTICLE ALERT

1-15 APRIL 2026

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ART

1. AI micro-dramas are shaking up Chinese entertainment. *Economist*. 11th April 2026.
In the animated series “Orange Cat Taoist Priest: Fighting the Zombie King”, a tabby in a flowing robe uses magical amulets and laser lassos to battle a pack of vicious, undead kittens. These feline adventures come in dozens of two-minute episodes, or micro-dramas—a form of entertainment that mashes traditional TV shows with scrollable social-media posts. AI-animated soap operas featuring talking cats may sound niche but have become all the rage in China. The Taoist master cat has attracted half a million views.

<https://www.economist.com/china/2026/04/09/ai-micro-dramas-are-shaking-up-chinese-entertainment>
2. New Directors, New Films. *New Yorker*. 13th April 2026.
This year’s edition of the **New Directors/New Films** series, an annual collaboration between MOMA and Film at Lincoln Center that began in 1972, highlights a diverse array of movies with invigorating approaches to narrative form—foremost, “**Variations on a Theme**,” the second feature by the South African filmmakers Jason Jacobs and Devon Delmar, which weaves together multiple story lines in its hour-and-five-minute span. The film is set in a mountain village where an elderly woman named Hettie (Hettie Farmer) lives alone on a small farm, tending her flock of goats with increasing difficulty. The village’s Black residents, including Hettie, are energized by a promising but tangled effort to redress a long-standing injustice—the unequal compensation received by Black South African soldiers in the Second World War. Meanwhile, a man obsessively seeks buried treasure beneath his home. The life of the rural region is framed in airy and luminous wide-screen images that recur with a lyrical vision of vast arcs of time amid dramatic social change.

<https://www.newyorker.com/culture/goings-on/new-directors-new-films>
3. Happy Hour with Emanuel Ax. *New Yorker*. 13th April 2026.
or someone who has been at the piano for seventy years, Emanuel Ax shouldn’t be so worried about performing. “I get terribly nervous when I play,” he said softly, standing on the stage at WQXR’s Greene Space, near SoHo. “But at least I usually know what’s about to happen. Here, I’m not so sure.”

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/happy-hour-with-emanuel-ax>
4. Getting Older with Clare Barron and Anne Kauffman. *New Yorker*. 13th April 2026.
Mortality has a way of sneaking up on you. For the playwright Clare Barron, the wake-up call came in 2013, when her father was diagnosed with Stage IV head-and-neck cancer. She had just been dumped by a boyfriend who was also her boss; at loose ends, she took

trips to Washington to be with her dad and started writing through it. She gave these overlapping crises to Mae, the protagonist of “You Got Older,” which premiered at HERE Arts Center, in Manhattan, within a year of the events that inspired it. Barron was twenty-seven. The other day, she surveyed her old venue, her gaze alighting on a tree-filled courtyard next door. “I remember having a lot of tearful conversations right here,” she said brightly.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/getting-older-with-clare-barron-and-anne-kauffman>

5. Do the Circulation-Desk Shuffle. New Yorker. 13th April 2026.

The desks of the New York Public Library’s main branch, on Fifth Avenue, are five and a half feet apart. That is enough space for a jeté or maybe a restrained arabesque. The other day, a squad of dancers stretched and limbered up in the halls as, outside, the lions stayed still. The dancers were there to prepare for Lunch Dances, a series of free performances organized by the library, in which they twirl through the building’s collection of around fifteen million items, to dramatize the joys and serendipities of research.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/do-the-circulation-desk-shuffle>

6. The New Museum Returns, but Humans Are Left Behind. New Yorker. 13th April 2026.

The New Museum knows that most viewers will be of two minds about “New Humans: Memories of the Future,” a blockbuster exhibition meant to crown the museum’s reopening after a sixty-thousand-square-foot expansion. With more than seven hundred objects, spread across three floors, the show is designed to both stimulate and fatigue you. The official remit is “what it means to be human in the face of sweeping technological changes.” In practice, this means a madhouse of multimedia rooms, packed with gurgling videos and useless machines and humanoid bodies. There are bodies made from scrap metal, bodies pierced with tentacles and affixed with screens for nipples and eyes, bodies broken down for parts, and walls lined with images of skin. In some rooms, paintings are hung salon style. In others, objects are suspended from the ceiling, mounted above doorways, or made to float via balloon. As if to poke fun at the show’s size and ambition, the curators have installed in the lobby a visual joke by the artist Ryan Gander: a tiny animatronic mouse.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/the-new-museum-returns-but-humans-are-left-behind>

7. Kanye West Makes a Record for the A.I. Era. New Yorker. 13th April 2026.

More than a year ago, in February, 2025, Kanye West, who is now known as Ye, gave an interview in which he said that the title of his next album was inspired by one of his children. “My son was playing with some kid, and then he kicked him,” Ye told the interviewer, Justin Laboy. “I asked my son, like, ‘Why you do that?’ He said, ‘Cause he weak.’ And I was, like, ‘This man is really a bully.’” Ye said that the new record would be called “Bully,” and told fans to expect it in June.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/kanye-west-music-review-bully>

8. Broadway's "Dog Day Afternoon" Is a Dog. *New Yorker*. 13th April 2026. Shortly before I took my seat for "Dog Day Afternoon," at the August Wilson Theatre, I read a dishy writeup in the *Times* about some backstage drama: the playwright, Stephen Adly Guirgis, had been banned from rehearsals. That news didn't worry me much—after all, the 1975 Sidney Lumet movie required reshoots after its star, Al Pacino, watched the first-day rushes and begged for a do-over so that he could get rid of an ill-conceived mustache. In the end, Pacino's anxiety just intensified his legendary performance as Sonny, a jittery bank robber desperate to fund his trans lover's "sex reassignment" surgery, lending the role a magnetic warmth and pathos.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/dog-day-afternoon-theatre-review>

9. Savannah Guthrie's Excruciating Story, on "Today". *New Yorker*. 13th April 2026. From an excruciating story comes this even more impossible detail: the home from which Nancy Guthrie mysteriously vanished, as was reported on February 1st, was the very same place where she raised her three children, Annie, Camron, and, fatefully, Savannah, the "Today"-show anchor of long tenure, whose fame has made Nancy's kidnapping an international event. The Guthries settled north of Tucson, Arizona, when Savannah was two years old. Over a decade later, Charles, Nancy's husband and Savannah's father, died of a heart attack. Nancy was steadfast after the tragedy, modelling the sacrificial aspects of the Christian faith that she'd diligently passed along to her kids, showing them that life could continue—and, indeed, with all its tenacious necessities, *had* to continue, there was no other option—in the aftermath of a tragedy.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/savannah-guthries-excruciating-story-on-today>

10. An Artists' Duel Proves Restorative in "The Christophers". *New Yorker*. 13th April 2026. Nobody stages a home invasion quite like Steven Soderbergh. For some of us, this much was apparent as early as "Out of Sight" (1998), when George Clooney stormed into a millionaire's mansion in search of uncut gems. But Soderbergh has since become an ever more restless raider, and each break-in has reached new heights of formal and conceptual ingenuity; he elasticizes our understanding of genre even as he undermines our sense of stability. "Kimi" (2022), a neo-Hitchcockian thriller centered on an Alexa-esque virtual assistant, paid witty homage to two break-in classics—"Rear Window" (1954) and, bear with me, "Home Alone" (1990)—while suggesting that the most insidious intruder of all was the internet. In the supernatural chiller "Presence" (2025), the uninvited house guest was a ghost haunting a family; the camera suavely assumed the apparition's perspective, erasing the boundaries between cinematic tricks and genuine miracles.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/the-christophers-movie-review>

BIOGRAPHY

- 11.** Semyon Gluzman defied the abuse of psychiatry by the USSR. Economist. 11th April 2026.

Writing the text was the trickiest part, on long thin strips of paper. Semyon Gluzman would inscribe the words with maximum neatness, keeping it short. As a psychiatrist, he was not the most literary of their group of scientists and intellectuals; but he, with his wit and energy, was their organiser, and he knew how to get their messages out. In Labour Colony Perm 35 he often worked in the shop, and could secrete the slips of paper into the just-sewn bags made for chain-saws. Helpful contacts outside passed them on. And thus, from a damp corner of the Soviet gulag, regular protests reached the free world.

<https://www.economist.com/obituary/2026/04/09/semyon-gluzman-defied-the-abuse-of-psychiatry-by-the-ussr>

BUSINESS

- 12.** How war has made a 33-year-old the Czech Republic's richest man. Economist. 11th April 2026.

UNTIL RECENTLY Michal Strnad was hardly known in his home country, let alone elsewhere. The 33-year-old chief executive and majority owner of the Czechoslovak Group (CSG), an arms-maker, has in the past kept a low profile and remained focused on running the company founded by his father, at which he has worked since leaving high school.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2026/04/09/how-war-has-made-a-33-year-old-the-czech-republics-richest-man>

- 13.** Japan's mighty carmakers are in serious trouble. Economist. 11th April 2026.

In a doleful press conference last month, Mibe Toshihiro, chief executive of Honda, announced that the Japanese carmaker was on course to post its first net loss since 1957 in its fiscal year ending in March—a failure for which he took personal responsibility. In a sign of his contrition, Mr Mibe said that he would dock his pay by 30%, along with that of his deputy. Honda is not the only Japanese carmaker under severe strain. At an industry event the following week, Mr Mibe issued a stark warning: “The Japanese automotive industry itself is on the brink of survival.”

<https://www.economist.com/business/2026/04/09/japans-mighty-carmakers-are-in-serious-trouble>

- 14.** How dangerous is Mythos, Anthropic's new AI model?. Economist. 11th April 2026.

When in 2019 OpenAI finished training a new large language model called GPT-2, the artificial-intelligence lab initially declared it too dangerous to be released. Dario Amodei, then OpenAI's research director, insisted that the world needed time to prepare.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2026/04/08/how-dangerous-is-mythos-anthropics-new-ai-model>

- 15.** Why McDonald's and KFC are growing like wildfire in China. Economist. 11th April 2026. OFFICIALLY IT IS a city. But Hanchuan, in central China, is largely rural. Many of its 1m people live between fields and small factories. A firm producing sewing thread and a handful of fisheries make up a good chunk of its economy. Even so, when The Economist visited recently, one spot in particular was buzzing: Hanchuan's first McDonald's, which opened in January.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2026/04/05/why-mcdonalds-and-kfc-are-growing-like-wildfire-in-china>

- 16.** The pros and cons of stretch goals. Economist. 11th April 2026. "The reasonable man adapts himself to the world," wrote George Bernard Shaw. "The unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man."

<https://www.economist.com/business/2026/04/09/the-pros-and-cons-of-stretch-goals>

ECONOMICS

- 17.** Militarised AI, Private Credit, and Iran War. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

Around 22 March 2026, two of the largest players in private credit, Apollo Global Management and Ares Management, dropped redemption gates on flagship retail credit vehicles, temporarily limiting and/or restricting investors from withdrawing their money. While investors had requested withdrawals of 11.2% and 11.6%, respectively, both funds capped redemptions at 5%, leaving roughly half of the requested capital locked in place.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/h-t-parekh-finance-column/militarised-ai-private-credit-and-iran-war.html>

- 18.** Are Kartavyas Any Different from 'Priorities' of 2025–26?. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

The *Economic Survey of India 2025–26*, presented a few days before the 2026–27 budget, presents a cheerful picture of the Indian economy despite recognising the grim global challenges facing the country. The first advance estimates for 2025–26 show

that gross domestic product (GDP) would grow by 7.4% in the year, up from 6.5% in the previous year. This higher growth has ridden on the back of sustained private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) growth (7.0% in 2025–26, not much lower than 7.2% in 2024–25), much higher growth of government final consumption expenditure (GFCE) (5.2% versus 2.3%), higher gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) and stable exports (6.4% versus 6.3%). On the supply side, agriculture and allied services have slowed down to 3.1% from 4.6% in 2024–25, while industry (6.2% versus 5.9%) and services (9.1% versus 7.2%) have driven growth.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/budget-2026-27/are-kartavyas-any-different-priorities-2025-26.html>

19. Recasting Rural Employment. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

The Union Budget 2026–27 marks a key restructuring of India’s rural employment framework with the introduction of the Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB–G RAM G). With an allocation of ₹95,692 crore, nearly 48% of the Ministry of Rural Development’s total outlay of ₹1.97 lakh crore, the new mission consolidates a substantial share of rural employment and livelihood expenditure into a single, centrally designed flagship programme. This consolidation represents a fundamental shift in the fiscal treatment of rural employment.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/budget-2026-27/recasting-rural-employment.html>

20. Lessons from the Trump Tariff Shock. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

The textile and garment (T&G) sector has historically been an important component of India’s manufacturing sector, employing about 13.9 million people directly, according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey 2023. The sector contributes 2.3% to India’s gross domestic product (GDP) and about 13% to industrial production. In 2023–24, it accounted for 8.21% of India’s exports and about 3.9% of global T&G trade (MoCI 2025). The United States (US) constitutes a major export destination for India’s textile and apparel products. Roughly one-third of India’s apparel exports and a significant share of broader textile exports are directed to the US market. In 2024, India supplied around 6% of US apparel imports, valued at about \$4.8 billion (Behal 2025).

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/perspectives/lessons-trump-tariff-shock.html>

21. Economic Concentration in India. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

Trends in corporate concentration in India’s non-financial sector, especially since 2015, are examined, using firm-level data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy Prowess database. Changes in asset and income distribution across firms are reported, noting an overall decline in the public sector’s share and a steady increase in the share

held by the top five private business groups on account of an increase in their share of total assets and total debt. This occurred during a period when many other firms reduced their leverage, particularly after the implementation of the Reserve Bank of India's Asset Quality Review. Descriptive evidence is provided on changes in firm-level borrowing patterns and financial indicators, linking them with the differences in financial conditions across firms.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/special-articles/economic-concentration-india.html>

- 22.** A ceasefire will not prevent the Iran war's economic harm. Economist. 11th April 2026. THROUGHOUT THE war in Iran most investors have bet that an economic catastrophe would not take place. Oil and gas prices would need to rise to the stratosphere to destroy demand for the fuel that flows through the Strait of Hormuz. That would cause recession and high inflation. So commodities prices rose to painful, rather than disastrous, levels. The planned reopening of the strait seems to have justified the optimism. As we published this, stocks and bonds alike had rallied. The S&P 500 index of stocks sat only about 3% beneath its all-time high, reached in late January.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2026/04/09/a-ceasefire-will-not-prevent-the-iran-wars-economic-harm>

- 23.** China may be building a big new airbase in the South China Sea. Economist. 11th April 2026. SINCE OCTOBER China has turned a once desolate sandbar in the South China Sea into a 600-hectare atoll. A spokesperson for the Chinese foreign ministry says the massive engineering project is "aimed at improving living and working conditions on the islands and growing the local economy". That seems implausible. By China's own figures, all of the South China Sea's islets are inhabited by not many more than 2,000 of its citizens (not including thousands of troops). Nearly all have been sent by China to help it stake its claim to the waterway.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2026/04/09/china-may-be-building-a-big-new-airbase-in-the-south-china-sea>

- 24.** The tumbling rupee could be a big problem for Narendra Modi. Economist. 11th April 2026. THE INDIAN rupee has not had a good war. It was worth 90.95 to the dollar when America and Israel started bombing Iran on February 28th. By the end of March it had fallen by 4%, to 94.65. That came on top of its 5% decline last year, when Donald Trump's punitive tariffs and a weak domestic market helped make it Asia's worst-performing currency. Each week last month, and frequently last year, newspapers ran stories with the now-familiar words "record low". That forced the central bank to intervene aggressively with rules that make it harder for traders to short the currency,

leaving banks with big losses and the rupee hovering around a less painful level of around 92.5. The pay-off is not just economic but political.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2026/04/05/the-tumbling-rupee-could-be-a-big-problem-for-narendra-modi>

25. The third Gulf war will scar energy markets for a long time yet. Economist. 11th April 2026.

WHEN PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP announced a two-week ceasefire in the Gulf and “the COMPLETE, IMMEDIATE, and SAFE OPENING of the Strait of Hormuz”, energy traders breathed a sigh of relief. For almost six weeks 15% of the world’s oil production and a fifth of its output of liquefied natural gas (LNG) have been trapped by Iran’s blockade. Following Mr Trump’s announcement, the Brent crude price fell by 12%, from \$103 a barrel to \$91. The global benchmark has not been this volatile since near the start of the covid-19 pandemic, in 2020. Europe’s benchmark gas price had at one point dropped by 17%.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2026/04/08/the-third-gulf-war-will-scar-energy-markets-for-a-long-time-yet>

26. As Iran’s civilian economy crumbles, its military economy grows stronger. Economist. 11th April 2026.

FOR THE first month of their war on Iran, America and Israel mostly spared civilian infrastructure. The second month began differently. On April 2nd, as families picnicked in a nearby valley, America damaged the B1, Iran’s tallest bridge. (Iranian drones struck a Kuwaiti oil refinery in response.) Days later Mr Trump first threatened to obliterate more bridges and power plants, then warned that “a whole civilisation will die” unless Iran eased its blockade on the Strait of Hormuz.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2026/04/06/as-irans-civilian-economy-crumbles-its-military-economy-grows-stronger>

27. The latest Italian banking whodunnit has it all. Economist. 11th April 2026.

ITALIAN FINANCE at times gets operatic. But recent developments at the world’s oldest bank, Monte dei Paschi di Siena (MPS), due to hold its annual shareholder meeting on April 15th, would light up La Scala. They feature an alleged conspiracy and a boardroom coup, plus a cadaver.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2026/04/09/the-latest-italian-banking-whodunnit-has-it-all>

28. Can the secondary market allay private-credit fears?. Economist. 11th April 2026.

PRIVATE CREDIT is the talk of Wall Street—and not in a good way. The share prices of giant listed purveyors of private-credit funds, such as Blackstone and KKR, are down by about a third so far this year. Banks are marking down the value of collateral posted by

some borrowers whose loans have been packed into these funds. On April 6th Jamie Dimon, boss of JPMorgan Chase and wise old man of American banking, warned that losses on leveraged private lending would be “higher than expected”. Many investors are maxing out the limited redemptions that fund managers promise them by way of liquidity in an illiquid asset class.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2026/04/09/can-the-secondary-market-allay-private-credit-fears>

29. Bye, bye to the Trump trades. Economist. 11th April 2026.

WHEN WAS peak Donald Trump? As America braces for midterm elections in November, pinpointing the moment when the president started to turn into a lame duck is becoming something of a parlour game. Was it his decision to strike Iran in late February, entangling America in another messy conflict in the Middle East and sending petrol prices soaring? Or the week before, when the Supreme Court declared many of his wanton tariffs unconstitutional? Or, perhaps, a month before that, when a rare public rebuke from the Federal Reserve defanged a criminal probe into the central bank?

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2026/04/07/bye-bye-to-the-trump-trades>

30. South Korea’s AI industrial policy meets the energy shock. Economist. 11th April 2026.

AS A MIDDLE Eastern oil shock rocked the world, South Korea’s president sounded a defiant note. “It is as if the ship of the Korean economy...has started to be shaken, and behind those rough seas, a much stronger sea wind is blowing,” said Park Chung-hee. It was 1974, three months after the first Arab oil embargo rocked global markets. Park nevertheless vowed to press on with an ambitious plan launched a year earlier to prop up the sectors, such as heavy machinery and chemicals, that would propel South Korea into the future.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2026/04/09/south-koreas-ai-industrial-policy-meets-the-energy-shock>

31. One neat trick to end extreme poverty. Economist. 11th April 2026.

A WORLD FREE of poverty would once have sounded fanciful. For most of human history it was barely even imaginable. Around 1800, when more than eight in ten people were destitute, Thomas Malthus, a particularly dismal dismal scientist, insisted it was an iron law that “Some human beings must suffer from want.” Herbert Spencer, similarly cheerless and an early contributor to *The Economist*, cast poverty as the “survival of the fittest”. The pessimism was not confined to gloomy Englishmen such as these two. The idea that poverty could be eliminated scarcely appears in print before the mid-20th century. Even Jesus, in three of the Gospels, tells his followers that the poor will always be with them.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2026/04/09/one-neat-trick-to-end-extreme-poverty>

EDUCATION

- 32.** From 50 Years Ago: China: Struggle over Education. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

The Chaoyang Agricultural College was founded and expanded during the Cultural Revolution. Since then, over the past six years, it has been firmly carrying out Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, struggling against the revisionist line that had dominated education during the 17 years preceding the Cultural Revolution. Its aim is to be an instrument of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/50-years-ago/50-years-ago-china-struggle-over-education.html>

- 33.** Colleges Need a New Sales Pitch. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

For years, there has been a dominant narrative about college: Earning a degree is the surest pathway to the American dream. It's the story higher education told about itself. And it's the story others told: Eight in 10 college freshmen said getting a better job

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/why-the-case-for-college-isnt-cutting-it>

- 34.** The Access Conundrum. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026. More than 25 years ago, Shay Dangerfield enrolled at Grossmont College, in El Cajon, Calif., and tested into a remedial-math course. She found it a demoralizing waste of time. "I was thinking, I just did all this in high school. Why are you making me do it all over?"

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/public-colleges-say-they-can-educate-all-students-so-far-they-havent-figured-out-how>

- 35.** The Real Problem Behind Grade Inflation. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

Mindy Bernhardt teaches criminal justice to undergraduates at Kennesaw State University. In recent years she has found herself grading more easily and expecting less from her students. The reason? They are unable to do the work her previous students accomplished. Their reading skills are weaker. Their analytical skills have declined. When something is hard, they are less likely to want to work through it. Even conducting basic internet research has proved challenging for them.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-real-problem-behind-grade-inflation>

- 36.** The Shortcut That Made College Harder. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

When California lawmakers voted in 2017 to all but eliminate remedial math across the state's community colleges, Nicholas Lujan was the kind of student they hoped to save.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-shortcut-that-made-college-harder>

- 37.** A Faster Degree — or an Inferior One?. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

For as long as anyone can remember, a bachelor's degree has taken a minimum of four years and required 120 credits. But concerns about the value and cost and time needed to earn a bachelor's have drawn renewed interest in an old idea: the three-year degree.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/faster-cheaper-lesser>

- 38.** Wyoming Has One University. Can It Survive Its Own Legislature?. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

It can be hard to get to Laramie, home of Wyoming's only public university. The local airport has just a couple of 50-seat inbound flights every day. It's often easier to fly into Denver and drive north on Interstate 25. Tucked in Wyoming's far southeast corner, Laramie is a day's drive from big chunks of the state.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/wyoming-has-one-university-can-it-survive-its-own-legislature>

- 39.** 'We Didn't Murder Sociology. Sociology Committed Suicide.' Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

Florida's Board of Governors, which oversees the state's 12 public universities, removed Introduction to Sociology from those institutions' general-education curriculum on Thursday following years of conflict over the discipline, its purported ideological leanings, and curricular control of college classrooms.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/we-didnt-murder-sociology-sociology-committed-suicide>

- 40.** Can You Hang a Pride Flag in Your Office Window? This University Says No. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

Earlier this month, Boston University took down pride flags hanging in outward-facing windows of faculty offices and the women's, gender, and sexuality-studies program. In explaining why, Melissa L. Gilliam, the university's president, drew a distinction between speaking for yourself and speaking for the institution.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/can-you-hang-a-pride-flag-in-your-office-window-this-university-says-no>

- 41.** Private Colleges Are Getting Stricter About Student Speech. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

After administrators at Loyola University New Orleans caught wind in January that a student was passing out flyers advertising an off-campus meeting for new members of an activist group, they charged Juleea Berthelot, a senior, with violating the student code of conduct. Why? Because Loyola no longer recognizes Berthelot's group, now called Liberate and Unite New Orleans Students for a Democratic Society, as an official student organization.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/private-colleges-are-getting-stricter-about-student-speech>

- 42.** When Faculty Stop Showing Up. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

A dark hallway is higher education's warning sign. On most workdays, I walk a long hallway lined with closed faculty doors. The nameplates belong to people I respect, but the lights behind those doors are often dark. One student recently told me that she stopped visiting office hours altogether, assuming no one would be there.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/when-faculty-stop-showing-up>

- 43.** How to Prepare for When ICE Shows Up on Campus. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

As Congress continues its protracted battle over funding for the Department of Homeland Security, colleges across the country face an urgent question: What do we do if Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) shows up on campus today?

The answer: Get back to basics.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/how-to-prepare-for-when-ice-shows-up-on-campus>

- 44.** Efficiency Isn't Everything. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol 72. No-16. 10th April 2026.

In the course I teach on "Religion, Spirituality, and the Meaning of Life," all 90 of my students take weekly multiple-choice pop quizzes on notecards, which I grade myself, by hand. Think of the inefficiency! All the busy work of manual grading and the entering of grades — 30 work hours and 2,700 notecards per year — could be easily saved if I were to use an app like

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/efficiency-isnt-everything>

- 45.** Broadcasting the Future: CEC's Role in India's Digital Education Revolution. University News. Vol.64. No-15. 19th April 2026. Page No3-14.

The Logic of Scale in Indian Higher Education

India's higher education system ranks among the world's largest, with over 1,100 universities, more than 42,000 colleges, and a student body exceeding 40 million (AISHE, 2023). This vast and diverse ecosystem faces significant challenges: disparities in infrastructure, wide linguistic and cultural diversity, and ongoing shortages of qualified teachers in many regions. In this context, the "logic of scale" is crucial for developing sustainable solutions. Democratizing higher education in India demands not only quality assurance but also delivery models capable of reaching millions of learners across both rural and urban landscapes-simultaneously..

- 46.**IGNOU @ 40: A revolution in open and distance learning. University News. Vol.64. No-15. 19th April 2026. Page No15-17.

As Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) celebrates its 40th birth anniversary in 2025-26, it affirms its standing as a global leader in democratizing access to quality higher education. Established through an Act of Parliament on September 20, 1985, IGNOU was envisioned as an institution without walls, which reaches learners' doorsteps irrespective of geography, socio-economic background, or life circumstances. Today, IGNOU stands as the world's largest university by enrollment and a national treasure in India's educational system. It offers over 334 academic programs across disciplines through 21 Schools of Studies, supported by a vast network of 69 Regional Centres and nearly 2,500 Learner Support Centres in India..

- 47.**Linking NAAC Accreditation with NEP-2020 Implementation. University News. Vol.64. No-15. 19th April 2026. Page No18-19.

Higher education in India is witnessing a profound transformation, driven by the nation's aspiration to establish a globally competitive and equitable educational ecosystem. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, a ground-breaking reform initiative, envisions restructuring the education system to emphasise multidisciplinary learning, innovation in research, and the integration of digital technologies. In a significant development, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has proposed a framework that links NAAC accreditation with the implementation of NEP 2020. This framework represents a paradigm shift, ensuring that the progress of educational institutions is evaluated based on measurable outcomes aligned with policy objectives.

- 48.** Recognition of prior learning, skill development and the role of open learning. University News. Vol.64. No-15. 19th April 2026. Page No20-23.

A university is often considered to be the think tank of a place where it is located, and eventually it plays a central role in terms of bringing welfare to the people of the country. As a higher educational institution, a university has to bring up the multifaceted human resources development by promoting the knowledge-enabled population and protecting them against all antisocial activities by ensuring their socio-economic mobility, social peace and progress in the society. A university that imparts need-based higher education makes the people highly educated with a progressive, rational, analytical, and skilful mind. But, the irony is that the degree takers as well as degree holders from a university are very few compared to the total population living in the society. At present, the Gross Enrolment Ratio of higher education in India is not more than 29 percent whereas in the

developed countries like Germany, USA, it is more than 90 per cent. Therefore, it is high time that a university made the people in society conscious about their rights and duties, besides making them productive in a welfare country.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

- 49.** Sam Altman May Control Our Future—Can He Be Trusted?. *New Yorker*. 13th April 2026.

In the fall of 2023, Ilya Sutskever, OpenAI's chief scientist, sent secret memos to three fellow-members of the organization's board of directors. For weeks, they'd been having furtive discussions about whether Sam Altman, OpenAI's C.E.O., and Greg Brockman, his second-in-command, were fit to run the company. Sutskever had once counted both men as friends. In 2019, he'd officiated Brockman's wedding, in a ceremony at OpenAI's offices that included a ring bearer in the form of a robotic hand. But as he grew convinced that the company was nearing its long-term goal—creating an artificial intelligence that could rival or surpass the cognitive capabilities of human beings—his doubts about Altman increased. As Sutskever put it to another board member at the time, "I don't think Sam is the guy who should have his finger on the button."

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/sam-altman-may-control-our-future-can-he-be-trusted>

- 50.** Security Alert: Anthropic holds back public release of its latest model to help companies upgrade their cybersecurity. *Open Magazine*. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

It is no secret that as tech firms release powerful new AI systems, these models are turning into a cybersecurity nightmare and upending the guardrails that protect the internet. That's because the same models that are so good at helping engineers create new software are also equally capable at aiding hackers probe and find weak points in software and online services. A single AI agent can today scan for vulnerabilities and potentially take advantage of them faster and more persistently than hundreds of human hackers.

<https://openthemagazine.com/technology/security-alert-anthropic-holds-back-public-release-of-its-latest-model-to-help-companies-upgrade-their-cybersecurity>

ENVIRONMENT

- 51.** An environmentalist, a landowner and a libertarian walk into a barn. *Economist*. 11th April 2026.

ASK A FARMER in Iowa about their land and many will delight in sharing how long it has been in their family. "You don't understand if you haven't grown up on a farm," says Sherri Webb, whose 40 acres in Shelby County will next be inherited by a seventh generation. "When you're raised that way, to cherish the land and to take care of it, it just

sticks with you.” Her property is farmed for corn and beans by a tenant chosen by her grandmother.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2026/04/09/an-environmentalist-a-landowner-and-a-libertarian-walk-into-a-barn>

HEALTH

52. Hospitals are stuck in a deadly doom loop. Economist. 11th April 2026.

The diagnosis is simple: “Our health-care system broke in 2020,” says Dr Tom Dolphin, an anaesthetist in London and boss of the British Medical Association. “We like to pretend it didn’t, but it really did.” In the early months of 2020, hospitals paused normal activity to free up beds as they braced for a wave of covid-19 patients. The strategy helped in a moment of crisis. But, several years on, it is becoming clear that those measures did lasting damage to health-care systems. Understanding why is less straightforward.

<https://www.economist.com/international/2026/04/09/hospitals-are-stuck-in-a-deadly-doom-loop>

53. Why Are People Injecting Themselves with Peptides?. Economist. 11th April 2026.

About a decade ago, a group of competitive CrossFitters in Charleston, South Carolina, went looking for ways to improve their athletic performance without taking steroids. At the time, members of the fitness community were starting to inject themselves with peptides—short chains of amino acids, sometimes called microproteins, that often act as signalling molecules in the body. Certain peptides were said to enhance strength, energy, endurance, and recovery. They hadn’t been officially approved for use as drugs, however, and many had never been studied in humans. Some of the CrossFitters were patients of a local doctor named Craig Koniver, who had trained in family medicine but went on to offer Botox treatments and skin fillers, as well as I.V. drips that were supposed to slow aging. “People are really enjoying the benefits,” the CrossFitters told Koniver, of peptides. Would he help the group figure out which to inject, in what doses, and how often?

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/why-are-people-injecting-themselves-with-peptides>

54. Pay to heal. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

The report of the Bhore Committee (headed by Sir Joseph William Bhore) in 1946 came up with the first blueprint for a tax-funded health system in India with primary healthcare as its core. In 1978, India endorsed the WHO’s Declaration of Alma-Ata, which proclaimed an explicit commitment to comprehensive primary healthcare as a state responsibility, and in 1983, the country’s first National Health Policy was crafted with the goal of providing “Health for All by 2000 through comprehensive PHC Services”. Yet, India’s healthcare system seems to have fallen short of the hoped-for transformation. Instead, we have a highly privatised healthcare sector

with sharp rural-urban imbalances in terms of access, personnel distribution, and treatment.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/public-health/india-primary-healthcare-crisis-private-sector-growth/article70814199.ece>

55. Workplace as death-trap. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

Work occupies a significant portion of human life, yet its profound impact on health and well-being remains poorly understood in India. According to the ILO, more than two million workers die each year globally from work-related accidents and diseases. In India alone, nearly 48,000 workers die annually because of occupational hazards.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/occupational-health-crisis-india-informal-workers-silicosis/article70793947.ece>

56. Crushed by cost. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

When former IAS officer Kunal Mali (name changed) fell ill in Ahmedabad, his family was given the “option” of choosing between Indian and more expensive German stents. The family, predictably, said they wanted the “best”, and four stents were inserted in a single operation. Despite Mali’s Central Government Health Scheme card, the family ended up paying a few lakh rupees out of pocket (this was before stents were brought under price control).

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/india-healthcare-costs-crisis/article70788234.ece>

57. Holding pharma to account. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

A typical discussion on the quality of drugs in India begins with worries about counterfeit drugs, which are legally defined as “spurious drugs” in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. However, according to the last survey of the Indian market (2014–16) by the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), the incidence of spurious drugs was estimated at a mere 0.0245 per cent. Simply put, the quantum of counterfeit or fake drugs in the country is negligible.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/india-substandard-drugs-medicines-regulation-safety-crisis-transparency/article70787529.ece>

58. The tech gap. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

Today, the Indian healthcare sector presents a picture of major technical advances. Metro cities boast “5G-enabled” hospitals that rival the technological sophistication of the best hospitals in the world. We are told about AI reading scans, robotic arms assisting surgeons, doctors consulting patients over video, and wearable devices tracking heart rates and sleep patterns.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/public-health/social-issueshealthcareindia-health-tech-access-gap-abhay-shukla/article70812265.ece>

59. The AI shoulder Indians lean on is a shaky prop. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

During a night in November 2025, a 30-year-old woman in Gujarat sat in silence in a dimly-lit house, with the room's darkness disrupted by the soft glow of her smartphone. Her three cats were dying of the contagious Canine Parvovirus. Faced with a veterinarian she did not trust as they didn't give a proper diagnosis until the first cat died and a family too consumed by the cats' plight, she turned to ChatGPT at midnight to navigate her loss. "I was scared like hell," she told Frontline. "The AI chatbot did not offer sugar-coated answers." Instead, it explained the clinical reality of how their bodies would shut down and assured her they would be "numb to the pain" in their final moments.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/public-health/ai-chatbots-mental-health-gap-india-risks/article70775354.ece>

60. Patriarchy's health wreck needs women in charge now. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

It is a well-known fact that women form half the population of the world, but they remain discriminated against where distribution of power, resources, and access is concerned. The more patriarchal a society, the more evident this is. While the relative lack of power exhibits itself in all domains of life, health and access to healthcare stand out as matters of urgent concern since the consequences are grave not only for the women themselves but also their families and all of society.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/public-health/women-health-india-patriarchy-access-inequality/article70786886.ece>

61. A promise lost in fine print. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

It is a devastating moment when you realise that the promise you bought as protection was not truly protection but merely a conditional and adversarial contract. That moment often arrives not at the time of purchase but at the insurance desk of a hospital where your claim is "under process". It is when an insurance company invokes a clause from the fine print of that contract to tell you that your treatment falls outside the scope of coverage. In that moment, the abstraction of "health insurance" collapses, and with it, your trust.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/public-health/health-insurance-crisis-inequality-access-care/article70782920.ece>

62. The women who care. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

The immediate priorities of Marsang Lama (46), an Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) from Kalimpong, West Bengal, is to talk to people in her area about their lifestyle. In a world where advice on a subject like this is measured at the rate of social media content per hour, one would imagine that Lama's life is easy. Nothing could be further from the truth. The WHO's data portal for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) estimates that nearly 68 per cent of deaths in India in 2019 were due to NCDs. This is close to a 100 per cent spike from less than 37 per cent in 1990.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/asha-workers-india-healthcare-crisis/article70791463.ece>

HISTORY

63. Right to Clothing and the Clothing Crisis during the Bengal Famine of 1943–44. *Economic & Political Weekly*. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

The right to clothing has been internationally recognised as a fundamental human right.¹ The lack of adequate clothing undermines physical health, human dignity, and deprives people of opportunities to go out. In cultural terms, clothing expresses personalities and identities. Clothing shortages have happened at different points in human history and this paper brings attention to one such instance from India, currently one of the leading textile producers globally. During World War II, India experienced a devastating famine known as the Bengal famine of 1943–44, which killed between two and three million people. Alongside the famine, a serious shortage of cotton cloth, which was dubbed the “cloth famine,” caused a lack of clothing in India.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/special-articles/right-clothing-and-clothing-crisis-during-bengal.html>

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

64. Iran’s Resilience, US’s Hubris, Israel’s Malevolence. *Economic & Political Weekly*. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

A two-week ceasefire and negotiations announced on 8 April, after six weeks of the illegal war by the United States (US) and Israel on Iran, and President Donald Trump’s threats of a genocide on “a civilisation,” remain fragile as its terms are already in dispute. Iran’s 10-point proposal includes a ceasefire in Lebanon. Israel disputes this and continues to bomb Lebanon. Trump is presenting different versions. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has declared that if Israeli attacks on Lebanon do not stop, then Iran will respond. In this context, negotiations between the sides will be challenging since the demands of the sides appear incompatible. Israel will be a spoiler. So, the truce remains fragile.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/comment/irans-resilience-uss-hubris-israels-malevolence.html>

65. Recriminations over Iran have heightened the risk of a break-up of NATO. *Economist*. 11th April 2026.

RELATIONSHIPS RARELY collapse overnight; they curdle. Bit by bit, resentments mount. Trust ebbs. Things are said that are hard to forget. Each partner builds a story in

which the other is the problem. That is how war in Iran has pushed NATO closer than ever to a point of no return.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2026/04/09/recriminations-over-iran-have-heightened-the-risk-of-a-break-up-of-nato>

66. America's war on Iran has changed the Middle East—for the worse. Economist. 11th April 2026.

IT WAS A muddled halt to a muddled war. Donald Trump first threatened to intensify America's bombing so much that it would destroy Iran's "whole civilisation". Then, less than two hours before this blitz was supposed to start, he announced that America, Israel and Iran would suspend hostilities for two weeks and that Iran would allow commercial shipping to resume through the Strait of Hormuz. Pakistan's prime minister, Shehbaz Sharif, who had helped mediate the ceasefire, declared on social media that it was "EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY".

<https://www.economist.com/briefing/2026/04/09/americas-war-on-iran-has-changed-the-middle-east-for-the-worse>

67. A wary rapprochement between India and China. Economist. 11th April 2026.

LESS THAN six years ago Indian and Chinese soldiers fought each other with sticks in a high-altitude brawl. The scrap was among a series of border clashes in 2020 and 2021 that killed dozens and put relations between the two countries into the deep freeze. In the past year, however, they have been thawing. Last summer India's prime minister, Narendra Modi, paid his first visit to China since the border trouble. Direct flights resumed in October. On March 27th the countries' commerce ministers, Piyush Goyal and Wang Wentao, met to discuss trade.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2026/04/07/a-wary-rapprochement-between-india-and-china>

68. Donald Trump's ceasefire shows how America has changed. Economist. 11th April 2026.

If Operation Epic Fury has truly ended, following the announcement of a two-week ceasefire on April 7th, it will have lasted nearly as long as Operation Desert Storm, the campaign to expel Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces from Kuwait in 1991. A comparison of the two wars shows how much America has changed.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2026/04/09/donald-trumps-ceasefire-shows-how-america-has-changed>

69. When emigration helps bad rulers survive. Economist. 11th April 2026.

AS HUNGARY'S OPPOSITION leader, Peter Magyar, campaigns to end the 16-year reign of Viktor Orban at elections on April 12th, he has chosen a slogan with a double edge. "Now or Never" conveys the urgency felt by Hungarians who sense a best-ever chance of defeating Mr Orban. That "or Never" hints at a grimmer thought, though—that this might

be a last opportunity to stop Mr Orban from establishing rule-for-life. A pedlar of nationalist conspiracies, Mr Orban has repeatedly defied European Union laws (while accepting billions in Euro-subsidies), enfeebled democratic checks and balances, and packed courts, institutions and media outlets with cronies. He has used Hungary's EU membership to divide the bloc and protect the interests of his avowed friends, Presidents Donald Trump, Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin.

<https://www.economist.com/international/2026/04/07/when-emigration-helps-bad-rulers-survive>

- 70.** Donald Trump and Pete Hegseth's Warped Vision of the Iran War. New Yorker. 13th April 2026.

There is no good way to call off a war that you started but which hasn't achieved what you'd hoped. On Wednesday night, Donald Trump, in his address to the nation on the Iran war, sought to counter reality with hyperbole. "We've beaten and completely decimated Iran," the President said. "Never in the history of warfare has an enemy suffered such clear and devastating large-scale losses in a matter of weeks." Of course, Iran's Revolutionary Guard retains control not just of the country but of the Strait of Hormuz, and therefore of an alarmingly constricted global oil supply. A month of air strikes had killed many leaders but had not changed the regime. Even so, Trump suggested that the mission was "nearing completion," and that the U.S. military would soon be pulling back. But if Tehran did not accept a deal, he added, "we are going to hit them extremely hard over the next two to three weeks. We're going to bring them back to the Stone Ages, where they belong."

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/donald-trump-and-pete-hegseths-warped-vision-of-the-iran-war>

- 71.** War on Iran: The War That Made America Smaller. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP returned to office last year vowing to end "stupid wars". Instead, he has delivered one of the most strategically self-defeating wars in modern American history. His war against Iran has not only failed but backfired on every front.

<https://openthemagazine.com/world/war-on-iran-the-war-that-made-america-smaller>

- 72.** War on Iran: Is a joint venture between MAGA Washington and Islamic Tehran coming next?. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL war on the passage of oil over water began with America's demands and paused with an uncertain ceasefire on Iran's terms. Oil and water, goes an old truism, do not mix. That may be valid in science, but is rather less tenable in contemporary policy. In the Gulf, collective storehouse of the richest accessible energy and helium reserves on the globe, oil is impotent without water. Energy is useless sans transport. The production of oil is only the first link in the long chain of economic health.

Oil must reach its destination at the assured time to feed the machines which churn out products.

<https://openthemagazine.com/world/war-on-iran-is-a-joint-venture-between-maga-washington-and-islamic-tehran-coming-next>

- 73.** Zero-sum Era: De-globalisation follows the logic of war. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

THE END OF GLOBALISATION began in the first term of US President Donald Trump, but after a longish period of slow burn, that world order— geoeconomic as much as geopolitical— is in ashes. The match was lit early in Trump’s second term, as the US unleashed unprecedented economic warfare on the world, bombarding friends and foes with tariffs. Now, the pyre burns in the Strait of Hormuz, even as much of the world gasps for a steady and affordable supply of energy. Globalisation was about win-win. The de-globalisation on display is lose-lose.

<https://openthemagazine.com/columns/untitled-apr-10-2026-0839-am>

- 74.** War on Iran: The Persia Hidden Inside Iran. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

I know the olive groves in the village of Koker by the White River near the Caspian Sea. I can see with eyes shut the hilly outskirts of Tehran, as I imagine the taste of cherries in my mouth. I can feel the wind on my face in the arid, barren land of the village of Siah Dareh, near the Iraqi border. I remember the green of the North, the sands of the West. Yet, I’ve never set foot in Iran. All I can talk about is Persia.

<https://openthemagazine.com/world/war-on-iran-the-persia-hidden-inside-iran>

- 75.** War on Iran: Mind the Mediator. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

IT WAS A clarification that raised more questions than it answered. Not long after the ceasefire between the US and Iran was announced, US Vice President JD Vance said a “legitimate misunderstanding” had led Iranians to believe the two-week truce reached on April 8 covered Lebanon and would result in Israel halting its offensive against Hezbollah. “I think the Iranians thought the ceasefire included Lebanon, and it just didn’t,” Vance told the media in Budapest. The US position was that the ceasefire will focus on Iran and American allies such as the Gulf Arab states and Israel. The Jewish state, he added, might hold itself back a bit—an assurance lacking conviction given that Israel had hours earlier launched a massive wave of airstrikes in Lebanon.

<https://openthemagazine.com/world/war-on-iran-mind-the-mediator>

LAW

- 76.** Why can’t Britain pass an assisted-dying bill?. Economist. 11th April 2026.

Passing an assisted-dying law was never going to be easy. “The only times when a British citizen could legally end the life of another human being have been on the battlefield or on the gallows,” says Lord Carlile, a barrister and member of the House of Lords. In the past century many attempts have been made to legalise assisted dying; all failed. That changed in June 2025, when MPs passed a bill that would allow mentally competent adults with fewer than six months to live to be prescribed a lethal drug, albeit with strong safeguards. It was arguably the strictest of its kind in the world. It looked as if Britain would finally join other socially progressive countries and fulfil the will of its people.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2026/04/09/why-cant-britain-pass-an-assisted-dying-bill>

77. There is little prospect of legalising abortion in Brazil. Economist. 11th April 2026.

On a Sunday afternoon last year, Gloria (not her real name) got a knock on the door. It was a former neighbour who said he was passing through her remote Amazon village and wanted to catch up. He proceeded to drug and rape her. She did not go to the police because “they don’t investigate rape”. After discovering she was pregnant she took the morning-after pill, but it was too late. She bought misoprostol, an abortion drug, on the “dark web”, but was scammed. Eventually she found a charity that paid for a bus ticket to the nearest hospital providing abortions, 2,500km away. “It hurt, but I felt good,” she says. “If someone from where I live finds out, my God, it would be like having a sign on my face that says ‘prostitute’.

<https://www.economist.com/the-americas/2026/04/09/there-is-little-prospect-of-legalising-abortion-in-brazil>

LITERATURE

78. Rate Your Happiness. New Yorker. 13th April 2026.

For a few moments, Louise had been sure that she was dying, that a valve or a vein in her body had gotten clogged or burst and she was going to expire right there in the back of the plane, pathetic and dehydrated, travelling alone, hurtling through the air somewhere high above the Midwest, and during those queasy moments that seemed to be her last, Louise didn’t think of her parents, who would survive her, and she didn’t think of her brother, in Montana with his ranch and several children, or of her sister, in Miami, and she didn’t even think of her plentiful minor and major regrets; instead, Louise thought of her small, dark apartment back in Manhattan, how dirty it was right now, how full of humiliating artifacts, like that brochure from a “skin rejuvenation” clinic she’d hidden in the bathroom, and the several worn romance novels stowed under the bed, and the fridge full of decaying takeout in Styrofoam clamshells, as she’d been going through a tough time, a long tough time, and Louise thought of the situation with Diana, how their relationship, if you could even call it that, had accelerated rapidly during the first month but then lost inertia and turned weird, and yet Louise knew that, if she really did die,

Diana would retroactively make their whole thing sound a lot more serious than it had been, and relish telling everyone, for the rest of her life, that her girlfriend, Louise, had tragically died on a flight to San Francisco, and Diana would probably start talking about grief all the time and join more than one support group for young widows, and she would add a third day to her biweekly therapy sessions, and maybe she'd even wear a veil—it wasn't out of the question—a little vintage veil and pillbox hat, and, dear God, she was so beautiful, which made their moody little relationship even more upsetting, even more of a letdown. All of this passed quickly through Louise's mind as she gripped a headrest in the last row, on her way to the bathroom, trying to stay on her feet as her vision tunnelled, as her knees softened, as a cord of drool dripped from the corner of her mouth.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/rate-your-happiness-fiction-catherine-lacey>

Jess, Tyehimba

79. Theodore Roosevelt Taylor. New Yorker. 13th April 2026.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/theodore-roosevelt-taylor-tyehimba-jess-poem>

Parker, Morgan

Meanwhile It Rains for Two Weeks and the Heat Never Breaks

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/meanwhile-it-rains-for-two-weeks-and-the-heat-never-break-morgan-parker-poem>

MILITARY SCIENCE

80. China's Year of Humiliation. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

First there was *Operation Sindoor*. Then there was *Absolute Resolve*. And then came operations *Epic Fury* and *Roaring Lion*. From Pakistan through Venezuela to Iran, it has been a year of humiliation for China's defence industry which had been marketing its air defence systems as state-of-the-art yet cost-effective alternatives to US and NATO suppliers. India tore through Pakistan's air defences. The US didn't let Venezuela's wake up. Since February 28, the US and Israel have destroyed Iran's. The problem—much like the PLA which is the world's largest military on paper but untested in real combat since 1979—Chinese systems were advanced only in theory. They failed in actual conflict. Experts say the reason is a lack of flexibility as Chinese systems have a structural weakness that makes them reliant on top command, without the operational manoeuvrability needed in a rapidly changing situation. The conclusion is that Chinese platforms struggle when confronted by technologically superior, network-centric offence, as the US and Israel demonstrated. The JY27 radars in Venezuela, for example, could be neutralised simply through electronic and cyber warfare. Again, in Iran, apart

from the JY27A, the HQ-9B systems reportedly failed in data-link integration in live combat. As one expert concluded: Chinese defence technology's lacks "systemic resilience". Welcome news from Taiwan to Okinawa.

<https://openthemagazine.com/world/chinas-year-of-humiliation>

- 81.** The Battle for Command: Will the CAPF Bill Compromise Internal Security By Dividing the Uniform?. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

IN JUNE OF 2017, somewhere in Jharkhand, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) officer Raj Sheoran and his men were just getting down a hill formation when they established contact with a group of Maoists. Heavy firing ensued. Sheoran, who had opted for the CRPF's elite anti- Maoist force, COBRA, and had been trained for a situation like this, took charge, and was successful in neutralising the Maoists with no casualty on his side. After completing his four-year tenure, it was time, as per rules, for his transfer or deputation. He volunteered for the National Security Guard (NSG), cleared his probation, and became part of the security detail first of Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and later of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Afterwards, he got posted to NSG's training centre as an instructor.

<https://openthemagazine.com/india/the-battle-for-command-will-the-capf-bill-compromise-internal-security-by-dividing-the-uniform>

- 82.** US-Israel war on Iran: So, who won?. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

In a one-sentence conclusion, one could say that the recently concluded Iran war ceasefire shifts the world slightly toward a multipolar, deterrence-based order where endurance, risk tolerance, and disruption power matter more than overwhelming military strength.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/politics/iran-us-war-ceasefire-israel-india-global-implications/article70842400.ece>

POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- 83.** Employment Guarantee. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

The recent "replacement" of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) with a rival act was executed with startling speed and skill. The new act, oddly named the Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, was drafted in strict confidence. It was tabled in Parliament by surprise on 15 December 2025. A few days before that, on 12 December, a rumour had been planted that MGNREGA was to be renamed Pujya Bapu Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Yojana (PBGRGY). Renaming (first PBGRGY, then VB-G RAM G Act) became the main focus of debate, distracting attention from the real significance of the new act— a dilution and demotion of employment guarantee. After charged but symbolic debates, the act was rushed through stormy voice votes in both houses of Parliament on

18 December. The Prime Minister was conveniently absent from the country at that time. Three days later, on a Sunday, it received the assent of the President. The next day, the Press Information Bureau (PIB 2025) released an extended note coaching the public on the details and wonders of the new act. By the end of the week, the State Bank of India published a “research report” confirming the virtues of the VB-G RAM G Act. Evidently, it was a well-planned operation.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/commentary/employment-guarantee.html>

84. Battle of Promises: Politics of ST Status in Assam Re-examined. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

On 29 November 2025, the Group of Ministers (GoM) report to grant Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to six communities—Tai Ahom, Chutia, Moran, Matak, Koch-Rajbongshi, and Tea Tribes (Adivasis)—was tabled in the Assam Legislative Assembly. The union government had earlier introduced a bill in the Rajya Sabha in 2019 for the same purpose. Due to large protests from existing ST communities, the onus was shifted to the state government at that point to prepare a report outlining a framework that could grant ST status to the six communities without affecting the prevailing rights and privileges of the existing ST communities. Since the approval of the GoM report by the Assam cabinet, strong protests have erupted among the existing tribes in the state. Tribal bodies under the Coordination Committee of Tribal Organisations of Assam (CCTOA) have assailed the move, arguing that inclusion of large communities could dilute constitutional protections and reduce the share of reservation benefits for existing STs (Purkayastha 2025). The proposed three-tier classification, creating an unprecedented “ST (Valley [V])” category alongside the existing “ST (Plains [P])” and “ST (Hills [H])” designations (Committee of the Group of Ministers 2025), raises fundamental questions about the architecture of affirmative action, the politics of recognition, and the zero-sum dynamics inherent in redistributive policies.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/commentary/battle-promises.html>

85. The ‘Bare Life’ of D-voters A Case Study of Haripur and Amguri Villages of Bongaigaon District in Assam. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

Doubtful voters (D-voters), whose status as voters and as legal citizens of India, are “doubtful” due to their inability to furnish proper documents substantiating their citizenship. It is an exclusive category, devised by the Election Commission of India (ECI) to single out those whose citizenship is under doubt. Once declared as a “D-voter,” it leads to the suspension of all citizenship rights, including the “right to vote,” which is rightfully due to an adult individual who is a citizen (Pisharoty 2018). The system of marking people as “doubtful,” by putting “D” against their name in the electoral roll, was devised in 1997 (Mahanta 2021), and it brought the “burden of proof”¹ on the person concerned on whether they are an Indian citizen, as the state is not expected to prove a negative fact, regarding whether the concerned person is not an Indian citizen. The ECI assigned the border police the role of sending these people to Foreigners Tribunal (FT) where they are supposed to prove their citizenship (CJP 2023) before a cut-off date, that

is, 25 March 1971, as per the Assam Accord of 1985. The doubt over legal citizenship is based on the agreed cut-off date in the Assam Accord 1985, that is, 25 March 1971. People under doubt are supposed to provide documentary evidence in support of their Indian citizenship before the cut-off date (Barpujari 1998).

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/notes/bare-life-d-voters-case-study-haripur-and-amguri.html>

86. Sir Keir Starmer is Britain's best hope for legalising assisted dying. Economist. 11th April 2026.

This NEWSpaper believes people should have the right to choose the manner of their own death. That idea is gaining ground around the world; some 30 jurisdictions have legalised it to date. Yet in England and Wales the latest attempt to pass legislation, and the one that has come closest to succeeding, is now certain to fail. This is a tragedy.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2026/04/09/sir-keir-starmer-is-britains-best-hope-for-legalising-assisted-dying>

87. Sir Keir Starmer is Britain's best hope for legalising assisted dying. Economist. 11th April 2026.

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<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2026/04/09/sir-keir-starmer-is-britains-best-hope-for-legalising-assisted-dying>

88. How Pakistan emerged as an unlikely broker of peace in the Gulf. Economist. 11th April 2026.

PRAISE FROM the belligerents was lavish. Early on April 8th Donald Trump said he had agreed to a two-week ceasefire with Iran following talks with Shehbaz Sharif, Pakistan's prime minister, and Asim Munir, the country's military strongman (pictured in the posters above). Later that day, the truce already appeared in doubt as the two sides disagreed over whether it covered Israel's fighting in Lebanon.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2026/04/09/how-pakistan-emerged-as-an-unlikely-broker-of-peace-in-the-gulf>

89. Taiwan's opposition leader meets Xi Jinping in Beijing. Economist. 11th April 2026.

History casts a long shadow over relations between the Chinese Communist Party and the Kuomintang (KMT), which ruled China until it fled to Taiwan in 1949. The two parties remained sworn enemies for decades afterwards as the KMT fortified its island refuge with American weapons. Only in 1991, as Taiwan democratised, did the KMT formally renounce its goal to retake China by force. And yet, in one of the stranger ironies of

present-day geopolitics, China now sees the KMT—the biggest opposition party in Taiwan’s current parliament—as its best hope of peacefully uniting the island with the mainland.

<https://www.economist.com/china/2026/04/06/taiwans-opposition-leader-meets-xi-jinping-in-beijing>

- 90.** The West is doing more to combat China’s covert activity abroad. Economist. 11th April 2026.

Vancouver’s historic Chinatown borders on and blends with one of the city’s bleakest neighbourhoods, Downtown Eastside. The area, with its cheap boarding houses, has become a magnet for the desperate. Drug addicts and homeless people huddle on the streets. Local politicians, however, sometimes focus on another problem: China’s political influence among ethnic Chinese in this district and elsewhere in the city. Across Canada, the Chinese Communist Party’s invisible hand has been stirring intense debate.\

<https://www.economist.com/china/2026/04/09/the-west-is-doing-more-to-combat-chinas-covert-activity-abroad>

- 91.** Will California’s next governor be a fighter or a fixer?. Economist. 11th April 2026.

ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA lost the room with one sentence. The former mayor of Los Angeles, along with five other candidates who hope to be California’s next governor, were recently trading barbs on a stage in Fresno. “You’re never going to get elected,” Mr Villaraigosa told his two Republican opponents, “because at the end of the day, it is a blue state.” A chorus of groans and scoffs echoed through the place (conservatives are plentiful in this part of California). But Mr Villaraigosa’s comment has already proved prescient.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2026/04/09/will-californias-next-governor-be-a-fighter-or-a-fixer>

- 92.** Meet the four Democratic tribes. Economist. 11th April 2026.

An unpopular war started by an unpopular president: these ought to be favourable circumstances for an opposition party. As yet, though, the Democratic Party has no clear standard-bearer or set of ideas. The primaries for the 2026 midterms, which began in early March and run until September, will offer the sharpest signal yet, from millions of voters across every state, about which faction within the Democratic coalition is ascendant.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2026/04/07/meet-the-four-democratic-tribes>

- 93.** Britain’s government wants an important job to be done badly. Economist. 11th April 2026.

Earlier this year controversy erupted over a few dozen foreigners who want to work in Britain over the summer. Questions were asked in Parliament, and the government was

forced into a U-turn. The migrant workers at the centre of the row are not asylum-seekers or elite footballers, although the second guess is closer to the mark. They are sheep-shearers.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2026/04/06/britains-government-wants-an-important-job-to-be-done-badly>

94.A new report questions Britain’s innovation prowess. Economist. 11th April 2026.

IS BRITAIN REALLY an “innovation nation”? According to the Centre for Policy Studies (CPS), a centre-right think-tank, the answer is a resounding “no”. On April 2nd it published a report using patent activity to measure Britain’s innovative output (patents, which provide legal protections for new technologies, are often taken as a proxy for innovation). The average number of patents that residents filed to the UK Intellectual Property Office (UKIPO) fell by half between 2000 and 2024. That contrasts with increases in Singapore (268%), South Korea (169%) and America (66%). Foreign patent applications in Britain have fallen by 61% since 1980.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2026/04/09/a-new-report-questions-britains-innovation-prowess>

95.Definitions, Dammit!. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

FOR ANYONE WHO WAS COUNTING THE DEAD, dreading the dark fumes over the civilisation the American president was at one point ready to wipe out, sceptical about the free passage of oil vessels through the Strait of Hormuz, doubting the restoration of the Dubai alternative to London and New York, and giving themselves to schadenfreude as Donald Trump displayed his desperation in expletives, semantics alone determined the scale of victory and defeat—or of the hopeful impasse.

<https://openthemagazine.com/world/definitions-dammit>

96.Might Is White: Donald Trump shares his views on race with Adam Smith. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

THE ANGLO-SAXON world is celebrating the 250th anniversary of Scottish economist Adam Smith’s book *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*. Published in 1776, the 1,000-page tome has long been regarded as a classical exposition of how free markets and competition create wealth for nations.

<https://openthemagazine.com/columns/might-is-white-donald-trump-shares-his-views-on-race-with-adam-smith>

97.A Matter of Pride: What Rahul Gandhi doesn’t get about Adivasis. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

WORDS ARE NEVER mere labels. They carry a universe of meaning that shapes the present and future of societies. We must therefore be conscious of the terms we use to define the identity of any community. The Adivasi-Vanvasi binary has resurfaced in

Indian political debate. What is striking is its journey from colonial anthropological texts into the heart of contemporary Indian politics. Political groups, social activists, and NGOs working to mobilise tribal communities have increasingly invoked this binary. Recently, Rahul Gandhi raised the issue at an Adivasi Adhikar Sammelan, criticising RSS and BJP for referring to tribal communities as Vanvasi. He argued that the term Adivasi better protects their traditional rights over forest resources. However, the term Vanvasi does not sever communities from those same forest resources either.

<https://openthemagazine.com/columns/a-matter-of-pride-what-rahul-gandhi-doesnt-get-about-ativasis>

98. Ambedkar and the grammar of justice. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

A question haunts every serious student of Indian civilisation: can a tradition that has for millennia sanctioned the humiliation of millions of its own people be reformed from within, or must it be dismantled at its foundations? B.R. Ambedkar—a jurist, scholar, the main architect of the Constitution, and the most unflinching diagnostician of caste India has yet produced—gave a clear and painful answer. Reform is not enough. What is required is a revolution in the very grammar of moral life.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/columns/ambedkar-caste-justice/article70779002.ece>

RELIGION

99. India's religious minorities face harsher anti-conversion laws. Economist. 11th April 2026.

EVEN IN THE grave, Chamru Ram Salam found no peace. After a mob gathered to protest against the Christian manner of his burial, the police dug up his corpse and sped off with it. His family's performance of the last rites—caught between tribal custom and the dead man's religious faith—spiralled into a village dispute.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2026/04/09/indias-religious-minorities-face-harsher-anti-conversion-laws>

SCIENCE

100. AI models could offer mathematicians a common language. Economist. 11th April 2026.

WORKING OUT how to most efficiently pack a crate full of oranges may seem like a juvenile pursuit for professional mathematicians. And yet the sphere-packing problem, as this pastime is properly known, confounded geometers for centuries. A breakthrough came in 1998 when Thomas Hales, a mathematician then at the University of Michigan, claimed to have proved what had long been conjectured: that hexagonal stacking, in

which each sphere sits in the recess formed by a circle of six on the layer beneath it, provides the densest possible configuration.

<http://economist.com/science-and-technology/2026/04/08/ai-models-could-offer-mathematicians-a-common-language>

101. Mummified reptiles are revealing how breathing evolved. Economist. 11th April 2026.
ALL ANIMALS breathe in oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide, but how exactly they do so differs widely. Fish, for example, take oxygen-rich water in through their mouths before pumping it past their gill tissues, where the gas exchange takes place. Amphibians perform a similar trick, using their cheeks to push water or air to their lungs. The reptiles and mammals that descend from them, however, use muscles associated with their ribs and shoulders to contract and expand the chest cavity, drawing in and expelling air accordingly.

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2026/04/08/mummified-reptiles-are-revealing-how-breathing-evolved>

102. Sir Demis Hassabis wants to automate drug design. Economist. 11th April 2026.
Sir Demis Hassabis has long had an ambitious plan: to develop artificial-intelligence models capable of curing all diseases. His journey towards realising it has been a circuitous one—few career advisers would recommend teaching a machine to play Atari games as a good first step—but his successes are hard to dispute. As the boss of Google DeepMind, a world-leading AI lab, he shared the Nobel prize for chemistry in 2024 for designing AI models that could predict how proteins fold. Nearly two years on, how close to his dearest goal does he think he is?

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2026/04/09/sir-demis-hassabis-wants-to-automate-drug-design>

103. Earth and Moon, then and now. Economist. 11th April 2026.
As they passed over the far side of the Moon for the fourth time, on Christmas Eve 1968, the crew of Apollo 8 changed their spacecraft's orientation—and seconds later they saw, for the first time, the Earth rising above the grey cratered plains below. Nothing had prepared them for the experience. They abandoned their tasks and jostled at the windows, where, by catching the moment on colour film, pilot Bill Anders made "Earthrise" (above) an icon.

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2026/04/09/earth-and-moon-then-and-now>

104. Should you take multivitamins?. Economist. 11th April 2026.
Ask a doctor about vitamin supplements, and they are more than likely to tell you that all the pills do is help you produce "expensive urine". In 2013 an editorial in the Annals of

Internal Medicine appeared to end the argument by urging people to stop wasting their money. The evidence, however, is more positive than that advice might suggest.

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2026/04/02/should-you-take-multivitamins>

SOCIOLOGY

105. T K Oommen and the Art of Social Sciences. *Economic & Political Weekly*. Vol 61. No-15. 11th April 2026.

T K Oommen (1937–2026), professor emeritus at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and a towering figure in Indian and international sociology, left for his final journey on 26 February 2026. His funeral, joined by a host of former colleagues, close members of the family, students, members of the civil society and the parishioners of the Jerusalem Mar Thoma Syrian Church, was marked by ceremonial solemnity. In many ways, the mood in the prayer assembly reflected the temperament that he possessed. Non-combative yet firm on his ideas, persuasive but rarely dismissive, a self-confessed pluralist who valued different streams of thought, patronised none and steadfastly held on to his own.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2026/15/commentary/t-k-oommen-and-art-social-sciences.html>

106. Our Mom-and-Pop Data Center. *New Yorker*. 13th April 2026.

For more than five generations, Hillsbrook Servers has prided itself on being a family-owned and -operated data center. Situated on a parcel of what was once bright-green Iowa pasture, our supercomputing facility may not look like much. But, when push comes to shove, we route data that's honest, sustainable, and community-driven. You haven't experienced data like Hillsbrook data.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2026/04/13/our-mom-and-pop-data-center>

107. The strange, multicultural slang of Toronto's teenagers. *New Yorker*. 13th April 2026.

"That's my crodie," the teenage girl squawks loudly, slapping her male friend on the chest as she lets the final word of her sentence roll on: "-deeeeeeeeeee". Passers-by in Jane Finch, a shopping centre in a downtrodden Toronto suburb, do not recoil at this strange pronunciation. They push past the pair into McDonald's, where, slumped across seats, schoolchildren roll large spliffs. Their sentences are similarly strange, flecked with terms like "gerbert" and "two-twos". Asked about Shoreham, a nearby estate, an aggrieved teenager exclaims "oppblock".

<https://www.economist.com/the-americas/2026/04/06/the-strange-multicultural-slang-of-torontos-teenagers>

- 108.** India's water crisis is not a resource scarcity problem. Frontline. 30th April 2026. "My son wanted to become a wrestler. How does a liver collapse in a healthy child like him?" Sharik Khan's mother whimpers, tears streaming down her face. Sharik was only 13 years old when he succumbed to acute liver failure. From January 27 to February 20 this year, nearly 22 others of Chhainsa village in Haryana's Palwal district died, many from liver failure. The victims were aged between 9 and 67.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/public-health/india-water-crisis-contamination-sewage-outbreak-urban-governance/article70795713.ece>

- 109.** No silver lining?. Frontline. 30th April 2026.

On June 26, 2025, a surprise inspection of an old age home in Noida, Delhi's satellite township in neighbouring Uttar Pradesh, uncovered a shocking tale of utter neglect of the elderly. The police raided the facility with members of the Uttar Pradesh Women's Commission and officials of the State Welfare Department and found over 40 senior citizens living in horrific conditions.

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/the-nation/india-ageing-crisis-elderly-care/article70775306.ece>

SPORTS

- 110.** The Power of Ten: An IPL overflowing with talent is good news for Team India. Open Magazine. Vol.4. No-66. 10th April 2026.

INDIA IS THE world T20 champions, and one of the reasons India has now won back-to-back titles is due to the depth of talent around. In this IPL, there are 10 Indian openers who can step in at any minute and play for the national team. And in this list, I am not including Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, for both have retired from the format. Ten players of potential are a real rarity and showcase the unprecedented talent in Indian white-ball cricket at the moment.

<https://openthemagazine.com/sports/the-power-of-ten-an-ipl-overflowing-with-talent-is-good-news-for-team-india>

WILDLIFE

- 111.** Cambodia honours a life-saving rat. Economist. 11th April 2026.

ANGKOR WAT, a vast ancient temple complex in western Cambodia, is thought to be home to more than 1,000 statues. On April 3rd a new one was added—but this one is neither a Hindu deity nor a heavenly dancer; rather it is a tribute to a rat named Magawa. Born in Tanzania, he spent six years in Cambodia, long enough to become a hero there.

<http://economist.com/asia/2026/04/09/cambodia-honours-a-life-saving-rat>

Annexure I- List of Journals and Magazines covered in this Issue.

S.No.	Title	Periodicity	Place of Publication
1	Chronicle of Higher Education	BW	US
2	Economist (A.M.)	W	London
3	Economic & Political Weekly	W	Mumbai
4	Frontline	W	India
5	New Yorker	W	New York
6	Open Magazine	W	India
7	University News	W	India