

Uttar Pradesh: Curious Case of Chhangur Baba

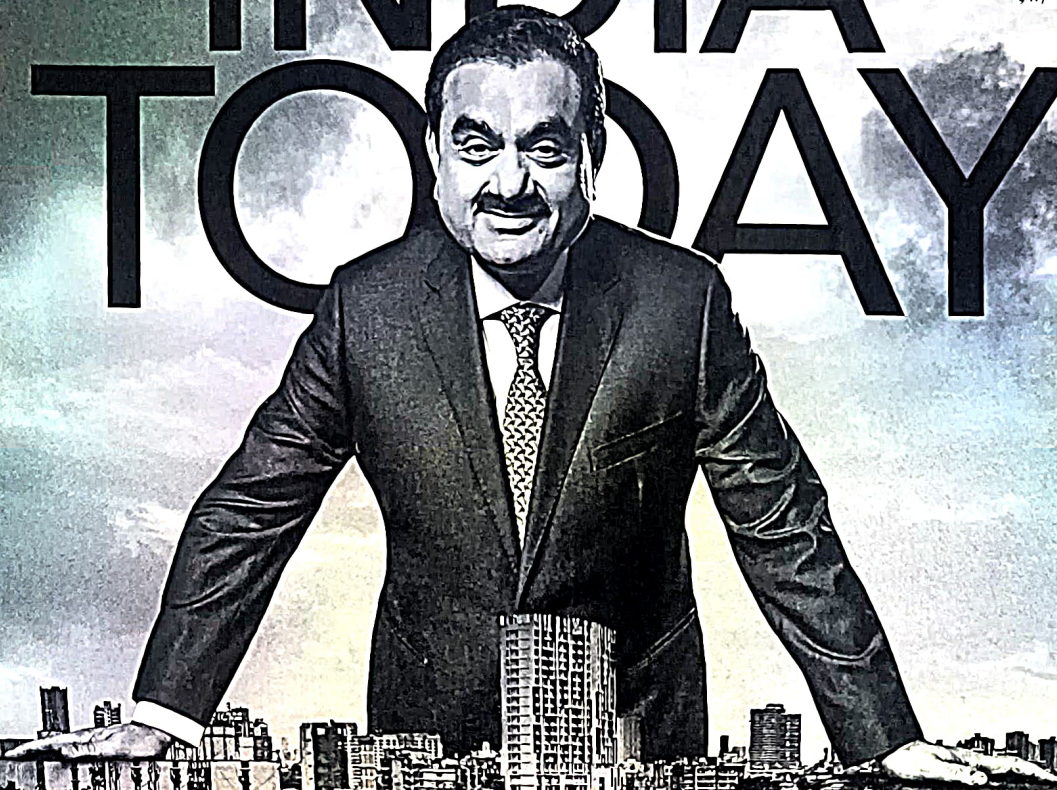
THE NATION: DHANKHAR DHAMAKA | CINEMA: RETURN OF ROMANCE

www.indiatoday.in

AUGUST 4, 2025 ₹100



INDIA TODAY



DHARAVI REVAMP

THE BIG ADANI GAMBLE

CAN THE TYCOON TRANSFORM ASIA'S LARGEST SLUM?

DL (OS)-03/MP/2025-26-27, RNT NO. 28587/1975 REGISTERED NO. DL (ND)-17/6068/2024-25-26, LICENSED TO POST/PP NO. UO-88/2024-26, FARIDABAD/05/2023-25

Volume 50 Number 31, Published on every Friday of Advance Week, Posted at LPO Delhi - RNS - Delhi - 110006 on Every Friday & Saturday. (Total number of Pages 68 (Including cover pages))

CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Aroon Purie
VICE CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Kalll Purie
GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Dinesh Bhatia
GROUP EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Raj Chengappa
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Manoj Sharma
GROUP CREATIVE EDITOR: Nilanjana Das; **GROUP PHOTO EDITOR:** Bandeep Singh
EDITOR (FEATURES): Kal Jabir Friese
MANAGING EDITORS: Sunil Menon, S. Sahaya Ranjit; **MUMBAI:** M.G. Arun
EXECUTIVE EDITORS: Manisha Saroop, Kaushik Deka
SENIOR DEPUTY EDITORS: Sangram K. Parhi, Sasi Nair;
HYDERABAD: Amarnath K. Menon
DEPUTY EDITORS: Anilash S. Mahajan, Pradip R. Sagar;
JAPUR: Rohit Parihar; **MUMBAI:** Suhanl Singh
SENIOR EDITORS: Sonali Acharjee, Ashish Mukherjee, Saikat Niyogi;
PATNA: Amitabh Srivastava
SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITORS: Sonal Khetarpal; **MUMBAI:** Dhaval. S. Kulkarni;
ANANDHAPUR: Jumaana Shah; **BANGALURU:** Rahul Noronha
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Avishek G. Dasidhar, Vipul Grover; **BANGALURU:** Ajay Sukumaran
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT: KOLKATA: Arkamoy Datta Majumdar
PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENT: LUCKNOW: Avaneesh Mishra
PHOTO DEPARTMENT: Chandra Deep Kumar, Rajwant Singh Rawat (Deputy Chief Photographers), Arun Kumar (Principal Photographer);
MUMBAI: Mandar Suresh Deodhar (Chief Photographer)
PHOTO RESEARCHERS: Prabhakar Tiwari (Deputy Visual Research Editor), Saloni Vaid (Chief Photo Researcher), Jodha Singh Adhikari (Principal Photo Researcher)
CHIEF OF GRAPHICS: Tanmoy Chakraborty
ART DEPARTMENT: Sanjay Piplani (Creative Editor), Angshuman De (Senior Art Director), Rajesh Kumar Angira, Bhoomesh Dutt Sharma (Associate Art Directors), Santosh Kumar Sharma (Assistant Art Director), Praveen Kumar Gummadi (Chief Designer), Siddhant Junde (Chief Illustrator)
PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT: Harish Agarwal (Chief of Production), Naveen Gupta (Chief Coordinator)
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
 Suparna Kumar
IMPACT TEAM
 Senior General Managers: Jitendra Lad (West), Syed Naveed (Chennai)
 General Manager: Anup Chaudhuri (Bangalore)
GROUP CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER: Vivek Malhotra
SALES AND OPERATIONS
 Deepak Bhatt, National Head (Distribution)
 Rajeev Gandhi, General Manager (North)
 Yogesh Godhanlal Gautam, Regional Sales Manager (West)



Volume 50-Number 31; For the week

July 29-August 4, 2025, published on every Friday

• Editorial/Corporate Office Living Media India Ltd., India Today Group
 Mediaplex, FC-8, Sector-16A, Film City, Noida - 201301; Phone: 0120-4807100
 • Subscriptions: For assistance, contact, email: wecare@intoday.com;
 Phone / Whatsapp: +91 8597 778 778 (Monday to Saturday, 9.30am - 5.30pm).
 • Sales: Direct all trade enquiries to General Manager (Sales), Living Media India
 Limited, C-9, Sector-10, Noida-201301 (UP).
 • Regd. Office: F-26, First Floor, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.
 • Impact Offices: 1201, 12th Floor, Tower 2 A, One Indiabulls Centre,
 (Jupiter Mills), S.B. Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai-400013;
 Phone: 022 69193355; Fax: 66063226
 • E-1, Ground Floor, Videocon Towers, Jhandewalan Extn, New Delhi.
 • Door No: 610, 610A, 612, 5th Floor, Block A, Imperial Chaitanya Building,
 Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai, Tamilnadu-600018.
 • 201-204 Richmond Towers, 2nd Floor, 12, Richmond Road,
 Bangalore-560025; Phones: 22212448, 22213037, 22218343; Fax: 22218835;
 • 52, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, 4th Floor, Kolkata-700071; Phones: 22825398;
 Fax: 22827254; • 6-3-885/7/B, Somajiguda, Hyderabad-500082;
 Phone: 23401657, 23400479, 23410100, 23402481, 23410982, 23411498;
 Fax: 23403484 • 39/1045, Karakkatt Road, Kochi 682016; Phones: 2377057,
 2377058; Fax: 2377059 • 2/C, "Suryarath Bldg", 2nd Floor, Behind White
 House, Panchwati, Office C.G. Road, Ahmedabad-380006; Phone: 26560939,
 26560929; Fax: 26565293 • Copyright Living Media India Ltd. All rights
 reserved throughout the world. Reproduction in any manner is prohibited.
 Printed and published by Manoj Sharma on behalf of Living Media
 India Limited. Printed at Thomson Press India Limited,
 18-35 Milestone, Delhi Mathura Road, Faridabad-121007, (Haryana)
 and at Rajhans Enterprises, 134, Industrial Town, 4th Main Road, Rajajinagar,
 Bengaluru-560044, (Karnataka).
 Published at F-26, First Floor, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.
 Editor: Raj Chengappa.

• INDIA TODAY does not take the responsibility for returning unsolicited publication material.

All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent courts and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only



For reprint rights and syndication enquiries, contact
 syndication@intoday.com or call +91-120-4078000
 www.syndicationtoday.in

DHARAVI REVAMP

ADANI'S BIG GAMBLE

CAN THE TYCOON TRANSFORM ASIA'S LARGEST SLUM?



MANDAR DEODHAR

26

CONTENTS

UPFRONT: DHANKHAR'S DHAMAKA PG 5

STATE SCAN: MUMBAI TRAIN BLASTS ACQUITTALS PG 16

► BUSINESS

46 Tesla Comes To Town

The US carmaker launches its premium Model Y in India, but the real challenge lies in building scale

► UTTAR PRADESH

50 Baba or Black Sheep?

A small-town seer is accused of heading a conspiracy of mass conversion at the behest of unknown paymasters

► CINEMA

54 In the Mood for Love

At a time when romantic films were on the retreat, *Saiyaara* scripts a big revival

► LEISURE

57 A Life Beyond Borders

Jeet Thayil's quasi-memoir about family, belonging, inheritance and, above all, love

Note to the reader

From time to time, you will see pages titled 'An Impact Feature' or 'Focus' in INDIA TODAY. These are no different from advertisements, and the magazine's editorial staff is not involved in their creation in any way.

Cover Photo Montage by BANDEEP SINGH



Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquiries before sending money, incurring expenses or entering into commitments in relation to any advertisement appearing in this publication. The India Today Group does not vouch for any claims made by the advertisers of products and services. The printer, publisher, editor-in-chief and the editor of the India Today Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences in the event of such claims not being honoured by the advertisers.



SCAN HERE TO SUBSCRIBE

FOR SUBSCRIPTION ASSISTANCE, CONTACT:
 email: wecare@intoday.com | Phone / Whatsapp: +91 8597 778 778
 (Monday to Saturday, 9.30am - 5.30pm)

E-MAIL to:
 letters.editor@intoday.com or
 log on to www.indiatoday.in