

Outlook

Read · Think · Understand

Seeking Equity

The anti-reservation sentiment in higher education on the UGC's recommendations to end caste discrimination in university campuses, which the apex court has stayed, reflects a deep-seated insecurity on the part of the general category students, a decade after a Dalit student Rohith Vemula killed himself calling his birth his fatal accident



RNI NO. 7044/1961



Volume LXVI, No. 5

EDITOR Chinki Sinha

MANAGING EDITOR Satish Padmanabhan
FOREIGN EDITOR Seema Guha
DIGITAL EDITOR Aasheesh Sharma
DEPUTY PHOTO EDITOR Tribhuvan Tiwari
NEWS COORDINATORS Anumeha Saxena,
Vidya Ramamurthy

WRITERS Agnideb Bandyopadhyay,
Apexsha Priyadarshini, Ashlin Mathew,
Ashwani Sharma, Debanjan Dhar, Fozia Yasin,
Ishfaq Naseem, Lalita Iyer, Md. Asghar Khan,
Mohammad Ali, Mrinalini Dhyani, N. K. Bhoopesh,
Priyanka Tupe, Sakshi Salil Chavan

COPY DESK S.S. Jeevan, Swati Subhedar,
Vineetha Mokkil

DESIGN COORDINATOR Vikas Thakur

PHOTOGRAPHERS Dinesh Parab,
Sandipan Chatterjee, Suresh K. Pandey,
Vikram Sharma, Yasir Iqbal

RESEARCHERS Animikh Chakrabarty,
Anupam Prashant Minz, Subhastree Rath

DESIGN Anupam Sai Bollaboina,
Champak Bhattacharjee

ILLUSTRATOR Saahil

SOCIAL MEDIA Anwiti Singh, Humayun Kamran,
Jagisha Arora



Outlook issue
February 11, 2026

BUSINESS OFFICE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Indranil Roy
PUBLISHER Sandip Kumar Ghosh
DIRECTOR BRAND & MARKETING Shrutika Dewan
VICE PRESIDENT Diwan Singh Bisht
SR GENERAL MANAGERS Debabani Tagore,
Shalender Vohra
GENERAL MANAGER Shashank Dixit
CIRCULATION & SUBSCRIPTION Gagan Kohli
HEAD, SALES OPERATIONS Manisha Mishra

HEAD OFFICE

AB-10, S.J. Enclave, New Delhi - 110 029
Customer Care: 9266855837 / 9266855636
Office Hours: 10 am to 6 pm
e-mail: yourhelpline@outlookindia.com

Printed and published by Indranil Roy on
behalf of Outlook Publishing (India) Pvt. Ltd.
Editor: Chinki Sinha. Printed at MP Printers
(A Unit of DB Corp Ltd) B-220, Phase-II,
Noida 201305, Gautam Budh Nagar (UP)
and published from AB-10, S.J. Enclave,
New Delhi-110 029

Published for the period of
February 12-21, 2026

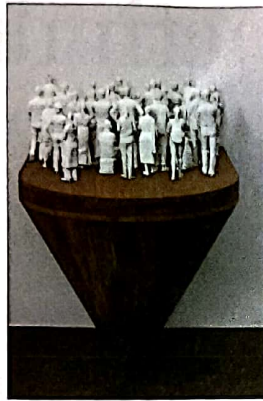
Released on February 11, 2026

Total number of pages 68 including covers



POINT AND SHARE

Now, open Outlook magazine on your
smartphone instantly. Point your phone's
scanner on the code and align it in the
frame. You will be guided instantly to our
website, www.outlookindia.com This is
useful to share our stories on social
media or email them.



ON THE COVER

From the show 'A
Breath Held Long' by
Sudarshan Shetty

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Sudarshan Shetty
explores the
fundamental ontology
of objects through
sculpture, drawing,
and installation. His
practice engages
with the poetics
of impermanence,
transition, and the
layered meanings
embedded within
material culture.
Drawing on both
individual and
collective memory,
Shetty proposes
multiple narratives
that reflect on the
cultural, emotional,
and philosophical
significance of
structures and
objects—revealing how
fragmented histories
and material residues
can inhabit a shared
space of meaning.



6 | CLASS AND CASTE

From delayed
degrees and stalled
promotions to verbal
abuse, professional
isolation, and
sometimes death,
caste discrimination
persists across
campuses in India
By Priyanka Tupe



16 | HYDERABAD BLUES

Without sustained
political will Rohith
Vemula's legacy may
remain symbolic
rather than catalysing
structural change in
higher education
By N.K. Bhoopesh



44 | THE HIGHER, THE LOWER

What is clear is that
the entrenched caste
hierarchy feels
that power is slipping
out from their grasp
By N. Sukumar



58 | RAPIDS IN THE TEESTA

In the post-uprising polls,
the Gen Zs in Bangladesh
and Nepal are playing
contrasting roles
By Snigdendu Bhattacharya

66 DIARY

COVER
COURTESY:
GALLERYSKE
Photograph by
Tribhuvan Tiwari

Subscribe Now

