

ASSEMBLY POLLS: ASSAM  
CAN GOGOI DISLodge HIMANTA?

US WAR ON IRAN  
WHY ALLIES REMAIN ALOOF

JOURNALISM WITH A HUMAN TOUCH

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MARCH 29, 2026

# THE WEEK

## AYUSH SURGE

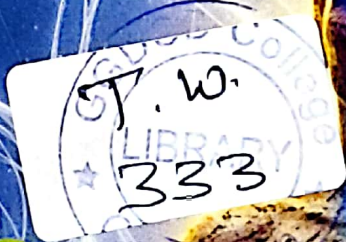
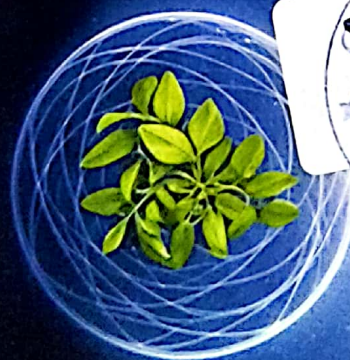
Traditional remedies for modern ailments

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Quality is non-negotiable

PRATAPRAO JADHAV,  
MINISTER FOR AYUSH



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## COVER STORY

# INDIA'S AYUSH MOMENT

Traditional systems of medicine in India today occupy a complex space between reverence and scepticism. The Union government is now crucially boosting the Ayush sector to integrate traditional medicine into mainstream health care. In the latest budget, the allocation to the Ayush ministry has been increased by nearly 20 per cent—from ₹3,671.82 crore in 2025-26 to ₹4,408.93 crore in 2026-27. And there is more to come.

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## ASSAM

It is the BJP's welfare push and organisational strength versus an opposition alliance still taking shape

"Development will be our main issue"—**Pradan Baruah, BJP MP**



"The BJP's way is top-down, where people have no right to express their opinion"—**Gaurav Gogoi, Congress president, Assam**



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## CURRENT EVENTS

As Nitish Kumar steps aside, Bihar is likely to see a more competitive and uncertain political landscape

REUTERS





SHUTTERSTOCK

**INTERVIEWS**

- ❖ “For almost all existing diseases, we have medicines in Ayush, and people use them”—**Prataprao Jadhav**, Union minister of state for Ayush
- ❖ “Unani is increasingly becoming popular and is based on evidence-based innovation”—**Saiyad Shah Alam**, director, National Institute of Unani Medicine, Bengaluru

- ❖ **Homeopathy** is said to be managing certain disorders, but it is plagued by factors like lack of treatment protocols and research
- ❖ At the National Institute of **Siddha** in Chennai, an ancient system of healing is challenging our reliance on pills

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Ambassador Arun K. Singh: Iran war is already reshaping expectations—about American power and about the limits of military force in delivering political outcomes

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**LEISURE** How comics influenced Krishand's globally-themed, locally inventive cinema

We are now among the world's five largest economies and, for several years, the fastest-growing among them. The India that once sloganeered alongside the “global south”—without corresponding influence—is no longer the India of today. The new India sits confidently at the global high table. It engages with multiple partners simultaneously, navigates complex rivalries with pragmatism, seeks outcomes rather than ovations, and has emerged as a true champion of the global south.

COVER DESIGN BINESH SREEDHARAN

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