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THE WEEK

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

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ANTIBIOTICS

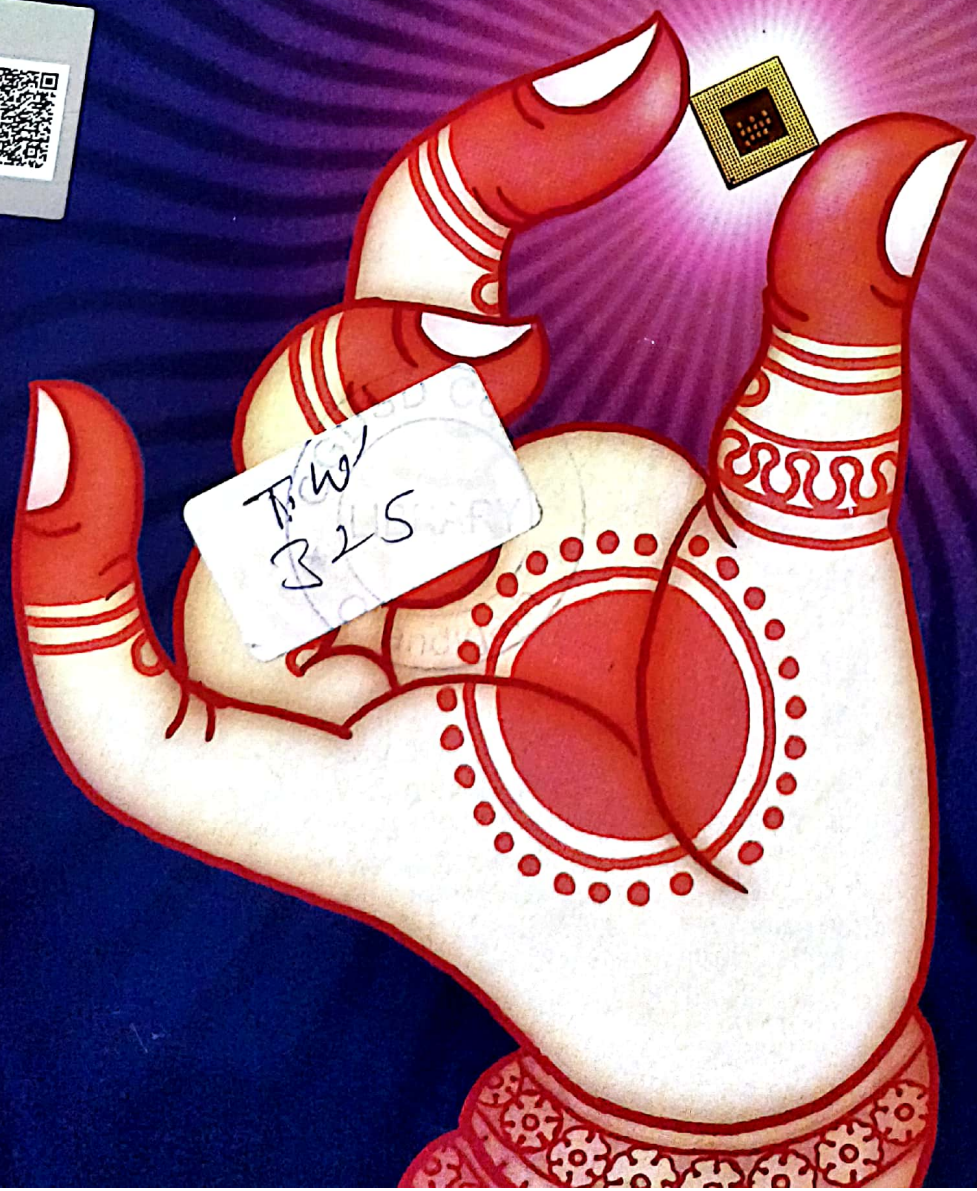
WHEN YOU MISUSE ANTIBIOTICS

MONKEY D. LUFFY
 JAPANESE MANGA ICON
 FUELLING GEN-Z PROTESTS

« EXCLUSIVE »

SMALL CHIP, BIG WIN

Denied access to military-grade compound semiconductor technology,
 India cracked the code on its own to join a select group of six nations



contents

VOL. 44 | NO. 5 | THE WEEK | FEBRUARY 1 | 2026 | FOR THE WEEK - JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 1

34

GAZA & INDIA

Trump's Board of Peace does not serve Indian interests, yet it offers an opportunity to develop a fresh Indian approach to the Middle East: P.R. Kumaraswamy, professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University

36

GREENLAND

NATO's future looks diminished as Trump's Greenland obsession reveals deeper fractures within the bloc: K.P. Fabian, former Indian diplomat

40

DIPLOMACY

Indo-Pacific states should anticipate greater Chinese assertiveness: Vijay Gokhale, former foreign secretary of India

ILLUSTRATION BINESH SREEDHARAN

18

COVER STORY

CHIP CHEER

Rejection is the mother of innovation. When foreign entities refused to share their compound chip technology, Indian scientists decided to do what they do best—make in India. The inside story of how India broke into an elite league of six nations

Compound semiconductors are custom-bred for extreme power, blazing frequency and scorching temperatures

Suma Varughese director general, Micro Electronic Devices and Computational Systems & Cyber Security, DRDO

Compound semiconductors are optimal for the Indian armed forces' requirements in conducting multidomain operations

Lt Col Akshat Upadhyay
author of *Emerging Frontiers: Technology Absorption in the Indian Army*

From ultra-compact chargers in our pockets to next-gen radars, wide bandgap semiconductors are accelerating innovation

Gaurav Pande
who works at Imec Belgium, an independent nanoelectronics R&D hub



44

SPECIAL REPORT

How a Japanese manga icon became the symbol of Gen Z movements from Asia to Africa

50

MAHARASHTRA

The municipal corporation results have shown that politics in the state, which revolved around the Pawars and Thackerays, will now be centred on Fadnavis and the BJP

60

ECONOMY

As India stares at a new world order, the budget will determine whether it is ready for the party or not



68

BHANU PRAKASH CHANDRA

NATURE

Why are we turning increasingly hostile to even the news of a wild animal living alongside us, asks Vivek Menon, chair, IUCN Species Survival Commission

COVER ILLUSTRATION BINESH SREEDHARAN

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71

LEISURE

How can you retain your sense of humour when the world around you is crumbling? British actor, comedian and writer Sir Stephen Fry has answers



SANJAY AHLAWAT

COLUMNS

- 10 **POWERDRIVE**
R. Prasannan
- 42 **INSIGHT EDGE**
Baijayant 'Jay' Panda
- 64 **SCALPEN**
Dr Mazda Turel
- 78 **OTHERWISE CRACKED**
K.C. Verma

82 LAST WORD
Mahua Moitra



The Election Commission is presiding over a grotesque circus, where untested software is testing genuine voters and risking mass disfranchisement