

GUJARAT: RUPANI  
MAKES HIS MARK

FOOD PARKS: SUFFERING  
FROM INDIGESTION

ASSEMBLY POLLS:  
THE BIG FIGHTS

www.indiatoday.in



MARCH 22, 2021 ₹75

# INDIA TODAY



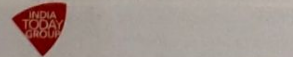
## UNLOCKING LIC

**BRINGING THE INSURANCE BEHEMOTH TO MARKET THROUGH THE PROPOSED IPO IS A DAUNTING CHALLENGE. THE GOVERNMENT HOPES THE STAKE SALE WILL HELP REDUCE THE FISCAL DEFICIT AND SIGNAL REFORMS**

REGISTERED NO. DLIND1-11/5068/2021-22-2023; LICENSED TO POST WPP NO. UIC-1-88/2021-23, FARIDABAD/05/2020-22  
RNI NO. 2858775

30

**CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:** Anon Parle  
**VICE CHAIRPERSON:** Kullu Paree  
**GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Dinesh Bhatia  
**GROUP EDITORIAL DIRECTOR:** Raj Chatterjee  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Manoj Sharma  
**GROUP CREATIVE EDITOR:** Nilesh Das **GROUP PHOTO EDITOR:** Bandheep Singh  
**MANAGING EDITORS:** Kal Jatar, Fresco, Rajesh Jha  
**EXECUTIVE EDITORS:** S. Sahaya Ranjit, Sandeep Unnithan, Manisha Sarooz, Maseel M.G. Anub  
**SENIOR DEPUTY EDITOR:** Hironowaz Amarnath K. Menon  
**DEPUTY EDITORS:** Kaushik Deka, Shivwata Punj  
**SENIOR EDITORS:** Sasi Nair, Anilish S. Mahajan  
Muskan, Suhani Singh, Janki, Rohit Parihar  
**SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITORS:** Aakash Mukherjee  
Muskan, Kiran Dinker Tane, Priya, Amritha Srivastava  
**ASSOCIATE EDITORS:** Sonali Acharyas  
Koushik, Romita Senapati, Beena, Rahul Noronha  
**ASSISTANT EDITORS:** Zimra Ray Chaudhuri, Aditya Wig  
**PHOTO DEPARTMENT:** Yasir Iqbal (Deputy Chief Photographer), Rajveer Singh Rawat (Principal Photographer), Chandro Deep Kumar (Senior Photographer), Muskan, Mandeep Suresh Doodhar (Chief Photographer)  
**PHOTO RESEARCHERS:** Pratikrakesh Tewari (Chief Photo Researcher), Satish Vaid (Principal Photo Researcher),  
**CHIEF OF GRAPHICS:** Yamov Chakraborty  
**ART DEPARTMENT:** Sanjay Piplani (Senior Art Director), Anaghum De (Art Director), Devaji Bora (Deputy Art Director), Vivas Varma (Associate Art Director), Siddhant Junde (Senior Illustrator)  
**PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT:** Harsh Agarwal (Chief of Production), Navneen Gupta (Chief Coordinator)  
**ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER:** Anil Fernandes (Impact)



Volume XLV Number 12; For the week  
March 16-22, 2021, published on every Friday

• Editorial Corporate Office: Living Media India Ltd., India Today Group Mediaplex, F1-8, Sector 14B, Plot City Noida, 201301, Phone: 0120-4051189  
• Subscriptions: For assistance contact Customer Care India Today Group, C-9, Sector 10, Noida (U.T.) 201301. Phone: Toll-free number: 1800 1800 100 (from BSNL/MTNL lines), 05120 2479900 from Delhi and Faridabad, 01120 2479900 from Rest of India (Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.). Fax: 0120 4078080. Mumbai: 022-66963413/3412. Kolkata: 033-40525327. Chennai: 044-24303200. • email: [areply@indiatoday.com](mailto:areply@indiatoday.com)  
• Sales: Direct all trade enquiries to General Manager (Sales), Living Media India Limited, C-9, Sector 10, Noida-201301 (U.P.)  
• Regd. Office: F-26, First Floor, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.  
• Impact Office: 1201, 12th Floor, Tower 2, A One Indialake Centre, (Lupter Mill), F.R. Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai-400013. Phone: 66663555. Fax: 66663226 • F1, Ground Floor, Viceroy Towers, Bandra/West/East, New Delhi • Guna Complex, 5th Floor, Main Building, No.442, Anna Salai, Chennai-600016. Phone: 2447 8525 • 201, 204 Bhatnagar Towers, 2nd Floor, 12, Richmond Road, Bangalore-560025. Phone: 22212448, 22212037, 22218345. Fax: 22218335 • 52, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, 4th Floor, Kolkata-700071. Phone: 22823936. Fax: 22827254 • 6-3-85/57R, Sonapatga, Hyderabad-500082. Phone: 23491407, 23490479, 23491005, 23492481, 23410982, 23411498. Fax: 23493884 • 9/9/945, Karakoram Road, Korla 602016. Phone: 22770787, 22770788. Fax: 22770939 • 2C, "Suryashuk" Bldg., 2nd Floor, Behind White House, Ferozshah, Office C-6, Road, Abadshah-380006. Phone 26566793, 26566799. 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, 16-13 Millennium, Delhi Main Market Road, Faridabad-121007, (Haryana). Published at F-26, First Floor, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.  
Editor: Raj Chatterjee  
• news news does not take the responsibility for returning unsolicited publications 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@indiatoday.com](mailto:syndication@indiatoday.com) or call +91-120-4078000  
[www.syndicationtoday.in](http://www.syndicationtoday.in)

**UPFRONT**  
GLASSHOUSE: DO WE SEE A CM? PG 7

**MP: VYAPAM**  
REDUX? PG 10

# INSIDE

**LEISURE**  
ATUL DODIYA: THE POP ARTIST PG 59

**Q&A WITH**  
JANHVI KAPOOR PG 66

12

COVER STORY

## UNLOCKING LIC

BRINGING THE INSURANCE GIANT TO MARKET VIA THE PROPOSED IPO IS A HUGE CHALLENGE, BUT THE GOVERNMENT IS COUNTING ON IT TO REIN IN THE FISCAL DEFICIT AND TO SIGNAL REFORMS

Illustration by NILANJAN DAS

24 GUJARAT

## LOTUS SUTRA

Will the BJP's landslide victory in the local body election set the tone for the assembly poll next year?

50 BIHAR

## FEMALE FORCE

Increasing women's reservation in government service has been a game-changer for the Bihar police

54 FOOD PARKS

## NO THOUGHT FOR FOOD

Misguided policies and botched implementation have sunk the scheme to launch modern food processing hubs

POLL PACKAGE

28 • Tamil Nadu	36 • Kerala
32 • West Bengal	38 • Assam

FOR SUBSCRIPTION ASSISTANCE, CONTACT: Customer Care, India Today Group, C-9, Sector-10, Noida (Uttar Pradesh)-201301. Phone: 2479900 from Noida, 95120-2479900 from Delhi and Faridabad, and 0120-2479900 from Rest of India. Toll Free No.: 1800 1800 100. Fax: 0120-4078080. E-mail: [wcare@indiatoday.com](mailto:wcare@indiatoday.com)

# UPFRONT

**GLASSHOUSE: DO WE SEE A CM?**  
PG 7

**MP: VYAPAM**  
REDUX?  
PG 10



**WORK IN PROGRESS**  
Employees at the Honda Motorcycle & Scooter plant in Manesar, Haryana

SHEKHAR GHOSH

## HARYANA RESERVATION LAW

# A JOB ON ITS HANDS

By Anilish S. Mahajan

**A** week before the Haryana assembly reconvened for the budget session, state governor Satyadev Narayan Arya finally gave his consent to the Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Bill, 2020, providing 75 per cent reservation in private sector jobs to the state's residents. However, some clauses of the new law, such as the one that prohibits companies from hiring more than 10 per cent of their staff from a single district, has already kicked up a controversy and caused much concern.

Haryana accounts for more than

half of India's automobile manufacturing and is the headquarters of 75 per cent of the Fortune 500 companies in India. It has 23 special economic zones. The new law provides for the appointment of a 'designated officer', a representative of the government who can intervene if companies invoke exemption clauses or cite the lack of suitable local candidates. The officer will have the power to overrule such moves and direct these companies to "train local candidates to achieve the desired skill, qualification or proficiency". Contravention of the law can invite fines between Rs 50,000 and Rs 2 lakh.

However, it is prospective in nature, and will only apply to companies registered after the bill becomes law. Under the new law, firms (companies, societies, trusts, partnership firms or sole proprietorships) must register the details of employees drawing monthly salaries of less than Rs 50,000 within the next three months. The fear is that all this could set back industry. It will be a challenge to enforce among the small and medium enterprises. Industry lobbies such as FICCI and CII have already criticised the new law. "This law is certainly not progressive. It will make my job more difficult