

Out of depth

I'm sure many readers would have seen clips from the nearly hour-long interview/conversation Kangana Ranaut had with Navika Kumar (henceforth NK) during the recent Times Now Summit. If you haven't, it's worth skimming through, just to experience some of the choicest moments. In it, Ranaut (henceforth KR) brings all her famous attributes on stage as she answers NK's mostly gentle and encouraging questions, enunciating clearly in Hindi and English, speaking with supreme confidence, maintaining the kind of poise you expect from leading film stars and other celebrity personalities. Very quickly, we learn that KR's grandfather was a freedom fighter in the Congress and that he was also of a right-wing bent of mind, a proud Hindu, and that KR and family draw a lot of inspiration from this late centenarian. Down the line, KR also joins great Congress leaders to her grandfather's ideology when she drops a remark about 'Patel and Shastri, who had right-wing inclinations.' Asked about today's Congress and Rahul Gandhi, her response is a) to tie him to the nepo culture she claims she has had to fight in Bombay and b) to claim that god hasn't gifted him with what it takes to be a leader — "Voh nahi ho sakta, aap baad mey software nahi download kar saktey, voh download ho ke aata hai... [some of the audience applaud] ... voh bhagwan bana ke bhejte hain!" Throughout the interview, she leaves us in no doubt as to who she believes has received the requisite manufacturing beneficence from the almighty: Narendra Modi, according to KR, is an "ansh" of Rama, he has great "tej", he shines with the brightness of the sun before whom the Opposition leaders are but small flickering candles. I'm sure many readers would have seen clips from the nearly hour-long interview/conversation Kangana Ranaut had with Navika Kumar (henceforth NK) during the recent Times Now Summit. If you haven't, it's worth skimming through, just to experience some of the choicest moments. In it, Ranaut (henceforth KR) brings all her famous attributes on stage as she answers NK's mostly gentle and encouraging questions, enunciating clearly in Hindi and English, speaking with supreme confidence, maintaining the kind of poise you expect from leading film stars and other celebrity personalities. Very quickly, we learn that KR's grandfather was a freedom fighter in the Congress and that he was also of a right-wing bent of mind, a proud Hindu, and that KR and family draw a lot of inspiration from this late centenarian. Down the line, KR also joins great Congress leaders to her grandfather's ideology when she drops a remark about 'Patel and Shastri, who had right-wing inclinations.' 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(When we got Independence, the first prime minister of India, Subhas Chandra Bose, where did he go?) NK is obliged to softly point out that Bose was not our first prime minister. KR leaps upon this with tigerish energy. "Nahi thhe kyun!?" "Why wasn't he [the PM]? Where did he go? Why was he disappeared?" Again, NK has no choice but to ask: [are you suggesting that] "So, the Congress disappeared him?" KR pauses for a beat and sidesteps a yes/no reply. "I'm just saying that this guy, who brings us our independence, who gives his blood for the nation... he isn't allowed to even land in India!... And those who were watching TV in jail, they end up running the country!" Now, some other interviewer might have stopped KR right here to point out that by most accounts Bose died in August 1945, two years before Independence. And if someone wanted to give KR more rope, they could have teased out of her exactly which Bose-didn't-die-in-plane-crash conspiracy she believes in and then asked her to explain how the Congress would have had any control over the un-dead Netaji's movements. Someone else might have pointed out to KR that had the autocratic but secular Bose assumed power in India, he would likely have had a much rougher way of dealing with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and the Hindu Mahasabha than did the democracy-and-non-violence-addicted Jawa-har-lal Nehru.

Washington judge rules state's high-capacity gun magazine ban unconstitutional

After the lower court's ruling, Attorney General Bob Ferguson filed an emergency appeal to the state Supreme Court, seeking to keep the law on the books. Cowlitz County Superior Court Judge Gary Bashor ruled Washington's ban on high-capacity magazines unconstitutional on Monday. Bashor issued an immediate injunction to stop the state from enforcing the ban on magazines that hold more than 10 rounds, per The Seattle Times. However, minutes after the ruling, the Washington Supreme Court issued an order to keep the law in effect that had been in place since 2022 while the state appeals the decision. WA's ban on high-capacity magazines ruled unconstitutional, but the state's Supreme Court issued an emergency stay order

(Image used for representational purposes only)(AP) Are high-capacity magazines illegal in Washington state? During Monday's ruling, Bashor highlighted a 2022 US Supreme Court decision, Bruen, that states gun regulations must be "consistent with the Nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation." He wrote, "The State must provide some history of regulation in line with the requirements of Bruen." Citing the state's failure to do so, Bashor added, "There was no appetite to limit gun rights by the Founders. Though the specific technology available today may not have been envisioned, the Founders expected technological advancements." He argued that in order to justify the current ban, the state must show a historical law from around the time of the Second Amendment's adoption. "The result is few, if any, historical analogue laws by which a state can justify a modern firearms regulation," Bashor wrote.

Generative AI creates challenges in intellectual property and epistemology

It is fairly obvious that the dominant, i.e. Western mechanism for generating new knowledge is rather different from the traditional Indian mechanism, and this shows up in all sorts of ways. One is that Indian epistemology seems to be empirical and practical, based on observation; whereas the Western tradition seems to prefer grand theories that must then be proved by observation. Another difference is the Western idea that Intellectual Property is a private right that the State confers on an inventor or a creator. The Western gaze is fixed on the potential monetary gains from a monopoly over the use of IP Rights (for a fixed period of time, after which it is in the public domain): the argument is that it eventually helps everybody while incentivising the clever.

The Indian concept is vastly different. It was assumed that a creator created, or an inventor invented, as a result of their innate nature, their God-given gifts. In a way, they could not avoid being creative or inventive, which would be a negation of the blessing they had received from the Supreme Brahman. Therefore, no further incentive was needed: benevolent patrons like kings or temples would take care of their basic needs, allowing them to give free rein to creativity and innovation.

This seems to us today to be a radical idea because we have been conditioned by the contemporary epistemological idea that incentives are a necessary condition for knowledge creation. Although this seems common-sensical, there is no real evidence that this is true. Petra Moser, then at MIT, discovered via comparing 19th-century European countries that the presence of an IPR culture with incentives made little difference in the quantum of

innovation, although it seemed to change the domains that were the most innovative. In fact, there is at least one counter-example: that of Open Source in computing. It boggles the imagination that veritable armies of software developers would work for free, nights and weekends, in addition to their full-time jobs, and develop computing systems like Linux that are better than the corporate versions out there: the whole "Cathedral and Bazaar" story as articulated by Eric Raymond. Briefly, he argues that the chaotic 'bazaar' of open source is inherently superior to the regimented but soul-less 'cathedral' of the big tech firms.

It is entirely possible that the old Indian epistemological model is efficient, but the prevailing model of WIPO, national Patent Offices, and all that paraphernalia massively benefits the Western model. As an example, the open-source model was predicted to make a big difference in biology, but that effort seems to have petered out after a promising start. Therefore, we are stuck for the foreseeable future with the IP model, which means Indians need to excel at it.

In passing, let us note that the brilliant Jagdish Chandra Bose was a pioneer in the wireless transmission of information, including the fundamental inventions that make cellular telephony possible. However, as a matter of principle, he refused to patent his inventions; Guglielmo Marconi did and became rich and famous. India has traditionally been quite poor in the number of patents, trademarks, copyrights, geographical indications, semiconductor design layouts etc. that it produces annually. Meanwhile, the number of Chinese patents has skyrocketed. Over the last few years, the number of Indian patents has grown as the

result of focused efforts by the authorities, as well as the realisation by inventors that IP rights can help startup firms dominate niche markets.

India also produces a lot of creative works, including books, films, music and so on. The enforcement of copyright laws has been relatively poor, and writers and artists often do not get fair compensation for their work. This is unfortunate.

Unfortunately, things will get a lot worse with generative AI. Most of us have heard of, and probably also tried out, the chatbots that have been the object of much attention and hype in the past year, such as chatGPT from OpenAI/Microsoft and Gemini from Google. Whether these are truly useful is a good question, because they seduce us into thinking they are conscious, despite the fact that they are merely 'stochastic parrots'. But I digress. The point is that the digital revolution has thrown the edifice of copyright law into disarray. At the forefront of this upheaval stands generative AI, a technology with the uncanny ability to mimic and extend human creative output. Consider two stark examples: the contentious case of JK Rowling and her copyright battle with a Harry Potter-inspired fanfic, and the recent Japanese law that grants broad exemptions for training large language models (LLMs). Rowling's spat with Anna M. Bricken, the author of a Harry Potter fanfic titled "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Wine," ignited a global debate about fair use and transformative creativity. Bricken's work reimagined the Potterverse with an adult lens, but Rowling, citing trademark infringement, sought to have it taken down. While the case eventually settled, it exposed a fundamental dilemma: can AI-generated works, even if derivative, be considered distinct enough from their

source material to warrant copyright protection? The answer, shrouded in legal ambiguity, leaves creators navigating a tightrope walk between inspiration and infringement.

On the other side of the globe, Japan enacted a law in 2022 that further muddies the waters. This controversial regulation grants LLMs and other AI systems an almost carte blanche to ingest and remix copyrighted material for training purposes without seeking permission or paying royalties. While proponents laud it as a catalyst for AI innovation, critics warn of widespread copyright infringement and a potential future where authorship becomes a nebulous concept. The Japanese law, echoing anxieties around JK Rowling's case, raises unsettling questions: who owns the creative spark when AI fuels the fire? For India, a nation at the precipice of the AI revolution, these developments raise crucial questions. With a burgeoning AI industry and a large creative sector, India must tread carefully. Adapting existing copyright laws to encompass the nuances of AI-generated works is paramount. Robust fair-use guidelines that incentivise transformative creativity while safeguarding original authorship are urgently needed. Furthermore, fostering ethical AI development practices that respect intellectual property rights is crucial. The debate surrounding AI and copyright is not merely a legal tussle; it's a battle for the very definition of creativity. In this fight, India has the opportunity to carve a path that balances innovation with artistic integrity. By acknowledging the complexities of AI while upholding the cornerstone principles of copyright, India can become a global leader in navigating the uncharted

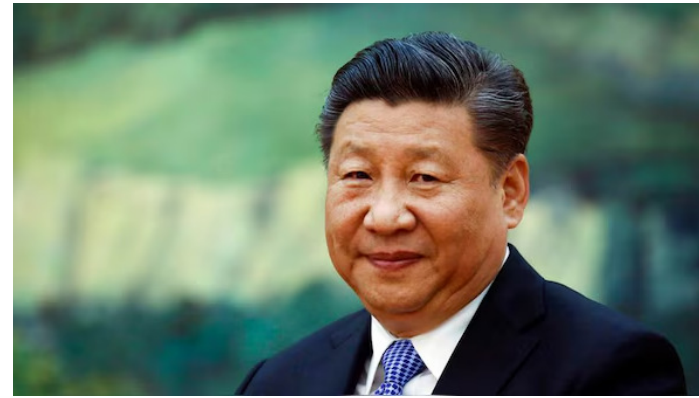
territory of digital authorship. The future of creativity, fueled by both human imagination and AI's boundless potential, hangs in the balance, and India has the chance to shape its trajectory. Disclaimer: The last few paragraphs above were written by Google Gemini, and lightly edited. A chatbot can produce coherent text, but it may be, and often is, completely wrong ('hallucinations'). Now who owns the copyright to this text? Traditionally, it would be owned by me and Firstpost, but what is the right answer now? Would we be responsible for any errors introduced by the AI?

On the other hand, the 'mining' of text, audio/video and images to train generative AI is an increasingly contentious issue. As an example, the New York Times sued OpenAI and Microsoft, arguing that they weren't being paid anywhere near the fair market value of their text that the tech companies mined. This sounds familiar to Indians because Westerners have been 'digesting' Indian ideas for a long time. Some of the most egregious examples were patents on basmati, turmeric and neem, which are absurd considering that these have been in use in India for millennia. The fact that these were documented in texts ('prior art') enabled successful challenges against them. An even more alarming fact is the capture and 'digestion' (a highly evocative term from Rajiv Malhotra, who has warned of the dangers of AI for years) of Indian data. Unlike China, which carefully firewalls away its data from Western Big Tech, and indeed, does not even allow them to function in their country, Indian personal data is being freely mined by US Big Tech. India's Data Privacy laws, being debated now, need to be considered defensive weapons. Paradoxically, there is also

the concern that Indic knowledge will, for all intents and purposes, disappear from the domain of discourse. Since the chatbots are trained on the uncensored Internet, they are infected by the Anglosphere prejudices and bigotry therein, not to mention deliberate misinformation and 'tools' that are propagated. Since most Indic concepts are either not very visible, or denigrated, on the Internet (e.g., Wikipedia), chatbots are not even aware of them. For instance, a doctor friend and I published an essay in Open magazine comparing allopathy to generative AI, because both are stochastic (ie. based on statistics). We mentioned Ayurveda positively several times because it has a theory of disease that makes it more likely to work with causation rather than correlation.

However, when the article summarised by chatGPT, there was no mention whatsoever of the word 'Ayurveda'. It is as though such a concept does not exist, which may in fact be true in the sense that it is deprecated in the training data that the chatbot was trained on. One solution is to create Indian foundation models that can then become competent in specific domains of interest: for example, an Arthashastra chatbot. These can also be trained, if sufficient data sets are created, on Indian languages as well, which could incidentally support real-time machine translation as well. Thus, there can be an offensive as well as a defensive strategy to enable Indic knowledge systems to thrive. India is at a point of crisis, but also of opportunity. If India were to harness some of the leading-edge technologies of today, it might once again become a global leader in knowledge generation, as it was a millennium ago with its great universities.

Renaming places in Arunachal showcases China's immaturity and desperation



Although it can be unequivocally said that the history of India-China relations is fraught with a surfeit of mistakes which worsened after l'affaire Doklam and Galwan, sundry efforts were made by both sides to put the past behind them and make a new beginning.

However, it has been noticed that Beijing has a pathological disposition whereby it seeks to unnecessarily provoke India from time to time. Misunderstandings may continue to simmer over certain fundamental issues such as a continuing misperception of the exact alignment of the LAC, but China has never resorted to

embracing the charity principle.

Humankind has been endowed with a tremendous power to overcome the greatest of odds. But for some reason or the other this has not been the case with India and China, especially as it pertains to the resolution of the 3,488-km-long boundary that stretches from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh.

Demography is an important component when

nations decide to become "us-and-them". Therefore, the tendency to push out towards the frontiers has a price: it is always accompanied by a grave risk of miscalculation. Such a narrative—in most parts—is due to a misconstruction of the objectives of the other side.

In the late 19th century, a British officer Col Algernon Durand—of the Durand Line fame—observed that "the man on the frontier sees but his own square on the chessboard and can know but little of the whole game in which he is a pawn."

It is, therefore, of essence to keep such an outlook in mind when one contemplates frontiers, borders and boundaries. Not all squares on a chess board are worth

fighting over, or as Nehru quipped about Aksai Chin as a desert "where not a blade of grass grows".

But the fact of the matter is that when an adversary overreacts and acts with belligerence, rearguard action must be undertaken. It is not as if India has not made friendly overtures towards China. In a webinar in June 2020, former foreign secretary Shyam Saran said that although the Chinese, including the top leader of the Peoples' Republic, Deng Xiaoping had put forward a "package deal" to India whereby an "as-is-where-is" resolution could be worked out, China reneged on the deal a few years later. It has become quite clear since then that the Chinese position is a

shifting one. During a visit to China in October 2002, I was able to personally interact with the best India-China boundary minds of China. These included Ma Jiali, Wang Hongwei, Rong Ying and former Chinese envoy to India, Cheng Ruiheng. At the time, I sensed that all of them wanted detente with India. I was fed on niceties such as "why are you bringing in Pakistan? That country should

not come between India and China friendship" and "China is willing to walk the extra mile to solve the boundary problem. You must convince your leaders to be more benevolent."

The atmospheric in Beijing, Zhejiang and Shanghai were so endearing that I thought that it would be a matter of time before the boundary problem would be resolved.

WESTERN RAILWAY-RAJKOT DIVISION
DEVELOPMENT OF GATI SHAKTI MULTI-MODEL CARGO TERMINAL
Tender Notice No.: WR-RJTCCOMM (GCT)/1/2024-508240 date: 12/04/2024; (1) Description of work: Development of Gati Shakti Multi-modal Cargo Terminal (GCT) in front of Gorinja station Entirely on Railway Land; (2) Contract period: 35 years; (3) Incentive to the tenderer: The incentive shall be in the form of a share in Terminal Charges (TC) and Terminal Access Charges (TAC). As per GCT policy; (4) Parameters of Selection: Eligible bidders giving maximum share of TC and TAC will be awarded the Contract; (5) Estimated Cost of Project Work (excluding cost of the land): ₹ 20,61,64,450/- (Rupees Twenty Crore Sixty One Lac Sixty Four Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Only); (6) Earnest Money Deposit: ₹ 2,06,16,500/- (Rupees Two Crore Six Lac Sixteen Thousand Five Hundred Only) (As applicable on IREPS website); (7) Last date of submission of Tender: 10/05/2024 at 15:00 hours; (8) Date of opening of tender: 10/05/2024 at 15:30 hours; (9) Website: www.ireps.gov.in; (10) Office address: Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Rajkot-Division, Western Railway, DDM Office, Kothi Compound, Rajkot-360 005.

WESTERN RAILWAY-RAJKOT DIVISION
WORK OF EDDY CURRENT ARRAY TESTING
(1) Tender Notice No. M-2024-02-ECA-1, dt:- 11/04/2024; (2) Name of work: The work of Eddy Current Array Testing for surface defect detection on LHB coaches wheel set at C & W depot RJT, HAPA & OKHA for the period of two years; (3) Approx. Cost: ₹ 4523959.68; (4) Earnest Money: ₹ 90500/-; (5) Date & time for the submission of tender: 03.05.2024 (upto 15:00 hrs); (6) Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased & Location of Notice board: Divisional Railway Manager (Mechanical) Western Railway, Rajkot-Division, Rajkot-360001; (7) Website Particulars: www.ireps.gov.in

FORM NO. URC.2
Advertisement Giving Notice under Part-I of Chapter XXI of the Act
[Pursuant to section 374(b) of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the Companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014]
Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI [Pursuant to section 374(b) of the companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014]
1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application has been made to the Registrar at 08th March, 2024 that Jabon Bagno Snc a partnership firm may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as a company limited by shares.
2. The principal objects of the company are as follows:
1. To carry on the business as manufacturers, importers, exporters, dealers (both wholesalers and retailers) processors, fabricator, assembler, installer, stockists, developers, promoters, marketers, agents, distributors, exhibitors and traders in all kinds of Bathrooms fittings, Hardware products, sanitary items, grills, door closures, mirrors, fitting glasses, sanitary fittings, basin, shower, bath tubs, commode, tap fittings, glassware and accessories, kitchen appliances and sanitary items and undertake activities in regards to same and enter into contracts, agreement etc for performing aforesaid activities.
A copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at "Jabon Bagno SNC" Survey No 493, Khijadiya Village Main Road, Khijadiya, Jamnagar -361120. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar of Companies Gujarat- Dadra and Nagar Haveli, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office. Dated this 16th day of April, 2024
For, Jabon Bagno Snc
Sunilkumar Bhatt & Vivek DurgeshKumar Bhatt
(Partner)

FORM A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT (Under Regulation 6 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)	
FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CREDITORS OF CUPID ESTATECON PRIVATE LIMITED	
RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1. Name of corporate debtor	CUPID ESTATECON PRIVATE LIMITED
2. Date of incorporation of corporate debtor	15.11.2006
3. Authority under which corporate debtor is incorporated / registered	Registrar of Companies, Ahmedabad.
4. Corporate Identity No. / Limited Liability Identification No. of corporate debtor	U45202DN2006PTC000209
5. Address of the registered office and principal office (if any) of corporate debtor	KAMLESHBHAI KI CHAWL BLCOK-B, R. NO.1, SAMBARANI, SILVASSA, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, India, 395250
6. Insolvency commencement date in respect of corporate debtor	Date of order: 16.04.2024. (Email from e-filing@nclt.gov.in is received on 16/04/2024. Certified Copy of order is awaited)
7. Estimated date of closure of insolvency resolution process	13.10.2024 (180 days from insolvency commencement date i.e. Date of order received)
8. Name and registration number of the insolvency professional acting as interim resolution professional	Modlal Dhannraj Pamecha Reg No- (BSI/IFA-001)/R-PO/231/2018-2019/12127.
9. Address and e-mail of the interim resolution professional, as registered with the Board	AFA, Valid till 25/09/2024. camodlalpamecha@gmail.com
10. Address and e-mail to be used for correspondence with the interim resolution professional	Address : C-802 Padmarag, J.B. Nagar Andheri (E), Mumbai-400059, Maharashtra. Email : crpcupidestatecon@gmail.com
11. Last date for submission of claims	30.04.2024 (14 Days from the date of order)
12. Classes of creditors, if any, under clause (b) of sub-section (6A) of section 21, as ascertained by the interim resolution professional	N.A.
13. Names of Insolvency Professionals identified to act as Authorised Representative of creditors in a class (Three names for each class)	N.A.
14. (a) Relevant Forms and (b) Details of authorised representatives are available at	Web link: http://www.ibbi.gov.in/home/downloads Physical Address: Not Applicable

Notice is hereby given that the National Company Law Tribunal Ahmedabad Bench has ordered the commencement of a corporate insolvency resolution process of the **Cupid Estatecon Private Limited** on 16.04.2024. The creditors of **Cupid Estatecon Private Limited** are hereby called upon to submit their claims with proof on or before 30.04.2024 the date falling fourteen days from the appointment of the interim resolution professional to the interim resolution professional at the address mentioned against entry No. 10. The financial creditors shall submit their claims with proof by electronic means only. All other creditors may submit the claims with proof in person, by post or by electronic means. A financial creditor belonging to a class, as listed against the entry No. 12, shall indicate its choice of authorised representative from among the three insolvency professionals listed against entry No.13 to act as authorised representative of the class [specify class] in Form CA. Submission of false or misleading proofs of claim shall attract penalties. Date: 17/04/2023 Place: Mumbai
Modlal Dhannraj Pamecha (Interim Resolution Professional)