

CONTENTS



- 2 A.O. 2546

UKRIST PATHMANAND, a senior researcher at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, argues that uprisings in the Muslim south could spell disaster for Thailand and be the downfall of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. **PAGE 8**

SURAKIART SATHIRATHAI, deputy prime minister of Thailand and candidate for the position of United Nations secretary-general, details his views on Asia's role in world affairs. **PAGE 14**

AXEL BERKOFSKY, senior policy analyst at the European Policy Centre, predicts that China will use the upcoming East Asian Summit to further its Asian ambitions. **PAGE 20**

EDWARD M. GRAHAM, senior fellow at the Institute for International Economics, asserts that it is not in the U.S. national interest to block the Cnooc bid for Unocal. **PAGE 24**

MICHAEL PETTIS, professor at Peking University's Guanghua School of Management, explains the financial benefits that could accrue to China if the Cnooc deal goes ahead. **PAGE 27**

HARUKO SATOH, a doctoral candidate at Cambridge University's Centre for International Studies, examines moves to fundamentally overhaul the Japanese constitution. **PAGE 30**

ARVIND PANAGARIYA, professor of Indian political economy at Columbia University, identifies four specific reforms needed to secure long-term prosperity for India. **PAGE 35**

STEPHEN GREEN, senior economist for Standard Chartered Bank, predicts how China's central bank will function when it gains full control over monetary policy, with all the market power that brings. **PAGE 39**

MAKIO MIYAGAWA, director of the Japan Institute of International Affairs and a former Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs official, says free trade agreements can serve as a catalyst for enhanced Asian integration. **PAGE 45**

A. LIN NEUMANN, executive editor of the Hong Kong Standard newspaper, warns that after a brief spell of improvement, press freedom in Asia is once again on the decline. **PAGE 50**

INTERVIEW: Thai opposition leader Abhisit Vejjajiva puts forward his vision for rebuilding his party's popularity. **PAGE 54**

IN TRANSLATION: Wu Jinglian writes in *Caijing* that China's obsession with heavy industry is both wasteful and destabilizing. **PAGE 56**

REVIEWS:

MELANA ZYLA VICKERS on two realistic portrayals of India's poverty and bureaucracy. **PAGE 58** • **JONATHAN FENBY** on an analysis of how colonialism benefited Hong Kong's Chinese elite. **PAGE 60** • **SADANAND DHUME** on two contrasting attempts to assess India's march toward great power status. **PAGE 63** • **DAVID C. KANG** on a pair of books that try to reveal the method behind North Korea's madness. **PAGE 66** • **CHING-FANG HU** on one Western woman's attempt to understand the mystique of the Asian female. **PAGE 67** • **DANIEL ELSEA** on a fresh take on urbanization in China. **PAGE 69** • **SALIL TRIPATHI** reviews a movie that examines the life of controversial Indian nationalist Subhas Chandra Bose. **PAGE 71** • **TRAVEL BOOKS:** The REVIEW's list of the best travel writing on Asia. **PAGE 74** • **FROM THE ARCHIVES:** In 2001, REVIEW correspondent Deidre Sheehan warned that People Power II might be just part of a trilogy. **PAGE 77**