

# spectrum 12.09







#### ROCKY ROAD:

At a planned nuclear waste repository in Finland [top], workers study the geology of their spent fuel's final home; a worker quenches a fire at Gaza's nower plant after an Israeli air strike [bottom left]; HP Labs' new director, Prith Banerjee [bottom right], is taking risks—and they're paying off.

COVER: ZORIAH/ DIARIES OF A SHOOTER THIS PAGE: TOP: POSIVA; LOWER LEFT: LAURA LEON/POLARIS; LOWER RIGHT: TIMOTHY ARCHIBALD **COVER STORY** 

# **36** POWERLESS IN GAZA

Engineers at Gaza's solitary power plant keep the lights on despite bombings, embargoes, fuel shortages, and a seemingly endless war. *By Sharon Weinberger* 

# **22** FINLAND'S NUCLEAR WASTE SOLUTION

Scandinavians are leading the world in the long-term disposal of spent nuclear fuel—but how safe will it be? *By Sandra Upson* 

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Tomorrow's handsets will do more and work better, thanks to the tiny vibrating components they contain. *By Clark T.-C. Nguyen* 

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Prith Banerjee's move from academia to the helm of the renowned HP Laboratories surprised many—including him. *By Tekla S. Perry* 

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Men have historically monopolized the highest levels of mathematics, but that's steadily changing. By Prachi Patel

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In countries that do well in math competitions, the overall gender gap is narrowing significantly. *By Prachi Patel*