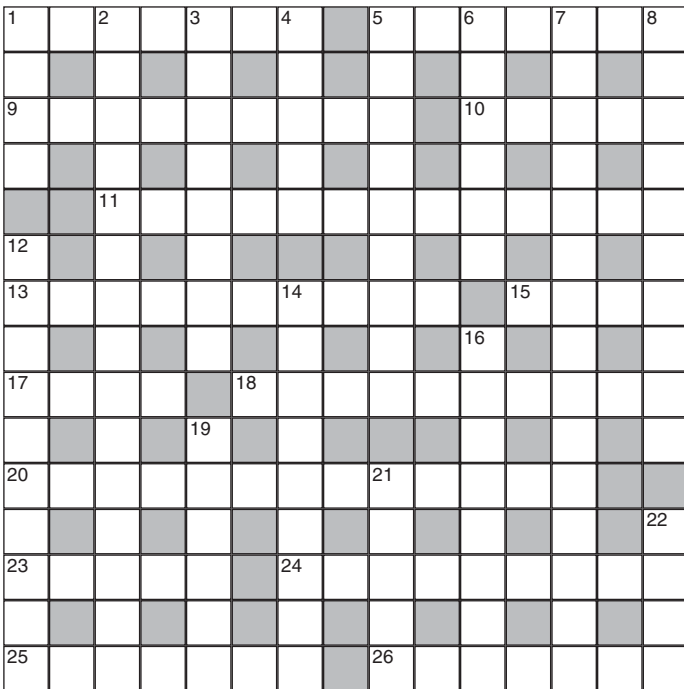


The Hindu Crossword No. 2539



Across

- 1 *She* may be here, on the shelf (7)
- 5 At which there may be a queue to kiss chief (3,4)
- 9 Male bird biting head of one very large duck (9)
- 10 Bait ugly cave-dweller (5)
- 11 I refused male lead in dreadfully cast operetta (3,10)
- 13 Dream is to settle in part of New York City (4,6)
- 15 Look both ways (4)
- 17 Audio tape contains a very small amount (4)
- 18 Willing retainer? Mellors, say (10)
- 20 Invite round promising a list of engagements (5,8)
- 23 Opening for Middlesex, I make a careless mistake over fieldsman (3-2)
- 24 I'm left with social worker that's influential (9)
- 25 Not prepared, a Parisian needing to get cash? (7)
- 26 Not the same second (7)

Down

- 1 Toy duck sat on by member (4)
- 2 Laud 'Dr No' *the* Bond novel for violence? (5-3-7)
- 3 Well-read, two accounts about Ms. Moore? (8)
- 4 Sing in Tokyo, delightfully (5)
- 5 Social gathering in pub can end in trouble (4,5)
- 6 Ridicule South African bore (6)
- 7 Paused, to gain courage before diving in? (4,1,4,6)
- 8 Incompatible Europeans, getting on a bit (5,5)
- 12 Crude, for the most part, my pal and I spoiled the party in Wales (5,5)
- 14 Gift presented after the Italian's turned up for duty (9)
- 16 Major left on fabulous ship for small U.S. island (3,5)
- 19 Verse — reportedly little boy's second in mag (6)
- 21 Film director, top artist (5)
- 22 Famous launch? No end (4)

Solution No. 2538

F	A	C	E	L	E	S	S			P	O	W	E	R
E		H		O		E				A		E		Y
D	O	A	R	O	A	R	I	N	G	T	R	A	D	E
E		P		K		I		E		R		T		
R	A	T	I	O		F	U	R	N	I	S	H	E	R
A		E		N					I		O		E	O
L	A	R	K		A	V	I	S	I	T	F	R	O	M
I		A		S		I		S		S		F		A
S	T	N	I	C	H	O	L	A	S		D	O	W	N
T		D		O		L				C		R		C
S	O	V	E	R	E	I	G	N		A	R	E	N	A
		E		C		N		A		M		C		N
M	A	R	T	H	A	S	V	I	N	E	Y	A	R	D
A		S		E				V		R		S		L
T	W	E	E	D				R	E	P	A	R	T	E