

**Volume 4    Issue 1    September 5, 2020**



# FROM THE **HEAD**

Department of Commerce, T.U.



**T**he situation, that we are passing through, is unprecedented and could not be seen in our weird dreams. It is a pandemic and has affected the world. Could not think of an airport closed for a single minute, let alone months after month. Schools, colleges, Universities are closed. Employees are working from home, students are learning online. This is the challenge that we are facing today.

In spite of all these odds we, at Tezpur University, wish to see that our academic calendar is affected as little as possible. Thanks to all the faculty and staff of the University in accepting the huge challenge since mid-March 2020 for conducting the online classes, carrying out evaluations through on line class tests, end term examinations etc. Tezpur University, is one of the few universities of the world, which could complete the end term examination for Spring 2020 semester and could start its classes for the Autumn 2020 semester. We tried to ensure that students should not have the 'zero semester' as it may lead to huge backlogs in future. In our endeavor to run the show, we



might not be perfect in all spheres. We appreciate the efforts and dedication of the student community of the University, without which it would not have been possible. We feel pride on them.

The challenge imposed by the COVID 19 crisis has made us learn many techniques. Some of the teachers were capable of holding online classes on earlier occasions but this situation has made it compulsory for all the teachers. We are entering into this 'new normal' and expect that online classes, blended form of teaching etc. will be the norms of the day. In these sad days, we are happy that many of us could learn new techniques of teaching. The Department of Commerce could arrange one Faculty Development Programme in the early period of COVID 19 crisis, as front runner, where more than 200 teachers joined from different parts of the country as well as from abroad. It was also great that the alumni of the Department of Commerce, Tezpur University arranged an 'unwinding session' through the online mode where the alumni joined from different parts of the country. The Department could arrange guest lectures by eminent experts in various fields which, in normal times, would not have been possible. Thanks to all teachers of the Department as we could start our classes for the Autumn semester 2020 in full swing.

The Spring 2020 semester happened to be the final semester for our 2nd batch of Integrated M Com programme who completed their 5-year journey in the Department. There are some students who had opted for lateral exit after completing their B Com (Hons.) module. We convey







our best wishes to them for their future. We are happy that the current batch of student could arrange for the Farewell program for them through the virtual mode.

Even though we are carrying out the show through online mode of teaching etc. but we definitely confess that online teaching cannot replace the physical classroom teaching. The University is missing the presence of students and the vibrancy. Students are the life line of the University. We hope that the crisis will be over soon and the students will be back to the campus, we will start our normal life.

With this wish in mind, I congratulate the faculty coordinators and the team of students who have taken special effort in this period of crisis to launch the sixth edition of ADIWITYA on the special occasion of TEACHERS DAY 2020.

With all best wishes,

**Subhrangshu Sekhar Sarkar**  
**Head, Department of Commerce**  
**Tezpur University**





# FROM THE DEAN

School of Management Sciences



I am glad that the students of department of commerce are coming out with the 6th edition of ADWITYA the e- magazine in spite of this challenging time and that too with the most appropriate theme. Imagining the future post pandemic is worthwhile as many things by then may be redundant or no longer useful. The way we will be doing business would undergo radical change, so will stakeholders' needs and organization's response. Nevertheless this calls for organization's readiness to adapt to the changing demands of the environment for it's sustenance. Being proactive is definitely better than adopting a reactive approach. I congratulate both the students and faculty of the Department of Commerce for this noble endeavor and look forward to reading the magazine.

**Papori Baruah, Dean,**  
School of Management Sciences,  
Tezpur University

# FACULTY ADVISOR



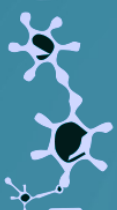
**A**t a juncture where the whole world is seeing drastic changes because of the on-going pandemic, the students of Department of Commerce, Tezpur University have brought forth the Vol. 4, Issue 1 of the e-magazine, Adwitiya - the matchless with the theme “Reshaping the Future: Imagining a Post Pandemic Redesigned World”. Adwitiya - the matchless is a platform to bring out the creativity and unique ideas and exhibit the matchless writing skills of the students. Covid19 completely changed the very world that we were living in. This change has also made way for a completely different future. And while marching towards this ‘changed’ future, in this issue of the magazine, we have made an attempt to focus on the post pandemic future through various articles. Along with articles based on the theme, the students have also showcased their creativity in the form of fictions, poems, photographs and sketches.

The world came face to face with a new nemesis in the form of a virus named ‘SARS-CoV-2’ from December, 2019. This virus brought with it a wave of change that no-



body even imagined was possible. Everything was brought to a standstill. Lockdowns were announced in most of the countries all around the world. Staying at home became the new normal. Schools, colleges, businesses, work places, everything was closed down. And this led to the people, the economy having to bear the brunt. And even though this pandemic is far from over, we need to start planning for the post pandemic future so that we can avert imminent threats that might arise. The economy, the education system, everything has changed and this has led to the need for reimagining the whole system.

With educational institutions being closed down for so long, there was a switch to online modes for teaching and learning. Because of the abrupt change in the mode of education, many students had to face numerous problems mainly because of technological issues. Students did not have access to mobile phones or laptops; there were issues with internet connectivity and so much more. This happened because of the unpreparedness to the unexpected situation. Gradually, the students and the academic fraternity are getting accustomed to this new system of teaching and learning. And although in the near future, when the educational institutions reopen and we go back to the conventional face to face methods of teaching and learning, we should also continue with the online system as well. The post pandemic education scenario should see a combination of the online-offline modes of teaching and learning. Construction of new educational facilities to facilitate this combined system of education can also be considered.







The economy has also taken a huge blow because of the pandemic. People have lost their jobs, businesses have faced huge losses, and the GDP has gone down. As and when this pandemic ends, the economy will eventually recover but not without some stimulus. Change in the fiscal and monetary policies is a must. The future might seem bleak at this moment, but the way to recovery is not very long. In fact, this pandemic just showed how strong we can be and it has given us the opportunity to build a stronger and better future. And the resilience that the whole world has shown in face of this unexpected situation only goes to prove that we are capable of so much more. A new future awaits us and with it awaits new avenues.

Finally, I take this opportunity to give a special mention to the editorial board whose hard work and dedication has made the launching of this issue of Adwitiya possible. It was because of you that we could come up with such an excellent piece of work. So, thank you. I would also like to extend my gratitude to everyone who has contributed write ups, photographs and sketches to the magazine. Last, but not the least, I hope everyone enjoys reading the magazine as much as we enjoyed in creating it. Stay safe, stay healthy.

Thank you!

**Dhritabrata Jyoti Bharadwaz**

Assistant Professor

Department of Commerce



# TEAM Adwitiya

It gives us great joy to present the **6th edition** of **Adwitiya**. This time we have introduced multiple new section ranging from facts to photography. In this difficult time the students have tried their best to make this magazine as beautiful as possible by their graphic designing skills. The pandemic has brought multiple challenges but we were able to work our way through it. This magazine tries it's best to showcase the talent of the people who have contributed in the magazine.

We hope to provide you a good reading experience.

- Team Adwitiya

# TEAM MEMBERS



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**Compiled by**  
RAJDEEP ENDAW





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# TO DISCOVER THE UNSEEN

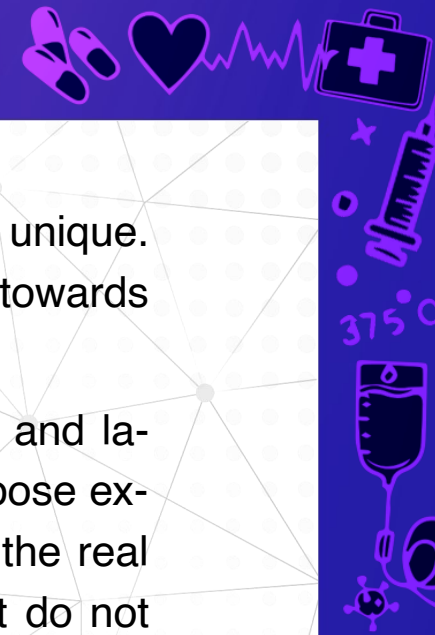
- Rishabh Goswami



I express my gratitude to the entire team of Adwitiya - the matchless for choosing a pertinent theme for its upcoming issue. As a reward for your tireless efforts, I wish this issue entices our readers, and with their love and support, you come up with many more editions in the future.

With the gradual unfolding of events around the globe, I am reminded of the “Unknown area” introduced by Joseph Luft and Harry Ingham in 1955 through the Johari Window. There are things about us that remain unknown to our self, as well as to others. If we extrapolate this idea to the present-day setting and in a broader sense, we realize that numerous phenomena surround us that are yet unknown to the entire human race.

When the theme of this issue voices “Imagining a Post Pandemic Redesigned World”, I wonder how one can contribute towards discovering the unknown or advancement of knowledge in the future. There are many roads towards this process



of exploring the unexplored. Some may seem familiar, while others may be unique. However, irrespective of which road one chooses, the fundamental approach towards the process of discovery remains the same - the spirit of scientific inquiry!

One doesn't have to associate science and scientific inquiry with white coats and laboratories. It can be thought of as a way to understand the real world and propose explanations based on evidence. If we wish to redesign anything that exists in the real world, we must appreciate the idea of challenging any established norm that do not stand to reason. Be curious to understand why things behave in a certain way, and seek answers based on observable and measurable standards should be the approach of choice. This approach is termed as Positivism.

As students of business, management, or commerce, we are yet to seek answers to an ample of unanswered questions through the lenses of a positivist. To give an example, think of the association between a country's economic performance with the performance of its stock market. Say, we measure the performance of the economy through the growth rate of GDP and the stock market performance with return on any national-level stock market index. Ideally, if the objective of a portfolio investor is to minimize risk, then their investment must be directed towards a country with a steady economic performance. This means that the demand in the stock market of a country





where economic growth is favorable must increase, thereby pushing up the index figures. The direction of the association, therefore, appears to be positive. However, in reality, we have seen the market and the economy moving in the opposite direction. It was evident during different periods, be it with the Athens Stock Exchange during the debt crisis or the Bombay Stock exchange during the ongoing crisis. Upon inquiry, although some of its determinants are reasoned to be as undervaluation, future growth opportunities, and speculation, there remains much towards solving the entire puzzle. Today as I write this example SENSEX was throw down by 839 pts owing to border tension!

At the end, I want to urge our readers to learn and develop more about this art of thinking. Although this is neither the only approach nor is it free from criticisms. But the reason I advocate this, in particular, is for its ability to abolish existing stereotypes, stigmas, and murky beliefs. I have faith that actual discovery of the unseen shall come for those who learn to overcome these hurdles.

With best wishes and love,  
**Rishabh Goswami**

# জীৱন

সংগ্ৰামৰ আন এক নাম জীৱন  
আজি তেওঁ যুঁজিছে  
মাকৰ বুকুত মুখ গুজি পিয়াহ গুচাবলৈ  
নিজৰ ভৰত দৌৰিবলৈ  
নিজে অন্ন লবলৈ  
আখৰ শিকিবলৈ  
লগৰীয়াৰ লগত মিলিবলৈ ।  
আজি তেওঁ যুঁজিছে  
শিক্ষা পথাৰত  
কৰ্মৰ খাতিৰত  
বেতনৰ খতিৰত  
অৱহেলা জৰ্জৰিত গৃহত ।  
এৰা আজি তেওঁ যুঁজিছে  
যমৰ আগত  
শৰীৰৰ পৰা পৃথক নকৰিবলৈ ॥



- বনশ্ৰী গগৈ, স্নাতক সপ্তম ষন্মাসিক  
মেকানিকেল ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰিং বিভাগ

# অনুগল্প

- বনশ্ৰী গগৈ



(১)

বনকৰা ছোৱালীজনীয়ে বাবুৰ জীয়েকৰ বিয়াত ধুনীয়া কৈ  
সাজিছে তায়ে জানে জীৱনৰ সেইকণ সুখ তাইলৈ দুনাই নাহে ।

(২)

কণমানিটোৱে বজাৰলৈ বাৰ্থদেৰ বস্তু আনিবলৈ যোৱা মাক দেউতাকলৈ বাট চাই আছিল,  
ভবা নাছিল সি বিচৰা ফটকা দোকানখনতে ফটকা ফুটি মাক দেউতাকক তাৰ পৰা কাটি  
লৈ যাব বুলি ।

(৩)

সৰুৰে পৰা মাক দেউতাকৰ আচৰণবোৰ দেখি শুনি ডাঙৰ হোৱা ছোৱালীজনীয়ে বিবাহ  
মানে দুজন মানুহৰ ৰণথলী বুলিয়ে জানিছিল, বিবাহৰ পাছত তাই খুউব কষ্টও পাইছিল,  
কিন্তু নিজৰ কাৰণে নহয় মাকৰ কাৰণেহে ।







(৪)

সদায় অহা - যোৱা কৰা বাটটোৰে আজিও তাই পাৰ হৈ গৈছিল অফিচলৈ, তাইটো নাজানিছিল সেইদিনা গধূলি চিনাকি বাটটোতেই তাইলৈ মৃত্যু ৰৈ আছিল।

(৫)

সৰুতেই ধনী মানুহলৈ বিয়া হোৱা ৰাণীয়ে মাৰ-পিতবোৰ গিৰিয়েকৰ মৰম বুলি ভাবিয়ে কাকো নকৈছিল, কিন্তু এদিন মৰমৰ যন্ত্ৰণাত ফেনত নিঠৰ হৈ ৰৈছিল।

(৬)

নামঘৰীয়াজনক সমীহ কৰিয়েই গাঁৱখনৰ মানুহে তেওঁৰ চৰিত্ৰহীনতাৰ কথা বিশ্বাস নকৰিছিল। কিন্তু সিদিনা গাঁওবুঢ়াৰ ঘৰত বহি থাকোতে চাহ দিবলৈ অহা ন-বোৱাৰীয়েকৰ বুকুত কোনোৱে নোচোৱাৰ সুযোগ লৈ হাত দিবলৈ লঁওতেই সৰু পুতেকে হাতখন থাপ মাৰি ধৰিল।

(৭)

মাহীমাকে জোৰকৈ বিয়া পাতি দিয়া ৰূপাৰ গিৰিয়েক চন্দন আজি কোটি টকাৰ মালিক। ঈৰ্ষাত দহা মাহীয়েকৰ সৰু ছোৱালীজনীক ভিনিহীয়েকৰ দ্বিতীয় পত্নী কৰিবলৈ আপ্ৰাণ





চেপ্টা চলাওতেই চন্দন আৰু ৰূপাই ক'লে- মাহী, আমাৰ ল'ৰা-ছোৱালীৰ অন্যায় হোৱাটো মই সহ্য নকৰিম, সেয়ে গুছি যাঁওক ইয়াত আপোনাৰ আপোন কোনো নাই।

(৮)

ভিক্ষাৰীজনক সন্তোষেৰে দান দি উঠি আইতাজনীয়ে বোৱাৰীয়েকলৈ চাওঁতে তাই মুখখন বেঁকাকৰি ভিতৰলৈ সোমাই গ'ল।

আইতাই একো নক'লে, আইতাইহে জানে এতিয়া থকা অট্টালিকাটোৰ ভেটি তুলিবলৈ মাউৰা ল'ৰাটিক কেনেকৈ পঢ়ুৱাইছিল।

(৯)

দুপৰীয়া ঘৰত অকলে থকা নীৰাই অচিনাকী মানুহজনক আপ্যায়নহে কৰিছিল তেওঁক আলহী বুলি; ভবা নাছিল সেইজনেই সমাজে বান্ধি দিয়া তাইৰ স্বামী হ'ব বুলি।

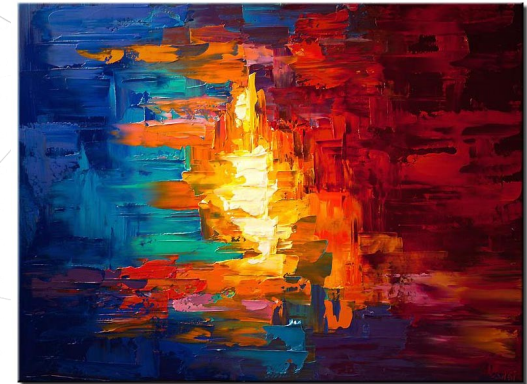
- বনশ্ৰী গগৈ

স্নাতক সপ্তম ষন্মাসিক  
মেকানিকেল ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰিং বিভাগ  
তেজপুৰ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়



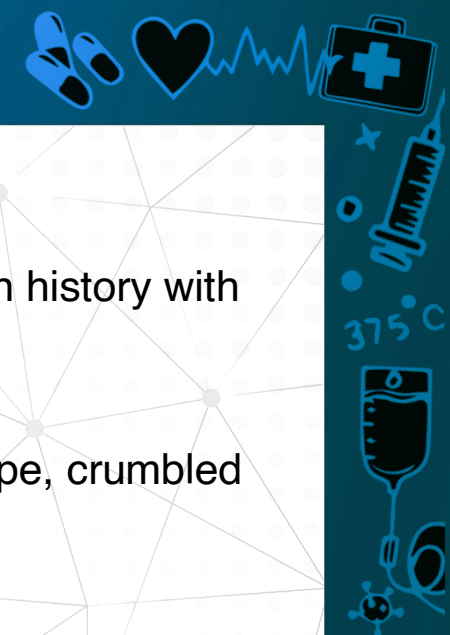
# POCKETS AND REVOLUTIONS

- Rajdattaa Das



I wish I had in my pocket  
The 1791 pen of Olympe de Gouges, sprouting sparks  
of word-revolutions, coated with indomitable will  
That invaded through the fat flesh of assumed authority like a bullet  
And waved the victory flag manifested in the manifesto 'Declaration of the Rights of Women'  
It wreaked vengeance for hundred Joans of Arc who were burnt  
Burnt viciously in the fire of men-autocracy  
Feeding on fat fragile egos.  
My pen shall embody the flames of radicalism spewing blasphemy which burns the abode of bigotry  
But my 1791 iconoclast pen doesn't write pseudo-feminist slogans of "The future is female" in 2020  
'Cause the future is both female and male;





Rebelling unitedly with the flambeau of equality  
Against the tenets of misogyny and misandry  
alike

For the seeds of rebellion should uproot inequality,  
not sprout a ground for another.

I wish I had in my pocket

A magnifying glass, to read an unwritten page  
from a 1940 Auschwitz diary

Which tell tales of a doomed memorial (or burial);  
its walls resounding with "Hell is empty and  
all the devils are here"

A compendium of bottled up pain painted in color  
purple

Of swelled-up veins,  
Scratches and burns in the purple canvas of their  
bodies boiled in a cauldron

Emanating as marks of souvenir from the purple  
poisonous gas strangling parched throats and

burning noses

Memories of which are imprinted in history with  
an invisible purple ink

Coupled with a saga of  
unfulfilled endeavors of futile escape, crumbled  
up in a vortex of failing spirit,  
Crushed.

Stampede over like dry autumn leaves  
Guillotined in the sharp blades of anti-Semitism  
that seeped deep in the haughty Aryan progenitors  
of the 'good breed'.

You read about the horrendous holocaust with  
gaped mouth, shrieking with fear and disgust for  
Hitler

And then go and condemn your friend who is a  
Muslim, cause you belong from the 'good breed',  
she doesn't.

In Harper Lee's quote, "...you hate Hitler so bad  
and then turn around and be ugly about folks





right at home".

My magnifying glass shall. It shall identify hypocrisy clad in robes of feigned modernity,  
Bring it close to the sun,  
And watch it burn. Watch how 1940's transformed prejudice is burning in 2020.  
Profusely.

I wish I had in my pocket  
An eraser, to rub the lines off a suicide note  
And show the person the remnants of all the bright places, if there is left any.  
While my mind drowns in the intricate depths of Virginia Woolf's words,  
I wish I could restrain her from filling her pockets with stones and drowning herself in 1941

In the vastless depth of River Ouse  
When she was fighting for a room of one's own.  
Ever wonder how can a woman of such unfailing spirit surrendered to the vicissitudes of life?  
No we don't wonder, until we lament for the loss.  
We don't wonder, not even in 2020  
When men of great spirit, who lifted us up when we were weak  
Are discovered with a lace of rope encircled around neck.

I wish I had in my pocket---

- **Rajdattaa Das**  
**Integrated M.A in English**  
**5th semester**



# WHY WE NEED TO SAVE ?

- Pankaj Sahu

**T**he global economy came to a halt with impositions of lockdowns due to the pandemic. Even though the economy have opened up yet the whole world is still suffering. India is not contrary to this and is still suffering a lot, especially when the lockdowns and restrictions are hitting hard on to the economy.

With the lockdowns imposed all over the country, the worst affected people are the middle and low income earners. To mention, the daily wage earners and the casual labours, street vendors, small businessman and the people who don't have any formal source of income, etc. are the people who have been worst affected. The situation is such worse that most of the people are now finding it difficult to meet the daily basic expenses. This has greatly highlighted the importance of developing the habit of saving in small amounts especially by the low income earners. The PMJDY scheme launched by the government being one of the finest financial inclusion schemes especially for the





low income earning peoples is yet to gain its objectives as the habit of savings is yet to develop. This is due to the attitude of our people that always questions on 'what will happen if we save ₹ 10 a day?' But the same can be converted into a huge chunk of money if kept unspent. For example, if a person is earning ₹200 per day and saves at least 10% of it, it will amount to ₹20 per day which will eventually lead to ₹ 6000 per year assuming 25 monthly working days. This amount, if kept unspent will accumulate and grow large and help in situations like lockdown. Reports says that the main problem of Indian people is they do not have the habit to save. Everything they earn they spend it and nothing is left to save.

The present scenario of COVID19 and the regular restrictions imposed by the government had given a lesson that savings are vital for every income earning group, no matter how so small may be the income. Therefore it is very much important that people save at least a minimum amount from their earnings how small it may be. Especially, people with low income and daily earners, and who does not comes under the financial system by default, for those savings are of immense important. But then not always people fails to save because of lack of income or low income, while sometimes people with a decent income too fails to save. It is mainly because of lack of financial knowledge. Most of the people are still not aware of the various services provided by the banks. Most of the people does not know about the basic things like the daily sav-




ings account, recurring account or term deposits available and even unaware about many of the schemes launched by the government such as PMJDY, PMJJY, and PMJSY etc. It is a sad reality that most of the people are financially illiterate and even if some of them are aware, they fail to utilize those schemes basically because they lack the knowledge of money management. This all issues highlights the importance of the financial literacy among every individual irrespective of the economic status. It is very vital that the people are made aware about the financial services available in the market. There are lots of investment options available in the market. All those investment avenues if properly utilized can be of great help to every people. Also it will help to mobilize the funds to be used in the economy.

Moreover, we have been always taught to work for money but never taught to make money work for us. If we want that our money work for us the very basic think is to make individuals financially literate. A farmer or a daily wage earner may not need the technical expertise of mathematics, chemistry and biology but definitely need the knowledge of managing money.

The lack of financial knowledge is often seen as people fails to utilize the money they earning and end up spending on buying liabilities more often. Moreover, schemes like PMJDY will fail to achieve its true objective unless people deposits in those accounts. All these issues can be sorted out only when individuals are given proper financial knowledge especially to the income earners who by default does not comes under the financial system. Proper knowledge on the basic things like the types of bank accounts, different investment avenues available and also





the grievance mechanism, if provided to every individual specially to the low income earners can be of great help. Moreover it will help in financial planning and will definitely be able to bring change in the thought process and attitude as well as behaviour of the people to earn, save and then spend rather than the conventional thought process of earning, spending and if something is left, save. By changing the attitude of the people especially with low incomes, definitely one day we will see people with low income accumulating huge chunks of finance to be used in times of contingencies and which will also contribute in the country's economic growth to a great extent.

### **The road ahead**

With the decision of the government to unlock the country phase wise, almost all the activities are being permitted. It is time that we learn from our mistakes. What we need to do is to develop the habit of savings. But does only savings will do the job? Off-course not, we must learn that savings and investment are two different things. When we save we are not making our money grow but when we invest we can see out money growing. Moreover, even to save and invest we need to have certain knowledge. We must learn how to channelize our savings so as to earn more and more from it. The solutions to the entire issues is solely financial education.

We need to change our minds and start investing our money from an early age. There are lots of options available now a days. Even the banks have eased the opening of bank accounts. Moreover there are basics savings accounts that can be open by everyone with minimum doc-



uments. What we need to learn is the money management. We have to learn about investments and various investment alternatives. There are lots of e-resources available to learn about money and investments. There is no hard and fast rule that we need to save in huge. We can start with a small amount. Once we develop the habit of savings and investing, I had a strong believe that in coming future we can sustain situations like this pandemic with ease. Just we have to remember that we must make our money work for us rather to work for money. Let us make money our servant not master.

**- Pankaj Sahu**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**DHSK Commerce College**  
**Dibrugarh**

# HELPLESS ?

- Rajdeep Endaw

In this world of chaos and catastrophe,  
Of demises and sufferings and cries of agony,

I feel helpless.  
Helpless that I cannot dictate but only spectate.  
Spectate how the momentum of the world froze  
Our doors bound to close, and out there, a pandemic rose.

I feel Helpless.  
Helpless that I can neither care nor share,  
The limitless pain that exist in this colossal sphere,  
Where some exist with billions, while billions starve for some

I feel Helpless.



Artwork By - Bhawana Kropi & Rajdeep Endaw



Helpless that I cannot bring a change,  
As the power for eternal peace is just out of my range.  
If only I had the ultimate power, oh I wish.

I feel helpless.  
Helpless that I don't have a cure  
But I have my faith; they will find one for sure.  
Maybe that's what can help us all, faith.

I feel helpless, but should I ?  
For I may not be strong enough, but we are.  
For I cannot bring a change, but we can.  
For I shall not feel helpless, until we are together.

This dreadful darkness will vanish,  
The pain and sufferings will end,  
The world will be tranquil again,  
Keep faith and wait for the transcend.



- **Rajdeep Endaw, 3rd Sem,  
Department of Commerce**



# FACTS

- Sharad Sharma

**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

- When we breathe through our nose, we always inhale more air from one nostril than with the other one — and this changes every 15 minutes.
- The Facebook logo is apparently blue because Mark Zuckerberg is red / green colorblind and blue is the color he sees best. < < < < <
- The red and white Coca-Cola logo is recognized by 94% of the world's population. You can see it too! Just buy one for yourself.
- In Japan it is acceptable to fall asleep on the job; it shows you're working hard! (Japan is Cool)
- The world's quietest room is located at Microsoft's headquarters in Washington state. (I thought it was mine at night) . . . . .
- India's economy has nearly sextupled (six times) in size in less than 20 years. Great job India!
- To be completely on a different note, do you know we get more creative when we feel tired? Not satisfied? Try it out!
- The animal Armadillo shells are bulletproof. We have our hero! > > > > >
- Your strongest memories can be inaccurate no research says that not me. Better keep your memories on check!

# CORONAVIRUS Myths & Facts



So we're all going through COVID-19, why not see some of the Covid myths and facts and bust them!

## Myths

- ✗ Corona is spread by bacteria.    x x x x x x
- ✓ No Sir absolutely **NOT!** The coronavirus disease (**COVID-19**) is **caused by a virus**, NOT by bacteria.    > > > > >
- ✗ Being able to hold your breath for 10 seconds or more without coughing or feeling discomfort mean you are free from COVID-19.    x x x x x x
- ✓ **NO!** This is a hoax and can be injurious as well.    > > > > >
- ✗ COVID - 19 will go away in summers.
- ✓ Well there's **NO** scientific backing for that. And as a matter of fact, the virus is still affecting exponentially even at the hottest months of the year.

## FACTS

- COVID-19 is **NOT** transmitted through **houseflies**. Though don't let it fly all around you.
- Wearing your **masks** during **exercise** can be **harmful**. Yes, sweat can help bacteria to grow into the masks and surely that's not what you want. **Hygiene** is a **MUST**.
- Last one? Yes you know what it is! **Maintaining physical distance** and **sanitizing properly** is the our best defense against the Novel Coronavirus 2019 !



# SONDER

- Kaveri Gogoi

If I meet you on my bus journey to the next town  
and if we sit just next to each other,  
whoever and from wherever you are,  
I would want us to either stay taciturn or to gab.

If we stay taciturn,  
I would be staring at the beautiful paddy fields  
outside the half-broken window pane close to me.  
Not a single person's voice would I pay heed to,  
except the vibrant conductor's utterance,  
"Sister, fare". After paying him my share,







I would again dwell in my own serenity.  
But if we talk,  
don't bother me about the weather  
and the traffic.

Talk to me about how you won or lost  
some of your past battles in tiny tales.  
Tell me what brought you here, to this  
place and time.

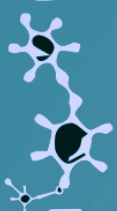
I want to inhale the beauty of your  
thoughts for this moment.

I want to taste the breath  
of your likes and dislikes,  
pain and happiness,  
burdens and hopes.

Despite knowing the fact that I have  
known dozens

of strangers this way  
and that they were all full of life,  
I questioned my barmy nature of be-  
friending them so  
quickly sometimes.  
But as days passed by,  
I found the answer.  
At times when I felt miserable  
and unable to avoid my solipsism,  
I recalled the faces and tales  
of those strangers with whom I  
chatted throughout my bus journeys.  
And only then I realized, that  
their remembrance had the ease to  
leave me in a state of compassion and  
sonder.

**- Kaveri Gogoi, 5th Semester,  
Department of Commerce.**



# ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY OF WORDS, THE NEW NORMAL

- Riya Devi



'Follow your to-do list daily and maintain your Gratitude Journal', I ordered Paul while handing him the diary with a serious hmm, while picking him from his CAT coaching classes.

He started flipping the pages, first at a slow pace and then increase it's pace and sighed cheerfully, 'oh! you prepared it for the whole year and embellish it so beautifully. Thank you, thank you so much di! ' and hugged me, 'how could you be so kind? how did this happened? ' and placed the diary carefully at his sky bag.

'Kind! was I not kind before with you Paul?', I asked him smiling being a bit confused and wore my helmet.

'You used to be but, but you don't used to be this sort of a person di, I mean, you neither use to discuss about your issues nor... 'and he paused to look after his words and still breeze flattered .

'nor, what? '

'you know di, I've seen you've gone thro' so much and you used to always complain, get an-



noyed and that's fair enough, as life wasn't to you ' his voice diminished as he settled at his Scooty's back seat .

'it wasn't fear to react like that, was it?' I smiled at him thro' the side mirror.

He sighed and gave a smile.

'would you like to ride?'

'love too!'

We ride off amidst the dusty lanes and cool air of Tezpur. After 15 minutes from triveni, via LB Road, we entered the Mahabhairab Road, towards Edona to have 'browny with ice cream' as usual.

We ride off once again but this time the lights were on, it was a moonless night but yet soothing to take me back into the past days.

24th april 2020

'you already screwed me, making me fall for you without an intention to accept the love', my

words vocaled carefully, even after having a rage.

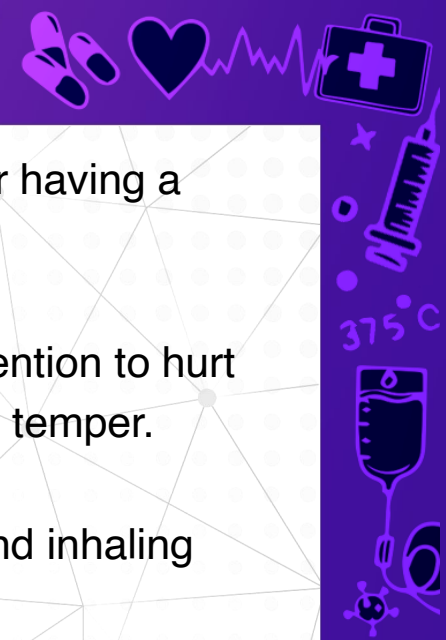
'look, I'm sorry! I didn't had the intention to hurt you', John spoke up after I lost my temper.

I tried to calm down by exhaling and inhaling deep breaths.

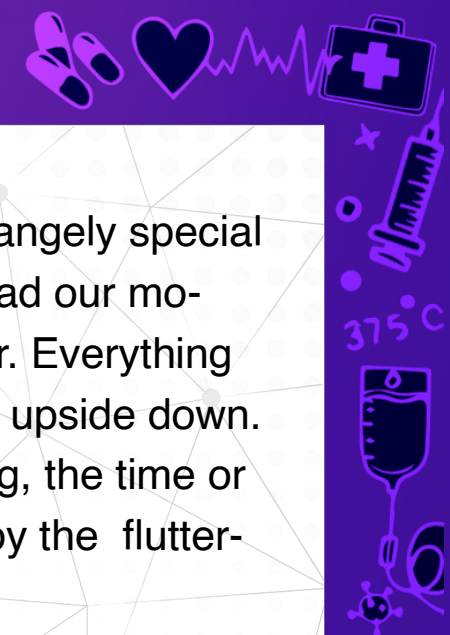
John tried to confront me but it was worthless.

After a minute of silence .

'Clowe! I'm not sure of the future consequences and...' he paused ' I'm not sure of us ' continued after a deep sigh. His voice faded as the heavy shower tapped on the roof. The chilly drops brought me back to the grown up kiddo's dark brown eyes, glinting with the vehicles headlights.







'Is everything alright Di?', he chuckled.

'Yeah!', as it doesn't haunt anymore words popped up in my head. He took the paper bags and went inside after parking.

Soon, I found him in my little room with his curious brown eyes.

'I want to know everything, just everything di, you know what I mean, right?'

'aah haa!' I smirked, I knew he needs to know it as it is a new normal to talk about such issues.

'so you ready?' settling next to him near the window.

He only nodded with a big smile.

'you know! I and John shared a strangely special bond from the very beginning. We had our moments to make us fall for each other. Everything was in its place but things just went upside down. I don't know exactly what was wrong, the time or him?' I paused for a second to enjoy the fluttering leaves, Paul remained silent.

'he was not sure about us after years, he just said that he doesn't have control over his shit desires' 'I offered him to help to practice self control, in fact I surf it over the internet, read various blogs, discuss about it with my close ones, asked them for remedies and had gain enough knowledge. As I believed in his fragile words of fondness. 'come to me incase you need my advice kiddo, I winked.

'So, did he agreed?', he chuckled.

'Nopes! he didn't want to drag me into this.



Things doesn't work, you see!'. 'then?'

'I had an emotional breakdown with addition to that grandma had a stroke, you remember? and all that mess which took place at the hospital due to the outbreak of covid-19. Eventually, I was unable to cope up with my assignments and life too.' 'on one drowning day, the healing book ' Dear Stranger, I know how you feel?' came as a savior angel by 'Ashish bhagrecha'. With meditation, self love and help of some good books I regained myself.'

Pauls' eyes smirked.

'after months he returned'.

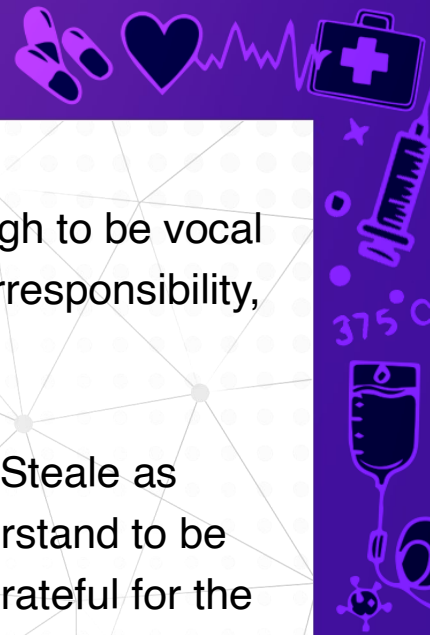
Paul gave google-eyes.

'but by that time, I was strong enough to be vocal about what hurt me and about his irresponsibility, while choosing to play with words'.

'so, this was the tale of Ms. Clowie Steale as being kind and making others understand to be vocal about oneself and for being grateful for the little things'.

...as it is the new normal with a touch of generosity".

**- Riya Devi,  
Darrang College.**



# ৰঙা কলম

আৰু কেইদিনমানৰ পৰা মৃত্যুৰ ঘাঁহনি এডৰাত  
বহুটোপাল চিঞাহীৰ মাজত নিজকে দেখিছো। ক'তা  
মোৰ খোজবোৰ দেখোন জঠৰ নহ'ল।  
নীলিম ফুলৰ এথোপা কলম দেখি ক'ব নোৱাৰাকৈয়ে মই  
হাতখন আগবঢ়াই দিছিলো।  
মোৰ গোটেই হাতখন হৈ পৰিছিল নিমখ।  
আৰু কেইদিনমানৰ পৰা মৃত্যুৰ এখন নীলা ঘাঁহনিত মই  
মোক দেখি আহিছো।  
দুটা ঘনচিৰিকা হৈ এখন বগা চিঠি উৰি গৈছিল  
আৰু তেতিয়ালৈকে মোৰ হিমচেচা ভৰিৰ পতা দুখনৰ  
জড়তাৰ উমান মই পোৱা নাছিলো।



Artwork By - Muhit Nayan Das

- বুদ্ধ জ্যোতি বেজবৰুৱা, স্নাতকোত্তৰ  
তৃতীয় ষান্মাসিক, গণ-সংযোগ আৰু সাংবাদিকতা  
বিভাগ, তেজপুৰ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়



# THIRD WHEEL BENEFICIARY: US-CHINA TRADE WAR

- Avinash Yadav

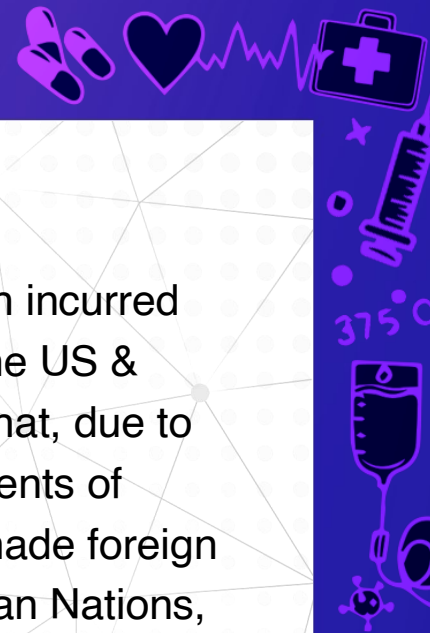


Ever since the genesis of WTO in 1st January 1995 it had laid down its free market policies (Liberalisation of trade) crystal clear, however, the Chinese trade doctrines seem not to be aligned with it. Making a robust case in this, the Communist Party of China (CCP) misused the trade and tariffs against the other underdeveloped, developing and developed nations since its arrival in 11th December 2001. There are serious allegations against them of stealing intellectual properties in every sector, and clone products and services are established by Chinese companies. The authoritarian bodies in China forced the foreign business bodies to transfer the technologies for free and it has proven to be a huge loss to economies of the world, especially to the United States. The dumping strategy of Chinese Government (CCP) ripped off the local businesses of the world and there have been allegations by the United States for currency manipulation, gaining cost benefits, something which is not expected in an open market. This has cost economies with a high trade deficit

with China; especially US, European Union and India.

Because of this, a trade war was declared by the United States against China which incurred losses for both the countries. As a consequence, a loss in GDP bestowed both in the US & China, of 0.9% and 1% respectively, according **Bank of Finland** report. On top of that, due to COVID19 Pandemic the supply chains got disturbed because the major establishments of trade, counted on by major countries were there in China. This scheme of events made foreign business relocate their manufacturing bases away from China to the Southeast Asian Nations, to get away from all bad repercussions and implications and to avoid trade war tariffs, which would make both the company and the consumer go down the hill. The increase in labour cost and the shrinking labour force in China has made foreign firms to make a headway to these Nations. The **trade spill over** will certainly boost this shift, regardless of the fact that these South Asian Nations may not reap off all these manufacturing activities away from China, because of the lack of industrial network clustering, poor infrastructure and logistics networking. These South-east nations lack cost effective labour and favourable business environments which can make it conducive to attract investors across-the-board.

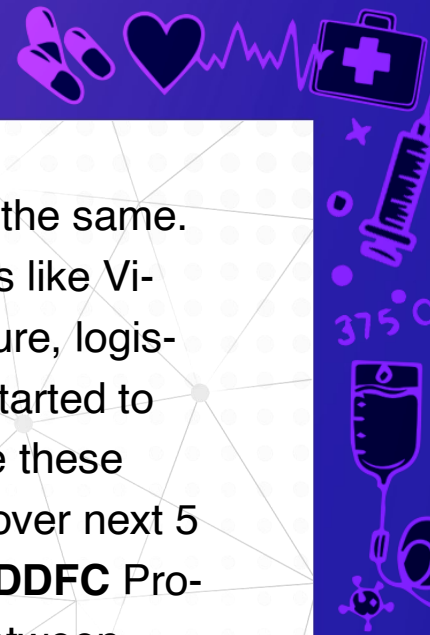
Gliding the glance to India, being a "developing" economy and a lucrative destination for investment, it hasn't pulled off the interest of companies to a fair amount, drawing synonymity with Vietnam, Bangladesh and Thailand. The Indian rupee is volatile, contrary to what foreign companies prefer, i.e. a stable currency. India has added more restrictions on initiation of busi-



nesses, requiring 12 procedures whereas in Vietnam, it takes 8 procedures to start the same. The goods manufactured in India take 5-7 days to reach a port whereas in countries like Vietnam & China, it takes less than a day, the factor facilitating this is poor infrastructure, logistics hurdles and regulatory hiccup. But the good thing is that, the government has started to acknowledge all these problems and various schemes have been introduced to lure these companies, where incentives have been decided to be given on incremental sales over next 5 years under **Production Link Incentive Scheme** and **BharatMala, Sagarmala & DDFC** Projects to improve the logistics infrastructure, by possessing seamless connectivity between roads, railways, waterways and ports. The centre has identified 461,589 hectares of land, which is almost twice the size of the country, Luxembourg. Land has been one of the massive impediments for companies looking to invest in India.

Above all, some of the above-mentioned State degenerated by China creating a discrepancy in the entire structure of world business are the reasons why business nowadays is in such dispute. These selfish acts make it conducive to draw us back to the board in an overall sense, even though it creates immense opportunities for India to put a step now and accelerate. From an Indian perspective, regardless of the fact that world business is descending down as a result of China's ill - strategies, it produces a chance for India to prosper like never before.

- **Avinash Yadav, 5th Semester,**  
**Department of Commerce**





# WHITE WALLS

- Digvijoy Dinesh Gogoi

Characters of the book in my hand  
Seemed more real than  
The casual indifference and  
Virtual dwelling of the people around  
me;  
As though it was only yesterday  
Of bleeding knees and sweating vests.  
Starting out of the foggy glam pane,  
my mind wandered along with  
the meandering raindrops  
To unknown yet familiar places  
Of distant memories and long lost  
battles

The smoke beneath the  
heavy pour  
Seemed more blurred than  
those images  
Across the window of the  
trains  
I used to board with my fa-  
ther and those summers ago  
I want you to give me a moment,  
A moment to board those trains again,  
To take me to places of  
Neutron stars, super nova and nebulas  
Where time flows faster than



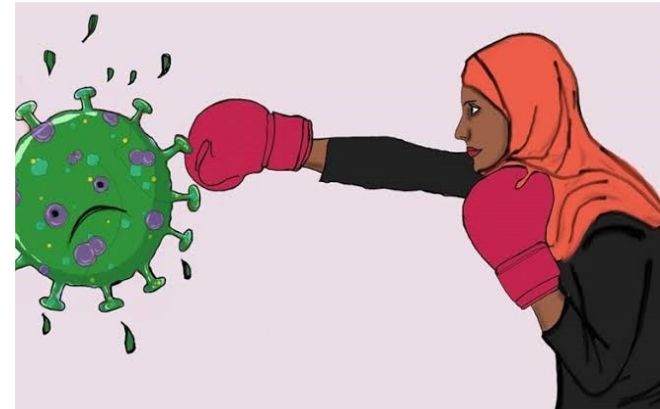
The life of the corpse-like figure beside me.  
I want you to give me a moment,  
I want to pass this never-ending  
Funeral of white wall, dejected souls  
And smell of disinfectants

If this is the end of time,  
I want you to give me a moment  
A moment to revisit the memories  
Lingering in the moors of the  
Sanctuaries of the life I had  
Dreamed with you;  
A moment to receive this.

- **Digvijoy Dinesh Gogoi**  
**MSc (Biotechnology)**  
**IIT Kharagpur**

# BUILDING SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE TO STAY PANDEMIC-PROOF

- Annu Kumari



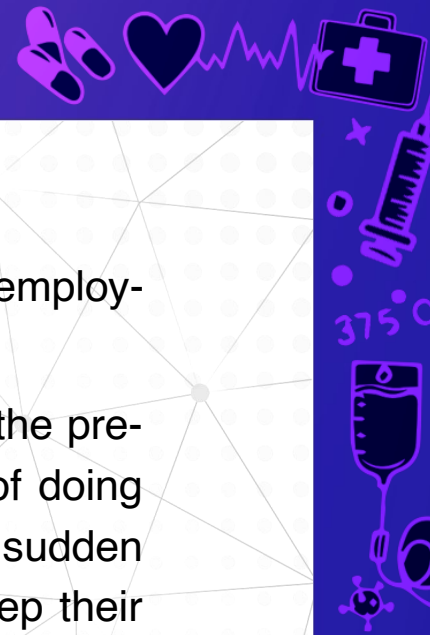
If I say that we all are living in a world of uncertainty than I am not wrong. Yes it's true that somewhere we all are facing some kind of uncertainty about something in our present life. The impact of the current pandemic on the economy has driven us with fear and anxiety. For example, if talk about students, they are uncertain about their exams, result, admission, etc. If we talk about people working in the private sector they are uncertain about their jobs and if we talk about the business person they are uncertain about the sustainability of their organization in the upcoming future. In the business world as per RBI survey, the Tourism, MSME and other unorganized sectors have been facing hard challenge whereas there is a slowdown in consumption of other goods and services and the organization is running with the less than half of the capacity and many businesses are on halt, which has resulted in the reduction of cash flow. This reduction in cash flow of the



business has been leading to lots of problems such as payment of salaries to the employee, payment of tax, loan, etc.

It is said that “there is always an opportunity in every crisis” and in response to the present situation, we all have an opportunity to find out more creativity in the way of doing business despite following the existing system. Though the business has faced sudden economic impact and they have suffered a loss but it's the time they need to keep their morale up and maintain a positive attitude. They need to accept the new normal and identify the opportunity to not just simply bouncing back but being proactive instead of reactive. A business earns well when it fulfills the requirement of its consumers. If we take an example of the food delivery industry (e.g, Domino's Pizza, Zomato, etc.) or e-commerce, they have been doing well by following the norms of the present situation and assuring their consumers about the safety measure they have been taking to protect them from the virus spread. Similarly, small retailers can also commence their business with the help of e-commerce or home delivery.

Although the system of the delivery of the commodity or the service at the doorstep is showing good result in some sectors, there are also some other sectors such as tourism industry and many more in which there is lack of opportunity for commencing their



business at present due to which so many people have lost their source of earning have the opportunity to start a low investment business. For example, mask-making business, farming of veggies, or some exotic fruits with the help of advanced farming technology for the good result.

In the present pandemic situation, sustainable finance is the main part of the solution for the business to sustain. Therefore the business resilience needs to be advancing instead of advertising for building sustainability and stay pandemic-proof.

**- Annu Kumari**

**M.com, 4th Sem**

**Department of Commerce**

**School of Management Sciences**



# আজি আকৌ লগ পালোঁ তোমাক

আজি আকৌ,  
লগ পালোঁ তোমাক ।  
সেই একেখিনি ঠাইত  
একেই সময়ত ।  
গধূলি পৰত, সূৰ্যাস্তৰ সময়ত  
প্ৰেমৰ ৰঙেৰে যেন  
গোটাই আকাশখন  
হেঙুলী হৈ পৰিছিল ।

নৈৰ পাৰত থকা  
কৃষ্ণচূড়া গছৰ তলত বহি,  
আমি দুয়ো চাই আছিলো,  
নৈৰ পানীত প্ৰতিফলিত হোৱা,  
চকু জুৰ পেলোৱা সেই







হেঙুলী সূৰ্যৰ  
ৰক্তিম আভাবোৰ ।

এইফালে কাণত বাজি উঠিছিল  
চৰাইবোৰৰ সুৰীয়া কণ্ঠৰ  
সুমধুৰ গীতবোৰ ।  
যেন সিহঁতে মোক  
কব বিচাৰি আছিল,  
তোমাৰ নামটো ।

শুকাই তলত সৰি পৰা  
কৃষ্ণচূড়াৰ পাতবোৰৰ মাজত,  
এটা জৰজৰনি শব্দ কৰি,  
লাহে লাহে আহি আছিল  
বতাহ এজাক ।  
সেই মৃদু বতাহজাকে  
আতৰাই দিছিল  
তোমাৰ মুখত পৰি থকা

কপাহৰ নিচিনা কোমল চুলিখিনি ।  
লগে লগেই উজ্বল হৈ  
জিলিকি উঠিছিল  
মুকুতামণি সদৃশ  
তোমাৰ চকুজুৰি ।

কিন্তু মই আজিও দেখা  
নাপালো তোমাৰ মুখখন ।  
আজিও একেখিনি সময়তেই  
ভাগি থাকিল মোৰ সপোন ।

• • • • •

- কৰণ কুমাৰ দাস

স্নাতক তৃতীয় ষান্মাসিক  
পদার্থ বিজ্ঞান বিভাগ,  
তেজপুৰ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়





# ইটো সিটো বহুতো (এক মিনিটৰ গল্প)

- Barasharani Bora

.....সময় ঠিক মনত নাই,কিন্তু আবেলিৰ বেলা। লকডাউনে জীৱন দুৰ্বিসহ কৰি তুলিছে। তাৰ মাজতে ক'ৰণাক আওকাণ কৰি বজাৰত আলু পিয়াঁজ কিনি আছোঁ। ঘৰৰ ওচৰৰ চিনাকি পেছাত MVI অতি ভব্য গৰ্য্য খুড়া এজনেও হাতত মোনা লৈ পাচলিৰ দৰ দাম কৰি আছে। আৰু ক্ৰেতাৰ ভিৰ বঢ়াৰ সুযোগ লৈ নিমিষতে হাতত দুটা পিয়াঁজ নিজৰ বেগত ভৰাই লৈ বেপাৰী জনক উদ্দেশ্যি চিয়ৰি উঠিল,নিকিনো তোৰ দোকানৰ পৰা। মানুহক ঠগি তহঁতে ইমান দাম ললে উন্নতি নহ'ব ক'লো মই। অঃ আপুনি কিমান উন্নতি কৰিলে আজি মই স্বচক্ষে দেখিলো অ খুড়া।



.....পাপা মই কৰণৰ লগত অলপ ওলাই যাওঁ। ঘৰত থাকি থাকি ব'ৰ হৈ গৈছোঁ। পুতেক অংকুৰৰ মাতত পেপাৰ পঢ়ি থকাৰ পৰাই দেউতাকে বোলে গাড়ীখনকে লৈ যা ইমান গৰম বাহিৰত। পৰ্দাৰ আঁৰৰ পৰা অংকিতাইও চেপা মাতৰে ক'লে পাপা মোৰো কাম এটা আছিল বহস্যধৰ্মী কিতাপ এখন কিনিব লাগে। কথা শেষ হ'ব নাপাওঁতেই চৌধুৰীয়ে হুমকি দি উঠিল নালাগে, ছোৱালী মানুহে কিতাপ পঢ়ি





বাহিৰত ঘূৰি কি কৰিব ঘৰত থাকি মাক সহায় কৰ।ঠিকেই চৌধুৰীদা আপুনি পুৰুষ হৈ ইমানক বাহিৰত ঘূৰি কি শিকিলে তাৰ উত্তৰ এইয়া।

.....প্ৰথিতযশা সমাজসেৱীকা, নাৰী সবলীকৰণৰ সবল নেত্ৰী ৰঙ্গময়ী হাজৰিকানীয়ে মঞ্চত উদাত্ত কণ্ঠেৰে পুৰুষ জাতিয়ে মহিলাৰ ওপৰত কৰা শোষণৰ ব্যাখ্যাৰে সভাগৃহ ৰজনজনাই থকা সময়তে তেওঁৰ মোবাইলটো বাজি উঠিল। যেনেতেনে বক্তব্য শেষ কৰি গাড়ীত উঠি ঘৰমুৱা হ'ব লগতেই সভাৰ এজনে চাহ কাপ খাই যাবলৈ জোৰ কৰাত হাজৰিকানীয়ে গাড়ীৰ পৰাই লাহেকৈ কৈ উঠিল, নাখাওঁ দিয়ক, এওঁ মানে অফিচৰ পৰা আহি পালেহিয়ে, মই গৈ চাহ কাপ বনাই সন্মুখত নিদিলে তেওঁ খং কৰিব। বাহিৰে ৰং চং ভিতৰি কোৱাভাতুৰী বুলি এইটোকে কয়।

.....ডাইনিং টেবুলত বহি সকলোৱে ডিনাৰ কৰি আছে।থাওলায়ে সকলোকে যি লাগে তাকে যতনাই দি শেষত সি খোৱাৰ নিয়ম। থাওলাইয়ে ৰন্ধা সুস্বাদু মাংসৰ আঞ্জা ৱাহ ৱাহ কি টেষ্টি বুলি পৰিয়ালৰ সকলোয়ে মিলি কেৰাহী চাফা কৰি দিছে। শেষতহে মালিকনি বাইদেউয়ে মাত লগালে, হেৰি নহয় থাওলা ভাত, মাংস সব শেষ হ'ল।তই বিস্কুট দুটা খায়েই শুই যাবি আৰু। উম: লগুৱা মানুহৰটো পেটত ভোক আৰু মুখত লোভ নাথাকে।

..... অ'ই ৰিক্সাৱালা বেছি কথা ক'ব সাহস নকৰিব। এইকন বাট আহোতেই তোক ৩০টকা লাগে হাঃ। কিন্তু বাইদেউ আপুনি বজাৰলৈকে আহিম কৈ কলেজ পালেহি, ভয়ে ভয়ে তলমূৰ কৰি জিভা কামুৰি ৰিক্সাৱালা







ইড্ৰিছে মাত লগালে।বাইদেউ গৰ্জি উঠিল দুনাই,ঐ চৰত গাল ফালি দিম তৰ্ক নকৰিবি, শিক্ষাৰ পোহৰ দেখা নাপালি কাৰণে আজি তোৰ এই অৱস্থা অথচ লাজ নাই। হয় হয়; শিক্ষাৰ প্ৰমাণ দুইজনেই দিলে এজনে তই তই বুলি আৰু আনজনে বাইদেউ আপুনি বুলি ।

.....ইমান অসভ্য বোৱাৰী মই জীৱনত নাইদেখা। চাকৰি কৰিলে বুলিয়ে ৰাতিপুৱা অকণমান দেৰি হ'ল বুলিয়ে পানীকেঁচুৱা এটা থাকিল বুলিয়ে নিজৰ কাপোৰ কেইটিও মোৰ ল'ৰাইহে ধুই দিব লাগে।ৰাম ৰাম,এই বোৱাৰী জনীয়ে যাদু মন্ত্ৰ কৰি মোৰ ল'ৰাৰ মূৰটো খালে।কিন্তু মোৰ ছোৱালী হ'লে খুব সৌভাগ্যৱতী দেই, তাই যি কয়, জোৱাইয়ে তাকে শুনে।হয় দিয়ক নিজৰ বোৰ সদায় ভাল,আনৰবোৰহে বেয়া।

- Barasharani Bora  
Sociology, 2018-2020



# FADING COLORS

- Chinmoyee Boruah

If one day I paint my childhood  
in a blank canvas  
I will paint it in yellow.  
The kind of yellow  
that drops onto a paddy field  
at the last hour of the day.  
I will paint a bunch of kids  
cheering and playing  
in that barren field of January  
when air smells like harvest  
and the distant villages echo  
of a festive rhythm of Madal.  
My palette has greys in it too.  
I someday might paint  
my father's old almirah  
that had yellow books in it.

I used to sit by it  
and lost myself.  
Somewhere,  
in the dying sun  
and yellow old pages.  
You see, those days were  
as bright and faded  
as an evening sun.  
That kind of yellow,  
which can fill pages  
and still not be enough.



- Chinmoyee Boruah  
5th semester  
Department of English  
Tezpur University

# অনামী

আহিলে সোণাক হৈ আহিবা  
সিঁচি দিবা মোৰ আঁচলত  
মুঠি মুঠি হালধীয়া..  
এপলক জিৰাবাহি মৰমৰ ছাঁত  
বৈ বব এখন অনামী চঞ্চল নৈ  
আত্মাৰ পৰা আত্মালৈ নিৰৱধি  
সমিৰণে কঢ়িয়াব আগমনৰ বাৰ্তা  
তুমি যে মোৰ সেমেকা চোতালৰ  
এচেৰেঙা ব'দৰ উশাহ।

আকুলতাত সজীৱ হ'ব তৰাং মনৰ পথাৰ  
এমুঠি পোহৰে নিচুকাম ক'লা তমসাক  
সপোনবোৰ আমাৰ হ'ব  
যি হ'ব আমাৰ হ'ব।



- শ্ৰীমতী মণিকা বৰুৱা, বি.এড প্ৰশিক্ষাৰ্থী  
পাৰিজাত একাডেমী, ডিব্ৰুগড় বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়।



# NARRATING GRANDMA

- Madhurjya Goswami

I found it difficult  
to approach her  
for help.

She was so frail  
and irritable.

So I offered her  
an orange.

And made my circuitous attempt  
a gift.

Grandma ate it  
ravenously.

Grandma obviously knew little  
Of poetry and writing.

For her, poets were

“talented men”

“gyaani”

“one in thousands.”

Between the savoring noises  
she told me her story.

“I was a beautiful girl”

“Married at nine”

“and for many years  
longed for a home  
amidst a gaggle of geese”

“I prayed in a house  
blown apart by storm”  
and looked into the evening  
with sere, distant eyes.



I asked if she remembered  
anything of her husband.

“only nut brown shoes.

Sometimes muddy

Sometimes polished

like a bell.

Going off at regular intervals.”

She could not recall the magazines  
she had read in summer afternoons.

“but I felt like a butterfly  
fluttering happily  
in a bell jar.”

In her eyes was the ghost  
Of a youth wrapped in  
sandalwood and velvet shoes.

Did she want to write?

She toyed with an orange peel

and threw it like a dart.

“I tried. I failed”

And laughed at the fading day  
like women at weddings.

- **Madhurjya Goswami,**  
**English dept.**  
**Tezpur University**



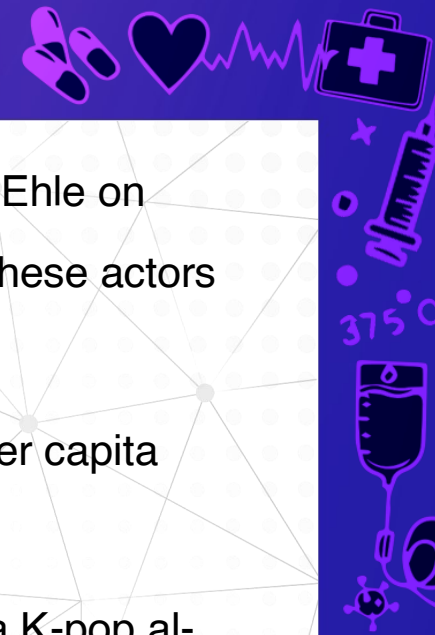
# TRIVIA BYTES

by Abhinav Das (6th Sem) & Majoni Basumatary (3rd Sem)



1. In his 1976 bestseller “The Selfish Gene”, Richard Dawkins defined \_\_\_\_\_ as an idea, behavior or style that spreads from person to person within a culture. Fill in the blank.
2. In Swami and Friends, Swami played for the MCC. What did ‘M’ in MCC stand for?
3. The first sketches of which superhero by artist Robert Kahn gave him wings and red tights?
4. Which cartoon strip by R K Laxman represented the antics of the ‘The Common Man’?
5. First introduced to the world in 2007, it was only a matter of time before it became one of the most popular phones on the market. What was the name of the first phone by Apple?
6. In the month of March, Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health published





a video series starring Kate Winslet, Laurence Fishburne, Matt Damon and Jennifer Ehle on topics such as washing hands, social distancing and taking precautions. Why were these actors chosen?

7. Which country's residents, as of 2014, watched more hours of YouTube content per capita than anywhere else in the world?

8. What is the name of the band that made history when it became the first to have a K-pop album enter the top 10 of the Billboard 200 chart?

9. Which film was the first Indian talkie to have used Dubbing and Re-recording Technology, and the first to engage with "realism" and politics in Indian cinema?

10. Who has the credit of captaining the Indian Cricket team to her first overseas victory?

### ANSWERS:

1. Meme 2. Malgudi 3. Batman 4. You Said It 5. iPhone 6. They were the cast of the movie 'Contagion' which dealt with a similar virus like Covid-19 7. Saudi Arabia 8. BTS 9. Joymoti 10. Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi.



# আন্ধাৰৰ প্ৰেমিকা

আন্ধাৰৰ মাদকতা আৰু নিস্তদ্ধতাৰ মাজত  
শব্দৰ এলানী লুকা-ভাকু  
কি যে এক সুকীয়া আমেজ এই ক্ষণৰ!  
পৰাণৰ কাতৰ চিঞৰবোৰ যেন চকুলো হৈ নিগৰে  
উচুপনিবোৰেও যেন কোনোবাখিনিত কাণ তাল মাৰি ধৰে  
অথচ প্ৰেমিকা মই সেই ক্ষণৰ  
বিশালকায় এডাল অজগৰে মেৰাই ৰখা হৃদয়খনে  
যেন কিছু সুবিধা পায় উশাহ ল'বলৈ  
অজানিতে বৈ অহা তপ্ত লোতকৰ ধাৰে যেন গলাই পেলাই  
সময়ৰ ৰাক্ষসে শিল কৰা মানৱ আৱেগবোৰ  
সেই ৰঙহীন সময়কণ যে তেনেই খন্তেকীয়া  
অথচ তাত মই বিচাৰি পাওঁ অলেখ ৰঙৰ অক্ষয় ভাণ্ডাৰ  
পোৱা-নোপোৱাৰ হিচাপ-নিকাচ পাহৰি  
জীয়াই থাকিবলৈ শিকোৱা  
মই এনে আন্ধাৰৰে প্ৰেমিকা ।



- চয়নিকা গগৈ

স্নাতক ষষ্ঠ ষান্মাষিক, মনোবিজ্ঞান বিভাগ  
দৰং কলেজ, তেজপুৰ

# IS THE LOCKDOWN WEAPONISING NIHILISM?

- Bhawana Kropi & Sushruta Batsya

The on-going pandemic has been a great lesson on how important physical presence is for one without which our mind falls into the ocean of intangibility. The intangibility defines the limitations of human experience; a point from where the mind cannot engage any further. Our sense of activity or perhaps the sense of being alive comes from our engagement with the real, or the tangible. In a way, we are wired to derive meaning, purpose and faith from such engagements with the physical realm. Maybe, this doesn't apply across the board that is to say the lockdown has not created the despondency for all this writer is projecting. That is true; people who sit on chairs and work on desks for earning are definitely not going through a phase of overt existentialism. The society functions on some deep seated assumptions about its institutions, values, customs, beliefs, for those who have the luxury to ponder upon these subjects can hardly seem to understand that their understanding is merely an observation but the real test of those assumptions comes from the conduct of those who can care less about those assumptions. When





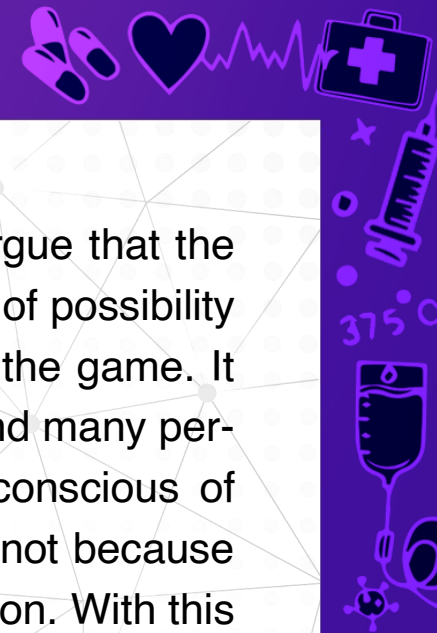


our assumptions losses its hold on the society then nihilism sets in. What can a person who has never been to Bangkok tell about the 'Bangkok massage'? My guess is only as much as it is written in a blog by someone who has been to Bangkok. A toddler develops by use of its limbs i.e. physicality, he tries to walk, he falls, he learns and his mind adjusts accordingly. Voices raised for recognition of degradation in-terms of mental health by way of introduction of helpline numbers, counselors etc. As much as it is a commendable collective effort, but it doesn't deride the fact that the majority of people solely dependent on their physicality doesn't even know what they are going through or what depression, anxiety or any of those fancy terms mean in the real sense. The largest group of mentally affected due to the lockdown is also the segment of people who are perhaps experiencing such purposelessness for the very first time. Individuals cutting across lines, from laborers to social miscreants (thieves, robbers, burglars, etc) form this group who have been kept out of their game for too long now.

There are many news reports suggesting that there is a tremendous drop in crime rate because of the lockdown. So, does it mean all criminals have become law-abiding citizens? No. There is not enough activity in the street so; the risk of being caught has increased many folds. Hence, they would rather stay at home because the government is feeding them anyway.

Fundamentally, the people who are hitting their mental barriers for the very first time perhaps are





also the people who are inept in using physical force in getting what they want. I argue that the lockdown can weaponize nihilism which needs to be considered at least in the realm of possibility by the ones who don't have much of an idea about how hard it is to remain out of the game. It has been reported that consumption of toxic substances has substantially reduced and many perhaps have give-up on those. What one must understand is that those who are conscious of health, career etc. are also the ones who have detached themselves of it or maybe not because very few have made their decision as a conscious one but rather as a one of imposition. With this lockdown there can be a spike of drug abuse in a segment which on a normal day engages in labor for 8 hours. With their basic necessities fulfilled by the government it remains plausible they shift to more consumption of intoxicating substances of lower cost. As saying goes- 'an idle mind is the devil's workshop'. That to an extent can be seen in the spike in domestic violence especially in the section relying on physicality.

With a prolonged lockdown it can certainly rid many of optimism which can instrumentalize into methods for thrill or a sense of rebellion. For loss of hope can mean many dangerous aspects to the society as we know it but one of them would be no fear of prison or social shame because what difference would it make anyway from the home he or she is living in.



# প্ৰভাতী সূৰুয

সৌৱা চোৱা , মায়াজাল খনে  
সকলোকে

আৱৰি আহিছে.....

কা কা কৰি ৰমলিয়াই থকা  
কাউৰীজনীও

আজি নিশ্চুপ হৈ বহি আছে।

চঞ্চলা ময়ূৰজনীও যেন আজি  
ভাগৰি পৰিছে।

সদায় চৈঁকুৰী ফুৰা বাঘ আৰু হৰিনী  
জনীও

যেন আজি কাষত বহি ইটো-সিটোৰ  
দুখ শুনিছে।

ফুটুকী পখিলি জনীও প্ৰাণ কৰা নাই

আজি

ৰামধেনুৰ সাতো ৰং...

অস্তগামী বেলিটোও আজি  
সিঁচিয়াই

থৈ যোৱা নাই ৰঙীন আশাৰ  
ৰেঙণি...

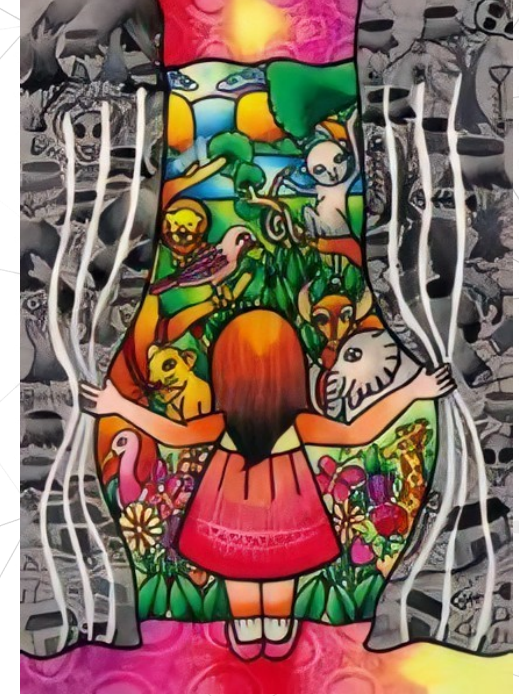
যান্ত্ৰিকতাৰে আবৃত্ত আমি বোৰ  
যেন

একোটা বিফল মেচিন..

বলা, একেলগে ঘূৰি যাওঁ

আদম আৰু ইভৰ দেশলৈ ..

আকৌ সিঁচি দিম ন-সৃষ্টিৰ ন-কঠীয়া।



- Mrinmayee Phukan  
Department- EVS  
2018-20 batch



# 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2020

- Nehal Paul

Ah! the moon looks so delicate,  
And yet so enchanted,  
From a place feels so affectionate,  
And yet so daunted.

Callous blessed with holy waters,  
Is the craft of the deity,  
Where its gift wonders,  
The purpose of their destiny.

For it is inevitable as they say,  
And one has to respect its sacred way,

For one must give  
away,

What it desires as it  
has no voice and no  
say.

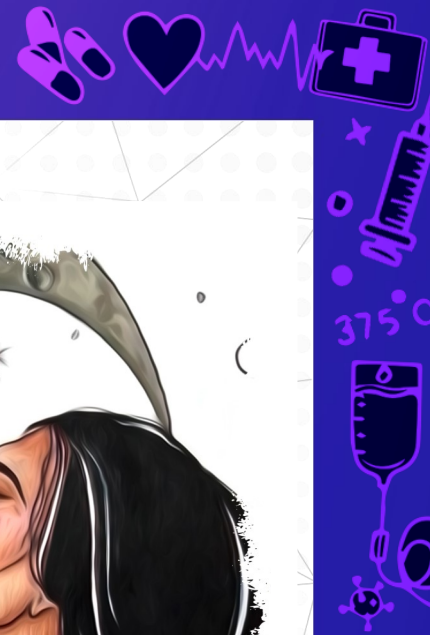
"I have always wonder  
what it feels like, up in  
the space to see the  
moon so close to one."

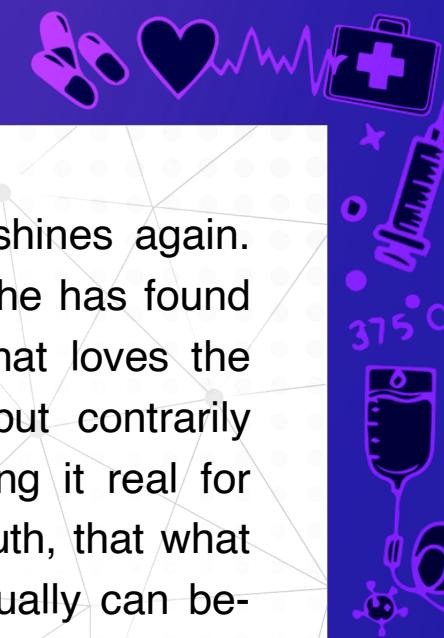
Says Anshu to someone. While she  
was staring at the moon just outside  
the entrance of her house.

She feels it as a dream beyond her  
realm of practical goals. She feels jeal-



Artwork By - Bhawana Kropi





ous, jealous that she couldn't make it. Yet she tries to imagine those who seems to break all the barriers to just live a moment up there, close to the moon where many dies dreaming of, for once if she could have made it up there. But her world is shrinking in and she is facing the horror of how things are going beyond her control.

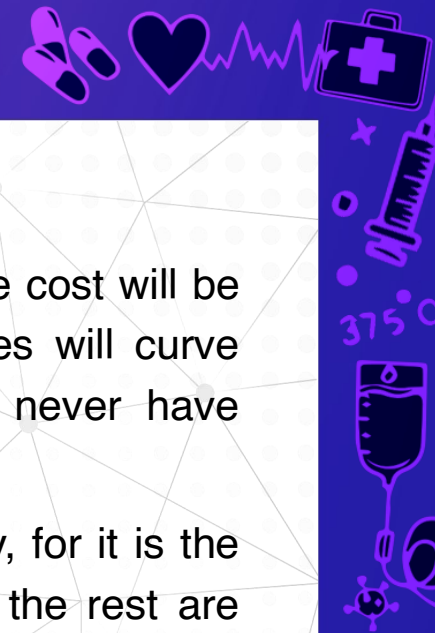
In a half-moon lit night follows a soothing breeze. Leaves falling off the trees and rushing with the winds.

A thin blanket of cloud scattered on south-west side of the sky just covering the edge of the moon while moving towards the north-east side. Like wrapping just, the body, while the face remains bare and vulnerable for her eyes to see. The half-curved moon reflecting the suns light into the darkest nights of autumn. Lighting it up for her sight to glare where the vast stretch of darkness ends.

Probably nowhere till the sun shines again. And in this moment of her life, she has found her most vulnerable self, one that loves the idea of reaching her dreams but contrarily fears the very moment of making it real for somewhere within her lies the truth, that what seems so sparkling might eventually can become the reason for her downfall. For this world doesn't do justice to all. All those who suffer, those who could had made it but failed for not all are treated equally as their lies conditions on whom to be sympathetic for.

A ruler's jaw,  
Is a raven's claw,  
That snatches the law,  
If not landed in its paw.





Though it can ignite,  
A startling blight,  
Where the frail will be spite,  
But who cares for the feeble; as they get smite?  
For the power that fright,  
Is the holy shrine of light,  
Where the poor's plight,  
Is a ruler's unforeseen night.

..... Not a day passes by where she is left on her own. She leaves on her dreams, not to escape but to relive those moments that of her past, to reclaim the reality of her present, that she might never be able change, for they have occurred without her assent.

And she didn't know that, that the cost will be immense. That the consequences will curve her future in a way she could never have comprehend.

But now all she could do is to try, for it is the only option she seems to have, the rest are ousted.

And she will never be seen, for what she is but for the consequences of her dreams that shaped her existence.

(An awareness for Maladaptive Daydreaming:  
"Maladaptive daydreaming is a psychiatric condition. It was identified by Professor Eliezer Somer of the University of Haifa in Israel. This condition causes intense daydreaming that distracts a person from their real life.





Many times, real-life events trigger day dreams. These events can include:

topics of conversation

sensory stimuli such as noises or smells

physical experiences

This disorder is not part of the new edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-V). It doesn't have any official treatment. But some experts say it is a real disorder that can have real effects on a person's daily life."

- **Nehal Paul**  
**6th Semester,**  
**Department of Commerce**

# UNSPOKEN DREAMS

- Krishna Deka

Does it really end when it ends?

Darkness is not the identity of emptiness

Light doesn't mean success always

When genesis of light is splintering darkness

Then why is darkness abhorred today

Does certitude has any periphery?

Then why this boundless certitude is despised today

My remonstrance are nebulous, unstirred and motionless today

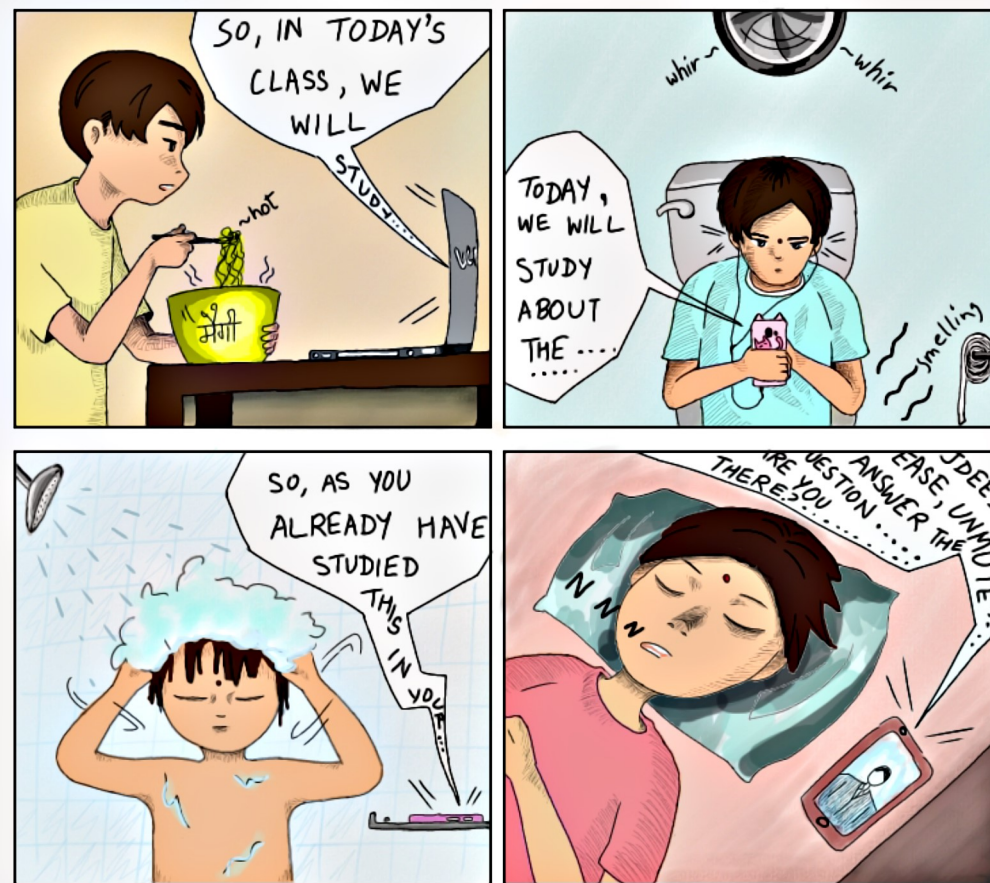
Beneath these remonstrance my certitude triumphs and fails today.



Artwork By - Bhavna Kashyap

- Krishna Deka  
Education Department  
B.Ed. 3rd Semester

# COMIC STRIPS



THIS IS FICTION!

NOT DEPICTION OF REAL LIFE EVENTS!

- By Diksha Deka



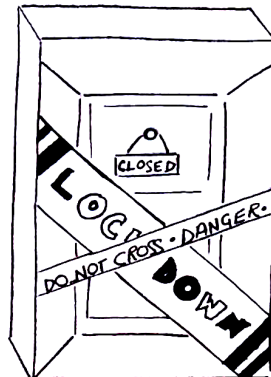
# COMIC STRIPS

# QUARANTIME

I WISH I COULD  
CHILL AND RELAX  
AT HOME, ONLY FUN



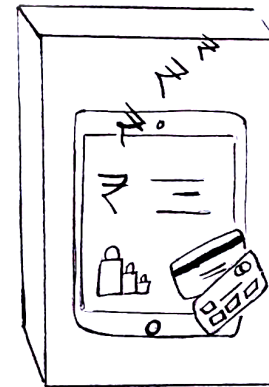
USED TO THINK...



AND THEN LOCKDOWN  
HAPPENED



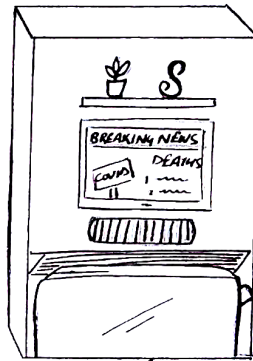
FROM WORK GOING  
ONLINE



TO SHOPPING ONLINE



BY FACETIME &  
MESSAGING



WE BECAME ENCLOSED  
IN A BOX...



FINDING THE RIGHT  
TIME TO GET OUT



TILL THEN STAY SAFE!  
AND WEAR MASK...



- By Sharad Sharma

# बस सपना ही था !

यह क्या ! देखो तो  
हरयाली ही हरयाली छाई है  
घर घर में खुशी की लहर सी छाई है  
ऐसा नहीं कबिन गए सब करोड़पति  
फरि भी हँसी ही हँसी छाई है  
खुरपी चलाने वाले से लेकर  
कलम चलाने वालों तक  
सब पर ज्योत ही ज्योत छाई है  
गनिने चलें तो पाएंगे  
दुःख तो अब भी है  
नकारात्मकता के कारणे भी कम नहीं है  
तो फरि ?  
दरअसल हुआ यह कि  
सकारात्मकता ज़्यादा बढ़ गई है

दुःख में सुख ढूँढ़ने की कला  
मलि गई है  
उफ़फ़ कतिना सुंदर, कतिना  
सुखमय  
तन-मन मानो खलि उठा है

पर हाय ! देर न लगी नींद के टूटते  
स्वप्न से उतरते  
मटि गई वह हँसी की रेखा  
वलीन हुई हरयाली  
छा गए पुनः हाहाकार, वलाप  
दोषारोप, असंतुष्टियाँ।



- नसीफा अहमद  
स्नातकोत्तर तृतीया सत्र  
हर्दी वभाग, तेज़पुर विश्वविद्यालय

[illegible]



clarifies where an organization and its people stand as because it is a several level activity like crisis prevention, planning, training, response and recovery. It is a progressive process which is not restricted within a particular area and encompasses rapidly and emerge with other crisis. It is more likely as the process with related steps and procedure which generally lead to early prediction of any potential crisis, identify the nature of crisis and solution of the same within time.

Crisis bring major changes to business organizations in the way they handle their businesses. It imposes a change mainly in business strategies and their management style in an environment where challenges and risks are numerous. Thus this helps organization not to fully avert the crisis, but manage it efficiently with a minimum loss.

The very principle of organization resides in the capability to withstand abrupt changes (or crisis) and it must be able to integrate itself with new element of complexity from the environment. Organizationally, the economic crisis at different point of time and related governmental activities changes industries to act more fundamentally, accelerate trends that were already underway in others and open up opportunities.

The intention of crisis management in organization is to deal effectively with losses and damage and restore the business performance, which may include the creation of a preventive pro-

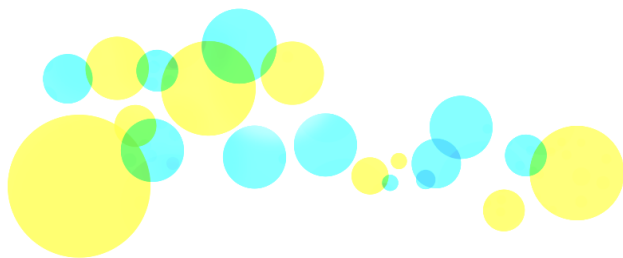


gramme and mechanisms. This in today's world is an important part of organization management which consistently analysis the environment by establishing a cooperative environment with all the stakeholders.

Sustainable organizations are those that manage to go through different phases which is governed by indetermination and linearity. An understanding is to be developed how these abrupt changes can be unfolded for future path to address with different new interventions. In this virtual challenging environment more participative and empathic team leaders is to be identified who can develop more professional performance management .

The current situation demands that organizational changes should go deeper into history to learn about crisis which has been handled in the past. As Winston Churchill once said," The longer you can look back, the further you can look forward".

**- Bhargav Gautam Boruah,  
Dibrugarh University, Assam.**



# পৃথিৱীৰ অসুখ

যান্ত্ৰিকতাৰ চুড়ান্ত শিখৰত  
আৰম্ভ হ'ল পৃথিৱীৰ অসুখ,  
স্বার্থপৰতাৰ অন্তিম বিন্দুত আজি  
মৃতপ্ৰায় এই বিহংগম কায়াৰ।

হেমন্ত হেৰুৱাৰ তাড়নাত  
আজি পৃথিৱীৰ অসুখ,  
বৃষ্টিৰ কুৰুক্ষেত্ৰৰ অন্তত  
ক্লান্তময় শ্রান্ত সন্ধিয়াত  
শোষণৰ বলি হৈ  
আজি পৃথিৱীৰ অসুখ।

উৎসৱৰ নামত সৰ্বস্ব হেৰুৱাই  
মাতাল হোৱাৰ ভীষণ পৰিণতিত

আজি পৃথিৱীৰ অসুখ। যেন  
আলিংগনৰ দুৰ্বাৰ তাড়নাত  
নিজত্ব হেৰুওৱা এক ষোড়শী কন্যাকা।

এবাৰ আকাশৰ তললৈ আহা!  
বানপীড়িত হেজাৰ কৃষকে  
তোমাক দিব সংগ্ৰামৰ প্ৰতিচ্ছবি,  
বুকু উদং হোৱা মাতৃয়ে দিব  
বুভুক্ষিত উজাগৰি নিশাৰ সংজ্ঞা।

চৰম ব্যৰ্থতা বুজিছা !  
চৰম ব্যৰ্থতা!!! কাৰণ  
তোমাৰ স্বার্থপৰতাৰ অন্তিম বিন্দুত  
আজি উৎপন্ন হ'ল .....



- দেৱশ্ৰী ওজা।  
তেজপুৰ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়।  
ইংৰাজী বিভাগ



# jokes - pandemic

- Love knows no borders, neither do people with coronavirus.
- You know what they're saying about 2020. It went viral faster than anyone thought it would.
- Why don't chefs find coronavirus jokes funny? They're in bad taste.
- What should you do if you don't understand a coronavirus joke? Be patient.
- I'll tell you a coronavirus joke now, but you'll have to wait two weeks to see if you got it.

• Finland just closed its borders. You know what that means. No one will be crossing the finish line.

• What types of jokes are allowed during quarantine?

Inside jokes!

• Why didn't the sick guy get the joke? It flu over his head.

• Where do sick boats go to get healthy? The dock!

• So many coronavirus jokes out there, it's a pun-demic.

- Akhinav Das



# FLY HIGH !

- Neha Bhattacharya

**S**ometimes you fall, sometimes break,  
Sometimes stumble so hard that you fail.  
Sometimes it's dark; well and high.....  
Every inch of this Earth gets covered by.

Obscure it seems; nothing to look by,  
But sometimes darkness can even show us the light.  
Fly High! Keep your head up;  
God gives the toughest battles to his strongest ones.

Carry your scars like ornaments on you;  
Carry them with no shame on you.  
Fly High! Keep your head up;  
A queen always turns pain into power.



Artwork By - Neha Bhattacharya & Rajdeep Endaw

Believe in yourself with such zeal,  
That others have no choice but to flow in your feel.  
Everything grows at a different pace,  
You've your own sky with stars that blaze.

Stop chasing honey!  
This isn't a rat race.  
Fly High! Keep your head up,  
You've your sky with stars you gaze.

Note to self; stop expecting; start experimenting!  
Life's too short to not try!  
Fly High! Keep your head up,  
You are a wonder with all yours blunders.

- **Neha Bhattacharya, 3rd Sem**  
**Department of Commerce**





# ছটা অনুগল্প

১

মেডেল

অনুজে বহু দেৰি ঘুট মুটাই থাকিও যোৱা বহুত সি দৌৰত  
পোৱা খাটি সোনৰ মেডেলটো বিচাৰি নোপোৱাত অৱশেষত  
মাকে মুখ খুলিলে,

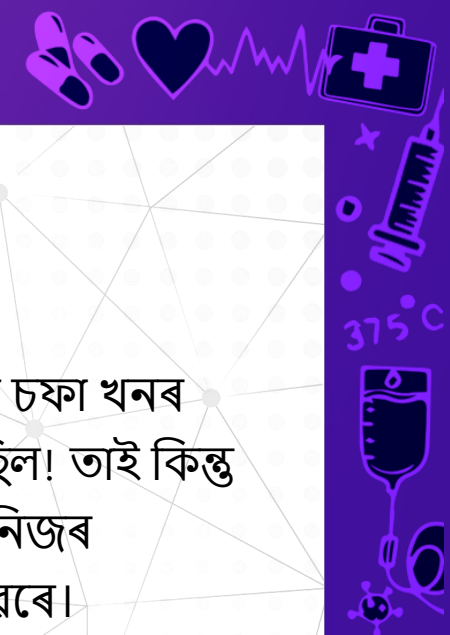
" ৰোপাই অ তোৰ সেই প্লাচটিকৰ ভৰিটোনো ক'ৰ পৰা আহিল  
বুলি ভাবিছ! "

২

লাজ

পঢ়াব লাগিব বুলি বি এ পাছ নকৰোতেই বিয়া দিয়া জীয়েকৰ ঘৰত থাকিবলৈ সৰ্বেশ্বৰ হাজৰিকাৰ সচায়  
লাজ লাগিছে। ভীষন লাজ... ডাক্তৰ পুতেক বোৱাৰিয়েকে সময়ৰ অজুহাতত বৃদ্ধাশ্রমত থৈ যাওঁতেও  
যি লাজ লগা নাছিল, সেই লাজ.....!





৩

পত্নী

"সুনন্দা, হেৰা সুনন্দা চোৱাহিচোন কোন আহিছে"  
বুলি উৎসাহেৰে সোমাই যোৱা সৰ্বেশ্বৰ বৰুৱাৰ ভৰী  
দুখন বৈ যায়, ফটোখন দেখি।  
এৰাহ্ বহুৰ বাগৰিলে তথাপি দিনটোত কিমানবাৰ যে  
পাহৰে তেওঁ!

৪

মাহীমা

মা স্বৰ্গীয় হৈছিল মোক জন্ম দিয়েই। দেউতাই মাহীমা  
আনিছিল, আৰু সেয়ে আজি মই এয়া..... উজাই  
অহা আবেগ থিনি সামৰি, চিভিল চাৰ্ভিচৰ পৰীক্ষা  
পাছ কৰা অনিন্দিতা বৰাই পুনৰ কলে,  
".....কাৰণ সকলো মাহীমাক তেজীমলাৰ  
মাহীমাকৰ দৰে নহয়।"

৫

সন্মান

ন বোৱাৰী পৰীক শাহুৱেকে ডানলপৰ চফা খনৰ  
কাষতে পিৰা এখন পাৰি বহিবলৈ দিছিল! তাই কিন্তু  
নবহিলে....., এ পি এচ চি পাছ কৰি নিজৰ  
অফিছৰ চকীখন লৈহে বহিল, গৌৰৱেৰে।

৬

প্ৰেম

: হেল্ল? সিমান্ত.. তুমি মোক পাহৰি যোৱা, আজি  
মোৰ ৰিং চেৰিমনি। এমাহৰ পিছতে বিয়া।  
: পাহি...শুনাছোন মই বাহিৰতে আছো। তোমাক  
কেম' দিয়া ডাক্তৰজন মোৰ ভাইটি!

- মৌচুমী গগৈ

গবেষিকা, ভূতত্ত্ব বিজ্ঞান বিভাগ।  
ডিব্ৰুগড় বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়





# হাৰিত হোলোকা অশ্ৰু

[ অসমৰ বান ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় সমস্যা হওঁক ]

প্ৰতি,  
মোক বাহিৰলৈ ঠেলি দি  
সিহঁতে দৰ্জাখন সাজোৰে  
জপাই দিলে।

ব্যাঘ্ৰ ৰাতিটো খামুচি  
বাৰান্দাতই বহি থাকিলোঁ।

কেঞাবন সোপাই  
কৈছে মোক- উলটি যা গৈ,  
এনেওঁ ৰাতি পুৱাবই  
কিহলৈ ইমান হায়ে বিয়ে !

গাঁৱৰ মানুহ, খাটি খোৱা কৰ্কৰীয়া হাড়!

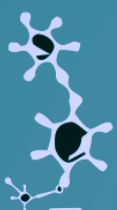
ঘাম আমাৰ মহঙা ঋতু,  
বিচনাত পৰি  
কাক নিচুকাই থাকোঁ ?

ইতি  
ভৰ দুপৰীয়া অকৰা মৈখন ৰ'দত  
দিছোঁ,  
আজি দুভাগ ৰাতি দুই হেজাৰ বিষ ঢালি  
পদুলিত ৰৈ মাত দিম।

সিহঁতক ৰাস্তালৈ ঠেলি  
নঙলামুখত বহিম।



- হিমাংক কাকতি  
পদাৰ্থবিজ্ঞান বিভাগ,  
গুৱাহাটী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়





# COPING WITH COVID-19

BUILDING IMPACT-RESISTANCE IN INDIAN INDUSTRY, TRADE & COMMERCE

- *Debakshana Goswami*

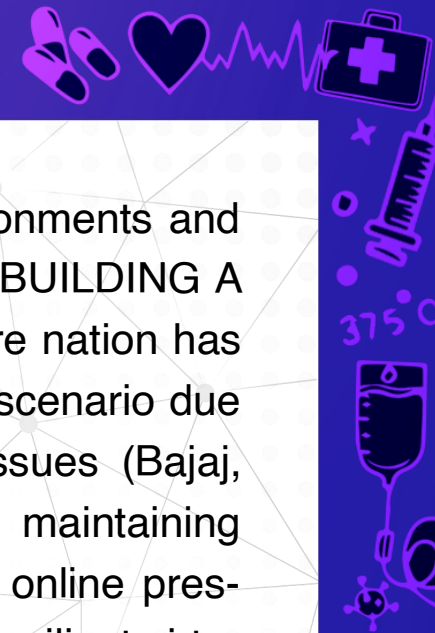


**G**LOBAL PANDEMIC AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS: The COVID-19 pandemic has not only created a massive disruption in lives and businesses, but it has also brought forth underlying fragilities in the value chain that drives an entire economy. This has global implications since value chains are not restricted to a single country. The laptop that one might use multiple times a day is designed in one country, manufactured by a firm elsewhere and distributed by dealers across continents. This is the Global Value Chain (GVC) which is a network established over time, and most often, is not pandemic proof. Out of many risks considered while setting it up, a pandemic is not usually one (Silverthorne, 2020). In India, risk-mitigation factors to counter extraordinary shocks are comparatively more overlooked than in the developed countries; the primary reason being that the MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) do not have adequate capital to provide for aversion measures. The new businesses lack seed capital or startup capital to put aside cushion



funds to deal with unprecedented risks, like a global pandemic. As a result, business leaders are scrambling to deal with a variety of problems, from slumping sales and stalling chains to keeping employees healthy and making sure they can continue working. **COPING WITH THE PANDEMIC INNOVATION AS A KEY PIECE** With the profound impact of COVID-19 on businesses, the focus has now shifted towards ways to address its health and safety risks while also accommodating an appropriate level of economic activity. The risk-mitigating technologies are adopted with strategies that improve customer and employees' safety by mitigating the risk of contagion. Now with increased awareness of the risk, the customers are more willing to pay for safety measures, which, in turn, incentivizes producers to develop technologies that address safety demands. The pandemic has laid open a new direction for innovation, with more firms developing and experimenting with much more radical risk-mitigating technologies. It has raised the questions of "how much" and "in what form" investments need to be made in such technologies, by calculating the impact of the same on products and services. The firms are also learning from forced experimentation to become more flexible. For example, there weren't many firms in India experimenting with remote-work but now it is likely to become a permanent policy due to the need for social-distancing even after lockdown. Other forms of innovation blank-spaces are the intensified demand for new digital products, formats and content. This requires speedy automation and digitization investments to generate new business models. With foresight, the results of such innovations may also support solutions for pressing issues like climate





change mitigation, risk assessment and emergency responses in hazardous environments and large scale biosafety; ultimately building up a more robust economic infrastructure. BUILDING A PANDEMIC-PROOF BUSINESS Within 3 months of COVID-19 pandemic, the entire nation has found itself living in a new normal. Precautions are quite detrimental to a business scenario due to dwindling demand, supply chain disturbances and other pandemic-induced issues (Bajaj, 2020). The mobile-workforce had been a paradigm shift with the challenge of maintaining productivity. Nevertheless, businesses have realized the importance of having an online presence. Capitalizing on digitization, remote cooperation and collaboration, building a resilient virtual framework, tapping the pros of work-from-home are the new focus for firms. Even for the established online merchants, it is not enough to simply have a web-store (“Lessons Learned From COVID-19,” 2020). They’ll have to rethink their supply chains in terms of reducing foreign dependency and shift to homegrown alternatives. An online platform should not only focus on bigger sales but also must help the customers to purchase efficiently. Many businesses have yet to factor these nontraditional threats into their continuity plans (Staples, 2006). This is an action of framing a broader risk resilient approach that can better protect employees, operations, relationships and the community, even in the face of a pandemic.

- **Debaleena Goswami**  
**Department of Commerce.**



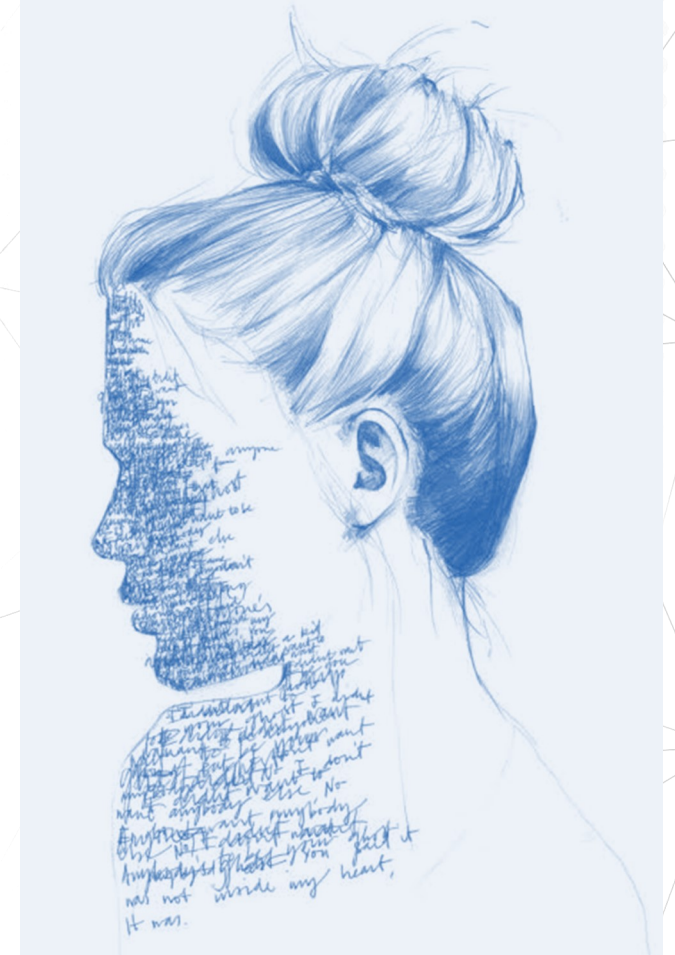


# এক, দুই, তিনিৰ কাহিনী

(১)

নাঙলৰ সিৰলুত সৃষ্টি হয় কত হেজাৰ জনৰ সপোন  
এটি দুটিকৈ গাঁঠ বান্ধি  
সপোনবোৰে সজাল ধৰে  
সেউজী হৈ পৰে তাইৰ বুকু।  
আঁচল খহাই সিহঁতে পি খাই  
তাইৰ ভৰা যৌৱনৰ  
বস!

এৰি থৈ যাই আধা মৰা কৰি মৰিবলৈ।  
তাই জী-জী মৰি থাকে।  
সিহঁতে হাঁহি-হাঁহি জীয়াই থাকে।  
এদিন কৰ'বাৰ পৰা এটা কাউৰী আহে,  
সিহঁতৰ হাঁহি থকা মুখত জুই দি  
চকু কেইটা উলিয়াই আনে,  
ট-ট কৰি জিলিকি ৰয় সিহঁতৰ চকু কেইটা  
ফটা মাটিত।





(২)

এটুকুৰা ৰুটিৰ যুঁজত নামে  
মেকুৰীৰ দল,  
দাবী-' সমানে লাগিবই ভাগ',  
মনত আকৌ সৰহ কৈ পোৱাৰ লোভটি।  
ঘূৰণীয়া ৰুটিৰ যুঁজত ঘূৰে  
মেকুৰীৰ দল।  
কটা-মৰা, খোৱা - কামোৰা  
সঁজাতিৰ মাজতেই বজে ৰণৰ শিঙা।  
সাউতকৈ বান্দৰে নিয়ে থপিয়াই,  
ৰুটিৰ লোভত জিভাৰ পানী  
জিভাতেই থাকি যায়।

(৩)

'গাখীৰৰ পুখুৰী নামত  
পানীৰ পুখুৰী খান্দি,  
তাত পোনা মাছ পুহি  
মাছৰ ব্যৱসায় কৰা'।

এয়া আকৌ, জ্ঞানী লোকৰ কথা।  
আমাৰ মগজে ঢুকি নপাই  
এনেহেন কথা।  
বোলো আও হৰি আও ৰাম  
আজিলৈ সামৰো,  
নহ'লে আকৌ  
ৰজাৰ কটোৱালৰ হাতত  
কটা যোৱা।

- অনামিকা ডেকা

ভাষাতত্ত্ব আৰু ইংৰাজী বিভাগ,  
গুৱাহাটী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়





# ARTWORKS



by Debaleena Goswami



by Bhavna Kashyap

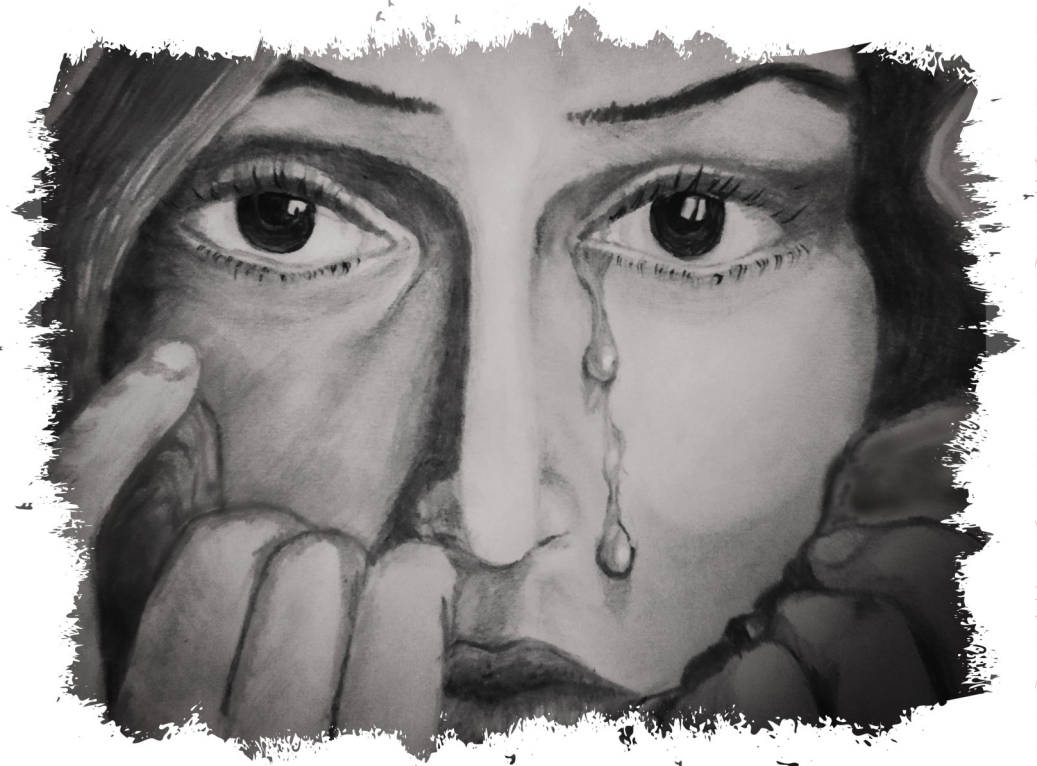


# A DEEP SIGH

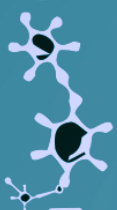
- Ankur Baruah

A dispassionate prosaic dejection,  
With an indifferent intellect;  
Some hushed vibes,  
And a piece of broken heart.

There were,  
Thousands of endless hopes –  
But was only a tired single soul,  
Although she made her journey of life,  
She was very passionate about,  
And she followed her dream;  
No doubt, she was scared a bit.  
But she tried to be intrepid.



Artwork by - **Shruti Sonowal**, Cotton University.

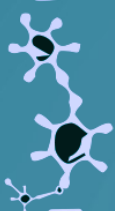


She still remembered,  
Somewhere in her books,  
There was a line,  
“Life is like a roller coaster  
And it’s your choice to scream or enjoy the  
ride”  
Yes, it is –  
But she couldn’t enjoy the ride.

In the midst of eternal unlit,  
Of that accursed midnight,  
Somewhere she lost the battle of life;  
All the fortitudes that she used to get,

Then Seemed to be fake.  
Yes, she was brave enough, but life wasn’t on  
her favor;  
She stopped dreaming,  
All her trust faded away,  
And every shine of brightness of her life,  
Blended with naught;  
She lost her hopes and smiles,  
And her present;  
She had nothing, but a buoyant past;  
And a deep sigh.

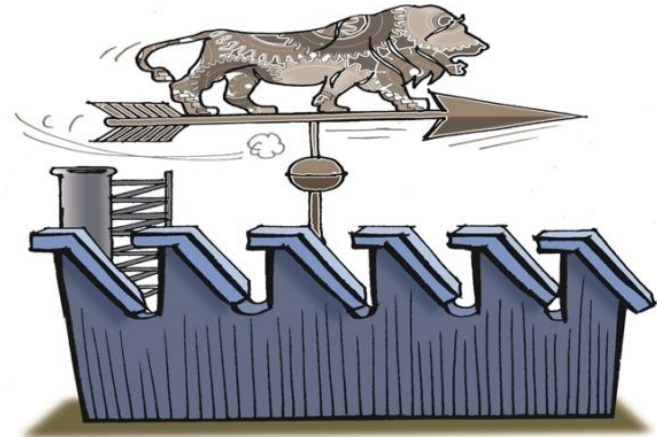
- **Ankur Baruah, 3rd Sem**  
• **Department of Commerce.**



# PRODUCTION LINKED INCENTIVE

- Avinash Yadav

Since the day India, got its independence, it has tried to change the work culture from primary sector (specifically agriculture) to secondary and tertiary sector significantly. But it has failed, as the shift directly went from primary sector to tertiary sector, drastically. This dynamics created a bridge, and the secondary sector (specifically manufacturing) couldn't grow as a consequence, which required a large number of manpower, and as India is a populated country this should allure jobs to a large mass. The contribution of manufacturing sector was only 16.7% for the year 2017-18. Bearing in mind, the benefits of manufacturing, the government recently introduced Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI). The Production Linked Scheme is an incentive program to create India as one of the global manufacturing hubs, which can lure companies to do production in India. Till now, the PLI scheme is opened for Electronics Manufacturing. Incentives of 4-6 % has been provided to electronic companies which would manufacture phones and other electronic components such as resistors, capacitors, diodes, transistors and nano electronic components. There also is massive potential in





this sector for exporting critical industrial supplies as significant as rare earth minerals which are found in India that constitutes of ilmenite, zircon, monazite and rutile commonly known as Beach Sand Minerals, holding 35% of the total deposits of the world. Rare earth minerals are a special class of 17 elements having extensive utility across numerous industries which includes IT industry, defence production etc. According to industry representatives, it is a ₹90000 crore industry for India, which lies unused and unutilized. India has not unlocked its full potential in this area and Indian Oceanic Region (IOR) is a prolific mineral rich region. It is not about element alone; it is about improving the manufacturing base in India. As per the scheme, companies which sell for ₹15000 or more will get an incentive of upto 6% on incremental sales of mobile phones made in India. Putting light on the same substructure, companies owned by Indian Nationals, making such phones incentives have been kept at ₹200 crore for the next four years. The total incentives for 5 years are kept at whopping ₹40951 crore and incentive on fixed cost is not included. There has been speculation to expand the scope of PLI (Production Linked Incentive) to more sectors like Pharmaceuticals, Fertilizers, Footwear & Leather, Auto parts & components, Solar Cells. The aim behind coming up with more PLI scheme is to promote Atmanirbhar Bharat Programme and to ensure that India becomes self-reliant. The well-organized scheme like PLI can boost domestic production and is currently rooting to work on import substitution.

**- Avinash Yadav, 5th Sem  
Department of Commerce**

# WILL THE “NEW NORMAL” REALLY BE NEW?

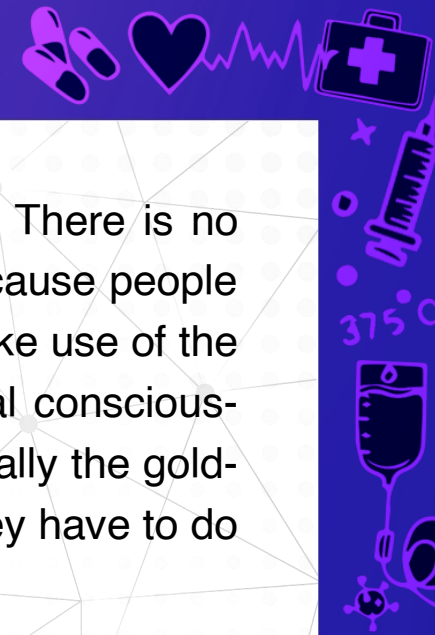
- Nishita Surana

What would life look like once this pandemic is over? Some believe there will be nothing new about the “new normal”, however some believe there will be some major changes. The history of the world itself gives us enough prove that there have always been a few major changes after any pandemic. Sometimes it came as awareness on cleanliness and sometimes it exposed the prevailing inequality between different social groups, as it happened after the Spanish flu.

During this pandemic, our Nation has seen some astounding events. Meetings and classes being held through electronic media is one thing, but who would have thought about an e- rally. This pandemic has done anything, but made people “virtually acquainted”. Perhaps, in the post pandemic world, annual meetings and conferences would be held through virtual platforms like, Google meet, WebEx, as they have gained tremendous popularity during the lockdown. It is because of these platforms that life did not come to a halt during the pandemic.

People who had never thought of getting their daily essentials through online shopping are now





using platforms like, big basket, amazon, grofers, etc. as a part of their daily lives. There is no doubt that people are going to have social gatherings once the pandemic is over because people are longing for personal touch more than ever before, but still people are going to make use of the miraculous facilities of these virtual platforms whenever possible. There is a general consciousness among people that these platforms are here to make our lives easier and specially the golden ager are taking a step to learn about these facility which has come as a gift; all they have to do is tap on their phone screens.

This pandemic has also taught us that life does not need to stop for anything. Classes, meetings, court hearings, and everything can be done virtually. Probably, more steps will be taken to upgrade the internet facilities in all over India, particularly in the rural area because as Mahatma Gandhi has mentioned, “India is not Calcutta and Bombay; India lives in her seven hundred thousand villages.” Maybe there will come a time when instead of carrying a bag pack full of books and copies, just a laptop and one notebook would do.

As for unemployment which is at its peak, will eventually come back to normal because an economy cannot run without its people. People will always be on demand as long as the economy is running. In fact, the pandemic has given many business opportunities. The Reliance industries are launching “jio glasses” for people to connect with each other like they are physically present there. Some companies like Arvind ltd. are making “Anti- corona fabric” and many more innovative ideas have come out. Of course, thanks to India – China trade war, which led to the prohibition of



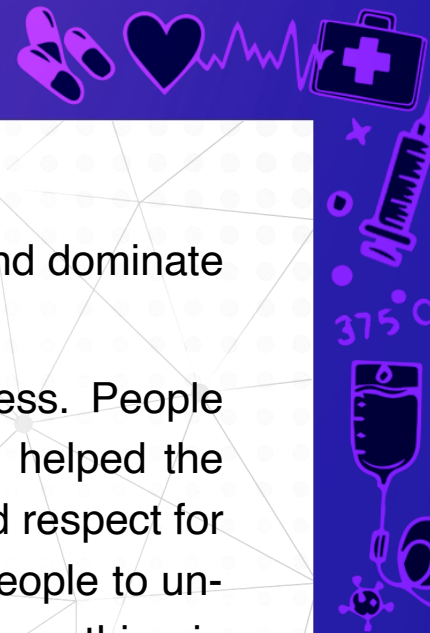


all Chinese apps which has given India a major opportunity to make its own apps and dominate the digital world.

This pandemic has made people more aware of personal hygiene and cleanliness. People make sure that they sanitize or wash their hands properly, no wonder which has helped the global hand sanitizer market to grow over 600%. But, above all there is a new found respect for doctors, nurses, police force, cleaning staff etc. Staying at home has also helped people to understand the importance of house helpers and house wives who make sure that everything is organized for us.

Life won't stop as long as we don't allow it to stop. We can regard this pandemic as a learning opportunity instead of a curse. People have rediscovered the hidden painter, poet, dancer, singer in themselves. They have once again bonded with families and old friends. This pandemic can be a blessing if we want it to be.

**- Nishita Surana, 5th Sem,  
Department of Commerce,**



# কাকতৰ নৈ

দূৰ সীমনাত এখন যঁতৰৰ সাগৰ আছে  
তাৰ পাৰত ৰূপালীমে বহি সূতা কাটে  
পাৰলৈ জুমি উজাই আহে  
এখন বতাহী ঘৰ  
উৱালি পৰা খুঁটাবোৰ যেতিয়া হিম  
চেন্চা জাৰত কঁপি উঠে  
পানীত সাঁতোৰ মাৰে  
এজনী পাটমাদৈ

পৰুৱাৰ বাহবোৰত খোঁচ মাৰি  
গেৰুৱা শালিকীৰ সাগৰলৈ মনত পৰে

বন্ধ দৰ্জাৰ সৌফালৰ পৃথিৱীত  
বৈ বৈ সময় ঘূৰি আহে  
নিশ্বেজ আৰু বৰণহীন

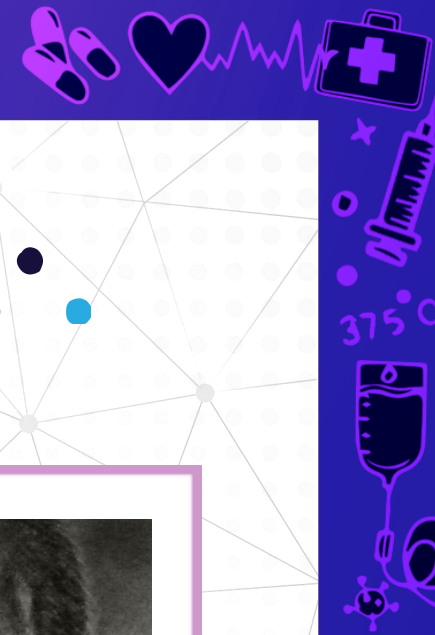
এতিয়াৰ সপোন  
এনেকুৱাই  
বোকা সাৱটি সোন হৈ  
পৰা আৱৰণবোৰ

আকাশত মৰাশ এটা ওপঙি থাকে  
সাগৰলৈ চাই জাগৰণৰ কথা কৈ যায়  
পাহৰি যোৱাৰ মাজতো  
নতুন পৃথিৱী এখন বৈ থাকে  
খুপি খুপি বিচাৰি থাকোঁ তাত কহিনুৰ

- কাকতৰ নৈ এখনে ধুই নিয়ে বতাহী ঘৰ

- নাজী মৌচুম শৰ্মা  
স্নাতকোত্তৰ তৃতীয় ষান্মাসিক  
গণ-সংযোগ আৰু সাংবাদিকতা বিভাগ  
তেজপুৰ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

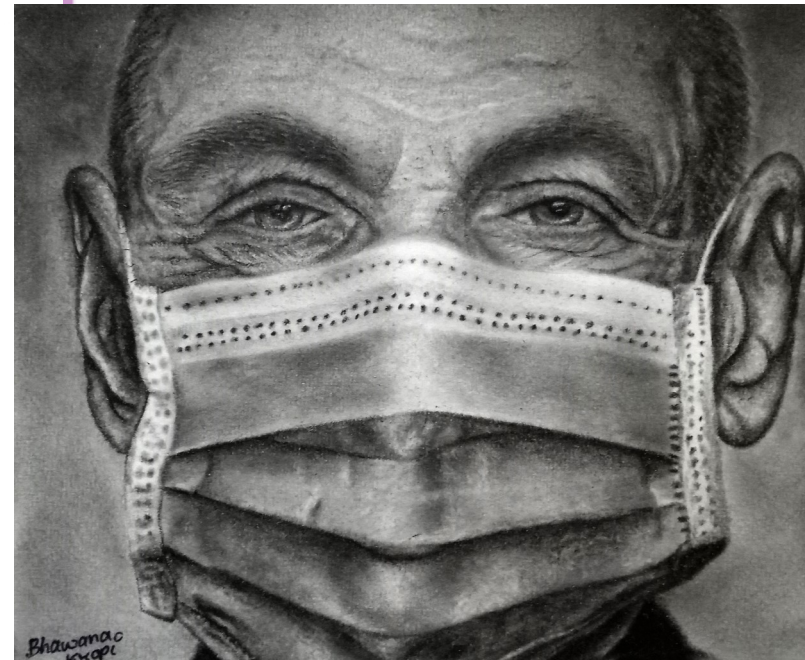




# ARTWORKS



by Boishali Das



by Bhawana Kropi





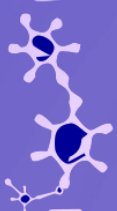
# এইজাক বাৰিষা কেৱল মোৰ

আৱদ্ধ উপত্যকাত এটা কবন্ধ শব্দৰ দৰে  
এইয়া মাথো বিভ্ৰম পুৰঠ হোৱাৰ।  
উন্মাদ চোতালখনত সৌজাক নগ্ন বিহংগ  
ধপধপকৈ উৰি যায় কৰি শব্দ উলংগ  
ধৰাশায়ী হৈ সৰি পৰে জৰ্জৰতাৰ অপভ্ৰংশ।  
আৰু ধন্যবাদৰ আশীৰ্বাদত তিতি বুৰি ফৰকাল আকাশ  
খেপিয়াই  
এদিন তুমি শুধিছিল  
কিহত জুপুকা তোমাৰ বসন্ত?



ফটামুখৰ পৰা বাজ হোৱা কথাষাৰ  
এটা কুমজেলেকুৱাৰ দৰে বগাই গৈছিল।  
প্ৰাচীনতাৰ জেউৰা ভেদি।  
শুনিবলৈ , শুনিবলৈ কৰা এটি চেপ্টা  
আকিবলৈ, আকিবলৈ কৰা এটা চেপ্টা  
কিন্তু আখৰবোৰ মোৰ হৈ থকা নাই  
বৰষুণ মোৰ হৈ থকা নাই।  
দুৱাৰখনৰ তলাটো খুলি দিবানে মোক?

- কস্তুৰী বৰুৱা, স্নাতকোত্তৰ চতুৰ্থ ষান্মাসিক  
অসমীয়া বিভাগ, দৰং মহাবিদ্যালয়





# ARTWORKS



by Muhit Nayan Das



by Surajit Das



# সেই সময়

ৰাখিব পৰাহয় ৰাখি থলোঁহেঁতেন তোমাক মোৰ সপোনৰ সোঁৱৰণীৰ  
সেউতাত,...  
সাঁচিব পৰাহয় সাঁচি থলোঁহেঁতেন তোমাক অশ্ৰুৰ প্ৰতিটো  
কোণত,  
অযুত হেঁপাহৰ পৰিসীমাৰ মাজত গোপনে ৰাখিলোহয় তোমাক  
কিন্তু তুমি যে নহয় মোৰ কালনত্ব বাস্তৱ।  
তুমিতো ফাগুন,  
পলাশৰ ৰঙাৰে বিষাদবোৰ ঢকাৰ চলনাত তুমি ঢালিদিয়া  
উদাসীনতা,  
সৰাপাতৰ শৰ-মৰণীত বিলাই দিয়া তুমি উকা আবেগবোৰ।।  
কেতিয়াবা ভাব হয়,  
সপোন বোৰৰ মাজতেই যেন আবদ্ধ কৰি ৰাখিম তোমাক কাহানিও  
হেৰাই যাব নোৱাৰা কৈ,  
কিন্তু,  
তুমিতো সময়ৰ পালতৰা নাওৰ অবিৰত যাত্ৰী।।



Artwork by - Bhavna Kashyap

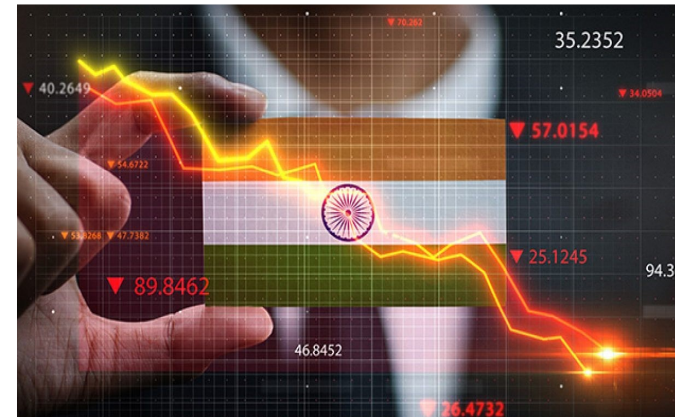
- পাহি শইকীয়া  
প্ৰাক্তন ছাত্ৰী,  
দৰং মহাবিদ্যালয়

# COVID – 19 AND THE INDIAN ECONOMY

- Vishal Choudhury and Pratyush Kumar Jena

COVID-19 has exposed the world economy's over-dependence on China. According to the United Nations Statistics Division, China's share in global manufacturing output climbed from 8.7% in 2004 to 28.4% in 2018. Due to this dominance, the world has faced supply chain disruptions during the ongoing pandemic. Couple with growing hostility towards China because of their negligence, which led to the pandemic in the first place, the world is now looking to diversify its supply chains and move their enterprises outside China. This is a golden opportunity for India to become a global manufacturing hub. As they say, never let a crisis go waste. With concerted efforts, India can replace China as a world power if they can capitalize on this exodus from its neighboring country.

However, the situation is complicated. These firms are looking at Vietnam, Thailand, and Taiwan as better alternatives despite India's huge demographic dividend. Between April 2018 and August 2019, 56 companies relocated from China, but only three came to India.



Despite our advantages, we have a lot of structural issues we need to fix so that we can become an attractive investment destination.

Land acquisition and labor regulations are very stringent in India. Investors often have to negotiate with a lot of small land-owners to obtain land. The process is very time-consuming and cumbersome.

Labor laws also deter companies from relocating to India. India's legal framework, in this regard, is very archaic and discourages large-scale manufacturing. Firms tend to operate as small enterprises to escape the purview of these regulations. But without obtaining scale, competing in the world economy is very difficult. Perhaps the best example is our textile sector. India's textile sector is the second-largest job-creating sector in India after agriculture. India also has raw materials in abundance. But in global exports of textiles, its position is a mere fifth, behind even Bangladesh. Labor laws have a significant role to play in this predicament. On average, an Indian firm has only 240 employees, while the number is about 800 in Bangladesh. Bangladesh's flexible labor law regime allows the creation of scale, and hence it is developing fast as an exporter, leaving India far behind.

While the government is looking to consolidate all the labor codes into just four codes and hence make compliance easy, it has not announced any major land acquisition reforms yet. In May, the government, however, announced that it is creating a 462,000 hectares land pool to



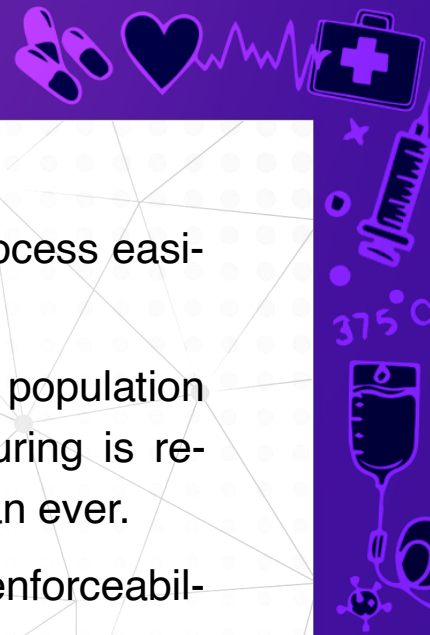
aid companies moving out of China to acquire land easily. We need to make the process easier through legislative intervention.

With the agricultural reforms announced by our Finance Minister, the percentage of population dependent on agriculture is going to decrease, and fast job-growth in manufacturing is required to absorb them. Hence, land and labour reforms are necessary now more than ever.

Two other areas of focus must be- power sector reforms and commercial contract enforceability.

In the power sector, India produces about 365 gig watts of electricity as of October 31, 2019. This is enough to meet the country's demands. However, corruption, theft, inadequate infrastructure, and mounting debt are some reasons why electricity distribution in our country is in shambles. The government recently announced the privatization of all distribution companies (DISCOMs) in the Union Territories. It is looking at Public-Private partnership in the states. Electricity distribution must be primarily privatized. The government must look to spend its money on improving the infrastructure, like setting up of smart meters to prevent theft, instead of constantly bailing out inefficient DISCOMs.

Finally, while India ranks high on the Ease of Doing Business, it ranks very low on Commercial Contract Enforceability (163/190). Change in state governments often leads to the cancelling



of previous projects, and existing contracts are not honored. Court disputes take years to reach a conclusion (1445 days on average). India must set up an expedited system of solving commercial disputes, possibly looking at ADR methods like the NHAI has recently done. The government must frame a law to prevent state governments from cancelling contracts after the investments reach a particular stage and penalize them if they do.

Solving these major structural problems can help India become an economic superpower and replace China's centrality in the world order.

**- Pratyush Kumar Jena and Vishal Choudhury**

2nd Year, B.A.LLB, West Bengal National  
University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata

# PHOTOGRAPHY

## INFINITE

by Sharad Sharma

“The photo is shot to make the people feel that they are the boat in the river with so many ways to go which can lead to a perspective of endless possibilities.”





# PHOTOGRAPHY



by **Vaishnavi Singh**

“ Inspired from my favorite ‘Kimi no Na wa’ a 2016 Japanese animated film written and directed by Makoto Shinkai, this here is a not so perfect but special click of Comet Neowise taken on 25th July 2020 :) ”

# PHOTOGRAPHY

by **Novonit Gogoi**

“ তেজপুৰ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় এনেই কাঞ্চনৰ দেশ  
নে...২৮ ফেব্ৰুৱাৰীৰ গধূলি বেলিকা যেতিয়া  
উভতি আহিছিলোঁ ক্লাছৰ পৰা তেতিয়াই যেন  
চকুত পৰিল Amenities'ৰ সন্মুখত বতাহৰ  
সুৱনিত উদলি মুদুলি হৈ নাচি আছে ৰঙা  
আৰু গুলপীয়া কাঞ্চন কেইজোপা...ভাবিলোঁ,  
ফোন'ত ফটো একপি লৈ সাঁচি ৰাখোঁ স্মৃতিৰ  
বেটুপাটত ।।। ”





# PHOTOGRAPHY

by **Pritam Roy**

“ Was travelling to solang valley in a traveller at a height of 8400 ft, this spectacular view of snow capped mountains caught my attention. Mountains have a call of their own and hence snapped it. ”





# NORMAL ?

- Pahi Gogoi

*"Normalcy is an illusion. Each person is utterly unique. A standard of normalcy is something that most people of the world simply will never access." - Colleen Houck*

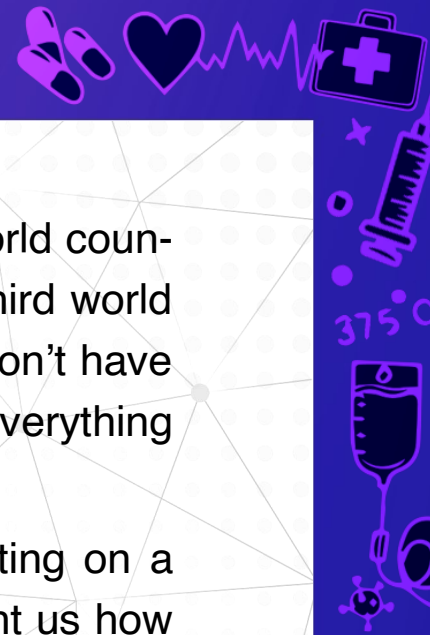


So what's NORMAL? It is funny that most of us spend a big portion of our life-span trying to avoid it, and then spend the rest of our life-span chasing after it. Do any of us have any idea about what is actually is: probably. But is your normal equal to my normal: probably not. Nothing is "normal" about what is going on in the world right now. That does not necessarily mean that the world will stop spinning. We humans have always been able to adopt and adapt to situations that were thrown towards us. Take the invention of weapons for example, to the primordial man, the horrors of the jungle may have been quite the challenge to overcome. But he (and she) adopted by inventing weapons. Today, universities, colleges and even schools have adopted to the situation by making education an online fa-

cility for those who can “afford” it. The new normal, right? Wrong! For the first world countries like U.S.A and Canada, it is easy to resort to digital modes but India is a third world country. Expecting education to suddenly turn into a digital entity where people don’t have enough electricity and even water, is asking for a lot. Nothing is normal and yet everything is!

Even if the lockdown opens up in most cities, most of us won’t be getting on a plane anytime soon. The only good thing about this pandemic is that it has taught us how to live with a few pairs of clothes and the basic necessities of life. It has brought families closer. So is this the new normal? For us privileged folks: maybe. For the less privileged, however, this is a totally different pandemic that is and has been going on. The worst sufferers of this new “normal” are the manual laborers. Most of our “normals” are dreams for these people. There are people who have to fight every day for the basic needs of life, the ones they deserve to get. And it may sound funny, but it has been their “normal” since they were born. So what “normal” are we expecting after this pandemic gets wiped off from the face of this planet? The answer to that can come in many shades.

Going back to business as usual is no longer a choice for the people. There will certainly be a new normal that everyone will have to adjust to. This will involve firstly a very high degree of awareness to understand the altered context. Many can or are facing existential





crisis during these times. It can be quite overwhelming for people who depend upon gathering crowds for a living, to stay home and still find a way to get by, everyday, for almost 6 months now. Their normal is going to be quite difficult to bring back. The COVID-19 pandemic has unleashed changes that seemed unthinkable just a few months ago.

So what is the solution to get out of this situation? There is none. My advice is to adhere to the ongoing changes and try to get past every single obstacle life throws at you. One obstacle at a time. That is the only normal which is never going to change.

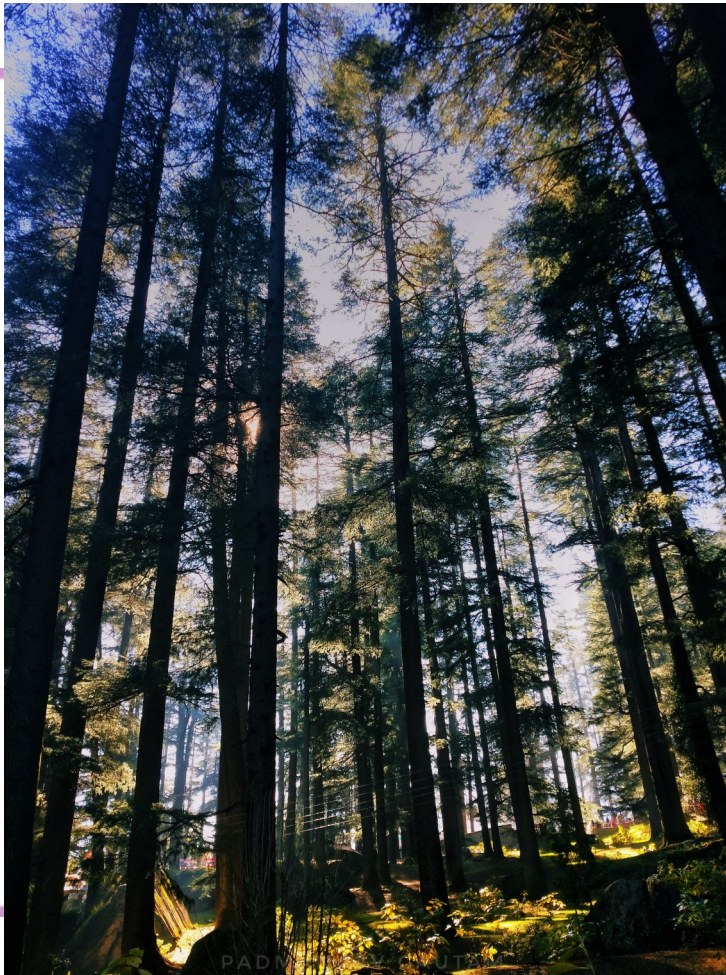


- **Pahi Gogoi, 3rd semester**  
**M. A in Linguistics and Language Technology,**  
**Tezpur University**





# PHOTOGRAPHY



by **Padmanav Gautam**

“ This was clicked at Hadimba Temple, Himachal. How can nature be so competitive ! One after another in a pace to reach the top. ”



# PHOTOGRAPHY

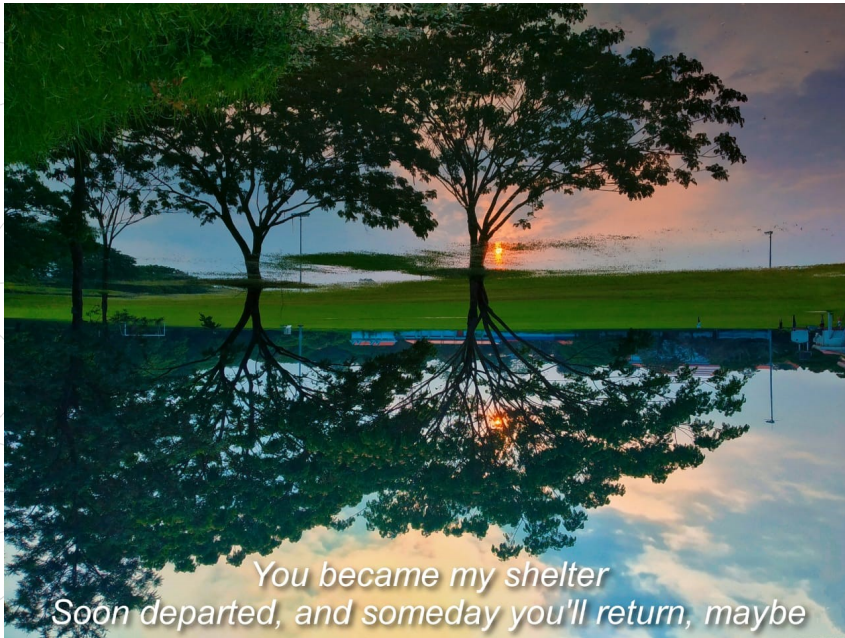
by **Padmanav Gautam**

“ This picture was clicked at Solang Valley, Himachal which perfectly describes how someone's native place could be so beautiful at 8400 ft, above sea level. ”





# PHOTOGRAPHY



by **Abhinav Das**



# PHOTOGRAPHY



*Do you remember that pact we made?  
We promised to never leave each other.*

by **Abhinav Das**

# UNITY IN CULTURAL DIVERSITY

- Avinash Yadav



“We are all equal in the fact that we are all different”, encompasses India like nothing else. As counter intuitive as it may sound, people across this beautiful and quirky country are united, despite the cultural differences, despite the derivation of cultures and customs from different school of thoughts, despite of differences in shades of characters and skin colour. The innate love for the country, regardless of the geography is deeply rooted in and inherited from our ancestors who were prepared to endure the grimmest and the most animuous adversities that were to unfold, just for the shear love for the nation. Even though the country got divided later, the faith and emotions in our souls did not. **We were still diverse, and we were still united.**

Taking a small journey through our cumbersome past, the pre independence era to be precise, where the British were our main enemies, who enslaved, cash cowed and scapegoated us, where pain and torture seemed ubiquitous and perpetual, we had our own flaws. In retrospection and introspection, we were trapped in a web of superstitions, racism and sexism to a great extent. Granted, we were the country with an exquisite ancient past of ethics, intelli-





gence and engineering, but in context of our current conversation, this time can be deemed as **dark**. The differences in cultures and languages had already played a massive role in somewhat distancing us from each other, however, the superstitions, casteism and sexism abated the situation, by proliferating it and widened the gap, making it conducive for the British empire to exploit us superfluously. Again, granted, India was united even during this slice of time, but the unity inclined more towards downgrading apparent "lower castes" and other sorts of minorities as opposed to uplifting the societies against the external oppression of the British, and on a separate note, a general reverence of the beauty and past triumphs. A wonderful aspect of a cult is, no matter how good or bad an idea may present itself, if the group believes it, the idea manifests. Hence, if the group is misguided, it becomes a recipe for overall disaster, on the flip side, if the group is directed towards a brighter path, progress follows, which is no easy feat. So, it becomes absolutely essential for thinkers, leaders, politicians, humourists and artists to channel their ideas in a way that it uplifts and inspires people. It took us more than a couple of centuries to hustle through and come in terms with what is ethically moral and progressive, and which doctrines are polluted and regressive and needed to be refrained at all costs. There is nothing to disdain that period, given the fact that that is how a country progresses. The sheer hard work of our leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, BR Ambedkar, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and many more, paid off. The small and big atrocities committed by Indians under the breath which were blatantly concealed under the blanket of more severe Brit-







ish tyranny were over to a great extent and equality and justice prevailed, hence at the end , we could all fly out together like free doves , uncaged out the prisons of the malevolent British rule. But there is something which must not fail to grab your attention towards this part is, throughout the entire scheme of events, **we were diverse, but we were united.**

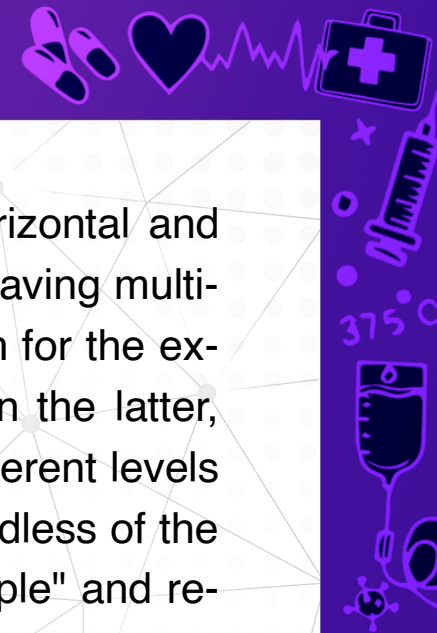
" All for one, and one for all ", a quote that gives you an idea about how powerful unity can be. The efficacy of unity can be stumbled upon by the traditional " Sticks and the farmer's son" story. But as mentioned before, unity alone isn't enough to progress or win a war of ideas. It is well construed that unity can be brutally effective if it constitutes of direction. And the enumeration of direction is done by the thinkers, who, actually pulled us out of the mud and paved our way towards an optimistic path, out of the dark. Shedding light on the journey of our ethical struggles for an overall embracement of unity, the first thing that is needed to be conceptualised is , what "unity" actually meant back then and how it's meaning gradually got transformed , as a consequence of introduction of new ideas in the arena , as necessity posed a challenge. The idea of unity in a very rudimentary form had existed for centuries, which boiled down to tolerating other communities and striving for a peaceful coexistence. People refrained themselves from intricate mingling with other communities, the practice of which is still strident in some vacuous places and absent in many others. But a country develops in its core if all its citizens have the development idea as a common goal regardless of diversity. When communities in a country prioritize the well-being of their own, there is an overall chaos and commotion, and enemies prove to be menace,





and there is a general regressiveness in the nation. The horrendous scenario can somehow be glanced in the current day Canada, where the government has embraced a multicultural society, but has no strident laws for an innocuous and functional multiculturality, striving collectively to uplift the nation. There is a crisis of identity as all immigrant communities serve their own good. Our great nation, however, had recognised this problem earlier, that this problem emerges from lack of identity that we associate ourselves with and developing a common goal which unified us. The reason why this identification and unification is important is because otherwise it leads to chaos and ultimate agony and overall failure of the system. The more diverse the country, the greater the challenge posed to the leaders and thinkers to articulate a very plausible common goal and create a sense of togetherness. As a matter of fact, India is the most diverse country in the world. It is diverse in geographical, linguistic, political, religious, caste-based and religious aspects. Geographically, there are 7 physical regions, 22 official languages as per the 8th schedule of Indian Constitution, 6 religions, namely Hinduism, Islam and Christianity being prominent ones, and numerous subdivisions. There are about 645 tribal communities, and 8 national parties. So, unification becomes absolutely necessary. But our country already had an innate sense of unification as mentioned in the beginning of the essay as a consequence of our ancestral teachings and commonalities based on similar cultures originating from common roots. Our Vedas and Upanishads, for example, profess widely about the essence of unity, and individual and collective responsibilities. All languages stem from the common language "Sanskrit" (Hindi in Devanagari script is the official language). As eminent Indian sociologist Dr



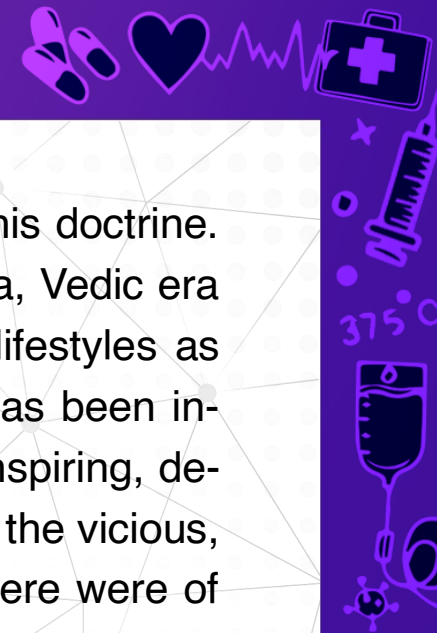


MN Srinivas demonstrated, the categories of unities that bind us together are horizontal and vertical unities, where I'm the former there's a linguistic unity, in essence, despite having multiple languages, Hindi and English are widely used, and serve as an overall medium for the exchange of thoughts and ideas, and are of course used during transactions; and in the latter, there is degeneration of socio-economical hierarchy based unity, as in, castes at different levels in the caste pyramid possess similar cultures and lifestyles across the country regardless of the geography. The new idea of unification is to overthrow the so called "tolerating people" and replace it with embracing a multicultural society where an average of all the ideas preached and professed by different religions and communities is put on the table and implemented for the promotion of universal brotherhood and a smooth and innocuous functionality. We can practically see it in almost everywhere in our country i.e. Muslims celebrating Diwali and Holi, Hindus having Iftar, non-Sikh folks distributing food in gurudwaras, are common sights. Our constitution, which is the longest written document in the world and still progressing, grants us with a lot of rights, encouraging us to strive towards benevolence to the fellow brothers and sisters, and equality regardless of differences. This approach is a bright sign of prosperity, and **unity, in cultural diversity**.

With a historical viewpoint, the ancient one to be precise, the concept of universal brotherhood leading to overall prosperity and progress, was more than an axiomatic claim, hence all wise men and thinkers promoted it and attempted to make the idea of **unity in cultural diversity**,







ubiquitous. Immense number of manuscripts and books were encoded to profess this doctrine. The idea of unity despite diversity was very much being employed in the Golden era, Vedic era and even the pre-Mauryan era, where the implementations were more based on lifestyles as opposed to extracting value from books and scriptures. The innate value system has been instilled within us already, and the love for the country and its fellow beings is awe-inspiring, despite the apparent gaps, problems and diversity. The system got a little derailed with the vicious, frenetic, tyrant, malevolent and conspired foreign attacks and their involvement. There were of course difference in the nature of breaking into our country and invading us, spectrum by the invaders. Some exploited us and later became a part of us, and some exploited and looted us, so much so that they even looted the Hindi word "loot" to their dictionaries and left us hanging. However, the perpetual value system acted as strong chemical bonds against the ill-natured plans of the invaders, and unity retained, even when the clashes between Vaishnavism and Shivaism were at the zenith during the Bhakti movement. In fact the groups which were deemed as incapable to gaining salvation, got their rights as a consequence of **unity, despite the diversity**. Then the world gradually transformed and value with some auxiliary added values still retained as discussed earlier in the third paragraph. Hence, **there was diversity, yet there was unity**.

Conjuring up with everything that we cruised through in the last 4 paragraphs, one can make a blatant case that **unity in diversity** is actually desirable, rather than being an impedi-





ment. In the beginning of the article, when we embarked upon the journey, it might have sounded counter-intuitive ( which isn't the case as proposed earlier in the first paragraph) , but after we finished the journey, it turns out to be quite astonishingly opposite of our intuition . Diversity is actually desirable as opposed to not and acts as a catalysing enzyme for our progress. It speeds up the process mainly because when a diversified culture is active, our perspective broadens and we can see beyond the vicinity of what we used to know before, a millennia for example. More diversity brings in arena more ideas to be discussed and extracted values from. Adding that with our love for the nation equivalent to mother's love and a sheer willingness bro die for it, makes a beautiful recipe for progress and prosperity. This is a result of the sacrifices of our forefathers and we should not let it slip off our hands for trivial matters. The unity should be maintained, and the diversity should substantiate it. This is how we get **UNITY, IN CULTURAL DIVERSITY.**

- Avinash Yadav, 5th Sem  
Department of Commerce



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