

Crash Landing: A Disastrous Pile up

Questioning Mr. Fix IT

Edited by Viren Lobo

An Especioza Trust Production



Balasore Train Crash

Foreword

The Odisha train tragedy - A requiem for those who lost their lives

The worst train disaster of this century
A brutal reminder to us all
Of the human angle embedded in technology
No matter how developed

As the news of death and disaster started pouring in
Concern writ across the globe
Near and dear ones remembered afresh
The fragile thread between life and death

Shock waves not just in Odisha
But across the coast as well
Who lost anybody
Difficult to tell

Political ripples and reminders aside
Does the government have anything to hide
Enquiries will take place
Many behind a screen

Is it one of the many wake up calls
Or the price of development
For those who close ones lost
These are merely embellishments

This incident stamped on my brain forever
A distinguishing mark
That symbolises character
The beginnings of a new chapter

Its UID has been recorded
And will find its way to express
Man nature relationships over time
Importantly the different notes left in the grime

Viren Lobo

Two States

Kerala and Odisha
Came together in the land of milk and honey
Krishna was playing quietly on his lute somewhere close
The tune full of remorse
Was it of days gone by
Or of days to come
I wouldn't know
I could hear the sounds of Silence
Even as gusts of wind
My ears did reach
This is not the time to preach it said
We do not dance on the tombs of the dead
At Rajkot yesterday
Amul had something to say
Was it about the cow economy holding sway ?
Fearsome warriors confronted each other
Krishna Deva Raya
Adil Shah at Raichur busted
Implications for the Portuguese in Goa too
As five Sultans got together
In the mele the British got away with the prize
The valour of Jhansi came much later
Damage was done
A vibrant economy to British Imperialism surrendered
Bengal then happened
The country rose up in furore
Swaraj to the core
Chauri Chaura on all that put the lid
It was Bhagat Singh who once again placed a bid
Give me your blood and I will give you freedom
Bellowed Subash
In the fervour that followed Gandhi made the Quit India call
The British finally went
But while the legacy of subservience still remained
Kurien put Amul on the map
To imperialism the farmers have a tight slap
Today Imperialism its tentacles with honey has covered
The spider's web all has covered
Yet one got away
This web he challenged
Battle of Kurukshetra still raging
Abhimanyu could not get out of the Chakravayu
This world of Maya seems so true
For now all I can see is blue

Viren Lobo

Chandrayan 3

Chandrayan 3 a small step in an infinite history
We did not conquer the moon as some would like to say
It was the first step to explore a side of the moon no one had done before
A big contribution to mankind said our Prime Minister
Foundations laid at the time of Nehru came the quick response
The hard struggle of sweat and tears by our scientists said an unknown voice from behind.
Scientists went back to work after the achievement
Iron man thumped his chest in sync with Tarzan
The drum beats began
Iron man for PM it cried
There were roars from the crowd as well
Tucked away in Manipur
A family cried bitterly
House burnt, daughter looted
The vandals had scooted
Imitations of these cries resounded in West Bengal, Rajasthan and elsewhere
Crocodile tears for Manipur it said
Our daughters not safe in opposition ruled States
Me too from wrestling champions who had brought in gold
To the three monkeys of Gandhi their story they told
Can we have peace a quiet for a change said a voice from the kitchen
Suddenly all was still

Viren Lobo



The Lone Wolf and the Bhopa of Panerwa

The Lone Wolf and the Bhopa from Panerwa
Met up in the forest one day
Both had different issues but cause was similar
Forests/Habitat depleting rapidly so traditional methods would not work
Sher Khan was proving to be quite a jerk
Wanted the entire forest in his control
To dispose as he pleased
Prayers were offered to Lord Ganesha at Konark
Maybe the wrong place to offer them up
Annamalai may be better thought some
In any case Iron man was doing his damndest
The work of Ganesha to foil
Mougli standing by
Thought all this bother was fruitless toil
Diana here I come said he
In fun and frolic let us be free
Goa was chosen as the rendezvous
Forty years of being together
Apart ?
In fits and starts
To cut a long story short
An SUV came along
\$ promised
Deal struck
Is it all about a quick buck 🤔
Viren Lobo

Background

Dear All,

This utube story talks of the precautionary measures to prevent damage by shutting down windmills that crisscross the coast of Gujarat.

<https://youtu.be/pAeFgMFXilk>

The reason for this can be understood by the article below.

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/gujarat-pips-tamil-nadu-as-the-leader-in-wind-energy-capacity/article66957310.ece>

For your information. The issue now is something quite different. The damage that can be done when a 570 Ton Wind Turbine crashes is enormous. Thankfully there are no reports of such damage.

Regards

Viren

On Mon, Jun 19, 2023, 2:22 PM 'Hema Ravikumar' via AlumnioFIRMA
<alumniofirma@googlegroups.com> wrote:

Interesting anecdote. Thank you for sharing.

It is normally eager youngsters with stars in their eyes who come up with good ideas

On 17-Jun-2023 5:25 pm, Dr Nimain Charan Biswal
<drnimaincharanbiswal@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear All,

This note is for conveying BEST WISHES TO PEOPLE FOR FAST RECOVERY OUT OF CYCLONE "BIPARJOY" and at the same time;

REMEMBERING THE DECADES OLD AND PERENNIAL LOSS OF ELECTRICITY POLES AND ELECTRICITY DURING CYCLONE.

There is one State in India, **named as "Odisha" (formerly Orissa)** which is the perennial and regular sufferer of Cyclones, being at the foot of 'Bay of Bengal' which is nothing but a protruding extension of the biggest among the Oceans, the Indian Ocean and almost a permanent home to Devastating Cyclones frequently.

I read from the news broadcasted by media that **1000 villages of the cyclone affected 8-coastal districts State of Gujarat have gone out of electricity. The State Government of Gujarat has engaged 1000 teams to restore electricity to these villages and locations on war footing in the post-cyclone phase of restoration.**

During such huge and devastating cyclones, the Electricity Poles and Electricity is also the Decades Old and Every time Casualty, it has painfully happened in the State of Gujarat this time, previously it used to happen regularly in the State of Odisha, as per my experience and historical facts, it is normal to happen, difficult to control given the Cyclone Situation.

I share with you an experience of mine, of the 1990s while I used to work as the Branch Manager of GCMMF(Amul) (in those days they used to call in GCMMF as Depot-Incharge for the State of Odisha located at the city of Cuttack there.

At that time Late Shri Biju Patnaik (Real and Correct Name some may know : Shri Bijayanand Patnaik), the father of the Present Chief Minister of Odisha - Sri Naveen Patnaik, used to be the Chief Minister of Odisha then.

At that time a Huge and Devastated Cyclone had largely inundated the Coastal Districts of Odisha with very large scale damages of Properties, Lives (Human and Animals) Infrastructure. Normal to such situations, the State Chief Minister in the Post-Cyclone stage would call a meeting of various departments and authorities for the purpose of Coordinated Efforts of all for Recovery out of the Post-Cyclone situation.

Odisha was a milk deficit state at that time, so much of liquid milk marketing did not exist in 1990s, thus Milk Powders were the essential go from milk and foods side, GCMMF was almost the unwritten boss of the milk powder (milk) market at that time there, so the local office of the GCMMF would be called

for such meetings to ensure efficient milk powder availability in the cyclone affected zones.

When I went to attend the meeting at the Secretariat, Bhubaneswar then for the Post-Cyclone meeting called by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik then, I was hardly in 30s of age in 1990s and was one of the youngest to attend such meetings with very big departmental heads of the State and IAS officers of great seniority. I was just an "Young Boy" in the own language of Shri Biju Patnaik (may be in late 70s or 80s by age then) in that meeting. The Meeting Started, normally the Foods, Clothing and Shelter are the first priority points of Discussion. From Food Side (Milk Powder) whatever efforts I was asked to provide, I assured and the Chief Minister was happy to hear that. Then came Electricity as the next item to be discussed. It is normal that there will be lot of damage to Electric Poles and Wires, so the huge budget allocation will be sought for the Electricity Restoration, in fact it was the highest compared to any other item, and would become a cause of worry for the CM to arrange its funding. While the Electricity point was discussed, the Big Engineers and Officers of Electricity Department will be drawn in, however while I was present there, by extemper, I just drew the attention of the CM then to say something and the CM permitted me. I just said to Shri Biju Patnaik, " Sir, Every year and every cyclone time I see it is the Electricity Department comes with demand for a huge budget and of course it is not denied that lot of Electricity Poles and Electricity Wires get damaged. What about going for Cable Electricity provision in the Coastal Districts of Odisha that are always prone to Cyclones, wherever Cable Electricity Provision could be possible. That would reduce the damages to Electricity Infrastructure happening repeatedly". The Hon'ble CM Shri Biju Patnaik then was very happy to hear this from me, even some body not related to Electricity Department then. Immediately the CM said in front of everybody; " I appreciate what this young boy says, I like it and I like that this "Young Odia Boy" even not being from Electricity Department and from milk side (Amul) said this. We should think about it". Shri Biju Patnaik used to be very flamboyant when he would say, those who have seen him would know. Then he said, " This Young Boy will get a reward from me ". Everyone was surprised that the CM said this. Then he asked me "What do you need?". I said to the CM being most humble, "Sir, You said it is enough. However, everytime, we are called, we need to

wait for some time in queue to get a Secretariat Pass ". Then he said, " I am ordering, you will get a VIP Pass to visit the Secretariat at Bhubaneswar, nobody will detain you at the gate ". It was issued, and as long as I was at Cuttack it was valid.

After a couple of years in 1990s, Shri Biju Patnaik had passed way, his son Shri Naveen Patnaik became the Chief Minister of Odisha, and I was also transferred to the Zonal Office of GCMMF at Ahmedabad (Gujarat) as the Zonal Manager.

I am told the Government of Odisha has been focusing on converting the Electricity Distribution by Cable and not as much as Electricity Poles and Wires in contemporary times.

When I hear now, there are 1000 villages in Coastal Zones of the State of Gujarat have gone out of Electricity and lot of Poles and Wires have been damaged. I see it as repetition after almost 30years what I described above. The Electricity Distribution by Poles and Wires is for faster covering the villages or smaller towns in the Coastal Zones. It is normal that the Electricity Black Out is bound to happen due to cutting off power supply in such situations to avoid further electrocution related disasters and also due to large scale damages to the Poles and Wires due to high speed wind during such devastating cyclones, nobody's fault, it is admitted.

However, as I had said almost 30years back in my young mind then, before the then CM of Odisha in the meeting then, in all Coastal Zone habitations around the country, that are Prone to Cyclones, cable Electricity Distribution where ever can be done and possible, will save from lot of pains and expenditure load on the state funding.

With best regards,

Nimain Charan Biswal,

PRM-5 (1964-86),

Dr. Nimain Charan Biswal,

Mumbai, India

Dedication



Unidentified bodies after Odisha train crash

<https://www.etvbharat.com/english/state/odisha/death-toll-revised-to-275-187-bodies-yet-to-be-identified-odisha-govt/na20230604163950098098682>

<https://english.jagran.com/india/mistaken-to-be-dead-odisha-train-crash-victim-was-placed-in-truck-with-corpse-his-survival-story-10081249>

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/odisha-train-accident-balasore-coromandel-express-india-today-osint-team-2390000-2023-06-07>

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/odisha-train-tragedy-dead-body-misplaced-bengal-father-claims-corpse-sent-to-bihar-2390155-2023-06-07>

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/odisha-train-accident-outside-aiims-some-wait-for-bodies-others-sift-through-photos-8645672/>

<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/odisha-train-accident-2022-cag-report-flagged-serious-concerns-on-rail-safety-11685889913732.html>

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/odisha-train-crash-probe-now-focusses-on-suspected-manual-bypass-of-track-signal-report-2391574-2023-06-11>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/odisha-train-accident-cbi-begins-probe-collects-first-hand-report/article66937250.ece>

<https://thewire.in/government/the-odisha-train-crash-was-the-terrible-cost-of-ignoring-cag-audits>



<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/two-died-22-injured-1-000-villages-without-power-due-to-cyclone-biparjoy-11686922780330.html>

<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/cyclone-biparjoy-impact-gravitas-plant-in-mundra-affected-1-000-villages-without-power-more-details-here-11686908804624.html>

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/cyclone-biparjoy-live-updates-gujarat-coast-rains-weather-update-8657948/>

<https://www.dtnext.in/news/tamilnadu/cyclone-biporjoy-aids-windmills-to-supply-14th-of-tns-energy-requirement-717904>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pAeFgMFXilk>

Operations of Wind mills suspended eyeing the intensity of Cyclone Biparjoy |Arabian Sea | TV9News



<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/no-help-for-20-minutes-family-of-delhi-woman-who-died-of-electrocution-4154043>



A Philo Born 20/8/1931 Died 31/7/2023

My eulogy for mum¹

The Meaning of Being a Mother. ... A mother is a selfless, loving human who sacrifices many of her wants and needs for the wants and needs of her children.

This was our mum - in every aspect of her life. A mum who loved each 7 of us in her own special way.

As a child you always know and feel secure that your parents are around- to feed, clothe and protect you but as you grow older you start to appreciate them more and the foundations of a lasting relationship begin to get laid.

I'd like to share with you a few beautiful memories that I hold dear in my heart- memories I draw strength from in this very sad devastating period in my life.

When I moved to middle school mum also commenced teaching there - so together we entered the school on our first day- yes it was daunting but was filled with opportunities for us both. Guess for me there was another edible attraction - a samosa stall. I would go past the staff room quite a few times each week to ask mum for an extra 30 paisa to buy a samosa as I had already finished my tuck shop money on ice cream . Mum still recalled this time together with fond love- it was our own very special year together at school.

Mum's compassion for the poor and marginalised was highly commendable. On our way to school in the cycle rickshaw - we'd pass a slum where daily there would be two beggars sitting down at the side of the road. It was a routine to stop and give them money each day.

¹ Jeanne Fullinfaw

There were numerous times when the elderly beggar man wasn't there. Mum would request the rickshaw driver to stop -she ,then would get down and tell the rickshaw man to take us home and come back for her. She'd go into this slum to check why the old man wasn't at his usual place and most times would find him down with the flu. Mum would then get him some cold and flu tablets and groceries to tide him over a few days and leave him with some money as well. When I think back now- this was a very brave thing to do as mum could have got mobbed but the thought of helping another human in need was at the forefront of mum's mind - not the danger around.

Similarly when our maids or gardener were ill , mum would go to their houses, get them into the rickshaw and take them to the drs to get proper medication and treatment. Mum - you can rest assured this virtue of compassion for our less fortunate brothers and sisters - both from you and dad has flowed down to your children.

Our yearly holidays to visit mama and papa in Poona are now precious memories. Not sure how you and dad managed with 7 children at the busy Bombay Dadar station- changing trains there in a short time span to get to Poona with 7 kids and luggage.

I remember being always asked by mum to proof read articles she wrote for the New Leader- a Catholic magazine and was also asked what I thought of it. I felt important and my opinion valued.

As we celebrate your life ,mum today- we thank you deeply for your love, the sacrifices you and dad made to give us a sound education- not just academically also cultivating in us -great values and we owe who we are today to you both.

The journey forward will be very hard- mum - now our guardian angel and our shining star - we ask you to pray that each of us carries on your legacy of love, peace, forgiveness, unity , love of family and compassion for the disadvantaged- all which was the essence of your life.

Mum, we will look after each other.

As the quote from Fr Flanagan's Boys Town goes.

He ain't heavy Father. He's my brother.

Part I

Dr C D Sharma a Doctor with a difference

(Dr C D Sharma from Gohana has been known for his stellar service to the community at Gohana. During the lockdown the systematic all round support provided by him and his wife have attracted a lot of attention. Influenced by Marxist approach and Bhagat Singh, Dr C D Sharma has been taking regular classes on Marxism every week for more than thirty years now) .



Dr C D Sharma at the inauguration of Abhishekh Memorial Hospital

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xEIQNANran4>

A RAY OF HOPE

Shanti Hospital in Gohana (Sonipat) profiling Dr CD Sharma and Prof Suneeta Tyagi and their consistent effort to mobilise the marginalised section of the masses on their issues confronting them. The political activism and their campaign on the burning issues has been a ray of hope for the oppressed masses

TIMELINE FOR HARYANA STUDY

August to October 2023

- a) To visit different districts of Haryana for conducting Interviews, Focused group discussion, observations and Informal discussions with social action groups, experts and academics.
- b) To browse through research publications, magazines, journals, books and other research materials Gazette Reports of Government of India and Government of Haryana, research institutes or NGOs

November 2023 to January 2024

Mid-term review of the study during the observance of November Revolution Day in Gohana (Sonipat). Need to be finalized after having a thorough discussion with Dr CD Sharma.

The first draft to be tabled in an exclusive session during the observance of November Revolution Day. Post to the exhaustive discussions the points emerging would be incorporated in the study.

The final study of the study to be place on 23rd March 2024, while observing Martyrdom Day of Shaheed-A-Azam Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru.

Final Report to be published in English & Hindi.

Part II

A Perspective on Ecology and Livelihood



Ecological map of Kanalva prepared by the children of the village in Adivasi Jan Utthan Trust hostel, Bhekadiya

Programme with Children at Adivasi Jan Utthan Trust, Bhekadiya

The programme with children at Adivasi Jan Utthan Trust, Bhekadiya involved about 80 children from ten villages namely Kanalva, Aamsota, Samalvat, Bhundmaria, Umthi, Kunda, Harkot, Nani Kanas, Pherkua and Mandka. The children of these villages were asked to prepare the ecological map of their villages. The day long exercise helped the children put down their understanding of the land use, biodiversity and other natural resources in the village.

This programme will be followed up by regular monthly programmes that will help children detail the natural resources and social wealth within their village. Once the children are more confident and articulate about their issues, how this can be reported and mapped using google earth will be explored under the programme which is providing computer education to the children. The programme for providing children of the Ashram with local food once a month will be dovetailed with this and an attempt will be made to see how this can help develop an action research programme for the 355 children in the Ashram coming from about 50 villages. In the meantime AAJ will profile the children and also store the documentation village wise in the library so that over time village wise dossiers can be made and assist the women's groups in micro planning for the village based on the local biodiversity.



Ecological map prepared by children of Mandka at programme in Adivasi Jan Utthan Trust, Bhekadiya

Field visit to Takli Bhan and Jetpur to understand ecological issues related to fishing:

The idea behind the field visit was to get an understanding about the magnitude of the Tilapia invasion and impact on the local fish species available. The visit involved meeting fish workers, having an idea about the water sources which were infested by Tilapia, Discussions that took place at the Takli Bhan Fish market with fish vendors tried to understand the questions stemming from marketing and economics and create awareness among the fishing community and consumers about the extent of the issue. The preliminary discussions revealed that Tilapia now constituted 90% of the fish catch. Discussions with fishers on its eradication revealed that it was a challenging task given the market demand for the fish which at Rs 100/ per kilo was comparatively cheaper than other fish like Rahu Rs 200/ Kg, Katla Rs 300 per Kg, Pomfret Rs 600/, Bam Rs 400/ per Kg, Crab Rs 600/ per Kg, Prawns Rs 600/ per Kg . If an individual tried to increase the number of fish fingerlings of Rahu, Katla or Bam others would not let them survive till maturity. It would take a long time to deal with Government apathy which is the best way to ensure collective action, so cage would be the only method to increase other fish in the short run, keeping in mind individual concerns and limitations.

Contacts:

Amol Salve - Takli Bhan Fish Market 7756980046

Sandip Gangurde - Takli Bhan Fish Market 8669352763

Ravindra Ranware - Takli Bhan Fish Market 7744841734

Pradip Uhale - Jenpur 9527948265

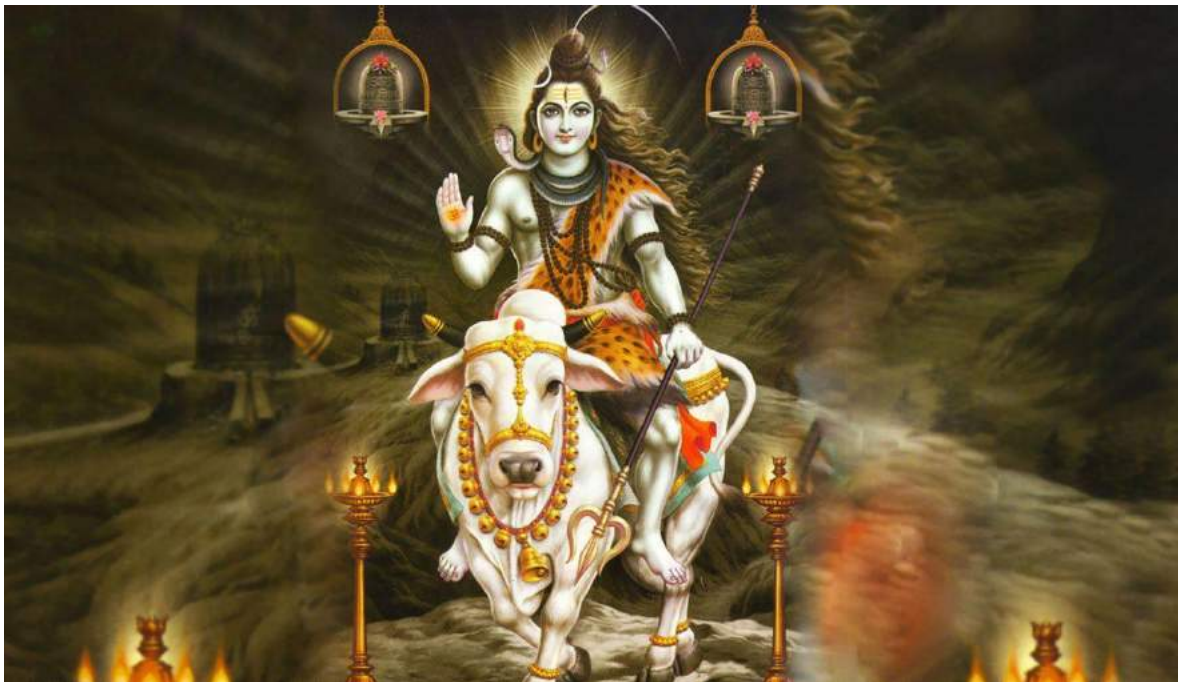
Krishna Uhale - Jenpur 9590351704



With Ravindra Ranware at Talki Bhan Fish Market

Part III

Spiritual/Ecological Connections & Our Common Home



Lord Shiva riding Nandi

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=791781007582569&set=story-2-goddess-mahalakshmi-resides-in-cow-dung-and-cow-urineeverybody-knows-tha>

Story 2: Goddess Mahalakshmi resides in cow dung and cow urine

Everybody knows that faeces is basically waste from the food we eat, and it is the most abominable product we produce. Our urine flushes out all our bodily waste. But did you know that Mahalakshmi (Goddess of wealth, prosperity and fortune), from whom we get money, fame, food, clothes, and all the luxuries we can think of, decided to live in cow dung and cow urine. The proof is from the Mahabharata (Book 13: Anushasana Parva Chapter 82) where Grand sire Bhishma gives a discourse to Emperor Yudhishtira about the merits of cow dung.

Once, Mahalakshmi went to a herd of cows. The cows saw a beautiful 4-armed goddess coming to them.

They asked, "Who are you?"

So the goddess replied, "I am the goddess of fortune and Lord Vishnu's eternal wife Goddess Mahalakshmi. Every beings in the universe, whether the demigods, human beings, demons or sages, worship me and want my blessings for eternity because with my grace I give all the material enjoyments and luxuries. The greatest curse for a living being is poverty because without money, food, home, health, one cannot survive, therefore I am most widely worshiped. Even my husband cannot live a moment without me.

Oh cows, I am most difficult to attain, still I come to you and ask a place on your divine bodies. Please give me a place to live."

The cows said, "You are fickle and restless. You stay in one place and then stay another. We cows do not demand anything. We do not desire you. Go somewhere else."

At that moment, the goddess realised that there is at least one being who has the courage to reject her. Her ego has been shattered.

Mahalakshmi said, "Oh cows, you have destroyed my false pride. I have come to seek your protection. Please offer me a place to live, anywhere however abominable it may be, even in your rectum. I will always be devoted to you, please grant my prayer."

The cows said, " So be it. You can live in our dung and urine. Both are sacred."

The goddess said, "You have shown me your grace. I am blessed."

In this way, Goddess Mahalakshmi lives in cow dung and cow urine forever. Both are used for religious purposes and has many health benefits (both can even cure cancer, proved by

medical science).

Gist: We all want luxuries but the cows are the first ones to reject it. They taught us to be satisfied with what you have. This also means if you reject cow dung and cow urine, you reject wealth, in a way.

<https://organiser.org/2023/05/23/164832/bharat/gau-tech-2023-an-initiative-to-promote-cow-based-industries/>

<https://twitter.com/p3srini?lang=en>



Two years ago, I walked into a cow shelter in the US and received an opportunity to serve the cows. I learnt later that this is the day that is celebrated as Gopasthmi. Gopasthmi is a very auspicious day per the Vedic scriptures - this day is set aside to revere & offer respects to cows; docile beings who are considered the mother of the universe. It is said that on this auspicious day, Sri Krishna graduated to herding cows when he stepped into the age of pauganda (i.e., when he turned six. Sri Krishna was a calf keeper prior to this)

Today, I am beyond excited to launch the book titled “The Sacred Bond: Personal experiences of cows touching human lives”. This book is a collection of 12 inspiring tales that explores the serendipitous interactions resulting in the creation of loving friendships between humans, cows & bulls. The book is currently available in English, in print and e-book versions.

Please purchase a copy and join me in celebrating the unconditional love and respect the characters in this book demonstrate towards cows & bulls: <https://lnkd.in/g3Zq2ixt>
[#newbookalert](#) [#newbook](#) [#befriendcows](#) [#love](#) [#serveunconditionally](#) [#gratitude](#)



Available on  amazon

Part IV

Politics of different kinds



East meets West: Poles apart - The MIC connection ?

The MIC connection ?



Modi_Biden_Cheers

Inspired by the discussions at memorial meeting of R P Saraf (24th June)

With elections around the corner, a coup pulled off.

Arms deal and promise of jobs to boot.

The world's third largest economy in terms of GDP is up for grabs 🤔.

Be prepared for the worst

Make sure we do not thirst

My coat at the seams has burst

Extreme weather events on the increase

As on Climate Change we can talk reams

Global warming a reality

Cold water available

As ice caps melt

Who is the next one to pelt 🤔🤔.

Hot and cold their courses have dealt. 🤔

Programme planned for World Peace and Environment on Hiroshima Day 6th August



<https://www.indiatoday.in/magazine/cover-story/story/20230626-timeline-of-the-wrestlers-protracted-struggle-for-justice-2394019-2023-06-16>

<https://mattersindia.com/2023/06/indian-women-wrestlers-struggle-for-justice/>

<https://www.newsclick.in/pms-silence-women-wrestlers-struggle-emboldens-offenders>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/more-sports/wrestling/wrestlers-protest-against-wfi-chief-brij-bhushan-sharan-singh-harassment-live-updates-india/liveblog/100670369.cms>

<https://thefederal.com/news/wrestlers-fear-isolated-mahapanchayats-diluting-struggle-only-helping-say-khaps/>

All India Union of Forest Working People(AIUFWP)

"Today as an Indian we all are in grief as our young women wrestlers took the decision to immerse their medals in river Ganges as Indian authority and Government has turned deaf ear to their demand of arresting rapist Brijbhusan Sharan Singh, The WFI Chief. This reminds us and takes us back to

1960 when young Mohammad Ali the Olympic Boxing Champion was also forced to throw his gold medal in Ohio river due to discrimination faced by him due to his black skin".

We a national level Trade union working on the issue of forest and land rights are appalled by the atrocity unleashed by Delhi Police on the struggling women wrestler on 28th May, 2023 in Jantar Mantar when they were participating in the peaceful protest against the sexual harassment by the WFI Chief Brijbhusan Sharan Singh. It is a matter of grave concern and utter shock the way our national pride women athletes were treated by the Indian Govt where

they were beaten brutally and arrested with non bailable criminal charges. As it is known all over the world that after knocking all doors of justice the wrestlers opted to sit in peaceful dharna in Jantar Mantar New Delhi from 23rd April to protest against the WFI Chief who has sexually molested not one, two, ten or twenty but Hundreds of women athlete and many being minor. It is of great concern that wrestlers like Sakshi Malik, Vinesh Phogat, Bajranj Punia and Sangeeta Phogat the internationally famed sportsperson has to protest on streets to get justice that is their right according to the Constitution of India and also under various laws that guarantees and upholds women's respect and esteem. They were abused, beaten, dragged and insulted badly. This has touched the hearts of millions of our country people and the world across after the shocking pictures were aired in the media on 28th May. Despite such fierce fight against demanding justice the wrestlers were made criminals and the criminal Brijbhusan was treated like a hero in the inauguration of the new Parliament by our Prime Minister on the same day. The statement made by this molester against the Medals won by the young women, his purported remark in which he said the protesting grapplers should return their prize money instead of medals as "they are only worth ₹15". This shows a complete disregard to the country's honor, talent and the Sports Ethics and the hard work that was put in by the wrestlers against all the odds of the Society. It is well understood in the Country like India that how the women, who are among a very few individual medal holders in international sports events from India, must have struggled for this particular sport in the patriarchal society. The struggle for fighting for the democratic right and right for dignity is not new in the history of the Olympics. It is well known that on October 16, 1968, during their medal ceremony in the Olympic Stadium in Mexico City , two African-American athletes, Tommie Smith and John Carlos, each raised a black-gloved fist during the playing of the US national anthem. While on the podium, Smith and Carlos, who had won gold and bronze medals respectively in the 200-meter running event of the 1968 Summer Olympics, turned to face the US flag and then kept their hands raised until the anthem had finished. The gesture was not a "Black Power" salute per se, but rather a "human rights" salute. The demonstration is regarded as one of the most overtly political statements in the history of the modern Olympics. In India the WFI chief is dictatorial and governing his status with power and money rather than following the Olympics rules and norms. Though India is signatory to the international Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) that is an international legal instrument that requires countries to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in all areas and promotes women's and girls' equal rights. The powerful position held by the WFI chief is violating all such national and international covenants yet no action is being taken by the present regime against him. Rather than promoting for the civil rights and justice the WFI Chief is instead saying to remove Act like POSCO that was enacted to protect children and adolescents from Sexual Abuse.

We as a concerned citizen of this country are deeply sad over the crushing of the voices of our women wrestlers who are raising their voices in the Constitutional frame. It is also utter shame that the Retired IPS officer NC Asthana reportedly said that while protestors were being dragged like bags of trash for now, police retain the right to open fire under Section 129 of the CrPC. He should be immediately arrested for making a statement that is against law and our Constitution.

We demand that wrestler's demands should be immediately met with

#Arrest of Brijbhusan Sharan Singh. He should be immediately arrested and put in jail.

#All the false cases against the wrestlers be withdrawn unconditionally.

The wrestlers should be compensated for the loss of their practice time and should be given extra care and treatment to face the upcoming sports events nationally and internationally.

#The WFI post should be headed by a sports person and should not be a political post.

#There should be a separate body for the women sports person for the grievance redressal.

Jarjum Ete

President Emeritus

Sokalo Gond

President

Ashok Choudhary

Vice President

Roma

Gen Sect

Teesta Setalvad

Munnilal

Vice President



Democratic governance and freedom of expression

While many unfinished tasks related to Freedom of expression across the globe still remain to be completed. The right to freedom of expression took an ugly turn in Sweden. Hidden behind both events that have shaken the globe are many issues related to racism, religion and world peace. Globalisation is not just about economics and freedom for capital commodities to traverse different parts of the globe. It also relates to cultural diversity and the legacies of colonialism as well.

While a strong case for assertion of different cultural and racial identities exist, the need for a conducive atmosphere for them to flourish and bloom is also very much on the cards.

regards

Viren

France burns

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Killing_of_Nahel_M.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/prottests-in-france-hundreds-arrests-third-night-fatal-police-shooting-nahel-nanterre/>

<https://www.livemint.com/news/world/france-protest-live-updates-hundreds-arrested-as-unrest-spreads-over-teens-killing-11688096687663.html>

Right to peaceful gathering takes an ugly turn in Sweden

<https://www.dw.com/en/sweden-man-burns-quran-outside-mosque-during-eid-al-adha/a-66053104>

The court had said that there must be a clear connection between security problems and the planned gathering. Police deemed this to not be the case, according to Swedish broadcaster TV4.

"The security risks and consequences that the authorities can see connected to a Quran burning are not of such a nature that according to the current law they give grounds for a decision to reject a request for a general gathering," the court said.

"Police authorities, therefore, give you permission for the requested gathering," it added

.....

The burning of the Quran has become a mainstay of far-right extremists in Sweden, with Danish-Swedish far-right politician Rasmus Paludan having made a name for himself with such acts. But Paludan was not behind Wednesday's action.

.....

The man who had requested permission for the action, a 37-year-old Iraqi refugee who wants the book banned, tore out pages from the Quran, wiped them on his shoe and set some of them on fire, Swedish public broadcaster SVT said.

Widespread protest break out from District to State to National: Bhumi Adhikar Andolan

<https://sabrangindia.in/article/dontstealourland-widespread-protests-break-out-district-to-state-to-national-bhumi-adhikar-andolan/>

Bhumi Adhikar Andolan

Call for Nationwide Protest on 30th June against Forest Land Exploitation and Regressive Amendments to the Forest Conservation Act

Dear Comrades,

Warm greetings from Bhumi Adhikar Andolan! We hope this circular finds you in good health and high spirits. We are reaching out to bring your attention to an urgent matter that demands our collective attention and action.

Across our country, forest lands have been relentlessly exploited, leading to severe ecological damage and the displacement of indigenous communities. The proposed amendments to the Forest Conservation Act pose a grave threat to the rights of these communities, further diluting the hard-fought Forest Rights Act.

The proposed amendments in the Forest Conservation Amendment Bill 2023 have raised significant concerns and sparked the need for protest. There are several reasons contributing to our opposition to these amendments:

1. **Exclusion of forest areas:** The proposed amendments redefine and review forests in a way that could potentially exclude vast forest areas from the protection of the Forest Conservation Act (FCA). This disregard for forest conservation would result in extensive deforestation, environmental degradation, and the loss of livelihoods and biodiversity. Forest-dependent communities would face hunger, starvation, and displacement as a consequence.
2. **Violation of marginalized communities' rights:** The proposed amendments overlook provisions in the Forest Rights Act (FRA) of 2006 and the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resettlement Act (LARR) of 2013, thus violating the rights of marginalized communities. By limiting the application of the FCA and FRA, the amendments risk expediting forest diversions without the consent of local self-governance bodies known as Gram Sabhas. This perpetuates historical injustices and undermines the constitutional rights of marginalized communities.
3. **Concentration of power:** The amendments grant extensive powers to the central government, enabling them to issue directions and assign forest lands to any party. This concentration of power undermines existing checks and balances, such as the Forest Advisory Committee and the Centrally Empowered Committee. The amendments neglect the importance of consultative processes with state and local governments and forest-dwelling communities, further centralizing decision-making authority.
4. **Exemptions and lack of oversight:** The amendments introduce exemptions for strategic projects, security-related infrastructure, and public utility projects, as well as provisions for eco-tourism facilities, silvicultural operations, and zoos and safaris. These exemptions create opportunities for private entities to gain control over forests and forest resources without adequate forest clearance requirements. The lack of impact assessments and regulatory oversight poses risks to habitats, species, and forest ecosystems.
5. **Disempowerment of Gram Sabhas:** Lastly, the proposed amendments weaken the authority of Gram Sabhas and concentrate governance power in the hands of the central government. This undermines local-level actions for biodiversity conservation, contradicts constitutional provisions, and hinders the recognition of forest rights and the decision-making processes of communities.

Given these concerns, it is imperative to protest against the proposed amendments to the Forest Conservation Act. We strongly recommend the withdrawal of these amendments and the alignment of the Forest Conservation Act with the provisions of the Forest Rights Act. This would ensure the recognition and vesting of forest rights and the decision-making authority of Gram Sabhas. The involvement and consent of local communities, as well as the preservation of ecosystems and biodiversity, should be prioritized in any forest conservation and governance framework.

In light of these alarming developments, Bhumi Adhikar Andolan urges all pro-people organizations and individuals to observe 30th June 2023 as a Black Day. This day will serve as a powerful statement of our opposition to the unabated loot of forest lands and the regressive amendments proposed in the Forest Conservation Act.

To assert our constitutional rights, we call upon all our members, supporters, and like-minded individuals to organize protest demonstrations at the block level and state level. It is through our collective action that we can send a strong message to those in power that we stand united in our demand for justice, environmental protection, and the preservation of the rights of forest-dwelling communities.

During the protest demonstrations, we must highlight the following key messages:

1. **Condemnation of forest land exploitation:** We strongly condemn the ongoing exploitation of forest resources, which not only harms the environment but also displaces indigenous communities from their ancestral lands.
2. **Rejection of the proposed amendments:** We vehemently oppose the proposed amendments to the Forest Conservation Act, as they seek to dilute the provisions of the Forest Rights Act and undermine the rights of forest-dwelling communities.
3. **Solidarity with forest-dwelling communities:** We express our unwavering support for the rights of forest-dwelling communities and pledge to stand by them in their struggle for justice and self-determination.

We urge all members and supporters to mobilize at the block level and state level, organizing peaceful demonstrations, rallies, and public meetings. It is crucial that these activities are conducted in a peaceful and lawful manner, adhering to all relevant safety protocols and legal guidelines.

Together, let us make our voices heard on 30th June 2023 and send a powerful message that we will not tolerate the exploitation of our forests or the dilution of the Forest Rights Act. By joining hands and standing in solidarity, we can create a better future for our forests and the communities that depend on them.

In solidarity,

Bhumi Adhikar Andolan

National Alliance of People's Movements (NAPM), Chhattisgarh BachaoAndolan, Adivasi Adhikar Manch, Adivasi Aikya Vedike, Adivasi Ekta Parishad, Adivasi Mukti Sangathan, All India Kisan Sabha (Canning Lane), All India Kisan Sabha (Ajay Bhavan), All India Kisan Khet Mazdoor Sangathan, All India Kisan Mahasabha, All India Agriculture Workers Union, All India Union of Forest Working People, Bharat Jan Andolan, Bhartiya Kisan Union Arajnitik Asli, Bundelkhand Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan, Dalit Adivasi Shakti Adhikar Manch, Delhi Solidarity Group, Gujarat Khedut Samaj, Himdhara Collective, Jan Ekta Jan AdhikarAndolan, Jan Sangharsh Samanyvay Samiti, Janmukti Vahini, JindabadSangathan, KashtakariSangathan, Kisan Manch, Kisan Sangharsh Samiti, Lok Mukti Sangathan, Lok Sangharsh Morcha, Lok Shakti Abhiyan, Mines Minerals and People, Narmada Bachao Andolan, Sanyukt Kisan Sangharsh Samiti, Sarv Adivasi Sangathan, Sarvahara Jan Andolan, Shoshit Jan Andolan, Adhikar Manch, Kaimoor Mukti Morcha, BJSa, JanmatuSangathan, Jharkhand BachaoAndolan, Lok Sangharsh Morcha, Jan Sangharsh Samanvaya Samiti, INSAF, Kisan Manch, Adivasi Ekata Parishad and others.

For more details contact bhumiadhikarandolan@yahoo.com or call at 9954529368

Dear All,

This is a very informative and sensitive interview of Fr Walter Fernandes by Karan Thapar. It provides deep insights into what is happening in Manipur and the possible road map on what needs to be done.

<https://youtu.be/jx2qLhvprZM>

The interview points to a recognition that continued organised violence against the Kukis is going to be counter productive. However the appeal to resolve the issue is not yet finding the proper grounds it should.

One of the basis for the conflict (minus the communal overtones given) is the fact that the Meteis constituting 53 % of the population occupy 10% of the land in the plains. The Kukis constituting 40% occupy 90% in the hills.. Given that 66% of this land is forested, the general perception of difference is off the mark.

The Kukis were defeated by the British in 1917 and dispersed, so the understanding that Kukis are forcibly occupying land is a myth.

This much for now

Regards

Viren

<https://kafila.online/2023/06/18/on-the-current-turmoil-in-manipur-what-we-need-to-know-and-what-we-need-to-do-nefis/>

Part V

Health, Happiness and the Hope Gene



Ian Fullifaw and his dream



Left to Right Micah, Nathan, Trevor, Ian (back) and Colin. Chris in front Centre





https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crash_Landing_on_You

Yoon Se-ri (**Son Ye-jin**) is a South Korean successful entrepreneur and a **chaebol** heiress. One day, while paragliding in **Seoul**, a tornado blows her off course. As a result, she crash-lands into the **North Korean** portion of the **DMZ**. Ri Jeong-hyeok (**Hyun Bin**) is a member of the North Korean elite and a captain in the **Korean People's Army**. As he is patrolling, he meets Se-ri and saves her. Having decided to help her go back to the South, he hides her from other North Koreans, especially Cho Cheol-gang (**Oh Man-seok**) who is out to expose him. As they spend time together, they fall in love.



<https://breakbio.com/acs-honorees-2023-roy-de-souza-aisha-de-sequeira-in-memoriam/>

<https://youtu.be/K0n8PmjdpQo>

I was honored by the American Cancer Society (ACS) for my work on a new cure for cancer. BreakBio AI analyzes each patient's cancer cells to find unique proteins on them. It then designs, manufactures and injects a custom immunotherapy to target cells with these proteins. A new era of personalized medicine



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borgen_\(TV_series\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borgen_(TV_series))

The programme tells how, against all the odds, Birgitte Nyborg Christensen (Sidse Babett Knudsen)—a minor centrist politician—becomes the first female [prime minister of Denmark](#). Other main characters are [Birgitte Hjort Sørensen](#) as Katrine Fønsmark, a TV1 news anchor; [Pilou Asbæk](#) as Kasper Juul, a [spin doctor](#); [Søren Malling](#) as Torben Friis, news editor for TV1; [Mikael Birkkjær](#) as Birgitte's husband, Phillip; and [Benedikte Hansen](#) as Hanne Holm, a journalist.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/web-series/reviews/international/borgen/borgen-power-glory-season-4/seasonreview/91912762.cms>

Story: The fourth season of ‘Borgen’ sees Birgitte Nyborg in a new role. After having been the Prime Minister of Denmark once, in the new coalition government she is now vested with the responsibility of foreign affairs. When oil is discovered in Greenland, it becomes an opportunity for her to regain her past glory, but the journey is riddled with numerous obstacles.

Review: When ‘Borgen’ first aired in 2011, it was a whiff of fresh air for viewers around the world. It introduced to the world the power of Nordic content. The drama showed a world where its characters frequented corridors that were defined by political machination, as opposed to a more marketable world of gory murders in the desolate cold places of Scandinavia. Ten years later, the Nordic series is back, and it has lost none of its charm. It has only become better and stronger. The current season of ‘Borgen’ is a masterstroke as it involves most of the contemporary political events, weaving them in an extremely intelligent manner. It talks about climate change, oil exploration, the Russian mafia, the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, and the pandemic – and full credit to the writing team that none of these seems out of place and everything seamlessly fits into the proceedings.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sniper:_The_White_Raven

The film tells the story of a pacifist high school teacher who wanted to live in peace and harmony with nature, but was driven to join the Ukrainian military as a sniper after war comes to [Donbas](#).^{[3][4]} The story was inspired by the life and experiences of scriptwriter Mykola Voronin, himself a schoolteacher who later enlisted with the military.^[5]



Viren Lobo who was influenced by liberation theology during his college days did an MBA from Institute of Rural Management Anand. He has been working the development sector since he passed out from there in 1985. Employer, employee and other contradictions observed by him during his thirty year stint at Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development (SPWD) forced him to examine the relevance of Marxism as a way of looking at reality in relation to change he sought to bring. During the course of his work covering more than twenty States, he noticed a link between the livelihoods and ecology which he pursued strongly as Executive Director SPWD. The limitations of existing organisations to deal with the complex questions society posed motivated him to set up Institute of Ecology and Livelihood Action as the transition needed to address issues he was looking into at that time. The contradictions arising out of the a series of Bills that were passed during the last five years encouraged him to use the enforced sedentary life imposed on him to use his creativity to write plays. These were the first of a series which have helped serve the purpose of putting on paper the complex dilemma and diverse social opinions he came across.

About Especioza Trust:



Especioza Trust is named after my great, great grandmother who widowed at an early age brought up her only son Aogustinho (seated in centre). Shortly after a family reunion in December 2013, we got news that the family home at 84 Porvorim had been illegally sold to a builder. My aunt Marie stepped in and after getting the required mandate from the family not only got the family home back but the previous ancestral home of 85 Porvorim as well. Since then it became her project in memory of her widowed great grandmother till her death on her mother Amy Lobo's 117th birthday (25th July 2019). Since the informal trust set up by her could not achieve fruition I decided to keep the struggle and memories alive by carrying on her mission to bring unity within the family and dedicate the work of the Trust to all widows and single women of the world. My Aunt/Cousin Hazel Cardozo the daughter of Liban Pinto one of the two brothers born on my birthday (6th September) has helped me to give this project shape. The other brother Lucian in whose name the house was, also happened to be born on my birthday as well. The spiritual connection and the necessity for me to step in also come from a lot of other quarters which need not be documented here.

Viren Lobo