

The Neutral View

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PROFESSIONAL GAMING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A SPORT



CRISTON RIEN

Over the past few decades, video games have become a staple in the entertainment industry. Lately, a discussion has started over whether video games should be grouped into the category of sports as well. First-person shooter games and massive multiplayer online games (MMO's) in particular have spawned dedicated teams of players from all around the world. This has led to the establishment of massive gaming tournaments. These tournaments have become so prominent in recent years that ESPN has even added an eSports section to their repertoire.

It seems as if the battle has already been won for eSports but many people refuse to acknowledge their legitimacy. The Oxford dictionary defines a sport as "an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against

another for entertainment." With this in the mind, it appears easy to plug many video games right into the definition. With all of the popular games in eSports, it requires a huge amount of effort and training along with a great deal of skill to reach a competitive level. As an avid gamer who has previously taken part in competitive gaming, I can speak from experience when I say that it is just as competitive as any other sport you may watch. It requires tremendous skill, team communication, effort, hand-eye co-ordination, and most of all, a winner's thought process. Most of us who do play video games consider it as a fun activity to indulge in at our leisure. But then there are those who practice and perfect it to a point where it just becomes second nature to them. Trust me, competitive gaming is a whole different ball game. Although it shows a lot of promise for being categorized as a

sport, the physical aspect of this however, is the point of debate. People who disagree with the idea of it being a sport often bring up the aspect of physicality saying that it does not meet the requirements. Obviously, gamers are usually sedentary for their tournament, but claiming that there is no physical exertion is false.

Competitive gamers have learned to quickly and precisely chain together complicated in-game movements and attacks, which is only possible with a high level of dexterity. Sure this is not comparable to the type of physical exertion associated with sports like basketball, football and hockey but finger movements are physical exertion nonetheless. It is often underestimated but moving your fingers at such high speeds along with co-ordination and preciseness can be quite tiring. Gaming as a sport has piqued the interest of quite

a few prominent companies: T-Mobile sponsors ESPN's eSports section and Intel sponsors a competitive Halo team.

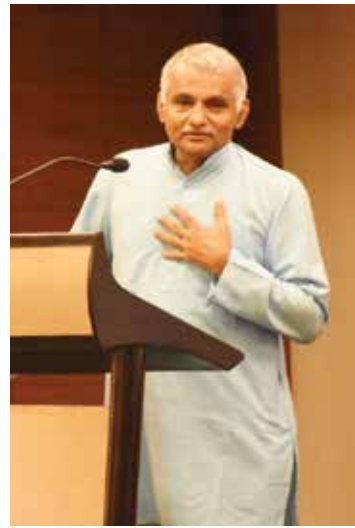
Just like in the NBA and NFL, these companies see eSports as something that can prove profitable to everyone involved. In fact, according to the research firm Newzoo, "The eSports industry will grow from \$278 million in revenue into a \$765 million industry by 2018. "Obviously people take the gaming industry seriously, which is an undeniable point in its favor. Compared to other activities identified as sports, like chess, eSports have become a global phenomenon. In particular games like league of legends have garnered millions of fans from everywhere imaginable. CNN states, "In South Korea, stadiums once used to host football matches at the 2002 FIFA World Cup but are now frequently packed to capacity with eSports fans, looking on as a new

generation of heroes wields keyboard and mouse.

Another aspect of sports that people tend to forget is the public demand for them and the eSports fan base already eclipses that of many other sports. In tournaments, the most popular games are big-ticket events with prize pools in millions. When one thinks of sports, it is very easy to immediately think of football, basketball and baseball, so it makes sense if we have a hard time thinking of something as a sport if it does not remotely resemble the conventional one.

Regardless, gaming is a big deal and is a huge spectacle internationally, with teams of players sinking hours upon hours of their day into honing their skills and battling it out with others at the highest level of complete play possible. The essence of sport is pure competition, which professional gaming is all about.

Neutral Fest



SINCE IFFI IS THERE, GOAN CINEMA HAS TO FLOURISH

I remember how way back in the year 2004 when International Film Festival of India (IFFI) travelled for the first time from New Delhi to Goa, entire scene was of confusion. Chief minister Manohar Parrikar, who was then heading the State, was seen personally inspecting each of the work including repairs of the promenade along River Mandovi.

The tales of how Parrikar was mistaken for being a security in-charge during the inaugural at Kala Academy were discussed over cup of tea and glass of beer in the State. Parrikar was also seen handling traffic and public at the same time, which had mobbed at the Kala Academy during the inaugural to have the glimpse of their favourite film stars.

The IFFI was then presumed to be gathering of film stars, especially from Hindi film industry. Existence of parallel cinema and their makers was hitherto unknown for many including those who currently claim themselves as 'film buffs.'

It was more like a celebration with something for everyone planned during the event. The families were seen enjoying their evenings in an unexpectedly glamorous and lit-up environment on the street connecting Old Goa Medical College complex to Kala Academy.

Very few people who could get the delegate pass or people who were present on their official duty to cover or organize the event knew that the IFFI was actually meant

to be for wholesome experience of films with major focus on parallel cinema from across the world.

The best of the feature or non-feature films that would never be seen by the audience from Goa were part of the festival. And then it took almost a year till the next edition of the festival was hosted for many people to realise what exactly IFFI is. I doubt if anyone from Goa had even been a part of the festival when it was in Delhi.

The festival, which is entering 13th year of its arrival in Goa, has witnessed several controversies. To begin with, there were questions whether the coastal state is the right venue for the movie extravaganza. The South Indian filmmakers lobbied to take it to Kerala and even minor protests were witnessed.

The IFFI in Goa has been synonymous with the controversies. Certain times, it was due to the mistakes or errors of the organizers, while many a times it is due to the clashes with the filmmakers that the controversies used to erupt. They were harmless kind with few small-time protests at the venue grabbing media attention and they eventually used to die down.

The festival has travelled through thick and thins including the recent controversy over movie 'Padmavati' or dropping of movies 'S Durga' and 'Nude' from Indian Panorama section.

The event, one can say, has matured over the years earning proper focused audience who arrive here for the love of cinema and not the stars. Though this time, the event has many stars making their presence for the inaugural and expected to arrive for the concluding, the real cinema has always remained heart of the festival.

While analyzing the journey of IFFI, one cannot turn blind eye towards one question that was being asked during initial stages of hosting this event. What do Goa get from this?

The question was subject of several television debates, chay-pe-charcha and beer-pe-discussion. In the year 2004, it was decided that we should give it a time and wait and observe what exactly will this festival give for Goa.

I still remember the initial explanations given for these crucial questions, which

stated that the festival will make Goa a brand in tourism circle. The justification was not so convincing as Goa is itself a brand and to certain extend IFFI is getting better branded because it is held in Goa.

India's smallest state does not require any branding across India or world over to attract tourists. In fact, the numbers of tourists have touched 6 million from the earlier figure of 2.5 to 3 million. We lack infrastructure to handle such a huge inflow. The month of November-December is crazy. Do we really require IFFI to invite people to Goa?

I do to an extend, admit, that portrayal of Goa in some of the movies as a fun destination has helped to attract domestic crowd, who are usually seen travelling on yellow number plate scooters.

The phenomenon began with Amir Khan starrer movie 'Dil Chahta Hai' in the year 2001, mind you, three years before the IFFI was hosted in Goa. And this phenomenon continues with the groups of youth descending here with their shoulder bags and trying to explore Goa to the fullest. Partying hard over night.

Back to the festival, the IFFI has certainly helped growth of film industry in the State. The exposure of the filmmakers to the international films have been immense that would be replicated in the products that would be produced from here.

If that is the case, the State government should really pull up their sleeves and work to encourage entertainment industry. There were huge talks about promoting entertainment industry in the State but the ground reality is grim.

Award winning filmmaker Rajendra Talak is heading Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG), who can pave way for a change that would help the film industry grow in the State.

Merely holding IFFI wont work till we have conscious efforts to help the filmmakers in Goa to produce best of the films. Goa is an open film studio. The filmmakers admit that you can stand anywhere in Goa and roll a camera and you will get a good background required for a perfect set.

It's time that we not just celebrate IFFI but also celebrate the talent of Goa. The festival will end on November 28 but the aspirations to produce world-class movies in Goa and by Goans should not culminate there.



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A SMALL TOWN SCHOOL IN MAHARASHTRA'S BEED SHOWS WAY IN E-LEARNING

GUNWANTI PARASTE

It was an initiative by a small town primary school teacher that has changed the way pupils in Maharashtra's Beed district studies. The revolution has begun in the State run Zilla Parishad Primary School and the inspiration behind it is a teacher Jyoti Ingale-Shinde. In what can be called as a unique initiative of crowd funding, Jyoti convinced the villagers about the importance of education and encouraged them to provide funds to buy digital tablets for the children.

We caught up with Jyoti in Beed to speak to her about her initiative, which is path breaking in the Zilla Parishad run schools.

Your efforts have been given recognition across the State. How does it all happen?

I am a primary school teacher in Zilla Parishad primary school at Dattapur Village in Ambajugai (taluka) of Maharashtra's Beed district. In this school mostly farmers' and labours' children take admission. We embarked on the mission to make education interesting for these children. After initial thought, we decided to use tablets at the school. The main issue was about funds. So we convinced the villagers about the importance of school education and encouraged them to provide funds to arrange tablets for children.

After this initiative, did the condition of school improved?

When I joined school three years back, the condition of the school was not so good. There was no interest for studies in anyone and the elders were also not interested to admit their children. There came a challenge for us. We



understood that if we have to attract the children, we will have to do something interesting. We spoke to educational officer Shahikant Hingole on how to utilise digitalisation and visual technology to make school education attractive for village kids. Hingole Sir encouraged us to use the latest technology for education and we decided to buy tablets for kids.

How did you collect funds for tablets?

It was not easy task for us to collect funds considering the fact that the students here belong to economically very poor strata of society. We decided to take the parents in confidence, we took several meetings with the villagers. At first, we convinced mothers about the benefits of E-learning, we then convinced villagers to donate money for tablets as their ability and capacity. In our village, financial condition of some parents' is good, they gave sizeable amount. All the parents

were ready to contribute but many didn't have that much financial capacity. Although, we collected Rs. 75,000 from farmers also elders and bought five tablets, projectors and Wi-Fi connection for the School.

What change did you find after technology was introduced?

Three years back, when I join Zilla Parishad School, the numbers of student were less. When the technology was introduced the word spread like wildfire and the strength of the students went up from 22 to 42! Those children, who were not interested for studies are now taking interest in studies. The knowledge about different words in language has increased, They are also interested in studying the subjects like Science, Mathematics, English and Marathi. We downloaded some educational apps, which are beneficial for children's education. We started teaching the kids how to use

the tablets. Children like to study using tablets and easily understand lessons. The tablet experience became an instant hit and we found that students easily understand through visual education. We also convinced some parents who are using Android cellphones to download some educational apps and learn from them.

What are the improvements that you witnessed in the children?

Earlier some students didn't like to study, now they are enthusiastic towards their lessons as they have become easy to understand because of the tablets. Some children don't have so much knowledge about words, now they can easily write their name in English and Marathi as well. They can easily understand science subjects and solve Math problems. Children are also taking initiative to teach another student who has got difficulties in studies which is

very appreciable.

Are parents are satisfied to these revolutions?

Yes of course, nobody wants their children to become labourer and do odd jobs. Parents are happy and proud that their children are taking interest in studies. The road connectivity to our village is bad, but still parents take initiative to send their children to school for good education.

What is the reaction from other schools for your project?

When we started this revolution, we got some difficulties to raise funds. When we started using tablets for studies, other town schools also approached our school and they also decided to buy tablets for their school for education purpose. We also gave some guidelines to other school teachers on how to use tablets and how to convince children's parents for education.

HOW TO KEEP YOURSELF FIT THIS WINTER

TEAM TNV

Without a gym membership, many people feel lost when it comes to staying in shape as winter approaches. Skiing and ice hockey are great sports, but they can be costly and requires a lot of training, travelling and planning. However, with a little creativity and some basic equipment it's not that difficult and can even be fun to stay in shape all winter long.

Here are some low-cost ideas to keep fit outside the gym this season. If you need more of a challenge, use the modification tips to take it up a notch.

STAIRS

Running or walking, up and down the stairs in your house or apartment building can be a great high intensity cardio and leg workout. One option for those starting out is to add walking intervals every few floors. For example, leave the stairwell and walk the length of the hallway and back before resuming your ascent. Try climbing two steps at a time, sprinting a few flights or doing jumping jacks between floors to raise the intensity.

ICE SKATING

This is a great aerobic and social workout that can be done free of charge in some arenas. If triple axels are not in your repertoire, you can still pick up the pace to get your heart pumping. Skating backwards can also work your muscles in different ways.

INDOOR SPORTS

Join a team or individual sports program. Competition levels can range from recreational to expert. The most cost effective programs are usually run by local municipalities where gym space at a local school or community centre is secured and people drop in for a game of basketball, floor hockey or other team sports. You can also sign up for any number of aerobics classes, dance classes or other group fitness sessions.

If you have the time, try combining more than one workout each day. Try a yoga class right after pick-up basketball or Zumba in the morning and volleyball at night.

MALL WALKING

When walking outdoors is not an option, do laps inside your local shopping mall. For the average person, a brisk one-hour walk can burn 300 to 400 calories. If there are multiple levels in the mall, climb stairs or walk up escalators to challenge your leg muscles and burn extra calories.

HOME WORKOUTS

A workout DVD or even a quick YouTube search to find indoor aerobic routines can pay off when you have limited space. If you have weights, resistance bands, a skipping rope, a stability ball, trampoline, or any other equipment, you can incorporate those into a great full body workout. Experiment with mixing and matching workouts. For the best fat-burning workouts, mix some resistance training with some high intensity cardio. In 20 or 30 minutes you could easily burn more calories than you would on a treadmill at the gym.

DANCING

For even more fun and less structure, turn up the volume on some of your favorite songs and dance. Dance to your two favorite current songs and then on three songs that you haven't heard since "back in the day" and you've got yourself a 20-minute workout while dinner is on the stove. Try doing push ups, dips, jumping jacks or burpees during the choruses.

ACTIVE TV VIEWING

Don't want to miss your favorite TV show? Try jogging or skipping on the spot while you watch. Do squats, push ups, or burpees during the commercial breaks.

SOC-IT TO ME.

Don't relegate soccer to a warmer weather's only sport. When it's too cold to get outdoors, indoor soccer is a solid option for kicking out your frustrations and working up a sweat. And the benefits are worth it: Soccer means crazy good cardio, plus some sneaky core work with every pass, shot, and corner kick. Studies show the world's favorite sport can also improve oxygen uptake (a measure of cardiovascular fitness) in adult athletes, and help with balance too. So Score!

KITCH IT UP A KNOTCH

It is a full body workout, a stress reducer, a self-defense class, and flexibility workshop. No folks, this isn't a magic pill. It's the power of kickboxing. Combining karate-style kicking with boxing punches, kickboxing takes the best of both worlds to give your upper and lower body a kick-ass workout. It burns about 750 calories an hour and the emphasis on core movements will help tone the body as well. Also, if you're ever in a situation where you need to throw a punch or two, kickboxing got you covered.

START SWINGING

Who knew swinging cast iron could reap such huge benefits in so little time? If you want to combine strength training and cardio workouts into one effective, calorie-blasting workout, pick up a set of kettlebells. One recent study found that, in a 20-minute workout, participants were burning about 20 calories per minute by swinging alone—the equivalent of running a 6-minute mile pace.

Winter doesn't need to be a season of sedentary hibernation. This year, use these tips to keep fit outside the gym and emerge next spring with the beach-ready body you've always wanted.





CLEANSE THE HUMAN WITHIN

SUNDARAM CHITRAMPAT

When born each child have the very same behavioural characteristics. A baby born in Russia behaves as same as a baby born in any other part of the World. They differ in their looks alone! In each stage of all children's Growth, every one of them manifests the same changes in their behaviour until they reach a stage whereby, the external influence that, they have had over the years, commences, impacting their natural instinct by supplanting it by an externally influenced one. The effect of what have been administered since the first day of their arrival will become visible by the time they reach age three, probably little earlier or little later. From that stage onward their natural style will slowly dwindle away and the acquired one would take over control according to what they have been hearing, perceiving and experiencing over that period of time. For example the region's slang in the words they utter, facial expressions, eye movements, nodding the head, gesticulation etc. becomes unmistakably clear. But even at that stage they still show a lot of common similarities with children of their age group wherever they may be.

Foregoing explanation was necessary to establish my argument that behaviour of the people is a direct product of the society. There are many countries in the

world where corruption and crime levels are so low. On the other hand, majority of countries are in the bear hug of sleaze. Unfortunately, India is in the forefront of the majority group where rampant corruption and abominable crimes grow unabated.

The difference starts with the community's outlook on what is acceptable and what is not. In a country where people accept wealth built by any means as not shameful is the root cause for corruption. In a society where a man with money becomes a respectable individual is another fillip to create wealth by any method. On top of everything else, a lax legal system with more loopholes than otherwise, to sneak out scot-free is an incentive to enter into all kinds of unlawful activity to be rich.

In contrast, in democracies where low levels of corruption and crimes exist, their legal system was framed over many centuries of tracking financial crimes. Genes of each individual is embedded with cupidity without exception, the influence of it may be more in some but all people across all lands were as corrupt as we are today is a fact nobody can deny. However, people in those countries strived hard for centuries to eradicate thieving of state coffers; their uncompromising and incessant battle to save their national wealth from being looted brought positive results in reducing financial crimes deserve immense praise.

Nevertheless, as long as humans are around, corruption will persist is a sorry side of human character. The only way forward is to continue developing better procedures to keep it at low levels as humanly possible.

As India became a democracy unexpectedly overnight the people who assumed power in the beginning did their level best to maintain the sanctity of democracy with minimum deviations from its principal principles. But upon their departure from this world the new faces who supplanted them started raping it indiscriminately for personal gains. Insult to injury caste based regional political parties mushroomed pan India bringing unscrupulous men in politics. However, they gained huge clout in Indian political spectrum. Then came the coalition politics and for winning elections all forms of corrupt methods were introduced and practised diminishing democracy to risible state.

In tandem with political corruption, the notorious Indian bureaucrats began sucking blood of the public demanding bribe for executing every job with no fear of being caught! Right now India is at its pinnacle in draining of tax payers' coffers with impunity.

How to transform India from its current sorry state needs to be researched addressed by learning from other lands where they were successful in containing crime to very low levels.

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CHARLENE FARRELL

Anxiety is a word synonymous with the youngsters of this generation. It is a condition that has a widespread prevalence around the world and the numbers of diagnosed are on the rise with every passing year. Anxiety in its everyday form is basically an emotion that is characterised by inner turmoil and is accompanied by behaviours like restlessness, overthinking and focused attention on perceived problems. It is an individualistic or subjective fear over some impending issue like fear of an examination that is way in the future, or death, separation etc. At this point I would like to distinguish between anxiety and fear. While both may seem to overlap, fear is actually directed at a real or perceived immediate threat. When a person is said to be anxious, the response of worry and restlessness is directed to a threat that is not well defined. When the person going through the emotion is asked what could possibly have caused this worry, their answers could fluctuate from one cause to another or they may right out say that they have no clue as to why they feel this way. When a person is anxious and that feeling of anxiety dissipates once they have overcome what perceived impending doom they worried about, it is not classified as much of a problem. However, prolonged anxiety responses, coupled with physical symptoms like palpitations, muscle tension, restlessness, fatigue and general sense of uneasiness in various situations might indicate that the individual is suffering from anxiety disorder.

Anxiety itself is a normal reaction to the ups and downs in life. But a lot of people currently exhibit an anxiety reaction to nothing in particular. The constant worry, the uncontrollable thoughts of impending doom, the constant rumination can be extremely difficult to deal with and thus would easily make living a normal life difficult. Over the years, as a counsellor, I have come across a number of individuals, both young and old exhibiting anxiety related symptoms. Some of the extreme cases I have dealt with included young school and college going girls and boys, others included individuals in young adulthood trying very unsuccessfully to deal with the everyday mundanities of life and still another group consisted of

individuals on the brink of retirement experiencing a deep sense of worry and fore boarding with regards to the years to come. Over the last few weeks, I couldn't help but read up more into why the sheer number of sufferers has gone up so much in the recent past. Going through all that text, it is clear that drastic lifestyle change has occurred and understanding this disorder is not

only relevant of this time but also of utmost importance.

The causes of this disorder, like most psychological disorders is vast. Researchers have not been able to actually pinpoint the exact causes but there is evidence that indicates a change in brain function, environmental stress and even our genes that predispose us to this disorder. Sometimes we hear

ANXIOUS ABOUT ANXIETY



people making connections like 'oh, she worries so much, just like her mother'. Being able to identify the symptoms could help individuals seek help before it gets worse. Some of the most common symptoms of anxiety disorder are panic, fear, uneasiness, sleep problems, not being able to stay calm and still, cold, sweaty, numb or tingling hands or feet, shortness of breath, heart palpitations, dryness of the mouth, nausea, tense muscles and dizziness. Like a lot of psychological disorders, anxiety could lead to other behaviours, habits and disorders and thus, it is extremely important to understand what is happening and get treatment quickly. Since life can get extremely difficult to handle, individuals might find themselves resorting to other behaviours to numb the emotion like as with substance abuse. A number of youngsters have reported trying narcotic substances and even resorting to cutting themselves and indulging in other such harmful behaviour. Anxiety disorder, if left untreated, could lead to depression (which often occurs with an anxiety disorder) or other mental health disorders, trouble sleeping (insomnia), digestive or bowel problems, headache and chronic pain, social isolation, problems functioning at school or work, poor quality of life and sometimes even suicide.

What we have to understand is that this disorder can be dealt with taking appropriate steps swiftly. We need to first accept that disorders such as these are very real and there is nothing outrageously bad about having a psychological disorder. Mind-sets need to change with regard to the taboos we place around something so natural. Once you understand this, finding help is as easy as A-B-C. In extreme cases, medical intervention might be required but if things are dealt with in a timely manner, psychotherapy in the form of cognitive behaviour therapy, positive psychology and counselling will help tremendously. In order to treat the symptoms of anxiety, cut down your caffeine intake in all forms like tea, coffee, cola's, energy drinks and chocolate. Get enough rest and put yourself on a relaxation routine before bed. Exercise your body and your mind (read and solve puzzles). Just maintain your overall health and focus on the fact that help is always available to those who ask for it.

STATE GEARING UP FOR YET ANOTHER "PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT"

TEAM TNV

In Goa, a fresh people's movement is picking up at pace against nationalization of six rivers and coal expansion project by the Mormugao Port Trust (MPT).

Of the total 111 rivers proposed for nationalization across country, six are from Goa- Chapora, Cumbarjua, Mandovi, Mapusa, Sal and Zuari. Further, the JSW and Adani Ports, has proposed expansion in their coal handling facilities at MPT in Vasco, a port town that was until July considered as the most polluted town in Goa.

Citizens and activists, across sections have for long protested against various anti-people decisions of the successive State governments. This time the focus is on the increased coal movement and the pollution caused by coal dust. They have now banded together under two movements – Goa Against Coal, and Our River, Our Rights – to stop these projects. They have already petitioned even the Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking his intervention to stop both the projects, which are being arbitrarily imposed on the people of Goa.

After the Regional Plan 2011, which witnessed major people's movement, the coal expansion and river nationalization is gearing up for massive protest from every corner of South Goa. Over the past few weeks, the village panchayat bodies of 54 VPs of Goa's 183 villages have passed resolutions opposing the movement of coal through their areas as the government moves ahead with plans to create a road-rail-river coal corridor between Mormugao port and steel factories in north Karnataka. Goans fear that the plan will increase pollution, hurting their health, land and their livelihoods.

Already, residents around



the Mormugao port are suffering from the health hazard effects of the 12 million tonnes that are imported through the facility each year. No doubt, the Goa State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB) has now asked the coal handling companies to reduce its facility by 25 percent; but their ground impacts are yet to be seen.

The coal arrives from Australia and South Africa and is transported to neighbouring Karnataka on barges, trucks and rail wagons, covered in tarpaulin. The transportation causes major air and water pollution in Port and the surrounding areas.

"We don't want coal not only in Vasco but also in entire Goa. It has destroyed Vasco town. We will not allow government to make the town as a coal hub. We will fight till justice is granted," Goa Against Coal (GAC) President Custodio D'Souza told TNV.

It is not just that the people here in Vasco are opposing the expansion facility, but are keen to shift the existing coal berth. "We are not going to keep quiet till the coal handling facility is stopped completely at MPT. It

has made enough destruction. We don't want just expansion project to be stalled but the existing activities also has to be stopped immediately," D'Souza said.

Though, Union Minister for Shipping Nitin Gadkari claimed that he is "willing" to shift the coal handling berth to Maharashtra, if people don't want it; but the fact is by 2030, the government aims to increase coal imports to 51 million tones, with major focus on MPT. State Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar has already written to the Union Ministry for Environment and Forest (MoEF) not to allow expansion project, until the pollution is brought under control. "I have already said and written to MOEF that we don't want the expansion project," Parrikar said.

However, at the same time, he further contradicts stating we cannot avoid coal, even if we wish to. "Coal is bad for the environment of Goa but the use of coal is necessary. Some section of people opposes coal. When they say that they are opposing coal they should stop using the electricity. Country's 85 per cent of the electricity is from

the coal. The hydraulic power is also dangerous to the environment and similarly we don't want nuclear power," he commented.

GAC member Cyril Fernandes claimed that Chief Minister seems to have been misguided by MPT that the coal handling activities provides power to State. "Fact is that the activity is benefiting only private firms like Jindal, Adani and Vedanta," he said.

"Chief Minister being custodian of Goa, it becomes responsibility of CM to respect the sentiments of the people," he commented.

If one remembers the major public hearing held at Vasco against the coal project, which was attended by thousands of people raising one common voice 'No to Coal'.

Recently, the Environment Ministry's Expert Appraisal Committee has deferred plans to increase capacity at Mormugao port, citing air pollution concerns raised by people at the public hearings and noting that these had not been adequately addressed.

Irrespective of all this, the Central Government, with backing from State, is racing

ahead to build infrastructure to support these increased imports by double-tracking rail lines through the Western Ghats, constructing two four-lane national highways, dredging and developing six river stretches as a national waterway for cargo, constructing jetties alongside the rivers, dredging and deepening the harbour channel and expanding five berths for coal and cargo handling at MPT.

"The gigantic projects will change the life, environment, culture and occupations of the people of Goa, who are being kept in the dark about these plans and are being served a fait accompli as the infrastructure projects unfold piecemeal," GAC member Abhijit Prabhudessai, reacts.

No doubt, the political opponents like Congress, Aam Aadmi Party, are using this as an opportunity to corner government, while extending their support to the people. Government is, however, firm on its decision to enter in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on river nationalization, with Central government and Inland Waterways Authority of India.

RENEWABLE ENERGY SET TO TAKE OFF IN A BIG WAY IN INDIA

DOMINICK RODRIGUES

With natural resources depleting alongside, burgeoning growth of the world population, global search and research continues for ways and means of meeting these needs. Energy sources for industry and others is one of these factors that is witnessing desperate need for the world, which is now eyeing renewable energy sources. Renewable energy is making its impact felt steadily in India through its various components, including Solar which is on the rise, even as fossil fuels are starting to decline and becoming expensive over the years.

Industries are turning to use of renewable energy sources, which are being highlighted in a big way. How India is being viewed as a potential market for its burgeoning population can be seen from the fact that countries like Japan, Germany, France, Poland, USA, Korea, China and Taiwan made a beeline to India for the 11th edition of the Renewable Energy India Expo (REI) 2017 held in New Delhi from September 20 to 22. The REI Expo focused on India's green economy community highlighting global industry trends, challenges and market insights including the Indian regulatory framework, besides up scaling and mainstream applications of renewable energy resources, showcasing product launches, innovations alongside international exhibitions and conference platforms.

Noting that India has recently moved up to the second spot from third position – nudging past the USA -- in this year's and Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index," Yogesh Mudras, Managing Director, UBM India (who has organized the EXPO), said in Mumbai recently that even as the Indian solar sector is growing rapidly with capacity addition of 4,765 MW during H1 of 2017, rooftop solar displayed a robust growth as solar power becomes increasingly more attractive with falling costs. "All this is acting as a huge pull for international investors and equipment suppliers with the EXPO theme being 'Accelerating the Momentum.... from Ambition to Action' to bridge the gap between Industry, Government and Investors," he said.

Describing the EXPO as a marquee

event, he said roadshows were being held to reach out to smaller towns -- also alongside big cities -- where renewable energy is the need of the hour for lighting up even remote villages. Small-scale rural energy development and even a dedicated Green Energy Fund could go a long way in this regard, he said.

Pujan Doshi of Waree PV Technologies Pvt. Ltd., said that with nuclear and coal being not able to support industry in the long run, India is set to witness a phenomenal growth in renewable energy. "Decentralised concept of energy will be the driver within the next five years to deliver energy security to India, and digitisation including remote monitoring – along with tax rebates and subsidies -- will help the Government in this regard. Smart cities are also the driving factor for this industry," he said, adding, "We introduced premium U.S. technology for rooftop use at lower costs, besides, also attracting a lot of interest from global players."

To a question about 40GW target set by the Government for rooftop solar in India, he said "India is a late entrant into this sector. However, technology has improved to such

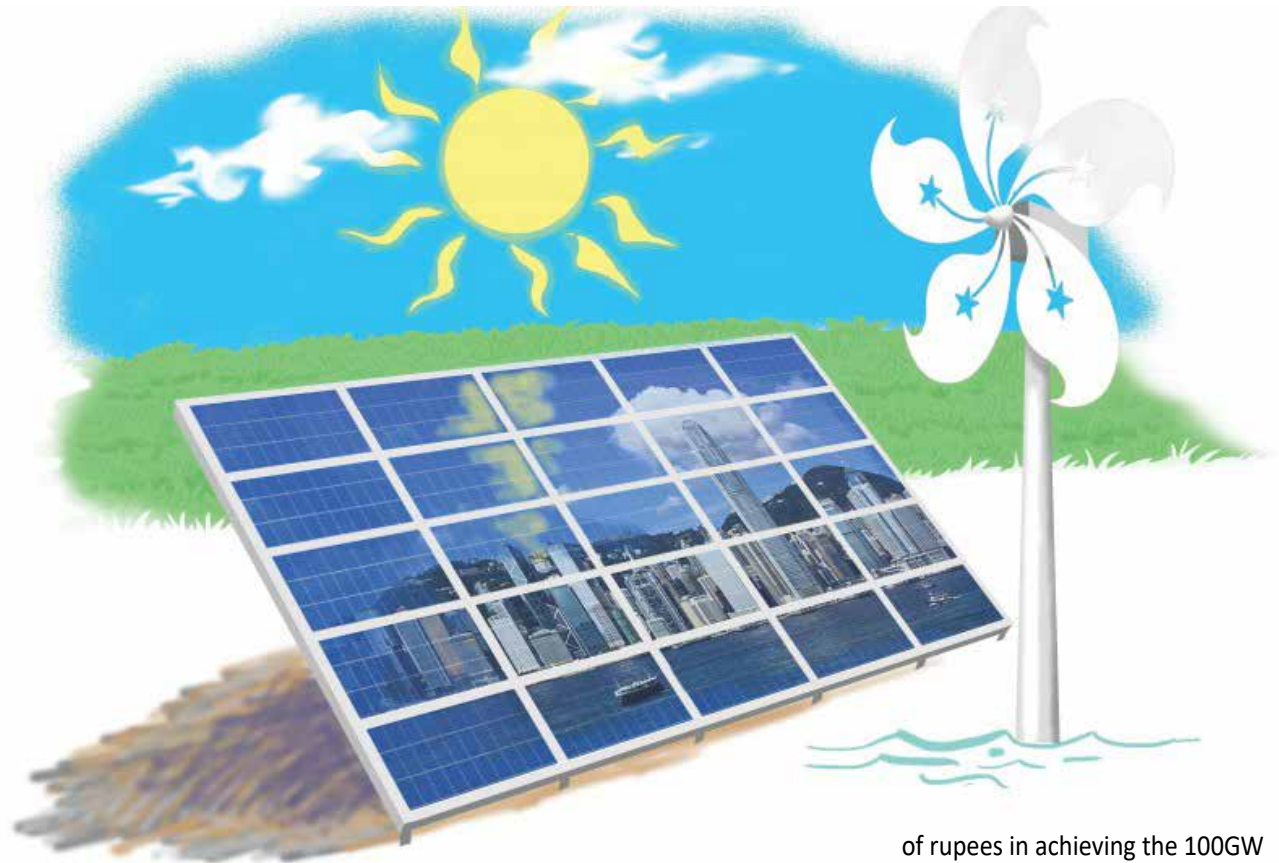
an extent that today even robotic cleaning is available for the solar modules without using water. The Government's target of producing 100GW of solar energy by 2020 is achievable, though however, the timeline could stretch to 2024-25 also."

Ritesh Pothan, Sr. VP, Business Development, Scorpius Trackers Pvt. Ltd, observed how countries like the USA that were using atomic energy for power generation were presently finding it difficult to dispose of their nuclear waste. On the contrary, solar power – of which 13.6 GW is presently installed in India --brought lots of value to the table and can reach even the "poorest of the poor," he said while highlighting solar trackers as suitable for energy storage, where the primary benefit of a tracking system is to collect solar energy for the longest period of the day, and Scorpius' devices begin charging from the sun as early as 0800 hrs. at dawn. "All the modules in one row are mounted without gaps. This means a single table is very easily compatible with robotic module cleaning systems – existing and new," he said.

"Solar trackers could reduce AC Evacuation and Transmission capacity by almost 30%, with savings of 30,000 MW worth lakhs and crores

of rupees in achieving the 100GW target set by Government. There can be reduction in tariff due to optimal utilization of technology and resources; savings in current account deficit for 100GW target due to reduction of panel imports; promoting R&D, jobs, manufacturing, engineering; improved energy storage capabilities due to longer charging and shorter discharge etc.," Pothan said, adding that Scorpius remained the only Indian tracker technology to have completed an Atmospheric Boundary Layer, Wind Tunnel study at a world renowned facility in the USA, where their trackers have undergone an extremely thorough "Independent Engineers Bankability Review" from Black and Veatch. "We are India's largest suppliers of single axis solar PV trackers with over 250 MW of trackers supplied in India, Japan, Africa and USA and have already signed exclusive supply MOUs with large Independent Project Developers in India for 875 MW and are confident of delivering between 700 MW to 1,000 MW in FY 2017-18," he said.

Mukund Shendge, Sales Manager, Fronius India Pvt. Ltd., said the future of tradeable energy would highlight the use of technology for rural networks in a greater way. However, as innovation is inevitable, inverters for solar power use should be set for



Alexyz's 'O To Be In Goa... Today' mirrors the real issues

RUPESH SAMANT



The name Alexyz is synonym with the world of cartoon in Goa. He is a perfect combination of socially aware human being who is equally humorous. Being Goan by heart and birth, his cartoons always reflects the genuine problem this coastal state has been witnessing. Very few people know that his original name is Alex Raphael Fernandes.

"O To Be In Goa ... Today!" is his collection of some of the best cartoons that mirrors current situation in Goa. The book makes a statement on the affairs of the State while bringing smile on the faces of the readers.

Introducing his book Alexyz has said that mining and tourism have long been backbone of Goa's economy.

However, over the years they have bent Goa's back where the hurt shows... and has since been gasping in the G.M.C's I.C.U. and yes, the bedsores are beginning to show.

Unlike any other cartoonist who will pen down his emotions in words, Alexyz has appealed the people of Goa to speak up or write against the evils that has been affecting the State.

"Today, Goa is allegedly governed by Delhi, and the mining, casino and drug barons. And if that is not tragic, what is scary if the rumours are true... parts of Goa are controlled by foreigners," he says in his introduction of 210 page book.

Two of the most celebrated professionals of Goa – Dr. Francisco Colaco and Naguesh

Rao Sardessai has written preface for this book, which is published by Broadway Publishing House.

Dr. Colaco has rightly said "Alexyz is Goa's best living cartoonist who uses a small space to tell such meaningful stories in a way nobody else can. He is a gifted storyteller who embellishes his canvas with a keen sense of humour and satirist's ability to take a whimsical look at anything."

The book opens with the cartoon congratulating Portugal's Prime Minister Antonio Costa for his election to the post. As any Goan would be proud about, Alexyz mentions in his cartoon "1510-1961 Portugal ruled Goa. 2015 History took a U turn. A Goan rules Portugal. Viva Goenkar!"

Naguesh Rao Sardessai in his preface to the book has

said "Alexyz has enthralled the readers here in Goa and the rest of the worlds with his ingenious cartoons and detailed illustrations for several years with amazing consistency and fearless attitude."

"A man of conviction, Alexyz has gone beyond pretty picture and eliciting mild chuckle. Socially conscious and proactive, he has been in the forefront, through his skillful sketches, in bringing out, what he accepts as, social dilemmas, political misadventure, environmental degradation etc." Sardessai mentions.

I would recommend this as one of the 'Must Read' oops! 'Must See' for the Goans as each of the cartoon will make you laugh and cry at the same time.



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HOROSCOPE

This fortnight is all about relationships. Read your in-depth monthly horoscope to see what that means for you.

ARIES

MAR 21-APR 19

It's fabulous this week because gifts and favours from others will come your way. In turn, you might be generous to someone else. However, do not fall sway to pressure tactics about politics, religion or racial issues.



TAURUS

APR 20-MAY 20

Relations with partners and close friends are warm, friendly and mutually supportive. This is a fabulous week to enjoy a fun lunch or time after work with others. One warning: Be careful about financial decisions. Don't give away the farm if negotiating inheritances or shared property.



GEMINI

MAY 21-JUN 20

This is a rewarding week at work for you. Expect praise and maybe a raise. Your health feels vigorous as well. Nevertheless, conversations with close friends and partners might be confusing. In fact, if you think something fishy is going on –Trust your instincts.



CANCER

JUL 21-JUL 22

Grab every opportunity to enjoy social excursions, sports events, fun activities with children and romance. Try to be very clear in your communications at work to avoid confusion. Assume nothing because misunderstandings will occur.

LEO

JUL 23-AUG 22

This is a great day to discuss real estate or to buy something for your home. It's also a wonderful day to entertain at home or enjoy family get-togethers. Issues about children, financial speculation, romance and sports will be confusing.

VIRGO

AUG 23-SEP 22

You are enthusiastic and upbeat, which is why all your communications with others are enjoyable and meaningful. People want to talk to you and vice versa! Great day for writers, actors, salespeople and teachers. Nevertheless, confusion on the home front is likely. Be careful.



LIBRA

SEP 23-OCT 22

Business and commerce are favoured. You might see ways to boost your income to make money either now or in the future. However, please note: conversations with others might be confusing. Someone might lie to you or mislead you.

SCORPIO

OCT 23-NOV 21

You're enthusiastic, charming and magnetic this week, which is why everyone wants to be in your presence. Be careful about financial matters or something that you own because some kind of confusion might create a loss for you. Be clear; be realistic.

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 19

This is a wonderful, popular week. Enjoy schmoozing with others be they friends or groups. Artistic, creative people will appeal. Nevertheless, something going on behind the scenes might give you doubt or second thoughts. Only act on what you know for sure.



SAGITTARIUS

NOV 22-DEC 21

Although this is a feel-good week, Mercury is in your sign at odds with fuzzy Neptune, which indicates some kind of confusion in your communications with others. It might be confusion or it might be deceit. Nevertheless, enjoy the week.

AQUARIUS

JAN 20-FEB 18

You make a fabulous impression on bosses, parents and VIPs. They think you're the best thing. Flirtations or a romance with a boss might begin. Others want your creative advice on something. Meanwhile, don't let a friend confuse you.

PISCES

FEB 19-MAR 20

You will adore travel for pleasure. Get a change of scenery any way that you can because it will lift your spirits. Be a tourist in your own city. Enjoy the company of people from other backgrounds and different countries. However, don't believe everything you hear.





WALK IN THE DARK

India Vision Institute (ivi) today led a "walk in the dark" in panjim to highlight eye health care and preventable blindness issues... participating in the walk with blindfolds were around 50 visually impaired children along with 400 others.. Notable guests Tony Huber,

Australian consul General for western India, Vinod Daniel, CEO of ivi, Kishor Sarsolkar from Mukta opticians and Mukta Drishti foundation Vivek Mendonsa, Lawrence and Mayo, Rosendo Mendosa, (NAB) Goa.. Dr.Pradeep Nail, Dean Goa Medical collage and other guests.

Wishing the people of Goa Happy Feast of St. Francis Xavier

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SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES

Team TNV

The 48th International Film Festival of India started with a bang with some of the top Bollywood superstars gracing the opening ceremony. The opening ceremony of the 48th IFFI was attended by a record number of superstars including Shah Rukh Khan, Shahid Kapoor, Rajkumar Rao, Sri Devi, Academy Award Winner AR Rahman, Anupam Kher, Radhika Apte, Vishal Bharadwaj, and Boney Kapoor just to name a few. Well, from the presence of such big names from the industry as well as the manner in which the entire opening ceremony was hosted and the stage was designed, one can say that the festival is indeed growing year after year.

This year, the festival commenced with the opening film 'Beyond The Clouds' directed by renowned Iranian filmmaker Majid Majidi. Even though directed by an Iranian film maker the film was made in Hindi. The festival will conclude with Pablo Cesar's 'Thinking Of Him', and this film too has some Indian essence to it. This is the very fact that shows how filmmakers are often travelling to different places in search of a story. It is needless to say that filmmaking is an art and art knows no boundaries. This year, the festival is presenting 195 films from 82 countries, which includes 10 world premiers, 10 Asian and International premiers and over 64 Indian premiers. The country focus this year is Canada and 7 films will be screened in the Country Focus section. Also, a special section has been introduced since last year in which the award winning films from the BRICS Film Festival are screened.

The Indian Panorama section showcases about 26 feature and non-feature films from 24 languages. The regional cinema of the Indian Panorama section represents the cultural flavor from different parts of the country.



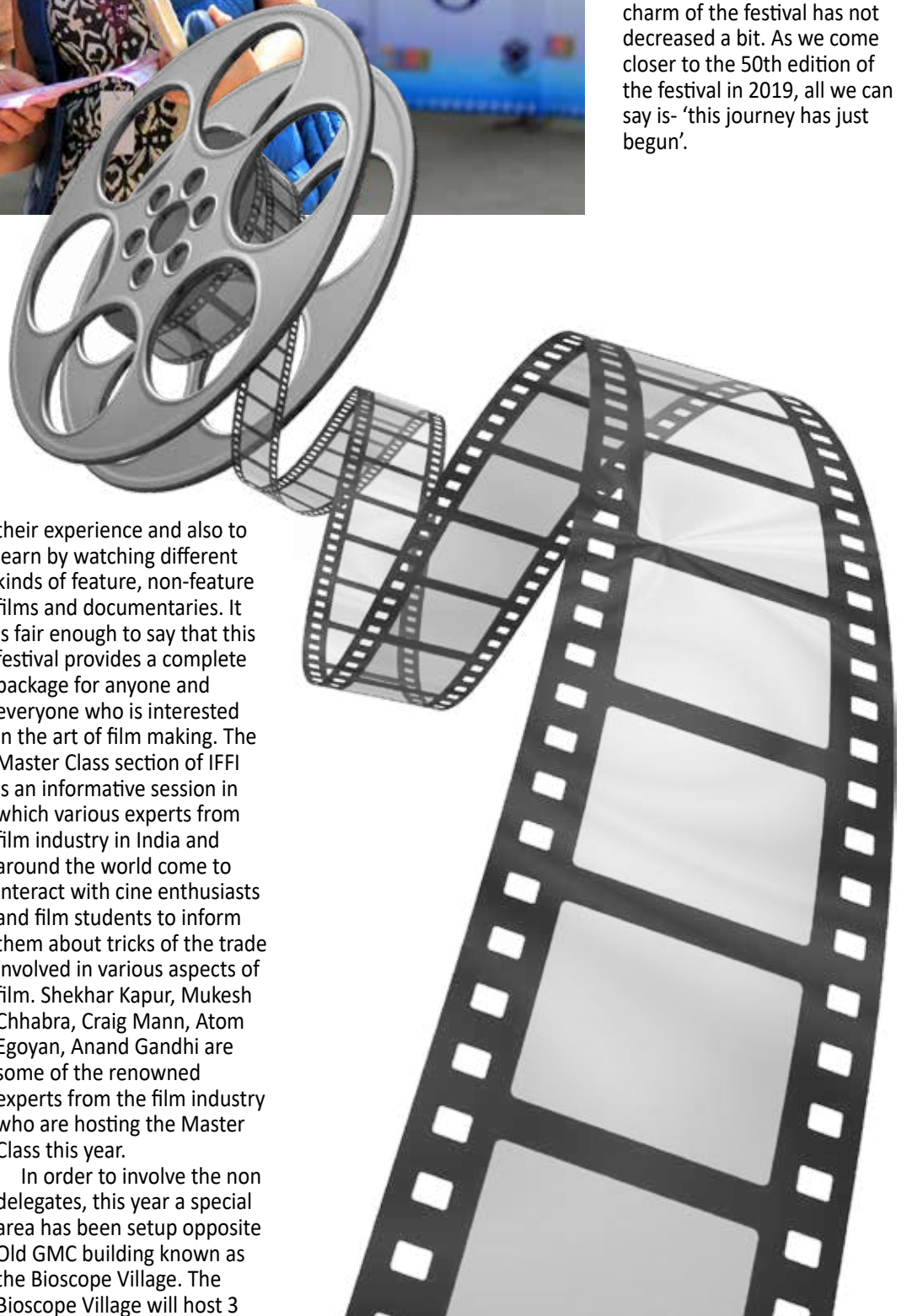
The very aspect of this festival which makes it special is that it showcases films made in different regional languages from every corner of India along with films from all over the world coming from different countries. The festival provides an opportunity for movie buffs to watch different kinds of films which are usually not released commercially. The International cinema section of the IFFI contains a wide variety of foreign language films coming from different countries. This section allows the festival delegates to not only watch some unique international films but also to take a look at different customs and cultures existing around the globe. There are also other sections such as Retrospective, Classics and Homage, if you want to watch some of the good old movies from the earlier decades. If you are a delegate registered for the first time at the festival then you are definitely up for a treat and an enriching experience.

The International Film Festival of India provides a platform to a number of film makers, film students, cine enthusiasts, writers, and various other artists involved in films to share

their experience and also to learn by watching different kinds of feature, non-feature films and documentaries. It is fair enough to say that this festival provides a complete package for anyone and everyone who is interested in the art of film making. The Master Class section of IFFI is an informative session in which various experts from film industry in India and around the world come to interact with cine enthusiasts and film students to inform them about tricks of the trade involved in various aspects of film. Shekhar Kapur, Mukesh Chhabra, Craig Mann, Atom Egoyan, Anand Gandhi are some of the renowned experts from the film industry who are hosting the Master Class this year.

In order to involve the non delegates, this year a special area has been setup opposite Old GMC building known as the Bioscope Village. The Bioscope Village will host 3

air-conditioned inflatable cinemas fitted with state of the art cinema projection capabilities and will screen new and classic films aimed at both young and older audiences. Well, IFFI is trying to reach out to more people and enhance itself every year with new programmes, sections, and interesting initiatives for delegates. Even though the 11-day festival is reduced to 9 days since last year, the excitement and the charm of the festival has not decreased a bit. As we come closer to the 50th edition of the festival in 2019, all we can say is- 'this journey has just begun'.



EXPLORING THE LIFE OF A REAL HERO

TEAM TNV

Dr. Prakash Baba Amte is a renowned social worker from Maharashtra. He is the younger son of Magsaysay and Padma Shri awardee Baba Amte. Dr. Prakash Baba Amte and his wife, Dr. Mandakini Amte, were awarded the Magsaysay Award for 'Community Leadership' in 2008 for their philanthropic work in the form of the Lok Biradari Prakalp amongst the Madia Gonds in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra. Dr. Amte's life is a story of inspiration for all those who aspire to take up social service and work for the welfare of weaker section of our society. Team TNV's Rupesh Samant talks to Dr. Prakash Baba Amte and tries to unfold his herculean journey for us.

What inspired you to take up social service and work for the people?

My father was an idol for me, his life and the way he worked for the people was something that inspired me to follow his footsteps and continue his work. I would say that it was a turning point in my life when I decided to take up Baba's work.

What were the difficulties you initially faced while working in remote areas like Hemalkasa?

Well, when we first arrived at Hemalkasa, the tribal people in that area were very shy or probably afraid of us. Whenever we tried to talk to them they ran away from us. We were very surprised as why they were so afraid and avoiding us, one of the reasons was that they might have been exploited by the so-called civilized men. Another thing, it was very sad for us to see these people suffer, as they were unaware of the modern medicine and preferred their superstitious methods to cure their diseases. However, we convinced these people to get their ill relatives to our clinic at least as a last resort after their superstitious methods had failed to cure them.

How were you getting acquainted with the latest medicine as you were working in a remote place?

It was difficult initially, but we bought books which dealt with orthopedic, gynecology, ophthalmology etc. We used to read the basics and that helped us to go ahead with the treatment.

Other than providing medical services to the people what other initiatives were taken by you to help the people in Hemalkasa?



It took me two years to develop a proper health facility for the tribal people and then we started looking into the problems of exploitation. There were these contractors and government officials used to make these people work but not pay them in the exchange of their labour. So we made a complaint to the concerned authorities. We thought it was time that we do something so that these people are aware of their rights, so the thought of starting a school came. We started a school in Hemalkasa in 1976 which was the first school in that area. Through this school we provided formal education, made them aware of their rights and also taught them farming.

Your house is a safe haven for all kinds of wild animals. How did your love for wild animals start?

Starting an animal orphanage was not in the plan. Hunger was on a large scale in the place where we were working. The tribal people used to hunt and eat almost anything, even

ants, squirrels and rats. It was even surprising for us that there were not many birds in this thick forest; not even crows, as people were probably hunting and eating them. One day as we were walking through the forest we came across a hunting group of tribal people. As they came closer we observed that they had killed a monkey and had tied its hands and legs and were taking it hanging through a bamboo. When they came even closer we saw that there was live baby monkey which was suckling her dead mother. Looking at this we stopped them and requested them to give this baby to us in exchange of rice. They agreed to this bargain and that was how we got our first wild animal. From there onwards we requested these people that if they hunt any wild animal just spare their young ones.

You are currently facing a problem because of your collection of animals from the government. The government is saying that you are



domesticating these animals, your comments.

When I got these animals, they were very small. They had not even opened their eyes, so as soon as they opened their eyes they saw me as their mother. As long as they naturally depend on their mother, we used to treat them and gradually they became independent, but there is a bond that has been developed, so how can you avoid them now? They are like my children. I have all kinds of wild animals whether herbivorous or carnivorous predators. However, I would agree with the stand of the government that these animals are wild and should stay in their natural habitat. But at this stage these animals will not survive in the wild as they are not raised by their parents and taught how to hunt or survive in the wild.

Your life was the subject of a movie, how do you think it helped to inform people about your work?

I don't think that my life was the subject of a movie. But director Samruddhi Porey was determined to make a film. We had opposed to her idea initially but Samruddhi requested me a lot for my consent. So later on I gave her my consent and she went ahead with the film. Fortunately, the film was watched by a lot of youngsters. At least in Maharashtra there are many people who have watched this film. After watching this film there were a lot of youngsters who came to me and showed their motivation to do something for the society.

Is there anyone who you would like to thank?

Yes, it is because of my father from whom I got the inspiration and strength to work and do something for the people. Also my wife, Dr. Mandakini Amte, who has supported me through all these years and till today continues to work alongside me for the people.

Celebrating

ONE YEAR WITH A REAL LIFE HERO

TEAM TNV

Neutral View Private Limited celebrated its one-year of existence with a festival that would go down as a milestone in the history of social calendar of the State. Padma Shree Dr. Prakash Baba Amte, a name, which is synonym with sacrifice and tireless work towards the human kind and wild animals, graced the occasion on November 17 at Taj Vivanta Hotel in Panaji.

The event was kept completely apolitical to match the personality of Dr. Amte and his wife Dr. Mandakini Amte who have always remained from limelight and non-political. Who's who from Goa's social and cultural field attends the one-evening-long event, which was curated to make it a real 'Neutral Fest'.

The setting was right with only Dr. Prakash and Dr. Mandakini taking the stage while everyone in audience wanting to hear them. Rightly, they deserved all the attention from the people as their story is inspirational to the world.

Our Director Uttam Kumar and Priya Salgotra were perfect host along with our well-wisher and partner Paresh Naik. The enthusiasm amongst the crowd was visible much before the event could start with people eager to listen to Dr. Amte.

Many had read about this couple and equal numbers have seen the movie Dr. Prakash Baba Amte: A Real Hero where Nana Patekar has played his role. When the couple arrived, they were cynosure of all eyes.

Down to Earth person wearing Khadi kurta walking towards the crowd was a moment not forgetting. There was no pride in their achievements. Winning a Magsaysay award is not a small accomplishment, but the style of interacting with people and presenting themselves was so humble that it humbled everyone.

I being Chief Executive Officer of the company gave welcome speech, which was kept as short as possible as I realized it was like being a wall between Dr. Amte and the audience.

The event began when we impromptu asked Dr. Mandakini to speak few words. The lady with a medical background and immense



experience of working with the tribal community had one important message for us. "Be Neutral, Remain Neutral and Practice Neutral Journalism," she said in her brief speech.

And then came the moment which everyone was waiting for. As expected Dr. Amte gave a choice between Marathi and English for his speech and considering that the audience was mixed we opted for the latter.

Life of Dr. Amte has been inspired from his father Legend Baba Amte who gave his entire life in working for the people with leprosy. When Dr. Amte began speaking he started from the time when Baba was a son of landlord in Nagpur and how he gave away all his riches and chose to be amongst the needy people. That was birth of Anandvan.

The speaker was narrating the biography of his father and then his own, which are interconnected. And both the stories are highly inspirational. Almost 250 kms away from Anandvan is Hemalkasa, a territory within the thick forest, where the couple worked from 1974. While narrating his story, Dr. Amte blushed every time he narrated anecdote

about his love with his wife Dr. Mandakini who was serious to him in Nagpur Medical College.

Dr. Amte's story is not just his, it is also a tale of sacrifice, immense love and exemplary dedication towards social work by Dr. Mandakini. It is a love story too of how two people despite being in same college never met for five years but one fine day happened to meet on an operation table and then fall in love.

The chemistry between Dr. Amte and Dr. Mandakini is amazing. One can say a perfect couple whose love helped thousands of people to come to the mainstream. Living in a small hut where even snakes used to fall down from the roof to constructing a hospital at a place where only 'witchcraft' used to be a prevalent practice is a journey which could not be summed up in one hour lecture.

When Dr. Amte spoke, it was like a story telling that glued the audience. Every one was listening carefully to each and every word of his, many a times expressing amaze on their face on the kind of work that they have done.

During the question and answer session, Dr. Amte satisfactorily replied

to all the queries that were raised. An interaction that lasted for around 20 minutes had people wanting to know in depth about what it takes to be having such a kind of determination.

Our Director Uttam Kumar proposed vote of thanks with a thought that The Neutral View is propagating a concept of reverse migration in Goa. The media house will certainly strive to make an impact and get back our children to the state who have left in search of the work.

Before winding up the event, Mr. Kumar appealed people to support us to be neutral because without the support of the patrons no media house can survive.

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STATUE IN MY HEART

NISHA GAD

As you surpass from the lanes of Bicholim Industrial estate, you come across a hub of Pottery and Clay Art at Mr. Zillu Harmalkar's "Kumbhar" factory. The moment you step through the main gate you see a fine statue of an old man sitting on the chair.

I remember visiting this factory during my childhood along with my dad when I first saw this statue. I was scared to see this man sitting at the main entrance. He looked very aged and stringent. His constant gaze scared me as if he was warning not to misbehave, as the factory was full of delicate earthenware displayed all around. I visited this factory many times but would always fear to look at him, as he would never move from his chair so I always took the alternate entry to enter the factory.

After many years, I happened to visit the factory again and saw the statue next to the door. This time all grown up, gathering my courage, I went upto the statue and tried touching the fine art and shades that pleased my eyes. It seemed to me a fine piece of art with a deep thought. Out of curiosity, I asked the sculptor Zillu Harmalkar, the reason for placing the sculpture right at the entrance that too since so many years and that was exactly when the story behind the sculpture was revealed.

The man behind the statue was "Vasant Kallyankar". It was in year 1995, when Zillu was wontedly closing the factory gate and an old man rushed inside asking for a job. To which Zillu replied, the factory work involves lot of physical efforts and being aged he won't fit for any job at the factory. The old man was very disappointed and said he has been betrayed by his son who confiscated his property in Mumbai which made him come down to Goa. The old man was ready to take up any job as he wanted to earn livelihood for his wife and didn't wanted to be dependent on anybody. Looking at his urge to work at this age, Zillu offered him a job wherein all he had to do was to sit on the chair at the main entrance and whenever a customer steps-in to inform the owner. Old man was very happy to hear this and joined from the very next day.

He was very sincere and honest at his work. Within no time he won all hearts and became a family member. At times, he would also accompany Zillu for onsite work and would travel with him to places.

One fine day, while telling his wife, he recollected the memories of how he happened to start working at the Kumbhar factory and how grateful he was to Zillu for this job. He died at age of 80 years. The sad demise caused sorrow all around and as a gesture of gratitude, Zillu and his wife decided to have a statue of Mr. Kallyankar and started working on it. The place of Mr. Kallyankar was now replaced with his statue.

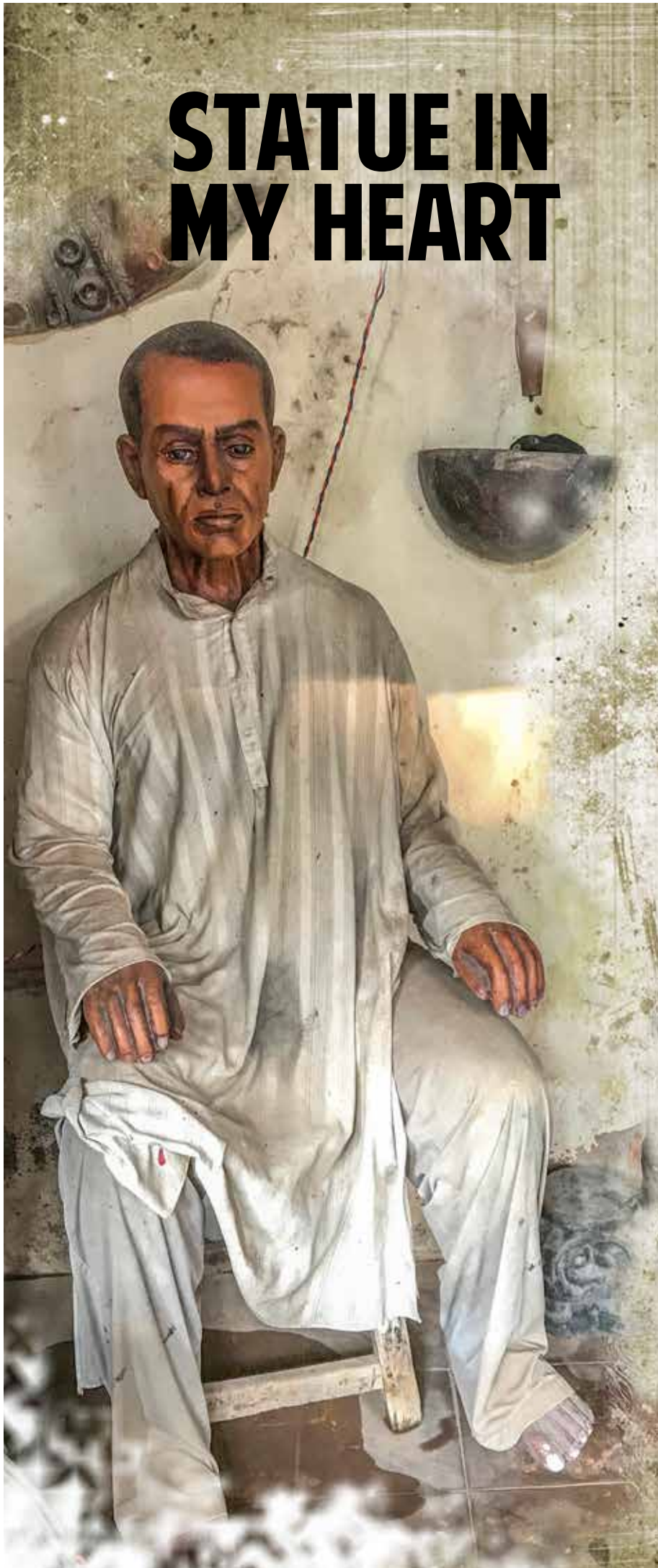
Meanwhile, a customer from a reputed hotel came to visit the factory and showed interest to purchase the statue. Zillu was reluctant initially but could not deny, as the customer was a very good friend of him, so he gave the statue. Now the statue was removed from the place and the chair was empty, Zillu and his wife felt the absence also, even thought of replacing it with another statue but could never do it.

After a year, they got a call from the hotel with a request that they are sending the Statue back to factory for some repairs. When the statue came back to factory Zillu and his wife was filled with joy also found it strange serendipity and thought that the statue was back for some reason. After which, they decided not to return the statue. They gave another statue to hotel and placed the original Kallyankar Statue back to its place.

Mr. Kallyankar was now back to his place and would please everyone alike before. Its strange and surprising to know that "Kumbhar factory" is the only factory in IDC that doesn't have any security guard and till date not a single mishap has taken place. There have been many instances where people have mistaken the statue to a living human being. Many foreigners and visitors have had astonishing comments and always carry good memories when they leave the factory.

Though Mr. Kallyankar is lifeless now, he still has his adage in that statue. It's not just a statue but a representation of the bond that sculptor Zillu shared with his worker like Kallyankar, who seems to be doing his duty even after death.

In today's world where we see employee – employer's relationship based on the balance sheet and remuneration, there still exists people like Mr. Kallyankar and artists like Mr. Zillu, who shares a bond much higher than just monetary benefits. The sculpture itself is a true felicitation to the services rendered by Mr. Kallyankar.



"MENTAL HEALTH IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT AS PHYSICAL HEALTH"

TEAM TNV

Ketaki Porab is a counsellor by profession and is currently practicing on her own, yet another member of the Goa Go Womania group, who made her own name and is a great example of feminine power.

Ketaki has finished her primary schooling in Mumbai and later she moved to Bicholim with her family and completed her graduation and post graduation in psychology from Goa.

Ketaki has also done various other courses related to psychology as she believes in keeping oneself updated with changing trends in one's profession also, she has an undying love for the subject and it is her passion!

Ketaki's love for psychology began right from her childhood, as she puts it, "it was my mother who introduced me to the subject; my mother, though not very educated, loved to read, and one day she read an article in Marathi on psychology and she loved it! Further, she shared it with me and asked me to give a thought to the subject; and it so happened that even I became mesmerized by what I read. We then contacted my psychology professor for her advice, who was a family friend, which was very positive and I opted to take psychology seriously. As I grew up I was scoring better in the subject and hence decided that that I wanted to have a career in counseling."

During her college days and even after, Ketaki was very active socially and was a part of various social groups and participated in many activities held by the groups, she says, "being an extrovert, I always loved to get myself involved in all these activities and conduct talks besides, it also gave me a good exposure and a great learning opportunity."

After she finished her education, she worked at lot of different places. She has worked with various schools as a counsellor and have also taught some. Apart from all this, Ketaki also organizes various talks for people of different age groups like on parenting or adolescent life and challenges. Her recent talk was on Career Guidance. She also does couple counselling.

After being in the field for more than 8 years she points out that, "As a matter of fact, people were not always this comfortable with getting help from a counsellor or counselling. In the minds of people, there was always some sort of stigma about it. The stereotype that only mentally challenged people go for counseling, made the situation then very difficult, but now at least the society is getting rational and educated also, they understand the purpose of counselling for getting needed help which is rather positive than just something to be looked down upon."

Ketaki has received great achievements in her field for her work in the form of awards but she proudly says that, "the greatest achievement for me is the happiness of my clients." Ketaki can proudly say that as she has helped so many people with suicidal tendencies throughout their problems. She says, it always fills her heart with joy when she is able to help people and make them see the better side of life.

Apart from being a psychologist, ketaki is also a mother and a wife; "being a mother is not at all easy. The baby needs so much attention and care that you are unable to multitask; your major focus needs to be the child, but it is because I am blessed with such an understanding man as my husband that I am able to do what I am doing today." she says the credit of her success actually goes to her husband as he understands her work and shares household workload equally. Giving equal credits to her parents she says that it is because of them and their open mindedness she was able to be socially active and get that exposure.

She also adds, "Go womania Goa group has given a good opportunity and the fact that the concept the group follows, which is of having a network of ladies to help each other grow, is what makes me want to be more attached to the group."

In future she is planning to conduct talks on career guidance, depression and industrial counselling as she feels these are the topics that require attention and if people are made aware about the topics, a lot of good can come out of it. She says, "Every person at some point of time has problems in his life, the intensity may differ but the problems exists and taking the help of counselling to deal with these problems is nothing wrong, though it might take time but people should opt for it and know that attending counselling sessions does not make you a retard person." she further adds, "An individual's mental health is equally important as his physical health and a good balance between them will help one have a happy and great life as one must always remember that life is beautiful only if one thinks it is."



IFFI FEVER GRIPS GOA THIS WINTER

PALASH VOLVOIKAR

Goa has always been known as the land of the sun and the sand, but that's not all it is anymore. I had talked about monsoon tourism in Goa in one of the recent issues of The Neutral View, but hey! Winter is here!

Being a hot and humid seaside haven, Goa has always been seen as a summer destination. The general opinion of your average tourist, and even many of the locals, is that Goa is at its best in the summers, but the fact is that a lot more now happens in Goa during Winter. Of course, many people do come over to Goa to celebrate the new year, and they have been doing that for a long time now, but what I'm talking about is not at the end of December, but rather in the middle of November, when winter is just starting to set. Over the years, more and more events have been happening in Goa, and the amount of tourist draw has been steadily increasing, and the spike in the tourist intake has been setting on earlier than before.

Now, while a lot of things happen in Goa in the winter now, the whole phenomenon started around 2004, the first time the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) was held in Goa. The first time ever was a new experience for us Goans, but the state accepted it as its own pretty soon. 13 years later, today, this time of the year without IFFI jazzing up the city of Panjim, seems unimaginable.

IFFI pushed out the gates to make Goa, which had always had its place as a cultural hub, open to a new dimension of tourism. Subsequently, the Sunburn Festival started in 2007, handing Goa the baton to be the host for a whole range of music festivals. Over the years, Goa has become home to a lot of festivals, giving itself its own brand of Winter tourism : one focused on the arts.

In 2014, Goa was declared the permanent venue for IFFI, and this year marks the 14th time the festival has returned to Goa, and anybody who has been a part of Goa for this while, knows what a difference it has made. If we were to just talk about this year, we have IFFI, which is going to go from the 20th to the 28th of November, while December will have the Goa Arts and Literature Festival, followed by the Serendipity Arts Festival, and the usual bunch of beachside music festivals that grace the northern shores of Goa every year.



Goa has always had a local taste for arts and culture, but there was something holding us back, and that was the lack of exposure. IFFI was the perfect fit to change that. Since the introduction of the festival to the state, the film culture in the state has been slowly developing. Goa now makes better films every year, and the land of the sun and the sand has slowly adapted to being known more for its acceptance of the arts. Local music, dance and art festivals are gaining traction, as well. The music scene has plummeted to great heights, and if all that's not enough, Goa now also has a place on the stand-up comedy scene. Our little state doesn't feel so little anymore, thanks to a series of cascading developments that can be

traced back to the very beginning of IFFI in Goa, in 2004.

IFFI itself has been stepping up its game, bettering itself every year. There are noticeable improvements in the way everything is organised and handled every year, increase in the number of delegates, media people, students, and other attendees, and every year it seems like it is helping Goa go a little bit further in being the perfect place for an art lover to take a

lovely little winter vacation.

Now, as we head forward, Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar recently announced at the inaugural ceremony of IFFI 2017, that the 2019 edition of the festival, which will mark the golden jubilee year for IFFI, will be held in a complex of its own, which is under development right now. As Goa's unique band of tourism keeps growing, it seems like we're headed nowhere but up.

CINEMA - WORLDS APART

TEAM TNV

The IFFI and preparations for the same are in full flow. The city lit up, the streets touched up and the buzz in the air, let the world know that a film festival of truly international proportions is as the first IFFI saying went 'Rocking in Goa!' In the light of this, there are wide variety of films from so many cultures and ideologies, giving us a taste of movies and perceptions world over. As such, I would like to share a viewpoint on two similar yet contrasting ideologies of cinema and film.



Italian Neo – Realism:

Italian Neo – Realism in the sense of the Film Industry, is a concept that took initiation during the post World War II period in which Italy suffered severe consequences as a result of the war. With funds initially concentrated on defense for the war and industrialization plundered as a result of war, livelihood or to make the meaning sink in the right to live in Italy became an uphill battle of survival, a dog eat dog, fox eat fox world; a situation where the poor would have to resort to stealing from the poor to live another day and rest another night. The Film Industry was no exception with studios being demolished and people neither being able to afford to pay to watch or pay to act. But in these moments of unparalleled despair, an opportunity presented itself. Opportunities during that time in the conscious sense of the word were scarce and too bleak to take notice of and yet that opportunity presented itself in the form of a film movement called Italian Neo

– Realism.

These films depicted the torrid days of Italy during the post war period. In fact, they depicted this in a manner that there would be no scope at all for anything besides the stark reality that Rome and Italy in general were facing without any studios being used, every scene and take would be shot in the streets. There were no professionals in the acting department only genuine lives of the common man, people feeling the wraths were used as actors. The whole set up of the films was to focus on the lower class with the prevalent social conditions post 1945.

Bicycle Thieves:

Bicycle Thieves is one of the more famous Neo – Realistic film. Directed by the famous Italian Neo – Realist film director Vittorio De Sica, the film was released in the year 1948. The story basically revolves around a small family; a man – Antonio, his wife – Maria, their son Bruno and their baby who were dependant upon Antonio's earnings for their living. He receives a new job offer,

which requires a bicycle for which Maria sells her dowry in order to purchase. On purchasing it, they all overjoyed until one day a thief stole Antonio's bicycle and the chase for the thief in order to get back his bicycle was on.

In this context one must understand the significance of the situation depicted in the film. The thief did not merely steal Antonio's bicycle but in fact, stole his and his family's chances of survival. From the point of view of the thief, it was his way of surviving. Let's keep this thought in mind till the conclusion of this synopsis.

The first thing that comes to mind in terms of understanding production with regards to cultural and situational attributes is a comparison of Italian Neo – Realism with Hollywood. And to draw a parallel in situation we can use the movie 'The Pursuit of Happiness' to compare it with 'Bicycle Thieves'. First is the analysis of Bicycle Thieves for which a couple of short scenes from the movie will be illustrated

and attempted to be defined and understood in order to draw the contrast between the two types of films.

In the film Bicycle Thieves, Antonio and Bruno while in pursuit of the stolen bicycle come across a Trade Union. One would normally concur (assuming the Union is ethical in nature) that the Union would help Antonio in retrieving his lost bicycle or at least making the attempt. But this does not happen. This is not because the Trade Union does not want to help but in fact the ideology behind it is that the Union was not formed to help a man in finding his lost bicycle but rather to change the rationale and situation of Italy as a whole, where in losing a bicycle would plunder a man to rags. When one thinks of it, it does sink in, that losing a bike was like losing a life; crude hopelessness.

The second instance in the film is a scene where in a storm breaks out and stops Antonio and Bruno in the search for the thief. The feeling is much deeper than it

seems. For every second that passes Antonio has to bear up with the fact that every second lost is a step harder to find his bicycle and along with it his livelihood. It strikes a logic that he and his family would not just be in loss of a valuable possession, but in fact they have been robbed of a birth right, a human right; the right to live.

The third and final instance illustrated in this synopsis is one of the last scenes of the movie where realization dawns upon the father that he will not be able to find his bicycle. Antonio takes a moment to think with his son right next to him and resorts to stealing someone else's bicycle in order to be able to keep his normal life. His son is shocked and is frozen at his father's actions. Antonio was caught there and then, beaten by a group of passers by and the owner of the bicycle was about to take him to prison but on seeing his son crying granted him pardon and did not do so. Also, the man who granted pardon to the Antonio was the best bit of luck that he ever had in the situation. For that man to understand the father and son's condition and grant pardon makes one wonder how touching the scene actually was as well as whether that man had been through the same or worse just as probably thousands of Italians at that time. The son was a witness to these deeds of the father who for all these years had inculcated virtues in the son, now resorted to being a scum. Thus the one thing that he could have upheld with his family was his ethics but now that too was lost. And that's how the film ends, in gloom, in despair, in anguish. It was mentioned earlier in the second paragraph of the synopsis to keep a point in mind; here it is again, a father who was the victim now turned to a thief merely looking to survive.

Pursuit of Happiness:
So hopelessness was the

reality in Italy, which was depicted in Neo – Realistic films. Now its time to see how Hollywood's 'Pursuit of Happiness' is in its analysis compared to 'Bicycle Thieves'. 'Pursuit of Happiness' revolves around a man, Chris Gardner in the year 1981 who has invested all his money in portable bone - scanners which he tries to sell to doctors who don't buy, as a result of which his wife leaves him because they are now financially down trodden and his son stays with him. He gets offered an internship as a broker in a company as training or test round and selling as is in every field, a very difficult job. He is pushed out of his own home with his son, as he is not able to pay pending bills. He spends long hours searching for some place to stay in the heat of the afternoons, in the long weary nights, after spending the day and night with his son in a toilet in some corner. He still continues his internship, manages to sell a scanner that would only provide him enough for a very little while. There comes a point when his boss needs 5 or 10 dollars from him and he was saving it for a long time which he needed to spend on that day for stay but he reluctantly



gave it to his boss.

To understand that Chris was going through phenomenal amount of stress and pressure, just to keep fighting for 5 or 10 dollars is indeed something to ponder upon with his little boy by his side always complaining of hunger and wanting to go places and asking him why they had to move out of home is indeed a sense of utter despair.

Then, it is the last day of Chris's internship for a verdict to be given whether he joins the company or is to be left in the unemployment line. The scene assumes special

significance when a couple of sentences are explained in detail. Chris enters the boss's office for his verdict wearing his best shirt of the little clothes that he had and he says, "I thought I would wear my this shirt, being the last day and all," and the boss says, "Well in that case Chris, you can wear a shirt again tomorrow and join us as a broker. Would you like that?" and with misty eyes Chris says yes. His boss takes out a note from his pocket, it was the money that he owed Chris for giving him that day. Then Chris's voice in narration says, "This little part of my life,

this one moment is called... Happiness"; an unparalleled feeling of success and victory.

Thus the difference between the American films and Italian Neo – Realistic films. Both situations in both films were similar in nature and both films were based on true events. Both comprised of a man with a bleak and ruined life; hopeless in every sense on the word but the difference is that the Italian Neo – Realistic ideology shaped the ending of 'Bicycle Thieves' to end in hopelessness and despair whereas the American ideology of optimism shaped

the 'Pursuit of Happiness' to end in victory just like most other American films. This gives us a clearer picture of how Italian Neo – Realistic concepts differ from the concepts today. In fact, the production of Neo – Realistic films in Italy was then criticized heavily and discontinued as it was cited that the films were a negative effect on Italy's quest to gain Prominence as a significant economy once more, therefore more American like concepts (optimism) were adopted.

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THE QUEEN'S LANGUAGE

PRITHVIRAJ THALI

The Oxford English Dictionary defines 'The Queen's English' as: "the English language regarded as under the guardianship of the Queen; hence, standard or correct English". The term dates back to 1592 at the time of Queen Elizabeth I. Fortunately, using it, is however, not the prerogative of royalty or any regional or ethnic group. Universal acceptability of the standard English is one of the vestiges of the British colonial legacy. Today the language is used, both in its spoken and written form by most number of people all over the world, as compared to any other language.

The standard English has evolved so much on its journey till date that it retains very few words it originally constituted. To give it due credit, it has allowed for a fair amount of regional and ethnic flavour to add to its vocabulary as well as its richness in terms of idiomatic phrases and figures of speech. Such tolerance and acceptability for external influences has been richly rewarded: while many other ancient languages have perished, English has been blessed with prevalence, continuity and universality.

The standard English could be defined as that form of English which is loyal to the rules of correct grammar and vocabulary. Ironically enough, some of the extremely good users of the language are found outside Britain, while some of the worst are found in Britain itself. Perhaps, this has a lot to do with how the language is handed down -- whether it is just passed on from generation to generation, (which is normally the case with the British natives) or whether it is studied as a third language (which is mostly the case with

the non-English speaking nations). While the use of Standard English is largely found to be impeccable amongst the latter, regional linguistic influences weigh heavily on its spoken form there. Especially in a country like India, marked by diversity and heterogeneity, the people of each of its states or union territories speaks English in an accent distinct from the rest. This is to be expected from people whose mother tongues are written in a different script than from the Roman script of Standard English.

Dialects are the linguistic varieties of any language. Within India itself, a Punjabi would speak his own flavour of English, which would differ conspicuously from the way a Bengali would speak it. Thankfully, the written form of the language is no slave to phonetics. Hence, it hardly offers any discernible margin for misinterpretation so as to materially allow for miscommunication of meaning. Nevertheless, it is surprising that misspelling of words or grammatical errors are all too common. Now, why would you write or type 'becoz', when you want to say 'because'. Or, for that matter, why would you sound 'ill' when, in fact, all you meant was 'I'll', the shortened form of 'I will'. In this age, where time is money, wasting either is a grave sin. It takes less time for 'U' to read my message than for 'YOU' to read the same message. 'O' is Obnoxious and hence omitted, consequently, OK is now just 'K'.

While the slang and the colloquial forms of the language have come to be accepted today, although strictly contextually, it's just mentioned spurious form -- replete with misspellings and shrunk words -- is yet to find favour amongst linguistic

savants. Social Media and their users have found such distorted form of English a convenient way to save time, thereby bringing disrepute to the language which once enjoyed aristocratic stature. Not that there have been no additions of new words and expressions to English. In fact, arguably, no other language could come close to the number of new foreign language words that kept getting consistently added to its ever evolving vocabulary.

Sanskrit is the oldest known root language today of all the Indo-European languages. It is well known that English language

branched out long ago from this Indo-European ancestry. And to give it due credit, it borrowed new words along its way. The French and Latin words seem to top the list. Urdu and Hindi too seem to have had a very visible influence in this respect. Words such as 'Bazaar', 'Guru', 'Pundit', Mantra' have been the Indian return gifts to the colonial legacy.

Language, without conventional rules of grammar and syntax, would be chaos. At the same time, such rules need to be progressive and accommodative of outside influences if a language is to survive. It should

embrace gradual change. Sadly, unlike English, many regional languages across the world have suffered dismal fate only because its users resisted evolutionary changes. Language is the receptacle of ethnicity, culture and traditions. Therefore, when a language dies, much of the cultural wealth -- usually in the form of folklore -- dies along with it. Vulgar misuse of language outrage linguistic sensibilities. As such, it would be more appropriate to study a language for its true worth rather than just picking it up and passing it on with careless disregard for its soul.



IS OPPOSITION TO ALL THE DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC UTILITY PROJECTS IN SOUTH GOA SURPRISING?

TEAM TNV

May it be the Coal project in Vasco, the IIT in Canacona, now in Sanguem & Curcholem, the Garbage Plant in Curcholem, Kabrastan in Margao or the Educational Hub in Davorlim, the South Goans have opposed all the major projects of the Government for the last several decades now. The Sangekaars have opposed the Institute of Information Technology even before the work for the same could begin. Excluding the South Goa District Hospital the people have even opposed the mobile towers and the Cyclone mitigation center that was planned for Fatorda.

The entire debate of whether this much opposition is surprising and shocking or is reasonable begun after the people of Davorlim opposed the educational hub in their village and Curchadkaars opposed the Garbage treatment plant in their town. The Government proposed to have a state of its art, a Garbage Treatment plant in Cacoda Curcholem for the constituencies of Curcholem, Savordem, Quepem, and Sanguem. The plant is proposed to be built at a cost of over 100 crores. The Curcholem MLA Nilesh Cabral at the public hearing cleared all the cloud over the plant and the opposition to the plant seems to be cleared for now. However, this

has revealed the disturbing reality of opposition to the public utility projects.

Yet another case of surprise is the opposition to have Institute of Information Technology at Curcholem or Sanguem. Some of the locals have gone on to oppose the premier institute for Goa and claimed that the total area where the project is planned is agricultural land under paddy cultivation. While demanding to know from the government as to what benefits the farming community will get with the setting up of the project in Sanguem, some people went on to caution the farmers not to part away with their ancestral agricultural land which they have been cultivating for several generations. Some also urged the farmers to be careful while doing away with their agricultural land in the wake of promises made by the government. The agricultural land once given will be gone forever and our future generations will not be left with any agricultural land they claimed.

The People from Raia and Curtorim have made a similar move. They have opposed of having a Kabrastan on an acquired Government land opposite the Sonsodo claiming that it will hurt their religious sentiments. Several attempts have been made to get a Kabrastan for the Muslim brethren of South Goa but the efforts have been in vain.

The opposition to the Educational hub too has gone to such an extent that the Chief Minister was forced to make a very strict statement regarding the issues.

Last but not the least is the Coal

Project at the MPT dock in Vasco. The NGO's and people opposing coal have alleged that the Government has planned to transport Coal to other states and their steel plants through Goa, have also alleged that the Nationalization of rivers too is the move to transport coal. There have been several attempts by the Government to convince that they have zero tolerance to pollution from coal. However, the people have not budged and have kept their opposition on.

Meanwhile on all this the Chief Minister said, "I have not given this present setup of Coal, this was given by Congress", said CM while saying that there is no reason why there has to be pollution as there is advise to modernize the handling to have no pollution at all.

The Chief Minister said that one can't be against coal and consume power too, as the power we consume in Goa is 90% thermal power generated from Coal. "It is logical as the power we are using is 95% thermal based", CM said.

"What are we saving? What is our contribution to environment? We should reduce the use of Power, stop using Air Conditioners, use a cycle, ditch big car. All these aspects of environment conservation have to be looked into by the people who talk about pollution. I am ready to, I don't use plastic and I am ready to use motorcycle or car pool," said Chief Minister Parrikar.

"Opposing Coal is something strange" said Chief Minister.

On the education hub the Chief Minister has questioned the opposing voices at Davorlim land saying, "Are the students in Margao schools from Margao town only? 60 to 70% students are from beyond Margao," said CM while saying that he is not against anyone's ideas or concepts. "If there is congestion in Margao I wont be able to give additional institutes and some will have to shift out. The capacity will have to be frozen and the exemptions will have to be withdrawn," said Chief Minister.

The CM also asked, "Why should Margao suffer?" while further questioning, "What resolutions are you'll taking? Doesn't your students go to school?" asked CM. "Why should Margao suffer for others?" while saying that it is a big surprise to him that an Education institutes are being opposed by people.

The Chief Minister said that if is about infrastructure problem in Davorlim the Government will go ahead and create the necessary infrastructure.

He further said that the society lives together as a community but he is surprised that there is opposition to have an essential necessity as educational hub.

The Curcholem MLA Nilesh Cabral said, "There are some vested political interests that are playing behind the scenes which is sad. We have been most transparent on all the projects at our constituencies and I will be the first one to come on to the streets if there is trouble from the plant at Cacoda," he said.





EDUCATIONAL HUB FACES UPS AND DOWNS IN DAVORLIM

7 SCHOOLS OF MARGAO ECHO SUPPORT FOR HUB

TEAM TNV

There is a lot that has been written about the need of the Educational hub in Davorlim. The schools located in the heart of Margao have been facing traffic problems and several people coming to the city also have been facing similar problems due to the schools located in the town. Moreover, the schools of Margao have been facing a space crunch and infrastructure problems too. The Government plan to expedite the work of the Educational hub however hit a roadblock after the Davorlim Panchayat, where the acquired land belongs to, resolved against the hub. This has kicked up a big row with several people shaming the panchayat for the alleged retrograde step in the times of urgent needs.

The Davorlim Dicarpale Gram Sabha attended by nearly 400 people had on 29th of October, rejected the government's proposal to set up an educational hub in their village.

The opposing speakers said that the land from the village should be for the villagers and not to be given to schools in Margao catering to the children of the rich sections. Local MLA Luizinho Faleiro too was compelled to go by the people's wishes.

"Some business men from Margao wanted to take over the land and sell it by making plots and that is what I stopped," he said.

An order dated 28th December 2016 whereby 1,15,200 sq mts. of land under Survey No 16/1 of the Davorlim village was transferred to the Directorate of Education.

Earlier villagers spoke against the educational hub for Margao schools coming in their village. They also cautioned people against the propaganda of jobs being created for the locals.

"These are already set schools which will shift here with the same students and existing staff and there will be no jobs created for us in Margao," a local said adding that people will only have to suffer traffic congestion.

Andrew Rebello asked, "why should the village accept schools from Margao here, when Margao is not accepting



Davorlim's garbage at Sonsoddo?"

The Panchayat too sung to the tunes of the opposing people by saying that since they have been elected by the people so they shall go with them.

The Schools of Margao however are in an urgent need of the educational hub. The Samaj Seva Sangh committee members of Mahila & Nutan School and Vidya Bharati School said "The Proposed Educational Hub at Davorlim was declared very long back and we believe that all the procedures are almost completed and the proposed Educational Hub area is already in

the possession of the Education Department but due to some selfish politicians it did not come to reality".

The Committee said that the hub would directly ease the load of traffic that has become chronic and seems to have gone out of hands of all the concerned authorities. They said, recent development of Davorlim Gram Sabha has unfortunately saddened them and the opposition to the Educational Hub is nothing but the politically motivated move, it looks like whistleblower wants to tie the bell around the cat's neck.

In fact, this project creates and opens up many job and Business opportunities for the locals. If comes to reality, students will have quality class rooms with ample of space, light, ventilation for stress free quality Education. School buildings will have well-equipped modern library combined reading room, Laboratory, study rooms, mini auditorium etc. Contrary to which at present, most of the school's classrooms wherein students study are congested and choked.

Students will have spacious facilities such open playgrounds as well as Indoor stadium for Gymnastics, Swimming, Table - Tennis, Badminton, Basket Ball etc. Present school does not even have these minimum facilities, most of the schools do not have playground to hold their assembly or sports activities. There are no proper facilities in the school for the students and staff. The school building will have hygienic washrooms & rest rooms. The hub can have a Health Centre, Police Out Post, Bank Facility, Directorate of Education (Zonal Office), Auditorium etc. for the benefit of schools, students even locals can also avail the above facilities.

The Committee has earnestly requested the Chief Minister to look into the matter of Davorlim Educational Hub with due seriousness, which is the need of the hour.

Fighting Goats and the Jackal



the blood from the ground without caring for the fighting rams.

Watching all this, the sage thought to himself, "This jackal is a fool as it has become greedy by the smell of blood. If he comes between the fighting rams, it will get rammed and get hurt himself".

No sooner had the sage thought of it, the jackal craving for more blood came nearer to the fighting rams, and got caught in the middle of their fight.

Both the rams rammed into him by mistake. He got hit on his head, and fell down because he was severely wounded.

The wise indeed say:
Do not close your eyes to the impending danger due to greed.

One day while a sage was going through a jungle, he saw two golden rams (billy goats) fighting each other.

Even though both were wounded, and blood was oozing out from their heads and bodies, they did not stop fighting and rammed at each other.

At the same time, a hungry jackal was passing by. When he saw all the blood, he started licking



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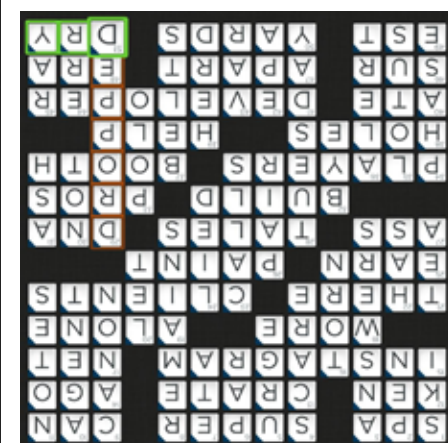
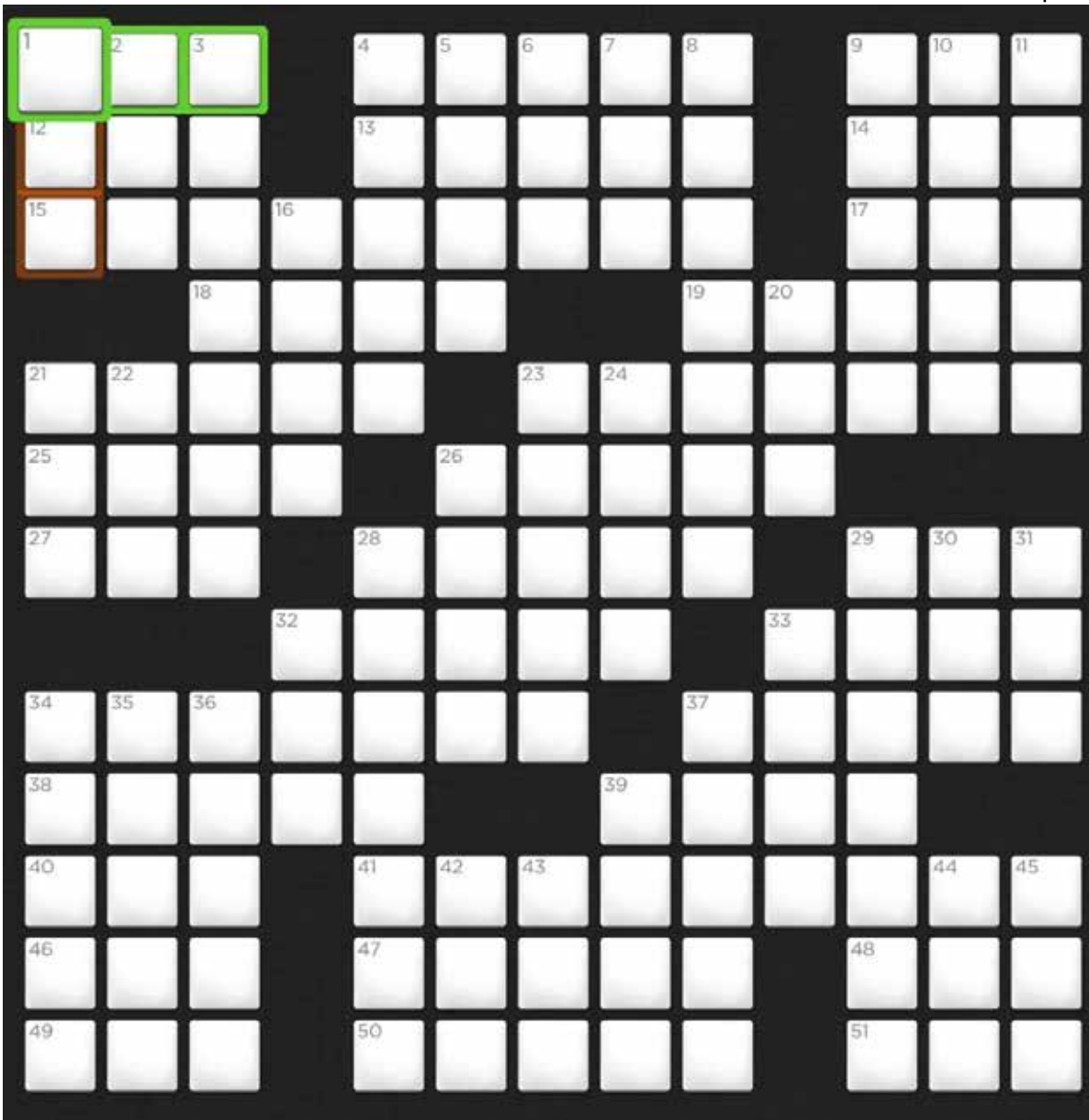
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- DOWN**
- Hit the slopes
 - Marker, e.g.
 - Comebacks
 - Frighten
 - Egg on
 - Golf Target
 - Flight info. :Abbr.
 - Archiological find
 - Big name in cameras
 - FBI operative
 - Jots down
 - Ripped
 - Allowed
 - Its leaves can tell the future, supposedly
 - Posseses
 - Summons
 - Broke ones oath
 - Put together
 - The day before lent
 - Plummeted
 - "_____ so fast!"
 - _____ Wednesday
 - "See ya!"
 - Ralph Lauren Brand
 - Teenage angst, sometimes
 - Its eaten by some in "the Odyssey"
 - Sharp
 - Sings loudly
 - Group of Cattle
 - US Governmental agency created by president Nixon
 - Dictionary abbr.
 - Make a mistake
 - Kind of Gun

- ACROSS**
- Hot lub
 - Awesome
 - Campbell's Soup location
 - Barbie's beau
 - Fruit holder
 - Way back when
 - popular photo sharing app
 - Snore
 - Put on
 - Solitary
 - "That's the place!"
 - Law office Visitors
 - Take in
 - House coat?
 - Donkey
 - Fish stories
 - Some Forensic evidence
 - Construct
 - They are better than immature
 - They are on the Team
 - Restaurant seating options
 - Swiss cheese feature
 - "SOS!"
 - Consumed
 - App maker
 - Prefix with pass
 - Not together
 - Ballpark figure : Abbr.
 - Cornerstone Abbr.
 - Play places
 - Arid





FROM DECEMBER 1; GMC TO CHARGE NON-GOANS.....HOW FAR WILL THIS BE A SUCCESS

TEAM TNV

Come December 1, the Goa Health Department is all set to charge the outstation patients availing medical services at the Asia's oldest medical hospital combined college - Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMC), Bambolim. While the Health Minister Vishwajit Rane is firm on his decision to go ahead with this unique idea; the question that haunts is how far will this concept be a success.

A month and half ago, Rane took a decision not to extend the free medical services at GMC to non Goan patients, who contributes nearly half of the visitors visiting the State's premier government hospital on daily basis. It is a known fact the GMC is burdened with the patients pouring in from the neighbouring districts of Maharashtra and Karnataka.

It was initially the idea of the then Health Minister Francis D'Souza, who had mooted the proposal way back in December 2014. However, the idea failed to

GMC has a long tradition of providing quality and free services to all the sections of the society. And hence, the Goa government decision has not gone down well with the neighbouring Sindhudurg District, who through their local MLA and Maharashtra Minister Deepak Kesarkar has urged Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar to exempt the people from the district from payment of fees.

conceptualize during the previous Laxmikant Parsekar led BJP government regime.

"GMC is over burdened with the patients and what we have realized is that the majority of them comprises of those coming from border districts like Sindhudurg, Konkarn region. We are providing them free treatment but the load on infrastructure is increasing thus forcing government to spend more," Rane explains.

"I am firm on my decision. We are not going to charge them very high fees but nominal fees. In case of emergencies, no fees would be charged. Also, the poor people would be given relief," Minister added.

GMC has a long tradition of providing quality and free services to all the sections of the society. And hence, the Goa government decision has not gone down well with the neighbouring Sindhudurg District, who through their local MLA and Maharashtra Minister Deepak Kesarkar has urged Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar to exempt the people from the district

from payment of fees.

During the recent meeting, Kesarkar claimed that Parrikar has assured him not to charge the patients from Sindhudurg district, availing benefit at GMC. "Parrikar has assured that the people from our district will not be charged for taking treatment at GMC," he said.

The Minister of State for Finance, Kesarkar also said that Maharashtra government is contemplating to empanel GMC with their health insurance scheme-Mahatma Jyotibha Phule Jun Arogya Yojana. "Under the scheme, Maharashtra government will pay to Goa government as expenditure towards our patients. But not fees will be charged from the patients," he said.

Chief Minister, has, however, granted in-principal approval for the health department decision to charge nominal fees to the outstation patients.

GMC has already commenced registration of patients based on Goan and non-Goan residents. The Goan patients or visitors will have

to produce identity proof to establish them being citizen of Goa. Henceforth, the Goans will be given priority for the treatment, except in cases of emergency.

GMC Medical superintendent Dr. S M Bandekar said that the ten-member committee has suggested that non-goan patients be charged 30 percent of the rates applicable for the interventions under the Deen Dayal Swasthya Seva Yojana (DDSSY). "The new rates will come into force from December 1," he said.

As much as 447 interventions are covered under DDSSY- a health insurance scheme of the State government that has covered nearly 8 lakh state population so far.

"In the initial stage, fees will be levied only for the interventions covered under DDSSY; in the later stage, other treatments will be also covered," Dr. Bandekar said.

Accordingly, the Committee under the Health Secretary will review the rates. After GMC, Government also proposes to charge the fees to the outstation patients visiting the South Goa District Hospital - Hospicio, Mapusa District Hospital and Ponda Sub-district hospital.

The Health Minister's decision has been hailed by the Indian medical association (IMA)- Goa while stating, "it was a much needed step".

"We strongly support Minister and urge him to start this as soon as possible," IMA Goa president Dr. Medha Salkar said.

She claimed that outstation patients cause lot of burden on government infrastructure on the health sector. "All the neighbouring states have their own health scheme and we urge the state health minister to tie up with Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh government so that their schemes can be extended to government hospitals in Goa," Dr. Salkar suggested.

While the machineries are set, one will have to wait and see how far this will gain success to the Health Sector in Goa.

EXPLORING EAST AFRICA: LAKE NAKURU

AMEY JOSHI

It's 7 am in the morning, we are all set for another long drive from Aberdare to Lake Nakuru. The town of Nakuru lies about 164 kilometres north of Nairobi. On this six-hour long journey, we have a few stops on the way. First, it was the crossing of the equator line at Nyandarua. Here an experiment was shown to us which displayed the difference between the northern and the southern hemisphere. After crossing the Equator, it was a tea stop at Thomson's waterfall. The waterfall is situated on the Ewaso Ng'iro River, which drains from the Aberdare Mountain Range. In 1883, a Scottish geologist and naturalist Joseph Thomson was the first European to reach Thomson Falls and named them for his father.

The last stop before Nakuru was the viewpoint of the Great Rift Valley. The Great Rift Valley runs from Lebanon's Beqaa Valley in Asia to Mozambique in Southeastern Africa. After taking a few clicks of the valley we were on our way to Lake Nakuru.

After the long drive through the picturesque landscape of the Great Rift Valley, we arrived at the Lake Nakuru lodge, located inside Lake Nakuru National Park, right in time for lunch. The park is situated in the Great Rift Valley. From the restaurant inside the lodge, you get a beautiful view of the entire area and the lake inside the park. The park is best known for its thousands of flamingos nesting along the shores. The park also has a good population of rhinoceros.

After having our stomachs full and an afternoon nap, we headed for an evening game drive inside the park.



As we entered, Zebras, baboons and gazelles were the first to welcome us but our eyes and cameras were constantly on the lookout for the next animal in the African big 5- the rhino, which inhabits the park. I always wondered, what exactly is the difference between the white rhino and the black rhino? It certainly is not the complexion as their name suggests but there is an interesting story- The English word "white" is said to have been derived by a mistranslation of the Dutch word "wijd", which means "wide" in English. The word "wide" refers to the width of the rhino's mouth. So, the early English-speaking settlers

in South Africa misinterpreted the "wijd" for "white" and the rhino with the wide mouth ended up being called the white rhino. The other one, however with the narrow pointed mouth, was called the black rhinoceros. As we came closer to the lake, our guide Jeff pointed towards an open plain and said: "there are the rhinos". There they were, right in the middle of an open plain, a crash of white rhinos. The crash comprised of three adults and two calves. For a moment we were a bit surprised, as the latest news report had revealed that there were only three confirmed individuals left in 2017 consisting of two females and one male; all in captivity. However, our guide Jeff revealed that the animals we were looking at were southern white rhinos which is one of the subspecies of the white rhino and the other being the northern white rhino. After spotting such majestic creatures, one just feels like waiting there for a long time and take pictures from every angle possible but since we had a schedule to keep we moved forward towards the lake. Lake Nakuru is popular for its thousands of flamingos

which attracts nature enthusiasts from all over the world. The flamingos feed on the abundant algae, which thrives in the warm waters of this lake. Well, this was the only place where our guide allowed us to get outside the vehicle even though there was a herd of cape buffaloes staring at us from a distance. After spending some time at the lake we got back into our vehicle and moved deeper into the park. Some of the other animals we spotted on the way were impalas, Thomson's gazelle and a giraffe. Well, it was another revelation to me that giraffes too were divided into different subspecies and could be identified on the pattern of their spots. The giraffe that we were looking at was a Rothschild's giraffe. No matter how tall this creature was it was a bit tough to take a good pic as it was covered behind thick bushes. Since it was getting darker we started our journey back to the lodge. As we sat relaxed in the vehicle, not expecting to spot anything unique, we saw a few other safari vehicles stopped in front of us. The moment we came closer, it was something that we had expected to see but not quite like this- there were two sub adult lions sitting on a tree!! You don't need any kind of luck to spot wild animals in Africa but watching them like this is certainly a matter of luck. Lions usually stick together in a pride so it was a bit surprising to see only two of them relaxing on a tree. All I could say is that this was a perfect ending to our game drive inside Lake Nakuru national park.

After feasting on baked tilapia fish fillets and roasted leg of prime highland lamb with mint gravy for the dinner, it was the time to hit the bed. It was my second day in Kenya and it keeps getting better and better. But the best is yet to come. Tomorrow, we visit Maasai Mara National Reserve which has been recently voted as the best reserve in Africa.



THE BOHO STARTER PACK

SWENZKA CRISS

Anything Bohemian has become and is still topping the hottest go to trends. The best part is almost everyone can carry it with grace. Boho-Chic is all about looking natural, and used (in an odd sort of way). It is the style of an artist, free-spirited and beautiful relaxed people. Longing for freedom, yearning to break all the accepted rules and dogmatic stereotypes of the world surrounding them, the carriers of this ideology created a very specific, and indeed, a unique style serving as an irreplaceable source of inspiration that is well appreciated nowadays.

If you also long to be a bohemian goddess, make sure you know all the rules and style tips on how to wear the boho-chic fashion trend! We know how much you love getting outfit inspo from social media and fashion magazines but sorting through looks to find a style you can find yourself rocking can be harder than it sounds. The best part about dressing boho-chic is that you can throw many different things together to make an outfit.

When talking about boho styles, there are a few other styles that sometimes confuse many of us. Bohemian style is a mix of Vintage and hippie styles divided into different groups. If you want a sleeker boho look, you can do so by looking a little more polished and pairing the right items together. For a boho Hippie, go for a romantic look with some flowy Chiffon material and anything lace dress like by incorporating some bright colors with your look. If you want to be down right, straight up "Bohemian" then opt for an

arm full of bracelets, bangles, rings, headbands, braids, and tasseled hair. The best part about dressing Boho-Chic is you will almost never repeat the same outfit. You can throw so many different things together to switch up your look.

The Basic Components to Boho-Chic Style.

CLOTHING.

One of the easiest ways of going boho is including simple vintage looking clothing into your style. The best garments to have are Boho Dresses, Maxi Dresses, kimonos, asymmetrical tops, unique prints and patterns, earthy tones, crochet tops, oversize tops, and faux fur vests among many others.

FOOTWEAR

As for the boho style shoes, the best types of footwear that you will need are wedges, fringe boots, flats and ethnic print sandals. Remember to shoot for neutral earthy tones and brown might become your go to color.

BOHO ACCESSORIES.

Boho Jewelry such as midi rings, ring sets, bracelets, cuffs, necklaces. Vintage Style sunglasses are an absolute must. Add some colorful scarves, fedoras and headbands to perfect your boho-chic look.

MAKEUP AND HAIR.

Although the clothing pieces and the accessories take the center stage in such looks, it's no less important to pay attention to your hair and makeup. Boho-chic style requires a minimal makeup look and easy out-of-bed hairstyles or ones featuring braids and relaxed top knots.



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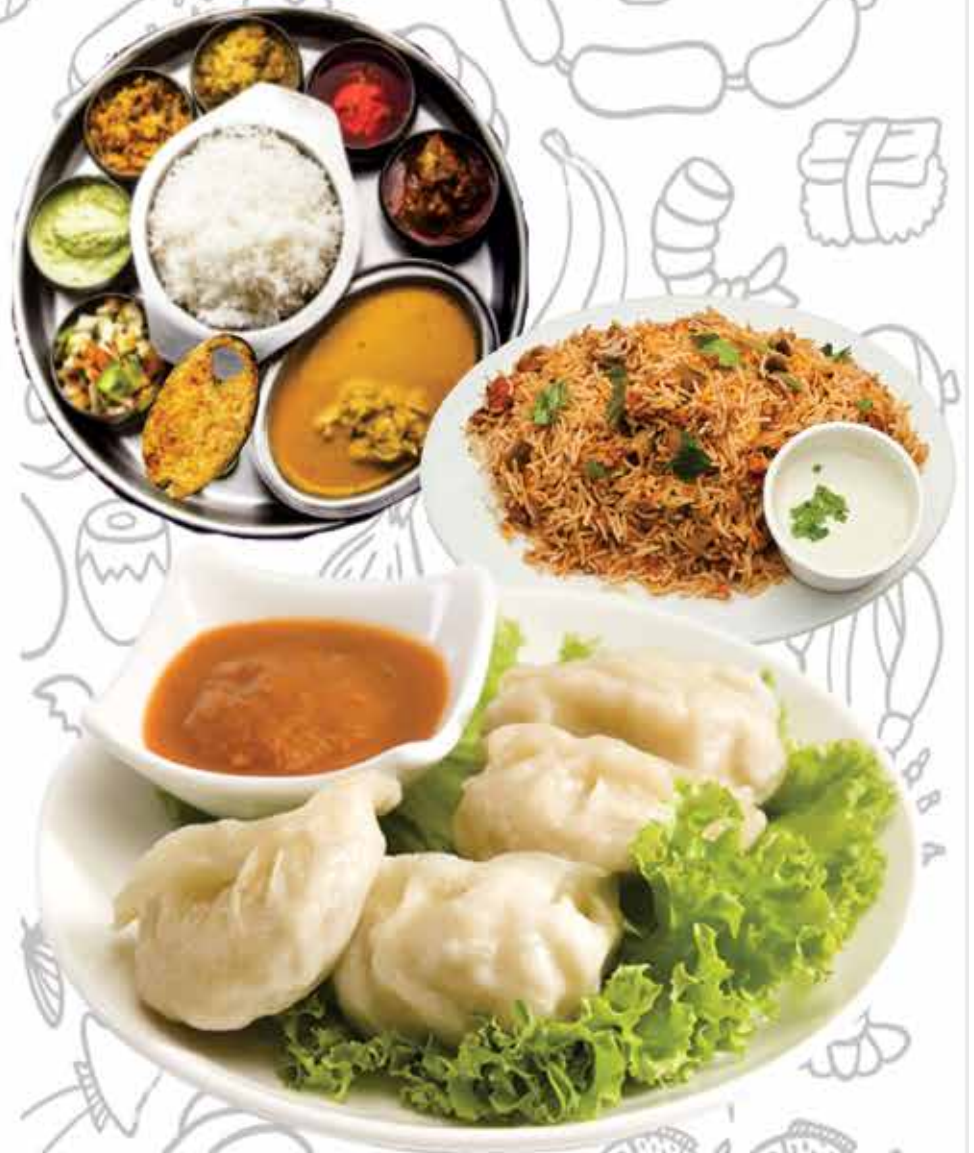
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