

***e-magazine* presented by Department of Economics**

***e-magazine* presented by Department of Economics**



# Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 in India



## Issue: June- 2021

## **ABOUT OUR COLLEGE**

In 1882 Surendranath Banerjea, eminent scholar, orator and statesman and one of the pioneers of India's struggle for self-government and freedom, took over the charge of Presidency School. In January 1884, it was renamed Presidency Institution and became affiliated to the Intermediate Standard of the University of Calcutta. Later in the same year, with permission from Lord Ripon, it was renamed as Ripon College and became a full-fledged degree College under the University of Calcutta.

Surendranath Banerjea himself taught in the College for many years with rare distinction. Under his inspiring guidance a generation of students grew up with sacrifice and idealism as their guiding principles. Round him gathered some of the most distinguished scholars and intellectuals of the time and Ripon College soon came to be counted among the reputed seats of learning in the country. In 1885 the Department of Law was started. It was converted into a separate College in 1911 and it was named as Ripon Law College. The Department of Commerce was established in 1940. A branch of this College was opened in Dinajpur (now a separate College in Bangladesh) in 1942. The trustees in order to keep pace with the changing needs of the time, opened an evening Science section in 1947 and a women's section in 1948 as well. The former is now a part of Surendranath Evening College and the latter became an independent Degree College in 1960. In 1948-49 the Trustees renamed the College as Surendranath College as a mark of respect to the founder of the institutions and author of "A Nation in Making".

The College was recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in 1972. Standing amidst the din and bustle of one of the busiest thoroughfares of Calcutta, the College has been a witness at close quarters to various ups and downs in the social and political history. In its career of more than a hundred years it has had to pass through both fair and foul, sunshine and rough weather. Its students welcomed Swami Vivekananda along with others with spectacular enthusiasm on his historic arrival at Calcutta in 1897 after his great success and triumph in the West. On reaching the city Swamiji was accorded reception worthy of a king at Ripon College. It was at Ripon College that Gandhiji put up in the company of others when he came to the plenary session of the Indian National Congress in Calcutta in 1901. This was his first experience of attending such an important gathering in India.

In 1911 Rabindranath Tagore read out at Ripon College one of his great essays dealing with the twin subjects of separatism to be found among many of our countrymen and national integration. It may be mentioned in passing that he referred in one of his novels to the courage and patriotism of the students of Ripon College. Both during the freedom movement and in recent time's students of Ripon / Surendranath College never failed to give a good account of them whenever there was a call to serve the country's cause or to register protest against injustice, tyranny and aggression. This tradition of Ripon / Surendranath College is a priceless legacy handed down by its founder Surendranath Banerjea and others. The College is trying to maintain its tradition of self-reliance in the context of spreading education among all sections of the society so as to enable its students to become worthy citizens of our country. Introduction of modern subjects with necessary infrastructure facilities with a view to updating education as per requirements of the employment houses and higher studies as well. Also, to provide the students with quality education with all round humane values and necessary skills. Look forward to our institution growing into a premier institute of learning in the days to come.

## FROM THE DESK OF PRINCIPAL

---

I am happy to learn that the students of Department of Economics are coming up with the very first issue of e-magazine, Arthascope. I congratulate the faculty and students of the department who used various mediums of expression to present their ideas and information. I wish them the very best and hope this endeavor continues.

Happy Reading!

Dr. Indranil Kar

Principal

## FROM THE DESK OF IQAC COORDINATOR

---

It has come to my knowledge that the students of Department of Economics are going to publish their first e-magazine. I appreciate the students who participated in this. I also appreciate the faculty of the department to encourage the students in such co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Congratulations to Arthascope team and best wishes.

Dr. Suchandra Chatterjee

Coordinator, IQAC

## FROM THE DESK OF HOD

---

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled." --- Plutarch

I hope Arthascope, the first e-magazine of the Department of Economics would kindle learning and imagination of the readers. I congratulate my students for their endeavor and wish they will continue to cultivate and express their skills, creativity and knowledge. A little extra over and above the curriculum help more when they participate, share, care, believe, practice, be fair and kind.

All the best!

Dr. Kausik Lahiri

Head

Department of Economics



## About Our Department

Department of Economics is one of the oldest in this College. Formerly it was known as Department of Political Science and Economics. After 1960-61 it was named as Department of Economics. Since then, this department has been fulfilling the educational demand of good number of students. Since inception, this Department has been catering just – in-time service particularly to weaker and marginalised section of the society . This Department offers 2 UG courses (I) B.Sc. (Hons.) Degree Course and (II) B.A/B.Sc. (General) Degree Course. Both of them are 3 years programme.

Stalwarts of this department

Prof. Bhabotosh Dutta (Ex-Teacher)

Prof. Kunja Bihari Kundu (Ex-Teacher)

Dr. Nilabja Ghosh (Ex-Teacher, currently in IEG, New Delhi)

Bibhuti Bhushan Bandopadhyay (Alumni)

Our current Faculty Members are:

Prof. Abanti Goswami

Prof. Kausik Lahiri

Prof. Ishani Waiba

Prof. Anuradha Sen

Prof. Debjani Banerjee

Some of the established Alumni of recent years

Arindam Bandopadhyay (Associate Prof, Amity University)

Abhijit Sarkar (Sr. Vice President, Indicus Analytics)

Seshanwita Das (Assoc. Prof, Amity University),

Shuvankita Chakraborty (Capgemini)

Subrata Majumder (Asst. Prof, Sunderban Mahavidyalay)

Somsuvra Chakraborty (IGATE Global Solutions)

Sanchita De (Guest Teacher, Gour Mohan Sachin Mandal Mahavidyalaya)

Madhumita Bose (Manager, The Lalit Great Eastern)

Find us at Facebook: Economics Department Surendranath College (84 members and growing)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/435199893353139>

# EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first ever issue of অর্থ-SCOPE! In this issue of অর্থ-SCOPE we mainly focus to explore the the Pride movement in the backdrop of "Pride Month". As we all know June is celebrated as the pride month all over the world, we thought it will be a great experience for the readers to get to know about the history of pride movement and the mythology related to it. Since it's the month of June it will be a generous way of showing tribute to the LGBTQ+ members through this magazine. Also many of us are hardly aware of the struggles of the LGBTQ+ members. Thus this issue of our magazine will be an open window through which we can see how people struggled to gain their well deserved rights. Apart from focusing on the pride month we have also covered areas like Bank Mergers, Corporate Culture, and impact of Covid-19 in India. You will also come across photos clicked by professors and students of our department and also some beautiful art works done by the students of our department. Don't forget to participate in the quiz competition we have included in the last part of your অর্থ-SCOPE! You will be receiving certificates too!

Hope you have a great time excavating অর্থ-SCOPE.  
Thank You.

# CONTENTS

---

Pride Month	01	Sreya Bose
Brief Insight into the World History on LGBTQ	03	Anushka Modak
Bharotiyo Sangaskritite Somokamitar Itibritto	05	Mahiraho Chakraborty
Social Discrimination of LGBT Community	07	Mahiraho Chakraborty
Merger of Banks: A Boost?	10	Prof. Kausik Lahiri
Corporates Care	13	Prof. Debjani Banerjee
Socio-Economic Impact of Covid-19 in India	15	Bhaskar Das & Saumyadeb Chakraborty
Life in Quarantine	18	Abhijit Adhikari
Incompatible	19	Taseen Belal
Perfection	19	Anushka Modak
Bibhed	20	Sohon Chowdhury
Ekla Classroom	20	Saumyadeb Chakraborty
Grave	21	Taseen Belal
Swopno	21	Saumyadeb Chakraborty
Quiz Section	17	
Photography Section	22	
Art Gallery	24	
Calligraphy	25	

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OUR TEAM

---





**Drawing- Rajdip Sarkar  
(Semester II)**

# PRIDE MONTH

SREYA BOSE  
(SEMESTER II)

Pride Month is celebrated every June as a tribute to those who were involved in the Stonewall Riots. Getting ready to dust off the rainbow flags, and join the fun! With parades, festivals, and concerts going on across the globe, it is important to know the social history along the way.

In the US, the 'Gay Pride Month' has its roots in the Stonewall Riots of 1969. The Stonewall Riots, or as many call it the 'Stonewall Uprising', was a series of extemporaneous and patchy demonstrations held by the LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer) community in and around New York.

The demonstrations were a direct response to a raid conducted by the police on the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich village, on June 28, 1969. The Inn had quite a colourful past, right from being owned by a Genovese Crime family to finally becoming a pub for gay men in New York. The Inn became quite popular for gay men, and it was one of the few places that allowed gay people to dance.

The sixties were the time in the US when the anti-Vietnam war protest was gathering momentum, and a bohemian counterculture was bubbling under. At the same time, gay and lesbian members of the American society were being constantly marginalised. In fact, solicitation of homosexual

elations was still a crime in New York City. In these rough times, the Stonewall Inn offered a safe place to the LGBTQ community. Drag Queens, effeminate men, and gay men who pretended to be straight, could all come and have a good time at the 'bottle bar' — the Inn didn't have a liquor license, as the patrons got their own. However, the city still deemed public display of affection by the gay community as illegal. Gay bars were routinely raided and their owners and patrons harassed.

On the morning of June 28, 1969, the police raided Stonewall Inn and arrested 13 people. Some were employees, and some were patrons who violated New York state's gender-appropriate clothing statute. The raid ignited the long pent-up frustration of the LGBTQ community, and many patrons and gay residents of the Greenwich village started to gather around the Inn.

The situation turned aggressive, and many civilians were maltreated, and an LGBTQ woman was hit by a policeman as he bundled her into a police vehicle. Instantly, a full-fledged riot broke out. It led to five more days of aggressive protests and activism by the LGBTQ people of New York. The Stonewall Riots hence mark an important day in the evolution of modern-day gay rights.

Among the many leaders of the riots was a black, trans, bisexual woman, Marsha P. Johnson, leading the movement to continue over six days with protests and clashes. The message was clear — protestors demanded the establishment of places where LGBT+ (spectrums of sexuality and gender) people could go and be open about their sexual orientation without fear of arrest and harassment.

Pride Month is largely credited as being started by bisexual activist Brenda Howard. Known as 'The Mother of Pride,' Brenda organized Gay Pride Week and the Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade a year after the Stonewall Riots. This eventually mutated into what we now know as the New York City Pride March and was the catalyst for the formation of similar parades and marches across the world.

Gay politician Harvey Milk asked a talented designer friend, Gilbert Baker, to design an all-encompassing symbol to take to San Francisco's Pride March in 1978 and that's how we have the rainbow flag. Each colour of this flag has its individual meaning. In the widely known six-colour flag, red is symbolic of life, orange is symbolic of spirit, yellow is sunshine, green is nature, blue represents harmony and purple is spirit. In the original eight-colour flag, hot pink was included to represent sex and turquoise to represent magic/art.

Pride Month is an entire month dedicated to the uplifting of LGBTQ voices, celebration of LGBTQ culture and the support of LGBTQ rights. Throughout the month of June, nationwide, there have traditionally been parades, protests, drag performances, live theatre and memorials and celebrations of life for members of the community who lost their lives to HIV/AIDS. It is part political activism, part celebration of the entire LGBTQ community.





**Drawing- Bidisha Paul**  
**(Semester IV)**

# BRIEF INSIGHT INTO THE WORLD HISTORY ON LGBTQ

---

ANUSHKA MODAK  
(SEMESTER II)

People in the past did not live lives similar to our modern understanding of what is meant to be LGBTQ. Gay identity, as both a personal and political category, did not fully emerge until the mid – twentieth century.

Social movements, organizations came up around the world for the acceptance and rights of individuals who might today identify as LGBT or queer, but faces many challenges and persecution from church, state and medical authorities. Where homosexual activity or deviance from established gender roles/dress was banned by law or traditional custom, such condemnation might be communicated through sensational public trials, exile, medical warnings and language from the pulpit. These paths of persecution entrenched homophobia for centuries—but also provides the knowledge to the entire world of the existence of difference. Whether an individual recognized them, too, shared this identity and were at risk, or dared to speak out for tolerance and change, there were few organizations or resources before the scientific and political revolutions of the 18th and 19th centuries. Gradually, the growth of a public media and ideals of human rights drew together activists from all over the world, which drew courage from sympathetic medical studies, banned literature, emerging intercourse research

and a climate of greater democracy. By the 20th century, a movement in recognition of gays and lesbians was underway, assisted by the social climate of feminism and new anthropologies of difference. However, throughout 150 years of homosexual social movements (roughly from the 1870s), leaders and organizers struggled to address the very different concerns and identity issues of gay men, women identifying as lesbians, and others identifying as gender variant or nonbinary. White, male and Western activists whose groups and theories gained leverage against homophobia did not necessarily represent the range of racial, class and national identities complicating a broader LGBT agenda. Women were often left out altogether.

Most historians believed there are evidences of homosexual activities and same-sex love, whether such relationships were accepted or persecuted, in every documented culture. They also claimed that homosexuality existed in ancient Israel simply because it is prohibited in the Bible, whereas it flourished between both men and women in Ancient Greece. Substantial evidence come from the lyrics of same-sex desire inscribed by Sappho in the seventh century BCE to youths raised as the opposite sex in cultures ranging from Albania to Afghanistan; from the “female husbands” of Kenya to the Native American “Two-Spirit,” alternatives to the Western male-female and heterosexual binaries thrived across millennia and culture. These realities gradually became known to the West via travellers’ diaries, the church records of missionaries, diplomats’ journals, and in reports by medical anthropologists. Such eyewitness accounts in the era before other media were of course riddled with the biases of the (often) Western or white observer, and added to beliefs that homosexual practices were other, foreign, savage, a medical issue, or evidence of a lower racial hierarchy. The peaceful flowering of early transexual or bisexual acceptance in different indigenous civilizations faced opposition from European and Christian colonizers.

In the age of European exploration and empire-building, Native American, North African and Pacific Islander cultures accepting of “Two-Spirit” people or same-sex love shocked European invaders who objected to any divergence from a limited understanding of “masculine” and “feminine” roles. The European powers enforced their own criminal codes against what was called sodomy in the New World: the first known case of homosexual activity receiving a death sentence in North America occurred in 1566, when the Spanish executed a Frenchman in Florida. Against the emerging backdrop of national power and Christian faith, what might have been learned about same-sex love or gender identity was buried in scandal. Ironically, both wartime conflict between emerging nations and the departure or deaths of male soldiers left women behind to live together and fostered strong alliances between men as well. Same-sex companionship thrived where it was frowned upon for unmarried, unrelated males and females to mingle or socialize freely. Women’s relationships in particular escaped scrutiny since there was no threat of pregnancy.

# ভারতীয় সংস্কৃতিতে সমকামীতার ইতিবৃত্ত

মহীরুহ চক্রবর্তী  
(চতুর্থ সেমিস্টার)



Drawing- Priyanshu Bose  
(Semester II)

“সমকামীতা” নিয়ে যে ছুতমার্গ তা আমাদের সামাজিক ব্যবস্থার গঠন প্রণালিতে দীর্ঘদিনের বাসিন্দা। তাকে উৎখাত করতে গেলে যেমন প্রয়োজন খোলামেলা আলোচনার বিস্তীর্ণ পরিসর তেমন প্রয়োজন সমাজের তথাকথিত জ্যাঠামশাইদের রক্তচক্ষুকে অস্বীকার করার ক্ষমতা। একথা অনস্বীকার্য যে কোনো সমাজব্যবস্থার জীবনশৈলী অনেকটা নিয়ন্ত্রিত হয় ধর্মীয় দৃষ্টিকোণ থেকে, যার ওপর নির্ভর করে তৈরী হয় সামাজিক শাসনপ্রণালি। প্রাচীনকাল থেকে বিভিন্ন ধর্মে সমকামীতা চিরকালই বিশেষ স্থান দখল করে এসেছে। যেখানে আব্রাহামিক ধর্মে সমকামীতাকে যৌন বিকৃতি হিসাবে নেতিবাচকভাবে চিহ্নিত করা হলেও ভারতীয় ধর্ম সমূহে সমকামীতার প্রতি উদারতা ও মান্যতা প্রদর্শিত হয়েছে। কোনো হিন্দু ধর্মীয় গ্রন্থে সমকামীতাকে সরাসরি নিষিদ্ধ করা হয়নি। হিন্দুধর্ম গ্রন্থের অন্যতম সামবেদ ঘোষণা করেছে “বিকৃতি ইওম প্রকৃতি” অর্থাৎ প্রকৃতির বিকৃতিও প্রাকৃতিক।

ভারতীয় পণ্ডিত বাৎসর্যায়নও এই বিষয়ে অবগত ছিলেন। তাঁর কামসূত্রে একটি অধ্যায় নিবেদিত সমকামীতা নিয়ে। ভারতের কিছু মন্দিরের প্রাচীন স্থাপত্যকলার বেশকিছু মিথুন মূর্তিও সমকামীতার উদাহরণ বহন করে। উদাহরণ হিসাবে ওড়িশার কোণারকের জগমোহন মন্দির, ভুবনেশ্বরের রাজরানী মন্দির, মধ্যপ্রদেশের খাজুরাহের কান্ডারিয়া মহাদেব মন্দির ও কর্ণাটকের বাগালিতের দ্বাদশ শতাব্দির শিব মন্দির উল্লেখযোগ্য।

বৈদিককাল থেকেই হিন্দুধর্মের মধ্যে তৃতীয় লিঙ্গ স্বীকৃত। এই সময় থেকেই কিছু দেবদেবী পূজিত হন যারা পুরুষ ও মহিলা উভয়লিঙ্গ। এছাড়া হিন্দু মহাকাব্য মহাভারতের নায়ক অর্জুন অভিষেকের মান রক্ষার্থে এক বছরের জন্য বৃহন্নলায় রূপান্তরিত হয়েছিল এবং আরেক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ চরিত্র শিখণ্ডিনী জন্মগ্রহণ করেছেন স্ত্রী হিসাবে তবে শিখণ্ডী নাম নিয়ে পুরুষ হিসাবে আত্মপ্রকাশ। মিশ্র স্বভাবের মানুষরা মন্দিরের নর্তকী ও সেবিকা হিসাবে কর্মরত কারণ তারা শুভ শক্তির পরিচায়ক। আজও কিছু হিন্দু ধর্মালম্বীরা বিশ্বাস করেন তাদের আশীর্বাদ এবং অভিষেক দেওয়ার ক্ষমতা রয়েছে। এছাড়া ভারতবর্ষের পরবর্তী তুর্কি ও মুঘল শাসনে সমলৈঙ্গিক সম্পর্কের অজস্র উদাহরণ পাওয়া যায়। এমনকি মুঘল শাসকের দরবারে সমকামী সম্পর্ক যে স্বীকৃত ছিল তা তৎকালীন ইতিহাসে বর্ণিত।

আজকের আধুনিক ভারতীয় সংস্কৃতিতে যে “হোমোফোবিয়া” তা কিন্তু মূলত ব্রিটিশ সরকার প্রণীত সমকাম বিরোধী আইনের ফলাফল। সমকাম ও খ্রিস্ট ধর্মের দ্বন্দ্ব সর্বজনবিদিত। সমকাম পৃথিবীতে সর্বাপেক্ষা নিন্দিত হয়েছে এই ধর্মে। ব্রিটিশ শাসনের পরবর্তী সময় ভারতীয় সংস্কৃতিতে ক্যাথোলিক চার্চের প্রভাব বাড়তে থাকায় সমকাম সমাজে নিষিদ্ধকর্ম হিসাবে বিবেচিত হতে থাকে। ১৮৬১ সালে ব্রিটিশ পার্লামেন্টের আইনের ৩৭৭ ধারা অনুযায়ী সমকাম ছিল শাস্তিযোগ্য অপরাধ এবং সাজা ছিল ১০ বছরের কারাবাস। দুর্ভাগ্যবশত ভারতেও ৩৭৭ ধারা বলবত ছিল। সমকামী সম্প্রদায় তাদের অধিকার ফিরে পাওয়ার আশায় আইনের দ্বারস্থ হয়েছেন বারবার। ২০০৯ সালে দিল্লীর উচ্চ আদালত সংবিধান প্রদত্ত মৌলিক অধিকার খর্বের কারণে ৩৭৭ ধারাটিকে বাতিল ঘোষণা করেন। পরবর্তীকালে ২০১৩ সালে কিছু ধর্মীয় সংগঠন রায়ের বিরুদ্ধে শীর্ষ আদালতে মামলা দায়ের করলে মহামান্য আদালত ৩৭৭ ধারাটিকে পুনর্বহাল করেন। শীর্ষ আদালতের এই রায় তাদের মানবাধিকার লঙ্ঘনে সামিল গন্য করে বিভিন্ন সমকামী সংগঠন শীর্ষ আদালতের দ্বারস্থ হয়। শীর্ষ আদালত মামলাটিকে পাঁচ সদস্যের সাংবিধানিক বেঞ্চে পাঠায়। অবশেষে ২০১৮ সালের ৬ সেপ্টেম্বর দেশের মহামান্য শীর্ষ আদালত তাঁর ৪৯৫ পাতার রায়ে ৩৭৭ ধারা খারিজ করে দেন। রায় অনুযায়ী “সমকামীতা কোন মানসিক ব্যাধি নয়, এমনকি সমকামীতা অপ্রাকৃতিক

অপরাধ নয়। এল. জি. বি. টি. সম্প্রাদায়ের কাছে ইতিহাস ক্ষমাপ্রার্থী হবে এবং ব্যক্তিগত পরিসরে সহমতের ভিত্তিতে সমলিঙ্গের যৌন সম্পর্ক ক্ষতিকর ও সামাজিকভাবে সংক্রমক নয়।

আমার মনে হয় আমাদের রক্ষনশীল সমাজ শুধু আদালতের রায়ের পরিপ্রেক্ষিতে মুক্তমনা হয়ে উঠবে এমনটা ভাবার কোন কারণ নেই। লিঙ্গ বা যৌন প্রবৃত্তি কখনই মানুষের পরিচয় হতে পারেনা। সমলিঙ্গের প্রতি আকর্ষণের ভিন্নতা ছাড়া তারা দর্শন এবং মননে অন্যদের মতোই সাধারণ মানুষ। সমকাম সমাজ জীবনের অন্তর্গত একটি বিকল্প যৌন ক্রিয়া পদ্ধতি মাত্র। জানিনা একটি মৌলিক অধিকার রক্ষায় যদি আইন ব্যবস্থায় ১৫৭ বছর আগে তাহলে সমাজ স্বীকৃত হতে কত বছর লাগবে ?

---





**Drawing- Sayan Patra  
(Semester II)**

## ***SOCIAL DISCRIMINATION OF LGBT COMMUNITY***

---

**MAHIRUHO CHAKRABORTY  
(SEMESTER IV)**

In matters of sexuality, the terms people use and identify with can vary widely from culture to culture. The terms 'lesbian', 'gay', 'bisexual' and 'transgender' (LGBT) are used because they are the English terms most commonly used in the international human rights discourse. However, this is in no way intended to ignore the diversity of other terms and identities, nor to deny the cultural connotations attached to these terms.

In the interests of readability and in order to respect the wealth of terms, a variety of forms are largely interchangeable. So, for example, the term "lesbian and gay human rights" should be read as shorthand for the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

- **Sexual orientation:** This term used to describe patterns of emotional, romantic, and sexual attraction and sense of personal and social identity based on those attractions. Sexual orientation exists with exclusive attraction to the opposite or the same sex. When a person's sexual and emotional attraction to people of the same gender is called homosexual orientation if attraction towards opposite sex called heterosexual orientation and if the attraction towards both gender is called bisexual orientation people.
- **Gender identity:** It refers to a person's experience of self-expression in relation to social constructions of masculinity or femininity (gender). A person may have a male or female gender identity, with the physiological characteristics of the opposite sex.

- Sexual identity: It is used to refer to sexual orientation and/or gender identity.
- Transgender: It means someone whose gender differs from the one when they were born. Transgender people may identify as male or female or neither the label fits to them. These people's internal feelings and labels may be male, female or transgender.

## **Major Incident Faced by LGBT Minorities in India in Day-to-Day Life:**

- **BEING CALLED“CHAKKA” LIKE IT MEANS NOTHING:**

From very young age, perhaps due to their upbringing, they are made to differentiate between male and female genders. Everything that seems in between is just plain wrong, so are they taught. They are being called ‘chakka’ so frequently that at one point it becomes their nick name at places like school. People go on to great lengths to invent new swear words like 0.6, sine30, half-half etc.

- **BULLYING:**

There are so many people who would pin point and act the way they walk, mimic their voice, try to pull their pants down, grope them etc. The hard part is when adults like teachers join them.

- **PHYSICAL VIOLENCE:**

There are countless incidents when trans-genders face violence. As obtained from my research, there were incidents when a gay was dating a gay and were sitting in the garden and someone got hold of him and started beating him up while shouting “unnatural bastard”.

- **KICKED OUT OF HOUSE:**

A trans-woman that I found, who was educated till class 10th and liked to dress up like a girl was beaten up by her father when he got to know about her gender. Her mother kicked her out saying that she was a disgrace to her family.

- **DENIED TO GET JOBS AND EDUCATION:**

Also, most of LGBT's or effeminate guys are denied from the jobs and education opportunities.

- **FAMILY ISSUES:**

Lack of communication and misunderstanding between parents and their LGBT children increases family conflict. These problems occur with miscommunication and lack of understanding about sexual orientation and gender identity can lead to fighting and family disruption that can result in an LGBT adolescent being removed from or forced out of the home.

- **DISCRIMINATION AT WORKPLACES:**

Discrimination of LGBT persons at workplace is a significant factor in the differences in socio-economic status for LGBT persons. Gay and transgender individuals suffer from socio-economic inequalities in large part due to discrimination in the workplace. Discrimination directly causes on their job stability and it result in unemployment and poverty.

- **VICTIMS OF CRIME:**

These LGBT minority people become victims of violence and crime. However, LGBT individual's experiences of violence and discrimination differ depending on a number of factors including race, gender, income, immigration, status and language barriers. LGBT immigrants are more likely to face violence based on race and ethnicity and/or sexual identity and/or gender identity. In Muslim Countries, homosexuality is a heinous crime and therefore fine, imprisonment and capital punishment has been imposed on LGBT minority people.

## **Following are Recommendations:**

- Protection of the fundamental rights without any discrimination.
- Special law should be enacted.
- Providing opportunities in social and economic activities.
- Need to protect human rights.
- Need to take preventive measures in family, public and domestic violence.
- Government should take initiatives to support employers in making workplace and workplace culture more supportive and inclusive of LGBT people.
- Change social attitude toward LGBT Minority people.
- Free health facilities should be provided by the states to them, including health.
- To organize workshops and seminars about their rights.

LGBT minority people who basically have different sexual orientation which results in face discrimination in the family and society. But prima facie, they are human beings and therefore they are entitled to all human rights as well as fundamental rights in India. In the present Indian societal matrix and the emerging conflict in the institution of marriage

– the demand for legalizing homosexual marriage is somehow overlooked and ignored. But in near future the stereotype attitude of society for marriage as heterosexual institution associated with procreation and rearing of children may also include homosexual marriages where love between the partners will be given importance rather than the gender. Then the failure to acknowledge the changing nature of society and the family will result in more harm than good. Although it is long to go for this to happen. But in any case, the demand for legalizing homosexual marriages is giving birth to a new conflict in the institution of marriage, family and law which cannot be denied. But at the same time giving social and legal recognition is not that easy in this traditional society as it has been in the western societies but in any case, to ignore this emerging conflict in the institution of family and marriage will be short sighted and can have fatal results if not handled sensitively. So, it is high time for the Legislature, Executive, Judiciary and Society at large that they cannot demean the existence of people with same sex desires. They also need to acknowledge that by legalizing homosexual relations they will not permit a mere sexual activity but will also decriminalize the lives of citizens who are connected to such sexual act. Finally, it can be said that if laws are supposed to represent socially acceptable dos and don'ts, then a new mind set is the need of the hour. Otherwise, normal human beings will continue to suffer inhuman exploitation just because nature has nourished them with the need to be different. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people have long been involved in efforts for racial and economic justice. Today, LGBT organizers and groups are increasingly drawing attentions between the movements for LGBT their rights and the movement for economic, social, political and racial justice. Therefore, today there is needed to protect their rights as a human being in the society.

---

# MERGER OF BANKS: A BOOST?

PROF. DR. KAUSIK LAHIRI, HoD, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS,  
SURENDRANATH COLLEGE



Image- Google

India witnessed bank merger way back in 1921 when Bank of Bengal merged with Bank of Bombay and Bank of Madras to form the Imperial Bank of India, later renamed as State Bank of India (nationalized) in 1955.

For over hundred years, the Indian banking system went through several phases of changes. Broadly speaking, we can classify that into three phases. The early phase till 1969 – the year marked in the Indian banking sector for Nationalization of Banks. The second Phase, from 1969 to 1991 which is characterized by the presence and domination of the nationalized Public Sector Banks (PSBs) under a somewhat socialistic view of operation guided by the Government; and the third phase from 1991 till date with opening up of the economy through the liberalization and globalization programmes.

The focal theme of discussion here is whether merger of banks a boost to the Indian economy, and would be based on those aspects of changes that has driven the merger decision of banks, especially post 1991 regime along with other economic policy changes and thereafter possible the effects of these mergers on the India economy.

Post-independence period (between 1960 – 1969, the pre nationalization period) witnessed 46 mergers which were done to restructure the weak banks and protect customer's interest (most of them between the private banks). In 1960, eight state-associated banks were put under control of SBI. They are called as associate banks of SBI.

In 1969, 14 major private sector banks were nationalized by the government. There were several reasons for bank nationalization during that period. Apart from economic and political background of the country during the period (Two successive wars with China and Pakistan during 1960s, dipping of GDP growth rate, double digit inflation, decline of foreign exchange during 1960-65), the seeds were in the goals of socialistic approach of development



of the Indian government during the post-independence period. The social reasons were clubbed with sectoral lending by the then commercial banks which showed a clear bias towards industrial sector lending. The private banks being controlled by the big industrialist quite well explain the reluctance of lending towards the agricultural sector. During the period of 1951 – 1967 share of agriculture in scheduled commercial bank lending hovered around 2%. Moreover, it should not be forgotten that the policy of Bank nationalization was also targeted towards aiding the 'Green Revolution', spreading banks to the rural areas thus enhancing the savings base. It thus aimed towards priority sector lending ending the dominance of a few big industrialists. During 1969 – 1991, the post nationalization and pre liberalization period, 13 mergers were held. These were all private banks merged in other private banks or private banks to PSBs (26 out of 46). The objective behind these mergers was to prevent concentration of power and wealth into the hands of few big ones. Moreover, the rationale of mobilizing savings from all sections of the society and increasing scope of lending to the agricultural sector was also there along with the lines of bank nationalization. A second round of bank nationalization was done in 1980 with six more banks nationalised. In doing so the main logic put forward was to get more control on credit delivery by the Government. India witnessed a sea change of policy towards the New Economic Policy, 1991. This period began with the Structural Reforms of the economy marked by the era of liberalization and globalization. The Banking and the Financial sector reforms programme included structural, organizational, functional and procedural reforms. Along with others the reforms in the banking sector included deregulation of interest rates, strong regulation and supervisory system with opening for foreign / private competition. Financial sector reforms came as an integral part of the NEP 1991. The Narasimhan Committee recommendations started taking shape and it was understood well that during the open economy regime the country is no longer insulated from global economic fluctuations. The way towards a free-market economy increased financial liberalization and lesser government control was inevitable. It was argued "A weak banking system is viewed with some justification as a fiscal time bomb waiting to go off because banking crises typically force government to recapitalize the banks in order to avoid a larger systemic crisis, involving a fiscal burden which can be quite large as a percentage of GDP." Interest rate liberalization, reduction of directed credit, introduction of Basel norms and alignment with international practices were the highlights of the reforms. The Basel committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) in 1988 set up the Basel Norms 1, triggered by the appalling rate of bank failures in the USA during 1980s. Currently this has to be conformed to Basel III. These are norms to deal with the risk, setting common goals for financial stability and common standards for regulating banks. India is a member since 1974. As the degree of openness increased the norms started accounting more risks than earlier.

The Basel III norms account for more risk in the system than earlier. As a result, it increases banks' minimum capital requirements. Minimum tier 1 capital – the key constituent of the banks' funds a significant part of which should be in the form of shares – should amount to 7% of the lenders' risk weighted assets and the total capital at 9%. In addition, a 2.5% Capital Conservation buffer is to be maintained, taking the requirement to 11.5% of the risk weighted assets. It is argued that India should be Basel compliant to cope with mounting stressed assets, capital requirements of the PSBs, for survival in the race for operational efficiency along with meeting investor and customer expectations.

In addition, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) under the guidance of G20, 'monitors and assesses vulnerabilities affecting the global financial system and proposes actions needed to address them'. It also 'monitors and advises on market and systematic developments, and their implications for regulatory policy'. To address the operational risks such as in competition, interest rates etc. the FSB advises following the Basel norms which includes mergers to optimize banking. Reports of FSB reveal that 'mergers among banks in India have not taken off on a large scale in spite of imperatives of Basel II compliance'. Successive merger waves in Global banking sector are argued to be a threat to PSBs without large scale mergers in face of foreign competition.

Under this backdrop of the New Economic Policy, Basel norms as well as FSB guidelines, we get back to the

merger of banks during the post liberalization period. 1991 – 2015 witnessed total 22 mergers. Only one merger during the period was between two PSBs. 13 private banks were merged into PSBs and 8 private banks to other private banks. During this period though the open economy and structural reforms were there, there was a quite conservative approach towards the Public Sector Banks. Twelve of the mergers were due to financial sickness of the banks. There was no aggressive merger or consolidation of banks observed during the period. Post 2015 period witnessed consolidation of Banks: Merging five associate banks of SBI to SBI (2017), Bharatiya Mahila Bank with SBI (2017), Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank with Bank of Baroda (2018). The Minister of State for Finance Mr. Shiv Pratap Shukla in a written reply in Lok Sabha (December 14, 2018) said that the Government is pursuing comprehensive approach for the PSBs to resolve and recover from stressed accounts and reforming banks through PSB reforms agenda. This period also is witnessing the most aggressive consolidation of PSBs with merger of 10 PSBs into 4: Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank with PNB; Syndicate Bank with Canara Bank; Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank with Union Bank; and Allahabad Bank with Indian Bank. Now apart from SBI there will be four more Big Banks having the capacity to increase credit, bigger risk and global reach. The whole step forward is for projecting a stronger financial market and integrating with global finance under the free market regime. Just to have a note here that the share price of Bank of Baroda was hovering around Rs. 180 before decision of merger, was around Rs. 155 just before the merger and currently hovering around Rs. 90. If share is taken as any indication, definitely the merger has reduced its efficiency. Though more time need to be given to make a fair analysis of this merger.

The basic idea of merger is to promote synergy to create more value than the individual banks independently. Further observations lead to a few other things going around in the same time. Banks being merged and thus number of banks are reduced. It can be well expected that the merged banks will not keep multiple branches in the same locality. This implies that the number of branches reduced. The customers diversifying their deposits in several accounts in several banks/branches are denied greater choice and number. This would lead to reduction in number of deposits held with bank. Moreover, the Government of India having set up Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) under RBI to protect the depositors in the bank fails. In this scheme a depositor is to get a maximum of Rupees One Lakh if the bank fails even if he / she have multiple deposits in several branches of a bank. This is one bank one customer one insurance scheme. Coupled with the fact of falling interest rates, the common man will have no other way but to resort to the capital market, buying and selling stocks / mutual funds. We can note here that the new pension scheme that the government has launched (Atal Pension Yojana or APY) is also linked to the capital market.

We find the departure from the concept of Welfare State based upon principles of equity followed more or less till 1991 towards the market-based economy under the New Economic Policy. The aggressive The aggressive opening up and restructuring of the banking sector, though, is being witnessed from 2015. It is an attempt to create increased practice for market linked assets of savings and increased cash flow through the capital market. The major problem here is that the generation of saving of the PSBs from diversified and extended sources has the potential to shrink or be stagnant because of market signals of possible bank failures. Market fear is very contagious. Once the fear creeps in funds will flow away from bank deposits directly towards the capital market. Those at the margins will never be able to catch the bus and thus inequality will increase. The gain, if there is any, would reach the hands of few.

By viewing merger independently there is scope of missing the real scenario. It should be viewed as a part of the package: merger, low interest, deposit insurance – all as a whole, as a part of the free market policy under global standards, far away from the reach of the deserving, well offered for the affording class.

To conclude this discussion regarding the merger of banks, we cannot ignore the economic events those are going around us: most importantly the economic dimensions of 'jobs, income and deaths'. Those who fail in the competition are left to withdraw from the market or may be taken over by the

winner(s) along with the existence resource and market base. The winner grows develops 'market power'. No one in the system cares for the left-out resources, be it human resource. Development of monopoly leads to higher automation, more optimal use and exploitation.

Basically, in the system of a capitalistic economy, as Prof. Richard Wolf says, we keep on focusing on the demerits of monopoly and try to promote competition in the market against concentration of monopoly power in hands of a single or a few. Monopoly displacing competition worldwide has ignited the discussion that 'competition' over monopoly would better address the problems faced under monopoly. But the fact is that the seeds of monopoly are sown into 'competition' itself. Being competitive, as is conceptualized, is being cost competitive. The very exercise of 'optimization' involves producing at a lower cost and being able to outweigh the competitors in price. The winner either forces the losers out of the market or merges those into themselves to grow more. Any ways the creation of monopoly power is the outcome. This has been observed through history. Firms move out (domestically or internationally) in search of competitive markets, they can offshore business or outsource business – for being more competitive, trying to be a low cost one. The opening up of the global economy has found capital various new destinations to achieve competitive markets. In light of globalization and open economy models the view of competitive environment definitely leads to the development of monopoly capital worldwide and ultimately smoothening the way for crony capitalism which is known to reduce risk on return by development of better nexus between capital and political class. The mergers, signals, the directives – all point out to the development of such a system. The way towards development, even if all other things go right, definitely leading to more unequal growth which would result in increasing inequality, loss of jobs and impoverishment of the poor.

---



Drawing- Tanusree Mondal  
(Ex Student)

# *CORPORATES CARE*

PROF. DEBJANI BANERJEE, SACT, SURENDRANATH COLLEGE, KOLKATA



Image- Canva

While we hoped to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of cases started growing significantly and abruptly across India. More than ever, we need to stay alert, continue to take precautions and follow safety measures to stop the spread. As the deadly second wave of the pandemic grips India, the health, safety and well-being of our fellow citizens continued to be the absolute top priority. Every sensitive Government and Private Organizations tried to stay committed in helping the country and its people to overcome this humanitarian crisis.

It's amazing to realize the overwhelming measures that big Multinational Corporates, having operational base in India, have pulled together with their available resources to support their employees in India, their dependents and their communities. The health and well-being of their employees and their families continue to be their top priority and they remained committed to deploying all available resources to help everyone in their control, to get the care and support they needed during this severe crisis. These efforts were focused on three primary areas: supporting COVID care facilities, supplementing oxygen supplies to address the acute shortage and providing access to vaccinations.

As time became critical, such Global Organizations pledged 100s of crores of rupees to support on the ground COVID relief efforts for their staff welfare in India like:

- 1/ Operationalize response efforts with their partners across India in establishing multiple Isolation and COVID Care Facilities which included oxygen support under medical supervision.
- 2/ Offered their own facilities to be operated as care facilities.
- 3/ Expanded access to emergency and medical care, including dedicated oxygenated beds, through their hospital partners like Apollo.
- 4/ Medical support for COVID-19 positive employees and their immediate family members.



5/ Purchased Dual Flow Medical Grade Oxygen Concentrators and coordinated with a private provider to make home oxygen support and other home care facilities available to employees and their families under home quarantine in numerous cities.

6/ Opened several vaccination centres at several locations for all of their employees, dependents and extended members in relation.

7/ Provided 14-day paid COVID leave (Involuntary Absence Leave) for personal recovery or care of a family member.

8/ Advancing sick leave benefits to help employees, who have exhausted their vested leave balances, to take time off for recovery.

9/ Launched 'Leave Donation Program' which gave an opportunity for any employee to make a meaningful contribution by donating their unused leave days to colleagues in need of additional leaves.

10/ Emergency financial support for junior colleagues in dire cases to help cover medical expenses.

11/ Extend financial support through discretionary salary advances on a case-to-case basis.

12/ A dedicated 24x7 helpline provides access to online and telephone support and resources, including virtual doctor consultations and information on available beds.

Further, these Big Corporates provided additional funds running into 100s of crores of rupees in emergency funding to UNICEF towards pandemic relief efforts in India through their CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) initiatives, which includes:

1/ Addressing acute shortages in life-saving oxygen and deploy medical and testing supplies like oxygen-delivering nasal cannulas and COVID testing machines.

2/ Supporting thousands of COVID beds, including ICUs with critical lifesaving supplies, in several cities for free community use.

3/ Supporting Paediatric ICU Beds for COVID-infected children.

4/ Ensuring supply of large consignment of oxygen concentrators, diagnostic tests, medical kits, and other equipment.

5/ Setting up of oxygen generation plants in many hospitals to help them overcome oxygen shortages

6/ Distributing huge number of grocery kits and medical support to several Vendor Support Staff across India, towards helping them survive the current lockdowns. An amount of few crores of rupees were earmarked to support critical healthcare needs of different Vendor Support Staff during this unprecedented crisis.

It's so very pleasing to realize such Big Corporates continued to put the health and safety of their employees above everything else and were absolutely focused on enabling the help their employees needed to take care of themselves and their families. These Organizations worked tirelessly towards expanding employees' access to emergency and medical care. Defeating COVID took all of them working together while remaining confident that they would persevere together. They organized several Live Well sessions facilitated by industry experts with the objective of guiding their employees in areas of

physical, emotional, financial and social wellness based on the central theme of "Wellness begins with you, and staying active – physically and mentally will significantly reduce risk of illnesses".

Difficult times often bring out our true character – as individuals and as a Company. I am quite touched by the strength and resilience of these Big Corporates, which are fundamentally based on the underlying principle of keeping their colleagues, vendor support staff and community at the highest in your thoughts during the moment of deep crisis and challenging situations. The message was loud and clear, which is strongly reverberated through the spirited words, "We are all in this together and each of us can make a difference by doing our part".



Image- Google

# SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 in INDIA

**BHASKAR DAS  
AND  
SAUMYADEB CHAKRABORTY  
(SEMESTER IV)**

Covid-19 also known as coronavirus is a pandemic that blew the world into an utter disaster from the end of 2019 and has taken a massive shape from the beginning of 2020 when the first wave of the virus went on to spread throughout the world. Although scientists developed vaccines but people weren't vaccinated. Tests of the vaccines began from September 2020, while the frontline workers for Covid received vaccines from January 2021 vaccination for the rest of the citizens started from April 1st. While this procedure of vaccination was still going on, the second wave of Covid attacked the whole country. There was a rise in daily records of infected and deaths. It is being assumed that the third wave might attack people which will be more deadly if precautionary measures aren't taken properly.

**Now a question arises how did this Covid-19 affect India socially and economically?**

**Reverse Migration of Labourers:** The migrant labourers were severely affected when initial lockdown was imposed all of a sudden without any prior information. Their workplaces were closed and no proper measures were taken to make those people return home. People were seen walking along roads and highways to reach home. They lacked food, money and proper shelter to rest during the nights on their way back home. People seemed to be in horror as they had no idea regarding Covid. Delhi and Maharashtra had the most extreme numbers of flow of migrants from most parts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Odisha, Assam, Punjab, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh. Maharashtra and Delhi topped the list of the greatest number of Covid cases in 2020 and 2021. Now, due to COVID-19 there is mass reverse

## FACTS

- The rupee is the currency of India and it has its amount written in 17 of the Indian languages. It is also the currency of the Maldives (rufiyaa), Mauritius, Nepal, Pakistan, Seychelles, and Sri Lanka.
- For the fourth year in a row, Finland is number one when it comes to happiness.
- Out of 100 voters, only 7 people pay their taxes.
- Inflation in India is measured using the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which measures the changes in the prices of 260 commodities and services at the retail level. The country shifted from Wholesale Price Index (WPI) to CPI in 2014, as the former does not account for the price of services as well as the bottlenecks between a wholesaler and a retailer.
- Transaction volumes over the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in India have risen more than double over a year, touching 2.73 billion in March 2021 compared to 1.25 billion a year ago.

migration as there are limited employment opportunities, fear of more destruction due to the uncertainty of future crisis, financial crisis, health crisis, and so forth. The extent of this reverse migration was such that the efforts of government through policies could not match this crisis. COVID-19 affected the rural economy in both the short run and long run with reverse migration exerting excess pressure on the agriculture and rural economy which significantly affected the poverty and put a greater number of people into abject poverty. Although the government announced schemes and helped in many ways but mass corruption in the system is the biggest challenge in the effective implementation of plans.

**Impact on Multinational Sectors:** Work from Home became a new trend during this lockdown in the multinational sectors. 9 to 5 or 10 to 6 jobs aren't there now instead the employees can work whenever they want to sitting back at home. For client meeting the employees had to travel to different places which is now replaced by meetings in Online Meeting Rooms. The offices have to pay less for electricity and internet services as the employees are working sitting back at home and are giving more output than that of the office, which is increasing the company's net profits.

**Poverty and Job Loss:** Due to this Covid and lockdown, several small and medium scale industries permanently stopped running causing a job loss for the people working in those industries. People coming from below the poverty line faced problems in running their families so they have started small businesses to run their family. People working in informal sectors do not have social security benefits in their jobs and there is a lot of uncertainty in their work. The informal sector workers were already facing issues like low wages and income and in this pandemic, they were among the most affected people. Around 40 to 50 million workers are seasonal migrants which were directly and harshly affected and moved back to their native places (reverse migration) due to lack of employment, income, shelter, and so forth.

**Urban and Rural Health Crisis:** Due to the paucity of testing services, shortage of doctors, health equipment, beds even in the developed areas of India, COVID-19 is a major threat to India. With a subsequent rise in the number of confirmed cases, India's capacity to contain the further spread and to handle the current cases is questioned by many experts. Coronavirus Pandemic has disproportionately affected the rural and urban areas. Presently, the brunt is faced more in urban areas because of the high density of population. But the risk is much more to the rural areas where around 70% of India's population resides. India's healthcare sector is still developing and there are large differences in the healthcare systems of rural and urban areas. Because of shortage of doctors', healthcare facilities number of beds per thousand people, equipment, etc.

The healthcare system in the rural areas is not adequate to handle this transmission of the pandemic, especially in the northern states where population density is high.

**Black-marketing:** As per the safety guidelines provided by World Health Organization (WHO), it was compulsory for people to wear masks while going out and to use sanitizers and washing hands frequently when they are at home to prevent the spread of virus. Black-marketers used this chance to store masks, sanitizers and other medical equipment causing a decrease of supply in the market and sold them at higher prices than the marked price when there was an increase in demand. When 2nd wave of Covid-19 started spreading, there was a spike in demand of oxygen cylinders. Black marketers used this chance again to store up oxygen cylinders and sold them 10 to 15 percent more than the original price. People who could afford to buy with the increased price could use them while others who couldn't afford to buy them saw their dear ones die. Even some complaints were also heard that black-marketers took money of cylinders in advance and didn't provide the buyers with the cylinders. The government took action against these black-marketers when the news came up and things were brought under control.

**Positive impact on environment:** With serious negative implications and destruction to the economy and people, COVID-19 has got some positive implications too. One such is a gift to the river Ganga. In just 34–35 days of lockdown due to COVID-19 in India, the pollution in the river has decreased significantly which the two major plans, Ganga Action Plan, 1986, and Namami Gange, 2014, with hundreds of crores investment failed to do. The aerosol layer in the air also decreased due to less amount of air pollution caused by the burning of fuels. Also, emission of greenhouse gases decreased.

**Negative impact on Environment:** In addition to the positive impacts on environment, negative impacts of Covid-19 were also there. There was an increase of medical wastes, haphazard use and disposal of disinfectants, masks and medical gloves. PPE kits which were used by doctors to treat Covid patients and by ambulance drivers who used to bring Covid patients to the hospitals were found lying here and there near the hospitals. These wastes were untreated and were a continuous threat to the environment.

**Positive impact on People:** During this lockdown, people mainly spent time with their family without going out from their houses which they couldn't do during the normal period due to their busy and hectic schedules in office and school or other workplaces. People also found their areas of interest sitting back at their houses and then went on to excel on those due to this lockdown.

**Negative impact on People:** Due to this lockdown, people are confined to their houses since March 2020. Schools and colleges remained closed from March 2020 and is still going on. This is affecting the mental health of the students as they are missing the environment they used to get there. Due to this lockdown, people lost their jobs which increased hunger and poverty leading to a rise in crime rates and domestic violence.

This Covid-19 had a large impact on the India economically and socially. There were lot of negative impact and some positive impacts too. As a whole there was a dip in the economy while some sectors saw a possible growth. While we saw thousands of people's death on a daily basis, the recovery rate showed us some positive hopes. We saw our State and Central Governments taking necessary actions to stop the spread of Covid-19. They also took the chance of this lockdown to vaccinate the citizens of our country. Quoting a famous quote 'There is light at the end of the tunnel.', we can hope to come out of this pandemic situation soon and our economy will also revive.

---

## অর্থ-SCOPE QUIZ

You must answer in the link given.

Link to answer: <https://forms.gle/fFsUifn7hnFwWNkPA>

Participants will be provided with e-certificates.

Special certificates will be given to top 3 rank-holders.

You need to complete answering the Quiz by 11:59 pm of 10th July 2021.

**Note:** Students from Department of Economics, Surendranath College are not allowed to participate.



---

# LIFE IN QUARANTINE

ABHIJIT ADHIKARI (SEMESTER IV)

---

From the year 2020, the entire situation has become pathetic. Due to the arrival of this pandemic, all activities were partially and totally laid off. The laying off such activities had a great impact in the entire economy. In private sector companies, employees are working from home. Even in educational institutions, teachers are teaching through online mode from their residences.

Implementation of working from home policy has become successful and profitable motive among private sector enterprises. Under these circumstances, there has been a lot of pros and cons which have affected the individuals. This policy has achieved profitable by entrepreneurs but it has a limitation for the employees.

When the employees have started working from home, the input costs of organizations have reduced. For instance, an employee needs a room, computer, air conditioner for a comfortable working environment and a servant for cleaning, sweeping and mopping the entire office organization. As there has been an entire shut down of offline, it has become an incentive for entrepreneurs to reduce their input costs. Here, the employees are insisted to work from home but not all employees are asked to work from home as we know that private organizations aim at profit maximization and proper efficiency. Therefore, many of the inefficient, unskilled followed by aged employees and maids, servants are left out from the job. Only the highly experienced employees having posts of accountants, managers and administrators are ones who are advised to work from home. Thus, there is inequality among employees in the organizations which is reflected in a huge group.

Henceforth there is a situation of loss corresponding the situation of profit. Under these circumstances, the maids, servants, bearer's securities are prohibited to come in the working sector but not in the case of industries and other production houses.



**Drawing- Sayan Patra  
(Semester II)**

## FACTS

- Ivory Coast produces 35% of the world's cocoa. It also has 1.2 million child laborers in its workforce, almost all of them working in cocoa production.
- Global unemployment today stands at 5.8%, or 200 million people worldwide
- Women still earn 25 percent less than men on average for comparable work. At current rates, it will take 70 years to close the gender pay gap.
- The internet was invented by the US Government, not Silicon Valley.
- Agriculture accounts for 50% of jobs in India

# POETRIES

## INCOMPATIBLE

You're unique and so am I,  
You're brother too and that weird guy.  
Everyone sings their own song  
So never feel being different is wrong.

When in life you feel strange  
And start thinking you should change,  
Realize that would be a shame  
We're not here to be the same.

The world would be a boring place  
If we all shared the same mind and face.  
Be yourself I think you should  
It's our differences that makes life good.

**Taaseen Belal**  
**(Semester II)**

## PERFECTION

Maybe I like boys!  
Maybe I like girls!  
Maybe I like both!

So, love yourself,  
The way you are.  
Nobody is perfect.

For me,  
Perfection is a vague aura.  
So be your own version of perfection.

Nothing is important,  
Than being you!

At the end, that's what matters!

**Anushka Modak**  
**(Semester II)**

## একলা ক্লাসরুম

ক্লাসরুম আজ একলা ভীষণ  
আলোর অভাব উপচে পড়ে;  
চক - ডাস্টার স্পর্শ আশায়,  
বেঞ্চগুলোরও মন কেমন করে।

হঠাৎ করে দিনগুলো ঘরবন্দী  
আড্ডাগুলো হাতের মুঠোয় মেশে;  
সকাল বেলা নিস্তরুর করিডোর,  
ছুটির বিকেল হটাৎ ছুটির দেশে।

অবাধ্য আজ নিয়মনিষ্ঠ সময়  
দিন রাত্রির হিসেব কেবল মাপে;  
টেবিল জুড়ে অনলাইন ক্লাস বসে  
আলতো চুমুক একলা কফির কাপে।

মাইক্রো, ম্যাক্রো, চলছে অঙ্ক কষা  
প্রশ্নগুলো থমকে ঘরের কোণে;  
ভার্চুয়ালি সমাধানের ফাঁকে,  
ক্লাসরুমটা উঁকি দিচ্ছে মনে।

শেষ হবে এই বিরুদ্ধতার সময়  
ক্লাসরুমেতে আসবে প্রাণ ফিরে;  
টিচারেরা চক - ডাস্টার হাতে  
আমরা সবাই বসবো তাদের ঘিরে।

সৌম্যদেব চক্রবর্তী  
(চতুর্থ সেমিস্টার)

## বিভেদ

মনে রেখো মনে রেখো  
মাসটা হচ্ছে জুন,  
সবাই ওদের পাশে থেকো  
তাদেরও রয়েছে অনেক গুণ।  
ওরাও তো যে মানুষ  
তবে কেনো এ অনাচার?  
তোমাদের নেই যে কোনো হুস  
কেনো করো লিঙ্গ দিয়ে বিচার?  
রাস্তায় দাড়িয়ে তালি মারলেই  
হয়না তারা ছোটো,  
নিরুপায় হয়ে তারা টাকা চাইলেই  
গর্জে তোমরা ওঠো।  
কেনো তাদের এই জীবন  
ভেবে দেখেছো কখনো?  
দায়ী থাকবে মানুষ আজীবন  
তাদের যাবেনা কিছুতেই শেখানো।  
ভালোবাসার অধিকার  
তাদেরও যে রয়েছে,  
এ সমাজে লেগে গেছে ধিক্কার  
ওদের বরাবর ছোটো করা হয়েছে...  
গে হোক বা লেসবিয়ান  
তারা পায়নি সোনার কাঠি,  
তাদের ভালোবাসার ধরনটা  
সোনার থেকেও খাঁটি।

সোহন চৌধুরী  
(চতুর্থ সেমিস্টার)

# POETRIES

## GRAVE

A thousand words unsaid  
Lay buried with the dead  
An apology that ego withheld,  
Differences left unaddressed,  
Love that wasn't confessed,  
Gratitude that went unexpressed

Thousands of words unheard  
that could have eased  
many a sleepless night,

Soothed an aching heart,  
Solved many a needle fight,  
Trapped six feet under,  
Buried in regret,  
Lie feelings unvoiced,  
Words unsaid.

**Taaseen Belal**  
(Semester II)

## স্বপ্ন

আমি তো গোলাপচারা, একফোঁটা বৃষ্টির জল;  
কুয়াশা মাখে রোদ, ঘাস গুলো সবুজের দ্বীপে।  
মেঘেরা লালচে সাদা, বাড়ি ফেরে কোকিলের দল,  
জেলেটা স্বপ্ন বোনে, জলে ডোবা আধমরা ছিপে।

শব্দ বলতে চায়, না হওয়া অতীত পিছু ডাকে,  
চোখটা নতুন দেখে, বালিকার চশমার ধারে।  
ইচ্ছে হারাতে শেখে, ধসে যাওয়া রাস্তার বাঁকে;  
সুরেরা স্বপ্ন বাঁধে ছিঁড়ে যাওয়া গিটারের তারে।

জানলা বিষণ্ণ আজ, গ্রীলগুলো ধূলো মেখে সাজে  
নেহাত একলা বলে, গিলতে আসে কোচিন ক্লাস।  
স্বপ্নপুরণের আশা, রোগটা বোধহয় খুবই ছোঁয়াচে  
ইচ্ছে ফুল ফুটে আছে, তবু বাধ্যতা নুয়ে পড়া  
পলাশ।

সেখানে জমানো খুশি। জমে যাওয়া ইচ্ছে। হারানো  
সুর।

স্বপ্ন তো সত্যি। ইচ্ছেরা পালায় বহুদূর।

**সৌম্যদেব চক্রবর্তী**  
(চতুর্থ সেমিস্টার)



# PHOTO GALLERY



Photo- Prof. Ishani Waiba



Photo- Sayan Patra  
(Semester II)



Photo- Bhaskar Das  
(Semester IV)



Photo- Soumya Debnath  
(Ex Student)

# PHOTO GALLERY



Photo- Sohon Chowdhury  
(Semester IV)



Photo- Abhijit Adhikari  
(Semester IV)



Photo- Monojit Samajder  
(Semester VI)



# ART GALLERY



Drawing- Priyanshu Bose  
(Semester II)



Drawing- Sayan Patra  
(Semester II)



Drawing- Abhijit Adhikari  
(Semester IV)



Drawing- Bidisha Paul  
(Semester IV)

# ART GALLERY



Drawing- Tanusree Mondal  
(Ex Student)



Drawing- Sreya Bose  
(Semester II)

## C A L L I G R A P H Y



Calligrapher-  
Mantasha Ansari  
(Semester IV)



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WE, THE STUDENTS OF DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, SURENDRANATH COLLEGE WANT TO THANK OUR PRINCIPAL SIR DR. INDRANIL KAR, IQAC COORDINATOR MA'AM DR. SUCHANDRA CHATTERJEE, OUR HOD SIR DR. KAUSIK LAHIRI, OUR PROFESSORS PROF. ABANTI GOSWAMI, PROF. ISHANI WAIBA, PROF. DEBJANI BANERJEE, PROF. ANURADHA SEN AND OUR ESTEEMED ALUMNI TANUSREE MONDAL AND SOUMYA DEBNATH FOR THEIR WHOLE-HEARTED SUPPORT IN OUR MAGAZINE.

অর্থ-SCOPE





## OUR TEAM

### PRIDE MOVEMENT

Mahiruho Chakraborty

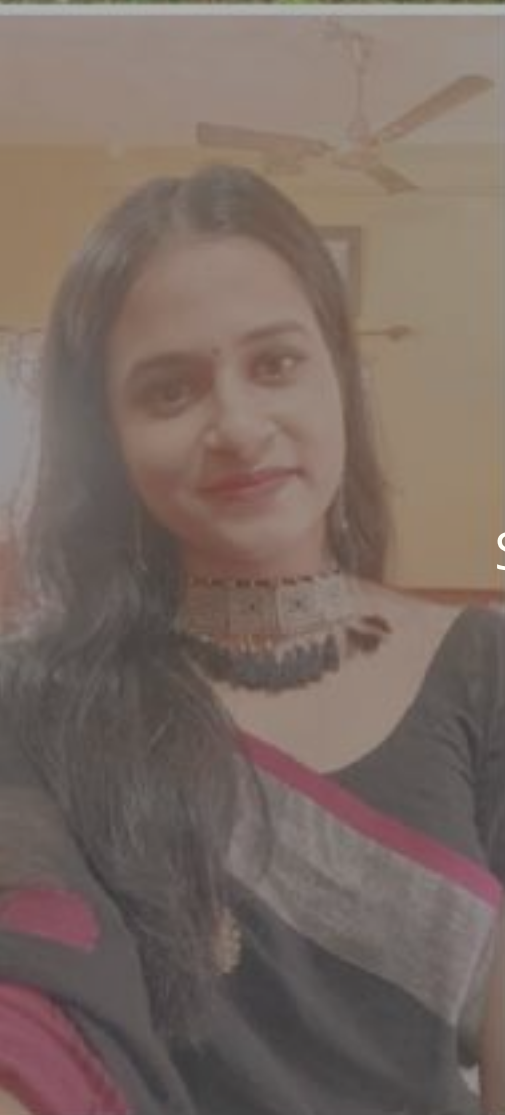
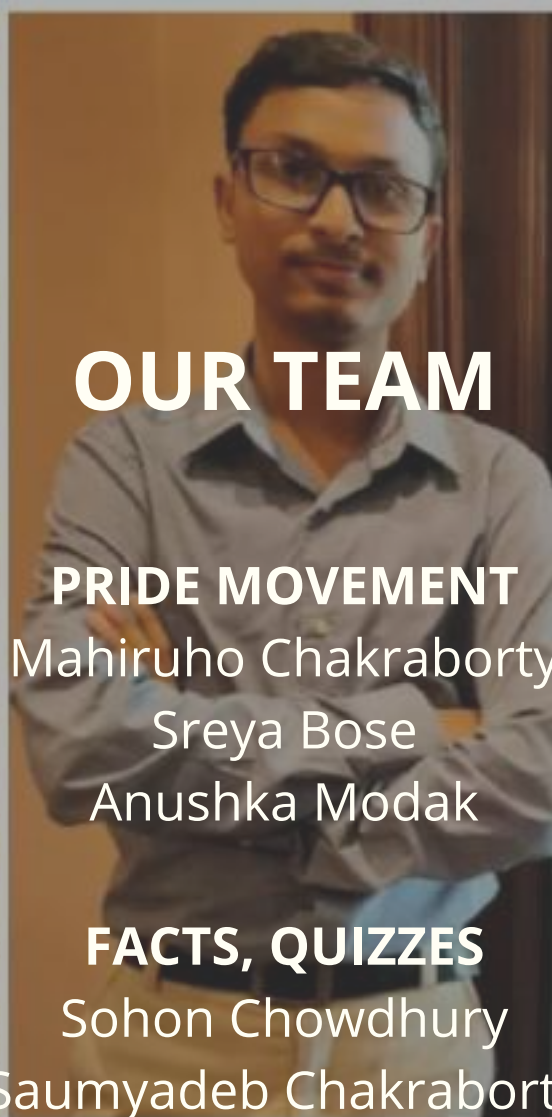
Sreya Bose

Anushka Modak

### FACTS, QUIZZES

Sohon Chowdhury

Saumyadeb Chakraborty



Bhaskar Das

Taseen Belal

### DESIGNING

Bhaskar Das

### EDITORIAL BOARD

Saumyadeb Chakraborty

Sreya Bose

Bhaskar Das

