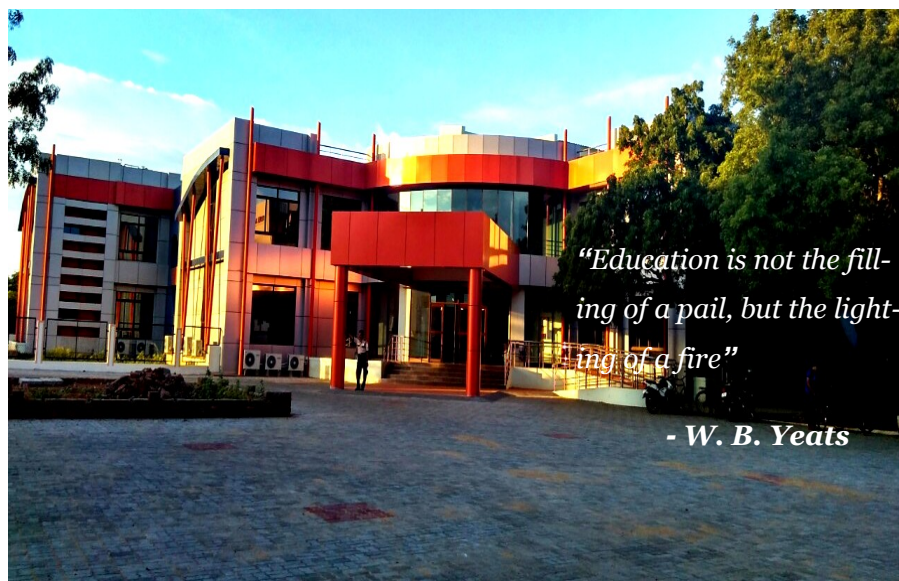


XTRAVAGATE

- THE BUSINESS PROBE

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"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire"

- W. B. Yeats

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***“When the search for
truth is confused with
political advocacy, the
pursuit of knowledge
is reduced to the quest
for power.***

- Alston Chase

Rajnikanth's Entry into Politics

One of the hottest and the most debatable topics for the past two decades in the state of Tamil Nadu is whether the reigning superstar of the Tamil film industry, Mr. Rajnikanth, would make a foray into the political arena. Tamil Nadu has already had enough experiences of watching a film actor being an active politician, with some even rising to become the Chief Minister of the state. Two of the most popular Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu, Mr. MGR and Ms. Jayalalithaa were film actors. With the same expectations, Mr. Rajnikanth is touted to be the next big thing in Tamil Nadu politics.

Born as Shivaji Rao Gaikwad in Karnataka, the actor has humble origins. He had his share of struggles before becoming an antagonist initially, then as a protagonist and ultimately, succeeding as the Superstar. His roles on-screen were mostly that of a do-gooder who was a savior for the downtrodden. His songs were inspired by Mr. MGR's introduction songs and took on a philosophical intonation. During the later years, his introduction song became an extension of his personality.

It was during 1996 that Mr. Rajnikanth directly took on against the then Chief Minister Ms. Jayalalithaa, which led to popular rumors that he would indeed join politics. His film songs seemed to have a clue regarding the same, with him professing that he's a Tamilian who has survived due to the Tamil people. But suddenly, he backed out from this ambition. What made him do so remains unknown.

When he gathered his fans this year to announce his political goals, most of the people found it to be yet another move that he would back out from, save his die-hard fans. No matter how much of a Su-

perstar he seemed to be on-screen, he is still an amateur in the political arena. While Mr. MGR and Ms. Jayalalithaa toiled hard for their party, Mr. Rajnikanth has just the will to do so but not the way. Owing to his calm persona and large fan base, he would stand a chance to win the first time he contests, but the question remains whether he would be an efficient administrator for the state. Also, making such an announcement when a political vacuum occurs in the state seems to be more of an opportunistic move rather than a philanthropic one.

Thus Mr. Rajnikanth contesting in politics is not an ideal move at the current situation as it is debatable whether he might be a good administrator like his predecessors.



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“A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people”

. -Mahatma Gandhi

Outdated Indian Culture vs. Modern Indian Traditions

S*a prathma sanskrathi vishvara* – is how Indian culture has been described across the world; it is roughly translated as, ‘The first and the supreme culture in the world.’ India is an amalgamation of several cultures. Across the country, we can experience variations in language, clothing, lifestyle, etc. But the inevitable question arises – the culture that is being talked about, is it still something that exists in the present situation in our country? It is a topic to be debated.

One cannot argue as to which is right and which is wrong. The world cannot be viewed in black or white. To understand others' perspectives, it is recommended to look through the gray tinted glasses. However, it is gratifying to note that we have come a long way from the submissive practices of sati, dowry system, female oppression, caste system, etc. But India cannot uproot itself completely from the age-old practices that it has been accustomed to for centuries. There are certain principles that influence our behavior and we subconsciously abide by them.

In order to achieve modernity, there is no need for a complete breakage from the current practices. There are instances when one wonders if we are giving in to the influences of foreign culture. Modernization as a term in itself has been widely misunderstood. It has been used interchangeably with westernization. By simply following the lifestyle of the west one cannot become modern - it is the thought process that counts. Having an open-minded approach to every situation that we face in life defines how modern we are.

The choices that are offered to the Indian youth of this generation are much higher

than what it was a hundred years ago. The simplistic way of living has vanished right before our eyes. There exists a need for social validation within everyone. In order to become modernized, we don't have to uproot ourselves from the existing culture.

India's past has been exceptional with great advancements in the fields of art, philosophy, architecture, etc. If it was possible for that kind of development in a comparatively closed off economy centuries ago, it is more than plausible in the current scenario. There is no necessity to rely on a culture that is not a part of our own tradition; having said that, there exists a need to have a healthy mix of tradition and modernity. It does not do one good to isolate oneself from the rest of the world and be conservative with their culture; at the same time, it is ill to scorn upon the values that they have been brought up with once they find a shinier replacement. Embrace the modern ideas and thoughts that are developing as the world advances, but do not fail to take pride in our roots that have shaped us into the person we are today.



MACHINE LEARNING

In the happening world of AI, Machine learning picks up a fast pace. Though machine learning is a colossal amount of computer systems, I shall try to portray it in a nutshell and the nub of this technology.

A pleasant morning, amidst the serenity of the campus full of nature, I went to a store. I had to buy my daily needs and soaps. I observed a few choices I had at the store in purchasing a soap.

Option A : A particular soap brand was available in a pack size of 125 grams at ₹45 each.

Option B: The same soap brand was available in a pack size of 42 grams at 10₹ each.

If I choose Option A to buy the soap

Investment = ₹45

Total Quantity =125 grams

If I choose option B to buy 5 soaps

Investment= ₹50

Total Quantity is $5 \times 42 \text{ grams} = 210 \text{ grams}$.

Relatively Option B gives more Quantity with less cost than that of option A.

i.e.,

By choosing Option B

Total cost = 11.11% more than option A

Total Quantity =59.52% more than option A

This application is Economic Order Quantity (EOQ) model.

Usually, soaps slip and get damaged while usage.

OPTION A 125 grams wasted

OPTION B 42 grams wasted

As a human, one can analyze all these with his/her cognitive thinking and chooses option B or the desired, if any.

Now suppose there are thousands of students in a campus hostel, and each has to buy the same kind of product through a small online portal or a computer supported tool. The computer is conditioned and directed such that it does



all the thinking, analyses like a human through all angles by itself so that it can choose the best price of soaps for thousands of students in a campus hostel. This phenomenon is termed as machine learning.

Simply put: Machine learning is conditioning the computer such that it not only does its pre-programmed computations but also tells the science of adapting computers to function without being explicitly programmed as in the conventional manner.

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“Signature-based malware detection is dead.

Machine learning based Artificial Intelligence is the most potent defense the next gen adversary and the mutating hash.”

- James Scott

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“In the face of impossible odds, people who love this country can change it.”

- Barack Obama

Trump Vs Obama Governance

Sorry losers and haters, but my IQ is one of the highest –and you all know it! Please don't feel so stupid or insecure; it's not your fault.

-@realDonaldTrump 8 May 2013

Despite the constant negative press covfefe

-@realDonaldTrump 30 May 2017

Let's leave out all of these to discuss this man's current job, governing the United States of America, or as they like to call it - the leader of the free world.

Taking the office from his predecessor Obama, Trump has been the president of US for the past 6 months. Also, Obama had two entire terms of presidency to prove his ability. Let's take the usual, yet, unofficial measuring scale for all the heads of state around the world- their first 100 days in office.

Laws are one of the basic pillars of governance. Trump signed nearly 15 laws more than Obama did during his first 100 days. But the difference arises when you dig a little deeper. Even though he has more number of laws signed, the pages that were in these bindings were much lesser compared to those signed by Obama. To put in numbers, Obama signed 14 laws with 1602 pages, whereas Trump signed 29 of them with 133 pages totally. Judging a law by its page count can seem like a stretch, but, according to Josh Tauberer, the founder of the legislative database GovTrack, bills with more words generally create government programs, and those with fewer are often rolling back regulations or programs. The most important bill that Trump has set his sight on is to repeal and replace those which failed recently in the house, in spite of the fact that the party which Trump

hails from controls all three houses. Another success of his can be the Travel ban that was imposed on the Muslim majority countries. That was the legislation that he was able to pass in line with his campaign promise, which although made US conservatives happy, generated a lot of confusion and chaos with a muddled execution.

Unemployment is another tool to measure the efficiency of the President. Obama, from his predecessor, got a country in a bad state due to the recession the year earlier. He was able to bring down those numbers significantly in his two-term office for which currently Trump is reaping the benefits. His numbers are comparatively better than Obama. Obama clocked at 8.7 and Trump at 4.5.

Everyone needs some time off until you are the president of the country whose defence spending is more than the GDP of several countries combined. That being said, both, Obama and Trump took time off from their daily work to play golf. Trump leading with 19 and Obama clocking in just once to freshen up.

Apart from these, my personal opinion is that a man who was not stable should not be trusted with a red button that can start a war and potentially end the world.



TEENAGE MILLIONAIRES, HOW GOOD TO BE TRUE?

In today's digital age, watching teenagers become millionaires is not a big deal anymore. Yes, it sounds too good to be true where there are people who are trying hard to make both ends meet while some of the lucky few achieve great fortune and fame at such a tender age. When you think of all the young people in the entertainment industry, a kid who has the undeniable "x factor" can easily be making millions even before becoming a teen. Same goes with young bright minds who are thinking of starting up a business or a company. We all know that some entrepreneurs get rich quick, but, others do it while they are young. Quite a few of them are making their first million even before their legal drinking age.

Many teens spend most of their energy and time mastering their skills to secure a good paying 9 to 5 job, while there are others who aim for the stars. There is no specific mantra on how to succeed at any age, for that matter and there is no minimum age to become a millionaire. There is abundant useful advice available to help even the aspiring young ones to make strong business decisions.

All great things start small and this new league of young and dynamic talents stands as testimonies of the modern age fairytale. Nick D'Aloisio, the 17-year-old millionaire (yes, a millionaire at 17!), who sold his smartphone app called Summly to Yahoo for a cool \$30 million, started coding at the age of 12, which led to the development of a news app. He credits an eye for spotting market disparities as his catalyst. The internet can either be a curse or a boon, but there is no doubt that it can definitely provide a platform for young people to showcase their talent. One of the many people to break the internet platform is the pop sensation

"Justin Beiber". Love him or hate him, his success is worth noting because of his humble YouTube beginnings. Although media coverage suggests otherwise, he's actually proved himself to be a pretty savvy entrepreneur, branching out into apparel, fragrance, and the like to capitalize on his A-list status before reaching 20. Another YouTube's success is Captain Sparklez, a 'pro gamer' who began his career by posting how-to do videos on YouTube and then expanded into a channel offering detailed gaming instructions. One of the highest earning You Tubers today, he's worth more than \$8 million.

While there many extraordinary stories of how these teens beat all odds in their favor to be where they are now, not all teenage millionaire stories have happy endings. Andrew Fashion designed mini rocket launchers and was worth more than \$2 million by the time he was 20. He then blew it all on women and gambling by the time he turned 22.



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"The biggest risk is not taking any risk ... In a world that's changing really quickly, the only strategy that is guaranteed to fail is not taking risks."

- Mark

Zuckerberg

Xtravagate - The Business Probe

Another such example is Sean Parker who cofounded Napster with Shawn Fanning. By his senior year of high school, Parker was earning more than \$80,000 a year through various projects, which was enough to convince his parents to allow him to skip college and pursue a career as an entrepreneur. A little more than a decade ago, sharing mp3 music files was an extraordinary technological and cultural phenomenon. The debate that Napster sparked over music ownership, fan distribution, and artist royalties is still affecting the music industry today. With all the buzz around Spotify and the absolute dominance of iTunes since 2003, it's easy to forget that Napster was the first big name in digital music, which introduced computer users to the idea that they could listen to any song in the universe, any time, on demand.

An increasingly familiar and seductive story has been circulating among young people, who are drawing inspiration from billionaire entrepreneurs and computer giants, to consider dropping out of colleges to fast track to business success. Like any myth, this story has a kernel of truth: There are exceptional individuals whose hard work, determination, and intelligence make up for the lack of a college degree. If they could do it, one might think, why can't everybody? It does beg

the question that can a company will be fruitful in the long run even it starts out great? No matter what the answer is, there is no denying the truth that there is no dream too big or no age too young and if one has an idea or innovation that can revolutionize the game why not give it a shot?



“ People can be really smart or have skills that are directly applicable, but if they don’t really believe in it, then they are not going to really work hard.”

- Timothy Sykes

“To any entrepreneur: if you want to do it, do it now. If you don’t, you’re going to regret it”

- Catherine Cook

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***“Unemployment is like
a headache or a high
temperature --
unpleasant and ex-
hausting but not carry-
ing in itself any expla-
nation of its cause.”***

***- William Henry
Beveridge***

Unemployment of 230 Aussie cricketers

The deadline for a new pay deal between Cricket Australia (CA) and its players has lapsed and 230 Australian cricketers are literally unemployed. The pay war has shown its ugly face taking the game to years of pain. Cricket, the so-called gentlemen's game, is going through its roughest patch ever. And more ironic is the Australian team, which is the most decorated in the history of the game, paved the way for it.

The conflicts arose from the cricketers' demand to stick with the profit sharing model that uses the profit to dictate their payments. The problem came in to picture when Cricket Australia wanted to scrap the existing system and offer top players a fixed salary in order to spend more on the grass root level. Neither of the parties managed to come up with a good long-term solution. The situation will worsen if it continues this way.

Cricket Australia's point of view of breaking the revenue sharing model is justifiable since the governing body is not getting adequate opportunity to develop the game further. They are in need of more money to root to the bottom-end of the pyramid.

Even though the new model is good for the game of Cricket in Australia, a drastic change from the 20-year model will have its repercussions. Old model will benefit



the players only if the game- Cricket- makes a profit and the players get used to it. A gradual change over time, with the consent of the players taking the right steps to design the model, would have eliminated this mess. Only time will tell what is in-store for the cricketers as well as the image of the game. Let us hope that cricket doesn't get affected due to politics.



**AUSSIE CRICKETERS
WILL BE
JOBLESS FROM JULY 1**

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***“India and South Africa
are strategic partners.
We should build a part-
nership that spans en-
tirety of human en-
deavor.”***

- Narendra Modi

PRIME MINISTER’S FOREIGN VISITS – IS IT TOO MUCH?

Why is the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi making a lot of foreign visits? As of July 2017, he has made 31 foreign trips, visiting 49 countries. He recently visited Germany and has plans to visit China and Philippines this year. So, let us find out what happens on those trips that have a travel expense of approximately a whopping Rs. 275 crores.

He visited the USA for the UN General Assembly and the Nuclear Security Summit with the prime focus on India to be-

come a world leader. During his States visits, he discussed possible investments with companies like Microsoft, Pepsi Co, Facebook, and Amazon.



The USA and China support India's permanent UNSC seat. China has made \$20 billion investment and Japan has invested \$35 billion, along with its expertise in making bullet trains. His Australian and Canadian visits signed the deal for a provision of 500 tons and 3,000 tons of uranium respectively, to power Indian atomic reactors.

His visit to France yielded an increased outsourcing in India from 400 million Euros to 2 billion Euros. French National Railways has agreed to co-finance for a semi-high-speed project on the upgradation of the Delhi-Chandigarh line to 200

kmph. In Germany, India was the co-organizer of world's biggest trade fair. Mr. Modi became the first Indian PM to visit Israel and inked a \$5 million deal for Joint Educational Research program.

While criticism is easy, we have to agree that India has been trying to emerge for two decades, though it never actually "emerged", and now, we have a PM, who is working hard to attract foreign capital and technology, in order to result in an increasing economic growth, greater employment opportunities, better lifestyle, facilities and services to the citizens.



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“Traveling’s not something you’re good at. It’s something you do. Like breathing.”

- Goyle Foreman

Travel & Tourism in India

India being a peninsular country, is widely known for its abundant natural wealth. It is, therefore, no surprise that India is renowned around the world for the travel and tourism destinations it offers. With a large variety of terrains, ranging from parched deserts to snowy mountains, the country has a plethora of destinations that can cater to any traveler. Being the birthplace of the Hinduism religion, the country is home to temples that were built around 1000 years ago, which stand against the tide of time to signify the workmanship of the artisans of olden days. The Mughal invasion during the later centuries led to the construction of mosques and tombs of marble and sandstone, of which the most famous example is the Taj Mahal. Portuguese, Dutch and British invasions led to large cathedrals being built across the country.

The southern states, especially, are well known for their temples and forests. Moving upwards, we see the landscape slowly change into green plains, and even to cold deserts in the extreme north. The northeastern part of India is geographically diverse, with a large number of forests, trees, and rivers making it enriched and flourishing with greenery.

Overall for an ardent traveler, India occupies the coveted position of being on their list, owing to its age old history and varied geography.

The terrain of the country varies remarkably and thus offers a lot of variety for the earnest traveler, with camel rides across the Thar desert in Rajasthan, kayaking and white water rafting on the river Brahmaputra, mountain climbing in Darjeeling, Himachal Pradesh and the likes, trekking across various forests in India etc. Coastal India has pristine beaches such as the Marina, Juhu, to name a few, with ancient monuments outlining the coast. The interior parts have a plenty of famous waterfalls such as Jog, Courtrallam, and Periyar that add more beauty to the In-



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***Old India was economically fragmented,
new India will create
one tax, one market
and for one nation.***

- Arun Jaitley

GST- Impact on Indian Economy

The GST bill was passed in the parliament without any resistance was a sign of parliament's maturity and corporate liberalism- Pranab Mukherjee

GST is the biggest tax reform in India since the liberalization of the economy 25 years ago. India is just \$2.26 trillion economy now. The economy of India is the sixth-largest in the world measured by nominal GDP, but when going by income, India is still in the lower middle-income category. If it needs to expand, it needs stimulus, and the best way to do that is by reforming the tax regime since more than half of India's income comes from taxes. The new tax regime will certainly increase the consumption level, helping the economy to grow substantially. Now, India has four tax slabs – 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%. The impact of GST will be different for different people depending on their life-style patterns.

The economic growth may not improve significantly on an immediate basis but will benefit in the medium and long term. Surely, inflation will decrease because most goods have been fixed at a lower cost. It would be impossible to evade taxes so companies will insist vendors to furnish invoices as GST. The indigenous manufacturers, who were less attractive because of the cascading effects of taxes will now start selling their goods to other states. Entry tax was the main hindrance for movement of goods by road transport and because of this, long distance trucks were parked most of the time. So, a huge shift can be expected from unorganized to organized sector.

Big companies stand to benefit as they have a supply chain in order and can offset taxes paid on inputs. The increased transparency in the system will develop a trust among the government and the people and corruption free transaction. GST

also removes the customs duties applicable on exports increasing the competitiveness in foreign markets. Now India as a whole nation is under one unified common market helping all businesses to grow.



Water scarcity in India

India is a developing nation with a vast amount of resources being utilized in various sectors. One of the major revenue sources with which India has shaken the world with its accelerated growth is FDI (Foreign Direct investment). But the negative impact of it is being slowly revealed and people from all over the country are suffering due to the same. The targeted concept here is water scarcity. Water is a renewable resource. NO, it is very apt to say that water was a renewable resource. Now people in the country have reached a state where pond water and river water have become contaminated and not fit for drinking, and with drying wells and reduction in the ground water level, people have opted to buy water for drinking and that business has got the share standing tall in the Indian market.

Following Statistics reveal alarming facts about the degradation of one of the renewable sources of the earth.

1. Per capita availability of water in India has gone down from 6,042 cubic metres in 1947 to about 1,545 cubic metres in 2011.
2. By 2050, India's over-exceeding population and water scarcity will reach alarming proportions.
3. Over 90 percent of the waste water discharged into rivers, lakes, and ponds is untreated and leads to further contamination of fresh water sources.
4. The greatest wastage of fresh water comes from a lack of adequate storage and utilization facilities of river waters.
5. India has no desalination facilities to use the abundant sea-water resources.

6. Nearly 76 million of the entire population in the country do not have access to safe drinking waters.

India, basically being an agricultural nation, with increasing population will become very vulnerable due to the reduction in the ground water supply that is available in the country. But the government has forgotten to take strict and prompt measures to help the needy farmers. Each day, the house of the farmers sleeps hungry, which ultimately ends with suicides of these helpless farmers. The use of innovative medicines to combat against new diseases is worthless unless the government can take suitable measures to clean the rivers, lakes, and ponds and make the ecosystem thrive again. Wild animals rampage in the villages nearby the forest has become a phenomenon because of their migration in the search for water. Rich get richer and can afford whatever they want and poor get poorer, unable to get even his basic necessities.



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***"A river is more than
an amenity, it is a
treasure."***

***- Justice Oliver
Wendell Holmes***

INDIA - CHINA: CURRENT RELATIONS

The relationship between India and China is also called Indo-China relations or Sino- Indo relationship, which is one of the major bilateral relationships with the People Republic of China and the Indian Republic. India and China are the most densely populated countries in the world with 1.324 and 1.379 billion people respectively. With regard to the high population, the amount of trade between the two countries is also very huge. The India - China bilateral trade in 2016 amounted to 70 Billion dollars. Such is the intensity of trade between them. While the growth of India annually is generally around 7.6% which is greater than China, the amount of GDP generated by China is higher when compared to India. Both India and China are in the world top 5 economies.

In 1990's, China had a large labor force in the world and most of the manufacturing companies from around the globe had their setups in China due to the cheaper cost of manufacturing of items, but at present, India seems to be giving a stiff competition in the field of production of numerous items. Even the labor wages in China has increased to a new high, along with the production costs of various items when compared to production costs in India. This led to shifting of many companies from China to India..

On the regional front, China and India have had some bad blood between them in the past 50 to 60 years which has led to the 1962 Sino- Indian war. It was a dispute in the Himalayan border which had cost India the area of Aksai Chin to the north of Jammu and Kashmir. At present, China is supporting Pakistan through military, navy and air force aid. Also, the border patrol of PRC and India along with ITBT is in logger's heads in Doklam and other disputed areas. Adding further to these issues, China includes some parts of Sikkim

and Arunachal Pradesh in its map and has given separate names for many places situated in these states. Recently, it has politicized Dalai Lama's visit to Arunachal Pradesh, whom China considers as an anti-China figure. But, India has taken a firm stance of supporting Dalai Lama's visit which it considers to be for the betterment of ties.

There have been many incursions by the Chinese troops into the disputed lands, destroying vast areas of land and a lot of resources. Due to the threat posed by China, India has set up many war tanks and Brahmos missiles on the Line of actual Control (LAC). China is also building OBOR(one belt one road) initiative to make its movement of goods against the sovereignty of India in disputed POK(Gilgit- Baltistan) region. Hence, in short, the Current problems in the China - India relations are:

- 1) Regional disputes
- 2) Support of China to Pakistan against India
- 3) Chinese stance against Dalai Lama.
- 4) Trade and manufacturing disputes.
- 5) OBOR to which India is against China.

Solutions need to be formulated very soon so that better ties can be made between the countries. This will not only lead to the development of the nations but will also set a world-class example of professionalism that the two countries exhibit.



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“This is one of our most important strategic partnerships because of the re-emergence of India and China and the relationship will have a profound impact on the two countries.”

- Modi

Should Air India be privatized or not?

Air India is the flag carrier airline of India. It is the third largest domestic airline in India in terms of passengers carried, with a market share of 13% as of May 2017. As a national carrier PSU, it has the objective to meet certain strategic needs such as serve in difficult terrains, defense needs, ply on unviable routes, emergency services at times of disasters in the country and abroad and similar others. It is much maligned for its poor state of affairs. It loses a staggering amount of capital each year, due to political interference, a bloated and inefficient workforce, corruption, and incompetence/mismanagement.

The government will have to keep bailing out Air India with taxpayers' money if it decides to hold on to it. Now that there are several market players in the field of aviation, it is high time that Air India quits from Public Sector ownership. This is in line with the decision of the government to quit from core business area and leave to private sector competitors taking to itself only regulatory roles. The presence of state-owned enterprise distorts the market. A firm with access to government finances and practically no fear of failing affects price discovery in the market and can hurt private sector operators in the business. The call of Government to disinvest Air India is thus a welcome step.



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“We are a coalition government, and that limits our options in some ways. Privatization happens to be one such area.-

- Manmohan Singh

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***“There's one issue that
will define the con-
tours of this century
more dramatically than
any other, and that is
the urgent threat of a
changing climate”***

-Obama

Global warming

Thanks to President Trump and his withdrawal from the Paris climate-change deal, now there is a portion of Americans wondering if global warming is a scam. Al Gore who was the one who put global warming on the map by his Oscar winning documentary called “The Inconvenient Truth” which addressed the climate-change issue has received some backlash as his 20-room mansion (not including 8 bathrooms) consume more energy in a month than the average American household does in a year. The average bill for electricity and natural gas runs over 2400 USD per month. Why is Al Gore, who was so passionate about making people aware of Global warming, so reckless about it now, the people question. To a point where Americans are forced to debate if global warming is a scam, China has created to bring United States down, what may seem ridiculous to us, Indians, who have experienced climate change first hand like the Chennai flood in November 2016 and frequent cyclones like Vardah and Neelam. Even though we go through these calamities, India has rejected continuously to act on the Climate change issues like emission of greenhouse gas as they are worried that it would jeopardize poverty eradication goals. They say that when 200 million Indians live on less than \$1 a day, India cannot afford to take measures on climate change schemes of eradicating carbon monoxide and saving ozone, as

alleviation of poverty and economic development is the national priority right now. But recently, in International climate negotiations progress in Thailand, India has shown interest in the climate change issue.

Though our country's sights are still set on decreasing poverty and elevating the living standards of people, India has joined a group of developing countries that has agreed to address the climate change issue. Plans like National Action Plan on Climate Change mentions reforestation which has proposed to add 0.8 million hectares of forest per year coupled with efforts to improve conservation and regeneration that act as catalyst for more job creation in poor communities. Other plans such as Solar Mission, which proposes to install 20 GW of solar capacity by 2020, and Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency, which proposes to improve efficiency of energy use across sectors, have been implemented which shows that India too has joined the other countries of the world to fight against global warming and has taken the health of our luscious planet seriously.



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MOVIE CORNER

Inside Job

The famous American documentary filmmaker Michael Moore once quoted that he always follows the first rule of Fight club: *Don't talk about 'Fight club'*, so don't make documentaries, make films. He further added that one can hold a rally if one wants to join a political party, one can give a lecture if one wants to be a teacher, one can be a preacher if one wants to give a sermon but if he is neither of these, he is a filmmaker.

And just 10 minutes into Charles Ferguson's 'Inside Job', you get to know that the *filmmaker* is not just going to throw facts around you, he is narrating you a real tale, with real persons, who were the witnesses of the tale. Charles Ferguson's Academy Award winning documentary 'Inside Job' about the financial crisis in the late 2000s is an interesting attempt, both, in terms of its content and its narrative format.

The movie has got five parts starting from the deregulation of American financial industry from the 1980s to how it has led to the financial crisis in 2008 to the current scenario. (The movie was released in 2010). The interesting premise is that it's a movie about economics, it speaks jargons, it presents you charts, but this is not a Powerpoint presentation, rather it narrates, (Matt Damon is the narrator) coupled with an astounding soundtrack from Alex Heffes.

Over a time of 100 minutes, he narrates the tale of how the attitude of few high officials in the financial industry cost the normal lives of major population of a developed country and also the global economic scenario. Charles takes a common man's perspective, he lashes out at the wall street culture, he questions the investment banks, the system and the authorities and most importantly, he seeks

justice. And that's where Charles, the *filmmaker* differs from a documentarian.

The movie speaks about the derivatives markets, Collateralized Debt Obligation (CDO), mortgages, but the more he speaks with the text book terms, he compensates with the real lines. *"If you are growing, you are not in recession, right?"* says Hank Paulson, the former US treasury secretary and the next frame states that the recession has already started four months before he made the statement and this sums up the attitude of super-rich officials who took risks without thinking about the consequences.

The movie gets into different dimensions and point of views as it starts conversing with people from different backgrounds, be it an economist, financial engineer, neurologist or a non-English speaking couple who were defrauded by a mortgage broker. *"The financial industry is a service industry, it should serve others before it serves itself."*, *"Why should a financial engineer be paid more than four, five times than a real engineer, a real engineer builds bridges, a financial engineer builds dreams. And when those dreams turn out to be nightmares, other people pay for it."*



The above two statements by Christine Lagarde, the then Finance minister of France and Andrew Sheng respectively are my favourites- powerful and poignant and I personally suggest that this movie has to be watched for this- for the powerful statements it makes.

Snippets

Inauguration of the FIRM Games which is the acronym for the four houses namely Falcons, Invincibles, Rudras and Morpheus took place. This is to initiate a peaceful senior-junior relationship in the forthcoming months.



A Guest Lecture was conducted on 12th July regarding Digital Technology/ Transformation Trends in Industry for the 1st year students. The esteemed guest was Mr. Navin Mathew, Executive from Sonata Software. He focused upon IoT, Block Chain, Cloud Computing, Drones, Virtual Reality, Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence from among the trending topics in the industry.

TEAM XTRAVAGATE



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