



NEWSLETTER | DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS | VOL 1 ISSUE 4

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# INDIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND COVID-19: MEASURES TOWARDS RECOVERY

Dr. Sonia Mukherjee (Faculty)

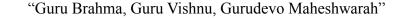
The COVID-19 emergency has been pressing the healthcare sector across the globe, including the Indian healthcare. It has led to reorientation of the health-care practises in the country. In this tough situation, a large population including migrants has been already infected with recent estimates of around 40 lakhs. The number of cases is high especially in Mumbai, Pune, Kolkata, and Delhi. Such difficult situation mandates a road map to recovery.

India's Health care sector is not well-prepared to deal with such emergency situations. Hence, preventive measures should be taken to minimize the impact of such pandemic. Looking into the telemedicine sphere, it appears to be quite promising technique However, the adoption of telemedicine has been limited to specific cases. With higher restrictions on human mobility, social distancing measures strictly followed to prevent further transmission, telemedicine can be a promising option particularly for all the sections of the society including the elderly people and the ageing population.

Apart from this, other notable measures can also be taken. First, India need to increase its health expenditure in terms of GDP share. A higher public and private collaboration are necessary to develop a sound healthcare infrastructure and increase the investment in the healthcare sector. Secondly, a compulsory national health insurance policy can be put in place to cover the bulging population from such unexpected pandemic situation. In addition, a robust surveillance system should be implemented by the GOI to monitor the pandemic situation. Lastly, India is well known for its pharmaceutical market and secures a third place in the world. However, India continues to import advanced medical kits, medicines, and other medical equipment's from China and other players. In the future, India needs to reduce its dependency by producing them inhouse.

## **TEACHER'S DAY SPECIAL**

Ninjay Mewar (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.)



The above hymn translates to the Guru being the Trinity god, S/he is the human embodiment of three gods in one.

Indian culture has always taught us about the importance of gurus in our life. A teacher is responsible for shaping their students' lives by imparting knowledge that they have gathered over the years. Teachers imbibe qualities in their students that help them excel in life. We are often told to respect our teachers and place them at par to gods but often we don't give them the respect that they deserve.

Legend has it that when Rama shot down Ravana, he urged his younger brother Laxman to go to the dying demon and listen to his teachings, for Ravana was a Yogi of the highest order. Laxman went and stood near Ravana's head and waited for him to speak, Ravana kept silent. Upset from Ravana's silence Laxman told Rama about it. Rama quickly pointed out that Ravana was Laxman's guru and that Laxman should stand near his feet and not his head, as to honour him as the guru. Laxman did as he was told and Ravana taught him about Life, Politics, Statesmanship and Diplomacy, things no other being on the planet had any knowledge about.

Dedicated to all my teachers, who never let their own beliefs get in the way of mine.



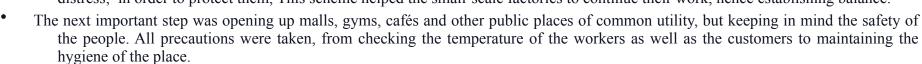
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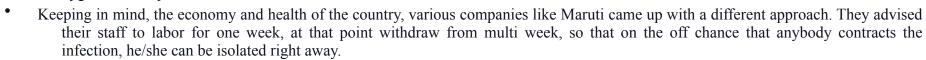
## STABILIZING WEALTH AND WELLNESS

Muskan Bansal (1 B.A. EPS) Ann Melissa Mathew (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.)

As the novel COVID 19 continues to spread, the government heads and bureaucrats are in a great dilemma on how they will manage the health sector as well as the economy simultaneously. Initially, it was a cumbersome task for the government to maintain a balance between the two sectors. Money was draining out and there was no improvement in the health sector. But soon the government came up with various strategies to cope up with the situation, such as:

- The first step was opening up of shops on an odd-even basis in order to sustain the livelihood of the people, without compromising on safety.
- Important steps involved introducing Relief schemes offering financial aids, given to the migrants, small vendors and shopkeepers, etc.,. In this way the government tried to stabilize and control the migration and movement of people, bringing down the air of chaos and distress; in order to protect them, This scheme helped the small-scale factories to continue their work, hence establishing balance.





Reviving the economy involved a targeted and coordinated *public private partnership*, customized as per our country's demographic and diverse needs.

Strict instructions were delivered, especially in areas falling under the red zone. We see how the government is systematically trying to bring the Economy under control without compromising on the health and medical sector, although the marginalised and the weaker sections have suffered both economically and medically. We must also provide for future uncertainties and risks, preventing the escalation of the current situation to an uncontrollable and futile extent.

So, though the infection was like a hole in the whole economy, the government mended its ways, in order to pull up the economy, although the present situation is not fully under control, but it has improved a lot as compared to the past situation so, holistically, our country is moving towards the path of recovery.



Sera Mariyam Binny (1 B.Sc. Eco. Hons.)

Jigyasa Bist (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.)



"Lost in her thoughts, mother nature realized; At the end of the day, it's either her or her children, in this battle of existence."

We never realise that even our smallest actions could bring huge impacts in the surroundings until the sufferings reach our doorstep. We have come to the age where the beauty of an ocean, sea or a mountain exists only in pictures. Even a sight of the burning Amazon, was not enough to please human greed. The carbon emission from the factories never stopped, the engines never paused and the machines never silenced, but what has it actually cost? Greenhouse gas emissions have caused a rise in the global temperatures. A hole in the ozone layer, melting of icebergs, rise of sea levels and above all a shift in the weather pattern.

The following will give a glimpse as to how climate change is an issue that will impact economies in the worst ways and requires immediate attention:

**AGRICULTURE:** The sector most vulnerable to climate risk is agriculture. There is expected to be a fall in the supply of crops. This will be due to less availability of water and groundwater, increased pests and weeds, and fire risk and as farmers struggle to stay afloat by finding ways to adapt to changing conditions, prices will likely increase and be passed along to consumers.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**: A 2018 study found that over 4,000 miles of fiber optic cable as well as data centres, traffic exchanges and termination points — the lifeblood of the global information network — are at risk from sea level rise. There will be housing damages, airport damages and railway damages due to the rising sea level around the world.

**HUMAN HEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY:** Increasing warmth and precipitation will also add to the risk of waterborne and foodborne diseases and allergies, and spur the proliferation of insects that spread diseases like Zika, West Nile, dengue and Lyme disease into new territories. Extreme weather and climate-related natural disasters can also exacerbate mental health issues.

**BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL MARKETS:** The frequency and intensity of extreme weather, both in various countries, can damage factories, supply chain operations and other infrastructure, and disrupt transport. Drought will make water more expensive, which will likely affect the cost of raw materials and production. Climate volatility may force companies to deal with uncertainty in the price of resources for production, energy transport and insurance and some products could become obsolete or lose their market, such as equipment related to coal mining or skiing in an area that no longer has snow.

**TOURISM:** As water temperatures increase, water quality could suffer due to more frequent and more intense algae blooms, which can be toxic, thus curtailing recreational water activities and freshwater fishing. More frequent and severe wildfires will worsen air quality and discourage tourism. Sea level rise could submerge small islands and coastal areas, while deforestation and its destructive impacts on biodiversity could make

## **BACK TO TRAVEL**

Priyank Nagpal (1 B.Sc. Eco. Hons.) Harsh Gaur (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.)

The COVID-19 outbreak had brought uncertainty into economies around the world, corporate and governments are coming together to support the less fortunate and providing financial relief packages to stabilize economic conditions. As per World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), the global travel & tourism industry has grown from US\$ 6.03 Trillion in 2006 and reached US\$ 8.27 trillion by 2017 growing at a CAGR of 2.9%. It is thus one of the most affected sectors during this global standstill. Greece has been in great economic depression for many decades . Tourism is one of the most important sectors of the Greek economy and a key pillar of economic growth. Directly accounting for an 11.7% of the country's

Gross Domestic Product, while its indirect contribution is estimated between 25.7% up to 30.9%, while also being a driver for the reduction of unemployment in recent years. Tourism is an export champion in the Greek economy. The impact of the pandemic on Greece's tourism, the analysis concludes that, in contrast to its forecasted ascending pattern prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, Greece's GVA from tourism is set to significantly decrease in 2020, taking a 41% up to 53% dip during the second quarter of the year and a contraction at 49%; however, tourism GVA is set to gradually increase from this point on, and is expected to bounce back to pre-COVID levels at the end of 2022. The recent announcements declared that incoming tourists will be allowed in the country from 15 June from selected eligible countries based on "epidemiological criteria". The nations' airports are authorized to allow incoming flights from 1 July onwards, allowing entrance from the Greece's feeder markets. The Greece economy needs to Develop Business Plan based on medium term (2-3 years) scenarios to support relevant business decisions and/or potential financial restructuring. Also Assess to investment pipeline and redefine investment plan (M&A, new developments, etc.) Should be done. Firms should enhance customer engagement and



experience (incl. relevant digital capabilities). Also the government should focus on improving operations and financial results in the post-COVID-19 era (e.g. organizational structure and staffing pricing and revenue management, cost structure optimization, policies, processes and controls). They should also Rethink and redesign their employment arrangements to reflect requirements of the "next normal". A strategic plan based on long-term scenarios assessing key uncertainties of the "next normal" (e.g. consumer/traveler preferences and behavior, shape of travel industry value chain, long-term economic impact). should be developed. Countries like USA, Brazil, India; whose tourism sector was most severely hit by Global health and social crises should consider promoting intra and interstate travel as done by the European Union. Countries like India invested heavily on the healthcare during these times and can thus utilise these investments to promote medical tourism. Also financial aid should be provided to hospitality and tourism industry, so that it can regain its lost value and contribute to undo our economic growth.

## ORGANIZATION OF HEALTHCARE MARKETS

Jahnavi Priya (1 B.Sc. Eco. Hons.) Keerthana Vineed (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.)

We presently see that there is an increased competition in healthcare industry. Competition in this industry also affects several relational perspectives. Several studies examined a relationship that is between competition and quality of healthcare, healthcare cost system and patient satisfaction. Such competitions between factors can increase customer value over time. Quality improvement takes place over time which decreases the cost and increases customer value.

Competition in the healthcare industry, in traditional way includes elements like price, quantity, convenience etc. Also based on new technology, innovation. Mechanism to reduce the health care cost is one of the objectives of this industry. Competition between factors in the healthcare sector helps remove any inefficiencies in the market.

Let's examine how the healthcare market was designed over the years. During the 1980s the US government came up with an idea to change the



healthcare sector in US by allocating scarce resources. In 1996 it was found that, competition in the healthcare sector could not enhance efficiency as the public and private insurance companies were paying medical expenses for three quarters. Then in 2004, it was again noticed that the market system was based on zero sum based, where participants divide the value rather than creating the value. This harms the existing value.

Rationing is a method to overcome scarcity. This helps healthcare services to scale back their individual demands, while service providers assume additional responsibilities in the allocation of scarce resources.

Clearly, the rationing of healthcare services affects medical services market. Fall in consumer and producer surplus because of rationing due to the budget in the medical sector is likely. Rationing not only affects the medical market but also on health

insurance, mainly on in-kind benefits. This leads to rise in reimbursement of health insurance. At the aggregate level, a loss is likely to prevail. The private health sector's place within the health systems of many low income and middle-income countries is changing and expanding. Governments are promoting private providers, acknowledging their factor role in pluralistic health systems and using them to alleviate their own funding constraints.

Factors considered while developing policies with respect to features of public/private management are - context, policy content/design, processes of policy formulation and implementation, actors. Two recommendations can be, firstly policy-makers in low-income and middleincome countries should beware of policy prescriptions from multilateral and bilateral agencies. Secondly, it must be that, in some situations the quality of services delivered may be influenced by the motivation and ethical viewpoint of individual doctor.



## **GREEN SHOOTS**

Rakshit Yadav (3 B.A. EPS) Udita Chaudhary (1 B.A. Eco. Hons.)

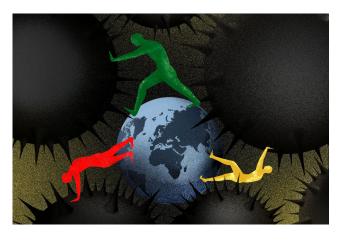
Prime Minister Narendra Modi in "India Global Week" conference said "Indian economy is one of the most open economy in the world and investors should invest in the Indian economy. India is laying a red carpet for all global companies to come up and establish themselves. The economy has started seeing green shoots of recovery. It is about being a self-sustaining economy. India's reforms in agriculture provide a very active investment opportunity to firms. We are opening the doors to investors to come and invest directly in the hard work of our farmers," he said. "There are also investment opportunities in the defence sector. With relaxed FDI norms, one of the world's biggest militaries invites you to come and make products for it," he added. In this pandemic time the pharmaceutical sector of India is performing very well to provide affordable medicines. India will play a major role in revival of the global economy during the fight with corona virus. He said that India's "talent force" and it's "ability to reform and rejuvenate" will help it to lead the global revival. The vision of "Atmanirbhar Bharat' is not about being closed to the world.



According to consultancy firm EY survey, non-metro areas have higher resilience therefor the recovery is expected to be faster in these areas. Because of lower consumption the prices are low leading to lower production level which is affecting the growth of economy. One of the ways to stimulate the economy is to increase aggregate demand. During the process of recovery, it is expected that demand of consumer goods, automobiles and white goods will increase and faster recovery of economy will be noticed from non-metro markets. Talking about automobiles it is expected that the non-metro market will spend more than their metro counterparts. During the time of pandemic people realized the importance of social distancing and hygiene. Personal transportation, self-care products, vitamins supplements are likely to show more increase in demand in non-metro markets. The main reason is that metro markets were already using such products before pandemic. It's the non-metro markets that realized the need during pandemic. According to the reports there will be a permanent change in the pattern of consumption in both metro and non-metro areas.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO REBUILD INDIAN ECONOMY

Anoushka Parijat Rudra (1 B.Sc. Eco. Hons.) Sakshi (3 MA App. Eco.)



Besides severely affecting the global economy, the Covid-19 pandemic has questioned the fundamentals. Countries like India with predominantly poor and middle class population got disproportionately affected by the sudden economic shock. This has resulted in economic downturn, visible worldwide through job losses, closure of companies and crippling industries and businesses. The recovery is going to be long and challenging.

The silver lining is the well-coordinated nationwide response to Covid-19 and the 20 lac crore economic packages announced by the central government in April and May, which seemed to have been well received by the businesses amidst the signs of recovery. Emerging opportunities due to the timely response of the national and state governments, and strategic avoidance of China by many countries of the world at least for a while, is likely to open new doors for India to improve its position in the global manufacturing landscape. India ranks 3 in global manufacturing whereas China stands at the 1 position. Currently the share of manufacturing sector in India is 29.2% of the GDP as compared to almost 40% in China. Considering China's GDP base is higher than India, it

still has a long way to go.

India has an opportunity here. Make in India pitch could give a boost to entrepreneurship and the MSME's. India's traditional strength of agriculture and rural sector, has remained undermined over the last few decades. There is a need to reconstruct the rural economy as even today almost 60-70% of the Indian population is living in the rural areas. Systematic investment in rural areas in infrastructure, agriculture and allied sector can bring robustness to the rural economy.

India can learn from China's policy of building small industries in the backyards during the Great Leap Forward era, which enabled latter to create mass employment. Which will not only lead to self-reliance for India but also create an opportunity for India to establish itself as a global exporter as it was during the pre-colonial era.

The changing geopolitical relations has placed India advantageously the next best alternative for imports could be India provided India develops its work force and infrastructure accordingly. India's mantra to success would be a blended model by encasing on its robust service sector, revitalizing the manufacturing sector by widening its base and diversity, reconstruction of rural economy and incorporating global best practices.

# **CROSSWORDS**

#### Across

- 2. Name India's current former Health and Family
- Welfare Minister

  4. According to the financial year 2018 which Indian State spends highest funds on health care facilities for its
- **6.** Among which of the five year plan was the importance
- of human capital realised
  8. Name the country which claimed the title of 'health and medical destination as of 2015
- 9. The sector which is recovering from non-performing assets especially in the ongoing pandemic \_

#### Down

- 1. An Indian State/Union Territory that has not reported a single covid positive case is
- The total amount an employee receives for performing a service or for being employed by a company or
- organization is called
  5. Name India's first prominent economist who made
- significant contributions to welfare economics

  7. Which Indian city has been termed as the "India's health capital' as it attracts 45 percent of health tourists
- 8. One of the sector which has been effected the most due to the covid situation (answer is an acronym)

#### **KEYTO THE VOL 1 ISSUE 2 EDITION:**

#### ACROSS:

- 2. Chernobyl
- 3. Mitigation
- 5. Reallocation
- 7. Inflation
- 9. Assets

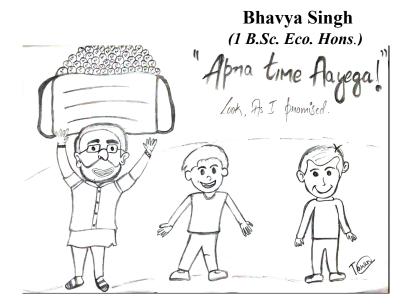
#### **DOWN:**

- 1. Travel
- 2. Coronavirus
- 4. Stress
- 6. Interest
- 8. NDMA

Nainika Singh (1 B.Sc. Eco. Hons.) Shubhangi Kejriwal (1 B.Sc. Eco. Hons.)

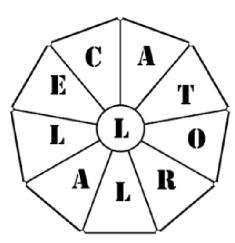
# **CARTOONING**





**Tarandeep Singh** (1 B.Sc. Eco. Hons.)

# **SPELLATHON**



## Spellathon Rules/Instructions

- Form as many words you can of four or more letters from the given letters relating to the
- In making a word, a letter can be used as many times as it appears in the puzzle.
- Each word must contain the central letter and there should be at least one word comprising all the letters.
- Plurals, foreign words and proper nouns are not allowed.

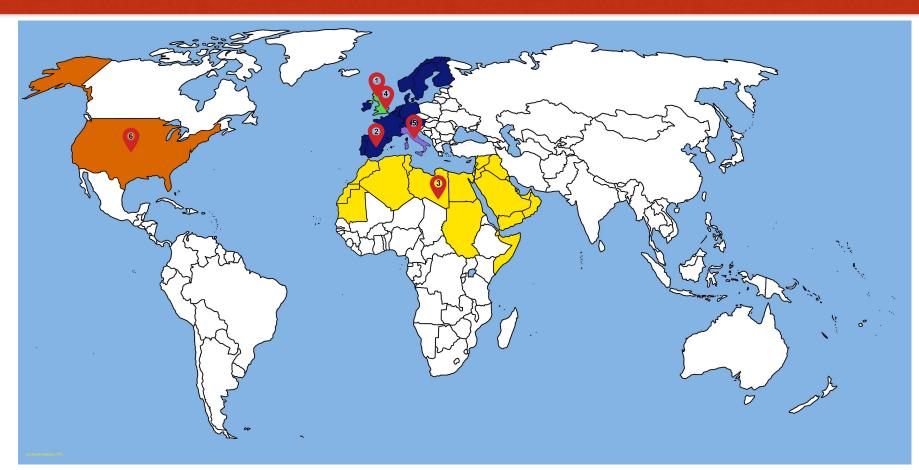
### Rate Yourself

- 3-6 (Average)
- 7-10 (Good)
- 10+ (Outstanding)

Sahaj Gill (1 B.Sc. Eco. Hons.)



# **ECO-CHRONICLE**



## **ECONOMIC EVENTS ACROSS THE GLOBE**

Jahnavi Priya (1 B.Sc. Eco. Hons.) Keerthana Vineed (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.) Navaneeth Narayanan (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.) Arun C Emmanuel (3 M.A. App. Eco.)

## 1. September, 2008: Subprime Mortgage Crisis

The United States subprime mortgage crisis was a nationwide financial crisis which occurred between 2007 and 2010, and contributed to the U.S. financial crisis. It was triggered by a large decline in home prices after the collapse of a housing bubble, leading to mortgage delinquencies, foreclosures, and the devaluation of housing-related securities. Declines in residential investment preceded the Great Recession and were followed by reductions in household spending and then business investment. Spending reductions were more significant in areas with a combination of high household debt and larger housing price declines. There were many causes of the crisis; two proximate causes were the rise in subprime lending and the increase in housing speculation. This event was added to the Great Recession that started on December, 2007. The bankruptcy along with International Banking Crisis added onto the cause of Global Financial Crisis 2008. On September 15, 2008, the venerable Wall Street brokerage firm Lehman Brothers seeks Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, becoming the largest victim of the subprime mortgage crisis

### 2. September, 1998 : G7 announces recession

The leaders of the worlds G7 finance members including Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, and United States of America announces the worldwide recession is now the biggest concern eclipsing the earlier concerns of inflation.

### 3. September, 1992 : UK leaves ERM (European Exchange Rate Mechanism)

Black Wednesday occurred on 16 September 1992 when the British government was forced to withdraw the pound sterling from the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM), after a failed attempt to keep the pound above the lower currency exchange limit mandated by the ERM. The UK government and bank of England failed to prop up the pound by raising interest rate to even to 15%. The The crisis damaged the credibility of the government in handling of economic matters.

## September, 1975: United Kingdom 26% Inflation

Inflation was running at 26% in Great Britain (US inflation was 9.2%) and the only thing certain is that times will become harder as the number of people out of work increases and the government setting a ceiling on pay rises of an annual increase of 12 pound per year, with many increases on prices still to come life will become much harder for the British worker.

## 4. October, 1973: OPEC (Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries) oil price shock

The **1973 oil crisis** began in October 1973 when the members of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries proclaimed an oil embargo. The embargo was targeted at nations perceived as supporting Israel during the Yom Kippur War. The nations targeted were Canada, Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States, Portugal, Rhodesia and South Africa. By March 1974, the price of oil had risen nearly 300%, from US\$3 per barrel to nearly \$12 globally; US prices were significantly higher. The embargo caused an oil crisis, or "shock", with many short- and long-term effects on global politics and the global economy. It was later called the "first oil shock", followed by the 1979 oil crisis, termed the "second oil shock".

## 5. October, 1929: Great Depression

Worst economic downturn in the history of the Industrialized World happened from 1929 – 1939. This started after the crash of stock market in October, 1929. The stock market crash of 1929 – considered the worst economic event in world history – began on Thursday, October 24, 1929, with skittish investors trading a record 12.9 million shares. On October 28, dubbed "Black Monday," the Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged nearly 13 percent. The market fell another 12 percent the next day, "Black Tuesday."



## **EVENT HEADLINES**

## **DARPAN 2020**

Navaneeth Narayanan (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.)

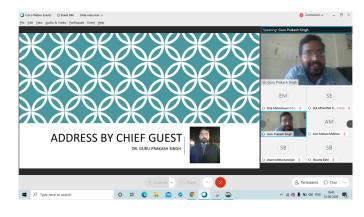
Darpan is the Intra-University cultural fest of Christ University. This year, it happened between 8th August to 20th August, with events ranging from painting, poetry, extempore to music and dance competitions. Constrained by the conditions of the world pandemic and lockdown, the University witnessed its very first virtual Darpan in history. Posed with new opportunities and challenges of the virtual world, the students of Christ University showcased exemplary talent and vigorous participation, making it a great success. This year there were 19 events across 3 categories – Art events- 3, Lit events – 6 and stage events – 10. Out of these, events such as 'Turn coat debate' and 'Quiz' were added this year. The event 'best out of waste' was modified to include more subcategories such as fashion, home décor and



DIY (Do It Yourself). Also, certain events like group dance, street play, proscenium, Rangoli and JAM, Air crash were removed from the events, considering the nation-wide lockdown and the difficulty in conducting it. The results of the various events were released through the Instagram page of SWO. The immense participation and exemplary performance of Christites, despite being very far away from each other, in the safety of their homes, show how talented, enthusiastic and high spirited each Christite is. This is very evident in the words of our vice- chancellor "Crisis may come, crisis may go; but Christites march on forever."

# THE HURRIKEYNES INAUGURATION 2020

Ekta Maheshwari (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.)



The inauguration of the Economics club 'HURRIKEYNES' for the academic session 2020-21 was held on 25th August, Tuesday. It commenced with a Prayer song followed by a brief introduction of the club. Then, Dr. Amritkant Mishra presented the annual report of the club. After that, Dr. Sulakshana Rao bid farewell to our old office bearers who had always worked hard to keep the club active. This was followed by exuberant and soulful dance and music performances by students of BA EPS and BSC Eco Hons.

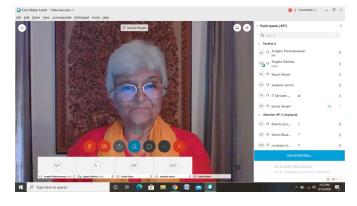
Now came the most awaited moment where new members of the club i.e. faculty coordinators and other office bearers of the club were introduced. This was followed by an exuberant dance performance by the students of Ba Eco Hons followed by an amazing

music performance by team 'Bawra Mann'. Then one of our former office bearers of the club shared her experience of being a club member. Our guest speaker Sir Guru Prakash Singh who is working as an Assistant professor at Gujarat Service Commission enlightened all of us with his words of wisdom. The inauguration was concluded by a Vote of Thanks for all those who has put in efforts to make this 'online mode' inauguration a successful one. At the end, we all stood up for Christ anthem which aroused a spirit of a Christite within us!

## THE CHRISTITE SPIRIT OF ACTIVE LEARNING

Riya Sharan (3 B.A. Eco. Hons.)

If there is one thing that every Christite is proud of, then it is their passion towards active learning. Even in these unprecedented times, Christ (Deemed to be University) has made sure that the learning of its students doesn't come to a halt. Christ (Deemed to be University), is a place of active learning and it believes in the Holistic Development of its students. Apart from conducting online exams and classes, unlike many other educational institutions of the country, our university has time and again organized different interactive sessions with experts from diverse fields. We had seminars on the economy, on social causes like road safety and anti- human trafficking. There is one particular interaction, which I believe, almost every Christite loved and which deserves a special mention. It was an interactive session where the students got the opportunity to interact with Mrs. Kamala



Bhasin, a prominent advocate of Women Rights. With an experience of more than 20 years, she interacted with the students on the topic "Patriarchy in our homes and the role of our homes and education". Her words shed light on far we have to go as a nation to achieve gender parity. Thus, all the interactions and guest lectures organized will help in moulding ourselves into a better and much more responsible human being. Thus, these webinars, interactions and guest lectures is a big step for us, the Christite family, towards the ultimate goal of "Servant leadership" and will definitely help us in achieving our Christite dream of "Excellence with Service, Service towards each other and towards the society by being open minded, hardworking and honest human beings".



# **HUMANS OF CHRIST**

## **CAN YOU IMAGINE LIFE WITHOUT FOOD?**

Aishwa Patnik (1 B.Sc. Eco. hons.)



I feel the best way to happiness is through the stomach. So, my first question after joining Christ University was "do we have canteens?" and "what all food items are available there?". I hope you can understand the curiosity of a first-year student who has not yet visited her college due to the ongoing pandemic. But a few days back, we got an opportunity to interview our cheerful canteen owner Mr. Tejinder Singh Gujral.

He did his schooling till class 10, in a government school in Delhi. Currently, he lives in Delhi with his wife, two children, and his mother. With his wife, Mrs. Gurpreet Kaur, he manages four different canteens in Delhi and one of them being inside Christ University. They lead a very busy life and work every day from 7 in the morning till 10:30 at night, hardly getting any time to spend with their family. Whereas their daughter, a 9th-grade student, and son, a college student along with their grandmother take care of the household. He started a canteen

in Christ two years back and considers every day spent in Christ University to be memorable. His heart fills with joy when he sees the students eating food with big smiles on their faces in the canteen. He feels as if he is feeding his own children. He is thankful to Christ University and to our reverend Father Viju, who allowed him to operate a canteen on the university campus.

When asked about his problems, he said that three years ago he had a garment factory in Delhi which got sealed and he had to bear a whopping loss of 1 crore. Right now, he says that the pandemic has slowed down his canteen business. He is very happy and satisfied with what he does as he is getting the opportunity to feed people and make them happy. In between, we got the opportunity to speak to Mrs. Kaur, who said that they are missing us and are eagerly waiting to see us again. We also got to hear an inspiring quote from her:

"Koshishe insaan ki nakaam ho sakti nahi, manzile na bhi mile to fasle ghat jayenge."

At last, Mr. Gujral said to us that we should accept our life the way it is and should be thankful to God for everything he has given to us.

# **MISS THE MESS**

Prarthana Pearl Pradhan (1 B.A. EPS)

More than half the year has passed by and we're yet to return to normalcy. For now, we cling on to our memories when we were in campus roaming happily and freely( I mean not really, but you get the gist). One thing I'm sure that most of us miss is sitting around the canteen table, surrounded by our friends, enjoying a normal college day. Liju Joseph, one of our canteen managers, misses the Christ culture as much as we do. In fact, when asked about his experience in Christ, he very happily stated that he's had a fantastic experience and enjoys the Christ Culture. His most memorable experience was the Annual day function where he witnessed the enthusiastic performances by the students and their upbeat spirit. Before joining Christ, he used to work in a government job which took him to places all around India. But when our dear Father advised him to join Christ, he readily agreed. It was very evident that Liju sir greatly respected our Fathers of Christ and he



mentioned that they had been a source of encouragement, advice and support for him and his family. Having said that, Liju Sir has a wonderful family of wife and 2 kids. When we asked him about his competitor Sardarji, our other canteen manager, he informed us that he was glad to share a healthy competition with him. To quote him, "Until and unless there is competition, there will be no good quality." It is very nice to see such healthy friendship/competition and I believe that this is something that we should all learn and follow. As for now, we pray and hope that this pandemic comes to an end soon and we get to enjoy the canteen food, for one more time.

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