

Trina Chowdhury

Pen is mightier than sword

Here comes the 51 year old named Dennis Hamilton, from central Southland who has been passionately collecting pens since the last 25 years. On the basis of 5th March, 2015 reports, this man has been successful in collecting 50,000 different varieties of pens. He unexpectedly discovered that his extensive love for pens had been growing since his father had gifted him the first pen around 25 years ago. He has been working hard in collecting more pens to notify his name in the Guinness Book of Records.

End of global crisis

5th March, 2015 report analysis brought solution to the Global energy crisis problems. The University of West England has favorably installed a prototype toilet in the recent times which uses microbial fuel stacks. It has been efficiently found out that this way of generating electricity is the best. It is working in Britain without any hindrance and progress in its techniques are still going on to make it world famous. While everyone is talking about going green, the "pee-powered" toilets are termed to be an extremely sustainable way of generating energy.

Impossible becomes possible

6th March, 2015, London, brings ahead a very rare situation of a teenager from England who unbelievably metamorphosed her lost memory after a hug from her very young brother. Chole Inman, living in Plymouth had been suffering from Amnesia. When she turned 16, the first thing she recollected was her brother Caleb. She had been suffering from excruciating headaches, underwent lumbar puncture too but finally by her brother's tight hug she regained all her lost memories astonishingly.

Youngest white belt

Sophie, a 3 year old is the youngest white belt as reported in a newspaper in England. Sophie, is the youngest member of the Leeds Taekwondo and Premier Martial Arts in England. Although she is too small to understand the requirement of martial arts in the 21st century but her teachers, parents have made her understand the real worth of it in this corrupt society.

Six bans in a week Overcast situation in Freedom horizon

Zev Axil Gomes

Freedom of speech is every human being's right as mentioned in the constitution that binds the country but if you look at it, is the right to freedom of speech really that prevalent? For countless years India has been ravaged by a variety of scandals that has been effortlessly subdued by powerful people who talk not with their mouths but with the money in their pockets.

Every outbreak of individual thought has been vigorously brought to heel though at the end of the day every citizen has the right to have an opinion. The recent introduction of the radical documentary "India's daughter" was a very informative and explicit representation. This great representation of freedom of speech has also been cut in half like a knife through butter. Why do the majority of our well respected citizens have such one set mindsets in regards to a variety of great endeavours that would not only improve this rich country but also set a milestone for a very harmonious future.

The rise in bans which has risen to a strapping 6 bans only this week shows how questionable the government's main motives are. The bans which include the ban on beef, ban on the use of the word 'lesbian' in the movie

'Dum laga ke haisha' are also very questionable. If India was truly a country where we live in acceptance then why do we completely eradicate a person's freedom of choice? The other questionable bans are the ban

The most disturbing ban is the restriction of foreign tourists in Karnataka from attending any parties without the consent of police officials first because of the recent problem that the police faced when some

laws and practises. Secondly why will every tourist visiting the country face so many restrictions because of the wrong doings of a few.

Why should we let any person or group of people control what we eat or what we watch. '50 shades of grey' may be a sexually explicit movie but what is the great necessity to subdue the concept of sex. There are many other pressing issues that the country should be focused on doing that will benefit us all in all which includes social awareness which will educate the country in the rights that are mentioned in our respective constitution.

Freedom of speech is a human right and you have the right to state your opinion for or against any event or situation. When Barack Obama the president of the United States of America visited our country in January he stated that 'India has the capacity to develop if it puts aside its religious differences and dominance in the name of religion'. Petty differences and problems can be put aside to meet the demands of more pressing and important factors.

on the release of the movie dirty politics citing that the movie is very explicit and has material that insults the integrity of the country. This ban was lifted when the producer and director proved otherwise.

tourists were caught indulging in 'inappropriate behaviour'. Do these officials not understand that even though there are rules that have to be followed in our country these people are actually tourists and are unaware of our



India's Daughter: Truth too hard to embrace

Anshu Dubey and Nikita Baid

'When being raped, she shouldn't fight back; she should just be silent and allow the rape... Then they'd have dropped her off after "doing her", and only hit the boy.' Words we recently heard in television news, read in newspapers and websites and discussed everywhere - in college campuses, canteens, offices and in public transport. Yes, the much hyped opinion of the rapist Mukesh Singh, who spoke out his heart for a BBC documentary. What exactly is Leslee Udwin trying to tell us? Or what exactly is the Indian government trying to hide, by banning the documentary? Has the rapist said something that we don't know already? Why is everybody shocked at this statement? It anyway comes from a monster. But what is the point of banning the documentary that features this man, saying it all, when the gist of it is already in news, and everybody is talking about it. How heinous or "unwatchable" can the film be, compared to what that girl or for

that matter any girl facing this brutality goes through. It is quite visible from our "values", "morals", social ethics, that we have a tendency to close

We have an issue when the rapist blames the girl for getting raped. But why nobody had an issue when a rape survivor was not allowed to enter a particular

thing, putting an end to gender equality." Views exist; they need to be shown and condemned as to refusing to acknowledge that these problems exist in Indian Society. The Indian Government presumes banning the video would cover the unhidden; however it cannot cover up the truth.

"Housework and housekeeping is for girls, not roaming in discos and bars at night doing wrong things, wearing wrong clothes", this is a statement that we are already aware of in our everyday lives, and not just that, such comments coming, not

from a rapist, or a murderer but this is a perception prevailing in the Indian society at large. What happened with Nirbhaya was wrong! What happened with every other girl facing such a fate was wrong! Showing the wrong and facing it, is not!

our eyes and think that the world does not see us. But the fact is, banning the film is not going to stop the information from spreading, neither is it going to stop what is happening around us, nor can it contribute to any further malignance of the nation.

restaurant by the manager in front of the entire world, just because she was raped? Leslee Udwin (who herself has been a rape witness) says, "First let me tell you that my integrity and objectives are absolutely honest and inclusive only of one



Y-BUZZ

Sanjana Sharma

Post India's Daughter controversy, is there any hope for Indian women?

Malvika Rai (BMS, 2nd year 4th semester): Eminent and important people like politicians can make a very good difference as many are influenced by them. If they make statements like rape is caused by food habits or dressing sense denotes that people acquire backward thinking and Women have very little hope in this male dominated society. Illiteracy in India is the core problem which probes such situations especially in India.

Debajyoti Debnath (B. Optom, 1st year, 2nd semester): Women should acquire encouragement from influential Women like Barkha Dutt and Mary Kom who are pressed against the wall but they moved forward and never looked back. So, others should also follow the same track and not get de-moralized by others. Women can gain confidence from this song "Dewale Jodi pith theke jay tobe ghure darate hoy"- Fossils band

Suman Barik (BFDM, 1st year, 2nd semester): Sex Education is crucial in every school as discussion on these topics acts as a vent for people's emotions and they understand better. Everybody has the right to dress as per their tastes and dressing sense should not be blamed for girls being raped. Girls are not toys that they can be played and left anytime. Drinking is another factor which should not be used as a reason for raping as it is nonsensical. The mindset of the people is the only thing that shows their mentality.

Subhashish Mitra (MSc, PG-1): The ray of hope should come from the basic right to freedom of choice. Women or for that matter no-one should look up to the constitution to know what to wear. The question of insecurity should not be looked upon what to wear. Men should support women in each and every step and should not be objectified as "Rapist". People need basic



"His practice of Bold Journalism is what I salute him for" – Uttam

Anshu Priya Dubey

What has been your experience working in leading national publications like The Outlook, The Tribune, Times of India, India Today and also being awarded by PCI for creative excellence?

The experience has been pretty enriching and I can't really complain because I have been a rolling stone since I started from a small town like Ranchi, have explored new places, saw new cultures, experienced new adventures, met new people. I have covered the north east for The India Today, Bihar, UP, and Bengal for The Times of India, the entire north for The Tribune, and eventually wrote on national issues for The Outlook.

Your memories with Late Vinod Mehta, The Founder Editor in-Chief of Outlook.

Other than Vinod Mehta being an Iconic Editor and an Eminent Political Journalist he was an extremely good friend of mine. I consider it to be an extreme privilege to have been provided an opportunity to have worked with him so close. His practice of bold journalism is what I salute him for. His demise has left a big void in the field of journalism. My deep condolences to his family members.

"Print vs Digital war". Do you think the digital is competing with print?

Talking of the digital media, it is definitely fabulous as it is all about real time and convenience. You get to reach out to information instantly, be it videos, audio, news. And of course the print media has been affected as distribution of newspapers is a big issue. Everything in print media, from the functioning, the graphics, the presentation, the news angle has been affected. Also, we have readers abroad who can have access to the digital version of The Tribune,

Ethnic Day at NIMD

Subhashish Mitra

No it was not about preserving 'culture', it was not about 'being seen' and it was definitely not about 'proving a point'. The main concept of having the ethnic day was to break away from the uniformity, the colourlessness. Breaking away from the daily routine of jeans and a t-shirt and adding a bit of colour in everyone's lives. There were no celebrations, no 'events', it was not an 'occasion' of any sorts. It was fifty people spreading a few smiles and jollying each other up and anyone who felt the vibe. Usual classes, usual lunch and usual goodbyes wrapped up in a colourful cocoon of love and happiness appreciating life and the times we share in each other's company. A smile, a tear, laughter and it disappears. Only memories remain of a million smiles and togetherness.



The Outlook, as they cannot have the physical newspapers. But somewhere down the line,

advertisements, hoardings, etc., which Aam Aadmi party did not go for. They chose radio and



print media cannot be called obsolete because in India, even in the urban area, people are not really used to reading news on the internet. The physical newspaper does not seem to be out of their daily lives. Even in the metropolitan cities, large sections of people prefer newspapers as their source of news.

As a senior political journalist how do you visualize the change digital media is bringing in political campaigning and the way political parties interact with voters?

The other day, I met this friend of mine, who is an advertiser, on the airport. And we discussed on this very issue. We spoke of the great case study, which is the Aam Aadmi Party's victory. We've all seen that the Aam Aadmi party did not advertise in the newspapers, unlike the BJP, which used newspapers tremendously for campaigning. Why do you think, BJP used the print version if the e-campaigning was sufficient enough? They had apparently spent, around 60 crores on newspapers

social media, SMSs, to be their medium of communication and campaigning. Their approach was much more direct as they went to places and directly spoke to the people. By spending much less, compared to the BJP, they won majority votes. So it is not really about the medium used, but it actually is about the strategy of tailoring the news according to the requirement. For BJP it wouldn't make a difference, spending some 60 crores, but for Aam Aadmi Party, it was a big deal, which is why they used their resources efficiently, planned economically, and won the votes of the people. So digital media has definitely opened new doors of communication, and its best advantage.

What is your opinion in this regard and how much of rural connectivity do you see in the present and the near future?

I don't think lack of computers is really an issue in the rural region, because if we trust the facts, we have 90 crore people who have access to mobile phones, and therefore they have and they are using the option

The world in two pieces

Sudeepa Bhattacharya

It was a rather chilled evening in this summer time. The breeze and the pleasantness have convinced me to walk the length all the way to my house. As I took the left turn, I saw a huge ruckus from my next door neighbors. The street dogs, the mother and father stands solemnly close to

each other as their six little puppies all lay in a row. One of them has failed the fight while the others were now living on saline. The seventh one, the one with a black patch on its bum was missing. Debunked the scene from the gathered house members; someone earlier that evening thought of a rather amusing idea, to poison the little puppies on my street. It was indeed an exciting idea where excited people were running to and fro trying to save the rest five. The whereabouts about the seventh one was still skeptical. There were searches



in the neighborhood everyone fearing the worst. This story ends abruptly with abrupt consequences.

But from that ending I would like to start a new story. A story where the world spits at kindness and I still find hope in the smallest things I see. For the past so many years, for me maybe precisely four, I have stood waiting for my bus in one of the busiest bus stands around and behind me under the shade of the stand there is a beggar, rather old and fragile guarded by a might royal street dog. "He's a loyal pet" he said. "The dog and I have been through the worst but we always like sharing a plate of food at the end of the day". In front of him is an empty vessel with a coin or two and beside him is a new addition to his small little street family.

One plate, some rice; a new member to share his daily bread.

of accessing news, information, films, advertisements and other forms of communication. And the literacy issue is not much of a problem, as majority of the people can read something or the other. The need of planning arises when it comes to the tailoring of the content for the target audience. We have newspapers that do tailor their news according to the requirement of their audience, and the vernacular newspapers are the biggest example of it. Also if you see the radio medium, all the vernacular jingles are far more successful compared to the English radio jingles. So not having a computer in every household is not that much of an issue because even in small towns you have cyber cafes which serve the purpose. In fact in the rural areas of delhi, you see auto drivers going to the cyber cafes and getting their train reservation done.

How do you foresee the future of the digital era?

Technology is changing at a very rapid pace. It is pretty difficult to predict the future, as the evolution is on and technology has been growing for good, but at the same time, it has its negative effects too. What worries me, is not the content or the medium of accessing, but the people who access the content. My question is, are the people ready for this evolution? Are the people sensitive enough, or do they have enough knowledge to understand the impact of the content they are accessing. New technologies come and go. We can't really predict what might happen because the possibilities are wide. And therefore what is important is how we deal with it, and use it for our welfare.

(Uttam Sengupta is Deputy Editor, Outlook)

Commemorating African American History

Adriana Eternity Hazra

February having been African American History Month in the United States, The American Center Kolkata organized a program on the 26th of February celebrating the month meant to recall the important personalities and historical events relating to the African diaspora. The program began with a poetry reading and a prize distribution for the online quiz that had taken place earlier on the American Center's Facebook page. The show went on to showcase a troupe of fusion dancers doing a powerful routine accompanied by some diverse numbers. The grand finale of the night was, of course, a musical presentation by vocalist, Megan Powers and pianist, Pradyumna Singh Manot. The set opened with Powers' rendition of "Wade in the Water" followed by an explanation of the song's relevance to the struggle being highlighted in the program. The set list was wrapped up with a rendition of "My Funny Valentine" in which Manot incorporates ragas from Indian classical music.