

From the editor's Desk

Dear Friends,

Another monthy. Another issue. The world economy is stumbling on the precipice. Markets and moods are headed southward. Gloom being the international flavour of the month, the analysts and pundits, who were till the other day singing paeans about the dawn of a new economic era, have gone ballistic and are now predicting doomsday even before you can say Nostradamus. With this as the background, let us present to you an equally gloomy issue on, what else, Pollution.

Pollution is chic. Time was, when the hoi polloi from the West screwed their botox curved noses in the disgust when referring to the dirt and squalor of places like Kolkata. It was fashionable to be from the bountiful west and it helped to be pseudo. All that was needed was white skin and a carefully pampered style of looking down on the have not's. Those were the good old days, when the poor on the street actually felt the so-called, much touted, "connect". It was like, "oh God, thank you for making me poor. I have the white man's sympathy. What else can I want?" "Photo op's, Open Edits, cocktails, exotica, God's Shit, maggots eating children... Oh, now I miss those good old days!

For today, when I write this piece, the naked man on the street has already voiced his concern to his white cousins-we are suffering for you bloody sins. You burnt coal and got your industrial revolution. Your stretch Limo's guzzled gas and emitted the toxic fumes that is melting the arctic glaciers. The CFC's in your cooling systems have created the holes in the ozone layer that is allowing harmful radiation to cripple our children. Your wanton greed and endless need for tinkle has woken the foul smelling dragon from its slumber. You are the one responsible for all the ills. And what did we get? A blog spot called tree lovers of the world unite?

You wage wars for reasons even do not know. Wars that cripple your economy even if we were to forget the untold sufferings of millions and the loss of blood. Your bankers create empires on junk papers. Empires that come crashing down like the house of cards that they had built. Empires that make millions homeless. And you still the rest of the world should hear your sermons? That your "poor cousins" (you bet "we" think otherwise) will take all these shit about going green? Buddy, read my lips, it is time you rich guys set your houses in order. For, what you are now doing in the name of being green, is sheer Eco pornography. You are, like one protest poster so succinctly put it, raping the world in the name of fighting for her virginity.

We have strung together thoughts of some of those at the forefront with a view towards representing the widest possible spectrum. While all the other common futures are there, we are extremely happy to present to you a monkey column from Mr. Sushim Banerjee

one of the most articulate minds following the global steel scenario. I am sure that you will have just as much pleasure in reading his informative pieces as I always have.

Do write back. It's a pleasure hearing from you,

Happy Reading

SUVOBRATA GANGULY