



## Virus hits Emotionation

#### SAKEB SUBHAN, WORLDNARROW NEWS

North Atlantic country Emotionation's population has dipped below critical mass, according to the latest survey conducted by the United Rations, published yesterday.

One of the most overpopulated countries on the planet till 2021, the start of its downward spiral into a population that cannot sustain itself any longer can be traced back to a virus -- DVD-22

-- that entered the country in 2020.

the shelf. DVD-22, for those who may have forgotten, was a highly contagious strain spread through touch and with an incubation period of 28 days. The panic was exacerbated by the fact that a first-world country like Catteland had been crippled by the virus just weeks ago, reporting nearly twice the average mortality rate of 3.5 percent of those infected.

But two weeks passed in Emotionation, and there were no more than two cases confirmed. Then, panic was somehow married with hubris. If immunity is top-notch.

"The other aspect, of course, is that being a developing nation, we have a young population. And DVD-22 is much more lethal among the older population," said an editorial in a popular Emotionation newspaper, now defunct.

The editorial was written to calm the panicked, but it led to hubris. Politicians started talking about the DVD-22 being a winter disease, and with the hot summer around the corner, it was but a passing threat.

People relaxed, started shaking hands and touching faces again, but after the four-week incubation period, the effluence hit the rotor blades. New patients sprouted up everywhere in Emotionation, and worse still, having met the stiff resistance among the hardier populace, it evolved into what was later classified as BLURAY-28. Now it not only spread through touch, but through sight as well – specifically, any focused gaze longer than 15 seconds. The incubation period halved and the mortality rate doubled. Forget hand sanitisers and masks,

people were now scampering for sunglasses. But with the woeful wealth inequality, these preventive aids were soon out of circulation and the poor were left empty-handed. Furthermore, the other countries around the world completely isolated Emotionation in terms of travel and trade.

"If we were so hard-hit by DVD-22, what chance do we have with BLURAY-28," the then president of Catteland had said. "And we prefer our sunglasses strictly as a fashion accessory."

With sight being added as a medium

The Daily Star

### Startup on startups that help other startups start up, launches

#### NONE-OF-YOUR-BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

Nestiny, an incubator for incubators has officially launched today. The announcement was made through their website and Facebook page.

The platform aims to facilitate seed funding and provide the necessary learning resources for startups that are still in the idea stage.

"I had many ideas during my youth. Mostly from other people but I have their permission at heart because I believe innovation does not have the time to stop and ask for permission. You don't disrupt by asking first!" said Daniel Asholnam, the CEO and founder of Nestiny.

"In the hyperfast world we live in now, we have too many ideas going around and not enough resources for them. Our plan is to rapidly deploy vertical integrations on top of existing incubation structures within the startup industry. That way, we create incubators that incubate other startups from their initial seed fund, and thus with the seed of one startup, you get two! It's simple math, really," he explained.

Recently, some experts have called Nestiny's business model into question, comparing it to that of multilevel marketing schemes, better known as Ponzi or pyramid schemes.

Mr. Asholnam's angry explanation quickly followed his dry laugh at the mention of his



doubters.

"Absolutely baseless! We have created one of the most stable business structures ever which takes direct inspiration from nature. How can nature be wrong? Do you even know where in whether in the write?

nternational DVD-22 had

unleashed a global pandemic that year, but it was surprising that Emotionation -- one of the less developed countries then, and only beginning to become a developing country -- was the 93rd to be infected as many as five months after DVD-22 had originated in the Thutni Kingdom.

PANIC, THEN HUBRIS

When the first cases of DVD-22 had been reported in Emotionation, it caused widespread panic among the populace, with masks and hand sanitisers flying off

that seems incompatible, consider the name of the country.

"We are a nation of people who are much hardier than our more developed counterparts... that is the other side of the coin of economic development. We have been raised amid mosquitoborne diseases, heavily-processed and artificially-coloured foods and fruits, so we won't be as at-risk as those of Catteland. Our people have also inhaled noxious fumes from the traffic jams -- we are one of the most polluted nations in the world, you know – and the bacteria-laden water we drink means our of contagion, it was unsurprising that women were the most affected. It also started a gender war as women took revenge by ogling men, and of course the birth rate took a hit.

Emotionation remains one of the only nations who are worse off after the DVD-22 outbreak, which reduced global air travel for two years and slowed the rate of climate change.

While BLURAY-28 was eradicated -- or exhausted itself -- after taking a toll for three years, the distrust it brewed has remained to this day in Emotionation. Incubation happens in the wild? In a nest. Nestify follows the natural order of things.

"What about birds? What do they eat to survive and take care of their nest? They eat seeds! Our seed funds enable exactly that. They allow incubators to help their own nests."

The interview was cut short as an investigative team from Securities and Exchange Commission arrived to do their interview of the CEO.

The company raised \$18 million in their second investment round with a valuation of \$64 million. They plan to unveil their roster of startups in a launching event next month.

#### ReadersCorner

# March for equality held at city's historically inaccessible location

#### MADHUBANTI ANASHUA

Women of Dhaka celebrated International Women's Day by participating in the 'March for Equality', which took place in a historically inaccessible location of the city, Gulbagh.

Certain sections of society raised complaints due to the area having a strict policy of only letting in registered rickshaws and customs-evading civilian Hummers.

The event's organisers told the press that they chose the location due to its reputation for being "nice and quiet." Though there were reports of march attendees being stopped and frisked at numerous police checkpoints along the way, it was considered a necessary inconvenience for the greater good of public safety.

Other candidate locations for the march included the National Parliament, which was deemed too pedestrian, and Dhaka University, which was discarded due to the unavailability of coffee places within walking distance.

In observance of International Women's Day, female garment workers held a protest rally in front of the National Press Club to demand workplace equality through ensuring maternity leave and antiharassment laws at factories.

One of the participants at the March for Equality said "I couldn't find it on Facebook events. I wish their publicity had been better, because it would have, like, totally blown up."

Bangladesh Association of Female Garment Owners (BAFGO) also observed International Human's Day on March 8th. All human employees of garments factories were given a chance to shake hands with the president of the association. They were not given pay raises or workers' rights, as "everyone needs rights, not just garments workers," according to the president. "Unless we can ensure rights for everyone, we can't ensure rights for anyone," she added.



## Dolphins of late capitalism all at sea

#### ABIDA CHOWDHURY

Scientist in 2420 uncovers perfectly preserved time capsule of letters from a Gangetic River Dolphin in Bangladesh. Read below to find out what the letters contain:

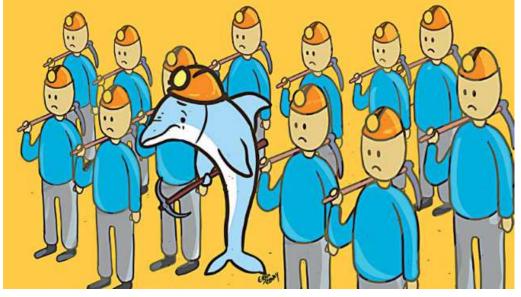
#### May Day, circa 2056 Bampal Powerplant

Dear Ma dolphin and Baba dolphin, I hope you guys are doing well. I feel quite settled here at the job. The coal plant owners are very nice, they pay me overtime for every extra hour I spend at the factory beyond my designated 18hrs. It is nice here, the roads are smooth, we are supplying electricity to all the people of our country and as CSR, we have also opened a mask factory. And you know what? I got one for free. I wear it regularly now, because of all the pollution in the air. I will send you guys some too. They say, the bad air will reach you guys soon too. But don't you worry, I will send our masks!

By the way, after news of my joining broke out, the factory has been receiving more and more visitors. Many of the human children have never seen a dolphin before! Can you imagine, ma?

Anyway, I wait for you guys to write back soon. The factory guys will probably plan a visit to your area soon, might even take me along. I am quite the attraction, you know! If that happens, I will try and visit. With love, Baby Dolphin.

To, Baby Dolphin, Main Aquarium,



#### Bampal Powerplant. Dear,

We miss you everyday here. The group is getting smaller and smaller but we are not starved for entertainment. Just last Friday, a huge launch came really deep inside the forest. They were playing music, some new indie folk stuff -- your younger brother Brodude mentioned. Brodude is planning to go to either Bihar or Nijhum Dwip. He says there are marine protected areas there and scientific research on dolphins is going on where he wants to take part. Let's see, we are still discussing the matter.

By the way, you do not have to send masks. The kids from the launch were kind enough to give us a few before they left.

#### Waves and loves, Dolphin ma

Dear Ma Dolphin and Baba dolphin, I am getting a little worried. Sent you all at least five letters and I have received no reply yet. Meanwhile, you know I keep getting bad news. It seems these days, dolphin murders are on the rise. Just last week, the powerplant aquarium was abuzz with news of two dolphins who washed ashore after they were caught in fishing nets. Will you guys send out news and check how our relatives are doing there? I worry. Please write back soon.

Loves, Baby Dolphin.