



## Country to go for Mockdowns, not lockdowns

MAHBUB ALAM MUNNA

Is it the third wave of the pandemic or the second? While that question is up for debate, there's no question that Chapasthan, popularly known as Singapore and the America of the east, has been witnessing its second country-wide lockdown.

This time people are in a huge confusion regarding the word 'lockdown' as things seem to be open from morning till dusk.

A group of conscious people has checked the word in the Oxford dictionary and tried to match the meaning with the current circumstances of Chapasthan.

Under the current lockdown, the

people of Chapasthan are bound to go to their workplace where they produce wheat and milk to earn their bread and butter. Of course, that's a great strategy, undertaken by the emperors of Chapasthan, to keep pace with the American economy.

Furthermore, the country, which sees high emissions of methane, are gearing their new safety measures to benefit people's health. "Our government is saving non-renewable energy by keeping public transports static. Maybe we are moving on foot, but it's also a great move for our health," Shukkur Ali, a daily public bus commuter, said while asked about this 'Mockdown'.

The country recently also challenged

its people to go to their workplace without using any vehicles. One of the emperors of Chapasthan gave this scientific explanation. "We try to make people more creative and innovative. When they do not get any vehicle to reach their destinations, they will think about alternatives. This will bring innovation and they may invent a new way of safe transport just like how the airplane was invented," he said.

But the country has also been cautious so its citizens aren't bored during the mockdown, with many entertainment options kept open.

The bookfair seems to be a corona-free place where you may go without mask or any antiseptic. Insiders say

that Chapasthan and Covid-90 have agreed a term that Covid-90 will not affect any human being who comes to the fair to buy books without taking any selfies or making romanticised posts about our love for books and the permanence of those.

Elsewhere, some shops are open and some aren't. "My shop took the vaccine! I registered it as 41-years-old. How could a vaccinated shop spread Coronavirus among its customers?" a shop-keeper asked.

People are gathering here and there. Some come on the road to see how it looks during lockdown. The mask lost its previous place and seems to be in a long-distance relationship with

the nose. Social distancing seems to be a socially awkward activity. People give a surprised look to anybody who suggests to maintain social distancing in public. One of the country's Facebook celebrities posted, "This is a unique style of lockdown. The developed countries should learn from us. We restrict people's movement and keep places open. That's how we balance two sides. Especially, I believe in lockdown of the mind. The lockdown of mind is the biggest lockdown. Every day I go to market, park, shopping malls, tea stalls but believe that everything, including me, is in lockdown. I love this doctrine. Do you?"

## Covid vaccine linked with risk of Mark-cysts

AHMED ADIB

Conspiracy theorists in our country have long known that the SARS CoV-2 virus which causes COVID-19, was lab-manufactured.

Now their research shows that the new mutation causing our recent surge in infection, was also lab-manufactured. They posit that this new variant is of foreign-origin, and was scattered here recently by some foreign heads of state and government, who during their respiratory cycles, were 'exhaling with an agenda'.

The current vaccine - which (and here conspiracy theorists are in concord with the scientific community) is also lab-manufactured (but which this renders it suspect) - is still thought by manufacturers to provide some protection against new mutations.

The global concern, however, is that some reports hint that this vaccine may raise the odds of developing a type of cyst in the body's nervous system, called mark-cyst.

Mark-cysts are nothing new and have caused tribulation and trepidation abroad in the past. But scientists here are not too worried, and say that in our local context, these are mostly benign. Past clinical observational studies in the country have shown mark-cysts to be quite inert. Some environmental factors are thought to be the reason. A simplified explanation



of some technical terms and processes is given by the scientific community, for which we need a brief detour. A cyst is a cluster of cells. Cells of the nervous system are called nerve cells or neurons, which carry electrochemical signals. Signals are transmitted between nerve cells via chemical messengers, called neurotransmitters. For the neurotransmitter to successfully transmit the message, it must activate a 'receptor' at the border

of the next cell.

Some chemical structures (such as that of nicotine), mimic other essential neurotransmitters, hence are able to successfully activate those receptors, and transmit the message throughout the nervous system.

Now returning to mark-cysts in the local context: the chemicals in their cells, seen primarily as of foreign-origin, cannot successfully mimic other necessary chemicals recognised

by the receptors. Hence, the message is not transmitted.

Unlike that, however, a new substance provisionally called mist, is thought by some to have potential for successfully mimicking essential neurotransmitters, for reasons outside the scope of this peer-reviewed newspaper article. The matter is explored in DoYourResearch (2015) and Don'tFeedYourConfirmationBias (2017).

## Morally upstanding preacher loves wife so much, he wants two of them

OSAMA RAHMAN

A morally upstanding preacher, who made a name for himself by spewing violent vitriol against more liberal members of his community on a daily basis, yesterday disclosed to the media that he had a side-wife as well.

"You all talk about side-chicks, but if you were imbued with the spirituality of the other worlds, you would only talk about side-wives," The Great Wizard Master Arjeesh Shakil said at a press conference.

"But of course not all of you can do it. See, I love my first wife so much, I kept my second wife a secret from her. But of course, the Sol knows everything so nothing is really a secret if you think about it," he said while engaging in some of the most well-articulated mental gymnastics ever seen.

The Great Wizard took the time to guide his followers on how to have two wives and also the why. "Women need to be protected. They are like rose petals and we are the plant. Which rose has only one petal? I say, which rose only has one petal? Repeat after me, *women are such beautiful petals, only a man with the right mettle, can mould her into what he seeks, you can say women are like hot metal,*" he said and sang at the same time.

Among those present, a lot of them repeated the Great Wizard's words in a peaceful hum, with just an undercurrent of violence.

"We must protect our women. And for



that we must shield their eyes from what they see. Don't let your eye fall upon evil, lest it becomes a part of you, it was said. WE MUST SHIELD THEIR EYES!" he exclaimed.

"And how can you do that without marrying them? If you don't marry them, they belong to everyone else. Eyes will be more tempted than ever!"

"Let's all stop talking about polygamy. Polygyny is the only way forward. Keep your enemies close, but your secret and non-secret wives closer," he said.

"Let us all conduct ourselves with peace. For peace is the best course of options. And those that don't adhere to peace? OFF WITH THEIR HEADS!" he said to loud murmurs of appreciation and support.