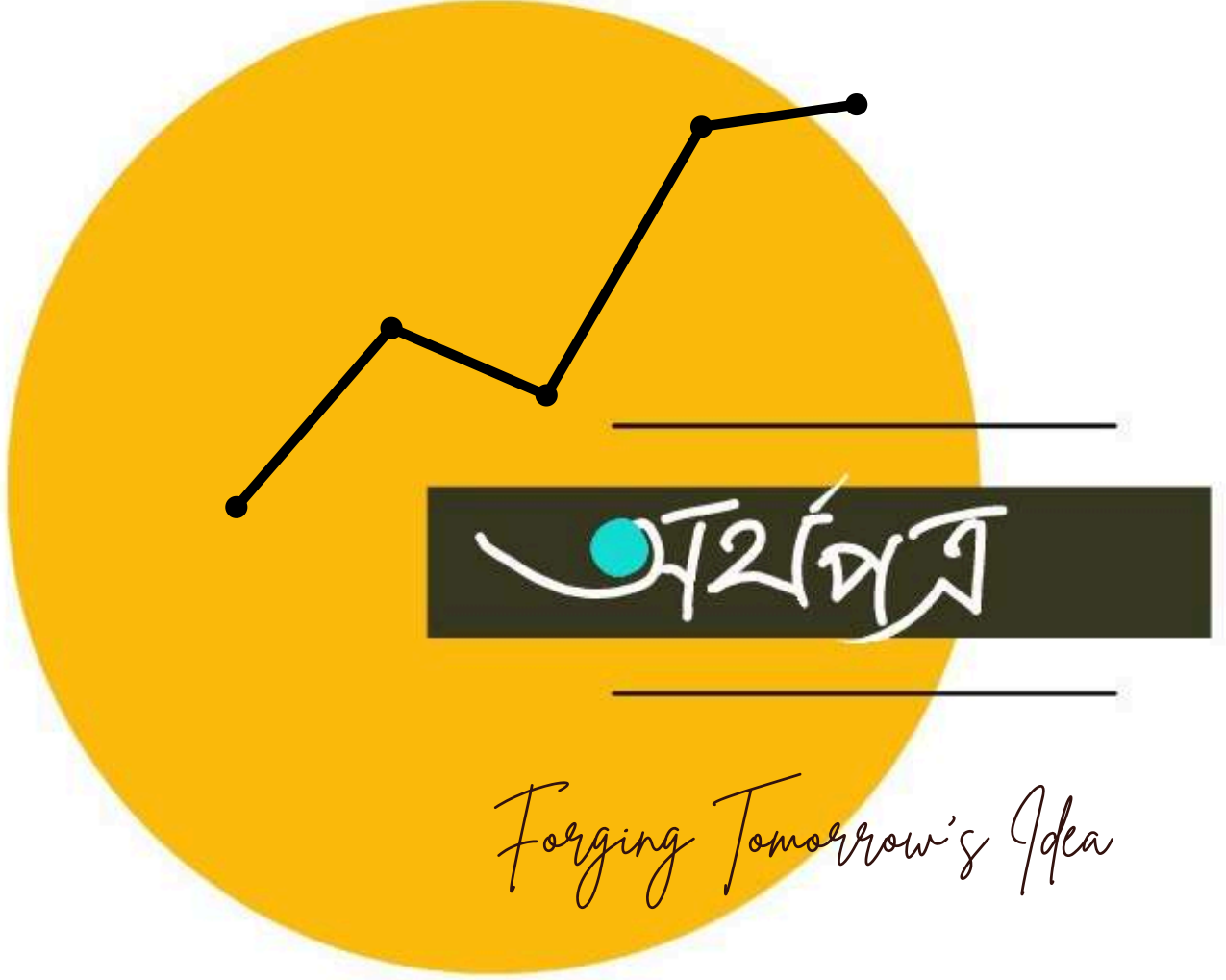




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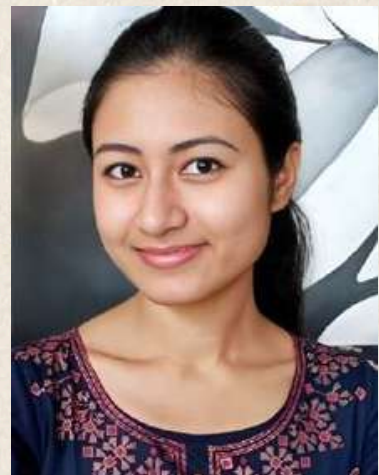


**An effort by the Department of Economics,
Cotton University**

FOREWORD

The 18th edition of the Artha Patra focuses on the transformational role played by AI. As with every sectors and areas, AI influence is perceptible in reshaping the global markets and supply chain.

Congratulations to the team and all the contributors for highlighting this relevant topic.



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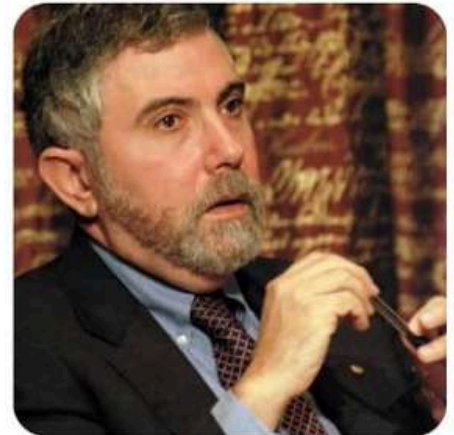
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Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences & Paul Krugman

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel for 2008 to **Paul Krugman** for his research and contribution on 'The increasing returns revolution in trade and geography'.



Questions about globalization and worldwide urbanization has always been central to both economics and geography. However, initially, both of these fields separately studied trade and urbanisation. The traditional theory built on the idea that countries differ in resources, like capital and labour which leads to poor countries exporting agricultural products and importing industrial goods from richer countries was however not sufficient to explain real-world trade patterns. Paul Krugman instead claimed in his 1979 theory that world trade is dominated by similar countries producing and trading similar products which helped us understand both the rapid growth of world trade and the increasing concentration of economic activities to cities. Initially, the countries traded dissimilar goods among each other to take advantages of their differences. But after World war 2 and the trade agreements that followed, countries started adopting a more 'similar products between similar countries' trade pattern. Paul Krugman explained this by using the example of Britain's trade activities. Before World war 1, Britain exported manufactured goods and imported cheap raw materials from distant countries.

However after World war 2, Britain started exporting as well as importing manufactured goods that it could statistically produce itself. Krugman explained these trade patterns by stressing on the importance of "economies of scale", which states that producing more of one product reduces the average cost. Krugman then used the monopolistic model to show that even identical countries will trade, because consumers like variety.

Because of these varied demands, small scale producers catering for local markets are often transformed into large firms exporting to the world market, where firms with similar products, but different brands, compete with each other. Worldwide trading allows firms to specialize and to exploit economies of scale which leads to lower prices and more product variety for consumers. Once the new trade theory brought in monopolistic competition and increasing returns, it opened the door to linking international trade with economic geography. Paul Krugman used this concept of international trade and economic geography to show how economies of scale along with falling transportation costs can trigger a self-reinforcing process whereby a growing urban population gives rise to more large-scale production, higher real wages and a more diversified supply of goods. This, in turn, stimulates further migration to cities. The end result may well be that regions become divided into an urbanized core and a less developed periphery. Krugman's theories thus explained real-world patterns of trade and urban/industrial clustering and connected international trade with geography which secured him a noble prize in 2008.

Pahi Borah
UG 3rd semester

BRIEF HISTORY OF AI DEVELOPMENT

The most buzz word in the tech industry is Artificial Intelligence. From Alphabet to OpenAi every tech giant is competing with each other for better and advanced Ai to gain market share in this space. Even though it may sometimes feel like AI is a recent development in technology. After all, it's only become mainstream to use in the last several years, right? In reality, the groundwork for AI began in the early 1900s. And although the biggest strides weren't made until the 1950s, it wouldn't have been possible without the work of early experts in many different fields.

During the 1950-1956 times, the interest in AI really came to a head. Alan Turing published his work "Computer Machinery and Intelligence" which eventually became The Turing Test, which experts used to measure computer intelligence. In 1955, John McCarthy held a workshop at Dartmouth on "artificial intelligence" which is the first use of the word, and how it came into popular usage. The late 1950s through the 1960s was a time of creation. From programming languages that are still in use to this day to books and films that explored the idea of robots, AI became a mainstream idea quickly. The 1970s showed similar improvements, such as the first anthropomorphic robot being built in Japan, to the first example of an autonomous vehicle being built by an engineering grad student. However, it was also a time of struggle for AI research, as the U.S. government showed little interest in continuing to fund AI research..

Most of the 1980s showed a period of rapid growth and interest in AI, now labeled as the "AI boom." This came from both breakthroughs in research, and additional government funding to support the researchers. Deep Learning techniques and the use of Expert System became more popular, both of which allowed computers to learn from their mistakes and make independent decisions.

As the AAAI warned, an AI Winter came. The term describes a period of low consumer, public, and private interest in AI which leads to decreased research funding, which, in turn, leads to few breakthroughs. Both private investors and the government lost interest in AI and halted their funding due to high cost versus seemingly low return. This AI Winter came about because of some setbacks in the machine market and expert systems, including the end of the Fifth Generation project, cutbacks in strategic computing initiatives, and a slowdown in the deployment of expert systems. Despite the lack of funding during the AI Winter, the early 90s showed some impressive strides forward in AI research, including the introduction of the first AI system that could beat a reigning world champion chess player. This era also saw early examples of AI agents in research settings, as well as the introduction of AI into everyday life via innovations such as the first Roomba and the first commercially-available speech recognition software on Windows computers.

The surge in interest was followed by a surge in funding for research, which allowed even more progress to be made.

In the 2010s, advancements in deep learning—an approach based on multi-layered neural network has transformed AI development. Breakthroughs in processing power (particularly GPUs), along with massive datasets, enabled systems to achieve unprecedented accuracy in image recognition, natural language processing, and speech synthesis.

Landmark achievements included Google's AlphaGo defeating a professional Go champion in 2016, an AI feat once thought decades away. Deep learning also powered innovations like self-driving car prototypes, real-time language translation, and realistic generative models capable of producing images, music, and human-like text.

The current stage of AI, emerging in the 2020s, is marked by the rise of generative AI, particularly large language models (LLMs). Systems such as GPT, BERT, and others can produce human-like text, answer complex questions, and even aid in coding or creative writing. Similar generative models can create art, music, and realistic images, blurring the line between human and machine creativity.

AI is also increasingly interconnected with daily lives from shaping healthcare, finance, logistics, education to even policymaking. It has created new possibilities but also sparked profound debates about ethics, transparency, and control. Issues such as algorithmic bias, job displacement, privacy concerns and the potential risks of unchecked autonomous systems now dominate global discussions.

Izza Saime Sahariah
UG 5th Semester

THE IMPACT OF AGENTIC ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ON THE GLOBAL MARKET

মানৱসভ্যতাৰ ইতিহাস সদায় পৰিৱৰ্তনৰ ধাৰাত গঢ় লৈ উঠিছে। প্ৰাচীন যুগত শিল-যন্ত্ৰৰ সহায়েৰে জীৱনধাৰা চলাই থকা মানুহ এতিয়া মহাকাশ অভিযন্তা, জিন এডিটিং বিজ্ঞানী বা ড্ৰোন ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰ। এই পথচলাত প্ৰযুক্তিৰ অৱদান অমূল্য। প্ৰযুক্তিৰ সহায়েৰে মানুহে প্ৰকৃতিৰ বিৰুদ্ধে সংগ্ৰাম কৰি জীৱনধাৰাক সমৃদ্ধ কৰিছে। কৃষিবিপ্লৱে মানুহক খাদ্যৰ সুৰক্ষা দিলে, শিল্পবিপ্লৱে যান্ত্ৰিক শক্তিৰ সহায়েৰে উৎপাদনৰ নতুন সম্ভাৱনা খুলিলে, তথ্য-বিপ্লৱে মানুহক গ্লোবেল ভিলেজৰ ধাৰণা দান কৰিলে। এতিয়া কৃত্ৰিম বুদ্ধিমত্তা নামৰ নৱতম প্ৰযুক্তি এনে এটা অধ্যায় উন্মোচন কৰিছে য'ত মানৱ সৃষ্টিশীলতা আৰু যান্ত্ৰিক চিন্তাধাৰাই একেলগে কাম কৰি বিশ্ববজাৰৰ মৌলিক গঠন সলনি কৰি পেলাইছে।

এই কৃত্ৰিম বুদ্ধিমত্তাৰ ভিতৰত বিশেষ আলোড়ন সৃষ্টি কৰিছে এজেন্টিক কৃত্ৰিম বুদ্ধিমত্তা। সাধাৰণ কৃত্ৰিম বুদ্ধিমত্তা মাত্ৰ দিয়া নিৰ্দেশ পালন কৰে, কিন্তু এজেন্টিক কৃত্ৰিম বুদ্ধিমত্তাৰ ভিতৰত আছে পৰিস্থিতি নিজেই বিশ্লেষণ কৰি সিদ্ধান্ত লোৱাৰ ক্ষমতা। অৰ্থাৎ এই ণী এ নিজৰ লক্ষ্য নিৰ্ধাৰণ কৰি সেই লক্ষ্যত উপনীত হোৱাৰ বাবে প্ৰয়োজনীয় পদক্ষেপ নিজেই বাছি ল'ব পাৰে। ইয়াক কোৱা হয় এজেন্টিক বা এজেন্ট-ভিত্তিক ণী। এই প্ৰযুক্তিৰ মূৰত থকা “এজেন্ট”সমূহে একেলগে সিদ্ধান্ত ল'ব পাৰে, পৰিৱেশৰ তথ্য গ্ৰহণ কৰি প্ৰতিক্ৰিয়া দিব পাৰে আৰু লক্ষ্য পূৰণৰ বাবে নতুন নতুন কৌশল উদ্ভাৱন কৰিব পাৰে। এই বৈশিষ্ট্যই ইয়াক সাধাৰণ ণী ৰ পৰা পৃথক কৰি তুলিছে।

বিশ্ববজাৰৰ ওপৰত ইয়াৰ প্ৰভাৱ সুদূৰপ্ৰসাৰী। উদাহৰণস্বৰূপে शेয়ার বজাৰ বা stock market লৈ ধৰি চাওঁক। शेয়ার বজাৰত প্ৰতিদিনে লাখে লাখ তথ্য আহে—ৰাজনৈতিক পৰিস্থিতি, বৈদেশিক মুদ্ৰা, বহুজাতিক প্ৰতিষ্ঠানৰ লাভ-ক্ষতি, বিশ্বজনীন সংকট, খনিজ তেলৰ দাম ইত্যাদি। মানুহৰ পক্ষে এই তথ্য মুহূৰ্ততে বিশ্লেষণ কৰি সঠিক সিদ্ধান্ত লোৱা প্ৰায় অসম্ভৱ। কিন্তু এজেন্টিক ণী এ সেকেণ্ডৰ ভিতৰত লক্ষাধিক তথ্য বিশ্লেষণ কৰি বিনিয়োগকাৰীক সঠিক সময়ত কেনেদৰে शेয়ার কিনিব বা বিক্ৰী কৰিব সেই সিদ্ধান্ত দিব পাৰে। এই ধৰণৰ ব্যৱহাৰে বিনিয়োগ সংস্থা, বেংক, ফিন-টেক কোম্পানীসকল ইতিমধ্যে লাভবান হৈছে।

উদাহৰণস্বৰূপে, ২০২৩ চনত ইউৰোপৰ একাধিক ফিন-টেক সংস্থাই এজেন্টিক এণ্ড-ভিত্তিক সিস্টেম ব্যৱহাৰ কৰি তাৎক্ষণিক ঋণ বিশ্লেষণ ব্যৱস্থা আৰম্ভ কৰে। আগতে যি কামত দিনৰ পিছত দিন লগা হৈছিল, এতিয়া সেকেণ্ডৰ ভিতৰত সিদ্ধান্ত লোৱা যায়। ঋণগ্ৰহীতাৰ পূৰ্ববৰ্তী লেন-দেনৰ ইতিহাস, আৰ্থিক সক্ষমতা, মুদ্ৰা বিনিময়ৰ পৰিস্থিতি—এইবোৰ তথ্য একেলগে বিশ্লেষণ কৰি এণ্ড এ সিদ্ধান্ত দিয়ে। ফলত বেঙ্কৰ *efficiency* বৃদ্ধি পায় আৰু গ্ৰাহক সন্তুষ্ট হয়।

উৎপাদন আৰু সৰবৰাহ শৃংখলৰ ক্ষেত্ৰতো এজেন্টিক এণ্ড-ৰ প্ৰভাৱ দেখা গৈছে। বহুজাতিক প্ৰতিষ্ঠানবোৰে উৎপাদন, গুদামজাতকৰণ আৰু বিতৰণ একেলগে সমন্বয় কৰাৰ বাবে এজেন্টিক এণ্ড ব্যৱহাৰ আৰম্ভ কৰিছে। উদাহৰণস্বৰূপে, যদি কোনো কোম্পানীৰ উৎপাদিত সামগ্ৰী দক্ষিণ-পূৱ এশিয়াত অধিক বিক্ৰী হ'ব বুলি অনুমান হয়, তেতিয়া এণ্ড এ সেই অঞ্চলত গুদাম বৃদ্ধি কৰাৰ সিদ্ধান্ত দিব পাৰে। আনহাতে, ক'ত সামগ্ৰীৰ চাহিদা কমি যাব সেইটোও এণ্ড পূৰ্বানুমান কৰি উৎপাদনৰ পৰিমাণ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিব পাৰে। ইয়াৰ ফলত অপচয় কমি যায় আৰু লাভ বৃদ্ধি হয়। বিশ্বস্বাস্থ্য খণ্ডত এই প্ৰযুক্তি এক বিপ্লৱ সূচনা কৰিছে। এণ্ড-ভিত্তিক চিকিৎসা প্ৰণালী এতিয়া ৰোগীৰ মেডিকেল ইতিহাস বিশ্লেষণ কৰি সম্ভাৱ্য ৰোগ চিনাক্ত কৰে। কিছুমান ক্ষেত্ৰত এণ্ড এ কৰ্কট বা হৃদৰোগৰ লক্ষণ আগতীয়াকৈ চিনাক্ত কৰি চিকিত্সকৰ আগত স্পষ্ট প্ৰমাণ উপস্থাপন কৰিছে। ইয়াৰ লগে লগে ৰোবটিক *surgery*, ওষুধ উদ্ভাৱন, নতুন ভেক্সিন বিকাশ আদি ক্ষেত্ৰতো এজেন্টিক এণ্ড বহুলভাৱে ব্যৱহৃত হৈছে। উদাহৰণস্বৰূপে, ২০২০-২১ মহামাৰীৰ সময়ত বহু দেশ এণ্ড-ভিত্তিক মডেল ব্যৱহাৰ কৰি ভেক্সিনৰ ফলাফল পৰীক্ষা কৰিছিল।

শিক্ষা খণ্ডত এজেন্টিক এণ্ড এক ব্যক্তিগত শিক্ষক হিচাপে গঢ় লৈ উঠিছে। প্ৰতিজন শিক্ষাৰ্থীৰ দৰমহল অনুসৰি পাঠ্যসামগ্ৰী সাজি দিছে। উদাহৰণস্বৰূপে, কোনো শিক্ষাৰ্থী গণিতত পিছ পৰিছে বুলি ধৰা হ'ল, তেতিয়া এণ্ড এ তাৰ বাবে বিশেষভাবে গণিতৰ সহজ প্ৰশ্ন সাজি দিয়ে আৰু ধীৰে ধীৰে কঠিন প্ৰশ্নলৈ অগ্ৰসৰ কৰে। ইয়াৰ ফলত শিক্ষাৰ্থী বিশেষ উপকৃত হয়।

তথাপিও এই প্ৰযুক্তিৰ সৈতে কিছুমান বিপদো জড়িত। চাকৰি হেৰুৱা সমস্যাটো সকলোতকৈ গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ। উদাহৰণস্বৰূপে, বীমা খণ্ডত এতিয়া লাখে লাখ লোক *manually data entry* কৰে। যদি এই কাম এণ্ড এ কৰিব লাগে, তেতিয়া সেই লোকবোৰে চাকৰি হেৰুৱাব। ইফালে এণ্ড-ৰ ওপৰত অধিক নিৰ্ভৰশীলতাই মানুহক চিন্তাহীন কৰি তুলিব পাৰে। নৈতিকতা, গোপনীয়তা, মিছা তথ্যৰ বিস্তাৰ আদি সমস্যাও বহুলভাৱে বৃদ্ধি পাব। বহু অৰ্থনীতিবিদৰ মতে, যদি সঠিক নীতি-নিয়মেৰে এণ্ড ব্যৱহাৰ নকৰা হয়, তেন্তে বিশ্ববজাৰ এক দিশত সঁচাকৈ লাভবান হ'বলৈও আন দিশত দুখ-দুৰ্দশা বঢ়িব।

ভাৰত এই ক্ষেত্ৰত বিশেষ গুৰুত্বৰ দেশ। ভাৰতত ইতিমধ্যে এণ্ড *Mission-2025* আৰম্ভ হৈছে য'ত শিক্ষা, স্বাস্থ্য, কৃষি, ন্যায়পালিকা আদি খণ্ডত এণ্ড ব্যৱহাৰ বৃদ্ধিৰ লক্ষ্য নিৰ্ধাৰণ কৰা হৈছে। এণ্ড স্টাৰ্ট-আপ, বায়োটেক কোম্পানী, ফিন-টেক সংস্থা- এইবোৰত বৰ্তমান লাখে লাখ লোক কাম কৰি আছে। ২০২৫ চনৰ ভিতৰত এণ্ড-ৰ মাৰ্কেট ভাৰতত ৭ বিলিয়ন ডলাৰ অতিক্ৰম কৰিব বুলি অনুমান কৰা হৈছে।

অসমৰ পৰিপ্ৰেক্ষিতত এই প্ৰযুক্তি নতুন সম্ভাৱনা আৰু চেলেঞ্জ দুইয়ে উন্মোচন কৰিছে। অসমৰ কৃষিখণ্ডত এজেক্টিক ৭৭ ব্যৱহাৰ কৰি শস্য উৎপাদন পূৰ্বানুমান, বীজ বাছনি, মাটিৰ গুণাগুণ বিশ্লেষণ আদি কাম আগবঢ়াব পাৰি। পৰ্যটন খণ্ডতো ৭৭ ব্যৱহাৰে ভ্ৰমণকাৰীৰ পছন্দ অনুযায়ী সৰ্বোত্তম পৰিকল্পনা দিব পাৰে। শিক্ষা খণ্ডত অসমীয়া ভাষাৰ ডেটা মডেল বিকাশ কৰিলে অসমীয়া ভাষাক ৭৭-ৰ সহায়ত বিশ্বমঞ্চত প্ৰতিষ্ঠা কৰিব পাৰি।

কিন্তু এই সকলোবোৰৰ মাজত গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ হ'ল নৈতিকতা আৰু দায়িত্ব। এজেক্টিক ৭৭ এক “আৰ্থিক টো” হিচাপে বিশ্ববজাৰত নতুন ৰূপ আনিছে। কিন্তু এই টোয়ে যদি সঠিক দিশেৰে আগবঢ়ে তেনেহ'লে ই মানুহক এক উন্নত ভৱিষ্যত দিব। অন্যথা হলে ইয়াৰ ফল বিপৰ্যয়কাৰী হ'বও পাৰে।

মানৱসভ্যতাৰ আগৰ প্ৰতিটো বিপ্লৱৰ দৰে এই প্ৰযুক্তি-বিপ্লৱৰো দুটা মুখ আছে—এটা উন্নতিৰ আৰু আনটো বিপদৰ। সমাজ, ৰাজনীতি, অৰ্থনীতি—সকলো স্তৰে সঠিক সিদ্ধান্ত ল'লে এই নতুন প্ৰযুক্তি মানৱসভ্যতাক এক নৱদিশত আগবঢ়াব। কিন্তু যদি মাত্ৰ মুনাফাৰ লোভেৰে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰা হয়, তেন্তে ই বৈষম্য, বেকাৰিত্ব আৰু মানৱিক মূল্যবোধৰ হ্ৰাস ঘটাব।

ইয়াৰ পৰা স্পষ্ট হয় যে এজেক্টিক কৃত্ৰিম বুদ্ধিমত্তা এখন উপকৰণ, যাৰ সদ্ব্যৱহাৰ আৰু কুব্যৱহাৰ দুয়োটাই মানুহৰ হাতত। সঠিক নীতি-নিয়ম, নৈতিকতা আৰু সমবৰ্তনমূলক ব্যৱহাৰে ইয়াৰ টো মানৱসভ্যতাক উন্নতিৰ নতুন গন্তব্যলৈ লৈ যাব।

Bhargab Das
PG 3rd Semester

Departmental Activities



UGC NET Workshop

Department Freshers



STRATEGIES, SUCCESS, AND INSPIRATION: UGC-NET WORKSHOP AND FELICITATION CEREMONY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

The Department of Economics organized a Workshop on UGC-NET on 28 August 2025 in MCB Room No. 311. The programme featured Dr. Masum Ahmed, Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics at Pragjyotish College, as the resource person, who delivered a lecture on effective strategies for preparing for the National Eligibility Test (NET).



The event also included a felicitation ceremony for students from the current and previous batches who had successfully cleared the NET examination as well as those who were eligible for PhD admission based on their NET scores

In his address, Dr. Ahmed underscored the importance of building a solid foundation during the initial two months of preparation. He advised aspirants to utilise standard books and credible YouTube mentors for Paper I, take NTA mock tests to familiarise themselves with the examination pattern, and practice previous years' question papers (PYQs) for a comprehensive understanding of the paper. He further emphasised the need to begin with a clear understanding of the syllabus, adopt sectional tests as a means of evaluation, and make judicious use of interactive digital platforms. To engage participants effectively, he employed a mobile application that facilitated real-time interaction with the audience.

The felicitation ceremony honoured the achievements of students who had cleared the NET as well as those eligible for PhD admission based on their NET scores. Several of them shared their experiences, reflecting on their preparation journeys and expressing gratitude for the constant support of the faculty. The students were felicitated by the esteemed professors of the department, without whose guidance their journey would not have been possible



On this occasion, professors of the department also delivered speeches that stressed the importance of perseverance, encouraging students to never give up and to continue striving for success. These words of inspiration, combined with the success stories of the achievers, created a highly motivating atmosphere for the aspirants in attendance.

The event was anchored by Ms. Jyotshnakshi Nath, whose engaging presentation ensured a smooth flow of the proceedings. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks, followed by tea and refreshments arranged by the professors of the department. The workshop was well-received by both faculty and students and marked a successful academic engagement that combined guidance, recognition, and inspiration.

Freshemen Social 2025 : DEUKA

The Economics Department of our university recently witnessed a day filled with excitement, laughter, and warmth as we celebrated the much-awaited Freshers' Day, which coincided beautifully with the birthday of our respected Head of Department. As a third-year student and a proud senior of this department, it was truly heartwarming to see the new batch stepping into the world of economics with such enthusiasm and energy.

The event began with a warm welcome address marking the beginning of a new academic journey for the freshers. The atmosphere was vibrant -decorated with colourful balloons, cheerful faces, and an air of anticipation. The juniors introduced themselves with confidence, showcasing their talents through songs, dance, poetry, and witty performances that kept everyone entertained throughout.



The highlight of the day, however, was the celebration of our Head of Department's birthday. The moment was special not only because it added joy to the event but also because it brought together both students and faculty in a shared sense of respect and affection. A beautiful cake was cut amidst cheerful claps and heartfelt wishes, and the entire hall echoed with a collective "Happy Birthday!" that symbolized the unity and warmth of our department



HOD Ma'am's Birthday Celebration

Our HOD, in their speech, reminded us of the importance of academic curiosity and teamwork - encouraging both seniors and juniors to make the most of their time in the department. Their words served as a gentle reminder that economics is not just about theories and numbers but also about understanding society and contributing meaningfully to it.

As seniors, we felt a deep sense of nostalgia watching the new faces who will soon carry forward the legacy of our department. The informal interaction session allowed everyone to connect, share experiences, and break the ice. It was refreshing to see friendships forming so effortlessly across batches.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks and a round of photographs capturing the laughter, bonding, and shared joy of the day. What made this Freshers' Day truly memorable was how it blended celebration and togetherness- welcoming the new while honoring the ones who continue to guide us.



Mr. and Miss Freshers 2025

As the day came to an end, one couldn't help but feel grateful - for the friendships formed, the guidance received, and the sense of belonging that defines the Economics Department. It was not just a celebration; it was a reminder of the vibrant academic family we are a part of.

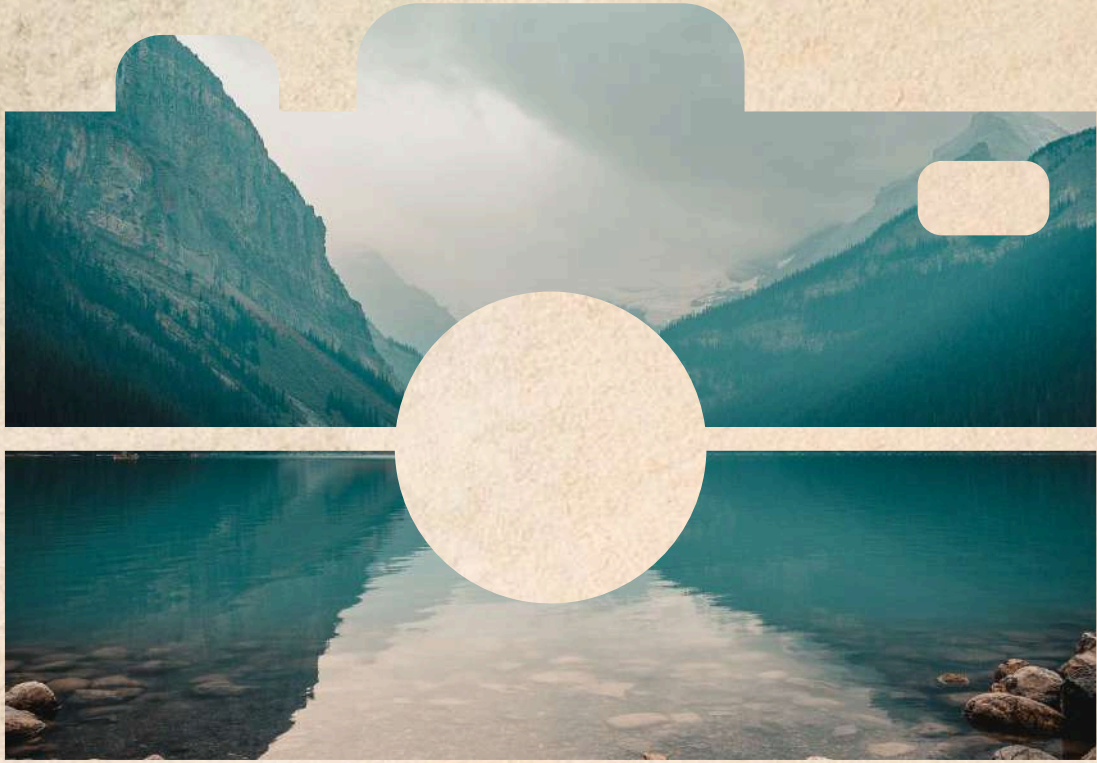


Photo Story

- **Cobblestone Calm**
Sagartirtha Chakraborty
- **Whispers of the Hills**
Izza Saime Sahariah
- **Beneath the weight of quiet skies**
Ashmita Chowdhury

PHOTO STORY



SAGARTIRTHA CHAKRABORTY

Cobblestone calm

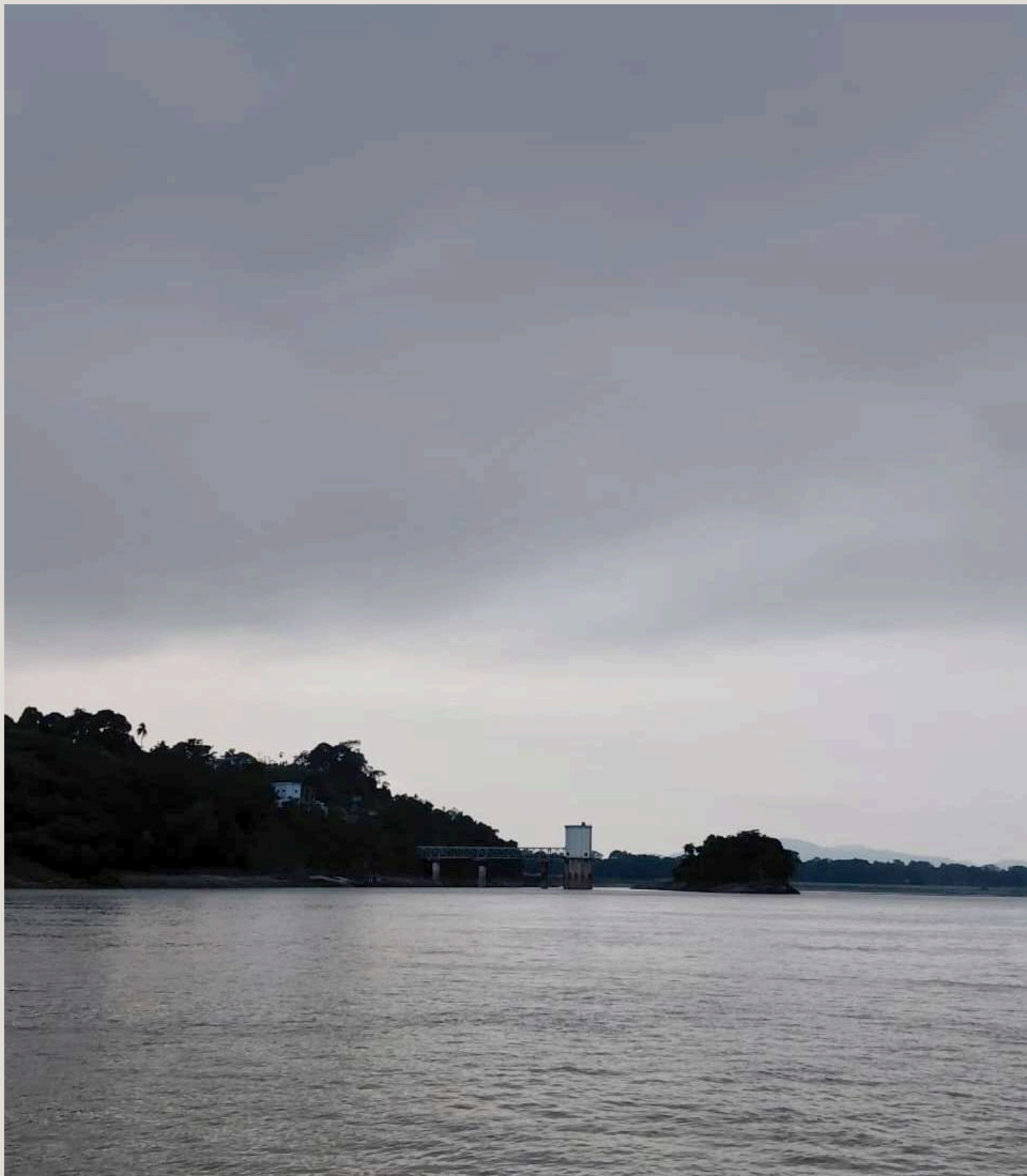
PHOTO STORY



IZZA SAIME SAHARIAH

Whispers of the hills

PHOTO STORY



ASHMITA CHOWDHURY

Beneath the weight of quiet skies

BOOK REVIEW

(গ্ৰন্থ আলোচনা)

বকুল ফুলৰ দৰে

প্ৰজ্ঞা পূজাৰী

PRAGYA PUJARI



বকুল ফুলৰ দৰে

প্ৰজ্ঞা পূজাৰী
স্নাতক পঞ্চম ষাণ্মাষিক

বকুল কেনি ফুলে? সপোনৰ ৰ'দৰঙী পথত নে ভগ্নস্বপ্নৰ পৰা
ডিঙা মেলা নতুনৰ আলিবাটত? হয়তো ইয়াৰ মাজবাটতেই
ফুলি ৰয় বকুলকেইপাহ। বকুল বকুল গোন্ধ এটাই পোহৰ
পোহৰ দেশখনলৈ লৈ গৈ থাকে স্বপ্নপিয়াসী কৈশোৰ মনবোৰ !
আৰু জোনাক জোনাক কৰি তোলে একাৰ হৈ পৰা ভঙা
সপোনবোৰ!

এই বকুল ফুলৰ দৰেই এটি কাহিনী আছিল অসীম আৰু
নিৰ্মলৰ! শিশুৰ পৃথিৱী পাৰ কৰি কৈশোৰত ভৰি দিয়া সেই
সময়বোৰতেই এই দুই কিশোৰৰ জীৱনলৈ আহিছিল নানানটা
জীৱন সংগ্ৰামৰ শেষ নোহোৱা উত্তাল ঢৌ।



সৰুৰে পৰাই মেধাৱী আছিল অসীম আৰু নিৰ্মল। পঢ়াশালিখনৰ আটাইতকৈ কাঢ়া শিক্ষক
মহেন্দ্ৰ মাষ্টৰৰ পৰা আদি কৰি আটাইকেউজন শিক্ষকৰ নয়নৰ মণি আছিল দুয়ো। গণিতত
অসাধাৰণভাৱে চোকা অসীম হৈছিল শ্ৰেণীটোৰ প্ৰথম আৰু নিৰ্মল দ্বিতীয়। কোনোদিনেই
দুয়োৰে বন্ধুত্বত তথাপিও কাহিনি কোনো মলিনতা নাছিল, নাছিল কোনো আক্ৰোশ।

কিন্তু, কিন্তু ক্ৰমান্বয়ে সলনি হৈ আহিছিল এই দুই কিশোৰৰ জীৱন
পৰিক্ৰমা। অভাৱত ডাঙৰ দীঘল হৈও কোনো কালে অসৎ পথলৈ
যাবলৈ নিদিয়া অসীমৰ দেউতাক এদিন বহিছিলগৈ মদৰ ভাটিত।
অষ্টম শ্ৰেণীত পঢ়ি থকা অসীমৰ সেইদিনাই দেউতাকৰ প্ৰতি থকা
শ্ৰদ্ধা সলনি হৈছিল প্ৰচণ্ড অভিমান আৰু ক্ষোভলৈ, যিদিনাই মদত
ডুবি মাকৰ সৈতে কাজিয়াত লিপ্ত হৈছিল অসীমৰ দেউতাক! লাহে
লাহে স্কুল এৰি অসীমে পাহাৰৰ শিল ভঙা কামত ধৰিলেগৈ, দুপইচাৰ
আৰ্জনত মাকক হাত উজান দিবলৈ।



বকুল ফুলৰ দৰে

অসীমৰ অনুপস্থিতিত দশম শ্ৰেণীলৈ প্ৰথম হৈ উত্তীৰ্ণ হ'ল নিৰ্মল। কিন্তু এই প্ৰথম স্থানতো সুখী নহৈ অসীমৰ অনুপস্থিতিত নিৰাশ হ'ল নিৰ্মল। ভালে মান দিন পাহাৰতলীলৈ গৈ অবুজ অসীমক বুজাবলৈ, বুজিবলৈ বাৰাৰ চেষ্টা কৰিও সি বিফল হ'ল। অৱশেষত এবাৰলৈ নিৰ্মলৰ বুজনিত মান্তি হৈ দুই -তিনি বছৰৰ মূৰত দশম শ্ৰেণীৰ শ্ৰেণীকোঠাত ওলালগৈ অসীম। কিন্তু ইয়াতেই মহেন্দ্ৰ মাষ্টৰৰ এছাৰিৰ কোব খাই নিগৰি অহা তেজৰ পাছে পাছে বিদ্যালয়ৰ পৰা একেবাৰেই উভতি আহিল একালৰ তেওঁৰেই প্ৰিয় ছাত্ৰ অসীম।

ইয়াৰ পাছতেই, ইয়াৰ পাছতেই অনুভৱ মাষ্টৰ নামৰ নতুন ডেকা শিক্ষকজন আৰু নিৰ্মলৰ অহৰহ প্ৰচেষ্টাত দ্বিতীয়বাৰৰ বাবে বিদ্যালয়লৈ আহে অসীম। নিৰ্মলৰ সহায় আৰু অনুভৱ মাষ্টৰকে ধৰি সকলো শিক্ষক শিক্ষয়িত্ৰীৰ সহযোগত অসীম কষ্ট আৰু সাহসেৰে মেট্ৰিক পৰীক্ষা দিয়ে আটাইয়ে। আৰু বকুলৰ সুবাস লাগি ৰিজাল্ট আহে অসীম আৰু নিৰ্মলে অসমৰ ভিতৰতেই স্থান লাভ কৰাৰ সু বাতৰিৰে!

এনে এটা উৎসাহমূলক কাহিনীয়ে মূল ভেটি ড° মৃণাল কলিতাদেৱৰ সাহিত্য অকাডেমি বঁটা বিজয়ী বকুল ফুলৰ দৰে গ্ৰন্থখনৰ। কাহিনীটোৰ মাজত কাহিনী আৰু আছে। নিৰ্মলৰ হাৰ্টৰ অসুখ, অসীমৰ বাতৰি কাকত বিলোৱাৰ কাম, পাহৰৰ তলিত মাটিতেই অনুভৱ মাষ্টৰে কৰিবলৈ দিয়া অংকৰ সমাধান... এই সৰু সৰু ঘটনাবোৰেই কাহিনীটোক পাঠকৰ ওচৰলৈ লৈ গৈছে। পঢ়াশালিত অধ্যয়ন কৰি থকা ছাত্ৰ ছাত্ৰীৰ পৰা কিতাপ পঢ়ি ভালপোৱা প্ৰতিজন প্ৰাপ্তবয়স্কৰ বাবেই মুঠৰ ওপৰত ড° মৃণাল কলিতাদেৱৰ বকুল ফুলৰ দৰে এখন সুখপাঠ্য সামাজিক উপন্যাস।

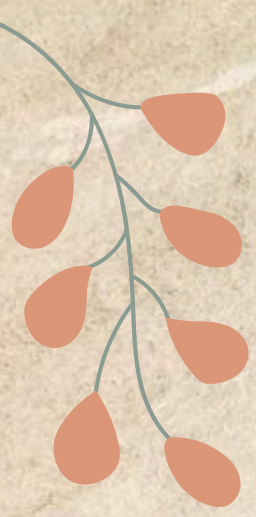


POETRY

➡ *Shahar Banu*

➡ *Barnali Deka*





প্ৰতিটো পল

মই নীৰৱতাৰ সাৰথি,
কিন্তু বন্দী নহয় তাত।
সপোনৰ শিখাত জ্বলি থাকে
প্ৰতিটো পলত আমনি কৰি থাকে
নীৰৱতাৰ গান।

স্বাৰ্থপৰ জগতৰ কোলাহলত
মোৰ গতি নীৰৱতাৰ সন্ধানত।
ক্ষণেকৰ বিৰতি----ল
এদিন উত্তৰ পাব
মোৰ প্ৰশ্নই।

আহিব এদিন,
যি দিনত মোৰ মুহূৰ্ত ঐশ্বৰ্য্য হ'ব।
কিন্তু কোলাহলত নাপাব মোক...
এক আদৰ্শৰ আঁচলেৰে ঢকা হ'ব
মোৰ প্ৰতিটো পল।

আজিৰ নীৰৱতাত মই,
কাইলৈ আহিব মোৰ দিন।
যি দিনত...
আজিৰ নীৰৱ ক্ষণবোৰ প্ৰকাশৰ
আলোকত দীপ্ত হ'ব।
সেই দিনটোৱে হ'ব
মোৰ প্ৰতিজ্ঞাৰ পূৰণ,
মোৰ সপোনৰ সমাধান,
এক শান্ত আকাশৰ নৱ গৰ্জনেৰে
পুষ্পিত হ'ব প্ৰতিটো পল।

Shahar Bhanu
UG 3rd Semester





গৌৰোজ্জ্বল কটন

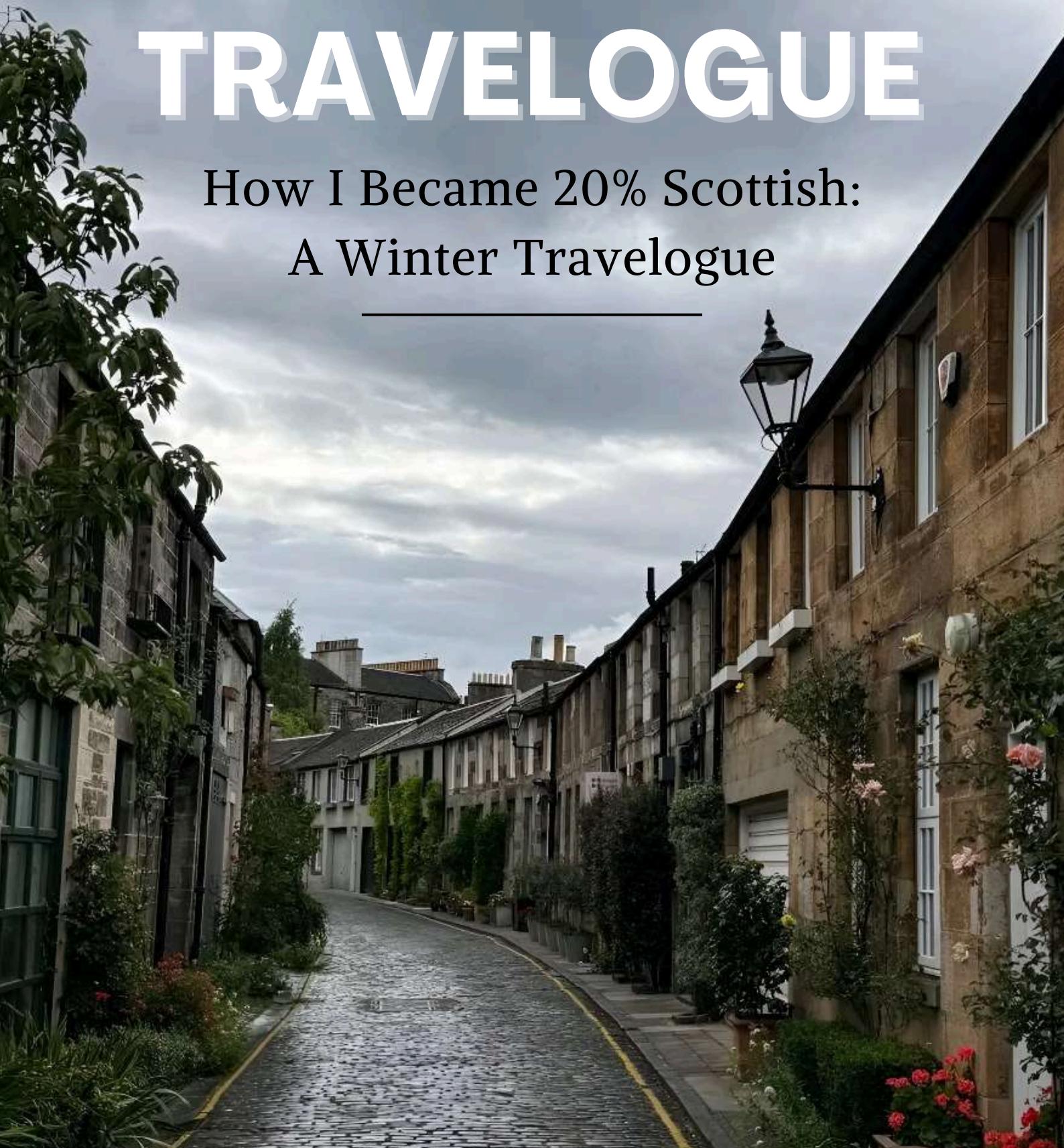
বৰ্ণালী ডেকা
স্নাতক তৃতীয় সাপ্তাহিক

উন্মুক্ত যৌৱনৰ আখৰাস্থলী কটন
হেজাৰ সপোনৰ সপোৱালী ৰং কটন
বাস্তৱৰ যুক্তি কটন
আবেগৰ ঢৌ কটন
জ্ঞানৰ জ্যোতি কটন
বৌদ্ধিকতাৰ শিকলি কটন
অজস্ৰ প্ৰতিভাৰ মঞ্চ কটন
সংকটৰ প্ৰহৰি কটন
অসমী আইৰ স্বাভিমান কটন
জাতিৰ পক্ষে ওলোৱা প্ৰত্যেকটো মাত কটন
একেটি নাম ,তিনিটি নিভাঁজ আখৰ
কেৱল কটন, কেৱল কটন !
লুইতপৰীয়া ,চিৰযৌৱনা কটন
আমাৰ কটন, আমাৰ কটন ;
১২৫ বছৰীয়া কটন!!!



TRAVELOGUE

How I Became 20% Scottish:
A Winter Travelogue



Sagartirtha Chakraborty

Research Scholar,
Department of Economics

How I Became 20% Scottish: A Winter Travelogue

Europe makes strange first impressions. After sixteen hours in transit from Guwahati, my brain decided to replay Nat Geo's Banged Up Abroad on loop, because what's more soothing before British immigration than crime show trauma? Fortunately, immigration was painless. Fifteen minutes and I was through, wondering if adopting the word loo was all it took to feel British.

Swaggering out of London Heathrow Airport like Desi James Bond, I was promptly annihilated by an icy wind that turned me straight back indoors for extra layers. By the time I reached Euston Train Station, Virat Kohli's rumoured London residence was the last thing on my mind, as I was scanning departure boards for my destination: Glasgow, Scotland. The train ride to Glasgow reminded me that Scottish air, unlike Guwahati, doesn't come pre-loaded with pollution. By the time I stepped onto Scottish soil, armed with thermal socks and reckless optimism, I was determined to spend a week to become at least 20% Scottish.



At Euston Station (Post Icy Wind Annihilation)



Then came Christmas. Edinburgh glowed with Christmas markets in East Princes Street Gardens and Royal Mile, with jingles and fairy lights bouncing off snow-flecked cobblestones. It felt like living inside Home Alone – minus the burglars, plus a cup of mulled wine

Dundee, St Andrews, and North SeaEdinburgh: Potterhead and Christmas Sparkle

By day six, I turned eastward, and Dundee greeted me with its V&A Museum of Design standing like a futuristic ship on the waterfront. But its biggest surprise was the view from Dundee Law, the extinct volcano in the city centre. Climbing it in the biting wind, I looked out over the River Tay, bridges stretching like ribbons across the water, and thought whether this is the kind of panorama postcards undersell.



St Andrews, just a short ride away, felt like stepping back in time. University quads echoed with centuries of scholarship and the castle looked ready for another chapter. Each step on its West Sands Beach was a cinematic montage set to sea hymns, where I tried walking in slow motion for dramatic effect. But the North Sea winds quickly reminded me that Hollywood moments are hard to hold when your fingers are numb.

Aberdeenshire: Chasing Lights

Because you don't become 20% Scottish without adding bonus cities. So, on day eight, I set out to chase the Northern Lights, guided mostly by optimism and weather apps in Aberdeenshire. Against all odds, the sky delivered – swirling emerald and red ribbons – a natural spectacle that made me believe in Scottish magic as much as Potter's spells.



Northern Lights, Aberdeenshir

Cliff walks, endless barley fields, and locals with accents thicker than my scarf made my stay a cosy yet memorable up there. Even when I caught only every third word, the warmth of the people was unmistakable, and Aberdeenshire instantly joined my list of places to return.

Becoming 20% Scottish

Almost a week later, I had finally evolved. My accent? Still suffering. My civic sense? Upgraded. Streets cleaner than my kitchen post-Diwali, people queuing without complaint, absence of street-side stalls attacking my walking path, and maintenance of a public discipline even at the most touristy sites felt almost utopian. The South Asian stares followed me but they felt more like mild curiosity than proper nosiness.

What I carried back was something else – a sharper sense of Sco'ish humour, a little humility, and the realisation that travel isn't about checking boxes but about being surprised. I may only be 20% Scottish, but I'm 100% grateful for this dreamy vacation, while still relying on subtitles whenever the banter turns too fast.

News Headline

THE MOST NOTEWORTHY EVENTS OF THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2025 (*JULY-SEPT*)

JULY:

- IIP(Index of Industrial Production) growth rate for the month of July 2025 was 3.5%, an impressive uptick against 1.5% in the month of June 2025, driven by 5.4% growth in manufacturing sector. Within the manufacturing sector, 14 out of 23 industry groups recorded a positive growth in July 2025 over July 2024.
- In July 2025, food prices were 1.76% lower compared to July 2024 — this is called negative inflation or deflation in food prices. Rural areas saw a 1.74% drop and urban areas saw a 1.90% drop. Compared to June 2025, food inflation dropped by 75 basis points, meaning prices fell faster in July.
- In July 2025, Nvidia became the first company to reach a market capitalization of \$4 trillion mark surpassing giants like Microsoft and Apple. This milestone was driven by high demand for its artificial intelligence (AI) chips and the ongoing AI boom.

AUGUST:

- As of August 6th, 2025, the RBI in its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting decided to maintain the repo rate at 5.50%. Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) remains unchanged at 5.25% and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 5.75%.
 - As of late August 2025, the U.S. imposed a 50% tariff on most imports from India. The measure, introduced by the Donald Trump administration, came in two stages and was aimed at punishing India for its trade policies and its continued purchasing of discounted Russian oil. This will hit several key Indian export industries, with the most severe effects concentrated in labor-intensive sectors such as textiles, gems and jewelry, seafood, and handicrafts.
 - Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the 25th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), held in Tianjin, China, from 31 August to 1 September 2025.
-

SEPTEMBER:

- The latest reforms in the GST structure mark a major simplification. The shift to a two-slab system of 5% and 18%, removing the earlier 12% and 28% rates. At the same time, a 40% on luxury and sin goods such as pan masala, tobacco, aerated drinks, high-end cars, yachts, and private aircraft ensures fairness and revenue balance. The reform will be effective from 22nd of September.
- PhysicsWallah filed for a ₹3820 crore IPO in September 2025, with SEBI granting approval in July 2025. The upcoming Initial Public Offering (IPO) includes a ₹3100 crore fresh issue and a ₹720 crore offer for sale (OFS), aiming to list on NSE and BSE to fund expansion. The company, founded by Alakh Pandey, is India's first edtech unicorn to pursue a public listing, utilizing its success in test preparation and upskilling to enter the capital markets.
- Parliamentary elections were held in Norway on 8 September 2025 to elect all 169 members of the Storting, the Norwegian parliament, for the 2025-2029 parliamentary term. Advance voting took place from 11 August to 5 September. This resulted in a victory for the incumbent centre-left Labour Party, led by Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre. The Labour-led red-green bloc secured a majority of 88 out of 169 seats in the Storting (parliament), allowing Støre to continue in office with a minority government.

