

New Kids On The Block:

# Modi-nomics

-Vasumann Lohia, X

Modinomics, a more entertaining way of talking about the country's economic story, blending fantasy with everyday life. The BJP government isn't worried, though there has been a negative growth of about 1.1 percent, thanks to nationalist and religious issues, a weak and discredited Opposition, a pliant media and manipulated social media. The magic realism of Modinomics negates hard facts with strange analogies and cherry-picked data. PM Modi jubilantly launched the Fit India Movement, a programme that aimed to improve the fitness quotient of our country. The fitness of India's economy is looking increasingly bleak, however. The headlines recently read "Former RBI governor Raghuram Rajan warns about the 'worrisome' economic situation of India." He pointed out that the fiscal deficit of the country conceals much more than it shows and is eating into Asia's third-largest economy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi enjoyed a landslide electoral victory in May but building economic gloom is already casting a shadow over his government's second term.

The Modi government began its second term with a very public show of rolling up its sleeves. Ministers were told that they had to be at work by 9:30 a.m., and had to make themselves available for meetings. Lawmakers churned through a packed slate of legislation, passing

an "unprecedented" 28 bills in the Monsoon Session of Parliament.

The new laws ranged from new pension allowances for small farmers, to an increase in the number of high court judges, to a new mandatory National Minimum Wage, and came at such a pace that one Opposition lawmaker remarked: "Are we delivering pizza or passing legislation?"

The productivity drive may have been motivated by a need to address the fading confidence in the Modi government's economic stewardship.

Piyush Goyal, the Minister for Railways, Commerce, and Industry, said in a panel discussion that people shouldn't "do math" about the economic slowdown.

Strange coming from a trained Chartered Accountant. However, he is clearly not a Physicist, since he went on to say, "Math never helped Einstein discover gravity". If he had only gone by structured formulae and what was past knowledge, I don't think there would have been any innovation in this world. Faced with an uproar on Twitter, he clarified that Math did help Einstein discover gravity. It took him considerable time to understand it was Newton and not Einstein who discovered gravity. Small mercies.

Ravi Shankar Prasad, India's Minister for Law, Justice, Communications, Electronics, Information and

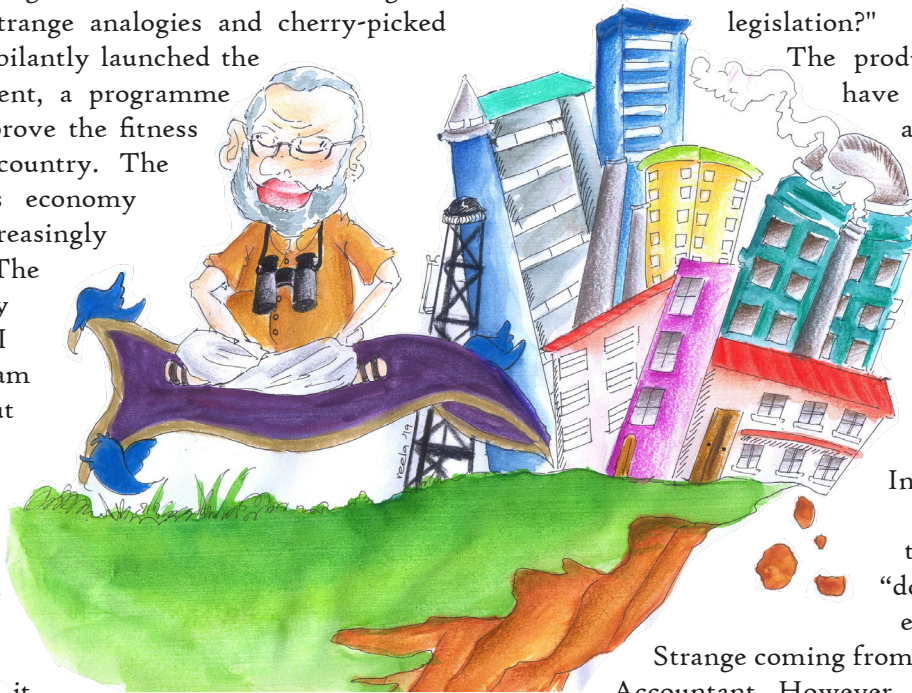


Illustration: Takhe Tammo Reela

Technology, said that the Indian economy was “sound.” What was more interesting than his claim itself was the data he presented as evidence. It was the movie ticket sales on the 2nd of October, a national holiday.

International Monetary Fund said that the recent economic growth of India is 'much weaker' than expected.

To make matters worse, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented her first Budget recently with some ominous tax proposals. It sparked criticism and Mrs. Sitharaman was forced to roll back many of her proposals.

So, it is indeed true that India is facing a sharp economic downturn and severe loss of business confidence and the Modi government is doing everything to cover it. The alarm over the economic condition is not merely a reflection of a slowdown in GDP growth but also the poor quality of growth.

The Prime Minister has increasingly relied on jingoistic and populist rhetoric to bolster his popularity.

These are no substitute for the economic flair which India is in desperate need of. If PM Modi is indeed to project a 'India Shining', he will have to push for bold changes.

# Dear Dad,

-Sneha Sonowal, XI

They were inseparable-  
Loving and adoring each other;  
Their love uncompromising and unconditional.

As time passed,  
They grew closer still,  
Be it thunder storms or heartbreak.

He was always a constant,  
Always standing beside her-consoling.  
His heart broke each time she shed a tear.

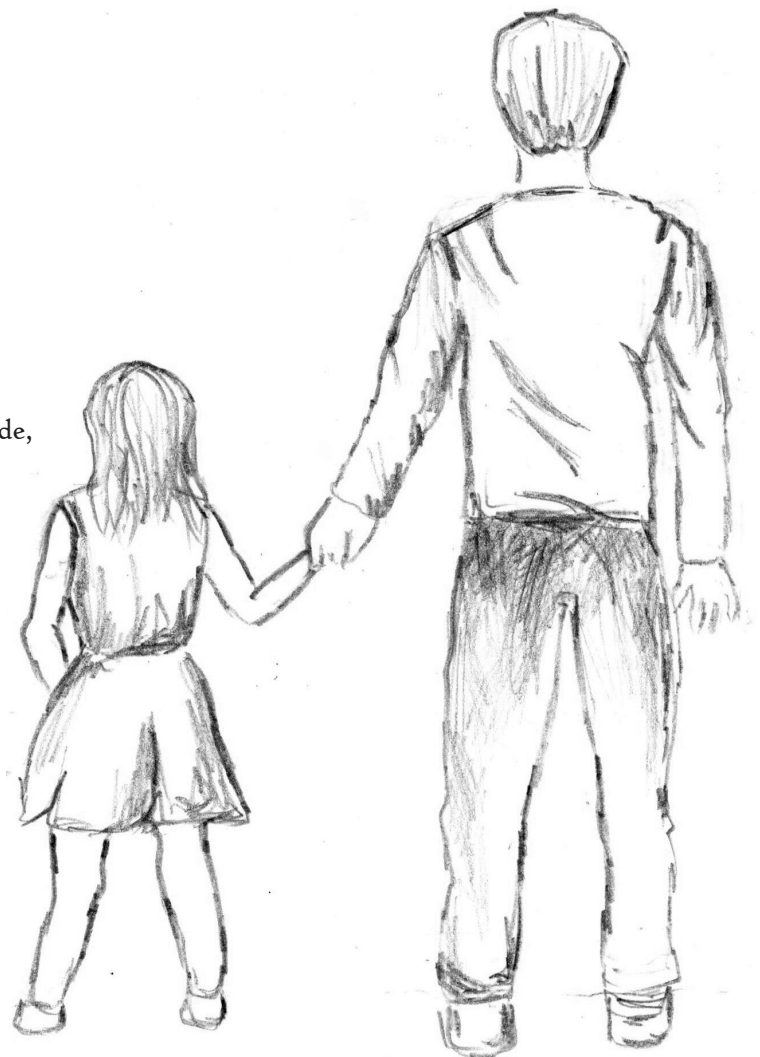
Her heart broke that wintry day,  
When lights silver and gold lit the street,  
And she shone as pretty as a rose,

As she walked down the aisle,  
A fairy dressed in white,  
“This day was bound to come.” He thought

As he threw inhibition aside,  
His teary eyes shone with nothing but love and pride,  
And perhaps a tiny amount of sorrow

For he had to let her go,  
And her eyes shone with the same light,  
The feeling was mutual

“Thank you, dad for everything  
I love you.”

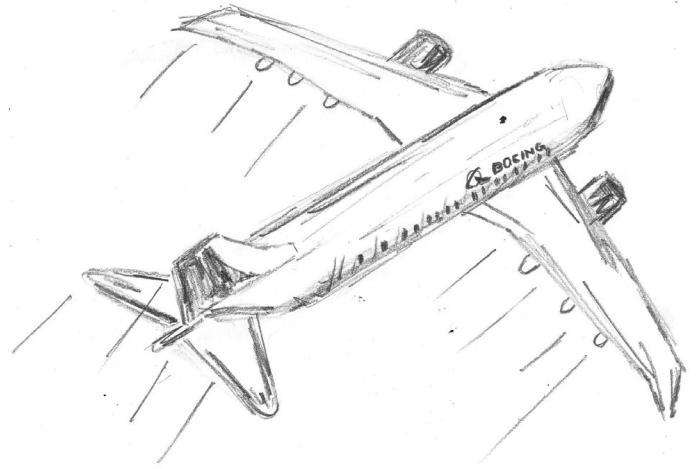


# On Air

-Areeq Imran, X

Illustration: Nandini Garodia

She woke up, all sweaty, screaming. It was the same thing all over again. Whenever she closed her eyes, all she could see was fear, death and chaos; all she could hear were terrifying screams; all she could feel was a tremendous guilt. She carried the weight of the three hundred and eighty souls taken away by something she had created and she was not the only one. There were others who, like her carried the same weight of having being a part of a project that took all those human lives instead of bringing them home safe. Although many like her bore the same burden, the nightmares refused to end. Was it really worth it being first? More than 6 months had passed since the Boeing 737 max8 was grounded by regulators worldwide. Billions of dollars were lost by various airlines. Defying all odds, Boeing announced that the max8 would return to service by December 2019 but the return had been delayed to mid-2020. The time was ripe for Boeing's competitors to emerge as the leaders in the game. Airbus, Boeing's biggest rival, made



their move with the Asia tour of their brand new A220 variant aircraft, successfully securing numerous orders. The Brazilian giant, Embraer, also tried their luck and succeeded with their E175 world tour. Every airline company seemed to be getting their acts ready for a stellar performance, even the Russians. The question is, what about Boeing? What is the true fate of the max8?

## *Yours Truly...*

-Anoushka S. Rabha, XI

The glory of the English language has been lost as speech surrenders to talk. Aviators have lost faith in their written language, and settled for reproducing a less demanding (but more 'real') oral variant on the page and in public. This has resulted in the steep and steady decline of writing, speaking and ultimately, thinking.

Over a period of time I have become increasingly wary of what I hear. The explicit tête-à-tête, overused colloquialism, insanely irrelevant acronyms and arbitrary inclusion of Hindi words. The phenomena of television, and lately, social media, has had a demonstrably negative impact on the breadth and depth of language used. Part of the problem is the democratisation of expression. The growing acceptance of expletives, no longer considered to foul the air, but to add a zingy, clever twist, the language which we see and hear in today's speech has decayed.

I am sure that the readers would identify the phrase, "GAF na beh", used so fondly and extensively by a plethora of Aviators. Apparently, the great quality of such phrases is their ability to be digested by the multitude without too much discomfort. But I assure you, discomfort comes like a yellow card: eventually. The massively cluttered and mistreated handling of the

English Language is profoundly appalling. Individuals have such little regard for it that they decimate it in the speaking of it. This has nothing whatsoever to do with their respective accents and regional dialects - more to do with a complete linguistic massacre in its delivery in a variety of ways.

Linguistic decline is the cultural equivalent of the boy who cried wolf, except the wolf never turns up. Perhaps this is why, even though the idea that language has long buried itself in its own coffin is widespread, nothing much has been done to mitigate it. It's a powerful intuition and the evidence of its effects stare us at our face. There is a worrying trend when adults mimic teen-speak. They tend to use words and even sentences that would send a grammar Nazi screaming for the gallows. Their language is deteriorating and they are inevitably lowering the bar.

Language, presently, is flying off at all tangents, without the anchoring of a solid foundation. As doomsayers admit that apocalypse may take some time - years, or decades, even - to unfold. But the direction of travel is clear. As things stand, it is left to mere mortals to raise their voices in warning about the dangers of doing nothing to stave off this threat.



# STARS OF THE WEEK

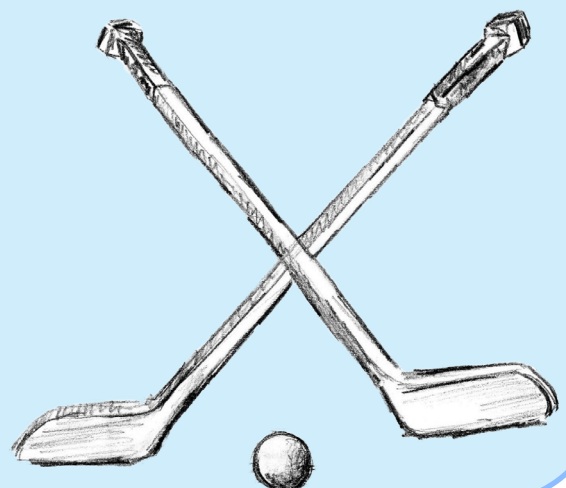
Jagrit Kasera, Vice Captain of the School's Cricket team, has been selected to be a part of the IPSC Team for the National School Games (School Games Federation of India). Congratulations to the Vice-Captain on his achievement and may he continue to inspire upcoming cricketers to similar achievements.



Shanmen Riddi was recognised for Outstanding Solo Vocal performance in the All India IPSC Music Fest which had been held in Mayo College, Ajmer. We hope to see him explore his music and continue to shine.

## Think Again!

Hockey is not the National Game of India! The idea of it being the National Game arose due to India's glorious hockey days with 8 Olympic wins over the years. This revelation came to light when a young 12-year-old girl name Aishwarya Parashar filed an RTI request to the Prime Minister's Office in order to get certified copies of orders related to the declaration of the National Anthem, Sport, Song, Bird, Animal, Flower and the country's symbol. The query about the National Sport was forwarded to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. In response to the RTI, the Sports Ministry confirmed that no game had been given the status of the 'National Game,' making us rethink our G.K. Text Books



# THE OUTPOST

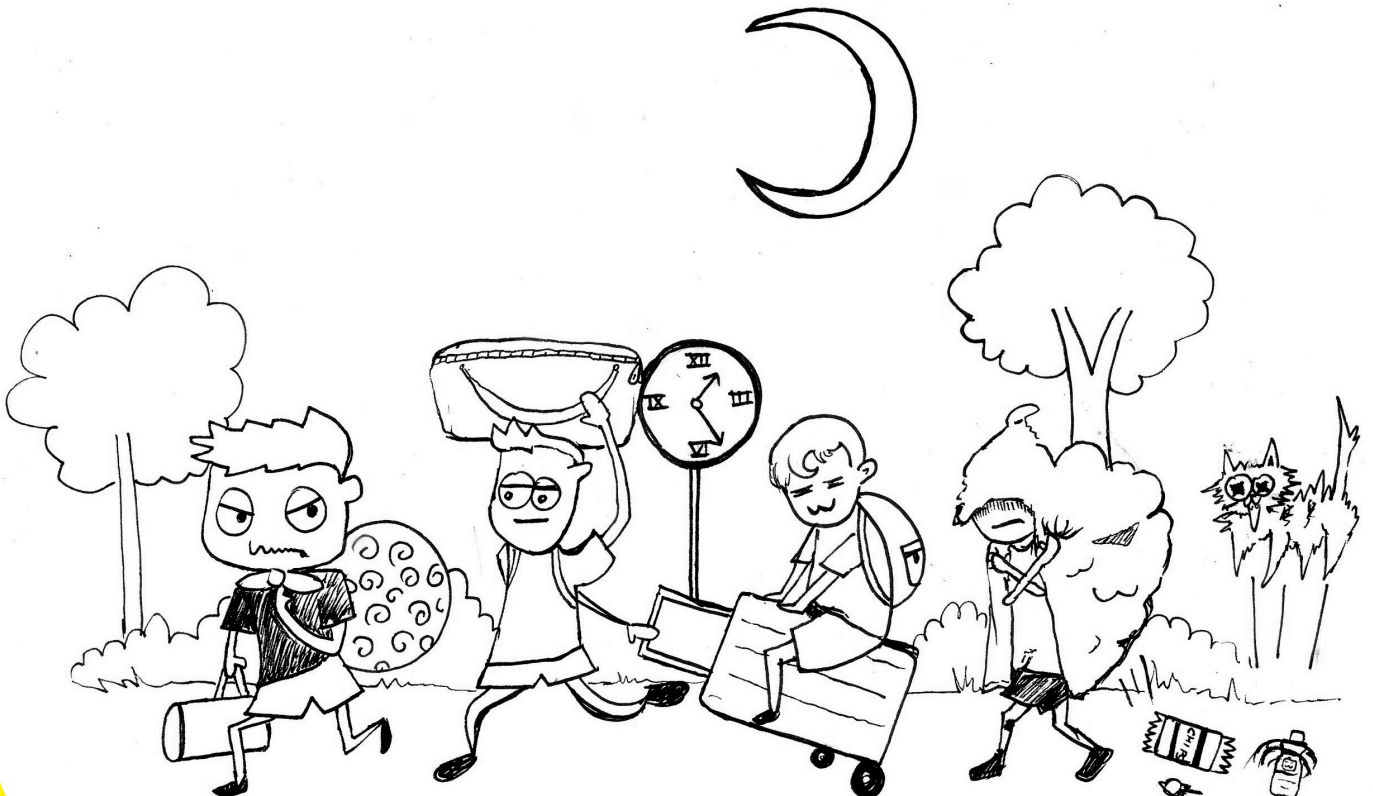
Illustration: Eloziini Senachena



With the NSCN-IM back on track, the Peace Agreement is to be announced by the PM during his visit to Nagaland during the Hornbill Festival this year. Whereas in the south, BJP and the Shiv Sena continue their cold war, with Shiv Sena being adamant on the 50/50 plan for the Chief Minister's post. With the US Presidential elections drawing near, President Trump announces the death of ISIS Leader, Ibrahim Awad Ibrahim al-Badri along with the assassination of Badri's right-hand man and "top replacement" giving himself a trump card for his Presidential election due in 2020.

# MIDNIGHT CRISIS

-Eloziini Senachena, X





## Ripple #113

-Letminlun Haokip, XI

The children looked  
on,  
Their eyes straining to  
catch the first spark of  
the cracker,  
Breathing through  
pollution masks.  
Delhi celebrated  
another Diwali  
shrouded in a  
hazardous haze.

## Tongue Of Slip!!

1. Why are you louding your voice?  
- Likha Riza, XII (To raise your standards.)
2. He is waiting downside, outstairs -  
Ojas Krish, XI (Katy Perry would like her lyrics back.)
3. Let's eat the cafe cheques - Nandini Garodia, XII (Have you gone vegan?)
4. Nowadays it is dark much more -  
Arhata Saikia, XII (You're no brighter.)
5. That's a good lin-jjo! - Saptarshi Acharjee, XII (Welcome to the club.)
6. I might walk for School Captain -  
Parthiv Gargo, XI (That's why the rest are running away.)

## Keep It Reel!

### CITY OF PALMS

-Letminlun Haokip, XI



Editor-in-Chief: Nandini Garodia

Deputy Editor: Sieyina Meru

Associate Editor: Aakangsha Dutta & Sempisang Toy

Correspondents: Saziia, Letminlun, Anoushka, Parthiv, Eloziini, Ojas

Design & Layout: Moom Lego & Jeremy Jahau

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E-mail: ave@assamvalleyschool.com