

## In quotes

"There is no place on the planet where people can expect to see conditions as they were in past."

— Chip Fletcher, Vice Chairman, Honolulu Climate Change Commission, USA

## INSIDE



Confluence 2019, P3



Modern Mahabharata, P6

## AMITEpoll

Do you think political biopics influence the voting pattern?

a) Yes b) No

c) Can't say

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## POLL RESULT

for GT Edition February 11, 2019

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Results as on February 16, 2019

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AIS Vas 1 Contest Edition

# THE GLOBAL TIMES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2019

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# Looking for refuge

## Delhi Smogs, Karnataka Floods, California Fires: Where Will They Go?

Mudit Aggarwal & Nandini Sukhija  
AIS Mayur Vihar, XII

The world, usually thought of as a beautiful paradise, has its own share of tragic times which results in the skyline being blotched with pain and soil being soaked in terror, and it is in these moments that people decide to abandon their homes and go on an endless hunt for eutopia. A similar hunt that people of Delhi found themselves engaged in during the winter gone by, as the smog left them choked and exasperated. The shift drove home a hard truth - people don't seek refuge elsewhere only due to war, but a variety of other factors may be at play.

### Of climate and calamities

Since 2008, about 24 million people have been displaced every year as an aftermath of natural calamities. The slum colony of Seemapuri comprising Bangladeshi immigrants and the migration of 4 million Africans after the disappearance of Lake Chad are just the tip of the iceberg. In US, 2300 Puerto Rican families were displaced due to Hurricane Maria, excluding the people from coastal communities. In 2013, when Cyclone Phailin ravaged the coastal state of Odisha, the state witnessed an unprecedented scale of migration of fishing communities that had otherwise been based there for decades, and a similar fate was suffered by people of Uttarakhand where floods brought about mass migration of the rural communities. *In our concern for the refugees who are fleeing their homes, we often forget about the ones who no longer have a home left.*

### Of breath and lack thereof

According to Forbes, the next big migra-



There are more than **139 million** interstate migrants in India

**35%** of Delhi population is willing to move to other states due to air pollution

**200 million** people displaced worldwide as a result of calamities between 2008-2016.

**50-120 million** may become climate refugees due to wreckage by Sundarbans in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh: **1** of the most natural disaster prone country.

tion won't be caused by war or hunger, but due to pollution. With New Delhi being the home of air pollution, gone are those days when people migrated to the capital but rather now Delhiites, unable to bear the polluted environment, have already packed their bags to move far away to cleaner cities like Bengaluru, Cochin and Pondicherry, contributing to 25% of the overall shifting. Annually, around 2.5 million deaths are attributed to pollution, and with Delhi being its dirty self, no wonder a major chunk of its population wants to move away. China, too, suffers from the same problem. Researches signify that when pollution in a country increases by about 10% (keeping all else

constant), the population number also sees a decrease by 2.7%.

*As refugees cross states to get fresh air, there might come a time when there will be no place left on earth to find a haven.*

### Of hope and opportunities

Growing up with stories of our grandfathers migrating in search of better basic necessities, the world has now become an elaborate game of musical chairs with people shifting as the eutopia shifts. Studies have shown that 55% of rural families migrate due to employment while 67% of the urban population migrates to either a different city or a different country for economic reasons. With such a high num-

ber of migrating bodies, the statistics of various dynamic cities are being redefined by immigrants – Melbourne, Toronto and Vancouver with 40% of migrant population; London with 35%, and Dubai 95%. *As we hold tight to our résumés and start a journey to find a bluer sky, our homeland cries silent tears of negligence.*

Migration is the law of nature. Hence, be it people who sought refuge due to California wildfires, or Kashmiri Pandits forcefully driven out of their homes, they need to be treated with the same emotional empathy as war refugees. After all, we might never find an absolute answer to "Where are you from?" 🇮🇳

# Time to go nuke

## Dr Pankaj Dougall: Finding The Nuclear Way To Be A Success

Pic: Pankaj Mallik, GT Network

Udaybhanu Singh & Manisha Mishra, AIS Noida, X

Having served as a medical practitioner and worked in nuclear medicine for over three decades, Dr Pankaj Dougall is the Head of Department and Senior Consultant of Nuclear Medicinal Services and Medical Director at Max Super Specialty Hospital, Saket, New Delhi. A designated UN expert for nuclear medicine, he has been involved in teaching and training nuclear medicine physicians in several countries all over the world for over 12 years. Currently, also serving as the president of Society of Nuclear Medicine, Northern Chapter, he visited Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, for Convocation 2018 where he was conferred with an honorary doctorate, and imparted his wisdom on us.

*How has nuclear medicine evolved over the past few years?*

Nuclear medicine was not popular till the last decade. Earlier, high-tech equipments like radio isotopes were not available, but now because we have pet images, more cancers are being detected. 'Stating of the cancer' is being done which detects the spread of cancer. When I started nuclear medicine around thirty two years ago, there were only two institutions which produced about four such doctors each year. But now, the number has increased ten times.

*Considering the growing popularity of nuclear medicine, do you think it will replace primordial medicine?*

Nuclear medicine is a complimentary field. Though it will continue to play a huge role in medicine, one still cannot say that it would replace anything. For example, if a patient has breast cancer, it would behave differently in another patient because of the difference in molecular profile. We are moving towards molecular imagery through which we can identify tumors that can be attacked by injected radio isotopes which target the tumor specifically. And when you attack the tumor



Dr Pankaj Dougall with GT reporters

through therapeutic isotopes, emit beta radiation and give therapy, the attacking procedure also becomes a therapeutic procedure. Thus, therapy and diagnosis become simultaneous processes. This gives us a personalised or subjective way of treating many other diseases as well.

*What are the challenges ahead of nuclear medicines?*

It is the challenges you face that make your life interesting. One of it is that patients don't come to us directly but through other physicians. For example, a patient suffering from thyroid cancer will first consult an oncologist

who then, if required, would recommend them to see a nuclear medicine specialist, as many of the much-advanced medical procedures are undertaken by nuclear medicine.

*What message would you like to give to aspiring medical students?*

To do medical, you must be prepared for hard work and to be focused about what you are doing. Though it is a long journey, in the end, when you are treating patients and interacting with them, the feeling is very satiating. But at the same time, don't forget to enjoy the life you are living. Work hard for what you want but maintain a balance.

Dr Pankaj Dougall, pioneer in nuclear medicine