

**COVID-19 has exposed us (India) inside out. Can we**



**start thinking at least from July 2020?**

**F**or months on end, the COVID-19 has wreaked havoc in India. Prior, for several weeks, there were adequate signs of the impending crisis. Now, as July 2020 approaches, India stands exposed.

Migrant worker crisis. Seemingly interminable lockdowns. Logistics and supply chains thrown out of gear. Healthcare and medical infrastructure on the brink of collapse due to pressure on inadequate capacity. Economy in a tailspin. Central and state governments in over-reach.

The majority middle- and lower-income people have clapped for doctors, and later attacked them as well. People rang bells, banged utensils and plates. They also lit lamps, candles, torch-lights and flash-waved bright mobile phone screens. They steeled their soul. They cooperated with authorities and stayed indoors. They complied with new rules and wore masks and maintained social distancing. They exchanged millions of messages, audios and videos on messaging apps and social media. They watched TV and online entertainment. They discovered e-commerce and e-learning. They engaged in fierce arguments and debates online. They lined up for liquor when lockdown was lifted.

And then, ‘we the people’ were told to “become self-dependent” (maybe it was a coded message?) *“Don’t depend on others – don’t expect mahatmas, avatars, incarnations, saints, leaders, messiahs, saviours to magically materialize and save your ass.”* Or, was it: *“Fend for yourself”*? *“Don’t be naïve enough to expect governments to perform miracles”*? Or, *“Get real, you are pretty much on your own. The joy ride on the gravy train is over”*?

Whatever it is, you, the non-elites (majority middle-class Indians), find yourself at a crossroads. Where to go from here? What do you want to do? What can you do? What should you do? And how and why did you – we – reach here? How come we find ourselves now in this unreal, dangerous, uncertain situation, a virtual cliff edge?

Before we analyse, let's deal with the most important of those questions: **What should we do?** The answer is simple: *We should do the RIGHT THING.*

Now, pray, what is that – the right thing?

Listen up. Indulge your attention. Concentrate. Focus. Your life, your future are at stake. But first, [watch this video](#).