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I am happy to collaborate with Dr. Sajan Thomas, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at St. John's College, Anchal (affiliated with the University of Kerala, India), toward publishing op-ed articles in The Hindu Business Line, one of the leading financial dailies in India. Our focus will be on global and national issues with contemporary relevance.

Yours faithfully,



*Titto Idicula*

*Consultant Neurologist*

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/will-india-play-a-football-world-cup/article24332005.ece>

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## Will India play a football World Cup? PREMIUM

Updated - July 05, 2019 at 05:02 PM.

**Though Indian Super League has helped India climb the FIFA rankings, European club experience is vital to make the cut**

BY THOMAS SAJAN, TITTO IDICULA

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Laying the ground The Indian Super League has ignited football passion in the country RRAGU

Laying the ground The Indian Super League has ignited football passion in the country RRAGU | Photo Credit: R\_Ragu

The biggest sporting event on the planet, the FIFA World Cup with an audience reach of 3.4 billion, leaves one billion Indians pondering once again over that old haunting question — will India ever play a football World Cup?

This time, the answer to such a question comes on an air of optimism primarily owing to the commercial success of Indian Super League (ISL), and the excitement it generates. One could see staunch optimists cling to an 'irresistible' fact of a sharp ascendance in India's FIFA world rankings during the four years since the inception of ISL: from the worst-ever 171st position in 2014 to 97th position in 2018. Will Team India make it into the World Cup arena carried on the wings of its new professional football league?

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/the-great-indian-happiness-tragedy-ep/article23384587.ece>

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## The great Indian 'happiness' tragedy

Updated - March 29, 2018 at 09:33 PM.

India's abysmal ranking in the UN Happiness Index exposes deep-seated flaws and contradictions in its social foundation

By THOMAS SAJAN, TITTO IDICULA

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How come a bunch of cold countries around the North Pole, with day-long darkness lasting many winter months, become the happiest nations on Earth? Well, that is what the UN's World Happiness Report, published a few days ago, reveals. While Finland, Norway and Denmark bagged the first three positions, the remaining Scandinavian countries (Sweden and Iceland) found themselves in the top ten rankings.

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## Social capital is vital for rebuilding Kerala

Updated - August 31, 2018 at 04:01 AM.

Apart from financial support, communitarian and interpersonal ties are crucial for bringing the State back on its feet

BY THOMAS SAJAN, TITTO IDICULA

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Shared sense of identity helps  
Shared sense of identity helps

Kerala has begun to recover from the worst floods in a century. The State administration has started on the complex and challenging task of rebuilding the ruined regions in such a way that the lives, livelihoods and the economy recover steadily. Keeping in view the solidarity developed during the disaster, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has announced a 'salary challenge' — an appeal to Keralites all over the world to donate a month's salary for rebuilding the State.

Simultaneously, an idea of a 'brave new world' has been mooted. What is intriguing is the government's push for an ambitious plan for a new Kerala than simply replacing what is lost.

### Role of social capital

Contrary to general perception, economic resources and government assistance are not the sole drivers of recovery and rebuilding after a major disaster.

## Decoding the psyche of female serial killers

Updated - October 19, 2019 at 04:27 AM.

The make-up of Jolly Joseph, the prime suspect in the recent Koodathayi murders, fits well with psychopathic personality traits

BY THOMAS SAJAN, TITTO IDICULA

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False sense of confidence is a driver  
False sense of confidence is a driver

Kerala is yet to recoup from the shock and outrage created by its 'globally infamous' female serial killer. People in general still struggle hard to digest the news— as *BBC* reported — of "a model daughter-in-law accused of killing six family members with cyanide" in Koodathayi, a village.

The Koodathayi murders, which unfolded over 14 years, raise questions about how to define serial killings and Jolly Joseph herself — the prime suspect under police custody.

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## NEP skirts quality issue in college education

Updated - October 03, 2020 at 04:25 AM.

The National Education Policy does not focus on creating an assessment system that develops analytical and creative skills

BY THOMAS SAJAN, TITTO IDICULA

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Testing times For college education  
Testing timesFor college education

Indian colleges are up for a major reform given that revamping the collegiate education is one of the major priorities of the recently approved National Education Policy (NEP). The new policy says the undergraduate degrees will be of 3-4 years of duration with multiple exit options; and the four-year programmes offer 'a degree with research' if the student completes a stipulated research project. The policy envisions the gradual phasing out of 'affiliated colleges' through a system of graded autonomy.

The Modi government's educational reforms, inspired heavily by the contemporary Western models, are expected to be a game-changer for the Indian colleges. Are the proposals a sign for 'the great things to come', or just a frivolous macro-level change?

### Transforming Indian colleges

Quality learning takes place when students and teachers spend a considerable amount of time as co-learners, setting aside their traditional roles. The college systems in

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/the-political-psychology-that-lies-behind-namaste-trump/article30920606.ece>



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## The political psychology that lies behind 'Namaste Trump' PREMIUM

Updated - February 26, 2020 at 01:47 PM.

While Narendra Modi's global statesmanship has earned him admiration at home, it is the feeling of nationalism that Donald Trump evokes which makes him popular among Indians in the US

BY THOMAS SAJAN/TITTO IDICULA

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| Photo Credit: Vijay Verma

Never before has an American President visited India in such a grand and extraordinary manner. Timely, extravagant, and flamboyantly reported in the media, the 'Namaste Trump' event at Ahmedabad was in many ways a public diplomacy counterpart of the preceding 'Howdy Modi' episode at Houston in the US.

The explicit electoral undertones of the event — particularly the fact that US President Donald Trump, who is seeking re-election, eyes at the 2.4 million Indian-American voter base (through its loyalty for Narendra Modi) — is already up in the air. But beyond the apparent truth of the event as a well-timed electoral gimmick, the political

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## The West may no longer have scientific hegemony post-Covid PREMIUM

Updated - April 24, 2020 at 01:46 PM.

Asian countries' solutions for the pandemic are based on modern medical principles, whereas populist nations of the West are opting for controversial, untested solutions. This may cost the latter its scientific supremacy

BY THOMAS SAJAN/TITTO IDICULA

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| Photo Credit: DNY59

On January 30, when declaring the coronavirus outbreak in China as a public health emergency of international concern, the WHO Director-General made a statement that his "greatest concern is the potential for the virus to spread to countries with weaker health systems". Yet, the larger trend appears to be a reverse of this. Three months into the epidemic crisis, Covid-19 has made huge inroads into the European and North American heartlands with advanced healthcare facilities, assuming



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## India is no leader in vaccine research

Updated - January 21, 2021 at 09:35 AM

The country may remain essentially a mass-producer of Covid vaccines, rather than a developer

BY THOMAS SAJAN, TITTO IDICULA

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Perhaps never since the Cold War has winning a scientific battle become central to the pursuit of global dominance. The Western world, despite its initial laxity in responding to the pandemic, is reasserting its scientific hegemony by swiftly developing vaccines against Covid-19 in record time. Russia and China have also joined the race for developing a safe and effective antidote at an incredible pace.

By aligning with the vaccine developers, India's pharmaceutical companies play a crucial role in meeting the massive global requirement. Bill Gates recently stated that the Indian pharmaceutical industry is equipped to mass-produce Covid-19 vaccines for the whole world. At this juncture, when the country has launched the world's

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/india-russian-oil-and-europes-hypocrisy/article65700719.ece>

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## India, Russian oil and Europe's hypocrisy

Updated - July 30, 2022 at 03:01 AM.

It has traditionally used the excuse of 'upholding democracy' to impose its will, while also deviating from these very principles

BY THOMAS SAJAN, TITTO IDICULA

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India-EU Frosty ties tatock Oleksii Liskonih  
India-EUFrosty tiesiatockOleksii Liskonih

After decades of relatively smooth sailing, India and the European nations now find themselves in a strained, uneasy relationship. New Delhi's decision to buy the discounted oil from Russia following the Ukraine War was labelled in Europe as war profiteering and funding the Russian invasion in Ukraine.