Crossing Borders: An Enigma for Humans

The increasing tendency of all countries is to build stronger and higher fences and walls to keep out the ‘other’ and make crossing the borders increasingly tricky.

By Dr. Sara Varughese
On Apr 15, 2022

Terrapins fitted with GPS transmitters surprised Indian forest officials in the Sundarbans when they recently swam across Bangladesh territory. A news report mentioned that the Indian forest officials were trying to get these enterprising animals back.

Wild animals often surprise us with the distances they cover and the speed they do this. In India, news reports of elephants and tigers leaving their ‘sanctuaries’ designated boundaries are not unusual. Besides large animals, birds, reptiles, and fish roam long distances by land, air and sea. The migration of birds from colder northern countries to the tropics and Africa every year is well known. Even in urban Delhi, one can see flocks of rosy starlings in warmer climates from Europe. Animal migrants follow their instincts, often going back to their place of birth—their “native place” to use a common Indian term—to breed. The migration of the monarch butterflies from the USA to Central America is something special. These tiny, fragile creatures cover long distances, breeding several times on the way south, with new generations arriving at their destination. What drives this migration is not yet completely understood. Besides the journey over sea and land, they incidentally manage a formidable border crossing of the wall between the USA and Mexico without restriction. This animal migration cannot be stopped.

Human beings are not as fortunate as animals in crossing borders. The divisions between
nations are often arbitrary, especially where national boundaries have been drawn up after colonisation.

International borders separate people speaking a common language and having a common heritage. Martin Kimani, Kenya’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations, said in a powerful speech to the UN Security Council about the borders drawn up in post-colonial Africa, which broke up language groups and peoples and led to divisions of people.

A common language can be a stronger bond than that of nationality. There are differing perspectives on the background of the current Russian-Ukrainian war groups.

**The eastern provinces are Russian speaking with the people culturally aligned to Russia, which perhaps made it easier for Russia to annex them or feel the need to protect the interest of people they see as their own.**

We do not need to look far to see the separation of people and even families by borders. On every land border of India with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and China, communities and even families are divided by national borders. There are stories from across our frontiers of the desperate longing of separated families to meet once, see their ancestor’s resting places, or worship where their parents worship. While some places like Tripura may only be a border stone separating families, the fences are increasingly vigorously patrolled and fenced with barbed wire. Near the Kargil border, deep valleys separate families who try and shout to each other across them. After the Indo-Pakistan wars, some writers and academics documented the tortuous journeys across shifted lines of control for family reunifications.

*Also Read: [COVID-19: Humanitarian Crisis of Refugees and Migrant Workers](https://delhipostnews.com/crossing-borders-an-enigma-for-humans/)*

Separation by borders, as already noted, is also of people groups. The Mizo-Chin–Kukis who regard themselves as one people, now belong variously to India, Bangladesh and Myanmar. With ethnic unrest in Myanmar, the Mizoram government opened the border to refugees, whom they felt were their people. This is, however, the exception. The increasing tendency of all countries is to build stronger and higher fences and walls to keep out the
‘other’ and make crossing the borders increasingly tricky.

Professor Jean-François Bayart, Professor of Anthropology at the Graduate Institute, Geneva, wrote that “The contemporary craze for walls, rooted in the desire to partition people and work and globalise everything else, brings dangers with it dangers of an unprecedented and potentially explosive nature”.

As nations, we seek to keep out the outsider to have more secure boundaries. Unless we are personally affected, we regard our neighbours as outsiders to be kept out. Animals still have the freedom to move and cross to their traditional breeding and wintering grounds. Human beings do not have that liberty. To paraphrase Tagore’s immortal lines, “where the world has not been broken up by narrow domestic walls,...into that heaven of freedom, my father, let the world awake”.

Dr. Sara Varughese

The writer, an ophthalmologist, and a public health specialist, is the Country Director and Managing Trustee of the CBM India, a disability and development organization based in Bengaluru.
The Selection Committee chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Shri U.P. Singh has selected 61 applicants under Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles. A total of 67 applications were received for the PLI scheme out of which 15 applications are under Part-1 and 52 applications are under Part-2.

Addressing the media in a press conference, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Shri UP Singh said that in the 61 applications approved the proposed total investment expected from the applicants is Rs. 19,077 crore and a projected turnover is Rs. 184,917 crores over a period of 5 years with proposed direct employment of 240,134.
The scheme has two parts, Part 1 where the minimum investment is Rs. 300 crore and the minimum turnover required to be achieved for the incentive is Rs. 600 crore; and Part-2, where the minimum investment is Rs. 100 crore and the minimum turnover required to be achieved for the incentive is Rs. 200 crores.

Government-approved Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles products, namely MMF Apparel, MMF Fabrics and Products of Technical Textiles, for enhancing India's manufacturing capabilities and enhancing exports with an approved financial outlay of Rs 10,683 crore over a five-year period. To further boost the growth of the sector, the centre also removed the import duty on cotton.

The Notification for the scheme was issued on 24.09.2021. Operational Guidelines for Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme were issued on 28.12.2021. Applications under PLI Scheme for Textiles were received through the web portal from 01.01.2022 to 28.02.2022.

The 61 applicants selected under the scheme as of now by the Selection Committee are as under:

Scheme Part-1

1 Avgol India Private Limited

2 Cubatics Industries Private Limited

3 Goa Glass Fibre Ltd. (GGFL)

4 H P Cotton Textile Mills Limited

5 Himatsingka Seide Limited

6 Kimberly Clark India Private Limited (subject to the formation of a new company for investment and production under the Scheme as per existing guidelines)

7 Madura Industrial Textiles Limited

8 MCPI Private Limited

9 Paragon Apparel Private Limited

10 Pratibha Syntex Limited
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<th>Company Name</th>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Shahi Exports Private Limited</td>
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<td>Scheme Part-2</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>AYM Syntex Limited</td>
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<td>Kennigton Industries Pvt Ltd</td>
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<td>Silkon Synthetics &amp; Cotton Dyeing Pvt.Ltd.</td>
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<td>Youngman Woolen Mills Private Limited</td>
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<td>Swara Baby Products Private Limited</td>
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32 Gainup Industries India Private Limited
33 Gokaldas Exports Limited
34 Indian Designs Export Private Limited
35 Infiiloom India Private Limited
36 Pearl Global Industries Limited
37 Sangam (India) Limited
38 Texport Industries Private Limited
39 Toray International India Private Limited
40 Teejay India Private Limited
41 SKAPS Industries India Private Limited
42 Artex Overseas Private Limited
43 Best Corporation Private Limited
44 Evertop Textile & Apparel Complex Private Limited
45 Ginza Industries Limited
46 Jalan Jee Polytex Limited
47 Kanodia Global Private Limited
48 Lotus Hometextiles Limited
49 N Z Seasonal Wear Private Limited
50 Microtex Processors Private Limited
51 Monte Carlo Fashions Limited
52 Rane TRW Steering Systems Private Limited
53 Shree Tirupati Balajee Agro Trading Company Private
54 Arvind Limited
55 Ginni Filaments Limited
56 Grand Handloom Private Limited
57 K G Denim Limited
58 Suchi Industries Limited
59 SVG Fashions Private Limited (subject to the formation of a new company for investment and production under the Scheme as per existing guidelines)
60 SVP Global Textiles Limited
61 Techno Sportswear Private Limited

Stating that although India was the largest producer of cotton, Shri UP Singh said that it was necessary to make our mark in man-made fibres as well if we were to achieve the textile export target of USD 100 billion by 2030.

Elaborating on the immense scope and potential of technical textiles, Shri Singh said that sectors such as geotextiles need much more encouragement to improve use, demand and penetration and intensive research and development activities.