

Economics of Ignoring: Late or No Lessons from Early Signs

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Abstract

Even after almost 76 years of independence and with very high demographic dividend, India, the biggest democracy in the world, is still reeling under the pressures of poverty, inequality, unemployment, malnutrition and inadequate infrastructure. Given the huge population and size of the country, the costs of development are no doubt exorbitant, but the reality is that most of these costs could /would have been mitigated if we had just bothered not to IGNORE at the right time. Most of the activities enter a self-sustaining mode with a little timely action. The proposed study will be focused on the journey from micro to macro management of very simple everyday activities that do not involve any extra noticeable effort or cost if the response is timely. Whereas the same may escalate to very high real and monetary costs and at times the damages can be far from repairing. The area of the study can include a wide range of activities. The idea of this research is based on a very famous saying – ‘A stitch in time saves nine.’ that we have been reading and hearing since childhood but tend to ignore easily. There are hundreds of everyday happenings around us that we keep ignoring which create repercussions that most of the times are irreversible. A tiny infraction by one committed in a moment of ignorance or complacency may lead to lifelong effects. The basic aim of this paper is to examine the costs, consequences and potential solutions to the issue. A review of existing literature, case studies and government reports will provide insights into the effects of ignoring early warnings on safety regulations in India. The research methodology involves a systematic review of peer-reviewed articles, case studies and government reports from reputable sources. The findings suggest that ignoring early warnings on safety regulations can result in economic, social and environmental costs, as well as

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human lives at risk. The paper also highlights potential solutions such as a robust regulatory framework, public education, awareness campaigns and improved collaboration between regulatory agencies and organizations in India

Keywords: Warnings, Ignoring, Costs, Returns, Lessons, Information, Regulations, Skills

1. Introduction

This is an attempt to understand economics of ‘Psychology of Ignoring’ and its effects both forward and backward. While both ignore and ignorant have similar base, their meaning is somewhat different in their development. While ‘ignore’ refers to not paying attention to something, ‘ignorance’ refers to a lack of knowledge of something. To ignore is a choice, Likewise, resolving Ignorance is also a choice.

India has seen a significant increase in accidents and incidents due to the failure of organizations and individuals to heed to early warnings on safety regulations. The causes of this careless and callous attitude or behavior are present at all levels, be it individual, society or government. The basic root cause behind this is ‘*chalta hai*’ psychology. Actually, everyone’s responsibility is no one’s responsibility. The costs of ignoring are both real and monetary. Similarly, the cost of not ignoring are also the same. There is need to revisit this behavior which needs a knocking at the level of parents, schools, NGOs and governments. The returns from not ignoring will manifest into private and social benefits. This all works like Nurkse’s circle whether we dig deep into backward effects or look for forward effects.

2. Objectives of the study

- To collect the information on various case situations of ignoring mentality.
- To elaborate the Causes, Costs and Cure of ignoring vital signs.
- To explore the outcome of Revisiting, Returns and Refraction of not ignoring vital signs.
- To focus on possibilities of reaching breakeven.
- To look beyond, that is searching for the possibilities of zero to negative cost of development.

3. Research Methodology

The paper is based on a systematic review of peer-reviewed articles, case studies, and government reports from various sources. The study is mainly descriptive in nature. The data is mainly collected from secondary sources like research papers, books, newspapers, magazines, internet websites, journals, commentaries etc. The studies referred to on this subject have also been mentioned at the end.

Some of the cases from diverse real-life situations are as under:

- Ignoring faded or fallen warning signboards near rivers/roads/swings.
- Ignoring Standard Operating Procedures.
- Ignoring deceptive endorsements by celebrities.
- Ignoring skills and indifferent/sad behavior of a student in a class.
- Ignoring innovative ideas.

4. The Cases: Costs and Causes

लम्हों की खताओं से, सदियों ने सज़ा पाई

Could it have been averted? The study is based on real-life case studies of ignored individual and social responsibilities. We all will admit to this simple fact that various regulations or standard operating procedures are put in place to ensure that individuals and organizations operate in a safe and secure environment. Adherence to these regulations is critical for ensuring the well-being and safety of all individuals involved. However, despite the existence of such regulations, we at different levels ignore early warnings and compromise safety. Ignoring early warnings on safety regulations often results in disastrous outcomes, leading to significant costs, consequences, and potential harm to individuals and to the environment.

4.1.The Sunset on 25 lives

On the fateful day of June 8, 2014 the drowning of twenty four second-year engineering students (six female and eighteen male) and one tour operator from V.N.R.V.J Institute of Engineering and Technology of Hyderabad at the Beas River in Himachal Pradesh shocked the entire nation. The accident took place in the Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh and was the result of a sudden increase in the level of river water released from the Larji hydro electric project. It was only after the claims of eyewitnesses that the case was registered as no hooter was not sounded before releasing the water into the river.

The enquiry into the matter revealed utter carelessness on the part of plant officials. On the day of the mishap officials of Larji power project were asked to reduce generation but they instead shut the plant which led to water built up in the reservoir that needed to be released, leading to a sudden inflow in the Beas river. Bihari Lal, who was attending a marriage about 100 metres above the river bed, recorded hair raising few seconds that engulfed those precious lives. In January

2016, nineteen months after this tragedy, High Court, awarded a compensation of Rs 20 lakh each to the parents of the deceased. The court ordered Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board (HPSEB), the state government and college management to share compensation in the ratio of 60:30 and 10 respectively.¹ The question is could this compensation ever cover up for the private and social loss. Can we ever discount for the prospective yield of the lifetime of those 25 untimely sunsets.

4.2. The Lost Kingdom

The Black Buck is an endangered antelope found only in India and Nepal. This graceful and beautiful animal is found roaming in the plains of India except the western coast of India. They are considered as one of the fastest running animals on earth with a speed of 50 to 80 km/ph. On January 29, 2023, twelve blackbucks died in an accident along the Solapur- Bijapur highway in Maharashtra sending alarm waves among wildlife experts. In the year 2018, According to a report in Parliament by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways nearly 5,900 accidents had occurred due to collision of vehicles with animals. In 2016, The Wildlife Institute of India and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, came up with guidelines, like fences should be erected along a linear project to prevent animals from crossing the road in places where there is no underpass or overpass, putting up warning signs and installing animal detection systems, etc. Sirur mentions to the observations of Milind Pariwakam, former lead of linear infrastructure policy, Wildlife Conservation Trust, and founder of Landscape Research & Conservation Foundation, that, mitigation measures are not complied with because they are not seen as a priority. “In the majority of cases, wildlife is not seen as a problem that should be factored in. There are guidelines that exist on paper on how to prevent these deaths from happening, but they are

still not implemented on the scale we need,” Pariwakam said, adding: “There is a lot of political pressure to implement these projects, and so the threat to wildlife is completely ignored.”²

4.3.The Dawn that never happened

During 1970, in the wake industrialisation Indian government introduced policies to encourage foreign companies to invest in local industry. Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) was asked to build a plant for the manufacture of Sevin, a pesticide. Broughton mentions, Fortun K’s findings that in the deal, Indian government asked for major part of investment from local shareholders, and its own share of 22% in Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) the company's subsidiary.³ The Bhopal Gas Leak of December 1984, one of the world's worst industrial disasters, was an example of ignoring early warnings about safety regulations at multiple levels. On December 3 at around 1.00 AM, a safety valve at the plant gave way sending huge amount of MIC gas into the early morning air, which was inhaled by the sleeping town. In no time the streets of Bhopal were cluttered with lifeless bodies of men, women, children, animals and birds. The toxic tragedy exposed over 500,000 people to poisonous gas, resulting in over 3,500 deaths, tens of thousands of injuries, and long-term health issues.⁴

The decision to build the plant in Bhopal was based on its central location and access to transport infrastructure. But it was only for light industrial use, not for hazardous industry. The approval was only for formulation of pesticides in a small quantity from, component chemicals, such as MIC which will be imported from the parent company. “However, pressure from competition in the chemical industry led UCIL to implement "backward integration" – the manufacture of raw

materials and intermediate products for formulation of the final product within one unit. This was definitely a more sophisticated and hazardous process.⁵

The Bhopal Tragedy is a warning that the path to development is not without human, environmental, social and economic costs. The Environment Protection Act was passed in 1986 and Ministry of Environment and Forests was formed by the Indian government, which has given some hope. The Indian economy is growing at a tremendous rate but no doubt at the cost of people's and nature's health.

Broughton mentions the finding of Fortune K that, UCC deliberately reduced its size to one sixth and divested itself to and avoided a hostile takeover. It very shrewdly placed a significant portion of UCC's assets out of legal reach of the victims. The company still operates under the ownership of Dow Chemicals and still states on its website that the Bhopal disaster was "caused by deliberate sabotage".

The CEO and Chairman of UCC, Warren Anderson was charged with manslaughter by Bhopal authorities in 1991, but he never appeared in the court. Despite the central government's efforts in the United States to extradite Anderson, nothing happened. Anderson died in 2014 without ever appearing in a court of law.⁶

4.3.1. The Ugly Exchange

The UCC in the final settlement agreed to \$470 million which was only 15% of the original settlement amount that the GOI had asked for. This came to just Rs 1 lakh for every death and Rs 25,000 for people who suffered lifelong injuries. The settlement was insulting. The amount was far below international compensation

standards. In exchange for the payment, the Union Carbide was to be discharged of all civil liabilities and the Criminal cases against the company and its officials were to be dismissed. Not only this the Indian government was asked to commit to defend the corporation in the event of any future lawsuits.⁷

4.3.2 Warnings that were ignored

Two local trade unions voiced their displeasure with the plant's pollution in 1976. In 1981, the incident of a previous minor leak that resulted in injuries to others and the death of one worker was ignored. Following these occasions, columnist Rajkumar Keswani started exploring and raised his concerns in Bhopal's local paper 'Rapat', in which he wrote "Wake up, individuals of Bhopal", you are on the edge of a spring of gushing lava. 24 workers were exposed by a phosgene leak in January 1982, and they were taken to the hospital. 18 employees were impacted by an MIC leak in February 1982. A chemical engineer sustained burns to more than 30% of his body when he came into contact with liquid MIC in August 1982. Another MIC leak occurred in October 1982. In May 1982, a Danbury inspection team found 61 safety issues, 31 of which were serious, but the report was never discussed. UCC never sent a follow-up team to Bhopal, despite the fact that UCIL prepared an action plan. By 1984, conditions had once again deteriorated, despite the fact that many of the items in the 1982 report were temporarily fixed. 150 days before the accident, the main cooling and refrigeration systems were shut down. The number of employees was reduced to save money. No specific training was given to the workers..No supervisor was there for his night shift. The pressure control valve of the tank E610 had not been working properly. Last but not

least, the absence of a back-up strategy during a crisis served as a fatal blow.

It will be a long time since the Bhopal gas tragedy happened. One of the world's worst industrial disasters was the deadly methyl isocyanate gas leak from the Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) factory in Bhopal. But the question still remains is, that did anything changed in India with respect to preparedness and response in case of such disasters? More significant is, what is the future of the sufferers? The fate goes on as referenced in a January 2013 report of the ITR, Lucknow, the land and groundwater inside 3.5 kilometer's from the UCC plant site is infected with carcinogenic and birth deformity causing synthetic substances.⁸ "Data collected over the past nine years by the Sambhavna Trust suggests that even after three decades, the mortality rate for gas-exposed victims is still 28% higher than average. They are twice as likely to die of cancers, diseases of the lungs and tuberculosis, three times as likely to die from kidney diseases and 63% more likely to have illnesses. The Trust's data also highlights the fact that over the past three years, almost a quarter of gas exposed victims were diagnosed with an under-active thyroid, which can have devastating long term health impacts."⁹

4.4. We pay for our Karmas

Uttarakhand Floods of 2013 are another example of ignoring early warnings about safety regulations. The disaster was the result of unregulated and rampant development activities in the region, which resulted in widespread damage and loss of life. The disaster resulted in over 5,000 deaths and significant social and economic costs.¹⁰ The approximate cost of damaged bridges and roads was 285

million dollars, dam projects worth 30 million dollars and loss to state tourism worth 195 million dollars.¹¹ “The tragedy is a combination of human intervention and nature’s response to that. “The number of pilgrims and tourists has been steadily increasing, with people from the plains interested in a quick tour in the hills ignoring the carrying capacity and cumulative impact of dams and illegal construction on the fragile Himalayas.”¹²

The rising tourism industry attracted the land mafia and they erected multi-storied hotels, flouting all environmental norms. Thousands of such resorts and hotels have mushroomed in this eco-sensitive zone in the last few years. Some of these hotels were built on banks of several small and big rivers just to give the tourist a bird’s eye view of the valley. For example, Kedarnath Valley has hundreds of such hotels that were vulnerable to these natural calamities. So, when flash floods struck the valley, many of these hotels got swept away and so did the people staying in them.¹³ On the eve of 10th anniversary of the tragic incident we are the same again ignoring the fragility and assimilation of mountains. according to a report in Amar Ujala dated May 5, 2023 more the 1.23 lakh pilgrims had visited the shrine in only 10 days from 25th April 2023 to 4th May 2023.

4.5.The Silence of a Song

The book *Silent Spring* published in 1962 by Rachel Carson is mainly about the impacts of chemicals especially dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane also known as DDT on the environment and human health. With more than 10 % of bird species worldwide now threatened in one way or another, it is clear that we missed early warnings or failed to act on them. In 2006, *Silent Spring* was named one of the 25 greatest science books of all time by the editors of *Discover* magazine. But we

continue to miss signposts to 'other roads'? As Carson said more than 60 years ago: 'The choice, after all, is ours to make.'¹⁴

DDT was initially used by the military in World War II to control malaria, typhus, body lice, and bubonic plague. With its use the cases of malaria fell from 400,000 in 1946 to virtually none in 1950. The reason why DDT was so widely used was due to its effectiveness, relatively low cost of manufacturing, long lasting impact on the environment. DDT is now classified as a persistent organic pollutant (POP) as it accumulates in fatty tissues, and can travel long distances in the upper atmosphere. Because of such persistence, it becomes more concentrated as it moves higher up in the food chain, affecting plant, animal and human health. The experiments with DDT have shown that dogs who were given low dose of DDT in their food do not have reproductive effects but rats were found to become sterile after being fed DDT. When mice were fed low levels of DDT, their embryos failed to attach to the uterus and they witnessed irregular reproductive cycles, even their offspring had a higher mortality rate. One of the breakdown products of DDT, DDE3, causes thinning of eggshells in birds. In case of human beings. Scientists have no data indicating the impact of DDT on reproductive health but exposure to high doses can cause vomiting, shakiness, and seizures. DDT is considered a possible human carcinogen.¹⁵

The US Environment Protection Agency (EPA) banned nearly all domestic uses of DDT in 1972 after the publication of *Silent Spring*. However, DDT is being sprayed in most regions of India once or twice a year to eliminate mosquitoes. According to a report that appeared in *The Hindu*, DDT is sprayed by the government twice a year across large parts of Arunachal Pradesh. Similarly, DDT is sprayed twice a year in every house in West Bengal. The question is when DDT has been banned in the West, why is it still being used in India? With a huge pool

of biologists and other scientists, India can devise ways to eliminate the malaria deaths from the country. Poisoning of millions of Indians by DDT spray is not the solution.¹⁶ According to a statement of David Fritz of Biovision Foundation alternatives to DDT are already being used in Kenya, Mexico and Vietnam.”¹⁷

In 2013 in Geneva, the proposal to agree on a deadline to ban pesticide DDT globally by 2020 was rejected at the sixth Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. The proposal was strongly opposed by India, the largest producer of DDT. India is the only country still manufacturing the pesticide DDT. China stopped its production in 2007.¹⁸

After the recommendations of Expert committee the Government of India, had issued an order on 14.10.2016, banning 12 out of 66 pesticides and 6 pesticides were recommended to be phased out by the year 2020. Public sector Hindustan Insecticide Limited (HIL, India) is the only firm manufacturing DDT globally. In the year 2019-20, DDT was supplied to twenty States in the country. The HIL is also exporting the product to many African countries.¹⁹

4.6. The Invisible Visible: The Great Recession

When Queen Elizabeth visited London School of Economics she asked the some of economists present there that –How could we not notice It? The answer was- failure of collective insights of many intellectual minds and a psychology of neglecting. Some economists like Nouriel Roubini and Raghuram Rajaj have claimed that they predicted the crisis. But no one took them seriously. When the crisis was finally felt then people recalled that IMF and BIS have also sent mild warning signs. But it was too late.²⁰

The seeds of the monetary crisis were planted in the years when loan rates were excessively low and loan standards were compromised. The federal funds rate was reduced from 6.5% in May 2000 to 1% in June 2003 by the Federal Reserve. By making money available to businesses and consumers at low rates, the goal was to boost the economy. As usual, it started out with good intentions. The outcome was a vertical winding in home costs as borrowers exploited the low home loan rates. Indeed, even subprime borrowers, those with poor or no financial record, had the option to realize the fantasy of purchasing a home. Interest rates eventually began to rise, and the number of homeowners reached a saturation point. The Federal Reserve began raising interest rates in June 2004, and the Federal funds rate reached 5.25 percent two years later, where it remained until August 2007. Then, at the beginning of 2006, home prices began to decline. This pulled the Americans into trouble. They paid more for their homes than they were worth. They were unable to sell their homes and were unable to pay back loans.

In 2007, Subprime mortgage company New Century Financial which had made nearly \$60 billion in loans in 2006, filed for bankruptcy protection. And then, more than twenty five, subprime lenders one after another, filed for bankruptcy.²¹

4.6.1. Cost of the 2008 Financial Crisis

The financial crisis of 2008, had a toll everything that was even remotely connected with the US economy. The loss due to 2008 financial crisis in US, was approximately around 22.8 trillion dollars, or we can say it was approximately 72000 dollars per American. About 2 crore people were affected directly or indirectly by the crisis. British banks lost approximately 90 billion pounds in just a single day. At that time, India was comparatively less exposed but even then due to international linkages, the Gross Domestic Product fell from 9% to 7.8% in 2008,

and 12 billion worth of investments were withdrawn from the stock markets. The trade and fiscal deficit were affected badly.²²

4.7. The Fake Game

The game here refers to the cases of deceptive and fake endorsements by celebrities which has eroded not only the wealth and health of a common man but also his/her faith. Celebrities in India today make much more money out of commercial endorsements than from their routine acting endeavors. Name anything from soft drinks to mouth fresheners or from ilaychi, creams to cars, celebrities have a very high presence in Indian advertising industry. As per the Consumer Protection Act, these celebrities can be held accountable, fined or even debarred from future advertising in case of wrong claims for a product. Even with strict regulations and provision of penalties, the celebrities indulge in all sorts of false claims in various endorsements. This is really condemnable that even those actors and sportspeople who are on strict fitness routines and diets vouch for all types of junk food, chocolates and soft drinks etc. and cheat their fans.²³

In India the business of Pan Masala is of around 42 thousand crores and is expected to rise to 53 thousand crores by 2027. As per the reports of Health Department nearly 27 thousand crore people in India consume tobacco in one form or the other. Nearly 3500 people die daily due to Tobacco. In India advertising Tobacco is banned. The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act 2003, (“COPTA”) banned tobacco advertising with the exception of “point of sale” and “on-pack” advertising. Point of sale marketing (or POS advertising) is, specifically, a form of in-store promotion or marketing campaign that takes place at the point where good is sold and purchased, in order to increase the number of purchases. POS advertising can use various marketing displays like boards, placards, quotes on walls etc. to promote a brand, product, or service.²⁴

5. Psychology of Ignoring

5.1.The Mindset-Comfort of Known

One very crucial question that arises from the case studies is that why were the early signs of distress often ignored for so long. The costs of preventive actions are normally tangible, clearly distributed and seem visible in the present, whereas the costs of failing to act are less tangible, less clearly distributed and occur in long run, which makes ignoring a simple and cheap option in the event of an uncertain possibility of a happening. It is like asking someone to pay now to get paid after death.

5.2.Passing the Pass-Bystander effect

Keeping away from or shuddering responsibility is a peculiarity by which an individual is less inclined to make a move or action when others are available. In such circumstances, individuals assign others the duty to act. When they are a part of a group, each member has the impression that someone else will take care of the situation. For instance, in crisis circumstances, people feel less liability to answer to a call for help assuming that there are others additionally who are observer to the circumstance. There will be more confusion or inaction if the group is larger. When the responsibility is clearly delegated, this behavior is automatically corrected. Taking note from the disappointing instance of Catherine "Kitty" Genovese, the onlooker impact is a mental thought that became known during the 1960s. The case of Catherine Genovese appears to throw light on a peculiar human behavior. The incident demonstrates that people are less likely to act immediately in certain situations when they are in a group or around other people.²⁵

5.3.The Road-Less Traversed

Jill Suttie has summed up the thoughts of Jennifer Mueller, who is of the opinion that people miss creative ideas due to what she refers to as a mindset marked by an intolerance of uncertainty and a concern for being right. To avoid the discomfort of not knowing whether or not a creative idea will succeed, people with this mindset will dissect it and look for flaws in it. Because there is often more uncertainty regarding whether the new idea will result in the achievement of any specific goal, someone with this mindset will typically not view a new idea as a good and viable option in comparison to an existing solution. Strangely, even though people say they value creativity, this kind of rejection frequently occurs subconsciously. History is loaded with instances of organizations who disregarded clever thoughts: Hewlett-Packard rejected Steve Wozniak's concept of a personal computer, and the Kodak Company, for instance, declined to develop digital photography technology.²⁶

5.4. Not in My Backyard

In cases when there is anonymity or when something is not directly affecting a person or someone close to him or her, the chances of individuals to intervene are less as they do not know the victim personally. Instead, they believe that someone who has a relationship with the victim will assist. In cases of public bads we remain indifferent until the problem reaches our own backyard.

5.5. Division of labor

Division of labour is a term as per which different parts of a task are assigned to different individuals. The simple idea is to increase efficiency and responsibility for a particular part of a task. However, when individuals are delegated specific responsibilities, they may lose sight of their contribution to the organization as a

whole and become focused solely on themselves. By only performing what is required of them in their respective tasks, individuals may knowingly ignore their responsibility to the larger system. This is because they shift their attention away from the organization and toward their individual tasks in search of accountability.

5.6.At Master's Will

बर्बाद गुलिस्ताँ करने को बस एक ही उल्लू काफी था

हर शाख पे उल्लू बैठा है , अंजाम -ए- गुलिस्ताँ क्या होगा।

No doubt existence of a society comprising of alert, informed and assertive individuals is a necessary condition but, the presence of political will is sufficient condition if the actions are to be quick and accountable. The indifferent and apathetic attitude of the authorities affect communities badly. If persons in positions of power have little accountability for their actions or have no risk of removal from their office of their authority, there are very bleak chances of improvement in citizens lives.

6. The Revisiting Effect: Returns, Refractions

Jill has summarized Mueller's view's that power to decide what direction an organization will take shouldn't reside with just a few people. To become more accepting of creativity one must cultivate a different kind of mindset—something she calls the why/potential mindset. Cultivating curiosity, being open to uncertainty, and being willing to imagine the potential benefits of an idea can help people embrace innovation

6.1.Refractions: The Harvest of Not Ignoring

The US chemical giant DuPont company kept trying for almost ten years to export a nylon plant from Richmond, VA to Goa, India. In its early negotiations with the Indian government, DuPont shrewdly sketched and won a remarkable clause in its investment agreement that absolved it from all liabilities in case of an accident. But the people of Goa were not ready for this they raised their concerns as an important ecological site was cleared for a heavy polluting industry. After nearly a decade of protesting by Goa's residents, DuPont was forced to scuttle plans there. Chennai was the next proposed site for the plastics plant. The state government there made significantly greater demand on DuPont for concessions on public health and environmental protection. Eventually, these plans were also aborted due to what the company called "financial concerns"

People's awareness and wrath against their Ideals has led to some awakening and conscious stirring. Many celebrities have turned down offers worth crores of rupees which were detrimental to health or social norms. Kartik Aryan and Yash turned down the offer of Pan masala ads. Swara Bhaskar and Ranbir Kapoor rejected the offer of famous beauty product companies who wanted to feature them in skin lightening beauty products.

The birth of the Theory of Gravity in the year 1667, from a very ordinary everyday happening of falling of an apple from a tree was just because someone reasoned with himself instead of ignoring. He asked the question, Why does an apple fall on ground? Why downwards, instead of falling sideways or going straight into the sky? We all know the name of this man- Sir Isaac Newton.²⁷

Bernard Sadow was a Massachusetts family man employed in the luggage industry. It was in 1970, when Sadow was returning home after a family holiday and struggling to grab hold of his family's 2 suitcases weighing around 23 kg each

in his both hands. But why so much toil and trouble? Sadow looked at his hands, which had become almost numb and pale due to the grip, he had to maintain on the suitcases. Then he noticed a worker at the airport who was moving a heavy machine on a wheeled pallet without almost no effort. He was astonished and said, “I know what luggage needs: wheels!” When he was back home, he unscrewed four castors from a wardrobe and fixed them to a suitcase. Then he attached a strap and cheerfully circled around the house. This was the future. And he had invented it. An example of catching and implementing an idea instead of ignoring. It was 5000 years after the invention of wheel that we were able to attach it to a suitcase because of promptness of one person, whereas others keep ignoring any such possibility. The patent for his invention came two years later, in 1972. In his application, he wrote, “The luggage actually glides . . . any person, regardless of size, strength, or age, can easily pull the luggage along without effort or strain.”²⁸

7. Conclusion

Ignoring early warnings on safety regulations can result in significant costs, consequences, and harms to individuals and the environment costs, such as loss of human life, physical injury, and psychological harm. The social costs can also result in long-term health issues and displacement of people. Economic Costs includes the costs associated with accident compensation, environmental restoration, and legal fees etc. The examples discussed in this paper illustrate the importance of prioritizing early warnings on safety regulations. To prevent such catastrophic occurrences, there is a need for a robust regulatory framework, public education, awareness campaigns, and improved collaboration between regulatory agencies and organizations. By prioritizing early warnings on safety regulations, organizations can mitigate potential risks, protect public safety, and avoid significant economic and social costs.

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