

GDA INTERNATIONAL DOWNSTREAM CONFERENCE SET TO RECONVENE IN SEPTEMBER 2021

After careful deliberation on the economic impacts of COVID-19 and to safeguard the health of all participants, staff & contractors, the Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) announced the decision to postpone the GDA International Downstream Conference and Exhibition which was due to take place in Bahrain from 20-22 October 2020. The new date is 14-16 September 2021 at the Bahrain International Exhibition Centre.

Our main event supporter, the National Oil and Gas Authority (NOGA) of Bahrain also backs this decision, to welcome guests back to Bahrain once the pandemic is well under control.

We understand the gravity of the situation for all downstream professionals who utilize the GDA flagship event as a platform to grow their business, accelerate their professional development, make meaningful connections, and gather to capitalise on downstream turning points.

We also bear a responsibility to our exhibitors and partners, who make considerable investments in everything from the build to sponsoring networking events.

"Rescheduling this premier downstream event at a prudent time will enable us to come back stronger based on the experiences, insights, lessons learned and extraordinary stories of resilience emanating from this unique crisis," said Ebrahim Talib, Deputy Chief Executive, BAPCO; GDA Conference Chairman.

Audah Al Ahmadi, Secretary General of the Gulf Downstream Association also added that "As a common voice for the downstream industry, our founding mission

has always been to bring all the players together under one roof. During this testing time, we urge everyone to collaborate and share solutions until we put this pandemic behind us. This crisis is a litmus test of our operability; together let us demonstrate our adaptability, resilience, responsiveness and relevance."

With its theme, "**Downstream Turning Points - Capitalising on Transformation**", GDA will offer the energy industry a unique platform to share lessons, solutions, and ideas for a new world when it reconvenes in 2021.

Energising the downstream network in the Middle East

After its inaugural edition in 2018, GDA International Downstream Conference and Exhibition cemented its position as the platform for downstream professionals, bringing together key players in the GCC including international stakeholders from operators, technology providers, policy-makers and academia with the sole purpose of strengthening the downstream industry and capitalizing on available opportunities.

The strategic event addresses carbon capture, tech-driven transformations, disruptions and 3D manufacturing among other topics through a comprehensive technical programme and exhibition, featuring 200 exhibitors from over 50 countries who are at the forefront of downstream innovation.

We are proud and thankful of our sponsors and exhibitors who have extended their support for the new dates.

HEAR FROM INDUSTRY LEADERS AND EXPERTS ON

GDA CONVERSATIONS

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FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Friends,

This quarter we derive our inspiration from an old Chinese proverb, "When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and others build windmills." We built a few windmills ourselves during this quarter.

We launched a digital media based "GDA Conversations" series through which we talked to leaders and subject matter experts of the downstream industry on relevant topics of wider interest. We hosted many virtual meetings for our Technical Committees, some of them meeting bi-weekly as opposed to meeting only once a quarter. We encouraged our committees to organize internal webinars to share valuable knowledge on selected topics with all other GDA members. We commenced industry surveys through social media to gather our stakeholders' opinions on contemporary topics facing all of us in the current challenging times. We collaborated with KPMG to customize their "Future Readiness Assessment Tool" for our valued members and currently in the process of providing free access to every one of them through their own unique access credentials. We were invited to feature on the panels of renowned speakers in regional webinars to share our industry's perspective under current situation. In this issue of GDA Flash, you can read about all such initiatives that have worked like windmills for GDA.

In this quarter, with heavy heart but stronger determination, we decided to postpone our flagship event "GDA International Downstream Conference & Exhibition" from this year to the next hoping that the current COVID crisis would be well behind us by then. Meanwhile, we are committed to take care of the interests of all our sponsors and exhibitors for this event in various ways of ongoing engagements on virtual platforms.

We welcome "TechnipFMC" and "Advisors" who joined as Associate Members of the GDA. We are proud of our members who continue to demonstrate their active support despite the crisis facing them. While working from home, we also continue to keep our own team motivated and engaged through daily virtual team meetings and special team webinars on topics such as "Time Management" and "Mastering the Mind". Our Knowledge Hub continued to grow with high quality knowledge deliverables from different Technical Committees and other sources. We are discussing with many technology providers to organize virtual trainings for our members in the coming months.

It is said, "When the going gets tough, the tough gets going." With this resolve in our minds, GDA is making strong strides towards the "New Normal." Our concluding article in this issue "Moving Forward" captures such GDA sentiments.

Wish you a happy reading GDA Flash and keeping safe & healthy.

Your friend,
Raj Jhajharia



RAJ JHAJHARIA
Technical Manager and
Acting Marketing &
Communications Manager



aspentech

GDA
الإتحاد الخليجي للتكرير
Gulf Refineries Association

Process Modeling with Aspen HYSYS

8th-10th, 15th-17th September 2020
Online Certification will be on 21st September 2020

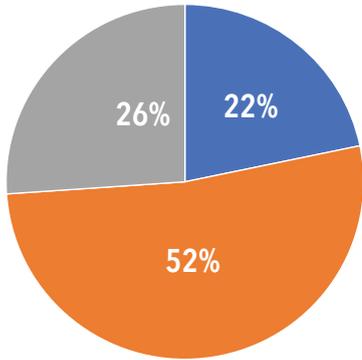
UNLEASHING THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

Stay tuned for future courses with ASTM & UOP. Click here for future updates.

GDA SURVEYS

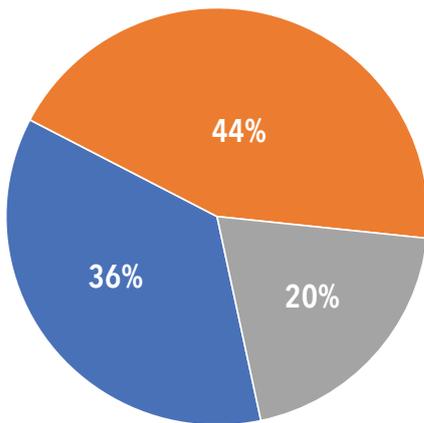
During this quarter, GDA conducted surveys to collect information and opinions using different social media channels. Our stakeholders shared their insights on various topics related to the Downstream industry and here are the results:

Given the current collapse in Oil demand due to COVID-19, OPEC+ agreement to reduce Oil supply and fast filling storage capacity in different countries, how soon do you think Oil price will return to \$60 per barrel:



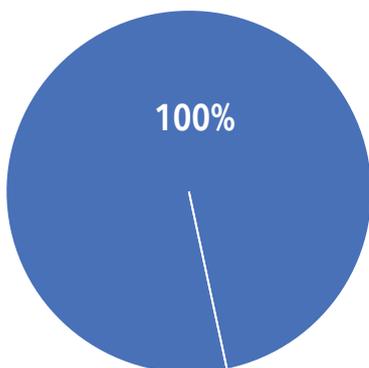
■ 9 Months ■ 12 Months ■ 24 Months

When do you think will the oil market rebound and its price stabilize?



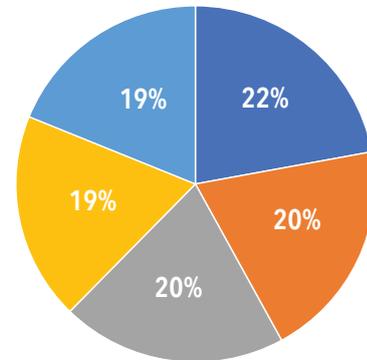
■ End of 2020 ■ Middle of 2021 ■ End of 2021

Upskilling our emotional, interpersonal and innovative behaviors is critical to survive and thrive Post-COVID and in the 'Future of Work'?



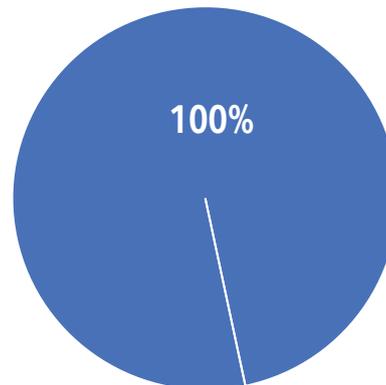
■ Yes ■ No

What are the top 5 ways to plan for uncertainties in downstream industry?



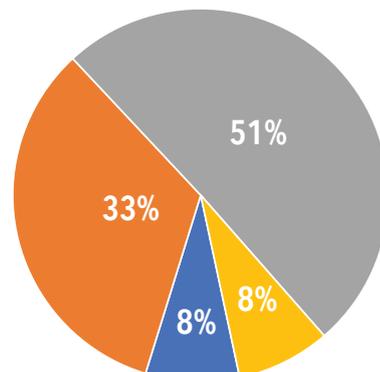
■ Enhance Collaboration and Partnerships ■ Curate an Agile Culture
 ■ Bolster Flexibility Along the Value Chain ■ Create Environmentally Friendly Products
 ■ Optimize Feedstock Processes

Fouling of Heat Exchangers may cause energy inefficiency and impact refinery's margin while increasing CO2 emissions.



■ True ■ False

What is the financial value of a good Reliability and Maintenance strategy over a plant life of 20 years in % of the value of the plant?



■ Below 25% ■ Between 25% & 50%
 ■ Between 50% & 100% ■ Above 100%

VIRTUAL MEETING STATISTICS

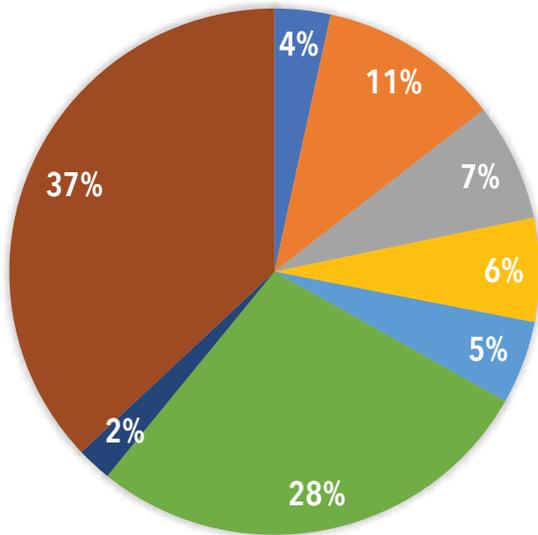
Since the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, and as advised by the Crown Prince, HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Kingdom of Bahrain, the GDA management prioritised the safety of their employees and were provided the

opportunity to work from home effective March 25th.

During this remote working period, all our teams have been functioning normally by maximizing on various communication platforms so

GDA can remain connected to its stakeholders.

Despite the pandemic, we continue to strive and promote collaboration among the key players in the Downstream industry.



- Membership Meetings
- Technical Committee Meetings
- Technology & Tools Evaluation Meetings
- Management Meetings
- Virtual Trainings & Courses
- GDA Conversations and External Webinars
- GDA Conference Meetings
- Internal Team Meetings

Total number of meetings from 25th March - 30th June 2020 = 235

GDA - KPMG FUTURE READINESS TOOL

In collaboration with KPMG, GDA customized and released a new 'Future Readiness Assessment' tool for its members. This tool provides a perspective on specific issues that every organization must consider in light of the current business challenges. This assessment tool is free of cost and aims to ascertain if an organization is well positioned to mitigate / absorb the impact of the crisis whilst identifying opportunities to leverage in the current environment.

The aim of this tool is to invoke a thought process on areas that might have fallen off your management's radar

and tailored to fit the local market. The tool provides organizations with a comprehensive approach towards their internal planning for business continuity, crisis management, and overall transformation in areas where they anticipate an impact.

To access this tool, please visit: <https://www.gda.org.bh/Members/FutureReadinessAssessmentTool/>

Every GDA member is being issued a unique log-in access to this tool.

GDA CONVERSATIONS LAUNCHED

In order to continue sharing knowledge and experience under the current challenging times, GDA has started a digital-media based series called "GDA Conversations" in which we talk to industry leaders and Subject Matter Experts on

relevant topics of wider interest to our industry. These conversations are held in the presence of invited Technical Committee members to deepen the discussion. Recordings of these conversations are subsequently premiered on the

YouTube for the public viewing. More information on the GDA conversations and links to all the previous conversations can be found on: <https://www.gda.org.bh/Media/Webinars/GDAConversations/>

Please click on the images below to watch all the previous episodes of GDA Conversations:



GLOBAL EXECUTIVE PETROLEUM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE BY S&P GLOBAL PLATTS

GDA's Technical Manager, Mr. Raj Jhajarha, attended the Global Executive Petroleum Virtual Conference by S&P Global Platts held on 24th June 2020. This 4-hour virtual session sets a unique international agenda with industry leaders to share their views on the critical developments impacting both the oil upstream and trading communities.



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ACHIEVEMENTS

Major Initiatives Completed

- CORSIA: Compliance, Threats & Opportunities - Industry Trends TC - <https://www.gda.org.bh/app/Article/Download/52>
- Develop a general template highlighting the CSU readiness plan - Commissioning & Start-up TC - <https://www.gda.org.bh/app/BestPractice/Download/35>
- Develop Preservation method statement - Commissioning & Start-up TC - <https://www.gda.org.bh/app/BestPractice/Download/33>

New Initiatives Added

- Saving Energy and Uplifting Refinery Margins - Energy Management

- GCC refining Units & Experts Database - Commissioning & Start-up TC
- Digitalization of Commissioning and Start-up - Commissioning & Start-up TC

Operational Excellence Technical Committee Webinars

- <https://www.gda.org.bh/app/BiteSizeVideo/?source=website>
- The New EFQM Model by Amna Fagieh - SATORP
 - Operational Excellence System Kaizen & TPM by Masafumi Minami- Idemitsu (Coming soon)
 - The Latest development in Downstream industries in OAPEC member countries by

Imad Makki - OAPEC (Coming soon)

Surveys Launched

- GCC IMO 2020 Readiness - Technologies TC
- Water Optimisation - Technologies TC
- PMI Awareness - Project Management TC

Technical Queries

- Laboratory Test Turnaround Time - Saudi Aramco
- Engineering, Turnaround and Lab Services - ADNOC Refining
- Engineering Division Organisation Chart - ADNOC Refining
- Utilization of KERO and gasoline fractions - Idemitsu

GI DAILY ENERGY MARKETS COMMENTARY

Gulf Intelligence invited GDA Technical Manager and Acting Marketing and Communications Manager, Mr. Raj Jhajharia to participate in the GI Daily Live commentary called the "NEW SILK ROAD" alongside other industry experts on the panel. Below are the links to all the Podcasts featuring Mr. Raj Jhajharia:

Daily Energy Markets Commentary - New Silk Road "PODCAST" Thursday April 9th, 2020

<https://soundcloud.com/user-846530307/daily-energy-markets-commentary-new-silk-road-podcast-thursday-april-9th-2020>

PODCAST: Daily Energy Markets Commentary - New Silk Road Tuesday May 19th

<https://soundcloud.com/user-846530307/podcast-daily-energy-markets-commentary-new-silk-road-tuesday-may-19th>

PODCAST: Daily Energy Markets - New Silk Road Wednesday June 17th

<https://soundcloud.com/user-846530307/podcast-daily-energy-markets-new-silk-road-wednesday-june-17th>



WHAT'S NEW ON KNOWLEDGE HUB



The Knowledge Hub is a unique platform for sharing knowledge and experience among all players of the Downstream Industry. It provides unmatched interactive access to information, statistics and direct links to expert advice and information from key industry and technical sources. Below are the latest additions to the portal.

Best Practices

- Commissioning Readiness Tracker
- Guidance On Preparing Workplaces For Covid-19

Articles

- How Growth In Oil And Gas Makes A New Case For Shared Services
- The Winners Of The Low Touch Economy

Presentations

- Energy Management- Optimizing Utilities To Reduce Energy Cost And Emissions

- Process Safety Matrices
- The New EFQM Model
- Operators' Education Program
- Reliability And Maintenance Benchmarking
- Operational Excellence System Kaizen & TPM
- OPM Assessment And Continuous Improvements For Strategy Realization

Lessons Learned

- Key Takeaways from Global Executive Petroleum Virtual Conference by S&P Global Platts

Ask The Experts

- What Is The Recommended Precautions That Should Be Taken To Route LCGO To DHT Feed Tank?

Discussion Board

- Disinfection Verification On A Surface For Covid-19
- Human Energy Charger

Bite Sized Videos

- The New EFQM Model
- Change your life through WOOP

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETINGS



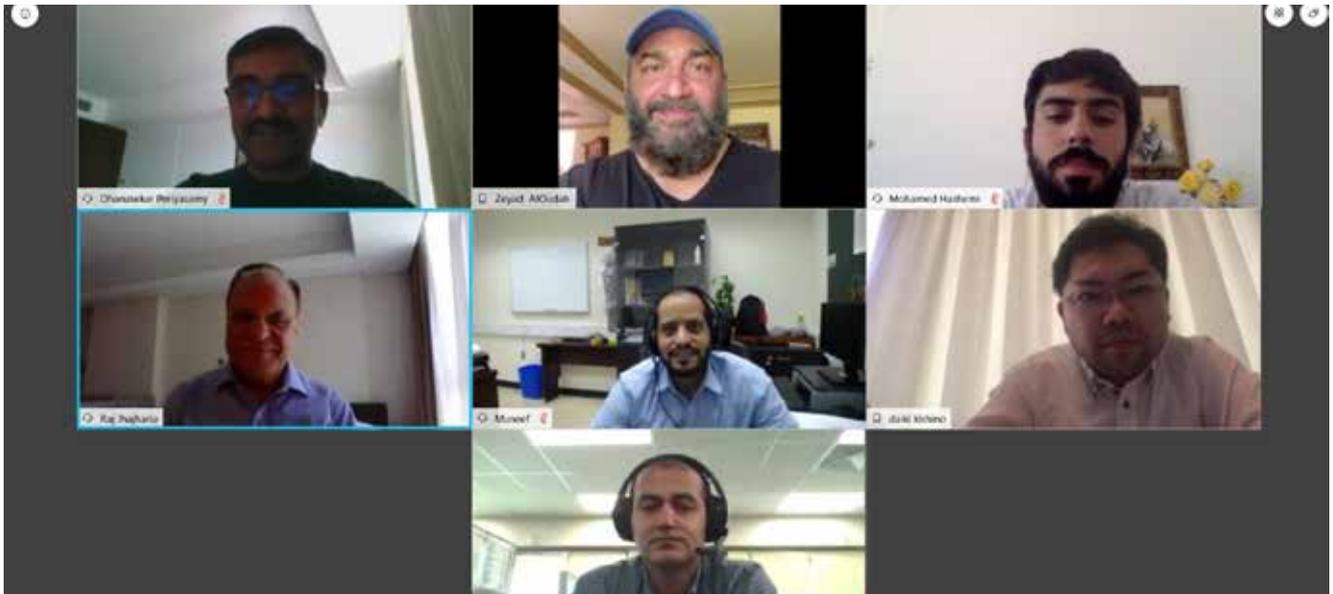
Project Management Technical Committee Meeting Q2 - 02-06-2020



Commissioning & Start-up Technical Committee Meeting Q2 - 11-06-2020



Operational Excellence Technical Committee Meeting Q2 - 15-06-20



Energy Management Technical Committee Meeting Q2 - 07-06-20



Health, Safety and Environment Technical Committee Meeting Q2 - 25-06-20

GDA TEAM WEBINARS



Mastering The Mind

This topic covered following points:

- Defining Mind
- Identifying Mind's Characteristics
- Becoming aware of Mind's Annoying Features
- Escaping from Mind Games
- Using Mind's power to one's advantage



Time Management

This topic covered following points:

- What's the Daily Dilemma?
- What's Time Management?
- Time Management Habits
- Identify your strengths & weaknesses
- How to change your Habits?
- Build your Action Plans
- Realise Value of Time

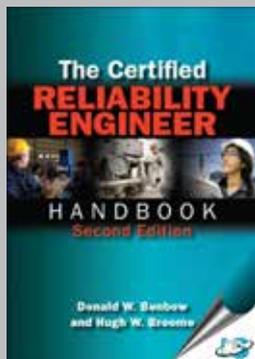
Recording of these Team Webinars can be viewed through the below link:

<https://www.gda.org.bh/Media/Webinars/TeamSessions/>

NEW MEMBERS



RECOMMENDED READING

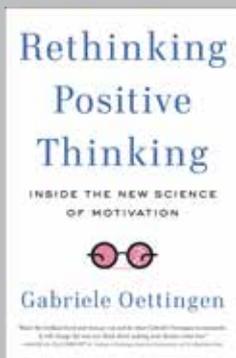
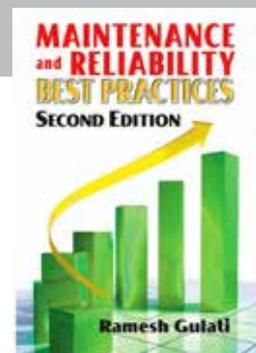


The reliability engineer is a professional who understands the principles of performance evaluation and prediction to improve product/systems safety, reliability and maintainability. The structure of this book is based on that of the Body of Knowledge specified by ASQ for the Certified Reliability Engineer, which includes design review and control; prediction, estimation, and apportionment methodology; failure mode effects and analysis; the planning,

operation and analysis of reliability testing and field failures, including mathematical modeling; understanding human factors in reliability; and the ability to develop and administer reliability information systems for failure analysis, design and performance improvement and reliability program management over the entire product life cycle. Study questions have been provided on an accompanying CD-ROM, listed by Parts (I-VII) of the Body of Knowledge.

The first edition of this award-winning book immediately became one of the most widely read texts by maintenance, reliability, operations, and safety professionals. It is also being used at many colleges and universities throughout the world. It has become a standard reference for anyone preparing for maintenance and reliability

professional exams. In the time since original publication, this book has become a must-have guide and reference. It helps everyone ensure that their organization's assets are operating as and when needed and at reasonable cost.



"The solution isn't to do away with dreaming and positive thinking. Rather, it's making the most of our fantasies by brushing them up against the very thing most of us are taught to ignore or diminish: the obstacles that stand in our way."

So often in our day-to-day lives we're inundated with advice to "think positively." From pop music to political speeches to commercials, the

general message is the same: look on the bright side, be optimistic in the face of adversity, and focus on your dreams. And whether we're trying to motivate ourselves to lose weight, snag a promotion at work, or run a marathon, we're told time and time again that focusing on fulfilling our wishes will make them come true.

This is a book by Amazing Women to Inspire More Women around the World.

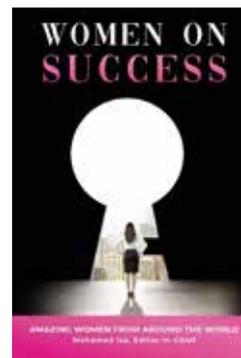
The world is full of stories of successful women, and we need to capture them, or they will evaporate over time. These stories must be documented. And they must be shared to inspire the next generation of females. Stories and experiences move and motivate. They provide us with a boost to face our challenges head-on.

The 37 contributing authors of this book come from 18 countries. We have 13 contributing

authors from the Kingdom of Bahrain; the rest of the authors come from Canada, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, New Zealand, Oman, Russia, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, and Venezuela.

In essence, the book covers the six continents of the world. Through out the book, there is one common theme: When there is a will, there is a way.

Let the authors of this book guide you to the way of success!



MOVING FORWARD

Author: Raj Jhaharia, Technical Manager, Gulf Downstream Association (GDA)



Sometimes, we feel stuck at a point in life. Nothing interests any longer. Life seems worthless. It is a natural reaction to look backward. We start blaming everything and everybody associated with our past. It is true that we are in the current situation because of our past. But, no amount of blaming the past will change the past, as it is dead and gone. The only use of this past is to learn valuable lessons. If we don't learn any lesson from our past, then we are condemned to repeat the same thing that happened in the past.

If what we did or didn't do in the past led us to the current situation, then what we do or don't do NOW will shape our future. The most important decision that we must take is whether to blame the past and stay stuck in the current situation or bury the past and move forward with a fresh outlook. We cannot move forward with the baggage of the past. And, this attitude has to be maintained throughout the life - moment to moment. This is the secret of small children's cheerfulness. They don't hold grudges. Minutes after a fierce fight with friends or siblings, they are playing again as if nothing happened. This unconscious attitude helps them move forward and grow.

Journey of a thousand miles starts with a small step. And, this step must be taken by us alone. Others can only facilitate our journey by providing resources and guidance. But that too will happen only when we start walking. If we wait for an ideal opportunity to start the

journey, it may never happen. We must make use of whatever opportunity comes our way. One opportunity leads to another and thus we move in life towards our goal. Almost all high achievers in the world had to struggle through many undesirable jobs before they found their dream job. Holding the life standstill at a point can never be an option. Nature ensures that.

The current COVID crisis has put most of us in such a situation. Nobody expected it. Nobody planned for it. It may have suddenly come out of the collective past actions of the entire humanity. But, now, each one of us must deal with it individually in our own ways. Succumbing to the stress caused by this crisis and

giving up the fight is not an alternative. We can use this crisis as a 'wake-up call'.

“When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and others build windmills.”

An old Chinese proverb says: “When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and others build windmills.”

Environmentalists say, we are today where we wanted

to be in 2027 due to COVID-19 as air has become purer and water has become cleaner. Staying at home, maintaining social distancing, and keeping strict personal hygiene, we have learnt many things: the difference between 'essentials and non-essentials' in life, value of relationships, importance of health, and nature's role in our sustainability. We need to build new habits around such lessons. Let us design our new future and move forward with new determination.

**Downstream Turning Points
"Capitalising on Transformation"**

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