



### International Civil Aviation Day

In 1901, something was accomplished that hadn't happened in the history of mankind. A man flew upon a glider and covered a respectable distance in a man-made device that was not held aloft by lighter-than-air gas. The skepticism that greeted this effort was profound, with people all over the world saying that the Wright Brothers were more liars than fliers. International Civil Aviation Day celebrates the science, art and sport of aviation that grew out of this initial glide and the men and women who push the frontiers of it today.

### #AI

## Rogue Waves Are Real & Now Predictable

Long considered myth, freakishly large rogue waves are very real



Using 700 years' worth of wave data from more than a billion waves, scientists have used artificial intelligence to find a formula for how to predict the occurrence of rogue waves.

Long considered myth, freakishly large rogue waves are very real and can split apart ships and even damage oil rigs. The new knowledge can make shipping safer. Stories about monster waves, called rogue waves, have been the lore of sailors for centuries. When a 26-meter (85-foot) rogue wave slammed into the Norwegian oil platform, Draupner in 1995, digital instruments were there to capture and measure the North Sea monster. It was the first time that a rogue wave had been measured and the event provided scientific evidence that abnormal ocean waves really do exist.

Researchers from the University of Copenhagen's Niels Bohr Institute have used AI methods to discover a mathematical model that provides a recipe for how, and not least when, rogue waves can occur.

With the help of enormous amounts of big data about ocean movements, researchers can predict the likelihood of being struck by a monster wave at sea, at any given time.

"Basically, it is just very bad luck when one of these giant waves, hits. They are caused by a combination of many factors that, until now, have not been combined into a single risk estimate. In the study, we mapped the causal variables that create rogue waves and used artificial intelligence to gather them in a model which can calculate the probability of rogue wave formation", says Dion Häfner, a former PhD student at the Niels Bohr Institute and first author of a paper on the work in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

**Rogue Wave Data**  
In their model, researchers combined available data on ocean movements and the sea state as well as water depths and bathymetric information. Most importantly, wave data was collected from buoys in 158 different locations around US coasts and overseas territories that collect data, 24 hours a day. When combined, this data from more than a billion waves, contains 700 years' worth of wave height and sea state information.

The researchers analysed many types of data to find the causes of rogue waves, defined as being waves that are at least twice as high as the surrounding waves, including extreme rogue waves that can be over 20 meters (65 feet) high. With machine learning, they transformed it all into an algorithm that was then applied to their dataset.

The new study also breaks with the common perception of what causes rogue waves. Until now, it was believed that the most common cause of a rogue wave was when one wave briefly combined with another and stole its energy, it caused one big wave to move on. However, researchers establish that the most dominant factor in materialization of these freak waves is what is known as "linear superposition." The phenomenon, known about since the 1700s, occurs when two wave systems cross over each other and reinforce one another for a brief period.

"If two wave systems meet at sea in a way that increases the chance to generate high crests followed by deep troughs, the risk of extremely large waves arises. This is knowledge that has been around for 300 years, and which we are now supporting with data", says Häfner.

**Cargo Ships At Sea**  
The researchers' algorithm is good news for the shipping industry, which at any given time, has roughly 50,000 cargo ships sailing around the planet. Indeed, with the help of the algorithm, it will be possible to predict when this "perfect" combination of factors is present to elevate the risk of a monster wave that could pose a danger for anyone at sea.

"As shipping companies plan their routes well in advance, they can use our algorithm to get a risk assessment of whether there is a chance of encountering dangerous rogue waves along the way. Based on this, they can choose alternative routes", says Häfner.

"AI and machine learning are typically black boxes that don't increase human understanding. But in this study, Dion used AI methods to transform an enormous database of wave observations into a new equation for the probability of rogue waves, which can be easily understood by people and related to the laws of physics", concludes professor Markus Jochum, Dion's thesis supervisor and co-author.



Shailaza Singh  
Published author,  
poet and a YouTuber

## Perils of a 'Good' Boss

Prithvi Raj Singh Oberoi was a good boss who remembered the names of his employees and supported them, when required. However, sometimes too much of a good thing can also be bad.



Whenever we used to meet during our brief courtship period, it was mostly about how he told Mr. Oberoi about his impending arranged marriage and how he would advise him about the various dos and don'ts of marriage.

Prithvi Raj Singh Oberoi (Biki) - this name was an integral part of my life when I got married. My husband used to work as an airport manager for the Oberoi hotels. Mine was an arranged marriage. When my parents heard that he was working as an airport manager, they assumed it to be a good post. We were told that he had been working in the same hotel chain for the last 15 years. For my parents, at that time, it signified stability.

My husband, Mohit, was a *bhakt* of PRS Oberoi. For him, his Oberoi sir was GOD. His day 'began and ended with Mr. Oberoi said this and Mr. Oberoi said that.' He was in awe of the man who, despite having thousands of employees, would always address him (a mere airport manager according to him) by his name. Every time he would land at the Delhi Airport, it was Mohit and his team who would receive him when he embarked from his private jet and see him off in his car. Sometimes, he would pick him up from his farmhouse in Chhattarpur and escort him to the airport, get him through the customs and then bid him adieu as he hopped aboard his private jet. Whenever we used to meet during our brief courtship period, it was mostly about how he told Mr. Oberoi about his impending arranged marriage and how he would advise him about the various dos and don'ts of marriage.

My introduction to PRS Oberoi was a brief hello during our wedding reception. But his gift, a pink silk brocade saree became a hot topic of discussion for months. "Mr. Oberoi is so generous, Mr. Oberoi has such a good taste, Mr. Oberoi went out of his way to get you this saree, you should be grateful", dialogues like these popped up in every discussion. Yes, the saree was beautiful, no doubt, but it wasn't exactly Burj Khalifa, to be honest. It was just a brocade saree, slightly more expensive than what you would ordinarily spend on a sari!

For our honeymoon, we went to Udaipur. We stayed at the Trident Hotel (an employee discount, of course). The facilities were excellent, as has been the case with all Oberoi properties. However, that did not last long since my husband got a heart attack in the next couple of days. A few of our relatives in Udaipur helped my husband to get admitted to the city hospital there. Here too, the magnanimous Mr. Oberoi and his company helped us to foot the bill. Afterwards, we flew back to Delhi where Mohit got admitted to Escorts for his angioplasty and there too, it was Mr. Oberoi who

came for the rescue. Naturally, when he recovered, he was completely debted to Mr. Oberoi which meant even longer work hours, zero work life balance and no family life.

As a wife of someone who has spent more than a decade in an organization (he started off as an intern and graduated to a manager), I have gleaned some interesting insights. One, if you happen to marry someone like him, beware that your husband will always be more loyal to the company than you! Forget work life balance! The boss may have thousands of employees but if he calls an

employee by his name, everytime he meets him, then the employee is likely to lay down his life for him (actually and figuratively). At times, when he was late, I would berate his organization but my husband could hear nothing against his beloved 'Mr. Oberoi' despite the long working hours or the crazy schedule he had to follow owing to his boss's erratic comings and goings.

In India, particularly in Northern regions, winter is the time for extensive tourism business. In Delhi, owing to fog during winters, most flights are either delayed or postponed and it is during these times that hotels capitalize on and earn huge revenues from airlines and customers. Mohit's job was to ensure that all the customers stay at the Oberoi hotels rather than any other five-star property and this job was an all-nighter during those times. Secondly, your husband will always try to emulate the life style

of his boss to the best of his ability regardless of his ability to do so. In our home, it was all about how Mr. Oberoi eats a rich diet or how he eats gold or silver *bhask* which makes him so healthy and hearty. He would always narrate an incident of how he happened to visit Oberoi Farm in Chhattarpur where Mr. Oberoi's personal chef was preparing his food and how he made him taste it and Mohit literally sweated because food was 'pure and potent' because of the *bhask*. Or it was also about how Mr. Oberoi, despite his old age (he was about 80 at the time), was always surrounded by beautiful

women who were immaculately dressed 24x7.

Another aspect of being such an employee for such a boss is also about emulating everything

### #THE OTHER BOSS



Since he worked in the hotel industry, my husband wanted the home to resemble a hotel too. It had to be spick and span, all the curtains vacuumed and bedsheets pristine and tightly tucked in. His logic? "When Mr. Oberoi's home could be like that, why can't his own home follow it?"

One fine day, as was his usual custom, Mohit accompanied the company officials to their chartered plane at the airport and saw them off. Perhaps he was tired, so while returning in the bus, he placed his head on the window to take a quick nap, we never woke up. He had suffered a heart attack. In better days, whenever asked about his love for his boss and the Oberoi hotels, Mohit often used to sing Raj Kapoor's famous song, "Jaana yahan, marna yahan, iske siva jaana kahan...". He lived that till the end.

Though I have only met the man once, Mr. P R S Oberoi has been a part of my life in more ways than one and has taught me many important lessons for rest of my life. The most important out of them is that a good boss sometimes is not necessarily a good thing for a hardworking employee. Sometimes, it leads to employees undervaluing you and if that happens, there is no one to blame!

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### #EVENT

## ROLES, REALITIES & REFLECTIONS

In an engaging talk with the FICCI Ladies Organization in Jaipur, Divya Dutta unveils her inspiring journey from personal loss to literary celebration in 'Me and Ma.' Overcoming challenges with resilience, she reflects on her cinematic odyssey, emphasizing the transformative influence of Bollywood luminaries and the parallel essence of being an actor and writer, in expressing her authentic self.



Tusharika Singh  
Freelancer writer and city blogger

In a riveting talk session with the FICCI Ladies Organization in Jaipur, acclaimed actress and author, Divya Dutta opened up about her deeply personal journey, tracing the contours of her life, loss and the inspiration behind her two books - 'Me and Ma' and 'The Stars in My Sky'.

The narrative begins with Dutta's poignant reflection on the early loss of her father, a pivotal moment that cast a shadow of fear over her life - the fear of losing her mother. Dutta revealed, "My life revolved around her and we shared every big and small thing. When I learned of her ailing health, the idea of writing 'Me and Ma' emerged as a celebration of her life." Connecting with Penguin, the publishing house readily embraced her idea, culminating in the creation of her book.

During the talk, Dutta discussed the challenges she faced in the aftermath of her mother's passing. Battling anxiety and depression, she found solace and purpose in her writing, emerging stronger from the ordeal. In her second literary endeavor, acclaimed actor, Divya Dutta shares poignant anecdotes of her encounters with Bollywood luminaries who played pivotal roles in shaping her cinematic journey.



Her reflections delve into the profound impact these industry stalwarts had on her life, detailing the inspirations drawn from their actions and the invaluable lessons learned. Delving into her early life, Dutta emphasized living in the present and embracing unpredictability. "I don't plan life; I want to flow with it. Going beyond my comfort zone, unlearning and learning new things - that's how I want to grow", she stated. With a smile, she added, "Life should be reflected upon with joy, not taken too seriously."

Answering an audience question about the parallel roles of an actor and writer, Dutta highlighted their similarity, as both provide a platform for her, to express herself. On request of the audience, she also recited a poem penned by her mother and narrated a dialogue from Veer Zaara.

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

### THE WALL



### BABY BLUES



### ZITS



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman