

Twitter Thread by Nandini ■■



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@NAN_DINI



Not long-ago to procure cement to build a house, a ‘contact’ was necessary. To get a phone connection an uncle in the right place.

We stood in long queues for milk & became hoarders of sugar & kerosene because who knew when it was next available.

Each one of us in our little own way was reduced to cynical criminality which was blended into & normalized in our way of life.

To throw a ‘runner’ on someone else’s electric connection, ‘adjust’ our electricity meter, get the telephone linesman to ‘accommodate’ STD calls

on our neighbor’s bill, to extend our balconies or add a room with an ‘arrangement’ with the municipality, didn’t prick our conscience in the least.

Our petty thieving was overlooked & we returned the favor, believing that this is what the powerful are entitled to.

Over generations the price was paid & how!

To see & yet avert our eyes to loot, to allow crime to go unpunished, the powerful escape incarceration, destroys the value system of a society and breaks its spinal column.

The natural progression then from quiet, fatigued acceptance of the ordinary citizen is anger, defiance, insecurity making him ungovernable & his belief that there is little that can stop him from doing the same....

We see that on our roads, in our cities, on our new trains, in our carefully crafted ghettos, factories of arson & anarchy, affecting our everyday life.

#Jahangirpuri #ShaheenBagh

■■■Extract from my blog -

<https://t.co/Rui5poEZuq>