

things are organised in a way that our actions not only affect others but eventually come back to ourselves. Last summer, many across the city suffered from dengue. The residents of this road were also not spared in spite of their well-insulated, air-conditioned homes and cars.

I am convinced that nobody can escape the consequences of actions. There are seemingly imperceptible connections between our actions and their consequences. I believe that we have a choice -- either to continue to violate the value of both inner and outer 'shaucham' or to be more responsible.

The Gita reminds us that ignoring such values comes with its own cost that is detrimental to everyone's well-being. We should aim to follow enlightened self-interest. This is just one issue, but the idea of 'shaucham' can apply to every perception, decision and action we perform in our lives.

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