



**INSIDE**



The final call, P4



History this week, P7

**AMITe poll**

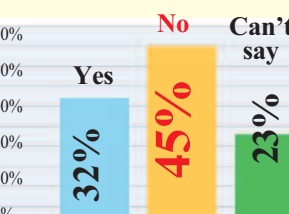
Do you think that the rapid decline of Himalayan ecology and increased loss of human lives is the result of excessive human intervention in the region?

a) Yes b) No c) Can't say

To vote, log on to  
 www.theglobaltimes.in

**POLL RESULT**  
 for GT issue July 26, 2021

Do you think that surveillance, whether under a provision of law or otherwise, is a violation of the fundamental rights of citizens?



Response	Percentage
Yes	32%
No	45%
Can't say	23%

Results as on July 30, 2021

**Coming Next**  
 Mango diplomacy

Friendship - a bond more unique than words can explain, a love purer than anything else in the world, and a relationship that brings meaning to life. In the era of technology, where all conversations are dialled down to emojis and memes, it is sometimes important to stop and

reflect back on the bonds that we have created. So, this Friendship Day, Amitians took up the chance to write a heartfelt letter to their best friends, expressing their gratitude for the ones who have been their biggest support system, because, after all, tere jaisa yaar kahaan!

## Friends Forever



**Dear Amreen,**  
 Chairperson ma'am always teaches us to be thankful for the things we have. She tells us to be thankful for our school, family and even friends, for they always help us in need. So, this friendship day, I would like to thank my friend for always being there for me. You make me laugh when I am sad, and you make me happier when I am happy. Even though I have other friends, I like being with you the most. Ever since we have become friends, everything around me is so happy. I like sharing everything with you - from our lunches to pencils. Doing all these small little things with you make me so happy. This is why I love you so much and I hope you love me too. I hope that we will stay friends forever, even when we go to senior class. Thank you for being my best friend.

Your best friend,  
**Sharanya Bhatnagar, AIS PV, I C**

**Dear Sherwin,**  
 7.9 billion people in the world, and yet you still chose me as your best friend! Oh, how special I feel! Words cannot express how glad I am to have known you over the last four years. The memories we've created through the moments we've shared will always be the best times of my life. I remember the time we went trick or treating and you cracked me up with your cheesy jokes, or the time we role-played as brave characters embarking on mysterious journey on our camping trip. All these moments that we share together remind me what a wonderful, funny, and kind-hearted friend you are. You have been by my side through life's highs and lows. I've not just learnt from you how to crack jokes, play pranks or ace at video games, but also the value of friendship and trust. I am so glad that I am and will always be, your best friend!

Your best friend,  
**Adriel Nitin Abel, AGS Gur, IX**



**Dear Vidhi,**  
 I know you must be surprised to find a letter dedicated to you in this era of technology, and I also know you have a habit of forgetting things, so let me remind you, Happy Friendship Day! You know that Friendship Day will always be important for us, because it was on 7 August 2016, the Friendship Day in 2016, that we first became friends. You were a new admission in the school then, and it is funny how we had been living in the same society for the last five years, and yet didn't meet each other until then. Over the next four years, we played and learnt together in the same school and colony, until 2020, when your father was transferred to Pune. I hope you are having a great time there, and I know you must have already made lots of friends, but don't forget about me.

Your best friend,  
**Aditi Thakur, AIS Gur 43, VIII A**

**Dear Inaaya,**  
 I still recall your expressions of joy when we met for the first time, two years ago. Since then, you have been my best friend. From playing with dolls to building LEGO blocks, I have the best time of my life when you are around. It is amazing how you are always so kind and compassionate. We might not be studying in the same school, but we still have countless memories and giggles to cherish. Eating my favorite food is always so much more fun with you. Princesses and pretend play games are so lively when we are together. Chocolate cakes and ice cream with you is something I would not trade for the world. Though we fight over new toys and games, you are still the best friend I could ever ask for. Thanks for being my one true friend!

Your best friend,  
**Saisha Vatrana**  
**AIS Navi Mumbai, III**

Continued on page 10...



Garima Avtar, Indian car rally racer

## Fueled by passion

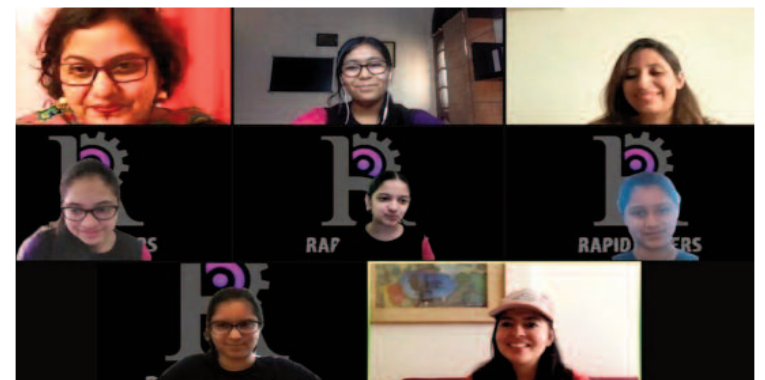
In Conversation With Garima Avtar, Indian Rally Racing Driver

Stepping into the world of motorsports in her 30's, Garima Avtar, a professional rally car racing driver from India, has carved a niche for herself in the traditionally male dominated sport. She has won accolades at Maruti Suzuki Desert Storm, Rally Raid De Himalayas as well as participated in many autocross rallying competitions such as the Indian

National Rally Championship, the Mughal Rally, the Monsoon Challenge to name a few. Garima has also been felicitated with Best Female Driver Award 2013 and has been part of Mercedes Team of professional drivers, instructor and driver for a Porsche Test Run hosted by Porsche Centre Gurugram. Apart from racing, she also holds the position of Corporate Vice President at Delton Cables Limited. In an interaction with GT reporters, she talks about her journey and more. Here are a few excerpts...

**What exactly inspired you to become a car rally racer?**

Frankly speaking, I did not plan it. When my father taught me how to drive, neither he nor I thought I would take up such a career because I come from a small town and a very conservative family. Then, one day I went for a rally event in Delhi where I had a podium finish as the second runner up. This incident motivated me to pursue the field further, and it still reminds me of the best memory that I shared with my father who was very progressive and always pushed me to do better in life.



GT reporters in conversation with Garima Avtar

**What challenges did you face to carve a space for yourself in a male-dominated sport?**

You definitely have to prove yourself at all cost. For the same, it is essential to train well and improve your skills constantly because when you are driving out there amongst all the men, you don't want to come in last! For example, when I wanted to learn advanced driving in 2019, I went to London and Dubai to learn drifting, which is driving sideways. Also, it's essential to know about the machine you are driving as understanding how it works will not only enhance your skills, but will also boost your confidence, which is

needed to compete with other sportsmen out there in the field.

**Speed can instil fear in the bravest of hearts. Have you ever felt scared while racing?**

Never. I am a very careful driver because I like to enjoy my driving. I am not very competitive as well, in the sense that when I sit behind the wheels, even though the aim is always to win, I also try to enjoy the event. I give it my best shot and I am mindful of not getting the car go out of control, so maybe this is why it has not scared me till now.

Continued on page 6...



Some corals produce a fluorescent pigment that acts as their own sunblock and protects them from harmful effects of sunlight and UV rays.



# Around The WORLD

GT keeps the newswire ticking by bringing you news from around the globe



## USA

### 25 million USD for India's COVID-19 vaccine drive

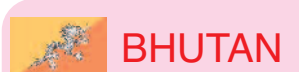
Antony Blinken, the US Secretary of State, has promised 25 million USD to support India's vaccination programme. The announcement was made on his first ever visit to India, and he pledged the amount to strengthen the ties between the two countries as the US government and India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will be partnering to support the vaccine supply chain logistics.



## SAUDI ARABIA

### 3 year travel ban for visiting red list nations

The country has announced a three-year-ban and hefty penalties on citizens who visit countries that are mentioned in the government's COVID-19 red list. The step has been taken to stop the surge in coronavirus cases and its variants. The list includes 15 countries like India, Vietnam, UAE, Afghanistan, Venezuela etc.



## BHUTAN

### 90% adult population vaccinated in 1 week

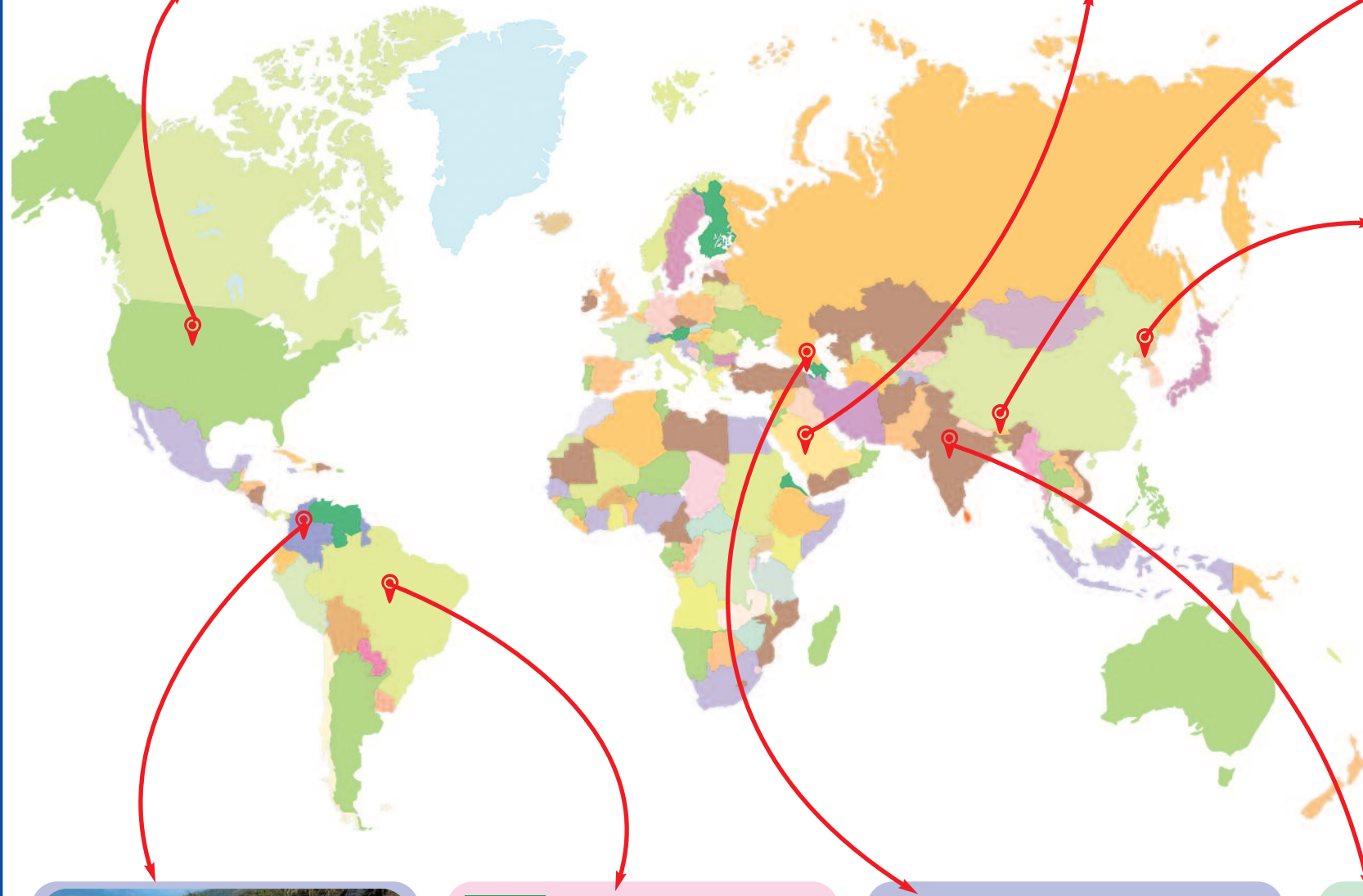
Within seven days, Bhutan has fully vaccinated 90% of its eligible adult population, according to the health ministry of the country. Hailed as the fastest vaccination campaign to be executed during the pandemic by UNICEF, the second dose for the population of nearly 800,000 began on July 20 in a mass drive.



## NORTH KOREA

### Restores communication with South Korea

After an year-long halt in communications with Southern counterpart due to the latter's failure in stopping defectors from sending leaflets across the border, Kim Jong-un has restored the connection across the demilitarised zone with South Korea. The move has been hailed as one that could eventually heal the strained ties between the rival states.



## COLOMBIA

### Rising illegal mining of gold from rivers

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the illegal mining of gold from rivers and waterways in Colombia has increased by at least 3% since last year. The report claims that just in 2020, the illegal extraction affected more than 52,000 hectares of nature reserves, and the increasing gold extraction is causing grave damage to the country's biodiversity.

## BRAZIL

### Sitio Burle Marx earns world heritage status

The landscape garden in western Rio, Sitio Burle Marx, which features more than 3500 species of plants native to Rio, has been given the title of world heritage site by UNESCO. The garden is considered a laboratory for botanical and landscape experimentation and was recognised by UNESCO's Heritage Committee in China.



## ARMENIA

### Deadly border clashes with Azerbaijan

The border clashes between Armenia and Azerbaijan, the deadliest clash since last year's war in Nagorno-Karabakh, has left three Armenian soldiers dead and four injured by gunfire. Azerbaijan's authorities have also stated that two of their soldiers have been injured but no deaths have been reported. Both countries have blamed each other for the flare-up in tension at the border.

## INDIA

### Silver medal at Tokyo Olympics

Indian weightlifter, Mirabai Chanu bagged silver medal in the women's 49 kg weightlifting category on Day 1 at the Tokyo Olympics. Mirabai lifted a total of 202 kg, and became to be known as the second weightlifter after Karnam Malleshwari (Sydney Olympics, 2000) to win a medal at the Games. The 26-year-old weightlifter was felicitated by Union Ministers Anurag Thakur, Sarbanand Sonwal and Kiren Rijiju for creating a historic win and unparalleled feat.







The Antarctic ice sheet is the largest block of ice on earth which covers more than 14 million sq km and contains about 30 million cubic km of water.

# Analyse your mistakes

The word 'Entrance exam' is self-sufficient to make one feel nervous, because it brings along an array of questions popping in your mind. Well, how about you get to listen from someone who has experienced it already? To all the young aspirants, GT brings to you a special column 'Amity Alumni', where star performers from Amity Institute of Competitive Examinations (AICE) will share tips and tricks to put an end to all the nervousness and fear associated with entrance exams. Read on...

## How did your journey for IIT-JEE begin?

I was in Class IX when I paid attention to the courses offered by IIT, one of the most prestigious institutes in our country, and also gathered knowledge about the three streams (science, commerce and humanities). I was motivated to study engineering and began to prepare for the same from Class XI onwards.

## What field of engineering did you choose and why?

Most of the students preparing for JEE are aware that the choice of engineering field is decided on the basis of rank and the college one opts for. On the basis of my rank, I chose electrical engineering because it is a decent branch and offers ample job opportunities as well.

## How did you prepare for IIT-JEE?

I followed an extremely simple method during my preparation. Before every class, I used to do pre-class work because it helped in setting up a base and brought more clarity in concepts taught during the class. Apart from this, I never skipped my classes and revised the concepts on the same day or the next day for sure. In fact, whenever an entire lesson was over, I used to solve previous year question papers of both JEE mains and JEE advanced.

## What role did AICE play to help you crack the competitive exams?

AICE helped me to clear numerous concepts and provided me sufficient resource material for preparing for JEE. The periodic tests conducted by the institute were helpful because it gave an insight into the exam pat-



## AMITY ALUMNUS

**Name:** Pranav Sharma  
**AICE Batch:** 2018-2020  
**AICE Programme:** Synchro  
**Currently pursuing:** B Tech in Electrical Engineering  
**College/University:** IIT Delhi

tern, the time frame to be taken into consideration for solving each question, and moreover, channelised the preparation pattern to ace the entrance exam.

## Are there some preparation strategies to crack IIT-JEE?

While there are many preparation strategies, I would like to share a few of them which I followed. First of all, you should have a proper study schedule or time table. Remember that a planned study makes your mind very clear and makes you a lot more efficient. Secondly, analyse your test papers. It is very important to realise that marks scored in tests are not relevant, but what is more important is to know where you went wrong and to never repeat it again.

Analysing will help you know your weak and strong areas. It will also give you a realistic picture as to what type of questions are actually solvable in the amount of time available.

## According to you, when should an aspirant start preparing for competitive exams?

It is a well known fact that the later you start, the less time you will get to complete the syllabus and revise it all. I would suggest that for JEE mains, Class XI is fine, but if your target is JEE mains as well as JEE advanced, then studying 1-2 chapters of PCM in Class X will really help you make a solid foundation.

## What are the key learnings that you would like to share with young aspirants?

I know that studying regularly is not easy and you would have to sacrifice a lot but it would be worth it at the end. Also, give a lot of tests once you have completed your syllabus. Don't skip any chapter because sometimes very easy question can come from them; just ensure that your basic concepts are rock solid and doing a random question does not make you doubt your concepts.

## Rapid fire

**One word to describe...**

**Your alma mater:** Enriching

**The motto of your life:** Helpful

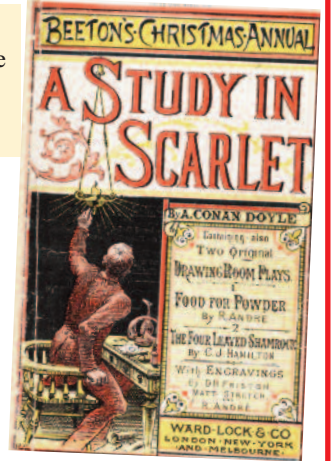
**Your passion:** Engrossing

**Yourself:** Modest

## Book Review

# Rake in that review

**Book:** A Study in Scarlet  
**Author:** Sir Arthur Conan Doyle  
**Published in:** 1887  
**Genre:** Mystery



**Synopsis:** The demise of an American gentleman from Ohio under enigmatic circumstances in England invites the counsel of a certain consulting detective by the name of Sherlock Holmes. As the chase for the one responsible for the crime takes us to the American midlands, the readers are introduced to the Mormon communities' para-social relationships. With several factors at play such as irresponsible coppers, multiple suspects and a ring, Sherlock attempts to solve the mystery behind the imprinted 'Rache' on the wall. It is a revealing tale fused with drama and fantastic twists. From its convoluted roots in old religion to a material description of history and tradition, the book offers a volatile yet enjoyable experience wrapped in an intelligent vocabulary infused with a tint of humour. The book's title derives from a speech given by Sherlock to his friend and chronicler, Dr Watson, on the nature of his work, in which he describes the story's murder investigation as

his 'study in scarlet'.

**Why is it worth reading:** The story marks the first appearance of Sherlock and Dr Watson, who would go on to become the most famous detective duo in popular fiction. Also, the book probes deeper into the state of human nature and emotions such as compassion, and how it can be confused with a thirst for vengeance. This original novel by Sir Conan Doyle offers a contrasting storyline and truly reflects the erudition and acumen at Sherlock's disposal.

**Iconic quote:** "And when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you achieve it."

**Rating:** 4/5

**Review by:** Sarthak Sahoo  
AIS Saket, XII

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The seafloor and water contain at least 150 trillion USD worth of gold, enough to give every person alive a share worth 21,000 USD.



# The final call

A Global Warning To Roll Up Your Sleeves And Put An End To Climate Change!

Arushi Srivastava  
AIS Mayur Vihar, XII I

It was yet another day in the Pingu household. The mother had called, and the kids came rushing in for their daily dose of dinner. As the father sat down and switched on the television, the booming voice of the anchor, narrating the truth that they had been dreading for so long, silenced the entire family and settled a wave of terror in their hearts...

*"The climate crisis of the world is showing its true face to Antarctica and taking a toll on their penguin community. It is when our scientists went on a Greenpeace expedition, they found out that the number of penguins are falling rapidly, and one colony has decreased by 77% in the last 50 years. This comes as shocking and surprising news because until now the chinstrap penguins were considered the 'least concern species' by the International Union for Conservation of Nature."*

It was finally Pingu's dad who broke the

silence in the room. "Of course, they are killing us!" he cried. "This decline in our numbers has been happening since the last 50 years and it is only now that these people are waking up and looking at us! There are a lot of things that are leading to our decline and demise, but the biggest of all is climate change which has been created by these monsters. It is because of their climate change that our habitat is getting destroyed. Look around, the beautiful ice is melting and affecting our food krill..."

"I saw a movie yesterday," cut in Pingu, "it was The Day After Tomorrow, and in the movie, due to global warming and the sudden climate change in Antarctica, a big block of ice, as big as a state, breaks off and ends up taking too many lives. Appa, will that happen to us if the temperature keeps rising?"

Pingu's little sister, Pinga, who had been quiet till now let out a yell. "That is really scary! Amma, are we going to die?"



ice fluctuations driven by millennia of climate changes. Whatever stands in our future, I am sure we and our entire community will be resilient enough to deal with them," her mother replied.

"But," Pingu retorted, "Research tells us that 21st century climate poses an existential threat to us. You heard them on the TV, Amma! The rising temperatures are melting ice, and more and more water is flowing to the sea from glaciers and ice caps. The ocean water is warming and expanding in volume, and here, in Antarctica, a lot of animals do not have the capacity to deal with warmer temperatures.

They are also killing krill, our main source of food, and the loss of this resource could trigger a mass exodus out of Antarctic waters or worse, an epic decimation. Our climate here is supposed to be cold and dry, but the news says that we might witness unprecedented rain or premature snowfall. What will we do?"

Dejected Pingu began to cry at this point, and his parents' hearts broke seeing their children in such a state, but what could they do? His father hugged his crying son and said, "Don't worry, Pingu. I am sure humans have realised the consequences of their actions, and they will take significant steps to save us. I remember reading about the Paris Agreement, an internationally binding treaty to fight climate change that the humans have signed. Also, they are working towards Sustainable Development Goal 13, i.e., to combat climate change in every possible manner. I know humans are always getting us in trouble, but they are also the ones who experience the same trouble. How many times we have come across massive rainfalls and torrential floods sweeping lives in different parts of the globe? And what about the heatwaves? They too are killing themselves. So, let's hope that they do their bit to come through this time as well, and save the planet and every being living on it."

# Growing on-ions!

Fruits and vegetables make up the largest chunk of our nutrition. However, their role is not just limited to a wholesome diet. Their significance permeates across economy, environment, health and social impact, proving how they are, in fact, essential commodities to attain a sustainable world. Keeping the same in mind, the United Nations has designated 2021 as the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables to make us cognisant of the diverse roles that they undertake. Shaking hands with this goal, GT brings you a brand-new series, wherein every part will explore the various facets of one fruit or vegetable, highlighting why it is important to preserve these precious gifts of nature.

Ayushmaan Banerjee  
AIS VYC Lko, V A

**Hey! My name is:** Onion  
**I am also known as:** Allium cepa

## About me

- I have been an essential part of the human diet for over 7000 years. My first traces have been believed to be discovered from the Bronze Age as well!
- Ancient Egyptians worshipped me because of my spherical shape and my concentric circles. For them, I symbolised eternity. During the Middle Age, I was also exchanged as currency.
- In 2011, British Farmer Peter Glazebrook grew my biggest kind, weighing about 18 pounds
- If you think I make your cry, then it's time for you to know that it's my sulphur-rich volatile oils that do the prank!
- You can grow me anywhere where there is sunlight! My bulbs grow actively in response to daylight!
- I could be eaten raw, cooked or even dried and stored to be consumed whenever there would be shortage of food.



## What I offer

About 100 g of me can give you the following:

- Calories: 40
- Water: 89%
- Protein: 1.1 grams
- Carbs: 9.3 grams
- Sugar: 4.2 grams
- Fiber: 1.7 grams

## I can help you with

- Improved bone health
- Balanced blood sugar levels
- Maintaining strong bones
- Boosting digestion
- Prevention of cancer

## Where you can find me

India is the second largest onion producing nation in the world. My Indian kind is well famous for its pungency. I am available throughout the year, and that's why I am so popular. Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh cultivate me year long. My harvest begins from November to January and then also January to May. India ex-



ports 11,49,896.85 MT of fresh onion to the world. In addition, China, Egypt, USA, Iran, Turkey, Pakistan, Brazil and Mexico also significantly contribute to my world production, with China being the largest.

## Why I fear climate change

I am threatened by unexpected rainfalls and droughts that has become more common in the country. In 2019, Maharashtra, which is my highest producer in India, saw a 15-20% decline in plantation due to excess rainfall. As you know, global warming has direct link on rainfall pattern and formation of cyclonic storms, this is indirectly yet intensely jeopardising my existence. The rise in sea-water temperatures in Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal in turn raises the amount of vapour. This results in excessive rainfalls. I plead you to act on time, if you want me to be a constant part of your healthy diet.

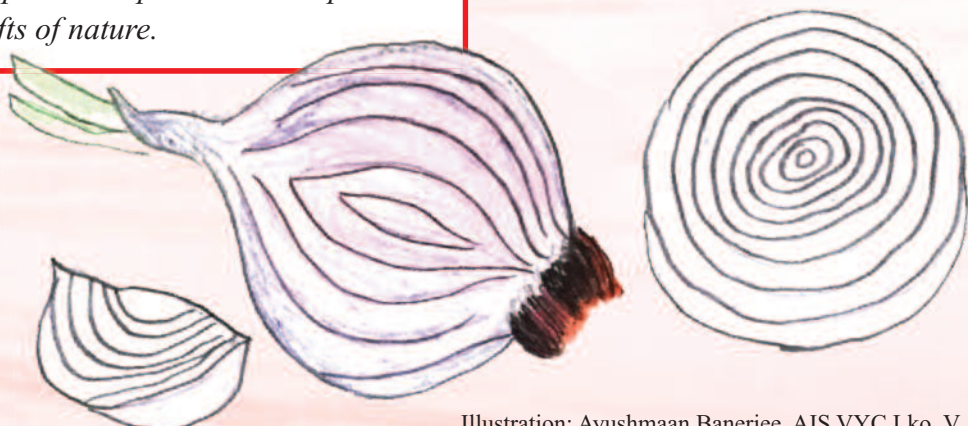


Illustration: Ayushmaan Banerjee, AIS VYC Lko, V A





The Pacific Ocean is wider than the moon, as the expanse of the ocean is 12,300 miles across, five times the diameter of the moon.

# It's the only home we have

...To Protect It In Time, Is The Only Hope We Have!

The Global Times is pleased to be a part of the The World Teenage Reporting Project on Climate Champions. An initiative of Youth & News Media Prize, the project showcases noteworthy stories by teenage reporters from around the world focusing on what their cohorts and other adults have been doing to save the planet. Presenting the story 'It's the only home we have' by GT reporter, Anupriya Bhatnagar.

Last year, The Global Times took part in the project that showcased stories by teenage reporters from around the world about what their cohorts were doing to help during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To know more about the The World Teenage Reporting Project visit - <https://www.globalyouthandnewsmediaprize.net/>

## THERE IS NO EARTH B



Team 'There Is No Earth B' with bags of waste collected, weighed, and recycled into products as decorative waste planters and electricity ports

There Is No Earth B is a community-based initiative that focuses on climate change through multiple actions that have proven hugely effective because they are inclusive, organic and decentralised. In an exclusive interview with GT, the team behind the initiative talks about the steps they have taken to make earth a better place

**How did this initiative come about? Was there a particular incident that triggered this decision?**

On a hot, summer day in June 2018, we observed that some people were distributing Rooh Afza drinks in plastic cups. This incident happened in the Hauz Khaz area of New Delhi. The gesture was nice but these plastic cups were being discarded carelessly and we felt that we had to do something about the plastic menace. Twelve of us did an impromptu cleanup, and There Is No Earth B (TINEB) was born! Bit by bit, TINEB mobilised more people and since July 15 in the same year, we have initiated some action every week. We have been conducting regular clean-ups in areas like parks, forests and river banks and even during treks. Other than that, we have also been hosting workshops, rallies and nukkad natakas (street plays) on climate change.

**Can you share some initiatives that you have taken as part of this project?**

So far, we have been able to conduct 232 clean-up drives and gather public support by engaging with 1,49,565 citizens, especially for campaigns like Save Dumna and Save Sattal. We have been able to create awareness in more than 61 lakh people. Speaking of the Save Sattal movement in particular, we are aiming to stop certain 'beautification and development' projects that will destroy the ecology of the area as well as snatch the livelihood of some locals. Also, we've removed over 9 tons of non-biodegradable waste from areas like Sanjay Vann, Central Ridge Reserve Forest, Yamuna Bank and Central Park. We weigh all the waste collected post-cleanup; all records of which are available publicly on our Instagram account. All the non-biodegradable waste is given to a recycler, and the salvageable waste is upcycled into art by our teammates!

Other than that, we also participate regularly in other social initiatives by other organisations. For instance, we partook in "Plog For Sewa" at Gopeshwar, Uttarakhand. The event saw participation of 800 volunteers and collected 1200 kg



### Anupriya Bhatnagar

Meet Anupriya Bhatnagar, Alumna of Amity International School, Vasundhara 1, a prestigious school of Delhi/NCR. An articulate writer, she has been writing for over seven years and was part of the school's Editorial Board for five years. She likes to express herself through her pen and served as the editor-in-chief of The Global Times, in-house school newspaper during Class XII. She believes that written words have the power to change the world.

About the Author

plastic waste from five different locations of Gopeshwar. Under this initiative, we also managed events (Best out of waste workshop) with artwork made by school students and climate change playful workshop for local community and school students. There Is No Earth B as a project encompasses anything and everything related to climate action, which is a range of things and the list only keeps on expanding.

**Take us through the initial phase and the challenges that you came across.**

Getting people to recognise that climate change is a real threat has always been difficult. So, our initial struggle was to build a strong community of like-minded people. We had to figure out a way that made our actions speak louder than words. Thus, we developed a poster system with upcycled paper and pinned it on our bags and backs to explain our work. Also, ensuring that miscreants don't abuse the open platform and protecting the safety of our volunteers have always been of paramount importance to us. We built a system where the actions of volunteers had a direct impact and were not misused for vested interests.

**How does this community function in terms of its members?**

There Is No Earth B has a decentralised structure with no hierarchy. This community is made up of concerned citizens who work as a team. No single person takes any credit for any work. We have volunteers from varied backgrounds and age brackets that range from school and college students to working professionals. Diversity is another hallmark that defines us and our work. So, there are no 'main members' — everyone is needed and everyone is welcome! In fact, the pillar of our organisation is the commitment of our volunteers. Their dedication and passion drives us forward towards a better, more sustainable and equitable planet.



**Climate activism is the main focus of There Is No Earth B. So, are there any similarities and differences between this organisation and the others that deal with the same subject?**

What distinguishes us from other organisations is our emphasis on supporting indigenous people. We believe in empowering local communities, so that it is their voice that reaches mainstream channels. Each time we undertake an initiative or a campaign, we interact with the local populace that is immediately affected by the problem at hand. Having understood their concerns, we often try to provide them with the means to take action in local government. Other than that, we also provide them technical support by creating email petitions, fundraisers et al. We also try to bring their issues to the fore by use of social media. Speaking of similarities, we are all fighting for the same cause and against the same injustices.

**Your website [thereisnoearthb.com](http://thereisnoearthb.com) uses three words to describe your work related to climate action: Inclusive, Organic and Decentralised. How do they define the work you do?**

The effects of climate change do not exist in a vacuum and hence, climate action must involve all. The term 'inclusive' has a two-fold implication — one is that the community is open to all passionate humans without any restriction. The other is that we believe in empowering all stakeholders, especially directly impacted locals. By organic, we mean that we work as a community

for issues that concern direct stakeholders. Ours is not a point of view coming from corporates or self-proclaimed 'environmentalists' who are neither stakeholders nor understand the core issue. Finally, it's decentralised because climate change is everybody's battle and everyone must have equal ownership of work. Therefore, there is no authority figure in this community. All members are equal, working towards the same goal. So, we begin by understanding the matter at hand and then we connect with experts and locals to get a better grasp of the situation. After this comes the mobilisation of public support for a campaign, followed by registering our dissent and suggestions through proper channels. The final goal is to attract public attention so that it ultimately leads to substantial change.

**Speaking of future, what are your forthcoming plans, if there are any?**

We want to continue nurturing the climate action that we've been practicing and continue lending our support to people who need it the most. We also want to expand to different cities and connect with more passionate and resilient people. Importantly, we want to make climate action everyone's business and make them realise that there is no more time to delay for what needs to be done.

**How can we make the subject of climate change reach out to the younger generation?**

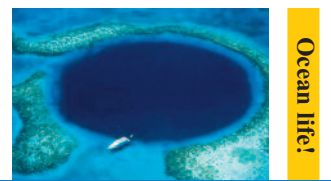
In this age of digital media, reaching out to the younger generation is easy; what is difficult is holding their attention. This is why whilst tapping social media and like channels to reach out to the youth, we try to ensure that our content is relevant and relatable. We are constantly trying to look for fun and interactive ways like memes and tweets to reach out to young audiences. Instagram and Twitter are our preferred platforms since they help reach out to large numbers. However, of late, we have also been working on blogs to give a more detailed account of our activities.

**Do you think the youth can be change bearers in the current scenario?**

Young people do realise they are the biggest stakeholders in the current scenario as they have their whole lives ahead of them. They aren't ignorant; they are just not properly empowered. In fact, we don't need to convince people as everybody already knows that There Is No Earth B. So, we can only hope that everyone collectively understands the value and importance of our home and preserves whatever is left of it.



12 people have traveled to the surface of the moon, but only three people have been to Mariana Trench, the deepest part of the world's oceans.



## Sculpting excellence



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

This morning as I looked out of the window, the raindrops on the window sill reiterated that monsoons had finally arrived. Whilst the love for rains is all pervading, it is the farmer who waits for these showers of blessings in all eagerness.

The farmer sows his crop with a hope that he will be a granted bountiful harvest. So, as the first raindrops touch the ground, his joy knows no bounds. At Amity, as educators we too sow the seeds of excellence in our children and shower them with love and attention, so that they can bloom and prosper in all aspects of life. I feel blessed, therefore, that our young learners have once again proven that they aspire to be the very best, as this time sixteen Amitians have qualified for the prestigious NTSE scholarship. As the winners, they are entitled for a grant till their research level studies.

NTSE is not just a scholarship exam but a test of nerves and grit too. This year's achievement is much more meaningful given the uncertainty looming large on exams, studies and life. But these Amitians have stood upto every demanding situation and shown us that no hurdle can crush their indomitable spirit. It is their passion to reach for the stars that made them walk hand-in-hand with their able mentors at AICE and touch the sky. As I commend their success, I also urge all Amitians to imbibe a similar spirit and take inspiration from these young minds.

Contrary to popular perception, the ability to touch new milestones is not just congenial; rather it can be nurtured. So, go ahead and make excellence a way of life. Be the sculptor of your own life, one which encourages others to follow in your footsteps as well. [GT](#)

## One best friend or many?



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

As the world celebrates Friendship Day, I realise how lucky I am to have friends whom I can always confide in. In fact, gratitude towards one's friends is the top story of this edition. While most of us feel that the bonds one forges in childhood are really the strongest, friendship can have different meanings for different people. For instance, I am content with only a handful of great friends, but there are some who can manage to be best friends with everyone they meet. One of my acquaintances, for instance, has over seven hundred contacts in her social media account and she shares an excellent rapport with all of them. Every other person she knows, or happens to run into even after several years, is introduced to me as her 'best friend'. So much so, that I have lost count of exactly how many best friends she has. This always makes me wonder, does one really need these many friends in a lifetime? And the only answer that convinces me is that friendship is one relationship that sets no limitations of either a fixed number or geographical proximity. It is a timeless bond, one that can survive years of physical separation. Another fact - one can make and keep a friend for life at any age. Whether it is that one buddy who has stuck with you since childhood through all ups and downs or those multiple people who enter your universe every passing year and leave their imprints on your heart, friends are what I call the elixir of life. Numbers do not matter, what really does is the feeling of love and appreciation you harbour in your heart for that special person. [GT](#)

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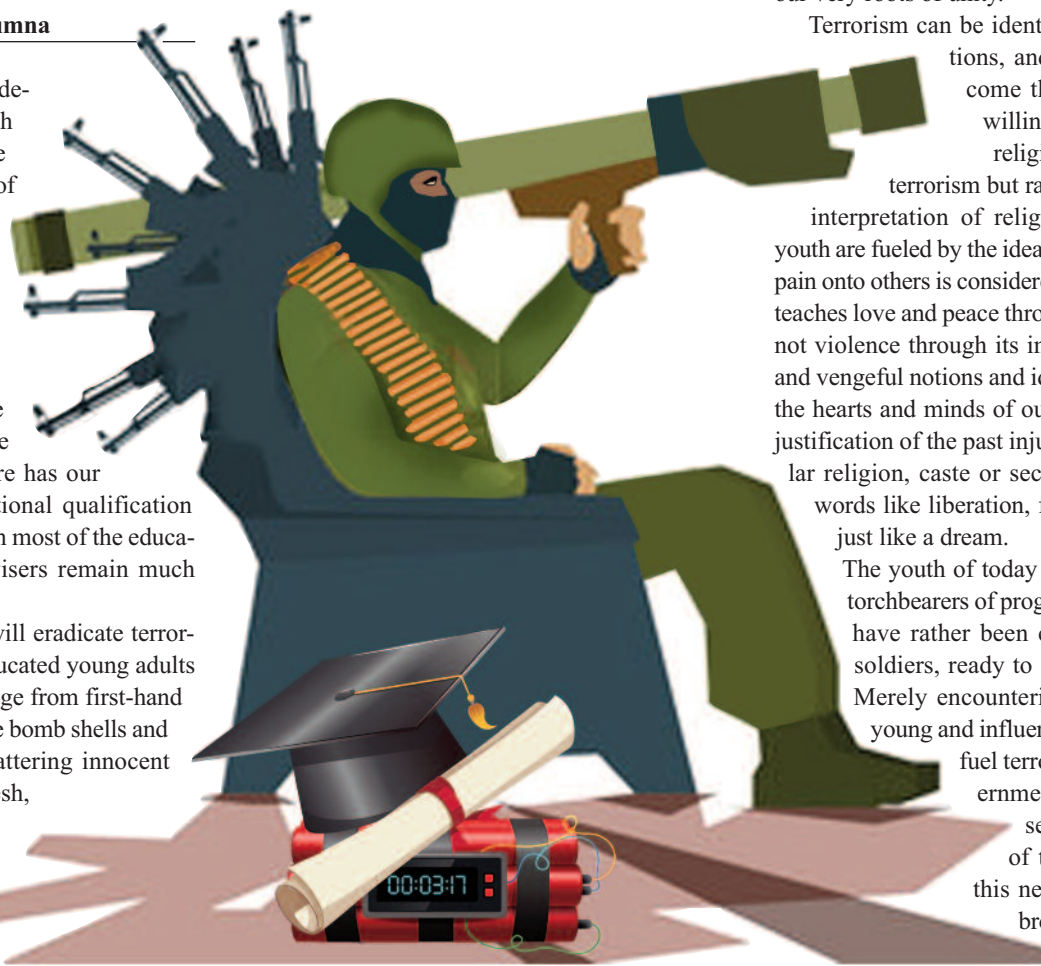
## As Terrorism Extends Its Clutches Over The Educated Youth

# Lost balance on a tight rope

Vidhi Batra, AIS Noida, Alumna

Equipped with the finest degrees and updated with all the know-how of the world, you'd expect the youth of today to end up as engineers, doctors, chartered accountants and more; all trying to add value to the world we live in. This is perhaps why it is even more unfortunate when you find a significant section of these youngsters landing up in the blind alleys of terrorism. Where has our social engineering, and educational qualification gone wrong? This is the question most of the educationists, philosophers, and advisers remain much preoccupied with.

Has our mantra of 'education will eradicate terrorism', rebound? Today, many educated young adults use their well acquired knowledge from first-hand colleges and universities to make bomb shells and weaponry to fuel conflicts, shattering innocent people into bone, blood and flesh, instead of preventing this violence. Has our society given away our own youth to be used as puppets in the hands of international



terrorism? A continued growth in this trend, would lead to more attacks, killings, serial blasts and widespread bloodshed.

Education is truly a weapon that can be used to yield positive benefits and make a better tomorrow. But the way terrorism has clasped its control over the so-called literate, who have failed to distinguish between good and bad, right and wrong; it seems that our strongest weapon has backfired, ready to destroy our very roots of unity.

Terrorism can be identified in motives and actions, and today religion has become the major motif of those willing to inflict harm. It is not religion itself that leads to this

terrorism but rather the misuse and misinterpretation of religion, through which the youth are fueled by the idea that killing and inflicting pain onto others is considered justified. Each religion teaches love and peace through its own propagation, not violence through its imposition. Today, wrong and vengeful notions and ideas are being injected in the hearts and minds of our youth for the religious justification of the past injustices towards a particular religion, caste or sect. It is 21st century and words like liberation, freedom and peace seem just like a dream.

The youth of today that were to become the torchbearers of progression and development have rather been converted into mindless soldiers, ready to fire at these very ideals. Merely encountering and punishing these young and influenced minds would further fuel terrorism, and make the government an easy target to be seen as enemy. The need of the hour thus is to fight this new phase of terrorism as broadly and open-mindedly as possible. [GT](#)

## Fueled by passion

Continued from page 1...

**How do you think we can get more women to participate in F1?**

Motorsports is an expensive sport and it requires a considerable amount of infrastructure and investment. Such sports require huge financial support, so if we get sponsorship from the government and corporate houses, we can spread awareness about racing and enrol students for the same. However, there are schools that are encouraging students to participate in competitions like F1, and that's great because they get understanding of the sport from a very young age. I am sure more women will also participate if we provide them skill development through training centers and requisite courses. Also, one requires support from peers, parents and teachers to follow their dreams and take up careers that are unconventional and to further break stereotypes.

**How did you overcome the challenges that came your way?**

Whenever I face any problem, I challenge myself more, pick up a new profile and aspire for newer aspects in motorsports. I got into motorsports in my 30s. I had no mentors then because there were hardly any women in motorsports. Even though I had many apprehensions, I was consumed by the desire to carve out a unique life of my own. I took one step at a time and just followed my heart and never gave up on my dreams. I wish to become better with each race, so I constantly try to improve my abilities, train better and learn whatever I can.

**How do you manage to be a mother, a rally car racer and an entrepreneur, all at the same time? What is your secret?**  
When you have both motivation and sincerity, you can work through all the



deadlines. The motorsports calendar is not a very cluttered one, as races take place usually on weekends. Even while being a mother, I have been successful in balancing a full-time career with my passion for racing because my daughter has been very supportive of my choices.

**What life lesson has motorsports taught you?**

Motorsport rallies prepare you for life. The sport enhances your decision making, and teaches you adaptability in life. It also teaches you to be honest to yourself and plan in advance. Also, it tells you that resilience is all about adapting to setbacks and coming back stronger. For me, the biggest learning is the ability to stay calm in the most high-pressure situations in life.

**Indeed, speed thrills, but it also kills. What is your advice to those who race recklessly on roads for fun?**  
As professional racers, we always

pledge that we will never ever break a traffic rule; that we will always wear a seat belt and follow traffic norms. So, my message to such people is that if you're fond of speed, test your skills on a racetrack and never on the streets. In fact, the concept of road safety is very close to my heart. I recently did a certified course from the National Institute of Disaster Management on road safety because it's really essential.

**What message would you give to young girls who aspire to be like you?**  
Don't let anything come in the way of your dreams. You should not settle for what is just good enough, instead, you should pursue what makes you genuinely happy.

**Interview conducted by:**  
Namya Jain, IX C, Suhani Chauhan, IX A, Samaya Chauhan, VIII A, Samara Chauhan, VIII C & Sanjana Chauhan, VIII D; AIS PV



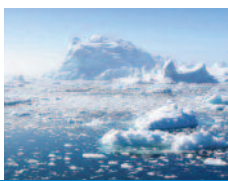
Issue: Page 6, July 26, 2021

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Searching the original' on page 6 of the GT edition dated July 26, 2021. The article not only makes the readers question the existence of the concept of 'originality', but it also sheds light on the rising trend of plagiarism which threatens the overall integrity of a written work, and further eclipses the essence of out of the box ideas and empowers the formula of C2P (cut, copy and paste). Now, even though Google baba is always there to provide us with literally any information, or we can easily claim someone else's work or idea as ours by simply modifying it a little, but in the process, we are losing the motivation to come up with original ideas and that's really concerning. The choice thus lies in our hands, so make a judicious one! Thank you, GT, for providing us with such enlightening pieces that give us a new perspective on anything and everything. [GT](#)

Chavi Gautam  
AIS Mayur Vihar, IX C





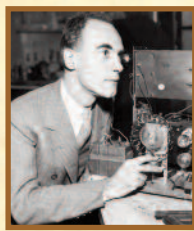
Melted sea ice water is more drinkable than normal sea water as the freezing process pushes salt out as the water is formed.

# HISTORY *this* WEEK

**W**eeks, years, decades, centuries...as time goes by day by day, the world keeps progressing into a newer direction. But as our eyes always stay glued to the telescope, trying to get a glimpse of the shining future we work so hard to create, it is important to take a break and appreciate how far we have come. Let us look back at the pages of history falling between August 2-8 that played their role in shaping our society.

## The world of inventions

**AUG 02 1932** American physicist, Carl Anderson discovered 'positrons'. While developing quantum mechanical theory, Paul Dirac, another physicist, predicted that every matter has a kind of mirror image called antimatter. According to



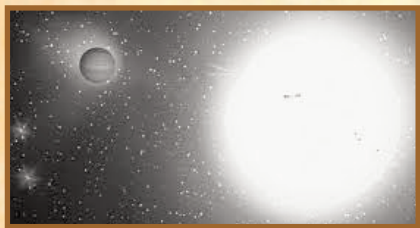
this prediction, a particle and its antiparticle, if charged, should have opposite charges. Thus, Carl Anderson, while examining the tracks of cosmic ray particles in a cloud chamber, witnessed the existence of positively charged particles, too small to be protons. Since it was equal to the mass of an electron, this particle was the first anti-particle named 'positron'.

**AUG 07 1994** The world's first programme-controlled calculator, Harvard Mark 1, was released. An IBM Automatic Sequence Controlled calculator, Mark 1



was a general purpose electromagnetic computer that came into use during the denouement of World War II. Starting from 1939 to 1944, Howard Aiken, along with IBM, developed the first fully functional computer, which was more than 50 feet long, and weighed five tonnes. It comprised 75000 separate parts and was mostly mechanical. The machine used three paper-tape readers, two card readers, a card punch, and two typewriters for input and output. Later on, Aiken formed three more such machines, Mark II, III and IV, over the next couple of years.

**AUG 07 2007**



The Trans-Atlantic Exoplanet Survey announced the discovery of TrES-4b, one of the largest extrasolar planets ever found. With an average density of only about 1/3 gram per cubic centimeter, the planet happened to have the lowest known density at the time it was discovered. About 70% bigger than planet Jupiter, TrES-4b was found while the astronomers were looking for transiting planets, i.e., those that pass in front of their home star. Owing to its size and density, some scientists believe that the planet, which is 1400 light years away from Earth, should not even exist theoretically, also calling it a planet anomaly.

## The world of entertainment: The world of celebration



**AUG 06 1932** Mostra Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica di Venezia, officially known as Venice International Film Festival, was founded. Being the world's oldest film festival, it is part of the Venice Biennale, and takes place in Lido Island annually. Considered one of the most prestigious film festivals in line with Cannes Film Festival and Berlin Film Festival, the festival invites world-class movies from across the globe. Released in 1931, Dr Jekyll and Dr Hyde was the first film to be screened at the festival.



**AUG 04 1958** The Billboard Hot 100 chart was published for the first time. This music industry standard record chart in the United States, published weekly by Billboard magazine, bases its rankings on physical and digital sales, radio play, and online streaming in the country. The first ever number one song of the Billboard Hot 100 was 'Poor little Fool' by Ricky Nelson. Presently, 'Butter' by the Korean act BTS stands at the top of the list, having now reigned on the singles chart for a total of eight weeks.

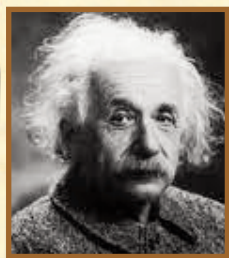
**AUG 03 1994**



Along with a team of 20 surgeons, P Venugopal performed India's first heart transplant successfully at AIIMS, New Delhi. Owing to the reason that most heart patients couldn't afford expensive heart transplants, which was only performed abroad earlier, on July 7, 1994, the Transplantation of Human Organs Bill was passed; a landmark legislation that facilitated the regulation, removal and transplant of human organs in India. After the circulation of the full notification and law by the government in 1995, it gave a green signal to other health centers to perform heart transplants successfully.

## The world of politics

**AUG 02 1939**



A month after the outbreak of World War II, Albert Einstein penned a letter to Franklin D Roosevelt, the then US President, regarding the possibility of atomic weapons being developed by Nazi Germany. In the letter, he specifically wrote, "A single bomb of this type carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory." He also urged Roosevelt to expedite Uranium research in US, although the country was not part of the war at that point of time. In response to his letter, the US formed an advisory committee in October 1939 which later on came to be known as Manhattan Project, the secret US committee that developed the first ever atomic bomb. It was later discovered that Nazi Germany never tried to make nuclear weapons which made Einstein call his letter as 'one great mistake'.

**AUG 06 1962**



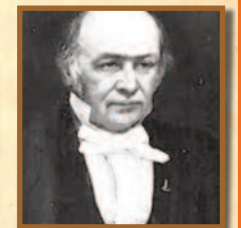
The Caribbean country, Jamaica achieved independence from centuries of Spanish and British rule. One of the first colonies to be invaded, Jamaica was first ruled by Spain in 1509, and then taken over by Britain in 1655 during the Anglo-Spanish war. However, with the collapse of the British Empire in the 1950s, Jamaica saw numerous amendments to its constitution. In 1958, Jamaica became a founding member of the West Indies Federation, a political union of several islands in the Caribbean that were earlier colonised by the United Kingdom. In September 1961, Jamaica's discord with the Federation and their gradual struggle to independence led to a referendum in Jamaica, resulting in 54% of voters wanting to leave. The elections of 1962 were won by the Jamaica Labour Party with Alexander Bustamante as its first Prime Minister.

**AUG 04 1775**



Nicolas-Jacques Conté, known to be inventor of the modern pencil, was born. A French painter, inventor, balloonist and army officer, Conte was considered one of the most inventive minds of the 18th century. Before his invention, pencils were mostly made from graphite lumps mined in England. In 1794, Conte was commissioned by his patron to create a substitute for the expensive English graphite due to the economic slump that the French economy was going through. Thus, in the next eight days, Conte produced a workable lead. In just over a week, through what then became known as the Conté process, he made pencil leads from powdered graphite and clay that we still use today.

**AUG 03 1805**



Sir William Rowan Hamilton, Irish mathematician who worked in the fields of optics, geometrics and classical mechanics, was born. At the age of 15, he began studying the works of Laplace and Newton, and by age 17, he had become the greatest living mathematician. He contributed to the development of optics, dynamics and algebra. His invention of the calculus of quaternions enabled three-dimensional algebra or geometry, which provided a basis for the development of quantum mechanics.

**AUG 06 1945**



For the first time, a nuclear weapon was used in World War II. The US wanted a quick surrender from imperial Japan in the war without risking US casualties on the ground. There-

fore, it dropped the first atomic bomb codenamed 'Little Boy' over the centre of Hiroshima that killed around 70,000 people immediately followed by the death of tens of thousands due to radiation poison. With no surrender in sight, three day later, US dropped another atomic bomb called 'Fat Man' about 420 kilometres to the south over Nagasaki and killed around 74,000 people. The atomic bombings by US declared an end to war, with Japan giving up to the Allies on August 14, 1945.



An iceberg holding 20 billion gallons of fresh water could meet the needs of a million people for at least five years.



# The road to nowhere



Storywala

Gouri Srivastava  
AIS VKC Lko, X

It is a dark and windy night. Rain splashes relentlessly against the window pane. But this is nothing compared to the storm that has been raging inside Adam's heart for the last twenty years. He has never been able to forget how he lost his most treasured possession - his daughter. The memory of her radiant face and the sound of her laughter haunts him till this day. It all happened when Anna had

decided to go to the nearby park all on her own, adamant that she was grown up enough to do so. Adam had always been an over-protective parent, but had given in to his daughter's tantrums that day. Little did he know that he would never be able to hold her in his arms again.

When the evening sun dipped below the horizon and darkness set in, Adam set out to look for Anna, only to find that the parks were deserted and the swings empty. No matter how much he tried to stay calm, he could not

keep away the thought that someone had kidnapped Anna. Adam broke down. He had never been this depressed. Even when his wife had passed away, he had been able to cope with the loss because of the love he had for his precious daughter.

It's been two decades since that fateful day. And yet, Adam still makes regular visits to the police station, just to find out if his case has made any progress. He knows that the police officials have closed the case, but he is not ready to listen to any of this. He

Adam had always been an over-protective parent, but had given in to his daughter's tantrums that day.

believes that one day he will meet his daughter again.

One fine day, during a routine visit to the police station, Adam is informed that a detective has volunteered to take up his case. Though Adam is taken aback by this news but hopeful once again, he decides to give it a go. The detective is a young girl in her mid-twenties, but she has a firm voice that can impress even the strongest of men. She talks about the case with Adam and promises him that she will do the best that she can.

And then, she tells him that her name is Anna. Adam is surprised at the coincidence but glad that the person helping him is his daughter's namesake. As the new detective continues to spend more and more time with him in order to discuss his case, he begins to feel that she is his own Anna, that she is the long-lost daughter he has been pining for. He is so sure about his discovery that he makes up his mind to tell her everything. But just as he is about to hug her on her next visit and make his statement, someone pushes him back to the wall. "Lo, he is acting weird again! Give one of these sedatives to Adam as well, the OCD (obsessive compulsive disorder) patient!"

For a split second, Adam realises he is in a mental asylum. And then, he is back to rambling about his 6-year-old daughter Anna once again! 🇧🇩

## WORDS VERSE

# Hey universe!

Pragya Kothari, AIS Gur 43, XII

I saw you walk by with a sly smile  
With daggers you try to clench me  
The cold constriction clasps my body  
And I can't seem to escape this ruse

The devilish eyes stare into my soul  
I know what's going to happen next  
Pinned down by your insulting arms  
Your ivy words wrap around my heart

Lying down with sheets of despair

Drowning under waves of self-hate  
Why do I have to remain this way?  
While you strip me of my strength

And then ask me why I am so weak  
I believed a saviour will see me through  
This is my only chance to unbound myself  
From the d(evil) trying to grasp on to me

I'm courageous and ready to break free  
I thrust you to the wall, now unconfined  
Your intentions of sinning now ceased  
Walking away with the sense of victory. 🇧🇩



## Rainbows

Suhani Malik

AIS Pushp Vihar, XII B

Teardrops from the sky  
Pattering on the windows  
Evoking lost emotions  
A musical melancholy

The whistles of the wind  
As it teeters by your life  
Carrying away stories  
A magnificent memory

The woeful gray clouds  
Shredding away sorrows  
Awaiting new beginnings  
A necessary goodbye

And finally, a rainbow  
Emerging from the sky  
Healing damaged souls  
A sanctimonious spectrum. 🇧🇩



Harshita Prasad

Unicorn  
sweet  
safe

Harshita Prasad, AIS Noida, IX

### Material required

- Plastic jar with lid-1
- Newspaper
- Glue
- Acrylic paints
- Paint brushes
- Permanent marker
- Pencil
- Scissors

### Method

- First of all, ensure that the jar you have chosen is completely clean and dry.
- Paint the whole surface of the jar and lid using any colour that goes with the unicorn theme such as turquoise, golden, pink or purple.
- Once the paint dries off completely, draw the eyes of the unicorn on the jar using a permanent marker.
- Next, to make the unicorn horn, cut out an equilateral triangle from a newspaper with each side measuring about 25 cm.
- Now, roll this triangle into a cone and secure it with glue.
- Cut out a circle equal to the circumference of cone. Stick the circle at the bottom of the upright cone. This will be the base of the horn.
- Once again paint the horn using vibrant acrylic colours in any pattern you like. You can use colours like purple, pink, white, blue, etc.
- Next, cut two small triangles out of the newspaper. Make the edge of these triangles a little curvy. Within these big triangles, draw smaller curvy triangles with the help of a pencil.
- Now, paint the small triangles in pink or any other unicorn colour of your choice, and then paint the remaining area golden.
- Once done, paste the big horn at the centre-top of the lid of the jar. And paste the little triangles on each side of this horn. Refer to the picture.
- Your unicorn sweet safe is ready! You can safely hide your scrumptious sweets and treats in this jar!

## BRUSH 'n' EASEL

Tanisha Kapoor  
AIS VYC Lko, XII







More than 70% of all volcanic eruptions occur underwater, and most of the volcanoes are found along the belt that encircles the Pacific Ocean.

Comic strip: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network

# A leafy dream

Anisha Surily, AIS Gurugram 43, VIII

Ryan was a naughty school boy who enjoyed riding his bicycle and causing destruction. As he was cycling one day, he rode his bicycle over a small shrub planted in the garden by his mother.



Ryan, you naughty boy! Plants have feelings, too, you know! Go to your room, right now. No more bicycle riding for you.



Huh, how can mom scold me for such a small thing? These are just dumb plants; not like they are of any use.



Ryan went and sat on his bed, angry at his mother, and soon, he fell asleep.



When he woke up, his legs had vanished and he was unable to move his brown body. Instead of hair, he now had leaves. He had turned into a tree.

## Wisdom Tale



Look at that ugly tree. Let's break its branches.

Yeah, it'll be so fun!



Help! Help! Somebody help me. Mom! I am stuck here.

Nooo!



As Ryan stood there, beaten and hurt, with tears in his eyes, he realised that trees, too, have feelings.

With a jolt, Ryan woke up. He touched his arms and legs and seeing that he was back in his human form, he realised that it was just a dream.



I truly am a horrible boy for hurting plants. I have realised that they have feelings, too. I will never harm the environment ever again.

So, what did you learn today? Nature can feel too. So, we must always take care of it.

## POEMS

### Our mother Earth

Avishi Agarwal  
AIS VKC Lucknow, VIII

Mother earth, oh, dear mother earth  
Nobody understands your dearth  
Since ages you have sacrificed  
Borne the sufferings on your side

You give home and land to many  
So that they can earn their penny  
Find all the meaning in their lives  
And finally learn how to survive

Your beauty reflects and blends  
The past and today's modern trends  
You sow and nurture seeds of nature  
For our bright and lovely future

Your sacrifices for us are endless  
But we meddle and make a mess  
We should make you beautiful  
So that the results are fruitful!



### A bowling wonder

Purvash Wadhwa  
AIS Saket, V

I want to hit the wickets  
With the ball in my hand  
Grip is firm, the target set  
And I am ready to roll it

The crowd's cheerful eyes  
Are all truly fixated on me  
Nervous as I am to there be  
I just start to roll, howbeit

I start with the long run  
The ball still in my grip  
I raise my arm to swing  
It curls to the target I hit

The batsman looks worried  
For the ball misses the bat  
Smashes the wickets and  
The umpire declares out!



## PAINTING CORNER

Shaurya Kansal  
AIS Noida, II F



## It's Me

### Know Me

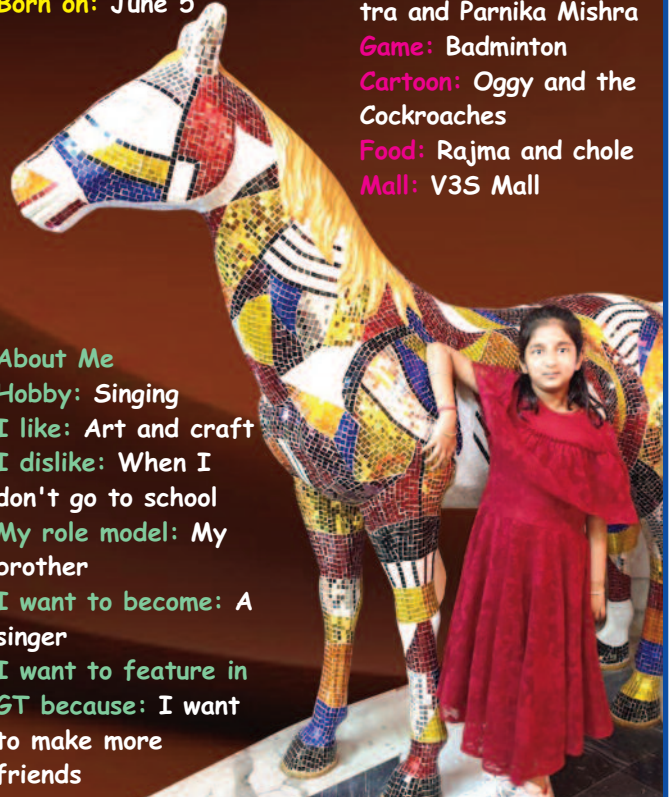
My name: Shriya Garg  
My Class: IV  
My school: AIS MV  
Born on: June 5

### My Favourites

Teacher: Swati ma'am  
Subject: Mathematics  
Friends: Nushi Malhotra and Parnika Mishra  
Game: Badminton  
Cartoon: Oggy and the Cockroaches  
Food: Rajma and chole  
Mall: V3S Mall

### About Me

Hobby: Singing  
I like: Art and craft  
I dislike: When I don't go to school  
My role model: My brother  
I want to become: A singer  
I want to feature in GT because: I want to make more friends



## Bhelpuri

Ashwika Agarwal  
AIS Mayur Vihar, II



### Ingredients

- Puffed rice .....2 bowls
- Aloo bhujia.....1 bowl
- Papdi (crushed).....½ bowl
- Tomato (diced).....1
- Potato (boiled and diced) ..1
- Onion (diced).....1
- Cucumber (diced).....1
- Green chutney.....2 tsp
- Sweet chilli chutney.....2 tsp
- Green chilly (diced).....1
- Lemon juice.....2 tsp
- Coriander leaves..to garnish
- Peanuts.....to garnish
- Chaat masala.....to taste
- Cumin powder (roasted)....to taste



### Procedure

- In a big bowl, add two small bowls of puffed rice.
- In the same bowl, add aloo bhujia, crushed papdi, tomato, potato, onion, cucumber, green chutney, sweet chilli chutney, and green chilly. Mix all the ingredients well.
- Sprinkle chaat masala and roasted cumin powder as per taste and mix one more time.
- When done, add lemon juice and with a spoon, just swirl the mixture together quickly.
- Garnish with coriander leaves and peanuts on the top.
- Your bhelpuri is ready, so enjoy it fresh and crispy before it turns soggy.



The biggest waterfall on the planet, the Denmark Strait Cataract, exists underwater and flows at 123 million cubic feet per second.



# FRIENDS FOREVER

## Because Friends Are The Family We Choose, And Families Are Forever!

Continued from page 1...



**Dear Srishti,**

Things have changed so much around us. However, what has not changed is our bond. I am beyond glad that I can still share my worries with you, and like usual, you still hold the position of my advisor and well-wisher in my indecisive moments. Most importantly, you are my best friend who helps me through thick and thin, who receives my midnight calls, discusses school assignments and keeps my secrets sealed. The fact that you understand me, know every detail about me, forget my birthday but still manage to work out the best surprises, makes you one of the most special people I know. Thank you for everything. I am blessed to have you in my life.

**Your best friend,  
Vedi Jain, AIS Vas 1, XI C**

**Dear Advik,**

Happy Friendship Day, my best friend! You and I have a lot of fun together. We love to play, eat and watch TV together. We even have our own favourite toys that we share with each other. I know we have different sets of toys, but we always love sharing them with each other, because the game is only fun when I am playing with you. From our chocolates to all the yummy food, we just share our stuff to share the joy! Even though we are apart right now, I call you every single day, because there is always so much to talk about. I will keep calling you and talking to you because you will always be my best friend.

**Your best friend,  
Sanvi Jha, AIS Gwalior, II**



**Dear Vaishnavi,**

Though I have stated it a million times before, I would still take this as an opportunity to emphasise how much our friendship truly means to me! The way you have been there with me always, no matter what the situation is, is something too hard for me to put into words, but too precious to not express gratitude for. I would not even be exaggerating if I say that you are one of the reasons I wake up with a smile every morning. Thank you for always making me feel better whenever I felt down in the dumps. There is a dearth of good friends in this world, but I can proudly say that I am lucky, lucky because I have you!

**Your best friend,  
Lavanyaa Verma  
AIS VYC Lko, VII**

**Dear Kashvi,**

I'll never forget the happy moments we used to have during school, such as sharing food, borrowing items, and so on. Those were my favourite days, and I miss them terribly. We haven't seen each other in quite some time, but I still recall all of our amusing encounters. I know you're tired of online meetings, but the good times are on the way. And today, I'd like to express my gratitude to you for weathering all my tantrums and always steering me in the right direction. Here is a piece of my heart that I am giving to you in the hope that you would keep it forever. I truly cherish all the memories we shared at school. Thank you so much for always being there for me.

**Your best friend,  
Devanshi Rawat, AIS Gur 46, VIII**



**Dear Kiara,**

I still remember the day when I first met you. You were a new admission and our teacher made us sit with each other. Within no time, we became friends. We loved talking to each other, doing activities, playing and even studying together. It was with you that I learnt the lessons of sharing, caring and enjoying. Even during this pandemic when we were locked in our homes, I felt relieved as I had a friend who was just a phone call away. Many times we chit chatted and sometimes we also did video calls to stay connected and strengthen our bond of friendship further. I hope that we will always remain this connected.

**Your best friend,  
Tejal Vats, AIS Vas 6, IV A**



**Dear Aakash,**

They say, "friends are like diamonds, precious and rare". You, Aakash, you are Koh-I-Noor. The impact that you have had on my life is something so ineffable that I won't even try and demean it by reducing it into words. But I would surely seize the occasion to thank you for walking with me when I was alone and for walking behind me when I needed someone to watch my back. You have never been lacking in words of comfort or in deeds, to the point that I sometimes wonder what I would have done without you. Thank you for everything!

**Your best friend,  
Nishant Tiwari, AIS Jagdishpur, VIII**

**Dear Aishwarya,**

I am extremely grateful that I met you. I love how I can call you 5 times a day with 5 different problems about 10 different people and you simply reply with "hmm" because you don't know what to say. I don't understand how, but that one word makes so much sense probably because you said the same thing yesterday, and in that moment, I realise this problem won't last forever. You inspire me to be just the way I am simply because you are yourself no matter what. Thank you for always having my back.

**Your best friend,  
Ananya Jain, AIS MV, XI F**



**Dear Vartika,**

I still distinctly remember the time we spent together, giggling and having fun before the pandemic. We have been through an amazing journey filled with happiness, craziness, tears (and of course secrets), and I am glad to say that we still have miles to go; for our roots are entwined together and will always be, no matter what. Thank you for never leaving my hand; thank you for being the best thing that ever happened to me! I appreciate you and will continue to do so till the end of time.

**Your best friend,  
Aishwarya Singh, AIS VKC Lko, XII B**

**Dear Kashish,**

People say that there is no sorry and thank you in friendship but today, I really want to thank you for accepting me and loving me for who I am. It is such an amazing feeling to know that someone loves me just for being me. It's friends like you who make life so special! Friendship is a simple word, but you gave meaning to it. You will always be someone whom I will adore and admire. Once again, I want to thank you for always being my biggest support, buddy.

**Your best friend,  
Kaavya Kumar, AIS Mohali, VIII**



**Dear Nandini,**

When I think of a person who is funny, witty and kind, your face instantly comes to my mind. You have been the golden nugget that reminds me how valuable good friends can be. We were play school friends when we met for the first time at your mother's clinic. Since then, eight years have passed and how! In these many years, our bond has simply bolstered. I feel free, comfortable and joyful whenever you are around. You are the one who is always ready to share any precious thing of yours. I know that I don't say this often but I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for being such a good friend. I'll always cherish this friendship!

**Your best friend,  
Rabhya Rai, AIS Noida, V E**



**Dear Kiara,**

It is unfortunate that because of COVID-19 we haven't been able to meet in person, but I know no distance can keep us away from being good friends. You were the first person who helped me and made me feel comfortable when I first joined the new school, and since then I knew that you were going to be my forever friend. You have always been kind to me, and shared your things with me whenever I would forget my stationary or activity material for a class. I want to tell you that I will always be your best friend. I hope to meet you soon and spend time with you like earlier times. And I promise to be always there for you no matter what.

**Your best friend,  
Aarna Gupta, AIS Saket, V A**





The Bloop, one of the loudest sounds ever recorded, came from an ice quake when seismic activities caused a break in the frozen ground.

# NTSE 2021

## Amitians Prove Their Academic Acumen



### AICE

Amitians registered stellar victory at NTSE stage II 2019-20, with 16 students qualifying for the prestigious scholarship. Conducted by NCERT, the scholarship exam was held in two stages. The exams for the first stage were conducted on December 12 and 13, 2020, while the exams for

second stage were held on February 14, 2021. And, the final results were declared on July 16, 2021. The students were mentored by experts of Amity Institute of Competitive Examinations, an initiative of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, to nurture students for na-



Sriansh Das

tional and global competitive exams. The institute mentored a total of 32 students, where 100% of them qualified for stage I and II exams; and 50% of them won the scholarship. A total of 9 students from AIS Noida, 2 each from AIS Saket and AIS Gur 46, and 1 each from AIS MV, AIS PV, and AIS

AIS Noida	
Manan Rastogi	81%
Arnav Gupta	76%
Arnav Tandon	75%
Shobhit Raj	75%
Chandrashekhar Dharmarajan	73%
Shamanjan Bera	71%
Kushagra Agarwal	70%
Shivansh Pal	69%
Arnav Tiwari	69%
AIS Gurugram 46	
Ishaan Agarwal	82%
Aarth Bhardwaj	71%
AIS Saket	
Jaisal Kothari	69%
Aditya Aggarwal	69%
AIS Mayur Vihar	
Venkash Kumar	52%
AIS Pushp Vihar	
Suhanika Dutt	48%
AIS Vasundhara 6	
Sriansh Das	45%



A child presents Odissi dance

A glimpse of Flamenco dance

## Tapping feet

### A Day To Celebrate Dance

#### AIS Mayur Vihar

A virtual special assembly to celebrate International Dance Day was held by the students of Class II on July 1, 2021. It started with a prayer and thought of the day, following which students presented dance forms of different countries. Beginning with acrobatic dance of the USA, performances moved onto Flamenco dance of Spain, hip hop dance of Africa and Polka dance of Russia. The mesmerising show of dances

culminated with Kathak and Odissi, the classical dances of India. At the end of every performance, students narrated important features of the dance form for the audience to understand the basics. Students also shared the significance of celebrating International Dance Day and drew beautiful drawings on the occasion. The assembly concluded with a motivational talk by school principal Meenu Kanwar who encouraged the students to keep enriching their creativity in the field of performing arts.

## A battle of words



Champions of debate battle it out at the Maha Behes nationals

#### AIS Gurugram 46

The school secured all India rank 4 and bagged 4 medals at the national level of Maha Behes 2021 held from June 26-27, 2021. Total 9 students divided into 3 teams, namely Team Odyssey, Team

The Argument Association, and Team Trailblazers, along with one student as an individual participant, took part in the competition. It was organised by 'Behes', a non-profit initiative, with an objective to promote debate, public speaking, and reasoned expression in schools and

colleges all over the world. Mrinalini Sehdev (XI) from Team Odyssey secured all India rank 4 and won gold medal, while Bhavya Batra (XI) from the same team secured all India rank 37 and bagged bronze medal. Farhan Siddiqui (XI) of Team Trailblazers got all India rank 24 and won silver medal. Somesh Taori (XII) secured all India rank 35 and bagged bronze medal as an individual participant. Other students who made it to the nationals were: Nihal Koneru (XI), Purvi Koneru (IX), Misha Singh (XI), Atrey Garg (VII), Devesh Pasari (XII) and Ayan Aggarwal (XI). A total of 450 speakers were shortlisted for the Maha Behes national round that saw participation of about 3000 debaters from India.

## Build the future

#### AIS Vasundhara 6

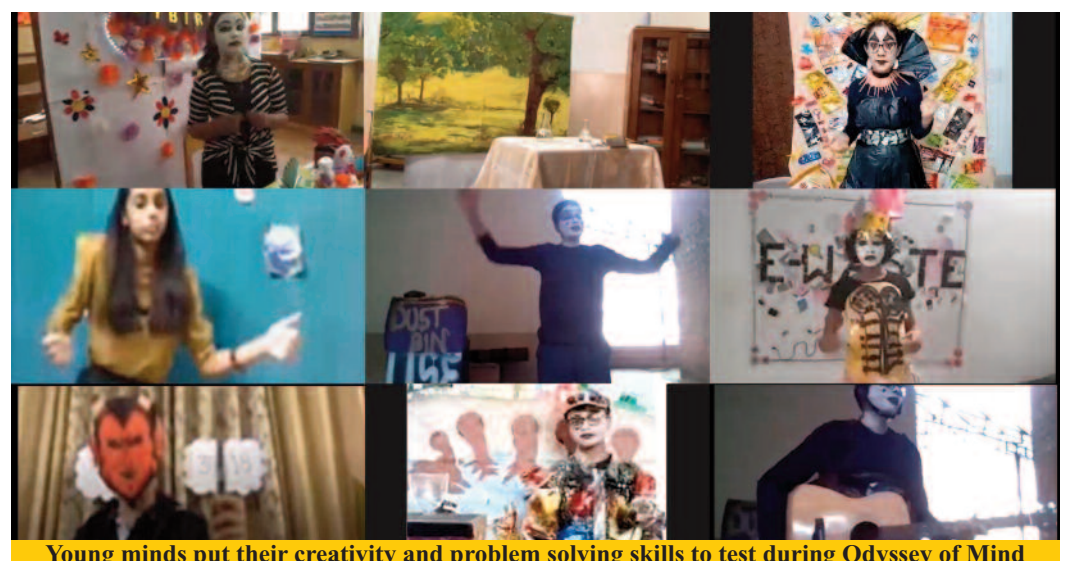
A virtual activity titled 'Conserve to preserve' was organised for students of Class V on July 14, 2021. Objective of the activity was to make them aware about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for building future world. Students explored, researched and shared information about climate change, and animal species which are either extinct or are on the verge of extinction. They presented unique, creative and effective solutions to address the same. Through their innovative solutions, they iterated that tackling



Students discuss ways to develop future by conserving present

climate change and fostering sustainable development are co-dependent. Hence, we need to conserve nature to preserve climate, to ensure sustainable development. Through the activity, students also understood the elements of global cooperation, alle-

viating poverty, economic prosperity, public health, etc., woven within SDGs. Some parents also shared their views and ideas on the need to conserve in order to preserve. The interactive session concluded with wisdom words by school principal Sunila Athley.



Young minds put their creativity and problem solving skills to test during Odyssey of Mind

## Odyssey of the mind

### Young Minds Solve Practical Challenges

#### ACSF

Amitians once again shone bright at the Odyssey of the Mind, an international competition conceived to encourage creativity in solving practical challenges in life. This year, it was conducted virtually, spread over several months from April 11, 2020 to May 17, 2021. Participation in the competition was facilitated by Amity's Children Science Foundation (ACSF) under the visionary guidance and leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. Total 950 teams from all over the world participated in this prestigious competition. It was held in two stages- 'Long Term Problem', which included problem solving through enactment, and 'Spontaneous World Finals', which entailed responding to a given

problem in a creative way. Teams from different branches of Amity Group of Schools participated and won in three divisions, Division I (less than 12 years of age), Division II (less than 15 years of age), and Division III (High school students). Under Long Term Problem, in problem 1, comprising vehicle making, Division III teams of AIS Noida and AIS Gurugram 46 secured 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> ranks respectively. In problem 2, which entailed making a robotic pet, Division II team of AIS Gur 46 and Division III team of AIS Noida secured 23<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> ranks respectively. For problem 3, involving writing and performing theatrical skits, Division II teams from AIS Mayur Vihar, AIS Pushp Vihar, and AIS Vasundhara 6 secured 59<sup>th</sup>, 57<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> ranks respectively. In problem 4, comprising creating structures and testing their strength, Divi-

sion II team of AIS Mayur Vihar stood 27<sup>th</sup>, while Division III teams of AIS Gur 46 and AIS Saket stood 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> respectively. Division II teams of AIS Mayur Vihar, AIS Pushp Vihar, and AIS Saket, stood 68<sup>th</sup>, 48<sup>th</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> respectively in problem 5 that involved performances based on solutions to social problems. Division III team of AIS Noida secured 53<sup>rd</sup> rank in problem 5.

**About Odyssey of the Mind**  
*Odyssey of the Mind is a creative problem-solving programme that teaches students how to develop and use their natural creativity to become problem-solvers. It emphasises creativity in science, engineering and math. It brings real life to the classrooms for students to apply their learning and to synchronise it with their interests and passions to solve open-ended problems.*



The water pressure at the bottom of the ocean is around 8 tonnes per sq in, which would feel like holding 50 jumbo jets.

All top quotes contributed by  
Aadya Duggal, AIS Mayur Vihar, VII A



# In the words of debut writers

## Entering The Astounding World Of Words And Wonders

### New wordsmith in the town

Jasmine Kaur Kohli, AIS Saket, XI D

Penning down a story is not just about putting down one's imagination in words; it happens to be much more than that. Ask Nitya Jain, a class VIII student of AIS Saket, and you'll know that a story, fictional or real, is the window to the author's mind, something that is suggestive of the writer's thoughts, observations and opinions. From having her articles published in GT to then having an entire book published for the world to read, Nitya has witnessed quite a tremendous journey at a young age. With her debut novel, *The Summer Treasure Hunt*, the writer has proven that age, experience and challenges can stand in the way of none. And so, there's no way that we would miss any opportunity to know about the transformational journey that led her to achieve such a great feat.



**Title:**  
**The Summer Treasure Hunt**  
**Author:**  
**Nitya Jain**  
**Price:** 223 INR  
**Available on:**  
**Kindle**

being a regular GT reader, I was always inclined towards writing, especially for my school newspaper. This is precisely what inspired me to start writing two years ago. Eventually, when my very first article was published in GT, my mother asked me to write more and more!

**What is *The Summer Treasure Hunt* about?**

The story is about a young girl named Jane Brown who is scared of nothing but her cousins. She hates summer holidays because they practically force her to face one of her fears, and so the story goes. It revolves a lot around the joy of summer time and how treasure hunting is important for the characters. I think everyone will enjoy the story, no matter what their age. The book is very close to my heart; I have been told that it would have made my grandfather proud. I was very close to him and it is only recently that I lost him, so it feels nice to know that I have done something to make him proud.

**How did you overcome any challenges that came your way?**

The early challenges that I faced while writing the book was to put my ideas into words. It took some

time but eventually it was all worth it. Another challenge was to imagine how the book would appear from a reader's point of view. As a writer, you need to make sure your audience is with you, so I would use my mother as the beta reader before I even sent it to someone else. When I write, I want my readers to be transported to the scenes I depict; I want them to be able to see everything in their mind like they are the spectator. And that's the reason, it took me around two weeks to complete the manuscript.

**How did you find a publisher for the book?**

Instead of looking for publishers in the market, I opted Kindle Self-Publishing platform. That way, I didn't have to go through the hassle of finding a publisher. They also showcase many designs for the cover, and this was the one I liked best so I fixed the colour scheme a little and everything was ready. Within an hour, my book was published!

**What support did you receive from your school and parents during the process?**

My teachers have always encouraged me to write more and more. The English creative writing classes are where my skills were able to shine, and of course, GT was my very first stage. I am very thankful to all my teachers for providing both praise and constructive criticism. This has also pushed me to ideate for another book.



Though nothing is in the pipeline yet, I'll definitely work on it in the future.

**What do you have to say to the aspiring writers?**

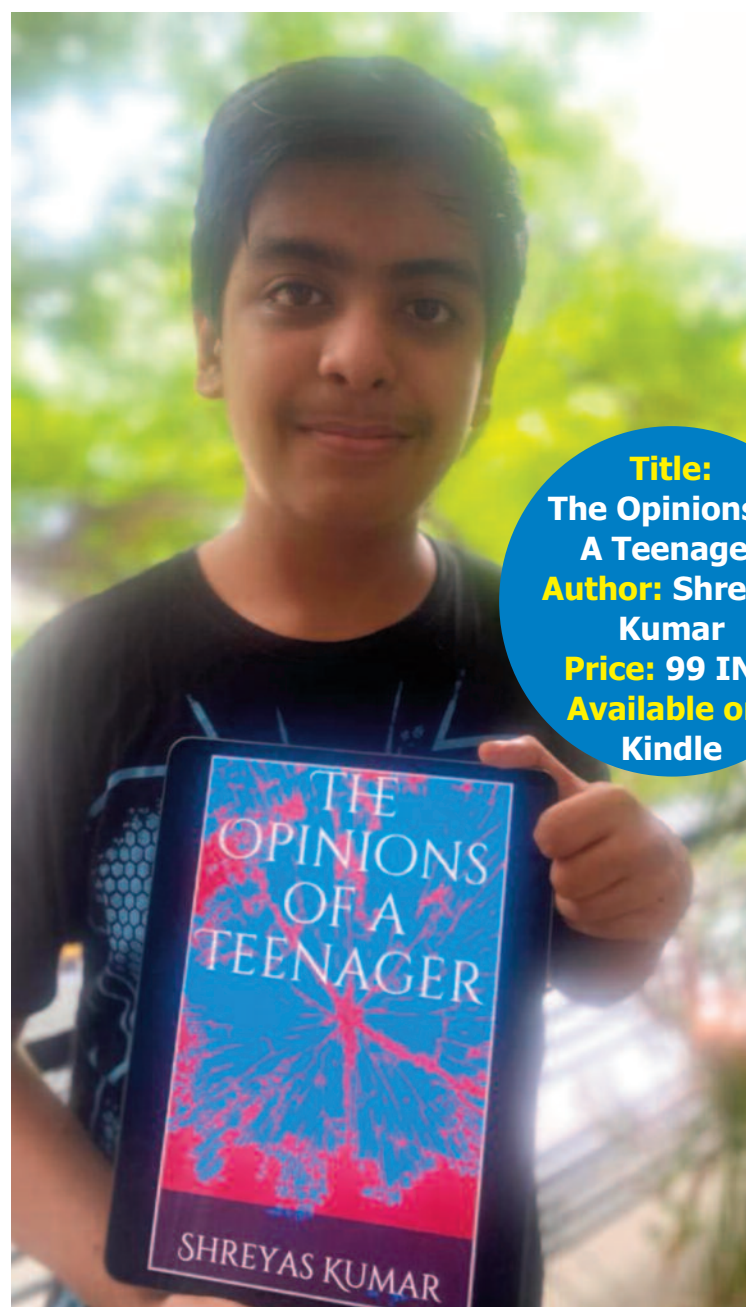
In the words of JK Rowling, "It is our choices that show us who we truly are, rather than our abilities." I know a lot of people procrastinate when it comes to writing, but you cannot rush your creative juices. However, if you don't put any effort into it, there would be no results. Even when you aren't sure, just write down whatever comes to your mind and polish it later. 📖

**When did you realise your passion for words?**

My passion for words began when I read the book *The Room Of Many Colours* by Ruskin Bond, who is also my favourite author. It got me interested in reading in the first place. In addition,

Syed Sultan Shah, AIS PV, XI B

## A teen writer



**Title:**  
**The Opinions Of A Teenager**  
**Author:** Shreyas Kumar  
**Price:** 99 INR  
**Available on:**  
**Kindle**

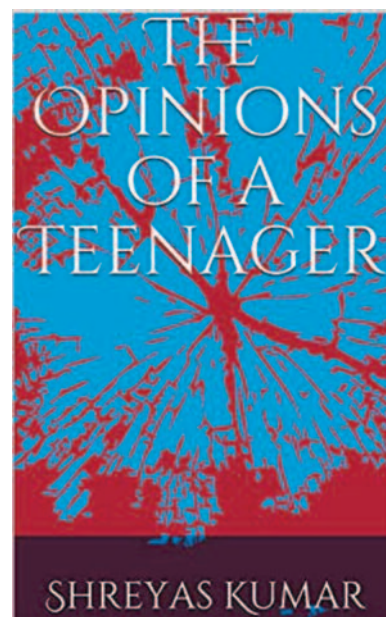
Some people might as well theorise that putting together a string of words and formulating a wise text is a genius only adults experienced in the ways of the world can boast of. But a little glimpse at the creative potential encapsulated in *The Opinions of a Teenager*, by Shreyas Kumar, a ninth grader from Amity International School, Pushp Vihar, narrates a different version of reality; a dimension where wisdom isn't a consequence of aging. Thus, doing away with the stereotype at an age when most usually struggle to come to terms with the conflicts that accompany adolescence, Shreyas turned his energies to bring about his beliefs and opinions into a text. All the makings of a great writing prodigy indeed! Read on as we lay out some for you.

**When did you realise your passion for words?**

I had a book in my hands when I was barely two. It all started with picture books, immediately followed by my mother reading me to bed, and then finally, before she even realised, I was reading on my own. J.K. Rowling, Rick Riordan, Stephen King and Neil deGrasse Tyson; you name it, I've read it. Gradually, I began writing too, though just a few essays every now and then. But with the schools being shut in March last year owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, no credits given to this monstrosity though, my mind was so full of thoughts and needed a medium to vent out. That's when my mother suggested me to express myself in writing. I listened to her and the rest is history.

**What exactly is *The Opinions Of A Teenager* about?**

In the book, I freely divulge my opinions



on some issues that are close to my heart. Now, opinions are subjective and so one may beg to differ, but know that the text wasn't written with the intention to offend anyone. I authored it to bring about a change in the way we all perceive certain things. Besides, we teenagers are neither kids nor adults, so we are seldom taken seriously. The times have now changed, and I think our opinions should matter. Anyone above the age of 11 years thus should be able to relate to it. Plus, most of the reviews on Amazon are from adults up to 60 years of age. As for the issues I addressed in the book, go grab your copies now and know them in detail!

**How did you overcome any challenges that came your way?**

To assemble and sequence my thoughts into a single text was the most challenging part as my mind was bombarded by an endless stream of thoughts at all times. Besides, with my parents being away from home since they are doctors and my elder brother stuck in the college hostel due to the pandemic, I had no one

## GT Author's Desk

to really seek counsel from. So, my pup Echo and my writing skills were my only companions, and together we sailed.

**How did you manage to find a publisher for the book?**

I, along with my parents, explored the options of self-publishing, and decided to choose Kindle direct publishing, a subsidiary of Amazon. And surprisingly enough, publishing the book wasn't as difficult as we initially thought it to be. A lot of information is available on the internet anyway. All we then needed was an open eye to actually look for it. As for the cover page, since I wanted it to pique the readers' curiosity about the unexplored mind of a teenager, I designed it myself. The book has now sold over 100 copies so far and I count that as success.

**What support did you receive from your school and parents during the process?**

My school and my teachers have given me the confidence that I needed to achieve this feat. Without them, I could never imagine myself publishing a book. At the same time, my parents were very supportive too. They couldn't be with me at all times, but their love kept me going. And so, I wish to continue writing for as long as I can. However, I don't want to restrict myself to it and have no desire to chalk out my whole career at this stage.

**What is your advice for all the young aspiring writers?**

Do not contain your thoughts, express yourself freely. My parents are the reason I write. So, even if only one person is supporting you, take off with your flight of thoughts and write them into existence. There's no better way to describe yourself than to pen it all down. 📖