

**INSIDE**



The scientific nobles, P4



History this week, P7

**AMITe poll**

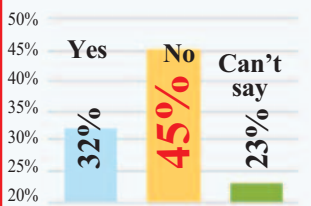
**Do you think UN General Assembly's decision to establish a Permanent Forum of People of African Descent to address challenges of racial discrimination and xenophobia a right move?**

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

To vote, log on to  
 www.theglobaltimes.in

**POLL RESULT**  
 for GT issue August 2, 2021

**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?**



Results as August 7, 2021

**Coming Next**

Independence Day Special

# The mango diplomacy

## Decoding The Tradition Of Gifting Mangoes Over The Centuries

Agrata Gupta, XII A &  
 Riya Chadha, XII B, AIS PV

Politics indubitably is bitter-sweet; and quite often the sweetness in this complicated equation stems from unexpected corners. Case in point - mangoes! Known as the 'King of fruits', mango acts as a soft weapon in the political arsenal. In one of its most recent occurrences, perhaps to sweeten the ties between the state and the centre, post election season in West Bengal, CM Mamata Banerjee presented truckloads of mangoes to PM Modi and many other dignitaries in New Delhi. Though most of us might not be familiar with this practice dubbed as Mango Diplomacy, regardless it is one that's been going on since ages, *kyunki rajneeti main ye aam baat hai!* Read on to know why...

**The dawn of Mango Diplomacy**

Finding its earliest printed mention in the Portuguese botanist Garcia Da Orta's Colloquies on the Simples and Drugs of India (1563), wherein his tenant sent him a basketful of mangoes to be presented to the then Governor of Bombaim

(now Bombay), mango went on to become a key player in building diplomatic relationships for many decades in India. Officially initiated into the political world by Mughals, who used the fruit as a gift for the courtiers in return for a significant *nazr*, the practice was soon adopted by the influential *pirs* and elite of Sindh. With the fall of the Mughal empire and the British invasion of India next, the tradition thrived as innumerable crates of this appetising fruit, along with others of pearls, betel nuts, etc, were exchanged as gifts amongst the Indian Ma-

harajas and British governors of the time. Enchanted by Alphonso, an ideal mango cultivar then, the British colonial Government in India even shipped crates of this variety for the coronation ceremony of King George VI in 1937. These were also sent overseas via air and sea routes to countries such as Sweden and Holland in an attempt to expand mango markets.

**The twilight that followed**

Initiation of Mango Diplomacy into the post-independence political realm is largely attributed to the first Prime Min-

ister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Despite his profound interest in guavas, Nehru opted mangoes as the ultimate diplomacy tool, to the point that he even gave lessons in mango eating for those unversed. All the foreign luminaries who visited India then were regaled with the finest array of mangoes native to the country; those visiting abroad for political reasons took crates of mangoes with them too. Nehru's US visit to meet President Kennedy in 1961 is one that served the diplomatic function even before the exchange, as mango imports from India were not permitted in the States then but an exception was made on his visit. Au contraire, a debacle of this tool is evident in how the Chinese premier Zhou Enlai in 1955 devoured the fruit and signed the Joint Declaration, only to invade India in 1962. Guess it gets bitter in excess! Consequently, for the next 44 years, India refrained from pursuing Mango Diplomacy, until it was resuscitated with George Bush's visit to India in 2006.

Continued on page 6...



# The tech debate

## Rijul Arora On How To Use Technology Judiciously

Aarushi Aggrwal, AIS MV, XII C

In a world ruled by technology, it is not only tough but fairly impossible to stay away from it. Meet Rijul Arora, a humane technology advocate, who has been working on building a better world through technology. He is a millennial who's been on both sides of the table- from being completely addicted to technology to leaving it completely and then finally being in a healthy relationship with it. Professionally, he works with Ernst and Young. Personally, he creates awareness on building a productive relationship with tech through global platforms like TEDx and local platforms like IIM, IIT, DU, etc. Read on to know more...

**The affinity:** I think I have had an affinity towards technology since I was in school. I was always fas-

inated by how technology could impact various aspects of our lives, like automating a lot of things, and make life easier. In my work, I advocate ethical technology which prioritises user well-being. Most of you use Facebook or any other social media platforms to do endless scrolling, which is a bad example of humane technology as it nudges you to use it endlessly, but on the other hand, you have Fitbit or Apple Watch that nudges you to be active and take care of yourself. My work entails advocating such humane technology which empowers us to become good digital citizens, and creating a healthy relationship with technology.

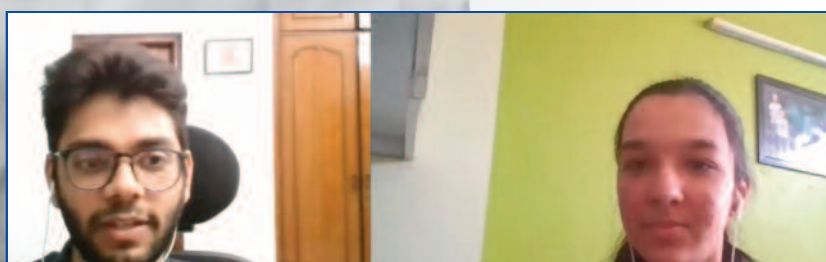
**The experience:** Everyone wants to know what is the ideal age to be introduced to technology, but there isn't a specific number. In the initial years of childhood, one shouldn't get exposed to technology, because then the child is unable to distinguish between the digital and the real world. Also, these days with everyone sharing everything on social media, there is always FOMO - fear of missing out. There was a time when I left social media for 7 months, and the initial 1-2 weeks were horrible. I constantly had FOMO about my assignments and many other things, and even installed these apps back

in a moment of vulnerability. But then I remembered why I had left social media in the first place - it was to know life beyond technology. My relationships became better; I wasn't checking my phone every 5 minutes. So, you always need to draw a line when it comes to using technology or it will consume you whole.

**The usage:** Struggling with social media addiction and the distraction it causes is one of the biggest challenges that we face with technology. It is a well-known fact that the world we live in works on technology, but all of us need to take practical steps to avoid addiction. We can deal with it in three ways - moderating our screen time and assessing it; consuming healthy content; and posting good content that we are passionate about.

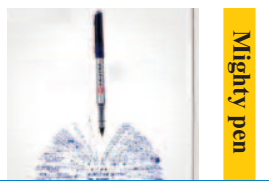
Our aim should always be achieving a balance in the use of tech, and if it gets too much, we should try digital detox. Another thing we need to be careful about is our privacy and security, which we can achieve by the 'AA' approach - being 'Aware' and taking 'Action'. Our phones and apps are always tracking us, and when we are online, everyone can see what we are doing, so we need to be aware of all our actions and take all the security precautions.

Continued on page 3...



Rijul Arora, humane technology advocate, in conversation with GT reporter





# India This Week

Riddhi Rastogi, AIS Gurugram 43, XII

While we sit on our couch just breathing, a lot of things happen around us, and sometimes in our very own country. We bring you the ones worth mentioning.



## Floods devastate India

**News:** Heavy monsoon rainfalls and floods have wreaked havoc in many parts of India like Maharashtra and Jharkhand. In Maharashtra, at least 209 people were confirmed to be dead due to the floods, and coastal districts like Ratnagiri and Raigad reported the total death of 130 in the catastrophe. Even in Jharkhand, heavy water-logging was seen as cars were 80% submerged in the flood and a red alert was issued in the district.

**Views:** Due to terrible floods, many people have been displaced from their homes and quite a few have even lost their family members in this tragedy. The situation is said to be even worse than the 2005 floods that also shook our country to its core, and the rescue operation is one of the biggest ones that we have led. In such a crisis, we cannot ignore the fact that all these tragedies are befalling us because of the damage we have done to our environment. It is time for us to learn from our deeds or else, we will witness a stark rise in such calamities year after year.

Koyal Das, AIS Gurugram 43, X



## New hotline set between IA and PLA

**News:** In an inauguration ceremony attended by the ground commanders from both sides, the Indian Army and People's Liberation Army have established a new hotline for on-ground commu-

nication in Sikkim. A 'message of friendship and harmony was exchanged through the hotline' to further the spirit of trust and cordial relations along the borders even though multiple such hotlines already exist between the two forces.

**Views:** The only way to resolve any sort of conflict ethically is by taking mutually benefitting steps. While, on one hand, this measure does appear to be a very bold step from both the parties, it certainly is based on trust that both the forces are catapulting towards each other. At the end of the day, no one wants war and small steps like these, towards gaining each other's trust would definitely result in eventual harmony in the conflicting territory of Ladakh. Both the sides have already pulled back their troops and tanks, and hence a final joint statement would certainly result in white flags of peace.

Ayushi Jain, AIS Gurugram 43, X A

## Women's hockey team create history

**News:** The Indian women's hockey team created history at the Tokyo Olympics by beating Australia (ranked at #2 in the world) and securing a place for themselves in the semifinals. This is the first time that Indian team has ever reached semifinals. However, securing maiden Olympic medal remained unfulfilled as the team lost to Great Britain at the finals.

**Views:** The team has not only made us proud but has also made history. The match between Australia and India, which truly had us sitting on the edges of our seats, ended on such a close call, but thankfully in our favour. It was the sheer hard work of the team which has led them to this sweet victory. Even though they lost in the semis, they won billions of hearts and inspired girls that their dreams can come true if they work hard.

Dyuti Sood, AIS Gurugram 43, XI B



## Bhubaneswar - first city to vaccinate 100%

**News:** The capital city of Odisha, Bhubaneswar, has become the first city in India to vaccinate 100% of its citizens against COVID-19. Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation had set the goal by July end to vaccinate its population above 18 years of age, which included around 31,000 health workers, 33,000 frontline workers and 8,37,000 people. The city also administered the first jab to more than one lakh migrant workers in the city.

**Views:** This is a truly remarkable feat achieved by the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, considering that the population includes a total of 9,07,000 people over the age of 18. In addition to this, one lakh migrant workers have also been given the first dose of the vaccine. This couldn't have been possible without the large number of inoculation centres which were set up and the people who worked in those centres along with well-prepared plans executed by the government. It is also notable that the people of Bhubaneswar showed tremendous cooperation by registering to take the vaccine. Hopefully we'll see many more cities achieving this soon!

Ishanya Sharma, AIS Gurugram 43, XI A

# Around The WORLD

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



## USA

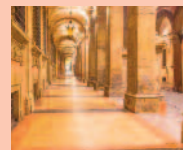
**Bernard Arnault becomes world's richest man**

According to Forbes, Jeff Bezos has now been replaced by Bernard Arnault and family as the richest in the world. The owners of LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, the family's net worth is 198.4 billion USD while that of Bezos stands at 193.8 billion USD. Reportedly, Arnault was at number one in December 2019, January 2020, May and July 2021, as he owns 96.5% stake in Christian Dior, which controls 41% of LVMH.

## ITALY

**A new World Heritage Site**

The Porticoes of Bologna has been recognised by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, rendering Italy with a record number of heritage sites. The porticoes, which stretch over an area of 62 km, has been described as an outstanding architectural landscape that illustrates one or more important phases in human history. It is believed to have a potential to be one of the most favourite tourist attractions in the world.



## RUSSIA

**Joint military training with-India**

INDRA 2021, the Indo-Russian joint training exercise began in Prudbly Ranges, Russia, with an opening ceremony on August 4, 2021. As per an official statement released by the authorities, the exercise is supposed to strengthen interoperability between the two armies. This will also facilitate joint planning and execution of counter-terror operations under the mandate issued by the UN, and include academic discussions between the nations.



## JAPAN

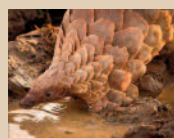
**12-year-old becomes youngest Olympic medallist**

After Tokyo Olympics recognised skateboarding as an Olympic sport for the first time ever, it also witnessed its youngest ever Olympic medallist in the same arena. Kokona Hiraki, a 12-year-old skater from Japan won a silver medal after being defeated by Sakuar Yosozumi, becoming the youngest honoree since 1936. Joining the like was a 13-year-old skater from Great Britain, Sky Brown, who won a bronze for her country.

## NIGERIA

**Illegal wildlife articles seized**

Officials have recovered 17,137 kg of pangolin scales, 44 kg of elephant tusks, and 60 kg of pangolin claws across the nation, which is considered a hub for illegal wildlife trafficking around the world. As per the comptroller-general of customs, the seizure is reportedly worth 22 billion naira (54 million USD). Three foreign nationals have been nabbed as part of the reveal, and the fourth accomplice, supposedly the kingpin, is on the loose.



## PAKISTAN

**Viral meme sells for \$51,530**

A Facebook post turned meme from 2015 was sold at a Non-Fungible Token auction on Friendship Day for 38 lakhs INR. Muhammad Asif Raza Rana published a photoshopped post about a fall-out with his friend, which then went viral and garnered global headlines. Pakistan's first meme NFT was sold for 20 ethereum by Alter on the digital art marketplace Foundation, which is the world's largest platform for NFT listings.







The smallest pen in the world is Nanofountain Probe which can produce lines that are about 40 nanometres in width.

# I miss you!

## A Call From The Red Brick Building

Nitya Jain, AIS Saket, VIII A

### Hey Amitians!

Remember me? I'm the red-brick building that you call your school. From the moment your tiny toddler feet hit the floor, I knew we were going to have a long and strong bond. But then the pandemic struck and to prevent an outbreak, all schools were shut down. I have been left alone since then and haven't seen any of you in over a year now.

Oh, how I miss your daily morning grumbling when you would hurry, all sleepy-eyed, to reach just in time before my gates closed. I miss every single moment of our normal routine – your endless chatter, echo-

ing laughter, the running around in the corridors, and the excitement as you prepared for annual days and other events. How can I forget the innocent mock fights you got into with your friends to eat their lunch? And how can I forget the sheer joy on your face when you discovered that the teacher for your least favourite subject was absent? But I am glad that my brothers and compatriots, whom you call online classes, now look after you and that you learn in their care. I have heard through the grapevine though, that you crave to return to the warm embrace of my walls as well; that

you miss your friends and teachers as much as I miss the memories we have made together, and understandably so. After all, such fondness is something you won't find everywhere. But here, at Amity, love and belongingness resides in our veins and flows in our blood. These times may be tough and trying for all of us, but as always, all of us will be there for each other whenever the need arises.

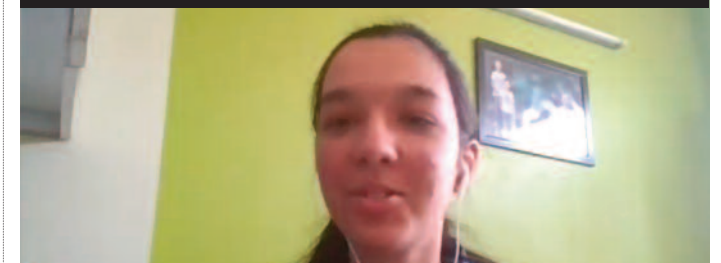
School life is one of the best periods in any kid's life, and apart from the academics, it is extremely important for physical and mental development as well. Like all parents and teachers, I am also concerned about your safety as Covid-19 cases are on the rise again, but I still wish that you can come back to me soon so that we can grow and flourish together.

Till then, keep safe and be healthy!

Yours forever,  
Red brick building



## The tech debate



Rijul Arora interacts with GT reporter

Continued from page 1...

**The benefits:** Technology is a great gift, and having a healthy relationship with it will impact various aspects of your life. For instance, when I am talking to a person, I don't check my phone in between and it helps me to form a genuine connection with them. I also don't constantly check my social media and instead invest time in doing things I am passionate about. These are small steps, but will help you feel more fulfilled in life. Technology has immense potential; it can automate a lot of things, make our lives simpler, help us gain insight into a lot of topics. But on the flip side, technology has become so immersive and engaging that we might be losing our human touch, now that we are so hooked onto it. So, as we evolve with tech, we must also strive our best to keep the human touch alive and main-

tain a healthy balance between our offline and online lives.

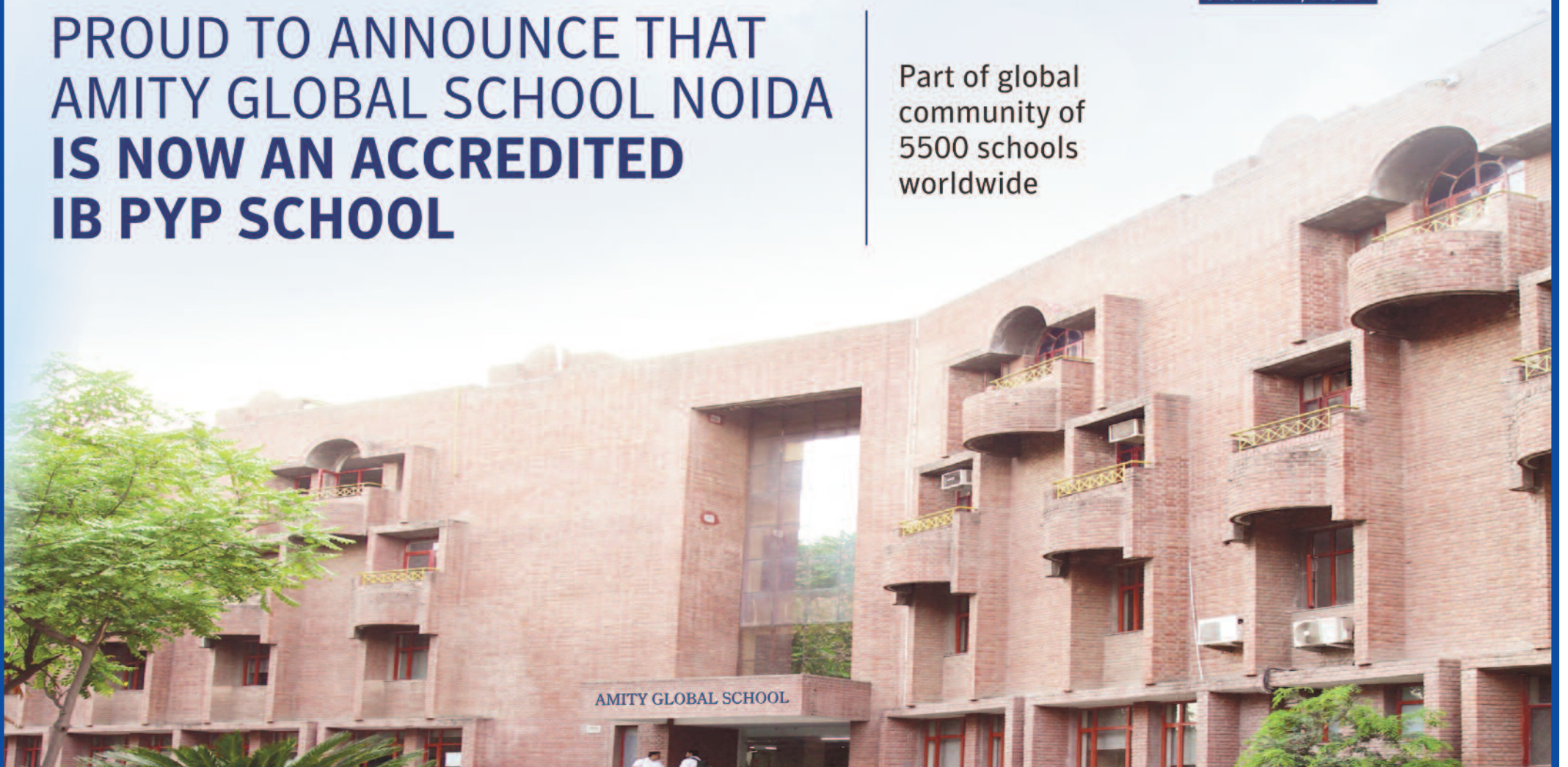
**The message:** There is a wonderful quote by Annie Dillard that states, "How we spend our days is how we spend our lives." When you look back on your life, you won't remember the time you spent applying filters on photos and scrolling through your feed, but would rather remember the moments you spend with your family, practising your hobbies, using technology to help yourself grow and impact communities. Thus, to everyone who's reading, the time has come for each of us to open our eyes to a world that doesn't only see screens, but also the beauty around us, because that's where the real magic happens. Move away from the online world once in a while and explore your interests, what you love, and even your own self. 🇮🇳

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## A Look At What The Different Chemical Elements Have to Say About Themselves

# The scientific nobles

Mansha Rapria, X B & Tannya Pasricha, XI B, AIS Gur 43

Hey, Ru kidding me? I might look familiar, but let me tell you that I am not silver, I am Ruthenium. I shine like glitter but I am rare like winter. I am toxic, so don't try to mess with me ever!

I am Gold, the first one to be sold. But if you call me old, I will catch a cold. Future is untold, but I will still remain bold.

My name is Palladium. Just take the temperature to 2831-degree Fahrenheit and watch me melt. White Gold owes me, as I gave it its colour. And I am rarer than gold and platinum combined.

Even though I was once called 'White Gold', I am ten times rarer than the above told. Unlike others, I am extremely resistant to corrosion. I am Platinum, the chosen one!

Hello I am Iridium! Touch me and you will die. I don't have anyone to rely on, but I am harder than you can ever try. I am white like an eye. I am pretty handsome that you can't even deny. That's indeed the reality, oh my my! Now, goodbye!

Hi! Silver this side. My skin shines without any coating applied. My electrical conductivity is my pride. You must have also seen my jewellery on a bride. My white polish has left every metal behind. So, who is the real winner, you decide!

I am better than Platinum and Sodium, because I am Rhodium. Although my words seem to be random, I am a rare element no one else can become. And I think that's truly awesome!

Osmium is my name; I am denser than I claim. Lustrous is my frame but I still don't have fame and there's no one to blame.

# The range of orange

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.

Anvesha Goel

AIS Pushp Vihar, IX

**Hey! My name is:** Orange  
**I am also known as:** Citrus sinensis or sweet orange, and Citrus aurantium or bitter orange

### About me

- I am the fruit of various citrus species in the family Rutaceae; a hybrid between pomelo (Citrus maxima) and mandarin (Citrus reticulata) to be precise.
- Having originated in the region encompassing Southern China, Northeast India, and Myanmar around 4000 BC, I find my earliest mention in the Chinese literature in 314 BC.
- My soft, juicy, pulpy fruit is covered with an orange outer rind, and can be eaten fresh or processed for its juice. Besides, my peel serves as an effective slug repellent.
- Interestingly, the colour orange was named after me; earlier it was only referred to as yellow-red or simply red.
- I am about ten thousand times more acidic in nature than the pH of human blood; a little less than my cousin lemon juice and a lot more than tomato juice.
- My trees have an average height of 9-10 m; my flowers are white in colour and have a wonderful fragrance.
- There are over 600 varieties of me today, accounting for about 70 percent of the world's total citrus production.

### What I offer

- About 100 grams of my consumption provides you with the following:
- Calories: 47
  - Carbohydrates: 11.8 g
  - Sugar: 9.4 g
  - Cholesterol: 0 mg



- Fighting cancer-causing free radicals
- Absorbing iron to fight anemia
- Lowering blood pressure
- Preventing kidney stone formation

### Where you can find me

I am widely grown in the various tropical and subtropical parts of the world, with my annual production amounting to about 73.29 million metric tonnes on an average. Brazil is my leading producer with a production volume of about 17.25 million metric tonnes per year, closely followed by China that produces about 8.5 million metric tonnes yearly. India, with its 7.5 million metric tonnes production capacity, is ranked third. Parts of India where you'll usually find me blooming include states such as Maharashtra, West Bengal, Assam, Nagaland, Rajasthan, etc., to name a few.

### My different avatars

- |                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| ■ Navel         | ■ Mandarin |
| ■ Cara Cara     | ■ Valencia |
| ■ Blood oranges | ■ Seville  |
| ■ Jaffa         | ■ Hamlin   |
| ■ Jincheng      | ■ Malta    |

### Why I fear climate change

A subtropical region with a good amount of sunshine and water, and a moderate to warm temperature (15.5-29 degree Celsius) is the most ideal condition for my production. However, owing to climate change, my production capacity has significantly decreased over the years, with that in Brazil falling 25% in 2020-21 alone. Increased temperatures have diminished the growth and size of my fruits, and reduced the thickness of my peel, all while increasing my acidic content. I am also left prone to various diseases such as the citrus greening disease which causes premature fruit drop. In addition to this, my sensitivity to frost in freezing temperatures has further added to my miseries a great deal. So, grabbing this opportunity, I would request you all to work on combating climate change and free me of my existential angst. 🍊

- Fat: 0.1 g
- Fibre: 2.4 g
- Protein: 0.9 g
- Vitamins (C, D, B6, B9, B1, etc.)
- Other minerals (Calcium, Cobalamin, Magnesium, Iron, Potassium, etc.)

### I can help you with

- Preventing cell damage
- Preventing atherosclerosis
- Producing collagen that heals wounds
- Providing smoother skin
- Boosting Immune system
- Slowing age-related macular degeneration







Pens were first created around 3000 BC by ancient Egyptians who made them from wood and bamboo straws.

# Laying the bricks of change

## And Building The Path Towards A Sustainable Planet

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 'Laying the bricks of change' by young GT reporter, Jaya Jha.

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/>



Dr Binish Desai and the innovative bricks made from recycled plastic waste during the pandemic

Dr Binish Desai is known as the 'Recycle Man of India', and for good reason. He began his journey as a 'waste warrior' when he was only eleven with his first invention 'BRICK 1.0' that was made from waste material. He went on to establish his industrial waste management firm, Eco Eclectic Technologies, in 2010. It does not come as a surprise, therefore, that he is once again leading from the front when it comes to saving the planet from the waste generated due to the pandemic. Waste like PPE kits, masks, plastics, etc., will continue to clog our eco-system for many decades even when the pandemic is long gone. This renowned social entrepreneur has designed an innovative way to deal with this looming catastrophe. Here's his inspiring story...

**How does it feel to be called the Recycle man of India? Is that what keeps you inspired?**

Owning this title is quite obviously a huge honour for me. Then, of course, the responsibility of living up to it acts as a huge driving force too, but there are a lot of things that inspire me, especially nature. I want to create a circular economy which has no room for wastage, and befits nature in every way.

**We know about Brick 1.0 that was made from waste. What is Brick 2.0?**

It is a revised version of Brick 1.0. Brick 2.0 is made from PPE kits and face masks that were otherwise discarded. This will help reduce the en-



Using waste material to manufacture Brick 2.0



### Jaya Jha

A student of Class XII from AIS Gur 46, Jaya Jha is a young published author. Apart from being published in several national anthologies, she also released her poetry anthology titled 'Dawn and Dusk' in 2020. Currently Editor-in-Chief for The Global Times team of her school, Jaya, with 5 years of experience in the student council, has been handling leadership positions in a commendable way. An aspiring diplomat, she wishes to represent her country on global platforms.

### About the Author

vironmental pollution that is caused when they are thrown off as waste. Moreover, these bricks are three times stronger than conventional bricks, half the price and twice the size. I would rather want every type of plastic waste to become a brick than ending up in oceans or landfills.

**What have been your main challenges during this process, especially in the light of multiple lockdowns?**

The biggest challenge was the pandemic itself. It did slow down manufacturing. The logistical costs have increased due to restrictions on movement between states. We would have been able to expand faster in terms of manufacturing and generating a franchise model if it was not for the pandemic. Having said that, we are on the right track as we have been able to prove that our material has quality and is safe to use.

**Your team works with 106 different types of wastes; how much time did research take to begin manufacturing? Also, what kind of waste did you use?**

When a company decides that they want to deal with waste with a sustainable and ecofriendly approach, they contact us. Then we start analysing the waste, audit it and then focus on how to procure it. Our research requires us to thoroughly understand the viability of the waste product in terms of its binding quality because that is one of the most important factors. Hence, following this methodology, we have converted human hair into a panel for the same salon that would have had to discard it otherwise; we have made crockery out of coffee waste. Likewise, we can make tiles and bricks out of waste as well. I believe we have already used about 7-8 tonnes of mask and PPE waste for Brick 2.0. These bricks are being used for housing projects, high rise buildings, etc. For there is nothing useless in this world; what might be waste for you, can be someone else's asset!



Recycle Man Of India, Dr Binish Desai

**What is the biggest challenge the world faces right now in terms of environmental degradation? How can we tackle it?**

The biggest challenge is misunderstanding the waste we generate. We feel we have gotten rid of waste as we dump it, when we really haven't. Any kind of waste creates a huge impact on the entire world and causes climate change. In context of the pandemic, I would suggest that whatever Covid-related waste you have, like an N-95 mask, you can send it to us and after following the appropriate guidelines, we'll recycle it. Isolating the waste for 72 hours before it is disposed is necessary. People wanting to recycle their coffee waste can send us that, too. Also, I'd suggest everyone to buy what they need, not what they want; that'll help reduce overall waste generation.

**How did your family and friends react when they came to know of Brick 2.0, especially since it deals with pandemic related waste? Did you worry about getting affected while handling it?**

They have been very excited about this idea and are extremely supportive. I follow all the precautions and guidelines, so there is nothing to fear. We disinfect all the material and ensure all other steps are followed before recycling it.

**Did you get the necessary support from governmental authorities for Brick 2.0?**

We are working with state governments and have also made a proposal to the central government

about developing this as an additional waste management method. This can totally bring a revolution in the infrastructural landscape of our country, bringing along a completely new and viable infrastructure for India.

**Has your invention transformed you as an individual in any way?**

With every invention, I evolve as an innovator. But deep within my heart, I am still that young person who loves Captain Planet and Dexter's Lab. What has changed is that I now learn better from my failures. I know what not to do. Also, I have developed the ability to understand and operate a business.

**What role can the youth play in an initiative like yours and how can they make the world a cleaner place?**

Youth are the future of the world. It's important for them to be eco-conscious, to take initiatives and ask questions. They can play a huge role in an initiative like ours as we are always looking for more and newer ideas for economic and social inventions that can be created out of waste. I firmly believe that one small step in the right direction can create a domino effect and lead to real change. To the youth out there, my advice is that analyse your ideas and actions on these three parameters: environmental impact, social impact, and economic sustainability. Therein lies the key to a better future for all of us.





## Triumphant Toys



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

Childhood and toys are like two pieces of a jigsaw puzzle that fit in seamlessly to create a complete picture, that of a happy child. Whether it is a kitchen set, a doctor's kit or cars and aeroplanes, toys help kids to imagine and enjoy a life they are yet to

experience. Even as adults, we enjoy the sight of watching little ones clap with joy at being able to assemble a tricky puzzle game.

It is the joy, the world of toys brings along, that made Amitians' victory at the national level of Toyathon, an even sweeter win. For to see our young children harbour a love for toys, reassures me about their connect with this world of innocence. Toyathon is the first-ever event of its kind held to promote Indian toys and games. Amitians' success at an event such as this is a reflection of Amity's spirit, since we always emphasise on values rooted in Indian culture. These winners have proven that they have imbibed this lesson well, and the names of their gaming apps - Sudharshana Chakra, Bharat Mystery and Sanskrit Vinayan - are a testimony to this fact. Even though technology is the new language of the gaming world, their emotion behind such names proves how important heritage is to them.

As an educator, I feel observing kids with their toys, helps you understand a lot about their persona. Toys can become powerful tools to kindle creativity, whether these are traditional board games or new-age mobile apps. Indian toys and games, especially, have been typically designed to develop both motor skills and critical thinking in children. It is time we redeem India's position as the world guru of learning, by reviving our traditional Indian toys and games, and I am glad that Amitians are at the helm of this change. 🇮🇳

## Mango mania



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

As I pored over the top story of this edition, I was overcome by the nostalgia of how summer vacations in my childhood were synonymous with mangoes! And what a variety of a feast it used be. Starting right with the *ambi* (raw mango) to the

ripe ones like safeda, langda, totapari, kesari, malda and dussheri, all these would make way to my home in fragrant sacks that we would wait the whole year for.

In fact, the king of all fruits teaches us what diversity is about. Every variety of mango has its own speciality – from flavour and taste to appearance and nutritive value. Even its usage has endless options. Come summer, and every household turns into some sort of a mango processing unit. Mangoes can be used to make ice creams, *aam papad*, pickles, jellies, toffies and milk shakes. Moreover, this summer delight is known to beat the heat when it's converted into *aam panna* and *amrak*. Indeed, even before the modern world knew what an immunity booster was, our Indian households had already mastered the art of creating one using mangoes!

What is even more heart-warming is that many of these recipes have been handed down from generations. Perhaps that is the reason why families, friends, and even strangers are known to bond over their love for mangoes. In villages, it is a common practice to accept novel varieties of mangoes as payment for some service. Speaking of its commercial value, even its price is as varied as the fruit itself. Ranging from 10 INR to 2 lakh INR per kilo, this is indeed a fruit that can be savoured by all sections of society. In conclusion, I believe that it is this diversity that is at the root of all the fame and love mangoes get, and deservedly so! 🇮🇳

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Published for the period August 9-15, 2021

# The mango diplomacy

## Decoding The Tradition Of Gifting Mangoes Over The Centuries

Continued from page 1...

### The repute that made a difference

Quite naturally, this leads us to the question why mango was chosen to carry out this crucial diplomatic mission instead of peaches, kiwi and other rare and exotic fruits. The answer lies in the plethora of varieties Mango offered, ranging from the mouth-watering Raspuris to the saccharine Himsagars. Some varieties such as Alphonso even became an exquisite gift owing to its short period of availability and distinct taste. A part of the fruit's mystique also came from its varying eating styles, that of squeezing and sucking or slicing and spooning, and the foreigners' nescience of it. Ergo, it acquired the status of 'royal gift' exchanged by diplomats, politicians and royalties to signify their intent on achieving good relations. But its reputation is still largely ascribable to the Pakistani Foreign Minister Mian Arshad Hussain's visit to Beijing in 1968, where he gifted mangoes to the then Chairman of the Communist Party, Mao Zedong. As Mao received the mangoes, he circulated them amongst the members of the Worker-Peasant Thought Propaganda team, who, owing to Mao's status, took them as a gift from God. This resulted in an unprecedented scenario where the mangoes were being sent across the country, not to be eaten but to be displayed. Many of them were preserved in solutions, others were boiled and their water was distributed as elixir



amongst the masses. Such was the pandemonium that a single act of Mango Diplomacy was able to incur once, thus the repute.

Though instances of Mango Diplomacy in recent times show no signs of ceasing as seen apparent on June 16, 2021, when Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry Tamilisai Soundararajan, as a gift to the

legislators, handed over a bag of mangoes to each one of them during a tea party; or when the CM of Bihar, Nitish Kumar, sent about 2000 gift packs of Jardalu mangoes for the Indian President, PM and various other VIPs on June 7; only time would tell whether or not the sweetness of this tradition is capable of changing the sour and strained diplomatic relations in the future. 🇮🇳

### Thoughtful Opinion



## A cup of positiv(i)tea

### A Sip Of Self-Love Is All You Need At Times

Leela Moza, AIS Noida, Alumna

*"My wish for you is that you continue, continue to astonish a mean world with your acts of kindness."*

As a sixteen-year-old, when Jane Doe looked into the mirror, she saw everything that she didn't like about herself – the too broad shoulders and the stretch marks on her thighs. She noticed how her skin wasn't clear, how her hair didn't really cascade down her back like she wanted it to. If only she realised that the stretch marks and broad shoulders were beautiful in their own way, beautiful because they showed a journey—the journey of her growing up. She was unaware how blinding her smile was; her skin took a backseat every time she laughed. Her hair didn't cascade down her back like a waterfall. It was wild and free, just like her.

At the age of twenty, Jane Doe felt her skin wasn't as bright as it used to be. She poked and prodded at her skin. She wished she had eyes that reminded people of the ocean. She wished she looked different. If only she realised that the dull skin was a sign of how much she worked, how resilient she was. It was a mark she wore, a way of showing people that she lived and conquered. Her eyes did not remind people of the ocean; indeed they reminded people of a story, with stolen specks of sunlight hidden in them. They were a pool of melted chocolate when people craved something sweet.

At the age of thirty, Jane twisted and turned, trying to look at herself from all angles. Worrying about the cel-

lulite that she had, worrying about how she could not fit into her jeans anymore, worrying about the glasses she had to wear. She lay awake at night, her hands on her growling stomach as she enjoyed the feeling of her perfect jaw line. She is hungry, but beauty is pain, isn't that right?

If only she realised that the cellulite was normal, a gift from nature on having lived this long, having seen so many things, and having read so many books. They were tiny lightning marks, reminding her of how she was a force to be reckoned with. She hadn't realised that just like she had moved on to better and bigger things in life, so had her body.

At the age of forty, Jane realised how her weight was just the force with which the Earth was holding on to her. She read about feminism—how everyone deserved to live in their body without the prejudice of others. She read poems of poets who praised beauty of every kind endlessly. She realised how the world drowns everyone in a sea of narcissistic self-loathing. It was saddening to think that at some point everyone had looked at their bodies and felt the whole sum of their worth, amount to how much their thighs touch in the middle.

Jane realised how her body had endured years of punishing self-hatred. Walking down the streets, she'd counted her worth by the glances she got. She had counted her worth using numbers on a scale.

Taking a sip from her cup of positiv(i)tea, Jane realised that beauty begins the moment we accept that there's beauty in everything. Beauty doesn't have boundaries. The ocean is beautiful, but so is the land. 🇮🇳



Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Friends forever' on page 1 published in the GT Edition dated August 2, 2021. The article puts forward heart-warming and loving messages from Amitians to their best friends. It is incredibly gratifying to see that even though we aren't able to meet each other and be together the way we used to, friendships like these are continuing strong. In the case of Aditi and Vidhi, their friendship has endured the test of both distance and the pandemic. As a senior much closer to the end of her school journey, I can only deeply hope that Amitians continue to find strong bonds like these throughout their school life as they are what get us through thick and thin— exams, competitions, feelings, and all in between. I am forever grateful to have met and spent time with the friends and batchmates I have.

Yashasvini Verma, AIS Noida, XI J

Issue: Page 1  
August 2, 2021

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'The final call' on page 4 in the GT Edition dated August 2, 2021. The article tells the story of global warming from the penguins' perspective, and the narrative style provokingly conveys the cold hard truth about climate change. It lays out facts and brings to light just how grave the situation is, unearthing the ways in which climate change threatens animal life largely. Furthermore, it reminds the reader about who is to blame and in turn urges the reader to take action against climate change. Today everyone is so caught up with ensuring their safety during the unprecedented times of COVID-19 that we tend to forget about the harm we are causing to Mother Earth. Thank you GT, for making it impossible for us to forget about the devastating consequences our actions can have on our very own planet.

Gauri Sharma, AGS Gurugram, IX

Issue: Page 4  
August 2, 2021



Issue: Page 1  
August 2, 2021



Issue: Page 4  
August 2, 2021





Buzz Aldrin, a former American astronaut, used the felt tip of his pen as a replacement of the engine switch during the Apollo mission, without which they would not have been able to return home.

# 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's important to take a break and appreciate how far we have come. Let's look back at the pages of history falling between August 9-15 that played their role in shaping our society.

## The world of entertainment

**AUG 13 2012**  
American singer-songwriter, Taylor Swift released "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," the lead single from her fourth album, Red. The song became an instant commercial success, winning Swift her first number one on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. It also topped the US Hot Country Songs for ten weeks straight, the singer's longest reign till date. The Guinness World Records recognised the track as the fastest-selling single in digital history, with the Rolling Stone magazine naming it the second-best song of 2012. The song also received a Grammy Award nomination for Record of the Year.



**AUG 14 1908**  
First International Beauty Contest was held at the Hippodrome Theatre in Folkestone, England. A brainchild of the Edwardian entrepreneur Robert Forsyth, the contest acted as the forerunner to the famous Miss World pageants now, and was won by 18-year-old Miss Nellie Jarman, a shopkeeper's daughter from East Molesey in Surrey. She received a Spencer piano as her prize. During the first and second World Wars that followed, the beauty pageant was dropped, only to be revived in 1947 when Patricia Hawker became the winner of Miss Folkestone title.



**AUG 15 1979**  
Considered as the best film ever made on the Vietnam War and one of the greatest movies ever, Francis Ford Coppola's Apocalypse Now, an adaptation of Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness, was released. The film, starring Michael Sheen, Marlon Brando and Robert Duvall amongst others, was honoured with the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Films Festival. It also went on to win two Oscars for Best Sound and Best Cinematography, out of the eight it was initially nominated for. In 2000, the film was selected for preservation in the US National Film Registry as being 'culturally significant'.



## The world of inventions



**AUG 09 1898**  
German inventor, Rudolf Diesel was granted patent for his Internal Combustion engine, also known as the Diesel engine. In a bid to build a better, more efficient engine that could replace the old expensive steam engines that operated using spark ignition, Rudolf came up with the compression-ignited diesel engine in 1893, the first working model of which was produced in 1897. His invention was quickly embraced by the industrialists at the time, and post his death in 1913, the engine became common in automobiles, ships and more. Those used today are nothing but a refined version of his original concept.



**AUG 11 1942**  
Austrian-born American actress Hedy Lamarr, together with the American avant garde composer and author George Anthiel, received patent for a secret communication system. As a 'frequency-hopping spread-spectrum' system, their invention safeguarded radio communications from enemy snoops by switching frequencies in a pre-programmed pattern, only known to the receiver and the sender. Though too advanced for its time and age, their system went on to serve as the basis of modern communication technology from which the existing Wi-Fi networking connections are largely drawn.

## The world of politics

**AUG 14 1941**  
The then US President, Franklin Roosevelt, and British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, issued a joint declaration that later came to be known as the Atlantic Charter. The joint



**AUG 13 1961**  
The Berlin Wall was formed as the Communist government of the German Democratic Republic closed the border between East and West Berlin with



**AUG 11 2013**  
In a time of 9.77 seconds, Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt won 100m gold at the Moscow World Championships.

statement enlisted American and British goals for the world after the end of World War II. No territorial aggrandisement, restoration of self-government to those deprived of it, global co-operation to secure better economic conditions for all, reduction of trade restrictions, etc, were some of the goals that the Charter outlined. It inspired several other events in its wake such as the dismantling of the British Empire, the formation of NATO, etc., to name a few.

barbed wire. Made concrete with electrified fences, fortifications, and guard posts later on, the Wall was originally intended to keep Western 'fascists' from entering East Germany. However, it only ended up giving rise to mass defections from East to West. Considered as one of the most powerful and enduring symbols of cold war, the Wall was finally opened by the East German government in 1989, before being completely demolished in 1990.

## The world of celebration

**AUG 12 1990**  
American explorer and fossil collector, Susan Hendrickson discovered the largest-ever Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton in South Dakota, USA. Labelled Sue, after its discoverer, this 65-million-year-old specimen was 90 percent complete, measuring about 42 feet long from head to toe, with a 2,000-pound skull and 58 teeth. Its unearthing not only allowed scientists to determine a lot about this species of dinosaur, but also provided support to the scientific theory that sees birds as a type of living dinosaurs, thus proving to be monumental in every sense of the term. In 2000, the skeleton was put on display at the Field Museum.



**AUG 10 1968**  
Indian female rights activist, bandit and politician, Phoolan Devi, popularly known as the 'Bandit Queen', was born in Uttar Pradesh. Having endured poverty and an abusive marriage, she took to a life of crime to avenge all that she had to endure. Though regarded as a murderer by most, she was seen as a *devi* and a caste icon by the untouchables. She surrendered to the Indian federal government in 1983, and in 1996, two years after her release, she stood for the 11th Lok Sabha election from Mirzapur and won it. In 2001, she was shot dead by 3 masked shooters near her bungalow in New Delhi.



## The world of sports

**AUG 11 2013**  
In a time of 9.77 seconds, Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt won 100m gold at the Moscow World Championships.

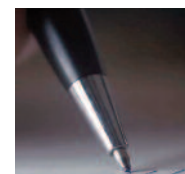
Though his time was the slowest in a major final, it was still better than his fellow sprinters - American sprinter Justin Gatlin who ranked second in 9.85 seconds, and the Jamaican sprinter Nesta Carter who came in third in 9.95 seconds. The feat made



him the second man in history after Carl Lewis in 1988 to defend his sprint crown, and also the first man to cross the line first in two Olympic 100m finals, the previous one being his 2009 record-breaking run in Berlin.



Ballpoint pens with a steel ball at the end were used by pilots in World War II as they didn't leak when they were high in the sky.



# The final moment

Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network



Storywala

Sharanya Arun

AIS Saket, Alumna

The bench on which Beerus sat was probably once frequently visited by people. He recollected children enjoying on the swings, men and women performing day to day activities. Nothing remained as such except for a man standing at a distance, staring at things around cluelessly. The man locked eyes with Beerus. His eyes looked as if they were pleading for help.

Beerus could hear the desperation in his voice, strained with fear, as though he was speaking without air in his lungs. Beerus felt a tinge of guilt. After all, he too was responsible for bringing Earth and along with it the life it encompassed to an end. But he had no choice; he was the God of destruction, after all.

He knew humanity had come to an end, that Gods would descend from the heavens to avenge Earth, and restore her to her former glory. But he did not know that the end would come so soon.

All of a sudden, natural disasters struck every corner of the Earth, one by one, taking everything that came its way.

Earth had avenged herself, and her fury was far more powerful than anything Beerus or any other God could have mustered. The Gods did not avenge Earth, they merely aided her. As for the humans, they destroyed themselves. They brought upon their own destruction.

Though Beerus was a little sympathetic, everything was not in his hands. It was mutually de-

He recollected children enjoying on the swings, men and women performing day to day activities.

ecided by all the Gods that an apocalypse would dawn on the planet no matter what.

Beerus' train of thoughts was once again broken by the man at the distance. He saw the shock, fear and pain in his eyes, that reminded him of his own. The man particularly had not done anything wrong, but he was paying for the sins of his forefathers.

Then, Beerus stood up, stretching his old, tired body. There was nothing to be done about it. "Maybe one day, another hundred years from now, some new species would tell tales about the old Gods, and how the Earth was cleansed of the evil that inhabited it," he thought to himself.

With one final look at the destructive beauty around him, Beerus closed his eyes yet again and felt the tingling in his body. He was the last of the Gods to fade, but all that begins must end. Besides, it had become more than he could carry now. Beerus turned away, a knife twisting in his heart, he let the world fall to fire and ashes, while he disappeared into the air. 🇮🇳



Shreyansh Sharma

## Easy cupcakes!

Shreyansh Sharma, AGS Gurugram, X

### Ingredients

Oreo chocolate cookies	7-8
Baking powder	½ tsp
Milk	½ cup
Chocolate syrup	2 tbsp
Gems	1 packet

### Procedure

- Put all the Oreo cookies in a mixer jar and grind them into a fine powder.
- In a bowl, add the ground powder, milk and baking powder. Mix all the ingredients really well.
- Once the mixture turns into a smooth paste, keep it aside for a few minutes.
- Take a microwave safe cup and grease it with oil or butter. You can also use moulds for this step.
- Now, pour the batter slowly into it and microwave it for 2-3 minutes.
- Bring the cupcake out of the microwave and let it cool for another 4-5 minutes.
- Pour the chocolate syrup over the cupcake as per your liking. You can also heat the syrup a bit if you want.
- Garnish the top with some colourful gems.
- Your cupcake is now ready. Wasn't that easy-peasy?

## WORDS VERSE

### Not ordinary

Samaya Chauhan, AIS PV, VIII A

They pray to be normal, to have normal lives  
But I just don't get this weird obsession  
They have with leading a regular life  
Why be ordinary? Why not extraordinary?

Now, painting your door in bright red  
Won't make it extraordinary, you know  
Wearing pink socks or indulging in high talks  
Won't make you extraordinary, just know

Because we are all rare, we are all unique  
And that's what makes us all distinctive  
We all have our own original technique  
So, why be predictive and not take the leap?

Let's have integrity and be kind to one and all  
Let's help the society and the communities  
By reaching out and coming together in unity  
Opening doors and creating opportunities

Life is a ride, and the view is surely great



Perhaps, sometimes just leave it on fate  
Take happiness as antidote and have faith  
Life is a journey, a mystery, not so straight

It's filled with rutted mountains and peaks  
It's an infodemic curve that rises and dips  
For life's an electroshock that comes and goes  
It is a fun ride, a roller coaster I suppose

And the world is how you really perceive it  
But at all times, we shall try and remain wise  
For it's undeniably a great adventure of sorts  
At least that's how I would like to surmise. 🇮🇳

### Our nature

Farhan Siddiqui, AIS Gur 46, XI C

The land we stand on is raw  
It's time to face the nature's law  
Never thought we'd stand face to face  
But nature is not our basket-case

We all need to be apologetic  
For making our world this sick  
We need to protect the nature  
Because it decides our future

We must understand our mistake  
Being ecofriendly is no piece of cake  
But we all need to do our part  
Before we tear this world apart

Nature has given us many things  
But we mustn't misuse those wings  
It has given us a helping hand  
It also knows to bring us back to land

We must plant trees and crops



Or we'll be erased like full stops  
Like dinosaurs, we will be destroyed  
But now it'll be nature, not meteoroid

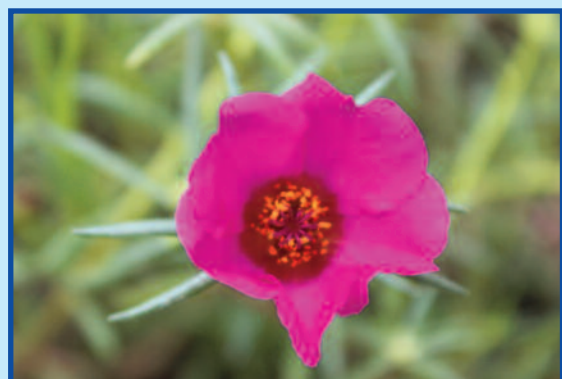
The nature is our one true boss  
Whose rules we can't simply toss  
Time has come for us to understand  
Life without nature is all downpour. 🇮🇳



## CAMERA CAPERS

Koyal Das, AIS Gurugram 43, X

Send in your entries to  
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



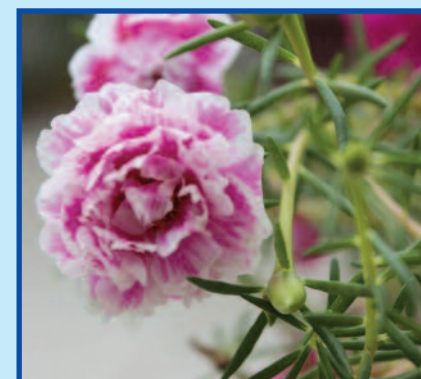
When the vibrancy of pink...



Blends with the peace of white...



Together it transpires...



A semblance so pleasing...





The pen caps consist of a small hole to avoid choking if swallowed as well as it maintains a balanced pressure inside the pen to prevent it from leaking.

# The mango tree

## Short Story



Avya Goyal

AIS Gurugram 43, VII

This is the story of Golu, a small boy who lived in a village near the river. One lazy afternoon, Golu was sitting on the Banyan tree outside his house when his eyes fell on something beautiful – luscious, rich, yellow mangoes. Golu's mouth started to water. He could not wait to have these mangoes and so he hatched a plan. The next day when Golu was returning from school, he decided to go to the mango farm and take some mangoes. He tiptoed his way to the farm, trying to ensure

that nobody saw him. As he reached the farm, he was stopped in the way by a fence. But Golu desperately wanted those mangoes and so he decided to climb the fence.

As Golu climbed the fence, he was scared witless, for if the owner of the farm saw him inside, he would be in deep trouble. But nonetheless, he continued. After a few minutes, he found the tree which bore huge golden yellow mangoes. He quickly climbed up, plucking mangoes from the tree, and filled his bag with them **simultaneously**.

When Golu felt that he had enough mangoes for two days,

he buckled his bag and climbed down with excitement as he couldn't wait to go home. In this excitement, Golu tripped and along with his bag, came down to the ground with a thud. All the mangoes scattered here and there. As he tried to get up next, the farm owner, an old man, came outside the house upon hearing the sound. Golu was very scared. He knew he had been caught.

To his surprise, the old man picked Golu up and helped him gather all the mangoes. Golu thought that the man will scold him once everything is done, but instead he was taken inside the

He quickly climbed up, plucking mangoes from the tree, and filled his bag with them simultaneously.

man's house and given a glass of water. Then appeared the man's wife who also seemed kind and sweet. They both asked him if he was okay.

Golu told them that he was fine and that he was very sorry for trying to steal the mangoes. At this, the old man gave a laugh and told him that he was free to take more mangoes if he wanted. The old couple's children had abandoned them and gone to a far-off city, and they never came to visit. They told Golu that he could come every day and pluck mangoes for his friends, too. Though Golu was happy hearing this, he also felt sorry for the fact that he chose to steal the fruit instead of simply asking for it. A few minutes later, Golu thanked them and headed home. Having learnt his lesson, Golu promised himself to visit the man and his wife as much as possible, since they lived alone. And from that day, Golu would come to the farm every week to pluck mangoes, followed by a visit to the old couple's house where they enjoyed fresh ripe mangoes together. 🇺🇦

So, what did you learn today?  
New word: **Simultaneously**  
Meaning: **At the same time**



## CD photo frame

Saanvi Makkar, AIS Mayur Vihar, V

### Material required

- 8-10 old CDs
- Glue
- Scissor
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Cello tape
- Photos



### Methodology

Saanvi Makkar

- Select the photos that you want to showcase.
- Using scissors, cut them in a circular shape that is smaller than the size of your CD. Make sure you don't cut important parts from the photo like faces.
- Paste the photo in the centre of the CD. Repeat the process with the number of photos you want, but make sure you only use one CD for one photo.
- Once you are done pasting pictures, put the CDs together in any shape you prefer, ensuring that they are touching each other in some way. With the help of cello tape on their back side, join them all together.
- Take another CD and draw small triangles on it, and cut those out.
- Paste those cut-outs on the sides of your photo collage with the pointed side hidden behind the CD as shown in the photo.
- With other old CDs, you can also cut out stars and moon and paste them on the top and bottom for decoration.
- Once satisfied, paste one smaller old CD on the top of your photo frame collage so that its middle hole could be used to hang the entire photo frame collage, and you are ready to reminisce looking at your favourite photos!

## It's Me

### Know me

**My name:** Sayesha Saini  
**My Class:** KG D  
**My school:** AIS Vasundhara 6  
**Born on:** August 19

### My dreams

**Hobby:** Dancing and painting  
**I like:** Pizza  
**I dislike:** Sitting at one place  
**My role model:** My father  
**I want to become:** A doctor  
**I want to feature in GT because:** I want my father to read about me in my school newspaper

### My favourites

**Teacher:** Meera ma'am  
**Subject:** Mathematics  
**Friends:** Maisha and Vivaan  
**Games:** Football and Ludo  
**Cartoon:** Peppa pig  
**Food:** Rajma rice  
**Book:** Naisha series



## POEMS

### Nature will cohere

Vandita Sharma, AIS Saket, VII

A dream left me intimidated  
About how doom is awaited  
Barren land with tree trunks  
And gradually nature expunges

But then granny came near  
And said nature will cohere  
How is that even possible?  
And I was not so gullible

We ravaged nature's bounty  
This destruction is a reality  
This time granny said  
To get this in my head

Panic is not the solution



Doomsday is not a delusion  
Nature needs balance  
And not our indifference

It is my plea to humanity  
Shield nature from vanity  
Then slumber without fear  
And then nature will cohere. 🇺🇦

### My mom

Avyaan Talwar

AIS Gurugram 46, V F

My mom is my whole world  
I follow her every single word  
My mom is an angel sent by God  
Her true love makes me applaud  
She has been guiding me for years  
She drives away all of my fears  
My guide, support and friend  
My love for her will never end  
She is a pillar I can leap upon  
Whether in dusk or in dawn  
Mom, I just want to say  
I love you every single day! 🇺🇦



## Tongue twisters

Vivaan Shukla

AIS Noida, IV

- Two witches were watching two watches
- Rory's lawn rake rarely rakes really right

- She speedily sold six shabby sheared sheep
- No need to light a night-light
- A skunk sat on a stump and thunk the stump stunk
- Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers



## PAINTING CORNER

Pradnya Arora

AIS Noida, II





Space Pen was designed by Paul Fisher for the Apollo 11 mission, and it used cartridge ink that worked in zero gravity, underwater, and even on oily surfaces.



*Writing is an art and there's no better platform to exercise it than your own beloved GT! Just to unleash the writer in you, GT brings you a new topic every time and asks for your views on the same. Here are some intriguing responses from young writers at Amity for the prompt...*

"Being a 'public celebrity' is hard, especially when you're not famous enough to be widely recognised but well-known enough to be condemned for your actions. This case is very well exemplified by the winner of Big Boss 2 and Roadies 5.0 - Ashutosh Kaushik. Kaushik, in a case hearing, cited the 'right to be forgotten' while referencing to his 'personal life remaining in public knowledge for generations', most notable of them being a video surfaced in 2009, where he was charged by Mumbai traffic police for four violations, one of them reportedly being a driving-under-influence case. Judging by Article 21 of the Indian constitution, every person has a right to keep their life private or public as per their wish, regardless of the nature of their acts. Kaushik as an Indian citizen has a full justification in redeeming these rights for the sole purpose of leading a peaceful life."

**Saanvi Goyal, AIS Gur 43, X B**

**Do you think the recent plea filed in high court by reality show winner Ashutosh Kaushik, seeking removal of his online videos, citing 'right to be forgotten' is justified?**

The prompt

**BOX**

"Ashutosh Kaushik is, before all else, a citizen of this country. Even though he is a public figure, he is not exempted from the law of the land. Because he may have reaped what he sowed and he may think his debt is repaid. In my opinion, however, it is only just that his plea is denied. We may want to give him the benefit of the doubt and believe he is a reformed man, but that does not take away the public's right to know a fellow citizen's actions in the past that hurt a common man. The public needs to believe in justice. It keeps everyone in check – nobody is above the law. His fans need to know, not only of whom they idolise, but of whom they had idolised in the past."

**Tarush Bhalla, AGS Gur, IX**

"Before the advent of the internet, people could make mistakes without having any second thoughts about the repercussions. So, internet in a way helped to keep people in check, but the same thing turns devilish when incidents like this happen. For to constantly bring up someone's past to ridicule their present, more wise self, is disgusting. In India, there is no particular law which guarantees 'right to be forgotten', but it can exist in sync with 'right to privacy'; however, if it does, each and every case will have to be analysed differently because of the variance in subject matter. For in a case like this, it safeguards the individual from facing the sordid effects of their past demeanours, but in other instances, it might hinder the press from practicing freedom of speech, which is the last thing we want!"

**Shayori Dey, AIS PV, XII G**

"An old video from 2009, including Ashutosh Kaushik drunk driving, has been spreading through the internet like wildfire. Due to which, Ashutosh has sent in a plea to the high court, asking for the video to have a 'right to be forgotten'. The driving incident happened 11 years ago and Kaushik has done everything he could possibly do about the situation but he has been unable to make a dent. Though the act was inexcusable, I don't think this is something that should be held against him forever. Someone should not be judged throughout their life for one slip up they made long ago. Therefore, I think his plea for 'right to be forgotten' in court is justified and should be heard at the earliest."

**Sneha Asthana, AIS VKC Lko, VII B**

"Ashutosh Kaushik's plea for the removal of all the content from Google related to certain incidents "erroneously committed" in his past is absolutely justifiable. He is still being haunted by the decade-old memories. And I don't think it's right for people to be reminded of their past mistakes for which they have already paid a price. His reputation is at stake now, for whenever someone searches his name, the search results are flooded with his videos and pictures from that incident. The petition referred to Article 21 of the Constitution of India which guarantees its citizens the 'right to privacy', and in my opinion, it is legitimate."

**Yashi Singh, AIS VYC Lko, XII C**

"The 'right to be forgotten', which falls under the purview of an individual's 'right to privacy', says that data can be restricted or prevented from being disclosed. However, in Ashutosh Kaushik's case, I do not think that the data pertaining to him should be removed from the internet citing the same right. What you do lives with you for the rest of your life and even though people change, we cannot guarantee that they have actually changed for the better. Before committing any crime, we must think or else we will have to bear its consequences. Kaushik's plea refers to an incident from 2009 where he was caught by the Mumbai police for drunken driving. He should've thought about the consequences he would have to face in the future for this act before he committed it. Although the incident took place a long time back, we cannot be sure if he will do it again or not."

**Ravina Rastogi, AIS Saket, X A**

"Being a public figure, it becomes inevitable to escape the scrutiny of the media and the internet, whether it is your achievements or shortcomings. Now, trying to erase the negative part means trying to erase a part of your history. That said, let's not rule out the fact that the 'right to be forgotten' can be misused by many, thinking they can get away with the things they did in the past. Ashutosh Kaushik's online videos show his negative side and even though he feels penitent of his past actions, it doesn't efface the fact that it is something he did, and people who follow him should be aware of his past actions. This will also be a lesson for people to always behave responsibly, sensibly and reasonably because the kind of person you are today, is the cumulation of your past, present and future."

**Himadri Bahuguna, AIS Vas 6, XI A**

"Despite attaining outstanding success in entertainment industry, Ashutosh Kaushik still receives hatred and judgement for his drunk driving case. I believe that everyone has a 'right to be forgotten' but on the same hand, the citizens of the country also hold the right to be informed about a person's public dealings or their past. In my opinion, that if a person's outlook towards life had truly changed in a positive way, then it would reflect in their actions and the people who follow them will understand the same irrespective of what's doing the rounds on the internet. However, Ashutosh has already paid the price for what he did decades ago, and thus, I feel like the court should allow the media to remove all the articles related to his drunk driving case."

**Anika Tandon, AIS Vas 1, X D**

"The plea filed by Ashutosh Kaushik regarding the 'right to be forgotten' is justified as it has been more than 11 years from the accident of him driving under influence, and he has served his sentence. The basic principle of punishment is to provide the guilty with a chance to reflect upon their actions and understand what they did wrong and to repent for it. Seeing how this incident is till date affecting Ashutosh Kaushik's career prospects and had previously affected his personal life in matters of marriage and intimate relationships, he is justified to exercise his right to prevent the continuing disclosure of his personal data under section 20 of the Personal Data Protection Bill."

**Shivanshi Sharma, AIS MV, X B**

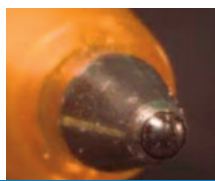
I believe that the 'right to be forgotten' is an essential entitlement for any individual. If Google contains pictures and information that is likely to hamper your present image, given that the said information doesn't define you anymore, then it should be removed at all costs. It's crucial as it impacts your career and life ahead. To each his own. If someone feels that photos and videos about their past should be removed from a search engine, that's completely fine. He should have all the right to take it to Google or the HC. If he is legally entitled to it, there is nothing wrong in it. And why not? People can't just use your footage and things forever."

**Jaya Jha, AIS Gur 46, XII J**

"In my opinion, this plea for the removal of his mistake should not be given approval and is totally wrong as we refer to the context of the 'right to be forgotten' which is not yet in action in India. Ashutosh Kaushik's contribution in the television and the big screen industry has earned him love, respect and fame over the years. Though, irrespective of his status, neither him, nor any other citizen must be granted the right to file pleas for forgiveness, or forgetfulness by the common people for a crime they have committed. Thus, according to me, his plea should neither be granted by the high court, nor should it be supported by the people of the country."

**Vaari Khosla, AIS Noida, IX H**





The oldest pen in the world still preserved is a fountain pen that was designed in 1702 by M Bion from France.

# Toycathon '21

## An Innovative Platform Facilitating Fun and Information



Aarush Gupta, AIS Gur 46



Aayush Garg, AIS Gur 46



Rishabh Yadav, AIS Gur 46



Vaibhav Sharma, AIS Gur 46



Aarushi Singh, AIS Gur 46



Aditya Aggarwal, AIS Gur 46



Arush Khandelwal, AIS Vas 6



Atharva Gupta, AIS Vas 6



Arul Agarwal, AIS Vas 6



Divyaansh Seth, AIS Saket



Aditya Khuntia, AIS Saket



Niharika Roy, AIS Saket

### Amity Group of Schools

The first ever Toycathon, held virtually from June 23-25, 2021, saw 15 students from four branches of Amity International schools being featured amongst top 117 at the national grand finale. Teams comprising four students from AIS Saket, five students from AIS Gur 46 and three students from AIS Vas 6 were declared national winners in digital category based on the theme 'Indian Culture, History, Knowledge of India and Ethos'. A team of three students from AIS Vas 1 also made it to the first round of the nationals.

The opportunity to engage in the unique competition was provided by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, whose vision is to inculcate understanding and respect for Indian culture and values in youth.

From AIS Saket, Aditya Khuntia, Divyaansh Seth, Himanshu and Niharika, all from Class

XI, won the competition for their app 'Expressify', an interactive platform to teach practical use of English phrases. Aditya and Divyaansh also teamed up with Niharika Roy to win laurels for their gaming app 'Sanskrit Vinayan', to enhance the knowledge of phonetics, pronunciation and vocabulary of Sanskrit in a fun and interactive way.

Aarush Gupta (IX), Aayush Garg (X), Vaibhav Sharma (XII), Aarushi Singh (XII), Aditya Aggarwal (XII) and Rishabh Yadav (XII) from AIS Gurugram 46, registered victory for their app 'Bharat Mystery', a VR based app accompanied by a physical board game which enables the user to explore various cultural and historical tourist destinations of India. It also encompasses economic aspects through the promotion of local souvenir shops.

From AIS Vas 6, students of Class IX, Arul Aggarwal, Atharva Gupta and Arush Khandelwal won laurels for their unique gaming



Himanshu, AIS Saket

app 'Sudarshan Chakra'. Inspired by Mahabharata, players of this game are supposed to destroy the demons with the help of digital keys.

Vrinda Anand, Kushagra Verma, and Utkarsh Sharma, AIS Vas 1, XII, also made it to the first round of the nationals for their 'Robovid 2.0'. It is a robotic arm to ensure social distancing, using tele-operation, pneumatic actuators and haptic technology.

Conceived under Atma Nirbhar Abhiyaan by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Toycathon received total 17770 ideas, out of which 1567 ideas were selected for the first round of nationals in February 2021. These selected teams participated in three-day long national grand finale during which 280 teams were shortlisted for power judging and grand finale rounds. After rigorous rounds, only 117 ideas were finally chosen at all India level in the digital category.



## Celebrating Our Heritage

### AIS Vasundhara 6

Students of Class V celebrated World Sanskrit Day with a special assembly held on July 22, 2021. Objective of the assembly was to apprise students on the role of Sanskrit language in Indian culture and tradition, and its recognition as the most scientific language worldwide. The students chanted popular shlokas from Vedas and Puranas as pearls of wisdom from ancient texts. Dressed up as Rishi Valmiki, Ved Vyas and

Kalidasa, the students quoted important lines from their famous works. A small skit 'Jadoo', an excerpt from Mahabharata was presented to convey that with ample practice and right skills, nothing is impossible. The recitation of 'Surasa Subhodha' explained that Sanskrit language is neither obscure nor difficult, but it is beloved, easy to understand and universally agreeable to the mind. Students also shared that starting one's day with chanting of shlokas brings peace and prosperity in life.



Students participate in special assembly on Sanskrit

## Moon Landing Day

### All About Lunar Aspects

#### AIS Mayur Vihar

Shreya Chandra (VIII), Avika Kumar (IX) and Chaitanya Roy (IX) attended a webinar 'Moon Landing Day' organised by Nehru Planetarium on July 22, 2021. The webinar, held to commemorate first landing of human on moon, was attended by thousands of students from eminent schools of Delhi/NCR.

Mila Mitra, co-founder and academic head, STEM & Space and a former engineer at NASA AMES, was the speaker at the event. She enlightened the students on various aspects of moon like its length of the day, atmo-

sphere, temperature and radiation, type of water on lunar surface, gravity and landscape etc. She also shared details about why moon was chosen to be explored by landing there, how space programs for celestial bodies are designed and different lunar missions, etc.

Chandrayan I mission was also discussed in detail, showing how data is collected by satellite and studied. The speaker also elaborated on how launching Chandrayan I was a big milestone achieved by ISRO. The webinar also included videos and pictures of teams of scientists working in the space station.



Lavanya Arora

## Astrophysics wizard

#### AIS Pushp Vihar

Lavanya Arora from Class XII won silver honour at International Astronomy and Astrophysics competition, held from April 30-June 30, 2021. She ranked among top 10% of the total 4700 students worldwide who participated in the competition. The annual competition, coordinated by Edu Harbour, comprised 3 rounds of research-based problems. Participants were required to arrive at well-researched solutions based on study of science research papers. Lavanya has also authored two self-researched articles titled, 'Sphere and the Universe' and 'Quantum Tunnelling', which were published in Young Scientists Journal on February 9, 2021 and June 11, 2021 respectively. She is a new star in the world of astronomy.



Khushi Toprani (Rank 1)



Gaurav Vermani (Rank 3)

## IB Toppers

#### AGS Gurugram

School registered stellar performance in IB Diploma program exam-2021 with 100% result. First rank holder, Khushi Toprani, scored 45/45 grade points with perfect 7 grades in 6 subjects. Second rank holder, Yen Hi Duong, scored 43/45 grade points with perfect 7 grades in 5 subjects. Meanwhile, third rank holder Gaurav Vermani, scored 41/45 grade points with perfect 7 grades in 3 subjects. In Extended Essay and Theory of Knowledge, Khushi scored 3



Yen Hi Duong (Rank 2)

points, while both Yen Hi Duong and Gaurav Vermani scored 2 points each. Overall, in 8 subjects, 100% students scored grade points between 7-6 which is equivalent to 94% and above marks.



A presentation showcases the launch of a lunar mission

## Movie making

### Blending Art With A Bit Of Responsibility

#### AIS Gwalior

An inter house movie making competition titled, 'Light, Camera, Action' was held for Classes VI-XI on June 23, 2021. The theme of the competition was United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Students expressed their thoughts and ideas on myriad social issues like gender inequality, power consumption, poverty, sustainable develop-

ment, climate change, environment conservation, etc., through their innovative videos. First position was won by Alaknanda house. Mandakini house secured second position and third position was bagged by Bhagirathi house. Movie presentations were lauded by the judges for their creative and novel approach in expressing thoughts and giving ideas. The competition honed critical thinking and communication skills of the students.



A movie on sustainability



The most expensive pen in the world is the Fulgor Nocturnus Fountain Pen costing 8,000,000 USD.

All top quotes contributed by  
Suhani Gupta, AIS Gurugram 46, VII B



# 'Low' & Behold!

Always marveled at the majestic mountains that seem to touch the sky? But did you also know that there are points on our beautiful earth that can go as low as hundreds of feet below sea level? Let's take a trip to some of these fascinating places.



## Dead Sea in Jordan/Israel

**Depth: 1,414 feet (431 meters) below sea level**

**About:** One of the most intriguing natural phenomena on Earth, the Dead Sea, is completely devoid of life. There's no seaweed, fish or any other aquatic form found in or around these turquoise waters, one of the saltiest water bodies on Earth.

**Why it attracts us:** Its high salt and mineral content gives it powerful healing properties. It's also a major tourist attraction because people can easily float on its surface due to its natural buoyancy and nominal density.

**Wow factor:** 8/10

## Sea of Galilee in Israel

400,000 years ago.

**Depth: 686 feet (209 meters) below sea level**

**About:** It is Israel's largest freshwater lake and the second lowest lake in the world after the Dead Sea. The sea is also called as Lake Tiberias, Kinnereth or Kinneret. Attracted by its extra pleasant climate, fertile soil and abundant water; humans settled along the shores some

**Why it attracts us:** Due to its numerous hot springs, it has become home to various spas and winter health resorts. Fresh produce is in abundance as farmers cultivate dates, vegetables and citrus fruits. Also, fishermen haul in sardines, catfish and Galilean tilapia. Every year over thousands of pilgrims visit this deepest point.

**Wow factor:** 9/10



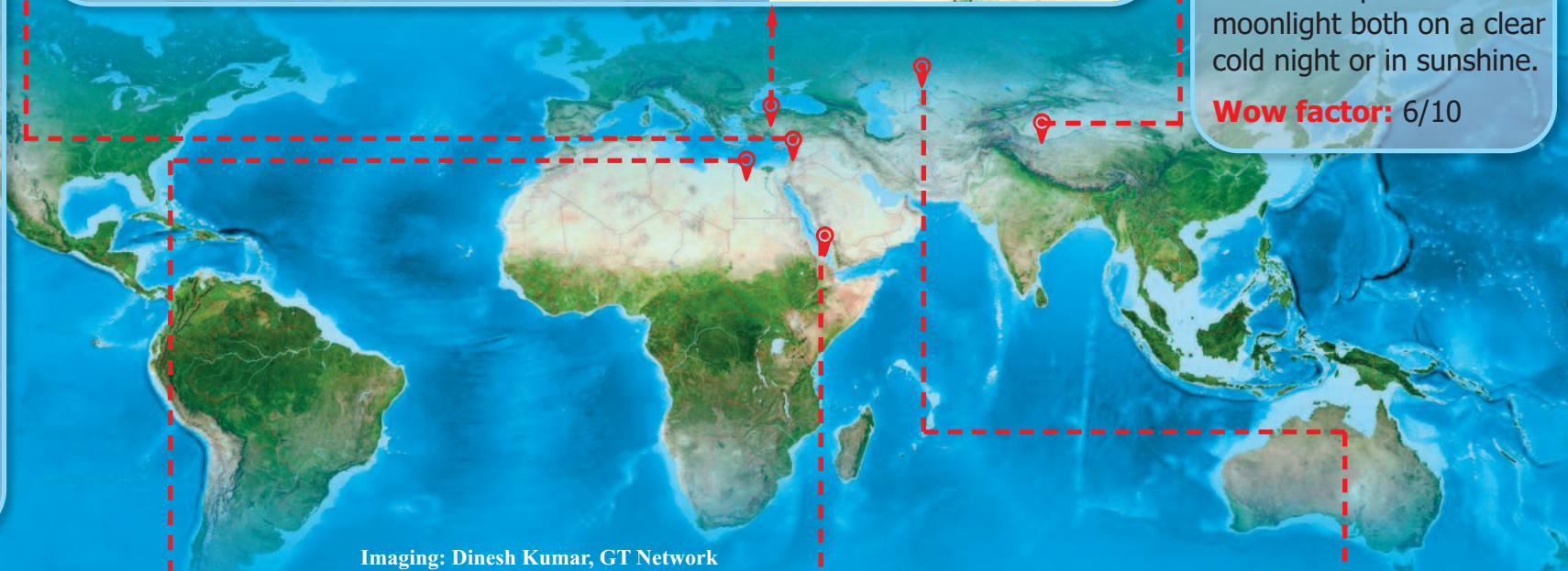
## Lake Ayding in China

**Depth: 508 feet (155 meters) below sea level**

**About:** Ayding Lake, which means Moonlight Lake in Uyghur language, is located in the Turpan Basin in Xinjiang. It consists of three concentric regions: the outer flood plain endowed with gypsum and rock salt followed by a salt marsh in the middle (home to the occasional hare, mouse and migratory waterfowl) and a core of pure white salt crystals. The lake water is extremely saline, supplied by runoff from eight rivers and by some groundwater inflow.

**Why it attracts us:** The lake is covered with silver white salt crystals, which shine and sparkle like the moonlight both on a clear cold night or in sunshine.

**Wow factor:** 6/10

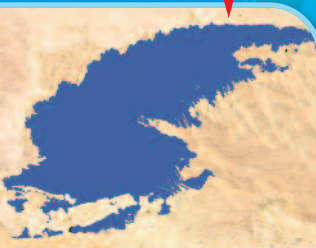


Imaging: Dinesh Kumar, GT Network

## Qattara Depression in Egypt

**Depth: 435 feet (133 meters) below sea level**

**About:** Known as the world's biggest sinkhole formed over millennia as salts in the soil eroded the rock into sand, which was further blown away by the fierce Sahara winds. Eventually, hundreds of feet of bedrock were eaten away, exposing the water table beneath. The area is now a sludgy, salty, quicksand-like



pit. The name of this giant sinkhole in northwest Egypt means 'dripping' in Arabic, a reference to the few but vital oases that speck the desert landscape.

**Why it attracts us:** Jackals, foxes and wild sheep roam. Qattara Depression resembles a giant footprint along with beautiful rocks and black dunes.

**Wow factor:** 7/10

## Lake Assal in Djibouti, Africa

**Depth: 515 feet (157 meters) below sea level**

**About:** Nestled in a volcanic crater in the central-western part of Djibouti, Lake Assal marks the beginning of the Great African Rift Valley and paves the way to the Danakil Desert. It is the most saline lake outside of Antarctica and home to the biggest salt reserve in the world. Lake Assal is fed from the Gulf of Tadjourah and is one of the hottest places on



earth. To reach it, one must pass a lake known as the Pit of Demons and a strange looking volcanic neck.

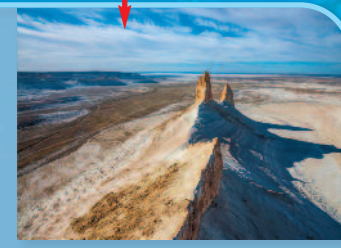
**Why it attracts us:** Despite its salty and slightly difficult terrain, one can experience mind-blowing beauty, especially the wind, the sun and the sparkling, turquoise waters.

**Wow factor:** 7/10

## Karagiye Trench in Kazakhstan

**Depth: 433 feet (132 meters) below sea level**

**About:** Karagiye is the deepest trench in the post-Soviet territory. Translated from Kazakh, its name means 'The Black Slope'. Apparently, some who explore its depths are known to experience headaches, nausea and anxiety. Others, however, say they experience euphoric peace and joy. This bowl-shaped hollow appeared after the collapse of the soil's



upper layers.

**Why it attracts us:** For its enigma. Created from the collapse of limestone caverns near the Caspian Sea, this trough features a river that gushes from a subterranean spring and disappears into a hole. This area is home to caracals, manuls, monitor lizards, scorpions and two-coloured larks.

**Wow factor:** 6/10