

INSIDE



Apne budget mein hai!, P6



History this week, P7

AMIT e-poll

Do you think that disengagement of Indian and Chinese troops in Ladakh will have a positive effect on future Indo-China relations?

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

To vote, log on to
www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue February 8, 2021

Do you think that international intervention in India's internal matters poses a threat to the country's sovereignty?

Yes	No	Can't say
49%	31%	20%

Results as on February 11, 2021

Coming Next
 History This Week

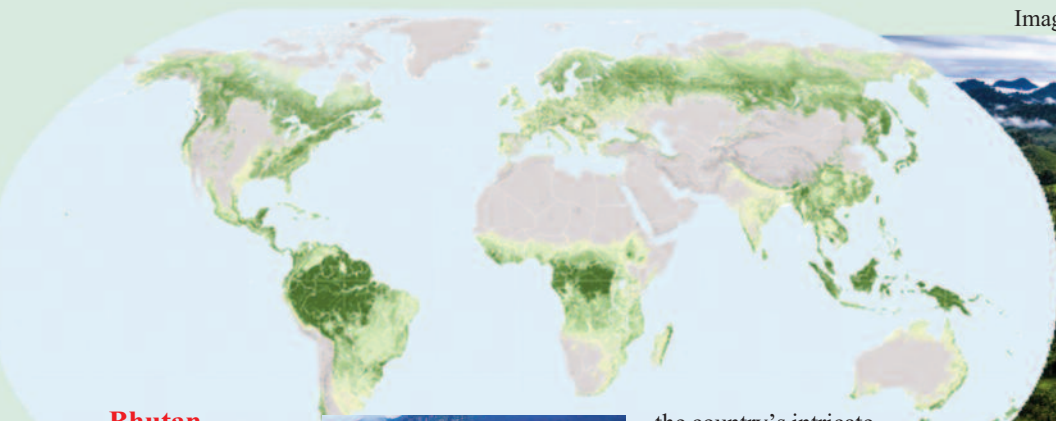
The green dollar of nature

The State Of Forest Cover Worldwide And It's Gradual Revival

Nandini Medhi, GT Network

Imaging: Dinesh Kumar, GT Network

A source of livelihood, a cornucopia of biodiversity, a refuge for wildlife- since the dawn of mankind, forests have played a paramount role in humanity's survival. In today's world, as the world pitifully gasps for a breath of fresh air in the jarring face of climate change and its astronomical consequences, forests have come into play again. They act as regulator of ecosystems and stand resolute as a vital solution to address the effects of climate change. All this and more, but deforestation still persists. One and a half acres of forest will be destroyed by the time you finish reading this sentence. According to Global Forest Watch, forests equal to the size of New York City is destroyed every day. As global deforestation continues, the world is slowly waking up as countries are taking steps to balance the scales. Let's take a look.



Bhutan Guardians of the forest

The country, although small in size, has a remarkable feather in its cap- it is the only carbon negative country in the world; not neutral, mind you, but a solid negative. The country's unique philosophy of Gross National Happiness also takes into account environmental conservation, an issue which is even embedded into their constitution. According to one of the provisions in Bhutan's constitution, a min-



imum of sixty percent of the country's land has to be maintained under forest cover. In August 2018, Bhutan government, in collaboration with WWF and partners around the world created 'Bhutan for Life', a \$43 million fund to protect

the country's intricate network of areas under the government's helm. Currently, Bhutan has over seventy-one per cent of its land under forest cover, the highest in all of Asia, and the government has operations underway to utilize the country's forest sector without jeopardizing its conservation. *Here's hoping Bhutan's unyielding approach towards environmental conservation comes to be seen beyond the country's territorial boundaries.*



Indonesia Setting a precedent

Scattered over the Indonesian archipelago, Asia's largest tropical rainforest, a wellspring of diverse flora and fauna, is facing a slow decline. Since the early 2000s, almost nine million hectares- an area the size of Portugal- has been cleared for palm oil plantations, agriculture, timber plantations, mining etc. In 2014, in an attempt to halt deforestation, the government took on the target to allocate a whopping 12.7 million hectares of forest land to marginalized communities under the Social Forestry Initiative. The same year, Indonesia signed the Voluntary Partnership Agreement on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade and with the EU which outlined measures to tackle illegal logging with financial assistance for the same from the EU. By 2017-18, the alarming rate of forest loss saw a gradual halt and since then, Indonesia has carried on its efforts to conserve the forest cover. *Here's hoping that the shining precedent set by Indonesia is followed by countries globally.*

...continued on page 4

Scotland Defender of biodiversity

Sparkling lochs surrounded by lush green farmlands and hills rolling into the horizon as far as the eyes can see; Scotland is truly a magnificent sight to behold. But beyond the visual beauty, Scotland harbours over 90,000 species of animals, microbes and flora flourishing in over 30,000 freshwater lochs spread all over the country. In a bid to protect the thriving biodiversity, the Scottish government has planned to bring almost 30 per cent of the country's total land under govern-



mental protection. The proposed laws are a part of the country's twin-crisis approach to tackle climate change and loss

of biodiversity, and boost the natural economy of the country which is estimated to be worth around \$39 billion. The nation also plans on the gradual restoration of peatland and woodland creation because the two are believed to be key elements of the rural economy in the country. Furthermore, almost 30 per cent of Scotland's marine environment is currently under government protection. *Here's hoping that Scotland's efforts to defend the country's rich biodiversity becomes an example to be emulated all over the world.*

“Destiny makes all the difference...”

...Says The Voice Of Metro, Shammi Narang

Pic: Koyal Das, AIS Gur 43, IX B

“A gla station Rajiv Chowk hai, dar-waaze dai taraf khulenge”. If you are a frequenter of the metro, then this voice must ring a bell. For without this deep-timbered voice, our beloved metro travels seem amiss. But ever wondered who the person behind this integral part of metro railways is? Well, let us introduce you to Shammi Narang, an IIT graduate, Door-

darshan newsreader, stunt rider and, now famously known as the Metro Uncle. Here are some glimpses of his eclectic journey in a free-wheeling interview with the man himself.

From machines to media

Destiny plays a vital role in determining who you will be. When the technical staff from Voice of America, a division of United States Information Agency, visited my college, they chose me for mic testing from among thirty students. Next day, I was called to read a script in Hindi for which I earned a hundred rupees. This was a matter of assurance to me that I could in fact make a career in media. I think it was my innate penchant for interacting and socialising that brought me to this profession.

Finding the route to fame

My love for adventure made me join Escorts' motorcycle division as a stunt rider, after I graduated from college. As a stunt rider, I had to anchor the advertisements as well, so I trained myself in voice modulation. More commercials followed for the next two years where I also rendered the hymns of a very popular TV show on Sikh history called Sarab Sanjhi Gurbani. You could say that the show's immense popularity was really my first taste of a major success.

Forming a lasting legacy

It was 1982 when the coloured televisions were introduced. While hosting the Gurbani show, a cameraman from Doordarshan suggested that I should try reading news. I was excited because the world of news at that time was like the Bollywood of today. Though the idea sounded simple, the selection procedure was quite complex! I had to take a series of tests – a voice test, a written test and a camera test. And, I got the job! It was very gratifying to know that there were



GT Team in conversation with Shammi Narang

10,000 more applicants for the same position. I read the news daily for almost 20 years as the national newsreader.

Fastening his experiences

I wanted to extend my understanding of the media world into something that would be of help to others as well. In 1998, I established Pindrop, the first ever fully digital recording studio in Delhi. It became an instant hit within media professionals all across the city. At Pindrop, we offer high quality 360-degree media production solutions.

Flourishing as metro man

In 2000, Delhi Metro selected Rini Simon Khanna and me to record instructions in English and Hindi respectively. We both thought this was going to be just a one-time job, unaware of the

fact that this stint would go on to immortalise our voices. Undoubtedly, it came as a surprise when the Government of India made it mandatory for all metros to use only our voices for all the announcements.

Forever the universal uncle

People usually think of their work and their hobby as two different things. But my hobbies are not very different from what I do in a studio. Interacting with people, whether inside the recording studio, or in the neighbourhood where I live, is what keeps me rejuvenated. Young children come up to me constantly asking me to spend time with them. We always end up either writing something together, composing music or just talking to each other. I love being their uncle.

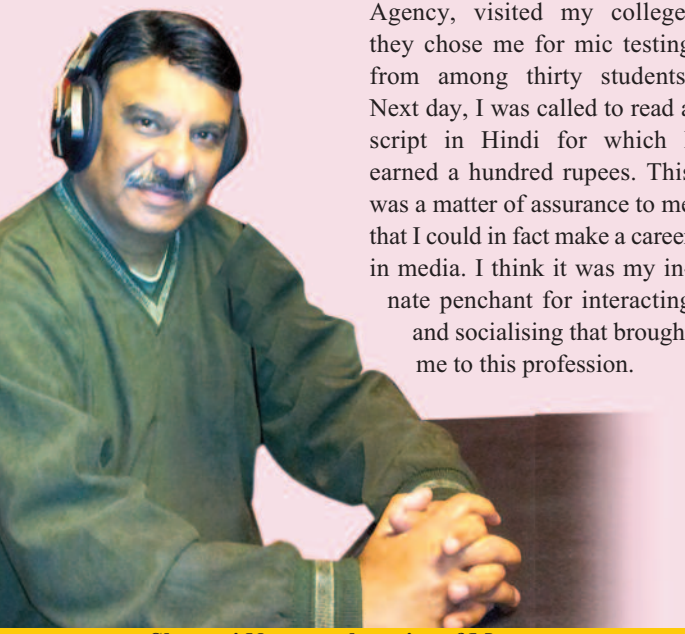
Practical tips for a career in voice-overs

- Strictly stay away from cold water.
- Practice 'Om' regularly.
- Speak clearly and in a low octave.
- Your vocabulary should be good.
- Observe everything you experience.
- Maintain at least 30-minute gap between eating and making an oratory presentation.

Fuelling passion in the youth

Learn to believe in your instincts and hone your talent painstakingly. Observe everything and everyone carefully, for each experience can teach you something. Every day, you will come across people who inspire you in the smallest of things. Feel those moments and use them to grow in whichever profession you choose.

The interview was conducted by Koyal Das, IX B; Ayushi Goel, XII C & Riddhi Rastogi, XI D; AIS Gurugram 43



Shammi Narang, the voice of Metro

Mauna Loa, in Hawaii, is the largest active volcano in the world and covers more than 50% of Hawaii Island.



Fiery facts

India This Week

Amishi Jain, AIS Mayur Vihar, X A

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.



Flap shell turtles rescued in Uttar Pradesh

News: In a recent incident, the UP Special Task Force seized about 1,300 Indian flap shell turtles from a truck in Kanpur. The seized turtles were being transported to West Bengal to be further smuggled across international borders- China, Thailand, Hong Kong and other Southeast Asian countries via Bangladesh and Myanmar, as stated by the STF official. The illegal trading involved a number of poachers who captured turtles from Etah, Etawah and Farrukhabad in Uttar Pradesh.

Views: Reportedly, India is among the top twenty countries infamous for the illegal wildlife contraband. Wildlife trade poses the second biggest direct threat to the survival of species following habitat destruction. While it is heartbreaking to hear about animal poaching time and again, the efforts being taken to protect the endangered species are indeed making a slow progress. It is high time to put an end to the practice of poaching and we need stricter laws as well as proper implementation of the same to protect wildlife species of our country.

Lavanya Jain, AIS MV, XII A



Glacier burst obliterates Uttarakhand

News: A destructive flood caused by glacier burst in Chamoli, Uttarakhand, has led to the displacement of a large chunk of people from their homes, along with the death of many. Believed to be a huge economic setback to Uttarakhand's

economy, the inundation has also caused the sweeping out of NTPC Hydel project. As of now, 26 bodies have been recovered while 171 people are yet to be found, out of which about 35 were expected to be found between debris and slush.

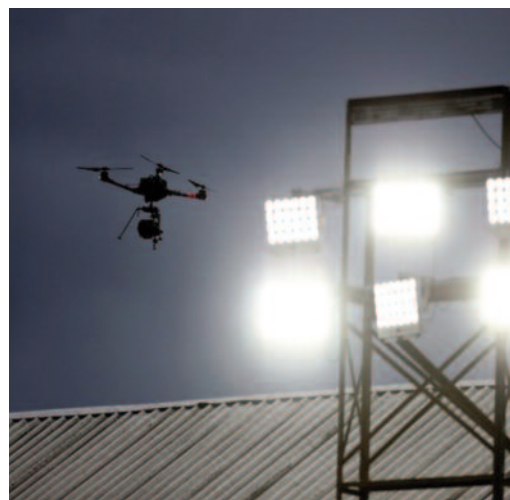
Views: After the devastating flood that ravaged the state back in 2013, this tragedy in fact is saddening. This calamity can be attributed to the man-made developments due to evident reasons like global warming, human interference with nature and construction of dams on a single river stream. Before going ahead with dam building projects, the concerned authorities must conduct a proper impact assessment including continued monitoring for a considerable period of time. As we keep obstructing the flow of river stream by constructing dams at every step, the nature in fury is bound to fight back through disasters.

Diya Jain, AIS MV, X A

BCCI to use drones to broadcast matches

News: The Ministry of Civil Aviation and Directorate General of Civil Aviation have made a conditional exception and sanctioned the Board of Control for Cricket in India for the deployment of drones to perform live aerial cinematography of the Indian Cricket Season in 2021. This permission will last till the 31st of December 2021. Although drones have been used earlier in 2017, it was only for security reasons or to analyse the pitch before commencing the game.

Views: After being cooped up in our houses for almost a year now, the oncoming cricket season brings a fresh wave of joy and liveliness along with itself for the Indian cricket fans. It is good to see that the drone trend is evolving from mining, agriculture and disaster mitigating to something recreational as sports. Since this is an exemption, everyone associated with this decision must ensure strict adherence to the rules laid out



by the government. Apart from that, it is an achievement for a country like ours that worships cricket as a sport.

Alina Ahmad, AIS MV, X C



Migratory birds visit Himachal sanctuary

News: Himachal Pradesh witnessed the arrival of over one lakh migratory birds at the Pong Dam Lake Wildlife Sanctuary this winter. Including 1,08,578 birds of 96 species, the bird count was conducted under restrained conditions due to the outbreak of Avian influenza, i.e., bird flu. According to Forest Minister, Rakesh Pathania, the total population of birds as well as number of species counted this year is marginally less as compared to last year.

Views: It is a matter of fact that migratory birds hold a vast ecological importance. Apart from this, they invite major tourist attraction every season, along with making for an eye pleasing experience for ornithologists and bird watchers. Albeit the influenza has contributed to the death of many migratory birds in this course, it is a much needed cause of relief that the government's timely intervention has brought down the impact of the deadly virus.

Divya Upadhyay, AIS MV, X A

Around The WORLD

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



USA

Sanctions on Myanmar coup

President Joe Biden approved sanctions on the leaders of Myanmar's recent military coup. The sanctions will focus majorly on the military figures who led the coup along with the members of their family and related businesses. Along with the imposing of sanctions, Joe Biden also announced the imposition of export controls as well as freezing of all the US assets that benefit the government in Myanmar.

GHANA

Parliament suspended

Following a surge in coronavirus cases in the country, the parliament has been suspended for at least 3 weeks. About 17 members of the parliament, along with 151 staffers and workers, have tested positive for COVID-19. The country has recorded over 73,003 cases and 482 deaths since the outbreak last year along with a number of strain variants including the UK COVID-19 variant.



POLAND

Media blackout to protest tax

Private media channels, newspaper agencies, and radio stations observed a blackout as a sign of protest against a new tax introduced by the government. The new tax plans to impose heavy taxes on advertising revenues of television and radio broadcasters, print outlets and internet media companies, barring state media. Media groups claim that this tax would restrict the pluralism of media and freedom of expression.



BOLIVIA

Healthcare workers on strike

Over hundreds of workers marched the streets of Santa Cruz to protest against the lack of strict measures by the government to contain the spread of COVID-19. Demanding the imposition of lockdown, stay-at-home orders and halting of public transport, healthcare workers, barring emergency workers and hospitals treating COVID patients, launched a 48-hour strike suspending all medical procedures.



SOUTH KOREA

Free COVID tests for pets

The capital city of Seoul has started to provide free COVID-19 tests for cats and dogs that show symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, cough, and other breathing problems. According to government officials, pets who test positive for coronavirus must be isolated in a separate space away from kids and the elderly, and direct contact with the infected animal must be avoided.



UAE

Probe enters Mars orbit

The gulf nation's spacecraft 'Hope' entered the Mars orbit, making UAE the fifth country to successfully reach the Red Planet after the US, Russia, China and India. The probe, which is also UAE's first Mars mission, exited Earth almost seven months ago and has been designed to conduct a deep study on Mars's atmosphere. It will gather scientific data on how neutral atoms of hydrogen and oxygen, scattered remains of Mars' water, leak into space.



Eyjafjallajökull volcano in Iceland has an ice cap covering its caldera.

Read NCERT religiously

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 Alumnus’, where star performers from AICE will share tips and tricks to put an end to all the nervousness and fear associated with entrance exams. Read on...



AMITY
LUMNUS

great guideline about what to expect in the exams.

How did you manage regular studies and prep-ups for competitive exams?

Regular studies should be seen as a part of competitive exam preparations. They are not different from each other. The earlier you learn to integrate them, the easier these two crucial years (Class XI & XII) become. I solved CBSE assignments just like I solved practice tests. This helps clear basic concepts and increases efficiency and speed, both of which are crucial in an exam like NEET.

Are there some preparation strategies to crack NEET?

Read NCERT religiously and give enough time to your weakest subject. Finally, it is the aggregate score that will determine your rank.

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

It totally depends on the individual. It’s vital, however, that they do not fall for false propaganda being promoted by several coaching institutes. Students should first ensure that their basic concepts are strong and only then should they start preparing for competitive exams.

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

Study hard but also have fun. These two years will be tough but manage your workload effectively, and these might become the most memorable years of your life.

Rapid fire

One word to describe...
Your alma mater: Amazing
The motto of your life: Memento Vivere
Your passion: Medicine
Yourself: Focused

Name: Kavin Adlakha
AICE Batch: 2019-2020
AICE Programme: Accelerated Synchro Studies
Currently pursuing: MBBS
College/University: Government Institute of Medical Sciences, Greater Noida

How did your journey for NEET begin?

I started preparing for NEET from Class XI, unlike most of my friends who had begun a year earlier. I preferred to focus first on Class X Board examinations and started thinking about NEET only once the Board exams were over.

How did you prepare for NEET?

NCERT is the most important source material for NEET preparation. I ensured, I knew everything that was given in NCERT. I also solved previous years’ question papers, studied advanced topics from study packages and revised all my class notes from Synchro Classes.

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

AICE played a big role to help me crack NEET. The faculty was brilliant. They explained concepts coherently and their test papers were also a



Lifestyle and academics

Let’s Begin With Switching From Unhealthy To Healthy

Raaginee D Turki
AIS Vasundhara 1, XI A

Have you ever woken up in the morning and felt lethargic? Almost, every day. However, this feeling tends to disappear immediately as you’re presented with your favourite mummy ke haath ka parantha. Post eating which, you feel more alive, alert and oriented. Why does this happen, you ask? Read on to know more on these tested formulae that make healthy lifestyle a huge possibility for all!

Mummy’s dabba > Junk

A Norwegian study for children between 13-18 years of age reported that those who ate a healthy breakfast, had a high intake of fruits and vegetables, and were high on physical activity; also associated with increased odds of high academic achievement, upping it by 1.37 times. So, kids, remember- a regular meal pattern comes first and anything else for that matter

comes second, if you aspire for good marks that is! Contrariwise, those kids with a lack of nutrition, a higher intake of junk food (sweetened beverages, and salty food), and an irregular breakfast pattern were found to have low academic levels, with the youngest being subjected to a stunted mental and physical development. Well, now you know why you feel groggy the entire day post that two-minute Maggi breakfast!

Deep sleep > Late night shenanigans

A research group in Canada found out that those children who spent less time on their phones or other high-tech electronics like laptops, video games, tablets etc., got a proper sound sleep. For screen light from such devices mimics daytime; it delays melatonin release by several hours and disrupts our body clock, leaving us hormonally imbalanced and thus, sleep deprived. In addition to this, they overload our sensory

system, fracturing attention and causing unwanted stress. Additionally, the concentration level of children becomes less while attending classes and even the capability of understanding concepts sees a major drop. So, here’s a free advice - It still isn’t too late to listen to your parents! Go, hurry up and ditch that typing, tapping and swiping now! Don’t be wired and tired, sleep well and unshell!

For a good breakfast cannot be substituted by chips and burgers; physical exercise cannot be swapped with PubG and Fortnite; and no matter what, a good night’s beauty sleep cannot be replaced by a late-night Netflix binge. The sooner you realise, the better! So, the next time you don’t eat your tiffin or you feel the urge to eat a pizza, opt for a healthier approach. Otherwise, you might just end up falling into the pit of remorse and discontent, and well, it might take us a long time to derive a formula for that!

Privilege or distraction

An Earnest Look At The Pitfalls Of The Modern Day Technological Advancements

Kanu Garg, AIS Gur 43, Alumna

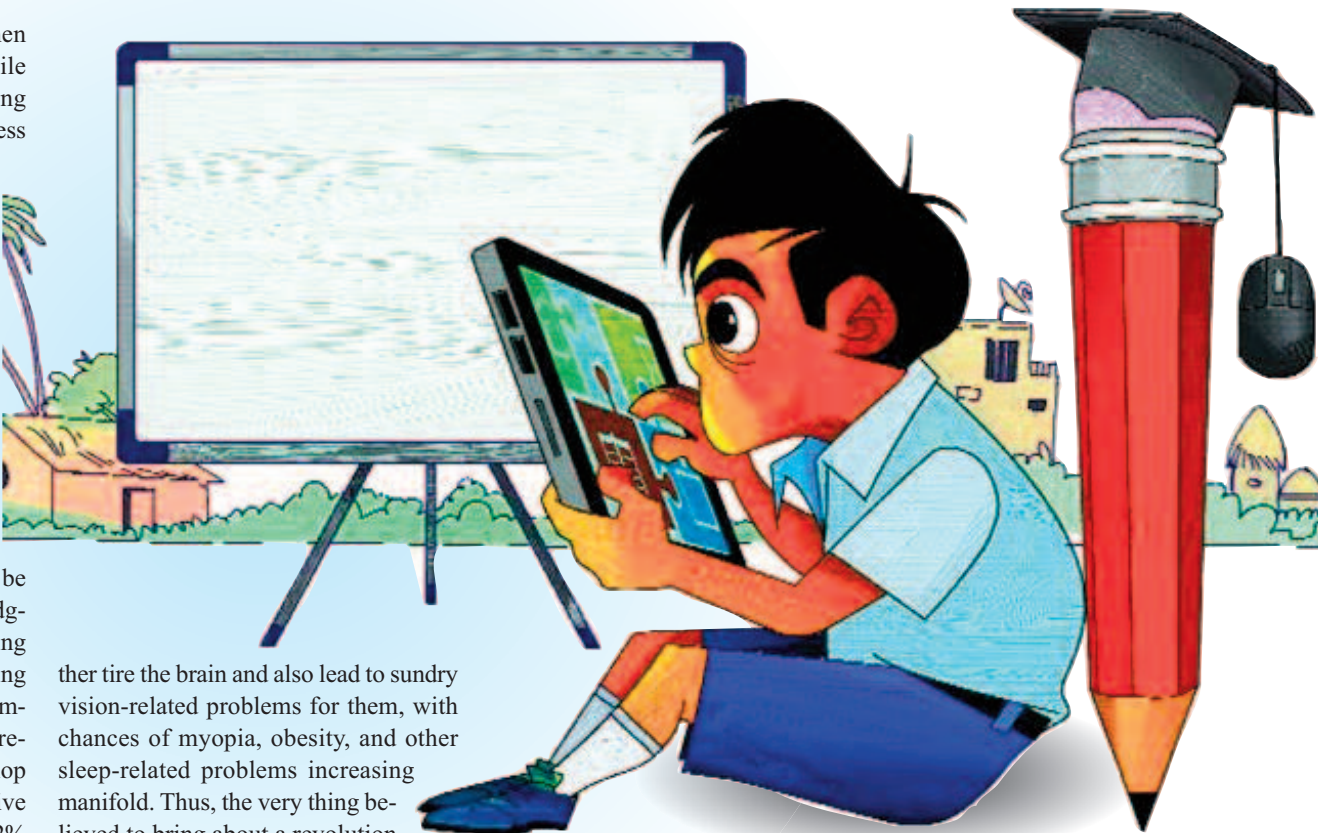
Our world on the brink of a technological revolution, is a fact well-known. Whether this revolution is the be-all or the end-all of this constantly evolving world is something we humans need to figure out before humanity capsizes, never to return, in the bottomless chasm of despair and melancholia. No, we aren’t exaggerating, not even a bit. Driven by the principle of ‘the more, the merrier’, we humans are trying our hands at anything and everything, be it a driverless car or a remote-controlled house, to facilitate and further enhance our way of living. But is it worth all the hype? Or are all our efforts actually going down the drain? The hard truth is that the more privileged we are or the more access we have, the more we are distracted and go wide off the mark.

A look at how these gadgets “revolutionise” (read: detract) the way our children receive education today would make the whole debate even more limpid. A survey in 2015 found out that 91% children own or have access to a smartphone by the age of 12. Pop up info- There is absolutely no legal guid-

ance for a parent to determine when their child may be ready for a mobile phone, while there’s one for driving though. Ask yourself- Is the former less significant? No or no?

In 2018, Daily Mail reported that 29% toddlers can easily use the gadgets, and the remaining 70% master the art, if that is what we think it is, by primary school, and that an average child spends about 8 hours a day watching electronic screens like laptops, tablets, etc. Well, it does not just end here! As they grow older, this usage increases simultaneously.

This apparent luxurious access, be it for education or otherwise, proves to be a burden rather than a boon. With gadgets and increased amount of time being spent on them, students are developing conditions like ADHD, etc., which hamper their abilities for life. A survey reported that about 37% students develop a shorter attention span due to excessive technological usage, and that about 42% students deal with withdrawal-like symptoms, ranging from distress to confusion and isolation, when separated from their gadgets for long. The blue light rays of these electronic devices fur-



ther tire the brain and also lead to sundry vision-related problems for them, with chances of myopia, obesity, and other sleep-related problems increasing manifold. Thus, the very thing believed to bring about a revolution in the education sector is actually rocking it to its foundation. With the times we are living in today, the pandemic and the consequent shift to the virtual world, the fallout is even more

execrable and lamentable.

The question thus doesn’t come down to the restricted use of technology, but to how we let it control us. Are we really going to roll over and play dead? Or are

we ‘woke’ enough to understand its repercussions if we are aware that being privileged might not mean being privileged at all? In fact, sometimes it might mean the very opposite. 🇮🇳

Mount Vesuvius is an active volcano in Italy located only 9 km away from the city of Naples.



Innovation: The GAIT Walkers

Innovators:

• Manogya Kabra, AIS Noida, Alumnus (Batch of 2019-20); currently studying CSE (Computer Science Engineering) in Manipal University, Jaipur, Sem 1
• Shivam Agrawal, AIS Noida, Alumnus (Synchro batch of 2019-20); currently studying CSE (Computer Science Engineering) in IIT Delhi, Sem 1

Mentors: Akansha Gupta (PGT Chemistry), Sushma Tyagi (TGT Science), Divya Asri (PGT Biology) & Dr Suman Kapur (senior professor, BITS Pilani)

Pro@Project

Stuti Kalra, GT Network

The gait watcher

Diagnosing And Detecting Diabetic Foot Using Sole Of The Shoe



Manogya and Shivam with their project



The duo with their mentor teachers

Manogya Kabra, all of 14, was waiting in the lobby of a hospital when he saw a patient walk in with a heavily bandaged foot. He walked, rather dragged himself with much difficulty. He had come to get his bandage replaced, a routine, he followed every second day. Curious, he asked the limping boy about his unfortunate accident. Much to his surprise, he got to know that the foot was not the result of an accident but the repercussions of a case of out-of-control or mismanaged diabetes. A disturbed Manogya reached home and called his friend Shivam and together they searched more about the 'diabetic foot' condition online.

The starting point: Diabetic foot, as they came to know, is a serious rising medical condition all over the world, causing nearly one person to lose a limb every twenty seconds. They realised that detection of a diabetic foot at an early stage is very difficult as the disease causes the nervous system of the feet to be paralysed or destroyed, making the person unable to feel any sort of ulcer formation. The statistics revealed that the lifetime risk of developing a diabetic

foot ulcer (DFU) is at least 25%, and it carries a 50% risk of infection and 20% chances of the patient needing some form of amputation. Every 1 in 5 cases results in an amputation. The duo set on researching more and more, gaining all the insights they could, and when they finally had enough data, it was time for some action.

The warm up: In their research, they realised that the primary reason for people suffering from DFU is late diagnosis. Many people realised the problem too late for anything to be done about it. So, the team thought, "Why not create something that helps in its detection?" The goal was set - create a diagnostic tool that could detect conditions like DFU at an early stage so that precautions could be taken and further damage could be prevented. The noteworthy mentors were contacted - Akansha Gupta (PGT Chemistry), Sushma Tyagi (TGT Science), Divya Asri (PGT Biology), and Dr Suman Kapur (senior professor, BITS Pilani), who consistently fostered their scientific and innovative spirits and left no stones unturned in providing them with all the required

guidance 24/7.

The duo presented their project for the first time in Vasudha Science exhibition, a science platform provided by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, an initiative to kindle the innate scientific temperament of students, where they brainstormed and developed solutions to the existing problem

Awards & Recognitions

- Third position at Ramanujan, an annual inter-school mathematics competition organised by AIS Noida on December 22, 2017
- First position at CBSE National Science Exhibition held from February 8-9, 2019
- National level winners at Jawaharlal Nehru National Science, Mathematics and Environmental Exhibition, organised by NCERT from October 15-20, 2019
- National level finalists at IRIS National Fair from January 22-24, 2020, organised by Exstemplar Education Linkers Foundation
- Ranked amongst top 15 at Innovation and Futuristic Prototype International Challenge, organised by IIC-SMIT, Dec-Jan 2021
- Semi-finalists at Together'21, organised by Startup India and Schulich School of Business, January 4-10, 2021

The race: The team conducted various interactions with experts all over the world, online and offline, multiple research sessions even after the initial study, and followed the guidance of their mentors. With research and mentoring from experts they were able to conclude that the amount of pressure exerted by the foot of a healthy person and by the foot of a person affected by DFU differed, which nudged them towards using the scientific pressure of foot for their diagnostic tool. By calculating the difference between the amount of the pressure exerted by both the feet, the duo could deduce and monitor the growth rate of the ulcer. If a significant difference in the pressure was detected, it would alert the user by notifying how much pressure they are currently exerting and how much they should, urging them to seek medical help if the pressure was way above the needed line. A cost-effective, simple yet extremely useful method, foot pressure, as Manogya and Shivam found out, changes according to the fitness level of the person. To help deduce the illness, they settled on creating a shoe sole with sensor points that could detect the foot pressure.

The finishing line: As the scientific innovation of a sensory shoe sole worked on analysing foot pressure, an app was also created as its companion which would aid the user in collating all the readings of the shoe sole, comparing it with what's normal, and also advise them to visit the doctor when need be. The team built a custom layout to be placed under the foot in the sole. Using pressure sensors and a microcontroller, pressure readings are transmitted to the app on a smartphone which would analyse the data and report back to the user. The final product created by the team consisted of the aforementioned shoe sole with custom pressure sensors that operate on a battery and microcontroller, and an app to be downloaded on a smartphone. Their smart innovation would provide this diagnosis to healthcare professionals who can act on the findings and reduce the future risks and diseases that would have occurred if the condition went unnoticed. As Manogya and Shivam excel in their innovation, they are currently in talks with Startup India to convert their project into a full-scale startup, and have also applied for a patent for the same. 🇮🇳

Razed to the ground

Continued from page 1...

Rwanda

Bouncing back to green

Many countries in Africa, including Rwanda, faced an alarming rate of deforestation. In 2009, total forest cover stood at ten per cent, but with continuous governmental efforts, the figure went up to twenty-two per cent. By 2019, Rwanda succeeded in increasing the country's forest cover to thirty per cent and is continuing its efforts to further push the trend of recovering forest cover. The country's National Forest Policy takes into account the pivotal role of forests in the livelihood of the citizens, through food security and poverty alleviation, and seeks to vehemently protect its natural forests. Forest cover in Rwanda currently occupy 724,695 hectares of the total land area and out of this, 130,850 hectares are natural forest. The country currently has 708,629 hectares of land under restoration as a part of the Bonn Challenge, a global goal to bring 26 million

hectares of degraded and deforested land under restoration by 2030. *Here's hoping Rwanda's green initiatives act as a catalyst for global change.*

India

An eco-champion

Almost 300 million tribal and local forest communities depend upon India's forest ecosystems for their livelihood. The country's forest cover currently stands at 24.56 per cent of the total geographical area and continued efforts are in process to bring at least thirty-three per cent of its area under forest cover by 2022 to meet its climate commitments. Through important policies undertaken by the government such as National Mission on Green India, National Afforestation Programme and Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act and several plantation drives all across the country, the target is on point. Furthermore, under the Bonn Challenge, India has committed to restoring approxi-

mately 21 million hectares (mha) of degraded and deforested forest areas by the year 2022. India is on the path to accomplish its ambitious goals, something which can only be done through proper conservation and harnessing of the ecological resources that the country's flourishing forests have to offer. *Here's hoping India's continuous efforts to be an eco-ally bring about a paradigm shift in the rest of the world.*

Singapore

Compensating for loss

Rapid development often brings barren lands along with it and the same can be seen in Singapore. Between the 1950s to late 2010s, Singapore lost almost ninety per cent of its mangrove forests, dropping down from 63.4 sq. kms to 8.1 sq. km, owing to urbanisation and other human activities. To add to that, almost ninety-seven per cent of the country's natural forests have been cut down for

the same reason. Looking to reverse the damage, the government is planning the launch of the Sungei Buloh Park Network, a 400-hectare park which will act as a conservatory site for migratory birds and other animal species. This park is a part of a bigger plan, called the One Million Trees project, which has been undertaken by the Singaporean government to plant one million trees by the year 2030. Additionally, the country is also turning its industry infrastructure into natural landscapes in a bid to 'green' the city. *Here's hoping Singapore's measures to restore its landscapes is an inspiration to many.*

Our forests are our survival and their constant depletion is a matter of grave concern. To truly be sustainable, we must find a way for development and nature to coexist in a symbiotic relationship that harms neither. Until then, we must not let the green of the dollar overshadow the green of nature.





Mount Nyiragongo in the Democratic Republic of Congo has one of the largest lava lakes inside its main crater.

One innings over

Time To Start Another One, As Is The Case With Some Of Our Retired Cricketers

Devesh Pasari
AIS Gurugram 46, XI

Cricket – a game that runs in the veins of every Indian citizen, and our World Cup winning cricketers are no less than an embodiment of God for us, but what happens when the bat and ball are left behind on the field and the players move on with their life? Let’s trace the story of some of our finest cricketers who embarked on unique journeys after ending their innings in the game.

S. Sreesanth: Once considered as one of the finest bowlers of the Indian Cricket team, Sreesanth cost himself his

whole career after being involved in spot-fixing in IPL 2013, for which he was sentenced with a life-time ban from Indian Cricket. Since then, Sreesanth tried his foot in entertainment industry; he acted in Bollywood and Malayalam movies, and even participated in four reality TV shows like Big Boss, Fear Factor: Khatron Ke Khiladi, etc. Not just so, but he also tried the political road by joining BJP. With BBICI recently reducing his sentence to mere 7 years, we can only anticipate whether he will join the Indian cricket team once again or will stay in front of the camera.

Sandeep Patil: A retired batsman and an occasional bowler, Sandeep Patil

had a successful cricket career. Even after his retirement, he took on various roles like Indian national age group cricket manager, Kenya national team coach, director of National Cricket Academy, etc. But cricket wasn’t enough for him, and he too, went a different way. Trying his luck in Bollywood, he debuted in the movie ‘Kabhie Ajnabi The’ on the big screen which didn’t go well, and so he turned to small screen with ‘Taste Match’, a cooking cum talk show. He also worked as an editor for ‘Ekach Shatkar’, a Marathi sports magazine which was once known as the bestselling sports magazine in Maharashtra.

Andrew Flintoff: One of the finest all-rounders of international cricket, Flintoff had a complicated relationship with cricket. Even after being amongst the top international players and having served both as the Captain and Vice Capital of England Cricket Team, he had to let go of various critical matches and dabbled in and out of retirement because of health issues. Truly being an all-rounder, he explored the avenues of professional boxing after his cricket days were over. He was also involved in various other projects like designing his own fashion range, being the brand ambassador of Jacamo, winning the first series of the Australian TV Show ‘I’m A Celebrity... Get Me Out

Of Here’, being part of ‘Sky One’s’ sports-based comedy panel show, and also being a presenter for BBC motoring show ‘Top Gear’.

Navjot Singh Sidhu: No one has probably made more use of their retirement than Navjot Singh Sidhu. A once professional cricketer with a career spanning over 19 years, he became just as famous for his laughter and *shayaris* amongst Indian audience. Turning to commentary, judging comedy shows, participating in reality TV shows, and even acting, he left no stone unturned. Also turning to politics, he became a member of both Bharatiya Janata Party and Indian National Congress.

All these role models stand as a testimony to the fact that just because one innings of your life is over, it doesn’t mean you cannot start another. Instead of putting a full stop, we should all learn from them the power and importance of always keeping oneself busy and chasing new passions.



The judgement day

Types Of Students We Encounter On Result Day

Prisha Nigam, AIS Gur 43, IX C

Nail-biting tension, endless nights of anticipation accompanied with endless calculations of ‘expected marks’ – sums up a result day. Every student goes through this phase while waiting for their exam results. And howsoever nerve-wrecking situation this might seem, it also brings with it a certain kind of excitement and joy, because who knows, after all the cribbing of not having studied for the test properly, you might even end up topping the class. Now that being said, we bring you an assortment of students with their peculiar emotions on the D-day!

Praising the lord...
Reciting prayers 24/7, making back-end deals with God, promising to serve 100 *laddoos* in the temple- that’s how such students ensure 80 percent. They are the ones who decorate every page of their answer sheet with *Jai Mata Di*, and place their faith in the Almighty, forgetting about everything else. They forget that maybe, just maybe, they should’ve studied day and night for the exam. And yes, the ones belonging to this category do not kickstart their exam day without a dose of *dahi-cheeni*, not to forget tying red *kalawa*

around their wrists because *bhagwaan ka saath nahi toh bas fir kuch nahi*.

Nothing is enough...
Oh, literally nothing is enough to describe this kind. The discontented, the disappointed, and well, always in discord with their teacher about their marks. Not even a staggering 98 marks out of 100 are enough for them, because they had been expecting a 101. This unsatisfied brigade or batch will always try and point out every detail in the answer sheet to get those extra 2 marks, and there’s no appeasing that!

Contentment is key...
Yes, for most of you who are reading this in bafflement, such students do exist. As they observe the aforementioned cribbing over the extra 2 marks that the teacher won’t give them, these students are as placid as one can ever be. This lot is happy with whatever marks the teacher gives them because they know that there’s no point crying over spilt milk.

Just getting by...
“Why score 98 percent, when you can easily get promoted to the next class by fetching half of it?” is what students of this kind think. Mainly spotted in the backbench of every classroom, they are

a little similar to their predecessors, only that nothing can ever scare them. All they need is to get to the next grade by simply scoring passing marks. Ask them what they think about the topper, and hear them asking, “who is the topper, anyway?”

Better luck next time...
Well, these are the ones who repeatedly pledge to work hard in the next term, at least that’s what they pretend in front of their parents. Students belonging to this category make plenty of plans of how they will study even more devotedly and make extra notes of every class in order to score better marks next time. But as they say, promises are meant to be broken. It is not long before their enthusiasm dies down and is back to square one.

On top of them all...
The students who belong to this kind, already plan to get their answer sheets framed as soon as they reach home. They are the *drums roll* toppers. Needless to say, being at the top for almost every exam, they have nothing to fear. For them, every exam is a cake walk because they keep their mind and eyes open while attending the classes and do not miss even the minutest of information shared by the teacher. 🇮🇳



The Mount Fuji volcano in Japan is a stratovolcano and also the tallest peak in the country.



Green Steps



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Last week, as the flash floods in Chamoli made news, I could not help but worry about the current state of events. The floods were after all another grim reminder of the nation's mountain ecosystem that has been ignored far too long in the wake of tourism and infrastructural projects. It is indeed disturbing to see water, the very element that saves life, take away so many precious lives.

Every time nature unleashes its fury upon us, it sends out a strong message- a message to save her. To say that this message is completely overlooked would be untrue. For environmentalists and governments across the world are re-examining and finding ways in which high-altitude and other sensitive zones can coexist with developmental projects. The top story of this edition highlights a multitude of eco-friendly initiatives being taken by countries globally to increase their green cover.

At the same time, there are stories of selfless individuals who are working tirelessly to save the environment. In fact, it was heartening to see several people being conferred with the Padma awards this year for their work in this field.

While efforts are being made to save mother Earth, the question remains - are we doing enough? With the pace of destruction being much higher than the pace of conservation, a lot more still needs to be done. One need not take to the streets and create digital campaigns all the time. Simply adopting the 3Rs (reuse, reduce and recycle) on a daily basis will go a long way in protecting the nature that nurtures us. The Chamoli incident is a loud message from the all-powerful nature that we must become more responsible in our thoughts, actions and deeds. Let's walk the green talk. [G](#) [T](#)

Responsible Tourism



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

We often use the terms 'tourist' and 'traveller' interchangeably, but to those who care about indigenous culture and local customs, there shall always remain a perceptive difference between the two. While a tourist, much like a strong wind, leaves behind a trail

of trash and creates havoc; a traveller is like a gentle breeze, who makes the effort to blend in with the locals. What is happening instead, in today's selfie-driven culture, is that everyone wants to be known as an adventurer. An example being of those who are taking helicopter rides to Mt Everest with the aim of certifying themselves as mountaineers, even though they may not have climbed a single rock in their lives! The fallout? Everest is much more littered than ever before. In other scenic places, trees are being cut and mountains are being mined to accommodate the demands of such 'tourists'. Is it any wonder that nature retaliates with fury and despair?

The recent floods in Chamoli made me ponder on whether our mountains are bleeding because of irresponsible tourism. As travellers, it is our responsibility to form soulful bonds with the flora and fauna in every place we visit. Instead of focusing on buying souvenirs, let's leave behind souvenirs for other travellers and locals alike. A case in point being the initiative of planting trees by tourists visiting the national park of Utah. If every traveller takes one such responsible step to restore what they may have unknowingly destroyed, nature will smile again and our mountains will stand tall with pride. [G](#) [T](#)

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Apne budget mein hai!

Breaking Down The Newly Announced Indian Union Budget

Resham Talwar

AIS Saket, XII C

From being known as the *Sone Ki Chiddiya* to undergoing massive economic slowdowns, India has been at the cusp of unparalleled growth while facing risks and grabbing opportunities in its voyage of achieving economic stability. As a financially-literate generation, we understand the budget's significance in ensuring that the benefits of the nation's progress touch every inch of life. Let us delve deeper into this year's budget and understand the manifold ways in which it would impact us.

Becoming of the budget

This year's union budget rests on six pillars: Health and wellbeing, infrastructure, inclusive growth, human capital, research and development, and minimum government and maximum governance. It builds upon the new systems and policies brought in place during the pandemic while emphasising on India's long-term vision of success.

Understanding what is new

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman used a 'Made in India' tablet to deliver India's first paperless Union budget. In the wake of the economic slowdown caused by the Coronavirus, this budget comes as a beacon of hope and revival for all the sectors. In this year's budget, for the first time globally, social security benefits will be extended to all sections of workers.

Dealing with the major issues

2021 is the year to overcome the terror wrecked by the pandemic, so keeping this in mind, our budget allocated 35,000 crore INR towards the vaccination plan. The finance minister



launched Aatmanirbhar Swastha Bharat Yojana, an extension to the National Health Mission which aims to develop all levels of the healthcare system within six years. For the education sector, the Higher Education Commission of India will be established which will oversee the implementation of the National Education Policy.

Gearing up for a growing economy

Our nation continues to strive towards becoming a 5 trillion USD economy by 2025. The finance minister highlighted the manufacturing industry's importance in this endeavour and announced the government's commitment to the production-linked incentive scheme, mandating that women will be allowed

to work in all categories including night-shifts with adequate protection.

Easing the burden

The Union budget contributes to PM's vision of *Aatmanirbhar Bharat* with its provisions for strengthening APMC mandis through Agri Infrastructure Fund. The One Nation One Ration Card scheme announced will allow migrants and other beneficiaries to claim rations anywhere in the country, mitigating their worries.

To taxes and a thriving economy

From tax incentivisation for new start-ups to no-ITR Filing for citizens aged above 75, our budget proposed several taxing reforms. In order to incentivise

digital transactions and reduce compliance burden, relief is offered to digitally-transacting companies while raising tax audits' limit. Exempting custom duties and allocating funds towards strengthening MSMEs will bring great relief to many segments of our economy.

Writer's note: *It is surprising that people pay up to 37% of their hard-earned income towards taxes, yet they fail to understand where their hard-earned money is going. Perhaps, this write-up will help them understand the impact of the taxes they pay every year, giving them a sense of satisfaction that it is being utilised to achieve economic equity for all.* [G](#) [T](#)

Changing philosophies

Pearls of wisdom

Kasak Jain, AGS Gurugram, X

It is often said that 'Be the change you want to be'. But the question is how? The very base of our identity are the morals and principles deeply embedded in us. When we talk about changing ourselves, we are inadvertently talking about changing these values. Questioning them is to question ourselves and accept the fact that we have been living our life the wrong way all this time. Surely, it is difficult, but change is the path that takes us forward in life. Yet, instead of doing so, we take the easier route. We twist the definitions of our morals to suit our needs. We create new understandings of the same principles to solve our current problems. We make these changes while living in denial and being dishonest with ourselves. Due to this, our conscious mind becomes unreliable to the subconscious thoughts and actions. This unreliability and imbalance causes an unhealthy state of mind. For, when it comes to questioning, realisation plays a major role. In this modern world, we expect



change but the irony is one cannot change. It is because we take actions without realisation, we expect change without the realisation of what it is and how one can do so in a healthy way. To conclude, it is necessary to question one's principles from time to

time. It is important to not be judgmental but open-minded and accept the change in one's actions. Remember, change is the only constant in life! And each one of us changes ourselves according to the situations that occur in our life from time to time. [G](#) [T](#)



Issue: P1, February 8, 2021

Dear Editor,
This is in reference to the article 'Indian toy story' on page 1 published in the GT edition dated February 8, 2021. As a child, I was always curious about the 'Made in China' tag stitched onto the sides of the toys I had. I remember being confused about why I had toys which were made in a different country when India itself was a wellspring of art and craft, with abounding creativity carved into its myriad cultures. It has been intriguing to see India's development into one of the foremost figures in the toy industry, especially with the upcoming virtual National Toy Fair. Moreover, the glimpse that the article provides into the various avenues that toys touch upon is definitely enlightening, proving to us readers that toys are more than just mere pieces of wood and plastic. [G](#) [T](#)

Aastha Vij, AIS Vas 1, X A



Kawah Ijen volcano in Indonesia spews blue lava due to high levels of sulphur.

HISTORY this WEEK

Weeks, 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 February 15-21 that played their role in shaping our society.

The world of inventions

FEB 15 1972 Willem Johan Kolff, also known as the Father of Artificial Organs, attained patent for his soft shell mushroom-shaped artificial heart, later known as Jarvik-7. Many similar inventions took place before it, but Kolff's Jarvik-7, in 1982, became the first artificial heart in human history to be successfully implanted in a human patient, more precisely, the Seattle dentist Dr Barney Clark. He survived for a total of 112 days on the artificial heart. Subsequent patients saw further successes: the second patient, for instance, lived for 620 days post implantation.



FEB 19 1878 American inventor Thomas Edison obtained patent for the phonograph, the first device to mechanically record and reproduce sound. While working on improvements on his ongoing work in telegraphy and telephony, Edison coincidentally figured out a way to record sound on spinning, tinfoil-coated cylinders, which ultimately lead to the discovery of the phonograph, which, in its later forms, was termed as gramophone. He, along with his mechanic, John Kreusi, worked on the invention and developed a working model for the same in the year 1877.



The world of celebration

FEB 18 259 BC Qin Shi Huang, Founder of the Qin dynasty and the first emperor of a unified China, was born in Handan. At the young age of 38, after having conquered all of the other warring states, Qin unified all of China by 221 BC. And instead of retaining the title of 'King', borne by the previous Shang and Zhou rulers, he ruled as the 'First Emperor' of the Qin dynasty from 221 BC to 210 BC. His self-invented title further continued to be borne by Chinese rulers for the next two millennia.



The world of entertainment



FEB 16 1954 Television station WNET-TV (virtual channel 5), founded by the North Eastern Michigan Cooperation, began broadcasting as an NBC affiliate. With the slogan 'Coverage you can count on', the station's early programming included 'Chester the Clown', 'Hoss 'n' Stuff', etc., as some of its notable works. With its studios in a rented space in Flint originally, the station in mid 1980s moved to their current location in Saginaw. It was sold to its current owner Meredith Cooperation in 1969.



FEB 17 1904 The original two-act version of Giacomo Puccini's Opera 'Madama Butterfly' was premiered at La Scalla Theatre in Milan. Based on John Luther Long's acclaimed short story 'Madame Butterfly', a piece inspired by the stories told to Long by his sister Jennie Correll, the opera reflected the theme of living and dying for love. Owing to its disastrous public response initially, Puccini re-wrote the opera in three acts, making it one of the world's most performed works of musical theatre ever.



FEB 21 1965 The Jackson 5, an American pop band composed members of the Jackson family, namely Jackie, Tito, Jermaine, Marlon and Michael, made its debut. The band initially performed in clubs and talent shows on the 'Chitlin' Circuit', before working with big record labels including Steeltown and Epic. Believed to have sold more than 100 million records worldwide, their earliest releases include songs like 'I want you back', 'I'll be there', 'ABC' etc., all of which earned them number one spot on the Billboard Hot 100.

The world of politics



FEB 15 1879 The 19th American President Rutherford B. Hayes ratified a bill enabling female attorneys to advocate before any federal court, even the apex court, the Supreme Court, of the United States. According to the act, any woman who had been a member of the bar of the highest court of a state or territory for three years or more, and was a person of good moral character, could be admitted to practice law. Belya Lockwood, in 1880, became the first female attorney to advocate before the US Supreme Court.



FEB 18 1972 In a historic 6-to-1 vote, death penalty for criminals was ruled as unconstitutional in the State of California. Deemed as cruel and inhumane, capital punishment was replaced with life imprisonment, barring the case of Sirhan B Sirhan, accused assassin of Robert F Kennedy; Charles Manson, a cult leader, and John Frazier, a mass murderer. Justice Marshal McComb, the only dissenter then, believed death penalty as a deterrent to rising crime and a necessity to curb it further.

The world of sports



FEB 20 1953 Sustaining the 25-year-old Supreme Court ruling, US Court of Appeals declared organised baseball as a sport and not a business. The ruling dismissed the 300,000 USD antitrust suits of both, the owner of El Paso Texans, Jack Corbett and the Brooklyn Dodgers minor league, Walter Kowalski. The suit by Corbett was owing to the money he lost when Major League Baseball prohibited him from signing several players suspended for participation in Mexican league. Kowalski based his 150,000 USD suit on general principles of antitrust and restraint-of-trade laws.



FEB 17 2018 Acclaimed Czech skier Ester Ledecka won the super-G gold medal of Alpine Skiing at the 2018 Pyeong Chang Winter Olympic Games held at Jeongseon Alpine Centre, South Korea. Finishing the race in a historic 1 minute and 21 seconds, she defeated Anna Veith of Austria and Tina Weirather of Liechtenstein to become the gold medalist.



Mayon Volcano in the Philippines is known as the “Perfect Cone” because of its almost perfect cone shape.



Fiery facts

The labyrinth of death

Imaging: Pankaj Mallik, GT Network

Storywala



Muskaan Arora, AIS PV, XII

With the summer vacations nearly over, both Riya and her brother Sam were doing their best to enjoy every single moment to the fullest, dreading the day the school was to be reopened. To have as much fun as they could, the duo decided to go to the newly opened amusement park in their town with their friends - Adi and Jasmine. All four of them made their way to their destination, and soon enough, they had enjoyed every single ride of the park.

After hours of exploring and roaming around in the park, Adi

stopped and pointed at a sign. ‘The labyrinth of death’, it read. But a poster beneath it read ‘Only adults allowed!’ “Let’s go!” cried Riya. “Can’t you read the sign? Only adults are allowed and we are all children,” said Sam. “Oh, come on! We are braver than all adults, aren’t we? Well, I am,” teased Riya. Sam huffed, deciding to enter the room.

All four of them entered into the room that looked like a maze, and spent over an hour trying to make it to the other end. The only sound that could be heard was of water, which grew louder and louder with each passing minute. The kids assumed the increasing sound to be an indicator of

nearing the exit. Suddenly, Sam tripped and fell, crying out in pain. Seeing a rock beneath him, he quickly stood up, “I swear there was no rock here a second ago!” he exclaimed with shock. Others also looked down at the ground and noticed that there was not only one but multiple pieces of rocks lying on the ground that definitely weren’t there a while ago. As they were still trying to make sense of things, a loud rumbling sound was heard. Soon various pieces of rock rolled towards them, followed by a large wave of water.

Adi noticed a door on the other side of the room and quickly signalled everyone to follow him.

Sam noticed three tiles with space for three circles in their centers on the roof in the centre of the room.

As he reached the door, a sign on it read ‘Your knowledge of colours is all that can aid you. To make it alive, ensure the colours are organised’, and underneath it, there lay three tokens of purple, orange and green.

Sam noticed three tiles with space for three circles in their centers on the roof in the centre of the room. Riya quickly took the three tokens in her hand. “We need to put these up there. Purple between blue and red, orange between red and yellow, and green between blue and yellow!” she yelled. Even as the water reached till their chest, the four of them swam to the centre and with a lot of struggle, finally managed to place the tokens in their right places.

The roof opened up and a ladder fell in and quickly, all of them made their way out. Heaving a sigh of relief, they were finally free and found themselves in the middle of the amusement park. “Oh God! Let’s promise never to do that ever again,” said Sam.



Reedhav Gulati



Gluten-free mug cake

Reedhav Gulati, AIS Saket, IX C

Ingredients

Butter	2 tbsp
Egg (beaten).....	1
Sugar	2 tbsp
Milk.....	1 tbsp
Vanilla extract	1 tsp
Mixed nuts (chopped)	1 tsp
Cake mix (gluten free).....	1/4 cup
Baking powder (gluten free).....	1/4 tsp
Cocoa powder (gluten free)	2 tbsp

Procedure

- Take a microwave safe coffee mug and add butter.
- Microwave for 30-45 seconds until it melts completely.
- Next, add beaten egg, milk and vanilla extract. Mix well.
- Now, add gluten free cake mix, sugar, gluten free baking

- powder and cocoa powder.
- Mix all the ingredients well inside the mug and top it with nuts of your choice.
- Microwave it for 1 minute.
- Once done, let it cool for another minute and your yummy mug cake is ready. Dig in!

Logging in logically

Solve These Mind-Boggling Riddles!

- Which three numbers, none of which is zero, give the same result whether they are added or multiplied?
- Mary has 4 daughters and each of her daughters has a brother. How many children does Mary have?
- Which is heavier: a ton of bricks or a ton of feathers?
- Two fathers and two sons are in a car, yet there are only three people in the car. How?
- The day before yesterday I was twenty-one, and next year I will be twenty-four. When is my birthday?
- My daughters are all blonde except two, all brunette but two, and all redheaded but two. How many daughters do I have?
- What is so fragile that saying its name breaks it?
- What can fill a room but take up no space?

Answers: 1. One, two and three 2. Five 3. Neither - they both weigh a ton 4. They are grandfather, father, and son 5. December 31 6. Three - a blonde, a brunette, and a redhead 7. Silence 8. Light

WORDS VERSE



Chyanika Duvan
AIS Gurugram 46, X

In the world of perfection
Flaws are all but a myth

That you shouldn’t touch
Or you should do away with

But there are little things
That we tend to overlook

Things that shape our lives

And can’t be found in books

How we learn to walk
After we know the pain of fall

We get back up on our feet
And take steps big and small

Mistakes help us grow
Into people with a broad mind

It is only through mistakes
We learn what life is about.

I am the colour

Vidhi Batra, AIS Noida, Alumna

I am the colour
Of the morning tea you sip
And that of the newspaper
Whose pages you slowly flip

I am the colour
Which adorns her lush hair
I also give the perfect shade
To Grandpa’s old oak chair

I am the colour
Whose reflection you find
In the deep eyes of the boy
Who is stuck in the grind

I am the colour
Which you hate on your skin
But you also love in the coat
You adorn yourself in

I am the colour
Of leaves you find in autumn



That finally fall to blend
With the earth at the bottom

I am the colour
Of the tree you grew under
And also of the leather diary
With your artistic wonders

I am the colour
Of the soil, of the earth
In which your body and soul
Will all finally merge.



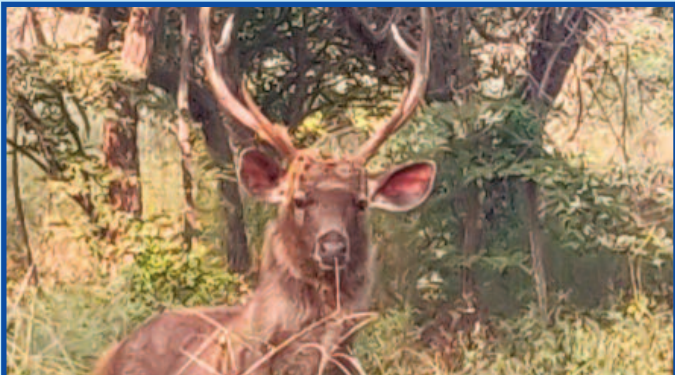
CAMERA CAPERS

Shreya Choudhary, AIS Gurugram 43, VIII B

Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



Co-existing in nature



Foraging in the forests



It’s either fight or flight



Mayon Volcano in the Philippines is known as the 'Perfect Cone' because of its almost perfect cone shape.

The green book

Short Story



Aarini Rai Baranwal
AIS Noida, VII

Once upon a time in a town called Greendale lived a girl named Anna Burbrooke. As a **bibliophile**, she had a gigantic shelf of books all to herself, filled with story books, ranging from those of princesses to the blood-curdling beasts of the netherworld. She loved to read all day, every day. As an enthusiastic observer of her daughter's love for reading, her father Mr Burbrooke would also, from time to time, buy her new books and add to her exceptional collection. So, one fine day as she rummaged about her shelf, looking for a new book to read, she surprisingly found a green book in the stack that she had never seen

before. She knew it was her father's doing, yet curious to know more about the book, especially due to its mysterious emerald green binding, she decided to give it a read. With a milkshake in one hand and the green book in other, she opened the book and flipped through it at once to catch a whiff of the pages. To her surprise, the book had no words but maps, maps that hinted towards some sort of hidden treasures. Scared of what lies at the other end, yet eager to explore more, she resolved to try and find the treasure. Having read many treasure hunt stories, she devoted herself to the first map in the book, only to realise that the map actually ended somewhere in her own house! "How is this even possible?" exclaimed Anna,

astounded by her discovery, but still determined enough to know that she has to find it. She started wandering around her house as the map showed her the way. As she slowly moved towards the first stop the map indicated, she found a piece of paper lying there. But to her utter shock, it said, "Come downstairs." She knew there were no such stairs in her house. "Is the map trying to fool me?" she thought out loud. As her eyes shuffled through the map to find an answer, a wheel drawn in it drew her attention. She looked around herself and surprisingly found an actual wheel. Excited, she turned the wheel and the floor opened into a wooden stairway. Now, Anna was scared. She knew she was getting herself into something real.

She ran towards the box and started opening it hurriedly. But the hunt wasn't over yet.

She gathered all her courage and slowly walked down the stairs that had a mysterious door at its end. With thoughts to quit beclouding her mind at every step, she opened the door at a snail's pace. The door led her to an empty room with a mysterious box in the middle. Something inside her knew she found her treasure. She ran towards the box and started opening it hurriedly. But the hunt wasn't over yet. The box had another box in it. As she opened the second box, she saw a third one in it. This kept going on until Anna was furious. Not giving up still, she reached the last box somehow. Upon opening it, she found a beautiful locket inside with a note that read, 'First Level Cleared'. As soon as Anna read the note, all her family members came from behind the curtains and shouted, "Surprise! Happy Birthday, Anna!". Scared out of her wits yet managing somehow, she was happy at the unexpected turn of events. Her father explained to her the whole birthday surprise deal, telling her that she still needs to complete all the treasure hunts in the book to get the rest of her gifts, to which Anna joyously complied.

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: Bibliophile
Meaning: A person who loves books



Aashray Syal makes his bowl



The final product

Handmade bowl

Aashray Syal, AIS Vasundhara I, KG A

Supplies

- Balloon
- Brush
- Toothpick
- Colourful sheets
- Glue



Steps

- Inflate a balloon and carefully tie its mouth tightly so that it doesn't deflate.
- Take colourful sheets and tear them into small irregular pieces. You can even use waste paper pieces and mix them with the coloured ones.
- With the help of a brush, apply glue to the bottom half of the balloon.
- Now, paste a layer of small colourful pieces in any pattern you prefer.
- Let the first layer dry and then apply another layer of glue

- and stick more small pieces of colourful sheets.
- Keep adding more layers of paper and glue until the layers become sturdy and thick.
- Leave the balloon overnight to let the glue dry completely.
- Once the balloon is dry, take a toothpick to pop the balloon.
- Gently remove the deflated balloon stuck to the walls of the paper bowl.
- You can trim the edges of the bowl to make it look better.
- Voila, your handmade bowl is ready for display!

Riddle fiddle

Anwesha Gogoi
AIS Gurugram 43, VI

1. I don't bark, I don't bite, but I still won't let you in the house. What am I?



secret 4. Darkness 5. A stamp 6. Eyes

2. I make two people out of one. What am I?
3. If you have me, you want to share me. If you share me, you lose me. What am I?
4. The more I am there, the less you see me. What am I?
5. I can travel around the world by staying at a corner. What am I?
6. I move from left to right or right to left. What am I?

Dream big

Paavni Sahu, AIS Gurugram 43, VII A

Dream big for what is to come
Hope big for those benumbed
Love big for your own sake
As all in this world do every day

The stars are watching the world
Capturing all your sweet dreams
Everything you wish upon them
They make it true and supreme

The dreams you dream every night

POEM

Can't be hidden in the morning light
As the dream catcher with fascination
Unravels your new dreamy sensation

Everything seems different and new
More so from dream's point of view
Yet nothing really manages to change
As you sob and wish for it to range

The one dream you had last night
Was it amiable or filled with fright?
Or was it a dream of nothingness?
Of the change you dare not address

Go dream big, hope big, and love big
For when you actually do such a thing
Who knows when, where and why
Your efforts may finally hit the bullseye.



It's Me

Know me
Name: Dia Sharma
Class: IV
My school: AIS MV
Birthday: September 2

About me
Role model: My father
Best friends: Shreeja and Aashna
Hobby: Singing
I like: Monkey bars and singing
I dislike: Bitter gourd

My favourites
Teacher: Swati ma'am
Subject: EVS
Book: Wimpy Kid
Game: Snakes and Ladders
Mall: DLF Mall of India
Food: Mac n Cheese
Poem: Twinkle twinkle
Movie: The Lion King
Place: Dubai
Cartoon: Golmaal Jr.
Fictional character: Simba

My dreams and goals
I want to become: A singer
I want to be featured in GT because: I want people to know me.

PAINTING CORNER

Tejal Vats
AIS Vasundhara 6, III D





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.

'If the Finance Minister calls you to seek your suggestion on the next budget session, what would be your advice and why?'

The prompt BOX

"Income tax has always been a thorn in the side of the general public, especially the middle class. If I was to give any suggestions for the budget, it would be a detailed touchdown upon income tax, not just tweaks in legalities and change in percentages. Next, emphasis on infrastructure investment in rural areas within tier 1 cities which will translate into employment generation, livelihood for semi-skilled workers, and wider demand for goods and services offered by MSMEs. An attempt to redistribute incomes by increasing taxes on high income groups would be good too as it'll transition well into the public sentiment because 'the rich become richer and poor become poorer' thinking lingers in the minds of the public." **Siddharth Kishore**, AIS Gur 43, XI A

"If I am given a chance to put forward my views to the Finance Minister, I would foremost suggest that money must be spent on improving and uplifting the 65% of the population, that is the rural population. Extra effort needs to be made to reduce the growing equity gap and to acknowledge traditional skills and enhance their growth. As a nation, we must also focus on what we are planning to give to the environment that sustains us. Thus, the budget should be structured in a way that ensures integration of upcoming eco-friendly technologies with everyday activities. Naturally, India has a long way to go, and using the capital resources wisely would only take us closer to our goal." **Ananya Agarwal**, AIS Gurugram 46, XI E

"My recommendations to the Finance Minister would vary with different topics. Since online teaching and learning is a new norm, and many organisations have invested time, money and resources to deliver quality education to students, therefore, the government should take cognizance of this fact. It must reduce GST on online education service from 18% to 5% in budget 2022. By doing the same, online education will be accessible to more and more students. The outlay towards ensuring internet connectivity in rural areas for educational needs should be increased substantially. The government must ensure that health and nutritional assessment of every child is carried out at the school level and measures must be undertaken to ensure proper coordination between health and education department." **Anshuman Jha**, AIS Vas 1, XII D

"As the pandemic shook, rattled and rolled the global economy in 2020, Indian economy too struggled to cope with the exceptional circumstances, and now requires a major boost, especially in the field of health and education. For, nothing was more affected by this virus than the health infrastructure of our country. Thus, this stressed sector needs more budget allocation to handle the pandemic and its large scale vaccination drives. This will not only provide us with the best of healthcare services but will also help us withstand any future virus onslaughts. Likewise, our education sector underwent a major change too. Thus, government support to these sectors would transform the future of our country for better." **Ritisha Jaiswal**, AIS VKC Lko, VIII B

"According to me, the next budget should entail the following - more funding or money towards the MGN-REGA scheme so as to generate employment; the middle class should be given higher wages; the free tax period given to companies is currently 5-6 years which should be increased to 10 years as it can invite more investment in the country, hence leading to GDP growth; new schemes should be introduced for the welfare of women and children, and lastly, in these trying times, the cost of mobile phones increased under this year's session should be reduced as technology is what is keeping the world afloat today." **Saryu Sawney**, AIS MV, XII G

"Online education proved to be a blessing in disguise during pandemic, providing opportunity to young children in remote areas or otherwise to access and benefit out of education. Howbeit, not all could avail these benefits. Thus, necessary electronic tools or gadgets like laptops, tablets etc, for the education of underprivileged children should be a point of focus in our budget. Besides, 2020 also made us realise the need for better medical reachability, which would not only help the nation expand its human resource development programme but would also increase medical tourism in the country, resulting in the overall upliftment of the economy." **Anvesha Goel**, AIS PV, VIII A

"To keep up with the expectations of all the citizens is not an easy task for the government of any country, but there are some measures that can be taken in this respect. To begin with, the government of India can work on providing its underprivileged populace with an easy access to healthy lifestyle. They can do so by upgrading the hospitals, and also by providing discounted treatment packages to those who cannot afford treatment. They can also remove service tax on term plans and health insurance for long-term benefits. Furthermore, to revive the economy, it is imperative to provide more employment opportunities. If the budget is framed with an eye on these areas, the outcome will have a positive impact on the upcoming generations." **Mahi Gupta**, AIS Jagdishpur, XI A

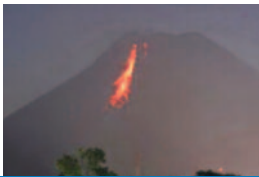
"My first suggestion is to reduce the fuel prices. India is experiencing an all-time high in oil prices; the main drain is from the pockets of the middle class, with no relief for direct taxes nor indirect taxes. Perhaps a reasonable reduction in the direct tax rate in the next budget will allow some money to enter the pockets of taxpayers who have been rattled by the pandemic. An increase in the defence budget should also be considered since our nation is currently in a tense situation with China." **Viwaswan Jha**, AGS Gurugram, X

"Swami Vivekananda once said, 'Educate and raise the masses, and thus alone a nation is possible.' These words ring true even today, yet the education system in India is severely underfunded. States do not possess sufficient funds to hire permanent teachers to fill vacancies. Teacher training, which could improve classroom pedagogy, impact learning, and increase the quality of education imparted, is also less on funds. Tax-free education, including integrated skill training, is also a requisite. Moreover, funds are also needed to introduce experiential learning, creative subjects, updated infrastructure such as new-age teaching and learning tools and aids, to align Indian education with global modern teaching and training methods." **Anika Bansal**, AIS Vas 6, IX D

"Our government should gear up and earmark sufficient fund allocation to the core sectors such as education, healthcare, technological innovation and sustainable development to achieve SDG goals of United Nations. New avenues, especially developing digital infrastructure to meet the requirements of e-learning and e-commerce, need to be explored. Augmenting the existing health care systems, developing more affordable solutions so that citizens at the bottom of the pyramid get the benefits of technological innovation is significant too. Adoption of renewable energy and adequate mechanism to address climate change and e-waste, should also be focused on." **Ananya Tandon**, AIS Noida, XI B

"Our country is in peril right now. With a pandemic to suppress, huge protests to address, chaos is spreading like wild fire. *Atmanirbhar* India at this juncture calls for some bold, untrammelled acts of development. For the same, the government should keep a check on the increasing privatisation. Private investment is necessary, but governmental intervention and investment in the economy is a must to fill up the huge gap between the rich and the poor. Reducing taxes on basic commodities of life can be another step towards this goal. Government can also work on providing incentives to migrant labourers, with a productive emphasis on all those who lost their bread and butter due to the pandemic." **Ashwin Rajvanshi**, AIS VYC Lko, XA

"For a flourishing economy, it is crucial to emphasise on the youth. Given an opportunity to propose ideas to the Finance Minister on our budget, I would request her to divert funds towards targeted research training projects for students of every age group. Often students are exposed to the arena of research only when they are ready to enter the workforce, which renders them to be without an actual understanding of how to conduct research. If middle school and high school students have access to proper lab equipment, training and faculty, they would be able to obtain hands-on experience and make informed career decisions when it comes to research." **Mohak Malhotra**, AIS Saket, VII C



Mount Merapi, in Indonesia, is thought to have produced more lava flow than any other volcano anywhere in the world.

Bazinga 2020

The Spirit of Inquiry And Innovation



Chairperson and school principals grace the first ever virtual finale of Bazinga 2020



Tanishq Singh, AIS Gur 43



Shreya Singal, AIS Gur 46



Naman Gupta, AIS Vas 1



Krishang Vyas, AIS Gur 46



Participants of Cognitiva Spiritus deliberate on mental health

Maintaining mental health

A Fest For The Fit Mind

AIS Gurugram 43

The Interact Club of the school organised a virtual interschool mental health awareness fest titled ‘Cognitiva Spiritus’ on November 25, 2020. The fest held under the aegis of Rotary Club, Gurugram saw participation of 20 eminent schools from across Delhi/NCR. The event was graced by Rotarian Lokesh Bhan, president of the Rotary Club, Gurugram. It comprised five competitive events that were designed to disseminate awareness about various aspects of mental health. The events were Psychclarity, Elysian (photography), Inside out (body art),

Pressura socialis (one act play) and Mind regale. In Psychclarity, AIS Saket won the first position, followed by AIS Noida and AIS Gur 43 at the second and third spot respectively. First position in Elysian was bagged by AIS Gurugram 46, second place went to AIS Gur 43 and AIS Vas 6 stood third. In Mind Regale, AIS Saket claimed first position and AIS Vas 1 bagged the second position. For Inside out, AIS Pushp Vihar and AIS Saket won the first and third positions respectively. AIS Gur 46 bagged first place in Pressura socialis, followed by AIS Noida and AIS Saket tying at the second spot, and AIS PV at the third spot.

Amity Group of Schools

The 8th and first ever virtual Bazinga, an inter-school science quiz for Classes IX and XI was held from January 7-8, 2021. The unique annual quiz envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, is organised under the aegis of Research and Development division of Amity Group of Schools. It seeks to redefine the education system in significant ways to promote critical thinking and innovative learning. The finals for Class IX and Class XI hosted by AIS Vasundhara 6 and AIS Mayur Vihar respectively were virtually graced by Chairperson, who, in her address, encouraged the young minds to seek constant insight into the curriculum and inculcate the habit of exploration and extensive research at an early age. Dr Ravi Bhattacharya, associate professor (Retd), Department of Physics SGTB Khalsa College, Delhi University, and Dr Nimish

Winners of Bazinga		
Class IX		
Name	School	Position
Arnav Singh	Deep Memorial Public School	First
Krishang Vyas	AIS Gurugram 46	Second
Ananya Chauhan	DPS Noida	Third
Class XI		
Shreya Singal	AIS Gurugram 46	First
Naman Gupta	AIS Vasundhara 1	Second
Tanishq Singh	AIS Gurugram 43	Third

Kapoor, sr scientist, Vigyan Prasar, Department of Science & Technology were the eminent chief guests at the events held at AIS Vasundhara 6 and AIS Mayur Vihar respectively. The competition held at two levels saw 72 schools (41 for Class IX and 31 for Class XI) from Delhi/NCR participate first in the preliminary rounds, following which five students were short-

listed for the finals from each class. The five finalists from each class then competed with each other to become top three winners of the coveted quiz. The quiz comprised interesting rounds such as concepts and numerical testing, video based and graphical interpretation questions, questions based on latest in science, rapid fire and connect round. Pen-drives were given as

prizes to top three winners and e-certificates were given to all participants. The innovative annual application-based quiz which was conceptualised as Inter-Amity Physics Quiz in 2014, today also includes Chemistry and Biology in Class IX and Chemistry in Class XI. It is a matter of pride that since 2019 it has grown larger to a level of prestigious interschool event of learning science and math with fun. [GFI](#)

Virtual market

The Art Of Doing Business And Shopping

AIS Mayur Vihar

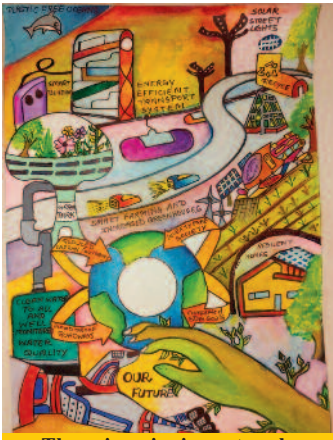
A virtual Market Day was held on January 29, 2021 for the students of Class I. The aim of the activity

was to teach them real life use of basic mathematical applications like addition, subtraction, division and multiplication. As part of the activity, the students organised stalls or shops with

items they had at home like toys, eatables, decorative materials, etc. Using a spin wheel, the class teachers called out the names of two students who then enacted as shopkeeper and customer to trade goods. Many children also used a QR scan code as a payment option. Apart from this, some children were given a web link to play a money game online wherein they had to do business and earn the amount of money mentioned on the screen. The market day activity concluded with a DJ session for which students paid INR 25 as an entry amount virtually. The children enjoyed dancing with their parents and teachers. All the participants of market day activity received an e-certificate for their passionate effort. [GFI](#)



Little shopkeepers with their shops set up on display for market day



The prize winning artwork



Certificate awarded by UN



Climate warrior: Hitika Mathur

Artistic excellence

A Creative Message For Climate Change

AIS Vasundhara 6

Hitika Mathur from Class IX won the second prize in International Adaptation Visual Art Competition organised by United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Her painting shall now be featured in the publications issued by UN Climate Change secre-

tariat. The global competition for climate change adaptation was held for students under 17 years of age to showcase their vision for a climate resilient future. She won the competition in 13-17 years sub category of the competition. The event was also an opportunity to demonstrate the ingenuity and creativity of young people in envisioning and working towards climate change. [GFI](#)

Sakurajima, in Japan, has been erupting almost constantly since 1955.

All top quotes contributed by
Udita Pannu, AIS Gur 46, VIII B



Fiery facts

No small feat!

Pocket-sized Pictorial Ramayana Packs A Big Punch

Stuti Kalra, GT Network

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused unimaginable obstacles, but it has also given us the gift of time. It has given us time to take a breath and redirect

focus onto ourselves, on our mental as well as physical well-being. Whether it is in the form of yoga, meditation, pranik healing or immunity boosters, we have all delved deep into our spiritual selves and stepped into the Indian treasure of holistic healing. Perhaps, more so for Vinay Shrivastav, a young

librarian from AIS Gwalior whose soul-searching resulted in an inimitable achievement. Inspired by the mythological epic Ramayana being aired by Doordarshan during lockdown and armed with thoughtful research, Vinay created the 'smallest' Ramayana. The pocket-sized book consists of 94 pages, is 4.7 cm in length, 4.0 cm wide and weighs 16 grams. It is illustrative and written in Hindi. Also, despite being written in a tiny font size, it is readable without having to use a magnifying glass. For this unique feat, Vinay has been conferred with a medal and a certificate by India Book of Records, registered with Government of India. Read on as we trace the recreation of the epic Ramayana in this small-format.

The inspiration

During lockdown, Doordarshan was re-telecasting the serial Ramayana, and just like everyone else, I watched it too. However, the idea of creating the smallest Ramayana was not an instant one. I was exploring various creative ideas. And it was almost an epiphany that I should create and present it in a rather unique format.



Pocket-sized Ramayana

The journey

I browsed the internet for more books and images on Ramayana, and then translated the material I had chosen in simple Hindi. I designed the book myself and later on, took printouts of it all, being extremely meticulous with the cutting and binding of the pages, too.

The challenges

The biggest challenge was to acquire the required material. It was complete lockdown and markets were shut. So, I decided to use what I had with me. Whether it was paper, binding glue, thread or hard bound sheet for binding, I used either recycled material or revived old material. The second challenge was to use a font that was micro, yet readable. I experimented over and over again till I arrived at making just the apt font. I designed the book's cover page and bound it manually without using any machine. So, it is handmade.

The ideals

Ramayana is an intriguing tale of love, commitment, responsibility and dedication towards one's family, society, nation and the world. On the other hand, it is also the story of how a person's ego and greed can lead to his destruction. Every character in Ramayana teaches us something but Ram's personality is a fountainhead of learning. The quality I admire in him the most is that he followed his dharma with diligence and kindness. Then, there is Laxman, Ram's younger brother, and also Hanuman, Ram's faithful companion. Well, who else can teach us qualities of unwavering loyalty and friendship better than these two?

The big message

If you have an idea, follow it with concentration and perseverance. You can succeed in whatever you wish to achieve, if you have faith in yourself and your idea. For instance, I never thought I could do anything like this in my life. The Ramayana teaches us that whatever the situation, the path of honesty and truth must be taken and we, in our lifetime, should try to imbibe such teachings as much as we can.

Dream: To write a book in Hindi
Hobbies: Writing, playing cricket, reading books, making art and craft, and cooking

Vinay Shrivastav

Shrouded in mystery

Conspiracy Theory Or No Theory At All, The Choice Is Completely Yours To Make



Ananya Grover, AIS Noida, Alumna

In the mundane monotony of daily existence, few theories capture our attention. While some of us choose to dismiss all mysteries as hype and scoff at anything that lies beyond logical explanation, there are some tales – of people, places, and events – that leave the best, most rational of us, confounded.

The Tank Man

On June 5, 1989, during the Tiananmen Square protests against the Chinese Communist Party, an unidentified man, in a commendable show of bravery, repeatedly maneuvered in front of a column of military tanks to obstruct their path. Christened Tank Man, this unknown protester and unsung hero was seen on tape worldwide– yet to this day, there is no concrete information about his identity or fate. The story of what happened to the tank crew also remains unknown.

Oakville downpour

In Oakville, Washington, on August 7, 1994, the residents were showered with tiny gelatinous blobs that contained two species of bacteria, out of which one is generally found in the human digestive system, and human white blood cells. With this mysterious rain came a lot of diseases. Many locals started to develop flu-like symptoms and quite a few animals died when came in direct contact with this substance. While it is true that the blobs rained for six days over a period of three weeks, the story is murky with various retellings - while some say that it could have been be a government experiment on some biological weapon, others claim to have noticed military aircrafts conducting operations over the town.

Dema don't control us

Conspiracy theories are all around us, from alleged fake celebrity deaths to functioning Illuminati to fake Moon

landings, there is nothing that we haven't poked. The most recent ones revolving around Twenty-One Pilots (TOP) and their album Trench. While TOP has always been a little secretive, their album Trench created an entire universe of its own. They are so involved with the story that when Josh Dun went to receive their Most Dedicated Fanbase Award, he said, "Tyler wishes he could be here, but he's actually severing ties with Dema." Where is Dema? Who are the bishops? Will Clancy escape? Nobody knows!

Lincoln-Kennedy match

The most famous of them all has to be this. Several historians and thousands of laymen have failed to explain the striking coincidence between both the US presidents lives and their deaths. Countless websites and forums are running pages after their deaths, dedicated to solving this puzzle. Both were shot on a Friday and in the head; both were elected exactly

a century apart (1846 and 1946); both were concerned with civil rights and both were succeeded by Southerners named Johnson. If this isn't spooky, we don't know what is!

Whether you are amazed by the seemingly impossible or convinced by conspiracy theories, the choice is yours. But the irrepressible appeal of the unknown and unusual? Well, that's undeniable. [G T](#)

The prompt BOX

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 to you a new column 'The prompt box' where a topic will be shared. Tell us your views on the given topic in 100-150 words. Send in your write-ups to the Editor-in-Chief/GT Teacher Coordinator of your school, and the best ones will be published in the newspaper, so grab your laptops and get typing...

In an era of global protests, do you think protests offer real time solutions to existing problems or cause inconvenience to the public?



Last date of submission: February 20, 2021